

The ICC Board of Directors Meeting (7)

Date: **May 19th, 2024**

Attendees: Arezou Khadir, Mona Ghasemi, Asoudeh Novin, Mona Borghei, Raheleh Tarani, Mohammad Rad, Daniel Bagheri Sarvestani, Reza Namdari, Amir H. Ghaseminejad

Absentees: None

Agenda: Election committee members, financial statements, Date of AGM, ICC charter, Article 15

The meeting was officially called in order at 8:30pm EST, 5:30pm PST after Arezou Khadir welcomed the attendees. Arezou wished a fast healing for Dr. Raheleh Tarani which was injured while at the University of Calgary with her son. She then asked Mona Ghasemi to lead the meeting.

The election committee members were discussed by board members. Reza brought to the floor the name of three candidates: Moslem Noori, Ahmad Ehsandar, Habib Ghaffari.

The motion was seconded by Asoudeh Novin. The members were approved unanimously.

Mohammad Rad, the ICC treasurer, reported that the institute is not in a good financial state and emphasized the need for fundraising through members. He has invited a CPA professional to prepare the financial statements. Ms. Nahid Nasiri, the CPA who had prepared the statements, was invited and admitted to the board meeting to explain the financial statements. She explained the entries in the profit and loss report. Although the institute is in the positive side for the financial year, past years' debts carried over are still in the books, which makes the overall state of finances in a negative region.

The statements as were presented to the floor were seconded by Asoudeh Novin and were approved unanimously.

The date of AGM which should be before July 9th was decided to be held on Saturday July 6th 2024. It was seconded by Amir H. Ghaseminejad. It was approved unanimously.

Amir H. Ghaseminejad brought to the floor the ICC charter which was developed in the Policy Department in many meetings during the past year. The goal of developing the charter was to clarify the ICC vision, mission, values, and approaches in a concise way that summarizes the article one of the current bylaws of the institution. The document that was developed with the leadership of Mr. Said Zahabioun in English and Persian explains the essence of bylaws in way that is consistent with the way most institutions present their vision, mission, values, and approaches.

The document can be a preamble to article 1 after approval in AGM and can be published as a short bilingual document. The board members spent more than an hour paying meticulous attention to the wording of the charter in Persian and English. Suggestions by board members were applied to the proposed Charter. **Amir H. Ghaseminejad** thanked all members of the board who had attended the meetings, especially **Mr. Zahabioun , Mona Borghei, and Reza Namdari** who had attended all the policy sessions.

The proposed charter was seconded by Reza Namdari and was approved unanimously.

Amir H. Ghaseminejad brought to the floor the changes in Article 15 which were developed in the Policy Department in many meetings during the past year. The section 6th of Article 15 is changed such that the phrase "members in good standing" that is used in many places in by laws are clearly defined. By the proposed changes, the members in good standing and not in good standing are defined.

The motion was seconded by Asoudeh Novin and was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04pm EST or 7:04pm PST.

The ICC Board of Directors Meeting (6)

Date: **April 21st, 2024**

Attendees: Arezou Khadir, Mona Ghasemi, Asoudeh Novin, Mona Borghei, Mohammad Rad, Daniel Bagheri Sarvestani, Reza Namdari, Amir H. Ghaseminejad

Absentees: Raheleh Tarani

Agenda: Public Inquiry into Foreign Interference in Federal Electoral Processes and Democratic Institutions in Canada, ICC statements, exhibitions, public relations, mental health sessions, Nowruz Festival and meetings, choice of hosting company.

The meeting was officially called in order at 8:30pm EST, 5:30pm PST after Arezou Khadir welcomed the attendees.

Mona Ghasemi reported that after that the government of Canada formed Public Inquiry into Foreign Interference in Federal Electoral Processes and Democratic Institutions in Canada, ICC submitted an initial letter to the inquiry in early February. ICC sent the application for standing in the committee on 14 th of February. The application was approved by the judge on March 7th which granted ICC an intervener standing in the inquiry.

Asoudeh Novin and Mona Ghasemi were nominated by the board and were accepted as ICC representatives in the commission. ICC submitted a first communique on March 11th and a closing submission for stage I on 15th of April.

