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#### 72nd CSM – SCM Annual General Meeting

Date: Wednesday, June 29, 2022 Time: 11:00 –12:30 PM ET

#### Rozanski 104

University of Guelph, Guelph, ON <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84342939756?pwd=S3BydVlyTkY1THo2aHhZdWNQU3dKUT09">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84342939756?pwd=S3BydVlyTkY1THo2aHhZdWNQU3dKUT09</a>

**Meeting ID:** 843 4293 9756 **Passcode:** 391171

#### Agenda

- 1. Welcome Alex Ensminger
- 2. Approval of Agenda
- 3. Approval of minutes from 70<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, June 25, 2020 via Zoom
- 4. Matters arising from 70<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting minutes
- 5. President's Report Alex Ensminger
  - a. CSM Website upgrade
  - b. **Motion** to add a 5-year membership option to the current membership fees.
  - c. **Motion** to add lifetime membership to retired members in the amount of \$250.
- 6. 1st Vice President Report Pascale Beauregard
- 7. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Report Kari Dunfield
- 8. Past President Report Ayush Kumar
  - a. EDI Report
- 9. Secretary Treasurer's report Mazen Saleh
  - a. 2021 2022 Budget

**Motion** to approved 2021 – 2022 presented budget

b. 2021 Audited Financial Statement

Motion to accept the 2021 Audited Financial Statement prepared by Ms. Andrea Poole

- c. Approval of current and future signing officers **Motion** to approve current and future signing officers
- d. Membership Report
- e. CSM Website Report
- 10. Meetings' Secretary's Report Chris Yost

**Motion:** to add an extra day to CSM Future Conferences to allow for social and networking opportunities.

- 11. Post Doctoral representative's report Sarah Piché-Choquette
- 12. Student representative's report Vacant
- 13. New Members of the Executive Alex Ensminger
- 14. New Members of the Council Alex Ensminger
- 15. Meetings Conferences and Workshops
  - a. Report on 2021 conference Chris Yost
  - b. Report on 2022 conference Cezar Khursigara and Kari Dunfield
  - c. Report on 2023 Conference Nik Thomas, Dalhousie University
  - d. Future Conferences & Workshops Tanaka Takuji
- 16. Reports from the sections
  - a. Applied Environmental Microbiology -Laura Hug & Eric Bottos
  - b. Infections and Immunity Georgina Cox & Joel Weadge
  - c. Molecular Genetics and Cellular Microbiology Alex Hynes & Jenny Lee Thomassin
- 17. Reports from committees
  - a. Education and Careers Committee Denice Bay & Dawn Bignell, Edel Lopez
  - b. CMUE Maria Davis & Joseph Rubin
  - c. Awards Report
    - i. CSM Murray Award for Career Achievement Samantha Gruenheid
    - ii. Fisher Scientific Award Ayush Kumar
    - iii. Armand Frappier Award Carole Creuzenet
- 18. Reports from representatives to outside organizations
  - a. Canadian Journal of Microbiology Chris Yost & Kari Dunfield
  - b. International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses Andrew Lang
  - c. Biological & Chemical Defence Review Jon van Hamme
  - d ASM International Membership Comm. & Ambassador to Canada Christine Szymanski
  - e. ASM Young Ambassador to Canada Landon Getz
  - f. Partnership Group in Science and Engineering PAGSE Thienny Mah



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#### 71st CSM – SCM Annual General Meeting

Date: Thursday, June 17, 2021 Time: 3:00 –4:00 PM ET

Via Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/92978675060?pwd=WFk3VkdsT3lHcFpGbUZsMjlHZlRJQT09

Meeting ID: 929 7867 5060 Passcode: 244359

#### Agenda

- 2. Welcome Ayush Kumar
- 2. Approval of Agenda
- 3. Approval of minutes from 70<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, June 25, 2020 via Zoom
- 4. Matters arising from 70<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting minutes
- President's Report Ayush Kumar
   a) EDI Report
- 6. 1st Vice President Report Alex Ensminger
- 7. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Report Pascale Beauregard
- 8. Past President Report Janet Hill
- Secretary Treasurer's report Mazen Saleh
   a) 2020 2021 Budget
   Motion to approved 2020 2021 presented budget
  - b) 2020 Audited Financial Statement **Motion** to accept the 2020 Audited Financial Statement prepared by Ms. Andrea Poole
  - c) Approval of current and future signing officers

    Motion to approve current and future signing officers
  - d) Membership Report
  - e) CSM Website Report

- 10. Meetings' Secretary's Report Chris Yost
- 11. Meetings Conferences and Workshops
  - a) Report on 2021 conference Chris Yost
  - b) Report on 2022 conference Cezar Khursigara and Kari Dunfield
  - c) Future Conferences & Workshops Tanaka Takuji
- 12. Post Doctoral representative's report Vacant
- 13. Student representative's report Olivia Ihedioha
- 14. New Members of the Executive & Council Ayush Kumar
- 15. Reports from the sections
  - a) Applied Environmental Microbiology -Laura Hug & Eric Bottos
  - b) Infections and Immunity Georgina Cox & Joel Weadge
  - c) Molecular Genetics and Cellular Microbiology Alex Hynes & Jenny Lee Thomassin
- 16. Reports from committees
  - a) Education and Careers Committee -Denice Bay & Dawn Bignell, Edel Lopez
  - b) FOME Maria Davis & Joseph Rubin
  - c) Awards Report
  - iv. CSM Murray Award for Career Achievement Silvia Cardona
  - v. Fisher Scientific Award Janet Hill
  - vi. Armand Frappier Award Kari Dunfield
- 17. Reports from representatives to outside organizations
  - a) Canadian Journal of Microbiology Chris Yost & Kari Dunfield
  - b) International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses Andrew Lang
  - c) Biological & Chemical Defence Review Jon van Hamme
  - d) ASM International Membership Comm. & Ambassador to Canada Christine Szymanski i. ASM Young Ambassador to Canada Vacant
  - f) Partnership Group in Science and Engineering PAGSE Thienny Mah

#### **Minutes**

#### 1. Welcome – Ayush Kumar

Ayush Kumar, CSM President welcomed the participants.

#### 2. Approval of Agenda

**Motion**: Joe Rubin made a motion to approve the agenda, Richard Sparling seconded the motion, poll launched for voting, results shared, all in favour, agenda approved.

#### 3. Approval of minutes from 70<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, June 25, 2020 via Zoom

Ayush asked if there were any changes to the minutes. Ivan Oresnik stated that some names were duplicated in the list.

**Action:** Wafaa to review the participants list and remove duplicate names.

Notes to the minutes: They were duplicated because they were downloaded from the zoom list.

**Motion**: Janet Hill made a motion to approve the 70<sup>th</sup> AGM minutes, Andrew Lang seconded the motion, poll launched for voting, results shared, majority in favour, minutes approved.

#### 4. Matters arising from 70<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting minutes

Ayush stated that matters arising from the 70<sup>th</sup> AGM minutes were included in the agenda. He asked if there were any other items that they would like to bring forward. Nothing was identified.

#### 5. President's Report – Ayush Kumar

Ayush stated that his report was included in the package so he would not repeat what was included. He thanked the CSM Executive members and Wafaa for all their efforts and support last year to deal with the Covid situation. He also thanked Chris Yost for his services and time to organize the CSM2021 Virtual Meeting.

#### a) EDI Report

Ayush stated that an EDI subcommittee was created the previous year. This subcommittee term has been extended for another year. He then listed the names of the members and thanked them for their work. He added that the recommendations made by the subcommittee were included in the submitted report.

#### 6. 1st Vice President Report – Alex Ensminger

Alex stated that his report was in the package for everyone to read. He thanked Ayush for his leadership and commented that Janet Hill's participation in the CSM monthly meetings would be missed. He stated that the original plan was to have an LOC to organize the CSM2021 meeting but ended to be Chris Yost and the Education Committee. He described Chris as a one-man machine. He asked if anyone had questions related to his report. No questions were raised.

#### 7. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Report – Pascale Beauregard

Pascale stated that her written report was included in the package. She thanked all the members of the Executive Committee, for their tremendous work. She also thanked Chris for organizing such an interesting meeting. She stated that her email was included in the report if anyone had a question.

#### 8. Past President Report – Janet Hill

Janet thanked members of the Executive and Wafaa for all the work done that year, it was an interesting year. She bid her farewells. She stated that looking at all the faces on the virtual meeting, it was quite interesting to see past colleagues, mentors, students and trainees. She stated that CSM was a great organization to belong to.

Ayush thanked Janet for all her support and guidance. He was often seeking her guidance.

#### 9. Secretary Treasurer's report – Mazen Saleh

#### a) 2020 - 2021 Budget

Mazen also wanted to echo his colleagues thanks to Janet and Ayush. He also thanked Chris and other members of the LOC.

Mazen shared his screen to present the budget. He explained the columns he would be presenting. He stated that the membership revenue increased since the preparation of the report on June 2nd, as 22 members have renewed since then. He then listed the meeting revenue and awards. In the expenses side some of the large numbers are the website development, secretariat services, the audit which has not changed since last year. He then went through some of the smaller expenses and then the awards expenses. He explained that the student day support was a projected expense to year end. Then he mentioned some of the total expenses for the operation and the conference.

**Motion:** Denice Bay made a motion to approve the presented budget seconded by Pascale, poll was launched, results shared, motion carried.

#### b) 2020 Audited Financial Statement

Mazen stated that this report was the result of the audit of the books that both Wafaa and him maintained. It is based on the reports that were submitted to Revenue Canada. He first presented the Statement of the Financial Position. He then went through the cash and investment interest numbers. Then he presented the numbers from the Statement of Operations. He stated that there was a deficit of \$7,463 in 2020. He asked if there were any questions, none was raised.

**Motion:** Mazen made a motion to accept the financial statement as prepared by Ms. Andrea Poole, Peter Krell seconded the motion, a poll was launched, results shared, 84 said yes, 16 abstained, motion carried.

#### c) Approval of current and future signing officers

Mazen stated that the names of the current and new signing officers were listed in the package, names were also included in the poll question.

**Motion** Mazen made a motion to approve the current and new signing officers, a poll was launched, results were shared, 92 % said yes, 8% abstained, motion carried.

#### d) Membership Report

Mazen stated that he would like to highlight some points. The membership is quite healthy. Twenty two more membership renewals were received since the report was prepared. When comparing the membership numbers historically, the numbers are good except when compared to 2019 which had the largest number of membership. He went through some of the membership numbers, unpaid, demographics and by section.

#### e) CSM Website Report

Mazen: the website report is for your information. He thanked Wafaa for preparing the reports. The website reports are broken down according to the pages' visits, there are good number of hits on the website. These reports are helpful as they show the most popular pages, which should be taken in consideration when redesigning the website.

Ayush thanked Mazen for presenting the reports. Ayush commented that this was the 2<sup>nd</sup> year to meet remotely. Ayush: this year the attendance is higher than last year. Financially CSM is doing well. It all depends on the loyalty of the membership. He then pointed to all the past presidents that were wearing their hats and thanked them for their dedication to the society.

#### 10. Meetings' Secretary's Report – Chris Yost

Chris thanked everyone for participating and supporting the CSM. He stated that he would combine both the 2021 Conference and Meetings Secretary reports in one presentation as they were interlinked. He stated that he wanted to emphasize that he did not organize the 2021 CSM Virtual meeting by himself, he had a lot of help. He apologized for sometimes frustrating others and doing things in his own way. He stated that he was able to organize the 2021 virtual meeting because of the Fourwaves platform. Going forward, this will be the platform CSM will be using for its future conferences. Chris: in terms of Meetings Secretary, I have been serving in this position for almost eleven years. I would like the Guelph Conference to be my last conference to serve as the Meetings Secretary and I will be happy to help whoever is replacing me in Guelph2022 Conference. So please put out the word if your colleagues are interested in serving in this position to put their names forward when the request for nomination is put forward, or you yourself consider applying for it. The Meeting Secretary position allows you to be in contact with a large number of colleagues. The reason CSM is doing well financially is because of past conferences and LOC success. The position of the Meetings Secretary is sort of setup and not very onerous. It is time to have new faces which can add to the position.

#### 11. Meetings Conferences and Workshops

#### a) Report on 2021 conference - Chris Yost

Chris: I heard lots of positive feedback about the poster sessions. In Guelph, you will still have the convenience of previewing the posters before heading to the conference. 539 registered for the CSM2021 Virtual Conference, quite a few of undergrads, I am happy that we made the registration free for undergrads. Total of 308 abstracts were submitted. There were six or seven students who organized the students' events Monday and Tuesday and it seemed that they went well. He acknowledged their work, although these events were not advertised on the website, they were a success. He also acknowledged the PIs who were involved in these Students events.

