

**PRAIRIE PIPE BAND ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2013  
Elmwood Legion #9, 920 Nairn Ave., Winnipeg**

Meeting called to order at 7:15 p.m.

In attendance: Wes Sheppard, Robyn McCombe, Pat Johnston, Kathy Brown, Gale Walker, Heather Wiens, Bill Laird, David Bowman, Alex Peden, Fiona Plischke, Evan Maydaniuk, Rob McLeary, Iain Graham, Diane Kotelko, Troy Pauls, Ken Boath, Shandra Bast, Wendy Lynch, Craig Weston, Kirby McRae, Dave Stewart, Ryan Stewart, Dave Armishaw, Dawn Carey, David Carey, Chris Brown, Scott Foster, Karen Bowman, Sandra Johnston, Shane Hawley, Helen Hawley, Dennis Schindler, Andrea Stuart-Perillo, Jordan Perillo, Ian Clark, Don Byers.

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

**Adoption of the Agenda:** Moved by Craig Weston, WSF; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karen Bowman, WPP. Motion Carried

**Approval of the AGM Minutes of Nov. 16, 2012** Motion to accept Minutes moved by David Bowman, PPBAM; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Craig Weston, WSF - Motion Carried.

**Agenda Item 1:** President's Report – Wes Sheppard – See attached.

**Agenda Item 2:** Vice President's Report –Robyn McCombe – See attached

**Agenda Item 3:** Secretary's Report – Pat Johnston – See attached

**Agenda Item 4:** Treasurer's Report – Kathy Brown – See attached

Motion to accept Financial Statements as presented by Kathy Brown, 2<sup>nd</sup> Evan Maydaniuk, Glenaura Carried.

**Agenda Item 5:** Director of Public Relations report – Bill Laird See Attached.

**Agenda Item 6:** Director of Grading – Heather Wiens – See Attached

**Agenda Item 7:** Director of Contests – Gale Walker – see attached.

**Agenda Item 8: Band Reports** - All Bands in attendance at today's meeting gave verbal reports; copies of emailed or printed versions are attached if submitted. Anavet Unit 303 – Robyn McCombe; Glenaura – Rob McLeary; Lord Selkirk – Diane Kotelko; Prairie Thistle – Ken Boath; St. Andrews Gr 2 – Wes Sheppard; St. Andrews Gr 3 – Alex Peden; Transcona – Dave Stewart; Two Rivers – Wes Sheppard, Winnipeg Police – David Bowman, Erin Street – Don Byers.

**Agenda Item 9: Contest Reports** – Winnipeg Scottish Festival (next year Feb 15, 2014) – report read from Velma Davis; Selkirk Highland Games – Wes Sheppard; Brandon Highland Festival - no report; Riverwalk Highland Gathering at the Forks, report read from Velma Davis.

See Reports attached.

**Agenda Item 10: Old Business** -

**Constitution Review** – Wes Sheppard as mentioned in President's report, a review has been started of our Constitution. The face of piping and drumming is changing and rule interpretation also changing worldwide to promote piping and drumming. All contests are struggling in other provinces not just our own. Bands are not travelling and that affects numbers at competitions in solos and bands. We are trying to put more clarification for bands in the Constitution and contest package. We want to promote piping and drumming and get greater participation at all our events. We have assembled a list of items we wish to change at this time. These items were circulated to all members so we can vote on the changes tonight.

**July 3 Special Meeting on Contest**-covered in Director of Contests report by Gale Walker(see attached)

**Agenda Item 11: New Business -**  
Proposed Changes to the Constitution

Membership fees were discussed and the following change was field amended by the members present at the meeting.

**In Accordance with PPBAM Constitution By-Law 2.1**

**The Board of Directors of the Prairie Pipe Band Association recommends maintaining current fee levels for all classes of Membership with the exception of “Non-Competing Bands”. The Board of Directors would like to recommend that this fee be lowered from the current \$175.00 per year to \$25.00 per year to encourage all pipe bands in Manitoba/North Western Ontario to belong to our PPBAM. Non-Competing Bands will be given a Regular Membership which allows them one vote.**  
**Motion by Karen Bowman, WPP 2<sup>nd</sup> Diane Kotelko, LSBPB MOTION CARRIED.**

**Proposed Changes to:**  
**Constitution of The Prairie Pipe Band Association of Manitoba Inc. November, 2011**

Current:

8.2b Any protest regarding judging, or otherwise, of recognized and approved contests must be submitted in writing no later than 10 minutes after the conclusion of a contest to the local games committee. If the local games committee cannot settle the matter, the final decision on the protest will be made by designated PPBAM representatives attending the games.

