



Science Teachers Association of Manitoba

President's Report 2021

Submitted on January 25, 2022

Greg Johnson

STAM represents science teachers in Manitoba as a special area group. Our mandate is to promote science education in Manitoba, support and recognize science teachers, bring PD opportunities to members, and to support external organizations which work to further science education in the province of Manitoba.

Due to the numerous challenges set by the COVID 19 pandemic STAM has postponed most in person activities for the past two years, but has managed to provide two virtual MTS PD Days, and other virtual PD opportunities. The STAM executive has continued to hold regular board of directors' meetings throughout the duration of the pandemic, however these have been mainly done remotely.

We did not hold an AGM in 2020 due to the uncertainty surrounding COVID 19. Today's AGM will cover STAM activity since our last AGM in October of 2019.

The STAM executive decided to waive membership and conference fees for the 2020 year due to uncertainty surrounding what activities would go forward. STAM facilitated a successful, electronic MTS PD day, free to members, despite varying divisional and uncertain provincial support for the day. I thank the executive members for their hard work in pulling that day together under those circumstances, all of the great presenters who freely shared their time for our benefit, and to all those teachers who attended.

For 2021, the board made an early call to host a virtual conference. EventMobi was employed as our conference platform, and we were able to include 2 excellent keynote speakers, along with lots of great PD sessions. It turned out to be one of our best attended conferences in a while. I again thank the STAM board, our conference planner Heidi, the awesome presenters, and all the teachers who attended for making that day a great success.

The STAM website has migrated to a new URL. It is now found at www.sciencemanitoba.ca. The website is maintained by volunteers, and we are always looking for help with making it better and more helpful to STAM members. If you have web skills and are looking for a project, please contact STAM and let us know.

The STAM board is looking for new members and if interested we encourage science teachers to attend a board meeting to find out what it is all about.

Several years ago, MTS asked SAGE groups to revisit and re-write our constitutions. This has been accomplished and the rewritten constitution has been available for viewing on our website for several years. The main changes in the constitution are a slight change to the executive offices, and term limits for the president. Other changes are merely formalities and put the STAM constitution in line with MTS Guidelines. Our membership must vote these in, and this will be accomplished following today's meeting via electionbuddy. An email from election buddy will come to each current STAM member to vote on ratifying the constitution and moving forward with a revamped executive. New official positions will filled in at the next AGM, assuming the amended constitution is adopted.

Our goals moving forward are as follows:

- 1) Encourage more members to become active in the STAM Executive;
- 2) Look for professional development opportunities to bring to teachers
- 3) Look for opportunities to bring science teachers together.
- 4) Continue to provide excellent MTS PD Day programming.

STAM is currently looking toward the future. We encourage all science teachers to join STAM and bring their talents to our group. The STAM executive is made up of volunteers and its continued relevance and future success depends on finding new enthusiastic people to join and help us better serve our membership. If there is something you think you can help with, please let us know and join us on our next meeting.

We have continued to operate the association in a fiscally responsible manner, and STAM is currently financially stable, and well positioned for the future.

I humbly submit this report for the record.

Greg Johnson - President