

Mennonite Historical Society
of British Columbia



2017 Annual Report

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Mennonite Historical Society of BC
Agenda of the 2017 Annual General Meeting
Friday, 6 April 2018, 1:30 pm
Ricky's Country Restaurant,
32080 Marshall Road, Abbotsford, B.C.

1. Welcome: Richard Thiessen, President
2. Minutes of 2016 AGM - 7 April 2017
3. Financial Reports: Arnold Klassen, Treasurer
 - (a) Financial Statements -2017
 - (b) Budget -2018
4. Election of Directors

Current terms:

Ending in 2018: Don Fehr, Robert Martens.

Ending in 2019: Elma Pauls, Maryann Jantzen, Arnold Klassen, and Richard Thiessen

Ending in 2020: Elmer Wiens, Laura Unger and Cheryl Isaac

Arnold Klassen has tendered his resignation from the Board. We thank him for his service, especially in his capacity as Treasurer over these past years. His experience and insight have been greatly appreciated.

The board is nominating Don Fehr, Robert Martens, and Linda Klassen for three year terms, ending in 2021.

We will be left with three vacancies on our Board. We have actively sought additional members throughout the past few months, and will continue to do so. If there are individuals who come forward, they will be appointed by the Board in the interim, and formally approved at the next AGM.

5. Presentation of Committee Reports
6. Questions / Further Business
7. Adjournment

Mennonite Historical Society of BC
Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting
Friday, 7 April 2017, 1:30 pm
Ricky's Country Restaurant,
32080 Marshall Road, Abbotsford, B.C.

Attendance: 38 members of MHSBC

1. Welcome: Richard Thiessen, President

Richard Thiessen welcomed all who attended the AGM.

2. Minutes of 2015 AGM - 8 April 2016

Vi Chappell / Don Fehr moved/seconded the acceptance of the minutes of the 2015 AGM.

Carried

3. Financial Reports: Arnold Klassen, Treasurer

- (a) Financial Statements -2016

Richard Thiessen presented the report on behalf of Arnold Klassen who was unable to attend the meeting.

Richard Thiessen / Cheryl Isaac moved/seconded the acceptance of the 2016 Financial Report.

Carried

- (b) Budget -2017

Richard Thiessen presented the budget for 2017.

Richard Thiessen / Elmer Wiens moved/seconded the acceptance of the 2017 budget.

Carried

4. Election of Directors

Current terms:

Ending in 2017: Vi Chappell, Elmer Wiens, Laura Unger and Cheryl Isaac

Ending in 2018: Don Fehr, Robert Martens, Wilf Penner, and John van Dyck.

Ending in 2019: Elma Pauls, Maryann Jantzen, Arnold Klassen, and Richard Thiessen

Vi Chappell has chosen not to let her name stand for another term, and Wilf Penner and John van Dyck have both tendered their resignations from the board. We want to thank all three for their service to the Society, and wish them all the best for the future.

The board is nominating Elmer Wiens, Laura Unger and Cheryl Isaac for three year terms, ending in 2020.

Elmer Wiens, Laura Unger, Cheryl Isaac were elected by acclamation for three year terms, ending in 2020.

5. Presentation of Committee Reports

Richard Thiessen present the Presidents report.

Maryanne Jantzen / Robert Martens moved/seconded the acceptance of the Presidents report.

Carried

Jennifer Martens, Office and Volunteer Manager presented a report on the activities of the many Volunteers at MHSBC

Cheryl Isaac / Don Fehr moved seconded the acceptance of the Office and Volunteer Managers report.

Carried

Laura Unger presented the Archives report giving a full summary of the many activities of the Volunteers in the Archives section.

Elma Pauls / Robert Martens moved seconded the acceptance of the Archive report.

Carried

Maryanne Jantzen presented the report from the Newsletter committee.

Maryanne Jantzen / Robert Martens moved/seconded the acceptance of the Newsletter report.

Carried

Don Fehr and Elmer Wiens presented the report from the Website and Computer Technology Committee.

Don Fehr/ Cheryl Isaac moved the acceptance of the Website and Computer Technology report.

Carried

6. Questions / Further Business

No questions

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm

Board of Directors

Don Fehr	- Retired Telus Technician – Port Coquitlam
Cheryl Isaac	- Retired Director, Continuing Education, UFV – Yarrow
Maryann Jantzen	- Assistant Professor; Writing Centre Co-Director Trinity Western University – Abbotsford
Arnold Klassen	- Chartered Accountant – Coquitlam
Robert Martens	- Poet, Writer & Editor – Abbotsford
Elma Pauls	- Retired Health Care Administrator - Chilliwack
Richard Thiessen	-Executive Director Mennonite Museum– Abbotsford
Laura Unger	- Retired Library Technician – Abbotsford
Elmer G. Wiens	- Economist/Webmaster – Vancouver

Officers

President	-	Richard Thiessen
Vice President	-	Don Fehr
Secretary	-	Elma Pauls
Treasurer	-	Arnold Klassen

President's Report

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present my 2017 report for our Society.

