

Heritage in Manitoba

2020

Perspectives, Challenges, Opportunities
and Recommendations

A report commissioned by
Manitoba's Provincial Heritage Agencies

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1. Executive Summary

Purpose

Our goal is to celebrate Manitoba's heritage activities, raise the profile of heritage in Manitoba, advocate for increased funding for heritage, and to facilitate long term collaborative planning on heritage issues.

The 2020 Heritage Summit

On October 1, 2020, a group of eight Provincial Heritage Agencies (PHAs) hosted the Manitoba Heritage Summit. Presentations covered four topics: economics, financial sustainability, and partnerships; decolonizing heritage in Manitoba; challenges and opportunities for heritage in rural Manitoba; and youth, technology, and green sustainability.

Provincial Heritage Agencies

There are eight PHAs in Manitoba. Taken together they represent the scope of heritage activity in in our province. They are the Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada, Heritage Winnipeg, Manitoba Historical Society, Manitoba Archaeological Society, Association for Manitoba Archives, Manitoba Genealogical Society, La Société historique de Saint-Boniface, and Association of Manitoba Museums. Each organization is profiled below.

The Role of the Provincial Government

The Government of Manitoba, through its Historic Resources Branch (HRB), once played a leadership role in heritage preservation. Over recent decades, there has been a sharp decline in the number of staff members who once provided leadership and advice to municipalities and heritage associations. The PHAs have taken over several of the roles once played by the HRB, but lack the resources, under current funding models, to fill the void.

Challenges and Opportunities

Manitoba's PHAs are facing funding levels that are significantly lower than what was available a decade ago, while obligations, opportunities and expectations have grown. The funding problem is tied closely to issues surrounding the value people place on heritage and the leadership required to define goals and find a way to pay for meeting those goals.

We strive to improve our services through better advocacy, embracing diversity, improving our processes for sharing and collaboration. We must focus on innovation and improve the effectiveness of our use of new technologies as part of our effort to expand our audience and improve our connections. The funding deficit makes adopting new technologies especially challenging.

Continuity, communications, and expertise are required in terms of leadership. The declining role of the former HRB places stress on all heritage activity.

Recommendations to the Manitoba Government

Our most pressing recommendations relate to funding of PHAs and to the HRB.

1. We call on the Manitoba Government to increase PHA funding to levels resembling what it provided 20 years ago, adjusted for inflation. Funding should be offered on a multi-year basis, at a stable and predictable level, indexed to inflation and reviewed in light of changing expectations. Funding should be adequate to allow each PHA to have a minimum level of paid staff, thus ensuring standards for continuity, expertise, and leadership. Unsustainable and inadequate funding leaves no room for dealing with the unforeseen. The current funding levels, which, when we consider inflation, represent a sharp decrease in actual dollars, tend to sharpen the rural/urban divide. Many organizations have a constant need to be fundraising to simply survive.
2. There has been a significant erosion of HRB services, especially to rural Manitoba. The leadership provided by specialists in building preservation, heritage site commemoration, and heritage site identification should be restored to the levels seen in the 1990s. Alternatively, PHAs need the resources to carry out those roles.

2. Introduction

Purpose

Our aim in developing this document is to celebrate the many facets of Manitoba's heritage activities. The focus is on the eight Provincial Heritage Agencies (PHAs) responsible for the document, each of which is profiled. By celebrating achievements, we strive to raise the profile of heritage in Manitoba. We believe it is more important than ever to accurately and passionately portray the full scope of our history. That means embracing our diversity as a people.

To carry on our work, we must strongly and urgently advocate for increased and stabilized funding for heritage. We will document our funding specifics and detail the challenges we face in moving forward. Increased funding is vital if we are to continue to expand our reach and seek to facilitate long-term collaborative planning.

For the purposes of this document, "history" is defined as the political, social, economic, and cultural structures and events when they occurred in the distant or near past. "Heritage" is the presence of the past here and now. It is what current groups and individuals make of what has occurred and what has been built previously.

History of PHAs

Provincial Heritage Agencies are entities that receive annual financial support from the provincial government.

Each of the eight PHAs entered into funding agreements at different times and for different amounts, based around what they could argue for and what the department had available at the time, so over time it just evolved. There were some consultations back in the late 1980s about trying to standardize funding based on criteria, but since every organization had different arguments (based on number of members, levels of service, whether they had publications), there was never any consensus, so nothing changed.

They were encouraged to work together but it appears that there was never much in the way of resources to help that along.

3. The Heritage Summit: Challenges and Opportunities in the Heritage Sector

On October 1, 2020, a group of eight PHAs hosted the first Manitoba Heritage Summit. The purpose was to discuss challenges and opportunities in the heritage sector generally, now and in the next 10 to 20 years, and to use feedback received during and after the Summit to develop a Position Paper on Manitoba heritage. This document will be used by the PHAs for strategic planning and will be publicized to foster public and government engagement.

The Summit featured a wide range of perspectives and reflected a wide range of expertise and experience.

Mr. Sheldon McLeod served as Facilitator.

The day began with greetings from Ms. Janice Filmon, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba and Patron of the Manitoba Historical Society. Ms. Cathy Cox, Minister of Sport, Culture and Heritage, assured the participants that the Manitoba Government is committed to preserving our history and modernizing processes to reduce red tape and ensure long term funding. Ms. Vivian Santos, the Councilor for Point Douglas, City of Winnipeg, brought the message that “supporting heritage and maintaining our built environment makes the most sense, socially, financially and environmentally.” Mr. Stan Fontaine, an Elder from Sagkeeng First Nation, reminded us that “heritage” helps us to understand who we are and how to move in the pursuit of peacemaking and equality.

The keynote speaker, Ms. Natalie Bull, Executive Director of the National Trust for Canada, spoke to the theme “2020 Vision, Disrupted: The Heritage Movement and What Matters Now”. Her presentation emphasized the connections that heritage initiatives build in terms of social justice, inclusiveness, the environment, and the economy.

Representatives from each of the PHAs that sponsored the event offered their perspectives, from which we draw much of the detail in the Issues and Opportunities section of this report.

A series of panel discussions added more perspectives and more ideas. These were grouped around four topics:

Economics, financial sustainability, and partnerships

- Ms. Angela Mathieson, President & Chief Executive Officer, CentreVenture Development Corporation
- Mr. Elliot Sims, Associate Clerk of the Executive Council, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs, Province of Manitoba
- Mr. Rick Frost, Chief Executive Officer, The Winnipeg Foundation
- Mr. Wins Bridgman, Bridgman Collaborative Architecture

Decolonizing heritage in Manitoba

- Ms. KC Adams, Artist and educator
- Mr. Kevin Brownlee, Curator of Archaeology, The Manitoba Museum
- Dr. Adele Perry, Distinguished Professor of History and Women’s and Gender Studies, University of Manitoba
- Mr. Stan Fontaine, Elder, Sagkeeng First Nation, brought a message: “Changing Times and the Need for a New Flag”

Challenges and opportunities for heritage in rural Manitoba

- Ms. Monique Brandt, Executive Director, Association of Manitoba Museums
- Mr. Ralph Groening, President, Association of Manitoba Municipalities
- Ms. Christy Henry, Archivist, Brandon University
- Mr. James Kostuchuk, Chair, Portage Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee

Youth, technology, and green sustainability

- Mr. Ross Hiebert, Business Development Manager, On This Spot
- Mr. Glen Murray, Former Mayor of Winnipeg
- Mr. Ross Metcalfe, Retired Superintendent, Interlake School Division
- Mr. James Dykstra, Red River Heritage Fair

Mr. Sheldon McLeod ended the Summit with his observations on some of the points made. Recordings of the sessions have subsequently been made available on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCykMGaPS-208mSSPdw6TyQQ/videos>).

4. Profiles of the Provincial Heritage Agencies

The following brief overviews of the history, mission, and primary activities of Manitoba's PHAs serve as an introduction. More specifics are available in the Appendix and on their websites.

Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada – <https://www.jhwc.org>

The Jewish Heritage Centre was founded in 1967 as the Archives Committee of the Canadian Jewish Congress, Western Region, to prepare the exhibit, "90 Years of Jewish Life in Western Canada", as a contribution to the Canada Centenary at a time when the Jewish community was emerging from decades of discrimination in employment, education, and residence. The institution became permanent in 1968, expanding to offer public lectures and mount travelling exhibits. The creation of the Jewish Community Campus in 1997 provided the opportunity to create a Holocaust Education Centre and Jewish Museum that merged with the Jewish Historical Society to create the Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada.

Mission

To develop, interpret and disseminate information on the history and culture of western Canadian Jewry and to develop awareness of the history and moral and ethical implications of the Holocaust and other human rights violations.

Activities

The JHC maintains an ever-expanding archive of almost 100,000 documents, photographs, moving images, and artefacts and makes them available to researchers and the public.

Specific Features

- A searchable photographic record of all Jewish burials in Manitoba and surrounding areas with a database for genealogical research.
- Public programs on a wide variety of topics reflecting the broad scope of Jewish heritage.
- Exhibits on Jewish heritage on the Jewish Community Campus as well as on its website.
- Holocaust Education Centre in the Jewish Community Campus gives the history of the Holocaust and shows artefacts donated by survivors who settled here.
- Educational activities for school groups and others with talks by survivors and educators in the Holocaust Education Centre.
- An annual Symposium attended by up to 2,000 students.

Governance and Operations

There are currently 15 board members. Term limits are listed in our bylaws, a two-year term that can be renewed. There are two levels of membership – regular members and voting members – all donors automatically become members. The board constitutes the latter category. There is no charge for membership.

In the last fiscal year, they have had 47 volunteers and 107 financial donors as well as numerous donors of goods and services, artifacts, archives, etc.

The total revenue in past fiscal year was \$312,974. The federal government provided \$8,084 in project funding. The provincial government supplied \$14,700, consisting of operational funding (\$11,200) and project funding (\$3,500). The remainder of funding came from foundations, self-generated revenues, gifts, and grants.

Total expenditure in the last fiscal year was \$347,201. Salaries accounted for \$147,549, contracted services \$5,775, and offices and operation and projects accounted for the remainder.

Challenges

The JHC is highly dependent on gifts, donations, fundraising, and project grants. This creates insecurity and makes it difficult to maintain a proper infrastructure.

The greatest need at present is to bring the Archive up to the standards of the Manitoba Association of Archives.

Thanks to donations, the JHC website has been revamped and improved. This will need to be done again in about five years at a probable cost of \$30,000 to \$40,000.

Staff will need additional training and likely additional equipment to fit into the new tech world.

It costs money to train and coordinate volunteer activity. Some additional staff time will have to be found for staff to do this.

Opportunities

The main opportunities lie in the continuing interest by many community members. We think that Holocaust education, genealogy, and local studies that speak to family backgrounds will attract younger people to the organization. Our ability to do this will depend on the generosity of our donors and the willingness of government, principally provincial, to offer support.

Our evolving comfort with web resources and social media provide opportunities to connect with youth, many older people, and remote researchers.

Heritage Winnipeg – <https://heritagewinnipeg.com>

In the late 1970s, a major threat to heritage preservation came to head. The former Canadian Imperial Bank (389 Main Street) moved out of their classic heritage premises and into the Richardson Building, then filed to demolish what are now the Millennium Centre and the adjacent Bank of Hamilton. This would have left a large surface parking lot to match the earlier gap across the street, created by the demolition of the McIntyre Block. Fortunately, through successful grass roots advocacy, the City of Winnipeg enacted the heritage bylaws and placed historic designations on these two buildings, allowing for much needed protection!

