



Icelandic National League of North America

þjóðræknisfélag Íslendinga í Vesturheimi

105th Annual General Meeting

Saturday, May 4th, 2024 1:30 PM CT Virtual Presentation

INLNA Reports and AGM Documents

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President's Report - Ashley Thorvaldson

Thank you for your support of the INLNA over the past year. After several years of pandemic separation, it was wonderful to have our in person convention and many other in person events across our membership. Each event and program requires the dedication of volunteers, their ideas and commitment, follow through, and dedication. All hours spent so that we can come together and experience the connection of our shared interest in the Icelandic experience in North America.

During my time on the INLNA, I have benefitted from learning from the wisdom of this community. The INLNA leaders whether in the officer or volunteer roles have taught me how to show up in an organisation, work together, and deliver on a common goal. The broader contacts of this wonderful INLNA network have also come to represent to me the "Icelandic mafia" my Dad would allude to when he met an Olafson or an Arnason in the course of his day where maybe he would get a deal or hear a story from a fellow Gimli-born *goolie*. Across our membership, there is a shared sense which resonates from the inspiration from stories of history and current developments in Iceland.

I remember going to Gimli for Islendingadagurinn the summer of 2000 with my father, eating smoked fish out of wax paper and picking up a pamphlet from a booth about the Snorri program. I look forward to going back almost 25 years later. It will be amazing, now bringing my own daughter and son to the Icelandic festival will be a moment where the circle of life loops back on itself to the place where our ancestors arrived, settled and flourished. I look forward to going to Gimli this summer and again in May 2025 for the INLNA Convention to commemorate the 150th anniversary of New Iceland.

Every summer for the past ten years I have also made a sort of pilgrimage to Kinmount, Ontario on the way to another great inland sea, Lake Huron. There I stumbled upon the statue and flagpole that tells the story of the failed Icelandic settlement at Kinmount, Ontario. It's significance is never lost on me, without the initial devastation of Kinmount, a situation where the fledgling Icelandic community was eking out a meagre existence farming unsuitable rocky lands and sickening and close to decimated, there may never have been the land grant of Gimli. Donald Gislason has a well-researched account on their plight, in *The Icelanders of Kinmount: An Experiment in Settlement* sponsored by the Icelandic Canadian Club of Toronto for publication in 1999.

INLNA Programs and Events continued this year with the return of Convention, bolstering of the Snorri West program, and the continuation of the INLNA Reads and Everything Icelandic webinar series. We also sponsored in person events such as Gimli's Spring Concert, and had a successful calendar sale focusing on the Wonderful Westfjords and celebrating the 2022 tour led by Beverly Arason-Gaudet.

May 2023, Banff, Alberta – INLNA Convention hosted by the Leif Eiriksson Icelandic Club of Calgary

Returning to an in-person convention was very important to the INLNA. Now that we have decided to hold in person conventions every other year, we will look forward to them even more. After many challenges, it was so important to gather. Despite some coordination challenges, we heard rave reviews about the program the Calgary club assembled, and the venue was spectacular with lovely weather.

Moments I will take with me forever include recognizing Betty Jane Wylie for her contributions to literature and the INLNA's own newsletter; seeing Arden Jackson's fabulous spread of vinarterta, served with diplomatic

aplomb (both with and without icing) to recognize traditions on both sides of the 49th parallel; and listening to Lindy Vopnfjord's stirring musical performance at the gala dinner.

I also loved the opportunity to get to know board officers that I work with virtually better as well as the broader club membership and the many connections we share. From the relatives of fellow Snorris, to cousins of Ottawa friends, to the esteemed Ambassador and Consul General, the Convention's latent function of 'gathering the clans' is always meaningful to us as the descendants of Icelanders.

We were blessed with sunshine to offset the stunning natural environment, enabling folks to gather outside as this was still a time of lingering covid concerns, something that was a challenge for the Calgary club from the time of their volunteering to host. Their perseverance to carry out the conference after many years of struggling against the ability to do so should definitely be recognized and applicated.

May 2023 Rideau Hall, Ottawa – State Visit of the President of Iceland

In May 2023, I was invited to a special event in Ottawa, the state visit of President Guðni Jóhannesson and his Canadian wife Eliza Reid. It was an honour to attend a dinner in their honour at the Governor General's elegant residence at Rideau Hall. While the presence of the Governor General, the Prime Minister and their spouses, alongside the Icelandic dignitaries lent an august atmosphere to the gathering, my greater delight was in meeting my fellow attendees. The Icelandic director of everything from Beachcombers to Beowulf with Davinci's Inquest, Sturla Gunnarson attended and shared his memories of his parents hosting Icelandic Canadian Club of British Columbia meetings in his home. Over coffee, scholars Laurie Bertram and Ryan Eyford pointed out the image of the Governor General Lord Dufferin, who, inspired by his own travels to Iceland, granted the land tract for Icelandic settlers in Manitoba. I also was delighted to reconnect with Glenn Sigurdson who my father had introduced me to at the Vancouver INLNA Convention. He wrote *Vikings on a Prairie Ocean* (2014) about his memories of his family's firm Sigurdson Fisheries and growing up in the interlake. Equally fascinating is his role as a mediator working with communities affected by natural resources projects to find common purpose.

October 2023 Edda House, Reykjavik, Iceland – Þjóðræknisfélags Íslendinga Annual General Meeting

Bringing greetings from the INLNA to the Annual General Meeting of the Icelandic National League (Þjóðræknisfélags Íslendinga,) in October 2023 was also another time ripe for connection, discovery and inspiration. I met Gísli Sigurðsson who shared a story I had never heard about my lang-Afi Sveinn Thorvaldson challenging Halldór Laxness on the source of his short story "New Iceland" at a reading in 1926 in Canada. As part of INLNA Reads series, continued on by Gwen Morgan and host clubs, I have enjoyed many books written by Icelanders or set in Iceland—but must admit I remain stuck only halfway through Laxness's *Independent People*. I recently picked up a copy of *The Fish Can Sing* so maybe that will prove easier going. During the visit, I also volunteered at the Arctic Circle Assembly, learning more about global efforts in the North especially Iceland and North America's collaboration in the area.

