



Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science
Société canadienne de science de laboratoire médical

CSMLS 77th Annual General Meeting

16:00 hr., Friday, May 10, 2013

The Fairmont Empress Hotel and Victoria Conference Centre, 721 Government Street
Victoria, British Columbia

The Chair, Heather Autio introduced Tania Toffner, Hamilton, ON as the Chief Scrutineer for the meeting and Shelley Sanders, Merritt, BC as the Parliamentarian. The Chair introduced the members of the Board of Directors and the CSMLS Leadership Team. The Secretary for the meeting was CSMLS Executive Assistant, Lisa Low.

The Special Rules for the AGM are designed to facilitate the exchange of information and ensure that everyone who attends has the opportunity to be heard. These rules take precedence over any other rule of order; Mrs. Autio reviewed key points for all in attendance.

1. **Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1600h with 73 voting members present. The non-members present were identified and the assembly consented to their attendance at the meeting.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

As there were no further changes or additions, the Chair declared the agenda adopted as circulated.

3. **President's Address: Heather Autio, Abbotsford, BC**

Over the course of my term on the Board, I have had the opportunity to witness the growth of our Society; not just in numbers but in our influence as well. Last month I had the privilege of attending Lobby Day on Parliament Hill. When meeting with MPs, I was struck by how our team did not have to preface each visit with an elevator speech of who CSMLS is and who we represent. That hasn't always been the case. They have gone from asking 'Who are you?' to "How can I help?" That's a big step for us.

One of our key messages when advocating with government has been around the need for regulation. The irony of saying this in one of the few remaining unregulated provinces is not lost on me. As a technologist working here in BC, the recent success of Newfoundland and Labrador's journey to regulation gives me hope. In the fall of 2012, CSMLS applauded the work done in Newfoundland and Labrador, as we know the road is not an easy one.

However, while we celebrate the success of seeing regulation in eight of the 13 provinces and territories, we recognize that little progress has been made in regulating our MLA peers. For better or worse, the bulk of the advocacy efforts have been focused on the MLT regulation.

I feel that at this point in time, CSMLS needs to be an advocate for all lab professionals. We were

founded as a society for laboratory technologists, but just as the lab environment has evolved over the years, so too has our society. We now represent technologists, cytologists, genetics technologists and laboratory assistants – each group with their own sets of needs. We can't let numbers marginalize the smaller professions within our society. If we are to grow and flourish, we must embrace each other as sisters and brothers in arms, rather than allow titles to act as walls, building silos not unlike the ones between physicians, nurses, and lab technologists that we have fought so long to tear down.

That is the CSMLS I want to be part of. And I think it starts with mutual respect and mutual accountability. We need to give the same respect we so desperately have sought from others and we need to stand as a united group. And we need to hold each other in the same standard of professionalism. It is with this ideal in mind that CSMLS has taken a public stance, calling for the regulation of all laboratory professionals across Canada, technologists and assistants alike.

While in Ottawa, the CSMLS issued a press release calling for just that. A few weeks ago, the Manitoba Association for Medical Laboratory Science and the College of Medical Laboratory Technologists of Manitoba also called for this regulation in their province and CSMLS was there to support them.

I hope to see other provinces step forward with similar calls for regulation. This will not happen overnight, but CSMLS commits to support each province and territory in their journey.

It is my belief that regulation makes us a stronger profession. It reiterates the vital role we play in patient care and the responsibility which comes with that. I hope to see the day when all lab professionals, in every jurisdiction in Canada, are regulated. Together, we can make that day a reality.

4. Minutes of the 76th Annual General Meeting:

The minutes of the AGM held Friday, June 1, 2012, Hilton du Lac-Leamy, 3, boulevard du Casino, Gatineau, Quebec were approved by the Board of Directors and published as a supplement to the *Canadian Journal of Medical Laboratory Science*, Volume 74, #4, 2012).

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

Bylaw changes were implemented following acceptance by Industry Canada.

