



ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA MUSEUMS NEWSLETTER

Summer 2014

Annual Conference: October 2 - 4, 2014

The Three Rs: Relationships, Relevance, and 'Rithmetic

This year's conference is going to be in Dauphin, located in the beautiful Parklands region of the province, from October 2nd to the 4th (*note the date change*).

This year's theme: ***The Three Rs: Relationships, Relevance, and 'Rithmetic.***

We'll be exploring partnerships, engaging your audience and community, building relationships, and sound financials. All the things museums need to remain relevant, grow and be an integral part of their community.



Banquet 2013

The *Meet & Greet* will take place at the Super 8 Hotel on October 2nd. Sessions on the 3rd and 4th will be held at St. Viator's Hall. The banquet and auction will be held at the lovely

Watson Art Centre on the Friday.

The Conference Committee is looking at booking tours to include Fort Dauphin and the Railway Museum.

These conferences are an excellent way to make contact with colleagues from around the province, exchange stories of success or disaster, and to wind down after a hectic summer.

Hope to see you there!

Pre-conference Workshops

Thursday, October 2, St. Viator's Hall

We will be offering two half day workshops.

Brand Alignment with Linda Whitfield, from Travel Manitoba, will be held in the morning and *EQ (Explorer Quotient)* with Celes Davar from EQ Outcomes, will be held in the afternoon.

Colin Ferguson, CEO of Travel Manitoba, spoke about EQ at last year's conference and here is your opportunity to delve more into the concept in a workshop setting.

Sponsorships and Tradeshow

We are looking for businesses to support our conference by becoming a sponsor or participating in the Tradeshow. We have a package outlining these opportunities that we will be sending out shortly. Let us know if you know a business we should approach.

Ignite Session

We are looking for five high caliber people to take part in this year's Ignite Session.

Ignite presenters have five minutes to present their topic, with the use of 20 slides for illustration. These short presentations are entertaining and can provide an amazing amount of information.

The topics can be anything of interest to the presenter. For more information visit the Ignite Show website at igniteshow.com.

Call for Papers!

Help us make this conference another exceptional experience by being one of our presenters.

This year's theme is ***The Three Rs: Relationships, Relevance, and 'Rithmetic.***

We want to hear what you have to say about these areas. What relationships does your museum have, or wish to have? How have you remained relevant to your community? How's your 'rithmetic? Does 2 plus 2 make 4 or 3 and a bit?

Presentations can be as short as 15 minutes or as long as 30.

If you would like to take part in the Ignite Session or be a presenter, please register with the [AMM office](#) by August 5th.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 4th, at 9:30 a.m. at St. Viator's Hall. If you cannot attend, please remember to give someone your [proxy](#). The form is available on our website or by calling the AMM office.

Award Nominations

The AMM has an awards program in place and now's the time to think of those worthy individuals and institutions that should be recognized by their peers for their outstanding work in the museum world.

There are two awards available: [Award of Excellence](#) and the [Award of Merit](#).

The Award of Excellence recognizes outstanding projects and achievements, from its institutional members, that demonstrate and maintain high standards in the following areas of museum practice: Museum Management and Leadership, Public Service, Programming, Exhibits, Collections Care, and Research and Publication.

Up to five awards may be issued annually. Projects completed within two years of the nomination deadline are eligible. (2014 Deadline is Friday, August 29th.)

The Award of Merit recognizes lasting and significant contributions, by an individual or group of individuals, to the Manitoba museum community that provided leadership, innovation and inspiration in the preservation and presentation of Manitoba's heritage. Up to three awards may be issued annually.

There is a lot of good work going on out there, so let's get it recognized and show our appreciation for their job well done.

The awards will be presented at the conference banquet on Friday, October 3rd.

Visit the [AMM website](#) or call the office for more information.