On a personal note, in July 2023, my sister Joanna Jagger (nee Thorvaldson) held a Nordic extravaganza party at the Scandinavian Centre in Burnaby BC complete with Viking themed cake for her 40th birthday. This spring, I was also given a lovely collection of Icelandic-Canadian folklore and a mid-century desk clock (with the months in Icelandic) by a fellow parishioner at church. He knows my son is a Magnus so he gave me this clock and collection from his late colleague Magnus Einarson. I gave him and his wife a copy of Reykjavik by Ragnar Jónasson and sitting Prime Minister Katrín Jakobsdóttir as thanks.

Celebrating with the Friends of Iceland Ottawa who have always been an extended familiar network to me in Ottawa, we enjoyed events such as our annual Jolaglogg and film night, Thorrablot, and Independence Day picnic as well as helpful board meetings to plan all these happenings.

As we look to the future of the INLNA, I am more optimistic about the opportunities that our Snorri programs and intergenerational events mean for renewal. In our modern world, every individual is still seeking some form of belonging and community. For people of Icelandic descent and other friends of Iceland, i.e., the \$25 dollar Icelanders who join our clubs and support our events, the INLNA and its members will be a haven for connection, inspiration and community. My last eight years on the board have been very meaningful to me, from having fun leading INLNA Reads events during the isolation of the pandemic, to the opportunities to recognize the great work of volunteers in person at convention, there have been many wonderful moments to feel part of a wider community and continue learning more about the traditions that make our culture. I deeply appreciate the example shown to me by many leaders in the INLNA network and am very grateful for this experience. I look forward to working with the incoming President, the wonderful Gwen Morgan, who has brought a dynamic energy to the INLNA and celebrating the milestone of the 150th anniversary of the settlement of New Iceland.

Respectfully submitted, Ashley Thorvaldson

Directors Reports

Vice President's Report-Gwen Sigrid Morgan

This year has sped by with many exciting events allowing me to meet INL members from across North America and Iceland. Attending the in-person convention in Banff last May was the big highlight. What a fantastic program Calgary put on, and one couldn't find a more beautiful location. Another first for me was going to the Islendingadagurrin in Gimli Manitoba last summer. I was joined by cousins from Vancouver and cousins from Iceland, who were also coming to Gimli for the first time. Maybe not surprisingly, I discovered my Icelandic cousin's wife's first cousin had been living in Gimli for years and was a key organiser for the Islendingadagurrin. It's a small world!!

It was my first time attending an INLNA Convention and I now totally appreciate the value of this event. Although it is convenient and congenial to meet online, it does not compare to the enjoyment and enthusiasm of meeting other members in person. The live in-person convention offered many informal opportunities to meet and network, creating a synergy of connections that overflowed into the following year. I look forward to the convention in Gimli next year. Meanwhile, I have helped to organise an informative webinar on the topical volcano activity in Iceland as part of our online AGM. We all have been watching the volcanic eruptions with trepidation and sadness and look forward to learning more and how we can lend support. The INLNA has a history of helping out its cousins in Iceland.

As VP under the new INLNA organisational structure, I am Chair of the Communications and Programs Committees, of which there are five: Newsletter, Facebook & Social Media, INLNA Reads, Webmaster and Everything Icelandic webinars. Also included under this umbrella is the historical committee. Last year, the C&P Committees also discussed the online club, outreach for youth involvement, resurrecting the language classes and initiated the Markerville Artisit in Residence program. It is a tall order for a small number of people to take on. Still, the group did a great job with limited resources.

INLNA Reads

I personally took on organising INLNA Reads, and it has been a great success. We had the First Lady of Iceland Eliza Reid open the 2023-24 season in June with a presentation on her book, Secrets of the Sprakkar: Iceland's Extraordinary Women and How They Are Changing the World. The webinar was hosted by Natalie Guttormsson. In November, I hosted INLNA Reads with a feature book suggested by committee member Signy McInnis by Yrsa Sigurdardóttir, I Remember You. I prepared a presentation on Icelandic ghosts (which operate quite differently than other European ghosts) and on the background research Yrsa did in preparing to write this book. It was a lively group who joined online, and the discussion was highly reflective and thought-provoking. The next INLNA Reads featured the ICC of BC book club. Their local club set the cameras on their round-table discussion of Sally Magnusson's The Sealwoman's Gift. I did background research on the historical raid by the Barbary pirates who kidnapped hundreds from eastern Iceland and the Westman Islands. This is a fictionalized story of their survival under slavery based on diary accounts. Again, the group had a brilliant discussion with lots of questions and insightful comments. The online format was surprisingly conducive to an inclusive round-table discussion. The next INLNA Reads meeting surpassed my expectations in attendance as we drew in more than thirty-five people from the USA and Canada, member groups and individuals. They zoomed in to hear all about the book All the Horses of Iceland by Sarah Tolmie. The ICC of Toronto book club leader, Rachel Young, prepared a wonderful background presentation on the historic Icelandic trade route eastward from Helmgard through Khazaria to the steppes of Mongolia. We also learned about the history of the time and, of course, a lot about these beautiful horses. The model of the INLNA Reads to have online informal 'roundtable' discussions of members, and Icelandophiles coming together from across North America has really taken off. I am very excited for next year, which will include a regular feature of "INLNA Nordic Noir Novembers". "There is a Nordic Noir conference in Reykjavik every November. I was in touch with them this past November but there was not enough notice for them to arrange a speaker, but they were enthusiastic about 2024. Stay tuned! Meanwhile, Ottawa club will be the feature club for the first INLNA Reads of the 2024-25 season.

Facebook and Social Media

Signy McInnis has steadily been keeping the Facebook page up to date, posting our events and generating regular content of interest which she focuses on Western Icelandic connections, to make our content unique and not just bombard people with recycled material. She did an amazing job at the Islendingadagurinn, live streaming the awards ceremony and posting highlights. We had lots of appreciative people tuning into our social media stream. Snorri alumni Chloe Connors has been quietly and consistently creating material for our Instagram. These two volunteers work on their own initiative creatively putting together content and handling the intricacies of social media, putting the INLNA into the 21C. We really appreciate all they do. Signy would like to expand the network of volunteers posting online. She has the idea of having members from each region

posting on different days. This way the burden of the work would be shared but also the information coming up would reflect our North American communities, sea to sea and build our mandate to foster and to make the bond between us stronger.

