

Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society

Reports for the

AGM, 2016

The Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society, 2015

Chair Report

Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society

President's Report

Although those of us involved in preserving and promoting the history of the Mennonite people in Manitoba, sometimes despair that not enough is being done, there is a lot that happens over a year. The various organizations in the province that in some way tell the story of Mennonites have been busy.

Significantly two important book projects came to fruition in 2015. The East Reserve atlas produced by the EastMenn committee represented a massive research and production effort and has enjoyed good audience reception. The West Reserve also published an important book in the form of a collection of writings by non-Mennonites about what they saw when they came into contact with the Mennonites on the prairies. The Society nominated both *the Historical Atlas of the East Reserve* and *Outsiders' Gaze* for the Manitoba Historical Society's Margaret McWilliams Book Award.

There have been many other events, too numerous to mention here, that have heightened awareness of the history of Mennonites in the province. I would encourage you to make the Society aware of events that your organization is planning so that we can be aware and can help promote these to as wide an audience as possible.

There are challenges as well. Changes in the structure of Mennonite Church Canada may have important implications for the Mennonite Heritage Centre and long-standing and important organization for preserving our past. It is too early to know how the changes will be reflected in the work of the Heritage Centre, but it is clear that 2016 will be a year of changes for MHC.

It is apparent to everyone that the demographics and new realities of how people work and live is having a major impact on the volunteer efforts required to do our work. Retired people, who often have a keener sense of preserving the past, while increasing in numbers, also have active years and wealth to spend winters in the south or other travel. They also have family spread all over North America or the world, and naturally want to spend time with them. Younger people are so busy with active children and two careers that time to volunteer to work at the projects dear to us is in short supply.

As a Board for the province wide interest in preserving the Mennonite past, we would encourage increasing contact between our various and diverse interest groups. The annual Council meetings are a good opportunity for that.

Treasurer's Report

For the year 2015

1. The core revenues of donations and membership dues came in slightly above budget. These revenues do not cover our core expenses such as forwardings to the national projects and society, audit, insurance, and newsletter. The other revenues generally covered the expenditures for the various committees and their projects.

2. The expenditures were mostly within budget. We need to look at some core expenditures, as raised in previous years, namely the storage costs of dead stock. The other issue is to review our memorandum of understand-

ing with the Mennonite Heritage Centre concerning our sales of our book inventory. Both issues are related. The two publishing projects in FY2015 showed the issue should likely be reviewed in terms of the revenue stream and expenses.

3. Our external consultant and I have reconciled and prepared these statements correcting any errors or omissions along the way. Although much of the work performed was similar to the previous year, we should not consider the work performed as an external audit, but more like an internal review.

4. The proposed budget for the FY2016 is only for the activities directly under the society's jurisdiction.

Recommendations:

1. That the MMHS reviewed financial reports be accepted.
2. That the MMHS reviewer/auditor for the FY2015 be someone else approved by the board, since the status of our current reviewer/auditor is uncertain .
3. That the MMHS proposed budget be accepted as presented.

Submitted by
Bert Friesen

WestMenn Historical Committee

On July 18 Reinland celebrated the 140th anniversary of its establishment. It was the same year that West Reserve of Manitoba was beginning to be populated. As Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society was thinking of doing a celebration of this event we were pleased that we could join them for this event. The day began with a small parade of innovations and antique tractors with a lunch of watermelon and "*Rollkuchen*" thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The afternoon began with an explanation of the purpose of the day. It was the celebration of the completion of the renovation and repair of the original cemetery at the first Mennonite church constructed on the reserve. This was followed by a re dedication of the cemetery led by Rev. Randy Smart, Pastor of the Bethel Bergthaler Mennonite Church. The Martin Elias family of Reinland provided some musical selections. Local dignitaries brought greetings and a letter from Brad Wall, Premier of Saskatchewan, whose great grandfather is buried in this cemetery, was read.

We then transitioned to the Celebrations of the 140th anniversary of the arrival of Mennonites from South Russia to the part of Manitoba. Our Chairman, Hans Werner, being MC for this portion. Rev. Peter D. Zacharias, author of "Reinland, an Experience in Community," spoke on "Village establishment, growth and change." A group from the Winkler Community Male Choir led in singing favourite Hymns such as: "*Nun Danket Alle Gott*", Faith of our fathers, How Great Thou Art. Eleanor Chornoboy, dressed as a pioneer woman took to the stage and

dramatically portrayed the life of women in pioneer times.

Members of our committee were involved in gathering and editing articles written by “outsiders”, non-Mennonites who had published their perspective of Mennonite settlers on the West Reserve during the initial years of homesteading. (1875 – 1922). The Outsiders' Gaze - Life and Labour on the Mennonite West Reserve, edited by Jacob E. Peters, Adolf Ens and Eleanor Chornoboy, was officially launched. Books, including The Outsiders' Gaze, other MMHS publications, Martha Martens' a history of the establishment of the Rudnerweider, now the Evangelical Mennonite Mission (Church) Conference, were offered for sale.

