

2021 Annual General Meeting Vancouver Latin American Cultural Centre Society

Saturday, April 24, 2021 Time: 10:30 AM

Place: Zoom Video Conference

List of members present at the meeting:

Luiza Alton
Tamara Mitchell
Alessandra Vinhas
Miret Rodríguez
Sandra Vigil Fonseca
Michelle Carrington
Cristina Cury
Leslie Thompson
Jobyoán Villarreal
Andre Vicente Brasil Correa
Yaimel Lopez Zaldivar
Rocio Vasquez Portillo
Carmen Rodriguez
Lili Vieira de Carvalho (E.D.)

Round of introductions

The meeting starts at 10:46am

1. Approval of Agenda

No items were added to the agenda. Victor moves to approve the agenda. Seconded by Michelle Carrington. All in favour.

2. Approval of Minutes of previous AGM (May 09, 2020)

Victor moves to approve the minutes from May 2020, seconded by Alan. All in favour. Tamara Mitchell abstained for a vote on minutes (she wasn't present)

3. 2020 Annual Report presentation by the E.D.

Lili goes over the 2020 Annual Report. The floor is open for questions, but there are no questions. Victor thanks Lili for her good work.

4. Approval of new bylaws

The current bylaws were circulated by email and posted online. Consultant Leslie Thompson recommended updating them so they comply with the newer BC societies act. She also thought that a funder would need to see us as a solid, secure, stable organization. The new bylaws focus on that. We hired a lawyer to develop a draft for the new bylaws, Martha Rans. She works mainly with non-profit organizations. She gave us a lot of good advice. Our current bylaws left us vulnerable to loopholes. For instance, people could become members and right away at the AGM take over to change the mandate of the organization. New members now need to be approved at board meetings. There are also other practical items that are improved in the new bylaws, i.e. electronically sending invitations and holding meetings electronically. That was not in the bylaws before. A quorum was 3, now it is 7. Now we need a larger group of people to pass motions. The floor opens to questions.

Motion made by Victor Martinez: **I move to approve and adopt changes and amendments to VLACCS bylaws as disseminated to everyone in attendance.** Seconded by Sandra Vigil Fonseca. All in favour. The motion passes.

5. Presentations of 2020 Financial Statement

Jose Juan presents the Financial Statement

Carmen says she sees near to nothing related to the goal of having a physical space. Victor says that a big part of the budget was spent on consultants, strategic planning, and fundraising strategy to prepare the organization for a future capital campaign. We need to recruit more board members for specific tasks and experiences that will bring us closer to this goal. For example, we have Alessandra who is a government relations specialist building relations with officials. Three paid staff dedicated to moving our goal further. By focusing on building a strong society we come closer to our goal of having a physical centre.

Carmen asks if there are any real possibilities on the horizon.

Victor answers that other communities are a priority for the 3 levels of government but we are not one of them.

The Britannia Community Centre redevelopment seems like a good opportunity and there are other developments in the city that we are looking at.

Luiza Alton is preparing a long-term budget that will include the possibility of physical space.

Andre Brasil feels comfortable and excited about the numbers.

Yaimel Lopez feels hopeful with these numbers.

For Jobyoan everything looks great. The objectives that we have are great. He is not familiar with our objectives, but he thinks organizations that have clear objectives are easier to fund.

Victor explains that we will be working with a marketing and communication specialist. We are preparing to become managers of a future centre.

Jobyoan Villareal says we can establish some indicators, he can help us establish that.

Miret's goal is to align our programming with our objectives.



6. President's Report

Victor doesn't have a report besides all the things that he has mentioned before. He wants to thank our board members who are stepping down today: Monica Coll, Michelle Carrington, Daniella Franken, and Alissa Zaidan. Michelle is going to keep working with us as a volunteer in other capacities. We want to thank all of them for the time and hard work they have donated to the organization.

7. Election of Board Members for the 2021-2023 term

Board terms will be of 2 years from now on, according to the new bylaws. This time we will be voting for a new slate. We will not be assigning positions at this time.

Motion made by Leslie Thompson: **Leslie moves to present and confirm the new board composed by Victor Martinez Aja, Sandra Vigil Fonseca, Jose Juan Ordonez, Alessandra Vinhas, Luiza Alton, Cristina Cury, Miret Rodriguez, and Alan Creighton-Kell.** Seconded by Miret. All in favour.

This new board is bringing new skills, Luiza Alton, CPA, will be the treasurer, Cristina with a background in service will help us with fundraising. We will have a trained diplomat working in government relations.

8. Other Business

None

9. Adjournment of AGM

At 11:42am Victor moves to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jose Juan. All in favour.