Webmaster

Matt Gaudet single-handedly handles the website, both updating and troubleshooting. Matt set up a very simple to use online tool for posting upcoming events. Following the AGM last year, the bi-monthly President's meeting offered instruction on how to use the 'Events Button'. The INLNA would like member clubs to use this tool more often, and in a timely manner so the information can be posted on the INLNA calendar. It is fun to see the different activities across the clubs. Also, with many events online, there is an opportunity for people to take advantage of webinars and movies being shown online from wherever they are. This can be especially welcoming to members who are living in more rural or remote settings, and for people who have no local Icelandic club.

Newsletter

Natalia Guttormsson, who has been the Membership Director on the INLNA Board regularly sends out Newsletter bulletins. She also helps with running Zoom meetings and with posts on social media and our website. We have not had a more traditional newsletter these past two years and that is something I would like to see revived. It could be a modernised version utilising the new online formats for newsletters. I think the newsletters gather and disseminate information that builds our community and keeps a record for the future. The INLNA would need a volunteer to step up to write the newsletter, and we would need technical and online support. Something to keep in mind, and we can bring forward in the new year.

Everything Icelandic Webinars

Past INLNA President, Stefan Jonasson has been taking the lead on organising Everything Icelandic webinars and hosted the author Christina Chowaniec on January 18th, who spoke to her book Wind, Gravel and Ice, and the experience of Canadian soldiers stationed in Iceland during WW2 based on her research into her grandfather's experience. This webinar is also available for viewing on the INLNA website. Earlier in October, Natalie Guttormsson had organised and hosted a joint webinar with INL-US titled "Discover Your Icelandic Immigration Story with Icelandic Roots'. Dave Jónasson who has worked for the past several years on the Icelandic Roots database inputting the ships and passenger lists from the Vesturfarskrá into the Icelandic Roots database. This informative webinar is available for viewing on the INLNA website.

I met with the INL-US President Doug Hanson. We had a great time talking about all sorts of shared interests and came up with an idea for co-hosting webinars on historical Icelandic settlements. Doug is interested in learning more about the Icelandic settlers in Nova Scotia, and suggested a webinar featuring the Victoria BC and Port Roberts, Washington State would be interesting. These webinars could be a great lead-up to the big celebrations next year in Gimli: New Iceland 150.

Conclusion

If you look back to our strategic goals for last year, you will see how this small group was filled with enthusiastic ambition for the coming year. We have made progress towards these strategic goals, and they set out a blueprint for the next VP to follow. I am pleased with our ever-increasing attendance to INLNA Reads and our collaboration with INL-US. I look forward to connecting with the INL-Iceland (who's in-coming President I met at the Islendingadagurrin). I believe the INLNA organisation is still emerging from the tribulations of the pandemic, but I see it growing stronger over the coming years. The INLNA does need more active volunteers for the Communications and Programs Committees. Please consider volunteering.

Takk fyrir, Gwen Sigrid Morgan, Vice President

Past President's Report - Stefan Jonasson

Regrettably, I have been far from active as Past President during the past year, having been lured out of retirement from the ministry to resume parish duties while remaining editor of *Lögberg-Heimskringla* and contending with an unusually heavy year on the board of the University of Winnipeg. So my attention to the Icelandic National League of North America has suffered as a result.

From my editor's chair, I have observed that most of our local chapters have struggled to resume the kind of activities they hosted prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, while virtual activities have declined in frequency, even among those organisations that maintained a robust online presence during the pandemic, probably due to online fatigue. This is a phenomenon that we seem to share with other civic, cultural, and religious organisations, so it will take ingenuity and perseverance to rebuild. Still, I see nascent evidence that clubs are making their best efforts to reactivate and grow their activities, shedding old ways of doing things while trying new methods and launching new events.

The coming year will see the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the immigrants who sought to create a "New Iceland" along the western shore of Lake Winnipeg, and although Icelandic immigration to North America predated this, it was the first concentrated effort at Icelandic settlement here. This offers us an opportunity for celebration and for drawing attention to the Icelandic presence on this continent among the larger community. And I look forward to being with everyone at Gimli for the 2025 INLNA biennial convention.

This meeting will mark the conclusion of my nearly seven years' service on the INLNA board, which coincided with the joyous celebration of its centennial, the loss of most American members to the newly-created INLUS, some organisational innovations, and the struggles related to the pandemic. It has been both eventful and challenging. I wish INLNA the very best in future years and plan to continue my involvement in whatever ways I can be helpful.

Stefan Jonasson

Treasurer's Report – Dawn Harris

Please refer to the 2024 AGM Treasurer's Report.

Fundraising

2024 Calendar

A tremendous thank you to Beverly Arason-Gaudet and Marlene Linneberg for their tireless work creating the 2024 INLNA Calendar, featuring the Wondrous Westfjords as seen by the participants of our 2022 INLNA Tour. The Westfjords are famous for remote scenic spots untouched by mass tourism. Thank you also to Matt Gaudet for his expert formatting skills.

There were approximately 662 calendars pre-sold to member clubs and the remaining calenders were sold online. Compared to the previous year, there was one less banner advertisement and five less business card advertisements sold in the 2024 edition of the INLNA calendar.

Volunteers are needed to continue the production of the INLNA Calendar!

Snorri Foundation Report - *Jody Arman-Jones,* INLNA Representative

The Snorri Foundation is the Icelandic non-profit body that oversees Snorri, Snorri Plus and Snorri Alumni Internship programs. In addition, it cooperates and provides staff to assist with the Snorri West program, which is primarily organized and operated by North American Co-Directors in conjunction with the Icelandic National Leagues of North America (INLNA) and the United States (INLUS).

