

From Men's Sheds Manitoba

The current board of Men's Sheds Manitoba consists of six members.

Fred Bobrowski	(204) 224-4941	fbobrowski@mts.net
Vic Thiessen	(204) 396-2123	vicjudythiessen@gmail.com
Gerry Regehr	(204) 451-2709	gregehr@mts.net
Colin McNairnay	(204) 841-1629	cdmcnairnay@icloud.com
Roland Street	(204) 867-7102	spannerman150@gmail.com
John Craig	(204) 232-3385	remotes.mb@outlook.com

The next Men's Sheds Manitoba general Zoom meeting is slated for [July 27](#) at 10 a.m. All Shed members are welcome to attend. Shed coordinators are especially encouraged to join us and to share what their Shed is up to.

The board members of MSM have been busy lately talking to people interested in starting a new Shed. We have approximately a dozen contacts that could lead to new Sheds. Three board members met with a group in Grandview. One board member made a trip to meet with fellows from Winnipeg Beach and Gimli. Two of us met with guys from Mitchell and Steinbach. Four of us met with guys from Morden and Winkler. Each of these meetings has the potential to start one or two Sheds.

We've hosted several interesting information tables. The Symposium on Aging helped us meet several interested people, including a good number of social workers who are interested in prescribing Men's Sheds to their clients. The Carvers Show was very busy; we handed out nearly 50 information sheets to potential new members. The meeting at Riverview Health Centre introduced us to a group of men who all seemed interested in going to a meeting.

MSM has developed a Men's Shed start-up package. This includes forms for taking attendance and registering members as well as templates for a constitution and a code of conduct. If you need any of these or any other help in organizing your Shed administration, please contact one of the board members.

Volunteers

I was happy to have several Shed members volunteer to help at the information table at the carvers show. Any other members who could be interested in joining us at an information table or a visit to a prospective new Shed or get involved in any other way, please contact a member of the MSM board or your own Shed coordinator. The six of us have been quite busy and would welcome some help.

ShedFest West

By Ian Mowat

This spring, over 150 members of Men's Sheds from across Canada gathered in Edmonton for the first ever ShedFest West conference. It was great to have been there and to have represented two Sheds from Winnipeg. One of the many takeaways for me was the enthusiasm, energy and experience of all the folks there "in the room" from all across Canada, England and Japan. We even had one of the founders of the Men's Shed movement join us from Australia as well as the federal Minister for Seniors speak to us from Ottawa via Zoom.

The enthusiasm of the men and women at this conference was felt as soon as we walked into the main meeting room. It was exciting to meet so many like-minded people who are passionate about their Sheds and the growth of Men's Sheds Canada to over 200 Sheds across the country.

The energy in the conference came from the many stories told by Sheddors. This is a movement, not just a series of single events, that is having a real impact on individuals and communities across the country. I came away from this with my energy for Sheds renewed, that's for sure!

I was also impressed with the experiences of so many delegates, the provincial boards, and our national office folks. I thought "These guys really know what they're doing. In Manitoba, we don't have to reinvent the wheel! We just need to be willing to learn from each other!" For instance, did you know that we have a professional fund-raiser available to us in the national office?

I was disappointed that we had only seven delegates from Manitoba. However, we are growing fast in the number of Sheddors in the province. I also came away from ShedFest West feeling that our vision is too small! We need to think big and use all of the resources available to us.

Riverview Men's Shed

By Gerry Regehr

The Riverview Men's Shed started meeting in October of 2019. The Covid pandemic closed us down only seven months later but we had established a good core group. Once we were able to meet again in May of 2022, many of the earlier members came back and we're now up to 20 members.

Although we don't have a workshop in the building, we have found ways to do some community projects where we meet including a picnic table for the attached child care facility, some garden beds for the Riverview Health Centre, and several items for the community centre, including the toy box shown below.



We've brought in speakers ranging from totally boring to fascinating. Our favorite was a local fire fighter who came in not as a representative of the fire service but just as a guy who wanted to talk. The discussion was amazing.

Our focus lately has not been on growth as our meeting room, although amazing, with large southern windows, will only handle about 20 people. This summer, the building will be renovated, giving us a larger meeting room. After that, we will do our best to grow our membership.

Robert A. Steen Men's Shed

By Doug Mackie

Currently we have 10 members and two new men came today!

In the past couple of weeks, Samantha White, United Way Manitoba 211 outreach coordinator (swhite@unitedwinnipeg.ca) presented and we learned about this valuable, free province-wide telephone service. That Manitoba 211 has a reference data base that includes all the Men's Sheds Manitoba locations and main contact. Samantha learned why sheds are needed and the benefits about what we "do". She is willing to make additional presentations to the various sheds. Please contact Sam!

On May 5, Chris Laurie, Outreach Librarian, (CLaurie@winnipeg.ca) and another person, came and presented to us the library services offered, mostly online, for the Winnipeg Public Libraries. Did you know the Millennium Library has an extensive "maker space" and facilities on the third floor? Three of our members secured a library membership card! The rest did have a valid card. Please contact Chris and book him for your Shed!

In mid June, we expect to vacate the Robert A Steen Community Centre until mid September. As previously, last year, we shall be meeting, weather permitting, at 1:00 pm at the Wolesely Farmer's Market at Ethelbert and Westminster.

Neepawa Area Men's Shed

By Colin McNairnay

It's been a busy spring in the shed in Neepawa.

We have 12 members and 7 to 9 regulars and we meet [Tuesday](#) and [Thursday](#) mornings from 9 to 11:30.

We typically spend our first hour discussing current local and world events but haven't solved any of them. We then spend the rest of our time in our workshop on community projects. We completed 5 raised garden beds for the daycare, a presentation key for Habitat for Humanity, 6 raised garden beds for the local Prairie Mountain Health's vegetable garden, a book kiosk for the Kiwanis club and we are working on 3 vegetable gardens beds for the Salvation Army. We never seem to run out of projects and have 3 more in the queue including 4 Adirondack chairs and a bench or two. We have made 17 benches for businesses around town and there will be a few more ordered for the summer.

Our shed has remained very stable since our beginning in [November 2019](#) and still retain most of our founding members. We are always open to travelling shedders who happen to wander through Neepawa on their way to Riding Mountain National Park or visiting our campground and have time to stop for a coffee, cookie and a visit.

We are located at 296 Mountain Ave, our Main Street, at the Touchwood's store.





Selkirk Men's Shed

Pictures from John Craig

The Selkirk Men's Shed started in September of 2025 and has a growing membership. Last month we hosted a barbecue for members of our Shed and invited members from all other Sheds.

