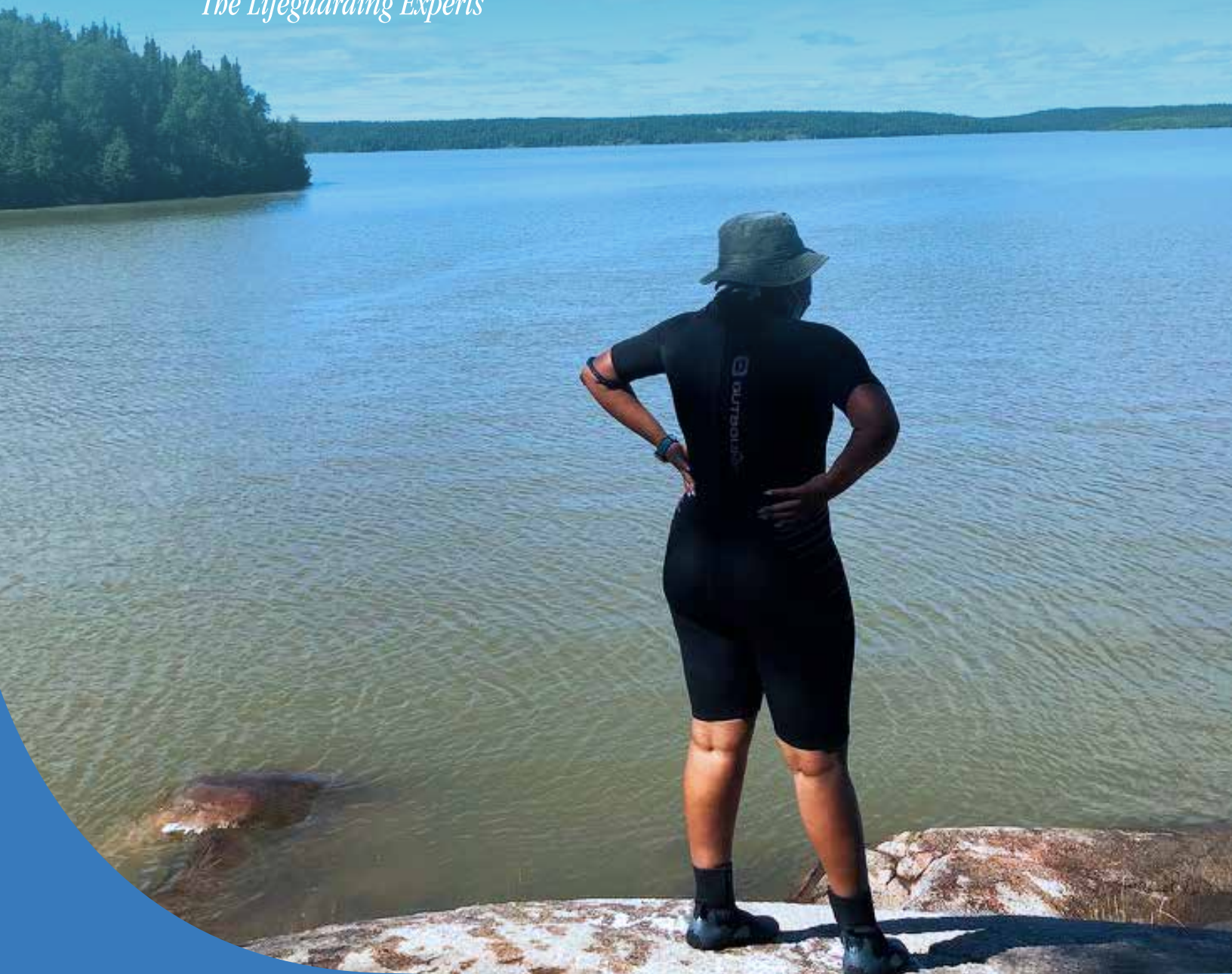




LIFESAVING SOCIETY®

The Lifeguarding Experts



2021 MANITOBA ANNUAL REPORT

THE LIFESAVING SOCIETY

builds leadership capacity in every community where Canadians young and old learn to make safe choices, gain valuable first aid and lifesaving skills and live active lifestyles. Society members, government and the public look to the Lifesaving Society to establish industry custom and practice to help make Manitoba the safest place to live, work and play.

OUR MANDATE:

- The Lifesaving Society has a public health and safety mandate for drowning and injury prevention and active living and fitness
- The Lifesaving Society provides valuable education and training ensuring Canadians have access to safe, fun and healthy living experiences.
- The Lifesaving Society is the standard setting certifying body for public aquatic safety and Canada's lifeguards.
- The Lifesaving Society is the sport organization for lifesaving, providing sport for life and long term athlete development opportunities.
- The Lifesaving Society is a national charity working to prevent drowning and water-related injuries. Lifesaving training programs, Water Smart public education, water incident research, safety management services and lifesaving sport are just some of the ways we save lives and prevent personal injury.

CHARITABLE STATUS

The Royal Life Saving Society Canada – Manitoba Branch Inc. (conducting business as Lifesaving Society Manitoba) is a registered charity and not-for-profit organization incorporated in Manitoba. Registered Charity Number 119129047 RR0001.

INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We recognize that Manitoba is on the treaty territories and ancestral lands of the Anishinaabe, Anishinewuk, Dakota Oyate, Denesuline and Nehethowuk peoples.

We acknowledge Manitoba is located on the Homeland of the Red River Métis.

We acknowledge northern Manitoba includes lands that were and are the ancestral lands of the Inuit.