The Snorri Foundation bylaws call for an Annual Meeting in May, though in 2023 the meeting was delayed until June 2. As of this report, the Snorri Foundation Board currently includes:

Acting Chair: Soffía Ásgeirs Óskarsdóttir, (representing Þjóðræknisfélag Íslendinga / Icelandic National League of Iceland)

Board Member: Hrannar Björn Arnarsson (representing the Nordic Association where he is chair)

Board Member: Pála Hallgrímsdóttir (jointly representing the "founder organizations" of Þjóðræknisfélag Íslendinga / Icelandic National League of Iceland, of which she is the chair, and the Nordic Association)

Board Member: Mallory Swanson (on behalf of the Snorri Alumni Association)

Board Member: Jody Arman-Jones (representing Western Icelanders and their Descendants in North America) **Alternative Board Member:** Bjarni Þór Þórólfsson (representing Þjóðræknisfélag Íslendinga / Icelandic National

League of Iceland)

Alternate Board Member: Ásdís Eva Hannesdóttir (representing the Nordic Association)

Year	Snorri Program Participants	Snorri Plus Participants	Snorri Alumni Interns	Snorri West Participants	Snorri West Alumni Intern
2023	Canada - 10 USA - 5 Total - 16 5 week program	Canada - 10 USA - 4 Total - 14 2 weeks	Two Snorri Alumni from 2022, one CA, one USA. Summer-long program	Cancelled due to withdrawal of all applicants.	Pilot program- one 2017 SW alum assisted in MN, ND, MB, 2 weeks
2024	Canada - 10 USA - 6 Total - 16 5 week program	Canada - 4 USA - 5 Total - 9 2 weeks	One Canadian Snorri 2023 and one USA Snorri Plus 2011, summer-long	Three to AB, SK, Utah. 4 week program	TBD

The Snorri Programs were without a dedicated Project Manager from December 1, 2022 to October 4, 2023. Interim duties were performed by board member, Julie Summers with assistance from fellow board member, Jody Arman-Jones; including representing The Snorri Programs at the INLNA Convention in Banff with a presentation, promotional vendor booth, alumni activities and group photos. Guðrún Georgsdóttir was hired to plan and guide the Snorri and Snorri Plus trips for 2023. In response to a July proposal piloting the Project Manager position as job sharing, the Board hired Julie Summers and Atli Geir Halldórsson as Co-Project Managers at a combined employee rate of 70% October through March, and moving to 150% April through September. Both employees will be utilising a hybrid model of remote and on-site work.

2024 marks the 25th anniversary of the first Snorri Program and celebratory festivities are planned, including an update of the very popular commemorative magazine retitled, "25 Years of Snorri."

Respectfully submitted,

Jody A. Arman-Jones, Snorri Foundation Board of Directors - Representing Western Icelanders and their Descendants in North America; INLNA Board of Directors representing Snorri West

Snorri West Co-Director's Report - *Jody Arman-Jones & Blair Lockhart*

Snorri West is pleased to introduce three outstanding Icelanders who will travel to the Mountain Corridor of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Utah June 13 - July 11, 2024: Hildur (Hilla) Sigurbergsdóttir (Reykjavík), Mars Baldurs (Saurbær/Hvammstangi), and Unnar Ingi Sæmundarson (Reykjavík). This experience would not be possible without the hard work of local coordinators of the trip including:

- Calgary, Alberta Natalie Wirth (Snorri 2008), Leif Eiriksson Icelandic Canadian Club of Calgary
- Markerville, Alberta Brooke Henrikson (mom to Kayli, Snorri 2012) and Pat Oxtoby, Historic

Markerville and Stephan G. Stephansson Icelandic Society

- Edmonton, Alberta **Jodine Chase** (mom to Jenny, Snorri 2016, and Angus, Snorri 2019), Icelandic Canadian Club of Edmonton Norðurljós
- Saskatchewan Cindy Goodman, Vatnabyggd Icelandic Club of Saskatchewan
- Spanish Fork, Utah Jeanne Bowen, Icelandic Association of Utah

Unfortunately, the scheduled 2023 Snorri West trip to the Mountain Corridor was canceled when all applicants withdrew after the deadline. Restarting the promotional campaign and soliciting additional applicants was particularly challenging due to the timing and lack of a dedicated Project Manager in Iceland to oversee such a campaign.

Pivoting in a slightly different direction, after several years of consideration, 2023 was deemed the time to implement a Snorri West Alumni Internship (SWAI) pilot program, modelled after the Snorri Alumni Internship (SAI). The internship gives Snorri West alumni the chance to return to North America to enhance and deepen their experience with the Western Icelandic community. Funding was secured for the pilot program from Þjóðræknisfélag Íslendinga / Icelandic National League of Iceland (ÞFÍ), Icelandic National Leagues of North American (INLNA) and the United States (INLUS) as well as in-kind assistance from such partners as Icelandic Roots, Icelandic Camp, One Majestic Place and various Snorri alumni and their families. 2017 Snorri West alumna, Sandra Björg Ernudóttir was selected as the first-ever Snorri West Alumni Intern. Sandra spent two weeks in Minnesota, North Dakota, and Manitoba, during which time she helped catalogue Icelandic-language books in the Icelandic Roots library, teach Icelandic at Icelandic Camp in Gimli, and prepare for the Icelandic festivals in both Mountain and Gimli. The project was a great success, and there are hopes to continue it for at least the next two years, to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the founding of New Iceland and the 125th anniversary of the August the Deuce Icelandic festival in Mountain, North Dakota. The length of the internship would be up to four weeks. At the writing of this report, the anticipated funding has not been secured, placing the 2024 SWAI program in jeopardy. Looking forward, Blair Lockhart is resigning as Co-Director following the 2024 trip and Jody Arman-Jones would like to focus on liaising with the Snorri office on behalf of Snorri West, so the program will be exploring either a new Co-Director or other formats for leadership, possibly having a dedicated coordinator for each corridor. Volunteers and suggestions are welcome!

Respectfully submitted,

Jody Arman-Jones and Blair Lockhart, Co-Directors of the Snorri West Program in conjunction with the Icelandic League of North America (INLNA) and the United States (INLUS)

Membership/Recruitment Director's Report - Natalie Guttormsson

2023 Membership & Recruitment Activities

• 2023 INLNA Reads Relaunched with several club collaborations (see VP Report)

Exploring an Online INLNA Chapter

Online events are more popular than ever due to many reasons, including:

- Various scattered locations of members (live in a place without a club, too far to travel to nearest club events)
- Cost concerns (travel expenses for guests, travel expenses for attendees, rental of venues)

Due to the sustained interest in online events, the next Membership Director will want to support our member clubs to create more online options and to explore the idea of creating an INLNA Chapter that is 100% online.

