

CORRECTIONS MUSEUM OF
MANITOBA & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

YEAR 2022

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

LATEST INFORMATION AND UPDATES
ABOUT THE CMMHS

PREPARED BY:

T. Skrabek



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 2022 Red River Heritage Fair was been cancelled again. Will be looking at reconvening in 2023.

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!

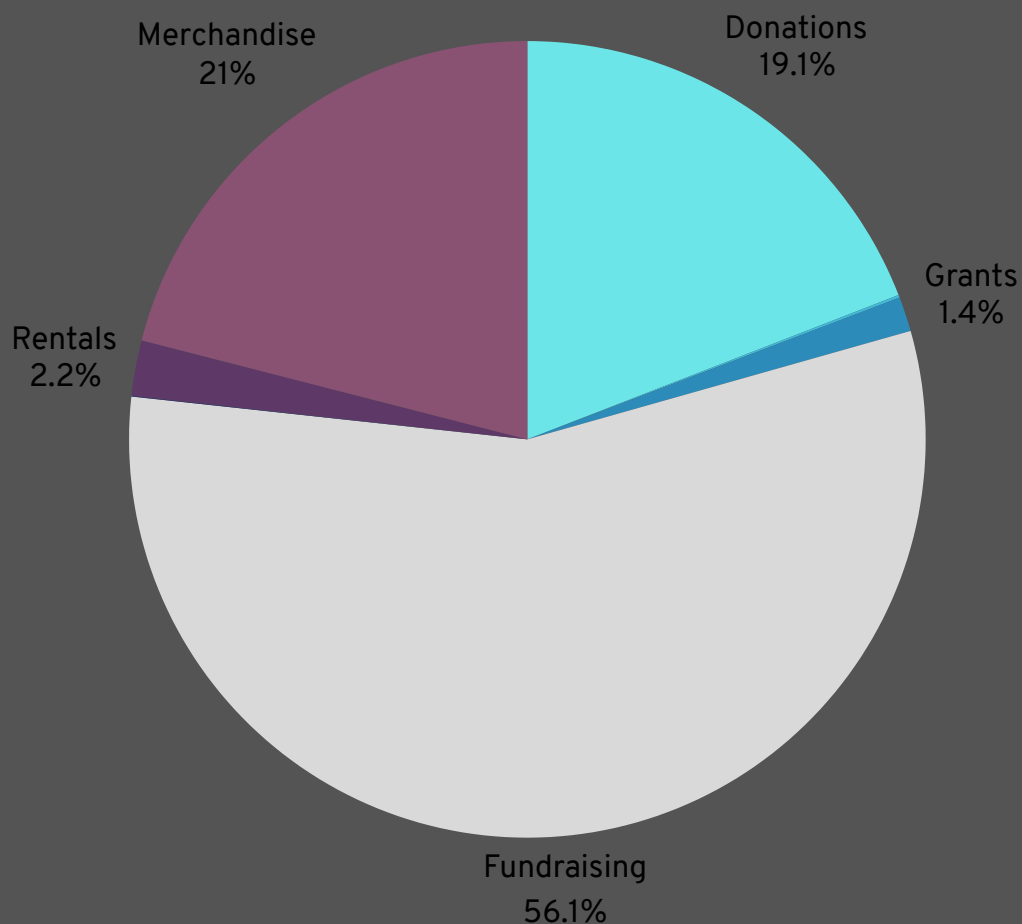
This year I had the pleasure of touring several jail museums in Ireland, including Kilmainham Gaol Museum, Cork City Jail Museum and Crumlin Road Jail Museum. The tours were amazing and the stories of hope, inspiration and political strife served to educate visitors.

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 2022 financial statements show a balance sheet that is sound, healthy, and debt-free. The majority of our funding comes from fundraising efforts and the sale of merchandise.



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 Corrections Museum hosted an aid station in the Winnipeg Police Half Marathon and was assisted by volunteers from the OPP and the Cameron Highlanders.

In addition to touring Ireland, the Curator had the opportunity to visit Portage la Prairie and speak with Mayor Irvine Ferris and retired Superintendent Terry Remple about the now closed Aggasiz Youth Centre and the Museum's quest for information.

Anyone with information related to jails in Manitoba can contact us via social media or email at correctionsmuseummb@gmail.com



AGASSIZ YOUTH CENTRE CLOSURE

Officially opened as Agassiz Youth Centre in 1977 and closed in July of 2022. Originally this building was opened in 1910 as an Industrial Training School.

Manitoba has seen a significant decrease in the number of youth in custody since 2012, similar to other provinces in Canada, Justice Minister Kelvin Goertzen said.

The closure of the facility will allow the province to increase capacity in northern Manitoba, Goertzen says.

Between 1908 and 1909, a four-storey stone and brick building, designed by provincial architect [Samuel Hooper](#), was constructed by the Snyder Brothers on the edge of the [Portage la Prairie](#), beside Crescent Lake, as a home for the Industrial Training School.

Modeled on the Minnesota Training School at Red Wing, Minnesota, the facility opened its doors in February 1910 with the transfer to its custody of 20 boys from the [Central District Gaol](#). It was intended as a facility to deal with “juvenile delinquents” and others by giving them work-related training, with instruction in tailoring, shoe-making, gardening, carpentry, blacksmithing, baking, cooking, farming, and sewing. Later, other buildings were added nearby, some of which still remain at the site. In 1931, it was renamed the Manitoba Home for Boys.

During the Second World War, the site was taken over by the Canadian military, forcing the staff and boys to move to temporary quarters at [Carman](#) and the No. 3 Forestry Camp at the [Whiteshell Forest Reserve](#). They returned to Portage la Prairie after the war. A school was also operated at the site to provide elementary and high school education to those incarcerated, known most commonly as Manitoba Home for Boys School, it was properly named Lakeview Institute (also known as Lakeview School) and operated as a Special School [sometimes listed as within School Division 99].

Known as the Agassiz Youth Centre since 1977, the 59-acre site was operated by the Manitoba government as a youth correctional centre for young offenders.

It was partially demolished in December 2022.

Superintendents

Period	Principal
1909-1912	Wellington Bridgman (1853-1922)
1912-1915	John Weir (1867-1959)
1915-1923	Findlay William McKinnon (1879-1957)
1923-1925	Hugh Duncan Cumming (1879-1942)
1925-1926	Edgar Wood
1926-1948	Harry Atkinson (1882-1968)
1948-1967	Bruce D. Jones
1967-?	Raymond G. Atkinson
?-c1975	Terrance Rempel

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 traveling exhibits to be used for community education. In addition, preparation is underway for displaying artifacts.

While our annual golf tournament continues to be our main fundraiser, the museum continues to add to our collection of merchandise available through our online store. Memorabilia has been selling to purchasers locally and nationally.

This year we have added 3 styles of Paracord Wristbands with a Thin Grey Line created by local vendor, Joey Dee Creations. We continue to explore potential items to add to our collection of merchandise.



Our 3rd Annual Corrections Museum Golf Tournament was . Our tournament was held at Bel Acres Golf and Country Club. The tournament sold out to 144 golfers and backed by various local corporate sponsors.



2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Museum Board remains constant this year with seven board members.

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



www.correctionsmuseummb.ca

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
Pine Ridge Golf Club
Sysco
SWS Group
David Phillips Team