

A young child with dark hair, wearing a red long-sleeved shirt, is looking down at a digital display. The display shows a blue background with white lines, possibly a map or a diagram. The child's hands are resting on the display.

MEMORIES

MADE TOGETHER

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Image: © Manitoba Museum/Rejean Brandt

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.

LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

YOUR MANITOBA MUSEUM

It may not be commonly known, but the Manitoba Museum tells the story of over 500 million years. Through incredible exhibitions and collections, dynamic school and public programs, our halls traverse the ages, before humanity and after our arrival. The Museum is a repository of the struggles and triumphs of both the natural world and of humankind. What we glean from that knowledge guides each of us as we walk our own paths.

This last year we've been evermore intentional in how we can honour the past and together shape the future. The Museum has a responsibility to do far more than simply witness history; it must bring history into conversation with the present. It must make history known so that it is not repeated. Understanding each other's truths helps us all commit to a different future.

For the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, the Museum once again hosted Orange Shirt Days, featuring educational and special programming which shared the stories of Residential Schools, the children who survived, and the children who never came home. Nearly 10,000 Manitobans walked through the Museum on those three days, listening, learning, opening their minds and hearts, and coming to better understand the truth.

Thanks to our incredible partner, the Southern Chiefs' Organization (SCO), we've been honoured to co-create *Manidoo Miiniigooizowin, A Gift from the Creator*, a special exhibition celebrating the beauty and resilience of the Anishinaabe and Dakota peoples and the 25th anniversary of the SCO. Featuring objects from the 34 Nations represented by the SCO, *Manidoo Miiniigooizowin* is a celebration of the past, present, and future.

Through *Access for All*, thousands of Manitobans have embarked upon a new or renewed relationship with the Museum. First Fridays removes a financial barrier and offers complimentary admission. This initiative has given us the opportunity for community collaboration to provide music, markets, food, thematic tours, and unique experiences. This past February for Black History Month, First Fridays was celebrated by over 5,500 visitors!

From special Indigenous Motherhood Tours, to mukluk-making workshops, dementia-friendly programming, Earth Days, World Water Day, Youth Climate Alliance, Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon* Planetarium experiences, and hundreds of virtual field trips reaching thousands of remote and northern learners, the Museum has dedicated itself to honouring and amplifying the richness of our existence.

And when Manitobans might not have a chance to travel far to see the world, the Museum has brought the world to them. We were privileged to host *Hearts of Freedom*, an incredible compilation of stories, pictures, and video footage telling the stories of Southeast

Asian refugees' resettlement and integration in Canada, as well as stories of Canadians who helped make this resettlement a success.

Hundreds of thousands visit the Manitoba Museum annually, including nearly 100,000 K-12 students. The young and young at heart honour us with their presence, and it is through their eyes that the Museum's exhibits come alive with stories that bridge time and offer a deep dive into the rich tapestry of human experience.

For over 54 years, the Manitoba Museum has been a place where the past and present intertwine, a space to learn from history and seek out the wisdom it imparts. It is a privilege to showcase the beauty of human achievement alongside Manitoba's awe-inspiring natural landscape.

Looking ahead, we are filled with anticipation. We have begun a new chapter in our story, and we want to continue to transform and grow. With you, our community by our side, the Manitoba Museum is ready to become an even greater catalyst for change; a centre for intercultural dialogue; a state-of-the-art research facility; a space for scientific discovery and modern conservation of ancient and contemporary collections; a place to learn about and act upon climate change, species in decline, and the protection of land, water, and skies.

It's no secret that the Museum is quickly running out of collections space, that our small but mighty Science Gallery pales in comparison to world class Science Centres found in every major city west of Thunder Bay, and that the invaluable research and preservation of Manitoba's human and natural history is compromised by aging infrastructure. We continue to do all we can to address these significant deficiencies, fulfilling our promise to Manitobans 'To shape Manitoba's future by expanding knowledge, sharing stories, and encouraging discovery.'

The Manitoba Museum is the Museum of your childhood; rarely can one find a Manitoban who hasn't visited the Museum on a school field trip. Today, we are here for your children and grandchildren, and many more generations into the future.

We wish to express our deepest gratitude to each and every one of you for being part of the Manitoba Museum story. Your unwavering support as donors, members, visitors, community partners, collaborators, and co-creators has made all the difference in our journey.

Let us continue to dream big and work together to create a world enriched by knowledge, understanding, and compassion.

Thank you.



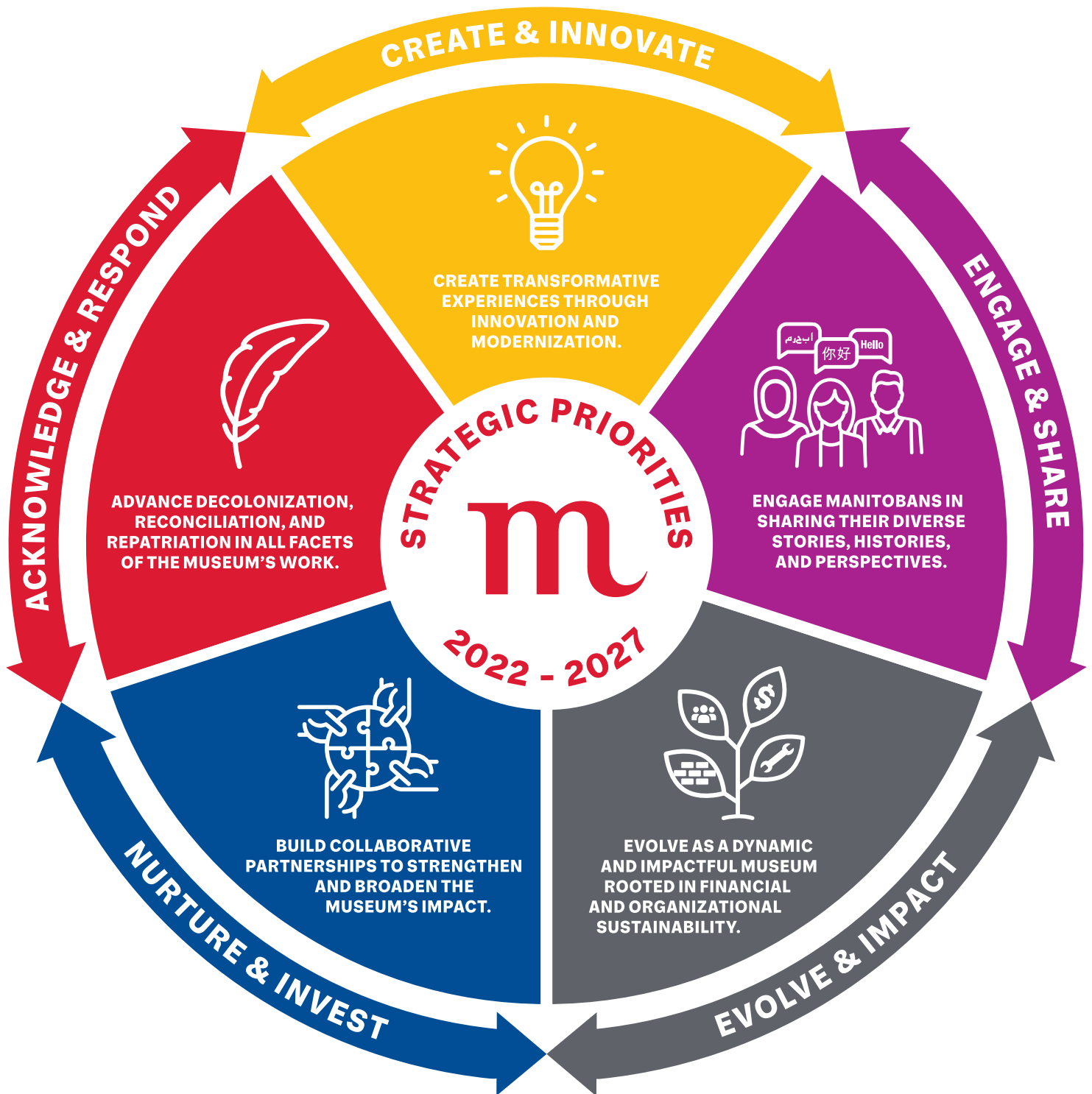
BRIGITTE SANDRON
Chair of the Board of Governors



DOROTA BLUMCZYŃSKA
Chief Executive Officer

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

2022-2027



The Manitoba Museum's Strategic Priorities Plan for 2022-2027 was created to ensure that the Museum continues to be one of Canada's leading institutions, delivering programming that is meaningful and relevant. Focusing on five core areas, the continued success and achievement of these priorities will be made possible by engaging in open dialogues with the Museum's communities, collaborators, supporters, and teams. The stories below highlight the progress we made in 2023-2024 towards achieving our goals.

CREATE & INNOVATE: DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

In the past year, the Manitoba Museum marked the beginning of an evolutionary leap in our digital story. The Manitoba Museum has prioritized the modernization of our internal digital ecosystem and external digital presence to improve visitor experience and create a strong platform for online learning, e-commerce, donor relations, and financial management. Through extensive teamwork over several months, we launched a new website and a suite of digital platforms which will allow an improved visitor experience and provide more robust metrics to support organizational success. Also this year, the Museum transitioned to Financial Edge NXT and Raiser's Edge NXT, enhancing control in the management of our financial and donation systems, and launched a new Collections Database Project to migrate and update our library and collections records to a new and modernized database.

ACKNOWLEDGE & RESPOND: INDIGENOUS PROGRAMMING & ENGAGEMENT

In 2023-2024, the Manitoba Museum welcomed Tashina Houle-Schlup as Head of Indigenous Programming and Engagement. As part of this new role, Tashina has led the development and implementation of several Indigenous culture-focused programs that aim to assist participants on their journey to Reconciliation. One such program is "From Talk to Table: Indigenous Motherhood Tour", an innovative tour that delves into parenting throughout time on Turtle Island, including birthing practices, coming-of-age ceremonies, and the revitalization of traditional Indigenous parenting in response to colonialism and the legacy of residential schools. Since its launch on May 2, 2023, the program has sparked meaningful conversations about Indigenous history, culture, and resilience, captivating visitors with its immersive and enlightening journey.

NURTURE & INVEST: TOURISM PARTNERSHIPS

The Manitoba Museum continues to position itself as a keystone tourism destination through partnerships with Tourism Manitoba, Tourism Winnipeg, and northern tour operators. This past year we hosted 750 visitors as part of our Northern Tours programming, offering a rich exploration of the North's history, cultures, and landscapes. These immersive workshops highlighted the resourcefulness of Inuit communities, fostering deeper connections and understanding. The Museum was also part of the popular Winnipeg Attraction Pass with Tourism Winnipeg; this digital pass encouraged both tourists and locals to experience some of Winnipeg's most popular attractions with one convenient ticket located on their phone. Through these partnerships, we aim to elevate the Museum's profile, establishing the Manitoba Museum as a place of expertise, and enticing visitors from throughout the province and internationally to explore the wonders within our walls.

ENGAGE & SHARE: COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

To support our commitment to fostering community connections and collaborative engagement, the Manitoba Museum worked with several community groups to co-create and exhibit their own histories, as told in their own words and through their eyes. Through these meaningful collaborations, we aimed to amplify diverse voices and perspectives, enriching our understanding of the vibrant tapestry of our community's heritage.

Key partnerships this past fiscal year included the 2SLGBTQ+ exhibition *If These Walls Could Talk* with the Rainbow Resource Centre, and the *Hearts of Freedom* travelling exhibition sharing Vietnamese, Cambodian, and Laotian refugee stories. These joint endeavors enhanced the Museum's exhibitions and experiences to authentically represent diverse perspectives, encourage inclusivity, and reflect the rich tapestry of Manitoba's communities.

EVOLVE & IMPACT: CASE FOR SUPPORT ACTIVATION

In 2023-2024, the Museum drafted, approved, and activated a new Case for Support, a cornerstone of our renewed fund development strategy. This strategy emphasizes the Museum's core work, its social impact, and its expansive contributions to community, education, and public discourse. The Case for Support is designed to revive and augment multi-year sponsorships, along with individual and corporate giving. It ensures that the benefits for the Curators Circle and Sponsorship are consistently and clearly defined, thereby reducing museum-wide stewardship time commitments and costs. This report also serves as a valuable resource, offering insights about the diverse uses and users of the Museum's collection to our staff and potential donors.

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY VOICES

TRIBUTE 2023

In 2023, 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 18th annual Tribute Gala, hosted by CBC's Faith Fundal, welcomed attendees into Alloway Hall on April 27.

This incredible evening of celebration and generosity honoured community leaders Stella and Edward Kennedy, long-time volunteer Nadia Thompson, and University of Winnipeg Chancellor Barb Gamey. The honourees joined in conversation with Faith Fundal to share their experiences surrounding the diversity that helped shape Manitoba's future through sharing stories and encouraging discovery at the Manitoba Museum.

The annual Manitoba Museum 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 Manitoba Museum that belongs to all.



©Matt Duboff/Manitoba Museum

"Every Manitoban and visitor must come to the Manitoba Museum to really know this land, who we are, and where we have come from."

EDWARD KENNEDY

"The Museum continues to have a memorable, almost magical, quality for children and inspires us all."

STELLA KENNEDY



©Matt Duboff/Manitoba Museum

"The Manitoba Museum has committed ourselves, and we will continue to strive, to be a champion for justice, a place of belonging, a celebration of our shared legacies, and never at the cost of anyone's humanity, but always with the promise of lifting all of our stories."

DOROTA BLUMCZYŃSKA

PRICE

**Robinson Family
Foundation**



University of Winnipeg Chancellor Barb Gamey. ©Matt Duboff/Manitoba Museum



Long-time volunteer Nadia Thompson. ©Matt Duboff/Manitoba Museum

ACCESS FOR ALL

FIRST FRIDAYS

As a cornerstone of our commitment to accessibility and inclusivity, Learning & Engagement leads programming that ensures all communities have the opportunity to experience the Manitoba Museum. Through this *Access for All* initiative, we welcomed **45,726** community members to our First Fridays monthly events.

On First Fridays, we offer complimentary access to diverse, community-driven programming in all three of the Museum's core attractions – the Museum Galleries, Planetarium, and Science Gallery. At the heart of *Access for All* is the belief that everyone should have the chance to enjoy meaningful learning experiences that blend history, nature, and science with the realities of today and dreams for tomorrow. Real magic happens in the Museum on First Fridays, whether visitors are families on their first visit, couples on their first date, or friends out for an adventure, there is a sense of belonging. It's an electrifying and joyous atmosphere, sparking excitement and a spirit of discovery.