#### b) Report on 2022 conference - Cezar Khursigara and Kari Dunfield

Ayush commented that both Cezar and Kari have been very patient with the conference planning which had been going for over two years now. He asked them if they had anything to report. Kari: stated that the report was included in the package. She thanked the LOC for their loyalty and continued support. She stated that it was a beautiful day in Guelph and they were excited to welcome everyone next year. She thanked the CSM Executive for allowing them to extend the conference to 2022. She listed the dates of the conference for 2022.

#### c) Future Conferences & Workshops – Tanaka Takuji

Tanaka stated that he had talked with Dr. Adnane Sellam, Université de Montréal to host 2025, and Dr. Tracy Raivio, University of Alberta, to host the 2026 CSM Conference. Then he listed the future conferences:

- 2022 University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, Dr. Cezar Khursigara &
- 2023 Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Dr. Nikhil Thomas
- 2024 Western University, London, Ontario, Dr. Martin McGavin

He stated that he had been serving in this position for almost twenty years now and would not mind if someone else was interested to take over.

#### 12. Post Doctoral representative's report – Vacant

Ayush stated that Stephanie Jones had moved on to take another position and she had been amazing. This position is now vacant and there is an election open till June 22, as 2 nominations were received. He encouraged everyone to vote if they have not yet.

#### 13. Student representative's report – Olivia Ihedioha

Ayush stated that it seemed that Olivia was not present, but her report was included in the package.

#### 14. New Members of the Executive & Council – Ayush Kumar

Ayush reported that we were very excited to have Kari Dunfield on board and join the Executive Committee as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. He welcomed her to the Executive. Kari has been involved in CSM activities and serves as the CJM Co-editor, she is also the CSM 2022 Conference co-chair and served before on the awards committee.

#### 15. Reports from the sections

Ayush stated that the three sections reports were submitted and included in the package. He asked them if they had anything to highlight or add to their report.

#### a) Applied Environmental Microbiology -Laura Hug & Eric Bottos

Laura: nothing to add, we are looking forward to seeing everyone in person next year.

#### b) Infections and Immunity - Georgina Cox & Joel Weadge

Joel: we echo what Laura said, we are looking forward to seeing everyone next year.

#### c) Molecular Genetics and Cellular Microbiology - Alex Hynes & Jenny Lee Thomassin

Alex confirmed that he had nothing to report.

#### 16. Reports from committees

#### a) Education and Careers Committee -Denice Bay, Dawn Bignell & Edel Lopez

Denice stated nothing to add to the report. Ayush: the Education Committee have been busy this year organizing the student symposia and poster competition as well as the PD symposia. He thanked them for doing a splendid job in managing the competitions.

#### b) FOME - Maria Davis & Joseph Rubin

Maria: FOME was organized the week before the conference and went very well. Looking forward to seeing everyone in Guelph.

#### c) Awards Report

#### i. CSM Murray Award for Career Achievement – Silvia Cardona

Silvia: Not too much to add, it was a pleasure to serve on this committee. We are still receiving few applications. An open question is how can we increase the number of applications for these awards and make them more encouraging?

#### ii Fisher Scientific Award - Janet Hill

I echo what Silvia said, I encourage everyone to put some thoughts and put in some nominations this year. It is not that hard to nominate someone for an award. It is amazing how little applications we get. The nomination we receive should reflect our membership numbers.

#### iii. Armand Frappier Award - Kari Dunfield

Kari: I just want to say that the talk was great. I encourage everyone to apply and reapply. Sometimes it takes a couple of times to get chosen. Ayush agreed with Kari that it was important that we take time to nominate our students, this can be done as soon as this meeting is over. By nominating others, we recognize scientists and science in our community.

#### 17. Reports from representatives to outside organizations

#### a) Canadian Journal of Microbiology - Chris Yost & Kari Dunfield

Kari highlighted the savings that CSM members benefit from publishing with CJM. They are provided with \$1,000 open access fees and free colour images. She encouraged everyone to read the report.

#### b) International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses - Andrew Lang

Andrew stated that he had nothing to add to the report.

#### c) Biological & Chemical Defence Review – Jon van Hamme

Jon said he had nothing to add to the report.

#### d) ASM International Membership Comm. & Ambassador to Canada - Christine Szymanski

Christine: nothing to add.

#### i. ASM Young Ambassador to Canada - Vacant

Ayush: ASM Young Ambassador position is vacant, we are looking for someone who is a member of both societies. He encouraged the attendees if they were aware of someone who was a member of both societies to encourage them to apply for the position.

#### f) Partnership Group in Science and Engineering – PAGSE – Thienny Mah

Thienny was not present.

Ayush asked if there were any questions. Alex and Janet were impressed by finishing on time.

**Motion**: Mazen made a motion to adjourn, Joe Rubin seconded the motion, poll launched, results shared, 100% in favour.

# 5. President's Report – Alex Ensminger

When will 2020 end? This has not been the year that many of us expected, but there are nevertheless several wins worth highlighting.

First, I want to thank the entire exec for their help navigating this past year. Our mantra was to be kind and patient with ourselves and one another. When life pulled me away from exec a few times, everyone else stepped up and kept things going in my absence. We have a deep bench.

Second, I wanted to highlight that Chris Yost is closing out his service as Meeting Secretary and being replaced by Denice Bay. I thank Chris for his years of service to the society and Denice for stepping into this new role. Notably, when I first started on exec, 3 years ago, Zoom was something that Chris Yost had introduced us to. It was refreshingly new... What will Denice introduce us to, I wonder...

What did we accomplish? Well, the ship is still afloat. We are holding our first in-person meeting since 2019. Guelph 2020, 2021, 2022 will be worth the wait. The LOC, particularly Cezar Khursigara and Kari Dunfield, has done an outstanding job with the program and with navigating an ever-changing world. They hold the distinction of being the longest serving LOC in Society history after we pivoted to online-only operations the past two years. We have several initiatives, outlined below for discussion at this year's AGM. We also have put in place mechanisms to ensure that EDI is considered in everything we do - from our communications, to our award terms, to our outreach. Past-president, Ayush Kumar, has led the charge on this. I will let him outline the specific steps we are taking within his report, but I want to highlight his efforts here and thank him and our EDI committee for their hard work.

Speaking of online, one positive thing that has come out of the pandemic is the ability to bring together individuals and groups with deep interest in more narrow subjects. Virtual seminar series and symposia, unconstrained by travel or typical budgets have helped us maintain connections and build new ones. This contrasts nicely with the society, which works to maintain cohesiveness across broad disciplines in Canadian microbiology through our "big tent" meeting every year. It also fits well with one of my stated goals when I joined exec, which was to try to extend the reach of CSM beyond May/June of every year (when we hold our annual meeting). To that end, I am pleased that we have started a new initiative, by which sub-disciplines and other communities within our membership can propose virtual meetings that are supported under our 3 year agreement with Fourwaves. I am looking forward to the first of these, Phage Canada, in August. Beyond that, I'm looking forward to seeing what sorts of communities develop within our midst and how we can support them.

Speaking of communities, we have been thinking about how to maintain cohesiveness and representation within our "big tent" society. In addition to the aforementioned initiative, we have a proposal this year to include representatives from two such communities, Phage Canada and the Canadian Fungal Network (CanFunNet), on council.

During the last year, we also heard from our members about membership renewals. One of our goals as a society is to make membership easy and something that microbiologists in Canada see value in maintaining every year regardless of where the meeting is held. Part of that is reducing the burden of maintaining membership. To that end we are proposing the introduction of a 5-year membership (so that people need to seek reimbursement only once per grant cycle) as well as an emeritus membership. Other features, such as the ability to opt into automated renewals, are likely to come online once the new website launches later this year.

Speaking of the website, work is progressing on a website with streamlined, updated content, a protected membership area, and a modern front end. It will be easier to post content such as job ads and to control what information is public and what is restricted to our membership. This, together with the initiatives above, should also help us maintain connections and support our community year-round. I think I am not allowed off of exec until this initiative is finished, so I will be reaching out to many of you in the coming months for content, feedback, and assistance.

Thanks again to all the exec and our membership. I look forward to working alongside Pascale Beauregard, our incoming president, and supporting her in any way that I can.

#### 6. 1st Vice President Report –Pascale Beauregard

This past year has been a time of reflection and the occasion to gain momentum to bring the CSM/SCM up to par with a science and research ecosystem in constant and much needed evolution. As the First Vice-President, I have used my role to keep the conversation rolling and to participate in many initiatives that will increase the sustainability of the society, promote its activities in the two official languages and decrease possible unconscious bias.

Under the initiative provided by our president, significant progress was made for the new CSM/SCM website which will provide streamlined and up-to-date information, increase conviviality for membership enrollment, and better reflect the opportunities that our society provide to trainees. We established a standard procedure to help the future presidents to select members of the Armand-Frappier and Murray award committees, thus ensuring a representativity of all sections of microbiology in these important decisions. I have also reached out to each "prizes and awards nomination committees" of Québec universities with a microbiology or biology department to promote CSM/SCM awards, which led to a strong pool of applicants including many French-speaking Canadians. Finally, inspired by the model provided by Ayush and Edel, I have conducted "Meet the microbiologist" interviews in French. These interviews, which I wish to continue to conduct, allow the representation of possible career paths when science studies are started in French and makes microbiology more accessible to French-speaking trainees.

Lastly, I would like to thank Alex for his great work as president in this very challenging year on several fronts. Seeing him and Ayush as comprehensive, thoughtful heads of CSM showed me the path for how to be a great leader of this society, and I hope to perpetuate coming into the next year. The daily inspiration provided by you, the amazing group of people who devote their time running all sections and committees of this society, makes me the luckiest person to be at the helm.

# 7. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Report – Kari Dunfield

I feel privileged to have joined the CSM executive committee, serving as 2nd VP this year. In this capacity, I served on the Thermo Fisher award committee, and the CSM EDI committee. A major accomplishment of this year was co-organizing the first CSM EDI workshop, to be held on June 26, with guest speaker, Maydiane Andrade. Next year, as 1st VP I will serve as Chair of the EDI committee, and in this role, we will re-examine the terms of reference of major awards to ensure that best practices for recruitment and evaluation are followed. I also serve the society through my roles as Co-Chair of the CSM2022 conference, as well as Co-Editor in Chief of CJM.

# 8. Past President Report – Ayush Kumar

It has been a true honor and a privilege to be on the CSM's Executive Committee for the past four years. The pandemic forced us to a virtual format for the Annual Meeting in two of those four years and it is wonderful to be back to in-person Annual Meeting this year. In my role as the Past-President together with Dr. Edel Perez-Lopez, we have been involved in creating content for the CSM YouTube channel. In my role as the Chair of the CSM's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion subcommittee, I have been working with Jo-Ann Dillon (U

Saskatchewan), Trevor Charles (U Waterloo), Arinjay Banerjee (U Saskatchewan), Supriya Bhatt (U Regina), Yanna Altshuler (McGill U), and Ellen Sykes (U Manitoba) to host the EDI workshop in conjunction with the Annual Meeting at Guelph this year. We have also modified the terms of references of the EDI sub-committee which will now be chaired by the Vice-President with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President being the co-chair. Thus, Kari Dunfield will serve as the Chair of the EDI subcommittee.

I leave the CSM Executive Committee with the reassurance that the Society is thriving because of strong commitment from its members. I look forward to contributing further to the CSM in coming years.

