

The 2019 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Members of the Canadian Kennel Club was held on June 1, 2019 at the Holiday Inn Winnipeg Airport West, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

ATTENDANCE

Eighty-six (86) members and guests attended the meeting, including Board members, staff members and guests as shown below.

Board of Directors:

Joan Bennett, Zone 11, BC Southwest (Chairperson)
Lendra Barker, Zone 1, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland,
and Labrador
Paul Oslach, Director, Zone 2, New Brunswick,
and PEI
Linda St-Hilaire, Zone 3, Quebec
Thomas Nesbitt, Zone 5, Ontario East
Corinne Walker, Zone 8, Manitoba
David Gilmour, Zone 9, Saskatchewan
Sharon Derrick, Zone 10, Alberta, NWT, and Nunavut
Lynne Bruce, Zone 12, BC Interior & Yukon

Absent Director:

Paul Eckford, Zone 6, Ontario West
Peter Laventhall-Wolfish, Zone 7, Ontario Central
Richard Paquette, Zone 4, Ontario North

Staff:

Lance Novak, Executive Director
Leila Bahorie, Director, Membership Services & Registration
Emily MacKinnon, Manager, Marketing & Communications
Andrew McCallister, e-Business Manager
Sherry Weiss, Manager, Events
Annette Maggs, Recording Secretary

Distinguished guests:

Murray Botterill, Former Chair, Audit Committee
Thora Brown, Former CKC Chair, Rules of Eligibility
Committee Chair, & 2006-2013 CDJA Past President
Tanya Hatton, Chair, Audit Committee
Robert Lindey, Appeal Committee Chair
Ginny Lyne, 2019 CKC Honourary Chair
MJ (Joey) Natrass, 2018 CKC Honourary Chair
Dr. John Reeve-Newson, 2018 CKC Honourary Veterinarian
Marcus Sconci, CPA, CA, Partner, BDO
Canada LLP, CKC Auditor
Gerry Taylor, 2016 CKC Honourary Chair
David Trus, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada

1. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum confirmed, Joan Bennett, Chair of the Board, opened the 2019 AGM at 9:05 a.m. MDT by welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending.

Notice of meeting was issued to the membership on March 11, 2019.

2. INTRODUCTIONS AND EXPLANATION OF VOTING PROCEDURES

The head table was introduced and voting procedures were explained.

3. OPENING REMARKS

3.1 – Chair's Opening Remarks

The Board of Directors, members of the management team and distinguished guests were introduced.

3.1.2 – Memorial

The meeting observed two minutes of silence in memory of all those members who have passed away since the previous Annual General Meeting.

3.1.3 – Membership Milestones

The following presentations were made in recognition of significant CKC milestones:

- Mimi Chrystal – 50 years of membership.
- Roberta Tougas – 50 years of membership.
- Grace McDonald – 50 years of membership.

3.2 – 2018 Honourary Chair's Remarks and Announcement of 2019 Honourary Chair

The Chair recognized MJ (Joey) Natrass and presented her with a framed certificate in appreciation of serving as 2018 Honourary Chair. In her remarks, Joey Natrass shared some of the highlights during her 71 years as a CKC member and her involvement in the world of dogs.

The Chair introduced Virginia Lyne from British Columbia and announced that she had been named the CKC Honourary Chair for 2019.

3.3 – 2018 Honourary Veterinarian's Remarks & Announcement of the 2019 Honourary Veterinarian

Dr. John Reeve-Newson was invited to the podium. He spoke on the topic of "Conflict Between Breeders and Veterinarians". As part of his remarks, he encouraged the CKC to write to the Deans of the five Canadian Veterinarian colleges asking them if they could get some time in curriculum to address the students about breeders' responsibilities and to work together to find a more harmonious relationship between breeders and vets. When he finished speaking, the Chair thanked Dr. Reeve-Newson for his presentation and presented him with a framed certificate in appreciation for serving as the 2018 CKC Honourary Veterinarian.

The Chair announced the name of the 2019 Honourary Veterinarian: Dr. Greg Keefe, Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Atlantic Veterinary College, University of Prince Edward Island.

4. MINUTES OF THE 2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MOVED BY Tammy Baker: "THAT, the Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting held on June 9, 2018 in Ottawa, Ontario be adopted, as circulated."

➤ **The motion was carried**

5. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

6. PRESENTATION OF THE 2016 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The 2018 audited financial statements were presented by the CKC's auditor, Marcus Sconci, CPA. CA. Partner, BDO Canada LLP.

