



10TH ANNIVERSARY

PCRC ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

A VIBRANT COMMUNITY WORKING
TOGETHER.

PCRC works with the community to create
community.

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204-240-PCRC (7272)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017-2018

- Scott Lawrence, Chair
- Yvette Cuthbert, Vice-Chair
- Amy Schofield, Treasurer
- Cassandra pehura, Secretary
- Louis Ott (Resigned 2017)
- Pam Garnham (resigned 2017)
- Matt Harkness
- Paulyn Appah
- Alana Daniels (Resigned 2018)
- Don Smoke
- James Kostuchuk
- Kaley Giffin (Resigned 2018)
- Arishya Aggarwal
- Cailen Boyachek

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO LOUIS, PAM, KALEY AND ALANA WHO STEPPED DOWN FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE TIME AND ENERGY THAT YOU HAVE COMMITTED TO PCRC!

STAFF

THANK YOU TO THE SUMMER 2017 GREEN TEAM GRAFFITI REMOVAL - SIERRA ADAMS & ABIGAIL TURCIOUS. OUR CURRENT TEAM LOOKS FORWARD TO CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY AND CARRYING FORWARD THE GOOD WORK OF PCRC:

- VICTORIA ESPEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.
- VIENNA LOPEZ, COMMUNITY FACILITATOR.
- ALEJANDRA GONZALEZ, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR.
- STEFANIE MACKIM, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR.
- MICHELLE CUDMORE-ARMSTRONG, LIP PROGRAM COORDINATOR.

IN MEMORY OF
VAL GARLICK



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

6:30 PM - TUESDAY JUNE 26, 2018

WELCOME EVERYONE!

GREETINGS

SCOTT LAWRENCE, PCRC CHAIRMAN.

MAYOR IRVINE FERRIS, CITY OF PORTAGE LA
PRAIRIE

JIM STEWART, NEIGHBOURHOODS ALIVE!, PROVINCE
OF MANITOBA

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM THE 2017
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PRESENTATION - LAVARANDRYE
SCHOOL, PRESENTER MICHELLE
LAIDLAW

PRESENTATION - CO-CHAIR OF
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE LIP, MARIANNE
WOODS.

PRESENTATION - ROK CENTRAL INC.,
PRESENTER LYNNE PARKER



Portage la Prairie Community Revitalization Corporation

Annual General Meeting - June 23, 2017

1. Greetings & Adoption of Agenda

Victoria will welcome guests and thank community partners.

Scott will call the meeting to order at 12pm and welcome everyone.

Mayor Irvine Ferris will bring greetings on behalf of the City of Portage la Prairie and Jim Stewart will bring greetings on behalf of Neighbourhoods Alive!

2. Adoption of Agenda

Pam: The agenda for today's Annual General Meeting has been included in your packages. I would like to call for a motion: **To adopt the agenda as presented.**

Moved: ___Paulyn_____ Seconded: ___Louise_____ **Carried /** Defeated

3. Adoption of Minutes

Pam: The Minutes of last year's Annual General Meeting have been included in your packages. Are there any errors or omissions? I would like to call for a motion: **To adopt the minutes of the PCRC Annual General Meeting dated June 21, 2016.**

Moved: ___Yvette_____ Seconded: ___Cassandra_____ **Carried /**
Defeated

4. Guest presenters: Jordan Friesen, CMHA & Sheri Blaylock ROK Central Inc.

Victoria: We are welcoming Jordan Friesen Executive Director for the Canadian Mental Health Association as a guest speaker today. Jordan Friesen is a young, energetic leader with a knack for affecting and managing organizational change. He enjoys a challenge and finding solutions to complex problems – part of what fuels his desire to see mental health services grow and evolve. Jordan is currently the Executive Director of the Canadian Mental Health Association – Central Region, a registered occupational therapist, and a CMHA Certified Psychological Health and Safety Advisor. He works with organizations to develop environments that promote the mental health of employees and foster a culture of wellbeing. As part of the CMHA team in Manitoba, Jordan plays a lead role in building the capacity of CMHA branches to support organizations in creating psychologically healthy work environments. Jordan understands that the best way to make long-term, sustainable change – both personally and as an organization – is to think strategically and focus on your strengths. PCRC has been pleased to provide support through Revitalize Portage! grants for the bicycle repair shop, now known as the Greasy Chain. We look forward to hearing about the impact that this programs is having within our community. Welcome, Jordan!

