

WINNIPEG'S GLBTT CHORUS

# RAINBOW HARMONY PROJECT

2008-2009 SEASON



SINGING OUT SINCE 1999!

*celebrates*

# 10!

## Annual Report 2009

## President's Report

*Respectfully submitted by  
Darrin Jolicoeur*

This year, 2008-2009, the Rainbow Harmony Project celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and did we celebrate. With Jeff Staflund at the Many Gifts Concert and Heather Bishop at the Spring Concert we put on 2 fantastic shows. Then to top off the Spring show we celebrated at the Esplanade with fireworks, food and friends.

It was a very busy year for the board. I will not re-iterate everything that was done as I am sure those details will be covered in the other Directors' reports but highlight certain accomplishments. We updated the By-Laws and posted them on our website. 2 new accounts were opened with the purpose of enabling choir members to participate in the Gala 2012 and Unison 2014. A Unison subcommittee was formed under the RHP organization that will look after organizing Unison 2010. We also increased our insurance to cover Director's liability and the Unison subcommittee. We also created a Past President position on the board so that we could draw on the wisdom and experience of our previous president, Paul Sullivan. We can also celebrate the recent news that we have obtained a \$5000.00 grant for our CD project from the Winnipeg Foundation. Special thanks go to Heather Bishop for her guidance and letter that formed part of the application for this grant.

Finally, we created the administrative assistant position and had the position filled with the very capable Aaron Fitchett. Having Aaron working with the board in this role has made a huge impact already. We are very grateful to have Aaron with us. Because of this new position, we have a complete listing of all songs in the music library. A project that had been languishing for a number of years. Aaron assisted Vic with many details in preparation for our concert and was responsible for organizing the front of house with ushers and ticket-takers, etc. Our administrative assistant has alleviated the stress and burden that our artistic director and other board members normally would have to endure to run the concert. We hope Aaron will continue to help the board and the choir make greater strides forward in the coming years.

As president, I am grateful to have had a wonderful board to work with. All members were very hard working and collaborated in so many ways to make this year such a success. The choir is very blessed to have such a great team of dedicated persons on the RHP board. I want to thank the board for making my job as president a joy and pleasure. I would also like to thank the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee for their hard work and dedication in making our concerts so special for the choir's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Bev Budiwski headed this endeavour as chair and it was a labour of love. Thank you, Sandra, Vic, Murray and Madeleine for your work and creative energies. Because this report needs to be kept short I apologize for not being able to name every single person that contributed to this choir's success. Truly, we are successful because of the dedication and commitment that our choir members showed week after week in rehearsals and so many other volunteers that came to help at all our events.

Looking ahead, the choir is entering an exciting 2009-2010 season as we look forward to hosting Unison in May 2010 in Winnipeg. The Unison committee have preparations well under way for a spectacular Unison Festival. The RHP is also looking at performing in Brandon potentially in the Spring of 2010 as part of our outreach mandate. We are also looking at developing a youth chorus in hopes of providing GLBTT\* youth with a space where they can find expression of who they are through music. Looking further down the road we are keeping Gala 2012 in sight as we hope to continue to build funds that will enable our choir members to participate in this life-changing international festival of GLBTT\* choruses from around the world.

## Artistic Director's Report

*Respectfully submitted by*  
*Vic Hooper*

### Summary

This, our 10th season, was filled with great excitement and musical satisfaction. Repertoire was chosen from the list of songs sung throughout the past 9 years. Thanks to Kate Tate for sorting through all the programmes and making a list of all the songs. We surveyed members, past members, and audiences, asking them to indicate their favourites. The Music Team analyzed the results and put together a variety of songs for the Many Gifts Concert and our Spring Extravaganza Concert.

Thanks to Sandra for organizing the winter retreat on January 23 and 24. Clinicians were Debbie Maslowsky (movement) and Catherine Robbins (vocal technique).

Thanks to Paul Pattyn for his great physical warm-ups each and every week.

