MANITOBA CRAFTS MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

YEAR END REPORT 2018

Coalescence, Heritage Gallery, September 2018 – April 2019

CENTRE FOR CRAFT

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is with great excitement that I announce 2018 was an extremely successful year for the Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library.

After the expected challenges associated with finding our feet in a new location and a new facility, operations of MCML have gone from strength to strength.

Throughout 2018, the focus of the board was to fine-tune governance policies, continue to grow the collection while safeguarding its care to world-class museum standards, increase services to members and the community, and to provide quality exhibits to our visitors. Our presence in the community continues to grow as we expand our programming and welcome an ever increasing number of visitors through the doors and our successful space-sharing venture with the Manitoba Craft Council has further strengthen our public profile.

Many thanks to our board members who have shown tremendous dedication to the operation of MCML. We must say goodbye to those whose terms have come to an end and we welcome our new board members who have come forward to continue the smooth operation of MCML.

The continued success and growth of MCML is due to its dedicated staff, volunteers and members without whose contributions MCML would not thrive. We thank the public for sharing our celebration of craft through their visitation, and we gratefully acknowledge public and private funders for their generous financial contributions. In 2019, we look forward to another exciting and successful year.

Heather Meiklejohn
President

In Praise of Craft Retrospective: November/December 2018

Girl Guides Group, Iris Folding Workshop: May 2018

Pistels: Floral Motifs in Craft: July/August 2018

CURATOR'S REPORT

Exhibits

Canada 150: Craft in Red and White
December 1, 2017 to January 20, 2018.
This exhibit included works produced by Manitoba artists, and selections from the museum collection that featured only the colours red and white.

Pixels
April 6 to May 26, 2018
This exhibit focused on MCML collections items with a geometric pattern.

Pistels
July 6 to August 31, 2018
This exhibit explored MCML collections items with floral motifs.

In Praise of Crafts: A Retrospective
November 2 to December 20, 2018
This exhibit showcased the In Praise of Crafts juried exhibitions held by the Crafts Guild of Manitoba with original and new pieces by 15 artists, plus a digital presentation of most of the 400+ artists who participated in the shows.

Our Manitoba: Provincial Symbolism in Craft
October 26, 2017 to September 21, 2018
This exhibit in the Heritage Gallery showcased emblems and significant motifs for Manitoba.

Coalescence: Craft, Canadians and Culture
September 29, 2018 to April 2019.
This exhibit in the Heritage Gallery explores the origins of the Crafts Guild of Manitoba and the New Canadian Folksong and Handicraft Festival that started it all.

Canada 150 Exhibit: to January 20, 2018

Programming

MCML continues to work on re-establishing our public programming. We offered Spring Break and Summer Craft Activity Days, held two Métis beading workshops in the summer, a beaded earring workshop in the fall, and two craft demonstration afternoons. MCML also participated in Doors Open, Culture Days/Nuit Blanche and the Manitoba Fibre Festival.

Summer Craft Activity Days: August 2018

Collection

MCML continues to receive donations, now in greater number with our increased visibility. Wood carved birds by Brock Love, items from the Eckhardt Gramatté Foundation collection, a quilt from Selkirk, and turned wood pieces by Edward Tabachek are just some of the recent donations.

After a full year in the new facility, our collections have been established in the storage facility. Although it is an on-going and never ending task, the collections are in the best shape they have ever been in terms of storage conditions and documentation.

Policy Development and Review

MCML prepared and approved an Accessibility Policy, and revised the Collections Policy, as part our on-going policy review schedule. Other policies will be reviewed in 2019.

Finance & Fundraising

MCML hosted the *Festive Artisans Market* at the Manitoba Hydro building.

In the fall and early winter, MCML held a raffle, with prizes by Alan Lacovetsky, Susan Styrchak and Margaret Bertulli. Special thanks to all three for their generous donations.

The 8th Annual *Made By You* signature fundraiser was held at the Norwood Community Centre.

Marketing and Communications

On-line Communication: MCML continued to develop an on-line presence through the C2 website, and MCML Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Pinterest platforms.

