



Newfoundland and Labrador College of Medical Laboratory Science  
P.O BOX 39057, St. John's, NL A1E5Y7  
www.nlcmls.ca

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## Annual General Meeting

November 28, 2020

7:00-8:00pm

Virtual Meeting Broadcasted from the Clarenville Inn

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### 1. Call to Order: 7:07pm

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### 2. Adoption of Agenda

- a. Amendment to the agenda:
    - i. Item 4. iv. "Professional Recognition Award" should read "Honorary Membership Award.
  - b. Motion to adopt the amended agenda: Stephanie March.
  - c. Seconded: Krissy Lane
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### 3. Introduction of Board of Directors

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### 4. Presentation of Awards

- The *Roche Student Scholarship* is a \$250.00 cash award presented to the student (who has completed semester 6 in their second year) who consistently displays the qualities and attributes of an exemplary student technologist. Selected by the Medical Laboratory faculty at CNA, this year's recipient is Elizabeth Lightbourne.
  - The *Dave Ball Memorial Scholarship* sponsored by Abbott Laboratories is a \$1000.00 cash award based on academic achievement, an outline of community service and an essay explaining the importance of choosing the medical laboratory profession. This year's recipient is Janelle Whalen.
  - The *Jack Sidel Memorial Scholarship*, established by the NLCMLS, is a \$250.00 cash award presented to the Medical Laboratory Sciences student who has attained the highest grade-point average at the end of the second year. This year's recipient is Michael Hayward.
  - The *NLCMLS Honorary Membership Award* recognizes a members outstanding contribution to the NLCMLS. This year's recipient is Curtis Martin.
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### 5. Adoption of the 2019 AGM Minutes

- a. Motion to adopt: Marley Boland
  - b. Seconded: Colin Power
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## 6. President's Report: Lisa Napier

- 2020 started on a high note with a large third year class beginning their clinical placements, things were looking good. Then in mid January we were faced with Snowmageddon which essentially shut down the Avalon. Many MLT's worked extremely long shifts, which for some spanned multiple days of the storm, while they waited for their relief to be able to safely travel to work. Ramifications of Snowmageddon were felt across the entire island, from access to blood products to the timely transportation of specimens between various sites. It would take weeks for things to return to normal.
- Then in March, we were all faced with the outbreak of the pandemic. Students clinical placements were suspended, emergency and contingency planning meetings were taking place daily, and there were worries about access to PPE. Stress levels were high, but our province has fared well thanks to the Public Health measures put in place and the hard work of the PHML MLT's completing the COVID-19 testing.
- Due to COVID-19, the NLCMLS was forced to cancel the Spring Symposium in Stephenville but, we were hopeful that by Fall we would be able to gather in Gander. As the weeks and months passed, it became clear that our Fall Symposium would also have to be cancelled. We are looking forward to a time when it will be once again safe to gather and return to our in-person symposiums. In the meantime, the NLCMLS has been working to upgrade our broadcasting platform to better serve our membership with more virtual lectures and offer other on-demand educational resources.
- Even faced with the unique challenges of a virtual proctored exam, CNA's graduating class of 2020 had a 100% pass rate for the national CSMLS exam.

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## 7. NLCHP Report: Colin Power

- NLCHP's new online platform for registration, renewals and payments is now live with the first registration cycle complete. It was remarkably successful with a lot of positive feedback. Some users experienced some minor technical difficulties but, they were able to contact the council directly and those issues were dealt with quickly. A new CE portal will be available by February 2021 which enables users to upload CE certificates and documents into a user's personal portfolio.
  - Positive feedback on the launch of the new NLCHP website. Very user friendly, easy to navigate and compiles a lot of great resources for members.
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- Results from the recent members survey are available in the latest *Making Connections* newsletter. There was a wonderful response to the survey with 24% of members participating. The results showed it was clear members wanted more communication from council and an increase of public awareness for the different professions of the NLCHP. With that in mind, council has begun the strategic planning process to guide council for the next 3-5 years. It was also recognized that there is confusion about the roles of the NLCHP vs the professional colleges and we are working on rectifying this with some educational sessions/modules.
  - NLCHP implemented a fee increase of \$100.00, effective April 1, 2021.
  - All the work for the MRT's to join council has been completed, still waiting to be proclaimed by government. Paramedicine will be the next profession to be brought to council.
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#### **8. Financial Report: Allison Beresford**

- 2019 Audited report circulated and discussed.
  - Increase in vendor sponsorships for 2019 Fall Symposium. Even with the purchase commemorative items for in-person registration kits, overall symposium costs were down from 2018.
  - Purchased new IT equipment this year including new laptops, a new 4K camera for broadcasting symposiums/meetings and an external hard drive.
  - Increase in the cost of the student pin event for 2019 due to the large class size.
    - Motion to adopt the Financial Report: Lorna Brennan
    - Seconded: Stephanie March
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#### **9. New Business**

##### a) Election of Officers

- Call for nominations went out to members in the Spring, with a deadline of June 30<sup>th</sup>. Receiving one nomination for each of the following positions, nominees therefore win by acclamation.
    - Eastern Regional Director – Marley Boland
    - Western Regional Director – Stephanie March
    - College Representative for the NLCHP – Colin Power
    - Secretary – Margret Steele
    - Director of Marketing and Communications – Samantha Tiller
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- Having not received a nomination for the position of President-Elect, nominations were opened from the floor and online.  
With no nominations received, call for nominations will go out to members again in Spring 2021.
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**10. Adjournment: 8:02**

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