

2022 Year-in-Review



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Chairperson of YPM101

Past Chairperson-Elect of YPM102

Executive Summary

The Youth Parliament of Manitoba Inc. (YPM) 2022 fiscal year was a great success. We were happy to have our regular cabinet meetings at the University of Manitoba, where we were hard at work preparing for YPM101 and a return to our in-person programming. We were able to hold an in-person Cabinet Retreat as well, once again at Rock Lake Summer Camp.

After having to postpone our 100th Anniversary Gala in 2021, we were pleased to be able to hold it in May at the Metropolitan Entertainment Centre; marking the end of our successful Capital Campaign. The night was filled with speeches, a live band, and a delicious dinner, all of which served to recognize the remarkable achievements of the organization and its members over the past century.

Most notably, we held our 101st Session at the Legislature this year, marking a return to an in-person annual session. The event was well-attended with a total of 65 members, making attendance on par with typical numbers. Members debated legislation on issues ranging from sex work legalisation to the establishment of a condensed work week.

Our Lieutenant Governor this year was The Honourable Murray Sinclair. Alan Campbell, alumnus and President of the Manitoba and Canada School Board Associations, served as our Honorary President. Geraldine Shingoose served as our Traditional Knowledge Keeper, offering valuable teachings at the beginning and end of Session.

Indeed, we are thankful that 2022 saw us return to form, and we are optimistic that the work of this year will make YPM102 in 2023 even better.

Jacob Harvey, Chairperson of the 101st Youth Parliament of Manitoba

2022 Fiscal Year Financials

See actuals attached at the end of this report.

The 2022 fiscal year ran a deficit of \$6578.37. The primary causes of this deficit was a largely increased cost of accommodations at Kelvin as well as a change in our annual donor base. This year's deficit was unexpected but did not affect our regular operations nor our projections for our future financial state.

One focus of the year was to sell leftover inventory from the previous year, which we were able to successfully do. This allowed us to meet our merchandise revenue goal which, along with a larger number of gifts-in-kind, helped us to have an overall surplus in total Session revenue. Unfortunately, our total Session expenses were much higher than expected due to a doubling in the cost of accommodations at Kelvin. To address this rise in cost, we are looking into new potential accommodations for the upcoming year as well as additional sources of revenue to offset this cost.

Fundraising this year for both our general endowment fund as well as the Garry McLean Scholarship Fund (GMSF) was less successful than expected, due to a change in our donor base. However, this loss was offset by a substantial increase in corporate sponsorship from Perimeter Aviation, who completely sponsored the travel of GMSF recipients from St. Theresa Point to Session. While our endowment fund has continued to grow, providing us a substantive boost in revenue in the coming years, we will continue to grow this fund as well as continue building our corporate partnerships.

With our larger endowment fund, YPM was able to successfully execute its expanded financial aid programs this year and is set to do so in the future. We exceeded our goal for the General Financial Aid program, and met our goals for the Newcomer Scholarship, as well as the GMSF. We will continue to be able to do this while supporting our regular operations from a stable financial base.

Events

In May, we held our Annual General Meeting. Members heard a State of the Corporation address, a Year-in-Review presentation, and a report on the 2021 and 2022 budgets. We also passed amendments to the organization's governing documents.

We also celebrated our 100-year anniversary with a magnificent Gala; which was a testament to the hard work and dedication of the organization's members, past and present, and to the unwavering support of its alumni and the wider community.

