

**PRAIRIE PIPE BAND ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2009
Henderson #215 LEGION, East St. Paul**

Meeting called to order at 2:20 p.m.

In attendance: Wes Sheppard, Pat Johnston, Kathy Brown, Sean Johnston, Heather Wiens, Caitlin Wiens, Roland Reid, Gale Walker, Georganne Hoel, Robyn McCombe, Andrea Stuart-Perillo, George Fidler, Cameron Fidler, Dylan Knight, Gina Marsh, Dave Stewart, Ryan Stewart, James McLean, Doc Jardine, Brian Hoel, Graeme McCombe, Jordan Perillo, Lorenzo Perillo, Luigi Perillo, Heather Fidler, Manny Bairos, Kevin Bairos-Novak, Tanya McLarty, David McLarty, Jack McLarty, Bryan Hill, Sandra Hill, Cassandra Hill, Bryden Stewart.

Welcome to Everyone by Vice President Wes Sheppard. Voting Rules were reviewed and voting members were reviewed.

Adoption of the Agenda: Moved by Heather Wiens, Judge 2nd by Gale Walker, WSF. Carried

Approval of the AGM Minutes of Nov. 2, 2008 Motion to accept Minutes moved by Cameron Fidler, SASPB, 2nd by Dylan Knight, SASPB - Carried.

1. **Agenda Item 1:** President/Vice President's Report – Wes Sheppard – See attached
2. **Agenda Item 2:** Secretary's Report – Pat Johnston – See attached
3. **Agenda Item 3:** Treasurer's Report – Kathy Brown – See attached
Motion to accept Financial Statements as presented by Kathy Brown, 2nd Gale Walker, WSF. Carried.
4. **Agenda Item 4:** Director of Public Relations – including Dir of Contests – report from Ian Aastrom – read by Pat Johnston – see attached
5. **Agenda Item 5:** Director of Grading – Sean Johnston – See Attached
6. **Agenda Item 6:** Director of Contests – included in Public Relations Report
7. **Agenda Item 7:** Band Reports - All Bands in attendance at today's meeting gave verbal reports; copies of emailed versions are attached. Lord Selkirk Boys – Robyn McCombe; Transcona – Dave Stewart; Winnipeg Celtic – Doc Jardine; St. Andrew's Gr 3 – Sean Johnston; St. Andrew's Gr 2 – Wes Sheppard.
8. **Agenda Item 8:** Contest Reports – Winnipeg Scottish Festival (next year Feb 20,2010) – Gale Walker; Selkirk Highland Games (next year Jun 19, 2010)– Wes Sheppard – See Attached; Bands on the Boardwalk (next year June 26, 2010) – Georganne Hoel.
9. **Agenda Item 9:** Old Business - nothing tabled.
10. **Agenda Item 10:** New Business-
Constitution Review – Wes addressed the meeting with the concern of the Executive that our current Constitution needs to be revamped. Interpretation of rules and questions at events/games esp. when rulings are not specific and no consequences to not following rules. Our current version was written approx 10 years ago by a committee including Bob Cooper and Brian Hoel. Wes has reviewed constitutions in other provinces – some are not followed, some are extremely detailed. RSPBA has changed a lot of their rulings, and we need to reflect current standards and changes. He would like to see a committee created of adjudicators, band members, managers to work on a proposed constitution.
Proposal – to all Pipe Bands to supply volunteers to comprise a committee to work on a revamped Constitution and have a proposed version ready in 11 months to present to

Executive and subsequently at the AGM. (Any changes to the Constitution must be provided to all membership 30 days prior to the AGM)
Committee Volunteers from the AGM - Heather Wiens, Andrea Stuart, Wes Sheppard.

Comment – From Dave Stewart – Transcona - Dates for Selkirk and BOB – separate weekends again in the coming year – would like to see the events combined again.

History of Pipe Bands in Manitoba – Sean Johnston – reported that it would be a good idea to have a history created for Pipe Bands. The Highland Dance Assc. just produced an excellent history of their association. Information needs to be gathered from some of our honorary members – Alex Cupples, Bob Fraser, George Lawrence – possibly by video interview. Some bands, like the military, police bands have some history records of their own. Anyone interested in this project – please contact Sean.

11. Agenda Item 12: Election of Officers-

A proposed slate of officers was presented to the membership – See attached, advising the current Executive would allow their names to stand – each position was opened to the floor for additional nominations – none were presented and all were confirmed for another term. Vacant positions – Vice President - no nominations were made from the floor, after several requests – Wes asked Robyn McCombe to accept the position. He agreed and Vote was unanimous – Carried.

