



**MGABC Annual General Meeting**  
held at Thompson Rivers University  
Sunday, September 23, 2018

**Minutes**

**Present:**

- Karen Bennett – President
- Mike Juleff – President Elect
- Lynne Christmas – Director
- Trine Helsoe - Treasurer
- Linda Derkach – Secretary
- Keith Campbell – Victoria Chapter Representative
- Jill Wright – Vancouver Chapter Representative
- Chris Southwick – Vancouver Island Alternate Chapter Representative
- Chris Guiver – Thompson Shuswap Alternate Chapter Representative
- Anne Marie Bell – Okanagan Chapter Representative
- Lynn Barker – Prince George Chapter Representative

**Members Present:** Approximately 34 members representing all the Chapters in BC were also present

**1. Welcome and Call to Order**

President Karen Bennett called the meeting to order at approximately 12:30 pm and introduced the members of the MGABC Provincial Council. Members, students and guests were welcomed to our annual general meeting. Karen thanked the members of the Thompson Shuswap MGs for hosting very interesting tours and social events.

**2. President's Report – Karen Bennett**

Welcome MGs, students and guests to our 2018 AGM. I am so pleased to see everyone. Our current provincial council members are: Linda Derkach, Secretary; Trine Helsoe, Treasurer; Mike Juleff, President Elect; Lynne Christmas, Director; and our chapter representatives: Jill Wright, Vancouver; Keith Campbell, Victoria; Chris Southwick, alternate for VIMGA; Lynn Barker, Prince George; Anne Marie Bell,

Okanagan; and Chris Guiver, from our local chapter here in Kamloops, and I'm Karen Bennett, your president.

Thank you very much to the members of the Thompson Shuswap chapter for hosting the AGM this year, and for arranging the tours and the meet and greet yesterday. It is much appreciated. Learning about the transition of the Dufferin Wetland over the past two years was very enlightening, and the speaker, Kirsten Wourms, is a delight. It was also very interesting to tour the Secwepemc Museum and Heritage Park and listen to the tour guide there, Jackie Jewels.

### **Your Provincial Council Actions This Year:**

Your Provincial Council is the forum and coordinating function for chapters to share their ideas and challenges, and we have great potential and a lot to offer each other. Council also sets the standards for education and membership, by which we all operate. I continue to hear that chapter members sometimes wonder why they need to be a part of MGABC, and why they need to have a chapter representative on Council. Simply put, MGABC is the chapters, and the chapters are MGABC. Keeping that connection strong is what we strive for.

We continued this year to pursue the goals we established last year. The issues we face are similar to many organizations, but master gardeners are about welcoming new beginnings, in our gardens AND in our organization, and about embracing change as it unfolds, so we continued our ongoing discussions regarding member retention, and succession planning. Admittedly, progress is a bit slow, but chapters are making headway within their own ranks, and sharing their plans with us all, so those results are tremendous. Thompson/Shuswap was the first chapter to share a recent strategic plan back in 2016, and that has served as an inspiration to the rest of us.

Also, we have strived over the past few years to increase communication, transparency, and sharing, and our website has the potential to be the vehicle that connects us all, so we hope that all members will continue to increase their usage of, and contribution to, the website, in order to keep up to date with events that are happening in their local chapters, around the province, and to share information with all of us.

As I complete my term as president, I must say that during my history with the provincial council, first as chapter rep. for VIMGA from 2012 through 2016, where I really gained a much broader knowledge about the six MG chapters in our province, and then for these past two years as president, it has been my pleasure and honor to serve MGABC. The learning from, and laughing with, our dedicated council members has made the time very enjoyable. Thanks very much to you all!

Chapter reports from today will be posted on the website in the near future.

I am pleased to announce that the AGM in 2019 will be hosted by the Okanagan chapter! We look forward to seeing many of you again next year in Kelowna.

### **3. Minutes of 2017 Annual General Meeting**

#### **Motion #1:**

Moved by Heather Nielson and seconded by Lynne Christmas that the minutes of September 24, 2017 be accepted as circulated. **Carried**

### **4. Treasurer's Report**

The Financial Statements to June 30 and Budget for 2018-2019 were previously circulated. Trine Helsoe reported that as of June 30, 2018, MGABC has total assets of \$8,244.67. Over the past year, we basically broke even – spending roughly the same amount as we took in from membership fees. Trine explained where our revenue arises, and what our major expenses are. Trine said that there are about 710 MGs in the province. Chapters contribute \$10 per member to support the functions and activities of the Provincial Council. Trine presented a Budget for the fiscal year 2018 – 2019.

#### **Motion #2:**

Moved by Trine Helsoe and seconded by Heather Neilson that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented. **Carried**

*Note: The Financial Statements to June 30, 2018 and the proposed budget for 2018-2019 were previously circulated and form part of the record of this meeting.*

### **5. Nominating Committee Report**

Anne Marie Bell presented the Slate of Officers for 2018-19 that was previously circulated to all members.

President – Mike Juleff  
Secretary –  
Treasurer – Trine Helsoe  
Director - Lynne Christmas  
Past president – Karen Bennett

#### **Motion #4:**

Moved by Anne Marie Bell and seconded by Jill Wright that the slate of officers be elected as presented and previously circulated. **Carried**

*Please note: The Chapter Representatives are elected or appointed by the affiliated Chapters of MGABC.*

## **6. Reports of the Chapter Representatives**

Chapter Representatives gave brief verbal reports on activities, events, membership statistics and future plans. The full written reports will be consolidated and circulated to all members of MGABC and will be posted on the website.

## **7. Golden Trowel Award**

Elaine Sedgman of the Thompson Shuswap Chapter was awarded the Golden Trowel for 2018 for her dedicated efforts and service in support of the mission of the MGABC.

## **8. Appreciation**

Retiring President Karen Bennett thanked retiring MGABC Secretary Linda Derkach for her contributions to the Provincial Council and to MAGBC.

Linda then acknowledged the work and dedication of Karen as President of MGABC and previously of VIMGA.

The gavel was passed from Karen to incoming President Mike Juleff.

Mike thanked the members present for the opportunity to serve as President.

Mike thanked Karen for her leadership.

## **9. AGM 2019**

The 2019 AGM will be hosted by the Okanagan Chapter.

## **10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:10 pm

Recorded by Linda Derkach, Secretary, MGABC

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Karen Bennett, President

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Linda Derkach, Secretary