

## Anthroposophical Society in Canada

March 26, 2020

Re: Treasurer's AGM Letter

Dear Members of the Anthroposophical Society in Canada (ASC),

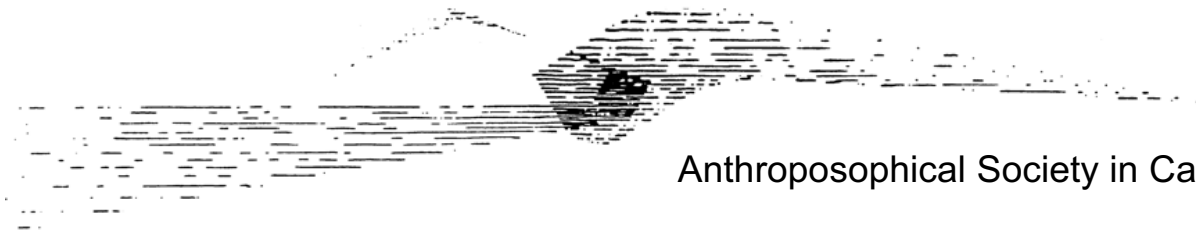
As we prepare for the 2020 AGM and Conference which was planned for May 16-18<sup>th</sup> in Vancouver, we will need to take into account the COVID-19 pandemic and what forms of AGM may be appropriate for the circumstance, including online meetings. By the time you receive this letter your Council will have clarified the go-forward plan. In the spirit of moving steadfastly forward, I ask again for your careful consideration of the Society finances outlined below, so that we the Members continue to have a clear sense of the life-blood flow of our organization.

Below we consider the 2019 core finances, update the previously approved 2020 budget to reflect a refined vision of the year so far, and look towards a budget for 2021. Enclosed you will find a spreadsheet covering these three items along with a comparison to 2018 actuals. Formal 2019 financial statements covering the entire Society (core and branches) will be posted on the website shortly.

**Please contact me well in advance of the AGM with any thoughts, ideas and questions about our Society finances. We all need to feel informed and aware in order to approve the budgets at that meeting and uphold our statutory obligations.**

### **Membership Contributions**

In 2018, 454 Members contributed totalling \$102,193. In 2019, 449 Members contributed totalling \$99,182. This was split between the Goetheanum (\$33,675) and the Canadian (National) core activities (\$65,507) in accordance with the Membership Policy and based on the old Goetheanum capitation rate of \$75/Member.



## Anthroposophical Society in Canada

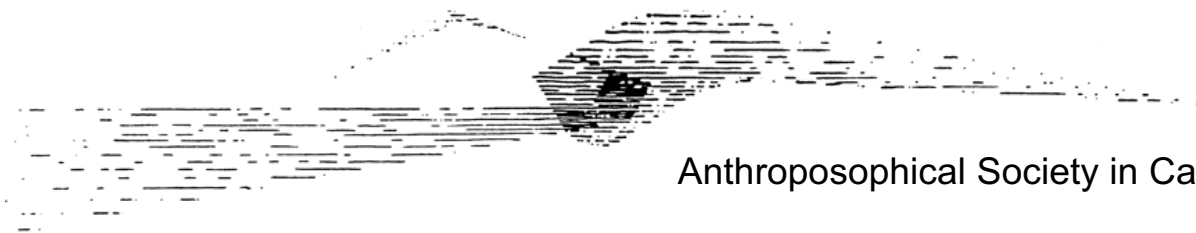
### **Core Operating Activity vs. Budget**

The largest budget deviation in 2019 was due to a shortfall on the Goetheanum top-up (Moving from \$75/Member to \$120/Member). Of the budgeted \$20,430 “Goetheanum extra”, \$5,205 was received. Given this was a request that went out at the AGM last May, many members had already contributed based on the old budget (see budget section below). For 2019, only the actual received extra amount is to be forwarded to the Goetheanum. This cancels-out the related deficit as both income and expenditures were recorded as similarly below budget.

Council operating costs trended upwards in 2019 reflecting longer travel distances given the demographics of the current slate of Council members. General operating costs trended downwards reflecting operating efficiencies in Administration and Bookkeeping. Not shown on the books are firstly, the tireless efforts of Jef Saunders helping Christine Tansley to come up to speed on the Membership Administrator role while continuing to handle Society communications. Secondly were Christine’s efficiency in streamlining her efforts, tracking her hours and authoring an administration manual to help the next incumbent.

Finally, following the brief discussion on reserves at the last AGM, Council has been more emphatic with broad support for Member initiatives in many areas. This includes increased Member travel support, special donations support and AGM and core projects initiatives. Recall that “Core” refers to direct National Society affairs and excludes local Branch and Group funds and Members’ project funds. Despite an overall Core deficit of \$5,809, reserves continue at a healthy level of \$254,014 for future activities and fiscal resilience.

In 2019, the ASC again retained its “Non-Soliciting Corporation” status (receiving less than \$10,000 in income from public (non-member) sources), enabling us to waive the accounting Review Engagement and the associated cost of \$5,000-per-year for 3 years. Each year, we are required to officially waive the Review Engagement with a formal resolution at the AGM, for which we again ask your support. In lieu of a Review Engagement, the Treasurer signs the financial statements and files them with Revenue Canada, attesting to their accuracy.



## Anthroposophical Society in Canada

### **Budgets**

The updated 2020 budget and the proposed 2021 budget are shown on the attached spreadsheets. This budget reflects last year's AGM resolution to implement the guidance of the world circle of Treasurers, setting realistic support for the actual cost of Goetheanum activities and operations at \$120 per Member, up \$45/year over the historical \$75 per Member that we have been providing for many years. At 449 contributing Members this sets a goal of \$53,880 going forward, translating to a 16% increase in the overall suggested annual Member's contribution to \$320 per Member. This is a minimum level of support that is necessary following extensive cost reductions and alternate funding innovations already undertaken at the Goetheanum. Going forward the full amount is budgeted under Membership Contributions, "Goetheanum - basic", and was already reflected in this year's contribution forms that went out in January. Let us see what we are able to do as a whole membership, knowing the ask of the world treasurers at the beginning of the year (see the Treasurer's new year letter). This will be a discussion item going forward: "What is the relationship between Goetheanum support and National needs?" In the meantime, please consider the new recommended Member contribution for 2020 of \$320 as you are able.

Please review these important budgets carefully, and let me know of any questions, concerns or suggestions you may have, before we adopt them by formal resolution at the AGM. Council looks forward to whatever form of AGM is announced (including the possibilities of "hearing your voice" by proxy or in person at a later date).

With warm regards,

John Glanzer  
Treasurer, for the Council