Director of Contests – Gale Walker, nominated by Georganne Hoel. No other nominations and Vote was unanimous - Carried.

Member(s) at Large – no nominations were presented – position(s) remain vacant.

The 2009-2010 PPBAM Executive:

President	Wes Sheppard
Vice President	Robyn McCombe
Secretary	Pat Johnston
Treasurer	Kathy Brown
Director of Contests	Gale Walker
Director of Grading	Sean Johnston
Director of Public Relations	Ian Aastrom
Member at Large	Vacant

12. Champion Supreme Award Presentations – see list of award winners attached
Awards presented by Sean Johnston of the Executive.

13. Motion to Adjourn: Dylan Knight, St. Andrew's, 2nd Gina Marsh, St. Andrews – 3:45 pm.

Reports follow that were received electronically.

PPBAM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 15, 2009

VICE-PRESIDENTS/PRESIDENTS REPORT

As everyone knows, this season marked a huge loss for not only the PPBAM but also piping and drumming as a whole with the passing of Marlene Stephen. Marlene played a huge role in the promotion of piping and drumming not only on the local scene but also on the international stage. Her tireless efforts have contributed to not only stability in our association but also stability to the entire pipe band family. We as an executive have not tried to fill Marlene's shoes. That is a task which could never be fulfilled. We have carried on to the best of our abilities to ensure that piping and drumming in Manitoba is promoted and encouraged so it will continue to grow.

This season for PPBAM was a relatively quiet year. We saw our local contests continue to operate successfully although mother nature did her best at times to disrupt this! We saw our local pipe bands again do well on the competitive circuit along with our solo competitors. I am very encouraged to see that all of our youth bands are doing well and this coming season bringing the birth of a new one. One issue that arose several times was rule interpretation. We have found our constitution has become dated. Our rules, although set with the best of intentions, do not always fill the desired need to promote piping and drumming and encourage maximum participation by the bands. We as an executive found ourselves having to make many rule "judgements" this year. Times have changed and I believe it is time to have a look at our constitution and set it up to reflect the changing face of piping and drumming. We will discuss this later under new business.

This year was a good year for adjudication with the addition of two new local adjudicators being accredited, Sean Johnston and Ian Aastrom, both as level B snare. As well, David Bowan has been elevated to level A snare.

This year, in memory of Marlene, the PPBAM executive instituted a new scholarship. This scholarship is different than the others already given out by PPBAM. This award is given to a student who without it, could not attend a school. The award carries a larger dollar amount and has a slightly higher criteria for the applicants, the most important being that their name must be submitted by their instructor or Pipe Major/Drum Sargent. This year's recipient was Graeme Fidler.

One thing that has discontinued is ANAPABA. This organization was originally formed to help bring together all the piping and drumming organizations of North America. The goal was to not only share ideas but to also foster a more central view of rules and operations to make it easier for bands who wished to travel to other geographic areas to compete. These goals were met and now with a loss of focus and leadership, ANAPABA has stalled. I am sure it will resurrect again but in the meantime, the different associations will have to communicate informally as they have done in the past.

I sincerely hope that this upcoming season sees more success for our members and that piping and drumming continues to grow in the PPBAM. I thank you for the opportunity to serve on your executive.

WES SHEPPARD

VICE-PRESIDENT PPBAM

PPBAM – AGM 2009

Secretary's Report

Nov. 15, 2009

During the past year, I was responsible for the following duties:

1. Notified the Executive members of meetings, prepared agenda, recorded and distributed the minutes of the Executive meetings.
2. Received correspondence on behalf of the Association, tabled it at executive meetings, replied to correspondence and maintained on file.
3. Assisted with preparation for the MB Indoor Games, ordered medals for winners.
4. Received and tabled scholarship applications.
PPBAM Scholarships have been awarded this year to:
Jamie Kubasiewicz, Andrew Laird, and Angus MacLennan. Perpetual Trophy was ordered and awarded this year for the Marlene Stephen Memorial Scholarship to Graeme Fidler.
5. Notified the membership of upcoming AGM and prepared associated documentation, including Agenda, reports, Nomination list and recording attendance.
6. Ordered the trophies for the Champion Supreme Awards – Congratulations to the Winners.

