

Minutes of the Board Meeting
Mennonite Historical Society of Canada
Friday, January 17, 2014, 7:30 p.m.
Mennonite Heritage Centre
600 Shaftesbury Blvd., Winnipeg, Manitoba

Present:

Lucille Marr, MHSC President, Société d'histoire mennonite du Québec
Royden Loewen, MHSC Vice President, Chair of Mennonite Studies, University of Winnipeg
David Neufeldt, Mennonite Historical Society of Alberta
Wes Berg, Mennonite Historical Society of Alberta
Richard Thiessen, MHSC Treasurer, Mennonite Historical Society of British Columbia
Don Fehr, Mennonite Historical Society of British Columbia
Jake Buhler, Mennonite Historical Society of Saskatchewan
Victor Wiebe, Mennonite Historical Society of Saskatchewan
Laureen Harder-Gissing, Mennonite Church Eastern Canada
Maurice Martin, MHSC Member-at-large, Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario
Sam Steiner, Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario
Conrad Stoesz, Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society
Bert Friesen, Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society
Jon Isaak, Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches
Alf Redekopp, MHSC Secretary, Mennonite Church Canada
Korey Dyck, Mennonite Church Canada
Richard Lougheed, Société d'histoire mennonite du Québec

1. Welcome: Lucille Marr open the meeting with a prayer.
2. Board minutes of 18 January 2012 were reviewed by Alf Redekopp. **M/S/C Alf Redekopp/Korey Dyck that the minutes be accepted as recorded.**
3. **Business arising:**
 - a. **Working Towards a Travelling Mennonite Exhibit (written proposal).** Jake Buhler spoke about the written proposal that grew out of last AGM's encouragement. Agreed to discuss at the AGM.
4. By Consensus agreed to **approve the agenda** with the addition of the Canadian Editorial Group of GAMEO under item 9.
5. **MHSC Award of Excellence:** Royden spoke to the nomination of Dr. Harry Loewen of Kelowna, BC which the executive recommended to the board for approval. **M/S/C (Bert Friesen/Sam Steiner)** that the 2014 MHSC Award of Excellence be awarded to Dr. Harry Loewen.
6. DVCM: Royden reviewed what he will report at the AGM about future conferences.
7. MCC in Canada History: Lucille reported that Esther Epp-Tiessen will report at the AGM.

8. **GAMEO** management board update. Bert Friesen reported that this has been the first year of operations under Mennonite World Conference umbrella. It was also the year that the site migrated to a new software platform which allows multiple languages. He will report on the activity of the Canadian GAMEO editorial group at the AGM.
9. **Archives Committee:** The archives committee will bring a report to the AGM which includes a recommendation to proceed with a contract with Peaceworks to build an on-line photo database to serve Mennonite archives in Canada. This proposal has grown out of the work done by the Photo Database Task Force consisting of Conrad Stoesz, Laureen Harder-Gissing, Alf Redekopp and Korey Dyck.

A question was raised about the membership of the archives committee. The Executive will clarify this question at the AGM.

10. **Genealogy Committee:** Bert will bring a written progress report to the AGM. Richard reported that the Executive discussed the need for clearer financial planning.
11. **Finance Report:** Richard distributed a draft budget which will be revised and processed at the AGM.
12. **Nomination Committee** reported that the existing executive were asked and are willing to stand for another year of service.
13. **Youth representation** to the MHSC: Lucille reported that she had followed up on last year's recommendations and that we had had 3 young people attending today's activities.
14. **New Projects:** Lucille shared some ideas and brainstorming which had been shared at the executive meeting as we reflected that the MHSC would be reaching its 50th anniversary in 2018. These included:
 - a. Doing a video on new Mennonites – illustrating the changing face of Canadian Mennonites.
 - b. Doing a video interview with the founding leaders, especially Ted Friesen, Ted Regehr and possibly John J. Friesen. Korey Dyck agreed that the MHC would take on this project.
15. Sam moved to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Recorded by Alf Redekopp