

# The Unifier

50 Years of Fact Based Journalism

Anniversary Edition

Weather: Partly Sunny High 25 – Low 18

## Editorial

In our 50<sup>th</sup> year of proudly serving Winnipeg as the social justice paper of record, we thought we'd dedicate our front page to just some of the momentous occasions of these past years. [\(More\)](#)

## New Housing Ends Homelessness



As the cranes rush to dismantle the now redundant Arlington Bridge in time for the opening ceremony with representatives from all five (5)

levels of government, project manager Michael Beauchamp gave me a sneak peek at what has become of the old CP Railyards that used to divide our city. Their enthusiasm is hard not to catch: "Once the land reclamation and the clean up of toxic spills were completed, we had this amazing blank slate to imagine the community we wanted to build. We built it around public transit. No cars means kids and their parents have more freedom to play with little traffic to worry about. And yes, we can finally say we have the mixed-use, accessible, supported, rent-geared to income, co-operative and senior housing supply to meet the existing need and with room to grow in years to come." [\(More\)](#)

## Commemoration Round Dance at Portage and Main



Portage and Main, 2019

For the 55th year, ceremonies were held at Portage and Main to celebrate its closing to the cars of the past and its rebirth as a community space that welcomes all Winnipeggers and visitors alike. Elder Tania Birdsong opened the ceremony, attended by representatives of all five levels of

government and countless more, with this reflection: "It may have taken years but here we all stand, proud and strengthened by our commitment to Mother Earth and each other as we come together in relationship as true relatives." [\(More\)](#)

## History Made in Mayoral Win

For the first time in 84 years, a white cisgendered man will be our new mayor. Mayor Elect John James was elated at his victory party but took the time to assure folks: "No one needs to worry that this is some sort of step back. Winnipeggers long ago decided that true diversity in leadership is essential. That is why we adopted a consensus model at City Hall. It took some time but the benefits can be seen throughout our city." When pressed about a potential return to patriarchy, James scoffed: "Are you kidding me? My moms would kill me!" [\(More\)](#)

## Social Planning Council of Winnipeg Wraps Operations

After more than a century of working to create a community that is sustainable, just, equitable and caring, this long serving community led organization will be shutting its doors. "All endings have some element of the bitter-

sweet", said board chair Ahmed Al-Ubeady "but as a board we had to face the fact that we just are not needed anymore. We, along with the incredible people who make up all of Winnipeg, did it." [\(More\)](#)

Social Planning Council  
of Winnipeg

## 2018-2019 Annual Report

Social Planning Council of Winnipeg Annual Report 2018-2019

ISBN: 1-895752-90-6

September 2019



Social Planning Council  
*of Winnipeg*

...CELEBRATING **100 YEARS!**

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# TYLER BLASHKO

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This has been a year to recommit ourselves to our values and reaffirm our belief in the need to push forward for a more just and equitable community. An organization with a hundred year history inevitably has stories that have been passed down from generation to generation. While individual memories may fade, looking at the arc of SPCW's work, the organization has long been at the forefront of social justice issues important to Winnipeggers.

The staff at SPCW continue the strong tradition through their continued work on homelessness, poverty, supports for newcomers and community empowerment. None of this work would be possible without the support of our funders, particularly United Way of Winnipeg and the stability their core funding provides SPCW. Our work is collaborative by design and the trust our partners put in our organization is essential. No matter the table we're sitting at or coalition we're a part of, our continued push for a more just Winnipeg is only possible because of the confidence partners have in our staff.

Our 100th anniversary has been present in our conversations with community and coalition partners. It has been important for us to acknowledge and mark the milestone; we are proud of our history and our roles in so many projects and initiatives. Having said that, we acknowledge that our work exists because systems are created inequitably. It is those systems we strive to challenge and empower others to challenge in their own ways. As this work continues we hope to reach a place where we aren't celebrating another 100 years of SPCW because the work has been completed, our systems are equitable and our communities just.



*Tyler, Board President - SPCW*

I have truly enjoyed my time as president with SPCW. The unique reality of being president during the 100th year celebrations has been a privilege and I thank the membership and board of directors for allowing me to fill this role within the organization. While I may be at the end of my term, we continue to attract strong, dynamic board members and staff. I want to thank the members who are leaving the board: Lea Mutch, Tyler Pearce, Kobra Rahimi, Bob Roddy and Talatu Shokpeka and a warm welcome to David Kron, Hayley Caldwell, Sid Frankel, Humaira Jaleel and Lionel Houston. They each bring with them a wealth of experience that will continue to propel the work of SPCW forward.

In Solidarity,

Tyler



# KATE KEHLER

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2018/19 marks yet another year of change in some areas and growth in others. As an organization that advocates and works for change over charity, this is a good thing!

We, through Immigration Partnership Winnipeg, have continued one of our core functions in the creation of the Ethno Cultural Council of Manitoba (ECCM) and the Newcomer Hub. You can read more about these exciting initiatives from Noelle and Reuben later in the IPW report. I mention them here because in our 100th year of operations, we have had some opportunity to look back on our work. This has long been our 'modus operandi'. We identify a gap or need, work with community to fill it and then step aside. The Newcomer Hub is now run through our partner MOSAIC and the ECCM is an independently funded stand-alone organization run by a community council.

Another change is that we have had to say good-bye to Ian and Tammy along with the Homelessness Information Partnership Winnipeg (HIPW). Well, really just a bon voyage as they moved over to End Homelessness Winnipeg as of April 1st, 2019.



*Ian Sunabacka and Tammy Westaway (HIPW)*



*Kate speaking at ISSA conference*

HIPW is another example of how SPCW is able to take the time to work with community partners, in this case the three main homelessness serving shelters, to develop a new way of working to further the work of ending homelessness. As reported in previous years, HIPW was formed around the use of the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) reboot by the federal government. The promise that HIFIS would allow for better information sharing between service providers was too good an opportunity to not explore.



This work began in 2014 with the essential help of Jim Hayes and Roger Girard. Former community animator Christina Maes Niño was the SPCW lead. Through open and honest discussion, a unique partnership was formed between the shelters to support their internal operations, allowing for data to be shared with the larger community and other homelessness serving organizations to sign on as partners according to their needs and interests. SPCW also became the HIFIS community coordinator to further this work by promoting HIFIS use through education and training sessions. The strength of HIPW, a community of practice led model, is demonstrated in that each of the three shelters and SPCW underwent a major change in leadership between 2014 and 2018. Everyone saw the value in continuing this work based on all that had been accomplished to date. It is important to note that during this period, we had some federal funding at times but at other times not.

When End Homelessness Winnipeg (EHW) began to be fully operational, they also saw the value of HIPW. The need for better data has long been called for by community and shared data management was a pillar in the 10Year Plan. HIPW funding flowed through EHW for the 2018/19 year and a transition to EHW was successfully implemented.

During this time, Ian and Tammy worked tirelessly to support the ongoing operations through both the governance committee and almost more importantly the working group made up of front line staff. Top down direction can only go so far. One of the guiding principles of this project was to make sure the staff understood the value to both their work and the greater goal of ending homelessness by correctly and consistently using HIFIS. Ian and Tammy worked with the frontline staff to ensure that HIFIS was meeting their needs and fed critiques and suggestions back to the Ottawa developers. We very much look forward to seeing how HIPW is able to grow with sustained and hopefully increased funding!



*HIPW Training Session*

The municipal election also occupied a lot of our time. Josh will speak more about our contributions to Winnipeg Without Poverty and the good that came out of that work in his report. However, we also, along with IPW focused on voter turnout and engaging ‘non-voters’ in the process. Noelle’s report speaks to all the wonderful work IPW did to get recent citizens out to vote and get voting based on residency rather than citizenship for municipal elections into the public debate. SPCW complimented this work with municipal versions of our easy to follow voting guides and some basic one-pagers on city policy areas. These were shared widely on social media and sent directly to partner organizations so they could encourage participants to vote. We again partnered with Winnipeg Harvest, CCPA, and the other MPMH partners to hold a mayoral forum. Only two candidates declined our invitation and a robust conversation with promises made on poverty reduction by all the other attending candidates was held.

