



MHS President
Mr. Alan Mason

President's Message

After having had one CAO for fifteen years, we now find ourselves working with a third holder of the position within the space of one year. Readers

will recall that Gordon Clarke was with us for six months before having to retire due to health challenges. Heather McMillan joined us early in the year, stayed with us for three months and then accepted a full-time position at the Museum of Human Rights. We wish her every success and happiness in her new position. Tracey Turner joined us in early July.

The staff changes caused a feeling of two steps forward with one-step backward, so certain activities and ideas have had to wait.

Your Programmes Committee has already met and has planned the coming year in some detail. Activities will include three field trips in 2019, as well as the commencement of a nine-evening lecture series. Topics to be covered will address numerous aspects of Manitoba's history. We hope to have speakers address our province's archaeology, our artists, our geology and Lake Agassiz, the Winnipeg General Strike of 1919, women in Manitoba politics and a presentation on Indigenous women in Manitoba's history. Please note that these have yet to be confirmed. Look for further news on the MHS website or through this journal. There will also be two multi-cultural dinners. The groups have yet to be chosen.

Membership continues to grow and we hope to actively promote ourselves during the coming year with a view to widening membership even further.

You will have noticed that we recently introduced a newsletter online, originating from the MHS office, that is designed to keep membership as well informed as is possible. It is, however, only available online, so, if you know of members who do subscribe to the internet, please advise them that they can reach us through the local library, or through information that you can give them.

If you would consider volunteering in the office for one day, or one half-day, please advise Tracey Turner at the MHS office either by phone (204-947-0559) or by email.

Significant Passings

We note with sadness the recent deaths of three prominent Manitobans:

Jennifer Shay (1930–2018) biologist, University of Manitoba. After earning a degree in biology in England, she worked at a field station before immigrating to Canada in 1957. While teaching and working toward her doctorate in botany, Jennifer Shay pushed for the founding of a field station in Delta Marsh, where she became the first Director. Among her other notable accomplishments was as President of Manitoba Naturalists Society from 1963 to 1965, and a founding member of the Manitoba Museum. She received the Order of Canada in 1991.

Roland Penner (1924–2018) perhaps best known as Attorney-General in the NDP government of Howard Pawley from 1981 to 1987, Pawley was a learned man of diverse interests, primarily the study of law and the application of law to the furthering of human rights. Born and raised in Winnipeg, he served in the Second World War. After earning his law degree, Penner eventually worked towards the founding of the new Legal Aid system, and taught in the Faculty of Law from 1967 to 2009, where he

served as Dean of Law from 1989 to 1994.

Saul Cherniak (1917–2018) a committed socialist, he was best known as the NDP MLA for St. Johns riding in Winnipeg from 1962 to 1981. Trained as a lawyer and a graduate of the University of Manitoba, Saul Cherniak was Minister of Finance in the government of Ed Schreyer, and was instrumental in the amalgamation of the municipalities into a unified Winnipeg in the 1970s. For his dedication to public life, he was awarded both the Order of Manitoba and the Order of Canada.

Greetings from the Republic of Manitobah!

by James Kostuchuk

Whenever the judges for the Young Historians Awards meet, you could hear a collective sigh when you open an envelope to see another paper on the Winnipeg General Strike. It is, undoubtedly, one of the most important topics in Manitoba history. However, for those of us in the history business, the constant barrage of stories can be a little tiresome. Over the past years, we have seen television programs, musicals and walking tours celebrating the strike. There are books and magazine articles too. If you enter the strike as a search term on mhs.ca you will get 248 matches. Schools receive information and teaching materials such as reproduction police armbands and striker buttons. My favorite teaching artifact was an actual chair leg of the type issued to Specials to beat strikers. (Interestingly, the chair legs were machined by provincial jail inmates as a work project.)

Many of us have a personal connection to the strike. Arthur Meighen lived in Portage la Prairie when he served as Minister of the Interior, and he had a prominent role in addressing the strike issue. The house he

owned during the strike still stands and has a local heritage designation. My grandfather delivered newsletters for the Central Strike Committee. He was quick to point out that his family did not support the strike, quite the opposite in fact. Being of staunch British business stock, they had more in common with the Citizens' Committee of One Thousand. However, the strikers paid more for delivery so my grandfather went where the money was.

As you can see, there is no shortage of information on the strike. However, if you are reading Manitoba History you know that we cannot discount any historical narrative as completely finished. New details are emerging all the time, even with a topic as popular as the Winnipeg General Strike. I was personally made aware of this in two fascinating ways recently.

The first was by an antique store find. I am always looking for collectibles to use in the classroom, especially those related to Manitoba history. The "holy grail" of General Strike collectibles would be to find an actual OBU (One Big Union) supporter's enamel button. I have only seen one, outside a book, and that was at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. As such, I spend a lot of time looking through boxes of buttons and pins. Unfortunately, I have yet to find an OBU button, but I was surprised to find the button you see in the photograph at the top of the next column. It is the first of its type I have encountered. When I purchased it, I had a hunch it was related to the General Strike and a little research supported my hunch. The button was issued by the Workers' Defense Fund to help pay the legal bills for strikers who found themselves in prison.