We have now completed our second year in our new home on the second floor of the Mennonite Heritage Museum in Abbotsford. We also occupy a portion of the basement of the Museum. The additional space and high visibility has been good for the Society. We have increased both our number of volunteers as well as our number of visitors. The relationship between the Historical Society and the Mennonite Museum Society is a positive one, and both Societies benefit from the ability to cost-share a number of expenditures, including staffing.

Together, the Society and the Museum employ two full-time persons: Jennifer Martens serves as Office and Volunteer Manager and Mary Ann Quiring serves as Receptionist and Office Assistant. Each are employed half-time by the Society and half-time by the Museum.

Approximately 60 volunteers provide staffing for the Society and work on a variety of indexing, filing, translation, and scanning projects. This is an increase of approximately 33% from the previous year (in 2016 we saw an increase from 30 to 45 volunteers). Our volunteer structure includes several volunteer coordinators who work alongside our Office and Volunteer Manager. These coordinators maintain weekly contact with our volunteers and provide direct supervision and resourcing. This allows our Office and Volunteer Manager to focus more attention on volunteer policies and procedures and in-take procedures for new volunteers.

We sponsored several events in 2017. In March we featured Dr. John D. Roth from Goshen College, who gave a presentation on the *Global Anabaptist Movement and its Meaning in the 21st Century*. In April we held a repeat presentation of *A Small Sign of Life and Love: Letters from the Soviet Union During the Khrushchev Thaw* at Sherbrooke Mennonite Church in Vancouver. September featured our *Menno Comedy Night* with Matt Falk, Orlando Braun, and Danny Unrau. On 12 November we held our Annual Fund Raising Event: "*A Legacy: Alternative Responses to the Call to Arms*" with Conrad Stoesz from the Mennonite Heritage Centre at CMU in Winnipeg. We concluded with our annual Genealogy Workshop, which again featured Tim Janzen and Glenn Penner.

Our publications committee was very active in 2017, chaired by Maryann Jantzen and assisted by Robert Martens. We returned to publishing three issues, each 32 pages, instead of four issues – 2 – 32 pages issues and 2 – 16 page issues.

In 2016 we received several very large archival collections, including the entire archives of the Clearbrook MB Church, West Abbotsford Mennonite Church, and Mennonite Educational Institute, and these collections kept a number of our volunteers busy throughout 2017. We have six volunteers who come in weekly to work on the processing of records, and the bulk of their work consisted of processing these large collections. Our "senior" volunteer, Dolores Harder, moved to Vancouver Island at the end of the year, so much time and energy was invested in preparations for her departure and the handing over of many of her responsibilities to Linda Klassen. Linda now has publishing privileges in MAID when it comes to archival records in the database. Dolores continues to publish photos and supervises what some of the volunteers are doing with archival records for documents.

Several of our volunteers continue to reorganize records in the archival vault. Boxes are all being relabeled, and this requires that volunteers look at each box and make any necessary adjustments before the records are edited in MAID.

In 2017 we moved our archival description database from InMagic to AtoM. PeaceWorks, a software company headquartered in Waterloo and Winnipeg, handled the migration of the data and we are very pleased with the decision. Our archival description database is now integrated with the MAID database. Many of our volunteers were already familiar with AtoM because of their work with the MAID project, and so the transition was fairly smooth.

Volunteers from the society have been digitizing issues of *Die Mennonitische Rundschau* and *Der Bote* for several years. At this point in time the scans are only available on the society's internal server. In the future we will explore uploading these scans to the Internet Archive (archive.org), where a number of other Mennonite periodicals and publications are available in various digital formats.

The primary focus of our digitization work in 2017 continued to be the digitization of the Einwandererzentralstelle (EWZ-50) microfilm collection, which we began in September 2009. We have completed approximately 55% of the collection. We have completed 465 of 843 films totaling 1,386,552 frames with another 18 films in progress. All of the scans of these films will be in PDF format.

We are constantly creating and upgrading indexes to various periodicals, church registers, and other primary and secondary sources, and entering data into searchable databases. Several of our volunteers also enter data and make corrections for the GRANDMA database, owned by the California Mennonite Historical Society.

Most of the visitors to our Archives have an interest in genealogy. Our volunteers assist visitors in compiling their family histories and they also respond to emails and letters.

