

ACW PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thursday January 12, 2012
Board of Directors Meeting
Room 310
ACWI, 181 Higgins Avenue
Winnipeg, MB

Good day! My report for January/12

Tripartite

Wayne and I attended the Tripartite meeting in Ottawa on Monday, January 9/12. I gave a progress report on the 2011/12 Workplan. The ACW is on schedule to complete all of the deliverables. We also discussed the Workplan for 2012/13. It is our goal to have an approved version by March 31/12 so as to ensure an earlier flow of money from the federal government. I am requesting assistance from board members in terms of initiatives we can take within the various portfolios above and beyond those that we will continue to work on. We have been advised by Jeff Betker, OFI representative that we can submit a proposal for 20/25k immediately. Marileen and I will speak to an opportunity to do some up front work that will position the Council to renew its connection to the urban Aboriginal program and service agencies in Winnipeg. This relates directly to our recent By-law change that enables these agencies to become organizational members of ACW. We are getting ready to conduct a strategic planning exercise in February. I will speak to this issue as part of my report tonight which is brief so as to allow time for a healthy discussion/

ACW Organizational Changes

- The ACW Youth Intern position funding from the City of Winnipeg ended December 31/11. Michelle Amos was given proper notice and I am meeting with her shortly to discuss how we will continue to engage and support the ACW Youth Committee. We received a formal letter from the City of Winnipeg in this matter.
- The small project mentioned above will pave the way for a major effort beginning in the new fiscal year to improve urban Aboriginal governance in this city. We also want to review the Urban Aboriginal Strategy which is currently in a renewal process within the Office of the Federal Interlocutor. Marileen and I will speak to this in more detail at our meeting tonight.
- Beginning on January 1, 2012 ACW has created a new position to better facilitate communications and community engagement primarily through the ACW website. We have hired Jacques St. Goddard to fulfill this function. I am

- The ACW Marketing Plan 1st Draft is being revised by the consultants with direction from Sharon Bowcott and Marileen Bartlett. This document will outline measures ACW will take to improve its overall public image. We will present this to the board as soon as it is ready for same.
- ACW will begin a process to review our ACW Policy Manual and update those sections that require same. ACW will dedicate professional fees in the new fiscal year to hire a consultant to assist with this initiative.

Social Enterprise Project- Recycling Plant

The business plan was given to OFI and ANA at the Tripartite meeting on Monday of this week. They will review and determine if any other information is required in the document. Officials of both governments are committed to seeking funding from relevant departments. A meeting to discuss this document is being planned for January 26 or 27/12, here in Winnipeg. Copies of the business plan have also been given to potential partners/funders who we have already met with or those that are already on board with this project.

Gang Awareness Inter-agency Network (GAIN) Event

ACW is an active member of this coalition. We have joined this group for the following reasons:

- No one organization has the programming or resources to address the many issues that relate to gangs or related behavioral issues
- We need a strong collective voice to develop and encourage governments to develop better legislation, policy and programming with community to address these issues
- This network is an effective way of improving communication and collaboration with applicable agencies
- Governments and Justice officials attend these meetings on a regular basis
- ACW ensures that there is a consistent Aboriginal participation and voice at this table
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ACW Education Initiative

ACW has submitted a proposal to the provincial government in partnership with CEDA and SPC. If this funding is approved, the ACW Education Committee will be able to continue our work to identify ways to increase the graduation rates in the education system in Winnipeg and Manitoba. A major part of this research will look at models in various jurisdictions that have evidence based outcomes relative to Aboriginal, ethnic or other marginalized groups in society.

Restorative Justice Issues

ACW will continue to work with Onashowewin, Inc to increase use of alternative measures and diversion to reduce the overrepresentation of Aboriginal persons in jails and other institutions. This work also builds on and is linked to the work with the GAIN coalition as reported above.