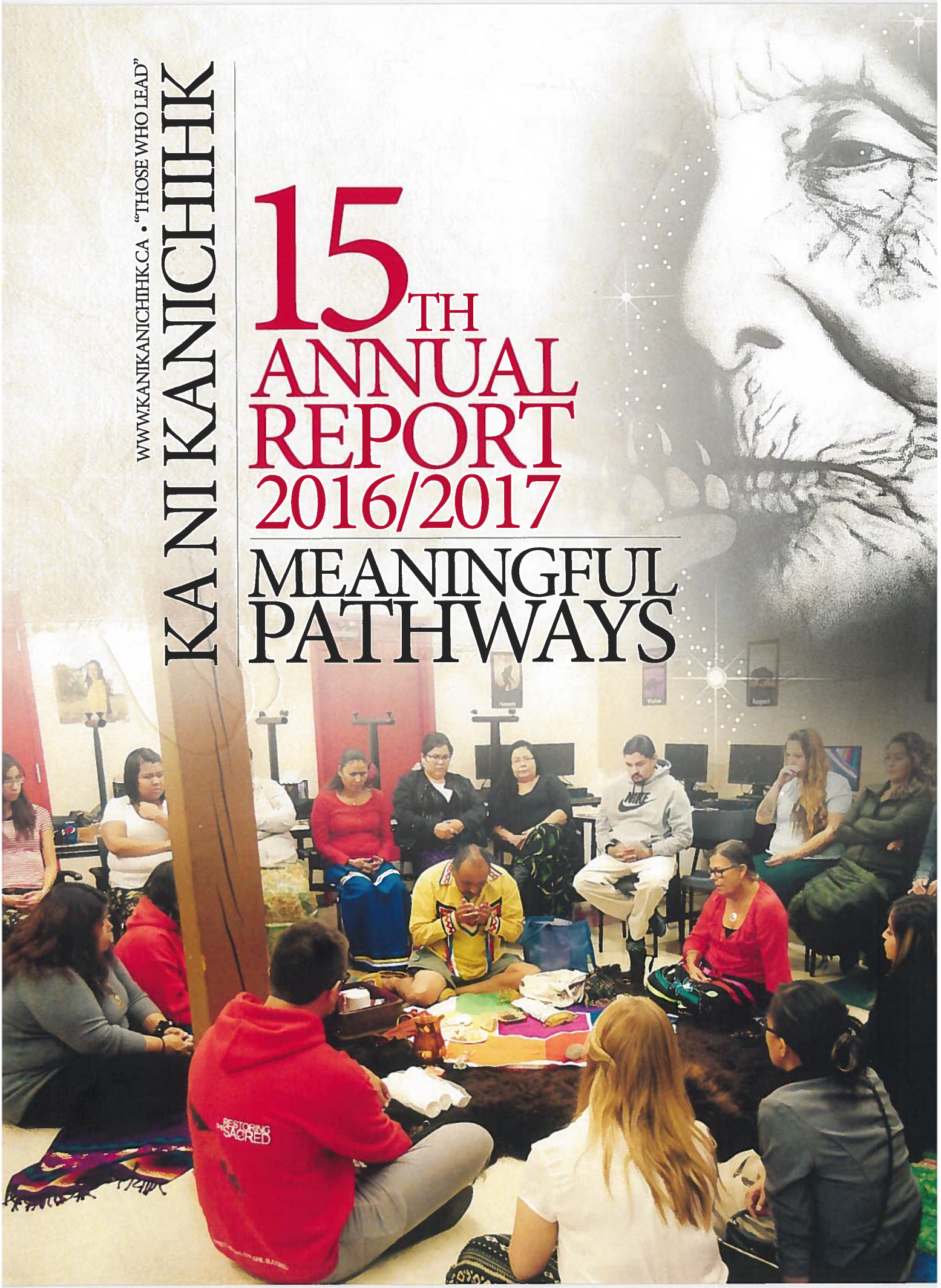
KA NI KANICHIHK

WWW.KANIKANICHIHK.CA • "THOSE WHO LEAD"

15TH ANNUAL REPORT 2016/2017

MEANINGFUL PATHWAYS







OUR VISION

We are living Mino Bimaadiziiwin — The Good Life

We honour the spirit of our ancestors and seek their wisdom to guide our peoples back to balance and wellness. Our people have come home. We are self-determining, healthy, happy and respected for our cultural and spiritual strengths and ways of being.







OUR BELIEFS

At Ka Ni Kanichihk...

We honour the laws of our Creator, the wisdom of our ancestors and our responsibility to the children:

Those that are here now, and
Those still waiting to come —

7 generations from now...

OUR MANDATE

We provide Indigenous-identified programs and services that focus on wholeness and wellness, and that build on the strengths and resilience of Indigenous Peoples. We do this to help people to help themselves, to build healthy relationships and to create a sustainable future for our community.

OUR VALUES

We Walk Our Talk

We share the strength, health and wellness of Indigenous Peoples

We provide welcoming and culturally safe spaces

We walk in balance with the strength and values of Indigenous Knowledge

We value belonging, mastery, generosity and reciprocity

We believe in the independence and interdependence of and among all our relations

We create relevant and culturally-informed programs in partnership with our community

We develop resilient and authentic leadership



LEADING THE WAY

KA NI KANICHIHK INC.

WWW.KANIKANICHIHK.CA • "THOSE WHO LEAD"
455 McDERMOT AVE. • WINNIPEG MB • R3A 0B5 • (PH) 204.953.5820 • (FAX) 204.953.5824 • (EMAIL) admin@kanikanichihk.ca



CO-CHAIRPERSONS' REPORT

"*Meaningful Pathways*"

This year marks the 15th anniversary of Ka Ni Kanichihk and the valuable work we do in our community. Over the past 15 years, we have created a pathway through our community — connecting thousands of people who have been impacted by the tireless work of our management and staff.

