



Annual Report 2017-18

2017/2018 was an exciting year for the Arnprior Community Choir. When the doors opened for our first choir rehearsal in September singers came and came and kept coming! Gail scrambled for available music packages, Chris added chairs to each row, and I quickly wondered how these many voices would come together. Well, they certainly did – all 85 members. The choir is a true gem within our community, and it keeps growing both in number and enthusiasm. The spirit and joy of singing fills the Legion each Tuesday as singers raise their voices along with others in their section. All four sections – soprano, alto, tenor and bass – are strong and mighty, creating a balanced and powerful ensemble. Our choir is joyful, positive, and caring, and it is a group where all levels of choral background blend together.

We welcomed Elizabeth Brumm, accompanist “extraordinaire”, into our fold. Andrea de Boer went back to college and began exploring a new career path. We missed Andrea very much, but we were thrilled that Elizabeth came to the ACC for a one-year term. Like Andrea, Elizabeth’s smile, gentle ways, devotion to choral music and flexibility, set our choir on a great path.

The Arnprior Community Choir has three main goals: creating uplifting and challenging choral music experiences for the membership; providing opportunities for young, emerging musicians; and performing within our community. In the 2017/2018 season, we fulfilled these goals more than ever! Here is how we did it:

Goal #1. Uplifting and challenging choral music experiences

- **SING NOEL** By borrowing Christmas music from the Pembroke Community Choir and Choirs Ontario, we presented a terrific concert of varied choral music. A wonderful addition to the festive season was cellist, Sandra Allan. Sandra *loves* our choir and said to me that she would always play for us when possible.
- **MUSIC! MUSIC! MUSIC!** This was our annual community program along with the Valley Concert Band. This concert is becoming a highlight with both the audience and the musicians. Many choir members have never sung with an instrumental group! While we really REALLY need to “raise our voices” (literally!), it is inspiring to see over 100 musicians on stage together.
- **ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE** These were our two “dessert musicale” concerts, very well attended and enjoyed by everyone. From paper heart decorations, heart-designed cookies, special heart costumes, and a whole lot of LOVE – ly choral music, it was a treasured event for sure.
- **Choral workshop and lunch with Marg Stubington** This workshop was very well attended by our membership. It was an outstanding morning by Marg, with creative warm ups, amazing choral tips, sharing musical ideas, and a whole lot of laughs! Workshops such as this not only give our choir a challenging musical experience but also a sense of community and bonding with one another.

Goal #2. Provide opportunities for young, emerging musicians

As a voice teacher, choral conductor and huge supporter of community music, the Arnprior Community Choir makes me beyond proud of this second goal. By providing opportunities for young musicians, we are all helping to create a new generation of community choral lovers.

- For SING NOEL we had two young vocal students, Olivia Smart and Thomas Cherney. Their program of solos and duets, along with cellist Sandra and pianist Elizabeth, was both stunning and inspiring. It's interesting to note that both these young people have intentions of pursuing music beyond high school at the University level.
- For ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE, we welcomed the Junior Barbershop Quartet "Nothin' But Treble" to the event. Fabulous! Stunning! Polished! Professional! Musical! Our community is special to have young people like this working on their craft and showing audiences what level can be attained. Not only do these young women work in this jaw-dropping quartet, but they all pursue high academic achievement at school, extra-curricular music and sports at school, leadership roles within their schools/community, and private music pursuits as well.

Goal #3. Performing within our community

- Our three regular concerts throughout the year (SING NOEL; MUSIC! MUSIC! MUSIC! with the Valley Concert Band in March; and two dessert musicale concerts in May) were all very well attended, polished, organized, inspiring and fun.
- We also presented extra concerts throughout the year, such as a Christmas fundraiser for St. Peter Celestine Church and at area nursing homes.

An integral part of any organization is the executive and volunteers. Over the years, each and every person who has been on the executive has made the choir into what it is today. As music director, I have many "thank you's".

Many people work hard behind the scenes in order to make rehearsals and concerts go smoothly:

- Choir Executive. Marilyn; Gail; Chris; Rhonda. The work, the effort, the organization skills, and the enthusiasm that these folks have is not only terrific, but it makes my job easier!
- The heads of all the committees (and the committee members) that work tirelessly during the year. In order to put on two very successful terms, with multiple concerts in each, we need people to volunteer! All their effort and time is so appreciated.
- Elizabeth Brumm. A choir is not a choir without an accompanist. We were so very lucky to have a sensitive, skilled and talented pianist, which allowed us to make wonderful choral music.
- You! The members! Whether it be baking goodies, pushing a broom, selling tickets, dragging family members to concerts, lifting risers, and attending choir every week — that is what makes our group successful.