Volunteers have also been quite busy scanning unpublished family histories and newspaper obituaries. One of our volunteers is copying and pasting obituaries from the digital scans of the MB Herald into the Biographical Wiki database maintained by John Thiesen at the Mennonite Library & Archives at Bethel College. This database includes the full text of obituaries from a number of Mennonite periodicals, including Mennonite Weekly Review, The Mennonite, and a number of geographical newspapers. Our volunteer, Cheryl Isaac, has entered 1,037 obituaries from the MB Herald, covering the years 1962 to 1974.

Several of our volunteers also do a significant amount of work with the GRANDMA database. Members of the public submit corrections and additions to their family information that is in GRANDMA, and our volunteers are able to log into the database in California and make the necessary changes. Several volunteers are also working at creating a Legacy database of individuals in the EWZ records. Once completed, this database will be merged with GRANDMA.

Volunteers are involved with several other projects, including the translation letters and diaries from German to English. Many of these projects begin as requests from individuals who make a donation to have something translated. Once the project is completed, a copy of the translation is made available to MHSBC.

Thanks to the generosity and loyalty of our constituency, we have again received the necessary financial support to maintain our programs. We are thankful for the support we have felt from our constituency, and will strive to provide the public with a variety of resources that we hope will meet their needs.

Richard D. Thiessen
27 March 2018

Office & Volunteer Manager

Having begun my placement as Office and Volunteer Manager on July 26th of 2016, I have now completed my second year at the Historical Society. I have really appreciated working with the wonderful staff and volunteers who serve our board, members and community. I've continued to be very impressed with the caliber of expertise and the passion & intensity with which everyone applies to their work, all in a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

The really challenging and exciting thing about being the Office and Volunteer Manager is the wide variety and scope of responsibilities. Our focus in 2016 was to streamline our efficiencies for processing memberships. This has been very effective; Mary Ann and I are finding that there is less confusion about the tax deductible portion vs. the membership fee which is not tax deductible. We also began highlighting "gift memberships" which proved to be very popular especially before Christmas. We are now able to more accurately assign members to current vs. former members on our email distribution lists for those members with emails. Our goal is to surpass 500 members. One reason for this number is so that we no longer have to sort the mail in-house (very labour intensive); once we surpass 500, the post office will do all the sorting for us. We are requesting members to send us a one or two sentence endorsement to help us expand our social media campaign for more memberships. Since everyone has something so positive to say about our wonderful newsletter, we would like to spread the word and have ever more people enjoying it!

Another role has been to expand our publicity and marketing. In 2017 we reached over 400 followers on our Facebook page, almost making a goal of 500 by Christmas. We hosted a number of events in 2017 with *two* exceptionally successful sellouts: Menno COMEDY nite and the Genealogy Workshops in the fall. April 7th we had our Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon & AGM. Advertising for our many events was done through direct emails, social media, our MHSBC website (thank you, Elmer!) church bulletins and distributions, posters, The Canadian Mennonite, MB Herald and free calendars online. We also did free advertising at Afterthoughts (TV Slideshow) in Abbotsford whenever possible. In 2017, we created and printed our posters in-house.

Another one of my roles is to recruit new volunteers and update and maintain each person's profile. We are continually updating information in our files. Elma Pauls has been a significant help with these projects along with our team of dedicated office support volunteers. We are continually looking for volunteers to bring on board. We have a number of roles available. We will do all the training, just bring your enthusiasm! If you or someone you know would like to volunteer, please ask them to contact me. We work hard and we enjoy our time together! Generally people come in to volunteer for 4 hours or more at a time. Some volunteers come twice a week, most just one day per week. We would like to have all our computers in use each day, and we have many openings available. We also have openings in publicity and marketing, and working with our used books for sale.

In 2017, we have had the following MHSBC Volunteers come on board: Vera Heinrichs, Kathleen Dunton, Dave Loewen, Loreleigh Epp (Library Practicum Student, Short Term), Maxwell Hiebert (Student, Short Term), Luise Kinsman, Emily Thornton, Arianna Setchay (Summer Student), Helen Ho, Jonah Starcevic, Peter Neudorf, Ursula Epp Gorz, Carrie Hiscock, Dorothy Redekop, and Luella Wiebe.

We have also had a number of volunteers move on to other endeavors: Vi Chappell, Vera Heinrichs, Kathleen Dunton, Loreleigh Epp, and Maxwell Hiebert.

Changes: Dolores Harder has moved away but continues to be of assistance off-site.

In 2017, I continued with the volunteer newsletter called the Volunteer Vector. I gather content for this newsletter by collating answers to questions I am asked each day to help everyone stay in the

know and I also include important dates and housekeeping items, events and so on. The feedback for this continues to be very good.

In 2017, we observed Canada's 150th year by joining in the national volunteer campaign titled: "150 for 150". The goal was to volunteer 150 hours in honor of Canada's 150th celebration. We had 28 volunteers who met and exceeded their goal, with some reaching over 600 hours. We truly have a dedicated and faithful team of volunteers. Recorded volunteer hours for 2017 MHSBC totaled: 8,125. Ella Born diligently recorded our hours each week.