6. Auditor's Report and Financial Statements

The auditor's report and a condensed version of the financial statements were published in the CSMLS 2012 Annual Report. The Chair noted a full detailed financial report is available from the national office upon request and is also available to members attending the AGM.

There were no questions about the report and the following motion was approved:

"Be it moved that the Auditor's Report be accepted as circulated."

(Tricia VanDenakker, Adam Chrobak)

7. Annual Report for 2012

The Annual Report will be available online at www.csmls.org. Additional copies will be available for order by emailing info@csmls.org and were also available to members attending the AGM.

8. Report from the Board of Directors

Members of the Board of Directors provided an update of Board activities since the beginning of the year.

9. Report of the Nominating Committee

Tricia VanDenakker, Past President and Chair of the Nominating Committee, Winnipeg, MB reported the results of the Ballot to the Assembly for election of officers for 2014.

She noted that the Nominating Committee is a committee of the CSMLS membership, and she thanked the members of the 2012 Committee for their service. She noted that the call for participants will be published in the fall CjMLS and asked members to consider volunteering for this committee.

New to CSMLS this year was electronic voting. As a responsible corporate citizen and to reduce our carbon footprint, CSMLS decided to leverage technology and implement electronic voting. Paper voting costs the society over \$25,000 annually.

The membership was notified through CjMLS with the front cover advertising that voting was offered online and by paper ballot.

We mailed 11,967 English and 652 French journals. We received 17 requests for a paper ballot.

We then reminded the membership via weekly emails about the voting process. 8,927 were notified in English and 451 in French.

CSMLS did see a decline in voting this year. A thorough analysis was completed by the CSMLS head office and possible reasons were reported to the assembly.

We believe that voter engagement is an indicator of the engagement of the members and we hope that it will increase in the following years as members become more familiar with the process.

Tricia VanDenakker reported the results of the Ballot count by the Auditor, and announced the following successful candidates:

Vice President – **Chris Hirtle**, Western Shore, NS
Bilingual Director – **Lisette Vienneau**, Fort St John, BC
Director, Atlantic – **Greg Dobbin**, Little York, PE
Director, Alberta & Northwest Territories – **Jöel Rivero**, Edmonton, AB

“Be it moved that the Report of the Nominating Committee be accepted as presented.”

(Tricia VanDenakker, Michelle Sykes)

10. New Business: Appointment of Auditor

The following motion was presented and approved:

“Be it moved that the firm of Stevenson & Lehocki, Chartered Accountants, be appointed as auditor for the CSMLS for the year 2014.”

(Linda Carman, Lisette Vienneau)

11. New Business: Amendment to the Bylaws

The following motions were presented and approved by the 2/3 majority as required by the Bylaws.

a) Change the names of Officers and Officials to Board Representatives

“Be it moved that changing the names of Officers and Officials to Board representatives be accepted.”

(Scott Martin, Lisette Vienneau)

b) Provision for Electronic messaging

“Be it moved that the Bylaws be revised to add “electronic” to articles associated with mailing only.”

(Victoria Zaine, Erica Meredith)

c) Registry

ARTICLE 2.0 – Registry

2.2. The CSMLS shall provide a Roster of names of all CSMLS certified medical laboratory technologists and laboratory assistants who are currently members in good standing and who have consented to the publication of their names in the Roster. This may be provided in electronic or print format.

Nancy Banks of Nelson, BC asked why cytotechnologist and cytotechs are not listed separately in the Roster. Also is the combined lab and x-ray part of the registry? The chair indicated that the cytotechnologist and cytologist fell under the medical laboratory technologist category.

C. Nielsen, CEO clarified that if a CLXT was a MLT or MLA to start, they would appear on the Roster as their certification level, but a combined lab x-ray who has not been certified through CSMLS will not appear on the Roster.

Mrs. Banks also asked if pathology assistants (PA) were certified. Ms. Nielsen indicated that they are not certified by CSMLS; they can be certified as a medical laboratory technologist and be working as a pathology assistant and that person would be listed, but there is no provision for PA certification in Canada, yet. CSMLS is communicating with the Canadian Association of Pathologist to talk about

how we might be able to help them.