The Manitoba Museum's First Friday events are more than just nights of exploration – they are vibrant celebrations of community, culture, and partnership.

For the June 2023 First Friday, in collaboration with the Rainbow Resource Centre, the Museum hosted a special Pride Week event titled "Queer Activism: Now More Than Ever." This insightful panel discussion, featuring experts on queer issues and activism in Winnipeg, shed light on the global rise of anti-queer rhetoric, and the ongoing fight against discrimination.



The panel event, "Queer Activism: Now More Than Ever", opened the door to important conversations about queer discrimination and activism in Winnipeg. ©Manitoba Museum



First Friday visitors during the Black History Month event enjoyed shopping and exploring the many vendor booths in Alloway Hall. ©Manitoba Museum

In February 2024, partnering with Black History Manitoba, the Museum honoured Black History Month with an evening dedicated to celebrating the rich cultural heritage of the Black community in Manitoba. The event showcased performances by the ANANSI School for the Performing Arts, offering a captivating glimpse into the vibrant traditions of Caribbean and African cultures through music and dance.

Through our collaboration with *Hearts of Freedom*, the Museum screened the impactful documentary *Passage to Freedom*, sharing the stories of Southeast Asian refugees who sought safety in Canada. This film sparked important conversations about immigration, resilience, and community support.

First Fridays at the Manitoba Museum also opened the door to the realm of science. Through a SSHCR-funded collaboration between the University of Manitoba and the Museum, visitors were invited to become active participants in the 'Living Lab,' engaging in research studies and games that offer valuable insights into the complexities of the human mind. Dr. Az Klymiuk, an Assistant Professor and Indigenous Scholar in Science, shared insights into the fascinating world of fungi during Science EXPOSED, and the Youth Climate Alliance, supported by GenAction, engaged visitors



Simon the Scientist has created a variety of science sessions for kids around the world to watch and participate in real time. ©Jacqueline Monteith

in vital conversations about climate change and inspired them to take climate action through interactive exhibitions, activities, and games.

One of the highlights of our STEM activities for our March 2024 First Friday was the extra spark of excitement when Simon the Scientist, an 11-year-old from Opaskwayak Cree Nation, shared his boundless enthusiasm for science with presentations on flight principles and the intriguing dynamics of electricity.

First Fridays vividly illustrates the power of *Access for All*, demonstrating that when barriers are dismantled, we can create a welcoming environment that contributes to community cohesion and well-being, and where learning, sharing, and dialogue are possible and encouraged.



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

ADVANCING TRUTH & RECONCILIATION

ORANGE SHIRT DAYS @ THE MANITOBA MUSEUM

The Manitoba Museum proudly hosted three days of admission-free programming in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. A remarkable turnout of **9,000+** visitors attended Orange Shirt Days @ the Manitoba Museum, demonstrating a keen interest in learning, reflecting, and responding to the legacy of Indian Residential Schools as we collectively strive towards Reconciliation.



Visitors followed a path of learning on a self-guided tour through the Museum Galleries. ©Manitoba Museum

To honour the significance of Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day, the Manitoba Museum invited Sunshine Levasseur, a multimedia Anishinaabe Artist from Ebb and Flow First Nation, to reimagine our logo. Drawing inspiration from personal experiences, community, and the stories of her culture, Sunshine's beautiful interpretation of the Manitoba Museum's iconic "M" incorporates the woodland art style, adorned with Ojibwe florals, vines, and leaves. This vibrant and powerful image symbolizes the strength of Indigenous nations on Turtle Island, depicting life's healing and growth through radiant florals, rooted in the leaves and stitched into the vines.



Throughout the weekend, this logo greeted visitors online and on-site, serving as a poignant reminder of the ongoing journey towards Truth and Reconciliation.

While visiting the Museum, every visitor had the opportunity to walk a path of learning on a self-guided tour that highlighted various permanent exhibits connected to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, as well as amplified Indigenous voices throughout these spaces using video rovers as part of the ongoing community dialogue. The path ended in a collaborative art installation and reflection wall, which allowed visitors to share their thoughts on what they've learned and to commit to taking action, individually and as a community, towards Reconciliation.



Dancers of Beautiful Cloud Company with Tashina Houle-Schlup, Head of Indigenous Programming & Engagement. ©Manitoba Museum

"We must have patience and empathy for survivors and their families. Considering intergenerational trauma, it is vital to respect that healing takes time. Murray Sinclair said it best, 'Reconciliation is a very simple concept, and it's about being friends.' Ask yourself how you would support your friends after they've been through trauma. We must consider how we can take action in our lives, workplaces, and schools toward contributing to Truth and Reconciliation. As a source of history and education, the Manitoba Museum strives to share the truth about the injustices that Indigenous people face and have faced, and is committed to providing the tools needed to help our visitors learn, reflect, and heal."

TASHINA HOULE-SCHLUP

Head of Indigenous Programming & Engagement

A collaborative art installation allowed visitors to use their artistic talents to convey their personal journey to Reconciliation. ©Manitoba Museum



Orange Shirt Days also included other special programming with daily powwow performances by Beautiful Cloud Company, pop-up exhibits and videos from the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, and a pop-up art exhibit from Mackay Residential School Gathering Inc.

Thank you to our program partners: The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba, National Indigenous Residential School Museum, Parks Canada, the Mackay Residential School Gathering Inc., the Manitoba Indigenous Cultural Education Centre, the Province of Manitoba, and all the community members who supported Orange Shirt Days @ the Manitoba Museum.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

At the heart of the Manitoba Museum's mission lies a dedication to diversity, inclusivity, and community engagement, reflected in its multifaceted initiatives spanning governance, curatorial education, collections access, research, and community partnerships.

The Curator of Archaeology accompanied a youth tour of Seahorse Gully near Churchill as a partner on the University of Manitoba's Connecting Land, Healing, and Heritage project.
©Manitoba Museum



GOVERNANCE

In June 2023, the Manitoba Museum amended its Bylaws to embrace shared governance, reflecting its commitment to diversity and inclusivity in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). This is operationalized in the Indigenous Governors Policy, ensuring Indigenous representation on the Board with priority given to individuals from Indigenous groups in Manitoba. Collaboration with Indigenous Leaders, Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and Scholars, including the Indigenous Advisory Circle (IAC), is central to this approach. The Chair-elect of the IAC joined the Board, ensuring direct Indigenous involvement in governance.

CURATORIAL EDUCATION AND MENTORSHIP

The Museum partnered 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, leading to the exhibit *ooshitawiin avek lamoor/Made with Love* in the Museum's foyer from June 2023-February 2024.

The ongoing Indigenous Scholars in Residence program continues with a University of Manitoba graduate student, funded to engage with the collections for their research.

COLLECTIONS ACCESS

The Museum ensured collections access for Indigenous communities, scholars, artists, and makers through in-person and virtual visits, prioritizing requests and providing support. Research, Collections & Exhibitions (RCE) collaborated with the Learning & Engagement team to enhance community access to collections and develop Indigenous programming across various galleries. This fiscal year, the "Collections for Community" program, initiated by Dr. Amelia Fay, offered dedicated weekend viewing times for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis individuals. Tashina Houle-Schlup co-hosted the first session, and attended the second as a guest artist with her brother Cheyenne. The program, planned for 3-4 sessions per year, has received positive feedback.



Cheyenne Schlup sharing knowledge with participants (note his beautiful work in the background). ©Manitoba Museum

Manitoba First Nations members requesting tours from their regions were welcomed by Curator of Archaeology, David Finch. He also assisted the Darlingford School Heritage Museum and Swan Lake First Nation with a project documenting the Calf Mountain mound site in western Manitoba. In June 2023, team members came to the Museum to see relevant collections, archives and tour related exhibits in the Prairies gallery.

A Métis Master's student from the University of Saskatchewan included the Museum's collection of Métis hooked rugs in her final thesis, highlighting the Museum's role in supporting academic research.

RESEARCH AND COMMUNITY

Dr. Diana Bizecki Robson completed the first draft of *Manitoba Flora*, the first documentation of Manitoba flora since 1957, collaborating with Indigenous Elder Black Thunderbird/Mukaday Animikii/Shirli Ewanchuk to incorporate Indigenous plant knowledge into the book. The first volume is set to be published in early 2025.

The Manitoba Museum was honored to collaborate with the Southern Chiefs' Organization (SCO) to co-curate, produce, and host a temporary exhibition celebrating their 25th anniversary, *Manidoo Miinigooizowin, A Gift from the Creator*. Dr. Amelia Fay, alongside SCO Curator Amanda McLeod, gathered artifacts from the Museum's collections and acquired community loans to showcase the incredible talent of SCO member Nations. This collaboration was instrumental in building relationships and fostering a spirit of respect and reciprocity.

Featuring objects from the 34 Nations represented by SCO, *Manidoo Miinigooizowin, A Gift from the Creator* is a celebration of the past, present, and future. © Manitoba Museum



Curators David Finch and Dr. Amelia Fay are actively involved in the University of Manitoba's "Connecting Land, Healing and Heritage" project to help create opportunities for Inuit, Dene, and Cree youth and community groups in Churchill to connect with their heritage through on-the-land programming and the documentation of archaeological resources.

Additionally, David Finch advised Sagkeeng First Nation on protecting a petroform site at risk from cycling trail development, providing background material and stabilization advice. In January 2024, the Museum supplied information on Indigenous heritage sites in Winnipeg to safeguard them during new developments.

WORKSHOPS

Workshop participants created beautiful handcraft gauntlets with direction from artist Gloria Beckman. © Manitoba Museum



Hands-on workshops like mukluk- and gauntlet-making remained popular, providing access to museum collections and skill revitalization. Collaborations with artists such as Gloria Beckman and Cynthia Boehm enriched these experiences, fostering connections to Indigenous traditions.

REPATRIATION/REMATRIATION

The Museum remains actively involved with the Inter-institutional Respectful Repatriation/Rematriation Group. This collective of Manitoba institutions collaborates with Indigenous communities, shares information among partners, and coordinates potential repatriation and rematriation of archaeology collections. The Museum is represented in this group by the CEO, Director of RCE, and the Curators of Archaeology, Anthropology, and the HBC Museum Collection.



The 'Reconciling Our History Neighbourhood Tour' takes participants on a walking journey through Winnipeg Exchange District to discover public monuments and the stories they tell, with a focus on the Indigenous perspectives that are absent. © Manitoba Museum

TOURS

Guided tours offer deeper insights into exhibits and artifacts, enhancing visitors' engagement with cultural heritage. Specialized experiences, such as the "Indigenous Motherhood Tour," "Indigenous Focus Tour," and "Reconciling Our History Neighbourhood Tour," provide tailored interactions with Indigenous content for diverse audiences.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The Museum introduced "First Peoples and the Bison" for Grade 5 students, exploring the cultural legacy of Plains Indigenous peoples and their connection to the bison. This program, crafted by Tashina Houle-Schlup, received enthusiastic acclaim and is becoming a sought-after offering.

PLANETARIUM OFFERINGS

The Planetarium premiered *Worlds of Ice*, narrated by Beatrice Deer, highlighting ice and climate change in Inuit communities. *Legends of the Northern Sky*, featuring Indigenous sky storytelling with Cree Astronomer Wilfred Buck, continued to captivate audiences.



COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS

For the National Day for Truth & Reconciliation, the Museum offered free admission and hosted Orange Shirt Days @ the Manitoba Museum, attracting over 9,000 visitors. Supported by the Province of Manitoba, the event included powwow performances, exhibits connected to TRC Calls to Action, and participation from Indigenous partners.

NEWCOMERS AND DIVERSE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

In 2023, the Rainbow Resource Centre (RRC) celebrated its 50th anniversary. Curator of History Dr. Roland Sawatzky collaborated with RRC on the exhibition *If These Walls Could Talk*, showcasing 2SLGBTQ+ activism in Winnipeg. The exhibition opened in May 2023 and will move to RRC's new building in June 2024.

The Learning & Engagement team co-hosted events with RRC, including the Stonewall Across Canada tour and the 2SLGBTQ+ Visibility Tour, featuring activists like Martin Boyce and Monica Helms. These events fostered dialogue and education. Access for All programming included regular screenings of a documentary by the RRC, amplifying 2SLGBTQ+ voices and experiences.



The Hearts of Freedom exhibit explored the immigration of Southeast Asian refugees to Canada in the 1970s and 1980s. ©Manitoba Museum

IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK 50 years of 2SLGBTQ+ activism in Winnipeg

SI LES MURS POUVAIENT PARLER 50 ans d'activisme 2SLGBTQ+ à Winnipeg



If These Walls Could Talk, produced in partnership with the Rainbow Resource Centre, explores the history of the 2SLGBTQ+ community in Winnipeg from 1970 until the 2010s. © Manitoba Museum

The *Hearts of Freedom* exhibit, led by Dr. Stephanie Phetsamay Stobbe, explored the immigration of Southeast Asian refugees to Canada in the 1970s and 1980s. The exhibit included community-shared artifacts and a screening of the documentary *Passage to Freedom*, followed by a panel discussion. The Museum also hosted the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) in Canada to celebrate Winnipeg's commitment to welcoming and supporting refugees.

Researchers from Winnipeg's historical Black community sought the Museum's support for new heritage initiatives, resulting in collaborative meetings and planning sessions.

Dr. Diana Bizecki Robson gave a virtual mushroom foraging workshop for newcomers through Regional Connections Immigrant Services. Furthering its commitment to inclusivity, the Museum is establishing a Newcomer Advisory Committee, with plans to be operational by late 2024.

Through its steadfast commitment to fostering meaningful connections with Indigenous communities, supporting research endeavors, and embracing newcomers and diverse voices, the Manitoba Museum continues to serve as a hub of cultural enrichment and societal understanding in Manitoba.

EXHIBITIONS & GALLERIES

Exhibitions bring to life the stories of Manitoba communities, and new knowledge of nature and changing environment, while communicating meaning, education, and trust. As expressions of enquiry, thought, and lived experience, exhibitions bring together people from all walks of life who seek to discover, explore, and enjoy the history and diversity of museum collections. By partnering with community, young scholars, and scientific institutions, the Museum brings new perspectives, ideas, and experiences to the people of Manitoba, encouraging dialogue, questioning, and learning.

