

GENETICS SOCIETY OF CANADA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Saturday March 1, 4:00-5:00 PM
Banff Centre Room MB251

In attendance: Heather Prior, John Bell, Brian Golding, Andrew Simmonds, Shiva Singh, Kathleen Hill, Rama Singh, Paul Lasko, George Haughn, William Brook, Shelagh Campbell, Tom MacPherson, Rory Crabbe, Denise Clark, Lovesha Sivanantnarajah, Bhagwati Gupta, Arthur Hilliker

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

Unanimous.

2. APPROVAL OF AGM MINUTES of 2007 as published in the September 2007 issue of the Bulletin.

Unanimous.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Paul Lasko

We have 67 new members sign up with our free membership initiative.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT – Paul Lasko for Julie Brill

We have a deficit of \$4800 for 2007, but still have about \$60,000 in deposits and investments. Our deficit is likely an overestimate since we are not up to date with the membership and Genome dues that came in after Dec. 2007.

5. ANNUAL DUES.

Motion: Paul, Rama. Increase \$10 full members, \$5 students.

Discussion – This increase runs counter to our initiative to attract new members. In addition, we will eliminate more expenses of the bulletin goes electronic. Also, other societies like the Society for Developmental Biology have lower dues.

In light of these arguments, the motion to increase membership fees was withdrawn.

6. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS for 2008 finances

Nominated: Art Hilliker, Shiva Singh.

Appointment supported unanimously.

7. GENOME REPORT - Arthur Hilliker

Arthur Hilliker and Brian Golding are now the co-editors. Genome is getting record numbers of papers submitted. Editors are interested in receiving reviews and minireviews. Also, comments and letters to the editors are invited. NRC says Genome editors have the flexibility to publish what they want. Genome is in all the electronic databases like Pubmed. It has high quality reviewing, with routinely rejection of ~40% of papers. If you have a good publication record, it doesn't hurt to submit to Genome. Membership was encouraged to publish in Genome.

8. ELECTION REPORT – Arthur Hilliker

The search for a Vice-President candidate has not been successful. A number of candidates have been approached. We will continue pursuing candidates.

2008 directors: Andrew Simmonds, Xuhua Xia, Art Hilliker. 2008 secretary: Bernard Duncker.

9. MEETING REPORT - Bill Brook

The Canadian Developmental Biology Conference has 210 registrants, 25 invited speakers, and 110 abstracts (of which 8 are for platform talks, the rest posters).

FUTURE MEETING – 2009 – Paul Lasko

The last two meetings were linked to developmental biology-oriented meetings. We have approached the Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution about a joint meeting with them in 2009 and that decision is before their council. We have decided on an April 30 deadline on that decision. We have some alternatives if this doesn't work out, but we want to have a conference next year with an evolutionary biology theme because it will provide members with other types of research interests the opportunity to meet and present their work.

10. AWARDS – Rama Singh

There were two award presentations at this conference. Shiva Singh for the 2008 Award of Excellence and Wael Tadros for the Ph.D. thesis award. There were two additional awards. Rees Kassen won the 2008 Young Scientist award and Arianne Albert was also awarded a 2008 Ph.D. thesis award. They will give their award presentations next year at the 2009 GSC conference. The committee had several strong candidates this year.

11. STUDENT REPORT – Anne Formaz-Preston.

Not in attendance.

12. NEW BUSINESS.

Paul Lasko, on behalf of the GSC, wished to express gratitude to Barbara for running the Bulletin all of these years. The executive has struck a subcommittee to discuss a new venue for our publications (Andrew Simmonds, Anne Formaz-Preston, Kirst King-Jones).

Andrew Simmonds added that the subcommittee wishes to retain all the good things about the bulletin, but at the same time move it into the electronic age.

Paul Lasko proposed that we acquire GSC.ca as a domain name.

13. CHANGE OF OFFICERS.

14. ADJOURNMENT.

Unanimous.

Treasurer's Report Feb. 2008

1. Financial Picture (Jan. – Dec. 2007). Here's the breakdown. Note that numbers have not changed since Nov. 2007:

	Dec 31, 07
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
CIBC Main Bank Account	3,763.71
TD CT Line of Credit	8,439.24
TD Investments	55,000.00
Total Chequing/Savings	67,202.95
Other Current Assets	
Interest Receivable	-892.05
Undeposited Funds	75.00
Total Other Current Assets	-817.05
Total Current Assets	66,385.90
TOTAL ASSETS	66,385.90
 LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
GST Payable	-1,114.56
Total Other Current Liabilities	-1,114.56
Total Current Liabilities	-1,114.56
Total Liabilities	-1,114.56
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	67,354.41
Retained Earnings	5,032.03
Net Income	-4,885.98
Total Equity	67,500.46
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	66,385.90

2. Income and Expenses. Note that these numbers are essentially the same as for Nov. 2007:

	Jan - Dec 07
Income	
Advertising Fees	800.00
Donations-Charity	880.00
Genome Journal	
Dues	3,580.00
GSC Membership	
Dues	4,795.00
Library Bulletin	577.35

Subscriptions	
Total Income	<u>10,632.35</u>
Expense	
Awards Given Out	1,000.00
Awards Related	461.91
Courier Fees	115.76
Discount-Early Payment	190.00
Genome Payment	4,975.10
Interest and Bank Charges	391.08
Memberships	500.00
Office Supplies	49.13
Postage Bulletin Prepaid	432.22
Conference Fees	1,000.00
Printing Bulletin	3,193.86
Professional Fees Management Fees	<u>2,848.86</u>
Total Professional Fees	2,848.86
Telephone	102.41
TSW Credit Card Fee	<u>258.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>15,518.33</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-4,885.98</u></u>

3. Membership. This continues to be an area to work on for the future.

New memberships:

2008 (through Feb. 21)	19
2007	41
2006	74

Overall memberships (not all have renewed – Lisa is tracking these down):

Emeritus	14
Student	96
Individual	140
Spouse	15

4. Summary. There's not much financial news to report. The numbers here are essentially the same as for November 2007. Lisa is updating the membership list and tracking down members who have not renewed. The plan to recruit members at the Banff meeting should increase our numbers (but not our 2008 income).

NOTE: The discrepancy between Genome payment and income are a result of the 2007 memberships being processed in 2008. This difference should be reconciled in 2008.