Our genealogy services are very active. In 2017, 103 requests came to the archives email and were forwarded to the genealogy email for processing. Unfortunately, our email server lost our data recently which contained the history of our genealogy email correspondence for 2017 and therefore we cannot provide totals for all the requests for information that were made in 2017. Many of our requests are for ancestry charts, requests to make corrections in the Grandma database, EWZ records, obituaries and more. Paypal continues to be an efficient way to invoice for look-ups online and payments are usually made fairly quickly after billing.

Since the move to the new facility, we have been working on efficient and successful ways to keep statistics. Recorded on-site visitors for 2017 were 852, with 372 visiting for a face to face genealogy look-up. Visitors include site tours, drop-ins, event ticket purchases, donations (monetary, photos, documents, books) and memberships, meetings and information requests. Robert Martens accessioned 304 items for the archives in 2017. Visitors also come for personal research and to buy books, receive translation help, read books and magazines in the reference libraries, say hi, drop off translation work, and/or use our public GRANDMA station for research. Another request that is gaining popularity is for "Christmas Trees"; some parents wish to give their children a family tree for Christmas and so will come in for a look-up and a print out.

My correspondence via email for the MHSBC has totaled over 900 in 2017. This included communications with volunteers, staff, members and visitors. My records show that MHSBC phone calls in to my local were over 61, with phone calls out over 86 (Records from January to August in this case). Most of communication outside the office is done via email.

One important focus continues to be effective communication with our current members and our past members. This is ongoing and something I've been working on since I came on board to help this communication be valuable, efficient and up to date. I really enjoy it when members come to the MHSBC offices and say 'Hi' and when our out of town members send me an email and keep me posted about where they're at. I've continued to find that our members are of the most positive, kindest and sweetest sort! It is great to have your support at the MHSBC and for myself personally. All the words of encouragement and affirmation that come my way have been wonderful and appreciated.

I have a unique vantage point to observe all the ways that, through our programs, the volunteers faithfully keep the society running smoothly. The significant way that their work affects those people and their families connecting with us for information continues to be a very exciting aspect of working for the MHSBC.

I am really looking forward to continuing to serve in this capacity in the next year. Thank you!

Jennifer Martens,
March 2018

Archives Report 2017

Thirty two volunteers are working on-site on various projects listed below. Others are working off site at jobs which can be done at home. Dolores Harder a 17-year veteran of MHSBC moved to Vancouver Island but continues to be involved in editing and publishing the MAID photo project. We value her contribution to our archives.

1. New Accessions:

New donations continue to arrive from individuals, schools, churches and societies. Robert Martens assigns accession numbers to these donations and keeps hardcopies and a digital data base.

2. Digitization:

Volunteers from the society have been digitizing issues of *Die Mennonitische Rundschau* and *Der Bote* for several years. At this point in time the scans are only available on the society's internal server. In the future we will explore uploading these scans to the Internet Archive (archive.org), where a number of other Mennonite periodicals and publications are available in various digital formats.

As of 2017 the following issues of *Die Mennonitische Rundschau* had been scanned: 1881-1886, 1888-1891, 1903-1896, 1898-1910, 1913-1915 (partial), 1923 (partial), 1924-1925, 1926-1932 (partial), 1938 (partial), 1939-1943, 1944 (partial), 1945-1947, 1949-1950, 1951 (partial), 1952-1955, 1956 (partial), 1957, 1958-1959 (partial), 1960-1965, 1956 (partial), 1957, 1959-1959 (partial), 1960-1965, 1966 (partial), 1967-1971, 1972-1974 (partial), 1975-1977, 1978-1979 (partial), 1980, 1981-1982 (partial), 1983-1991, 1992 (partial), 1993-2002, 2003 (partial), 2004, 2005-2006 (partial), 2007.

The following issues of *Der Bote* had been scanned: 1924-1934, 1935 (partial), 1936, 1961 (partial), 1962, 1963-1964 (partial), 1966 (partial), 1969-1970, 1971 (partial). 1972-1978, 1979 (partial), 1980-1990, 1991-1992 (partial), 1993-2003, 2004 (partial), 2005-2008.

3. Library:

The John B. Toews Library of 1,500 books has been catalogued by Arlene Peters. The Harry Loewen Collection of 500 books was processed by Arlene Peters and Pat Wood in 2017. The MHSBC library continues to grow as donations come in.

4. Family Histories

Print copies of Family Histories are catalogued and shelved in the library by Arlene Peters. Many of the family histories are being scanned by John Friesen.

