



MANITOBA CRAFTS MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

YEAR END REPORT 2022



1-329 Cumberland Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 1T2
1.204.615.3951
c2centreforcraft.ca
mcml@c2centreforcraft.ca



CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear MCML members,

Thank you for your continued support of the Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library!

It has been an exciting and busy year at MCML. Museum staff and volunteers have worked hard at adapting as we emerge from pandemic restrictions and return to in person programming for Manitobans. As a community, we have so much to celebrate! MCML has presented thoughtful exhibitions, engaging workshops, and has completed important collections management work. We also took time to reflect on events, both locally and globally, that deny individuals basic human rights and challenge democracy. We acknowledge our responsibility as a museum to work towards equity and peace.

In early 2022, the Board of Directors approved a new Strategic Plan that will guide the museum through 2025. Work has already begun on addressing the three new strategic goals:

1. Grow membership and organizational involvement
2. Grow organizational capacity
3. Increase MCML's inclusivity, diversity, and connectivity.

We are eager to continue these efforts into 2023.

On behalf of the MCML Board of Directors, we'd like to extend our gratitude to MCML Curator, Andrea Reichert. Her leadership is the reason we have so much to celebrate. We would also like to acknowledge the wonderful staff that worked tirelessly on MCML programming and projects this year. Thank you Shanella Boodoo, Caley Dyck, Mackenzie Easton, Margaret Firlotte, Sonia Gaies, and Neda Masoomifar! We would also like to thank our volunteers who are committed to the ongoing work of the MCML.

Please join us at the Annual General Meeting and visit MCML's current exhibit, *Gathering: Indigenous Beadwork, Embroidery, and Quillwork*. The exhibit features pieces from the

collections of eleven museums across Manitoba and the work of five contemporary artists. The project is a beautiful example of the power of collaboration and the importance of building access to the MCML collection.

We look forward to 2023 and hope you will continue to join us as we work to inspire, engage, and connect through craft.

Marieke Gruwel and Judith Huebner
Co-Presidents

MCML GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Vision: Manitobans inspired, engaged, and connected through craft

Mission: The mission of the Manitoba Craft Museum and Library is to:

- Collect, preserve, and hold historical and contemporary craft in trust
- Celebrate craft through exhibits, presentations, and programs
- Facilitate the exchange of ideas and build interest in and appreciation for craft

Values:

- Honouring the handmade
- MCML recognizes the inherent value of creating and appreciating craft
- Organizational excellence
- MCML endeavours to maintain the highest standards in developing and preserving its collection and in providing services
- Exchanging knowledge
- MCML values learning in all its forms and strives to offer and support opportunities for growth and increased understanding of craft and its cultural roles
- Fostering participation
- MCML aims to ensure that its collection and programs are accessible to all
- Ensuring transparency
- MCML is accountable to its membership and its community and operates openly and intentionally
- Commitment to diversity and inclusion
- MCML strives to be inclusive and welcoming and to ensure diversity throughout the organization and its operations

CURATOR'S MESSAGE

The past year was one of incredible excitement and growth for MCML. As we slowly are coming out of the pandemic, we are resuming all our public activities.

Exhibits

In February we were able to co-host a pop up exhibit with MCC and the Pembina Fibre Shed called *One Year One Outfit*.

In the Heritage Gallery we opened *History Revised: BIPOC Collections at MCML*, curated by Neda Masoomifar. We were invited to participate in a First Friday on-line talk in early May to discuss the exhibit and how MCML collects and cares for BIPOC items.

In July we opened *Collections Agency*, an exhibit curated by Jenny Western and Allison Yearwood, with contemporary works by Adriana Alarcon, Jessie Jannuska, Naila Janzen, Jocelyn Piirainen and Lin Xu, exploring diversity, representation and access to museums by racialized people.

In the fall we hosted a small "Mini Exhibit" in the library, to help the Manitoba Weavers and Fibre Artists celebrate their 75th Anniversary.

In November we installed *First Draft: Patterns from the MCML Collection*, an exhibit that was inspired by work in the archives that took place over the summer.

Most 2022 exhibits were also made available through videos hosted on the website and through YouTube.

Programming

Programming in 2022 saw a return to some on-site/in person programming. Included were:

- Collections Agency Exhibit - Artist Talk
- Folded Books with Erwin Huebner
- Lace Knitting with Adriana Alarcon

We also continued with on-line content and activities.

- We offered Spring Break at Home activities.
- We added more activities to the Ethel Harrison Makers Corner On-Line.

- We added blogs and videos to the Explore Manitoba Craft History section of the website regularly.
- We logged over 2,000 visitors to our various on-line activities! But, it should be noted that many of our digital offerings do not count visitation, so we expect that these numbers are an underrepresentation of true engagement.

MCML also participated in Doors Open with a demo jewelry artist Trish Wasney, and our Culture Days Event was the MWFA exhibit and a weaving activity in the Ethel Harrison Makers Corner.

