



**Manitoba Choral Association  
Annual General Meeting  
October 23, 2021**

Virtual Meeting  
On Zoom





## **Manitoba Choral Association Inc. Annual General Meeting**

Saturday, October 23, 2021, 11:00 am  
Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

### **Draft Agenda**

1. Welcome
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Minutes of 2020 Annual General Meeting
4. Board of Directors Reports
  - 4.1. Executive Committee Members: President, Past-President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary
  - 4.2. Board Committee Chairs: ChoralFest, Provincial Honour Choirs, Membership, Library, Communications, Professional Development, Fund Development
  - 4.3. Regional Board Members: Norman, Westman, Central, Eastman, Parkland (vacant), Interlake
  - 4.4. Executive Director
5. Auditors' Report and Financial Statements
6. Appointment of Auditors for 2021/2022 Fiscal Year
7. Election of Directors
  - 7.1. Report of the Nominating Committee
  - 7.2. Nominations from the floor, if any, (to be moved and seconded and have written consent of the nominee if the nominee is absent)
  - 7.3. 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
8. Other/New Business
9. Adjournment



## Manitoba Choral Association Inc. Annual General Meeting

Saturday, October 17, 2020  
Virtual Meeting – Zoom  
11:00 am

### Draft Minutes

**Present:** Catherine Robbins (Chair), Marilyn Redekop, Adam Kilfoyle, Brittany Mielnichuk, Edward Cloud, Janna Banman, Leanne Cooper-Carrier, Maureen Britton, David Sawatzky, Michelle Chzyk, Naomi Russell, Millie Hildebrand, Sharon Marshall, Stephanie Pinette, Stuart Sladden, Sonya Williams, Gordon Plant, Avonlea Armstrong-Green, Melanie Urichuk, Janet Brenneman (CMU Choirs – voting), Ron Krug, Derek Morphy (Honorary Member), Donna Platt (Good Neighbours Choristers – voting), Katy Harmer, Jeff Green, Elizabeth Gebauer (Strathclair Theatre Chorus – voting), Vic Hooper, Karyn Kumhyr (Rainbow Harmony Project – voting), Jorrel Camuyong, Rosemary Komadowski (Assiniboine Chorus – voting), Carole Carlson (Assiniboine Chorus), Scott Reimer, Jenny Steinke-Magnus (recording)

1. **Welcome:** The meeting was called to order at 11:09 AM. Catherine did a land acknowledgement, and noted that it is great to see so many faces on the call.
2. **Adoption of Agenda:**

**MOTION 1:** That the agenda be adopted  
(M/S Naomi Russell/Michelle Chzyk) CARRIED.
3. **Minutes of 2019 Annual General Meeting:**

**MOTION 2:** That the minutes from the 2019 AGM be approved as presented  
(M/S David Sawatzky/Millie Hildebrand) CARRIED.
4. **Auditors' Report and Financial Statements:** Adam reviewed the financial statements that were circulated. The Exchange Group has provided a clean audit opinion. The Board approved the statements this morning. We did very well over the past year, and are ending the fiscal year with a surplus of around \$5,000. There are some minor edits to change after this meeting, including a change of the new lease end date to be 2023, a change to the 2019 budget column to 2020, and the wording of "Canada Employment Wage Subsidy" to "Temporary Employment Wage Subsidy". Adam will take care of this after the meeting.

5. **Approval of Financial Statements:**

**MOTION 3:** That the audited financial statements for the year ending August 31, 2020 be approved as presented  
(M/S Adam Kilfoyle/Ron Krug) CARRIED.

6. **Board of Directors Reports:** Catherine gave an overview of the Board reports. We are proud of the many initiatives MCA has undertaken this year, thanks to the dedication of our Board members and the drive of our Executive Director.

The Board passed a strategic plan in June (included in the AGM documents). Please review our updated mission statement, guiding values, and strategic and operational goals. Thanks to Sonya, Stuart, Jenny and Catherine for working on this document.

Despite discouraging and challenging times, MCA is working hard to stay relevant. We are optimistic that MCA can continue to plan good quality programming for community. We rely on countless hours of volunteer hours to run our programs—thank you to all Board members, committee members, and volunteers.

We are fortunate to have strong connections with the regions. We hope that many will get involved in the virtual events being planned in the regions. Thank you to our regional representatives—David, Maureen, Edward and Michelle—and thank you to Millie for keeping everything up to date on the website.

Catherine reviewed some of the highlights from 2019-20:

- **Funding:** We have had a strong year financially and we are poised to deal with the difficulties of the pandemic. Millie has solicited numerous gifts from donors and we have benefitted greatly from Millie's tenacity and spirit. We participated in the Canada Helps Giving Challenge in June and raised \$3,000. Jenny has also pursued grants for MCA—see her report for more details. We recognize that we need to broaden our fundraising scope this year, and evaluate the position of Fund Development Chair on the Board.
- **Office Space:** In May 2019 we decided to start looking for new office space. We are thrilled to announce that we will be moving to the CMU south campus on November 1. This will save on rent costs considerably.
- **Membership:** We boasted strong numbers as of June 2020. Currently we have 1/3 of this number. We hope we can turn this around by offering strong virtual programming and resources to members this year. Catherine thanked Stephanie for all the work she had done over her two terms as Membership Chair.
- **Library:** We are preparing to move our most significant resource. Over the past 6 months, Janna and her library committee have been busy culling, sorting, and entering data in our music library to make sure it is accessible and updated.
- **Marketing & Communications:** Leanne took over in February after Karen's sudden passing. She took the reigns and has helped developed a very strong presence on social media. We have decided to suspend *Noteworthy*, focusing instead on communicating with the membership through *eNotes*. Music Monday and Tried &

True moved online, and this took a lot of time and work with the committee. Thank you to Leanne and Jenny.

- **ChoralFest & PHC**: ChoralFest has been a meaningful event for MCA for over 30 years. Last year's ChoralFest was a huge success. Registration was once again strong, although we would like to engage more early years choirs in the future. Thank you to Sonya & Brittany for running such a smooth event! PHC was also a great success. Registration for the event reached capacity and beyond, and the gala concert was sold out. Thank you to Marilyn and her committee. These flagship programs are cancelled this season, but we are working on virtual offerings, so look for those in the upcoming months.
- **Professional Development**: Carrie Tennant gave a workshop before the PHC weekend. We had great participation through our Tried & True video submissions as well. We are planning to mount several online PD events this year. Tempo is also under the PD umbrella. There are a number of virtual workshops/webinars being offered this year for this conference. Thank you to Sharon Marshall & the committee for their work.
- **Awards & Competitions**: The Bert Kroeker Scholarship was awarded to John Eisma, and the inaugural winner of the David G.H. Waters Hymn Sing Memorial Award was Kathleen Murphy. We have received several nominations for MCA's newly established Awards of Distinction, and will announce recipients over the coming weeks. The winner of the Frances Seaton Choral Composition Competition was Scott Reimer. Thank you to FCMM for making the competition a possibility! Stay tuned for a virtual release of Scott's piece, *Be Love*, in the New Year.
- **COVID-19 Initiatives**: We contributed to webinar planning with Choral Canada, and the national COVID-impact survey. MCA sent a letter to the Manitoba government in June and we were granted a meeting. We are concerned that up-to-date research is not being taken into consideration to update the provincial guidelines. We sent the Province guidelines we had developed, and have forwarded research to them, to no avail. MCA has started a petition and we are at 2,000 signatures. We will be sending it to the government soon. Jenny has spoken to CTV News, and the Winnipeg Free Press for interviews.

Catherine summarized MCA's plans for 2020-21. Stuart has taken on the chair role of the special programming committee. We will continue to support and engage with the choral community this year. We look forward to providing our programming and services again in person in the future, but until then we will be busy with virtual programming and all of our other activities.

Catherine shared a few final reflections on her post as President, and again thanked Bboard members, volunteers, members, donors, and the Executive Director. She specifically thanked outgoing board members Kim Jones and Millie Hildebrand. She noted that Stephanie will be leaving her post as Membership Chair but taking on the Norman Rep role in Kim's place. Catherine also thanked John Balsillie at MBA for keeping us in the loop about grants and other funding opportunities.

**MOTION 4:** That all reports be accepted as presented  
(M/S Naomi/Millie) CARRIED.

7. **Awards of Distinction:** We have had nominations in all three categories, and we will be notifying winners in the coming weeks and share that with the membership. We are thrilled to recognize the incredible talent and support in our community! Today, we are happy to award our highest honour—that of **Honorary Membership**—to **Vic Hooper and Ron Krug**. This honour is reserved for people who have distinguished themselves for a number of years in service to MCA.

Millie Hildebrand talked about Vic's contributions to MCA and the Manitoba choral community. He has dedicated many years to the choral arts and has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to choristers in this province. He has served as chair of the MCA Marketing and Communications Committee, and has volunteered countless hours over the years as our webmaster, graphics coordinator, email blast coordinator, and more. He was also instrumental in establishing our flagship programs. He is still involved with PHC as well.

