



MUSEUMS
ASSOCIATION OF
SASKATCHEWAN

MUSEUMS ARE MORE...



ANNUAL REPORT
2019/2020

PRESIDENTS & EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

PRESIDENTS

Dr. C.R. Strother-Stewart 1968 - 1969
Gordon Wilson 1969 - 1971
W.H. Howes 1971 - 1973
Austin Ellis 1973 - 1974
Malcolm Wake 1974 - 1976
Nancy Dillow 1976 - 1978
Joan Mitchell 1978 - 1980
Bill Martodam 1980 - 1982
Wayne Morgan 1982 - 1985
Jane Turnbull Evans 1985 - 1987
David Klatt 1987 - 1989
Richard Moldenhauer 1989 - 1991
Mary Mahon-Jones 1991 - 1992
Ingrid Cazakoff 1992 - 1996
Frances Westlund 1996 - 1997
Geri Jacques 1997 - 1999
Sheila Kelly 1999 - 2001
Katherine Fitton 2001 - 2003
Chad Debert 2003 - 2004
Brenda Barry Byrne 2004 - 2007
Terry Graff 2007 - 2008
Royce Pettyjohn 2008 - 2009
Céline Perillat 2009 - 2011
Rhonda Lamb 2011 - 2013
Crystal Craig 2013 - 2014
Robert Hubick 2014 - 2016
Yvonne Hotzak 2016 - 2018
Teresa Carlson – 2018 - 2019
Corinne Daelick - 2019 - Present

Front cover image: MAS staff began working from home and meeting virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Wayne Mitchell 1976 - 1979
Virginia Hatch 1979 - 1985
Gayl Hipperson 1985 - 1998
Lee Boyko 1998 - 1999
Joan Kanigan-Fairen 2000 - 2006
Brenda Sherring 2006 - 2009
Brenda Herman & Wendy Fitch 2009-2012
Wendy Fitch 2012 - present

TO SERVE

SASKATCHEWAN

PEOPLE BY

ADVANCING

MUSEUMS

THE MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION OF SASKATCHEWAN

The Museums Association of Saskatchewan is a non-profit, charitable, organization. The Association is governed by a member-elected Board of Directors representative of the museum community.

The ten-member Board of Directors sets the direction (Ends) and priorities for the Association, while staff members are responsible for developing and implementing the programs and services to achieve the Board's Ends/priorities.

Membership in MAS is open to everyone.

MAS provides learning opportunities for museums, personnel and their governing bodies. The Association raises public awareness of museums, and fosters communication among members of the museum sector. MAS represents the interests and concerns of the museum sector to decision makers included in all levels of government.

2019 - 2020 Membership

254	Institutional
12	Associates
201	Individuals

467	TOTAL
-----	-------

PURPOSE

To serve Saskatchewan people by advancing museums.

VISION

MAS will be the leader in transitioning Saskatchewan museums, through diversity and inclusion, creating a sustainable future for the sector.

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Heritage is our social and natural inheritance: it is the objects, ideas, places, and traditions of intrinsic value which have shaped our present and will guide our future.

We believe our collective inheritance is an asset that must be preserved, understood, and built upon by each generation.

We believe that museums, in service to society, provide stewardship for the material evidence of our human and natural inheritance. They contribute to the understanding of the world and our place in it - our past, our present, and our future.

Museums Association of Saskatchewan

424 McDonald Street
Regina, Saskatchewan
Canada S4N 6E1

Telephone: (306) 780-9279

Fax: (306) 780-9463

Toll Free Number: 1-866-568-7386 (in SK)

Email: mas@saskmuseums.org

Website: www.saskmuseums.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As I write this message, the world is going through the most uncertain time in recent memory. The COVID-19 pandemic has meant big changes in our lives now and will

for years to come. For heritage, natural history and cultural institutions these changes have meant closure of our facilities and the cancellation of events. It creates uncertainty around how we will sustain ourselves but has also shown the resourcefulness of these institutions as we come up with creative ways to support ourselves. From virtual fundraisers to online programming and live social media events, MAS Members have been innovative and creative. We can also take this time to consider what museums and galleries are collecting. Just as we look back on the Spanish flu pandemic of 1918-1919 and its impact on Saskatchewan communities, future generations will look back to the pieces we collect today to help them understand and learn about this time in history. The work of museums and cultural institutions is so important as we collect and preserve these stories, images and artifacts.

Despite the rapid changes in the world around us, the MAS Board has continued our commitment to our Members and the organization.

When the Board could not meet in person, meetings were held virtually using an online meeting platform. This form of meeting worked very well. Besides being very efficient from a time and monetary perspective, it also meant that the Board did not have to travel when the weather was unpredictable. Some pre-COVID meetings were held in person, like our annual Board orientation meeting in July 2019.

This was a great opportunity for new Board members to learn about governance boards as well as about Board projects and goals for the coming months.

MAS held its mini-conference and annual general meeting in Saskatoon on May 31, 2019. A key feature of the conference was the Members' Forum facilitated by the Board's Ownership Linkage Committee. Connection with Members remains a priority for the Board. During the Forum, Members were encouraged to share their successes, challenges and concerns from the past year. These table discussions let the Board know what the membership is thinking and helps us set the organization's direction. An amazing educational opportunity for conference attendees was the KAIROS Blanket Exercise. The goal of the exercise is to build understanding about the shared history of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. Using stories and real-life examples, facilitators guided us through 500 years of history, learning about the impacts of colonization, treaties and leading us toward reconciliation. I'm sure anyone who took part will agree that this was a very moving and powerful experience.