And Made in the Middle resumed in December, held at the Norwood Community Centre and with over 20 artists. It was a huge success for MCML and most artists had a great day in terms of sales!

Museum Collection & Library

MCML continues to receive donations. Donations in 2022 including a group of contemporary work by artists such as Jordan Van Sewell, Jo'Anne Kelly, Grace Nickel and Karen Dahl, and Lone Thorkelsson, a wall hanging from the 1970s by Anne Ayre, an art quilt by Judith Panson and a puppet by Judith Evers Ryan.

The Gladys Chown Memorial Library had another slow year in terms of acquisitions and borrowing. We are hoping to implement a new on-line listing of our library holdings in 2023, which will improve how our staff and volunteers manage the library, but even more important provide better access for library users.

Marketing and Communications

MCML continued to develop an on-line presence through the C2 website, and MCML's Facebook and Instagram platforms.

Finance & Fundraising

The Heritage-Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library fund at The Winnipeg Foundation has continued to grow. As of December, almost doubled this year to reach about \$64,000!

In November and December we held a 50/50 Raffle, which raised about \$850.

C2 Shop

The C2 Shop saw another successful year. Although on-line sales were down a bit from previous pandemic years, we had a great Holiday Ornament Sale at the end of 2022.

Special Projects

Digital Content Project II

The Digital content continued through all of 2022. We launched a set of images that allow users to see all sides of some objects, an Inuit Collection on the Map function placing all the Inuit carvings in their home communities, and have increased the amount of object in the Museum Gallery. This project will conclude in early 2023.

Oral History Project

We completed the Oral History project, adding 17 short clip to the Youtube page and full length interviews to our archives.

Archives Project

In June we started a project to more fully describe the archives collection. Many had no images and very sketchy descriptions. Through this project we expect to have more complete cataloguing records that will help us to more fully interpret these valuable documents.

Musetoba Customizing Project

In October we started a project to make improvements and modifications to the Musetoba database, which we use to manage information about the museum collection.

Beadwork Project

In June 2022 we officially started working on the collaborative project with Ross House Museum, to research, exhibit, interpret, and share traditional Indigenous beadwork, embroidery and quillwork, with a focus on museum collections in Manitoba. During 2022 we completed most of the groundwork for the public elements of the project that will happen in 2023.

Mentorships

In August we hosted Leigh Nesbitt, a Library and Information technology student, who researched library databases.

From October through December we hosted grade 10 student Nina Laquette from the Maples MET School. Nina worked mostly on collections work as part of her hands-on learning program.

Conclusion

Although 2022 was not the “normal” year we hoped for, we had so many successes, and were able to return to most of our usual activities.

As usual, our achievements were the result of a group effort. This year we were able to host a Volunteer Appreciation, kindly hosted by MCML Co-President Judith Huebner. These events are so important as we must recognize the work of all that work and volunteer at MCML. They help to make great things happen here!

Looking forward to another fantastic year in 2023!

Andrea Reichert, Curator

STRATEGIC PLANNING

In fall of 2022 MCML completed our Strategic Planning process, which included a series of new and revised policies.

To flesh out the plan and to ensure that we will meet targets in our three main goals, we are working with another consultant to add details and measurable to the plan, and to assist with tools and skills to help us be successful.

The Strategic Planning process was supported by The Winnipeg Foundation and the Manitoba Arts Council.

2022 MCML TEAM

Board Executive

Judith Huebner, Co-President; Marieke Gruwel, Co-President; Emma Hill Kepron, Secretary; Kelsey Smith, Treasurer (until September 2022)

Members at Large

Cynthia Boehm, Sabrina Janke, Rob Shaw and Brad Wolfe

Past Co-Presidents: Leona Herzog, Ginny Toni

Staff

Andrea Reichert, Curator

Neda Masoomifar, Research Assistant (January – March)

Shaneela Boodoo, Digital Content Assistant

Caley Dyck, Archives Assistant (June - December)

Margaret Firlotte, Beadwork Project, Project Manager (June – December)

Sonia Gaïess, Collections Management Assistant (October – December)

Debbie Girard, Bookkeeper

Sandra Simpson, Cleaner

Committees

Made in the Middle Committee: Janet Carroll, Susanne Sulkers, Rise Thompson

Fundraising Committee: Marieke Gruwel, Cailyn Harrison, Sabrina Janke, and Robert Shaw

Exhibit and Programming Committee: Marieke Gruwel, Thesesa Shaw

Collections Committee: Norma Bergman, Emma Hill Kepron, Heather Meiklejohn

C2 Shop Committee (Joint with MCC): Lily Despic

Volunteers

The following 23 volunteers contributed a total of 760 hours during 2022. Thank you!