During this past year, as a Council, we have seen the benefits of moving our strategic goals forward. We have streamlined our committees, and continue to make improvements to our governance structures and processes. As we refine our governance documents, we know that these endeavours are integral to supporting the important work that Ka Ni Kanichihk does each day.

We have come a long way in 15 years, and we look forward to many more years of creating positive impacts in our community. Some of our future plans include expanding our daycare space, developing a cultural space and making more room for programs. We look forward to new and diverse pathways at Ka Ni Kanichihk.

On behalf of Ka Ni Kanichihk's Council, we are blessed to be part of a vibrant community filled with so much potential.

We continue to be mindful of the important work we have undertaken as part of the Ka Ni Kanichihk Council. We look forward to building meaningful pathways in our future.

Miigwetch, Ekosi, Merci,
Sharon Parenteau, Co-Chair
Jarita Greyeyes, Co-Chair

PHOTO: Ka Ni Kanichihk Council Co-Chairpersons Jarita Greyeyes (left) and Sharon Parenteau (right) present KFB 2017 Grandmother inductee Mary Lydia Malcolm (centre) with Starblanket. 16th Annual Keeping the Fires Burning (June 22, 2017).



EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' REPORT

Boozhoo, Tansi, Relatives!

And as I sit down to write this final Executive Director's Annual Report, my memories take me back to 2001 when a small group of Indigenous women gathered to assert our Indigenous-led community development. Before it was anything, Ka Ni Kanichihk was a vision of Indigenous self-determination and self-sufficiency — it was "a place to come home to" for all came to visit, to learn, to pray, to share, to celebrate, to grow and to feel connected. During those three days, the women created the organization's founding documents (Vision, Mandate, Values and Goals) and we offered our tobacco to our grandmother for a sweatlodge ceremony to give thanks for all that had been accomplished.

It was during a "brain storming" session of what we wanted our organization to do, that an Ininew speaking grandmother said, "Oh! You mean, those who go forward: Ka Ni Kanichihk!" She went on to explain that when an Ininew community decided to relocate, they would send out a small group tasked with ensuring that the new site would provide for the safety and wellbeing of the community. In a contemporary context, our leaders are still responsible for ensuring community safety and wellbeing and for the past 15 years, we have strived to live up to this name by providing culturally safe programs and services for our community and by being at the forefront of social innovation, social change and social justice. This leadership is always inspired and sustained by the legacy of our ancestors, good guidance of the Council, strength of our community and dedication of staff. Our logo of our beautiful grandmother is now widely recognized and grounds our work in spirituality.

In this final Executive Director's report, I want to reflect on what I believe, has contributed to Ka Ni Kanichihk's success and uniqueness.

One of our most significant achievements has been our leadership in reclaiming and restoring Indigenous Traditional Knowledge (ITK) as a foundational practice. Throughout the years, I have heard so many of our relatives, participants, staff and Council describe the impact that having an opportunity to explore the beauty of our culture has had on themselves and their families. I am grateful for the generosity of the many Elders, Healers, Knowledge and Ceremony Holders who, from the beginning, have supported this effort.

Many of our culture groups have an expression that translates to "all my relations" — this "way of knowing" is one of our greatest assets and acknowledges that we are all bound together in a kinship system that does not elevate or privilege certain individuals or groups of people by virtue of education, position, status, gender, spiritual belief, shading, sexuality, etc. We acknowledge that all individuals possess inherent strengths, and while we are all unique as individuals and nations, we draw our strength and wisdom from our relationality with one another and the land and not from

our differences. Ka Ni Kanichihk celebrates the incredible strength, courage, power and brilliance of every person who walks through our doors. We belong to one another and to the earth that sustains us.

Understanding cultural safety as fundamental to achieving "**meaningful pathways towards the empowerment and self-determination of Indigenous people**," Ka Ni Kanichihk has worked to ensure that cultural safety is embedded in its own programs and services and also has provided support to many partner organizations wanting to improve their relationship with the Indigenous community. It has been a great honour to walk along side all of those who have reached out to Ka Ni Kanichihk.

Breaking-down harmful racial stereotypes and disrupting racism and discrimination has always been an important component of Ka Ni Kanichihk's services. During Ka Ni Kanichihk's early years, we developed anti-racism curriculum and trained about 60 Indigenous youth to facilitate training in their schools and communities. Many of these same youth are now leaders in their organization and communities. In more recent years, we've developed a partnership with the Vancouver Battered Women's Support Network leadership to advance our anti-oppression practice. An anti-oppression lens is essential for anyone working with individuals who experience systemic oppression based on race, class, gender, sexual orientation, etc. Ka Ni Kanichihk is now using this framework within its programs and is currently developing a "made in Manitoba" curriculum and plans to offer training to the community.

Keeping the Fires Burning, Ka Ni Kanichihk's annual celebration of Indigenous Traditional Knowledge Holders, is now widely recognized as a vital element in Canada's reconciliation efforts. It has been such a honour to "raise up" 121 Indigenous Elders over the past 16 years and acknowledge their contribution to cultural survival and revival. We have also recognized 7 young leaders who have contributed to cultural reclamation during the past 10 years. We acknowledge too, all of our supporters including the PTO's (AMC, MMF, SCO, MKO ACW), sponsors, planners and everyone who has attended the celebration.

Ka Ni Kanichihk has consistently and respectfully raised awareness of structural oppression and has been a leader in pursuing systemic justice. We have advocated for social and economic justice at numerous policy "tables," engaged in National and Provincial inquiries and inquests (MMIWG, Tracia Owens, Brian Sinclair and Phoenix Sinclair) and participated in countless research studies throughout the years. The greatest impact has not been in those systems that cling to failed policy, but in all the relationships that we have made along the way. It has been such a blessing to walk beside the families of our Missing and Murdered Sisters, both in their deepest grief and in their wellness. Throughout, we have made "forever families."

