



# *Prairie Focus*

Prairie Region of Photographic Arts

Volume 62 No. 1

Fall 2021



## ***Sheep River Falls***

by Dan Sigouin, FCC

**First, 2020 Fall Digital Competition**

Prairie Photographers sharing photographic experiences

***Alberta • Saskatchewan • Manitoba***

[prpa.photography](http://prpa.photography)

[facebook.com/prpa.canada](https://facebook.com/prpa.canada)

## From the Chair by Dan Sigouin

The 2021-2022 PRPA season has started! Hopefully everyone enjoyed the summer and had a productive fall. It has been very busy here in Calgary balancing multiple priorities with PRPA and CAPA. I have entered a gallery submission to the Exposure Fest 2022 with CAPA and have been working to sort out many tasks to complete the submission. There will be lots to learn with creating a gallery and working with the host facility, cSpace. I am excited with the challenge.

A special meeting was held in October to clear up items that had been left incomplete from the summer AGM. The audit/review process is important to PRPA to ensure that the association finances are reviewed yearly. The association can forego an audit provided the membership votes unanimously. The books for the 2020-2021 season were reviewed by Leonard Howes and Colleen Edwards. The Bylaws Coordinator position was voted on and Stan Hingston was elected to be the coordinator. It is important to review and maintain the bylaws of the association, with items modified as required. Stan Hingston was also elected to the Vice Chair position. Stan has been very helpful to me during my time as chair with fielding questions and providing insight to the structure of PRPA. I look forward to working with Stan in this transitional year as we look to elect a new PRPA chairperson.

Clubs have been able to start to meet face to face while adhering to safety protocols. There has been a mix of online and face to face events here in Calgary. The attendance has been low, which is understandable. Hopefully we turn the corner soon and can resume all activities as normal. I have been very fortunate to have been hired as an event photographer this fall. I worked at a Spartan race in Red Deer and recently photographed a U15, Triple A hockey tournament in Calgary. It is great to see events coming back on.

The 2021-2022 season seems to have started off slowly. A fall meeting was not called as there was no direct need, beyond the special meeting. The executive will be planning soon for a spring meeting, with fingers crossed it can be face to face. In the spring meeting, it is hopeful that we can begin the discussions of an outing for 2022. We will be monitoring the pandemic situation and provincial health recommendations to consider the 2022 outing possibility. For now, there is no location or host established.

As always, the PRPA depends on volunteers to keep the association moving forward. We are always looking for help and support and have positions on the executive that will be open to fill. Positions that will be open are chairperson and competitions coordinator. If anyone is interested in an executive position, please contact a current executive member for details.

Thanks and stay healthy,

*Dan Sigouin*

I found this truck on a tour near Medicine Hat. It was in a yard that had 1500 vehicles in various states of disrepair.



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## Competitions Report

by Marlene Andrew

At the time of writing this the entries are coming in for the Hand of Man and the Gail Christensen Artistic Expression Competitions. Some I have talked to haven't got out much to shoot in the last year or more but are finding they have more than enough on their hard drives to keep them going for awhile.

I can't emphasize enough how important it is to review the rules and instructions for each competition you are entering in the **latest PRPA Handbook** which is available on the website. It is up to each individual entering to read and follow the rules and instructions for each competition.

The forms have been sent to the judging clubs. It's important for the club judging coordinator to follow all the instructions for judging in the **latest PRPA Handbook** and any other instructions I may have sent. The selected judges too must go through the instructions and guidelines prior to judging.

I choose the three judges for the Hand of Man Competition from three different clubs or, if available, individual members who are not members of a club. If there is anyone that is working toward certification as a CAPA judge please contact me if you need a competition to judge. I can work with you and the CAPA Judges Liaison Officer to help you reach your designation.

Whether you are entering or are involved in judging competitions, please don't hesitate to phone, text or email me if you are uncertain about anything at all.

I'm excited to see the results for the new season and wish everyone luck in the competitions. Image West members are particularly looking forward to seeing the entries in the new competition The Gail Christensen Artistic Expressions Digital Competition.

Thank you to all the clubs and club reps for the 2020/2021 season.

