



Social Planning Council
of Winnipeg



2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT

100 years & counting!

Social Planning Council of Winnipeg

Annual Report 2019-2020

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Tribute to Nour Ali



We could not let this first AGM since the loss of Nour Ali go by without paying some tribute to this wonderful man. Nour was an incredibly giving and dynamic person who accomplished so much for his family and community. Our first major project with Nour was on our first Newcomer Welcome Fair. This event was geared to helping the expected large influx of Syrian refugees to Winnipeg in the summer of 2016, just four years after his own arrival in Canada. It was due to his commitment, drive and energy that of the 900 Syrian refugees who were in the city at the time of the fair, over 800 made it to the event. The fair's success led to the decision to make it an annual event. And even though it is now aimed at all newcomers to Winnipeg and not just his immediate Syrian community, Nour's dedication never wavered. Nour is greatly missed.

Karl Gowenlock

President's Message

As a member of the board since 2014 and a member of the executive for almost as long, I have had the benefit of working with three of my predecessors, Tyler Blashko - who continues his work on the board and executive in the role of past president; Leah Gazan before him, and of course Sandra Gessler before her. To have the benefit of their counsel and experience is something I was very thankful for as I stepped into this role just as we were entering our second century as an organization. As it turns out, the first year of that century also presented us all with some unanticipated and unprecedented challenges. It is my hope that their imparted collective knowledge will assist in helping steer us through these uncertain times, so that we can continue to support our community for at least the next hundred years.



Karl and former SPCW president—Tyler at 2019 climate change rally, organized at MB legislative

Far more significant than the temporary logistical challenges of operating this (or any) organization in a pandemic world are the challenges that will be increasingly faced by so many people in our community. The pandemic and related economic fallout has drastically accelerated long-term trends towards increasing economic precarity. Added to this is a crisis in the non-profit social services sector as organizations struggle to survive drastic reductions in operating funds just as the need for them grows. Our purpose has been to use our institutional strength to support and facilitate coordination between front-line community organizations working towards common



Karl Gowenlock, SPCW President

objectives, to develop and disseminate research based forward looking public policy ideas and analysis, and to provide a strong public voice advocating for a more just and caring society. These are needed now more than ever. We have our work cut out for us.

The past year has seen the rise of a continent-wide social movement that is challenging on a fundamental level, a justice system steeped in systemic racism and in which Black and Indigenous people are massively over-represented. It has brought to the forefront of public discussion, the ever increasing share of our society's resources this system consumes, and the harm it causes to so many people. Winnipeg suffers from these problems more than most places, and we hope to play a bigger role in this area in the coming years.

I hope you take the time to read the full annual report to learn more of what the creative and dedicated staff have been up to in the past year. While this report does mention some of the work we have had to pivot to because of the pandemic, there will be more details on that next year.

Last year's AGM certainly demonstrated the community support for SPCW. We stopped counting at 160 attendees and are still embarrassed that we ran out of food. Twice! Over the last year, our membership also grew to over 200, the highest it's been in years.



SPCW 100th Annual General Meeting, Sept 2019

I would like to highlight that it is because of the sustained core funding from United Way Winnipeg to SPCW and Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada's five year commitment to Immigration Partnership Winnipeg, that we have been able to keep our focus on the long-term goal of broad systemic change. That we continue to receive project funding from other long time supporters like the Winnipeg Foundation only increases our reach and impact.

Finally, I would like to thank outgoing board member Quinton Delorme for his time with us and welcome Jeff LaPlante. As a board, I know we are all committed to supporting SPCW's work, and the incredible capacity our board currently possesses makes me excited at what we can do together.



Past president, Tyler Blashko addressing attendees at our 2019 AGM, celebrating our 100th anniversary

The pandemic has shown, above all else, just how interconnected and interdependent we all are. We have also seen governments around the world undertake massive and bold (if temporary) interventions in the economy on a scale that to many was previously unthinkable. It has given us a glimpse of what could be possible, and shown that our problem is with our priorities and not our capacity. It is time to be bold and create the change that will lead to a sustainable, just, equitable and caring community.

COVID-19 has given us a glimpse of what could be possible, and shown that our problem is with our **PRIORITIES** and not our **CAPACITY**.