It was indisputable that the city needed a watchdog organization mandated to protect our invaluable built heritage so, in 1978, Heritage Winnipeg was formed by the City of Winnipeg, Province of Manitoba, and National Trust for Canada (formerly the Heritage Canada Foundation).

In the years since, Heritage Winnipeg's activities have included publicity through our Heritage Guides, lobbying for Heritage Day and tax incentives, promotion of heritage through popular programs such as Doors Open Winnipeg, and significant keynote speakers at fundraising events. We engaged in significant advocacy work over the years for buildings such as the Fortune and McDonald Building, former Royal Bank of Canada, Metropolitan Theatre, and Fort Garry Hotel. Other successes followed with the commemorative designation of the Exchange District, as a national historic site, and the implementation of tax incentives and heritage grants for buildings such as the facades on Princess Street, turning this historic streetscape into the vibrant Red River College. For over 40 years, Winnipeggers have developed a better understanding and appreciation of our built heritage and continue to provide us with greater support.

Mission

Heritage Winnipeg is mandated to promote and encourage the conservation of historic/heritage structures and sites, and to attend to those matters which enhance and compliment this purpose. The emphasis is on restoration, revitalization, preservation, education, and advocacy, to augment the cultural inheritance of the community, with consideration for pertinent logistics and feasibility.

Activities

- Heritage Winnipeg works with all levels of governments, building owners and community leaders to protect significant built heritage in the city.
- We organize Doors Open Winnipeg (www.doorsopenwinnipeg.ca) – a free annual public event since 2004.
- We recognize people dedicated to the protection, restoration, and conservation of Winnipeg’s built heritage at our Annual Preservation Awards in celebration of National Heritage Week.
- We work with a vast array of stakeholders, community leaders, developers, and professionals throughout the year to make heritage conservation projects viable and sustainable.
- We work with government to augment policies, by-laws, and community plans.
- We advocate for ongoing protection of heritage designations and Heritage Conservation Districts. Heritage Winnipeg was instrumental in the Exchange District being designated a National Historic site.
- We offer educational outreach programs to schools and community groups. We provide employment through a Summer Student program.
- We provide many innovative and exciting digital and educational projects. We organize virtual and in person summits and fundraising events.
- We offer a year-round resource centre, a virtual website with over 3,000 archival photos, and provide ongoing public service for the community.

Governance and Operations

We have Directors with very diverse backgrounds. We have approximately 215 members and have over 600 volunteers. We had over 100 donors in 2020-2021.

Financial Information

Our total revenue in our last fiscal year was \$400,000, We received \$ 250,000 in project funding from the federal government. The provincial government contributed \$27,300 and the municipal government provided \$49,750. Foundations/Sponsorships/Donations accounted for \$55,000 and we saw \$15,000 in self-generated revenues and \$4,000 from memberships. Total expenditure in the last fiscal year was \$380,000.

Major Challenges

Our most pressing challenge is the fragile state of finances. Financial instability, limited financial resources, and a general lack of capacity-building funding leads to a constant need for fundraising to simply survive. We have a heavy reliance on volunteers.

We see low levels of membership relative to city population and low stakeholder visibility and support outside the Exchange and downtown area. That leads to a limited ability to build support

for heritage conservation relevance to daily life and overall quality of life, a lack of necessary, timely information to advocate at city hall, and low level of communications with city's historical, architectural groups, and universities.

Opportunities

We see opportunities for creating greater awareness/dialogue with municipal, provincial, federal governments, chambers of commerce, CentreVenture, BIZ organizations, community groups and stakeholders.

We envision working more closely with the HRB, the City of Winnipeg's Historical Buildings and Resources Committee, and the Urban Design Review Committee.

We plan to:

- Undertake in partnership a Heritage Resource Management Plan for the next 10 years.
- Build on connections with organizations and professional individuals (personal networks) to further community outreach and to expand membership and support base.
- Continue to work with schools, organizations, and the public to educate, inform, and influence.
- Use current digital technologies and methods of communication i.e., Facebook, website, Twitter, blogging to deliver messages and reach new diverse audiences (i.e., younger generation).
- Work with the media to show, through our recent "losses", the potential consequences of failed heritage protection.
- Explore the potential for positive change in the political and regulatory commitment to preservation.

Manitoba Historical Society – <http://www.mhs.mb.ca>

The Manitoba Historical Society (MHS) was established in 1879 by people who wanted a venue for public discourse on interesting topics of the day relating to the history and natural science of western Canada. Its original name was the Manitoba Historical and Scientific Society, and it is now the oldest organization in western Canada (and the second oldest in Canada) dedicated to preserving knowledge about our past for the benefit of future generations. From the beginning, the MHS hosted public lectures (some of which were published) and collected artifacts (newspapers, books, physical items) that, in time, became some of the fundamental endowments of the Manitoba Legislative Library, Archives of Manitoba, and The Manitoba Museum. By the 20th century, the MHS had become less a "bricks and mortar" operation and more an entity to preserve and promote general awareness about Manitoba's past.

Mission

The objectives of the MHS, as stated in our provincial Act of Incorporation (2015), are as follows:

- To foster the preservation of property relevant to an appreciation of the history of Manitoba;
- To encourage research and publications relating to the history of Manitoba;
- To promote and encourage public interest in Manitoba and Canadian history; and
- To assist in the formation and activities of local historical societies in furthering the objectives of the Society throughout Manitoba.

Activities

- Publications – The MHS publishes the thrice-yearly journal *Prairie History* (formerly *Manitoba History*, renamed with a broader geographic mandate in 2020).
- Awards – The MHS presents awards for 100 years of continuous operation by Organizations, Businesses, and Farms; awards for 125 years of continuous operations by farms; awards for excellent books written on Manitoba history; and evaluates and recommends recipients of the Lieutenant Governor’s Award for Historical Preservation and Promotion.
- Presentations – The MHS gives presentations on a wide range of historical subjects, to its members as well as the general public.
- Other activities – The MHS conducts historical research on a wide range of topics, the results of which are presented for free public access on its website (www.mhs.mb.ca). Subject areas include an inventory of historic sites around the province, noteworthy historical personalities, walking tours, and more.

Governance and Operations

The MHS is governed by two bodies: the Council and the Executive Committee. The Council consists of 10 to 15 MHS members, each of whom serves a potentially renewable three-year term after being recruited by a Nominating Committee chaired by the Past-President and elected by the membership at an Annual General Meeting. The Executive Committee (President, Past-President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, two Members-at-Large) consists of seven MHS members who are recruited by the Nominating Committee and elected annually by the membership. There are no formal term limits on Council or Executive members, but a customary practice has been for the President to serve two consecutive years before being replaced by the Vice-President.

We have about 550 members and generally have about 75 volunteers.

The total revenue in the last fiscal year was \$106,647. The provincial government provided \$31,414 (\$26,849 in operational funding and \$4,565 in project funding).

Foundations provided \$20,000 and self-generated income was \$39,092. Memberships contributed \$11,593, gifts \$3,500, and Investment Income \$1,048.

Total expenditures in our last fiscal year were \$104,454: \$54,427 in salaries, 2700 in contracted services, \$15,420 in Rent. Publication/Programs cost \$31,907

Major Challenges

The MHS perceives the following six challenges to its ongoing operations:

- Dependence on grassroots support
- Unstable funding
- Government withdrawal from heritage
- Challenges in recruiting new members and retaining existing ones
- Remaining relevant to present and future Manitobans
- A crisis in heritage preservation

Main Opportunities

The MHS perceives the following six opportunities in relation to the above six challenges:

- Online technology
- Development of endowment funds
- The greater role heritage plays in society
- Developing online member management capability
- Embracing new ways
- Collaboration

Manitoba Archaeological Society – <https://manitobaarchaeologicalsociety.ca>

The Manitoba Archaeological Society (MAS) was established in 1961 by a group of individuals concerned with the preservation of Manitoba's archaeological resources. Over the past 60 years, professional and avocational archaeologists, teachers and students of anthropology, and those interested in Manitoban heritage have dedicated themselves to the discovery, preservation, and dissemination of Manitoba's archaeological history. Although we are focused on Manitoba archaeology, we have members from across Canada and the United States.

Mission

- To promote the preservation, investigation, and publication of archaeological information
- To organize professionals, amateurs, and the public interested in Manitoba archaeology
- To foster the study and teaching of archaeology throughout the province

- To enlist the aid of all citizens in reporting, preserving, and recording archaeological sites
- To raise money through donations, grants, contracts, and other fundraising efforts to promote the endeavours of the society

Activities

The MAS primarily funds and runs archaeological excavations within Manitoba. We work closely with the University of Manitoba, University of Winnipeg, and Brandon University to educate and provide field experience for students of anthropology and archaeology. The MAS hosts an annual conference for the exchange of information about research activities and updates on various archaeological projects amongst our membership. We also annually publish the only scholarly journal focused on Manitoba archaeology, the *Manitoba Archaeological Journal*, which has recently seen its 30th volume. We extend our reach to the general public through our biannual newsletter, website, and social media pages, school presentations, artifact identification, flintknapping demonstrations and workshops, and public archaeology days.

As with many other historical societies, the MAS regularly participates in federal and provincial celebratory programs, such as Canada 150 (2017) for which we digitally displayed artifacts from 150 years ago. For Manitoba 150, the MAS highlighted archaeological sites from 150 years ago on our website. The MAS has also aided in the funding and/or distribution of books written for the public (e.g., Kevin Brownlee's *Niizhoobizowag Migiziwag: Two Soaring Eagles* and Leo Pettipas' *Uncovering Early Aboriginal History*) and provides heavily discounted prices for members. Where possible, we also support the work of the Manitoba Volunteer Regional Advisor (MVRA) program, which involves avocational archaeologists and local collectors/landowners reporting new sites, curating collections, and monitoring sensitive areas.

Further, the MAS has been making a concerted effort to connect with local Indigenous communities to continue the process of reconciliation, and to help them become more involved in the excavation and interpretation of the Manitoban archaeological record. In 2020, the MAS reached out to First Nations communities, all whose traditional territories are near the recently discovered Olson site (DgMg-167), a pre-contact Indigenous agricultural site.

Governance and Operations

The MAS Executive and Council currently consist of eight volunteers; all of whom have full-time archaeology related careers and/or are working on postgraduate studies. These positions are chosen by general election at the MAS Annual Conference and AGM.

There has been a major changing of the guard over the last five years. The MAS is now run by younger people, most of whom have jobs and/or are students, and in some cases are in positions of precarious employment. At the end of 2020, the MAS membership consisted of 63 members and eight core volunteers from a pool of about 15 regulars.

There were four cash donations in 2020 and eight donors of goods and services, artifacts, archives, etc.

Financial Information

Total revenue in the last fiscal year was \$29,805. The provincial government contributed \$23,700 (operational funding of \$11,200 and project funding of \$12,500). There were self-generated revenues of \$205, membership fees of \$3,365 and gifts of \$901. Total expenditures in the last fiscal year were \$26,862.

Major Challenges

The Manitoba Archaeological Society receives no funding from federal agencies and has no paid staff and inadequate volunteers. The organization is fairly unknown to the public and needs an increase in membership to continue its level of service. We need to promote and advertise ourselves more to attract public interest.

