

**MINUTES**  
**SGC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2025**

Regina German Club  
1727 St. John Street, Regina

**PRESENT:**

**Andrea MacLeod**, President

**Ilona Beck**, Secretary

**Daniela Martens**, Treasurer

**Gerald Freyer**, Director

**Theresa Kliem**, Director

**Bruno Koßmann**, Director

**Stephanie Schaefer**, Director

**EXCUSED:**

**Verena Gramiak**, Vice President

**Kendra Koerting**, Director

**STAFF:**

**Gabriele Waidelich-Harrison**, Executive Director

**Josephin Dick**, Office & Program Assistant

**Thomas Kolbach**, Office & Program Assistant

**MEMBER GROUPS:**

**David Weiman**, Melville & District German Heritage Club

**Inken Kessel**, Das Schulhaus – Regina German Language School

**Kathleen Schroeder-Brass**, German Language School Saskatoon

**Katharina Ulbrich**, Saskatchewan Association of Teachers of German (SATG)

**Merv Weiss**, Saskatoon German Heritage Society

**Eckhard Rubrecht**, KG Harmonie

**Annette Clute**, KG Harmonie

**Alvin Knoll**, American Historical Society of Germans From Russia

**Berbel Knoll**, American Historical Society of Germans From Russia

**Shelley Hungness**, SKAT Club Saskatoon & German Canadian Club Concordia

**Gregor Beck**, Volksliederchor Harmonie

**Mackenzie Revet**, Concordia Alpenrose Schuhplattler Verein

**Vicky Maurus**, KulturGarten

**Rosa Gebhardt**, KulturGarten

**Fahim Bardia**, CFCR Radio Saskatoon

**Rodney Gellner**, Mount Olive Lutheran Church

**Barbara Schentag**, Mount Olive Lutheran Church

**Mary Ann Hueser**, Zichydorf Village Association

**Glenn Schwartz**, Zichydorf Village Association

**Jennifer Lindemann**, Austrian Edelweiss Dance Association

**Richard Russell**, Austrian Edelweiss Dance Association

**Denis Pipher**, Austrian Canadian Edelweiss Club  
**Erica Pipher**, Austrian Canadian Edelweiss Club  
**Glenn Pohl**, Regina German Club

**GUESTS:**

**Andreas Denz**  
**Sharon Koßmann**  
**Shayna Connery**, Award Guest  
**Paul Gingras**, SaskCulture Outreach Consultant  
**Anita Jadischke**, Award Winner  
**Michael Oelck**  
**Geeta Patel**  
**Darlene Rubrecht**  
**Celeste Schwartz**

**1. Call to Order**

President Andrea MacLeod called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. and made a land acknowledgement. Andrea welcomed everybody present and extended a special welcome to Paul Gingras. Andrea explained the Motion Voting Procedure.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Andrea asked if delegates accept the agenda as presented.

**MOTION:** To approve the agenda as presented.  
Richard Russell / Glenn Pohl  
**CARRIED**

**3. Approval of Minutes of 2024 Annual General Meeting Minutes**

Andrea asked for approval of the 2024 AGM Minutes.

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes as presented.  
Bruno Koßmann / Ilona Beck  
**CARRIED**

**4. Business Arising**

None

## 5. **President's Report**

Andrea mentioned that the President's Report is printed on page 6 & 7 of the Annual Report 2024/2025. She provided a brief overview and delivered the highlights verbally.

**MOTION:** To approve the President's Report as printed in the Annual Report 2024/2025  
Stephanie Schaefer / Theresa Kliem  
**CARRIED**

## 6. **Treasurer's Report**

Daniela Martens introduced herself and presented the Treasurer's Report which can be found on Page 39 in the Annual Report 2025/2026

She explained how the audit report was prepared by the auditor.

For page 41 (Statement of Financial Position) and 42 (Statement of Operations), the treasurer explained the meaning of restricted and unrestricted funds, and that the auditor asked for the \$11,259 to be transferred from unrestricted into the restricted fund.

The bookkeeping is accurate and precise and there were no issues found during the preparation of the Audit Report.

SGC is grateful for the funding received by SaskCulture.

Unfortunately, this year, SGC did not get funding from the Canadian Government for a Canada Summer Job.

In general, it is difficult to get sponsorships from local companies as the financial environment is not good for a lot of businesses.

Daniela explained the Statement of Operations on page 42 as well as the Statement of Changes in Net Assets.

