**Culinary Historians of Canada**

**Annual General Meeting Minutes Saturday,**

**October 15, 2016, 1-3:15pm**

**Campbell House, 160 Queen Street W. Toronto, ON**

President Luisa Giacometti welcomed us to the Annual General Meeting of the Culinary Historians of Canada by introducing Jasmine Mangalaseril who began with her presentation entitled: Adventures in Microfilm, Time Travel and Updating Period Recipes. Her presentation was about her blog: Rye & Ginger and how she incorporated into it the1906 Berlin Cookbook and 1916 Kitchener area food history. Luisa thanked Jasmine for her very interesting talk.

A Member’s Package including the AGM Minutes, Financial Statements, Committee Reports and an Upcoming Events List for 2016-2017 were distributed to all in attendance.

1.0. Approval of Agenda:

Luisa then called the meeting to order thanking the 22 members present for their attendance and asking for approval of the agenda. It was moved by Sherry Murphy and seconded by Mark D’Aguilar that the agenda be approved. Motion carried.

1.1. Approval of the Minutes of the AGM of September 12, 2015

Luisa also asked for a motion regarding the minutes of the last AGM held September 12, 2015. Sylvia Lovegren moved, seconded by Samantha George, that the minutes be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

1.2. President’s Report

Luisa gave the President’s Report (circulated as well) during which she introduced the executive members in attendance. She presented Fiona Lucas a gift of a cookbook, The Baker in Me by Daphna Rabinovich, a small token of our gratitude for her contribution as President of CHC. Luisa also thanked our many volunteers who assist us with our events throughout the year.

1.3. Financial Statements

Treasurer Sylvia Lovegren gave the financial report as circulated. One of the main things we continue to sponsor is the Taste Canada Hall of Fame Awards ($1500) and the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair Heritage Pickle and Heritage Preserves Contest ($1000). She also reported that at long last, we have liability insurance ($2,000,000) which will also cost $800 annually. Sarah Hood moved, seconded by Lydia Robertson, the suggestion motion: “Be it resolved, by unanimous consent, that the members waive the requirement of an audit of the financial statements for the next fiscal year, and that the Corporation shall not appoint an auditor, to be effective until the next annual meeting of the members.” It was questioned as to why we do this and Sylvia reported that it would be quite an expense (most of, if not more than, the money that we have on hand) to have our books audited. The motion was passed unanimously.

2.0. Committee Reports: All reports are in the Member’s Package included with these minutes.

2.1. Membership

Sylvia and Sarah reported that we have followed up on lapsed memberships and they are increasing. Our membership now stands at 189 up from 156 from last year. Sarah has been instrumental in monitoring our Facebook member page (with 502 members) and collecting emails for newsletter distribution to entice members to actively join CHC. They invited members to volunteer or stand for nomination for the position of membership chair on this committee.

2.2. Program Committee

Sylvia and Sarah gave an outline of our past year’s events and told of our plans for the upcoming year. Sarah reported that she has produced a roster of upcoming events (found in the Member’s Package) that will be in celebration of Canada 150. They invited members to volunteer for this committee as it takes many people to run the various events.

2.3 Newsletter Editor’s Report

Our Newsletter Editor of the *Digestible Bits and Bites* Newsletter, Sarah Hood, reported that we now have a subscription list of 188 current members, 104 media, and 304 other subscribers for a total of 596 recipients. She also told and a lot of people have come forward to assist with its production: Julia Armstrong has been editing and contributing to it. Sher Hackwell in British Columbia has been providing news compilations from out west. Our book reviewers are: Julia, Sher, Michelle Gatien, Shirley Lum, Jasmine Mangalaseril, Dana Moran, and Elka Weinstein. She pointed out that new members are always welcome and particularly from the provinces in which we have no correspondents.

2.4 Education and Outreach

Jane Black, our chair of this committee, is currently teaching in Northern Ontario submitted her report (in the Member’s Package). She tells us in the report that we are working on a policy for Chapters of CHC to allow individuals across the country to participate locally and that we hope to finalize this in the coming year. We need interested people to come forward to assist with forming Chapters. We also have many events planned including a “Picnic for Canada Day” which encourages the participation in an 1867 style Picnic. We hope to post recipes and pictures to our website. We will also be going to the VIMY 100 celebration in France this year to present culinary experiences from both the home front and frontline in both world wars. There will also be an 1867 Dinner hosted by CHC in Stratford, Ontario.

2.5. Volunteer Coordination

In addition to her report, Emily McKenzie thanked all our volunteers for their participation and support of our events. She invited people to join our team of volunteers. She also acknowledged our executive board and the time that they put in to CHC.

2.6. Publicity

Vice President Samantha George reported that we have been focussing on promotion of our events, the most successful being Mad for Marmalade. She is continuing to relate with radio broadcasters and print media (Snap’d Publishing). A protocol has been developed for press kits and press liaison at events/programs. She surveyed an audience at one our events (and continues to do so) which will assist us in working with the influencers and building relationships with funders.

3. Election of Executive Officers

A slate of officers was presented in the Member’s Package and was circulated electronically before the meeting. The election of the following Board Members for the term of one year from October 15, 2016 to October 21, 2017 was approved by show of hands:

President: Luisa Giacometti

Vice-President: Samantha George

Secretary: Carolyn Crawford

4. Confirmation of appointed Board Members

The following appointed chair persons were approved by show of hands:

Chair of Publicity: Samantha George

Chair of Education: Jane Black

Coordinator of Volunteers: Emily McKenzie

5. Committee Chair and Board Positions to be filled

Volunteers were sought and approved by show of hands for the following positions:

Chair of Membership: Shirley Farrar

Chair of Communications/Electronic Resources: Julia Armstrong

Chair of Communications/Publications: Sarah Hood

Chair of Outreach: To be filled

Coordinator of Refreshments: Sherry Murphy, Carolyn Crawford, Lydia Robertson?

6. Updates

6.1 Vimy Ridge Project

Luisa told the membership that CHC has accepted an invitation for a possible 8 members to attend and present at an exposition by the Education First Tour Group. More details will be discussed at board meetings but those interested may apply by emailing the CHC at [info@culinaryhistorians.ca](mailto:info@culinaryhistorians.ca) . Jane Black will be assisting with preparing educational materials to take to Vimy. Mary Williamson has provided us with a WW1 cookbook that we hope to use a resource and reproduce.

6.2 Creation of Chapters

As mentioned earlier, we are seeking members willing to assist with the formation of Chapters of CHC. All interested parties should forward contact information to the CHC email address listed above.

7. Setting of next AGM date

Next year’s Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 21, 2017 at a place to be determined by the executive.

8. Adjournment

Luisa declared the meeting adjourned. Then, on behalf of the Culinary Historians of Canada, she presented Honourary Lifetime Memberships to Elizabeth (Liz) Driver, for her long-time dedication to CHC and co-founding efforts and to Dorothy Duncan for advancing Canada’s Culinary History through her many books and years of dedication.

Refreshments prepared by Carolyn Crawford were served with coffee and tea and all enjoyed a brief time of fellowship.