



CHORUS TEAM LEADER/PRESIDENT MEETING NOTES

Saturday, August 7th, 2021

Agenda

1. Welcome / Introductions
2. International and Regional Updates
3. Return to In Person Rehearsal Plans and Resources
4. Membership Recruitment Tools

Attendees

Sue Melvin – Team Leader Region 16 RMT, Limestone City Voices
Christine Yorke – Membership Coordinator Region 16 RMT, Circle of Harmony Chorus
Tamar Spina – Barrie Soundwaves
Karen Young – Bytown Beat
Lorraine Gagnon-Lacroix – Durham Shores
Susan Boissonneault – Eastside Harmony
Marion Boyd – Harmony North
Lori Johnston – The Heartland Singers
Cynthia Carey – Kawartha Music Company
Heather Parker – North Metro
Nancy Buott – Northumberland
Joy Halbert – Orangeville
Sue Dubois – York Harmony

Presentation: http://www.saregion16.com/commonfiles/region16/db_uploads/08_07_21_TL-Prez_Meeting_PowerPoint_Presentation_16286882478748.pdf (Contains links to additional resources.)

Regional Updates

- There have been lots of regional communications over the last few months. Links to all communications are available in the presentation
- The region will be switching over to unique logins for all members on September 1st. If you have members that are technologically challenged, they may need one-on-one support through the transition.
- Home addresses will be removed from the regional directory. If you need to mail something to a chorus or quartet, please email them to get a mailing address.
- Please send the name and picture of your Sweet Adeline of the Year to Diane Seward ASAP.



CHORUS TEAM LEADER/PRESIDENT MEETING NOTES

Saturday, August 7th, 2021

Return to In Person Rehearsals

A communication has been sent from the International Board to Chapter Leaders on May 31st regarding vaccination as it relates to competitions. The Board said it "...will not require members to have COVID-19 vaccinations to be eligible to participate in competitions." and "...does not recommend that choruses impose a vaccine requirement for a member to be eligible to participate and compete."

- Reminder that the Regional website has links to many relevant resources related to COVID and Singing. [Click here](#)
- Choruses in the region are in very different stages regarding preparing for in person rehearsals. Local restrictions, facility restrictions and the unique needs of each chorus will result in different approaches for each group. Sharing of information is intended to allow us to learn from the experience of others but should not be taken as the "right" approach for everyone.
- Resources developed by choruses are available [here](#).
- Sharing from choruses:
 - Image City – Is rehearsing every other week in person indoors.
 - Acapella North – Is rehearsing outdoors with masks. They are using the colour coding (green, yellow, red) to indicate their comfort level with close contact.
 - Limestone City Voices – Is have a social gathering outside on August 11th. They are all vaccinated and have decided to require vaccination to attend in person events.
 - Circle of Harmony – Held their first in person rehearsal on August 4th, outdoor with masks, distancing and the Ontario COVID screening survey completed before attending. They are not requiring vaccines. The chorus was surveyed to find out if they were interested in outdoor rehearsals in August based on strong interest the plan was developed by the COVID team. Distancing was managed by marking X's on the ground on the parking lot for all singers. Mask breaks were included in the schedule.
 - York Harmony – Surveyed the chorus and created a COVID committee. They have tweaked the waiver provided by SAI and will be requiring all members to sign. They are not requiring vaccines. They are planning to get together in smaller groups on alternate weeks outdoors in September. Masks will not be required outdoors and will use the colour coding to indicate comfort level with close contact.
 - Eastside – Currently on summer break but have a survey ready to go out. They are not expecting to require vaccines.
 - Heartland Singers - Is still in the talking stage of in person attendance. They are going to try a social this month, in the parking lot of the church where they practice. Masks, social distancing are required.



CHORUS TEAM LEADER/PRESIDENT MEETING NOTES

Saturday, August 7th, 2021

Return to In Person Rehearsals (cont.)

- Northumberland - They changed their summer schedule from having 3 weeks vacation to Zooming every other week starting the end of June but with the addition of 2 members requesting a leave of absence for August in addition to the already 3 on leave, they suspended rehearsals for August. With a small chorus, it wasn't worthwhile to continue with rehearsals. They are planning an outside social get together on August 16th. Their rehearsal hall has suspended rental fees for the time they have been closed but now requests they decide whether they intend to use the space and when they expect to return. The Hall's Board is meeting next week to decide risers and other items can continue to be stored and at what cost.
- Durham Shores – not meeting yet. They will be surveying shortly, and the Board is meeting in September to discuss the results. They have had good success using McGregor meats as a fundraiser to avoid requiring chorus dues.
- Harmony North – They are in discussions and are developing a survey. Planning an outdoor event next week. Their hall is not sure whether they will take them back when they reopen. Their only cost for the hall during the shutdown has been a donation for storing their risers.
- Kawartha – Survey is done, and the team is meeting in August to discuss the results. They are planning an outdoor social in September.
- Barrie – Two members that deal with COVID controls at work have been able to guide them. They will be using the Ontario COVID screening questions with a verbal confirmation and will hold their first outdoor rehearsal on Tuesday. They will have masks when not singing but no masks required when singing. COVID officers have been designated to ensure protocols are followed. COVID plan submitted to the city for possible return to indoor rehearsals in Sept.
- North Metro – They have budgeted for returning in January. They are hoping for a social in August. They have evaluated the hall for spacing but need to determine if the ventilation is adequate. They have a doctor leading their COVID team.
- Bytown Beat – They are returning to Zoom on Monday. The Board is meeting this week and they are developing a survey.

Membership Recruitment Tools

- Links to two new membership resources are provided in the PowerPoint presentation:
 - New Member program summary from Canadian Showtime
 - Link to video presentation by Region 11 during the December 2020 RMT Networking event titled Sharing Your Sweet Ads Story Successfully: Marketing with Stories and Testimonials to Help Your Membership Grow

Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be on October 2nd at 10 am.
- Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8473056850?pwd=eEpMK0E5ZkhTN0tpRIhmT3doTHpRUT09>