
{ MANITOBA GIS USERS GROUP }
{ ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING }
{ FEB 17, 2021 }

Introduction - 10:05

President's message (Cassandra Clouston)

- Good morning, thank you for attending MGUG's Annual General Meeting.
- This past year was very different and it's hard to believe that the AGM on February 20th, 2020 was one of the last public gatherings many of us attended.
- The effort that the board put into the running of the logistics and organization of virtual events over the past year have been a rewarding challenge.
- Seeing our monthly events well attended showed us that members were making time to participate in the community MGUG has continued to build.
- Without the board's commitment and efforts, MGUG would not be what it is today!
- Also, without the support of our awesome community, members and sponsors MGUG would not exist.
- Our members' interest and feedback help guide the board to keep MGUG current and evolving.
- This morning we will be engaging you to help guide the next steps for MGUG over the coming year.
- This afternoon we will be inspired by members presenting work on their passions.
- If you are interested in joining the MGUG Board we would welcome you to email info@mgug.ca for more information.

Report as to Quorum

Constitution:

"The lesser of one third (33.3%) of all MGUG voting membership or 40 voting members is required to form a quorum for transaction of business at the Annual General Meeting."

Quorum was met by having 40+ members present.

Formal Business

Acceptance of Agenda

Motion: Cassandra Clouston

Second: Keith Hartley

Board Introductions

President: Cassandra Clouston

Interim Vice President: Jim Rodger

Treasurer: Tatjana Radulovic

Secretary: Chris Hay

Events Directors: Hailey Wright (interim) and Robert Belton (mid term leave)

Jobs and Content: Keith Hartley

Social Media and Marketing: Andrea Doussis & Chris Hay

Education Directors: Steven Hills and Satwant Kaur

Membership: Jim Rodgers

Sponsorship Directors: Matt Sebesteny

Past President: NA (Cassandra Clouston was president last year)

Director Reports

Secretary (Chris Hay)

- Summary of secretary tasks carried out
 - Annual Return (MB gov official non profit with business number)
 - Board Meetings & Minutes (once per month)
 - Misc. tasks (e.g. passwords updating)

Treasurer (Tatjana Radulovic)

- Starting balance (Jan 1, 2020) \$16,232.55
- Ending balance (Dec 31, 2020) \$13,088.12
- Net balance as of AGM (Feb 20, 2020) \$15,183.38
- Balance as of Feb 10, 2021 \$13,088.81
- 2020 Income: \$2,652.61; 2020 Expenses: \$4,747.18
- Recommendations for 2021:
 - Complete T2 Corporation Income Tax Return
 - Continue to streamline communications / reporting

Conference and Sponsorship (Matt Sebesteny)

- Fall 2020 Conference cancelled due to COVID-19
- Offered sponsors \$250 MGUG website advertising opportunity (Oct 1, 2020 to Oct 1, 2021)
- Sponsorship 2020-21: 13 Total sponsors
- Call for in-kind donations or proposals (email sponsorship@mgug.ca)

Communication and Marketing (Andrea Doussis & Chris Hay)

- Social media accounts graph (Twitter the highest around 900, Slack started a 0 as was created new this year, Meetup continues to rise quickly)
- Social media improvements: Instagram more visual content; Consistency between platforms; Public Slack
- Email Marketing: Constant Contact for mail-outs, reaches over 1,250 contacts, click rate is 20%-25%

Website (Keith Hartley)

- Website work:
 - Updated wordpress to 5.6.1, plugins, removed obsolete ones
 - Revalidated SSL certificate
 - Updated Wordpress Theme
 - Created Dev Site
 - Added public slack button
 - Redid Instagram, Twitter
 - Added ~90 jobs (45 since August)
 - Removed 15 obsolete plugins - cleaned DB - runs faster!
- Analytics:
 - front page most popular by far, then jobs
 - Unique visitors jumped Feb 2020 then gradually went down since March 2020 – possibly due to changing SSL certificate
 - Browser type mostly Chrome, then half as many on Firefox, then half as many Safari, and down from there with others
- Future plans for website: jobs not feasible to be automated more, theme could be updated, some other ideas...

