

EMERGENCY SOCIAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

2005 AGM Minutes

17th Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, October 4, 2005 ~ 6:00 p.m.
Century Plaza Hotel, Vancouver BC

The Annual Report is a separate document, which is available via the ESSA office at 604-517-1442 or 1-800-910-ESSA or info@essa.ca.

Attendance

ESSA BOARD	
Past President	Larry Pearce
Treasurer	Laurie Pearce
Director	Doreen Myers
Director	Colleen Vaughan
Director	Bill Andrews
Director	Sheila MacLean
ESSA STAFF	
Executive Director	Joan Smulders
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES	
Region 1 Vancouver Island South	Bob Kennedy
Region 2 Vancouver Island North	Jivana Tao
Region 2 Southwest – Coast	Allan Stanko
Region 2 Southwest – Fraser Valley	Jackie Kloosterboer
Region 3 Central	Ray Huey
Region 4 Southeast – East Kootenays	Donna Grobell
Region 4 Southeast – West Kootenays	Tracy Barry
Region 5 Northeast	Jerrilyn Schembri
Region 6 Northwest	Rachel Minger
OTHER ATTENDEES	
Saanich ESS Team	Denis Harvey
ESS Office	Christine Ritson
ESS Office	Maggie Grant
ESS Office	David Tomaz
Justice Institute of British Columbia	Sally Pollock
Victoria/Esquimalt ESS Team	Rob Johns
Merritt ESS Team	Clara Norgaard
Chilliwack ESS Team	Pat Harkness
Abbotsford ESS Team	Janet Andrews
Victoria/Esquimalt ESS Team	Tammy Lata
The Salvation Army	John McEwan
Telephone Pioneers - TPARC	Bryan Farrar

Regrets

ESSA BOARD	
President	Bryan Larrabee
Vice-President	Diana Krimmer

1. INTRODUCTIONS

ESSA Director, Doreen Myers, opened the meeting with introductions of Directors, Executive Director, Regional Representatives, and special guests: Christine Ritson, Maggie Grant, David Tomaz, and Sally Pollock

2. ADOPTION OF 2004 AGM MINUTES

Motion: That the minutes of the 2004 ESSA Annual General Meeting be adopted as presented.

{Moved: Bill Andrews /Seconded: Pat Harkness} CARRIED.

3. REPORTS

a. Treasurer's Report – Laurie Pearce

Laurie Pearce's official report is in the Annual Report. Attendees were invited to review the report. Laurie opened the floor to questions. There were none and she requested a motion to accept the Financial Statements.

Motion: That the financial statements for the fiscal year-ending March 31, 2005 be adopted as presented.

{Moved: Denis Harvey /Seconded: Bob Kennedy} CARRIED.

b. Executive Director's Report – Joan Smulders

Joan Smulders official report is in the Annual Report. Attendees were invited to review the report. Joan thanked everyone for their support and time over the past year. There has been a lot of success in developing ESS teams across the Province. Thank you to the Regional Representatives for their dedication to ESS and ESSA. Joan has been enjoying her position and noted on what a great productive year it has been.

4. REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

Vancouver Island (South) – Bob Kennedy

Thanks to the volunteers on the Vancouver Island South ESS team. There has been a renewed interest in recruitment. The VIS team held a regional exercise on resource acquisition where 13 communities participated. It was a great experience. Thanks to Susan and Kelly of the Red Cross for their support. There was one seminar held, facilitated by Deb Silk on We're Family Too!, that was very well attended. There are a lot of challenges that have strengthened ESSA presence. Bob made a formal request for an improvement in communications and media relations.

Vancouver Island (North) – Jivana Tao

Jivana is a new Representative held a seminar in the Spring in Oceanside and 30-35 people attended. The Emergency Preparedness Conference was held in Campbell River in May and was very successful. There are several highly active teams: Campbell River, Nanaimo, Oceanside, Powell River, and Port Alberni.

Southwest (Coast) – Allan Stanko

First term as ESSA Regional Representative. Allan mentioned that he is getting to know the ESSDs and getting the information from them. Allan is working on developing an ESS Planning template and the coordination of training dates. Also, Allan is working on tools to assist the recruitment of ESS volunteers.