### With Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to PRPA members who have recently lost loved ones.



**Mary Jacobs** of Estevan, SK, on the sudden passing of her brother in July.

### 2020-21 Winning Images Slideshow

A slideshow of winning images from the previous competition series is usually shown at the Outing during the awards presentation.

You can watch the 2020-21 slideshow at your own convenience at this URL: <https://youtu.be/fkGir7VkviU> (it can also be found on the website under Galleries.

Enjoy the dozens of excellent images made by fellow PRPA members. Hopefully you will find some of your own images included in the show.

*Marlene Andrew*

### Club Abbreviations

CAPS Central Alberta Photographic Society  
 FCC Foothills Camera Club, Calgary  
 GCC Gleneath Camera Club, Kindersley  
 IWPA Image West Photographic Association,  
 Swift Current

MJCC Moose Jaw Camera Club  
 RRCC Red River Camera Club, Winnipeg MB  
 RePC Regina Photo Club  
 RoPC Rosetown Photography Club  
 SCC Saskatoon Camera Club

# Print Circuit Report

by Maureen Sinclair

The fall has not turned out quite how I had hoped since the Saskatoon club has only managed a couple of in-person meetings and it seems we have to “recalibrate” every other week!

Two of the binders went out on their journeys at the regular time with one member taking a round off. Circuit #3 however had two retirements and one new person, who I hope will stick around for awhile. Len Suchan had been with the circuits for 17 years! That’s longer than I have been green coordinator. Jim Barnsley has also been in the circuits for a number of years. We thank them for their participation in sharing their images and their skilled commentary. Unfortunately, with all the changes the circuit was late getting on the road.

Two final points: There is room in P.C. #3 for another member who could start in January 2022. The only pre-requisite is that you must be a paid member.

Secondly, the print circuits do not have very many rules! You are free to try any techniques and find out if the others can see your vision or can suggest some other slant.

The remaining results for the Fall 2020 round follow:

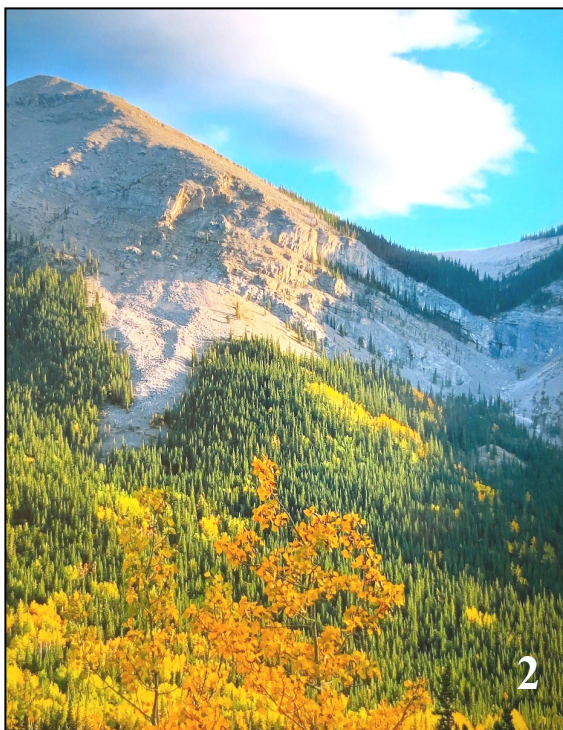
**Print Circuit #2**

- 1st *Fishing* by Mary Jacobs
- 2nd *Hiking to see Autumn Glory* by Marilyn Nimegeers
- 3rd *Afternoon Delight in Kananaskis Country* by Marilyn Nimegeers