We respect the spirit and intent of Treaties and Treaty Making and remain committed to working in partnership with First Nations, Inuit and Métis people in the spirit of truth, reconciliation and collaboration.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sarah Painter	Board Chair and National Member Representative
Mikaela Garfinkel	Treasurer (until April 2021)
Kurt Panth	Treasurer (from April 2021)
Phil Dobson	Director (from April 2021)
Kristen Olson	Director
Kayla Saarinen	Director and National Board Member
Jon Sorokowski	Director
Ashley Walus	Director
Pete Whittington	Director (until April 2021)
Dr. Kelvin Williamson	Director (from April 2021)

BRANCH STAFF

Stacey Grocholski	Executive Director
Kathy Plett	Program Coordinator
Christopher Love	Water Smart® & Safety Management Coordinator
Lorne Edwards	Media Coordinator
Mélanie Berthelot-Dilk	Project Coordinator (January – April 2021) Assistant Water Smart® Coordinator (May – August 2021)

NORTHERN WATER SMART PROGRAM

Avery Alexiuk
Alyssa Baker
Amber Schaefer
Excellencia Tshibambuyi

WINTER SMART PROGRAM

Kieran Raknerud (until March 2021)

SUPPORT

Dr. Kelvin Williamson – Medical Advisor
Patrol Sergeant Stefane Boulet – Winnipeg Police Service
Staff Sergeant Bob Chabot – Royal Canadian Mounted Police

STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT



**PREMIER
OF MANITOBA**

Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8
CANADA

A MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

Our province is blessed with incredible natural beauty, including our 100,000 lakes and other waterways. In the summer, these waterways provide Manitobans with opportunities for swimming, fishing, boating, and many other activities the whole family can enjoy. In the winter, when the water freezes over, Manitobans enjoy skating, ice fishing, and many other winter activities. For northern and remote communities, frozen waterways are also used for transporting needed goods and resources.

While these lakes and other bodies of water provide many opportunities, they also create serious drowning hazards that can impact the lives of families for decades. By providing swimming, lifesaving, first aid, and ice safety instruction to countless Manitobans each year, the Lifesaving Society is preventing these tragedies in our province every day. Their extensive programming provides Manitobans with the training, resources, and support they need to stay safe on the water.

Our government fully supports the Lifesaving Society in all its efforts to prevent drowning and improve water safety in Manitoba and throughout Canada. The Government of Manitoba looks forward to our continued partnership in the future.

The Honourable Heather Stefanson



Mayor's Message

I want to recognize the incredible work that Lifesaving Society Manitoba has been doing in our province for more than a century – including public education on water safety, leadership and lifeguard training, and drowning prevention research. This Annual Report will illustrate the important work of the Lifesaving Society and what its members are doing to help keep Manitobans safe.

I am a former lifeguard, and former member of Lifesaving Society Manitoba's Board of Directors, and I can personally attest to the commitment and dedication of the Lifesaving Society staff, volunteers, and members. I want to particularly acknowledge the work that the Society is doing in Indigenous and immigrant communities to build water safety skills and make sure everyone has the knowledge they need to enjoy their time and make good choices when they are in, on, or near the water. Our province has tremendous beaches, lakes, and water activities and the Lifesaving Society is a key partner in helping us to enjoy the water safely.

The Lifesaving Society is an organization I have always been proud to be involved with and learn from. On behalf of the City of Winnipeg, I want to thank everyone involved with the Lifesaving Society for their work and their commitment to saving lives.

Warmly,

Mayor Brian Bowman
The City of Winnipeg

CHAIR'S REPORT

SUBMITTED BY SARAH PAINTER,
BOARD CHAIR



Members and supporters,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, it is my pleasure to report to you in 2022 and share the good news of another strong year for the Lifesaving Society Manitoba. As the end of my term as Chair and twelve-year journey on the Board of Directors draws to a close, I find myself full of gratitude for all that has been achieved and all that is to come for this organization.

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to be a significant theme this year. Although this challenge continues to loom in the present and future, dragging on far longer than we hoped, we've found a rhythm for it somehow. Responding to dynamic changes in public health measures and case counts has become our new normal. Despite the challenge inherent in this precarious position, it has pushed the LSM to become more resilient and adaptable as a non-profit, and innovative in our pursuit of drowning prevention through programming and public education. We would like to recognize the immense role of the federal government relief programs which made all the difference in stemming the tide of lost revenue. We are hopeful and (of course) cautious in our projection of programs returning to normal this upcoming year.

The Board of Directors have been hard at work on your behalf. Our policy improvement efforts continue to bring the LSM in line with non-profit best practices. For the first time, we have implemented the structure of dedicated Governance and Finance & Audit committees to further our capacity to achieve important goals. I am so proud that we included members on both committees, and they brought invaluable contributions to the process. If you are interested in deepening your commitment to the LSM through committee work, please reach out to Stacey or the incoming Chair.

An important improvement made to governance processes will be visible to you at our general meeting. The Governance Committee created our first official Nomination Policy which was approved by the Board of Directors after an opportunity for member feedback. This process will look and feel

very similar to past practice; however, the preamble has been greatly improved and brings us in line with governance best practices. We have adopted a Board skills matrix to facilitate strategic recruitment and clarified timeframes for the process. A special thanks to Ashley Walus, Jon Sorokowski and the Governance Committee for their efforts here.

As many of you are now aware, an important partnership with the Canadian Red Cross developed this year and we are currently in an important time of program transition. I would like to extend my warmest welcome to all new affiliate members, instructors, and candidates. Many thanks to everyone who brought this dream to reality: our dedicated office team – Chris, Kathy, Lorne and Stacey, Kayla Saarinen who serves as our National Representative, Shelby Rushton and the Lifesaving Society Saskatchewan, and Lifesaving Society Canada's transition team. Thank you for your tireless efforts supporting current and incoming affiliates in this journey.

