

## Manitoba Choral Association Inc. Annual General Meeting

Wednesday February 11, 2026, 7:00 pm  
Zoom

### Agenda

1. Welcome & Land Acknowledgment
2. Adoption of Agenda (Attachment 1)  
*MOTION 1: That the agenda be adopted*
3. Minutes of 2025 Annual General Meeting (Attachment 2)  
*MOTION 2: That the minutes from the 2025 AGM be approved as presented*
4. Board & Staff Reports from 2024-25 Year (Attachments 3a, 3b)  
*MOTION 3: That reports be accepted as presented*
5. Auditors' Report and Financial Statements (Attachment 4)  
*MOTION 4: That the audited financial statements for the year ending August 31, 2025 be approved as presented*
6. Appointment of Auditors for 2025-26 Fiscal Year  
*MOTION 5: That Scarrow & Donald be appointed as auditors for the 2025-26 fiscal year*
7. Update for 2025-26 – Program Slate & Budget (Attachments 5a & 5b)
8. Election of Directors (Attachment 6)
  - 8.1. Report of the Nominating Committee
  - 8.2. Nominations from the floor, if any (to be moved and seconded and have written consent of the nominee if the nominee is absent)
  - 8.3. Election of Directors and Officers from the Report of the Nominating Committee and (or) nominations from the floor, by show of hands or by secret ballot, if requested  
*MOTION 6: That MCA's board of directors be elected as presented*
9. Other/New Business
10. Adjournment  
*MOTION 7: That the meeting be adjourned*

## Manitoba Choral Association Inc. Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, February 25, 2025 – 7:00pm  
Hybrid Meeting: 600 Shaftesbury Blvd./Zoom

### MINUTES

#### Present:

**In-Person:** Jorrel Camuyong, Jia He (Starry SATB Choir), Vic Hooper, Vic Pankratz, Robyn Stewart, Sonya Williams, Xiaodi Zhao (Starry SATB Choir – voting), Jenny Steinke-Magnus (staff), Lindsay Shute (staff), Alexis Chlopecki (staff, recording)

**Zoom:** Naomi Russell (chair), Nancy Gomes Fast, Jeff Green, Leonard Greenwood (Margaret's Choir), Carolyn Gwyer, Ron Krug, Philip Lapatha, Sharon Marshall, Oscar Pantaleon Jr. (Musica Singers), Catherine Robbins, Joan Schmidt (Ecco Singers), Roberta Velarde, Kris Sigurdson (guest – Olafson & Jones)

#### 1. Welcome

- The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm. Naomi welcomed everyone to the meeting and shared a land acknowledgement.

#### 2. Adoption of Agenda (Attachment 1)

***MOTION 1: That the agenda be adopted.***

M/S: Oscar Pantaleon Jr./Vic Pankratz. CARRIED.

#### 3. Minutes of 2024 Annual General Meeting (Attachment 2)

***MOTION 2: That the minutes from the 2024 AGM be approved as presented.***

M/S: Nancy Gomes Fast/Robyn Stewart. CARRIED.

#### 4. Board & Staff Reports from 2023-24 Year (Attachments 3a, 3b)

- Jenny highlighted a few details from the 2023-24 reports, noting how proud she is of the work MCA has done for the choral community, especially as choirs continue to recover from the pandemic.
- We had a busy year of programming, including two successful flagship programs and a partnership with Winnipeg Arts Council for the *Winnipeg 150: City of Song* initiative. Although it was

a huge undertaking, it allowed the public to access many choral and singing events throughout the year, and it demonstrated the impact the choral arts can have on the community.

- Usage of the lending library also increased last year, thanks to an improved lending platform and the efforts of staff.
- We were fortunate to grow the staff team last year to better handle the increased programming and services offered to the membership.
- Members are encouraged to review the full reports for more details on the exciting initiatives MCA undertook.
- A video of highlights from the 2023-24 year was shared. Jenny thanked Ruth and Alexis for their work on the video. The video will be posted to MCA's social media platforms for public viewing shortly.
- Jenny also noted that the 2024-25 year has been a busy one so far, with new, innovative, and expanded programs and services being offered to the choral community.
- In closing, she expressed her excitement for MCA's bright future ahead, and her gratitude to the many volunteers that make it all happen.
- Naomi thanked Jenny and the staff team for their dedication and hard work.

***MOTION 3: That the reports be accepted as presented.***

M/S: Catherine Robbins/David Sawatzky CARRIED.

**5. Auditors' Report and Financial Statements (Attachment 4)**

- Jenny welcomed Kris Sigurdson from Olafson & Jones to present the auditors' report and audited financial statements. The auditors have given MCA a clean audit opinion. Updated statements have been provided at this meeting because there were some last-minute changes just before the AGM, specifically around how furniture and equipment is amortized. Going forward, MCA will be expensing furniture in the year it is purchased if funding is received for that purpose.
- We are ending this fiscal year with a \$4,731 surplus; however, the previous year's statements have had to be restated because of the change in amortization practices. Overall, our accumulated surplus has decreased since last year, but we are still in a strong position financially.
- No questions were raised about the financial statements.

***MOTION 4: That the audited financial statements for the year ending August 31, 2024 be approved as presented***

M/S: Robyn Stewart/Sharon Marshall. CARRIED.

**6. Appointment of Auditors for 2024/2025 Fiscal Year**

- MCA is grateful to Olafson & Jones for their work on the audits from the last three years, however, the board is recommending a move to a new auditing firm. In this year's audit, we encountered some communication challenges, so we approached several firms for quotes. We are confident going with Scarrow & Donald, knowing they have experience working with other arts/music organizations.

***MOTION 5: That Scarrow & Donald be appointed as auditors for the 2024-25 fiscal year.***  
M/S: Robyn Stewart/Sonya Williams CARRIED.

**7. Update for 2024-25 – Program Slate & Budget (Attachments 5a & 5b)**

- Jenny presented the approved program slate for the current fiscal year. Many of the listed events have already successfully come and gone. Members are encouraged to review the full slate for more details.

**8. Election of Directors**

**8.1. Report of the Nominating Committee**

- David presented the Nominating Committee report and shared that Katie Donnelly will be stepping down from the board. He thanked her for her work. Three new board members will be joining the board: Larissa Hrabi (TEMPO portfolio), Vic Pankratz (library portfolio), and Caleb Rondeau (member-at-large).

**8.2. Nominations from the floor, if any (to be moved and seconded and have written consent of the nominee if the nominee is absent)**

- No further nominations from the floor were put forth.

**8.3. Election of Directors and Officers from the Report of the Nominating Committee and (or) nominations from the floor, by show of hands or by secret ballot, if requested**

***MOTION 6: That MCA's board of directors be elected as presented.***

M/S: David Sawatzky/Oscar Pantaleon Jr. CARRIED.

**9. Other/New Business**

- There was no new business noted.

**10. Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm

***MOTION 7: That the meeting be adjourned.***

M: Vic Pankratz. CARRIED.

## **President's Report**

**MCA Annual General Meeting February 11, 2026**

I have no conflicts of interest to declare.

Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Manitoba Choral Association! What a rich history we have of creating, supporting, advocating for and growing the choral experience here in Manitoba. We can thank all of the wonderful choral enthusiasts who have gone before and paved the way for a vibrant community here in “The Singing Province”. Let us savour the moments of celebration which will follow throughout the year and continue to build towards an even stronger, more accessible organization.