NEW PERMANENT EXHIBITS

PRAIRIE PERSPECTIVES - DONNY RACINE, TRAPPER

Dr. Roland Sawatzky, Curator of History, collaborated with the late Donny Racine, Métis trapper, and his family at Turtle Mountain to produce a video interview of Mr. Racine. This is now included in the permanent *Prairie Perspectives* exhibit within the Prairies Gallery, which highlights diverse voices from Manitoba's southwestern regions. We are so grateful to have known and worked with Donny.



Donny Racine beside his trapping shed at Turtle Mountain. ©Manitoba Museum

WINNIPEG 1920 CITYSCAPE

Phase two of the three-phased upgrade of *Winnipeg 1920 Cityscape* saw the completion of:



Ukrainian Booksellers Store:

The Ukrainian Booksellers and Publishers store provided books and music to European immigrants in the early 20th century. The store window was replicated and artifacts from the original store were included.

Madame Taro's Room: This room, showcasing the skills of a "fortune-teller," has numerous updates, including an antique phonograph and an audio installation of music of the period, including the prohibition hit *Sahara (Now We're Dry Like You)*.

All People's Mission: This space saw new photographs of the original Winnipeg missions, with a panel and labels to discuss their origins and purpose.

Romance of the Far Fur Country, Allen Theatre: An edited version of the 1920 HBC documentary was added to the Allen Theatre, taking its place alongside Charlie Chaplin. The film originally premiered in the real Allen Theatre (now the Met) in 1920!



Ooshitawiin Avek Lamoore was a temporary exhibit which displayed beautifully beaded Indigenous artifacts. ©Manitoba Museum

INTERNAL TEMPORARY EXHIBITS

OOSHITAWIIN AVEK LAMOORE/MADE WITH LOVE

June 16, 2023 - February 25, 2024

This partnership with the Manitoba Métis Federation and the University of Winnipeg Curatorial Practices program hosted two Indigenous students, Adrienne Laroque and Emma de Sousa, to develop practical skills in curation and exhibition development. This internship was led by Dr. Amelia Fay, Curator of Anthropology and the HBC Museum Collection, and Candace Hogue, Curator for the Red River Métis Heritage Centre.



Thomas Little's Memorial Medallion and an image from the exhibit. ©Manitoba Museum/H9-3-747A

PRIVATE THOMAS LITTLE

October 28 - December 1, 2023, Foyer

This annual Remembrance Day rotating exhibition case features intimate stories of people who have served in the Canadian military. This year's exhibit featured veteran Private Thomas Little, who was killed in France at the Battle of Canal du Nord in September 1918. The Museum has his Memorial Medallion and the "Note from the King" that were sent to his widow.

INCOMING TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS

IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK: 50 YEARS OF 2SLGBTQ+ ACTIVISM IN WINNIPEG

May 26, 2023 to June 23, 2024, Urban Corridor

Produced in partnership with the Rainbow Resource Centre, *If These Walls Could Talk* explores the history of the 2SLGBTQ+ community in Winnipeg from 1970 to the present. This period of activism after the decriminalization of homosexuality in 1969 covers issues such as coming out (1970s), HIV/AIDS information (1980s), marriage and adoption rights (1990s and 2000s), protection for gender diversity (2010s), and more. The Museum is honoured to facilitate the telling of this history and experience.



"If These Walls Could Talk", a temporary exhibit created with the Rainbow Resource Centre. ©Manitoba Museum

"When I was two years in the apprenticeship, I could already make a wall clock"



Each beautiful time piece in the Keeping Time exhibition had an important story to tell. ©Manitoba Museum

KEEPING TIME: THE ART AND HERITAGE OF MENNONITE CLOCKS

October 26, 2023 to February 25, 2024, Discovery Room

This travelling exhibition from the Kroeger Clocks Heritage Foundation and the Mennonite Heritage Village provided an in-depth look into the craft of Mennonite clocks. Made in Ukraine between the early 1800s and 1913, many hundreds of clocks arrived with Mennonite immigrants from the 1870s to the 1950s. Each beautiful time piece had an important story to tell about its owners and their migration experiences.



HEARTS OF FREEDOM: STORIES OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN REFUGEES

January 9 to April 7, 2024, Festival Hall

Stories of loss, stories of courage, stories of triumph. This exhibit comprised of pop-up banners and an in-depth documentary film shared the emotional and impactful stories of Southeast Asian refugees who came to Canada between 1975 and 1985, and the stories of those who assisted them. Impacted by the Vietnam War, the Lao Secret War, and the Cambodian Genocide, millions of refugees from Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia were forced to flee their homelands and to seek safety in other countries. This exhibition told the stories of the survivors who made Canada their home, in their own words and through their unique perspectives, adding to the fabric of the Canadian history of immigration.



Brandi Hayberg, Dr. Stephanie Phetsamay Stobbe, Anya Moodie-Foster and Dr. Roland Sawatzky at the Winnipeg opening of Hearts of Freedom. ©Stephanie Stobbe



Many of the objects in this exhibition were generously shared by individuals and families who proudly represent their respective Nations. ©Manitoba Museum

MANIDOO MIINIIGOOIZOWIN, A GIFT FROM THE CREATOR SOUTHERN CHIEFS' ORGANIZATION 25th ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION March 22, 2024 to March 2025, Welcome Gallery and Discovery Room

This exhibition celebrates the beauty and resilience of the Anishinaabe and Dakota peoples and commemorates the 25th anniversary of the Southern Chiefs' Organization (SCO). Featuring objects from the 34 Nations represented by SCO, this exhibition is a celebration of the past, present, and future. Many of the objects in this exhibition were generously shared by individuals and families who proudly represent their respective Nations, and all were designed or made by talented artists and makers from the SCO member Nations. The exhibition also includes community objects from the Manitoba Museum.

EXTERNAL EXHIBITIONS

STRIKE 1919: DIVIDED CITY December 6, 2021 to 2025

This exhibition, produced by the Manitoba Museum, continues to be on view at the Manitoba Building Trades Institute atrium (225 McPhillips St.). It features artifacts and film content related to the history of the General Strike, with an emphasis on the diverse peoples involved in (or excluded from) the union actions of 1919.

IN PERSON PROGRAMS & EVENTS

BRINGING THE GALLERIES TO LIFE

It's easy to see why the Manitoba Museum is the place to be! Whether seeking thrills or a place to chill, our programs can excite imagination, engage visitors in conversation, create moments of reflection, and make space for us to connect with each other.

Programs kicked off the year with Earth Day weekend, as the Manitoba Museum promoted environmental awareness and action. Through multimedia scavenger hunts, interactive workshops on green energy, and Planetarium shows exploring the impacts of climate change, visitors were inspired to reflect on their relationship with the planet and consider tangible steps towards sustainability actions that resonate far beyond the confines of our Museum walls.



Into the summer, the Museum buzzed with activity as families flocked to experience an exciting lineup of activities. From playing traditional games to investigating aquatic animals, engaging activities provided a diverse range of experiences for visitors of all ages. With a multi-day calendar of offerings, the Museum encouraged multiple visits and made sure everyone had a chance to check some items off their Summer Bucket List.

At the Manitoba Museum's Halloween Takeover, laughter and costumes took over as families

explored a world of spooky fun and discovery. From following Bailey the Bat on a scavenger hunt through the galleries, to singing along with eerie Planescarium shows, every corner held thrills and surprises. It was a fiendishly fun experience!



During Winter Break, the Manitoba Museum became a cozy retreat for families seeking holiday fun and learning away from the outside chill. Pyjama Days welcomed visitors in their comfiest attire and invited them to embark on a snowman scavenger hunt through the galleries. Learning & Engagement staff guided visitors through the Hold of the Nonsuch – a time-honoured Winter Break tradition. Cool-as-Ice science demonstrations in the Auditorium dazzled audiences with experiments on static electricity and freezing temperatures, and the Planetarium hosted shows like *Magic Globe*, guiding audiences on adventures through the cosmos. Winter Break at the Museum was a time for warmth and wonder.

During Spring Break, the Manitoba Museum was the place to be for fantastic and fun learning adventures. In the last week of March, visitors embarked on a journey through time across Manitoba, exploring Museum Galleries interspersed with hands-on activities. The newly premiered Planetarium show, *We are Guardians*, shed light on the interconnectedness of our world and the importance of environmental stewardship. In the Science Gallery, a pop-up toddler zone sparked joy and curiosity in our youngest explorers.



Throughout the year, we also offered various enriching programs and events. Collaborating with esteemed local organizations, such as the Manitoba Association of Women Artists (MAWA), we have been able to co-host captivating drawing workshops for our visitors. Additionally, partnerships with Fête de la Science, including support from the French Embassy, have resulted in French-language STEM programming for our visitors. These joint efforts consistently elevate our programming, offering diverse and dynamic experiences that resonate with our community and beyond.

We continued to demonstrate our commitment to supporting and celebrating the 2SLGBTQ+ community through various events. The poignant Stonewall Across Canada tour, organized with the

International Day of Pink and the U.S. Embassy, featured activist Martin Boyce, a survivor of the historic Stonewall Riots, highlighting a pivotal moment in queer history. Our collaboration with the International Day of Pink 2SLGBTQ+ Visibility Tour on March 20 showcased notable speakers, including Monica Helms, the creator of the Trans Flag. These events not only commemorate significant milestones but also provide platforms for dialogue and education, fostering a more inclusive society.

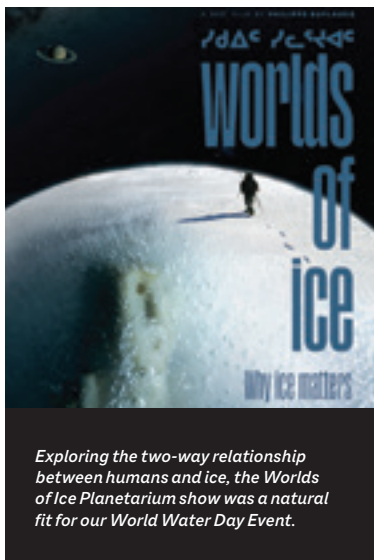
SCHOOL PROGRAMS

ENGAGING YOUNG MINDS

The Manitoba Museum's school visit program has achieved widespread public engagement, underscoring the deep connection and value that Manitobans place on enriching educational experiences for their students, and highlighting the Museum's pivotal role in fostering lifelong learning within the community.

In 2023-2024, the Manitoba Museum continued to provide exceptional educational experiences, catering to students from kindergarten to grade 12. The newly launched Grade 5 program, "The First Peoples and The Bison," has been enthusiastically embraced by students, leading to its active booking and popularity. Complemented by interactive workshops, school visit programs go beyond the set curriculum, sparking curiosity and nurturing a deep appreciation for Manitoba's cultural and natural heritage.

While in-person school visits surged in popularity, we continued to reach beyond provincial borders through innovative Virtual Field Trip formats and strategic collaborations with partners like Connected North and Streamable Learning, ensuring that learners nationwide and internationally could participate in immersive educational journeys. This diversified and strategic approach between both types of school visits demonstrates the amazing agility of the Learning & Engagement team.



Exploring the two-way relationship between humans and ice, the Worlds of Ice Planetarium show was a natural fit for our World Water Day Event.

A whopping **70,248** students visited our three venues for on-site school visits, while an additional **5,062** students participated in Virtual Field Trips, engaging with our content remotely. In total, the Learning & Engagement team interacted with an impressive **75,310** young minds throughout the 2023-2024 period! A small window into these amazing numbers can be seen in the success of the World Water Day event, with partner Science First, that brought

together over **350** students for a day of learning and dialogue. This event featured engaging speakers, a captivating Planetarium show, and thought-provoking discussions on environmental conservation and sustainability.

Thank you to our sponsor:



Over 70,000 students visited our three venues for on-site school visits! ©Manitoba Museum

As part of the Museum's strategic plans for modernization, a dedicated segment of the Learning & Engagement team contributed significantly to the digital leap, fundamentally altering how we engage with teachers and communicate the diverse array of educational offerings available. Central to this initiative was the launch of the new Manitoba Museum website and Tessitura, a state-of-the-art enterprise platform embraced by cultural institutions worldwide. It was a monumental task!

However, this milestone streamlined our operations and updated how we interact with educators, facilitating smoother communication and providing better access to our rich educational resources.

Through these endeavors, we continue to push the boundaries of innovation and education, striving to create meaningful connections with our community and beyond. With a renewed focus on digital and immersive programming, we look forward to inspiring generations to come and fostering a deeper appreciation for the wonders of Manitoba's past, present, and future.



The Museum's World Water Day Event provided thought-provoking discussions on environmental conservation and sustainability. ©Manitoba Museum



Virtual Field Trips allow us to reach beyond provincial borders. ©Manitoba Museum

PLANETARIUM

THE STARS BELONG TO EVERYONE

Amidst the Manitoba Museum's diverse offerings, the Planetarium stands out. Here, visitors of all ages are transported to the far reaches of the cosmos, exploring the mysteries of space through immersive and interactive shows. It's a space where curiosity knows no bounds, and the thrill of exploration is palpable in every star.

Reflecting on the past year, we continue to reach new heights through a blend of innovation and dedication. From new shows to beloved classics, each program has left an indelible mark on visitors, inspiring awe and curiosity about the universe we inhabit.



The Museum's stellar lineup of premieres was eagerly embraced by stargazers of all ages. From the enchanting melodies of Fred Penner guiding young astronomers through *In My Backyard*, to the timeless fable of courage and renewal in *The Longest Night: A Winter's Tale*, each show offered a unique journey through space and time. *We Are Guardians* shed light on the critical role of satellites in environmental stewardship, while *Edge of Darkness* dazzled audiences with breathtaking vistas of the cosmos, narrated by the esteemed Hayley Atwell. These new additions have enriched the diverse experiences available at the Planetarium.



One more new show was added to the line-up and helped the Museum connect with a broader audience with content that matters to them. Celebrating the 50th anniversary of Pink Floyd's iconic album,

The Dark Side of The Moon, the show captivated crowds with its fusion of music and astronomy, transporting audiences to the outer reaches of the cosmos.

Rocking out under the dome, attendees were treated to a mesmerizing journey through space and time, accompanied by the legendary sounds of Pink Floyd. This immersive experience combined cutting-edge technology with timeless music, offering a truly unforgettable night under the stars. Almost universally sold out, the Pink Floyd experience drew in both loyal Planetarium patrons and newcomers alike.



