

**Federation of Associations for Counselling Therapists in British Columbia**  
Board Meeting

Friday, July 25, 2014 @ 8am - 12pm

Coast Plaza Hotel, 1763 Comox St, Vancouver, BC

**Attendance:**

- American Association of Pastoral Counsellors (BC Chapter), Randall Frost
- Association of Cooperative Counselling Therapists of Canada, Tom Brooks, Joanie Tara, Karleen Nevery
- Association of Registered Clinical Hypnotherapists, Kemila Zsange
- British Columbia Art Therapy Association, regrets
- BC Association of Clinical Counsellors, Glen Grigg, David Paterson
- Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association, Wendy Woloshyn
- Music Therapy Association of BC, Stephen Williams, Susan Summers
- Canadian Professional Counsellors Association - Aaron McClelland detained by clinical emergency, belated regrets.
- BC Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, regrets
- 

1. **Call to order** at 8:30 AM

2. **Introductions:**

3. **Quorum:** Achieved pursuant to bylaw 17; minimum of four associations were present. Confirmed by chair.

4. **Agenda:** Approved by unanimous consent

5. **Minutes of Board meeting:** Minutes of the Board's June 18, 2014 Board Meeting and Annual General Meeting were distributed by e-mail prior to the meeting. Motion to approve, Summers/Paterson, carried.

6. **Change of status for BCAMFT:** The BC Chapter of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, currently an observer, has requested membership in FACTBC. The board of the BCAAMFT has passed motions endorsing the FACTBC policy position and the FACTBC bylaws. As the AAMFT is a former member in good standing of the Task Group for Counsellor Regulation up until 2010, and has been in collaboration with FACTBC and the TG since that time, they clearly meet and exceed the other criteria and standards set out in the bylaws.

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT the BC Chapter of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy be granted full membership in FACTBC. Summers/Paterson, carried.*

Discussion emphasized the excitement and appreciation experienced at welcoming BCAMFT back to the FACTBC (formerly TG) table.

7. **Expression of interest from the Professional Association of Christian Counsellors and Psychotherapists (PACCP).** Most recent communication with Mr. Larson of PACCP was a note that the bylaws of FACBC require that motions of the PACCP board be documented to show that the organization supports the FACTBC governance and policy standards. Discussion is called for regarding membership by organizations that are national in scope without a particular British Columbia division, that represent particular faith and ethnic traditions, and that have membership criteria particular to a faith tradition.

Briefly discussed and further response will follow when a complete request for membership is received.

8. **Meeting with Mr. Patterson and Mr. MacKinnon, July 18<sup>th</sup>.** Chair, Glen Grigg, has already reported that the content of this meeting, by agreement, is confidential.

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Chair of FACTBC, is empowered to speak and negotiate on behalf of FACTBC in dealings with other organizations, and with governments, within the limits of the FACTBC bylaws, the FACTBC core policies, and the FACTBC budget. All such communications and negotiations will be reported to the directors of FACTBC. Frost/Brooks, carried.*

9. **Budget Revision.** Whereas the budget proposed for 2014 did not anticipate an early meeting with the Minister, nor inclusion of FACTBC in discussions with government, intense lobbying was not anticipated for this fiscal period.

Category	2014 Budget	2014 Revised	Comment
Meetings	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	Allows for four meetings of FACT-BC
Consultants	\$8,000.00	\$30,000.00	Lobbying efforts are needed immediately to ensure FACT's inclusion in initiatives to change the HPA and its functions.
Coordinator	\$12,000.00	\$15,000.00	Increased contract time needed to coordinate lobbying teams
Media	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	Establishing web site is key goal
Legal	\$8,000.00	\$10,000.00	Model bylaws for a college/ legal research/ legal opinions may be requested on short notice.
Total	\$40,000.00	67,000.00	This budget would mean \$17.00 per member levy for member organizations

Discussion is called for regarding consequences of not undertaking the actions supported by this budget. Discussion is also needed regarding measures available for organizations not currently able to respond to this need.

*BE IT RESOLVED that the budget presented above be adopted and that the member organizations make contributions to the FACTBC funds based on this budget. Summers/Frost, carried.*

*BE IT RESOLVED that member organizations base their per capita contributions on the number of members qualified to practice who (1) reside in B, (2) are members in good standing, and (3) who are subject to the complaints, inquiry, and discipline processes of their organization. For clarity, this definition is intended to identify association members likely to qualify for porting or grandfathering when a college is created. These counts are, for 2014, as of July 25<sup>th</sup>. Zsange/Summers, carried.*

Discussion touched on the benefit that therapists from other jurisdictions might gain when a College of Counselling Therapists is created in British Columbia. Precedent has been that such colleges do not have a residency requirement. However, therapists from outside BC, if precedent is followed, would not be ported or grandfathered into a BC college at the initial startup.

