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## Minutes for the Annual General Meeting 2021 (AGM) of the World Gold Panning Association (WGA)

**Date:** Thursday, 26th August 2021 at 7:00 PM (Central European Summer Time)

**Venue:** Tuzina, Slovakia

### **Attendees:**

See attached the lists of the Delegates of the World Gold Panning Association Member Nations, Members of the WGA Board, Chairpersons of the Committees and Observers at the meeting.

Some attendees were represented virtually because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

### **1. Opening of the SBM**

*Sanjay Singh, President, attending at the AGM virtually, opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees to the meeting.*

*Vice President **Jiri Dunovsky** was present at the meeting and acted as a chair of the meeting*

*The Annual General Meeting 2021 was found to be legal and quorum.*

## 2. President's report

*Sanjay Singh, President, presented virtually his President's report:*



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### PRESIDENTS REPORT –WGA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUZINA, SLOVAKIA

26<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2021.

Good evening and welcome to all delegates from the various member countries who has joined us physically and virtually through our online platform to the Annual General Meeting of the World Gold Panning Association.

Please join me in welcoming representatives from New Zealand, Ms. Odette Hopgood Bride and her team and Ms. Lorraine Millar( Canada) and Mr. Jarek Dudkiewitz (Poland) who will be contesting the position of Vice President of the WGA

As we proceed, may I ask all delegated to join us in a moment of silent meditation as we remember those of our Golden Family who have passed on and those who are or have been ill during these uncertain times. Thank you.

It is my pleasure to present to you a brief report of the year under review.

1. Last year, we took a calculated risk by continuing with our World Championships in Novy Knin. Some were unhappy about this decision. However, there were many of our members who supported the decision. To this end I wish to thank the Board and the Local organising Committee of the Czech Republic for the brave decision .We are thankful that they event was well organized and it kept the flame of the WGA and its members burning during a dark time in the world .
2. Following the Wold Championships in Novy Knin there was no significant respite with the COVID situation around the world. New variants emerged and countries were experiencing the troughs and crests of the waves of the pandemic.

Many countries put in health and lockdown protocols that affected travel within and between countries and continents seriously.

Dawson city and Canada was no exception. Consequently, Canada sent a notice to the WGA with the intention to cancel the World Championships in Dawson City citing a range of sensible reasons. The board had its discussions and concurred with the recommendation. The possibility of Dawson City being hosts again when the situation is under better control will be considered with the LOC in Canada in the near .

3. Off course, an unexpected turn of events occurred when the LOC at Zlata Hory took a unilateral decision to cancel the European Championship 2021 for this year citing Covid concerns. While their concerns may be understandable, the manner of communication was undermining, inconsiderate and discourteous as we first came across this information on Social Media.
4. Unprecedented circumstances require unprecedented solutions and the resilience of our Golden Family came to the rescue. Slovakia Gold panning Association and the Tuzina Local Municipality offered to host the EGC 21 and after discussions amongst the board members, this magnanimous gesture was accepted. A huge thank you to Slovakia GA (Frank and Danka) and the Mayor and leadership of the Tuzina Local Council. The Golden flame 🔥 of the WGA will continue to burn.
5. With the rapid roll out of vaccines in many of our member countries, it is expected that the EGC 21 will be a success. We are pleased to see many of you here despite the stringent travel restriction you have to face in Europe.
6. Towards the end of 2020, we also received communication from New Zealand (Ortago). Some of our friends from New Zealand have been with us in many of our events but now we are happy to have an application for official membership, which you will consider later on the agenda.
7. We have also received communication and interest from Dr. Sergui Dragusanu who is a Post-Doctoral researcher of alluvial Gold in the Geology Department at the Babes-Bolyai University in Romania. We will continue engagements with him, as he is keen to lead an initiative to become the next member of our Golden Family.

8. As you are aware, two of our giants on the Gold panning board will see the end of their terms this year. Let me take this opportunity to express our appreciation for their commitment during their terms. Jirka Dunovsky and Dr. Frank Hartmann, your wisdom and guidance during these difficult years is much appreciated. We will continue to seek your support and guidance as members of the World Gold panning family and we wish you well with the exciting adventures you have planned for next year.
9. As I conclude, it is heartening and commendable to see that many of our Member countries have developed effective strategies to host their club and national competitions for the current season under the restrictive conditions we find ourselves in. This augers well for us soon to have our next World Gold Panning Championships in Zlotoryja Poland in its full glory, where we will all celebrate together again.
10. My sincere gratitude goes out to all the members of the board, various committees and you our membership for your unflinching support over the last year. Because of your sincerity and openness with opinions and advice, we were able to be the best that we could be.