A screenshot from the immensely popular Pink Floyd *Dark Side of the Moon* planetarium show.

The Museum continued its commitment to engaging its audiences beyond its physical walls with the DOME@HOME program. Led by Planetarium Astronomer Scott Young, DOME@HOME provided a free monthly livestream for viewers to explore celestial sights and special sky events from the comfort of their homes, with dynamic discussions and answering everyone's most pressing astronomy-related questions.

It's clear that the Planetarium remains an iconic place of discovery in our community. With a rich history dating back to its opening on May 15, 1968, the Planetarium has captivated generations with its immersive celestial experiences. Yet, as we celebrate our successes, we recognize that there is still more to be done to unlock its full potential.

Our ongoing commitment to innovation and modernization will ensure that the Planetarium continues to inspire and educate audiences for years to come. Together, we will write the next chapter in the story of the Planetarium, reaffirming its status as a cultural landmark and a source of knowledge and inspiration for all.



MEMBERSHIP

In 2023-2024, Manitoba Museum Members enjoyed a year of remarkable savings and unparalleled experiences. As the Museum transitioned to a new customer relationship management system, Members demonstrated extraordinary patience and support, paving the way for an enhanced online and in-person membership journey.

The year began with an exciting 25% off Membership Sale, which was extended until January 7, 2024, due to overwhelming Member feedback. This initiative spurred a surge in membership, culminating in an impressive 12,567 Museum Members benefiting from unlimited access to the Museum Galleries, Planetarium, and Science Gallery.

An annual membership provides a year-long immersion into Manitoba's rich history and vibrant present. It's a journey through time, space, and discovery—a journey Museum Members embraced wholeheartedly.

In addition to unlimited access to our core attractions, Museum Members enjoyed many exclusive activities and benefits throughout the year. From discounted tickets for partner events like the Manitoba Theatre for Young People's "Zoom" and unique Museum programs such as the "From Talk to Table: Indigenous Motherhood" Mother's Day tour, to VIP access to premieres like *Worlds of Ice* in the Planetarium, Museum Members were treated to unforgettable moments.

July marked a milestone with the return of the beloved Planetarium show, *Dinosaurs: A Story of Survival*, and the mesmerizing *Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon*, celebrating its 50th anniversary. The Pink Floyd planetarium show not only captivated record crowds, but also offered Members exclusive discounts and early access, exemplifying the perks of a Museum Membership.

Throughout the year, Members enjoyed special benefits such as free admission for grandparents and grandchildren on Grandparent's Day, discounted Spring Break tickets, early access to Halloween Takeover tickets, and an exclusive 25% discount on online shop purchases.

As we reflect on the past year, we extend our deepest gratitude to each Museum Member for your unwavering support and enthusiasm. Your commitment fueled our mission to provide enriching experiences and benefits, and we eagerly anticipate another year of shared adventures and discoveries at the Manitoba Museum.



Member Kristin F. and her family enjoy the Winnipeg 1920: Cityscape Gallery.
©Manitoba Museum

"The Museum Membership was really affordable and pays for itself in a few visits, especially if you have a couple of people in your household. It also encourages us to visit more often knowing the visit will be "free" with the membership. We've taken advantage of the reciprocal agreement the Museum has with the Children's Museum and Fort Whyte Alive to receive discounts on their memberships and vice-versa. We think is this a great agreement that has certainly helped in our decisions to get memberships to other local attractions and saved us money at the same time."

KRISTIN F., MANITOBA MUSEUM MEMBER

COLLECTIONS, CONSERVATION & ACQUISITION HIGHLIGHTS

COLLECTIONS

The Manitoba Museum holds an incredible collection of artifacts and specimens carefully and thoughtfully developed, documented, and cared for by a team of curators, collections staff, and conservators in partnership with cultural and scientific communities. The Museum also maintains an ever-growing collection of contemporary oral histories.

Divided into seven overarching disciplines, the Museum's collection richly represents the diversity of province's human and natural history. The Human History collection is comprised of Archaeology, History, Anthropology, and the Hudson's Bay Company Museum Collection. The Natural History collection includes Botany, Zoology, Palaeontology, and Geology. Through several hundred professional and public inquiries this year, the Museum provided collections and research-based knowledge that informed environmental conservation and cultural and heritage policy initiatives, as well as supported research by global scientists and their teams in museums and universities.

LOANS

In 2023-2024, 44 artifacts and specimens were loaned to other museums, galleries, organizations, and universities to be used in exhibitions, outreach, and research.

OUTGOING LOAN HIGHLIGHTS

- Eight steel axes from the Archaeology and HBC collections were loaned to Ayat Baig of the Manitoba Mineral Analytical Facility at Brandon University. These are being studied using X-ray fluorescence spectroscopy (XRF) to identify possible sources of iron and steel used during the fur trade. The project is being coordinated by Dr. Thomas Shay, Senior Scholar at the University of Manitoba.
- 75 ectoparasites including mites, lice, and flat flies collected off a Ruffed Grouse were loaned to Dr. Terry Galloway, Professor Emeritus at the University of Manitoba, for identification. Not much is known about late-season Ruffed Grouse ectoparasites as these specimens were collected in October, so they are of particular interest to the U of M Department of Entomology's research efforts.
- 25 Cretaceous fossils were loaned to Dr. Kirstin Brink, Department of Earth Sciences at the University of Manitoba. Student researchers will take three-dimensional scans of the fossils, and replicas will be produced for research, educational, and museum display purposes.

INCOMING LOAN HIGHLIGHTS

For the *Keeping Time* exhibition, twelve 19th century wall clocks were loaned by private owners, the Mennonite Heritage Village, the Kroeger Clocks Heritage Foundation, and the Mennonite Heritage Archives.

Manidoo Minniigooizowin, A Gift from the Creator saw 39 lenders provide their artworks and family heirlooms to support the 25th anniversary exhibition for the Southern Chiefs' Organization, which will remain on display in the Discovery Room until Spring 2025.

The Canadian Museum of History has provided a long-term loan of a billy club used by Special Police during the 1919 General Strike in Winnipeg. This will be exhibited in the Winnipeg Gallery.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY and INFORMATION REQUESTS

More than 80 intellectual property requests were received in 2023-2024 across all disciplines. Some highlights include:

- Specimen images illustrated scholarly articles including:
 - *Naturalized Nation: Tyndall Stone and the Prairie Imaginary* by Abigail Auld in *Journal of the Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada*.
 - *First record of Dion skipper (Lepidoptera: Hesperidae) in Manitoba, Canada* by Kirstyn Eckhardt in the *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Manitoba*.
- Filming for *Going Native* Series, season 3, for broadcast or distribution on the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN) took place in the Museum Galleries.
- Image of the Bison diorama was included in the exhibit catalogue *Marcel Dzama: Ghosts of Canoe Lake* published by the McMichael Canadian Art Collection.
- Provided visual materials to interpretive centres, archives, and museum exhibits at institutions including:
 - The new *Climate Action Room* at Fort Whyte Alive.
 - *Winnipeg 150 History* exhibition produced by the City of Winnipeg Archives.
 - *Manidoo Mazina'igan – Treaty #3 – The Sacred Document* produced by the Muse (Kenora) in partnership with Grand Council Treaty #3.
 - *Manitoba Brick and Block*, at the Settlers, Rails, & Trails Inc. Museum in Argyle, Manitoba.

Natural History departments facilitated Collections Access and Data Release permissions to local and international researchers and students, to study specimens from the permanent collections and their associated data. Data requests were fulfilled for a variety of institutions working to assess changes in species status and distribution over time, including requests regarding porcupines, milkweed plants, and Monarch butterflies.

An inventory of **Natural History** specimens in our holdings that originated with the Redpath Museum at McGill University was provided to the Redpath, to help determine where historic elements and replicas from their collections have wound up across Canada.

The Curator of **Botany** reviewed the proposal for a Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) at the Living Prairie Museum. KBAs are the most important places in the world for species and their habitats. The KBA Programme supports the identification, mapping, monitoring, and conservation of KBAs to help safeguard the most critical sites for nature on our planet.

The **Human History** departments received significant Collections Access requests by descendant communities, family members, researchers, and students, and help facilitate collection visits in-person and virtually.

There have been numerous requests to **Anthropology** and **HBC Museum Collection** by various Nations searching for their belongings across many institutions and the Human History team provides information and photographs to assist with this important work.

The **History** department was contacted by families, researchers, journalists, and students, for historical information and access to collections. This included identifying and dating family heirlooms, like a sheepskin coat from Poland, and providing researcher access to the Criddle botanical water colours paintings. A Red River College Polytech journalism student filmed an interview regarding the *Keeping Time* exhibition for a final course project.

Archaeology received requests from researchers on diverse topics including dogs at ancient sites in Manitoba, field notes from archaeological projects in the 1970s, Bronze Age axes, how to access archival records, and materials from North Dakota. There were also requests from Indigenous communities to visit collections from heritage sites on their traditional lands, and by community museums in Manitoba asking for assistance with identifying objects in their own collections.

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 2023-2024 included:

- 117 vascular plant specimens identified
- 410 herbarium specimens prepared
- 21 bird and 5 mammal skeletons cleaned by the dermestid colony this year
- 800+ zoology specimens (birds, mammals, insects) prepared and catalogued
- 600+ fossil specimens packaged for stable long-term storage



Senior Conservator Carolyn Sirett uses the newly acquired portable XRF to test a Chilkat blanket from the HBC Museum Collection.
©Manitoba Museum

CONSERVATION

The Conservation team ensures 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, providing expertise on preservation to mitigate deterioration before it begins, and safeguarding objects while on exhibition and in storage.

An exciting opportunity this year was the purchase of a handheld portable X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) thanks to the ACSC Grant. The XRF is a tool used to detect the presence of elements within objects, which has allowed the department to better understand the material compositions of the collection. Using the XRF, the team was able to identify pure gold in paint used on a Chinese bed as well as the use of copper in dyes found on a Chilkat blanket.

Many other projects have been undertaken, including the conservation treatment and remounting of several hundred botany specimens, as well as treatment of a newly acquired anthropology collection from Weynoke Cottage, located in the Winnipeg Beach area. In addition, the Conservation team performed condition assessments, treatments, and packed 27 objects for loan, shipping them to seven partnering museums and organizations.

The Conservation team was able to assist partner organizations with preservation needs including the conservation treatment of a significant glass plate negative depicting Louis Riel for the Manitoba Métis Federation as well as an onsite assessment of the holdings at the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.

ACQUISITION HIGHLIGHTS

2,113 artifacts and specimens were accessioned into our collections.

ARCHAEOLOGY



A conical maul from near Letellier, Manitoba, collected around 1950 by the mother of donor Robert McClelland when she was ten years old. ©Manitoba Museum

Over the past year, the Archaeology department addressed multiple inquiries from the public about objects collected in past decades, often by family members who have since passed. In some cases, the inquiries were forwarded to other institutions with jurisdiction over where the objects were found. The department only accepted a few donations this year – in part as the new curator only began in mid-2023. A mihkikhwan or hide scraper found near Lester Beach arrived as part of a larger donation to the History department from Olga Bemben. A grooved hammerstone and a rock sample, collected near Gull Lake (near Patricia Beach), was donated by Lisa Stelmach of Winnipeg. A conical maul, donated by Robert McClelland of Winnipeg, was collected by his mother in the 1940s or 1950s from the family farm in the

Emerson-Letellier area. Similar objects have been recorded in the northern Plains but few have been described from Manitoba. It is the product of fine work, and it may have been used for processing prairie turnips and other plants.

BOTANY

117 vascular plant specimens were collected during a field trip in collaboration with Swan Lake First Nation. This collection will help to document the botanical diversity that First Nations in Manitoba conserve. The specimens and final report will also help scientists and First Nations assess the rarity of species native to Manitoba.

*Dr. Diana Bizecki Robson studied the lily specimens in the Museum's collection, including this Twisted Stalk (*Streptopus lanceolatus*) specimen. ©Manitoba Museum*



A collection of 137 vascular plant specimens collected in 1984 from northern Manitoba near Lake Winnipegosis were donated by Dave Holder. These specimens are from an under-collected area of the province and so help us understand the vegetational composition from 40 years ago. Mr. Holder also donated a collection of 115 vascular plants obtained in the 1970s and 1980s from Ohio. These specimens will help the curator identify potential new plant arrivals due to climate-induced vegetational changes.

ANTHROPOLOGY

A number of artworks that had originally been purchased at the Arctic Trading Company in Churchill, Manitoba, made by renowned caribou tufting artists, were donated. These smaller, framed works of art are excellent examples of the medium, but also represent the importance of a tourist trade economy for many artists.



Before (left) and after (right) images of a newly acquired pair of moccasins in the Anthropology department that received conservation treatment. H4-2-850 ©Manitoba Museum

HBC MUSEUM COLLECTION

A child's coat, likely from the mid-20th century, with a Hudson's Bay Company tag was donated. While the donor remembers using it for her dolls, this coat is also an excellent example of HBC's expansion into retail through its department store era and fills a gap within the HBC Museum Collection as children's belongings are underrepresented.



A child's coat with a Hudson's Bay Company tag is an exciting addition to the Museum collection. HBC 023-42 ©Manitoba Museum

HISTORY

Four banners related to 2SLGBTQ+ activist events or institutions were donated through our partnership with the Rainbow Resource Centre. We also received the awning sign from Ms. Purdy's, a lesbian gathering place formerly located on Winnipeg's Main Street.

The Devin Tri-Color camera was used to take the first North American next-day colour newspaper print (Winnipeg Free Press) in 1939. The camera uses three large negatives filtered through three coloured glass plates.



Devin Tri-color camera, H9-40-186
©Manitoba Museum

A Victorian epergne – a dining table centerpiece – was given to Joseph and Lucy Marie Gelley in 1882, the same year they moved from Quebec to Manitoba. Joseph was a successful building contractor and was responsible for building Winnipeg's post office, courthouse, Government House, and original Parliament Building.