The past year has brought exciting opportunities and growth. We have added new programs including, Wahkohtowin and Root Connections. We have forged new partnerships. We have strengthened our governance and operating policies and structures. We have listened to our community and have created a forward-looking and ambitious Five year Strategic Plan. Like the previous 14 years, this work has been accomplished by a collective of caring leaders who are committed to the vision of Ka Ni Kanichihk — this collective includes the Elders, Council, funders, staff, community partners and community members.

One sundance teaching that I received as a new sundancer was to "give Creator/Creation everything that you had" during the four days of ceremony. In leading Ka Ni Kanichihk during the past 16 years, I have often reflected on this teaching and have tried my best to apply it to my work. I wanted Ka Ni Kanichihk to "be the best," because our community deserves the best.

My departure in the role of Executive Director coincides with a time that Ka Ni Kanichihk is at its strongest. It has a thoughtful and committed Council, an enthusiastic and determined staff, deep connections in the community, honorable partnerships, high quality programs and services and strong financial management.

Our ancestors left us with everything that we need to achieve our vision of "Mino Bimaadiziiwin" - the good life. Someday we will all become ancestors and by pursuing our vision of Mino Bimaadiziiwin, we will also leave behind a strong foundation for the next generation. I am grateful to have been a part of Ka Ni Kanichihk.

Miigwetch, Ekosani,
Leslie Spillett, Executive Director







Meaningful Pathways of Possibility

CHILDREN & YOUTH MENTORSHIP AND LEADERSHIP

RESTORING THE SACRED



Restoring the Sacred (RTS) celebrated many successes and adventures throughout the 2016-2017 program year. Youth participated in a 10 week course focusing on broadcasting and media, called "The Sacred Hoop". Through the course, youth wrote, directed, acted, filmed, and produced a series of short films. The success of the films is not only that the youth worked collaboratively as a team to produce the films, but the reach and recognition of the films. Northern Lights Productions, a museum based in Boston, inquired about using footage from one of the youth-made films for a larger documentary on Canadian Indigenous Culture. Three of the films were selected to be screened at the Gimli Film Festival. One of the short films produced by the youth was nominated at the Toronto International Film Festival 2017 Next Wave Jump Cuts Young Filmmakers Showcase: National Edition.

These experiences and opportunities supported over 20 youth who have moved to Winnipeg in the past year from rural and northern communities to finish high school. Through peer mentorship and workshops ranging from awareness on sexual exploitation, gangs, drugs, various social and recreational activities and ceremonies, 18 youth successfully completed their academic year; two graduating high school and moving to post-secondary education in the upcoming year.

THE BUTTERFLY CLUB

Over the 2016-2017 program year, The Butterfly Club and Sister's Circle reached a total of 71 female-identified Indigenous youth with weekly programming providing a safe space, healthy meals and activities focusing on Indigenous cultural reclamation, environmental stewardship, self-empowerment and community involvement. Highlights over the past year include: opportunities for the youth to make their own dreamcatchers, discuss self-love, gender identity and mental health and learn about women in science. They also learned to create their own inventions, participated in a yoga workshop, learned a variety of women's and broader cultural teachings, and to grow their own self-esteem and confidence, along with a supportive group of friends and Indigenous women mentors.







ROOT CONNECTIONS

The Root Connections programs is another new program at Ka Ni Kanichihk and works with young Indigenous women involved in the justice system, with cultural connections, pre-employment skills development, and one-on-one mentorship, while creating labour market attachments and building their capacity to enter the workforce. Continuing in partnership with Manitoba Justice, Community and Youth Corrections, 26 participants set goals and receive individual mentorship and group work that is focused on life skills, career exploration, education & training, awareness related to behaviours and accessing community services.

Participant quote
— *"Root Connections made me think about my career and how to set realistic goals…what I can achieve."*

KISTESIMAW: "OUR ELDEST BROTHER"

The Kistesimaw program has provided community based male mentorship to boys under the age of 12 who are in conflict with the law. The mentors provide positive alternatives and programming within the pillar areas of cultural learning, structured recreation, and learning for life skills development to children and their families to help prevent future police contact. Working with 12 boys in the 2016-17 programming year, the program graduated 5 boys and had 4 new referrals. There was a total of 942 mentorship hours combining small group programming, individual one-on-one mentorship and participation in community programs and events. Highlights in the year include five boys receiving their spirit name and colors.





WAHKOHTOWIN: "KINSHIP"

The Wahkohtowin Strengthening Families Program (WSFP) is one of Ka Ni Kanichihk's newest initiatives. WSFP is carried out with support from Public Safety Canada, and represents partnership between Ka Ni Kanichihk, The Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba Inc., Ndinawemaaganag Endaawaad Inc., Spence Neighbourhood Association Inc. and The University of Manitoba.

Wahkohtowin is a Cree word. It refers to kinship, or the state of being connected. Our program honors the unique and complex connections between family members, and seeks to strengthen bonds, decrease conflict, improve communication, and connect with culture.

"I feel so loved every time I go to the group. I'm going to be sad when it's over but I'll always remember that your team gave me everything I needed to be the best I can be. I've never been to a group like this. If you taught everyone these skills you would change so many parents and kids lives all over. Creator showed me the way to you guys. I wanted to change, I had to change, I needed help and then there was you guys." — Ka Ni Kanichihk Participant

MEDICINE CHILDREN'S LODGE DAYCARE

Medicine Children's Lodge is a subsidized child care program through Early Learning and Child Care, a department of the Province of Manitoba.

Ka Ni Kanichihk's Medicine Children's Lodge offers care to children from age 3 months to 6 years. We are licensed for 16 children: 4 infants and 12 preschoolers. Child care spaces are for those mothers who are participants in the Honoring Gifts and IOAA Programs. However if there are open spaces in the program, those spaces maybe filled with low income families in the community.