Twelve years is a long time, and this report is bittersweet for me. I am so incredibly proud of how far this organization has come in its journey and heartened by how many wonderful human beings continue to lend their efforts to our cause of drowning prevention. Although I have dedicated much time and effort over these years, I fear that I leave with more than I've given. This has been a monumental experience for me; filled with tremendous learning, growth, resilience, laughter, and friendship. Although my heart is heavy as this chapter draws to a close, it could not be fuller of love, pride, and hope for this incredibly special organization and all the people in it. Thank you for placing your trust in me for all these years and especially the last two when it became my turn to steer the ship. I hope that I've served you well. I will forever hold these special years in my heart.

With gratitude, joy, and hope for the future,

Sarah

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

SUBMITTED BY
STACEY GROCHOLSKI,
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Looking back over the past year, I can say with great confidence that it has been a year of re-building and strengthening within the Manitoba branch. Our strong strategic focus and established priorities, have well positioned us to weather through the turmoil of the pandemic and has challenged all of us to re-think some of the things we do and come out the other side.

Programs have started to gain momentum and with the recent announcement of the Canadian Red Cross and Lifesaving Society Canada partnership, I can proudly say that we are positioned for a future where we can continue to deliver programs with confidence and ease. This will be a significant change for the aquatics sector where there are deep roots imbedded in water safety not only in Manitoba but on a national level – this is one to be celebrated and respected. We look forward to an exciting year ahead of us as we continue to work collaboratively and continue to build partnerships during this transition.

As long-standing stewards of delivering awareness through programs, training and public education in our northern communities, we are truly elated to have signed a new five year agreement with the Government of Manitoba. We are ever more excited to learn from these communities about our role and how best to support education and awareness in drowning prevention. This confidence and gained trust, is a strong signal for a bright future. We look forward to travelling back to the northern communities and reconnecting with our friends and colleagues.

Lastly, I am grateful to the Manitoba team, volunteers and our Board for all that we have accomplished this year. Together we have established an incredibly strong foundation for progress and growth and excited to learn what lies ahead of us as we navigate this next year with optimism and hope. With sincere gratitude and appreciation.

LIST OF MANITOBA PRESIDENTS/BOARD CHAIRS

1911	The Hon. J.A. Aikens Esq. M.P.	1973	Mervyn E.D. Fitz	1997 – 2000	Linda Grossart
1931	R.D. Waugh	1974 – 1975	Don Rocan	2000 – 2002	Gerri Hewitt
1932	Mrs. G.A. Harrison	1975	Ian Fife	2002 – 2006	Marna Kenny
1935 – 1939	Clive K. Tallin Q.C.	1975 – 1977	Greg Fraser	2006 – 2010	Kevin Tordiffe
1941	Leo Best	1977 – 1979	Andy Bagnall	2010 – 2014	Dr. Christopher Love
1943	Mrs. George Skuce	1979 – 1984	Donna Jacobson	2014 – 2016	Michael Limerick
1943 – 1947	Amy Fisher	1984 – 1986	Dr. Tim Pethrick	2016 - 2020	Elizabeth Proskurnik
1952 – 1957	Mrs. Dorothy C. Lloyd	1986 – 1988	Phillip M. Hay	2020 - Present	Sarah Painter
1957 – 1958	Jim Dorrian	1988 – 1992	RoseAnn MacKinnon		
1962 – 1971	Jack Motyer	1992 – 1994	Carol M. Hardy		
1972 – 1973	Mervyn Cavers	1994 – 1997	Lana Stowe		

PROGRAM REPORT

**SUBMITTED BY – KATHY PLETT,
PROGRAM COORDINATOR
LIFESAVING SOCIETY MANITOBA**



In 2021, COVID-19 continued to be a challenging factor in aquatic recreation in our province. A complete shutdown of all facilities started November 2020 and didn't end until March 2021. This was followed by a gradual re-opening with ever changing health orders. Despite these challenges, course and recertification were required for instructors and lifeguards to be ready when pools, camps and waterfronts started opening to the public. The aquatic community: affiliates, trainers, instructors, and examiners rose to the challenge and exceeded expectations. In total 577 certification and recertification courses were held for first aid, Bronze Star, Bronze Medallion, Bronze Cross, Instructor, and National lifeguard. This included 43 National Lifeguard courses, 84 National Lifeguard recertification exams, 13 Lifesaving Instructor courses and 40 Lifesaving Instructor recertification courses. The majority of these were held in the spring and early summer.

2021 saw the completion of the review of the National Lifeguard program. As with all our programs, these reviews/revisions decisions are guided by demonstrated need and research evidence, consistency and alignment with regulations and standards in Canada and internationally, and Lifesaving Society values. Highlight of the changes include:

- No changes to policies for running National Lifeguard courses
- Introduction of rescue and proficiency items
- Enhanced evaluation criteria for prevention and intervention
- Dividing situations for single lifeguard and as a member of a lifeguard team into two distinct evaluation items



BRANCH AWARDS + CERTIFICATIONS



TOP LINE SUMMARY	2021 ¹	2020 ¹	2019	2018	2017
Swimming.....	86	91	3,123	3,742	1,506
Lifesaving.....	1,147	666	2,094	2,003	1,865
First Aid.....	1,334	1,364	1,856	2,282	4,745
Safety Management.....	10	0	7	7	15
Lifeguarding.....	699	294	804	863	836
Leadership.....	1,993	190	1,767	2,497	1,635
First Aid 2016 Update ²	0	0	15	26	325
Bronze Revisions Update ⁴	530				
TOTAL.....	5,799	2,605	9,666	11,420	10,927

