

Manitoba Agricultural Museum



2021 Annual Report

About Us

Incorporated in 1953, the Manitoba Agricultural Museum (MAM) is a registered charity located on 129 hectares near Austin. The museum holds Canada's largest collections of operating vintage farm equipment and an extensive assortment of household and commercial artifacts in the 26-building Homesteaders' Village.

MAM hosts events and live programming throughout the year, including an annual signature festival, the Manitoba Threshermen's Reunion & Stampede, first held in 1954.

The museum's unique events and collections are recognized with the following provincial accreditations:



Mission

MAM's mission is to immerse visitors in rural Manitoba's past, providing context to the present and future of agriculture in Manitoba, and to collect, preserve, interpret, and demonstrate Manitoba's agricultural heritage.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Angie Klym, *President*
Grant Cassils, *Vice-President*
Don Wadge, *Treasurer*
Gordon Goldsborough, *Secretary*
Brad Burnside
Gary Davis

Michaela Knibbs
Greg McConnell
Rosana Neufeld
Diane Rourke
Darin Smith
Jonathan Whetter

STAFF

Eugene Fortin, *Operations Manager*
Zach Dyck, *Reception & Admin Services Officer*
Tom Lehockey, *Yard Foreman*
Dennis & Diane Pohl, *Resident Volunteers*
Dawn Scammell, *Financial Administrator*
Tia Dahmer, Belle Dueck, Cash Masson, Brady Meeches-Soldier, Nadine Perreault, Ariel Tacan-Hobson, *Seasonal Workers*



**MANITOBA
AGRICULTURAL
MUSEUM**

Leadership Message

Another fast-paced and challenging year has come and gone. Navigating the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in a responsible manner required many adaptations to the museum's operations so that we could continue advancing our mission of "Bringing our Prairie Heritage to Life" in 2021.

For a second consecutive year, public health restrictions prevented the museum from hosting most of its regular events and programming. The cancellation of our signature event, the Manitoba Threshermen's Reunion & Stampede, was particularly disheartening for volunteers and visitors alike. The return of the Winter Wonderland event in December 2021 provided a glimmer of hope that better times are around the corner for Manitoba and the museum.

Despite these challenges, the unwavering support of our staff, volunteers, and supporters kept the museum moving forward. Many volunteers devoted time and energy to undertake restoration projects, improve facility infrastructure and expand our farming operations. Significant progress was also made on the museum's new History of Harvesting exhibit that is being created in the Centennial Building. Details on these activities and many more are found throughout this report.

The change of routine brought on by COVID-19 also provides the museum with the opportunity to reflect and review the organization's activities. To continue being a must-see tourist destination, we need to understand visitor expectations in a post-pandemic world. The Manitoba Threshermen's Reunion and Stampede committee has started this important work with its first ever market research study. The results will help inform what changes may be needed to ensure the event continues to be one of Manitoba's biggest summer festivals.

The museum was fortunate to acquire a few unique additions to its artifact collection in 2021. Canada's last remaining flat warehouse, the precursor to the iconic Prairie grain elevator, was donated to the museum. Situated in Brookdale, the building was

moved to the museum in October with a multi-year restoration process now underway. A 1960s John Deere 5020 tractor, one of the largest machines on the Prairies at the time, was also donated by museum volunteers.

Throughout 2021 the board of directors and museum committees remained focused on the financial health and stability of the organization. While COVID-19 Public Health Restrictions reduced museum attendance, revenues remained stable thanks to the support of our members, corporate supporters, and government COVID-19 relief programs. New fundraising ideas, like the "Buy a Bundle" campaign and the Prairie Pride fireworks sales, provided new revenue sources alongside regular promotions like the annual Threshermen's colt raffle. The museum's endowment funds, which provide sustainable and predictable annual funding, also continue to see strong growth that helps secure the museum's financial future.

In the past year the museum also accepted its largest ever private donation of \$165,000 from the estate of Mr. Marcel Decock. An avid antique tractor enthusiast and longtime supporter of the museum, Mr. Decock farmed near Wawanesa and passed away in 2020. This extraordinary and visionary gift will help advance projects to help museum visitors walk in the footsteps of the people who shaped rural Manitoba's history.

