

# TARTAN PRESS

The Official Newsletter of the Manitoba Highland Dancer's Association

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## Manitoba Representatives 2019

We would like to congratulate all dancers who participated in the MHDA Open Competition and Provincial Selection Meet on May 6, 2019 and wish those who were chosen as representatives for Manitoba the best of luck as they will be competing for Manitoba in the closed Canadian Championships at the ScotDance Canada Championship Series in Moncton, New Brunswick on July 5, 2019.



### Premier 7 & Under 10 Years

Cora Lamb , Olivia Ross

### Premier 10 & Under 12 Years

Ainsley Lamb, Emilie McLean,  
Sydney Stibbard

### Premier 12 & Under 14 Years

Mya Pilat, Alexis Iles , Céleste  
Roy

### Premier 14 & Under 16 Years

Laura Unruh, Norah Eldridge,  
Deanna Carlyle

### Premier 16 & Under 18 Years

Madelaine Baigrie, Lauren  
Horvath , Gillian  
Mitchell-Lawson

### Premier 18 & Under 21 Years

Allison Unruh, Emily McIntosh,  
Kennedy Molloy

### Premier 21 Years & Over

Jennifer Watt, Lauren  
McCombe, Rachel UnRuh

## Canadians'

What a great night of fun, dancing, eating, drinking, buying tickets and winning prizes!

We had a great turn out and thank you to all those dancers (who are heading to Moncton, NB in July) for their participation. A special thanks for door prize contributions:

- Aaltos, Canad Inns
- Unique Ireland
- A Hint of Heather

### And Silent Auction Donors:

- Colleen Fraser
- Sputnik Architecture
- Heather's Pretty Parties
- Winnipeg Home Connections - Norwex Consultant, Melissa
- Miller's Meats
- The Roy Family
- The Shiells Family
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- EMK Clothing
- Mrs. Mackie's Arts & Crafts
- Dorreen Ross
- Murray Ross
- Cathy Laver-Wright
- G&B Portable Fabric Buildings
- St. James Massage



- Beauti Control - Lorraine Lamb
- wabi sabi design
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- The Bridges Golf Club
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- Blue Bomber Club
- Assiniboine Credit Union
- The McCombe Clan
- Goodwealth Financial

A special mention and thank you to Stewarts Trophies & Engraving for their generous donation towards our event. A final thank you to our venue, Cowboys, Canad Inns Windsor Park for providing us with an excellent place to hold our event and making things so easy to put on this successful fundraiser. The best of luck to all dancers travelling to SDCCS2019, you have worked hard and thank you for representing Manitoba so well this year!

## MHDA Wine Raffle 2019

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Wine Raffle Fundraiser. We had a very successful year with almost \$7000 in ticket sales (we surpassed last year's ticket sales total!). The efforts of our membership to donate wine as well as get out and sell the tickets is very appreciated. A special shout out to the Canadian Tire in Selkirk and the CO-OP Grocery (Southdale) for providing the MHDA with some opportunities to set up a table and sell even more tickets. These businesses along with the dancers (and families) who volunteered to sell tickets made the difference in surpassing last year's total so you made the difference literally in dollars towards our association. It was great to get out into the community to talk with people about Highland dancing! Lastly, we thank Banville & Jones Wine Co. for their easy on-line wine donation selection and putting together the winning wine baskets. They really were spectacular!

A list of this year's winners: **1st Prize** - Brent Kaneski  
**2nd Prize** - Sarah Weekes **3rd Prize** - Marg Weiss  
**4th Prize** - Gale Walker **5th Prize** - N. Wilson

**Banville & Jones**  
 WINE CO.

**Sells highland ghillies!**

1 of 1

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## MHDA Available for Performances!

Do you know of or are you involved with a daycare, preschool, or kids program that would like to have MHDA perform traditional highland dancing?



MHDA dancers pictured above performing at the Transcona Highland Gathering on September 22, 2018.

Contact the MHDA at [danceouts@mbhighlanddance.com](mailto:danceouts@mbhighlanddance.com) and we can arrange a danceout free of charge for your daycare, preschool or kids program!

