

# President's Message



## Board & Staff Quarterly Report

As the beauty of our autumn unfolds in the reds, golds, greens, and burgundies, the winds blow and lay a carpet of multicolored leaves. A sight to behold and not unlike our new plans for Diversity and Inclusion for our Saskatchewan Museums. Hopefully all that amazing performance is reflected in our Culture Days activities which have come and gone for another year. MAS Board of Directors believes that many museums were able to participate in some fashion and with great success. Our goal is to continue to communicate with the other cultures in our communities and include them in our organizations.

I would also like to extend a warm welcome to Corinne Daelick of the Western Development Museum, Darlene Brown of the Kamsack Powerhouse Museum, and Merissa Scarlett of the Sask. Science Centre, who have all joined our Board of Directors this year.

Through the month of October, the Board members have chosen to attend at least one network meeting each, again this year. We will bring greetings from the Board, as well as a bit more on the Association's Diversity

and Inclusion initiatives. We will also speak about Nominations for our next year's Board as there are 5 positions that will be up for election. If you feel you have a special skill set to offer or even if you have an interest in joining a committee, just to get a feel for board work, we would be happy to discuss your queries. Also, you may contact MAS and speak to the staff members to add your name as a potential nominee. We are always looking towards the future.

The focus for the Board this year, as you may have already surmised is Diversity and Inclusion. At every second Board meeting we incorporate a professional development component. At our last Board meeting, the staff of MAS and the Board came together to understand more about First Nations history and culture across Canada but mainly focusing on Saskatchewan. A few tips were also given in how to approach and deal with First Nations Peoples with respect to their cultures. Regarding the Truth and Reconciliation Papers, articles 67 to 70 which specifically refer to Museums and Archives. Of course, there are other areas in the papers that can be linked to museums. Our

meeting in the New Year will focus on connecting to the Newcomers to our country. If you have any questions in these particular areas, our MAS staff will answer your queries or guide you to a reliable source.

The Board will also be focusing on our Ownership Linkage, Succession planning, Diversity and ensuring our ends statements reflect cultural diversity, as well as Board self-evaluation. In the Diversity Plan, we are including training sessions to build the Board's knowledge base enabling us to set the direction for the Association. As you see we have already started with the First Nations educational session.

In September, our Executive Director Wendy Fitch, Teresa Carlson,

The Museums Association of Saskatchewan's Board & Staff Quarterly Report is published in July, October and January. 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)



Vice-President and myself paid a fruitful visit to Kevin Waugh's office to discuss the House of Commons Standing Committee for Canadian Heritage who are currently conducting a study of small museums. MP Waugh represents the Saskatoon Grasswood riding and is a member of the Committee. We had a very good discussion about the issues facing Saskatchewan's small museums and look forward to the completion of their study.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to extend sincere wishes for a wonderful Christmas season, and the very best to you in the upcoming year.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Hotzak  
President, Board of Directors



Dr. Evelyn Siegfried, Carol Prentice, Stephanie Kaduk, Robert Hubick, Corrine Daelick, Yvonne Hotzak, Merissa Scarlett, Teresa Carlson, Darlene Brown

## Conference 2017

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

## Board of Directors

### President

Yvonne Hotzak,  
Fort Pelly Livingstone  
Museum, Pelly

### Vice President

Teresa Carlson,  
Diefenbaker Canada  
Centre, Saskatoon

### 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

*The most powerful words in English are 'Tell me a story,' words that are intimately related to the complexity of history, the origins of language, the continuity of the species, the taproot of our humanity, our singularity, and art itself. – Pat Conroy*

Well, we're gearing up for the busy fall season in the MAS office with courses, workshops and Network meetings. Read on and see some of the things we were doing between July 1st and October 1st.

### Community Leadership

#### SaskCulture

Wendy Fitch, Executive Director and Kathleen Watkin, Museums Advisor attended a September 1st meeting with SaskCulture staff to discuss the changes to the Museum Grant Program. This was a very productive meeting and we were pleased with the changes that have been made to the application questions and feel the online process will be of great benefit to applicants.

#### 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.

#### Networks

The Networks will be holding their fall meetings during October with MAS staff and Board members attending the meetings. As well, a representative from SaskCulture will attend the meetings to give a presentation on the new application form and online application process for the Museum Grant Program. Dates for the Spring meetings will be announced in E-Phemera as those dates grow closer. The Network Knowledge Exchange session at the spring meetings will be on the Collections Self-Assessment workbook. If you want to be a part of a Network or want to know more about the program contact the Emma Morris at 306-780-9451 or [communications@saskmuseums.org](mailto:communications@saskmuseums.org).