On September 13 MMHS joined the Sommerfelder Church (Conference) to celebrate the 140th anniversary of the landing of the first immigrants from South Russia (Ukraine) at Fort Dufferin, slightly north of Emerson on the Red River. A large tent was erected, complete with stage, chairs, and a Public Address system set up for the event. The program began with a singing group from the Altona Sommerfeld church leading in song sung as they had at the time of the Mennonites' arrival in Canada. Abe Wiebe, Assistant Bishop, opened the program by stating the purpose of this gathering, and bringing glory and thanksgiving to God for guiding our forebears to Canada. Peter D. Zacharias, historian, author of Reinland, An Experience in Community, and Foot Prints of a Pilgrim People, history of the Blumenort Mennonite Church 1925 – 1982, spoke on the subject: “Why

did they leave their home country?" Rev. Abe Wiebe, retired minister of the Sommerfeld Mennonite church, spoke on the topic: "Unrest that led the People to East Paraguay and the return to Canada?" Conrad Stoesz addressed the subject of "The importance of Fort Dufferin during the period 1875 – 1879 and the Post Road." Eleanor Chornoboy, dressed in pioneer fashion and style, portrayed the life of pioneer women in a dramatic presentation.

The audience was told that the first arrivals had to wait more than a month at the Fort before they could move to the land that was set aside for settlement. During this time a church was organized, and a Bishop, "*Aeltester*" was chosen. Layout of villages were planned. Residents could choose their neighbours. The planning of the settlement and local governance were established. Funerals had to be conducted as deaths of young children occurred almost on a daily basis.

After many years of planning and negotiation , and with the help of the Boundary Trails Heritage Region Inc. and the Post Road Heritage Group Inc., we were able to erect a Cairn celebrating the Fort as an Immigration Station (1875 - 1879) where some 18,600 immigrants landed to settle in the new Province of Manitoba. Approximately 7,700 of these immigrants were Mennonites. Conrad Stoesz, Archivist, Mennonite Heritage Centre, at Canadian Mennonite University, and vice chair of MMHS assisted by Dick Remus, former chair of the Post Road Heritage Group Inc., and Abe E. Ens, chair of the WestMenn Local History and Sites Committee, unveiled

the Cairn.

The newest publication of MMHS, “Outsiders Gaze,” Life and Labour on the West Reserve, 1875 – 1922 as well the *Sommerfelder Gemeindebuch* and the History of the Sommerfelder Church, by Peter Bergen, were available for purchase as long as the supply lasted.

A “potluck” Faspa was served, buffet style, to the guests to finish the event with an attendance of close to 400.

Abe E. Chair,
WestMenn Committee

EastMenn Historical Committee - Annual Review 2015

Members: Jacob L Peters (chair), Ernest N. Braun (secretary); Harold Dyck, Henry N. Fast, Ben Funk, Glen Klassen, Orlando Hiebert.

EastMenn Historical Committee is a Standing Committee with two representatives on the new MMHS Advisory Council, and one representative on the MMHS Board.

The signs for the second phase of the placement of commemorative signs for District Schools of Hanover School Division are complete. They will be

installed at the last seventeen heritage school sites in spring of 2016. Funding by D. F. Plett Historical Research Foundation is gratefully acknowledged.

EastMenn Historical Committee continues to have representation on the Chortitz Church Heritage Committee which over-sees the restoration of the old Chortitz Church near Randolph. This year three public events were planned, two of which were ForeFather's Day at Chortitz on June 20 and the book launch of the *Historical Atlas of the East Reserve* on October 17. A third event, German Christmas at Chortitz, is scheduled for Saturday evening, December 12.

This year saw the completion of EastMenn's largest ongoing project - the publication of the Historical Atlas of the East Reserve, Illustrated, in early October with a launch at the Chortitz Heritage Church in Randolph on October 17. About 140 people attended the event, and sales amounted to

over 80 books, most of which were signed by the editors: Ernest N. Braun and Glen R. Klassen. Guest speaker was Professor John H. Warkentin, York University, Toronto. Complimentary books were handed out to those contributors that could attend.

The new Atlas is a 256-page hard-cover coffee-table book, in full colour, with well-researched geographical background, survey and historical maps, village/cemetery maps, school sites, early trails and other enhancements including photographs. It will serve as a definitive reference volume on the

East Reserve and Scratching River. Funding assistance by D. F. Plett Historical Research Foundation is gratefully acknowledged.

The first printing of the atlas sold out completely, and only a third of the second printing is left in stock.

Submitted by E. N. Braun, EHC secretary.

Genealogy Report for 2015

This committee has been inactive. We have raised some funds for the support of the MHSC genealogy web project. Once that project is in the testing phase, we will become involved with this process.