At least one full time paid position is required to counter the effects of volunteer burnout, it would take a tremendous amount of pressure off the rest of the Executive and Council.

Main Opportunities

Increased membership might be achieved through increased social media presence. The Olson site public archaeology days will continue to draw interest from public and media.

We will connect more with Indigenous communities, inviting their participation in archaeology (excavation and interpretation).

We need to remind people how exciting archaeology is, how it allows you to experience history in a way no other medium can provide.

Association for Manitoba Archives – <https://mbarchives.ca>

The Association for Manitoba Archives was established in 1992 through the merger of two previously existing organizations: the Association of Manitoba Archivists and the Manitoba Council of Archives. Founded in 1980, the Association of Manitoba Archivists provided a forum for local archivists to share ideas, foster learning opportunities, and raise public awareness of archives. The Manitoba Council of Archives was launched in 1986 as part of a federal-provincial initiative to build a national archival system across Canada.

Mission

The Association for Manitoba Archives (AMA) supports and represents archival institutions, archivists, and others committed to the preservation and accessibility of Manitoba's documentary heritage. The AMA's mandate is to preserve the heritage of the people and institutions of the Province of Manitoba by improving the administration, effectiveness, and efficiency of the province's archival systems.

The association's goals and objectives are to:

- promote a better understanding and increased public awareness among Manitobans on the role and uses of archives;

- provide a forum for the discussion of archival issues and the exchange of ideas on archival matters;
- enhance the quality of service provided by archives and archivists to the communities they serve in Manitoba by promoting standards, procedures and practices in the establishment and management of archives;
- provide assistance and educational opportunities to persons seeking to improve their knowledge of skills in the development, management or operation of archives; and
- advise, coordinate, and plan for the allocation of resources, grants, and services for Manitoba's archival system.

Activities

The AMA's principal activities include:

- Maintaining the Manitoba Archival Information Network (MAIN)
- Offering advisory services to organizations seeking guidance on the operation or establishment of an archives or an archival program dedicated to the preservation of documentary heritage.
- Accrediting archival organizations to ensure that best practices and minimum standards are applied in preserving Manitoba's documentary heritage and in maintaining its accessibility.
- Offering workshops and training on both basic archival methods and specialized skills.
- Organizing public forums for the discussion of archival issues of public concern and leading campaigns to raise public awareness of issues related to archives.
- Annual presentation of the AMA's Manitoba Day Awards to outstanding publications, exhibits, and theatre/film productions that have made use of original research at Manitoba's archives.

Governance and Operations

The AMA's board of directors commonly consists of nine positions. There are currently 63 individual members, 21 associate institutional members, 36 institutional members, and four honorary members.

Institutional members must be approved by the AMA as having met the minimum standards for AMA archival accreditation. A group of about 20-25 volunteers, including the current 11 board members, are responsible for most of the AMA's activities.

Total revenues in the last fiscal year were \$40,378. The provincial government provided \$28,400 in the operational funding.

In 2018, the AMA established the Association for Manitoba Archives Fund under the Manitoba Heritage Trust Program (MHTP). In 2019-2020, this fund generated \$524 in investment income.

Self-generated revenues were \$3,525 from workshops, services, and fundraising. Memberships generated \$7,016 and gifts totalled \$913.

Expenditures were \$47,938 in the last fiscal year of which salaries totalled \$9,798, contracted services, \$19,424.

Major Challenges

The major challenge faced by the AMA is the difficulty of funding a paid position for an Archives Coordinator/Archives Advisor capable of providing consistent support and guidance to member organizations. Currently, all AMA activities are run by volunteers, most of whom have full-time jobs in other archival organizations. Volunteer burnout is significant, and it is difficult to develop and maintain relationships between the AMA and its members with frequent board turnovers and a lack of continuity. A full-time paid AMA position would relieve some pressure from volunteers.

A position for an Archives Coordinator/Archives Advisor would also ensure adequate guidance and training in the preservation of both paper and digital data and address the needs of our membership by facilitating collaboration and the sharing of resources among AMA members. If we were again in a position to offer project funding to member organizations, the AMA could strategically coordinate and target projects that would have the greatest benefit to both member organizations and the preservation of Manitoba's documentary heritage.

Main Opportunities

Public interest in archives is strong, as evidenced by the frequent appearance recently of archival research and records in popular journalism and among various online communities.

The AMA has also noted an especially keen interest among First Nation communities in preserving records and establishing archives. The AMA feels it can play a role in supporting and providing training to First Nations archival organizations that would like to control and maintain custody of their communities' own histories and documentary heritage. The AMA also sees great potential for more collaboration among provincial archives, and for the sharing of infrastructure among member organizations.

Manitoba Genealogical Society – <https://mbgenealogy.com>

The Manitoba Genealogical Society (MGS) is a non-profit and all-volunteer organization formed in 1976 and incorporated in 1982.

Mission

The main objectives of MGS are:

- To collect and preserve local genealogical and historical records and materials
- To assist citizens with research and family history needs
- To foster education in genealogical research through Society workshops and seminars

- To encourage production of genealogical materials relating especially to Manitoba

Activities

We collect and preserve local genealogical and historical records and materials. We have ongoing projects to index Winnipeg newspaper obituaries as well as updating our Collection of Cemetery Transcripts. We have developed MANI, our online database that allows members no matter where they live to search our many databases with just a few exceptions.

We foster education in genealogical research through Society workshops and seminars. We have had to move online and our branches have been offering their monthly presentations to members online. The MGS was also successful in applying for a “Safe at Home” grant that allowed us to offer 18 webinars to Manitobans and MGS members.

We encourage production of genealogical materials relating especially to Manitoba. We publish and sell our Cemetery Transcriptions as well as offer for sale several publications previously produced. Many of our workshops and presentations cover how our members can “publish” their research into their family history. In addition, our volunteers help members as well as the general public research their family history and record it for future generations.

Governance and Operations

The governing body is the MGS Council consisting of officers of the Executive, a representative of each branch, and chairs of standing committees. The Council meets at least twice a year.

As of March 10, 2021, there are 406 regular members, nine associate members, 53 life members, and 11 institutional members. About 52 regular volunteers logged 1,407 entries totaling 9356.45 hours (both in house and remote).

Financial Information

Total revenues in our last fiscal year were \$54,495. Provincial government operational funding was \$11,200. Safe at Home Manitoba provided \$20,000 and The Winnipeg Foundation provided \$7,000 for a website and social media plan.

Other sources of income included: cemetery transcript sales, \$227, research services \$1,825, fundraisers and donations \$7,887, memberships \$19,260, and gifts/donations \$7,879. Total expenditures in the last fiscal year were \$54,495.

There were no salaries, as our operation is totally volunteer based. Contracted services vary with project funding. Our rent costs were \$28,308 and other operational expenses included: utilities \$2,866, telephone and internet \$1,758, property insurance \$1,193, capital expenditures \$1,328, websites including MANI \$1,740, office expenses \$1,519, advertising and promotion \$1,322, and library books and subscription \$887. The publication of *Generations* magazine cost \$1,066.

Major Challenges

- Lack of volunteers
- Lack of funds to hire needed staff
- Lack of reliable and stable core funding

We face rising operating costs, stagnant or diminishing government support for heritage organizations, lack of access to revenue generating activities that other jurisdictions support (e.g., casino income, heritage lottery funds).

The population of the province is concentrated in Winnipeg, with the rest scattered across vast distances, often with poor access to reliable, fast-speed internet connections. This makes it difficult to provide services to members, and therefore to attract and retain members from outside the larger Winnipeg area

Main Opportunities

- Our new ability to stream webinars to members and for a fee to non-members
- An updated MANI along with a re-read of all cemeteries will both bring in new members as well as increase sales of Cemetery Transcriptions
- Partnerships with others in the heritage sector; genealogy is personal history, which is not separate from public history
- Increasing the unique data available through the MGS MANI database will help to attract members and increase revenues
- Increased grant funding for partnership activities with other heritage organizations in the near future (the next three to five years) will benefit all participants. Increased partnerships will promote cooperation, rather than competition for limited funding

La Société historique de Saint-Boniface – <https://shsb.mb.ca>

The Société historique de Saint-Boniface (SHSB) was created on September 4, 1902, during an expedition to Lake of the Woods, in search of Fort St. Charles, an early post built in 1732 by Canadian explorer and trader Pierre Gauthier de Varennes, sieur de La Vérendrye. Under the guidance of Powassin, an Anishinabe Chief of the Lake of the Woods region, a group of historian buffs reached the North-West Angle and pursued a further six years of research and investigation before definitively locating the remains of the old fort and collecting its associated artefacts. Excavations revealed several LaVérendrye related objects as well as the skeletal remains of Jesuit priest Father Jean-Pierre Aulneau, La Vérendrye's own son Jean-Baptiste La Vérendrye and 19 of their companions.

Since then, the SHSB's mandate has become to acquire, preserve, and promote the Francophone and Métis heritage of Western Canada, with a focus on Manitoba. To this end, and over the course of its existence, the SHSB has sponsored archeological and historical research, maintained a collection of museum objects (including the first artefacts found at the Northwest Angle), and ensured the creation of an archives facility and reference library, where

materials related to the history of Francophones and Métis in the West have been collected to facilitate research. Many of its museum objects were transferred to the St. Boniface Museum when that facility was opened.

Other activities added over the years include conferences, publications, exhibits, training workshops, genealogical services, and the promotion of historical designations. From 1980 to 2012, la SHSB also managed the interpretive services at Riel House National Historic Site in St. Vital.

Since 1998, the SHSB has managed the Centre du patrimoine, a heritage centre built according to the most up-to-date standards.

In May 2017, the Province of Manitoba officially recognized that the scope of the SHSB's archives is provincial and national, and that the SHSB acts as the Francophone counterpart to the Archives of Manitoba.

Mission

The mission of the SHSB is to acquire, preserve, and promote the Francophone and Métis heritage of Western Canada, with a focus on Manitoba. Its vision is to expand its reach and play a greater role with its clientele through exceptional service, recognized expertise, sound management, committed volunteerism and mutually beneficial partnerships.

Activities

The Société historique de Saint-Boniface manages a three-storey archival facility, the Centre du patrimoine, with the capacity to preserve approximately 3,000 linear meters of archival materials in its state-of-the-art modern climate-controlled vaults. The Centre is normally open and accessible to the public throughout the work week and caters to both its members and the general public. It contains a research room and reference library, two public computers, free Wi-Fi access, a microfilm reader/scanner, audio-visual viewing equipment, two climate-controlled archival vaults and an archival workroom in which processing and digitization take place.

Its main activities include the acquisition, inventory, treatment, description, digitization, and preservation of archival materials, making them accessible in perpetuity to future generations, as well as the constant update, content creation and maintenance of our website, server, online databases and social media accounts. We regularly employ two to three students each summer to do archival processing as well as digital platform content creation.

Another important part of daily activities is a thriving genealogical service that receives between 90 to 120 requests per month, without counting the various other family history related queries from individuals all over the world with kinship ties to francophones and Métis families in Manitoba and throughout Western Canada. A long-standing partnership with Métis organizations and a vast collection of church documents have given us the resources and support to be viewed as the gold standard when it comes to the genealogical research of prairie-based Métis families.

