

Annual Report 2024

Pursuant to BY-LAW NO.1 of MANITOBA MULTIFAITH COUNCIL, Inc. (2011),
notice is given for its Annual General Meeting to take place:

Tuesday, September 10, 2024 **7:00 pm**

St Mark's Lutheran Church **600 Cambridge St (at Corydon Ave)**

To receive the reports of the President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Committees of MMC, and Auditor(s);
to appoint auditors; to elect the Board of Directors; and to consider and transact any other MMC business.



Cheryl-Ann Hills: "The title of the work is 'Autumn Meditation.' My happiness is found in nature. I am an Ontario landscape painter. My favourite area currently is northern Ontario. Its massive and ancient rocks, powerful waters and majestic trees inspire my work." <https://www.cherylhillsartist.com/>

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AGENDA for ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

Tuesday, September 10, 2024 7:00 pm
St Mark's Lutheran Church 600 Cambridge St (at Corydon Ave)

ITEM	WHO	MOTION
1. OPENING BUSINESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Declaration of Quorum Opening Prayer Adoption of Agenda 	<i>President Payam Towfigh Christine Baronins Payam Towfigh</i>	MOTION #2024-1
2. ADOPTION of 2023 AGM MINUTES	<i>Payam Towfigh</i>	MOTION #2024-2
3. REPORTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 President 3.2 Standing Committees 3.3 Affiliate Partners <p style="color: red;"><i>Motion to receive reports of the President and Standing Committees and Affiliate Partners</i></p>	<i>Payam Towfigh Committee Chairs</i>	MOTION #2024-3
4. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS <p style="color: red;"><i>Motion to receive financial statement</i></p>	<i>Jessie Pannu</i>	MOTION #2024-4
5. APPOINTMENT OF A REVIEWER for FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	<i>Jessie Pannu</i>	MOTION #2024-5
6. NOMINATIONS REPORT	<i>Ray Harris</i>	MOTION #2024-6
7. INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS for 2024-25	<i>Rev. Dr. Jim Christie</i>	
8. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS	<i>Payam Towfigh</i>	
9. PROGRAM <p>John Longhurst Faith Reporter, Winnipeg Free Press (Serving Manitoba since 1872)</p>	<i>Introduction by Nick Chubenko</i>	
10. CLOSING BUSINESS, including Thanks and Adjournment	<i>Diane Dwarka</i>	MOTION #2024-7

Please join us after adjournment for some fellowship and refreshments!

Motions for Consideration

MOTION #2024- 1

It was moved by _____, and seconded by _____, that the [AGENDA](#) as circulated (included on [page i](#) of the **ANNUAL REPORT**) be adopted.

MOTION #2024- 2

It was moved by **Ray Harris**, and seconded by _____, that [MINUTES OF THE 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING](#), as included on [pages 2 - 5](#) of the **ANNUAL REPORT**, be approved [with additions, corrections or edits].

MOTION #2024- 3

It was moved by _____, and seconded by _____, that **REPORTS** of the [PRESIDENT](#), [STANDING COMMITTEES](#) and [AFFILIATE PARTNERS](#), as found on [pages 1, 9 - 13](#) and [15](#) of the **ANNUAL REPORT**, be received for information.

MOTION #2024 - 4

It was moved by **Jessie Pannu**, and seconded by _____, that [FINANCIAL STATEMENTS](#) for the **Fiscal Year** ending **March 31, 2023**, as found on [pages 6 - 8](#) of the **ANNUAL REPORT**, be received for information.

MOTION #2024 - 5

It was moved by _____, and seconded by _____, that the Board of Directors appoint _____ as auditor to conduct a review of [FINANCIAL STATEMENTS](#) for the **Fiscal Year** ending **March 31, 2023**.

MOTION #2024- 6

There being no further nominations, it was moved by **Ray Harris**, and seconded by _____, that the [NOMINATIONS REPORT](#), as it appears on [page 16](#) of the **ANNUAL REPORT**, be accepted as our **Board of Directors** and **Officers** for **2024-25**.