Katryna Barske, Norma Bergman, Cynthia Boehm, Janet Carroll, Lily Despic, Pam Green, Marieke

Gruwel, Cailyn Harrison, Leona Herzog, Emma Hill Kepron, Judith Huebner, Sabrina Janke, Bryce Lavigne,

Nina Laquette, Heather Meiklejohn, Leigh Nesbitt, Rob Shaw, Theresa Shaw, Kelsey Smith, Susanne

Sulkers, Rise Thompson, Ginny Toni, Maureen Winnicki Lyons and Brad Wolfe.

HOURS OF OPERATION & VISITATION STATISTICS

Hours of Operation:

Wednesday – Saturday, 12pm – 4pm daily

Days open to public in 2022: 164 (656 hours)

Closed to January 1 to Feb 17 due to Covid-19

Visitors:

946 onsite casual visitors

794 onsite events

63 off-site events

498 on-line events

852 YouTube viewers

Total: 3,153

FUNDERS REPORT

Regular Operating Funders

The Winnipeg Foundation; Province of Manitoba-Community Museums Grant

Special Project Funders

Province of Manitoba-Heritage Grants Program; Province of Manitoba – Community Museum Project Grant Department of Canadian Heritage-Young Canada Works, Manitoba Arts Council, Winnipeg Arts Council, Department of Canadian Heritage-Museums Assistance Plan, and The Winnipeg Foundation – Community Grants and Centennial Fund

Individual Donors – to MCML Directly and to Manitoba Heritage Fund

Lee Anderson, Norma Bergman, Katrin Buschhausen, Paul & Doreen Bromley, Willy Carleton, Connie Chappel, Diana Cooper, Donna Earl, Sandra Hardy, Gisele Hannon, Judith Huebner, Chris Krawchenko, Delza Longman (Estate), Wendy Peck, Andrea Reichert, Shirley Richardson, Helen Russell, Rob Shaw, Marilyn Stothers, Gerdine Strong, Susanne Sulkers, Judy Stewart, Susan Styrchak, Rise Thompson, Bernice Turner, Sheri Turner, Louise Van Buckenhout, and Louise Vandernagel.

In-Kind Donations – Museum Collection

Margie Isbister, Beverly Morton (Estate) and Gail Nep (Estate)

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.

HERITAGE FUND

The Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library Heritage Fund continues to grow with generous support from MCML members and supporters, and extended through a 1:2 matching formula.

In 2022 the fund grew from \$37,000 to about \$64,000!



2022 IN PHOTOGRAPHS

EXHIBITS



One Year One Outfit



Collections Agency



First Draft: Patterns from the MCML Collection



History Revised

NEW DONATION



Jordan Van Sewell piece

MADE IN THE MIDDLE



Made in the Middle
CRAFT MARKET
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2022
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
NORWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE
87 WALMER STREET
C2CENTREFORCRAFT.CA

PROGRAMMING



Folded Books with Erwin Huebner



Lace Knitting with Adriana Alarcon

VOLUNTEER EVENT



SOME OF OUR TEAM



Some of our team in action: L—R : Caley Dyck, Sonia Gaies, Margaret Firlotte, and Andrea Reichert

GOALS FOR 2023

Exhibits, Programming and Collections

Exhibits in the Shirley Richardson Craft Gallery:

- March – April: *mámawihitowin* | *Ganaagishkwadaadiwin* | *Asenbli* | *Rencontre* | *Gathering*
- July – August : *Craft and Clothing – in partnership with the Costume Museum of Canada*
- November – December : *Celebrating Winnipeg 150*

Exhibit in the Heritage Gallery

- January – December 2023 | Just a Needle and Thread: Embroidery in the MCML Collection

MCML will continue to offer programming with a strong focus on in-person activities.

Develop and acquire more contemporary content in the museum collection.

Special Projects (funding dependent)

- We will conclude the official projects to develop more on-line content, with a focus on the museum collection, with funding from The Winnipeg Foundation and the Museums Assistance Plan Digital Fund. But we fully intend to keep creating and sharing digital content using the skills and tools we developed over the last two years.
- We hope to resume the Oral History project, this time with a particular focus on equity seeking artists.
- Develop a new on-line listing of library holdings.
- Start work on an exhibit to explore Craft and Health
- Work on developing more successful promotion, communication, marketing, and membership and donation management.

Finance and Fundraising

- Host a puzzle race in early May.
- Hold at least one 50/50 raffle.
- Hold the Made in the Middle Craft Market in November.
- Continue to develop the Heritage – Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library fund at The Winnipeg Foundation. We hope to achieve our goal of \$75,000 this year.

Strategic Planning

- The Strategic Planning initiative will continue in 2023. In early 2023 we expect to have a firmer plan for achieving the three main goals from the 2022 Strategic Plan. This will ensure that we can continue to offer quality programming, exciting exhibits and develop the museum and library, and at the same time work towards more equity, diversity and inclusion of all Manitobans.