



## **Manitoba Orchid Society**

**For the Love of Orchids Newsletter**

**Next Meeting: 20 February 2011  
Conference Room  
Canadian Mennonite University,  
500 Shaftesbury Blvd. (at Grant Avenue)  
Note Location Change!!!!**

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**Novice Programme**  
Tips on Show Preparation  
**Starts at 1:00PM**

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**Regular Programme**  
Show preparation and more.  
**Starts at 2:00PM**

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### **Bring Plants for Show & Tell**

**Plant sales by members are encouraged.**

Goodies will be provided by Diane Tolgyessy, Darlene Stack, Horst Hack, and Laurie Kubas.

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Website: <http://www.manitobaorchidsociety.ca>

Executive email: [president@manitobaorchidsociety.ca](mailto:president@manitobaorchidsociety.ca)

Newsletter email: [newsletter@manitobaorchidsociety.ca](mailto:newsletter@manitobaorchidsociety.ca)

**Submission deadline 24 February 2011 for March 2011 Issue**



A belated welcome to new members Sylvia Grantham & Matthew Singer, and to returning member Laurie Kubas.



**February 12 & 13: Ever Spring Open House**

Always a fun event with a chance to see lots of orchids in bloom, add to your collection, some good deals, refreshments and an opportunity to talk orchids!

**February 20 MOS: General & Novice Meeting** with focus on preparing for our annual show.

**March 25-27 MOS Annual Show & Sale “Orchid Celebration”**

**In Appreciation**

Dear Members of the Manitoba Orchid Society

Thank you for your kind donation to Messiah Lutheran Church in memory of our beloved Jerry. I also appreciated seeing the members who attended the Memorial Service on November 26<sup>th</sup>.

Jerry was actively involved with the Orchid Society for over 40 years, joining a couple of months after the Society was founded – then called the Manitoba Orchid Hobbyist Club. His passion of course was growing orchids, but he also loved the camaraderie and the close friendships he enjoyed through the Society.

In appreciation and with thankfulness,

Most sincerely

Caroline Lenover

**Hearts & Flowers**

If you hear of any good/bad news regarding members or their families, please call Phyllis McCaskill and let her know.



To Arturo Alejandro, Andrew Fehr, Lorne Heshka, Darlene Moar and Darlene Stack for bringing flowering plants to the January Show & Tell on a very cold day!



The Executive encourages all members to provide feedback, comments, suggestions by filling out a comment sheet available from the Secretary at all General Meetings.

All signed comment sheets should be returned to any member of the Executive. They will be reviewed at the next Executive Meeting and you will be informed of follow-up action taken.

## **2010/2011 Executive**

### **Elected**

President Dave Moran  
Past President Joyce Jaworski  
1st V.P. Kyle Lucyk  
2nd V.P./Show Chair Rob Kato  
Treasurer Garnet Ward  
Secretary Phyllis McCaskill

### **Appointed**

Membership Gary Jaworski  
Social Eva Slavicek  
Public Relations  
Special Orders Darlene Stack  
AOS/COC Rep Kevin Duerksen  
Library Lilianne Foster  
Newsletter Robert Parsons  
Webmaster Robert Kato

## **Editor's Message—New Home, At Least For Now**

As noted elsewhere in the newsletter, our February meeting will be at the Canadian Mennonite University campus on the SW corner of Grant Avenue and Shaftesbury Boulevard. A map of the CMU campus is on the last page of the newsletter. The meeting will be in the Conference Room (#13 on the map) and the Novice Meeting will be in Room C11 (#15 on the map). Parking is in Parking Lot "N". The main entrance is between #17 and #16 on the map.

This is in the nature of a trial, and so far it is for February only. While it's likely we will remain until June, and possibly beyond, nothing is written in stone. We're hoping for a good turnout by the membership at large so we can gauge the reaction of a truly representative sampling. Whether we continue to use it will depend on your reaction!