MOTION #2024 - 7

There being no further business, the **2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MANITOBA MULTIFAITH COUNCIL, INC. (2011)**, adjourned on a motion of _____, at _____ pm.





2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING


Tuesday, September 10, 2024 7:00 pm

St Mark's Lutheran Church 600 Cambridge St (at Corydon Ave)

Pursuant to **By-Law NO.1** of **MANITOBA MULTIFAITH COUNCIL, Inc.** (2011), and with concurrence of the **MMC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**, formal notice is hereby given for the **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of **MANITOBA MULTIFAITH COUNCIL, Inc.** to be held on this date, time and location.

The purpose of said meeting is **to receive the reports of the President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Committees of MMC, and Auditor(s); to appoint Auditors; to elect a Board of Directors; and to consider and transact any other MMC business as may be deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.**


Ray Harris, Secretary


Payam Towfigh, President


Christine Baronins, Vice President



Our **2024 Annual Report** is being compiled, and will be made available via **MMC CONNECTS** as well as our **MMC website**. Respecting the environment, paper copies will not be printed.

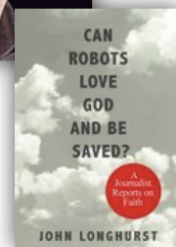
FEATURED SPEAKER

John Longhurst

Winnipeg Free Press – Faith Reporter

In columns and reporting for the *Winnipeg Free Press* over two decades, journalist **John Longhurst** has covered faith from a multitude of perspectives. ***Can Robots Love God and Be Saved? A Journalist Reports on Faith*** is a collection of his most stimulating reflections on faith is also a series of reports on culture, politics, technology, and just about anything else that intersects with religion. Longhurst is perennially curious about religious faith in its various expressions. Whether writing about Holocaust survivors, residential schools, religious relics, interreligious misunderstandings, assisted dying, or how women religious leaders are treated, **John Longhurst** has something thought-provoking to say about the way faith touches all aspects of our lives.

John Longhurst has carved out an impressive career in journalism, media relations, and marketing & communications (especially from a non-profit perspective), working for organizations such as Canadian Foodgrains Bank, Mennonite Central Committee, and Mennonite Disaster Services. Longhurst organized **Canada's first major conference on faith and the media** in Ottawa in 1998, and in 2021 received the **Lieutenant Governor's Award for the Advancement of Interreligious Understanding in Manitoba**. His book ***Making the News: An Essential Guide to Effective Media Relations*** was published in 2006. He has written over 900 columns and over 600 articles about faith for the *Winnipeg Free Press* over the past two decades and continues to cover the faith beat for the *Free Press* and many other publications.



From the President

Dear friends,

This past year we had a year full of challenges and opportunities.

Right after our AGM last year, we witnessed the horrifying attacks of October 7th. This event in a distant land immediately affected everyone in our city and community, an indication that in today's world we are not shielded by events happening in the opposite part of the globe. We had many discussions at MMC to navigate the challenges that this event brought us.

This year, we also had the privilege of having two major events. First, we presented the Lieutenant Governor's award for the Advancement of Interreligious Understanding to a remarkable individual, Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd. We followed that exceptional event with MMC leadership breakfast, where we had the Premier of Manitoba Wab Kinew as the keynote speaker. We had further engagements with his office regarding his announcement of updating the legislative prayer and recently heard back that they will be in touch with MMC this fall about this matter.

Although our various expenses were higher this year, I am pleased to report that our financial position is still strong, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank our treasurer, Jessie Pannu, for all her efforts.

I would also like to thank our members serving on our various committees namely, our members of the Executive committee, Justice and Corrections, Education, Community Relations, and Spiritual Health Committees. We are very excited to see new members on these committees bringing new ideas and energy to our activities.