Feedback From Our Current Membership

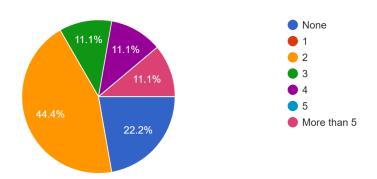
Top Events Our Individual Members Want to See From the INLNA:

- 1. Cultural Workshops
- 2. INLNA Convention
- 3. Icelandic Language Lessons
- 4. Guest Speaker Webinars
- 5. Online Book Club
- 6. Going to Iceland

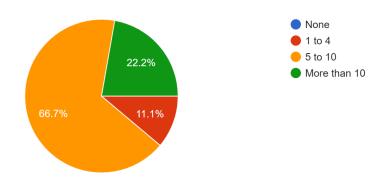
INLNA Club Activities:

10. How many SCHOLARSHIPS did your club award in 2023? i.e. to attend a Snorri Program, Icelandic Camp, other

9 responses

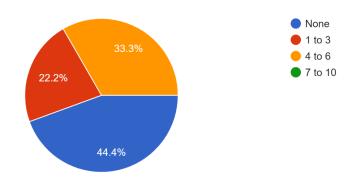


11. How many CLUB MEETINGS (virtual or in person) did you have in 2023? 9 responses

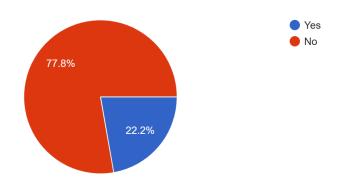


12. How many CLUB NEWSLETTERS were produced in 2023?

9 responses

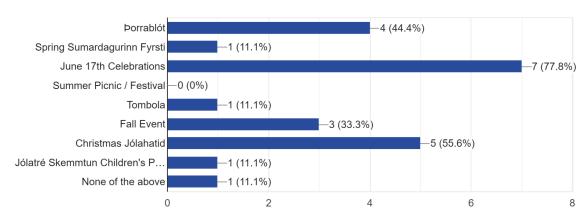


13. Did your club host ICELANDIC LANGUAGE CLASSES (virtual or in person) in 2023? 9 responses



14. Check the activities your club hosted during 2023.

9 responses



Submitted by: Natalie Guttormsson INLNA Membership & Recruitment Director

Have membership ideas? Want to get involved? Let us know: inlofna@gmail.com



105th Annual General Meeting Icelandic National League of North America



2024 Agenda

- 1. Call to Order/Opening Remarks Ashley Thorvaldson, INLNA President
- 2. Appointment of Online Scrutineers Chat Box Function
- 3. Approval of Agenda
- 4. Approval of Minutes of 104rd Annual General Meeting
- 5. Moment of Silence
- 6. Financial Report Dawn Harris, INLNA Treasurer
 - I. Treasurer's Report
 - II. 2023 Year End Financial Statement
 - III. 2024 Budget with 3-Year Comparison
 - IV. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report
 - V. Motion to Accept 2023 Year End Financial Statement Report
 - VI. Motion to Appoint Reviewer for 2024 Year End Financial Statement Report
- 7. Reports from INLNA Board Officers
 - I. INLNA President Ashley Thorvaldson Artist in Residence, Buttermaker's House, Markerville AB
 - II. INLNA Vice President Gwen Sigrid Morgan Communication and Programs Committees
 - III. Snorri Programs Jody Arman-Jones
- 8. Motion to ratify the decisions and actions of INLNA Board of Directors for the past year Ashley Thorvaldson, INLNA President
- 9. Nomination Slate Stefan Jonasson, INLNA Past President
- 10. 2025 INLNA AGM Gimli Icelandic Canadian Club
- 11. Closing comments Gwen Sigrid Morgan, INLNA President
- 12. Adjournment



104th INLNA Annual General Meeting Minutes



104th INLNA Annual General Meeting Minutes				
Date: Saturday, May 13, 2023	Meeting Time: 2:43 PM MT Meeting Location: Banff Centre Alberta			
Meeting called by	Ashley Thorvaldson			
Type of meeting	Annual General Meeting			
Facilitator	Ashley Thorvaldson			
Note taker	Andrea Guttormsson			
Time keeper	Ashley Thorvaldson			
INLNA Board Members	ARASON-GAUDET, Beverly, ARMON-JONES, Jody, GUTTORMSSON, Natalie, GUTTORMSSON, Andrea, HARRIS, Dawn, HOFTEIG, John, JONASSON, Stefan, LINNEBERG, Marlene, MORGAN, Gwen Sigrid, OLESON, Dennis, THORVALDSON, Ashely			
Voting Delegates	ANDERSEN, Bernice (SGSIS), ARKSEY, Sharron (IND), ARMON-JONES, Jody (IHC/IND), ASMUNDSON, Sigrun (IFM), B.DARKNELL, Arlene (LC), BJORNSSON, Dean (GICS), BOTTING, Karen (ICF), BOYCHUK, Allison (ICCE), CONNORS, Chloe (ICCT), EVANS, Tammy (ICCBC), EYFORD, Norman (ICHHS), GOODMAN, Cindy (VIC), H.DERRY, Elizabeth (ICCT), HIRST, Brad (SBC), HOFTEIG, John (IND), JOHNSON, Sandra (IND), JONASSON, Stefan (IND), MAGNUSSON, Rus (IR), MANN, Gwen (LEICC), MCINNIS, Carol (ICCWM), NELSON, Donna (SGSIS), PETURSSON, Mark (LEICC), SIMUNDSSON, Elva (GICS), SIMUNDSSON, Svava (EAC), STAPELTON, Madeline (ICCT), STEELE, Marissa (ICCT), THORSTEINSON, Barry (FOI),			
Non-voting Attendees	BAKER, Robert (LEICC), BEIRNES, Barbara (ICCE), BENEDIKTSON, Stephan V, GAMBLE, AI (SGSIS), GAMBLE, d'Arcy (SGSIS), GRAHAM, Jenny (ICCE), HELGASON, Krisjana (ICCBC), ILNICKI, Lorraine (ICCE), JACKSON, Arden (ICCT), JEANS, Laura (SGSIS), JOHANSSON, Thor (ICCE), LANGWORTH, Edda (ICCBC), LINNEBERG, Stanley, MCKAY, Maria (ICCBC), OLESON, Caitlin, SCHREINER, Heather (SBC), SCHREINER, Johann (SBC), SCHULTZ, Hjordis (VISITOR), WYLIE, Betty Jane (ICCT),			
1. Call to Order / Openir	ng Remarks			
Presenter	Ashley Thorvaldson, President			
Presentation	Ashley Thorvaldson offered greetings 104th Annual General Meeting of the	s and welcomed the INLNA members to the Icelandic National League of North America,		