SWIMMING

Swim to Survive Participants.....	37	91	2,711	2,687	1,015
Swim for Life.....	49	0	412	1,055	491
TOTAL.....	86	91	3,123	3,742	1,506

LIFESAVING

Junior Lifeguard Club.....	0	0	45	44	18
Canadian Swim Patrol.....	30	0	290	67	65
Bronze Star.....	55	0	190	156	140
Bronze Medallion.....	502	216	732	721	701
Bronze Cross.....	461	347	664	578	656
Distinction.....	1	0	1	1	0
Lifesaving Fitness.....	0	0	12	1	6
Wading Pool Attendant.....	0	0	0	209	0
Boat Rescue for First Responders.....	40	0	24	26	37
BOAT.....	58	103	136	200	242
TOTAL.....	1,147	666	2,094	2,003	1,865

LIFEGUARDING

National Lifeguard.....	699	294	804	863	836
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LEADERSHIP

Instructor & Examiner.....	1,826	190	1,751	2,319	1,612
Trainer.....	167	0	16	178	23
TOTAL.....	1,993	190	1,767	2,497	1,635

FIRST AID

First Aid.....	1,121	917	1,564	1,637	2,813
CPR ³	213	447	292	645	1,932
TOTAL.....	1,334	1,364	1,856	2,282	4,745

SAFETY MANAGEMENT

SEE Auditor.....	0	0	0	0	0
Aquatic Management Training.....	0	0	7	4	15
Occupational Aquatic Safety Training.....	10	0	0	3	0
TOTAL.....	10	0	7	7	15

NOTES:

¹ Programs were severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in both 2020 & 2021.

² The First Aid 2016 Update was discontinued on December 31, 2019.

³ In 2020 database upgrades split CPR certifications out from Bronze levels in preparation for the implementation of Bronze Revisions.

⁴ The Bronze Revisions Update for instructors launched March 1, 2021.

WATER SMART® COORDINATOR REPORT

**SUBMITTED BY DR. CHRISTOPHER
LOVE, WATER SMART® AND SAFETY
MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR**



In 2021 we continued to work under the heavy burden of COVID-19. For most of the year public gatherings and special events were cancelled due to the health orders in place in Manitoba. The restrictions on public gatherings and reduced access to recreation centers and swimming pools had an impact on all of the Society's public education programming.

With that said, we entered 2021 having learned many lessons from the early months of the pandemic. We adapted our presentation methods and worked hard on getting our messages out in new and innovative ways. Many presentations took place online in the virtual world, allowing us to provide our lifesaving messages, but also posing new challenges. By the end of the year our staff and volunteers had used at least seven different video-conference platforms to deliver material. Learning how to use each of these platforms was an educational experience, as no two platforms do everything in the same way.

As you will see on the following pages, while the total number of participants in programs did decline in 2021, everyone we were able to make contact with, was enthusiastic and willing to learn. We also know from all of the contacts we made that once the province opens back up there will be even more demand for our services. This will be the challenge of 2022.

National Drowning Prevention Week is the major focus of all of the Society's public education efforts, and in 2021 it ran July 18 – 24. As always, our goal was to raise public awareness about the drowning problem, and to get everyone in Manitoba thinking about staying safe in, on, and around water. We received a proclamation from the Province of Manitoba to help recognize the week, and we know that many affiliates ran virtual or physically distanced events. I extend my thanks to every one of them for their work in supporting drowning prevention.

National Drowning Prevention Week was followed by the first-ever World Drowning Prevention Day on July 25, 2021. The event sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO) aims to raise awareness about the global cost of drownings. For the inaugural year we ran a public event in Minnedosa, MB to present the community with lifejackets and PFDs for their new Lifejacket Loaner Station at Minnedosa Beach. The event was a great success and is something we hope to repeat in other communities in the future.

In closing, thank you to everyone who supported our public education efforts in 2021. Your assistance allows us to reach more Manitobans every year. Our ultimate goal is a drowning-free province with Manitobans making Water Smart® choices every time they are in, on or near the water. I look forward to seeing everyone in-person in 2022.



NORTHERN WATER SMART[®] PROGRAM

SUBMITTED BY DR. CHRISTOPHER LOVE, WATER SMART[®] AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

The Northern Water Smart[®] program continued to be impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic during the 2021 season. Although the program celebrated its 17th season of operation in 2021, we had to adapt in unique ways to the ongoing disruptions to routine. As in 2020, the amount of travel that staff were able to undertake was severely curtailed, and even where visits were able to take place pandemic safety precautions reduced the ability of many to participate.

Despite all of these challenges, we worked hard to get as much programming delivered as possible. While travel was limited to four weeks instead of the typical nine, the staff were able to make 7 in person visits to communities, in addition to shipping water safety resources to another 50 communities across the province that we were unable to schedule. A key piece of the water safety information packages provided to communities was the Boreal Besties Water Smart[®] Adventure to Sunshine Island Activity Book. Along with posters and other handouts, the delivery of these items was a highlight of the summer for those communities we were unable to visit in-person.

Five full-time staff worked for the program in 2021. We had three staff members return from the 2020

season, Alyssa Baker, Melissandre Berthelot-Dilk and Excellencia Tshibambu. They were joined by two new staff, Avery Alexiuk and Amber Schaefer. Together, they delivered as much water safety education as they could within the every-changing environment. As in previous years they delivered presentations to English as an Additional Language classes. These were again virtual in 2021, but the lessons we learned during the 2020 program allowed us to double the number of participants we could reach at a distance, since in-person visit were impossible.