Changes over the past five to 10 years include the growing participation of volunteers in the treatment of the archives. There is growing pressure by donors for the Centre du patrimoine to accept born-digital archives.

An exhibit of the work of the architect Étienne Gaboury circulated in several schools in Manitoba and at the Royal Canadian Mint in Winnipeg. The SHSB also designed a new exhibit – Manitoba 1870 – to mark the province’s sesquicentennial.

In May 2019, in response to Mayor Brian Bowman’s launch of the Welcoming Winnipeg initiative, the SHSB collaborated with l’Union nationale métisse Saint-Joseph du Manitoba to host a public meeting about the initiative and to communicate its conclusions to the Mayor.

It worked with the Association for Manitoba Archives to urge the City of Winnipeg to find adequate facilities for its archives, which are now lodged in an inadequate warehouse, without temperature and humidity controls and are at risk of damage by fire, two of which have broken out in its neighbourhood in recent times.

Fundraising efforts to increase the SHSB’s endowment fund continued throughout the year.

Governance and Operations

The SHSB was managed by a board of nine volunteer directors. They were elected by the members attending the annual general meeting, for terms of three years. There are no limits to the number of terms.

There were 151 individual members and 13 institutional members in 2019-2020. There were 37 volunteers, including nine Board members in 2019-2020. There were 128 financial donations and 58 donations of goods and services, artifacts, archives, etc.

Financial Information

Total revenues in the last fiscal year were \$559,704. The federal government provided \$180,432 (operational funding \$128,700, project funding \$51,732). The provincial government contributed \$91,593 (operational funding \$75,900, project funding \$15,693). Endowment revenue was \$33,725, self-generated revenue \$171,958, memberships \$6,442, gifts \$61,973, and carry-over for depreciation \$13,581. Total expenditure in the last fiscal was \$556,196.

Salaries were \$319,853, contracted services cost \$49,919, and the remainder was office and operations expenses.

Major Challenges

In a nutshell, funding and human resources are the primary challenges.

Funding has been capped by governments, particularly by the Government of Manitoba. Decreasing membership—an ageing population—is reducing membership and leading to a loss of oral and documentary information. There is uncertainty regarding future funding and the low priority accorded the heritage sector. There is a lack of funding to maintain the archives centre and the equipment that provides humidity and temperature control

Main Opportunities

We will be hiring more archives professionals, possibly financed by an increasing endowment fund, and increasing public access to the archives through increased use of technology and social networks.

We anticipate increased partnerships with heritage and community groups and greater collaboration with indigenous groups as well as greater collaboration with schools to interest more youth in the archival profession and the many uses of archives.

There are matching grant programs for endowment fundraising and we see the possibility of greater support by retiring workers who may wish to work as volunteers.

We plan recruitment of board members with experience in fund-raising and marketing.

Association of Manitoba Museums – <https://www.museumsmanitoba.com>

In the late 1960s to early 1970s, partly due to increased interest in history due to Canada's and Manitoba's Centennials, a lot of museums were started around the province. Individuals and museums around Manitoba decided to work together to support museums in the province. The AMM was incorporated in 1972 and the signers were from across the province: Swan River, Grandview, Portage la Prairie, Souris, and Winnipeg. (From the Letters of Patent, September 20, 1972)

Mission

- To promote and encourage the establishment, advancement, and improvement of museums throughout Manitoba.
- To assist in the improvement of museums as educational institutions.
- To provide a central source of information of special interest to museums.
- To promote the protection and preservation of objects, specimens, records, sites, and other artifacts of significance to the natural and human history of Manitoba.
- To cooperate with associations with similar aims and to promote or arrange conferences, classes, meetings, educational lectures, and exhibitions for the exchange of information and exhibition material and for the discussion of problems relating to museums.
- To represent the members of the corporation in their relationship with federal, provincial, and municipal governments, universities, and other local, national, and international associations, organizations, and bodies with which members may from time to time have relationships.
- To establish and support or aid in the establishment and support of any fund or funds or trust or trusts calculated to further the objectives of the corporation.
- To do all other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects.

Vision

The Association of Manitoba Museums, as the voice of our museum community, is dedicated to promoting excellence in preserving and presenting the cultural and natural heritage of Manitoba.

Values

The Association of Manitoba Museums supports, promotes, and adheres to the following core values: accessibility, respect for diversity, innovation, integrity, lifelong learning, pride, and professionalism.

Activities

The AMM's main function is to help our member museums be the best that they can be. To that end we offer professional development opportunities, an advisory service, and advocacy.

The Association of Manitoba Museums provides innovative training, advocacy, resources, and responsive leadership to its members and promotes Manitoba museums to the wider community.

Our Training Program has been around since 1991 and is regularly updated. In the training program we offer the Certificate Program in Museum Practice (CPMP) that provides entry level information on skills and knowledge needed to run or work in a museum. These courses are meant for volunteers, staff, and board members of museums. We also offer a series of Next Level courses, which offer more information on specific topics in museology. We also offer Specialized courses in conjunction with other groups such as the Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI).

A number of years ago, the Archives of Manitoba, the Winnipeg Art Gallery, and The Manitoba Museum (formerly The Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature), with funding from the province of Manitoba, formed the Manitoba Heritage Conservation Service (MHCS). MHCS provided conservation treatments, some training, and advice to other heritage institutions in the province.

Funding changed, needs changed, the focus changed from conservation treatment to preventive conservation, and the name changed to the Preventive Conservation Service (PCS). The PCS was offered by The Manitoba Museum along with their Museums Advisory and Training Service.

As of March 31, 2004 these services were no longer offered by The Manitoba Museum. The AMM felt that these services were needed by the museums in Manitoba. The Province agreed and accepted the AMM's proposal for the creation of the Cultural Stewardship Program (CSP).

The AMM has offered the CSP to the museums in Manitoba since 2004 and has expanded its services to include Pest Management kits and demonstrations at Regional Meetings and conferences. The AMM inherited all of the existing files from The Manitoba Museum but not all of its funding from the province.

Governance

The Governing Board consists of up to 13 members, elected for two-year terms by the membership at an annual meeting, normally held in September/October. Any individual can serve a maximum of two terms in any one position.

The AMM has around 90-100 Individual members and around 180-200 institutional members. Individual membership fees are \$25-50, student, regular, family. Institutional members fees are \$40-\$400, depending on the size of the museum.

We have 25-35 volunteers who log around 3,500 hours, upwards of 25 financial donors and 10 to 15 donors of goods and services.

Financial Information

Total revenues in the last fiscal year were \$214,073: \$77,792 from the federal government plus COVID-19 support of \$3,371, \$75,400 from the provincial government, and \$16,000 from The Winnipeg Foundation. Self-generated revenues totaled \$22,390 (Lower than normal – we cancelled our biggest fundraiser and two courses in March 2020.) Membership provided \$16,670 and gifts totaled \$4,996. Endowment income and interest provided \$825.

Total expenditures in the last fiscal year: \$215,738

Salaries were \$117,062 and contracted services cost \$61,907. Rent was \$10,555, Travel, \$6,566, Supplies \$16,111, and professional development \$1,905.

Major Challenges

- We need consistent, predictable, non-project based, multi-year, and operational funding!
- We lack the staff to run all programs and we are not able to hire people except on a contract basis, usually project based.
- Our members face a declining/shrinking volunteer base in shrinking and aging communities in many rural areas. There is difficulty getting seasonal/summer staff.
- Our communities often lack reliable, fast internet, access to tech/equipment, and vital tech literacy. Some even lack year-round road/rail access. Issues such as precarious employment, lack of career development, low salaries, lack of benefits, lack of permanence, often impact our citizens.
- We need to address, decolonization and reconciliation, diversity and inclusion, climate change, accessibility issues and rural depopulation

Main Opportunities

- The GLAM (Galleries, Libraries, Archives, Museums) sector is strengthening.
- Several studies have recently been published that support the importance of heritage. We finally have quantitative data as well as qualitative data. (Which is what governments seem to want.)

- There is a growing recognition of the various benefits of museums, to the economy, to education, to health, to well-being, to decolonization, to climate change, etc., and not just tourism.
- People may realize how important culture is after COVID-19
- There are opportunities for collaborative work with other organizations. Not just heritage, but culture, arts, youth, indigenous, etc.

5. The Role of the Provincial Government

Historic Resources Branch

Until August 2021, the Department of Sport, Culture and Heritage was responsible for the Archives of Manitoba, Hudson's Bay Company Archives, Legislative Library, Historic Resources Branch (HRB), Multiculturalism, and Public Library Services. At that time, a new Community Programs and Services Branch replaced the HRB.

The HRB provided supports to applicants/organizations in developing good heritage projects and strong applications. They advised and consulted on conservation issues with owners and stewards of designated heritage sites (at both provincial and municipal levels), and on exhibitions, conservation, and other relevant issues with museum organizations.

The Archaeological Assessment Services Unit had a range of duties around archaeological sites and permits according to current legislation.

The HRB was a source of heritage information and support to municipalities, heritage organizations, and individuals with an interest in Manitoba's history and heritage.

The HRB evaluated applications in the Heritage Grants Program, Community Museum Grant Program, Heritage Resources Conservation Grant, and Military Memorial Conservation Grant.

The HRB was responsible for archaeological sites and reporting, community heritage organizations, heritage advisory committees, standards for museums, planning study terms of reference, and the Canadian Register of Historic Places.

There has been a steady decline in the number of staff at the HRB. Staffing levels will always vary but, from a staff of 26 in the mid-1990s, only nine positions remained in 2021. (See Staffing Level Chart in Appendix 2.) With that decline, many of the functions of the HRB have been eliminated.

Research and Publications

Over the years, the HRB has produced an impressive body of research projects presented in pamphlets, booklets, and other more comprehensive publications.

These resources, professionally produced directly by HRB staff or by selected consultants, have been indispensable for writers, historians, and teachers across the province and beyond.

Because of the professional rigour involved, they are a definitive historic record. The HRB has produced no external publication in several years.

Inventories

Over decades, HRB staff collected information on built heritage resources in Manitoba, documenting their condition and value. These heritage site inventories provide a researcher with a snapshot of heritage sites at a given date, laying the groundwork for informed decision-making at the local level. In many cases, these inventories contain the only reliable record of buildings that were later demolished. In particular, the collections of railway stations and churches are especially useful as these buildings disappear.

Commemoration

The HRB once took an active role in providing technical and historical expertise to municipalities and other groups who sought to pursue commemoration of people, places, events. Reduced staff reduced this service.

Information Access

The HRB staff have, in the past, played an important role in answering inquiries from the public and in disseminating information via publications, websites, blogs, and social media. Heritage websites and social media accounts managed by communities, regional and local heritage organizations, museums, and private researchers have increasingly provided access points for questions from the public.

Several PHAs and other heritage organizations maintain archives and work with researchers in the field of history and heritage. These efforts, while admirable and helpful, would benefit from the provincial perspective and experience that HRB staff once provided.

Expert Advice

There are numerous examples of buildings across our province that have been appropriately restored, saved from destruction, enhanced, and put to new uses thanks to the advice and expertise of HRB staff. Specifics about building construction, authentic restoration techniques, and retaining heritage value, have been a cornerstone of heritage site preservation. Put simply, without the knowledge of the HRB staff, and the time they were able to devote to outreach, many of our valuable heritage buildings would have been lost.

In addition to providing expert advice, summer hirings of students in decades past provided valuable training and experience for the next generation.

