



# Therapeutic Touch® Networks of Canada

## Réseaux Toucher Thérapeutique du Canada

**Minutes for the TTNC AGM on Nov. 22, 2020, at 3 p.m. MST**

**Attendees:** The following 27 members attended:

ATTN: Michelle Greenwell, Cherry Whitaker, Judy Donovan Whitty, Bertha Fiddes, Gail MacDougall, Heather McCurdy, Natascha Polomski

TTNQ: Janice Barnes, Leo Gregory, Cecilia Csima.

TTNO: Mary Jane Cowtan, Craig Niziolek, Flora Hartleib, Penny Craig, Brita Ball

MTTN: Tanya Sabourin

TTNA Marion Cameron, Sheila Camp, Chery Ann Hoffmeyer, Phyllis Paterson

BCTTNS: Susan Rutherford, Jacqui Saran, Cindy Cole, Darlene Ongkeko, Fay Torgerson, Marg Budd, Mary Lou Trinkwon

### **1. Welcome and call to order: 2:03** Marion Cameron

Meeting held via Zoom platform with Susan Rutherford and Mary Lou Trinkwon operating the BCTTNS Zoom account.

### **2. Meditation** - Cecilia Csima.

### **3. Approval of agenda:** Approval of Agenda by consensus with the following additions:

- Date of 2021 AGM
- 333 Project – Mary Jane Cowtan, TTNO
- Leo Gregory, TTNQ, Tech- Soup Opportunity

### **4. Approval of minutes of Nov. 24, 2019:** approved by consensus

### **5. Voting delegates from the Member Networks:**

ATTN: Judy Donovan Whitty, TTNQ Cecilia Csima, TTNO: Mary Jane Cowtan, TTNM: Tanya Sabourin, TTNA: Sheila Camp, BCTTNS: Susan Rutherford.

### **6. Financial Report** by Birdie Fiddes, treasurer:

Sept. 1, 2019 - Aug. 31, 2020

Budget for 2020 - 2021

Discussion:

- Budget is an educated guess based on known expected expenses and revenues. It does not take into account the money that is on hand. Some expenses may not come to fruition, e.g. infringement fund. It is hoped that the budget will be sufficient to cover expenses. Birdie started an infringement reserve fund that has now achieved the goal of \$1000.00 to cover any costs that might occur should there be legal issues. The fund was created by donations to TTNC; the majority of the fund was funded by donations from Birdie.
- Fee increase: Penny, TTNO, asked if there was a way to give sufficient notice so that Networks can build any new costs into their budgets. Birdie

confirmed policies and procedures are now in place to ensure advance notice of requests for increased funding have been instituted.

- Marion thanked the networks for their financial support and thanked Birdie for her work.
- Birdie is retiring this year, TTNC is seeking a new treasurer.
- Marion thanked the Networks for their financial support.

Birdie moved the adoption of the budget and financial statement. Seconded by Judy, approved.

## **7. Reports: President: review of 2019 - 2020 - Marion**

Committee Reports: TTNC Curriculum-Education Committee

Ad hoc Committee for the reciprocity of RPs

TTNC Liability Insurance - BFL Canada

Therapeutic Touch® trademark

TTNC website

Discussion:

- Marion thanked the committee for their work in putting together the new policies and ideas for teaching in the face of a pandemic.
- Trademark: Leo asked if it was renewed. Birdie confirmed that it was renewed. The term is now decreased from 15 to 10 years and the fee has been increased.

Marion moved that we accept the reports as received; Approved by consensus

## **8. Business arising from the minutes:**

### **8.1 Reciprocity of RPs - guidelines were shared with the Networks.**

- Mary Jane Cowtan stated that the reciprocity agreement does not meet the minimum requirement for RP status set by TTNO. The required number of case studies was close at the start of the summer but was decreased to 20 by some networks. The agreement was that the minimum is 60. A formal mentorship program could make a difference in the hours. Also, reflective journaling adds more hours as well. Ontario has had other priorities and does plan to revisit this.
- Cherry mentioned that CARER notes take more time and hence increase hours that would be equivalent to TTNO.
- Chery Ann stated that the committee has not received any feedback from the networks. Reciprocity is not in place at this time. The committee agreed that the recommendations would seem to be appropriate as standards for recognized practitioners. The idea is that networks would work towards that as a goal for reciprocity. Just as with the curriculum, not everybody is likely to reach the goal at the same time. There could be a variety of ways that reciprocity recognition could be given taking factors such as mentorship, reflective journaling and CARER notes. It is up to the networks to determine how this can be made workable. This will take time. The question that needs to be answered is: "If it is not equivalent, what will it take to make it equivalent".