Victoria: Thank you Jordan. For PCRC, our focus is to work with community to create

community, and this is what this project embodies. We are so very pleased to be able to support their good work.

Victoria: We would now like to welcome Sheri Blaylock, Board Chair for Recreation Opportunities for Kids Central Inc. Since returning to Portage & Manitoba just over a decade ago, Sheri Blaylock has been involved with many non-profit organizations. She founded the Farmers' Markets Association of Manitoba, worked as the Training and Resources Coordinator for Manitoba Farm Mentorship, as the Momentum Project Coordinator here at PCRC, as well as being a volunteer on the Portage Food Security Council, the Portage & District Refugee Coalition, and of course, helped to create ROK Central in the past couple of years, of which she is now the Chair of the Board of Directors. Sheri believes in leaving the place in better condition than she found it, whatever that 'place' may be and trying to find new ways of making money for non-profits outside of the world of grants. Fiercely idealistic and full of ideas, Sheri is always looking for co-conspirators to make things happen in Portage la Prairie! PCRC has been pleased to provide ROK Central with a number of small grants to assist with some of their ongoing programming costs. PCRC recognizes the significance of ROK Central as they provide an incredible and invaluable service to our community. Please help me welcome, Sheri!

Victoria: Thank you Sheri. We are pleased to have been able to provide support to ROK Central and look forward to future partnerships.

5. Presentation: PCRC 5 Year Community Plan

Victoria: Over the past several months PCRC has undergone a community consultation process to develop our next 5 year plan for 2017-2022. We are very pleased by the response from the community in helping to develop this plan. PCRC had over 800 community members participate in this process. The outcome of the consultation process has identified 5 priority areas in which PCRC will focus on for the next 5 years.

- Improved Community Pride, Image, and Engagement
- Improve Recreational Programs for Children and Youth and Enhance Recreational Facilities and Green Spaces.
- Improve Community Safety and Provide Safe and Affordable Transportation Options
- Increase the Variety of Housing Options and Address Poor Housing Conditions
- Improve Education, Training, and Employment Opportunities

I would like to thank Doretta Harris, Art Schroeder, and Dawn Froese for their participation on the Steering Committee for the creation of the 5 Year Community Plan (present cards).

6. Financial Report

Pam: A copy of the draft audited financial statements for 2016-17 has been included with the Annual Report.

Revenue for this year was \$276,991.63. Expenses were \$259,030.20, leaving us with an excess of revenue over expenses of \$17,960.43.

Does anyone have any questions or comments on the financial statements?

I would like to call for a motion: **To accept the Financial Report 2016-2017 as information.**

Moved: ___Kaley_____ Seconded: ___Paulyn_____ **Carried** / Defeated

Pam: A part of our AGM is selecting an auditor for the coming fiscal year.

I would like to call for a motion: **To appoint Meyers Norris Penny LLC as the auditor for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.**

Moved: ___Yvette_____ Seconded: ___Kaley_____ **Carried** / Defeated

7. **Elections to the Board**

Pam: Each one of the PCRC Board members brings a unique set of skills, insight and experiences to our organization. New faces allows for new ideas, energy and a fresh perspective. We are pleased to welcome 3 new members to the Board of Directors: Don Smoke, Alana Daniels, and James Kostuchuk (ask them to stand up):

I move that Don Smoke, Alana Daniels, and James Kostuchuk be appointed to the PCRC Board of Directors for a 2 year term.

