

BCCJA Board

**Minutes**

**February 13, 2015**

***In attendance:***

Tim Veresh	Ryan Nash	John Braithwaite (phone)
Henry Mathias (phone)	Chris Thomson	Glenn Angus
Sandra Manzardo	Bill Turner	
Tim Stiles	Barb van Vugt	

***Regrets:***

Art Gordon	Treena Smith	Mike White
Cindy Ramos		

- 1) Additions to the agenda. None
- 2) Meeting minutes of December 19, 2014. Sandy Manzardo/Chris Thomson, M/S/approved. Business arising: Safe Online Outreach Society presentation on deep, dark web co-sponsored by the BCCJA and University of the Fraser Valley in planning for April. Tim Veresh to following up, with assistance from Barb van Vugt. **Action:** Tim and Barb.
- 3) Financial update. Report from Bill Turner presented. Bank balance as at January 31, 2015 is \$23,256.46. Bill Turner/Tim Stiles, M/S/approved.
- 4) VICJA update.
  - Successful January 22<sup>nd</sup> forum was held at Camosun College, featuring Mary Campbell, retired Director General with the federal Ministry of Public Safety. Very well attended evening session. The ticketed luncheon was less well attended, but by interesting people like Ted Hughes and his wife. Mary Campbell may be available to repeat the session in a lower mainland venue after April. **Action:** keep on our forum topics list.
  - Forum scheduled for February 25<sup>th</sup> co-sponsored by VICJA, and Victoria Parole to be held at Camosun College. Speaker line-up being finalized.
  - Forum being planned for late March/early April on pedophiles and child sex offenders.
  - John Braithwaite, Bill Foster and Hank Mathias met with the new Executive Director of the Nanaimo John Howard Society, John McCormick, to develop sessions in the mid Island on matters of topical interest, maybe as early as the Fall (or sooner). To develop link with Vancouver Island University.
  - Will continue to try to webcast their sessions.

- May try to tap again the CCJA Public Education Fund.
- 5) Canadian Criminal Justice Association Board Meeting update. Tim Veresh provided a brief update on specific items of interest discussed at their Feb 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.
    - CCJA position paper on “life is life” legislation being proposed by government is being prepared for presentation. Will be posted on CCJA website when available. **Action:** suggested by Hank that if possible this should be circulated to members when available.
    - Elimination of statutory release for violent offenders government proposal also discussed and paper being prepared. Tim has circulated preliminary information to the JHS Board. **Action:** Tim Veresh to circulate to BCCJA Board.
    - “Cudos” to the JHS Canada and the BC Civil Liberties Association for the current court challenge over the use of “solitary confinement”; also to the National Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies and the Canadian Civil Liberties Association for their parallel court challenge. Noted that CSC is developing a policy position on the matter for release this April.
    - Update on Congress 2015 in Regina. Financial pressures causing concern (travel freezes for both prospective presenters and attendees, etc). Included in the planning is a full day workshop for first responders, as a new approach **Action:** request to all chapters of the Association across Canada to develop and fund in concert with the organizing committee program options. Call for papers closing still pending. **BCCJA action:** Tim Veresh to contact Hersch Greenberg (Chair) to discuss their needs and what we may be able to do to assist.
    - The American Corrections Association and the CCJA have renewed the MOU.
    - The Manitoba CJA have just held its very successful breakfast forum on missing women with Judge Wally Opal (230 attendees at the breakfast and 75 at the all day workshop) and made a substantial profit.
    - Split the scholarship award into two, to be available for students.
    - CCJA looking at trying to develop a chapter in Newfoundland/Labrador.
    - Paper following a SWOT exercise by the CCJA is being prepared, for assistance in making forward looking plans.
  - 6) Congress 2015. Justice at the Crossroads” September 30-October 3. See previous minute on this topic.
  - 7) BCCJA Strategic Plan. Tim Veresh presented a first draft consolidation of work the Board did at the October 18<sup>th</sup> working session. Agreed that the next step was a work plan. **Action:** Committee to develop the work plan struck: Tim Veresh, Barb van Vugt, Ryan Nash, Bill Turner and Tim Stiles. For next meeting.
  - 8) Newsletter update. Next Newsletter will be issued next week. Focus on “what works” to be expanded. **Action:** all Board members are asked to produce

themselves or connect with people they know who can do short pieces on examples.

- 9) Round table on current criminal justice issues. It was noted that as is evident by previous items, there are a number of pressing issues that ought to be content for broad public discussion, and particularly within the CJS sectors. The larger and on-going question for the BCCJA is how do we best facilitate the possibility and probability of positive change. **Action:** the work plan is critical.
- 10) March Board Guest Speaker. Sandy has invited Adrian Peters, who will be talking about her dissertation findings on the relative merits of specialized vs generic youth caseloads in such matters as youth gang violence and youth with mental health challenges. **Action:** Board members encouraged to invite interested colleagues/associates (notify Chris if over 3) to hear this session. The plan is to allocate 45 minutes at the beginning of the meeting, followed by the Board meeting.

**Next meeting: March 13, 2015. Room TBA. Meeting starts at 12 noon.**