

President's Message



Céline Perillat

Happy New Year from the MAS Board!

Welcome to the winter Board and Staff Quarterly Report for 2010-11.

In this issue, you will read about updates on board and staff activities over the past few months.

The Board met once this fall in September. A summary of the meeting is available on the MAS website www.saskmuseums.org

This fall saw the strategic planning process in full swing with a series of consultation meetings held with members and stakeholders taking place throughout the province. The Board would like to take this opportunity to thank all those individuals who participated in the consultation process either as part of a consultation meeting or by completing and returning their interview guide to the office.

The Board's Strategic Planning Steering Committee

and Board will be working with the consultant, Ken Alecxe over the next several weeks to develop a draft strategic plan which will be presented at the Mini-Conference on May 26th.

Just a reminder that there is still time to contact the Nominations Committee if you are interested in becoming part of the MAS Board. Contact the MAS office for details 1-866-568-7386 or mas@saskmuseums.org

If you are not on our email list, please be sure to forward your information to the office at mas@saskmuseums.org so you can keep up to date on our progress.

As this is the second year of our two year operational funding from the Sask-Lotteries Trust through Sask-Culture, we will be submitting an interim report and 2011/12 budget at the end of January. We expect to receive approximately the

same level of funding as last year. The deadline for applications to the Museums Assistance Program from Canadian Heritage was changed again this year, so our application did not go in until January 14th, 2011; we do not anticipate knowing the results of our request until July.

I encourage you to read the Board Report and Staff Report included in this Quarterly Report, and contact us with any questions or comments. You can reach any of the board members by calling the MAS Office at 1-866-568-7386.

Best of luck in this new year, and we look forward to seeing you at the AGM and Mini-Conference in May!

Sincerely,
Céline Perillat
President
Board of Directors



MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION OF SASKATCHEWAN

Board & Staff Quarterly Report

MAS 2011 Annual General Meeting & Mini-Conference will be held May 26 in Regina.

Keep an eye on E-Phemera and our website www.saskmuseums.org for all of the updates and for your opportunity to register!

If you are interested in joining our Board, please contact us for the nomination package at mas@saskmuseums.org or toll free: 1-866-568-7386.

The Museums Association of Saskatchewan's Board & Staff Quarterly Report is published in September, January and March. The Annual Report is issued in May.

Museums Association of Saskatchewan
424 McDonald Street
Regina, SK S4N 6E1
Toll Free: 1-866-568-7386
mas@saskmuseums.org
www.saskmuseums.org



Strategic Planning

Consultant Ken Alecxe conducted a series of consultation sessions during the fall beginning with an Advisory Council meeting October 15th & 16th, 2010 which brought together the MAS Board, staff, Special Interest Group Reps, Network Reps, and key stakeholders in a retreat setting to focus on the questions articulated in the Strategic Planning Interview Guide. Six regional and one Special Interest Group meeting followed the Advisory Council meeting along with individual meetings with key stakeholders. This discovery and review process began with discussion at the broadest level of issues and opportunities and led to a limited set of priorities that can become concrete deliverables. The next steps will be taken, by the consultant, under the direction of the MAS Steering Committee and finally the Board to develop a realistic, achievable, three-year rolling Strategic Plan which will include the analysis of the results of the discovery/review findings and the research on the directions other provincial museums associations are taking; a review of the MAS vision and value statements; confirm the 3-4 broad goals for the Association; set specific objectives (1-3 for each goal); develop key performance results for each objective (measurables); put in place a system to ensure the strategic plan is a true evergreen plan which is monitored and revised annually.

Board of Directors

Céline Perillat - President
Wayne Fennig - Vice-President
Crystal Craig
Gary Young
Gordon Steele
Heather LeGars
Janette Hamilton
Rhonda Lamb

Advocacy

The President - Celine Perillat, Vice-President – Wayne Fennig, and Co-Manager/Director of Museum Development – Wendy Fitch were invited to meet with the Minister of Tourism, Parks, Culture & Sport, the Honourable Bill Hutchinson on September 29th in response to a letter of congratulations sent on his being named minister. This was an opportunity for MAS to provide the Minister with an overview of who we are and what we do. It was also an opportunity to establish the groundwork for a productive advocacy relationship with the Ministry. An informational package was prepared by staff for the Minister which contained an overview of the organization; statistical information about the museum community; membership brochure & Annual Report; and a brief regarding the Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation and how if it is strengthened it could benefit MAS members throughout the province as a source of project funding.

MAS has begun to work with Heritage Saskatchewan on

advocacy issues specifically those facing the Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation. As part of this partnership staff from both organizations met with Minister Hutchinson on November 19th to reiterate how both organizations see the SHF as an ideal way for the province to implement the new provincial cultural policy in a way that is cost effective and will have widespread positive benefit for the heritage community, including museums, to meet the provincial goals regarding stewardship and access in particular. The new cultural policy is available at: <http://www.tpcs.gov.sk.ca/cultural-policy> MAS will continue to pursue further discussions regarding changes to the Foundation such as moving it further arms length from government and increasing its budget to an amount which would much more reasonable in addressing heritage project needs in Saskatchewan.