Submitted by Bert Friesen, 2015, MMHS Board Manitoba

The Bergthal School Committee

The BSC continues to work on the Altbergthal-New Hope school building independently, now completing the third year of its renovation program (2012-2015) at its current location in the village of Neubergthal about five miles southeast of the town of Altona, Manitoba, Canada. According to our earliest discussion re moving to this location it was specified by the NHF

that it would not be able to assist in any way whatsoever in the renovation of the school building due to its large commitments to renovate a house-barn and a picnic shelter on those same village premises.

The BSC has abided by this arrangement throughout the three years' period, but is now discussing what kind of changes if any the termination of the previously specified three years need to be considered. So far suggested changes in the earlier relationship suggest that both groups undertake a more complete and formal exchange of minutes, and in the near future set up a meeting for all members of both boards to meet each other and discuss some common aspects of future work on the total project.

Significant features of the past year's work at the school have included the following:

- Building a front porch for the main, i.e. the north entrance to the building
- Moving the west end doorway and replacing it with a window, and removing a window from the south side of the building and replacing it with a second (emergency) door.
- Removing all the second layer of the flooring in the building and polishing up the underlay (after repairing some openings in that layer) for the permanent floor for the future. Much of the lumber removed from the floor has been offered for sale and purchased for a neighbouring private renovation project.

- Bringing in a connection with the regular power line of the nearby street so year round electric heating in the building is now available indoors.
- Continuing a low level fund raising program which has allowing paying expenses as incurred through the year – bringing the total gathered and paid out to ca 65,000.00. This includes several larger grants from the community and numerous smaller personal donations. Making contacts to continue such income will proceed through the current year and the next years to follow.
- Publicity about progress and the situation generally has continued via local radio and press outlets and through personal promotions board members and others find possible in their day to day activities. Some special exhibits and walk in gatherings have been provided during 2015. Reports through Heritage Posting and other MMHS venues has made possible some sharing of information to a larger audience throughout the year.
- The use of the building by the local high schools industrial arts program (sustainable energy classes) has provided a way for serving the community even before the facilities are fully restored. This kind of programming will continue with the appointment of a replacement for its first director, Dr. Bruce Friesen Pankratz for at least the coming school year.

- From time to time small bits of new historical information about the Altbargthal community have been obtained and incorporated into the updating of reporting through our fund raising brochure. Most recently someone submitted a copy of a certificate affirming the special training of the late Mrs Sarah Klippenstein (d.1932) in her work as midwife from ca. 1890 – 1925 in the local community. Additional info on the dating of the building has also been obtained through local research endeavours. The apparent loss of a number of attendance registers of the school has impeded related research. The process of repairing the local cemetery may bring other needed information to the fore.

Targets for 2016

Fine tune the relationship of the school project in its process of being incorporated more completely into the larger National Historic Site plan of the community.

Continuing to raise funds so development may allow interior renovation work to be further completed.

Designing a program for more diversified utilization of the building for serving the community locally and beyond that to the school division (Borderland) as a whole.

Completing all aspects of interior renovation (and some outdoor work) to further complete the total project

Widen the outreach of PR and generally info sharing locally and throughout at least southern Manitoba as a whole.

Assist landscaping efforts of the National Site premises to make it attractive also to tourists and local people to encourage them to utilize the facilities to a maximum degree.

Review the makeup of the board and its tie in with the larger NHF board as expansion takes place in housebarn and school reconstruction and refitting for use in the community.

Thanks to all

We offer a big word of thanks to MMHS and other groups, as well as individuals and families who have shown increasing interest in the total project and have supported it in its short history of development so far.

The Bergthal School Committee

Altbergthal – New Hope- Altona – Neubergthal.

The larger community

Submitted by Lawrence Klippenstein

December 9, 2015

Report on Heritage Posting

The purpose of Heritage Posting (HP) is to inform members of the Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society of its functions and activities, to draw attention to and provide reports and notices of events relevant to the history and interests of Mennonites living in Manitoba, including articles of a historical nature, and to provide book reviews and notes of books documenting and reflecting on Mennonite history. With that as a point of reference, we are always receptive to and looking for stimulating material.

We produced three issues of Heritage Posting during 2015, a publication which can be described best as a newsletter, as follows:

Issue 80 was published in February, 2015

Issue 81 was published in June, 2015

Issue 82 was published in November, 2015

The electronic version of the newsletter appears in colour, and the printed format remains in black print on a manila background.

We have attempted to include reports and articles on important events relating to Mennonites in Manitoba, and in some instances on activities in other parts of the world that were significant to us here. In addition to these reports we have also included book reviews and book notes.

Many individuals have contributed to our newsletter. It goes without saying that HP would not have been produced without such willingness on the part of so many. It has been genuinely gratifying to me that this was the case.

Loren Koehler's work as Circulation Manager has continued to include working on the website membership database to generate reports and update addresses, and sending out newsletters both electronically and through regular mail. Approximately 80 subscribers now receive the newsletter by email, a number which continues to grow with each issue. This has significantly decreased the amount of time spent in distributing each newsletter as well as decreasing the cost of distribution.