7. REPORTS

7.1 – Chair's Report

In her Chair's report, Joan Bennett commented it has been a busy year. She went on to say, *"Some projects include branding at CKC events; our membership in the International Partnership for Dogs; and we are in early development of a Breeder Certification Program. During 2018, we wrote our Judges Observer Program which utilizes trained observers for our judges. We wanted to have some consistency from one coast to the other and we trained some people who have been doing a fabulous job. Our partnership with the CDJA in hosting the annual Judges Education Conference continues. Our Genetics & Medical Committee has formulated an Infectious Disease Statement for inclusion in our Policy Manual, and our crown jewel, the IT4YOU Project, is nearing completion. None of this could have been accomplished without the assistance of our staff and our dedicated volunteers who sit on various committees and councils. We currently have a full-time staff of 41 plus two on contract. Our volunteers are kept busy dedicating many hours to assist as members of four independent standing committees, 17 councils and 12 standing committees, as well as several ad hoc committees which take on specific projects. A special thank-you to all those volunteers who sit on these committees and councils. We truly appreciate their hard work and would be hard-pressed to have the accomplishments that we do have without you. Thank you.*

There is another group of hard-working volunteers without whom we couldn't function and that is my colleagues here at the head table. Their support is greatly appreciated; I couldn't do my job without them.

2018 saw the continued growth of legislation at all levels of government, as well as at SPCAs and veterinary associations across the country that have brought challenges to the dog world. As a result, we have established several task forces to address the issues and we have been fortunate to become stakeholders in some instances. That status allows us to get an inside track".

7.2 – Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Lance Novak delivered a report on operations. Highlights were:

- The Club remains financially stable. We have at least 5 to 6 months of operating cash if we ran into an emergency or disaster. That's a good standard for the nature of our business. As well, it puts us into a position to think strategically and consider investments in our future to continue to grow and diversify.
- For a few years in a row now we've had increases in events entries and registrations. We want the increment of growth to get much larger but at least we're headed in the right direction.
- One of the things we've heard from members is they would like us to provide more presence at shows. In that regard, a CKC Branding Pilot Project was launched in 2018. CKC provides branded materials to clubs who have offered to grow and work with us. Overall, we know it's been well received, and we plan to expand the project in 2019.
- In 2018, the Board supported CKC's membership in the International Partnership for Dogs (IPFD). It is an international not-for-profit organization of like-minded organizations with a common purpose of promoting the health and well-being of canines. The value of this membership is to share information, best practices, repositories and libraries of information related to genetics, and emerging issues.

Another benefit of that membership is that Board member, Dr. Paul Eckford, has been able to attend a workshop in England as our representative. Our Board has been monitoring his Facebook postings about how excited he is about what he's learning, what he's seeing, and what he's going to bring back to the CKC to help feed some of our strategies on genetics and medical issues, and health and well-being of dogs.

- In 2018, Sprinter and Chase Ability were launched. In 2019, we launched Scent Detection and Therapy Dog Title Recognition.
- Marketing and Communications strategies have evolved throughout the year. In 2018 we realigned resources to better represent the CKC in advocacy issues. We have partnered staff with members, who are subject matter experts and have access to additional resources to coordinate task forces assigned to address regional issues. This is proving effective in gaining access to people of influence to present a clear and consistent position. The foundation of our strategy when we speak with these people is that the CKC wants to project itself as an organization that recognizes opportunity, is prepared to collaborate, promotes communication, and can offer its expertise and consultation with these tough issues. These elements are what opens the dialogue and helps us through healthy conversation to get to a suitable solution instead of something more drastic.
- In our pursuit to have our 2016 and 2017 Referendums approved, and through the back and forth communication with Agriculture Canada, we've come to learn a lot more about our position in the Animal Pedigree Act, why it exists, why it's positive for us, and where we can do better. Agriculture Canada has helped us to distill it into themes that will be incorporated into our future communications. Those themes are promoting breed improvement, value and well-being aligned to:
 - Committee operations and accountabilities.
 - Breed Club accountabilities.
 - Role of Breed Standards and Rules of Eligibility.
 - Governance and the Board's role.
 - Business Operations.

7.2.1 – Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Presentation

The Chair then introduced David Trus, Animal Industry Division, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. Mr. Trus gave a presentation on the Animal Pedigree Act and Breed Associations, both generally and with respect to CKC.

The meeting paused from 11:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

7.2.2 – IT4YOU Project Report

As part of the Executive Director's report, Andrew McCallister, CKC e-Business Manager, presented a video showcasing some of the features and functions of the IT4YOU Project.

7.2.3 – Staff Milestone

Leila Bahorie, CKC Director, Registration & Membership Services, was presented with a framed certificate in appreciation for her milestone of 45 years of service. She then spoke a little about the highlights of her tenure as a CKC staff member.

7.3 – Annual Report

The Annual Report was presented to the meeting. It contains data of interest and importance to members, member-generated content and photography, and it includes reports on all the hard work and accomplishments that committees and councils have done over the last year.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 – Open Microphone

The floor was then opened to questions and comments from the membership which are summarized below. All items raised were recorded and will be added to the agenda of the next meeting of the Board of Directors for appropriate follow-up or referral.