Membership (Jim Rodger)

- 1210 contacts on our mailing list, as of Feb 17 there are 1846 on Constant contact
- From last year (Feb 18 2020 to Feb 17 2021)
 - 35 new contacts on mailing list, 1 unsubscribed
 - 39 new members to the MGUG website (and 9 declined to be on the mailing list)
- Looking forward: data security and integrity with membership information, adherence to CASL (Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation)
- Working to promote, educate, and build relationships in the GIS Community
 - E.g. City of Winnipeg Hackathon
 - Other organizations: Manitoba Social Science Teachers Association, Manitoba Environmental Industries Association, Central Canada Mining Conference

Education (Steven Hills & Satwant Kaur)

- MGUG Strategic Priority 5: Provide and support GIS educational initiatives for teachers and students
- Subcommittee members from major post secondary institutions in Manitoba (except UCN), from Manitoba Education & Curriculum Developers, High School Teachers, MGUG members
- Subcommittee has had a core group of 4 to 6
- Various outreach contacts
- Outreach events, but all cancelled due to COVID-19
- Education awards (2 x \$500) cancelled due to COVID financial uncertainty
- Things we're working on:
 - Redevelop ideas for GIS Competitions

- Updating education component of website
- Educators outreach blog or newsletter
- How can you help? Volunteer for outreach events, and geomentoring (Esri)

Events (Hailey Wright)

- Fall Conference 2020 cancelled due to COVID-19
- Virtual events instead of in-person
- 9 events with total ~230 attendees
- 3 coffee chats (13 pairs)
- AGM
- Networking nights: Missing Maps, Pecha Kucha, 30 Day Map Challenge, Pub Night
- Lunch or early evening presentations: Mathew Plouffe (Ubisoft Winnipeg), James Cochrane (what3words), David Hamilton (Esri Canada – on Next Gen 911)
- 2021 Fall Conference we have date and event secured but still uncertainty due to COVID-19 (to be determined closer to the event)

Election of Directors for 2020-21 Board

Outgoing Board Members:

Robert Belton
 Tatjana Radulovic
 Andrea Bradbury
 Satwant Kaur

Establish Quorum

Yes, 58 members registered in our zoom room
 Quorum established

Election of Directors

It is moved to adopt...

Members standing for re-election:

Matt Sebesteny,
 Keith Hartley
 Steven Hills
 Jim Rodger
 Chris Hay
 Cassandra Clouston as Past President,

Members standing for election:

Hailey Wright (previously an interim role)
 Paige Kowal
 Geoff Gunn

Volunteers non voting: none

These people will be the 2021 board all in favour please raise your virtual hand.
>There were 33 raised hands counted (which is greater than half of 58 members present)

From our constitution - A quorum and majority vote (50%+1) is required for successful election of the MGUG Board of Directors.

The motion is passed and the board is adopted.

Motion to accept slate: Jeremy Sewell
Seconded by: Tony Viveiros

Door prize winners

- Negar Hakimjavadi
- Heather Alexander

New Business

- Fall Conference still uncertain at this point, but we have a date and location confirmed, MGUG will monitor provincial health orders to determine if it will be possible
- Accountant: MGUG is hiring an accountant from Exchange Group CHartered Accountants LLP to file our taxes - they have experience working with nonprofits and the board has discussed and agrees it is a good path to take
- New Business - None

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{    **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES WORKSHOPS**    }  
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Communications (Website, Social Media, Membership) – notes by Chris Hay

