



**Mennonite
Historical
Society of BC**

2025
**Annual
Report**

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MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC
Agenda of the 2025 Annual General Meeting

Friday, 5 June 2026, 2:30pm
Mennonite Heritage Museum
1818 Clearbrook Road, Abbotsford, BC

1. Welcome: Richard Thiessen, President
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes of 2024 AGM: 27 June 2025
4. Financial Reports: Marvin Rempel, Treasurer
 - (a) Financial Statements: 2025
 - (b) Budget: 2026
5. Election of Directors

Current Terms:

Ending in 2026: Waltrude Gortzen and Marvin Rempel

Ending in 2027: Linda Klassen and Robert Martens

Ending in 2028: Maryann Jantzen, Mary Ann Quiring, Rosella Reimer and
Richard Thiessen

Waltrude Gortzen is concluding her time on the Board, and we thank her for her service to the Society.

The board is nominating Marvin Rempel, Dave Loewen, and Ingrid Krueger for three-year terms, ending in 2029.

6. Presentation of Committee Reports
7. Presentation of Honourary Lifetime MHSBC Membership
8. Questions / Further Business
9. Adjournment

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC
2024 AGM Minutes

Friday, 27 June 2025, 2:00pm
Mennonite Heritage Museum
1818 Clearbrook Road, Abbotsford, BC

Present: Richard Thiessen, Jennifer Martens, Robert Martens, Linda Klassen, Anita Klassen, Waltrude Gortzen, Joan Enns, Naomi Wright, Arlene Peters, Vern Peters, Grace Wiens, Henry Wiens, Rosella Reimer, Lorraine Isaak, Marvin Rempel, Luiza Martens, Joanne Dueck, Else Arcoite, Caroline Thurley, Marjorie Major, Laura Unger, Mervin Driedger, Walter Paetkau, David Nickel, Elma Pauls, Donna Thomas, John B. Toews, Menno Bergen, Peter Rahn

Regrets: Mary Ann Quiring, Irene Adkin

1. **Welcome** – Richard Thiessen, President

2. **Approve Agenda** – Robert Martens

3. **Approve AGM 2023 Minutes** – Moved by Ralph Wiens
Seconded – Henry Wiens

4. **Financials** – Presented by Marvin Rempel, Treasurer

- **2024** brought lots of changes – staff, software, Mary Ann Quiring retirement equaled 2 new part time staff members. We thank her for the many years of work and her amazing dedication to genealogy. And, also, a huge thank you in helping to train the new staff members.
- New computers this fall as Microsoft will be discontinuing their support for Windows 10 in October 2026.
- Change over to Zeffy (new platform) = Zero Fee.
- Membership change to calendar year.
- We rely on MHM for space and staff.
- Payroll management is being handled by MHM.
- Bookkeeper position is now becoming a contract position.
- Emily Kasper is the new bookkeeper as of April 2025.

Move to accept the 2024 Financial Statement – Moved by Marvin Rempel
Seconded – Henry Wiens

Move to accept the 2025 Budget as presented – Moved by Marvin Rempel
Seconded – Elma Pauls

*We need more \$ donors so that we don't have to depend on Fundraisers.

5. **Elections** – Richard Thiessen

Cheryl Isaak has retired from the Board

The remainder of the slate is approved by Affirmation – Moved by Henry Wiens
Seconded – Linda Klassen

6. Committee Reports – Richard Thiessen

MHSBC has about 60 volunteers = 12,000 volunteer hours

We have numerous projects on the go.

E.G. Translation Projects, Mennonites in BC Book Project, EWZ requests that are unending, Genealogy, Digitization, MAID, etc.

Office & Volunteer Report – Jennifer Martens

Always on the look-out for more volunteers while balancing everything else around the Museum and still keeping a smile on her face.

Archives Report – Linda Klassen in the Project Room

Work with Photos, MAID, Church Records.

They had a visitor from Paraguay – Caroline Klassen from Fernheim.

They got more shelving to better organize themselves.

Roots & Branches – Robert Martens

Always working on the next issue and pondering what to dig into next.

Impressed by the dedicated committee members that always have great ideas and suggestions.

Library Committee – Robert Martens

The Committee members are very happy to finally have more volunteers helping with the library work.

Membership & Events Committee – Richard presents in Cheryl's absence.

Suggests to accept the reports as written in the AGM Booklet.

Moved by Laura Unger

Seconded by Lorraine Isaak

7. Questions?

No further questions the meeting is adjourned at 3:05 pm.

NOTE: 365 years since the Martyr's Mirror was published.

Board of Directors for 2025

Waltrude Gortzen	Retired Church Secretary - Abbotsford
Maryann Jantzen	Assistant Professor; Writing Centre Co-Director Trinity Western University - Abbotsford
Linda Klassen	Retired Bookkeeper - Abbotsford
Robert Martens	Poet, Writer & Editor - Abbotsford
Mary Ann Quiring	Retired Office Manager (MHSBC) - Abbotsford
Rosella Reimer	Retired Canada Post - Vancouver
Marvin Rempel	Accountant - Langley
Richard Thiessen	Retired Executive Director Mennonite Museum - Abbotsford

Officers for 2025

President	Richard Thiessen
Vice President	Robert Martens
Secretary	Waltrude Gortzen
Treasurer	Marvin Rempel

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Staffing and Personnel

Our staff are comprised of Jennifer Martens, our Office and Volunteer Manager, Donna Thomas, our Administrative Assistant, and Emily Kasper, our bookkeeper. Jennifer and Donna are shared with the Mennonite Museum Society.

The Society has approximately 60 volunteers that provide staffing for the Society and work on a variety of indexing, filing, translation, and scanning projects. 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.

Communications

Roots and Branches, our periodical, is our primary means of communication with our members. This year we again published three 32-page issues and a smaller Christmas issue for the year. We send out approximately 400 copies of the newsletter to members, churches, and sister organizations. We also rely on our website [<http://www.mhsbc.com>] and our Facebook page to communicate with our members as well as the general public.

Public Events

In previous years the Society has held several events. For 2025, all our energy went into a major event that marked the 500th anniversary of the founding of the Anabaptist movement. On 1 March we hosted *500: A Celebration of the Anabaptist Mennonite Story*, a celebratory concert that included an orchestra conducted by Calvin Dyck and the Masterworks and Trinity Western University choirs led by Ben Ewert. Music ranged from Bach and Mendelssohn to contemporary composers including Larry Nickel. Music was interspersed with four five-minute historical vignettes covering the Anabaptist story from 1525 to the present. The second half of the concert featured the Mennonite Piano Concerto with Paul Williamson as pianist. The concert at Central Heights Church was a sell-out with approximately 1,000 in attendance.

Projects

1. Digitization Projects

In 2024 volunteers focused most of their efforts on digitizing microfilms from the Central State Archives of the Russian Federation (St. Petersburg) collection. This collection was borrowed from the Mennonite Library and Archives (Fresno, CA). The project was completed at the beginning of 2025. In the past year priority has been given to the digitization of British Columbia Mennonite Brethren church registers that had been microfilmed in the 1970s.

2. Archival Holdings

Linda Klassen heads up our volunteer group that works with processing our archival holdings and uploading images and archival description records to MAID. Linda has written the following section of this report.

We've had a full year in the Archives with lots of interesting things along the way.

Our number of volunteers has remained steady. Most of our eight volunteers have been together for 10 years or more. We have become a strong team with great mystery solving skills! Currently, only three of us work with MAID but Linda has been training a fourth person on the database, which will increase our efficiency. Hildegard Baerg retired in November after almost 20 years of service. She worked with MAID pictures before moving to the sorting area. She was a valuable part of our team.

We were happy to welcome a new volunteer this fall. Her enthusiasm and efficiency make her a welcome addition, and we would love to have more like her!

We have begun to evaluate the types of photos we post to MAID and how well they reflect the Mennonite story. We've made some adjustments in this area. A bigger concern is about privacy issues. We find ourselves asking more questions about which pictures are appropriate and which might violate personal privacy. We're being more selective about how many similar photos we post and considering how each picture tells a piece of the story. This is something we will continue working on this coming year.

Donations have been steady and we worked through several big jobs throughout the year. One of our most unusual acquisitions came from the family of Peter Friesen in Black Creek, BC. It contains a binder created for the World War II Christian Veterans Reunion in 1995. At least half of these veterans were Mennonite. Most served as medics in Europe but at least one man made the military his career. Each veteran wrote a brief biography of himself and included a recent photo. There is an album of wartime Europe with a collection of pictures ranging from fun, touristy pictures, to grim war pictures. There are two pages of small, black & white photos that are too cluttered to identify easily. As I looked closer, I was horrified to discover that these are battlefield photos, and the "clutter" is human body parts!

Working in the Archives is always a new adventure. It's a privilege to work with great people in preserving our heritage for future generations.

3. EWZ Records

We continue to receive numerous requests from individuals, especially in Germany, for digital copies of EWZ files. Rosella Reimer, one of our board members, leads a team of volunteers who fulfill these requests. In the past the Society invoiced individuals who had made requests, but we found that this was time-consuming for our staff. The income generated by the invoices was significantly offset by the staff time, which at the end of the day is an expense to the Society. We now use a donation model which has proved to be very successful.

4. Genealogy

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. Several of our volunteers, including Cheryl Isaac and Marie Doerksen, are copying obituaries from the digital scans of the *Mennonite Brethren Herald* into the Biographical Wiki

database (https://mla.bethelks.edu/mediawiki/index.php/Main_Page) maintained by John Thiesen at the Mennonite Library & Archives at Bethel College. This database includes the full text of obituaries from several Mennonite periodicals, including *Mennonite Weekly Review*, *The Mennonite*, and a number of local newspapers. Our volunteers have entered 3,911 obituaries from the *Mennonite Brethren Herald* as of December 2025.

For many years our volunteers have maintained an obituary collection, including newspaper clippings and funeral bulletins. Over the past several years we have noticed that more and more people are choosing to publish obituaries of their loved ones on funeral home websites. These are often the only published obituary, or they are an expanded version of the obituary published in a newspaper. A project that we began in 2021 was to begin collecting digital obituaries from online newspaper and funeral home websites. At year end we had collected 14,464 online obituaries. Each online obituary is saved as a pdf file.

In 2023 we completed our goal of digitizing all the print obituaries in our collection and eliminating the newspaper clippings. We will only keep hard copies of funeral bulletins. We now have approximately 19,000 digitized print obituaries, saved as pdf files. This gives us a total of over 33,000 online and digitized print obituaries.

Several of our volunteers also do a significant amount of work with the GRandMA database, operated by Mennonite Genealogy, Inc. Members of the public submit corrections and additions to their family information that is in GRandMA, and our volunteers can log into the database 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.

We completed a thorough index of the Canadian Mennonite Board of Colonization records for the 1920s. Recent indexing has been carried out by Lorna Goertz, one of our volunteers who has been able to work remotely on this project. At the end of 2025 Lorna completed the entry of all data from these records into GRandMA.

