



MARIPOSA FOLK FESTIVAL

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Take notice that a meeting of the members of the **MARIPOSA FOLK FESTIVAL** (the "Festival") will be held on Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at the hour of **7:00 p.m.** via ZOOM .

If you wish to join via ZOOM please notify Chris Hazel at officemanager@mariposafolk.com He will require your email address and will forward you an email invitation.

The Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. Call to order – Welcome to members and guests
2. Agenda – Motion to approve
3. Minutes from the Feb 27, 2025 AGM – Motion to approve
4. Business Arising from the 2025 AGM minutes
5. President's Report
6. Treasurer's Report – Motion to:
 - Accept the financial statements for the 2024/25 fiscal year
 - Re-appoint Hehn Trickey as the Mariposa Folk Festival auditors
7. Artistic Report
8. Resolution to thank outgoing directors
9. Election of Directors –Motion to Approve

"As of the January 26, 2026 board meeting a vacant board position has been identified. This is occurring concurrently with the scheduled 5 year review of the board's nomination policy. The board has chosen to operate with a vacant position until the review of the board nomination policy is completed. "

The Board of Directors of the Festival has met and recommends:

a) that the following three individuals be elected as Directors of the Festival to serve a three year term in accordance with the Festival's by-laws –Leslie Merklinger, Katharine Partridge, Jimm Simon.

Please note that you must be a member in good standing to cast a vote.

10. Other business
11. Adjournment

MEETING: February 25, 2026, 7:00 p.m. Via ZOOM



Board Nominees

Katharine Partridge

Katharine served on Folk Canada's (formerly Folk Music Ontario) Board of Directors for nine years, including two as its president. She is one of the founders of Shelter Valley Folk Festival, its first production and business manager, as well as its inaugural Board President and 11-year volunteer.

Katharine joined the Mariposa Board in 2020. She sits on the Governance Committee, the Climate Action Committee and leads the implementation of the Festival's 2023-2027 Strategic Plan.

Katharine is a communications and stakeholder engagement specialist, advising international clients on sustainability issues. In past lives, she was a magazine journalist and prior to that a production stage manager for Canadian theatres.

She lives in Dundonald, east of Toronto.

Leslie Merklinger

Leslie Merklinger is an award winning media veteran with over 4 decades in the industry. She joined the board in 2025. .

Currently Executive Director of CBC Podcasts, Leslie began her career in television as a producer, director and Commissioning Editor in both independent tv production companies and at every major broadcaster in Canada.

In 2015, she pivoted to audio and founded the CBC Podcast studio. Under Leslie's leadership, CBC has become Canada's #1 Podcast publisher with a slate of more than 60 original series, CBC's podcast slate is internationally successful and critically acclaimed.

Leslie has been the chair of Mariposa Folk Festival's Promotions Committee for the past 2 years, contributing her media skills and expertise by directing the video crew, guiding the creative theme for the 65th Anniversary and conducting many artist interviews, including a Canadian exclusive with Hall of Fame inductee Bruce Cockburn.

Leslie holds a Masters in Creative Media Education from the University of Bournemouth, UK, and taught media at Toronto Metropolitan University.

Jimm Simon

Jimm Simon holds an MBA and is pursuing his PhD in English literature. He is a retired not for profit executive with experience in both the cultural tourism and social enterprise sectors.

Jimm brings to this opportunity experience as a board member and experience working for boards. Jimm has been a Mariposa Folk Festival volunteer for over 10 years working on the

stage team. He currently volunteers with several non profits, primarily the Shrine hospital patient transportation program.

Jimm has been the Executive Director of Community Living Interlake where he has worked with the board of directors to grow from a group of concerned parents into a volunteer governance board. Together, they grew from a \$2Million organization into a \$4.5 Million operation that includes managing 6 homes staffed 24/7, a day program that has over 50 attendees and three social enterprises, specifically, 2 restaurants and a gift store, that create jobs, and inclusion opportunities for adults who live with intellectual businesses.

Jimm grew up in Southern Ontario, but has lived in Manitoba since 1996 with his wife, also a Mariposa volunteer. They have one adult daughter. He is an active member of 3 Pipe and Drum bands and served for 11 years as a Pipe Major.

Jimm is currently on the Mariposa board of directors and is the lead of Governance.