Having looked at this aspect of The Strike I happened to attend a speech by former MHS President Gord Goldsborough on the topic of abandoned buildings in Manitoba. It turns out that the Winnipeg General Strike was part of his talk. I had always believed that the convicted strikers were imprisoned in Winni-



J. Kostuchuk

This button was issued by the Workers' Defense Fund to help pay the legal bills for participants in the Winnipeg General Strike who found themselves in prison.

peg. However, it turns out that this is not true. Several of the strikers were sent to a farm prison near East Braintree, Manitoba. You can read about the prison at www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/sites/prisonfarm.shtml. It seems to make sense that the strikers were sent to a farm camp because their imprisonment made them martyrs to a cause. Imprisoned away from Winnipeg they were less likely to remain lightning rods for agitation. A farm camp also seems a better fit to preserve the dignity of individuals who were not hardened criminals.

With the centenary of the Winnipeg General Strike just around the corner, I wonder what other interesting details might be discovered? I recall reading about the lost film of the Winnipeg General Strike; perhaps it is sitting in an archive somewhere? Diaries? Photographs? Even this slightly jaded history teacher is excited at the prospect!

Centennial Awards Visit Sprague

Among the many awards MHS offers, are those "In honour and recognition for organizations and businesses which have enhanced Manitoba's social, cultural and economic life for over one hundred years." These Centennial Business and Centennial Organization Awards are presented to qualified entities and recognize their

ongoing contribution to the fabric of Manitoba society.

A short list of previous recipients includes:

- Parrish and Heimbecker, Limited
- Great West Life Assurance Ltd.
- L'Alliance Française du Manitoba
- Kiwanis Club of Winnipeg
- St. John Cantius Fraternal Aid Society
- Sprague Community Cemetery

The awards are available in both of official languages.

Upcoming awards include:

- Winnipeg Sketch Club
- Holy Eucharist Parish
- St. Michaels' Ukrainian Orthodox Church

In addition, a number of eligible sports organizations, clubs and business have been contacted to apply for recognition, as well. Assisting us at no cost, we appreciate the award design and preparation by Milton Colorado, of One Brand Design Ltd.

Presentation of the award is at a suitable time chosen by the recipient, often a special event or celebration. The real pleasure of these events is the warm welcome and thanks expressed by the women and men involved. They, and their fore bearers, have persevered for over a century in their contributions to Manitoba. Their celebrations are well deserved.

MHS President, Alan Player-Mason and previously Garry McEwen have enjoyed making award presentations, both nearby, and farther afield, living up to MHS as a truly province-wide organization.

Alan and Centennial Committee Co-Chair, Dan Furlan, were well hosted on their 18 August trip to Sprague to present an award for Sprague Community Cemetery. The related award documents recall earlier times and people as

"some of the interred were loggers, bush workers, railway workers or transients, whose names and stories are unknown.

For over 100 years, people have dedicated their valuable time and energy to manage, maintain and care for the cemetery, and make it a place of peaceful reflection, rather than just a place of mourning.”

The community of Sprague maintains their history.

While the antique car show was a treat, the trip highlight was a tour of the remarkable Sprague and District Historical Museum.

This place must be seen to be believed! Of particular note was the striking display remembering local soldiers who perished in the wars. The Museum has creatively used display space to feature mini-compartments for historic displays of sports, families, toys, industries and the many other memories of bygone days. (A unique touch of days gone by was the perfectly restored barber-shop, with an ashtray as part of the armrest.)

You really need to visit the Sprague and District Historical Museum.

The Centennial Business/Organization Award Committee is Co-Chaired by Dan Furlan and Jim Smith, and welcomes all recommendations for suitable recipients for the Awards.

Manitoba Culture Days 28–30 September

Right across this province on the last weekend of September, community's large and small dive into the manic fun of Manitoba Culture Days. Toggle around mb.culturedays.ca for the extensive list of the programs, over 400 to date. The website explains:

Culture Days Manitoba is a collaborative pan-Canadian volunteer movement to raise awareness, accessibility, participation and engagement of all Canadians in the arts and cultural life of their communities. The 9th annual Culture Days weekend is 28, 29 and 30 September 2018 and will feature thousands of free, hands-on, interactive activities that invite the public to participate “behind-the-scenes,” to discover the world of artists, creators, historians, architects, curators, designers and other creative people in their communities.

Curious, we scanned the website and discovered a cornucopia of events in towns and cities across the province. Flin Flon has a large array of enticing events such as circus superstar skills, raku firing, puppet making, knife as well as bow and arrows making, and Magic: The Gathering. There is a Japanese cloth-dyeing workshop

in Portage la Prairie, ‘Greasy Chain’ bicycle maintenance as well as an African headdress workshop. The Pas features a display of Métis quilts and free tours in the Charlebois Heritage Museum; the New Iceland Museum in Gimli offers free admission to all its exhibits, and the Buffalo Gals Drum Group are doing storytelling at Oodena Circle at The Forks in Winnipeg. Cycling tours, design workshops, museum tours, poetry slams, arts and craft workshops and displays: you can find it all.

So much to see and do! Save some energy for Winnipeg's Nuit Blanche on the Saturday. ‘White Night’ activities go all night long and tend to be on the more mature and artistic end of the spectrum. Now in its 9th year, Culture Days is an inclusive and stimulating street party taking place throughout many engaged communities. Chase down the website, find your interests and go!

Honouring Women in Politics

Speaker of the House Myrna Driedger, MLA for the riding of Charleswood since 1998, participated in the unveiling of a new photo gallery on the walls of the Manitoba



J. Lehr

Participants in the MHS' field trip on the theme “Jewish Farm Settlement and Rock Lake Hutterite Colony on 11 July 2018.

