

A  
STORY  
TO



Manitoba  
**Museum**

**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2022-23**

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The Manitoba Museum acknowledges we are on Treaty No.1 land, the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabeg, Ininiwak, and Michif. These lands, water, and waterways are the unceded territories of the Dakota, and the homeland of the Red River Métis Nation. The Museum is committed to reflecting the continued legacy of all the original peoples of this province, including the Ithiniwak, Denesuline, Anishininiwak, Inuit, and Nakota.

We acknowledge the harms of the past, are committed to improving relationships in the spirit of truth and reconciliation, and appreciate the opportunity to live and learn on these traditional lands in mutual respect.



# A HISTORIC YEAR

## LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

In the last year, the Manitoba Museum has welcomed record-breaking numbers of visitors. Measured by attendance, partnerships, and community engagement in dynamic programs and events, this was the strongest year in our 53-year history! Words can not express the immense gratitude we feel to you, our communities, for choosing to spend your time with us. So many of you have become members, entering into new and renewed friendship with the Museum. We're humbled by the incredible support of donors, and inspired by the many collaborators who've created, made discoveries, and researched alongside with us.

These relationships are at the heart of why the Museum exists – in service to our communities, and in turn, you have generously helped to shape our future. Nearly 1,200 respondents offered their ideas and hopes for the Museum's new Strategic Plan – more about that on page 2.

Being witness to this amazing support renews our hope for the Museum's future, because while we fulfill our mandate and deliver on our promises and responsibilities, our future remains uncertain.

Coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic much remains to be rebuilt. Like many charitable organizations, we face challenges related to inflationary pressures, reduced revenue streams, and the urgency to invent and reinvent diverse sources of income. In the last year, our long-term financial situation has required us to take a hard look at every aspect of our work, including how we can continue to serve Manitobans and visitors. It has also forced the Manitoba Museum to make very difficult choices, including restructuring and reducing the size of our team.

As a cornerstone institution in our beautiful province, the Manitoba Museum, which is the steward of our shared histories, requires ever-increasing investment. The commitment of a strong, indexed core operating grant from the Province of Manitoba, would help us ensure that our admission fees remain affordable, our complimentary programming removes barriers, and our contributions to learning and discovery are shared with all.

The Manitoba Museum is uniquely positioned to enrich the learning of the nearly 100,000 students who visit us and take part in virtual school field trips annually.

We have the trust of communities and expertise needed to share timely knowledge regarding climate change, the biodiversity crisis, and the impact of human behaviour on species in decline.

Most importantly, the Manitoba Museum, which it has for decades, will continue to have meaningful relationships with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities. The Museum is actively supporting the practice and revitalization of Indigenous cultural traditions, past, present, and future. We are also helping to maintain, develop, and transmit to current and future generations Indigenous histories, languages, oral traditions, ceremonies, technologies, skills, philosophies, writing systems, and literature.

These are our responsibilities to Manitobans.

To fulfill these responsibilities, our Museum team and our dedicated volunteers have worked tirelessly to earn the trust and support of visitors, members, donors, sponsors, and many generous contributors. We committed ourselves to centring the needs of communities, first and foremost, by implementing the following:

- **Promoting** the Museum's Indigenous complimentary admission as part of our commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and to the Articles of the United National Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. During this year, 26,730 Indigenous guests visited the Museum.
- **Launching** *First Fridays*, a monthly evening of complimentary admission and special programming. Starting in May 2022, in the 11 First Friday evenings of the last year, we welcomed 26,213 visitors to the Museum.
- **Reducing** our membership fees by 25% in fall 2022 to ensure the Museum's admissions were afforded to as many community members as possible.
- **Increasing** partnerships in the development and delivery of community programming, honouring the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Black History Month, Pride, and Earth Days.
- **Renewing** the Planetarium with new shows as well as the Science Gallery with new exhibits.

The above and our plans for the years to come give us many reasons to be optimistic about the Museum's future. We are immensely proud of the far-reaching impact we've had on the lives of our communities; we remain committed to transformational experiences, dynamic programs and events, sharing knowledge that contributes to Truth and Reconciliation, advancing social change, and building climate change knowledge to shift our ways of living towards a more sustainable future. We also know we are capable of so much more, if given the opportunity to realize that potential.

**BRIGITTE SANDRON**  
*Chair of the Board of Governors*

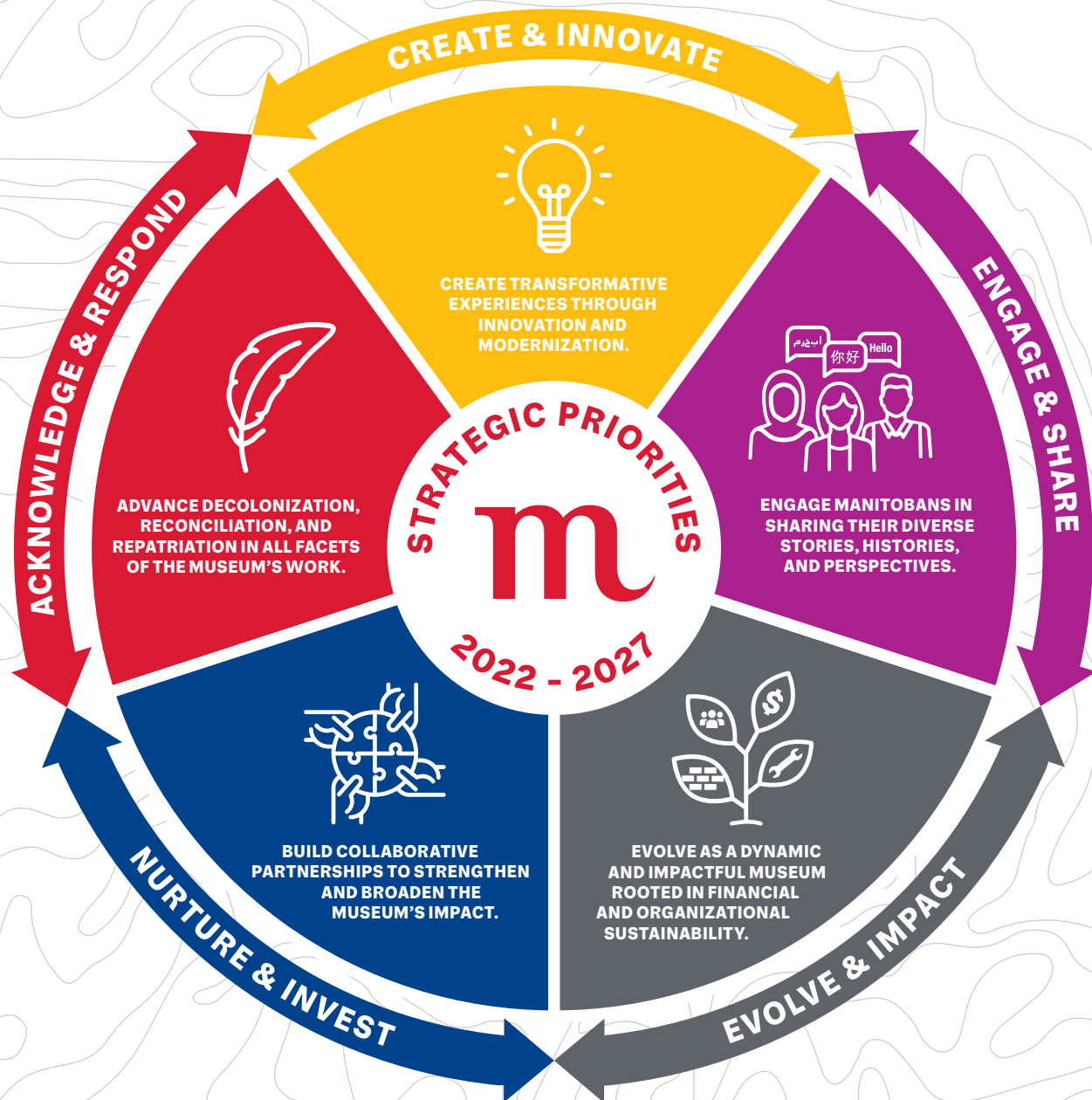


**DOROTA BLUMCZYŃSKA**  
*Chief Executive Officer*





# MANITOBA MUSEUM STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2022 - 2027





## A NEW WAY FORWARD TOGETHER

The Manitoba Museum has played a pivotal role in showcasing the rich heritage and natural wonders of our region. Our collections are encyclopedic in scope, encompassing both cultural artifacts and scientific specimens and are a testament to the diversity of life and the importance of preserving our past for future generations. We strive to conserve, collect, and share knowledge, while encouraging intercultural dialogue and understanding within our communities.

Today, it is increasingly crucial that institutions like the Manitoba Museum go beyond the traditional role of heritage institutions and serve as a bridge connecting diverse cultures, promoting justice, and addressing pressing environmental concerns.

The Manitoba Museum strives to be a safe space and a place for justice. The Museum recognizes the historical and contemporary injustices faced by Indigenous Peoples and so, as an ally, it uses its resources to advance Truth and Reconciliation. The Museum also acknowledges the systemic injustices and struggles of other marginalized communities, and through partnerships, and the shared development of programs and exhibitions, it hopes to support healing and social justice. Through co-curated exhibitions and innovative, perspective-changing programs, the Museum is creating platforms for critical conversations, showcasing diverse perspectives, and promoting inclusivity within our society.

The Museum has a responsibility to raise awareness and educate the public on many fronts. Through its primary, field-based and lab-based research, as well as through scientific explorations in natural history, climate change, environmental sustainability, and the current biodiversity crisis, the Museum is contributing to a deeper understanding of our changing world and inspiring individuals to take meaningful action towards a more sustainable future.

We move forward with hope, directed by the communities we serve. We ask you to join us in these important steps as the Museum becomes a more impactful and transformative institution enriching the communities and landscapes of Winnipeg, Manitoba, and beyond.

**DOROTA BLUMCZYŃSKA**  
Chief Executive Officer



## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

### CREATE & INNOVATE

**By 2027**, the Manitoba Museum will modernize the majority of its public spaces, infrastructure, and offerings, and establish a Museum-wide improvement planning framework for Museum Galleries, Planetarium and Science Gallery. By doing so, we will provide relevant and interconnected transformative experiences for our visitors. The Museum will be more welcoming, accessible, and inspiring in all of our experiences. We will engage community members in lifelong learning, reflection, discussion and gathering, onsite, offsite, and virtually.

### ACKNOWLEDGE & RESPOND

**By 2027**, through the development and implementation of a holistic, museum-wide framework that furthers Decolonization, Indigenization, Reconciliation, and Repatriation, the Manitoba Museum will be recognized by Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities for its demonstrable commitment to advancing Truth and Reconciliation and UNDRIP.

### NURTURE & INVEST

**By 2027**, the Manitoba Museum will be recognized as a collaborative and active partner with all communities; one that embraces and celebrates co-creation and co-curation of our programs and exhibitions as evidenced by the enhanced diversity of community stories and perspectives shared.

### ENGAGE & SHARE

**By 2027**, the Manitoba Museum will be recognized as an integral part of the Manitoba landscape and a member of multiple collaborative initiatives and partnerships in Manitoba that are collectively working together to make a community-wide impact.

### EVOLVE & IMPACT

**By 2027**, the Manitoba Museum will be recognized as a strong, inclusive, provincial cornerstone institution with a reputation as a strategic learning organization that is environmentally and socially responsive, financially sustainable, employing creative approaches to operating and organizational needs.

Tribute Gala Honourees Anne Mahon, Micheal Redhead Champagne, and Flor Marcelino with Museum CEO Dorota Blumczyńska.  
©Matt Duboff/Manitoba Museum.

*“Communities working together in partnership is a powerful and beautiful force. At the Museum we are always asking how we can serve the community better and more effectively. Our Tribute Gala honourees are an inspiration to everyone and we are thrilled to celebrate them this year.”*

**DOROTA BLUMCZYŃSKA**  
CEO

# CELEBRATING COMMUNITIES

## TRIBUTE 2022

In 2022, the Manitoba Museum’s annual Tribute Gala cast a spotlight on the value of serving and uniting our communities to build a brighter future for all Manitobans.

The seventeenth annual Tribute Gala welcomed attendees on April 7 after a hiatus in 2020 and a virtual gala held in 2021.

This incredible evening of celebration and generosity honoured Anne Mahon, Flor Marcelino, and Michael Redhead Champagne as passionate change makers, bold visionaries, and champions of a more just and loving world. The honourees joined in conversation with Niigaan Sinclair to share their thoughts on what “community” means to them and how we can best support and encourage each other.

The Manitoba Museum’s Tribute Gala supports the *Access for All* community initiative, which seeks to remove financial, social, and cultural barriers to Museum visitation. Through this initiative, the Museum aims to diversify and engage new audiences, to assess research and programming to reflect Manitoba’s diverse populations, and to continue to create a Museum that belongs to all.



*“We should never limit our expectations to the boundaries of what we already know”*

**ANNE MAHON**



*“...good community organizing has to be about more than simply identifying the problem - we have to find and nurture and grow and support the solution that we want to see”*

**MICHAEL REDHEAD  
CHAMPAGNE**



*“Success means devoting myself to the service of others. Success is hollow without seeing our families and our communities uplifted.”*

**FLOR MARCELINO**



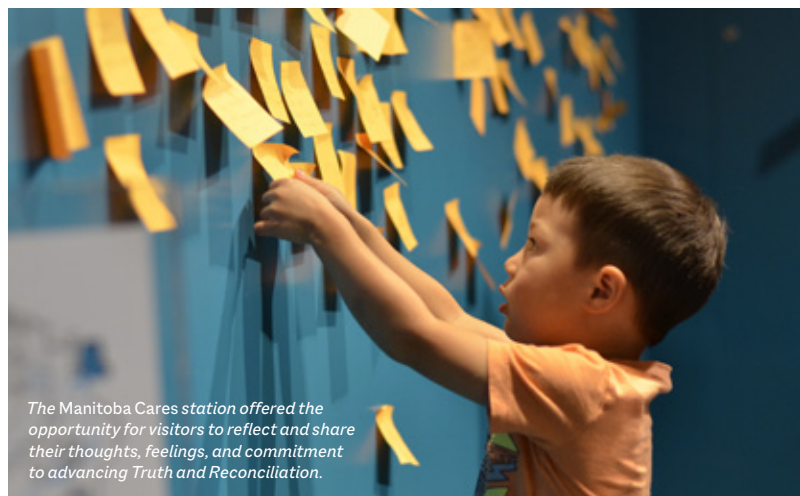
# ADVANCING TRUTH & RECONCILIATION

## ORANGE SHIRT DAYS @ THE MANITOBA MUSEUM

The Manitoba Museum was honoured to once again host three admission-free days of special programming in honour of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. In total, **11,510** visitors attended Orange Shirt Days @ the Manitoba Museum, with many expressing appreciation for the opportunity to learn, reflect, and respond to the legacy of Indian Residential Schools as part of our collective journey towards Reconciliation.