When I think back on some of the programs which MCA has offered throughout the years, I picture in my mind Manitoba Youth Choirs (of course since the chairing of that committee was my first experience on the Board!), Provincial Honour Choirs (now of course named MB Sings), Choralfests, conferences and seminars (INSPIRE for youth, BEYOND for those wishing to think outside the box with our choral practices, TEMPO sessions for music educators, Choir 101 for beginner/novice singers, Festival du Voyageur collaborations) and hosting of grand choral events (PODIUM in 2004, Seniors Sings gatherings, “Brews and Tunes” singalongs, GATHER, Diversity Sings! and Together in Song: Intercultural Choral Festival). Just think of all of the world-renowned ensembles which our organization has hosted through the years.....The King’s Singers, Drakensberg Boys Choir, Rajaton, Chanticleer, Exaudi to name a few. We have so much to be proud of! And so many staff, board and committee members and volunteers who have made these programs and events come to life. They have led reading sessions, convened Special Interest Groups and Interprovincial brainstorming gatherings, maintained the library, served on awards and competitions committees and created newsletters and a social media presence to help us connect to our community members. I would like to sincerely thank everyone who has had a part in making it all happen.

We have seen some staff depart during the past year and we thank Jenny Steinke-Magnus, Brittany Mielnichuk, Lindsay Shute and Alexis Chlopecki for their leadership and care-taking during their tenures with MCA. We have welcomed Ruth Denton, Karla Ferguson and Peter Steur to the organization and appreciate their energy and dedication to getting the “lay of the land” and keeping things moving along simultaneously. As we gather momentum for the activities of this auspicious 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary season, may we celebrate choral singing in every way imaginable, advocate for singing at every level and in every corner of our province and live out our mantra in “a voice for every choir and a choir for every voice.”

Respectfully submitted,  
Naomi Russell



## Manitoba Choral Association Annual General Meeting

### Executive Director's Report

2024-25 was a year of two parts: the first, a tremendous culmination of partnerships, new initiatives and growth; the second, a time of transition that saw several personnel changes, the end of a significant funding project, and the need to regroup and look forward. Through it all, MCA's goals remain unchanged – to live our values of community, diversity and inclusion, education, integrity, health and wellness, and building a more sustainable future.

### 2024-25 BY THE NUMBERS

Performers	4,799
Workshop Attendees	7,162
Audience Members	6,005
Volunteers	106
Guest Conductors/Facilitators	45

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### PROGRAM & RESOURCES

#### Awards & Competitions

- **Scholarships:** four worthy recipients were granted scholarships in 2024:
  - **Bert Kroeker Scholarships** were awarded to [Daelyn Fefchak and Sandra Goetz](#).
  - **David G.H. Waters Hymn Sing Memorial Awards** were awarded to [Kyle Briscoe and Evan Glazier](#).
- **Awards of Distinction for 2024 were awarded to 5 recipients:**
  - **Award for Artistic Excellence** – Dorothy Dyck, Henry Engbrecht, & Vic Pankratz
  - **Spirit Award** – Kendra Obach
  - **New Voice Award** – NOVOS Choir, directed by Clint McLachlan
- The annual scholarship application deadline is April 30. We also encourage the MCA community to nominate individuals, choirs, and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to our choral community for an **Award of Distinction**. Nominations are received on a rolling basis and recipients are honoured and celebrated at various MCA events.

#### INSPIRE: Youth Choral Symposium

Our first-ever **INSPIRE** took place September 13-14, 2024 at CMU and was very well received. This pre-professional development event was designed for choral singers in grades 8-12 to learn new skills and ideas and become leaders in their own choirs. Session leaders included **Dr. Doug Friesen** (Toronto), **Dr. Catherine Robbins**, **Sonya Williams**, and **Avonlea Armstrong-Green**; recent graduates

and students pursuing music careers (Alexis Chlopecki, Marvin Ellana, Johanna Klassen, and Caleb Rondeau) also shared their firsthand experiences. 29 students and 10 adult observers participated.



- *Thanks to the Province of MB and WAC/City of Song for funding*

## GATHER

We held **GATHER** for the second time on September 28, 2024 at the Lyric Theatre in Assiniboine Park. Around 1,000 people attended over the course of the day to take in choral performances, yoga, and a vendor market with food trucks, artisans, community organizations, arts & crafts, and games. Our featured performers included **Mishkode bizhiki Anishinaabek drum group** and **Those Guys**, 11 member choirs were featured throughout the day, and **Dorothy Dyck** and band led an audience singalong.



- *Thank you to the following funders/sponsors: WAC/City of Song, Winnipeg Foundation, ArtsJunktion, RBC, St. John's Ambulance & Therapy Dog Program, Assiniboine Credit Union*

## Communities in Harmony: A Regional Youth Choir Collaboration

We held the first joint [regional youth choir concert](#) in many years on October 20, 2024 in Portage la Prairie (Glesby Centre), bringing together the **Central Manitoba Youth Choir**, **Eastman Youth Choir** (with singers from **Interlake Youth Choir**), and **Westman Youth Choir** to share music and build community. 160 singers came together in the morning to learn two pieces of music from EMYC conductor **Scott Leithead** (Edmonton), which they sang in the concert as a mass choir.

- *Thanks to the Foundation for Choral Music in Manitoba for funding this project*

## TEMPO

This annual one-day professional development event was held on October 25, 2024 by the Manitoba Music Educators' Association (MMEA, of which MCA is a partner organization) and saw over 525 educators in attendance. Among the choral presenters were **Terrence Taylor** (Los Angeles), **Vic Pankratz**, **Dorothy Dyck**, and **Cory Campbell**, who led a session on his song [Gratitude](#). MCA staff spent the day at the MCA booth and connected with many choral educators in the community.



- *Thanks to Winnipeg Arts Council/City of Song for funding to cover expenses related to the Gratitude session*

## ChoralFest

The 2024 [ChoralFest](#) program saw growth in both the size as well as number of choirs in the Winnipeg iteration of the program, signs of continued positive recovery. The festival took place November 18-28, 2024 and included three components:

1. **Senior years, middle years & community choirs** (pod format) – Prairie Spirit United Church
  - Dr. Melissa Morgan (Regina), Amanda Ciavarelli, GiUng Lee, Heather Neufeld, Vic Pankratz, Becki Thiessen
2. **Early, middle, and senior years choirs** (individual workshops) – in-school

- Alisa Wiebe, Roberta Velarde
- 3. **Vocal jazz ensembles** (pod format) – Tec Voc High School
  - Dylan Bell (Toronto), Suba Sankaran (Toronto), Stacey Brown

In total, 107 choirs participated in ChoralFest 2024, representing over 4,000 singers. (Note that 2023 also featured a regional tour which accounts for the higher total overall.)

	2024	2023	2019
Senior Years Choirs	55 at venue 2 in-school	55 at venue 1 in-school	65
Middle Years Choirs	9 at venue 2 in-school	9 at venue 4 in-school	15 at venue
Early Years Choirs	7 in-school	0	10 at venue
Vocal Jazz Ensembles	20	19	29
Community Choirs	10	12	12
Regional Tour Choirs	0	11	0
<b>TOTAL CHOIRS</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>131</b>

- *We are grateful for funding from FCMM, The Blennerhassett Family Foundation, and Sing Canada Harmony; and a sponsorship from Long & McQuade*

## Winnipeg 150 City of Song

Celebrations for Winnipeg's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary and events connected to the *City of Song* initiative concluded at the end of 2024. MCA's partnership with the Winnipeg Arts Council proved very fruitful throughout the calendar year, supporting numerous choral events produced by member choirs through grants and marketing, and creating a number of new MCA programs. Assessment of these programs and alternate funding streams to support them will be an ongoing project.



## MB Sings

The 41<sup>st</sup> MB Sings (formerly Provincial Honour Choirs) took place January 31 to February 2, 2025 at Gordon Bell High School and Portage Avenue Church. We were excited to welcome guest conductors Dr. Janet Brenneman (adult choir), Dr. Tracy Wong (Ontario, senior choir), and Justin Odwak (junior choir). Jordan Bighorn opened the concert with an honour song, and the mass choir sang a piece that was both written and directed by Tracy Wong.

