

# **THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA**

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

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**Wednesday, September 30, 2020**



**University  
of Manitoba**

**| Alumni**

## **The Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba Annual General Meeting**

**September 30, 2020 6:30 PM (CT)**

**Virtual Meeting**

### **Agenda**

- 1. Call to Order and Welcome:** Peter Wheatley, Chair, Alumni Association
- 2. Greetings from the Province of Manitoba:** Her Honour, the Honourable Janice C. Filmon, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, C.M., O.M. (Pre-recorded video will be shared)
- 3. Chair's Annual Report, Approval of Minutes, AGM 2019:** Peter Wheatley, Chair, Alumni Association
- 4. Annual Financial Statements and Accountant's Report for Year Ending March 31, 2020:** Mark Colley, Treasurer, Alumni Association
- 5. Amendments to By-Laws:** Peter Wheatley, Chair, Alumni Association
- 6. Recognition of the Alumni Association & Introduction of President Michael Benarroch:** John Kearsey, Vice-President (External), University of Manitoba
- 7. Greetings from the University of Manitoba:** Dr. Michael Benarroch, President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Manitoba
- 8. Roundtable discussion with guest alumni from around the world:** John Kearsey, Vice-President (External), University of Manitoba
- 9. New Business and Q&A**
- 10. Adjournment of Annual General Meeting**

# MINUTES OF THE 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## 98th Annual General Meeting, June 10, 2019 Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba Minutes

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The **98<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting** of the Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba was held on June 10, 2019, Russell Building, Fort Garry Campus.

**Chair:** Dawn Nedohin-Macek, Chair, Alumni Association

**Members Present:**

Anamika Anwasha	Roger Lepinsky
Mildred Beach	Fay Golubchik
Percival Beach	Joan Anderson
James Dalton	Tara Galaugher
Henry Drewlow	Jeff Leclerc
Mohamed ElMaamoun	Jeffrey Lieberman
Sheldon Gledson	Robert Lacroix
Martin Green	Corinne Latozke
Yipin Guo	Lindy Norris
Candace Heyliger	Evan Kuz
Norman Howe	Susan Kuz
Vanessa Katwaroo-Glendson	Efrem Teklemariam
Masroor Khan	Dawn Nedohin-Macek
Jerome Knysh	Mark Colley
Heather Milne	Peter Wheatley
Julian Nedohin-Macek	Scott Roehl
Carla Loewen	Matthieu Lazarow
AnnaMaria Toppazzini	Lasha Glennie
Michael Tokarchuk	Craig Glennie
Gunter Kraus	Bradford Broughton
Jessica Storoschuk	Jessica Carvell
Hong Su	Matthew Carvell
Roger Todd	Anish Rathmore
Hank Venema	Tanjit Nagra
Sandra Woloschuk	Wilfred Sam King
Allan Minaker	Tracy Bowman
Daria Jorquera Palmer	

Non-alumni attendees: David Barnard, John Kearsey, Carl Neumann, Dustin O'Donnell, Amy Brown

## **1. Call to Order and Welcome**

*Dawn Nedohin-Macek, Chair, Alumni Association*

Dawn welcomed guests to the 2019 Annual General Meeting of the Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba and thanked them for attending the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m.

## **2. University President's Welcome**

*David Barnard, President and Vice-Chancellor*

David Barnard, welcomed everyone present and shared how thrilled he was to see so many alumni come out to support the Annual General Meeting.

## **3. Recognition of the Chair and Alumni Association**

*John Kearsey, Vice-President (External)*

John Kearsey brought greetings from the University of Manitoba. Highlights of his presentation include:

One of the joys of my position is that it puts me in direct contact with the amazing alumni who are the lifeblood of the University of Manitoba community.

As Vice-President (External), I have the privilege to oversee this university's rich and intricate network of relationships with our alumni, and I represent the President on the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

As you know, our strategic plan and our Front and Centre campaign, speak of us "taking our place."

I think you'd agree that "taking our place," does take all of us—as a community of university staff, faculty and students, alumni, and the community at large, living both here in Manitoba and around the world. Each one of us is unique and diverse, but we all belong to a greater whole.

My job here this evening is to thank our alumni community who is answering the call from its alma mater and stepping up to make our university a better place. But I'd like to particularly thank a very dedicated and committed group of our alumni – the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Most of the current board is new, having served just one year. When we recruited them in 2018, we said we wanted to provide more opportunities for our alumni to have a voice and feel a stronger connection with their alma mater.

We wanted to make the directors' roles and responsibilities more meaningful, possibly by making significant changes to board structure, composition, and overall objectives. We weren't sure a year ago what this change would look like but we asked them for their help to guide us on this journey.

Many would have said, "Count me in once you've figured out all of these changes to your structure and purpose." Instead, our board members accepted this challenge and thoughtfully debated what would be next and best for the Alumni Association and its Board of Directors.

Unanimously, the Board supports creating an Alumni Council and altering the board's composition and governance to provide more meaningful and tangible opportunities for alumni to be ambassadors and advocates for the University of Manitoba.

I'd like to congratulate this exceptional board for their hard work and the significant responsibility they took on over this past year. On behalf of your alma mater, thank you.

Lastly, on behalf of the board, I am delighted to recognize the Chair of the Alumni Association, Dawn Nedohin-Macek, for her outstanding contributions to both the Alumni Association and the University of Manitoba.

Dawn has been an Alumni Association board member since 2013 and served in several capacities, including:

- Vice-President and Chair of the Alumni Achievement Committee;
- Deputy Chair of the Distinguished Alumni Awards Selection; Panel, working alongside the Chair of the Selection Panel, former Chancellor Harvey Selter; and
- Chair of the Alumni Association for the past two years.

She has also welcomed our newest members to the U of M alumni family on behalf of the Alumni Association at convocation ceremonies over all seven years she served on the board.

Dawn's leadership was paramount in drafting the proposed by-law changes as presented today, creating the Alumni Council, and working with the university's External Relations unit on an alumni relations strategy.

Working closely with former Chancellor Selter, she helped to renew the Distinguished Alumni Awards nomination and selection processes. She has often said that serving on the Distinguished Alumni Awards selection panel was one of her favourite parts of being a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, because she enjoyed reading the stories of some of the U of M's most amazing alumni—their outstanding achievements and their impact on the community.

Dawn is a fervent advocate for the university who has graciously volunteered hundreds of hours of her time to represent the university at various events and on committees.

Today's AGM marks her final formal action in her role as Chair.