Mrs. Banks asked whether it is understood that cytogenetics and genetics are part of medical laboratory technologists. Ms. Nielsen stated that if you were a cytotechnologist listed as certified in '75, it will say '75CY, and clinical genetics will say '75CG. The designation for cytotechs, genetic techs and general techs is MLT, so it is assumed under the credential MLT.

Adam Chrobak, Winnipeg, MB indicated the he was a cytotechnologist and a medical laboratory technologist and felt sad to see that MLTs still don't realize that cytotechnologists are MLTs. Only in Quebec do you have to be a general MLT before becoming a cytotechnologist.

"Be it moved that the proposed change to Article 2.0., item 2.2 be accepted as presented."

(Victoria Zaine, Nathalie Rodrigue)

d) Membership Categories

ARTICLE 3.0. - MEMBERSHIP

3.1.2. A Certified Non-practising Member is a certified member in good standing who is not working in a situation which requires the application of knowledge of medical laboratory science.

3.2. A Student Member CMA Accredited shall be enrolled in a full-time CMA accredited* training program leading to CSMLS certification.

*CMA Accredited - Canadian Medical Association Conjoint Accreditation Services

3.4. Affiliate Member Category (Note: Not open to new applicants. Closed 2012: grandparented members only.)

"Be it moved that the proposed change to Article 3.0., item 3.2.1., 3.2. and 3.4. be accepted as presented."

(Michael Angers, Colin Power)

e) Terms of Membership

ARTICLE 4.0. - Terms of Membership

4.1. CSMLS certified active medical laboratory technologist and laboratory assistant members and those certified non-practising members who have been granted honorary membership shall be entitled to all the privileges and services of the CSMLS, as defined by the Board of Directors (Board) including those of voting and holding elected office.

4.2. Certified Non-practising Members and Certified Retired Members who have not been granted honorary membership shall be entitled to all the privileges and services of the CSMLS, as defined by the Board of Directors, except for holding elected office.

4.3. Student Members CMA Accredited, Student Members Non-accredited and Transitional Graduate Members shall be entitled to all of the privileges and services of the CSMLS, as defined by the Board of Directors, except for voting and holding elected office.

4.4. Affiliate Members (grandparented) and provincial laboratory assistant members shall be entitled to all the privileges and services of CSMLS, as defined by the Board of Directors, except for holding elected office.

4.9. When members' fees remain unpaid as of the January 1 deadline, their names shall be removed from the membership rolls and their membership shall stand suspended, without need for further action or notice.

Rosalie Richard, Charlottetown, PEI wanted clarification on the previous vote to change officers and officials to Board representatives and indicated that Article 4.0. was not in alignment with that bylaw change.

The chair noted that they are still the Board of Directors but for clarification in the Bylaws the elected officers will be noted as representatives of the Board of Directors.

Michael Arbuckle, Yellowknife, NT stated his question regarding the lack of notice after the 30 days grace period has ended. He is aware of quite a few members who can be a little lax in returning their renewals on time and would prefer as a society if we could offer one last notice to those individuals, stating that their membership has been suspended and that it is a final notice.

The chair indicated that there was a lot of discussion regarding this Bylaw change and one of the reasons for this change is because in the regulated provinces, CSMLS provides professional liability insurance. As of January 1st a regulated member who has not renewed will no longer be covered for professional liability insurance, so we want to be very clear.

Mr. Arbuckle indicated that he felt that a last notice should be sent to the member indicating this information for awareness and CSMLS might see an increase in renewal rates.

S. Irene Kritikopoulos, Toronto, ON stated her question regarding electronic payment of fees. She was concerned with the new direction of government, banks and charging extra fees on your credit cards and many members may want to pay by cheque. This may delay the receipt of payment.

The chair indicated to the assembly that the renewals are sent out in September giving adequate time for members to renew by the deadline.