In the Fall, the Board was pleased to attend the Fall Network meetings along with MAS staff. The Networks play an important role in facilitating communication between Members and MAS staff. A special thank you to those who volunteer as Network representatives (aka "Networkers"). They fulfil an essential role as they liaise with MAS staff and the Board.

The MAS Board saw a number of changes this year. At the AGM in May 2019, we bid farewell and thank you to Evelyn Siegfried of the Royal Saskatchewan Museum who completed three terms on the Board, and to Amber Andersen of the Estevan Art Gallery & Museum who completed one term. Elected for a two-year term was Kaiti Hannah of the Western Development Museum – Corporate Office in Saskatoon, and Karen Grenier of the Hudson Bay Museum. Following the AGM, President Teresa Carlson tendered her resignation due to a new opportunity for her family in British Columbia.

We thank Teresa for her service to MAS and for her many years of dedication to the Saskatchewan heritage sector. In September 2019, Darlene Brown of the Kamsack Power House Museum resigned following three years on the Board while in February 2020, Jennifer Matotek of the Dunlop Art Gallery in Regina, stepped down to take a new position in Windsor, ON. Vincent Houghtaling of the Moose Jaw Museum & Art Gallery was invited to fill one of the vacant positions. Thank you to Darlene and Jennifer for their service to MAS and to Vincent for agreeing to join our Board. We are truly fortunate to have so many people in Saskatchewan who are dedicated to supporting heritage and culture.

Thank you to my fellow, current Board members. I appreciate your thoughtful contributions during our meetings and your dedication to MAS. Along with Kaiti, Karen and Vincent, whom I mentioned above, the Board consists of Vice-President Merissa Scarlett of Regina, Tracene Harvey of the Museum of Antiquities in Saskatoon, Katrina Howick of Moose Jaw and Past-President Yvonne Hotzak of the Fort Pelly Livingstone Museum. To Yvonne, I wish to extend my sincerest thanks for your valuable guidance, insight and support. I also wish to acknowledge the support of Vice-President Merissa Scarlett who, no matter what the task was, was always enthusiastic and willing to help.

MAS is extremely fortunate to have a dedicated and competent team who manage the operations of the organization. On behalf of the Board, I am pleased to announce that Wendy Fitch's contract as Executive Director has been extended for another year. MAS will continue to benefit from Wendy's knowledge, expertise and leadership. Thank you to Wendy and staff for their innovative ideas, openness, hard work and support of our Members.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to express our gratitude to our funders – SaskCulture and Saskatchewan Lotteries, as well as the Department of Canadian Heritage, Museums Assistance Program, who continue to fund MAS initiatives and programs.

To our Members, thank you for allowing us to represent you and for your dedication to promoting and preserving Saskatchewan heritage and culture.

All the best,

Corinne Daelick
President, MAS Board of Directors



Artifacts on display at the Birch Hills Historical Museum, Birch Hills, SK.
Photo by Em Ironstar

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



“I think that when the dust settles, we will realize how little we need, how very much we actually have, and the true value of human connection.” – Rose Lounsbury, Simplicity Coach

The staff of the Museums Association of Saskatchewan is committed to achieving our goals as embodied in our vision: *MAS will be the leader in transitioning Saskatchewan museums, through diversity and inclusion, creating a sustainable future for the sector.* We continue to try new things, while continuing with the things we know we do well - providing leadership, capacity development and a collective voice to Saskatchewan's museum sector.

During the past year MAS continued to work in key areas which, we believe, will have significant impacts on Saskatchewan Museums over the next several years.

SaskCollections continues to be a key program for us. This open source collections database system provides users with a data management system built specifically for smaller Saskatchewan museums. It is available at low cost - well under the price point of other commercial packages currently available, and at the same time meets international standards for data collection and sharing.

The other truly transformative initiative we continue to pursue is the implementation of our Diversity & Inclusion Policy and Plan.

MAS recognizes that Museums are more than the stewards of collections. They are expected to be places actively engaged in the development of their communities. Museums need to be the place where we can all discover who we are - to see ourselves reflected in the Board, staff, volunteers, exhibits and programs regardless of our age, gender, cultural or social identity, ability or country of origin. MAS and its members must reach out to the entire community - especially those who are marginalized, to ensure that they are represented within our sector. We have focused on Indigenous heritage over the past year through a variety of programs and activities. Our goal is to provide members with a better understanding of the important role all museums have to play in reconciliation in this province. We owe it to everyone in our communities to ensure that there is more than one perspective of the past presented in our exhibits and programs if we are to remain relevant to the communities we serve.

As you read this annual report you will find additional evidence of how our activities, both ongoing programs and services and new initiatives, are moving us toward our strategic goals and organizational ends.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of MAS's volunteers for their dedication over the past year. Your hard work and commitment truly make a difference in the ultimate success of the Association. I would especially like to thank the Board of Directors for their hard work and support over the past year. I have enjoyed working with all of you, and truly appreciate all the time and energy you have given to ensure the Association continues to move forward.

I would especially like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank my wonderful team: Brenda, Dan, Michelle, Kathleen and Terri. I truly appreciate your hard work, enthusiasm, willingness to try new things and senses of humour as we've worked together over the past year.

Finally, I would like to thank our funders - SaskCulture for their ongoing support and the annual funding we receive through them from Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust and the Museums Assistance Program of the Department of Canadian Heritage for their financial support over the past year.

MAS has begun the journey on the path towards reconciliation. We know that it won't be easy or quick but we are committed to following it.

Respectfully,

Wendy Fitch
Executive Director



Attendees of the Fall 2019 West Central Network Meeting tour Eatonia Heritage Park, Eatonia, SK.
Photo by Em Ironstar

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

During 2019-2020, MAS continued to work with both internal and external stakeholders. Maintaining positive relationships with stakeholders is foundational to MAS's leadership role in the museum sector in Saskatchewan.