Topic: Certification of Mixed Breeds

Question, raised by Tom Alexander and directed to David Trus, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada: *“It is my understanding from your comments that Ag-Canada is asking the CKC to consider recognizing and maybe registering mixed breeds. If that is the case, is the Minister of Agriculture also agreeable and aware of this?”*

David Trus’ response: *“No, I’m not recommending that. The point was made that there was a market demand that wasn’t being filled by the CKC. It got filled by breeders of designer dogs because they found an appeal in the general public for things that now we know are not great things to have out there. It’s not good for dogs and it’s not good for the people in a lot of cases. That was a gap that the CKC wasn’t filling. Are there options for the CKC? Yes. I am not recommending you do it but I’m pointing out that there was a gap that was being filled. There are several things that can be done. When you look at what the livestock industry has done, they have purebred animals of the different breeds, but also crosses. Some of them are planned crosses that are used very beneficially to be very productive for meeting the market needs for which they are bred.”*

Tom Alexander’s response: *“But that is livestock. We’re talking about designer dogs for monetary value only, pet breeders.”*

David Trus’ response: *“That’s the way they have been done right now. But if there were crosses of good quality, purebred animals, designed crosses just going in one direction. Not to come back into the breeding population; that would be another option to consider. Now one thing I mentioned to the Board yesterday was some of these are registered by the livestock associations. However, what is the important part is the certification. So, there’s no certification going back to buyers of designer dogs right now. If you wanted to identify certain types of mixes of breeds and breedings that would be acceptable and the CKC would be willing to stand behind that in terms of quality, I’m saying, here’s the genetic makeup of that so you know what is behind it. This is not to come back into the breeding population at all. There’s an opportunity on the certification side. It doesn’t mean you have to register them, and it could be kept in a separate book. So that is a possibility where the CKC could be in that market, providing quality animals in a market otherwise just populated by indiscriminate breeders. So, there’s an opportunity. It’s not a recommendation and it wouldn’t be a registration in the same sense as registering your purebred animals.”*

Tom Alexander’s response: *“You’re saying we’re going to certify these Labradoodles, these Dachshund Pug crosses, etc. This is what I get out of that. So, are you saying I’m right or wrong?”*

David Trus' response: *"The CKC would have the option of choosing which ones it thought might be worthwhile and would do well in the population."*

Tom Alexander's response: *"What criteria would you have for that?"*

David Trus' response: *"The CKC can determine that. What you see are the Labradoodles and some of the braindead animals that never should have been done. They appeal to a certain market. A lot of that is misinformation in my view. From what I've seen out there, about three-quarters of the animals fall into that category. The CKC is not in that space. You're the largest dog breeding organization in Canada and yet you have done nothing to fill that space. So, my challenge to you is how can the CKC look at maybe filling that space and taking it away from those others that are not doing a service to the dogs or the other people out there?"*

Tom Alexander's response: *"The CKC, the people that recognize purebred dogs, should look at certifying mixed breeds. That's what you're saying, correct?"*

David Trus' response: *"It wouldn't be breeds. They're mixed, they're not breeds. I'm saying this is an opportunity you may want to consider. It is not a recommendation."*

Tom Alexander's response: *"So beyond you, is the Minister of Agriculture aware of this and in agreement with it?"*

David Trus' response: *"No. It doesn't work that way because what I'm telling you is the CKC is incorporated to represent the breeders throughout Canada and the animals of these breeds that have been approved. It's up to you to address whatever the market requirements are. Now, this is not a registration in the sense of you are going to be perpetuating these animals into the future. It is to fill a market need and provide information to the market from what you are already doing; lending credibility in terms of the background and planned crosses that may do well and help address some of the problems out there with the other breeders that are not meeting standards expected by the buying public."*

Tom Alexander's response: *"Well I think we'd be going in totally the wrong direction and to say that we're going to recognize any of these crossbreeds, basically mongrels, is a step backwards."*

David Trus' response: *"That's fine. I think the CKC and the Board can talk with the members. That would be appropriate. It is not a requirement. It is not a recommendation. I am pointing out that there's a big gap between what the CKC is doing for a select breeder community in a sense but the broad population out there that wants dogs and doesn't know any better is accessing animals from other sources that has not been good for the dogs or even the breeding community because it misrepresents what good quality breeding is."*

Tom Alexander's response: *"Maybe what we should be doing is educating the public on purebred dogs."*

David Trus' response: *"There is a lot of room for education, for sure."*

Tom Alexander's response: *"That should be Ag-Canada's focus, not mixed breeds."*

David Trus' response: *"No, Agriculture Canada does not have a role to educate the public on that."*

Tom Alexander's response: *"No but you're suggesting that we register or certify these breeds. Really?"*

David Trus' response: *"No. I will leave that to the Board to discuss and work with the members in terms of the options might be."*

Comment from Dr. John Reeve-Newson: *"What we have to remember is that all purebred breeds that we recognize as purebred breeds originally started as crossbreeds generations ago. They took this, they took that,*

they came up with a breed and they called it whatever. So, it's not as simple as saying z+b=c. I think Cesky Terriers were a cross and now are recognized as a purebred breed. So, I don't think we should be close sighted about this. I agree with you, Tom, that our job is to preserve and, as Dr. Meen would say, protect the purebred dogs as we see them but even his speech was that we all started as mixes generations ago. That's what we have to protect."