5. Translation Projects

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. This work has declined in the past year due to the "retirement" of some of our volunteers and the declining number of volunteers who are able to do this kind of work.

6. History of Mennonites in British Columbia Project

In 2022 the Society began work on the publication of a written history of Mennonites in British Columbia. The general editor of the project is Dr. Bruce Guenther. Work will continue over the next several years, with the goal of publishing by 2028, which marks the centennial of the establishment of the village of Yarrow, the first permanent settlement of Mennonites in the province.

7. Final Words

We are very thankful for the financial contributions that we receive from our members, the high level of dedication from our staff, board, and volunteers, and the support that we receive from the broader community.

Submitted by Richard D. Thiessen, President
13 April 2026

OFFICE & VOLUNTEER MANAGER REPORT

Hello, my name is Jennifer Martens and as Office and Volunteer Manager, and I am pleased to present my ninth report for the office.



USED BOOK SALE In The Museum Foyer

Join us during BC Heritage Week to browse a wide selection of used books! Explore our many tables and book truck filled with fantastic finds. Don't miss out on great deals and hidden gems!

In **January**, volunteers came in during the extended winter break (staff were laid off for 7 weeks due to a Museum mandate) for a few volunteer workdays on the 20th and 23rd. We returned to our regular schedule on Tuesday, February 4th, as Monday we were closed due to inclement weather. We did not host a booth at the Literacy Fair at the end of January.

In **February** we celebrated Heritage Week with a used book sale and made final preparations for our 500 Anniversary Concert which took place on **March 1st**. Many volunteers worked together to produce this event, with Cheryl Isaac, Events Committee, Chair, and Planning Committee; it was a great success.



500 Concert Volunteers (Behind the camera, Julia Toews; not pictured: our set up team)

We experienced a staff change this year, with the resignation of our bookkeeper, Sherilyn Williams, resulting in the recruitment of a contract employee who has since integrated into the role of bookkeeping. Our office admin team, myself and Donna, both working part-time for MHSBC, welcomed Emily Kasper as our new Bookkeeper for the society the week of **April 21**. We are profoundly grateful to our Board Directors, Marvin Rempel (Treasurer) and Mary Ann Quiring for standing in the gap and helping make this transition as seamless as possible.



Emily Kasper, Bookkeeper

April New Bookkeeper/Contract onboarded Emily Kasper

March New Volunteer: Ken Thiessen, events

May New Volunteer: Tammy Toews, office support; visit from Caroline (from the Archives in Paraguay)

June 27 AGM, and our Volunteer Appreciation Event "Sip & Snack", held jointly with the Museum in the Café area.

July New Volunteer: Ellie Lai, Japanese Mennonite book translator, events

August New Volunteers: Reni Gitschmann, archives; Lida Penner, digitizing

September 8 CBC Service Fair Booth Event (Volunteer Recruitment)

September 23, 2025, UFV Library Technicians Class Site Visit to our Archives and Libraries arranged by Dr. Lynn Kleinveldt, Assistant Professor, Department of Information Studies.

October Volunteer Training In-services (Rosella Reimer, Mentor)

November 18-22 Christmas Market, cohosted on floor 2 by MHSBC. Some revenue \$353.70 from DVD, used book and donated hand quilted bookmarks, handmade gift card holders. We plan to host the draw box booth in 2026 and upsell our memberships and other MHSBC offerings and answer questions. We answered many questions visitors had at the market in 2025, many of whom had never heard of MHSBC; so, we plan to pivot from sales to outreach and promoting membership and everything we offer. We will be looking for MHSBC volunteers to sign up to host our booth at the market in 2026. The dates are November 17-21, 2026. We need you!

December 12 Staff/Volunteer Christmas Social co-hosted with the Museum.

Volunteer / Staff Appreciation

Truly, the work our staff and volunteers do, and this most definitely includes our hard-working board, means so much to so many and it is a privilege to recognize all the hours and care that goes into the work that they all do for those who need us now and for future generations. For significant long term service awards, we gave gift cards which were donated to our society for this purpose. It is important for our volunteers to be able to enjoy these tokens of appreciation fully because they know that it does not cost our society to acknowledge their contribution in this way. We would love to have more sponsors who would be willing to donate gift cards for this purpose. Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

Long Term Service Awards for 2024 that had been awarded in 2025:

5 Years: Lorna Goertz

10 Years: Irene Adkin, Cheryl Isaac, Marvin Rempel

15 Years: Hildegarde Baerg



Photo 1: Alyssa Barski, Library Volunteer; Donna Thomas, Administrative Assistant; Irene Adkin, Microfilm Scanner; Waltrude Goertzen, Board Director, Genealogy Research, Patron Assistance;

Photo 2: Cheryl Isaac, Board Director, Genealogy Research, Patron Assistance; Jennifer Martens, Office and Volunteer Manager;

Photo 3: Marvin Rempel, Board Director; Richard Thiessen, Board President; Jennifer Martens.

In 2025, we had 40 volunteers who volunteered just for MHSBC plus another 22 who concurrently volunteered for the Museum for a total of 62.

New Volunteers in 2025: Reni Gitschmann, Gerry Hiebert, Ellie Lai, Ken Thiessen, Tammy Toews, Lida Penner

Leaving / On Leave Volunteers 2025: Hildegarde Berg, Laird Oscienny, Katharina Kriegelsteiner, Bonnie Brauer, Marie Doerksen, Sandi Massie, Andrea Pilgrim, Maria Hildebrand, Jon Janzen

MHSBC Long Term Service Awards 2025:

5 Years: Laird Oscienny

10 Years: Waltrude Gortzen, Joan Enns, Elma Pauls

15 Years: Arlene Peters

20 Years: Maryann Jantzen

25 Years: Richard Thiessen, Helga Rempel

25 Years MHM & MHSBC (blended): Helen Rose Pauls

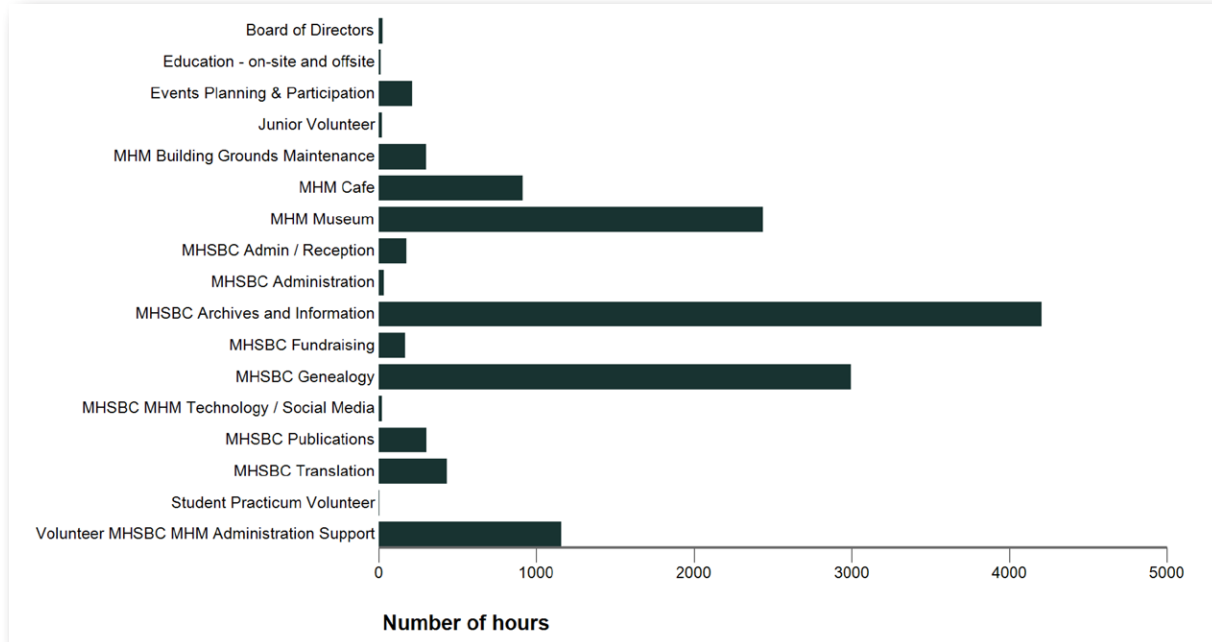
35 Years MHM & MHSBC (blended): Lillian Toews



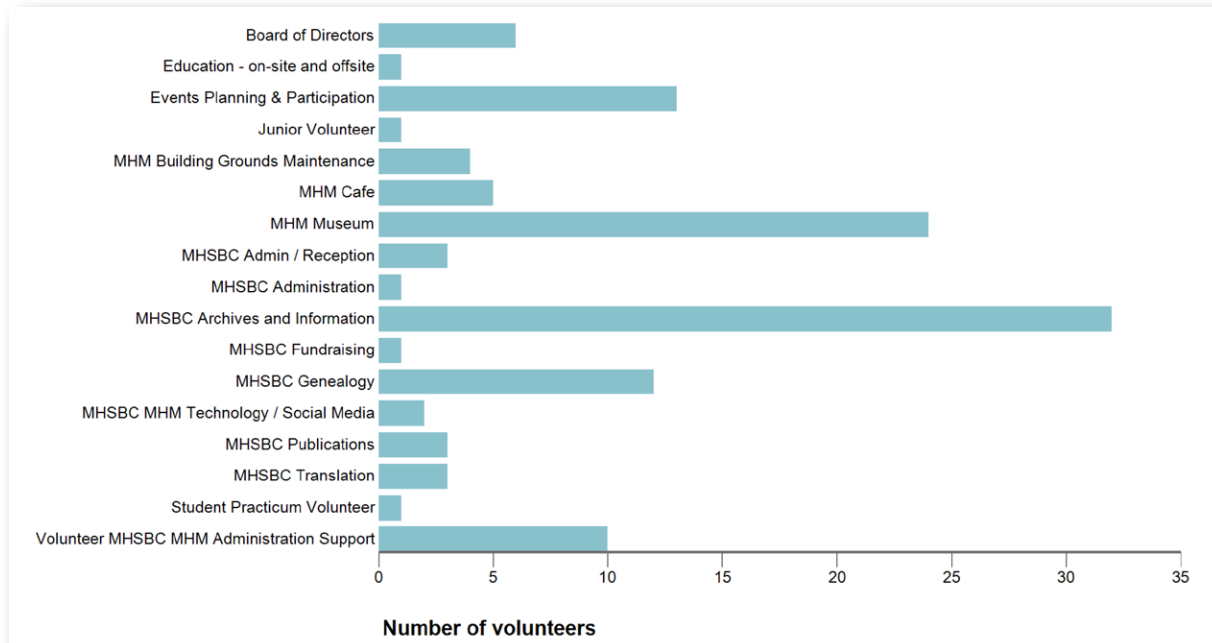
Hildegarde Berg

Total Number of Volunteer Hours for 2025
MHSBC MHM
 Activity Category Totals: 01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025

Logged Hours by Activity Category



Number of Volunteers by Activity Category



Activity Category	Hours	Volunteers	Average
Board of Directors	25	6	4
Education - on-site and offsite	12	1	12
Events Planning & Participation	211	13	16
Junior Volunteer	19	1	19
MHM Building Grounds Maintenance	300	4	75
MHM Cafe	916	5	183
MHM Museum	2439	24	102
MHSBC Admin / Reception	175	3	58
MHSBC Administration	31	1	31
MHSBC Archives and Information	4205	32	131
MHSBC Fundraising	167	1	167
MHSBC Genealogy	2998	12	250
MHSBC MHM Technology / Social Media	20	2	10
MHSBC Publications	305	3	102
MHSBC Translation	431	3	144
Student Practicum Volunteer	0	1	0
Volunteer MHSBC MHM Administration Support	1158	10	116
Total Hours	13412		

Throughout the year, we continued with drop in help and research by appointment. The dual monitor station is still available for those who feel more comfortable with that arrangement; it is being used more for training small groups this year. Work on Better Impact, our volunteer management software continued.

