

*RSCDS Saskatchewan Branch
Annual General Meeting
4 May 2024
All Saints Anglican Church, Saskatoon*



MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER by chair Ron McLean -- 2.06 pm
16 members in attendance - 2 by Zoom (sign-in sheet circulated attached)
Chair asked for approval of agenda, with the addition of “Discussion of Promoting Scottish Country Dancing” under other business
 moved: Gloria; seconded: Sandra – approved
Chair suggested time of adjournment: 3.30 pm – agreed
Quorum established (2 executive members are joining by Zoom)
2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM (May 27, 2023 -- Moose Jaw) - as posted on web-site
Approval of minutes as posted - moved: Tara; seconded: Gail – approved
3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
Teachers were to review list of core dances – Bev reporting:
 - Bev & Jean began that review after the 2023 AGM,;
 - sent a draft list to Mike, Heather & Ferne for a review in the fall 2023
 - ball programme tonight incorporates much of that listTeachers’ rep not yet named
4. CORRESPONDENCE
(see Agenda item 5.3 below - Secretary’s report)
5. REPORTS (as posted on the branch web-site: <https://rscdssask.org/branch-agm/>)
 - 5.1. Treasurer
Financial reports to Dec 31, 2023 (attached)
 - Total income for 2023: \$ 2,440.01
 - Total expenses for 2023: \$ 2,214.20
 - Net income for the year: \$ 225.81Motion to accept: Eva; seconded: Bob – approved
Financial Reviewer for the 2024 financial report
Motion to appoint G Stewart: Eva; seconded: Gail – approved
 - 5.2. President - Ron M (attached)
As we recover from the Covid years, Ron emphasized our links with the rest of the world in finding ways to keep Scottish Country Dancing alive and well in Saskatchewan.
 - 5.3. Secretary - Bill R (attached)
Bill summarized correspondence dealt with during the year, reflecting some of the benefits we enjoy through our links both with Edinburgh and other branches here in Canada
 - 5.4. Membership Director - Gail J (attached)
Gail reported 31 members across the 3 clubs paying RSCDS membership dues, apart from the non-member dancers who participate in all 3 locations
 - 5.5. Librarian - Bob M (attached)
Bob reported on library holdings: 200+ albums of digital music, 200+ books of dance instructions
Bob also listed the (2) costs of maintaining the web-site; hopes to add photos from the 3 clubs during the summer (he welcomes submissions!)

5.6 Teachers – no report

5.7 Group Reports

5.7.1 Moose Jaw - Gail J for Valerie (attached)

The Moose Jaw-Assiniboia club met Thurs nights, Sept-May, at the Timothy Eaton Centre, with classes led by their 2 teachers, Mike Blanchard & Heather Berriault, and 3-4 new dancers

5.7.2 Saskatoon - Jean Gibson (attached)

The Saskatoon club met Wed nights, Sept-May, at All Saints Anglican Church, with classes led by their 3 teachers, Jean Gibson, Bev Will & Helene Nelson; 12-16 dancers usually attending

5.7.3 Yorkton - Eva G for Ferne K (attached)

The Yorkton club were late starting their season due to teacher Ferne Katznerg's injury – meeting Sat nights, Feb-May, 9 dancers usually attending

5.8 Report on our website (see Agenda item 5.5 above - Librarian's report)

Eva asked about combining the web-site fees

5.9 Next Fall Workshop (no report)

Motion to accept reports 5.2-5.9: Bill P; seconded Jean G – approved

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1. Membership fees

Eva G presented the changes in fees as set by Edinburgh HQ, and proposed the following fee structure after currency conversion:

Old HQ Fee (GBP) £	New HQ Fee (GBP) £ 2024-25	Category	Old Branch Membership Fee	Proposed Branch Membership Fee
26.00	28.00	Single Adult	\$75.00	\$80.00
42.00	45.00	Joint Adult	\$130.00	\$140.00
21.00	22.00	Young Adult	\$65.00	\$67.00
13.00	14.00	Youth	\$50.00	\$52.00

Approval of the fee structure moved: Eva; seconded: Tara – approved

6.2 Election of Executive Officers

Chair taken over by Bob M (nominations committee)

6.2.1. President - Ron McLean

nominations cease: Tara – acclaimed

6.2.2. Vice President - declared vacant

6.2.3. Secretary - Bill Richards

nominations cease: Bev – acclaimed

6.2.4. Treasurer - Eva Gillard

nominations cease: Jean G – acclaimed

6.2.5. Membership Director - Gail Jacobs

nominations cease: Diane C – acclaimed

6.2.6. Teacher Representative (decided by the branch teachers)

6.3 Any Other Business

Follow up from President's report (Ron M)

– how to promote Scottish Country dancing in the province

– e.g., on community radio

– Tara: noticed sign-age promoting SCD in Calgary

– Gail: gym classes in the schools?