Many thanks to Darrin Jolicoeur and the Board for competent leadership and support throughout the year.

### Music Team

Murray Mandzuk accepted the position of Music Team Chair. He very capably kept me and the committee focused and organized. Many thanks, Murray.

Thanks to all the team (in alphabetical order):

**Alan Blanchette, learning tracks and section coach**

**Stephen Cocks, learning tracks and arrangements**

**Joan Hanton, learning tracks**

**Rob Lindey, accompanist and advisor**

**Paul Pattyn, physical warm-ups**

**Julia Zacharias, assistant director**

### Section Leaders

**Soprano: Linda Rodgers and Julia Zacharias**

**Alto: Anna Naylor and Lori McCarville**

**Tenor: Murray Mandzuk and Sally Paps, with the help of Tim Preston**

**Bass: Paul Pattyn and Paul Sullivan**

### Performances

#### Fall 2008

1. *ChoralFest Manitoba* - November 17, Sturgeon Creek United Church  
(Adjudicator, Ian Loepky; Clinician, Ed Hildebrand)
2. *Many Gifts* - Dec 6, Crescent Fort Rouge United Church  
(Jeff Staflund, guest performer)

## Artistic Director's Report (*continued*)

### Winter/Spring 2009

3. *Pink Triangle Day* - February 22, First Unitarian Universalist Church
4. *Winnipeg Music Festival* - March 8, Westminster (Adjudicator, Carol Beynon)
5. *Pink Money Banquet* - March 28, Young United Church
6. Churchill Park United Church Service - May 3
7. *Spring Show: Extravaganza* - May 30, Westminster United Church (Heather Bishop, guest performer; Alan Blanchette and Stephen Cocks, guest soloists). This concert was recorded live by Don Benedictson of Unity Gain.
8. *Pride Day* - June 14, on the steps of the Manitoba Legislature Building

### Recommendations

Focus on outreach to Brandon, supporting a youth choir, and Unison Festival 2010.  
Begin preparations for GALA Festival 2012.  
Develop a wardrobe committee.

**Financial Statements**  
*Respectfully submitted by*  
*Del Mansell*

**The Rainbow Harmony Project Inc.**  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of 26 May 2009

	<u>26 May 09</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
High Rate Savings	10,162.59
ACU - Chequing	9,417.63
ACU - Raffle	1,800.13
ACU - Shares	5.00
Total Chequing/Savings	<u>21,385.35</u>
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	408.00
Total Accounts Receivable	<u>408.00</u>
Other Current Assets	
GST Receivable	-355.54
Prepaid expenses	800.00
Total Other Current Assets	<u>444.46</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>22,237.81</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>22,237.81</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	12.39
Total Accounts Payable	<u>12.39</u>
Other Current Liabilities	
GST Payable	184.90
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>184.90</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>197.29</u>
Total Liabilities	197.29
Equity	
Members Equity	4,878.59
Retained Earnings	13,886.71
Net Income	3,275.22
Total Equity	<u>22,040.52</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>22,237.81</u></b>

**Financial Statements** (*continued*)

**The Rainbow Harmony Project Inc.**  
**Profit & Loss Statement**  
1 August 2008 through 26 May 2009

	<u>1 Aug '08 - 26 May 09</u>
<b>Income</b>	
Advertising	1,100.00
2010 Unison Income	55.96
Campaign Income	
Raffle	1,670.75
Campaign Income - Other	1,121.99
<b>Total Campaign Income</b>	<u>2,792.74</u>
<b>Events</b>	
Shamrock Shaker	1,728.19
Halloween Social	3,854.06
Many Gifts	5,610.29
Retreat	720.00
Spring Concert	
10th Anniversary PARTY!	1,045.00
Spring Concert - Other	3,550.00
<b>Total Spring Concert</b>	<u>4,595.00</u>
<b>Total Events</b>	16,507.54
Grants	1,000.00
Interest Earned	70.39
Membership Donations	5,740.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>27,266.63</u>
<b>Expense</b>	
Unison 2010	9,750.38
Grants Expense	1,000.00
Bank Charges	6.75
Dues & Memberships	334.18
Equipment Rental	53.50
Event Expenses	
10th Anniversary	285.18
Shamrock Shaker	280.96
Pride Day	120.00
Halloween Social	3,615.07
Many Gifts	1,687.25
Retreat	865.45
Spring Concert	299.60
<b>Total Event Expenses</b>	<u>7,153.51</u>