Legislative Building this summer. Eighteen female MLAs were so honoured as part of a special project to mark 100 years since Manitoba women won the right to vote in 1916. Despite the achievement of being the first women in Canada to earn the vote, only 51 women have since been elected to the legislature. Perhaps this underrepresentation of women will bring more female candidates to the ballot in upcoming elections.

Learning Centre Objectives

With the intent to engage school aged children in the Treaty discussion; the design also allows for cultural appropriate activities such as smudging and ceremonies. The concept and usability of a user-friendly environment will also provide an opportunity for all Manitobans to learn more about the Treaties and the Treaty relationship.

For contact, please go to: Treaty Commission of Manitoba Suite 400-175 Hargrave Street Winnipeg, MB R3C 3R8 Phone: (204) 777-1871 Toll-Free: 1-866-296-3228

Bucket Listers Seek Manitoba's True North

The fall and winter seasons have much to offer visitors to the 58th parallel in Churchill, an historic community 1,000 km north of Winnipeg. Happily, in late autumn rail service should be returned to the port community on Hudson Bay, and flights remain a vital but pricey option. While warm-weather activities there have charmed many with boreal hiking, beluga watching on the bay and Tundra Buggy experiences, the cold months offer many delights as well.

Churchill offers a particular advantage for the dark season ahead because it is situated beneath the 'Van Allen Radiation Belt', a zone of energetic charged particles captured in the earth's magnetic field in the ionosphere that wraps the two polar regions. This produces spectacular aurora in the winter months in the north, charging the night sky with waves of dancing colour.

Tourist operators offer the chance to go dog sledding and snow shoeing on forest trails. Itsanitaq Museum in the heart of Churchill offers a collection of Inuit carvings and artifacts that are among the finest and oldest in the world, dating from Pre-Dorset (1700 BC) through Dorset, Thule and modern Inuit times. Manitoba Heritage Council plaques commemorate the presence of Pre-Dorset and Dorset peoples who lived in this area from 3000 to 1000 BC. The gift shop specializes in northern books, Canadian Inuit art, unique postcards, art cards, stationery and local berry preserves. The museum is open year-round.

'Raw: Churchill', the precocious offspring of culinary cold-weather adventures at The Forks in Winnipeg, plans another northern adventure in local gourmet eating. This time it will be in a heated glass and ribbed structure adjacent to the ancient star-shaped Fort Prince of Wales across the frozen Churchill River. Under the stars and aurora, guests will dine at long tables 'family-style', enjoying an unforgettable culinary experience. Guests will be relayed to and from the fort over the ice and snow in Tundra Buggies, possibly the most exotic Uber experience on the planet.

Famed Tundra Buggies provide the most sought-after northern experience: viewing polar bears. Rolling along ice and snow on huge tires in warm comfort, the vehicles provide close-up viewing of the number one tourist attraction in Churchill, the huge white polar bears native to the area. Equipped with large windows, tundra buggies are able to go onto the sea ice; the bears may come close to the vehicles offering safety to both human and bear. Combined with aurora viewing, they hook up with the bubble-domed 'Aurora Pod', also comfortably heated and bear-proof.

Various agencies offer package tours to Churchill. It is worth exploring these opportunities well in advance as they sell out quickly. Pack your camera and go explore.

Routes on the Red: Follow the River and Discover Manitoba's Roots

In the late 1970s, Manitobans discovered that they had a readily accessible array of heritage and cultural resources situated along the

Red River with considerable potential as both community and tourism destinations. Today, under the umbrella of Rivers West, this network of heritage and cultural resources has become the core of the "Routes on the Red" destination program.

What is so encouraging about the 'Routes on the Red' initiative is its thematic diversity, accessibility and recognition that contemporary audiences appreciate a range of choice when it comes to the discovery of their heritage. Designed to attract audiences throughout all seasons, with an acknowledged focus on the summer, you can walk, bicycle, paddle or drive to a network of destinations along the Red situated from the border community at Emerson, north to the Netley Creek area at the mouth of the Red River. Essentially, this modern program represents the maturity of The A.R.C. (Agreement for Recreation and Conservation) program launched by the federal and provincial governments in the early 1980s.

In that early stage of development, the interpretive themes tended to concentrate on Manitoba's fur trade and colonial past. Today, the stories are much more inclusive, particularly in the recognition of Manitoba's Indigenous peoples. Also in the contemporary mix are sites that celebrate our artistic and cultural past. Who would have thought that when we were developing the stand-alone program at Lower Fort Garry in the 1970s, that nearly 50 years later, you could complement a visit to the Stone Fort with a cycle tour to the settings of three murder mystery novels penned by Winnipeg authors?

If you are curious about the 'Routes on the Red' program, visit the Rivers West Website online or drop by the Travel Idea Centre at The Forks

to pick up the excellent brochures. There is enough information and programming to enlighten you on a fall weekend.

Mandela Exhibit at CMHR: Struggle for Freedom

Open until January 2019 at Winnipeg's Canadian Museum of Human Rights, *Struggle for Freedom* is an inspirational and engaging exhibit on the man and his mission. Nelson Mandela (1918–2013) was a black leader who spent a lifetime working against the apartheid system of racial segregation and white supremacy in South Africa. For his activism against state-sanctioned anti-democratic racism, Mandela was imprisoned in South Africa for 27 years. Upon his release, he was elected the first democratically elected president while also preventing South Africa from descending into civil war.