On behalf of the board of directors, thank you for your continued support during this unprecedented time and we look forward to seeing you in 2022!



A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Angie Klym".

Angie Klym
President,
Manitoba Agricultural Museum



Collections & Conservation

At the centre of the Manitoba Agricultural Museum is its extensive collection of historic machinery, buildings, and household and commercial goods. These artifacts, which number in the thousands, tell the story of rural Manitoba's development from the 1860s to the 1970s.

In 2021, tens of thousands of hours and a similar amount of dollars were invested by the museum and its volunteers to preserve and maintain this vast collection. Several of these activities are highlighted below to demonstrate the breadth of the museum collection.

Artifact Repairs

After sitting for decades, the Avery Yellow Fellow 36 x 48 all-wooden threshing machine, one of the largest in the museum collection, is undergoing repairs. A crew of five volunteers is working to repair the frame and bring the machine back to operating condition in time for the 2023 harvest.



Village Activities

Every year significant work is completed to maintain the 26 buildings in the Homesteaders' Village. This year's work included replacing the roofs on the Centreville School and the Print Shop and restoring the front façade of the Shoe Repair shop. The 2022 painting program saw the Shoe Repair shop, MTS Building, Surveyor's Building and Grain elevator receiving fresh coats of paint.

To provide space for the Flat Warehouse, the Katrime train station and outhouse and the jigger shed were repaired and relocated along the railway

track. The jigger shed floor required significant repairs and both buildings were provided with new and improved foundations. The jigger shed was also repainted. A crew of eight volunteers spent 175 hours this summer conducting the work.

New interpretative signage was developed and ordered for several buildings that will be installed early next year.

Artifact Donations

The museum strives to make its collection more representative of Manitoba's rural past. A couple of noteworthy additions to our collections in 2021:

- **Morris M11 seeder** – This 22-foot, made-in-Manitoba hoe drill, donated by Matt Bunn of Miniota, Manitoba, will be a "working artifact" that will help in sowing the demonstration field.
- **John Deere 5020** – This fine tractor, donated by Bill and Sharon Newton of Aberdeen, Saskatchewan, was built between 1962 and 1972. It will also be a "working artifact" to assist with some work around the museum grounds.



**MANITOBA
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Brookdale Flat Warehouse



A highlight of 2021 was the acquisition of what we believe is the last Flat Warehouse in Canada, a donation by Dan Jardine of Brookdale, Manitoba.

Flat warehouses were the primary means in the late 19th century by which grain delivered by farmers was stored awaiting shipment. It was a labour-intensive process in which loose or bagged grain was carried by hand inside the warehouse then the process was reversed when loaded into railway boxcars. By the 20th century, their function was replaced by grain elevators that eliminated much of the back-breaking manual labour. The Brookdale Flat Warehouse, built in 1902, was used for much of the 20th century to store farm and building supplies.

Our plan was to move the Brookdale Flat Warehouse to the museum, put it on a solid foundation, replace the degraded metal on its exterior, document the entire process by video, and develop the building into an exhibit on the history of grain storage.

After raising sufficient funds, and with considerable labour by museum volunteers to build a new wooden foundation, the warehouse was moved to the grounds on October 28th. We applied immediately to have it designated as a municipally-significant heritage building.

In-kind contributions were received from Ray Mitchell of Brookdale, Anderson Building Movers,

and D & M Tree Service of Deloraine for assistance with site cleanup, warehouse cleaning, and carpentry on a new wooden foundation.

The museum has, to date, raised over \$50,000 in support of our multi-year restoration of the Flat Warehouse. We would especially like to thank the following people and organizations for supporting the project with a contribution of \$50 or more:

WAGON-level donations (\$5,000+)

Arlene Jarema in memory of Dennis Jarema
BLAST-OFF Fireworks
Homestead Co-op
MacDon Industries
Manitoba 150 Committee
Manitoba Hydro
Matt Bialek

BUSHEL-level donations (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

Comte Industries
Mazer Group
Randy Bialek
Stride Credit Union
Western Grain Elevator Association

SCOOP-level donations (\$50 - \$999)

Ag-chieve Corporation
Barry Bromley
Barry McCulloch
Canadian Northern Lights RV
Century 21 Westman Realty
Ed & Rosalie Beamish
Glen & Lorna Clarke
Gloria Grycki
Joyce Koturbash & Gary Reid
Len Friesen
Leo & Gail Scheer
Prairie Flour Mills
Stan Barclay
Westoba Credit Union

In addition, the museum collaborated with Matt Bialek and BLAST-OFF Fireworks of Selkirk on a special promotion. For every box of "Prairie Pride" fireworks sold, the museum received a donation to the project.