Dawn, you never hesitate to be at the centre of the action. We have asked many things of you in this role, and you have embraced them all with grace, positivity and a smile. In true trailblazer fashion, you have taken your place front and centre. Your vision, spirit, passion and enthusiasm have made our university all the better for it. You will truly be missed.

#### **4. Chair's Annual Report**

*Dawn Nedohin-Macek, Chair, Alumni Association*

Dawn reported that:

- In conjunction with the University of Manitoba, we continued to develop new and dynamic ways to engage our alumni in 2018-19. During my time as Chair, I have been fortunate to see

firsthand the exciting ways in which the Alumni Association focuses on Student Engagement, Lifelong Learning and Alumni Achievement to connect with our graduates. It has been a truly rewarding experience to be a part of all of the activity constantly happening at the U of M.

- This year the Student Engagement committee worked with Financial Aid and Awards and Alumni Relations to select recipients for the Alumni Association Scholarships for incoming and current students.
- I would like to thank my fellow board members who participated in convocation by giving the address to graduates during fall and spring ceremonies. Your inspiring message to the newest members of our alumni family is always greatly appreciated and is a fantastic opportunity to inspire these graduates to stay connected to the university.
- Alumni Relations continued the very successful Seniors' Alumni Learning for Life Program which provides exclusive opportunities for alumni and friends 60+ to explore new ideas, and hear from professors, researchers and fellow alumni who are innovators in their field. This year, we held 18 sessions through a fall, winter and spring programs, with the fall and spring sessions selling out, as usual.
- The Distinguished Alumni Awards Celebration of Excellence is a highlight for many of our board members and, once again, we were thrilled with the event. Held on campus at UMSU University Centre, we celebrated the accomplishments of five outstanding award recipients:
  - Dr. Hersh Shefrin – Lifetime Achievement Award
  - Marcia Nozick – Professional Achievement Award
  - Gemma Dalayoan – Community Service Award
  - Romel Dhalla – Service to the University of Manitoba Award
  - Lindy Norris – Outstanding Young Alumni Award (who we will hear from later in our program)
- Homecoming is always a special time for alumni to reconnect and reminisce. This year [2018] we honoured alumnus Monty Hall and his wife Marilyn at the Brown & Gold Brunch and kicked off the official grand opening of the Marilyn & Monty Hall Retrospective Exhibit that showcased the breadth of achievements and philanthropy of these two late Hollywood legends and Emmy-award television stars.
- I would like to close my remarks by thanking my fellow members of the Alumni Association board of directors. It has been my honour to serve with you.

## **5. Approval of Minutes, Annual General Meeting 2018**

*Dawn Nedohin-Macek, Chair, Alumni Association*

The minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting were presented, reviewed and accepted.

**Motion:** *To approve the Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting.*

**Motion by:** Tanjit Nagra **Seconded by:** Scott Roehl **Carried**

## **6. Annual Financial Statements and Accountant's Report for year ending March 31, 2019**

*Mark Colley, Treasurer, Alumni Association*

**Motion:** *On behalf of the Finance Committee, I move that the audited financial statements ending March 31, 2019 be accepted as presented.*

**Seconded by:** Matthieu Lazarow **Carried**

## 7. Amendments to By-Laws

*Dawn Nedohin-Macek, Chair, Alumni Association*

Much of the work we did as your board this year focused on adapting our board governance model in the spirit of creating better opportunities for our alumni to have deeper and more meaningful engagement with the University of Manitoba, and to develop a cohesive and robust alumni engagement strategy in collaboration with the University of Manitoba.

All you'll see in your booklet, the proposed changes in the bylaws are in support of the creation of an Alumni Council, which I will speak in more detail later in the program. In brief, the Council will be an advisory forum of diverse alumni with representation from all faculties and colleges across campus, and from a variety of alumni community groups founded in equity, diversity and inclusion. The Alumni Council will provide advice and counsel to university leadership on emerging issues and opportunities that concern the university, its alumni, students and the community at large through three in-person forums.

We are proposing to reduce the size of the board including the number of elected members to the board and ex-officio board members, removing the executive committee altogether because we will have a smaller board, and create the Alumni Council as a standing committee of the Alumni Association. These proposed changes are based on research we've conducted looking at other institutions, best practices in alumni engagement, and most importantly, ensuring the best interests of our alumni and our alma mater are served.

I would like to thank the members of the ad hoc committee on by-law review: Jessica Carvell and Tracy Bowman who worked diligently on the proposed changes presented here today. I would also like to thank Anna Solmundson, Associate Legal Counsel, for her invaluable advice during the process and for her review of the proposed amendments and broad governance changes we are proposing. A chart of all the amended by-laws are included in your AGM package and is also projected on the screen behind me.

**Motion:** *to accept the proposed amendments to the Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba By-laws as presented.*

**Motion by:** Jessica Carvell **Seconded by:** Gunter Kraus **Carried**

## 8. Election of the 2019/20 Board of Directors

*Dawn Nedohin-Macek, Chair, Alumni Association*

Normally, the Chair of the Nominating Committee would provide the report and propose the slate of candidates. As we are having an election for the first time at an annual general meeting that I can remember, I will be speaking in his place as an outgoing board member and current chair. The changes to the bylaws we just approved dictate that the maximum number of members elected to the board is 7 and the minimum is 5.

All 9 candidates running for the maximum 7 elected director positions have been active members of the current 2018-2019 alumni association board. Based on the recommendation from the university's legal counsel, all 9 candidates were asked to resign from the current board in order to run in this election, and all have done so. The 7 candidates you are electing today will start a brand new 2-year term on the board. As Evan Kuz, the Chair of the Nominating Committee, has provided his resignation as I just

explained and is one of the 9 candidates in the election, it has effectively removed him from the Nominating Committee and he is unable to speak to the election.

The biographies of the 9 candidates are in your packages and are on the U of M alumni relations website. I encourage you to review them if you haven't already.

Each of you who is a member of the alumni association was given a ballot and pen when you registered. Only alumni association members, that is alumni of the University of Manitoba, are able to vote in this election.

Please take a moment to vote for UP TO 7 candidates, marking in the spaces beside the candidates' names with an 'X' on your ballot. You do not have to vote for 7 candidates but you CANNOT vote for MORE than 7 candidates, as that will result in a spoiled ballot. Voting for no candidates will also result in a spoiled ballot.