Registration increased by 22% overall and totals reflect pre-pandemic (although somewhat redistributed) levels:

	2025	2024	2020 (pre-pandemic)
Adult Choir	158	148	112
Senior Choir	90	58	136

Junior Choir	34	28	36
<b>TOTAL SINGERS</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>284</b>

Singers came from all over Manitoba and beyond to participate (41% from outside Winnipeg):

Central	34	Parkland	7
Eastman	33	Westman	24
Interlake	8	Winnipeg	167
Norman	5	Other	7

➤ *Thanks to Long & McQuade for sponsoring this project*

### Voyageur Choir

In another new partnership, MCA collaborated with Festival du Voyageur to provide bilingual educational programming for Grades 2-6 students at their event. Ten sessions were led by **Leanne Cooper-Carrier** and guitarist **Brendan McLean**, February 14 & 18-21. Students learned francophone songs from the voyageur era and the sessions were very well received, reaching an estimated 1500 youth.

### PODIUM

Our ad hoc committee is still in the early stages of planning for our hosting in 2028, but we continue to participate in monthly planning sessions for 2026 in Victoria, which will greatly inform our work. Now that Podium 2026 is on the near horizon, focus and energy has shifted in that direction. Our hosting will be announced at the closing party in Victoria and we look forward to connecting with local members and national colleagues throughout the conference.

### Library

Our choral lending library was busier than ever in 2024-25! It is an incredible amount of work to keep the library running smoothly and efficiently, but it is well worth it to provide this valuable resource to our community. We saw a significant increase in Winnipeg orders this year. We continue to offer free shipping to our members outside of the city.

We along with our provincial counterparts undertook some advocacy work to ensure that our libraries are operating fairly and using best practices. We developed the *Guidelines or the Responsible Management of Choral Libraries* to encourage our member choirs to borrow responsibly, support composers, and comply with copyright law when borrowing music.

Number of orders packaged and sent out (the average order is 2 titles, 60 copies):

	2024-25	2023-24
Central	5	8
Eastman	10	7
Interlake	3	4
Norman	0	1

<b>Parkland</b>	1	2
<b>Westman</b>	14	16
<b>Winnipeg</b>	143	102
<b>Alberta</b>	0	1
<b>British Columbia</b>	4	1
<b>New Brunswick</b>	1	2
<b>Nova Scotia</b>	10	6
<b>Ontario</b>	7	12
<b>Saskatchewan</b>	8	7
<b>Yukon</b>	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>207 orders 12,500 pieces of music</b>	<b>170 orders 12,000 pieces of music</b>

## OUTREACH & ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS

### Membership

Overall we did very well for memberships in 2024-25, surpassing our budget target and adding a significant number of new members. MCA's membership year runs annually from September 1 – August 31, with early bird membership renewals starting June 1.

	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23
<b>Choir memberships</b>	121 memberships / 224 choirs	119 memberships / 227 choirs	97 memberships / 190 choirs
<b>Individual memberships (Adult)</b>	87	91	78
<b>Student memberships</b>	22	25	15
<b>Retired memberships</b>	23	19	18
<b>Choral enthusiasts</b>	2	-	-
<b>Organization memberships</b>	3	5	7
<b>Honorary members</b>	8	8	8
<b>TOTAL MEMBERSHIPS</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>316</b>
<b>New members</b>	<b>34 choirs, 45 individuals</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>

Membership distribution by region:

Central = 6%

Norman = 1%

Winnipeg = 74%

Eastman = 5%

Parkland = 1%

Other = 1%

Interlake = 3%

Westman = 11%

We have noted that membership in the regions can fluctuate with regional programming, notably, the regional ChoralFest tour that was held in 2023.

## **Membership Engagement**

MCA attended performances of various choirs around Winnipeg and beyond throughout the year, as a way to demonstrate support to our membership and to connect with individuals in community. We are also exploring opportunities to collaborate amongst the regional youth choirs in the future.

## **Intra-Provincial and IDEA Special Interest Groups**

Gathering together our special interest groups was paused during our leadership transition. It is a priority to reengage with those members of our community interested in exploring inclusion, diversity, equity & accessibility as well as supporting our various regions.

## **Inter-Organizational Meetings**

MCA meets quarterly with the Association for Music Administrators of Manitoba (AMAM), which is a subcommittee of MMEA comprised of university professors, divisional music and arts consultants, and other organizations with a vested interest in music education. MCA continues to meet with representatives from other Choral Arts Service Organizations (CASOs) from across the country on a regular basis. Our last in-person session was in June 2025, where we discussed membership supports and libraries, shared programming suggestions and more.

## **External Memberships**

MCA continues to contribute as an affiliated member/board representative for the Manitoba Music Educators' Association (MMEA) and the Foundation for Choral Music in Manitoba (FCMM). We also hold memberships with Arts AccessAbility Network Manitoba, Creative Manitoba, Manitobans for the Arts, Unison Canada, and Musica International.

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## **OTHER HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Communications & Marketing**

Continued prioritization of marketing our services and events has proved very beneficial, as evidenced by participation numbers. We also have strong engagement online with traffic to our website increasing by 18%, a steady increase in social media followers, and a significantly increased YouTube presence. Our eNotes engagement has changed somewhat as our mailing list grows, with a lower open rate but higher engagement from those who engage with the content. We continued to sell MCA-branded merchandise and promotional materials with our new logo, all of which was well received by the community. Merchandise is still available for sale on our website and at all of our events.

Online engagement compared to last year:

	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2023-24</b>
<b>Website</b>		
Page views	59,392	54,614

Site sessions	26,589	22,377
Unique visitors	14,927	11,934
<b>Social Media</b>		
Total reach (by posts/boosts)	55,500	34,700
Content interactions	1,542	2,300
Link clicks	4,106	444
Profile visits	4,200	4,000
Instagram followers	1,538	1,372
Facebook followers	1,426	1,280
YouTube followers	191	139
YouTube Views	15,700	8,600
<b>Newsletter (eNotes)</b>		
Newsletters sent	21	20
Subscribers	1606	1500

## Human Resources

MCA saw several significant changes to our staffing in 2024-25. In October 2024, **Brittany Mielnickuk** went on maternity leave and **Ruth Denton** was hired as interim communications & marketing coordinator. **Lindsay Shute**'s program coordinator contract was funded by a Winnipeg Arts Council/City of Song grant that ended in February 2025. In March 2025, **Jenny Steinke-Magnus** stepped down after nearly six years as executive director. The Board of Directors hired **Karla Ferguson** in the role, who took the helm in late May. In the interim, **Alexis Chlopecki** left her administrative assistant position in mid-May. We received Canada Summer Jobs funding and were able to hire **Peter Steur** as our full-time library assistant for July and August 2025. We have since restructured our staffing and maintain a smaller team of Karla and Ruth in full-time roles and Peter in a part-time capacity.

## Fundraising

Donors continue to be a vital component to our fundraising activities. This was also an exceptional year for funding partnerships. We are grateful to all those who have supported MCA financially in 2024-25! In total, **MCA supporters** gave over **\$28,000** to the organization, **sponsors** provided over **\$1,000** in funds/in-kind sponsorships, and **funding agencies** provided over **\$175,000** in grants to our organization. A complete list of donors and funders appears at the end of this report.

## Governance

Our **strategic plan** was set to wrap up in 2025 and was extended for one more year to 2026. We also created an **education portfolio** on the board at the end of the year which is being led by **Larissa Hrabi**. Larissa will also be our MMEA rep on their board. A terms of reference will be developed in the coming year.

