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MLPD – Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities



Annual Report 2017-18

Mission Statement

MLPD is a united voice of people with disabilities and their supporters that promotes equal rights and full participation in society, while also facilitating positive change through advocacy and public education.

Philosophy

1. Manitobans with disabilities have the same rights and responsibilities as any other person.
2. All persons, regardless of abilities, must have access to opportunities in order to exercise these rights.
3. An accessible and inclusive society benefits everyone.

Supporters

The work of MLPD to increase accessibility in Manitoba is made possible by the following:

Foundations and Community Organizations

United Way of Winnipeg
Winnipeg Foundation
McConnell Foundation - Innoweave Program
Manitoba Community Services Council

Governments

Province of Manitoba – Department of Families
Government of Canada - Employment and Social Development Canada

Corporations

Assiniboine Credit Union

Private Donations

From Individual Supporters like YOU

Elected Council Volunteers

David Kron, Chairperson
Fred Dugdale, Treasurer
Rocco Scarcella, Secretary
Alan Bridgeman, Council Member
Colleen Watters, Council Member
Valerie Wolbert, Council Member
Eva Beaudoin, Council Member

Thank You!

Chairperson's Report

David Kron, Chairperson 2017-18

The 2017-18 fiscal year was another busy one! We have been part of some key discussions around implementing the Accessibility for Manitobans Act (AMA), while continuing our unique work as part of community committees in the areas of Transportation, Ageing out of Services, Building Codes, and Poverty. Collaboration with other like-minded community agencies has been key to having productive discussions. We have also made significant progress developing the program which helps organizations comply with the AMA.

Much of this work happens as a result of volunteer efforts, and as the outgoing Chairperson, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge many supporters and contributors to MLPD's success:

Thank you to 2017-18 members of Council for representing the membership. Special thanks to Executive members for additional service.

Thank you to the office staff for dedicated service in carrying out the vision of the Council.

Thank you to Chris Moffat for ongoing IT support and innovation.

Our new program offering accessibility consulting services continues to grow and expand into new business opportunities. We have received good guidance from Richard Dilay and Kaye Grant who have worked with us to find new funding, and develop our services. The diversification of funding has been key to progress and we need to continue this. Thank you Richard and Kaye!

The Council has also been working on developing our Governance capabilities. One of the ways to achieve this is by updating our governance practices and policies. This is a big job and will need the focus of the Council for another term. The Council must also continue to reach out to the community at large to supplement our Council of members with lived experiences, with other volunteers who possess particular skills we may need. Going forward, we would benefit from further Council representatives who have experience in the areas of law, accounting, human resources and business development.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your Chairperson for two years and I feel we've accomplished more than we could have expected. However, it will take continued investment of each of us to ensure the gains we've made can be sustained and capitalized upon.

Best regards,

David Kron

Provincial Coordinator's Report

Jennifer Sande, PC 2017-18

As David has indicated, our year has been tremendously active and has included continuing the new program called MLPD Accessibility Consulting Services (ACS). This development has occurred along with maintaining our community committee contributions.

I am proud to say we have been able to share the message of accessibility with several new organizations, thanks to the new legislation. In the past we have had to push to be heard, but now the AMA gives organizations a mandate to come to the table to discuss accessibility. The AMA of course is not a perfect tool. Government must enforce it, and community organizations must be willing to share their expertise in a meaningful way in order for change to happen. I believe MLPD is learning how to do just that.

MLPD Accessibility Consulting Services (ACS)

Our new consulting services program helps Manitoba organizations become more accessible.

Program Goals

- 1) Promote Accessibility
- 2) Earn Revenue
- 3) Engage Organizations/Persons with Disabilities

Our customers include:

Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries Corporation, Liquor and Gaming Association

Manitoba Institute of Trades and Technology

Manitoba Government Employees Union

Manitoba Adolescent Treatment Centre

Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs

MLPD has also been keeping up our community committee work, and invested in other programs which further our mission of increasing accessibility through education.

