

# Year-in-Review 2007

## What is the Year-in-Review?

The Year-in-Review (YiR) address is a speech drafted by the Speaker delivered yearly at the AGM that outlines for the membership the events of the past year and an analysis of the level of accomplishment of goals set by last year's Premier.

## Why give it?

The YiR is an opportunity for the membership of YPM to see how the organization has attempted to grow and improve during the last year. In quote form... [GS].

## Reflections on 2006 (85<sup>th</sup> Parliament)

Last year's State of the Corporation outlined four themes:

- Youth Outreach
- Personal Development
- Professionalization
- Building Connections

I will show you the slides exactly as they appeared last year and grade our performance for each item

### 1. Youth Outreach

Goal	Remarks
<b>Rural Development</b>	...
Transportation costs	We had no carpool and no subsidies. The only bright spot was Matt Bolley making a personal donation of \$50. Happily, YPM will be matching that, bringing the current travel fund total to \$150.
"Rural Session" in 2007	2007 will see a Spring Session at Brandon University as promised. Preparations are underway! Thanks to the hard work of the Rural Caucus.
<b>Sociological Barriers</b>	...
Socio-economic status	An endowment fund was established this year with the understanding that funds generated would eventually go towards subsidizing underprivileged youth attending YPM's activities. I'd like to see bursaries established soon.
Aboriginal youth	Working with Career Trek, we were able to bring one young lady (Meagan) from Skownan First Nation to the Winter Session. A second girl was not able to make the trip. We did as well as we could have hoped.
Youth with disabilities	Nothing was accomplished on this front this year. I would have like to have at least done an accessibility audit of Winter Session for youths in wheelchairs and with audio and visual impairments. Can we take them or can't we?

## 2. Personal Development

Goal	Remarks
Monthly Seminars	These did not happen at all in the way I had planned. They did end up occurring ... to an extent. I was hoping for guest speakers at universities, etc. We did hold a seminar for the cabinet on Gmail and Word.
Public speaking	Prior to the Winter Session, we held a couple of afternoon seminars with Meagan (the girl from Skownan) where we practiced public speaking, debating and how to speak according to parliamentary procedure. We can use these as frameworks for future such events
Debating	See above.
Parliamentary procedure	See above.
Social Events	2006 social events included: bowling + eats, tobogganing, pre-AGM event, a car wash*, cabinet potluck*, pre-session event. I was hoping for more than 4. 2 were hits, 1 was a dud and 1 was cut short.
Cabinet	...
Retreat	Thanks to funding from the Millennium Foundation and tireless preparation by Katie, we were able to hold a professional retreat at a great location. My only A+.
Committees	The framework has been established for use in the future. They were not used as often or as well as I would have liked. I hope to see them used this year.
Hands-on experience	This occurs to an extent through cabinet's regular duties. I have some ideas that will be passed on to this year's Exec. I would like to see more of Exec's duties done by cabinet as it is good experience and allows Exec to worry about improving the organization, not always running in place.

## 3. Professionalization

Goal	Remarks
Strategic Planning	...
YPM100	The committee did a bang-up job. The report will be used by boards for years to come and is the first solid example of long-term planning (5+ years) that YPM has produced since I've been here.
Goal-setting	A master timeline was created but not enforced well. Everyone involved in the organization needs to get work done according to deadlines or we cause ourselves headaches.
Donations	Donations were up this year, and they came from unlikely sources, which was one of our goals anyway.
Professional communications	We now have an online donation mechanism. Not as much progress was made on printed communications. Someone with time and experience in publishing software needs to sit down and review our materials. And we will.
Diversification	\$5000 was secured from the Millennium Foundation for the History Project and for Cabinet Retreat. A sizeable donation was also received from Deloitte. We have also established an endowment fund that, if looked after, will begin to show large returns (\$1,000+) in 5-10 years.

<b>Standards</b>	My goal was to standardize YPM's documents in terms of writing style, appearance, etc. This has been accomplished to a point, but there is much work still to be done. We did develop a new line of stationery for our letterhead, envelopes and business cards. More "Guide to Style" documents should be published.
<b>Operationalization</b>	Operations manuals for the cabinet are well-written, reviewed, standardized and have useful attachments. What remains is operations documents for the executive and for events and projects that are not necessarily associated with a particular cabinet or executive position. Complete them!

#### 4. Building Connections

Goal	Remarks
<b>Past Members</b>	An attempt to form an Alumni Association by a few former members was unsuccessful. Michael Urban has written an outstanding paper on how to proceed from here that will form the basis of future efforts by YPM to create an Association of Former Members (AFM). Now we just need to put it in place.
<b>Other Youth Parliaments</b>	...
Western Canada	Good relations have been established with all YPs in Western Canada thanks to the 12 <sup>th</sup> WCYP in Regina and YPM's attendance at the SYP Tri-Provincial Mini, held Nov. 2006 in Saskatoon. We have our best relations ever with the PJFM. We received an ambassador from TUXIS. I would have liked more communications between Premiers.
Canada	I attempted to make contact with other YPs in Canada but was met with limited success. I did learn of the existence of two YPs in Atlantic Canada, a second YP in Ontario and a new YP starting up in Nunavut. EA and I will complete a report of them, including how to reach them, etc.
the World	See "Canada" above, but even less success. A budget for long-distance phone calls would greatly help in this area. I believe we should focus on finding YP equivalents in the USA in states bordering Manitoba. Then, we can hold exchanges, which are the basis for strong relationships.
<b>Business Community</b>	We did not make much progress here other than from the companies from which we received donations.
<b>Politicians</b>	We strengthened our bond with the Speaker of the Manitoba Legislative Assembly. Other than that, things held steady. I would like to see new ideas for how we can advance this item beyond where it currently exists, especially outside of Winter Session.
<b>Non-Profit Groups</b>	We have built strong connections with Career Trek, the Millennium Foundation and the AFMMLA. I would like to see this continue and more bonds formed, perhaps with a charitable organization for which YPM would fundraise a modest amount.

#### 4. Questions