**PRESIDENT’S REPORT MWSA AGM June 23, 2014**

First off I would like to give my regrets at not being able to attend this evening. I would like to welcome everyone to the 2013/2014 Manitoba Wheelchair Sport Association’s Annual General Meeting. First off, thank you to everyone that has been involved with our organization over the last year, we have had overwhelming support. With the help of the staff, volunteers and members we have seen tremendous change and growth in our organization. I look at the past year as a huge step forward for MWSA and it is only due to the quality people that are in place that contribute to our success.

I have to give special thanks to our staff Angela Lloyd and Ryan Van Berkel and our summer student for the second year in a row, Sam Unrau. Angela has taken full control of the office and has done a tremendous job. I am so appreciative of the work, effort and commitment that she puts into MWSA. Additionally Ryan has great sport knowledge and experience that he has brought to the role of Program/BTG Coordinator. And Sam, who had the role of summer student last year did such a tremendous job he was awarded the role for a second year. I would like to thank all three of these individuals for all the hard work! Together they have accomplished many great things. Because of their efforts, MWSA is once again becoming a public brand name. BTG is strong with many school and community demos and programs. To name a few; summer tennis program, Spence Street Neighborhood Association program and the Junior Programs. Last summer they ran a very successful summer camp and built on that success to offer mini camps throughout the year. The response from everyone that has participated is overwhelmingly positive. I applaud and thank all members of the staff for their commitment, energy and positivity that each of them bring to this organization. I would also like to give special thanks to board member Kevin Stewart who has gone above and beyond his commitment to the organization.

Special congratulations to some of our athletes, coaches and volunteers; Aaron Mosley-Williams for his continued selection to the Canadian National Wheelchair Basketball team. Ian Crowe for his selection to the Canadian National Wheelchair Rugby Team. Bill Johnson who is the Head Coach of the National Women’s Wheelchair Basketball Team. Junior athlete Spencer Lambert has been invited to attend the Junior National Wheelchair Basketball team training camp in July. Arin Smith for receiving the Sport Manitoba of Volunteer of the Year award. Also the progress achieved by the Canada Games Team and Coaches (Jarrett Yaworski, Chantelle Horel, Jeff Watson). Congratulations to all.

As we look to the future, our emphasis will continue to focus on our grassroots programs. This is where we can influence the future of our organization. It is a priority. We will continue to focus on increasing the awareness of our organization as well as our membership. With that increase, we are able to find alternative sources of revenue to support our valuable programs.

In closing I would like to thank everyone who has given in some form to this organization, no matter how big or small and look forward to a new year and successes.

Sincerely,

Deb Paul