

## Attendees

Andre Martel at museum of nature (non member) would like to become a member of CAUS

Bruce Hatcher at CBU (member)

Richard Savignac at Montreal Biodome (member)

Jeremy Heywood at Vancouver Aquarium (member)

Joe Choromanski at Ripleys in Toronto (non member)

John Lindley at DAL (member)

Michelle Ruthenberg at Ripleys in Toronto (non member)

Sherri Ferguson at SFU/UBC/UVIC (members)

Stephanie Gagnon at Expols Nature (member)

Tom McLaggan at MUN (member)

\*Regret Jeffrey Gallant at GEERG (member)

\*Regret Blaise Baret (non member)

Paul Boissinot at Quebec Aquarium (member)

Dave Geddes at University of Guelph (member)

Late Katie Mcgreggor U. Laval (member)

## **Pre AGM CAUS discussions**

### ***Ontario report on status of MOL and CAUS by Dave Geddes***

Science divers fall under MOL regulations requirements for operations/competency and equipment. MOL considers the move by the universities to have a collaborative effort between York, Queens, Guelph etc. that will include the CAUS requirements and the Z275 standard for competency resulting in that they will be both occupational and scientific trained to meet the regulations and our standard. 2.5 weeks of practicum for the training requirements. The program includes scientific training in place of occupational skills while still meeting the MOL requirements of the Z275. Standard.

Joe's concern will be that the standard will not be changed and a minimum of 3 people for any dive and so the exemption does not allow them to set their own standard for operations such as in the US. Jeremy has reinforced that they must have 3 divers for the job and will work with Joe to help understand and have strategies and keep it efficient. Aquarium diving has unique requirements beyond

occupational and scientific diving that needs to be addressed. John Lindley has said they do not consider a snorkel diver to fall under the regulations Dave said only when using breathing apparatus does it fall under regulations.

### ***Webstie***

Regarding the website registration a motion to be sent to the executive to scrap the online registration. Acknowledged the hard work that has been done but it is not working due to the complexity of the follow thru and back scene to keep it running is not happening and problems are arising. We simply do not have time to keep an interactive website and we need to abandon the online registration and hand over to the chair of membership to maintain the list. Jeremy has a proposal from the webmaster from the Vancouver Aquarium for how to keep a web site with only static information. He will propose that we go back to as it was before and has volunteered to take over the admin of the move to the static web site. Paul agreed it is more than what we can handle and that we should do it simple. We should take it to a motion at the AGM. Jeremy has had some time with the Van Aqua web designer to have professional help and as far as paypal it is useful to collect money and should keep it but it will not be automated thru website but not interactive. Using web based services we sign up with survey monkey to host surveys to vote on things remotely such as elections may be the way to go ahead to propose and vote on motions and track votes on issues and the executive.

Card system is not working move to optional card rather than mandatory card due to the administration nightmare and people paying and not receiving cards Paul will propose a new system that may work better but bottom line it needs to be optional so that certificates can be issued by the institution to meet regulations and avoid the problems of being a certifying agency rather than a standards . Universities may be able to produce their own cards thru their system for student cards may be more simple to do it that way with permission to use the logo and do it in house. Table for further discussion.

### ***Report on work to harmonize standard with federal diving regs.***

Regarding the super standard Jeremy has proposed he has had some discussions with Jeremy Stuart at DFO and Bruce Grey at EC and has not yet met with Parks Can and they are all interested in unifying a scientific standard that includes the federal agencies. The impetus to have a unified standard is there and together we have identified the steps to do this by choosing a standard to then go thru to see if we have consensus. Then adjust the structure to include these organizations as members and make their membership meaningful and permanently engaged in the operations so changing executive structure rotates leadership rotating thru these organizations to ensure that we have continuity of effort thru the organizations. In the EU the leadership rotates so we do similar rather than election based. Aquarium sector, university sector the federal sector etc. all have representation on the exec. All have to agree that this would relieve some of the strain of time to the organization that we all face. Upside is that DFO and EC have agreed CAUS standard

is where to start. They would like to continue towards unification if we can include them in a meaningful way.

Paul asks if there is a deadline for the unifications? Or a goal?

JH: goals but no dates first step is to make a motion to adjust the way our exec is set up but requires us to modify bylaws.

BH: agrees that the maintenance of a national standard is the thing that we do and we need to do that well in a way that achieves broad and meaningful acceptance across the country all of the other things in the best of spirit and good will eg. Newsletters and cards can and should only come after we are satisfied that the standard is acceptance and in place. That the feds are included in our organization would be good to set the integrity and will make us better. The cards he has ideas on how to do it and will work with Paul on this issue.

PB: we are not AAUS so we must do what we can we can and not be what they are. Working with DFO and EC will give credibility and may help in Ontario in the future?? Rather than going thru the Ministers in Ontario.???? But this is a good direction to go and we should go this way for a more stable standard.

DG: DFO and EC fall under the labour code and should look at what the national standard already is out there. We need to look at what the accepted national standard is.

SF: Reminder that in Ontario change must go thru parliament unlike what other provinces can do thru their worksafe departments.

Non members now take leave so that we can conduct AGM business.

AGM agenda minutes needed, the agenda and list of motions and financials in front of us and meet in 5 minutes to review.

### **ITEM 1**

AGM attendees

134pm eastern

### **ITEM 2**

JL, RS, PB, JH, SF, SG, TM, DG, BH (11 members represented and we have quorum)

### **ITEM 3**

Nomination of sect.

