PROPOSAL FOR A ROUNDTABLE COMMUNICATIVE MEMORIES OF THE 1919 WINNIPEG GENERAL STRIKE Janis Thiessen University of Winnipeg

OUTLINE: This roundtable will consist of descendants of those involved on both sides of the 1919 Strike, whom I interviewed for an oral history project. They will share the stories they heard from their relatives, the lessons they learned from those stories, and how those stories shaped their own understandings of labour issues, unions, and social and economic justice. Roundtable participants will include some or all of the following:

• Tom Paulley, former correctional officer and civil servant, whose grandfather was a Striker and subsequently a CCF candidate in the 1950s

• Lisa McGifford, UWFA Executive Director, whose great-grandfathers were involved in the Strike • Kathleen Christensen, who worked on an earlier 1919 Strike exhibit at the Royal Canadian Artillery Museum, and whose great-grandfather was blacklisted after the Strike • Sandra Oakley, formerly with CUPE, whose grandfather was a Striker

• Ross Metcalfe, former school administrator, whose great-uncle (Justice Thomas Llewellyn Metcalfe) tried the Strikers

• Margaret Owen, former teacher, whose grandfather ran a Workers’ University in a Labour Temple in Winnipeg that influenced the Strike leaders

BIOGRAPHY: Janis Thiessen is Associate Professor in the History Department and Associate Director of the Oral History Centre at the University of Winnipeg. She has written three books in business and labour history: Manufacturing Mennonites (University of Toronto Press, 2013), Not Talking Union (McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2016), and Snacks (University of Manitoba Press, 2017). The latter was researched with the assistance of a SSHRC Insight Development Grant ($69 720, 2012-2014). She was recently awarded a SSHRC Insight Grant to research the history of the production, retailing, and consumption of food in the province of Manitoba, using an “oral history food truck” ($239 040, 2017-2021).