## ACTIVITIES FOR 2025-2026

The 2025-26 year has us focusing on core programs and services while planning for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. Specifically on the slate are:

- **Programs:** Plan & implement programs and events, specifically ChoralFest, MB Sings, Festival du Voyageur workshops, a community singalong, a choral reading session, and other events; (see Program Slate, Attachment 5a)
- **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** Coordinate reception at Government House and host 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party
- **Music Library:** Add donations into inventory and finish digitizing library holdings
- **Fund Development:** Implement 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary donor campaign and other fundraising initiatives to build financial stability for MCA
- **Funder & Donor Relations:** Focus on building and strengthening relationships with major donors, sponsors, and funding agencies
- **Policy Work:** Develop new strategic plan
- **Human Resources:** Review job descriptions; find funding opportunities for salary coverage; develop volunteer engagement
- **Intra-Provincial Special Interest Group:** Hold at least one meeting in spring 2026
- **IDEA Special Interest Group:** Hold at least one IDEA Corner session based on member interest

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## FINAL THOUGHTS

As I conclude this report, my first thoughts are ones of gratitude for the excellent and inspiring work that has taken place over this last year. Firstly, congratulations and deep thanks to Jenny Steinke-Magnus for her tireless efforts to raise the profile of MCA through the numerous partnerships, programs and initiatives that she built during her tenure here – MCA is in a very different place than when she arrived. Thanks are also due to all the board directors, committee chairs, committee members and staff (both past and present) who support and implement our programs with enthusiasm, expertise and grace. Lastly and on a personal note, I am so grateful to the board for their leadership and support during this executive transition, in particular Naomi Russell and Robyn Stewart, and to my current staff team, Ruth Denton and Peter Steur.

Now in 2026, we are excited to be celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> year! MCA has a storied history built by so many wonderful leaders and supporters; a thriving present as evidenced by the program accounts above; and a future yet to be written but one with strong roots and values. Here's to the next 50 years!

*Submitted by Karla Ferguson  
February 2, 2025*

## Appendix A: Board & Committee Members 2024-2025

### **Program Committee**

Jorrel Camuyong (chair)  
Philip Lapatha  
David Sawatzky  
Kelsey Shiaro  
Sonya Williams  
Larissa Hrabi  
Alexis Chlopecki  
Brittany Mielnichuk/Ruth Denton  
Lindsay Shute  
Jenny Steinke-Magnus

### **Flagship Programs Committee**

Kelsey Shiaro (chair)  
Jorrel Camuyong  
Ben Campbell  
Shayla Davidson  
Nancy Gomes Fast  
Larissa Hrabi  
Janet Isaac-Martens  
Heather Neufeld  
Jack Roeder  
David Sawatzky  
Sonya Williams  
Alexis Chlopecki  
Brittany Mielnichuk/Ruth Denton  
Jenny Steinke-Magnus

### **INSPIRE Co-Chairs**

Catherine Robbins  
Jenny Steinke-Magnus

### **Communities in Harmony C'tee**

Jenny Steinke-Magnus (chair)  
Maureen Britton  
Jorrel Camuyong  
Nancy Gomes Fast  
Sarah Hall  
Crystal Kolt  
Kendra Obach  
David Sawatzky  
Alexis Chlopecki  
Brittany Mielnichuk

### **GATHER Committee**

Jenny Steinke-Magnus (chair)  
Avonlea Armstrong-Green  
Janine Bremault Bamford  
Jorrel Camuyong  
Katie Donnelly  
Anita Munn  
Naomi Russell  
David Sawatzky  
Kelsey Shiaro  
Alexis Chlopecki  
Brittany Mielnichuk  
Lindsay Shute

### **Board of Directors**

Naomi Russell – President, Archives Portfolio  
Dr. David Sawatzky – Past President,  
Nominations Chair, FCMM  
Representative  
Katy Harmer – Vice President, MMEA  
Representative  
Robyn Stewart – Treasurer  
Larissa Hrabi – Education Director  
Crystal Kolt – Intra-Provincial Director  
Jorrel Camuyong – Program Director  
Nancy Gomes Fast – Director, Communications  
Portfolio  
Vic Pankratz – Library Director  
Philip Lapatha – Director at large  
Caleb Rondeau – Director at large

### **Other Portfolios**

Dr. Catherine Robbins – IDEA Special Interest  
Group Chair  
Robyn Stewart – Fundraising Development  
Outreach & Advocacy Director - vacant

## Appendix B: 2024-25 Donors, Funders, and Sponsors

### ***Masterworks \$6,000+***

Foundation for Choral Music in Manitoba  
Manitoba Arts Council  
Province of Manitoba  
Winnipeg Arts Council  
The Winnipeg Foundation

Kelsey Shiaro  
Bruce Waldie  
Colson Wiebe

### ***Oratorio \$1,000 - \$5,999***

Assiniboine Credit Union  
Blennerhassett Family Foundation  
Government of Canada  
Heartland CPAs  
Long & McQuade Musical Instruments  
Eric & Sharon Marshall  
Ron & Sandi Mielitz  
Sing Canada Harmony  
Vocal Ascent Inc.

### ***Solo \$10 - \$99***

Anonymous  
Janine Bremault Bamford  
Joyce Burns  
Arlene Casigay  
Ruth Denton  
Kimberly Driedger  
Karla Ferguson  
Lori Franz  
Leonard Harvey  
Cathy Horbas  
Larissa Hrabi  
Sharon Hyndman  
Janet Isaac-Martens  
Mark Johnston  
Matthew Knight  
Karen Lamb  
Lori Mackedenski  
Maureen Morrison  
Kimberly Nozick  
Beatriz Quimio  
Darcia Raes  
Stuart Sladden  
Melissa Spraggs  
Dorothy Stephens  
Robyn Stewart  
Alisa Wiebe  
Sonya Williams  
Dorcas Windsor

### ***Cantata \$500 - \$999***

Catherine Robbins  
RBC  
St. James-Assiniboina School Division

### ***Madrigal \$250 - \$499***

Andrée Dagenais  
Millie Hildebrand  
Naomi Russell  
Noteworthy Enterprises  
Scott Reimer  
Barbara Scheuneman  
Stradbrook Avenue Show Choir  
Volunteer Manitoba

### ***Canon \$100 - \$249***

Darcia Albrechtson  
Anonymous  
Bethany Bunko  
Jorrel Camuyong  
Katie Donnelly  
Brian Farschou  
Elroy Friesen  
Noreen Gafic  
Katy Harmer  
Donna Kormilo  
Sue McIntosh  
Vic Pankratz  
Marilyn Redekop  
Penelope Scurfield

**MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION INC.**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**AUGUST 31, 2025**

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

**To the Board of Directors of  
Manitoba Choral Association Inc.:**

*Opinion*

We have audited the financial statements of Manitoba Choral Association Inc., which comprise the statement of financial position as at August 31, 2025, and the statement of operations, statement of changes in net assets and statement of cash flow for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Manitoba Choral Association Inc. as at August 31, 2025, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

*Basis for Opinion*

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of Manitoba Choral Association Inc. in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

*Other Matter*

Budget information is presented in the statement of revenue and expenditures for information purposes only and has not been subject to audit.

*Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing Manitoba Choral Association Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate Manitoba Choral Association Inc. or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing Manitoba Choral Association Inc.'s financial reporting process.

*Emphasis of Matter - Comparative Information*

The financial statements for the year ended August 31, 2024 were audited by another auditor who expressed an unmodified opinion on those financial statements on February 25, 2025.

*Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements*

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Manitoba Choral Association Inc.'s internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on Manitoba Choral Association Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause Manitoba Choral Association Inc. to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**Scarrow & Donald LLP**

Chartered Professional Accountants  
January 17, 2026  
Winnipeg, Canada

For this communication, together with the work done to prepare this communication and for the opinions we have formed, if any, we accept and assume responsibility only to the addressee of this communication, as specified in our letter of engagement.

MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION INC.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AUGUST 31

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets:</b>		
Cash	\$ 27,102	\$ 81,532
Investments (Note 3)	46,804	-
Accounts receivable	6,596	57,730
GST recoverable	928	976
Inventory	6,528	7,312
Prepays	3,378	2,755
	<u>91,336</u>	<u>150,305</u>
<b>Investments (Note 3)</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>45,387</u>
	<u><u>\$ 91,336</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 195,692</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current liabilities:</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 9,081	\$ 8,136
Government remittances payable	5,834	11,365
Deferred revenue (Note 4)	35,788	147,376
	<u>50,703</u>	<u>166,877</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>40,633</u>	<u>28,815</u>
	<u><u>\$ 91,336</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 195,692</u></u>

APPROVED BY THE BOARD:

*HT Russell*

Director

*Relyn Stewart*

Director

**MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION INC.**

**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2025**

	<b>Budget 2025</b>	<b>Total 2025</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>
<b>Revenue:</b>			
Manitoba Arts Council grants	\$ 50,000	\$ 53,500	\$ 51,125
Winnipeg Arts Council grants	60,000	60,000	40,000
Winnipeg Foundation grants	30,000	25,000	20,000
Province of Manitoba grants	11,800	6,800	19,344
Other grants	-	7,966	-
FCMM grants through MCA	-	5,375	3,600
Endowment Fund	17,600	17,662	16,511
Donations - other	20,000	11,144	25,795
Provincial programs (Note 6)	134,500	94,295	95,801
Memberships	18,000	18,476	17,705
Interest income	2,000	2,790	3,560
Merchandise income	2,500	4,142	3,935
Rental income	200	120	370
Miscellaneous	1,500	1,773	3,727
	348,100	309,043	301,473
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Advertising and promotion	2,000	-	-
Bad debts	-	317	-
Bank charges and miscellaneous	2,500	3,441	2,417
Capital assets expended	-	5,915	4,773
FCMM grant through MCA	-	5,375	3,600
Fundraising	1,000	-	9
Insurance	3,600	3,777	3,436
Memberships	1,000	729	846
Merchandise	1,000	2,936	2,723
Office	12,100	6,993	11,267
Professional fees	5,700	8,926	6,198
Provincial programs (Note 6)	117,800	86,630	82,070
Rent	19,280	19,262	18,840
Training	2,000	1,599	2,249
Travel and meetings	4,950	4,095	6,649
Wages and employee benefits	170,700	147,230	151,665
	343,630	297,225	296,742
<b>Difference between revenue expenses</b>	<b>\$ 4,470</b>	<b>\$ 11,818</b>	<b>\$ 4,731</b>

**MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Balance, beginning of year</b>	\$ 28,815	\$ 24,084
<b>Difference between revenue and expenses</b>	<u>11,818</u>	<u>4,731</u>
<b>Balance, end of year</b>	<u>\$ 40,633</u>	<u>\$ 28,815</u>

**MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCAITON INC.**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Cash flow from operating activities:</b>		
Difference between revenue and expenses	\$ 11,818	\$ 4,731
Change in non-cash working capital:		
Accounts receivable	50,740	(31,666)
GST recoverable	48	795
Inventory	784	(516)
Prepays	(623)	3,174
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	945	(20,777)
Government remittances payable	(5,531)	8,798
Deferred revenue	<u>(111,588)</u>	<u>52,272</u>
	<u>(65,225)</u>	<u>12,080</u>
	<u>(53,407)</u>	<u>16,811</u>
<b>Cash flow from financing activities:</b>		
Proceeds on disposal of investments	-	2,518
Accrued interest on investment	<u>(1,023)</u>	<u>(266)</u>
	<u>(1,023)</u>	<u>2,252</u>
<b>Cash flow from investing activities:</b>		
Repayment of long term debt	<u>-</u>	<u>(40,000)</u>
<b>Change in cash during the year</b>	<b>(54,430)</b>	<b>(20,937)</b>
<b>Cash, beginning of year</b>	<b>81,532</b>	<b>102,469</b>
<b>Cash, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 27,102</b>	<b>\$ 81,532</b>

**MANITOBA CHORAL ASSOCIATION INC.**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2025**

**1. Purpose of the Association:**

Manitoba Choral Association Inc. was instituted for the purpose of promoting, planning and executing choral festivities, program workshops and providing choral opportunities to singers, directors, and composers throughout Manitoba.

The Association was incorporated under the Corporations Acts of Manitoba as a not-for-profit corporation and is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act of Canada.

**2. Significant accounting policies:**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. An assumption underlying the preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations is that the entity will continue for the foreseeable future and will be able to realize its assets and discharge liabilities in the normal course of operations.

The financial statements include the following significant accounting policies:

a) Critical accounting estimates and judgments-

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reported period.

Accounting estimates are included in financial statements to approximate the effect of past business transactions or events, or to approximate the present status of an asset or liability. It is possible that changes in future economic conditions could require changes in the recognized amounts for accounting estimates. These estimates are reviewed periodically, and, as adjustments become necessary, they are reported in the period in which they became known.

Significant areas of estimation by management include the impairment of non-financial assets, the useful lives of capital assets and the fair value of financial instruments. Management bases their judgments, estimates and assumptions on factors they believe to be reasonable in the circumstances, but which may be inherently uncertain and unpredictable.

b) Financial instruments-

Except for certain related party transactions, financial instruments are measured at fair value on initial recognition adjusted by, in the case of a financial instrument that will not be measured subsequently at fair value, financing fees and transaction costs that are directly attributable to its origination, acquisition, issuance or assumption. Transaction costs related to financial instruments that will be measured subsequently at fair value are recognized in net income for the period incurred.

In subsequent periods investments in equity instruments that are quoted in an active market and certain derivative contracts are measured at fair value without any adjustment for transaction costs that may incur on sale or other disposal. The Association may elect to measure any financial instrument at fair value when the asset or liability is first recognized or for equity instruments previously measured at fair value when the equity instrument ceases to be quoted in an active market. Other investments in equity instruments are measured at cost less any reduction for impairments. All other financial instruments are measured at amortized cost. Amortized cost is the amount at which the financial instrument is measured at initial recognition less principal repayments, plus or minus the cumulative of any difference between that initial amount and the maturity amount, and minus any reduction for impairment.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2025

**2. Significant accounting policies:**

## b) Financial instruments-

The Association measures all financial instruments at amortized cost.

The Association assesses impairment of all its financial assets, except those measured at fair value. Management considers whether there has been a breach in contract, such as a default or delinquency in interest or principal payments in determining whether objective evidence of impairment exists. Impairment is included in current earnings.

## c) Inventory-

Inventory is valued at the lower of cost and net realizable value with the cost being determined on a first-in, first out basis.

## d) Capital assets-

Capital assets are recorded as expenses in the year they are acquired. In the year ended August 31, 2025, \$5,915 (2024 - \$4,773) of capital assets purchased were expensed.

## e) Revenue Recognition-

The Association follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

Revenue generated from grants and restricted donations are recognized as revenue in the year which the related expenses are incurred.

Revenue generated from unrestricted provincial programs, donations, memberships and other are recognized as revenue when received or receivable, if the amount to be received can be reasonably determined and collected is reasonably assured.

Merchandise income and rental income are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Interest income is recognized on a time proportion basis.

