

Animal Assisted Therapy in Counselling

This report covers the period of: July 16, 2020 – June 1, 2021

Submitted by: Eileen Bona President

Chapter Officers:

President	Eileen Bona
Animal Voice Coordinator	Vacant
Secretary	Wendy Tredger
Communications/Educator Coordinator	Interim Kerri and Charmaine
Treasurer	Kayla Shore
Interim Student Liaison	Kim Neuman
Member-at-Large	Sue McIntosh
Member-at-Large	Sue MacDonald
Member-at-Large	Julia Wassef
Member-at-Large	Lisa Wade
Board Liaison	Siri Brown

Membership: 224 members – up from 193 July 2020 and 203 in March 2021

Activities:

1. A survey was sent to the Chapter members in June of 2020 to gather information from the members about their current involvement, training, and certification in AAT. The results from this survey will be used in a national project that is gathering evidence for the possibility of having discussions eventually for standards in AAI in our country. The survey is still in circulation and will be until August of 2021 when the results will be tallied.
2. A meeting of the executive was held on October 22, 2020 to discuss changes to the AAT-C Bylaws and changes were made, accepted and put forward to the Executive of the CCPA. These ByLaw changes were approved by the CCPA.
3. A meeting of the executive was held December 16, 2020 to discuss the Core Competencies Document of the AAT-C and a decision was made to use pre-developed international documents to create a unique core competency for practice in AAI for the CCPA AAT-C. Consultation with the developers of said documents was had and their permission was granted for this use. The CCPA Executive was notified in writing of the AAT-C executive's need to rewrite these competencies and permission was granted.
4. A committee was formed for working on the competency document and the document is now in its 4th draft.
5. The executive worked to provide resources, links, videos, research articles and much more to the AAT-C portal for the 2021 virtual CCPA Conference. The President of the AAT-C Chapter also provided a 3 hour presentation on working with animals in professional practice.

5. The executive met on May 6, 2021 to meet the new Communications/Educator Coordinator and discuss a strategy for branding and communicating with our members. The discussion can be found in the minutes from the meeting.

6. A facebook page has been in operation for the AAT-C members to connect.

Chapter Finances: Currently there is \$10,747.57 in funds from last year.

Planned Activities:

1. Branding and making the AAT-C more visible.
2. Providing resources, information and trainings to members.
3. Possibly collaborating with the IAHAIO and other International experts through our development phases.

Other: Continue to work with the Canadian Foundation of Animal Assisted Services to determine the possibility for National standards development in the field of AAT in Canada.