Ted Barg has continued doing the important task of providing the layout for the newsletter. I appreciate his valuable expertise and hard work.

In addition to the individuals having specifically assigned responsibilities, whose willing contributions are much appreciated, various other members have provided valuable insights and articles for Heritage Posting.

Lawrence Klippenstein continues to be actively involved with HP in various ways, including suggesting topics for consideration, names of individuals who might be willing to write articles, highlighting books to be reviewed, and regularly providing book notes and other written materials. In addition

to these helpful activities, Lawrence routinely assists Loren with matters relating to distribution.

Bert Friesen advises that we spent approximately \$815. in 2015. I propose that the budget for HP for 2016 continue with this figure.

Submitted by Maria Falk Lodge, December 2, 2015

Mennonite Heritage Village Annual Report 2015

After a year of 50th Anniversary celebrations, we had expected that 2015 might be a quieter year, but that was not the case. With a new exhibit to be designed, staff to be hired and trained, heritage facilities to be maintained, festival and fundraising events to be planned, and many guests to be hosted, we found ourselves appropriately engaged in, and challenged by, the work of Mennonite Heritage Village (MHV) throughout the year.

Our theme for 2015 was *Mennonite Food: Tastes in Transition*. The primary exhibit in our Gerhard Ens Gallery, as well as a photo exhibit by the Steinbach Regional Secondary School photography class in our Auditorium Gallery, addressed that theme well. We are pleased when we can partner with local institutions and organizations in this way.

Approximately one hundred new and interesting artifacts were added to our collection during 2015. The stories that accompany many of these artifacts are so interesting and add much value to our collection. Three local radio stations provide us with live on-air time every other week to talk about one of our artifacts. This is a great way of sharing our collections with our constituency.

While overall attendance at our museum was higher than in 2014, our spring and summer Education Programs, aimed at the primary grades, saw reduced attendance in 2015. We suspect that several new public attractions in the province may have contributed to that decline. Despite having to cancel *Spring on the Farm* due to snow and cold weather, our combined attendance at festival events was up considerably. Canada Day registered just over 5,000 visitors, well beyond the number of guests attending on any other single day. Ideal weather conditions and free admission can be credited for this strong showing. The Livery Barn Restaurant saw increased sales in 2015, due in part to the popularity of our Sunday Buffet.

Building restoration and facility maintenance are large and important initiatives at MHV. With the help of a Community Places grant from the Government of Manitoba, we were able to put new shingles on the roof of the Livery Barn Restaurant and replace our four humidifiers in the artifacts storage and exhibition areas. Repaint-

ing of the Old Colony Worship House and the barn in our farmyard had to be postponed to another year.

Although saying farewell to staff who decide to move on is always sad, it is also exciting and energizing to welcome new staff. In addition to the many fine seasonal staff members who joined our team in 2015, we welcomed Patricia West as Development Coordinator, Edna Klassen as Bookkeeper, Alexandra Kroeger as Assistant Curator, and Jo-Ann Friesen as Gift Shop Manager. They have all quickly found their place in our organization.

For most of 2015 our finances have been on budget and better overall than in 2014. Contributing to this success were three Federal Government labour grants for the hiring of our summer staff. These grants were all specified for student employees who would be returning to school in the fall.

At the end of this largely successful season, MHV announced a new and significant development initiative, *Foundations for a Strong Future; Family, Faith and Community*. This multifaceted campaign seeks After a year of 50th Anniversary celebrations, we had expected that 2015 might be a quieter year, but that was not the case. With a new exhibit to be designed, staff to be hired and trained, heritage facilities to be maintained, festival and fundraising events to be planned, and many guests to be hosted, we found ourselves appropriately engaged in, and challenged by,

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Strong Future; Family, Faith and Community. This multifaceted campaign seeks to build and strengthen our foundations for ongoing growth and development. It includes items such as the restoration of the Waldheim House, our first and oldest heritage building; construction of a Summer Pavilion to replace our big tent; replacement of furnaces and air conditioners in our 25-year-old Village Centre; payment of our remaining debt; enhancement of our endowment fund; and the restoration of a number of other heritage structures. We are aiming to raise \$3,000,000 over three years to accomplish all these goals.

Again we are grateful for God's blessings, which include all the human and material resources we've been given in 2015.

Barry Dyck, Executive Director



April 13, 2016

The Plett Foundation had a busy year in 2015.

We are pleased to be part of a new initiative initially centred at the University of Winnipeg. The Chair in Mennonite Studies and the Foundation are partnering to create a new research centre on the campus of the University. The Centre for Transnational Mennonite Studies is a new research and educational initiative that will bring a global focus to Mennonite studies research at the University. CTMS will facilitate the study of transnational relations among Mennonites who today are spread around the world. It will introduce new Mennonite Studies courses, new research initiatives, a new lecture series and scholarly exchanges.