Marilyn Redekop talked about Ron's contributions to MCA and the Manitoba choral community. After moving to Winnipeg in the late 60s, Ron became involved in the choral scene here as a chorister and pianist. Ron was connected to MCA right from the beginning, developing the music library, and later on, becoming Rob Neufeld's right financial hand. Over the years he has also been a very important member of PHC committee (almost a co-chair!).

Catherine thanked both Vic and Ron for all of their work over the years, and Jenny did a ceremonial virtual pinning of the 10-K gold MCA pins for both of them. The pins will be delivered after the meeting.

8. **Revision of By-Laws:** Jenny presented proposed changes to the by-laws that have already been approved by the board. These mainly revolve around updating outdated gendered language and committee descriptions:
- Communications Committee: removing reference to Noteworthy, updating language to be more general and current.
  - Endowment Fund & Bert Kroeker Scholarship Committees: removing reference to both committees to reflect current reality that these are ad-hoc committees struck only when needed.

**MOTION 5:** That the updated by-laws be approved as presented  
(M/S Sharon Marshall/David Sawatzky) CARRIED.

9. **Appointment of Auditors for 2020/2021 Fiscal Year:**

**MOTION 6:** That The Exchange Group be appointed as our Auditors for the 2020/2021 fiscal year  
(M/S Adam Kilfoyle/Ron Krug) CARRIED.

10. **Election of Directors:** Millie presented the Nominating Committee report and thanked her committee for staying on top of everything. In March the Board ratified Leanne as Marketing & Communications Chair. Today, the committee is pleased to report that Stephanie has

volunteered to take the place of Kim as Norman representative. Thank you to Kim for all the years she's given. David Sawatzky will be moving to post of Vice-President, while Stuart will move to President and Catherine will move to Past President and will now take the baton of Nominating Committee Chair as well.

Catherine called for nominations from the floor three times as per protocol and there were none. Catherine thanked Millie for all her work in this area.

**MOTION 7:** That the slate of officers be accepted as presented  
(M/S Millie Hildebrand/Marilyn Redekop) CARRIED.

11. **Other/New Business:**

IDEA Committee: We are looking for members from community for this committee. If you or someone you know is interested in joining, there is information available on our website and in *eNotes*.

12. **Adjournment:** Catherine thanked everyone for joining the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:10pm.

**MOTION 8:** That the meeting be adjourned  
(Sonya Williams) CARRIED.

# Manitoba Choral Association

## President's Report

Annual General Meeting, October 23, 2021

As I reflect on the past year, I am struck by a few things. I am filled with a wide range of emotions; from complete despair and exhaustion over the relentless toll the pandemic has taken on us and the artistic community, to joy and elation in discovering, or sometimes creating, new ways to experience both choir and community through virtual means. I have been consistently impressed at how we as an organization have continued to evolve, adapt, and respond to the pandemic's ever-changing landscape. And I am amazed at the resiliency the choral community has demonstrated amidst these stressful times. I am in awe of my choral colleagues for the creative ways they have found to stay connected to each other, along with the grit and perseverance they have needed in order to maintain their connection to the art form we all hold deep in our hearts. It has truly been an interesting time to be involved in choir.

As an organization last season, we took two major steps, among many smaller ones, to work amidst the uncertainties created by the pandemic. The first, and perhaps the most difficult, was to significantly modify our flagship programs ChoralFest and Provincial Honour Choirs, in both cases altering them significantly to something that was virtually brand new. The second was to significantly expand our programming slate, with everything being delivered by virtual means, in order to provide more varied opportunities for learning. I am ever grateful for the members of MCA's *Special Pandemic Response Programming Committee* for their creativity and willingness to think beyond 'what we normally do' in order to develop both meaningful and engaging programs. It has been a privilege to serve as the chair of this committee over the past year.

Some of the programs we offered, along with a modified ChoralFest, included a three-part intensive introductory workshop on diversity and inclusion, a two-part vocal workshop specifically geared to maintaining a healthy voice as we age, a provincial virtual choir, a round table discussion on thinking like an adjudicator, and a yoga workshop developed specifically for singers. These programs were offered alongside monthly opportunities for our members to gather virtually in order to engage with and support one another. One of the benefits of offering our programming slate in a completely virtual way this past year has been the ability for MCA to extend beyond the border of the Perimeter in order to reach our members in other parts of the province, and in some cases beyond our province.

Behind the scenes, MCA has also been extremely busy. To highlight a few of the major items we have been working on:

- We moved our operations to the CMU campus and are thrilled with the new office space



- We continued to work on, and have recently finished, our major library inventory (which now holds approximately 5,000 titles)
- We began work on rebranding MCA. This has included many discussions about who we are, who we want to be, and what we are to our members and the wider Manitoban community
- We began work on a complete website overhaul, which will include our new branding and new public interfaces to make things like membership renewal, event registration, and borrowing from the choral library so much easier
- Beyond our rebranding, we have continued to assess how we operate, which includes the areas of inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility (IDEA), in order to find ways for us to streamline and update our policies and governance practices and to determine how we can best serve our members and the wider Manitoban choral community
- We hired a second full-time employee to support our Executive Director and work on our library inventory project over the summer
- With the success of our hire for the summer months, we decided to move forward and hire a second part-time employee to be a programming and communications resource person through the course of this year
- And, we have continued to find ways to financially support the work of MCA so that we can remain a stable and vital support for our members and the wider Manitoban choral community

For more detailed information on these and other things we did this past year, I encourage you, if you have not already done so, to read through the various reports included with the AGM package. As I have said many times this past year, I am continually amazed by the efforts of MCA's staff and board, especially for working to hold us together during a year when singing in choir was not really possible and deemed a "high risk" activity.

One of the first things we did as a board last year, in continuing to think about how we operate and what will work best for MCA, was to discuss when we should hold our annual general meeting moving forward. Taking a critical look at our programming year and reflecting on the best time of year for positions on the board to turn over, it was determined that June would be the best time of year to hold this important meeting. As a result of these deliberations, we will hold our first June AGM in 2022, which we hope will be in-person and a real celebration of MCA and the choral community.

The move to a June AGM also generated many discussions about how to manage this short eight-month period between this AGM and the next. It was determined at the board's August retreat to constitute an ad hoc committee to review our governance structure and by-laws and to report back to the board in early 2022 with a proposal for revisions to our board structure and by-laws. Since

this review may potentially change the current structure of the board, it was also determined at this meeting that we would elect an interim board at this AGM, which also involved assessing the need to fill, or not fill, any vacant positions on the board during this eight-month interim period. It is the hope that through this process we will determine a governance model that best serves the current work and vision of MCA. It is our intention that the results of this work will be brought to the membership at our June 2022 AGM, where we will elect a new MCA board and approve any amendments to our by-laws.

All of this work would not be possible without the dedication of MCA's hardworking staff, board, and volunteers. I would like to acknowledge and thank all members of the board for their dedication to MCA over the past year, for their insight and ideas as we discussed difficult topics, for their patience and understanding as we experimented with new ideas in response to the pandemic, and for their continued support of both MCA and the wider choral community. On behalf of the membership, I would like to thank Catherine Robbins, David Sawatzky, Naomi Russell, Adam Kilfoyle, Sonya Williams, Janna Reid, Leanne Cooper-Carrier, Avonlea Armstrong-Green, Sharon Marshall, Marilyn Redekop, Maureen Britton, Edward Cloud, Stephanie Pinette, and Carolyn Gwyer. Thank you for all that you do!

Even though she was with us for a very short time this past summer, I would like to thank Katrina Lengsavath for her work this summer in the office, especially for her work towards finishing our library inventory project. Her energetic presence and insights at meetings over the summer were invaluable to us as we continued work on our rebranding and website overhaul and for discussions around programming and our governance review.

I would also like to both thank and officially welcome someone who is no stranger to MCA, Brittany Mielnichuk, to her new role as Program and Resource Coordinator. Even though she has been with us for only a little over a month, her positive presence and insights are already being felt. On behalf of the board and the membership, I welcome Brittany to her new staff position with MCA and wish her all the best as she grows into her staff role with us.

One person that I have spent a significant amount of time with over the past year and who I am eternally grateful for is our Executive Director, Jenny Steinke-Magnus. She is an astoundingly capable individual who is a real, but often unseen, driving force behind the work of MCA. I have come to rely on her insights and have appreciated our candid and in-depth conversations about how we can continue to improve and grow as an organization. She cares deeply about MCA and making sure that we remain a vital organization that supports our members and the wider choral community. Thank you, Jenny, for all that you do, both seen and unseen.

Moving forward, I am looking forward to seeing the completion of a number of projects, including our organizational rebranding, the website overhaul, and our governance review. I am looking forward to an expanded slate of programming this year, which again will be delivered primarily through virtual methods. I am looking forward to an eventual return to in person events and

workshops. And, I am looking forward to continued discussions on how MCA can be a relevant and vital organization that is a support and resource for our members and choral communities in Manitoba well into the future.

