

ACW PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thursday, April 11, 2013
Board of Directors Meeting
Room 310
ACWI, 181 Higgins Avenue
Winnipeg, MB

Good day! My report for April/13.

Tripartite

The Tripartite Joint Management Committee meeting on March 20/13 was productive. I presented the 1st Draft of the ACW 2013/14 Workplan. As per our normal process, I will work with the government reps to finalize same. ACW will also have an opportunity to undertake one or more projects this year. One of these will continue our work with Deloitte on governance and operational issues. I will have all required year end activity and financial reports submitted by the required due date of April 30/13.

The next Tripartite meeting is scheduled for June/13. ACW will host this meeting here at the Centre in Room 310. Meetings begin at 9:30am and usually end by 4:00pm. Any board member is welcome to attend. I will email everyone the date as soon as it is confirmed.

Portfolio Reports

Youth: I am attaching the ACW Youth Workshop Report with this email. ACW will build on this platform going forward. I am already participating in a committee hosted by the Child Advocates Office and we are planning to convene a major youth rights conference for fall of 2014. I have outlined several activities that are complimentary to our work to date on this file in this year's Workplan.

Economic Development: ACW is pleased to report that a number of challenging issues related to our newly created social enterprise Mother Earth Recycling, Inc. have been work out with Manitoba Conservation and Green Manitoba. I will provide additional information verbally at Thursday's board meeting. I will also speak to another ACW/MER, Inc. proposal that has been submitted to the Tripartite table.

Education: ACW participated in a PowerPoint presentation on the Harlem Children's Zone visit to the annual Shawane Dagosowin Education Research Forum held at the Victoria Inn last week. About 30 persons attended our presentation and it was well received. ACW's efforts to establish an Aboriginal Charter School/Aboriginal Education Authority in Winnipeg/Manitoba will continue. ACW has its own Education Committee and I participate in the Expert Education Working Group of the North Point Douglas

Initiative and the Education Equity Committee of the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg. All of this work is complimentary or added value to ACW's major goals in education.

Women: Celeste McKay has completed the Women's Needs Assessment Report and it is attached with this email. I am making effort to determine the status of local attempts to establish a new Native Women's Association of Canada affiliate in Manitoba. The report identified above supports ACW's earlier premise that most of the women interviewed support a distinct voice for Aboriginal women in this city and province.

Practicum Students

ACW is hosting a practicum student from Red River College and from the Aboriginal community campus. The Red River student is creating a PowerPoint presentation relative to a community development model. The other student is shadowing Carol in an Administrative Support role.

Winnipeg Police Service

I attended an Aboriginal Leaders Orientation seminar with the Winnipeg Police Service. This initiative is emanating from the new Chief of Police, Devon Clunis and represents a 1st step in their efforts to improve relationships with the Aboriginal community in Winnipeg and to create processes that will support Chief's crime prevention through social development approach. Sixteen individuals attended this event. There was a previous seminar with about ten participants. This will be an ongoing process.

Phoenix Sinclair Inquiry

ACW's application for Intervenor status at the Inquiry is progressing. Our legal counsel will be meeting with Commission staff to outline ACW's presentation to this important process. We will be participating in Phase 3 which will give us an opportunity to identify those systemic issues that need to be addressed and make recommendations as to how they should be addressed. As with most of these kinds of processes, the Commissioner will decide what goes into his report. ACW has support in this matter from several individuals who possess considerable inside knowledge and experience in the Child Welfare system in Winnipeg and Manitoba. Wayne Helgason, CAHRD Board Chairperson and former V.P. ACW is one of these individuals.

City of Winnipeg

I am pleased to announce that the City of Winnipeg has created a new Aboriginal Relations Division. Rhonda Forgues has been appointed the new Manager, Aboriginal Relations, and City of Winnipeg. This change may present some new opportunities for ACW in its work with the City through the Tripartite table.

Urban Aboriginal Community Planning Initiative

The report from this event that was held at the Canad Inn Polo Park on March 7, 2013 is in final draft. I expect to receive this next week. We will use this information to formulate our next steps in an ongoing process. I am attending a workshop in Toronto next week to learn more about the Collective Impact Model of community development. The implementation of this approach is led in Canada by the Tamarack Institute based in London, Ontario. Paul Born is the President/CEO. He was in Winnipeg recently to deliver a presentation on this model to senior officials of the three levels of government, relative to the Memorandum of Collaboration re: Aboriginal issues in Winnipeg. Aboriginal and Northern Affairs Deputy Minister, Harvey Bostrum was one of those in attendance. I got a chance to debrief with him on the event and he was very supportive and interested in this model. I am confident that ACW will be well prepared to participate with a broad cross section of leaders to implement this approach in Winnipeg. If anyone is interested, I have background documents relative to the Collective Impact model and I can send them to you, if requested.

Deloitte Project: Revising ACW's Policy and Operations Manual

I met with representatives of Deloitte on Monday of this week to review and finalize this new manual. Marileen also reviewed the 1st Draft. ACW will receive the final draft shortly. I will send this to all of you as soon as it is in our hands. We will approve it at the regular board meeting in May.

I am looking forward to an exciting and busy 2013/14 for ACW! Thanks to everyone for your input/direction/support in the past year. Well done! Damon

Tripartite/Powley Evaluation

ACW is participating in Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada's (AANDC) evaluation process relative to their Tripartite and Powley funding programs. As part of this exercise, an evaluation team will be visiting Winnipeg on Monday, April 22 and Tuesday, April 23/13. ACW will be assisting the team in terms of responding directly to questions/criteria relative to the evaluation process. ACW will also assist the team in identifying other individuals/organizations that should be involved in the evaluation.