The board expressed special thanks to **Mona Borghei and Mona Ghasemi for their hard work to prepare the submissions.** Mona Ghasemi reported that the current phase was about foreign interference in 2019 and 2021 elections and the next phase will be broader and more related to community organizations. She explained the next phase of Public Inquiry which will continue in Fall 2024.

Reza Namdari reported that the text of ICC statement has been sent to all members through email which has led to supportive feedback from our members.

One of the members has brought a set of bracelets made by autistic children in Iran which ICC may offer to interested people for a donation.

There has been a good response to ICC calendar and more than a thousand dollars of donations have been collected. Since our last meeting we have had three statements:

- Statement regarding the recent escalation of conflict in the Red Sea on 14th of January 2024
- Comments Regarding Public Hearing Remarks by Mr. Hamed Esmaeilion on 10th of April 2024
- Statement on Recent Escalation of Tensions in West Asia 15th of April 2024

Asoudeh Novin reported that we had an ICC meeting at Clubhouse in which we informed the community about our participation with Public Inquiry into Foreign Interference in which we asked the community to share with us any instance of foreign interference about which they have information.

ICC held a multimedia visual arts exhibition (sculpture, painting, etc.) regarding global injustice toward women on March 8th, the women's day, on Instagram, TikTok and Facebook with more than a thousand views. We are doing a feasibility study to hold an Iranian carpet exhibition online.

Mona Borghei reported on mental health sessions.

- A session regarding depression with Dr. Kamran Shoorangiz,
- three sessions regarding sexual education for children with Dr. Elham Gerami,
- a session regarding the roots of difficulties in children behavior with Dr. Raheleh Tarani,
- a session regarding "The association between parent and child relationship with the relationship between couples based on attachment theory" with Dr. Raheleh Tarani,
- a session regarding "parenting styles" with Mojdeh Pourhossein has been held from our last board meeting.

Daniel Bagheri Sarvestani has attended the 23 rd United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues as part of delegation of Miskito nation from Nicaragua and Hinduras and is planning publish papers and ICC podcasts.

Mohammad Rad reported about the seventh Nowruz Festival held in Montreal in which ICC had a booth.

- Arezu Khadir, president, and Mona Ghasemi , vice president, were welcoming the visitors during the event.
- Also, Arezu Khadir, Mona Ghasemi, Mohammad Rad, and Reza Namdari attended a community meeting in which frank conversation between supporters of ICC and critics were exchanged.
- Board members explained the logic of ICC participation in Public Inquiry into Foreign Interference in Canada for the attendees.

Arezu has attended a closed gathering with a group of Iranian students in European Universities at Café Didar in which she explained the importance and benefits of community engagement such as institutions such as ICC.

Mona Ghasemi and Arezu Khadir participated in the Longueuil for Palestine demonstration in April where Mona read a statement in that regard for the audience.

Last year the board had decided to move to A2 Hosting and try to use Open Source Civicrm to reduce costs. Since the implementation of Civicrm has been proven to be immature, a decision was made to move back to Hostgator or another cheaper alternative.

The board members approved the minutes of the previous board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at pm 10:32 EST or 7:32PST

The ICC Board of Directors Meeting (5)

Date: **January 3rd, 2024**

Attendees: Mona Ghasemi, Asoudeh Novin, Mona Borghei, Daniel Bagheri Sarvestani, Reza Namdari, Amir H. Ghaseminejad

Absentees: Arezoo Khadir, Mohammad Vahidi Rad, Raheleh Tarani

Agenda: Statement on 4th anniversary of flight 572, Statement on Kerman terrorist attack, Genocide in Palestine

The meeting was officially called in order at 4:22pm EST, 1.22pm PST after Mona Ghasemi welcomed the attendees.

Board decided to extend our deepest condolences to the families of the victims citing Prime Ministers statement on the downing of flight PS752 by IRGC missiles emphasizing how tensions in the region and any threat to innocent lives in Iran is also a threat to Canadian lives and requesting the government to play a positive role in the region in order to foster peace and stability, including pursuing a lasting ceasefire between Israel and Palestine.

