

**The Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists  
La Société Canadienne de Physiologie Végétale  
(CSPP/SCPV Charity)**

**MINUTES  
Annual Business Meeting  
Nicholson Hall B20, St-FX University, Antigonish. NS  
Saturday, 28 June 2003**

1. Call to order  
President **Norm Huner** called the meeting to order at 16h30 p.m.
2. Notice of meeting, and quorum  
A notice of the meeting was sent to all members via the electronic Bulletin on April 1, 2003. There was a quorum present of 29 members all in attendance.
3. Members present  
John King, Gordon Gray, Alan Bown, Barry Shelp, Art Davis, Rob Ireland, Normand Brisson, Gregory Taylor, John Hoddinott, Tony Bidwell, David Bird, vipen Sawhney, Aine Plant, Nat Kav, David Gifford, Brian Colman, Sheila Macfie, Frederic Guinel, Douglas Campbell, Peter Facchini, Peta Bonham-Smith, Priti Krishna, Georges Espie, Harguideep Saini, Derek Bewley, Pierre Bilodeau, Norm Huner, Harold Weger, Carol Peterson.
4. Proxies  
*Held by Peter Pauls:* Istvan Rajcan
5. Agenda  
A motion by **Espie** to accept agenda was seconded by **Bown** and was carried unanimously.
6. Minutes  
A motion by **Gray**, seconded by **Shelp** to accept the minutes of the 2002 ABM, as posted on the CSPP Web site, was carried unanimously.
7. NRC Press, update  
M. Paul Cavers from NRC Monograph Publishing Program proposed to implement a better interaction between NRC Research Press and the Plant Canada Societies. Two major ways are proposed to achieve this improved interaction:
  - **improved marketing:** if the executive of each Plant Canada Society agrees to allow NRC Press to place one or two page promotions of our publications in newsletter mailing each year and also allows NRC Press to insert brief notes about our new releases on plants in one newsletter per year, the Research Press will allow any member of any participating Plant Canada Society to purchase any of our monographs at a 15% discount from the advertised price.
  - **Seeking authors for new monographs:** The Editor of the NRC Monograph Program is prepare to speak to the member of each participating society at least once every three years. He/she would outline the purpose of the Monograph Program and would explain how a scientist would go about submitting a proposal to write a monograph on a particular topic. The Editor or a representative of the NRC Press would attend annual meetings at regular intervals to set up displays of our products, give out catalogues and other promotional materials and answer questions about the Program.M. Cavers will be contacting the executive of each Plant Canada Societies within the next few months to finalize this agreement.
8. Reports for CSPP/SCPV Inc
  - a. *Carol Peterson – President of Plant Canada*  
Carol Peterson presented a written report (Appendix A) describing the current situation with Plant Canada. Over the last three year, Plant Canada has welcomed three new societies: the Canadian Society of Soil

Sciences (CSSS), the Canadian Phytopathological Society (CPS) and the Canadian Weed Science Society (CWSS). The first large Plant Canada meeting will be held in Edmonton in 2005.

*b. Treasurer and Auditors*

Treasurer **Weger** presented written reports for the CSPP inc and charity (Appendix B), and announced that the Society's books were audited by Gordon Gray and Vinen Sawhney (Auditors' report in Appendix C1 and C2).

*c. President.*

President **Huner** presented a written report (Appendix D), and highlighted the following points from his report: In September 2002, he participated in a general discussion on the future of Plant Physiology at the meeting of the Federation of European Societies of Plant Physiology. A general membership drive was initiated in the fall of 2002 to encourage plant scientists to join the CSPP. President Huner also continued discussion with Larry Peterson regarding closer association between CSPP and the Canadian Journal of Botany. Hopefully, the 2004 proceedings of the Guelph meeting should be published in Can J. Bot. The 2002-2003 CSPP executive agreed to arrange a special Annual Meeting in Ottawa to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CSPP. Finally, continued discussion between CSPP and CFBS occurred in 2002-2003. The CSPP perspective has been to focus on the establishment of Plant Canada as a general organisation to support plant sciences in Canada.

*d. Communications Committee*

Communication Director **Gifford** outlined the activities of the communications committee presented in his report (Appendix E). The major outcomes were the publication of the 2002 Membership Directory, two issues of the electronic bulletin (December and April), and the daily management of the web page. Mike **Stasiak**, our webmaster, deserves our thanks for his outstanding work to maintain the web site. **Gifford** mentioned that one of the goal for the coming year will be to improved the CSPP website in collaboration with **Stasiak**.

*e. Eastern Regional Director*

**Krishna** presented a written report (Appendix F). She informed members that the next Eastern Regional Meeting would be held at Concordia Univesity, and was being organized by Luc **Varin**, P. **Gullick** and R. **Ibrahim**. She also informed that fifteen Duff Travel Award had been given this year to student attending the Annual Meeting in Antigonish for a total of \$3200 (see table below). **Aine Plant** commented that the information concerning these travel Award was very scattered and difficult to gather. **Bown** suggested that collective email and website be used to diffuse this information giving enough time to potential applicant to submit their application well in advance of the meeting.