This silver-plated epergne was used to display fruits, nuts, sweets and flowers during formal dinners. At 28" high and 28" wide, it must have made quite the impression. H9-40-278 ©Manitoba Museum

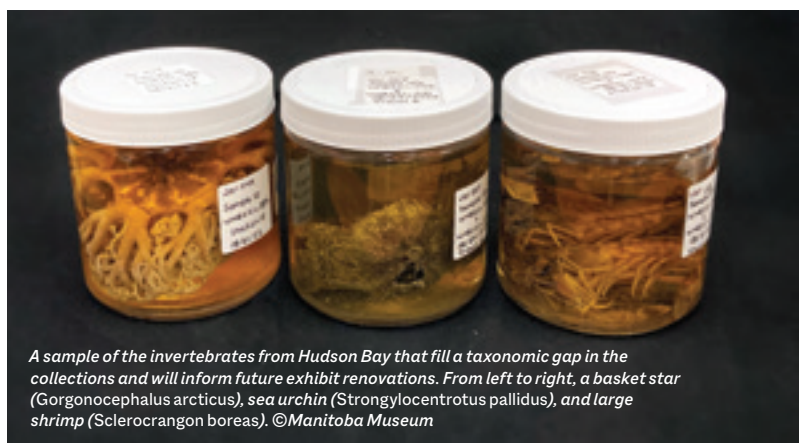
PALAEONTOLOGY AND GEOLOGY

We were grateful to receive a donation of two spectacular gold ore samples from Agnico Eagle Mines Limited. Both are from Nunavut. The first specimen is from the Meadowbank mine, and the second is from Hope Bay. Carol Plummer, Executive Vice-President, Operational Excellence, visited the Museum to present the specimens.

We also received a donation of four pieces of Cedar Lake amber, previously held at Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona. We are very pleased to have been able to bring this material back to Manitoba.



Four specimens of Cretaceous amber, transferred from Petrified Forest National Park (USA) to the Manitoba Museum. ©Manitoba Museum



A sample of the invertebrates from Hudson Bay that fill a taxonomic gap in the collections and will inform future exhibit renovations. From left to right, a basket star (*Gorgonocephalus arcticus*), sea urchin (*Strongylocentrotus pallidus*), and large shrimp (*Sclerocrangon boreas*). ©Manitoba Museum

ZOOLOGY

The first voucher specimen of White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) from Manitoba was added to the collection – its closest nesting location is New Mexico. Participating in the International Shorebird Survey, Dr. Randall Mooi, Curator of Zoology, discovered an abandoned nest of the endangered Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*). These eggs provide data for conservation management.

Over 900 insects were donated, increasing taxonomic and geographic breadth of the collections, and providing specimens for future exhibitions. Several donations further the development of future renewals of the Arctic/Subarctic and Boreal Galleries, with winter finches retained for possible taxidermy, and receipt of over 275 Hudson Bay marine invertebrates in collaboration with Fisheries and Oceans and Assiniboine Park Zoo.

RESEARCH

Research is the foundation of the Museum – it helps build relevant collections, which ensures a greater understanding of our environment and history for exhibitions, programs, and other researchers.

By undertaking field research, curators support the institution's mandate to collect, study, and preserve artifacts and specimens for the people of Manitoba and the world. Much of this work brings to light gaps in the collections or highlights under-represented or under-researched aspects of the collections. Thousands of local, national, and international scholars study the Museum's collections and research publications each year.

Research underlies the Museum's interpretation of human and natural history in the form of exhibitions, presentations, programs, workshops, reports, and publications for a wide range of audiences, from children and tourists, to policy makers and academics. Research makes the Museum a trusted source of information recognized by Manitobans – curators and conservation staff responded to over 700 public and 500 professional inquiries this year.

ARCHAEOLOGY

David Finch, Curator of Archaeology, at Churchill as part of the Connecting Land, Healing, and Heritage project. ©David Finch



CONNECTING LAND, HEALING AND HERITAGE PROJECT

The Curator of Archaeology and the Curator of Anthropology and the HBC Museum Collection are partners on the *Connecting Land, Healing and Heritage* project – a three-year research program headed by University of Manitoba researchers. Other partners include the Sayisi Dene First Nation, Fox Lake Cree Nation, Kivalliq Inuit Association, Parks Canada, the Town of Churchill, and the Churchill division of the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority. The project facilitates working with youth and other groups in the Churchill area on heritage-related social determinants of health, and it is funded by the Canadian Institutes

of Health Research (CIHR). The project partners are creating opportunities for Inuit, Dene, and Cree youth to engage with their cultural heritage through on-the-land programming. They are also documenting archaeological resources in the region to help Indigenous communities better engage with and direct research on their own terms.

BOTANY

MANITOBA FLORA PUBLICATION

Herbarium research for the first volume of this publication was completed, and a final draft prepared. The book describes 614 species of vascular plants, including all known ferns, conifers, and monocots, and will be published in 2025. It will help Manitobans identify the 1,650+ species of plants in the province. The Curator of Botany also partnered with Indigenous Elder Black Thunderbird/Mukaday Animikii/Shirli Ewanchuk, who is writing a chapter on Indigenous plant knowledge.



The rare Small-flowered Evening Primrose (*Oenothera parviflora*) and its pollinator, the Primrose Moth (*Schinia florida*), was observed at Swan Lake First Nation. ©Manitoba Museum

BOTANICAL DIVERSITY IN FIRST NATION LANDS IN THE PRAIRIE ECOZONE

As much of the land in southern Manitoba has been cultivated, Indigenous reserves contain some of the last intact grasslands and wetlands on the prairies. The *Flora of Southern First Nation Lands* is a multi-year project that will document the flora at several prairie reserves, with the permission and involvement of the people living there. This year, the Curator of Botany visited Swan Lake First Nation (SLFN) and searched for suspected, historic, rare, and unranked species. Over 250 vascular plant species were documented during the survey.



One of the rare plants encountered at Swan Lake First Nation was Schweinitz's Flatsedge (*Cyperus schweinitzii*) a species that only grows on sand dunes. ©Manitoba Museum

ANTHROPOLOGY AND HBC

COLLECTIONS ASSESSMENT

This year, Dr. Amelia Fay focused on a thorough assessment of both the Anthropology and HBC Museum Collections to identify candidates for repatriation, gaps in the collections, and areas where detailed provenance research is required.

HISTORY

ORAL HISTORY

Oral history recordings were collected, along with artifacts, from four participants in the Shoe Project. Based on a pair of their own shoes, they shared stories of migration to Winnipeg from Vietnam, Ukraine, Uganda, and the Philippines. These recorded interviews have been added to our growing newcomer oral history collection.

The late Donny Racine, a Métis trapper from Turtle Mountain, was interviewed over a period of two days with a video crew and the Curator of History to produce a video interview for the *Prairie Perspectives* exhibit in the Prairies Gallery. It is an important part of telling diverse stories from the Manitoba Prairies and is available online.

PALAEONTOLOGY AND GEOLOGY

DATING FOSSILS

We were excited to receive several Carbon-14 dates for ancient bison specimens based on analyses run at André E. Lalonde AMS Laboratory at University of Ottawa. One Ice Age bison from southeastern Manitoba was dated at >44,400 years before present (BP), while another specimen from the Portage la Prairie area came in at 3,670 +/- 40 years BP. These data will be crucial for future research on this material.

Establishing the absolute age of more ancient fossils can be difficult. Carbon-14 dating cannot be used for samples over 60 thousand years old and Uranium-Lead dating of fossils has been challenging due to their low Uranium content. Dr. Joe Moysiuk contributed to a paper led by Dr. Heriberto Rochín-Bañaga and Prof. Don Davis (University of Toronto) that demonstrated the use of a new statistical approach facilitating absolute dating of fossil samples with low Uranium content. The study was published in the journal *Chemical Geology*.



A Plains spadefoot toad found on a backroad near Hartney at about 3 AM on June 8, 2023, in southwestern Manitoba during field surveys by Curator of Zoology Dr. Randall Mooi. ©Manitoba Museum

ZOOLOGY

MANITOBA AMPHIBIANS

Monitoring of the threatened Great Plains toad (*Anaxyrus cognatus*) in southwestern Manitoba discovered new breeding areas, along with incredible numbers of Plains spadefoot toad (*Scaphiopus bombifrons*), another species with restricted distribution.

FISH SPECIES NEW TO SCIENCE

Work on Indo-Pacific reef fishes discovered a previously unknown species of goby in the Marquesas Islands, named *Callogobius williamsi* after its collector. Gobies are important contributors to nutrient cycling on coral reefs.



A species of fish from the Marquesas Islands that is new to science described by Manitoba Museum scientists. This small goby, *Callogobius williamsi* Delventhal & Mooi 2023, is only 43 mm long. ©Manitoba Museum

BIRD POPULATIONS

A collaborative study on the conservation status of Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) was presented at the World Owl Conference held in La Crosse, Wisconsin; recommendations were provided for effective monitoring.

The occurrence of frostbite in Eurasian collared-dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) was documented in Manitoba and across North America from museum specimens and assessed in over 24,000 on-line bird photographs. This dove is a recent invader due to human introduction and appears to be affected by severe winter conditions.

CURATORS EMERITI

DR. KATHERINE PETTIPAS

This year, Dr. Pettipas produced a number of in-house collections reports, including the Ruby Miles donation of 1920s artifacts, photographs, and letters from Papua New Guinea (see publications), and a historical overview of content in older galleries.

Dr. Pettipas also conducted collections and records inventory checks of culturally sensitive artifacts and reviewed and produced an inventory of the Dr. Jack Steinbring donation of ethnographic and archaeological fieldnotes pertaining to his field work along the east side of Lake Winnipeg and northern communities (late 1960s to 1990s).

Finally, Dr. Pettipas researched and produced preliminary catalogue records of Inuit clothing donated by Dr. Jill Oakes. These artifacts were collected by Dr. Oakes during her field work with Inuit and Siberian seamstresses during the late 1970s through to the 1990s. As always, Dr. Pettipas generously provided advice and consultation as requested.

DR. GRAHAM YOUNG

Dr. Young continues to work on Manitoba Tyndall Stone as a Global Heritage Stone Resource. This project, a collaboration with Dr. Brian Pratt (University of Saskatchewan), resulted in one journal paper published in 2023, and a book chapter has also been submitted for publication. In September, Drs. Pratt and Young both spoke in Winnipeg at a large event celebrating Tyndall Stone.

In his new role as Curator Emeritus, Dr. Young is also continuing to work on some of the unusual fossils collected over the past 20 years from the William Lake site in the Grand Rapids Uplands. This site is known for the unusual preservation of soft-tissue fossils. The fossil jellyfish from the site were all photographed and documented in 2023, and element mapping was carried out. A manuscript on brachiopods (lamp shells) from that site is near completion (collaboration with Dr. Colin Sproat, University of Saskatchewan).



An example of a fossil embedded in Tyndall stone in a wall of the Manitoba Museum. ©Manitoba Museum

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Sharing research makes our world a better place.

The Museum curators and their collaborators conduct important scientific and historical research to share with the larger community. This helps form the foundation of reliable knowledge utilized by relevant communities, policy makers, scientists, and social services, and in turn strengthens our society. The results of the curators' research were published in academic journals and conferences. These publications are referenced for many years after publication by researchers worldwide.

PRESENTATIONS



Director of Learning & Engagement, Zoë Quinn, with co-presenter Eman Abu Hassan, at the Cultural Heritage Now Conference at the American University Cairo. ©Zoë McQuinn

"Fostering Learning and Education for Accessible and Sustainable Heritage: The Children's Museum at the Grand Egyptian Museum as a Case-study." Presentation, Cultural Heritage Now Conference, American University Cairo, Egypt, November 2023. **McQuinn, Z.** and Hassan, E.

"From Weird wonders to spaceships: How new Burgess Shale fossil discoveries are illuminating the origin of arthropods." Seminar, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Manitoba, January 2024. **Moysiuk, J.**

"Research paper discussion." Invited course presentation (PBIO 230), Department of Geological Sciences. **Moysiuk, J.**

"Tales from the Burgess Shale: New fossil discoveries from the dawn of animal life." Public lecture, University of Saskatchewan, March. **Moysiuk, J.**

"The Burgess Shale and the evolution of animal body plans." Invited course presentation (GEOL 3310), Department of Earth Sciences, University of Manitoba, March. **Moysiuk, J.**

"The Natural and Unnatural History of Bison in Manitoba – not the same old story." Nature Manitoba Workshop Series. Winnipeg, MB. March 4, 2024. **Mooi, R.D.**

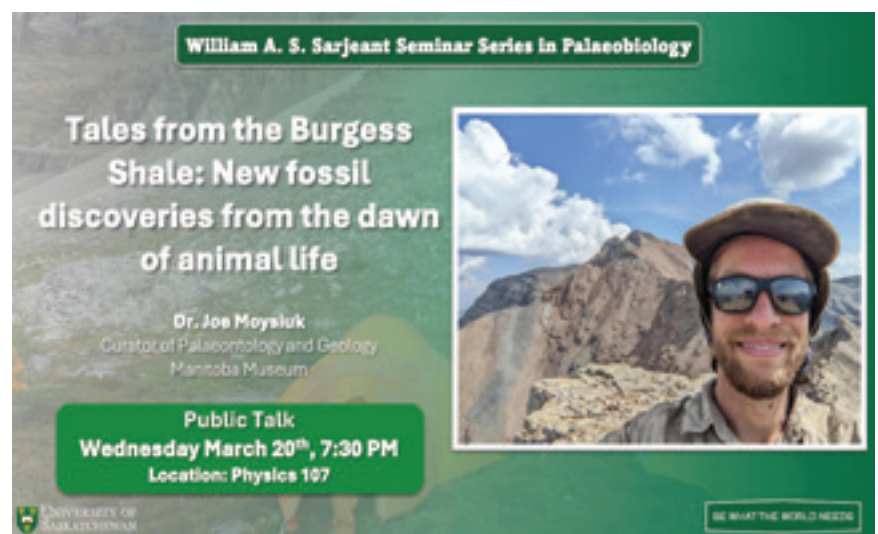
"Archaeology and Land Use in Northern Canada." Invited course presentation (GEOG 3512), Department of Geography, University of Winnipeg. **Finch, D.M.**

"Building a Climate Resilient Community – How Manitobans can adapt to our changing climate." Earth Day panel discussion, Manitoba Museum, April 2023. **Mooi, R.D.**

"Creating a New Manitoba Flora." Manitoba Association of Plant Biologists, Winnipeg, Manitoba. **Robson, D.B.**

"Creating a New Manitoba Flora." Canadian Botanical Association/Canadian Society of Ecology and Evolution joint annual meeting, Winnipeg, Manitoba. **Robson, D.B.**

"Connecting, Conserving, and Reconciliation: The Witness Blanket Conservation Project." Canadian Association for Conservation of Cultural Property conference presentation, Victoria, BC. Co-presented with Chipilski, S., **Colford, C. and Sirett, C.**



Curator of Palaeontology & Geology, Joseph Moysiuk, gave a public presentation at the University of Saskatchewan about exciting new fossil discoveries.