I am really looking forward to working with all of you this upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted,



Payam Towfigh
MMC President

Minutes of 2023 Annual General Meeting

*Pursuant to **BY-LAW NO. 1** of the **MANITOBA MULTIFAITH COUNCIL, Inc. (2011)**, its **Annual General Meeting** took place on **Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 7:00 pm**. The meeting was held in-person at **St Mark's Lutheran Church, Winnipeg**. Thirty people came to the meeting, including both board members and guests from the public. A printed 2022-23 Report was made available to everyone present.*

1. OPENING BUSINESS

President Payam welcomed everyone who gathered for the AGM. In his welcome he acknowledged his personal appreciation that we were able to gather in person, for the first time in four years.

President Towfigh acknowledged that this AGM was meeting on Treaty One Land, in the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Dakota Peoples, and the homeland of the Metis Nation.

President Towfigh then declared a sufficient quorum for the meeting.

In her opening prayer, Diane Dwarka thanked the "Loving Creator for the privilege of meeting in person, to learn together, and share some fellowship together. And that Creator will continue to bless our organization and help us move forward." Amen.

MOTION #2023-1

It was moved by **Belle Jarniewski**, and seconded by **Ron Long**, that the **Agenda** as found on page 2 of the **AGM Report** be adopted. **APPROVED**

2. ADOPTION OF 2022 AGM MINUTES

MOTION #2023-2

It was moved by **Christine Baronins**, and seconded by **Ron Long**, that the **Minutes** as recorded for the **2022 AGM** be adopted. **APPROVED**

3. REPORTS

PRESIDENT: President Towfigh reported

SPIRITUAL HEALTH COMMITTEE: Julie Turenne-Maynard reported on a well-attended workshop in November, on the subject of Trauma-Informed Care. This was held in partnership with the Interfaith Healthcare Association of Manitoba. This Committee continues to advocate for Spiritual Care positions to be filled when vacant, which is not always easy to do because of the impact of the pandemic on health care priorities. However, appreciation is expressed to Shared Health for the financial support to help offer extended training programs in Clinical Pastoral Education, at St Boniface Hospital and Selkirk Mental health Centre. In closing, Julie expressed thanks for the support of committee members: Rabbi Alan Finkel, Dorit Cosmin-Rose, Kathleen Rempel Boschman, Micahel Thibert, Ron Long and Teresa Campbell.

JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE: In various meetings during the year, guest chaplains spoke about the work they do in institutions, like Stony Mountain, Headkingly and the Remand Centre. On one occasion the Committee met with Provincial Chaplains at the Bruce Oake Recovery Centre and shared experiences of caring for inmates, families, and the re-integration of inmates back into the community. The Annual Art Contest was sponsored by Lutheran Urban Ministries and Inner City Youth Alive, and featured both youth and adult categories. A new initiative, "We Are Neighbours," has been created by Greg Dunwoody for ex-prisoners to receive support as they move back into the community. And Larry thanked members of this Committee: Peter Kanygin, Greg Dunwoody, Mervyn Halvorsen, Ellen Cook, Mary Lysecki, Ken Kuhn, Jeremy Zehr, Rhonda Gorham, Bernie Mullins, Peter Rempel, and Priscilla Runerath.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE:

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: President Towfigh drew attention to the Member Faith Communities listed on page 5, and expressed appreciation for their support.

MOTION #2023-3

It was moved by **Belle Jarniewski**, and seconded by **Christine Baronins**, that the **Reports** of the **President**, the **Standing Committees**, and the **Membership Report** be received for information. **APPROVED**

MINUTES OF 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

>>> [AGENDA](#)

4. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

In the absence of the Treasurer, Belle Jarniewski reported on the Financial Statements, as noted on pages 7 & 8 in the AGM Report. She noted the healthy balance as recorded on the Balance Sheet, and while MMC has sustained some financial loss this past year she noted its relative importance.

MOTION #2023-4

It was moved by **Belle Jarniewski**, and seconded by **Ron Long**, that the **Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2023** be received for information.

APPROVED

5. FINANCIAL REVIEW

Attention was drawn to the letter from Jorge Diaz, on page 6, and his review of all bank statements provided to him. In light of his review he expressed his conclusion that “all income and expenses balance with the bank statements, and are accurate.”

MOTION #2023-5

It was moved by **Robert Polz**, and seconded by **James Christie**, that the Board of Directors accept the review of the **Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2023**, conducted by Jorge Diaz.

