

# *The Megaphone*

*June 16, 2011*

**meg·a·phone** [**meg-uh-fohn**] –*noun*

1. a cone-shaped device for magnifying or directing the voice, chiefly used in addressing a large audience out of doors or in calling to someone at a distance.

[www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com)

Hello everyone,

In this month's Megaphone we talk about what happened at our 2011 Mini-Conference & AGM at the RCMP Heritage Centre.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped make this year's Mini-Conference & AGM a success. A big thanks to our hosts the RCMP Heritage Centre and our consultants Olivia Shumski and Yvonne Gray from Oh My! Solutions inc. We'd also like to thank our speakers from Tourism Parks, Culture and Sport and SaskCulture. Special thanks to our special luncheon guests

The Honourable Bill Hutchinson, Minister of Tourism Parks, Culture and Sport and Regina Mayor Pat Fiacco. Finally, we'd like to thank our consultant Ken Alecxe for all of his hard work helping us develop our Strategic Plan.

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The conference started off with our Member Forum. Lisa-Dale Burnett, Senior Heritage Analyst with the Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport provided a very informative presentation on Saskatchewan's Cultural Policy: Pride of Saskatchewan. She introduced us to two resources: "[Moving from Reflection to Action: Towards a Cultural Policy for Saskatchewan](#)" which summarizes the five phases of research and development which ensured the policy was developed with the input from the people it is meant to support. Also the policy document itself "[Pride of Saskatchewan: A policy where culture, community and commerce meet](#)". Print versions were available at the conference but online versions can be found on their website by clicking the links above. Janet Baker from the Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport was also available to answer member's questions regarding the Cultural Policy.

Dean Kush, Program Manager of SaskCulture gave an excellent presentation on how SaskCulture supports Saskatchewan museums. SaskCulture has a variety of funding opportunities available for museums, including the Museum Grant Program, and they encourage all museums to contact them if they are interested in applying. They will help you to understand how to apply so that you can receive the maximum amount of funding possible. He also talked about thinking outside of the box and encouraging new and innovative ways to involve visitors of museums. Some previous projects by museums were: after school programs, exhibits and activities that involve the inclusion of First Nations history, educational kits for schools, and engaging youth by incorporating technology into your museum via social media and a museum website. If your museum would like to try something new, innovative and/or engaging be sure to put it in your application so that you have an opportunity to receive funding.

Dean Kush also announced on behalf of SaskCulture that there will be a Museum Culture Days Grant of a maximum of \$1000 available for MAS members. This is a one time grant which will help museums put on an event for Culture Days or even just stay open until the end of September when Culture Days takes place. The Guidelines and Application form are available on our website: <http://www.saskmuseums.org/news - news-1133> The deadline for applications is **June 30, 2011**. Please contact Peter Brass at SaskCulture if you have any questions: phone (306) 780-9289 (within Regina), Toll free 1-866-476-6830 (outside of Regina), Email [saskculture.info@saskculture.sk.ca](mailto:saskculture.info@saskculture.sk.ca) Website: [www.saskculture.ca](http://www.saskculture.ca)

Our Annual General Meeting followed directly after the Member Forum. It was well attended. The Board recommended that the number of members on the board for 2011/12 be held to a maximum of 9. This resulted in an election for the five vacant Board positions.

During the AGM we heard reports from Celine Perillat, President (Board Report), Wendy Fitch, Co-Manager and Director of Museum Development (Management Report), Heather Wilson from the Prairie Trails Museums Network (Networks Report) and Stephanie Kaduck from the Programmers Special Interest Group (Special Interest Group Report). Allen Lefebvre, from the Audit Committee also presented the Financial and Auditors Report and answered questions from the members.

Crystal Craig, Nominations Committee Chair introduced the list of nominees and conducted the elections process. After the ballots were counted we all found out the results of the election. Your MAS Board for 2011-2012 is:

### **President**

Rhonda Lamb, RCMP Historical Collections Unit "Depot" Division, Regina

### **Vice President**

Crystal Craig, Ancient Echoes Interpretive Centre, Herschel

### **Returning Directors**

Heather LeGars, Western Development Museum, Saskatoon

Janette Hamilton, Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport, Regina

### **New Directors**

Carol Peterson, Deep South Pioneer Museum, Ogema

Donald Stein, Godfrey Dean Art Gallery, Yorkton

Flo Miller, Parks Canada, Motherwell Homestead National Historic Site, Abernethy

Joan Searle, Mortlach Museum, Mortlach

Stephanie Kaduck, Swift Current Museum, Swift Current

During the Luncheon greetings from the Provincial government were brought by The Honourable Bill Hutchinson, Minister of Tourism Parks, Culture and Sport and from the City of Regina by Mayor Pat Fiacco. Presentations were also made to retiring President Céline Perillat and retiring Board members: Gary Young, Gordon Steele, Wayne Fennig and Ingrid Cazakoff.