<b>Name of students</b>	<b>University of origin</b>	<b>Amount awarded</b>
Pauline Quesnelle	Trent	\$200
Philip Beaudette	Trent	\$200
Marie-France Hetu	Queen's	\$200
Barb Vanderbeld	Queen's	\$200
J.C Waller	Queen's	\$200
D.M Chaisson	Queen's	\$200
Gale Bozzo	Queen's	\$200
Andrius Balsaris	UWO	\$200
Dominic Rossso	UWO	\$200
Zezhou Wang	UWO	\$200
Winona Gadapati	UWO	\$200
Michelle Sweeney	UWO	\$200
Erin Anderson	Guelph	\$200
Yeen Ting Hwang	Guelph	\$200
David Bird	Calgary	\$400

f. *Western Regional Director*

**Huner** mentioned on behalf of Carl Douglas, Western Regional Director, that the Western Regional meeting had been rescheduled to take place at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) in October 2003 Committee. Tentative dates are 17-18 or 24-25 October. The local organizing committee includes Chris Hawkins, Andrea Eatham and Carl Douglas. The theme of the meeting will be: Forest Genomics, Ecosystems and Physiology.

*Nomination committee*

**Bewley** presented the report of the Nominations Committee (Appendix G) and announced the committee's nominations for election to various vacant positions on the CSPP executive and committees. President **Huner** asked members present if there were any additional nominations from the floor. No other nominations were received. A motion by **Bonham-Smith**, seconded by **Shelp** to accept the report of the Nominations Committee and to elect various officers and committee members as nominated was carried unanimously.

g. *Meeting Site Committee*

**Huner** summarized the Meeting Site Committee's report. The schedule for the following meeting is:

2004 Guelph  
2005 Edmonton (Plant Canada)  
2006 Montreal (join with ASPB)  
2007 Manitoba (Winnipeg or Regina with Plant Canada)  
2008 Ottawa (50<sup>th</sup> anniversary)

**Gifford** informed the members that the Plant Canada 2005 meeting is Edmonton would probably includes at least 5 societies. The tentative date is 24 June.

h. *Education Committee*

**Hoddinott** presented a written report (Appendix H) on behalf of the Education Committee. The CSPP Education Website is now activated and provides an online discussion group that CSPP member can use to exchange on education issues

i. *Science Policy Director*

**Huner** mentioned that items arising from the science policy have been presented and discussed in his presentation.

9. Notice of motion

**Weger** highlights the rationale for the proposed change to by-law 16C concerning the governing of the Ann Oaks board. **Huner** read the new by-law 16c which has been posted on the website since March 2003. A motion by **Weber**, seconded by **Bewley** to accept the changes to bylaw 16c was carried unanimously.

10. Business arising

President **Huner** thanked the outgoing executive. **Huner** followed by passing the gavel to the new president elect, **Saini**. **Saini** thanked **Huner** for his contribution as CSPP president over the last two years.

11. Adjournment

A motion by **Bown**, seconded by **Bonham Smith** to adjourn the meeting was carried unanimously

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Norm Huner  
President

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Pierre Bilodeau  
Secretary

## Appendix A

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR PLANT CANADA

June 25, 2003

During the previous three years, we have welcomed three new societies to the Plant Canada federation. These societies are The Canadian Society of Soil Science (CSSS), The Canadian Phytopathological Society (CPS), and the Canadian Weed Science Society (CWSS). All societies have named their representatives to our board, and an updated list of board members and their addresses, etc. was prepared and circulated during May, 2003.

After some correspondence with Michael Celetti, a member of the site committee for the CPS, we received a formal invitation from the president, Karen Bailey, to meet with this society in Saskatoon in 2007. While the CPS will be the "primary organizers" of the meeting, it is expected that the other member societies will arrange for representatives to join the organizing committee.

As president of Plant Canada, I was invited to attend a meeting of the Canadian Agri-Food Research Council (CARC) in Ottawa on April 23, 2003. According to the proceedings of this meeting (a copy of which can be obtained upon request), the role of CARC is to "provide leadership in coordination and networking for agriculture and food research". The goal of the meeting was to plan a new federal organization to coordinate agricultural and food societies in Canada. Representatives of 11 societies were present, two of which are members of Plant Canada (i.e., CWSS and CPS). Each attendee gave a 10 min synopsis of the concerns, issues and challenges facing their organization. In discussing Plant Canada, I also included a brief history of our federation. The April meeting was followed by a further communication (June 18, 2003) describing a "virtual organization" called the Coalition of Agricultural and Food Science Societies Secretariat (CAF3S). Interested societies are invited to join (initial fee, \$500.00 per society).

I thank Paul Cavers for fulfilling his role as secretary, and the members of the board for their support during the past two years.