## Thank you to our sponsors

Thank you to the companies below for providing sponsorship to the MHDA for the 2018/19 dance season!

MacDon Industries:

**MacDon** The Harvesting Specialists.

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**VAN HOUTTE**  
COFFEE SERVICES

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Gentlemen's  
Club

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## Our SDCCS 2004/2016 Scholarship Winners

This year, the scholarship committee had 10 Premier applications and 4 Pre-Premier high-quality applications to consider. There were years of dance experience, many proud achievements and good participation in our local competitions consistent to all the applications. There were 4 applications that stood out from the rest, and as a result, the committee decided to declare a tie in both Premier and Pre-Premier. Instead of the usual \$500 each for Premier and Pre-Premier, all four dancers received \$300 to help them travel to Moncton for SDCCS2019. Congratulations to Primary dancer



Natasha Roy and Intermediate dancer Thea Conley on sharing the Pre-Premier Scholarship. As well, congratulations to Jasper Bain and Tessa Laver-Wright for sharing the Premier Scholarship. Here are some highlights from each of their applications:

**Natasha Roy (R) & Thea Conley (L)** Over the past 2 years, Natasha Roy participated in every MHDA competition, plus a number of out of town competitions. She has danced at several MHDA dance-outs, did a whopping 22 dance-outs with her dance school AND performed at both the Pavilion of Scotland and UK Pavilions both years! Her mother, Gayle, is a long-time member of the MHDA Board of Directors, plus had key coordinator roles for both SDCCS 2016 here in Winnipeg and SDCCS 2017 in PEI. Her grandparents and father can also be found volunteering at competitions, Folklorama and the Tartan Tea. Because of Natasha's young age, writing an essay was a bit challenging. Her mom opted to share an interview she did with Natasha. Here are some excerpts:

**What do you like about dance? And Why?** Because I can go on trips on airplanes to Scotland and Vancouver and I get to dance next to my friends on stage and we get medals. I also like to wear neat costumes and I like to dance on stage in front of lots of people because it makes them happy and they clap for us. **Why is dance important to you?** Because my

mum, when she was 5 or 10 years old, she danced so I want to dance to. My sister dances but now she is hurt so I'm sad that she doesn't dance. When she gets better, I want to dance with her. One day I want to compete next to my sister on stage. **Why would you like to win this (Scholarship) award?** Because I only get medals in Primary and we don't get trophies yet and I want to get a Trophy like my sister. My mum said if I win then I can get my name on the same plaque as my sister. **How do you think dance has changed your life?** It has changed my life because I'm a real dancer and I get to perform in front of people. And I like making friends and having my dance friends meet my school friends. Being on a stage is fun. Also, my heart believes that if you love dancing then you are a real dancer.

Thea Conley has also fully participated in all MHDA competitions. She, too, danced with both MHDA and her dance school for a total of 20 performances. She has made a number of presentations at her school through projects and performances to showcase her love and involvement in Highland Dancing. Thea wrote a heart-warming essay called "Why I Love Highland Dancing!" She talked about how it has made her physically stronger, helping her in other sports like track and field, hockey and baseball. She shared learning about the importance of practicing, setting goals and trying her best. Thea expressed how Highland Dancing has helped her connect to her ancestors and Scottish culture. She proudly represents her mom's family by wearing the Fraser tartan. Thea wrote about all the friendships she has



made through lessons and competitions and how much fun she has. She credits and thanks her dance teacher for helping her to get so far in highland dancing and reach her goals. And, she closes with "The reason I should win this scholarship is because I love to dance so so so so so so so so so so much and I always work my butt off!!!"

