



MUSEUMS
ASSOCIATION OF
SASKATCHEWAN

MUSEUMS ARE MORE...

Board & Staff QUARTERLY REPORT

Fall 2017

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I expect that all your museums have had a very busy time with all your events and openings. We have been

fortunate to have had great weather to work with throughout our summer season. Now the leaves are turning red and gold signalling a change of seasons and telling us the white stuff will soon be blanketing the ground.

I will again say thank you to our outgoing board members, Carol Prentice, Stephanie Kaduck, Chad Debert, and Robert Hubick. I have really appreciated all the knowledge and support that they have contributed to our Board, and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

We have welcomed four new board members to our Board of Directors, Tracene Harvey, Amber Andersen, Katrina Howick and Jennifer Matotek. We now have an all female Board so will be looking to diversify in our next nominations search for new board members but will of course, accept our best choices to further the efforts of

our Board of Directors. Our first orientation was held in July and the workload was divided between all the members and committees were set up. We have a plan to establish a new Governance Committee who will review and revise our bylaws to enable the past president to remain on the Board to assist the incoming President with their new position.

This fall we are reviewing our ENDS, Vision, Philosophy, and Values. We are hoping to gain some insight into building an understanding of the needs of Newcomers, particularly Muslim Newcomers in regard to our Museum communities. We will also be looking at dealing with difficult discussions regarding diversity issues so that we may have the tools to make conversation continuous in a more pleasant atmosphere. These topics can be volatile and we wish to address them before they get to that level. Just as a side note, I have lived in a Muslim country for 9 years and have experienced their culture and language. It was a real eye opener for me as there were 51 nationalities represented and living there in the work place. I learned so much, not everything, but lots about so many other nationalities! It was an exceptional experience, having an open mind and heart!

We have just completed our September meetings and have worked on updating and revising a few of our monitoring policies. We also worked on renewing our Vision, Purpose and Values, making it more relevant in today's societal norms. We are hoping you will all agree when it is all completed.

We have a new face on MAS Ephemera, so please try it out and pass on your events, or any problems you may have accessing the site.

The Board also plans on attending the majority of all the Network meetings this fall with greetings and questions to assist us in moving forward on your behalf. So please pass on any information our Board members may be asking of you. We exist for you!

Sincerely,

Yvonne Hotzak
President Board of Directors

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

Apologies for not providing a Summer Quarterly Report this year. Just when we should have been putting it together we encountered a staffing glitch until mid-September which meant we were only able to maintain regular production of E-phemera through the summer. As well there were a few other things happening so read on and see some of the highlights since April 1st!

As expected spring was a busy time for all of us in the MAS office with the mini-conference & AGM in Regina just one example. We also waved farewell to two of our staffers and welcomed two new people since April. Ele Radbourne decided it was time to take well deserved retirement March 31st. Many of you will have met her replacement either in person at the mini-conference or on the phone as Terri Morris joined us in March. Then in late July Emma Morris, our Community Engagement Coordinator, decided to move to the City of Regina where she will be responsible for the City's Art collection. Don't worry she hasn't left us completely! Emma is assisting as a member of the 2018 Conference Planning Committee. We were lucky to have hired Michelle Brownridge as Community Engagement Coordinator in mid-September. If you haven't met her yet you will if you are attending this fall's Network meetings or CP courses! We wish Ele and Emma all the best in their new adventures and welcome Terri and Michelle into the MAS fold.

“

Listen! The wind is rising, and
the air is wild with leaves.

We have had our summer
evenings, now for
October eves!”

- Humbert Wolfe

”

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP SaskCulture

Wendy Fitch, Executive Director along with the Director of Finance, Brenda Herman and the Program Director, Dan Holbrow attended the June 16th SaskCulture session introducing the 'Nonprofit Lifecycles Capacity Self-Assessment' model and the SaskCulture AGM.

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 Sheryl Kimbly.

SaskCulture hosted two Eligible Organizations meetings April 27th and September 14th which were attended by the Ex. Director. A large part of each session was spent on the Diversity & Inclusion planning activities. Everyone indicated that key to our success will be support from SaskCulture in how to implement aspects of the various plans.

Canadian Museums Association

We were well represented at the Canadian Museums Association's annual conference April 4th to 7th in Ottawa. President Yvonne Hotzak, Vice President Teresa Carlson and ED Wendy Fitch were all in attendance. The President and ED attended the annual Prov. Museums Assoc./CMA Meeting. This year the agenda included discussions on the development of a national training strategy, Advocacy policies & tools and a information sharing roundtable.

