



**BC Iris Society  
2017 AGM  
Minutes  
Monday, March 13, 2017  
9:30 AM to 3:00 PM**

**Present:** Ted Baker, President; Malcolm Ho-You; Joyce Prothero; Brenda Burch; Richard Hebda; Jan Hemming; Pat Spiers; Diane Whitehead; and Stuart Scholefield. **Regrets:** Bill Dumont. The attached list is from reception sign in: it includes members and invited guests. **Guest speaker:** Alan Mc Murtrie.

- 1. Welcome and Introductions:** Meeting convened at 9:45 AM. Welcome via Ted, plus self-introductions. Ted sent best wishes from all of us to Bill who is recuperating from surgery. Agenda accepted as presented.
- 2. Adoption of Minutes of last AGM Meeting:** Moved by Malcolm; Seconded by Richard. All in favour. Minutes approved.
- 3. Committee Reports:**
  - **Election/Confirmation of officers:** Richard Hebda confirmed as the incoming President. Moved by Malcolm. Seconded by Stuart. Ted is Past President. Jan Hemming is resigning as a Director at Large. There were no other changes in officer status reported.
  - **Treasurer:** Ted reported for Bill and a copy of the financial statement as at January 31, 2017 is enclosed for the record.
  - **Membership:** Diane reported that she has 106 paid up for 2016 and 10 in arrears. There are 21 members from Salt Spring Island. Her report was tabled for the record.
  - **Government House Display Garden:** Ted talked about the new display garden at GH. In order to volunteer there, the BCIRIS needs to take out a Friends of Government House membership. **ACTIONS:** Ted asked for volunteers to help weed the beds etc. Stuart, Malcolm, Richard and Ted volunteered. No signage is allowed on the garden beds. A small plaque will be made for one of the rocks at the entrance in the bed. Membership at GH to be paid for.



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**4. New Business:**

- Ted asked for help with writing; editing and producing the bulletin. He was looking for a volunteer to help coordinate it. It is produced 3 times a year and the issue size is 12 to 24 pages. Design and layout is done in Microsoft Publisher program. Joyce agreed to stay on one more year to do the design work. In addition to overall coordinator it requires a volunteer for mail out distribution. Next one is due out in April. **ACTION:** Richard agreed to edit the content. Ted and Joyce to work on next production.
- **Website Overview:** Brenda Burch provided an overview on the BC Iris Society Website. <http://www.bcirissociety.com/> She has had positive feedback on it and the Facebook page. Every time she posts there is lots of activity with respect to the pictures etc. For \$300/year it is money well spent. Host is Enrique out of L.A. California.
- **BCIS trip to Oregon Gardens:** Still a couple of seats left. Poster handed out. If anyone still interested contact Bill ASAP. Some members at the AGM are already signed up and looking forward to it. In addition, there was a folder on a trip to AFRICA that Bill is guiding.
- **AIS NATIONAL CONVENTION, Des Moines, Iowa: May 23 to 27. Information posted at: [www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org)**
- **Society for Japanese Irises Section Convention, Seattle Washington June 23 to 25. Information posted at [www.scoji.org](http://www.scoji.org)** Patrick and Margaret Spence were in attendance at our AGM. Patrick is the new President and Coordinator for that group. There will be 3 gardens on the tour: 2 public and 1 private, the Spence property. Good price on the convention: \$125 US judges training will include: How to pick the best Iris for your garden.



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**5. 2018 Activities and Suggestions and Open Discussion:**

- Bearded Iris Sale in August; Siberian Iris March to end of Bloom time; Members donations? **ACTION:** Further discussion required and to be determined.
- Garden Tour: coordinated with a lower mainland garden club? Langley; Surrey; Thomas Hobbs? **ACTION:** Ian Efford and Richard will look at some options.
- Tours for 2018? Time to look at the Okanagan again? Bearded Iris: no spot and love heat. **ACTION:** Contact Penny Santosham to see what might be possible.
- **Time for another joint purchase of Iris? ACTION:** Ted to negotiate with some hybridizers and coordinate Phyto Certificate and mail out. More information to come. Interested members to contact Ted directly.
- Richard suggested we might host some workshops for the gardening public: activity with the availability of plants; how to plant; what to choose; companion plantings; how to care for etc. Joint session with Lily Society? **ACTION:** examine the budget and determine how that could be done.
- Look at other sites and what they are doing: Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS). They have an excellent Slide Show and PowerPoint presentation. Maybe look at a Membership opportunity including Specialized Iris groups. Another good source is the British Iris Society. No Actions concluded.

**6. Next AGM March 2018 at the Pacific Forestry Centre:** Date and Booking to be confirmed.

**7. Special Surprise Presentation:**

- Today was Ted's last day as President of the Society. Brenda spoke of his work as the founding member; tireless supporter; fearless leader; head gardener, weeder and unwavering cheerleader for us. He is looking forward to retirement and his new home with Sonia and family. Several members sent well wishes including a moving tribute from Penny. Brenda then presented Ted with an Honorary Membership; and a picture of a bench with a plaque commemorating his service. We all wished him well. He noted he won't be gone as he will now be Past President.



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8. Open questions: how to deal with slugs: One suggestion was half and half water with household ammonia; and Safer's slug bait from Evergro. It is a company that sells large quantities in Victoria.

**NOON:** Delicious Buffet lunch catered by Chef Graham Little, Island Culinary Services and his staff. It was great to see him again. Dessert was a special cake honoring Ted and wishing him happy retirement as our 'IRIS KING'.

**Guest Speaker:** Alan Mc Murtrie is a renowned Iris reticulate breeder and expert from Ontario. He gave an excellent Power Point Presentation with colorful slides and beautiful one of kind specimens. He had handouts for all members attending.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of Bill Dumont,  
Jan Hemming  
nitinat@shaw.ca