	in beautiful Banff Alberta. She emphasised that it is exciting to meet in person and to be able to start to reconnect and rebuild after three years of virtual AGMs.
2. Appointment of Scrut	ineers
Presenter	Ashley Thorvaldson, President
Presentation	Ashley Thorvaldson asked for volunteers to be scrutineers for the AGM. Jack Plumley (2022 Snorri Participant) and Veronica volunteered.
3. Approval of Agenda	
Presenter	Ashley Thorvaldson, President
Presentation	Ashley Thorvaldson asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Agenda item #7 - discussion around the "Artist in Residence Program", in Markerville Alberta was inserted.
Motion	Gwen Mann moved to approve the agenda as amended.
Second	Beverly Arason-Gaudet
Carried	
4. Approval of the 2022	Minutes of the 103rd Annual General Meeting
Presenter	Ashley Thorvaldson, President
Presentation	Please refer to the <i>Minutes of the 103rd Annual General Meeting</i> in the <i>104th INLNA Reports and AGM Documents</i> Package.
	Ashley Thorvaldson asked if there were any recommendations for changes to the 103rd Annual General Meeting Minutes. Seeing none, Ashley called for a voting delegate to move the approval of the minutes.
Motion	Rus Magnusson moved to approve the Minutes of the 103rd Annual General Meeting as presented.
Second	Sigrun Asmundson
Carried	
5. Moment of Silence	
Presenter	Ashley Thorvaldson, President
Presentation	Ashley Thorvaldson asked for a moment of silence to remember those who passed away during the previous year.
6. Financial Report	
Presenter	Marlene Linneberg, Treasurer

Presentation	Please refer to the 2023 AGM Treasurer's Report, 2022 Year End Financial Statement, and the 2023 Budget in the 104th INLNA Reports and AGM Documents Package. Marlene Linneberg reported that 2022 was another successful year from a financial perspective. The INLNA generated an operating profit of \$4,575 attributed to membership fees and the success of calendar sales and calendar advertising. The 2022 Year End Financial Statement and the 2023 Budget were approved for presentation on March 9, 2023, at the INLNA Board meeting. The INLNA has generated \$25,772 in profit over the past three years. The annual savings is largely due to COVID-19 public health restrictions limiting in person activities and the conversion of the paid secretary role to a board position. Marlene explained that 2022-2023 was her fifth and final year on the INLNA Board and that she held the position of treasurer for the past four years. Dawn Harris will now assume the treasurer duties.
	Marlene asked if there were any questions regarding the treasurer's report. No questions were proposed.
Motion	Marlene Linneberg moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.
Second	Beverly Arason-Gaudet
Carried	
Motion	Marlene Linneberg moved that the Financial Statement for the year ending December 31, 2022 as prepared by Cheri Hohs be adopted as presented.
Second	Arlene B.Darknell
Carried	
Motion	Marlene Linneberg moved that Cheri Vohs be accepted to review the 2023 financial records of the INLNA and prepare the December 31, 2023 Year End Financial Statement,
Second	Tammy Evans
Carried	
Motion	Beverly Arason-Gaudet moved to thank Marlene Linneberg for her exceptional work as treasurer.
Second	Stefan Jonasson
Carried	
7. Artist in Residence Pro	ogram in Markerville Alberta
Presenter	John McKechnie

Presentation	John McKechnie presented the notion of an "Artist in Residence" at Markerville, Alberta. It was suggested that the INLNA consider an annual/biennial award that would provide funding towards a 2-3 weeks residency. Discussion ensued around support for the initiative and exploring funding
	possibilities. Elva Simundsson, President of the <u>Canada Iceland Foundation</u> <u>Inc.</u> (ICFI), recommended that John also contact the ICFI for funding.
Motion	Stefan Jonasson moved that the INLNA support, in principle, an "Artist in Residence" award at Markerville, Alberta and requested that the board explore the feasibility of doing so.
Second	Dennis Oleson
Carried	
8. Ratification of Actions	of the INLNA Board of Directors for the Past Year
Presenter	Ashley Thorvaldson, President
Presentation	Ashley Thorvaldson asked for a voting delegate to move the ratification of the actions of the INLNA board of directors for the past year.
Motion	Mark Petursson moved to ratify the decisions and actions of the INLNA Board of Directors for 2022.
Second	Carol McInnis
Carried	
9. Nomination Slate	
Presenter	Stefan Jonasson, Past President
Preamble	Please refer to the Nomination Slate in the 104th INLNA Reports and AGM Documents Package.
	Stefan Jonasson noted that the INLNA is in the recruitment phase for a <i>Secretary Mentee</i> . Recommendations were welcome for the role.
Motion	Stefan Jonasson moved to accept the nomination slate as presented.
Second	Svava Simundsson
Carried	
Call for Nominations	Ashley called for nominations from the floor for the <i>Secretary Mentee</i> position thrice.
	Denise Oleson explained that the secretary mentee role is for one year followed by a term as secretary. The board may appoint a secretary mentee if one is not elected today.
	Stefan Jonasson emphasised that the secretary and treasurer are key positions on

	the board. Andrea Guttormsson offered a brief overview of the position, the benefit of the mentee role, and suitable skills and aptitude. A job description is currently being written. Elva Simundsson requested that the names of INLNA representatives sitting on other boards be included with the officers and communications & program committees names.
10. Closing Comments	
Presenter	Ashley Thorvaldson, President
Remarks	Ashley Thorvaldson thanked the members of the board for their service to the organisation.
Meeting Adjourned	
3:26 PM MT	Ashley Thorvaldson, President
Motion	Brad Hirst moved to adjourn
Second	Sigrun Asmundson
Carried	
Attached Reports	104th INLNA Reports and Annual General Meeting Package

2024 AGM Treasurer's Report – Dawn Harris

Included in this document: 2023 Treasurer's report; 2023 reviewed financial statements; 2024 budget.

In the essence of time, at the AGM I will speak to these three key points related to the financial position of the INLNA. I will leave it to you to read this report for the full details. Should you have any questions, I am happy to address those.

