

ACT MANITOBA NEWS BULLETIN – NOVEMBER 2020

New ACT Board Member

ACT Manitoba welcomes Robert Martin of Portage La Prairie to the Board of Directors in a two year term as a Regional Representative. Robert was elected to the position at the 2020 Annual General Meeting (AGM) recently held at the Gimli Unitarian Church/A-Spire Theatre on Sunday October 25th, 2020. Robert has been a member of Prairie Players for over 10 years and currently chairs a number of committee groups from his area.

Also during the election, Treasurer Scott Cameron and Regional Representative Rhonda Kennedy Rogers were each acclaimed for another two year term. Katherine McLennan chose not to let her name stand for another two year term but asked and was assigned to fill the remaining one year term of the position vacated by Regional Representative Jo McDonald earlier this year. The current Board of Directors can be view on our website at [ABOUT US / Leadership](#).

There is still one position available on the Board for a Regional Representative (2 year term); interested members may make inquires via our [CONTACT US](#) information on our website.

Annual Report

This year's Annual Report was released at the 2020 Annual General Meeting (AGM) and can be viewed at: [ACT Annual Report 2019-2020.pdf](#)

ACT Board Refunds Membership Fees for 2020-21

On September 27th, 2020, the ACT Board of Directors voted to refund the value of each member group's membership fee for this year. Those groups who pay their membership fee for the 2020-2021 year, will remain full members in good standing for the balance of this theatre year until August 31st, 2021, but will receive their \$150 fee back.

In this time of Covid-19, the ACT Board recognizes the difficulties of some member groups to continue to operate with none or only some of the revenue they would normally make from their performances and other activities. They hope this move will benefit its member groups by allowing them to reapply the funds to where they can best serve them.

The Board will continue to collect and refund membership fees for all further group memberships; as it has determined ACT's financial position is strong enough to handle this provisional action this year. While this may seem like a redundant exercise to collect and then return the money, the ACT Constitution clearly states that member groups must pay the annual membership fee and become members in good standing before participating in ACT activities.

New Mailing Address

We've changed our mailing address. We're now at: Box 733, Pinawa, MB R0E 1L0

Changing Email Address

ACT is finalizing the process of changing it's official email address to mail@actmanitoba.mb.ca. The old address (actman@mts.net) will continue to receive email and forward them on until the end of this month, so please amend your contacts list accordingly.

Common Forms, Documents and Dropbox

The Board has adopted [Dropbox](#) as it's primary archival system for storing copies of all of ACT's electronic documents. As a result, a folder has been set-up for members to view and download common ACT forms and documents at: [ACT MB Common Forms and Documents](#)

By maintaining and accessing the documents online, the Board hopes to eliminate carrying and distributing binders of information and years of archival documents, while still providing the most recent versions of items to those that need them.

ACTFest 2021

At this point in time, the ACT Board and Shoestring Player Host Committee, are still hopeful about ACTFest 2021. A decision will be made shortly about whether we are proceeding with this event. Look for our next bulletin or look on our website for updates.

Some Do's And Don'ts Of Video Conferencing

And a Few for Audio Conferencing too

ACT Manitoba, like most groups, has had to expand it's online conferencing for meetings during this period of Covid-19. For years, the ACT Board had been alternating it's monthly meetings between audio teleconference calls and in-person but since February has moved to more conference call than face-to-face. With increasing restrictions looming, the Board considered holding the AGM as a Zoom Video Conference and started planning for that eventuality. Linked below is a helpful document that we found and developed to train our board members.

[Some Do's and Don'ts of Video Conferencing.pdf](#)

If you have problems reading this email [click here](#) for a PDF copy of this document.