

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Land Admoudadament	02
Land Acknowledgement	03
About Us	04
Message of Recognition	05
Message from Official Voyageurs	06
Summer 2022	80
Festival 2023 in Numbers	10
Musical Programming	11
Parc du Voyageur	12
Historical Interpretation	14
New! La Terrasse à chansons	16
New! La forêt des neiges	17
New! Indigenous Art	18
Commitment to Reconciliation	20
Minut Michif	21
Feu d'Infinité	22
Order of the Capote and Contests	23
Snow Sculptures	25
Canada Life School Program	27
Our Festival, Our Beer	29
Sustainable Festival	30
Volunteers	31
Permanent Staff	32
Board of Directors	33
Sponsors	34
Survey Results	35
Financial Statement	36

2023 WORDMARK CREATED BY RAÏSSA BADO

This new logo was inspired by the legend of the Flying Canoe.



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

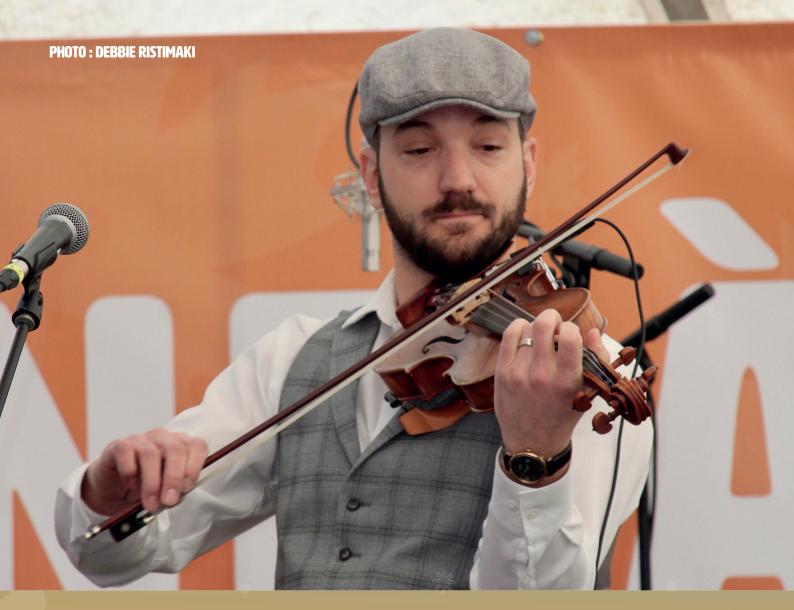
Festival du Voyageur gathers by the Red River, on the ancestral land of the Cree, Oji-Cree, Ojibwe, Dene, and Dakota people, the Homeland of the Métis Nation, and Treaty 1 territory.

Festival du Voyageur recognizes that the stories we share about the fur trade and voyageurs are directly linked to the colonization of Canada. We are committed to sharing this narrative by proviting an inclusive and honest account of our shared history.

As a signatory of the Winnipeg Indigenous Accord, we are committed to continuing our efforts towards reconciliation with Indigenous communities and support the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls to Action, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

Festival du Voyageur recognizes the importance of Indigenous culture and history in its programming and community initiatives.





ABOUT US

Festival du Voyageur inc. is a non-profit organization governed by elected community members and known for bringing to life Western Canada's largest francophone event in the midst of winter.

OUR MISSION

Promote joie de vivre and extend the reach of the French language and culture throughout the year through artistic, educational, historical and cultural experiences inspired by the voyageur era.

OUR VISION

Promote discovery of the rich history of the voyageur era and the vitality of French language and culture in Manitoba.

OUR VALUES

- Social Responsibility
- Heritage
- Innovation
- Inclusion
- Integrity

4 -ANNUAL REPORT I FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR 2023

BOARD PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MESSAGE DE RECOGNITION

After 2 years as a virtual and hybrid festival, the 54th edition of Festival du Voyageur was an unforgettable and unique experience for all festivalgoers. Glistening snow, soft wood shavings, warm campfires and the rhythms of the fiddle were back. The return to this familiar atmosphere was made possible thanks to the extraordinary support of our funders, partners, volunteers and amazing team.

In January 2023, we predicted that the Festival would be bigger than ever. Our expectations were met and exceeded. It was an exceptional year in terms of participation, richness and diversity of the programming, and enthusiasm towards new features such as Indigenous art installations, Terrasse à chansons and Forêt des neiges, which quickly became must-sees of the 2023 edition. Even more reasons for making Festival du Voyageur the largest winter festival in Western Canada.

