

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The predominantly cool, damp weather has made it a challenging Fall for so many around our province. Perhaps the weather impacted year-end programming or fall clean up in your museum? Like so many of you, my mind also turns to our friends and neighbours in the agriculture sector who are particularly hard hit. Their hardships are felt throughout our communities. Hopefully the coming weeks will bring dry

weather with a safe and successful conclusion to harvest.

To cap off the summer season, many of you participated in Culture Day activities at the end of September. This was the 10th year for Culture Days across Canada. It's really incredible to see the variety of Culture Days programs offered around Saskatchewan. Well done to those of you who put so much effort into promoting heritage and culture in your community. As we head towards winter, seasonal museums have now closed their doors for another year and planning begins for next year. Year-round museums and galleries turn their attention to fall and winter programming and exhibitions. Hopefully the coming months will be busy and successful.

The Fall season means that Fall

Network meetings are underway. Whenever possible, Board members try to attend the Fall Network meetings along with a MAS staff member. The Networks are a valuable group within MAS and play an important role in facilitating communication between members and MAS staff. The Board appreciates the invitation to attend your meetings and to hear about your successes and challenges. Thanks also to those who volunteer as Network representatives (aka "Networkers") who liaise with MAS staff and the Board. We know you are already busy as volunteers within your own museum so we sincerely appreciate the time you give to take on this additional role.

One of the questions the Board asked at this Fall's Network meetings was about the federal election. We asked you, "What's one thing you would tell the federal candidates and what is one thing you would ask them?" It was interesting to hear what was important to you.



Above: Diefenbaker National Historic Site dedication, Prince Albert. Photo by: Kathleen Watkin

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

Not surprisingly, many of your concerns have to do with consistent, reliable funding for museums. You also wanted to tell candidates about the value of museums to the health of our communities.

Saskatchewan museums are not the only ones with concerns. The Canadian Museums Association has stated that they will be pushing the federal government to review current funding models and for expansion of the Museums Assistance Program as well as updating the national museums policy (the current policy was last updated nearly 30 years ago). The next few years will certainly be an interesting time for museums. Hopefully you had an opportunity talk with your local candidates and that they appreciate how dedicated and strong the Saskatchewan museum community is.

As you may have heard through E-Phemera, Darlene Brown has resigned from the MAS Board of Directors. Since joining the Board in 2016, Darlene has been an enthusiastic Director who actively took part in various committees and Board duties. Part of her time was spent as Chair of the Audit Committee where her background in the financial sector was greatly appreciated by her fellow Board members. The Board is extremely grateful to Darlene for her hard work and support of MAS. We wish her all the best in her future plans.

The Board would like to welcome Vincent Houghtaling as our latest member. Vincent is the Administrative Assistant at the Moose Jaw Museum & Art Gallery. He has a Master's in Arts Leadership from Queen's University in Kingston, ON, having focused primarily on the interaction

between major and planned gift fundraising and the succession planning process for artistic leadership. He has also worked at places including the Saskatchewan Arts Board, Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Saskatchewan Hockey Hall of Fame, and Swift Current Museum, and currently also sits on the board of CARFAC Saskatchewan.

As always, if you'd like to gain experience on a governance board or want to support the museum community in Saskatchewan, please consider the MAS Board. Call the MAS office as they can provide you with the details.

The MAS Board is excited about the vibrant heritage and culture community in our province. We seek to serve this community through our service to MAS. We hope you'll come join us.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to extend best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and the very best in 2020.

Corinne Daelick, MAS President

OFFICE REPORT

Summer seems to have flown by and not just because of holidays. Read on and see some of the things we were doing between July 1st and October 1st.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Corinne Daelick

Western Development Museum, Saskatoon

Vice - President

Merissa Scarlett

Regina

Past - President

Yvonne Hotzak

Fort Pelly Livingstone Museum, Pelly

Directors:

Karen Grenier

Hudson Bay Museum, Hudson Bay

Kaiti Hannah

Saskatoon

Tracene Harvey

Museum of Antiquities, Saskatoon

Katrina Howick

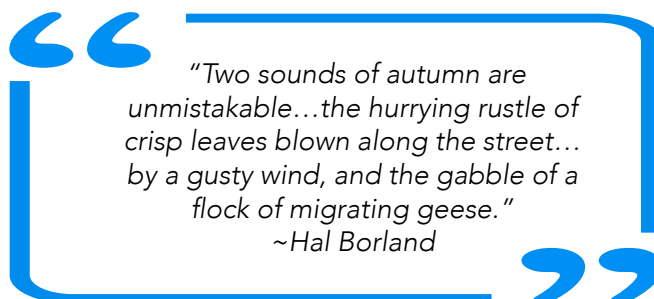
Moose Jaw Public Library, Moose Jaw

Vincent Houghtaling

Moose Jaw Museum & Art Gallery, Moose Jaw

Jennifer Matotek

Dunlop Art Gallery, Regina



"Two sounds of autumn are unmistakable...the hurrying rustle of crisp leaves blown along the street... by a gusty wind, and the gabble of a flock of migrating geese."

~Hal Borland

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

SaskCulture

Wendy Fitch, Executive Director (ED) attended a meeting of eligible cultural organizations to discuss the revised Annual Grant Fund (AGF) application form in advance of the December 2nd deadline. The AGF is the 3-year operational grant program funded by Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust through SaskCulture.