- Matt: McDonald’s kiosk is very clean, some WordPress offers this, maybe we can go to that look
 - Keith response: we have updated the theme for the website recently, Matt can use board’s “dev site” to test other themes we could implement
- Pietra: agrees with Matt’s idea but not to follow McDonald’s necessarily; years ago worked on website content review; hootsuite for social media but websites different - website has social media streams but more designed for phones; is working on WordPress so could connect with Keith
- Andrew: just because we can add social media feeds doesn’t mean we should - may be better to run fewer plugins; perfectionism isn’t when nothing left to add but when there’s nothing left to remove - discuss what are the most important content we need and go from there, instead of starting with the tech and using that to guide what goes on website
- Keith: majority of members are through email - what can mgug do to increase engagement?
- Alex: Instagram stories (not just posts)
- Keith and Pietra: most membership is 30s to 40 somethings and just uses email
- Alex and Pietra: unity is important (when an event goes on social media, put the same thing in the email)

- Keith: We're getting better at connecting between board members so news go out all at once
- Chris: yes, it's about board members being connecting and sharing the news content with each other
- Pietra: unity is important. Comment about sharing the agenda details everywhere sooner. Was difficult to find the agenda. For example if want to schedule an appointment during the AGM and wants to pick the right time.
- Pietra: Challenging for MGUG to find their niche. Feels website could be changed and simplified but not sure what exactly. Front page flipping too quickly.
- Keith: Agenda was only finalized in the last week. Speaker final details. Typically like to share sooner.
- Chris: missed agenda for social media posts - board member attentiveness and organizational thing.
- Edirin Okpikpi: Is looking at instagram page. University of Winnipeg and University of Manitoba. Could use hashtags and tags more frequently. Could tag big accounts like University of Winnipeg and Manitoba in stories and they could re-share our posts for more engagement.
- Keith: please join the slack

Strategic Planning – notes by Cassandra

- Outreach- looking for opportunities locally (Open Street Map in Winnipeg, helping local community; homeless issues, building mapping...)
- Utilizing skills and our knowledge to spread the word of MGUG to other groups but also our members
- Doing project (solving spatial issues)
- Students having hard time finding work, so MGUG website features projects that students could do
- List opportunities (small consultant projects), not just jobs
- Marketplace ("market" skills! - develop list of people with their profiles/skills)
- Members could add more information, experience, skills, interests, etc... in order to "match" themselves with opportunities
- Crossover between different organizations (GeoManitoba, MaGIC) and provincial projects (land base planning, data acquisitions, imagery, funding...)
- Collaboration between MGUG and MaGIC (?)

Education – notes by Satwant

- 10 people in the Education Breakout Room
- Satwant recommended to students to submit their work for MGUG Academic awards. It is a very good platform for Manitoba students to showcase their research/work and win the award. Satwant also suggested to Meg to remind students about the MGUG Education awards.
- Jessica Chudy (student) wrote in the chat that she will look out for Manitoba Education Awards.
- Meg Miller suggested more collaboration with each other is good way to promote MGUG (i.e. MGUG with the schools and universities in Manitoba). She mentioned that she was contacted by MGUG last year, but due to the covid everything was cancelled and she heard back from MGUG after a year. she suggested more poking to remind the events MGUG holds.
- Jeremy Swell mentioned high school teachers usually have a lot to cover syllabus wise

during the school year, and I don't believe they get enough time to go over the GIS stuff. ESRI ambassador is a good way to collaborate with schools. So, he recommended that those who are interested in collaborating with schools should join ESRI ambassador, as the resources ESRI provide are very helpful.

- Mr. Thapa asked if MGUG can have a data repository for the Manitoba datasets, Satwant said that since the data doesn't initially belong to MGUG, so MGUG doesn't hold the rights to distribute the data. The best places to look for Manitoba dataset are Manitoba Land Initiates (MLI) website for archival. A person from the audience suggested that Open MB is a better resource as it has all up to date dataset. Perhaps, MGUG can check if it can add the data links for the users to direct them to these data repositories.

