



The Annual General meeting of the Canadian Kennel Club was held on May 2nd, 2009 in Moncton, New Brunswick. There were approximately seventy-six members and guests in attendance including Board members and staff as shown below.

ATTENDANCE

Board of Directors	Staff
Dwain McLean, New Brunswick & PEI, Chair	Joe Mauro, Chief Executive Officer
Lee Steeves, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland & Labrador	Elio Furlan, Director/Events & Operations
Ed Graveley, Québec	Leila Bahorie, Manager, Registration
Brian Taylor, Ontario Central	Sonny Allinson, Manager, Communications
Kim Hamel, Manitoba	Ann McDonagh, Publisher, Apex Publishing
Richard Paquette, Ontario North	Tara Merrimen, Special Events Officer
Anita Cairns, Alberta, NWT & Nunavut	Annette Maggs, Recording Secretary
John Werle, Saskatchewan	
James Campbell, BC Interior & Yukon	Guests
Margaret Jones, BC Southwest	Heather Logan, 2008 Honorary Chair
	Jean Sirois, 2008 Honorary Veterinarian
Absent	Line Champagne, Incoming Chair, Audit Committee
Doug Windsor, Ontario West	Michael Catton, Chair, Appeal Committee
Bob Rowbotham, Ontario East	Rob Wilkes, Auditor, BDO Dunwoody
	Romy Shapiro, Petsecure Pet Health Insurance
	Charles Simonds, Chair, CKC Foundation

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Dwain McLean, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:15 am (Atlantic Daylight Time).

INTRODUCTIONS & OPENING REMARKS

The Chair introduced the Head Table and CKC senior management team. He acknowledged special guests in the gallery and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Mr. McLean expressed appreciation to the Moncton Kennel Club and the Fredericton Kennel Club for their warm hospitality in hosting the events in Moncton. Mrs. Janet Bourgeois, President, Moncton Kennel Club and Mrs. Cheryl Myers-Egerton, President, Fredericton Kennel Club were recognized to the applause of the meeting.

Mr. McLean announced that at their meeting on April 30, 2009, the Board of Directors had appointed Mr. Harold Butler from Québec as the Honorary Chair for 2009.

The 2008 Honorary Chair, Mrs. Heather Logan presented closing remarks on her year as Honorary Chair.

The 2008 CKC Honorary Veterinarian, Dr. Jean Sirois, Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Université de Montréal made a presentation about their Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

The Chair commented that the CKC appoints an Honorary Veterinarian each year and the position is rotated among the five veterinary colleges across Canada. He reported that at their meeting on April 30, 2009, Dr. Charles S. Rhodes, Dean, Western College of Veterinarian Medicine, University of Saskatchewan was named Honorary Veterinarian for 2009.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF 2008 AGM

MOVED BY: Line Champagne (Stewiacke, Nova Scotia) and seconded by Lynne MacLellan (Upper Lawrencetown, Nova Scotia): "THAT, the Minutes of the 2008 Annual General Meeting held June 14, 2008 be adopted as distributed."

➤ **Carried**

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Mauro reported that there was correspondence to be brought before the meeting.

PRESENTATION BY THE CHIHUAHUA CLUB OF CANADA

Mrs. Edna St. Hilaire, President of the Chihuahua Club of Canada made a presentation on the colour "Merle" in Chihuahuas.

PRESENTATION OF 2008 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The 2008 Audited Financial Statements were presented by Mr. Rob Wilkes from the auditing firm of BDO Dunwoody. He commented that the audit was conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards and that he was confident the reports are an accurate representation of the financial position of the CKC.

➤ **Received as Information**

Pause 11:15 a.m. to 11:35 a.m.

ANNUAL REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

The Chair presented and reviewed the Annual Committee and Council Reports. In concluding the presentation, Mr. McLean commented that the reported are a good reference tool for members' use and that the reports are also available on the website.

REPORT OF THE ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Chair invited Mr. Rob Wilkes from the auditing firm of BDO Dunwoody to report on the election of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Wilkes commented that BDO Dunwoody acted as chief electoral officer during the electoral process and it was his organization's responsibility to ensure that the election procedures were followed in accordance with CKC's by-laws and policies. He reported that the results have been certified by BDO Dunwoody, presented to the Chief Executive Officer and the Board and they have been posted on the Canadian Kennel Club website.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. McLean acknowledged Mrs. Reta Boyd (Enfield, Nova Scotia) in the gallery and he commented that she has attended every Annual General Meeting since 1992.

The Chair opened the floor to members. The items discussed are summarized below:

Item raised by Charlotte Shurko (Chester, Nova Scotia): When can the Chihuahua Club of Canada expect a response regarding the Chihuahua Merle issue?