Proposed Changes (*in Italics*)

8.2b Any protest regarding judging, or otherwise, of recognized and approved contests must be submitted in writing no later than *15* minutes after the conclusion of *Massed Band* to the local games committee. If the local games committee cannot settle the matter, the final decision on the protest will be made by designated PPBAM representatives attending the games.

**Motion by Dave Bowman, WPP 2<sup>nd</sup> Ken Boath, Prairie Community MOTION CARRIED.**

Current:

8.3f in slow march contests, for grades 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 bands shall play at least two parts slow march and at least four parts 6/8 to be performed in a circled formation.

Proposed Change *8.3f To be Deleted* (Slow March is a special event at contests)

**Motion by Scott Foster, WPP 2<sup>nd</sup> Craig Weston, WSF MOTION CARRIED.**

Current:

8.5c Novice Piping

Proposed Changes (*in Italics*)

*Amateur Grade 5 Piping* (*Renamed*)

**Motion by Ken Boath, Prairie Comm. 2<sup>nd</sup> Diane Kotelko, LSBPB MOTION CARRIED**

8.5f Snare Drumming categories to be used and tunes and sets required to be submitted are:

Current:

Proposed Changes (*in Italics*)

Professional Snare Drumming

- MSR: submit 2 sets
- Hornpipe and Jig: submit 2 sets
- Drum Solo WITHOUT piper, 3-5 minutes

Professional Snare Drumming

- MSR: submit 2 sets
- Hornpipe and Jig: submit 2 sets
- (Drum Solo deleted)*

Amateur Grade 1 Snare Drumming

- MSR
- Hornpipe and Jig
- Drum Solo WITHOUT piper, 2-4 minutes

Amateur Grade 1 Snare Drumming

- MSR
- Hornpipe and Jig
- (Drum Solo deleted)*

8.5f Continued Current:

Amateur Grade 2 Snare Drumming

- MSR
- Hornpipe and Jig
- 6/8 March

Amateur Grade 3 Snare Drumming

- MSR
- Jig
- 6/8 March

Amateur Grade 4 Snare Drumming

- 2/4 March

Novice Snare Drumming

- 2/4 March (2 parts)

Proposed Changes (*in Italics*)

Amateur Grade 2 Snare Drumming

- MSR
- Hornpipe and Jig
- (*6/8 March Deleted*)

Amateur Grade 3 Snare Drumming

- *2/4 March*
- 6/8 March
- (*MSR & Jig Deleted*)

Amateur Grade 4 Snare Drumming

- 2/4 March
- *6/8 March*

*Amateur Grade 5 Snare Drumming* (Renamed)

- 2/4 March (2 parts)

**8.5f Motion on all above items for 8f Ken Boath, Prairie Comm. 2<sup>nd</sup> Karen Bowman, WPP MOTION CARRIED**

Current:

8.5g Novice Drum pad must use the approved PPBAM Drum Pad Contest Playing Requirements. Competitors competing in the drum pad class are ineligible to compete in band events.

Proposed Changes (*in Italics*) ***Field amendment for clarification (underscored)***

8.5g Drum pad must use the approved PPBAM Drum Pad Contest Playing Requirements. Competitors competing in the drum pad class are ineligible to compete in band events *on the snare drum* (*Novice name Deleted*)

**Motion by Evan Maydaniuk, Glenaura 2<sup>nd</sup> Chris Brown, WPP MOTION CARRIED**

Current:

8.5h When required to play four parts, competitors must use one four-parted tune or two different two-parted tunes.

Proposed Changes (*in Italics*)

8.5h When required to play four parts, competitors must use one four-parted tune. (*Delete or two different two-parted tunes*)

**Motion by Alex Peden, SASPB 2<sup>nd</sup> Ken Boath, Prairie Comm. MOTION CARRIED**

*The following items to be renumbered to keep general items together, followed by piping, drumming and piobaireachd.in this 8.5 item (after the above changes are made.*

*8.5h moves to 8.5c*

*8.5i moves to 8.5d*

*8.5j moves to 8.5e*

*8.5m moves to 8.5f*

*8.5c becomes 8.5g*

*8.5d becomes 8.5h*

*8.5e becomes 8.5i*

*8.5f becomes 8.5j*

*8.5g becomes 8.5k*

*8.5k becomes 8.5l*

*8.5l becomes 8.5m*

**Motion by Ken Boath, Prairie Comm. 2<sup>nd</sup> Shandra Bast, Prairie Comm. all renumbering items in 8.5 above MOTION CARRIED**

Constitution and Contest Package information will be updated on our website.