The exhibit is structured to bring the visitor into the world of apartheid, including a re-creation of the cell in which Mandela was imprisoned for 18 years. During this time of great privation and degradation, Mandela refused to give up the struggle or give in to hate. While fighting *against* apartheid, Nelson Mandela was also fighting for a better world, in which the freedom, justice and dignity of all were respected.

Did You Know?

In addition to its website, the MHS has a Facebook page where you can find news and information about upcoming events, and discuss topics relating to the history and heritage of Manitoba.

Visit us at:

www.facebook.com/groups/manitobahistory



G. Goldsborough

One of the first-ever Order of the Buffalo Hunt plaques, presented in April 1957 to Orion D. Beich (1921–2000), the Mayor of Thief River Falls, Minnesota at that time, returned to Manitoba on 15 August 2018. The Order, the predecessor to today's Order of Manitoba, recognizes people who have demonstrated outstanding skills in the areas of leadership, service, and community commitment. Terry Beich (right), son of the late recipient, visited Winnipeg with his family and donated the plaque to the provincial government, represented (left) by Vaughan Mitchell, Acting Chief of Protocol.

Fall Lectures and Events

With autumn fast approaching, many people turn their attention to intellectual pursuits. If you are looking for activities that will stimulate your interest in Manitoba's history, there are several resources available. We thought it would be useful to provide you with a starting guide of what is available in autumn 2018.

A well-established opportunity is the Community Classes available at the Grant Park Mall location of McNally/Robinson Booksellers in Winnipeg. Please note that there is a fee for these lectures.

October 5: Beginning Genealogy with Bill Curtis

October 9: Treaty Relations with You and Me: Inter-indigenous Treaty Making Relations with Dawnis Kennedy

October 31: Mysterious Manitoba with Chris Ratkowski

November 2: Shakin' All Over, A History of Winnipeg Rock 'n' Roll with John Einarson

Winnipeg Public Library hosts many interesting programs, free of charge, but you do need to register in advance. For full details, go to WPL Programs and Events page. A sampling of the fall programs includes:

October 1: Exhibit: Assiniboine Residential School

October 16: Indigenous Genealogy

October 16: A History of River Park and Elm Park with Prof. Ted McLachlan

October 24: Haunted Winnipeg: Ghost Stories from the Heart of the Continent with Mathew Komus

Check with local libraries around the province for local programming.

Centennial Farms Awards

Has your farm property been in your family for 100 years or more? MHS is pleased and proud to co-sponsor the Centennial Farms Awards program, with generous support of James Richardson & Sons Limited. Farms that have been under ownership by the same family for 100 years or more are recognized with a personalized plaque and a ceremony at the farm property. Sponsored by MHS for several years now, this award program is free to participants who meet the qualifications.

Agriculture has been the backbone of the Manitoba economy since the earliest settler days. Our farms and agricultural communities have profoundly influenced our province's development and character. Here is a chance to proudly recognize and honour those families whose narratives reach back 100 years or more.

Guidelines for Centennial Farm recognition:

- minimum size: 50 acres
- direct descendants: male or female, or by marriage
- current ownership
- proof of ownership: legal documentation (homestead records, Land Titles documents)

If you or anyone you know needs info on this program, please go to 'Centennial Farms Awards' on the MHS website. Recent farms and families so honoured are as follows:

MHS Membership Renewal ?

To renew your MHS membership, contact our office at 204-947-0559 or info@mhs.mb.ca.

Fees can also be paid online, quickly and securely:

www.mhs.mb.ca/shop

Region	Family	Farm Location	Year Established
The following families have received Centennial Farm recognition since August 2017			
Altamont	Robert G. Turner & Susan Paul Aaron Turner & Brianne Fortier-Turner	SE12-5-8 WPM	1918
Argyle	Charles & Marjorie Amy	NW32-14-1 EPM	1918
Ashern	Dwight Kernested	NE12-24-10 WPM	1910
Austin	Roy & Sandra Manns	NW9-12-19 WPM	1908
Brunkild	Garth & Audrey Hanna	Pt of NE19-7-1 WPM	1896
Brunkild	Kirk & Ronda Karlowsky	SW and S½ of NW 30-7-1 WPM	1906
Bruxelles	Raymond & Annette Mangin Justin & Erin Mangin	NW34-6-11 WPM	1918
East Selkirk	Stella Chorney Brian & Brenda Chorney Harvey Chorney	W½ of NE 33-13-6 EPM & E½ of E½ of NW 33-13-6 EPM	1917
Morden	Vincent & Shelley Hink	SW6-4-6 WPM	1918
Pilot Mound	Marilyn (Nelson) & William Van De Kerckhove	NW9-9-12 WPM	1908
Rosser	Mayflower Farms Limited (Minaker family)	SW and W½ of SE30-11-1 EPM	1918
These families have received 125 year or more recognition since August 2017.			
Bruxelles	Angele Fifi Gabriel Fifi & Colette Fifi	NW32-5-11 WPM	1892
Deloraine	Edward & Elfrida Andries David & Rhonda Andries	SE34-1-23 WPM	1893
Homewood	Caroll McGill Daniel & Renelle McGill	SE8-6-3 WPM NW8-6-3 WPM	1892
Greenridge	Clifford & Irene Hunter	NE32-2-4 EPM	1878
Rivers	Quinn Robins	SW1-12-21 WPM	1891
Roland	Diane Pearl Wilton & Neil Hamilton	NW28-5-4 WPM NE28-5-4 WPM	1879 1884

National Trust for Canada Meets in Winnipeg 2019

Next year will be a big year for Winnipeg with two important anniversaries—Winnipeg General Strike (1919) and the Red River Rebellion/Resistance (1869–1870)—capturing civic and national attention. For the first time since 2003, the city will also host Canada’s largest event for professionals, volunteers, and practitioners engaged in saving and regenerating Canada’s historic places. It will run 17–19 October 2019, and will take place at the Fairmont Winnipeg, straddling the border of the Exchange District and The Forks.

The annual National Trust Conference—presented annually in association with the Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals (CAHP) and local/regional organizations—is Canada’s largest event for professionals, practitioners, and volunteers engaged in regenerating and saving our heritage places. The 500 participants expected at Winnipeg 2019 will come from a diverse range of backgrounds from every corner of the heritage sector: architects, professionals, and the conservation industry; planners and government representatives; heritage organizations, museum workers, and volunteers; and university instructors and students.

The National Trust for Canada is a national charity created in 1973 that inspires and leads action to save historic places, and promote the care and wise use of our historic places. The annual National Trust conference aims not just to “feed” and build the capacity of the heritage sector—showcasing the exemplary case studies, techniques and policies—but to advance the relevance of the field with the uncommitted and enable positive systemic change. It attempts to achieve this through curating vital, provocative conversations and working sessions, and by tackling thorny questions head-on.

Over the past decade, Winnipeg has seen a real renaissance in the re-appreciation and valuing of its

MHS Gazette is a benefit of membership in the Manitoba Historical Society. Join the MHS and enjoy the *Gazette* three times a year.

extraordinary patrimony of built heritage and cultural landscapes. It is sure to be an exciting laboratory for exploring such themes as Indigenous cultural heritage, “right-sizing” new infill in historic districts, conservation of mid-century modern places, and heritage as a human right and instrument of social justice.

In preparing the National Trust conference program, the National Trust is guided by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada’s *Calls to Action*, particularly those actions on education, language and culture. We strive to have rich Indigenous heritage content throughout our conferences and to draw on the expertise and traditional wisdom of the host First Nations upon whose territory each conference is held. For instance, at National Trust Conference 2017 (Ottawa) we worked with leaders from Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg Band Council and the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation Council to a rich stream of programming within the conference—the *Kichi-Zibi Indigenous Heritage Roundtable*. Similarly, Hamilton 2016 featured Ry Moran, Director of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation in Winnipeg who provided a keynote address on the future of the physical legacy of Canada’s residential schools. We have also worked with community members from the Blackfoot Confederacy in Alberta, Six Nations of the Grand River, and Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation to convene special roundtables on the protection of Indigenous cultural heritage in Calgary (2015) and Hamilton (2016).

All told, National Trust Conference 2019 represents a tremendous opportunity to bring Winnipeg’s rich historic fabric and stories to a national audience, and to participate in the ongoing international conversation around the future of our historic places. We hope you will be a part of it.

Regenerating Historic Places of Faith Workshop

Like every other province, Manitoba’s landscape is dotted with a wealth of historic places of faith that reflect the rich legacies of its many different communities. And like the other regions of the country, many of these places are threatened by complex demographic, social and economic issues. Whether in cities, towns or remote rural areas, these places are at risk of being abandoned, neglected or demolished, gravely impacting on the congregation and the surrounding communities that have benefited for generations from their role as de-facto centres for community and social services.

Despite the enormous challenges, there are signs of hope - inspirational stories from across the country of congregations, heritage advocates and community groups rallying to find creative solutions that are breathing new life into these important places.

In urban areas, some churches have become hubs of activity, like the Trinity St-Paul’s Center for Peace, Justice and the Arts in Toronto. Located on Bloor Street in the heart of the Annex neighbourhood, Trinity St-Paul’s is a beehive of activity 7 days a week, day and night. Not only does it serve as the home of world-renown Baroque orchestra Tafelmusik, it also houses numerous community groups, dance classes, a Montessori School and Daycare, full time restaurant and hundreds of occasional users that value its central location and historic spaces. Its innovative governance model and revenue generation strategies have positioned Trinity St-Paul’s to remain a physical, social and cultural landmark to years to come.

In rural areas of the country the threats to places of faith are sometimes even more daunting, with fewer opportunities for partnerships and revenue generation. Yet some rural congregations are thinking outside the box, finding creative solutions to make their churches more sustainable.

In Saint-Pacôme QC, a partnership with a local company that is developing interior vertical farming technologies. Not only will the installation of self-contained growing pods in the church test the new technology for use in remote northern communities, it will provide affordable fresh vegetables year-round for the community and the heat generated will heat the church through the cold winter months.

In Leith ON, a small rural community 2.5 hours north west of Toronto, the volunteer-run Friends of Leith Church spearheaded the conservation of the church which had been closed to worship since the 1960s, obtaining heritage designation and grants, and coordinating fundraising concerts to raise money for the upkeep of the building and site. Originally formed as a committee of the regional United Church Pastoral Charge (that continues to own the church), the group has become a separate not-for-profit organization that has responsibility for all capital and maintenance costs, which it funds from a highly successful summer festival. While the United Church retains ownership and the right to oversee any worship services that take place, this historic church and its cemetery, remain a focal point within the community.

While the threats to places of faith are daunting—and given the thousands of churches that are expected to be declared surplus in the coming years across the country, not all will be saved—but there is still hope for many. In places where congregations, heritage advocates and community organizations work collaboratively together, local solutions are being found to avoid the destructive loss of these special places, and creating vibrant hubs centered on their community.

Robert Pajot is the Regeneration Project Leader at the National Trust for Canada.

The National Trust, in partnership with Faith & the Common Good, is holding a workshop on the regeneration of places of faith, on 3 Novem-

ber 2018 at the Crescent Fort Rouge United Church in Winnipeg. This workshop is made possible by the generous support of the Winnipeg Community Foundation and individual donors. For further information and to register for the workshop, visit www.regenerationworks.ca or contact info@nationaltrustcanada.ca

Vimy Ridge Recalled

With the recent centenary of the iconic battle of Vimy Ridge on the radar of Canadians, a new book brings a fresh narrative to this event. Tim Cook's hefty book *Vimy: The Battle and the Legend* offers a contemporary perspective. The book seeks to answer the rhetorical question, why does Vimy matter to the nation? The cover asks, "How did a four-day battle at the midpoint of the Great War, a clash that had little strategic impact on the larger Allied war effort, become elevated to a national symbol of Canadian identity?"

Tim Cook's work, which is highly readable, won this year's award for the best new work on Canadian history from the J. W. Dafoe Foundation. It reflects deep and comprehensive use of material recently released in Canadian archives, and in particular letters from the soldiers and military support staff on the Front and at the battle. He also looks deeply into the site itself, the ridge that separated advancing German military might

from Allied troops on the west. He delves deeply into the existing memorial, the national competition that attempted to capture the ache of massive loss of life that was felt across Canada and Newfoundland, the beauty and strength of the towering memorial in France that was chosen to represent the thousands killed there in the mud. It examines the political maneuvers and neglect that stalled its completion until its dedication by King Edward VIII in 1936, a full generation after the battle. Central to the overarching narrative: was Vimy actually 'the birth of the nation?' (spoiler alert: according to this historian, no, it definitely was not).

Cook, a military historian with the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa, and published author, spoke to members of the board of the John W. Dafoe Foundation in May 2018 about the research and writing of this 488-page book. The Foundation honours John Dafoe, the influential editor of the *Winnipeg Free Press* from 1901–1944, who was tremendously influential in Canadian journalism and affairs. According to the biography on the website of the Foundation, he was "crusty, feisty and hard-nosed in the advancement of his vision for Canada—a Canada strongly independent and influential in a troubled world".

The Dafoe Book Prize, inaugurated in 1984 and given annually, at \$10,000 it



D. McDowell

At the MHS' Annual General Meeting on 18 June 2018, four new members of the MHS Council were welcomed by President Alan Mason (left). Shown left to right, they are: Bruce Jamieson, Dwight MacAulay, Delores Wallbridge, and Peter Bjornson. Also joining the Council is Jim Ingebrigtson.

is one of the richest book awards offered for good, non-fiction writing about Canada, Canadians and the nation in international affairs. It now attracts about 30–40 contenders each year. Some of the winning authors: Denis Smith, Dennis and Sheila Whittacker, Jack Granatstein, David Mulrone and Adam Lajeunesse.

For more on Dafoe and the Foundation honouring his work of nation-building, go to www.dafoefoundation.ca/HOME

First World War Dead Honoured in Winnipeg City Hall

Winnipeg will witness a digital display of Canada's human contribution to the First World War. Those many individuals who participated in that war and were either killed in battle or later succumbed to injuries and disease will be honoured with this exhibit.

The project, titled *The World Remembers*, will contain the names of 24,000 Canadian soldiers, nurses and military personnel killed in 1918 alone, alongside the names of those from other countries. The project is spearheaded by a Toronto-based firm called TWR. Besides listing and honouring Canadian war dead, the exhibit furthermore includes the names of 850,000 soldiers from the Allied nations, Germany and all the other nations who participated in the carnage of the world's brutal global conflict in each of the years 1914, 1915, 1916 and 1917. The aggregate toll, to be rolled out in digital format, will be enormously sobering.

As to how, where and when one can access this roll-out and search for the names of family members lost to the conflict, the dates for the display will be from 17 September to 11 November. The precise location of the exhibit has not yet been announced, but will be associated with Winnipeg City Hall. A new set of names will appear every 23.5 seconds, and these images will be interrupted every 15

minutes with a photograph from the war action.

Along with the City, funding for this evocative display has also been provided the Shevchenko Foundation, in support of the names of Ukrainian soldiers from that terrible event.

You can access the names pertinent to your interest by going to www.theworldremembers.org/about-twr to find the times when these names will be displayed. The display contains the specific full names and information on rank, battalion, and the date of death. This will be an interesting resource and surely a moving tribute to the war dead of Canada and those around the world in our shared history.

Resources for Educators: Speakers Bureau: Treaty Commission of Manitoba

The Treaty Commission of Manitoba (TRCM) is a dynamic institution dedicated to sharing the understanding of the significance of treaties in Canada. They offer a comprehensive array of resources including a detailed Speakers Bureau that is available for educators to access. The TRCM also features a Learning Centre with material to guide school-aged children in understanding the significance of Canada's treaties going forward.

From the TRCM website (<http://www.trcm.ca/>), we present the following opportunities:

TRCM Speakers Bureau provides dialogue and information sharing to create an understanding about the historical and contemporary issues that relate to Treaty.

Presentations speak to both the Canadian and First Nations perspective of the Treaties to balance information Manitobans receive from various outlets in relation to Treaty.