MYTEAM (MANITOBA YOUTH TRANSITIONAL EMPLOYMENT AND MENTORSHIP) PROGRAM

MYTEAM provides intensive individual mentorship to youth who are transitioning out of child welfare and into independent living. What makes this program shine is the special bond between the participant in the program and their mentor. It's this bond that creates a safe environment where goals towards success can be properly nourished with the right ingredients and eventually harvested into reality. Goals are designed to meet aspects of the program's "pillars": housing, education, employment, training & self-development. This year while in the program, 18 participants were engaged in education, six participants obtained employment, five graduated with a high school diploma, 10 participants accessed housing and three participants were enrolled in post-secondary education. In addition to individual mentorship, MYTEAM brings participants together at least once a month to engage in activities that promote Indigenous land-based cultural reclamation practices.

Meaningful Pathways of Attainability

EDUCATION & TRAINING

INFORMATION AND OFFICE ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT PROGRAM (IOAA)

Ka Ni Kanichihk's Information and Office Administrative Program (IOAA) is a community-based training program of the Neeginan Institute of Technology accredited through the Manitoba Institute of Trades and Technology (MITT). The program provides training in computer software applications and communications skills in preparation for a career in the Administrative field. The goals of the program are to support adult learners on their personal and professional journeys by developing strengths and overcoming barriers for students to follow their chosen paths.

In September 2017, the IOAA program underwent changes and a new partnership was formed with MITT. **The IOAA Program is now called the Business Administrative Assistant Program and will be accredited by MITT.**

HONOURING GIFTS

The Honouring Gifts program is a Career Exploration program for Indigenous mothers between the ages of 18-30 years old. The program is designed to educate and empower Indigenous mothers and support them in discovering their skills, strengths and gifts. Honouring Gifts is a 40 week full time training program that provides employability skills, essential skills, cultural awareness, work experience in the field of your choice, life skills, exposure to post-secondary options and certified trainings in Food Handlers, WHMIS, CPR/First Aid, and Manitoba Best customer service.



Meaningful Pathways of Support
COUNSELLING & SUPPORT SERVICES

MEDICINE BEAR COUNSELLING, SUPPORT & ELDER SERVICES

Medicine Bear Counselling, Support and Elder Services builds on the strength and resilience of families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in Manitoba. Medicine Bear works with over 30 families both within Winnipeg and rural and northern Manitoba. Medicine Bear provides opportunities to heal from complex trauma and grief within a culturally safe and supportive environment, incorporating both Traditional Indigenous ways of healing and Western modalities.

Medicine Bear's programming has included cedar baths, sundance, sweat lodges, full moon ceremonies, Elders teachings, focusing-oriented therapy and 38 sharing circles/group sessions with an average of 19 participants in attendance. As a way to build connections and a community of support amongst families, Medicine Bear brought together families for a land based gathering hosted outside of Winnipeg.





HEART MEDICINE HEALING LODGE

Heart Medicine Healing Lodge is a new Ka Ni Kanichihk program focused on culturally-based support and advocacy service for Indigenous women who have experienced sexual assault and sexual violence. It is available to all who identify as women and are over the age of 18.

This year, the program ran two, 12-week closed-group programs that focused on the effects of trauma, cultural identity, empowerment and Indigenous women's strengths to support the healing process, as well as weekly sharing circles and advocacy. Participants also attended ceremonies and accessed Elder supports.

Meaningful Pathways of Achievement

HEALTH & WELLNESS

MINO PIMATISIWIN

Mino Pimatisiwin is a new project looking to improve Sexually Transmitted and Blood-Born Infection (STBBI) prevention and intervention among Indigenous people in Manitoba by working in partnership to enhance health service delivery systems, including mechanisms, capacity and policies that reflect evidence-based, anti-oppressive, culturally safe environments and practices.

WHITE WOLF SPEAKING

In April 2017, Ka Ni Kanichihk and Sexuality Education Resource Centre (SERC) announced a new partnership through the White Wolf Speaking Program. Originally a program of SERC, White Wolf Speaking moved to Ka Ni Kanichihk to deliver Indigenous culturally-based, sex-positive sexual and reproductive health education and services to Indigenous youth — this, via Indigenous models of reproductive justice.



16TH ANNUAL KEEPING THE FIRES BURNING: CELEBRATING OUR KNOWLEDGE KEEPERS

800 people attended the 16th Annual Keeping the Fires Burning event on June 22, 2017 to celebrate and honour our Elders for their contributions in preserving, protecting and promoting Indigenous Traditional Knowledge and Practice. Honoured Elders, selected by various First Nations and Metis organizations, included: Grandfather Stan McKay, Grandmother Kathy Whitford, Grandmother Diane Linklater, Grandfather Clarence Nepinak, Grandmother Mary Lydia Malcolm, Grandmother Anne Marie Desjarlais, Grandfather Bryan Thompson and Grandmother Gerry Shingoose.

A scholarship, named for Oscar Lathlin — a respected political leader from the Opaskwayak Cree Nation — was awarded to Dawnis Kennedy, who was selected for her leadership and commitment to cultural continuity and community wellness.

Keeping the Fires Burning is the largest, Indigenous cultural celebration of its kind in Manitoba. It is reconciliation in action.