**Winning Images P.C. #2 — Fall 2020**



1



2

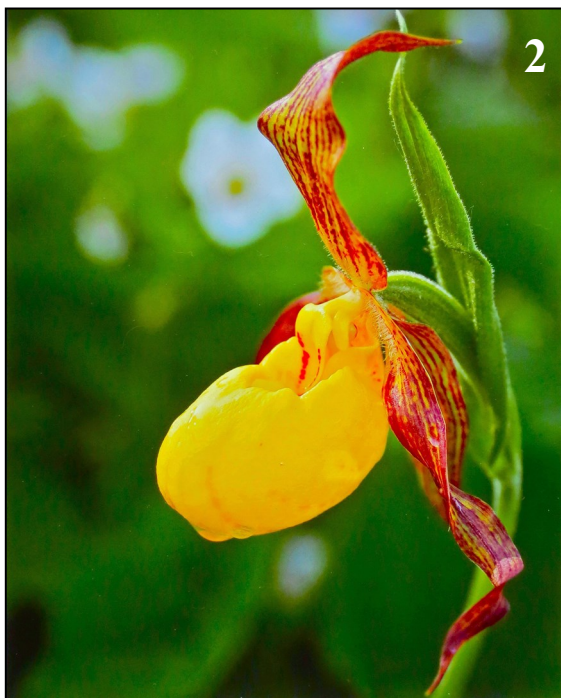


3

Winning Images P.C. #4 — Fall 2020

**Print Circuit #4** (renamed #1 for 2021)

- 1st *Ascending* by Dan Sigouin
- 2nd *Yellow Lady Slipper* by Curtiss Lund
- 3rd *Hang On* by David Bellerive



**Digital Image Circuits Report**

by Keith Putt

Due to low interest both digital image circuits—the Digital Image Critique Circuit and the Digital Image Editing Circuit—will not be run this year. I am open to running either in the future if there are enough interested members.

**Camera Stores offering a discount to PRPA members**

At the special general meeting October 2 it was suggested to publish a list of camera stores that offer discounts to PRPA members. The club reps for Regina, Saskatoon, Calgary and Red Deer are working on a list for their city. These will be published in the Winter issue.

Fall Digital Competition 2020



1. *Sheep River Falls* by Dan Sigouin (cover)
2. *The Grassland Brothers* by Diane McKinnon (above)
3. *Brakes* by David Bellerive (left)



- HM *Yellow Throated Marten* by Don Berthman RRCC (above)  
HM *Warrior* by David Bellerive SCC (left)  
HM *The Ice Fields River Valley* by Dan Sigouin (below)



**Fall Digital Competition 2020**  
continued from page 6



HM *I'm Watching You* by Diane McKinnon, IWPA

HM *Pink and White Cosmos* by Paule Hjertaas, SCC

**Russell Competition 2020**  
continued from page 8

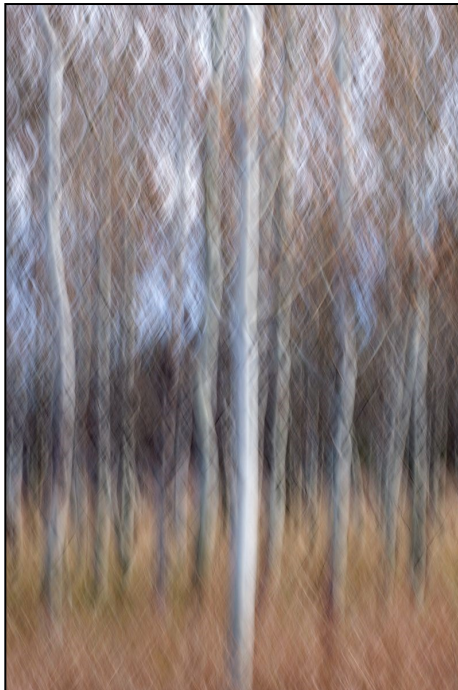


HM *Hardened / See Right Through Me*  
by David Bellerive, RePC

HM *The Water is Stiff / Delicate*  
by Rusty Morris, RoPC

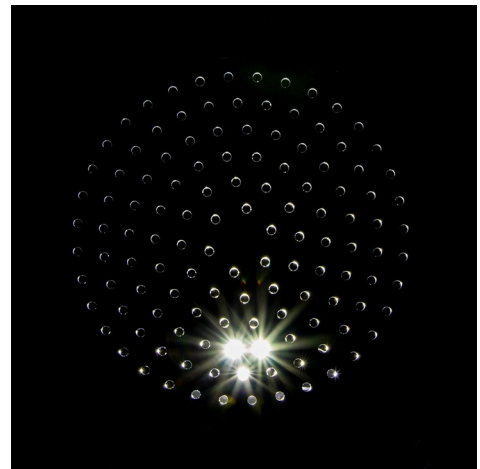


**Russell Competition 2020 (*Hard / Porous*)**



1. *Shadow Wall /  
Whispering Aspens*  
by Barry Jennings,

2. *Rock Solid /  
Oh Holey Light*  
by Cathleen Mewis, SCC



3. *Hard / Porous*  
by Dan Sigouin, FCC

Russell Competition  
is continued on  
previous page.