Two new features, a MCML collections gallery and a list of library holdings, were added to the website.

Beautiful new interior and exterior signage was added to the C2 Centre for Craft.

C2 Shop

The C2 Shop is a joint venture of MCML and MCC. The first year saw almost $10,000 in gross sales. MCML nets about 10% of profits after fees are paid to artists and the admin costs are deducted.

Special Projects

Winter Project: Collections Assessment Phase I

With funding from the Heritage Grants Program and the Young Canada Works we hired intern Rheanna Costen. Through this project we unpacked the collection, improved storage, catalogued, and worked on other essential collections tasks. The goal of this project was to establish good museum practice for collections care and management in the new C2 Centre for C2 Centre for Craft facility.

Crafts Guild of Manitoba 90th Anniversary Celebrations

2018 marked the 90th Anniversary of the Crafts Guild of Manitoba. We marked this with two exhibits: *Coalescence: Craft, Canadians and Culture* explored the origins of the Guild through the New Canadian Folksong and Handicraft Festival; and *In Praise of Crafts: A Retrospective* showcased fifteen artists who participated in the original juried shows from 1979-1988. Funded through the Winnipeg Arts Council, the Heritage Grants Program (Province of Manitoba), and the Young Canada Works (Government of Canada), this project was assisted by student Shaneela Boodoo.

Public Programming Phase IV: School Programming

Starting in October, MCML worked on redeveloping our School Programming. With funding from the Heritage Grants Program (Province of Manitoba) and the Young Canada Works (Government of Canada) we hired intern Shauna Matthews. This project is one in a series to re-establish the MCML programming after several years of moving and inactivity, and with our fabulous new C2 Centre for Craft home.

Conclusion

What a year! As we expected the new facility has been fantastic, allowing us to offer quality exhibits and programming, and to finally operate fully within the museum and arts community.

Once again, our volunteer and financial supporters contributed to our success. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and/or contributed financially to MCML during our inaugural year in our beautiful new facility. I look forward to another great year in 2019.

Andrea Reichert
Curator

Intern Rheanna Costen works on unpacking and inventory of the MCML wood collection.

February 2018

2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS, STAFF, COMMITTEES & VOLUNTEERS

Board Executive
Margaret Bertulli, Co-President
Heather Meiklejohn, Co-President
Janet Napier, Secretary
Julie Bubnick, Treasurer

Members at Large
Ginny Toni, Katie Poole, Patty Sauder, Sheila Spence

Staff
Andrea Reichert, Curator
Shaneela Boodoo, Museum Exhibit Assistant (June – December)
Rheanna Costen, Museum Collections Assistant (January – March)
Cailyn Harrison, Communications Assistant (February – December)
Shauna Matthews, Programming Assistant (October – December)

Committees
Artisans Market Committee: Janet Carroll, Susanne Sulkers, Risé Thompson

Made By You Committee: Joanne Fontaine, Susanne Sulkers, Janet Napier, Katie Poole, Margaret Bertulli, Heather Meiklejohn

Exhibit and Programming Committee: Janet Napier, Patty Sauder

Collections Committee: Heather Meiklejohn, Norma Bergman

Volunteers
The following 45 volunteers contributed a total of 1400 hours during 2018. Thank you!
Nancy Anderson, Norma Bergman, Jessica Bernert, Margaret Bertulli Julie Bubnick, Janet Carroll, Stephanie Cooper, Rheanna Costen, Katrina Craig, Mary Anne Derrick, Cathy Dyck, Jane Edwards, Joanne Fontaine, Milt From, Jocelyn Froese, Judy Girard, Pam Green, Maureen Hammond, Amanda Harding, Cailyn Harrison, Linda Horodecki, Yvonne Kinley, Bryce Lavigne, Wendy Lee, Heather Leslie, Heather Meiklejohn, Janet Napier, Eric Napier Strong, Terri Pelland, Joey Pchajek, Talie Polischuck, Katie Poole, Candace Prior, Laura Reeves, Ernie Reichert, Emma Reznichek, Patty Sauder, Theresa Shaw, Sheila Spence, Suanne Sulkers, Susan Styrchak, Erica Swendrowski, Risé Thompson, Ginny Toni, and Murray Watson.

