

# Men's Shed Association of BC.

AGM February 2<sup>nd</sup>. 2022.

## President's Report.

This time last year we started to hear about the possibility that there may be some funding coming in our direction via. The United Way. We were intrigued but with a healthy dose of scepticism.

It was just last December that we heard directly from the United Way, Barbara and Kahir, at one of our monthly ZOOM meetings.

In January we consulted with the president and secretary of the New Zealand association and learned that they had about 140 Sheds of which about 110 are members of the association. That the association is volunteer driven with a minimal budget.

That the country is divided into regions to help with administration.

MSABC embraced this concept and has been guided by what we learned from them ever since. Maybe it's time that we had another visit with them to see how we are doing?

The first item on the MSABC agenda was becoming a Registered Charity.

MSABC decided not to pursue registration for its self at this time but to focus on individual Sheds that need this status.

Vernon Men's Shed stepped forward, they have been working with the lawyer and have submitted an application. Once successful, it is hoped that their application will become a template for Sheds across BC and possibly Canada.

In February the idea of an MSABC conference using the funds made available by United Way was floated. Squamish put their hand up and here we are today. Thank you Squamish and especially your fearless leader, Robert Goluch.

Discussion about grants also started and it was decided that we should aim for small grants that would encourage the establishment of new Sheds as well as more substantial grants for existing Sheds.

Established Shed were paired up with the nearest nascent Sheds with Coquitlam, Pemberton, Fraser Lake, Comox, Vernon and Vanderhoof all teaming up with neighbouring (sort of) Sheds.

Insurance is one of the main reasons why MSABC was established and it has been beneficial for all the Sheds that have participated.

**Sad** to report, we lost the Salmo Shed this year but we have added Parksville, Port Moody, Mount Pleasant, North Vancouver, Valemont, McBride, Prince George and Crawford Bay.

Maple Ridge will be the first new Shed in 2022.

Master list. Thanks to Art Post. Art has looked after the master list for as long as MSABC has existed. He has stepped down and the master list is now incorporated into our mailing system. Thanks to Ariel.

Conference. I can't say enough about this, well done Robert and your crew in Squamish.

Webinars. After 2 webinars we are still learning how to do them well but they definitely seem worthwhile. We need to experiment with the frequency, some think every 2 months may be better than monthly.

Your Shed and the website. Please have someone from your Shed contact Ariel so they can update the content under your Shed's name.

Regional conferences for 2022. It's time to start getting together to make plans.

Some recommendations- As MSABC gets bigger the need for the board to provide leadership, planning and guidance also the administration, supervision and approval of MSABC activities may require the board to have regular board meetings.

The board should consider developing a "Policies and Procedures Manual" that may become a template for member Sheds. This manual would provide information about governance, Shed management and safety procedures.

That a strategic plan be developed to confirm MSABC values and indicate the direction that MSABC will take over the next 5 years or so.

That the board continue to investigate alternative insurance providers.

In his presentation to the conference, Barry Golding identified diversity as the major challenge before the Men's Shed movement. I hope that MSABC and the Sheds in BC will rise to the challenge of making this organization reflect the makeup of our society.

I perceive that the Sheds in BC are active (covid permitting), generous and united. Supporting their members, cooperating with each other and collaborating with their communities. I am so proud to be a part of this organization.

Thank you for all the support I have received and all that you have done to help Men Help Men in BC.

And a special thank to the board members who's term has come to an end this year.

Mike Jennings.  
President.