Summary

There are countless examples of other types of concrete and specific support offered by the HRB staff. Many of those positions are gone and we are only beginning to feel the dramatic effect this is having on the quality of heritage endeavours.

The HRB has produced no external publications in many years. Likewise, it was no longer doing the inventory, commemoration, or information access functions. Only on rare occasions were they able to provide expert advice, mostly in archaeology. There is no public outreach, especially in rural Manitoba. The HRB was essentially doing just two functions: administering grant programs and doing internal research for the Legislative Assembly.

Staff in local offices of the Department of Sport, Culture and Heritage continue to assist local heritage organizations and municipal officials, to the extent possible by their limited resources, but they do so without the support from the many excellent staff who once worked in the HRB. For example, these local offices help to administer the Heritage Grants Program. The program is vital to municipalities and heritage associations, especially in rural Manitoba, and is responsible for many heritage achievements. It works best when diligently overseen and supported by professional expertise.

Manitoba Heritage Council

The Manitoba Heritage Council was intended to be the senior advisory body to the provincial government in the realm of heritage.

It was tasked with providing impartial, objective advice to the Minister on matters relating to The Heritage Resources Act (1986), by assessing proposals and recommending the identification, protection and commemoration of people, places, events, artefacts, and structures that best illustrate significant aspects of the province's historical development.

The Council was to respond to issues referred by the Minister, and bring to the Minister's attention emerging heritage issues, including those that may have policy implications.

History

The designation of historic sites in Manitoba during the early 20th century was done at the federal level by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

Provincial government participation in the recognition of important sites dates to 1946, when the Historic Sites Advisory Board of Manitoba was established. In the 1950s, the Board encouraged the establishment of commemorative plaques at scenic or strategic "wayside parks" in an attempt to popularize Manitoba history. Centennial celebrations in 1967 and Manitoba's centenary in 1970 saw increased activity, with an emphasis on commemorating political and historical themes, such as the boundaries of the "Postage Stamp Province" and the origin of the name "Manitoba".

In the 1980s, there was a trend to expand commemorative themes to represent those that had long been ignored as contributors to society: women, labour, ethnic, and Indigenous heritage. The name of the Board was changed to the Manitoba Heritage Council in 1986, with passage of the Heritage Resources Act.

We could find no record of activity by the Manitoba Heritage Council in the past five years. In recent years, the work of identification and commemoration of historic sites in Manitoba is being done primarily by municipal governments.

6. Challenges and Opportunities

The following summary of heritage issues was drawn primarily from the presentations made on behalf of the PHAs at the 2020 Heritage Summit and informed by the panel discussions, presentations, and follow-up surveys and research.

It represents the abundant commonalities and the individual insights one might expect from people working in separate and unique agencies, albeit with overlapping and complementary missions.

We have grouped our observations under six headings: Funding, Advocacy, Inclusion, Collaboration, Innovation, and Leadership. The boundaries of the categories naturally overlap.

Funding

Funding issues are central to virtually any community-based endeavour. In the heritage field, the issue is tied closely to the value people place on heritage and the leadership required to define goals and find a way to pay for meeting those goals.

The Challenge

There are two funding concerns: the dollar amounts and the process. When we factor in general inflation and the increased costs of providing services that are viable and relevant in a world that had seen an explosion of digital technology, funding levels have decreased significantly. (For detailed financial information, see Appendix 1.)

Our reliance on volunteers can only take us so far. We must recognize the value of paid and trained staff in terms of stability, continuity, and expertise. In turn the stability offered by paid staff will create a more positive environment for volunteers.

In addition, the funding processes that do exist are often unstable and uncertain. This leads to inefficient use of increasingly limited resources. Time spent applying for grants and completing other fundraising tasks is time taken from telling stories and protecting our collective provincial heritage.

For organizations that keep artifacts and documents, there is a very real physical dimension to the shortage of funds. Capacity, the ability to provide such basic things as storage space for museums and archives, is a serious problem.

There is a general consensus that heritage is a low priority for all levels of government and that departments such as the former HRB, which once took an activist role in researching, preserving and presenting our history, no longer does so. There is an opportunity for PHAs to fill this void, and perhaps a case can be made for a more decentralized approach. However, services cannot be offloaded without providing funds to enable them. There is also a strong case for having a body of trained, centrally located professionals available for such work.

The Opportunity

The move towards the establishment of foundations and endowments will help some organizations obtain some degree of long-term reliable funding. The financial support of the provincial government in establishing such sources does represent a real investment.

Organizations involved in the preservation of built heritage are moving towards an emphasis on finding financially viable uses for buildings as the first step in saving a building, followed then by the use of grants to support the building owner in that effort.

One point of view is that fundraising, although often seen as a necessary evil, can be an opportunity for building relationships and recruiting volunteers. The idea is to focus on events (a community fish fry was one example) rather than dry solicitation.

Digital storage represents a real opportunity, but we must be aware of the implications in terms of long-term access and standards. Some organizations have used digital storage and presentation to improve efficiencies by doing more with less.

Recent trends in promoting the downtown core of cities, and in the preferences of some young urban professionals for a work environment that includes restored heritage buildings, can present an opportunity for sustainable use of older “character” buildings.

Advocacy

Understanding the vital role that history plays in society today is fundamental to addressing the need for adequate funding. Advocacy is essential and related to every other issue. A coordinated plan involving all heritage organizations is the goal. A creative multidisciplinary approach is needed.

We must become more efficient at communicating the real (and sometimes unseen) values of heritage activity. We must be aware that advocacy takes time.

Not only does investment in heritage employ people directly, the impact is heightened by the number of volunteers, participants, members, and contacts affected by the process. Social media extends that reach.

We know that investing in heritage activity is good for tourism, thus good for local businesses. A strong case can be made that the benefits go far beyond the economic impact.

We need to improve public relations by broadening the audience, improving the general public's understanding of the important topics, countering false posts on social media, increasing public access to archives, and, in every way, be more user friendly.

One aspect of maintaining a high level of service in any given aspect of heritage is the retention of talent. Expertise breeds activity. Activity breeds expertise. For example, a lack of archaeological activity in Manitoba can cause people to go elsewhere for school and employment.

Inclusion

In many ways, the topic of inclusion involves an opportunity we are compelled to pursue. We have to truly embrace the diversity of people, perspectives and places of our land, our communities, and by doing so we can breathe new life into our stories and our organizations.

Instead of looking at challenges followed by opportunities, in the case of inclusion, the challenge is the opportunity. Each aspect of the concept offers hope.

We must start at the beginning and make inclusion part of the entire process. Researchers and archivists must be aware of it when deciding what we need or want to preserve, and to make sure the breadth of history is documented. We need new ways of capturing different histories. Institutions and associations must decide what stories to tell, and what presentations and displays to create.

Inclusion means telling more stories that include First Nations, youth, women, new Canadians, and all of our multicultural society. Institutions and organizations will benefit from all efforts to represent people from all walks of life: people of all colours, religions, and sexual orientations. There are so many more stories to tell.

Museums specifically, and heritage associations in general, face an aging volunteer base. Changing our processes and our messaging not only will attract a varied demographic but should then attract a more varied volunteer base.

One of the biggest inclusion challenges is the decolonization of the dominant narratives. In many cases, archivists and historians have gathered the documents, photos and stories that will allow us to tell stories in an inclusive way, but we must choose to do so. This involves consultation and collaboration with Aboriginal historians and Knowledge Keepers.

As we move from a telling of history that has been dominated by the stories of white males, our allies have to be those groups that were not well represented in the past. They can be our greatest strength. One suggestion was to increase the number of work placements for youth. The summer jobs programs have been helpful in this regard.

Inclusion, therefore, has to mean bringing that whole variety of people into our buildings and offices as staff, volunteers, board members, expert advisors, and special guests.

Inclusion means that when we tell stories about people, we must tell the whole story. Our role in "Truth and Reconciliation" must surely start with truth.

Inclusion also means we have to cover the entire province. How do we reach everyone living in such a large province? How do we serve the north where less people live? Are small towns and remote communities getting a comparable level of services and a comparable access to resources? Just because people live in an area with sparse populations and a declining tax base, do they not deserve a reasonable level of service? This is something that connects directly to funding levels and funding stability.

The various catchphrases that have dominated the nightly news, the news feeds, and social media streams, can be departure points for heritage organizations. The expressions “Truth and Reconciliation”, “Me Too” and “Black Lives Matter” have helped generate discussion, ideas, and most importantly, self-evaluation.

We need to align heritage with social justice and environmental issues. This can enhance both our reach and our credibility, but we must acknowledge that there will be some resistance to change. New blood brings more than new expertise.

Collaboration

Sharing and collaboration are a financial necessity and opportunity for learning and growth.

Sharing resources, leadership, ideas, staff, and volunteers can save money, but also make our work easier, more enjoyable, and more focused. With scarce resources we cannot afford duplication of effort.

Is archaeology adequately represented in museums? Is the public’s growing interest in genealogy being served by local archives? Are Francophone culture and the history of the Jewish community accessible in predominantly Anglo-Saxon settler communities?

Collaboration is vital, but resistance to change is real. One avenue for addressing the declining volunteer base in rural museums, for example, might be to examine the possibility of regional museums, or regional museums with multiple locations but with a sharing of staff, administration, and a common board.

Lack of communication and timely sharing of information is problematic. We need to work together so we are not duplicating the work of other groups.

Partnerships are especially needed in working with government and the private sector. We need to identify mutual goals rooted in mutual values.

Smaller museums need convenient access to expertise and best practices. Larger museums are often able and willing to help. We need to establish the connections, the lines of communication.

Shared Services

Are there possibilities for sharing on the most basic technical and the staffing levels? One solution to the increased costs of remaining technologically relevant might be to do more sharing in terms of IT services and web presence.

Another possibility is to explore options for a technology consortium. Could all eight PHAs contract tech equipment, IT and web server as one entity? Could supplies and other services be sourced using one central entity? Can a host of Heritage Services be linked under the Heritage Summit umbrella? Are there other ways of sharing?

Collaborations grow expertise. We must continue to explore the opportunities involved in sharing with Educational Institutions.

Innovation

The way the world communicates has changed.

Innovation is about ways of seeing things and doing things. It is far more than technological advances, but technology can help with innovation. It can expand our audience and improve our connections.

People interact with heritage in new ways and we must embrace change. As an example, bridging the generation gap can really change our ability to maximize our use of technology, and perhaps more significantly, our whole way of looking at heritage endeavours.

We must be innovative in how we staff our institutions, how we recruit volunteers, how we present the stories, how we help people learn about the past, and how we interact with our community.

We must, of course, adopt and use new tools to expand our audience and enhance our messages, but along with that, we must place even more of a priority on new ways of thinking.

The challenges and opportunities brought by innovation apply to all the other issues, as do the solutions. Infrastructure and training are big-ticket items.

Digitization and social media, together, can lead to input and a “crowdsourcing” interaction that adds to knowledge plus builds relationships.

Social media also allows us to track and counteract misinformation, hate, etc. and to build teams. We can do more than just tell stories about the past. We can use historical knowledge to react to the present.

Moving online is essential to compete. Genealogical associations must compete with corporate genealogical companies. They need the same reach.

There is a need to maximize potential of technology and take advantage of highly skilled post secondary students looking to volunteer.

Leadership

Continuity, communications, and expertise are required in terms of leadership. What is the role of government?

