

# National Molecular Diagnostic Users Group (NMG) Annual General Meeting

October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012

## House-keeping

- Sign-in distributed
- Meeting minutes distributed for review

## Review of Agenda

- Under "Other", will include discussion of the MALDI group

## Acceptance of Minutes from 2011 NMG AGM (Oct. 18, 2011)

- Approved by Astrid Petrich and Christian Renaud

## Review of Current Board Members

- Four counsellors added to the Board at the last AGM
- Provides modest representation from across Canada
- ToR identifies the role of board members; Each position is a 2 yr term
  - o HIV lab is offering Stephanie Lavoie as a counsellor representative
  - o Christian Renaud (Sainte-Justine Hospital, Montreal) also offered to act as a counsellor
  - o Starting new counsellors this year will allow for a one year overlap with existing counsellors
- Validation working group is still in existence

## New NMG Website

- Developed and launched by Min-Kuang Lee

## Financial Statement (Linda Chui, treasurer)

- Last given in April 2012
- External audit is desired
  - o Very difficult to find a chartered accountant who deals with National not-for-profits, but Linda found one
  - o Will attempt an audit before the new year
  - o Internal audit has been done by Dr. Greg Tyrell for the last 4 years
- Over \$42k in the bank plus sponsorship money from the AGM, minus the 2012 meeting costs
- One \$8k GIC is kept in the bank

## Discussion of 2013 Proficiency Panels

- Not enough people using MALDI at the moment to justify a proficiency panel for 2013
- Group would like to see a panel of three 16S unknowns for proficiency (repeat of 2011 proficiency panel with modifications)
  - o Re-survey interest from all NMG members for a 2013 16S panel
  - o Desire is to have an ambiguous sample to test
  - o Also suggested that raw chromatograms be provided in the panel as well, for problematic samples, to test the laboratories interpretation
- There are some problems with refunding the proficiency panel costs to the NML, specifically when not relating directly back to Provincial Public Health Laboratories.
  - o Alternative laboratories have provided panels in the past (e.g. Hamilton did the WNV, SickKids will be doing the Bordetella)
  - o NMG always discusses new panels with the National Microbiology Laboratory (NML) first
  - o HIV serology proficiency panel is always done with non-provincial PHLs, despite being PHAC

#### Annual Fall Meeting

- Travel grant
  - o Normally \$1k per person; 2 people per province max.
    - Previously, Ontario was excluded but a travel radius will now be established to allow for those outside of the Toronto commuter area to apply, as the participant will need accommodations while attending the NMG meeting
  - o Will now aim to do \$2k per institution, with as many people as that institution can fund with that amount of money, or \$1k per person to a max of 2 people.
  - o However, travel grants offered will be dependent on the financial resources of the NMG (which is dependent on previous year's meeting costs and vendor participation)
- Max of \$30k to spend on 2012 NMG meeting
  - o \$23k given out in travel grants this year
  - o Food costs of \$9k for 2012 meeting
  - o Many sponsors do not pay for their booths until later in the year, thus a shortfall may occur
- To remedy this, solicit CACMID again, as an education grant?
  - o Previous grants were provided by CACMID
  - o Did not ask for a grant from CACMID in 2012
  - o In 2011, asked for \$10k and received \$5k, likely due to NMG's delay in asking for funding

#### Discussion regarding future NMG Annual meetings (coincident with CACMID meeting?)

- Pros and cons discussed previously among NMG Board; decision was made that NMG is distinct and will remain separate
- Group would like round-table meetings or working group meetings at the NMG Annual Meeting
  - o Previously had break-out sessions on the second day

- Would welcome the concept
- Industry enjoys the separate event of the NMG Fall meeting
  - Exhibitors have a rapt, specific audience
- Travel costs too variable and meeting organization potentially difficult if NMG is dependent on yearly CACMID meeting locations
- Props to Astrid for her meeting organization and the (free) venue of the Sick Kids Hospital for the NMG annual meetings

#### MALDI Users' Group

- Will meet at CACMID in 2013
- Will find out by April 2013 how many labs are using MALDI and if sufficient interest to develop a proficiency panel for 2014.
  - Can we combine the 16s and MALDI proficiency panels, and have Labs simply ID their testing methods?
    - Difficult samples wouldn't be identifiable in the MALDI database...
- Ask MALDI users group if they would like to be part of CACMID or NMG
- NMG willing to provide a good MALDI discussion at their next meeting

#### Future Meetings

- Members asked to start thinking about topics for the 2013 NMG meeting

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Meeting length: 12:50 pm to 1:30 pm

NMG AGM Attendees:

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>e-mail address</b>
Antonishyn	Nick	<a href="mailto:nantonis@health.gov.sk.ca">nantonis@health.gov.sk.ca</a>
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Bernard	Kathy	<a href="mailto:Kathy.Bernard@phac-aspc.gc.ca">Kathy.Bernard@phac-aspc.gc.ca</a>
Burn	Sandi	<a href="mailto:Sandi.Burn@lhsc.on.ca">Sandi.Burn@lhsc.on.ca</a>
Christianson	Sara	<a href="mailto:sara.christianson@phac-aspc.gc.ca">sara.christianson@phac-aspc.gc.ca</a>
Chui	Linda	<a href="mailto:linda.chui@albertahealthservices.ca">linda.chui@albertahealthservices.ca</a>
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Kadivar	Kiana	<a href="mailto:kiana.kadivar@phac-aspc.gc.ca">kiana.kadivar@phac-aspc.gc.ca</a>
Karnauchow	Tim	<a href="mailto:tkarnauchow@cheo.on.ca">tkarnauchow@cheo.on.ca</a>
Kim	John	<a href="mailto:john.kim@phac-aspc.gc.ca">john.kim@phac-aspc.gc.ca</a>
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McNabb	Alan	<a href="mailto:alan.mcnabb@bccdc.ca">alan.mcnabb@bccdc.ca</a>
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Radons	Sandra	<a href="mailto:Sandra.michelle.radons@phac-aspc.gc.ca">Sandra.michelle.radons@phac-aspc.gc.ca</a>
Renaud	Christian	<a href="mailto:christian.renaud.hsj@ssss.gouv.qc.ca">christian.renaud.hsj@ssss.gouv.qc.ca</a>
Wheeler	Russ	<a href="mailto:russ.wheeler@oahpp.ca">russ.wheeler@oahpp.ca</a>