As the returning officer for the election, I'll ask Tracy Bowman, Director responsible for alumni relations and Secretary to the Alumni Association Board of Directors, to collect the ballots and I'll ask the 3 appointed scrutineers from the membership to go with her to count the ballots. Please note these 3 scrutineers are NOT candidates for the election.

Thank you to each of you for casting your vote.

## **9. Presentation of University of Manitoba Brand and Logo Transformation**

*John Kearsey, Vice President (External)*

John delivered a PowerPoint presentation on the new brand and logo for the University of Manitoba.

## **10. Scrutineer's Report**

*Tracy Bowman, Director, Outreach & Engagement*

There were 44 votes cast, 0 spoiled. New board members are:

- Jessica Carvell, LLB/15
- Mark Colley, BComm(Hons)/04
- Lasha Glennie, BA/2008, ExtEd/16
- Evan Kuz, BFA(Hons)/90
- Peter Wheatley, BSc(ME)/07, MBA/15
- Efreem Teklemariam, MEng/99
- Kristjan Mann, BA/11, BA(Adv)/13

**Motion:** to approve the scrutineer's report as presented.

**Motion by:** Evan Kuz **Seconded by:** Carla Loewen **Carried**

## **11. Presentation of the Alumni Council**

*Dawn Nedohin-Macek, Chair, Alumni Association*

The 2018-2019 Alumni Association Board of Directors has endorsed to move forward with the creation of an Alumni Council. It has been briefly discussed at various points in this meeting, but now I would like to provide further clarity on what it is and how we came to this decision.



For the last few years, the board of directors has grappled with how it can provide meaningful support, advocacy and ambassadorship to the university and represent their fellow alumni. I have been a member of the board of directors for seven years and have seen these concerns increase year after year among the board members around the table.

In 2018, the University of Manitoba Alumni Relations team hired a consultant who has years of leadership experience working in alumni relations as both a senior staff member and consultant to many universities in North America, including a number in Canada.

The consultant helped the 2017-2018 board come to the realization that what they and other alumni want to achieve in giving back of their time to their alma mater is to be an advocate and ambassador for, and to have the opportunity to provide voice on emerging issues affecting the university from an alumni perspective. This would allow them to make a meaningful contribution as alumni. With the University of Manitoba's External Relations team planning, organizing and leading all of the alumni relations activities and initiatives, from Homecoming to the Distinguished Alumni Awards to the UM Today: The Magazine to regional alumni events to supporting our board of directors, board members were feeling lost in how they could be most impactful. And so the concept of the Alumni Council emerged.

We are not alone in this; these types of changes are happening or have happened at other universities across Canada.

## **12. New Business**

*Dawn Nedohin-Macek, Chair, Alumni Association*

No new business

## **13. Special Guest Speaker: 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient for Outstanding Young Alumni**

Lindy Norris is a two-time graduate of the U of M, holding Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Commerce Honours degrees.

She has a busy professional career in her role as Director of Marketing at NFI Group and is a tireless volunteer serving her community. At the young age of 27, Lindy founded Athena Leadership; a non-profit organization dedicated to providing leadership development, mentorship and networking to women professionals in Manitoba.

She has received various awards honouring her exceptional community and professional work. Some of her notable accomplishments include:

- One of the first Manitobans to be named by Marketing Magazine the top 30 Under 30 Brightest Young Minds in Canada
- A recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for outstanding community contribution
- And she was the University of Manitoba's 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient for Outstanding Young Alumni

Lindy Norris' presented on Leadership Community and why you should put your hand up, a topic that she is very passionate about.

#### **14. Adjournment of the Annual General Meeting**

*Dawn Nedohin-Macek, Chair, Alumni Association*

I declare this meeting officially adjourned. Thank you for attending the 2019 Alumni Association Annual General Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

44,842.78

**The Alumni Association Inc. of the University of Manitoba**

**Balance Sheet**  
**As of March 31, 2020**

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	<b><u>Apr 2019 - Mar 2020</u></b>
<b>Income</b>	
U of M Operating Grant	15,000.00
Petty Cash	<u>250.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>15,250.00</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	15,250.00
<b>Expense</b>	
<b>Advertising &amp; Public Relations</b>	
DAA Tickets	3,060.00
Homecoming Tickets	
Board meeting expenses	<u>1,222.40</u>
<b>Total - Advertising &amp; Public Relations</b>	4,282.40
 Bank Charges	90.00
Insurance Policies	4,138.67
Professional Fees	
Office Expense	
Miscellaneous (Parking)	<u>94.50</u>
<b>Total - Office Expense</b>	94.50
 <b>Special Events</b>	
Miscellaneous	<u>          </u>
<b>Special Events</b>	<u>0.00</u>
 <b>Total Expense</b>	<u>8,605.57</u>
 <b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>6,644.43</u></u>

**THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION INC.**

**OF THE**

**UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA**

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**BY-LAWS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS**  
**MATRIX**

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To be ratified at the Annual General Meeting

September 30, 2020

## Summary of Changes

Current By-law Section	Current Wording	Proposed Wording	Reason for Change
4.6	The quorum for Annual General Meetings shall be fifteen (15) voting Members. Attendance must be in person.	The quorum for Annual General Meetings shall be fifteen (15) voting Members.	Updated to allow meetings to be held virtually.
4.7	The Annual General Meetings shall be held at the University or elsewhere in the City of Winnipeg.	The Board may determine that the Annual General Meeting shall be held entirely or partially by means of a telephonic, an electronic or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting.	Updated to allow meetings to be held virtually.
4.9	Voting at Annual General Meetings: iv.) A show of hands may decide every vote;	Voting at Annual General Meetings: iv.) Voting may be conducted by a show of hands, a ballot or electronic voting.	Updated to allow meetings to be held virtually.

**THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA**

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**BY-LAWS**

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To be ratified at the Annual General Meeting  
September 30, 2020

Effective Date September 30, 2020

**THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA**

**BY-LAWS**

**\*Any notice required set forth in these by-laws may be provided by electronic means.**

This by-law is enacted in accordance with *The Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba Incorporation Act*, R.S.M. 1990, c.3.

**DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

In this by-law:

“**Act**” means *The Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba Incorporation Act*, R.S.M. 1990, c.3.

“**Alumni Relations**” means the Alumni Relations Department of External Relations at the University of Manitoba.

“**Association**” means The Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba. “**Board**” mean the Board of Directors of The Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba.

“**Board Member**” means a member of the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba, in accordance with Section 6.1 hereof.

“**Chair**” means the person elected to lead the Alumni Association.