## Financial Statements (continued)

### Profit & Loss, pt. 2

<b>Fundraising Campaign</b>	
Raffle expenses	556.80
Fundraising Campaign - Other	50.00
<b>Total Fundraising Campaign</b>	<u>606.80</u>
<b>Honourariums</b>	250.00
<b>Liability Insurance</b>	1,058.08
<b>Marketing</b>	209.45
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	466.67
<b>Professional Fees</b>	
Consulting	247.50
<b>Total Professional Fees</b>	<u>247.50</u>
<b>Program Expense</b>	
Other Program Expenses	162.05
Building Rental	1,000.00
Library Committee	388.77
Membership Committee	54.84
Registration for Festivals	180.00
<b>Total Program Expense</b>	<u>1,785.66</u>
<b>Rehearsal Expenses</b>	528.00
<b>Special Guest Appearances</b>	440.00
<b>Supplies</b>	100.93
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>23,991.41</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>3,275.22</u></u>

## Financial Statements (continued)

**The Rainbow Harmony Project Inc.**  
**Proposed Budget**  
August 2009 through July 2010

	<u>Aug '09 - Jul 10</u>
<b>Income</b>	
Advertising	2,000.00
Campaign Income	3,000.00
<b>Events</b>	
Pride Day	400.00
Camp Aurora Concert	1,000.00
Shamrock Shaker	1,500.00
Halloween Social	4,000.00
Many Gifts	5,500.00
Retreat	900.00
Spring Concert	6,800.00
<b>Total Events</b>	<u>20,100.00</u>
Grants	5,000.00
Interest Earned	75.00
Membership Donations	6,000.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>36,175.00</u>
<b>Expense</b>	
Administration	200.00
Grants Expense	1,000.00
Annual General Meeting	200.00
Bank Charges	50.00
Dues & Memberships	350.00
Equipment Rental	300.00
<b>Event Expenses</b>	
Shamrock Shaker	300.00
Pride Day	400.00
Halloween Social	3,600.00
Many Gifts	1,700.00
Retreat	900.00
Spring Concert	1,000.00
<b>Total Event Expenses</b>	<u>7,900.00</u>
Fundraising Campaign	200.00
GST Expenses	300.00
Honourariums	10,000.00
Liability Insurance	2,000.00
Marketing	500.00
Miscellaneous	150.00
Newsletter/Printing	200.00
<b>Professional Fees</b>	
Accounting	2,000.00
Consulting	200.00
<b>Total Professional Fees</b>	<u>2,200.00</u>

**Financial Statements** *(continued)*

*Proposed Budget, pt. 2*

<b>Program Expense</b>	
Youth Choir	1,000.00
Recording Rights/CD Production	2,500.00
Other Program Expenses	200.00
Building Rental	2,000.00
Library Committee	2,500.00
Membership Committee	75.00
Registration for Festivals	500.00
	<hr/>
<b>Total Program Expense</b>	8,775.00
<b>Rehearsal Expenses</b>	300.00
<b>Special Guest Appearances</b>	500.00
<b>Supplies</b>	50.00
<b>Tours</b>	1,000.00
	<hr/>
<b>Total Expense</b>	36,175.00
	<hr/>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>0.00</b>
	<hr/> <hr/>

## Vice President's Report

*Respectfully submitted by  
Leah McIsaac*

My first year as a Board member has proven to be both challenging and rewarding. The following highlights represent the key initiatives I was involved with during the year, as well as offering some insight into hopes and dreams for the upcoming season. I look forward to continuing to serve the membership in the upcoming season.

