

BCHPA AGM 2020 – First-vice President’s Report

I started the year focused on the Semi-Annual Meeting in March where we planned a full day of speakers around the topic of queen production and management. I had 8 speakers scheduled and travel plans arranged when COVID-19 hit and caused us to cancel. The decision was taken out of hands when the provincial health officer restricted gatherings of more than 50. We had ~ 160 registrations which were cancelled and fully refunded. The hotel, Coast Kamloops, accepted our cancellation without penalty and applied our \$2000 deposit to a future event. Speakers were able to cancel their flights and receive full refunds.

Plans continued for our AGM to be held in Abbotsford at the Quality Inn. As the pandemic progressed, it was obvious that we would be cancelling this event also. Likewise, the hotel honoured our cancellation and applied our deposit to a future event. We had not started accepting registrations yet, so no refunds were necessary. Langley Bee Club will consider hosting a future event once we are able to meet in person again.

The executive pivoted to host our Semi-Annual meeting via teleconference. We had 40 members participate by phone. This allow us to conduct our business without interruption.

Plans were made for this fall to host our AGM via Zoom webinar. Education content was deemed important, so we planned to present 4 video sessions in November featuring local BC businesses. Feedback was requested via an online survey to members. Jeff Lee and I were contracted by the BCHPA to provide video production work for these 4 sessions. We travelled to Langley, Chilliwack, Golden and Armstrong to collect video footage and interviews. Post production for the video sessions is underway and will be ready for November broadcast.

On Tuesday, October 27th we hosted a Zoom Webinar with our Provincial Apiculturist, Paul van Westendorp where he presented a 60-minute talk on “The Defence of Bees” we had 168 attendees.