Ka Ni Kanichihk Inc. is embarking on a Phase II construction project to meet demand!

# *Building Our Future Together*

This is a campaign funded $4.9+ million construction project
to expand our delivery capacity
to serve more Indigenous peoples in Winnipeg

**Approximately 45% of our fundraising goal has been achieved.**




Ka Ni Kanichihk means "those who lead" in Ininew (Cree language).
Ka Ni Kanichihk has been a leader of innovative and culturally safe community programs in Winnipeg's Indigenous community since 2001.

# A. Introduction

Ka Ni Kanichihk works to reclaim and celebrate Indigenous identity and increase understanding between cultures.

The construction initiative ***Building Our Future Together*** will expand delivery of high demand services to considerably more Indigenous peoples in Winnipeg from 455 McDermot Avenue. ***Building Our Future Together*** is a construction initiative where Ka Ni Kanichihk is already highly qualified and its leadership recognized.

**Present Location at 455 McDermot to be Expanded**




The enlarged space would enable Ka Ni Kanichihk to serve over 1,200 unique individuals per year. **This would result in approximately 60,000 visits each year, a growth of 60% more visits than in 2016.**

Ka Ni Kanichihk's mandate is to "provide Indigenous identified programs and services that focus on wholeness and wellness and that build on the strengths and resilience of Indigenous Peoples". Ka Ni Kanichihk achieves this mandate by helping people to help themselves, to build healthy relationships and to create a sustainable future for our community.

Ka Ni Kanichihk already provides direct helping services to more than 700 unique individuals each year (infants to Elders) from its current small location at 455 McDermot Avenue (see image). In 2016, this translated into 37,760 visits by community members.

The *2015 Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada Calls to Action* identified many areas for change and understanding between Canada's communities. ***Building our Future Together*** is Ka Ni Kanichihk's investment in the Indigenous community as its central focus, and an opportunity to reach out to all peoples and cultures as an extended family of interconnected communities.



## B. Project Overview

Ka Ni Kanichihk will undertake a **$4.9 million** construction project at its present location to significantly **increase the amount of floor space by 143%,** increasing from 8,719 SF at present, to 21,169 SF upon completion of the construction. This will be achieved by a new two-storey building attached to the existing one-storey building.

The construction project was initially planned in 2006 when Ka Ni Kanichihk first moved into its current location at 455 McDermot. However at that time, Ka Ni Kanichihk's limited funds were needed to renovate that space for community use rather than proceeding with an expansion. So Phase II needed to be postponed until now.

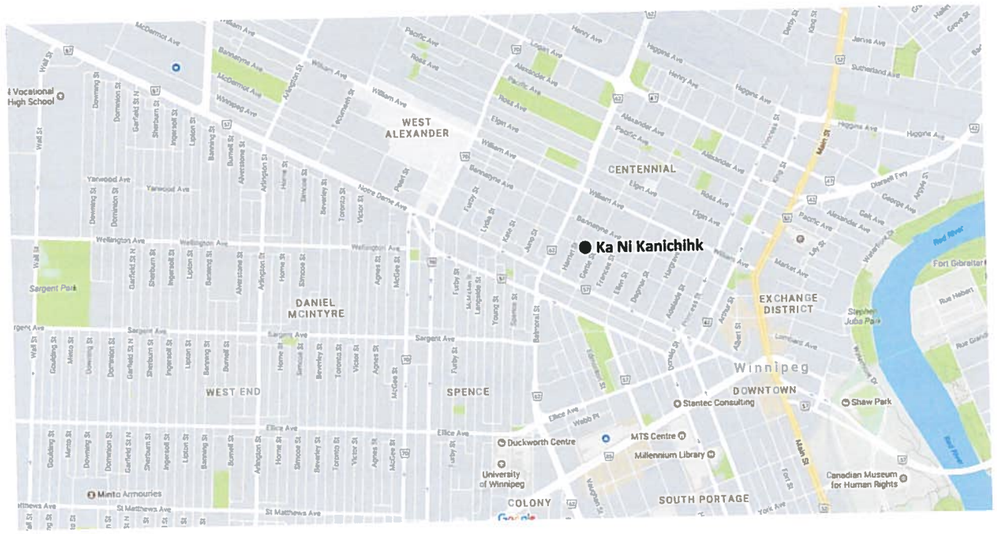
**The expanded space will enable Ka Ni Kanichihk to accomplish several important goals**

1. Triple the number of community day care spaces from 16 at present, to 48 spaces at completion;
2. Provide more training spaces for group training and community meetings;
3. Expand delivery of current programs to a much larger number of Indigenous and other peoples;
4. Offer an expanded roster of new and more programs for the community; and
5. Optimize office space for program delivery staff.

## C. Location

The site for the building expansion is located at 455 McDermot Avenue in Winnipeg, Manitoba. This location is in the West Alexander neighbourhood of Winnipeg which is adjacent to Centennial neighbourhood on the north side, and Central Park on the south side.

The black dot on the map below shows Ka Ni Kanichihk's location and the adjacent neighbourhoods.



# D. Planned Project Elements

Ka Ni Kanichihk has demonstrated its ability to undertake a major renovation project by its first redevelopment of the building in 2006. That construction project was an Indigenous lead initiative, as is the currently planned ***Building our Future Together*** construction project.