Nancy Anderson (Award of Merit), Philippe Mailhot (Honourary Lifetime Member), Pat Bovey (Award of Merit). AMM Conference 2013

The Association of Manitoba Museums (1972) Inc, as the voice of our museum community, is dedicated to promoting excellence in preserving and presenting Manitoba's heritage.

Recovering from Disaster

On May 17th, 2014 the museum in Saint-Georges was the victim of arson.

The main building was destroyed. How many artifacts were gone? How many artifacts could be recovered? Not knowing all the answers Diane Dubé just started picking up the pieces. She called the insurance company and then she called Jane Dalley, the conservator who helps run the AMM's Cultural Stewardship Program (CSP).



The aftermath

As Jane and Diane sifted through the mess a plan began to come together. The problem was that artifacts were still being damaged by the acidic soot covering them. The answer was to remove the soot from as many artifacts as possible quickly, but with care. The solution? Hold a workshop. Saint-Georges would get help cleaning artifacts and museum people would get some hands-on experience.

The AMM put out the call about the workshop in Saint-Georges for a limit of 20 people. Two days later 23+ people showed up ready, willing, and more than eager to attack the soot and stench of smoke as possible.

Volunteers ranged in experience from none to expert. People came from the museum, surrounding communities, Parks Canada, independent interpreters and conservators, and the AMM office.

Jane remarked that, of all the disasters you could have, this was a good one. There was a lot of damage, but much was recoverable.

Together volunteers vacuumed, dabbed, and washed artifacts reducing damage done by the fire, resulting water damage, and soot. It was instantly rewarding when a few dabs with a soot sponge showed obvious progress being made.

Then, when blackened porcelain came out of the bath gleaming white, everyone stood back and smiled at what had been accomplished.



Before and After

Many thanks go out to the volunteers who have helped Saint-Georges since this disaster hit. And a great big thumbs up to Diane Dubé for organizing everything and Jane Dalley for running the workshop and telling everyone how to keep safe and how to handle the damaged artifacts.

Professional Development

It's difficult to hold the right course in the right place at the right time. So often it's a hit-or-miss proposition.

Having heard of many members struggling with rising waters the AMM offered to hold an Emergency Preparedness course on how to deal with flood waters. We tried to hold the course in two different regions in February, but both courses had to be cancelled due to a lack of registrations.

Collections Care and Preventive Conservation normally gets excellent participation, but we couldn't get any registrations when it was scheduled to be held in Morris.

Exhibit Design went off without a hitch at the Manitoba Electrical Museum in Winnipeg. Twelve participants attended the course and gave it high marks for its content and delivery.

Only five people from in and around Winnipeg signed up for *Museums and Education* when it was slated to be held in Alonsa, but 13 people signed up for it when it was relocated to Winnipeg. The participants said they appreciated learning about programming for different audiences at their museums. A brand new Specialized Course was introduced on June 19 in Selkirk. It's called *Sex, Lies, and Label Writing*

and one of the 11 participants exclaimed that it was the best course they'd ever taken. This course is meant to compliment the *Exhibit Design* course, to delve a little more deeply into what to look for to produce top notch labels for your exhibits. We are planning to make this course a regular on our roster. Be sure to check it out the next time it's held.

Organizing and Managing Museums was held in Winnipeg in March and was so well attended that we had to start a waiting list. We are trying to schedule the course to be held in St. Andrews in August to try to accommodate those who were unable to make it last time.

The Museum Facility is going to be held in Cook's Creek on September 5th and 6th. The course is almost half full already. This is a two day course, but Cook's Creek is not far from the eastern edge of the city.

We are trying to schedule *Collections Care and Preventive Conservation* to be held in or near Winnipeg in September.

On November 4th and 5th we'll be offering the CCI course *Exhibition Lighting* at the Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba in Brandon. The whole point of having artifacts is so people can see them, but light damages everything so where's the happy medium? In this course you'll learn about object sensitivity and visibility, lamps and fixtures, and lighting policies.

This course is limited to only 20 participants so register early to get a seat.