The key provincial organizations MAS works with continue to be: SaskCulture, Heritage Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan History & Folklore Society, Saskatchewan Council of Archives and Archivists (SCAA), Saskatchewan Archaeological Society, Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan (MCoS), Saskatchewan Archives Board, Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation, Ministry of Parks, Culture & Sport, Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre, Office of the Treaty Commissioner, Gabriel Dumont Institute, Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board, Saskatchewan Library Association, U of R's Community Research Unit and Non-Profit & Voluntary Sector Studies and the Saskatchewan Non-profit Partnership. The working relationship MAS has established with each is valued by the Association and enhances the ability of MAS to be a leader in the museum sector in Saskatchewan.

Federally, MAS works with the Canadian Museums Association, National Trust for Canada, Canadian Association for Conservation, Department of Canadian Heritage, Canadian Conservation Institute, and the Canadian Heritage Information Network. MAS also works with the other eleven provincial/territorial museums associations on matters of common interest.

As part of the Saskatchewan Ecomuseum Partnership, MAS continues coordinating the growing network of active ecomuseum communities.

MAS staff were also able to participate in a number of stakeholder events including: Non-Profit & Voluntary Sector Studies Network Forum, Saskatchewan Non-profit Partnership gathering, Johnson/Shoyama Forum, CMA annual Conference and Provincial/Territorial Association meeting, National Trust for Canada annual conference, SaskCulture annual meeting and Eligible Cultural Organization meetings, Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board meetings and the Heritage Forum co-sponsored by Heritage Saskatchewan and the Ministry of Parks, Culture & Sport.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MAS is a member driven organization governed by an elected 10-member Board of Directors which governs according to the principles of policy governance. During 2019-2020, the Board met six times including two Zoom meetings and was diligent in ensuring it provided strategic guidance and leadership to the Association through the development and monitoring of the Global ENDs policy and the MAS strategic goals. As well, the Board continued to follow a strategy based on its self-assessment to ensure key areas are addressed. The Board has continued to focus on the relationship between itself and the membership during 2019-2020. The Member Forum at the MAS conference as well as attendance at member group meetings, particularly Network meetings, enabled the Board to obtain feedback from members on a variety of topics. Regular communications of Board activities through the Quarterly Reports and Board meeting summaries – posted on the MAS website, continued during the year.

BOARD MEMBERS AS OF MARCH 31, 2020

President (from July 26, 2019)

Corinne Daelick
WDM Corporate Office, Saskatoon

Vice-President (from July 26, 2019)

Merissa Scarlett, Regina

Past-President

Yvonne Hotzak
Fort Pelly Livingstone Museum, Norquay

Directors:

Teresa Carlson (President)
Diefenbaker Canada Centre, Saskatoon
(until July 26, 2019)

Tracene Harvey
Museum of Antiquities, Saskatoon

Katrina Howick
Moose Jaw

Directors (continued):

Karen Grenier
Hudson Bay Museum, Hudson Bay

Kaiti Hannah
Western Development Museum, Saskatoon

Vincent Houghtaling
Moose Jaw Museum & Art Gallery, Moose Jaw
(from November 16, 2019)

Darlene Brown
Kamsack Power House Museum, Kamsack
(until Sept. 16, 2019)

Jennifer Matotek
Dunlop Art Gallery, Regina
(until March 7, 2020)



Letterpress tools at the Printshop/Newspaper at the Wilkie Museum, Wilkie, SK.
Photo by Em Ironstar

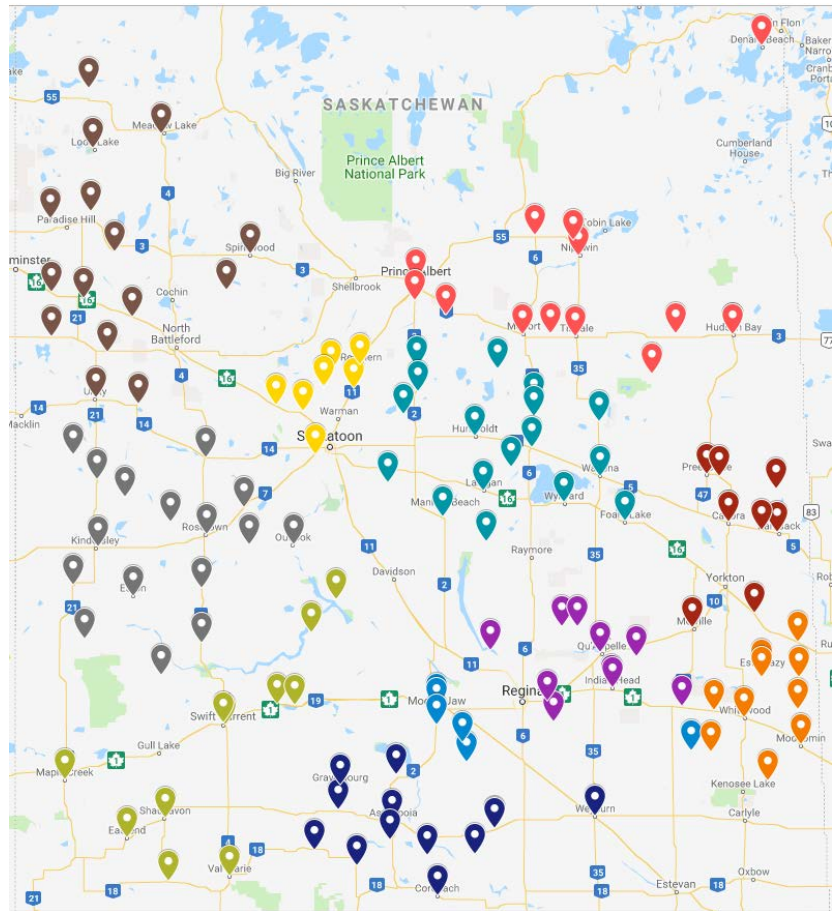
NETWORKS

Networks are regional, self-determined MAS member groups. Each Network determines its own agendas as well as its own goals and priorities. Meeting twice a year, spring and fall, Networks provide members with opportunities to: share information, ideas, and concerns; work together on projects; and acquire new skills and knowledge. Networks facilitate communications between museums within their own Network; between Networks within Saskatchewan; and between the MAS Board, staff, and Network members. Each Network's activities are co-ordinated by a volunteer Networker and are often assisted by a Co-Networker.