Moved: ___Kaley_____ Seconded: ___Cassandra_____ **Carried** / Defeated

Don Smoke, Alana Daniels and James Kostuchuk will join the following Board members in serving as the PCRC Board of Directors for 2017-2018: Scott Lawrence (Chair), Paulyn Appah (Co-Chair), Cassandra Pehura (Secretary), Pam Garnham (Treasurer), Louise Ott, Yvette Cuthbert, and Kaley Giffin (ask them to stand up)

7. **Closing Remarks**

Pam: This concludes our business for today. Thank you to everyone for coming.

Motion to adjourn the 2017 Annual General Meeting of the PCRC at 12:47 p.m. (time)

Moved: ___Yvette_____

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome everyone and thank you for attending our AGM today.

An exciting milestone has been reached this year! PCRC has reached the ripe old age of 10! In what probably feels like just yesterday, a small group of local citizens came together with a goal to make Portage la Prairie a better place. They faced many challenges but they held true to their mission and thanks to their foresight and vision we are standing here today and will continue to stand for many more years thanks to the foundation they built. It has been an honor to carry on the work that these people started.

The most important part of any organization is its people. They are the heart whose beat keeps it alive. We are very fortunate to have a team of women who every day drive this organization forward. No matter the roadblocks, they always seem to find a way to navigate around them. Victoria and her team of Vienna, Alejandra, and Michelle come to work every day with a passion and drive that is infectious. They work hard, they find resources and then stretch them to their limits, and most importantly they better the lives of people in this community. Throughout the history of the PCRC our people, past and present, have helped make the organization what it is today. Thank you to you all.



Also of great importance are our partners. PCRC is very fortunate to have relationships with many different people and organizations whose help over the last year has been invaluable. Mayor Ferris and the City of Portage la Prairie champion our cause at every turn. We would not be here without their support. Jim Stewart and the NA! team are always there for guidance and assistance. Our MLA, Minister Ian Wishart, affords us a great deal of his time as does his colleague Minister Jeff Wharton whose portfolio includes oversight of the various Renewal Corporations. I also extend a debt of gratitude to the countless other groups, volunteers, individuals, and businesses who support us day in and day out. Time won't let me name you all individually but know you are appreciated and that your support is valued.

Looking ahead the future looks exciting. A number of projects are on the horizon and with the team we have I have no doubt they will be a success. Our board continues to be a great group of people who I enjoy getting together with each and every time we meet. Thank you for your time, your knowledge, and your wisdom this past year. As we celebrate our tenth year I would also like to acknowledge the many past board members who, over the years, have given their time and energy to the PCRC. You too have helped bring us to this point.

In closing I would like to recognize and thank the citizens of Portage la Prairie. It is you that we are here to serve. Whether you are a lifelong resident or a new comer from another part of the world, you are why we exist. I hope we have helped, in some small way, to add to your quality of life here in Portage. This is a great city because you are here.

Respectfully,

SCOTT LAWRENCE

Board Chair

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Another year in the books for PCRC and a celebratory time as we move in to our 10th year and begin celebrating our anniversary. This milestone could not be achieved if it were not for the countless hours of volunteer time committed by the Board of Directors throughout the past years, and a group of community members back in 2008 who had an idea about making this community a better place and succeeded in establishing PCRC as a Not-for-Profit Organization. To you I say thank you. I hope you see the fruits of your labour making a difference.

In the beginning of this past fiscal year, we wrapped up developing the Community's 5 Year Plan. We had 900 people participate in this process. This was a huge success and this document will provide us with the direction needed to move forward through the next 5 years.

Another accomplishment this year was launching the Local Immigration Partnership program. This program aims at looking at our community and deciphering what steps need to be made to become a welcoming inclusive community. PCRC welcomed Michelle Cudmore-Armstrong to the team as the Local Immigration Partnership Program Coordinator.



As usual, we held many successful community events, awareness programming, and continued to support community groups and other organizations, as well as held the 2nd Annual Portage the Prairies Dirt Dash. We also launched the Community Mobilization program in partnership with many human service delivery agents in the community.