Sport, Culture & Recreation Districts

The Community Engagement Coor and the Ex. Dir. attended the South West Sport, Culture & Recreation District roundtable in Morse on May 5th. On September 28th the ED gave a presentation at the Rivers West District Culture Gathering at the Riversong resort near Loon Lake.

MAS and the South-East District have entered into a contract whereby the District financially supports museums within the District to host a Governance Session. We anticipate that this could expand to the other Districts.

Heritage Saskatchewan

MAS staff provided workshops with participating students at the Regional Heritage Fairs. The Ex. Director was able to attend the Provincial Heritage Fair awards presentation on May 25 at Government House.

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 from The National Trust, SaskCulture, Heritage Saskatchewan, SK History & Folklore Soc., Nature Saskatchewan, SPRA, Raven Consortium and the Royal Saskatchewan Museum. The decision was made to change the name to Saskatchewan Eco-Museum Partnership to better reflect the ongoing purpose of the group. MAS will be coordinating the SK Ecomuseum Network which was officially launched at the Ecomuseum Symposium April 28 & 29 at the University of Regina. The Ex. Dir., Program Dir. and Community Engagement Coor. attended the 1st day with the Ex. Dir and the Prog. Dir. also attending the second day which was a day long workshop presented by Doug Worts.

Networks

Staff attended 9/12 spring Network meetings (weather and scheduling kept us away from three meetings) and conducting this year's Network Knowledge Exchange session which introduces the new Collections Stewardship Self-Evaluation Manual. The NKE session will be rescheduled for the fall meetings.

The Networkers and Co-Networkers met May 25th with both the Community Engagement Coordinator and the Ex. Dir. attending on behalf of MAS.

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
Administration Assistant

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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

Humboldt
June 7-9, 2018.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Courses and Workshops

Certificate Program courses offered during this reporting period were: Museums & Community March 17/18 in Kindersley; Volunteer Management April 21 in Swift Current; On-line version of Collections Management was offered during July & August.

In partnership with the SK Archives & Archivist Council the CCI course – Care of Photographic Material, was offered September 19 & 20 in Humboldt.

The fall Education Calendar has been distributed in August, 2017.

Two special topic workshops were held – Nomenclature, May 5th and Meaningful Things: Focused Collections and Artefact Interpretation, June 14 & 15.

Governance training was delivered to Ancient Echoes in Herschel March 3 by the Program Director.

Advisory Services

The Museums Advisor undertook 3 site visits during August with more planned for the fall including six visits to pilot the new Exhibitions Self-Assessment Guide. She has also responded to several requests for information on topics ranging from developing mission statements to deaccessions to building maintenance.

SaskCollections - Collections Management Initiative

The Museums Advisor conducted training sessions with Phase I & II participants and began the process for the Phase III intake in May. As well, the Museums Advisor has been working with Whirl-i-Gig staff and participants on the database. The call for Phase IV participants was posted September 5th.

The new Collections Stewardship Self-Assessment tool was completed and distributed. It formed the basis of the 2017 Network Knowledge Exchange sessions.

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.

Publications

The new Collections Stewardship Self-Assessment tool has been completed and has been distributed.

The latest in the Museums & Sustainability series – The Art of Storytelling, has been completed and was distributed in the summer.

Watch for the two extended version Tip Sheets which are currently in draft stage – Responsible Exhibition & Interpretation of Indigenous Artefacts and The Importance of UNDRIP and The TRC to Museums. Once they have been formatted they will be distributed to members.

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

COLLECTIVE VOICE

Conference

The mini-conference took place at the RCMP Heritage Centre May 26, 2017. The morning began with a brief presentation from Jamal-E-Fatima Rafet from MCoS who led us in the #Welcome Home 150 Pledge.

The rest of the morning was given to the Member Forum and MAS AGM, the luncheon speaker was Jellyn Ayudan, a Grade 12 Student from LeBoldus High School who was the 2016 MCoS Youth Leadership Award recipient.

This year's Honorary Lifetime Achievement Award was presented during the Luncheon to Delores Cutler of the Rusty Relics Museum in Carlyle. Ken Dueck of Tourism SK provided a session in the afternoon along with Veronique Bellemare-Briere with the Canadian Museum of History. Attendees were able to tour the RCMP Heritage Centre and the SK Sports Hall of Fame & Museum touring exhibit trailer after the conference ended.

