

MGS

Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc.
E – 1045 St James Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3H 1B1

MGS

REPORTS

for

MGS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

June 6, 2015

**E – 1045 St James Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba**

MGS

MANITOBA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

E – 1045 St James Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba
June 6, 2015

AGENDA

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Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc.
Annual General Meeting
MGS Resource Centre, E – 1045 St. James St., Winnipeg, MB
Saturday, October 18, 2014

Present: Jim Oke (Chair), Jim Rutherford, Patricia Allan, Louisa Shermerhorn, Enid Dorward, Kelly Southworth, Kathy Stokes, Mary Bole, Rick McLellan, Bill Curtis, Sheila Woods, Kathleen Kristjansson, Janice Butcher, Virginia Braid, Lorna Karman, Garry Brickman, Sandra Havig, Linda Wray, Mavis Gray, Judith Roe, Linda White

1. Meeting called to order at 10:02 am.
2. Approval of the Agenda. Moved: Jim Rutherford, seconded: Kelly Southworth. CARRIED
3. Approval of the minutes of previous AGM, 19 October, 2013. Moved: Virginia Braid, seconded: Kathy Stokes. CARRIED
4. Business arising from the minutes:
Point 7. Appointment of auditors: The Executive decided to have a financial review instead, for reasons of economy.

5. Reports

Copies of reports are included in the AGM booklet. The respective reports were presented in person unless otherwise indicated.

5.1 Presidents' Reports

5.1 MGS President's Report: Jim Oke

Branch Presidents' reports

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 5.1.1 Beautiful Plains Branch: | Maxine Woodcock (absent) |
| 5.1.2 Dauphin Branch: | Shirle McGimpsey (absent) |
| 5.1.3 Southeast & Winnipeg Branch: | Virginia Braid |
| 5.1.4 South West Branch: | Laura Crookshanks (absent) |
| 5.1.5 Swan Valley Branch: | Eric Neufeld (absent) |

Moved: Sandra Havig, seconded: Kelly Southworth "that the Presidents' reports be accepted as submitted and distributed". CARRIED

Vice-Presidents' Reports.

The Vice Presidents' reports were presented, followed by the Standing Committees reporting to each VP.

5.2 Vice-President Administration: Virginia Braid

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| 5.2.1 Library: | Mary Bole |
| 5.2.2 Research: | Jim Rutherford |
| 5.2.3 Membership Services: | Janice Butcher |
| 5.2.4 Special Projects: | Kathy Stokes |
| 5.2.5 Office Coordinator: | Vacant |

Moved: Mary Bole, seconded: Pat Allan "that the Administration reports be accepted as submitted and distributed". CARRIED

5.3 Vice-President Communications: Linda White

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 5.3.1 Generations: | David Farmer (absent) |
| 5.3.2 Outreach and Education: | Bill Curtis |
| 5.3.3 Publications: | Vacant |
| 5.3.4 Publicity: | Vacant |

Moved: Linda White, seconded: Jim Rutherford "that the Communications reports be accepted as submitted and distributed". CARRIED

5.4 Vice-President Information Technology: Gordon McBean

5.4.1 Computer: Vacant

Moved: Sheila Woods, seconded: Virginia Braid "that the Information Technology report be accepted as submitted and distributed". CARRIED

5.5 Vice-President Finance: Rick McLellan

5.5.1 Fundraising: Judith Roe

5.5.2 Grants and Applications: Linda White

5.5.3 Treasurer: Rick McLellan

Moved: Kelly Southworth, seconded: Mary Bole "that the Finance reports be accepted as submitted and distributed". CARRIED

6. Approval of Financial Statements.

Moved: Judith Roe, seconded: Pat Allan "that the Financial statements be accepted as submitted and distributed". CARRIED

7. Financial Review committee. The Executive will appoint a financial review committee of at least two people rather than auditors for 2015, for reasons of economy.

8. Ratification of decisions made by Executive and Council

Moved: Kelly Southworth, seconded: Garry Brickman "that the decisions made by Executive and Council in 2013-2014 be ratified". CARRIED

9. New Business:

9.1 Notices of Motion – Constitution Revisions

Motion 1 - Article 3.1.4

To change "produce a quarterly journal" to "produce journals".

Moved Kathy Stokes – Janice Butcher: That the motion be approved. Carried.

Motion 2 - Article 5.4 – Quorum of MGS Council

To change "Ten council members present shall constitute a quorum" to "the quorum for Council meetings shall be equal to 50% of the total number of Executive officers and chairs of Standing Committees whose positions are filled".

Moved Kathy Stokes – Janice Butcher: That the motion be approved. Carried.

Motion 3 - Article 11.6 – Fiscal year

To change the fiscal year from "1 August to 31 July" to "April 1 to March 31"

Moved Kathy Stokes – Janice Butcher: That the motion be approved. Carried.

Motion 4 - Article 15.1.

To change "may be proposed by Council or by petition" to "may be proposed by Executive, Council, or by petition".

Moved Kathy Stokes – Janice Butcher: That the motion be approved. Carried.

Motion 5 - Article 15.2.