The 2019 Spring Network Knowledge Exchange presentation was developed by Michelle Taylor, Manager/Curator of the Prince Albert Historical Society. It focused on the The Re:Org Method, (developed by ICCROM). Re:Org is a step-by-step approach to help those who work with cultural collections to reorganize their current storage rooms, focusing on the creative, yet safe use of existing resources. Luckily, before the pandemic, Em Ironstar was able to travel to Prince Albert to film Michelle's presentation and it was released as a virtual learning opportunity via YouTube video on April 6, 2020. You can view the [Re:Org Network Knowledge Exchange online](#).

There were ten active Networks in 2019-2020. The number of institutional members participating in the Network program was 114, 45% of institutional members.

In 2019-2020, approximately 63 Network volunteers gave their time; an estimated 578 hours on various Network projects and administration, an increase of 25% more volunteer hours than the previous year.



The Networkers and Co-Networkers met as a group at the spring meeting on May 30, 2019 in Saskatoon, prior to the Mini-Conference and Annual General meeting.

-  North West Museum Network
-  North East Museum Network
-  River Valley Museum Network
-  West Central Museum Network
-  Quill Plains Museum Network
-  Seneca Root Museum Network
-  Parkland Museum Network
-  Qu'Appelle Valley Museum Network
-  South Central Museum Network
-  Prairie Trails Museum Network
-  Heritage Heartland Museum Network

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

This year we have continued to offer a range of high quality courses and workshops.

Program topics are based on the input received from members. This helps ensure that MAS programming is relevant and timely. Moving forward, MAS will continue to strive for member-driven programming that serves the needs of Saskatchewan's museum community.

CERTIFICATE IN COMMUNITY MUSEUM STUDIES PROGRAM

The Certificate Program in Community Museum Studies provides Saskatchewan's museums with affordable training in basic museum operations. It consists of ten courses, each designed to equip learners with the knowledge, skills, and standards of excellence needed to operate a successful public museum.

The courses include Museums 101, Organization and Management, Museums and the Community, Collections Management, Care of Collections, Exhibit Design and Planning, Museums and Education, Marketing the Museum, Volunteer Management, and Research. Details can be found in the Program Guide, which outlines the goals and content of the Certificate Program and each of its courses. This year, we offered Collections Management, Organization and Management, Exhibit Design, Research, Marketing the Museum, and Care of Collections at a variety of locations throughout the province.

SPECIAL TOPIC WORKSHOPS

In 2019-2020, MAS was able to offer a variety of workshops aimed at mid to advanced-level museum professionals. The number of registrations and the overwhelmingly positive feedback received suggest that these programs met the needs of many of our members. The Special Topic Workshop held this year was the Blanket Exercise held in conjunction with our AGM and conference.

GOVERNANCE PROGRAM

MAS continues to offer our governance support program, which uses independent modules on governance-related topics, allowing for the provision of governance support in the areas most relevant to each museum board's needs. Each module takes roughly two hours to deliver, making them more practical in situations where volunteer board members' availability is limited. The modules have been delivered to a number of community museums, and positive feedback has been received. In addition, we have developed online versions of the Roles & Responsibilities of Board Members and Governance Models modules.

INTRODUCTION TO ART HANDLING, STORAGE & EXHIBITION

We continue to maintain our program tailored to the needs of new art gallery employees. This one-day workshop designed to familiarize gallery workers with the principles and practices of handling, storing, and displaying art works was not offered this fiscal year, but remains available for future offerings.



Marketing the Museum Course taught by Kerry Lubchenko, Melfort, SK.
Photo by Em Ironstar

ADVISORY SERVICES

Based on *Standards for Saskatchewan Museums*, Advisory Services assists MAS's institutional members with achieving their goals. Advisory consultations can be in the form of telephone calls, emails, referrals, and/or site visits. All consultations are confidential.

In 2019-2020, Advisory Services fielded an estimated 153 advisory requests and 13 site visits. To ensure that members are getting information through various avenues concerning numerous topics, the Museums Advisor wrote a variety of Blog Posts and Bulletins which can be found on the MAS Website and social media channels (Facebook and Twitter). Advisory Services has produced a number of resources over the years; All Tip Sheets and Workbooks are available online in the members only section of the MAS website.

RESOURCE LIBRARY

The MAS library is a significant source of information and resources for all aspects of museum work. Containing approximately 1800 titles, it is full of scholarship, case studies, and skills development tools that can benefit any museum.

The Environmental Monitoring Equipment Loan Program, consisting of Elsec 765C and HOBO U14 monitors, were utilized by three members in 2019-2020. The HOBO U14 monitors and records relative humidity and temperatures, while the Elsec 765C monitors and records UV, visible light, relative humidity, and temperature.

The Museums Advisor serves as the contact person of the Environmental Monitoring Equipment Loan Program, as the equipment needs to be set-up before sending to borrowing institutions, making it a relatively simple procedure for them to use once received.

