

Report from the Secretary, Grace Cameron
January 1 to December 31, 2018

My role involves three major tasks – one is to provide input to and take minutes of the Board meetings that are held; two is to process the orders which come in for memberships, credentials and badges; three is to ensure our documentation is current with Corporations Canada. For the latter, Form 4004 Articles of Amendment with Corporations Canada, as well as the new Bylaws approved at the February 3/18 Annual General Meeting were filed on February 28/18. The 4006 Changes Regarding Directors was filed on April 13/18. Our Form 4022 Annual Return was filed on October 18/18.

The biggest challenge this year was the change of database system from WooCommerce to Membership Works. Many meetings were held but all the work was worth the effort. The methodology used for processing the memberships and orders is significantly different and less time-consuming during the week, but more time is spent on Monday morning to ensure the files are correct to be sent to the Credencial Elf for actual mailing. Working in Membership Works to enter data has been most interesting and a genuine opportunity to connect with Pilgrims; some of the stories are so inspiring. Having a 70-year old first time Pilgrim share his Camino story brought me to tears!!

Participating in the First Coordinators Gathering in March, 2018, was an absolute joy. Everyone in Victoria was so warm and welcoming and the hospitality was top notch. I feel that the program offered and the meetings held were productive, entertaining and useful to chart a future course for the group. I would encourage a second such event before too many years pass.

I still have some outstanding minutes to finish up and some Frequently Asked Questions to polish, but I am very happy with the productivity of the CCoP in 2018. We worked hard and the results will stand the group in good stead for years to come. I am looking forward to stepping down as Secretary as I have taken on other responsibilities in other areas of my life, but I will keep my hand in by working on the Newsletters for 2019. I also hope to do a short Camino in June (still in planning stages!).

I wish all the best to the new Board of the Canadian Company of Pilgrims. If anyone has ideas for Newsletter stories please send them on to me! It would be most appreciated.

Thanks
grace