

CORRECTIONS MUSEUM OF
MANITOBA & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

YEAR 2021

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

LATEST INFORMATION AND UPDATES
ABOUT THE CMMHS

PREPARED BY:

T. Skrabek



COURT HOUSE AND JAIL, MORDEN, MAN.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT



This was a year of tremendous growth for the Corrections Museum of Manitoba and Historical Society (CMMHS). Our Board of Directors was formed and executive established in the fall of 2018. Our By-laws and policies, after much discussion, and a few amendments became our framework and guiding principle for many of our goals, one of which is to proudly highlight and showcase the History of Corrections in the Province of Manitoba. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Members of the Board of Directors for their immeasurable hours of work in pursuit of our Mandate.

Charles Lerm, President





MISSION STATEMENT

To preserve the history of Manitoba Corrections by gathering and collecting items that have a significant connection to Manitoba Corrections. These items will be used to teach the public and give them the most accurate timeline of where and when Corrections started and their current practice as a result of changes to policy, laws, legislation, and government regulations.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the 2021 Red River Heritage Fair was been cancelled again. Will be looking at reconvening in 2022.

The government of Manitoba offered a one-time grant providing financial assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic. This grant is also considered an extension of funding if necessary.



A WORD FROM THE CURATOR

Although our board was officially formed in 2018, as curator, I have been collecting items since 2014. Some of our items can be seen in the Winnipeg Police Museum.

We are in the process of photographing, documenting and properly storing our already-growing collection of artifacts. Pictures and documents are slowly being scanned and preserved. We have reached out to various newspapers to spread the word out to the community about the museum as well as sent out letters to some known retired staff. Plans are to continue reaching out to the communities through new social media feeds such as Facebook, Instagram and a new museum webpage.

Aside from Corrections Artifacts, we were able to secure various display cases and stands from Sears Canada and the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. We are grateful for the donations! Over two years, treasurer, Tammy Skrabek and I have completed the required courses and have obtained a certificate in Museum Practices through the Association of Manitoba Museums.

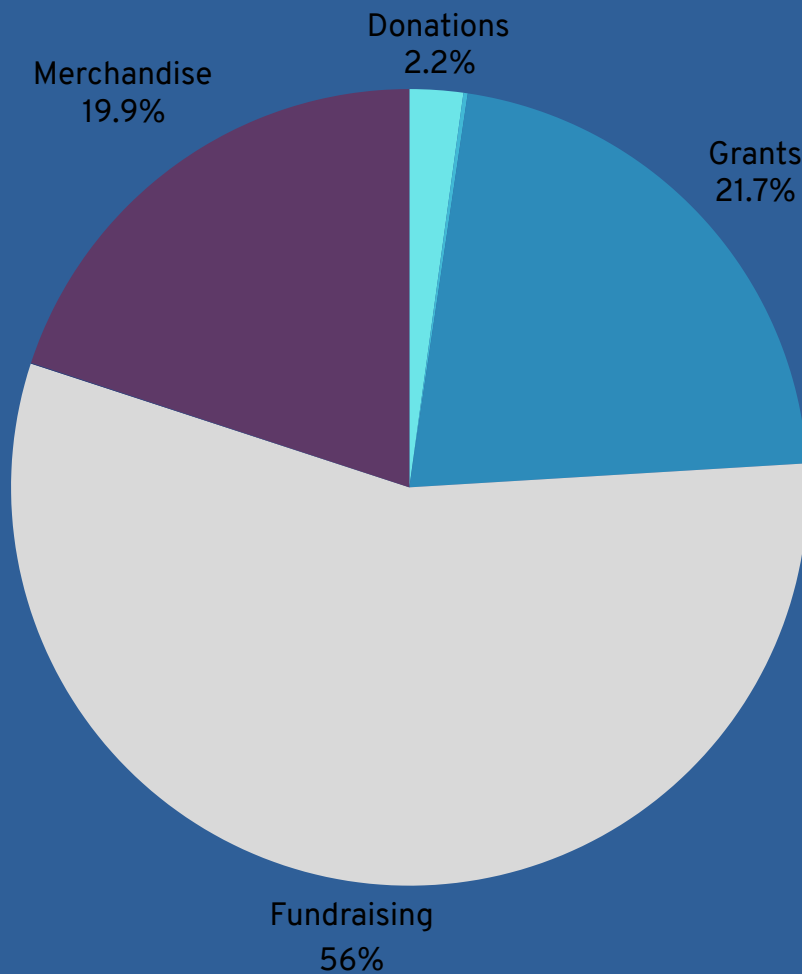
A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Peter Korzeniowski".

