

President's Report on 2021: A Year of Transitions



AMBA entered 2021 strong

- A professionally-led \$50K operation
- A volunteer team of 30
- Over \$180K in project grants won and managed since 2015
- Hundreds of users remotely or in person; over 1200 Facebook followers
- Off site storage in operation
- Continued operation through the pandemic

... and had a successful year

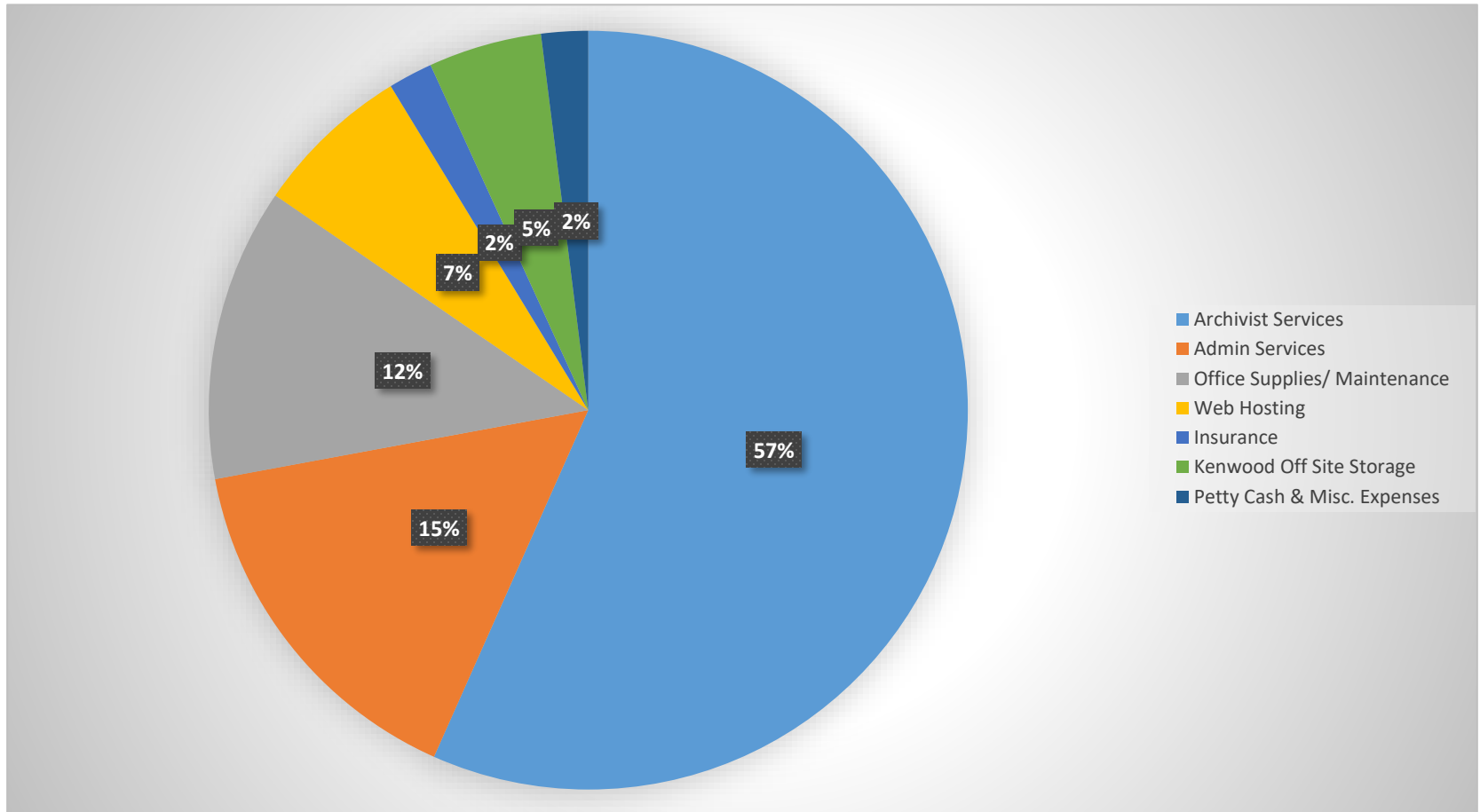
- Phased re-opening
- Successful Archivist Recruitment
 - Seamless Double Transition
- Volunteers' re-engagement
- Major (\$25K) digitization project
- Strategic Plan renewal under way
- AAO Institutional Award

... but faced a vital threat.