No place is perfect. The executive held a meeting there and were shown the facility. Nobody saw anything obviously wrong with it, but every place has its warts and these may not show up until we've actually held a meeting there. As things stand, it's a little over half the cost of what we've been paying for the use of Franco-Manitobain, and if we use it on a continuing basis, we get the advantage of a so-called regular use rate, which drops it to considerably less than half of what we've been paying. So the price is certainly attractive.

I was among those who originally recommended we try Franco-Manitobain. Its location was so close to where we were accustomed to meeting, it seemed wonderful. Wonderful, until we got into it! CMU may give us a similar impact on use. We realize it's quite a change in location. Joyce did an analysis of membership by postal code and found the two biggest "groups" lived in the Charleswood & Windsor Park areas, certainly demonstrating the dichotomy in the society. So both FM & CMU will appeal to a certain chunk of the membership on location alone. Regardless of where we ultimately choose to meet, keep in mind any location will mean a fair bit of traveling for some members.

## **2011 Manitoba Orchid Society Show & Sale “Orchid Celebration”**

Included with this newsletter, you will find a show volunteer form. We hope you will fill it out and bring it to the February meeting, or at least return it to Dave by March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The show is our premiere event of the year and depends on your help.

Are you looking for an opportunity to learn more about your favourite hobby? Here is your opportunity!! We are looking for someone to billet an AOS Judge for our upcoming show.

As you probably already know, the Show this year is March 25, 26 and 27. At a minimum, the billet would be required Friday and Saturday evenings, March 25th & 26th. The only meals you would need to provide would be breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, as all others will be provided by the club, either at the conservatory or the awards banquet. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please let Lorne Heshka know at 663-6850 or at [lheshka@mts.net](mailto:lheshka@mts.net)

Listed below are all confirmed vendors at press time. Kevin Duerksen may have details of additional vendors by the time you're reading this. He can be contacted at [kevind76@mts.net](mailto:kevind76@mts.net) or 633-0314.

### **Confirmed Show Vendors:**

**Orchids in Our Tropics** - Doug and Terry Kennedy  
Gormley ON  
Phone/Fax: (905) 727-3319  
Web site: <http://www.orchidsinoutropics.com/>

**Mike Gabrielson** - Sherwood Park, A.B.  
Phone: (780) 410-1571  
e-mail: [mikegab@telus.net](mailto:mikegab@telus.net)

**Ever Spring Orchids** - [Winnipeg, MB](http://www.everspringorchids.ca/)  
Phone: (204) 338-2340  
Web site: <http://www.everspringorchids.ca/>  
e-mail: [everspringorchids@gmail.com](mailto:everspringorchids@gmail.com)

**Paramount Orchids** - Calgary, Alberta  
Phone: (403) 686-7021  
Fax: (403) 686-6270  
e-mail: [info@paramountorchids.com](mailto:info@paramountorchids.com)  
web site: <http://www.paramountorchids.com/>

**Monica de Witt** – Edmonton, Alberta  
e-mail: [monicadwt@gmail.com](mailto:monicadwt@gmail.com)

**Joyce Jaworski/Leona Heshka** – Winnipeg, MB

## **The Genus Dracula Part IV**

*By John Leathers, Gary Meyer, Joe Parker and Kenneth*

*Cameron. (Reprinted with Permission from the Orchid Digest, Vol.*

*72-4, Oct. Nov. Dec. 2008 and taken from the April 2010, Vol. 27, #7 issue, SOS Newsletter.*

*Reproduced here with a few editorial changes.*

*Dracula velutina* f. *xanthina* – the most commonly seen “mutant” yellow *Dracula* in cultivation, this plant is generally easy to grow and flower. It seems to prefer a more intermediate growing environment, as it is prone to leaf spotting if grown too cold.