The first lecture sponsored by the new centre will be given by Dr. Aileen Friesen. She is the recipient of a Plett Fellowship for 2015-2016 and she has been completing a book length manuscript during her stay at the University. Aileen is a Russian history scholar and her current project is a book length manuscript taking a new look at Mennonite migrations to, from, and within the Russian Empire. She will be giving a talk at the University on May 5th entitled: "Indigenous Mennonite Relations in the Russian Empire: A History of Conflict and Accommodation." The Plett Fellowship is awarded annually to an M.A. or PhD. Student, or a Postdoctoral Fellow completing a project that fits with the Foundation's mandate.

We are also nearing a milestone in a multi-year project that is creating a curriculum for elementary and middle school children that will provide resources for teaching the Dutch-North German-Russian part of the Anabaptist story to children, particularly those of Low German Mennonite background in private schools in Canada. We will be printing the first volume of a series of materials in the next weeks.

We continue to publish *Preservings* once a year to a wide audience across North and South America. We would love to have contributions from anyone working on a village or family history, other topics that are of interest to a diverse group of readers interested in the Mennonite story. *Preservings* is an important work of the Foundation, consuming considerable human and financial resources. If you are not on the mailing list please contact Andrea Dyck at plettfoundation@gmail.com.

We also awarded \$64000 in research, travel, and publication grants to recipients who are working on Mennonite history projects. These grants included funds for a conference on Low German Mennonite women in Ontario, a project to prepare the Christian Mennonite Church (formerly Chortitzer) records for deposit at the Mennonite Heritage Centre, subventions for book publishing, including the East Reserve Atlas, digitization and a variety of other projects.

The work that the Foundation is able to do is dependent on the income from funds we receive from the legacy of Delbert Plett, who died in 2004. The estate is still not completely liquidated so the Foundation will continue to grow in the next years, although not nearly to the extent it has in the 12 years since Delbert died. Due to low interest rates and low returns in the stock markets in 2015 the Foundation's revenues were lower than in the previous year. However, good returns that were not entirely disbursed in the previous years meant that we did not have to reduce our activity in 2015.

Hans Werner

Executive Director

Mennonite Heritage Centre (for MMHS)

2015 Highlights

Accomplishments:

The Mennonite Heritage Centre (MHC) continued to build toward the future in 2015. The most significant development was signing an agreement with Canadian Mennonite University (CMU) to secure needed vault space in the newly vacated basement section of the CMU – owned MHC building. In total, 1725 square feet of additional vault space has been transferred to the MHC. This accomplishes our top priority of acquiring more room for the ongoing growth and development of our physical holdings.

Similarly, the MHC increased the amount of grant applications the archives either wrote or ghost wrote for projects connected to the archives. We are thankful to have received multiple grant awards from the Plett Foundation, as well as from the Shantz Mennonite Church Earnings Disbursement Fund and the Canadian Department of Heritage. The latter grant of \$36, 800 was provided to create a conscientious objector film documentary set for completion in early 2016.

Other items of note include the 40 year anniversary of the *Mennonite Historian* magazine. The 12 page quarterly magazine continues to publish a wide variety of Mennonite history stories.

In 2015, MHC also applied for and received a 5 year re-accreditation from the Association for Manitoba Archives (AMA) to remain an institutional member.

Lastly, the MHC is pleased to have become the official repository for the Evangelical Mennonite Conference (EMC). After 5 years of negotiation, 383 boxes of material were transferred to the MHC for storage.

Challenges:

MHC has begun addressing some significant challenges in 2015. We continue to work on the following:

Estimated costs for renovating the MHC building were completed in 2015. Upgrades to the current vault, the creation of a 2nd vault and the addition of a 3 story elevator are all projects the MHC hopes to begin in 2016. We look forward to addressing these necessary upgrades in 2016.

A digitization project is also underway. While we continue to scan and upload our 30, 000 piece photo collection onto the MAID website, we have also estimated the cost to digitize our entire holdings. We look forward to slowly converting other media formats to digital so that this material becomes web accessible.

Staffing levels. While doing 'more with less' is a Mennonite catch phrase, the MHC would welcome doing 'more with more'. While CMU practicum students and an increasing volunteer base are pleasing, the archives program requires additional paid staff in order to fulfill our current responsibilities. We look forward to imagining both short and long term solutions to this challenge.