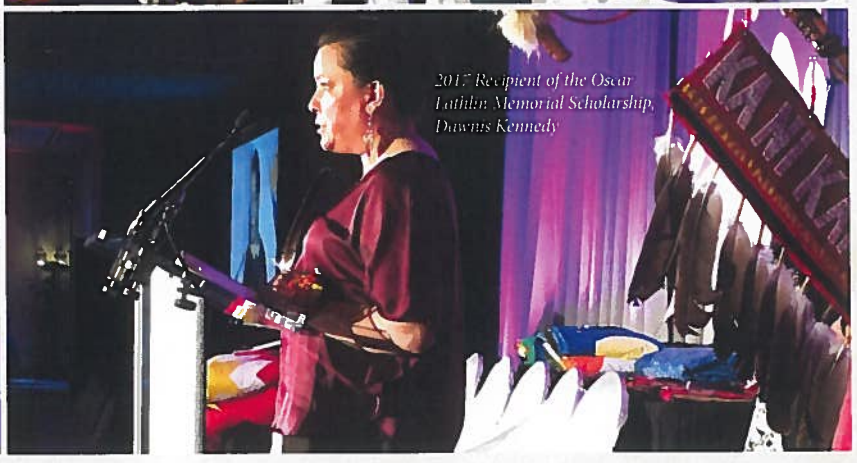
(l - r) Stan McKay, Kathy Whitford, Diane Linklater, Clarence Nepinak, Mary Lydia Malcolm, Anne Marie Desjarlais, Bryan Thompson and Gerry Shingoose



Denise Cook, daughter of longstanding Ka Ni Kanichihk Council member Gwen Cook (R.I.P.), receives honour on behalf of her mother.



The Chuck Copence Group



2017 Recipient of the Oscar Lathlin Memorial Scholarship, Dawnis Kennedy

CELEBRATIONS & MILESTONES

BUILDING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER: CAPITAL EXPANSION

Ka Ni Kanichihk's dream of expanding its capacity was given a boost in February 2017 when the Province of Manitoba announced funding that will triple the licensed child care spaces in the Medicine Children's Lodge. The Capital Expansion Campaign committee has been finalizing its business plan and fundraising strategy to identify the remaining $2.6 Million required to complete the building project. In addition to adding 32 new child care spaces, the expansion project also includes a training kitchen, a dedicated cultural space, two training rooms, a board room and office space.

This expansion is aligned with community input to Ka Ni Kanichihk's 5 Year Strategic Plan and our commitment to ensure community access to culturally safe and trauma-informed prevention programs. Our goal is to keep families together in healthy communities.

STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE

During the past year, Ka Ni Kanichihk's Council has worked with management, staff and management consultants from The Exchange Group to strengthen the governance and operations of Ka Ni Kanichihk. A comprehensive organizational policy, procedures and systems review and revision has been completed.

Council also finalized its work on Ka Ni Kanichihk's 2017 – 2021 Strategic Plan, available on Ka Ni Kanichihk's website: www.kanikanichihk.ca .

INTRODUCING NEW MANAGEMENT

Ka Ni Kanichihk is very pleased to welcome Lyle Derry as its new Financial Controller. He holds Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Agriculture degrees from The University of Manitoba, alongside 28 years of experience in financial management and accounting — having held positions as an internal auditor, financial analyst and accountant with the City of Winnipeg, and most recently was the Investments Accountant with The Winnipeg Civic Employees' Benefits Program: a defined benefit pension plan with $6 billion in assets under administration.

Ka Ni Kanichihk is delighted to welcome back Dana Connolly as its new Director of Programs and Services. Dana has been part of Ka Ni Kanichihk's family since 2010, serving in various roles including Facilitator, Team Leader and Coordinator. She left briefly to work with the City of Winnipeg as the Indigenous Community Projects and Initiatives Coordinator, managing the Indigenous Youth Strategy (Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak) and the Truth and Reconciliation Strategy. Dana has years of experience in community development, program development and policy analysis.



Lyle Derry, Financial Controller



Dana Connolly, Director of Programs and Services

MYTEAM EVALUATION

Although still in its final draft, the findings of the comprehensive external evaluation of Ka Ni Kanichihk's MYTEAM program is achieving its stated goals and objectives and should not only be continued, but expanded into other parts of Manitoba. MYTEAM was initially established in 2012 to support youth transitioning out of the child welfare system. It is the only program of its kind in Manitoba and was started as a "pilot" or "demonstration" project to address the high rates of youth unemployment, homelessness, etc. In Manitoba, there are an estimated 11,000 children and youth involved in the child welfare, of which 90% are Indigenous. It is imperative that adequate resources continue to be available to those who are turning 18 and are ill-equipped to live independently. The final evaluation is expected to be released later this fall.



MYTEAM Program Participant

NEW PROGRAMS

We are thrilled to announce four new programs. They are:

ROOT CONNECTIONS: a three year theatre-based healing program employing drama therapy, working towards individual expression of self and working through barriers to change linked with individual treatment needs, goal setting and career planning for Indigenous female youth (ages 12-17 years) — and funded by Department of Justice Canada. Roots Connections will work with 15 justice involved Indigenous female youth per year, over its three year project mandate using art therapy as a vehicle to cultural identity and community connections. Root Connection replaces Oshkabaywis, which has been discontinued.

MINO PIMATISIWIN: The Manitoba Model of STBBI Care Project is a five year initiative supported by the Public Health Agency of Canada to develop a Manitoba model and curriculum on access to STBBI testing. Mino Pimatisiwin replaces Aboriginal Women Responding to the AIDS Crisis (Sisters of Fire), which ended on March 31, 2017.

WHITE WOLF SPEAKING: a sexual and reproduction health awareness program for Indigenous people, which was formally transferred to Ka Ni Kanichihk as a result of ongoing discussions on cultural safety, decolonization and reconciliation among the leadership of Klinic/SERC and Ka Ni Kanichihk. The partnership was formally announced at a conference focusing on Reproductive Justice sponsored by SERC and Ka Ni Kanichihk.