## The De-Mystifying Filter by Keith Putt

### #9 – Photo Editing Software

Oh Great Oracle of Winnipeg – Tell me, what photo editing software should I use?

Ha ha – you are such a joker. There is no answer to that question. But you shall have my opinion.

The first thing to understand is photo software falls into 3 broad categories. For extremely detailed editing use something like Photoshop. For general and RAW editing use something like Lightroom. For file management use something like Lightroom or Bridge. Some software attempts to covers several categories in one app.

It is difficult (maybe impossible) to beat the comprehensive features of an Adobe CC Photography Plan. On a beer budget you get Photoshop, Lightroom Classic (desktop), Lightroom CC (cloud), Lightroom Mobile, Bridge+Adobe Camera Raw (simplified Lightroom), a MyPortfolio\* website and more. There are more tutorials, plug-ins, books, videos and instructions for Adobe than any other photo editing software. If you are serious about photo editing, why wouldn't you use Photoshop or Lightroom?

One reason is Photoshop is intimidating. There is a lot to learn and it isn't push-button simple. If you don't need Photoshop's advanced features, opt for Lightroom. Lightroom is simpler and is a manageable thing to learn. However, Adobe CC is only available by subscription. That means you pay and pay without ever owning it. When you stop paying you can no longer use it.

Let us talk about subscription models vs. perpetual licence for a moment. In the past when everyone used perpetual licences, Photoshop cost about \$800 and \$150 per year in upgrades. Today Adobe Photo Plan CC costs about \$150/year and your software is always up-to-date. Despite the advantages, many photographers absolutely **hate** subscription software. This attitude boosted companies selling perpetual license software. There has never been more choice for people who dislike subscriptions.

Three full feature programmes I see used in Winnipeg are On1, Affinity Photo and Luminar. Adobe Elements (Photoshop lite) is popular and easy to use. There are many other contenders.

For example, check out Corel, DxO, ACDSSee and Alien Skin. For high horse power file managing, check Photo Mechanic. But be forewarned – premium software isn't free or even cheap. Plus if you want to stay current, there is the cost of annual updates.

When you shop for software, keep an upgrade path in mind. Want to edit RAW or manage large photo collections some day? Plan accordingly. Otherwise you may need costly upgrades or entirely new software. You didn't flinch when buying that fancy lens that is gathering dust. Software gets used (or should get used) on nearly every photo you take. Stinting on software is a false economy. You will be restricted and frustrated.

Some software claims to replace Photoshop and Lightroom for free. Oh, please. You really believe that? But if you are a dabbler, just curious or looking for a low cost way to get started – free is an excellent on-ramp. I started with a free editor bundled with an HP printer.

The internet is littered with free computer, phone and tablet apps. More than I can mention here. Do some research and try a few. Even Adobe has free software. Phone camera users should explore Photoshop Camera and especially the free version of Lightroom Mobile.