The Oral History Recording Equipment Loan Program consists of both audio kits which include a portable audio recorder, and all the accessories and instructions needed to operate it, and video kits which include a video camera, and its accessories and instructions. These were used for five different member oral history projects in 2019-20.

This year, we also continued implementing a new Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) for the library collection, which will allow improved searching capabilities for members, and streamline library operations for staff. We have finished transferring collections data to the new database, and anticipate that the new OPAC will be launched for member use in 2020-21.

SASKCOLLECTIONS

This year, MAS continued with the SaskCollections Database Program. The database uses the *Collective Access* platform and has been adapted to meet the specific needs of Saskatchewan's small to medium-sized cultural institutions. The SaskCollections Database is an easy-to-navigate, user-friendly online collections management system. MAS offers a variety of support mechanisms for the system including yearly member meetings and access to comprehensive support services via online resources, and in person through the Museums Advisor. A group meeting of all those participating in the SaskCollections Database occurred prior to the MAS Conference and Annual General Meeting.

Over the last year, participating cultural institutions have continued entering collections data, resulting in over 300,000 artifacts and artworks being catalogued in under five years. Intake into the program has been disrupted due to staffing changes, but we anticipate further intake into the program in 2020-21.

COLLECTIVE VOICE

MAS undertakes a variety of activities directed at different audiences in order to create greater public awareness and understanding of the past, present, and future impact of Saskatchewan's heritage.

During 2019-2020, MAS maintained its investment in select, multiplatform, paid advertisements; this included ads in: Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association magazine - *Urban Voice*, the MAS lease car continued to wear its 'vehicle wrap' where the Association name, logo, website address, and tag line "Museums are More..." create an increasingly well-recognized, traveling ad for the Association.

MAS also continues to focus on its online presence in order to meet the changing needs of the member museums and the people of Saskatchewan - who increasingly rely on digital communication. That said, MAS continues to provide key documents by mail including occasional publications.

CORE COMMUNICATION TOOLS

E-Phemera, MAS' e-newsletter, is sent out every two weeks to a mailing list of over 1,025 subscribers. It features MAS news/opportunities, member and community news, events, job postings, professional development opportunities and more. In 2019-2020, the *E-Phemera* mailing list grew by approximately 275 people, a 36% increase.

In 2019, the format of *E-Phemera* continued to evolve. Changes implemented included a linked table of contents at the top and a "Previously Mentioned" section at the end so that each current issue only features the most recent information. Every second week, MAS sends out a focused E-Blast on a relevant program or opportunity, as needed.

In addition to the changes mentioned above, the MAS website, www.saskmuseums.org, was updated regularly ensuring member information, news and events along with MAS events were made available as quickly as possible. The MAS website had a total of 61,000 users in 2019-2020 (20% increase from 2018-2019), for a total of 74,000 sessions (17% increase from 2018-2019). Users spent an average of 00:01:05 on the site.

The *MAS Board & Staff Quarterly Report* is a publication requested by members to inform them of Board and MAS activities. It was published in August and October 2019 and January 2020 and was sent electronically to members; it was also posted to the MAS website. This Annual Report comprises the fourth quarterly report for the fiscal year.

The *MAS Facebook, Twitter and Instagram* accounts are maintained as a way for MAS to share interesting heritage and museum-related information more widely. The greatest area of growth for MAS on social media continued to be Instagram where followers increased by almost 33% from 450 to 599 year over year. Facebook also saw substantial follower growth with a approximately 15.5% growth rate in followers (838 to 969). Twitter has the greatest number of followers and saw a 3.7% increase from 1698 to 1762.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & MINI CONFERENCE

MAS held a one-day Mini-Conference and AGM on May 31, 2019 in Saskatoon, SK at the Western Development Museum. The morning featured the annual member forum where feedback is collected by MAS's Board of Directors to help guide planning and decision making. At lunch attendees were treated to the second annual MAS awards luncheon (see page 16 for more information on the 2019 award winners).

The program continued in the afternoon with the KAIROS Blanket Exercise. The Blanket Exercise is a unique, participatory history lesson – developed in collaboration with Indigenous Elders, knowledge keepers and educators – that fosters truth, understanding, respect and reconciliation among Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.

Developed in response to the [Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples](#) in 1996 – which recommended education about Canadian-Indigenous history as one of the key steps to reconciliation — the KAIROS Blanket Exercise covers more than 500 years in a 90-minute experiential workshop that aims to foster understanding about our shared history as Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. Since its creation, the Exercise has been updated several times to include new information such as the [2015 Truth and Reconciliation final report](#).

During the KAIROS Blanket Exercise, participants walk on blankets representing the land and into the role of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples by reading scrolls and carrying cards which ultimately determine their outcome as they literally 'walk' through situations that include pre-contact, treaty-making, colonization and resistance.

Participants were guided through the experience by trained facilitators and Indigenous Elders or knowledge keepers. The Exercise concludes with a debriefing, conducted as a 'talking circle', during which participants discuss the learning experience, process their feelings, ask questions, share insights and deepen their understanding.

It was a powerful afternoon of reflection, sharing and learning for all those who participated and MAS would like to thank our facilitators: Elder Tim Poitras, Tracy Desjarlais and Lorraine Bellegarde.



MAS Mini-Conference & AGM, Saskatoon, SK. Photo by Em Ironstar



KAIROS Blanket Exercise Set-Up. Photo by Prairie Central District

ADVOCACY

In order to affect positive change on behalf of the museum sector in Saskatchewan, MAS undertakes various activities which fit into the broad definition of advocacy - viewed fundamentally, as building positive relationships with decision makers in order to achieve desired goals. This process takes place in different ways with several categories of stakeholders including: funders, governments, provincial and federal non-profits. In some instances, this is done because the stakeholder group is the decision maker (governments and funders) and in other cases because the stakeholder group is a potential partner in advocacy, public engagement or capacity development.

