



SOUTHERN ALBERTA PIONEERS

FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

Southern Alberta Pioneers Memorial Building J1 3625 4th Street SW Calgary Alberta T2S 1Y3 J1 Phone 403-243-3580

Vol. 1 No. 2

[Foundation's Website](#)

E mail: sap.office@pioneersalberta.org

January 2022



Shawn Hendry
President
2021-2022

President's Message

Thank you for your confidence to elect me as President of the Southern Alberta Pioneers and their Descendants and, by extension, the Southern Alberta Pioneers Foundation (SAPF). It is a great honour to continue the legacy of our organization, and to remember those who have contributed to defining Southern Alberta.

As started in 2021, we have two newsletters to recognize the differences in our two entities. Our SAPF entity relates strictly to the Memorial Building itself.

With SAPF, as 2021 comes to a close, we still look forward to it being in the rear-view mirror. The past year with the pandemic for SAPF has continued to be challenging to say the least with the ability to use our building and generate revenue. We were looking forward to 2022 with renewed vigour and passion, and to re-engage with our members in social events; however, the recent increase with the Omicron variant have taken us backwards yet again.

The pandemic has forced us to think differently, do business differently and interact differently. Despite the pandemic, I am proud of all our accomplishments during these times given the many challenges we have faced.

We are very thankful to the City for the opportunity to apply for Covid-19 relief funds, which have allowed us to stay afloat in these challenging times. Without being able to externally rent our building, we have relied on these funds to continue our operations.

That said, the path forward beyond the Covid-19 pandemic appears to be even more unpredictable. Talk about "getting back to normal" is commonplace, but the reality is there will be changes in how we operate in many ways.

In December, Calgary Neighbourhoods provided the annual update, "Status of Community Associations and Social Recreation Organizations on City-owned Land," of which the purpose is to provide a snapshot of the overall organizational sustainability for those with a City Lease. Since 2015, we have been assessed at an elevated financial risk and are continuing to look at ways to increase our revenues as well as manage our costs as much as possible.

We are exploring ideas to increase rentals through improved promotion of our building as well as other opportunities, such as fundraisers.

We do rely heavily on our members for membership fees and donations and we thank all those that keep their membership up to date and have provided donations to our proud organization. We do accept donations at any time and, as a charitable organization, we can provide a tax receipt. 🙌

In my first couple of months, there are so many people to thank for their assistance. Thank you to the entire Board for your commitment. Thank you to the Committee heads and their members, and the other volunteers. The hours that are put in are greatly appreciated. Special thanks to Gabrielle, our rental agent, and to Ileana, our bookkeeper who, after many years, has moved East. Finally, a sincere thank you to my family for their support. *THANK YOU EVERYONE!*

I look forward to hopefully a return to some normalcy in 2022 and being able to host in person meetings and events, where we can gather and reconnect. Regards to all to stay healthy and take care of yourselves and one another.

The Annual General Meeting

by Valerie McKinney
Newsletter Editor

The Annual General Meeting of the Southern Alberta Pioneers Foundation was held on a warm, sunny day at the Memorial Building and was followed by a relaxed gathering on the balcony.

This October 16, 2021 event began with reports from members of the 2020-21 Board of Directors followed by an announcement of the Board of Directors for 2021-22. The meeting also included notice of the changes to the SAPF bylaws. You can go online to find a draft of the [SAPF bylaws](#).

2021-2022 Board of Directors

OFFICERS

President

Shawn Hendry 403-464-1737

Vice President: *Vacant*

Treasurer

Brian Rogers 403-242-1850

Secretary

Lynn Hoosier 403-680-3113

DIRECTORS

One-Year Term

Dan Shaw403-861-3000

Carl Ringdahl403-246-6180

Megan Ballard403-862-1756

Val McKinney403-512-1585



Dan Shaw, Jeff Hill
& John Hutchings
in front of the
refinished front
doors at the
Memorial Building.



Foreground:
Kathleen
Rogers
& Mike
Kobluk.



Jeff Hill &
Pamela
Hilton.



Foreground:
Lynn Hoosier
&
Brian Rogers.

Memorial Building Committee Report

by John Hutchings, Building Committee Chair

Major Pending Projects

As mentioned in prior Newsletters, consultants to the City of Calgary (who we lease our building from) conducted a Building Condition Assessment (BCA) that assesses the physical condition of our building and property. From this BCA, a “Life Cycle Report” was issued that identified 106 items that require action over the next twenty-five years, including 23 items that require attention in the next five years. Most of these items are minor and can be accomplished with minimal costs. The BCA process is done every five years.

