

## **Minutes**

### **Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library Annual General Meeting**

Saturday, March 23, 2024. 10:00am

Held in-person and Zoom

**Present (in person and Zoom):** Heather Meiklejohn, Tammy Sutherland, Andrea Reichert, Margaret Firlotte, Emma Hill Kepron, Leah Gertzen, Patricia Sauder, Sheri Turner, Nancy Anderson, Stephanie Cooper, Gerdine Strong, Rob Shaw, Marieke Gruwel, Charlie Wong, Lee-Ann Penner, Leona Herzog, Susanne Sulkers, Carol Loewen, Laurie Sloane, Judith Huebner

**Proxy:** Sabrina Janke, Theresa Shaw, Caley Dyck, Donna Earl, Elizabeth Sellors, Amanda Harding, Mary Reichert, Janet Carroll, Catherine Acebo, Janet Napier

#### **1. Welcome & Introductions**

Co-president Marieke Gruwel welcomes everyone. Quorum reached.

#### **2. Land Acknowledgement**

Andrea Reichert delivers land acknowledgement.

#### **3. Approval of Agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda: Sheri Turner, seconded by Rob Shaw. Carried.

#### **4. Approval of Minutes of 2023 Annual General Meeting**

Motion to Approve the Minutes of the 2023 AGM: Gerdine Strong, seconded by Stephanie Cooper. Carried.

#### **5. Waiver of Auditor for 2024**

Andrea Reichert reminds us that because MCML has a small enough budget, an auditor is not required for 2023. Motion to waive the auditor for 2023: Leona Herzog, seconded by Rob Shaw. Carried.

#### **6. Financial Report**

##### **a. Approval of 2023 Financial Report**

Andrea Reichert presented the 2023 financial report, highlighting donations, and revenues. Revenues are up, but the Longman estate bequest is a unique event. Exhibition expenses are a little higher this year, due to BIPOQ acquisitions. We intentionally overspent some project funds to allow Margaret Firlotte to go to Ottawa to receive our Governor General's award. The library project also went slightly over budget to allow it to be finished. Overall, there is about a \$3000 deficit. Rob Shaw comments on the library expense, and how that was worth it and library usage has gone up. Motion to approve the 2023 financial report: Leona Herzog, seconded by Patty Sauder Carried. Mareike Gruwel thanks Andrea for her skill with fundraising and budgeting.

b. Presentation of the 2024 Budget

Andrea Reichert presented the proposed 2024 budget. This is for information only, as it has already been approved by the Board. Most of the 2024 budget is based on actuals from 2023, and there is a planned modest surplus.

**7. Presentation and Approval of 2023 Annual Report**

Andrea presents the annual report, highlighting that it was an exceptional year. As we are finally recovering from COVID restrictions and the impact of the pandemic we are achieving more than ever. We were the recipients of the Governor General's Award for Excellence in Museums, and we did many workshops in partnership with various community organizations. We also had items out on loan to other organizations and several items in our collection will appear in forthcoming books.

We also purchased work, for the first time in a long time. The Delza Longman bequest funds were used to purchase ten works by BIPOC craftspeople.

Andrea also highlighted achievements related to our Strategic Plan, including significant membership growth, and advancements in diversity, and organizational capacity.

Leona Herzog acknowledged and thanked Margaret Firlotte and Sonia Gaïess who nominated the Mamawihitowin/Gathering bead work exhibition nomination for the Governor General's award.

Judith Huebner thanked everyone who made it such a successful year and commends Andrea's skill at fundraising and curating.

Motion to approve the 2023 Annual Report: Gerdine Strong, seconded by Patty Sauder. Carried.

**8. By-Law Changes** (see below)

Due to difficulty reaching quorum it is proposed to change the total number required.

Current wording in by-law

*6.2 Quorum shall be 20% of the total number of current Members.*

Proposed revision

*6.2 Quorum shall be 10% of the total number of current Members.*

Motion to approve revision of quorum: Rob Shaw, seconded by Leona Herzog. Carried.

**9. Election of Directors**

Andrea Reichert summarized where all board members are in their respective terms. Marieke Gruwel, Judith Huebner, Emma Hill Kepron, and Sabrina Janke continue. Rob Shaw and Cynthia Boehm's terms are concluded. Leah Gertzen and Catherine Acebo join us this year. The position of treasurer remains vacant. Motion to approve the

current slate of board members: Nancy Anderson, seconded by Stephanie Cooper. Andrea made three calls for nominations from the floor. None arising. Carried.

**10. Issues to Discuss**

a. Future Planning

There are three upcoming exhibits, including one involving our oral histories. Newcomer group programming will continue. We will continue photographing more of the collection and updating existing photographs. Research on items by BIPOC craftspeople in the collection will also continue. More work with Musetoba database will be done in the fall. There will also be membership drives, another craft de-stash event, a trivia night, and the Made in the Middle craft sale will be held as usual this winter.

b. EDI Work at MCML

We are developing an accessibility page on our website.

c. Heritage Trust Fund

Gerdine Strongs asks through which channel it is best to donate money. Andrea suggests that donations that come directly to us, rather than through endowment funds, is the best way.

d. Member Concerns

Marieke Gruwel thanks all the donors, volunteers, and sponsors who donated money and gifts in kind. Sheri Turner also expresses appreciation of the library and the new borrowing set up.

**11. Adjournment 11:04 by Sheri Turner. Carried.**