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2020/2021 Annual Report

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AGENDA

Alberta Printmakers' Society Annual General Meeting

Date: September 12th, 2021 7:00pm - 9:00pm MST

Location: Zoom meeting hosted by A/P Gallery and Studio, 4025 4th Street SE, Calgary

Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84352916105?pwd=TG1RcXlMZm8yUm9lSkVtcTNRReGdmZz09>

Meeting ID: 843 5291 6105

Passcode: 129633

1. Call to Order Paul Mercer, President
2. Land Acknowledgements Michelle Wiebe
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes, Aug 29 2021 AGM
5. President's Report Paul Mercer
6. Executive Director's Report Michelle Wiebe
7. Treasurer's Report Paul Mercer (for Gordon Paul)
8. Approval of Financial Statements 2020-21
9. The Year in Review: Committee Chairs
 - a. Executive Committee James Boychuk-Hunter
 - b. Gallery Heather Leier
 - c. Special Events Alison Frank
 - d. Fundraising Kate Baillies for Eveline Kolijn
 - e. Studio/Education Matt Dunlop for Ryan Statz
10. 2021-2022 Board Appointment
 - a. Nomination of New Directors
 - i. Sheryl Spencer
 - ii. Jill Ho-You
 - iii. Izabela Switalska
 - b. Approval of Board Slate
11. Open Floor for Q&A and Discussions
12. Adjournment

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2020-2021 was a year of challenges for Alberta Printmakers, and for all artist based organizations. The Covid pandemic is still with us but we survived through sound financial management, reaching out to our members through online courses, social media, our newsletter and lots of Zoom meetings.

This was a year of transitioning. We welcomed Michelle Wiebe to be our Interim Executive Director as Tracy Wormsbecker departed for a 6 month maternity leave. Our former Studio Director, Helen Young, departed for a new position at CJSW, approximately when Michelle started at A/P, so it was a steep learning curve for Michelle.

Gordon Paul, our Treasurer, has recently retired from his position and we are in the process of welcoming our new Treasurer. Gordon has organized our financial records, prepared a three year budget to accompany our Strategic Plan and given us the confidence to plan for the years ahead. Gordon was a valuable Board member and we are sorry to see him go.

At this year's Annual General Meeting we will not see the return to the Board of Ryan Statz, Alison Frank and Nur Rodriguez. They have all played a significant part in expanding our Board's reach and contributing to our success.

Michelle Wiebe will be leaving her position as Interim Executive Director on October 15th. She has made the position her own and has achieved incredible results, despite the less than ideal conditions which existed during her employment. We thank her for all of her work and hope that Michelle will consider rejoining our Board after a suitable break from A/P.

Finally, Tracy Wormsbecker will return to A/P in early October after finishing her maternity leave. We look forward to reconnecting with Tracy.

2021-2022 promises to be a great year, with exhibitions, events and online and in-person programming.

- **Paul Mercer**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

To say that the 2020 - 2021 season at Alberta Printmakers was creative and exciting would be an understatement! I joined the staff as Interim Executive Director during unprecedented pandemic times. Previous to this, I had had the pleasure of serving on our Board of Directors. It was handy to draw upon this knowledge and experience as we headed towards some fast paced action in the months ahead.

After the AGM last autumn, A/P had adjusted to the uncertainties of the Covid-19 pandemic and made some innovative work arrangements to continue operating amidst closures and ever changing government regulations. We held a Gallery Exhibition October - November 2020 for Artist Sara Norquay that required extra documentation to reach an online audience.

Our annual Not-So-Mini Print Exchange and Exhibition reached a global audience last year through the efforts of Tracy Wormsbecker, Helen Young and Matt Dunlop (our Canada Summer Job intern at the time) as well as a slew of volunteers who came together to make this event a success through a new virtual auction format. It was a lot of innovation and extra work to bring this to the art community, and that learning carried forward into the coming months.

In December we were required to shut our doors to the public for due to Covid restrictions. We also learned the exciting news that our Director, Tracy Wormsbecker, would be taking a maternity leave from April - October 2021. Tracy prepared us very well and she began working with me in March to ensure the daily operations would be a seamless transition as I came onboard. Tracy welcomed a healthy baby girl shortly after going on leave in April.

Also in April, Helen Young received an amazing opportunity to work her dream job at CJSW. With this sudden change, the Board of Directors agreed that it would be a wise decision to bring Matt Dunlop back on staff with an interim contract to assist in the coming months. His experience with the Covid protocols and working with our online exhibitions would be put to good use during the spring and summer and he has proven himself to be invaluable to our team.

At this time, Matt and I became quite proficient with interpreting the latest AHS protocols, operating online demonstrations and art exhibitions as well using quite a bit of the digital equipment we were able to purchase due to Covid funding from the government. In the midst of this, one of our founding members, Kate Baillies had the opportunity to showcase A/P as part of the Zea Mays World Printmaking Tour, it was amazing to work with Kate on this global endeavor. We were also able to make our equipment available to James Boychuk-Hunter and Samantha Rollo their fundraising postcard project for AUArts.