Upcoming in 2011

Certificate Program

** Care of Collections - to be offered twice **

** Museums 101- to be offered once **

*** Museums and Sustainability publication ***

*** Special Interest Group meetings ***

See the Calendar and our website for further details and to register!

Staffing News

This fall we said goodbye to one staff member and welcomed two new people to the office.

Our Administration Assistant, Tammy Blancher left the Association in September to be able to concentrate on her young family.

Brittany Knudsen joined us in October as our Communications Coordinator. Brittany works four days a week producing E-Phemera twice a month alternating with Megaphone. She is also working to ensure the MAS website is up to date.

In December Eleanor (Ele) Radbourne joined the MAS staff as our new Administration Assistant. Hers will be the helpful voice you hear when you call the MAS office.

MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT

Standards

The fourth edition of the document *Standards for Saskatchewan Museums* has been completed and reflects the changing need of the museum community. A complimentary copy is being sent to each institutional member of MAS. To order any additional copies (\$20 includes GST) contact our office.

Standards for Saskatchewan Museums (2010) was developed by MAS for the Saskatchewan museum community in all its diversity. It continues to articulate a comprehensive set of operational standards based on a set of

principles, with the presumption that not all standards are relevant to every institution. Museums will find relevant, useful, practical information within this revised document which will help them to be the best they can be, given their unique resources and goals. The Museums Association of Saskatchewan undertook the initial development of standards in 1987 in response to a directive from its membership.

Education & Professional Development Calendar Winter-Spring 2011

The Winter-Spring 2011 calendar was created and distributed in January 2011. The calendar provides information about the programs and services we offer and includes many of the educational and professional development opportunities offered over the next few months. Each individual, institutional and honorary member was mailed a copy of the calendar. It is also available on the MAS web-site and was sent by email to everyone on the MAS email list.

For more information on any of the activities listed, please contact: Professional Development Coordinator, Jessica Leavens at jessica.leavens@saskmuseums.org or check our website at www.saskmuseums.org/professional_development

Staff

Brenda Herman - Co-Manager/Dir. of Finance
Wendy Fitch - Co-Manager/Dir. of Museum Dev.
Jessica Leavens - Professional Development Coord.
Eleanor Radbourne - Administration Assistant
Brittany Knudsen - Communications Coord.

Certificate in Community Museum Studies

◆ In September MAS offered the two day Museums and Community course and in November the one day Volunteer Management course was offered.

◆ The two day Care of Collections course is in the final stages of revision with a team of experts Stephanie Middagh, Alyssa Becker-Burns (RSM) and Brenda Smith (MacKenzie Art Gallery). The new course will be piloted twice in the spring.

◆ *Museums 101* (formerly Introduction to Saskatchewan Standards) is in the final stages of revision by Cathy Blackburn of the Ontario Museums Association. The newly revised foundation course will introduce museum practitioners to the *Standards for Saskatchewan Museums* (2010) and teaches participants how to implement the standards into all areas of museum functions. It is an engaging and interactive examination of museums in the 21st century. Where have museums come from? Where are they going? What is the purpose of our work?

Special Interest Groups

The Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are an integral part of MAS' education and professional development programming. Primarily designed for mid-to-advanced career professionals, but open to all interested MAS members, these groups facilitate individual and organizational development of our museum community by offering special-topic workshops, discussion groups, and on-line networking.

Currently there are 7 Special Interest Groups: Collections Management, Conservation, Exhibits, First Nations, Metis & Inuit,

Programmers, Saskatchewan Family National Historic Sites.

◆ In collaboration with MacKenzie Art Gallery, we offered a Canadian Conservation Institute course on October 14 & 15: Products Used for Display, Storage, and Transportation Revision projects.

Standards for Boards is being revised with Carrie Brooks-Joiner, who designed and teaches Managing Cultural Organizations (University of Victoria Cultural Resource Management Program), to incorporate changes to the Standards document and create a dynamic and engaging course

on good governance for museum boards. This program will have a new title **Good Governance for Museum Boards**. It will continue to be offered to individual museum boards on a first come basis.

A **Museums and Sustainability** publication is being developed with guidance and expertise from the consultant Dale Worobec and M&S Committee: Gailmarie Anderson (Melfort Museum), Glenn Sutter (Royal Saskatchewan Museum), and Wendy Winter (MacKenzie Art Gallery). This publication will provide a broad overview of museums and sustainability.

Upcoming in 2011

*** Creative Collaborations Symposium ***

An evening gathering and inspiring keynote address by Dr. Candace Matelic will kick off this creative, engaging full day symposium focused on community engagement, multicultural relationship building, and collaborative skills and practice. Sessions will include community engagement, tools for organizational transformation, partnerships 101, and intercultural connections with a few surprises thrown in to engage your mind and body!

See the Calendar and our website for further details and to register!