APPROVED

6. NOMINATIONS REPORT

Introducing the **NOMINATIONS REPORT**, Ray Harris drew attention to the opening phrase of MMC’s Vision Statement, that MMC is “People of diverse faiths working together...” And he expressed appreciation for the way the diversity of board members bring their faith convictions to the task of “working together.”

The names of those agreeing to stand for nomination are on page 9 of the AGM Report. A welcome was extended to new board members: Labeed Ahmed; Richard Baronins; Nicholas Chubenko; and Tanis Moore. Thanks was expressed to members whose service on the board was concluding: Julie Turenne-Maynard, Larry Campbell, and Stan Fontaine. Attention was also drawn to the new Vice-President, Christine Baronins, and to new Committee Chairs, Tanis Moore and Richard Baronins.

MINUTES OF 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

>>> [AGENDA](#)

MOTION #2023-6

There being no further nominations, it was moved by **Julie Turenne-Maynard**, and seconded by **Larry Campbell**, that the **Nominations Report** as presented be accepted as the Board of Directors and Officers for 2023-2024. **APPROVED**

After the approval of this Motion, Belle Jarniewski invited all board members to stand, as she presented them to the President for their installation.

7. NEW BUSINESS

MOTION #2023-7

There being no further business, it was moved by **Belle Jarniewski**, and seconded by **Larry Campbell**, that the **Business of the 2023 AGM** be brought to a conclusion. **APPROVED**

8. PROGRAM

9. AJOURNMENT

MOTION #2023-8

In offering thanks to the guest speaker, and to all who attended the AGM, the **2022-23 AGM of the Manitoba Multifaith Council** was adjourned on a motion of **Robert Polz**. **APPROVED**



Ray Harris, MMC Secretary



Payam Towfigh, MMC President

Financial Statements

for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2024

Prepared by Jessie Pannu

Reviewed by Belle Jarniewski

Notes to Financial Statements

1. Statements are prepared using the cash method of accounting where revenue is recorded when the money comes in and expenses are recorded when they are paid.
2. There is a time-lapse between the expense and the revenue for the 2024 Multifaith Leadership Breakfast. A \$2,000 deposit to reserve the venue was made in March 2024. Whereas, the revenue from the event was recorded in May 2024.

Respectfully submitted,



Jessie Pannu
MMC Treasurer

Manitoba Multifaith Council Inc.

Balance Sheet Comparison

As of March 31, 2024

	TOTAL	
	AS OF MAR. 31, 2024	AS OF MAR. 31, 2023 (PY)
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalent		
Charity High Interest Savings(7118)	4,293.79	4,738.17
Charity Standard Chequing(7100)	2,868.45	4,379.38
GIC 110477381898	4,000.00	0.00
GIC 110477381807	4,000.00	7,000.00
Non-Profit chequin (ACU)	0.00	0.00
Total Cash and Cash Equivalent	\$15,162.24	\$16,117.55
Total Current Assets	\$15,162.24	\$16,117.55
Total Assets	\$15,162.24	\$16,117.55
Liabilities and Equity		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
GST/HST Payable	0.00	0.00
Total Current Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equity		
Opening Balance Equity	16,913.41	16,913.41
Retained Earnings	-795.86	0.00
Profit for the year	-955.31	-795.86
Total Equity	\$15,162.24	\$16,117.55
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$15,162.24	\$16,117.55

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

>>> [AGENDA](#)