This has indeed been a challenging year in many ways. But at the same time, I would suggest that amidst the challenges we have learned new things about ourselves, learned new ways to communicate and interact with each other, and have been able to take this time to further look at who we are, and who we want to be. I am honoured to be a small part of the work of this wonderful organization, especially now.

*Submitted by Dr. Stuart Sladden, President*

# Manitoba Choral Association

## Past President Report

Annual General Meeting, October 23, 2021

### HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2020-2021

- **COVID-19 Advocacy work:** I worked with Jenny to continue letters to the MB Provincial Government to urge them to create clearer guidelines for singing for choirs. Additionally, we created letters for members of the public to send to MLAs. Unfortunately, we have received little to no response, but we certainly have done our utmost to communicate and shown our membership that we have advocated strongly during the pandemic.
- **Bert Kroeker and Hymn Sing Scholarships:** I was happy to serve on these committees this season.
- **Executive Committee:** Our executive has engaged in many exciting discussions regarding restructuring our board and updating our by-laws to best serve the choral community. I feel privileged to be a part of this and am happy we are moving forward. These discussions culminated in an August board retreat where we delved into deeper discussions regarding programming, administration, and outreach. Thank you to Jenny for work summarizing examples from similar choral and arts boards across the country to help put things into perspective. MCA has now formed a Governance Review Committee to put things into action. I have agreed to serve on this committee. These are exciting times.
- **Programming Committee:** We are hoping to see Indigenous topics in our programming for the season.
- **IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility) Committee:** The committee first met in January of 2021. It has been an incredible experience chairing the IDEA Committee. Our first meeting moved in a more organic direction beginning with one another's backgrounds and narratives of experiences and relations to the choral world. We began from a place of vulnerability and developing trust. From this, many discussions emerged that challenged our worldviews and questioned the choral world and MCA's role in it.
- As we held more meetings, many times, I felt overwhelmed with the scope of IDEA but in a positive and meaningful way. I have learned and continue to learn. In our subsequent meetings, we have continued to explore many ideas and question the traditional way of doing things. We came to understand that the best route for such a collective is not necessarily as a committee in its traditional form, but rather as a Special Interest Group (SIG) where like-minded folks gather to explore topics and influence programming. As such, we hope to involve more voices in our work.

- Last meeting, we moved ahead on the following specific ideas:
  - working on an IDEA policy informed by our discussions throughout the year
  - meeting twice a year (Winter/Spring) to reflect on IDEA in MCA's programming
  - holding regular article shares and forums to create a space for discussion
  - programming professional development activities that decentralize and shake up the traditional choral model
- Additionally, we formed a sub-committee to gather resources related to this topic and make them available to our membership.
- Finally, we further discussed the idea of MCA hosting a symposium in 2023 that incorporates these ideas. We have tentatively formed a symposium committee to begin discussing what this might look like and what content could be included. In the future, we hope to balance sharing narratives, learning, discussing, and making room for diverse voices with tangible outcomes such as events, resources, programming, policy review and advocacy.
- Thank you to those who have served on this committee. You are respected and special friends and you have taught me so much. Sonya Williams, Geung Kroeker-Lee, Philip Lapatha, John Eisma, Jordan Bighorn, Katrina Lengsavath, Edward Cloud, Kendra Obach, Kristel Peters, Marla Fontaine, Ken DeLisle, Stuart Sladden, and Jenny Steinke-Magnus.

### **ACTIVITIES GOING FORWARD**

- Member of Governance Review Committee
- Explore possibility of IDEA-oriented symposium hosted by MCA in 2023
- Moving ahead with IDEA goals and implementing programming
- Member of Programming Committee

### **FINAL THOUGHTS**

I am so proud to be part of MCA. Through these hard times we have put many things on the shelf, but the amount of work done to bring programming to our members, to move ahead with new programs, to work on our library, to rebrand and update the website, and to forge ahead in restructuring our board to create a stronger organization is remarkable. Thank you to my peers who give so much of their time to make this happen. Thank you, most especially, to our inspiring Executive Director. Jenny, your tiresome efforts have moved us forward more than I could ever have imagined in the short time you have been with us.

If you would like to become more involved in our organization, please get in touch with me!

[catherine@manitobasings.org](mailto:catherine@manitobasings.org).

*Submitted by Catherine Robbins, Past President*

# **Manitoba Choral Association**

## **Vice President & MMEA Representative Report**

Annual General Meeting, October 23, 2021

What a year it has been! MCA has undergone a marked transformation over the last year. Moving to the new location on the Canadian Mennonite University Campus has given us more space and a better facility for meetings and workshops. Our choral library has been fully catalogued, with a number of newly acquired titles from Pembina Trails Voices and Renaissance Voices. Personally, I've enjoyed helping with the process of moving and sorting through music. Our new professional development initiatives have also kept the spirit of choral music alive through these difficult times. I was honoured to be a part of the online "Think like an Adjudicator" workshop earlier this year with Zimfira Poloz, Dr. Janet Brenneman, and Dr. Bruce Kotowich.

Despite the important and significant work of MCA and MMEA throughout the year, the reality of Covid has still presented significant hurdles for us to overcome. Advocacy work has been the most important initiative over the past year. We have been forced to deal with a non-responsive government to issues of choral singing in both schools and communities. MMEA has advocated fiercely on behalf of school music programs over the year, only to have most of their efforts ignored. MCA has also pushed hard for clearer and more reasonable guidelines, with very little response. Despite these setbacks, both of these organizations are continuously moving forward and working in the best interests of choral programs throughout the province.

As we enter the 2021 season, choral music programs throughout the province are beginning to re-emerge. The hope is that this continues, barring any more unforeseen covid setbacks. If anything, the experience of this last year has shown us how fragile our music programs are without a true and intentional effort at cultivation. We have often heard from people over the year that the lack of choral singing has disrupted established communities and social gathering opportunities. But all the work of MCA and the different choral regions over the past years is proving to be resilient. Here's to a future of thriving growth in choral music.

*Submitted by Dr. David Sawatzky, Vice President*

# Manitoba Choral Association

## Library Report

Annual General Meeting, October 23, 2021

### **HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2020-2021**

- Meeting with web designer to review the new web platform for the library
- Part of hiring committee for Digital Program & Resource Assistant position for summer 2021 and for Program & Resource Coordinator position for fall 2021
- MCA Board retreat (August 25, 2021)
- Amazing library volunteers: Marilyn Redekop, David Sawatzky, Ron Krug, Corinne Villebrun, Irmgard Doerksen, Jenni Magnus, Candace Unrau, Jenaya Lowen, Melanie Friesen, Johanna Hildebrand, Millie Hildebrand, Edward Cloud, Sharon Marshall, Michael Reid, Stuart Sladden, Katrina Lengsavath, Monica Hultin, Alice Britton, Judy Pringle, Sarah Harrington, Mabel Harrington, and Teagan Ross
- FINISHING THE INVENTORY PROJECT!!! (September 2021)

### **ACTIVITIES FOR 2021-2022**

The library will be moving to a more streamlined online borrowing system in the near future.

Moving forward, there has been some discussion that the library chairperson will no longer be a position on the board and will transition to a portfolio position. This will be decided by June 2022, but in the meantime, members' library needs will continue to be attended to by our Executive Director and our volunteers, and projects will be determined by the executive board members.

Thank you everyone for your continued support of MCA, and I hope you check out some music from our library for your choirs in the 2021-2022 season!

### **FINAL THOUGHTS**

I have had such a wonderful experience volunteering as MCA's Library Chairperson over the past six years. Some of the highlights for me were working with many prominent Choral leaders and visionaries early in my own career as a Choir director and Music teacher, hosting a library music reading session in 2018, and beginning the library inventory project in 2019, which included accepting the Pembina Trails Voices library donation. I was also so lucky to have been part of the Communications Committee from 2017-2018 with Karen Giesbrecht as the chair, and helping our new direction into digital communication to emerge.

Thank you, Jenny, Katrina, and Brittany for all of the back-end work you did in the office with the library project since it started.

And as a final word, I'd like to give a special thanks to Dr. Catherine Robbins, who mentored me early on in my role, and whose vision for MCA and passion for the Choral community has inspired me in my career and my personal journey as a Choir lover! Thank you, Catherine, and thank you MCA board, for all your love and dedication to this beautiful art!

*Submitted by Janna Reid (Banman), Library Chair*



# Manitoba Choral Association

## Membership Report

Annual General Meeting, October 23, 2021

### **HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2020-2021**

Stephanie and Jenny did a great job inputting new choir memberships in the early fall, before I took on the membership position. I continued the work they had started, transferring membership registrations from Wufoo to our databases. As had been decided due to COVID-19, choir organizations paid one registration fee, with no extra cost for additional choirs.