Topic: Rules of Eligibility

Question, raised by Roberta Tucker (Dugald, MB), President, Gordon Setter Club of Canada and directed to David Trus, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada: *"We were one of the first breeds that went through the exercise of distilling our standard into ten components and it caused us a certain amount of effort and time to consult and come up with the rules of eligibility. We're still confused as to the usefulness of this. We're quite happy and proud of our breed standard and it aligns with other international standards for the breed, describes how the breed is structured and created to be able to do its job in the field. So, it's not strictly a cosmetic/beauty pageant type of thing. It's a purposeful standard. So, I'm still confused and still have trouble explaining to our members how these rules of eligibility are useful to us as breeders or to the public when we have a perfectly good standard."*

David Trus' response: *"You know what, I agree. Under the Animal Pedigree Act, rules of eligibility are intended to be part of the standard. The idea that you have breed standards and rules of eligibility separate is not desirable in my view. But what had happened, the rules of eligibility that may be applied for registration were not written in the By-laws at all. The Animal Pedigree Act does require rules of eligibility for registration (those being the decision points that may or may not be registered) should be in your By-laws. It should not be a surprise. The Minister should not be receiving communication saying, 'I don't understand why my animal wasn't registered and they are refusing to register it'. It should be written right in the By-laws. That's the first point."*

The second point is that a lot of the things related to the breeds are functional characteristics, things that make sense and distinguish the breed. That's what the rules of eligibility are. They should be things that distinguish this breed from another breed. They should be clear and set out clearly in the By-laws. That's what the Rules of Eligibility are supposed to be. I think in some ways they may have gotten off a little bit and I will be looking at some new ones and working with the CKC to make sure that they are conforming to the overall intent. But, in the absence of them being clearly defined in the By-laws as part of your authority to register or to refuse to register animals, they must be clearly set out and relate to the characteristics of that breed and should be heritable. Those are the rules of eligibility."

Comments from Shawn Bennett (Winnipeg, MB): *"You just said you don't accept it under the rules of eligibility, but you would accept Doodles. The CKC's Mission Statement talks about purebred dogs. If Ag-Canada wants a marketing company to market Doodles, then go get one. That's not us. You're not going to get support in this room. Anybody in this room that supports marketing Doodles, put up your hand. Not one. You've lost your way, sir. You've lost your way with the CKC; it's not going to happen. You may as well move on. Maybe find another group that might work with you on that. We would love to work with you on every other thing relevant to purebred dogs, but I don't think we are going to work with you on that. So, you used words in your presentation which – I appreciated that – value representing breeders. Lack of enthusiasm; there's not one person in here that lacks enthusiasm. There are lots of things you talked about that Ag-Canada wants us to help with related to animal welfare. Again, the people you have in this room are passionate about animal welfare. Dog breeders keep getting lumped in with backyard breeders and Doodle breeders who do it for profit. Anybody in here make any money last year breeding dogs? Not one. Anybody in here make money showing dogs? Not one. I think what's happened is that Ag-Canada has lost their way with the CKC. I don't think you understand fully what the CKC's mandate is about, and really what our passion is. It's certainly not Doodles, and it certainly is animal welfare."*

The one question I do have is we have been charged as a group, as a Board, as staff, to meet certain requirements that you have put forward over the last several years. To my knowledge we've met all of them including the initial round of rules of eligibility which I was instrumental in helping to get a lot of those through

because there was a lot of pushback. What I'm asking you is, we've had Referendums, we've had By-law changes and now we've got more rules of eligibility. When is your office going to honour us, with all of that work that we've put forward, when are you going to say, 'okay here you go, here is the next registration, here is the next breed that you can bring into your group'? When are we going to get action? We've done nothing but accommodate you; we've acted in good faith, but it's our opinion, our perception and perceptions are reality, that we've not been getting that same communication and cooperation back. So that's really it. When can we get our Referendums passed, when can we get our By-laws items passed and when can we get some new breeds registered because there is a demand for them?"

David Trus' response: "Thank you. On that last point, I'm going to leave that largely to the CKC and the Board. I did communicate with the Board yesterday that the amendments to the By-laws are something that can be done fairly soon. The breed issues will take a little bit more time because of a number of issues related to meeting the requirements of The Act. We've had some communications with the CKC and that will be addressed."

"Regarding the first issue you raised, I wanted to point out that is the CKC has chosen to register only animals that are purebred. The Act allows for registration of animals that are purebred and percentage. So, the option is there under The Act and people may not realize it. The previous Act, because when the first Act was put in place there had been concern in the early 1900's about mongrelization and that was a very bad term. So that really affected all efforts to breed and then you went ultra-purebred. But as your Honourary Veterinarian pointed out, the majority of breeds came from a mixed background. And that can be healthy for the animals as well. So, the Animal Pedigree Act still relates to registration of animals and to track all of the genetic background. The opportunity is there for the CKC, if it wishes to choose it. If the members don't want that, that's fine, but the Animal Pedigree Act does not restrict you only to 100% purebred animals. The minimum definition for purebred would be 7/8 relating back to foundation stock of the breed. So, that's effectively three generations. Just so you understand, and this is when we refer to the livestock breeds, there's quite a variation in terms of maintaining the purebred breeding populations but also having other registered animals that meet market needs. In the case of the CKC, it is something to consider. It is not a recommendation; it's a consideration."