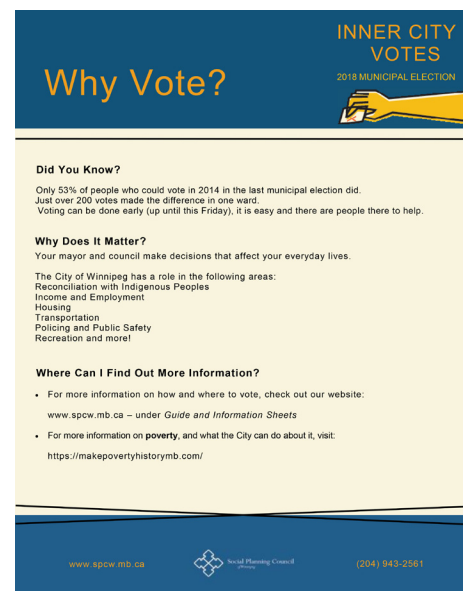


*2018 Winnipeg Mayoral Candidates Forum*

We continued, expanded or began work with:

- The Restorative Justice Association of Manitoba
- Gang Action Interagency Network
- Basic Income Manitoba
- Make Poverty History Manitoba
- Southern Chiefs’ Organization’s Youth Empowerment Program
- Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Council
- Manitoba Health Coalition
- Civil Rights Train the Trainer for Newcomers
- Fight for \$15
- AYO!’s 100 Soccer Ball and Basketball community celebrations
- SPCW Archival Material
- 100th Anniversary Documentary - For the People by the People

and as many other initiatives that we had the resources for and made sense for us to be involved in.



Finally, while the event itself occurred in the 19/20 fiscal year, April 26th to be exact, we held an event called Sorry Not Sorry, Unapologetically Working for Social Justice. You may have heard of it? Two of our three guest speakers had been involved in very public controversy. Since that was one of the subjects we wanted to discuss, how to organize through controversy and conflict across cultures, we thought they would be ideal panelists. While the sold out crowd did support this notion, there were others who did not. For more information on our reasoning please check out these statements on our website at <https://spcw.mb.ca/2019/04/sorry-not-sorry-unapologetically-working-for-social-justice-new-venue-announcement-and-response-to-criticism/>

**SORRY NOT SORRY**

UNAPOLOGETICALLY WORKING FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

SPCW is 100 and happy to co-host with CMWI, a panel discussion. WITH GUEST PANELISTS:

LINDA SARSOOR

CHANTELL BARKER

NORA LORETO

A timely conversation on lessons learned and how to get things done!

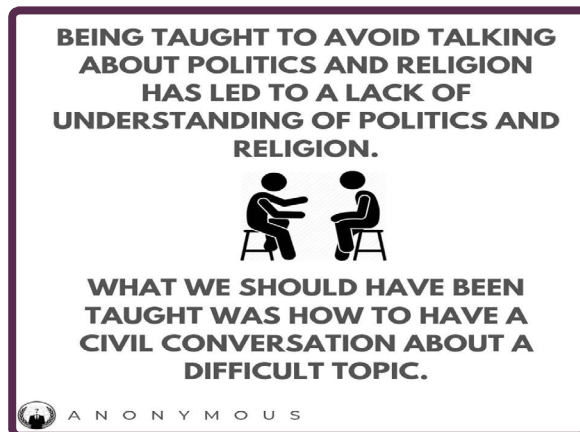
**4/26/2019**

Ukrainian Labour Temple (591 Pritchard Ave.) TIME: 7:00pm-9:30pm DOORS: 6:00pm

Social Planning Council of Winnipeg Celebrating 100 years!

CMWI Canadian Muslim Women's Institute

In the end, what was highlighted through both the advice of the panelists and the misunderstanding/ misrepresentations of some of the positions held by the main focus of the controversy, Linda Sarsour, is that so much more conversation has to happen.



The graphic above was sent on to me by a friend at the time. It rang true then as it does now. It is too easy for those who are either content and comfortable with the status quo so don't see the need for change and those actively working against the change needed to create a truly just society, to divide and conquer progressive movements. The way forward can only be on mutually established common ground.

We would like to thank our event partners, Humaira Jaleel, Yasmine Ali and everyone at the Canadian Muslim Women's Institute. We also need to thank our supporters here in Winnipeg for trusting us to have this conversation, offering support and coming out to the event. We received messages of support from across the country. We would also like to thank Harold Shuster of Independent Jewish Voices for mobilizing much of this support and the lovely Passover Seder dinner he invited us all too the next evening.

As always, I have to echo Tyler's thanks to United Way Winnipeg as our core funder. Even when we disagree, they have acknowledged our right to do so. We recognize that our common ground is wanting a better Winnipeg for everyone!

Kate

# 2018-2019 STAFF AND STUDENTS

## STAFF

### **Kate Kehler**

*Executive Director*

### **Cindy Hoover**

*Office Manager*

### **Oke Ojekudo**

*Office Administrator & Communications Coordinator*

### **Josh Brandon**

*Community Animator*

### **Albert Boakye**

*Community Animator*

### **Abdi Ahmed**

*Immigration Partnership Winnipeg*

*Program Director*

### **Hani Ataan Al-Ubeady**

*Immigration Partnership Winnipeg*

*Community Engagement Coordinator*

### **Reuben Garang**

*Immigration Partnership Winnipeg*

*Ethnocultural Communities' Resource Coordinator*

### **Noëlle DePape (Resigned September 2019)**

*Immigration Partnership Winnipeg*

*Senior Program Manager*

### **Nicole Jewett (Contract to September 2019)**

*IPW Research Advisory Project*

### **Temitope Ojo (Contract to May 2019)**

*IPW Administrative Assistant*

### **Katie Muirhead (Contract to September 2018)**

*IPW Information & Planning Administrator*

### **Krishna Lalbiharie**

*IPW Design Contractor*

### **Kemlin Nembhard**

*IPW Consultant - Ethnocultural Council*

## HIPW TEAM

### **Ian Sunabacka (Transferred to EHW April 2019)**

*Homelessness Information Partnership Winnipeg*

*Information Systems Coordinator*

### **Tammy Westaway (Transferred to EHW April 2019)**

*Homelessness Information Partnership Winnipeg*

*Information Manager*

### **Heather McLaren**

*HIPW Privacy Impact Assessment Consultant*

### **Roger Girard**

*Volunteer Advisor Extraordinaire*

## STUDENTS

Ibrahim Farah

Jennifer Chartrand

Roxana Akhmetova

Maryam Rahimi

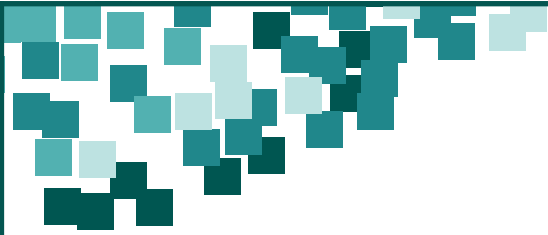
Shirley Gwendolyn

Sara Parsons



We would like to acknowledge our office manager - Cindy, who brings the much needed wealth of administrative and IT experience to SPCW and has been with us for 5 years now!





## 2018-2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Executive

Tyler Blashko  
*President*

Glenn Michalchuk  
*Vice President*

Shelley Marshall  
*Vice President*

Karl Gowenlock  
*Treasurer*

### Directors

Abdul-Karim Abdul-Bari

Andi Sharma

Danielle Carriere

Ify Idigbe

JohnDavid Pankratz

Quinton Delorme

Kobra Rahimi (resigned)

Lea Mutch (resigned)

Robert Roddy (resigned)

Talatu Shokpeka (term completed)

Tyler Pearce (resigned)



# PARTNERS AND COALITIONS

## ORGANIZATIONS WE HAVE BEEN FORTUNATE TO WORK WITH

Aboriginal Council of Winnipeg

Aboriginal Youth Opportunities

Amalgamated Transit Union

Amnesty International

Aurora Family Therapy Centre

Block by Block Project

Canadian Mental Health Association

Canadian Community Economic Development  
Network Manitoba (CCEDNet)

Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA)

Canadian Muslim Women's Institute (CMWI)

Circle of Life Thunderbird House

Citizens for Transit

City of Winnipeg

Coalition of Manitoba Neighbourhood Renewal  
Corporations

Eagle Urban Transition Centre

Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba

End Homelessness Winnipeg

Family Dynamics

Fight for \$15

Functional Transit Winnipeg

Government of Canada

Initiatives for Just Communities

Institute of Urban Studies

John Howard Society of Manitoba

Lived Experience Circle

Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre

Main Street Project

Manitoba Association of Newcomer Serving  
Organizations

Manitoba Health Coalition

Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities

Manitoba Research Alliance

Mediation Services

Menno Simons College

MOSAIC

Mount Carmel Clinic

Ndinawemaaganag Endaawaad Inc.

