

**Public Board of Directors  
Meeting  
Held via Zoom  
December 14, 2023  
12 p.m. ET  
Minutes**

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Ruth McHugh, Chair

Iris Almeida-Côté

Jeff Astle

Amber Batool

Brigitte Chan

Tom Conway

Andrew Currier

Leonora Hoicka

*Absent: Karima Bawa*

**STAFF:**

Juda Strawczynski, CEO and Registrar

Jennifer Slabodkin, Director of Registration and Education,  
Deputy Registrar

Sean Walker, CFO

Victoria Rees, General Counsel, Professional Responsibility

Andres Diaz, Operations Manager

Anne-Thiphaine Camus, Administrator – Registration &  
Education

Vicci Sakkas, Administrative Coordinator

Dana Dragomir, Communications Officer

**GUEST:**

Bob Plamondon, Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee

1. **Introductory Matters/Call to Order/Approval of Agenda/Conflicts of Interest**

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 p.m. ET.

The Chair acknowledged that CPATA is the federal regulator of patent agents and trademark agents in the land we call Canada, the traditional and ancestral territory of many Indigenous Peoples. Ruth McHugh made opening remarks. No conflicts of interest were declared.

**Motion: Be it resolved that the agenda for the December 14 meeting of CPATA's Board of Directors be adopted.**

**Moved: Iris Almeida-Côté**

**Seconded: Leonora Hoicka**

**Motion carried.**

2. **Consent Agenda**

**Motion: Be it resolved that the Minutes of the November 9, 2023 Board meeting are approved.**

**MOVED: Leonora Hoicka**

**SECONDED: Amber Batool**

**Motion carried.**

*Brigitte Chan joined the meeting at 12:09 p.m.*

3. **Reports**

Victoria Rees gave an oral report on CPATA's professional responsibility program, including the work of the Investigations Committee and the Discipline Committee. She highlighted two new policies: Policy on Appeal of Registrar Decisions and Policy on Interim Orders. The Board discussed the livestreaming of discipline proceedings on YouTube.

Jen Slabodkin gave an oral report on CPATA's work in registration and education, including the work of the Registration Committee.

Bob Plamondon and Sean Walker gave an oral report on the work of the Audit and Risk Committee.

4. **CEO Report: 2023 Highlights and Activity Plan**

Juda Strawczynski gave a presentation overviewing CPATA's work and accomplishments in 2023 and priorities and Activity Plan for 2024. The Board discussed unauthorized practice in the context of international practice and coregulation.

5. **2024 Budget**

Sean Walker presented CPATA's budget for 2024. The Board inquired about the administration cost of the new qualifying examinations and Juda Strawczynski

clarified that the exams are priced to recuperate some but not all of the cost of running the examinations.

**Motion: Be it resolved the Board approves the 2024 Budget as presented.**

**Moved: Iris Almeida-Côté**

**Seconded: Tom Conway**

**Motion carried.**

6. **2024 Director Election – Appointment of Election Commissioner**

**Motion: Be it resolved that the Board appoints Enrico A. Scichilone as Election Commissioner, effective January 1, 2024, for the 2024 CPATA Director election.**

**Moved: Brigitte Chan**

**Seconded: Amber Batool**

**Motion carried.**

**Adjournment**

**It was resolved to end the public meeting at 1:50 p.m. ET and to move in-camera.**



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**Ruth McHugh**

Chair of the Board of Directors

Minutes approved on March 8, 2024