

ACW PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thursday October 27, 2011
Board of Directors Meeting
Room 310
ACWI, 181 Higgins Avenue
Winnipeg, MB

Good day! My report for October/11

Tripartite

The next meeting of the Joint Management Committee (JMC) is scheduled for Monday, November 14/11 here in Winnipeg. The City will be hosting the meeting and Rhonda Forgues will replace James Allum as their representative until further notice. As you all may already know, James is now an MLA. He emailed me recently and he will work with us in his new role.

OFI is processing the ACW contribution agreement and upon receipt we will sign same and send back to them asap so as to flow our 1st federal installment on this year's funding. We have received the 3rd quarter payment from the Province already.

ACW Priorities – next 3 years – Board Discussion

Over and above the activities outlined in this year's Workplan, we need to discuss and build some consensus on major priorities for ACW on a go forward basis. In preparation for this, I will identify some of the milestones I believe to be important during my second term as follows:

- ACW will continue efforts to increase our funding base from governments/other sources
- Meet with Senior Managers/ Board Chairs of all the urban Aboriginal organizations in Winnipeg to determine their interest in becoming members of ACW as per the ACW By-law change that was approved at the AGM 2011
- Work closely with the ACW Youth Chair and our new Communications/Community Engagement Coordinator to grow our youth membership base. The majority of attendees at our first ACW Youth Conference want an annual event. We will put this on the agenda with the JMC. ANA representative already see some value in same.
- ACW will actively support CAHRD/Neeginan's ongoing effort to achieve recognition by the Province/COPSE as an accredited college in MB
- ACW will work with a broad coalition in Winnipeg to develop a plan to end homelessness in this city and province based on the "Housing First" model

- ACW will continue to support the development of the Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce so as to build a much stronger connection to the business community in Winnipeg and to slowly and steadily raise their awareness and to gain their support for legislative and public policy changes that we have identified as important for our community
- ACW will continue to support the Aboriginal School Division/Aboriginal Education Authority initiative under the City of Winnipeg LIVESAFE initiative. The Social Planning Council of Winnipeg and the Community Education Development Association (CEDA) are willing to work with us on this as well.
- ACW will continue to support enhancement of restorative justice programming in this City. The new federal anti-crime legislation now before Parliament will have a major impact on Aboriginal offenders. The Harper majority government is intent on passing these new laws with very little change to the major elements of the bill

These are not written in stone. If we agree that other issues/ideas are more important than I am more than willing to change/add, keeping in mind our staffing and funding limitations. Finally, we have dollars to organize/host a community forum to get feedback on our priorities from members/broader community.