For the 2021 season Lifesaving Society Manitoba received funding from five different government departments to allow the Northern Water Smart[®] program to be a success. We extend our **thanks to the Government of Manitoba Department of Indigenous Reconciliation and Northern Relations, Government of Manitoba Department of Health & Seniors Care, Government of Manitoba Department of Conservation & Climate, Indigenous Services Canada (First Nations & Inuit Health Branch) and Employment & Social Development Canada (Canada Summer Jobs Program)**. Without the support of these agencies the Society would not be able to sustain the program.

2021 NORTHERN WATER SMART[®] PROGRAM

COMMUNITY

PARTICIPANTS

Brokenhead Ojibway Nation	35
Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation	34
O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation	26
Peguis First Nation	21
Sapotaweyak Cree Nation (Pelican Rapids) ...	29
Seymourville	26
Wabowden	30

324 Total Participants



WINTER SMART PROGRAM REPORT

SUBMITTED BY DR. CHRISTOPHER LOVE, WATER SMART® AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

We started 2021 with Kieran Raknerud continuing the work of the 2020-21 winter season. While the COVID-19 pandemic prevented him from traveling out to communities like we would in a “normal” season, he was far from idle. Following from his work in November and December 2020 he continued to arrange as many distance and virtual education sessions as possible. Between January and March Kieran set up and delivered 17 presentations to 271 participants in EAL classes, providing them with valuable information about winter and ice safety in Manitoba.

Also as part of our Winter programming, a follow up volume to our 2020 Boreal Besties Activity Book was created. The Boreal Besties Winter Smart Ice Fishing Adventure was completed in February 2021 under the supervision of Mélissandre Berthelot-Dilk. Just over 5000 copies were distributed to northern and remote communities in the province to make up for a lack of in-person visits by our Winter programs. We also kept a ready supply in reserve in our offices for future use.

The Fall of 2021 started preparations for another winter season under COVID-19 restrictions. While again unable to arrange visits, we were able again to deliver distance and virtual presentations. In November and December two of our summer staff, Amber Schaefer and Avery Alexiuk, joined me and Lorne Edwards in delivering 16 presentations to EAL groups. This allowed us to reach more than 220 individuals with cold water and ice safety information, and this work continued into January 2022.



SAFETY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

SUBMITTED BY DR. CHRISTOPHER LOVE, WATER SMART® AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to be a huge part of the Society’s safety management work during 2021. At a national level we continued to provide aquatic facility operators with accurate and timely information about the risks of COVID-19 and how to operate in a pandemic environment. We continued to refine both national and provincial guidance documents on a wide range of operating and safety topics, including how lifeguards should approach performing first aid treatment during the pandemic.

Beside this development of COVID-19 protocols, the National Safety Standards Commission did not abandon its regular work either. During 2021 the commission was responsible for releasing ten new or revised safety standards to the public. All of the Society’s Safety Standards may be accessed online at:

<https://www.lifesaving.ca/safety-management-services.php>

2021 PUBLIC EDUCATION EVENTS

PRESENTATION TYPE	PARTICIPANTS
Water Smart® Program for EAL Students	545
Winter Smart Ice Safety for EAL Students	491
Public Water Smart® Displays & Events	69
Water Smart® for Schools	371

1,476 Total Participants

MEDIA SUMMARY

Lifesaving Society Manitoba recorded just over 80 media engagements in 2021. This was down from the year before. As a result of public health orders, we were unable to host any in-person media events, so what we could do was done virtually or over the phone. However, we were able to partner with organizations like Manitoba Public Insurance who used our ice safety thickness card and issued a media release encouraging Manitobans to be safe on the ice when venturing onto lakes, rivers, and ponds.

My role as Media Coordinator is to recognize opportunities for public education, and to coordinate an appropriate response to raise our brand awareness and further efforts in drowning prevention.

In the spring of 2021 for Safe Boating Awareness Week, Lifesaving Society Manitoba joined forces with the Canadian Safe Boating Council in a nationwide initiative that involved recording safe boating messages from one end of the country to the other. Dr. Christopher Love, Mélissandre Bertholet-Dilk from Lifesaving Society Manitoba, RCMP Staff Sergeant Bob Chabot and Transport Canada Boat Safety Officer Sharon Chung represented Manitoba. These videos are available to view at: www.sbaw.ca/manitoba/

As Manitoba continued to make its way through the pandemic in 2021, Lifesaving Society Manitoba remained an information source for both media and the aquatic community for the most accurate and up-to-date news on health restrictions. We also managed to highlight and celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Bronze Medallion.

Lifesaving Society Manitoba continued its role as the “go-to” source for water safety information in connection with drowning incidents and water rescues. An example is the water rescue at Grand Beach in June where two people rescued children who had gotten out too far on an inflatable raft. The media reached out to talk about how often this occurs, and the risks of taking inflatable rafts onto large lakes. Our programs continued to be featured in the media such as Mélissandre Bertholet-Dilk’s appearance on CBC (French) to speak about the Northern Water Smart Program. Dr. Christopher Love was afforded the opportunity to speak with CTV News Morning Live about the Canadian Safe Boating Council’s new Weather to Boat App. Dr. Love also addressed questions from the media about a report that suggested there is an increasing number of older adults at risk of drowning.