After a few difficult years, we took the time to really analyse the impact of our festival. We've improved our processes and have introduced the initiatives. We continue to innovate on the environmental, social and economic fronts. At the same time, we are committed to a more inclusive, diversified and equitable programming policy, reflecting our desire to be a celebration for all festivalgoers.



Darrel Nadeau, Executive Director // Eric Plamondon, President 2022-2023

OFFICIAL VOYAGEURS

HÉHO! We are now at the end of our mandate and it was an unforgettable experience for our family!

As you all felt, FDV 2023 was for us a return to glory! The first full festival since February 2020, and the festival team put in hard work to ensure that all festivalgoers could enjoy an experience like no other. The tents were full and the smiles endless. With a record number of artists, shows, Visiting Festivals visitors and events, our family was very busy during the 10 days of the Festival in 2023:



- 26 community visits (schools, personal care homes, pancake breakfasts)
- 35 events (Parc du Voyageur, official sites, performances, media events, etc.)

We would like to thank our dedicated driver, Roger Foidart. He always drove us to engagements with a big smile on his face. We really appreciated everything he did for our family during our mandate.

As Official Voyageurs, we've experienced some unforgettable moments on our journeys. Moments such as :

- Create videos at home for the virtual edition in 2021
- Launch the 2022 Festival in the Maison du Bourgeois
- Visit schools and personal care homes that always left us in good spirits
- Participate as ambassadors in parades in Winnipeg and the U.S. in front of thousands of spectators
- Singing the national anthem in French on stage in front of over 2,000 people at Oktoberfest in LaCrosse, Wisconsin
- Connect with thousands of festivalgoers, bilingual communities, and the the francophone community in Manitoba!

OFFICIAL VOYAGEURS

For us, the most important thing was to have the opportunity to live these joyful experiences with our children. We had a shared family experience that was truly unique. Annika, Martin and Natasha were shining stars. Over the course of three years, they demonstrated confidence, maturity and growth. Annika shared her guitar talent without fail at every opportunity, and her interpersonal skills, especially with the school children, and it gave us an immense sense of pride. The kids took to the stage and microphone time and time again, and they each found an impressive comfort level in addressing a crowd, telling a story, and keeping the world entertained. As a parent, it's really cool to see your kids grow up before your eyes through this journey as Official Voyageurs. Congratulations and thank you to our three hearts Annika, Martin, and Natasha!

We'd like to sincerely thank the Ordre des Voyageurs officiels (OVO) and the Festival du Voyageur Board of Directors. In addition to entrusting us with the role of Official Voyageurs for 2021 and 2022, they granted us the opportunity to remain in the role for the 2023 edition. We are infinitely grateful, and wish great success to those who will undertake this special role for the 2024 edition.

Now that our mandate is over, we can catch our breath a little. We look forward to enjoying the next Festival with you as we always have. We look forward to seeing you at Parc du Voyageur in 2024.

Best regards, The Turenne family



SUMMER 2022 HISTORICAL INTERPRETATION



2,308VISITORS















SAM ROBERTS BAND JUNE 3, 2022



















FESTIVAL 2022 IN NUMBERS



THE LARGEST **MUSICAL PROGRAMMING** IN THE HISTORY OF THE FESTIVAL

This year, the Festival saw it all! An impressive number of artists from Manitoba and abroad performed on the stages of Festival du Voyageur.





























PARC DU VOYAGEUR

Relive Festival 2023 @heho.ca

A place filled with joie de vivre

During the day, the park welcomes thousands of festivalgoers who enjoy many outdoor activities suitable for all ages and tastes: snowshoes, axe throwing, horse rides, the big slide and more! In the evening, the festivities continue. Snow sculptures are lit up and music is heard throughout all the tents, creating a warm and inviting atmosphere.









































HISTORICAL HTERPRETATION

The historical interpretation, presented by Université de Saint-Boniface, transports festivalgoers to the voyageur era and the fur trade of 1815. Through costumed interpreters, artistic workshops and kitchen parties, festivalgoers explored our exciting past.















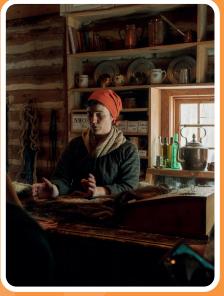
























NEW IN 2023!