5. Periodicals:

An alphabetic index of our periodical holdings and the shelving location in the vault was accomplished by Arlene Peters and Pat Wood.

6. Conference Yearbooks:

Robert Martens assembled copies of conference yearbooks and placed them in the cold room. A list of yearbooks can be found in Project Data.

Robert organised hymnbooks and rare books and placed those in the cold room. They are sorted alphabetically.

7. Canadian Board of Colonization:

These records are being indexed and scanned by Marie Doerksen, Hilda Klassen and Luella Wiebe. 5,199 out of 10,300 have been completed and 400 to 500 are in progress.

8. Einwanderungszentralstelle – Digitizing:

The digitization of these records is overseen by Don Fehr. 473 of the 843 films are completed totaling 1,410,212 of 2,513,338 frames. This is 56% of the total. Volunteers working in this area are: Agnes Loewen, Irma Giesbrecht, Sally Dueck, Dolores Wall, and Wilf Penner.

The EWZ Data Base project:

Some of the volunteers insert the data into the Legacy database. Volunteers working in this area are Irma Giesbrecht and Sally Dueck.

9. Reinlander Volume C:

Dora Becker transcribes and incorporates this data to a Word Document for merging into Legacy.

10. Obituaries:

Obituaries are entered into an Excel document by Arlene Peters and paper copies are filed by Pat Wood. Cheryl Isaac searches for women's full names when this information is lacking in MB Herald obituaries and sends them to Bethel College Archives in Newton Kansas.

11. Genealogy:

MHSBC hosted a 2-day Genealogy Workshop in November. Tim Janzen and Glenn Penner were presenters. Forty-five people were registered. Sandi Massie deals with 10-16 emails enquiries every week. We had requests from Russia, Germany, New Zealand, Ukraine, and all over North America. Most are to do with obituaries, periodical articles and EWZ information. Requests from Glenn Penner looking for DNA from families living in BC are received. People who visit in person get help with genealogical searches from Sandi Massie, Agnes Loewen, Marie Doerksen, Peter Rahn, Don Fehr and others. This year many non-Mennonite people came in looking for information about their families from the German Colonies.

12. MAID:

Good progress has been made on scanning, describing and uploading our photos into the MAID database. Helen Nickel, Hildegard Baerg, Erna Block, Al Wall and Laura Unger work on this project. Nine Historical Societies participate in this venture. You may access these photos by visiting <http://archives.mhsbc.ca> and follow the links.

Our textual archives are being edited to reflect their new shelf location in the vault. Linda Klassen is making good progress on entering these changes in the database.

New donations continue to arrive at the archives. These are sorted, and organized by Linda Klassen, Joan Enns, Julia Toews, Dave Loewen, Mika Toews and Emily Thornton.

13. John B. Toews fonds:

John's extensive collection of research material is being entered into the data base by Laura Unger.

14. Information Technology:

Don Fehr, our Systems Administrator, sees to all our computer needs. Kimberly Dunton assisted him with computer HTML work.

15. Translation and Transcription:

Helga Rempel translates obituaries in the Mennonitische Rundschau and extracts them into the index. She indexes M.B. Herald and Canadian Mennonite death notices. Gerhard Rempel translates family documents brought in by the public from Gothic to English. Helga transcribes translated documents into Word. Peter Rahn transcribes texts from Gothic to Latin script and translates them into English. Julia Toews transposes *ziphern* (numbers) to contemporary note form. Dora Becker is available for translation from German to English and has a large translation project, as well.

16. Patron Assistance:

Volunteers offering patron assistance are Don Fehr, Marie Doerksen, Sandi Massie, Agnes Loewen, Cheryl Isaac, Waltrude Gortzen, Henry Wiens, and Peter Rahn.

Laura Unger
Director 2018

Newsletter - *Roots and Branches*

In 2017, three full-length issues of *Roots and Branches* were published after several years of producing four issues a year (two full-length and two shorter). Each issue contained substantial articles on diverse historical topics, along with book reviews, event reports, a genealogy column, relevant news releases, and announcements of upcoming events. This year also saw the start of a series of articles featuring one or more of the various ships that brought Mennonite refugees/immigrants to North America. In addition, the purchase of a new office printer has made it possible for each issue to be printed in-house, streamlining publication process and lowering our production costs.

Each issue is a result of much collaborative effort: Maryann Tjart Jantzen, Robert Martens and Louise Price collegially share editorial responsibilities and Heather Pauls Murray continues to do an excellent job of layout. Other members of the *Roots and Branches* committee continue to provide feedback on potential articles. Although the editors also write a substantial number of the articles published each year (I am especially appreciative of Robert Martens' commitment to consistently providing quality articles), we seek to feature a variety of writers in each issue, from diverse segments of our constituency. And the office staff work hard to see that each issue is printed and mailed in a timely fashion. Without the contributions of all these individuals, *Roots and Branches* would not exist.