### **Projects:**

#### **Recruitment of new Administrative Assistant position.**

Recruitment took the form of defining a job description; contacting organizations and publications to advertise the position; coordination of applications; arranging reference checks and interviews; and hiring successful candidate.

#### **Established Board of Directors and Volunteer job description job bank.**

Through the process of defining the Administrative Assistant job description we expanded the job bank to include a brief description of all board positions and the volunteer positions within each area. This job bank will be maintained annually and can provide a good reference point for potential new volunteers.

#### **Established nominating committee to recruit new board members to fill 3 vacancies.**

In preparation for the Annual General Meeting in June 2009, a nominating committee of 1 board member and 2 choir members was established. The purpose for this committee is to streamline all inquiries about vacancies and possible new board members. The nominating committee was available to address the specific questions of any member or interested party.

#### **Served as the RHP Liaison to UNISON 2010 Planning Committee.**

My role has been largely a communication conduit between the two groups. I have attended the monthly meetings to assist in sharing ideas for the planning of UNISON 2010 to be held May 21-24, 2010.

### **Activities:**

#### **1. Set up account with Volunteer MB website to post volunteer positions.**

The Volunteer MB website helps connect people interested in volunteering with possible volunteer positions. With our United Way affiliation we benefit through the exposure offered from the website, and hopefully can utilize this tool as an effective means of finding volunteers.

#### **2. Applied for volunteer service awards to increase RHP profile in community (Winnipeg).**

Reviewed the collection of volunteer service awards available and applied for two with the intent to increase our profile in Winnipeg. One award focused on Culture and Arts and seemed a good fit with our organization. The other was a more generalized Mayor's Award. Although we were not successful in the applications this year, we did have our organization and brief profile included in the Volunteer Awards Ceremony programme.

## Vice President's Report (*continued*)

### Goals for upcoming season 2009-2010:

**1. Work with Administrative Assistant to provide guidance and training.**

To provide sufficient support and training to this position in terms of tasks to be performed and applications that are available to complete these tasks.

**2. UNISON 2010 Committee Liaison.**

Continue to function as RHP Liaison until completion of UNISON 2010 event.

**3. Apply for Volunteer Service awards in spring 2010 to expand on increasing community profile.**

Expand on community profile through continued application for relevant programs and awards. Consider attending the Awards Ceremony to promote RHP.

**4. Attend Volunteer MB seminars targeting key interest areas benefiting RHP.**

Review regular circulars for workshops and seminars relevant to RHP goals.

**5. Review By-Laws Annually.**

Review to ensure all remain relevant. Propose amendments as required to membership for discussion and ratification at AGM.

## **Secretary's Report**

*Respectfully submitted by  
Kate Tate*

As secretary to the board, I attended board meetings, took minutes and distributed them. I also gathered and stored archive materials collected throughout the season. That's about it. I am willing to continue doing this since it is not too big a time commitment for me.

## Membership Report

*Respectfully submitted by  
Ivan Zimmer*

This year we had 10 new members join Rainbow Harmony Project. We also had 2 former members return for the season. The number of singing members for the fall session was 46, while the number of members for the winter session was 43.

To compare sections, I have broken down the numbers by voice:

	<u>Fall</u>	<u>Spring</u>
Soprano	10	10
Alto	13	12
Tenor	14	12
Bass/ Baritone	9	9

We continued the monthly tradition of celebrating chorus members' birthdays with a birthday cake.

This is a breakdown on money spent providing snack for the choir rehearsals.

Money spent on snacks:	\$580.26
Money donated by choir members	<u>\$622.79</u>
Carry-over	\$ 33.33

This amount will be carried forward for the next season.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who provided the nightly snack for the choir this year. It was greatly appreciated!