# Secretary – Treasurer's Report – Mazen Saleh 2021 - 2022 Budget 9.

#### a)

# CSM Budget to be presented in June 2022

	2022	2021	2021	2020	2020	2019
	June Estimated to Year End	Audited Budget	June Estimated End to Year	Audited Budget	June Estimated End to Year	Audited Budget
REVENUE SOURCES FOR OPERATIONS						
Investment & Misc Income	3,063.00	1,278.94	1,242.52	3,400.15	3,340.00	3,104.00
Membership Fees	38,933.50	36,396.25	33,418.50	33,669.75	34,375.50	40,197.75
Subscriptions to the CJM	606.50	798.00	598.00	500.00	668.00	668.00
Advertising & Sponsorship Income	1,425.00	2,625.00	1,525.00	675.00	550.00	1001.98
Awards Support	5,050.00	5,718.62	5,150.00	3,574.21	3,500.00	5,550.00
Beveridge Poster Support	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00		-	1,500.00
ISEME 8	2,500.00	500.00	500.00		-	2,500.00
ISME18 Support N1	12,090.00					
Knowles PD Award	500.00	500.00	500.00		-	500.00
Burrows Award	500.00	500.00	500.00			
Workshops Revenue					-	
Subtotal	66,168.00	49,816.81	44,934.02	41,819.11	42,433.50	55,021.73

#### REVENUE SOURCES FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Awards Income				-	
Annual Conference Exhibits and Grants & Mtg Folder	53,500.00			-	45,512.39
Annual Conference Registration including Tickets	207,325.00	21,053.35	17,485.00	-	168,707.24
Subtotal	260,825.00	21,053.35	17,485.00	-	214,219.63

TOTAL OF ALL REVENUE			(2.410.02	41 010 11	42 422 50	260 241 26
SOURCES	326,993.00	70,870.16	62,419.02	41,819.11	42,433.50	269,241.36

#### **EXPENDITURES FOR OPERATIONS**

	2022 June Estimated to Year End	2021 Audited Budget	2021 June Estimated to Year End	2020 Audited Budget	2020 June Estimated End to Year	2019 Audited Budget
Website Development - N2	9,000.00	4,141.22	14,500.00	165.00	165.00	336.00
Website Maintenance	438.00	496.50	879.50	1,611.50	1,061.50	1,147.50
Logo / graphic design banner						-
Secretariat	29,000.00	27,596.00	28,000.00	26,485.50	26,000.00	29,369.00
Audit	3,950.00	3,950.00	3,900.00	3,900.00	3,900.00	3,850.00
Bank & Credit Card Charges	5,120.96	4,349.88	4,101.31	4,816.23	5,078.69	5,027.49
Balloting & Bylaws			-	200.00	-	
CJM Subscriptions	700.00	948.00	648.00	600.00	618.00	618.00
Membership in Other Organizations	1,040.90	1,040.90	1,040.90	1,040.90	1,040.90	2,231.27
Liaising & Meetings (Zoom)	140.00		140.00	140.00	140.00	129.09
Constant Contact (mass email app)	1,131.60	991.60	991.60	1,037.16	1,037.16	1,075.99
Translation					-	500.00
Office Supplies	374.79		-	48.94	-	-
Office Couriers (Award frames)			500.00		-	-
Office Copies					-	-
Storage & Shredding	350.00	350.00	320.00	282.00	264.00	264.00
Office Postage			100.00		-	-
Taxes & Miscellaneous	12.00	12.00	12.00	24.00	32.00	-
CSM Travel Awards	5,000.00				-	5,000.00
ISME18 Travel Awards N3	10,000.00					
Under Graduate, Ambassador & ISME 8 Travel Awards	2,000.00		-	1,670.25	5,500.00	4,700.00
Murray, Thermo Fisher & Armand Frappier (Travel Exp inc.) Awards N4	4,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,578.39	4,500.00	4,988.88
Student symposium & Travel Awards	4,500.00	2,000.00	2,000.00		-	4,000.00
Poster Awards	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00		-	1,500.00
Knowles PD Prize	500.00	500.00	500.00		-	500.00
Burrows Award N5	500.00	500.00	500.00	3,000.00		
Awards Supplies	900.00	1,071.37	700.00	182.47	250.00	680.89
Education & Careers Committee					-	-
FOME					-	-
Student Day Support	1,250.00		500.00		1,000.00	2,280.00
Oher Meetings Support N6	1,000.00	500.00	1,000.00	500.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Board Travel	1,500.00					
Subtotal	84,408.25	53,447.47	65,333.31	49,282.34	52,587.25	70,198.11

#### EXPENDITURES FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Annual Conference Expenses Facility, AV, Food & Bev, signage, equipment rental	170,689.90	157.87			-	111,161.73
Executive & Council meeting food & Beverage (included above)					-	
Program Book & Poster Printing & Mail out					1	21.92
Meeting Planner Services	33,404.50				-	-
Speakers Expenses	23,500.00				-	13,974.30
Meeting Supplies (Bags) & Labour	8,306.00				-	19,382.80
Credit Card discount fees	14006.86	1,568.12	1,532.00		-	10,748.42
Website & Alerts	6,948.00	5,735.50	5,698.00		-	2,159.25
					-	1,590.82
Subtotal	256,855.26	7,461.49	7,230.00		-	159,039.24
TOTAL OF ALL EXPENDITURES	341,263.51	60,908.96	72,563.31	49,282.34	52,587.25	229,237.35
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-14,270.51	9,961.20	-10,144.29	-7,463.23	-10,153.75	40,004.01
Net conference Profit ***	3,969.74	13,591.86	10,255.00		-	55,180.39
Disbursement to LOC	Í	Í			-	17,590.16

#### Notes to Budget:

N1 ISME18 Organizers had \$1,2090 deposited in their U of McGill account, these funds were transferred to CSM in 2022 to mange 10 travel awards in the amount of \$1,000 to students and PDs to go to the ISME2022 Conference in Switzerland. \$2,090 balance is to be used for travel to CSM Conference and for managing the travel awards.

N2 CSM has signed a contract with CryoDragon to redesign the website to reflect and be accessible by current technology. That cost is based on the contract and an estimate for additional hours might be charged by the current webmaster to help with the transfer of the website to a new hosting server and webmaster

N3 CSM added in 2018 twenty travel awards \$250 ea for a total of \$5,000. These awards are not provided in 2021 since it is a virtual conference

N4 Since CSM has increased the number of awards it provides, which could have its toll on the Conference budget, the 2018 Conference Chairs requested that the awards budget becomes part of CSM operating budget and not the conference. There is \$1,550 extra cost from the awards that were normally covered under the conference that are not covered by the available sponsorship funds. The ambassador and undergraduate awards have been part of the CSM operating budget since 2013. Since 2018 all the awards expenses are part of the CSM Operating budget.

N5 In 2020 CSM contributed \$3,000 in support for Burrows Award to match contributions received from McMaster and Burrows family. These funds were deposited in a deferred account. Starting 2021, Burrows Award in the amount of \$500 will be given annually to support Womxn in Microbiology and their EDI activities.

**N6** In 2019 CSM allocated \$3,000 in the budget for a new initiative to support CSM Members' Events and allocated \$2,000 for Student research day events which it has been supporting.

As of **June 19, 2022**, CSM **Investment** account balance is \$377,198.97 and **Chequing** account balance is: \$156,148. Tangerine was offering 2.50% interest for GICs to be locked for 1.5yrs. Out of the total amount there is \$100,000 that was invested on March 22, 2022 and are locked in GIC for 1.5 yrs, will mature on 22 September 2023. The total with interest will be 103,791.70. That explains the increase of interest revenue in 2022.

- Secretary's Treasurer's Report cont'd 2021 Financial Statements 9.
- b)

Canadian Society of Microbiologists Financial Statements December 31, 2021



#### **Independent Auditor's Report**

To the Members of Canadian Society of Microbiologists

#### Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of Canadian Society of Microbiologists, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2021, and the statements of operations and changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as at December 31, 2021, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with ASNPO.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I am independent of the organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Canada, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with ASNPO, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the organization's financial reporting process.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

#### **Independent Auditor's Report, continued**

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures
  that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the
  effectiveness of the organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

**Numeris CPA Professional Corporation** 

Chartered Professional Accountant Licensed Public Accountant

Numeris CPA

Ottawa, ON June 21, 2022

# Canadian Society of Microbiologists Statement of Financial Position As at December 31, 2021

	2021 2020
Assets	
Current Cash Short term investment Accounts receivable Prepaid expenses	\$ 49,045 \$ 43,858 276,710 275,431 254 - 10,333 12,278
	<u>\$ 336,342</u> <u>\$ 331,567</u>
Liabilities Current	3
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Deferred revenue (note 3) HST payable	\$ 10,437 \$ 10,942 86,972 92,632 
	98,474 103,660
Balance	237,868 227,907
	<u>\$ 336,342</u> <u>\$ 331,567</u>
On behalf of the Board	
Member	Member

#### Canadian Society of Microbiologists Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets Year ended December 31, 2021

	 2021		2020
Revenues  Memberships - individual Annual conference, Schedule 1 Awards support Advertising and job postings Interest income Subscription fees for CJM	\$ 36,396 13,592 8,719 2,625 1,279 798 63,409	\$	33,670 - 3,574 675 3,400 500 41,819
Expenditures Secretariat Awards Website Interest and bank charges Professional fees Memberships in other organizations Liaising and advocacy CJM subscriptions Office Miscellaneous	 27,596 9,571 4,638 4,350 3,950 1,041 992 948 350 12	_	26,486 8,931 1,777 4,816 3,900 1,041 1,177 600 330 224
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures Balance, beginning of year Balance, end of year	\$ 9,961 227,907 237,868	\$	49,282 (7,463) 235,370 227,907

# Canadian Society of Microbiologists Statement of Cash Flows Year ended December 31, 2021

	2021	2020
Operating activities  Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures Change in non-cash working capital items Short term investment Accounts receivable Prepaid expenses Government remittances receivable Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Deferred revenue HST payable	\$ 9,961 (1,279) (254) 1,945 - (505) (5,660) 979	\$ (7,463) (3,400) 57,680 (8,408) 1,808 (35,194) 25,239 86
Net increase in cash	5,187	30,348
Cash, beginning of year	 43,858	 13,510
Cash, end of year	\$ 49,045	\$ 43,858

#### 1. Nature of operations

The Canadian Society of Microbiologists was incorporated without share capital in 1958 under Part II of the Canada Corporations Act and is recognized as a not-for-profit organization for income tax purposes. The Society seeks to advance microbiology in all its aspects and to facilitate the interchange of ideas between microbiologists. The membership includes honourary, emeritus, ordinary, student, and post doc members.

#### 2. Significant accounting policies

The organization applies the Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

#### (a) Revenue recognition

The organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenditures are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable when the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Other revenue, including membership and conference, is recognized in operations as the services are rendered.

Investment revenue is recognized as earned.

#### (b) Capital assets

Capital assets purchased at a cost of less than \$2,000 are expensed in the year of purchase. The Society does not own capital assets at this time.

#### (c) Financial instruments

The organization's financial instruments consist of cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities. Unless otherwise noted it is management's opinion that the organization is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks.

#### (d) Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the year. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### 3. Deferred revenue

#### Beveridge Funds

In 2013 \$21,325 was transferred to the CSM from the Beveridge Memorial Scholarship Fund in order to support the Beveridge Poster Competition. Three prizes of \$500 will be awarded annually until the funds are depleted.

#### ISME-8 Funds

In 2013 \$50,000 was transferred to the CSM from the ACSME as part of the winding up of the ISME-8 conference surplus funds. The use of these funds is restricted by Terms of Reference agreed to by the CSM with a maximum annual disbursement of \$4,000.

#### Roger Knowles Funds

In 2017 funds were transferred from alumni of Roger Knowles' laboratory and the CSM in order to establish a memorial award. The use of these funds is restricted and will support a prize of \$500 to be given to the best oral presentation at the Post Doctoral Research Symposium at the CSM Annual Conference. The prize will be awarded annually until the funds are depleted.

#### Burrows Award for Womxn in Microbiology

In 2020 funds were donated by the Burrows family, McMaster University and matched by the CSM in order to establish an award that will recognize a womxn graduate student in microbiology who demonstrates both scientific excellence and commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) in the microbiological and related sciences. One prize of \$500 will be awarded annually until the funds are depleted.

		 2021	 2020
	ISME 8 Funds Deffered Revenue - annual meeting Deferred Membership Beveridge Scholarship Burrows Award Deferred Support Roger Knowles Award CJM Subscription Fees for Next Year	\$ 35,730 14,574 11,330 9,324 8,500 7,364 150	\$ 36,230 14,574 13,990 10,824 9,000 7,864 150
		\$ 86,972	\$ 92,632
4.	Awards		
		 2021	 2020
	AF, Fisher, & Murray Awards PD & Student Symposia Awards Student Poster Awards Awards supplies and miscellaneous Burrows Award Students Research Day & members' events Undergrad, Ambassador, & Travel Awards	\$ 3,500 2,500 1,500 1,071 500 500	\$ 3,578 - - 183 3,000 500 1,670
		\$ 9,571	\$ 8,931

In 2020 the \$3,000 cost of the Burrows Award represents CSM's contribution to fund the award.

#### Canadian Society of Microbiologists Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2021

#### 5. COVID-19

On January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced a global health emergency because of a new strain of coronavirus, the "COVID-19" outbreak. On March 11, 2020 the WHO classified the COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic, based on the rapid increase in exposure globally.

The Canadian Society of Microbiologists actively monitored the situation and was able to continue some of its operations virtually while cancelling, adapting or postponing programming. The financial health of the Organization remained strong during this fiscal year as the Organization continued to receive funding from membership fees and investments. As such, while the Organization closed the fiscal year with an operating deficit, the organization still has significant working capital reserves. The Organization continues to be a going concern.

The effects of the COVID-19 outbreak on the Organization's operational costs for fiscal year 2021 have been reflected in the financial statements. An estimate of the impact of the pandemic on the 2022 fiscal year cannot be reasonably estimated, however the Organization continues to actively monitor the situation and adapt its operations and projects to continue delivering on its mandate.

