

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1

April 1 - June 30

2016

## President's Message



MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION OF SASKATCHEWAN

# Board & Staff Quarterly Report

I hope everyone keeps up on the latest news from MAS Ephemera, promoting your events, job postings, news from other agencies, funding, activities and information and professional development. Just submit your information to be posted to the MAS office. If at any time you would like a board member to attend one of your events, we will do our best to accommodate you. Just let someone at the MAS office know.

This summer we are losing May Lin Polk, our Museum Advisor, to France and her Fiancée. She will be missed by all. We would like to extend our gratitude to her for her hard work and dedication to the museums across our great province.

Please join the Board in welcoming our two new staff members Emma Morris, Community Engagement Coordinator and Kathleen Watkin, Museums Advisor.

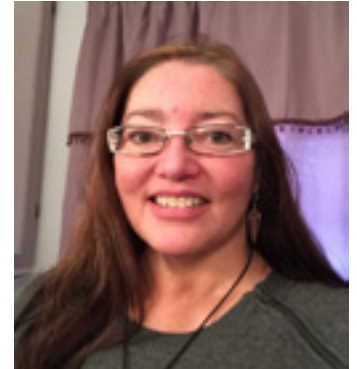
Our annual Conference and AGM – “The Inclusive Museum” was held in Prince Albert this year for two-and-a-half days. Thank you to our hosts for sharing your museums with us. We also attended the unveiling of the new

“Wolf” statue by Joe Fafard at the Mann Art Gallery. We listened to interesting stories by the McNabb family of their First Nations Culture at the Prince Albert Heritage Museum. We toured the countryside in search of the Forks of the North and South SK river and had a nice picnic lunch at the site. We also enjoyed our keynote speakers Linda Norris - Journey To An Essential Museum, Kristen Catherwood - Heritage Saskatchewan, Ern Beiman-CHIN, Dean Kush - SaskCulture, Linda Ahenakew - Office of the Treaty Commissioner, and Rhonda Rosenberg – MCoS. Our speakers gave us knowledge and tools to move towards a more inclusive museum.

At our Conference this year, we presented a Lifetime Achievement Award to Jeremy Morgan. Congratulations again Jeremy!

We are still in the process of creating other categories for awards as we discussed at our Members Forum. It will be interesting to see all the things you have suggested and to come up with a plan.

Next year will be a mini-conference and AGM in Regina. I really



recommend attendance as there is so much information to take back to your home museum. Register early!

I would like to extend gratitude to our outgoing Members of the Board. Firstly, Rhonda Lamb, Past President, RCMP Historical Collections Unit, “Depot” Division, for all her years of dedication and commitment as well as her wide knowledge base that she continually shared with us. Julie Jackson, Western Development Museum, with us for two years, will

The Museums Association of Saskatchewan's Board & Staff Quarterly Report is published in September, January and March. The Annual Report is issued in May.

For more information, please contact us at:

Museums Association of  
Saskatchewan  
424 McDonald Street  
Regina, SK S4N 6E1  
1-866-568-7386  
[www.saskmuseums.org](http://www.saskmuseums.org)



be missed as a valued member. We also lost two other members early last year whose positions we have now filled. Thanks again to Corinne Bokitch and Gail Marie Anderson.

We welcome Teresa Carlson, from the Diefenbaker House in Saskatoon. Teresa has served one year already, and the Board has elected her Vice President. Also, Darlene Brown, from the Kamsack Power House Museum, Corinne Daelick from the WDM, and Merissa Scarlett from the SK Science Centre, we look forward to working with you. The board held its orientation meeting in July.

We are continually on the look-out for new Board members as we do have term limits - three two-year terms. If you are interested in joining and have skills to offer in the field of governance policy, please contact Wendy Fitch or the MAS office. We also have positions on board committees where you would gain experience with our governance process and share your expertise.

This year the Canadian Museums Association annual conference was held in Halifax. Wendy Fitch and I had the great opportunity to attend, as well as Teresa Carlson who was sponsored

by her employer. Wendy and I attended the Executive Council meeting with our counterparts from the other provinces. It was a day long meeting and very productive. It was interesting to see what they were doing in other parts of the country and great to know that Saskatchewan is in the lead on many programs, such as Inclusivity. Keep up the great work!