Page 43 states cash flows, no issues found because of accurate bookkeeping.

Pages 44 to 46 are the Notes to the Financial Statements, explication about financial rules and auditing within Saskatchewan can be found in these notes.

The Earned Revenues detailed on page 47 were reviewed. Organizational Business Expenses have been decreased due to good management. Insurance cost under Office Operation Expenses went up significantly, from \$371 the previous year, to \$922.

Page 48 one can see the decrease of Sponsorship Expenses. As this was expected, budget adjustments have been made through the year.

**MOTION:** To approve the Treasurer's Report and the 2024/2025 Audited Financial Statements as presented.  
Ilona Beck / Vicky Maurus  
**CARRIED**

## **7. Appointment of Auditor for 2025/2026**

Daniela explained that this was the third time that MWC Chartered Professional Accountants prepared the Financial Audit for SGC. The process went very well and was straightforward, due in part to the office's thorough preparation.

**MOTION:** To appoint MWC Chartered Professional Accountants for the 2025/2026 SGC audit.  
Bruno Koßmann / Gregor Beck  
**CARRIED**

Andrea thanked Daniela for her good work.

## **8. Elections**

Theresa explained the process of the elections and that the candidates are presented in the election booklet which can be found in the AGM Folder.

As there are not enough candidates for the different positions, there will be no elections. In this case, positions will be filled by acclamation.

Theresa spoke about the different candidates and went through the biographies presented.

Candidates are: Verena Gramiak for Vice-President  
Ilona Beck for Secretary  
Kendra Koerting for Director  
Stephanie Schaefer for Director

As Verena Gramiak and Kendra Koerting were not present at the AGM, Theresa presented their biographies.

Ilona Beck and Stephanie Schaefer introduced themselves, explaining why they want to stay in their actual positions as Secretary and Director.

### Election of Vice-President

Theresa explained that no one else was running for the position, besides Verena Gramiak. She was declared Vice-President of the SGC by acclamation (2-year position).

### Election of Secretary

Theresa explained that no one else was running for the position, besides Ilona Beck. She was declared Secretary of the SGC by acclamation (2-year position).

### Election of Directors

There are two director positions to be filled on SGC's board.  
2 candidates on the slate to be elected: Kendra Koerting and Stephanie Schaefer  
Each candidate was elected by acclamation for 2-year positions.

Composition of the new Board of Directors

President: Andrea MacLeod  
 Vice President: Verena Gramiak  
 Secretary: Ilona Beck  
 Treasurer: Daniela Martens

Director: Gerald Freyer  
 Director: Theresa Kliem  
 Director: Kendra Koerting  
 Director: Bruno Koßmann  
 Director: Stephanie Schaefer

**9. Other Matters**

Member reports, written reports can be found in the Annual Report 2024/2025

Andrea asked the delegates of the present member group, if they wanted to add anything about their groups which was not mentioned in the Annual Report. There will be a 3-minute limit for each speaker.

**Glenn Pohl, Regina German Club**

Glenn explained that they are trying to raise money as well as trying to get charity status. The club is doing a 50/50 raffle to raise funds. He also asked for people to renew their membership.

**Eckhard Rubrecht, KG Harmonie**

He stated that Sheila did an excellent job at the KG Harmonie. They went to various schools to talk about German aspects. He explained that they organized events like an Evening with St. Nicholas or Kinderfasching for example. Talking about German culture and getting the message out is important.

**Richard Russell, Austrian Edelweiss Dance Association**

Richard explained that presenting German Austrian Culture is important. They have 25 dancers starting at three years of age. They participated at a Maifest in Calgary and will participate next year at the Maifest in Vancouver. He thanked SGC, SaskCulture and SaskLotteries for their ongoing support. They will have several performances through the year for example at the Mosaic Festival, Care Homes...and more.

**Mackenzie Revet, Concordia Alpenrose Schuhplattler Verein**

They had a Maifest presentation, a few bookings here and there. Mackenzie said they appreciate the funding through the years which helps with the hall rental and costumes. They are trying to get new dancers to pass on the tradition.

**Shelley Hungness, Skat Club Saskatoon**

Shelley talked about their 3-days Skat Tournament - 43 people participated at that event. The Skat Club travelled to Red Deer and to Edmonton to play Skat. They are playing in Saskatoon at the Sports on Tab. She thanked SGC and SaskLotteries for the ongoing support.