Museum visitors from all walks of life took part in special programming which included a self-guided tour that highlighted various permanent exhibits connected to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls to Action, extended our content on the history of Indian Residential Schools, and amplified Indigenous voices as part of the ongoing community dialogue about Truth and Reconciliation.

We were joined by our partners at the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) who provided interpretation and resources, encouraging visitors to ask questions and learn more. Thanks to the Province of Manitoba's generous support, we were able to play videos at various stops using new video rovers. This made video content accessible to all visitors and created a more cohesive experience for those following the self-guided path through the galleries. The videos, provided by NCTR, Parks Canada, or specifically produced by the Museum, allowed us to expand upon and contextualize the content of permanent exhibits connected to the TRC Calls to Action.



*The Manitoba Cares station offered the opportunity for visitors to reflect and share their thoughts, feelings, and commitment to advancing Truth and Reconciliation.*

The final stop on our self-guided tour was our *Manitoba Cares* station where visitors were encouraged to share their thoughts about what they learned, and to make a commitment to take action for Truth and Reconciliation. In all, 675 post-it notes, written by children and adults, were displayed for others to see, to reflect on and to take inspiration from.

*"I had a great experience & learned a lot of history. This should be a yearly experience."*

*"So well done! Our children learned & will do better & we are inspired to be part of moving forward together."*

*"I really enjoyed the programming it was very accessible, especially the short videos. It made it easy to contextualize the content."*

### FEEDBACK FROM VISITORS

This event was made possible thanks to the support of our partners, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba, Portage la Prairie Residential School Museum, Parks Canada, the Mackay Residential School Survivors Group, and the Province of Manitoba.

Once again, we were incredibly humbled to welcome so many visitors to the Museum to join us in learning, dialogue and to further the journey to advance Truth and Reconciliation.



*Over 11,500 visitors of all ages took part in three days of special programming to honour the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.*

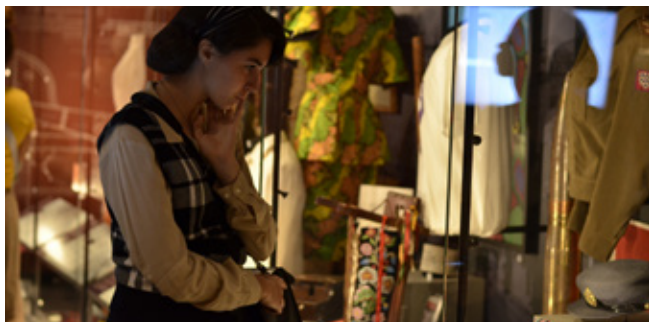


# ACCESS FOR ALL

## FIRST FRIDAYS @ THE MANITOBA MUSEUM

In May 2022, the Museum launched our new community *Access for All* initiative, First Fridays. First Fridays welcomes visitors for an evening of free admission to all three of our core attractions on the first Friday of every month. Supported by Manitoba Liquor Marts, this program has been incredibly well received by our communities, with a remarkable **26,213** visits in its first year!

Every month, we offer an exciting variety of special programming to complement our core offerings, including guided drop-in tours of the Museum Galleries, hands-on science activities, pop-up musical performances, and collaborative community events.



For example, on July 1, Canada Day, we offered a series of reflective, community-based programming. One event, the CommuniTEA, was organized by Learning & Engagement Producer Amna Burki and offered a meeting place for storytellers and diverse Manitobans to come together to enjoy tea, share stories, and build community.

Another major highlight from this year was our Black History Month Takeover event on February 2, co-hosted in partnership with the Black History Manitoba Celebration Committee. Alloway Hall was filled with market vendors, music and dance performances, food stalls, drop-in art activities, and our very own Black History pop-up Museum display, featuring rarely-seen artifacts and interpretation by community co-curators. The Planetarium featured performances by ANANSI School for the Performing Arts, and the Winnipeg Theatre in our new Winnipeg Gallery featured screenings of two short films from the National Film Board, *Black Soul*, and *Oscar*. For this event alone, we welcomed **3,339** visitors over a five-hour period.

As we move into the new year, we are excited to continue growing this exciting program, welcoming record-breaking visitor numbers and providing an accessible and impactful experience for all Manitobans.



*With the support of Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries, the Manitoba Museum was able to open its doors to the Museum Galleries, Planetarium and Science Centre for First Fridays each month at no cost to attendees. This continued support has allowed community members to explore the Museum without financial barriers.*

# COMMUNITIES ARE THE AUTHORS OF OUR STORIES

## INDIGENOUS CONNECTIONS

The Indigenous Advisory Circle to the Museum continues to build strong working relationships. The Circle promotes and supports Indigenous inclusion in all Museum activities to advance and build on the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and to build on the recommendations of the *Truth and Reconciliation Commission: Calls to Action*.

In 2022, the Museum began working with a Working Group of the Indigenous Advisory Circle (IAC) on processes and Terms of Reference to establish the IAC as a Standing Committee to the Museum Board, to be finalized in 2023-2024.



Tashina Houle-Schlup, Head of Indigenous Programming & Engagement, leads an Indigenous Motherhood tour on Mother's Day 2023.

## INDIGENOUS ADVISORY CIRCLE MEMBERS:

### Maxine Angoo

Services Coordinator, Tunngasugit Inuit Resource Centre, Whale Cove, Nunavut;

### Dr. Kyle Bobiwash

Assistant Professor and Indigenous Scholar, University of Manitoba, Mississauga First Nation;

### Elder Joe Hyslop

Past Member of Treaty Relations Council of Elders, Lac Brochet, Northlands First Nation, Denesouline;

### Jaimie Isaac

Chief Curator, Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, Past Curator of Indigenous & Contemporary Art, Winnipeg Art Gallery, Anishinaabekwe Sagkeeng First Nation;

### Dr. Cary Miller

Associate Vice President Indigenous: Curriculum, Scholarship, and Research, University of Manitoba, Anishinaabekwe, Wisconsin;

### Sharissa Neault

Resource and Outreach Manager - The Manitoba Indigenous Cultural Education Centre, Online Learning Coordinator, Manitoba Indigenous Cultural Education Centre, Fox Lake Cree Nation;

### Dr. Darrell Racine

Assistance Professor, Brandon University, Métis, Turtle Mountain;

### Kevin Tacan

Educator, Brandon University, Dakota, Sioux Valley Dakota Nation;

### Shawna Wolfe

Policy Advisor - Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Environmental Professional, Métis.

### Sophia Rabliauskas

Teacher, Poplar River Elementary School, Anishinaabekwe, Poplar River.

The Director of Research, Collections, and Exhibitions (RCE), and Human History Curators continued to participate in various institutional initiatives and committees such as the Repatriation Committee and the Respectful Repatriation Inter-Institutional Group. We also began drafting new and revised policies and procedures for Sacred and Sensitive Collections, Repatriation, and Exhibitions. Together with members of the Learning & Engagement Team (L&E), we continued to contribute to and support the Indigenous Advisory Circle.



The Museum added two new and important roles to our core staff team this year:

- In January 2023, the Museum welcomed Tashina Houle-Schlup as Head of Indigenous Programming & Engagement. This new role for the Museum will work collaboratively between the L&E and RCE teams to expand community access to collections, develop new Indigenous content for school and public programming, and contribute to the Museum's overall commitments to the *Truth and Reconciliation Commission: Calls to Action* and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- Carol Beaulieu, who has been on staff with us for a number of years working in Indigenous program development, transitioned into a new museum-wide role of Indigenous Protocols Advisor. Carol's role provides ongoing oversight and care for the sacred collections in the Museum's care, supports Museum teams in integrating Indigenous content into programming and exhibitions, and advises on Indigenous protocols in all areas of Museum work.

Curatorial mentorship was a focus this year with Dr. Maureen Matthews and Dr. Amelia Fay mentoring five First Nations and Métis students through various programs. Over the summer of 2022, the Museum hired a Métis anthropology undergraduate student through the Young Canada Works (YCW) program to organize and transcribe an important Métis archival collection.

During the fall we engaged in partnership with the Manitoba Métis Federation and the University of Winnipeg Curatorial Practices program to host two Indigenous students to develop practical skills in curation and exhibition development. This will culminate in their own exhibit display, *Made with Love*, opening in June 2023. Finally, we continued the Indigenous Scholars in Residence program by providing funding for two University of Manitoba graduate students in their winter semester to attend weekly discussions at the Museum and engage with the collections as part of their graduate research.

Dr. Fay worked alongside Kevin Brownlee, Curator of Archaeology, to develop and deliver a new tour for the Museum's Reconciliation-based learning programs called *History of Canadian Colonialism*, which explores the deep history of colonization in what is now Canada from the Doctrine of Discovery through today and refutes the romanticized versions of the fur trade and Canadian history. These tours are now part of a full-day learning experience where attendees gain in-depth knowledge of Indigenous history, colonialism, treaties, and residential schools.

Dr. Fay, Dr. Matthews, and new Head of Indigenous Programs, Tashina Houle-Schlup, continued to ensure collections access to Indigenous communities, scholars, artists, and makers. Requests for access are prioritized and guidance and support are provided when needed. Access to collections is through in-person visits, but also virtual collections visits, sharing information electronically when in-person visits are

*Shakila Issa holds her son's shoes, the inspiration behind her emotional story for The Shoe Project. Photo courtesy of The Shoe Project.*



not feasible. We also provide behind-the-scenes collections visits for participants who register for workshops throughout the year, sharing relevant collections to give new makers an opportunity to study and build on historical examples for their contemporary works.

Access to Museum collections is also extended through loans to other institutions (see page 16 *loans page*).

## NEWCOMERS AND DIVERSE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

The Shoe Project was a collaboration between the Museum's RCE and L&E departments and several local immigration and social assistance organizations. It provided 10 newcomer women with writing and performance mentors so they could present the stories of their journeys, inspired by a pair of shoes they own. The final presentations were held at the Museum with over 350 people attending. Several of the participants have since decided to donate their shoes and stories to the Museum.

The Rainbow Resource Centre (RRC) celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2023, and as part of this milestone, Curator of History Dr. Roland Sawatzky worked collaboratively with them on exhibit "If These Walls Could Talk." Showcasing the history of 2SLGBTQ+ activism in Winnipeg from the 1970s to the present, this exhibit of community posters opened in May 2023, and will later move to a permanent location inside RRC's new building.



Research on Winnipeg's Menelik Lodge No. 528, part of a Black fraternal society called the Elks, led to a Winnipeg Free Press publication co-written with Naomi Dennie of Black History Manitoba, and programming provided by the Museum during Black History Month. The Museum also took part in a CBC documentary on Black history in Canada, featuring the Museum's History collection.

A large donation from the Rempel-Ong family resulted in a new digital exhibit in the Winnipeg Gallery related to 20th century history of Chinese settlement in Manitoba. A rare "Chinese head tax certificate" of 1917 belonging to Yee Chung Yen allows us to expose and discuss the early racist immigration policies of Canada.

Biodiversity specialists Dr. Diana Bizecki Robson and Dr. Randy Mooi reviewed proposals for several Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) in the prairies. KBAs are the most important places in the world for species and their habitats and need to be the focus of conservation efforts to prevent species extinctions. In addition, Dr. Robson provided data and reviewed range maps for the Ecosystem-based Automated Range Map initiative of NatureServe Canada, a source for information about rare and endangered species and threatened ecosystems. She also responded to numerous requests for plant and fungus identification, and information on pollination ecology from the community. Dr. Mooi provided input to endangered species status reports for several organisms being evaluated by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Species in Canada, along with zoology collections data valuable in determining conservation approaches and public policy. Direct engagement through over 150 public enquiries regarding identification and biology of animals addressed science literacy and understanding of nature.

Curator of Geology & Paleontology, Dr. Graham Young, collaborated on a project to bring public attention to the important role of Manitoba Tyndall Stone as a historic and modern building material. Graham collaborated on the successful nomination of Tyndall Stone as a Global Heritage Stone Resource; it is the first Canadian stone to be recognized with this status.



Churchillian Maxwell Burké gets a behind the scenes tour of the Geology and Paleontology department with Curator Graham Young.

## WORKSHOPS

We were delighted to bring back our popular Indigenous art workshops this year, after a hiatus due to COVID-19 restrictions. A sold-out Mukluks workshop with artist Gloria Beckman welcomed participants to visit with historic ancestral examples of footwear while gaining their own hands-on skills in beading and leatherwork. As always, the workshops provide an opportunity for cross-cultural engagement, dialogue, and laughter, bringing communities together to learn and share.



Participants of Gloria Beckman's Mukluk workshop went home with their own beautiful, hand-made artwork.

On March 4, 2023, we co-hosted *Globally Grassroots*, an international hybrid in-person/online day-long workshop with the Commonwealth Association of Museums. The event was a great success with 30 in-person participants and approximately 25 online participants joining from around the world – including participants from Pakistan, Seychelles, South Africa, Nigeria, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Scotland, and England. Important museum themes were discussed including repatriation and the care of human remains, climate change, and Indigenous-led heritage initiatives.