**10. Recommendation from Hill and Knowlton Strategies** in consultations with Josh Christensen. Descriptions of a two-phase project were distributed. The effect of the projects is to lobby key elected officials for their support for a College of Counselling therapists during a time when it appears that revisions to the HPA can readily integrate this change.

*BE IT RESOLVED that the first phase on the project is fully approved, and that the second phase of the project is also approved subject to review at the October 3, 2014 FACTBC board meeting. Zsange/Brooks, carried.*

Discussion emphasized that making our case to political decision-makers in a timely way is very important.

**11. Lobbying teams to represent FACTBC.** The demonstrably successful strategy thus far has been to have H & K identify high-value political figures, have our coordinator recruit teams of that figure's constituents who are broadly representative of the FACT associations, and that H&K briefs and debriefs the teams about their lobby visits, and that our coordinator compiles the reports and supports the logistics of these meetings.

*BE IT RESOLVED that John Gawthrop, Coordinator, be directed to organize lobbying teams to contact elected officials identified by H&K. Summers/Frost, carried.*

**12. Website maintenance and reimbursement for professional time.** Thanks goes to Susan and Michelle for making the website happen at such a high quality and affordable cost. We could delegate the maintenance tasks of the website to a contractor, but the compromise here

is that the material and its presentation is very time sensitive, must be politically nuanced, and would, in any event require management. An alternative would be for the board to ask Susan Summers to apply clinical time to doing this task, and for the board to approve reimbursement for this time.

Discussion is needed concerning maintaining the volunteer status of the FACTBC board, while at the same time reimbursing directors for income lost while pursuing specific tasks in the furtherance of FACTBC goals.

*BE IT RESOLVED that FACTBC will reimburse Susan Summers for professional time reasonably and necessarily spent in the maintenance of the FACTBC website, such resolution to be renewed each fiscal year. (Note that ARCH abstained because the ARCH board has authorized support for the bylaw exchange, and not this particular expenditure. This will be resolved when the bylaw change initiated below is complete.)*

*BE IT RESOLVED that FACTBC will appoint Wendy Woloshyn and Karleen Nevery to a limited purpose committee to report prior to October 3, 2014, on a recommended bylaw change allowing for reimbursement of professional time required or requested of directors.*

Discussion emphasized that this reimbursement is for professional time requested by the Board by a director who, uniquely, can provide this service. The reimbursement is for this necessary and specialized service, and not for time normally volunteered to the FACTBC board.

Discussion also emphasized the principle of reimbursement for reasonable and necessary expenses and for those occasions when FACT duties unavoidably compromise a director's income by taking up professional time that cannot be rescheduled or replaced.

**13. Discussions with universities and other training facilities.** Discussion is needed as to FACTBC's policy objectives in such meetings, and how best to achieve these objectives.

Group discussion clarified that FACTBC objectives are (1) to give and get professional support, (2) to make our goals and values known to other organizations, (3) to invite and facilitate the involvement of all stakeholders, and (4) to make factual information available to anyone requesting it.

All directors are reminded to sign up themselves, as well as any other interested parties, for our newsletter. This is done through the website.

As well, directors, alternates, and anyone likely to serve on a lobbying team are reminded to visit the website and get to know it. Bringing a laptop to a meeting with political official, and being able to show the website will make clear the organized, professional nature of FACTBC.

**14. The question of preferred venues for FACTBC meetings** was put on the agenda for the October 3, 2014 meeting. Discussion included ideas for more generally accessible locations,

possible cost savings, and the possibility of using money spent of meetings to rent facilities from organizations that need that revenue for activities aligned with FACTBC values.

15. **A task and process list for FACTBC high priority goals and activities** is needed for the next FACTBC meeting, and Chair G. Grigg volunteered to prepare a draft of such a list. Discussion showed the possibility of general consensus that the major project that is both strategically central and unfinished is the competency-based assessment protocol.

16. **A statement of values that succinctly reflects the aspirations of FACTBC** associations and the members of those associations was discussed. Discussion showed that our values are implicit in our policies and bylaws, and that by making them explicit in a statement we create an even better foundation for vigilant values-based decisions. Tom Brooks and Randy Frost undertook to canvass the member associations for values statements and attempt an integration or summary for our next meeting.

**Next meeting:** It was agreed that Friday, October 3, 2014 @ 8:30 am be set as next meeting FACTBC meeting date, to be located at Coast Plaza Hotel, Vancouver, BC.