



# VULNERABLE CHILDREN SOCIETY

## Annual General Meeting Minutes

<b>Meeting Title</b>	: Annual General Meeting
<b>Date</b>	: December 28, 2010
<b>Time</b>	: 11am Pacific
<b>Place</b>	: Elluminate Classroom Online
<b>Chair Person</b>	: Arnica Rowan
<b>Invitee List</b>	: <b>Internal:</b> All VCS members <b>External:</b>
<b>In Attendance</b>	: <b>Members:</b> Chris Ardern, Nicole Bellefleur, Dacia Douhaibi, Silena Ewen, Tawnya Pattie, Arnica Rowan, Jason Rowan, Lisa Vitols
<b>Agenda</b>	: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agenda MOTION: To accept the agenda as proposed.</li> <li>2. Directors' report (Arnica Rowan / Dacia Douhaibi) MOTION: To accept the director's report as presented.</li> <li>3. Consideration of Financial Statements (Tawnya Pattie / Arnica Rowan) MOTION: To accept the financial statements as presented.</li> <li>4. Election of directors.</li> <li>5. Adjournment MOTION: To adjourn the Annual General Meeting.</li> </ol>
<b>Minutes Submitted By</b>	: Arnica Rowan
<b>Minutes Submitted On</b>	: December 31, 2010
<b>Next AGM Meeting</b>	: <b>Date:</b> December 2011 <b>Time:</b> <b>Place:</b> <b>Chair:</b> Arnica Rowan

#	Decisions
1.	MOTION: To accept the agenda as proposed. Moved by Tawnya, Seconded by Nicole. PASSED.
2.	MOTION: To accept the director's report as presented. Moved by Tawnya, Seconded by Nicole. PASSED. Directors' presentation available on the <a href="#">VCS website under News&gt; Board Minutes</a> .
3.	MOTION: To accept the financial statements as presented. Moved by Lisa, Seconded by Dacia. PASSED. Financial Statements available on the <a href="#">VCS website under News&gt; Board Minutes</a> .
4.	Election of Directors:

	Elected: Arnica Rowan (President), Dacia Douhaibi (Vice-President), Tawnya Pattie (Secretary Treasurer), and Chris Ardern, Pam Carlson, Menbere Muluneh, and Nicole Bellefleur (Directors).
5.	MOTION: To adjourn the Annual General Meeting. Moved by Chris, Seconded by Dacia. PASSED.

#	Discussion Items
1.	Thanks to Okanagan College for providing us with an on-line classroom for our meeting location. This enabled members to attend from across Canada.
2.	Thanks to all the board members, sponsors, donors and fundraisers who have made our first four months a resounding success.
3.	We have almost reached our goal to have sustainable core funding for Faya Orphanage and the administration of the House 2 House program. Our next goal is to expand the House 2 House program.
4.	Dacia has set up an extensive sponsor update system to funnel information to sponsors about their kids. Please remember that information about the children (other than their gender and age) is confidential and should not be posted on the internet or Facebook.
5.	Chris will be completing our charitable status application in January. Much of the information has already been figured out and there are just a few sections left to complete.
6.	There are two potential African partners on the horizon, once we get our charitable status. We all agree that it is important that we know the organization's administration personally, and that we have a high degree of oversight involved.
7.	There may be some help from Okanagan College students traveling to Ethiopia in May 2011 to give advice to Faya Orphanage on a revenue generating project. We have applied for Okanagan College students from the Social Entrepreneurship class (3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> year Business class) to do two projects for us in 2011: a viral sponsorship campaign and a volunteer training program.
8.	Several American parents of previous Faya Orphanage residents have contacted us. We are answering their questions and connecting them with other families, using utmost care to protect confidentiality.
9.	There are fundraising tools on the website available for people doing fundraising projects.
10	We have had several visitors drop off donations to Faya Orphanage in person over the past few months. These visits are important because they connect new people to the children and the organization, and provide an informal degree of oversight. We are looking for a new donations coordinator who will connect travelers with people collecting donations.
11	Our primary marketing tools have been via email and the internet – Facebook drives 2/3 of the traffic to our website, so our bi-weekly posts are very important to do, to “like” and to pass on.

12	Tawnya has put all of our financial transactions into Quickbooks, and the resulting financial statements were presented. Donations and sponsorship have been equal sources of income so far. The operating costs for the society have been under \$300, including PayPal charges. The “Operations – Other” expenses were start-up costs paid by Arnica and are also shown as a donation. The “contingency” amounts have been set aside to support children in the case that a sponsor cannot continue their sponsorship. Additional current amounts will be used to bridge the funding gap for Faya Orphanage until we have met our sustainable core funding goal, and then set aside for a first capital/major project.
<b>POST AGM DISCUSSION</b>	
13	There is a potential gaming (on-line casino) donor when we have charitable status. The group discussed taking gaming money. None of the members present have an issue with it, since it will be going to charity anyway, and it might as well be us. However, some people do have strong views on gaming, so we will include a poll out to our members with the next general email.
14	<p>Last month we posted a poll about our organization’s values on the VCS website. Many people replied, and there were some obvious trends. The group commented that “impact” was lower than they expected, as that was the most important value of the directors. The group also discussed that because of the Imagine Adoption and Faya Fund Corp organizations disappearing, the adoption community has a very high priority for sustainability, as well as transparency.</p> <p>After much discussion, the members present decided that the following four values should guide the work of Vulnerable Children Society:  <b>Sustainability, Compassion, Transparency, Impact</b></p>

Action Items					
#	Action Item	Owner	Status	Due Date	Comments
1.	Apply for charitable status in January.	Chris	On-going	January 31, 2011	Some paperwork already completed.
2.	Bring Nicole up to speed and include her information in the records.	Arnica		January 31, 2011	
3.	Discuss donations logistics and how to best facilitate them	Arnica Dacia		February 28, 2011	
4.	Include survey on gaming funds in next sponsor email.	Arnica		March 31, 2011	

# Carry-Over Items for Next Meeting	
1.	