

THE MUSE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 29, 2025 - 4:30 pm - Lake of the Woods Museum Board Room

PRESENT: Robert Bulman, Lisa Lyle, Cheryl Mosindy, Kirsten Fair, Charito Gallivan, Reid Thompson (Via Zoom), Lindsay Koch (Via Zoom), Braden Murray (ex officio), Jennifer Pyzer (MNP)

REGRETS: Hannah Edie, Karen Ingebrigtsen

1 CALL TO ORDER - 16:30

- Land Acknowledgement was read by Robert Bulman

2 APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR MEETING

Moved by Cheryl Mosindy, seconded by Lisa Lyle That the agenda for the meeting of January 29, 2026 be approved as presented.

Carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION - 2023 FINANCIAL AUDIT

2023 Financial Audit - Jennifer Pyzer, MNP

- There was a brief explanation why the delay for the audit.

- The board was guided through the financial position of the Muse— both the Museum and the Art Centre.

- The 2023 audit showed no irregularities.

- There was a brief discussion on the deficit position of the institution at the end of the year. Muse staff work closely with city finance staff to ensure that the organization remains on track to meet its financial and budget commitments within the larger city organization.

- The audit was signed off on.

- The 2024 and 2025 audits are also planned to be delivered in 2026.

Moved by Charito Gallivan, seconded by Lisa Lyle that the 2023 Financial Audit be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Jennifer Pyzer was thanked and exited the meeting at 17:05

3 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

- Robert Bulman declared pecuniary interest because his wife Susan was compensated for teaching a sold out class at the Art Centre.

4 KNOWLEDGE OF FRAUD AND LEGAL MATTERS

- Nil

5 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Lisa Lyle, seconded by Kirsten Fair that the minutes of the December 18, 2025 meeting be approved as presented.

- Noted that the "Minutes" still said "Agenda" on them, and should be fixed.

-Carried.

6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- Nil

7 FINANCIAL

7.1 Operating Budget vs Actuals for Art Centre and Museum for December 2025

- numbers for memberships were good for individual and sustaining members, down in Family memberships and patrons. We have gained 40 new members in 2025, but lost (moving away, dying, etc) 22 members, for a gain of 18. We mostly lost family members, and gained individual members.

- Admission numbers for the museum were very good, almost right on the money. Numbers were down slightly for the Art Centre.

- Rentals, community education, and grants were very strong for the Art Centre

- Advertising numbers were down a bit as we continue to explore non-radio advertising.

- There was a conversation about the Q-Sys A/V system, and why it needed to be upgraded. The death of the original system engineer, combined with covid shut downs have necessitated rebuilding the system. The Community Foundation is covering half the cost, and maintenance can be completed in the future by a local firm.

7.2 December 2025 expenses - Museum and Art Centre

Moved by Lisa Lyle, seconded by Cheryl Mosindy that the December 2025 expenses for the Lake of the Woods Museum in the amount of \$14,850.26 be approved.

Carried.

Moved by Charito Gallivan, seconded by Kirsten Fair that the December 2025 expenses for the Douglas Family Art Centre in the amount of \$18,203.85 be approved.

Carried.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

- Nil

9 RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

- Nil

10 DECISION ITEMS

10.1 *Moved by Kirsten Fair, seconded by Cheryl Mosindy that the December 2025 donation of \$10,248.55 from the Shirley Anne Richardson Annual Giving Trust Fund be moved to the Art Centre Exhibit/Collections Fund.*

- There was a brief explanation where this money came from. It arrived via e-transfer in late December via the Winnipeg Community Foundation.

Carried.

10.1.1 *Moved by Charito Gallivan, seconded by Lisa Lyle that the June 2025 bequest of \$10,000.00 from the estate of Evelyn Stephens be moved to the Museum Exhibit/Collections Fund.*

- This bequest actually happened in 2024, but the funds didn't arrive until June of this year. Evelyn was a great supporter of the Museum. Her great grandmother was the first librarian in Rat Portage, and is responsible for many of the early Rat Portage images in the collection.

Carried.

10.1.2 *Moved by Lisa Lyle, Seconded by Cheryl Mosindy that Kenora and Lake of the Woods Community Foundation Agency Funds received in 2025 that are in excess of the 2025 budgeted amount be deposited in the respective building's Exhibit/Collection Fund.*

10.1.3 *Moved by Charito Gallivan, seconded by Cheryl Mosindy that \$13,233 be deposited in the Douglas Family Art Centre Exhibit/Collection Fund.*

10.1.4 *Motion: That \$415.00 be deposited in the Lake of the Woods Museum Exhibit/Collection Fund.*

10.2 *Moved by Charito Gallivan, seconded by Cheryl Mosindy that the proposed 2026 Honorarium schedule be adopted.*

Guest Presenter	\$125
Guest Researcher	\$50

Judging	\$125
Exhibit Design/Construction	\$100
Participation in Group Exhibition (Non-CARFAC)	\$50

- Per the recently adopted Honorarium policy, the Board will set an honorarium schedule at the beginning of each year. This is the schedule that will be followed for 2026.

Carried.

11 DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Nil

12 INFORMATION ITEMS

12.1 Directors Report

- There was an outline of the Director's report, including exhibitions, the new TODS signs, and our meeting with GCT#3.
- There was a brief discussion about the DFAC physical plant, and how it maintained temps/humidity during the recent polar vortex.

12.2 Strategic Plan Report Card

- There was a rundown of various projects including free summer tours, future meetings with GCT#3 to talk repatriation, and an upcoming travelling exhibition.

12.3 Indigenous Advisory Committee Minutes

- Circulated

12.4 Art Centre Advisory Committee Minutes

- Circulated

13 CORRESPONDENCE

13.1 McMichael Canadian Art Collection

- The Art Centre is in conversation with McMichael about hosting a Group of Seven exhibition in 2027. There is still a lot of work to be done, and nothing is finalized, but this would represent a major win for the Art Centre, and would be a considerable tourist draw.

13.2 Shirley Anne Richardson Annual Giving Trust Fund

- Notification was sent in late December. Shirley Richardson was a great supporter of the museum and art centre during her life, and it is touching to be remembered by her memorial fund in this way. The fund is being actively administered, so a note of thanks was sent to the admin to pass along.

14 IN CAMERA SESSION

- Nil

15 OTHER BUSINESS

- Nil

16 NEXT BOARD MEETING

At 4:30 in the Museum Board Room on February 26, 2026

17 ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Charito Gallivan, seconded by Cheryl Mosindy that the meeting be adjourned at 17:59.