“**Vice Chair**” means the person elected to support the Chair.

“**Board of Governors**” means the Board of Governors of the University of Manitoba, as established under *The University of Manitoba Act*, C.C.S.M. c. U60.

“**Director responsible for Alumni Relations**” means the Director responsible for Alumni Relations at the University of Manitoba.

“**External Relations**” means the External Relations Division of the University of Manitoba.

“**Graduate**” means

- i.) Persons who have received a degree, diploma or certificate approved by the Senate of the University;
- ii.) Persons with a designation from the Institute of Chartered Accountants (prior to 1970);  
or
- iii.) Persons who have successfully completed a program requiring at least one (1) year's study and sponsored by or through the Extended Education Division of the University.

“**Member**” means a person described in Sections 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 hereof.



“**University**” means the University of Manitoba, as established by *The University of Manitoba Act*, C.C.S.M. c. U60.

Words importing the singular number include the plural and vice versa, words importing the masculine gender include the feminine gender, and words importing persons include individuals, bodies corporate, partnerships, trusts and unincorporated organizations.

## **1.0 NAME AND LOCATION**

1.1 The name of the Association shall be the “Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba.”

1.2 The Association’s head office shall be maintained in the City of Winnipeg, in the Province of Manitoba, at a location to be determined by the Board.

## **2.0 PURPOSE**

2.1 The purpose of the Association shall be:

- i.) To connect alumni with each other and with the University;
- ii.) To provide guidance and the special perspective of alumni to the University to assist the University in setting their goals and objectives;
- iii.) To generally promote the image of the University in the community and specifically through programs and communication to facilitate the relationship between the University and its alumni to promote a continuing affiliation of alumni with the University;
- iv.) To advise the University on matters of interest to the alumni;
- v.) To advocate on behalf of alumni to further the purposes set forth in this section.

## **3.0 MEMBERSHIP**

### **3.1 Regular Membership**

Regular membership in the Association includes and is limited to Graduates.

### **3.2 Alumni Life Membership**

Alumni who paid a life membership fee, prior to the termination of this category on March 31, 1990, shall continue to enjoy regular membership privileges for life.

### **3.3 Honorary Life Membership**

Honorary Life Membership in the Association may be conferred from time to time by the Board

for exceptional or meritorious service to the Association. Honorary Life Membership would include any friend or supporter of the Association who may not be a Graduate. Honorary Life Members shall be entitled to all privileges of the Association except the rights to vote or hold office.

- 3.4 In addition to membership in the Association as provided in Sections 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 hereof, the Board may authorize such other categories of membership as it may determine from time to time.
- 3.5 The categories of membership in Sections 3.1 and 3.2 hereof have voting rights.
- 3.6 All memberships are terminated upon death of the Member. Regular memberships can be revoked as a result of the Senate of the University revoking a Member's degree. The Board may revoke an Alumni Life Membership or an Honorary Life Membership.

#### **4.0 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- 4.1 There shall be an Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held no later than ninety (90) days following the end of the fiscal year. Notice shall appear in the *UM Today The Magazine*, the Association website or other publications sent to Members at least forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- 4.2 Thirty days (30) prior to the Annual General Meeting, the Nominating Committee will provide a slate of nominees for election to the Board.
- 4.3 The agenda for the Annual General Meeting will include the following:
  - i.) Election of the Board;
  - ii.) Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting;
  - iii.) The Chair's Annual Report;
  - iv.) Any amendments to the by-laws;
  - v.) The receiving and considering of Annual Financial Statements and the auditor's or accountant's report for the preceding year;
  - vi.) The appointment of auditors or dispensing with their appointment in lieu of the appointment of accountants; and
  - vii.) Any new business.

- 4.4 The agenda shall appear on the Association website twenty-one (21) days prior to the meeting. Proposed agenda items should be forwarded to the Chair thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting. The final agenda shall be approved by the Board.
- 4.5 Any new business brought to the floor of the Annual General Meeting will only be discussed if the majority of those present approve the addition of the new business.
- 4.6 The quorum for Annual General Meetings shall be fifteen (15) voting Members.  
~~Attendance must be in person.~~
- 4.7 ~~Annual General Meetings shall be held at the University or elsewhere in the City of Winnipeg.~~  
  
The Board may determine that the Annual General Meeting shall be held entirely or partially by means of a telephonic, an electronic or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting.
- 4.8 The Chair of the Annual General Meetings shall be the Chair, failing whom; the Vice-Chair shall act as Chair.
- 4.9 Voting at Annual General Meetings:
- i.) Each Member present shall have one vote; ii.)  
  
There shall be no provision for a proxy vote;
  - iii.) The Chair does not have a second or casting vote. In the event of a tie, the motion is defeated;
  - iv.) ~~A show of hands may decide every vote; and~~  
  
Voting may be conducted by a show of hands, a ballot or electronic voting.
  - v.) One voting Member may request a ballot vote.
- 4.10 If an Annual General Meeting is adjourned for less than thirty (30) days, it shall not be necessary to give notice of the adjourned meeting, other than by announcement at the earliest meeting that is adjourned. If a meeting of the Members is adjourned by one or more adjournments for an aggregate of thirty (30) days or more, notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given as for an original meeting.

## **5.0 SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

5.1 A Special Meeting of the Association may be called:

- i.) By the Chair, or
- ii.) With prior written notice to both the Chair and the Director responsible for Alumni Relations, by either 50% of the Board or fifteen (15) voting Members of the Association.

5.2 Special Meetings shall be held in the City of Winnipeg with at least one (1) week's prior notice in a Winnipeg newspaper of general circulation. A copy of the agenda shall be posted on the Association website one (1) week prior and through to the completion of the meeting.

5.3 The quorum for Special Meetings shall be fifty (50) voting Members present in person.

5.4 The Chair of the Association shall chair the meeting. In the event the Chair is not available, the Vice-Chair or one of the Past Chairs shall chair the meeting.

5.5 Voting at Special Meetings:

- i.) Each Member present shall have one vote; ii.)  
There shall be no provision for a proxy vote;
- iii.) The Chair does not have a second or casting vote. In the event of a tie, the motion is defeated;
- iv.) A show of hands may decide every vote; and v.)  
One voting Member may request a ballot vote.

## **6.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

6.1 Composition

Upon ratification of these By-Laws at the June 10, 2019 Annual General Meeting, the Board shall consist of a minimum of five (5) to a maximum of seven (7) Board Members elected from among the membership. In addition, the Board shall include the following two (2) ex-officio voting Board Members:

- i.) The President of the University or designate; and
- ii.) The Chair of the Alumni Council.