Thank you

SANJAY SINGH PRESIDENT :WGA

**3. Financial report 1.7.2020- 30.6.2021 and the Budgets of the WGA for the next fiscal year (1.7.2021– 30.6.2022).**

*Treasurer Daniela Múčková, presented the Financial report 1.7.2020 – 30.6.2021, realized budgets 2020-2021 and Working Budget and Project Budget for next term 2021-2022.*

- The fees for next year will remain the same as 2019 and 2020.
- New application for 2023 EC Finland; 100€ to be added.

***Decision: Accepted***

Attachments: Financial statements

#### 4. Communication Committee report

*Arturo Ramella, the Chairperson of the Communications Committee, attending at the AGM virtually, presented the report and views of the Communication Committee.*

- Updated contact information should be sent to Arturo.
- Proposition: Whatsapp group for delegates

***Decision: Accepted unanimously***

#### 5. Competition Committee Report

**Esko Orava**, the Chairperson of the Competition Committee.

##### 5.1. Summary of the World Championships 2020 in Nový Knín, Czech Republic.

**Esko Orava, Chairperson of the Competition Committee** will present following report done by **Frank Hartmann**, Germany of the WGC 2020 Nový Knín, Czech Republic.

##### **Report on the**

##### **44<sup>th</sup> World Goldpanning Championships 2020 at Nový Knín, Czech Republic,**

from WGA Board Member Frank Hartmann, Germany

The small town of Nový Knín, situated approximately 40km from Prag in the Czech Republic, hosted the 2020 World Goldpanning Championships. 266 competitors from 13 different countries participated in the event. Due to Corona pandemic, several competitors from overseas were not able to travel to the event this year, so most of the competitors came from European countries.

The competition site was located in the southeast of the town next to a tennis court, which itself was equipped with a small restaurant and a playground for kids. The camping area offered lots of space for caravans and mobilhomes and a fenced area for tents. Showers and toilets were in place in a sufficient number and were maintained several times a day. The center of Nový Knín could be reached in a ten minutes foot walk and offered restaurants and grocery stores.

The event was an entire open air event, the main tent was fully opened every day and several additional Corona measures were adopted, allowing the competitors to keep social distance at almost every time. No case of Corona infection has been reported subsequent to the event.

An arena inspection was made before the start of the competition, no technical or organisational deficiencies have been detected. The alluvial gold used was very flat and this lead to a very challenging competition with an obvious physical threshold in panning speed. The event was very well organized and due to the big number of staff members the competition went very smooth. No official protests were made. The WGA Annual General Meeting took place on 19th August 2020 at the prestigious Czech Mining Museum in Příbram.

Many thanks to the organizers and the town of Nový Knín for a perfect event!

Bröckel, Germany, September 2020,

Frank Hartmann

*Decision: Accepted unanimously*

## 6. Bids for European Championships 2023

Finland's association is proposing **Tankavaara** as the host of 2023 European Championships.

Finland's bid came in after SBM and the Board has therefore not discussed this matter before. The date of the event was not decided by the time of the application. The formal presentation will be held in Zlotoryja, Poland 2022.

*Decision: Accepted*

## 7. Bids for World / European Championships 2024 and 2025

No bids have been made.

## 8. Election of the Board Member

This year **Jiri Dunovsky** has served his full terms of 2x3 years as the member of the Board on the post of Vice President and **Frank Hartmann** has served his full terms of 2x3 years as the member of the Board.

Due to limitations on voting by Proxy, Member Nations which may nominate a candidate for the posts of Vice President and Member of the Board were requested to inform of this to Secretary **latest to the 15<sup>th</sup> of August 2021**. ([secretary@worldgoldpanningassociation.com](mailto:secretary@worldgoldpanningassociation.com))

This allowed to share information of all nominations, in time before the AGM, to all attendees.

Voting in this item will happen by secret ballot, virtual attendees could use the proxy form by sending it, filled on this item, by e-mail to the Vice President once the list of candidates has been notified. ([vicepresident@worldgoldpanningassociation.com](mailto:vicepresident@worldgoldpanningassociation.com))

The Polish association has informed the Board of proposing **Jaroslav Dudkiewicz** as a candidate for the post of Vice President.

The Swedish association has informed the Board of proposing **Lorraine Millar** as a candidate for the post of Vice President.

No other proposals for the posts of Vice President and Member of the Board have been received.

Both candidates presented themselves, Lorraine Millar virtually and Jaroslaw Dudkiewicz at the meeting in Tuzina.