# Schedule 1 Canadian Society of Microbiologists Schedule of Annual Conference Year ended December 31, 2021

	 2021	2020
Revenue Registration fees	\$ 21,053	\$ 
Expenditures Website and alerts Credit card fees Facility	5,736 1,568 157	 - - -
	 7,461	 
Excess of revenues over expenditures	\$ 13,592	\$ 

# 9. Secretary's Treasurer's Report – Mazen Saleh c) Membership Report

As of 19 June, 2022

	2022 Total	2022 Renew	2022 New	2021 Total	2021 Renew	2021 New	2020 Total	2020 Renew	2020 New	2019 Total	2019 Renew	2019 New
Ordinary	274	234	40	299	44	255	312	285	27	336	283	53
Student	358	132	226	254	148	106	158	118	40	316	110	206
Post-Doc	70	45	25	69	23	46	58	47	11	73	51	22
Emeritus	21	20	1	19	3	16	21	21	0	20	19	1
Honorary	4	4	0	4	0	4	3	3	0	4	4	0
Total	<mark>727</mark>	435	292	645	218	427	551	468	77	<mark>749</mark>	467	282

#### Please note:

**2022** has 22 less members than 2019. It is expected that by end of year, 2022 will have same number of members as 2019 or slightly more. To date 2019 has the highest total for regular membership (336) and renewed (283), 2022 has the highest Student membership (358) and new (226). It seems that the PD membership varies between 73 (2019) – 70 (2022).

2 Years Plan

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Ordinary	90	99	100	85	117
Student	73	72	33	54	43
Post-Doc	18	23	15	24	21
Emeritus	13	7	9	4	6
Total	194	203	157	167	187

**Non Paid Members** 

1 ton 1 and 1 trembers								
	2021	2020	2019	Total				
Ordinary	90	54	53	197				
Student	115	72	153	340				
Post-Doc	25	15	24	64				
Emeritus	3	2	1	6				
Hon								
Total	233	143	231	607				

Please note 208 records of members who have not renewed from 2018 were deleted January 2022.

A short historical timeline of year-end membership totals follows:

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
New Mmb	292	218	77	282	244	258	292	106	79	207	109	107	239
Renewed Mmb	435	427	468	467	431	450	386	306	391	332	371	364	345
Total Mmb	727	645	545	749	675	708	678	412	470	539	480	471	584

Province/Country	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Section	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Alberta	49	57	39	53	41	AEM	269	289	215	244	282
British Columbia	50	42	42	35	42	II	197	204	163	184	183
Manitoba	111	54	42	70	70	MGCM	209	256	173	217	259
New Brunswick	6	3	2	3	2	Unspecified	0	0	0	0	
Newfoundland	14	5	6	7	9	Total	675	749	551	645	724
Nova Scotia	15	10	11	11	8						
Ontario	217	277	215	244	343						
PEI	2	1	1	3	2						
Quebec	84	200	101	121	125						
Saskatchewan	60	55	47	47	39						
USA	32	20	21	20	16						
Overseas	28	25	24	29	27						
<b>Total Members</b>	668	749	551	645	724						

#### 9. Secretary's Treasurer's Report – CSM Website Reprot

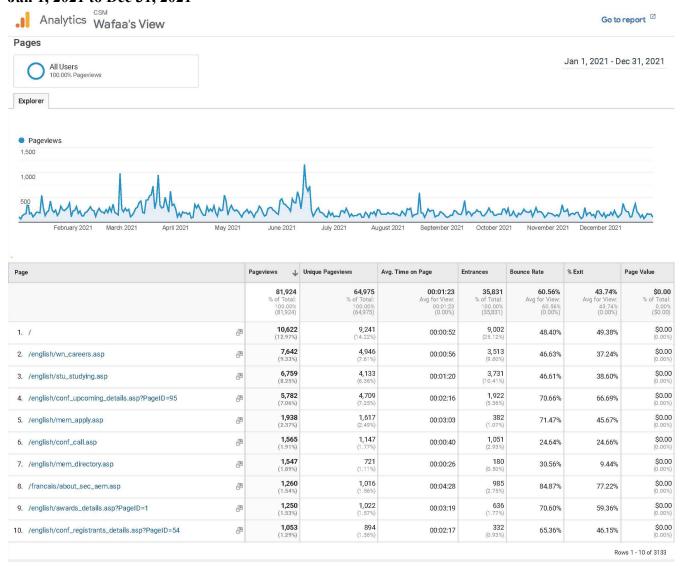
**Website:** 2021: Total of RCMS cost of services for 2021 was \$2625.00 for 52.50 hours of website services. This also includes a **revenue of \$2,925** for 29.25 pages paid job advertisements. So, if we deduct the revenue from the expenses then it is **\$300** net profit. A total of **47** job advertisement have been posted in 2021 for members in good standings.

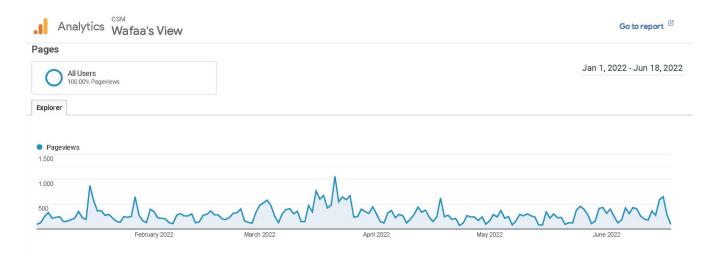
*Alerts:* 11 email alerts and 1 election form were sent to in 2021 for a total of 11 hours and \$550 in expenses.

**2022:** to date 28 job advertisements were posted for members in good standings, 9 pages for paid advertisements were posted providing a revenue of \$900. 22.5 hrs have been provided in website services for a total of \$1,087.50. Thus one the revenue is deducted from the expenses, the total cost for the website services provided by RCMS is 187.50.

*Alerts:* 3 email alerts and 1 election form were prepared for a total of 3.75 hours & \$187.50 in expenses.

#### d) CSM Website Report Jan 1, 2021 to Dec 31, 2021





Page		Pageviews $\psi$	Unique Pageviews	Avg. Time on Page	Entrances	Bounce Rate	% Exit	Page Value
		<b>49,797</b> % of Total: 100.00% (49,797)	39,844 % of Total: 100.00% (39,844)	<b>00:01:36</b> Avg for View: 00:01:36 (0:00%)	23,028 % of Total: 100.00% (23,028)	63.63% Avg for View: 63.63% (0.00%)	<b>46.24%</b> Avg for View: 46.24% (0.00%)	\$0.00 % of Total 0.00% (\$0.00)
1. /english/conf_upcoming_details.asp?PageID=94	P	<b>9,523</b> (19.12%)	<b>7,883</b> (19.78%)	00:03:24	5,592 (24.28%)	76.56%	72.12%	\$0.00
2. /	P	<b>4,732</b> (9.50%)	<b>4,185</b> (10.50%)	00:00:45	<b>4,007</b> (17.40%)	35.19%	35.25%	\$0.00 (0.00%
3. /english/wn_careers.asp	P	<b>3,332</b> (6.69%)	<b>2,035</b> (5.11%)	00:00:56	<b>1,452</b> (6.31%)	46.83%	35.59%	\$0.00 (0.00%
4. /english/stu_studying.asp	P	<b>1,968</b> (3.95%)	<b>1,236</b> (3.10%)	00:01:09	1,048 (4.55%)	43.42%	34.76%	\$0.00 (0.00%
5. /english/mem_apply.asp	P	<b>1,422</b> (2.86%)	<b>1,154</b> (2.90%)	00:04:08	265 (1.15%)	61.13%	41.91%	\$0.00 (0.00%
6. /english/wn_careers_det.asp?id=429	Ð	<b>1,301</b> (2.61%)	<b>1,139</b> (2.86%)	00:03:37	1,062 (4.61%)	86.16%	82.24%	\$0.00
7. /english/conf_registrants_details.asp?PageID=54	P	<b>1,250</b> (2.51%)	999 (2.51%)	00:02:26	375 (1.63%)	70.13%	46.16%	\$0.00 (0.00%
8. /english/mem_directory.asp	P	<b>967</b> (1.94%)	<b>415</b> (1.04%)	00:00:18	76 (0.33%)	47.37%	8.38%	\$0.00 (0.00%
9. /english/awards_details.asp?PageID=1	P	<b>940</b> (1.89%)	<b>773</b> (1.94%)	00:02:35	506 (2.20%)	69.37%	60.74%	\$0.00 (0.00%
10. /english/mem_renew.asp	Ð	<b>863</b> (1.73%)	<b>587</b> (1.47%)	00:00:37	314 (1.36%)	21.02%	13.21%	\$0.00 (0.00%

Rows 1 - 10 of 2812

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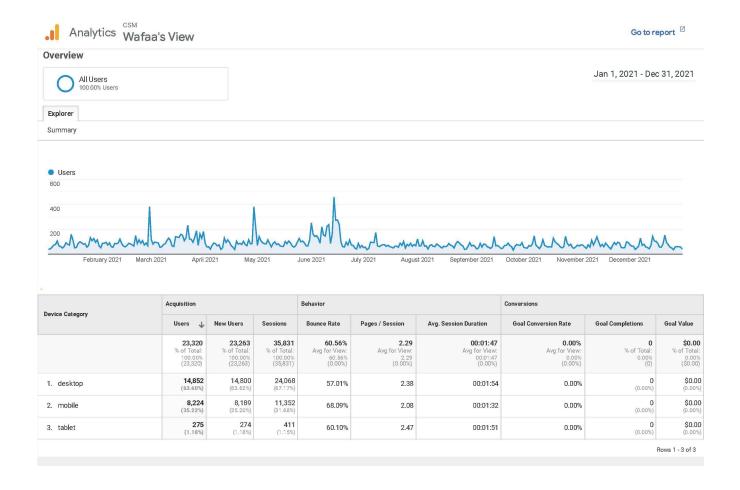
	Acquisition			Behavior			Conversions			
Browser	Users 👃	Users ↓ New Users Se		Bounce Rate Pages / Session		Avg. Session Duration	Goal Conversion Rate	Goal Completions	Goal Value	
	13,761 % of Total: 100.00% (13,761)	13,363 % of Total: 100.00% (13,363)	23,013 % of Total: 100.00% (23,013)	63.62% Avg for View: 63.62% (0.00%)	2.16 Avg for View: 2.16 (0.00%)	<b>00:01:51</b> Avg for View: 00:01:51 (0.00%)	0.00% Avg for View: 0.00% (0.00%)	% of Total: 0.00% (0)	\$0.00 % of Total: 0.00% (\$0.00)	
1. Chrome	<b>8,138</b> (59.38%)	<b>7,914</b> (59.22%)	<b>14,386</b> (62.51%)	62.99%	2.29	00:02:02	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)	
2. Safari	<b>3,165</b> (23.09%)	<b>3,144</b> (23.53%)	<b>4,762</b> (20.69%)	64.38%	1.87	00:01:27	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)	
3. Firefox	<b>925</b> (6.75%)	898 (6.72%)	<b>1,656</b> (7.20%)	61.35%	2.04	00:01:49	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)	
4. Edge	<b>795</b> (5.80%)	<b>770</b> (5.76%)	<b>1,271</b> (5.52%)	63.41%	2.30	00:01:50	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)	
5. Samsung Internet	<b>193</b> (1.41%)	187 (1.40%)	<b>319</b> (1.39%)	73.67%	1.71	00:01:07	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)	
6. Android Webview	<b>191</b> (1.39%)	<b>158</b> (1.18%)	<b>240</b> (1.04%)	67.92%	1.87	00:01:12	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)	
7. UC Browser	<b>125</b> (0.91%)	125 (0.94%)	129 (0.56%)	96.12%	1.04	00:00:17	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)	
8. Opera	<b>65</b> (0.47%)	<b>62</b> (0.46%)	130 (0.56%)	58.46%	2.12	00:02:48	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)	
9. Safari (in-app)	<b>60</b> (0.44%)	59 (0.44%)	<b>66</b> (0.29%)	75.76%	1.48	00:00:34	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)	
10. Internet Explorer	<b>35</b> (0.26%)	34 (0.25%)	<b>41</b> (0.18%)	75.61%	1.56	00:01:48	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)	

Rows 1 - 10 of 15

# ## Description of Company | Pebruary 2021 | March 2021 | April 2021 | April 2021 | May 2021 | July 2021 | August 2021 | September 2021 | September 2021 | November 2021 | December 2021 | Dece

	Acquisition			Behavior			Conversions			
Browser	Users 👃	New Users	Sessions	Bounce Rate	Pages / Session	Avg. Session Duration	Goal Conversion Rate	Goal Completions	Goal Value	
	23,320 % of Total: 100,00% (23,320)	23,263 % of Total: 100.00% (23,263)	<b>35,831</b> % of Total: 100.00% (35,831)	60.56% Avg for View: 60.56% (0.00%)	2.29 Avg for View: 2.29 (0.00%)	<b>00:01:47</b> Avg for View: 00:01:47 (0.00%)	<b>0.00%</b> Avg for View: 0.00% (0.00%)	0 % of Total: 0.00% (0)	\$0.00 % of Total 0.00% (\$0.00)	
1. Chrome	<b>15,044</b> (64.22%)	<b>14,934</b> (64.20%)	23,605 (65.88%)	59.71%	2.37	00:01:54	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%	
2. Safari	<b>4,486</b> (19.15%)	<b>4,469</b> (19.21%)	6,657 (18.58%)	60.97%	1.98	00:01:25	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%	
3. Firefox	<b>1,183</b> (5.05%)	<b>1,164</b> (5.00%)	1,920 (5.36%)	55.99%	2.46	00:01:53	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%	
4. Edge	<b>850</b> (3.63%)	846 (3.64%)	<b>1,257</b> (3.51%)	51.31%	2.91	00:02:28	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%	
5. UC Browser	<b>630</b> (2.69%)	630 (2.71%)	<b>642</b> (1.79%)	98.60%	1.02	00:00:03	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%	
6. Samsung Internet	<b>340</b> (1.45%)	339 (1.46%)	530 (1.48%)	65.47%	2.08	00:01:28	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%	
7. Android Webview	<b>244</b> (1.04%)	<b>241</b> (1.04%)	318 (0.89%)	67.61%	1.90	00:01:35	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%	
8. Safari (in-app)	<b>219</b> (0.93%)	219 (0.94%)	248 (0.69%)	84.68%	1.29	00:00:37	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00	
9. Internet Explorer	<b>192</b> (0.82%)	189 (0.81%)	234 (0.65%)	55.13%	2.89	00:01:46	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%	
10. Opera	<b>150</b> (0.64%)	145 (0.62%)	321 (0.90%)	64.49%	2.71	00:02:35	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%	

Rows 1 - 10 of 24



#### 10. Meetings Secretary's Report – Chris Yost

To be presented orally.