National Drowning Prevention Week July 18th to 24th provided an excellent opportunity to speak to a wide range of water safety issues that were highlighted on social media. While there was no formal public event due to Covid-19 health restrictions, the Lifesaving Society flag flew at Winnipeg City Hall to reflect the need for drowning prevention, and a Proclamation was issued by the Province of Manitoba. NDPW marked the culmination of a three-week radio contest on 99.9 Bounce FM called “Jay vs Manny the Manikin.” Radio host Kris Jay was featured in numerous videos with one of our lifeguard training manikins demonstrating good and bad water safety practises. Listeners were asked “what they learned” from the video about water safety. Radio and television interviews this week focused on the Lifesaving Society’s messages and the latest Manitoba Drowning Report. The week culminated in the first ever World Drowning Prevention Day. This global advocacy event serves as an opportunity to highlight the tragic and profound impact of drowning on families and communities and offer life-saving solutions to prevent it. Lifesaving Society Manitoba highlighted World Drowning Prevention Day in Minnedosa where the Town is establishing a Lifejacket Loaner Station at Minnedosa Beach. Local media attended with messages from LSM Executive Director Stacey Grocholski and Minnedosa Manager of Parks and Recreation Director Amber Johnson. Images and comments were captured by the Neepawa Banner, Minnedosa Tribune, and a local cable tv outlet.

2021 also marked the start of a billboard campaign, where a giant ice safety thickness card appeared on a super billboard along the Trans Canada Highway at the Sterling Lyon Bridge over the Assiniboine River. The giant ice safety thickness card was replaced later in the year with five safe boating messages at the same location, just west of Winnipeg close to a zebra mussel check-stop station at the Headingley weigh scales. Over 210, thousand people view that billboard every month.

An electronic billboard campaign inside the Bell MTS Iceplex that began in 2020 was extended into 2021 because of facility closures in 2020. These messages include our Cold Water Kills poster, the ice safety thickness card, and five safety boating messages.

The Cold Water Kills media release in October was well received by local media. Interest was also strong in November’s Rescue and Honour Awards.

LIFEJACKET LOANER PROGRAM

Applications for the Lifejacket Loaner Program were posted on Lifesaving Society Manitoba's website as well as the Coalition's website the middle of May 2021. Many northern communities were emailed applications directly. The program was also promoted on social media. The Manitoba Coalition for Safer Waters received 12 applications. 262 lifejackets and

PFDs were sent to 11 communities at a total cost of just under \$15,000. There were savings in shipping costs this year thanks to Coalition partner Manitoba Hydro who shipped to four communities, as well as Greg Szocs (Manitoba Hydro's representative on the Coalition) who personally saw to one delivery.

262 LIFEJACKETS AND PFDs WERE SHIPPED TO:

- Gimli Harbour Authority
- Hollow Water First Nation
- Lac Brochet Health Resource Centre
- Oxford House
- Pauingassi First Nation
- Rolling River First Nation
- South Indian Lake
- Spence Lake
- St. Theresa Point – Jordan's Principle
- St. Theresa Point Recreation Program
- Valley View Bible Camp – MacGregor



COMMUNITY WATER SAFETY GRANTS

The 2022 Community Water Safety Grant application was posted on the Lifesaving Society's website as well as the Coalition's website the middle of September 2021, thus allowing six weeks for communities to apply for the grants.

The Manitoba Coalition for Safer Waters received 36 applications. The Coalition met virtually Monday November 15th, 2021 and approved 22 applications requesting a total of \$50,284.25 worth of funds.

FUNDING WAS APPROVED FOR:

- Arborg – Arborg Bifrost Parks and Recreation Commission
- Elgin – Fern Valley Recreation Commission
- Hamiota – Recreation Hamiota
- Neepawa – Town of Neepawa
- Ninette – Manhattan Beach Retreat Centre
- Portage la Prairie – North Memorial School
- Portage la Prairie – Portage Learning and Literacy Centre
- RM of Grahamdale – Steep Rock Beach
- RM of North Norfolk – RM of North Norfolk – Jackson Lake
- RM of Prairie Lakes – (Belmont)
- Starbuck – Homewood Colony
- The Pas – Scott Bateman Middle School
- Treherne – RM of North Norfolk (Treherne Aquatic Centre)
- Winkler – Winkler Aquatic Centre
- Winnipeg – Bangladeshi Community in Winnipeg
- Winnipeg – Chinese Community (Manitoba Chinese Community Center c/o IDO Media)
- Winnipeg – Gordon Bell High School (Inner City, Newcomer, and Indigenous Students)
- Winnipeg – Greenway School
- Winnipeg – Hampstead School
- Winnipeg – Hugh John Macdonald School (newcomer students)
- Winnipeg – Manitoba Buddhist Vihara and Cultural Association
- Winnipeg – Nigerian Community (Immanuel Fellowship Church)

The initial cheques for 70 percent of the grant totals were mailed to grant recipients February 9th, 2022. The remaining 30 percent will be issued once grant applicants file an activity report at the conclusion of their projects.

The 2021 and 2020 Community Water Safety Grant programs were disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. A few of the grant recipients were unable to complete their projects due to pool closures or various public health restrictions. As a result, final cheques were not issued as final reports were not received. However, these recipients plan to resume their projects when it is safe to do so.



RESCUE + HONOUR AWARDS CEREMONY

Each year the Lifesaving Society honours those who have risked their own life to save another. The Rescue Awards ceremony provides us with an opportunity to commend our fellow Manitobans for their quick thinking and selfless response in a water related incident. Lifesaving Society Manitoba is also fortunate to have many organizations and volunteers who contribute their time, energy and expertise to the Society and its mission. Annually the Society is honoured to recognize their contributions to drowning prevention in Manitoba and Canada.

