

DATE/DATE:

August 17, 2022

LOCATION/ENDROIT:

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PRINCIPAL(S)/PRINCIPAUX:

Michael T. Cohen, MD, President, CMPA

Lisa Calder, MD, MSc, FRCPC, CEO, CMPA

Syexwáliya / Ann Whonnock, Knowledge Keeper, Elder Advisor, First Nations Health Authority

SUBJECT/SUJET:

The Canadian Medical Protective Association holds an English information session as part of their annual meeting.

File Name: Opening remarks and call to order

00:00:07

Michael T. Cohen: Thank you. Before we start I'd just like to remind people to please silence your phones for this. I would also like to let people know that when we get to the voting aspect of it I've been told there's a 15 second delay from the time people online receive the information you receive here. So if the delay seems longer when we're voting or there seems to be a bigger lag, 15 seconds can seem like an eternity at times, just judge accordingly. Thank you.

00:00:39

So we'll start as people enter the room, we should be online now, welcome everybody, I am Dr. Michael Cohen, President of the Canadian Medical Protective Association. Welcome to our 118th Annual Meeting. Bienvenue à notre 118ème assemblée annuelle.

00:00:56

Our meeting this year is being delivered online and in person, we are pleased to have over 120 members from across Canada with us today. We also have representatives from a number of health care organizations. Thank you for all taking the time to join us. I'll now hand the microphone over to my colleague, Dr. Lisa Calder, to call the meeting to order.

00:01:23

Lisa Calder: Thanks, Mike, and welcome everyone. Bienvenue à toute et à tous, I am Dr. Lisa Calder. I am the CEO of the CMPA. Je suis la dre. Lisa Calder, directrice générale de la CPM. There being a quorum present I hereby declare this meeting duly constituted and call it to order. Puisque nous disposons du quorum nécessaire, je déclare l'assemblée dument constituée et ouverte.

00:01:51

As you can see we are joining you from beautiful Vancouver, British Columbia and to honour and recognize the lands on which we meet today I am pleased to introduce elder and knowledge carrier Syexwáliya / Ann Whonnock from Squamish nation and to welcome her as she begins our meeting with an opening prayer.

00:02:11

Syexwáliya is a knowledge keeper and elder advisor with the First Nations Health Authority. She is widely respected and acknowledged for her work, energy and commitment to her community. And she has worked with organizations throughout BC sharing her wisdom, knowledge and advice to guide organizations through their ongoing journey towards cultural safety.

00:02:33

I was privileged to meet Syexwáliya at the recent Pacific Region Indigenous Doctors Congress meeting where through her words, song and actions it was clear to me the deep respect that she garners from her community and the integral role that she has played in guiding and grounding many physicians in their work. Syexwáliya, it is an honour to have you with us today. On behalf of CMPA I am pleased to offer you the tobacco here for sharing your knowledge and wisdom with us today. I turn the floor over to you.

00:03:15

Syexwáliya / Ann Whonnock: (Indigenous language). I'm grateful and thankful to you, Lisa, for the introduction. (Indigenous language). I'm really glad to welcome each and every one of you here today, all of you my friends. (Indigenous language). My name is Syexwáliya, also known as Ann Whonnock and I'm from the Squamish nation and it's an honour to be here and welcome you to our ancestral traditional territories of the (Indigenous language) Squamish Nation, my nation and our family at Tseil Waututh and Musqueam.

00:04:05

And today, I'd like to be able to say that we come together in (Indigenous language) with one heart and one mind for all the good work that you've been doing for so long. I was really impressed to hear that it's 118 years that you've been an organization and was told actually 1901 is when you began. Really impressed me because you know Vancouver was just being a young city and you were already organized in the east.

00:04:44

And I, you know, just ask you to (Indigenous language), to continue to work together. (Indigenous language) is a phrase my grandfather taught me that means to stand and work together to hold each other up and support one another and that's what you need to continue to do.

00:05:08

My grandfather also taught me that we all have an inner energy and a force within us and he said that that energy we receive from Creator through the top of our head into our energy and

that we – if we believe in that energy it helps us through times when we need to draw on it and Creator and helps us emotionally, mentally, physically and spiritually.

00:05:41

And when we come together (Indigenous language) in unity and I do a song and prayer for you, we can't have our arms crossed like this and we can't have our hands like this. And the reason I'm going to share with you my grandfather shared about the energy and I had a hard time getting people not to do this. And then I thought the best way is get you relaxed. And when my children were young I went to see the second Star Wars was coming out and they brought the first one out and I took my young children, they're adults now, and when I saw Obi Wan sharing with Luke about the force I went, that's what Papa said about our inner energy. And so I became a Star Wars fan.

00:06:35

So I have my baby (Indigenous language) and my Mandalorian earrings and I made my grandchildren like Star Wars, at first they didn't want to watch it, they want to watch Jurassic Park, my grandsons but now they're Star Wars fans too. And I say that because then you relax.

00:06:59

So now I'm going to ask you to stand, we're going to do some Tai Chi and yoga exercise now. We'll start with the downward dog, maybe standing tree, and I found that our elders believe laughter is medicine and that I need to make it not be like this. Not like this or this but that's why I say stand and make you laugh and we are going to do some breathing to ground you.

00:07:38

So just breathe in and out and then have your hands open, feel the energy flowing amongst all of you and from Creator and ancestors. We're going to sing Syexwáliya song, greeting of the day and then I'm going to do a prayer and then turn you back over to our hosts here.

00:08:05

(Prayer and song)

00:09:32

(Indigenous language), keep your hands open. (Indigenous language), asking you Creator to watch over and protect each and every one of your children gathered here today as well as all their families, their friends, the villages where they're from and the villages where they now live, work and play.