Newcomer Community Hub

Newcomer Sports Coalition

New Directions for Children, Youth, Adults, and  
Families

North End Women's Centre

North Point Douglas Women's Centre

Onashowewin

Palaver Hut Project

Pembina Trails School Division

Province of Manitoba

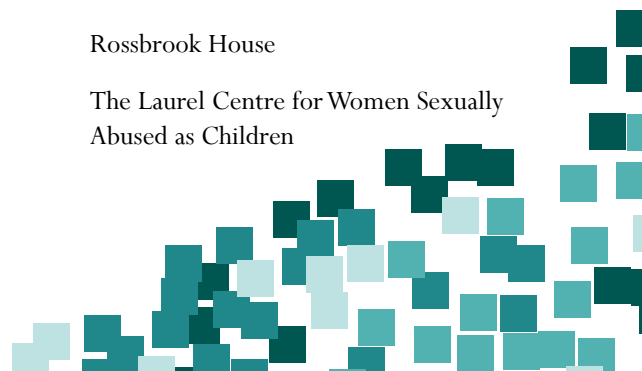
Public Interest Law Centre

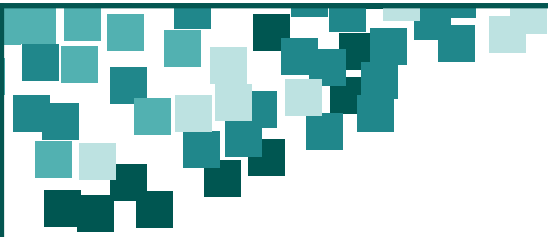
Rainbow Resource Centre

Resource Assistance for Youth

Rossbrook House

The Laurel Centre for Women Sexually  
Abused as Children





The Salvation Army Correctional and Justice Services

The Salvation Army Winnipeg Booth Centre

Siloam Mission

Southern Chiefs Organization

Spence Neighbourhood Association

Success Skills Centre

Wa Ni Ska Tan; Manitoba Hydro Alliance

West Central Women's Resource Centre

Winnipeg Harvest

Winnipeg Labour Council

Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Council

Winnipeg Rental Network

Winnipeg Without Poverty

Youth Agencies Alliance

Brent Retzlaff

Christopher Green

Corinne Isaak

Darren Lezubski

Deidre Garson

Denisa Gavan-Koop

Denise MacDonald

Heejune Chang

Jeff Gzebb

Jennifer Flett

Jennifer Mousseau

Joe Hatch

Kelly Shettler

Lindsay Schaitel

Lisa Spring

Lorraine Dean

Margaret Ormond

Mark Stewart

Paula Hendrickson

Perry Goodard

Phil Goss

Rebecca Blaikie

Ryan Shirtliffe

Shannon Watson

Sharon Kuropatwa

Sunshine House

Terry Cormier

## STREET CENSUS STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Al Wiebe

Alvin Henderson

Ben Simcoe

Bonnie Harper

Breanne Hepp

We would also like to thank Ma Mawi, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Province of Manitoba, City of Winnipeg, MacDonald Youth Services, End Homelessness Winnipeg, Institute of Urban Studies, Lived Experience Circle, Siloam Mission, Salvation Army, Mount Carmel Clinic, Eagle Urban Transition Centre, West Central Women's Resource Centre, Aboriginal Health and Wellness, Spence Neighbourhood Association and North End Community Renewal for committing staff time and resources to this project.

## WINNIPEG STREET CENSUS DATA VOLUNTEERS

Adrienne Tessier

Angela Tessier

Ashley Wilwand

Barbara Berdera

Caitlin Ferry

Lesia (Lisa) Jarman

Mohammed Rashidul Anwar

Terri Moar

## COALITION PARTNERS

Access Without Fear

Basic Income Manitoba

Fair Transit Fares

Gang Action Interagency Network

Make Poverty History Manitoba

Manitoba Community Data Portal

Manitoba Cosmetic Pesticide Coalition

Restorative Justice Association of Manitoba

Right to Housing Coalition

Winnipeg Data Consortium

Winnipeg Plan to End Youth Homelessness

## PLAY-A-DAY FOR REFUGEES - INDOOR SOCCER TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER ORGANIZING TEAM

Badri Abdilahi

Chino Argueta

Rehan Bokari

Julie Deslauriers

Denis DePape

Jannelle Dyck

Korey Dyck

Ibrahim Farah

Vanessa Martinez Lagunas

Justin Legare

Dean Melvie

Rex Neundorff

Darcelle Paquette

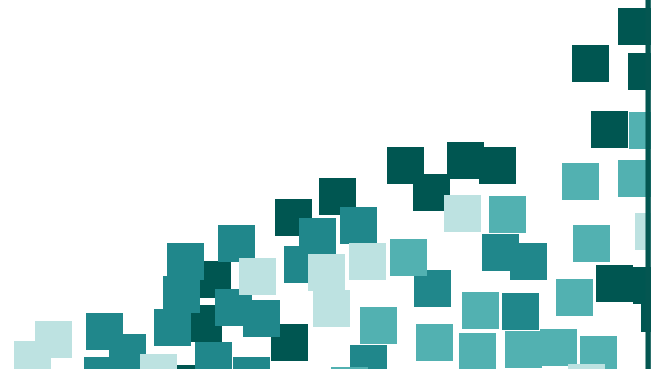
Maryam Rahimi

Omar Rahimi

Brendan Reimer

Tom Ryan

Bill Warnick



# HOMELESSNESS INFORMATION PARTNERSHIP WINNIPEG

## PARTNERS

We would like to thank Community Members, Participating Agencies, Agency Representatives, partners and allies for their continued time and tireless support and patience in the implementation of a shared information system centred around HIFIS4.

### GOVERNING COMMITTEE

Rick Lees – *Main Street Project*

Jim Bell – *Siloam Mission*

Julianne Aitken – *Siloam Mission (Designate)*

Gorden Taylor – *The Salvation Army Winnipeg Booth Centre*

Mark Stewart – *Local Administrator, HIFIS Outreach and Training, The Salvation Army Winnipeg Booth Centre (Designate)*

Amy Reinink – *Casework Implementation Coordinator, Siloam Mission*

Lindsay Enns – *Casework Implementation Team Lead, Siloam Mission*

Hennes Doltze – *The Salvation Army Corrections and Justice Services HIFIS4 Implementation Lead*

Sara Torgerson – *Local Administrator (Designate), The Salvation Army Winnipeg Booth Centre*

### WORKING GROUP AND IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

Adrienne Dudek – *Local Administrator, Main Street Project*

Brad Craig – *Local Administrator (Designate), Main Street Project*

Dawn Cumming – *Casework Coordination, Main Street Project*

Tahl East – *Program Coordination, Main Street Project*

Vanessa Gamblin – *Local Administrator, Siloam Mission*

Brad Ducak – *Shelter Staff Advisor, Siloam Mission*

Theodros Jeffrey – *IT Support, Technical System Administration*

### PROJECT ALLIES

Corinne Isaak – *Manager, Evaluation & Shared Measurement (EHW)*

Kim Sanford – *Program Coordinator (Doorways)*

Nelson Tan – *HIFIS System Coordinator (Doorways)*

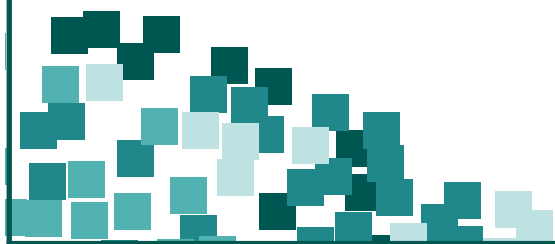
Roger Girard – *Volunteer Consulting Advisor*

Andre Man – *City of Winnipeg HPS Funding Project Officer*

The ESDC HIFIS4 Application Development and Support Team

Sean Ali, Brad Penner, Ron Wasylycia-Leis and the Peaceworks Server and Secure Connection Support Team for their expertise and dedication to the project

We would like to recognise the generous support of the WRHA, Manitoba Housing (administered by End Homelessness Winnipeg) and the Government of Canada's Homelessness Partnering Strategy (administered by the City of Winnipeg) for providing the funding for 2018/2019 and supporting the continued success of member organizations in their use of HIFIS.





# IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP WINNIPEG PARTNERS

## IPW COUNCIL

Amanda Kletke-Neufeld  
Cindy Fernandes  
Dave Thorne  
Greg Dandewich  
Jeanette Edwards  
Kathy Knudsen  
Kelly Sims  
Lorene Remillard  
Lori Wilkinson  
Louise Simbandumwe  
Michael Champagne  
Natasha Mohammed  
Rey Pagtakhan  
Richard Cloutier  
Robert Vineberg  
Salwa Meddri  
Ted Fransen  
Vicki Sinclair

## IMMIGRANT ADVISORY TABLE

Akmal Muhammad  
Ann Pinnock  
Badri Abdellahi  
Bijaya Pokharel  
Eliyana Angelova  
Florence Okwudili  
Julienne Rwagasore  
Mernisa Hadzic  
Othello Wesee  
Patricia Eyambe  
Sarah Tubman

## INDIGENOUS & NEWCOMER SECTOR

### TABLE

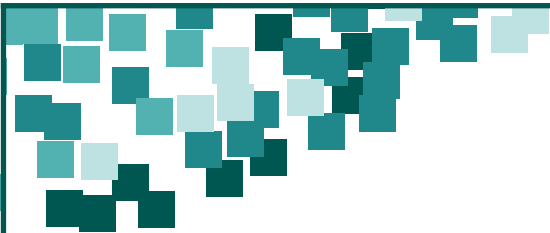
Aiman Syed  
Anny Chen  
Cathy Rocke  
Idriss Knapp  
Jackie Dolynchuck  
Jobb Arnold  
Karen Beaudin  
Sarrah Deane  
Shereen Denetto  
Wyeth Krauchi

## INCLUSION AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

### SECTOR TABLE

Alex Kozelko  
Annette Riziki  
Eliyana Angelova  
Erika Frey  
Farima Afaq  
Ibrahim Farah  
Janelle Dyck  
Jennifer Chen  
Jessica Praznik  
Krishna Lalbiharie  
Lori Wilkinson (Co-chair)  
Maddie Pearlman  
Natasha Mohammed  
Nina Condo (Co-chair)  
Omar Abdullahi  
Paula Migliardi  
Ray Silvius  
Roslyn Advincula  
Sarah Zell  
Surafel Kuchem  
Shereen Denetto  
Valleria Castilanos





## NEWCOMER EDUCATION

### COALITION

Alana Olinnger  
Alfred Koineh (Deceased)  
Avinash Muralidharan (IRCOM)  
Brahim Ould Baba  
Coralie Bryant  
Daniel Swaka (Peaceful Village)  
Fadi Ennab  
Francine Wiebe  
Jennifer Nicholson  
Kathleen Vyrauen (NEEDS)  
Misty Belcourt  
Muuxi Adam (Aurora)  
Paul Kambaja  
Raymond Ngarbouie (CEDA)  
Sally Wai (CEDA)  
Sue Hoang  
Suni Mathews  
Surafel Kuchem  
Tom Sims  
Tony Tavares  
Vinh Huynh

## NEWCOMER CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

### WORKING GROUP

Alex Kozelko  
Carol Reimer  
Eliyana Argelova  
Erika Frey  
Jennifer Chen  
Krishna Lalbiharie  
Omar Abdullahi  
Ray Silvius  
Sarah Zell  
Shereen Denetto  
Surafel Kuchem

## YOUTH COUNCIL

Ali Mustafa Hamid Al-Abbasi  
Bervan Hesso  
Gabriel Gabriel  
Gololch Bora  
Magi Hadad  
Mathew Joseph

## EMPLOYMENT SECTOR TABLE

Amie Membrano  
Gaurav Sharma  
Louie Ghiz  
Louise Simbandumwe  
Monika Feist  
Murray Beakley  
Olga Shupta  
Paul Biggar  
Ralph Kurth  
Roy Vallance  
Seid Oumer  
Shannon Mackay  
Todd Demers

## INDIGENOUS CONSULTATION CIRCLE

Albert McLeod  
Clayton Sandy  
Jaron Hart  
Jenna Wirch  
Loretta Ross  
Maria Morrison  
Melissa McDonald

We would like to thank and highlight the role of our partners - Treaty Relation Commissions of MB led by Commissioner Loretta Ross and Circle For Reconciliation team led by Clayton Sandy and Raymond Currier.

# IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP WINNIPEG

Immigration Partnership Winnipeg (IPW) is a multi-sectoral partnership hosted by the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg (SPCW). We provide a collaborative framework to facilitate the development and implementation of sustainable local solutions for the successful integration of newcomers to Winnipeg. IPW's overall goal is to support the full economic and social inclusion of newcomers. We coordinate community-level planning, facilitate communication amongst stakeholders and identify needs or gaps through consultation with community, government and newcomers themselves.

Our work is guided by three core principles:

**WE VALUE COLLABORATION AND THE BENEFITS OF A COLLECTIVE EFFORT TO RESOLVE COMMUNITY PROBLEMS.**

We work with a variety of stakeholders including newcomers with lived experience. Our work is guided by a multi-stakeholder Partnership Council composed of key leaders from a diversity of sectors that touch the lives of newcomers. We have representation from three levels of government, business leaders, media, academia, health, police and justice, the Francophone community, settlement service providers, immigrant and refugee community voices, education and Indigenous communities. We do our work through themed sector tables and advisory committees. Our sector tables are: Inclusion and Civic Engagement, Indigenous Engagement, Employment and Education.

**WE ARE WORKING ON LONG-TERM SYSTEMS AND CULTURE CHANGE.** We recognize that change requires long-term vision and a commitment to progressive ideas. We believe that the



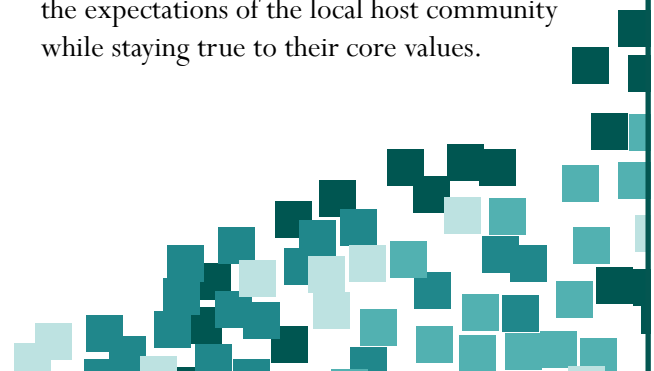
partnerships we create today will foster long lasting change that will make Winnipeg the perfect place for all newcomers to passionately call home.

**WE WORK WITH COMMUNITIES NOT FOR THEM.**

We follow the value of 'nothing for me without me' and believe that immigrant and refugee voices need to be at the forefront. We work with newcomers from a variety of backgrounds, encouraging them to become involved in our working groups and committees to ensure that the voice of the people are front and centre of our work. .

## Creating a Welcoming Community

The work of creating a welcoming community for newcomers is a two way process. Our community needs to be open to receiving and looking inward to remove barriers that impede the successful integration of newcomers. Newcomers also need to adjust themselves to the expectations of the local host community while staying true to their core values.



Over the last three years, we have hosted an annual Newcomer Welcome Event in partnership with the City of Winnipeg. We have brought together all actors in the settlement sector to show a warm welcome to newcomers. This year's event was hosted at the Freight House Community Centre in downtown Winnipeg. Newcomers who arrived in the last one year received a warm and inclusive welcome and important information on the existing services in the city. About 37 settlement providing organizations (SPOs) set up display booths. As a major contributor to the event, all the departments of the City of Winnipeg set up booths for the newcomers to learn about their services. City staff distributed free-swimming passes and helped newcomer families apply for membership to city recreation facilities free for one year after arrival. In addition, the participants enjoyed cultural performances and entertainment from various backgrounds. Mayor Brian Bowman, the Honourable Ian Wishart, then Provincial Minister responsible for Immigration and MLA for Portage La Prairie and a host of other leaders including the Police Chief Danny Smyth, other MLAs and City Councillors attended this year's event. Over 1500 newcomers attended. The event was also open to the surrounding neighbours.

## **Social Planning Council's 100th Anniversary – reflecting on the century**

As we commemorate SPCW's 100th year, it is important to reflect on where we were as a country on immigration and compare it against today's efforts to welcome immigrants and refugees to Canada. In 1919, Canada's Prime Minister was Sir Robert Borden. He was part of a crop of visionary leaders of that era. Under his leadership in 1913, the Canadian population was 7,632,000, and that year we admitted 400,000 immigrants. Not only have we never admitted such a large number of immigrants again but we have never even come close.



*Annual Newcomer Welcome Fair at Freight House Community Centre*

Sir Wilfrid Laurier who wanted Canada's population to reach a hundred million by the year 2000 set a standard. He proclaimed the 20th Century to be Canada's century and in 1904 declared;

"The 19th century has been the century of United States' development... Let me tell you, my fellow countrymen, that all the signs point this way, that the 20th century shall be the century of Canada and of Canadian development. ... We are just at the beginning of the twentieth century. It is the year 1904. We are a nation of six million people already; we expect soon to be twenty-five, yes forty millions. There are men living in this audience, men over there (points to the young people in the gallery), the hope of the country (applause) who before they die, if they live to old age, will see this country with at least sixty millions of people".