- 1. The organisation concluded 2023 with a loss of \$3,037. This is considerably better than the budgeted loss of \$6,267. The deficit was covered by withdrawal from reserves. Revenue was \$2,700 lower than budgeted while expenses were \$5,900 lower than budgeted.
- 2. The organisation continues to hold approximately \$22,300 in three restricted reserve funds for Snorri West (\$5,700), INLNA Tour Funds (\$6,600), and Convention (\$10,000). This must be kept in mind when viewing the actual funds available for funding the operations of the organisation over the long-term.
- 3. The budget for 2024 is a deficit budget similar to 2023. The deficit is projected to be \$6,585 that will be withdrawn from reserves as and if needed. Revenue is estimated conservatively and is based on a \$2 increase in the wholesale price of calendars to clubs. On the expense side, the Grant category has been increased considerably. It includes the first \$3,000 annual grant to the Buttermaker's House Artist in Residence Program. Another major component is several grants and awards related to the various Snorri programs.

Overview of 2023 fiscal year and budget for 2024

2023 Year-end financial statement

2023 Balance Sheet

The line item "Prepaid INLNA Tour Expense" had no amount assigned to it for 2023 as no tour to Iceland was planned. The amount was the profit generated in 2022 by the Westfjords Tour (\$6,621) In 2023 it is recognized in the restricted fund for future tours.

The account receivable of \$258 is money owing by two clubs for calendars (which was paid in early 2024).

2023 Statement of revenue and expenses

There are a couple of differences between this year's statement and previous ones. Cost of Goods Sold is no longer an item under Revenue. It represents the costs associated with printing the calendar. I asked that it be placed under Expenses in 2023 and going forward where it is more easily understood by people not familiar with financial statements. The INLNA is not in the manufacturing, wholesale or retail business nor do we track inventory.

On the Expense side, a line item previously referred to as Bank Charges has been changed to Service Fees to reflect more accurately what the item is. The majority of costs in this category relates to fees paid to payment platforms used by the INLNA, such as PayPal, Stripe, QuickBooks etc.

2023 Revenue

The failure to meet the budget was due mainly to lower demand for calendars. The budget was based on ordering 880 calendars while it turned out that only 770 were needed to fill orders. Advertising sales in the calendar were down slightly.

2023 Expenses

Major savings on expenses took place in the convention category with expenditures \$1,300 less that budgeted. The convention expense was primarily related to the Awards evening. Calendar- related costs were less by \$860. A number of other categories were lower than budgeted by small amounts.

Overview of the 2024 Budget

As stated earlier in this report, the budget is a deficit budget in the amount of \$6,585. If and when money is needed to meet expenditures, it will be taken from unrestricted reserves.

2024 Budgeted Revenue

On the revenue side, the Board has been conservative in its budgeting. The membership amount is as is. All 2024 member renewals have now been received. I appreciate how early most of the members responded to their renewal notices. Hopefully, given that 2025 is the 150th Anniversary of Nýja Ísland, there will be more interest in the calendar, and sales will increase.

2024 Budgeted Expenses

With an on-line AGM this year, there are no costs associated with the convention. This has allowed the board to increase funding for grants. As mentioned earlier, the first \$3,000 annual grant to the Buttermaker's House Artist in Residence Program has been made. Another major component of this line item is grants and awards related to the various Snorri programs.

The cost of insurance has increased because commercial general liability insurance (CGLI) was added to our directors and officers liability insurance. As we have both an office and we hold events, it is prudent to carry CGL insurance, and no one should sit on a board of directors if the organisation does not carry D&O insurance.

In September we received notice of a \$10 per month rent increase for 2024. It has been indicated that small annual increases can be expected in the future.

We continue to be cost conscious. We have reduced, by a small amount, the cost of our accounting software by moving to an annual payment instead of paying monthly. We were made aware of a Canadian organisation that makes it possible for non-profits access to free or discounted software. We will continue to monitor what software might be available. Shortly after this meeting, we will be discontinuing the email address inlofna@mymts.net and replacing it with contact@inlofna.org at a savings of \$106 per month.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn F. Guðrun Harris, INLNA Treasurer

Motions

Motion 1: That the Treasurer's report be adopted as presented.

Motion 2: That the Financial Statements as prepared by Cheri Vohs for the year ending December 31, 2023 be adopted as presented.

Motion 3: That Cheri Vohs be appointed to review the 2024 financial records of the INLNA and prepare the December 31, 2023 Year End Financial Statements.

ICELANDIC NATIONAL LEAGUE OF NORTH AMERICA

FINANCIAL INFORMATION (unaudited, See Notes From Reviewer)

December 31, 2023

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Reviewer Notes

I have reviewed the bookkeeping for the December 31, 2023 yearend of the Icelandic National League of North America, and have prepared the financial statement with the information I was given.

Cheri Vohs

Innisfail, Alberta

April 04, 2024

ICELANDIC NATIONAL LEAGUE OF NORTH AMERICA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION December 31, 2023

(Unaudited - See Note from Reviewer)

-	-	-	
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ASSETS			
	2023		2022
CURRENT ASSETS Cash Long Term Investments Amounts receivable Prepaid INLNA Tour Expense	\$ 22,369 83,774 258 106,401	\$	25,314 83,651 584 (6,621) 102,928
CURRENT LIABILITIES Restricted Funds Held	\$ 22,779	\$	16,269
EQUITY			
NET ASSETS (Note 1)	\$ 83,622 106,401	\$	86,659 102,928

ICELANDIC NATIONAL LEAGUE OF NORTH AMERICA

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 (Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

	2023	2022
REVENUE	\$14,499	\$16,631
EXPENSES		
Marketing Insurance Service Fees Licenses, Memberships and dues Office Printing - Calendar Donations & Special Events Shipping & Delivery Conventions Rent	2,875 398 291 150 777 3,340 2,050 542 6,549 3,223 20,195	1,936 398 529 150 707 3,489 1,250 946 700 3,407
	(5,696)	<u>13,512</u> 3,119
INTEREST INCOME	2,659	1,456
OVER EXPENSES	\$ <u>(3,037</u>)	\$4,575

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ICELANDIC NATIONAL LEAGUE OF NORTH AMERICA

NOTES TO FINANCIAL information December 31, 2023 (Unaudited - See Note from Reviewer)

NET ASSETS

	2023	2022
Balance, beginning of year Net income (loss) Balance, end of year	\$ 86,659 (3,037 \$ 83,622	4,575