Ron suggested more openness in public school system (than Catholic)

Jean: RSCDS-UK has on-line educational resources to be used in class-room

– Helene: suggested re-labelling used in the UK – “Dance Scottish” in our promotions

– Bev: problems with cancelling due to (winter) weather (similar issues in Assiniboia-Moose Jaw)

=> make more use of summer options? In open-air/public spaces?

Ron: encourage informal dress

– Sandra: re-start variety of workshop options

– Bill: offer SCD as a *social* dance class as part of community association seasonal programmes

– Ron: summary - need to keep the culture alive

7. GOOD AND WELFARE

7.1. The chair expressed thanks to the local arrangements committee for hosting this AGM in Saskatoon

- also to Sandra for making the Zoom arrangements to allow our 2 exec members to attend

- and to Bob for advice on bye-law AGM requirements

8. NEXT Annual General Meeting (2025)

Date & Location

- proposed, contingent on hall availability:

May 3, 2025 with Yorkton club hosting

- with Zoom option for those unable to attend in person

9. ADJOURNMENT

Moved: Gail J; seconded: Bill P – chair declared meeting adjourned at 3.13 pm.

RSCDS
Saskatchewan Branch
AGM 2024
Saskatoon - May 4, 2024

Attendance Sheet

Name	Club
Ron McLean	Saskatoon
Bill Richards	Saskatoon
Sandra Beardsall	Saskatoon
Eva Gallard	Yorkton
Gail Jacobs	Moose Jaw
Jana Zymiak	Saskatoon.
Helene Nelson	Saskatoon.
Gloria Kiel	Saskatoon
Bob McNaughton	S'toon
Dorothy Conzem	Saskatoon.
Bea Will	Saskatoon
Bill Powhock	Saskatoon.
Diane Cross	Saskatoon.
Jean Gibson	Saskatoon
Dale Gunderson	Saskatoon
Peta Coder	Saskatoon

*Royal
Scottish
Country
Dance Society,
Saskatchewan
Branch*



**Financial Information for
Year Ended - - - December 31, 2023**

***Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, Saskatchewan Inc.
Saskatchewan Branch***

December 31, 2023

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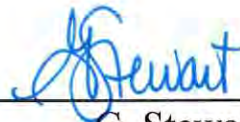
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April 17 2024

TO: ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY,
SASKATCHEWAN BRANCH

The Balance Sheet of **ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY, SASKATCHEWAN BRANCH** as at December **31, 2023** and the Statements of Income and Expense for the year then ended have been completed from information provided by the organization.

An audit or a review engagement on these financial statements has not been performed.



G. Stewart

President's Report to the 2024 Saskatchewan Branch AGM

Ciamar a tha ha chi and welcome. It has been great to be able to get back to full-time dancing again. Work shops, banquets, and balls have been popping up all over the world. The executive has been busy at work keeping all the affairs of the branch up to date. As nice as it has been to get together in our little world, I feel it is necessary to try to include the rest of the world. One of my main concerns is that Scottish Country dancing is starting to diminish here in Saskatchewan. In the larger centers they have a much larger population to draw from. We as a group, and especially the Executive, need to find a way to keep the spark of the dance alive. So, here's to dancing, may it never stop.

Ron Mclean

Branch Secretary's Report
for the AGM 2024
Saskatoon – May 4, 2024

A sincere thank you to the Moose Jaw club for hosting our AGM 2023, the first gathering since the hiatus due to Covid – May 27, 2023, at the Moose Jaw Wildlife Federation Hall. After the meeting the executive reviewed a draft of the minutes of that meeting, which I then circulated to the attendees June 10, 2023. At Gail J's suggestion I also sent the minutes on to all our branch members in August. That e-mailing caught a couple of errors, and Gail prepared an up-date of our membership list in September.

Following the May meeting Eva G arranged for the change of signing officers on our account with BMO. I was not able to sign those documents myself before I left for China at the end of August, but I did finally finish that process after my return, in February.

In advance of the RSCDS's 94th AGM, in early October 2023 Ron M & I, as branch reps, received its notices of motion and board nominations. Voting was open-electronically until the end of the month. Ron & I both submitted our votes by October 20th; the results were reported on November 27, 2023: "Heather Cowan, Evelyn Redmond, Eileen Yates join the Management Board for a term of three years. Clare Grycuk join the Management Board for a two-year term ... Lucy Phillips and Beth Fairbairn join Youth Services Committee for a term of three years." (Check the bios at: <https://rscds.org/about/people>.)

