



Manitoba Association for  
Medical Laboratory Science

585 London St.  
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www.mamls.ca

## MINUTES

### 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1015 – 1400 hrs on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Virtual Zoom Meeting and In Person Attendance

- 1.0 Call to order: 1206 hrs
- 2.0 Introductions:
  - 2.1 Guests
    - 2.1.1 Speakers – Jessica Lawrence, Denise Fudge
    - 2.1.2 CSMLS Director of MB and SK, Michelle Sykes  
Recipient of the ANC Delaat Award, Heather Mauthe
  - 2.2 Board of Directors
    - 2.2.1 President – Dannielle Lunsted
    - 2.2.2 Vice President – Bitia McVeigh
    - 2.2.3 Past President – Dmytro Yamchuk
    - 2.2.4 Executive Assistant – Anita Koleva
    - 2.2.5 Treasurer – Melanie Couture
    - 2.2.6 Marketing & Communication – Shona Litke
    - 2.2.7 Professional Development – James Stevenson (not in attendance)
    - 2.2.8 President, Prairie West Academy – Stephanie Myers (not in attendance)
    - 2.2.9 President, Capital Region Academy – Tara Brown (not in attendance)
    - 2.2.10 President, Valley Plains Academy – Lorenne Friesen (not in attendance)
    - 2.2.11 Representative, Northern Manitoba – Liz Kondratuk (not in attendance)
  - 2.3 Scrutineers – Bitia McVeigh (lead scrutineer), Dmytro Yamchuk (in person), Anita Koleva (online)
  - 2.4 Parliamentarian – Tricia Van Denakker
  - 2.5 Secretary – Llorra Alejandro-Yarema
  - 2.6 Nonmember attendees
    - 2.6.1 Present in person – Jessica Lawrence, Tanion Tran, Jessalyn Martin
    - 2.6.2 Online – none present online
- 3.0 Approval of Agenda  
MOTION:  
**“Be it moved that the agenda be accepted as presented.”**  
Moved by Bitia McVeigh, seconded by Denise Fudge

In favour: In Person (28), Online (6)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

**Motion carried.**

#### 4.0 President's Address – Dannielle Lunsted

These days, I'm tired, and I'm burnt out, and I'm emotionally drained by how unbalanced the world feels today.

I went through the previous presidential addresses for inspiration, and the common theme through all of them is twofold. Every year we comment on how difficult our profession is, and the conditions and adversity we need to work through. And this year is no different, we think the pandemic is over and the fallout just keeps going, and then comes flu season, short staffing and mandated overtime, and union negotiations and politics.

But the second theme is the perseverance and passion that our profession has. And once again, this year is no different. Despite whatever comes our way, we press on, and we show up, and we serve our communities. For that, we should all be very proud. I want all of you to know that I see you, and we see each other. And hopefully through the efforts of MAMLS, CMLTM, CSMLS, and all of us individually, we show the public what we do and where we fit in, so we can be recognized as the valuable healthcare heroes that we are.

Just as important as our professional careers are, there is a person behind that lab coat. So, I also want to remind you that outside of your professional career, you are each a force. I know this, because you're here today, on your personal time, bettering yourself by expanding your knowledge and contributing to your community. I look around and I see the faces of my current and past colleagues, and people that taught me and helped me grow. I deeply care about each and every one of you. I also see faces I don't recognize, but each one of you has undoubtedly been a part of someone's journey. Don't be afraid to lean on each other in times of weakness, we all have them. I know the board has seen me start to crack under the pressure this year, but here I am today because of their support. And when I take a moment to consider all the horrible things that have happened in the world in the past year, and continue to happen right now as I speak, I realize that it is a blessing that my only complaint is that I'm tired. So, I will say to you what I would want someone to say to me. You are more powerful than you think you are and you have an impact on those around you.

