

President Report 2022

It has been my great honour to serve as your President for 2022. This is a role I enjoy more, each time I manage to be reelected to it. I want to thank the current and outgoing members of the Board of Directors for all their hard work.

As another Covid-affected year is ending for Muskoka Pride, we are gearing up for the early events of 2023. We were able to hold some face-to-face events, with minimal precautions in 2022 and hope for further reductions in mandatory precautions for 2023.

We were excited to be able to return to Memorial Park for a parade and picnic, however the weather prevented it. We added a couple of new events to our repertoire. Our cosponsored event with Huntsville Theatre Company in Huntsville (disco night) was a great success, as was the Six Mile Lake Pride Boat Parade in Georgian Bay Township. Muskoka Bay Resort in Gravenhurst hosted our first pool party. The pool was rocking on a warm Saturday afternoon.

Once again, we covered a gate at the Cranberry Festival in Bala. This has become an annual obligation we take on for which we receive a generous contribution for the effort. Our first event of the year the Muskoka Queer Film Festival (MQFF) benefits from these funds. There were a couple of "R" rated films not shown at the MQFF. These films were previewed at our first MQFF After dark, during the Pride Festival season. If there are films submitted that are not the best fit for the spring MQFF, we will keep this event in mind for subsequent years.

We were pleased to have been invited to have a booth at the Minden Pride Festival. This kind of visibility is a great networking opportunity, and a way to maintain our connection to other rural pride organizations.

Check out our web site to review the events held in 2022, and feel free to offer suggestions for 2023. Consider putting your name forward as a volunteer, we depend on you.

Merv Taylor-Morin

President, Muskoka Pride.