*Dracula gorgona* f. *xanthina* ‘Colombo’ FCC/AOS – perhaps the most remarkable of the yellow *Draculas*, it blooms with a large, bright lemon yellow and white flower. It was originally a wild-collected plant cultivated by S. Tsubota of Pereira, Colombia, and a division was given to Colomborquideas in Medellin. This was a fortunate decision because Tsubota’s piece of the plant promptly died. The history of this clone underscores the importance of distributing rare, one-of-a-kind material to as many skilled growers as possible to increase chances for survival and propagation.

*Dracula hirtzii* – equally striking are the four known yellow clones of this species. These plants originated from an outcross made by J&L Orchids, and show distinct differences. The flower of *Dracula hirtzii* ‘J&L’s Gold AM/AOS is, in fact, golden colored and wonderfully broad and flat, while ‘Hoodview’ is cleaner yellow and somewhat smaller.

*Dracula verticulosa* f. *alba* – a more recent addition to this elite group, all divisions originate from a single plant in the collection of Francisco Billegas of Medellin, Colombia. There is a lot of bloom-to-bloom variation in tail length and follower size with this particular clone, but the inside color is an incredible, eye-ball searing yellow.

Other yellow *Draculas* that have been identified include *andreettae* (an extremely rare pure yellow form, and another with a few large brown spots). *Gigas* (several clones), *diana* (semi-xanthic with an orange sunburst center), *hirsute*, and *erythrochaete* (not in cultivation outside of Costa Rica).

### **Dracula Hybrids--accidental or inevitable**

In the mid 1980s it became apparent that *Draculas* in cultivation in the open-air greenhouses of Medellin, Colombia were being cross-pollinated and producing successful ‘spontaneous’ hybrids. Luer then realized that some of the described species that were lacking collection data might, in fact, be hybrids. He further suggested that some taxa that had been observed in the wild, including *D. pileus*, *D. radio-syndactyla*, and *D. hawleyi*, might be natural hybrids. Ongoing research by Dr. Gary Meyer and Dr. Ken Cameron, who are using DNA markers to explore the phylogenetic relationships of the genus *Dracula*, has finally unmasked the identity of some of these hybrids. (Cameron K. A. and Meyer, G. E., 2007). The exact parentage can be difficult to identify with certainty in some cases because sometimes there is not enough variation in the DNA sequences to separate certain closely related species. However, there are distinctive elements in the DNA sequences that suggest a hybrid origin for some species, even when one or both parents are hard to specifically identify. In other cases, the parents have distinct enough DNA sequences to be identified.

Of the plants Luer thought might be hybrids, *D. circe*, *D. venefica*, *D. pileus*, and *D. anicula* show evidence of being hybrids. *Dracula pileus* appears to be, as Luer suggested, a hybrid between *D. bella* and *D. chimera*. *Dracula anicula*, also as predicted, appears to be a cross between *D. cutisbufonis* and *D. wallisii*.

*Dracula incognita*, as the name implies, was a plant of unknown origin. It was originally found in the collection of Alberto and Daisy Villagas. Genetic evidence shows it is a hybrid involving *D. iricolor* and probably —although more needs to be done to be certain—*D. houtteana*. The flower of *D. incognita* is a plausible combination of the two parents. Perhaps more remarkable, is the spiking habit: *Dracula iricolor* blooms basally. *Dracula incognita* produces two spikes from each growth—one upright, one horizontally. This pretty and floriferous plant has never been found in the wild, but is nonetheless a happy accident.

Some natural hybrids have been lurking hidden in the genus, and suggest the possibility, however slight, that hybridization could be a mechanism involved in the speciation of plants in the genus. *Dracula aphrodes* is the product of *D. insolita* (pod parent) and probably *D. verticulosa*. Both *D. insolita* and *D. verticulosa* reside in the same valley near Cali, Colombia, which is not surprising the same location from which *D. aphrodes* is found. The flower is a perfect combination of the two parents — purple spotted on the outside and tan on the inside like *D. verticulosa*, but with the faint tiger stripping of *D. insolita*. The lip is shaped like the *Dodsonia*-type lip of *D. insolita*, but covered in rugae inherited from *D. verticulosa*. Finally, the plant blooms on upright spikes like *D. insolita*.