### Capacity Development

#### Courses and Workshops

A series of three two-day Intangible Cultural Heritage Workshops were offered in Indian Head, Swift Current and at Wanuskewin Heritage Park. Dale Jarvis, Intangible Cultural Heritage Development Officer for the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador and Kristin Catherwood, Intangible Cultural Heritage Development Officer for Heritage Saskatchewan co-facilitated the workshops.

In addition we offered a one day symposium 'Museum' vs 'Gallery':

## Staff

Wendy Fitch  
Executive Director

Brenda Herman  
Director of Finance

Eleanor Radbourne  
Administration Assistant

Dan Holbrow  
Program Director

Kathleen Watkin  
Museums Advisor

Emma Morris  
Community Engagement  
Coordinator

Exploring Boundaries and Building Bridges which explored the similarities and the differences between museums and galleries.

#### Advisory

The Museums Advisor was kept busy during this quarter. In addition to fielding questions via email and telephone Kathleen made her first advisory visit to Oxbow.

#### 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 two of the project is beginning with the addition of approximately 5 members to the user group. A meeting of the initial pilot users has been planned for later this fall.

For more information about SaskCollections contact Kathleen Watkin 306-780-9266 or advisor@saskmuseums.org

For upcoming Professional Development and training activities check the Education Calendar which was mailed to all MAS Institutional members. Alternatively you can find it on our website: www.saskmuseums.org



Eleanor Radbourne, Brenda Herman, Wendy Fitch, Kathleen Watkin, Emma Morris, Dan Holbrow

**Collective Voice**

The ED along with the President Yvonne Hotzak and V-P Teresa Carlson met with MP Kevin Waugh – member of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage. The Standing Committee has undertaken to study small museums in Canada. As MAS is unable to travel to Ottawa to testify before the Committee we asked to speak with Mr. Waugh on the current situation in Saskatchewan and present recommendations for the Committee’s consideration. For more information contact Wendy Fitch at 307-780-9280 or wendy.fitch@saskmuseums.org

**Events**

MAS staff attended the following events during this quarter:

- Saskatchewan Digital Alliance – Dan
- Dysart Museum Annual Ladies Tea – Wendy
- White Butte Eco-museum steering comm. – Wendy & Kathleen
- Retirement celebration for Delores Cutler (Rusty Relics Museum) – Wendy
- Canadian Association of Conservator’s conference Planning meetings – Kathleen

- Imagine Canada Information Session – Wendy
- SaskCulture MGP workshop – Weyburn – Dan, Emma, Kathleen
- Government House 125 Anniversary ‘At Home’ – Wendy
- Main Street Program new member announcement - Emma

In addition to the above, E-Phemera was sent out as scheduled, and the website and Facebook pages were updated regularly.

**Operations**

**Staffing**

Staff continue to develop risk management policies and procedures. Operational planning has also begun for the next three-year cycle in line with the MAS strategic plan.

Staff went on an excursion on the Southern Prairie Railway out of Ogema in August. We had a run in with ‘Bonnie & Clyde,’ a lovely Italian meal and enjoyed a beautiful prairie sunset.

**Education Calendar Highlights**

Special Topic Courses:

Symposium - “Museum and Gallery: Exploring Boundaries and Building Bridges,” September 23 at the Moose Jaw Museum and Art Gallery. It featured presentations from a range of museum, gallery, and science centre professionals from around the province.

Intangible Cultural Heritage Workshops, September 19-20 at the Indian Head Heritage Club, 22-23 at the Swift Current Museum, and 26-27 at Wanuskewin Heritage Park. Newfoundland’s Intangible Cultural Heritage Development Officer Dale Jarvis, together with Heritage Saskatchewan’s ICH Development Officer Kristin Catherwood facilitated these courses.

**Social Media Stats:**

 Twitter Followers 1,176  
 Facebook ‘likes’ 542  
 Instagram Followers 51



Toll-Free: 1-866-568-7386  
 E-mail: mas@saskmuseums.org  
 Mail: 424 McDonald Street  
 Regina, SK  
 S4N 6E1