Even though the Laurier government's immigration policies at the time preferred immigration from certain countries and barred people from others, his century long target for Canada's immigration would have been a model to follow on opening our country to more immigrants and refugees. Were we to follow his bold target, we would be admitting about 2 million newcomers to Canada per year today. Instead, our multiyear targets has us planning to admit about 340,000 newcomers in 2020. Not



even 1% of our population! We are missing our targets and missing our targets means that we are missing out. We are missing out on more of the opportunities that come with more newcomers; the rich experiences and the diversity of the skills that continue to contribute to the innovation needed to respond to the challenges of our times. We often take these contributions for granted but every time we look at the toonie, let us remember that it was designed by a Vietnamese refugee.



*Noelle DePape, Senior Program Manager - IPW*

## Newcomer Civic and Political Engagement

In 2018, IPW's Inclusion and Civic Engagement Sector Table spearheaded a newcomer civic engagement initiative leading up to the 2018 Winnipeg municipal election called the 'Got Citizenship? Go Vote! Campaign'. This campaign aimed to increase the political literacy and voter turnout of immigrant and refugee citizens in Winnipeg and to bring forward issues that are important to the newcomer community to elected officials, candidates and the media.

Leading up to this campaign, we met with 4 city councillors (Cindy Gilroy, Jenny Gerbasi, Matt Allard and Brian Mayes) and with Mayor Brian Bowman to advocate on key IPW campaigns including:

- Permanent resident voting in municipal elections

- Newcomer welcoming and inclusion policy for the city with management level staff
- Access without fear policy
- Newcomer youth employment strategy

Some of the highlights and achievements from our GCGV campaign include:

1. Successful launch and ethno-cultural community leaders training in Aug 2018 with over 80 participants from over 30 different ethno-cultural communities
2. First of its kind mayoral forum on Immigrant and Refugee issues on Sat, October 6th, 2018
  - a. Attended by close to 200 newcomers and their allies
  - b. 6 of 8 mayoral candidates in attendance including incumbent Brian Bowman



- c. Endorsed by over 20 non-profit organizations
3. Engagement with national Voter Pop Up campaign – held a Voter Pop Up with close to 100 participants
4. Materials created in many languages - thanks to our amazing designer Krishna Lalbiharie and our multilingual volunteers from IRCOM and the Ethno-cultural Council:
  - a. Get out the vote videos in 12 languages - in Amharic, Arabic, ASL, Dinka, English, Hindi, Mandarin, Punjabi, Somali, Swahili, Tagalog, Tigrinya
  - b. Got Citizenship? Go Vote posters in 11 Languages – Arabic, Tagalog, Hindi, Tigrinya, Swahili, Somali, French, Urdu, Mandarin, Spanish and English



*Got Citizenship? GoVote! launch*

- c. Voter information brochures in 9 languages – Arabic, English, Tagalog, Hindi, Swahili, French, Spanish, Mandarin, Somali
5. Strong social media and web presence including active Facebook and Twitter accounts. Our training video went viral with over 2,000 likes.
6. Active grassroots reach through the distribution of hundreds of multi-lingual posters, brochures 'Plan to Go Vote Cards'.

7. Partnership with Institute for Urban Studies to develop a 4-page infographic on 'Immigrants and Electoral Wards' to inform our work through accurate data.

One excellent outcome of the mayoral forum and follow-up meetings with Mayor Bowman was the commitment from the City of Winnipeg to create a newcomer welcoming and inclusion policy.

In addition, IPW has developed an on-going relationship with the City of Winnipeg's Community Services Department. Community Services staff are members of multiple IPW Sector Tables and working groups, including their Director Cindy Fernandes who plays an active role on the IPW Council. Through this partnership, we have seen:

- The development of a one-year subsidy program for newly arrived refugee families to utilize all city recreation services for free
- An increase in the number of newcomer youth hires for summer city recreation jobs
- Cultural competency training delivered by IPW to over 50 city middle management staff

## Newcomer Education

IPW plays a key role as one of the backbone organizations for the Newcomer Education Coalition (NEC), along with the N.E.E.D.S Centre.

NEC is a multi-stakeholder alliance that works collaboratively with various groups including settlement agencies, educational institutions, community based organizations, ethno-cultural communities, health and social service agencies, and the provincial government to create more welcoming, inclusive and equitable schools for immigrant and refugee students and their families in Manitoba.



*Newcomer Education Coalition and allies*

The Coalition's activities focus on ensuring that newcomer children and youth, especially those from marginalized backgrounds, have the tools, opportunities and appropriate services and support systems to succeed in school so as to be well set up to pursue post-secondary education and/or have successful entry into the labour market.

This year one of our priority areas was how to better support older newcomer youth with interrupted schooling. On May 23rd, 2019, NEC organized a successful forum on Older Newcomer Youth with Interrupted Schooling in collaboration with many partners including:

- Community Education Development Association (CEDA)
- Immigration Partnership Winnipeg (IPW)
- Manitoba Association of Newcomer Serving Organizations (MANSO)
- Manitoba Association of School



*Manitoba K-12 System Education Review*

Superintendents (MASS)


- Manitoba Teachers Society (MTS)
- Manitoba School Improvement Project (MSIP)'s Peaceful Village
- Mount Carmel Clinic
- N.E.E.D.S Inc.

The forum, attended by over 200 people, engaged diverse stakeholders in discussions aimed to explore short and long-term policy and programming ideas that could be implemented in schools, school divisions, government departments and various organizations to augment the chances of success for older refugee youth with interrupted schooling in the K-12 system and beyond.

One of the recommendations from the forum was to do research on models and approaches in Manitoba school divisions that were beneficial for this unique group of students. In partnership with the University of Winnipeg's Professor Ray Silvius, IPW secured a grant from the Child and Youth Refugee Research Coalition to hire a researcher to conduct qualitative research on this topic which is currently in it's final stages and will be launched in 2019.

NEC is also partnering with one of it's members, the Community Education Development Association (CEDA) to write an Equity in Education report. This year, part of the work entailed presenting our concept to all of the Metro school division school boards and requesting they share data with us on the diversity of their students, educators and divisional staff, as well as information on their equity policies and practices. The report will





be launched in the Fall of 2019.

NEC has also been working hard to build strong relationships with provincial educational stakeholders such as Manitoba Association of School Superintendents (MASS), MTS and Manitoba School Board Association. We also work to build awareness about refugee issues and realities to educators and educational decision makers. For example, in 2018 we presented at the MSBA conference and wrote an article for the MASS journal called “Mind the Gap: Understanding the Multidimensional Needs of Newcomer Students.”

Finally, we had the opportunity to support the Winnipeg School Divisions call to the Province for permanent resident voting at a municipal level by presenting to the School Trustees on this issue. We are excited to see WSD be added to the list of advocates for this change in public policy that could allow more newcomers to be included in our democracy at a civic level.

## SETTLEMENT SECTOR COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION

### NEWCOMER COMMUNITY HUB @ RYERSON SCHOOL.

In February 2017, the Canadian government announced they would resettle 1,200 Yazidi refugees and other survivors of Daesh, mostly coming from Northern Iraq. Yazidis have experienced significant violence & family separation resulting in a population dealing with high levels of trauma. In the last 5 years alone over 10, 000 Yazidis have been tortured, executed, kidnapped or enslaved in what the United Nation has called an act of genocide.



*Newcomer Community Hub launch at Ryerson School  
Division*

Winnipeg was one of five Canadian cities that received Yazidi refugees, welcoming around 300 people. Many Yazidis have settled in Winnipeg’s south end in the catchment of the Pembina Trails School Division. Due to the high needs of Yazidi children and families for both psycho-social supports and locally based settlement supports, the Pembina Trails School Division reached out to the settlement sector to assist with more targeted supports for this group.

In response, the settlement sector, with the leadership of IPW and MANSO facilitated the incubation and development of a Newcomer Community Hub at Ryerson School. The Hub is a collaborative initiative that is focussed on providing integrated and holistic supports to newcomer families in a centralized location, with a focus on supporting the newly arrived Yazidi refugees. It is an excellent example of how IPW’s role as an incubator, facilitator and connector can play a significant role in newcomer inclusion and integration

The Hub was launched in January 2019, with a strong leadership role from MOSAIC who are managing the new Hub staff, and is successfully supporting dozens of Yazidi families. Based on the needs of the community, initial Hub activities have focused on the areas of parenting, community connections and psycho-social supports and programming. Initial services and supports provided by various partner agencies including MOSAIC, Aurora Family Therapy, Family Dynamics target newcomer families with single parent households and with children 0-5 years and in elementary school.