Events – notes by Hailey

- Discussion about the likeliness of an in person Fall Conference
- Everyone in agreement that an in person fall conference not very likely. Especially with flu season ramping up at that time
- Some noted that they would not attend in person even if public health guidelines permitted us to gather.
- The convenience of attending virtual events was raised, especially for those outside of Winnipeg. MGUG is a Manitoban user group.
- Suggestion for a hybrid event idea which could included an in person and virtual component, but noted that the platform becomes the limiting factor.
- Idea to have a live event that is broadcasted later as the virtual component.
- Noted that vendor booths and sponsorship become a challenge with virtual events.
- Excellent example of digital boots: Wild Sheep Event (Ag days sized trade show) where sponsorship money was received by doing it this way
- Platform for virtual events: vFairs
- Avenue 4 Communications and Artisan Audio Visual were suggested as organizations that can assist with virtual event planning
- Other Online event examples that have been done well: Festival du Voyageur (event has gone virtual this year) and Society and Wetlands Science who stretched it out over 2-3 days instead of one full day (similar to FME virtual roadshow)
- A member supported the idea of breaking a conference into small chunks - noting that 2 hours seems to be the max attention span for virtual event attendees (too many distractions)
- More support for conference over several days - noted the time availability / flexibility with employers when broken into small virtual events
- The benefits of using pre recorded presentations was raised from both a planning and viewing perspective. Pre recording followed by a 5 minute live question/answer period.

Door Prize Winner

- Les Mitchell

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{ LUNCH }  
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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Some chat questions that came in, and MGUG board answers:

Q: Member question from Tony:

If we can't do a \$500 award, why not do a \$100 award?

A: MGUG board:

We weren't sure what our financial situation would be without the conference, but now we know that we do still have money available to do rewards for students so we will bring back those awards.

Q: Member question from Keshab:

How about MGUG being a GIS hub for MB, so anyone can access GIS data through MGUG website.

A: MGUG's board:

There are other organizations that are already doing this, other portals managing this, but we think it would be a good idea to have a Slack channel to share all these resources. Keith noted we have a web page for this as well.

President's announcements:

- Alex Yuzwa submitted board application before lunch, nominated to join board - will be done at next board meeting on March 10 (as interim)
- Cassandra emailed new board members to let them know the next meeting is March 10

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{ MGUG WORKSHOPS }  
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Decolonizing Indigenous Territories: Proposed Foodshed Approach to Identifying the Traditional Territory of an Anishiniw Nation

Keshab Thapa & Shirley Thompson (Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba)

- Thompson, S., Thapa, K., & Whiteway, N. (2019). Sacred harvest, sacred place: land uses and food in Wasagamack First Nation. *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development*, 9(Suppl. 2), 251-279. <https://doi.org/10.5304/jafscd.2019.09B.017>
- Thompson, S., Whiteway, N., Harper, V., and Collaborators (2020). Let's Keep Our Lands Sacred As the Creator Taught Us. Winnipeg: Manitoba First Nation Education Resource Center. <http://ecohealthcircle.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Lets-keep-our-land-sacred-as-the-creator-taught-us-compressed.pdf>

- Thapa, K. and Thompson, S. (2020). Applying Density and Hotspot Analysis for Indigenous Traditional Land Use: Counter-Mapping with Wasagamack First Nation, Manitoba, Canada. Journal of Geoscience and Environment Protection, 8, 285-313. doi: 10.4236/gep.2020.810019. <https://www.scirp.org/journal/paperinformation.aspx?paperid=103884>
- Link to Slides: <https://we.tl/t-qyMXOh8Ku1>

The global geomatics infrastructure - OpenStreetMap

Sean Frey (Parks Canada)

www.openstreetmap.org

Announcements:

President Cassandra:

- Alison Davies (City of Winnipeg) will also be joining as an interim board member - submitted a nomination and board agreed.