The lovely *D. kareniae* has been collected only once near Maldonado on the Columbian/Ecuadorian border. The DNA evidence shows it is a hybrid between *D. sodiroi* ssp. *erythrocodon* (pod parent), which is common in the area, and a species in the *D. radiosa* group. This parent is most likely *D. radiella*, which also grows in the area. The flower of *D. kareniae* again shows the characteristics of both parents—bell shaped but wide with long tails. Inside it has a brown tipped column and strong 'cheek-bones' flanking the column (both typical of *D. radiella*). Interestingly, an intentional hybrid has been made between *D. sodiroi* and *D. gigas*, which produces clones that are almost identical to *D. kareniae* in bloom, except lacking the brown -tipped column and 'cheek-bones' which are not features found in *D. gigas*. *Dracula sijimii*, which comes from a single plant in the Ecuagenera collection, also appears to be a hybrid with *D. sodiroi* ssp. *Erythrocodon*, and may in fact be another clonal representation of the cross that produced *D. kareniae*.

Other dubious taxa within the genus are also hybrids. The 'copper' forms of *D. pholeodytes* came from a group of wild-collected *D. verticulosa* that J&L Orchids had received from Columbia. These plants produce globose blooms that are coppery-orange on the inside and purple-flecked on the outside. The strongly cupped shape of the plants led to their being named *D. pholeodytes*, even though the lip is completely unlike the true *D. pholeodytes*, and they were collected nowhere near where *D. pholeodytes* lives. This plant, too, is a natural hybrid most likely involving *D. verticulosa*. The other parent is hard to decipher, but *D. benedictii* is a possibility based on the morphology of the flower (although *D. benedictii* has not been published from this area.)

*Dracula schudellii* was named relatively recently from a plant collected by Alexander Hirtz. However, plants identical to *D. schudellii* have been known from Colomborquideas since the 1980s (under the names of *D. wallisii* no.3 and no. 15). All three plants have a distinctive toilet-bowl shaped lip with an incurved margin. Genetic evidence shows the type plant of *D. schudellii* and the two colomborquideas plants came from a *D. bella* seed pod. The Colomborquideas plants were found growing among plants of *D. wallisii* which is a plausible, but not certain, pollen parent both morphologically and genetically. Insect-carried pollinia and seeds can be carried over impressive distances, so the location of seedlings in a mixed collection is an equivocal indicator of potential parents.

Some plants that have been floating around collections for years without clear identification show evidence of being hybrids. Additional hybrids are likely lurking within the genus, but will remain hidden until more DNA markers are studied. No genetic evidence currently suggests *D. radio-syndactyla* is a hybrid. Further, none of the *D. gigas*-like taxa (*dalstromii*, *hawleyi*, *trinympharum*, and *levii*) show any variation whatsoever in the DNA markers that have been studied to date. Thus it is impossible to know at this point if *D. hawleyi* is a hybrid. So, while we await further DNA studies, an alternative approach is being pursued by the authors of this article. We have begun making the putative crosses responsible for *D. aphrodes*, *D. karenia* and *D. hawleyi*. Further, we already have F1 seedlings growing of selfing of the *D. schudellii* type plant, which would be expected to vary significantly from the parent if the parent was a hybrid itself.

The prospect that natural hybridization is occurring in the genus is intriguing and potentially represents an evolutionary mechanism for the production of new species.

Indeed, people who study *Draculas* in their natural habitat can find it extremely difficult to draw the lines between discrete species because of the intergrade forms. This is particularly evident at Los Cedros Reserve in Northwest Ecuador, where several knowledgeable *Dracula* researchers have had difficulty with intergrades between *D. chiroptera*, *D. laffluerii*, and *D. pubescens*. A population genetics approach is needed to understand better how much interbreeding happens in the wild.

