

Pre-AGM / AGM 2023 Report to the CSRDS from Historian:

I believe that something should be added to reflect what has happened over the past three years, perhaps at the end of the current CSRDS History (G-6, Page 20):

“In March of 2020, a global pandemic brought our activity to a halt. Our dance facilities were shut by government order, and limits were placed on the number of people who could gather in one place. This was done in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, a new virus that had emerged in China in 2019, and spread around the world rapidly. Initially, not much was known for sure about COVID-19, except that it was potentially deadly to many of those in the demographics of our activity.

Festival 2020, scheduled to be held in Surrey, BC at the end of July / beginning of August, was postponed to 2021 in hopes that we would be able to gather in large groups by then. The AGM for 2020 was held virtually via Zoom.

The decision to cancel Festival 2020/2021 was made with great reluctance early in 2021. It was impossible to know what restrictions would be in place in July of 2021, and it certainly didn't appear as though we would be able to meet in person in a large group. Travel was also still restricted and difficult.

The AGM for 2021 was also held virtually via Zoom. By this time, most of us were used to virtual meetings as that was pretty much all that had been held for the past two years.

Finally, in 2022, it looked like things might get back to normal. We were able to hold the 2022 Festival in Fredericton. Some attendees encountered delays in flights but those who did attend reported having a wonderful time. It was a much smaller Festival than was hoped for, but the organizers did a marvelous job considering the obstacles that they had to overcome.

Planning for Festival 2024 in Calgary is well underway, and it looks like it will be much better attended now that dancers are more comfortable travelling and gathering in groups.”

If there is anything in this that you would like to see changed, or if you have something that you think should be added, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Zeeman
Historian, CSRDS