*"I feel very fortunate to have taken several workshops through Manitoba Museum, some more than once! I not only learn how to make something, but I also learn about the instructors and their backgrounds, both creative and personal, and why they do what they do. I am always very thankful that they are willing to share so much with us. I will definitely be taking more, probably some for the third time!"*

**RONA Y.**

# THE STORIES WITHIN THESE WALLS

## NEW EXHIBITIONS AND GALLERY UPDATES

New exhibitions and additions to the galleries play a vital role in the ever-evolving landscape of the Manitoba Museum. They serve as catalysts for knowledge, connection, and inclusivity. These dynamic additions are of utmost importance as they enable museums to tell stories about our shared history, shedding light on diverse cultures, untold narratives, and the experiences of people who have traditionally been marginalized and overlooked.



Young and old alike enjoyed the Ultimate Dinosaurs exhibit.

Unique and bizarre prehistoric wonders, a story rediscovered through photography, bringing iconic 1920s Winnipeg people and places back to life; this is just a small sampling of the incredible exhibitions and updates that have taken place within the Museum walls this past year. They serve as a platform that inspires wonder, promotes inclusivity, and celebrating the diverse tapestry of humanity.

The careful curation and interpretation undertaken by the Manitoba Museum allow visitors to engage with newly discovered biodiversity, with narratives that were once silenced, and discover new voices that speak to a multitude of lived experiences. These new exhibitions and gallery additions serve as powerful tools for our Museum and help us to continue to provide opportunities for dialogue, learning, and discovery.



Young and old alike enjoyed the Ultimate Dinosaurs exhibit.

## FEATURE EXHIBITION

### ULTIMATE DINOSAURS

May 21 - September 5, 2022

Based on new, groundbreaking research from scientists around the world (including former Science Museum paleontologist and current Macalester College professor Kristi Curry Rogers), *Ultimate Dinosaurs* revealed a new breed of dinosaurs that evolved in isolation in South America, Africa and Madagascar – dinosaurs that are unfamiliar to most North Americans. The exhibition sought to answer the question: why are southern dinosaurs so unique and bizarre, and why are they so different from their North American counterparts? *Ultimate Dinosaurs* also featured cutting-edge technology experiences that brought the specimens to life like never before. *Ultimate Dinosaurs* was produced and loaned by the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) in Toronto. Curation of the exhibition was led by Dr. David Evans, Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology in the ROM's Department of Natural History.

## NEW PERMANENT EXHIBITIONS

### PAUL KANE PAINTING, FAMILIES OF RED RIVER CASE

Fall 2022

This significant new acquisition, a beautiful Paul Kane painting of Andrew McDermot, was permanently installed into the renewed Prairies Gallery. McDermot was a famous and well-liked independent trader from the Red River Settlement after whom McDermot Avenue is named. Paul Kane (1810 -1871) is considered one of the most important Canadian painters of the peoples and landscapes of the Canadian Northwest in the 19th Century. This painting beautifully complements the Museum's world-class collection of over 80 artifacts gathered by Kane during his expeditions, which were previously donated by the Allen family in the 1940s.



*“Andrew McDermot, who was born in Ireland, was one of the earliest independent merchants at Red River, challenging the Hudson’s Bay Company’s monopoly on trade. This incredible new acquisition helps the Museum highlight an important Red River family.”*

**DR. ROLAND SAWATZY**  
Curator of History

## WINNIPEG 1920: CITYSCAPE

A three-phased upgrade of *Winnipeg 1920: Cityscape*, a project due for completion in 2024. This fiscal we completed both Phases One and Two.

### Fall 2022

Phase One completion included:

- Relocation of *Sing Wo Laundry* with addition of a new, realistic mannequin and interpretive panel about the early Chinese community in Winnipeg.
- Inclusion of a new, realistic mannequin in the *Colcleugh Pharmacy*; this mannequin represents Hattie Colcleugh, a graduate of the University of Manitoba School of Pharmacy, and co-owner of the pharmacy “Colcleugh and Co.”
- Inclusion of a *Sleeping Car Porter* mannequin and interpretive panel about the early Black community in Winnipeg.
- A new Dominion Immigration Hall room with interpretive panel.
- New *Allen Theatre* interpretive panel and poster.
- New audio for Strathcona Hotel, Boarding House, and Garvin Parlour.
- Four new large wall projections with street scenes and newspaper headlines enliven the gallery.



*“The Fur Trader”  
by Paul Kane  
has found a  
new home in the  
Prairies Gallery.*

## March 2023

Phase Two completion included:

- *The Ukrainian Booksellers* store, originally located on Main Street, with new content from the original store, a new sign, and interpretive panel.
- *Madame Taro’s Room* has been updated with an antique record player and new audio featuring five songs of different music styles from 1918–1920 played over a localized speaker.
- *The All People’s Mission* now has new content, including six framed photo reproductions of the organization’s activities with immigrants, and an interpretive panel.



## INTERNAL TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS

### THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING A FLOWER

June 7, 2021 –  
October 16, 2022

This “From the Collections” case was extended into 2022 and featured specimens of fruits and seeds collected in 2016 for the Botany collection, displayed alongside images of the plants’ flowers.



*“The Importance of Being A Flower” New Acquisitions Case in the foyer featured recently collected fruits and seeds.*



**LIEUTENANT LEONARD B. CORRIGAN****October 18 – November 18, 2022**

This annually rotating exhibition case features intimate stories of people who have served in the Canadian military. This year's exhibit featured veteran Lieutenant Leonard B. Corrigan, who served with the Winnipeg Grenadiers in Hong Kong. The Canadian forces were defeated by Japanese invaders, and Corrigan was imprisoned in two POW camps from 1941–1945, where he faced disease, forced labour, starvation, and violence.

**THE LOST EXPRESSIONIST - NICK YUDELL, A PHOTOGRAPHER DISCOVERED****February 19, 2022 – January 8, 2023**

A community exhibition developed in partnership with guest curator/artist Dr. Celia Rabinovitch was extended into 2022 and presented a visual narrative uncovering the photographs of Nick Yudell. Nick was a young Jewish man from Morden who died fighting German forces in Tunisia during the Second World War. The exhibit portrayed a compelling story of a carefree youth's life through the prism of his expressionistic photographs of friends, family, and places on the prairies, before his commitment to join the war effort.



*“The Lost Expressionist offers a prism of a young man’s life, showing how each person is rich and complex. Nick’s portraits and images of daily life express the facets of an individual life, sacrificed defending freedom in World War II.”*

**DR. CELIA RABINOVITCH**  
Art Director and Curator

**INCOMING TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS****OUR CLIMATE QUEST***Science North***October 7 – November 18, 2022**

This travelling exhibition from Science North was a wonderful pop-up, interactive exhibition which provided engaging Climate Change education organized in nine zones: Introduction to exhibit experience, Climate action theatre, How do we know, How do we connect to nature, How do we eat, How do we live together, How do we shop, Reflection, and Action.

**EXTERNAL EXHIBITIONS****STRIKE 1919: DIVIDED CITY****December 6, 2021 – 2024**

This external exhibition, produced by the Museum and located at the Manitoba Building Trades Institute, 225 McPhillips Street, features artifacts and content related to the history of the Winnipeg 1919 General Strike.

# IN PERSON PROGRAMS & EVENTS

In-person visits were at an all-time high this past year, and our programs and events saw great success and popularity.

We were thrilled to be bustling once again with family visitors during school break times. In summer, visitors were delighted by hands-on fossils and crafts in the *Ultimate Dinosaurs* exhibit, went on Ultimate Scavenger Hunts in the Museum Galleries, learned more about Dinosaurs in the Planetarium show *Dinosaurs: A Story of Survival*, and investigated the wonders of the oceans and the problems of plastic in the Explore Science Zone in the Science Gallery.

During **Winter Break**, families joined us for Pyjama Days where they enjoyed our Spot the Snowman Scavenger Hunt, Nonsuch Hold Tours, and cool-as-ice science demonstrations while in their cozy attire.



**Spring Break** visitors were engaged with water-based programming- learning about amazing aquatic animals, the wonders of water in our “H2WOAH!” science demonstrations, and how we can protect our planet in our new Planetarium show, *The Enchanted Reef!*

The Museum’s **Halloween Takeover** returned in 2022 with a scavenger hunt and trick-or-treating in the Museum Galleries, a special spooky Planetarium feature, and hair-raising science demonstrations. Attendance to this year’s event doubled that of the 2019 Halloween event!

Thanks to exciting grant funding from Prairies Economic Development Canada, we have purchased five special off-the-shelf exhibitions that will contribute to a mini-renewal of our much-loved **Science Gallery**. An interactive Aurora Wall, a Magnetic Ball Wall, a giant Lite Brite, a life-size Score Four, and a brand new hands-on, immersive Toddler Zone will be installed by summer 2023, welcoming visitors for all new tactile and engaging experiences.

In partnership with a number of community organizations in Winnipeg, the Museum was excited to host **The Shoe Project** on March 11 & 12. The performances featured the culmination of a month’s long writing and performance workshop, involving 10 newcomer women.

**Summer day camps** returned after a two-year hiatus following COVID-19 closures. We ran at limited capacity and sold out with 240 spaces filled over eight weeks of camp.



# SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Despite continued uncertainty regarding the return of in-person school visits, our school attendance exceeded expectations this year. New Planetarium shows, hands-on experiences, engaging guided programming, demonstrations and workshops, and self-guided explorations attracted students of all grade levels.



The hybridization of our program offerings continued to grow, as we offered both in-person and virtual experiences for every grade across all three of our venues. Science, nature, and history content took centre stage as we launched new Virtual Field Trip formats and expanded to national and international audiences through partnerships with Connected North and Streamable Learning.

In June of 2022, we launched our partnership with GenAction, a cross-Canada grant-funded initiative by the Canadian Association of Science Centres. We welcomed Mika Pineda, our new Learning & Engagement Producer for Youth Climate Action, who is spearheading a number of special initiatives to engage youth through programming related to climate change and the biodiversity crisis. The GenAction project involves the development of new in-person and virtual programming, including this year's special World Water Day Youth Event. This event, hosted in partnership with Science First, welcomed over 100 students to a full-day event featuring speakers, a special Planetarium show screening, and important dialogue.

We are excited to share that both our on-site school visits and Virtual Field Trips were a great success with 52,246 students visiting the Museum in person and 13,709 students taking part virtually. All told, the Museum engaged with 65,955 young minds in 2022-23!





# THE STORIES IN THE STARS

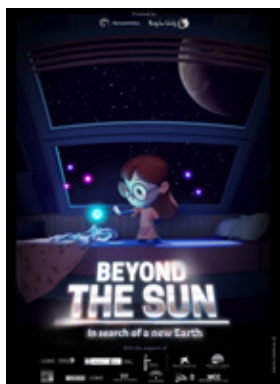
## PLANETARIUM

The Planetarium reached sky-high popularity in 2022-2023, breaking attendance records and premiering a record-setting five new feature-length shows!

Planetarium attendance has tripled from our pre-COVID levels – we are thrilled to be welcoming sold-out audiences, and renewed and ever-expanding enthusiasm for astronomy content both on-site and online. A highlight of the year was a visit from Canadian astronaut Jeremy Hansen, who spent the day with us at the Museum visiting with students of all ages to share his love of space and answer questions about what it's like to be astronaut. Shortly after his visit, Hansen was selected as a crew member for NASA's 2025 Artemis II mission and will be the first Canadian to orbit the moon!

*"The Planetarium has the best crew since the Enterprise (you pick which one). Keep reaching for the stars!"*

MARY AGNES WELCH



The premieres of five new pre-recorded shows featured content tailored for our distinct and diverse audiences. Two new family-friendly blockbusters *Beyond the Sun* and *Dinosaurs: A Story of Survival* introduced our youngest viewers to the stories of exoplanets, and how the histories of dinosaurs and space are interconnected. Two shows premiered as part of our GenAction project: *Atlas of a Changing Earth* shares how satellites are helping to identify the ramifications of the climate crisis, and *Enchanted Reef* explores how the pollution of our oceans impacts the health of underwater ecosystems. Our fifth new show, *Explore*, is a feature film for our general audiences, taking audiences on a journey through the history of global space exploration.



The Planetarium offered a number of in-person events that capitalized on the unique setting and atmosphere of the dome: the Planetarium's first-ever, sold out Drag Show performance in November 2022



featured performances by local BIPOC Queens, the Bannock Babes and Kymera; a special music performance, "Let it Snow," featured seasonal favourites from a local brass quintet as part of our ongoing partnership with the University of Manitoba School of Music; and we were excited to partner with Cree Astronomer Wilfred Buck in January 2022, to co-host his book launch.

Our popular Dome@Home program continued this year, transitioning from a weekly to bi-weekly feature. This strong online community tuned in for the latest space and sky content, with Planetarium Astronomer Scott Young leading dynamic discussions and answering audiences most pressing astronomy-related questions. Dome@Home was honoured to receive the Canadian Association of Science Centres CASCADE Award for Best Program in the under \$50,000 category. Finally, the Museum was thrilled to be selected as a recipient of a grant from Prairies Economic Development Canada, which allowed us the opportunity to upgrade from the Digistar 5 to Digistar 7 operating system. This new system allows the Planetarium to deliver breakthrough discoveries to our audiences, whether it's breathtaking views of distant galaxies, robot and human exploration of other worlds in our solar system, or even new views of our changing home.

*"Since Scott's virtual backyard astronomer workshop I have been enjoying discovering the sky, including the recent partial eclipse of the moon. So glad to support your amazing skywatching programs."*

MONICA BALL

# IF THESE VAULTS COULD TALK

## COLLECTIONS

Museum research helps scientists, historians and students understand our world and encourage society to be a better steward of the environment and culture. But the results of the Museum's research don't just impact Manitobans - people from all over the world engage with and benefit from our work as well. Through several hundred professional inquiries, the Museum provided collections and research-based data and information that informed environmental conservation and cultural and heritage policy initiatives, as well as supporting research by scientists and their students in museums and universities throughout North America.

Each year, hundreds of communities, individuals, and organizations approach the Museum curators for information and guidance about topics in nature, history and culture, and Collections and Conservation staff for information about documentation, preservation, and management of collections. Staff provide essential data and background to key local, provincial and national decision-makers, they publish and present their research, conduct media interviews, and help educate post-secondary students.

## LOANS

In 2022-2023, more than 75 artifacts and specimens were loaned to other museums, galleries, organizations, and universities to be used in exhibitions, outreach, and research.