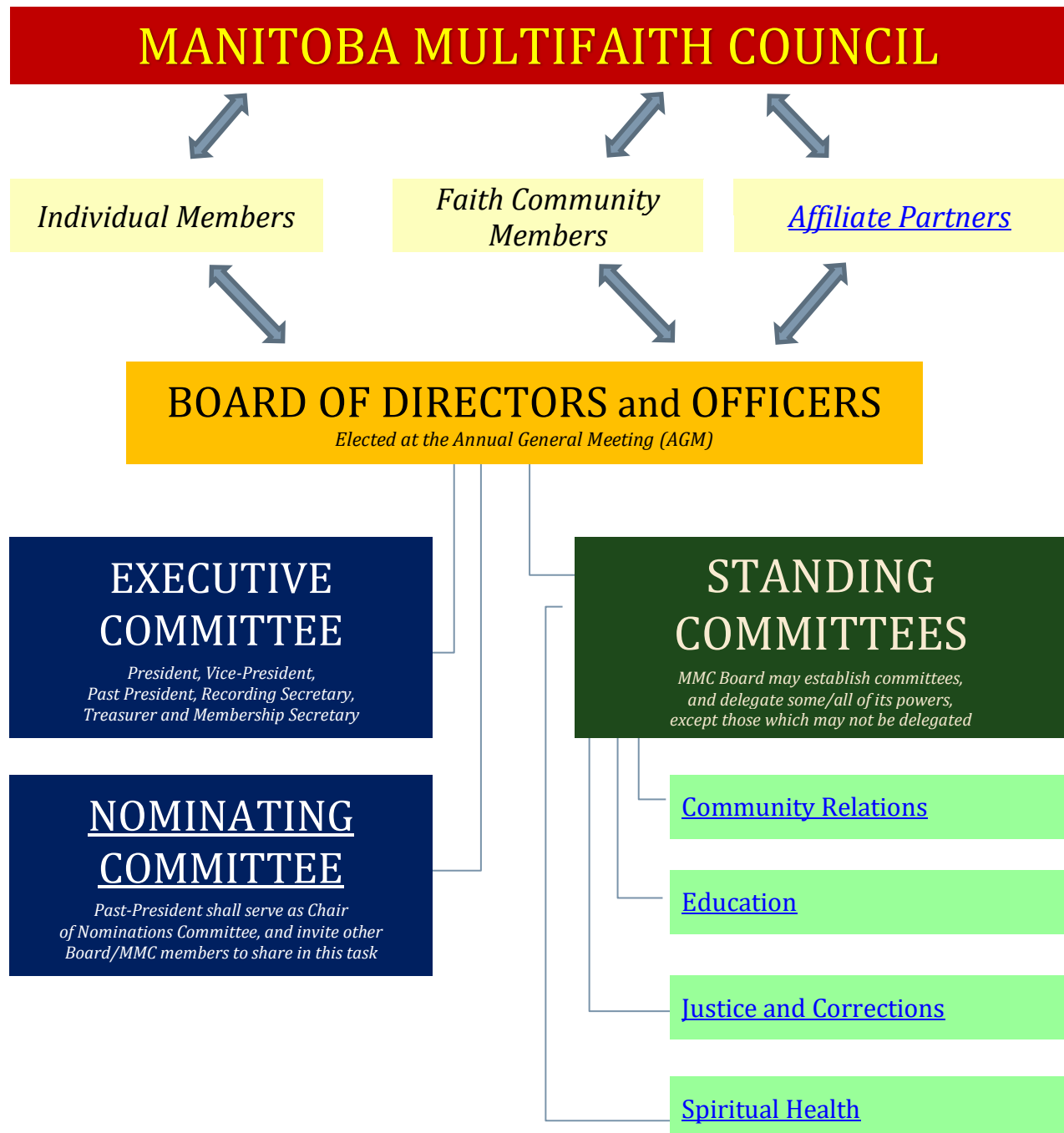
Manitoba Multifaith Council Inc.