Typically, the Rescue & Honour Awards Ceremony is held at Government House, the residence of the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba. The Lieutenant Governor acts on behalf of the Society's patron, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. This privilege represents the Society's link to the monarchy and our world-wide family of the Royal Life Saving Society.

During 2021 the Society hosted two Rescue & Honour Awards ceremonies. The first ceremony was held virtually on February 3, 2021. The Honourable Janice C. Filmon, C.M., O.M., Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba sent recorded greetings to the participants. The following individuals were recognized during the event:

RESCUE COMMENDATION

Josee Adrian
Raymond Joseph Chaboyer
Michael Girardin
Gordon David Hart
Randi Hunter
William Tom Perdonic
Jessie Reimer
George Yule
Robert Walter Zahayko

M.G. GRIFFITHS AWARD

Wanda Mathers
Jean-Luc Tetreault

COMMONWEALTH PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Costco West Winnipeg #57

CERTIFICATE OF THANKS

Kristen Olson
Kayla Saarinen
Dora Simmons
Chris Yelland

SERVICE COMMENDATION

Sarah Dyck

SERVICE MEDAL

Mikaela Garfinkel

BAR TO SERVICE CROSS

Lloyd Plueschow (Third Bar)
Wendy Yates (First Bar)

The second ceremony of 2021 was held on November 4th, in-person at Government House. The Lieutenant Governor was unable to attend, however His Honour the Honourable Gary A. Filmon, P.C., O.C., O.M., attended on Her Honours behalf. The following individuals were recognized at the event:

RESCUE COMMENDATION

Renata Bandel
Allyson Demski
Chris Feakes
Trevor Halgren
Sadiq Husain
Vince Janzen
Candace Legault
Rory Maclellan
Myron Moszynski
Roger Poirier
Darcy Postlethwaite
Ken Skinner
Matt Skinner
Susan Skinner
Kaela Tucker
Braden Van Aert

M.G. GRIFFITHS AWARD

Matthew Haarsma
Brooke Harley
Ian Van Nest

CERTIFICATE OF THANKS

Benchmark Swim Academy
Desiree Bremner

SERVICE COMMENDATION

Kristen Olson
Kayla Saarinen
Dora Simmons

SERVICE MEDAL

Sarah Dyck

BAR TO SERVICE MEDAL

Guy William Plett
Dr. Kelvin Williamson

SERVICE CROSS

Elizabeth Proskurnik

BAR TO SERVICE CROSS

Sarah Painter

COMMONWEALTH HONOURS

Certificate of Thanks recognizes short term or single time contributions or service to the Society by individuals, clubs, organizations or businesses.

Service Commendation honours volunteers who have performed noteworthy service for a minimum of two years.

Service Medal honours volunteers who have performed noteworthy service for a minimum of four years.

Bar to Service Medal honours volunteers who have performed noteworthy service for a minimum of eight years.

Service Cross honours volunteers who have performed noteworthy service for a minimum of twelve years.

Bar to Service Cross honours volunteers who have performed noteworthy service for a minimum of sixteen years. Additional bars are presented at four-year intervals for volunteers who continue to serve the Society.

Commonwealth Honorary Life Member honours individuals who have made a substantial and measurable contribution to the Society's mission, and who have performed outstanding and meritorious volunteer service to the Society for a minimum of twenty-four years.

Commonwealth Honorary Life Governor honours individuals who have made a substantial and measurable contribution to the Society's mission, and who have performed outstanding and meritorious volunteer service to the Society for a minimum of twenty-eight years.

Commonwealth Vice President – The Society's highest honour that recognizes individuals who have given outstanding and exemplary service

to the Society over a period of at least thirty-two years. Recipients must have performed outstanding and meritorious volunteer service to the Society, and normally will have served at a National or Commonwealth level.

Commonwealth President's Award recognizes organizations, clubs, schools, etc. who have made exceptional, continuing and sustained contributions or service to the operations of the Royal Life Saving Society.

RESCUE AWARDS

Rescue Commendation recognizes outstanding individuals who placed themselves at risk while attempting, conducting or saving a life in a water-related rescue.

M.G. Griffiths Award recognizes Lifesaving Society trained individuals who, although not on duty, applied their skills and knowledge in attempting, conducting or saving a life in a water-related rescue.

RECOGNITION & SERVICE AWARDS

Certificate of Appreciation presented to individuals who have contributed to the Society's drowning prevention mission.

Certificate of Recognition presented to groups and organizations who have contributed to the Society's drowning prevention mission.

Instructor of the Year presented to a Lifesaving Instructor or Trainer in Manitoba who "pulls out all the stops" when delivering programs to their students.

Lifeguard of the Year presented to a certified National Lifeguard in Manitoba who goes "above and beyond" when at work on the pool deck or at the waterfront.

Jim McDiarmid Memorial Award presented to a long-term volunteer who has made significant contributions to the Society's operations in Manitoba.



RECOGNITION & SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR

Not Awarded

LIFEGUARD OF THE YEAR

Not Awarded

JIM MCDIARMID MEMORIAL AWARD

Pete Whittington

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

Mid-Canada Marine & Powersports
Dealers Association
Talbot & Associates
Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Gord Caswell
Scott Hoepfner

2021 DONORS LIST

Stacey Grocholski
Anne Love
Christopher Love
Jon Sorokowski
Peeranut Visetsuth



TREASURER'S REPORT



RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED BY
KURT PANTH, LSM TREASURER

The summary of financial information presented here is derived from The Royal Life Saving Society Canada – Manitoba Branch Inc. (“the Society”) Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2021. The detailed Financial Statements of the Society are included in this report.