A strong presence for heritage in Manitoba begins with leadership from the provincial government. We should advocate for more continuity in the political leadership at both the provincial and the municipal level. Perhaps we need an updated “Heritage Act”? Perhaps there is also a stronger role that the federal government could play?

7. Recommendations and Vision

Resources – Funding

We call on the provincial government to increase funding to levels resembling what it provided 20 years ago, adjusted for inflation. Funding should be offered on a multi-year basis, at a stable and predictable level. Funding should be adequate to allow for each PHA to be able to provide a minimum level of paid staff, thus ensuring standards for continuity, expertise, and leadership

Funding Considerations

Predictable funding is vital – long term planning is more important than ever in a changing world.

Unsustainable and inadequate funding leaves no room for dealing with the unforeseen.

Special projects grants are unpredictable – and that impacts long-term planning.

There has been a significant erosion of HRB services, especially to rural Manitoba.

The current funding levels, which when we consider inflation represent a sharp decrease in actual dollars, tend to sharpen the rural / urban divide. Many organizations have a constant need to be fundraising to simply survive.

A change in the funding model, as well as in funding amounts, can improve stability and efficiency.

Current funding does not allow for innovation in the area of technology. Aside from upfront costs related to infrastructure and equipment, there is training and maintenance to consider.

Leadership, support, and expertise are required on an ongoing basis.

Resources – Human

Adequate and predictable funding is, of course, vital as we continue to address all aspects of our operations.

An ageing population is reducing membership and leading to a loss of oral and documentary information.

Most functions are enabled by volunteers, which means it is susceptible to volunteer fatigue and inevitable loss. There are typically far more project ideas than an organization has workers to undertake.

Delivery of services in rural areas is a special concern due to the added challenges of distance.

Many organizations report issues around reliable, fast internet access, and access to technology – both in terms of equipment / infrastructure and literacy. Cutting-edge activities are

difficult in heritage organizations that are typically populated by people interested, by definition, in “old ways”.

There is also a need for our member organizations to receive training and have access to the resources necessary to the preservation of born-digital records. Digital records must be appropriately prepared and maintained if they are to remain accessible over the long term.

Without measures in place to ensure that the countless digital records and images created in the last few decades are appropriately preserved, we risk leaving significant gaps in the archival documentation of our province’s history and culture.

Webinars, online databases, etc. offer encouraging possibilities if training and funding are put in place.

The recent pandemic has brought to light the importance of access to culture and arts while we are shut in. Heritage associations have risen to the challenge.

A lack of understanding of the benefits, including the financial benefits, of preserving and documenting the past, limits the ability to build support for heritage conservation. We need increased, targeted, and well-articulated messaging around the relevance of heritage activity to the overall quality of life in our communities. This is an area where the HRB should lead.

Several studies have recently been published that support the importance of heritage. We have quantitative data as well as qualitative data to support increased financial support for heritage activity.

Today, information is expected to be available in digital format. Our presentations must be available online to a wide geographic area, we are expected to be active on social media, and we must continually re-evaluate our programs.

We need more interaction with public, 12th grade high school students in particular.

Volunteers are vital. It costs money to train and coordinate volunteer activity. Expertise is essential. Volunteer burnout is an issue. Online technology can enlarge the volunteer pool. Retiring workers are likely volunteers but many volunteers have full time jobs as well. A full-time paid position would relieve some pressure from volunteers.

Events such as Doors Open Winnipeg, and other initiatives have potential to educate, excite, build support for heritage, and to raise much needed funds. Volunteers with marketing experience can help.

Advocacy with government is time consuming and requires expertise, preparation, and detailed information. We need a public awareness campaign of the value of heritage character and heritage conservation districts. We all must continue to work with schools, organizations, and the public to educate, inform, and influence. That takes both financial and human resources. We would like to see the provincial government place a higher priority on heritage.

We must strive for a higher level of communications with historical, architectural groups and universities.

The decline of services provided by the HRB over the past decades has left a “leadership vacuum” and has curtailed its formerly active research and advisory capability, as well as its commemorative programs for noteworthy people, places, events. This has placed greater pressure on the PHAs to fill the void, without providing the financial resources to do so, and it means there are few, if any, meaningful opportunities for liaison between the provincial government and the PHAs.

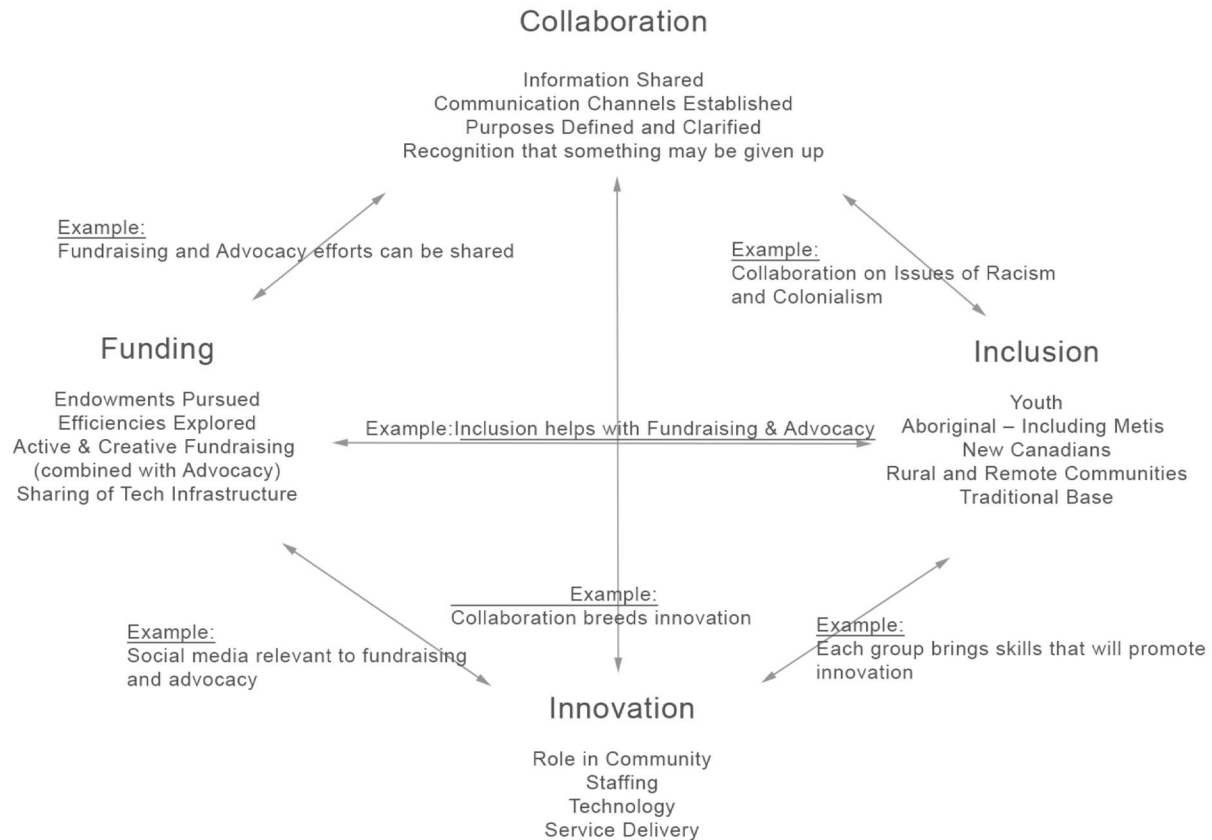
We need to welcome collaborative work with other organizations in the areas of culture, arts, youth, and indigenous organizations. PHAs have noted an especially keen interest among First Nation communities in preserving records and establishing archives. Using current digital technologies and methods of communication should help.

There is a strong consensus that building connections with other PHAs etc. is a priority. There is also a great potential for more collaboration and for the sharing of infrastructure among member organizations. The potential for collaboration extends to PHAs, as many either maintain their own archives or include memberships with a significant stake in archives (i.e., MHS, MGS, AMM). The funding of the Heritage Summits is a good first step.

The last group meeting of PHAs was in 2019.

The history of archival and other heritage activity is deeply implicated with the history of colonialism. Last year, the AMA signed the City of Winnipeg Indigenous Accord, and their programming for 2020-2021 included several events focused on working with Indigenous communities and a series of workshops with the Canadian Conservation Institute on preserving artifacts with Indigenous cultural centres.

Vision & Possibilities Chart



8. Moving Forward

Manitoba's PHAs are committed to working together to address issues outlined in this document.

An obvious first step is to build on the success of the 2020 Heritage Summit by scheduling the 2021 Heritage Summit, which will be held on October 14, 2021.

This first draft will be presented at the 2021 Summit. There will be ample opportunity for participants to consider the recommendations and offer feedback. After a full and independent review, new perspectives and new details will be incorporated into a final document.

APPENDIX 1: Provincial Heritage Agencies comparative statistics

	Jewish Heritage Centre	Heritage Winnipeg	Manitoba Historical Society	Manitoba Archaeological Society	Assoc. for Manitoba Archives	Manitoba Genealogical Society	La Société historique de Saint-Boniface	Assoc. of Manitoba Museums
<u>Total Revenue</u>	\$312, 974	\$400,000	\$106,647	\$29,804	\$40,378	\$54,494	\$559,704	\$214,073
<u>Rev. Sources</u>								
Fed.	\$8084	\$250,000	0	0	0	0	\$180,432	\$77,729
Prov. Total	\$14,700	\$27,300	\$31414	\$23,700	\$28,400	\$11,200	\$91,593	\$75,400
Prov. Operational	-\$11,200	-\$22,300	-\$26,849	-\$11,200	-\$11,200	-\$11,200	-\$75,900	-\$22,300
Prov. Project	-\$3500	-\$5000	-\$4565	-\$12,500	-\$17,200		-\$15,693	**
Municipal	0	\$49,750	0	0	0	0	0	0
Foundations	\$67,363	\$55,000	\$20,000		\$524	\$7000	\$33,725	\$16,000
Gifts	\$81,382	\$4000	\$3500	\$901	\$913	\$7878	\$6,973	\$4996
Memberships	0	\$15,000	\$11,593	\$3365	\$7016	\$19,260	\$6442	\$16,670
Self-Generated	\$11,829		\$39,092	\$205	\$3525	\$99,389	\$171,958	\$22,390
Other	\$123,003 (Grants)		\$1048 (Invest)	\$1634			\$13,581	\$825

Both Federal and Provincial Funding can be broken down into Operational Funding and Project Funding. Project Funding will depend upon what initiatives a PHA decided to pursue. They allow the organization to go over and above the day to day operations, but they do not improve the PHA's overall financial picture. In fact applying for grants and planning programs takes resources from the Operational Funding.

Federal Funding is generally Project Funding – except in the case of La Société historique de Saint-Boniface where the Federal Funding included Operational Funding of \$128,700 and a Project Funding of \$51,732.

The Assoc. of Manitoba Museums revenue included a \$48,600 “fee for service” as well as a \$4500 Project Funding grant.

Self-Generated income is generally from things like sales of services, objects, fund-raising events, etc.