## **Agenda Item 12: Election of Officers-**

A proposed slate of officers was presented to the membership – advising the current Executive (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer) and Director of Contests, Director of Public Relations, Members at Large (2) would allow their names to stand – each position was opened to the floor for additional nominations – none were presented. **Motion to accept slate of Officers as presented – Heather Wiens, SASPB, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ken Both, Prairie Community CARRIED.**

Vacant positions - Member(s) at Large –

**Barbie Sands (Anavets 283), nominated by Heather Wiens, SASPB 2<sup>nd</sup> Dave Bowman, Wpg Police**

Barbie agreed to let her name stand, no further nominations **Motion Carried.**

**Nominations accepted for Director of Grading – Craig Weston, Wpg Police nominated by Dave Bowman Wpg Police 2<sup>nd</sup> Heather Wiens, SASPB** No further nominations. Craig agreed to let his name stand. **Motion Carried.**

### **The 2013-2014 PPBAM Executive:**

President	Wes Sheppard	Director of Contests	Gale Walker
Vice President	Robyn McCombe	Director of Grading	Craig Weston
Secretary	Pat Johnston	Director of Public Relations	Bill Laird
Treasurer	Kathy Brown	Member(s) at Large-	Dave Bowman, Alex Peden, Barbie Sands

## **Agenda Item 13: Champion Supreme Award Presentations –**

see list of award winners attached

Notes – Pipes and Sticks movie being shown at Silver City Sunday Dec 1 for all interest.

Pipe Major Don Morrison is currently recovering from heart surgery.

**Motion to Adjourn: Diane Kotelko, LSBPB, 2<sup>nd</sup> Craig Weston, Wpg Police Carried – 9:00 pm.**

Reports follow that were received electronically.

### **PPBAM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

#### **PRESIDENTS REPORT – Wes Sheppard November 15, 2013**

Good evening and welcome to all our members, executive and our award winners.

I would like to take the time to thank all of our executive for their time and effort, without them none of this would happen. I would like to thank all the bands and participants because without you taking your time to participate, none of this would happen and it would be a tragic loss to our culture and heritage. A big thank you to the games and all their volunteers for giving us the forum to play and do what we do.

Big congratulations to our Champion Supreme winners and all who participated this year.

This year, we did not undertake any major projects. We looked at the constitution and have submitted some changes that we felt were needed at this time. There is more work to do to it but we did not wish to rush in just for the sake of change. The piping and drumming community is changing and we want to make sure our constitution and rules reflect what is best for the times and to better represent us on the global front. We also want to make sure that we set ourselves up to promote piping and drumming in Manitoba as to what best fits our needs and keeps as many people participating as possible.

Thank you for a good year. Wes Sheppard President PPBAM

#### **VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT – ROBYN MCCOMBE**

Good evening. I encourage everyone to go to the Prairie Pipe Band Association of Manitoba's website, where you'll find the histories and some pictures of many of our pipe bands. Thank you to those who submitted write-ups and photos, and to Bill Laird for its presentation on the website. If anyone has information or pictures to enhance this display, or information on any other bands, please feel free to contact us.

Another project I would like to cultivate over the coming year that would also be made available on our website, is a "Wall of Fame". This will consist of compact biographies and photos of several of Manitoba's leaders in piping and drumming – Bob Fraser, George Lawrence, Don Morrison, Harold Cooper, to name a few. Once again, I invite input from anyone in the pipe band community to send in information and/or pictures of key

people like these. Now I wish to congratulate our Champion Supreme winners. The musical talent in Manitoba remains strong. Well done! Thank you. Respectfully, Robyn McCombe

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT – PAT JOHNSTON**

My duties during the past year included preparing the agenda and minutes for all Executive meetings, and handling correspondence on behalf of the Executive. I received and tabled scholarship applications - 5 - \$200.00 scholarships were awarded this year to Libby Carey, Melissa Orobko, Delaney Martin, Braeden Pope & Kelton Lynch. This year the Marlene Stephen Memorial Scholarship for \$650.00 (\$350.00 from the PPBAM & \$300.00 from the Marlene Stephen Trust Fund) was awarded to Nolan Armishaw.