C.A. Peterson, President  
Plant Canada

## Appendix B

**Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists Inc.  
Société Canadienne de Physiologie Végétale Inc.**

**Treasurer's Report  
Antigonish, Nova Scotia  
June, 2003.**

**Changes in function of the Corporation**

CSPP/SCPV Inc. was originally established in order to facilitate lobbying efforts on behalf of science in Canada (federal government regulations forbid charities, e.g. CSPP/SCPV, to lobby). These efforts were to be carried out in conjunction with the Canadian Federation of Biological Societies (CFBS). CSPP/SCPV Inc. collected membership dues from Society members (dues had previously been collected by CSPP/SCPV), and forwarded a portion of the dues to CFBS. The remainder of the dues were transferred to CSPP/SCPV. Charitable donations to the Duff Student Travel Awards and/or the Oaks Scholarship Fund were also transferred to CSPP/SCPV. This system was relatively cumbersome, but was necessary in order to carry out lobbying efforts.

With the termination of the Society's association with CFBS a few years ago, the lobbying efforts of the Society have ceased. I therefore decided to change the bookkeeping system, such that CSPP/SCPV (i.e. the charity) collected membership dues and charitable donations. CSPP/SCPV Inc. is now relatively inactive, and does not currently play a major financial role in the Society. This change in Society bookkeeping was enacted for September 2002, in time for the collection of 2003 membership dues.

**Assets and Financial Activity**

Assets of CSPP/SCPV Inc. are \$4,485.62 in the corporation chequing account and \$2,124.00 in a GIC which contains the CSPMB Legacy funds. The CSPMB Legacy account was established when the Canadian Society of Plant Molecular Biology ceased operations. Some of the funds of the CSPMB were allocated to pay the future CSPP/SCPV membership dues of former CSPMB members. The Legacy account will empty of funds in the current fiscal year, and will then be closed. See "Assets and Investments" for a complete summary.

CSPP/SCPV Inc. had minimal financial activity in fiscal 2003, most of which occurred prior to the bookkeeping change in September 2002. Details are shown in the "Statement of Operations" (attached).

Overall, CSPP/SCPV Inc. posted a loss of \$7,412.29 for fiscal 2003. The majority of that loss occurred as a result of the transfer of \$6,000 from CSPP/SCPV Inc. to CSPP/SCPV. It is anticipated that CSPP/SCPV Inc. will post a loss of approximately \$2,226.00 in fiscal 2004, largely as a result of the final transfer of funds (\$2,140.00) to CSPP/SCPV to pay for the CSPMB Legacy memberships. In subsequent fiscal years (2005 onwards), CSPP/SCPV Inc. is predicted to suffer an annual loss of approximately \$100.00 (a combination of banking charges and corporation registration; see "Proposed Operating Budget").

Respectfully submitted by

Harold G. Weger  
Treasurer, CSPP/SCPV Inc.  
Dept. of Biology  
University of Regina  
Regina, SK

### Assets and Investments

CSPP/SCPV Inc.

	Apr. 30/99	Apr. 30/00	Apr. 30/01	Apr. 30/02	Apr. 30/03
<b>CSPP/SCPV Inc.</b>					
Corporate Chequing Account	\$650.84	\$505.86	\$6,569.09	\$14,021.91	\$4,485.62
GIC (CIBC)	--	\$5,402.00	\$3,524.00	--	\$2,124.00
<b>Total Corporate Cash and Securities</b>	<b>\$650.84</b>	<b>\$5,907.86</b>	<b>\$10,093.09</b>	<b>\$14,021.91</b>	<b>\$6,609.62</b>
<b>Segregated Funds</b>					
CSPMB Legacy Account	--	\$5,095.00	\$3,524.00	\$2,238.53	\$2,124.00
Total Encumbered Funds	--	\$5,095.00	\$3,524.00	\$2,238.53	\$2,124.00
Total Non-Encumbered Funds	\$650.84	\$812.86	\$6,569.09	\$11,783.38	\$4,485.62

**Statement of Operations**  
CSPP/SCPV Inc.

For the year ended April 30, 2003.

**REVENUE**

Membership dues	\$170.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$170.00</b>

**EXPENSES**

Student Travel Award Donations - transfer to Charity	\$698.00
Transfer of funds to Charity	\$6,000.00
Oaks Fund Donations - transfer to Charity	\$627.00
Bank and Credit Card Fees	\$176.74
Treasurer's Expenses	\$50.55
Corporation Registration	\$30.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$7,582.29</b>

<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>(\$7,412.29)</b>
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**Proposed Operating Budget**  
CSPP/SCPV Inc.  
Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2004.

<b>REVENUE</b>	Zero
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Corporation Registration	\$30.00
Banking Fees	\$72.00
Legacy Account Transfer to CSPP/SCPV	\$2,124.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$2,226.00
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	(\$2,226.00)

Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists  
Société Canadienne de Physiologie Végétale

Treasurer's Report  
Antigonish, Nova Scotia  
June, 2003.