To change "A call for Notices of Motion to amend the Society Constitution shall be printed in the first issue of the Society journal each calendar year" to "A call for Notices of Motion to amend the Society Constitution shall be published in the Society journal at least 90 days prior to the AGM".

Moved Kathy Stokes – Janice Butcher: That the motion be approved. Carried.

Motion 6 - Article 15.2.2.

To change "All Notices of Motion received shall be printed in the second issue of the Society journal" to "All Notices of Motion received shall be distributed by electronic or paper means to the membership no fewer than 30 days prior to the AGM".

Moved Kathy Stokes – Janice Butcher: That the motion be approved. Carried.

Motion 7 - Article 4.1

7a) To change the word "classes" of membership to "categories" of membership.

7b) To delete HONOURARY LIFE MEMBER from the categories of membership.

Moved Kathy Stokes – Janice Butcher: That the motion be approved. Carried.

Motion 8 - Article 4.6 – Description of Honourary Life Membership

To delete as per Motion 7b) above and move description to Article 14.2 – Awards of the Society.

Moved Kathy Stokes – Janice Butcher: That the motion be approved. Carried.

Motion 9 - Article 6 - Name of Executive

To change the term “Executive Committee” to “Executive” in the Title of Article 6 and in sub-articles 6.1, 6.4 and 6.4.1.

Moved Kathy Stokes – Janice Butcher: That the motion be approved. Carried.

Motion 10 - Article 10 - Meetings of the Society

10a) To add the word “General” in front of the article heading, “MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETY”.

10b) Article 10.4. To add the word “general” in front of the word “meeting”.

Moved Kathy Stokes – Janice Butcher: That the motion be approved. Carried.

10. Report of the Nominations Committee: Bill Curtis read the report prepared by Daryl Dumanski listing the people who had agreed to stand for each position, as follows:

- President Jim Oke
- VP Administration Virginia Braid
- VP Communications Janice Butcher
- VP Information Technology Gordon McBean
- VP Finance Rick McLellan
- Treasurer and Secretary to be appointed by Executive.

Moved Bill Curtis - Kathy Stokes: That the nominations be closed. Carried.

11. Election of Officers: Moved: Bill Curtis, seconded: Linda White "that the slate of officers presented by the Nominations Committee be elected to serve as Executive Officers for 2014-2015". CARRIED.

12. Awards: Jim Rutherford

Jim presented the following MGS awards, reading the attached citation for each recipient:

12.1 Flo Cox Awards: Mavis Gray– Winnipeg, Bill Curtis – Winnipeg

12.2 Eric Jonasson Award of Merit: Pat Allan - Winnipeg

Appropriate books in the MGS Library will be dedicated to the above persons.

13. Date of 2015 AGM

Because of the fiscal year change, the next AGM must be within 90 days after the March 31, 2015 year-end.

Moved: Jim Rutherford, seconded: Kathy Stokes "that the date of the next AGM be in early June, 2015.

CARRIED. Suggested date – June 6, 2015.

14. Adjournment

Moved: Janice Butcher “that the meeting be adjourned”. 12:05 pm.

Special thanks to Joyce Elias for preparing the Annual Report and to Karen Becker for photocopying it.

Respectfully submitted

Janice Butcher, #4419

Acting secretary

PRESIDENTS' REPORTS

MGS

President: Jim Oke, MGS #2729

MGS' Annual General Meeting is taking place earlier this year than previously due to the **decision made to adjust our financial accounting year to April 1st through the following March 31st** in order to better align with government and other agencies. Consequently, the **reports and financial statements that will be presented must be read keeping in mind that they cover a seven month period** rather than a full year.

It has been a shortened, but busy, term of office at MGS with considerable activity leading up to this AGM. For instance, I can report that the Manitoba Names Index (MANI) computer indexing and access project has moved ahead considerably during the past months thanks to the efforts of the Computer Science group at Red River College, guided by Gordon McBean, our main MGS liaison for the MANI project. A basic search capability for about a million MANI records is now available within the MGS Resource Centre and also for home use for those members who wish to apply for access. Additional records will be added as they are checked prior to addition to the main database. The next step is to add a general public access capability to the system to allow sales of cemetery and other information to provide an income source to support MGS' operation. Special thanks are due to Gordon for his guidance of this project and for upgrading the Resource Centre computer systems.

The Society's web page and Facebook page have been updated over the past months thanks to the efforts of Janice Butcher, our VP Communications who has done much to make these resources a better means of communicating MGS news and events to membership. The intent is to make remote access available to as many of MGS' resources as possible to our members in order to provide value for membership in the Society wherever one resides in Manitoba or elsewhere.

Unfortunately I must write again of the financial challenges facing MGS. These have been described before and are being faced by many family history organizations today. Again, very simply, our membership numbers and income are decreasing while our operating expenses are climbing. In the past year the difficult decision was taken to increase our annual membership fees in order to partially close the gap but this will not be sufficient on its own. The MANI project will hopefully provide an additional source of income but that is still to come. We remain solvent by drawing down past accumulated funds but this cannot continue over the long, or even medium, term. A very generous bequest by a past MGS member has given us some breathing room but we must be aware of our situation and prepare for further changes as needed.

