



I would like to begin by acknowledging that the Assiniboine Memorial Curling Club (AMCC) operates on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe (Ojibway), Ininew (Cree) and Dakota peoples, and on the homeland of the Metis nation. The AMCC respects the Treaties that were made on this territory.

Before I dive into the main content of my report, I want to take a moment to acknowledge Ken Onagi, who served as our Club President from 2020 – 2023. I often refer to Ken as our Pandemic President. He skillfully navigated the difficulties posed by the pandemic, including reduced membership and rising expenses, all while remaining deeply committed to the survival and well-being of our beloved curling club.

My first year as your President has been both exciting and busy, marked by several successes and a few challenges. We kicked off the year with the Atkins and Ernie Oliver bonspiel, setting a positive tone for the season, followed by our regular league play.

In November, our Club had the honor of hosting one of the largest national events in recent AMCC history. This event was a tremendous success, thanks to the dedication and hard work of our volunteers, who invested countless hours to ensure that every patron had a memorable experience.

We also hosted the Ugly Sweater Christmas Bonspiel in December, which saw a doubling of team entries compared to last year. The event was a great success, with positive feedback from participants solidifying its place as an annual bonspiel.

In addition to these bonspiels, we had the pleasure of hosting teams for the MCA, the Knights of Columbus, and the Aboriginal Bonspiel. However, we unfortunately had to cancel the Last Chance Spiel scheduled for April due to the plant shutdown on April 1 caused by a condenser leak.

Among our many successes, the Club's annual Parking Lot Party on September 17 created significant buzz within the community. This year, we're excited to host it again on September 14 in the south parking lot, with Damned Straight providing the music and Franks Pizza and La Taqueria offering delicious handheld food throughout the event.

Additionally, our 'Spring Sip and Shop' on March 9 was highly successful, featuring local craft vendors and contributing to a vibrant community atmosphere.

I'm very pleased to advise that our league and associate members, along with teams representing AMCC, delivered impressive performances at both the Provincials and National Championships. Their notable placements and showcased talent truly reflect their dedication and skill. Congratulations to all.

We did face some challenges this year. Our Treasurer, Tina, resigned in March, creating a significant void. Thankfully, we secured a bookkeeper, Maureen Friesen, who got us back on track with minimal disruption. We are incredibly grateful for Maureen's talent, guidance, and commitment.

Another challenge was the ice plant, specifically a leak in the condenser. This issue caused disruptions at the beginning of the year. While we implemented short-term fixes to keep the plant operational, these came with additional costs. Consequently, the Board decided to shut down the plant in early April to carry out proper repairs.

On a positive note, we are transitioning to a new food venue for the 2024/2025 season. We are excited to announce that Big Daddy's Perogies will be providing delicious food for our members and patrons. I can't wait to welcome Big Daddy's to our Club and experience their offerings firsthand.

Other highlights include:

- Purchasing a new stove and a stand-up freezer for the kitchen, with a big thank you to the Masters for their contribution towards these purchases.
- Acquiring a much-needed new door for the east entrance.
- Paying back a CERB loan from the pandemic, reducing the amount from \$60,000 to \$40,000 if paid by January 2024.
- Applied and qualified for the Hydro energy efficiency program. All lights and ballasts have been replaced – upgraded at no cost to the Club
- Applied and approved for the Manitoba Arts, Culture and Sport in Community Fund grant to resurface all 128 rocks. New hacks were also purchased.

We also experimented with moving our youth program from Saturday to Sunday but decided to return it to Saturday for the upcoming season. We hope this change will offer a more convenient time for families to commit their little curlers.

One of the first changes implemented before the season started was transitioning our Club Manager position from a contractor to a permanent employee. Please join me in welcoming Jody Smart to the AMCC team!

I'm also pleased to advise, the Board is working on finalizing our Core Values and Code of Conduct and Ethics documents. My goal is to present these documents to the membership at our 2025 AGM.

A heartfelt thank you to Bruce Burton for his invaluable contributions to AMCC. His exceptional talent, expertise, guidance, and wisdom have been instrumental in enhancing our operations. Bruce has played a key role in facilitating the transition of Club Manager role from contractor to employee, as well as in drafting important operational documents, including our confidentiality agreement, core values, and code of ethics. Bruce's dedication and expertise is deeply appreciated.

I'm looking forward to the 2024/2025 season with great anticipation. We have several bonspiels and exciting events planned, including the parking lot party, Sip and Shop, and some new ideas that we think you'll love.

Join us and be part of this exciting momentum. I encourage you to bring your passion and enthusiasm and consider joining our Board of Directors to help shape and secure our future. We are committed to hosting fun, revenue-generating events for our members and community to enjoy. To ensure our continued success, we need more dedicated board members. Your involvement will be crucial in driving our initiatives forward.

Thank you.

Darcie Buxton
President