

In-person attendees: Adrienne Morrow; Agape Karagi; Amanda Measasige; Benita Cohen; Breanna Sawatzky; Brianna Goertzen; Candace Sutherland; Caroline Krebs; Carolyn Perchuk; Chelsea Jallosh; Chris Green; Craig Ross; Courtney Beltminaner; Darlene Girard; Davorka Monit; Dean Robinson; Deanna Betteridge; Desneige Meyer; Georgette Dupuis; Hannah Moffatt; Hedy Heppenstall; Holly Banner; Ian Whetter; Jan Sanderson; Joel Kettner; Joshua Aquin; Katherine Kehler; Kerri Cuthbert; Kiri Shafo; Kristine Hayward; Lavonne Harms; Lisa Lazarus; Lisa Richards; Lorraine McLeod; Louis Sorin; Marion McKay; Mark Sagan; Mary Smith; Meherun Shah; Naomi Hamm; Naomi Hatherly; Pat Martin; Pat Lachance; Paula Bird; Rachelle Bruiere; Sande Harlos; Sandi Strong; Sarah Smiths; Sarah Hawkins; Sarah Prowse; Shannon Struck; Sheikh Muhannah Zeeshan Qadar; Shelley Marshall; Sujani Sivanantharajah; Tyler Hebb; Vicki Charski;

Joining remotely attendees: Dianne Oickle; Holly Reiner; Jenn MacMillan; Kathleen Martin; Laura Kasian; Lisa Albensi; Lorraine Poirier; Sheryl Bates Dancho; and online sign-in name “Chiny”

Recorder: Hannah Moffatt

1. Welcome

Dr. Sande Harlos welcomed the group and gave a Territorial acknowledgement. Sande offered appreciation to the First Nations Health and Social Secretariat of Manitoba for welcoming us to their space and to the Association of Registered Nurses of Manitoba for offering technological support to provide remote connection.

Sande noted that an Annual General Meeting (AGM) had not been held in a number of years and that she was encouraged by the number of attendees in person and online. Thank you for braving the first snow storm of the season!

Motion: To approve the AGM agenda

Motion accepted: Jan Sanderson

Seconded: Dr. Joel Kettner

Elder Mary Wilson is known as the Grandmother of Four Directions and She who Walks With Wolves. She is a Knowledge Keeper, spiritual teacher, Spirit Walker and healer, and works to help people heal emotionally, physically and spiritually.

Elder Mary Wilson provided a gift of a welcome, blessing, and teaching reflecting on the Seven Sacred Teachings and spoke to the importance of connection, “welcome to the circle.”

2. Key Note

Dr. Marcia Anderson practices both Internal Medicine and Public Health. She is a Medical Officer of Health with the Winnipeg Regional Authority and serves as Executive Director of Indigenous Academic

Affairs in the Ongomiizwin Indigenous Institute of Health and Healing, in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Manitoba.

Dr. Marcia Anderson's presented her keynote *Re-energizing Our Public Health Voice Through Truth, Reconciliation, and Self-Determination*.

Sarah Prowse thanked both Marcia and Mary for their thoughtful words and shared a token of appreciation.

3. President's Report

Outgoing president, Barb Wasilewski had to send regrets due to illness. Pat Martin delivered the President's Report on behalf of Barb.

Highlights of MPHA activities during my tenure:

- 2009 Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA) Conference in Winnipeg including the public forum, "Health as a Human Right"
- Vibrant Communities project with Health in Common, Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), and other partners
- Built Environment learning series with PHAC and Manitoba Health
- 2014: Future of Public Health Forum (June 2014)

Reflections on Challenges and Opportunities:

- In 2014, with decreasing membership and board capacity, options for the future of the Manitoba Public Health Association (MPHA) were considered, including:
 - winding down;
 - maintaining an administrative shell/hibernation mode;
 - status quo with a transition plan;
 - merging with another provincial public health association, such as Saskatchewan; or
 - a shared services model, with increased support from the CPHA.
- Given the challenges and non-MPHA-related responsibilities of board members, Option 2, the hibernation model was adopted.
- However, during that time, ongoing contact was maintained with the CPHA, and a group of public health activists approached the board to endorse creation of the MPHA Outreach Network.
- The primary focus of the Outreach Network was to increase awareness of public health issues among voters and candidates for the 2016 Manitoba provincial election.