LA TERRASSE À CHANSONS

A new outdoor space was created this year: Terrasse à chansons! The winter weather did not cool down festivalgoers who danced outside to the sound of the *zigazonzinzon* and the rhythms of the Boîte à chansons – mobile concert trailer. A festive place that will be there again next year!

















NEW IN 2023!

LA FÔRET DES NEIGES

A new attraction this year, the Forêt des neiges allowed festivalgoers to take their best photos of snow covered animal sculptures. An interactive experience that brought smiles to many faces!

PHOTOS ON SOCIAL MEDIA



















NEW IN 2023! INDIGENOUS ART STORIES CARRIED BY SMOKE

The Festival du Voyageur celebrates history, joie de vivre, culture and fraternity with Indigenous peoples. This edition was an opportunity to immerse participants in a series of unpublished works by Indigenous artists and to highlight Indigenous languages through stories.

16 artists created a unique Indigenous art exhibition Parc du Voyageur.











Stories Carried by Smoke references the act of gathering around a campfire and the stories and teachings shared amongst the community. The artworks presented narrate and reflect on kin, land, and community relations through the lens of Indigenous, Métis, and Inuit artists.

This immersive outdoor exhibition is located at various sites throughout the Festival grounds, featuring illustrations, texts, prints, film, and multi-media projections. Stories Carried by Smoke evokes the conversation on how stories are transmitted and shared amongst us. Building connections with each other, the land, and the community through storytelling.

ARTISTS "STORIES CARRIED BY SMOKE"



Becca Taylor



Annie Beach Dakobinaawaswaan



Audie Murray
Bear Smudge



Casey Koyczan



Conor McNally



Glenn Gear



Katherine Boyer

A Valley in Twain



Rhayne Vermette *Third Letter to Nour*



Taylor McArthur Anchorage



Whess Harman
Local Gossip - Thunder If you have the time



Halie Finney
The Ghosts of the Mink
make a Big Spirit

COMMITMENT TO RECONCILIATION

J

Festival du Voyageur promotes the celebration of Indigenous peoples and culture. We are focused on reconciliation and implementing Indigenous programming and educational activities throughout the year. Our programming includes Métis, First Nations and Inuit language representation, education, and art.



INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- Hosted a fall feast with Turtle Lodge wich included water and pipe ceremonies
- Offered Indigenous inspired activities as part of the school program
- Created a third series of Minut Michif videos in partership with Union nationale métisse Saint-Joseph du Manitoba and The Winnipeg Foundation
- Built the Infinity Fire which serves as a gathering place
- Organised a beading circle and Maarsh aek lii Michif
- Offered handcrafted items made by Indigenous artists in the Festival Boutique
- Created space for an Indigenous art installation entitled 'Stories Carried by Smoke'
- Produced videos for Indigenous storytelling entitled 'Winter Stories'

WINTER STORIES

Traditional stories told in Indigenous languages inside a tipi in the heart of Parc du Voyageur.

Storytellers:

Winston Wuttunnee Barb Nepinak



MINUT MICHIF





This third season of the cultural series Minut Michif introduces us to personalities and exciting talents of the Manitoba Métis community.



Learn the Michif Language Lorraine Coutu and Paulette Duguay



Métis Spirituality Chantal Fiola



Learning to Tan Hides Christel Lanthier



Native Paddle Styles Mark Blieske



Traditional Dancing
Rochelle Savard and Collette St-Amant



FEU D'INFINITÉ



PARENTY REITMEIER
TRANSLATION SERVICES



Le Feu d'infinité est un lieu de rassemblement au cœur du Parc du Voyageur qui rend hommage aux Métis de la rivière Rouge. Son design unique en forme de symbole de l'infini est une représentation de l'éternelle résilience des Métis du Manitoba.









Artiste: Candice Lipischak

ORDER OF THE CAPOTE



ORDER OF THE CAPOTE

The 2023 Honorary Capote was awarded to Yvonne Bérubé. An exceptional volunteer who's dedication and extreme kindness are felt throughout the Festival.