None of this could be accomplished without a few key pieces, our funders, our partners, and our volunteers. I would like to thank the Province of Manitoba Neighbourhoods Alive! Program, the City of Portage la Prairie, Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada, and the Community Foundation of Portage and District Incorporated. Without your support we could not do what we do.

To our community partners, thank you. We value the relationships that have been built upon over the past 10 years and we have seen amazing programs, projects and initiatives flourish because of this. We will continue to build upon these relationships and we are excited to see current ideas and new ideas unfold.

To our volunteers including our dedicated Board of Directors. Thank you for the time and energy you put into our organization and programming. You are the driving force behind this organization and I am looking forward to our continued work together.

I'll wrap this up with a quote;

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much". -

Hellen Keller

VICTORIA ESPEY

Executive Director

PLAN FOR COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The PCRC Community Plan guides the organization's work and funding priorities. The 5 key themes are, Improved Community Pride and Image, Affordable Recreation Opportunities and Improved Facilities, Improved Safety and Affordable Transportation Options, Improved Housing Options, and Improved Education, Training, and Employment Options.

Building a vibrant Portage la Prairie needs the entire community to become involved. PCRC encourages all of Portage la Prairie to come together to make a difference in our community.



COMMUNITY PLAN 2017-2022

Portage la Prairie Community Revitalization Corporation and the Steering Committee thank all stakeholders, interested citizens, businesses, agencies and groups that participated through the community survey, focus groups and meetings. We also acknowledge the assistance provided by catapult community planning with preparing the community plan and community engagement process.



2017 REVITALIZE PORTAGE! GRANTS

- Portage Industrial Exhibition Association- Pollinator Gardens.
- Recreational Opportunities for Kids- 11th St. Community Connections Centre: Outdoor Space.
- Community Food Matters Committee- Community Cooler Installation.
- Sunset Palliative Care Inc.- Dinner of Hope.
- Manitoba Metis Federation Portage Local- Healthy Cooking.
- Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Portage- Motivational Interviewing/Staff Volunteer Training.
- Portage la Prairie School Division- Food Programs.
- Youth for Christ- Enhancement.
- Centennial Community Club- Snow Blower.
- Big brothers & Big Sisters Portage - Tent & teaching.
- La Verendrye School- Family Resource Centre.
- Koko Platz Recreation Club- Koko Platz Club Playground Campaign.

AFFORDABLE RECREATION & IMPROVED FACILITIES

To foster a welcoming community for all, with residents of all ages, cultures, income levels and backgrounds engaged and taking ownership of their neighborhoods.

REVITALIZE PORTAGE! GRANTS

- Revitalize Portage! grants allow PCRC to support great ideas in the community.
- In 2017, 12 grants were distributed with a value of \$35,125.00. These grants leveraged a total of \$68,418.52 in funding, contributing to our community in many ways.





PCRC COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

- Community Mobilization Committee.
- Portage Public Art Committee.
- Local Immigration Partnership Committee.
- Immigrant Advisory Table Group.
- Communities in Bloom Committee.
- Community Foods Matters Committee.
- Portage Parks Committee.
- Portage Active Transport Committee.
- Age Friendly Committee.
- Fundraising Committee.
- Portage Revitalization! Committee.
- Dirt Dash Committee.

AFFORDABLE RECREATION & IMPROVED FACILITIES

To foster a welcoming community for all, with residents of all ages, cultures, income levels and backgrounds engaged and taking ownership of their neighborhoods.

REVITALIZE PORTAGE! GRANTS

Financial Impact	# of Dollars spent
Funds Requested	\$46,554.49
Funds Approved	\$35,125.00
Funds Leveraged	\$68,418.52
Participation	# of Volunteers
Volunteers	284
People served	13,000 +
Project Category	# of projects
Capacity Building	5
Well Being	5
Community Connecting	3
Economic Development	2

PORTAGE PARKS COMMITTEE

- In 2017 PCRC has been very busy with committees and committee activity. The Portage Parks Committee was able to see the completion the wheel chair accessible playground at Central Park. The PPC held an open house for the conceptual design of the park and saw over 100 responses from the community. The committee has moved on to securing the next component of Central Park.