I want to close by recognizing the MGS volunteers who look after the many tasks that keep MGS functioning so smoothly and well. It is only through their efforts and dedication that the library remains open, *Generations* is published, memberships are renewed, and many other seemingly routine but important things happen at MGS. Thank you one and all!!

BEAUTIFUL PLAINS BRANCH

Submitted by: Maxine Woodcock, MGS #4270

The Beautiful Plains Genealogical Society continues to meet monthly except for July and August. Our membership numbers remain constant. Our library has moved to the Beautiful Plains Museum and this is still a work in progress. In the coming year our focus will be to update the information in a military display at the museum. Hopefully this will get all members involved and rekindle genealogical interests.

DAUPHIN BRANCH

President: Shirle McGimpsey, MGS #473

September:	Dauphin Branch 35th Anniversary Celebration
October:	Chat Nite - Marilyn Muller spoke on replying to Queries. My Heritage Workshop, presenter Gord McBean
November:	Christmas Supper c/w Santa

December: Rang bells for the Salvation Army Kettles.
January 2014: Executive was reinstalled for 2015.
Ed Stozek did a presentation/video on Kippan Mills, Riding
Mountain National Park.
February: Guy Johnson spoke on his trip to Iceland and his family history.
March: Marilyn Muller spoke on using Evernote and personal scanners.

SOUTHEAST & WINNIPEG BRANCH

President: Virginia Braid, MGS #868

The Branch held its AGM on May 11, 2015. The following were elected by acclamation:

President:	Virginia Braid	1 st Vice President:	Vacant
2 nd Vice President:	Sheila Woods	Secretary:	Kathleen Kristjansson
Treasurer:	Susan Thorpe		
Councillors:	Virginia Braun, Katharine Schulz, Kelly Southworth		

Two Executive members resigned – Barbara Becker and Susan Wellman. Their work on the Executive is much appreciated and we thank them for their time and efforts in promoting genealogy.

Our Certificates of Appreciation were given to Kathy Stokes and Susan Wellman.

This year the Branch held 18 educational presentations on Monday nights. We had a tour of the Fire Fighters Museum and then all other presentations were held at the MGS Resource Centre. Many presenters were MGS members and we thank them very much for their time and effort. World War I and the Southeast portion of our Branch were highlighted in some of our presentations. We will continue to have presentations on these themes next year. Two of our members, Kathleen Kristjansson and Sheila Woods gave a five week Beginners Genealogy course through the Winnipeg School Division #1's Creative Learning program. The money they were given for the course was donated to MGS. Besides giving our Monday night presentations the Branch is hoping to honour the 40th anniversary of MGS by hosting a small seminar and luncheon at the time of MGS's AGM.

The Branch once again gave MGS money for payment of the Internet fee, *Ancestry.com* and *NewspaperArchives.com* web sites. This year \$1200 was given.

This past year Sheila Woods has been busy upgrading our Branch web site and our e-zine. She has done an outstanding job on this. This would not have been possible though without the assistance of Janice

Butcher, Vice-President Communications. Janice has made it easier for our Branch to access and work in our web site. Also thanks go to Gord McBean for assistance with setting up the e-zine so it is user friendly.

Since this is my last report as the Society's Vice President Administration of MGS I would like to thank the many volunteers of the Society, especially the Chairs that come under the Administration umbrella. You all do tremendous jobs and MGS would not be the wonderful organization it is without your efforts and time-consuming commitments. The Chairs, Mary Bole, (Library), Jim Rutherford, (Research), Kathy Stokes, (Special Projects) and Susan Thorpe, (Membership) have all worked hard for the Society and they deserve our gratitude. They are a very good group to work with as they are able to collaborate and initiate changes.

This year there were several items or incidents that had to be dealt with by Administration. First, the front entrance had many problems, either with the sidewalk buckling or the door not working properly. We also had a problem with no heat in February and a service person was called to fix it. Since then we have instituted a protocol for emergencies. Four people are listed to go to the Library if needed on a non-library day to check on things after a storm or for some other type of emergency.

An Automated External Defibrillator was order through the Heart and Stroke Foundation. It is very difficult to get one this way and other channels are being explored.

The plaques for MGS Presidents and Eric Jonasson Award recipients were updated. Thanks go to Joyce Elias for doing the leg work on this task.

The Society's Policies are being reviewed. There are over 25 and they have not been updated for many years. It will take a few months to complete this.

As noted in the report title the report extends for only eight months so some of the statistics data will be less than usual. There are about 52 volunteers that work for MGS. The volunteer count tells how many times volunteers have worked at the Resource Centre.

Patron Count	561,	Volunteer Count	1,061,	Volunteer Hours	5,484	
Copier Use	5,715 sheets.					
Phone Calls (both out and in)	Front Desk	202	Answering Machine	11	Long Distance	11

SOUTH WEST BRANCH

Secretary: Laura Crookshanks, MGS #4292

The Southwest Branch continues to meet monthly, September to June. Membership has held steady at about 60. Our Program Committee has arranged very interesting and educational programs or tours at each meeting. Attendance has averaged about 16. Our Annual General Meeting was held in March, with a full slate of officers elected at that time.

We continued our partnership with the Brandon Public Library as we presented two introductory workshops, "Getting Started with Genealogy", held at the Brandon Public Library. This topic continues to entice people to attend and begin to learn about genealogy.

