



# The Switch Iron



Volume 3 Number 2

March 2009

Transit Heritage News

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**The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association**  
P.O. Box 2388  
Station Main  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Canada R3C 4A6

This newsletter is published four times per year and is distributed free to members.

MTHA Board & Members set the...

## Organizational priorities for 2009

During the last two meetings of the Manitoba Transit Heritage Association, the Board of Directors and members have been busy reviewing and determining the organizational priorities for the upcoming year.

### 1. Finance & Administration

The top priority for the MTHA in 2009 is to continue to secure new sources of funding. Sources for 2009 include donations from the City's Employee-Retiree Charitable Fund and applications to Community Places Program.

### 2. Museum Project

With the Museum Vision document and an application for funding to Winnipeg Foundation now complete, work will continue on securing property for the proposed future home of the MTHA, its vintage collection of buses and various transit related memorabilia.

### 3. Rescue & Restoration Work

The MTHA has outlined the restoration required on buses 28, 214, 565, 953 and 1768, along with on-going maintenance work for buses 107, 111 and 751. The MTHA is also negotiating for the acquisition of a 1958 GM "old look" transit bus and a 1962 GM "new look" suburban bus.

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### Around the Table

From left to right:  
Peter Elwick, John Panting,  
Alex Regiec (Chairman),  
Dennis Cavanagh,  
Steven Stohers, Ross Smith,  
Stephanie Barke, and  
Pat Rogoski.

**Bottom right picture:**  
Peter Elwick, Bob Cooper,  
Ian Moore, Phil Rawliuk,  
Mike Kubas, and David Wyatt.

**Upper right picture:**  
David Wyatt, Jim Mdnnes,  
Phil Rawliuk and  
Doug Belcher.



## Did you know that you can donate through the City of Winnipeg's Employee & Retiree Charitable Fund

Transit employees or retirees: Did you know that you can contribute through the ERCF to the MTHA?

By adding an earmarked donation of \$2-5 biweekly through your ERCF payroll deduction, you'll be helping the MTHA in its efforts to restore and preserve vintage Transit buses.

For further information on how to contribute, please contact Al Brunsel at Fort Rouge Garage or Andris Balodis at North Garage for details.

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association is a non-profit and registered tax charitable organization.

# MTHA Board Meeting

## About Us

### Manitoba Transit Heritage Association Inc.

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association is a non-profit charitable organization whose members volunteer to restore old transit vehicles for historical purposes, and provide the restored transit vehicles for public parades and displays.

The MTHA also collects transit related memorabilia. If you wish to donate vintage items, please contact:

**The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association Inc.**  
P.O. Box 2388  
Station Main  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Canada R3C 4A6

### Executive

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association Inc. executive members are:

Alex Regiec  
President

Dennis Cavanagh  
Vice-President

Guy Fontaine  
Treasurer

David A. Wyatt  
Interim-Treasurer

Ross Smith  
Secretary

### Welcome



The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association Inc. welcomes the following new members:

Linley James  
Winnipeg, Manitoba

## Minutes

### Saturday, February 28th, 2009 at Fort Rouge Garage

Recorded by Ross Smith, MTHA Secretary

### Present:

Ron Alexander, Dennis Cavanagh, Ian Moore, Pat Rogoski, Murray Peneer, Steven Stothers, Stephanie Barke, Bob Cooper, Phil Rawliuk, Mike Kubas, Ross Smith, John panting, Peter Elwick, Mike Kubas, Alex Regiec, and David Wyatt.

### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am..

### Introduction of New Members & Guests

Alex Regiec welcomed new members to the MTHA and introduced Stephanie Barke to the group.

### Review of Minutes

The minutes of the 24th January 2009 meeting were reviewed.

### Correspondence

Alex Regiec indicated that the MTHA had received a letter from the Hon. Eric Robinson, Minister of Culture, heritage, Tourism and Sport asking for nominations of individuals to the Heritage Grants Advisory Council.

### President's Report

The Winnipeg Foundation has sent a confirmation of receipt for our application for a Grant to funding a Museum Feasibility Study. The e-mail indicated that a member from the Foundation's grants team will be in contact with us for further information. It also indicated that our application will be considered by the Foundation's Board of Directors at its May 28th meeting.

### Treasurer's Report

David Wyatt presented the monthly financial statement for the MTHA. David reviewed the statement explaining the revenue expenses, and current balance of \$7,934.20. Ian Moore motioned that the financial statement be adopted as presented. Bob Cooper seconded. Carried.

### Upcoming Activities

Alex Regiec gave an overview of the upcoming activities for the MTHA in 2009, including delivering Food Hampers for the Jewish Child & Family Services on April 5th, Cruz' In Downtown, having bus 111 at Winnipeg Transit's Driver Recruitment booth in Garden City Shopping Centre, and a fan trip to Lockport, Manitoba. There may also be an opportunity for an MTHA bus to be used in a television show production.

### New Business

Ross Smith gave the members an overview of the Manitoba Antique and Classic Car Club and the benefits of the MTHA having a membership in that organization.

Alex Regiec indicated that a 1984 Flyer D901 was donated to the MTHA from Transit and that the transfer of ownership and insurance paperwork had been completed. The acquisition of this coach for our collection represents the first Flyer bus in the MTHA collection.

Alex Regiec also noted that the MTHA will host a few visitors this coming spring. Andrew Gold and Peter McLaughlin of Calgary Transit are stopping in for a tour during the week of April 27th. Also, Steve Paras of Montreal is visiting Winnipeg during the week March 30th. MTHA members will be informed about a fan trip and dinner evening with our guests.

### Other Items

Steven Stothers made a presentation to the members about the work currently being undertaken by Heritage Winnipeg Inc. to restore Streetcar 356.

Steven also brought along and played an interesting video with footage from Winnipeg in the 1940s showing the streetcars operating on Portage Avenue and Main Street.

### Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 pm.



Continued from Page One...

## MTHA sets organizational priorities

### 4. Community Outreach & Activities

The main focus for 2009 will be on displaying the MTHA vintage vehicles at "Show & Shines" or at parades including Cruz' In Downtown, helping out with Heritage Winnipeg's Doors Open and with Winnipeg Transit's Driver recruitments. The MTHA will also conduct a

few fan trips for members and guests.

### 5. Communications

The vibrant new MTHA web site is up and running, and the Switch Iron newsletter publishes 4-5 times per year, keeping members informed Association business and activities.





# From The Photo Album

If you have a photograph of a vintage transit vehicle from anywhere in Manitoba that you would like to share, please send it to the Manitoba Transit Heritage Association Inc. P.O. Box 2388 Winnipeg, Manitoba R



## Hey! Look me over...

...proclaimed the advertisement board on the side of this 1963 General Motors model TDH-5303. This bus, numbered 261 in the fleet, was originally numbered 181 before it was completely rebuilt by Transit Maintenance staff in 1988.

Interestingly, bus 261 holds the record as the section operating the most service hours during the 1999 Pan American Games!

Photographs courtesy of Brian Schuff and Winnipeg Transit