Colin Power, St. John's, NL made reference to the comment on the grace period and extension. As a newly regulated body in Newfoundland, members are required to have PLI as of January 1st. If a member is getting close to the deadline date the regulator will send them a letter to renew or the member will be taken off their Roster. Most regulatory bodies have the same stances. It is in the few unregulated provinces, who we are hopeful will change soon, but the grace periods will no longer be required, especially in some regulated provinces because it is mandatory that they must carry PLI and most are moving towards that.

Susan Atkinson, Moncton, NB supported Mr. Power on his statement. She indicated that having lived and worked in two regulated provinces the members are notified well in advance of the deadline. She indicated having been on the Board of Directors, this was an issue brought forward by regulators and that this grace period created conflict, so the CSMLS over time is able to be in a position that they can align with the regulators.

Moses Ogunkunle, High Level, AB, stated that the date of January 31st works better for Alberta because by December 31st of every year you must register with the college. So if by January 1st you have not paid your annual registration fee with the college you cannot practice in Alberta as an MLT, so this issue of a one month grace period of January 31st would work for AB.

Mr. Ogunkunle indicated that electronic payment is good for members because if you consider sending a cheque you will have to pay the postage to mail to CSMLS. Members must be mindful of the deadline for payment and if Canada Post is ever on strike, we have other payment options. The CEO commented that every year we have more members who renew using the online payment option.

“Be it moved that the proposed change to Article 4.0., item 4.1., 4.2., 4.3., 4.4., and 4.9. be accepted as presented.”

(Natalie Campbell, Lisa Denesiuk)

f) Elected Officers and Officials

ARTICLE 5.0. – Elected *Board Representatives*

5.2.2. Each representative referred to in Section 5.1.1. shall be elected to hold office for a three-year term at an Annual General Meeting, with all duties and responsibilities commencing on the first (1st) day of January following his or her election, unless:

- i. any such individual was elected to complete the unexpired term of a former representative, in which case such individual shall be elected for the remainder of such term; or
- ii. if qualified, each individual who has been elected as a representative shall be eligible for re-election provided that no individual may hold office for more than two consecutive terms.

“Be it moved that the proposed change to Article 5.0., item 5.2.2. be accepted as presented.”

(Tricia VanDenakker, Shelley Sanders)

g) Elected Representatives

ARTICLE 5.0. – Elected *Board Representatives*

5.4. All elected Board representatives and members of standing committees acting on behalf of the CSMLS, upon the direction of the Board of Directors, shall be entitled to be reimbursed for authorized expenses incurred during their term of office. No elected representative or member of a standing committee shall be entitled to receive remuneration for carrying out the duties of their

office; exception is a stipend for the current serving President, as per the Board Policy Manual.

“Be it moved that the proposed change to article 5.0., item 5.4. be accepted as presented.”

(Tricia VanDenakker, Lorna Zilic)

h) Election of Officers

ARTICLE 6.0. – Election of Board Representatives

6.6. The ballots, completed by the voting members, shall be returned to the CSMLS office within 21 days from the date of electronic posting or the date of mailing. The ballots shall be counted by the Auditor of the CSMLS.

“Be it moved that the proposed change to Article 6.0., item 6.6. be accepted as presented.”

(Patricia Verbeke, Terry Akister)

i) Duties and Responsibilities of Elected Representatives

ARTICLE 7.0. – Duties and Responsibilities of Elected Representatives

7.2.1. The President shall be an ex officio non-voting member of all other committees and councils except the Nominating Committee, the Professional Standards Council and where specifically excluded.

“Be it moved that the proposed change to Article 7.0., item 7.2.1. be accepted as presented.”

(Patricia Verbeke, Terry Akister)

Michelle Sykes, Winnipeg, MB asked the chair, since the proposed changes were previously circulated to the membership, could the motion be read without reading the full current and proposed changes. The chair asked the assembly and all were in favour of reading the motion only going forward.

j) Duties of Appointed Staff

ARTICLE 8.0. - Duties of Appointed Staff

8.1. The Chief Executive Officer shall be the Chief Staff Officer of the CSMLS, accountable to the Board of Directors.

“Be it moved that the proposed change to Article 8.0., item 8.1. be accepted as presented.”