Profit and Loss Comparison

April 2023 - March 2024

	TOTAL	
	APR. 2023 - MAR. 2024	APR. 2022 - MAR. 2023 (PY)
INCOME		
2024 Chaplaincy Arts Contest	450.00	0.00
Non-Profit Income	0.00	0.00
Donations	375.00	450.00
Membership Dues	1,500.00	800.00
Multifaith Calendar Sales	6,066.35	5,754.60
Multifaith Leadership Breakfast_	80.00	4,486.45
Total Non-Profit Income	8,021.35	11,491.05
Refunds-Allowances	500.00	0.00
SCU Member Bonus	16.86	0.00
Spituality and Mental Health workshop	350.00	0.00
Total Income	\$9,338.21	\$11,491.05
GROSS PROFIT	\$9,338.21	\$11,491.05
EXPENSES		
Accounting fees	1,200.00	0.00
AGM Expense	500.00	150.82
Annual Return of Information	0.00	40.00
Bank charges	0.00	1.96
Donations to Qualified Donees	0.00	1,000.00
GST Expense	257.04	374.58
Marketing - Constant Connect Subscription	0.00	536.31
Multifaith Calendars	5,252.29	4,743.85
Multifaith Leadership Breakfast	2,000.00	3,751.64
Other general and administrative expenses	322.94	0.00
Program Spending	0.00	0.00
Corrections Art Contest	358.38	450.00
IHCAM	0.00	500.00
Winnipeg Free Press	500.00	500.00
Total Program Spending	858.38	1,450.00
RPO Box Rental	182.00	177.00
Website	461.11	425.89
Total Expenses	\$11,033.76	\$12,652.05
OTHER INCOME		
GST Rebate	187.29	265.74
Interest earned	552.95	99.40
Total Other Income	\$740.24	\$365.14
PROFIT	\$ -955.31	\$ -795.86

Reports of Standing Committees



Community Relations Committee

Lieutenant Governor's Award for the Advancement of Interreligious Understanding

This annual event was held February 6, 2024 at Government House and hosted by the Lieutenant Governor, Her Honour Anita Neville. Many provincial interfaith leaders and community friends were in attendance to recognize and honour this year's recipient Rev. Dr. Loraine Mackenzie Shepherd. Premier Wab Kinew was also in attendance and addressed the attendees.

The Rev. Dr. Loraine Mackenzie Shepherd has served rural and urban United Churches for the past thirty years. During this period of service, she has also developed a deep passion for interfaith work. It is her conviction that by building relationships with other faith traditions it holds a greater possibility of effecting change in our world. This conviction has found expression in her teaching and writing. And in recent years, Loraine worked with the congregation of Westworth United Church to host a series of interfaith events which sparked a strong interest from the wider community. At her retirement service in June 2023, Loraine was honoured with prayers and reflections from Jewish, Muslim, Indigenous and Christian traditions. She embodies the very character and purpose of the Award.

The Community Relations Committee is honoured to work with the Lieutenant Governor's office to recognize excellence in interfaith work and dialogue. The Manitoba Multifaith Council welcomes nominations from community members. For more information regarding the nomination process please visit <https://manitobamultifaith.org/>

Multifaith Leadership Breakfast

The MMC Community Relations Committee is responsible for the planning and execution of this annual breakfast event held in the spring to coincide with Interfaith Harmony Week. This year we held the event in April in order to accommodate our keynote speaker, the Honourable Wab Kinew.

The Multifaith Leadership Breakfast has always been a signature event for MMC and we have enjoyed the opportunity to gather with interfaith, community and government friends while being addressed by some very notable and inspiring keynote speakers. We felt that 2024 could build on the success of the 2023 event and we approached the Manitoba Premier and he accepted the invitation to speak.

The event was held on April 11 and 168 people registered for the event which broke last year's registration records. Faith, government, community leaders and members along with media were in attendance. Premier Kinew invited the Manitoba Multi-faith Council to participate in a process to update and revise the prayer which currently opens legislative sessions.

The general feedback from participants this year was universally positive and the committee is now looking at ways to increase visibility of the event, increase participation, and raise awareness of local issues impacting our communities.

General Community Relations Committee Update:

The CR Committee had 2 members resign due to commitments on the board. The MMC and CR Committee wish to thank Jesse Pannu and Ray Harris for their contributions and dedicated service. We wish them both well as they pursue other goals and commitments.

The CR Committee was satisfied with their 2024 achievements. We look forward to increasing our relevancy and community and government outreach in the years to come.

