

Clarkson Music Theatre  
Annual General Meeting  
September 20, 2022  
Meeting via Zoom

Present: Rita Ferguson, President  
Christine McMahon, Director of Production  
Nick Forrow, Director of Administration  
Susan Wray Toogood, Director of Finance  
Kevin Roose, Director of Membership  
Joanne Hines, Secretary  
Jenny Peace, Music Consultant

Regrets: John Galbraith, Director of Marketing, Laura Carney, Member at Large, Margot Timmins, Business Advisor/Member at Large

Members in Attendance:

Liz Allan                      Jane Simser                      Christine Filippelli                      Brian Toogood

Meeting called to order at 7:35 p.m.

**1. Welcome/Introductions- Rita**

Rita offered a welcome to all attendees who had joined the meeting virtually. Jenny read a land rights acknowledgement.

**2. Secretary's report-Joanne**

Joanne called the attendance and reported that 22 proxies had been received. We need 25 members to meet quorum. Quorum was established.

The reading of the AGM minutes from 2021 was waived, as members had been sent the minutes to read for themselves.

**Motion-** to waive the reading of the minutes. Moved by Nick. Seconded by Kevin

**Motion-** Joanne moved to accept the minutes from the AGM 2021. Nick seconded. Motion carried

**3. President's Report-Rita**

Rita read the following report:

Good evening and welcome to all on behalf of the CMT Board of Directors.  
We are very happy to have you join us for the 2023 Annual General Meeting. Thank you once again to Christine McMahon for putting our newsletters and AGM information together and to Kevin Roose for sending these out to you.

This past year has seen the welcome return of The Encore Series to Meadowvale Theatre. All the shows were very well received by our audiences, and ticket sales were very good for all performances. Congratulations to all five groups.

CMT's production of "Cinderella" was a magical show which delighted audiences of all ages. Congratulations to all cast and crew on a beautiful production! Well done Gillian Rodrigue, Jenny Peace and Stephanie Gemmell - our directorial team. We welcomed many new faces to the cast!

The Christmas Cheer Choir returned to entertain at several locations and were welcomed back by all. They are also in high demand this year. Thanks to Ruth McDonald, Seona Sydor and Catherine Ambrose for all your work with the choir.

Eden United Church was filled with the music of "Jukebox Journey" our spring concert. A great selection of songs was chosen by Erica Astles our director. It was a very enjoyable concert for both choir members and audiences. Well done Erica and Robin.

Our fundraising at Rama Gaming House is going very well. Huge thanks to Susan Toogood for coordinating the events and to all our team of volunteers. New volunteers are always welcome.

A special thanks to Grace Ferguson and Kevin Roose who worked on our website and our YouTube page. They did a great job. You will find recordings of past concerts on this YouTube page accessed on the "About Us" page on the CMT website.

Most of these recordings were compliments of Wilf Langevin. Sadly, Wilf passed away in January of this year. Our deepest sympathies to Monique and the family. Wilf you are very much loved and missed by all of us. Rest in peace dear friend. I extend sincere condolences to all who have lost loved ones in the past year.

Congratulations to Ruth McDonald and Jane Simser who are celebrating fifty years with CMT! What a great achievement! You have seen the changing face of CMT and music theatre over the years. We thank you both for all your years of service to the group. We are so very grateful for all you have done and continue to do!

This year we have some board members who are retiring from the board.

- Joanne Hines has been our secretary for the last four years. Thank you, Joanne, for all your work. Joanne has also been in many shows and concerts and is always there to lend a helping hand. Enjoy your retirement and travels and we look forward to sharing the stage with you again.
- John Galbraith has served as Director of Marketing. He first joined when we did "Hello Dolly!" and won a Thea award for his performance as Cornelius in the show. He also co-produced "Voices of Clarkson" which streamed on Facebook during our Covid shut down period. It was a great success. We wish you every success in all your future endeavours John.
- Laura Carney has served as our Social Media director. She practically grew up with CMT, and first appeared on stage in "The Mikado". She has appeared in many shows and has shown her skills in all aspects of performance. Laura also co-produced "Voices of Clarkson". She is appearing in "A Chorus Line" this year as Bebe. This is a show which she has always wanted to be part of, a dream come true! I think you've got it Laura, enjoy this exciting experience!