Board Nominations

Consider taking part in the growing and shaping of the AMM by standing for nomination to the AMM Board.

Two positions will be vacant: Treasurer and Western Region Councillor.

The following positions will be done their first term and will be voted on: President, Vice-President, Eastern Region Councillor, and Interlake Region Councillor.

Contact the [AMM office](#) or [Past-President](#) Matthew Komus for more information.

Heather Beerling
B.A History, Certificates Museum Studies, Conservation & Collections Management

Museum Conservator

Conservation and preservation consulting.

- Custom storage boxes, enclosures, folders.
- Advice on appropriate storage.
- Environmental questions and concerns.
- Conservation treatment of artifacts

139 Dorchester Avenue • Selkirk • MB • R1A 0K4 • 204 482-8581
heatherbeerling@gmail.com

Preserving Your Past for Our Future

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Ask a Conservator

Welcome to our newsletter column, "Ask a Conservator" in which our CSP conservator responds to your conservation-related concerns. Got a question? Don't be shy! Send your questions and comments to the AMM at conservator@museumsmanitoba.com.

Avez-vous une question ou commentaire concernant la restauration ou la préservation de votre collection? Contactez nos professionnels en restauration à l'AMM à conservator@museumsmanitoba.com.

Q) *We have several pieces of farm equipment in our collection, and the tires have become hard and flat on the bottom. Is there anything that can be done to restore them to working condition?*

A) Until the 1930s, tractor wheels were usually made of lugged metal since solid rubber tires, though fine on the road, did not have enough traction to work in the field. Pneumatic tires were introduced in 1932 and were composed of an inner tube that contained compressed air and an outer protective casing that also provided traction. They proved superior

to the metal wheels and by 1940 over 90% of new tractors were sold with rubber tires.

These early pneumatic tires were made from vulcanized rubber which is strong and flexible when new but liable to degrade over time. As time went by, the formulation and manufacturing process changed. Today, rubber tires are made with one of any number of synthetic rubbers, and contain curatives, adhesion promoters, anti-degradants and reinforcing chemicals that increase working life.

If older tires have not yet distorted and the equipment they are on is running, then regular use will help keep them from getting flat. Keep them clean but avoid commercial dressings which may contain undesirable additives intended for modern rubber. A mixture of paste wax and carbon black pigment can be used to protect the tires.

There is not much that can be done to restore older rubber tires to a "like new" condition as their degradation is due to a continuing chemical reaction that was originally responsible for curing

the rubber. As the rubber molecules crosslink and shrink, cracking occurs. Reducing the temperature will slow down the rate of degradation, and this will occur seasonally if the tractor is kept outside. Keeping machinery in the shade during summer will provide a cooler temperature. Avoid light exposure as much as possible, as light accelerates decomposition of the rubber. Good ventilation will disperse any sulphur compounds that are off-gassed by the rubber.

When it is not in use, the tractor could be mounted on stands to keep weight off the tires and also off the axle. CCI Notes 15/2, [Care of Machinery Artifacts Displayed or Stored Outside](#) and 15/7 [Rubber Components in Industrial Collections](#) contain practical suggestions and includes a section on Protective Structures that discusses bases, blocking and covers.

Mounting the tractor off the ground will also prevent the corrosion, mould and water damage that comes from contact with the soil.



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Em: info@dimensiondisplay.ca • P: 204.943.7551



Display & Exhibit Systems

- portable bannerstands
- counters/kiosks
- truss
- accessories

Graphics Production

- large format digital
- dyesub
- promotional materials

Design

- display/exhibit design
- graphic design



Display Yourself

News & Events

In Manitoba's Museum Community

The following are member submissions. If you'd like your museum's events and news items to be posted in our next newsletter, please send your submissions to your regional councilor or the AMM office.

Eastern Region

AMM Eastman Report
Submitted by Liz Hogue

As all of our Eastern Region Museums gear up for another great season, our thoughts are with the people of St-Georges whose museum suffered a devastating fire on May 17th.