## 6.2 Eligibility

Each Board Member shall:

- i.) Be at least 18 years of age;
- ii.) Not be an undischarged bankrupt;
- iii.) Be a Member of the Association, except the ex-officio voting Board Members;
- iv.) Further the objectives and act in the best interests of the Association.

## 6.3 Selection of Board Members

- i.) The Nominating Committee shall oversee the selection and nomination process. ii.)

The Nominating Committee may nominate or accept nominations of Members who meet the criteria set forth in Section 6.2 hereof.

- iii.) Any twenty-five (25) Members may nominate a candidate for the Board by written submission on a prescribed form to the Chair of the Nominating Committee (care of the Association) at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting. This submission must include the candidate's consent and the nominators' signatures.
- iv.) The Nominating Committee may choose to support or not support the nominations made under Section 6.3(iii) hereof.
- v.) Nominations will not be accepted at the Annual General Meeting.
- vi.) The election of Board Members shall take place at the Annual General Meeting. Voting will take place only when there are more Members nominated than positions available. Voting will take place by secret ballot. Three (3) Members who are not on the ballot, appointed at the meeting, will count the ballots. The Director responsible for Alumni Relations will oversee the process. Results shall be announced prior to the close of the Annual General Meeting. Ballots will be destroyed two weeks post-election by the Director responsible for Alumni Relations.

## 6.4 Term of Office

- i.) Each Board Member shall be elected for a two (2) year term by the Members of the Association present at the Annual General Meeting. No Board Member can serve more than three (3) consecutive two (2) year terms.
- ii.) A Board Member may serve a seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) year only if it is in the role of immediate Past Chair, which is not an additional position. Elected Board Members must not exceed seven (7) persons.

- iii.) A Board Member shall not hold act as Chair of the same committee for more than two (2) years.
- iv.) If a Board Member assumes their position on the Board in the midst of a term, they will have been considered to have served their first year at the following Annual General Meeting.

## 6.5 Power and Duties

The Board shall:

- i.) Govern the affairs of the Association in accordance with applicable legislation, regulations, by-laws and policies;
- ii.) Develop the Mission and Vision of the Association in consultation with External Relations at the University of Manitoba;
- iii.) Participate in the various committees and activities of the Association;
- iv.) Ensure the financial solvency and integrity of the organization, which requires internal checks and balances;
- v.) Approve the Association's annual budget;
- vi.) Make representations on behalf of the Association;
- vii.) Annually review the Association's By-Laws, Terms of Reference of all committees and other related governance documents;
- viii.) Guide the creation and oversee the selection and appointment of members to the Association's committees including Alumni Council; and
- ix.) Guide the setting of the agenda for the Board, Alumni Council and other Association committees.

## 6.6 Vacancies

- i.) Should a vacancy occur in the position of a Board Member or an officer, the Board may appoint a replacement to fill the vacancy to complete the term.
- ii.) Vacancies should be filled within thirty (30) days where possible.

## 6.7 Resignation or Removal of a Board Member

A Board Member's position will be deemed vacant where:

- i.) A Board Member submits a written resignation to the Chair;
- ii.) A Board Member does not meet required attendance as per section 6.9;
- iii.) An elected Board Member ceases to be a Member of the Association;

- iv.) A Board Member dies;
- v.) At a special meeting of the Board, a resolution is passed by 3/4 of the Board Members present at the meeting to remove a Board Member from office for just cause. The Board Member being considered for removal shall not participate in the vote. A notice of motion must be sent out prior to the vote to the Board Members. This motion cannot arrive as new business at a Board meeting.
  - a. The Board Member being considered for removal, at their discretion, will have the opportunity to address the Board in person, by a personal representative or in writing.
- vi.) Anytime a Board Member resigns or is removed under any circumstance, a written letter must be sent to the Board Member by the Chair confirming the date of resignation or termination. A copy of such letter must be kept on file for the purposes of directors' liability insurance.

## 6.8 Board Meetings

- i.) The Board shall meet at least three (3) times annually. Meetings of the Board shall be called by the Chair, or when requested to do so, by at least three (3) Board Members. Twenty-one (21) days' notice should be provided where possible.
- ii.) Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Chair, by any three (3) Board Members, or the President of the University or designate. A minimum of two (2) business days' notice must be given.

## 6.9 Attendance

- i.) Attendance at Board and committee meetings by Board Members is integral to the effective functioning of the Alumni Association. Therefore, if any elected Board Member misses two (2) consecutive regular Board meetings without reasonable cause, or who misses more than 50% of board and committee meetings in a calendar year, the Member will be contacted by the Chair of the Board to discuss their attendance and the advisability of continued membership on the board.

Based on the discussion, the Board Chair will determine whether or not to recommend to the Board that the Board Member be removed from the Board.

- ii.) Any Board Member unable to attend a regular or special Board meeting shall send regrets to the Chair of the Board and the Director responsible for Alumni Relations or to a person designated by the Director responsible for Alumni Relations prior to the start of the meeting.
- iii.) Where the Association is willing and able to facilitate, Board Members may participate in a meeting by means of any telecommunications device which permits all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other. Such Board Members shall be considered to be present at the meeting for purposes of quorum.

#### 6.10 Voting

Matters before the Board shall be decided by a majority of Board Members present. Voting shall be by show of hands or other means recognized by the Chair, unless a ballot is requested by any one Board Member. The Chair shall not vote unless there is a tie. In the case of a tie, the Chair shall vote to break the tie.

#### 6.11 Quorum

Quorum at a meeting of the Board shall be a majority of Board Members.

#### 6.12 The Chair of any meeting of the Board Members shall be the Chair, failing whom; the Chair will designate the Vice Chair to act as Chair. If the Chair cannot designate the Vice Chair, the Board Members present shall choose one of the Board Members to be Chair.

#### 6.13 Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Board shall have the full power in all things to manage and administer the business and affairs of the Association. The powers of the Board may be exercised by resolution passed at a meeting at which a quorum is present.

#### 6.14 If a meeting of the Board is adjourned for less than thirty (30) days, it shall not be necessary to give notice of the adjourned meeting, other than by announcement at the earliest meeting that is adjourned. If a Board meeting is adjourned by one or more adjournments for an aggregate of thirty (30) days or more, notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given as for an original meeting.