Saskatchewan Eco-Museum Partnership

MAS continues to participate in the provincial Eco-Museum Initiative Partnership 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.

Canadian Museums Association

The ED participated in two conference calls hosted by Canadian Museums Association (CMA) during this reporting period to develop a joint advocacy message for the 2019 federal election. This is an example of the change in focus at CMA towards a more collaborative approach which is much appreciated by the Provincial/Territorial Museums Association.

Networks

The first of the fall Network meetings was held in mid-September. The remaining fall meetings will take place through October. As usual a staff person will be in attendance along with a Board member. Dates and locations for the upcoming meetings can be found on the [Museum Networks page](#) of the MAS website. 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.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Courses and Workshops

Two Certificate Program courses were offered in September: Collections Management and Research. They were offered back-to-back in Saskatoon to minimize participant travel.

Advisory

The Museums Advisor was kept busy during this quarter. In addition to fielding the usual range questions via email and telephone Kathleen has been focused on assisting SaskCollections participants both existing and new to the program. In addition she is also the Saskatchewan lead of this year's *Re:Org Prairies & North* project with the Canadian Conservation Institute and has been working with the two participating Saskatchewan institutions - the Mackenzie Art Gallery and the Prince Albert Historical Museum.

Resource Library

New books are always being added to the Resource Library. [Visit the Resource Library section on our website to see our listings.](#) Watch for new book reviews in E-Phemera through the winter. Please give us a call if you cannot find the resource that you are looking for on the members only section of MAS's 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.

STAFF

Wendy Fitch
Executive Director

Brenda Herman
Director of Finance

Dan Holbrow
Program Director

Kathleen Watkin
Museums Advisor

Em Ironstar
(Formerly Michelle Brownridge)
Community Engagement
Coordinator

Terri Morris
Administrative Assistant

Equipment is 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

In addition to adding two new participants to SaskCollections this summer we have begun to add existing participants to the public portal of SaskCollections.

Up until now the focus has been on the creation of solid collections databases for the participating museums; now, as they become ready, we will be assisting them to use the public interface. This will allow the participating museums to share images and information about objects in their collections with researchers, colleagues, students and the general public. To see what the public can view go to the [SaskCollections](#) area of the MAS website.

**MARK YOUR
CALENDARS**
for the 2020 MAS
Conference &
Annual General
Meeting
to be held in
Estevan
June 5-6, 2020.

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 or phone 306-780-9241.

Planning and Development

Staff continued the developmental work on various capacity development projects including:

- the Management Self-Assessment Workbook is in the final piloting phase prior to being published on-line in the new year
- development of new tip sheets for publication in the new year
- planning the 2020/21 Professional Development/ Training year

As always, we'd also like to hear from you about your museum development needs. You can fill out the course request form or if you have any ideas or training requirements, or any questions about our education programs, contact Dan at 306-780-9241, or email programs@saskmuseums.org.

COLLECTIVE VOICE

Mark your calendars for the 2020 MAS Conference & Annual General Meeting to be held in Estevan, June 5th & 6th, 2020.

The last of the photoshoots took place over the summer at member museums in order to update member pages on the MAS website and SaskCollections. If you have not received your photographs or you are unsure whether or not photos were taken of your museum, please contact Em Ironstar at community@saskmuseums.org

OPERATIONS

Planning

The Board Orientation meeting July 26 & 27 took place at Cypress Hills Provincial Park with the ED in attendance.

Staff also undertook their annual operational planning for the next 3-year period (2020-2023). The planning process was based on the updated Strategic Plan developed by the Board and staff.

As well, staff have begun putting together material and data to be used in the SaskCulture Annual General Funding application due Dec. 2nd.

Staffing

Thanks for being patient if we weren't in when you tried to contact us as we all took much needed holidays at various times over the summer.

Happy autumn!

Events

MAS staff attended the following events during this quarter:

- Clayton McLain Memorial Museum *Moving Towards Reconciliation* event – Em
- Dysart Annual Ladies Tea – Kathleen
- Board Orientation Meeting – Wendy
- SK Library Assoc. One Book One Prov. Meeting – Em
- Pre-AGF application visit with SaskCulture staff – Wendy
- Diefenbaker National Historic Site dedication – Kathleen
- SK Digital Alliance conference call – Em
- Qu'Appelle Valley Network meeting – Em
- CMA/PTMA conference call re: federal election – Wendy
- AGF meeting – SaskCulture/ECOs – Wendy

Staff also attended the two Certificate Program courses offered during this quarter. In addition to the above, our e-newsletter, [E-Phemera](#), was sent out as per the bi-weekly schedule.

CONTACT US!

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SOCIAL MEDIA STATS...



Twitter Followers
1,719
up from 1,715



Facebook Followers
1,057
up from 879



Instagram Followers
516
up from 499



Website Visits
19,000
Sessions
Jul. 1 - Oct. 1



Moving Towards Reconciliation Mini Pow Wow at Clayton McLain Memorial Museum.
Dancers from Little Pine & Lucky Man First Nations. Photo by Em Ironstar.

We gratefully
acknowledge the
support of...

Canada  Sask 

FUNDING PROVIDED BY
Saskatchewan
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