On behalf of your Arnprior Community Choir music director, I look forward to this new 2018/2019 season.

**Musically Yours,
Lisa Webber
Music Director, Arnprior Community Choir**

Choir Manager's Report

My AGM report will be a little different this year. Instead of listing what we accomplished -- which the other executives will do better than I -- I have a brief but serious message to ACC members:

Please VOLUNTEER to help with the choir.

You see, we need more members to become involved in the running of the choir. We are a BIG choir, and the more hands, the better.

The smooth-running of this choir reflects all the work done by those who have volunteered for executive or committee roles offering their expertise, skill, and ideas over the past 28 years. Because of solid teamwork over these many years, the choir has evolved to where we are today.

But -- We still have vacancies in Publicity; in handling the production of the program; and in handling the production of the tickets. These jobs are not onerous, but they do require members who either are comfortable with using computer software or are open to learning new ones.

I saw for myself this past year that all the systems your current executive have put in place over the past four years are running perfectly well -- even though I was not present at rehearsals for the winter session. This either reflects very well on all the exec members, coordinators, and section leads, or it's an indication that you don't need a Manager! ONLY JOKING!

Which leads me to say that this will be my last year as Choir Manager, ending in June.

So -- we're also looking for someone to volunteer for the position of Choir Manager.

I have really enjoyed this role and especially enjoyed ensuring that members receive the information that they need through the website and emails.

In fact, I have agreed to continue as Webmistress for our website.

I've really enjoyed getting to know so many of you.

This will be the fifth year for this executive group. Each of us is very comfortable in our roles, and we all pitch in to help each other when required. We have over the past 4 years smoothed out some rough spots and introduced new approaches to ensure efficiency and clarity.

So if you decide to volunteer for a position, you can be assured that you will be given training and will be joining a great group of people.

Thank you for your support. I am looking forward to another successful year with this amazing choir.

Marilyn Campbell
Choir Manager

Music Librarian's Report

My Responsibilities

- Sort, stamp and number new music (*Lisa chooses and orders music*).
- Number and stamp envelopes.
- Take our own music from our file cabinets and put ALL music in envelopes, along with paper and pencils.
- Make up list of music “do’s and don’ts,” also known as the “nag sheet” from the Music Nag!!!
- Borrow or rent music as needed from other choirs and arrange for pickup and return.
- Make sure all music is returned after concerts and then sorted numerically and filed alphabetically.
- Make sure all choir members are aware of the concert dress, and make sure all ladies have the appropriate scarf.
- Conduct registration along with the Membership Coordinator.
- Assign music numbers and collect fees.

Our music has to be well organized, because we perform several concerts. We rehearse from:

- September to December for our Christmas concert, and there’s not much time to get music back and in order and then get music into envelopes for a January start;
- January to end of February for the concert with the Valley Concert Band;
- January to end of April for either one or two concerts in early May.

We have numbered Christmas Carol books that we use at the Villa or nursing homes.

We have small Christmas Carol booklets that we use for our Christmas Concerts. They fit nicely into our black binders.

Finally, we registered 85 choir members — a long way from our beginning membership of about 15!

Gail Timms

Music Librarian



2017-18 Annual General Meeting
 October 23, 2018
Treasurer's Report

Your Treasurer is responsible for all choir funds. In that capacity the Treasurer:

- ~ keeps detailed records of all financial activity;
- ~ deposits and withdraws money as needed;
- ~ manages petty cash and floats;
- ~ receives membership and ticket money;
- ~ pays all choir expenses including payment of our Director and Accompanist;
- ~ participates in decision making about remuneration for Director and Accompanist, dues, rental fees and other expenses; and
- ~ provides income statements to the Executive and the membership at large.

2017-18 Income Statement	
<i>As at August 31, 2017</i>	
Funds on hand \$13,471.22	
Annual General Meeting / October 23, 2018	
INCOME	
Membership Fees	\$9,380.00
Concert Tickets Sales	\$11,895.30
Choir Workshop	\$2,150.00
Senators' Hockey Gig	\$0.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$20.00
Choir Socials & Dinners	\$0.00
Scarves (Sales)	\$340.00
Music Bags (Sales)	\$15.00
Float	\$400.00
Bank Fees	\$0.00
Total Income	\$24,200.30
EXPENSES	
Membership Refunds / NSF Cheques	\$50.00
Ticket Refunds	\$20.00
Choir Workshop	\$1,101.10
Senators' Hockey Gig	\$0.00
Services: Director, Accompanist & Fill-ins	\$7,952.50
Music Library Purchases & Expenses	\$774.43
Venue Rental: Rehearsals	\$750.00
Venue Rental: Concerts	\$600.00
Sound Technician	\$881.40
Publicity/Advertising/Printing	\$141.14
Paid Soloists/Performers/Accompanists	\$1,200.00
Gifts/Flowers	\$202.94
Concert Reception	\$215.45
Choir Socials & Dinners	\$73.17
Choirs Ontario	\$480.00
Website: Maintenance/Domain Name	\$0.00
Equipment and Service	\$1,078.78
Insurance: Event & Library	\$459.00
Scarves (Purchase)	\$224.25
Music Bags (Purchase)	\$0.00
In Memorium for Choir Members	\$0.00
Scholarships	\$600.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$216.00
Float	\$653.00
Bank Fees	\$59.00
Total Expense	\$17,732.16
NET INCOME	\$6,468.14