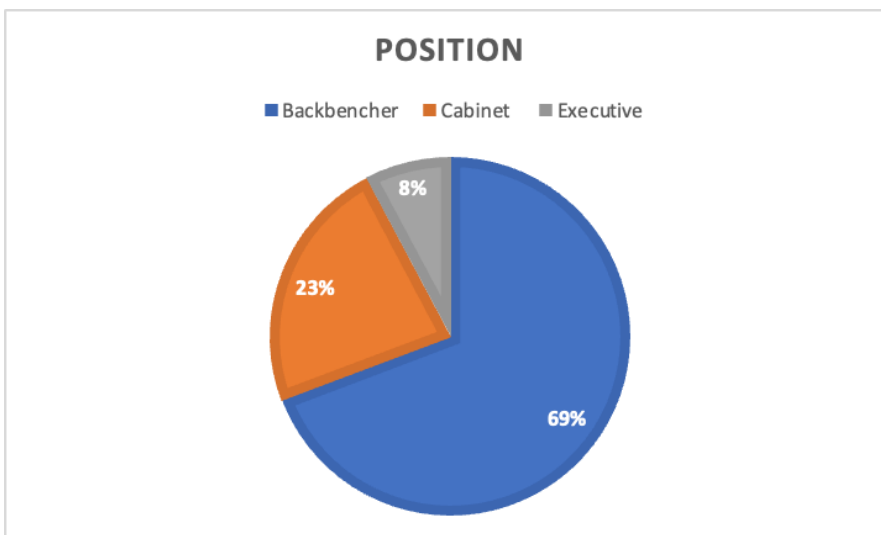
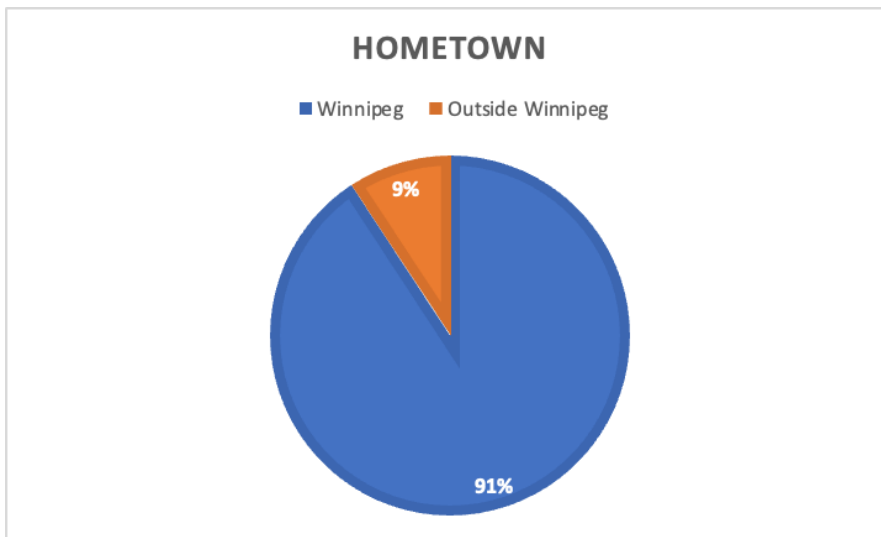
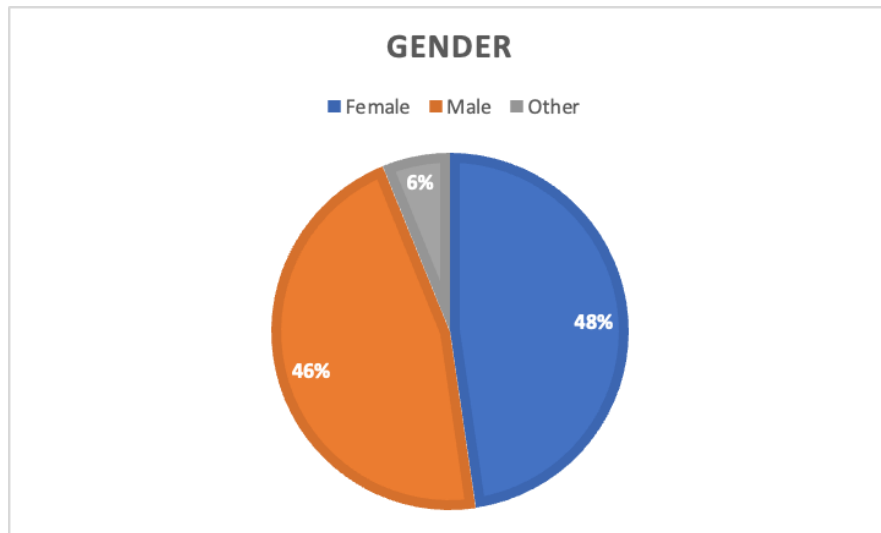
In July, we held an in-person Cabinet Retreat at Rock Lake Camp. Our newly-appointed Cabinet played icebreakers, swam and enjoyed the weather, and made smores at the campfire.