So finally, I have to take this moment to be honest about a pressing matter. MAMLS is one of the last remaining laboratory advocacy associations in Canada, and at this time, we don't have enough volunteers for the positions we have available on the board for 2024. In order to continue the important work we do, we need an influx of dedicated

volunteers to not only keep MAMLS going, but to thrive and do more to serve the members of our profession across Manitoba. We need to get out there and recruit more young people to find their way to the lab, and we need to serve those of us already in the profession with more CE, more access to funds, and more support. Although this group is doing their very best, and I'm more than grateful for all the dedication I've seen this year from the MAMLS board, we still need more help. I sincerely urge you to consider volunteering with us. The positions we have open for 2024 include Vice President and Professional Development. If you can't commit to a position, but you do have the time to volunteer in some capacity, please reach out to the presidential email address which you can find on our website, so we can let you know how you can help, whether it be attending a recruitment event, or volunteering to present for a CE event. Please follow our social media pages for other ways you can volunteer. It would really really be a shame if we have to disband MAMLS because I know, as a group, we are so passionate about our profession. And although we're all really struggling right now to find the energy, if you find some, please pick MAMLS.

So, for me, I'm going to switch from regular coffee to espresso, and keep on keeping on, because our patients need us, and MAMLS needs us, and we need each other.

There is so much light in the world if you are willing to get up and open up your curtains...but put on a sweater because at this time of year there's probably going to be a cold draft.

Thank you

## 5.0 Approval of 2022 Annual General Meeting Minutes

MOTION:

**“Be it moved that the minutes of the 2022 AGM be accepted as presented.”**

The minutes were amended as follows:

Revise title from Agenda to Minutes

Edit 6.1 – under Discussion (sentence 2), replace CSMLS with CMLTM

Edit 11.0 – under Discussion, correct busy to bursary

Edit 12.3 – correct spelling to commitment

MOTION:

**“Be it moved that the minutes of the 2022 AGM be accepted as amended.”**

Moved by Denise Fudge, seconded by Dmytro Yamchuk.

All in favour: In person (28), Online (5)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 1 (online)

**Motion carried.**

## 6.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

6.1 No new business

## 7.0 Presentation of Awards

7.1 ANC Delaat Memorial Award – Heather Mauthe was presented this award for her contributions in the field of Medical Laboratory Science

7.2 Past President Award – Dmytro Yamchuk was presented an award for being a dedicated advocator of the Medical Laboratory Profession

## 8.0 2021 Financial Report – Melanie Couture

The annual report has been uploaded to the MAMLS website for review by the membership.

## 9.0 Report from the Board of Directors – Dmytro Yamchuk

The year 2022 was a very exciting year for MAMLS and for all laboratory professionals. It was a year of great events where once again our community could gather and celebrate the lab profession.

This Year:

MAMLS welcomed the new Board members: Dannielle Lunsted (Caruk) as Vice President, Shona Litke as the Marketing and Communications Director, and Anita Koleva as Executive Assistant. As well as returning members: Sarah Crawford for a second term as MLA Representative, and Llorra Alejandro-Yarema was appointed as Recording Secretary.

LABCON 2022 was held in Winnipeg, and it was a great success. After being canceled in 2020, it brought an amazing opportunity for the lab community to reconnect and celebrate the lab profession. Many of our members were able to attend with the support of the Hilda Fleming Fund. I want to thank CSMLS and all the volunteers for organizing this event. I was fortunate to attend and honored to be representing MAMLS along with other Board members. Many wonderful topics were presented, and I encourage all our members to attend LABCON in the future.

MAMLS participated as judges for Manitoba Schools Science Symposium and helped promote lab professions.

The Finance committee continued to transition our records into QuickBooks under direction of the Auditors. A special thank you to our Treasurer, Melanie Couture for spearheading this project.