## f) Contributed services and donated materials-

Contributed services and donated materials are recorded when fair value can be reasonably estimated and when the materials are used in the normal course of the Association's operations and would have been purchased otherwise.

**3. Investments:**

Long term investments consist of term deposits and guaranteed investment certificate that bear interest rates from 4.60% to 4.70% (2024 - 4.60% to 4.70%) with maturity dates of June 2026 (2024 - June 2026). Investments included accrued interest of \$394 (2024 - \$387).

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2025**

**4. Deferred revenue:**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
Manitoba Arts Council	\$ 25,000	\$ 53,150
Winnipeg Arts Council	-	45,000
The Winnipeg Foundation	-	25,000
Foundation for Choral Music in Manitoba	-	10,000
Membership fees	6,795	5,310
Other grants	2,500	5,000
Program revenues	90	2,169
MCA Program Bursary Fund (formerly PHC Fund)	1,403	1,523
National Youth Choir	-	224
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>\$ 35,788</b>	<b>\$ 147,376</b>

**5. Line of credit:**

The Association has a demand line of credit for up to \$40,000 (2024 -\$40,000) of which \$nil (2024 - \$nil) has been drawn at year-end. The line of credit bears interest at prime (2024 - prime) and is secured by term deposits. The line of credit is reviewed and renewed annually.

**6. Endowment funds:**

The Association has entered into an agreement with the Winnipeg Foundation for the irrecoverable transfer of investments to two endowment funds named "Manitoba Choral Association Endowment Fund" and the "Bert Kroeker Scholarship Fund". held at the Winnipeg Foundation. The Winnipeg Foundation will preserve the capital and will distribute income generated thereon, to the Association in perpetuity. The capital is not available to the Association and as such is not reflected as an asset of the Association.

The investments with the Winnipeg Foundation are as follows:

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
Manitoba Choral Association Endowment Fund		
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 399,098	\$ 353,672
Net investment income	42,631	61,937
Contributions	214	-
Awards distributed	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(17,662)	(16,511)
Balance, end of year	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>\$ 424,281</b>	<b>\$ 399,098</b>

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
Bert Kroeker Scholarship Fund		
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 34,257	\$ 31,208
Net investment income	7,153	3,049
Balance, end of year	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>\$ 41,410</b>	<b>\$ 34,257</b>

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2025

## 7. Provincial programs:

	2025		
	Revenue	Expenses	Difference between revenue and expenses
ChoralFest	\$ 30,881	\$ 29,367	\$ 1,514
Manitoba Sings	39,475	24,824	14,651
Workshops	4,432	9,089	(4,657)
Special Projects	17,941	22,554	(4,613)
Choral library	1,566	796	770
	\$ <u>94,295</u>	\$ <u>86,630</u>	\$ <u>7,665</u>
	2024		
	Revenue	Expenses	Difference between revenue and expenses
ChoralFest	\$ 44,183	\$ 41,810	\$ 2,373
Manitoba Sings	37,878	34,370	3,508
Workshops	3,872	1,934	1,938
Special Projects	6,860	1,503	5,357
National youth choir	2,000	2,000	-
Choral library	1,008	453	555
	\$ <u>95,801</u>	\$ <u>82,070</u>	\$ <u>13,731</u>

## 8. Commitments:

The Association has entered into operating lease agreement for office space and equipment. Under the terms of these agreements the future annual commitments are as follows:

2026	\$ 19,648
2027	3,340

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2025

**9. Financial risk management:**

Management's risk management policies are typically performed as a part of the overall management of the Association's operations. Management is aware of risks related to these objectives through direct personal involvement with employees and outside parties. In the normal course of its business, the Association is exposed to a number of risks that can affect its operating performance. Management's close involvement in operations helps identify risks and variations from expectations. The Association has not designated transactions as hedging transactions to manage risk. As a part of the overall operation of the Association, management considers the avoidance of undue concentrations of risk. These risks include, and the actions taken to manage them are as follows:

## Liquidity risk-

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Association cannot meet its financial obligations associated with financial liabilities in full. The Association's main sources of liquidity are its operations and external contributions. The funds are primarily used to finance working capital and capital expenditure requirements and are adequate to meet the Association's financial obligations associated with financial liabilities.

## Credit risk-

Credit risk arises from the possibility that debtors may be unable to fulfill their commitments. For a financial asset, this is typically the gross carrying amount, net of any amounts offset and any impairment losses. The Association has a credit policies address credit risk on accounts receivable, which may include the analysis of the financial position of the debtor and review of credit limits. The Association also may review credit history before establishing credit and reviews credit performance. An allowance for doubtful accounts or other impairment provisions are established based upon factors surrounding credit risk, historical trends and other information. No allowance for doubtful accounts has been recorded in either year.

## Interest rate risk-

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in market rates may have an effect on the cash flows associated with some financial instruments, known as interest rate cash flow risk, or on the fair value of other financial instruments, known as interest rate price risk. The Association is subject to interest rate price risk and cash flow risk due to investments.

## MCA Programming Slate for 2025-26

*Note that all programming listed below is subject to change depending on staff and volunteer capacity, participant interest/involvement, and other factors. The Program Committee will provide direction for all programming and program updates will be shared regularly with the membership throughout the year as they become available.*

### MCA CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

August	September	October
Board Retreat (Winnipeg)	Membership Renewals	TEMPO CONNECT: PD Session – EY Music Teachers
November	December	January
ChoralFest w. regional tour		Board Meeting MB Sings
February	March	April
Festival du Voyageur Sessions AGM 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reception Launch fundraising initiatives	Intra-provincial SIG*	Sing-Along Event* Awards & Scholarships Inter-provincial PD Session* Reading Session*
May	June	July
Music Month Performances IDEA Corner* Board Meeting	Early Membership Renewals 50 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Party Intercultural Concert* Awards Announcements	

\*to be confirmed

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### PROGRAM/EVENT DETAILS

#### TEMPO

October 24, 2025

The music portion of MB educators PD day conference, also known as TEMPO, is run by the Manitoba Music Educators' Association, of which MCA is a partner organization. The conference offers professional development and networking opportunities for choral music educators. MCA is involved in the planning of the event and up to 5 sessions are focused on the choral arts. For TEMPO 2025, we have invited session presentations by vocal jazz specialist Jennifer Barnes (Texas, USA) and choral specialist Dr. Catherine Robbins, and have engaged Long & McQuade to offer a choral music reading session for singers in early, middle, and senior years choirs, Vic Pankratz conducting.

## CONNECT: PD Session

October 2025

This peer-to-peer session was geared to new early years educators to gain resources and learn tried-and-true methods from established teachers Amanda Ciavarelli and Dr. Catherine Robbins.

## ChoralFest

November 18-28, 2025

ChoralFest is an annual two-week, non-competitive festival that provides choirs and conductors an opportunity to work with choral specialists from across the continent. The festival invites all levels and styles of choral singing, including vocal jazz. Approximately 120 choirs and 4,500 singers participate each year. ChoralFest is open to all choirs; no matter a choir's level of experience, our clinicians work with each group at its own level. ChoralFest is comprised of several parts, targeting different segments of the choral community:

- **Senior Years Choirs (Grades 9-12)** will have the option of registering for:
  - Performance in pod system (up to three choirs) + two 20-min clinics (from different clinicians)
  - 45-min clinic tailored to the choir in their school.\*
- **Middle Years Choirs (Grades 5-8)** will have the option of registering for:
  - Performance in pod system + one 30-min clinic (at ChoralFest choral venue); or
  - 45-min clinic tailored to the choir in their school.\*
- **Early Years Choirs (Grades K-4)** will receive a 45-min clinic tailored to their choir in their school.
- **Community Choirs** will perform in the pod system (up to three choirs), and then receive two 20-min clinics (from different clinicians). Community choirs have the option of requesting a Friday evening or Saturday daytime slot.
- **Vocal Jazz Choirs** will perform in the pod system (up to three choirs), and then receive two 20-min clinics (from different clinicians).
- We will hold our second-ever **ChoralFest Regional Tour** and invite school and community choirs in Central Manitoba, Eastman, Interlake, Norman, Parkland, and Westman (more than 50km from Winnipeg) to participate in 90-min workshops with a travelling clinician.