- Jenny Peace has been our resident music director and board member for the last eighteen years. She has very successfully directed many of our shows over the years. Jenny's orchestras are second to none, amazing musicians and conductor! She also worked on "Voices of Clarkson" as Music Director. Jenny thank you for all the amazing work you have done over the years. We hope to see you in the pit at Meadowvale again soon for CMT. We wish you every success in your many exciting endeavours. To each and every one of you our heartfelt thanks for all your work.

I extend a big welcome to our new board members. We are looking forward to working with you as we go forward to continue to entertain our audiences in the years to come. And a personal, heartfelt "thank you" to our returning board members for their ongoing assistance and work for our group.

Wishing all groups in the Encore Series every success as we prepare to launch the 2023/2024 Series. I hope you have your tickets - don't miss the great shows in this year's season.

Finally thank you to all our members for your continued support of CMT in this our 78th year! We are all so very proud of our special CMT family!

Please stay safe and well and take good care of yourselves.

Stay safe and healthy and take care of yourselves.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT 2022**

The Financial Report was presented on screen by Nick Forrow (Treasurer) / With thanks to Carole Neely (Bookkeeper)

Jenny noted that as far as assets, CMT has an amplifier as well as a keyboard. The amp is in Jenny's basement, and it was a required purchase when the keyboard was purchased.

## **ADMINISTRATION REPORT 2022**

Nick presented the following report:

Thankfully, this past year ending March 31st saw CMT returning to "business as usual" with our highly successful mainstage production of "Cinderella", our Christmas Cheer Choir in full swing and preparations started for our Spring concert, "Jukebox Journey".

January saw us increase our charitable allocation to \$6,000.00 - distributed among the following charities: Trillium Health Partners, Ian Anderson House, Compass Food Bank and the Native Women's Resource Centre and Embrace – the women's shelter (formerly known as Interim Place). Additionally, a donation was sent to the Red Cross for relief of the victims in Turkey and Syria and was matched by a like amount by the Federal Government

The CMT Performing Arts Scholarship of \$1,000.00 was awarded to Deliah Tombosso,

a recent graduate of Cawthra Park School who was to join the performing arts program at York University in the Fall.

Our support through Chalice of a young Haitian student, Chedner Akluche is now more critical than ever due to recent natural disasters and violent political unrest in his country. The funds help pay for his schooling, uniform and lunches and we send additional funds in December for his birthday. In return we receive a photograph and it has been exciting to see Chedner's growth (he's currently 14 years old) and transition from short to long pants. We receive several reports each year on his progress and translations of his simple but heartfelt letters of thanks.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Nick Farrow  
Director of Administration and Treasurer

## PRODUCTION REPORT 2022

Christine presented the following report:

- Clarkson is proud of its achievements this season, producing a hugely popular magical production of "Cinderella Broadway Version" as well as wonderful music in our "Jukebox Journey". Congrats and thank you to the casts, teams, volunteers, and audiences that made this possible.
- Encore Productions in the 2023 Season:  
We congratulate our sister groups for their successful 2023 season. Here's the lineup for our 2023-2024 season: *We Will Rock You* (EMP), *A Chorus Line* (CMT), *Into the Woods* (MMT), *Rocky Horror Show* (CCMP), *Mamma Mia* (TUPA).  
Subscription numbers have improved somewhat and sit at 1656 - with the lion's share as senior subscribers. Encore continues to rely on your support. Prices have increased by a mere \$2 as our ongoing commitment to provide theatre at reasonable rates.: Adults \$160.00 / Seniors and Students \$150 – 5 shows, one low price! (Ticket prices includes Box office fee and CAF). Individual tickets are Adults \$37 / Senior and Students \$34. Join us! Support your community! Enjoy great entertainment! Tickets may be purchased at [www.encoretix.ca](http://www.encoretix.ca)
- Clarkson Music Theatre is proud to present "A Chorus Line" at Meadowvale Theatre – Dec.1 to Dec.10 / 2023. CMT is thrilled to see so many of our dance corps members celebrated in this production. Show details follow:

A Chorus Line is an ode to the chorus. A Group of candidates are put through their paces in a gruelling audition. They not only sing and dance their way through an amazing score by Hamlisch and Kleban, but they also bare their souls to the audience as they reveal why the stage and dance are so integral to their lives. Intimate, poignant, funny, shockingly raw, entertaining. Time to be sensational!