## The planned building expansion will include the following new areas:

- Daycare "Medicine Children's Lodge
- Training Rooms
- Commercial-Grade Teaching Kitchen
- Cultural/Ceremonial Space

For the new building, some renovation of the existing building will also be undertaken to blend the new and existing structures to give a consistent look and functionality. The objective of the interior design treatment will be to reflect the Indigenous culture wherever possible with the limited funds available for this capital project.

### ❖ Daycare "Medicine Children's Lodge"

The planned new daycare is sized with approximately 70 square feet of play and sleep / programming space for each child. This represents the high end of the standard of best practices from Early Learning and Child Care Centers in Manitoba.

It is noteworthy the expanded day care facility (Medicine Children's Lodge) will lead to the establishment of the Indigenous Early Learning Centre - a first of its kind, centre of excellence and research facility in Winnipeg's core area.

### ❖ Training Rooms

The expanded training facilities will include language development and workshops focused on cultural awareness and safety, trauma informed care, ending violence against women, etc., and will support Indigenous communities by providing greater access to culturally safe prevention and intervention resources.

## ❖ Commercial-Grade Teaching Kitchen

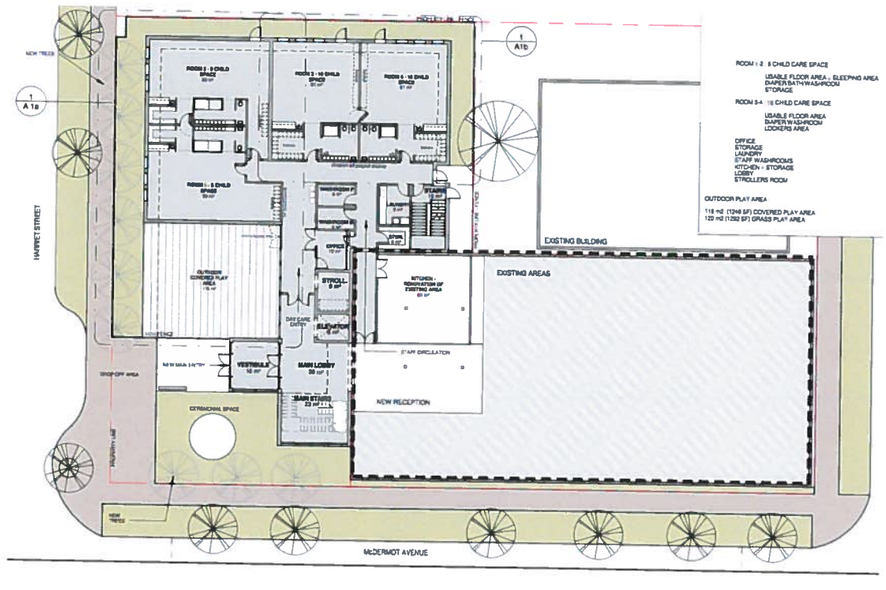
The planned commercial-grade teaching kitchen will teach community members about food preparation, cooking, proper storage and guidance on how to buy nutritious food on a limited budget.

## ❖ Cultural/Ceremonial Space

The Cultural / Ceremonial space will be a unique cultural education and ceremonial space for program participants, many of whom have been disconnected, spiritually and physically from their culture and identity due to the ongoing impacts of Residential Schools and other forms of cultural dispossession.

This facility will support reconciliation by providing opportunities to the broader Winnipeg/Manitoba community to gather, learn and participate in authentic ceremonial practices and training designed to build respectful collaboration between Indigenous and non-indigenous people.

**Floor Plan Concept for Proposed New Addition**



# E. Timeline for Building Our Future Together

Considerable planning has already taken place on this project by Ka Ni Kanichihk and its Planning Team. This preliminary work has set the stage for the detailed design of the new building to kick off once sufficient project funding is achieved to give a green light to architects and contractors to commence their work.

A total of 27 months is expected for detailed design, public tendering and construction of the new building. The construction phase itself will require 18 months from start of excavation to the opening date.

## Planned Opening Date - March 20, 2020

A unique opening date such as the Spring Solstice of March 20, 2020 would have memorable numerical, astrological and cultural significance as a time of renewal and rebirth for Ka Ni Kanichihk.

This proposed date is dependent upon sufficient fundraising targets being achieved by fall 2017.

## F. Donor Opportunities

The expanded facility will offer a variety of donor opportunities and tax receipts for donations. This includes cash donations, gifts-in-kind contributions, naming rights for parts of the building, and opportunities for occasional rental of the training rooms, cultural space and boardroom. For naming rights, Ka Ni Kanichihk anticipates having finalized recognition opportunities available by Spring 2018.





Proposed building

## G. About Ka Ni Kanichihk

Ka Ni Kanichihk Inc. is an incorporated, not-for-profit, community-based, Indigenous-led human services organization and a registered charitable organization (Registration #85494 1135 RR0001).

Ka Ni Kanichihk emerged out of a community consultation that included First Nation and Metis Elders, youth, women and men. Since its inception in 2001, Ka Ni Kanichihk has designed and delivered high quality and culturally safe community-based programs and supports to Indigenous children, youth and women. Ka Ni Kanichihk's includes all cultural groups in its service delivery with a primary focus on urban Indigenous people. Ka Ni Kanichihk offers the following areas of community service to individuals from urban, rural and remote locations:

- Day care service
- Skills-specific training
- Essential and life skills training
- Career planning and employment readiness
- Youth mentorship
- Working with Child and Family Services
- Emergency support, advocacy and counseling
- Events that celebrate cultural connections

**Key Contacts at Ka Ni Kanichihk**

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