Sherri proposed by PB

JL seconded

SF proposed PB chair

BH seconded

**ITEM 4**

Adoption of the agenda

BH move to adopt

JH second

**ITEM 5**

Acceptance of last years minutes

JH Move to strike the audit from this years agenda

PB second

BH Move to adopt minutes with item 8 strike

Second by JH

Matters arising

Missing text on item of bylaws....

SF move to have JH take the amendments of the bylaws to the lawyer after agreement by the members

PB second.

Motion to accept financials presented

**ITEM 6**

Balance at 5,072.14 presented by Jeremy with aquarium we are at around 5200 as of today.

PB moves to accept

JL seconded.

**ITEM 7**

PB thanks Sherri for attending and participating at the CSA meetings.

JH has reported on a proposed alignment of standards with Feds and is working on the treasurer side to have a improved way to track funds and membership.

BH suggest that in our 2012 membership list we show phone numbers and that we keep it up to date. JH thanks for updating.

## ITEM 9

JH Motion to take the interactive function of the CAUS website off line and make it a static website and that a new website will be relaunched by JH with the assistance of the Van Aqua web developers and moving to a new host that is better priced.

Seconded JL

JH Motion to purchase a subscription to survey monkey or equivalent

Second PB

SF Motion to have the self audit required this year with dues

Seconded JH

SF Motion to have the cards optional as opposed to required

Seconded JL

Paul will send out list of who currently has cards.

## ITEM 10

### Standard and Procedures Motions and Discussion Points for CAUS AGM 2012

#### PREFACE

1. Add (4) To prevent injuries and illnesses arising out of scientific diving operations.
2. Delete In December 1995, the CAN/CSA Z275.2-92, Occupational Safety Code for Diving Operations, was modified to exclude scientific diving as it is defined in this document. This exclusion is significant because in the provincial jurisdictions that regulate diving in Canada, the CSA code is either referenced directly or used as a template for diving regulations. We are expecting that the regulatory authorities will confer similar status on this Standard.
3. Delete As a result of the equivalency concession made to the Canadian Association for Underwater Science within the CAN/CSA 275.4 (Oct. 1997) Competency Standard, the April 1997 Edition of the CAUS Standard of Practice Section 3.2; Qualification of Divers, was adjusted and expanded.
4. Change All members must understand that where diving legislation is in place, it has precedence over this Standard, and that if this Standard is referenced in legislation it has the force of law. However, ...  
**3.1.3 Diving Safety Officer (DSO)**
5. Delete **3.1.3.4** The Diving Safety Officer shall report to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or his/her designee.

### 3.2.1.1 Medical Requirement

6. Change A diver must be declared medically fit by a licensed physician knowledgeable **trained** in diving medicine, ~~and found to be free of any defect that would prohibit the type of diving in which they will engage.~~

### 3.2.2.4 General Diving Skills

7. (j) 6. Change weight **system** ~~belt~~ removal and replacement;

[Note for DSOs: the working interpretation of the requirement is that the diver must demonstrate the ability to remove and replace his or her weights (belt, system or otherwise) at some point during the diving skills circuit. The DSO must determine what technique is most appropriate and at what point during the dive the skill is completed.]

### 3.2.3.1 Diver-in-Training

8. (d) Change diving must not **take place in hazardous conditions or environments, or include use of special modes and systems (see Section 3.5.2)** ~~include use of special modes and systems (see Section 3.5.2).~~

### 3.2.3.2 Scientific Diver I

9. (c) Change accumulate a minimum 25 logged dives and 15 hours bottom as a Diver-In-Training, or demonstrate to the DSO's satisfaction **knowledge, training and experience equivalent to that of a Scientific Diver I** ~~equivalent knowledge, training and experience as a scientific diver.~~

10. (d) Change **the dives stipulated in 3.2.3.2 (c) must include:**
- 1) the planning and execution of one dive to 20 m under the direct supervision of the DSO, and
  - 2) **the planning and execution of three subsequent dives to 20 m under the direct supervision the DSO or a Scientific Diver I.** ~~plan and execute a minimum of 4 working dives to the anticipated depth under the direct supervision of a Scientific Diver I or Diving Safety Officer.~~
- ### 3.2.3.3 Scientific Diver II

11. (d) Change **plan and execute four dives deeper than 20m and up to 40m, with at least one dive to 40m, under the direct supervision of the DSO, or demonstrate to the DSO's satisfaction logged dive experience equivalent to that of a Scientific Diver II.** ~~plan and execute a minimum of 4 dives to the anticipated depth under the direct supervision of the Diving Safety Officer;~~

### 3.5 Special Operation Conditions

12. Add **Owing to the highly variable nature of scientific diving operations, specialized diving procedures, reflecting specific activities and hazards**

may be developed as required. At no time however are standards to fall below the basic requirements set out in this document.

#### **6.6 Diving Equipment**

13. (f) *Change* weight **system** belt with a quick-release **mechanism** closure;

Motion to accept changes SF  
Second JH

14. *Discussion* – should the 12 dive minimum to stay active be reinstated?  
DG will take this on to come up with wording to propose a minimum dive

#### **ITEM 11**

Election of board members

180 days in advance needs to be sent

Motion to hold electronic election proposed PB

Second SF

Motion to send out call for nominations this week by JH

Second JH

#### **ITEM 12**

Date of next AGM was voted to be in PQ in conjunction with EC and DFO we save money with webex online but we need to meet in person is important.

Perhaps every 2 years in person and inbetween by webex or similar host.

Motion to hold next meeting in PQ in 2013 May 24/25 in conj with EC or DFO PB

Second SF

#### **ITEM 13**

Motion to adjourn the meeting PB 3pm eastern

Second JH