00:10:08

Put a shield of safety and protection around each and every one of them, help them all with their (Indigenous language) which means feelings in your heart and mind and your emotional, mental, physical and spiritual health and wellness. Asking you, Creator, to let today be a (Indigenous language), an excellent work today with everyone coming together in (Indigenous language) and unity, transferring knowledge, information and sharing their (Indigenous

language), their words with respect and listening with respect and creating positive solutions for the present and future.

00:10:49

Hear our prayers, Creator, for all our family and friends and communities, for all those who have serious illnesses and injuries and waiting for surgery and those who have had surgery and COVID or long haul or COVID and many other illnesses and treatments we can't start naming or we'd be here maybe all day.

00:11:12

Hear our prayers for their health, healing and recovery. Hear our prayers for all family, friends and those in our community who have traumas and battle alcohol and drugs whether prescription or toxic supply that takes many, and also hear our prayers for those who are homeless because of their traumas and battles.

00:11:33

Let our prayers put a shield of safety and protection around them and help them maybe find help them with their (Indigenous language) and maybe help them find that healing path to wellness and recovery. Hear our prayers for all our family and friends who have lost loved ones and have heavy feelings of sorrow in their heart that our prayers help hold them up as they say farewell to their loved ones going home to Creator, ancestors and those who have gone before us and help them in the healing days ahead.

00:12:06

And always remembering that as my old people taught me that our loved ones who leave us they worry about us and they become what I call our spirit guardian warriors and when we're low in (Indigenous language) they send us signs, dragonflies, butterflies, ladybugs, hummingbirds, eagle, raven, something you don't see or you're walking where there's no stones or feathers or a shiny coin on the ground, pick them up because it's a sign that a loved one is nearby and the stone fits in your hand like a worry stone.

00:12:44

Every once in a while wash it underwater or in a creek and I say all the water in the cities come from our rivers. So wash it under there and make it fresh and then it'll be good energy for you.

00:12:58

And again, Creator, let our gathering today be at (Indigenous language). Let our gathering today be an excellent gathering. (Indigenous language), those are my words. (Indigenous language). I thank all of you and I'm grateful that you let me share a part of your day today.

00:13:44

Michael T. Cohen: Thank you, Syexwáliya, for sharing your knowledge and wisdom with us today. It is an honour to have you with us and we thank you for opening our meeting.

00:13:55

As we gather here today in Vancouver I'd like to acknowledge the land on which we sit. Vancouver is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil Waututh nations. As an organization we recognize all first peoples who were here before us, those who have lived with us now and the seven generations to come.

00:14:18

I would also like to acknowledge that the CMPA offices located in Ottawa are on the unceded, unsurrendered territory of the Anishinaabeg Algonquin nation whose presence here reaches back to time immemorial. We honour and pay our respects to these lands and to all First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples throughout Turtle Island. Lisa.

00:14:49

Lisa Calder: Thanks, Mike. I just want to say a quick word about our COVID protocols that we have in place for the in person meeting. I can assure you that all of the onstage participants are fully vaccinated and we encourage all of you to maintain physical distancing as much as possible. We also encourage you to wear a mask when you're not eating and drinking and please use a hand sanitizer that's made available to you.

00:15:11

Michael T. Cohen: Thanks, Lisa. Now let me introduce my colleagues some of whom will be presenting today. There's me, Dr. Michael Cohen, the current president, Dr. Jean-Hugh Brossard, our incoming president, Dr. Lisa Calder who you just met, Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Todd Watkins, our associate CEO, Corey Garbolinsky, our Chief Financial Officer, Dr. Pamela Eisener-Parsche, our Executive Director Member Experience, Dr. Armand Aalamian, Executive Director Learning, Chantz Strong, our Executive Director Research and Analytics, Christine Holstead, Executive Director Strategy and Operations, Leah Keith, our Executive Director People and Culture.

00:15:50

Also Dr. Darcy Johnson who is a council member and Chair of our audit committee who is not on stage but will be joining us, and Dominic Corolla(ph), general counsel for the CMPA.

00:16:02

We also have three former presidents of the CMPA with us today, doctors Debra Boyce, John Joseph Conde(ph) and Bill Tucker along with all of our CMPA counsel, and Dr. John Gray, a former CEO of the CMPA is in attendance as well. Thank you for all – all for joining us.

00:16:21

Over the next few minutes Lisa and I will look back on the year and share how the CMPA has continued to support our members and to bring value to the Canadian healthcare system. Before we do that there are two scrutineers who have been identified in advance of today's meeting, Doctors Heather Ross and Catherine Smart. If you have any objection to these two

members being named as scrutineers please let us know now by using the Ask A Question button or use the mics in the room. We will pause briefly to allow objections to be noted.

00:17:01

And remember I told you of the 15 second delay with the online so there's, there will be a lag with this hybrid meeting. And for those of you who came in a little late I'd ask you make sure you silence all your phones, please. As there are no objections Doctors Ross and Smart are appointed scrutineers of the voting.

00:17:25

I would now like to seek your approval of the minutes from the 2021 annual meeting which were posted in advance of today's meeting on the CMPA website. Please use the buttons to move and second the motion now. Additionally if you have any amendments to the minutes please submit them via the Ask A Question button now or by using the mics set up in the room. The motion has been moved and seconded, there are no changes to the 2021 Annual meeting minutes as they have been received.

00:17:59

I would now ask members to vote to approve the minutes. We will now pause for the voting. thank you to all who voted, the minutes of the 2021 annual meeting are approved. Le procès pour valider l'assemblée annuelle 2021 est approuvé.