

## Manitoba Choral Association Inc. Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, February 25, 2025 – 7:00pm  
Hybrid Meeting: 600 Shaftesbury Blvd./Zoom

### MINUTES

**Present:**

**In-Person:** Jorrel Camuyong, Jia He (Starry SATB Choir), Vic Hooper, Vic Pankratz, Robyn Stewart, Sonya Williams, Xiaodi Zhao (Starry SATB Choir – voting), Jenny Steinke-Magnus (staff), Lindsay Shute (staff), Alexis Chlopecki (staff, recording)

**Zoom:** Naomi Russell (chair), Nancy Gomes Fast, Jeff Green, Leonard Greenwood (Margaret's Choir), Carolyn Gwyer, Ron Krug, Philip Lapatha, Sharon Marshall, Oscar Pantaleon Jr. (Musica Singers), Catherine Robbins, Joan Schmidt (Ecco Singers), Roberta Velarde, Kris Sigurdson (guest – Olafson & Jones)

#### 1. Welcome

- The meeting was called to order at **7:05pm**. Naomi welcomed everyone to the meeting and shared a land acknowledgement.

#### 2. Adoption of Agenda (Attachment 1)

**MOTION 1: That the agenda be adopted.**

M/S: Oscar Pantaleon Jr./Vic Pankratz. CARRIED.

#### 3. Minutes of 2024 Annual General Meeting (Attachment 2)

**MOTION 2: That the minutes from the 2024 AGM be approved as presented.**

M/S: Nancy Gomes Fast/Robyn Stewart. CARRIED.

#### 4. Board & Staff Reports from 2023-24 Year (Attachments 3a, 3b)

- Jenny highlighted a few details from the 2023-24 reports, noting how proud she is of the work MCA has done for the choral community, especially as choirs continue to recover from the pandemic.
- We had a busy year of programming, including two successful flagship programs and a partnership with Winnipeg Arts Council for the *Winnipeg 150: City of Song* initiative. Although it was

a huge undertaking, it allowed the public to access many choral and singing events throughout the year, and it demonstrated the impact the choral arts can have on the community.

- Usage of the lending library also increased last year, thanks to an improved lending platform and the efforts of staff.
- We were fortunate to grow the staff team last year to better handle the increased programming and services offered to the membership.
- Members are encouraged to review the full reports for more details on the exciting initiatives MCA undertook.
- A video of highlights from the 2023-24 year was shared. Jenny thanked Ruth and Alexis for their work on the video. The video will be posted to MCA's social media platforms for public viewing shortly.
- Jenny also noted that the 2024-25 year has been a busy one so far, with new, innovative, and expanded programs and services being offered to the choral community.
- In closing, she expressed her excitement for MCA's bright future ahead, and her gratitude to the many volunteers that make it all happen.
- Naomi thanked Jenny and the staff team for their dedication and hard work.

***MOTION 3: That the reports be accepted as presented.***

M/S: Catherine Robbins/David Sawatzky CARRIED.

#### **5. Auditors' Report and Financial Statements (Attachment 4)**

- Jenny welcomed Kris Sigurdson from Olafson & Jones to present the auditors' report and audited financial statements. The auditors have given MCA a clean audit opinion. Updated statements have been provided at this meeting because there were some last-minute changes just before the AGM, specifically around how furniture and equipment is amortized. Going forward, MCA will be expensing furniture in the year it is purchased if funding is received for that purpose.
- We are ending this fiscal year with a \$4,731 surplus; however, the previous year's statements have had to be restated because of the change in amortization practices. Overall, our accumulated surplus has decreased since last year, but we are still in a strong position financially.
- No questions were raised about the financial statements.

***MOTION 4: That the audited financial statements for the year ending August 31, 2024 be approved as presented***

M/S: Robyn Stewart/Sharon Marshall. CARRIED.

#### **6. Appointment of Auditors for 2024/2025 Fiscal Year**

- MCA is grateful to Olafson & Jones for their work on the audits from the last three years, however, the board is recommending a move to a new auditing firm. In this year's audit, we encountered some communication challenges, so we approached several firms for quotes. We are confident going with Scarrow & Donald, knowing they have experience working with other arts/music organizations.

***MOTION 5: That Scarrow & Donald be appointed as auditors for the 2024-25 fiscal year.***  
M/S: Robyn Stewart/Sonya Williams CARRIED.

**7. Update for 2024-25 – Program Slate & Budget (Attachments 5a & 5b)**

- Jenny presented the approved program slate for the current fiscal year. Many of the listed events have already successfully come and gone. Members are encouraged to review the full slate for more details.

**8. Election of Directors**

**8.1. Report of the Nominating Committee**

- David presented the Nominating Committee report and shared that Katie Donnelly will be stepping down from the board. He thanked her for her work. Three new board members will be joining the board: Larissa Hrabí (TEMPO portfolio), Vic Pankratz (library portfolio), and Caleb Rondeau (member-at-large).

**8.2. Nominations from the floor, if any (to be moved and seconded and have written consent of the nominee if the nominee is absent)**

- No further nominations from the floor were put forth.

**8.3. Election of Directors and Officers from the Report of the Nominating Committee and (or) nominations from the floor, by show of hands or by secret ballot, if requested**

***MOTION 6: That MCA's board of directors be elected as presented.***  
M/S: David Sawatzky/Oscar Pantaleon Jr. CARRIED.

**9. Other/New Business**

- There was no new business noted.

**10. Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at **7:52pm**

***MOTION 7: That the meeting be adjourned.***  
M: Vic Pankratz. CARRIED.