Throughout 2021, the Lifesaving Society Manitoba, our members, our volunteers, and our communities continued to face with unprecedented challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. I am astounded by the resilience of our members and staff as we have faced these challenges together.

In 2021 the Society's net revenue from operations of \$627,561 exceeded expenses from operations of \$614,463 generating a surplus of revenue over expenses from operations of \$13,098. This increase in revenue can be attributed primarily to aquatic facilities opening up in 2021, training programs starting up again, and program specific government grants.

Through the support of government subsidies including the Canadian Emergency Wage Subsidy, Canadian Emergency Rent Subsidy, and Canadian Emergency Business Account loan the Society was able to access \$127,140 in other income resulting in an overall excess of revenues over expenses of \$140,238. The Society is grateful to the federal and provincial governments, corporate sponsors and individual donors who continuously support the Society's Mission.

Total expenditures of \$614,463 were up 4.4% in 2021 as a result of the programs starting up again. Most significantly, the Society recognized slightly higher programming expenses, office expenses, and salaries.

Looking ahead to the 2022 year, the Society is anticipating a balanced budget. I believe that the Society is well-positioned to continue working towards its mission of drowning prevention and drowning prevention research.





INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the Board of Directors
The Royal Life Saving Society - Manitoba Branch Inc.

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Royal Life Saving Society - Manitoba Branch Inc. (the "Organization"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2021, and the statements of operations, net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at December 31, 2021, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter

Without qualifying our conclusion, we draw attention to Note 10 in the financial statements, which identifies the presumed impact that COVID-19 will have on the subsequent operations and resulting financial position of Organization in the coming year.

Other Information

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so. Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the Organization to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Winnipeg, Manitoba
March 21, 2022



Talbot and Associates
Chartered Professional Accountants

Ashern, MB	204.768.2346	Oak Bluff, MB	204.269.7460
Birtle, MB	204.842.5301	Winnipeg, MB (St. Boniface)	204.987.4875
Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes, MB	204.248.2557	Winnipeg, MB (St. Norbert)	204.269.7460
Steinbach, MB	204.326.6871		



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the year ended December 31, 2021

	2021	2020
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 134,623	\$ 113,614
Short term investments	39,779	38,950
Accounts receivable	179,436	197
Due from government agencies	2,171	3,946
CEWS receivable (Note 10)	-	58,756
CERS receivable (Note 10)	-	7,399
Inventory	38,112	25,319
Prepaid expenses	4,646	4,561
	398,767	252,737
LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS (Note 4)	49,680	48,070
TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS (Note 3)	10,127	13,349
	\$ 458,574	\$ 314,156
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 2,043	\$ 11,495
CEWS repayable	3,629	-
	5,672	11,493
CANADA EMERGENCY BUSINESS ACCOUNT LOAN (Note 6)	40,000	30,000
	45,672	41,493
NET ASSETS		
Operating	312,902	272,663
Internally Restricted	100,000	-
	412,902	272,663
	\$ 458,574	\$ 314,156

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

December 31, 2021

	Operating	Internally Restricted	2021	2020
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 272,664	\$ -	\$ 272,664	\$ 223,878
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ 140,238	\$ -	140,238	48,785
TRANSFERS	(100,000)	100,000	-	-
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$ 312,902	\$ 100,000	\$ 412,902	\$ 272,663

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

	2021	2020
REVENUE		
Test fees, sales, and other revenues (Schedule 1)	\$ 199,603	\$ 155,008
Less: Cost of goods sold	(53,456)	(31,786)
	146,147	123,222
Grants & Assistance		
Manitoba Indigenous & Municipal Relations	225,000	225,000
Manitoba Health, Seniors, and Active Living	125,600	125,600
First Nations and Inuit Health Branch	80,000	-
The Winnipeg Foundation	30,000	20,000
Human Resources Development Canada	15,814	22,281
Manitoba Sustainable Development	5,000	5,000
	481,414	397,881
	627,561	521,103
EXPENSES		
Advertising and promotion	77,417	73,505
Amortization of tangible capital assets	3,222	3,464
Bad debt expense (recovery)	(200)	831
Insurance	7,632	6,499
Interest and bank charges	3,050	2,850
Lifeguard competition	-	972
Meetings	910	125
Memberships and licenses	918	-
Office expenses	21,777	13,655
Professional fees	39,374	18,138
Programs	84,324	112,969
Rental	38,417	45,507
Repairs and maintenance	13,310	12,041
Salaries and wages	319,003	293,315
Utilities	5,279	4,687
	614,463	588,558
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS	13,098	(67,455)
OTHER INCOME AND EXPENSES		
10% Wage Subsidy (Note 10)	-	3,671
Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (Note 10)	101,437	95,171
Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy (Note 10)	15,703	7,399
CEBA loan forgiveness (Note 6)	10,000	10,000
	127,140	116,241
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ 140,238	\$ 48,786

FUNDING & PROGRAM SUPPORT PROVIDED BY:



Canada

Employment and Social Development Canada (Canada Summer Jobs Program)

Indigenous Services Canada (First Nations & Inuit Health Branch)



Manitoba Department of Conservation and Climate

Manitoba Department of Health, Seniors & Active Living

Manitoba Department of Indigenous and Northern Relations

MANITOBA COALITION
for Safer Waters



Manitoba Coalition
for Safer Waters



The Winnipeg
Foundation



The North West
Company Foundation



Manitoba Hydro



Keewatin Tribal Council



LIFESAVING SOCIETY®

The Lifeguarding Experts

LIFESAVING SOCIETY MANITOBA

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