Shawn Bennett's response: "Have you read our Mission Statement? How do we go about allowing mixed breeds; how do we go against our Mission Statement? You're already charging us to stick to rules and now you want us to break our fundamental Mission Statement. How can we do that?"

David Trus' response: "I will let the CKC and the Board consider what it wants its mission to be. You have certain requirements under The Act, but your mission if you want to stick to only 100% purebred animals forever and ever, is up to you."

Topic: Public Perception that Designer Breeds are Better

Raised by Grace McDonald (Winnipeg, MB) and directed to David Trus, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada: *In the minutes of the last AGM, Barbara Heal commented that she would like to see the CKC focus on addressing the public perception that designer breeds are better. The answer to that was that this was answered at the AGM. I don't know what became of it. What did CKC do? We don't know but the bottom line is I feel and I'm sorry to say it that Ag-Canada keeps abdicating any and all responsibility to help with this issue. You keep throwing it back. The CKC should do this; the CKC should do that. Ag-Canada takes no responsibility and they haven't for the 50 years I've been a member. I've been hearing from people for 50 years that, 'oh, I paid only \$250 for my Labrador Retriever because I didn't get the papers. They said if I wanted the papers, I would have to pay another \$400'. You know how many times I've heard that. I'll bet there's a few other people in the room that have heard that. The papers belong to the dog and it's against, as far as I know, the Livestock Pedigree Act, to sell a dog purported to be a purebred and not provide the papers. Well, you know how many letters in 50 years I've written to Ag-Canada about that. Because this is Ag-Canada's responsibility and you can't abdicate this one back to CKC. Why don't you do something about all these people who are selling dogs purported to be purebreds and saying they will charge more for the papers. I'm sure I'm not the only one who has contacted Ag-Canada about this. I just think Ag-Canada is abdicating their*

responsibility on both fronts, on puppy mills selling dogs without papers and undercutting we who spend a great deal of money producing purebred dogs and on the issue of designer dogs. I just think we can't look to Ag-Canada for any help."

Topic: Why Can't Ag-Canada Control Who is Giving Out "Certified Pedigrees"

Raised by Jill Fraser, President of the Manitoba Canine Association (Winnipeg, MB) and directed to David Trus, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada: "Ag-Canada regulates CKC's registrations. However, they want CKC to register or mediate registration for mixed breeds. We must generate pedigrees, when we bring in an import, we must have it certified, we have to go through all these hoops. We have a venue of mixed breed registration where dogs, if they are altered, can compete in performance events. It doesn't lend validity because we give it no name; it is registered as mixed breed dog, not a Labradoodle, not a Cockapoo. As the president of a club, I receive multiple calls a year asking how they can enter their registered Cockapoo in the conformation end of show and which group they should enter it in because they have received a pedigree when they purchased the dog. Why can't Ag-Can control who is giving out certified pedigrees? I have filed letters with copies of pedigree for Cockapoos with Ag-Canada and nothing has been done."

David Trus' response: "I guess I'm not quite sure how to answer this. First, there are offenses under The Act. If somebody is issuing a certificate of registration on an animal and they are not approved under The Act, they can be charged. The terms 'registered', 'purebred', and 'CKC' are protected terms under The Act. There's an offense section under The Act and we have an agreement with the RCMP for enforcement. In the last few years, the RCMP has not been easily available to deal with that and as a matter of fact, we even heard from the Ontario region that they decided on their top priorities and this did not fit in there. I don't know where the status of it goes but our department is not an enforcement department."

Jill Fraser's response: "So Ag-Canada has no teeth on any registration of any sort of pedigrees, but they block CKC from registering new breeds? They make it incredibly difficult for us to register a new breed."

David Trus' response: "No. To be recognized for a new breed, there's process to go through. But when it comes to enforcement, Agriculture Canada has no enforcement arm. We are not peace officers."

Jill Fraser's response: "But when will Ag-Canada step up and help clubs like the Canadian Kennel Club to support purebred dogs?"

David Trus' response: "When it comes to enforcement, I must go through our legal counsel to determine, with the RCMP, if there is a path forward. Just a few months ago, the RCMP asked us to put together a memorandum of understanding for how The Act would be enforced. So right now, it is unfortunate but although their provisions are to do it, the actual engagement on enforcement has not been done."