Treasurer's Report

MMHS

FY2015

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Submitted by
Bert Friesen

Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society

Balance Sheet

As of 31 December 2015

31 Dec 15

ASSETS**Current Assets****Chequing/Savings****Chequing**

10,874.95

Crosstown Share Capital

5.00

Plan 24 Account

1,757.79

Surplus Shares

51.70

Total Chequing/Savings

12,689.44

Accounts Receivable**Accounts Receivable**

4,285.83

Total Accounts Receivable

4,285.83

Other Current Assets**Inventory Asset**

6,894.23

Undeposited Funds

9,540.00

Total Other Current Assets

16,434.23

Total Current Assets

33,409.50

Other Assets**Eastmenn Investment Account**

14,952.74

General investment

8,651.40

Total Other Assets

23,604.14

TOTAL ASSETS**57,013.64****LIABILITIES & EQUITY****Liabilities****Current Liabilities****Other Current Liabilities****Unearned Revenue**

320.00

Total Other Current Liabilities

320.00

Total Current Liabilities

320.00

Total Liabilities

320.00

Equity**Opening Bal Equity**

52,279.02

Retained Earnings

-2,105.44

Net Income

6,520.06

Total Equity

56,693.64

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY**57,013.64**

Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society

Financial Statement of Operations

January - December 2015

	Jan - Dec 15
Income	
Adminstration	
Investment interest	239.78
Total Adminstration	239.78
Donations	1,921.63
Eastmenn comm.	
Atlas project	7,000.00
Book sales	16,388.18
Investment interest	474.71
Total Eastmenn comm.	23,862.89
Genealogy Committee	
Genealogy Book Series	227.50
Plett awards	550.00
Total Genealogy Committee	777.50
Interest	20.50
M. & P. Comm.	
US cur	2.73
Total M. & P. Comm.	2.73
Membership Dues	
2015 Dues	2,487.00
Total Membership Dues	2,487.00
Publication & Marketing Committ	
Book sales	110.00
Total Publication & Marketing Committ	110.00
Special projects	
web redesign genealogy	500.00
Total Special projects	500.00
Westmenn Historical Committee	
Bergthal School project	11,900.00
Book sales	3,916.47
Subvention	500.00
Total Westmenn Historical Committee	16,316.47
Total Income	46,238.50
Cost of Goods Sold	
Cost of Goods Sold	16,489.62
Total COGS	16,489.62
Gross Profit	29,748.88
Expense	
Administration	
Cash rebate	22.00
Corporation fee	25.00
Office supplies	338.99
Postage & Delivery	35.43
Storage space	650.00
Total Administration	1,071.42

Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society

Financial Statement of Operations

January - December 2015

	Jan - Dec 15
Eastmenn HC	
Atlas project	1,793.60
Book purchases	1,377.60
Comm. mtg.	95.96
Heritage School sign project	2,234.58
Storage	200.00
Total Eastmenn HC	5,701.74
Genealogy Comm.	
Plett award	550.00
Total Genealogy Comm.	550.00
Insurance	
Liability Insurance	702.00
Total Insurance	702.00
Membership & Publicity Comm.	
HP Postage	229.76
HP Printing	765.13
Total Membership & Publicity Comm.	994.89
MHSC	
GAMEO	750.00
Membership dues	750.00
Travel	26.28
Total MHSC	1,526.28
Professional Fees	
Accounting	621.50
Total Professional Fees	621.50
Publication & Marketing Comm.	
Marketing	0.00
Total Publication & Marketing Comm.	0.00
Westmenn Historical Comm.	
Advertising	476.55
Bergthal school project	10,150.00
Book purchases	-4.90
Comm. mtg.	114.63
Ft. Dufferin project	1,039.71
Storage	200.00
Workshop	85.00
Total Westmenn Historical Comm.	12,060.99
Total Expense	23,228.82
Net Income	<u>6,520.06</u>