(Tania Toffner, Michele Perry)

k) Meetings

ARTICLE 9.0. - Meetings

9.2. Notice of the Annual General Meeting of the CSMLS, together with the agenda for the meeting shall be sent to the members electronically and posted on the CSMLS website not less than 30 days prior to the meeting.

9.4. Notice of a Special Meeting of the CSMLS, together with the purpose of holding the meeting shall be sent to the members electronically and posted on the CSMLS website not less than 15 days prior to the meeting. The date, time and place of the meeting shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

"Be it moved that the proposed change in Article 9.0., item 9.2. and 9.4. be accepted as presented."
(Tania Toffner, Adam Chrobak)

l) Voting

ARTICLE 10.0. – Voting

10.2. In the event of a tie vote at any meeting the presiding President, or in his/her absence, presiding Chair may cast the deciding vote.

"Be it moved that the proposed change to Article 10.0., item 10.2. be accepted as presented."
(Ike Agbassi, Adam Chrobak)

m) Voting

ARTICLE 10.0. – Voting

10.3 A special mail/electronic vote may be called for by the Board of Directors or by a majority of voting members at an annual general or special meeting of the membership, on an issue of national importance on which it is desirable that all members be given an opportunity to vote. Where the Canada Corporations Act or these bylaws require a meeting, the Board of Directors will use the results of the vote to determine whether to take the issue forward to a membership meeting.

10.4. A majority vote of the members in attendance at any meeting of the CSMLS or by electronic or mail vote shall prevail unless the Act or these bylaws otherwise provide.

10.5. The ballots for any electronic or mail vote shall be forwarded by the Chief Executive Officer to each eligible voting member within sixty (60) days after the call for the electronic or mail vote is approved.

10.6. The ballots, completed by the voting members, shall be returned to the CSMLS office within twenty-one (21) days from the date of electronic or mailing of the ballot. Ballots shall be counted by the Auditor of the CSMLS.

“Be it moved that the proposed change to Article 10.0., item 10.3., 10.4., 10.5., and 10.6. be accepted as presented.”

(Ike Agbassi, Colleen Gibson)

n) Board of Directors

ARTICLE 11.0. – Board of Directors

11.4. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at such time and place as may be determined by the Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the President. Notice of the time and place of meetings shall be *sent electronically* to each *representative* not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting.

“Be it moved that the proposed change to Article 11.0., item 11.4. be accepted as presented.”

(Sonja Chamberlin, Melissa Sereda)

o) Council on National Certification

ARTICLE 13.0. – Professional Standards Council

13.1. The Professional Standards Council shall be responsible for:
Policy recommendations to the Board of Directors for Certification, Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) and Standards of Practice.

13.2. The Professional Standards Council shall consist of one member from each Provincial/Territorial organization, one member from the CSMLS Board of Directors and one member from the Examination Panels.

13.2.1. The provincial regulatory body, where one exists, or where there is no regulatory body, the provincial society, shall appoint the member from that province.

13.2.2 A presiding Chair shall be appointed bi-annually by the Board of Directors.

13.2.3. The representative of the Examination Panels shall be elected by the members of the Examination Panels.

13.2.4. The CSMLS Chief Executive Officer or designate shall be the ex officio secretary, without the right to vote or present motions.

13.2.5. The presiding Chair shall not have voting privileges. In the case of an equality of votes, the motion is lost.

13.3. Meetings of the Professional Standards Council shall be held at a time and place determined by the presiding Chair, in consultation with the CSMLS Chief Executive Officer. Notice of the time and place of meetings shall be sent electronically to each representative not less than fourteen (14)

days prior to the date of the meeting.

13.4. The term of office shall be three (3) years, commencing January 1st, except where the regulations governing a provincial regulatory body provide otherwise.