Keith Hartley Presentation about fun new MGUG activity:

- "Task Master" for MGUG idea
- Will take place over one month, can do in teams or on own.
- A number of tasks were presented and will be put on the website and slack channel.
- A pub night in the future.
- "Map Master" prize

Folarin Solademi was unable to present

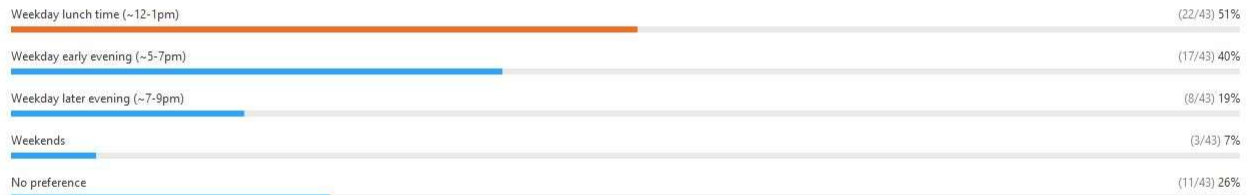
Instead MGUG presented:

- Demonstration of the Slack, various channels
 - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdjzROyxpEIPGIRhqDhGWaOeQHe_wUR-mX1sEk-UjfilSH77gw/viewform
- The poll results from earlier

1. Have you heard about the MGUG Member community on Slack?



2. At what time would you prefer to see future virtual MGUG events held at? (Multiple choice)



3. What are your thoughts on a Fall 2021 Conference given the current COVID-19 situation?



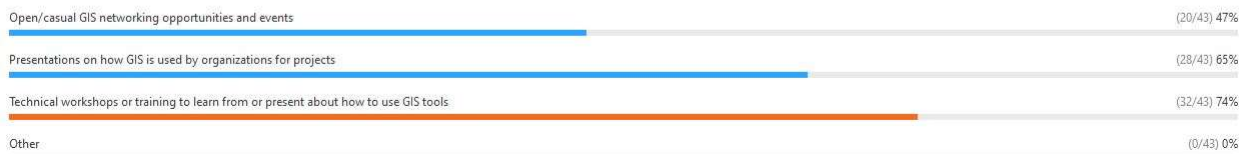
4. How happy are you with the MGUG website?



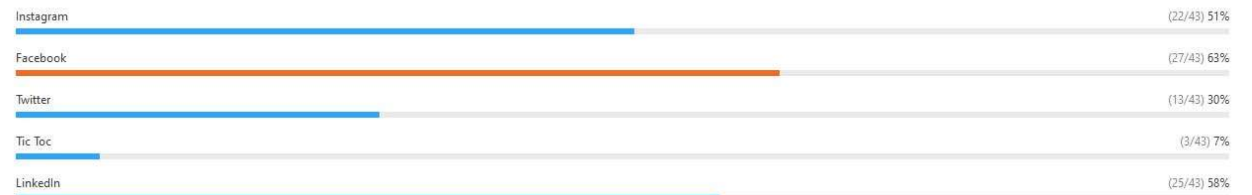
5. In the future (post-COVID world), how should MGUG balance virtual vs in-person events?



6. Which kind of MGUG events are most important to you? (Multiple choice)



7. What Social Media apps are you active on? (Multiple choice)



- Showed the MGUG Meetup Group page

Spatial Autocorrelation of Weather Parameters

Timi Ojo & Alison Sass (Manitoba Agriculture and Resource Development)

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/current-weather-viewer.html>

Break

Fusarium Head Blight Risk Mapping

Les Mitchell, MB Agriculture and Resource Development

<https://gov.mb.ca/agriculture/crops/seasonal-reports/fusarium-head-blight-report.html>

Collaboration in Education with University of Manitoba Libraries

Meg Miller, University of Manitoba

Link to slides:

bit.ly/mgug_w2021 - aka link below

https://meginwinnipeg.github.io/slides/mgug_w2021.html

Door Prize

- Burke Okraine

President's Closing Statements (3:30PM)

Additional Networking

Adjourned (4:30PM)