



SYNOPSIS OF THE 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The following is a synopsis of the key items of business that were addressed at 2016 Annual Meeting of Members held at 10 a.m. on June 4, 2016 at the Hôtel Québec Inn in Sainte-Foy, Québec. Please note that the proceedings shown below are paraphrased for the sake of brevity. In the event of dispute, the specific wording should be taken from the official minutes. The detailed minutes of the meeting will be formally approved at the next Annual Meeting of Members.

Sixty-eight members and guests were in attendance. Many thanks go out to **Linda St-Hilaire**, who is the Director representing the province of Québec, and her local organizing team (**Julie Brassard, Carole Delorme, Grace Dufour, Yves Dumont and Jacques Poirier**) for their warm hospitality.

Bob Rowbotham, Chairman of the Board, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending. The Board of Directors, members of the management team and distinguished guests were introduced. This was followed by a moment of silence in memory of all those members who have passed away since the last Annual General Meeting.

The Chair thanked our generous AGM Sponsors. They were:

- **Presenting Sponsor: Pets Plus Us.** The CKC has been working with Pets Plus Us for the past few years to provide members with pet insurance, as well as a six week trial at no cost to new puppy families who purchase a puppy from a CKC registered breeder. Our partnership with them has brought tremendous value to members and their Presenting Sponsorship of our AGM is another example of that.
- **Partner Sponsors:**
 - **BFL Canada** has been providing members with discounted, specialized insurance products for a number of years. Stay tuned for an exciting announcement soon about a new, specialized insurance package designed specifically for our members.
 - **TLC Whole Life Pet Food** is a new sponsor to the CKC and we look forward to developing our relationship with them over the coming year.

- **Builder Sponsor: Ricoh** has once again generously printed our annual reports free of charge.

In his opening remarks, Chairman **Bob Rowbotham** looked back over his time on the Board and shared his vision for the future. He reminded members that when he was first elected to the Board in 2009, the CKC was in a challenging financial position. Some tough decisions had to be made and one of them was to discontinue publishing *Dogs in Canada* because it was costing us close to one million dollars a year and we couldn't continue doing it. In addition to reducing expenses, we started to look for new sources of revenue. Members stepped forward to help us meet those challenges. With a lot of hard work, we have turned the organization around and today, we have an accumulated surplus of over two million dollars, some of which has been set aside to replace our outdated thirty-three year old computer system to better serve our members.

Mr. Rowbotham reported that the first three months of this year look very promising and purebred dogs are making a comeback. However, he pointed out that we do have concerns. Some of our clubs are struggling with meeting their costs. Governments across this country have been listening to animal activists. We are trying to get involved to let them know that the CKC represents 20,000 members. He encouraged members to help us meet these challenges.

The 2015 Honourary Chair, **Ed Graveley**, was then introduced and presented with a framed certificate as tangible appreciation for his service.

This was followed by a presentation from **Leah Stephenson** of **Pets Plus Us**. She spoke about the value of carrying pet insurance and she used an example of a Labrador puppy to illustrate how expensive it can be when our beloved pets require medical care.

Minutes of the 2015 Annual General were adopted with no changes made.

The CKC auditor, Marcus Sconci from BDO, presented the 2015 **audited financial statements**.

Leila Bahorie, Director of Membership Services and Registration, gave an update on the status of developing **Rules of Eligibility** for the Breeds. As part of the update, the meeting learned that we are now in a position to move forward with bringing the Listed Breeds into full registration.

The **Annual Committee and Council Reports** were received by the meeting. The Chair expressed sincere thanks to all members of the councils and committees for their contributions and support.

The Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Université de Montréal, **Dr. Michel Carrier**, DVM, M. Sc., then made a presentation on veterinary ophthalmology. Following his presentation, Dr. Carrier was recognized for serving as 2015 CKC Honourary Veterinarian.

Fifty-year membership plaques were presented to **Sharon Derrick** and **Robert E. Healy**.

A new item on the AGM agenda for 2016 was an opportunity recognize local members for their time and contributions to the world of purebred dogs. The following were presented awards:

- **Mario Beauregard**, DMV.
- Conformation: **Hélène St-Hilaire**, who is the founding member of Société Canine de Québec Inc. She is a former breeder of Boxers, has been show chair for SCQ for the past 40 years and is still very active.
- Subaru Agility Team Canada: **Annie Vezina**, who represented Canada very well on the FCI World Team last year.
Suzanne Labrie, who was one of four Canadians to travel to the 2015 World Agility Championships. She and her Shetland Sheepdog, Kallass, placed 7th in the Individual Biathlon – Jumpers + Agility and 13th in the Individual All Around (4 events).