Sponsors & Supporters

The Manitoba Agricultural Museum is grateful to all of our sponsors, supporters and donors for helping us collect, preserve, interpret and demonstrate our agricultural heritage for Manitobans and visitors from around the world.

PRESENTING PARTNERS (\$7,500+)



GOLD PARTNERS (\$5,000 - \$7,499)



SILVER PARTNERS (\$3,000 - \$4,999)

BRONZE PARTNERS (\$1,500 - \$2,999)



Austin & Area



FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUM (UP TO \$1,499)

Canadian Tire Portage la Prairie
Community Futures Heartland
Drummond's Farm Services
Fauschou Ag Centre

Forestville Grain Farms
Keystone Concrete
Linwood Equine Ranch
Portage Mutual Insurance

Squirrel Creek Angus
Valleyview Consumers Co-op
Wilderness Supplies
2 Bar D Livestock

Fundraising

The 2021 edition of the annual colt raffle featured a beautiful yearling colt. Over \$1,500 was raised for the museum through the sale of raffle tickets. Trevor Graham of Holland, Manitoba was the 2021 winner of the raffle. Many thanks to Linwood Equine Ranch for donating the colt and Dr. Cathy Patterson for providing in-kind vet services.

For the second consecutive year, we prepared a calendar featuring photographs taken around the museum grounds as a fundraiser for the museum.

We raised nearly \$3,500 in a "Buy-A-Bundle" campaign to support the repair and replacement of cedar shingles on building roofs in the Homesteaders' Village.



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MTRA Finals

The museum hosted the Manitoba Team Roping Association's combined 2020–2021 year-end event. Nearly 90 ropers participated in a pre-finals competition on October 2 and the provincial finals event on October 3. The event included a canteen provided by local volunteers.

Winter Wonderland

After a one-year pause due to COVID-19, Winter Wonderland returned for two weekends in early December. Visitors toured the Village via horse-drawn sleigh with buildings and pieces of equipment covered in lights for Christmas.

Demonstration Field

The 30-acre demonstration field is the land at the north end of the museum property and the area east of the combine sheds all the way to the east side of the property. It provides a crop that can be used for demonstrations of threshing and combining and to generate revenue from the harvested grain.

In 2021 we had winter wheat sown here. A poor germination due to very dry conditions in Fall 2020 and very dry ones in Spring 2021 meant we had a thin stand. The crop was terminated rather than apply the spring nitrogen that would be required. We planted the field to winter wheat in early September.

In Fall 2020, volunteers broke up an old hay field south of the boneyard that was producing little hay. It was sown to oats in Spring 2021. It was harvested on the September long weekend and cleared about \$4,100. This piece was also sown to winter wheat for 2022.

MARM

The Manitoba Amateur Radio Museum renamed its main display building in honour of Dave Snydal, who founded the museum in 1984 and served the organization in multiple roles over the next 35 years, including President, Curator, and Secretary-Treasurer. He was also the driving force to construct the museum's permanent home on the grounds of the museum in 1990.

Memorial Garden

The Memorial Garden creates a place to recognize and remember the efforts of the thousands of volunteers who have contributed to make the museum what it is today. In 2021 new signage was added and flowering perennials were planted.

These names were added to the Memorial Wall:

- Robert Bryce (1929–2020), *Austin*
- Marcel Decock (1935–2020), *Wawanessa*
- Clint Eyssens (1973–2020), *Winnipeg*
- Ivan Nairn (1907–1980), *Glenboro*
- Guy Schaubroeck (1954–2014), *La Salle*
- Thomas "Tom" Sharkey (1935–2021), *Winnipeg*
- Louise Wilcox (1943–2020), *Austin*

There are now over 90 past members and volunteers commemorated on the wall.