Jenny and I coordinated TEMPO and MCA memberships, working with Danessa Poiron from MMEA.

In the spring of 2021, I met with Stuart, Jenny, and Stephanie to discuss the membership position, including what the position currently entails and what it could look like.

In June of 2021, membership totals were as follows:

- 126 Individual Memberships (compared to 155 in 2019-20)
- 121 Choir Memberships (compared to 186 in 2019-20)
- 2 Corporate Memberships (compared to 4 2019-20)

We are pleased that memberships remained high throughout the pandemic, and know that MCA's dedication to offering continued support, communication, opportunities, and professional development throughout the year accounted for this.

In spring 2021 Jenny explored many platforms to use in lieu of Wufoo (our membership registration software), as our account was expired and we anticipated membership renewal time. After much exploration, we weren't completely happy with the functionality of these other platforms, and in light of timing and changes already happening with the website and rebranding process, decided to stick with Wufoo. Jenny and I had a meeting to formulate questions for the new membership forms. We wanted the process to be user friendly and the questions to be useful for our organization's purposes.

We began membership renewal in August. We offered an incentive of being able to win membership fees back to those who registered by September 30. Thanks to Jenny and Brittany, who have taken over the process of inputting registrations into the databases.

As of October 12, memberships are as follows:

- 59 Individual Memberships (compared to 42 this time last year)
- 101 Choir Memberships (compared to 49 last year)

- 4 Corporate Memberships

### **ACTIVITIES GOING FORWARD**

- Continue to explore platforms to use in lieu of Wufoo
- Work with Jenny, Stuart, and Brittany in planning the Choral Celebration for May / June 2022
- Continue to explore the role of the Membership Chair
- Examine the development of a membership affinity program and ways to expand membership benefits

### **FINAL THOUGHTS**

I have enjoyed my first year being part of the MCA board. It was interesting to see and hear the inner workings of the board and the efforts of each board member. It was a pleasure taking part in virtual sessions including In-Tune meetups, the Diversity sessions with Terrence Taylor, the rebranding sessions with Buffy Davey, and the workshop about working with older singers. It was a pleasure being able to finally connect "in-person" at our board retreat in August, after a year of all virtual meetings. While it was anything but a "normal" year for us as a choral community and beyond, it was exciting to see how MCA continued to offer support and professional development in creative ways during this difficult year. Special thanks to Jenny, whose amazing organizational and leadership skills, guidance, and kindness helped me navigate this new position. MCA is in good hands as it continues to move forward and inspire singers around our province!

*Submitted by Avonlea Armstrong-Green, Membership Chair*

**Manitoba Choral Association**  
**Provincial Honour Choirs Report**  
Annual General Meeting, October 23, 2021

\*\*PROVINCIAL HONOUR CHOIRS WEEKEND was cancelled for 2021 due to COVID-19.

**HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2020-2021**

- In place of PHC 2021, the committee produced an excellent virtual honour choir video.
  - **Jonathan Alexiuk** arranged a medley of songs entitled WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD. It involved singers from all three choirs: Youth, Senior High & Adult. He also served as pianist for the rehearsals and recording.
  - **Rick Heppner-Mueller** directed the virtual 165-voice choir.
  - **Stephen Ross** provided the technical prowess to put it together.
- **Blue Stem**, directed by **Rob Monson**, performed the winning **Frances Seaton** Choral Competition Composition piece, **Be Love**, composed by **Scott Reimer**. **Stuart and Rob** collaborated to make this a virtual choir performance.
- Many thanks to **Jenny** for her tireless efforts with this project.

**PLANS FOR 2022**

- **Conductors & Pianists** have been hired (if in-person) for PHC 2022: **January 28, 29 & 30, 2022**.
  - Youth Choir: Nancy Gomes & Jorrel Camuyong are sharing the conductor duties; Piano: Katie Erickson
  - Senior High Choir: Conductor: Rob Monson; Piano: Jonathan Alexiuk
  - Adult Choir: Conductor: Elroy Friesen; Piano: Kim Lapatha
  - Portage Avenue Mennonite Church has been booked for PHC concert on Jan. 30th.
- Plans will change if in-person choirs are deemed unsafe as per public health guidelines.
- **THANK YOU to the most amazing committee**: Ron Krug, Janet Isaac-Martens, Brittany Mielnichuk, Ben Campbell, Jorrel Camuyong, Corinne Villebrun, Spencer Duncanson, Vic Hooper, Nancy Gomes, Kelsey Shiaro, Sonya Williams, and Jan Burdon.

- Thank You, **Jenny**, for all your wonderful work! The committee appreciates the work that you do for PHC.
- **PHC was excited to see that RON KRUG received an MCA Spirit Award. CONGRATULATIONS, RON!!**
  - **I will be “passing the PHC torch” to Kelsey Shiaro**, who will chair the PHC committee for the years to come. Thank you **Kelsey!** PHC is in GOOD HANDS!!
  - **I have enjoyed many years working with MCA. THANKS for the great memories!!**

*Submitted by Marilyn Redekop, PHC Chair*

# Manitoba Choral Association Professional Development Report

Annual General Meeting, October 23, 2021

## **HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2020-2021**

The following PD activities/rehearsals/workshops took place in 2021:

### **Tempo**

- Last year on October 23, 2020, MMEA's annual conference Tempo was presented virtually for the first time.
- Under the MCA banner, the following three clinicians presented 2, 50-minute sessions each, for a total of 6 sessions:
  - Christine C. Bass for middle and senior years' choral;
  - Andy Beck for early and middle years' choral (Andy was last at TEMPO in 2016);
  - Dr. Kat Reinhert for vocal jazz.
- Conn Selmer, under the direction of Elisa Jansen Jones, facilitated TEMPO Online.
- To encourage registration in this first virtual platform, MMEA lowered the registration cost to \$25.00 for all participants. As well, participants were able to access all 25 sessions for one full month after Oct. 23.
- The final registration number for the entire conference was 517: an amazing indication of the dedication of our provincial music educators while trying to work through the pandemic.

### **Vocal Technique and Healthy Singing for Older Adults Workshop**

- Two zoom rehearsals/workshops took place on March 23 & March 30, 2021. Dr. Matthew Pauls and Dr. Janet Brenneman from CMU were the guest clinicians; Dr. Stuart Sladden facilitated.
- The workshop was co-hosted by Joie de Vivre Choir and MCA, and funded in part by the Laura Haley micro-grant.
- It was very well received - 204 people participated.

### **Think Like an Adjudicator Panel Discussion**

- An online Panel Discussion took place April 14, 2021. This was planned in anticipation of choral festivals to be held in the future, and constituted a 90-minute panel discussion which revolved around what adjudicators are listening for, adjudicators' opinions on what they are hearing, what choir directors are looking for in an adjudication, etc.
- Four highly regarded adjudication specialists, 2 local and 2 from across Canada, were contacted, and very graciously and willingly took part:
  - Dr. Janet Brenneman from CMU;
  - Dr. Bruce Kotowich from the University of Windsor;

- Zimfira Poloz, Director of the Hamilton Children's Choir;
- Dr. David Sawatzky, MCA Vice President.
- Participants were asked to submit their questions ahead of time, and a Q and A period was facilitated by moderator Stuart Sladden.
- The discussion proved to be very positive, informative and up-lifting.
- 28 people participated.

### **Yoga and Mindfulness for Singers Workshop**

- An online session with Rose Vanderhooft of Blue Rose Yoga and Voice: Health and Wellness took place on April 29, 2021.
- This session provided diversity in MCA programming, i.e., a different kind of learning.
- 26 people participated.

### **Tried and True 4.0**

- This program was held online once again this year, in June 2021.
- Rather than asking choral directors to submit videos of their Tried and True repertoire, as was done last year, the decision was made to invite members to send their list of tried and true pieces to MCA.
- An information reminder was sent out in mid-June to all MCA members. At the end of June this repertoire list was published for MCA members. Submissions included the following: Title, Voicing, Composer/Arranger information, Age range suitability, Links to performances, Personal comments and any further Information about the piece
- A total of 16 choral pieces were recommended by MCA members.
- Hopefully we will be able to present Tried and True 5.0 next June, 2022 in person! We would then have a better representation from MCA members and be able to reach the wider choral community.

I also attended the Virtual MCA Meet-Up on April 8, attended two Programming Committee zoom meetings on April 7 and June 3, and the MCA Board Retreat on August 25.

### **ACTIVITIES GOING FORWARD**

#### **Virtual Tempo, October 22, 2021**

- Three clinicians for 6 MCA sessions have been contacted and confirmed:
  - Dinah Lindberg-Helgeson from Washington State - 2 sessions for Middle and Senior Years' Choral;
  - Kerry Marsh from Colorado - 2 sessions for Vocal Jazz;
  - Catherine Glaser-Climie from Calgary - 2 sessions for Early Years' Choral.
- There are also "hang out times" built into the Tempo program, in between sessions at 11 am and 2 pm, for all partner groups, MCA, MBA, MOC and MCGA, to discuss the session just viewed or to simply meet and catch up.