We hosted 514 visitors throughout the year plus the Christmas Market visitors in November which tallied over 2000. The next high visitor month to November was September with 81 visitors. We wish to thank our MHSBC volunteers who stepped up with more hours during the Christmas Market and afterwards, in particular, Ingrid Krueger, who operated the cash desk on floor 2 for the entire market week. This was a huge commitment and we are so thankful.



Photo 1: Robert Martens, Board Director, Roots & Branches Editor, was the winner of the draw prize for those who volunteered at the Christmas Market.

Photo 2: Ingrid Krueger, Translations, Events, Patron Assistance and Genealogical Research; and Anita Klassen, Office Support volunteered at the cash desk during the Market.

Photo 3: Jeanne Dueck, Library, and Grace Wiens, Used Books, helped out at the Christmas Market.



Photo 1: Mary Ann Quiring, Board Director, assists patrons with their family history during the Christmas Market.

Photo 2: Ingrid Krueger and Elma Pauls, Volunteer Coordinator, Archives Research, Patron Assistance, Events. Pictured here volunteering at the upstairs cash desk at the Christmas Market.

Many of our patrons still call ahead to make appointments for research help (we love that), and with such great verbal promotions/personal invitations from our museum cohorts on the first floor, we also saw more patrons dropping in. (We accommodate drop in patrons as best we can!) Our Patron Assistance volunteers are the backbone of our on-site research help.

Communication from the office continued via email with a transition from gmail to zeffy mail, and with Emily now on board, she has been giving us support in communications regarding memberships and donations via zeffy.

2025 – 21 reference questions came across my desk asking for books, redirection, advice. These are generally re-directed to our team of admin staff & MHSBC volunteers to resolve and in some cases they are directed to museum volunteers, depending on the question (for example, are they looking for a library book or a used book, versus a new book from the museum bookstore and gift shop). The bulk of queries are handled through our volunteers looking after Genealogy and EWZ requests gmail funnels. Much credit goes to Rosella and team for these which are deftly handled both off-site and on site. Days of operation open to public: 217. Information is available on our website 24/7.

We receive much of our communication support from Donna (graphics and design) and Elmer via our website and social media posts, and Robert, who writes and sends out our press releases. Our Facebook continued to be populated by posts from Dave Loewen, commemorating notable historical events and stories. Another consistent and great source of communication support comes from our editorial team of the Roots and Branches Newsletter (Thank you!).

Correspondence throughout the year (13 emails out):

Emails [News & Notes are to Members]

- February 10 to Churches and Community Partners
- February 15 News & Notes
- June 26 AGM to Members

Zeffy Emails

- May 7 News & Notes (current & past members)
- June 13 News & Notes
- August 7 News & Notes

September 5 Workstation Campaign Donate Today
 September 29 News & Notes
 October 10 News & Notes
 December 2 Help Preserve Mennonite History
 December 7 Time to Renew
 December 12 EWZ Requests and Fulfillment News
 December 19 MHSBC Year End Updates

In **September** we hosted a booth at the CBC Service Fair. We did not host a booth at the MCC Festival this year. We were pleased to host a Library Tech class for a tour from UFV and students were excited to visit our library and archive collections, learn what services we provide and network with other library techs.

On **December** 12th, our annual event, the volunteer/staff Christmas Social co-hosted by the museum, is a highly anticipated event as it is the only time of year both societies have the opportunity to meet together all at once with spouses.

December 11th was the last day we were open to the public, and while in previous years our MHSBC volunteers would come in for another week to work (staff, another two weeks), they were unable to do so this year, as the staff was laid off for 7 weeks.; re-starting again the first week of February 2026.

November and December continue to be months when we see most of our membership renewals, with January and February close behind. We love our members and look forward to renewals and new subscribers. Gift memberships continue to be popular. Can you think of someone who isn't already receiving Roots and Branches? Mention membership to a friend or neighbor this year and help our membership grow! Our society depends on membership and contributions to keep running for future generations. Please help, and thanks go to our volunteers who endorse our society by also being members and purchasing gift memberships for their friends and relatives!

We have a wonderful crew of volunteers and are looking for more to join in: we need more help with IT, digitizing, scanning, society fundraising and more. Those who are retro tech buffs: we need you to help us move our analog data to digital, including audio cassettes, video, reels, slides and more. We are expanding our teams in the project room who are working with documents and photos. Shifts are 2-3 hours or more per week. For 2026 we are focusing on filling our on-site roles and even looking for volunteers who are available for our reference/reception desk for a couple hours from 2-4pm Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays. Contact me to find out more! Are you a writer? I am looking for someone to do interviews and write articles for office communications projects. Let me know if you are interested and curious to find out more.



In 2025, volunteers also participated in a draw for "My Highlight Today": an opportunity to share a comment or story. Here are some of their entries:

Linda Klassen: *"I had an unexpected or heartwarming moment. Come rejoice with me for the picture I lost has been found! Helen solved a mystery by finding a lost photo. Joan, Laura, Julia and Linda gathered around her and cheered her accomplishment. It was so beautiful to rejoice in a seemingly small thing, but it demonstrates teamwork at its finest."*

Anita Klassen: *"An enjoyable place to volunteer!"*

Evangeline Wiebe: *"A staff member helped me today with a difficult problem with worksheets. It was really appreciated."*

Arlene Peters: *"Getting reacquainted with GRanDMa online!"*

Helen Nickel: *"Met one of the students from Congo to have a visit with me at the museum after 35-40 years. Amazing meeting; many memories."*

Grace Wiens: *"My bright spot: When Marvin updated the computer for me - with much patience."*

Ingrid Krueger: *"Completed the book translation Brazil - A Home for the Homeless."*

Reni Gitschmann: *"I love coming in and interacting with all the lovely volunteers."*

Jeanne Dueck: *"I did learn something new! Donna taught me something about the printer...!"*

Irene Adkin: *"Excited to see Marjorie."*

I am thankful to each one of our volunteers (both in front and behind the scenes) for the astounding quality and amount of dedicated work that they do (pictured here and those not pictured), and for the extraordinary people that they are. Together with staff, volunteers, and all our supporters, MHSBC is our "happy place"!

Upcoming Celebrations:

2027: MHSBC 55 Year Anniversary!

2028: Yarrow 100 Year Anniversary!

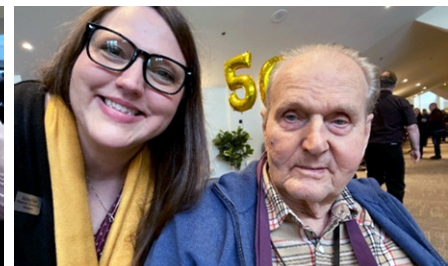
With gratitude,
Jennifer Martens
(Your J)



Anita Klassen and Mary Ann Quiring on a busy Thursday at MHSBC.



May 21, we were visited by Caroline Dueck de Klassen, Archiv Fernheim (Paraguay) Pictured here me, Cheryl, Caroline, Jeanne and Irmgard.



MHSBC Volunteer Alumni,
Peter Neudorf

ARCHIVES REPORT

We've had a full year in the Archives with lots of interesting things along the way.

Our number of volunteers has remained steady. Most of our volunteers have been together for 10 years or more. We have become a strong team with great mystery solving skills! Helen & Joan work with photographs, Laura works with John B. Toews' collection and Julia, Bernie and Linda work with sorting print records. Currently, there are four of us working with MAID. Robert accesses new donations and records them in spreadsheets.

Hildegard Baerg retired in November after almost 20 years of service. She worked with MAID pictures before moving to the sorting area. She was a valuable part of our team.

We were happy to welcome Reni last fall! Her enthusiasm and efficiency make her a welcome addition and we would love to have more like her!

We have begun to evaluate the types of photos we post to MAID and how well they reflect the Mennonite story. We've made some adjustments in this area. A bigger concern is about privacy issues. We find ourselves asking more questions about which pictures are appropriate and which might violate personal privacy. We're being more selective about how many similar photos we post and in considering how each picture tells a piece of the story. This is something we will continue working on this coming year.

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Working in the Archives is always a new adventure. It's a privilege to work with great people in preserving our heritage for future generations.

Linda Klassen
Archive Department

EWZ REQUESTS

1. 2025 EWZ Requests

- EWZ Requests that were fulfilled: 385
- Donations Gross \$10,361 less fees = \$9,837.06 net
- Average of \$25.55 per email
- Number of Contributors: 53
- Average number of 10 emails per week, range from 5 to 23 emails per week
- With the 53 contributors, which is an average \$185.60 per contributor

2. Germany

On average, 7 people from Germany make requests each week.

These 7 people have donated \$4,755 with an average of \$679 with one of the 7 contributing \$1,430.

3. Other Contributors

After the Germany contributions this leaves \$5,082 from the other 46 contributors with an average: \$110.48, however, we did have a one-time contribution of \$500 back in December, 2025. Currently, I am seeing new people asking for EWZs.

4. Cost per hour fulfilling EWZ Requests

The time I spend is maybe 5 hours per week on EWZ requests on an average of 10 emails.

- Over 42 weeks = \$234.21 per week
- 5 hours per week = \$46.84/hours

Plus, there is also the time spent on entering the donations into our accounts.

5. Savings

Instead of invoicing for EWZ Fulfillment and going with donations has increased our productivity, and we no longer have to create invoices, chase clients for payment, and the EWZ requests are completed promptly, usually within a week.

6. New Email for EWZ Requests and an Update to our Website

Because of the success of EWZ Requests and the amount of emails that are received, I decided to add a new email address just for EWZ Requests: ewzrequests@mhsbc.com. The MHSBC Genealogy website got a much needed update, mostly for instructions on where to find the EWZ50 Film #s and Frame #s and how to request them.

