

Minutes of the Board Meeting

Mennonite Historical Society of Canada

Wednesday, 14 November 2018 7:00 p.m.

Mennonite Heritage Archives

610 Shaftesbury Blvd.

Winnipeg, Manitoba

Present:

1. Alf Redekopp, Secretary, Mennonite Church Canada
2. Barb Draper Member-at-Large, Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario
3. Barry Dyck, Mennonite Heritage Village
4. Bert Friesen, Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society
5. Cheryl Isaak, Mennonite Historical Society of British Columbia
6. Conrad Stoesz, Treasurer, Mennonite Church Canada
7. David Neufeldt, Mennonite Historical Society of Alberta
8. Dick Braun, Mennonite Historical Society of Saskatchewan
9. Eleanor Chornoboy, Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society
10. Harold Thiessen, Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario
11. Jake Buhler, Mennonite Historical Society of Saskatchewan
12. Jennifer Martens, Mennonite Historical Society of British Columbia
13. Jon Isaak, Centre for MB Studies, Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches
14. Laureen Harder-Gissing, Mennonite Church Eastern Canada, Institute of Anabaptist and Mennonite Studies
15. Richard Lougheed, Société d'histoire mennonite du Québec
16. Richard Thiessen, Vice-President, Mennonite Museum Society
17. Royden Loewen, President, Centre for Transnational Mennonite Studies
18. Ted Regehr, Mennonite Historical Society of Alberta
19. Victor Wiebe, Mennonite Historical Society of Saskatchewan
20. Zacharie LeClair, Société d'histoire mennonite du Québec

1. Royden welcomed the participants and invited each person to introduce themselves and the organization that they were representing.
2. Minutes: M/S/C (Alf Redekopp/Bert Friesen to accept the minutes of the board meeting of 19 January 2018 as distributed and reviewed.
3. M/S/C (Richard Thiessen/Richard Lougheed) to accept the agenda as distributed.
4. M/S/C (Alf Redekopp/Jon Isaak) that the Committee roster for 2018-2019 be as follows:
 - a. Archives Committee: Conrad Stoesz (MHA), Jennifer Martens (B.C.), Alice Unrau (Alberta), Victor Wiebe (Saskatchewan), Laureen Harder-Gissing (Ontario) (chair), Jon Isaak (CMBS), Richard Lougheed (Quebec)
 - b. Mennonite Archival Image Database Management (MAID) group: Conrad Stoesz (chair), Alf Redekopp, Laureen Harder-Gissing, Hannah Keeney
 - c. DVCM committee: Royden Loewen (chair), Marlene Epp, Lucille Marr, Ruth Plett, Bruce Guenter, Leonard Doell, Brian Froese, Laureen Harder-Gissing
 - d. Genealogy committee: Bert Friesen (chair), Glenn Penner and Richard Thiessen (proposed committee since the Genealogy Task Force has completed its task)
 - e. A People of Diversity Project: Royden Loewen (chair), Lucille Marr, Laureen Harder-Gissing, Conrad Stoesz, Brian Froese, Bruce Guenther and Marlene Epp.

- f. MHSC GAMEO Committee: Bert Friesen (chair), Alf Redekopp, Richard Thiessen (proposed committee that will choose the rep for the management group and be the conduit for reporting)
 - g. Russlander Immigration Commemoration Committee: Richard Thiessen, Royden Loewen, Ingrid Riesen plus reps other provinces (proposed national committee with several possible sub-committees)
5. Constitution – Richard Thiessen reminded us of the need to have the constitution signed which we accepted last January.
 6. President’s Report – will report at AGM; no board action required.
 7. The MHSC Executive received and processed three nominations for the MHSC Award of Excellence. Each nomination meets the criteria. M/S/C (Alf Redekopp /Barry Dyck) that Adolf Ens, John J. Friesen and Abe Dueck be the recipients of the award at this annual meeting.
 8. DVCM- will report at AGM; no board action required.
 9. A people of diversity project: Notice was given that the question of a 4th Volume of Mennonites in Canada covering the post-1970 era, will be raised at the AGM.
 10. GAMEO Management- will report at AGM and no board action needed
 11. Archives Committee will bring MAID budget to the board for approval. The challenges of digitalization projects received attention.
 12. MAID Management group will report at AGM and no board action needed.
 13. Genealogy Committee – Bert Friesen reported that this new committee’s mandate will be to oversee making accessible genealogical data and the managing the mennonitegenealogy.com website.
 14. Future Projects – Ideas were solicited from board members. (a) Should we establish a commemoration committee that looks 100th anniversary of the emigration of Mennonites to Mexico in 1922 (the largest emigration in Canadian history) and other events, because can be a powerful communication tool for promoting historical knowledge and insight. (b) Can MHSC take a leadership role for indigenization? (c) Can we draw on the younger generation who have often have interest in historical technology and also have great capacity to work colaboratively across great distances? (d) Can there be a convergence of some of our plans with other known activities being planned by others (ex. “Walk the path”, a project in Saskatchewan, or other types of re-enactments of historical events)?
 15. Financial Report and budget will be presented at the AGM by Conrad.
 16. Nominations Report: M/S/C (Jon Isaak/Jake Buhler) to accept the report which nominates the following officers: Lauren Harder-Gissing, president; Conrad Stoesz, vice-president; Barb Draper, secretary; Jeremy Wiebe, treasurer; Royden Loewen, member-at -large. M/S/C (Jon Isaak/Bert Friesen) that we recognize and thank Richard Thiessen and Alf Redekopp for their many years of service on the executive.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.