

**ACT Branch Committee Meeting
Minutes**

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| Place | Zoom |
| Date | Tuesday 24 November 2020 |
| Time | 6:00- 7:15 pm |
| Assigned Minutes-keeper | Pei Chow |
| Attendance | Mythili Anumarlapudi Molina Asthana Veena Bedekar Rahul Bedi Pei Chow Veer Dhaliwal Matt Floro James Kwan Angel Li Kingsley Liu Silas Otto Rohan Reddy Kevin Marco Tanaya Nai Yan Yeap |
| Apologies | Eveline Kuang Guillaume Nouri-Girones Fabian Hoffmann Cynthia Yuan |
| Item | |

1) **Opening administration: credentialing of members**

2) **Acknowledgement of country**

3) **Motion 1 Appointment of Branch Meeting Chair**

Motion 1: *That the Branch Meeting appoint Veer Dhaliwal as Branch Meeting Chair.*

Moved- Rahul

Seconded- Nai Yan

Passed

4) **Branch President's Report**

The AALA National Exco passed a resolution on 1 October 2020 establishing the ACT Branch. Veer, Rahul and Pei have been attending National Exco meetings and attending to administration matters for the ACT Branch.

Deadline for registering as a member of the AALA in order to be eligible to vote and/or be elected a Committee Member at this Branch Meeting: 9 November 2020.

The AALA database shows that all attendees at this Branch Meeting, except Mya and James, are members as at 24 November 2020? (Pei and Nai Yan to follow up)

Pei confirmed that she had received nomination forms for Mya and Veena, which Veena had sent by email on 23 November 2020. However, Mya does not appear to be a member in the AALA database.

5) Motion 2 Acceptance of Branch President's Report

Motion 2: *That the Branch Meeting accept the Branch President's Report (Verbal).*

Moved- Kingsley

Seconded- Rahul

Passed

6) (a) Veer invited Kingsley, Molina, Matt and Nai Yan to address how the AALA National Exco would be supporting the ACT Branch.

Kingsley:

The ACT branch may be assigned a 'buddy branch'. Kingsley invited the Branch Committee to review previous events held by other state branches for ideas on future events.

Matt:

Some National Exco members may attend the first few events organised by the ACT Branch to provide support where required. Matt also explained that each branch only has 2 votes on the National Exco. Veer, Rahul and Pei will have to decide who represents the ACT Branch at National Exco meetings.

Nai Yan:

Set out the various avenues for sponsorship of AALA events which the ACT Branch could consider. Nai Yan will contact each Branch Committee in relation to budgeting for that Branch's events. Nai Yan also noted that a proportion of the AALA's budget will be allocated to redesigning the AALA website.

Molina:

Recommended compiling a spreadsheet of contacts in the ACT which the Branch Committee may reach out to. This may also be helpful in working out the Branch's priorities and types of events it would like to organise in the future.

(b) Other comments about the National Exco from Branch Meeting attendees:

Kevin enquired about the AALA mentoring program and whether the National Exco would assist with establishing the mentoring program in the ACT. Nai Yan explained that the mentoring program is a national AALA initiative and the AALA would tap into the student base in each state. Matt advised that the National Exco was happy to help and would include the ACT in the national mentoring program.

7) Declaration that all positions on the Branch Committee are vacant.

8) Motion 3: Appointment of Branch President and Branch Secretary

Nomination of Veer Dhaliwal for the position of Branch President and Pei Chow for the position of Branch Secretary. Declaration of positions elected unopposed.

Motion 3: *That the Branch Meeting appoint Veer Dhaliwal as Branch President and Pei Chow as Branch Secretary.*

Moved- Rahul
Seconded- Veena
Passed

9) Motion 4 Setting the number of Ordinary Branch Committee Members

Motion 4: *That the Branch Meeting ratify the total number of Ordinary Branch Committee Members at 10.*

Moved- Veer
Seconded- Rahul
Passed

10) Motion 5 Appointment of Branch Vice-President

Matt explained that the position of Branch Vice-President is not in the AALA Constitution. However, this does not preclude state branches from setting up new positions, such as Branch Vice-President, where appropriate. Matt advised that the National Exco was happy for the ACT to elect a Branch Vice-President.

Nomination of Rahul Bedi for the position of Branch Vice-President. Declaration of position elected unopposed.

Motion 5: *That the Branch Meeting appoint Rahul Bedi as Branch Vice-President.*

Moved- Veer
Seconded- Veena
Passed

11) Motion 6 Ratification of results of the unopposed election of the 2020-2021 Branch Committee

A total of nine nominations were received for ten Ordinary Member positions.

Nominations for Ordinary Member positions were received from Mythili Anumarlapudi, Veena Bedekar, Eveline Kuang, Angel Li, Guillaume Nouri-Jones and Rohan Reddy.

James Kwan, Silas Otto and Leila Galang will submit their nomination forms shortly after the Branch Meeting.

Motion 6: *That the Branch Meeting ratify the results of the unopposed election of the 2020-2021 Branch Committee.*

Moved- Veer

Seconded- Nai Yan
Passed

12) Motion 7 Ratification of establishing the Events Sub-Committee

Motion 7: That the Branch Meeting ratify the establishment of the Branch Events Sub-Committee and appoint Rahul Bedi as the Secretary of that Sub-Committee.

Moved- Nai Yan
Seconded- Veena
Passed

13) Motions 8 and 9 Ratification of establishing the Public Service Sub-Committee

Motion 8: That the Branch Meeting ratify the establishment of the Branch Public Service Sub-Committee and appoint an ordinary member as the Secretary of that Sub-Committee.

Moved- Nai Yan
Seconded- Veena
Passed

James nominated himself for the position of Secretary of the Public Service Sub-Committee.

Motion 9: That the Branch Meeting appoint James Kwan as Secretary of the Public Service Sub-Committee.

Moved- Rahul
Seconded- Veer
Passed

Molina suggested the Branch Committee enquire if the ACT Law Society has a government/ public service sub-committee and if so, discuss the possibility of organising a joint event with them - Rahul and Veena to follow up.

14) General business

Veena suggested the ACT Law Society Government Law Sub-Committee and government lawyers network as potential contacts for AALA.

James mentioned that he has the contact details of members of the CALD Committee, Peter Cain, and staff at the Commonwealth Treasury, who could potentially assist with reaching out to other government lawyers.

James offered to provide his personal email address to government lawyers keen to find out more about AALA.

15) The Branch Meeting ended at 7 pm due to a technical error on one of the meeting host's devices but restarted, with reduced attendees, at 7:05 pm.

16) General business – continued

Nai Yan invited all Branch Committee Members to join the national sub-committees (policies, social media, etc) if they are keen.

Nai Yan explained that Kelvin Ng, Vic Branch Member, will be leading AALA's student outreach program.

Brief discussion on diversity, including how the term 'Asian Australian' should be defined, intersectional diversity, and the lack of cultural diversity in government departments

Meeting closed: 7:15 pm