Schedule 1									
	General	Westmenn Hist.	Genealogy	Pub. & Mark	M. & P.	Eastmenn	Special Prj.	Total	Budget
Opening balance 2015 Jan 1	\$ 1,713.75	\$ 21,297.03	-\$ 747.80	\$ 444.97	\$ 579.37	\$ 27,401.26	\$ 35.00	\$ 50,723.58	
Income									
Donations	\$ 1,921.63							\$ 1,921.63	\$ 1,500.00
Membership dues (Note 2)	\$ 1,494.84				\$ 992.16			\$ 2,487.00	\$ 2,000.00
Interest	\$ 20.50					\$ 474.71		\$ 495.21	\$ 25.00
Workshops								\$ -	\$ -
Book sales		\$ 3,916.47	\$ 227.50	\$ 110.00		\$ 16,388.18		\$ 20,642.15	\$ 5,425.00
Other income	\$ 239.78	\$ 12,400.00	\$ 550.00		\$ 2.73	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 20,692.51	\$ 16,400.00
Total income	\$ 3,676.75	\$ 16,316.47	\$ 777.50	\$ 110.00	\$ 994.89	\$ 23,862.89	\$ 500.00	\$ 46,238.50	\$ 25,350.00
Expenses									
AGM & comm. mtgs.	\$ 26.28	\$ 114.63				\$ 95.96		\$ 236.87	\$ 250.00
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 1,525.00							\$ 1,525.00	\$ 2,275.00
Plett award			\$ 550.00					\$ 550.00	\$ 550.00
Cost of book sales		\$ 1,274.99	\$ 173.83			\$ 15,040.80		\$ 16,489.62	\$ 3,895.00
Other printing and shipping		-\$ 4.90			\$ 994.89	\$ 1,377.60		\$ 2,367.59	\$ 730.00
Liability insurance	\$ 702.00							\$ 702.00	\$ 750.00
Professional fees	\$ 621.50							\$ 621.50	\$ 650.00
Inventory write off								\$ -	\$ -
Special projects (Note 1)		\$ 11,189.71				\$ 4,028.18		\$ 15,217.89	\$ 27,800.00
Workshops		\$ 85.00						\$ 85.00	\$ -
Office and storage (Note 3)	\$ 1,046.42	\$ 676.55				\$ 200.00		\$ 1,922.97	\$ 1,305.00
Total expenses	\$ 3,921.20	\$ 13,335.98	\$ 723.83	\$ -	\$ 994.89	\$ 20,742.54	\$ -	\$ 39,718.44	\$ 38,205.00
Surplus <deficit>	-\$ 244.45	\$ 2,980.49	\$ 53.67	\$ 110.00	\$ -	\$ 3,120.35	\$ 500.00	\$ 6,520.06	
(less) Prior Yr. Unearned Revenue	-\$ 550.00							-\$ 550.00	
Unearned Revenue (Note 5)	\$ 320.00							\$ 320.00	
Ending balance - 2015 December 31	\$ 1,239.30	24,277.52	-\$ 694.13	\$ 554.97	\$ 579.37	\$ 30,521.61	\$ 535.00	\$ 57,013.64	
Schedule 1 (cont'd)									
Balances are comprised of:									
Bank and investments	1,239.30	20,222.53	- 1,282.67	444.97	579.37	24,095.06	535.00	45,833.56	
Accounts Receivable		1,810.15	227.50	110.00		2,138.20		4,285.85	
Books (see schedule 2)		2,244.84	361.04			4,288.35		6,894.23	
Retained Earnings	1,239.30	24,277.52	- 694.13	554.97	579.37	30,521.61	535.00	57,013.64	
Note 1									
Special Projects expenditures consist of: genealogy web site and photo database projects									
Note 2									
Membership dues are first credited to: Membership and Publicity to cover the regular costs of maintaining members									
Note 3									
Office and storage costs consist of: office supplies and storage costs									
Note 4									
The asset value of the inventory will be decreased for any title five years after publication.									
Note 5									
The revenue was generated in this fiscal year for the next fiscal year.									

Schedule 2 - FY2015										
	Books	Sold	Opening	Opening	New books	Adjustment	Deduct: Adj	Closing	Value of	Cost of books
	Unit Sold	Price	inventory	inv. Value		to inventory	to inventory	inventory	Clos.inv.	sold
	#	\$							\$	
Church, village @\$20	25	188.60	198				5	168	0.00	
1880 Village Census @\$30	23	322.50	115				5	87	0.00	
SGB @\$30	32	138.35	982				57	893	0.00	
RGBII @\$30	20	259.90	185				45	120	0.00	
Voice in the wilderness: Elias	19	188.10	82	688.94		1		63	529.30	151.23
Outsiders	168	2,869.02			426	66	18	258	1,715.55	1,123.76
Total: WRVH	119	3,966.47	1562	688.94	426			1589	2,244.84	1,274.99
Mennonite Migration @\$35 Rempel	13	227.50	40	534.86		1 comp	16 sold	27	361.04	173.83
Vol.4-CD	4	20.00	64	35.84		65	0	60	33.60	2.24
Settlers - Vol.4	17	75.47	236	4,060.16			72	160	2,752.65	292.47
Historical Sketches - Vol.3	69	238.07	315			1 comp	29	217	0.00	
Village histories - Vol.1	4	20.00	18			1 comp	0	14	0.00	
Warkentin	69	231.03	152			1 comp	5	78	0.00	
BGB	1	17.50	1			1 comp	0	0	0.00	
Chortitzer Church History	0	0.00	40	282.24			0	40	282.40	
Oberschulz Jacob Peters	0	0.00	17			1 comp	0	17	0.00	
Aerial photos - CD	2	30.00	7			1 comp	8 sold	5	0.00	
Historical Atlas of the E.R.	416	15,756.13			514	24	35	39	1,219.92	14,746.09
Total: ERHS	582	16,388.20	850	4,378.24	514			630	4,288.57	15,040.80
Other: AD III & IV	16	80.00	336					320	0.00	
Sharing of Diversities			2				0	2	0.00	
Challenge of Nationalism	3	22.50	25					22	0.00	
3 Short Plays	1	7.50						9	0.00	
Total	714	20,692.17	2815	5,602.03				2599	6,894.45	16,489.62


To the Members of the Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society

As external consultant to the treasurer of the Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society, I provide routine accounting assistance, including, but not limited to, questions about the preparation of journal entries, reconciliations, and adjustments to the statements. I provide support in the preparation of financial and supplementary reporting, insuring that relevant information is presented to the Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society.

Additionally, I provide support in the annual preparation of the Society's T3010 responding to any questions regarding the proper presentation of this Canada Revenue Agency required filing.