7. Moving Forward

Because of this success, I recommend we do this type of donation model with patron assistance, genealogical requests, family histories requests, anything where we send emails to a patron.

On Fridays, both Henry Wiens and I have already done quite a few, and the donations were quite surprising. It also stops us from saying how much clients should donate; it is up to the client to donate *what they feel the documents that they received were worth to them.*

8. Volunteers

Currently, there is one primary volunteer working on EWZ Requests before genealogy requests. There are two other volunteers starting to get into fulfilling these requests.

Rosella Reimer
April 24, 2026

ROOTS & BRANCHES REPORT

In 2025, the *Roots and Branches* editorial committee once again achieved its annual goal of generating three full-length issues as well as a shorter Christmas issue. Robert Martens and Maryann Tjart Jantzen alternate as editors of the full-length issues, with Julia Toews and Louise Bergen Price as associate editors in charge of choosing pictures and also offering advice on content and layout. This year Julia Toews again spearheaded the production of a stellar Christmas issue. I am very thankful to work with such a collaborative and cheerful committee: as the old saying goes, “many hands make light work.”

Since 2025 marked the 500th anniversary of the Anabaptist movement, all three full-length issues featured articles on this historic event, along with a variety of articles on other issues of historical importance. All three issues featured articles on early Anabaptism and its significant figures. In addition, the September issue featured an article on the 400th anniversary (held in Zurich and Basel) and also reported on the Zurich May 2025 celebration: of special interest was the focus on how “faith in Jesus Christ now unites the spiritual heirs of former enemies,” as evidenced by Reformed and Catholic messages of affirmation and reconciliation

Our policy is 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; short personal narratives; book reviews; biographical sketches; and articles of genealogical and historical interest. Contributions can be in English or German (we will translate). All contributions are subject to editorial approval and revision, as needed. We are thankful for the variety of guest writers willing to contribute to our efforts.

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

Submitted by Maryann Tjart Jantzen
MHSBC director and Roots and Branches co-editor

LIBRARY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Library Committee has not been meeting, but work is being done on a backlog of books accessioned to the MHSBC Library. I'd like to thank all those individuals who are quietly working to sustain the Library system. We would welcome any volunteers to assist us in this.

Submitted by Robert Martens

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

1. Paper Memberships and Data Entry

The paper membership applications that were in the binders have been all typed by several people into a spreadsheet. It took awhile to verify the information between the paperwork, data entry worksheet, and Zeffy. We are in the process of adding the information prior to 2025 into the new platform of Zeffy.

2. Multiple Membership Purchases

We have realized that we have some members who keep buying memberships every time they receive the Roots & Branches because there is a *form included with the publication*. We will be only including membership renewal forms in the September & December issues moving forward, however we will be including a financial contribution form instead.

3. 2025 Memberships

In 2025, we had 255 paid Memberships for the year, 13 Lifetime members (\$750 each), plus 16 honorary lifetime members. We saw an increase in 12 paid annual members and 3 new Lifetime members from 2024 (243 paid annual members).

Member Locations:

Fraser Valley & Vancouver	222
Rest of BC.....	21
Alberta.....	8
Saskatchewan	2
Manitoba	2
Ontario	5
Germany.....	1
USA	7

Our Honourary Members Include:

1. Fehr, Don (*passed away*)
2. Friesen, Hugo & Jean (*passed away*)
3. Giesbrecht, David & Betty (*Betty passed away*)
4. Harder, Dolores
5. Hildebrand, Edward & Agnes (*passed away*)
6. Isaac, Cheryl
7. Janzen, Tim & Rachael
8. Konrad, John
9. Neudorf, Peter & Helga (*Helga passed away*)
10. Pauls, Ernie & Helen
11. Penner, Jack
12. Price, Victor & Louise
13. Quiring, Ernie & Mary Ann
14. Redekop, Peter
15. Sawatsky, Roland & Lora (*Roland passed away*)
16. Suderman, Peter (*passed away*)
17. Toews, John B & Lillian

4. Suggestions on How to Increase Memberships

- **Telephone Campaign:** After discussion with volunteers about how they kept up with getting previous members to rejoin, I was told they did a telephone campaign. Our hope is to have some volunteers who have personal connections with the members who did not renew for 2026 make those calls. *We are looking for volunteers for this.*
- **Include “Prior Members” & “EWZ Contacts” in Bulk Email Campaigns:** When sending bulk emails out, to include the “Prior Members” and “EWZ Contacts”.
- **Provide a Value Added Service to our Membership:** Another Historical Society has a value added service which is “*free MyHeritage Library Edition access*” to MyHeritage. Research is being done to search out the feasibility of this.

5. Roots & Branches

The Roots & Branches are sent out to Lifetime members, Current members, and Churches & Organizations. Out of the 349, quite a few are volunteers and they received theirs in person.

Revenue: 255 Paid Memberships x \$35.00 = \$8,925.00

Expenses per mailing: *(4 editions sent annually)*

295 Members x \$1.05 postage = \$309.75

13 US Members x \$4.29 postage = \$55.77

349 envelopes x \$0.47 = \$164.03

Staffing costs of those involved in this process

Costs to bring the mailings to Richmond Postal Station by YVR

6. Moving Forward Suggestions

- Not include the membership form for those who have prepaid many years in advance.
- Telephone Campaign to call “Prior Members”
- Provide a Value Added Service to our Membership

7. Cost of Membership

The cost of membership will be increasing from \$35 to \$40 starting September 1, 2026.

Submitted by Rosella Reimer

April 24, 2026

Mandate of the Membership Committee:

(as set out by board decision of May 20, 2015)

The Goals of a Membership Committee is to:

- Increase membership,
- Recruit new members,
- Communicate with members,
- Remind members of renewals, and
- Address membership related issues

*The membership year is January to December.
Persons joining mid-year receive all back issues
for that year, at time of payment.*

Benefits of MHSBC Membership:

- Support the preservation of MHSBC
- Receive the MHSBC Roots & Branches magazine 3 times a year
- Receive invitations to MHSBC events
- Entitled to 10% off purchase of MHSBC Archive books, CD's, DVD's
- Voting privileges at AGM
- Become familiar with and preserve the history of Mennonites

WEBSITE REPORT

The MHSBC website functions continues to function as the Mennonite Historical Society of BC's primary public platform for enabling, promoting, and sustaining all of its core activities — archival preservation, research support, community engagement, fundraising, and education.

This is a daily, weekly, monthly and yearly ongoing online contribution to MHSBC.

Updates and changes to the website in 2025:

1. MHSBC's "Library of Family Histories" is located on the Genealogies and Family Histories webpage: <https://www.mhsbc.com/famhistories.php>. It was updated in February 2025 with files provided by Robert Martens. It provides a downloadable PDF file and a searchable database that is "Filed by title and cross-referenced by name."
2. The Society's events for 2025 are collected on the Past Events webpage: <https://www.mhsbc.com/pastevents.php> Five events from last year appear here.
3. Back issues of the Roots and Branches periodical are posted one year after publication on the webpage: <https://www.mhsbc.com/periodical.php> I also post a comment on the MHSBC facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/MennoniteHistoricalSocietyBC/> alerting people to the latest issue of R&B, and inviting them to join the Society for mailed copies of the latest issues. Dave Loewen's updated "Author Index" and "Title Index" files were posted.
4. Event tickets, membership renewals and donations are now done using the Zeffy portal instead of PayPal. The Zeffy portal facilitates collection of fees.
5. Research and Articles webpage: https://www.mhsbc.com/research_articles.php updated with *Glenn Penner's Y-DNA Wish List*, as of 1 April 2026. The webpage has a link to the PDF document for instructions and list of YDNA contributors.
6. I updated the Society Volunteers webpage: <https://www.mhsbc.com/volunteers.php> with new volunteers and removed people who have retired or are no longer with us.
7. The AGM Meeting / Annual Reports webpage: <https://www.mhsbc.com/agm/index.php> was updated with pictures from June 27th, 2025 AGM, along with the Annual Report for 2024.
8. We are now using the Easy Hosting portal to house the www.mhsbc.com website.
9. With instructions from Rosella Reimer, the Genealogical Resources webpage: <https://www.mhsbc.com/genealogy.php>, was revised to reflect the current status of MHSBC's facilities.

Respectfully submitted by Elmer G. Wiens, Webmaster

2025 MHSBC FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2026 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Submitted by Marvin Rempel, Treasurer

INTRODUCTION

The following topics will be discussed as part of the 2025 MHSBC financial report:

1. Accounting Policy Changes
2. Financial Impact of 500 A Celebration of the Anabaptist Mennonite Story held in March 2025
3. Staff Changes / Museum Cost Sharing Changes
4. MHSBC Software Infrastructure Changes
5. Asset Replacement - Photocopier-Scanner / Workstations
6. 2025 Financial Review
 - a. 2025 Financial Highlights
 - b. 2026 Budget Overview
 - c. Financial RISKS faced by MHSBC

ACCOUNTING POLICY CHANGES

- Like the 2024 financial package, this financial package was not reviewed by an outside accountant.
- Like 2024, the financial package adheres to Canadian accounting standards for non-profit organizations (ASNPO) to the best of my abilities.
- Financial comparisons with 2024 now adhere to the same accounting standards applied in 2025.
- MHSBC services were migrated from a fee for service model to a contribution model.
 - MHSBC is no longer following a set price list for genealogy requests or EWZ requests
 - A contribution request is made from MHSBC's patrons to provide support for MHSBC

FINANCIAL IMPACT OF 500 A CELEBRATION OF THE ANABAPTIST MENNONITE STORY

- Costs of the event covered by sponsorship contributions
- As a result, 100% of ticket sales revenue was applied to supporting MHSBC.
- Summary:

Income	
Receipted Contributions - Canada	735.00
Event Tickets	27,760.00
Federal Government Grants/Gifts	720.00
Sponsorships	43,700.00
Total — Income	72,915.00
Less: Expenses	
Expenses	(40,773.48)
Profit	32,141.52

STAFF CHANGES / MUSEUM COST SHARING CHANGES

- Museum staff restructuring at the end of 2024 required MHSBC to make adjustments.
 - With the removal of an accounting administrative position at the Museum, the Museum no longer managed the payroll for MHSBC's bookkeeper
 - MHSBC's bookkeeper role became a contract role with MHSBC.
 - MHSBC and the Museum continued to share the costs of remaining staff.
- The 2024 MHSBC decision to move MHSBC payroll management to the Museum was reversed in early 2026.
 - During 2025, the Museum was the legal employer of the shared staff.
 - The Museum made staff resource decisions that no longer aligned with MHSBC's interests.
 - Effective February 2026, MHSBC is paying for its own staff salary costs at the end of an extended 2025 year end break.
 - Staff is shared between the organizations but they perform different duties and they are paid separately.
- MHSBC Bookkeeper
 - In March 2025, after the sudden departure of MHSBC's bookkeeper, a new bookkeeper was hired.
 - Emily Kasper was hired as MHSBC's new bookkeeper in April 2025
- Museum Cost Sharing
 - MHSBC and the Museum continue to share administrative overhead costs and facilities costs.

