

Canadian Honey Council  
Board of Director's Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, September 26, 2023

Regrets  
Stan Reist  
Micheal Yaremicio

1. Call to Order @ 5:05pm MDT
2. Moved by Osee Podolsky  
Seconded by John Van Alten  
That the agenda be approved as presented.  
Carried
3. Moved by Osee Podolsky  
Seconded by John Van Alten  
That the Minutes of the August 17, 2023 Board meeting be accepted as presented.  
Carried
4. Financials
  - a) Rodney Reid indicated that the Operating account was at \$102,000.  
Investment account just over \$270,000.  
  
Moved by Rodney Reid  
Seconded by Osee Podolsky  
That the financial report be accepted as presented.  
Carried
5. Business arising from the Minutes
  - a) Committee reports
    - Labour – Nothing new to report
    - Stock Replacement – Ron Greidanus indicated he would like to do some investigation as to if the new varroa strategy in Australia impacts packaged bee exports.
    - Honey/Food Safety – Nothing to report
    - Pollination/Interprovincial movement – Nothing to report
    - Hive Health – Osee Podolsky reported that Manitoba will be hosting some RNia field trials.
    - Tech Transfer Team Liaison – Jeremy Olthof reported that Tom Rosser toured his operation and the CHC TTT proposal was discussed. John Van Alten indicated that the Ontario TTT is experiencing a severe shortage of funds to continue operations.

- b) Tropilaelaps update – Nothing new to report
- c) National meeting – the Board indicated it would like to have a banquet on Friday evening
- d) Risk assessment – Jeremy Olthof has been distributing documents to the Board
- e) Sugar policy – Rod to redraft a letter of support and distribute it to the Board.
- f) FPC Research check-off – BF to next meeting

6. New Business

- a) Reported Honey Pricing – Nationally sales are very soft with sporadic offers in the \$2.30 to

7. Board/Executive Director Reports

Executive Director report – See Appendix a

Ron Greidanus indicated that the bees are getting wrapped and good fall weather is helping out but varroa is starting to appear. Alberta should be well above 300,000 colonies again.

Osee Podolsky reported that good weather has resulted in extended varroa treatments. He estimates that honey production in the province may be a bit below average.

John Van Alten indicated that the honey crop should be reasonable. The OBA AGM is November 23/24 in Peterborough.

Maggie Lamothe Boudreau reported that honey crops were poor. Many producers are inquiring about honey prices. Their AGM will be in late February and she will be taking over the presidency so we will have to address her as “Your Highness or Your Eminence”

Rodney Reid indicated that honey production was decent. Nova Scotia beekeepers are having difficulty accessing some yards because it is too wet.

Jake Berg reported that very little honey is moving. A swarm September has resulted in some varroa being found and more treatments necessary.

8. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at 9:00 am MST

9. Moved by Ron Greidanus to adjourn.

## Appendix A

### Apimondia Report

The 48<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress was held in Santiago, Chile earlier this month and the Canadian Honey Council had a booth at the Api-Expo and Rodney Reid and myself were the Canadian delegates for the General Assembly. The congress site was about 2 miles from any hotel so transportation to and from the site was done by Uber since no shuttles were arranged. The congress centre was a little disjointed as the expo facility was in a separate building from all scientific presentations. The CHC booth was quite visible and was fairly busy throughout the show. Most of the inquiries centered around Chilean stock exports and we were lucky to have representatives from Dancing Bee and Stanabbey in attendance. I brought down 500 honey packets, copies of Hivelights and Export catalogues and everything was gone by show's end. About 20 jars of Canadian honey was also displayed and many thanks to those who supplied those samples. Special thanks to John Van Alten and Tim Wendell who helped man the booth when either Rodney or myself were away.

The General Assembly was a long boring affair and the only real substantial thing that happened was the voting for the host of the 50<sup>th</sup> congress in 2027. Dubia and Tanzania were the only two bidders with Tanzania winning. Jeff Pettis was elected President for another 4 year term. I myself, did not attend any of the scientific presentations but delivered three talks on honey adulteration, Canadian stock requirements and importing queens and packages. There were about 20 or so researchers and beekeepers from Canada in attendance. I believe they announced the total registrations at around 2600. The next congress is in Copenhagen in 2025.

### Post Apimondia activities.

Discussion with Cassidy Levy Kent LLP in Ottawa. They are a boutique international trade firm specializing in the protection of Canadian manufacturers/producers through the prosecution of antidumping (and countervailing duty) investigations. They were interested in finding out if we would like to pursue/ get more information on an antidumping case on imported honey. They were using the attached info as guidance.

Work on BeeTech.

Discussions with Dalan Animal Health and the introduction in Canada of an AFB vaccine.

Follow-up work on a domestic sugar policy.

MRL's in honey. Discussions with Canola Council of Canada, PMRA, BASF and Western Producer.

Develop presentation for WAS.