Other activities include: quarterly production of our newsletter, "The New Leaf", maintaining our web-site and new Facebook page, staffing the Margaret E. Goodman Memorial Library and cemetery transcribing.

We are in the process of entering all our resources in a user-friendly database.

We're looking forward to another year of interesting programs at our regular meetings and possibly experimenting with some smaller group sessions.

SWAN VALLEY BRANCH

President: Eric Neufeld, MGS #2410L

The Swan Valley Branch is located at the North-West Regional Library, 610 1st Street N. in Swan River, Manitoba. Our meetings are every 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

We completed and submitted our "*Star & Times*" index of our local newspaper for 2014. This includes all marriages, births and deaths for the year.

We continue to answer any written queries during the year. We also have many visitors who come to the library and inquire about their genealogical backgrounds. Many come to our meeting and together we research our library resources or use the wireless network at the library to use Internet resources.

We have had two special interest workshops at our meetings. One was "Harrogate – British War Stories in Newspapers" and at another meeting we explored "Internet Resources – Our Favourites".

This year's Special Project is to prepare an "Index of Library Books at SV Branch".

Recommendation for upcoming year:

- a) We aspire to revise two local cemeteries to be decided this summer.
- b) We will prepare the 2015 index to the "*Star & Times*".
- c) Continue on our "Index of Library Books at SV Branch"

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

VICE-PRESIDENT

Virginia Braid, MGS #868

Since this is my last report as the Society's Vice President Administration of MGS I would like to thank the many volunteers of the Society, especially the Chairs that come under the Administration umbrella. You all do tremendous jobs and MGS would not be the wonderful organization it is without your efforts and time-consuming commitments. The Chairs, Mary Bole, (Library), Jim Rutherford, (Research), Kathy Stokes, (Special Projects) and Susan Thorpe, (Membership) have all worked hard for the Society and they deserve our gratitude. They are a very good group to work with as they are able to collaborate and initiate changes.

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Copier Use 5,715 sheets.

Phone Calls (both out and in) Front Desk 202 Answering Machine 11 Long Distance 11

LIBRARY

Chair: Mary Bole, MGS #844

Statistics

306 books were donated during the year and 6 purchased. Of the 306 books, 88 were new-to-us items and were added to the library. The 6 books purchased came from donations from members - an extra special thank you to them.

757 books, 80 periodicals, 36 cemetery records, 8 CD-ROMs, 3 map boxes, and 1 baptism register were shelved by volunteers. Please remember that many patrons reshelve the books that they were using.

Exchange of periodicals is difficult to count this year. An e-mail was sent to all out-of-Canada exchanges saying that we will only be exchanging electronically. We had no negative replies to this; rather most other societies were in agreement with our plan. Those societies that offer electronic issues will continue to exchange with us. At last count we are exchanging electronically with 25 societies.

80 periodicals were checked out by patrons. The most popular, again, were the glossy types. These are general how-to magazines.

6 books were sent out by mail to members.

Library volunteers

We continue to maintain the library in the Resource Centre and have been busy digitizing indexes for MANI, or the "Master Index".

Thank you

Thanks to all the volunteers who worked in, and for, the library.

Thanks for all the donations of books, CD-ROMs, supplies and money.

Thanks to **Southeast and Winnipeg Branch** for paying for the subscription to *Ancestry.library* and *NewspaperArchives.com*.

RESEARCH

Chair: Jim Rutherford, MGS #2632

A good part of this past financial period saw a noticeable reduction in the number of research requests. However it improved in the last 3 months. You will see the dollars earned by us in the Treasurer's report. At this point we do not know how MANI will affect what we do but we certainly hope it will bring more funds to the Society.

The increase in the Basic Research Fee that went into effect on May 1st (\$60 to \$75) was long overdue when we compare prices charged by other research Societies. With the high cost of surface mail we are hoping more of our clients will accept our research finds by electronic means. This is much faster especially for clients overseas as we have had lately from Australia, Netherlands, U.K., New Zealand and Sweden. The same applies to Canada and the U.S.

I wish to express my thanks to those in my department – Sheila Woods, Myrna Mackey, Kathy Kristjansson, Rick McLellan, Bonnie Batchelor and Jane Pattison. Most spend time doing research for our clients outside the library as well as in.

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

Chair: Susan Thorpe, MGS #5191

Committee Member: Kenda Wood, MGS #3918

This table provides a membership comparison for the past four years - end of the fiscal year 2015 (March 31), 2014, & 2013 (July 31), 2012 (August 31). Note: only the first three membership categories pay fees.