Our policy is to try to provide a broad range of material so that all readers will find something of interest. We welcome receiving any of the following: letters and photos from the past; "mystery" pictures that need identification; short personal narratives; book reviews; biographical sketches; articles of historical interest. Contributions can be in English or German (we will translate). All contributions are subject to editorial approval and revision, as needed.

Please direct any letters, comments or questions to the Newsletter Committee c/o the Mennonite Historical Society of BC, or email archives@mhsbc.

Maryann Tjart Jantzen
MHSBC director and *Roots and Branches* co-editor.

Website and Computer Technical Committee

Members: Elmer Wiens (Chair) and Don Fehr

Objectives: The committee was formed to discuss and implement improvements to the www.MHSBC.com website, and changes to the MHSBC computer facilities, scanners, software, etc.

Don Fehr handles the computer facilities at the MHSBC's offices. The following report deals with the www.MHSBC.com website.

Our website is relatively unchanged from last year, reflecting the maturity of our organization.

Elmer Wiens works with Jennifer Martens to handle changes, updates, revisions, trouble shooting as events unfold.

The following list itemizes features available on the www.MHSBC.com website.

1. Members of the Society can pay their membership dues online with PayPal. Alternatively, they can submit their membership information on an online form and then be invoiced by MHSBC using the Paypal format. (<http://www.mhsbc.com/memberships.html>)

2. Donations to MHSBC can be made by way of PayPal, be made using the Canada Helps portal. (<http://www.mhsbc.com/donations.html>)

3. Potential volunteers can complete and submit our online membership and volunteer form. (<http://www.mhsbc.com/volunteers.html>)

4. Tickets to events like our Annual Fundraising Banquet can be purchased online through PayPal on the (http://www.mhsbc.com/futureevents/purchase_event.html) webpage. This webpage must be changed each year along with the PayPal buttons to reflect the topic and speaker at the event. The webpages (http://www.mhsbc.com/futureevents/purchase_event_cancel.html) and (http://www.mhsbc.com/futureevents/purchase_event_success.html) must also be changed. A link to the (http://www.mhsbc.com/futureevents/purchase_event.html) webpage must be placed on the (<http://www.mhsbc.com/futureevents/index.html>) webpage when announcing the event.

5. MHSBC events and meeting are posted on the website entry page (<http://www.mhsbc.com/index.html>), and the Future Events web page <http://www.mhsbc.com/futureevents/index.html>. Major events also get a separate webpage providing more detailed information e.g (http://www.mhsbc.com/futureevents/stobbe_stephanie.html).

Once the event is over, the event details are transferred to the Past Events web page. (<http://www.mhsbc.com/pastevents.html>) This web page provides a list of past events going back over a decade to November 2004.

It has been my pleasure to continue working on these tasks this year.

Respectfully submitted
by Elmer G. Wiens (2018)

Account Review

To the Directors
Mennonite Historical Society of BC
Abbotsford, B.C.

I have reviewed the Balance Sheet of the Mennonite Historical Society of British Columbia as at December 31, 2017 and the Statement of Income and Expense for the year ended. In so doing, I accepted the statements received from the Society's bank and the holder of its investments and did not conduct independent enquiries. The Society's accounting being conducted on a cash basis, I did not test for any liabilities outstanding as at year end.

In common with many charitable organizations, the society derives part of its revenue from the general public in the form of donations and membership fees which are not susceptible to complete verification. Accordingly, my verification of revenue from these sources was limited to a comparison on a test basis of recorded receipts and bank deposits by the society and I was unable to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to donation revenues and membership fees and their impact on total revenues reported on the Statement of Income and Expense.

The Balance Sheet and the Statement of Income and Expense reflect fairly the financial position and the results from operations of the Society for the Year 2017.

Abbotsford, B.C.
March 8, 2018.

John Konrad

Original signed copy held at MHSBC

Mennonite Historical Society of B.C.

December 31, 2017

Annual Financial Report

Receipts

General donations increased from last year's total of \$72,341 to \$75,994 this year.

A special donation of \$5,000 was received during the year which was designated for our Digitization Project. The Society also received an additional \$10,000 towards capital projects. This compares to \$20,000 received last year. For 2017 Total Donations amounted to \$102,444 compared to \$109,281 last year.

When all receipts are included the Society received a total of \$139,430 compared to \$144,460 in the prior year.

Investment income is a combination of Investment Interest (\$20,000) which was \$4,000 higher than last year, Account interest (\$371) and Gains/Losses on Investments. Investment Gains (Losses) on disposed of Portfolio Investments recorded a loss of \$35,932 this year compared to a gain of \$5,712 last year. The Society's total Realized Investment Loss was \$15,561 this year compared to gain of \$22,174 for last year. Offsetting this Realized Loss was an Unrealized Gain on Investments of \$58,460.