2017-2018 COMMUNITY EVENTS

- Beautification Days.
- Family Fun and Wellness Fair.
- Touch-A-Truck.
- Communities in Bloom.
- Baseball Evening.
- Culture Days.
- Halloween Skate.
- Parent Awareness Night.
- Skate with Santa.
- You've Been Jingled.
- Skate at the Lake.
- Winterfest.

AFFORDABLE RECREATION & IMPROVED FACILITIES

To foster a welcoming community for all, with residents of all ages, cultures, income levels and backgrounds engaged and taking ownership of their neighborhoods.

PORTAGE THE PRAIRIES DIRT DASH

- The annual Portage the Prairie Dirt Dash saw 105 participants take on a grueling 5 km obstacle course. Participants were challenged to run, walk, crawl, roll, and slide their way through obstacles made by local businesses and contractors.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- From April 2017-March 2018, PCRC hosted and partnered in 12 different events and neighbourhood initiatives throughout Portage la Prairie.
- The events took place in several different neighbourhoods, engaging more than 1000 community members all across Portage la Prairie.
- This year, PCRC hosted events with the help of over 1700 volunteers, many of them unique to our organization and programming.





BEAUTIFICATION DAYS

PCRC approached the school division, business community, service groups/organizations as well as the general public to engage them in a city-wide litter clean-up. It was our most successful year yet, with over 1700 people registered to take action. We also partnered with the Chamber of Commerce to promote Earth Day at the Chamber's annual Home & Business Expo.

COMMUNITY PRIDE AND IMAGE

To build citizen responsibility for beautification by engaging citizens, business & organizations in beautifying properties, green spaces, & streets.

COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM

- PCRC started the "Yard of the Week" recognition, it was an appreciation for community members who take pride in beautifying our community. The Communities in Bloom Committee partnered with City of Portage la Prairie, Jeffries Nurseries, PCRC and the Graphic Herald Leader.

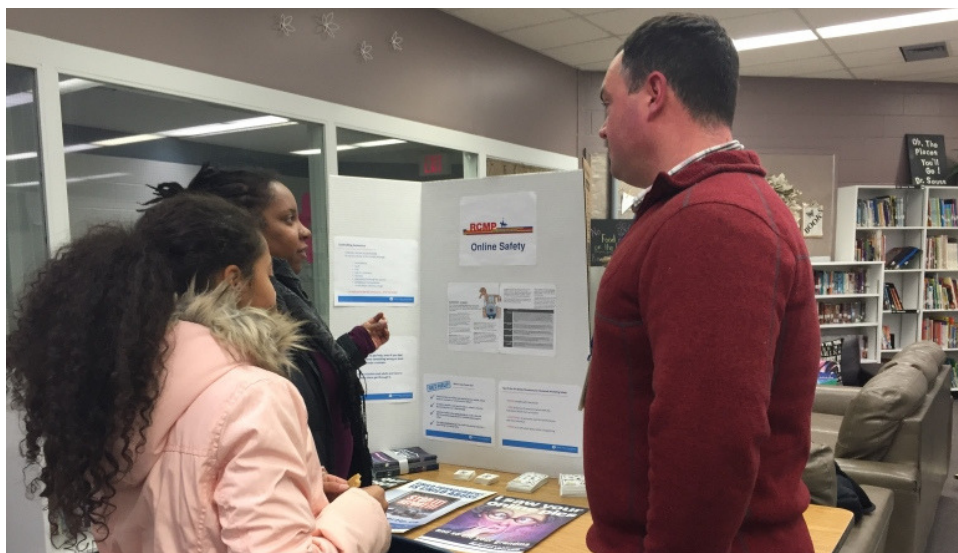
GRAFFITI REMOVAL

The program was available for 9 weeks this summer; during that time, The Green Team was able to remove 41 tags across the city. Over that time, the two-person team biked the city starting on June 12 until August 18. Some of the graffiti removed included Tupper Bridge as well as multiple tags from city signs. Overall neighbors' reactions to the program was very positive accepting this free removal service.