The Conference Committee met September 11th. MAS will be partnering with the SK History & Folklore Soc. to co-host the 2018 conference in Humboldt.

Advocacy

MAS participated in an initiative of the Canadian Museums Association to ask our members to invite their MP to museum events and ask for their support for the two recommendations outlined in the attached letter. This was intended to raise awareness amongst MPs of the House of Commons Standing Comm. for Canadian Heritage forthcoming Canadian Museum Study.

The Ex. Director participated in an Arts & Culture Roundtable with Sean Casey, Parliamentary Secretary for the Min. of Canadian Heritage on September 11th where we requested that the

government review and revise the federal museum policy bringing it into the 21st century and, at the same time, review the various programs related to the museum policy such as: MAP, CHIN and CCI and expand the funding to these important programs which support Saskatchewan's museums.

Events

MAS staff attended the following events during this reporting period:

- CMA Conference – Ottawa April 3-7
- Coronach ICH Initiative Project Launch - April 12
- Multitype Library Board Annual Meeting - April 13
- SK Council of Archives & Archivists Board meeting April 24
- U of R Volunteer Week event April 25
- Rene Rivard Lecture (part of Ecomuseum Symposium) – April 27
- Johnson/Shoyama Graduate School Symposium – May 12
- Government House Exhibit Opening – May 18
- Original Humboldt/Whitecap Dakota event – June 8
- VSSN/SNP Conference June 9
- Lashburn Museum 50th Anniversary – June 10
- SaskCulture AGM/Lifecycles session – June 16

- Rocanville Canada 150 Event – June 17
- Morse Museum 30th Anniversary – June 17
- Commonwealth Museums Assoc. Conference (Calgary) – June 21-23
- Mosaic Stadium & Confederation Park Official Opening – June 30
- Deep South Pioneer Museum, Ogema – 40th Anniversary – July 9
- Dysart Museum Annual Ladies Tea – July 13
- Regina Indian Industrial School Cemetery Provincial Designation Ceremony – July 26
- Intro mtg with new Manager of Gov't House Monique Goffinet-Millar – Sept 8
- Saskatoon Cultural Planning review session – Sept 21
- Rivers West Sport, Culture & Rec. Dist. Culture Gathering (Loon Lake) – Sept 28

E-phemera was completed and distributed weekly during the reporting period and received a brand-new look in September!

50th Anniversary Project

MAS secured a Young Canada Works Grant to hire a student to travel over the summer to as many of our member museums as possible taking two types of photographs – a high quality exterior shot and an interior 360 panorama shot wherever possible. Our student, Simon Feser was able to travel to 167 member institutions between June 6 and August 31 and take over 1000 photographs. Staff will ensure the remaining members are included in the project. The results will be used to update the member pages on our website. They will eventually be available for members to use.

An additional student, Heather O'Watch, was also hired using funds from the accumulated surplus. She conducted a series of interviews with key individuals involved in MAS over the years. These interviews will be used to create a presentation at the conference and will be made available on the MAS website.

OPERATIONS

Planning

Staff completed the review & revision of the operational plan, evaluating the completed year (2016/17) and revising the plan to include the 2019/20 fiscal year. The operational plan will be reviewed this fall to ensure it's still on track.

Staffing

Terri Morris, our new Admin Assistant is the friendly voice you hear when you call the office. She can assist you to renew your membership, register for courses, borrow a book or redirect your call one of the other staff.

Dan Holbrow – Program Director, will be working remotely for the next year. He and his family have relocated to Winnipeg as his wife begins her Ph.D. at the U of Manitoba. He will be able to carry out the vast majority of his responsibilities remotely including program planning/evaluation, course development, grant applications, etc. He joins our weekly staff meetings via Skype or Google Hangouts and continues to be available via email at programs@saskmuseums.org

Our new Community Engagement Coordinator Michelle Brownridge is on the road this fall to Network meetings and CP courses around the province. Her office coordinates are: community@saskmuseums.org or 306-780-9451.

Again, apologies for the lengthy report this time around.

Enjoy the fall weather!

Wendy Fitch
Executive Director

SOCIAL MEDIA STATS



Twitter Followers

1525

up from 1,282



Facebook "Likes"

629

up from 572



Instagram Followers

110

up from 53



Website Visits

19,010

Sessions

Apr. 1 - Sept. 30

CONTACT US!

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We gratefully acknowledge the support of:

