



**Annual General Report**  
**For the year 2023**  
**April 10, 2024**





**Manitoba Camping Association  
2023 Annual General Meeting**

**Manitoba Camping Association office, 1110 Henderson Hwy, Unit 6, Winnipeg, MB  
Wednesday April 10, 2024**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome – Land Acknowledgement, Introductions
3. Establish Quorum
4. Adoption of Minutes from 2023 AGM
5. Reports:
  - a. MCA President – Jared Clarke
  - b. MCA Executive Director – Kim Scherger
  - c. Nominations – Andrew Sevigny
6. Accreditation and plaque presentation
7. Audited Financial Report & Appointment of Auditors – Leanne Slobodian
8. New Business
  - a. Board of Directors - Outgoing and Election of New
  - b.
9. Adjournment



## Manitoba Camping Association AGM Minutes - April 18, 2023

### Calvary Temple

1. **Call to Order** – Jared Clarke
2. **Welcome – Land Acknowledgement, Introductions** – Kim Scherger
3. **Establish Quorum**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Camp</b>	<b>In attendance:</b> (Twelve camps & the MCA were represented by 24 people)
1	Kim Scherger	MCA	
2	Dana Moroz	MCA	
3	Rick Scherger	MCA	
4	David Robinson	Camp Nutimik	
5	Nancy Paschke	Camp Nutimik	
6	Andrew Sevigny	Dauphin Bible Camp	
7	Kennedy	Dauphin Bible Camp	
8	Sierra	Dauphin Bible Camp	
9	Duane Goertzen	Roseau River Bible Camp	
10	Janet Peters	Camp Assiniboia	
11	Audrey Hicks	MCA/Camp Manitou	
12	Jared Clarke	Calvary Temple & MCA	
13	Michael Bergen	Valley View Bible Camp	
14	Henry Enns	Valley View Bible Camp	
15	Jared Kehler	Valley View Bible Camp	
16	Lexie Yurman	BB Camp	
17	Neil Steward	MB Pioneer Camp	
18	Connor Trueman	MCA	
19	Ian Baruch	Camp Massad	
20	Danial Sprintz	Camp Massad	



- 21 TJ Penner Gimli Bible Camp
- 22 Spencer Kushnir Manitoba Pioneer Camp
- 23 Jeff Hofer Camp Manitou - zoom
- 24 Dan Ingram Circle Square Ranch - zoom

**Regrets:** Erin Kangas & Leanne Slobodian (MCA Board of Directors)

**4. Adoption of Agenda & Minutes from 2022 AGM**

**MOTION TO ADOPT MINUTES.**

**Audrey Hicks /2nd Danial Sprintz MSC2023-01**

**MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA with addition of Standards. Dave Robinson /2nd Neil Steward MSC2023-02**

**5. Reports:**

**a) MCA President** – Jared Clarke - asked that everyone read it in the AGM report

Note from JC: We are as Camps incredibly blessed by the MCA staff for all they do!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**b) Executive Director** – Additional for this year...

- New staff that are/have started – Michelle Maclver and Sydney (around May 1).
- Grant for one more summer staff.
- Big highlight from the past year was the \$ 750,000 from Government for all Camps.
- Looking for more funding; MLA Bruce Grey staying in conversation of the current need that Camps still have.
- Working at trying to revamp the desire of Camps getting staff again and campers back to camp.
- Community Outreach Coordinator – Michelle, working with Camps and connections and we are planning for growth.
- Thank you to the staff and board for support and hard work.

**c) Nominations** – Andrew Sevigny

Four members continuing - Andrew / Leanne / Neil / Janet

Three members renewing their terms – Jared / Lexie / Erin

Two new members letting their names stand - Nancy Paschke & Ian Baruch;  
an introduction to Nancy and Ian in AGM report.

***Call for additional nominations X 3. No nominations received. Nominations closed.***

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE NEW NOMINEES AS PRESENTED.**

**Andrew Sevigny / 2nd by Dave Robinson**

**MSC2023-03**

**6. Audited Financial Report & Appointment of Auditors** – Kim Scherger & Jared Clarke

-Auditor gave a green light on Financial Statement. Completed by Scarrow and Donald.

-Statement of Financial Positioning – a better year. Great base of donors; Canadian average 51% repeat donors average, MCA/SF is at 61% this past year.



-Statement of Change in Net assets – Not major, cash and office equipment

-Statement of Cash Flows – Fairly basic and self explanatory. See Financial statement.

-Good news story, money in the bank but we don't want it to stay there, we want to send Kids to Camp. This money will be invested in sending kids to camp and for training our camps leaders. Strategically invest into our Industry and community.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS PROVIDED. Neil Steward / 2<sup>nd</sup> Andrew Sevigny MSC2023-04**

**MOTION TO APPOINT AUDITORS, SCARROW AND DONALD LLP for 2023 AUDIT.**

**Danial Sprintz / 2<sup>nd</sup> Janet Peters MSC2023-05**

### **Standards – Updates**

-See hand out, tried to stay in line with Government requirements / Camp Act.

Questions related.

-Why the changes to the medical piece related to qualifications? Reasons – to make it more realistic for Camps and to acknowledge appropriate past training and experience as being as or more relevant to SFA. Transport as well, to make it more reasonable.

-Carbon monoxide detectors – added with smoke detectors that they are in buildings that are appropriate.

### **7. New Business -none**

### **8. Additional Info**

-Be Aware: 99% of communication comes through our Camp Pings rather than emails.

Website has archived ones.

-New Instagram for Sunshine Fund, check it out.

-NL Course - 3 Weekends of May - 1<sup>st</sup> 2 and 4 at Downtown Y.

-Accreditation info has been sent out to camps. Please respond with whether the dates stated will work.

-Tomorrow – Coffee Break – guests from QDoc -online doctors. This could be a huge help to Camps.

-Heads up – Canada Summer Jobs are letting Camps know what they are getting for grants. It was suggested by a board member CSJ are going back to pre-Covid giving, only giving ½ of grants it appears.

Green Team will be letting everyone know late April.

-MCA Fall training course – International Camp Director Course: 4.5 – 5 day course, scheduled for week of November 13<sup>th</sup>. There will be special MCA rates.

### **9. Adjournment**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN AGM.**

**Neil Steward**

**MC2023-06**



## **5. REPORTS**

### **President's Report**

To the members of the MCA:

It is an honour and pleasure to serve the membership of the MCA in the position of President. I have enjoyed having the opportunity to get to know the fantastic people involved in the camping movement in our region. As you know our industry is ever evolving and so our association must evolve with the changing times. I am excited about the many new things that are happening through the MCA office and firmly believe we have been blessed with a fantastic spokesperson for our industry in our Executive Director Kim and the wonderful staff in the office. I so appreciate her hard work and dedication to advocate on behalf of camps.

I would also like to thank the membership, for continuing to take part and lean into the camping industry. We are better together, and it is this collaborative spirit that makes the camp community such a special place to be a part of. From conferences to random visits at camps it is the community aspect that keeps the association alive and vibrant.

I would like to take a minute to thank all of the members of the board who give of their time and resources to serve the membership. They do a fantastic job and serve with the best interests of the association in mind. Once again it has been a privilege to serve our members in this role and I look forward to the years to come as the camping community continues to grow to meet the needs of the youth in this province.

Sincerely,  
Jared Clarke  
President MCA

### **Executive Director's Report**

Another great year for the Manitoba Camping Association/Sunshine Fund. As we plan for continued growth with the MCA and the Sunshine Fund, we are looking at ways to get more children to camp, promoting the importance of going to camp for all children, youth and young adults and working with more camps to become a part of this incredible organization we call the Manitoba Camping Association.

We started the year with excitement and a new staff person in Michelle as our Community Outreach Coordinator. Her goal was to connect with more communities and agencies outside of Winnipeg about the Sunshine Fund. Often, she had conversations with some agencies and foster families wishing there was more funding available for their use. She (and SF staff) often shared information about Jordan's Principle to them, where they could get funding to go to camp. Bigger problem is not enough staff administering Jordan's Principle to provide timely responses and funding for the kids who need it and need camp. Michelle did make some headway into new territory for the Sunshine Fund with new organizations and schools and found some granting opportunities for the MCA.



The Manitoba Outdoors Show was another great place to promote CAMP and the Sunshine Fund to almost 4000 people. Five camps joined us this year with their own space promoting their programs and jobs. Many thanks to RBC volunteers for assisting in set up (and providing a grant for this) and to Nancy Pashke (Camp Nutimik) and her family for helping to tear down and pack up our 1000 square foot camp.

Rick had a very busy year communicating/marketing; we amp up our ideas and it gives him more work. Some new initiatives with new community outreach staff (Michelle) and the two of them supervising our second student (Anna):

- a day with a new partner in Friend Bakery & Pizzeria for the shared day dedicated to “Sunshine Cookies” and donated profit from them to the SF
- partnership with Rainbow Stage providing tickets to SF families who did stories with the Winnipeg Free Press
- creation, videoing, editing, preparation of our online Luncheon (recommending we don’t do that way in future)
- many advertising opportunities with some new radio stations and new direction; community bus x 2 months
- began online SF fillable forms
- lifeguard course work
- year-end campaign

Throughout the summer, 20 camps were visited across Manitoba/NW Ontario, for their accreditation visits, including 4 new camps for pre-accreditation visits. Many thanks to Audrey from Camp Manitou Training Centre for assisting with the majority of the visits and to the rest of the visitation team – Ethan, Andrew, Janet, Neil, Jared and Lexie, students Sydney and Anna, staff Rick and Michelle. The board will be voting on accreditation for 16 camps for 2024-2026.

The Sunshine Fund had 548 applications in 2023! We were able to fund all the applicants, at a cost of \$211,825.25. We retained 60.4% of our donors through Canada Helps; nationally, the retention rate is 54%. Many thanks to staff Dana, Rick and Sydney for their years of work with the Sunshine Fund (thanks to Michelle and Anna for last years work as well).

Along with her regular work with camps and Sunshine Fund applicants and supervising her spring/summer student, Dana has been excelling in securing funding and donations for the Sunshine Fund/MCA. Some highlights:

- Concord Projects Foundation signed on for another 3 years as matching gift for year-end campaign.
- Dorothy Goodman grant - \$100,000, highest amount to date
- Applied for first collaboration grant with the Winnipeg Foundation and Flora House (←first time SF users in 2023)

At the end of 2023, Dana found sponsorship for 2024 in person Luncheon, was able to work with RBC to bring back volunteer activities with them for 2024 that turns into grant funds for us and found new possible funding partners in Canada Life & Rotary Club of Charleswood.

The fall brought exciting opportunities for the MCA: Kim was able to attend the International Camp Director Trainer course in Tarragona, Spain, followed by Kim, Rick, Andrew & Tasha Seigny attending the International Camping Congress in Spain. An incredible experience for them all. Kim is now a lead trainer for the ICDC and the MCA is planning on hosting an ICDC in October 2024 at Roseau River Bible Camp. Jared Clarke and Kim will be the trainers. There is a special discounted rate for MCA accredited camps and open to camps across the country/world. Please share this information so we can get a great cross-section of people from across the country attending.

My thanks go to the incredible team I work with – Dana, Rick, Kayla (2024) (Michelle 2023) and our student Sydney who finished her 5<sup>th</sup> spring/summer with us in 2023; they help to make our work exciting and together we are encouraging and supportive of each other.



Thanks also to the MCA Board of Directors – you are there checking in with me and supporting our amazing organization with your expertise in many different areas in and out of the camp community. I will miss those of you who have finished your terms – Andrew, Leanne, Neil, Janet - and look forward to continued collaborations with you. Lastly, thanks to our member camps and those thinking about joining the MCA; I appreciate our conversations and the continued relationships and work we do together.

In closing, echoing Michael Brandwein I ask, how can the MCA best support our directors doing your best work and how can we help kids become best versions of themselves? That is part of our mission of the MCA...help us help you.

Submitted with a smile,  
Kim Scherger  
Executive Director

## **NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Andrew Sevigny**

### **CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS**

<b>Jared Clarke</b>	2 year term (2 <sup>nd</sup> year, 2 <sup>nd</sup> term) <b>President</b>
<b>Lexie Yurman</b>	2 year term (2 <sup>nd</sup> year, 2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
<b>Erin Kangas</b>	2 year term (2 <sup>nd</sup> year, 2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
<b>Nancy Paschke</b>	2 year term (2 <sup>nd</sup> year, 1 <sup>st</sup> term) <b>Secretary</b>
<b>Ian Baruch</b>	2 year term (2 <sup>nd</sup> year, 1 <sup>st</sup> term)

### **NEW NOMINATIONS**

#### **Audrey Hicks, Camp Manitou, Manager, Training & Risk Management**

Audrey Hicks comes from an extensive background in the Camping Industry starting in her teens with YMCA camps, overseas at a Camp in Greece and a Camp in the US. During her time away from working at Camps, she owned a retail store for 14 years. After the sale of her business, she came back to the Camping Industry working at Camp Arnes in different capacities. First in their Outdoor Education, then as Staffing Director, Training Director and ending her time there as the Acting Executive Director.

In 2021 she moved to Camp Manitou as Director and in 2023, moved from that position to develop a Training Centre for the True North Youth Foundation – Camp Manitou. In that capacity, she now offers Certificate courses in a number of areas to Camps, Not for Profits, Schools, Businesses and other Organizations.

She spent 6 years on the board of the MCA, stepping off when her term limit was reached, but continued as a committee member with Standards and Accreditation, which has included taking part in the Accreditation of MCA member Camps. She is also on the Red Cross First Aid Advisory Council of Canada and an advisor to the MPASS board with the Manitoba School Divisions.





**Todd Buhr, The Civil Service Superannuation Board, Manager, Finance**

Todd is an active member of CPA, CMA (Chartered Professional Accounts of Canada). Todd has over 30 years of business leadership and finance experience working in a variety of industries in private, public, and government sectors. He is passionate about providing strategic leadership and operational excellence, while working with the highest level of integrity, in delivering financial results to any organization he is a part of.

Currently Todd is the Manager, Finance, for Civil Service Superannuation Board (CSSB) provides leadership to a finance team responsible for monitoring the financial and investment operations of the pension fund under the CSSB’s administration/ He attends board, finance and audit committee, and investment committee meetings as part of the management team of CSSB.

Todd has been involved with Luther Village for over 25 years working with the Executive Director and Board to provide accounting support including reporting, budgeting, and annual audit work.

**Chelsie Zylstra, Camp Director, Turtle Mountain Bible Camp**

My name is Chelsie Zylstra and I have the opportunity of being Co-Director with my husband Daniel at Turtle Mountain Bible Camp. I began volunteering at TMBC in 2010, was hired on full-time in 2014 as assistant director, and in 2023 began transitioning into the role of Co-Director. Originally from ON, I have fallen in love with the prairies and now live in Killarney, MB. I have three young and adventurous children ages 4 and younger, and we are in the thick of learning to serve at camp and be part of our local community as a family.

**Dan Ingram, Executive Director, Circle Square Ranch**

Dan was born and raised in Nova Scotia where he attended Acadia University and met his wife Danielle in the recreation management program. They are both canoe instructors, have been married for over 20 years and have served together with InterVarsity Canada in university, high school and wilderness camping ministries. In 2016 they moved to rural Manitoba with their three children to live at InterVarsity Circle Square Ranch where they serve as Co-Executive Directors and love to develop teams of staff and grow young leaders.

**6. Accreditation**

- |                  |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Camp Arnes       | Camp Nutimik          |
| Camp Assiniboia  | Camp Cedarwood        |
| BB Camp          | Camp Quality          |
| D-Camp Briardale | Red Rock Bible Camp   |
| Gimli Bible Camp | St Malo Catholic Camp |
| Luther Village   | Camp Wannakumbac      |
| Camp Manitou     | Camp Wasaga           |
| Mini-U Camps     | Variety Camp Brereton |

Although we gave provisional accreditation to Calvary Temple Camp at the end of Dec/23, waiting for final items,



as they have recently had a change in directorship, items are not ready to be provided for finalizing accreditation from 2023. Their accreditation status will lapse, and a pre-visit will be required before their next accreditation visit.

## **7. Audited Financial Report and Appointment of Auditors for 2023 Audit**

Leanne Slobodian

- Year end audit was completed for 2023 by Scarrow & Donald – see attached
- Auditors for 2024 to be appointed
- Recommendation for Scarrow & Donald to be our auditors for 2024 audit

## **8. New Business**

**a. Board of Directors - Outgoing and Election of New** – Jared Clarke

**b.**

## **9. Adjournment**