Our Saskatchewan Branch representative on the RSCDS Management Board is Stephen Hartley. He e-mailed me December 21, 2023, in advance of their February 2024 meeting, asking if there were any issues we wanted raised. (Stephen lives in the UK, but represents a number of branches in North America and elsewhere.) I circulated my reply to our own executive, saying we would be in touch, if there were concerns.

Our various Canadian branches of the RSCDS share "combined insurance coverage" through Markel Canada Limited. On December 30, 2023, Eva G shared a copy of the policy she had just received with me. Please be in touch, if your club is interested in knowing the terms of coverage.

The RSCDS web-manager passed on a contact request they had received January 29, 2024 in Edinburgh – a dancer moving to Saskatchewan interested in finding a club here. I was able to respond that same day, welcoming her interest and giving information on our clubs and our SK branch's own web-site.

In early February 2024, a researcher at Wilfrid Laurier University, Lilita Scatozza e-mailed about her master's thesis project: "Dance is for Everyone: A Comprehensive Study of Community-Based Dance Participation for Older Adults". After confirming the project with her WLU supervisor, I circulated her invitation to participate to our SK clubs.

By February the Saskatoon club had begun working on local arrangements for our SK Branch 2024 AGM; on February 12, 2024, I sent out notice of the date & location established for the meeting. On April 15, 2024, I sent out a reminder with the previous minutes and a draft agenda.

Let me close with thanks to the other members of the executive, Ron, Eva, Gail & Bob, and to our previous secretary, Mike Blanchard, for all the helpful advice they have offered me in carrying out the interesting variety of work that this position offers.

Sincerely,
Bill Richards,
Branch Secretary

RSCDS – SASKATCHEWAN BRANCH

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

MAY 4, 2024

Hello Everyone,

It is wonderful to be back to normal! This past season has seen our dancers enjoying fairly regular class schedules enabling us to hone our skills and enjoy the comradery of our dance companions.

All our groups experienced the loss of some paid memberships this year which in some cases may be the result of the current economic situation sweeping across our country. At the same time, we also had several new paid members giving our branch a total of 31 paid members which is only one less than last year's total. My understanding is that all our groups have non-member dancers who regularly attend classes as well as several drop-ins. This is welcome news. However, these dancers are not included in the following numbers.

Broken down by group, these paid memberships comprise:

- 19 from Saskatoon
- 9 from Yorkton
- 3 from Moose Jaw

Saskatoon lost 2 members and gained 5 new members. Yorkton lost 1 paid member and gained 2 new members. Moose Jaw lost 5 members.

This past year has been a quiet year as far as dealing with membership activity. If you do require any help with your membership, such as correcting an error, or a change of address, or needing your membership number, please feel free to contact me by email at vandgjacobs@gmail.com. "Thank You" to everyone who paid their RSCDS Membership Fees for this past year.

Thank you to Tara Zrymiak and Eva Gillard, who gathered the information and fees for their groups and passed it onto me.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Jacobs
Membership Secretary



RSCDS
Saskatchewan Branch
Librarian's Report
to the Annual General Meeting

Submitted by: *Bob McNaughton, Branch Librarian*

To: *Annual General Meeting*

Date: *May 4, 2024*

1. Just a reminder that the position of Branch Librarian is not an elected office. It is a self-appointed job and, as such, has no authority to represent the Branch in any capacity. The Librarian has set his own responsibilities and acts in, what he believes to be, the best interests of the Branch. In that capacity, and with that understanding, here is a summary of what has been done this past year.
2. **BOOKS:** A few copies of Book 53 were purchased.
If there are publications anyone wishes to order from RSCDS, TACBooks or other sources, please, let the Librarian know. Bulk purchases might be economical.
3. **RECORDINGS:** A few copies of the two-disc CD for Book 53 were purchased.
If there are albums anyone wishes to order from RSCDS, TACSound or other sources, please, let the Librarian know. Bulk purchases might be economical.
4. **LIBRARY:**
 - 4.1. The Saskatoon Group now has over 200 albums of digital dance music. As these are digital recordings, any track can be sent, as an MP3 file by email, to any of our teachers.
Most of these albums have been identified on the [Scottish Country Dance Database](#) (SSCDB) website and can be available to any Saskatchewan Branch member, on request. The Librarian will happily add the Moose Jaw and Yorkton collections to the SCDDDB list.
 - 4.2. The Branch has over 200 books of dance instructions. Most of these have been identified on the [Scottish Country Dance Database](#) (SSCDB) website and can be available to any Saskatchewan Branch member, on request. The Librarian will happily add the Moose Jaw and Yorkton collections to the SCDDDB list.
5. **WEBSITE:** Since March 2023, there had been very little activity on the [website](#), as there had been very little activity for the Branch.
As of September 2022, we seem to be venturing back to more of our usual classes and meetings. So, the Group pages and new Events calendar have been updated accordingly.
To the best of the Librarian's knowledge, all the information is up to date and accurate and all the hyperlinks have been confirmed.
The cost, to the Branch of maintaining the site is:

Hosting service (website and email)	\$99.99 plus GST & PST per year
Renewing the domain registration	\$23.99 plus GST & PST per year

The Branch owns two domains ([rscdssask.org](#) and [rscdssaskatchewan.org](#)).

