

ICC Board of Directors Meeting

Date: April 12th, 2022

Attendees: Moslem Noori, Amir H. Ghaseminejad, Reza Namdari, Arezou Khadir, Ahmad Ehsandar, Daniel Sarvestani, Mohammad Rad

Meeting Agenda:

1. Welcoming Mohammad Rad

The meeting of the Board of Directors (BoD) was called to order at 8:32 pm eastern time by Moslem Noori.

- Minutes of this meeting were taken by Amir-hassan Ghaseminejad.

- The meeting started with welcoming Mohammad Rad who outlined his plans for holding a number information sessions and webinars to serve the community including newcomers and job seekers. The sessions will be proposed to the BOD and will be held afterwards. Mohamad provided the BOD with the information regarding his first webinar which can possibly be a source of donation income for ICC.
- Arezou reported the success international women's day event that was held with mental health committee and arts committee which had good reception in social media. The arts events for Norooz Eid were discussed. A joint project is going to be mounted regarding the analysis of data from statistics Canada regarding Iranian-Canadian community. Volunteers with academic background can help this research. A number of podcasts are planned that will run with Daniel. There is an effort going on to apply for research grants.
- Amirhassan reported that the Mail server on iccongress.net is ready to be used and can reduce our Nation Builder costs. The research on Free and open source CRMs is not concluded yet as all have some modules that are paid. We need a comparison of the total cost of staying with Nation Builder compared with alternatives or porting some of the capabilities to free alternatives. It was discussed that we can minimize our costs by keeping some core functionality in Nation Builder and the rest in Free Alternatives. Hosting our website in Wordpress can give us enough control on tracking interactions with emails. Ahmad will report about the breakdown of the contacts that we are holding in Nation Builder and its costs and capabilities. Sending Blue a solution based in France, and CiviCRM were proposed as possible alternatives.
- Daniel has had a number of meetings with Arezou and will have meeting with Amirhassan and others regarding funding sources. He had a podcast on first nations. Will work with Arezou on various paths that we can pursue getting funding in relation with first nations. Discussion is necessary with a legal advisor regarding proper structure for applying for funding joint with other institutions, as may be required by funding sources. A comparison of different approaches should be provided to BOD.

- Ahmad reported a number emails that were sent to members. The birth of his child has delayed his work on minutes BOD meetings. Minutes of January is ready to be finalized and February minutes is in progress.
- Reza has produced a number of copies of a nice done ICC calendar based on art exhibition gallery which can be obtained with a minimal donation. Moslem emphasized that although we have reduced the operational costs to a minimum, still the board members have been paying from their pocket to overcome financial difficulties ICC is facing; therefore, attracting donations is very important. Various possible approaches to collecting donations were discussed.
- Moslem raised the importance of providing services to our member which may be a source of income for the organization. He has been in touch with a Canadian reporter who is interested in publishing an article regarding the difficulties that Iranian-Canadians are facing if they have done their mandatory military service in Sepah. A number of cases that were reported to ICC were discussed. A symposium for Iranian-Canadian institutions can be held in which such organizations can introduce themselves to community can be planned for the Fall.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM ET.