I was away at the time of the July meeting, so my thanks to Gale Walker for taking minutes of the meeting. I have prepared all the notices to members and bands for our AGM today as well as all documentation, including Agenda, reports, Nomination list and recording attendance. I have notified winners of Champion Supreme Awards and ordered trophies. I would like to congratulate all the winners this evening for their hard work and commitment to their performances.

For our meeting today, Pipe Bands and Competitions, please email me a copy of your reports if you have not already. Note: Nominal Roles and memberships are due Dec 15th. Thank You Pat Johnston

### **TREASURER'S REPORT – KATHY BROWN**

Good Evening Everyone: The following is my report. I will discuss in detail our year end statement and budget however I will only touch quickly on the mini games from a financial standpoint and Gale will bring you up to date on the details of the event.

#### Financial Report

Revenue \$5,363.19, Expenses \$7,012.63. I have not included the champion supreme awards as I do not have the bill at this time. This will mean that next year's year end statement will reflect 2 years of champion supreme awards. Bank account balance \$149.21 with no cheques outstanding. We presently have 3 investments. Two investments are for \$2,000.00 each as well we have the ANAPBA investment of \$3,043.65. We cashed in the "rainy day" fund to cover some of our expenses this year. Total assets to date are still a healthy \$7,192.86.

#### Budget

Our projected revenue was down this year by \$1,501.81. This was mainly in the Band membership fees as well individual grading cards issued. The Executive has had discussions around these shortfalls and possible solutions which will be discussed later in the meeting. Our expenses were in line with our budget however this is not including the champion supreme awards. If they had been expensed, we would have had a shortfall of \$117.63. Our biggest expense this year was the mini games and scholarships. We could have cut back on scholarships however the Executive felt this was an important part of our mandate and we do have funds to cover this expense.

#### Mini Games

We had 61 entries this year and we did increase the cost to enter up to \$10.00. Thank you to Gale for getting us her school as this kept the cost down. Our biggest expense was for the trophies. Total loss was \$657.21, however again we felt this was money well spent as it is giving back to our membership.

**At this time, the Executive is not recommending any increase to fees.** We feel that our prices are within reason. Next year, we will be looking at ways to reduce some of our expenses so we hopefully end the year with a balanced budget. In past years we have had excess funds and that has placed us in a good financial situation so we can over years like this. I'm sure all Bands will agree that numbers are down and this is reflected in our revenues as well. Respectfully submitted Kathy Brown.

### **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS – BILL LAIRD**

Our PPBAM website has functioned well in 2013. We have not experienced some of the technical glitches that we have seen in the past. The costs to operate the website are a hosting fee, and a Domain registration fee. Our biennial fee for the Expert Plus plan that we subscribe to is \$137.10 for 2 years, that expires April 15, 2014. This plan is thru IX Webhosting, and includes excellent technical support that was very helpful in the beginning, and when we encounter technical glitches. Our Domain Registration fee, thru TierraNet (formerly Domain Discovery) is \$17 per year, and expires Nov 12, 2014. This cost has averaged at \$77.00 per year.

We added a new section to our website this year titled Manitoba Pipe Band History. Thanks to the McCombes for the compilation. The History will be a work in progress, as we gather more info. Please send in any photos that would add to this story.

We will also be adding an individual section to our History. This will spotlight those who have made a contribution to piping in Manitoba. Many have taught the music, provided leadership, played the music, volunteering countless time and effort to make piping what it is today. Please email me a picture-bio of those you feel have contributed. We would like to make this as complete as possible, and rely on the membership to provide the information. If you have suggestions on how we can improve our site, please contact myself. Thank you. Respectfully submitted, Bill Laird

### **DIRECTOR OF GRADING – HEATHER WIENS**

Good evening everyone! My report is not a long one this season. It has been a great year and I would like to congratulate all of the solo competitors and bands who have won Champion Supreme this evening, as well as all of those who participated in competitive activities this season. This participation only serves to provide feedback to our students of piping and drumming and improve the playing standard in our province. Unfortunately, our numbers were down slightly this season to 180 distributed cards, which is down for our past years of over 200 registered members. However, it is nice to see so many folks out to our meeting tonight and participating in the activities of the association.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone on the PPBAM Executive as well as all musical participants over the past 3 years as I have decided to step down this evening as the Director of Grading (as long as someone is willing to take over the position). I have enjoyed my time on the executive and I wish everyone the best as we enter the 2013-2014 season. Respectfully submitted, Heather Wiens