Comments from Shawn Bennett (Winnipeg, MB): "A couple of things that were said that I'd hate to see us close the door on. If you have a breed in trouble and you have a group of breeders that go to the Club and say we have to do something bringing in new genetic materials into our breed to maintain our breed because we have a genetic defect in our breed. What David Trus said was that 7/8 is the rule; you did the cross and you bred back into the breed for three generations and then you had a group, either from the Club or someone appointed from the Club to look and say okay, these meet the breed requirement; they can come back into the breed. That's how you did it."

The other thing that was said was that in the past, there were Fanciers who took dogs of similar genetic make-up and basically made a breed and kept that breed going and it was eventually registered by the Club. Most of them were based on function, whether it was ratting in a certain area or chasing deer uphill as opposed to chasing them on the flat plains. That's how our breeds have evolved. I would hate to see the Canadian Kennel

Club close that door to us. As far as the designer breeds, maybe it's up to us as breeders in the Club to show what wonderful purebred dogs we have as opposed to the Cockapoos."

Comments from Lance Novak, CKC Executive Director: *"I wanted to offer a couple of comments and impressions related to Grace McDonald's comment about what was the outcome of that action from the previous AGM. It sounds like a non-answer but part of what was asked was addressed in my presentation when I told you about the strategies we're working on. There wasn't a more succinct answer when the item was raised last year, and you'll get the same answer this year. I'm hoping that you will find comfort in the Board's direction and the strategies that they develop versus a message that was given in one place or a campaign or a brochure that was created. It's more a message that we hear what you're saying and we're incorporating it our activities and our business plans and budgets. It's also a segue to we're at a turning point right now. One of its highest priorities of the Board is to re-establish a three-year Strategic Plan. The glass is half full and we're having a dialogue on very tough issues with Agriculture Canada. It's very common when you're starting that to be very passionate and controversial, and for it to be difficult. We have to find common ground. I'm encouraged that at least David Trus is here and is having conversations with our Board.*

Topic: Judges

Raised by Ben Wasylyshen (St. Paul, MB): *"A gentle suggestion for the CKC. As a newer judge in Canada, there are a great many rules & regulations for us to abide by. We are under continuous scrutiny and we all operate and should operate under the same set of rules which is a very good thing and we hope that will continue with your guidance. So in the coming years, we hope we can continue dialogue that those same set of rules for judges continue and that those individuals who have lost their memberships under CKC rules are allowed to re-apply for membership and then would have to operate under the same set of rules as the rest of us. So, it's a suggestion to please continue the dialogue with us and let's work through these processes with our wonderful national committee and other individuals who are monitoring everything we're doing."*

Second point: *"I'm honoured and thank the CKC for choosing my hound, our top winner and a dog from Winnipeg, to grace the 2018 Annual Report."*

Topic: Library & Archives

Raised by Dr. John Reeve-Newson (Toronto, ON): *"This is a challenge to the Board. When Dr. Dick Meen died, he left an intensive library and a huge collection of dog artifacts. His dream was to have a library and a collection like his established at the CKC office. So, I'm just throwing it out to the Board. I'd like you to consider it and if it applies anywhere, please let me know."*

Topic: Life Membership

Raised by Gaylene Robertson & Darci Anonychuk (Winnipeg, MB): Both these members started as juniors but don't qualify for Life Membership even though they have been members for over 30 years. Their ask was to consider changing the qualifications back to the way they were before they were changed.

Comments from Lance Novak, CKC Executive Director: *"At the time of that change, it was a period of financial crisis. You have our commitment to bring the issue to the September Board meeting for consideration."*

10. CLOSING REMARKS

10.1 – Recognition of Outstanding Individuals from Local Membership

The following Zone 8 CKC members were recognized with the presentation of a plaque for their contributions to the Club, the Dog Fancy and the Canadian dog community:

Gail Carroll – Lifetime Contribution Award

Valerie Reith – Performance Award

Jody Ripstein – Mentorship Award -

Lloyd Simmons – Breeder of Record Award

Fort Garry Kennel Club – Club Recognition Award. The award was accepted by Gerry Taylor.

10.2 – Recognition of Volunteers in the Success of the AGM

The Chair thanked Board Member Corinne Walker and the volunteers in Zone 8 for their warm welcome and assistance in the success of the event. In her remarks, she recognized Larry Kereluke, deceased Chair of the Board and former Zone 8 Board Member, for his initiative in bringing the meeting to Winnipeg and she made some personal comments in his memory.

10.3 – 2020 Annual General Meeting

The Chair announced that next year's AGM will be held in St. John's, Newfoundland on June 6, 2020.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY Murray Botterill (Winnipeg, MB): "THAT, the meeting be adjourned."

➤ **The motion was carried**

The meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m. MDT

After the meeting adjourned, members and guests enjoyed a buffet lunch. This was followed by a keynote presentation by Jackie Wepruk, General Manager of the National Farm Animal Care Council, on "Promoting Civil Discourse and Consensus Building Amongst Diverse Groups."

ADDENDUM TO THE 2019 AGM MINUTES

The items raised by members at the 2019 Annual General Meeting were subsequently reviewed by staff and reports with recommendations for action was submitted to the September 2019 and the March 2020 meetings of the Board of Directors. The following is an update on the action taken regarding these items.