As well, MAS lays the groundwork for future targeted advocacy activities through a variety of activities all focused on increasing public awareness of the role and value of museums in Saskatchewan.

Key examples of MAS's advocacy activities in 2019-2020 have been:

MAS participated in rejuvenated Canadian Museums Association (CMA) collaborative activities. With the hiring of a new CEO, CMA has reached out to sector representatives - including the Provincial/Territorial Museums Associations, on a number of topics. These include:

- ongoing online meetings of the CMA/PTMAs to better coordinate information and collaborate on projects of mutual benefit.
- a joint federal election campaign. By showing a united front and referencing the House of Commons Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage report - *Moving Forward - Toward a Stronger Canadian Museum Sector* recommendations, some positive movement was noted. One of the key points of the joint federal election advocacy campaign was the need for the government to review and revise the very outdated Canadian Museum Policy. The Minister of Canadian Heritage's mandate letter contains that very point. w

At a subsequent question & answer session with the Minister, questions regarding the review/revision of the Museum Policy received strong support from the Minister. MAS will be participating in ongoing consultations on this topic.

- participation in the consultation process to develop a new 3-year strategic plan for the CMA.

MAS participated in a number of National Trust for Canada teleconferences during 2019-2020. These are regular sessions the National Trust has implemented to engage the broad heritage sector on advocacy activities including the federal election and developing a strategy for reaching new audiences for heritage.

At the provincial level MAS continued to participate in Saskatchewan Ecomuseum Partnership meetings in order to continue moving this movement forward. Other ongoing activities included attending SaskCulture's AGM and associated Eligible Cultural Organization meetings throughout the year. As well, MAS participated in the Saskatchewan Nonprofit Partnership annual summit which brings together representatives from across the nonprofit sector to share information and pursue issues of common concern.

The other significant related activity MAS has been a part of in 2019-2020 has been with respect to work to establish good relationships with Indigenous organizations. MAS was invited to be part of a coalition of Saskatchewan heritage organizations who met with the Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre (SICC) President Wanda Wilson and senior members of her staff to introduce ourselves and explore how we can work together to address topics of common concern. It was determined that SICC would like to continue meeting and that the most pressing common interest was to review and revise the Saskatchewan Heritage Property Act.

MAS AWARDS

At a luncheon at the 2019 MAS Mini-Conference on Friday, May 30th MAS presented several awards to deserving museums and individuals. MAS would like to congratulate all the award winners in the following categories:

Awards of Merit - Institution (Project Budget Under \$100,000) - Prince Albert Historical Society - Indigenous Exhibition Revitalization/Creation Project



Following discussions with Past-Chief Dr. Leo Omani of Wahpeton Dakota Nation, in the Fall of 2017, it was decided by the Prince Albert Historical Society to create a new Indigenous space in the Historical Museum. The space focuses on the history and early interactions between Indigenous and Métis people and the settler community in the Prince Albert area. In order to develop the exhibition properly, the Historical Society recognized that conducting consultations with surrounding Indigenous and Métis communities was key in being able to tell the full and authentic story of local Indigenous and Métis history through the exhibit. The project and consultations were supported through two Northern Lights Community Development Fund Grants.

Throughout several rounds of consultation, the Historical Society worked with First Nations and Métis Knowledge Keepers to create this important permanent exhibit of Indigenous history. As a result of this ongoing work, two smaller projects have emerged: the renovation of an existing Indigenous exhibit area and the development of a community-based mural project within the space, led by Leah Dorion, which was supported by a Saskatchewan Arts Board Artists in Communities grant. Further consultations with the Knowledge Keepers and interested community members will continue until completion.

Award of Merit – Institutional - project budget over \$50,000.00. Dunlop Art Gallery - Roadside Attractions Project



Roadside Attractions was a network of original art commissions presented between July and August 2018 across Saskatchewan. Administered by Dunlop Art Gallery and collaboratively curated by Dunlop Art Gallery and nine arts organizations with presentation support from various municipalities, 21 artists from across Canada were engaged to create artworks located along a 20-hour long drive that looped around the province in July and August 2018. Each artist was ultimately invited to make a work of art that would respond to, and consider, the history, geography/land, and people of the place their work was to be exhibited.

Roadside Attractions advanced professional arts practices by supporting Saskatchewan and other Canadian artists to take greater risks and create commissioned work for the public that they might not otherwise have the support or opportunity to make. For many artists, Roadside Attractions was their first public art commission, allowing them to develop a project on a greater scale and scope than their usual activities.

Roadside Attractions was an ambitious project. From the geographically diffused presentation of the artworks, to the number of artists creating work, to the number of organizations engaged as partners, Roadside Attractions could not have happened without a large network of supporters.

While Dunlop Art Gallery served as the hub for administrative and marketing activity related to the project, providing support to partners as required, each partner played a role in ensuring their presentations were professionally created and installed.

Young Professional Award

Helanna Gessner, Intern, Museum of Antiquities



Helanna's work in the past few years has been most impressive and makes her someone who will undoubtedly play a key role in Saskatchewan museums. She has a wide range of experience gained through a variety of institutions, which has already proven to be an asset to the museums where she has worked.

In her roles with the Museum of Antiquities, and through the completion of her Masters of Museum Studies, Helanna has gained a wealth of experience in only a few short years in the areas of museum curatorship and collections management, community outreach and engagement, local heritage management, as well as museum educational programming including leading a substantial volunteer team.

The experience that Helanna has gained through several Saskatchewan museums has made her an asset to the museum community in the province. While her work at the Museum of Antiquities has been extensive over the past several years and has included everything from curatorship to community outreach and engagement, she has also made a significant impact on the Cudworth and Wakaw Museums.

