



## **Report of the Committee on the past year**

Dear APCA V Members, dear Verbier owners,

What a year 2020 has been! At our Ordinary General Meeting last December, we were far from suspecting what was in store for us. Referring to philosophical and religious traditions, according to which numbers carry a hidden meaning, a message, we could well predict that 2020 would not be an ordinary year. This proved to be true.

This coronavirus seemed remote to us at first. We observed through our screens its effects on the Chinese population, just as we are often detached spectators of many events around the world. Then, we realized that we are all part of a large ecosystem and that, whatever our origins, our socio-cultural background, we are all interrelated. At the beginning of January, the Coronavirus seemed far away, we felt little concerned. It was probably already in Verbier, without us knowing it. Then, the wave came closer. While it was already hitting Italy with full force, less than 200 kilometers away from us, we continued to party in Verbier. We thought we might have escaped the onslaught, but that was not the case.

Much criticized for being a cluster of the virus, Verbier also proved to be a refuge for many families, especially for us, owners of chalets and apartments in the area. This allowed some to discover the Bagnes Valley in a different way, either by staying longer than usual or during periods of the year to which they were not accustomed. It has also helped to enhance the contribution of second home owners in Verbier and throughout the Valais.

The local partners, in particular the Commune and the Tourist Office, have recognized this contribution. In order to thank the owners for their loyalty, a VIP Pass designed specifically for them was created this year. This is the "VIP Pass Ambassadeur", with exclusive advantages during both the winter and summer seasons. Other actions are also being studied to enhance the value of the owners' contribution and discussions are underway on this subject with the APCA V.

To date, after a relatively mild summer and autumn when life had almost returned to normal, the pandemic has again accelerated with the arrival of cold days. The least we can say is that we are navigating by sight, as there are still many unknowns about the evolution of the pandemic.

The authorities and partners of the Commune of Bagnes are doing everything possible to welcome their guests in the best conditions, respecting all the necessary health safety



protocols. The task is arduous and there is a possibility of mishaps, such as the agglutination, at one time of the day, of skiers at the departure of the Châble gondolas on the first weekend of December.

Verbier is aware that it is in the spotlight and that if this type of mistake is repeated, the ski facilities may be closed, not to mention the impact on the reputation of our beautiful Commune, which was already damaged last March.

This is why we are all responsible for adopting the right behaviour if we wish to continue to enjoy the advantages we have in Verbier. There are of course restrictions but also many benefits that many people around the world have had to give up for the moment. It is up to us to preserve this situation.

We, the owners, also have a role to play. As gatherings will be forbidden in bars and restaurants, there will be a great temptation to organize them in private chalets and apartments during the festive season. However, it is known that this is probably one of the main sources of the spread of the virus. It is therefore up to all of us to remain disciplined in order to avoid a resurgence of the pandemic with the consequences that will surely follow.

As far as APCA V and its activities are concerned, we have focused this year on providing you with relevant information, both through our Newsletter and our website. We encourage all our members who have not yet done so to provide us with their email address so that we can send them our newsletter.

Due to the health situation, we did not organize a summer general meeting and had to cancel the one in December. Rest assured, however, that as soon as conditions permit, we will resume the normal course of our two general meetings per year.

We have maintained close contact with the various players in the resort, particularly through the Société de Développement de Verbier, of which our President is a member of the committee.

Finally, it should be noted that 2020 is the last year of Eloi Rossier's presidency, which will be replaced at the head of the future Commune of Val de Bagnes by Christophe Maret. We would like to thank Eloi Rossier, who has always made it a point of honor to participate in our two annual general meetings and has diligently handled our various requests.

Concerning the APCA V's accounts for the 2019/20 financial year, a profit of CHF 7'983.43 was made, significantly higher than the budgeted amount. This is mainly due to the fact that we did not organize the summer general meeting or the other events we had planned for 2020. On the



other hand, income (membership fees) and other expenses are generally in line with the budget.

As for the 2020/21 budget, it is in continuity with the previous budget, hoping that the health situation will allow us to organize the planned assemblies and events.

You will find attached to this letter the accounts 2019/20, the budget 2020/21 as well as the report of the auditor, Lloyd Gabioud of the fiduciary Fimob au Châble, who recommends the approval of the accounts and proposes to give discharge to the committee for its management.

The different points usually submitted to the general assembly are included in the attached voting form.

Finally, we would like to point out that, not being able to meet our members at the end of the year, we have asked the usual speakers, namely Eloi Rossier for the Commune of Bagnes, Simon Wiget for the Tourist Office and Laurent Vaucher of Téléverbier SA, to send us a few words in a video that will be published on our website soon. The future President, Christophe Maret, will also speak. We therefore invite you to visit our website [www.apcav.ch](http://www.apcav.ch) in the coming days.

We thank you for your confidence.

On behalf of the Committee

Brigitte Borel  
President