



Canadian Council of Herbalist Associations – Annual Summary 2021

The CCHA met for the AGM on December 10, 11, 12 2021, online.

The following is a summary of our activities of the past year, as was detailed during our AGM.

current board of directors

President – Katolen Yardley

Vice president – Savayda Jarone

Members at large - Chanchal Cabrera (BC), Nancy Majoulian (ON), Lianna Vargas (ON), Daniel Wiseman (NS) , Tracy Sharuga (AB)

The board welcomed Tracy Sharuga to join the board as the representative from Alberta Herbalists Association.

Financial report 2021

opening balance \$1053.51 on 1 January 2021

income \$5000 from Canadian Herb Conference on February 1st
\$600 on June 14th from provincial dues (BC, ON, NS)

expenses \$190 on 8 May for a 5 year web domain renewal
\$459 on September 20 for directors' liability insurance
\$150 on September 20 for Volunteer Canada membership
monthly banking fee of \$6.50

Current balance \$5809.51 on 21 December 2021

Herbal Elders

The board sadly reports that one of the CCHA Herbal Elders, John Redden, tragically passed away suddenly in 2021, and we send condolences to his family.

Two new Herbal Elders were inducted in 2021 :

Jan Kahehti:io Longboat, ON

Marie Rose Delorme Smith – Alberta

The CCHA also created another category of recognition for Notable Herbal Contributor and invited Nick Faunus and Penelope Beaudrow, both from Ontario, to be the first recipients of the recognition. Criteria for the invitation are:

- A herbalist who has worked with in the field of herbal medicine for at least 25 years (Outside of consulting in a clinic environment consulting with clients in a practitioner-client centered relationship. Not in private practice in a clinic environment)
- May be nominated by provincial herbal association, the CCHA or an individual
- Minimal criteria of herbal medicine contribution is at least 25 years
- Contribution to industry within the field of herbal medicine, (product development, research, activism, consultants to business, herbal event planning, community events)
- Academic contributions (writing and/ or teaching)
- Please submit a background biography
- Retired and deceased members are welcome to be nominated (A family member may accept a certificate for a deceased)
- Accepted nominees will have their names listed under the Notable Herbal Contributor section of the website.

Constitution renewal

Since 2018 a major task of the board was the renewal of our constitution documents, which was completed in 2021 and submitted for federal filing and sent to all CCHA provincial members. The board would like to thank Katolen, in particular, for her extra time and effort spent on this large process.

National outreach

The board is actively engaged in supporting Quebec and New Brunswick to send representatives to CCHA in 2022, and in supporting Manitoba and Saskatchewan to create an association. As a representative from CCHA, Katolen has been attending meetings with herbalists from MN, SK and AB as they consider sharing resources to form a prairies association together.

There is \$3000 held in a fund to support provinces creating new herbal associations, kindly donated by the Canadian Herb Conference.

website and social media

The board welcomed a new volunteer, Zhyfhs Millicent, to offer social media and IT support. We encourage you to check out the revamped CCHA on Instagram and Facebook and share them.

Over the next few months we will be posting a series of “herbal tool kits” for practitioners consisting of practical resources for clinical practice and teaching in a pandemic. We will report more on this to our member associations as the project develops.

Also, on the website you will find the CCHA response to Health Canada regarding allowable glyphosate levels in our food supply.

Ethics and Grievance processes

The CCHA has committed to a review of the code of ethics and grievance processes of all the members, and to work with the provinces to build more robust policies and procedures for how to deal with issues of conflict or complaint within an association.

Sustainability Task Force

Based on the level of interest generated by the Canadian Herb Conference of 2020, the CCHA formed a Sustainability Task Force 2021, with the mandate of creating and sharing educational and guidance documents to our members regarding best practices in herb procurement. We have been working in collaboration with herbalists with notable expertise in this matter and are developing documents and forms to help practitioners know more about their herbs and where they came from.

Health Insurance Plan

The Insurance Subcommittee is working to get herbal medicine covered by private health care insurance schemes. We have a new team working with the goal of completion by our next AGM.

Natural and Non prescription Health Products Department

The CCHA has maintained our relationship with the NNHPD this year by attending several stakeholder meetings regarding issues of labelling and traditional medicine claims.

Due to Covid there has been significantly less reporting from Health Canada to the stakeholders about what is being implemented at a regulatory level. The CCHA is particularly concerned with continued freedom of access to herbs by herbalists. The board has commenced a consultation process with a lawyer to consider how this may best be approached and managed.

report written 21 January 2022