A successful hybrid *Dracula* would likely be fertile, and if it were able to attract the same pollinators that created it in the first place, could potentially be propagated and develop into a 'species' over a relatively short evolutionary time. However, it would be assumed initially at any single time point the hybrid would be rare, and pure forms of the parents would outnumber the hybrid progeny.

Backcrossing to the more common parent species could lead to introgression and dilution of the new hybrid taxa. Over time, however, if the hybrid crossing happens frequently enough, and the offspring are robust, it would be possible to establish a population of self-reproducing hybrids. Verifiable natural hybrids remain rare, but the prospect of hybridization as an evolutionary mechanism in *Dracula* is fascinating and more work should be done to determine if plants like *D. karenia* and *D. aphrodes* continue to be made, or can reproduce successfully on their own in the wild.

## **Minutes - Manitoba Orchid Society General Meeting, January 16, 2011**

*Recorder: Phyllis McCaskill*

### **1. Call to order:**

Dave Moran called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. We welcomed returning member Laurie Kubas.

The minutes of the last executive meeting have not been approved yet as we did not have a December meeting.

Suggestion slips are available at all general meetings. Those submitting suggestion slips are requested to include their name for follow-up with respect to their suggestion. The suggestion slip may be handed to any executive member.

Volunteers for February refreshments are Diane Tolgyessy, Darlene Stack, Horst Hack, and Laurie Kubas.

In Kyle Lucyk's absence, Kevin Duerksen presented a program that Kyle put together on Masdevallias.

### **2. Minutes of the last meeting:**

Motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting as published by Phyllis McCaskill; seconded by Rob Parsons. Carried.

### **3. Financial report: - Garnet Ward – Absent – No report.**

### **4. Programs: - Kyle Lucyk – Absent**

The February meeting will be for Orchid Show preparation. The theme for the show will be "Orchid Celebration." There will be no March general meeting. There will be presentations at the orchid show.

The spring programs will be announced when they have been confirmed.

### **5. Show Chairperson and Website Report: - Rob Kato**

We are looking for a banquet speaker. If you have any ideas on this please let us know. The volunteer forms will be on the website and also at the February meeting.

### **6. AOS/COC Representative: - Kevin Duerksen**

The next COC Annual Meeting is being hosted by the Orchid Society of Alberta at their annual Orchid Fair 2011 in Edmonton, AB, February 25<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **7. Hospitality: - Eva Slavicek**

Eva thanked everyone for the food that was brought to the Christmas party and for the large turnout.

### **8. Library: - Lilianne Foster –**

A reminder to put down the last 3 numbers of the bar code when checking out a book. Everyone is requested to check at home for any M O S books that are due or overdue to be returned.



**9. Public Relations:** - Position vacant, still looking for someone.

**10. Membership:** - Gary Jaworski

Gary reports the membership is 108.

**11. Newsletter:** - Rob Parsons

Nothing to report.

**12. Special Orders:** - Darlene Stack

Nothing is scheduled at this time, but if anyone has any ideas from where orders may be placed, please let us know. Darlene reports that she still has a few small bags of bark for sale.

**13. Unfinished business:**

None

**14. New business:**

A reminder to all members that this is an election year. Please consider filling a position on our executive.

Due to the Festival du Voyageur, we will not be able to meet at the Franco Manitoba Cultural Centre, so we will hold the February meeting at the Canadian Mennonite University, South Campus, 500 Shaftsbury Blvd. This meeting will be in the general conference room with a classroom having been set aside for the novice meeting. Maps of this area are available at the January meeting and also on our website. Parking area N has been made available for us for this meeting. This meeting will be considered a “test run” to determine if we may want this to become a permanent facility for our meetings. The cost for rental at the Franco Manitoba Centre is making it difficult for us to stay within our budget.

A reminder to all members that the 2011 –2012 membership dues will be \$25.00 and \$35.00 for family memberships. This slight increase is necessary to assist us in balancing our budget.