- Mary Jane recommended that those provinces that include formal mentorship program as part of RP certification, document the number of hours for students with a view of developing a template for standardizing Formalized Mentorship.
- It was decided that more work needed to be done to achieve a network reciprocity agreement. It was requested that if possible, the Ad hoc committee continue to work on the issue and report progress at the next AGM.
- TTNC Board will discuss formulating guidelines for the mentorship program.
- Sheila, TTNA, mentioned that TTNA is in the process of revising guidelines and increasing the number of treatments required.

## **8.2 Guidelines for TT volunteers and paid staff in Agencies - TTNO document**

- The document was shared with networks; Marion has received no comments.
- Mary Jane stated that a TTNO agency guidelines committee is building a tool kit based on these guidelines that will provide program coordinators with the information needed to work with RPs. TTNO will be happy to share information and a tool kit.
- ATTN: Judy Donovan states that many in ATTN have adopted the recommendation from the TTNO report. Thanks to TTNO for sharing their work.

## **9. Old Business:**

9.1 Approval of the following motion: **that the TTNC Board does not have to appoint a public accountant to conduct an audit or review of the finances.** The TTNC annual finances are below the threshold to require an audit.  
Moved by Marion, approved by consensus

9.2 Approval of the following motion: **that an independent, third party be appointed to review the finances of TTNC and report to the AGM in 2021.**  
Moved by Judy, passed by consensus

9.3 Use of practitioner vs practician: ATTN has adopted the term practician for their Network. Does it have to be across the Networks?

- ATTN has done the research and has replaced the term practitioner with practician as this term is no longer allowed in some provinces. Health Acts are provincial in scope. It seems that there is uncertainty among the networks as to the necessity of changing the name of the practitioner. Mary Jane Cowtan did research 2 years ago and has found no evidence of any restriction on the use of practitioner in Ontario
- Michelle Greenwell had to make changes from the organization known as CanAsk to CanBeWell in Canada due to restriction to the use of terms

connected with the Kinesiology community. She believes changes are coming for the TT community as well thus advocated the use of practitioner to the ATTN network to avoid future problems.

- BCTTNS: Susan stated that in BC we have not been told that we cannot use the term practitioner. TTNO reports a similar experience.
- Since many networks were unable to decide at this time, it was recommended that over the next year networks research the issue in their provinces(s), discuss with their board and network members and be prepared to discuss at the 2021 AGM.

## 10. New Business:

10.1 Motion #1: Adding and establishing the order of TT to the designation acronym for RP and RT. Marion Cameron put forth the motion: **that in the Canadian TT Community, 'TT' be added to the designation title for RP & RT to indicate the modality of Therapeutic Touch®.** Seconded by Judy Donovan Whitty.

TTNO Network has not yet had an opportunity to discuss and decide on the addition of TT to RP & RT. They will have further discussions. Other networks voted in favor of the motion. There will be further input from all Networks.

Motion #2: **that the order of designation acronym be RTTP & RTTT.**

Moved by Marion Seconded by Cecilia Csima.

- ATTN and some in TTNQ are using the designation TTRP
- BC, Ontario and Alberta have not yet decided on the order.

The motion was withdrawn with the recommendation that networks review and discuss the recommendations and be prepared to discuss at the next AGM with the recommendation if possible, the order be the same across Canada.

- Chery Ann Hoffmeyer, TTNA agreed to prepare a formal document with rationale regarding the rationale for addition and the order of TT to RP and RT and forward it to the networks for discussion.

10.2 Shine Your Light and Love - 333:

- Mary Jane: Asked that all TT networks share her proposal developed with a friend in Ireland, to take 3 minutes on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 p.m. to send out love, joy, peace (whatever is on their heart) around the world with the intention and attention to heal. The invitation is open to all like-minded souls including network members, friends, family and citizens around the world. See flyer for more information

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10.2 Introduction of the Board of Directors for 2020 - 2021.

- Marion Cameron will remain as president for one more year.
- Birdie Fiddes, TTNC treasurer is retiring, the position of treasurer is open.
- Cecilia Csima TTNQ, Tanya Sabourin, TTNM, and Marg Budd BCTTNS will finish one year left in their term.

- Welcome to new board members: Gail MacDougall ATTN, Mary Jane Cowtan, TTNO and Phyllis Paterson, TTNA for a 2-year term. Thank you to Birdie Fiddes and Sheila Camp for their service.

10.3 Leo Gregory moved that it be approved to allow him to create an email address [tech@ttnc.ca](mailto:tech@ttnc.ca) to allow him to register TTNC with TechSoup to allow network executive members to purchase software programs at substantial savings via Tech Soup, Canada. Seconded by Mary Jane Cowtan.

- This would help support network board members in their work and function more efficiently. Only Executive Board members are entitled to this software.
- It was decided that this issue should be considered at the next TTNC board meeting on November 24<sup>th</sup>. Leo agreed to attend the meeting and present the information.
- The motion was withdrawn. Leo agreed to present at the next TTNC board meeting.

10.4 Next TTNC AGM date set for Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

**11. Adjournment. 4:30 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted**

Marg Budd  
TTNC Secretary