### **DIRECTOR OF CONTESTS – GALE WALKER**

The Winnipeg Scottish Festival was held February 16, 2013. It was a busy day of consultations, interpretations and rulings. During the solo competition in the morning 2 situations arose that required rulings. The first situation was a solo piper from Lord Selkirk had moved up this year from Grade 4 to Grade 3 and during his Strathspey/reel competition played 2- 2parted strathspeys and a 4 parted reel. The player did not place and after clarification with the adjudicator it was decided to let his play stand. I did inform the player's band instructor that this would be something that would have to be rectified for his next competition.

In the Tenor competition a play, a player from Prairie Thistle entered and played in the Novice Tenor competition and placed. After consultation with the Director of Grading, it was clear that he had been registered at and his grading card indicated Intermediate Tenor. We tried to have him play in the correct event but he had left the premises. It was decided that he would be disqualified for the event he played in and his band instructor was made aware of this decision.

During the band events in the afternoon, the Grade 4 Macalester Pipe Band was disqualified from the quick march medley as they failed to meet the required minimum time of play ( short 13 seconds). I informed the Pipe Major of the decision immediately at the conclusion of the play.

The Winnipeg Police Pipe Band, who was new to this competition this year, was given a warning after their first play of being to line on time. I informed the Pipe Major and the Drum Sargent that they were 4 minutes late and would give them grace as this was their first event. They thanked me and complied with time regulations the rest of their plays.

The Conservatory of Music tapped into formation of a circle during their Quick March Medley. The rules state they should play in from the line. It was decided not to disqualify them and I spoke to their Pipe Major about this infraction so they could learn from this mistake.

At the conclusion of St. Andrew's Society Pipe Band grade 2 Medley I was summoned to the timer's table for a ruling. One timer had the band timed at 6:00.03 and the other at 5:59:06. I made the decision to call it an even 6:00 and not have the band disqualified for going over time. I did inform the band of this time issue so that they could correct it for their next competition.

I thank my PPBAM colleagues for their support as I consulted with them on decisions that made this games fair and educational.

The PPBAM Indoor Solo Contest that was held on March 16<sup>th</sup> at Westgrove School had 43 solo competitors and 4 bands entered in the Mini-band competition. The large number of drummers entered necessitated the hire of another local judge to adjudicate classes so that the competition would run in a timely fashion. There were no protests or issues.

The Brandon Highland Games was held on April 27<sup>th</sup>. This was the return of this competition after a year absence with a new committee running the Games. I attended the Games to observe and assist where necessary. The committee did a good job of setting up the facilities, hiring judges and preparing as much as they knew how to for a games. During the day, I assisted them with registration in the morning. There was one member from Prairie Thistle who was registered to compete in drum pad and wanted to move up to novice snare so he could compete in the band events. After consulting we informed his band instructor that he could do that but he would lose all his champion supreme points that he had collected to this point. The competitor, after consideration of this point, chose to remain as a drum pad competitor. We did have a competitor who played in the Grade 4 2/4 march who played 2-2parted 2/4s. His instructor was upset that it do not clearly state in the contest package that the requirement was 1- 4 parted 2/4. This will have to be amended in an update of the contest package so it clearly states what the requirements for each class are.

There was a little miscommunication and disarray as the band competition began. The Conservatory of Performing Arts scratched from their slow air 6/8 play and somehow misunderstood and played their Quick March Medley at the wrong time. The judge's sheets had been mixed up and confusion followed. I organized the sheets for the judges for the band event correctly and then got the contest back on track with the correct bands playing the correct events.

I have had subsequent follow-up emails with the committee members and have offered my services to help them with next year's contest which have been received positively.

The Riverwalk Highland Gathering was held May 25, 2013. The contest was held without any protests or rulings. A suggestion would be to have the contest organizers not leave it up to the judges as to disqualification on time infractions. A whole class started late and continued to throw all the times off because the competitors thought the competition did not start until 30 minutes after their allotted start time. Also a quartet made the judge wait for over 30 minutes while a substitute player drove from Transcona. None of these infractions were brought to my attention until well after the fact. It would be my suggestion that any infraction over 10 minutes late result in immediate disqualification. This is practice in other associations and we need to make it practice here or we are doing our members a disservice if they compete elsewhere.

The Manitoba Highland Gathering was held on June 22, 2013. It was run without protests or rulings.