Highlights of 2022:

- Due to the pandemic, MAMLS was unable to hold our AGM in 2020. We held an additional AGM in March of 2022 to catch up to present time. It was a virtual event using the Zoom platform, and we included 2 CE sessions for our members. Members also voted on important changes to

our By-laws, allowing the association to be more inclusive, and to better reflect its needs.

- Select MAMLS board members received additional training from Verda Design, to better maintain and improve our website.
- On the 5th of November, MAMLS held its second AGM, at Canad Inns Club Regent, Winnipeg, an in-person and virtual event. It also included 2 CE sessions for our members.
- MAMLS met with CMLTM's team and representatives of the Office of the Health Minister to discuss future MLA regulations as well as to advocate for all lab professionals. The board voted in favor of officially supporting the future regulation of MLAs in Manitoba.
- MAMLS was able to support Spring Fling hosted by Capitol Academy in April. Many members attended and were able to enjoy continuing education sessions.
- I was able to represent MAMLS as president, and attend CSMLS's Council on Government and Public Relations, where we discussed issues facing the industry on a national level. The topic of MLA regulation was especially noted. MAMLS is excited about the possibility of Manitoba being the first province to regulate MLAs.

I would like to thank all of the passionate and dedicated Board members for their efforts and support during my time as President. I am looking forward to mentoring the new Board and am excited to see how their new ideas take shape for promoting the Medical Laboratory Profession in 2023.

Dmytro Yamchuk  
MAMLS President 2022

#### 10.0 Report from the Elections Committee

MOTION:

**“Be it moved that the elections for 2024 indicate that:**

**Sana Chaudhry be elected to the MAMLS Board of Directors through acclimation as Director of Professional Development for 2024;**

**Noelle Cater be elected to the MAMLS Board of Directors through acclimation as Treasurer for 2024;**

**and Llora Alejandro-Yarema be appointed to the MAMLS Board of Directors as Recording Secretary.”**

**“Be it further moved that the current MAMLS Board of Directors be ratified.”**

Moved by Dmytro Yamchuk, seconded by Angela Bueckert.

In favour: In person (25), Online (6)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 1 (in person)

**Motion carried.**

11.0 New Business

- 11.1 Adoption of the 2021 Auditors Report – Melanie Couture  
Financial statements have been uploaded to the MAMLS website for review by membership.

MOTION:

**“Be it moved that the 2021 Auditors report be accepted as circulated.”**

Moved by Melanie Couture, seconded by Dmytro Yamchuk.

In favour: In person (28), Online (4)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 1 (online)

**Motion carried.**

- 11.2 Appointment of 2023 Auditor

MOTION:

**“Be it moved that Haworth and Company be appointed as the 2023 Auditor.”**

Moved by Melanie Couture, seconded by Noelle Cater.

In favour: In person (28), Online (7)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

**Motion carried.**

12.0 Further Business

DISCUSSION: Heather Mauthe asked if there are any plans to bring up the Provincial Conference in the future. Melanie Couture confirmed that Capital Academy was planning on holding congress for 2024.

13.0 Resolutions – Dmytro Yamchuk

MOTION:

13.1 **“Whereas the members of the Board of Directors of MAMLS and all the Academies dedicate many hours of their time as a commitment to keeping the Association functioning smoothly through these changing times.”**

13.2 **“Be it resolved that the AGM expresses its sincere thanks to all outgoing Board members for their services, and officially welcome all new Board members to the MAMLS and the Academies.”**

13.3 **“Whereas all healthcare and laboratory professionals continue to persevere through adversity following the pandemic, union negotiations and understaffed workplaces.”**

13.4 **“Be it resolved that the AGM expresses its sincere appreciation and gratitude to all healthcare and laboratory professionals for their dedication to patient care, quality results and commitment to the collaborative efforts required to fight for better health for all.”**

Moved by Sana Chaudhry, seconded by Angela Bueckert

In favour: In person (28), Online (6)

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0 (in person)

**Motion carried.**

13.0 Adjournment: 1251 hrs