Membership Type	2015	2014	2013	2012
1. Individual	342	337	387	426
2. Associate (no <i>Generations</i>)	22	21	30	26
3. Institutional	15	18	19	20
4. Life (do not pay annual fees)	57	57	57	57
5. Journal exchange (other societies)	58	75	75	73
6. MGS Branches, libraries	15	15	15	15
7. Heritage Canada	1	1	1	1
9. Generations not mailed (some life)	46	28	28	31
Total	556	553	613	648
Branches				
Dauphin	6	2	6	8
Beautiful Plains	25	25	27	28
Southeast & Winnipeg	94	92	101	113
South West	57	55	66	59
Swan Valley	4	5	6	6
Total	186	178	206	214

We have started to use the membership portion of MANI to process membership renewals. There are still some issues to be resolved and we are working with Gordon McBean to get these resolved. Until then, we are continuing to update the Access database as well as MANI. The goal over the next year is to only use MANI for processing renewals. Reminder letters for expired membership, membership cards, and membership receipts will be sent by e-mail to those with e-mail addresses on file. This will result in reduced mailing costs.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Chair: Kathy Stokes, MGS #125

Since our last AGM, the Special Projects committee has continued its program of standardizing and updating the appearance of our collection of cemetery transcriptions. This will give them a more professional look as well as making them easier to read. It is a very large undertaking and cannot be hurried, but thanks to our Wednesday personnel and a long-time volunteer from rural Manitoba, we are making progress. We are pleased to have our new MANI program which has recently been activated, making it much easier for all members to access the cemetery transcriptions and other information from their homes.

Once this project is complete, we will turn our attention to several other indexes which have not received a lot of attention lately. These include our Strays Index and an index of deaths of University of Manitoba graduates.

The work of the Special Projects group is much appreciated by MGS members and other patrons.

COMMUNICATIONS REPORTS

VICE-PRESIDENT

Janice Butcher, MGS #4419

The Communications Department presently consists of *Generations* editor, David Farmer, and Education and Outreach Chair, Bill Curtis. This year we have been without a Publications Chair and Publicity Chair. Daryl Dumanski has just offered to be the Publicity Chair – thank you Daryl.

I became VP Communications at the 2014 AGM (October). My main priorities have been updating the MGS web site and Facebook page. Members are encouraged to regularly use both sites, especially the Upcoming Events page on the web site to keep informed about what MGS is doing. Thank you to Gord McBean for assisting me with the web site. The MGS web site is our window to the world. It is here that people from around the world can find out what we are doing. Please send me your news. We have decided to close the Twitter account because we do not have anyone to update it.

The MANI project is now being progressively added to the MGS web site. Eventually MGS will need to upgrade our web site in order to grow the MANI database, to allow for membership processing online, and to enable e-commerce payments. A new web site will allow us to adjust the “look and feel” and to make easier changes to content, headings, and photos. The plan is to switch to a Word Press content management system.

Our updated Facebook page is beginning to get more “traffic” with more “likes” and “posts”. You can view Facebook without being a member. Out-of-province people are beginning to post information and questions so it is a valuable tool to interact with other genealogists.

Thanks to the help of Gord McBean we have begun to publish an e-newsletter to be sent by e-mail four times a year, in between issues of *Generations*. This is another vehicle to keep members informed of MGS news.

MGS has recently taken part in two major publicity events. The Red River Heritage Fair was held on May 7 with students from Grades 4 – 9 displaying their history projects. We sponsored an award for the best Family History project and I volunteered to be the judge for our award. On May 10, MGS participated in the Manitoba Day display at the Manitoba Museum, along with several other heritage groups. Thanks to Bill Curtis for organizing our display and volunteers.

GENERATIONS

David Farmer, MGS #2277

No report.

OUTREACH and EDUCATION

Chair: Bill Curtis, MGS #2882

During the short time interval this year, we have provided informational booths at the Social Science Teachers Conference in October, and the St James Senior's Fair in November. Sessions on "Dating and Identifying Old Family Photos" were given at the Charleswood Library, and the Good Neighbours Active Living Centre. Sessions on Aboriginal genealogy were given on two consecutive weeks in March, of three hours duration each, to about ten aboriginal women.

As usual we need volunteers for our informational booth at Folklorama, which runs from August 2 - 8 this year.

PUBLICATIONS

No report.

PUBLICITY

No report.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORTS

VICE-PRESIDENT

Gordon McBean, MGS #3033

Although this has been a short year it has been a very busy one for the Society. We now have a working online database and Member's Only area. Many people doubted that it would ever come to fruition but thanks to the work of many volunteers and a dedicated team of students from Red River College we are now fully online. This is a great benefit to our rural members and those Winnipeg members who no longer travel to the MGS Resource Centre. MANI is an ongoing project and it will grow to include indexes from other books and publications as they are identified and indexed by MGS Volunteers. Manuals for all levels of users have been developed and are being edited to include the new modules and functionality added to MANI. These manuals will be distributed to users once they are updated. They were produced with the help of a Technical Writing student from Red River College. Help pages for the MGS web site are also being developed.

We are grateful to the Southeast & Winnipeg Branch MGS, Manitoba Government's Department of Culture, Heritage, Sport and Consumer Protection, Heritage Grants Program, Historic Resources Branch,, the Winnipeg Foundation and the MGS Capital Campaign for supporting us and providing the funding required to develop this resource. One of the items purchased is a high speed page scanner. This has allowed us to scan and digitize the almost 80 indexes included in MANI. It has also been used to scan the Cemetery Transcriptions and back issues of *Generations*. This is an ongoing project.

Two of the significant developments this winter in MANI have been the creation of e-commerce and membership modules. These modules require further development but are already proving to be a benefit to the society. Membership processing has been automated and streamlined. By sending out receipts and membership cards by e-mail the society save considerable handling and postage costs. We are also able to take international payments.