**15. Raffle draw:**

Winners were Ann Yewish, Darlene Stack, Marilyn Kraut (2), Laurie Kubas, and Darlene Moar (2).

**16. Show & tell:**

Ed Maza did the show and tell with assistance from Dave Moran.

**17. Correspondence:**

We received thank you cards from Caroline Lenover and also the Messiah Lutheran Church to thank us for our donation in memory of Jerry Lenover.

**18. Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn by Pat Turenne at 3:15 p.m.

Note: Minutes of the Executive Meetings are available to be picked up at General Meetings on request from the Secretary.



Two views of *Phragmipedium Peruflora*'s Cirila Alca (kovachii X dalessandroi) grown and photographed by Joyce Jaworski. Top photo showing a better representation of the color and the lower photo indicating the size.

# ***Manitoba Orchid Society***

## ***Orchid Show, 2011***

### ***“Orchid Celebration”***

#### ***Volunteer Form***

We require volunteers to help with the annual Orchid Show to be held this year at the Assiniboine Conservatory from Thursday, March 24th through Sunday, March 27th, 2011. We are looking for individuals to help on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday in the following areas;

- |                    |       |  |
|--------------------|-------|--|
| Individual Display | (   ) | Contact Rob Kato if you wish to enter an individual display.                                 |
| Club Display       | (   ) | Contact Dave & Elaine Moran if you have plants for the Club Display.                         |
| Preliminary Set Up | (   ) | Help with the set up on <b><i>Thursday March 24th</i></b> , 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.          |
| Set Up             | (   ) | Help with the final set up on <b><i>Thursday March 24<sup>th</sup></i></b> after 4:00 p.m.   |
| Registration Desk  | (   ) | Help with plant registration on <b><i>Thursday March 24<sup>th</sup></i></b> after 4:00 p.m. |
| Judging Clerks     | (   ) | Help with plant judging on <b><i>Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup></i></b> after 4:00 p.m.       |
| Lounge Assistant   | (   ) | Assist in maintaining the Volunteer Lounge area <b><i>Fri. - Sun.</i></b>                    |
| Food Donation      | (   ) | Supply food for the Volunteer Lounge area <b><i>Fri. - Sun.</i></b>                          |
| Host / Hostess     | (   ) | Security and talking with visitors <b><i>Fri. - Sun.</i></b>                                 |
| Admissions         | (   ) | Collecting admission charge at the entrance <b><i>Fri. - Sun.</i></b>                        |
| Cashier            | (   ) | Collecting money for plant sales <b><i>Fri. - Sun.</i></b>                                   |
| Plant Wrapping     | (   ) | Wrapping the purchased plants for transportation <b><i>Fri. - Sun.</i></b>                   |
| Take Down          | (   ) | Help take the displays down after 5:00 p.m. on <b><i>Sunday, March 27th.</i></b>             |

When will you be available?

Thursday	10 AM(   )	4 PM (   )
Friday	AM (   )	PM (   )
Saturday	AM (   )	PM (   )
Sunday	AM (   )	PM (   )