***Decision:***

*After a secret ballot, 1 vote / delegate, **Jaroslaw Dudkiewicz**, Poland was elected as a member of the Board to the post of the Vice President with 19-7 votes. **Lorraine Millar**, Canada was elected as a Member of the Board.*

**9. Youth /Children / family programs**

Member countries have been encouraged to submit requests / proposals for youth and development programmes for support.

**10. Application for a membership**

The Board has received an application for a membership from New Zealand on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020. The Board discussed the matter in its SBM on the 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

As a result the Board has been recommending that the membership application will be approved.

Odette Hopgood-Bride of the Otango Goldfields Heritage Trust, presented the application and a video presentation was shown to the attendees of the meeting.

***Decision:***

*After a vote, New Zealand's application was accepted.*

**11. Other current issues**

*No issues.*

**11. Closure of the Meeting**

***President Sanjay Singh*** thanked Jiri Dunovsky and Frank Hartmann, congratulated Jaroslaw Dudkiewicz and Lorraine Millar and welcomed New Zealand to the Family.

***President Sanjay Singh declared the Annual General Meeting 2021 of the World Gold Panning Association closed***

On behalf of the Board

***Sanjay Singh***  
President

***Tuija Tunturi***  
Secretary

**Attachments:**

Attendees THE LIST MISSING

Financial statements

Communication Committee report ?



The Delegates at the Annual General Meeting of the World Goldpanning Association 2021					Presence		
Tuzina, Slovakia					Meeting	by Proxy	Virtually
Name	Signature	Country	E-mail	Votes			
		Australia		2			
		Australia					
		Austria		2			
		Austria					
Lorraine Millar		Canada	<a href="mailto:ausilica@hotmail.com">ausilica@hotmail.com</a>	2			x
Alexandra Wasilewski		Canada	<a href="mailto:agpapresident1@gmail.com">agpapresident1@gmail.com</a>				x
		Czech Republic		5			
		Czech Republic					
Marko Touru		Finland	<a href="mailto:info@tankavaara.fi">info@tankavaara.fi</a>	5	x		
Pentti Hongisto		Finland	<a href="mailto:pentti.hongisto@gmail.com">pentti.hongisto@gmail.com</a>		x		
Cecile Thibaud		France	<a href="mailto:thibaud@un.org">thibaud@un.org</a>	3	x		
Jean-Baptiste Guide		France	<a href="mailto:pierre-jean.guide@arteliagroup.com">pierre-jean.guide@arteliagroup.com</a>				x
Wolfgang Orlamünder		Germany	<a href="mailto:klinkermarkt@web.de">klinkermarkt@web.de</a>	3	x		
Hans Stützing		Germany			x		
Daisy Thurkettle		Great Britain	<a href="mailto:daisythurkettle@gmail.com">daisythurkettle@gmail.com</a>	2	x		
		Great Britain					
Geraldine McCrossan		Italy	<a href="mailto:gergoldworld@gmail.com">gergoldworld@gmail.com</a>	2			x
Luca Pasqualini		Italy	<a href="mailto:pasqualiniluca60@yahoo.com">pasqualiniluca60@yahoo.com</a>	-	x		
				-			
				-			
		Netherlands		3			
		Netherlands		-			
				-			
		Norway		2			
		Norway					
Zbigniew Soja		Poland		2	x		
Norbert Makowski		Poland	<a href="mailto:norbert@norma-home.com">norbert@norma-home.com</a>	-	x		
František Verbich		Slovakia	<a href="mailto:fverbich@gmail.com">fverbich@gmail.com</a>	4	x		
Dalibor Jakus		Slovakia	<a href="mailto:jakus.dalibor@gmail.com">jakus.dalibor@gmail.com</a>		x		
Sherry Goodwin		South Africa	<a href="mailto:brummertours@gmail.com">brummertours@gmail.com</a>	3			x
Sendra		South Africa		-			x

				-			
		<b>Spain</b>		2			
		<b>Spain</b>					
Thomas Linnarsson		<b>Sweden</b>	<a href="mailto:linnarsson.thomas@gmail.com">linnarsson.thomas@gmail.com</a>	3	x		
Mattias Kroon-Eriksson		<b>Sweden</b>	<a href="mailto:fiske_guld_bilar@hotmail.com">fiske_guld_bilar@hotmail.com</a>	-	x		
Christoph Kipfer		<b>Switzerland</b>	<a href="mailto:chr.kipfer@bluewin.ch">chr.kipfer@bluewin.ch</a>	3		x	
		<b>Switzerland</b>		-			
		<b>USA</b>		2			
		<b>USA</b>					
Observers :							
Jaroslav Dudkiewicz	<i>Nominee</i>	<b>Poland</b>			x		