It has been an interesting year for us all, until next time, enjoy the remainder of your summer!

Regards,  
Yvonne Hotzak  
President

## Conference 2017

Mark your calendars for the 2017 MAS Mini-Conference & Annual General Meeting to be held in Regina, May 26th

## Board of Directors

### President

Yvonne Hotzak,  
Fort Pelly Livingstone  
Museum, Pelly

### Vice President

Teresa Carlson,  
Diefenbaker Canada  
Centre

### Past President

Robert Hubick, Regina

### Directors

Chad Debert,  
Government House,  
Regina

Stephanie Kaduck,  
Swift Current Museum,  
Swift Current

Carol Prentice,  
Deep South Pioneer  
Museum, Ogema

Dr. Evelyn Siegfried,  
Royal Saskatchewan  
Museum, Regina

Darlene Brown,  
Kamsack Powerhouse  
Museum, Kamsack

Corinne Daelick,  
WDM Curatorial  
Centre, Saskatoon

Merissa Scarlett,  
Sask. Science Centre,  
Regina

## Office Report

*"Because it's summer and the memories are just waiting to happen."*

- Unknown

As expected spring was a busy time for all of us in the MAS office with the conference & AGM in Prince Albert just one example. Read on and see some of the things we were doing between April 1st and July 1st.

While not actually happening in the quarter being reported I do have important news to share. We have two new staffers at MAS!

Kathleen Watkin has joined us as Museums Advisor taking over from May-Lin Polk who has left us to move to Paris. Emma Morris has also joined the MAS staff as Community Engagement Coordinator. This is a new position which takes the place of the previous Communications position.

Find out more about both Kathleen and Emma on the MAS website: [www.saskmuseums.org](http://www.saskmuseums.org)

### Community Leadership

#### SaskCulture

Wendy Fitch, Executive Director attended the June 16th SaskCulture session for the sixteen Eligible Cultural Organizations who have participated to date in the Diversity Planning Initiative. Attendees shared their experiences developing

and implementing their diversity plans. The Ex. Dir. also attended a meeting on June 17th between all Eligible Cultural Organizations and the seven Sport, Culture & Recreation Districts. This session provided participants from the various organizations with a chance to share information about themselves and begin to explore opportunities for working together in the future.

The ED and President Yvonne Hotzak attended the SaskCulture Eligible Cultural Organizations meeting and AGM June 17th. Lyndon Linklater, member of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner Speakers Bureau provided the keynote presentation introducing attendees to Treaties from the Indigenous perspective. As well, information was provided by SaskCulture staff on three programs – Culture Days, Creative Kids and the Diversity Initiative.

At the SaskCulture AGM the ten person Board was elected. They are: Joanne McDonald President, Pat Grayston Past President, Gwen Machnee, Adrian Halter, Sekwun Ahenakew, Lauren Stead, K. James Rose, Shakeel Akhtar, Pratyush Das and Devon Coles.

#### Canadian Museums Association

We were well represented at the Canadian Museums Association's

## Staff

Wendy Fitch  
Executive Director

Brenda Herman  
Director of Finance

Eleanor Radbourne  
Administration Assistant

Dan Holbrow  
Professional Development  
Coordinator

Kathleen Watkin  
Museums Advisor

Emma Morris  
Community Engagement  
Coordinator

annual conference April 11th to 15th in Halifax. Vice-President Yvonne Hotzak, ED Wendy Fitch, and board member Teresa Carlson, as well as four other Saskatchewanians were in attendance.

This year's theme was "Inspiring Solutions". The ED attended a pre-conference workshop entitled "Introduction to Questionnaire Design" which focused largely on the intricacies involved in designing 'good' questionnaire questions. Keynote speakers and conference sessions offered a diverse look at how museums need to change in

order to meet the challenges the future holds. As well, there were plenty of opportunities to network with colleagues from all parts of the country.

Both MAS Vice President and ED attended a meeting of all of the Provincial/Territorial Museum Associations able to send representatives along with representatives from CMA. A number of items were discussed including: updates on the federal budget; Canada 150; advocacy – specifically the upcoming House of Commons Committee for Canadian Heritage Study on Community Museums; National Training policy; and Sector Research Needs.