MHSBC SOFTWARE INFRASTRUCTURE CHANGES

- The Powerchurch platform was discontinued in 2025.
 - It was replaced with Zeffy and Manager.io accounting platform.
 - Manager.io handles accrual based accounting and cash based accounting.
 - Accrual based accounting is the standard for nearly all accounting
 - Powerchurch handles cash based accounting only and is not capable of accrual based accounting.
- Zeffy was fully implemented in 2025.
 - Zeffy is a zero fee specialized fundraising platform that charges zero transaction, platform, or credit card fees to the not for profit organization.
 - Zeffy survives by encouraging supporters to provide a separate contribution or tip to maintain the platform.
 - Zeffy supports:
 - Membership management
 - Event management
 - Contribution management
 - Fundraising campaigns
 - Automated tax receipts
 - Both manual and web-based transactions in a single database.
 - Zeffy provides:
 - Basic CRM (customer relationship management) functionality
 - Limited e-commerce functionality.

MHSBC SOFTWARE INFRASTRUCTURE CHANGES *(continued)*

- Microsoft Office was replaced with Google Workspace during workstation upgrades late in the year.
 - Microsoft Office 365 requires subscription based licensing at a cost for each individual account.
 - Microsoft Office 365 requires profile administration and licence management for each account.
- Google Workspace Migration
 - All MHSBC volunteers were provided with an MHSBC Google Workspace account.
 - Google group accounts are used to provide shared e-mail access and to manage shared work.
 - Files maintained on the existing server are being gradually migrated to Google Workspace.
 - Nearly all MHSBC administrative and Board files have been moved.
 - Google Workspace is the primary platform for administrative and Board files.
 - Google Workspace provides automatic backups and remote access.
 - With the exception of the image library, the goal is to migrate the content of the existing server to Google Workspace.
 - The current server is running Windows 2012 Server Edition.
 - No longer supported by Microsoft as of October 2023.

ASSET REPLACEMENTS - PHOTOCOPIER-SCANNER

- Konica Minolta photocopier/scanner.
 - The support agreement for the Konica Minolta photocopier/scanner purchased originally in early 2017 came due in early January 2026.
 - The most recent service agreement charged \$0.01801 per black and white copy and \$0.13505 per colour copy with a \$7 monthly service fee.
 - The MHSBC-owned Konica Minolta photocopier/scanner moved to the project room without a support agreement in August 2025.
 - It will be maintained until out of pocket maintenance costs become prohibitive.
- Canon ImageForce photocopier/scanner
 - In August 2025, MHSBC purchased a Canon ImageForce photocopier/scanner from Abbotsford-based Columbia Business Systems for just under \$22,000.
 - A generous contribution from Katherine van Kampen enabled the purchase.
 - Remaining funds came from the General Operating Fund because expected contributions were not realized.
 - Service fees were reduced to \$0.0089 for black and white copies and \$0.064 for colour copies with no monthly administration fee

ASSET REPLACEMENTS - WORKSTATIONS

- Volunteer Workstations
 - Microsoft terminated support for Windows 10 in October 2025.
 - Existing workstation performance degraded after no replacements for a number of years.
 - Unable to upgrade these older workstations to Windows 11.
 - Initiated in late 2024, the Zeffy fundraising campaign raised \$27,125 with a goal of \$25,000.
 - At the end of October 2025, Elma Pauls and her family company, Rosewood Farms, supplied a very generous contribution.
 - By year's end, 13 volunteer workstations were replaced.
 - The remaining 3 old workstations were replaced in early 2026.
 - Unlike previous workstation purchases, these workstations were brand new.
 - Where possible, each workstation was set up with 2 new 27 inch monitors.
 - All workstations were configured with Windows 11 Professional.

2025 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Overview of MHSBC Fund Account Balances

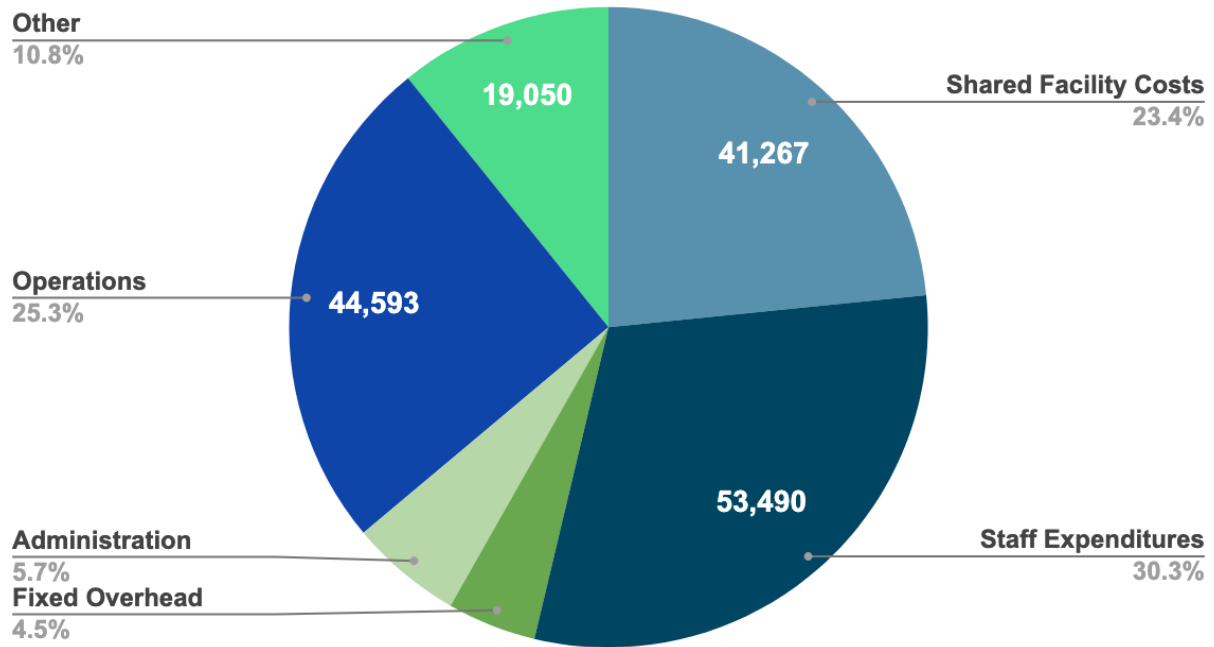
MHSBC Fund Accounting									
General Operating Fund						Internally Restricted Capital Funds		Mennonites in BC Fund (Restricted)	Endowment Fund
101,167						27,211		107,475	706,282
General Operations	Membership & Newsletter	Fundraising	EWZ	Products & Services	Program Activities	Digitization Fund	Computer Workstation Fund		
						9,385	17,826		

2025 Summary of Operations

Mennonite Historical Society of BC		
Summary Statement of Operations		
For the year ending December 31, 2025		
Accrual basis		
	2025	2024
Revenue	335,608	222,449
Expenses	(176,363)	(156,910)
Surplus/Deficit	159,245	65,539

2025 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS *(continued)*

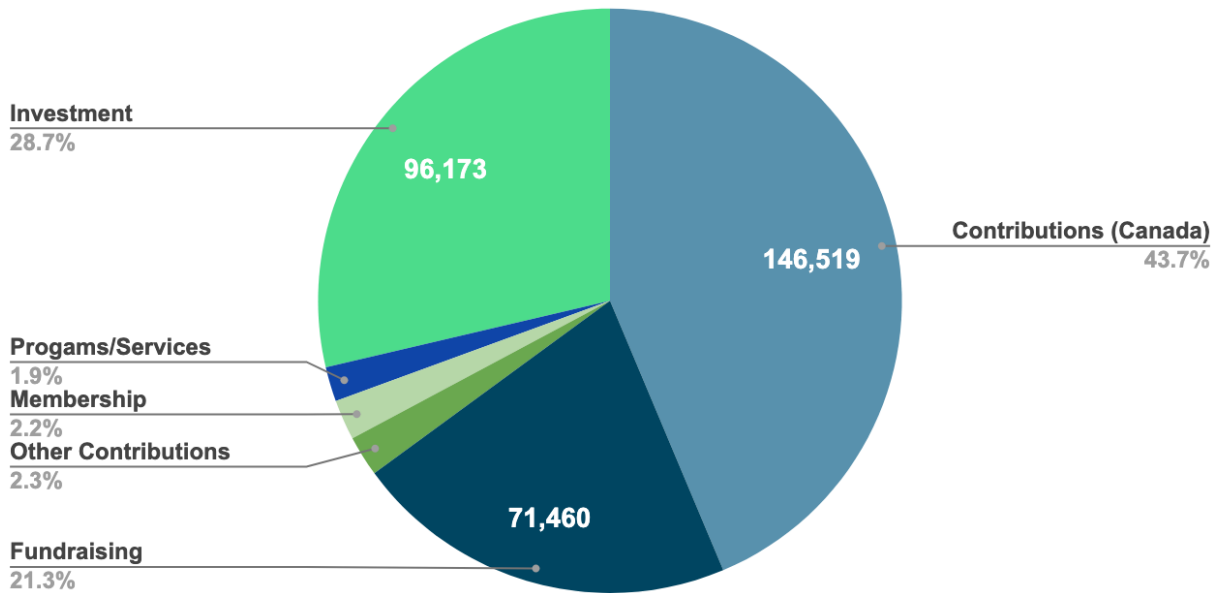
2025 Expenses



Expenses	2025	2024
Shared Facility Costs	41,267	40,303
Staff Expenses	53,490	70,053
Fixed Overhead	7,947	10,324
Administration	10,015	3,228
Operations	44,593	20,206
Other	19,050	12,796
Total	176,362	156,910

2025 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS *(continued)*

2025 Revenue



Revenue	2025	2024
Contributions (Canada)	146,519	120,814
Fundraising	71,460	2,309
Other Contributions	7,562	0
Membership	7,480	15,616
Programs/Services	6,414	8,347
Investment	96,173	75,364
Total	335,608	222,450

2025 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS *(continued)*

Mennonite Historical Society of BC Consolidated Cash Flow Summary For the year ending December 31, 2025

		2025
Opening Cash Balance		84,288
Cash from Operations		
Excess of revenue over expenses	159,245	
Adjustment - Investment Market Value Changes	(80,461)	
Items not affecting cash	4,293	
Changes in working capital	(6,544)	76,533
Investments		
Acquisitions - Workstations/Photocopier	(29,460)	
Envision shares	(51)	
Mennonites in BC	(4,504)	
Main Endowment - Withdrawals and base fund reduction	35,733	1,718
Ending cash flow balance		162,539