The conference continued in the afternoon with a session on the MAS Strategic Plan. Ken Alecxe, Alecxe Business Consulting presented his findings for the Strategic Plan consultation process and explained how the plan came together. The members present were then given an

opportunity to discuss the value statements included in the plan and write down their thoughts and ideas which will assist in the completion of the final draft of the plan. Following his presentation the Board represented by Rhonda Lamb (President) and Céline Perillat (past President) officially presented the draft Strategic Plan to the members and took questions. The Strategic Plan will be available on our website once the Board finalizes it.

Following the Mini-Conference and AGM members also had the opportunity to have a guided tour of the RCMP Heritage Centre.

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## Member Events

There was an opportunity during the conference for museums to talk about any past or upcoming events that they had going on. Here is a brief list of the events that were brought to our attention from member museums all over Saskatchewan.

**Deep South Pioneer Museum, Ogema:** Ogema will be celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the town. The museum has recently restored a steam engine and passenger car. Visit their website: <http://www.ogema.ca/ogema-attractions-museum.html>

**Wilkie & District Museum, Wilkie:** CTV visited this town on Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>. They were hoping to feature the museum.

**Ancient Echoes Interpretive Centre, Herschel:** A few years ago Ancient Echoes put on a walking tour/play based on the diary of the Earl of South Eske. It has recently been adapted for indoors, where the characters will move around the audience. This play will be performed on July 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at the local arena. Ancient Echoes was also nominated for a Saskatchewan Tourism Award for Environmental Issues. MAS congratulates Ancient Echoes on this well deserved nomination! Visit their website for more information: <http://www.ancientechoes.ca/>

**Royal Saskatchewan Museum, Regina:** The Royal Saskatchewan Museum offers free traveling exhibits for anyone who is interested. Please contact RSM by visit their website if your museum is interested in hosting an exhibit: <http://www.royalsaskmuseum.ca/>

**Western Development Museums:** The North Battleford WDM has recently opened a new doctor's office exhibit. The building was opened in the WDM Heritage Village and features an in house druggist display. The Moose Jaw WDM is happy to report that they are making great progress on the WDM Short Line railway. Recently a new boiler was installed and inspected on the locomotive. Visit the WDM website for more information: <http://www.wdm.ca/index.html>

**Saskatchewan Archaeology Society, Saskatoon:** SAS is offering a curriculum based education kit involving ancient technologies from the province. The curriculum is based for students in grades 4 through 9 but can be modified. This kit can be found on their website: <http://www.saskarchsoc.ca/index.html>

**Cupar & District Heritage Museum, Cupar:** Past events include Memories of Cupar and Cupar in Bloom. They created a CD called "I Remember" which features thoughts from the

different people/generations in the town. Visit their website:

<http://www.townofcupar.com/pages/museum.php>

**Morse Museum & Cultural Centre, Morse:** Morse Museum will be having an Antique Appraisal at the beginning of October.

<http://morsemuseum.ning.com/>

**Parks Canada:** Parks Canada is celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Parks Canada was founded on May 19, 1911, Parks Canada is celebrating a century of world leadership in protection, education and visitor experience that is admired around the globe. Visit their website for information on centennial events:

<http://www.pc.gc.ca/progs/celebrations/index.aspx>

**Melfort & District Museum, Melfort:** Melfort has a new multiplex centre. We are pleased to announce that Melfort is also hosting the 2012 MAS Conference and AGM next year. Visit their website for more information:

[http://www.cityofmelfort.ca/Visitors/Things\\_To\\_Do/Melfort\\_District\\_Museum/](http://www.cityofmelfort.ca/Visitors/Things_To_Do/Melfort_District_Museum/)

**Hugh Henry of Doc's Town in Swift Current :** They are restoring an Airmen's Billet and asked that anyone with photos of Airmen's Billets contact him.

<http://www.swiftcurrentex.com/>

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## Member Conference Photo Gallery

A photo gallery has been put up on our website of this year's conference. Be sure to check it out, especially if you didn't get a chance to attend!

[http://www.saskmuseums.org/governance/annual\\_member\\_conference/Member\\_Conference\\_Gallery](http://www.saskmuseums.org/governance/annual_member_conference/Member_Conference_Gallery)