

**Region IX Membership Meeting
30th Annual Symposium/Convention
Toronto, Ontario
Saturday September 18th, 2004**

Meeting called to order by Rachel Peters, 4:40 pm, Ballroom A, Intercontinental Hotel.
Financial report and agenda were distributed while an attendance sheet was circulated.

1. Rachel welcomed all members, especially new members to the Annual Membership meeting. Introductions of the Region IX Executive, the newly elected Region IX Director, Rose Clark and the new NSH Vice President Janet Tunncliffe were made.
Rachel announced there is a record number of attendees to the conference, 1420 at last count.
2. The minutes of the Region IX Membership meeting, October 18th, 2003, NSH S/C in Louisville, Kentucky were accepted.
3. Report from the Treasurer: Financial Statement, Michelle Shackleton.

The accrued Symposium expenses, sponsorships and honorarium will be shown in next years report as the fiscal year is September 2004 to August 2005.

Unrestricted net assets, end of year 2004 - \$19,674.

The Certified General Accountant, Philip Pettigrew, has recommended the expense of a yearly Audit is not required. A Financial Statement is sufficient because none of the Region IX funds are derived from NSH memberships.

Michele presented this proposal to the membership, it was unanimously accepted.

4. Presentation of the Surgipath Award of Excellence by Nick Dardano.
This year's recipient is Richard Loewen, of Abbotsford Hospital, BC.
5. Report from Chair, Convention Committee re: Workshops, Lynn Yawney.
The Toronto area has been very active in the past 5 years presenting Workshops. The most recent was held on May 29th at the Michener Institute, sponsored by Somagen. Lynn encouraged other Region IX areas to get involved and host Workshops and she is willing to assist them.
6. Update from the Local Organizing Committee
Chair of the Local Hosting Committee – Michele Shackleton thanked:
Lynn and Lori – organizing the Public Relations booths in Louisville and Toronto and writing the great articles for the NSH in Action and the 2004 calendar of events.
Trish - taking minutes for all Meetings and the responsibility of Registration
Dev - workshops and for taking it upon herself to prepare silver solutions for a workshop when the vendor kits did not arrive.
Michael - fabulous fund raising, which afforded us a band and centerpieces.
Rachel - supporting us throughout the past 18 months.

It was a team where each member would jump in and assist another, never losing focus of our goal of making this Symposium the best while showcasing Canadian talent.

Public Relations Coordinators

Lynn Yawney and Lori White thanked all their volunteers. They explained that in Louisville they raffled many gifts of lesser value. This year they held fewer draws with gifts of greater value, representing all the provinces and territories of our Region.

Thanks were given to Intermedico for sponsoring the booth.

Registration Coordinator

Trish Wegrynowski thanked all the volunteers who assembled the Registration bags and those that helped at the desk. She informed the attendees that Kerry Crabb had commented that we showed incredible teamwork.

Banquet Coordinator

Michael Ho thanked Suzy Tjan, Tony Wing and Trish Wegrynowski for their assistance with the Centerpieces. He also thanked all the Banquet liaisons for assisting with the banquet setup and ticket collection.

Michael reminded all attendees to sign the Region IX roster at the NSH PR booth as we want to win the prize for the Region with the most delegates.

7. Tshirt

Trish Wegrynowski reported on behalf of Dev Olshansky. Lisa Manning of Winnipeg, Manitoba was thanked for the Tshirt design. They will be sold at the end of the meeting for 15\$ US or 20\$ Canadian. Everyone was reminded to wear them on Tuesday at noon in the exhibit hall.

8. Other Business

Newsletter: The newsletter is available in an electronic format, it was sent to members with email addresses. Hard copies are also available. Special thanks to Surgipath for supporting the newsletter.

Somagen Dinner: Somagen graciously takes out the Canadians for dinner at the NSH S/C. This year with the large number of Canadian attendees, they have limited the number, only those with an invitation and who have sent a RSVP are to be at Wayne Gretzky's Monday at 5:30.

9. Outgoing Directors comments

Rachel thanked everyone for their support over the past 4 years. She especially thanked the Executive Committee: Michele who has positioned us so that we are financially sound, to Lynn who organized so many successful workshops, to Lori, Trish, Michael and Dev. Past secretary June Shin, Lynda Elliott for always agreeing to sit in the HOD and Wayne Ozanne.

Rachel put forth the motion that Region IX would treat the Local Hosting Committee to dinner from funds from our account that would not exceed \$700. Members voted unanimously for this motion.

10. Incoming Director

Rose Clarke stated the 1st order of business is to have a secure website up and running for Region IX.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.