**CSPP/SCPV (Charity) as the Financial Focus of the Society's Operations**

All membership renewals are now processed directly through CSPP/SCPV, as are charitable donations (to the Duff Student Travel Fund and the Oaks Scholarship Fund). This will simplify bookkeeping in subsequent years; the constant shuffling of money between the Corporation and the Charity has now ceased. The bulk of Society spending has always been associated with CSPP/SCPV (e.g. publication of the Directory, organization of scientific meetings), and the income of the Society now goes directly to CSPP/SCPV.

**Meetings (Plant Canada 2002 and Eastern Regional)**

The Society sponsored two scientific meetings in fiscal 2003: Plant Canada 2002 (held at the University of Calgary in June 2002), and the Eastern Regional Meeting (held Brock University in December 2002). Both meetings featured excellent science and were very well organized. Financially, Plant Canada 2002 posted a deficit while the Eastern Regional Meeting yielded a profit.

The size of the Plant Canada 2002 deficit may be calculated in more than one way. When all was said and done, the Society wrote a cheque for \$369.54 to the University of Calgary Conference Services. From that point of view, the conference deficit was therefore \$369.54. However, traditionally the Society has not included membership dues collected at a conference to be part of the income of that conference. \$2,320.00 was collected in membership dues during conference registration; therefore the deficit for the conference could be calculated as \$2,689.54 (i.e., \$369.54 + \$2,320.00). From yet another point of view, many of the people who took up membership in order to attend Plant Canada 2002 were not previous Society members, and have not renewed their memberships for 2003. In other words, many conference attendees took out memberships solely for the sake of attending the one conference. From that last point of view, some of the membership fees taken in at the conference should legitimately be considered conference revenue.

The Eastern Regional Meeting posted a profit of \$3909.62. Therefore, the Society made a small net profit via conferences in fiscal 2003.

**George Duff Student Travel Fund**

A total of \$1057.91 was donated by Society members to the Student Travel Fund in fiscal year 2003. A total of \$3500 was awarded in support of student travel to Plant Canada

2002; the difference in funding was supplied by general Society revenues (the most important revenue source is annual membership dues).

### **Ann Oaks Scholarship Fund**

A total of \$740 was donated by Society members to the Oaks Scholarship Fund in fiscal year 2003. The Oaks Scholarship Fund was established by a donation from long-time CSPP/SCPV member Dr. Ann Oaks; Dr. Oaks has also made subsequent donations to the Fund. As well, CSPP/SCPV has been named as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy by Dr. Oaks; the proceeds of the policy will be added to the Oaks Scholarship Fund. The Fund will be used to support one or more PhD students in plant biology at a level comparable to an NSERC PGS-B scholarship. The Fund is currently accumulating monies (with permission from the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency), and operation of the Fund is overseen by a Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees has recently been working to change the investment strategy of the Oaks Fund. Dr. Oaks provided the fund with two gifts of shares in various companies, and suggested that the Fund be managed in an "aggressive" manner in order to grow the Fund. Due to the downturn in the global economy, the value of the shares greatly decreased over the course of two years. In Fall 2002, in consultation with Dr. Oaks, the Board gave instructions to the Fund's investment advisor (Mr. Tony Lipiec of BMO Nesbitt Burns) to sell the majority of the shares and temporarily hold the proceeds in a non-volatile investment vehicle until a new investment strategy was implemented. This action has halted the downward slide of the value of the Oaks Fund. The majority of the Oaks Fund monies are now held in a Treasury bill account.

It should be noted that neither Dr. Oaks nor the Fund's investment advisor were unduly concerned about the decline in value of the Fund. They remarked that in the long term, the stock market always rebounds. However, the Board was quite uncomfortable with the decline in value of the Fund, and also felt that it would be difficult to attract further donations to a Fund that is shrinking in value. The Board is currently exploring investment options. One option is to invest the Fund money with the Hamilton Community Foundation, which already manages scholarship money for McMaster University.

Donations made by Society members to the Oaks Fund in the past two years have not been affected by the overall decline in value of the Fund. The donations were held in the CSPP/SCPV bank account, and were transferred to the Oaks Fund after the decision to sell the Oaks Fund shares; the donations currently exist as cash in a bank account.

### **Conference with ASPB in Providence RI (2001)**

The joint conference with the ASPB in Providence in 2001 accrued a loss of approximately US\$55,000. At the time of the Treasurer's Report in June 2002, the issue of the size of the Society's portion of the loss was not yet settled. The ASPB has subsequently, very generously, offered to assume responsibility for the entire loss incurred in Providence. The CSPP/SCPV has accepted their kind offer.

**Expenses and Transfers after the Fiscal Year End (April 30, 2003)**

- 1) Cost of duplicating the 2002 Membership Directory was \$1442.01; this was paid in May 2003. Mailing costs for the Directory have not yet been paid.
- 2) Two years of Oaks Fund donations (\$1367.00) were transferred from the CSPP/SCPV bank account to the Oaks Fund account (BMO Nesbitt Burns).