Heritage Harvest

The Heritage Harvest Growing Project, a fundraising partnership between the museum and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, grew Thunder Seed 87003 soybeans in 2021 that yielded 39 bushels per acre. Thanks to the good crop and the generosity of supporters with in-kind supplies and services, the project provided a record dividend of \$30,000 this year (\$15,000 to each organization). The dividend is matched by government granting programs which provides up to an additional \$67,000.

Over the last five years, the project has provided \$114,000 in direct support to these organizations (\$57,000 each) and up to an additional \$256,000 from the government matching grants.



Financial Summary

Derived from the audited financial statements, the Summary Financial Statement is prepared by the Museum Treasurer and presents the financial position of the Museum for the year ended December 31, 2021. Reading the Summary Financial Statements is not a substitute for reading the Audited Financial Statements and the auditors report therein.

To view our complete audited statements, visit mbagmuseum.ca or call 204-637-2354.

2021	
Summarized Statement of Financial Position	
Assets	
Cash and Short Term Investments	491,750
Accounts Receivable	147,460
Other Assets	18,557
Long Term Investments	0
Tangible Capital Assets	2,240,587
	2,898,354
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable and Deferred	0
Liabilities	18,931
Prepaid Deposits	0
Deferred Revenue	10,621
Callable Debt	10,528
	40,080
Long Term Debt	40,000
Deferred Contributions Related to Capital Assets	311,118
	391,198
Net Assets	
Unrestricted Net Assets	75,067
Internally Restricted Net Assets	502,620
Investment in Capital Assets	1,929,469
	2,507,156
	2,898,354

2021	
Summarized Statement of Operations	
Revenue	
Admissions	4,000
Campground Fees	53,932
Donations and Sponsorships	226,646
Gift Shop	6,949
Grants	177,687
Investment and Endowment Income	80,799
Memberships	7,704
Other Fundraising Revenue	16,035
	573,752
Expenditures	
Advertising and Marketing	19,956
Collections Management	22,677
Fundraising and Events	824
Gift Shop	1,064
Office, Admin & Professional Fees	19,657
Interest and Bank Charges	3,031
Repairs, Operations and Supplies	40,903
Utilities	40,011
Wages and Benefits	144,698
Insurance	19,811
	312,632
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenditures (before amortization)	261,120
Amortization	
Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets	(43,971)
Amortization of Deferred Contributions	9,525
Other Items	
Contribution to Endowment Funds	(27,246)
Non-Monetary Donations	6,000
	205,428



Endowment Funds

The Manitoba Agricultural Museum started its first endowment fund with the North Norfolk Foundation in 2010 to provide permanent annual support for the museum. There are now five funds at the Foundation that provided over \$80,000 in 2021 to support museum operations and special projects.

Since 2017 these funds have contributed more than \$164,000 to directly support museum activities.

CUMULATIVE ENDOWMENT FUND CONTRIBUTORS

\$100,000+

Province of Manitoba

\$50,000-\$99,999

Elsie Sims

MAM Foundation Fund

Heritage Harvest Committee

\$10,000-\$24,999

Harvesting Hope: A World Record to Help the Hungry

Manitoba Arts Stabilization Inc.

