**Spring 2018**

**UPDATE FROM THE EXECUTIVE**

Welcome to ACCADA News, this is an opportunity for your Executive to provide an update on various association activities. This newsletter will be emailed to all ACCADA members.

Firstly, we would like to thank all ACCADA members for their patience and support during this terrible pandemic. We hope all members and their families are safe and healthy during this difficult time.

The Executive has only met a couple of times in the past year via conference call and virtually through zoom to discuss ACCADA issues and to connect with the fall conference organizers.

**Board Members:**

The Board Members have remained intact the past year – even though the President’s 3- year term was completed in the Fall of 2020. There will be a call out for nominations in the summer for the President’s position – concluding with the election and announcement at the fall virtual conference meeting.

 Just to remind everyone Stephanie Russell, University of Alberta is the Director of Communications; Janice Sutherland, Western University is the Membership Director and Tricia Toderick is the Secretary/Treasurer.

**2020 Conference:**

As everyone is aware, the 2020 fall ACCADA conference was slated to be in Montreal, hosted by McGill University on October 14-16th 2020. The Executive had been having monthly conference calls with the planning committee until it was announced, in the spring of 2020, that the conference had to be cancelled. One fortunate outcome was that the planning committee was able to recoup all the funds from deposits – i.e. to the hotel etc. Again, the Board of Directors would like to thank Cassandra Fusco, Caroline Alcaraz and the rest of the McGill planning committee for all their work and effort on the 2020 fall conference.

**2021 Conference:**

We are happy to announce that there will be a virtual ACCADA conference this fall. Stephanie has just sent out a ‘Save the Date’ email confirming that the University of Saskatchewan will host a virtual conference on September 29th – 30th 2021. If you have not received this email, please contact Janice to ensure that she has your updated email and contact information. In addition, please forward Stephanie’s email to any other individuals whom you think may benefit from this conference. The Board is having monthly zoom calls with Gregg Parchomchuk and his committee. We hope to provide you with a registration date and agenda by the end of spring or early summer.

**2022 Conference:**

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we are hoping all the work and effort exerted by the McGill committee was not all wasted. We are in conversation with the planning committee from McGill, however, they are still trying to get approval from the University and Chair. Hopefully will be able to confirm before the 2021 Conference.

If McGill cannot host 2022, the Board is open to hearing from any other schools/hospitals that would like to host this conference. We would love to see an Eastern conference for 2022. However, we would welcome any volunteer, for what will be a much anticipated ACCADA reunion event.

**Website:**

As mentioned in the last newsletter, Stephanie has done an excellent job in transitioning into this role. Again, she would like to remind everyone that there is a **“member”** only login on the website. If you are a member and don’t have a password or have trouble logging into the website, please contact Stephanie. The amount of traffic to our website has dwindled in the past year. We are always looking for new ideas to improve our website. If you have any other ideas or suggestions please let Stephanie know.

**Membership:**

Janice has done a great job in the difficult task of maintaining the information of our membership up to date. There has been a lot of membership movement in the past year. If you are aware of any new staff please ask them to contact Janice so that she can add them to our membership list. We currently have 46 members who have paid their dues in the 2020 fiscal year. Please note that the membership time period is October 1st to September 30th. Due to the pandemic and cancellation of the 2020 fall conference, the Board has decided to extend the current membership to September 2022. If you have paid a membership fee in 2020 – you do not have to pay any fee this year. If you did not pay your $50 membership – you can still do so, and it also be extended to September 2022. Please contact Janice to how this can be expedited.

We continue to struggle to get official ACCADA representatives at each member university. If you wish to be the contact for your University/Hospital, please contact Janice. This person would advertise the benefits of being a member of ACCADA and encourage colleagues to attend future conferences and would let Janice know if there are any member changes within their respective university/hospital.

**Finance:**

We would like to thank Tricia Toderick from Western University for her leadership and financial direction over the past years. Tricia has been providing our financial statements to the CRA on an annual basis, without any issues. With Tricia’s direction, the ACCADA organization continues to accumulate a healthy bank account.

**Other Notes:**

Please note that submissions for the Chuck Morrison Award will be on hold for another year. It is the Boards’ intention to revive this award at the 2022 conference.

If you have any questions or concerns about this newsletter, please forward them to John Vetta at john.vetta@sickkids.ca. All suggestions are welcomed.

Your Executive Team:

John Vetta (University of Toronto) – President

Tricia Toderick (Western University) – Secretary/Treasurer

Janice Sutherland (Western University) – Membership Director

Stephanie Russell (University of Alberta) – Communications Director

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**Your Executive Team:**

John Vetta (University of Toronto) – President

Kim Rhymes (Dalhousie University) – Secretary/Treasurer

Colleen Tinline (University of British Columbia) – Membership Director

Angela McTaggart (Queen’s University) – Communications Director