#### 6.15 Guests

With the exception of meetings or portions that are deemed closed by the Chair, meetings of the Board shall be open to all Members of the Association and to such other persons as permitted or invited to participate from time to time by the Chair or by the majority of the Board. The majority of the Board present may determine the Board meetings closed.

#### 6.16 Conflict of Interest

On any matter before the Board or a committee, if any person has a real, potential or perceived conflict of interest, it must be declared to the Board or committee through the Chair. The person in a real, potential or perceived conflict shall refrain from influencing others on the matter prior to the meeting, shall not speak to the matter at meetings, shall excuse themselves from discussion on the matter and shall abstain from voting on the matter. Board Members and committee members shall act in accordance with the Association's Conflict of Interest Policy, which may be introduced and/or amended from time to time.

### 7.0 OFFICERS

#### 7.1 The officers of the Association shall be Chair, Past Chair, a Vice and Treasurer. The Board shall determine the slate of officers from the elected Board Members at the first meeting following the Annual General Meeting.

#### 7.2 The duties and responsibilities of the officers shall be as follows:



- i.) Duties of the Chair: To be accountable to the membership for the actions of the Board; to chair the Board and Annual General Meetings; to serve on the Finance Committee and Nominating Committee; to act as the primary liaison between the Board and the Director responsible for Alumni Relations; and to act as the Vice Chair of the Alumni Council.
  - ii.) Duties of the Past Chair: To chair the Nominating Committee. If the Past Chair is unwilling or unable to chair the Nominating Committee for any reason whatsoever, the Board shall appoint another Board Member to chair the Nominating Committee.
  - iii.) Duties of the Vice-Chair:
    - a. To assume the duties of the Chair in the event of the resignation or removal of the Chair.
    - b. To act on behalf of the Chair on a temporary basis, as required.
  - iv.) Duties of the Treasurer: To oversee all financial matters related to the Association including investments; to chair the Finance Committee.
- 7.3 The Board may, from time to time and subject to the provisions of the Act, vary, add to or limit the powers and duties of any officer.
- 7.4 If any Board Member or officer is unable to perform his functions or discharge his duties as such Board Member or officer, the Board may appoint such other Board Member(s) or officers(s) to perform the functions and/or to discharge the duties of that Board Member or officer.

## **8.0 COMMITTEES**

- 8.1 Standing Committees of the Association shall be the: i.)
- the Alumni Council;
- ii.) Finance Committee; and
- iii.) Nominating Committee.
- 8.2 Ad hoc committees shall be as designated from time to time by the Board.
- 8.3 Membership on a committee shall be approved by the Board and may include Board Members, Members and/or such other persons permitted by the Board, for a term designated by the Board. The duties and terms of reference of all committees shall be set out in writing and approved by the Board. The Chairs of all committees shall be approved by the Board.
- 8.4 The powers of a committee of the Board may be exercised by a meeting at which a quorum is present or by resolution in writing signed by all the members of such committee who would have been entitled to vote on that resolution at a meeting of the committee. Meetings of such committees may be held at any place the committee shall determine.

8.5 Unless otherwise determined by the Board, each committee shall have the power to:

- i.) Fix its quorum at not less than a majority of its members; and
- ii.) Regulate its procedure.

## **9.0 DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR ALUMNI RELATIONS**

9.1 The Association recognizes that the Director responsible for Alumni Relations shall report and be accountable to the Vice-President (External) of the University.

9.2 The Director responsible for Alumni Relations or designate shall attend all Board meetings and shall be a non-voting Secretary to the Board and on all the Board's standing committees.

9.3 Duties of the Secretary shall include:

- i.) Act as Secretary at all Board meetings. Secretarial duties may be delegated to a designate at the Secretary's discretion;
- ii.) Give notice of all meetings and give or cause to be given all notices to Members, Board Members, officer, auditors, and committee members;
- iii.) Keep records of the proceedings of all Board meetings and all Annual General Meetings and business matters; and
- iv.) Perform any other duties pertaining to the office of Secretary and such other powers and duties as the Board or the Chair may specify.

9.4 Where the Director responsible for Alumni Relations is a Graduate of the University, their rights and privileges as a Member shall remain in full force and effect where expressly provided herein.

9.5 The Director responsible for Alumni Relations shall also have the following duties, as designated by the Vice-President (External) of the University:

- i.) Provide oversight of day to day administrative activities for the Association;
- ii.) Serve as a liaison between the Association and the University;
- iii.) Provide the Board with leadership, guidance and subject matter expertise on key activities and initiatives; and
- iv.) Assist the Board with strategic planning and goals.

9.6 The Director responsible for Alumni Relations shall be hired by the Vice-President (External), according to human resources policies and procedures of the University.

## **10.0 ELECTION BY GRADUATES OF ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

### **10.1 Nominations**

- i.) The Association shall annually nominate two (2) or more candidates for election as a member of the Board of Governors by the Graduates to succeed the elected member whose term is about to expire, and two (2) or more candidates for election as a member of the Board of Governors to fill any vacancy in the Board of Governors to be filled by election by the Graduates.
- ii.) For the purposes of this section, if the Association is unable to nominate two (2) or more candidates because of an unwillingness or lack of interest by those approached, the conditions of this section will be deemed to have been met.
- iii.) The nomination of a candidate may also be made by twenty-five (25) Graduates and accompanied by the written consent of the nominee.
- iv.) The procedure for nominations shall appear in the Autumn issue of *UM Today The Magazine*, or its successor, and/or other such printed or online forms of media that the Board may determine.
- v.) The closing date for nominations shall be March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, or such other date as determined by the Association and the University, providing that it is in compliance with all requirements.
- vi.) The Nominating Committee shall oversee the selection and nomination process.

### **10.2 Eligibility**

For the purposes of this election, those eligible to vote and eligible for candidacy are Graduates with degrees, diplomas and certificates as approved by Senate.

### **10.3 Terms in Office**

Alumni elected by the Graduates to serve on the Board of Governors may do so for a maximum of three (3) consecutive three (3) year terms.

### **10.4 Election**

The election shall be conducted by online voting, or by such other means as permitted by the Association. The Secretary or designate shall conduct the election in accordance with these By-Laws.

## 10.5 Ballots

- i.) A ballot shall be provided to all Graduates as soon as possible following the close of nominations;
- ii.) Full biographical information and photographs of all candidates shall be available on the University's website; and
- iii.) The ballot shall include a section for voting purposes, on which the following is to appear:
  - a.) Voting procedure;
  - b.) Deadline for return of ballots; and c.) Address ballots are to be returned to.