**Big Picture of the Society's Finances**

The Society includes both CSPP/SCPV Inc. and the CSPP/SCPV. As well, both Society entities have several different bank accounts and investments, and money gets transferred between entities and between accounts. Therefore, it can be difficult to understand the financial status of the Society as a whole when looking only at individual entities.

In order to understand the overall Society finances, I have combined CSPP/SCPV Inc. and the CSPP/SCPV into one analysis, and also removed the Oaks Fund from the analysis. The rationale for removing the Oaks Fund is that it is presently an accumulative fund, and is not part of the operating revenue of the Society (unlike the Duff Travel Fund, which both collects and awards money). The "big picture" is summarised in the last table of this report. In short, the Society showed a profit of approximately \$3,100 in fiscal year 2003.

**Auditing**

Finally, a note of thanks to the Society's auditors, Drs. Vipen Sawhney and Gordon Gray, who reviewed an earlier draft of this report and made several suggestions that improved the clarity of the presentation.

Respectfully submitted by

Harold G. Weger  
Treasurer, CSPP/SCPV  
Dept. of Biology  
University of Regina  
Regina, SK

**Assets and Investments**  
CSPP/SCPV

	Apr. 30/99	Apr. 30/00	Apr. 30/01	Apr. 30/02	Apr. 30/03
<b>CSPP/SCPV</b>					
Chequing Account	\$826.84	\$689.76	\$3,078.52	\$4,497.65	\$14,468.67
Money Market Fund (CIBC)	\$16,846.97	\$16,958.67	\$15,770.99	\$16,136.53	\$16,453.62
GICs (CIBC)	\$37,579.10	--	--	--	--
GIC (BMO Nesbitt Burns)		\$14,052.00	--	--	--
Cash Account (BMO Nesbitt Burns)		\$104.74	--	--	--
BCE Inc. (100 shares)		\$17,150.00	--	--	--
Canada Life Financial (400 shares)		\$10,640.00	--	--	--
BMO Nesbitt Burns (CSPP/SCPV)			\$39,818.61	\$41,027.65	\$43,180.88
BMO Nesbitt Burns (Oaks Fund)			\$71,365.31	\$54,232.98	\$39,776.94
Univ. of Regina CSPP Account	--	--	--	--	\$570.62
<b>Total Cash &amp; Securities</b>	\$55,252.91	\$104,595.17	\$130,033.43	\$115,894.81	\$114,450.73
Gold Medal (estimate)	\$1,050.00	\$1,050.00	\$1,050.00	\$1,050.00	--
<b>Total CSPP/SCPV Assets</b>	<b>\$56,302.91</b>	<b>\$105,645.17</b>	<b>\$131,083.43</b>	<b>\$116,944.81</b>	<b>\$114,450.73</b>
<b>Segregated Funds</b>					
Ann Oaks Scholarship Fund	--	\$41,946.74	\$71,365.31	\$54,232.98	\$39,776.94
Duff Student Travel Fund	--	\$3,847.00	\$1,737.00	\$4,198.00	\$1,396.00
Oaks Donations in Chequing Account					\$1,367.00
<b>Total Encumbered Funds</b>	--	\$45,793.74	\$73,102.31	\$58,430.98	\$42,539.94
<b>Total Non-Encumbered Funds</b>	\$56,302.91	\$59,851.43	\$57,981.12	\$58,513.83	\$71,910.79

## Statement of Operations

### CSPP/SCPV

For the year ended April 30, 2003.

#### REVENUE

Membership dues	\$8,332.53
Duff Student Travel Donations	\$1,057.91
Oaks Scholarship Donations	\$740.00
Transfer of Student Travel Donations from Corp to Charity	\$698.00
Transfer of Oaks Donations from Corp to Charity	\$627.00
Plant Canada 2002	\$62,771.28
Eastern Regional Meeting	\$7,896.39
Donation by Ann Oaks for Insurance Premium	\$3,184.00
Transfer of Funds from Corp to Charity	\$6,000.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$180.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$91,487.11</b>

#### EXPENSES

Duff Student Travel Awards	\$3,500.00
President's Awards	\$1,500.00
Plant Canada 2002	\$63,140.82
Eastern Regional Meeting	\$3,986.77
Oaks Life Insurance Premium	\$3,184.00
Gold Medal	\$1,050.00
Gold Medal Engraving and Replating	\$115.00
Conference Advance (University of Alberta)	\$2,000.00
Website	\$520.44
Postage	\$613.51
Banking and Credit Card Fees	\$252.73
Society Insurance	\$534.60
Airfare	\$494.80
Secretary's Expenses	\$260.55
Executive Meeting (Brock University)	\$240.72
Treasurer's Expenses	\$188.29
Printing	\$90.00
Courier	\$22.58
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$350.66
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$82,045.47</b>

<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$9,441.64</b>
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#### INVESTMENTS

Revenue from CSPP/SCPV Investments	\$2,153.23
Oaks Investments	(\$14,456.04)