Response/comments (Mr. McLean): One must move carefully and do due diligence in terms of examining background information before these type of decisions are made rather than moving quickly without a lot of thought. We need to respond with very real feedback and the Committees take their responsibilities seriously. While the process moves along, it can appear to be frustratingly slow when one is waiting for a response. If there are times you feel we are too slow in responding to an issue, bring it to our attention.

Item raised by Joann Dnistransky (Amherst, Nova Scotia): Where does the Board see itself going in terms of a more rapid integration of alternative medicine with traditional treatments for dogs?

Response/comments: (Dr. Sirois): There is a lot of interest in alternative medicines and processes that are available for animal health. It is seen as a complement to the more conventional approaches and is integrated in the general approach of treating animals.

Item raised by Todd Foley (Halifax, Nova Scotia): Is there an annual review of the conclusions made by the Discipline Committee? My sister lost two discipline hearings and won both on appeal.

Response/comments (Mr. Mauro): The Discipline Committee is an independent standing committee and the Board does not review decisions of independent standing committees. The process to review decisions is through the Appeal Committee and if there is still a dispute, the next step is judicial review. In extreme circumstances, the Board can step in if they feel there is an injustice or there is need to examine a policy upon which the decision was based. Mr. Mauro added that every item that is brought up at the Annual General Meeting automatically gets referred to the next Board meeting.

Item raised by Heather MacLeod (Fredericton, New Brunswick): How is the issue of open dog events moving forward and when might we expect to see action?

Response/comments:

(Mrs. Steeves): Open dog is a big issue and it is something we will speak to within the Strategic Plan. Discussions will take place throughout this year with the new Board. The process will not be a smooth or easy one for Board members and others who will provide input to the process. We recognize that we are going to see big changes in dog ownership in Canada over the next ten years. The CKC has a huge responsibility to dog owners and the decisions around open dog events will be important. We have a very diverse membership with people who are very passionate about where we should be going on a number of issues and the issue of open dog events is one that will polarize some of our membership. What we have to try to do as a Board is look to the future of dogs and dogs in this country. We have been faced with some tremendous challenges in the courts and with our legislators that revolve around dog ownership. We know from the Ipsos Reid Urban Animal Survey, that if we have the tools to speak for every dog owner in the country, we speak on behalf of most households in Canada. If we have the tools to speak only for purebred dogs in Canada, our tools are much more limited. There are many ways of being able to widen that scope and to make our voice more effective than what it is now. We are working on it through partnerships, working more closely with the vet schools across the country on a number of issues, and dealing with legislators more closely than we have in the past. If the issue has to be put to the membership as a by-law change, it will be three years before we are able to take that question to the membership. That may or may not be the case depending on how the Board approaches the open dog events discussion and where the Board feels that we should be going. During the process, there will be a lot of opportunity for the membership to provide us with their input.

(Mr. McLean): Recently the Premier of Québec appointed a committee to address the puppy mill issue in that province. Mr. Graveley was invited to be part of that committee and he has brought back statistics that have a lot of implications for the CKC which he will share with you.

(Mr. Graveley): The CKC registered 8,200 dogs in the province of Québec in 2008. The numbers put forward by the industry suggest that 100,000 dogs were sold in the province of Québec in 2008. That tells us that we are reaching out to less than one dog owner in ten. He noted that part of the issue is that a lot of those 92,000 dogs that are not registered with CKC are purebred or are represented to be purebred and every time something happens that the consumer is not happy with, they point the finger at the CKC. We are trying to be supportive of all dogs, we do care about the 100,000 dogs, not just the 8,200 we have registered. We are trying to be a positive influence and hopefully at the same time take some of the pressures away from the CKC membership and those who are breeding dogs properly.

Item raised Rita Boyd (Enfield, Nova Scotia) – Are we expecting that the open dog events will occur with the conformation events?

Response/comments: (Mrs. Steeves) That's part of the discussion. Conformation events would be a logical place for a start if it occurs. Both the Obedience Council and the Agility Council would be involved.

Item raised Carolyn Mills (Hanwell, Nova Scotia): Last year at their Annual General Meeting, the provincial veterinarian association decided that vets in this province would not be able to do cropping and docking procedures. The concern is that the vets didn't consult with the CKC or breed clubs before making the decision. Where do vets get the right to dictate breed standards that have been in place for a long time? All of a sudden people can't do these procedures? Ms. Mills wants to see more consultation with those involved and a timeline that is fair to breeders when a change is made.