On July 3, 2013 a "town hall" style meeting was held with interested members to discuss the following points.

A) Have the membership consider/find solutions to assist contests be sustainable now and in the future.

B) Have the PPBAM play a greater role in assisting contests by creating a Master/Central registry and a consistent steward panel.

C) Support existing contests by adding additional volunteers from our membership/member supporters.

This was a lively evening of good conversation which resulted in the following actions:

1) The Director of Contest would gather job descriptions from all of the contest committees and send them out to the membership so that each band could inform their members and supporters by August 1 with the understanding that each band will/may be called upon to provide volunteers for contests.

2) PPBAM will take a greater role in assisting contests.

3) Non-competitive bands be invited to play a more active role in our Association.

There is still much work to do in this area but coming together and being informed was a very positive first step. Respectfully submitted Gale Walker

## **BAND REPORTS**

### **ANAVET #303 – Robyn McCombe**

The ANAVET #303 Pipe Band had another busy year during which I enjoyed serving as its Pipe Major. We performed for the usual parades and venues in rural Manitoba, at the Rockwood Unit and at Folklorama. We added a parade this summer to Blumenort. Due to some illness or injuries, we've had some band members needing to step back until they were able to return to playing. Most have made a good comeback and we are delighted whenever the others are able to join us. Even having you in our audience supporting us, or phone calls or emails to find out how things are going, is appreciated.

We do have impressive numbers when we're all together, and this is very helpful in still providing a great performance even if some members are "on leave". Our novice players are gaining confidence and are making progress, which can only be an asset to our band. I'd like to thank Ron Dawson for the help and guidance he provides our novice pipers. Thank you again to the executive and band members who continue to support me, and help keep the band operating like a well-oiled machine. It is much appreciated.

The band is still receiving positive feedback about the quality of our performances, (as recently as last week's Remembrance Day) and this is mainly due to the dedication and commitment of every band member performing to the best of their ability. I continue to enjoy the camaraderie of this band. Thanks for another great year. Respectfully submitted by: Robyn McCombe Pipe Major

**GLENAURA PIPES & DRUMS – submitted by Vice President Rob McLeary**

We would like to start by congratulating all of our fellow bands on another successful season; it is good to see a more competitive grade three. This year has been full of ups and downs for our band. We have had an overwhelmingly successful fundraising drive this year. Our band has continued to grow in numbers, attracting more young people and others entering back into the competitive circle. We have done many parades across Manitoba, such as Selkirk, Gimli, Altona and Morden and the United States, such as Cavalier, Park River and Oslo. On the competition circuit, we made some major inroads, achieving 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the slow 6/8 at three competitions and a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish at the River Walk in the MSR. We were happy to see the Brandon competition back and running strong.

Outside of the competitive circuit, Glenaura has partnered with 402 Squadron on numerous occasions and we look forward to continuing to foster this mutually beneficial friendship. In the upcoming year the band looks to upgrade the drums for our tenor corps, modernizing our band uniforms and recruiting new members. In the broader community, Glenaura is dedicated to the wellbeing of the Manitoban Scottish community. We have two members, Scott Stothers and Evan Maydaniuk, volunteering on behalf of Glenaura for the Winnipeg Scottish Festival and River Walk Highland Gathering planning committees.

Despite all the good things that has happened in our band, we also struggled with the sudden tragic passing of Anthony Caterer one of our talented drummers. He was a gifted musician, but above all else, was a good friend to every member of our band and is sorely missed.

In closing, Glenaura is committed to maintaining a healthy and strong piping and drumming community and looks forward to working with other individuals and bands to achieve this goal. Best of luck to all bands for the upcoming competitive season! Warm regards, Leigh Ward, Pipe Major and Bob Grant, President.

**Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band – submitted by Diane Kotelko.**

This past year was a most enjoyable and a successful one for the band. The band members participated in the local competitions and an annual trip to Moose Jaw and Regina during the May long weekend competing in the solo/band events with great enthusiasm and placing in most events. There were numerous parades and performances over the course of the year and always well received notably Folklorama as the host band, Morden Corn and Apple Festival, Neepawa's Lily festival and several school bar-b-que's. The band had five members graduate from the band including Pipe Major Jack McLarty with his family returning to Scotland in August. Brent Pauls has taken the responsibility of Pipe Major and Jonathan Fennell took over from Danny Murray as Lead drummer. A strong spring and summer recruitment drive has help with bringing in 10 new students this fall and 10 returning students from last year. The band as a whole is looking forward to the New Year, up-coming highland games and all around good fun that the Pipe band world provides.

**ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY GRADE 2 REPORT - Wes Sheppard, Pipe Major**

The band had an OK year. Our numbers were down but rather than take a year off, we carried on and worked on a building process. We stayed to the local circuit and were happy with the playing standard we achieved. This year, we have some new players, some returning players and are in good shape. The plan is to get back on track visiting the North American Championships this year.

This is the last report to be given from the St Andrews Society of Winnipeg Pipe Band. Our long term relationship with the St Andrews Society of Winnipeg has ended. Having said that, the band will continue operations under the name The St Andrews Pipe Band of Winnipeg Grade 2 and will have no affiliation with the Society at all. We thank the Society for all their support throughout the years and look forward to working with them in the future.

**ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY GRADE 3 REPORT – Alex Peden, Pipe Major**

2013 proved to be an eventful transition year for the St. Andrew's Grade 3 Pipe Band. At the outset of the season, the band had a major changeover in leadership, as Pipe Major Mark Jorgenson and Drum Sergeant Dylan Knight left to pursue different ventures away from the pipe band world after many successful years with

the band. Stepping into their big shoes were myself and Dave Chorney, leading a smaller but re-dedicated group of players through the piping season.

The band competed throughout the local PPBAM competition circuit with many successful performances and improved many facets throughout the year. We would like to thank all the competitors, judges, and many volunteers whose tireless work throughout the year is invaluable in making these events possible. In addition to these contests, the band participated in several parades throughout the province before finishing the year by traveling to Minnesota to compete in their highland games.

Looking ahead to 2014, our band is looking to build on last year's experiences, with a welcome influx of new members on both sides of the band and exciting new sets to work through.

### **TRANSCONA & DISTRICT PIPE BAND – Dave Stewart, President**

The Transcona and District Pipe Band enjoyed another year of music instruction.

After last year's AGM the band continued to find a replacement drum instructor for our young students. After several months of searching we're happy to have Sean Johnston join our ranks and take over our drumming program. Ryan and Sean have been working together and provided the band a March medley to perform in competitions. Despite the size of the band, Transcona took part in all the local competitions sometimes playing for adjudication. Knowing the importance of supporting competitions, we encouraged our band members to enter in solos. Most of our members took part in solo competition, doing well and receiving comments from judges to better their playing.

Later in the year, we were fortunate to have Ian Evans join us for chanter and piping instruction and our midsection enjoys the talents of April Keenan. Both instructors have made great strides with our students and along with the leadership of Ryan and Sean we had a great end to the year.

We would like to thank the Winnipeg Police Pipe Band for their generous gift of a scholarship for one of our band members. Along with this great gift and the scholarships from the PPBAM, Transcona had three members attend the Sound Advice music camp in Regina. In October we hosted a Bud Spud at the CanadInn Transcona. This very successful event would not have been possible without the tremendous support of the piping community. With our new students and instructors, the Band is doing very well as we move ahead and on to our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2015! Congratulations to the Champion Supreme winners tonight and good luck to all pipe bands for the upcoming year. Dave Stewart

## **CONTEST REPORTS**

### **WINNPEG SCOTTISH FESTIVAL – VELMA DAVIS**

The 20th Annual Winnipeg Scottish Festival was held on February 15 and 16, 2013 at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. The Festival offered pipers, drummers and pipe bands the opportunity to compete and receive adjudications from world-renowned judges and instructors to improve their knowledge, technique and skills in Scottish pipe band music. On Friday evening, February 15, a Recital was held featuring Bob Worrall, Colin Clansey, James Troy, James MacHattie and Matt MacIsaac. Approximately 100 people attended and feedback indicated that it was a very enjoyable evening. The Festival adjudicators, Bob Worrall, Colin Clansey, James Troy, James MacHattie, Richard Wilson and Dave Bowman provided written critiques to 69 solo participants who competed in 117 sessions and 13 bands that competed in 26 sessions. Over 20 pipe bands were represented from across Canada and the Northwestern United States. A ceilidh was held immediately following Massed Bands on Saturday featuring the Dust Rhinos attended by nearly 300 people. Cultural Displays included Scottish Organizations, as well as several Scottish vendors exhibiting Celtic goods and jewelry. Although 2013 was another very successful Festival and continues to be the largest Winter Indoor Games in Western Canada there is a concern regarding the declining number of solo competitors. Approximately one-half of the solo entries were from Winnipeg with the balance from out of town. We are hopeful that more individuals will compete in the solo events next year and take advantage of the excellent judges which will adjudicate.