- Main Endowment
 - Annual withdrawal of \$32,000
 - Excluding market gains, fund actually declined by 3,733
- Cash from Operations

Anabaptist 500 Event	32,142
Capital funds	30,425
EWZ Requests	10,213
Net cash: Memberships and general operations	3,754
	76,533

2026 BUDGET OVERVIEW

	2026 Operations Budget
INCOME	
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS/FUNDRAISING	
Contributions - Canada	82,507
Sources Outside Canada	5,652
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS/FUNDRAISING	88,159
MEMBERSHIP Income	6,990
OTHER INCOME	6,149
INCOME	101,299
Less: FIXED OVERHEAD EXPENSES	
Shared Facility Costs	(42,096)
Shared Staff and Benefit Costs	(60,198)
Internet/Communications/IT Expenses	(7,918)
Legal/Insurance Expenses	(1,045)
Society Memberships and Dues	(950)
FIXED OVERHEAD EXPENSES	(112,206)
OPERATIONS Expenses	(11,515)
ADMINISTRATIVE Expenses	(3,097)
OTHER EXPENSES	
Depreciation/Loss on Disposal	(8,189)
OTHER EXPENSES	(8,189)
TOTAL EXPENSES	(135,008)
Surplus/(Deficit)	(33,709)

- Contributions are a guess
 - Inconsistent funds received in last 2 months of the year.
- Fixed Overhead Expenses
 - Can be estimated with a relatively high degree of accuracy.
- Current estimate is a \$33,709 deficit.

FINANCIAL RISKS

Contributions Nearly All Weighted to Last 2 Months of the Year

1. Liquidity refers to having cash available to meet financial obligations.
2. MHSBC generally receives contributions and membership fees in the final quarter of the year.
3. What this means is that MHSBC typically does not have the cash inflows to pay for operations, staff costs, and shared facility costs for the first 9 months of the year.
4. MHSBC must rely on the cash in its bank account from the prior year to fund these items.
5. Often, MHSBC does not know if it has met its obligations until the end of the year.

Financial Market Fluctuations

1. The value of the endowment fund and the Mennonites in BC project fund depend on the performance of US and Canadian stock and bond markets.
2. A poor year can limit the funds available to the operating fund.

Currency Risk

1. Approximately 23% of MHSBC's investment portfolio is in US dollars.
2. Negative exchange rate trends can reduce gains or increase losses.

\$3.5 million to \$4.25 million Endowment Fund Required to Fund Operations

1. The value of the endowment fund was \$706,282 at the end of 2025.
2. MHSBC annual operating costs are roughly \$140,000 to \$170,000.
3. A 4% withdrawal rate from the endowment requires \$3.5 million to \$4.25 million endowment fund.
4. A small endowment means:
 - a. Fluctuating individual financial contributions.
 - b. Time and effort devoted to fundraising rather than programs, events and services.

A Small Board

1. MHSBC is run by a small VOLUNTEER board.
 - a. The board consists of 8 members.
 - b. All programs and events are provided by this board and staff of 3 PART-TIME employees.
 - c. Official staff hours were equivalent to 1 full-time staff equivalent for 10 months in 2025.
2. Personal experience as a director.
 - a. Average at least 50 hours (1.5 weeks) per month.
 - b. Does not feel like it is enough.
3. Active leadership and participation required to move forward.
 - a. MHSBC cannot maintain the status quo.
 - b. Viability is not guaranteed.

FINANCIAL RISKS *(continued)*

Mennonite Museum

1. Changes in operational decisions and strategic direction at the Museum.
 - a. Museum budget and staff resource decisions impact MHSBC.
 - b. MHSBC relies on shared Museum space to provide programs and services.
 - c. MHSBC events are constrained by museum events and overlapping volunteer resources.
 - d. Museum objectives do not always align with MHSBC objectives.

SOLUTIONS

Additional Directors and Volunteers

1. Fundraising requires staff, volunteers, technology and LEADERSHIP.
 - a. Qualified volunteers and/or directors to take on leadership positions in fundraising events and campaigns.

Fundraising: \$3 Million Dollar Endowment Increase

1. Focus efforts on increasing endowment giving rather than just annual or individual contributions.
 - a. The larger the endowment fund, the smaller the fundraising campaigns required.

Financial Grants

1. Grants do not magically happen.
 - a. Grant applications require time and focus.

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2025

Accrual basis

	Operating Fund	Internally Restricted Capital Funds	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	2025 (Note 17)	2024 (Note 17)
ASSETS						
CURRENT ASSETS						
Unrestricted Cash (Note 3)	134,136				134,136	75,667
Restricted Cash (Note 4)		25,462	2,941		28,403	8,620
Cash and Short-Term Investments	134,136	25,462	2,941		162,539	84,288
Receivables and Other Current Assets						
Recoverable goods and services tax (Note 5)	1,499				1,499	2,667
Accounts receivable	8				8	
Prepaid Expenses (Note 6)	845	1,749			2,594	2,236
Total — Receivables and Other Current Assets	2,352	1,749			4,100	4,903
CURRENT ASSETS	136,488	27,211	2,941		166,639	89,191
INVESTMENTS (Note 7)						
Main Endowment Mennonites in BC				706,282	706,282	665,223
INVESTMENTS			104,534	706,282	810,816	761,584
SHARES						
Envision shares (Note 8)	1,312				1,312	1,262
CAPITAL ASSETS (Note 9)	27,795				27,795	2,629
ASSETS	165,595	27,211	107,475	706,282	1,006,563	854,665
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES						
CURRENT LIABILITIES						
Accounts payable and other payables (Note 10)	57,071				57,071	62,145
Deferred Revenue (Note 11)	7,357				7,357	7,830
Deferred Contributions (Note 12)						1,800
	64,428				64,428	71,775
FUND BALANCES						
Opening Balance	11,005	6,116	100,546	665,223	782,890	712,940
Excess of revenue over expenses	50,294	29,488	6,404	73,060	159,245	69,950
Net fund transfers (Note 14)	39,869	(8,394)	525	(32,000)		
	101,167	27,211	107,475	706,282	942,135	782,890
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	165,595	27,211	107,475	706,282	1,006,563	854,665

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES (Note 15)

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD


 _____ President


 _____ Treasurer

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Fund Balances

For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

	Operating Fund	Internally Restricted Capital Funds	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	2025 (Note 17)	2024 (Note 17)
Balance , beginning of the year	11,005	6,116	100,546	665,223	782,890	712,940
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	50,294	29,488	6,404	73,060	159,245	18,430
Endowment contributions						51,520
Interfund transfers (Note 14)	39,869	(8,394)	525	(32,000)		
Balance , end of the year	101,167	27,211	107,475	706,282	942,135	782,890

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD


 _____ President


 _____ Treasurer

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC

Consolidated Statement of Operations

For the Year Ending December 31, 2025

Accrual basis

	Operating Fund	Internally Restricted Funds	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	2025 Actual (Note 17)	2024 Actual (Note 17)
INCOME						
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS/FUNDRAISING						
Contributions - Canada	116,094	30,425			146,519	120,814
Fundraising Income	71,460				71,460	2,309
Government Contributions	720				720	
Sources Outside Canada	6,842				6,842	
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS/FUNDRAISING	195,116	30,425			225,541	123,123
MEMBERSHIP Income	7,480				7,480	15,616
OTHER INCOME						
Workshops/Events Income						1,840
Product & Service Income	4,848				4,848	5,486
Miscellaneous Income	1,566				1,566	1,021
OTHER INCOME	6,414				6,414	8,347
INVESTMENT Income						
Interest earned	50	102	3,927	2,484	6,564	180
Dividends Earned	51			2,757	2,808	
Fund Investment Distributions			589	5,752	6,341	
Fund Realized FX Gain/Loss						75,184
Fund Market Value Adjustments			3,669	76,793	80,461	
INVESTMENT Income	101	102	8,185	87,786	96,173	75,364
INCOME	209,111	30,527	8,185	87,786	335,608	222,449
Less: FIXED OVERHEAD EXPENSES						
Shared Facility Costs	(41,267)				(41,267)	(40,303)
Shared Staff and Benefit Costs	(53,490)				(53,490)	(70,053)
Internet/Communications/IT Expenses	(6,196)				(6,196)	(8,533)
Legal/Insurance Expenses	(833)				(833)	(785)
Society Memberships and Dues	(918)				(918)	(1,006)
FIXED OVERHEAD EXPENSES	(102,705)				(102,705)	(120,680)
Less: OPERATIONS Expenses						
AGM Costs						(1,365)
Advertising & Promotion	(205)				(205)	
Archival/Library Expenses	(936)		(75)		(1,011)	(562)
Fundraising Expenses	(40,569)				(40,569)	
Lecture/Event Expenses						(1,847)
Newsletters	(480)				(480)	(1,999)
Postage	(2,004)		(24)		(2,028)	(1,389)
Book/Media Supplies	(300)				(300)	
Workshop Expenses						(1,007)
Project Travel	1,681		(1,681)			(12,037)
OPERATIONS Expenses	(42,812)		(1,781)		(44,593)	(20,206)
Less: ADMINISTRATIVE Expenses						
General Office Expenses	(6,332)				(6,332)	(1,219)
Photocopy Expense	(1,951)				(1,951)	(2,009)
Cost Sharing GST Expense						
IT Expenses- Non-Monthly	(204)				(204)	
Computer Supplies	(96)	(1,039)			(1,135)	
Staff Travel	(149)				(149)	
Repairs and maintenance						
Bank Fees	(201)				(201)	
Late Payment Fees/Interest Charges	(44)				(44)	
ADMINISTRATIVE Expenses	(8,976)	(1,039)			(10,015)	(3,228)
OTHER EXPENSES						
Depreciation/Loss on Disposal	(4,293)				(4,293)	(395)
Investment Expenses	(31)			(14,726)	(14,757)	(6,924)
Miscellaneous Expense						(5,477)
OTHER EXPENSES	(4,324)			(14,726)	(19,050)	(12,796)
TOTAL EXPENSES	(158,817)	(1,039)	(1,781)	(14,726)	(176,363)	(156,910)
Surplus/(Deficit)	50,294	29,488	6,404	73,060	159,245	65,539

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

 President
 Treasurer

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC OPERATING FUND - Statement of Operations

