# Table of Contents

President Officer’s Report ................................................................. 1
Vice President Officer’s Report .......................................................... 2
Treasurer Officer’s Report ................................................................. 3
Secretary Officer’s Report ................................................................. 4
  Introduction......................................................................................... 4
  Membership Report........................................................................... 4
  Changes to Membership Management.............................................. 4
  Measuring our Performance............................................................ 5
President Officer’s Report

Ruth Wood
President (Volunteer), Kingston Pride Inc. 2019-2020

The Scottish poet Robert Burns penned the lines “The best laid schemes o’ mice an men gang aft agley”. Our best laid plans often do not turn out the way we imagined they would. I suspect there isn’t a person in the world who did not have at least some plans turned upside down in the past eight months. It was certainly the case for your Kingston Pride Board.

In the fall after the last AGM we discussed ways we could make the Pride Week and especially the Pride Parade and Fair more welcoming to the entire 2SLGBTQ+ community. We developed registration forms that asked all registrants to declare that they or their organization “agree with and support the aims and goals of Kingston Pride Inc.” In an effort to build on our relationship with the Kingston Police Force and the Canadian Armed Forces we prepared for discussions about uniformed parade participants. Both of those initiatives had to be put on hold as not pertinent for the 2020 virtual events. The work is not lost however. It will be introduced again for the 2021 events. We opened discussions with two organizations to provide educational sessions to raise the Board’s awareness of Indigenous culture. That too had to be put on hold when Covid 19 struck and in person sessions were no longer possible.

Despite our disappointment about all of the things that did not happen we are excited about the things that did. We had positive feedback on the Virtual Pride events that we and others developed, including an event co-sponsored with Ollin that celebrated Two Spirit people. We worked through the summer planning changes for the coming year including a number of meaningful changes to our bylaws. We utilized on-line resources to raise our knowledge of, and spark discussion on, Indigenous issues. And, we are heartened by the number of people who have expressed interest in joining the Board for the upcoming year.

I am delighted to have had the opportunity to work with such a dedicated and thoughtful Board again this year. I will stay on the Board for another year to fulfil my term but I will be stepping down from my role as Chair. It is time for yet another change.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth
Vice President Officer’s Report

Steve Wallace
Vice President (Volunteer), Kingston Pride Inc. 2019-2020

2019-2020 – what a year!

It has been my pleasure and a privilege to assume the role of Vice President (Volunteer) for Kingston Pride Inc. this past year. The Kinston Pride Inc. Board of volunteers are a wonderful group of individuals that have generously donated their time to a vibrant and diverse community.

2018 was my first year volunteering with Kingston Pride Inc. During my first year with Kingston Pride – 2018 to 2019 – we created the largest Pride Parade and afternoon Community Fair that the Kingston Region has ever seen. Kingston Pride Inc. had the largest number of community groups, businesses, local utilities and individuals sign up to walk in our Parade. Our Parade marched down Princess Street and ended at our City Hall and Confederation Park for the first time in history. After the Parade, Kingston Pride Inc. hosted our Community Fair complete with live entertainment all afternoon and a packed park of vendors, community groups and municipal support facilitators. Our Parade and Community Fair was a proud moment for the Kingston Pride Inc. Board and for our city and surrounding area.

2020 however! For generations to come, let us take note here that 2020 was the year of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result of the world pandemic, everything was cancelled. Businesses closed up, schools shut down, stadiums locked the doors, parks were barricaded, the streets of the world – and Kingston – were empty from March 2020 to almost July 2020. As the Kingston region slowly emerged back into a “new normal”, we came out of our homes with new fashion forward face masks and hand sanitizer at the ready. As I write this report in September of 2020, the world could still be looking at a second shut down as the second wave looms ever near.

Nevertheless, I am extremely proud of, and in awe of, our group of intrepid volunteers. The Kingston Pride Inc. Board was able to pivot quickly and create numerous “on-line” events. A task and an achievement that had never – ever been done before. With the same vigor and excitement as creating live events, the Kingston Pride Inc. Board of volunteers produced various “on-line” events which brought our community together, albeit, over the internet. As a result of the efforts put forward by our Board, the virtual events were what was needed in a time that our community, and any community, can feel alone and in the dark. The Kinston Pride Board organized a virtual Food Share, various on-line Drag events, a Queer-antine Prom and a virtual Parade of Pride Spaces as our Main Event. The virtual Parade of Spaces brought together our community, over the internet, via submissions of their homes and various examples of what Pride means to them in our community. Through the slideshow of our community, the Kingston Pride Inc. Board was able to bring words of positivity and Happy Pride wishes in the form of short videos. The virtual Parade of Spaces was a beautiful representation of our community through pictures and video that I hope will live on in the virtual world for a long time to come.
I am eager to watch this Board of volunteers grow Kingston Pride Inc. into a vibrant and professional corporation that Kinston, Ontario will be proud of. Please find it in yourself to volunteer and be proud of yourself and our community.
Treasurer Officer’s Report

Anne-Marie Kooiman
Treasurer (Volunteer)

This year, my third year as treasurer, I am pleased to let the membership know that Kingston Pride Inc. (KPI) has maintained its financial stability during 2018/19, despite the inability for the organization to fundraise due to the declaration of a National emergency during the Pandemic. The board looked to careful management of the previous generous contributions of our community, event participants and sponsors, in the hopes of furthering those relationships in the coming years. I continue to encourage everyone to consider Kingston Pride Inc. as a beneficiary of their charitable donations.

In addition to tracking and tabling financial statements at board meetings, KPI established some more flexible means of payment (online) and adhered to stringent record keeping that supports tracking of cheques and deposits.

Our partnership agreement with HIV/AIDS Regional Services (HARS) has continued. We are grateful that HARS continues to provide essential practical hands-on support that allows KPI to carry out our financial responsibilities as a not-for-profit corporation. HARS generously donates its services and oversight “in-kind” at no cost to KPI as part of its commitment to fostering community partners. The board has discussed at length that, as KPI matures and is able to find more sustainable financial footing as an organization, it intends to move forward to become able to support independent financial management.

Although KPI was in a positive financial position going into 2019/20, some operating expenses are essential, consequently we invested funds on behalf of our membership by:

➢ Continuing purchasing Office 365 in order to modernize the way volunteer board members communicate and to support KPI record keeping.
➢ Continuing and enhancing KPI’s web presence as a means of providing online information, opportunities for membership and broader community dialogue input, and event management.
➢ Holding online events

I am pleased to present an accurate picture of Kingston Pride Inc.’s financial position as at August 31, 2020. A financial Balance Sheet and Profit/Loss Statement are presented for your review.

Please feel free to contact me directly should you have any suggestions, concerns or questions.
Secretary Officer’s Report

Some highlights:

➢ As of October 19, 2020, Kingston Pride has 75 members in good standing.

➢ The (Virtual) Parade of Pride Spaces was a live online event featuring photos submitted by members of the community. An average of 36 people to a maximum of 45 watched this live. Afterward, 146 views of the video on YouTube and over 2,700 on Facebook.