# 11. Post-Doctoral Representative Report – Sarah Piché-Choquette

Since the beginning of my term in November 2021, I have taken part in several aspects of the CSM. While I am happy to have worked with the Executive so far and hope to have contributed meaningfully to the society, I am disappointed in my performance.

As expected, I participated in CSM monthly meetings and gave my opinion about a variety of topics relevant to the CSM (e.g. changing the CSM membership model from calendar years to a fixed number of months/years, suggestions regarding the format of future conferences, etc).

I have also communicated with relevant departments from several universities across Canada, albeit mainly in Quebec and Ontario, for 3 main purposes: encourage the general membership to apply for CSM awards, encourage students to apply for the formerly vacant Student Representative on Executive position, and encourage graduate students and postdocs to join the CSM.

I attended a video meeting to organize the Student Mixer with Hanan Shehata, Nicole Ricker and others, and gave my opinion about several topics since I have organized such events in the past for other conferences. However, after this meeting, we did exchange a few messages, but most of the organization was handled by people already working/studying in Guelph. I organized a Meet & Greet event for the Post docs for Monday at lunch time.

I also helped with the organization of the ASM Networking Event to be held at the Annual Conference during the Student Mixer. I corresponded with Landon by video conference and email over the last few months to organize said event. We have agreed on the specifics (event format, location, etc.) and also invited several networking partners working in academia, government or industry. We have also worked on a list of speakers for a microbiology seminar series that would be held online to reduce costs and increase accessibility. The seminar series was unfortunately not funded by the ASM, but we still believe that it would be relevant to the CSM.

Additionally, I provided translation services for the CSM, as I have been doing since 2017.

In the future, I would like to communicate more with Canadian postdocs outside my network to ask them about their opinion on CSM, postdoc life in Canada and other topics, as my current network might be biased in this regard. Also, now that we have a new student representative, I believe that it might be the perfect timing to increase our activity on Facebook and Twitter to communicate more with our membership. On the bright side, I will be back in Canada in December or January, therefore my volunteering workload will be greatly reduced, and I will be able to dedicate more time to the CSM.

#### 12. Student representative's report – Vacant

#### 13. New Members of the Executive – Alex Ensminger

a) New member of the Executive Committee - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Jonathan D. Van Hamme,



Jonathan Van Hamme is Professor of Microbiology and founding Director of the TRUGen Applied Genomics Laboratory at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops, British Columbia. He received an Honours B.Sc. in Co-Op Biology with a Chemistry Minor from the University of Waterloo in 1996, and a Ph.D. in petroleum microbiology from the University of Waterloo in 2000. Thanks to the encouragement of his Ph.D. supervisor, Dr. Owen Ward (CSM President, 1996-1997), he attended his first CSM Annual Meeting in Guelph in 1998 and was hooked. After three years with the National Resources Canada at their National

Centre for Upgrading Technology, where he was leading work on microbial biotechnologies for heavy oil upgrading, he joined Thompson Rivers University in 2003 and established his own research program with a major focus on biodegradation of organic pollutants. His group is currently focused on uncovering the biochemical basis of bacterial per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) metabolism. He served for ten years as an editor for *Biodegradation*, is currently an editor for the *Canadian Journal of Microbiology*, and previously served the CSM as Meetings Secretary (2009 – 2011). He currently serves as Chair and the CSM representative of the Biological and Chemical Defence Review Committee.

b) New member of the Executive Committee: Student representative on the CSM Executive Committee: Cammille Ou

Camille Ou is a Ph.D. student at Université de Montréal. She is working with *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhi in the laboratory of Dr. France Daigle and cosupervised by Dr. Charles Dozois from Armand-Frappier Santé Biotechnologie Research Centre – INRS. Her research focuses on characterizing fimbriae regulation of *S.* Typhi, a human specific pathogen. With the current antibiotics resistance crisis, treatments are becoming less efficient. Thus, better understanding of *S.* Typhi pathogenesis will contribute to the identification of new therapeutic targets. Université de Montréal

#### 14. New Members of the Council–Alex Ensminger

#### a) New members of the Council: Dr\_John Whitney, MGCM Section Vice Chair



I was born in 1985 in Kingston, Ontario and grew up there before moving to Guelph and attending the University of Guelph from 2003-2007 to obtain my BSc in Biological Chemistry. In 2007, I moved to Toronto to complete my PhD in Biochemistry at the University of Toronto and The Hospital for Sick Children. I then moved to Seattle in 2013 to take up a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Microbiology at the University of Washington. Upon completion of my fellowship, I was recruited to the Department of Biochemistry & Biomedical Sciences at McMaster in 2017 where I now lead my own independent research group that consists of six graduate students (3 PhD, 3 MSc), three research assistants and two undergraduate students. My position at McMaster also involves the teaching of a third-year bacteriology course to approximately 70 undergraduate students each year. In 2020, I was selected as the

Canada Research Chair in Molecular Microbiology and in 2021, I was named an Investigator in the Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease by the Burroughs Welcome Fund. Other notable accolades include receiving an Ontario Early Researcher Award in 2019 and being awarded the 2020 Thermo Fisher Prize by the Canadian Society of Microbiologists for outstanding contributions to microbiology as a profession. My research passions largely revolve around the discovery and characterization of antibacterial toxins, the mechanisms by which they are secreted, and how their secretion by bacteria influences microbe-microbe interactions.

# b) New member of the Executive Committee: Jennifer Ronholm, AEM Section Vice Chair

Dr. Ronholm obtained her BSc in Microbiology from the University of Waterloo in 2007 and her Doctoral degree in microbiology and immunology from the University of Ottawa in 2013. She completed post-doctoral training at McGill University and at Health Canada. She was hired as an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences in 2017. Her interests are primarily in understanding the role of the microbiome in determining susceptibility of individuals (both humans and agricultural animals) to infections.



#### c) New member of the Council: Jean-Philippe Côté Vice Chair Infection & Immunity Section Vice Chair

Jean-Philippe receive his B.S. in biochemistry at the Université de Sherbrooke in 2007. He then completed his PhD under the supervision of Dr. Michael Mourez at the Université de Montréal in 2014, characterizing the structure-function relationship of a family of autotransporters of Gram-negative bacteria. After his PhD, he joined the laboratory of Dr. Eric Brown at McMaster University to explore genetic interaction networks in *E. coli* and discover novel molecules with activity against Gram-negative bacteria. He joined the department of biology at the Université de Sherbrooke in 2019 with the overall objective to define novel targets for the development of new antibiotics in conditions mimicking the environment encountered by pathogens within a host.



#### 15. Meetings, Conferences and Workshops

#### a) Report on 2021 Conference – Chris Yost

The CSM 2021 Virtual Conference was a success on many levels as we adapted to the COVID pandemic, ensuring that we could bring together our members to share scientific discoveries while ensuring our members were able to participate from the safety of their homes. the 70th Annual Conference of the Canadian Society of Microbiologists (CSM 2021) that was held remotely from June 14-17, 2021. The program included student and post-doctoral fellow symposia competitions, as well as interactive poster sessions which offer different formats that presenters can choose from. Section symposia were scheduled from submitted abstracts. All three sections of the Canadian Society of Microbiologists traditional pillars were equally represented, including Applied and Environmental Microbiology, Infection and Immunity, and Molecular Genetics and Cellular Microbiology.

For the CSM2021 Remote Conference we used our traditional CSM section symposia to highlight and celebrate the research discoveries of our early career researchers.

539 registrants engaged in the virtual conference, which are numbers that are very close to our highest numbers when we host in-person conferences. I take this as an indication to our strong membership and robustness of our society.

The focus of CSM 2021 was true to our mandate in supporting students and early career researchers. There were 309 submissions of which 12 Student Symposium Participants, 12 Student Poster Competition Participants, 6 Postdoctoral Fellow Participants, and 18 Section Symposium Participants and 273 poster participants.

Registration fees were substantially lower due to the low cost of running virtual event. It is noted that the CSM generated roughly \$22,000 in revenue that can be used to maintain our student scholarships and other society benefits.

FOME also had a very successful virtual workshop connected to the conference

#### 15 Meeting, Conferences and Workshops

#### b) Report on 2022 Conference - Cezar Khursigara and Kari Dunfield

This report provides an update on the 71st Annual Conference of the Canadian Society of Microbiologists to be held at the University of Guelph, June 26 - 29, 2022.

The theme for 2022 Conference is 'Microbes for Life' and focuses on microbes in health and agriculture. However, all traditional CSM pillars are equally represented, including Applied and Environmental Microbiology, Infection and Immunity, and Molecular Genetics and Cellular Microbiology.

CSM Executive and CSM 2020 Conference Co-Chairs decided on Friday, March 13, 2020 to cancel the CSM 2020 University of Guelph Conference due to COVID 19 pandemic.

Rozanski is used for the scientific sessions, Creelman for lunches and the Opening Reception. The Event Center is where the posters, exhibits and banquet will be held.

- a) We were able to clone the web content that was created for 2020, but Fourwaves changed the format of their platform that all content from 2020 had to be copied and updated with more current information.
- b) Those who have registered and paid for 2020 Conference were contacted more than once and given the option to have their registration extended to 2022 or refunded. This decision was taken to save on the

- cancellation fees that the conference will have to absorb. The majority of those who responded requested to have their fees moved to 2022.
- c) Most of the program and the speakers that were invited for 2020, were invited to present except a couple of speakers who were not available.
- d) All the U of G departments and colleges that have transferred funds to CSM2020Conference U of G account extended their support to 2022 Conference.
- e) The 2020 LOC members and Symposia chairs are involved in the 2022 Conference.
- f) Some of the symposia titles were refreshed.

So, for 2022 Conference Organization, we picked up where we stopped for 2020 Conference but the omicron situation made us pause for a bit before making the decision to proceed with the inperson conference.

**Local Organizing Committee** 

Member	Affiliation	Contact
Kari Dunfield (co-chair)	School of Environmental Science, Ontario Agricultural College	dunfield@uoguelph.ca
<u>Cezar Khursigara</u> (co- chair)	Molecular and Cellular Biology, College of Biological Science	ckhurig@uoguelph.ca
Wafaa Antonious (Conference Organizer)	Rofail Conference & Management Services (RCMS) & CSM – SCM Secretariat	info@csm-scm.org
Georgina Cox	Molecular and Cellular Biology, College of Biological Science	gcox@uoguelph.ca
Jennifer Geddes-McAlister	Molecular and Cellular Biology, College of Biological Science	jgeddesm@uoguelph.ca
Rebecca Shapiro	Molecular and Cellular Biology, College of Biological Science	shapiror@uoguelph.ca
Marc Habash	School of Environmental Science, Ontario Agricultural College	mhabash@uoguelph.ca
Nicole Ricker	Pathobiology, Ontario Veterinary College	nricker@uoguelph.ca
Hany Anany	Guelph Research and Development Centre, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	hany.anany@canada.ca
Moussa Diarra	Guelph Research and Development Centre, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	moussa.diarra@canada.ca
Hanan Shehata (PDF)	Integrative Biology, College of Biological Science	hshehata@uoguelph.ca
Lawrence Goodridge	Food Science	goodridl@uoguelph.ca

#### **Locations and Venues**

Rozanski will be used for the lectures/ workshops, registration and coffee breaks, lunch will be served in Rozanski only on Sunday. Creelman will be used for lunch to serve hot meals and the Opening Reception. We also rented a tent and it is setup outside Creelman all through the conference to allow for social distancing. Poster Sessions, Exhibits and the President's Banquet will be held at the Event Center which is a large gym. It is a five minutes walk from Rozanski. Accommodation were a combination of near by hotels and university residence.. A detailed map of campus can be found here:

https://www.parking.uoguelph.ca/sites/default/files/Campus%20Map%202016 0.pdf

#### Rozanski Hall

Named in honour of Mordechai Rozanski, the University's longest serving president, Rozanski Hall houses lecture theatres ranging in size from 30 to 600 seats (the 4 largest rooms hold 600, 414, 211 and 120 seats, respectively) and modern classrooms with computer-based multimedia equipment. All sessions/seminars, Keynotes and the CSM Annual General Meeting will use this Hall. It has been reserved for CSM use only for the duration of the Conference.