PETER KORZENIOWSKI

CURATOR

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Museum continues to look for sponsors to support the collections and preservation of history. Our ultimate goal is to have a secure space to display our collection to the public. The Society's 2021 financial statements show a balance sheet that is sound, healthy, and debt-free. The majority of our funding comes from fundraising efforts and grant support.



TAMMY SKRABEK, TREASURER

COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND EVENTS

As part of its Mission Statement, the Corrections Museum has made some significant strides in terms of Community Education. The Museum has established a website and both an Instagram and Facebook account. We are looking for a home for the Corrections Museum but in the meantime, we have established a virtual Museum of sorts to get the word out about our museum as well as have the opportunity to educate the public of some featured items we have acquired for the Museum.

The Corrections Museum has also been invited to the Red River Heritage Fair but was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Red River Heritage Fair program encourages students to explore the history of our country in a dynamic and hands-on environment. Students use the medium of their choice to recount the stories of the people, events, familial events and key moments from Canadian history and present their research in a public exposition at their school.

The best projects from schools are invited to showcase their work at the Red River Heritage Fair. The students present their research, respond to questions from judges, and discuss and share their projects with fellow students, parents, teachers, and community members. But it is much more exciting than that; students participate in interactive workshops, join in a scavenger hunt, meet other students and share their history projects thus creating a fast-paced history learning day. Workshops are designed for students and provided by local museums, historical societies or organizations promoting Canadian history and heritage. The Museum is honored to participate in this event.

The Corrections Museum also volunteers once a year in May for The Winnipeg Police Half Marathon. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the event has been cancelled for the year.



MIDWINTER COMMUNITY MUSEUM

We had the opportunity to visit the Midwinter Community Museum in East Braintree, Manitoba which houses artifacts belonging to August Anderson, former Deputy Superintendent of the Industrial Prison Farm. Anderson worked there from 1918 to 1930 and then transferred to Headingley Correctional Centre.



ST. CLAUDE GAOL MUSEUM

St.Claude Gaol, built in 1912 by Joseph Rey, was a double celled building measuring 14ft x 16ft wide. The jail was first manned by town constable Paul Lacroix in 1913. He held the position until 1931.

The museum is open during the summer, Monday to Saturday, 10 to 5 and Sunday 1 to 5 until September.



FUNDRAISING

The Corrections Museum continues to fundraise to assist with caring for our ongoing growing collection which requires proper storage, digitalizing photos and logbooks, and creating travelling exhibits to be used for community education. Once a location is secured for a permanent location for a Corrections Museum. Monies will be needed to complete appropriate storyboards and secure displays.

An online store was created on our website in 2020 to showcase some of the items which are available for purchase. The museum started with some simple items such as a Folger Adam key bottle opener with our motto on one side. Thin Grey and Blue line lapel pins representing and supporting Correctional and Police Officers everywhere. We also sold Thin grey-line silicone Wristbands.

This year we have added 3 styles of Paracord Wristbands with a Thin Grey Line. A local source (Joey Dee Creations) Some new ideas are being looked at for purchase. Waiting for some vendors to get back to us on quantity and pricing.



2021 also marked our 2nd Annual Corrections Museum Golf Tournament. Our tournament was held at Kingswood Golf and Country Club. Covid-19 restrictions were lifted for outdoor the tournament sold out to 100 supporters with great success. Hope to do it again next year.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEWS

The Museum Board is proud to announce that it has accepted and added 2 new directors to the board.



WELCOME SIMON THOMAS, DIRECTOR

A correctional officer for 22 years with the Correctional Service of Canada. A member of the Guard of Honour currently serving as Prairie Region Commander. Collector of medals and challenge coins. Member of the Stonewall Heritage Committee



WELCOME JOHN BURCHILL, DIRECTOR

John Burchill is Chief of Staff for the Winnipeg Police Service. He has a law degree from the University of Manitoba and spent a short time as a Crown Attorney with Manitoba Justice. He is also a member of the Winnipeg Police Museum Board.

2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Charles Lerm, President
Steve Lowing, Vice President
William Whyte, Secretary
Tammy Skrabek, Treasurer
Yvonne Wood, Director
Simon Thomas, Director
John Burchill, Director

THANK YOU

The Board expresses our sincere gratitude and appreciation for the support of the following

Winnipeg Police Museum
Lynn Galka, CPA, CGA
Pratts Wholesale Food Service
A Plus Restaurant & Equipment Supplies
VCJ Supply
Old Dutch
Winnipeg Jets Hockey Club
Neepawa Golf Club
Pine Ridge Golf Club
Caldwell Banker
Sysco
SWS Group
David Phillips Team