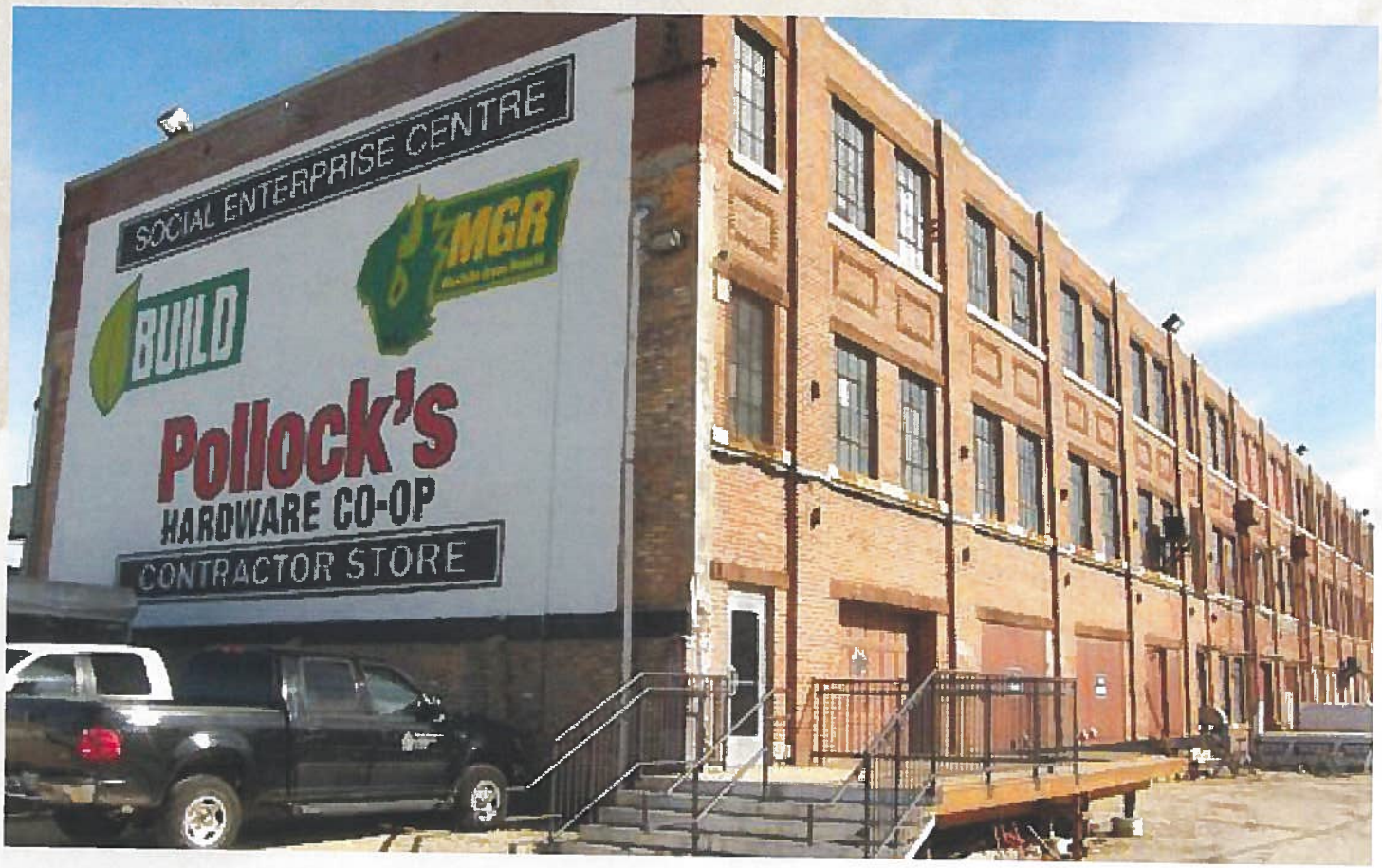
WAHKOHTOWIN STRENGTHENING FAMILIES PROGRAM: a 14 week skills development program for youth (ages 11-17) and their caregivers to attend together, which is delivered in four locations by community partners, including N'dinewe, Spence Neighbourhood Association, Immigrant and Refugee Community and Ka Ni Kanichihk. This five year project is funded through Public Safety Canada – National Crime Prevention Centre. The University of Manitoba's Department of Anthropology is involved as the project's evaluator.

7TH ANNUAL WIPING AWAY THE TEARS GATHERING

With support from Manitoba Justice, Ka Ni Kanichihk hosted the 7th Annual Wiping Away the Tears in October 2017. Wiping Away the Tears is a two-day gathering that brings together the Manitoba families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and is a time of healing, learning and connecting.

RELOCATING KA NI KANICHIHK'S COUNSELLING PROGRAMS

To accommodate growth in Ka Ni Kanichihk programs and services, and to ensure cultural safety and confidentiality, Ka Ni Kanichihk has temporarily relocated its counselling programs — including Medicine Bear Counselling, Support and Elder Services, Heart Medicine, White Wolf Speaking and Mino Pimatisiwin — to the Social Enterprise Centre at 765 Main Street.



HEART MEDICINE LODGE
Healing from sexual violence and trauma

Wolf Speaking White

MINO PIMATISIWIN

Meaningful Pathways of Partnerships

Ka Ni Kanichihk values the many partners and stakeholders who contribute to its vision and the wellbeing of the community. There are many: traditional knowledge keepers, advisory committees, community coalitions, business workplaces, educational institutions, community based organizations, researchers, community and specialized policing and community members.