#### University Center

The UC is one of the main hubs on campus, you'll find administration, Central Students Association offices, registrar, The Brass Taps, cafeteria (for the Student Mixer) a/food court, study spaces, concerts, etc.

#### Creelman Hall

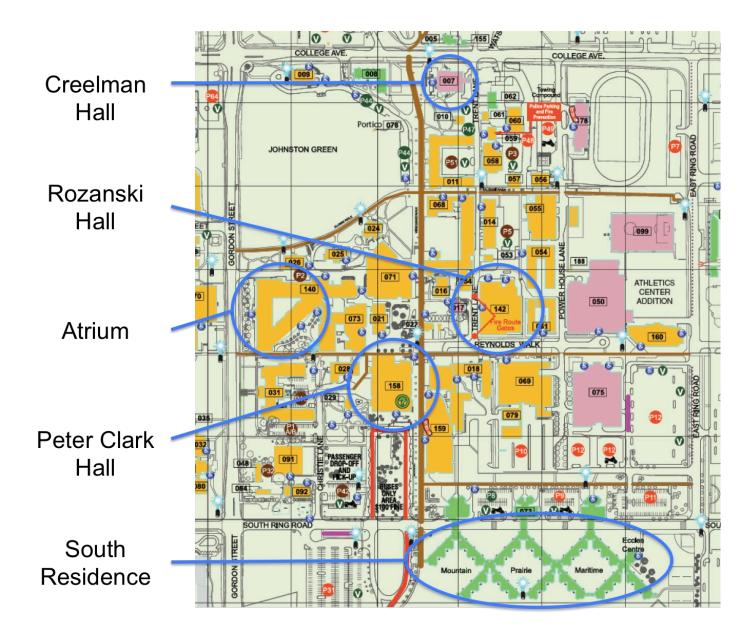
The Creelman Marketplace looks like a classic 1930's warehouse with a bright, bustling ambience. This venue will be used for lunches throughout the conference. Creelman Hall is a 4-minute walk from Rozanski.

#### South Residence

The South Residence is comprised of 4 buildings that were all recently upgraded for Fall 2018. The South Residence is only a 3-minute walk to Rozanski and Peter Clark Halls.



# **Map of Venues**



Registration Fees - 2022	Fees
Registration: Regular Member Early	455
Registration: Regular Member Late	555
Registration: Non-member Early	610
Registration: Non-members Late	710
Registration: Student / PD/ Emert/ Members - Early	255
Registration: Student / PD/ Emert/ Members Late	355
Registration: Studen/ PD/ Emert/ non-member - Early	360
Registration: Student / PD/ Emert/ non-members Late	460
Virtual: CSM Member - Regular	100
Virtual: CSM Member - Undergraduate & Graduate Student/Postdoc/ Emeritus	50
Virtual: Non-Member - Regular	200
Virtual: Non-Member – Undergraduate & Graduate Student/Postdoc/ Emeritus	90
one day registration - Non member & members	240
one day registration - Non member & members St & PD & Emeritus	150
Registration: Speakers, specials, accompanying person	0
Professional Development Workshop - Early Fees	10
Professional Development Workshop - Late Fees as of April 15	20
FOME - Early fees	10
FOME - Late fees	20
FOME or Prof Dev. only registration Early Fees	50
FOME or Prof Dev. only registration Late Fees	60
FOME Virtual	25
Social Event Tickets - Guest - Opening reception	40
Banquet Tickets - Guest	85
Banquet Tickets - Reservation fees	10
Student Mixer (not included in the registration fees)	20
Trip Brewery & Restaurant as of 18 June	
Exhibitors (booth )	1500
Platinum Sponsor	5000
Gold Sponsor	2500
CIHR & University	15000
ASM Student Network	1000
Beckman Bronze	500

# As of June 18, 2022

Virtual Registration	70
In Person Registration	572
Total Registration	642

## Revenue

Registration	\$194,070.00
Social Events Tickets Including the trip	\$13,580.00
Exhibitors (booth & workshops rentals)	\$28,500.00
Sponsorship	\$26,500.00
Miscellaneous Income	
Total Revenues	\$262,650.00

EXPENSES	2022 Expenses
Opening Reception (all expenses - \$47.66 cost per person including 1 drink ticket & gratuity) for 400 (as of	
18 June: 240)	18,308.00
Meeting space including Event Center Sun - Tues	\$23,208.00
Banquet, as of 18 June 413 attending entertainment \$3,000 Inc. & dance floor	\$38,239.25
Graduate Student Mixer - 290 as of 18 June @\$20 + \$1,000 from ASM	7,000.00
Professional Development & FOME (lunch for 150) including coffee breaks and council lunch	5,013.35
Meeting Planner Fees based on 642 registrants as of 8 June 2022) without website & Alert	31,404.50
Tent rental for Creelman, tables, tent, light, permit, delivery no chairs (most probably will be \$900 less because of the cheaper chairs)	
Event Center Setup & Roz- Tues & Wed: reception table \$25 ea table and spandex X 40 Tables & table cloth for bar and food will be part of the catering cost (Exhibit reception)	1,000.00
lunch for 570 (registrants & exhibitors) @16.250 ea \$9,263 ea. X 3 days (Mon - Wed)	27,787.00
Coffee breaks (3 AM)	11,680.00
Coffee Breaks & drink tickets (3 PM breaks) Mon & Tues& Wed	14,209.30
Entertainment for opening reception	1,200.00
Transportation for the Trips, 4 buses at \$600 each and 1	1,200.00
way city bus ticket to the restaurant at \$4 ea	2,700.00
100 double sided Poster Boards & Velcro	4,200.00

Stationary, printing, advertising, signage t-shirts, etc	\$1,450.00
Exhibitor expenses: 2 chairs ea., 2 skirted table ea., waste	. ,
basket, curtained booth for 16 booth	2,225.00
Miscellaneous	3,000.00
Speaker Travel & Accommodation (12X\$1,500 ea +	
2,500 keynote	20,500.00
Career Development & FOME workshops speakers	
exp	3,000.00
CSM Executive & Council Meeting room Rental	
CSM Executive Meeting: coffee and muffins, etc.	
Council Meeting lunch included in the Sunday Workshops lunch	
Volunteer Appreciation Expense (at the discretion of the	
LOC to thank their volunteers for assisting) Depending	
on final financial outcome	1,000.00
Four waves hosting fees & Virtual features	5,198.00
Four waves 3% fees - This amount will change based on	
registration fees	\$7,039.00
Credit Card discount fees (Stripe) - This amount will	
change based on registration fees	6,804.00
Transaction Fees (.30 ea) based on # of registration	184.5
Other Expenses(swags) bag, notepad & pen (600) bags at	
\$9.00 ea. will be \$5,056 +1800) \$1,800 Honey Jars	6,856.00
Conference organizer and assistant travel expenses &	
CSM Executive dinner	2,000.00
Website & Alerts	1,750.00
Audio Visual rental	\$5,775.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	259,530.90

# Net Profit based on Actual Revenue & Estimated Expenses

\$3,119.10

## 15. Meetings, Conferences and Workshops

## c) Report on 2023 Conference – Nikhil Thomas

This report provides an update on the preparation and planning activities for the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the Canadian Society for Microbiologists to be held at **Dalhousie University** in Halifax Nova Scotia, June 25-June 28 (inclusive), 2023. Note that exact dates will be finalized at the 2022 AGM of the CSM.



<u>Theme:</u> The main conference theme is still in development. It will aim to encompass all the CSM major interests in the areas of Applied and Environmental Microbiology, Infection and Immunity, and Molecular Genetics and Cellular Microbiology. As the conference is being held in a coastal region, research advances in ocean and environmental microbiology will likely be highlighted and encouraged.

<u>Conference Planning:</u> We are in discussions with Dalhousie University Conference Services and 'Discover Halifax' relating to conference proceedings, event planning, and accommodations. The Local Organizing Committee is making extensive efforts to ensure a welcoming, inclusive, and accessible conference for all attendees. Considerations for childcare and other ancillary services will be planned for and made available as required.

Dalhousie University and Halifax are located in *Mi'kma'ki*, the ancestral and unceded territory of the *Mi'kmaq*. We are fortunate to convene our conference experience in this beautiful territory.

<u>Conference Format:</u> The 2023 conference will adhere to past meeting formats and organizational structure. In addition to the keynote and section sessions, the meeting will have dedicated student presentations, including oral and poster sessions. Additional workshops and special interest sessions linked to the meeting will be planned. Formal networking events for postdoctoral and graduate student attendees will occur during the conference. A banquet dinner will occur on last evening of the conference.

Note: If there is enough interest, the possibility of hybrid/online (virtual) sessions can be explored to increase conference accessibility to those who may not be able to travel or have scheduling conflicts. This can be discussed at the 2022 AGM.

<u>Attendees:</u> Based on past CSM meetings and historical attendance at coastally located meetings, we are planning for approximately 300-500 attendees for this Halifax event. Facilities are in place to accommodate more people if registration levels are high. We encourage attendees to explore the maritime region of Nova Scotia before or after the conference.

#### **Locations and Venues:**

Most events are planned to occur on two adjoining Dalhousie University Campuses. The buildings are generally equipped with features for improved accessibility, including wheelchair ramps and elevators.

- 1) Studley
- 2) Carleton



#### STUDLEY CAMPUS





## **CARLETON CAMPUS**



#### **Travel:**

Summer in Nova Scotia uses Atlantic Daylight Time (ADT, UTC -03:00).

Many attendees will arrive to Halifax by air travel. All major Canadian airlines (AC, WJ, Porter) have regularly scheduled daily flights arriving and departing Halifax. The airport (YHZ) is located 35 minutes from Dalhousie. Various taxi, Uber, and shuttle services are available for hire. Affordable scheduled public transportation from the airport to downtown Halifax is also available.

For attendees looking to drive, as an example Montreal to Halifax is approximately 12 hours of driving time. Fredericton to Halifax is approximately 4.5 hours.

Via Rail has limited service to Halifax, although this option is not fast (many stops) and costs are comparable to flights.

#### **Accommodations:**

Multiple options for accommodations will be available. The most convenient and affordable option will be Dalhousie Residences on Studley campus. These residences are located within 3-5 minutes walking time to most buildings that will be used for the conference proceedings. Affordable rates for single rooms or shared accommodation units (3-4 people) will be available.

Halifax has many hotels located near to Dalhousie (5-15 minutes walking time). Preferable (discounted) group rates will be secured at select hotels. Conference attendees will be encouraged to book early to secure rooms.

#### **Dining and Entertainment:**

Aside from the meals associated with the conference registration fees, attendees can also enjoy Halifax's bustling waterfront that features outstanding restaurants and ocean views. Various coffee shops, dairy bars, pubs, eateries, nightclubs, and live music venues are nearby. These are perfect for informal networking with colleagues!

For those that enjoy nature and outdoors, various public gardens and parks are nearby some of which host running, hiking, and bike trails. Local beaches also offer an escape to the ocean.

## **Special Events:**

CSM outreach and community engagement will be an important feature of the conference. An event that promotes Microbiology and science communication will be planned. We envision a public engagement session to highlight advances in Microbiology in context of health, agriculture, climate, and technology. We plan to involve local high schools to attract students to the field of Microbiology. This event will be free to attend and will be held in a public space to promote greater access.

**Local Organizing Committee (LOC)** 

Local of gameing committee (Loc)			
Nikhil Thomas	Microbiology and Immunology	n.thomas@dal.ca	
Zhenyu Cheng	Microbiology and Immunology	zhenyu.cheng@dal.ca	
Erin Bertrand	Biology	erin.bertrand@dal.ca	
John Rohde	Microbiology and Immunology	john.rohde@dal.ca	
Morgan Langille	Microbiology and Immunology	morgan.g.i.langille@Dal.Ca	
John Archibald	Biochemistry & Molecular	john.archibald@dal.ca	
	Biology		
Rob Jamieson	Civil and Resource Engineering	jamiesrc@dal.ca	
Robin Wright (student)	Microbiology		
Yan Nan Huang	Engineering		
(Postdoc)			

(additional members will be added in 2022/2023)

## 15 Meeting, Conferences and Workshops

## d) Future Conferences – Tanaka Takuji

Last two years we did not have in-person meetings, so that the activities of future venue has been halt for last one year. Currently we have the agreements from 4 future host till the 2026 meeting as below.