Cook's Creek Heritage Museum, Cook's Creek

Our "Polski Czat" informal Polish language group has been meeting throughout last fall and this spring and will be taking a summer break. It has proved to be a very enjoyable session and we look forward to starting up again in the fall.

Our summer staff is now in place and our "Restoring the Past" men's group started up at the end of May. The "to do" list is on the go and, as with every year, the restoration and cleaning projects are never ending.

We have three major events planned for the 2014 season. We started with a "Hats off to Summer" garden party style tea on Sunday June 22nd.

On July 4th we will host our very popular Pig Roast and Barn Dance featuring great home cooking and toe tapping music. Sunday August 24th is our annual Heritage Day which features pioneer demonstrations, entertainment, children's area, ethnic food and vendor sales.

Mennonite Heritage Village, Steinbach

Mennonite Heritage Village (MHV) is a "child" of the Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society (MMHS) and is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2014. Our theme for the year is *Celebrate With Us*. We hope people will come from across the province and from across the country to be a part of the festivities.

The celebratory year started with the MHV Auxiliary's film night in January. In February our Senior Curator gave a brief lecture on the role of a Curatorial function and the artifacts collection in a museum. We also officially opened two new exhibits that evening, one focusing on the history

of the museum and the other focusing on the variety of items in our collection. These exhibits will remain in place for most of this year.

In March we celebrated the contributions of our founders and builders. The founders are the eight individuals who signed the documents which resulted in the incorporation of the MMHS in 1964.

April 4th was MHV Story night where various individuals told stories of their experiences at MHV. The MHV Auxiliary provided Fasma and a drama on May 4th. There are other events planned throughout the year, all of which are in our events calendar on our website at www.mhv.ca.

Our signature celebratory event of the year will take place on July 5th and 6th. On July 5th we will host Schmeckfest Jubilee, a fundraising dinner with entertainment by world-class Manitoba improvisational violinist Rosemary Siemens.

Sunday, July 6th there will be a special worship service, guided village tours, a Saengerfest and a traditional Fasma. We hope many people will choose to Celebrate With Us on this day.

Sprague and District Museum, Sprague

The Sprague & District has just moved a new building on the museum grounds, an historical church that was built in the 1930s. We will be renovating the building this Spring and Summer. We were in need of more space. A new roof, new windows, painting and flooring are needed. It is a big project for our area.

Midwinter School, East Braintree

Our Signature Tea will be served when we are open for tours and events.

August 23rd will be the 100th Anniversary of the little towns of East Braintree, McMunn and Glenn. The Little Towns That Could! Come and help us celebrate. There will be a Blueberry Pancake Breakfast at 9 am followed by a Farmer's Market, Wild Flowers tours in the area, lunch, and wagon rides to the Old Quarry. Scottish and Ukranian Dance groups will perform in the afternoon, two musical groups will entertain us. A Wiener roast is planned

for the evening. Don't miss it! We are equipped for all types of weather. Please call Margaret @ 204-426-5510, Lorna @ 204-422-5284, or Lindi at @ 204 998 9998 for more info about the upcoming event, or for tours.

Western Region

Beckoning Hills Museum, Boissevain

Volunteers welcomed 99 students plus staff and volunteers to help celebrate Manitoba Day on May 12th and 13th. Students toured the museum taking in all the displays, listening to music from our antique music machines and taking home a piece of "homemade" rope. Hopefully these young people will want to return and bring their families!

The museum opened for the season on Sunday, May 25th with a special display on World War I and II. This display is a collaboration between the museum, the local Legion, and community members who have items they are willing to share. A special program is being planned for August, the 100th anniversary of WW I.

Plans are also being made to serve cake and beverages at an Open House on June 30th. Our museum will also be open on Canada Day, July 1st for people to see our special displays and look at our new acquisitions.

North American Game Warden Museum, International Peace Gardens

In case you haven't heard about us we are fairly new to the museum world.