For our meeting today, Pipe Bands and Competitions, please email me a copy of your reports if available. Note Nominal Roles and memberships are due Dec 1st. Bands, for contact info – please list 2 emails, as we have experienced this week, electronic glitches happen or contact/email addresses change. This has been a challenging year for our Executive, with the loss of our President and understandably, Marnie resigning as Contest director. Everyone on the Executive worked together to make sure we continued to run the PPBAM as in the past and willingly covering any and all extra duties. You never hear at our meetings, sorry that's not my job. Later in the meeting, we will be having nominations for a new executive. You will notice we have all agreed to stay on the Executive if that is supported by the membership. We have a few vacant spots, I encourage you to consider taking a position, it's not hard work, we don't meet every month, 8 times during the past year and we always have dessert! The goals of the PPBAM include "fostering a bond of fellowship & affiliation with all pipers, drummers & pipe bands with similar goals" and "to promote and encourage the culture and advancement" of Pipe Bands and music as part of our Scottish heritage. We have a very viable organization and with your interest and participation, we hope to make the next year another successful one.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Johnston

Treasurer's Report--AGM November 2009

There are three financial statements available at the front. Please turn to this package for review

Financial Statement

- Revenue \$5,895.83
- Expenses \$5,021.41
- Finished off the year with a surplus of \$874,42
- Bank Balance end of October/09 \$3,241.72, this includes the "Rainy Day" investment which came due October 21st. Total of that investment was \$2,202.99. This investment will be re-invested for its full amounts and less outstanding cheques this will leave a balance of \$370.41 in the bank account. I recommend not putting any additional funds over to the "Rainy Day" investment. We still have the 2 other investments--sundry and ANAPBA. The ANAPBA investment is being addressed under Wes' report.
- Total assets end of the year--\$7,384.69

Budget

- Proposed total receipts \$6,000.00, actual \$5,895.83 shortfall of \$104.17
- Band fees short \$575.00
- Professional Development short \$95.00
- Regular member fees up \$360.00, this was tied to the Band fees being down as some Bands decided not to renew their membership which forces their members to purchase a regular members card.
- Individual grading cards up \$45.00
- I recommend no increase in any fees at this time.
- Proposed expense were \$6,845.00 actual \$5,021.41 savings \$1,823.59 due in large part to ANAPBA membership fee not being paid as well no ANAPBA meeting. We decided not to pay our membership fee this year as we initially were unable to get a response from ANAPBA and when they did respond they had no record of our previous years payment. In the best interest of our Association, we decided not to pay this years fee until we felt comfortable with this organization.
- A new expense this year was Marlene Stephen Award. We co-sponsored this with Marnie and the Stephen family. We supplied a perpetual trophy as well \$350.00 towards the sponsorship of this award. It was presented at BOB to Graham Fidler.
- WE increased our sponsorship to the 4 Games held in Manitoba. We felt it was reasonable as they go to a large expense to hold games for our members. Without the dedication of these

organizations, our membership would have farther to travel to Games out of province. We don't want to lose any competition in the province.

- Juvenile award is a perpetual trophy so no new expense there.

Mini Games

- Receipts \$536.00
- Expenses \$954.04
- Total deficit \$418.04
- Marnie donated trophies she had, so keeper trophy expense was down. This year we decided to design our own medals so this increased our expense. We did however save on the facility and bartender. I have submitted a grant request to St. Andrew's Society for help with the trophy expense next year. I was advised I would not hear till closer to that date.

Respectfully submitted by K. Brown I move the adoption of my report.

Director of Public Relations & Contests

Good day,

I want to first take this opportunity to congratulate the bands and individual musicians with in the association on a successful 2008/2009 pipe band season. This year was a learning year for me, having not been a computer guy since high school, I have figured out how to make updates to the website and upload files etc. I apologize to those bands who I took some time to get their info up on the website especially at the beginning. This coming year will be much smoother in that regard.

Currently our website is down. We did not get our renewal done in time to keep the site up and current, also part of the learning experience I have had. Our website and emails will be up and running again very soon and sharing information once again.

I also assisted this year with the director of contests posts after it was unfortunately vacated part way through the year. We were able to run 5 sanctioned contests, WSF, Manitoba Indoor, Brandon, Selkirk and BOB. WSF has already been sanctioned for the 2010 season on February 20 2010.

Thank you for your time and patience, I look forward to working with the bands through the upcoming 2010 pipe band season.

Respectfully submitted

Ian Aastrom

> Sent from my iPhone Sun. Nov. 15, 2009

Director of Grading- Report 2009

I would like to start by congratulating all the members of the association on a wonderful 2009 season. This year as the Director of Grading I watched with great satisfaction as our provincial grading memo sheets came in and we were told time and time again, bands and competitors were graded appropriately.

The grading memo program, started before my time, has paid off considerably as we saw all traveling bands, and soloists this season compete with great success.

Winnipeg Celtic holding their own in Minnesota, Transcona competing with great success in the Maritimes, St. Andrew's having great runs in Ontario, and Manitoba's biggest story this season, the Lord Selkirk Boys Band, not only qualifying at the worlds but placing in the top 10 overall, and winning a Scottish contest only a week later.