PUBLICATIONS

"Ancient seas: the tropic of Churchill." THRIVE, Winnipeg Free Press, July 2023. **Young, G.**

"Climate Heros: Youth Against Climate Change." THRIVE, Winnipeg Free Press, January 2023. **Pineda, M.**

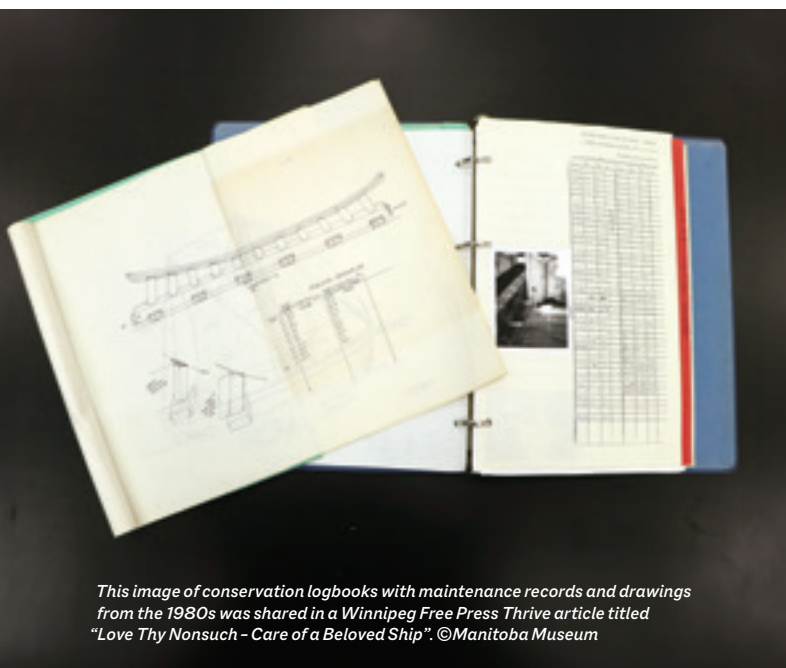
"Exploring the Universe." THRIVE, Winnipeg Free Press, August 2023. **Young, S.**

"Go Batty at the Manitoba Museum!" THRIVE, Winnipeg Free Press, October 2023. **Mooi, R.D.**

"If These Walls Could Talk." THRIVE, Winnipeg Free Press, June 2023. **Sawatzky, R.** and Smith, A.

"Investigate Aquatic Animals." THRIVE, Winnipeg Free Press, April 2023. **Buelow, E.**

"Love Thy Nonsuch – Care of a Beloved Ship." THRIVE, Winnipeg Free Press, November 2023. **Sirett, C.**



This image of conservation logbooks with maintenance records and drawings from the 1980s was shared in a Winnipeg Free Press Thrive article titled "Love Thy Nonsuch – Care of a Beloved Ship". ©Manitoba Museum

"Museum Collections and Conservation – specimen collections contribute to biodiversity preservation." THRIVE, Winnipeg Free Press, March 2024. **Mooi, R.D.**

"Planting for Pollinators." THRIVE, Winnipeg Free Press, May 2023. **Robson, D.B.**

"The Role of Museums in the Age of Truth and Reconciliation." THRIVE, Winnipeg Free Press, September 2023. **Fay, A.**

"Winnipeg at 150." THRIVE, Winnipeg Free Press, February 2023. **Sawatzky, R.**



The Ancient Seas Exhibit was the focus of a Winnipeg Free Press article written by Dr. Graham Young. ©Manitoba Museum

ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTIONS

"*Callogobius williamsi*, a new species of goby (Teleostei: Gobiidae) from the Marquesas Islands, with notes on the status of all nominal *Callogobius* species." 2023. *Zootaxa* 5339(5): 449-464. Delventhal, N.R. and **Mooi, R.D.**

"*Holtehdahlina* (Brachiopoda) associated with unusual phosphatic tube-shaped fossils from the Upper Ordovician at William Lake, Manitoba." Geological Association of Canada – Mineralogical Association of Canada Sudbury 2023, Abstracts. Sproat, C.D. and **Young, G.A.**

"Marginal conditions: The paleoenvironmental and stratigraphic setting for Manitoba's William Lake Lagerstätte." Atlantic Geoscience Society 50th Colloquium and Annual Meeting, Moncton, Program and Abstracts, p. 67. **Young, G.A.**, Rudkin, D.M., Cuggy, M.B., **Moysiuk, J.**, Sproat, C.D., and Thompson, D.P.

"Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) conservation status in Manitoba, Canada." Presentation, World Owl Conference, La Crosse WI, October 2023. Tim Poole, J. Duncan, A. Artuso, R. Koes, **R. Mooi**, and P. Taylor.

"Tyndall Stone, Canada's first Global Heritage Stone Resource: geology, paleontology, ichnology, and architecture." Geoscience Canada, 50: 17-51, <https://doi.org/10.12789/geocanj.2023.50.196>. Pratt, B.R. and **Young, G.A.**

“U–Pb dating of belemnites and rugose corals: The potential for absolute dating of calcitic invertebrate fossils.” *Chemical Geology*, 644, 121862. Rochín-Bañaga, H., Davis, D. W., and **Moysiuk, J.**

“Military legacies and Indigenous heritage in Canada’s newest National Park Reserve.” In E. Kryder-Reid and S. May (eds.), *Toxic Heritage: Legacies, Futures, and Environmental Injustice* (Routledge, 2024, pp. 93-105). Rankin, L.K., Brenan, J., **Finch, D.M.**, Neilsen, S. and Venovcevs, A.

“An Archaeological History of Arctic Art.” In *Inuit Sanaugangit: Art Across Time*, exhibition catalogue, Winnipeg Art Gallery-Qaumajuq, 2023, pp. 45-54. Ryan, K. and **Fay, A.**

“Sepik Figure in Canada – Information Please,” *PNG Kundu*, Papua New Guinea Association of Australia, Vol. 4, No. 14, June 2023, p. 8. **Pettipas, K.**

“A Manitoba Family in Gili Gili: 1925-29: Part 1,” *PNG Kundu*, Papua New Guinea Association of Australia, Vol. 4, No. 15, September 2023, pp. 42-25. **Pettipas, K.**

“A Manitoba Family in Gili Gili: 1925-29: Part 2,” *PNG Kundu*, Papua New Guinea Association of Australia, Vol. 5, No. 16, December 2023, pp. 40-43. **Pettipas, K.**

“A Manitoba Family in Gili Gili: 1925-29: Part 3,” *PNG Kundu*, Papua New Guinea Association of Australia, Vol. 5, No. 17, March 2024, pp. 49-51. **Pettipas, K.**

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, practicum students, and scholars-in-residence.

Practicum student, History, Canadian Mennonite University: The student organized and described archival material related to the historical Black community in Winnipeg. **Sawatzky, R.**, Supervisor.

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.

Journalism student, Red River College Polytechnic: “Where the Frogs Still Sing.” *WorkingDraftMagazine.com*, **Mooi, R.D.** Data provided, collections tour, interview.

Indigenous Scholar-in-Residence, University of Manitoba: This year’s scholar started the program in late January 2024 and will continue until June and is combining her Master’s work in Peace and Conflict Studies with the role of Museums. **Fay, A.**, Supervisor.

Interns, Curatorial Practices, University of Winnipeg: In partnership with the Manitoba Métis Federation, two Indigenous MA students from this program completed their practicum and produced a temporary exhibit that was featured in the Museum’s foyer. **Fay, A.** co-supervisor with Candace Hogue.



YOUR GENEROSITY

With our community's support, the Manitoba Museum offers transformative experiences for visitors, giving everyone who comes through our doors a sense of belonging. It is because of this generosity that the Museum remains a vibrant centre of community connection, learning, and research for generations to come.

TRIBUTE HIGHLIGHTS

2023 started by celebrating our honourees at the Tribute Gala. Barb Gamey, Edward and Stella Kennedy, and Nadia Thompson were honoured for their remarkable contributions to their communities. Numerous corporate sponsors, foundations, and individuals rallied around the honourees who are working towards a brighter future for all Manitobans. With your support the Tribute Gala raised a historic amount towards the *Access for All* community initiative.

GIVING TUESDAY

Giving Tuesday raised over **\$100,000** thanks to many generous donors and the Carolyn Sifton Foundation for their matching donation.

CURATORS CIRCLE

37 Curator's Circle Members

SPONSORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

FIRST FRIDAYS

First Fridays welcomed more than 45,000 visitors into the Museum with complimentary admission thanks to our partnership with Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries.

SPRING BREAK

Thanks to our Spring Break sponsor, BMO Bank of Montreal, we were able to welcome 16,545 visitors into our Museum for exciting new programming. Spring Break featured a brand-new planetarium show, *We Are Guardians*, which highlighted the important role humans play in climate change. The Museum also opened a pop-up Toddler Zone, giving visitors a sneak peek at a more permanent exhibit to-come.

SCHOOL PROGRAMMING

Admissions soared for yet another year of school programming at the Manitoba Museum. Attendance reached more than 71,000 for students and accompanying staff in 2023-2024. Thanks to funding from Canada Life, our staff were able to offer more than 100 different school programs with direct ties to the provincial curriculum, allowing for a seamless transition from the classroom into experiential learning at the Museum. Programming is available to school groups in English and French, as well as in person or virtual.

ACCESS SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Thanks to Johnston Group, the Manitoba Museum can offer complimentary admission to the Museum for school groups that would otherwise be unable to attend the Museum, allowing us to provide exceptional learning opportunities for all Manitobans.



GRANTS HIGHLIGHTS

We are grateful to the foundations and organizations who provided funding assistance through grants in 2023-2024. Community impact was significant:

Support from the S.M. Blair Family Foundation, Winnipeg Goldeyes Field of Dreams Foundation, IATSE Local 856, and the Manitoba Federation of Labour assisted with First Fridays programming, removed barriers to visitation with the distribution of over 890 complimentary passes through the *Access for All* community initiative, and made it possible for over 1,160 students to participate in the "Strike 1919" Virtual Field Trip and on-site school programs through Access School Programs.

The Carolyn Sifton Foundation facilitated the purchase of three planetarium show licenses, allowing us to expand our show offerings and enhance the visitor experience, which otherwise would not have been possible.

Our continuing partnership with the Graham C. Lount Family Foundation has enabled our Learning & Engagement team the opportunity to think outside our traditional programming box, to provide quality child, youth, and family access programming.



This is one of many cards we received from students who visited the Museum through the *Access for All* program in 2023-2024.



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THANK YOU!

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

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Hearts of Freedom

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YEAR IN REVIEW

Manitoba Museum volunteers are integral to all facets of Museum activities, supporting our values and strategic priorities throughout the organization. In 2023-2024, volunteers assisted with a wide range of activities and services ranging from interpretive programming in the Museum and Science Galleries to supporting special programming initiatives and assisting with collections and research.



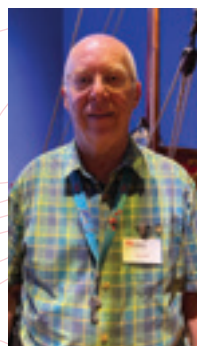
In 2023, Carol Hibbert (second from left) celebrated 25 years of volunteering in the Botany lab, while volunteer Lee-Ann Blase (third from left) celebrated 30 years in the Conservation Department. Shown here: Manager of Volunteer & Employee Relations Noreen Hees, Carol, Lee-Ann, Manitoba Museum Board of Governors Chair Brigette Sandron, and Manitoba Museum CEO Dorota Blumczyńska. ©Manitoba Museum

along with reviewing sections of the new *Manitoba Flora* publication, and accessioning plant specimens donated by the Manitoba Conservation Data Centre. In the History department, volunteers worked on many projects including transcribing the Hong Kong Veterans oral history collection; translating Chinese documents from the Ong Collection donation; organizing and describing part of the Black History collection; as well as the organization and description of the Historical Photograph Research Collection and the History collection artifacts. Archaeology volunteers learned the basics of artifact identification and Manitoba cultural history by sorting and identifying objects in the Criddle collection, which contains objects spanning about 9,500 years of the province's history. They also started an inventory of surplus books in the department, which will be shared with Indigenous and heritage groups in Manitoba as donations. Volunteers in the Palaeontology and Geology department have assisted the new curator with the transition to his new role, by providing a tutorial for preparation of microfossils with acetic acid, and putting together a summary document about the history of mining in Manitoba. One volunteer also facilitated a donation of two pieces of gold ore to the Museum, through a family connection in Agnico Eagle Mines Limited. Conservation volunteers assisted with a variety of projects including washing and repairing newspapers; remounting herbarium specimens; repairing bales in the Nonsuch gallery; cataloguing descriptions of historic textile collections; and making storage boxes and mounts.

In 2023-2024, the Museum saw an increase of 43% in our volunteer numbers over last year, with 214 volunteers supporting the Board, Public Programs, and Research and Collections, generously giving 9,963 hours of their time to ensure the success of the Museum.

Volunteers from Red River College Polytech assisted with special programming for Orange Shirt Days and First Fridays. They were willing to assist wherever needed and were incredibly respectful and receptive to the sensitive nature of Orange Shirt Days. The "Now & Then" A Journey in Time" program encourages people living with early to moderate symptoms of dementia and their care partners to explore the Manitoba Museum's many collections. Volunteer support of this program provided a sense of security and gave a safe space to the caregivers attending with the registrants, allowing them to focus and enjoy the program without the constant worry for their loved ones. These volunteers were happy to lend an ear, listening to the stories of both caregivers and registrants. Learning & Engagement volunteers supported both the Frontier School Division science fair, and the Museum's World Water Day youth event, ensuring the smooth running of both events, through wayfinding and customer service support. The Museum partnered with local youth to tackle the challenges of climate change and its local impact through the Youth Climate Alliance. This innovative program that engages high school students, ages 14-18 years old, started in 2023, attracting teens who work together to better understand climate change and its impacts. Through a series of workshops and training, the Youth Climate Alliance host events "by and for" youth. The Museum provided physical space and resources, while youth brought their creativity, inspiration, and intelligence to work on climate action.

