History

On September 17, 2014, the Aboriginal Council of Winnipeg held a meeting at the Winnipeg Indian and Metis Friendship Centre with leaders and Executive Directors from Indigenous based organizations.

The Winnipeg Indigenous Executive Circle has evolved to a formal membership of organizations who interests are to support the Urban Indigenous Population in the City of Winnipeg.

Vision

The Winnipeg Indigenous Executive Circle is a collaborative to advance the well-being of Indigenous Peoples in Winnipeg.

Goal

Through strong sectoral representation and broad-based membership; the Winnipeg Indigenous Executive Circle effectively leads on strategic priorities of Indigenous organizations in Winnipeg and foster reconciliation throughout the community.

Membership

Membership is open to all Indigenous organizations in Winnipeg, defined as organizations comprised of at least 75% members of the board and staff are Indigenous, led by an Indigenous Executive Director and where the organization functions according to Indigenous cultural values and practices. Associate Members are organizations led by Indigenous Executive Directors for non-Indigenous organizations or non-Indigenous Executive Directors for Indigenous organizations.

Co-Chairs:
Dodie Jordaan
Trevor LaForte

Email: wiec@abcentre.org
112 - 181 Higgins Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3B3G1
Objectives

Draw upon the shared priorities of each member service organization’s strategic and community plans to create a common vision;

Engage Winnipeg Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities;

Promote gender equality;

Restore Indigenous governance systems, through reclamation of Indigenous ways of life;

Through self-determination, promote positive dialogue and relationship-building to achieve reconciliation;

Form collaborative partnerships; restore Indigenous ways of being, influence policy; enhance resources and services to improve and increase positive outcomes for Indigenous Peoples in Winnipeg;

Promote, strengthen, and advocate for resource equity and sustainability for urban Indigenous service organizations; and

To realize and restore all the rights of Indigenous Peoples as set out in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada’s Calls to Action; leading to systemic change. This includes rights related to lands, territories and resources.

Priority Areas of Focus

Priority areas will be established that will have a life-affirming impact on the overall social, economic and cultural well-being on urban Indigenous peoples. We want to create a community where every member thrives. The Winnipeg Indigenous Executive Circle has four priorities:

- **Education/training**: Employment and Economic Development: increasing graduation and access to employment and economic opportunities;
- **Access to Housing**: ensuring safe, affordable, accessible and appropriate housing for Indigenous peoples in Winnipeg
- **Supporting and Strengthening Families**: creating healthy communities; families are supported in caring for one another. The Members are committed to addressing the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls and reducing the number of children in care and incarceration rates; and
- **Health and Well-being**: encouraging and promoting healthy lifestyles, including nutrition, sport, and cultural expression. We are committed to quality, affordable, accessible and appropriate health care services, including culturally safe services.