For the year ending December 31, 2025

Accrual basis

	General Operations	Membership & Newsletter	Fundraising	EWZ	Products & Services	Program Activities	2025 Actual	2024 Actual	2026 Operations Budget
INCOME									
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS/FUNDRAISING									
Contributions - Canada	111,699		735	3,660			116,094	66,438	82,507
Fundraising Income			71,460				71,460	2,309	
Government Contributions			720				720		
Sources Outside Canada	141			6,701			6,842		5,652
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS/FUNDRAISING	111,839		72,915	10,361			195,116	68,746	88,159
MEMBERSHIP Income		7,480					7,480	15,616	6,990
OTHER INCOME									
Workshops/Events Income								1,840	
Product & Service Income					4,848		4,848	5,486	4,827
Miscellaneous Income	220				1,347		1,566	1,021	1,322
OTHER INCOME	220				6,194		6,414	8,347	6,149
INVESTMENT Income									
Interest earned	35					15	50	75	
Dividends Earned	51						51		
INVESTMENT Income	86					15	101	75	
INCOME	112,145	7,480	72,915	10,361	6,194	15	209,111	92,783	101,299
Less: FIXED OVERHEAD EXPENSES									
Shared Facility Costs	(41,267)						(41,267)	(40,303)	(42,096)
Shared Staff and Benefit Costs	(53,490)						(53,490)	(70,053)	(60,198)
Internet/Communications/IT Expenses	(6,196)						(6,196)	(8,533)	(7,918)
Legal/Insurance Expenses	(833)						(833)	(785)	(1,045)
Society Memberships and Dues	(918)						(918)	(1,006)	(950)
FIXED OVERHEAD EXPENSES	(102,705)						(102,705)	(120,680)	(112,206)
Less: OPERATIONS Expenses									
AGM Costs								(1,365)	(300)
Advertising & Promotion			(205)				(205)		
Archival/Library Expenses	(936)						(936)	(562)	(1,105)
Fundraising Expenses			(40,569)				(40,569)		(5,198)
Lecture/Event Expenses								(1,847)	(724)
Newsletters		(480)					(480)	(1,999)	(760)
Postage & Postage supplies		(1,943)			(42)	(19)	(2,004)	(1,389)	(3,127)
Book/Media Supplies					(300)		(300)		(300)
Workshop Expenses								(1,007)	
Project Travel	1,681						1,681		
OPERATIONS Expenses	745	(2,423)	(40,773)		(342)	(19)	(42,812)	(8,169)	(11,515)
Less: ADMINISTRATIVE Expenses									
General Office Expenses	(6,012)	(320)					(6,332)	(1,219)	(1,555)
Photocopy Expense	(1,951)						(1,951)	(2,009)	(1,215)
Cost Sharing GST Expense									
IT Expenses- Non-Monthly	(204)						(204)		(17)
Computer Supplies	(96)						(96)		
Staff Travel	(149)						(149)		(150)
Bank Fees	(50)	(3)		(149)			(201)		(159)
Late Payment Fees/Interest Charges	(44)						(44)		
ADMINISTRATIVE Expenses	(8,506)	(322)		(149)			(8,976)	(3,228)	(3,097)
OTHER EXPENSES									
Depreciation/Loss on Disposal	(4,293)						(4,293)	(395)	(8,189)
Investment Expenses	(31)						(31)	(1,671)	
Miscellaneous Expense								(5,477)	
OTHER EXPENSES	(4,324)						(4,324)	(7,542)	(8,189)
TOTAL EXPENSES	(114,789)	(2,745)	(40,773)	(149)	(342)	(19)	(158,817)	(139,620)	(135,008)
Surplus/(Deficit)	(2,644)	4,735	32,142	10,213	5,852	(4)	50,294	(46,837)	(33,709)

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ending December 31, 2025
Indirect method

31 Dec 2025

Operating activities	
Excess of revenue over expenses	159,245.17
Adjustment - Investment Market Value Changes	(80,461.24)
Items not affecting cash:	
Depreciation and Amortization	4,293.16
	<u>78,783.93</u>
Changes in working capital	
Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable	1,160.19
Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses	(357.25)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(5,073.79)
Increase (decrease) in deferred contributions	(2,273.04)
Adjusted Cash flows from (used in) operating activities	<u>76,533.20</u>
Investing activities	
Acquisition of computer workstations	(8,376.36)
Acquisition of printer/scanner	(21,083.39)
Decrease (increase) in Envision shares	(50.64)
Decrease (increase) in Main endowment	35,733.05
Decrease(increase) in Mennonites in BC endowment	(4,504.37)
Cash flows from (used in) investing activities	<u>1,718.29</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held	<u>78,251.49</u>
Cash at the beginning of the period	84,287.69
Cash at the end of the period	<u>162,539.18</u>

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC
Notes to Financial Statements
Year Ended December 31, 2025

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGANIZATION

MHSBC was established in 1972. The society was incorporated as a registered society under the BC Societies Act in April 1980.

MHSBC is a not-for-profit, non-governmental organization who operates to archive and to collect material relevant to Mennonite history and to make material available to researchers and lay scholars. MHSBC sponsors lectures and artistic events to communicate Mennonite history and culture. The society publishes a newsletter 3 to 4 times a year. The society is involved in ongoing digitization projects to make Mennonite photos and documents available in electronic formats.

MHSBC is a registered charitable organization for the purposes of the Income Tax Act (Canada) and as such is not subject to income tax. MHSBC is an independent member of the Mennonite Historical Society of Canada and the Mennonite Archival Information Database.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of presentation

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations (ASNPO) and include the following significant accounting policies.

These financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO) applied within the framework of the accounting policies summarized below.

These statements have not been audited or reviewed by an external accountant. The presentation of these statements represents management's best efforts to apply ASNPO standards.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with ASNPO requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the year.

Actual results could differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC
Notes to Financial Statements
Year Ended December 31, 2025

Fund accounting

MHSBC follows the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions.

To ensure observance of limitations and restrictions placed on the use of resources available to MHSBC, the accounts of MHSBC are classified for reporting purposes into funds in accordance with activities or objectives specified by donors or in accordance with directives issued by the Board of Directors.

These financial statements include the following funds:

Operating (Unrestricted) Funds

The Operating Fund accounts for the operations, administration and capital assets of MHSBC. This fund reports on unrestricted resources available for immediate use.

Internally Restricted Funds

Internally restricted funds represent funds available for major events, asset acquisition, or other purposes specified by the Board of Directors from time to time. Internally restricted funds are short-term in nature. Any use of these funds requires explicit approval by members of the Board of Directors.

Restricted Funds

The restricted fund, Mennonites in BC, represents funds used to produce a history of Mennonites in BC. This fund supports a longer term project. This fund is designed to be liquidated by the time publication is complete.

Endowment

MHSBC has a main endowment fund.

The main endowment fund represents funds designed to support the long-term operation of the society. The purpose of the endowment fund is to fund the operations of MHSBC from the income generated by the fund.

Revenue recognition

Unrestricted contributions related to general operations are recognized as revenue of the General Operating Fund in the year in which the funds are received or receivable, if the amount can be reasonably estimated and collection can be reasonably assured.

Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue of the appropriate restricted fund in the year in which the funds are received or receivable and the amounts can be reasonably estimated with reasonably assured collection. If an appropriate restricted fund does not exist, revenue is recognized in the General Operating Fund in accordance with the deferral method, i.e. revenue is recognized when the related expenses are incurred.

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC
Notes to Financial Statements
Year Ended December 31, 2025

Endowment contributions are recognized as revenue of the endowment fund in the year in which the funds are received or receivable subject to the restrictions that the amount can be reasonably estimated and collection can be reasonably assured.

Event revenue is recognized as revenue in the year when the events are held.

Membership revenue is recognized as revenue for the year that the membership was purchased.

Expense allocation

MHSBC's expenses are recorded and reported by fund and program activities.

Financial instruments

MHSBC's financial instruments consist of cash and cash equivalents, government goods and service tax rebates, restricted investments, accounts payable, credit card payable and accrued liabilities.

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value when acquired or issued. In subsequent periods, financial assets with actively traded markets are reported at fair value, with any unrealized gains and losses and transaction costs recognized in net excess of revenue over expenses. All other financial instruments are reported at amortized cost and tested for impairment at each reporting date. Transaction costs on the acquisition, sale or issue of financial instruments are expensed when incurred.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of internally restricted and unrestricted cash and cash equivalents. In accordance with the investment policy approved by the Investment Committee of the Board of Directors, cash and cash equivalents are held in highly liquid accounts or investments which are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Capital Assets

Capital assets purchased are stated at cost less accumulated amortization. Capital assets contributed are recorded at the fair value as of the date of receipt. Amortization is provided at the straight-line method, as follows:

Computer equipment	3 years
Furniture and equipment	5 years

The half year rule is applied to the first year of acquisition, i.e. half of the annual depreciation is recorded in the first year.

MHSBC intends to regularly review its capital assets to remove those no longer in use. Fully amortized capital assets will be removed from the financial statements.

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC
Notes to Financial Statements
Year Ended December 31, 2025

Leases

Leases are divided into two general categories: capital leases and operating leases.

Leases in which the organization bears substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as capital leases. Capital leases are recorded as an acquisition of an asset and an assumption of an obligation. The asset value and the amount of the obligation, recorded at the inception of the lease, are the present value of the minimum lease payments. Each lease payment is allocated between the liability and interest expense so as to achieve a constant rate of interest on the recorded capital lease obligations. Equipment acquired under a capital lease is amortized over the term of the lease, or the expected useful life of the asset when the lease contains a purchase option.

MHSBC does not currently have any leases that are classified as capital leases.

All other leases are accounted for as operating leases wherein rental payments are recognized in the statement of operations on a straight-line basis over the terms of the leases. Lease inducements are accounted for as reductions of the lease expense over the term of the lease.

Foreign currency translation

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Canadian dollars at exchange rates in effect at the statement of financial position date. Non-monetary assets and liabilities are translated at the exchange rates prevailing at the transaction date. Revenue and expense denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Canadian dollars at the exchange rates prevailing at the transaction date. Any resulting foreign exchange gains or losses are recorded in the statement of operations.

3. UNRESTRICTED CASH

Unrestricted cash consists of the main US dollar and Canadian dollar bank accounts held at Envision credit union along with online bank balances held with Paypal and Zeffy. Zeffy automatically transfers funds every Monday to the Envision Financial Canadian dollar bank account. US dollar account balances are translated to Canadian dollar values at the Bank of Canada exchange rates in effect at the statement date.

	2025	2024
Envision CAD	130,006.26	72,433.57
Envision USD	975.80	507.93
Petty Cash	110.45	110.45
Paypal	63.59	200.39
Zeffy	<u>2,980.00</u>	<u>2,415.00</u>
Unrestricted Cash - Total	\$134,136.12	\$75,667.34

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC
Notes to Financial Statements
Year Ended December 31, 2025

4. RESTRICTED CASH

Restricted cash represents restricted fund accounts established with Envision to be available for current use.

	2025	2024
Internally Restricted Funds		
Digitization Fund	9,384.83	6,116.16
Workstation Fund	16,076.99	
Restricted Funds		
Mennonites in BC project	<u>2,941.26</u>	<u>2,504.20</u>
Restricted Cash - Total	\$28,403.08	\$8,620.355

5. RECOVERABLE GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

MHSBC is a registered charity. Some GST/HST rules that apply to charities are very different from those for businesses.

