The MAS Board of Directors held a board meeting on April 21-22, 2017 in Regina. The meeting was held at the MAS office on the 21st and at Government House on the 22nd.

Key results of the April meeting were:

• The Ends Report was presented by Wendy Fitch, Executive Director.

• The financial statements presented for March 31st were in draft form because of the yearend audit that is in process.

• The CMA conference was held April 4-7, 2017 in Ottawa, Ontario. This conference was the 70th Anniversary. The Provincial Associations met with CMA. The meeting was well attended with all 10 provinces and Yukon having representation. Wendy Fitch and Yvonne Hotzak attended from MAS.

• Stuff, Stuff, Stories, and Strategies for the Future – A Networking & Planning Event for Saskatchewan Ecomuseums and other Community-Engaged Museums is taking place in Regina April 27-29, 2017. MAS staff attended and two made presentations during the event.

• A motion was made to acknowledge Robert Hubick’s resignation from the MAS Board of Directors effective immediately when he left the province to accept a position in Alberta.

• There was a discussion regarding the Provincial Budget which was presented in the Legislature in March. It is too soon to tell what the impacts will be but there was general consensus that there will likely be some impact to MAS members with the changes that were indicated. The impact on MAS and members of the provincial budget will be tracked over the coming year.

• The Board undertook the monitoring of the Ends and several Governance Process & Board/Executive Director Relationship and Executive Limitation policies in accordance with their monitoring schedule.

• In order to ensure a smooth transition for the incoming Board continuing Board members were selected to become Board Buddies to assist the newly elected board members in the coming year. There was also discussion regarding changes to the executive.

• Wendy outlined the schedule of the upcoming MAS conference. The conference will be at the RCMP Heritage Centre in Regina on May 26th, 2017. The conference hotel is the Four Points by Sheraton where the Network Reps, Collections Database participants and the Board will all have meetings the day prior to the conference. There will be an HLM Award and some Certificate Program Awards this year. Members Forum questions/ideas were discussed as well.

• The Department of Canadian Heritage is again undertaking a Survey of Heritage Institutions and has asked for our assistance in promoting it with our members. MAS is happy to assist given the usefulness of the data coming out of these surveys and that Can. Heritage shares the information free of charge. One change in this year’s survey is the addition of a section asking demographic information which will provide baseline data which will be useful in our planning activities.

• The House of Common’s Standing Committee for Canadian Heritage’s planned study of Museums has been postponed to the fall, possibly September, because of a number of other issues which have
been sent for their comment including the wording changes to the national anthem, the publishing industry, copyright. The SK member on the committee – Kevin Waugh, asked to meet with MAS on a recent trip to Regina and provided an update on the committee’s activities.

• The Governance Pulse Tool was reviewed and updated.

• The following Committees gave their updates: Nominations Committee, Audit Committee, Board Risk Management Committee, Board Procedures Manual Committee, Ownership Linkages Committee, Awards Committee, 50th Anniversary Committee.

• There will be a number of new Board members after this AGM because: 2 board members who have completed their 3 2-year terms (Carol Prentice, Stephanie Kaduck); 1 member stepping down after completing 2 terms (Chad Debert); and one member has resigned because he left the province (Robert Hubick). Two members have put their names forward to run for another term (Yvonne Hotzak & Evelyn Siegfried).

If you have any comments or questions, you can contact us by telephone, mail, or email.

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