Our taxidermy and artifacts introduce you to the Game Warden/Conservation Officer profession through the stories of how Wardens captured people performing illegal activities.

The museum is representative of North America and includes a memorial overlooking the Peace Towers dedicated to those who have died in the line of duty.

We offer summer programming during July and August. Here's what is happening this year:



Main gallery of NAGWM

July 12 - 13, 2014

Formal Presentation 1:30 - 3:30 pm
Gary Labinow, Wildlife Pilot, Arizona Game and Fish Department
Aviation Use for Wildlife Management

July 26 - 27, 2014

Formal Presentation 1:30 - 3:30 pm,
intermittently available after 3:30 pm

Teri Bjerk, Dunseith North Dakota
A Discussion on the Skill of Archery and Demonstration

August 2 - 3, 2014

11 am – 5 pm Resource Trailer Open,
Conversation with Public 1:30 - 3:30 pm
Gary Provencher, Conservation Officer,
Saskatchewan Ministry of the Environment
The Saskatchewan Resource Protection Trailer

August 16 - 17, 2014

Formal Presentation 1:30 - 3:30 pm, may be available after 3:30 pm
Tom Zick, Wildlife Refuge Specialist,
J. Clark Salyer NWRefuge, North Dakota
Conservation Easement Enforcement - A Federal Wildlife Officer's Work in the Dakotas.

August 23 - 24, 2014

Formal Presentation 1:30 - 3:30 pm, intermittently available from 11 am – 5 pm
Captain Thomas Caifa, New York State Environmental Conservation Police Law Enforcement Division Training Captain Environmental Conservation & Law Enforcement, *Enforcing Fish & Game Laws Across the State from Lake Placid to New York City.*

Winnipeg Region

Transcona Historical Museum

It's been a busy couple of months here. Last December the Board of Directors held a successful strategic planning session. One of the outcomes is our new mission and vision statements. Our Mission now reads "To preserve and promote the community spirit of Transcona, through sharing our history and stories for all" and our Vision is now "The heart of Transcona's vibrant history and culture".

Our newest exhibits *Park City Life*, *The Quelch Collection*, and *Transcona Remembers* opened on May 20th.

There are some new faces at the museum. We welcome back summer students Laura and Virginia from last year and this year we have added Kim to the roster.

The students will be running our successful summer programming: drop-in days, KidsQuest, and walking tour program, as well as working with the collection. The museum would like to thank Young Canada Works in Heritage Organizations and Canada Summer Jobs for the funding for these summer student positions.

We would also like to introduce our new Marketing Coordinator / Museum Assistant, Christian Camp, to the museum. She has come on board to help us increase our membership and fundraising. Welcome Christian.

Summer 2014

AMM Summer Student

Please help us welcome Breanna Vitti, a summer student who will be helping us out in the office.

Breanna is a Library and Information Technology student at Red River College. She'll be helping us with our library, organizing some files, and we might even get her to make balloon animals just to keep things interesting. (No, not really. Balloon animals will not be made during her tenure...unless she really insists.)

She will also be answering the phone, so don't be surprised when you hear someone else's voice on the line when you call.

As well as helping out in the office, we'll be offering Breanna the opportunity to visit at least three museums while she's with us. Not doing so just wouldn't be right now would it?



Welcome Breanna Vitti

Reminder to Subscriber

If you're reading this you've given your permission to keep you on our email list, but there are many who haven't and we're afraid they may have missed seeing our emails.

In compliance with the new Anti-SPAM Legislation we asked permission from our members and friends to keep them on our email lists.

If you know of anyone involved with your museum or organization who did not receive this newsletter, but would like to, please have them contact the AMM office so we can put them on our lists.

Subscribers can [subscribe](#) to the newsletter, the broadcast emails or both.

The newsletter is only sent out three times a year.

We send out broadcast emails at least once a month or when something of special importance comes up that we want to inform you about.

Remember, you can always [unsubscribe](#) from receiving emails from us.