Throughout the year, our Ministry of Internal Affairs hosted regular hang-out sessions after our Cabinet meetings. Some of the events organized include game nights, study sessions, and going out to eat. These informal gatherings were integral to allowing Cabinet members to get to know each other better outside of meetings and connect to the YPM community.

For Cabinet meetings, which took place at the University of Manitoba, we formalized the inclusion of professional development modules, wherein the Executive presented on topics such as time management and writing professional emails. An alum and Cabinet mentor, Andrew Jones, also joined a meeting to present on tips for productivity and succeeding in school.

Finally, our Ministry of External Affairs organized an Indigenous and Immigrant Panel Discussion with panelists Diljeet Brar, Will Goodon, Ivan Nuñez Gamez & Kyra De La Ronde. It was a very engaging & insightful event, where we discussed the experiences, challenges, and opportunities faced by Indigenous peoples and immigrants in Manitoba. Session itself was held from December 26-31, 2022. There were 65 members in attendance. Daytime debate occurred at the Manitoba Legislative Building, evening activities/overnights at Kelvin High School. We were fortunate to receive enthusiastic and insightful contributions from former MLAs and MPs at Bear Pit, where Harold Taylor, Colleen Mayer, Marianne Cerilli and Jerry Storie answered questions from members in attendance and reflected on their time in politics. The Progressive Conservatives, Manitoba Liberals, New Democratic Party, and the Manitoba Metis Federation all hosted luncheons where members had the opportunity to hear from them as well.

Attendee Information



Backbencher Feedback

At the end of Session, we distributed a survey to backbenchers (members not on our organizing committee, most of whom are first-year participants). The response rate was 19/37 (51%). The average is reported on a scale of 1–10 (poor–excellent).

- In general, how did you feel about the 101st Session? **8.5**
 - How did you feel about the quality and variety of legislation debated at Session? **8.1**
 - How did you feel about the moderation and quality of debate at Session (being recognized when you wanted to speak, feeling engaged, hearing thought-provoking ideas)? **8.1**
 - How did you feel about the political party luncheons (PC, NDP, Liberal) and the Q&A period? **8.7**
 - How did you feel about the Bear Pit with former MLAs? **8.6**
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Testimonials

“I felt that the moderation of debate was excellent, I felt that everyone got equal and equitable opportunities to speak. I also felt the quality of debate was really good, **I almost always felt engaged in what people were saying** and I definitely came out of some debates having a completely different opinion on something than my initial one.”

“I was terrified when coming to YPM. Even during the week I felt like everyone must be super into politics and I was worried that my little knowledge would really set me apart from the rest. However, many cabinet and exec members talked about how they also felt this way when starting and their interest in politics grew throughout their years there. I definitely related to this and it put me at ease. **I really enjoyed my time at YPM and am super excited to return!**”

“**I felt like my voice and thoughts were being heard by everyone.** I still have the Page notes sent to me after the speech as a memoir. I feel like inaugural speeches made it easier for everyone to feel like they belonged at YPM.”

“I met a lot of the people and felt comfortable speaking before them all and **I grew to understand it was a safe, understanding environment without judgment or hate.**”

Cabinet Feedback

As with the backbencher survey, we distributed a survey to Cabinet members about their experience on the team. The response rate was 8/16 (50%). The average is reported on a scale of 1–10 (poor–excellent).

- Overall, how much did you enjoy your experience on Cabinet this year? **8.1**
 - How well prepared did you feel to complete your tasks, and how well did you understand the tasks that you needed to complete? **7.3**
 - How comfortable did you feel as being a leader to backbenchers at Session? **8.1**
 - Overall, how cohesive and friendly did Cabinet seem to you this year? **7.3**
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“What did you learn as part of being on Cabinet this year?”

“How to work as part of a team and communication between those members.”

“Especially at session, I learned a lot about, and **developed a lot of my own leadership style**. Being a leader and a role model, but not someone with any level of authority over the backbenchers taught me a lot about how to manage and interact with people, and especially how to teach, train, and introduce people to new, potentially uncomfortable situations safely.”

“Patience...and perseverance.”

“How to ask for help when needed.”