Women of the Moose Official Communication April 16, 2020
Message from Barbara McPherson, Grand Chancellor

Quaker missionary Etienne de Grellet wrote "I shall pass this way but once; any good that I can do or any kindness I can show to any human being; let me do it now." The COVID-19 pandemic has brought out the very best in the human race and our Moose Members are to be included.

Over and over I hear of face masks being made and donated to those who don’t have them available; food deliveries taken to senior members who should be staying at home; food donations available to those who are embarrassed because they need them; and teenagers making Easter, this year, more than just another day by dressing up as Easter bunnies and hiding eggs in members yards. This tells just a fraction of the story that we as Moose should be proud to share and what we as Moose do – take care of others!

In addition, many of our members are front line workers at grocery stores, drug stores, hospitals, clinics and the like. Once again, please accept our thanks and gratitude for all you do to help all of us get by and keep us safe. My hugs and appreciation goes out to each of you.

Once again, I thank each and every one of you for whatever you are doing to preserve our future; sending virtual hugs to our residents and one another, renewing your dues, staying at home as ordered, keeping our members and those in our care in your thoughts and prayers.

**REMINDEERS AND CLARIFICATIONS**
Please also refer to previous Official Communications posted on our website at mooseintl.org

**Forms 114 and 166:**
While all completed Forms 114 and 166 for the 2019-2020 Chapter year are due by May 31, 2020, we have received many emails asking why they haven’t been posted. Please remember that Moose International is closed due to the state mandated stay at home order and only limited staff is working from home. Mail is delivered but at this time, the limited Women of the Moose staff are doing their best to keep up with all demands. Please be patient and watch for them to be posted in the online Moose Admin.

In addition Checks will take longer than usual to clear your bank as much of our support staff is not available to perform daily tasks.

**Applications:**
In an attempt to ease the requirement of membership votes on new and re-enrolled applications, the General Governor’s Office is allowing the Chapter Officers to approve applications, if necessary, after submission by the Application Review Committee, until further notice. Completed applications with the associated funds must still be submitted to one of the Chapter Officers for review by the Application Review Committee. Applications may be scanned to the committee for review if in-person contact is restricted.

As we near the end of the Chapter year, don’t forget to process those online applications that may be sitting in the online section of your applications as well as the applications that have already been
accepted. These must be reported as enrolled on or before April 30th. The applications will be crucial to helping the Chapter qualify for the coveted Award of Achievement.

**FRU Information Screen:**
Additional emails have been received regarding the delay in posting dues payments that reflect on the FRU Information screen in LCL.net.

Please know that the FRU Information screen is not really accurate as it has a lot to do with timing. We recommend using the number in the lower right hand corner of the active member roster as your current active membership. Dues paid can be secured from the payments that have been deposited to your bank account. The number of expired members can be determined from those who expired at the end of last month and moved to your Inactive member list.

Dues payments (both online and lockbox) come to us in files. Those files have to be “balanced” and then posted. Again, we only have a very few people working from home so whomever is doing the balancing and posting is most likely behind as we typically have 3 people doing it and now it’s down to 1.

In addition, the lockbox payments that are “exceptions” (which means everything doesn’t match up) require manual intervention and we are not sure who might or might not be working at the lockbox facility. It is sort of a trickle-down effect if you know what I mean. Please know that all payments will be posted before we end the year.

**Year End:**
The 2019-2020 Chapter year will end on April 30, 2020. Only the elected Officers, Appointed Officers and chairmen’s term of office is extended until June 30. Honors will be graded as outlined in the General Laws, May 1, 2019 through April 30, 2020 with one exception. If the Chapter does not have an increase of at least +1 on April 30th, we will use the March 31 ending membership if it is +1 over the previous April 30.

**Dues:**
Dues payments can still be remitted to the Dues Processing lockbox in addition to online dues payments. Consider calling members in arrears and inviting them to renew their dues. During this time of financial uncertainty for many families, the Chapter may consider offering a dues incentive or assistance to those experiencing hardship, if funds are available. Any such proposal and expenditure requires Chapter approval.

**2020 International Conference:**
The in-person 2020 International Moose Conference slated to take place May 21-26 in Milwaukee, WI has been cancelled due to concerns over the health and safety of our members related to coronavirus. Despite the cancellation of activities in Milwaukee, Moose leadership is working to develop a “virtual convention” to hopefully be held June 25-26, 2020. Additional information regarding WOTM appointments and conference proceedings will be distributed in the near future. Please watch for details.

On behalf of the Women of the Moose, we sincerely hope that the situation in the world will improve soon. Take care of yourselves and stay healthy.