	Items raised by members at the 2019 AGM	Status
1	<p><u>Topic: Certification of Mixed Breeds</u></p> <p>Question, raised by Tom Alexander and directed to David Trus, Ag-Canada: <i>“It is my understanding from your comments that Ag-Canada is asking the CKC to consider recognizing and maybe registering mixed breeds. If that is the case, is the Minister of Agriculture also agreeable and aware of this?”</i></p> <p>David Trus’ response: <i>“No, I’m not recommending that. The point was made that there was a market demand that wasn’t being filled by the CKC. It got filled by breeders of designer dogs because they found an appeal in the general public for things that now we know are not great things to have out there. It’s not good for dogs and it’s not good for the people in a lot of cases. That was a gap that the CKC wasn’t filling. Are there options for the CKC? Yes. I am not recommending you do it but I’m pointing out that there was a gap that was being filled. There are several things that can be done. When you look at what the livestock industry has done, they have purebred animals of the different breeds, but also crosses. Some of them are planned crosses that are used very beneficially to be very productive for meeting the market needs for which they are bred.”</i></p>	<p>CKC continues to work with Ag-Canada on their interpretation of compliance with the APA with a goal to approve new breed recognition and ROE.</p> <p>Recommended next steps: No action specific to this issue as CKC has no plans for “registering mixed breeds”.</p>
2	<p><u>Topic: Rules of Eligibility</u></p> <p>Question, raised by Roberta Tucker (Dugald, MB), President, Gordon Setter Club of Canada and directed to David Trus, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada: <i>“We were one of the first breeds that went through the exercise of distilling our standard into ten components and it caused us a certain amount of effort and time to consult and come up with the rules of eligibility. We’re still confused as to the usefulness of this. We’re quite happy and proud of our breed standard and it aligns with other international standards for the breed, describes how the breed is structured and created to be able to do its job in the field. So, it’s not strictly a cosmetic/beauty pageant type of thing. It’s a purposeful standard. So, I’m still confused and still have trouble explaining to our members how these rules of eligibility are useful to us as breeders or to the public when we have a perfectly good standard.”</i></p> <p>David Trus’ response: <i>“You know what, I agree. Under the Animal Pedigree Act, rules of eligibility are intended to be part of the standard. The idea that you have breed standards and rules of eligibility separate is not desirable in my view. But what had happened, the rules of eligibility that may be applied for registration were not written in the By-laws at all. The Animal Pedigree Act does require rules of eligibility for registration (those being the decision points that may or may not be registered) should be in your By-laws. It should not be a surprise. The Minister should not be receiving communication saying, ‘I don’t understand why my animal wasn’t registered and they are refusing to register it’. It should be written right in the By-laws. That’s the first point.”</i></p> <p><i>The second point is that a lot of the things related to the breeds are functional characteristics, things that make sense and distinguish the breed. That’s what the rules of eligibility are. They should be things that distinguish this breed from another breed. They should be clear and set out clearly in the By-laws. That’s what the Rules of Eligibility are supposed to be. I think in some ways they may have gotten off a little bit and I will be looking at some new ones and working with the CKC to make sure that</i></p>	<p>Action is consistent with the comment made to the topic raised.</p>

	<p><i>they are conforming to the overall intent. But, in the absence of them being clearly defined in the By-laws as part of your authority to register or to refuse to register animals, they must be clearly set out and relate to the characteristics of that breed and should be heritable. Those are the Rules of Eligibility."</i></p>	
<p>3</p>	<p>Topic: Public Perception that Designer Breeds are Better</p> <p>Raised by Grace McDonald (Winnipeg, MB) and directed to David Trus, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada: <i>In the minutes of the last AGM, Barbara Heal commented that she would like to see the CKC focus on addressing the public perception that designer breeds are better. The answer to that was that this was answered at the AGM. I don't know what became of it. What did CKC do? We don't know but the bottom line is I feel and I'm sorry to say it that Ag-Canada keeps abdicating any and all responsibility to help with this issue. You keep throwing it back. The CKC should do this; the CKC should do that. Ag-Canada takes no responsibility and they haven't for the 50 years I've been a member. I've been hearing from people for 50 years that, 'oh, I paid only \$250 for my Labrador Retriever because I didn't get the papers. They said if I wanted the papers, I would have to pay another \$400'. You know how many times I've heard that. I'll bet there's a few other people in the room that have heard that. The papers belong to the dog and it's against, as far as I know, the Livestock Pedigree Act, to sell a dog purported to be a purebred and not provide the papers. Well, you know how many letters in 50 years I've written to Ag-Canada about that. Because this is Ag-Canada's responsibility and you can't abdicate this one back to CKC. Why don't you do something about all these people who are selling dogs purported to be purebreds and saying they will charge more for the papers. I'm sure I'm not the only one who has contacted Ag-Canada about this. I just think Ag-Canada is abdicating their responsibility on both fronts, on puppy mills selling dogs without papers and undercutting we who spend a great deal of money producing purebred dogs and on the issue of designer dogs. I just think we can't look to Ag-Canada for any help."</i></p> <p>Comments from Lance Novak, CKC Executive Director: <i>"I wanted to offer a couple of comments and impressions related to Grace McDonald's comment about what was the outcome of that action from the previous AGM. It sounds like a non-answer but part of what was asked was addressed in my presentation when I told you about the strategies we're working on. There wasn't a more succinct answer when the item was raised last year, and you'll get the same answer this year. I'm hoping that you will find comfort in the Board's direction and the strategies that they develop versus a message that was given in one place or a campaign or a brochure that was created. It's more a message that we hear what you're saying and we're incorporating it our activities and our business plans and budgets. It's also a segue to we're at a turning point right now. One of its highest priorities of the Board is to re-establish a three-year Strategic Plan. The glass is half full and we're having a dialogue on very tough issues with Agriculture Canada. It's very common when you're starting that to be very passionate and controversial, and for it to be difficult. We have to find common ground. I'm encouraged that at least David Trus is here and is having conversations with our Board."</i></p>	<p>Action is consistent with the comment made to the topic raised.</p>