The Winnipeg Scottish Festival Committee is appreciative of the support from the Prairie Pipe Band Association of Manitoba as well as from all of our other sponsors and donors.

Festival Committee members Velma Davis, Kathy Brown, Marnie Wilson and Mary Knight, who have been on the committee for many years, decided to retire and turn the organization of the Winnipeg Scottish Festival over to a new Committee. We are very pleased that David Bowman, Kyle Campbell, Evan Maydaniuk, Doug Roxburgh, Jim Simon, Scott Stothers, Val Thomson and Craig Weston have stepped forward to take on this task. This Festival has been very important to the piping and drumming community in Manitoba for 20 years

and we are pleased to see such a strong group in place to continue the tradition. The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Festival will be held at the Winnipeg Convention Centre on the weekend of February 14-15, 2014. Entry forms are available this evening or on the web site. Velma Davis

### **SELKIRK HIGHLAND GATHERING – WES SHEPPARD**

Hello and congratulations to all competitors and participants. The games went well even though entries were late to be distributed. Our entries were on par with the other games but it should be noted they are considerably less than what they have been in past years. This year we made a point of using as many local adjudicators as possible. Although it helps financially, the main reason is to give our local adjudicators more experience and more visibility at home. As well we brought in Iain and Barb MacDonald from Saskatchewan and all were very well received. This year promises to hold more challenges. We are looking for volunteers for our committee and our AGM is upcoming. Any interested parties should contact the Gathering through the web contacts.

### **RIVERWALK HIGHLAND GATHERING – VELMA DAVIS**

The 3rd Annual Riverwalk Highland Gathering was held at The Forks National Historic Site on Saturday, May 25, 2013. The judges were Dave Hicks, Alex MacIntyre, Sean Somers and Ryan Sullivan. 39 solo competitors entered 63 sessions and 8 bands competed in 19 separate sessions. As with Winnipeg Scottish Festival there has been a dramatic decrease in the number of solo competitors in the past few years. It is anticipated that more individuals will compete in the solo events. There has been a great band representation and Massed Bands at The Forks is a sight to behold! The Committee is very appreciative of the support from the Prairie Pipe Band Association of Manitoba as well as from all of our other sponsors, donors, bands and individuals. The past Festival Committee - Velma Davis, Kathy Brown, Mamie Wilson and Mary Knight - are confident that the new committee will continue the Riverwalk Highland Gathering tradition. The 4th Annual Riverwalk Highland Gathering will be held at The Forks National Historic Site on Sat, May 24, 2014.

## **Champion Supreme Awards 2013**

### **PIPING**

Chanter	Sandra Johnston/Dustin Wolfe-Caille	Prairie Thistle Pipes & Drums
Novice	Christopher Graham	Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band
Grade 4	Libby Carey	Two Rivers Pipe Band
Grade 3	Melissa Orobko/Kieran Norberg	St. Andrews Gr 2/Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band
Grade 2	Kelton Lynch	St. Andrew's Gr 2
Grade 1	Jordan Perillo	No Band at this time

### **DRUMMING**

Drum Pad	Trevor Clement	Prairie Thistle Pipes & Drums
Novice	Nolan Armishaw	Transcona & District Pipes & Drums
Grade 4	Spencer Clark	Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band
Grade 3	Aaron Rosin	St. Andrew's Society of Winnipeg Gr 3
Grade 2	Shane Kirkpatrick	St. Andrew's Society of Winnipeg Gr 2
Grade 1	No Award	
Novice Tenor	Mackenzie Caterer	Prairie Thistle Pipes & Drums
Int. Tenor	Alex Pratt	Prairie Thistle Pipes & Drums
Novice Bass	No Award	

### **PIOBAIREACHD**

Grade 4	Braden Norberg	Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band
Grade 3	Kieran Norberg	Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band
Grade 2	Kelton Lynch	St. Andrew's Society of Winnipeg Gr 2
Grade 1	Jordan Perillo	No Band at this time

### **BANDS**

Grade 5	Prairie Community Youth School of Pipes & Drums
Grade 4	Lord Selkirk Boys Pipe Band
Grade 3	Winnipeg Police Pipe Band
Grade 2	St. Andrew's Society of Wpg Grade 2