INLNA	Budget 2021	Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Actual 2022	Budget 2023	Actual 2023	Budget 2024
Revenue							
Advertising	3,100	4,925	5,450	4,375	4,375	3,959	3,965
Calendar sales	7,136	7,123	6,000	6,775	6,800	5,488	6,450
Currency exchange	100	295	350	17	300	289	100
Donations	100	500	1,000	0	0	3	200
Membership	5,895	5,055	5,700	4,714	4,375	4,446	4,600
Snorri West	0	0	12,700	1,636	0	0	0
Reserve Fund Transfer	0	0	0	767	657	0	0
Shipping & Delivery Recovery	750	794	750	747	750	314	400
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Operating revenue	17,081	18,692	31,950	19,031	17,257	14,499	15,815
Interest	650		650	1,456	2,600	2,659	2,600
Total revenue	17,731	20,226	32,600	20,487	19,857	17,158	18,415
Expense							
Advertising	180	240	490	0	490	240	250
Service fees	200		250	527	550	291	300
Communications & marketing	2,059		1,736	1,783	1,834	1,808	1,075
Convention	300		2,850	700	7,825		0
Dues & subscriptions	190		150	150	150		305
Grants	1,250		1,250	1,250	1,250		10,430
Icelandic events	500		1,000	0	1,000	800	1,000
Insurance	325		304	398	400		945
Webinars	1,000	0	1,000	0	1,000	0	0
Office expense	820	646	804	655	675	777	1,215
Other admin expenses	75	52	52	52	252	0	1,295
Promotional	500	335	500	153	1,775	827	0
Rent	2,912	2,912	2,976	3,407	3,516	3,223	3,635
Snorri west	0	0	12,700	2,403	657	0	0
Printing	3,000		3,000	3,488	3,800	3,340	4,000
Shipping & delivery	800	954	750	946	950	542	550
Total expense	14,111	10,796	29,812	15,912	26,124	20,195	25,000
Profit/Loss	3,620	9,430	2,788	4,575	-6,267	-3,037	-6,585
From reserves	0	0	0	0	6,267	3037	6,585

Ratification of Actions of INLNA Executive for Past

Year - Ashley Thorvaldson, President

MOTION #4: Be it resolved that the decisions and actions of the INLNA Executive for 2023 be ratified.

Nomination Slate - Stefan Jonasson, Past President

Officers

Board Position	Name	Location
President	Gwen Sigrid Morgan	ON Toronto
Vice President	Vacant	
Treasurer	Dawn Harris	MB Gimli
Treasurer Mentee	Vacant	
Secretary	Daphne Egilsson	NS Pleasantville
Past President	Ashley Thorvaldson	ON Ottawa
Snorri West Co-Director	Jody Arman-Jones	MN Farmington
Snorri West Co-Director	Vacant	
Convention Director	Vacant	
Fundraising Director	Tammy Stefansson Evans	BC Vancouver
Membership, Recruitment & Relations Director	Vacant	
Governance Director	Vacant	

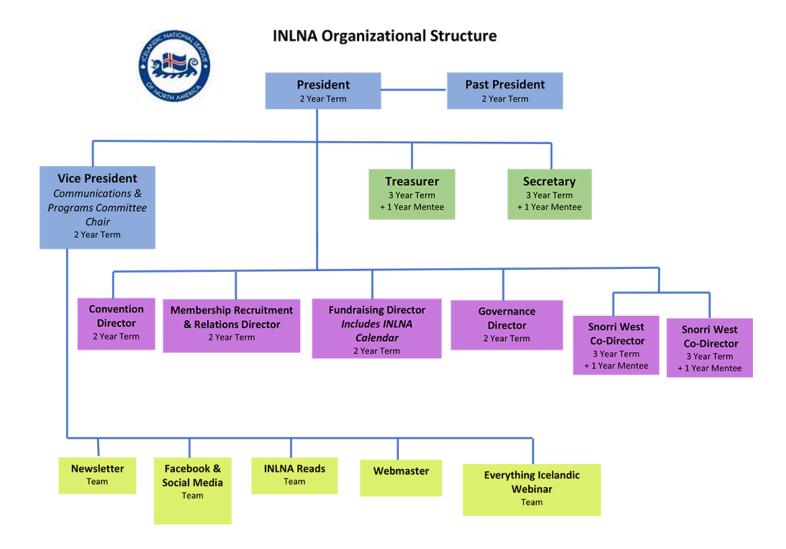
Communications & Program Committees - Team Leads and Volunteer Team

Members

Program / Committee	Position	Name	Location	
Newsletter	Team Lead	Vacant		
	Team Members	Vacant		
Social Media	Team Lead	Signy McInnis	MB Arborg	
	Team Members	Vacant		
INLNA Reads	Team Lead	Vacant		
	Rotating Chair	Vacant		
Website	Webmaster	Matt Gaudet	AB Edmonton	
Everything Icelandic Webinars	Team Lead	Vacant		
	Team Members	Vacant		
Historical Committee	Team Lead	Gwen Mann	AB Calgary	

INLNA Representatives

Organisation	Chair	INLNA Representative		
Þjóðræknisfélag Íslendinga / Icelandic National League of Iceland (ÞFÍ),	Pála Hallgrímsdóttir	Ashley Thorvaldson		
Iceland Canadian Foundation	Elva Simundsson	Vacant		
Snorri Foundation	Soffía Ásgeirs Óskarsdóttir	Jody Arman-Jones		



INLNA Board Recruitment Schedule

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Past President								
President								
Vice President/Communications & Programs Chair			RECRUIT		RECRUIT		RECRUIT	
Treasurer								
Treasurer Mentee	RECRUIT			RECRUIT			RECRUIT	
Secretary								
Secretary Mentee		RECRUIT			RECRUIT			RECRUIT
Snorri West Mentor & Director/Co-Director	Co-Di	rector	Mentor	Co-Director	Mentor	Co-Director	Mentor	Co-Director
Snorri West Mentee/Co-Director	Co-Di	rector	RECRUIT	Co-Director	RECRUIT	Co-Director	RECRUIT	Co-Director
Convention Director		RECRUIT		RECRUIT		RECRUIT		RECRUIT
Fundraising/Calendar Director			RECRUIT		RECRUIT		RECRUIT	
Governance Director		RECRUIT		RECRUIT		RECRUIT		RECRUIT
Membership Recruitment/Relations Director			RECRUIT		RECRUIT		RECRUIT	

Team Members for Communications & Program Committees - Annual Recruitment

Newsletter Social Media INLNA Reads Everything Icelandic Webmaster

Have ideas? Want to get involved?

Let us know: inlofna@gmail.com



www.inlofna.org

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