In the Research, Collections, & Exhibitions division, volunteers were instrumental in their support of the curators and conservators. Botany volunteers kept busy by mounting plant specimens collected at Swan Lake First Nation and the Whiteshell Nuclear Research Establishment project,



"Tom, the volunteer working at the Nonsuch, is wonderful! He is informative, friendly and very clearly enjoys what he does! He definitely made our visit to the Museum a little better! We really hope we get to see him again; he is a delight!"

RANDY & CATHERINE B

Tom has been volunteering with the Manitoba Museum since 2012, and has a passion for sharing stories with our visitors. ©Manitoba Museum

2023-2024 VOLUNTEERS

Hillary Agbodan

Ed Agranovich

Ralph Ahlert

Diana Ahluwalia

Toluwalope Alabi

Rony Akther

Quazi Alam

Joyce Altschul

Amber Rose Alupay

Lorenz Alupay

Sienna Anderson

Dallas Bagby

Lyllianha Bateman-Courchene

Moksh Bedi

Ahmed Bennani

Roshni Bhullar

Rylan Bileski

Sadie Blacher

Khushman Buttar

Howard Bilenki

Lee-Ann Blase

Brooke Borowiec

Jennifer Brookman

Santino Buffone-Magro

Nadeesh Chandrasena

Ben Chapman

Ines Charfeddine

Jennifer Chase

Yixuan Chen

Nancy Chow

Eduardo Chua Jr.

Savannah Clark

Diana Clarke

Ernie Creasy

Jane Curtis

So'Lanna Dallaire

Rianah de Leon

Jaideep Delow

John DeLuca

Ryma Dey

Kirpal Singh Dhaliwal

Edward Dobrzanski

Bernz Duaban

Jake Dueck

Charlotte Duggan

Jennifer Dyson

Laura Edel

Miles Ehlers

Melodie Eshoo

Claire Foster

Philip Habacon

Alex Halipchuk

Kayla Hanslip

Sarah Hanslip

Scott Hanslip

Alyssa Hee

Carmen Héroux

Anika Herrod

Carol Hibbert

Don Himbeault

Gwyneth Ho

Mishelle Holt

Taiseer Hoque

Kathy Hornshaw

Liz Hydesmith

Harleen Jawanda

Denis Jeannotte

Asher Jiao

Melina Jobbins

Harpreet Kaur

Flint Kennedy

Aaron Kilmury

Micah Kraut

Jackie Krindle

Vitalii Kushnir

Pui Shan Lee



The goal of the Youth Climate Alliance is to give youth an avenue to pursue their climate change advocacies and have their voices heard. ©Manitoba Museum

Christopher Leung Shing

Andrew Litchie

Nathalie Londono

Damien Lopuck

Simon Lucy

Thomas Lurvey

Ezra Manchuk

Julia Matheson

Brooke McNeill

Brenda Miller

Erika Montemayor

Rachel Morgan

Joan Mosher

Bill Neydli

Van Nguyen

Andrea Ocampo

Adedamola Ogunsesan

Mercy Olaoye

Leo Omichinski

Chloe Park

Ojas Patil

Brody Patterson

Lydia Peloquin-Epp

Purple Peters

Thi Hung Pham

Ian Plummer

Grace Reyes

Ellen Robinson

Loren Rudisuela

Joel Sabale

Psalm Belhannah Samuel

Jesus Sanchez Salazar

Andrea Santos

Oskar Sawatzky

Rachel Scaletta

Kieran Schellenberg

Signe Schneider

Lexi Schroeder

River Shaw

Gagandeep Singh

Thomas Steur

Luda Su

Mayuri Swathi Saravanan

Geetanjali Taneja

Sarezka Tapia

Leanne Taylor

Ayla Thomas

Illia Tishchenko

Mieke Tolentino

Hudson Van Dale

Hank Vande Kraats

Paul Vogl

Jingyi Wang

Heather Wasson

Alex Weidenbacher

Megan Wiebe

Dhuranka Wijesinghe

Dennis Wishnowski

Tim Worth

Hui Xiong

Phoebe Xu

Jaehyeong Yang

Jing Yeung

Sandi Zebrasky

Huijuan Zhang

Ying Zhang

Dylan Ziegler

MANITOBA MUSEUM STAFF

AT MARCH 31, 2024

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dorota Blumczyńska
– Chief Executive Officer
Maia Woodbury – Executive Assistant

HUMAN RESOURCES

Dr. Adelana Adeleye-Olusae – Director
Noreen Hees – Manager of Volunteer
& Employee Relations

FUND DEVELOPMENT

Charwin Dahl – Director
Bukola Akinola
– Manager of Rentals & Events
Alma Cruz – Development Coordinator
Cassidy Nicholls
– Manager of Partnerships & Events
Cindi Steffan – Manager of Grants

EVENT ASSISTANTS

Yuchuan Li
Addison Sutherland-Dyck
Thomas Steur
Mohammed Joy

FINANCE & OPERATIONS

David Sierhuis – Director
Germine Awad – Financial Controller
Kathy Moran – Business Office Assistant
Omodele Ayanniyi
– Payroll & Benefits Administrator

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

EXHIBITIONS

Anastasiia Mavrina – Exhibition Designer

CURATORIAL

Dr. Diana Bizecki Robson – Curator of Botany
David Finch – Curator of Archaeology
Dr. Amelia Fay
– Curator of Anthropology and the
HBC Museum Collection
Dr. Randall Mooi – Curator of Zoology
Dr. Roland Sawatzky – Curator of History
Dr. Joseph Moysiuk
– Curator of Palaeontology and Geology

COLLECTIONS & CONSERVATION

Nancy Anderson – Collections
Management Specialist Human History
Janis Klapcecki – Collections Management
Specialist Natural History
Cortney Pachet – Collections Technician
Human History
Carolyn Sirett – Senior Conservator
Loren Rudisuela – Assistant Conservator
Aro van Dyck
– Collections Technician Natural History

MARKETING, SALES, & VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Rhiannon Leier Blacher – Director

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

Brandi Hayberg – Manager of Marketing
& Communications
Rebecca Watson – Digital Media
& Marketing Coordinator

MUSEUM SHOP

Kyla Klassen – Merchandiser & Buyer

VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Natalie Marion
– Visitor Experience Supervisor
Kaitlin Aiello Fox
– Membership & Data Coordinator

VISITOR EXPERIENCE ASSOCIATES

Jobelle Borja
Crystal Cann
Matthew Kolthof
Lauren McNaughton
Astrid Morales
Andrea Ocampo
Tyler Trautwein
Jason Williams

LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT

Rachel Erickson
– Director (Parental Leave)
Zoë McQuinn – Director
Anya Moodie-Foster
– Manager of School & Public Programs
Mike Jensen
– Programs & Volunteer Coordinator
Tashina Houle-Schlup
– Head of Indigenous Programming
& Engagement
Scott Young – Planetarium Astronomer
Fiona Sime – Reservations Coordinator
Carrie Goulet – Reservations Coordinator
Carol Beaulieu
– Museum Program Developer
Corinne Antoniuk
– Learning & Engagement Producer
Erin Buelow
– Learning & Engagement Producer
Mika Pineda – Learning & Engagement
Producer, Youth Climate Action

LEARNING FACILITATORS

Janelle LeGal
Victoria Holmberg
Julien Nayet-Pelletier
Dhuranka Wijesinghe

SCIENCE COMMUNICATORS

Rhianna Cohen
Deni Desautels
Alexandre Préfontaine
Emma Rannie
Ray Saltel
Adriana Sedlak

RETIREMENTS



Graham Young, Ph.D.

Curator of Geology and Paleontology

After over 30 years of service, Dr. Graham Young retired in September. Dr. Young's work on Ordovician fossils and resulting discoveries of the largest trilobite, oldest horseshoe crab, and oldest sea spider, along with his detailed interpretations of fossil corals, jellyfishes, and sea anemones published in leading scientific journals put the Museum on the international stage. He also spearheaded the nomination and designation of Manitoba's own Tyndall Stone as Canada's first Global Heritage Stone. Under his care, the geology and paleontology collections have become a leading resource for scientific research.

Dr. Young's contributions extended well beyond the scientific community. His gift for clearly and concisely summarizing complex topics made geology and paleontology accessible to people of all ages. Through his interviews, presentations, public outreach programs, and especially exhibitions, Manitoba's ancient worlds were brought to life. He completely reimagined the Earth History Gallery with the Ancient Seas animation and renewed Cretaceous exhibits that included the addition of the spectacular plesiosaur and several other elements. He successfully guided the Parklands Gallery to completion, one of the Museum's gems, and contributed significantly to the design, content, and completion of the new Prairies Gallery. Dr. Young's knowledge, experience, professionalism, and counsel will be missed. Thank you, Graham.



Janis Klapceki, B.Sc.

Collections Specialist, Natural History

From the early 1990s to her retirement just last February, Janis Klapceki provided the Museum with well over 30 years of dedication to the highest standards of collections care and service to the community. She ushered in the change from paper records to digital and brought the Museum's natural history collections into the 21st century. Ms. Klapceki was personally involved in field collecting, specimen preparation, conservation, cataloguing, and storage of thousands of plants, animals, fossils, rocks, and minerals and was responsible for the maintenance of 200,000 natural history specimens.

Ms. Klapceki hosted innumerable collections visitors: scientists, students, artists, and behind-the-scenes tours. She made the collections available through programming, contributed to exhibit production, and kept track of location and condition of the thousands of specimens that have been included in temporary and permanent exhibitions, as well as loans to other museums and research institutions. Donors of natural history specimens were met as friends, and she cheerfully mentored dozens of volunteers over the years. Ms. Klapceki's passion for collections and their care is a worthy example to follow into the future. Thank you, Janis, for your decades of commitment to the natural history collections.

AWARDS & APPOINTMENTS

AWARDS

AWARD OF FELLOW CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL IN HUMAN RESOURCES (FCPHR)

Awarded to

Dr. Adelana Adeleye-Olusae

Director of Human Resources

CANADIAN MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION - AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT: STEWARDSHIP OF COLLECTIONS

Awarded to the Manitoba Museum Conservation Team in partnership with the Canadian Museum for Human Rights

Project:

Witness Blanket Conservation Project

PALAEONTOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, BEST PAPER AWARD 2023 FOR PAPERS IN PALAEONTOLOGY.

Awarded to Dr. Graham Young, Curator of Geology and Paleontology and Drs. R.E. Plotnick, and J. Hagadorn

Paper:

An abundant sea anemone from the Carboniferous Mazon Creek Lagerstätte, USA.

APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Adelana ADELEYE-OLUSAE

Director of Human Resources

Chair, Board of Directors,
Chartered Professionals in
Human Resources Manitoba

Member, CODE Coalition – Commitment
to Opportunity, Diversity, and Equity,
Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce

Dr. Diana BIZECKI ROBSON

Curator of Botany

Board Member, Manitoba Association
of Plant Biologists

Jennifer Shay Scholarship Committee –
University of Manitoba

Dorota BLUMCZYŃSKA

Chief Executive Officer

Director, Canadian Museums Association,
and Chair Finance and Audit Committee

Director, TELUS Manitoba and
Saskatchewan Community Board

Trustee – United Way of Winnipeg

Member, CODE Coalition – Commitment
to Opportunity, Diversity, and Equity,
Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce

Charwin DAHL

Director of Development

Professional Development Chair,
Board of Directors, AFP Manitoba

Rachel ERICKSON

Director of Learning & Engagement

Executive Director, Commonwealth
Association of Museums

Member, Board of Governors,
Manitoba Museum

Dr. Amelia FAY

*Curator of Anthropology & the Hudson's
Bay Company Museum Collection*

Founding Board Member –
The Fair Field Foundation

Research Associate – University of
Manitoba, Department of Anthropology

Member – Respectful Repatriation
Inter-Institutional Group

David FINCH

Curator of Archaeology

Public Communications Award
Committee Member – Canadian
Archaeological Association

Member – Respectful Repatriation
Inter-Institutional Group

Seema HOLLENBERG

*Director of Research,
Collections & Exhibitions*

Vice President, Chair of EDIA Committee,
and Past Nominations Chair – Alliance of
Natural History Museums of Canada

Advisor/Jury – Digital Museums of Canada
Grant Advisory Board

Member – Respectful Repatriation
Inter-Institutional Group

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. Joseph MOYSIUK

Curator of Palaeontology & Geology

Executive Committee Member,
Geological Association of Canada,
Paleontology Division

Dr. Roland SAWATZKY

Curator of History

Board Member, Mennonite Heritage Village

Jury Member – Heritage Winnipeg
Preservation Awards

Cindi STEFFAN

Manager of Grants

Member, Board of Governors,
Manitoba Museum

MANITOBA MUSEUM GOVERNANCE

**APRIL 1, 2023
TO MARCH 31, 2024**

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Brigitte Sandron – *Chair*
Heather Bertnick
Jason Bryk
Beverley Edmondson
Rachel Erickson
Buffy-Pearl Handel
Cora Jalonen
Harun Kibirige
Dwight MacAulay
Kathryn McBurney
Sam McLaughlin
Penny McMillan
Cary Miller
Cindi Steffan
Douglas Tkach
Jackie Wild
Dorota Blumczyńska, CEO – *Ex-Officio Non-Voting*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Brigitte Sandron – *Board Chair*
Douglas Tkach, Vice-Chair – *Committee Chair*
Jackie Wild – *Secretary*
Penny McMillan – *Past-Chair*
Sam McLaughlin, Chair of Finance Committee – *Treasurer*
Standing Committee Chairs:
Dr. Cary Miller – *Indigenous Advisory Circle*
Kathryn McBurney – *Human Resources & Compensation*

NOMINATING & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Penny McMillan – *Committee Chair*
Brigitte Sandron, Douglas Tkach, Cindi Steffan,
Dwight MacAulay – *Governors*
Dorota Blumczyńska, CEO – *Ex-Officio Non-Voting*

STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Sam McLaughlin – *Committee Chair*
Cora Jalonen – *Vice-Chair*
Jason Bryk, Rachel Erickson, Harun Kibirige – *Governors*
Dorota Blumczyńska, CEO – *Ex-Officio Non-Voting*
David Sierhuis – *MGMT Support (by invitation)*

HUMAN RESOURCES & COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

Kathryn McBurney – *Committee Chair*
Penny McMillan – *Vice-Chair*
Heather Bertnick – *Governor*
Dorota Blumczyńska, CEO – *Ex-Officio Non-Voting*
Dr. Adelana Adeleye-Olusae – *MGMT Support (by invitation)*

