CANADIAN NEUROSURGICAL SOCIETY
Annual General Meeting
Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Toronto, Ontario

Thursday June 11th, 2015 @ 7:00 am

In Attendance:

Ian Fleetwood – President
Stephen Lownie – Vice-President
Patrick Macdonald – Secretary/Treasurer
Brian Toyota – Past-President

Falah Maroun  James Rutka  Joe Megyesi
Ryojo Akagami  Charles Tator  Mohammad Maleki
Sean Christie  Gary Redekop  Cornelius Matwijec
Kesh Reddy  Winston Gittens  Gelareh Zadeh
Brian Wheelock  Walter Hader  Charles Agbi
Rajiv Midha  David Steven  John Wong
Gwynedd Pickett  Rick Moulton  Chris Ekong
David Clarke  Cian O’Kelly  Ramesh Sahjpaul
Michael Tso – outgoing resident rep

Albert Isaacs - non-voting Junior member

Mark Hamilton - Represented by Proxy
Lillian Gouvremont - Represented by Proxy

MINUTES

1. Meeting was called to order by Ian Fleetwood, Chair at 7:05 AM

2. No additions to agenda. Motion to approve agenda (Wheelock/Rutka). Carried.

3. Approval of CNSS AGM minutes from Banff, June 4th, 2014 – Motion to approve minutes (Midha/O’Kelly). Carried.

4. Business arising from minutes
   All business arising from the previous AGM is covered elsewhere in this agenda except for the call from Dr. Toyota to form subcommittees to address Education and Subspecialty Call. This has been reviewed by the CNSS Board and was not felt to be a priority at this time.
5. Current business:

a. Presidents Report – Ian Fleetwood
   i. A broad discussion of neurosurgical manpower across Canada occurred. The general trend over the past decades has been an increase in residency spots available through CaRMS. Results of the resident manpower survey undertaken by Mike Tso reveals 26% of grads taking positions in the US, with 12% underemployed. The physician employment summit set by the RCPSC is scheduled for November 2015.

ii. Membership- Active membership has decreased from 179 to 146 (18% decrease). There are currently 246 practicing neurosurgeons in Canada. Of the 146 Active Members, many are Canadians practicing in the USA, thus fewer than 50% of neurosurgeons practicing in Canada are CNSS Members. Strategies to increase membership were discussed including:
   a) Targeted recruitment by CNSS Board (provincial directors)
   b) Consider society credentials similar to AANS (i.e. FAANS) as an incentive
   c) Stress benefits of membership such as society prizes, courses
   d) Importance of Society advocacy on important issues such as quality assurance, physician assisted death etc.

iii. CMA specialists forum - discontinued
   a) Dr. Wheelock brought up the role the CNSS should play in advising on societal issues such as Physician Assisted Death and End of Life care. A subcommittee was suggested - Drs. Wheelock, Reddy, Moulton and Ekong offered to serve

iv. Choosing Wisely Campaign- No neurosurgical involvement thus far, making us one of the only specialties not participating, although Canadian Spine Society is involved and covering selected topics in spinal neurosurgery. Screening for intracranial aneurysms was suggested as a potential topic. Drs Pickett, Megyesi and Zadeh offered to participate.

v. International Representation:
   a) American College of Surgeons – Dr. Loch MacDonald’s term has expired and ACS requested a replacement. There were no nominations from the floor, so Dr. Fleetwood will put forward Dr. Dave Steven, who has expressed interest previously.
   b) WFNS – Dr. Midha has had to resign his position as CNSS Representative as he is also the representative for AANS, which presents itself as the “continental neurosurgery association”, so he cannot hold both positions. Current WFNS representatives are Kesh Reddy, Eric Massicotte and Gwynedd Pickett.
   c) AANS Board positions - providing a slate of Canadian candidates was discussed. Dr. Lownie volunteered for nomination and Dr. Fleetwood has other names to be submitted by the fall.

vi. Lifetime Achievement- no nominees this year. Changes have been made to ensure we receive annual nominations for this award. The CNSS Nominating Committee will prepare a shortlist each year, supplemented by nominations from the general membership to be submitted by February.

vii. Hockey- Dr. Fleetwood indicated that there was ice available in Montreal (2013), but no teams due to short notice and in 2014 (Banff) the only ice surface was removed for maintenance over the summer. This year in Toronto it was difficult to obtain ice with only two sheets available at 23:00 on
June 9. He announced that Dr. Charest will look into arrangements for a game or tournament in Quebec City (2016) and possibly putting together a team for an international tournament.