**Proposed Operating Budget**  
**CSPP/SCPV**  
 Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2004.

**REVENUE**

Membership dues	\$9,000.00
Duff Student Travel Donations	\$1,000.00
Oaks Scholarship Donations	\$750.00
Plant Canada 2003	\$65,000.00
Eastern Regional Meeting	\$7,000.00
Donation by Ann Oaks for Insurance Premium	\$3,184.00
Revenue from CSPP/SCPV Investments	\$2,100.00
Revenue from Oaks Investments	\$2,000.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$90,034.00</b>

**EXPENSES**

Duff Student Travel Awards	\$3,500.00
President's Awards	\$2,000.00
Plant Canada 2003	\$65,000.00
Eastern Regional Meeting	\$7,000.00
Oaks Life Insurance Premium	\$3,184.00
Website	\$425.00
Postage	\$650.00
Banking and Credit Card Fees	\$275.00
Society Insurance	\$534.60
Treasurer's Expenses	\$250.00
Printing	\$100.00
Membership Directory	\$3,500.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$3,000.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$89,418.60</b>

**Surplus/(Deficit)****\$615.40**

**Assets and Investments**  
Society "Big Picture"

	Apr. 30/02	Apr. 30/03
<b>CSPP/SCPV Inc.</b>		
Chequing Account	\$14,021.91	\$4,485.62
GIC (CIBC)	--	\$2,124.00
<b>CSPP/SCPV</b>		
Chequing Account (non-Oaks)	\$4,497.65	\$13,101.67
Money Market Fund (CIBC)	\$16,136.53	\$16,453.62
BMO Nesbitt Burns (CSPP/SCPV)	\$41,027.65	\$43,180.88
Univ. of Regina CSPP Account	--	\$570.62
Gold Medal (estimate)	\$1,050.00	--
<b>Society Assets</b>	<b>\$76,733.74</b>	<b>\$79,916.41</b>



The Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists

**La Société Canadienne de Physiologie  
Végétale**

Founded in 1958

Constituée en 1958

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**The Corporation  
Auditors' Report**

June 18, 2003

We have audited the Assets/Investments and the Statements of Operations of the Corporation as of April 30, 2003. These financial statements are the responsibility of the CSPP directors, while our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted an audit to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement. We examined, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

In our opinion, we have been able to satisfy ourselves that these financial statements present fairly the financial position of CSPP Inc. as of April 30, 2003, and the results of its operations for the year then ended.

We wish to commend the excellent work of Harold Weger in the maintenance of the financial records of the society.

Respectfully submitted,

Vipen K.Sawhney, PhD  
Department of Biology  
University of Saskatchewan

Gordon R. Gray, PhD  
Department of Biochemistry  
University of Saskatchewan



The Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists

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**The Charity  
Auditors' Report**

June 18, 2003

We have audited the Assets/Investments and the Statements of Operations of the Corporation as of April 30, 2003. These financial statements are the responsibility of the CSPP directors, while our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted an audit to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement. We examined, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

In our opinion, we have been able to satisfy ourselves that these financial statements present fairly the financial position of CSPP as of April 30, 2003, and the results of its operations for the year then ended.

We wish to commend the excellent work of Harold Weger in the maintenance of the financial records of the society.

Respectfully submitted,

Vipen K.Sawhney, PhD  
Department of Biology  
University of Saskatchewan

Gordon R. Gray, PhD  
Department of Biochemistry  
University of Saskatchewan

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2003

In September 2002, I was invited to represent the CSPP/SCPV in a general discussion of the future of Plant Physiology at the meeting of the Federation of European Societies of Plant Physiology in Hersonissos, Crete, Greece. Other participants included the presidents of the European, Japanese, Australian Societies of Plant Physiology as well as the past president of the ASPB. It was clear from the presentations and the general discussion that followed that the research environment and government support for basic research in the US and Canada exceeded significantly that in the other countries represented. Several members from the other societies indicated much interest in the concept of Plant Canada as an umbrella organization for general plant biology.

Together with the Eastern Regional and Western Regional Directors of the CSPP, the CSPP executive initiated a general membership drive in the fall of 2002 by sending letters and membership applications to colleagues in university and government departments across the country. In addition to this general membership drive, Deep Saini, Pierre Bilodeau and I identified specific plant sciences colleagues in the province of Quebec that are not members of the CSPP/SCPV. Personal letters were written and sent to them to encourage them as well as their graduate students, postdocs and research associates to join and become involved in the CSPP/SCPV.

I continued discussions with Larry Peterson regarding a closer association between the CSPP/SCPV and the Canadian Journal of Botany. Larry indicated that discussions were on-going regarding a name change for this journal. Furthermore, he indicated that the journal would be prepared to consider publication of the symposium presentations of the CSPP Annual Meetings. In order to accomplish this, it is critical that the local organizers contact the Canadian Journal of Botany well in advance so that space could be allocated in a special issue of the Canadian Journal of Botany. Ideally, this should be done a year in advance. Thus, the first opportunity to do this will be for the 2004 Annual Meeting scheduled for Guelph. The organizers of the meeting next year are encouraged to contact Larry Peterson to arrange for this peer-reviewed publication.