13.5. The Professional Standards Council shall have the right to request reconsideration of a decision made by the CSMLS Board of Directors.

“Be it moved that the proposed change to Article 13.0., item 13.1., 13.2., 13.2.1., 13.2.2., 13.2.3., 13.2.4., 13.2.5., 13.3., 13.3.1., 13.3.3., 13.4. and 13.5. be accepted as presented.”

(Sonja Chamberlin, Lucie Alain)

p) National/Provincial Consultative Framework

ARTICLE 20.0. – National/Provincial Consultative Framework

20.1. To carry out the mission and goals of the CSMLS, it is imperative that CSMLS work cooperatively with provincial societies and provincial regulatory bodies for medical laboratory science. To achieve this requires structured consultative mechanisms involving representation of CSMLS and the provinces. The Professional Standards Council (Article 13.0.) and Council on Government & Public Relations addresses this requirement.

20.2. The Council on Government & Public Relations shall be the consultative body on issues of advocacy that affects the profession.

20.2.1. The Council on Government & Public Relations shall be composed of the Executive Director (CEO/Registrar) (or designate*) of each Provincial/Territorial organization responsible for government relations, advocacy and/or public relations. *Any voting member body may, at its discretion, send another elected officer to represent their President.

20.2.2. The presiding Chair for meetings of the Council on Government & Public Relations shall be the President Elect of CSMLS. The presiding Chair shall not have voting privileges. In the event of a tie vote, the motion is lost.

20.2.3. The Council on Government & Public Relations shall meet at least once each year.

20.2.4. Each jurisdiction shall have one vote.

20.2.5. The Council on Government & Public Relations shall be involved with activities, which include advocacy and communication for national and provincial requirements.

“Be it moved that the proposed change to Article 20.0., 20.1., 20.2., 20.2.1., 20.2.2., 20.2.3., 20.2.4., 20.2.5., 20.2.6., 20.3., 20.3.1., 20.3.2., 20.3.3., 20.3.4., 20.3.5., 20.3.6., 20.4., 20.4.1., 20.4.2., 20.4.3., 20.4.4., 20.4.5. and 20.4.6. be accepted as presented.”

(Susan Atkinson, Sylvie LeBreton)

12. Further Business

The Chair invited questions from the membership, noting that any comments under this section would be recommendations to the Board of Directors only and not motions for vote. They could not be regarded as binding as they were not pre-circulated to the membership for consideration as required by our bylaws.

Moses Ogunkunle, High Level, AB wanted to thank the Board and CEO for the wonderful things they have been doing. Voting electronically was wonderful and he had sent a letter to the CEO stating same.

Mr. Ogunkunle asked a question regarding infection control practitioners. There is a course offered by CSMLS on infection control and if this course is taken is it recognized as a profession to work as an infection control practitioner in Canada? C. Nielsen, CEO indicated that the qualifications for Infection Control Practitioners varies from workplace to workplace and the CSMLS will not be able to guarantee that the use of the infection control course will meet the standards in the workplace. Infection control is a profession that medical laboratory technologists are moving into and where we should be moving in quicker than we have been because it has been the domain of nursing for a long time. However, at this time we are unable to give a firm answer that would be binding across the country.

Mr. Ogunkunle also asked, if you were an MLT prior to this new role as an Infection Control Practitioner do you carry Professional Liability Insurance (PLI)? C. Nielsen, CEO stated that the definition of our professional liability insurance goes back to our initial competency profile, if you were originally certified as a general medical laboratory technologist and you are involved in microbiology and general infection control practices you would be covered for PLI. The challenge would be if you were working beyond the scope of practice, so if someone is working in infection control and releasing reports to the Medical Officer of Health we would want to know what is the competence that is acquired for that type of situation. Therefore, even today we can grant Professional Liability Insurance if there is evidence from the workplace that you are competent in the practice that you are doing. Ms. Nielsen encouraged anyone who has an individual question about what they are doing and if they are covered under PLI to get in touch with the office so that we may contact our insurance supplier to obtain a definitive answer about their situation.