**Shelley Hungness, German Canadian Club Concordia**

There will be no German Pavilion at the Saskatoon Folkfest this year. The group is partnering with the Nutana Legion for a bigger Oktoberfest on October 10<sup>th</sup> this year. The group wants to organize a bus to Regina for the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Regina German Club.

**Merv Weiss, Saskatoon German Heritage Society**

Merv explained that the Saskatoon German Heritage Society is a fairly new member founded by Reg & Loretta Reiter with the purpose to preserve the history of Germans from Russia in Saskatchewan, which is a large

group and important group.

He thanked the office, Gabi, Josephin and Thomas for their work. Merv asked for people to share their story of immigration.

**Alvin Knoll, American Historical Society of Germans from Russia**

Alvin stated that the last year was really busy, they had guest speakers for presentations. A new speaker will be there on September 6<sup>th</sup>. The group has been very busy as one can see from the report in the Annual Report 2024/2025. They brought their library back to the German Club in Regina. Alvin thanks the SGC for supporting them.

**Kathleen Schroeder-Brass, German Language School Saskatoon**

Kathleen explained that the classes are finished for this school year, she thanked the teachers, and stated that they are looking for new teachers, but it is not an easy task. Online classes are in demand, but it is not so easy to adjust everything for that. The school is trying to tackle the challenge of getting younger students. She thanked the funding partners, thanks to SGC.

**Gregor Beck, Volksliederchor Harmonie**

Gregor said that the Volksliederchor Harmonie has its 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year and that the celebration will take place in September. He mentioned that 6 of their members are present today, and that they have 27 members in total. It is important to have a music repertoire which attracts audiences but also singers. The challenge is to bring in newer, popular songs; it is difficult to make the right choice for everyone. He thanked the SGC for the support.

**Fahim Bardia, Theresa Kliem, CFR Radio Saskatoon**

The German Klangfabrik is broadcast every Sunday from 1:00 to 3:00pm on CFR Radio. They are looking for new presenters / hosts. Theresa Kliem explained that Fahim's German is not his first language, but his third and that he is doing very well on the radio.

**Katharina Ulbrich, Saskatchewan Association of Teachers of German (SATG)**

Katharina said that the SATG is a small organization helping the German Language Schools in Saskatchewan; she hopes that the schools are reaching out to the SATG.

**Inken Kessel – Das Schulhaus – Regina German Language School**

The school has 27 adult students and 17 younger students. They are happy to have found a new, good teacher. She thanked the SGC for the support.

**Andreas Denz, Saskatoon KulturGarten**

They organized the Maifest last year together with the junior & adult dancers in Saskatoon. Andreas thanked the office for the good work, and SaskCulture for their support.

Theresa Kliem organized a 50/50 Raffle for this year's AGM-Treffpunkt and asked to see her after the AGM to purchase tickets.

Andrea explained who is eligible to get a travel subsidy and stated that the subsidy will be \$0.25 per kilometer. It is important to fill out the expense forms which will be handed out later.

The member groups are informed that the membership fees will increase by \$10 starting next year, and that the last increase was 5 years ago. Member groups are asked to encourage their members to get a SGC membership.

Andrea explained the SGC Vision and talked about keeping German culture alive and relevant.

She then presented the SGC Programs & Projects as printed in the Annual Report 2024/2025. Those programs & projects are open to anybody, not only the German speaking community or for people with German roots, but open to everybody.

The importance to find new income sources outside of the SaskCulture funding was pointed out.

She thanks the office for doing an excellent job.

Acknowledgement of SaskCulture and SaskLotteries.

Andrea asked the member groups to send their events to SGC so that they can be promoted.

Also, groups were reminded to hand in the follow-up forms after their events to get the second 50% of the funding.

Ilona explained that the different member groups need to be represented at the SGC Board. She emphasized that the SGC needs new board members, possibly younger ones. So, the groups should look and possibly identify candidates among their members.

Eckhardt asked about becoming a Board Member.

No nominations are accepted from the floor during the AGM, there was a deadline for nominations. Next call for new directors will be next year, and hopefully there will be enough candidates next year to have real elections.

David Weiman asked about Charity. The SGCAF, Saskatchewan German Culture Assistance Fund, is a registered Charity.

Richard Russell said that the Austrian Edelweiss Dancers are invited for Canada Day to the Lieutenant Governor.

**10. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** To adjourn the meeting.  
Inken Kessel  
**CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Submitted by Thomas Kolbach

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrea MacLeod, President