 - 5.1. **GROUP PAGES:** These have been updated with the information provided by each Group.
If there are revisions required, or additions requested, to any of the Group pages, please let the Librarian know.
 - 5.2. **EVENTS:** Please, tell the Librarian of upcoming events that you wish to have publicised.
 - 5.3. **DOCUMENTS:** The documents are up to date. If there are other documents, which should be available to members, forward them to the Librarian.
 - 5.4. **LEARN MORE & LINKS:** Encourage the dancers to find additional information on the web sites listed on these pages.
The Librarian is always looking for suggestions for additional links.
 - 5.5. **GALLERY:** The Librarian apologises for the lack of photos on the website. This is another of his projects for this summer.
Photos of the classes, socials and other events will be greatly appreciated. Email your contributions to info@rscdssask.org.
6. **FACEBOOK:** We owe our thanks to Robert Clark, formerly of Saskatoon, for continuing to manage our Facebook account, now that he lives in British Columbia. We continue to look for a Saskatchewan volunteer to take this responsibility.

Moose Jaw Scottish Country Dancers

We have been holding classes from September 2023 to April 30, 2024. We have two instructors. Mike Blanchard and heather Berriault. We have been meeting in the card room at the Timothy Eaton's Center in Moose Jaw.

We had to cancel many classes from September to January because we didn't have enough dancers. We made a concerted effort to get new dancers and we do have three to four new dancers. The age range is from 10 years to plus 80 years. They are all learning quickly and they are all a welcome addition to our small group.

On February 7, 2024 we held a fish & chip fund raiser at Bobby's Place Old World Tavern. We joined forces with the fledgling children's pipe band. The evening was a roaring success. WE sold out in two weeks.

Our share of the proceeds enabled us to continue for about two years and keep our weekly lesson cost minimal.

We have had a very enjoyable year learning new dances and welcoming our new dancers.

Submitted by Valerie Armstrong on behalf of the Moose Jaw Scottish Country Dancers

Saskatoon Scottish Country Dancers

Saskatoon Report to the RSCDS SK Branch AGM (Teacher Reporter)

May 4, 2024

SSCD currently has 3 active teachers: Jean Gibson, Full Certificate, Bev Will, Unit 4, Helene Nelson, Unit 4.

Bev and Helene shared teaching classes on Wednesday evenings September to May. They have based their lessons on the recommended Unit 5 formations and dances. 12-16 dancers attend with their abilities ranging from very basic to more advanced dancing. This has been a challenge and a good learning experience.

Jean has been coaching the Demo Team for performances at Canada Day, Folkfest, etc., and when invited to entertain at various events. Practices are held on Fridays twice a month and as needed. For the past two years Jean has run the Social Dancing Program following the teaching on Wednesday evenings. These programs included dances being taught, and others containing the same formations, plus some old favourites.

Jean has also been advising and helping Bev and Helene in their goal of taking the Unit 5 final exam.

All SCD teachers appreciate the help and support we have received from the club's retired teachers: Mary Jean Roy, Hugh Goldie and Claude Hutton, and Helene's teachers in BC: Rosemary Coupe, Rebecca Blackhall-Peters, Simon Scott, and Katherine Shearman.

Music for Wednesday and Friday evenings is provided by a new computer and speaker operated by Bob McNaughton and apprentices Bill Richards and Dale Gunderson. This has been a wonderful and great asset for the classes and social dance programs. The teachers are extremely grateful for this support, thank you.

We look forward to teaching in the 2024/2025 dancing season.

Happy dancing,

Jean Gibson

2023-2024 Yorkton Scottish Country Dance Report

We continue to dance Saturday evenings. Our dance season started February 2024, due to breaking my arm in September.

We had 9 dancers, including me. We did not have any new people come out this year, but we did have a lady return to the Yorkton group who had danced with us pre-Covid.

Since February, we have danced only 5 evenings due to having a small group.

Our dance season came to a close on April 27th. Even though we had a few dance evenings all the dancers enjoyed the dancing and socializing.

Hopefully we will gain a few more dancers in the fall and we will continue on.

Submitted by,

Ferne Katzberg

Teacher of the Yorkton Scottish Country Dancers