Sing out!

## Communications Report

*Respectfully submitted by  
Bev Budiwski*

This, our 10th anniversary season, was an exciting year for communications. In all aspects of communication and promotion, whether email communication with choir members, newsletters, posters for concerts and publicity for fund-raising events, our 10th anniversary was a unifying theme.

### **A brief summary of the season:**

1. Development of 10th anniversary logo for use on website, stationery, and promotional material
2. Production of three newsletters for choir membership
3. Thank you cards for donors
4. Promotion of Many Gifts concert and Spring Concert with ads, news releases, email campaigns, public billboard announcements, posters and handouts
5. Promotion of Halloween Social and Shamrock Shaker social with ads, handouts, posters and email announcements
6. Photography of concerts
7. Ongoing email communication to members

It was also my pleasure to chair the 10th Anniversary Planning Committee, aided by incredible enthusiasm and commitment from committee members Murray Mandzuk, Sandra Bignell, and Vic Hooper. Darrin Jolicoeur and Madeleine Sarasin made vital contributions as well. The committee planned a celebratory post-concert party, and played a key role in organizing the Many Gifts and Spring Concerts, inviting guests Jeff Staflund and Heather Bishop to help celebrate, and inviting alumni to be participate.

It was also my pleasure to chair the 10th Anniversary Planning Committee, aided by incredible enthusiasm and commitment from committee members Murray Mandzuk, Sandra Bignell, and Vic Hooper. Darrin Jolicoeur and Madeleine Sarasin made vital contributions as well. The committee planned a celebratory post-concert party, and played a key role in organizing the Many Gifts and Spring Concerts, inviting guests Jeff Staflund and Heather Bishop to help celebrate, and inviting alumni to be participate.

It takes a team to communicate effectively. I would like to thank Vic Hooper for taking on the job of webmaster, keeping the site fresh and up-to-date and fully functional. Sincere thanks, too, to Scott Carman, (previous webmaster) who took over all media communication, writing press releases and working with Outwords to cover our 10th anniversary. Our new administrative assistant, Aaron Fitchett, has been very helpful as well. A very special thanks goes to Keith Fulton, who not only provided support and encouragement throughout the year, but helped edit and co-create each newsletter, in addition to writing other material for the choir in celebration of our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It has been an honour to serve on the Board for the last three years and work with a group of good people. As I step down, I offer my hearty support to the new Board, and look forward to helping out where I can.

## **Outreach Report**

*Respectfully submitted by  
Keith Louise Fulton*

In 2008-09 the Outreach Director position was shared by two people: Keith Fulton and Melody Chepil. Apart from the first kick off meeting for Pride in the fall (attended by Keith, Vic Hooper and Darrin Jolicoeur), Melody has handled the participation of RHP in Pride 2009. I handled the planning for the contribution of RHP to the service at Churchill Park United on May 3. There my contact person was Arlene Baschak; the minister is Rev. Janet Walker. Their invitation to the RHP developed from hearing us sing at the conference of the United Church in Morden in the spring of 2008.

The slate of activities for the RHP this year was already full, so my contribution to the Board was less in the direct area of Outreach and more in general ways: attending meetings, filling in as secretary a couple of times, writing thank you letters, supporting Bev Budiwski in the editing of the Newsletter, writing a brief history of the RHP, assembling a chronology and list of members over the ten years, and writing the notes of recognition for the program. My writing drew on the work of others (like Bev's newsletters and Sally Papso's collection of archival materials). I realize while doing this research how important it is to chronicle and write the history of our Project as we live it. I am appending these texts to this report for the ongoing records of RHP Board.

Next year the Outreach Coordinator for the RHP Board has the prospect of planning a trip of the choir to Brandon in addition to our participation in Pride. My recommendation is for the new Coordinator to ask the Choir for volunteers to form a small committee as early as possible to coordinate outreach goals with the planning for GALA.

