



**Alberta Invasive Species Council
Annual General Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2019
Lacombe Memorial Centre**

Called to order by AISC Chair, Dave Hayman at 4:46 p.m.

Minutes of April 24, 2018 Annual General Meeting – Dave Hayman

- 2018 Draft AGM meeting minutes were posted on the website a month prior to the AGM.
- Motion to accept by Lindsay Benbow, seconded by Lori Morgan. Carried.
- No business arising from the Minutes

Chair's Report – Dave Hayman

- AISC Board meetings held February 26th, March 16th, May 29th and October 10th
- Executive Director in 2018/2019 is Delinda Ryerson
- Fundraising casino held at the Starlight Casino at West Edmonton Mall early September, where we received >\$82,000. Thank you to all who helped, it is important for organization's bottom line and to sustain operations.

Financial Report – Matt Gibson

- Bookkeeping was done by GB Bookkeeping and accounting was done by Padgett Business Services.
- Three-year trend on assets and liabilities shows we are slowly growing a nest egg, should sponsorships and funding dry up (Tables 1-3 below).
- There was deferred revenue prior to 2017 and we decided to declare this deferred income.
- We are in great shape! Lot's of hard work done on the financial side to carry forward and for good opportunities in the future.
- Padgett Business Services will be reviewing the AISC books and preparing financial statements in 2019/2020.
- No questions or concerns and no business with information provided by Matt.
- Motion to accept by Dave Hayman, seconded by Jay Byer. Carried.

Report on Operations – Delinda Ryerson (see 2019 AGM Operations Report.pdf)

- Delinda introduced all current AISC Directors.
- The AISC Board is represented by Industry, Provincial Government, Other Government (Municipal) and Academic/Individual
- The Alberta Environment and Parks grant and associated deliverables allowed us to hire Natalie Horne to assist with operations and to increase our social media presence. Developed partnership with Southern Alberta Land Trust Society to further supplement the control methods for 20 species selected.
- Delinda promoted EDDMapS Alberta at numerous events across the province (see list below).
- EDDMapS Alberta was downloaded in 2018 by 2,958 iPhone users and 208 Android users.
- Current municipal users are MD of Ranchlands, Town of High River, City of Edmonton. Trying to engage other municipalities to populate EDDMapS Alberta.
- We will be adding the plant ID key from the Alberta Weed Spotter app to EDDMapS Alberta and hope to eventually add the capability iNaturalist app has by identifying the species for you.
- Will also be working on developing a Grow Me Instead app associated with EDDMapS Alberta.
- Created twelve electronic newsletters/campaigns
- Delinda stepped up as the Vice-Chair of the Canadian Council of Invasive Species
- Increased sponsorship in 2018 and sent out a Christmas letter and posters to sponsors.
- Membership increased from under 100 in 2015 to over 200 in 2019
- Operational release program had 120 releases in 2018
- Delinda took formal facilitation training to help the group build on consensus building
- See slides for 2019 To Do List
- Our STEP student submission was successful so we will be hiring a student this summer.
- Delinda will look into obtaining charitable status due to limitation in grant availability
- We hope to co-deliver the ID Guide for Alberta Invasive Plants with AAAF next year.
- Delinda had an interview with AG-Matters.com, and they are receptive to doing a monthly column
- Delinda received an invitation to author a chapter in an international publication on invasive alien species
- Thanked all of the sponsors as the AISC would not exist without them.

Communication and Social Media (Natalie Horne)

- Going through social media sites and completing updates, including fixing broken links as several remain.
- Will update website to have biocontrol and conference information
- Plan to update information like Invaders series
- Google analytics being used to track visitation and to see what factsheets are being accessed and what are 'hot' topics on social media.

- AISC is more popular on Facebook than other sites
- The most reached for February was Plantwise: Alternatives for your garden
- Instagram is a work in progress, not great for content but good for getting our name out there.
- Natalie working hard to getting the AISC name out in the social media and is trying to respond to inquiries within a few hours of receiving.
- We are interested in content. If you have anything of interest send it to Natalie so she can post it and get it to a wider audience

Kelly Cooley

- Kelly was involved with the NAISMA sub- committee to create EDDMapS Alberta, which was originally done with paper records.
- He emphasized that EDDMaps Alberta can be a very useful and powerful invasive species tracking tool. He is encouraged by the increase of its use last year, as we received submissions nearly daily this past summer.

2019 Board Elections

- 6 vacancies and 6 nominations, however, it was made clear that this does not prevent anyone in the audience from putting their name forward.
- Nominations and newly elected Directors are as follows:
 - Dr. Patrick Hannington (Academic/Individual)
 - Jason Storch (Academic/Individual)
 - Leah Predy (Industry)
 - Dave Stepinsky (Government of Alberta, Non-voting)
 - Doug Macaulay (Government of Alberta)
 - Todd Green (Other government)
- No one else put their name forward and all 6 nominees received individual notions to accept them into an AISC board of Directors positions. Due to the Alberta Government elections, elections results will be finalized at the next Board Meeting, following the April 16, 2019 election.

Matt Gibson moved to close the AGM at 6:00 pm

Table 1. AISC Assets, liabilities and fund balance in 2016-2018

ASSETS			
	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Cash	\$315,300	\$297,252	\$188,146
Accounts receivable	\$161,187	\$34,969	\$63,194
GST receivable	\$2,304	\$1,068	\$0
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE			
Accounts payable	\$3,719	\$3,493	\$3,486
Fund Balance	\$482,510	\$333,298	\$251,340

Table 2. AISC Gross Revenue in 2016-2018

GROSS REVENUE			
	<u>2018</u>	<u>*2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Government grants (AEP & CABI)	\$180,000	\$106,000	\$152,035
Industry & other organizations	\$18,800	\$17,475	\$5,470
Operational Release Program	\$93,150	\$93,270	\$74,164
Casino proceeds	\$82,393	\$67,013	\$0
AISC income (conference & management fees)	\$29,107	\$32,013	\$55,838
Sponsorship	\$53,748	\$30,400	\$24,250
Membership	\$5,285	\$3,955	\$4,353
Interest and other income		\$126	\$835
*Deferred revenue recognized		\$138,998	-
Total	\$462,693	\$489,250	\$316,945

Table 3. AISC Expenditures in 2016-2018

EXPENDITURES			
	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Advertising and promotions	\$6,993	\$24,561	\$6,442
Conferences and meetings	\$21,822	\$22,648	\$11,223
Insurance	\$2,150	\$2,356	\$3,510
Interest and bank charges	\$3,559	\$1,711	\$1,711
Professional services	\$6,349	\$6,549	\$4,360
Staff/Contractors	\$145,302	\$103,279	\$186,956
Biocontrol Staff	\$84,320	\$82,154	\$103,451
Travel and accommodation	\$21,238	\$20,612	\$17,144
Office supplies and utilities	\$3,367	\$694	\$1,000
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$167,592	\$209,635	\$35,492

Meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.