Our objectives for the coming year:

- Explore ways of increasing connection with our political and community leaders.
- Increase engagement and participation in the nomination process for the Lieutenant Governor's Award for the Advancement of Interreligious Understanding
- Explore possibility of adding a summer event that gathers community and faith leaders
- Increasing the Community Relations Committee membership by 3 additional people

2022-2023 Community Relations Committee:

Rocky Baronins - Chair
Diane Dwarka
Belle Jarniewski
Robert Polz
Christine Baronins
Jamileh Naso

Respectfully submitted,



Rocky Baronins

Chair, MMC Community Relations Committee

Education Committee

I was honoured to be asked to head up the Education Committee as a first time member of the MMC.

I chose a small sub-committee to assist in this endeavour.

Since I am quite new to all of this, I feel that I have not done as much as I could have done; however, I did host an invitation to members and their families to visit our Manitoba Buddhist Temple. I have put out feelers and found someone who can assist with school visits in the fall/winter time. I am also in contact with Manju Lodha to visit her temple sometime in the fall (date not yet set) for our members and families.

I feel like I am not productive enough in this position, but I will do my best!

It has been good to meet many new people on the board, and I thank you all for putting your confidence in me to head this committee.

Hopefully, it will become more comfortable, and I will create more events in the future.

Respectfully submitted,



Tanis Moore Sensei
Manitoba Buddhist Temple

Justice and Corrections Committee

The Justice and Justice Committee on behalf of the MMC seeks to represent faith communities regarding spiritual care and support for those involved in the justice and corrections systems of our province.

The primary objective of our committee is to support chaplains and other religious service providers in the provincial and to some extent in federal correctional institutions. The committee assists in selecting qualified individuals to serve in as prison chaplains and function as an advisory group for the provincial chaplaincy, working closely with Bernie Mullins who is the Co-ordinator of Chaplaincy. His report is attached.

In addition, we seek to provide some public education about faith issues in criminal justice and corrections and liaise with some of the community organizations that assist offenders

reintegrating into the community and victims of crime. From time to time, we have opportunity to advocate for fair and just practices to address the multiple needs of those involved in the justice and correctional systems.

In the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic, the committee has encountered significant organizational challenges and has met primarily by Zoom in recent years, supported by links provided by the Salvation Army.

Current activities include:

- Reviewing the purposes and capacities of the committee.
- Supporting the inmate art contest sponsored by the chaplains.
- Sponsoring a book launch for ***Transformative Moments in Chaplaincy***, written by former corrections chaplains Don Stoesz and Joan Palardy, on **September 26, at 7:00 at the Marpeck Commons** on the north campus of the Manitoba Mennonite University, 2299 Grant Avenue in Winnipeg.
- Organizing a public event for Restorative Justice Week on November 18, 2024, including an address by the Honourable Matt Weibe, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Manitoba.

We are grateful for the support of the Manitoba Multifaith Council and the dedication of prison chaplains and other faith-based groups that support the staff, inmates and victims providing public safety in our community. Our committee would welcome others who might want to join in our activities.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth C. Kuhn

Interim Chair, MMC Justice and Corrections Committee

Spiritual Health Committee

Committee Members: Julie Turenne-Maynard, Kathleen Rempel-Boschman, Ron Long, Micheal Thibert, Dorit Kosmin, Teresa Campbell, Rabbi Alan Finkel and Nick Chubenko (new member). After several years Teresa Campbell resigned, and the committee members expressed their appreciation for her contribution to the work of the committee.

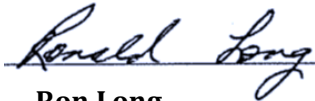
In November 2023 the SH committee hosted a half day workshop on Positive Effects of Spirituality and Religion on Mental Health held at Sara Riel Inc. There were 36 people that participated this in-person event. The evaluations expressed appreciation for the multifaith

presentations, table discussions and the rich content. There was enough material to do a full day workshop. Considerable amount of time was spent in contacting people to do various presentations as well as hosting the event. Julie Turenne-Maynard share with the committee her plans to resign as chair but was willing to carry on as chair while seeking a replacement. The committee expressed their regrets but also their appreciation for her gift of leadership.