**Tessa Laver-Wright (R) & Jasper Bain (L), see next page for excerpts from their applications.**

Tessa Laver-Wright demonstrated her dedication to the Highland Dance community in many ways. She has also participated in all the local competitions, plus some out of town. Her list of dance-outs is extensive and includes MHDA, her dance school, joining other dance schools, personal community outreach, the Pavilion of Scotland, and she recently added Ena Sutton to her list. She has been the co-recipient of the PrePremier dance-out award 2 years in a row. She participates in numerous other community outreach events, such as the St Andrew's Kilt Skate, ALS Volunteer dinner, and demonstrating simple Highland movements at the St Andrews Rectory. Tessa was invited and attended the 2018 SDTA Conference. Not only is Tessa's mom, Cathy, a dedicated volunteer on several committees, they can both be found selling Wine Raffle tickets in the community, helping out at the Pavilion of Scotland, selling cupcakes or assisting with set-up and clean-up at many MHDA events. Here are some quotes from Tessa's essay:

"Highland dancing means the world to me! I would do anything to be the best highland dancer I can be because highland dance has gotten me through a lot. For example, I was bullied at school one year but I always had my dance friends. I met most of my Highland dance friends when I was 4 and first started taking dance lessons and I am still friends with all of them today. In March 2016, I had a cracked growth plate in my ankle, I was practicing the sword and rolled on my ankle and ended up in a cast for 5 weeks, then a walking boot for 3 weeks then I had to do physiotherapy in order to get the injured ankle strong again. My goal was to dance at Canadians in Winnipeg which I was able to do that year." She goes on to share how dedicated she is to dance, always practicing, being on time and doing her best. Tessa talks of how much she appreciates her opportunities to travel and experience new things thanks to Highland Dancing. She concludes with this story of determination, "I had to learn the 4-step Tribute to JL McKenzie for the conference in October, so I decided to learn another 2 steps so I could participate in the annual ScotDance Canada JL McKenzie Scholarship. My teacher had a practice event where I was to do the 6-step tribute. I got through the first step and then then my mind went blank and I forgot the rest of my steps, I bowed and left the stage. I had a week before I had to perform it at the competition so I practiced the tribute

everyday and I was extremely scared to do it in front of judges and everyone but gave it my best shot and I was so happy when I got the judges signature. I learned that even if you sometimes don't get it right, you can work hard and get it right the next time."

Finally, Jasper Bain had an impressive list of 28 dance-outs that included MHDA, personal community outreach, her dance school and Ena Sutton, plus dancing 3 shows per night, every night as part of the Pavilion of Scotland Main Stage Show. Jasper is an avid baker and she personally bakes her family's contributions to the Tartan Tea and cupcake table every year. Her mother, Bonnie, has been Treasurer for MHDA for a number of years, as well as Treasurer for SDCCS2016. Jasper's eloquent essay describes how "Highland dancing is something that has become part of me, and my identity. Most people that know me know I highland dance, it's something that makes me unique. When they see me dance or see my kilt for the first time and say "wow, that's amazing" it makes me feel so proud of what I do. Being around people that highland dance so much, it can begin to seem normal, and not anything amazing. It's important for the dancer to realize though that what they do is actually really cool, even though they may have to take a step back for a minute to see it. To us Winnipeggers snow really seems quite boring, and the opposite of something cool, because we see it for most of the year. But for someone who has never seen it, seeing snow for the first time is a magical experience. After having taken a step back myself I've realized how important Highland Dancing is to me and what it's done for my life." She goes on to share how it has helped her connect to her family and their history. She also described her fellow dancers as an extension of her family, and all her extra "dance moms". Jasper concluded by sharing the lessons she's learned on sportsmanship, support, collaboration, "learning to go with the flow, and learning that it's okay to make mistakes."

**Congratulations again to these four deserving recipients. And, thank you to all our applicants. If you were not one of this year's recipients, please apply again next year.**

*Submitted by Lisa Omand*

## Local Artist refurbishes the Dundee Shield

Each June, the Dundee Shield is awarded to the MHDA Premier dancer who achieves the highest aggregate point totals for the two days of dancing. This year, the dancing involves both the MidCanada Championships and the Lord Selkirk Premierships.

The Dundee Shield was presented to the MHDA by the The Corporation of Dundee, from Scotland, in the late 1960's. Past recipients include local teachers Donna Cram and Gaelyn McGregor and one of this year's judges, Cheryl Rafter. In fact, in 1972, Donna, Gaelyn and Cheryl shared the Shield with dancer Glenda Bergner.

