



2011 AGM

Annual Report

Report from the VP, Nicole Pallone:

CanPKU is at a critical time of growth and we are faring the weather well in spite of limited personnel. Membership has increased since December 31st from 44 members to 91 members as of July 1st. This combined with our draft financial statements show that our organization is growing well. We have reinstated our production of quarterly newsletters in an effort to reach out to our PKU community and increase awareness of CanPKU. This year we have 5 regional events scheduled and these events are becoming better attended and easier to run.

We have also spent some time focusing on sponsorship in an effort to diversify our revenue and have been successful with the addition of two new financial sponsors this year. We still hope to further increase the number of sponsors we have so that we are not critically wounded should a sponsor not be able to sponsor us in the future.

We have taken on some new initiatives this year. First is the very important task of drafting policies and procedures for the company so that we can grow in a healthy direction with clear guidelines. This is one of my tasks and it does unfortunately get pushed to the side fairly often when other time-sensitive tasks need to be attended to. However, we have a handful that have been approved and I also have more that are drafted, and a complete list of what needs to be drafted. My goal is to have a first draft of our policy & procedure manual completed by year end.

We have started offering travel scholarships to help families get to our regional events. This is fairly common with other organizations and John and I have both taken advantage of travel scholarships to attend other conferences. We feel it is important as a way to allow families from every economic background to attend. We have also taken on a new project, which I refer to as my 'pet project': Newborn Packages. These packages will be compiled by us and will include information about us and PKU in general, as well as tools that make the PKU diet easier to manage (such as the PKU food list, scales, calculators, measuring cups & spoons, etc). We will be contacting all the clinics that deal with newborns soon to see if they are willing to hand these out on our behalf as a way to ease the stress that accompanies each new diagnosis. We have secured some of the items but not all, and we hope to have these compiled and ready to send out in the fall.



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John will speak to the financial statements but please know that for the first few years accounting took a backseat to what we feel are more important things – emergency advocacy, raising our profile, hosting quality events in every region of Canada and most important, helping families with PKU.

As you can see, it has been a busy year. Our profile in the international community is growing and our success at reaching out to PKU Canadians is increasing. We are meeting our goals of hosting events and advocating on behalf of the PKU families in Canada, and we are growing: a great sign with any organization.

Sincerely,

Nicole Pallone
Vice President