At the on-line meeting of Dec 19, 2023 there was discussion of hosting another educational seminar for Nov 2024. Intergenerational Trauma and Addictions with Focus on Spirituality were some topics that the committee may wish to explore. Michael indicated that we may want to look at a 4-year plan on how the SH committee would advocate for how Spiritual Health could be more integrated into the health care system such as MAID, paneling for PCH, and especially long-term care and develop a strategic plan for Manitoba that includes both rural and urban health care facilities.

In regard to Clinical Pastoral Education teaching centers Selkirk Mental Health Center and SBGH offered programs for people who wished to function as spiritual care providers in health facilities in Manitoba.

Respectfully submitted,



Ron Long

for the MMC Spiritual Health Committee

Reports from Affiliate Partners

Manitoba Department of Justice, Correctional Services Division

The Manitoba Department of Justice Correctional Services Division, Custody is responsible for the safe administration of seven centres (six adult and one youth) throughout the province. Chaplains are present in each facility to offer a spiritual presence of hope, comfort, and compassion to the staff and inmates or residents. This fulfills an important role that is valued by both the Correction's Division and the inmates or residents. Chaplains also represent an important link between the community and the facility through the presence of volunteers as well as some notable initiatives that were possible through various partnerships.

- A representative from the "All in One" initiative provided chaplains with multi-faith themed materials.
- Mennonite Church Manitoba sponsored the 2024 Art Contest and selected the theme "Seeking the Light Inside." Several exhibitions of the inmate art are planned for the Fall of 2024.
- Provincial Chaplaincy is also grateful for the MMC's contribution of certificates that were awarded to each art contest participant.
- Prison Fellowship Canada once again provided inmates with an opportunity to send a Christmas gift to a child through the Angel Tree Program.
- The Salvation Army continues to partner with chaplains by providing "sunshine bags" to inmates and residents at Christmas as well as pocket calendars for correctional officers.

Within chaplaincy, there were some moves through transfers and regular appointments. Notably, a new chaplain has recently commenced work at The Pas Correctional Centre, and plans are underway to appoint a half-time chaplain in Brandon.

Respectfully submitted,



Bernie Mullins

Chaplaincy Coordinator.

Nominations Report

The following people have agreed to stand for nomination as MMC's **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Elected/re-elected at the 2024 AGM, for the 2024-26 term:

- ASHRAFI, Ruth
- BARONINS, Christine
- DWARKA, Diane
- NASO, Jamileh
- POLZ, Robert

Having been elected/re-elected at the 2023 AGM for the 2023-25 term:

- AHMED, Labeed
- BARONINS, Richard
- CHUBENKO, Nicholas
- HARRIS, Ray
- LONG, Ron
- MOORE, Tanis
- PANNU, Jessie
- PETERS DERRY, Paul
- TOWFIGH, Payam

The following individuals have agreed to fulfill the following positions
as **OFFICERS, forming the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| • President: | Payam Towfigh |
| • Vice-President: | Christine Baronins |
| • Secretary: | Ray Harris |
| • Treasurer: | Jessie Pannu |

and **STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS/BOARD REPRESENTATIVES**

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| • Community Relations: | Richard Baronins |
| • Education: | Tanis Moore |
| • Justice and Corrections: | Vacant |
| • Spiritual Health: | Ron Long / |

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

*To operate exclusively as a charitable organization
for the purpose of promoting interfaith and multifaith dialogue
and understanding, and to educate the public about world religions
and to promote collaboration amongst people of faith
in order to foster the well-being of the community as a whole.*

MMC Articles of Incorporation, 2011

MISSION

*The Manitoba Multifaith Council exists to promote multifaith dialogue and understanding,
while collaborating to serve the community as a whole.*

VISION

People of diverse faiths working together to build a just and caring society.

Adopted by MMC Board of Directors, 2017

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

*With this Annual Report, Manitoba Multifaith Council acknowledges
that we gather on Treaty One Land, in the traditional territory
of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota peoples,
and the homeland of the Métis Nation.*

*We acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past,
and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities
in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.*

*May we live with respect on this land,
and live in peace and friendship with its peoples.*



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