INDIGENOUS ADVISORY CIRCLE

Dr. Cary Miller – *Committee Chair*
Dr. Kyle Bobiwash, Elder Joe Hyslop, Jaimie Isaac, Sharissa Neault, Kevin Tacan, Shawna Wolfe – *Community Advisors*
Brigitte Sandron, *Board Chair*; Dorota Blumczyńska, CEO – *Ex-Officio Non-Voting*
Seema Hollenberg – *MGMT Support (by invitation)*
Carol Beaulieu, Dr. Amelia Fay, David Finch, Tashina Houle-Schlup, Zoë McQuinn – *Staff Support (by invitation)*

ADDITIONAL AD HOC & SPECIAL COMMITTEES

BUDGET & AUDIT COMMITTEES

Comprised of both Executive & Finance Committees

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Penny McMillan – *Committee Chair*
Cora Jalonen – *Governor*
Tyler Fehr, Graeme Hay, Edith Samuels, Ron Youngson – *Community Members*
Brigitte Sandron, *Board Chair*; Dorota Blumczyńska, CEO – *Ex-Officio Non-Voting*
Dr. Adelana Adeleye-Olusae & David Sierhuis – *MGMT Support (by invitation)*

PENSION COMMITTEE

Dr. Adelana Adeleye-Olusae – *Committee Chair*
Nancy Anderson
Jack Dubois
Carolyn Sirett
Penny McMillan
David Sierhuis – *MGMT Support*

THE MANITOBA MUSEUM FOUNDATION INCORPORATED

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:

Penny McMillan

Vice-President:

Scott Craig

Secretary:

Jeoff Chipman

Treasurer:

Merv Gunter

Directors:

William F. Baines

Ted Cotton

Bob Dolyniuk

Ken Fanstone

Brigitte Sandron

Jim Spencer

MGMT Support:

Dorota Blumczyńska, CEO

Charwin Dahl

Seema Hollenberg

David Sierhuis

RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chair:

Dr. Gordon Goldsborough

Members:

Dr. Kyle Bobiwash

Dr. Kirstin Brink

Randy Hermann

Dr. Adele Perry

MGMT Support:

Seema Hollenberg

We would like to
acknowledge the passing
of Barbara Crutchley;
she is greatly missed.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

PENNY MCMILLAN

President, The Manitoba Museum Foundation Board of Directors



On behalf of all the Directors of the Manitoba Museum Foundation Board, thank you for choosing to support the work that the Museum does to make our community a better place. Your donations fund valuable programming in the education of students, in welcoming to and building knowledge of our province for newcomers to our community and visitors to Manitoba.

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 ensuring that the Museum's work of preserving our provinces' heritage and stories for today and for the future continues.

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 2023-2024 two research project grants were awarded totaling \$83,000, one each in the categories of research, exhibitions, acquisitions, and special projects.

We thank you for your past participation and invite you to continue, or even expand, your support. Your donation is critical to the success of so many different facets of the Museum's work and the impact it has on our community.

The difference that you are making pays dividends for today and all the tomorrows.

GRANTS

RESEARCH PROJECTS & EXHIBITION UPGRADES

Botanical Diversity of Indigenous Reserve Land in the Prairie Ecozone - **\$5,280**

Prairie Perspectives: New Views - **\$30,000**

Manitoba Flora - Design and Publication Volume I and II - **\$22,720**

Cougar Articulated Skeleton - **\$25,000**

ASSETS

(AS AT MARCH 31, 2024)

The Manitoba Museum Foundation Incorporated - **\$257,768**

The Manitoba Museum Foundation Fund at the Winnipeg Foundation - **\$2,404,560**

INCLUDES THE FUNDS:

Manitoba Museum Foundation Fund - **\$1,550,927**

Manitoba Museum Foundation Fund - Ashdown Estate - **\$27,275**

Manitoba Museum Foundation Fund - Dr. William B Ewart Endowed Fund - **\$377,847**

Manitoba Museum Founder Fund in Honour of James W. Burns - **\$385,226**

Manitoba Museum Endowment - Claudette Leclerc Fund - **\$63,282**

BEQUESTS

Estate of Donna Vivian Webb

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 INC.

Dr. Adelana **m** and Alero Adeleye-Olusae
Jim Beatty
Lee-Ann Blase **m**
Spencer Ducanson
Daniel and Seema **m** Hollenberg
Bradley Krentz
Dr. T.G. Kucera
Barbara Scheuneman
Jon M. Seguire
Graham **m** and Vicki Young
Two Anonymous

THE WINNIPEG FOUNDATION

Nancy **m** and Blair Anderson
Corinne **m** and Brent Antoniuk
Gail Asper OC, OM, LLD and Michael Paterson
Natalie Marion **m** and Scott Wachal
The Robson Family **m**

IN HONOUR/IN MEMORY

Glen and Heather Colquhoun
In memory of Barbara Crutchley m
Kevin Coombs
In memory of Barbara Crutchley m
Bob and Maureen Corkal
In memory of Elizabeth Turnock
Barbara Cosman
In memory of Edward Rector
Lisa Derenchuk
In memory of Edward Rector
Joanne V. DiCosimo
In memory of Eric Crone
Gladys Edwards
In memory of Edward Rector
Greg Hasiuk
In memory of Elizabeth Turnock
Monique Henderson
In memory of Barbara Crutchley m
Janet Hill
In memory of Dr. J. Gilbert Hill
Joanne Keselman
In memory of Barbara Crutchley m
Fred Kisil
In memory of Edward Rector
Barrie and Marjorie Leach
In memory of Edward Rector
Claudette Leclerc
In memory of Barbara Crutchley m
Ethel MacIntosh
In memory of Emma Machado
Paul Sopuck
In memory of Edward Rector
Feiyue Wang
In memory of Barbara Crutchley m

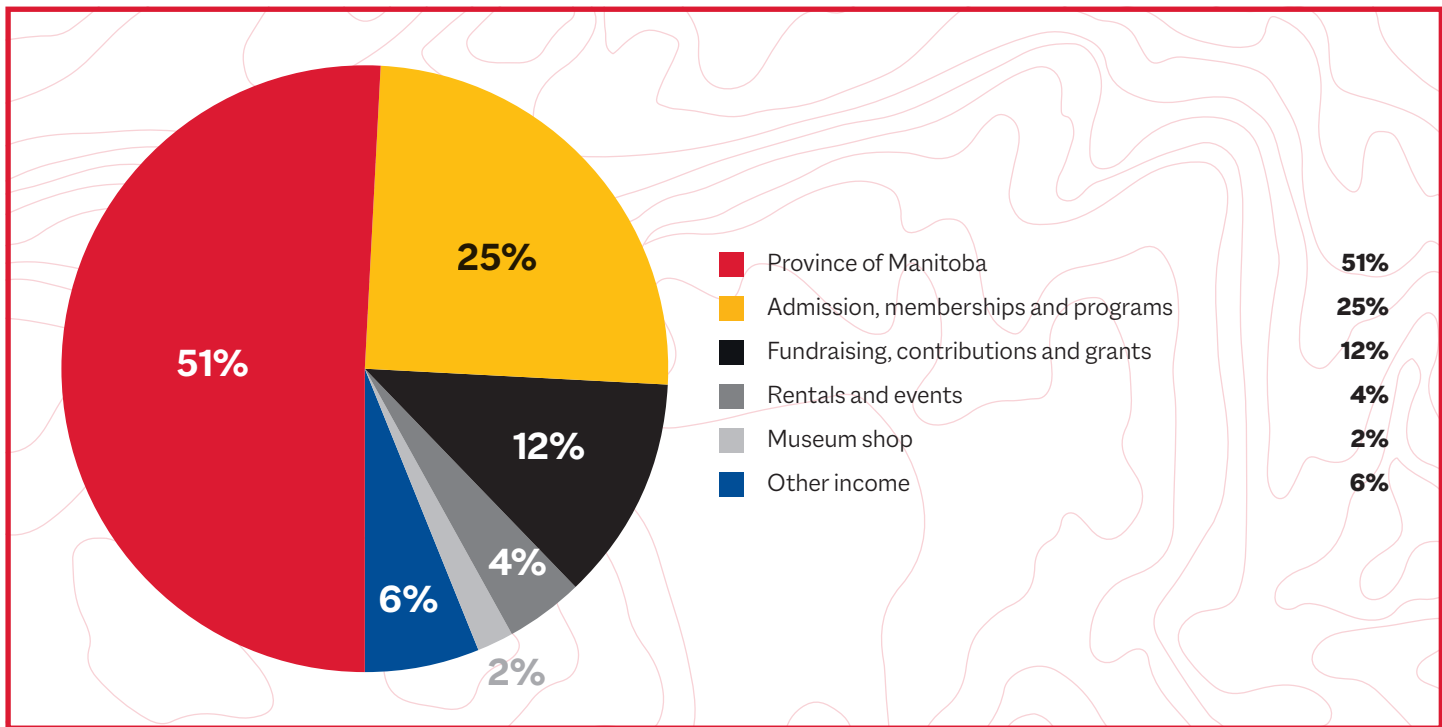
m 2023-2024 Staff, Board, and Volunteers

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.

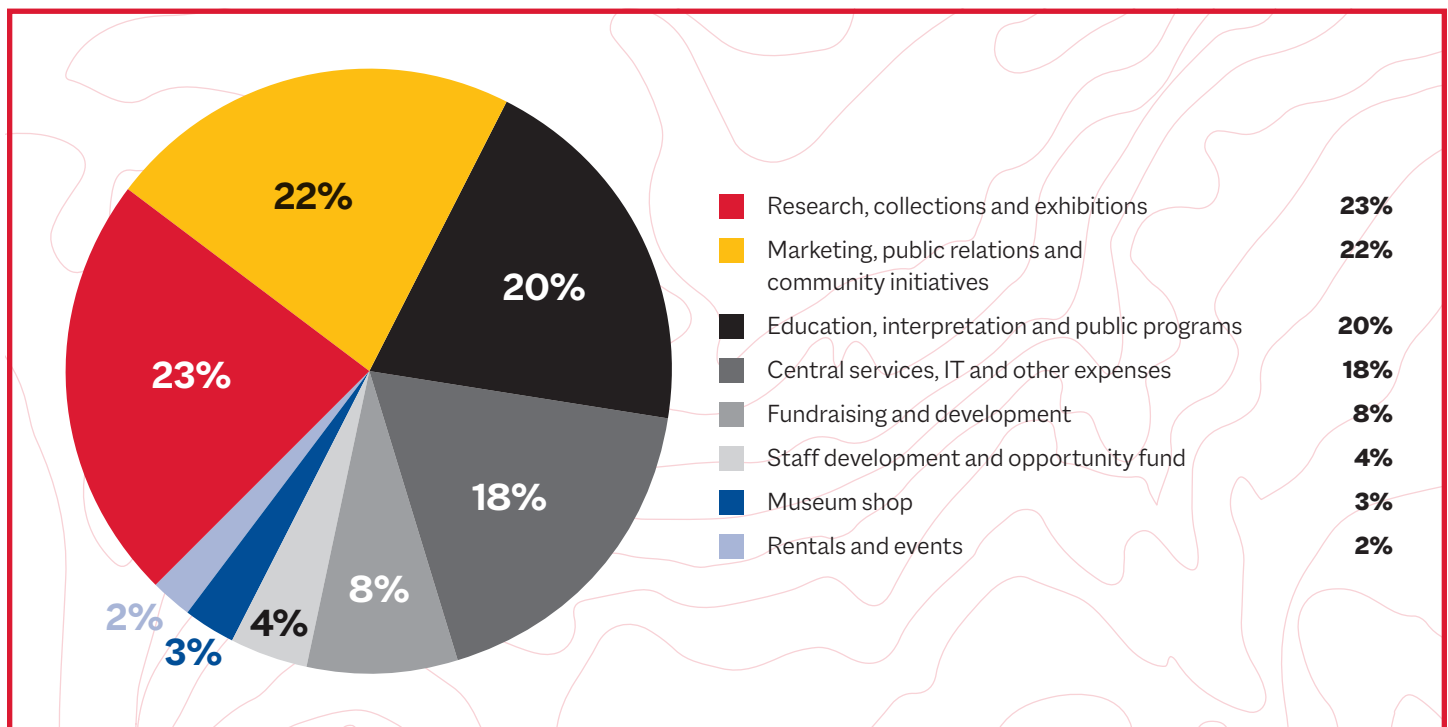
Province of Manitoba: Sport, Culture and Heritage
City of Winnipeg: Winnipeg Arts Council
Foundations: HBC History Foundation

REVENUE



The Manitoba Museum is supported through a variety of revenue streams – from public funds to earned and fundraised. The Province of Manitoba provided 51% 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 37% 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 12% 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 23% 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 22% of expenses, the Marketing, Public Relations & Community Initiatives 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 20% 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 18% of expenditures supporting the overall infrastructure (computer systems, insurance, gallery maintenance and design, bank charges, and administrative support).

SHARING IN THE JOURNEY



Orange Shirt Day visitors joined hand in hand with Beautiful Cloud Company dancers to end off an inspirational pow wow. © Manitoba Museum

The past year has been full of incredible stories and thought-provoking experiences, both for our visitors and our Museum staff. Once again, we celebrate a year of meaningful partnerships, community engagement, and strong attendance and memberships.

The Museum would not be where it is today without our incredible community – visitors, collaborators, and donors – all of whom have made an immense impact. We are forever grateful for the continued support we receive.



Anya Moodie-Foster, Manager of School and Public Programs, talks trash during Earth Days at the Manitoba Museum. © Manitoba Museum

Of course, there can be no gratitude extended without also highlighting the people that make the Museum what it is – our amazing staff and volunteers. Each day, these knowledgeable and passionate individuals honour the stories we hold within these walls, living into our values of curiosity, integrity, responsibility, respectfulness and inclusivity.



Planetary Astronomer Scott Young was invited as a special social media influencer to witness and share the planned launch of NASA's Psyche spacecraft in October 2023. © Manitoba Museum



Mika Pineda, Learning & Engagement Producer for Youth Climate Action, emcee's a press conference during which the Government of Canada made an announcement on funding for freshwater ecosystem initiatives. © Manitoba Museum

**Thank you to all, for walking alongside us in this journey.
We look forward to welcoming you again in the year ahead.**

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.



Manitoba
Museum

HISTORY • NATURE • SCIENCE

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