### OUTGOING LOAN HIGHLIGHTS

- 6 artifacts from the History Collection were loaned to the Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association.
- 4 artifacts from the Anthropology and HBC Museum Collections were loaned to the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba for exhibit in their newly created Agowiidiwinan Centre at the Forks.
- 6 cretaceous fossil specimens from the Paleontology Collection were loaned to Aaron Kilmury and Dr. Kirstin Brink from the University of Manitoba for research and preparation.
- 5 artifacts from the Anthropology and HBC Museum Collections were loaned to Remai Modern in Saskatoon, SK for their exhibition *Storied Objects: Métis Art in Relation*.
- 10 artifacts from the History Collection were loaned to the Henderson Highway Legion Branch #215 for their exhibit on the contribution of women serving in the armed forces during WWII.
- 6 specimens from the Paleontology Collection were loaned to Dr. Colin Sproat at the University of Saskatchewan for scientific study.
- 9 artifacts from the Anthropology and HBC Museum Collections were loaned to the Winnipeg Art Gallery for their exhibit *Inuit Sanaugangit: Art Across Time*.
- 5 artifacts from the Anthropology Collection were loaned to the Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library for their exhibit *Gathering: Indigenous Beadwork, Embroidery and Quillwork*.

### INFORMATION REQUESTS

The Natural History department facilitated 15 Collections Access and Data Release permissions to local and international researchers and students, to study specimens from the permanent collections and their associated data:

- Zoology collections access ranged from artists confirming colour and form details in order to create life-like wood carvings, to scientists gathering data on endangered species for status reports. Phenotypes (varieties) of a species of butterfly were scored for a research team from George Washington University to fill a critical geographic gap in their database, illustrating the international value of the collections.
- Botanical collections data were accessed to aid in the production of a Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada report.

Through the Collections and Conservation department, more than 75 intellectual property permission to use requests were received in 2022-2023. Some highlights include:

- Image of trilobite specimen [*Isotelus Rex*] *The Rise and Fall of Paleoorganisms in Invertebrate* (written in Japanese) by Ken Tsuchiya
- Image of painting in our collection by Peter Rindisbacher included in *Western Voices in Canadian Art*, author Patricia Bovey
- Images of our "If Day" collection for the show *Invitation au Voyage* for the European culture TV channel ARTE
- Images of several hospitals for inclusion in the *Manitoba Indigenous Tuberculosis History Project* website

- Images included in interpretive panels for the project “The March from Winnipeg to Emerson May 1915, Canada’s First National Internment Operations of 1914–1920”; permanent exhibit installed in Emerson, MB; created by the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Foundation

### SPECIMEN PREPARATION

Specimens in the natural history collections often require preparation by specialists prior to being used for research, exhibition, or placed into storage. Key activities in 2022–2023 included:

- 380 herbarium specimens prepared
- 458 vascular plant specimens identified by the Curator as part of preparation process
- 1 detailed plant model partially prepared
- 50 fossil specimens prepared as thin sections for microscope slides
- 400+ invertebrate fossil specimens identified by the Curator as part of preparation and documentation process
- 75 bird skins prepared
- 58 insects pinned
- 780+ small mammal and bird skeletons prepared
- 300+ insects, 100 other invertebrates (mollusks, arachnids, etc.), and 200+ bird and mammal specimens identified by the Curator as part of the preparation process
- 1 bison dung prepared
- 1 cougar mount prepared (by taxidermist)

## CONSERVATION

Conservation strives to ensure the care and long-term preservation of more than 2.9 million artifacts and specimens within the Museum’s collection. This includes completing technical examinations and treatment of objects, as well as provide expertise on preservation to mitigate deterioration before it begins, respond to damage when required, and ensuring objects are cared for while on exhibition and in storage.

Key activities in the past year include performing condition assessments, treatments, and packing of 31 objects for loan, shipping them to 15 partnering museums and organizations. More than 240 condition assessments and treatment reports were completed for artifacts and specimens going on display in temporary exhibits.

In addition to caring for our own collections, we were able to assist partner organizations with conservation and preservation needs which included:

- Creating artifact exhibition mounts for the Mennonite Heritage Village’s travelling exhibit *Leaving Canada: The Mennonite Migration to Mexico*
- Conservation treatment of a sash for the City of Winnipeg
- Cleaning a large mural installation for the Manitoba Centennial Centre Corporation
- Conservation treatment of a drum from art installation *Witness Blanket* by Carey Newman/*Hayalthkin’geme*, which is held in stewardship at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

## ACQUISITION HIGHLIGHTS

**3,746 artifacts and specimens were accessioned into our collections in 2022–2023.**

### BOTANY

102 vascular plant species were collected this year from the Churchill area. A further 52 plants were collected in collaboration with Buffalo Point First Nation in southeast Manitoba. These specimens will help scientists determine the status of wild species in Manitoba and help document changes in biodiversity over time.

Preliminary research began with First Nation ethno-botanists to develop an Indigenous ethno-botany chapter for Volume one of the upcoming Manitoba Flora publication.



*Model birchbark canoe. (H4-2-675)*

## CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

A model of a birchbark canoe, made with spruce roots and pitch, in excellent condition, and had been in a family's collection for almost 100 years. This model offers an excellent representation of Indigenous canoe technology.

A pair of silk embroidered gloves on tanned caribou hide from Nelson House, dating to the 1940s, and are a good representation of the style within that community during the mid-20th century.

*Pair of Embroidered Gloves, 1940s. (H4-2-677)*

## GEOLOGY AND PALEONTOLOGY

Thirty-six fossil slabs from the Airport Cove site, Churchill, were collected in August 2022. These include many unusual fossils including some newly discovered, very rare early fishes.

In addition to the better-known fossil and mineral collections, the Museum maintains other geological collections such as sets of mine samples. In 2022 we were excited to receive excellent examples of ore minerals including zinc ore and chalcopryrite/gold ore, from the new Lalor Mine in Snow Lake, donated to us by the Snow Lake Mining Museum.

## HBC MUSEUM COLLECTION

A certificate issued to Kristjan Donald Thorsteinson, HBC employee from 1942-1948, on his journey aboard the *Nascopie*. All passengers on the ship received these certificates when crossing the Arctic Circle. An interesting component is the wax seal, which was impressed with a molar that they found discarded

*Certificate issued to Kristjan Donald Thorsteinson, HBC employee from 1942-1948 (HBC 022-15)*

in the ship's sick bay. Donald's daughter donated the certificate along with other items that he acquired during his early work with the company.

A moosehair tufted table cover made by Lepha Walker during her time in Fond du Lac Saskatchewan. Lepha was from Morden, Manitoba and after marrying HBC employee Robert Walker she moved to Fond du Lac where she learned embroidery and tufting from local First Nations women. This item was donated by her daughter, along with several other items which together help represent the daily lives of early 20th century fur trading families as they integrated into new communities, formed friendships, and shared knowledge and skills.

*Table cloth made by Lepha Walker (HBC 022-6)*





## HISTORY

A large collection from the Criddle family, including art, music, photographs, letters and other cultural and scientific material representing five generations of the family in England and Manitoba, from the early 1800s to 1960.

A large Persian carpet made in Naeen, Iran, donated by a family that moved from Iran to Winnipeg in 2015. At 16x10.5 feet, the wool and silk carpet includes over 5.4 million knots in the weaving.

A Black Brant III rocket was donated by Ingenium Canada. It may eventually be exhibited in a renewed Arctic/Sub-arctic Gallery.

*Conservator Carolyn Sirett cleans the Persian carpet donated by Zahra Sahhafnia and Mona Ajal Loueian. The carpet was an important part of their family's legacy and inheritance. The carpet is so large, photographer Jerry Grajewski required a drone to capture its full scale. (H9-40-33)*

## ZOOLOGY

Many excellent donations increased the taxonomic and geographic breadth of the collections this year, making them much more valuable to researchers here and abroad. Over 600 expertly curated insects from across the province, mostly beetles, came from two local collectors making their specimens available for research and future exhibitions.

Larvae of endangered tiger salamanders (*Ambystoma tigrinum*) were accidental casualties of permitted research done at the University of Winnipeg but are now held at the Museum. This species of amphibian is unique in Canada to southeastern Manitoba.

Several specimens of birds came in from The Pas, an area of the province poorly represented in the collections. Unusual records included a varied thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*), a species usually found west of the Rockies, and a hybrid male duck that is a mix of mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) and northern pintail (*Anas acuta*).



A selection of artifacts from the Ukrainian Canadian Legion Branch 141 on Selkirk Avenue, which closed in March 2022. The collection includes the Legion flag, which utilizes a combination of the Maple Leaf and the Tryzub, the symbol of Ukrainian independence.

*Ukrainian Canadian Veterans Branch 141 flag, mid-20th Century. (H9-40-140)*



# CHURCHILL RECONNAISSANCE RESEARCH TRIP

One of the Museum's next gallery priorities is the renewal of the Arctic/Subarctic Gallery. During the research and development for our recently renewed Prairies Gallery, the curatorial team planned many field trips to that region to visit important sites and meet with community members. The result of this approach was the creation of the many engaging and collaborative exhibits that our visitors are enjoying today and we wanted to follow a similar approach for Arctic/Subarctic.

Beautiful murals can be found all around Churchill, including on this abandoned radar station, affectionately called Golf Balls by locals and visitors.



At Bird Cove near Churchill, Curator of Zoology Dr. Randy Mooi holds a stromatolite, a fossilized algal mat that is over 400 million years old!


During field research in the Churchill area, the Museum team used scopes and cameras as they watched wildlife at Bird Cove.




During field research in the Churchill area, Curator of History Dr. Roland Sawatzky and Learning & Engagement Producer Erin Buelow explored the inside of the MV Ithaca, a ship that was wrecked at Bird Cove in 1960.







Thousands of beluga whales visit the Churchill estuary during the summer. Zodiac tour operators navigate the waters to allow visitors a closer look, while also keeping the whales safe from harm.



Understanding the costs associated with northern travel, the team recognized that we would need to plan one main group trip. We selected Churchill as a location where we could meet many of our different disciplinary goals, experience the Hudson Bay lowland environment, and begin making important community connections. The generous support of The Manitoba Museum Foundation made our vision a reality.

With a packed six-day itinerary, our team of curators, alongside their Director, Exhibition Designer, and a Learning & Engagement Producer, embarked on a whirlwind tour that included: zodiac boat trips; abundant beluga whales; Prince of Wales Fort; polar bear sightings; low-tide hike to the MV Ithaca; the Itsanitaq Museum; a special tour of the Churchill Rocket Range; spotting fossils; coastal and taiga ecology; a guided tour of a Dene Village; looking at artworks throughout town; and so much more!




During field research in the Churchill area, Learning & Engagement Producer Erin Buelow explored an abandoned boat at Cockles Point.

During field research in the Churchill area, the Museum group examined 18th century signatures that were carved into the hard quartzite at Sloop Cove.



We left Churchill with hundreds of photos and our heads full of ideas for how we can begin re-thinking parts of the Arctic/Subarctic Gallery. Our team continues to meet to share ideas from that trip and discuss other areas within the broader biome for us to explore. We made great contacts with Indigenous and local community members, researchers, and potential partners, and we look forward to continuing this important research and planning work.



This team from the Manitoba Museum travelled to the Churchill area in August, 2022, to carry out research for future gallery development.



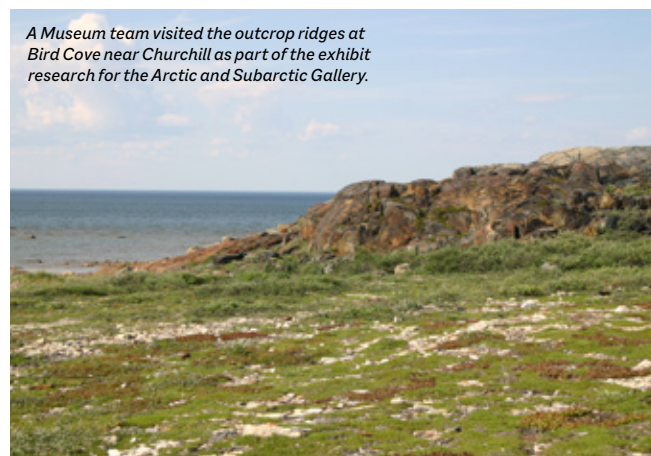
# WE ARE ALWAYS LEARNING

## RESEARCH

Research is the foundation of the Museum; it helps us build relevant collections, which in turn leads to an understanding of history and our environment.

By undertaking field research to collect fossils, rocks, minerals, plant and animal specimens, and archaeological, cultural, and historical artifacts, curators support the institution's mandate to study and preserve artifacts and specimens for current and future generations. Each year thousands of scientists and scholars study the Museum's collections and research papers to understand all sorts of phenomenon – from changes in plant and animal communities over time to changing attitudes about human relationships.

Research underlies the Museum's interpretation of human and natural history in the form of exhibits, presentations, programs, workshops, reports, and publications for a wide range of audiences including school groups, visitors, government panels and policy-makers, university students, and researchers around the world. Research makes the Museum a trusted and reliable source of information recognized by Manitobans; curators and conservation staff responded to nearly 500 public and 331 professional inquiries this year alone.



*A Museum team visited the outcrop ridges at Bird Cove near Churchill as part of the exhibit research for the Arctic and Subarctic Gallery.*

One of the research highlights this year was a curatorial tour of Churchill. Upgrades to the Arctic and Subarctic Gallery (now nearly 50 years old) are being planned, and a trip to the area was needed to identify potential new exhibit topics. This trip allowed curators and other relevant staff to experience the environment in this area, and meet with local people to discuss their history and concerns about the future.

## ARCHAEOLOGY

Focus this year was on completion of permit reports to close research projects.



*Dr. Diana B. Robson searched for rare plants at Lord Lake near Churchill.*

## BOTANY

**DR. DIANA BIZECKI ROBSON**

### Historic Plant Tracking – Year 2

This project (delayed from 2020 due to COVID) involved travelling to Churchill to search for 15 rare plant species, and examine herbarium specimens at the Churchill Northern Studies Centre (CNSC). In total, 25 rare plant specimens were collected using proper

scientific protocols and added to the Museum's collection. The curator obtained much needed data on northern plants in the CNSC herbarium for use in the *Manitoba Flora* publication.