In summary, the income for the 2017-18 financial year is \$24,200.30. This is an increase from the previous reporting period of \$4,159.73. Expenses are \$17,732.16 for the same period which is an increase of \$606.85 from the previous year. The net income was \$6,468.14 at the end of the reporting year on August 31, 2017. At that point we had \$13,471.22 on hand.

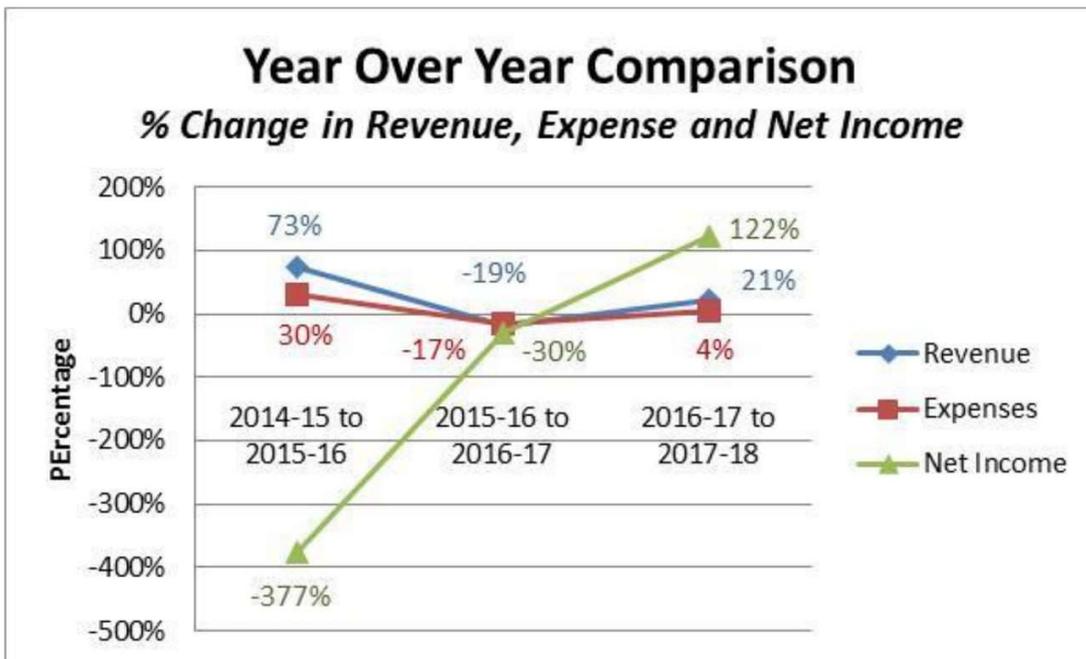
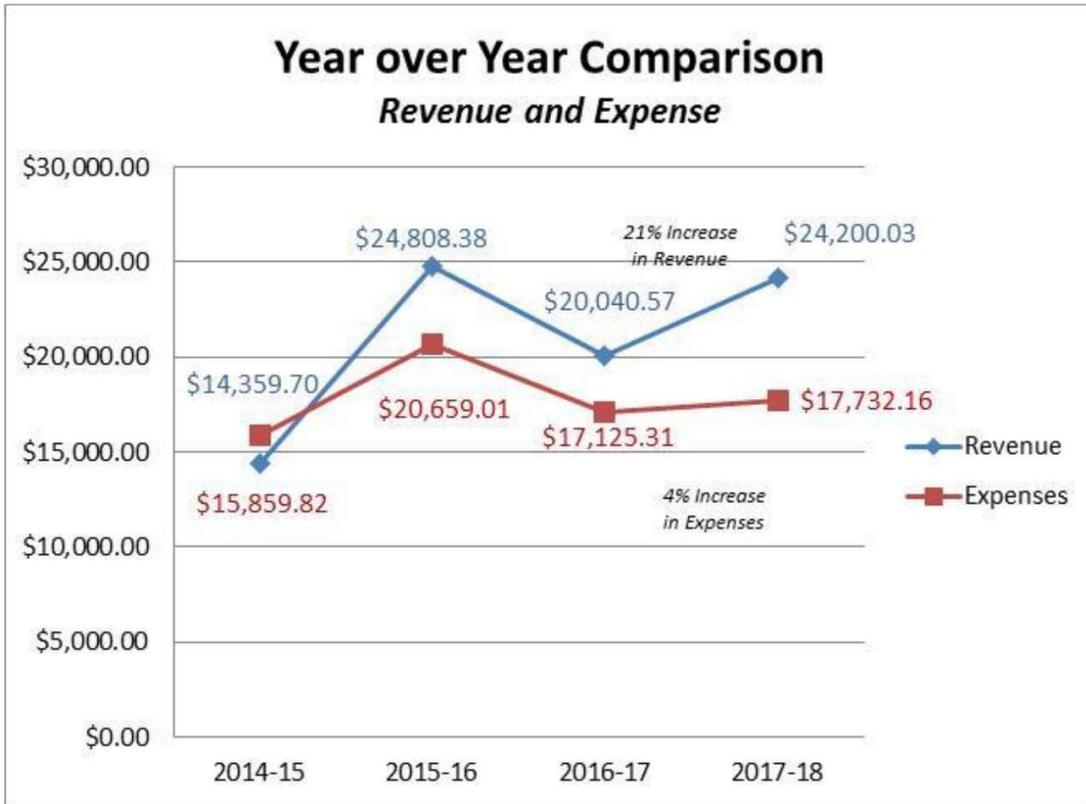
Of particular note is that comparing this year's position to last year our revenue has increased by 21% and expenses have increased by 3.5%.