Miigwetch,

Aboriginal Health and Wellness.
Boys & Girls Club of Winnipeg
CAAN
Centre for Aboriginal Human Resource Development
Community and Youth Corrections, Female Offender Unit
Eagle Urban Transition Centre
Freight House Recreation Centre, City of Winnipeg
Gang Action Interagency Network
Government of Manitoba/Manitoba Victim Services
IRCOM
Klinic
Ma Mawi Chi Itata Centre
Manitoba Family Services
Manitoba Harm Reduction Network
Manitoba Institute of Trades & Technology (MITT)
Manitoba Justice
MMIWG Coalition – MB
Ndinawemaaganag
Nine Circle Community Health Clinic
Oyati Tipi
Project Devote Family Liaison
Red River College
Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program (SANE)
Sexual Education Resource Centre Manitoba
Sexually Exploited Youth Community Coalition
Spence Neighbourhood Association
Sprucewoods Sundance
Status of Women Manitoba
Two Spirit People of Manitoba
University of Manitoba
University of Winnipeg, Global College
West Central Women's Resource Centre
Winnipeg Harvest
Winnipeg Indigenous Executive Circle
Winnipeg Police Service – Community Relations Unit
Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Council - Youth Employment Strategy
United Nations Safe Cities Initiative
Youth Agencies Alliance

2016-2017 KA NI KANICHIHK GOVERNING COUNCIL

ELDER
Jessie Howell

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Co-Chairs: Jarita Greyeyes & Sharon Parenteau
Treasurer: Mary Jane Loustel
Secretary: Brett Huson

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Ron Castel (Vacant)
Kimberly Puhach (Leave of Absence)
Sydney Puhach
Audrey Richard (Elder/Honourary Member)
Mallory Richard
Ken Sanderson
Helen Robinson Settee
Edith Turner

MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS
Executive Director: Leslie Spillett
Associate Executive Director: Dodie Jordaan
Director of Finance: Lyle Derry
Finance Clerk: Loretta Smith
Human Resource Administrator: Laura Rauliuk
Information Technology Specialist: Shawn Webster
Executive Assistant: Kathy Lambert
Reception & Administration Assistant: Jessica Macaig



OUR FUNDERS

EKOSANI,

GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA
Manitoba Children & Youth Opportunities
Manitoba Families
Manitoba Growth, Enterprise & Trade
Manitoba Justice
Manitoba Sport, Culture & Heritage

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA
Government of Canada – Employment & Social Development
Government of Canada – FNIHB
Government of Canada – Justice
Government of Canada – National Crime Prevention Centre
Government of Canada – Public Health Agency
Government of Canada – Status of Women

CITY OF WINNIPEG
Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak

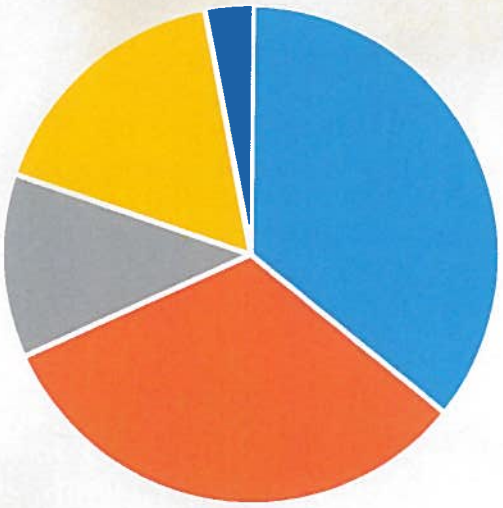
FOUNDATIONS AND OTHER
Centre for Aboriginal Human Resource Development
KFB Corporate Sponsors
Manitoba Association of Friendship Centres
United Way of Winnipeg
Winnipeg Foundation

PROUD TO BE A UNITED WAY AGENCY

United Way Winnipeg

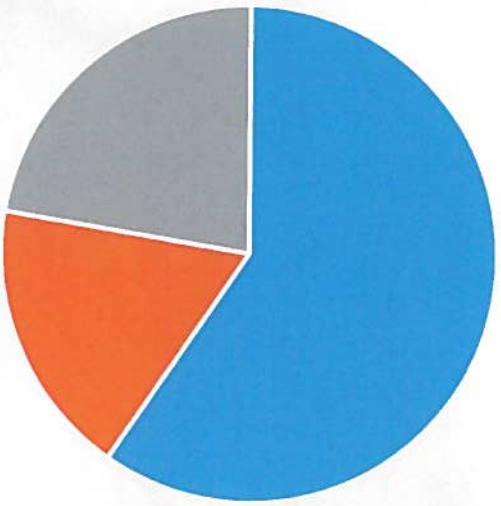
THE WINNIPEG FOUNDATION
For Good. Forever.

2016/17 REVENUE:



- 36% Province of Manitoba
- 32% Government of Canada
- 17% Foundations & Other Organizations
- 12% Other
- 3% City of Winnipeg

2016/17 EXPENSES:



- 60% Salaries & Benefits
- 22% Programming
- 18% Operating

In Memoriam
BRETT MEECHES & GWEN COOK

We honour our former colleague and student, sister, and friend, Continuing Thunderbird of the Wolf Clan, BRETT MEECHES, who has travelled onto the Spirit World to join the Ancestors. Brett travelled extensively with the drum group Mystic River, and proudly danced jingle style across Turtle Island. She graduated with honours from the Information & Office Administrative Assistant Program at Ka Ni Kanichihk, and again with honours from Red River College. She was an amazing mother, and she had been teaching her boys how to be protectors, and to be proud of their Anishinaabe roots. Her beautiful sons are her legacy to all of us. We will watch with admiration as they grow and become the men she knew they would be.

We also honour our long standing Council member, sister and friend, Bimosekwe (GWEN COOK) who began her journey home to the spirit world. Bimosekwe is remembered by her family as a loving and determined mother, auntie, sister and relative who brought them to ceremonies, helped them to find their name and showed them a good life. Many remember that she was always there to listen to, encourage and put her loved ones to work. Bimosekwe is lovingly remembered by her many Midewiwin relatives across Turtle Island. She was a Fourth Degree Midewiwin woman of the Western Doorway of the Three Fires Midewiwin Lodge. She is remembered as someone who made her way to every ceremony she could, determinedly overcoming any challenge she encountered along the way.

Those whom we love
Don't go away.
They walk beside us
Everyday.
Unseen and unheard,
Always near.
So loved so missed,
SO VERY DEAR.

