

Board Meeting Summary – February 3 & 4, 2010

The fourth regular board meeting of the MAS Board of Directors was held on February 4th at the Western Development Museum Centre in Saskatoon. The Board also met as on the evening of February 3rd, 2010, to focus on governance policy review – specifically the work to date on the Ends policies.

Key results of the February meeting were:

- The December 31st, 2009 financial statements and the third quarter Budget projections, were presented. It was determined that the General Reserve Fund, which exists to ensure that the Board is able to pay for future unknown liabilities (most often this fund is used to pay salaries and benefits owed employees in the event of organization dissolution), need to be increased. A formula has been developed which will be followed ensuring the General Reserve Fund is sufficiently funded. This is part of the Board's risk management strategy.
- The status of the strategic planning process was discussed. MAS staff had been directed, by SaskCulture, to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to a list of consultants in December. Unfortunately, no proposals were received from the consultants identified. It was decided that the Board would not wait any longer to start the planning process and will, therefore, proceed immediately by approaching specific consultants. It is hoped that this will not hinder SaskCulture's commitment to assist in this process.
- The Board's policy review committee reported their work to date at the evening meeting on February 3rd. They approved in principal the draft version of the Ends policies presented. The next task will be to review the remaining governance policies prior to the next Board meeting. By reviewing and revising their governance policies the Board is ensuring that they and subsequent boards will be able to carry out their fiduciary duties effectively and efficiently.
- The Board's policy review committee will also be developing procedures for monitoring all governance policies including the required content and format for various monitoring reports necessary throughout the year. Additionally, the Board is developing methods of self-evaluation in order to make the most effective use of their 4 to 6 meetings annually.
- The Bylaw Review committee is looking at the existing Bylaws and the comments received from members at the 2009 AGM and will determine if any bylaw changes will be required. Any proposed bylaw changes will be brought to the AGM through a special resolution and will be discussed at the Members' Forum prior to the AGM, May 27th.
- The Nominations committee continues to look for nominees for election to the Board at the AGM in May. They ask that anyone with an interest in serving on the board or who

know of a person whom they would like to nominate to contact the MAS office to receive a nominations package.

- The GPS Heritage Tour Pilot Project is on hold because funding was not forthcoming for the three month period January 1 to March 31. It was reiterated that while this is a wonderful project MAS is not in the position to carry on until funding is in place. It was also determined that, even if funds were to become available in April it would not be possible to proceed with the project as originally envisioned – to be launched in the summer of 2010. There would simply not be enough time. A revised target for launching the pilot would logically summer 2011. The Board want to see a complete strategic plan outlining not only the direction for the pilot but also for the project after the pilot phase before moving forward with the project.

If you have any comments or questions, you can contact us by telephone, mail, or email.

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