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2019-2020 Annual General Meeting: Main Street Project posts small surplus and announces new appointments to the Board of Directors.

Search currently underway for new Executive Director

Winnipeg, MB – August 28, 2020: Main Street Project continued to deliver on its commitments in 2019-20 by providing shelter and access to services to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness or substance abuse disorders in Winnipeg, announcing an operating surplus during its virtual AGM on Tuesday.

Thomas Becker, Board Treasurer of the organization, reported that MSP’s revenues were \$7,144,515, other income was \$3,919, expenses were \$7,146,815, resulting in a small net surplus of \$1,619.

“In addition to shelter and transitional housing, close to 130,000 meals were served, over 105,000 clean needle and harm reduction kits were dispensed, van patrol outreach served over 14,000 clients, and the withdrawal management treatment program admitted more than 1800 clients,” reported Vince Warden, Board Chair.

The food bank continued to be a popular addition to downtown Winnipeg, the warming and cooling centers were opened as required to provide relief during extreme weather conditions, and seasonal clothing was provided to those in need.

Warden also acknowledged the many milestones and achievements that were reached over the past year, noting how such accomplishments were overshadowed by the response to COVID-19 over the last several weeks of the fiscal year and into the current year.

He thanked staff at MSP, and recognized the agile assistance from government at all levels - health agencies, funders, donors, philanthropists, volunteers, building contractors, architects, engineers, financial institutions – all pitched in to provide or construct greatly expanded space, isolation units, furniture, and protection equipment to prevent or lessen the spread of COVID-19. The incredible generosity of Winnipeggers and Manitobans has never been more evident or more appreciated.

The Board also welcomed two new board members. Alexandre Mireaut, a lawyer with MLT Aikins, educated at McGill University's Faculty of Law, is a proud franco-Manitoban, who recently returned to Manitoba in 2018 after many years overseas. He brings with him previous board experience from his tenure with Apathy is Boring and is a passionate advocate for Manitoba's most marginalized populations.

Hlezi Sy has lived parallel lives as a long-standing public servant and dedicated community advocate. Over the 25 years that she has worked for the Government of Canada, Hlezi has leveraged her experience to work for her community. Hlezi is passionate about education, particularly helping new arrivals to Canada. She is a founding member of several education forums aimed at helping immigrants with financial education and with career development. Currently, she mentors young immigrant



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professionals with their careers and with financial planning. She was a financial planner in a previous life. She brings with her previous board experience as the Past Chair of the Immigrant Women's Association of Manitoba.

These two new directors add to the three others appointed in May: Andrew Dutfield, retired construction executive, Dave Thorne, Business Development leader of MNP's Public Safety practice and retired Deputy Winnipeg Police Chief; John Leggat, Deputy Minister of the Department of Families; Olivia Baldwin-Valainis - Provincial Lead, Strategic Communications and Stakeholder Relations for Shared Health. Finally, Wayne Mosienko, Assistant Chief, Paramedic Operations was appointed as the new Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Liaison replacing Ryan Sneath.

Warden also recognized Rick Lees, MSP's Executive Director over the past four years, for his enthusiastic leadership, his bold vision and his caring service to clients.

A comprehensive national search is currently underway for a new Executive Director.

About Main Street Project

Main Street Project uses housing-first and harm reduction principles in the provision of a safe, respectful and accessible place for individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in the community. Since its formal inception in 1972, the organization has been providing a range of services to Winnipeg's most marginalized residents, including emergency shelter and nutrition services, drug and alcohol withdrawal management services, health advocacy/support, housing support services, food bank services and a mobile community outreach program.

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