I will not continue as a member of the Board for next year, but I will gladly continue to help carry out the work of the RHP. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve on the Board this year.

## **Outreach Report**

*Respectfully submitted by  
Melody Chepil*

This report will be made available at the AGM.

## Production Director's Report

*Respectfully submitted by  
Sheldon Chartier*

This position has only been filled for the short period of 2 months. In this time I have come to enjoy the rest of the board's enthusiasm and devotion to its common goals.

I have spent the last few weeks getting to know how the board functions, and the board members, in preparation for our upcoming production with Heather Bishop.

I have met with Vic, Don, and Bruce at Westminster to go over sound and staging. Attending 2 rehearsals has helped to lay out plans for riser needs, exits & entrances, sound equipment, and band requirements.

Risers were picked up at Churchill Park Church on May 19th and transported to Westminster for May 20. Set up of risers for that evening and the next day tear down. Risers will be transported back to Churchill Park on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Dress rehearsal preparations are in place for a reset of risers and band for May 28<sup>th</sup>. Sound will be set in and tested for performance. I will bring whatever extra equipment that is required (including the extra steps for access to the stage front).

I have worked closely with Vic before on stage presentation and see this show as another opportunity to get to know the rest of the choir.

I am looking forward to working with the board and singers for all of next years' productions.

## Fundraisers' Report

*Respectfully submitted by*

*Karl Johnson and Manny Calisto*

This year was an interesting challenge since the committee was quite small, consisting of a small group of volunteers who always seemed to be there when we needed them most. We would like to thank Elizabeth and her crew for their assistance at the Halloween social; along with Ivan, Jean, Brad, and so many others that we cannot name them all. You know who you are, and thank you! The Halloween social was fairly well attended, and we did make money at the event - which is great. This event has become a standard of the Halloween season, and RHP is one of the only organizations putting on this type of event. For the upcoming year we need to really promote this event and make it bigger and better than ever. The 2009 Halloween social will be on October 24<sup>th</sup> at the Crescentwood Community Center.

The second social event that was organized this year was the 3rd annual Shamrock Shaker at Gio's (March 21st, 2009). There were some calendar mix-ups as the social was supposed to be on the 14<sup>th</sup>, however Gio's worked hard to correct the problem and to help us with our fundraising endeavours. The event was well attended by the community and proved to benefit both the chorus and Gio's. This still proves to be a great money-making fundraising event that we hope will continue into the future. It's a theme that seems to work well. A good date next year would be March 20<sup>th</sup> and hopefully we can avoid the same scheduling issues that occurred this year (2009).

This year we introduced the Gift Card raffle. Overall it has been a long road to sell raffle tickets while organizing locations/venues that will accommodate our fundraising efforts. We would like to thank the many members who participated in selling and coming out to help sell at the different venues, including Friday night at Gio's. In the future we hope to develop a great fundraising event that will really take off and generate donations that substantially contribute to the many different events that our chorus takes part in. Great helpful ideas are always welcomed in helping with this endeavour.

The chorus also worked with Pink Money this year at Crossroads United Church; performing at the spring supper. This year we did not share the proceeds with any other organization, and members of our choir also volunteered to help with the dinner - thank you very much.

The upcoming season will be monstrous for the choir as we host the Canadian Unison festival. There are also so many opportunities this coming year to do some good fundraising with a great team. This upcoming season we will have our first CD out to the public and that in itself can be used as a great fundraiser. To sum things up we would like to thank you all for the opportunity to serve on the Board of Directors for the last 4 years; and also to serve the chorus.

This year we worked very hard in applying for two grants with the Winnipeg Foundation and the Winnipeg Arts Council. The reason behind applying was to obtain some funding for the production of our first CD (which with luck will be out this fall). We would like to thank everyone who contributed to this application. Without your help it would not have been possible. On May 29<sup>th</sup> we were contacted and informed that we did receive a grant for \$5000 which was very welcoming news before our anniversary concert.