

# CanWaCH AGM Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, November 27, 2019**

**8:30 am – 9:30 am**

**Ottawa Conference and Event Centre; Zoom**

## Welcome and Introductions (Margaret Biggs, vice-Chair)

- **Meeting called to order at 8:32AM**
- Land and territory acknowledgment
- Quorum established; absentee ballots enabled this year
- Invitation extended for non-members to attend; welcome to those attending virtually

Agenda Item	Approval of Agenda
Key points:	Agenda circulate 3 weeks prior to meeting to voting representatives
Moved by:	Farah Shroff, MIHCan
Seconded by:	Terry Chemij, World Vision
Vote:	Approved

Agenda Item	Approval of 2018 AGM Minutes
Key points:	At the same time as today's agenda, the 2018 AGM Meeting Minutes were circulated for review.
Moved by:	Terry Chemij, World Vision
Seconded by:	Fawad Akbari, Aga Khan Foundation Canada
Vote:	Approved

Agenda Item	Report from the Board of Directors and Members (Margaret Biggs, Queens University)
Key points:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theme for this year in the annual report and what we've seen in our work is growth.</li> <li>• Report from Members and Partners               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Chris Armstrong, Plan International Canada: Shared ICDP story, reminiscing on the birth of CanWaCH. Margaret Biggs was chairing a discussion on starting a network. Does the values of the partnership hold true? (1) Create a platform to have a common voice and amplify that voice collectively. (2) Have greater collaboration among partners. Get them to work together. (3) Support research collaboratives through initiatives such as adolescent data collection which is possible through the support from CanWaCH. (4) More effective in collective learning and sharing.</li> <li>b. Jen Foulds, AMREF Health Africa in Canada: With PEWG, we're working together regardless of size and raising awareness among Canadians. We</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>have 15 members. The PO polling that we do is so important, especially for small organizations. 76% of polling respondents agreed that we have a duty to support the health and rights of the world's most marginalized people. The Lead on Canada campaign has reached more than 1.3 million Canadians. Thank you to CanWaCH staff and thank you to PEWG members past and present.</p> <p>c. Taryn Russell, RESULTS Canada: The SEPWG gets together to make better policy decisions. Past year was huge, figuring out what's the right strategy, who do we need to engage with, how can we get politicians to engage across the political spectrum. We've had great success but that doesn't mean that our work is over. How can we get the same government but new decision makers to get them excited about women and children's health? We have a lot of accountability work we want to do. We are here to provide support (ex. election webinar) and to work alongside other working groups to translate data and evidence into strategic, palatable information.</p> <p>d. Rebecca Brodmann, HealthBridge: We are a part of the Canadian Collaborative for Global Health. For us, it brings values in a lot of ways. The flexibility is valuable and it allows us to work collaboratively. We appreciate the opportunity to come together with other collaborative partners and further develop our partnerships to strengthen our capacity and look at unique challenges.</p> <p>e. Jenn Donville, independent consultant: the GEWG is a safe space to investigate gender transformative approaches. Our work is building off of a needs assessments and we are currently developing a training that is relevant to the full sector. We want to increase participation and invigorate conversation with regard to: what is a feminist approach to programming? What does it really mean practically? There is lots to explore. CanWaCH provides this space. If not, we'd be floating around looking for someone to talk to.</p>
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Agenda Item	Report from Chief Executive Officer (Helen Scott and Julia Anderson)
Key points:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CanWaCH has a new leadership model. Thank you to Julia for work as Acting Executive Director over the past year.</li> <li>● Julia's remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Likened CanWaCH to the process of an audience watching a play. Suspending disbelief to allow yourself to be carried. The membership has done this over the past year. Everyone came along for the ride and suspended disbelief and cynicism. They had faith in the play that we are trying to put on, whether you were in the cast, or the audience.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Helen's remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Members are reflecting back that we are doing what we thought we were doing. If you address the challenges, you can achieve better results, exchange knowledge, communicating real knowledge to stakeholders. Our ToC is lateral and vertical. We've</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>shown you that it works. Our vision is that we want to connect, collaborate and communicate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Women Deliver 2019 Mobilization Canada brought in unusual suspects. More than 340 Mobilizers.</li> <li>○ Collaboration is critical, and we're proud of the unique partnership that are being built. Already seeing great results with the Collaboratives. These results will be highly valuable to the sector and to GAC.</li> <li>○ Over the past year, we've seen success with public engagement and Thrive agenda. We've worked hard to bridge the SRHR and MNCH divide, putting forward a life-cycle approach.</li> <li>○ Would like to thank the CanWaCH Team, the Board of Directors, Global Affairs Canada, Working Group Members, and members.</li> <li>○ New strategic plan coming in 2020, with a process running right now – stay tuned!</li> </ul>
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<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Finance Committee Report (Dorothy Shaw, Treasurer)</b>
Key points:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CanWaCH has diversified funding, built staff complement.</li> <li>● This year's organizational audit was clean.</li> <li>● Review audited financial statements: have had a doubling in business in the past year due to roll out of Collaboratives and Women Deliver 2019 Mobilization Canada.</li> <li>● On page 8, you will note that CanWaCH is still economically dependent on Global Affairs Canada</li> </ul>
Agenda Item	Appoint Public Accountant that BDO be appointed for the 2019-2020 year.
Moved by:	Dorothy Shaw, Treasurer & BC Women's Hospital and Health Centre
Seconded by:	Janet Hatchet-Roberts, WHO CC Knowledge Translation Technology Assessment for Health Equity
Vote:	Approved

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Election of new Board Members (Tonia Occhionero, Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM))</b>
Key points:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Members of the Gov Committee. Approved revisions to the HR policies, supported leadership transition, supported acting ED.</li> <li>● Strategic planning retreat.</li> <li>● Review Recommended Slate of Directors: every year we put out a call for nominations. Gap analysis. Review criteria. Conduct interviews with nominees. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nominees: Onome Ako, AMREF Health Africa in Canada; Tim Evans, McGill University; Danny Glenwright, Action Against Hunger Canada.</li> <li>○ Returning member: Sian Fitzgerald, HealthBridge Foundation of Canada</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Moved by:	Farah Shroff, MIHCanada
Seconded by:	Terry Chemij, World Vision
Vote:	Approved

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Other Business</b>
Key points:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dorothy Shaw, Board member and Treasurer has finished her term with the CanWaCH Board. Helen thanked her for her energy and shared Shangri-la bookmark story.</li> <li>• Dorothy remarked that it's important to remember our roots. How we've gotten here today has taken huge team efforts. Gave speech about challenges currently faced by the sector to ensure that there is continued support and attention for women and children's health and how to ensure that the financing structures can get the work to their work done. She also presented that CanWaCH is unique in Canada and unique in the world.</li> </ul>
Agenda item	Motion to adjourn meeting
Moved by:	Terry Chemij, World Vision
Seconded by:	Jen Foulds, Amref Health Africa
Vote:	Approved