## BUILDING BRIDGES, CREATING TIES: WORKING WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLE.

A key priority of IPW is to build positive relationships and create ties that last between newcomers and Indigenous Peoples. Our work in this regard is guided by our first strategic priority:

*To enhance bridges between the Indigenous and newcomer communities through the creation of new opportunities and the further development of current practices that enable and facilitate cross cultural learning, understanding and support.*

A snapshot of the activities we carried out to work towards this priority include:

**CITY OF WINNIPEG INDIGENOUS ACCORD:** As a signatory of the City of Winnipeg Indigenous Accord, IPW is committed to the goal of reconciliation, participates in the Annual Indigenous Accord gatherings by the City, and reports on its work towards reconciliation.

**NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY:** IPW hosted a Welcome Fair on June 16th 2018 to welcome recently arrived newcomers and Indigenous community members who were new to the city. A wide section of community members came together to celebrate diversity and intercultural coexistence. The event was also hosted as a way to celebrate National Indigenous Peoples week-long celebrations.

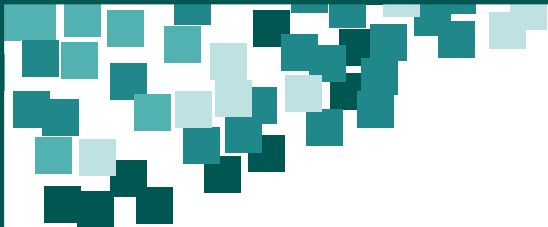


*First Nations Reserve visit*



*Hani Ataan Al-Ubeady, Community Engagement Coordinator - IPW*

**COMMUNITY VISIT:** Among a number of Indigenous and newcomers engagement strategies that IPW has adopted, we have found that engaging newcomers with grassroots communities, elders, knowledge keepers, educators, youth, women, men, 2SLGBTQ+ individuals and families at community gatherings to be the most effective way of building understanding. IPW in collaboration with the newly established Ethno Cultural Council of Manitoba –Stronger Together arranged and coordinated a visit to Brokenhead Ojibway First Nation Reserve on August 11th 2018. More than 50 newcomers from diverse ethnic backgrounds visited and participated in a Pow Wow celebration. New partnerships with Indigenous leaders and individuals resulted from this visit and a number of newcomer community groups planned their own partnerships with the First Nation leaders.



**INDIGENOUS ORIENTATION TOOLKIT (IOT):** As a continuation of our previous year's activities towards creating an Indigenous Orientation Toolkit for newcomers, we consolidated partnerships and worked on funding opportunities. To create an effective orientation toolkit and to fulfil our values of working collaboratively with stakeholders we invited a number of key organizations to contribute to the development of the toolkit. The scope of the project is to orient, educate and prepare recently arrived immigrants and refugees to Winnipeg and Manitoba on Indigenous Peoples, their history, cultures and experiences in contemporary Canada.

To develop a lasting document, we have worked with strong Indigenous partners including the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba (TRCM) and the University of Manitoba Service Learning department in collaboration with the U of M Native Studies department. They are helping to develop, refine and implement the toolkit curriculum. Our partnership also includes the Manitoba Association of Newcomer Serving Organizations (MANSO) and Cambrian Agassiz KAIROS Canada. Both bring expertise and important networks to the development and implementation of the toolkit.

We have recruited two Indigenous curriculum developers and three English as Additional Language teachers, and formed two working groups to oversee the development of the first modules of the Indigenous Orientation Toolkit.

The first working group is developing a full day Train the Trainers workshop. This will train and educate Settlement Service Providers on Indigenous Peoples and their tradition, more specifically, on land and Treaties. This workshop will be piloted in the fall of 2019 and will be delivered in three separate full day sessions.

The second working group is finalizing more than 10 themes on land, treaties, commonalities, resurgence of culture, role models, storytelling and oral traditions etc. to be embedded in EAL curriculums for newcomer EAL students.

**INDIGENOUS/NEWCOMER FORUMS:** In the past year we collaborated and engaged with several Indigenous organizations such as the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba, Circle of Life Thunderbird House, Aboriginal Youth Opportunities, and Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre Winnipeg to host two forums aimed at building bridges and creating ties.

On November 17th, 2018, we hosted a forum attended by both Indigenous and newcomer community members including community leaders and youth. This was hosted in collaboration with our Indigenous Consultation Circle, the Treaty Relations Commission and Kairos Canada. This forum was part of a series during which Indigenous peoples and newcomers from a variety of ethno-cultural communities came together to make connections and learn about each other. This forum followed the first forum held in March 2018 and focused on exploring treaties and living on the land of Indigenous peoples. Newcomers have an important role to play in Indigenous reconciliation. As treaty people, newcomers need to come together with Indigenous peoples and look back and learn about Indigenous histories and discuss issues that matter to both communities.



*Group of Indigenous dancers performing*



IPW Team and allies

## SPECIAL PARTNERSHIPS

### TREATY RELATIONS COMMISSION OF MANITOBA (TRCM):

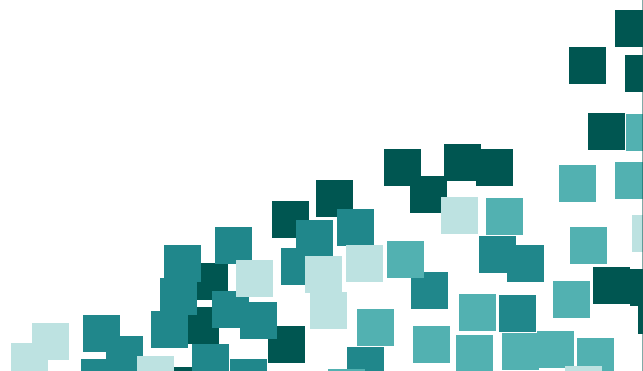
IPW is grateful for this important relationship that is of great benefit to the settlement and integration of newcomers. The TRCM is mandated to strengthen, rebuild and enhance the Treaty relationships and mutual respect between First Nations and Manitobans. For many newcomers who are making Manitoba their home, recognition of the obligations to treaties as intended with Indigenous Peoples is an important piece in their settlement and integration. IPW is especially privileged to work with the TRCM to help newcomers understand their role as treaty people, so they can play a meaningful role in the process. The TRCM is providing technical support to IPW in this journey of helping newcomers understand their role in reconciliation and building bridges with Indigenous Peoples. The TRCM is an important partner in the development of the Indigenous Orientation Toolkit, has supported IPW with funds to develop a video to support the delivery of the Toolkit and provides feedback on our overall work of engaging with Indigenous Peoples in Winnipeg.

In addition to the above mentioned joint projects, TRCM offered IPW an opportunity to author a chapter in a forthcoming book

(*Nanabush and Buddha Link Arms: Why Treaties Matter to Religious Communities*) to reflect on the intercultural work with religious communities in Winnipeg and their views on treaties. The chapter was authored and submitted after consultation with IPW's Indigenous Consultation Circle, the Indigenous and Newcomer Engagement Sector Table, and the Immigrant Advisory Table, which will be published in 2021.

### RESEARCH:

IPW values the importance of community based research work on the settlement and integration of newcomers. In addition to providing an insight into the issues that matter, it informs the planning and strategizing of our priorities to contribute to the goal of creating an inclusive welcoming community for newcomers. We recognize the role of the collective wisdom that community based research can offer through unconventional research methods that ultimately lead to cutting edge programming for newcomers. In 2018, IPW established a number of research partnerships including with Manitoba Research Alliance (MRA), Canadian Center for Policy Alternatives (CCPA), University of St. Boniface research team on Immigration, Community Engaged Research on Immigration Network (CERI Network) with University of Winnipeg, and Immigration Research West/Recherche ouest en immigration.







## ETHNOCULTURAL COUNCIL OF MANITOBA—STRONGER TOGETHER INC.

The Ethnocultural Council of Manitoba is shared space, where diverse ethnic communities come together to provide an empowering platform and collective voice with equal representation for immigrant, refugees and visible minorities working to make Manitoba a welcoming and inclusive province. Its mission is to empower, inspire, mobilise and support ethnocultural communities in Manitoba; working together to:

- Resolve common issues
- Support economic and cultural integration
- Build a stronger collective voice and influence policy makers
- Enrich our multicultural society and live peacefully

The Council was launched on June 20th 2018 and more than 20 different ethnocultural communities signed on to be members. As soon as it launched, new members came on board and we now total 30. The Council was the result of a partnership between Immigration Partnership Winnipeg (IPW) and Aurora Family Therapy Centre (AFTC). These organizations have worked with different ethnocultural communities. After several meetings and consultations with communities, all agreed to jointly establish the Council to provide them with a common platform. The two links below featured the report that came out of this work and an article from the media about the inauguration of the Council.