Board members also discussed the federal government's response to our inquiry regarding Canada's position on the Kerman terrorist attack, which will be published to the public.

A draft letter to the Public Inquiry into Foreign Interference in Federal Electoral Processes and Democratic Institutions was discussed.

Mona Ghasemi's proposal to endorse the Hunger Strike for Gaza was approved. All participants were in favor except Daniel abstaining. Mona and Daniel are working on a podcast.

Reza Namdari reported that ICC is now present on TikTok, and we are going to upload past and existing videos to this platform.

Mr. Bahram Jalayer has asked about the number of members, it was decided that the current count of 238 to be reported in response to him.

Amirhassan Ghaseminejad reported that the final text of the ICC charter is being prepared by Policy committee. More reminders will be sent regarding the survey that was launched a few weeks ago, and the results will soon be reported to the board. It was discussed that another public survey be launched in the near future to get a rough sense of the opinions of Iranian Canadians.

Asoudeh Novin reported about the plans for a Nowruz event and ICC's various sessions on ClubHouse. She is in touch with groups acting on immigration issues and will have a number session to coordinate with other groups to increase the effectiveness of our efforts.

Reza Namdari discussed the planning for running the next Annual General Meeting within the legal timeline and its agenda. The PR committee is preparing a Nowrooz Calendar which will be

distributed in exchange for donations.

Daniel Bagheri Sarvestani is planning for more podcasts and probably an article.

Mona Borghei reported on ICC Mental Health sessions. Long-term and Short-terms effects of immigration with Dr. Raheleh Tarani, Effects of media on suicide prevention with Dr. Saideh Khadir, Mental health in the era of social media with Dr. Kaji, and Building Cultural Bridges with an anthropological approach to health have been among the topics.

Board members discussed the reports regarding Iranian Canadians whose mandatory armed service is causing difficulties when traveling and possible actions in this regard if we are formally asked for help.

The meeting was adjourned at pm 5:08EST or 2:08PST.

The ICC Board of Directors Meeting (4)

Date: **October 8th, 2023**

Attendees: Arezou Khadir, Mona Ghasemi, Rahele Tarani, Mona Borghei, Reza Namdari, Amir

H. Ghaseminejad, Daniel Bagheri Sarvestani

Absentees: Mohammad Vahidi Rad, Asoudeh Novin

Agenda: Report of activities of various departments and committees

The meeting was officially called in order at 11:30 am EST , 8:30am PST.

Arezou Khadir welcomed the attendees.

Reza Namdari provided a report about the publication of 8th "ICC Newsletter" which has been emailed to all the members. It has also been posted on ICC social media. ICC is planning to publish another newsletter in the coming months.

Contents of some of our clubhouse sessions were reviewed by board members.

Amir Hassan Ghaseminejad reported that the Policy Department has had regular sessions to develop the "ICC charter". The goal is to summarize the vision, mission, goals and strategies, values and approaches consistent with ICC bylaws in an abstract document to enable the members of Iranian Canadian Community to easily understand the organization. He reported that by the time of the meeting vision, mission, and values are finalized in the charter. He reported that development of the next ICC survey will start soon. He reported that Iranian Canadian Congress has been holding regular biweekly sessions on ICC Clubhouse and various topics. The hosts of these meetings have been members of the board of directors of ICC.

Mona Borghei and Raheleh Tehrani reported that Mental Health Committee has had many biweekly Instagram Lives regarding various topics on mental health. Multiple sessions with Danial Bagheri Sarvestani on trauma in First nation community and Iranian Community; with Dr. Raheleh Tarani on anxiety, with Dr. Elham Gerami on children and teenagers' issues regarding immigration, with Dr. Amir Karamooz on obsessions and many forms of it, with Dr. Kamran Shoorangiz regarding treatments using drugs or psychotherapy, and with Dr. Zahra

Fatouraie on marriage and couples' issues. The committee is planning to continue these sessions in the coming weeks.

