

Chair's Report

Treaty Acknowledgement

I would like to begin by acknowledging that we are on the traditional lands, referred to as Treaty 4 Territory and that the city of Moose Jaw is located on Treaty 4 territory, the original lands of the Cree, Ojibwe, Saulteaux, Dakota, Nakota, Lakota, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation. We respect and honour the Treaties that were made on all territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we are committed to move forward in partnership with Indigenous Nations in the spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

We know that all of our lives are interdependent, that the experiences of marginalized communities are intertwined, and that our liberation as individuals and communities requires collective action and mutual support for the betterment of all.

Pride Week 2022

Moose Jaw Pride week 2022 ran from Sunday May 22 to Saturday May 29th. We partnered with numerous community partners, including the Western Development Museum, St Andrews United Church, and the Moose Jaw Museum and Art Gallery. Events included two flag raisings, a faith service, a nature day and paddle in Wakamow Valley, the ever-popular Coming Out Campfire, an exhibition of queer art, an HIV self-testing education event, a queer movie night, and a D&D one-shot game. Pride week culminated with a walking parade down Main Street that ended in Crescent Park. The week's events were well attended, vibrant and positive, and were a delightful welcome back to in-person Pride events.

Youth Group

Throughout 2022, our Good Vibes Youth Cafe ran on Wednesday nights, providing a safe space and facilitated, creative social opportunities for youth. In August of 2022, the program was brought to a close in order for our long-time youth group facilitator Annah McDonald to move on to exciting new opportunities.

Executive Director

On August 3, 2022, after much deliberation, the Board of Directors terminated the former Executive Director of Moose Jaw Pride, Taylor Carlson. Since that time, the Board has collectively assumed the duties and responsibilities of the Executive Director.

Rainbow Retro

The operation of Rainbow Retro Thrift Shop has been the subject of careful consideration and discussion by the board of directors.

Please refer to the printout of monthly sales reports from Rainbow Retro.

These reports cover monthly sales for Rainbow Retro since January 2020. The monthly net revenue for Rainbow Retro was widely variable, earning between approximately \$4000 and \$10,000 per month. Extremely low sales in early 2020 occurred as a result of COVID-related shutdowns. There is an annual pattern of rise and fall in monthly revenue, with the store operating at a loss in the winter months. In profitable months, revenue is sufficient to cover the expenses of staff wages, rent, utilities, supplies, purchases of new merchandise, building maintenance, and other operating expenses, but the profit margin is thin enough that Rainbow Retro's operation is vulnerable to unexpected expenses such as unanticipated repairs and bill increases.

Throughout the duration of its operation, Rainbow Retro's staff wages have been supplemented by grant funding through the Canada Summer Jobs program and other grant funds. This is a large part of what has allowed Rainbow Retro to continue operating. Without grant funding, Rainbow Retro is only capable of hiring and maintaining a skeleton crew of employees, which increases the difficulty of stocking and maintaining the store. This reliance on grant funding has also generated a significant amount of administrative work and indirectly contributed to Moose Jaw Pride's current financial situation.

Marketing and sales campaigns since 2020 have not raised Rainbow Retro's overall revenues to a level where the store is routinely covering its own expenses, let alone generating profit.

After assessing these details in the context of our full financial situation, the Board concluded in late August that Rainbow Retro Thrift Shop has not been a viable revenue-generating enterprise and has not been meeting the goals that Moose Jaw Pride set in establishing it. Rainbow Retro has also been creating the vast majority of ongoing operational expenses for Moose Jaw Pride. The Board therefore made the decision to wind down operations of the store. After September 24th, 2022, Rainbow Retro Thrift Shop will cease operations.

As per the *Not for Profit Corporations Act* and the statutes of the Canada Revenue Agency, proceeds from the liquidation of Rainbow Retro's assets will be applied to the outstanding creditors and liabilities of Moose Jaw Pride.