<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/ceri-network/docs/ecc-legacy-document.pdf>

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/twenty-newcomer-groups-form-umbrella-organization-485971011.html>



*Reuben Garang, Ethnocultural Communities  
Resource Coordinator - IPW*

### CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE COUNCIL.

The resource person for the Council applied for a grant on behalf of the Council. This year the Council has received grants from United Way Winnipeg's Organizational Development Fund and Community Capacity Building from the Department of Canadian Heritage, Government of Canada.

The Council has hired a consultant, Ms. Kemlin Nembhard from the Blue Dragon Consulting, to help in putting together a governance, strategic and action plan for the next 2-3 years. The process has started with the formulation of the vision and mission statements. The Terms of Reference (TOR) and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that each Ethnocultural community has to sign to join the Council have been reviewed. The Council has also prepared the guiding values.

The Council has an annual event called *Stronger Together Dinner*. The event attracts 400-500 people from different communities and government institutions each year. People from ethnocultural communities, Indigenous organizations/communities, settlement sector, police, business





community, different government institutions and representatives from three levels of government. The main goal of the dinner is to foster healthy relationships and to strengthen networks and partnerships needed to build an inclusive society.

#### YOUTH SUMMER PROGRAMING.

For the last three years, IPW has provided leadership to connect ethnocultural communities and service providing organizations (SPOs) to support the ethnocultural youth through summer programing. Twelve ethnocultural community groups are involved in the delivery of summer youth programming. Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) funds this program through the SPOs and the money is channeled to the ethnocultural communities through an agreement based on local communities knowing what programs would best suit their particular needs.



*The Team!*

Just some of the benefits from youth summer programming include:

- Over 1000 youth involved.
- More than 200 youth and parents employed.
- Academic gains and preparation of the youth /students for next school year. The program prevents summer loss of learning and helps kids advance in their academics.
- Leadership skill development for youth who took on different leadership roles during the two months of the program.
- Youth develop peer to peer trust and mutual relationship.
- Youth build confidence and self-esteem.
- Attending this culturally based programs creates a psychological balance for children and youth through involving them in many cultural dances, singing and activities like crafts and drawing/arts. It provides youth with trauma opportunities for collective therapy which minimizes stigma.
- Youth have access to recreational activities which are critical for their physical growth and health wellbeing.

IPW Team

Abdi, Noelle, Hani, Reuben

# JOSH BRANDON

## COMMUNITY ANIMATOR

This year we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Winnipeg General Strike and the founding of SPCW. So many of the issues of that era are alive today in the work we do. Workers who fought for a living wage would recognize the struggles of coalitions we support like Fight for \$15 and Basic Income Manitoba. This year also marks 30 years since a federal All-Party resolution to end child poverty in Canada. According to the most recent data available, nearly three in ten children in Manitoba still live in poverty. Every level of government shares responsibility for this tragic situation. At Social Planning Council of Winnipeg, we have continued to provide leadership, advocacy, research and community organizing to work to end poverty.



*The Winnipeg Street Census launch*

## WINNIPEG STREET CENSUS - 2018

In last year's Annual Report, we made mention of the work on the Winnipeg Street Census. Work continued on this project through 2018-19. On the night of April 17-18, 2018, Winnipeg Street Census conducted a survey interviewing people experiencing homelessness about where they stayed, and heard their stories. Over 300 volunteers and dozens of community organizations were involved. Through interviews, in combination with data from service agencies, over 1500 people were included.



*Josh Brandon at the Fight for \$15 event*

This second Winnipeg Street Census is our best snapshot yet of the population experiencing homelessness to provide governments, researchers, and agencies critical information to better meet their needs.

SPCW coordinated the project's steering committee, did the data analysis and was the lead author of the report ([http://streetcensuswpg.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/2018\\_FinalReport\\_Web.pdf](http://streetcensuswpg.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/2018_FinalReport_Web.pdf)). We have also fulfilled specialized data requests for community partners to provide them data they need to meet their community needs. Some of this work is reflected in the newly released *Connecting the Circle: A Gender-based Strategy to End Homelessness in Winnipeg* led by the West Central Women's Resource Centre (<https://wcwrc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Connecting-the-Circle-Full-Web.pdf>). The Winnipeg Street Census not only provides data on the needs of people experiencing homelessness, but it resulted in eleven community based recommendations for action on system change and housing supply. We worked closely with community and government agencies, along with a team of dedicated data entry volunteers to compile the data and complete the report.

## WINNIPEG WITHOUT POVERTY

Make Poverty History Manitoba (MPHM) launched a key initiative to demand that the City of Winnipeg include a poverty reduction lens in all its decision making. We were part of the project lead team, ran the community consultation process, helped author and then launch the report *Winnipeg Without Poverty* in 2018, ahead of the municipal elections. The report received support from over 100 community agencies. Through this coalition



*Winnipeggers rally ahead of the municipal elections, calling on the City to address poverty.*

work, we succeeded in putting poverty on the political agenda in Winnipeg, with many candidates for council and mayor making pledges to address poverty in their platforms. This ultimately led Mayor Bowman and the all successful Council candidates to pass a motion to develop a poverty reduction strategy for the City of Winnipeg. This will be released in spring of 2020!

One initiative that we have worked closely with such community partners as the Winnipeg Labour Council, Functional Transit and Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives along with MPHM is a low-income bus pass. While the City has made a significant step forward and the first phase will be rolled out next year, we need the province to reconsider their freeze on sharing the cost. Affordable public transit allows people to access jobs, education, medical appointments and other key services. If a person cannot access what

will help them turn their lives around then we as a society are failing to provide the necessities of life.

We need to give all Winnipeggers a voice at City Hall. To help facilitate more diverse perspectives, we have re-launched Winnipeg City Watch. An informal network of community, research and advocacy groups dedicated to citizen awareness and targeted coordinated action on creating and maintaining a fair and healthy community. The network will continue to bring people together to share information, coordinate activities and provide support to what other organizations and groups are doing to improve living conditions in the city. We will be expanding our efforts in this area this year to provide more regular updates to community groups to help expand their opportunities for participation. Sign up to hear more on the Millennium Library, the sale of Portage Place and more!



*Make Poverty History Manitoba rally at the City of Winnipeg's Council Building*



## MORE SUCCESS WITH MAKE POVERTY HISTORY MANITOBA

Our work with Make Poverty History Manitoba's provincial campaign has continued to push for greater poverty reduction efforts from the Province while opposing cuts to important programs like Rent Assist. In March 2019, after years of pressure, the Provincial government released its updated poverty reduction strategy. We responded along with our partners at Campaign 2000, that according to the most recent data, the targets included in that strategy had already been met, largely due to the federal Child Tax Benefit. We have also provided timely analysis of the impact of changes in Rent Assist, loss of social housing and other cuts within the Provincial Employment and Income Assistance Program. Our ability to provide up to date and critical research on social policy is powerful tool for social change.



*The Story of Manitoba's Rent Assist Benefit report launch*

This year, we published along with Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives – Manitoba, a report *Making Space for Change: The Story of Manitoba's Rent Assist Benefit*, authored by myself and University of Manitoba economist, Jesse Hajer (<https://www.policyalternatives.ca/publications/reports/making-space-change>).



*Josh and Albert at the 2019 MPHM Concert*

The paper documents some of the organizing history leading up to implementation of the Rent Assist benefit, precursors and provincial policy context from which the Rent Assist program emerged, as well as changes to the Rent Assist program since it was implemented. While the threat of future cuts continues to hang over Rent Assist, this report outlines some of the ways community organizing has been successful to achieving programs that meet the needs of low income Manitobans.



*2019 Make Poverty History Manitoba Fundraising Concert featuring Sweet Alibi*

We ended the 2018 – 2019 fiscal year with another successful fund and awareness raising concert for Make Poverty History Manitoba. Our headliner, Sweet Alibi put on a great cap to an evening featuring songwriters, Jaxon Haldane; Tuva Bergstrom; Nick Parenteau. This year thanks to all our supporters, we raised over \$8,000 which we have used to continue to work to keep poverty on the agenda at all levels of government. See you at next year's event in March.

Josh

# ALBERT BOAKYE

## COMMUNITY ANIMATOR

Working with the Social Planning Council since summer of 2018 has been an incredible journey. Stepping into the role towards the launch of the 2018 We Matter We Count, Street Census Report, I was deeply impressed by the amazing works of my predecessor, Christina. I felt enthused about using my experience to help continue the organization's work in community engagement and leveraging its efforts to achieve social inclusion as well as improving on its core mandate of ensuring social justice. Here are some highlights of my work activities:

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

I have been part of several community consultations some of which include planning with our coalition groups to help define zero homelessness, fostering ways to create a low-income bus pass, enhancing efforts on restorative justice and building relationships towards poverty alleviation among marginalized groups.