### Historic Plant Tracking – Year 4

To help scientists assess the rarity status of plants, and obtain data for the *Manitoba Flora* publication, the curator searched for rare plants at Buffalo Point First Nation (BPFN). With the assistance of local Indigenous guides, she visited the remote Reed River area. In total, 13 rare plant specimens were collected using proper scientific and Indigenous protocols. A report outlining the findings was prepared for BPFN.

## CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

**DR. MAUREEN MATTHEWS**

### Gaawaayag: Quillwork Skills Repatriation Project

This multi-year project to restore Indigenous quillwork skills brings together Métis artist/mentor Jennine Krauchi and University of Manitoba School of Art, Associate Professor Katherine Boyer to work with four artist apprentices. This project concluded this year with their work included in *Stored Objects: Métis Art in Relation* at the Remai Modern in Saskatoon.

## GEOLOGY AND PALEONTOLOGY

### DR. GRAHAM YOUNG

#### Unusual fossils at the Airport Cove Site, Churchill

A final field season at the Airport Cove site, delayed from 2020 due to COVID, was carried out. Dr. Young collaborated with Michael Cuggy (University of Saskatchewan) and the Manitoba Museum's Debbie Thompson, to successfully collect a suite of 36 fossil slabs from this site. Specimens collected include unusual arthropods (joint-legged animals related to crabs and spiders), remarkable early fishes distantly related to sharks, and beautifully preserved seaweeds.

#### Tyndall Stone as a World Heritage Building Stone

Tyndall Stone is a famous building stone quarried at Garson, Manitoba. A collaboration with Dr. Brian Pratt (University of Saskatchewan) resulted in a large manuscript that was recently submitted to a scientific journal, describing the geology and extraction of this beautiful stone. This is an accompaniment to our successful nomination of Tyndall Stone as a Global Heritage Stone resource.



## HISTORY

### DR. ROLAND SAWATZKY

#### Churchill Rocket Range

In preparation for an eventual renewal of the Arctic/Sub-arctic Gallery, research was conducted on the history of the Rocket Range and research programs (1940s to 1980s), in particular its origins as part of the Cold War military partnership between the United States and Canada. The research, which included a curatorial group trip to Churchill, has led to numerous new donations of original colour slides, launched equipment, and a Black Brant III rocket.



#### Menelik Lodge

Coming out of the partnership between Black History Manitoba and the Manitoba Museum, research was conducted on Menelik Lodge No. 528, located at 795 Main St. It was part of the *North American Improved, Benevolent, and Protective Order of the Elks of the World*, a fraternal society founded for Black membership, with the goal of “the expression of ideals, services and leadership in the black struggle for freedom and opportunity.”

## ZOOLOGY

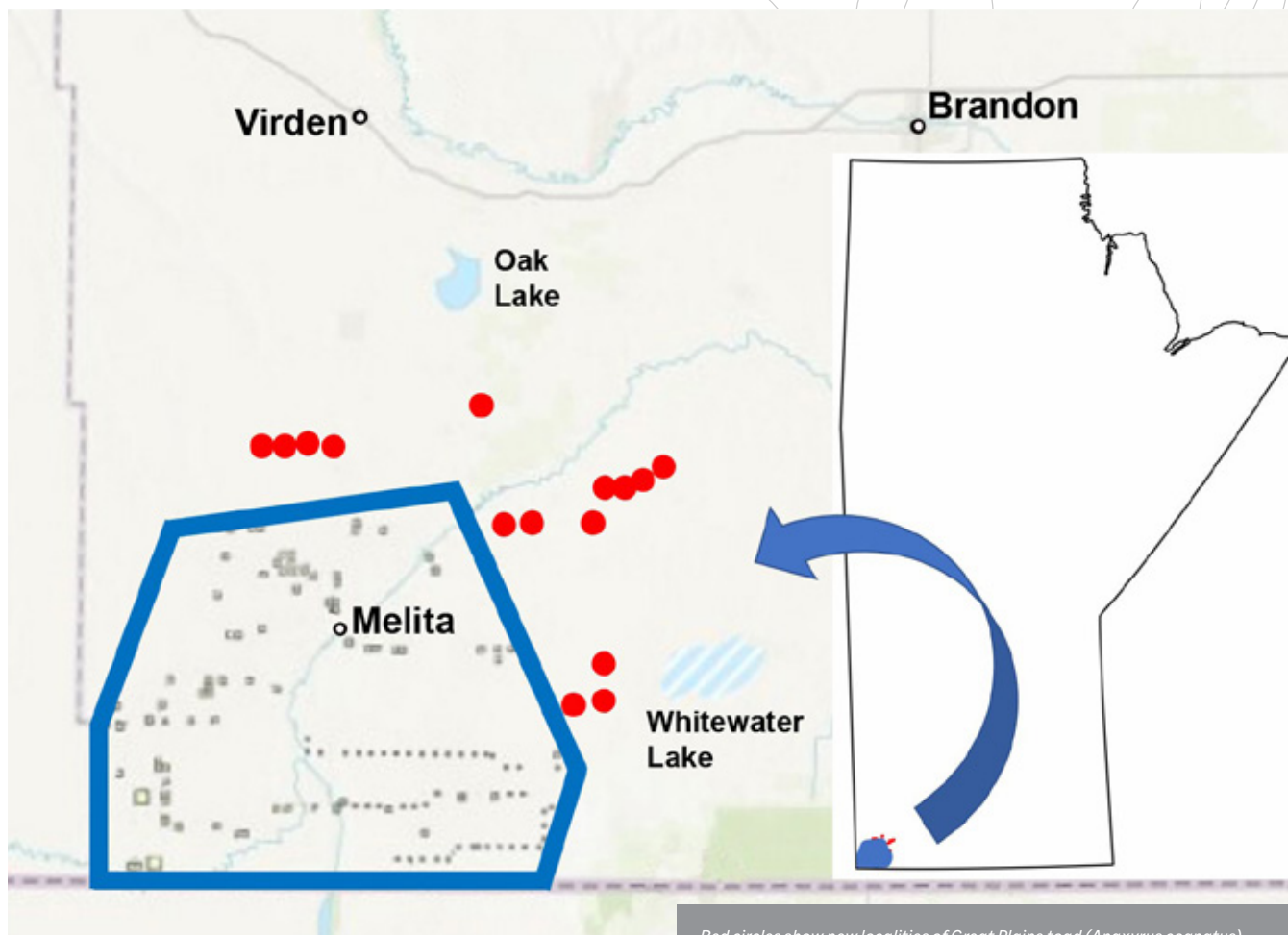
### DR. RANDALL MOOI

#### Manitoba Amphibians

Surveys were conducted in southwestern Manitoba on the threatened Great Plains toad (*Anaxyrus cognatus*). The known range of the species in the province was extended north and east by several kilometres and several new breeding areas were discovered. Future sites were identified for the deployment of automated recording units that will monitor when and under what conditions this species is active in Manitoba.







Red circles show new localities of Great Plains toad (*Anaxyrus cognatus*) in Manitoba found by the Museum's Zoology research team. The solid blue line in the inset of province, and the gray squares bounded by blue line in the enlargement show the previously known range of this threatened species. Known distribution modified from mapped data provided by the Manitoba Conservation Data Centre.

### Frostbite in Wild Birds

The occurrence of apparent frostbite in a specimen of Eurasian collared-dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) from Morris, donated to the Museum this year, began an inquiry into the occurrence of frostbite in this species in Manitoba and across North America. This dove is a recent invader due to human introduction and appears to have some difficulty under severe winter conditions. Museum specimens and on-line bird records are being examined for the prevalence and distribution of frostbite in this and other wild bird species.

## CURATORS EMERITI

### KATHERINE PETTIPAS

Three projects focused on the reconciliation of specific collections with Indigenous communities and associated organizations:

Information on northern Cree artifacts, images, and archival materials from the Flin Flon/Pelican Narrows areas were exchanged with the Northern Gateway Museum at Amisk Lake, Saskatchewan. The information will be made available to local communities of origin. Dr. Pettipas also organized the NGM's archival collections to facilitate community access in exchange for copies.

A major report on the non-North American artifacts in the Cultural Anthropology Department was prepared for the Museum. Research on the Rubina Miles Collection from Papua New Guinea (1925–29) involves on-going collaboration with Christy Henry, University Archivist, SJ McKee Archives, at Brandon University which houses documents from the Miles Estate.

Dr. Pettipas is working with the Papua New Guinea/Australian Association regarding a publication of a three-part article "A Manitoba Prairie Family on the Gilgili Plantation 1925–29". The reconciliation aspect of a related project will inform local communities from Papua New Guinea about the Museum's holdings of some 50 objects and over 150 images.

Conducted advice and consultation with private collectors and the Manitoba Museum.

# WE SHARE OUR KNOWLEDGE

## PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

### Sharing research makes our world a better place.

The Museum curators and their collaborators conduct important scientific and historical research, and they share this knowledge with the community to help solve environmental and societal challenges which in turn may be used in formulating local, nation and global policies. Through publications and presentations, research results and the resulting knowledge are communicated to relevant communities. Community groups took part in six presentations by Curators and Collections and Conservation staff, with over 320 people attending. Over 250 people attended 19 Museum tours led by curators.

### PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Growing a climate and pollinator-friendly garden. 2022. *In: The Prairie Garden: Climate-Aware Gardening. Edited by: E. Lundeen. The Prairie Garden Committee, Winnipeg, MB. pp. 14-17. Robson, D.B.*

Mapping the Future: Collaborative Relationships at the Manitoba Museum. 2022. Council for Museum Anthropology virtual presentation. Brownlee, K., Fay A., M. Matthews M., McLeod A., Robson D.B., Mooi R., Sawatzky R., and Young G.

"The fungus among us: Manitoba's fungal diversity." Living Prairie Museum Winter Speaker Series. Winnipeg, MB. Robson D.B.

"Bringing Our Stories Forward." PROBUS presentation, Winnipeg, MB. Sawatzky, R.

"Canada's First Foray into Space: The Churchill Rocket Range." Canadian Aviation History Society presentation, Royal Canadian Aviation Museum, Winnipeg, MB. Sawatzky, R. and Young, S.

"Plotting Resistance: The Suffrage Petition in Manitoba." Winnipeg Genealogy Society presentation, Winnipeg, MB. Sawatzky, R.

Black History in the Manitoba Museum Collection, CBC Gem documentary. Co-presentation with Dennie, N. and Sawatzky, R.

"Next 100 – Empowerment Through Storytelling." Speaker's panel hosted by Winnipeg Foundation. Sawatzky, R.

*Engineering Catastrophes!* episode on the failure of the 1913 Transcona grain elevator. Sawatzky, R.

"Divided City: The 1919 Strike." Virtual presentation for union representatives. Moodie-Foster, A. and Sawatzky, R.

"Top Flight: The Churchill Rocket Range." Winnipeg Free Press article. Reid, T. and Sawatzky, R.

"Winnipeg Grotesque." Winnipeg Free Press article. Sawatzky, R.

"Menelik Lodge No. 528." Winnipeg Free Press article. Dennie, N. and Sawatzky, R.

"A bird in the hand: Museum collections and Important Bird Areas." Important Bird Areas Spring Webinar Series, April 6. Also posted at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fs\\_jQFf-73w&t=37s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fs_jQFf-73w&t=37s) Mooi, R.D.

"Making a Splash in the Indian Ocean – an international contribution to understanding life on Earth." Winnipeg Free Press article. Mooi, R.D.

"Seven Perspectives on Manitoba Tyndall Stone." Invited virtual public lecture, University of Manitoba School of Art. Young, G.

"You Were Here: Canada and Manitoba During the Age of Dinosaurs." Lecture to Manitoba Museum members and donors. Young, G.

"Secrets in stone: finding fossils in Manitoba's limestones." Winnipeg Free Press article, July. Young, G.

"Blockbuster exhibit opens at the Manitoba Museum." Winnipeg Free Press article, May. Young, G.

"Ketch Up with the Nonsuch". Winnipeg Free Press article, December. Fay, A.

"Artists, Museums, and their Work" hybrid panel discussion, Confluences: A Community Gathering & Symposium, Museum London, Ontario, March 11, 2023. Fay, A.

"Water is Life: A Visit with GardenShip & State", virtual panel discussion, Words Festival, London, Ontario, November 17, 2022. Fay, A.



Official greeting from Ernest C. Brown, the Exalted Ruler of Menelik Lodge No. 528, in the Souvenir Program of the 10th Anniversary of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, 1952 (which replaced the Order of Sleeping Car Porters, established in 1917). Mr. Brown was himself a porter for the Canadian National Railway. H9-37-195, Manitoba Museum.



## ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTIONS

The results of the curators' scientific and historical research were published in academic journals and presented to over 100 people at various conferences. Publications are referenced for many years after the publication date by thousands of researchers from all over the world.

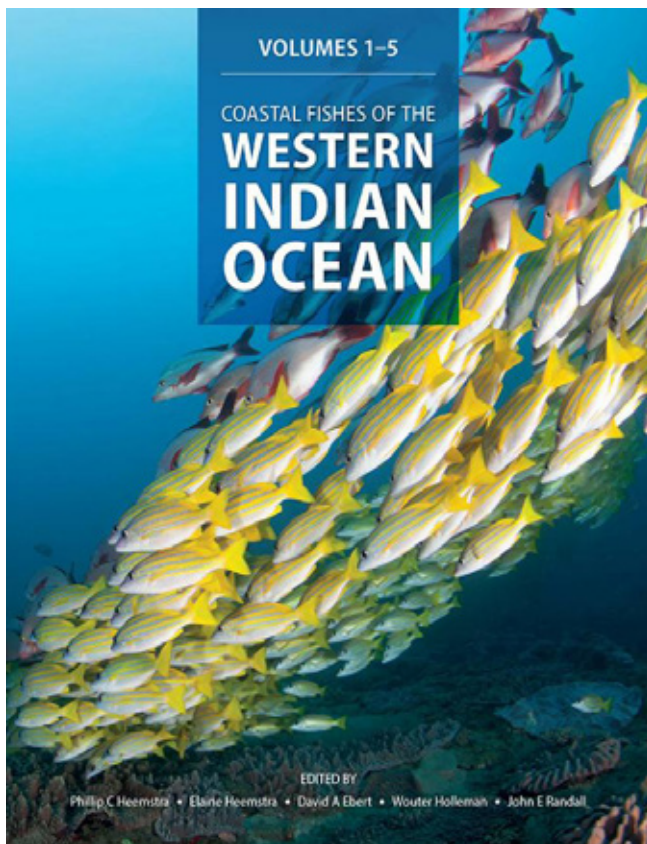
Manitoba's First Petition for Women's Suffrage and the Demography of Activism. 2022 *Prairie History* 9:38-43. Sawatzky, R. and Bauer, B.