- The Conn Selmer Institute and Elyssa Jansen Jones will again be providing technical support.
- Avonlea-Armstrong Green, David Sawatzky, and myself will be serving as presiders/room monitors for the above sessions.
- Sessions will again be made available to MMEA participants for one month after the event, until November 22, 2021.
- This year, the fee is \$55.00 for full day members, \$65.00 for full day non-members, and \$25.00 for full day students, \$35.00 for full day non-member students.

### **Kodaly Workshop**

Planning is underway for a Kodaly workshop together with the Kodaly Society of Canada to be held sometime in the late fall or early in the New Year.

*Submitted by Sharon Marshall, Professional Development Chair*

# **Manitoba Choral Association**

## **Central Manitoba Choral Association Report**

Annual General Meeting, October 23, 2021

### **HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2020-2021**

- CMCA has met several times during the past year to plan events to the best of our abilities during these continuing challenging times. Our committee meetings have continued to be held via Zoom, with the exception of our September 8, 2021 meeting which was held in person outdoors at the Carmen Agricultural Fairgrounds. It was a joy to see everyone in person again (as it was also so nice to see you all in person at the MCA meeting in August).
- Several of the annual programs that our regional committee plans and organizes, had to be cancelled or changed for the 2020/2021 season. The jazz workshop held annually in February, was replaced this past year, with a very successful professional development day which was held on February 12 with over 30 registrants in attendance. There was good feedback from participants.
- Due to fewer events and good financial position, CMCA was able to offer micro-grants this past year to choral programs in the region in order to support new music programs being developed in compliance with Covid restrictions.
- CMCA lost one of our valued committee members this past August with the passing of James Reynolds. James was a dedicated member of the choral community in Manitoba and a much-loved choral teacher and leader in the Portage la Prairie community. His presence is greatly missed.
- CMYC 2021 met for 2 weekends in September 2021 for live outdoor rehearsals with a recording done at the end. The recordings will be presented as a virtual concert event later in October. This year's director was Marla Fontaine and the accompanist was Loren Hiebert. The rehearsals and audio and visual recordings were done at the Grandstand in the Carmen Fairgrounds. Parents and siblings were allowed to quietly observe the final recording session. This was the closest we could get to a live concert this year and parents and choristers were appreciative of the opportunity for a live singing event. It was so lovely to experience!

### **ACTIVITIES FOR 2021-2022**

- A virtual choral event is being planned for February 2022 in lieu of our regular annual events, the October Junior & Senior Choral Workshops and our February Vocal Jazz Workshop.



- The committee is already hard at work planning CMYC 2022.
- The CMCA's next meeting is planned for Monday, November 22 at 6:00 PM

### **FINAL THOUGHTS**

While this past year was a challenging one for the choral community, I am thankful for everyone that was willing to embrace the challenges in new, creative ways using whatever resources available to them. I look forward to brighter days when we can meet and sing together again.

*Submitted by Maureen Britton, Central Manitoba Representative*

**Manitoba Choral Association**  
**Eastman Choral Association Report**

Annual General Meeting, October 23, 2021

EMCA had suspended all its activities for the 2020-21 season due to Covid restrictions. This included cancellations of the Eastman Youth Choir, our annual choral workshops and community choirs. The Steinbach Youth Chorus, for ages 9-14 and conducted by Gabriela Gallo, had continued rehearsals throughout the year at the Steinbach Arts Council. School programs have also continued as much as possible.

EMCA met for the first time in a year on Saturday, September 4, 2021 where we decided to begin the work of bringing choral singing back to life. We scheduled a sing-along event on October 3 at the Mennonite Historical Village called "Bring the Sing." We had about 25 fully-vaccinated people in attendance just to gather and sight-read through a number of popular choral selections. It was a beautiful day and everyone was thankful for the opportunity sing again. It was a great afternoon. Due to current health-restrictions in the region, future planning is again on hold. However, there is certainly a desire from EMCA and the wider community to move forward with other choral initiatives as soon as possible.

*Submitted by Dr. David Sawatzky, Eastman Representative*

## **Manitoba Choral Association**

### **Westman Region Report**

Annual General Meeting, October 23, 2021

It has been an interesting fall to navigate, across our province, to know how to proceed with our choral programs, whether it be in the community, the university, the churches, or the schools. We are pleased to report that many choirs have resumed somewhat normal operations, though some have remained on hiatus for the time being. Those that have resumed have made interesting adaptations, such as reduced numbers (due to distancing requirements), wearing of masks in rehearsals (in some cases, specialized masks), and planning concerts for double-vaxxed audience members with masked singers. Finding venues that will take unvaxxed minors is presenting some issues for groups such as those in the schools, where even asking a student if they are vaxxed is not allowed. Palladin Security has been hired by Brandon School Division to handle the screening of audience members for all division events such as sports games and concerts. Masks dampen the sound, so improved electronic sound support has to be considered also.

These things being said, we are pleased to be singing again and making music with our choral comrades! It is wonderful to be diving into great repertoire again and experiencing the many joys and health benefits of singing in community. We are grateful to the province and to our school divisions for their support in resuming this important work in the Manitoba arts scene.

Special hats off to the bold and optimistic work of Director Michelle Chzyk, and the board and singers of this fall's WestMan Youth Choir, who have just completed their adapted fall program. With a half-size group, comprised of last year's Grade 12's and younger now-eligible singers, they held rehearsals in Virden and Brandon to learn five songs, had additional online rehearsals/meetings, made exciting videos using various land/cityscapes to bring life to their songs, and did a private concert on October 16 at Central United Church. Their creative and unique videos are now being professionally edited and will be released soon and we all look forward to seeing and hearing them. They are sure to be an inspiration to all of us and encourage us to press on in these challenging times.

We wish all of our choral friends in the other regions a warm and happy fall as we move toward the Christmas season and whatever that may look and sound like for each of our choirs!

*Submitted by Carolyn Gwyer, Westman Representative*

# Manitoba Choral Association

## Executive Director Report

Annual General Meeting, October 23, 2021

Going into the 2020-21 year we were uncertain of what the future held for choirs. Last year our *Special Pandemic Response Programming Committee* worked hard to reimagine and reinvent MCA's programming to respond to the needs of the choral community in a pandemic. The result was a year of virtual programming: online workshops, panel discussions, meet-ups, and even concerts. It is remarkable to me that MCA has been able to accomplish so much during a time when choirs have been unable to do what they exist to do, to sing together.

Because my fellow colleagues detail many of the programs, events, and resources we have undertaken over the past year in their reports, I will speak only to the activities that are not already mentioned.

### **HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2020-2021**

#### **In-Tune Virtual Meet-Ups**

I facilitated these informal Zoom calls where choral directors and community members had the opportunity to network and share ideas and experiences with each other as we all navigated the early months of a pandemic choral season. On average, we had about 8-12 individuals on these monthly calls.

#### **Office Move**

We are thrilled that we were able to move to the lower level of the Canadian Mennonite University south campus last November! Our new space is bright and spacious, and I hope that all of our members will have the chance to come visit in-person soon. We are thankful to have received a grant to cover moving expenses from FCMM (\$5,000). MCA will save quite a bit by moving to CMU: about \$20,000/year when you account for rent, utilities, alarm, and internet we were paying before.

A huge thank-you to our volunteers who helped pack, unpack, and set up new furniture in the new space: Ed and Millie Hildebrand, David Sawatzky, Naomi Russell, Stuart Sladden, Janna Banman, Edward Cloud, Jenaya Loewen, Marilyn Redekop, Johanna Hildebrand, Katrina Lengsavath, and Irmgard Doerksen. We appreciate all of the hours that were put in to make the office move a success!

#### **Joy to the World: Virtual Holiday Concert**

During December 2020, MCA spread a little holiday cheer by sharing past videos of choirs singing winter/holiday songs on our Facebook and Instagram platforms. We were pleased to see so many choirs participating! In total we shared 16 videos, which reached over 4,100 people and had 625 engagements (reactions, comments, shares). Thanks so much to everyone who got involved in this online event.

## **Embracing & Encouraging Diversity in Choir Workshop**

In January 2021 we held a 3-part workshop series, facilitated by Terrence Taylor of COR Perspectives. Nearly 80 people registered for the sessions, including choir directors, administrators, and choristers from across Manitoba and even from other provinces. Terrence was a pleasure to work with, devoting extra time for prep and for debriefs with our committee. I'm thrilled that MCA was able to engage members of our community in important and necessary conversations about diversity and inclusion in the choral arts! We see this as a springboard into future workshops around these topics. Thank you to Sonya Williams, Sharon Marshall, and Stuart Sladden for their work on this committee.

