

MINUTES of the BOARD MEETING

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

4:00-5:30 PM, Friday, 18 January 2008

**Mennonite Heritage Centre
CMU Campus (south)
600 Shaftesbury Blvd.
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3P 0M4
Ph: 204-888-6781**

Present: Ken Reddig, President Centre for Mennonite Brethren Studies
Sam Steiner, Vice-President Mennonite Church Eastern Canada
Lucille Marr, Secretary La Société Mennonite Historique du Québec
Richard Thiessen, Treasurer Mennonite Historical Society of British Columbia
Royden Loewen Member at Large, Chair of Mennonite Studies, University of Winnipeg
John Konrad, Mennonite Historical Society of British Columbia
Peter Penner, Mennonite Historical Society of Alberta
Ted Regehr, Mennonite Historical Society of Alberta
Jake Buhler, Mennonite Historical Society of Saskatchewan
Victor G. Wiebe, Mennonite Historical Society of Saskatchewan
Bert Friesen, Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society
Janis Thiessen, Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society
Barb Draper, Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario
Marlene Epp, Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario
Richard Lougheed, La Société Mennonite Historique du Québec
Alf Redekopp, Mennonite Church Canada
Robert Goertzen, Evangelical Mennonite Church

1. Welcome

Ken welcomed the group and invited members to introduce themselves. He noted that this meeting clears the agenda for the AGM. He introduced Ken Sensenig, who is from MCC East Coast and is also a member of the Lancaster Historical Society board.

2. Minutes of the 19 January 2007 meeting

Lucille presented a motion for their acceptance. **M/S/C Lucille/ Bert**

3. Business arising from the minutes

CGC should read CGUC

4. Approval of Agenda for Board and annual Meeting

5. President's report

Award of Excellence: Our president announced that the executive decided to make the award to Gerhard Enns. During his long public ministry, Mr. Enns promoted Mennonite

history in his varied roles as teacher at Mennonite Collegiate Institute, minister in the Blumenorter church, editor of *Der Bote*, and in the Low German radio program that he ran for many years.

Frank H. Epp Memorial Fund: Conrad Grebel University College will be adding money to the pot and focusing on issues pertaining to peace and Mennonite history. Marlene clarified that outside groups will no longer be able to apply for funds, but the projects still will have external interest.

6. GAMEO report

Bert reported that the Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online is approximately 80 per cent completed with uploading the five volume *Mennonite Encyclopedia*.

7. DVCM II report

Roy notes DVCM continues to plan conferences.

8. Marlene Epp Book

Roy reported that the University of Manitoba Press has accepted her book with very positive reviews. Marlene has offered to give up the last \$5000 of her contract with MHSC in exchange for ownership of royalties. The \$5000 would be used for the subvention for publication. **M/S/C Roy/Sam**

Ted raised the question of how the book would be promoted. Provincial societies may wish to host a launch.

9. Mennonites in Canada report

Ted noted that due to difficult family circumstances he has been unable to make progress this year on the book.

10. Financial Report

M/S/C Richard Thiessen/Bert Friesen. Richard reported on the high expense of an audit, the last one costing \$2300.00. He proposes that he explore with a corporate lawyer the pros and cons of dissolving corporation status to find out what sort of liability this might mean.

11. Budget 2008/2009

Richard will update the budget regarding new information about the Mennonite Women in Canada book and present the revised budget to the AGM.

12. Nominations Committee report

Maurice Martin and Dave Giesbrecht are recommending the following slate:

President: Sam Steiner
Vice-President: Roy Loewen
Secretary: Lucille Marr
Treasurer: Richard Thiessen

Member-at-large: Alf Redekopp

13. Other items to be brought before the board?

Ken noted that in 2013 MCC will be celebrating its 50th anniversary. MCC has been a major supporter of the MHSC, with the three-volume *Mennonites in Canada*, and in recent years the DVCM projects. The executive is proposing that we might consider sponsoring a history of MCC Canada. Ted asked whether MCC Akron would be open to opening up its confidential files to a researcher. Ken noted that MCC is interested in the project and would be open to contributing some funding. A motion was put forward to authorize MHSC executive to explore this possibility with MCC and report back next year. **M/S/C Roy Loewen /Peter Penner.**