Partnerships seemed to be an ongoing theme this year as we were able to realize a longterm project with the Collectors' Gallery of Art to bring the work of the late John Snow to the Calgary community. Not only did we partner with Romana Kaspar-Kraft from the gallery we also partnered with Elizabeth Herbert, author and historian, for the rich history and behind the scenes information of the life and legacy of John Snow. In this collaborative mix we also welcomed local emerging artists and a guest curator and recent graduate, Sheryl Spencer. *In Conversation with John Snow* was well attended both in person and online and the generous donation of the sales proceeds from the Collectors' Gallery made this a success.

Another wonderful partnership emerged with our joint exhibition with Martha Street Studio in Winnipeg Manitoba and l'Atelier Presse Papier in Trois-Rivières Quebec. This double exhibition *Trio* (Martha Street Studio) and *Vague Démographique* (l'Atelier Presse Papier) celebrated various ways that Printmakers come together to share and collaborate on work. Our A/P 30th Anniversary portfolio *Futurology* was displayed at Martha Street Studio during the same timespan.

We also had a unique opportunity to begin a largescale reorganization, refurbishment and inventory project at the Studio while we were closed to renters. Working with our fabulous Canada Summer Job interns Stephany Victorine and Josee Palacio, with guidance from Studio and Education Committee chair, Ryan Statz, we have emerged from lock down with a streamlined, well equipped studio.

As of June, we have been able to reopen our Gallery and Studio to the public, which has been a refreshing change to the pandemic lockdowns. We have booked an autumn/winter line up of in-person workshops and have showcased work in our gallery from all across Canada. Our Gallery Committee Chair, Heather Leier, has been invaluable as we have had to adapt to the pandemic realities each time we've held a new exhibition, even our online exhibitions have been beautifully installed in the gallery space. We are looking forward to hosting our remaining two Culture Days online events on Tuesday September 14th and 18th with our partners at SNAP as well as our in-person Exhibition opening and Artist Talk with Kasia Koralewska on September 17th.

As October nears and another transition begins with Tracy returning, I just want to thank the Board of Directors, our staff, and our membership for working with me over the past few months. Paul our Board President, and Tracy Wormsbecker also deserve a huge thank you, they have been available to answer any question we've had and they have contributed behind the scenes in countless ways - it has been a gift and an honour to fill this role. We are looking forward to Tracy's return next month!

- **Michelle Wiebe**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES 2020-2021

Board of Directors 2020-2021:

President	Paul Mercer
Vice President	Eveline Koliijn
Treasurer	Gordon Paul
Secretary	James Boychuk-Hunter
Director	Alison Frank
Director	Ryan Statz
Director	Heather Leier
Director	Christine Hoepner
Director	Nurgul Rodriguez
Director, AUArts Student Representative	Samantha Rollo

Committees 2021-2022:

Executive Committee

Paul Mercer (Chair)
James Boychuk-Hunter
Eveline Koliijn
Gordon Paul
Tracy Wormsbecker/Michelle Wiebe

Studio/Education Committee

Ryan Statz (Chair)
Matt Dunlop
Tracy Wormsbecker/Michelle Wiebe

Fundraising Committee

Eveline Koliijn (Chair)
Kate Baillies
James Boychuk-Hunter
Tracy Wormsbecker/Michelle Wiebe

Gallery Programming Committee

Heather Leier (Chair)
Nurgul Rodriguez
Mahwish Ahmed
Tracy Wormsbecker/Michelle Wiebe

Special Events Committee

Alison Frank (Chair)
Christine Hoepner
Samantha Rollo
Tracy Wormsbecker/Michelle Wiebe

A/P STAFF AND INTERNS 2020-2021:

Tracy Wormsbecker

Executive Director (on leave April - October 2021)

Michelle Wiebe

Interim Executive Director

Helen Young

Former Studio Director

Matt Dunlop

Interim Studio Assistant

Former Art Gallery Administrator (Autumn 2020)

Funded in Part through the Canada Summer Jobs Program

Stephany Victorine

Former Assistant Art Gallery Administrator (Summer 2021)

Funded in part through the Canada Summer Jobs Program

Josee Palacio

Current Assistant Administrator, Art Gallery (Autumn 2020)

Funded in part through the Canada Summer Jobs Program

PROPOSED BOARD SLATE 2021-2022

President

Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

Director

Director

Director, AUArts Student Representative

Director

Director

Paul Mercer

Eveline Koliijn

Izabela Switalska

James Boychuk-Hunter

Heather Leier

Christine Hoepfner

Samantha Rollo

Sheryl Spencer

Jill Ho-You

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Funders:

AFA, CADA

Additional Partners, supporters, sponsors involved in A/P 2020-2021 activities:

Inglewood Art Supplies

The Collectors' Gallery of Art

AUArts

University of Calgary

SNAP

l'Atelier Presse Papier

Martha Street Studio

Alberta Culture Days

CJSW

Treaty Acknowledgement

A/P gratefully acknowledges we are situated on the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations). Moh'kins'tsis, the City of Calgary, is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

A/P respect the histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.