HOURS OF OPERATION & VISITATION STATISTICS

Hours of Operation: Wednesday – Saturday, 12pm – 4pm daily
Days open to public in 2018: 196 (784 hours)

Visitors:
1049 onsite casual visitors
1192 on-site visitors to events and programming
614 connections at off-site events
Total: 2855

GRATITUDE REPORT

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED TO MCML FINANCIALLY IN 2018

Regular Operating Funders
Winnipeg Foundation; Province of Manitoba-Community Museums Grant, Anonymous Donor

Special Project Funders
Province of Manitoba-Heritage Grants Program; Department of Canadian Heritage-Young Canada Works, Winnipeg Arts Council.

Individual Donors
Lee Anderson, Margaret Bertulli, Julie Bubnick, Paul & Doreen Bromley, Willy Carleton, Connie Chappel, Diana Cooper, Barbara Cosman, Donna Earl, Amanda Harding, Sandra Hardy, Melanie Lewis, Carol Martindale, Sharon Matte, Cameron McLaughlan, Heather Meiklejohn, Andrea Reichert, Mary Reichert, Shirley Richardson, Louise Sloane, Judy Stewart, Marilyn Stothers, Gerdine Strong, Susan Styrchak, Susanne Sulkers, Jo-Anne Tabachek , Risé Thompson, Bernice Turner, Shirley Tyderkie, and Louise Van Buckenhout.

In-Kind Donors
To the Museum Collection: Brock Love

For Fundraisers: Margaret Bertulli, Caked with Love, Constance Popp, Gerald Boily, Gravity and Grace, Hair Cutting Loose, Amanda Harding, Emily Haines, Jodie Harpe-Lesperance, Alan Lacovetsky, Louise May, Heather Meiklejohn, Prairie's Edge Wool Farm, Irina Rowley, St. Boniface Museum, Susan Styrchak, Wayne Arthur Gallery, Wolseley Wool.

Membership Benefit Supporters
Thank you to our membership partners, Artists Emporium, McNally Robinson, Prairie Studio Glass, and Wolseley Wool who provide discounts to MCML members.

In Praise of Crafts Exhibit Opening: November 2, 2018

PUBLICITY

MCML participated in Doors Open, Culture Days/Nuit Blanche and Fibre Festival, all excellent venues for promoting MCML and the C2 Centre for Craft. We anticipate participating again in 2019 to continue with expanding awareness in the community.

Social media was used heavily to promote MCML, and followers have increased significantly in the past year. The C2 Craft Blast now reaches over 2,000 people with a monthly updated about activities in the C2 Centre for Craft.

Made By You: October 21, 2018

MCML PLANS FOR 2019

For the Shirley Richardson Craft Gallery:

- March – April 2019: *Lace from the MCML Collection*
- July – August 2019: *Crafted Containers*
- November – December 2019: *MCML Inuit Collection*

For the Heritage Gallery

- May – December 2019: *Women of the Guild*

MCML has plans for regular programming, to coincide with our exhibits in the Shirley Richardson Gallery, and are also working to revise and re-launch school programming.

Métis Beading Workshop: July 2018

In terms of museum collections, MCML is part of a working group of Manitoba museums, planning for a new Manitoba-wide database for all museum collections. MCML will be one of the institutions in the pilot program. We anticipate some preparatory work to occur during the summer.

We are also continuing to work on the development of a more contemporary component of the MCML museum collection.

MCML will hold the Artisans Market again in November. Made by You is in a state of change and will likely be held on-site through a series of smaller events. We are actively working to develop a new fundraiser.

MCML also expects to launch our Manitoba Heritage Trust Fund, an initiative of the Winnipeg Foundation and the Province of Manitoba, which will help with sustained and predictable operating funding. MCML will continue to increase marketing and communications efforts through existing structures and through the continued development of a joint website with MCC for the new C2 Centre for Craft.