- **2022** University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, contact parson, Dr. Cezar Khursigara (ckhursig@uoguelph.ca)
- 2023 Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, contact parson, Dr. Nikhil Thomas (n.thomas@dal.ca)
- 2024 Western University, London, Ontario, contact parson, Dr. Martin McGavin (mmcgavin@uwo.ca)
- 2025 Université de Montréal, Montréal, Québec, contact parson, Dr. Adnane Sellam (adnane.sellam@umontreal.ca)
- 2026 University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, contact parson, Dr. Tracy Raivio (traivio@ualberta.ca)

## 16. Reports from the Section

#### a) Applied and Environmental Microbiology (AEM) -Laura Hug & Eric Bottos

The AEM section received 156 abstract submissions. Upon review, all 156 were approved, with one abstract's authors asked to concentrate their poster on the scientific advances of their work as opposed to advertising a commercial product. The AEM section chair and vice-chair selected a short list of 8 abstracts for the section symposium – all 6 selected talks were from this list, and cover a wide range of career stages, geographic location, and representation of underrepresented groups.

#### b) Infections and Immunity (II) – Georgina Cox, Joel Weadge & Sébastien Faucher

The Infection and Immunity section received 73 abstracts (general submission) for the CSM 2022 Guelph conference. This is comparable to the number of abstracts received for the in-person 2019 conference. After review, all abstracts were accepted. We offered the opportunity to do an oral presentation to the authors of the 6 best abstracts (4 from the general submission and two from the student competition). We also received 6 abstracts for the postdoctoral symposium, two of which were selected, and 4 posters for the CSM poster competition in the I&I sections. Overall, we were very impressed by the abstracts we received, and we look forward to seeing the excellent presentations in Guelph.

# c) Molecular Genetics and Cellular Microbiology (MGCM) – Alex Hynes & Jenny Lee Thomassin

This year, with COVID-19 restrictions easing, the postponed 2020 conference was scheduled in-person in Guelph. This resulted in the chair and vice-chair being called upon to resume their duties in abstract selection & evaluation. The chair aided with student competition selection, for which there were 26 MGCM submissions. The chair and vice-chair evaluated all 111 general MGCM abstracts, and found none to be ineligible, but wished to highlight the following:

- -The competition abstracts were not included in the 'general' abstracts, which made their selection for the section symposia more challenging. These 26 talk and 11 poster abstracts were considered for presentations, but workflow on this front could be improved.
- -Numerous abstracts did not list PI, failed to list affiliation or were unclear as to what 'affiliation' meant. In the future, it may be possible to add explanatory notes to help those newer to the field learn its conventions.
- The results of the competition selections (Student Oral/Poster) were not known to us at the time of selection.

From the combined list of extended and regular abstracts, the chair and vice chair selected 6 abstracts for the section symposium. Worth noting is that despite our efforts at selecting for diversity at the level of the science, geography, and speaker, our initial draft featured 5/6 speakers from labs headed by male PIs! Thankfully, we revised accordingly to better represent the diversity of our membership at that level.

The chair and vice-chair were also called upon to select abstracts for the PDF competition. There were only 3 MGCM abstracts, but some overlap with I&I gave us the opportunity to select from a broader pool. After the 2021 virtual conference, there was some consideration if we could incorporate distance-talks for PDFs specifically, offering them a chance to connect with Canadian science while abroad on a postdoc which may not allow them to travel to the conference. This could also increase the breadth of the pool for these submissions.

In 2020, there had been some discussion of making the role of chair/vice-chair more involved throughout the year, in part by promoting conferences. The pandemic made this largely irrelevant, although there was some discussion of incorporating this into the revised CSM website through that working group. Over the last year, the MGCM chair was also involved in creating a tighter integration between the CSM and the Phage Canada Network.

## 17. Reports from Committees

# a) Education and Career Committee – Denice Bay & Dawn Bignell, Edel Lopez Co-Chairs

Denice Bay (University of Manitoba), Dawn Bignell (Memorial University), Edel Pérez-Lopez (Université Laval)

#### **Members**

Jennifer Ronholm (McGill University), Yannick Tremblay (University of Saskatchewan), Anni Moore (Morningside University), Sean Booth (PDF member; Oxford University)

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- A record number of extended abstracts (93 total) were submitted for this year's student oral symposium and poster competition. The number of submissions for the poster competition (30) was greater than in the previous two years when the competition was held.
- A total of 55 applications were received for the ISME-8 student travel award. Five awards valued at \$400 each were given to the top applicants.
- Eleven applications were received for the ISME-18 travel award to support travel to the ISME-18 conference in Switzerland. Ten of the applicants received an award valued at \$1000.
- The CSM Ambassador Award was not offered in the first part of 2022 due to the pandemic's travel restrictions. Applications for this award will be solicited in the second half of 2022.
- Three applications were received for the CSM Undergraduate Award, and all three applicants received an award.
- One application was received for the Burrows Award for Womxn in Microbiology.
- The professional development workshop will take place at the annual meeting in Guelph and will feature presentations by Drs. Aleeza Gerstein and George DiCenzo.
- The Education and Careers committee co-chairs will be participating in the development of the new CSM website by providing content on the committee and updating the instructions for the student competitions and awards.
- Denice Bay is stepping down as the Education and Careers committee co-chair after the annual meeting. The committee will need to recruit a new co-chair to replace Denice, and at least two additional committee members.

- Thanks to our volunteer judges for their help with the oral symposium and poster competitions!

#### STUDENT ORAL SYMPOSIUM AND POSTER COMPETITION

This year we received a record number of extended abstract submissions for the oral symposium and poster competitions (93 total). Notably, we received more extended abstracts for the poster competition this year (30 in total) compared to 2021 (17 total) and 2019 (7 total). It is likely that the increase in submissions to the poster competition this year is due to the fact that students were only permitted to submit their abstract to one competition (oral or poster). In the past, students who were not selected for the oral symposium were automatically considered for the poster competition, and so the vast majority of abstracts were submitted to the oral competition so that there were two opportunities to be selected for a completion. Though the number of submissions for the oral symposium competition was still greater than for the poster competition, overall the numbers were more balanced between the two competitions as compared to previous years. Members of the Education and Careers Committee ("Edcom") were able to judge and rank all of the extended abstracts for the oral and poster competition, and the section chairs/vice-chairs assisted with the adjudication of the oral symposium abstracts. We would like to thank everyone who participated in the review of the extended abstracts!

Round two of the poster judging is being coordinated by Dawn and is currently ongoing. The judges for this round are the section chairs and vice-chairs. On May 31, the top four candidates from each section (AEM, II, MGCM) submitted a PDF file of their poster as it will be presented at the conference, and the posters are being judged based on their overall quality. Round three of the poster judging will take place at the conference itself, and the selected judges for this round will be CSM members who are attending the conference. Potential judges are currently being contacted by email, and we thank those individuals who agree to participate in the judging process.

In the memory of Terry Beveridge, three poster prizes in the amount of \$500 will be handed out for each section: II, MGCM, and AEM. An ASM award comprising an ASM student membership and a book or journal will be handed out for best poster layout.

The judges for the oral symposium will be CSM members selected from the past presidents and conference attendees, and they are currently being contacted by email. We are grateful for the willingness of these individuals to contribute to the process. Four awards sponsored by Canadian Science Publishing (CSP), Canadian College of Microbiology (CCM), Cedarlane, and ISME-8 will be handed out to the top four oral presentations.

The student oral symposium competition chairing will be coordinated by the Edcom co-chairs and led by Denice and Edel.

#### **AWARDS**

- (a) **ISME-8 Student Travel Award:** This was the first year that the CSM was able to offer the ISME-8 student travel award since 2019. A total of 55 applications for the award were received and were reviewed by the Edcom co-chairs. Five awards valued at \$400 each were given to the following individuals:
  - Jordan Beck (UManitoba)
  - Jocelyn Plouffe (UManitoba)
  - Anne Berthold (Mount Allison U)
  - Jessica Krekhno (UBC)
  - Hiba Shareefdenn (University College Cork)
- (b) **ISME-18 Travel Awards:** This award was sponsored by the CSM and the 18th International Symposium on Microbial Ecology (ISME-18) to allow students and postdoctoral fellows to travel to the ISME-18

conference that will be held in Lausanne, Switzerland on August 14-19, 2022. A total of 11 applications were received and were reviewed by the Edcom co-chairs, and 10 awards valued at \$1000 each were given to the following individuals:

- Asmaâ Agoussar (INRS)
- Numan Ibne Asad (INRS)
- Eve Beauchemin (McGill)
- Jessica Dozois (INRS)
- Nikhil George (UWaterloo)
- Góngora Esteban (McGill)
- Catherine Maggiori (McGill)
- Elisse Magnuson (McGill)
- Robert McGee (INRS)
- Brady O'Connor (McGill)
- Heather Slinn (UGuelph)
- (c) **CSM Ambassador Award:** This award was not offered in the first part of 2022 due to the pandemic's travel restrictions. As travel restrictions have now eased, we will be looking to solicit applications for the award starting at the annual conference.
- (d) **CSM Undergraduate Awards:** A total of three applications for this award were received this year, and the applications were reviewed by the Edcom co-chairs. Up to six awards valued at \$500 each are available. The recipients of the award were:
  - Arianne Collette (USherbrooke)
  - Alon Minkovich (McMaster)
  - Laura Schnell (URegina)
- (e) Burrows Award for Womxn in Microbiology: One application for this award was received and was reviewed by the Edcom co-chairs. The successful applicant was Laura Thompson from the University of Guelph.

The Edcom members would like to congratulate all of the award winners!

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual professional development workshop will take place on Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup> and will be co-chaired by Denice Bay and Edel Pérez-Lopez. Dr. Aleeza Gerstein from the University of Manitoba will present on "Strategies beyond the bench: using technology for reproducible research, collaboration and social networking", and Dr. George diCenzo from Queens University will present on "Sharing your data with the world: tips on writing scientific manuscripts".

### **WEBSITE**

The CSM is in the process of transitioning to a new website. As part of this initiative, the Edcom co-chairs are preparing content for the website, including a description of the committee and its roles in the CSM. In addition, the co-chairs will be updating the instructions for the student oral symposium and poster competition and the various student awards.

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Denice Bay will be stepping down as Edcom co-chair after the annual meeting in Guelph. She has been a highly valuable member of the committee, and we wish her well in her new role as conference secretary! Edcom co-

chairs Dawn Bignell and Edel Pérez-Lopez will continue in their current positions until 2023 and 2024, respectively. Yannick Tremblay and Anni Moore have both agreed to continue to serve as members of the Edcom for next year, while Jennifer Ronholm will be stepping off the committee due to other commitments. Thus, we will need to recruit two new committee members immediately to replace Denice and Jennifer, and one new member to replace Dawn after the annual meeting in 2023.

# b) Committee on Microbiology Undergraduate Education (CMUE) Report – Maria Davis & Nicole Sukdeo

The committee has continued to effectively engage the community of microbiology educators with CSM membership through virtual (via Zoom platform) workshops on teaching and learning. We hosted two interactive sessions in 2021- 2022: the first on "Crowdsourcing Teaching and Learning Solutions" in November 2021 and the second on "Open Educational Resources" in February 2022. We have received positive feedback about these sessions being available to CSM members (within and outside Canada), who may not always be able to attend the annual FOME pre-conference session.

For FOME 2022, the committee is excited to announce a Keynote session with 3M National Teaching Fellow Dr. John Dawson (University of Guelph). The keynote lecture will be followed by six MicroFOME presentations curated from abstract submissions, all relevant to the theme of inclusive teaching and learning. The MicroFOME presentations will showcase ways to increase student engagement, flexible evaluation plans, open educational resources, and explicit consideration of EDI issues in the classroom and/or curriculum.

As the committee continues to develop ideas looking forward to CSM 2023, CMUE will continue its efforts to support microbiology educators over the next 12 months using virtual workshops. We extend a heartfelt thank you to all the CMUE members for their efforts towards planning of events in the past year and for FOME 2022. I would sincerely like to thank Dr. Tanya Noel for her role in the formation of this committee, continued leadership (2015 – 2019) and guidance (2020 – 2021). I would also like to thank outgoing member Dr. Marie-Laurence Lemay for her work on the committee over the past year.

As a committee, we look forward to welcoming new members in July 2022, with Dr. Nicole Sukdeo taking over as Chair. We would also like to thank the CSM executive, CSM2022 Local Organizing Committee and the CSM Secretariat for their continued support.

## c) Awards Report

#### i CSM Murray Award for Career Achievement - Samantha Gruenheid

Murray Award Committee Report 2022 Submitted on Feb 21, 2022 by Samantha Gruenheid, Dr. <samantha.gruenheid@mcgill.ca

"The committee has selected Dr. Roger Levesque as this year's recipient of the CSM Murray Award. The committee considered the breadth of Dr. Levesque 's fundamental contributions in the fields of microbiology, infectious diseases research, bioinformatics, and genomics. He is a pioneer in integrating novel multidisciplinary and open science approaches to advance understanding of infectious diseases and to combat antimicrobial resistance. The committee also acknowledged Dr. Levesque's important contributions to the scientific community, as past-president of the CSM, founder of IBIS, and co-founding member of the Canadian Bacterial Diseases Network. Lastly, Dr. Levesque has proven himself an outstanding mentor, not only to his own trainees, but also to members of the scientific community at large. In summary, Dr. Levesque is highly deserving of the 2022 CSM Murray Award."