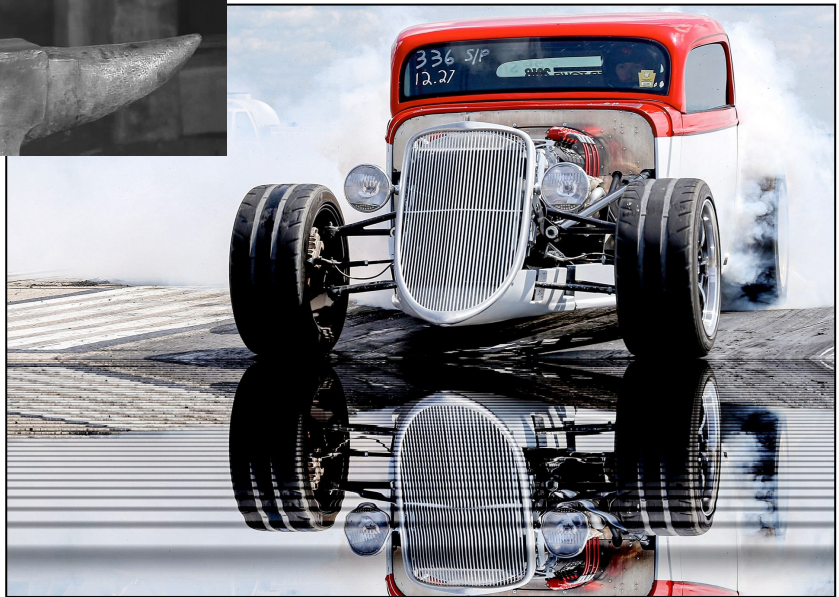
An easy free start is a basic editor such as Windows 10 Photos, Apple Photos or Google Photos. An upgrade from these is on-line software such as Pixlr and Sumo Paint. These run from your browser without need to download and install. Chromebook users, check Pixlr and Sumo because you cannot install Photoshop on a Chromebook. For a Lightroom emulator, check Darktable. If all you want is to manage your files, I recommend downloading the free version of Adobe Bridge.

\* MyPortfolio alone justifies an Adobe CC Photography Plan by eliminating the expenses of hosting and domain name.

## Hand of Man Competition 2020



1. *Blacksmith B&W*  
by Ian Nelson, FCC



2. *Burn Out*  
by Theresa Busse IWPA

3. *Rocky Mountain Tour*  
by Diane McKinnon, IWPA



**Hand of Man Competition  
continued**



*HM Throwing Curve Ball*  
by Cameron Palmer, FCC



*HM Sculpture Samurai and Wolfs*  
by Jan Vodrazka, FCC



*HM Hiding Out in the Old Farmyard*  
by Neil Rutherford, FCC

**Photography Tour to Iceland**

Members of IWPA in Swift Current are planning a [photographic tour to Iceland](#) July 9 -21, 2022 and are inviting you to join them.

The itinerary includes 10 day trips:

- Golden Circle
- South Coast - Vik
- Skaftafell - Jökulsárlón
- East Fjords - Egilsstaðir
- Dettifoss - Ásbyrgi - Húsavík (Islands)
- Lake Mývatn - Goðafoss - Akureyri
- Skagafjörður - Hvítserkur - Hvammstangi
- Laugarbakki - Rauðisandur - Látrabjarg
- Dynjandi - Breiðafjörður - Stykkishólmur
- Snæfellsnes Peninsula - Reykjavik

Package price depends on number of participants and single vs double room occupancy:

Single: \$8,599 - 9,359

Double: \$6,799 - 7,599

Includes 11 nights' accommodation, breakfasts, dinners, bus travel and tour guide. Optional Services add up to \$600. Air travel to Iceland, lunches, and tips are not included.

A deposit of \$700 is required with each reservation; total payment is due April 9. On April 10 the full amount becomes non-refundable (travel insurance is recommended).

For more information contact Marg Leitch at CAA Travel: Phone 306-773-8363 email [margaret.leitch@caask.ca](mailto:margaret.leitch@caask.ca)

**Digital Photo Mentor  
PRPA webinar link**

Darlene Hildebrandt of Digital Photo Mentor held a webinar for PRPA members on July 7. Several members sent in photos ahead of time for her to work with on the webinar. Darlene covered several aspects of photo editing using PhotoShop, LightRoom and Luminar AI.

If you were on the webinar live, you can review it here; if it's your first time I'm sure you will learn something useful. The recording is just over 2 hours long but you don't have to watch it all at once.

<https://youtu.be/RMuvLTbVcmQ>

**PRPA Special General Meeting October 2, 2021**  
 report by Stan Hingston from minutes by Lois Howes

A special general meeting was called to deal with a few items that had been missed at the Annual General Meeting on June 16. The meeting was held by Zoom teleconference Saturday afternoon, October 2.