We will be redeveloping the MGS web sites. As part of a planned updating of the MGS web site and the MANI site, we will further develop the e-store/e-commerce and Membership modules. Both the www web site and MANI will be redesigned. The e-newsletter and other MGS electronic communications will also be updated to match the new design.

MGS Member Only access provides a place for the society to share information and content for members only. Each member that activates their MANI account has access to their own personal space. They can view and update their personal information and update their preferences as to how they want to receive communications with MGS. They can also review their membership and renew online. This said we still prefer that members renew their membership using a check if possible as we are charged a processing fee

when Pay-Pal is used. Members can also look up back issues of *Generations*. There are already over 60 issues on the site and they have all been indexed in MANI so you can search them online.

We now have an online store where both members and non-members can purchase items we have for sale. In addition to our publications and Cemetery transcripts we have been approached to carry other publications for sale. Many of the items for sale will be digital versions and the purchaser has the advantage of getting their products instantly.

We are working on a Pay-Per-View system that will allow for members to purchase copies of single pages from MGS publications. The first content will be the Cemetery Transcriptions that are currently being digitized, checked and prepared for uploading.

We have also launched an e-newsletter to fill in between the quarterly *Generations* and allow the Society to communicate more effectively with our members. We are also producing a MANI eNewsletter that will educate our users and keep them informed on what has been added to MANI.

We have also adopted "Google for non-profits" that we have free access to due to our Tech Soup membership. This will allow us to be more efficient in distributing the results from our research done on behalf of our clients. It is hoped that we can also use it to allow our rural Council members to attend Council meetings via the Internet in the future.

We are expanding our services to branches. From attending meetings over the Internet, having up to date access to their data in the MGS online membership module in MANI to the ability to send e-newsletters to their members from the MGS system, we are working on providing benefits to the branches. Branches with Branch Libraries or Branch computers can have a MGS-MANI Library Shortcut added to their computers. This will allow limited access to their clients to search MANI without having to log in. This access does not have all of the features in the Member logon. MANI will track sales of publications and provide the MGS Branches with their share of the sales from the products that they produced. Training sessions to help the Branches get up to speed are planned and it is hoped that this can be delivered using the Internet.

The MGS Resource Centre Internet connection is being upgraded. We are moving from an ADSL high speed connection to a VDSL service. This will allow us the extra speed needed to open up wireless access to our members using their own devices at the Resource Centre. With the spread of laptop, tablets and other smart devices this will allow our members to put content on their own devices. This will also give us the bandwidth that will allow us to bring KOHA, our online Library catalogue, home to MGS. It currently sits at a private residence in Toronto. By having it at MGS we will be able to manage it ourselves. MANI going live is really a milestone. Five years ago we started out to organize and modernize the data collected by MGS. We discovered that it existed in every conceivable format. There were about 30,000 files on the computers, many duplicates. Most of the information only existed in print format. Our computers were old and our network not up to the tasks of a modern genealogical society. We now enter a new era where we can provide services quickly and cost effectively to our members using electronic services.

COMPUTER Included in above report.

FINANCE REPORTS

VICE-PRESIDENT FINANCE

Rick McLellan, MGS #3353

You will notice that the Income statement is a little different than last year's as our yearly statement covers only eight months. Our statement therefore compares a partial year to a full year.

The net income appears as a very favourable balance. Please note however that during this eight months we received the Heritage Grant of \$11,200.00 which would normally be applied to a full year's expenses. We were also very fortunate to receive a large bequest of approximately \$11,800.00 which is the main factor in our positive net income. If we had not received this amount we would have finished with a deficit and would have drawn down from the Life Memberships.

We will be streamlining some of the revenue stream using PayPal. Donations, research requests, and memberships can be paid using this method. We will also be opening up an online research with access by PayPal credit.

We have purchased new Financial software which will provide us with more timely information than what we have had. This will be in full implementation for the coming year.

Thank you to Linda Wray who took on the position of Treasurer this year and relieved me of many of my weekly duties. I also thank Judith Roe who has continued to find ways to raise funds for the organization.

FUNDRAISING

Chair: Judith Roe, MGS #4326

The December luncheon was again successful in raising fund. The raffle baskets and bake sale made \$149.50 plus after sales of \$20.00 for a total of \$169.50. I was unable to attend and I am grateful to Kathy Stokes for managing all the baskets and bake sale, as well as prizes for Susan Wellman's puzzle. Kathy also submitted an itemized list of all the events; thank you Kathy. Also thank you to Liz Briggs for items Kathy used as a door prize.

GRANTS and APPLICATIONS

No report.

MGS TREASURER

Linda Wray, MGS #5341

Treasurer's report follows, page 19.

BEAUTIFUL PLAINS BRANCH, MGS Financial Report

Marj Mikkelson, MGS #5456

Current Balance is \$ 1,752.28

DAUPHIN BRANCH, MGS Financial Report

No report.