We thank you for giving us permission to keep you on our email list and for passing the word to others.

Identification Illumination

"Arrowheads" are frequently found and collected, but are they truly arrowheads? Where did they come from? How were they used?



The AMM and the Manitoba Archaeological Society (MAS) would like to help you find out.

These artifacts can be stone tools, ceramic potsherds, or bone fragments.

We'd like to hear from everyone who has "arrowheads" in their collection. Together with MAS we'll help you get them properly identified.

Through proper identification of the cultural affiliation, the time period of the artifacts can be determined towards a better understanding of Manitoba's heritage. A more complete interpretation of the local culture history can then be presented to the public.

Firearms Training

A firearms training course is being scheduled for this fall at The Manitoba Museum.

If you have firearms in your museum, and you're looking for certification in restricted or unrestricted firearms, contact Amelia Fay at afay@manitobamuseum.ca or call her at 204-988-0563.

Classifieds

Vintage 1960s TV

Someone is looking for a home for their 1960s (?) 18", black and white TV. If you could make use of it contact Mrs. Moore at 204-832-3505 in Winnipeg.



This image is only an approximation of a 1960s black and white TV. Actual TV may not be exactly as shown

Display Cases

The folks at Grant's Old Mill are looking for some display cases. If you have some you could give them please contact Nancy Fluto at nancy13@mymts.net

AMM Membership Benefits and Fees

Member Benefits:

- Basic courses in the Certificate Program in Museum Practice (at a discounted fee).
- Specialized courses that meet the expressed needs of members (at a discounted fee).
- An annual conference (at a discounted fee).
- Regional Seminars – meetings and/or workshops with other museums in your region.
- Use of a resource library that contains books and videotapes covering every aspect of museum work.
- Newsletter (3 times a year).
- Various publications available for purchase, *Museum Standards, Ideas, Other People's Heritage*, etc., (at a discounted fee).
- Free listing on our website for all Manitoba Institutional members
- A discount of 5% - 12% at Carr McLean for museum, archival and conservation supplies.
- Access to the Cultural Stewardship Program for FREE.

INDIVIDUALS

INDIVIDUAL

Open to any resident of Manitoba
(One voting privilege)

FAMILY

Open to any family in Manitoba
(One voting privilege)

STUDENT

Open to any student in Manitoba
(One voting privilege)

INDIVIDUAL ASSOCIATE

Restricted to individuals outside Manitoba
(No voting privileges)

INSTITUTIONS

INSTITUTIONAL

Open to museums and heritage institutions
in Manitoba (Two voting privileges)

Membership fee based on museum's
annual budget.

INSTITUTIONAL ASSOCIATE

Restricted to heritage institutions outside
Manitoba, or libraries inside Manitoba.
(No voting privileges and not available to
museums in Manitoba.)

AMM Membership Categories & Dues

Individual Category Dues

Individual	35.00
Family	45.00
Student	25.00
Individual Associate	50.00

Institutional Category Due

\$ 100 – 2,000	40.00
\$ 2,001 – 20,000	60.00
\$ 20,001 – 40,000	75.00
\$ 40,001 – 80,000	100.00
\$ 80,001 – 160,000	140.00
\$ 160,001 – 250,000	175.00
\$ 250,001 – 1,000,000	200.00
\$ 1,000,001 – 5,000,000	250.00
\$ 5,000,001 – 10,000,000	300.00
\$ 10,000,001+	400.00
Institutional Associate	50.00

Membership Application

Name _____

Museum _____

Mail Address _____

Street Address _____

City _____ Prov. _____ Postal _____

Phone (home) _____ Phone (work) _____

Fax _____ Email _____

Membership Category _____

Membership Dues \$ _____

Donation \$ _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

The AMM gratefully acknowledges the financial support of Manitoba Tourism, Culture, Heritage, Sports, and Consumer Protection, and Canadian Heritage.

Association of Manitoba Museums

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