Fourteen members attended, satisfying the quorum of 12: Dan Sigouin, Lois Howes, Keith Putt, Marlene Andrew, Larry Easton, Vinod Kothari, Brenda Winny, Maureen Sinclair, Stan Hingston, David Belerive, Laird Wilson, Shirley Gerlock, Mary Jacobs, Rella Lavoie.

Dan thanked everyone for attending and explained that the special general meeting was required due to certain missed items in the AGM agenda.

A motion was passed unanimously to waive a financial audit for 2021-22. Leonard Howes and Colleen Edwards were appointed to review the books for 2021-22.

The financial reviewer's report that was completed over the summer was read by Lois.

Stan was elected to the position of Bylaws Coordinator.

Stan volunteered to take the position of Vice-Chair and was elected to that position.

Dan agreed to stay on as Chair for the rest of the year.

PRPA membership cards were discussed. Some camera stores offer discounts to PRPA members by showing proof of membership and cards are the most convenient to carry. The club reps were asked to check with the stores in their city and send a list of participating stores to Stan for publication in the newsletter.

Keith said that he has decided to close both digital circuits due to insufficient participating members.

Vinod Kothari introduced himself as the new club rep for Foothills Camera Club. Ken Dumont was announced as the new club rep for Regina.

Brenda Winny adjourned the meeting.

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BEGINNER ONLINE COURSE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>4 Weeks to Better Photography</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Portrait Fundamentals</b></p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>LEARN PEOPLE PHOTOGRAPHY</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Online class to help you take better photos of your family and friends.</p>
 <p><b>DIGITAL PHOTO MENTOR</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>LIVE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">learn how to <b>EDIT PHOTOS</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ONLINE PHOTOGRAPHY EDUCATION</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="http://www.DigitalPhotoMentor.com">www.DigitalPhotoMentor.com</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="http://www.YouTube.com/digitalphotomentor/live">www.YouTube.com/digitalphotomentor/live</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Weekly LIVE photo editing tutorials</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Get 20% off</b> courses and digital products</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Discount code: PRPA</b></p>

### Editor's Report

by Stan Hingston

Welcome to the Fall 2021 issue!

Sorry I'm a bit late with this. I had other projects in October I had to concentrate on.

I'm mixing up the competition winners a bit this year. Since Everest was published in the Summer issue I included the Hand of Man this time. And since the Gerry Fish was disqualified last year that leaves 6 competitions for the Winter and Spring newsletters, 3 in each issue.

The small laser-photocopied prints in the newsletter don't do justice to the images. You really need to see them full screen from the original files in the Galleries section of the PRPA website. Scott does a great job of organizing them, going back to 2009-10. There are now 12 years of winning images to inspire you.

That's especially true for this issue. For some reason my printer is giving the black and white images a magenta tone and the color photos an orange cast. I'm printing the copies anyway to avoid a further delay. Another reason to view the newsletter and the winning images online!

Sadly it looks like this will be the last Digital Image Circuits report, at least for this year.

The Iceland Tour looks very tempting!

### Webmaster Report

by Scott Prokop

The following are now up on the website:

- revised Bylaws (under "Downloads")
- revised Handbook (top menu)
- the new Gail Christensen Artistic Expressions Digital Competition (Fall Competitions) [it is in the Handbook]
- 2020-21 Competition Winners slideshow

Over the next few days keep checking the PRPA website for:

- the Fall *Prairie Focus* (this newsletter)

If you notice any errors or missing information on the PRPA website please contact me at [prpaclub@gmail.com](mailto:prpaclub@gmail.com)

#### Prairie Focus Advertising Rates

The following rates are for B&W or color ads.

- |                                 |            |            |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|
| • Full page (175x245 mm)        | \$60/issue | \$200/year |
| • Half page (175x120 or 85x245) | 30         | 100        |
| • Quarter page (85x120)         | 20         | 60         |
| • Business card (85x~50)        | 10         | 30         |

#### Submission Deadlines for the Newsletter

Winter: January 15	Summer: May 15
Spring: March 15	Fall: October 15

### Application for Individual Membership in *Prairie Region of Photographic Arts*

I hereby apply for Individual Membership in the Prairie Region of Photographic Arts (PRPA). Enclosed is my membership fee of \$25 (payable to "PRPA"). Memberships expire June 30, 2022

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I am a member of (photography club) \_\_\_\_\_

(or) I am not affiliated with any club \_\_\_\_ .