APPENDIX 1: Provincial Heritage Agencies comparative statistics

	Jewish Heritage Centre	Heritage Winnipeg	Manitoba Historical Society	Manitoba Archaeological Society	Assoc. for Manitoba Archives	Manitoba Genealogical Society	La Société historique de Saint-Boniface	Assoc. of Manitoba Museums
<u>Paid Staff</u>	3	1	1	0	1 (PT)	0	5	2
<u>Volunteers</u>	47	600	75	15	25	1390	37	30
<u>Revenue History</u>								
<u>2018 Total</u>	\$312,974	\$400,000	\$129,572	\$29,804	\$40,378	\$45,661	\$559,704	\$214,073
<u>2010 Total</u>	\$417,841		\$106,647	\$27,337	\$98,278		\$735,378	\$137,812
<u>2018 Provincial</u>	\$14,700	\$27,300	\$31,414	\$23,700	\$28,400	\$11,200	\$91,593	\$75,400
-Operational	-\$11,200	-\$22,300	-\$26,849	-\$11,200	-\$11,200	-\$11,200	-\$75,900	-\$22,300
- Project	-\$3,500	-\$5,000	-\$4,565	-\$12,500	-\$17,200		-\$15,693	**
<u>2010 Prov</u>	\$13,700		\$26,000	\$12,192	40,112	\$11,200	\$109,227	\$70,900
-Operational	-\$13,700		-\$26,000	-\$12,192	-\$11,200	- 0	-\$75,900	-\$22,300
- Project	- 0		- 0	-\$ 993	-\$28,912	-\$11,200	-\$33,327	-\$48,600
<u>\$ Decrease in Operational Funding</u>	\$2,500		-\$849	-\$992	0	0	0	0
<u>% Decrease in Operational Funding</u>	22.3%		-.3%	-.09%	0	0	0	0

APPENDIX 1: Provincial Heritage Agencies comparative statistics

Federal Funding Comparisons

Four PHA's have received Federal Funding in the past fiscal year.

Assoc. of Manitoba Museums: \$77,729 (Project Funding \$77,792) and Covid-19 support (\$3371).

La Société historique de Saint-Boniface Federal: \$180,432 (operational funding: \$128,700, project funding \$51,732)

The Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada received \$8084 all in project funding.

Heritage Winnipeg: Federal Total: \$250,000 in project funding.

With inflation and increased obligations even a 0% decrease in funding represents a very real actual decrease.

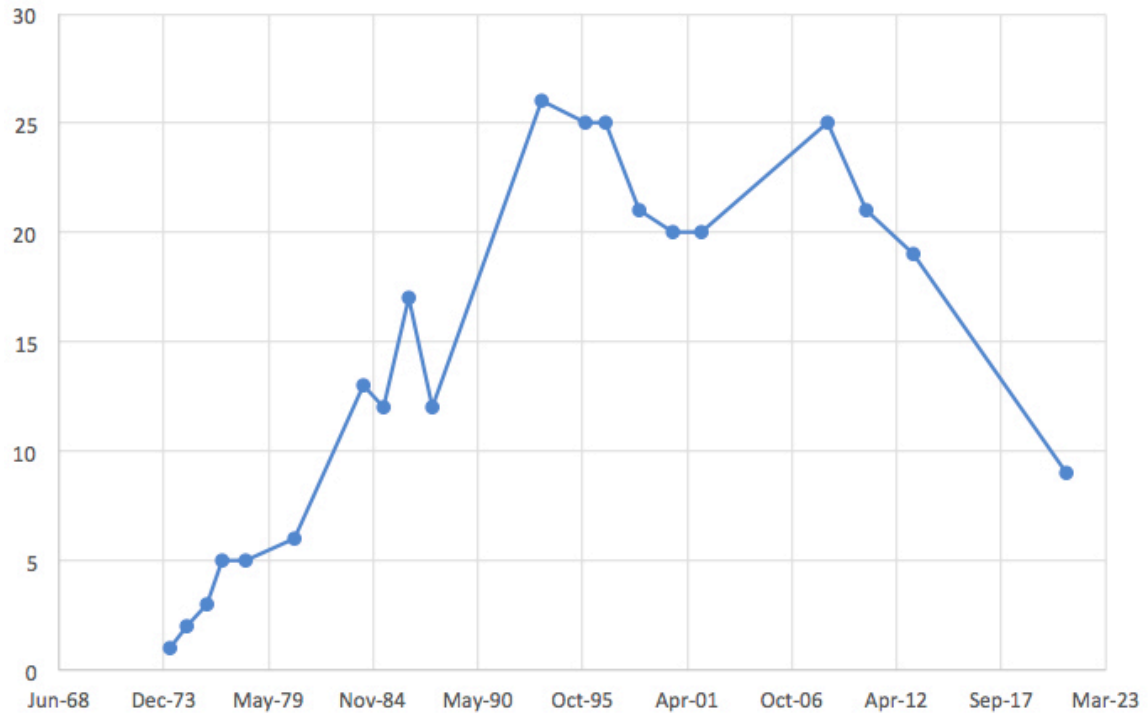
Project funding is unreliable, varying from year to year, while requiring paper work for both the government and the recipient organization. While the value of the funding has been decreasing for at least a decade, the attached workload remains the same.

APPENDIX 1: Provincial Heritage Agencies comparative statistics

	Jewish Heritage Centre	Heritage Winnipeg	Manitoba Historical Society	Manitoba Archaeological Society	Assoc. for Manitoba Archives	Manitoba Genealogical Society	La Société historique de Saint-Boniface	Assoc. of Manitoba Museums
<u>Total Expenditures</u>	\$347,201	\$380,000	\$104,454	\$26,861	\$47,938	\$54,495	\$556,196	\$215,738
<u>Expenditure Items</u>	<u>Expenditure Items</u>							
Salaries	\$147,549		\$54,427	0	\$9798	0	\$319,853	\$117,062
Contracted services	\$5775		\$2700	\$1358	\$19,424	Varies	\$49,919	\$61,907
Projects	\$72,850		\$31,907					
			\$15,420					
Rent	\$55,170				\$1798	\$28,308	\$79,560	\$10,555
Operations	\$53,471			\$3737	\$16,918	\$13,679	\$31,121	\$24,582
Other	\$13169			\$21766			\$75,743	

Operations includes those costs associated with carrying out the mission of the organization, and as such can vary widely. Aside from rent, there are day-to-day costs associated with maintaining an office such as Insurance, advertising, bank fees, and supplies. The other main expenditures involve programming costs, activities, training, professional fees, travel etc. Some PHAs have costs associated with maintaining Archives (\$32871 for St. B) and Capital Improvements (\$13168.95 for St. B)

APPENDIX 2: HRB Staffing Levels (1974-2021)



APPENDIX 3: Heritage-Related Organizations in Manitoba

Provincial Heritage Agencies

A Provincial Heritage Agency (PHA) is an organization to which the Manitoba Government provides annual grants.

There are currently eight PHAs in Manitoba: Jewish Heritage Centre, Heritage Winnipeg, The Manitoba Historical Society, The Manitoba Archaeological Society, The Association for Manitoba Archives, The Manitoba Genealogical Society, La Société historique de Saint-Boniface, The Association of Manitoba Museums

Manitoba Historic Resources Branch

The Government of Manitoba Department of Sport, Culture and Heritage is responsible for the Historic Resources Branch, as well as Archives of Manitoba, Hudson's Bay Company Archives, Legislative Library, Multiculturalism and Public Library Services

Municipal Heritage Advisory Committees (MHACs)

The Heritage Resources Act allows for a municipal council to establish, by way of a bylaw, a Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee (MHAC) to advise the council on heritage matters. One primary concern of these bodies has been the Nomination of Sites for Heritage Designation.

Heritage Organizations & Committees

Along with the work done by the Provincial Heritage Agencies, the Historic Resources Branch and the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committees, there are groups working towards similar goals, and performing similar and complementary functions. They range from regional groups with wide-ranging mission, to small local groups with a more focused agenda.

In each case, however, they sprang from a vision advanced by a small group of dedicated people who saw a need and set out to meet that need.

Provincial Organizations

Manitoba Heritage Council
Heritage Manitoba

Regional Organizations

The Boundary Trail Heritage Region operates in the Municipalities along the US Border between Emerson and the Saskatchewan border.

APPENDIX 3: Heritage-Related Organizations in Manitoba

The Turtle Mountain Souris Plains Heritage Association involves a collection of towns, rural municipalities, Métis Locals and concerned citizens in the southwest corner of Manitoba.

Local Organizations

Most organizations, municipalities, and communities that have undertaken notable heritage activities in recent years.

Common activities of such groups include community heritage displays, heritage-related activities and celebrations, heritage projects funded by the Heritage Grants Program, heritage websites, commemoration, and interpretive signage.

Municipal Heritage Advisory Committees (MHACs)

The Heritage Resources Act allows for a municipal council to establish, by way of a bylaw, a Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee (MHAC) to advise the council on heritage matters. Suggested membership for the committee might include a municipal councillor, businesspeople, local architects and planners, museum or historical society volunteers and anyone else with a keen interest in the heritage of the area.

A Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee may recommend to council:

- Designation of sites as being municipally significant.
- Commemoration through plaques or other methods, of themes, people and events.
- A heritage sites inventory - including sites, themes, people, and events worthy of conservation or promotion
- Site evaluations - assessing heritage resources of architectural, archaeological, and/or historical value

Some examples of popular initiatives include walking/driving tours, regional bus tours, oral histories, artifact preservation, and special events

Representative Heritage Advisory Committees

Brandon – heritagebrandon.ca

The Brandon Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee includes two members from City Council and nine citizen members. The Senior Planner for the City of Brandon attends and keeps records.

The Committee typically meets once monthly, except for July and August.

There are two Co-Chairs, one a Council Member and one a Citizen Member

APPENDIX 3: Heritage-Related Organizations in Manitoba

Council appoints all members on the Committee, with Council Members appointed annually, and Citizen Members serving alternating two-year terms.

Recent initiatives:

- Heritage Incentive By-law No. 7192 was updated to improve its effectiveness in preserving heritage buildings.
- The Stone Fence, a Municipal Heritage Site owned by the City of Brandon is unique in that the designation affects several properties. Parts of the Stone Fence were at risk of collapse due to mature trees undermining the structure with its root systems. The Brandon Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee (MHAC) made it a priority project in 2016

Gimli – gimliheritage.ca

Recent Initiatives:

- The Gimli Committee maintains a Heritage Website that highlights and records news, photos, tours, and special projects.
- It is currently featuring a promotion for a new book, “Fresh Air Unlimited – The Fresh Air Camps of Lake Winnipeg” by David Butterfield.
- The RM of Gimli Heritage Advisory Committee is planning a booklet celebrating approximately 50 past and present citizens who made significant contributions to our community, province and/or country.

Lac du Bonnet – ldbheritage.ca

The Lac Du Bonnet Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee maintains a website that highlights the attractions of the region, the importance of Lac Du Bonnet as a commercial centre, heritage sites, and the history of the region.

Lac du Bonnet & District Historical Society – ldbhistorical.ca

Lac Du Bonnet also has an active Historical Society that operates the Lac du Bonnet District Museum and works to preserve built heritage in the region.

Carman/Dufferin – carmandufferinheritage.ca

The Carman/Dufferin Heritage Website offers you a glimpse of the history of Dufferin Municipality from the pre-settlement era to the post-1870 influx of homesteading families, and from the arrival of the railways to the rise and decline of the small towns and communities along its path.

It highlights the wealth of historic buildings, cairns, plaques and other heritage resources that our communities have to offer.