In recent years, the Shield sustained some heat damage causing the image of the Corporation of Dundee's Coat of Arms, the centrepiece of the award, to melt. Last year's recipient of the Shield, Madelaine Baigrie and her family arranged for local artist Michael Joyal to restore the detail to the melted imagery. Here are the before and after photos:



Before picture above  
After picture to the right



## Out of Town Results - Toronto

### ECHDA Open Championship. Saturday May 11, 2019

#### Premier 14 & under 16

Laura Unruh - Sword - 4th, ST - 3rd, Reel - 2nd, **Overall 3rd Runner Up**

#### Premier 18 & over

Jennifer Watt - Fling - 4th, Sword - 3rd, ST - 4th, Reel - 4th, **Overall 2nd Runner Up**

### Gladys Allen 6th Memorial Premiership. Sunday May 12, 2019

#### Premier 14 & under 16

Laura Unruh - Johnny - 4th, Lilt - 4th, BB - 5th, Hornpipe - 2nd, **Overall 2nd Runner Up**

#### Premier 18 & over

Jennifer Watt - Johnny - 5th, Lilt - 4th, BB - 6th, Hornpipe - 2nd, **Overall 3rd Runner Up**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**June 8, 2019** - Manitoba Open Competition and Mid Canada Championship -pre-premier dancers register at 9 a.m., dance at 9:30 a.m. Premier dancers register at 12 noon, dance following morning results.

**June 9, 2019** - Manitoba Open Competition and Lord Selkirk Premiership. Premier dancers register at 9 a.m., dance at 9:30 a.m. Pre-premier dancers register at 12:30 p.m., dance following morning results.

**June 19, 2019** - MHDA dancers are invited to perform at the Red River Ex at 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Please email [danceouts@mbhighlanddance.com](mailto:danceouts@mbhighlanddance.com) to indicate dancer interest and indicate your dancers' level and dances they can perform. We will have parking and entrance passes for dancers and one accompanying adult.

**June 22 & 23, 2019** - The Manitoba Highland Gathering is scheduled for this weekend in Selkirk, MB. Registration for the dance competition on June 22 is now open and will close on June 12. More info at [manitobahighlandgathering.org](http://manitobahighlandgathering.org)

**July 3 to 7, 2019** - The ScotDance Canada Championship Series (SDCCS) takes place in Moncton, NB. Many Manitoba dancers will travel to represent our province at the Canadian Champions, and others will compete in the regular competitions. Find more information at [www.sdccs.ca](http://www.sdccs.ca).

**August 11 to 17, 2019** - The Pavilion of Scotland will be taking place during the second week of Folklorama this year at a brand new venue! The pavilion is moving to the St Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church located at 2255 Grant Avenue. The new venue has air conditioning, more parking and a built in stage. MHDA members, more information about how to perform at the pavilion will be coming soon.





*Ceud Mille Failte (100 000 welcomes)*

**Saturday, June 22, 2019: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm**  
**Sunday, June 23, 2019: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm**  
**ANAVET Pancake Breakfast until 11 am**  
**Legacy Park, Recreation Centre East Selkirk, MB**  
**HWY 59 at PR 212 (Kittson RD)**

Daily Tickets: Adults \$15 Children (5-12yrs)/Seniors (65+) \$10

Weekend passes: Adults \$28 Children (5-12yrs)/Seniors (65+) \$18

**RAIN or SHINE (rain venue on site: arena) Bring a chair!**

**www.manitobahighlandgathering.org**

On site free shuttle compliments of \* Lawson's \* Selkirk Chrysler \* Steeltown Ford



\*D\* Division RCMP Pipes & Drums of Manitoba, Pipe Major Ryan Cadotte



Pipe and Drum Competition sponsored by Harvester Outdoors

Highland Dance Competition

Scottish Market

Opening Parade and Ceremony 11 am

Red Lion Scottish Food Booth

Live Entertainment

Kids in Kilts

Scottish Country Dancing

and much more!