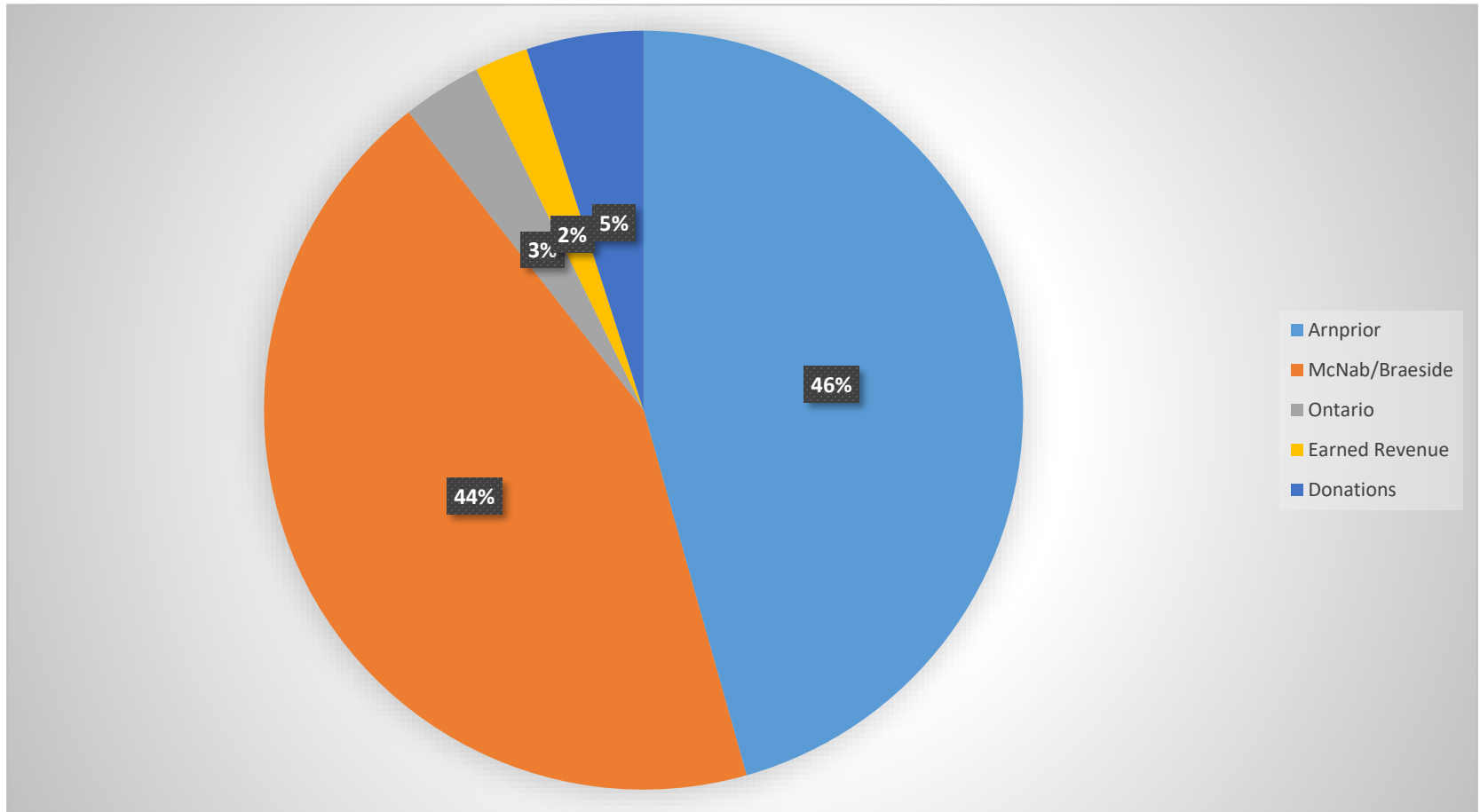
We could afford only 3 days/wk of archivist time

- **CAUSING** – growing backlog, frustration
 - archivist unable to earn a living income
- **RESULT** – rapid turnover, instability
 - recruitment more difficult

2021 operating \$ were spent on



... and came from



... so, we went to the Municipal Councils

- Explained the need to fund more archivist days
- Showed real budgets for both 4- and 5-day weeks
- Our 4-day minimum ask was a 30% increase from McNab/Braeside, 29% from Arnprior

... who responded generously

- Thanks to the advocacy of Cllr Lang and Cllr Strike
- McNab/Braeside Township provided the full requested grant for 4 days
- Arnprior Town Council decided to go beyond staff's recommendation, to fund an additional half-day

All's well that ends well

- AMBA exited 2021 stronger than it entered
- We have secured a 41% increase in municipal funding for 2022
- Archivist hours will increase from 21 to 32 per week

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Gilhuly
President