The floor was then opened to questions and comments from the membership which are summarized below. All items raised were recorded and will be added to the agenda of the next meeting of the Board of Directors for appropriate follow-up or referral.

Item: Legislation regarding cropping, docking and dew claw removal - discussed by Renée Fortier

Renée Fortier breeds Wire-Haired Pointing Griffens and German Wire-Haired Pointers. She shows and hunts her dogs. She needs to have their tails docked and their dew claws removed to prevent injury. It is not done just for the show purpose. She would like to know how the CKC Board is supporting members with respect to mechanisms such as lobbying governments to prevent these things from happening in the future?

Richard Paquette, who is the Chair of the Cropping, Docking and Dew Claw Removal Committee and a member of the Communications Committee, responded. He mentioned that the Board held a brainstorming session on this topic on June 3, 2016. He assured Renée Fortier that the Board will be working on strategies to be more proactive and to develop mechanisms that will help us to lobby veterinary associations, municipal, provincial and federal governments, organizations such as PETA, rescue groups and certain activists who besmirch breeders by misinforming the public. As well, the Breeder Relations Committee is working on a Breeder Accreditation Program that

will help us defend our breeders against a lot of unwarranted criticism. It will have some educational components in it and some aspects of compliance.

Bob Rowbotham stated that we were caught off guard with the situation in Québec and didn't support our Québec Director, Linda St-Hilaire, as strongly as we should have. Nevertheless she did an awesome job. He pointed out that the Québec situation made us realize that we have to support Directors across the country better and when it started to happen that the BC government wanted to register and license kennels, we were able to react quicker. As a result, we have become a stakeholder in the consultation process with the BC government. He added that the biggest problem we have is that the governments don't recognize us, whereas they do recognize the vet associations and the SPCA's. We are trying to create a high enough profile so when any legislation is being considered or going to be enacted regarding dogs, we will be aware of it and asked to comment on it. Renée Fortier volunteered to help.

Item: Congratulations to the CKC Board and staff on the work they are doing - discussed by Yves Dumond

Yves Dumond commented that this is the first time he has had an opportunity to attend this type of meeting and even to collaborate on it. He congratulated the CKC Board and staff on the work they are doing. He commented that what is going on in Québec is too bad and he hopes that one day it will go away. He doesn't think it's the place of Animaux Québec to act as if it is the mother.

Item: Encouraging Youth in the Fancy - discussed by Yves Dumond

Yves Dumond commented that we need to be thinking about the next generation. We are all getting older and we need to be able to train the young people. When they go to shows, they are clients that we should cherish. Judges should look at them when they present, follow-up and watch this person even if the decision has already been taken. He stated that you would be surprised to see how many young people are proud just to have a small ribbon or recognition because they work so hard. We should be able to look at them and show them that we are interested in what they are presenting. It is important.

Item: Recognition for the Holistic Dog - discussed by Michelle Gauvin, DVM

Michelle Gauvin has been breeding for over 30 years now. She does agility and obedience. She would like to have a recognition for the "holistic dog", that is to encompass the purpose of the breed as well as the health and abilities tied into titles. In Europe and in some other countries they recognize the whole of the dog. She thinks that there should be minimum tests recognized for the breed before being recognized as a champion. The OFA has a beautiful website. People who have been breeding for years are not aware of OFA and all the diseases that are named there. Many breeders

don't know about this and they don't take the time to look at the different disorders of their breed.

Item: Dogs Banned as Dangerous - discussed by Mario Desfossés

Last year, Mario Desfossés presented a plan for dogs that are said to be banned as dangerous in some cities. They include some breeds that are recognized by the CKC. He would like to know where we are with that issue since he has not received an answer or a follow-up to his letter.

Bob Rowbotham agreed to look into it and get back to Mario Desfossés with an answer.

Before inviting a motion to adjourn, Mr. Rowbotham thanked the members for attending. He stated that as a member of the Board, he appreciates it when members are active and want to be part of the solution.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