Sheep shearing and stock dog demonstrations

Wee Folk Activities

Wee Folk Heavy Games

Clan Tents



House Band - Prairie Thistle, Drum Major Ken Booth, PCY



Heavy Games Competition

28<sup>th</sup> Annual MB Canoe & Kayak Marathon Championships

Sons of Lugh

600-950 A.D. Viking Living History

Barony of Castel Rouge

Medieval Live Enactment

The Jacobite Period

1745-47 (Outlander)

MB Living History Society

1812-50

Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders

Valour HEMA Academy Manitoba

Broadsword Academy Manitoba

Winnipeg Knightly Arts



This year Clan Sinclair Members from around the world will arrive in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of Clan Sinclair Association of Canada. Clan Sinclair will be attending the 53<sup>rd</sup> Manitoba Highland Gathering on June 22, 2019 where The Right Honourable Malcolm Ian Sinclair P.C., 20<sup>th</sup> Earl of Caithness and Hereditary Chieftain of Clan Sinclair will be our honorary Chieftain and open the Gathering.



## MHDA Winter High Aggregate Winners



Olivia Yarnell, Beginner



Olivia Ross, Novice



Alexis Iles, Intermediate



Jennifer Watt, Premier

## Queen City Competition - May 18, 2019

### Primary 6

Karys Douglas – 4th – Fling, 3rd – Sword, 2nd – Pas de Basques, 5th – PDB & high cuts  
Lucy Granove – 4th – PDB & high cuts  
Natasha Roy – 3rd – Fling, 4th – Pas de Basques, 6th – PDB & high cuts



### Beginner 7

Honora Coutu – participation  
Taryn Moisey – 4th – Lilt

### Novice 10 & under

Kalli Chapman – 6th – Fling, 2nd – ST, 4th – Flora, 2nd – Lilt  
Allyson Stubbe – 4th – Fling, 5th –

Sword, 6th – ST, 3rd – Lilt  
Morgan Weiss – 2nd – Fling, 1st – Sword, 1st – ST, 1st – Lilt, **Overall Winner**  
Payton Young – 4th – Lilt

### Novice 11 & over

Kaitlyn Coutu – 4th – Sword

### Intermediate

Ainsley Bosak – participation  
Thea Conley – 1st – Fling, 2nd – Sword, 6th – ST, 6th – Johnny

## Queen City Championship - May 18, 2019

### Premier 7 & under 10

Olivia Ross – 4th – Fling, 1st – 3rd – ST, 3rd – Reel, **Overall 1st Runner Up**



## Out of Town Results - MHDA dancers take the stage at Saskatchewan Highland Games - Day 1

### Premier 10 & under 12

Emilie Mclean – 6th – Reel  
Rielle McLeod – participation  
Joslyn Moisey – participation  
Abby Sigurdson – participation  
Sydney Stibbard – 6th – Fling

### Premier 12 & under 14

Juleah Chabih – 5th – ST, 5th – Reel, **Overall 5th Runner Up**  
Tessa Laver-Wright – participation  
Mya Pilat – 5th – Fling, 3rd – Sword, 6th – ST, 6th – Reel, **Overall 4th Runner Up**  
Céleste Roy – participation  
Presley Webb – participation

### Premier 14 & under 16

Alexandra Finnbogason – 5th – Fling  
Connor McIntosh – participation  
Laura Unruh – 2nd – Fling, 2nd – Sword, 2nd – ST, 2nd – Reel, **Overall 1st Runner Up**

### Premier 16 & under 18

Madelaine Baigrie – 1st – Fling, 1st – Sword, 1st – ST, 1st – Reel, **Overall Champion**  
Camryn Watson – 2nd – Fling, 5th – Sword, 4th – Reel, **Overall 4th Runner Up**

### Premier 18 & over

Kennedy Molloy – participation  
Terry Shiells – 5th – Fling, 4th – Sword, **Overall 5th Runner Up**  
Rachel Unruh – 3rd – Fling, 4th – ST, 4th – Reel, **Overall 3rd Runner Up**  
Jennifer Watt – 2nd – Fling, 1st – Sword, 1st – ST, 1st – Reel, **Overall Champion**

## Photos from May competition now available to download

Here is a link to the photos taken by Noelle Wood at the Provincial Selection Meet:

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmDVFRaJ> . These are for personal download and sharing of your own dancers, not of other dancers. You ought not post or share photos of other dancers without their explicit permission. A big thank you to Noelle for her work with these photos!



