

**Prairie Pipe Band Association of Manitoba  
Annual General Meeting  
Sunday December 3, 2023  
Minutes**

Attendees

PPBAM Board: Ian Aastrom, Fiona Plischke, Ian Wood, Diane Kotelko, Deb Caille-Wolfe, Tara Brown, Kathleen Hunt, Liam Speirs, Heather Purvis. Regrets: Peter Heavysege.

Meeting called to order at 2:07 pm. by President, Ian Aastrom. Minutes from 2022 AGM accepted.

**President Report** read and submitted by Ian Aastrom.

**Treasurer Report** read by Ian Aastrom in Peter's absence, submitted by Peter Heavysege.

**Secretary** had nothing to report.

**Director of Grading** Working with bands official rosters, filtering questions from contest organizers. Action to post new/updated form for registration on website.

**Director of Player Development** Trying to get more pipers interested in piping for highland games.

**Director of Contests.** Sanctioned 3 successful contests this year. Dates for 2024 season are as follows:

- February 17, solos only, venue TBD,
- March 9, Spring Fling-solos, mini bands, HMS Chippawa,
- April 6, Winnipeg Scottish Festival, Canadian Mennonite University
- June 9, St. Andrews Society picnic/PPBAM Jam, venue TBD
- June 23, Manitoba Highland Games, Legacy Park, East Selkirk

**Public Relations.** Monitored social media and updated website as needed. Distributed requests for players to bands.

Motion to accept reports, Ian Aastrom 2<sup>nd</sup> Heather Purvis. Carried.

**Band/Organization Reports**

**LSRFMPB.** With 28 kids joining last year, and 10 this year, the band numbers will still be slim with recent graduates. Next couple of years will see a smaller band as newer members learn music.

**St. Andrew's Grade 4 Pipe Band.** We found Zoom to be an effective tool during Covid keeping the band alive and strong. Scotland trip was definite highlight with band competing at Perth Highland Games and World Pipe Band Championships.

**St. Andrew's Grade 3 Pipe Band.** Numbers down from covid but have added a few new members, trips planned for future and feeling confident going into next year.

**Clandeboye.** We are primarily a teaching band, all ages. Looking forward to upcoming year.

**Queens Own Cameron Highlanders-**Reserve band with mix of civilian and service personnel. Attended the Kelowna Tattoo and sent a couple of players to Belgium. Cadet students back up to pre-Covid numbers.

**Winnipeg Police Pipe Band.** 3-4 performances in the past few months highlight were Basill Tattoo in Switzerland. Big Band PM is Neil Bunston, LD Jacob Carlson has been filling in for Craig Weston. Grade 2 Competition band lead by PM Mike competed in Pleasanton California.

**ANAVETS 303.** Street/Parade Band teaching adults. Entire roster is back to pre-Covid numbers. Slight hiccup with practice venue but still able to practice weekly.

**RCMP D Division.** Band has been busy with Canada 150 Celebrations this year and has a music collection online.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

PPBAM goal is to work with membership to help build a strong piping and drumming community in Manitoba by gathering ideas and concepts throughout the year, implementing a few on a trial basis and present findings at next year's AGM. PPBAM will focus on three areas: contests, business plan and board positions.

Centralizing Contests. PPBAM will manage entries, stewards, and judges instead of putting that onus on the bands/organizations. Details to be discussed which will be tasked to the newly formed committee.

PPBAM will develop a 3–5-year business plan looking at operations, lack of processes, reviewing Constitution and how to remain relevant. We hope some of our members will join us to help form a committee.

Re-title positions and removal of Member at Large. Carl concerned about the removal of this position as it is an important transparency piece to the membership. Positions will stay. Also, rebranding PPBAM to bring a more modernized look and feel.

Due to absence of Treasurer no new budget was presented.

### **ELECTION OF BOARD**

President-Ian Aastrom by acclamation

Vice President-Ian Wood acclamation

Treasurer-Peter Heavysege by acclamation-absent-no nominations, closed.

Secretary-Fiona Plischke by acclamation

Director of Grading- Liam Spiers to stand.

Director of Player Development -Heather Purvis to stand.

Director of Contests -Deb Caille-Wolfe to stand.

Director of Public Relations- Kathleen Hunt to stand.

Members at Large

Tara brown

Diane Kotelko

Ross McMahon

Motion to adjourn at 3:30 pm by Dan Locke, 2<sup>nd</sup> Deb Caille-Wolfe.