119 Lorne Ave. Before & After 2017





IMPROVED EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

Neighborhoods Alive 2017: August 23rd at the Portage Regional Library an info session was held with Neighborhoods Alive! To discuss the availability of projects involving Community and Social Development Ideas. The Province of Manitoba opened new funding opportunities in several communities. Some of their programs included beautification, safety, crime prevention, and affordable housing options.

PARENT AWARENESS NIGHT

The event was held at La Verendrye School on November 21. PCRC partnered with RCMP and the School Division to help parents to become educated about the advantages and disadvantages of using social media, and to be aware of the activities their children are taking part on-line. PCRC also had a sponsorship from Canadian Tire, the store gave a kids bike to raffle at the event. In attendance, the event had 15 parents and kids who learned about the use of Social Media among youth and the risks they encounter within social networking.



COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION

Over the past year PCRC has participated on a planning committee looking for solutions which will address safety and crime prevention in Portage la Prairie. In partnership with the City of Portage la Prairie, Portage la Prairie School Division and Portage la Prairie RCMP, several information sessions were held in regards to a grass roots initiative called Community Mobilization which is a multi-sectoral collaboration initiative targeting individual and families at acutely elevated risk in our community and offering them supports and services through collaborative intervention. Over the past several months there has been several training sessions with many human service delivery agencies in our community held by Dr. Chad Nilson through Living Skies Centre for Social Inquiry. In Spring of this year, the Portage HUB was successfully launched with many passionate community partnering agencies.

IMPROVED SAFETY AND AFFORDABLE TRANSPORTATION

Increase perceptions of safety through community engagement.





PLIP COUNCIL

The PLIP Council has been meeting monthly since September 2017 at the inaugural meeting. Twenty prominent stakeholders of the community and a broad cross section of sectors in the area are represented.

In the New Year the PLIP Council was Strategic Planning and will be forming an Action Plan to share with the community. From this Action Plan, "Working Groups" will be formed to bring the plan to reality.

LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP (LIP)

The Portage la Prairie Local Immigration Partnership (PLIP) was developed in June 2017 to create a more welcoming and inclusive community for immigrants and newcomers in Portage la Prairie area. By working with community partners, PLIP, strives to enable newcomers to thrive and succeed in Portage la Prairie. It is a Federally funded program that is hosted by PCRC.





FORCED TO FLEE

A special "Forced to Flee" simulation was brought to Portage la Prairie by the PLIP and the Mennonite Central committee. This simulation was a 3 hour experiential workshop that showcased the realities that refugees go through when forced to move out of their countries due to politics, war, drought or famine. Over 85 members of the community participated in this simulation to have a better understanding of the stress and issues that refugees may encounter to survive.

IMMIGRANT ADVISORY TABLE (IAT)

The PLIP has also been working on establishing an Immigrant Advisory Table (IAT). This group of people consist of recent immigrants and refugees to Portage la Prairie in the last six years, and will advise the PLIP of their experiences in moving to and becoming part of the Portage la Prairie area. The Plip will be able to utilize he challenges and successes of the newcomers and refugees to improve or create more positive opportunities based on their "lived experiences". The members of the IAT are five males and 4 females representing the following places of birth: Syria, Germany, El Salvador, Morocco, Pakistan, Philippines, India, and Sierra Leone. The IAT has met three times over the last fiscal year. From these meetings an "International Grocery" list was formulated and distributed to all grocery stores in Portage la Prairie. Another idea from IAT was community garden plots and this has been accomplished by the Portage Learning and Literacy Centre (PLLC) and Portage Regional Recreation Authority (PRRA).