At the Eastern Regional Meeting of the CSPP/SCPV at Brock in December 2002, the executive agreed that a very special Annual Meeting be arranged in Ottawa in 2008 to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CSPP/SCPV. Colleagues in Ottawa are being identified and contacted to help in organizing this very special event!

As in 2001, I had several communications with Bruce Sells, Executive Director of the Canadian Federation of Biological Societies, in the past year. The CFBS is still very interested to have the CSPP/SCPV rejoin the CFBS. On behalf of the CSPP/SCPV I reiterated the position of the CSPP/SCPV Executive that our organization is focussed on the establishment of Plant Canada as a general

organization to support and lobby on behalf of plant sciences in Canada. However, I indicated to Bruce Sells that the CSPP/SCPV and Plant Canada remains committed to work together with the CFBS in its visits to the political decision makers. As a consequence, I was invited to participate as a representative of the CSPP/SCPV in a visit to Ottawa to discuss the issues of NSERC research funding in general, the negative impact of the NSERC Reallocation Process on research support for the biological sciences, support for the indirect costs of research as well as support for research in biodiversity, conservation and environmental science. This group included members of the CFBS as well as members of the Council of University Biology Chairs. Prior to travelling to Ottawa for this meeting, Peter Constabel and I discussed these issues with respect to the CSPP/SCPV and Peter provided a written summary which I used during the arranged meetings with both opposition and government members of parliament. In addition, we met with the Assistant Deputy Minister of Environment Canada to discuss progress on the Kyoto Accord, biodiversity and climate change science. I was astounded to discover that there is little or no expertise in plant biology within the environment ministry to address these issues. The Assistant Deputy Ministry agreed that is a major limitation in this ministry and agreed that this should change. She welcomed input from the CSPP/SCPV on how this could change. The most important thing I learned from these two days in Ottawa was the importance of establishing and maintaining contact with the political as well as the bureaucratic decision makers. It is critical that Plant Canada begin to establish contact with these policy makers as soon as possible.

At the 2003 Annual meeting of the CSPP/SCPV, I will step down as president of the CSPP/SCPV. I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to the entire past and present executive as well as the general membership for their help and support. I wish Deep Saini success as our next President. The CSPP/SCPV will be in very capable hands. Good luck Deep!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Wayne A.', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

## **Appendix E**

### **David J. Gifford, Communications Director - Report for 2002/03**

The Communications Director chairs the Communication Committee, which comprises the chair, the CSPP Secretary and the Website Coordinator.

The current duties of the Committee members include the following:

#### **Communications Director**

- Communicates on a regular basis with the Website Coordinator and Secretary.
- Publishes the MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY in the fall of the year
- Ensures that breaking news, meeting information, career opportunities, etc. are disseminated to the Membership in a timely manner via the Website or through email BULLETINS.
- Ensures that copies of programs and abstracts from all Society meetings are distributed to the Society archivist and to various National Libraries and Universities.

#### **Secretary**

- Publishes the ELECTRONIC BULLETIN in two issues, one in the fall and one in the spring

#### **Website Coordinator**

- Designs, maintains and manages the Society Website
- Administers the publication of the ELECTRONIC BULLETIN on the Website
- Maintains the Membership email list
- Oversees the sending of email messages to the Members

This past year:

- Pierre Bilodeau, the Secretary published two ELECTRONIC BULLETINS, one in December 2002 and one in April 2003.
- David Gifford, the Communications Director published the 2002 Membership Directory; copies were mailed out to each Society member.
- The Website was maintained in its usual efficient manner by Mike Stasiak, the Website Coordinator.

The Website received more than 34,000 visits.

- Its very busy Home Page contains links to the ELECTRONIC BULLETINS, CSPP –The first 25 years, 2003 AGM motions and Minutes from recent Society AGMs. Links to the Society Charter, Constitution and Membership forms are found there, as is a link to jobs currently being advertised.
- The Home Page has become a place to display recent news and information of particular interest to Society members.

The maintenance of the Home Page, and ensuring that traffic flows through the Web Site to the Membership in a timely manner is an important task. The Society is lucky to have the services of Mike Stasiak, the Website Coordinator who performs this task in a very efficient manner; he makes my life very easy indeed!

Respectfully submitted on June 28, 2003 by David Gifford on behalf of Pierre Bilodeau and Mike Stasiak

David Gifford

## **Report of the Eastern Regional Director:**

### **CSPP Eastern Regional Meeting in 2003**

Contacted Dr. Luc Varin in 2002 for holding the CSPP Eastern Regional meeting at Concordia University in Montreal in 2003. He agreed and indicated that the organizing committee may consist of Drs. L. Varin, P. Guilick and R. Ibrahim. I will follow up on this after July.

