



**Highlights**

- Adopted an updated Mission Statement, completing phase two of our Mission, Vision, and Values refresh project.
- Onboarded and oriented 4 new BOD members.
- Agreed to terms on an indefinite contract with the Producer
- Began a significant review and update to existing financial policy and procedure to ensure the festival continues to be able to adapt within our ever-changing environment.
- Maintained a strong financial position through another no-festival year.

**Director**

**Term Status**

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| ● Andrew Currie, <i>Chair</i>             | Year 3 / 3 |
| ● Stuart Muir, <i>Vice Chair (former)</i> | Year 3 / 3 |
| ● Cam McCormick, <i>Treasurer</i>         | Year 2 / 3 |
| ● Marilyn MacGillivray, <i>Secretary</i>  | Year 1 / 2 |
| ● Gerrit Bjalek                           | Year 2 / 3 |
| ● Shelley Morrison                        | Year 3 / 3 |
| ● Bridget Stirling                        | Year 1 / 3 |
| ● Jill Day                                | Year 1 / 3 |
| ● Michael Hughes                          | Year 1 / 3 |

**Policy Updates**

**1. Pandemic Policy**

- This policy was crafted by an ad hoc committee of two Board members (Mike Hughes and Marilyn MacGillivray), and two Staff members (Marianne Stover and Muffy McKay) and designed to be operationally flexible. This will allow the staff the ability to adapt as required in the lead up to the festival, without the need to convene a board meeting or consensus vote for operational adjustments. The policy will be reviewed monthly leading up to the 2022 Festival.

**2. Volunteer Standards, Expectations, and Workplace Harassment Policy**

- This policy was updated in conjunction with an initiative from the Volunteer Office to refresh the Volunteer Handbook. Industry best practices were evaluated, along with provincial and federal laws. Existing EFMFS policies were referenced where appropriate to ensure easy and digestible access to these resources for all volunteers annually.



Edmonton Folk Music Festival Society  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT**  
Annual General Meeting: April 24, 2022

What was originally expected to be a year away from our festival snowballed into two, and then eventually three calendar years. Each summer away from Gallagher park has been deflating in its own unique way, though we've done the best we could with what we had to keep the spirit alive! The summer of 2021 saw our Takin' it to the Streets concert series bring music to all corners of Edmonton and area, while also ensuring local artists received paid gigs; our crowds had an opportunity to stay connected and engaged with us and each other; we maintained our presence in the community; and thousands of people got to gather, visit, and experience community all while being able to listen to live music under Edmonton's burning summer sun again thanks to the EFMF. From the immediate responses and applications for shows flooding in, through to the welcoming and enthusiastic neighbourhood hosts weeks and months later, it was so heartwarming and truly energizing to experience. It was a tangible reminder that this festival is special, missed, and is worth the effort the organization has put in since the pandemic took hold.

The Board welcomed and onboarded four new Directors for this term who all hit the ground running, taking on significant committee responsibilities while also immediately contributing to the day to day work of the Board. We looked to build on our momentum as a group from the previous few years, and focussed on ensuring that the work we undertook was done with a focus on inclusive practices and an eye on expanding our audience to truly reflect the beauty and diversity of our community. We are focussed on ensuring our decisions are reflective of the legacy created by so many contributors before us, and building on it in a sustainable and progressive way.

As part of our three year commitment to refreshing the Society's Mission, Vision, and Values our second phase was also completed this year. Our new Mission statement; *The Edmonton Folk Music Festival promotes live folk music at its annual festival with the purpose of celebrating diverse, affordable folk music, sharing meaningful, inclusive experiences, and building community for its volunteers, artists, vendors, patrons, and the people of Edmonton, Alberta, and the World.*” was born from a robust process including volunteers from the Board of Directors, Staff representatives, and members of the Members Services Committee. The Board will complete this refresh process with the Values this board cycle.

In spite of another unorthodox year, the organization managed to remain in a strong financial position. Our year to year operations are supported in large part through complex government funding and grant programs, which are expertly navigated by Terry Wickham, Richard Stuart, and Shauna Stuart. Prudent financial planning and foresight has put us in a position to feel more positivity than trepidation leading into our returning year. We've been able to maintain a budget that pays fair wages to our staff and contract partners, keep our prices accessible, while being able to make competitive bids for world class artists and produce the best Folk Music Festival in the world.

As we go about our days, remember that we all benefit from each other's patience and kindness as we re-orient ourselves to events and public spaces. I look forward to seeing you all on the hill, and want to thank you all for continuing to support the health of Edmonton Folk Music Festival Society – Your contributions are invaluable.

**Andrew Currie**

Chair - Board of Directors, Edmonton Folk Music Festival Society