Expenditures

The most significant new expenditure is related to the purchase of a new Photocopier for \$12,913.

You will see that we have shown our rental costs at \$32,672 which was the amount we had agreed to with the Mennonite Museum Society. Wages and salaries totaled \$45,299, close to our budgeted amount.

Office expenses totaled \$3,669 this year compared to \$5,722 last year.

In total we spent \$136,895 this year on operations and on special projects combined, including setting aside \$5,000 related to the Digitization Project, compared to \$152,883 in the prior year.

The result of all of this was that the Society reported a Surplus from Operations totaling \$2,534 which compares to a Deficit of \$8,423 last year.

When the Realized Investment Losses and the Unrealized Gains are included, the Society recorded a surplus for the year of \$25,062 compared to a Surplus of \$44,509 in the prior year.

Investments

Our Investment portfolio realized a \$35,932 loss on investments sold during the year offset by an unrealized gain of \$58,460. The result if all of these transactions was an increase in the Societies Investment portfolio of \$22,528 for the year.

Mennonite Historical Society of B.C.
 Balance Sheets
 As at December 31,

	2017	2016
Assets		
Current		
Cash - Petty	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Cash - Cdn Chequing account	16,716.02	9,162.74
Cash - Cdn Savings	43,226.19	38,049.66
Cash - US chequing	189.70	297.51
Stewardship account - MB Conference	11,597.39	11,368.90
Accounts Receivable	2,391.67	4,623.48
Prepaid Expenses	1,674.75	3,354.75
Investments - Endowment Fund	556,875.00	534,347.00
	<u>632,870.72</u>	<u>601,404.04</u>
Long-term		
Shares	1,016.20	991.37
	<u>\$ 633,886.92</u>	<u>\$ 602,395.41</u>
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable accrued liabilities	\$ 1,633.60	\$ 204.40
Designated Funds Digitization	12,750.00	7,750.00
	<u>14,383.60</u>	<u>7,954.40</u>
Member Equity		
Member equity - Endowment	224,773.75	224,773.75
Member equity - General	394,729.57	369,667.26
	<u>619,503.32</u>	<u>594,441.01</u>
	<u>\$ 633,886.92</u>	<u>\$ 602,395.41</u>

Mennonite Historical Society of B.C.
 Statements of Receipts and Expenditures and Members Equity
 For the years ended

	Budget December 31, 2017	Actual December 31, 2017	Actual December 31, 2016	Budget December 31, 2018
Receipts				
Donations				
General Fund	\$ 66,722.00	\$ 75,994.39	\$ 72,341.30	\$ 60,080.00
General Fund Special	20,000.00	10,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Membership	12,000.00	11,450.00	11,940.00	12,000.00
Digitization Project	-	5,000.00	5,000.00	-
Subtotal Contributions/Donations	<u>98,722.00</u>	<u>102,444.39</u>	<u>109,281.30</u>	<u>92,080.00</u>
Investment Income				
Account Interest	500.00	370.83	461.98	500.00
Investment Interest	20,000.00	20,000.00	16,000.00	20,000.00
Subtotal Investment Income	<u>20,500.00</u>	<u>20,370.83</u>	<u>16,461.98</u>	<u>20,500.00</u>
Other Income				
Book Sales, etc.	500.00	2,960.60	5,736.04	500.00
DVD/CD/Tape Sales	1,000.00	2,826.00	1,465.00	2,500.00
Miscellaneous Income	2,000.00	737.70	2,108.29	750.00
Photocopy Income	500.00	1,087.90	451.60	1,000.00
Genealogy Research	-	603.80	1,217.30	-
GST/HST Recovery	2,000.00	13.36	3,471.15	-
Ticket Sales	4,500.00	8,385.00	4,267.00	8,000.00
Subtotal Other Income	<u>10,500.00</u>	<u>16,614.36</u>	<u>18,716.38</u>	<u>12,750.00</u>
Total Receipts	<u>\$ 129,722.00</u>	<u>\$ 139,429.58</u>	<u>\$ 144,459.66</u>	<u>\$ 125,330.00</u>

Mennonite Historical Society of B.C.
 Statements of Receipts and Expenditures and Members Equity
 For the years ended