While at Cudworth, Helanna served as a summer curator for three years during which time she created two exhibits, created a pilot crafternoon program for kids, and conducted travelling exhibits

to seniors' care homes in the region. She has also designed and composed exhibition catalogues and other related materials that have been very well-received by museum visitors.

Award of Merit - Individual - Boyd Metzler, Whitewood Tourism and Heritage Association



Boyd was born and raised in Kipling, Saskatchewan and after completing his Bachelor of Education at the University of Regina, he began his teaching career in Whitewood. He taught in Whitewood School for 30 years and was vice-principal for 7 of those years before retiring in 2001. Boyd has also been a farmer in the Whitewood area. Boyd has been an active community member since 1971.

Boyd is the local historian of Whitewood. He has an immense knowledge of the town and area and its history. His ability to remember names and dates leaves everyone in awe. His passion for history is evident in the work that has been accomplished during his time on the historical committee to preserve the story of Whitewood and area.

Boyd joined the Tourism and Heritage Association and dedicated himself to revitalizing the museum which was reopened in 2010 after being closed for a number of years. He has worked with all of their summer employees, each and every year, providing the training and daily supervision, planning of activities, building displays and coordinating the documentation and accessioning of the entire museum collection.

Boyd is the first person called when people return to Whitewood to gather family history. He is generous with his time and his knowledge. Everyone knows that they will get as much time as needed. Travelers will stop at our building for tourist information, meet Boyd and spend a couple of hours

learning about our community and its history. Boyd has been the representative of Whitewood Tourism and Heritage for Radio Canada and television interviews, magazine and newspaper articles.

The teacher, Mr. Metzler, always comes through. Boyd always takes a lead role at Culture Days activities, school tours, open houses, historical teas and Archives Week activities. His storytelling ability keeps all age groups attentive and interested. Boyd is always a student too... he has completed many courses and workshops and shares his knowledge with the rest of the committee.

Honorary Lifetime Achievement Award - Dean Bauche



Dean has been involved in the museum field since becoming the Curator of the Allen Sapp Gallery in North Battleford in 1988 when it was launched. In 1994 he became the Director of Galleries for the City of North Battleford, a position he held until his retirement in 2008. At the provincial level Dean was a member of the MAS Board of Directors from 1990 to 1994, serving as Vice-President for two of those years. He also served as the Leader of the Museum and Gallery Directors Special Interest Group. This was one of five similar groups within MAS to address the needs of professional museum workers.

Nationally, Dean served from 1994 to 1996 as a member of the Canadian Museums Association's working group tasked with Developing a Human Resource Strategy for the Canadian Museum Sector. He was later elected to the Board of Directors of the Canadian Museums Association serving from 2003 to 2007.

Dean has been active as a guest curator throughout his career. Some examples include: Head

curator for the award-winning National touring exhibition "Through the Eyes of the Cree" from 2004 to 2010; Guest curator for the First Nations component of the Canadian Museum of Civilization's "Acres of Dreams" Exhibition in 2005; in 2009/10 Dean created and curated the exhibition "Inspired by the Land" which included artist Elders, scientists, poets and writers.

Two other significant projects that Dean has been involved in since his retirement were the design and implementation of Saskatchewan's "Emerging Cultural Leaders Mentorship Program" which was a pilot program in 2013/14. Dean is currently a consultant for the Wallace Stegner House renewal project in Eastend.

Dean has received the Canadian Museums Association award of excellence for the Allen Sapp Gallery's Virtual Museum of Canada site; the Province of Saskatchewan Centennial Commemorative Medal for "significant contribution to society through the Arts"; the Saskatchewan Book award for Excellence in publications; and the Queen's Jubilee Medal for contribution to Art and Culture in Canada.

Dean continues to be a sought after arts educator, adjudicator and speaker on the importance of culture. In his spare time he is also a practicing artist who has had several exhibitions of his work here provincially, nationally and internationally and has created several murals throughout the province.

Certificate Program in Community Museum Studies – Completion

MAS would like to recognize and congratulate Leah Garven, Curator/Manager of Galleries for the City of North Battleford, as well as Agnes Murrin from the Preeceville and District Heritage Museum on the completion of their MAS Certificate Program in Community Museum Studies.

FOR THE RECORD

STAFF

Executive Director
Wendy Fitch

Director of Finance
Brenda Herman

Program Director
Dan Holbrow

Community Engagement Coordinator
Em Ironstar
(formerly Michelle Brownridge)

Administrative Assistant
Terri

Museums Advisor
Kathleen Watkin (until Oct. 29, 2019)

AUDIT COMMITTEE

As of March 31, 2020

Katrina Howick (Chair)
Kaiti Hannah

Staff
Brenda Herman

*Thank you to our volunteers who
provided many hours to help make
our programs a success!*

NETWORK REPRESENTATIVES

Quill Plains Museums Network

Shirley & Karsten Frydenlund, *Allan Museum*

North East Museums Network

Karen Grenier, *Hudson Bay Museum*
Michelle Taylor, *Prince Albert Historical Museum*

Prairie Trails Museums Network

Bryson LaBoissiere, *Eastend Historical Museum*
Kelly Attrell, *Grand Coteau Heritage and Cultural Centre*

Qu'Appelle Valley Museums Network

Alan Hustak, *Fort Qu'Appelle Museum*
Beverly van der Breggen, *Fort Qu'Appelle Museum*

Seneca Root Regional Museums Network

Megan Peters, *Kamsack Power House Museum*

South Central Museums Network

Lorne Kwasnicki, *St. Mary's Church Museum*
Louis Stringer, *Our Lady of the Assumption Cathedral*