b. Secretary-Treasurers report, Pat McDonald
   - Motion to approve Crowe MacKay LLP as Accountant for 2015 – (Wong/Midha). Carried.
   - 2014 Financial Statements were reviewed – Dr. Wheelock discussed the size of our surplus and whether or not we should consider spending more of it as we are a not for profit organization. Dr. Fleetwood spoke against this since we have increased our budget for sponsorship of national courses, added three new Resident poster prizes and have lost nearly 20% of our membership over the last three years. Motion to approve 2014 Financial Statements (Steven/Pickett). Carried.

c. 2015 CNSS Society Prizes

Dr. Wong reviewed this year’s prize winners and thanked the members of the prize selection committee. All presentations were made Wednesday am at the CNSS SPC Chairs Select Abstract Session

2015 K.G. McKenzie Memorial Prize Basic Neuroscience Research (2 first place prizes awarded)
   - **Recipient:** Teresa Purzner
     “Developmental Phospho-proteomics reveals Casein Kinase 2 as a therapeutic target in medulloblastoma”
   - **Recipient:** Ryan Alkins
     “Early treatment of HER2-amplified brain tumors with target NK-92 cells and focused ultrasound improves survival in a rodent brain tumour model”

2015 K.G. McKenzie Memorial Prize Clinical Research
   - **Recipient:** Daipayan Guha
     “Timing of resumption of antithrombotic agents following evacuation of chronic subdural hematomas: a retrospective cohort study”

d. Appointments to CNSS board of Directors for 2015 / 2016
   Ian Fleetwood – Director and President
   Stephen Lownie – Director and Vice-President
   Patrick McDonald - Director and Secretary-Treasurer
   Brian Toyota – Director and Past-President
   Ramesh Sahjpalu – Director and BC representative
   Walter Hader – Director and AB representative
   Lissa Peeling – Director and SK representative
   Colin Kazina – Director and MB representative
   David Steven – Director and ON representative
   David Mathieu – Director and QC representative
   Najmedden Attabib – Director and NB representative
   Simon Walling – Director and NS -representative
   Roger Avery – Director and NL representative
   Bill Wang - Director and Resident Representative
   Dan Morin – Director and CEO.
Motion to accept slate of candidates (Rutka/Moulton). Carried.

e. CNSS representative appointments to external committees
   • American College of Surgeons - ACS Advisory Council
     o As reviewed previously in Presidents Report
   • Strategic Plan membership committee.
     o As reviewed previously in Presidents Report

f. CNSS Resident Reps Report- Dr. Tso will present results of manpower survey tomorrow. He is disappointed that only 5 residents attended the resident review course, as is the planning committee and Board.

g. CJNS Editor in Chief’s Report – was circulated with the Agenda.

h. Parachute Canada updates – Dr. Tator asked for a continuing support from the CNSS. It was felt that the Board had approved annual donations to ThinkFirst that should have continued after merger with Parachute

i. CNSS Website – Continues to be updated- Albert Issacs- Calgary Neurosurgery resident does most of the updating. Interestingly, 60% of site visits are from the US.

j. PGY1 Rookie Camp 2015 - Rookie Camp will be held in Edmonton in the 2nd week of July. CNSS continues to financially support the course. Very well received by residents.

k. Professional Development Committee report – Joe Megyesi – Report of Bev Prieur, PDC Chair was circulated with the Agenda.

l. Scientific Program Committee report – Dr. Sankar reports that the neurosurgical content of the meeting has increased and that although the number of abstracts submitted was down, the overall quality had improved significantly. Dr. Sankar asked for continued input from members.

m. Reports from Provincial Councilors-
   -British Columbia – Ramesh Sahjpaul (Nothing to report)
   -Alberta – Walter Hader (Nothing to report)
   -Saskatchewan – Lissa Peeling (Absent)
   -Manitoba – Pat McDonald (Nothing to report)
   -Ontario – David Steven (Nothing to report)
   -Quebec – David Mathieu (Regrets)
   -New Brunswick – Najmedden Attabib (Regrets)
   -Nova Scotia – Simon Walling (Absent)
   -Newfoundland/Labrador – Roger Avery (Absent)