### Artistic Team:

Director / Choreographer      Renee Jones

Music Director	Bob Hardinge
Producers	Rita Ferguson, Christine McMahon, Chris Filippelli
Stage Manager	John Dalgleish
Assistant Music Director	Joey Gargaro
Rehearsal Pianist	Robin Dalgleish
Set Design and Build	Bruce Brown
Costumes	Lisa Arrigo
Lights	Jordan Dancyger
Sound	Greg Salisbury
Props	Chris Filippelli
Art Design	Louise Ferguson
Assistant Stage Mgrs	Debby Roose, Diane Barnett

#### A Chorus Line Cast List:

Al	Carson Lamb
Bebe	Laura Carney
Bobbie	Vernonn Mostacho
Cassie	Laura Schachtler
Connie	Amelia Eqbal
Diana	Laura Moniz
Don	Ashley Moniz
Greg	Mark Umphrey
Judy	Michelle Ferguson
Kristine	Cecily Restivo
Lori	Kristina Testa
Maggie	Katie Fry
Mark	Timothy Hutten
Mike	Nic Sajonas
Paul	Erine Palmaria
Richie	Kalique Dzidah
Sheila	Jillian McMillan
Val	Alex Chappell
Zach	Derek Faulconer

9 Cut Dancers: Nora Alexander, Melissa Comstock, Julie Gartke, Tavo Jimenez, Hailey Kardos, Jay Kim, Laura Parker, Katy Scott (Tricia), Kathryn Snow

- Meadowvale Theatre

On Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, Meadowvale Theatre opened its doors for an Open House to launch the season. We thank the Meadowvale Theatre Panel, Julie Miller, Melissa Agius and Councillor Martin Reid for their role in making this happen. The event included ice cream, giveaways, a fun opportunity to explore backstage in a scavenger hunt of sorts (with prizes), costumes and green screens, wonderful talented performances – including those by the Encore Series under the direction of Erica Astles. Thank you for coming out to this event which we hope will be an annual launch of the season. Can't wait to tread the boards again! See you at Meadowvale Theatre – the home of community theatre!

- The Christmas Cheer Choir is perhaps the most important of all our year long productions. The choir will continue its great work, entertaining seniors in the community. Rehearsals began September 6<sup>th</sup>. Our thanks to Ruth McDonald (Music Director), Seona Sydor (Producer), Catherine Ambrose (Pianist). We already have 7 venues booked!
- Spring Concert – **“From Page to Stage” - Musicals Inspired by Books**  
Clarkson is thrilled to offer a very special program for our next concert. Clarkson Music Theatre presents: “From Page to Stage – Musicals Inspired by Books”. We are grateful to Erica Astles for this exciting new concept. Details follow:
  - Date: May 24<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 pm + May 25<sup>th</sup> @ 2 pm / 2024
  - Venue: Eden United Church, 3051 Battleford Road
  - Producers: Rita Ferguson, Christine McMahon
  - Director: Erica Astles
  - Assistant to the Director: Joey Gargaro
  - Rehearsal Pianist: Robin Dagleish
  - Featuring a quartet of musicians (keyboard, bass, guitar, percussion) to enrich this production.
  - Musicals sources could include: Les Mis, Phantom, Little Women, Cats, Mary Poppins, Matilda, Oliver, Ragtime, Hamilton, Bridges of Madison County, Big Fish, The King and I, Showboat, Fun Home (so many!)
  - Auditions for Featured Performers: Feb.17 2024, by appointment. Those new to Clarkson will be asked to audition as well. Auditions may be booked after January 1st/2024 with [ritaferguson20@gmail.com](mailto:ritaferguson20@gmail.com)
  - All participants must be fully vaxxed. Proof of vaccination will be required if not already on file. We encourage our cast to get the latest boosters available.
  - Sixteen general rehearsals / Mondays and Wednesdays at Christ First, starting April 3rd / Soloists by appointment. Full Cast Saturday May 11th with the 4-piece band.
  - Tickets will go on sale through Eventbrite early in the new year, with Early Bird pricing of \$25 available until April 31/ 2024. Tickets go to \$30 May 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - More details on how to sign up for the cast will be posted in January 2024.
- Future Productions
  - CMT is delighted to confirm the rights and purchase of our 2024 production: “Something Rotten”. CMT has had this show in our sights for some time, and we are delighted to be able to introduce it to our community at Meadowvale Theatre. The story revolves around the invention of “the musical” through its unlikely creator - a desperate Shakespeare who has lost his muse. As he seeks advice from Nostradamus, hilarity ensues ... who doesn’t like a big “Omelette” production and a Hamlet SNAFU? Sure to amuse and entertain, we can’t wait to get started.
  - 2025 show: We hope to present “Anastasia” as our 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary show.

