

ACW PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thursday, September 12, 2013
Board of Directors Meeting
Room 310
ACWI, 181 Higgins Avenue
Winnipeg, MB

Good day! My report for September, 2013.

Tripartite

The next Tripartite meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 20/13. The City of Winnipeg is hosting in the Aboriginal Relations boardroom on the 3rd Floor, 510 Main Street. The meeting will begin at 9:30am and end by 4:00pm. We also received our federal contribution agreement for this fiscal year and we have signed same and sent back to AANDC in Ottawa. This action facilitates a 1st payment for this year's funding commitment. More information will be provided at this board meeting.

Portfolio Reports

Youth: ACW is undertaking a joint Aboriginal youth justice research project with Onashowewin, Inc. This initiative will support our efforts to improve the use of restorative justice measures in this city and province. As you all know, there are far too many Aboriginal youth in custody. Positive systemic change is needed in the justice system but we need evidence based rationale to encourage politicians and civil servants to implement such things as Gladue courts and other proactive measures to bring a steady reduction in crime and recidivism.

Economic Development: ACW, CAHRD and ACWI have engaged a consulting team to lead efforts to diversify the recycling activities carried out by Mother Earth Recycling, Inc. We need to identify a new location for MER, Inc and to put together the business case for our expansion. The partnership is engaging with Green Manitoba, Conservation Manitoba, the City of Winnipeg and some potential new partners to accomplish these goals. We are excited at the possibility of growing this company and creating new worthwhile jobs for members of our community.

Community Development: ACW is engaged with Harry Finnigan & Associates to identify funding for the final phase of developing a comprehensive Aboriginal Community Plan. AANDC cannot provide funding this fiscal year but we are connected to other potential funding sources. At this time, I am confident we will find the resources to complete this important work.

Education: ACW is participating in a project to improve educational outcomes at R.B. Russell Vocational School. This effort is being led by the North Point Douglas Revitalization Initiative. The committee is made up of a cross section of provincial, city, school division, and community organizations including CAHRD and AHWC. There are over 20 individuals participating in the process.

Women: ACW is cultivating a positive relationship with the new NWAC affiliate known as Moon Voices. We will be participating in the annual Grandmothers Walk. We continue to support the ongoing work relative to Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women. ACW will be represented at the event being held at the Indian and Metis Friendship Centre on October 4, 2013 from 12:00pm to 3:00pm. Everyone is welcome to participate in this annual vigil.

Deloitte Project

AANDC has approved funding for the final phase of our work with Deloitte relative to our governance model. This project will begin shortly and when completed it may lead to an improvement in our rating as a federally funded agency. This is a positive thing.