

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Happy New Year to all! I hope all of you had a great Christmas! I know that I will have a great New Year spending three weeks in Mexico this month. I will think of you all as I am basking in the sun or swimming in the ocean. Here's hoping that everyone gets a chance to recharge, rest, and relax at some point.

The Board attended a number of network meetings this past fall. It is always great to make connections with all of you! Hearing how your summer plans worked out for you and your future plans or any changes you may have planned for this coming year is always exciting for us. We love to hear about your successes and celebrate them with you, as well as any problems or challenges you may

be encountering. We would like to help out in any way we are able.

We continue to monitor all our work as usual, making any changes that may be required to keep us up to date and relevant. As you may know, we have been working on the board work plan at every meeting, revising, re-editing and updating.

There are four positions on the Board that are up for election this year. I believe that all our present board members are planning on staying for another term, but we still look for interested members with viable skill sets for our board. Maybe you would like to run this year or even next year. Another choice may be that you can learn more about the Board and its work by joining one of our committees. Then maybe run to be on the Board next term. Either way, all inquiries are welcome. You can contact Wendy, our Executive Director, for further information and then we will speak with you.

We have also written policies regarding the Past-President and Vice President. These will be presented at the next AGM for member approval. The staff, along with Wendy, are working diligently on the next AGM in Humboldt and we will see more regarding the conference as time progresses. I am hoping that we, as the Board, will get to enjoy your presence at the AGM. Not only is it "The more the Merrier" but it is so good to share thoughts and ideas and learn more about what is relevant in our ever-changing world.

So once again, All the very Best to all for this New Year 2018!!

May it be full of love, happiness and prosperity!!

Yvonne Hotzak  
MAS BOD President

The MAS Board & Staff Quarterly Report is published in July, October and January. The Annual Report is issued in May.

For more information, please contact us:  
mas@saskmuseums.org  
(306) 780 - 9279  
1-866-568-7386

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## President

**Yvonne Hotzak**

Fort Pelly Livingstone  
Museum, Pelly

## Vice President

**Teresa Carlson**

Diefenbaker Canada  
Centre, Saskatoon

## Directors:

**Dr. Evelyn Siegfried**

Royal Saskatchewan  
Museum, Regina

**Darlene Brown**

Kamsack Powerhouse  
Museum, Kamsack

**Corinne Daelick**

Western Development  
Museum, Saskatoon

**Merissa Scarlett**

Regina

**Tracene Harvey**

Museum of Antiquities,  
Saskatoon

**Amber Andersen**

Estevan Art Gallery and  
Museum, Estevan

**Jennifer Matotek**

Dunlop Art Gallery, Regina

**Katrina Howick**

Moose Jaw Public Library,  
Moose Jaw

# OFFICE REPORT

As one year came to an end the MAS staff were busy preparing for the new year. Read on and see some of the things we were doing between October 1st and December 31st.

## COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP SaskCulture

Both the Executive Director and Museums Advisor met with SaskCulture staff during this quarter. Mainly these were opportunities to get caught up with our respective organizations particularly the fact that the MGP will be open for applications in the fall of 2018.

## Saskatchewan Eco-Museum Initiative

MAS continues to participate in the provincial Eco-Museum Initiative. The ED is a member of the SEP along with representatives from Heritage Canada – The National Trust, SaskCulture, SK Parks and Rec Assoc., Heritage Saskatchewan, Nature Saskatchewan and the Royal Saskatchewan Museum. As well, MAS now coordinates the SK Eco-Museum Network on behalf of SEP. The SK Eco-Museum Network provides any group or community identifying as an eco-museum or working towards that goal a digital place to meet, share information and ask questions. If you want to be a part of the SK Eco-Museum Network or want to know more about the program contact Michelle Brownridge at 306-780-9451 or [community@saskmuseums.org](mailto:community@saskmuseums.org).

“Winter is the time for stories, staying fast by the glow of fire. And outside, in the darkness, the stars are brighter than you can possibly imagine.”

-Isabel Greenberg

## Networks

The Networks held their fall meetings during this quarter with MAS staff and Board members attending almost all of the meetings. Staff missed one Network meeting because of double booking. Dates have been set for the Spring meetings and will be announced in E-Phemera as those dates grow closer. The Network Knowledge Exchange session at the spring meetings will be on the impacts on museums of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People. If you want to be a part of a Network or want to know more about the program contact Michelle Brownridge at 306-780-9451 or [community@saskmuseums.org](mailto:community@saskmuseums.org).

## National Trust for Canada

The Executive Director attended the National Trust for Canada in Ottawa which included a day long Indigenous Roundtable focused on the concerns specific to the Anishinaabe people. This was of special significance as Ottawa is located on unceded Anishinaabe territory. She also attended the National Council Meeting which brings together senior national and provincial heritage organizations. At this meeting Board and Staff of the National Trust met with participants to discuss a variety of common concerns including an midterm update on the federal government from their advocacy advisor and a discussion of possible changes to their awards program. Both of these meetings were in conjunction with the National Trust for Canada's annual conference 2017 – CAPITALizing on Heritage.

## CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

### Courses and Workshops

This year's Peer Exchange was scheduled for November 3 but had to be cancelled due to weather concerns.

### Certificate Program

Museums 101 was offered on-line for a month beginning November 6.

Marketing the Museum took place in Melfort October 13.

Organization and Management took place in Yorkton October 28.

## Advisory

The Museums Advisor was kept extra busy during this quarter. In addition to fielding questions via email and telephone Kathleen attended several Network meetings, made site visits for both SaskCollections and the Exhibits Self-Assessment workbook pilot and published two new blog posts available at: <http://saskmuseums.org/blog>

## Resource Library

New books are always being added to the Resource Library. Visit the Resource Library section on our website to see our listings: [www.saskmuseums.org/resources/library\\_resources.php](http://www.saskmuseums.org/resources/library_resources.php)

We are also open to suggestions if you think a book should be added to our collection.

Two documents were produced and will be distributed to members in Jan. 2018.

– *The Importance of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the Truth & Reconciliation Commission (TRC) to Museums*

– *Responsible Exhibition & Interpretation of Indigenous Artifacts*

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.

## STAFF

Wendy Fitch  
Executive Director

Brenda Herman  
Director of Finance

Dan Holbrow  
Program Director

Kathleen Watkin  
Museums Advisor

Michelle Brownridge  
Community Engagement  
Coordinator

Terri Morris  
Administrative Assistant

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

for the 2018 MAS  
Conference &  
Annual General  
Meeting  
to be held in

**Humboldt**  
**June 7-9, 2018.**

## SaskCollections - Collections Management Initiative

The next group of new participants were accepted in this quarter bringing the total to twenty-one. For more information about SaskCollections contact Kathleen Watkin 306-780-9266 or [advisor@saskmuseums.org](mailto:advisor@saskmuseums.org)

For information on spring Professional Development and training activities check the Education Calendar which will be mailed to all MAS Institutional members towards the end of January. Alternatively, you will be able to find it on our website: [www.saskmuseums.org](http://www.saskmuseums.org)

## Museum Governance

The MAS training modules which make up the Museum Governance program cover a range of topics including - Roles & Responsibilities of a Museum Board, Museums on a Mission, Introduction, Museum Governance Models, Introduction to Human Resource Management and Introduction to Strategic Planning.

MAS staff work with an individual museum board to select the module(s) best suited to their needs and then will come to the community and deliver the training selected. For more information on the Governance training contact Dan Holbrow at [programs@saskmuseums.org](mailto:programs@saskmuseums.org)

## Planning and Development

Staff continued the developmental work on various projects including:

- the Exhibits Self-Assessment Handbook which is in the final stage of review prior to being produced and distributed later this spring.

- the next issue of the Museums & Sustainability publication which will focus on the innovative ways museums are addressing diversity and inclusion.

As always, we'd also like to hear from you about your museum development needs. If you have any ideas or training requirements, or any questions about our education programs, contact Dan at [programs@saskmuseums.org](mailto:programs@saskmuseums.org).

## COLLECTIVE VOICE

In addition to the above-mentioned activities MAS staff attended the following events during this quarter:

- SK Digital Alliance meetings – Michelle
- RCMP Heritage Centre/RCMP Historical Unit meeting – Wendy & Kathleen
- MAS Board/staff Christmas dinner
- CBCAsks Cultural Appropriation Forum - Wendy
- U of S History Dept. meeting re: new Public History degree program – Wendy

- Yukon interest in SaskCollections meeting – Wendy & Kathleen
- Christmas Tea at the Grenfell Museum - Michelle & Kathleen
- Heritage SK Awards Committee – Wendy
- MAS Awards Committee – Wendy & Michelle

## Conference

The Conference Program committee has begun meeting to plan the 2018 MAS Conference and AGM.

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

## OPERATIONS

Staff continue to develop the operational plan for the next three-year cycle in line with the MAS strategic plan.

The MAS office was closed from December 25, 2017 to January 2 2018.

### CONTACT US!

Phone:  
(306) 780-9279

Toll-Free in SK  
(866) 568-7386

Email:  
[mas@saskmuseums.org](mailto:mas@saskmuseums.org)

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ABOVE: Michelle Brownridge (Community Engagement Coordinator) and Kathleen Watkin (Museums Advisor) visited the Grenfell Museum for their Annual Christmas Tea on Dec. 7, 2017.

## SOCIAL MEDIA STATS...



Twitter Followers

**1,560**

up from 1,525



Facebook "Likes"

**657**

up from 629



Instagram Followers

**147**

up from 110



Website Visits

**8,614**

Sessions

Oct. 1 - Dec. 31

We gratefully  
acknowledge the  
support of...

Canada



Sask

Culture

FUNDING PROVIDED BY  
Saskatchewan  
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