Raheleh Tarani reported on her session with "Iranian Cultural House in Calgary". She had attended a town hall on social capital in relation with her planned attendance in "Metropolis Congress" along with other participants from Calgary.

Daniel Bagheri Sarvestani reported on his podcasts with Mona Ghasemi regarding Cultural Identity of Iranian Canadians. More podcasts are recorded and will be published in the near future.

Mona Ghasemi has prepared a public letter regarding Online Harassment and Arezou Khadir has prepared a statement regarding suicide reporting in media regarding Iranian Canadian community based on the guidelines by US Center on Disease Control. Both statements will be published soon.

Arezou Khadir reported on two ICC statements regarding participation of Canadian Politicians in meeting of former terrorist group (MEK) and the speculations regarding transferring of the Headquarters of that former terrorist group from Albania to Canada. Both statements are published on ICC website.

Reza Namdari reported on two posters and information sharing regarding the International Day for Peace, and Canadian Peace and Reconciliation Day.

Arezou Khadir thanked all members for their hard work to help Iranian Canadian Community.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm EST, 9:10am PST.

The ICC Board of Directors Meeting (3)

Date: **July 9th, 2023**

Attendees: Arezou Khadir, Mona Ghassemi, Asoudeh Novin, Rahele Tarani, Mona Borghei,

Mohammad Rad, Reza Namdari, Daniel Bagheri Sarvestani, Amir H. Ghaseminejad

Agenda: Letter regarding the presence of the Conservative Caucus at MEK convention, ICC

Forum admins, Protocol for management of ICC Clubhouse rooms,

The meeting was officially called in order at 9 pm EST , 6pm PST.

Arezou Khadir welcomed the attendees.

The board discussed the reports regarding the presence and speeches of several members of the Conservative Caucus, including former Prime Minister Stephen Harper, at a convention organized by the Mujahedin-e Khalq (MEK) in Paris. It was discussed that the Iranian Canadian community, and our members, find it troubling that Conservative Caucus members are associated with the MEK which was listed as a terrorist organization. The board felt that the community deserves to know whether the attendance of present and former Conservative Caucus members at the MEK meetings represents an official party position. The letter which was prepared in this regard was discussed and was passed unanimously.

It was suggested that more members of the board of directors help the supervision of ICC forum on Facebook.

The motion was passed unanimously.

It was suggested that the protocol for conduct in in ICC clubhouse room and its chat environment to be adapted from the protocol that have been approved and implemented for ICC forum on Facebook.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Several directions for topics of discussion in ICC rooms at Clubhouse was proposed. The board felt that topics regarding stressors and the causes of anxiety in Iranian Canadian community should be among the topics. Also, it was approved that a series of sessions regarding parameters that are influential in proper dialog among Iranian Canadians to be held in Clubhouse.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55pm EST, 7:55PST

The ICC Board of Directors Meeting(2)

Date: **May 28th, 2023**

Attendees: Arezou Khadir, Mona Ghassemi, Asoudeh Novin, Rahele Tarani, Mona Borghei,

Mohammad Rad, Reza Namdari, Amir H. Ghaseminejad

Absentee: Daniel Bagher Sarvestani

Agenda: Statement Regarding Harassment of Women in the Workplace, Letter Regarding

Outdated Law in BC, Topics for Clubhouse Channel, and a Deal for Members

The meeting was officially called to order at 9 pm EST , 6pm PST.

Arezou Khadir welcomed the attendees.

The disaster regarding Amir Sedghi, a talented and promising young Iranian-Canadian with a bright future, who tragically lost his life in a plane crash while at work, was brought to the attention of the board members. A letter by the president was prepared. The letter requests a revision of an outdated law that fails to acknowledge the right to seek restitution, or to hold the parties responsible for their negligence. All the suggestions by board members were applied. Amir H. Ghaseminejad brought to the floor the motion to send the letter to the relevant authorities. It was seconded by Reza Namdari.

The motion was passed unanimously.