We should all be proud of our community and the hard work of all competitors, volunteers, and organizers. I'd like to thank the rest of the Executive for another great year. I hope to remain as Grading Director for the 2010 season and look forward to working with all of you in the year to come.

Submitted by Sean Johnston

November 15, 2009

Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band November 15, 2009 Report for the PPBAM Annual Meeting

Greetings to the members of the Prairie Pipe Band Association.

A year and a half ago, the decision was made to send our band to Scotland for another opportunity to experience its culture, perform and compete. A bold decision it was, considering the world's economic state of affairs. However, we forged ahead and worked hard to raise the funds to do it. It is Mr. Fraser's philosophy that the boys should travel for free, insuring that no one stays home because they can't afford it. We met our financial goal and spent two weeks in August, touring Scotland from our home base in Stirling, and then headed north for several days in Inverness.

The band's performance in George Square at 'Piping Live' could even be seen by family at home via the internet, they lunched with Lord and Lady Selkirk and their son Andrew in the Great Hall of Lennoxlove, and performed in the rose garden of Stirling Castle. It was a very soggy morning on Glasgow Green at the Worlds, but the rain stopped just before the band played, and they not only qualified that morning, they went on to be 8th in the World! Everyone was pretty pleased. Imagine the excitement when the following weekend, they placed FIRST at the Bute Highland Games! The next morning 27 happy boys and 48 proud travel companions headed back to Winnipeg with amazing memories.

As the Scottish Pavilion organizers enjoyed our band so much last year, they asked us to be their host band again this year. Every night for a week the boys performed. Folklorama ended Saturday night and Sunday morning they were on the plane to Scotland! A busy time indeed!

Along with all the usual summer parades, you can see that the year has been non-stop piping and drumming. The Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band also participated in the Selkirk Settlers Parade in September, taking turns with the St. Andrew's Pipe Band, playing, as the parade headed to the monument.

The band has made us proud at all the competitions they've participated in. As well, our boys are very visible in the solo part of the competitions, and come home with an impressive selection of medals.

Last fall, two senior boys graduated from the band. In 2 weeks we will hold our 2009 graduation banquet and say farewell to seven graduates, including the pipe major Graeme McCombe.

However, we know that through the hard work of Mr. Fraser and all our volunteer instructors, the band will build up its proficiency in no time, and carry on the traditions of piping and drumming that have kept this band so strong for 52 years.

The only drawback to such longevity, is that equipment and uniforms do wear out! Through the fundraising efforts of our parent body, and the support from an ever increasing loyal alumni and "Friends of the Pipe Band", we have upgraded some instruments, and parts of our uniforms have already begun to be replaced. The boys wore new shirts in Scotland, and tartan is on order to address replacing aging kilts. So, we should still be able to win that "Dress and Deportment" over the years to come!

I would like to take a moment to congratulate all of the Champion Supreme winners here today.

Well done! Thank you

Respectfully submitted by:

Robyn McCombe

Men's Past President

Transcona and District Pipe Band

Congratulations to all pipe bands for their recent trips this past summer and for doing so well in competition while away.

The Transcona and District Pipe Band have been quite active this past year.

We started the year off strong with all our band members and students getting right to business in early September working on both individual and group instruction. Committed to our community, we attended many parades in and around the city in particular leading parades for the Transcona Legion.

We've performed at many events this year, the highlight of which was playing as guests at the Winnipeg Philharmonic Choir's "Songs of the British Isles" concert.

Our band members did very well in both solo and band competition at our local events as well as our yearly trip to Regina/Moose Jaw. Our year was capped off with a trip to Nova Scotia in July to compete at events in Halifax and Antigonish. Along with the competitions, the band and our families took in the sights, sounds and culture of Atlantic Canada.

This fall we lost four of our senior band members, one has moved on to The City of Regina Pipe Band while the other three are taking a break after many years service to the band.

The upcoming year looked to be a challenge, but we've had a piper and snare drummer join our competition band bringing our ranks to six pipers, two snare drummers with one tenor and a bass for our midsection. Three of our junior pipers are now uniformed and making their way up the ranks by playing in our parade band. At present we have one student on drum pad two on tenor and three chanter students.

Despite our size, the Transcona and District Pipe Band continue to meet the challenges that confront all pipe bands these days. Issues like recruitment and retention of current members continues to be struggle for all bands present here today. If we all work together in full support of each other we can all continue to do well in the next few years.