Paving the way for a revitalized MPHA:

- Fast forward to today: I am very pleased that a critical mass of energy and interest has been reached, to begin to propel the MPHA forward.
- I trust that with the election of the interim board, a good deal will be accomplished, and a foundation laid for future growth and development.

- It has been my privilege to serve as President.

Motion: To accept the President's report

Motion accepted: Louis Sorin

Seconded: Sarah Prowse

3. Financial Report

Holly Banner presented MPHA's financial report. Due to lack of recent financial activity a one page statement was not prepared. Clinic holds the funds for the association. One challenge remains in that MPHA's yearend is December 31st while Clinic's yearend is March 21st. Given lack of financial activity Holly recommended the association not do a formal audit of the operations. Revenues are currently limited to conjoint MPHA membership fees with the CPHA. Current balance is \$13,375. Upcoming expenses include director's liability insurance payment and expenses for this AGM. Board insurance is an annual expenditure required by law, to protect board members and their families against liability.

Motion: To accept the Finance report

Motion accepted: Kiri Shafto

Second: Caroline Krebs

4. Bylaws Committee Report

Caroline Krebs, outgoing Board Member, shared proposed amendments to the MPHA bylaws. In preparation for this meeting, the proposed amendments were reviewed, debated, revised and approved by a majority of current/outgoing board members, as well as nominees for the incoming interim board members.

The package of amendments was then sent to all registered members of the MPHA for information leading up to the meeting. The proposed amendments include mundane but important updates, such as use of plain and gender inclusive language, and more substantive changes critical to the Association's structure and stability moving forward, such as increased board size (from 10 to 15).

The focus of the amendments can be clustered by:

- Use of plain, consistent, and gender inclusive language (throughout);
- Reformatting for ease of reading (throughout);
- Reflective of 21st century technology (e.g. 6.1, 6.5, 15,
- Streamlining of board structure (e.g. deletion of old 7.4 and 7.5);
- Greater board stability (e.g. 5.1, 5.2, 17)
- Clarification of process (e.g. 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 13, 14, 16, 21)
- Updated classes of membership, aligned with CPHA (11.2)
- Increased flexibility (e.g. 6.3, 8.2, 11.1, 12.2, 12.3)

It is possible that the new interim board will take decisions requiring additional amendments to the Bylaws. Caroline encouraged members interested in offering further suggestions to volunteer for the Bylaws Committee. The proposed amendments are intended to provide stability through the first part of the year of transition ahead.

Motion: That the membership of the MPHA adopt the package of proposed bylaw amendments.

Motion approved: Pat Martin

Second: Craig Ross

5. Membership Survey

Hannah Moffatt presented information about MPHA membership. In preparation for the AGM outgoing Board members proposed a short-term membership fee amnesty between September and December 2018. A one year free membership has been offered to provide people new to the MPHA an opportunity to become engaged with the Association and shape the future of the association. And also to determine if the MPHA is an organization they can commit sharing of time and expertise (in working groups, development of policy briefs, learning events, communications or web site support, etc.).

As of September 19, 2018 the MPHA had a membership of 32 conjoint CPHA-MPHA Members. As of October 1st, 2018, 115 survey responses were received in advance of the AGM. 94 individuals, excluding current CPHA/ MPHA conjoint members, signed up to join the MPHA free of charge, resulting in a total membership of 126 members.

Those who complete the survey answered the question, “Are there specific issues you think the Manitoba Public Health Association should be addressing?” with a broad range of interests, including:

- Indigenous Health Topics
- Health Equity / Social Determinants of Health
 - Income/Poverty; Food; Housing; Transportation; Racism
- Substance Use / Addictions
- Public Health Workforce/System Capacity
- Population Specific Responses
- Mental Health Promotion / Services
- Built Environment
- Climate Change
- Infection Diseases
- Chronic Disease Prevention
- Vaccines
- Northern/Rural Topics
- Healthcare Issues

Dr. Joel Kettner asked if members were interested in a focus on early childhood development. Hannah clarified that a strong interest was indicated, summarized here as part of “population specific responses” interest.