Family Plesiopidae. Pp. 146-151 in *Coastal Fishes of the Western Indian Ocean* (Vol. 3), eds. Heemstra, P. et al. South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity. Mooi, R.D.

"Toads on the Plains appear mainly after rains? Great Plains toad surveys in Manitoba." *The Canadian Herpetologist*, 12(1): 14-17. Mooi, R.D.

"An abundant sea anemone from the Carboniferous Mazon Creek Lagerstätte, USA." *Papers in Palaeontology*, 2023, <https://doi.org/10.1002/spp2.1479>, 31 p. Plotnick, R.E., Young, G.A., and Hagadorn, J.W.

"An unusual brachiopod association within a Late Ordovician lagerstätte in central Manitoba, Canada." *IGCP 735, Annual Meeting, Marrakesh, Morocco, Abstracts, 2022*. Sproat, C.D. and Young, G.A.



Adrienne Larocque and Emma De Sousa, University of Winnipeg Curatorial Practices graduate students, review the layout for their upcoming exhibit with Conservator Carolyn Sirett.

## SHARING THROUGH CLASSES AND STUDENT SUPPORT

The university students and interns of today are the leaders of tomorrow. Curators and Collections and Conservation staff support higher education by supervising graduate students, interns and scholars-in-residence. This year, curators engaged with students studying Urban Planning, Zoology, Museum Studies, Indigenous Studies, and Fine Arts.

Master's student, Dept. of City Planning, University of Manitoba  
Capstone Report: "The Once and Future City: Conflict over Heritage Designation in Winnipeg's Crescentwood Neighbourhood" – Sawatzky, R., External Advisor

Master's student, University of Winnipeg: "Tigers on the prowl: determining the distribution and habitat requirements of eastern tiger salamander (*Ambystoma tigrinum*) in Manitoba." Mooi, R.D. thesis committee member

Two Master's students from the University of Winnipeg's Curatorial Practices program began their practicum jointly with the Manitoba Museum and the Red River Métis Cultural Heritage Centre, culminating with an exhibition that will open in June 2023. – Fay, A., Practicum supervisor.

A Master's student in Fine Arts, and a PhD student in Indigenous Studies were the two Indigenous Scholars-in-Residence, taking part in weekly discussions and collections visits to enhance their studies. – Matthews, M. and Fay, A., Program facilitators.

*The box cover of the 5-volume set identification guide, Coastal Fishes of the Western Indian Ocean. This project, spear-headed by the South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity, involved over 100 contributors from 20 countries, including the Manitoba Museum. © NRF-SAIAB*

# MEMBERS CREATE MEMORIES

## MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

**2022-2023 was a banner year for Museum Memberships, and we owe it all to you!**

The past year has been a truly excellent one for Members at The Manitoba Museum! In Spring, after a winter of mandated closures, we once again opened our doors for regular hours (Tues-Sun), allowing Members free access to our Museum & Science Galleries and the Planetarium Theatre. It was truly wonderful to welcome visitors again!

In December, we introduced our wildly successful Winter Membership Sale, offering 25% off all Membership pricing and renewals, which resulted in a (wonderfully) massive influx of new Members into our Museum family. Currently we are proud to host **12,373** Members – compared to 6,622 in 2021-2022!

Members have special access to all kinds of benefits! Not only do they receive free admission to all three of our incredible attractions year-round, but Members also enjoy special discounts on events and workshops. This includes hands-on crafting workshops such as Moccasin-making, and live events like The Shoe Project, where Canadian newcomers share their immigration stories, and the Royal Ontario Museum's massive travelling exhibit "Ultimate Dinosaurs." Not only did Members receive discounted entrance to "Ultimate Dinosaurs," but they also enjoyed a special Members-only preview of the Exhibit before the public opening.

Members are kept informed about exciting events and opportunities through the Member Insider, a monthly newsletter that covers upcoming events as well as behind the scenes and in-depth looks at existing Museum artifacts and articles. The Member Insider goes out twice monthly – one sharing useful information and the other focusing on upcoming activities.

Manitoba Museum Members also enjoy discounts and special offers from several downtown businesses, ranging from restaurants and taprooms to luxury hotels! Members need only to flash their Museum Membership Cards to enjoy a world of opportunities, all within a walkable distance.

Members keep our door open and our lights on, and we appreciate every single one of them. With this exciting new wave of Members, we hope to have the opportunity to share that appreciation with them all through excellent service and exciting one-of-a-kind opportunities. Here's looking forward to another thrilling year for Manitoba Museum Members!

*"I just wanted to take the time to say Thank you! My husband and I have a family membership which we renewed in the fall. The best use of our money yet.*

*Yesterday we brought our 3 grandsons to enjoy pyjama day. Their ages are 10, 7, and 4. We were hesitant to bring the 4-year-old, but in the end, we are so glad we did. First, we explored the Nonsuch. My 4-year-old talked about it the whole day. After that we went to the 11:15 showing of the science experiments, the boys (and ourselves) really enjoyed it and learned a great respect for liquid nitrogen.*

*At 1:30 we enjoyed watching Celeste find the exoplanets. I was a little concerned about the 4-year-old and how dark it would get. He was in there like a dirty shirt. He loved looking at the stars and seeing what shapes they actually were supposed to be. We went back to the science museum for some more hands-on fun then headed home.*

*My daughter told me that the next day lunch all the talk was about their experience at the Museum. The membership more than paid for itself and I highly recommend any grandparents or families invest in the Museum membership.*

*Thank you so very much."*

**SYLVIA & STAN KLASSEN**



*Member Sylvia with her grandsons during Winter Break. © Sylvia Klassen.*



# YOUR TIME IS APPRECIATED

## VOLUNTEERS

### **VOLUNTEERS HELP MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN**

**2022-23 was a time of renewal for the museum's volunteer program. Successful recruitment drives were held in early spring, and we welcomed 65 new volunteers to assist with summer programming. As our public attendance and school bookings continued to rise, volunteers were instrumental in welcoming and engaging with museum visitors.**

Science Gallery Hosts sparked curiosity at many of our science exhibits and were a critical part of the visitor experience during special events including monthly First Fridays, Hallowe'en Takeover, and Winter and Spring Breaks.

Volunteers assisted in the interactive *Ultimate Dinosaurs* exhibit in the summer of 2022, enhancing visitor experience and encouraging additional learning through crafts and a hands-on fossil station. More than 625 volunteer hours were logged during *Ultimate Dinosaurs*!

Nonsuch volunteers allowed us to keep the ship open during our operating hours, much to the delight of visitors. Over Winter Break, Nonsuch hold tours were offered for the first time since 2019. These tours would not have been possible without the generous assistance of volunteers at various stations on the ship.

Behind the scenes, volunteers assisted with many important research and collections projects.

Botany volunteers helped the Curator of Botany with her Manitoba Flora book project by preparing and examining specimens, creating and testing identification keys, and reviewing text.

Conservation volunteers worked on several treatments in the conservation lab including the reconstruction of an archaeological vessel, as well as testing bleaching solutions for staining on ceramic dinnerware.

Volunteers completed condition assessments and catalogue descriptions on 33 historic textiles, made new storage mounts for 15 pairs of moccasins, and assisted our Learning & Engagement team by exhibit-mounting educational objects in new enclosures for demonstration.



Volunteers also made substantial contributions in Geology & Paleontology this past year by cataloguing a large collection of Cretaceous fossil vertebrates, including some that will serve as the basis for scientific publications.

After three years, we once again welcomed volunteers to an in-person Volunteer Reception in the fall of 2022. Along with celebrating the accomplishments of all museum volunteers, 17 volunteers were recognised for reaching long service milestones ranging from 10 to 40 years of service. In total they celebrated 335 years of volunteer service to the Museum.

Throughout 2022 -23, **149** volunteers supporting the Board, Public Programs, and Research and Collections, gave **10,203** hours of their time to ensure the success of the Manitoba Museum.

*"I have always enjoyed learning, and volunteering at the Museum provides a chance to experience more learning opportunities, either through greater exposure with the exhibits, the Museum staff, and even when engaging with museum visitors who may have their own knowledge to share."*

*Learning is a stimulating and motivating experience, that provides me with both mental and physical health benefits. As such, the Museum and its environment of learning and discovery is a great place to recharge oneself. I find it very satisfying to help the Museum visitors engage with the exhibits. In the Science Gallery, it may only take a few explanatory words to a student to spark their curiosity and to set them on a path to more fully exploring a particular exhibit."*



**DON HIMBEAULT**  
Science Gallery Host  
& Nonsuch Guide

## THANKS TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO SUPPORTED US IN 2022-2023

Hillary Agbodan	Ian Drysdale	Aaron Kilmury	Lucas Richardson
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	Aasiyah Khan		



# YOUR GENEROSITY

The Manitoba Museum was thrilled to welcome visitors back after public closures and celebrated the return of in person events.

The 2022-2023 year began by celebrating our community leaders at the Tribute Gala. Flor Marcelino, Anne Mahon and Michael Redhead Champagne were honoured as exceptional individuals, passionate change makers, bold visionaries and champions of our community. Numerous corporate sponsors, foundations and individuals rallied around the honourees who are striving to shape a bright future for Manitoba. Proceeds from the Tribute Gala support the Access for All community initiative.

Thank you to all those who supported Access for All through attendance, sponsorship and partnership, of the Tribute Gala, and gifts from individuals, foundations, and corporations throughout the year. This support allows us to continue to grow, diversify, and engage new audiences, as well as reflect and assess our collections and exhibits to reflect Manitoba's rich and diverse history, culture, and population.

While our visitors celebrated the Museum opening its doors once again, many still gathered virtually at home from around the world to learn about our night sky through the DOME@HOME program. Thank you to our generous donors who have allowed us to continue this program. Because of you, we were able to add new Planetarium shows throughout the year and continue to expand our programming.



The Museum was thrilled to welcome back visitors after public closures.

*"One of my students was DELIGHTED to inform me that people can go to the Manitoba Museum for free. She was inspired on our trip yesterday and is taking her family with her after school today to the museum. This has warmed my teacher heart fully – the time we take to expose our students to learning beyond our school walls is so important. This is extremely significant to me as this particular student has not had a lot of consistent school exposure and the fact that she is inspired to take her family to learn with her is incredible. Thanks so much for your efforts to bring students to the museum."*

**WITH APPRECIATION, A TEACHER FROM  
ECOLE VICTORIA ALBERT SCHOOL**

A warm thank you to the corporations whose sponsorship allowed us to host special programming during our busiest times of the year. The Manitoba Museum saw record breaking attendance during Winter Break, Spring Break, and on First Fridays throughout the year! Our generous sponsors make these events possible.

To the donors and sponsors that enable learning that enriches our understanding of history, nature, and science through French and English programs for school groups, we cannot thank you enough! We are very pleased to continue to offer both in person and virtual field trips for those students who are not able to attend the Museum.



Musicians play in the Nonsuch Gallery to the delight of First Friday visitors.

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

## THANK YOU!

The Manitoba Museum extends its gratitude to our many generous donors and partners.

### ANNUAL OPERATIONS

#### GOVERNMENT

##### Government of Canada

Canadian Heritage  
Prairies Economic Development  
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##### Government of Manitoba

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#### FOUNDATIONS

HBC History Foundation  
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#### *The Lost Expressionist – Nick Yudell, A Photographer Discovered*

Dr. Celia Rabinovitch

#### *Winnipeg 1920 Cityscape, Phase 2*

The Manitoba Museum Foundation  
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#### *Winnipeg 1919: Divided City External Exhibition*

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#### FIRST FRIDAYS

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#### BOTANY

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Elder Dennis Whitebird  
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K.C. Adams on exhibit: Gayaabi  
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Portrait Gallery

Indigenous Languages of Manitoba

MacKay Indian Residential School

Survivors Inc/University of Victoria

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School Museum

National Center for Truth  
and Reconciliation/University  
of Manitoba

University of Toronto

#### CONSERVATION

*Witness Blanket* Conservation Project  
Canadian Museum of Human Rights

#### GEOLOGY AND PALEONTOLOGY

University of Saskatchewan  
Royal Ontario Museum  
University of Manitoba  
Denver Museum of Nature and Science  
University of Illinois at Chicago

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University of Manitoba

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### AWARDS

#### Scott YOUNG

##### Planetarium Astronomer

Award of Merit, Association  
of Manitoba Museums

#### Dome@Home

CASCADE Award for Best Program  
in the Under \$50,000 Category,  
Canadian Association of  
Science Centres

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#### Dr. Diana BIZECKI ROBSON

##### Curator of Botany

Past President, Manitoba  
Association of Plant Biologists  
Jennifer Shay Scholarship  
Committee – University of Manitoba

#### Dorota BLUMCZYŃSKA

##### Chief Executive Officer

Board Member, Canadian  
Museums Association.  
Member, CODE Coalition –  
Commitment to Opportunity,  
Diversity, and Equity, Winnipeg  
Chamber of Commerce  
Board Member, TELUS Manitoba and  
Saskatchewan Community Board

#### Kevin BROWNLEE

##### Curator of Archaeology

Advisor, University of Manitoba's  
Respectful Repatriation  
Ceremony Working Circle  
Member, Respectful Repatriation  
Inter-Institutional Group

#### Cindy COLFORD

##### Manager of Collections & Conservation

Member, Canadian Task Force  
for Nomenclature (CTFN)  
Councillor (Winnipeg), Association  
of Manitoba Museums

#### Charwin DAHL

##### Director of Development

Professional Development Chair,  
Board of Directors, AFP Manitoba

#### Rachel ERICKSON

##### Director of Learning & Engagement

Board President, Commonwealth  
Association of Museums

#### Dr. Amelia FAY

##### Curator of the Hudson's Bay Company Museum Collection

Founding Board member,  
Fair Field Foundation  
Member, Forks Heritage Advisory  
Committee  
Member, Respectful Repatriation  
Inter-Institutional Group  
Member, Centre for Rupert's Land  
Studies Advisory Committee

#### Seema HOLLENBERG

##### Director of Research, Collections & Exhibitions

Member, Respectful Repatriation  
Inter-Institutional Group  
Vice-President and Nominations  
Chair, Alliance of Natural History  
Museums of Canada  
Advisor/Jury, Digital Museums  
of Canada Grant Advisory Board

#### Dr. Maureen MATTHEWS

##### Curator of Cultural Anthropology

Member, Board of Governors,  
Manitoba Museum  
Adjunct Professor, Department of  
Anthropology, University of  
Manitoba  
Getty Fellow and Consulting Scholar,  
Center for Native American and  
Indigenous Research (CNAIR),  
American Philosophical Society,  
Philadelphia, PA, USA



*Conference participants experienced a special behind-the-scenes tour with Dr. Amelia Fay and Tashina Houle-Schlup, which was also live-streamed for international participants.*

In March 2023, the Manitoba Museum partnered with the Commonwealth Association of Museums (CAM) to host *Globally Grassroots: Connecting the International Museum Community*. The two-day conference brought together museum professionals both in-person and online to explore connections across borders and themes such as climate change & climate justice, Indigenous-led heritage initiatives, and repatriation and the care of human remains. Rachel Erickson, Director of Learning & Engagement for the Manitoba Museum, was heavily involved in facilitating this successful conference as the outgoing President of CAM. A huge congratulations to Rachel and all involved!