Brett Meeches *Gwen Cook*





Miigwetch and Ekosani,
LESLIE SPILLET

KA NI KANICHIHK EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
2002-2018

It is with a mix of sadness and gratitude that Ka Ni Kanichihk's Council contemplates the reality that this will be the last Annual Report written by Leslie Spillett as she prepares for her departure as our Executive Director. After over 17 years of commitment to creating, building, and sustaining Ka Ni Kanichihk Inc. and serving our community, we take this time to reflect.

Prior to incorporation in 2002, Leslie and a group of grandmothers took their tobacco to the land and sent prayers to the creator to help them find a way to serve the Indigenous community and all our relatives. What they were given was the idea for Ka Ni Kanichihk: an organization for "Those Who Lead".

Since incorporating in 2002 with only a pen-in-hand, Leslie played the critical role in the development and success of the organization we now know today. We want to thank her for the years of dedication and commitment, which involved many significant accomplishments, including:

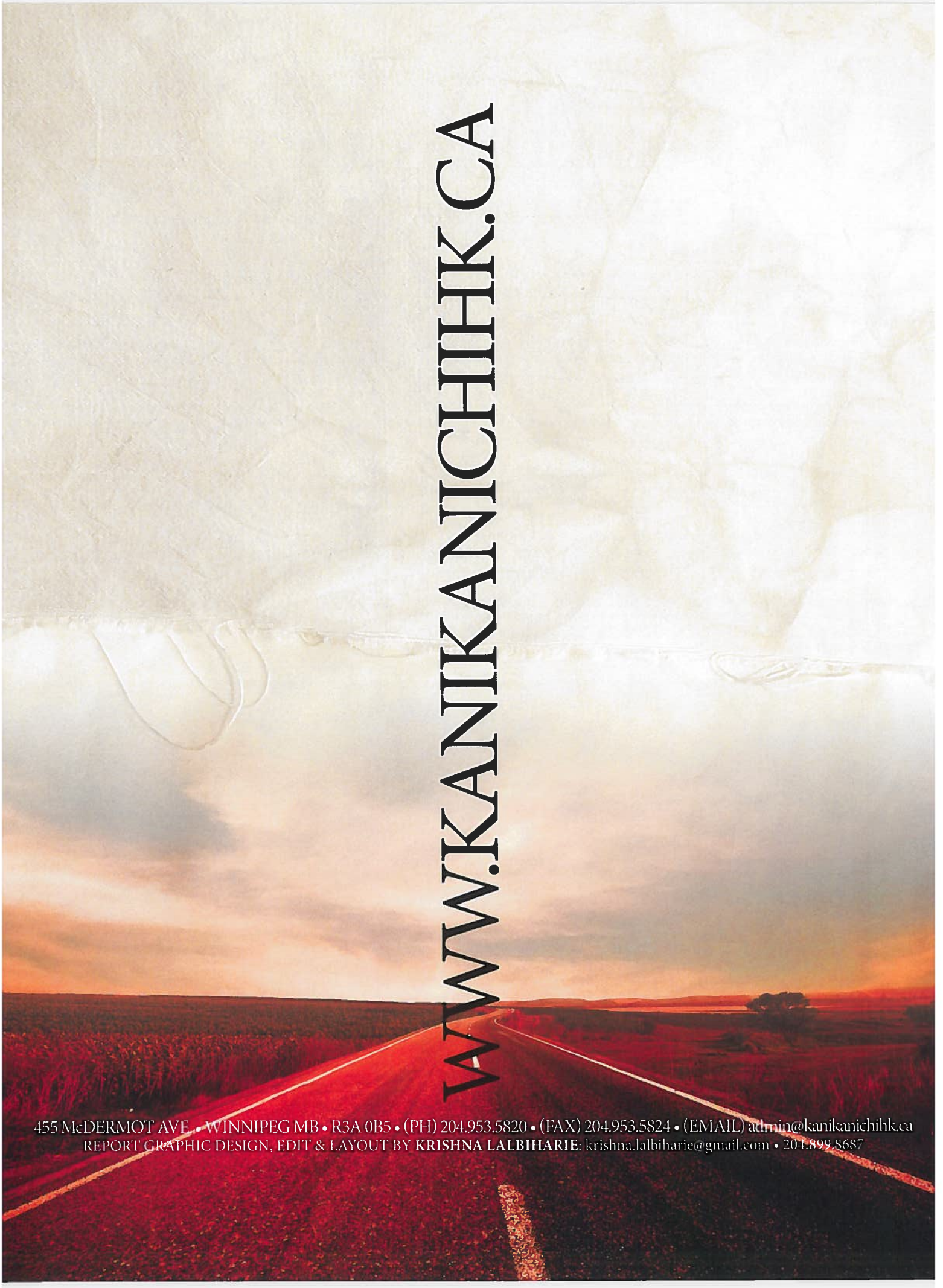
- Growing membership to over 1,000 individual participants served, and over 30,000 contacts made in support of the community this past year alone. Compound that over 17 years, and we are talking about serving more than 17,000 individuals!
- Securing a building that is owned outright by Ka Ni Kanichihk, and that will be here for years to come for our staff and our community.
- Building funding partnerships that have grown to nearly 5 million dollars in annual delivery support.
- Partnering with numerous community agencies with a common goal to support and enhance our community.
- Supporting individuals in countless ways, including legally, emotionally, financially and sharing the gifts she was given by Creator.
- Working endless hours around the clock to help others. Never thinking of herself and always giving to others.

Again, we cannot thank Leslie enough for the dedication, passion, enthusiasm and motivation she has given to Ka Ni Kanichihk over the past 17 years. She will be greatly missed by the staff, Council, community and partners, alike. We look forward to following the success of her career and are hopeful and excited for her future endeavours. We know that whatever she does, she will allow the Creator to guide her as she continues to support our community!

At this time, we want to surround her with all the love she has given, and wrap it 'round her with care!

Sincerely,
Ka Ni Kanichihk Council





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