## 10.6 Counting the Ballots

- i.) The counting of ballots shall take place after the close of the election; and
- ii.) The counting of ballots shall take place in the Association offices by or under the supervision of the Director responsible for Alumni Relations. Candidates may jointly appoint two (2) scrutineers to witness the counting of the ballots.

## 10.7 Election Results

The results of the election shall be forwarded in writing, no later than May 31<sup>st</sup> of each year, to the Secretary of the Board of Governors.

## 10.8 Cost of the Election

The cost of the election and its related advertising is to be borne by the University, as legislated in subsection 12(1) of *The University of Manitoba Act*.

## 10.9 Failure to Hold an Election

In the event that only a single candidate is nominated, the Board shall appoint that candidate to succeed the elected member whose term is about to expire. This appointment is subject to the approval of the Board of Governors who, under subsection 12(4) of *The University of Manitoba Act*, may take alternative steps to fill the vacancy.

## 11.0 FISCAL POLICIES

11.1 The fiscal year-end of the Association shall be March 31.

11.2 Financial statements shall be presented at Board meetings and a complete financial report shall be given at the Annual General Meeting.

11.3 The Board shall have the power to borrow on behalf of the Association for a stated purpose which is compatible with Association objectives and subject to policies and procedures approved by the Board.

- 11.4 Board Members shall not receive any remuneration for serving as a member of the Board. However, Board Members may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred on behalf of the Association in accordance with the Association's travel and business expense policies as may be introduced and or amended from time to time.
- 11.5 The signing authorities of the Association shall be the Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer.
- 11.6 The Association may accept any donation, grant or bequest in the form of funds or properties from any group or individual for a specific or general purpose as long as doing so is consistent with the purposes of the Association.

## **12.0 GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **12.1 Indemnification**

The Association agrees to indemnify the Board Members and officers, and all former Board Members and officers, as well as their heirs and legal representatives against all actions undertaken by them in good faith on behalf of the Association, and all claims, suits, or proceedings brought against them, provided that no Board Member or officer, or former Board Member or officer, shall be indemnified in respect of any liability, cost charge or expense that they sustain as a result of fraud, dishonesty, willful neglect or willful default.

### **12.2 Limitation of Liability**

No Board Member or officer shall be liable for the acts, receipts, neglects or defaults of any other member of the Board, officer or employee, or for joining in any other act or conformity, or for any loss, damage or expense occurring to the Association through the insufficiency or deficiency of title to any property acquired for or on behalf of the Association, or for the insufficiency or deficiency of any security in or upon which any of the monies of the Association shall be invested, or for any loss or damage arising from the bankruptcy, insolvency or tortious acts of any person with whom any of the monies, securities or effects of the Association shall be deposited, or for any loss occasioned by an error of judgment or oversight on his part, or for any other loss, damage or misfortune whatsoever which shall happen in the execution of the duties of his office or in relation thereto, unless the same are occasioned by his own wilful neglect or default; provided that nothing herein shall relieve any Board Member or officer from the duty to act in accordance with *The Corporations Act* (Manitoba), C.C.S.M. c. C225, the Act or from liability for any breach of the provisions thereof.

- 12.3 The accidental omission to give notice to any Member, Board Member, officer, auditor or member of a committee or the non-receipt of any notice to any Member, Board Member, officer, auditor or member of a committee or any error contained in such notice not affecting the substance of the notice shall not invalidate any action taken at any meeting held pursuant to such notice or otherwise founded thereon.
- 12.4 Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, or the most current edition, will be the recognized Parliamentary Authority for all meetings of the Association.

## **13.0 AMENDMENTS**

- 13.1 Amendments to the by-laws may be made by either a recommendation from the Board or by any Member(s). The by-law recommendation must be forwarded to the Chair at least forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting where such amendments are to be

considered. Amendments to the by-laws must be approved by two-thirds (2/3) of those Members present.

- 13.2 Notice of proposed amendments must appear in a publication made available to the membership at least twenty-one (21) days prior to Annual General Meeting.

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**State of the Association 2019-20**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**University of Manitoba Alumni Association**  
**September 30, 2020**

During the 2019-20 year, together the Alumni Association and University of Manitoba Alumni Relations unit experienced their share of success, change and celebration:

**Board of Governors (BOG) Alumni Representative Election:**

This year, seven alumni sought to be elected to the University of Manitoba Board of Governors. Nominations were accepted between February 13 and March 16 and the election period ran from April 15 to May 15, resulting in 2,500 alumni votes. After ballots were counted on May 22, Nora Murdock [BA/78, CertEd/78, MEd/05, PhD/16] was elected to a three-year term beginning June 1. We thank Jerome Knysh [MBA/90, ExtEd/87, BSc(IE)/84] for being a strong representative of his fellow alumni throughout his three-year term and bringing his voice to the University's Board of Governors. Chair Jeff Lieberman [BA/80, BComm(Hons)/83] and member, Carla Loewen [BEd/01, BA/03, MEd/16] serve as the other two alumni representatives on the Board of Governors.

**Affinity Programs:**

The affinity program continued to provide support for Homecoming, Distinguished Alumni Awards (DAA), the Learning for Life program, young alumni and numerous other alumni engagement programs in 2019-20. Our current affinity partner organizations include: BMO Financial Group, iA Financial Group, TD Insurance, The Personal, Artona and Tempo Framing Systems. Proceeds from the affinity partnerships support alumni relations activities. We thank our affinity partners for continuing to support us also through additional sponsorship, including iA Financial for the Virtual Learning for Life Program, The Personal for young alumni and convocation programs, and BMO Financial Group for student tuition draws and Bison Sports events.

**Career Fair:**

During Career Month hosted by the University of Manitoba Career Services, Alumni Relations provided current young alumni, alumni, current students, and staff an opportunity to update their professional headshots for LinkedIn and offered information on how UM Alumni Relations supports alumni. Thanks to the generous support of BMO Financial Group, we also offered two \$1,000 student tuition draws.

**UM Café on Ten Thousand Coffees:**

Alumni Relations launched *UM Café* on Ten Thousand Coffees, a Canadian-based online career mentoring platform sponsored by RBC Future Launch, university-wide in June. This program enables alumni and students/new graduates to connect online (or in person, when the time is right) to share career journey advice and guidance. The launch of this program in June was particularly timely considering the spring convocation of the Class of 2020, who were entering the workforce and next chapter in their lives during a unique and challenging time. The Alumni Relations and Career Services units are jointly managing this program. Over 1,600 alumni and students have joined the program so far.