Speaker's Bureau, Treaty Relations  
Commission of Manitoba  
Founding Board Member, Centennial  
Institute, Winnipeg Foundation  
Board and Steering Committee,  
Peguis Monument Committee

#### Dr. Randall MOOI

##### Curator of Zoology

Editorial Board – American Society  
of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists  
BSc Committee Member, Biological  
Sciences – University of Winnipeg  
Manitoba Ornithological Records  
Committee – Member

#### Dr. Roland SAWATZKY

##### Curator of History

Board Member, Mennonite  
Heritage Village

#### Cindi STEFFAN

##### Manager of Grants

Member, Board of Governors,  
Manitoba Museum

#### Dr. Graham YOUNG

##### Curator of Geology and Paleontology

Councillor, International  
Fossil Coral and Reef Society  
Professional Affiliate,  
University of Manitoba  
Research Associate, Department of  
Paleobiology, Royal Ontario Museum

# MANITOBA MUSEUM GOVERNANCE

**APRIL 1, 2022 TO MARCH 31, 2023**

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

**Chair:** Brigitte Sandron  
Heather Bernick  
Jeoff Chipman  
James Cohen  
Beverley Edmondson  
Cora Jalonen  
Dwight MacAulay  
Maureen Matthews  
Sam McLaughlin  
Diane Redsky  
Cindi Steffan  
Douglas Tkach  
Penny McMillan  
Jackie Wild  
Scott Craig  
Kathryn McBurney  
**Ex-Officio Non-Voting:**  
Dorota Blumczyńska, CEO

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Board Chair:** Penny McMillan  
**Committee Chair:**  
Brigitte Sandron, Vice-Chair  
**Secretary:** Jeoff Chipman  
**Past Chair:** James Cohen  
**Treasurer:** Douglas Tkach  
**Standing Committee Chairs:**  
**Finance:** Douglas Tkach  
**Revenue:** Kathryn McBurney  
**Human Resources:** Sam McLaughlin

**We would like to acknowledge  
the passing of Garry Steski;  
he will be greatly missed.**

## NOMINATING AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

**Committee Chair:** James Cohen  
**Governors:** Diane Redsky, Cindi Steffan,  
Brigitte Sandron, Penny McMillan  
**Ex-Officio Non-Voting:**  
Dorota Blumczyńska, CEO

## STANDING COMMITTEES

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

**Committee Chair:** Douglas Tkach  
**Vice Chair:** Diane Redsky  
**Governors:** Cora Jalonen,  
Penny McMillan  
**Ex-Officio Non-Voting:**  
Dorota Blumczyńska, CEO  
**MGMT Support (by invitation):**  
David Sierhuis

### HUMAN RESOURCES & COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

**Committee Chair:** Sam McLaughlin  
**Vice Chair:** Scott Craig  
**Governors:** Penny McMillan,  
Heather Bernick, Bev Edmondson  
**Ex-Officio Non-Voting:**  
Dorota Blumczyńska, CEO  
**MGMT Support (by invitation):**  
Lana Adeleye-Olusae

### REVENUE COMMITTEE

**Committee Chair:** Kathryn McBurney  
**Vice Chair:** Jackie Wild  
Dwight MacAulay  
Maureen Matthews  
Cindi Steffan  
**Ex-Officio Non-Voting:**  
Dorota Blumczyńska, CEO,  
Penny McMillan, Board Chair  
**MGMT Support (by invitation):**  
Rachel Erickson, Willow Krauchi,  
Charwin Dahl

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES

### STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

**Committee Chair:**  
Penny McMillan, Board Chair  
**Vice Chair:** Brigitte Sandron  
**Governors:** Jeoff Chipman, Scott Craig,  
Maureen Matthews, Jackie Wild,  
Douglas Tkach  
**Indigenous Advisory Circle**  
**Representative:** Dr. Cary Miller  
**Ex-Officio Non-Voting:**  
Dorota Blumczyńska, CEO  
**MGMT Support (by invitation):**  
Directors as requested

## ADDITIONAL AD HOC & SPECIAL COMMITTEES

### BUDGET & AUDIT COMMITTEES

Comprised of both Executive  
& Finance Committees

### INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

**Committee Chair:** Douglas Tkach  
**Governors:** Cora Jalonen,  
Sam McLaughlin  
**Community Members:** Tyler Fehr,  
Graeme Hay, Edith Samuels,  
Garry Steski, Ron Youngson  
**MGMT Support:** David Sierhuis,  
Dorota Blumczyńska,  
Lana Adeleye-Olusae

### PENSION COMMITTEE

**Committee Chair:**  
Lana Adeleye-Olusae  
Nancy Anderson  
Jack Dubois  
Carolyn Sirett  
Sam McLaughlin  
David Sierhuis



# MANITOBA MUSEUM STAFF

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Dorota Blumczyńska**  
Chief Executive Officer  
**Martina Hutchison**  
Executive Assistant

## HUMAN RESOURCES

**Lana Adeleye-Olusae**  
Director  
**Noreen Hees**  
Manager of Volunteer  
& Employee Relations  
**Mercy Olaoye**  
Human Resources Intern

## FUND DEVELOPMENT

**Heather Laser**  
Director (to September 2, 2022)  
**Charwin Dahl**  
Director  
**Jan Canseco**  
Donor Data Coordinator  
**Cassidy Nicholls**  
Manager of Partnerships & Events  
**Janet Rheault**  
Manager of Corporate Sponsorships  
(On Leave)  
**Cindi Steffan**  
Manager of Grants

## FINANCE & OPERATIONS

**David Sierhuis**  
Director  
**Germine Awad**  
Financial Controller  
**Kathy Moran**  
Business Office Assistant

## OPERATIONAL SERVICES

**Sean Workman**  
Operations Supervisor  
**Marc Hébert**  
Carpenter/Cabinet Maker  
**Paul Martin**  
Operations Technician

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

**Ruel Espinoza**  
System Administrator

## RESEARCH, COLLECTIONS, & EXHIBITIONS

**Seema Hollenberg**  
Director  
**Emma Skrumeda**  
Administrative Assistant

## CURATORIAL

**Dr. Diana Bizecki Robson**  
Curator of Botany  
**Kevin Brownlee**  
Curator of Archaeology  
(to October 14, 2022)  
**Dr. Amelia Fay**  
Curator of the Hudson's Bay Company  
Museum Collection  
**Dr. Maureen Matthews**  
Curator of Cultural Anthropology  
**Dr. Randall Mooi**  
Curator of Zoology  
**Dr. Roland Sawatzky**  
Curator of History  
**Dr. Graham Young**  
Curator of Geology & Paleontology  
**Savannah Wilde**  
Curatorial Intern  
Cultural Anthropology  
(term to October 1, 2022)

## COLLECTIONS & CONSERVATION

**Cindy Colford**  
Manager of Collections and  
Conservation (to October 3, 2022)  
**Nancy Anderson**  
Collections Management  
Specialist Human History  
**Marc Formosa**  
Collections Technician Natural History  
(to September 23, 2022)  
**Janis Klapecki**  
Collections Management  
Specialist Natural History

## Cortney Pachet

Collections Technician Human History

## Carolyn Sirett

Conservator

## Deborah Thompson

Diorama & Collections Specialist

## Aro van Dyck

Collections Technician Natural History

## Emily MacDonald

Library & Archives  
Administrative Assistant

## Claire Constant

Collections Assistant  
(term to September 2, 2022)

## EXHIBITIONS

### Hanna Peters

Manager of Exhibitions

### Anastasiia Mavrina

Exhibition Designer

## MARKETING, SALES, & VISITOR EXPERIENCE

### Willow Krauchi

Director (to January 27, 2023)

## MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

### Jody Tresoor

Manager of Marketing &  
Communications (to July 1, 2022)

### Brandi Hayberg

Manager of Marketing  
& Communications

### Rebecca Watson

Digital Media & Marketing Coordinator

## MUSEUM SHOP

### Kyla Klassen

Merchandiser / Buyer

## RENTALS

### Rachel Lancaster

Events Coordinator (to June 30, 2022)

### Bukola Akinola

Manager of Rentals & Events



**VISITOR EXPERIENCE****Lauren Baker**

Manager of Visitor & Member  
Services (to June 3, 2022)

**Natalie Marion**

Visitor Experience Supervisor

**Kaitlin Aiello Fox**

Membership & Data Coordinator  
(On Leave)

**Logan Stefanson**

Membership & Data Coordinator

**VISITOR EXPERIENCE****ASSOCIATES:****Jobelle Borja****Crystal Cann****Nykola Dudeck**

(to September 5, 2022)

**Matthew Kolthof****Kalysta Kos****Hillary King****Mason Legge**

(to May 1, 2022)

**Angela May**

(to June 30, 2022)

**Andrea Ocampo****Logan Stefanson****Tyler Trautwein****Jason Williams****LEARNING &  
ENGAGEMENT****Rachel Erickson**

Director

**Anya Moodie-Foster**

Learning & Engagement Supervisor

**Tashina Houle-Schlup**

Head of Indigenous  
Programming & Engagement

**Fiona Sime**

Reservations Coordinator

**Carol Beaulieu**

Program Developer

**Corinne Antoniuk**

Learning & Engagement Producer

**Erin Buelow**

Learning & Engagement Producer

**Amna Burki**

Learning & Engagement  
Producer – Community Voices  
(to September 21, 2022)

**Isaiah Smith**

Learning & Engagement Producer –  
Community Voices

**Jeanne Michaud Day**

Camp Assistant (to August 12, 2022)

**Valérie Béland**

Programs Assistant  
(to August 12, 2022)

**Anastasia Strong**

Exhibit Attendant

**Katja St. Lawrence**

Exhibit Attendant

**LEARNING FACILITATORS****Amandine Agbodan****Shauna Carmichael**

(to June 30, 2022)

**Catherine Cormier****Rob Gendron**

(to September 5, 2022)

**Alex Judge**

(to June 30, 2022)

**Julien Nayet-Pelletier****Bailey Palamar****Nancy Renwick**

(to September 21, 2022)

**Eliette Rheault****DAY CAMP LEADERS****Aimee Curley**

(to September 9, 2022)

**Caroline Coughlan**

(to September 9, 2022)

**Emma Coughlan**

(to September 9, 2022)

**Rosemary Perez**

(to September 9, 2022)

**PLANETARIUM  
& SCIENCE GALLERY****Mike Jensen**

Planetarium & Science  
Gallery Supervisor

**Mika Pineda**

Learning & Engagement  
Producer – Youth Climate Action

**Scott Young**

Planetarium Astronomer

**SCIENCE COMMUNICATORS****Rhianna Cohen****Deni Desautels****Nicole Desautels****Samuel Grenier**

(to May 8, 2022)

**Ashley Hoepfner**

(to December 5, 2022)

**Emily McIntosh**

(On Leave)

**Leigh McKinnon**

(to June 30, 2022)

**Dylan Preece**

(to June 30, 2022)

**Emma Rannie****Ray Saltel****Adriana Sedlak****Claire Woodbury**

(to June 30, 2022)



Curator of Botany, Dr. Diana  
Bizecki Robson leads a tour  
through the Museum Galleries.

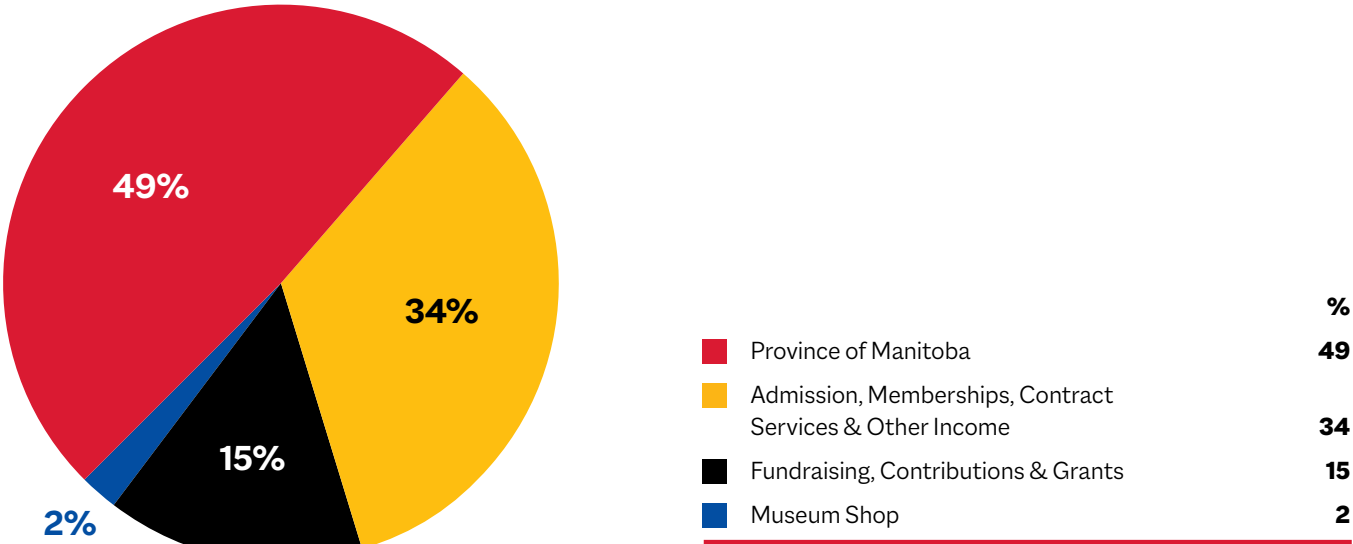


# MANITOBA MUSEUM CORPORATE PERFORMANCE

The Manitoba Museum appreciates our key funders and our lead partner, the Province of Manitoba, Sport, Culture and Heritage, who support our annual operations.