Southwest (Fraser Valley) – Jackie Kloosterboer

It has been a good year with a lot of successful responses. There are three new ESS Directors in the region. There was a regional seminar held on the topic of We're Family Too! There are still many spots available for the Vancouver Forum if anyone is interested in participating. There is a regional meeting being planned and more details will be provided as they become available.

Central – Ray Huey

Congratulations are in order for Clara Norgaard of Merritt and her ESS Team for their work planning for the Merritt Music Mountain Festival. The Summerland team held a raffle for grab-and-go bags at the local Wal-Mart. There have been some changes in ESSDs, and now 36 contacts are available in the Central region.

Southeast (East Kootenay) – Donna Grobell

Elkford ESS has now got a new team. The other teams in the region are doing well at maintaining their volunteers. There is currently an ESS Team in every community in the Southeast East Kootenays. There was a full-scale exercise held in June. Thank you to the ESSA Staff & Board of Directors, the ESS Office, and support organizations.

Southeast (West Kootenay) – Tracy Barry

There is a new PEP manager for the area. Everyone is working hard for the good of ESS. The full training calendar is now available and is really exciting; there are two new JI trainers in the area.

Northeast – Jerrilyn Schembri

The goal for the Northeast is to make sure there are teams in all of the communities and that those communities become members of ESSA. There are a lot of people that need thanking: Joan and Kerry of the ESSA office, Bob Kennedy for facilitating the Northeast seminar, Maggie Grant for her appearances in the Northeast, Duke Energy for their financial support, and Steven Waugh of Bella Coola for making life interesting!

Northwest –Rachel Minger

Rachel is looking forward to the next year's challenges. Thanks to the ESSA office staff, the Board of Directors, and the ESS Program Office.

A round of applause for the Regional Representatives.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Doreen Myers began by explaining the procedure and stated the following directors are up for election and seeking nomination: Bryan Larrabee, Colleen Vaughan, Sheila McLean, and Bill Andrews.

She opened the floor to nominations. Rob Johns, Janine Aussem and Derrick Lim were put forward and accepted.

Doreen Myers called for nominations a second and a third time. No further nominations were put forward. All seven names were accepted.

Nominations were closed and all nominated were accepted by acclamation.

6. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

The following amendments were put forward as motions:

By-laws:

15. B Directorship is restricted to Emergency Social Services volunteers and/or volunteers who demonstrate a vested interest in ESS and share in ESSA's goals and purpose. Each member municipality is entitled to two votes at the Annual General Meeting or any extraordinary general meeting. Each member municipality shall designate two of their Emergency Social Services volunteers or staff to vote on their behalf.

{Moved: Donna Grobell /Seconded: Ray Huey} CARRIED.

26. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the financial records, ensure the payment of all bills on authorization of the Board of Directors; shall present regular financial reports and shall participate in any monetary discussions of the association.

{Moved: Clara Norgaard /Seconded: Tracy Barry} CARRIED.

17. The President shall request a chairperson for any committees of the Board. All such chairpersons must be members of the Board of Directors.

{Moved: Jivana Tao /Seconded: Rachel Minger} CARRIED.

7. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

ESSA's funding from the Provincial Emergency Program (PEP), as of March 31, 2006, will be terminated. PEP is currently implementing three positions around BC that will act as a support to Headquarters in response and recovery. There will be one on the Island, one in the Lower Mainland, one in the North and one in the Central Region.

David Tomaz spoke from the floor on behalf of PEP to discuss the anticipated roles of the new positions, especially in the area of recovery. These positions would complement existing positions, not duplicate roles of the current Regional Representatives. There were also discussions re: the Justice Institute training and concern that training was being reduced; however, David reaffirmed that the training had not been cut and was being maintained at 80 courses per year.

Pat Harkness mentioned the need to involve First Nations bands in ESS planning and not to give up but to continue working with Aboriginal people in the provision of ESS.

ESSA is currently distributing a letter and survey to its members notifying them of the upcoming changes and inquiring to what services they would still like ESSA to offer. Some new initiatives were discussed: Volunteer Mentoring program, a website forum, use of Association connections, and advocacy.

There were comments and questions from the floor regarding ESSA's status as a charitable and non-profit society.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1955 hrs.

{Moved: Jackie Kloosterboer/Seconded: Jivana Tao}

CARRIED.

Bryan Larrabee, President

Diana Krimmer, Vice President