**Name:**\_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone:**\_\_\_\_\_

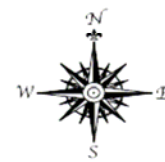
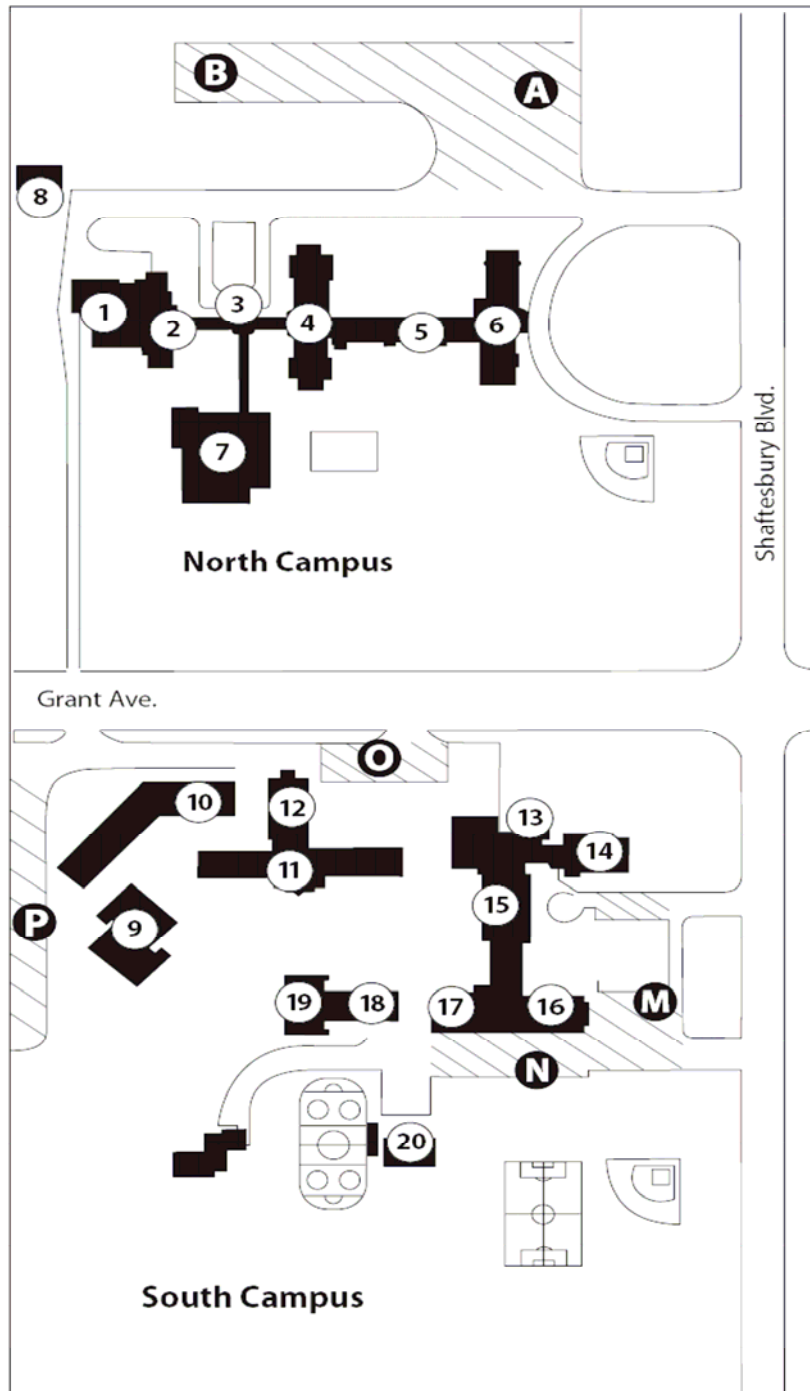
Please return form to Dave Moran by Sunday, March 6th in person, by mail, by phone or by e-mail:

Telephone: 668-5755

E-Mail: [DEMoran@shaw.ca](mailto:DEMoran@shaw.ca)

Address: 66 Highfield Place, East St. Paul, R2E 0G3

# Grant & Shaftesbury Campus Map



## Key

1. D wing—Music Department
2. Great Hall
3. Main Entrance
4. C wing—Reception/Classroom
5. B wing—Classrooms
6. A wing—Auditorium/  
Large Boardroom/Heritage Lounge
7. Loewen Athletic Centre
8. Maintenance Garage
9. Katherine Friesen Apartments (Housing)
10. Concord Hall (Housing)
11. Poettcker Hall (Housing)
12. Dining Hall
13. Conference Room
14. MC Canada and MC Manitoba Offices
15. Classrooms/Hosting Department
16. Chapel
17. Lecture Hall
18. Library (lower level)
19. Heritage Centre
20. Maintenance Garage

## Parking

**A B N O P**

Guest Parking

**M**

Reserved Parking