New members who completed the survey also indicated support to volunteer with the association by joining working groups, helping with special events, writing policy briefs and developing the website. The interim board will be outreaching to members during the upcoming time of renewal.

Hannah suggested members encourage colleagues to join the MPHA to build upon the momentum from today’s AGM.

6. Interim Board

Benita Cohen, incoming CPHA president, brought greetings from the Canadian Public Health Association.

Benita described how to support the renewal of the MPHA a board-approved nominating committee had sought out a group of dynamic public health leaders to guide the Association through a period of transition. Benita remarked that the committee sought a broad diversity and recognized that there are many other public health leaders across Manitoba.

The committee is proposing a slate of 14 members to fill the Board positions for a one year term, with the option for standing for a second term in 2019-2020.

With an expanded membership base, the MPHA will have the capacity to support a more robust nomination process in 2019. All board members confirmed or elected at the 2019-2020 AGM will have a two year term in office, with the option of seeking a second 2-year term.

The Board will determine if an interim appointment is appropriate to fill the 15th position or if a position is vacated priority to the next AGM.

A slate of interim board members proposed included:

Nominated for President: Sande Harlos

Nominated for Secretary: Hannah Moffatt

Nominated for Treasurer: Sarah Prowse

Nominated for Board Member-at-large:

- Amanda Meawasige
- Sheryl Bates Dancho
- Tyler Hebb
- Pat Martin
- Marion McKay
- Craig Ross
- Jan Sanderson
- Louis Sorin

- Stephanie Van Haute
- Kiri Shafto
- Lea Mutch

Motion: To adopt the slate of proposed interim board nominees for 2018-19.

Motion to accept: Dr. Joel Kettner

Second: Dr. Chris Green

** The group realized that we had not been following the rules of order; we had forgotten to vote for each of the motions. The recorder reviewed the motions and approved, “all those in favor” for this and the previous motions to “carry” each of the motions.

All in favor, carried.

7. MPHA Outreach Committee

Hannah Moffatt and Sarah Prowse shared an update from the MPHA Outreach Committee. In 2016 this committee emerged from interested members to support sharing public health evidence prior to the provincial election.

The group developed a Facebook page (available here <https://www.facebook.com/mphaoutreach/>) and created policy briefs on 5 public health topics. The #Vote4PublicHealth materials were distributed to candidates via email with a request for responses.

In 2018 the Outreach Committee reformed to develop #Vote4PublicHealth to prepare materials to support discussion with municipal election candidates. Once finalized the materials will be made available on the Facebook page and shared via email to members and partner organizations.

Louis Sorin asked about the potential to reframe the current Racism topic to align with the calls to action released by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. Jan Sanderson suggested materials could be distributed to the media.

8. Remarks from the Incoming Present

Dr. Sande Harlos, thanked the organizing committee and meeting participants. She described her enthusiasm for supporting a voluntary voice for public health in this province. While recognizing that the challenges described in the president’s report have not disappeared, there is opportunity to rebuild with support from members. Sande explained that when discussions started a goal of 100 members was proposed and it has now been exceeded. Sande proposed a new goal of an association of at least 250 members.

Sande recognized the contributions of the Outreach Committee and encouraged members to share the soon-to-be-released resources. The resources provide evidence and sound arguments to support working in partnership to promote social justice in all Manitoba communities.

The CPHA 2020 Conference will be held in Winnipeg. This is an opportunity to showcase and highlight the strength of public health in this province.

Finally, a special thanks to Caroline Krebs who has done an incredible amount of work to pull off this AGM.

Motion: To adjourn the 2108 MPHA AGM.

Motion to adjourn: Sarah Prowse

Second: Louis Sorin

All in favor, carried.