## Out of Town Results - MHDA at Saskatchewan Highland Games - Day 2 9

### Prairie Valley Competition - May 19, 2019

#### **Primary 6**

Karys Douglas – Sword – 2nd, Pas de basques – 2nd, PDB & high cuts – 2nd  
Lucy Granove -Fling - 5th  
Natasha Roy – Fling – 2nd, Pas de basques – 3rd, PDB & high cuts – 6th

#### **Beginner 7**

Honora Coutu - participation

#### **Novice 10 & under**

Kalli Chapman – 1st – Sword, 2nd – ST, 2nd – Flora, 1st - Lilt  
Allyson Stubbe – 5th – Sword, 5th – ST, 4th - Lilt  
Morgan Weiss – 2nd – Fling, 3rd – Sword, 1st – ST, 1st – Flora, 2nd - Lilt **Overall Winner**  
Payton Young – 3rd - ST

#### **Novice 11 & over**

Kaitlyn Coutu – 1st – Sword, 5th – Flora, 3rd – Lilt

#### **Intermediate**

Ainsley Bosak – participation  
Thea Conley – 2nd – Fling, 3rd – Sword, 5th – ST, 3rd - Flora

### Prairie Valley Premiership – May 19, 2019

#### **Premier 7 & under 11**

Olivia Ross – 5th – Blue Bonnets

#### **Premier 11**

Emilie Mclean – 6th – Johnny, 6th – Lilt, 4th – Blue Bonnets, 5th – Hornpipe, **Overall 3rd Runner Up**  
Rielle McLeod – 4th - Lilt  
Joslyn Moisey – participation  
Abby Sigurdson – participation  
Sydney Stibbard – participation



#### **Premier 12 & under 14**

Mya Pilat – 5th – Lilt, 6th – Blue Bonnets, 4th - Hornpipe, **Overall 4th Runner Up**  
Tessa Laver-Wright – participation  
Céleste Roy – 6th – Johnny, 4th – Lilt, 3rd – Blue Bonnets, 5th – Hornpipe, **Overall 3rd**

#### **Runner Up**

Presley Webb – 6th – Hornpipe  
Juleah Chabih – 4th - Johnny

#### **Premier 14 & under 16**

Alexandra Finnbogason – 6th - Lilt  
Laura Unruh – 1st – Johnny, 1st – Lilt, 1st – Blue Bonnets, 1st - Hornpipe, **Overall Premiership Winner**



#### **Premier 16 & over**

Madelaine Baigrie – 3rd – Johnny, 4th – Lilt, 5th – Blue Bonnets, 4th – Hornpipe, **Overall 4th Runner Up**  
Kennedy Molloy – participation  
Terryn Shiells – 5th – Hornpipe  
Rachel Unruh – 5th – Johnny, 3rd – Lilt, 3rd – Blue Bonnets, 5th – Hornpipe, **Overall 2nd Runner Up**  
Camryn Watson – participation  
Jennifer Watt – 1st – Johnny, 2nd – Lilt, 2nd – Blue Bonnets, 1st - Hornpipe, **Overall Premiership Winner**

## Congratulations Dr. Lauren McCombe, BSc, DMD!

### *Submitted by Janet McCombe*

Lauren has been a student of the University of Manitoba for the past eight years. She received her Bachelor of Science in 2015 and in May of 2019, graduated with her Doctor of Dental Medicine. Although it was challenging, with very long workdays, she believes she has obtained a skill that can help many people improve their health and confidence in their smile. Lauren was one of 33 students who graduated this year and thanks to the small class size, developed life long friendships with amazing people. Lauren is proud that even though her school schedule was so demanding, she continued participating in Highland Dance as much as she could. She is very appreciative of all the love and support she has received from her dance family. She hopes that young dancers will continue doing what they love, no matter how busy their life may seem.