Prairie Focus is sent by emailed PDF to all members. It is also available to Individual Members by mailed paper copy. Please check  your preference: \_\_\_ email only; \_\_\_ email & printed copy. PRPA may publish a member list which is distributed to PRPA Board Members and Club Reps only.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Theresa Busse, Box 2254, Swift Current, SK S9H 4X6

# CONTACTS

## PRPA Executive & Coordinators for 2020-2021

<b>Chairperson</b>	Dan Sigouin	Calgary AB	echeloncad@gmail.com	403-366-6119
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Stan Hingston		sghingston@sasktel.net	Cell: 306-831-0398
<b>Secretary</b>	Lois Howes	Box 1365, Swift Current SK S9X 3X5	loishowes3@gmail.com	306-741-2212
<b>Treasurer &amp; Membership</b>	Theresa Busse	Box 2254, Swift Current, SK S9H 4X6	tbusse@sasktel.net	306-750-2393
<b>Past Chair</b>	Ann Dies	Netherhill SK	dies@sasktel.net	306-463-3177
<b>Competitions</b>	Marlene Andrew	18 MacDonald Cres., Swift Current SK S9H 4A6	marleneandrewphotography@sasktel.net	306-741-9134
<b>Newsletter &amp; Bylaws</b>	Stan Hingston	Box 1177, Rosetown SK S0L 2V0	Res: 306-882-2263 Work: 306-882-2220 Cell: 306-831-0398	sghingston@sasktel.net
<b>Website</b>	Scott Prokop	Saskatoon SK	prpaclub@gmail.com	306-715-8484
<b>Print Circuit</b>	Maureen Sinclair	Saskatoon SK	maureen.sinclair@sasktel.net	306-955-2373
<b>Digital Circuits</b>	Keith Putt	Winnipeg MB	kputt.club@mtsmail.ca	204-257-1992
<b>Archivist</b>	Shirley J. Gerlock	Regina SK	sjgerlock@accesscomm.ca	306-757-3328
<b>Outing Coordinator (2022)</b>				
<b>Members-at-Large</b>	Curtiss Lund	Red Deer AB	clund1@telus.net	403-347-2709
	Laird Wilson	Regina SK	laird.wilson@sasktel.net	306-543-0739

## PRPA Club Representatives

CAPS	Sandy Chinski		s_chinski@hotmail.com
Foothills Camera Club <b>new</b>	<b>Vinod Kothari</b>		<b>vinodk@telus.net</b>
Gleneath Camera Club	Michelle Vold	306-463-6374	sorl.bmvold@sasktel.net
Image West Photographic Association	Marlene Andrew		marleneandrewphotography@sasktel.net
Moose Jaw Camera Club	Nick Pettigrew	306-631-7223	nitro96nick@gmail.com
Red River Camera Club	Don Berthman	240-261-4891	berthman@gmail.com
Regina Photo Club <b>new</b>	<b>Ken Dumont</b>	<b>306-789-1443</b>	<b>kendumont@accesscomm.ca</b>
Rosetown Photography Club	Brenda Winny	306-882-4181	bwinny@sasktel.net
Saskatoon Camera Club	Maureen Sinclair	306-955-2373	maureen.sinclair@sasktel.net

## Member Clubs of PRPA

Central Alberta Photographic Society (CAPS)	www.centralalbertaphotographicsociety.com
Foothills Camera Club	https://www.fcc-yyc.ca (correction)
Gleneath Camera Club	https://kindersley.ca/thingstodo/artsculture/cameraclub
Image West Photographic Assoc.	www.facebook.com/groups/imagewestphotographicassociation
Moose Jaw Camera Club	https://moosejawcameraclub.com
Red River Camera Club	www.redriverex.com/photo-salon/
Regina Photo Club	www.reginaphotoclub.com
Rosetown Photography Club	www.rosetownphotographyclub.blogspot.ca
Saskatoon Camera Club	www.saskatooncameraclub.com