Speakers Bureau Objectives:

- Promote the concept "We Are All Treaty People";
- Raise awareness of Treaties and their importance;

- Raise awareness of the rights and obligations associated with Treaties;
- Facilitate discussion on Treaties; and
- Enhance the Treaty relationship

James Avenue Pumping Station

In the early years of the twentieth century, fire was a constant threat in the Manitoba climate of long, cold winters and an era of wood frame buildings. Many private and commercial structures were heated by coal-burning stoves or boilers with inadequate safety devices. But the greatest problem in combating fire was adequate pressure for the water supply.

Winnipeg obtained its drinking water from a series of artesian wells. This water was pure and sufficient for routine use, but could not be supplied in the high volumes needed to fight a serious fire. As well, engineering developments in steel-frames allowed for the construction of taller buildings which the existing water pressure lines could not reach in the event of a serious fire. Fortunately, advances in technology in the early 1900s provided a solution. In 1905, Winnipeg's City Council announced plans for a high pressure water system for fighting fires, developed through the James Avenue Pumping Station.

Opened in 1907, the pumping station is a low brick structure located near the Red River down the street from the Centennial Concert Hall. Its plain brick exterior disguises the massive equipment within its walls. Its pumps drew large quantities of water from the Red River and pushed it through a separate grid of pipes and special hydrants buried beneath downtown Winnipeg streets. This gave fire fighters the ability to send the water plumes much higher, while keeping the river water from polluting the domestic water system.

When the James Avenue Pumping Station closed in 1986, nobody fore-



Government of Manitoba

On 15 May 2018, Lieutenant-Governor Janice Filmon presented awards at Government House to five Manitobans for their prolonged, meritorious service in the preservation and promotion of the province's rich history and heritage. They were (back row, left to right: Gerald Clark (Flin Flon), Wally Johannson (Gimli), Donald Peake (Flin Flon), Maria Lodge (Winnipeg), and Christopher Kotecki (Winnipeg). In the front row are Rochelle Squires (MLA, Riel), Alan Mason (MHS), Janice Filmon, Gary Filmon, and Gordon Goldsborough (MHS).

saw that this distinctive industrial resource would become one of Winnipeg's most complex heritage challenges over the next three decades. To its credit, the City of Winnipeg did not dismantle this heritage resource. In 2016, Bryce Alston and Rick Hofer purchased the now 107-year-old James Avenue Pumping Station from the downtown development agency, Centre Venture, thus ending a long struggle to find someone willing to preserve this unique facility as well as find a new commercially viable use.

Presently, the developers are spending \$20 million on adaptive reuse of the structure in a two-phase approach. As part of the first phase, offices have been installed in the pumping station's rafters, preserving the massive machinery below and allowing views of the enormous steam-era equipment. The second phase calls for the construction of a new 28-unit residential building for the east side of the pumping station, along Waterfront Drive, and a 60-unit

mixed use building for the west side. The end result is a new era for this extraordinary facility in the heart of the Exchange District.

South Point at The Forks Gets a New Name (at Last)

The junction of the Red and Assiniboine rivers in downtown Winnipeg has been pivotal to the modern urban narrative. Since the redevelopment of the former East Yards rail lands by a talented and visionary group of planners, politicians and design professionals a generation ago, The Forks has become a popular destination. While most of the lands have now been redeveloped, one parcel of land was left for future development, the South Point.

South Point is an intriguing parcel of land on the south side of the rivers' confluence. It can be accessed on foot or bike from the south by the Norwood Bridge on Queen Elizabeth Way or by a brief stroll from the

north along The Forks Historic Railway Bridge. The land is well-treed, a beautiful oasis of green, set aside as sacred space as an interpretive locale for Indigenous development where people could experience the traditions of aboriginal people in Manitoba. The vision stalled; time marched on.

Three years ago, a team of Indigenous leaders developed a distinctive plan for the land that drew the support of the federal government, The Winnipeg Foundation and the City of Winnipeg. Work is now well underway, including the creation of a compelling sculpture at the pedestrian entrance from Queen Elizabeth Way. This large and beautiful art installation, to be completed and named this November, commemorates the heart of Mother Earth. Future development of the site will include a drumming circle, an outdoor art gallery walk, Indigenous plantings reflecting spiritual and medicinal traditions, and an accessible walkway.

And yes, this long-awaited evolution of the sacred space on the South Point has a name: Niizhozhuibean, meaning Two Rivers.

Proportional Voting

by Gordon Goldsborough

Manitoba's general election in June 1920 was unusual in at least three respects. Among those elected to seats in the provincial Legislative Building were three convicted criminals—all participants in the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike. It was the first provincial election where a female candidate, Edith Rogers, was elected. And it was the first time the Proportional Representation voting system was used in Canada.

Political scientists argue about the most democratic system for electing our government representatives. In 1920, the Manitoba government tried an experiment. Election ballots listed each of the candidates in alphabetical order. Voters wrote a number 1 beside their first choice, 2 beside their second choice, and so on, un-

til they had ranked their preference for all candidates, or they no longer felt competent to rank the remaining ones. (A person could vote for a single candidate if they chose.) Where there were only two candidates in a constituency—which was the case in 27 of the 45 constituencies in the 1920 election—the outcome would be the same as under the former system: the person with the most votes won. However, when there were multiple candidates, the votes were counted more than once. In the first round of counting, the number of “1” votes for each candidate were tallied and compared to a threshold (total votes cast divided by the number of candidates plus one) above which a candidate was deemed to have been elected. All votes above this threshold were, in effect, wasted because they did nothing to affect the election result. Under the new system, these unused votes were given to other candidates based on the rankings of those candidates by each voter. It was a complex system and officials worried that voter confusion, especially among newly-enfranchised women and non-English-speakers, would confound the election results. In the end, however, it was generally conceded that the 1920 election proceeded without a hitch.

