**Presidents Report: (revised Nov 12, 2020 – LS)**

The start of the fiscal year 2019 -2020 was a positive one. I started my journey as president excited for the new adventure and challenges.

November, we welcomed 2 new directors.

* Kelly McGuire Baker- she comes to us with experience in Corporate Business and Years of experience in the Community Theatre world.
* Sharon Nimmo – Is one of the founders of the Youth Mentoring Program and a scholar in the Theatrical Performance world.

Unfortunately, in February we saw the resignation of Al Dougherty. Al has been associated with community theatre for over 20 years in capacities from crew to stage manager. We thank him for his years of service and dedication to the MTA and Arts in Mississauga.

In March, Lori Smith accepted position as secretary/treasurer. Lori comes to us with management experience and backstage experience in the theatre world.

We changed our bookkeeping to QuickBooks from Sage. Also obtained for this duration a bookkeeper- Lori Robinson. She is active with many organizations in the Arts.

Our team is growing further when Jerzy and Agnes Maj joined in May. Jerzy brings to the board his expertise in information technology and theatre experience. Agnes is an account with many years of experience and willing to take on the role as Treasurer.

Our new members joined Rosemary Brown and our General Manager Joan Crabtree to complete our board. We were set and ready for the season. Little did we know the world as we knew it was about to change.

I am profoundly grateful to all our board members for their passion for the Arts, commitment, and strength as we navigate through this unknown. Joan and Agnes will demonstrate further the Covid effect on MTA

Though we are in uncertain times currently we did manage to accomplish items.

1. **Youth Mentoring Program**
* The successful plan was developed for the students that included rehearsals, interviews, painting, move in and Build on site, crewing, lighting, sound and shows. Each student had the opportunity to experience and investigate their special interests and had a wonderful time.
* We mentored 6 youth in the weeks before COVID.
* We partnered with CCMP to provide the theatre experience.
* The partnership with the Peel Board has been one of trust and respect with constant communication daily. We were incredibly pleased to be accepted as a CO-OP partner.
* The students were a huge help and a joy to work with.
* We covered the cost of clothes, safety shoes, black shoes, food drinks and tickets. Binders and scripts for administration costs.
* The cost of the program was divided between the two organizations in the following way.

CCMP will cover the costs of the Peel Board students.

MTA will cover the costs of the independent students $ 545.91

* My heartfelt thanks to CCMP, the cast and crew of Hunchback for embracing this opportunity.
* My heartfelt thanks to Sharon Nimmo, Anna Maria Catanzaro (? anybody else) for their strength and assistance in this endeavour to engage the future in the amazing world of Theatre.
* Moving forward CCMP will oversee this intitive. We thank CCMP to partnering and continuing the dream. Of course, this program is now on hold.
1. **Broadway Scenic Workshop (Tannery):**
* Rosemary Brown became the liaison between MTA and the 4 Theatre groups.
* Initiated dumpsters placement and removal for each group quick clean up
* Recently upgraded the lighting in the workshop.

March 13th -With the COVID pandemic and Public Health Mandates, the Tannery, Costume Storage and Maja Prentice Theatre were closed.

* Our GM had to cancel, or transfer dates. Joan will inform during her report
* Members of our board participated in the Mayor/Arts and Culture Division Town Hall regarding COVID and the arts.
* Lori and I met with Paul Damaso and the Arts & Culture division in May to communicate our mission and sustainability during these times. Financials will be discussed further with Agnes but at this time we are seeking alternate funding to support our facilities and community.
* Create protocols and mandates to provide a safe and health environment for our members, staff, volunteers, and patrons.
* Networking-
	+ Working with other peer theatre organizations, ex MTM; ActCo to learn and share information.
	+ liaise with booking groups to ensure health and safety prevails.

We continue to monitor the situation. In accordance with the public Health and federal mandates opening at a time when it safe for our patrons, members, staff, and volunteers.

* We are committed to moving forward using informed decision-making processes
* Maintain our sustainability
* We need to continue building our commitment to diversity and inclusion
* We need to communicate the value of Community Theatre to the community