Mr. Ogunkunle also questioned the new paper member cards and noted before members had a plastic member I.D. card. He wanted to know why we have changed to paper. C. Nielsen indicated that there was a decision as the world goes electronic we can make provisions for members to get their cards themselves. The Board and the staff did hear the feedback from the members and we have not made the decision at this time on what will happen for 2014. We have fielded complaints, however, less than 5% of our membership has issued a complaint, so we have to make that decision as a Board and staff on what is that threshold for member complaint versus cost for production.

Mr. Ogunkunle was also concerned about the attendance numbers at the AGM; they were much lower than the previous year and wanted to know what the Board planned to do. C. Nielsen discussed the possible reasons for member attendance at the AGM. It is a challenge when CSMLS puts together an annual congress and AGM; many people must take leave time and members are incurring these costs on their own, so we are trying to economize and scale back to accommodate the members. It is our job as a society to encourage members to come out and participate in our

AGM. It was disappointing that we did not see the turn out we would have wanted.

M. Ramzan Anjum, Vancouver, BC asked if our auditor was a new position to the society. The chair indicated that the auditor is an outside company hired by the society to review our books annually. Internally we have our Team Lead of Corporate Services that does the bookkeeping and accounting for the year and then we have an external auditing company. Because we are a not-for-profit company, by law we are required to hire an external company to do our books. Mr. Anjum asked how much this cost the membership. The chair indicated that cost for this service is based on the size of the organization and it costs about twenty thousand per year.

Mr. Anjum noted that the membership numbers are declining and asked if the society was going to assign representatives to help recruit members to the society. The chair indicated that we do have different roadshows and marketing strategies to help with member engagement. Our member numbers are actually up from prior years to just over 15,000. Our membership is healthy and strong but we will continue to get people more engaged.

Susan Atkinson, Moncton, NB commented on the time of the AGM. She commends the organizing committee for trying to schedule the AGM where it is feasible, yet still allow for encouragement of employers to allow medical laboratory technologists and medical laboratory assistants to take part in our conferences. It still is an issue, but hope in time the employers will recognize the importance of our conference.

Linda Carman, Hay River, NT asked if there was any way for CLXT's to bridge over into a lab registration. In the western provinces there is a lot of difficulty trying to integrate the two teams together and sometimes this can create conflict in the workplace. The chair indicated that the Board has had discussions about this topic.

C. Nielsen, CEO indicated that the most promising thing regarding Combined Lab X-ray is that there is a new CEO at Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologist (CAMRT) who is as interested in the issue as the CSMLS. As in many cases, some jurisdictions indicate you are not supposed to be representing a lab if you are not a lab professional and not certified. As for the people who have been cross trained and for those who are currently in the job, we do not have the best solution yet. CSMLS has been involved with very early talks with the Alberta College of Combined Lab X-ray Techs and have heard from them that they are looking to harmonize all the CLXT's across Canada, as the Alberta College has memberships from almost all jurisdictions in Canada. They are recognizing the need for national certification and they have reached out to CSMLS because we have expertise in certification and a harmonized national standard for PLI. It is in the early stages but Ms. Nielsen believes the timing is right for both organizations, and talks will continue with where the CSMLS fits in the picture.

13. Resolutions

The following resolutions were presented and approved by the assembly with a round of applause:

"Be it resolved that we extend our sincere thanks to:

- *all volunteers for their dedicated work in support of the mission of CSMLS; and*

- *CSMLS staff for their extra effort and hard work during the past year.”*
(Janelle Bourgeois, S. Irene Kritikopoulos)

“Be it resolved that we extend our sincere thanks to the following:

- *to the 2013 Exhibitor’s and Sponsors who continually support LABCON and add to its success, and to*
- *the translators for translating our proceedings.”*

(Janice Jones, Colin Powers)

14. Adjournment

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 1807h.