	Budget December 31, 2017	Actual December 31, 2017	Actual December 31, 2016	Budget December 31, 2018
Expenses				
General Expenses				
Credit Card Fees	\$ 900.00	1,260.82	892.23	\$ 1,300.00
Annual General Meeting	1,500.00	1,811.61	1,273.91	1,800.00
Archival Supplies	900.00	934.37	840.94	900.00
Bank Charge	50.00	15.09	-	50.00
Book Purchases	-	165.90	1,090.77	-
DVD/CD/Tape Purchases	500.00	1,459.82	-	1,500.00
Computer/Software	5,100.00	2,983.14	3,783.90	3,000.00
Contract/Wages	42,000.00	45,299.26	36,200.79	48,000.00
Fixtures	1,000.00	1,106.07	1,641.00	1,000.00
GST/PST	1,500.00	1,662.58	1,466.75	1,700.00
Genealogy Workshop	-	183.65	1,179.29	200.00
Insurance	500.00	794.00	500.00	500.00
Internet (Shared)	900.00	-	-	-
IT Shared Support	750.00	660.06	10,040.49	700.00
IT Support	500.00	-	-	-
Library	2,100.00	894.20	1,799.31	1,000.00
Inmagic Project /Supplies	-	-	-	-
Inmagic Maintenance	-	-	-	-
Legal	50.00	95.00	40.00	100.00
Photocopy Expense	1,000.00	1,762.59	984.05	1,800.00
Lectures and Events	2,000.00	5,971.21	2,101.17	6,000.00
Office Expense	5,000.00	3,669.10	5,722.16	4,000.00
Expense Recovery MMS	-	547.97	-	-
Membership Dues	900.00	930.43	870.00	900.00
Moving and Miscellaneous Expense	1,000.00	1,069.89	1,801.94	1,000.00
Newsletter	4,000.00	2,897.39	6,159.95	3,000.00
Postage	600.00	1,307.54	585.72	1,400.00
Publicity	120.00	1,273.88	-	1,300.00
Facility Cost Sharing	32,672.00	32,672.00	32,000.00	33,500.00
Property Taxes	-	-	-	-
Subscriptions Metasoft	1,680.00	1,680.00	1,708.00	1,680.00
Travel	5,000.00	3,370.24	5,300.62	3,500.00
Telephone	1,000.00	1,419.83	997.34	1,500.00
Banquet Costs	4,500.00	3,658.98	3,199.64	4,000.00
Subtotal General Expenses	117,722.00	118,872.68	122,179.97	125,330.00
Projects				
Digitization Designated Funds	-	5,000.00	5,000.00	-
Photocopier Purchase	12,000.00	12,913.33	-	-
EWZ Project	-	88.99	164.78	-
Furniture and Fixtures	-	-	25,521.54	-
Microfilm Digitization	-	20.27	16.59	-
Subtotal Projects	12,000.00	18,022.59	30,702.91	-
Total Expenditures	129,722.00	136,895.27	152,882.88	125,330.00
(Deficit)/Surplus from Operations	-	2,534.31	(8,423.22)	-
Realized Investment Gains/(Losses)	-	(35,932.00)	5,712.00	-
(Deficit)/Surplus	-	33,397.69	2,711.22	-
Mark to market value adjustment of Investment Portfolio	-	58,460.00	47,220.00	-
Excess/Expenses/Income	\$ -	\$ 25,062.31	\$ 44,508.78	\$ -
Members Equity at beginning of year		594,441.01	549,932.23	
Members Equity at end of year		\$ 619,503.32	\$ 594,441.01	

Mennonite Historical Society of B.C.
 Statements of Cash Flows
 For the years ended

	December 31, 2017	December 31, 2016
Excess/Expenses/Income	\$ 25,062.31	\$ 44,508.78
Items not involving cash		
Mark to market value adjustment of Investment Portfolio	(58,460.00)	(47,220.00)
Realized Investment (Gains) Losses	35,932.00	(5,712.00)
	<u>2,534.31</u>	<u>(8,423.22)</u>
Change in non-cash working capital		
Decrease in Prepaid expenses	1,680.00	1,680.00
Increase in Accounts receivable	2,231.81	(4,623.48)
Increase in Designated Funds	5,000.00	5,000.00
(Decrease) Increase in Accounts payable	1,429.20	(2,264.73)
	<u>12,875.32</u>	<u>(8,631.43)</u>
Cash Flow from Operations		
Financing Activities		
Decrease (Increase) in investments - Endowment Fund	-	-
Increase in investment in shares	(24.83)	(24.16)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Increase in Cash for the year	\$ 12,850.49	-\$ 8,655.59
Cash at beginning of year	59,078.81	67,734.40
Cash at end of year	<u>\$ 71,929.30</u>	<u>\$ 59,078.81</u>
Cash is comprised of:		
Cash -Petty	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Cash - Chequing account	16,716.02	9,162.74
Cash - Cdn Savings	43,226.19	38,049.66
Cash - US chequing	189.70	297.51
Stewardship account - MB Conference	11,597.39	11,368.90
	<u>\$ 71,929.30</u>	<u>\$ 59,078.81</u>