MUUGLines

The Manitoba UNIX User Group Newsletter

Volume 38 No. 2, October 2025 Editor: Tyhr Trubiak

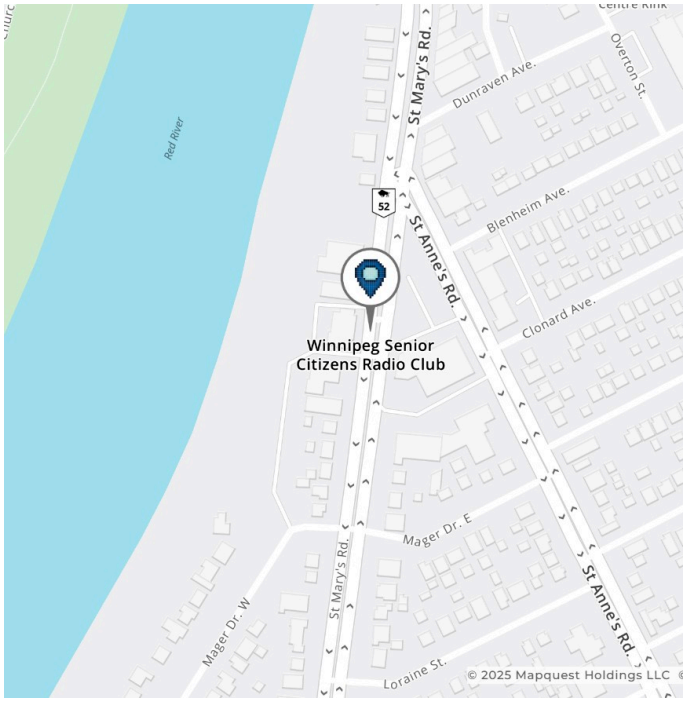
Next Meeting: October 7th, 2025 7:30pm

In Person and Online

NEW LOCATION

MUUG has moved to a new location to start the new season. Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club (WSC) has graciously offered to host MUUG meetings going forward. Several current and past MUUG members are also members of WSC. MUUG President Wyatt Zacharias will be our WSC liaison and duty officer.

WSC is located at 598 St. Mary's Road, 2nd Floor, a block South from the St. Mary's / St. Anne's fork, on the West side beside the Miller's Meats. It's in the old fire hall, so you really can't miss it! Look for the red doors.



The meeting space is on the **2nd floor** and there is no elevator, so attendees will have to be able to climb 1 flight of beautiful character style stairs. Apologies to anyone requiring accessibility. It is also possible to attend via online videoconferencing (see below).

There are a limited number of parking spaces for WSC around the building. If you arrive early you'll probably snag one. If not, there is parking available on the nearby streets, such as Mager Dr, or the streets off of St. Mary's such as Blenheim or Clonard Ave. Be careful not to park in nearby private parking lots unless otherwise indicated.

Many thanks to MUUG Treasurer Brad Vokey and Fortress Software Inc. for hosting the MUUG meetings since the covid lockdowns – over two years! Brad still brings the mugs and snacks for our refreshments every meeting to our new location. Now that's dedication. (Fortress Software has moved and his new location is not as amenable to MUUG meetings.)

Main Presentation – ncdu

Brad Vokey will present and demo `ncdu` (NCurses Disk Usage), a powerful, interactive, and fast disk usage analyzer for Unix/Linux systems. It provides a text-based user interface (TUI) based on the `ncurses` library, offering a more user-friendly and visual way to explore disk space consumption compared to the traditional `du` command.

RTFM: /bin Diving

If time permits, we will also be taking a dive into the `/bin`, with this month's host Trevor Cordes.

/bin Diving is our segment where we pick a random program in /bin to demo and discuss and learn about as a group. It's improv at its best!

Where to Find the Meeting

We are continuing to meet on the first Tuesday of every month. You can attend in person or online via videoconference.

Beverages and cookies or treats will be provided. Pop for sure… Hot beverage options are TBA.

Doors will open by 7:15pm. Meeting starts at 7:30pm.

To attend in person, see the "New Location" section on page one.

To attend online, check and refresh the following link after 7:15pm. There is no need to create an account in BBB, nor login. Just enter any name as your screen name and hit **join**.

`https://muug.ca/meet`

The latest meeting details are always at:
`https://muug.ca/meetings/`

Door Prizes: Welcome Linux Mag!

Linux Magazine is the longest-running physical/printed Linux magazine in the world – especially when you take into account its 2008 acquisition / continuation of the USA-based Linux Magazine. It is now Germany-based, run by Computec Media GmbH, with the English edition run by Linux New Media USA.

Linux New Media has graciously offered MUUG a special deal to acquire a copy each month to give away as a door prize for our members. Thanks Linux Mag!

`https://www.linux-magazine.com/`

Come out to the next meeting to flip through the large-format, glossy mag to see what it has to offer. Sign up for the door prize draw and you can win the chance to take it home.

There are also a couple of newer batches of e-books you may want to peruse as a possible door prize choice this month.

And, as usual, one lucky winner can select an e-book graciously donated by Michael W. Lucas of Tilted Windmill Press (see advertisement on last page).