### **Saskatchewan Eco-Museum Initiative**

MAS continues to participate in the provincial Eco-Museum Initiative with the ED a member of the steering committee along with representatives of Heritage Canada – The National Trust, SaskCulture, Heritage Saskatchewan and the Royal Saskatchewan Museum. Members of the Eco-Museum Steering Committee were invited to participate in the Regional Centre for Expertise (RCE) awards ceremony held at the Treaty Four Centre in Fort Qu'Appelle on May 4th. The RCE is part of an international network of centres based in institutions of advanced education that focus on education for sustainable development.

### **Networks**

All eleven Networks held their

spring meetings during this quarter with MAS staff attending most of the meetings. Dates have been set for the Fall meetings and will be announced in E-Phemera as those dates grow closer. If you want to be a part of a Network or want to know more about the program contact the MAS office at 306-780-9279 or [mas@saskmuseums.org](mailto:mas@saskmuseums.org)

## **Capacity Development**

### **Courses and Workshops**

Three Certificate Program courses were offered this quarter – Research, Exhibit Design and Collections Management.

In addition we offered a one-day session on “Art Handling” which provided participants with best practices for the handling, storage and display of art works.

The “Telling Difficult Stories” workshop had to be postponed due to scheduling difficulties with the instructor.

### **Advisory**

The Museums Advisor was kept busy during this quarter. In addition to fielding questions via email and telephone May-Lin made one advisory visit and attended most of the spring Network meetings. In addition she was the Lead on the Collections Management Initiative – database project.

### **Networks**

The Network Knowledge Exchange presentation this year was on Artefact Labelling. This learning

opportunity was based upon the new MAS Tip-Sheet, How to Label Historic Artifacts. All members received the Tip Sheet. As well, they are available online under Links and Online Resources on the Members Only page of the MAS website. This learning opportunity generated a lot of productive discussions; if any members would like to discuss artefact labelling more in depth, they should contact the Museums Advisor at 306-780-9266 or [advisor@saskmuseums.org](mailto:advisor@saskmuseums.org).

There was a Networker Meeting on May 25, which was attended by 11 Networkers and Co-Networkers representing 10 Networks. This time allowed the Networkers to meet and learn the ins and outs of running a Network. May-Lin Polk also attended the meeting and provided information to the Networkers to share with their groups. If you are interested in being a part of a Network, please contact MAS at 306-780-9279.

### **Resource Library**

New books are always being added to the Resource Library. We are working to make the website more searchable, however, in the meantime, please give us a call if you cannot find the resource that you are looking for on the members only section MAS website. We are also open to suggestions if you think a book should be added to our collection.

Also operating within the Resource Library is the Environmental Monitoring Equipment program. Four pieces of equipment are

available for borrowing by members to monitor and record the conditions in which their collections live - aspects that can be monitored include Relative Humidity, Temperature, UV, and Visible Light. Please give us a call if you would like to use them.

In addition, we have two types of Oral History kits available for loan through the Resource Library. One contains both audio and video recording equipment while the other contains only audio recording equipment. Please call us if you would like to borrow one of the kits.

### **SaskCollections - Collections Management Initiative**

Phase one of the project has been completed with the creation of the database and its initial piloting with a small group of member institutions. Staff are now in the final stages of evaluating the pilot phase and preparing the process for Phase Two. It is in Phase Two that we will have in place a process for making the database available to members who are ready to use it.

For upcoming Professional Development and training activities check the Education Calendar which will be published shortly and is sent to all MAS Institutional members. Alternatively you can find it on our website: [www.saskmuseums.org](http://www.saskmuseums.org)

## **Collective Voice**

### **Conference**

The 2016 Conference & AGM was held in Prince Albert May 26th to 28th. This year's conference and AGM attracted 63 delegates from more than 40 Saskatchewan museums and cultural organizations. A huge thank you to everyone who made our conference a success, including all of our Prince Albert hosts and, of course, our sponsors - SaskCulture, Saskatchewan Lotteries and Canadian Heritage. On Friday we went on our bus tour. We toured through the City of Prince Albert with a lunch stop overlooking the spot where the North and South Saskatchewan Rivers join and become the Saskatchewan River. Our tour ended with an opportunity to listen to Elders speak at the Prince Albert Historical Museum. Thanks to everyone for making us feel so welcome, and special thanks to the local arrangements committee headed by Michelle Taylor from the PA Historical Museum and Jesse Campbell from the Mann Gallery.