CONTESTS

FIDDLING CONTEST

7 & under: Arwyn Kehler

8 to 10: Elise Hutlet 11 to 13: May McCusker

14 to 17: Shiloh Hieber Intermediate: Brooklynne Grieger

55 & over: Phil Veldhuis

Championship: Nya Chapman





JIGGING CONTEST

10 & under: Savannah Anderson

11 to 13: Hannah Chartrand 14 to 17: Gracyn Sanderson

55 & over: Dean Davis Open: Ryan Richard











OTHERS CONTESTS

BEARD GROWING CONTEST

Clean Shaven: Mark Giroux

Open: Darlene McKay

Voyageur Beard: Kelvin Bowder

Novelty: Brendan Roney

in support of:















PEA SOUP COMPETITION

Audience Award: The Wood Tavern

Jury Award: Sous-Sol

























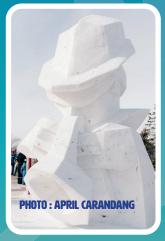


SCULPTURES IN THE PARK







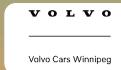








LE P'TCHI SYMPO





With the goal of developing the talents of the next generation of sculptors, the P'tchi Symposium presented by CJP and supported by Volvo Cars Winnipeg was also back in action!

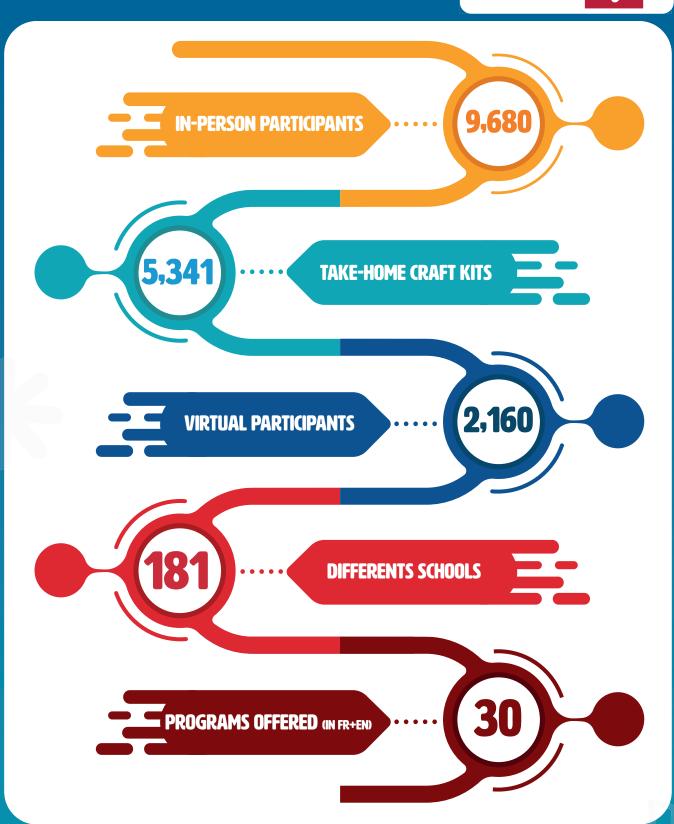






CANADA LIFE SCHOOL PROGRAM











45%	Winnipeg Outside Winnipeg	55%
36%	English French	64%





Total students who participated in the Canada Life School Program during Festival 2023

17,181 STUDENTS

NONSUCH



















SUSTAINABLE FESTIVAL

For more than 10 years, sustainable development has been one of the Festival's top concerns. We actively participate in the implementation of our social, economic and environmental responsibilities. This year, we focused our efforts on developing accessibility and enhancing local resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS

ECO-MOBILITY - Free shuttles (festivalgoers and volunteers), bike park

SUSTAINABLE RESTORATION - Compostable packaging, local breweries, mmmFestival with the choice of shops and restaurants in the Saint-Boniface district.

WASTE MANAGEMENT - Team of Eco-Voyageurs to sort waste, water stations, reduction of printed matter, composting area, recycling of beer cans, reuse of signage, reuse of donated Christmas trees.



SOCIAL ACTIONS

AN ACCESSIBLE FESTIVAL

Free access to the Festival for children under 12 Preferential pricing policy for seniors

People with disabilities - Dedicated volunteers and specific signage, reserved areas near the stages, accessible washrooms

Safe - Safety zone installed in the park (partnership with OGIJIITA PIMATISWIN KINAMA-TAWIN and Project Safe Audience)

Community - More than 500 ticket donations to charities and partnerships with community groups.

FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR

MERCI TO ALL OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS





858 VOLUNTEERS

9,573
VOLUNTEER HOURS

FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR

PERMANENT STAFF



(in order from left to right)

- AINZA BELLEFEUILLE Director of Operations
- MARJORIE GRAINVILLE Finance and Human Resources Manager
- LYNETTE BUCHANAN Finance and Administration Coordinator
- CHANTAL VIELFAURE Director of Marketing, Communications and Sales
- LUC GUÉNETTE Project Manager
- BARNEY MORIN Indigenous Initiatives Coordinator
- JULIEN DESAULNIERS Artistic Director
- MONIQUE OLIVIER Heritage and Education Programs Manager
- COLIN MACKIE Director of Heritage and Education Programs
- DARREL NADEAU Executive Director

FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- ERIC PLAMONDON President
- YANNICK FRÉCHETTE Vice President
- YVES LAGASSÉ Treasurer
- REBECCA BLAIKIE Secretary
- MARTIN GAUTRON Director
- RENÉE SAURETTE Director
- GABRIELLE LISI Director
- ESTELLE AGUIDI Director
- BEYDI TRAORÉ Director
- FRED PRESBER Director
- NATALIE THIESEN Past President

LÉO LA TUQUE



COMMANDITAIRES I SPONSORS

Partenaires officiels | Official Partners

















OUTFRONT/

(((SiriusXM)))

Commanditaires principaux | Premier Sponsors

















Commanditaires majeurs | Major Sponsors



























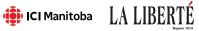




Commanditaires médias | Media Sponsors













Amis du Festival | Friends of Festival

1 Life Workplace Safety Solutions | 100 Nons | Assurart | Avenir IT | Beaver Bus Lines Brasserie La Shoppe | Brazen Brewing Company | Canadian First-Aid Training Country John's Portable Toilet Rentals | Éducatrices et éducateurs Francophones du Manitoba Fireball | Fort Group | Kilter Brewing Company Ltd. | Lake of the Woods Brewing Company Maxim Truck & Trailer | Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI) | Musique et Film Manitoba Namesake Brewing Ltd. | Ocean Trailer | PepsiCo | Réseau Compassion Network

Bailleurs de fonds | Funders













SURVEY RESULTS

OVERALL SATISFACTION

9/10

FDV IS ECO-FRIENDLY

85%

FRANCO-MANITOBAN CULTURE

97%

SATISFACTION WITH STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

94%

EFFTINE STATE OF THE STATE OF T

THE FESTIVAL IS AN INCLUSIVE EVENT

92%

MAIN REASONS FOR ATTENDING

- Music TraditionDiscover French culture
 - Special Event

QUOTES FROM FESTIVALGOERS

"I grew up participating at Festival, and this year I brought my own kids to experience it. I always love the educational activities, the music, the snow sculptures, the food, etc."

"I love all the fires, the Caribou in ice glasses, dancing in the snow at the Boîte à chansons, and simply being surounded by the joie de vivre of the Franco-Manitobans."

"For the first time, there were lineups to enter the tents. It was awesome!"



Business Advisors · Tax · Audit

T. 204.942.0861F. 204.947.6834E. admin@fortgroupcpa.ca

100-865 Henderson Hwy Winnipeg, Manitoba R2K 2L6 fortgroupcpa.ca

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

To the members of Festival du Voyageur Inc.:

Opinion

The summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at April 30, 2023 and the summary statement of operations and summary schedule of revenue and expenses for the year then ended, and related note, are derived from the audited financial statements of Festival du Voyageur Inc. (the Corporation) for the year ended April 30, 2023.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements, on the basis described in the note.

Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the Corporation's audited financial statement and the auditor's report thereon.

The Audited Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial statements in our report dated September 6, 2023.

Management's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the summary financial statements on the basis described in the note.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statement are a fair summary of the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standards (CAS) 810, Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

Winnipeg, Manitoba September 6, 2023 CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

Fort Group

FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR INC. SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION APRIL 30, 2023