## **Burst into Song! Virtual Spring Concert**

Through the month of May 2021, MCA celebrated spring by sharing past videos of choirs singing uplifting songs on our Facebook and Instagram platforms. We were pleased to see so many choirs participating! In total we shared 14 videos, which reached over 4,200 people and had nearly 300 engagements (reactions, comments, shares). Thanks so much to everyone who got involved in this online event.

## **Awards & Competitions**

We received 7 applications for the Bert Kroeker Scholarship and 8 applications for the new David G.H. Waters Hymn Sing Memorial Award. Our Awards Committee chose [Johanna Klassen](#) and [Camryn Dewar](#) for the awards respectively. The Frances Seaton Choral Composition Competition received several strong submissions this year and [Michael Kurek's](#) *Lord of All Being* was chosen as the winner. We are exploring ways to have the piece performed at some point this year.

## **Communications**

In February 2020 we initiated a rebranding project to update our logo and website. We hired digital marketer Buffy Davey to work on our brand and website structure, and graphic designer Roberta Landreth to design the new logo and website look. Once complete, our new website will incorporate several exciting features such as a Find a Choir section, and a new landing platform for our music library. We hope to launch this in the next month or so.

Beside this project, we have continued to send out biweekly issues of *eNotes* to the choral community, and post relevant and interesting content to our social media platforms ([Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)). If you have not yet liked or followed MCA, please do so! I also want to extend a huge thank-you to Leanne Cooper-Carrier, Stuart Sladden, Katrina Lengsavath, and Brittany Mielnichuk for your contributions to our communications work.

## **New Staff Hiring**

We were excited to hire a second staffperson in the office in June 2021. Katrina Lengsavath came on as Digital Program & Resource Assistant for the summer, helping us make significant headway on the library inventory project, and supporting the areas of administration and communications. In September we hired Brittany Mielnichuk for the part-time role of Program & Resource Coordinator

to support the areas of programs, communications, administration, and the music library. Brittany will also be involved in our inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility (IDEA) work. We are excited for the strong skills, experience, ideas and perspectives that she brings to the role.

### ED Professional Development

Over the past year I have committed to enhancing my knowledge and skills in the areas of fundraising, membership engagement, IDEA, and strategic management. Besides attending webinars and workshops in these areas, I have focused on taking courses in the [Non-Profit Management certificate program](#) at Mount Royal University in Calgary, AB. I plan to finish the program this year, thanks to grants from The Winnipeg Foundation and Manitoba Arts Council.

### Fund Development

With our Fundraising Chair position being vacant, I have worked closely with members of the Executive Committee to undertake important fund development work to keep MCA financially sustainable into the future.

We again held a spring fundraising appeal in June 2021, inviting our membership and past donors to participate in the [CanadaHelps Great Canadian Giving Challenge](#), for which we raised **over \$2,500**. We were also intentional when designing our membership and event registration forms, incorporating a custom donation field into each form. By including this ask, we estimate that an **extra \$3,300** in donations was gathered last year. We are grateful to all those who supported MCA with their donations last year!

Much of my time is also spent researching and applying for grants. I am also exploring how to increase sponsorship opportunities for local businesses and organizations. Below is a summary of total grant activity for 2020-2021 and for 2021-2022 so far.

2020-2021 GRANTS				
Funding Organization	Grant Details	Amount Requested	Amount Received	Notes
FCMM	Grant – Office Move Expenses	\$5,000	\$5,000	<i>Paid in full</i>
FCMM	Grant – Frances Seaton Competition	\$1,000	\$1,000	<i>3rd year of 5-year grant starting in 2018-19</i>
ICTC - WIL Digital Strategy Fund	Summer Student pay subsidy	\$5,088	\$5,088	<i>Paid in full, covered 75% of salary</i>
Manitoba Arts Council	Operating Grant	\$50,000	\$50,000	<i>Paid in full</i>
MB Arts Council	Organizational Resilience Grant – New Equipment	\$3,500	\$2,317	<i>Paid in full – Total was \$2,917, deferred portion to 2021-22</i>
MB Arts Council	Support: Strengthen Grant – For website/rebranding project	\$750	\$750	<i>Paid in full – Total was \$3,500, deferred portion to 2021-22</i>
MB Arts Council	Professional Development Grant – Non-Profit Management certificate courses (for ED)	\$750	\$750	<i>Paid in full, originally for PODIUM travel</i>

The Winnipeg Foundation	Organizational Development Grant – For website/rebranding project (planning stages)	\$4,250	\$4,250	<i>Paid in full</i>
The Winnipeg Foundation	Professional Development Grant – Non-Profit Management certificate courses (for ED)	\$1,250	\$1,250	<i>Paid in full, originally for PODIUM travel</i>
Winnipeg Arts Council	Multi-year grant – 2021 & 2022	\$15,000/yr	\$15,000	<i>First instalment of a 2-year grant, Paid in full</i>

<b>2021-2022 GRANTS to date</b>				
<b>Funding Organization</b>	<b>Grant Details</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Amount Received</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Canada Council for the Arts	Public Outreach Grant – Choral Celebration Festival	\$24,000	Awaiting response	
FCMM	Grant – Frances Seaton Competition	\$1,000	Awaiting payment	<i>4th year of 5-year grant starting in 2018-19</i>
FCMM	Grant – Podium 2022 attendance	\$4,650	Awaiting response	<i>For ED &amp; President</i>
Province of MB	MB Bridge Grant – for small businesses	\$5,000	\$20,000	<i>Paid in full – 4 instalments of \$5,000</i>
MB Arts Council	Operating grant	\$50,000	\$37,500	<i>Paid 75% so far</i>
MB Arts Council	Recognize - Competitions Grant - NYCC 2022	\$6,000	\$6,000	<i>To cover 4 of 5 singers</i>
MB Arts Council	Organizational Resilience Grant – New Equipment	\$600	\$600	<i>Paid in full – to pay for remaining equipment purchases</i>
MB Arts Council	Support: Strengthen Grant – For website/rebranding project	\$750	\$750	<i>Paid in full – to pay for remaining work</i>
The Winnipeg Foundation	PD grant – Non-Profit Management certificate Courses for ED	\$1,250	\$1,250	<i>Paid in full</i>
The Winnipeg Foundation	Community Grant – Choral Celebration Festival	\$19,000	Awaiting response	
Thomas Sill Foundation	Arts & Culture Grant - 2nd employee salary	\$5,000	\$7,000	<i>Paid in full</i>
Winnipeg Arts Council	RESTART grant - by-law updates	\$1,000	Awaiting response	<i>To cover lawyer fees</i>
Winnipeg Arts Council	Multi-year grant – 2021 & 2022	\$15,000/yr	Awaiting payment	<i>Payment will arrive in Feb 2022</i>

### **ACTIVITIES GOING FORWARD**

We are anticipating another busy year of expanding programming despite the fact that we still won't be able to hold some of our regular events in the traditional way (ChoralFest, PHC). MCA is committed to offering accessible workshops, webinars, meet-ups, and choral resources to the choral community. More specifically, I will be focusing on:

**Communications:** Launch the new logo and website before the end of the calendar year; create social media/communications plan

**Policy Work:** Create organizational policies in the areas of volunteer management, participation of minors, finances, etc.

**PODIUM/NYCC:** Pending funding availability, attend PODIUM 2022 on behalf of MCA; promote National Youth Choir of Canada and share Manitoba singer information via social media

**Workshops & Learning Sessions:** Plan and host sessions for the choral community to delve deeper into the areas of IDEA (inclusion, diversity, equity, accessibility) and other professional development topics

**Fund Development:** Work with Executive Committee to create a fundraising plan; continue to look for granting opportunities to diversify funding; connect with major donors; explore ways to incorporate fundraising aspect into existing events (ex. Virtual Holiday Concert 2021)

**CRM Software:** Research client relationship management software to better organize member, donor, and event participant data

**Governance Structure Review:** Support the creation of proposal for restructuring of the board; rewrite by-laws and Terms of Reference for board positions

**Human Resources:** Continue to train and support Brittany in her role; look for ways to increase capacity for staff hiring; review HR policies

**Strategic Planning:** Continually review our strategic plan to ensure we are on track to achieve goals

**Choral Celebration Festival** (May 27-28, 2022): Take part in committee work to plan a 2-day outdoor choral event on the Canadian Mennonite University campus grounds. The festival will feature choir performances on stage, and food vendors, artisans, and game booths set up around the grounds to create a celebratory atmosphere. A workshop for senior high students and a headliner musical act may be included on opening night as well.

**INSPIRE** (Summer 2022): Support the planning of MCA's first-ever senior high leadership camp, a program for up to 25 high school students with a group vocal lesson component, an introduction to conducting, a group choir, and numerous leadership activities. Students will apply their new skills through singing in, and taking turns conducting the camp choir. The event will be held at Westgate Mennonite Collegiate and will take steps to involve students from areas of the city that wouldn't normally have access to such a program.