SOUTHEAST & WINNIPEG BRANCH, MGS Financial Report

Treasurer: Susan Thorpe, MGS #5195

Balance Sheet for the year ended April 30, 2015

(Reviewed - Unaudited)

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Petty Cash		69.84
Bank Balance at April 30, 2013	3,627.36	
Less: Outstanding Cheques	<u>- 50.00</u>	3,577.36
Accounts Receivable		
Memberships from MGS		72.00
Prepaid Expenses		1,200.00
Investments		
GIC 1- Reinvested		2,120.53
		<hr/>
TOTAL ASSETS		7,039.73

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

<u>LIABILITIES</u>	0.00
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EQUITY

Retained Earnings	7,683.92	
Net Income / (Loss)	<u>- 644.19</u>	7,039.73
		<hr/>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		7,039.73

DALE ACCOUNTING
May 17, 2015

Continued next page

SOUTHEAST & WINNIPEG BRANCH, MGS Financial Report

continued

Income and Expense Statement
(Reviewed – Unaudited)

May 01, 2013 – April 30, 2014

REVENUE - BRANCH

Donations	12.00	
Interest Income	1.86	
GIC Interest - T5	41.59	
Memberships – Branch	1,140.00	
Memberships – Guest	<u>55.00</u>	
TOTAL REVENUE		1,250.45

EXPENSES - BRANCH

Ancestry, NewspaperArchives, Internet	1,200.00	
Computer Project	176.24	
Honorariums / Donations	350.00	
Photocopies	8.40	
Rent	<u>160.00</u>	<u>1,894.64</u>

NET INCOME / (LOSS)	-644.19
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DALE ACCOUNTING
May 17, 2015

SOUTH WEST BRANCH, MGS Financial Report

Treasurer: George Mackay, MGS #5162

Annual Treasurer's Report for year ending December 31, 2014

Account #	Description	
1010	Crocus credit Union as at Jan 1, 2014	\$ 1,413.10
1100	Cash	\$ 100.00
1202	T Bill Mutual Fund	\$10,310.83
	Total Cash Assets at Jan 1, 2014	\$11,823.93
	Receipts	
4100	Net MGSI Memberships	\$ 170.00
4102	SWB Memberships	\$ 590.00
4300	Research Income	\$ 167.90
4302	Library and Other Pub Sales	
4304	Cemetery Index Sales	\$ 36.04
4305	Interest on T-Bill	\$ 49.11
4306	Meetings Coffee Income	\$ 65.35
4400	Heritage Dinner	\$ 1,362.00
4404	Workshop	\$ 62.00
4405	Guest Fees & Photocopy	\$ 10.00
4406	Other Income	
4408	Donation	\$ 333.25
	Total Receipts	\$ 2,845.65
	Expenses	
5102	Service Fees	
5103	Office Supplies	\$ 115.84
5104	Newsletter Expense	\$ 42.83
5105	Stamps for Newsletters	\$ 18.17
5109	New Equipment Purchases	\$ 1,134.18
5110	Misc Expense	\$ 165.00
5112	Heritage Dinner	\$ 1,217.00
5117	Workshop	\$ 70.00
5113	Postage Other	
5119	Outreach & Member Expense	
5124	General Meeting Expense	\$ 64.40
5125	Ruth Tester Award	\$ 27.06
5128	Rent (\$660) and insurance	\$ 829.56
5129	Books for Library	\$ 50.00
5131	SWB Web Site	\$ 187.58
	Total Expenses	\$ 3,921.62
	Net Profit (Loss) for Year	\$ (1,075.97)
1010	Crocus Credit Union as at Dec 31, 2014	\$ 2,288.02
1100	Cash	\$ 100.00
1202	T Bill Mutual Fund	\$ 8,359.94
	Total Cash Assets at Dec 31, 2014	\$10,747.96
	Difference	\$ (1,075.97)

SWAN VALLEY BRANCH, MGS Financial Report

Treasurer: Helen Ellingson, MGS #2627L

Financial Statement Sept 1, 2014 - March 31, 2015

Income

Memberships	20.00
Total Sept 1, 2014	664.23
Total Income	\$ 684.23

Expenses

Magazine for Office	45.00
Total	\$ 45.00

Total	639.23
Plan 24	36.25
Total in Bank	675.48

Proposed Changes to MGS' Constitution

Notices of Motion - CHANGES TO MGS CONSTITUTION

When reading the following Notices of Motion, please refer to the corresponding Articles in the current constitution (revised October 18, 2014).

Article 4 - Membership in the Society

Section 4.2.2

Motion 1: To delete the section of 4.2.2 which reads "provided the member is a resident of Manitoba. Resident shall be defined as a member residing in Manitoba at least 9 months of each year".

4.2.2 will now read: Individual members are entitled: "to stand for and hold any elective or appointed office in the Society".

Section 4.2.6

Motion 2: Change Section 4.2.6 to read " There shall be no refund of membership fees for any reason once the annual fee has been paid."

Article 5

5.3 (a). Present wording: Upon petition of the majority of Council, the President must call a Special Meeting within 60 days of date of the petition

Motion 3: That the time requirement be changed to read "Upon petition by a majority of Council, the President must call a Special Meeting within 30 days of the date the petition is received by the President."

Rationale: Special meetings are usually called to discuss a matter of great importance. Sixty days is a long time to wait.