For example:

- Most supplies (sales) made by charities are exempt while most supplies (sales) made by businesses are taxable.
- Many charities are not required to register for GST/HST purposes while most businesses are required to do so.
- Businesses making taxable supplies can generally recover GST/HST paid or payable on property and services they acquired for use in those activities by claiming input tax credits (ITCs), while charities are subject to a net tax calculation method if they are registered.
- Where ITCs are not available, charities can recover some of the GST and the federal part of the HST paid or payable on their purchases and expenses (subject to certain exceptions) by claiming a 50% GST/HST Public service bodies' rebate.

MHSBC has not registered to collect the GST. Consequently, MHSBC recovers GST by claiming a 50% GST/HST Public service bodies' rebate. This rebate is collected every 6 months.

6. PREPAID EXPENSES

Prepaid expenses consist of two items:

- Director's insurance purchased on behalf of the MHSBC Board in advance in the Operating Fund
- Three computer workstations purchased in advance of installation as part of Internally Restricted Capital Funds.

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC
Notes to Financial Statements
Year Ended December 31, 2025

7. INVESTMENTS

MHSBC invests its endowment fund with the advice of Edward Jones Investment Advisors. Members of MHSBC’s board meet with Edward Jones annually to review fund performance and MHSBC’s financial objectives. At the end of 2025, the endowment fund consisted of the following investment accounts.

Endowment Fund	USD	CAD
EJ 205-80826-1-7 CAD		186,660
EJ 205-80826-1-7 USD	118,823	163,999
EJ 208-11503-1-6 Mutual		355,623
Total		\$ 706,282

The investment portfolio for the Mennonites in BC project consists of investments emphasizing a shorter term time horizon with investments in money market funds, guaranteed investment certificates, and high quality corporate bonds. The investment objective of this fund emphasizes capital preservation over returns.

Mennonites in BC restricted project fund	CAD
EJ 206-94127-1-2 History	104,534

All investments are made in actively traded markets. Consequently, the values are reflected at market values as of the financial statement date. US investments have been translated into Canadian funds at the Bank of Canada exchange rate as of the financial statement date.

8. SHARES

MHSBC does its banking with Envision Financial, a member-owned financial cooperative. Envision Financial is a division of First West Credit Union. It does not have publicly traded shares.

The share investment represents MHSBC’s membership investment in Envision Financial.

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC
Notes to Financial Statements
Year Ended December 31, 2025

9. CAPITAL ASSETS

SUMMARY	Cost	Accumulated depreciation	2025 Net book value	2024 Net book value
Computer Equipment	9,766	2,089	7,677	1,158
Furniture and Equipment	22,717	2,598	20,119	1,471
	<u>\$ 32,483</u>	<u>\$ 4,688</u>	<u>\$ 27,795</u>	<u>\$ 2,629</u>

Thirteen workstations valued at 8,376 (net of GST rebates) were installed in 2025. The workstations consisted of a CPU unit and two 27 inch monitors for almost all workstations.

A Canon ImageForce C5140 photocopier/scanner valued at 21,083 (net of GST rebates) was purchased in August 2025.

10. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND OTHER PAYABLES

This balance consists primarily of balances owed to the Mennonite Museum for shared staff, facility and administrative costs.

	2025	2024
Accounts payable	1,118.68	1,576.00
Mennonite Museum	55,273.71	60,526.823
Credit Card payable	<u>678.62</u>	<u>41.98</u>
Accounts Payable - Total	\$57,071.01	\$62,144.80

11. DEFERRED REVENUE

This value represents memberships purchased in advance and advance ticket purchases and contributions. Membership purchases were reconciled during 2025. They should more accurately reflect membership purchases for the 2025 calendar year. The deferred revenue balance represents lifetime memberships and memberships purchased for subsequent years. In prior years, MHSBC determined these values with manual membership records using cash based accounting policies.

Deferred Revenue	2025	2024
Deferred revenue - memberships	7,357	2,030
Deferred revenue - 500 celebration		5,800
	<u>\$ 7,357</u>	<u>\$ 7,830</u>

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC
Notes to Financial Statements
Year Ended December 31, 2025

12. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS

Under accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, contributions can be recorded under the deferred contribution method and the restricted funds method.

The deferred contribution method matches contributions with their associated expenses and records revenue as the expenses are incurred.

Under the restricted fund method, contributions are recorded as revenue immediately in the appropriate fund. When funds are deposited into a restricted fund that does not exist, they are recorded as a deferred contribution in the general operating fund until a fund is established.

MHSBC is using the restricted funds method. As a result, deferred contributions are only recorded when a restricted fund does not exist.

At the end of 2024, MHSBC started receiving contributions for a computer workstation fund. Approximately, \$1,800 was received in advance. This fund was established in 2025.

13. CREDIT FACILITIES

Since September 2014, MHSBC had established credit card facilities with the Envision Credit Union. The initial credit card limit was set at \$1,000. The credit card balance was secured by a personal guarantee of a staff member.

In August 2024, the credit card facilities were increased to \$5,000 secured by the personal guarantee of a former staff member. The credit facility bears an interest rate of 19.99% on overdue balances and 22.99% on cash advances.

In 2025, MHSBC removed the former staff member from the credit card facility. MHSBC obtained two credit cards under a single account with a \$5,000 credit card facility guaranteed by MHSBC.

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC
Notes to Financial Statements
Year Ended December 31, 2025

14. CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES

Interfund transfers

The interfund transfers listed on the balance sheet and the statement of change in fund balances represent the following transfers:

1. A transfer of 11,081.54 from the Workstation Fund to the Operating Fund to pay for workstation purchases.
2. An adjustment for computer supplies, ie computer keyboards, mice, and hard drives, paid by the Operating Fund on behalf of the Workstation Fund. This will be adjusted in 2026.
3. This represents computer workstations that will be installed in 2026. The amount is part of the prepaid balance in the Internally Restricted Capital Funds.
4. These are expenses incurred on behalf of the Mennonites in BC project. Corrections will be made in 2026.
5. Digitization revenue was recorded in the Operating Fund in error. Again this will be adjusted in 2026.
6. The book purchase was on behalf of the Mennonites in BC project. Funds were paid by the General Operating Fund.
7. This represents the quarterly \$8,000 withdrawal from the Endowment Fund approved by the Board to fund general operations.

	Operating Fund	Internally Restricted Capital Funds	Restricted	Endowment
1. Workstation Purchases	11,081.54	(11,081.54)		
2. Computer Supplies - Work Station	(1,039.13)	1,039.13		
3. Prepaid Expense Adjustment	(1,748.68)	1,748.68		
4. Mennonites in BC expense funding	(425.49)		425.49	
5. Digitization Revenue Discrepancy	100.00	(100.00)		
6. Richard Thiessen - Books	(99.42)		99.42	
7. Interfund transfers	32,000.00			(32,000.00)
Interfund transfers	39,868.82	(8,393.73)	524.91	(32,000.00)

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC
Notes to Financial Statements
Year Ended December 31, 2025

15. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Legal actions

In the ordinary course of business, many organizations become involved in various legal actions. Currently, MHSBC is not involved in any legal actions.

Operating leases

At the end of 2023, MHSBC entered into a 5 year operating lease agreement with Pitney Bowes for a postage machine. The 60 month lease began February 1, 2024 and ends January 31, 2029. The lease agreement consists of a quarterly lease payment of 74.85 for equipment and a quarterly maintenance fee of 16.65 before taxes.

The annual commitments are as follows:

Year	Base fee	PST	GST	Total
2024	335.50	23.47	16.79	375.76
2025	366.00	25.60	18.32	409.92
2026	366.00	25.60	18.32	409.92
2027	366.00	25.60	18.32	409.92
2028	366.00	25.60	18.32	409.92
2029	30.50	2.13	1.53	34.16
Total	1,830.00	128.00	91.60	2,049.60

In addition, MHSBC has a usage agreement with Columbia Business Systems for a Canon ImageForce C5140 photocopier/scanner.

Monthly usage fees are \$0.0089 for black and white copies and \$0.064 for colour copies with no monthly administration fee.

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC
Notes to Financial Statements
Year Ended December 31, 2025

16. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Fair values

The carrying values of receivable amounts, recoverable GST rebates, contributions receivable from donors, accounts payable and accrued liabilities approximate their fair values due to the relatively short periods to maturity of the instruments.

Investment risk

MHSBC's investment committee has approved an investment policy that provides the guidelines for managing the investments of the organization. The overall objective of MHSBC's investment program is to allocate the assets of MHSBC to support the Mennonites in BC project and to support the strategic and operational objectives of MHSBC.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with its financial liabilities. MHSBC is exposed to liquidity risk mainly with respect to its accounts payable and accrued liabilities. MHSBC has obligations with the Mennonite Heritage Museum to share building operational costs and staff costs over the course of the year. Unless fund raising activities are carried out earlier in the year, historically MHSBC receives nearly all its contribution and membership revenue in the final quarter of the year.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flow of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk: currency risk, interest rate risk and other price risk. MHSBC is mainly exposed to currency risk and interest rate risk.

Currency risk

A significant portion of the MHSBC's endowment fund (roughly 23% based on year end values) is invested in US currency. MHSBC does not use derivatives to hedge its foreign exchange risk. MHSBC relies on the advice of its investment advisors to manage the foreign exchange risk of its investments.

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BC
Notes to Financial Statements
Year Ended December 31, 2025

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to adverse consequences of interest rate changes on MHSBC's cash flows, financial position, investment income and interest expenses.

MHSBC is exposed to interest rate risk on its fixed and floating interest rate financial instruments. Fixed interest instruments subject MHSBC to fair value risk, while floating rate instruments subject it to cash flow risk. As at December 31, 2025, MHSBC's exposure to interest rate risk is as follows:

Cash and equivalents	Floating rate
Canadian bank GICs	Fixed

Credit risk

Credit risk arises from the potential that one party to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the other party to incur a financial loss.

The maximum credit exposure of MHSBC is represented by the fair value of cash and cash equivalents, restricted investments, amounts receivable, and contributions receivable from donors.

Substantially all of MHSBC's cash and cash equivalents are maintained at major financial institutions; therefore, MHSC considers the risk of non-performance of these instruments to be remote.

17. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

In 2024, MHSBC changed its accounting policies to conform with accrual based accounting policies. MHSBC applied Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO) using the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions.

Comparative figures for 2024 and 2025 conform to the ASNPO accounting standards using the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions.

Prior to 2024, MHSBC employed cash based accounting policies. The comparative figures for 2023 were restated to conform with the ASNPO accounting policies used with the 2024 annual report. Comparative figures used in 2023 and prior were based on cash based accounting policies.