## **FINAL THOUGHTS**

It has been such a pleasure to serve alongside such amazing board members, committee members, and volunteers in our organization. I would specifically like to take this opportunity to say farewell and thank Marilyn, Janna, Stephanie, and Leanne for all of the passion you have brought to your



roles on the board. We truly could not have done the great work we do without your dedication and commitment to our organization. It's been a pleasure working with you all, and I wish you the best of luck in all you do. Please don't be strangers to MCA!

I have also appreciated the knowledge, insights, and passion that Stuart has brought to his role as President. I am grateful to be able to collaborate with him on MCA's projects, to reflect on MCA's work in the broader choral community, and to "dream big" together during our weekly meetings and in MCA's committee work. Thanks for your dedication to our organization during these uncertain times!

I look forward to seeing what this year holds for MCA, and to continuing growing in my leadership role. Despite all the challenges that have come with the pandemic, I'm optimistic that MCA will continue to do great things for our community!

*Submitted by Jenny Steinke-Magnus, Executive Director*

**MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION INC.**

**Financial Statements**

**Year Ended August 31, 2021**

*Draft for discussion purposes only*

**MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION INC.**

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**Year Ended August 31, 2021**

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*Draft for discussion purposes only*

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

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To the Members of Manitoba Choral Association Inc.

### *Opinion*

We have audited the financial statements of Manitoba Choral Association Inc. (the Association), which comprise the statement of financial position as at August 31, 2021, and the statements of revenues and expenses, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at August 31, 2021, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations.

### *Basis for Opinion*

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with those requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### *Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

(continues)

*Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements*

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

*Exchange*

Chartered Professional Accountants LLP  
Winnipeg, Manitoba

**MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION INC.**

**Statement of Financial Position**

**August 31, 2021**

	2021	2020 (Restated)
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Cash	\$ 60,661	\$ 43,524
Term deposits (Note 4)	80,585	25,000
Accounts receivable	5,397	18
Goods and services tax recoverable	779	1,335
Prepaid expenses	2,803	1,455
	<b>150,225</b>	71,332
CAPITAL ASSETS (Notes 2, 5)	5,195	2,607
LONG TERM INVESTMENTS (Note 4)	-	45,000
	<b>\$ 155,420</b>	\$ 118,939
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 7)	\$ 9,258	\$ 6,470
Canadian Emergency Business Account loan (Note 13)	40,000	30,000
Employee deductions payable	2,106	1,537
Deferred revenue (Note 8)	64,387	58,431
	<b>115,751</b>	96,438
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>39,669</b>	22,501
	<b>\$ 155,420</b>	\$ 118,939

**ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD**

\_\_\_\_\_ Director

\_\_\_\_\_ Director

See notes to financial statements

**MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION INC.**

**Statement of Revenues and Expenses**

**Year Ended August 31, 2021**

	Budget 2021	2021	2020 (Restated)
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Manitoba Arts Council grants	\$ 50,000	\$ 53,817	\$ -
Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Citizenship grant	-	-	50,000
Contributions from the Manitoba Choral Association Fund (Note 10)	-	15,298	-
City of Winnipeg grant	15,000	15,000	15,000
Donations - other	15,000	14,804	15,896
Provincial programs (Note 9)	100,443	10,986	68,643
Memberships	17,000	10,820	17,515
FCMM grants	-	5,550	1,000
Winnipeg Foundation grants	-	5,500	-
ITCT - WIL Digital grant	-	5,088	-
Interest income	500	1,436	1,013
Miscellaneous	1,450	940	338
Rental revenue	-	183	1,700
Donations - regional designations	-	-	2,000
Temporary Wage Subsidy	-	-	1,375
Fundraising	25,000	-	2,052
	<u>224,393</u>	<u>139,422</u>	<u>176,532</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Advertising and promotion	600	95	41
Amortization	500	908	588
Bank charges and miscellaneous	1,600	1,093	1,615
FCMM grant	-	550	1,000
Insurance	3,300	2,427	3,252
Meetings	500	401	314
Moving	-	5,650	-
Office	4,150	7,485	6,048
Professional development	500	2,394	10
Professional fees	4,300	4,369	4,254
Provincial programs (Note 9)	105,343	10,527	54,807
Rebranding	-	8,985	-
Regional distributions	-	-	2,000
Rent (Note 11)	35,500	20,165	33,827
Telephone and internet	2,000	892	1,606
Travel	1,100	726	284
Utilities	2,500	387	1,876
Wages and employee benefits	62,500	69,819	60,034
	<u>224,393</u>	<u>136,873</u>	<u>171,556</u>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,549</u>	<u>4,976</u>
<b>OTHER INCOME (EXPENSES)</b>			
Government subsidies (Note 13)	-	30,000	10,000
Loss on disposal of capital assets	-	(381)	-
Contribution to the endowment fund	-	(15,000)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>14,619</u>	<u>10,000</u>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</b>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 17,168</u>	<u>\$ 14,976</u>

See notes to financial statements

**MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION INC.**

**Statement of Changes in Net Assets**

**Year Ended August 31, 2021**

	2021	2020 (Restated)
<b>NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>		
As previously reported	\$ 12,501	\$ 7,525
Correction of an error ( <i>Note 12</i> )	<u>10,000</u>	-
As restated	<u>22,501</u>	7,525
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	<u>17,168</u>	14,976
<b>NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR</b>	<u>\$ 39,669</u>	<u>\$ 22,501</u>

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**MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION INC.**

**Statement of Cash Flows**

**Year Ended August 31, 2021**

	2021	2020 (Restated)
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 17,168	\$ 14,976
Items not affecting cash:		
Amortization	908	588
Loss on disposal of capital assets	381	-
	<u>18,457</u>	<u>15,564</u>
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Accounts receivable	(5,378)	(18)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,790	2,367
Deferred revenue	5,954	17,425
Prepaid expenses	(1,349)	2,500
GST payable (receivable)	556	(856)
Employee deductions payable	569	552
	<u>3,142</u>	<u>21,970</u>
Cash flow from operating activities	<u>21,599</u>	<u>37,534</u>
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Purchase of capital assets	(4,477)	(1,421)
Proceeds on disposal of capital assets	600	-
Purchase of term deposits	(10,585)	(30,000)
Cash flow used by investing activities	<u>(14,462)</u>	<u>(31,421)</u>
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITY</b>		
Proceeds from long term financing	10,000	30,000
Cash flow from financing activity	<u>10,000</u>	<u>30,000</u>
<b>INCREASE IN CASH</b>	<b>17,137</b>	<b>36,113</b>
CASH - BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>43,524</u>	<u>7,411</u>
CASH - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 60,661</u>	<u>\$ 43,524</u>

See notes to financial statements

# MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION INC.

## Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended August 31, 2021

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### 1. DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS

The Association is incorporated as a non-profit organization without share capital for the purpose of promoting, planning and executing choral festivals, programs and workshops and providing choral opportunities to young singers and composers throughout Manitoba.

The Association is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act, and is therefore exempt from paying income taxes under section 149(1).

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### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Because a precise determination of many assets and liabilities is dependent upon future events, the preparation of financial statements for a period necessarily involves the use of estimates which have been made using careful judgement. The financial statements have, in management's opinion, been properly prepared within the reasonable limits of materiality and within the framework of the significant accounting policies summarized below:

#### Financial instruments policy

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value when acquired or issued. In subsequent periods, financial assets with actively traded markets are reported at fair value, with any unrealized gains and losses reported in income. All other financial instruments are reported at amortized cost, and tested for impairment at each reporting date. Transaction costs on the acquisition, sale, or issue of financial instruments are expensed when incurred.

#### Capital assets

Capital assets are stated at cost less accumulated amortization. Capital assets are amortized over their estimated useful lives at the following rates and methods:

Computer equipment	30%	declining balance method
Furniture and fixtures	20%	declining balance method

The Association regularly reviews its capital assets to eliminate obsolete items.

Capital assets acquired during the year but not placed into use are not amortized until they are placed into use.

#### Revenue Recognition

The Association follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

Revenue generated from grants and restricted donations are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred.

Revenues generated from unrestricted provincial programs, donations, memberships and miscellaneous are recognized as revenue when received or receivable, if the amount to be received can be reasonably determined and collection is reasonably assured.

The Association receives substantial volunteer services to assist in operations. Due to difficulties in determining fair value for these services, it is impractical to record these services as revenue.

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# MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION INC.

## Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended August 31, 2021

### 3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Association is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides information about the Association's risk exposure and concentration as of August 31, 2021.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk arises from the potential that a counter party will fail to perform its obligations. The Association is exposed to credit risk from members and customers. An allowance for doubtful accounts is established based upon factors surrounding the credit risk of specific accounts, historical trends and other information. The Association has a significant number of customers which minimizes concentration of credit risk.