The reported case regarding the dismissal of a police officer of Iranian origin who claims to have been the victim of harassment on several occasions in the course of her work was brought to the attention of the board. This case, along with the cases of other officers who had similar complaints in 2020, highlight the urgent need to ensure a safe and healthy working environment for all women, regardless of background or profession. A statement prepared by the president was discussed and all the suggestions by board members were applied. Amir H. Ghaseminejad brought to the floor the motion to publish the statement. It was seconded by Assoudeh Novin.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Iranian Canadian Congress (ICC) had negotiated a phone plan deal for the members. It was proposed by Reza Namdari and seconded by Mohammad Rad to inform the members about the deal if it is competitive.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Iranian Canadian Congress has started to use Clubhouse as a medium of communication with Iranian Canadians. Many topics were proposed as appropriate subjects to be discussed in Clubhouse Rooms, which will be held every other week.

For the coming week the topic: "Objectives of Iranian Canadian Congress" was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40pm EST, 7:40PST

The ICC Board Of Directors First Official Meeting **with New Board Members (1)**

Date: ~~March~~ April 19, 2023

Attendees: Arezou Khadir, Mona Ghasemi, Asoudeh Novin, Rahele Tarani, Mona Borghei, Mohammad Rad, Daniel Bagheri Sarvestani, Reza Namdari, Amir H. Ghaseminejad

Agenda: Board of Directors, departments, and committee appointments elections

The meeting was called in order at 9:40pm EST , 6:40pm PST.

Arezou Khadir welcomed the attendees.

Amir H. Ghaseminejad suggested bringing the motions regarding board position to be able to finish the tasks within limited time.

Amir H. Ghaseminejad nominated Arezou Khadir and Mona Ghasemi as President and vice president of ICC which will be the first time ICC will have female president and the vice presidents. The motion was seconded by Asoudeh Novin, Rahele Tarani and Mona Borghei.

All were in favor. Arezou Khadir will be president and Mona Ghasemi will be vice president of ICC.

Amir H. Ghaseminejad nominated Arezou Khadir as chair and Mona Ghasemi as vice chair of the department of administration and finance; and all were in favor.

Amir H. Ghaseminejad nominated Mohammad Rad as treasurer. It was seconded by Raheleh Tarani; and all were in Favor.

Amir H. Ghaseminejad nominated Arezou Khadir as chair and Mona Ghasemi as vice chair of the department of Department of Communications and Public Relations. It was seconded by Reza Namdari; and all were in favor.

Reza Namdari nominated Amir H. Ghaseminejad as secretary. It was seconded by Asoudeh Novin; and all were in favor.

Reza Namdari nominated Asoudeh Novin as chair and Mona Borghei as vice chair of department of culture. It was seconded by Amir H. Ghaseminejad and all were in favor.

Reza Namdari nominated Amir H. Ghaseminejad as Policy Department chair. It was seconded by Asoudeh Novin; and all were in favor. Several members of Board of Directors volunteered to be members of Policy Department.

Amir H. Ghaseminejad nominated Asoudeh Novin as vice chair of the Policy Department; and all were in favor.

Reza Namdari nominated Daniel Bagheri Sarvestani as Services committee chair. It was seconded by Amir H. Ghaseminejad; and all were in favor.

Reza Namdari nominated Mona Borghei as Research and Education committee chair. It was seconded by Asoudeh Novin; and all were in favor. Several members of Board of Directors volunteered to be members of Research and Education committee.

Amir H. Ghaseminejad nominated Reza Namdari as the chair of the Organizational Structure committee. It was seconded by Raheleh Tarani and Asoudeh Novin; and all were in favor.

Reza Namdari nominated Raheleh Tarani as chair and Mona Borghei as the vice chair of Mental Health committee. It was seconded by Asoudeh Novin; and all were in favor.

Reza Namdari nominated Amir H. Ghaseminejad as Development of Communications Policy

Committee chair. All were in favor.

Amir H. Ghaseminejad nominated Reza Namdari as the chair of the Public Relations & Cyberspace committee. It was seconded by Asoudeh Novin; and all were in favor.

Amir H. Ghaseminejad nominated Mohammad Rad as the Organization of Communications & Content Development committee. It was seconded by Reza Namdari; and all were in Favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20pm EST, 7:20PST.