Everyone is encouraged to enter the door prize draw: both in-person and virtual attendees. You don't have to be a member to enter, but members have exclusive access to the first draw. Members also get the privilege of not having to be present (physically or virtually) for the draw in order to claim their non-physical prize. However, physical prizes can only be selected by in-person attendees. If

you attend online you'll have to select from one of the e-books if you win a door prize.

MUUG Board Elections

Call for Nominations

Trevor Cordes, Acting Nomination Committee Chair

Calling all nominations! This is the preliminary call for nominees to participate in this year's MUUG Board election. Those elected will serve on the MUUG board from November 2025 to November 2026. Any MUUG member in good standing may nominate someone they feel would make a good candidate, including themselves.

The MUUG Board is tasked with coordinating the meetings and other events hosted by the group, group promotion and newsletter editting. It's fun, it's social, and you get a role in deciding what the group will do. All members are encouraged to apply.

Every November, the group holds its annual general meeting, the main goals of the meeting are to elect the new board, and to pass any special resolutions if required. The Board may consist of up to 10 people. The following 8 members are allowing their names to stand for re-election:

Wyatt Zacharias
MUUG President
Lead Cloud Developer - Wawanesa Insurance

Trevor Cordes
MUUG Vice-president / Doorprize Don
Owner – Tecnopolis Enterprises

Gilbert Detillieux
MUUG Secretary
Systems Analyst – University of Manitoba

Brad Vokey
MUUG Treasurer
Owner – Fortress Software

Kevin Abedi

Tech Wiz At Large

Alberto Abrao

IT Specialist – Canadian Centre For Child Protection

Kevin McGregor

Systems Specialist – City of Winnipeg

Tyhr Trubiak

Web Developer - BMC

NPM Hit by Major Supply Chain Attack

In one of the largest supply chain attacks seen in recent memory, a group of hackers compromised several widely used JavaScript packages on NPM—collectively downloaded billions of times weekly. The attackers gained control through a phishing campaign targeting package maintainers. In one confirmed case, the attacker impersonated NPM support via a spoofed email domain and tricked a maintainer into resetting their two-factor authentication (2FA), allowing the attacker to push malicious updates to trusted packages.

The injected malicious code was designed to silently hijack cryptocurrency transactions. It operated by detecting when users interacted with Ethereum, Solana, Bitcoin, or Tron wallets, and stealthily replaced legitimate wallet addresses with those controlled by the attacker. Although the compromised packages were quickly flagged and removed—some within hours—the potential scope of exposure is vast due to how widely these packages are used throughout the JavaScript and Node.js ecosystem.

This breach highlights ongoing vulnerabilities in the open-source software supply chain, particularly around maintainer security and the ease of social engineering attacks. It also underscores the need for better ecosystem-level safeguards, like alerts for suspicious package updates, stricter domain verification, and automatic anomaly detection. Developers are advised to audit dependencies, lock versions, and remain vigilant for phishing attempts, especially those impersonating platform support teams.

Intel Layoffs Leave Key Linux Drivers Orphaned

Intel's recent wave of layoffs has impacted several Linux driver maintainers, leaving multiple hardware

drivers without active upstream support. This includes: Intel WWAN IOSM, Keem Bay DRM, Ethernet RDMA, T7XX 5G WWAN, and others.

These drivers are critical for networking, embedded systems, and hardware acceleration. With maintainers gone, these components risk stagnation or eventual removal if no one steps up. This has sparked renewed discussion about corporate responsibility in open source and how projects handle at-risk subsystems.

Cloud Hypervisor Project Bans AI-Generated Code

The Cloud Hypervisor project (under the Linux Foundation) has officially banned contributions generated or heavily derived from AI tools like GitHub Copilot or ChatGPT. For legal/license ambiguity (e.g., GPL conflicts), Code quality concerns and long-term maintainability risks.

Free Internet!!

Two Winnipeg non-profits are launching a community-driven project to bring free, reliable internet to the city's North End, starting with antennas installed on rooftops at key community hubs. Led by North End Connect and the Internet Society Manitoba Chapter, the initiative aims to connect 20 households this fall as a pilot, with a long-term goal of reaching up to 1,000 homes.

Sparked by the pandemic's digital access gaps, the project focuses on connectivity while empowering the community through student training and better access to education, jobs, and resources.

MUUG would like to thank Michael W. Lucas for donating one of his ebooks every month as a door prize. You can view and purchase his tech books here:

https://www.tiltedwindmillpress.com/product-category/tech/

A big thanks to Les.net for providing MUUG with free hosting and all that bandwidth! Les.net (1996) Inc. is a local provider of VoIP, Internet and Data Centre services. Contact **sales@les.net** by email, or +1 (204) 944-0009 by phone.

Help us promote this month's meeting, by putting this poster up on your workplace bulletin board or other suitable public message board:

https://muug.ca/meetings/MUUGmeeting.pdf

Thanks to Linux Mag for providing MUUG a half price magazine subscription for our door prizes.

Linux Magazine is your guide to the world of Linux and open source. Each monthly issue includes advanced technical information you won't find anywhere else including tutorials, in-depth articles on trending topics, troubleshooting and optimization tips, and more! Subscribe to their free newsletters and get news and articles in your inbox.

https://www.linux-magazine.com/

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