

## **President's Report**

This is an outline of the report that will be delivered at the AGM on January 26, 2019.

### **Internal Activities**

2 major efforts during 2018

- A. Coordinators Gathering in March 2018 – brought together 14 out of 15 chapter coordinators from across Canada for the first time in CCoP's history. A very successful weekend meeting that strengthened our association and would have been impossible without strong input from local Victoria volunteers.
- B. New Database – massive effort with Neville, Grace, Julie and I. Neville will report further. Involved researching appropriate solutions, presenting them to Coordinators, more research, final selection, and implementation.

### **Other Activities**

- Communication:
  - a) With members through website, Facebook and newsletter; chapters deal with local communications.
  - b) With Board and Chapter coordinators through the Coord. Gathering and online meetings.
  - c) All chapter coordinators have been trained in the use of MailChimp and the new database Membership Works to facilitate correspondence with local members.
  - d) Report on chapters – starting to experience changeovers of chapter coordinators and inquiries about new chapters. (soon adding Windsor/Essex).
- Memberships – Neville will report on numbers
  - a) Implementation of new database resulted in a membership campaign that increased our member numbers substantially.
  - b) New member benefits have come into effect in Jan 2019, providing discounts with Air Canada, WestJet, Budget/Avis Car Rentals and Travel Insurance.
- Finances – Treasurer's report to follow.
  - a) Invested in infrastructure: digital administration & hosting.
  - b) Invested in training of coordinators.
  - c) Donations supported albergues in Spain.
- Credential numbers – issued 1511 credentials, 63 more than last year.
- Governance –
  - a) 1<sup>st</sup> full year with our new Bylaws. As we worked with them we've found a few items that need to be clarified or changed – a normal process.
  - b) have introduced some Policies for emailing and for operating chapter walks.
  - c) Nominating Committee – has forwarded 3 names for new Director positions on the Board. Report attached.

- Hospitaleros
  - a) 30 new hospitaleros trained in 2018
  - b) At least 22 hospitalero postings were filled in Spain, France, Portugal and Italy.
  - c) Some Canadians also served in the Pilgrim Office in Santiago.
  - d) 3 trainings being planned in 2019 - Ottawa, Victoria and Calgary.

### **External Activities**

- Quebec
  - a) Collegial relations with the Association du Québec à Compostelle – our Quebec counterpart
  - b) Have shared CCoP Hospitalero training materials – to be translated.
  - c) Possible joint Hospitalero training in Ottawa.
  
- International
  - a) Spanish Ambassador to Canada is our Honourary Patron.
  - b) Maintain a relationship with the Spanish Embassy in Ottawa.
  - c) Sent a rep to the annual meeting of American Pilgrims on the Camino
  - d) Strong relationship with Camino Society Ireland
  - e) Continue to correspond with other international Camino associations in Europe, South Africa, Japan, Brazil, Australia.