Item raised Darr Housen (Indian Mountain, New Brunswick): It's a common fact that CKC agility trials don't draw a lot of interest in the Maritimes. In 2009 only one CKC agility trial is scheduled. When I judge

in other parts of Canada, I hear that agility is a struggling sport. What are you hearing – is that a real fact?

Response/comments:

(Mr. Furlan): Our statistics show that agility is growing slowly.

(Mrs. Steeves): It might be interesting to hear the difference you are seeing in the CKC trials vs. the AKC trials in terms of the mix of dogs.

(Ms Houssen): Here in the Maritimes and I am sure all across Canada it's the same, an agility association can go all summer; you get three and four trials per month from April 1st through to the end of October . We are more limited in our winter resource spots to hold trials. There are about 10% registered dogs and about 90% non-registered dogs that are competing. If we allowed our CKC trials to open up to mixed breeds, you could bring that sport right up to an AAC level in no time. Whoever's voting on this issue please consider that it is really important if you want the CKC agility sport to grow.

Item raised Darr Houssen (Indian Mountain, New Brunswick): As a CKC judge, we have a judges' list on email to allow us to stay in touch with judges all across Canada, discuss different scenarios, how this scenario happened, etc. A suggestion for CKC is to set up something like this to help judges stay in touch with each other. It would help the sport grow.

Item raised Question Wanda Hillier, (Lower Sackville, Nova Scotia): Regarding Chihuahuas, we did a lot of research before taking on the breed and we discovered that Merle's don't live that long. Because of that they are a black spot on the breed.

Item raised Question Wanda Hillier, (Lower Sackville, Nova Scotia): I sent a letter to registration to point out there was a conflict with a proposed kennel name with mine. I received a phone call telling me there was enough difference. I would like to take it further. How do I do that?

Response/comments: (Mr. Mauro) The process of addressing kennel name applications is done through Registration and guidelines have been established in the Policy Manual. Mrs. Bahorie will look into it with you.

Item raised Jill Nickerson (Amherst, Nova Scotia): I cannot register my rough/smooth collies on-line. Another issue is that I send in the proper paper work and get back a litter of rough or a litter of smooth. I then have to send the paperwork back or call CKC to sort it out.

Response/comments:

(Mrs. Bahorie) We will look into it.

(Mr. Mauro) There are some issues with the back-end data base which prevents some things going through on-line.

(Mr. Mauro) With respect to foreign sire applications, we are in discussion with the AKC to get it on-line and are also working with them to enable dual registrations on line (i.e., AKC and CKC registrations at the same time).

Item raised Reta Boyd: The distance between Obedience and Conformation used to be the same. Now in the Obedience book there is no mention of it?

Response/comments:

(Mrs. Steeves) At the Quebec City AGM, we had a request from obedience enthusiasts in the west to revisit the mileage. It was taken to the Obedience Council and they agreed they want the mileage to be the same. A motion was taken to the Board and the motion didn't pass because in 2010 there will be a complete analysis of mileage and distance. The Board felt that making a change that could result in another change being made would be confusing and could be a real problem in terms of approvals for the staff and for clubs to keep up on and keep track.

(Mrs. Boyd) She hopes when this item comes forward the Board will consider that the population in some parts of the Maritime Provinces is not the same as in some parts of Ontario or Alberta.

RDOG 2009

Mrs. Steeves & Mr. Allinson addressed the meeting to discuss plans for Responsible Dog Ownership Week and RDOG Day.

There are nine components to the program and the first three are available. They are "Bite Prevention", "What to Do In Case Of a Bite Incident", and "Encountering Dogs In The Course Of Your Employment". There has been interest from kennel clubs from around the world who have seen the documents on the CLC website and are interested in using them so we are licensing them. The next three components will be offered this year and they are "Connecting With Your Neighborhood", "Your Legal Responsibilities In Dog Ownership" and "What To Do If Your Dog Becomes Lost Or Goes Astray" The last three units are planned for 2011 and they are "Choosing The Right Dog For You", "Understanding Puppy's Behavior" and "Introducing Puppies To Your Environment".

CLOSING REMARKS

The Chair expressed appreciation to the Moncton Kennel Club for the opportunity of holding the Annual General Meeting in conjunction with their Show

Mr. McLean expressed appreciation for the day-to-day work of the CKC which is carried out by the CEO and his staff. He thanked members for giving him the opportunity to represent them, his colleagues at the Board table for their diligence in carrying out their responsibilities and the Honorary Chair and Honorary Veterinarian for serving.

ADJOURNMENT

- **Moved by:** Jill Nickerson (Amherst, Nova Scotia): "THAT, the meeting be adjourned."

The meeting adjourned at 12:59 p.m. (ADT)