The following is a list of the major projects identified in the Life Cycle Report that need to be completed in the next few years with a budget estimated cost of around \$200,000:

- Repair and refinish timber log walls on the building perimeter based on findings and recommendations
- Repair stone mortar on the chimney structure on the building’s west elevation
- Refinish the south entry door exterior wood slab surfaces
- Replace gutters and downspouts
- Seal longitudinal cracks in the parking lot asphalt pavement
- Replace spalled/missing stones and re-point cracked mortar joints on the flagpole stone base, and the stone pillars at the site’s east entry gate
- Refinish hardwood flooring surfaces located in the southwest basement storage room
- Replace windows on the original building, North, South & East Elevations

Funding

Canada Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF)

An application for the Federal Government CCRF Grant to cover 75% of the costs for the major items identified on the Life Cycle Report was submitted on July 23, 2021. Approval of this funding is still pending.

Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP)

An application for the Provincial CFEP Grant was submitted in May 2021 to cover the other 25% of the costs. Approval for this is still pending

Community Conservation Grant (CCG)

Depending on the success of the CCRF and CFEP Grants, the City of Calgary CCG program can cover up to a maximum of 75% of the project costs. The application process for this begins when we receive the decisions from the CCRF and CFEP.

There are no guarantees of the funding amount we will receive from these Grant applications. If it is significantly less than what we requested, we must find alternate funding sources.

Front Doors

The front doors were refurbished at the end of September by Blandford Decorating. They are now in pristine condition, but they will need to be protected from the sun to prevent the same rapid deterioration that was experienced before. We are looking into the possibility of installing a canopy over the doors.

Thank-you Jeff Hill for managing this task.



Before and After

Memorial Bench

One of the benches in the yard was damaged by the Lawn Mowing service last summer; the left legs needed to be replaced. The part needed finally arrived in November and the bench was fixed. The Lawn mowing service covered all costs.

Handicap Lift

The Lift always seems to have issues: most recent is that the switch cover needs replacing. The vendor quote is \$500. We are investigating less expensive alternatives.

Rentals

To keep our facility open for rentals, we implemented the Government of Alberta Restrictions Exemption Program (REP). This means that various COVID restrictions are exempt if our patrons show proof of vaccination, much the same way restaurants operate. However, we still had cancellations of Christmas parties mainly due to the new Omicron strain. January to March are traditionally slow rental periods but we have several rentals booked this coming summer and fall seasons, especially weddings.

Rental income is vital in operating and maintaining the facility, we could not afford to operate without this income stream. During this pandemic when the facility could not be rented due to Government restrictions, the City has stepped up and helped subsidize some of our expenses (as they did for Community Associations). We are thankful for their support.

It should also be noted that, as a condition of our lease with the City, we must have our facility assessable to the public 50% of the time. The rentals make this possible.

Our Rental Agent, Gabrielle Leah, has done an amazing job working with the renters in organizing and re-scheduling events that were affected by COVID. She has also helped keep the facility in tip-top form, making it very presentable to all our clients and fellow pioneers, especially when our volunteer help was reduced due to COVID. I am pleased that she has signed on for another year of service.



The members of the Building Committee for 2022 are:

John Hutchings (Chair)	403-613-9798	hutch27@shaw.ca
Dan Shaw	403-861-3000	danshaw1959@gmail.com
Carl Ringdahl	403-246-6180	carl.ringdahl@shaw.ca
Jeff Hill	403-225-2397	jeff.hill@shaw.ca
Dylan Viste	403-854-8978	DCViste2202@gmail.com
Alan Love	403-797-4540	alanlove950@gmail.com

Front Stair Treads

I would like to thank Dan Shaw for replacing the grips on the outside front stairway just before the snow came.

Carpet Underlay

The underlay in our heirloom carpet was replaced by a superior product. The old underlay was disintegrating to the point where it would have damaged the hardwood floor underneath if it was left in place. Also, the new underlay will help protect the carpet from further wear and tear. The carpet will require future work to repair the frayed edges.

Potential Centennial Project

As our Centennial year is fast approaching in 2022, and per our Strategic Planning initiatives, we are hoping to develop some sort of gathering spot in the yard. There have been no conceptual plans yet, but thoughts are that it would be nice to have a brick patio with a fire pit and benches. To pay for this we can sell bricks with family memorial names on them and have sponsors for the benches and fire pit. Suggestions and feedback are welcome and encouraged as this could become a real focal point of our beautiful grounds.

Instagram

Did you know that there is an Instagram page for the Pioneers? Simply go to Instagram and search "southernalbertapioneers". There are over 260 photographs of various scenes and functions of the

Memorial Building over the last few years. Here are a couple of sample pictures.

← Christmas Time
Autumn Time
↓