It should be noted that we typically run a deficit for the spring term, especially for the classical concert. The main reasons for this are:

- ~ many members pay for two terms in the fall;
- ~ fewer members sign up for the term when we do classical music; and
- ~ we pay more for professional musicians, instrumentalists, accompanists and performers for the spring and classical concerts.

Choir expenses include: costs for our Director and Accompanist and music library purchases (which are typically our two largest expenditures), rehearsal and venue rentals, insurance, annual scholarships to ADHS and the Renfrew Music Festival, membership fees and donations to Choirs Ontario, website expenses and publicity, printing and copying costs. We offset these expenses largely through membership fees and ticket sales and occasionally raise additional funds with workshops and choir dinners.

Because our expenses continue to increase the Executive is committed to finding ways to increase revenue and decrease expenses. In furtherance of this objective we continue to: monitor membership fees, ticket prices and venue costs; borrow music where possible instead of purchasing it; organize choir workshops and dinners and look for the best deals on all purchases.



Facilities Manager's Report

Since our AGM last November, our choir has once again, been very busy and has enjoyed much success in our community.

As part of the role of the Facilities Manager, I try take into consideration the needs of our members regarding their safety and comfort when performing in each venue that we use. It is also part of this position to book the venue; obtain the necessary insurance; arrange access; and transport and set up equipment, seating, risers, and any other special needs as may come my way. At the end of each performance, rehearsal, or event, we remove our risers, chairs, and any other equipment that was used, and ensure that the venue is returned to its original state to the satisfaction of the owner.

Insurance Requirements

This past year as usual, we were required to purchase separate venue insurance for the *Sing Noel* and *Dessert Musicale* concerts. I worked with the Glad Tidings Pentecostal Church to obtain their required coverage and shopped for the best price. The increased costs (added concert time for the spring) will be reflected in the treasurer's report. A point of interest: the premium for this year's *Sing Noel* remained the same as our last *Dessert Musicale* concert!

New purchases

Since our last AGM, the choir purchased two new speakers complete with stands, and music stand lights for our conductor and pianist as well as a spare for a guest artist. We just recently purchased a wireless microphone system to give our conductor greater flexibility when speaking with our audiences. This new acquisition will also in turn help us gain some independence from third party technical costs. We also purchased six bar stools for those members requiring them during our performances.

Regular Rehearsals

Each rehearsal involves the set up of chairs, piano, speaker, and conductor space. This setup is very efficiently done with our super volunteers! The "tear down" at the end of each rehearsal is also amazingly quick! Thanks to everyone involved in this process!

Conclusion

As a member of our energetic choir executive, the above report reflects some of the tasks that were only a part of the hard work that was undertaken by all of us to ensure another successful year. My sincere thanks go out to the hardworking volunteer team members and others who helped make these tasks look simple and fun.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Tonkin
ACC Facilities Manager