Our 2025 choral and vocal jazz specialists include:

- **Senior Year & Community Choirs:** Kitbielle Pasagui (Edmonton), Cynthia Peyson Wahl (Winnipeg), Scott Reimer (Winnipeg), Avonlea Armstrong-Green (Winnipeg), Michael Summerville-Dueck (Steinbach)
- **Vocal Jazz Choirs:** Terrence Taylor (Los Angeles, CA), Rob Monson (Winnipeg), Elizabeth Sadler (Winnipeg)
- **Middle Years (Venue):** Leanne Cooper-Carrier (Winnipeg), Michael Summerville-Dueck (Steinbach)
- **Early & Middle Years (In-School Clinics):** Leanne Cooper-Carrier (Winnipeg)
- **Regional Tour School & Community Choirs:** Scott Leithead (Edmonton)

## **MB Sings**

*January 30 - February 1, 2026*

MB Sings is MCA's longest-running program and draws nearly 300 singers from across the province every year for an inspiring weekend of music and community-building with accomplished and respected conductors from across the continent. Formerly known as Provincial Honour Choirs, MB Sings singers participate in two days of intensive rehearsals learning interesting and challenging repertoire, and then share what they've learned with families and friends in a finale concert. The MB Sings program has three choirs corresponding to age. There are no auditions to join the MB Sings Choirs and registration is open to all singers Grades 5 and up, regardless of experience or singing ability.

Guest conductors for 2026 will be:

- Junior High Choir (gr. 5-8): Katy Abraham (Winnipeg)
- Senior High Choir (gr. 9-12): Clint McLachlan (Brandon)
- Adult Choir (ages 18+): Dr. Jamie Hillman (Toronto)

## **Festival du Voyageur Sessions**

*February 2026*

MCA will once again partner with Festival du Voyageur to host Voyageur Choir / Chorale des Voyageurs sessions in both English and French for students in grades 2-9. In 2025, we facilitated 10 sessions and reached nearly 1,500 students, who walked away having learned 2-3 new French Canadian songs.

## **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reception**

*February 2026*

MCA will host an intimate reception in honour of our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the residence of the Honourable Anita Neville, Manitoba's Lieutenant Governor, inviting key community members such as MCA's founders, past staff and board members, major donors, and other members as we celebrate our past and step boldly into the future.

## **Fundraising Initiatives**

*January – December 2026*

In recognition MCA's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we will undertake several fundraising initiatives throughout 2026 to raise funds and ensure financial stability and sustainability of our organization as we move boldly into the future. Initiatives will include holding an online 50/50 raffle (launching spring 2026 and running until the Birthday Party in June); and partnering with local businesses for a wine raffle and/or travel raffle.

## **Sing-Along Event**

*April 2026*

Inspired by open-mic nights and *Choir!Choir!Choir!* events, this event will engage the public in an evening of socializing and singing at a local coffee shop or brewery. A local conductor/accompanist or

a cover band will perform popular music for attendees to sing along to while enjoying some refreshments in a relaxed environment.

### **IDEA Corner Sessions**

#### *Spring 2026*

Our Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, & Accessibility Special Interest Group (IDEA SIG) will invite members from all segments of the choral community (conductors, educators, singers, enthusiasts, etc.) to come together in-person and/or virtually to explore topics related to IDEA throughout the year.

### **Intra-Provincial Special Interest Group**

#### *Spring 2026*

Meetings for this SIG will be open to anyone from any region in the province and will explore how MCA can build and strengthen relationships and strategically plan programs to support choirs around the province, and how the regions can connect with and support each other.

### **Inter-Provincial PD Series**

#### *Spring 2026*

Developed by different provincial Choral Arts Service Organizations and offered nationwide to our collective memberships, these online workshops will cover a variety of topics covering both artistic and administrative topics.

### **Awards & Competitions**

#### *April 30, 2026 Deadline*

Manitoba Choral Association offers several awards and scholarships each year to foster and support local talent and professional development. These include the MCA Awards of Distinction (MCA Award for Artistic Excellence, MCA Spirit Award, MCA New Voice Award), the Bert Kroeker Scholarship, and the David G.H. Waters Hymn Sing Memorial Award. In June, the winners and recipients are announced, and members of the choral community are recognized for their achievements.

### **Music Month**

#### *May 2026*

MMEA will once again plan weekly concerts at the Manitoba Legislature to showcase school performances in the areas of choir, band, fiddle, and other musical/performing arts. MCA will support Music Month by promoting the concerts and providing recommendations for choral music performances.

### **Early Membership Renewals**

#### *June 2026*

Members can renew their MCA membership starting June 1. Those who renew their membership between June 1 and August 31 will be entered to win a prize drawn in September 2026. Members

wishing to take out music from the MCA library for the 2026-27 season must renew their MCA membership before borrowing any titles.

**Community Picnic – MCA's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party**

*June 6, 2026*

Members of the choral community will be invited to an afternoon event to take place on the CMU grounds in celebration of MCA's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. This community event will feature our group singing, award presentations, some light food options, field games, and opportunities for connecting with others.

**Manitoba Choral Association**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**  
September through December 2024

	25-26 Budget	Projected 24-25	24-25 Budget	NOTES
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
4020 - Province of Manitoba Grants	0.00	6,800.00	11,800.00	
4029 - Winnipeg Arts Council Grants	15,000.00	60,000.00	60,000.00	Operating grant
4031 - Misc Grants through MCA	0.00	4,000.00	0.00	
4040 - MB Arts Council Grants	50,000.00	53,500.00	50,000.00	Operating grant
4045 - Winnipeg Foundation Grants	30,000.00	25,000.00	30,000.00	funding still pending (need to reapply in October)
4046 - Other Grants	0.00	8,037.00	0.00	
4050 - Special Projects Revenue				
4454 - GATHER Festival Revenue	0.00	5,155.96	4,000.00	
Community Picnic Revenue	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	NEW From grants/sponsorships/in kind donations
4457 - Run for Music Revenue	0.00	0.00	25,000.00	
4460 - Choral Concert Income	0.00	12,785.00	18,000.00	
50/50 Raffle	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	NEW Draw at Community Picnic
4461 - Singalong Income	1,000.00	0.00	1,500.00	balanced to expenses
Total 4050 - Special Projects Revenue	16,000.00	17,940.96	48,500.00	
4055 - Endowment Fund Interest	17,500.00	17,662.00	17,600.00	
4110 - ChoralFest Revenue				
4111 - Admissions	3,300.00	3,353.60	3,500.00	
4113 - Registration Fees	22,000.00	17,700.00	18,500.00	increase based on proposed fee increases
4115 - Grants	17,500.00	8,500.00	15,000.00	
4117 - ChoralFest Advertising Revenue	1,200.00	1,328.18	1,300.00	
4116 - Sponsorships	500.00	0.00	2,500.00	
Total 4110 - ChoralFest Revenue	44,500.00	30,881.78	40,800.00	
4120 - MB Sings Revenue				
4121 - Admissions	5,800.00	6,179.41	4,500.00	
4122 - Donations	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	
4123 - Registration fees	30,000.00	32,362.03	25,000.00	
4125 - MB Sings Advertising Revenue	1,000.00	933.75	700.00	
4124 - Grants & Sponsorships	0.00	0.00	6,000.00	
Total 4120 - MB Sings Revenue	36,800.00	39,475.19	38,700.00	
National Youth Choir Revenue				
4170 - PD by MCA Income				
4171 - Choral Workshop Income	3,000.00	2,500.00	500.00	Festival du Voyageur partnership
4174 - INSPIRE - Sing to Lead Income	3,500.00	1,932.00	1,500.00	balanced to expenses
4176 - IDEA Programs	1,000.00	0.00	3,500.00	Accessibility grant - balanced to expenses
4177 - Other PD Sessions	1,000.00	0.00	500.00	NEW Peer to peer sessions
Total 4170 - PD by MCA Income	8,500.00	4,432.00	6,000.00	
4615 - Donations	17,000.00	10,313.65	20,000.00	Major donation drive for anniversary
4845 - Bank Interest Income	2,000.00	1,370.00	2,000.00	
4850 - Miscellaneous Income	0.00	573.50		
4852 - Merchandise Income	2,000.00	4,300.00	2,500.00	
4860 - Membership Revenue	18,500.00	18,366.25	18,000.00	
4870 - Choral Library Collections				
4871 - Music Fees Revenues	300.00	350.00		
4872 - Shipping Fees Revenues	250.00	275.00		
4873 - Borrowing Fees Revenues	750.00	750.00		