#### ii Fisher Scientific Award - Ayush Kumar

Five nominations were received for the ThermoFisher award for 2022. The selection committee consisted of Mazen Saleh (representing the CSM executive committee), Denice Bay (representing the Education committee), and Kari Dunfield and Michael Hynes (representing the Canadian Journal of Microbiology Editors). Ayush Kumar chaired the committee as the Past President of the CSM. The committee acknowledged the extremely high calibre of all the nominees this year. Dr. Laura Hug was selected as the winner of the ThermoFisher award.

## iii Armand-Frappier Outstanding Student Award - Carole Creuzenet

The 2022 Armand-Frappier Outstanding Student Award committee comprised Drs Carole Creuzenet from the University of Western Ontario (Chair), Lawrence Goodridge from the University of Guelph and Cara Haney from the University of British Columbia. Four excellent nominations were received from 4 different universities. We are pleased to recommend Landon L. Getz from Dalhousie University as the Armand-Frappier award recipient. We encourage the applicants who are still eligible to re-apply next year.

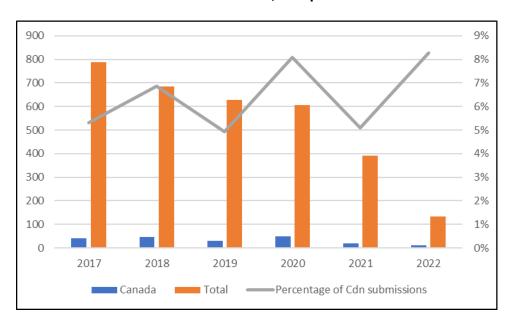
# 18. Reports from Representatives to outside organizations

# a) Canadian Journal of Microbiology - Chris Yost and Kari Dunfield

#### 900 18% 800 16% 700 14% 600 12% 500 10% 400 8% 6% 300 200 4% 100 2% 0 0% 2017 2022 2018 2019 2020 2021 Submissions Final accepts Accept rate

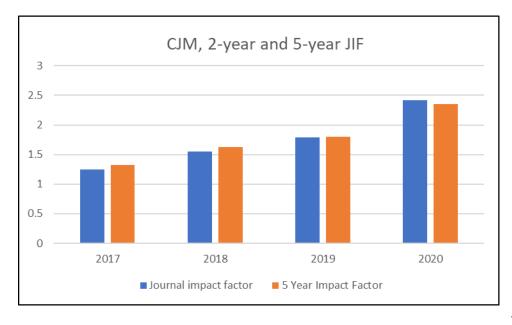
# 1. CJM submissions and final accepts since 2017

## 2. Canadian submissions since 2017, compared to total submissions

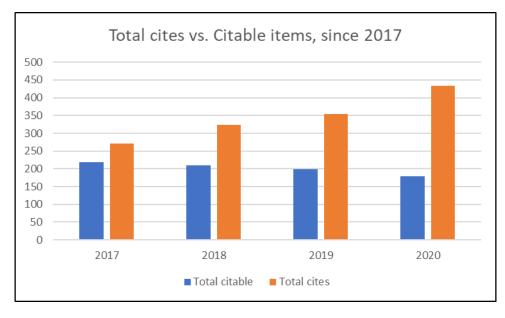


## 3a. CJM Journal Impact Factor since 2017

Our Journal Impact Factor (JIF) increased a lot this year. The 2-year JIF increased from 1.793 in 2019 to 2.419 in 2020 - a 35% increase. This data is based on the Clarivate Journal Impact Factor data.

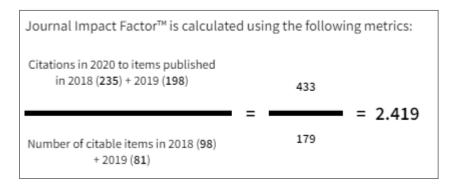


3b. Number of citations over time



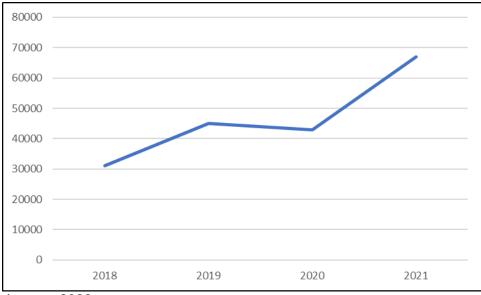
## 3c. Snapshot of how the JIF is calculated

The JIF is a result of citations in 2020 of content published in 2018 and 2019. See screenshot below for the 2020 (2-year JIF) calculation. The 5-year JIF is calculated based on articles published in the previous 5 years rather than 2.



#### 4. CJM website downloads since 2018

Increased downloads from our website since its revamp in 2020. This data is based on CSP Atypon Data,



January 2022.

#### **5. CJM Publications**

- These papers received the most downloads since January 2021 from papers published since January 2016.
  - Horizontal transfer of antibiotic resistance genes in clinical environments (Minireview)
    - 9595 downloads
    - Authors: Andrew D.S. Cameron, Nicole A. Lerminiaux (U of Regina, SK)
    - https://cdnsciencepub.com/doi/full/10.1139/cjm-2018-0275
  - Frontrunners in the race to develop a SARS-CoV-2 vaccine (Review) Open Access
    - 5353 downloads
    - Authors: Brian L. Mark, Peter Pelka, Raquel L. Russell
    - https://cdnsciencepub.com/doi/full/10.1139/cjm-2020-0465 (U of Manitoba, MB)
  - Renaissance of vancomycin: approaches for breaking antibiotic resistance in multidrug-resistant bacteria (Minireview)
    - 3839 downloads
    - Authors: Eric Mühlberg, Florian Umstätter, Walter Mier, Christian Kleist, Philipp Uhl, Cornelius Domhan (Heidelberg University, Germany)
    - https://cdnsciencepub.com/doi/full/10.1139/cjm-2019-0309
  - o Plasmid persistence: costs, benefits, and the plasmid paradox (Review)
    - 3788 downloads
    - Authors: Alex Wong, Amanda C. Carroll (Carleton University, ON)
    - https://cdnsciencepub.com/doi/full/10.1139/cjm-2017-0609
  - o Zika virus: an emerging challenge to public health worldwide (Review)
    - 3093 downloads
    - Authors: Manisha Sharma, Samander Kaushik, Divya Dhull, Vikrant Sharma, Yashika Sharma, Sulochana Kaushik (Maharshi Dayanand University & Himachal Pradesh University, India)
    - https://cdnsciencepub.com/doi/full/10.1139/cjm-2019-0331

#### 6. CJM Ideas for future CSM initiatives

- Collections: Currently working on a Tribute Issue on Dr. Murray
  - Open to more Special Issues possibly covering CSM's three sections: (1) Applied + Environmental Microbiology, (2) Infection and Immunity, and (3) Molecular Genetics + Cellular Microbiology
- Author Workshops: We are available for Author Workshops.
  - Focusing on how to prepare a paper for publication. We can also record these workshops and make them available to your members, especially trainees, as a value-added benefit of CSM membership.
- The CJM editorial team is pleased to continue the ongoing discussion around publications stemming from workshops and conferences and encourage CSM members to submit to the journal and to consider CJM home to their research.
- More promotion around CSM's Meet the Microbiologist initiative.
- The CJM editorial team would also be open to meeting with the Education Committee to consider ways the journal can feature emerging topics relevant to members.

#### b) International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses – Andrew Lang

Access to all the latest information about ICTV activities and updates is available at the ICTV website (http://talk.ictvonline.org/). At this site you can also subscribe to the ICTV email newsletter. Some recent and ongoing ICTV highlights:

- Taxonomic proposals submitted over the previous year were reviewed by the ICTV Executive Committee in July 2021 and ratified by the ICTV Membership in March 2022. The current virus taxonomy (ICTV Master Species List 2021.v1) is available online at http://ictvonline.org/virusTaxonomy.asp.
- The ICTV Online (10th) Report on Virus Taxonomy is available and freely accessible at http://ictv.global/report. Summaries of the Online Report chapters are published in the *Journal of General Virology* ICTV Virus Taxonomy Profiles section. These summaries are linked to the full Online Report chapters on the ICTV website and are indexed in PubMed.
- A couple recent general taxonomy-related papers published of note: Zerbini et al. 2022. Differentiating between viruses and virus species by writing their names correctly. *Archives of Virology* 167: 1231–1234. doi: 10.1007/s00705-021-05323-4

  Dutilh et al. 2021. Perspective on taxonomic classification of uncultivated viruses. *Current Opinion in Virology* 51: 207-215. doi: 10.1016/j.coviro.2021.10.011

#### c) Biological & Chemical Defence Review – Jon van Hamm

I hereby submit to the CSM-SCM a report on the activities of the Biological and Chemical Defence Review Committee (BCDRC) for the period April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022. In this reporting period the BCDRC included Dr. Heather Durham (Montreal Neurological Institute; representing the Society of Toxicology of Canada), Dr. Heinz-Bernhard Kraatz (University of Toronto), Dr. Jonathan Van Hamme (Thompson Rivers University; representing the Canadian Society of Microbiologists, and Chair), and Executive Officer Brigadier General (ret'd) James Selbie. Our website can be found at http://www.bcdrc.ca/ with links to formal, public reports.

The mandate of BCDRC is to provide an independent, third-party review of the Biological and Chemical Defence (BCD) research, development and training activities undertaken by the Department of National Defence (DND) and the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) with a view to assessing whether these activities are defensive in nature, and are conducted in a professional manner with minimal risk to public safety and the environment. Recent conflicts reported in the news involving the use of biological toxins, documented use of chemical weapons, and potential use of biological agents makes the Committee's work ever more important and relevant.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we delayed our normal schedule of visits from May and June to November, allowing us to resume in person discussions. As such, the BCDRC completed numerous visits and inspections at DND establishments, Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC) sites and other institutions involved in BCD research.

During its 2021 visits the Committee was satisfied that DND and the CAF are maintaining a purely defensive policy in biological and chemical warfare research, countermeasures, surveillance and training; that such research is compliant with Canada's obligations as a signatory state to the Biological Weapons Convention and Chemical Weapons Convention; and that such research does not pose a threat to public safety or the environment. Based on observations during the course of its visits, the Committee made several recommendations that will be published in its 2021 Annual Report on the BCDRC website. Public release of the report is delayed given the war in Ukraine. A full report of the Committee's diverse activities can be found at: <a href="http://bcdrc.ca/annual-reports/">http://bcdrc.ca/annual-reports/</a>.

I continue a four-year term as Chair of the BCDRC, a position I assumed on April 1, 2021.

## d) ASM International Membership Comm. & Ambassador to Canada – Christine Szymanski

This is my 2nd year of my second 3-year term as the ASM Ambassador to Canada (ending December 31, 2023). Each year, the Ambassadors submit requests to ASM for support of the CSM Annual Conference. Previously, the country ambassador has submitted a grant to fund the ASM Student Poster Prize at the CSM Annual Conference. The young ambassador submits a grant to fund a CSM/ASM student networking event. The work plans and funding requests are due by the end of January (decisions are sent early March) and the ambassadors work together with the local organizing committee on these submissions. There are also opportunities to request funds for special ASM lectures or sessions at the CSM Annual Conference or if anyone is interested in organizing a microbial specialty meeting in Canada. For these opportunities, you would need to contact the ambassadors prior to January 30 of the year you are planning to host a meeting. This year, I submitted a request for one Student Poster Prize. ASM has agreed to again fund the request (1 membership and e-book, a combined \$250 value) awarded at the Canadian Society of Microbiologists Annual Conference. I would also like to welcome our new Youth Ambassador, Landon Getz from Dalhousie University. I look forward to continuing to work with him next year.

## e) ) ASM Young Ambassador to Canada – Landon Getz

As ASM Young Ambassador to Canada, I have proposed two events for which we have received funding from ASM (through an application I completed) for one. The first event will take place as part of the CSM Annual Conference in Guelph, ON, and is a speed-networking event where students will have an opportunity to meet other students and faculty/industry partners. In short sessions (2-3 minutes), students will interact with their networking partners and ask questions about their work and career trajectory, before moving onto a new partner. This event will provide students an opportunity to meet their peers and learn more about careers in Microbiology. This event was funded for \$1000USD by the ASM Young Ambassador program.

I also intend to run an under-represented microbiologist seminar series which will take place remotely and highlight minority microbiologists and their work, and provide an opportunity for students to meet microbiologists like themselves. I intend this event to begin running in the Fall of 2022, and involved a weekly online seminar over a roughly 1-2 month period depending on interest.

#### f) Partnership Group in Science and Engineering – PAGSE – Thien-Fah Mah