APPENDIX 3: Heritage-Related Organizations in Manitoba

Heritage Resource Management Plan (HRMP)

The Committee undertakes community inventories, homestead interviews, and life story workshops as well as community displays. Fortunately, we have piles of research and other non-contact projects to keep our members happily occupied. They are pursuing couple of website initiatives, with a current focus on early newspapers, with an eye for clues to natural history.

Red River North Heritage Committee – redrivernorthheritage.com

The Red River North Heritage Committee (RRNHC) meets as required to discuss the progress of various projects, to develop responses to current heritage issues and to discuss ideas for new initiatives. The RRNHC works with the Historic Resources Branch of Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism, to ensure that projects and plans reflect the most current thinking about heritage, and especially heritage management.

SCHC is a volunteer group of approximately 10-12 members from all areas of the R.M.

Items featured on the Red River North Heritage Website offers an overview of its wide range of activities:

- Help your Community Improve: You can get between 26% and 42% in tax credits for your charitable donation towards various projects in the community!
- Looking to get out of the house? Now is the perfect time to check out some of the terrific heritage sites that are close to home! These sites are laid out and easy to locate with the provided map.
- Submit Your Family Story: Has your family made a significant contribution to the R.M. of St. Clements? Would you like to share your story on this website so it will be available to future generations?
- Heritage Treasures of Red River North: Explore the heritage treasures of the Red River North region of Manitoba. Travelling the North perimeter of Winnipeg, the East Beaches of Lake Winnipeg, Rural Municipalities of St. Clements, St. Andrews, East St. Paul & West St. Paul, and the City of Selkirk. Developed by the RM of St. Clements Heritage Committee.

Their YouTube channel offers a selection of video productions.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1eJWbZOknKxjAgLGox4uz>

Portage la Prairie

Recent activity:

- The Portage la Prairie Heritage Advisory Committee has received a grant from the Provincial Government to go towards funding a photo history of Portage. The

APPENDIX 3: Heritage-Related Organizations in Manitoba

goal of the project is to have the photos tell the history of our city. An editor has been hired and they are currently in the process of finding photos.

- The committee is looking for Portage specific photos, photos that show a snapshot in time of everyday life in Portage la Prairie. For example, it would be great to have a photo of Arthur Meighen in his yard, or showing members of the community driving in their horse and carts.
- Recently eight buildings in Portage la Prairie were awarded heritage certificates. Members of the Heritage Advisory Committee to Council, along with Portage la Prairie Mayor Irvine Ferris, recognized the buildings and their owners with a short presentation. The certificates were a follow up to the 2012-13 Portage Special Places Project.

Regional Heritage Organizations & Committees

Along with the work done by the Provincial Heritage Agencies, the Historic Resources Branch and the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committees, there are groups working towards similar goals, and performing similar and complementary functions. They range from regional groups with wide-ranging mission, to small local groups with a more focused agenda.

In every case, however, they sprang from a vision advanced by a small group of dedicated people who saw a need and set out to meet that need.

The Boundary Trail Heritage Region – bthr.ca

The Boundary Commission – North West Mounted Police (NWMP) Trail Association was organized informally at a meeting at Cartwright, Manitoba on 30 April 1988.

The Association's goal was the promotion of a network of southern Manitoba trails, collectively known as the Boundary Commission NWMP Trail, as a focal point for the history and heritage of southern Manitoba. In 1991, the Association passed a resolution requesting Heritage Canada designate the 12 rural municipalities of southern Manitoba between the Red River and the Saskatchewan border as a national heritage region. Heritage Canada accepted the proposal, officially designating the Boundary Trail Heritage Region. In December 1993, a new, and larger Boundary Commission NWMP Trail Association board of directors was elected and an appropriate constitution prepared and adopted. At the time of its establishment, the Boundary Trail Heritage Region was the fifth national Heritage Region in Canada and the first in western Canada.

Since that time the Association has become a more general body supporting heritage activity in the region. They engage in a variety of projects; collecting and preserving information, presenting stories, and advocating for heritage.

APPENDIX 3: Heritage-Related Organizations in Manitoba

The Turtle Mountain Souris Plains Heritage Association – vantagepoints.ca

The Turtle Mountain – Souris Plains Heritage Association takes a regional approach to heritage by involving a collection of Towns, Rural Municipalities, Métis Locals and concerned citizens. They work cooperatively to protect heritage sites, collect and share stories, attract visitors and promote creative and partnered economic development. The goal is having this culturally and environmentally diverse region broadly recognized for its dynamic history, marvelous beauty and spirited cooperation.

They strive to contribute to our citizens' sense of belonging - by adding to the wealth of stories we tell of this land, its people over the millennia and its features and resources.

Ongoing activities are currently financed by a \$0.90 per capita annual grant from the Municipalities of Brenda-Waskada, Grassland, Deloraine-Winchester, and Two Borders.

Ongoing initiatives:

- Website: Our website documents all of our activities and is the gateway to all the resources we have to offer. www.vantagepoints.ca
- Vantage Points Books: The popular Vantage Points Series highlights the history of our region in collections of compact, entertaining, illustrated stories. Sales of all four volumes remain brisk and Volume 5 is currently being written.
- Layered Map & Heritage Displays: A prominent feature of our website is the Layered Map, a base map of the region showing topographical features, overlaid by five layers, each of which reflects an era or broad chapter in the history of southwest Manitoba. It is also available in large display format – used by schools, and at heritage presentations.
- Geocaches: We maintain geocache sites all over southwest Manitoba. Each is placed at a site of historical significance and features “Story Cards” which describe the history of the site.
- Oral History: Our large collection of recorded and transcribed interviews with seniors provides a resource for the stories we tell.
- Resources for Schools: In addition to our Vantage Points Collection we have placed an extensive collection of maps, photos and other information online. We collaborate with teachers in finding additional resources and in devising ways to use the resources at hand.
- Annual Conference: Each year we present a Local History Conference in conjunction with our Annual General Meeting.

Local Heritage Associations

The following is a list of organizations, municipalities, and communities that have undertaken heritage activities in recent years. There is no doubt that this is a partial list, it was generated from personal contacts and general web searches.

APPENDIX 3: Heritage-Related Organizations in Manitoba

Common activities of such groups include community heritage displays, heritage-related activities and celebrations, heritage projects funded by the Heritage Grants Program, heritage websites, commemoration, and interpretive signage.

Pierson & Area Heritage Committee – www.virtualmanitoba.com/twoborders

Since its inception, in 2015 the Committee has erected an interpretive sign about Jim Dandy in a park named after him. The Committee has established the Norman Breakey Park, which has a large stone with a bronze plaque commemorating Norman Breakey as the inventor of the paint roller. An antique road grader display and a bell tower which houses the Butterfield School Bell are also displayed.

The committee has organized three annual heritage tours.

The Committee has salvaged and relocated one of the signs marking the location of the Boundary Commission Trail. As there is no museum in Pierson, the Committee has organized heritage displays at the town library.

Rivers Train Station Restoration Committee – www.virtualmanitoba.com/riverdale

The Rivers Train Station Restoration Committee is dedicated to the restoration, renovation and rejuvenation of the Rivers Train Station Building, a federally designated heritage site.

This will be accomplished through making the station a viable property for heritage preservation and economic development.

The goal is to ensure the community has an opportunity to connect with the past, while creating a vision for the future.

Through active fundraising to the tune of over \$100000, and thousands volunteer hours, they continue to make progress towards that goal.

The Committee continues to support a broad range of Heritage Initiatives in the community. The list includes a Special Places Inventory, and a Pivotal Events Project. They have moved what used to be Brandon North to Rivers and refurbished it. They have placed interpretive signs, and supported several targeted research projects such on history related topics as diverse as: The Sekine Bicycle Plant, The Story of the Grand Trunk Pacific in Rivers, and Train Tracks – a Collection of Railway Stories. All their work is available on their carefully managed Heritage Website.

Related economic development projects include; train wheel benches, a train rail arbour, downtown streetscaping, a mural Heritage Puzzle project, and the planting of trees & restoration of the CN gravel pit into the Millennium Park.

APPENDIX 3: Heritage-Related Organizations in Manitoba

The Manitoba Metis Federation

The Manitoba Metis Federation-Southwest Region Inc. is a non-profit organization whose primary purpose is to represent and serve the needs of the Metis of the Southwest Region.

The objectives of MMF-Southwest Region are set out in the Manitoba Metis Federation Constitution and one of those objectives is to promote the history and culture of the Metis people and otherwise to promote the cultural pride of its membership.

Through its regional offices such as the one in Bandon, and through a number of Local Chapters throughout the province, the Federation sponsors a variety of heritage initiatives.

The Grand Valley local of the Manitoba Metis Federation organizes and hosts The annual Koushkoupayh Metis Festival in the Souris Valley south of Brandon.

The local also supports an ongoing series of school visits by Metis Historian Mary Conway who brings all aspects of Metis Culture into the classroom.

Some Representative Local Heritage Activities

Carberry

The century-old Main Street remains the centre of community's culture, heritage and commerce. Two blocks of historic brick buildings, many sharing a common wall with their neighbor, line both sides of Main Street. The goal is a restoration project to take our Main Street back to its former glory. The area has been designated as Manitoba's only Designated Heritage District, ensuring the preservation of this remarkable collection of buildings into the future.

The Economic Development Office has sponsored a Special Places Project and a Notable People Project with the support of the Manitoba Heritage Grants Program.

The Carberry Plains Archives maintains a Facebook Page and is active in supporting heritage initiatives.

Neepawa – www.neepawa.ca/history-heritage

The Neepawa website features a heritage section with a short, but detailed regional history, taken from a previously published architectural walking tour.

Selkirk – www.myselkirk.ca/blog/tag/heritage

APPENDIX 3: Heritage-Related Organizations in Manitoba

Established in 2012, the Selkirk Heritage Endowment Fund was created to provide a sustainable source of funding to support a future municipal museum for the City of Selkirk. Currently the funding from the Selkirk Heritage Endowment help with technical support for the Selkirk Virtual Museum and have also been granted to the Marine Museum of Manitoba to help with their operations.

Other Community-Based Heritage Initiatives

There are numerous heritage-based initiatives in communities across Manitoba. Most of these are site-based, such as museums or organizations with a broader mandate that sometimes includes heritage activities. Communities in Bloom is a good example.

Activities include:

- Heritage projects funded by the Heritage Grants Program
- Restorations and re-purposing of Heritage Buildings
- Heritage Displays in Public Building and Parks
- Interpretive Signs

Heritage Manitoba – heritagemanitoba.ca

Heritage Manitoba is an informal coalition of municipal heritage advisory committees and small urban and rural communities dedicated to helping anyone in Manitoba seeking guidance on developing a heritage project or initiative.

This website contains the wealth of information required by any Manitoba community looking to capitalize on its irreplaceable resources and fascinating stories to create a meaningful local heritage presence.

The development of a full range of quality heritage destinations and products has been shown to help forge a community's distinct identity, encourage citizen involvement in heritage activities, bring in tourists with an appreciation for the authentic, and ensure that resources and stories are preserved for future generations.

This website allows municipal officials, advisory councils, heritage professionals and interested individuals to find the kind of information they need for any number of activities and projects, from an ongoing and complex program of heritage work, to any number of discrete research or promotional initiatives. And as much as possible, this information has been developed in easy-to-read articles and commentaries, and where applicable in helpful how-to guides.