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4870 - Choral Library Collections - Other	0.00	0.00		
Total 4870 - Choral Library Collections	1,300.00	1,375.00	500.00	
4880 - Photocopying for Members	1,500.00	1,199.38	1,500.00	
4885 - Rental Income	200.00	120.00	200.00	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>260,800.00</b>	<b>305,346.71</b>	<b>348,100.00</b>	
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>260,800.00</b>	<b>305,346.71</b>	<b>348,100.00</b>	
Expense				
5008 - Special Projects Expenses				
5802 - GATHER Festival Expenses	0.00	13,817.34	14,000.00	
Community Picnic Expenses	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	NEW
5804 - Run for Music Expenses	0.00	0.00	15,000.00	
5806 - Choral Concert Expense	0.00	8,736.86	14,500.00	
5807 - Singalong Expenses	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	
<b>Total 5008 - Special Projects Expenses</b>	<b>4,000.00</b>	<b>22,554.20</b>	<b>44,500.00</b>	
5009 - PD by MCA Expenses				
5910 - Choral Workshop Expenses	2,300.00	2,293.11	500.00	FDV expenses (honoraria/staff expenses)
5913 - INSPIRE - Sing to Lead Expenses	3,500.00	4,504.32	3,500.00	
5915 - IDEA Programs Expenses	1,000.00	2,291.65	1,000.00	Accessibility panel
5916 - Other PD Session Expenses	1,000.00	0.00	100.00	NEW Peer to peer sessions
<b>Total 5009 - PD by MCA Expenses</b>	<b>7,800.00</b>	<b>9,089.08</b>	<b>5,100.00</b>	
5010 - ChoralFest Expenses				
5111 - Clinician Fees	17,000.00	14,500.00	15,000.00	Regional tour year
5112 - Meals & Per diems	2,700.00	2,322.62	3,500.00	
5113 - Accommodations	6,000.00	1,486.21	3,000.00	Regional tour year
5114 - Travel	5,000.00	1,454.00	3,000.00	Regional tour year
5115 - Venues	8,000.00	7,789.17	6,500.00	
5116 - Administration & Promotion	2,000.00	986.78	1,500.00	
5117 - Technical support	1,000.00	757.23	3,000.00	L&M sponsorship - equipment
5130 - Miscellaneous CF Expenses	500.00	71.46	500.00	
<b>Total 5010 - ChoralFest Expenses</b>	<b>42,200.00</b>	<b>29,367.47</b>	<b>36,000.00</b>	
5020 - MB Sings Expenses				
5221 - Honoraria - Conductors	4,800.00	4,800.00	4,800.00	
5222 - Honoraria - Accompanists	2,250.00	2,325.00	2,250.00	
5223 - Section Leads	1,350.00	1,250.00	1,350.00	Incl. travel stipends
5224 - Musicians & Guest Artists	1,000.00	775.00	1,000.00	
5225 - Travel, Accomm., & Per Diems	1,500.00	840.12	1,500.00	
5226 - Music	5,000.00	3,714.95	4,250.00	
5227 - Administration & Promotion	1,000.00	1,471.44	1,500.00	Reduced # of print programs
5228 - Venue	3,500.00	3,024.07	4,000.00	
5229 - Technical Support & Rentals	1,500.00	1,215.90	2,300.00	
5231 - Tshirts	3,000.00	2,705.03	2,500.00	
5232 - Meals & Snacks	4,000.00	2,713.38	5,500.00	
5235 - Miscellaneous	500.00	0.00	750.00	
<b>Total 5020 - MB Sings Expenses</b>	<b>29,400.00</b>	<b>24,834.89</b>	<b>31,700.00</b>	
National Youth Choir Expenses	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	
5021 - FCMM Grant expenses	0.00	4,000.00	0.00	
5022 Misc Grants through MCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	

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	25-26 Budget	Projected 24-25	24-25 Budget	NOTES
5023 - Fund Development Expenses	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	No specific activities planned.
5075 - Tempo Expenses	200.00	241.31	200.00	
5165 - Merchandise Expenses	0.00	2,151.03	1,000.00	
5175 - External Memberships	750.00	729.12	1,000.00	
5190 - Choral Library Expenses	1,000.00	1,000.00	500.00	
5210 - Payroll Expenses	119,500.00	143,448.36	166,700.00	Incl. F/T ED, P/T Prog, P/T Comms, PT Lib
5256 - Group Insurance Benefit	4,000.00	4,789.06	4,000.00	
5276 - Web Hosting & CRM	2,500.00	2,180.49	2,000.00	Includes MW software & website expenses
5295 - Amortization Expense	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	
5300 - Rent	20,850.00	19,362.56	19,280.00	Includes increase from new lease
5310 - Insurance	3,700.00	3,936.46	3,600.00	
5320 - Advertising & Promotions	1,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	Promo materials, ad placements, etc.
5500 - Phone Expenses	360.00	330.33	350.00	
5519 - Office Expenses	1,200.00	1,300.00	2,000.00	
5520 - Office Supplies	1,200.00	7,100.00	1,500.00	
5530 - Photocopies	1,000.00	1,500.00	750.00	
5550 Office Equipment Rental	0.00	546.00	0.00	
5570 - Postage	500.00	0.00	500.00	
5600 - Accounting / Audit Services	8,000.00	5,688.52	5,700.00	
5610 - Bank & Credit Card Charges	2,300.00	2,300.00	2,000.00	
5650 Legal Expenses	1,000.00	750.00	0.00	
5660 - Miscellaneous Expense	500.00	1,193.82	500.00	
5670 - Advocacy Expenses	250.00	0.00	750.00	
5710 - Staff Expenses	750.00	1,665.26	500.00	Lunches, other staff costs
5720 - Board Travel & Expenses	500.00	1,000.00	1,250.00	No board retreat
5740 - Meeting Expenses	1,000.00	200.00	750.00	
5745 - Staff Professional Development	1,500.00	1,344.78	2,000.00	Incl ED trip to Podium
5753 - Volunteer Travel and Expenses	0.00	334.85	0.00	
5755 - Outreach Expenses	500.00	1,750.00	1,500.00	Incl. mileage/costs to member concerts
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>259,460.00</b>	<b>294,687.59</b>	<b>343,630.00</b>	
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>1,340.00</b>	<b>10,659.12</b>	<b>4,470.00</b>	
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>1,340.00</b>	<b>10,659.12</b>	<b>4,470.00</b>	