4	<p>Topic: Why Can't Ag-Canada Control Who is Giving Out "Certified Pedigrees"</p> <p>Raised by Jill Fraser, President of the Manitoba Canine Association (Winnipeg, MB) and directed to David Trus, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada: <i>"Ag-Canada regulates CKC's registrations. However, they want CKC to register or mediate registration for mixed breeds. We must generate pedigrees, when we bring in an import, we must have it certified, we have to go through all these hoops. We have a venue of mixed breed registration where dogs, if they are altered, can compete in performance events. It doesn't lend validity because we give it no name; it is registered as mixed breed dog, not a Labradoodle, not a Cockapoo. As the president of a club, I receive multiple calls a year asking how they can enter their registered Cockapoo in the conformation end of show and which group they should enter it in because they have received a pedigree when they purchased the dog. Why can't Ag-Can control who is giving out certified pedigrees? I have filed letters with copies of pedigree for Cockapoos with Ag-Canada and nothing has been done."</i></p> <p>David Trus' response: <i>"I guess I'm not quite sure how to answer this. First, there are offenses under The Act. If somebody is issuing a certificate of registration on an animal and they are not approved under The Act, they can be charged. The terms 'registered', 'purebred', and 'CKC' are protected terms under The Act. There's an offense section under The Act and we have an agreement with the RCMP for enforcement. In the last few years, the RCMP has not been easily available to deal with that and as a matter of fact, we even heard from the Ontario region that they decided on their top priorities and this did not fit in there. I don't know where the status of it goes but our department is not an enforcement department."</i></p>	A response was provided at the meeting.
5	<p>Topic: Judges</p> <p>Raised by Ben Wasylyshen (St. Paul, MB): <i>"A gentle suggestion for the CKC. As a newer judge in Canada, there are a great many rules & regulations for us to abide by. We are under continuous scrutiny and we all operate and should operate under the same set of rules which is a very good thing and we hope that will continue with your guidance. So in the coming years, we hope we can continue dialogue that those same set of rules for judges continue and that those individuals who have lost their memberships under CKC rules are allowed to re-apply for membership and then would have to operate under the same set of rules as the rest of us. So, it's a suggestion to please continue the dialogue with us and let's work through these processes with our wonderful national committee and other individuals who are monitoring everything we're doing."</i></p> <p>Second point: <i>"I'm honoured and thank the CKC for choosing my hound, our top winner and a dog from Winnipeg, to grace the 2018 Annual Report."</i></p>	Mr. Wasylyshen's comments were taken under advisement and the rule of engagement will continue to be enforced in the applicable committees and councils to demonstrate fairness, impartiality and transparency.
6	<p>Topic: Library & Archives</p> <p>Raised by Dr. John Reeve-Newson (Toronto, ON): <i>"This is a challenge to the Board. When Dr. Dick Meen died, he left an intensive library and a huge collection of dog artifacts. His dream was to have a library and a collection like his established at the CKC office. So, I'm just throwing it out to the Board. I'd like you to consider it and if it applies anywhere, please let me know."</i></p>	Staff have since been in contact with Dr. Reeve-Newson and a date for a face to face meeting remains pending.
7	<p>Topic: Life Membership</p> <p>Raised by Gaylene Robertson & Darci Anonychuk (Winnipeg, MB): Both these members started as juniors but don't qualify for Life Membership even though they have been members for over 30 years. Their ask was to consider changing the qualifications back to the way they were before they were changed.</p> <p>Comments from Lance Novak, CKC Executive Director: <i>"At the time of that change, it was a period of financial crisis. You have our commitment to bring the issue to the September Board meeting for consideration."</i></p>	Follow up was made with these members guiding them on a process to have the related by-laws amendments to support their request.