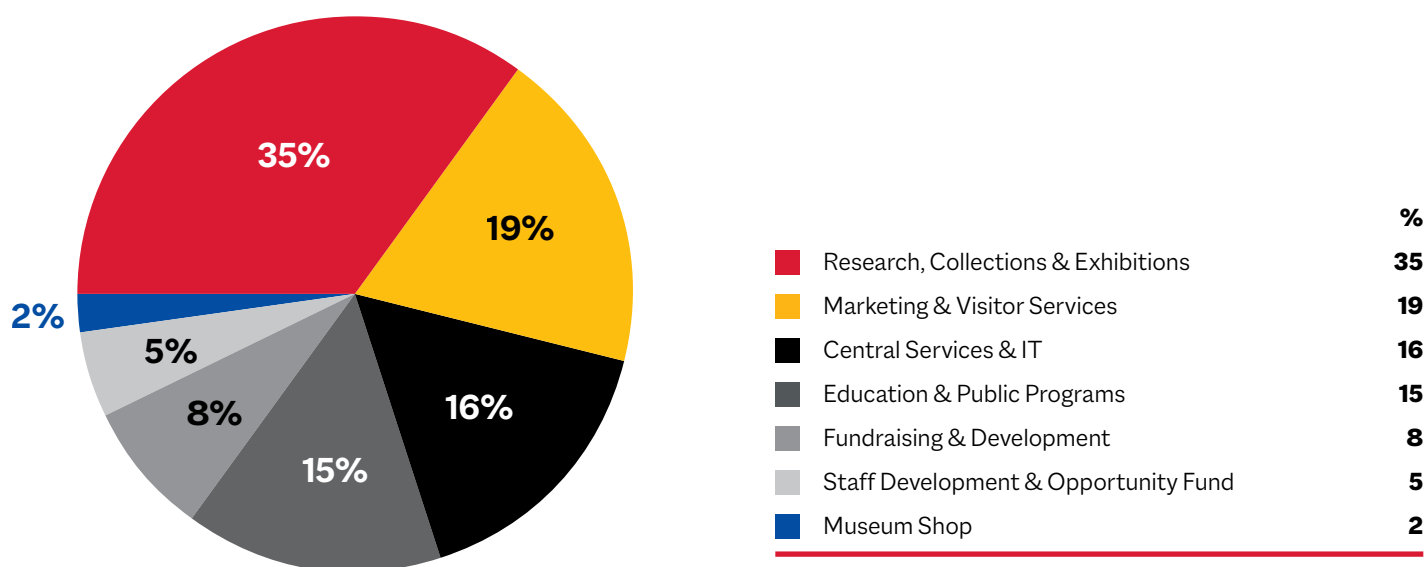
- Province of Manitoba: Sport, Culture and Heritage
- City of Winnipeg: Winnipeg Arts Council
- Foundations: HBC History Foundation

## REVENUE



The Manitoba Museum is supported through a variety of revenue streams – from public funds to earned and fundraised. The Province of Manitoba provided 49% of the Museum’s annual funding, supporting core operations including care of the Province’s collection of 2.9 million artifacts and specimens, original research, exhibition development, and educational programs. Stable public funding enables the Museum to reach out to the community from a position of strength to leverage private sector support and ensure accessibility to the Museum for all Manitobans. Earned revenue reached 34% and is generated through: admissions; membership fees; the Museum Shop; ticketed programs; workshops; interest; as well as, fee-for-service conservation contracts and speaking fees. Fundraised revenues comprised 15% of all revenues, and represent numerous corporate partners and many individual contributors who help ensure the Museum remains sustainable.

## EXPENSES



The Museum relies upon a highly educated and skilled workforce whose salaries and benefits have been allocated to appropriate areas. A majority of community funding is dedicated to the Museum's core activities of research, collections and exhibitions and represents 35% of expenditures. This area includes curatorial research and conservation activities as well as exhibitions. Many special research and exhibition projects are accomplished with one-time grants (externally restricted projects) and are not reflected above. The Museum has a revitalized public programs area and exciting annual exhibitions designed to grow and develop new audiences. This is accomplished through marketing and communications. At 19% of expenses, the Marketing and Visitor Services area includes: advertising (leveraged by sponsorship), public relations, design, as well as box office, visitor amenities, and membership. Whether a student with a school group, a family visiting on the weekend, or a tour group from abroad, the visitor experience is a top priority and represents 15% of expenses (including materials and programs staff for the Museum Galleries, Planetarium, and Science Gallery). The Museum incurs significant costs associated with "keeping the doors open." Central services comprise 16% of expenditures supporting the overall infrastructure (computer systems, insurance, gallery maintenance and design, bank charges, and administrative support).



# THE MANITOBA MUSEUM FOUNDATION INCORPORATED

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President:** Penny MacMillan

**Vice-President:** Jennifer Moore Rattray

**Secretary:** Barbara Crutchley

**Treasurer:** Merv Gunter

**Directors:** William F. Baines, Jeoff Chipman, James Cohen, Scott Craig, Joe Hershfield, Brigitte Sandron

**MGMT Support:** Dorota Blumczyńska, CEO; Seema Hollenberg; David Sierhuis, Charwin Dahl.

## RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Dr. Gordon Goldsborough

**Members:** Dr. Kyle Bobiwash, Dr. Kirstin Brink, Mr. Randy Hermann, Dr. Adele Perry

**MGMT Support:** Seema Hollenberg

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

On behalf of all the Directors of the Manitoba Museum Foundation Board, thank you for supporting our organization. Whether you donate in honour of special occasions, in tribute to someone who has passed or by making a personal Planned Giving commitment, you are making a difference to the Museum's work of preserving our provinces' heritage and stories for today and for the future.

Income from the Endowment Fund, held at the Winnipeg Foundation on behalf of the Museum, is directed to an annual grant budget that provides support to research initiatives, exhibition replacements, special acquisitions, and projects.

In 2022-23, three research project grants were awarded totaling \$26,540, and five grants to support exhibition projects and upgrades were awarded totaling \$31,498.

Your ongoing support is critical to the continuing success of so many different facets of the Museum's work. You are making a difference! We thank you for your past participation and urge you to consider continuing and even expanding your support as that is the best way that we can collectively ensure that the Museum will thrive and be secure in the future.

### PENNY MCMILLAN

*President, The Manitoba Museum  
Foundation Incorporated*



## GRANTS

### RESEARCH PROJECT

Historic Plant Tracking – Year 4 – **\$1,540**

Indigenous Plant Knowledge – **\$20,000**

Curatorial Notebooks – **\$5,000**

### EXHIBITION REPLACEMENT PROJECTS

AV Upgrades for HBC/Parklands – **\$4,108**

Ice Age mural, Earth History – **\$3,900**

On Thin Ice mural – Climate Change – **\$3,350**

Yellow Quill Discovery Room Exhibition – **\$9,665**

Cougars in Manitoba! – **\$10,475**

## ASSETS

### (AS AT MARCH 31, 2023)

The Manitoba Museum Foundation Incorporated – **\$219,011**

The Manitoba Museum Foundation Fund  
at the Winnipeg Foundation – **\$2,341,549**

### INCLUDES THE FUNDS:

- The Manitoba Museum Foundation Fund – **\$1,505,604**
- Manitoba Museum Foundation Fund
  - Ashdown Estate Fund – **\$26,738**
- Manitoba Museum Foundation Fund
  - Dr. William B. Ewart Endowed Fund – **\$370,400**
- The Manitoba Museum Founder Fund  
in Honour of James W. Burns – **\$377,580**
- The Manitoba Museum Endowment
  - Claudette Leclerc Fund – **\$61,224**

## BEQUESTS

Estate of Helen Smerchanski

Estate of Elisabeth M. Kavanagh

The Manitoba Museum Foundation Incorporated was established in 1996 to develop an endowment and administer grants to the Manitoba Museum in support of exhibit replacement, research projects, collections acquisitions, and special projects. In 2008, The Manitoba Museum Foundation Incorporated created the Manitoba Museum Foundation Fund at The Winnipeg Foundation.

## THE MANITOBA MUSEUM FOUNDATION

Lana **m** and Alero Adeleye-Olusae

Miranda Crowe

Daniel and Seema **m** Hollenberg

Bradley Krentz

Dr. T. G. Kucera

Helen M. Leeds

Barbara Scheuneman

Shirley and Tom Strutt

Graham **m** and Vicki Young

Two Anonymous Donors

### IN HONOUR/IN MEMORY

**In memory of Ewa Blumczyńska**

Dorota Blumczyńska **m**

**In honour of Jerome Canseco's special Birthday**

The Canseco Family **m**

**In memory of Dome Lindal**

William and Karen Ferreira

**In memory of Bob Brennan**

Doreen Gorda

**In honour of Dorota Blumczyńska's Birthday**

Silantoi Kisoso

**In honour of Dorota Blumczyńska's Birthday**

Whitney Morrison

**In memory of Emma Sydney Macintosh Machado**

Ethel MacIntosh, Jose and Samantha Machado

**In memory of Sharon Dainard**

Jennifer Moore Rattray **m** and Stacy Dainard

**In memory of Art Pearson**

Walter Silicz

## THE WINNIPEG FOUNDATION

Nancy **m** and Blair Anderson

Corinne **m** and Brent Antoniuk

Gail Asper OC, OM, LLD and Michael Paterson

The Robson Family **m**

Barbara Crutchley **m**

The Hutchison Family **m**

Heather Laser **m** and Robert Rowan

Claudette Leclerc **m** and Robert Kennedy

Maureen Mathews **m** and Charlie Feaver

Natalie Marion **m** and Scott Wachal

One Anonymous Donor

*\*Always Remembered **m** Staff, Board, and Volunteers*

# MEMORIES MADE TOGETHER

In the last year, the Manitoba Museum has welcomed record breaking numbers of visitors. Measured by attendance, partnerships, and community engagement in dynamic programs and events, this was the strongest year in our 53-year history!

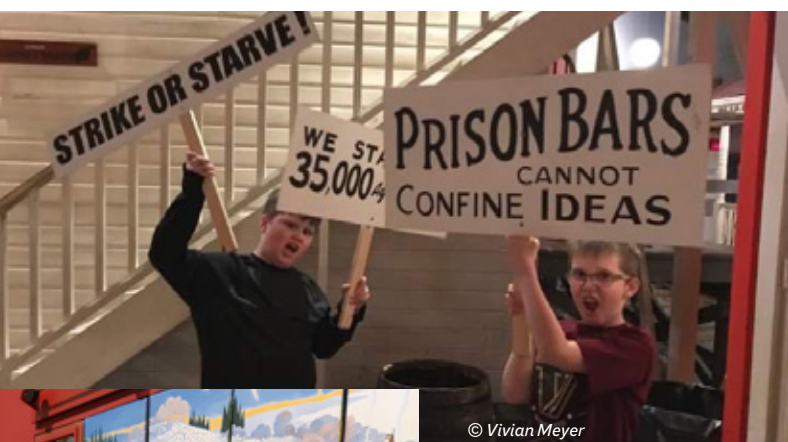
Words can not express the immense gratitude we feel to you, our communities, for choosing to spend your time with us. So many of you have become members, entering into new and renewed friendship with the Museum.

We're humbled by the incredible support of donors, and inspired by the many collaborators who've created, made discoveries, and researched alongside with us.

Thank you for sharing in our journey. We look forward to welcoming you again in the year ahead.



© Brandi Hayberg



© Vivian Meyer



© Claudette & David Blais



© Shawn McGillivray



© Dana Buchannon



© Jihua Meng



# VISION, MISSION, VALUES

## VISION

To shape Manitoba's future by expanding knowledge, sharing stories, and encouraging discovery.

## MISSION

To preserve the heritage of Manitoba for present and future generations;

To seek, acquire, and share knowledge of Manitoba's history, culture, and natural world with Manitobans and others; and

To inspire personal discovery, appreciation, and understanding of Manitoba, the world, and our universe.

## VALUES

### CURIOSITY

We promote innovation by seeking out new ideas and welcoming knowledge exchange.

### INTEGRITY

We act with honesty and integrity. We strive to know and uphold the highest ethical standards.

### RESPONSIBILITY

We are responsible stewards of the public trust and institutional assets as stated in the Museum's mandate. We are committed to being socially and environmentally responsible.

### RESPECTFULNESS

We value the contributions of all Museum stakeholders and treat them with respect and sensitivity.

### INCLUSIVITY

We encourage diversity and dialogue, and are committed to creating an environment for staff and the public that is welcoming and one that promotes inclusivity and equity.





HISTORY • NATURE • SCIENCE

190 Rupert Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3B 0N2  
T 204.956.2830 F 204.942.3679 E [info@manitobamuseum.ca](mailto:info@manitobamuseum.ca)

[ManitobaMuseum.ca](http://ManitobaMuseum.ca)

*The Manitoba Museum is accredited by Imagine  
Canada for excellence in non-profit accountability,  
transparency, and governance.*