The new system was used in only one constituency during the 1920 election: Winnipeg. Unlike today, the entire city was a single constituency with ten representatives in the Legislature (previously, it had had six). Each of the three political parties—Liberal (the incumbents), Conservative, and Labour—fielded ten candidates so someone with partisan leanings could vote a straight ticket. The other eleven were independents so there were a staggering 41 candidates listed on each ballot. There were 47,427 votes cast with an election threshold of 4,312 votes. Two candidates were elected in the first round of counting: Liberal candidate Thomas Johnson (barely above the threshold, with 4,386 votes) and Labour candidate and unconvicted 1919 Strike leader Fred Dixon (by a

landslide, with 11,586 votes). The final group of 10 MLAs was not known until the votes had been counted 36 more times. They included four Liberals, four Labours (three of whom were residents at the Prison Farm near East Braintree), and two Conservatives.

As of the 1927 general election, a “single transferable vote” system, similar to the one in Winnipeg, was used in other constituencies around Manitoba. In 1949, Winnipeg switched from electing ten MLAs overall to having four constituencies with four representatives each, with the results of each constituency decided by proportional voting. However, the provincial experiment with proportional voting ended in 1957. The general election of 1958 was the first one since 1920 where Winnipeg voters returned to our long-familiar system of marking their single preferred candidate with an X.

Hudson Bay Railway undergoes Restoration

Resolution of the ownership and repair of the Hudson Bay Railway was welcome news for the residents and businesses of the Port of Churchill, and for the rest of Manitoba. When flooding in the spring of 2017 caused the line to close between Gillam and Hudson Bay, its former owner declined to invest in the repairs necessary to re-open the track. In late August of this year, a settlement was reached for Arctic Gateway Group, a new partnership of First Nations, some Manitoba communities, Fairfax Financial Holdings of Toronto, and the Saskatchewan-based grain company AGT Food and Ingredients to purchase and repair the line from The Pas north to the Port of Churchill. Work is underway and it is hoped that the line can be in use before winter.

An article by Leonard F. Earl in the *MHS Transactions* of 1957-58 (available in whole on the MHS website) paints a remarkable picture of this storied rail line. Churchill, the site of the magnificent stone Prince of Wales

Fort on Hudson Bay (constructed 1731-41), has long been a talisman for an efficient way to ship prairie products from western Canada to markets in Europe. As the northern terminus of the railway nearly 1,000 kms. north of Winnipeg, Churchill’s deep-water port facilities gives shipping access by way of a much shorter route than through Thunder Bay and the Great Lakes. But it all depends on the rail link because no roads traverse the tundra.

Leonard Earl wrote that a railway to the bay was both a dream and a bargaining tool for railway companies and successive national and provincial governments, beginning as far back as the 1870s. While no government fully committed to the vast expense of laying track all the way to the coast, southern portions of the line were constructed as newly-developed prairie lands began to produce large amounts of grain. The boundaries of Saskatchewan and Alberta were fixed in 1905, a few years before the northern boundary of this province was extended in 1912 to its present latitude to include Churchill. Earl continues “By the end of 1896, a railway line had been built from Gladstone to Dauphin and was operating trains to Winnipeg over what was known as the Manitoba North-western Railway. The next year the line was extended to Winnipegosis.”

A northern shipping harbour was contemplated in 1912. Port Nelson was the other contender for this development but the benefits of Churchill carried the day. But not only was construction of a deep-water port delayed by the war, it all but stopped with the priorities of reconstruction. When the boundary of Manitoba was extended to the 60th parallel, the province became more interested in the rail project. Canadian National Railway extended the line through The Pas and on to Gillam but there remained a run of 820 kms. almost due north up to Churchill. Completion of the line to Churchill may well have stalled forever had it not been for a new player in the game: Hud-

son Bay Mining and Smelting, based in the new town of Flin Flon.

Beneath a beautiful setting of deep boreal forest and cold, clear lakes near the 55th parallel in western Manitoba runs a greenstone belt containing base and precious minerals which fuelled the development of the huge mining and smelting complex that became Flin Flon. Like the railway, mining in the area was initially slow to develop, in part due to the challenges of the remote location. Mineral discoveries of gold and base metals in the 1915 era were not developed until the late 1920s and early

1930s. Heavy investment by Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting created not only extensive mining operations but a fast-growing community with steady jobs at a time when the depression had most of the country in its thrall. While copper and zinc fuelled the mine and smelter, Hud-Bay invested in the rail line first between The Pas and Flin Flon and later on through usage from Gillam to Churchill. The community evolved from a tent city to a town by 1946 and became a fully-serviced city in 1970. HudBay Minerals grew to be part of one of the largest mining and smelt-

ing developments in the world, and an economic engine with 27 past and present mines operating.

As Canada's Arctic gateway, the town of Churchill has had a timely rescue from repair of its rail link. Tourism, its lifeblood in all seasons, can resume in greater numbers, and supplies will arrive by an affordable means. The long-term viability of the port depends on many global factors, not the least of which are global warming and Canada's Arctic development.

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