Although we're all pipe bands, each of our organizations bring something different to the table by offering different options for both youth and adults who want to play pipes or drums. A continual problem within our city is the rumor mill. This fall alone, our band had been rumored to have disbanded along with other bands within the PPBAM. This is counter productive to all bands here and we would all do better to familiarize ourselves with each other's organizations through the websites listed for each band or better yet contact a member of a band to see for yourself what is going on.

We came here today unified as members of the Prairie Pipe Band Association of Manitoba, lets continue to work together to support each other after we leave here today and through out the coming year.

Congratulations to all Champion Supreme winners today and the best of luck to all pipe bands and event staff for the 2010 band year and the upcoming competition season.

PPBAM AGM

ST.ANDREWS SOCIETY OF WINNIPEG PIPE BAND

ANNUAL REPORT

This past season marked another chapter in the growth of our band and organization. We saw a few changes to our membership, the biggest being a new lead drummer. Sean Johnston who was the lead for our grade 4 band stepped up to assume the role of lead for the grade 2 band. With the support of the pipe section and midsection plus of course the snare line, the new drum core was a success, well done Sean.

The band participated in all the local contest and once again made the trek down east to Maxville/Montreal. We returned to Ottawa as the headliner for the B in The Park concert, again with great reviews. Our winter concert was taken to new heights with the addition of more effects and of course, the hard work and talent of both bands and backing musicians. This year promises to be even better, the date being February 6th at the Jubilee Auditorium. This year, the band has grown again in both the piping and drumming ranks. Our mentoring program is proving quite successful with new members being up to speed quicker and actually being able to participate with much less start up stress.

Our plan for the year is of course the local contest circuit, a return to the North American Championships and then continuing on to Scotland for the World Pipe Band Championships.

PPBAM AGM

MANITOBA HIGHLAND GATHERING REPORT

On behalf of the Manitoba Highland Gathering, I would like to thank the PPBAM for the generous contest grant. These funds help to ensure local contests provide a quality contest for all the participants.

We would also like to thank all the bands and competitors who participated for without you, the games would not exist.

This past year saw the Gathering make a date change to a week earlier than usual. There were many reasons for this change taking into account that the Gathering is not just a piping and drumming event. There are many pieces that make the Gathering what it is. The result was what we had hoped for with all levels of participation increased. Piping and Drumming ran very smoothly and very on time, something for which we have not been noted for in the past!

We wish to thank all our volunteers from that day who helped make it a success. We also are putting out the word that we are looking for more volunteers and our date for this coming season is June 19th, 2010.

PRAIRIE PIPE BAND ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA 2009-2010

NOMINATIONS FOR EXECUTIVE,

BOARD OF DIRECTORS and MEMBERS AT LARGE

The following people have agreed to let their name stand for the following Executive positions:

President

Wes Sheppard

Secretary

Pat Johnston

Treasurer

Kathy Brown

The following people have agreed to let their name stand for the following Board of Director positions:

Director of Public Relations

Ian Aastrom

Director of Grading

Sean Johnston

Nominations from the floor will be accepted for all positions including the following vacant positions:

Vice President

Director of Contests

Member at Large

Champion Supreme Awards 2009

PIPING

Chanter	Laura Prince	Transcona & District Pipe Band
Novice	Jordan Perillo	Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band
Grade 4	Jack McLarty	Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band
Grade 3	Cassandra Hill	Transcona & District Pipe Band
Grade 2	Ryan Stewart	Transcona & District Pipe Band
Grade 1	Clarke Stockton	St. Andrew's Society of Winnipeg Gr 2

DRUMMING

Drum Pad	Cameron Kirby	Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band
Novice	Dirck Fakes	Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band
Grade 4	Lorenzo Perillo	Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band
Grade 3	Dylan Knight	St. Andrew's Society of Winnipeg Gr 3
Grade 2	Cameron Fidler	St. Andrew's Society of Winnipeg Gr 2
Grade 1	N/A	-

Novice Tenor	Gina Marsh	St. Andrew's Society of Winnipeg Gr 3
Int. Tenor	N/A	
Pro Tenor	Megan Ross	St. Andrew's Society of Winnipeg Gr 2
Novice Bass	N/A	
Pro Bass	Bryden Stewart	Transcona & District

PIOBAIREACHD

Grade 4	Kevin Bairos-Novak	Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band
Grade 3	Mark Jorgenson	St. Andrew's Society of Winnipeg Gr 3
Grade 1	Graeme McCombe	Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band

BANDS

Grade 5	N/A	-
Grade 4	Transcona & District/Lord Selkirk Boys	
Grade 3	St. Andrew's Society Gr 3	
Grade 2	St. Andrew's Society Gr 2	

Champion Supreme Winners must have competed in more than 50% of the contest events offered for their grade.