### 4. TERM DEPOSITS

	2021	2020
Assiniboine Credit Union term deposit bearing 1.95% interest, maturing June 24, 2022	\$ 30,585	\$ 30,000
Assiniboine Credit Union term deposit bearing 1.10% interest, maturing March 31, 2022	25,000	-
Assiniboine Credit Union term deposit bearing 1.92% interest, maturing June 29, 2022	15,000	15,000
Assiniboine Credit Union term deposit bearing 1.10% interest, maturing April 29, 2022	10,000	-
Assiniboine Credit Union term deposit bearing 1.90% interest, maturing May 31, 2021	-	25,000
	<u>\$ 80,585</u>	<u>\$ 70,000</u>

### 5. CAPITAL ASSETS

	2021		2020	
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Cost	Accumulated amortization
Computer equipment	\$ 3,705	\$ 2,763	\$ 3,705	\$ 2,359
Furniture and fixtures	9,118	4,865	14,791	13,530
	<u>\$ 12,823</u>	<u>\$ 7,628</u>	<u>\$ 18,496</u>	<u>\$ 15,889</u>
Net book value	<u>\$ 5,195</u>		<u>\$ 2,607</u>	

### 6. BANK INDEBTEDNESS

The Association has an operating line of credit of \$40,000 bearing interest at 2.45%, that is secured by term deposits in the amount of \$40,000. As of August 31, 2021, \$40,000 (2020 - \$40,000) was available for use.

**MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION INC.**

**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Year Ended August 31, 2021**

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7. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Trade payables	\$ 8,112	\$ 5,323
Vacation pay	1,146	1,147
	<u>\$ 9,258</u>	<u>\$ 6,470</u>

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8. DEFERRED REVENUE

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Province of Manitoba	\$ 58,100	\$ 47,500
National Youth Choir	4,224	4,224
Membership Fees	565	80
Provincial Honour Choir	1,408	1,408
Miscellaneous	90	5,219
	<u>\$ 64,387</u>	<u>\$ 58,431</u>

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Draft for discussion purposes only

**MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION INC.**

**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Year Ended August 31, 2021**

9. PROVINCIAL PROGRAMS

<u>2021</u>	Revenue	Expenses	Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses
Virtual Choir	\$ 4,140	\$ 4,505	\$ (365)
ChoralFest	83	2,191	(2,108)
Professional development	5,523	2,513	3,010
Choral library	190	268	(78)
Frances Seaton Composition Competition	1,050	1,050	-
	<u>\$ 10,986</u>	<u>\$ 10,527</u>	<u>\$ 459</u>

<u>2020</u>	Revenue	Expenses	Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses
ChoralFest	\$ 32,720	\$ 28,142	\$ 4,578
Provincial Honor Choir	33,377	24,870	8,507
Professional development	1,309	795	514
Frances Seaton Composition Competition	1,125	1,000	125
Choral Library	112	-	112
	<u>\$ 68,643</u>	<u>\$ 54,807</u>	<u>\$ 13,836</u>

Draft for discussion purposes only

**MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION INC.**

**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Year Ended August 31, 2021**

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10. MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION ENDOWMENT FUND AND BERT KROEKER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In 2006, the Association created the "Manitoba Choral Association Endowment Fund" and the "Bert Kroeker Scholarship Fund" (the "Funds"), which are managed under separate agreements with the Winnipeg Foundation.

As the Funds are managed under agreements by the Winnipeg Foundation, Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations stipulate the Funds do not meet the criteria of an asset and therefore are not recorded on the balance sheet.

Activities relating to each of the "Funds" for the current year were:

	<b>Endowment Fund</b>	<b>Bert Kroeker Scholarship Fund</b>
Opening balance, beginning of year	\$ 349,502	\$ 29,278
Contributions received	556	-
Investment income earned	52,576	3,761
Disbursements paid to Manitoba Choral Association	(15,298)	-
Administration and investment fees	(2,543)	(215)
	<u>\$ 384,793</u>	<u>\$ 32,824</u>

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11. COMMITMENTS

On March 28, 2019, the Association started leasing its printer for a period of five years and six months at \$497 per quarter plus GST and PST.

During this fiscal year, the Association signed a premises lease agreement for a period of November 1, 2020 to October 31, 2023. The rent during the period will consist of monthly payments of \$1,423 with a 2% increase each year. The lease can be terminated with 90 days written notice.

Total lease commitments under these arrangements are as follows:

2022	\$ 20,342
2023	20,705
2024	5,276
2025	548
	<u>\$ 46,871</u>

# MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION INC.

## Notes to Financial Statements

### Year Ended August 31, 2021

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#### 12. CORRECTION OF AN ERROR

During the year ended August 31, 2021, it was determined that in the year ended August 31, 2020, the Association received \$40,000 from the Canada Emergency Business Account of which 25% was determined to be forgivable and should have been recognized as income. As a result the following adjustment was made in the year ended August 31, 2021:

- For the year ended August 31, 2020, \$10,000 of the Canadian Emergency Business Account loan was recognized as revenue, as a result in the year ended August 31, 2021, opening Canadian Emergency Business Account loan decreased by \$10,000 and opening net assets increased by \$10,000.
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#### 13. CANADA EMERGENCY BUSINESS ACCOUNT LOAN

The Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) provides interest-free loans of up to \$60,000 to small businesses to help cover their operating costs during a period where their revenues have been temporarily reduced. This program has been implemented by banks and credit unions in collaboration with Export Development Canada.

Repaying the balance of the loan on or before December 31, 2022 could result in loan forgiveness of 25 percent (up to \$20,000). It is management's best estimate that the repayment terms and conditions will be met. As a result, \$10,000 (2020 - \$10,000) of the loan forgiveness has been recognized as income.

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#### 14. COVID-19

Reactions and restrictions to Coronavirus (COVID-19) continue to evolve and change regularly. Management of the Association continues to maintain operations where possible, while looking out for the needs and safety of their members and employees.

Operations in the historical financial statements, as presented, do not give rise to potential going-concern issues. However, given the uncertainties on the economy, management cannot predict the effect that this will have on their future operations or cash flows.

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Draft for discussion purposes only

**Manitoba Choral Association**  
**Nominating Committee Report**  
Annual General Meeting, October 23, 2021

Over the past several years, there has been much discussion around the structure of MCA's board and our by-laws. There have been a few updates to our by-laws at the last two AGMs and we continue to evaluate and look to the future as we implement our strategic plan. MCA's board retreat, held this past August, gave the board the opportunity to discuss further restructuring that would allow MCA to run more effectively and efficiently. The board struck an ad hoc Governance Review Committee to analyze the points that arose from discussion and to bring recommendations to the board to move ahead with this substantial work.

Board discussions resulted in a decision to move MCA's AGM to June so that new board members responsible for planning programs have adequate time to step into their new role and the board can be in place for the fall season. A motion was passed at our last board meeting to create an interim board that will be in effect from October 2021 to the AGM in June, 2022.

**The following people are allowing their names to stand today for ratification to the MCA Interim Board:**

President: Stuart Sladden  
Past President: Catherine Robbins  
Vice President: David Sawatzky  
Secretary: Naomi Russell  
Treasurer: Adam Kilfoyle  
ChoralFest: Sonya Williams  
Provincial Honour Choirs: Kelsey Shiaro  
Professional Development: Sharon Marshall  
Membership: Avonlea Armstrong-Green  
Westman: Carolyn Gwyer  
Eastman: David Sawatzky  
Interlake: Edward Cloud  
Central Manitoba: Maureen Britton

The following positions will remain vacant for the interim and staff and board members will take on responsibilities of these positions as needed:

Library  
Marketing and Communications  
Fundraising  
Norman Representative  
Parkland Representative



### **New board members and those to whom we bid farewell:**

- Carolyn Gwyer was ratified as MCA's Westman Representative in March of 2021, graciously taking over from Michelle Chzyk.
- We are thrilled that Kelsey Shiaro will be taking over for Marilyn Redekop as PHC Chair.
- A most heartfelt thank-you to Stephanie Pinette, who stepped into the role as Norman Representative this past year after her term as Membership Chair had ended. It has been so wonderful to have a connection with the north and to have Stephanie on the board for a little longer.
- Leanne Cooper-Carrier will be stepping down as Marketing and Communications Chair. Thank you for all your work with our social media platforms, as well as our rebranding and website design projects, Leanne!
- After six years as our Library Committee Chair, Janna Reid will be stepping down. The incredible effort to maintain and update our library and re-catalogue our holdings has been an epic project and we are so thankful for Janna's guidance and hours of work. We will miss you greatly.
- Finally, it is difficult to find words enough to thank Marilyn Redekop, who has been serving in the role of PHC Committee Chair since May 2008! Your energy, zeal, and leadership are truly inspiring. You have left your mark on our organization and your influence will be continually felt in everything we do at MCA. The most gracious of thanks to you, Marilyn.

Thank you to those who have served and continue to serve the Manitoba Choral Association on our board and many committees. We appreciate your ideas and input, all your time and hard work, and your commitment to our organization.

*Submitted by Catherine Robbins, Past President*