### **CSPP Membership Drive**

Letters were sent to CSPP members with copies of the membership form and a note indicating the benefits of joining CSPP, with the purpose of current members attracting new members. They were sent in early October to Brock University, University of Toronto (all campuses), York University, McMaster University, University of Guelph, University of Montreal, McGill University, University of Waterloo, Mount Allison University, University of Windsor, University of Ottawa, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Ottawa, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton Forest Science Centre, and NS Agriculture College. This initiative will continue in year 2003.

### **2002 Eastern Regional Meeting**

Helped organizers at the Brock University in finalizing a date for the Eastern Regional Meeting.

Organized a session on 'Women in Science' at the CSPP Eastern Regional Meeting at Brock University on Dec 7th, led by Daphne Goring. This session was planned primarily to encourage female students and post docs to continue with their careers in science and to give them the opportunity to learn from faculty.

Arranged for judges to mark student presentations. Dr. N. Huner filled in for me during the Meeting as I was unable to attend. Sent out awards to student winners of the best oral and poster presentations.

Provided a report on the Eastern Regional Meeting to Dr. P. Bilodeau for the CSPP bulletin.

### **2003 CSPP Annual Meeting**

Organized travel Duff awards for students in collaboration with Drs. C. Douglas and H. Weger. All fifteen students who requested travel assistance were awarded funds in proportion to their travel distance.

Appendix G

**For the Website, after June AGM 2003:**

**Membership of Committees of the CSPP, commencing with the AGM June 2003.  
Termination dates of the positions are noted.**

**Executive**

President: Deep Saini (Montreal) 2005

Vice-President: David Gifford (Alberta) 2005

Senior Directors: Fathey Sarhan (UQAM) 2004  
Marilyn Griffith (Waterloo) 2005

Secretary: Pierre Bilodeau (Medicago, Ste Foy) 2004.

Treasurer: Harold Weger (Regina) 2004.

Eastern Director : Priti Krishna (Western) 2004

Science Policy Director: Peter Constabel (Victoria) 2004

Education Director: Anja Geitmann (Montreal) 2005

Communications Director: Gordon Gray (Sask) 2005

**Committee Membership**

*Nominating Committee*

Marilyn Griffith. Senior Director (Chair) 2005  
Peta Bonham-Smith (Sask) 2005  
Ljerke Kunst (UBC) 2006

*Meeting Site Committee*

Fathey Sarhan. Senior Director (Chair) 2004  
Peter McCourt (Toronto) 2004  
Joan Krochko (PBISask) 2005  
Allen Good (Alberta) 2006  
Aine Plant (SFU) 2006

*Communications Committee*

Pierre Bilodeau (Secretary)  
Mike Stasiak (Webmaster, Guelph)  
Gordon Gray (Communications Director)

*Education Committee*

Anje Geitmann. Education Director (Chair) 2005

Barry Micallef (Guelph) 2006

Doug Ormrod (Victoria) 2006

*CD Nelson Award Committee*

Rob Mullen (Guelph) Chair 2004

Dave Kristie (Acadia) 2005

Vipen Sawhney (Sask) 2006

*Gleb Krotkov Award Committee*

Brian Colman (York) Chair 2004

Roger Horton (Guelph) 2005

Normand Brisson (Montreal) 2006

*Society (Gold) Medal Award Committee*

Stewart Rood (Lethbridge) Chair 2004

Peter Jolliffe (UBC) 2005

John Coleman (Toronto) 2006

*Tree Physiology Award Committee*

Patrick von Aderkas (Victoria) Chair 2004

Allison Kermode (SFU) 2005

Mike Dixon (Guelph) 2006

*Ann Oaks Scholarship Committee*

Frederique Guinel (Laurier) Co-Chair 2005

Elizabeth Weretilnyk (McMaster) Co-Chair 2006

Connie Nozzolillo (Ottawa) 2006

Doug Campbell (MtAllison) 2007

Treasurer (ex-officio)

George Espie (Erindale) Advisor

## Appendix H

### **CSPP-SCPV Education Committee**

*Annual Report to the Executive Meeting, St Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, NS. June 2003.*

During the past year the Committee was active in the design of a web presence for the Education Committee. A mock up was circulated to the Executive for comment and a more finished product was put online linked from the Societies home page.

One option included on the web site is a 'Discussion' forum. It is envisioned that this could promote interaction between Society members on, for example, effective laboratories for particular physiological enquiries or suitable learning resources to enrich class presentations. Suitable software to facilitate this type of interaction is available as freeware.

A limitation in using such a system is that many universities do not permit the mounting of such discussion board software on their servers. The Executive could consider having the Societies web site hosted by a commercial internet service provider. In the long term this would provide maximum flexibility in the hosting and maintenance of the site.

While the Societies web master is doing an excellent job, we cannot presume on his good offices, or those of the host institution, indefinitely. A commercial host site with several persons having access to carry out updates in specific areas of the site could make the site more dynamic.