MLPD Community Committees

Make Poverty History, Handi Transit PAC, Disabilities Matter Vote 2020, Manitoba Building Codes, Right to Housing Manitoba

Workshops Hosted/Co-hosted

Inspire Democracy, Taxicab Board (City of Winnipeg),

I have enjoyed being your Provincial Coordinator for the 2017-18 fiscal year. Thank you for the confidence and trust you have placed in me.

Cheers,

Jennifer Sande

Treasurers Report

Fred Dugdale, Treasurer 2017-18

MLPD produced a balanced budget in 2017-18 thanks to our dedicated supporters and from revenue generated by our new fee-for-service program, MLPD Accessibility Consulting Services.

Summary of Operations

Total Income 2017-18
\$ 226,586

Total Expenses 2017-18
\$ 221,591

Net 2017-18
\$ 4,995*

Summary of Financial Position at March 31, 2018

Assets
\$ 45,282

Liabilities
\$ 33,092

Net
\$ 12,190

Cash at End of Year
\$ 23,902

Audited Financial Statements - *Enclosed*

**Due to write-down of old debt, financial statements will actually show a small loss of -\$1,825. Debt is due to rent deducted from MLPD's bank account after we moved from 500 Portage Avenue. To date we have been unable to collect this debt from Timbercreek Communities.*

Council of Canadians with Disabilities (CCD) Report

MLPD is a member of the national organization, CCD. CCD is a national human rights organization of people with disabilities working for an inclusive and accessible Canada.

The following is an excerpt from the annual report of CCD Chairperson, *Jewelles Smith*.

There are similar issues at the national level that CCD are working on. The issues that overlap with provincial concerns are:

1) Beyond Labels Conference, Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHRC), (September 27-28, 2017, Ottawa, ON)

As more than half of their complaints are disability related, it is critical that we continue to work with CHRC and that we pressure government to increase their funding so that they might properly address human rights issues for Canadians living with disabilities.

2) Accessibility Legislation Consultations and the Alliance Project

We wrapped up the Alliance for an Inclusive and Accessible Canada project, which consulted Canadians about accessibility legislation this spring and continue to develop partnerships with organizations involved in this project. We delivered a strong message to government and built lasting relationships with the larger community.

3) Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

We need to continue to pressure Canada to ratify the CRPD (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) Optional Protocol and implement robust funding for domestic monitoring of the CRPD. We also need to continue to pressure government to address the recommendations identified by the CRPD Committee last year.

4) Housing, Homelessness and Accessible, Affordable Housing for Canadians with Disabilities

Canada has developed a new housing strategy.... My clear message at each of these meetings was for the federal government to take the lead and: STOP BUILDING INACCESSIBLE HOUSING! I also asked the federal government to take an intersectional approach to understanding housing and disability across the lifespan, specifically noting transitions such as aging out of foster care (aging out can occur at 18 or 19), misalignment between federal and provincial funding programs, growing older with disabilities and the need to have housing needs met across the lifespan, and the particular issues experienced by women with disabilities, Canadians with intellectual disabilities, and Indigenous Canadians with disabilities.

Support Accessibility in Manitoba

- 1) In Memoriam - you can donate to MLPD in memory, honour or celebration of a loved one;
- 2) United Way programs - you can identify MLPD as your charity of choice through your United Way contribution;
- 3) A bequeath - you can designate MLPD as a benefactor in your Will or Insurance Policy;
- 4) All Charities Campaign – Available to all Employees of the Province of Manitoba and its affiliates. Please request that your donation or a portion thereof, be directed to the Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities Inc.
- 5) Designate funds to MLPD from a social or other fundraising event.

The Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities (MLPD) is a registered charity and tax receipts will be issued. We accept donations by cheque, Visa or MasterCard or on the MLPD website.

Charitable Business Registration No. 889197448RR0001

Money raised is used in Manitoba



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