Finally, although at year-end I assist in the reconciliation of accounts, preparation of Financial Statements, I do not perform the procedures required to execute a review or audit engagement. As external consultant, my involvement cannot be viewed as an independent auditor providing assurance of the validity of the Financial Statements in accordance to Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Winnipeg
March 28, 2016



Randy Wiebe

Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society
Operations Budget
January through December 2016

	Jan - Dec 16
Income	
Adminstration	
Investment interest	200.00
Total Adminstration	200.00
Donations	1,750.00
Eastmenn comm.	
Book sales	5,000.00
Investment interest	500.00
Total Eastmenn comm.	5,500.00
Genealogy Committee	
Genealogy Book Series	225.00
Plett awards	650.00
Total Genealogy Committee	875.00
Interest	25.00
Membership Dues	
2015 Dues	2,200.00
Total Membership Dues	2,200.00
Special projects	
web redesign genealogy	250.00
Total Special projects	250.00
Westmenn Historical Committee	
Bergthal School project	10,000.00
Book sales	1,000.00
Workshop	2,000.00
Total Westmenn Historical Committee	13,000.00
Total Income	23,800.00
Cost of Goods Sold	
Cost of Goods Sold - Eastmenn	5,200.00
Total COGS	5,200.00
Gross Profit	18,600.00
Expense	
Administration	
AGM	100.00
Corporation fee	25.00
Office supplies	300.00
Photocopies	200.00
Postage & Delivery	200.00
Storage space	250.00
Total Administration	1,075.00
Eastmenn HC	
Admin. fee	500.00
Aerial photo project	6,500.00
Cemetery project	2,000.00
Comm. mtg.	250.00
School marker project	400.00
Storage	300.00
Workshop	2,000.00
Total Eastmenn HC	11,950.00

Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society Operations Budget

January through December 2016

	Jan - Dec 16
Genealogy Comm.	
Plett award	650.00
Web design project	500.00
Total Genealogy Comm.	1,150.00
Insurance	
Liability Insurance	700.00
Total Insurance	700.00
Local History Comm.	
Inventory write off	2,000.00
Total Local History Comm.	2,000.00
Membership & Publicity Comm.	
HP Postage	250.00
HP Printing	600.00
Total Membership & Publicity Comm.	850.00
MHSC	
GAMEO	750.00
Membership dues	750.00
Total MHSC	1,500.00
Professional Fees	
Accounting	625.00
Total Professional Fees	625.00
Westmenn Historical Comm.	
Bergthal school project	10,000.00
Workshop	2,000.00
Total Westmenn Historical Comm.	12,000.00
Total Expense	31,850.00
Net Income	-13,250.00

Mennonite Heritage Centre (for MMHS)

2015 Highlights

Accomplishments:

The Mennonite Heritage Centre (MHC) continued to build toward the future in 2015. The most significant development was signing an agreement with Canadian Mennonite University (CMU) to secure needed vault space in the newly vacated basement section of the CMU – owned MHC building. In total, 1725 square feet of additional vault space has been transferred to the MHC. This accomplishes our top priority of acquiring more room for the ongoing growth and development of our physical holdings.

Similarly, the MHC increased the amount of grant applications the archives either wrote or ghost wrote for projects connected to the archives. We are thankful to have received multiple grant awards from the Plett Foundation, as well as from the Shantz Mennonite Church Earnings Disbursement Fund and the Canadian Department of Heritage. The latter grant of \$36, 800 was provided to create a conscientious objector film documentary set for completion in early 2016.

Other items of note include the 40 year anniversary of the *Mennonite Historian* magazine. The 12 page quarterly magazine continues to publish a wide variety of Mennonite history stories.

In 2015, MHC also applied for and received a 5 year re-accreditation from the Association for Manitoba Archives (AMA) to remain an institutional member.

Lastly, the MHC is pleased to have become the official repository for the Evangelical Mennonite Conference (EMC). After 5 years of negotiation, 383 boxes of material were transferred to the MHC for storage.

Challenges:

MHC has begun addressing some significant challenges in 2015. We continue to work on the following:

Estimated costs for renovating the MHC building were completed in 2015. Upgrades to the current vault, the creation of a 2nd vault and the addition of a 3 story elevator are all projects the MHC hopes to begin in 2016. We look forward to addressing these necessary upgrades in 2016.

A digitization project is also underway. While we continue to scan and upload our 30, 000 piece photo collection onto the MAID website, we have also estimated the cost to digitize our entire holdings. We look forward to slowly converting other media formats to digital so that this material becomes web accessible.

Staffing levels. While doing 'more with less' is a Mennonite catch phrase, the MHC would welcome doing 'more with more'. While CMU practicum students and an increasing volunteer base are pleasing, the archives program requires additional paid staff in order to fulfill our current responsibilities. We look forward to imagining both short and long term solutions to this challenge.

Korey Dyck
Director
Mennonite Heritage Centre, Winnipeg