



# MANITOBA RUNNERS' ASSOCIATION

January 24, 2023

## Report to Athletics Manitoba

- 2023 Membership is currently 231 compared to 186 this time last year and 226 in 2019. Youth membership is 29 and we have a total of 20 AM members that have taken advantage of the complimentary MRA membership.
- We concluded 2022 with a \$10,327 deficit. A deficit was budgeted for, but this was larger than expected with costs rising, low participation rates in the events and no significant increase in what we charge for our services. We have been able to create a balanced budget for 2023 and are hoping for a slight surplus. As of our year end (December 31, 2022), we had \$16,063 in our operating account and \$65,950 in investments, \$40,000 of which will have to be repaid to CRA by the end of 2023.
- We are still waiting to hear back from the new **Arts, Culture and Sport in Community (ACSC) Fund** as to whether or not we will be receiving a grant. Target was to hear by the end of January.
- Sam Neis has resigned as our Equipment Manager and I have hired Jim Rennie to replace him. Jim is one of our timers and has a lot of experience with equipment management working for the Running Room as an event assistant. I am looking forward to working with him.
- Our 2023 Race Calendar has 37 events on it to date. This is very high for this time of year. I'm hopeful that participation will be up this year. Our first event, the Frost Bite River Run, was held on January 22<sup>nd</sup> and it reached its cap of 150 participants. The Hot Chocolate Hustle (put on by the MB Marathon at Fort Whyte Centre) is taking place on January 29<sup>th</sup> and it reached its cap of 500 participants a number of weeks ago.
- Sponsorship for 2023 is going well with Birchwood Automotive Group once again secured for the Hall of Fame and the Running Room confirmed for our Classic Race Series. I am waiting to hear back from Massage Athletica (Mike Booth) regarding the Youth Race Series.
- Our MRA Timing Service already has 7 events on its schedule for 2023. We have decided to hire a Timing Coordinator (Dwayne Olson) to handle all of the logistics of setting up the timing of an event, as I simply do not have the time to do this myself. It

involves approximately 10-12 hours of work per event. We have 4 timers that are now fully trained to work the events.

- The MRA Track Club resumed on January 4th. Response to this indoor track program was very enthusiastic with 55 members registered. This year, MRA membership was mandatory to take part and it has resulted in a number of new members.
- The MRA Race Directors' Meeting was held on November 19, 2022 with 25 attendees. 18 events were represented. There was a very informative session regarding volunteerism at events where many ideas were shared. 2022 events had a lot of problems with getting enough volunteers, with one race having to cancel due to a lack of volunteers. But by far the most interesting discussion was regarding the topic of inclusivity. Our timers and registration companies can now accommodate gender, as opposed to sex, and we are encouraging our events to use these new categories.
- Our MRA Awards Celebration was held on November 28, 2022 with 142 tickets sold. We held a 50/50 Draw which resulted in a pot of \$355 which was split with the winner. Pizza and dessert were served buffet-style and a great time was had by all. We are now looking toward our 2023 MRA Hall of Fame Banquet, which will once again be held at Celebrations Dinner Theatre on April 24, 2023. Mark your calendars for this prestigious event! Inductees will be announced after the February 13<sup>th</sup> MRA Board Meeting.

Kathy Wiens, MRA Executive Director