		<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS Cash and bank Cash restricted for replacement reserve Accounts, subsidies and grants receivable GST Receivable Inventory Prepaid expenses	\$	329,269 112,742 - 38,550 25,554	225,796 53,009 259,961 19,314 48,911 60,247
		506,115	667,238
RESTRICTED INVESTMENTS		-	271,194
CAPITAL ASSETS		926,497	764,727
	\$	1,432,612	1,703,159
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES Bank indebtness Accounts payable and accrued expenses GST payable Unearned revenue Obligation under capital lease Canada emergency business account loan	\$	223,702 144,711 5,034 - 6,315 40,000	203,040 - 204,914 6,014
		419,762	413,968
OBLIGATION UNDER CAPITAL LEASE		23,535	29,850
DEFERRED CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS		530,063	480,613
CANADA EMERGENCY BUSINESS ACCOUNT LOAN		<u> </u>	40,000
		973,360	964,431
NET ASSETS			
NET ASSETS Unrestricted Internally restricted Invested in capital assets Capital asset replacement		(224,765) 366,584 317,433	173,045 248,250 317,433
		459,252	738,728
	<u>\$</u>	1,432,612	1,703,159

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

 President
 Treasurer

The accompanying note is an integral part of these summary financial statements.

FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR INC. SUMMARY STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED APRIL 30, 2023

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	
REVENUE			
Operating grants Government of Canada Province of Manitoba City of Winnipeg	\$ 217,000 356,090 94,500	52,500 363,129 126,000	
	667,590	541,629	
Centre Fort Gibraltar Contributions related to capital assets Interest and other Other productions	162,752 80,550 6,118 190,819	81,648 69,838 14,523	
	440,239	166,009	
Winter Festival (Schedule 1) Winter Festival - grants and subsidies Winter Festival - sales and admissions Winter Festival - sponsorships	530,834 1,963,717 501,597	394,333 394,058 319,350	
	2,996,148	1,107,741	
	4,103,977	1,815,379	
EXPENSES			
Amortization	164,787	136,114	
Bank charges and interest	23,339	9,287	
Fort Gibraltar	340,005	267,707	
Insurance	113,295	57,704	
Other Other productions	8,402	1,658	
Other productions Photocopies, office supplies and other	351,029 19,424	- 17,254	
Professional fees	54,503	66,478	
Promotion and marketing	3,920	3,780	
Property taxes	28,502	27,084	
Salaries and benefits	536,760	528,103	
Supplies and service contracts	10,125	13,234	
Telecommunications	9,758	12,154	
Training, meetings and receptions	25,582	26,275	
Utilities	17,481	16,335	
Winter Festival (Schedule 1)	2,776,541	1,143,139	
	4,483,453	2,326,306	
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES BEFORE OTHER ITEM	(379,476)	(510,927)	
OTHER ITEM COVID-19 Subsidies	100,000	566,589	
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR	<u>\$ (279,476)</u>	55,662	

The accompanying note is an integral part of these summary financial statements.

FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR INC. NOTE TO THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED APRIL 30, 2023

Note on Basis of Presentation

The summary financial statements presented includes only the summary statement of financial position and does not include the statement of changes in net assets, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements. The summary statement of financial position and summary statement of operations are not reproduced in as much detail as the audited financial statements. A copy of the audited financial statements is available at the office of Festival du Voyageur Inc.

SCHEDULE 1

FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR INC. SCHEDULE OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES FOR WINTER FESTIVAL APRIL 30 2023

		2023			2022	
	Produits	Charges	Contribution	Produits	<u>Charges</u>	Contribution
FACTOR and Music	175 000	-	175 000	56 513	-	56 513 \$
Government of Canada						
National Trust for Canada - JCT	34 348	-	34 348	50 045	-	50 045
Canadian Heritage	154 425	-	154 425	219 275	-	219 275
Province of Manitoba						
Bureau de l'éducation	67 000	-	67 000	67 000	-	67 000
Indigenous Facilities Project at the Park	14 062		14 062			
PrairieCan	49 999		49 999		-	
City of Winnipeg	36 000		36 000	1 500		1 500
	530 834		530 834	394 333		337 820
Admissions	900 396	_	900 396	100 401	-	100 401
CCFM Trading Post	51 628	143 871	(92 243)	65 795	151 308	(85 513)
Marketing	3 000	189 258	(186 258)	2 250	86 307	(84 057)
School program	184 179	177 504	6 675	66 486	120 182	(53 696)
Sculptures program	56 400	73 733	(17 333)	37 500	38 283	(783)
Souvenirs	119 450	75 331	44 119	86 216	48 558	37 658
Sponsorships	501 597	21 086	480 511	319 350	9 310	310 040
Traveler Park	648 664	2 049 506	(1 400 842)	35 410	680 029	(644 619)
Volunteer training		46 252	(46 252)		9 162	(9 162)
	2 996 148	2 776 541	219 607	1 107 741	1 143 139	(91 911)\$