We hope everyone had time to network with colleagues and were able to take home lots of ideas about how to reach out to different demographics in their community. Thanks again to everyone who attended and helped make this year's conference a success. We hope to see you next year at the mini-conference & AGM in Regina!

This year we awarded an Honorary Lifetime Achievement Award to Mr. Jeremy Morgan for his work with Wanuskewin Heritage Park, Mackenzie Art Gallery, SK Arts Board and SK Council of Cultural Organizations (precursor to SaskCulture). It was a great pleasure to show our appreciation to Jeremy for his years of support for the Saskatchewan Museum Sector both as a funder and as the CEO of two of our members.

### **Publications**

We were pleased to publish Museums & Sustainability – Cultivating a Sustainable Museum Collection this spring. In this issue we look at how museums' collections affect their sustainability and constitute another important piece to consider as museums work towards being an integral part of a resilient, inclusive community. With articles on The Sask Aviation Museum, Sustainable Storage and Conservation, working artefacts, First Nations Language Keepers Conference, intangible cultural heritage and the transmission of tradition and the Grasslands Project, this issue showcases just how wide-ranging museum collections and their roles are both within museums and within the community at large. Copies of any or all Museums & Sustainability publications – including Cultivating a Sustainable Museum Collection are available through the MAS Store on the MAS website [www.saskmuseums.org](http://www.saskmuseums.org) or by contacting the office 306-780-9279 or [mas@saskmuseums.org](mailto:mas@saskmuseums.org).

## Events

MAS staff attended the following events during this quarter:

- Youth Heritage Fairs – Regina Regional Fair
- Government House 125 Exhibit Opening
- Canadian Museums Association Conference & Annual Meeting - Halifax
- Governance of Cultural Policy Conference – U of S
- RCE Awards – Treaty 4 Centre, Ft. Qu'Appelle
- Earl and Countess of Wessex Royal Visit Welcome Luncheon
- Architectural Heritage Awards – Government House
- Willow Bunch Museum Exhibit Opening
- Addison Sod House Provincial Site Consultation meeting - Kindersley
- Living Heritage: Truth & Reconciliation through Sharing of Stories Symposium
- Johnson Shoyama Graduate School for Public Policy & Heritage SK – Royal Saskatchewan Museum
- Esterhazy Museum Annual Meeting
- Meeting of the Minds Conference
- Voluntary Sector Studies Network (VSSN) and the Saskatchewan Nonprofit and Partnership (SNP) - Luther College at the University of Regina

In addition to the above, E-Phemera was sent out as scheduled, one issue of

Megaphone was published, and the website and Facebook pages were updated regularly.

## Operations

### Funding

The 3-year Annual Global Funding program application was successful. We received the first instalment of our funding April 15th.

### Staffing

As noted earlier with the departure of May-Lin Polk in July after 4 years we are pleased to announce that Kathleen Watkin has joined the MAS team as our Museums Advisor. You can reach Kathleen at: [advisor@saskmuseums.org](mailto:advisor@saskmuseums.org) or 306-780-9266. We have also hired Emma Morris as our new Community Engagement Coordinator. You can reach Emma at: [communications@saskmuseums.org](mailto:communications@saskmuseums.org) or 306-780-9451.

We were very pleased to host Vincent Houghteling on a work placement with MAS for May and June. He worked primarily with PD Coordinator Dan Holbrow on a variety of projects as well as attending the conference in Prince Albert.

### Education Calendar Highlights

Certificate Program in Community Museum Studies:

- Research (Melfort, April 29)
- Exhibit Design (North Battleford, June 17-18)
- Collections Management (Yorkton, June 24)

Special Topic Courses:

- Introduction to Art Handling and Storage (Regina, May 6)

### Social Media Stats:



Twitter Followers 1,121



Facebook 'likes' 533



Toll-Free: 1-866-568-7386

E-mail: [mas@saskmuseums.org](mailto:mas@saskmuseums.org)

Mail: 424 McDonald Street, Regina SK S4N 6E1



Canadian  
Heritage

Patrimoine  
canadien