### **Homecoming 2019 & 2020:**

Homecoming 2019 was celebrated September 16 to 22 and included the following activities, events and reunions:

- Robson Hall 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on September 18 – Faculty of Law
- Annual Homecoming Concert on September 18 – Desautels Faculty of Music
- Grand Opening of the Stanley Pauley Engineering Building on September 20 – Price Faculty of Engineering
- Homecoming Football Game & Tailgate Carnival on September 21 – Max Bell Centre James Daly Fieldhouse (Tailgate Carnival) and IG Field
- UMSU Centennial Celebration Brunch on September 22 – UMSU University Centre
- Over 25 milestone reunions and faculty events on both campuses

Due to the global pandemic, we are unable to celebrate Homecoming in person this year. However, the UM is continuing to provide alumni with virtual opportunities to stay connected with their alma mater and fellow alumni. All in-person milestone reunion celebrations have been postponed until 2021, when we will be celebrating reunion years ending in 0, 1, 5 and 6. We are taking this opportunity to reimagine Homecoming through a survey to launch in early 2021 to gather feedback from our alumni and internal university partners to explore the purpose, interest level, name and even best time of year to celebrate.

### **Distinguished Alumni Awards (DAA):**

The 2020 Distinguished Alumni Awards recipients will be announced in the Fall 2020 edition of *UM Today: The Magazine*. For the first time in the more than 60-year history of the Distinguished Alumni Awards, we are celebrating multiple recipients in our professional achievement, community service and outstanding young alumni categories. With approval of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, the DAA Selection Panel expanded its reach and selected nine individuals for our Class of 2020.

Unfortunately, we are unable to celebrate in-person with the nine award recipients at the Celebration of Excellence event that was scheduled during Homecoming 2020 and look forward to hopefully gathering in 2021, when it is safer to do so. Stay tuned for when nominations open for the 2021 Distinguished Alumni Awards.

### **Visionary Conversations:**

The University of Manitoba continued its award-winning Visionary Conversations (VC) with thought provoking topics including:

- *Declaring a climate emergency-what happens now?* – November 6
- *What does a decolonized Canada look like?* – December 11
- *How can our community come together to combat the impacts of drug addiction?* – March 5

President Emeritus, Dr. David Barnard, hosted these regular events for alumni and the community at large for nearly a decade, exploring tough questions about the topics that fascinate us featuring UM researchers, alumni and community leaders as panelists. The Visionary Conversations series has now concluded and we are currently exploring other opportunities to further engage with our community and showcase UM's leading and innovative research.

### **Communications:**

For the first time, the fall edition of *UM Today The Magazine* will be digital-only. In order to attain more UM alumni and friends email addresses in preparation for the launch of the digital-only magazine and generally move towards more regularly digital communication with alumni, the Alumni Relations unit deployed a postcard campaign over the summer months encouraging alumni and friends to update their



contact information and provide us with their email address. To date we have received over 2,000 new email addresses from alumni and friends.

#### **Learning for Life Programming:**

- **Seniors' Alumni Learning for Life Program:** The Seniors' Alumni Learning for Life in-person program provides exclusive opportunities for UM alumni and friends 60+ years of age to explore new ideas, hear from professors, researchers and fellow graduates. The series showcases the innovation and research taking place at the UM and allows participants to engage in lively discussions with others who shared their love of learning. We hosted successful fall 2019 and winter 2020 sessions, including 13 lectures in total. Due to COVID-19 and having to cancel all in-person events hosted on campus, the spring 2020 program was cancelled and transformed into a virtual program, open to all UM alumni and friends worldwide.
- **Virtual Learning for Life Program:** Alumni Relations hosted a very successful nine-week complimentary Virtual Learning for Life lecture series in May and June 2020 open to all alumni worldwide thanks to the generous sponsorship of our affinity partner, iA Financial. With nearly 1,100 alumni and friends from 12 countries around the world registering for at least one of the nine sessions, and based on very positive feedback, we are hosting a fall program on Wednesdays from October to December. Many thanks to the UM faculties who enthusiastically share their research with our alumni community during these virtual lectures.

#### **UM Alumni Book Club:**

Alumni Relations launched the UM's first ever online book club in early June, generously sponsored by the UM Alumni Association. The first book, *The Glass Castle*, was selected by book club host, Chancellor Anne Mahon, and the second book, *The Break*, written by Winnipeg author Katherena Vermette, was selected by book club members from a choice of three options. Members selected *Ridgerunner* by award-winning Canadian author, Gil Adamson, at the recommendation of UM's Dr. Suzanne Gagnon, Canada Life Chair in Leadership Education, Associate Professor and Director for the James W. Burns Leadership Institute. President Benarroch has selected three choices for book club members to vote on for the fourth book, and the final book choice of 2020 – 2021 will be based on a selection of the top recommendations made by the nearly 600 book club members.

#### **Alumni Association Board of Directors:**

The Alumni Association Board of Directors is well-represented by a dedicated group of alumni volunteers. Board members were elected to a two-year term at the 2019 AGM and all have agreed to fulfill their second year of this term. As a result no election is required at the 2020 AGM. Thank you to the following board members for being exceptional UM ambassadors:

- Peter Wheatley, [BSc(ME)/07, Ext.Ed/10, MBA/15], Chair
- Jessica Carvell, [JD/15], Vice Chair
- Mark Colley, [BComm(Hons)/04], Treasurer & Chair, Finance Committee
- Evan Kuz, [BFA(Hons)/90], Chair, Nominating Committee
- Lasha Glennie, [BA/2008, ExtEd/16]
- Kristjan Mann, [BA/11, BA(Adv)/13, MA/19]
- Efreem Teklemariam, [MEng/99]
- John Kearsey, Vice-President (External), Representing the University President, ex-officio
- Chair, Alumni Council (TBA), ex-officio

**UM Alumni Relations support:**

The Board of Directors would like to acknowledge the outstanding work of the staff supporting alumni including:

- John Kearsey, Vice-President (External)
- Tracy Bowman [BA(Hons)/96], Director, Alumni Relations
- Roslyn Dally, Alumni Relations & Engagement Lead
- Dustin O'Donnell, Alumni Relations & Engagement Officer
- Wilfred Sam-King [BA/19], Alumni Relations & Engagement Officer
- Lynn Fergusson, Alumni Relations & Engagement Officer
- Sabu Matthew, Accountant, Budget Officer, External Relations