\$1,000-\$2,499

In memory of Elsie Sims

MTRS Steak Supper Committee

Dr. Gordon Goldsborough

Redvers Generators

Friend of the Museum

Carolyn Sifton Foundation

North Norfolk Foundation

Under \$1,000

Austin and Area Lion's Club

In memory of Gladys and Jim Barclay

Benjamin Linnick

Paul Weber

Friend of the Museum

In memory of W. Lorne Drummond

Colin Farquhar

Alfred and Elizabeth Chorney

In memory of Claude Calet

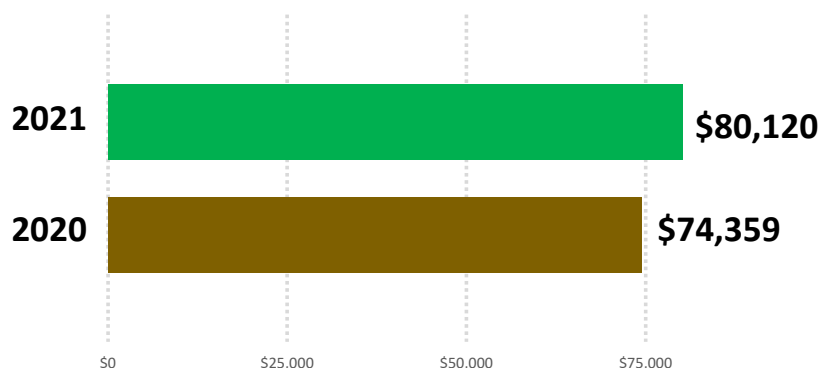
Robert Beamish

Brooklyn Linnick

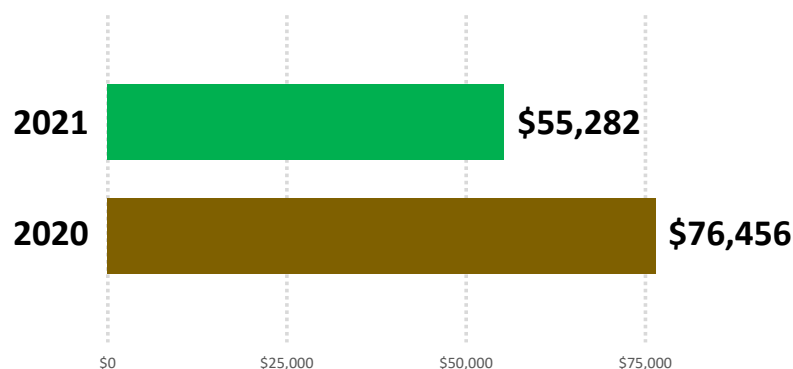
ENDOWED ASSETS (AS AT DECEMBER 31)

Fund Name	2021	2020
Heritage Trust	\$198,459	\$130,762
General	\$25,500	\$23,934
Artifacts	\$59,314	\$55,671
Arts Stabilization	\$15,086	\$14,159
Signature Museum	\$1,682,943	\$1,590,684
Total	\$1,981,302	\$1,815,209

ANNUAL GRANTS FROM THE FUNDS



ANNUAL DONATIONS TO THE FUNDS





Facility Upgrades

Every year, significant effort is required to maintain the museum's service infrastructure and facilities. This year's work included trenching a new water line from the main shop to the office and repainting the Pioneer Centre façade and the dining hall.

In 2021, we reduced electrical use at the museum by retrofitting the office with energy-efficient windows and upgrading to LED lighting in the main shop, old RLA building, office, and gift shop.

More than 200 volunteer hours went into upgrading the Gate 1 Registration Booth with new siding and repainting the interior and exterior.

Private Storage Buildings

In 2020 the museum adopted a new policy that provides members the option to store their operating vintage equipment on the museum grounds. This year, two 30 x 100 foot buildings were constructed and leased on a long-term basis to museum members for machinery storage.



Austin Steam Engine

In 1991, the museum and the Austin Chamber of Commerce worked together to create a landmark roadside attraction. The museum loaned a Case 25-75 steam engine which was cosmetically restored and raised onto a pedestal near the intersection of the Trans-Canada Highway and Highway 34.

After 30 years in the air, the chamber repainted the engine in May 2021. It took a team of eleven people and three forklifts roughly 40 hours to repaint the engine. Thank you to all the donors.

Public Campground

The campground recorded its busiest year since 2016 with 2,347 overnights. This increase was the result of hosting weekend camps of the Manitoba Old Tyme and Bluegrass Society and the Family Motor Coach Association's Canadian Northern Lights Chapter. A construction crew also used the campground for over two months.



Manitoba Agricultural Museum

CAMPGROUND COMMITTEE

Darin Smith, *Co-Chair*
 Angie Klym, *Co-Chair*
 Lee Bergson
 Barry Klym
 Clarence Lashek
 Albert Schiller

CAMPGROUND HOSTS

Lee Bergson
 Hubert Cabernel
 Murrey, Shirley & Lorne Farrell
 Audrey McCreery
 Rosana Neufeld

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Don Wadge, *Chair*
 Gerald Dueck
 Gloria Sims
 Robert Smith

REVENUE GENERATION COMMITTEE

Diane Rourke, *Chair*
 Rosana Neufeld

COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Greg McConnell, *Chair*
 Jake Hamm
 Erron Leafloor
 Glenn Lennox
 Ron Mitchler