River Valley Museums Network

Cal Sexsmith, *Saskatchewan Railway Museum*
Henry Dyck, *Saskatchewan River Valley Museum*

West Central Museums Network

Delta Fay Cruickshank, *Biggar Museum & Art Gallery*
Brittany Gilchrist, *Ancient Echoes Interpretive Centre*

Heritage Heartland Museums Network

Marge Cleave, *Briercrest Museum*
Jennifer McRorie, *Moose Jaw Museum & Art Gallery*

Parkland Museums Network

Kathy Gamble, *Whitewood Historical Museum*
Ken Aldous, *Whitewood Historical Museum*

Staff

Em Ironstar, *Museums Association of Saskatchewan*

Management's Responsibility

To the Members of Museums Association of Saskatchewan Inc.:

Management is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the accompanying summarized financial statements, including responsibility for significant accounting judgments and estimates in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. This responsibility includes selecting appropriate accounting principles and methods, and making decisions affecting the measurement of transactions in which objective judgment is required.

In discharging its responsibilities for the integrity and fairness of the summarized financial statements, management designs and maintains the necessary accounting systems and related internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are authorized, assets are safeguarded and financial records are properly maintained to provide reliable information for the preparation of summarized financial statements.

The Board of Directors and Audit Committee are composed entirely of Directors who are neither management nor employees of the Association. The Board is responsible for overseeing management in the performance of its financial reporting responsibilities, and for approving the financial information included in the annual report. The Audit Committee has the responsibility of meeting with management and external auditors to discuss the internal controls over the financial reporting process, auditing matters and financial reporting issues. The Committee is also responsible for recommending the appointment of the Association's external auditors.

MNP LLP, an independent firm of Chartered Professional Accountants, is appointed by the members to audit the summarized financial statements and report directly to them; their report follows. The external auditors have full and free access to, and meet periodically and separately with, both the Committee and management to discuss their audit findings.

May 15, 2020



Brenda Herman, Director of Finance

Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summary Financial Statements

To the Members of Museums Association of Saskatchewan Inc.:

Opinion

The summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at March 31, 2020, and the summary statement of operations for the year then ended, and related notes, are derived from the audited financial statements of Museums Association of Saskatchewan Inc. (the "Organization") for the year ended March 31, 2020.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements, in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by the Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements and the auditor's report thereon.

The Audited Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial statements in our report dated May 15, 2020.

Management's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the summary financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standards (CAS) 810, Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

Regina, Saskatchewan

May 15, 2020

MNP LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

MNP

Museums Association of Saskatchewan Summarized Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31, 2020

	2020	2019
Assets		
Cash	39,228	23,610
Accounts receivable	3,039	4,016
Short-term investments	744,152	636,830
Prepaid expenses and deposits	4,867	5,024
	791,286	669,480
Capital assets	501	922
Investments	76,106	105,121
	867,893	775,523
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accruals	43,232	36,912
Unearned revenue	331,163	291,920
	374,395	328,832
Net Assets		
Surplus	334,997	287,769
Investment in Capital Assets	501	922
General Reserve	158,000	158,000
	493,498	446,691
	867,893	775,523

Summarized Statement of Operations

For the year ended March 31, 2020

	2020	2019
Revenue		
Grants from Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust	582,000	582,000
Other grants/partnerships	-	14,642
Self-generated	40,974	51,425
Total revenues	622,974	648,067
Expenditures (Schedule 1)	576,167	660,623
Excess of revenues over expenditures for the period	46,807	(12,556)

Detailed financial statements are available on request.

Museums Association of Saskatchewan Inc.
Summarized Schedule 1 – Expenditures by Division
For the year ended March 31, 2020

	2020	2019
Governance	26,560	27,105
Administrative Services	134,880	145,892
Advocacy		
Salaries/Benefits	29,065	27,676
Professional/Government relations	5,046	6,038
Total Advocacy	34,111	33,714
Communications		
Salaries/benefits	94,445	87,914
Overhead	10,318	10,756
Member Relations	8,876	36,265
Public Relations	4,511	5,062
Total Communications	118,150	139,997
Museum Development		
Salaries/Benefits	177,717	187,042
SaskCollections Database	27,599	30,906
Overhead	26,470	27,183
Training Services	16,058	27,752
Member Funding	5,400	6,600
Resource Materials	5,276	14,749
Network Knowledge Exchange	2,634	3,601
Ecomuseums & Network	1,248	139
Advisory	64	3,656
Museums & sustainability	-	12,287
Total Museum Development	262,466	313,915
Total expenditures by division	576,167	660,623

Acknowledgements

MAS gratefully acknowledges its major funding agencies for their financial support: The Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund administered through SaskCulture; and The Museums Assistance Program through the Department of Canadian Heritage. We also gratefully acknowledge funding received from the Canadian Museums Association Bursary Program which allowed several staff members to travel to important professional development opportunities across the country.

We recognize and thank all of the leaders of member groups, workshops and courses.

Thank you to all our hosting institutions for providing a comfortable meeting space, hospitality, and assistance with local arrangements.

Thank you to those who provided in-kind donations of time and expertise for professional development projects.

The Association also thanks the governing bodies, organizations, agencies, companies and individuals that have worked so hard to help the Museums Association of Saskatchewan assist museums to achieve their mandates and to be the best that they can be.

MAS especially acknowledges the contributions of the many volunteers and staff who are dedicated to serving museums throughout Saskatchewan.

We thank all organizations, businesses and individuals for contributing to the success of our activities in 2019-20.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of our funders:



We would also like to recognize support received from the Canadian Museums Association Bursary Program which allowed our staff to travel and participate in various professional development opportunities.



