



ALBERTA DIVING ASSOCIATION

2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

Sunday, September 24, 2023
Virtually by Zoom at 9 am

1. **Call to Order at 9:03 by Brent**
2. Attendance: Brent Grisdale, Herb Flewwelling, Carol McPherson, Gregory Koop, Taunya Haley, Adile Abaddi-Mackintosh, Adrienne Tait, Ashley Glessing, Brenda Gokiert, Ruby Tang, Paige Shaw, Rui Arco, Carole Erlam, Holly Baker, Karen Harback, Derek Whener, Janet Hawkins, Leilani McCutcheon, Kendall McCutcheon, Mason Smith, Barb Bush

Regrets: Ben Starchuk, Mike Angeles
3. **Motion to adopt the agenda by Carole Erlam, seconded by Adrienne Tait - unanimous.**
4. **Motion to approve minutes of the October 2, 2022 Annual General Meeting by Holly, seconded by Carole - unanimous.**
5. **Motion to accept the acts & proceedings of Alberta Diving's Members of the Board of Directors by Rui, seconded by Holly - unanimous.**
6. **Association Business**
 - a. President's Report – available electronically
 - b. Club Reports – read at meeting and available electronically.
 - c. Financial Statement – **Motion to approve the 2022 Financial Statement as presented by Taunya, seconded by Holly - unanimous.**
7. **Election of Officers**
 - a. Vice President – Brenda Gokiert voted in to replace Mike Angeles
 - b. Treasurer – Derek Whener voted in to replace Ben Starchuk
 - c. Publicity Chair – Taunya Haley (term started 2022) stands
8. **Ratification of Zone Reps and Technical Director**
 - a. Carole Erlam (south) - ratified
 - b. Rui Arco (north) - stepped down; Karen Harback appointed by the north zone clubs
 - c. Technical Director - ratified

9. Further Business

- a. Internal Audit of Books – Report on the 2022 internal audit by Ben and Taunya. Taunya states that the books were in good order and that nothing unusual was found in the audit.

The board appoints Derek Whener and Holly Baker to do the internal audit of books for 2023.

- b. **Motion to accept the new fee structure passed by the board in June by Carol, seconded by Carole – unanimous.**
- c. **Motion to call a vote of non-confidence against the President of the board by Janet, seconded by Paige – motion passes with votes of over 66% of the members in attendance at the meeting (12-5).** Reasons stated for this motion being brought up at the meeting were Brent having conflict of interest due to financial interests in certain clubs, communication issues, philosophical differences, leadership style, ect.

10. Adjournment by VP Brenda Gokiart at 11:15 am.

Reasons stated at the AGM for initiating a vote of non-confidence regarding the President by Janet:

1. Communication - sporadic, selective or overwhelming
2. Creating distance and disharmony with the NSO. Evidenced at the DPC AGM where he misrepresented the favour of the CDI from Dive Calgary's perspective and instead took a firm and outspoken stance that aligned with the Edmonton club perspective on CDI programs.
3. H2O Reg - Creating distance and disharmony with the software selection of our NSO as well as AbD member clubs already using it
4. Insurance - Same as the H2O process. Brent consistently catered to the wishes of Herb's clubs, wasting BOD time and resources on the research of this topic and manipulation of the BOD meetings with ongoing, unwanted discussion.
5. Conflict of interest and lack of transparency - Brent had personal investment in Lethbridge diving club (he loaned them personal money). He also tried to use his influence as the President of AbD to fast track the as-yet-unratified & unsanctioned by DPC & AbD - Medicine Hat and Varsity Diving Clubs acceptance into AbD membership for personal gain. Brent is a business partner of Tony Smith - the principal owner of the Medicine Hat Diving Club and the father of Mason Smith, the principal owner of the Varsity Diving Club.
6. Lack of timeliness - Documents would typically arrive during a meeting or right before a meeting thus rushing the members and the AbD BOD to make decisions before being able to properly analyze the information. Brent also did not send proper notice for AbD BOD meetings to all parties in the province and selectively leave out representatives from meeting notices. Dive Calgary was often left out of meeting invitations. During the 2023 AbD AGM it was shared by the Lethbridge Diving Club that most documentation and meeting invitations over the past year never reached them. It is unacceptable to leave out members from active discussion and decision making.
7. Disharmony and destabilizing - The President should be the non-partisan driving force for communication, community and connection between the zones and clubs of the province. From Brent's first day as the President his actions created a deep split in the province between the north and south, between Alberta Diving and the NSO, as well as between Alberta Diving and member clubs. He exhibited an attitude of disrespect - demonstrated in the way he would sign off certain emails, SMH (shaking my head) for example, toward the rest of the AbD BOD and would frequently go on long rants during meetings in which he was aggressive and would not let other members express their opinions.

I hope my notes are appropriate to share for the record to ensure that current and future members of Alberta Diving take note of the reasons Brent Grisdale was ousted from his position as President of Alberta Diving.