5.3 (b) Present wording: The first Council meeting of the year must be held within 60 days of the AGM---

Motion 4: That 5.3 be changed to read "must be held within 90 days of the AGM".

Rationale: Because of the change in our AGM dates, this would mean that the first Council meeting would have to be held in the summer months.

Article 6

6.3 Present wording: "The Recording Secretary and Treasurer shall serve no more than four consecutive years in those positions".

Motion 5: delete the time limits for the Secretary and Treasurer.

Rationale: These are appointed positions, similar to those of committee chairs, which have no time limit for length of service.

Motion 6: Add 6.4.3 "In the absence of the President, the Vice President Administration or his/her designate will represent the Society."

Motion 7: Add 6.4.4 Elected and appointed members of both the Executive and Council shall be entitled to one vote per motion at Executive or Council meetings.

Article 7

Motion 8: That the last sentence of section 7.3 be deleted "All officers, however, may be nominated for another position for the year following the expiration of their final term in one position, or may be nominated again for their former offices after a one-year period" and replaced with "If an executive position is left vacant after the AGM, the Executive can appoint a person for that position".

Article 8

Motion 9: That section 8.2 be reworded to read "In the event that a vacancy occurs in the office of the President, the Executive shall appoint a new President from among the Vice-Presidents".

Motion 10: In section 8.4 that the phrase "if they cease to be residents of Manitoba" be deleted.

Article 9 - Committees of the Society

Motion 11: 9.1.8 That the Publications Committee be deleted from the list of committees.

Motion 12: 9.2 That a Financial Review Committee be added to the list of committees.

Article 11

11.7 Currently, this section says "The Society may choose to establish a trust or endowment fund."

Motion 13: Change to read "The Society may establish special funds as required."

Article 12

Motion 14: That the section 12.2 will now read, ..."the Society **may** (instead of shall) approve a start up assistance grant"

Motion 15: To delete the words "annually" and "alternate" so that section 12.5 now reads, "Each Branch shall choose a member to serve as representative on the Council of the Society".

Article 15

Motion 16: To delete section 15.4 which reads, "All amendments to this constitution take effect seven days following the meeting at which they were approved."

THANK YOUs

The Manitoba Genealogical Society is indebted to all its volunteers for assistance in carrying out our many projects. We could not exist without you and we thank you.

Also deserving of our appreciation are several groups outside MGS who have helped us over the past partial year. They are:

- **Government of Manitoba**
Department of Tourism, Culture, Heritage, Sport and Consumer Protection
for financial support for our many projects.
- **Heritage Grants Program, Historic Resources Branch**
- **The Winnipeg Foundation**
- **Friesen's Printing**
- **The Estate of Bonnie Bileski**
- **Manitoba Historical Society**
- **Toronto Dominion Bank**
- **Red River College**
- **St Mary's Nursery & Garden Centre**

Report of M.G.S. Financial Review Committee – June 2, 2015

Committee Members: Daryl Dumanski, Susan Thorpe, Rick McLellan & Linda Wray

Review Report:

We reviewed the financial records of the Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc. as of March 31, 2015 and the Statements of Operations and Changes in Cash Flows for the funds for the year end. We inquired and reviewed procedures and discussed information provided by the records of the organization.

We found the financial records of the organization to be in order. Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention to cause us to believe that these financial statements are not, in all material respects, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for a registered charity.

Susan Thorpe on behalf of the Financial Review Committee

MANITOBA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC.**STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE****UNAUDITED**

	Year ended March 31	Year ended July 31
	2015 (8 months)	2014 (12 months)
	\$	\$
REVENUE		
Grants	11,200	14,350
Transfers	0	5,227
Membership	10,137	15,865
Services	2,959	3,336
User Fees	215	340
Interest Income	268	189
Donations	16,614	7,381
Miscellaneous	<u>506</u>	<u>700</u>
	<u>41,899</u>	<u>47,388</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Capital Expenditures	897	4,960
Committees	0	330
Equipment Maintenance	271	375
Goods & Services Tax	668	1,037
Generations	3,963	5,297
Insurance	878	720
Professional Fees	0	25
Office & Sundry	2,241	2,455
Rent	20,369	30,464
Telephone & Internet	910	1,354
Utilities	<u>1,803</u>	<u>2,662</u>
	<u>32,000</u>	<u>49,679</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures	<u><u>9,899</u></u>	<u><u>-2,291</u></u>

MANITOBA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC.

BALANCE SHEET

UNAUDITED

	March 31	July 31
	2015	2014
		\$

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash	19,863	13,094
Short term investments	25,900	22,200
Accounts Receivable	1,971	1,037
Prepaid expenses		<u>787</u>
	<u>47,734</u>	<u>37,118</u>

LIABILITIES

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	1,258	539
Unearned revenue		
Deferred income	<u>6,669</u>	<u>6,669</u>
	<u>7,927</u>	<u>7,208</u>

NET ASSETS

UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	7,831	-2,067
RESTRICTED - SPECIAL FUNDS	<u>31,976</u>	<u>31,977</u>
	<u>39,807</u>	<u>29,910</u>
	<u>47,734</u>	<u>37,118</u>

Approved on Behalf of the Board

Director

Director

