

A TROLL OF A YEAR

President's Report for 2020

Dear Members, what a year it has been! I hope you are all safe and sane and that a Covid vaccine will be here quickly. Our annual AGM meeting is just around the corner and it will take a different format than previous meetings. The board has reached the decision to host the meeting via Zoom. We realize that a Zoom meeting is not the ideal solution, however, your health and safety is important. We will miss meeting in person, but hope to see you all virtually!



SNCS board:

The SNCS board currently consists of five members: Jennifer Stanley, Laurie Schwarz, Marcel Voyer, Louella Walker and Heidi Sheehan. SNCS still lacks people in key positions, with the following board positions empty: *Treasurer, Vice President, Social Director, Cultural Director, and Membership Director*. Some of the present board members are thinking of stepping down and we urgently need new board members if SNCS activities are going to continue. A big thank you to the board of directors for the work they have put into keeping SNCS afloat this difficult year. Especially Jennifer Stanley have taken on an especially large load as she is both NorSkole Coordinator and has filled in as interim Treasurer. Thank you Jennifer!

Heritage Fair:

This event was held on Feb. 2nd and continues to be a great way to increase awareness of SNCS in the community. Thank you so much to Jennifer Stanley, Carmen Thompson, Laurie Schwarz, Omar Aschim, Alice Olson and Heidi Sheehan for setting up our displays and working at the booth. This year we showcased many of the great SNCS trolls – quite a fitting mascot for 2020, don't you think?

St. Hans

Cancelled due to Covid-19

17. Mai Celebration

Cancelled due to Covid-19

Folkfest:

Cancelled due to Covid-19

Høsttakkefest

Cancelled due to Covid-19

Norwegian Christmas Service

Cancelled due to Covid-19



Norskole

Covid-19 created some extra challenges this year. We were not allowed to keep our classrooms at Aden Bowman Collegiate, and the information regarding allowed class size and various restrictions changed monthly. However, Jennifer Stanley did an outstanding job, and classes resumed in September. Both beginner and intermediate classes are being held at Redeemer Lutheran Church, with lots of space for social distancing. Enforcing mask use and hand sanitizer ensure that the classes are safe for students and teachers.

There are 11 students registered in our beginner and intermediate classes.

SNCS Online Presence

Alfred Hovdestad is our Midnattsol newsletter. Heidi Sheehan takes care of SNCS' two email accounts, the website and Instagram accounts. Currently, the SNCS website has not been displaying the drop-down menu when opened with a smart phone. We are trying to rectify this and encourage users to access the website with a computer instead of on a phone, as the drop-down menu is fully functioning on a computer screen.

Membership

Some of you may have received a phone call from Louella Walker this fall reminding you to renew your membership. We realize this year has been unusual, and with very few gatherings and activities other than the Heritage fair, the NorSkole classes, and the newsletter. However, paying for the membership has other benefits. You are helping to:

- 🇳🇴 *keep SNCS alive*
- 🇳🇴 *Sustain Norwegian culture in Saskatoon*
- 🇳🇴 *ensure NorSkole can continue*
- 🇳🇴 *enable the Norwegian Folkfest Pavilion to continue*
- 🇳🇴 *preserve all the SNCS heritage items for the future*

We currently have only 29 paid-up members to date (down from 34 last year) but hope all members will renew. You can find information at our website: <http://saskatoon-norwegian.ca/register/>



Finally, I want to wish all SNCS members and their families a Merry Christmas and All the Best for 2021!

Respectfully submitted by Heidi A. Sheehan
December, 2020

SNCS Treasurer's Report for January 2021 Annual General Meeting

Sadly, all activities planned for 2020 had to be cancelled as a result of COVID19. Thanks to the members who forwarded their membership fees for this year. Your support is greatly appreciated.

We were successful in securing an alternate person to do our bookkeeping and Financial Statements. Many thanks to Bonnie Lymer, our new accounting person who began in June 2020.

Thanks also to Elaine and Harold Hesje for agreeing to review the Financial Statements.

If anyone is interested in taking on the position of Treasurer, please contact Heidi Sheehan or Jennifer Stanley for more information.

Hopefully later in 2021 we will be able to gather again and once more celebrate our Norwegian heritage.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Stanley
A/Treasurer

SNCS NorSkole Coordinator Report for January 2021 Annual General Meeting

With the onset of COVID 19 our school year ended in mid-March 2020. Public and Catholic schools are no longer able to rent classrooms to outside groups. In light of this, we sought alternate space for our Beginner and Intermediate classes and are very grateful to be a "test group" at Redeemer Lutheran Church. The Fellowship Hall has been working well for our classes on Monday and Wednesday evenings. The volunteers at the church have been most helpful and accommodating.

Classes were delayed by two weeks this year and began on September 21 for the Beginner Class and September 23 for the Intermediate Class.

The Beginner Class is being taught by Amanda Lawrence. Five students have registered for this class (all of them returning).

The Intermediate Class has been taught by Sylvi Johansen. Initially six students registered, however, two have discontinued. The four remaining students are returning.

Funding from the Saskatchewan Organization for Heritage Languages (SOHL) will continue this year. At a recent Zoom meeting we were asked to describe how COVID 19 has impacted our schools. This will be considered when grants are considered.

Respectfully Submitted
Jennifer Stanley, NorSkole Coordinator
November 27, 2020