HERITAGE HARVEST COMMITTEE

Nicole Blyth, *Chair*
 Karen Down
 Jake Hamm
 Helmut Neufeld
 Harold Penner
 Rob Penner
 Kenneth Peters
 Elliot Sims

HOMESTEADERS' VILLAGE COMMITTEE

Lynda Campbell-Hawley, *Chair*
 Karen Alton
 Vicki Bodie
 Brad Burnside
 Dennis Pohl
 Diana Pohl

MTRS COMMITTEE

Gerry Currie, *Chair*
 Rosalie Beamish, *Vice-Chair*
 Gloria Sims, *Vice-Chair*
 Gerald Dueck
 Rachelle Foster
 Michaela Knibbs
 Heather Manns
 Dennis Pohl
 Doug Pratt
 Ayn Wilcox

INTERPRETATION & ACQUISITIONS COMMITTEE

Erron Leafloor, *Chair*
 Alex Campbell
 Glenn Lennox
 Kevin Mabon

HORSEPOWER GROUP

Heather Manns, *Chair*
 Chris Arthur
 Gary Beuckart
 Alex Christison
 Bernie Dueck
 James Dueck
 Dan Fontaine
 Art Gibson
 Bruce Gilmore
 Ray Gork
 Johan Hildebrand
 Roy Manns
 Lyle Mansfield
 Kolby McDonald
 Gordon Nelson
 Jim Scott
 Howard Walker
 Wade Walker
 Harvey Watson

REUNION LADIES ACTIVITIES

Audrey McCreery, *President*
 Michaela Knibbs, *Vice-President*
 Tierney Demare, *Secretary*
 Brenda Moorehead, *Treasurer*
 Karen Alton
 Irene Chartier
 Donna Christison
 Kim Christison
 Jamie Darling
 Janice Darling
 Karina Darling
 Lorraine Drummond
 Annabelle Dueck
 Felicity Dueck
 Jocelyn Godin
 Margaret Grimard
 Mackenzie Kibbs
 Marilyn Knibbs
 Anita Latimer
 Celine Lebeau
 Caleigh McCreery
 Marilyn McNaughton
 Alana Moorehead
 Nancy Moorehead
 Troy Moorehead
 Katherine Wright

RODEO COMMITTEE

Jerry Doucette, *Chair*
 Duane Bueckert
 Doug Bueckert
 Dustin Doucette
 Henry Friesen
 Alan Manns
 Ben Wiebe

STEAM COMMITTEE

Gerald Dueck, *Co-Chair*
 Bruce Eberling, *Co-Chair*
 Robert Beamish
 Thomas Beamish
 Garrett Bodie
 Glen Bodie
 Bradley Burnside
 Glen Bodie
 Garth Christison
 Jim Down
 Ryan Down
 John Dreviski
 Mike Hawkins
 Bill McCreery

TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE

Scott Alton, *Chair*
 Lee Bergson
 Alex Campbell
 Cory Christison
 Rick Green
 Korey Lee
 Glenn Lennox
 Kevin Mabon
 Brad Moorehead
 Brett Moorehead
 Dwayne Moorehead
 Helmut Neufeld
 Dennis Pohl
 Darin Smith

FELLOWS ASSOCIATION

Robert Beamish
 Ron Bullock
 Art Devrieze
 Jim Down
 Ann Futros
 Audrey McCreery
 Bill McCreery
 Alex Patterson
 Barbara Schellenberg
 Dave Snyder
 Rollie Wilkins

MEMORIAL GARDEN COMMITTEE

Dan Letwin
 Ed Mulla
 Gail Scheer
 Leo Scheer
 Darin Smith

MANITOBA AMATEUR RADIO MUSEUM

Bruce Johnson, *President*
 Michael Bilowus
 Andy Clemis
 Rick Jones
 Fred Joynt
 Ron Samchuk
 Cal Shermerhorn
 Rollie Wilkins
 Dave Wood



Manitoba Hydro crews raised power lines to allow the Flat Warehouse to make its way from Brookdale to the museum in October 2021.

For more information about the Flat Warehouse project, please see page 5 of the report.



Box 10, Austin, Manitoba, Canada 204-637-2354
info@mbagmuseum.ca www.mbagmuseum.ca