And finally, we salute the volunteers in our community. Thankyou to all those who work endless hours on behalf of Clarkson. Kudos to: Set building, prop making, art designing, costume making, marketing, back-staging, fundraising, planning, prepping and implementing! Thank you to our audiences for your patience, your loyalty and your support. Together, we will entertain Mississauga for many years to come!

Yours in Musical Theatre,  
Christine McMahon  
Director of Production

## **FUNDRAISING REPORT 2022**

Susan presented the following report:

Clarkson Music Theatre started the Fiscal Year with more than \$52,000 in the fundraising account (more than double what the City usually allows). We had an approved plan in place to spend those surplus funds and eagerly awaited the return to a regular season. In April 2022, we purchased three air casters, to move scenery, and paid for rental space at Christ First. We received an assignment schedule at Rama Gaming House and I started to assign volunteers again.

In June 2022 we purchased the rights and royalties for our November 2023 show, which brought our balance down to under \$38,000. However, with revenue receipts from working at Rama Gaming House again, our balance was still too high. Consequently, we opted to pay the balance of rental fees for Meadowvale Theatre in September and entirely from the Fundraising Account. We were also able to purchase a cyclorama from the surplus funds. This brought our balance below the allowed \$20,000.

CMT was assigned 39 sessions for the year and attended 23 sessions. Some dates were given up as no volunteers were available and others in order to keep the bank balance at an acceptable level. The revenue earned for those 23 sessions was just over \$31,000. From speaking with our coordinator and staff at the hall, the taptix machines are generating the bulk of the revenue. Bingo games are offered less frequently and rarely fill the 100-seat room.

One member of our volunteer group hung up his red vest this year, but three new members have put one on. We have 15 members who volunteer their time at the hall and I am grateful for each and every one of them. Their efforts ensure that we continue to raise much needed funds to present our wonderful shows and concerts to the Mississauga community.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Wray  
Director of Fundraising and Sponsorship

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Nick presented the slate of candidates.

Rita Ferguson- nominated by Christine McMahon, seconded by Nick Forrow. Carried

Christine McMahon- nominated by Joanne Hines, seconded by Kevin Roose. Carried

Nick Forrow- nominated by Rita Ferguson, seconded by Susan Wray Toogood. Carried

Susan Wray Toogood- nominated by Jenny Peace, seconded by Laura Carney. Carried

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2022**

Kevin presented the following report:

The 2022-2023 season brought a welcome return to what, last year, we optimistically referred to as “business as usual”. We were able to successfully launch our fall show of Cinderella as well as our concerts, “Jukebox Journey” and the perennial favourite “Christmas Cheer Choir”. As we close out the season, we do so with a total of 95 members many of whom are new to CMT.

Our membership of 95 is comprised of:

- 24 Lifetime memberships
- 15 members from our 8 family memberships
- 56 Single memberships

In addition to the active memberships, we also maintain a list of 288 Email addresses of people who are interested in hearing news and updates about CMT.

As we begin our 2023-2024 season, we are pleased to announce that rehearsals are already underway for our fall production of A Chorus Line as well as the Christmas concert.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, again I would like to say, “Thank You” for your support and commitment to Clarkson Music Theatre.

Respectfully submitted by Kevin Roose  
Director of Membership

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Rita spoke about Pat Mack and her achievements in participating in the Terry Fox Run in Oakville for the last 40 years.

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Moved by Nick. Seconded by Brian Toogood. Motion carried