### DATA CONSORTIUM

SPCW coordinates the Winnipeg branch of the Data Consortium. This local coalition comes together in order to share the costs of the most up to date statistical information available through Statistics Canada. This year was especially important as we were all looking forward hearing what the relaunched national census data from 2016 would reveal. The Data Consortium enhances our ability to share information and build better partnerships and collaborations.

### MANITOBA COLLABORATIVE DATA PORTAL

Growing out of discussion with Data Consortium partners, the Portal was developed to better suit community data needs. Our goal is to create paths to as much information as possible to our community partners, organizations and/or



*Albert presenting at the Families in Canada conference*

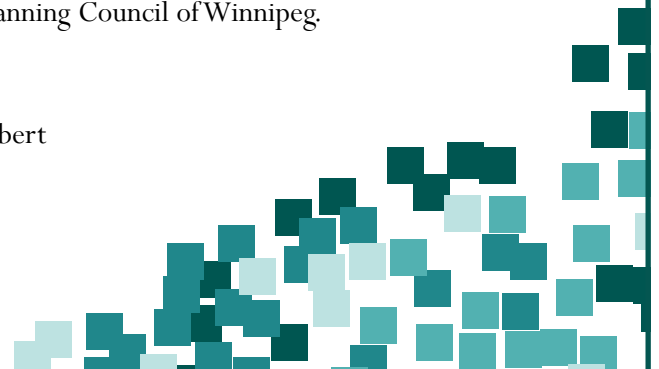
individuals, so they can be better informed on their neighbourhoods, the City and Province. The Portal has been very well received even though we have had to role it out slowly given that we have as yet to find outside funding to support further development. We presented the Data Portal at the Gathering Conference in October 2018 and the Families in Canada Conference in March 2019. Through heightened interest and calls, we have trained 25 community leaders on how to access and use data to make evidence-based decisions. The portal has assisted several organizations in applying for grants and funding opportunities.

### CULTURE OF SAFETY AND COMMUNITY BUILDING

In our role to create a culture of safety and strengthen communities, I developed a brief on an *Access Without Fear* policy for the City of Winnipeg. This is a continuation of the work Kate reported on last year. We looked into several other areas such as cannabis use in public housing, Mental Health Court and newly created FASD Court and Social Impact Bonds.

In the coming years, I remain exceedingly hopeful to be part of the success stories and achievements of the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg.

Albert







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## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

To the Members of Social Planning Council of Winnipeg

### **Opinion**

The summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at March 31, 2019, and the summary statement of operations and changes in fund balances for the year then ended (collectively referred to as the "financial statements") are derived from the audited financial statements of the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg (the "Organization").

In our opinion the summary financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements.

### **Summary Financial Statements**

The summary financial statements do not contain all disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the Organization's audited financial statements. The summary financial statements and the audited financial statements do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial statements.

### **The Audited Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon**

In our report dated August 27, 2019, we expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial statements.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation of the summary financial statements

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810 Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deloitte up".

Chartered Professional Accountants

Winnipeg, Manitoba  
August 27, 2019

**SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL OF WINNIPEG**  
**Summarized Financial Statements**  
Year ended March 31, 2019

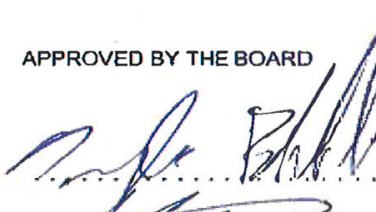
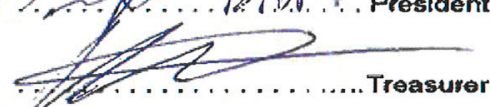
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

	2019	2018
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Cash	\$ 276,222	\$ 225,043
Accounts receivable	65,480	65,188
Prepaid expenses	23,123	8,685
	<u>364,825</u>	<u>298,916</u>
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	<u>32,879</u>	<u>40,940</u>
	<u>\$ 397,704</u>	<u>\$ 339,856</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 26,113	\$ 12,059
Deferred Special Projects revenue	111,912	117,267
Current portion of deferred leasehold improvements	4,725	4,725
	<u>142,750</u>	<u>134,051</u>
<b>DEFERRED LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS</b>	<u>23,626</u>	<u>28,351</u>
	<u>166,376</u>	<u>162,402</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>		
REVENUE STABILIZATION	60,000	60,000
TECHNOLOGY REPLACEMENT	5,000	5,000
100TH DOCUMENTARY FUND	9,000	-
UNRESTRICTED	157,328	112,454
	<u>231,328</u>	<u>177,454</u>
	<u>\$ 397,704</u>	<u>\$ 339,856</u>

**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND  
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**

	2019	2018
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Special projects	\$ 809,757	\$ 634,822
United Way of Winnipeg	317,538	317,388
Affiliation fees	637	700
Earned fee for service	56,834	42,721
Amortization of deferred leasehold improvements	4,725	4,725
Other	65,632	62,786
	<u>1,255,123</u>	<u>1,063,142</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Special projects	812,682	637,327
Salaries, wages and benefits	239,688	283,862
Office and maintenance	79,834	81,452
Discretionary events	12,546	15,056
Administration	32,438	27,311
Amortization of fixed assets	8,061	7,816
Documentary costs	16,000	-
	<u>1,201,249</u>	<u>1,052,824</u>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR</b>	<u>53,874</u>	<u>10,318</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<u>177,454</u>	<u>167,136</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES, END OF YEAR</b>	<u>\$ 231,328</u>	<u>\$ 177,454</u>

APPROVED BY THE BOARD

 President  
 Treasurer

A complete set of financial statements and Independent Auditor's Report may be obtained from the Planning Council.

## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR FUNDERS



**United Way  
Winnipeg**



Government  
of Canada    Gouvernement  
du Canada

Immigration, Refugees and  
Citizenship Canada

**THE  
WINNIPEG  
FOUNDATION**



**Assiniboine**  
CREDIT UNION



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
WINNIPEG

Employment and  
Social Development Canada    Société de  
Développement social Canada

**HOMELESSNESS  
Partnering Strategy**



**YORK**  
UNIVERSITY

**Manitoba**



**TS**  
The  
Manitoba  
Teachers'  
Society

**CEDA**

**Winnipeg**

**And of course thank you to  
our membership!**

## VISION STATEMENT

A sustainable community that is caring, just  
and equitable

## MISSION STATEMENT

SPCW provides leadership that addresses  
inequity and improves social conditions  
through research, engagement and action

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

### INCLUSIVE

Respecting the diversity of wisdom, experience and ability present in our community, SPCW works to ensure all voices are heard.

### COMMUNITY BASED

Respecting the proverb: ‘That which you do for me, without me, you do to me’, SPCW works within the community to support and develop initiatives and solutions.

### COLLABORATIVE

Recognizing that there is strength in the collective, SPCW creates and nurtures partnerships and coalitions that address inequity and injustice.

### NON-PARTISAN

Recognizing the value of a principled evidenced based approach, SPCW develops and advocates for progressive and effective policies with all levels and members of government.

### IN SOLIDARITY

Respecting and supporting the 94 “Calls to Action” of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, SPCW aligns itself with actions, ideas, and movements that seek to redress the harm already caused by colonization and prevent any further systemic oppression or injustices to Indigenous Peoples.

### INNOVATIVE

Recognizing that the systemic changes necessary for social justice require long-term planning that integrates both the global and local, SPCW promotes our ideals and creates plans to achieve them.



## LONG-TERM IMPACT

Winnipeg is a community that advocates for social justice and benefits from being a just city

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Issues for action are identified and acted upon, based on research and community priorities.
  - a. Develop and communicate a process for determining priority issues for action
  - b. Strengthen and utilize a process for engaging stakeholders (current and new) in addressing identified issues
2. Community groups and organizations are supported to address social justice issues.
  - a. Identify and address gaps in research and community input
  - b. Strengthen capacity of community groups and organizations to address social justice issues
  - c. Support efforts to influence policy
3. Public awareness and engagement on social justice issues is increased.
  - a. Increase public awareness through education and information
  - b. Engage the public in addressing identified issues
  - c. Increase civic participation through capacity building



**Social Planning Council**  
*of Winnipeg*

**...CELEBRATING 100 YEARS!**

432 Ellice Ave  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3B 1Y4  
[www.spcw.mb.ca](http://www.spcw.mb.ca)