MPHM chair, Michael Barkman, addressing the attendees at our 2019 AGM

Karl

Kate Kehler

Executive Director



Kate Kehler, Executive Director

As we wrapped our 100th year of operations last March 31st, I wanted to take a moment to revisit the guiding framework we developed through a strategic planning process sponsored by Health in Common in 2016. Given the depth and breadth of SPCW's work, it was a challenge to narrow our focus to a set of 'deliverables'. Given the long-term nature of our work, that we are subject to political will and the ever changing landscape to achieve broad systemic change, timelines are also difficult. However, as you go through this report, I hope you can see the consistency in not just effort but that what we have achieved has been in line with the goals and objectives we set ourselves:

1. Issues for action are identified and acted upon, based on research and community priorities.

- ⇒ Develop and communicate a process for determining priority issues for action
- ⇒ Strengthen and utilize a process for engaging stakeholders (current and new) in addressing identified issues

As mentioned in our 2016/2017 report, this first goal was a bit of 'housekeeping' for us. We developed a tool to help us determine what initiatives we should involve ourselves in. Should anyone from the community wish to question why we are involved in a particular project or activity, or bring something to us for our help, we are able to tie our decisions back to our core mission as a result.

2. Community groups and organizations are supported to address social justice issues.

- ⇒ Identify and address gaps in research and community input
- ⇒ Strengthen capacity of community groups and organizations to address social justice issues
- ⇒ Support efforts to influence policy

SPCW has a long history of identifying gaps in the social framework or being approached by community with an identified gap and then building coalitions to address those gaps. Some have resulted in stand alone organizations while others came and went to serve a purpose or exist today housed somewhere else or with our continued support. One example, in far more detail later in this report, is that due to the stable funding of United Way Winnipeg, we were able to host the federally funded pilot project that led to Immigration Partnership Winnipeg. This project has now been stably funded for the next five years by IRCC. IPW was then able to work to support the many different ethno-cultural community groups that were looking to organize and develop a stronger and united voice. The result is the Ethno-Cultural Council of Manitoba with its ever growing membership and strengthening structure. This all took time but when you read the report, I hope you will see that how we work through relationship and community led approaches, our work flows and ripples out to great effect.



The Ethno-Cultural Council of Manitoba

3. Public awareness and engagement on social justice issues is increased.

- ⇒ Increase public awareness through education and information
- ⇒ Engage the public in addressing identified issues
- ⇒ Increase civic participation through capacity building

Here again, I hope that the work you see reported

later on in this report demonstrates our commitment to these goals and their effectiveness in helping to create a better Winnipeg for us all.



Kate, Josh and Oke, along with community partners at a City Hall rally against budget cuts.

Some of the other initiatives that I am SPCW's lead on are:

The ongoing fight for people on provincial disabilities benefits the equal right to wait until age 65 to maximize their federal CCP benefit. It had been provincial policy to force everyone on any kind of provincial benefit to apply for any other benefit they might have coming as early as possible. The result of this policy is that people with disabilities lost 30% of their CCP benefit and for too many, maximizing this benefit was their last chance to lift themselves out of poverty. With the amazing and stalwart support of the Public Interest Law Centre and Mr. Stadler who chose to challenge this infringement on his Charter Rights and his lawyer, we were [successful at the Manitoba Court of Appeals](#). However, the provincial government has sought leave to appeal this to the Supreme Court. Getting to the Court of Appeals decision was years in the making. Defending it at the Supreme Court will also take years. Once again, our long-term stability allows us to take on systemic change.

We have long admired the work of the Public Interest Law Centre. Without them, citizens and citizen led movements, as well as community based organizations would not be able to be able to appeal to our Courts to protect our rights. We simply would not be able to afford it. PILC has long fought on Indigenous, consumer, and environmental cases. It also takes on less popular causes such as prisoner

rights. Given we know how over-represented Indigenous and other People of Colour are in our jails and prisons, PILC's work takes on that much more importance. Currently PILC is funded and housed in Legal Aid Manitoba. A recent and inadequate [review of Legal Aid](#) recommended that PILC be moved out of Legal Aid Manitoba and seek charitable status to achieve more independence. As a charity, PILC would be subject to not only finding the funding to continue their work for the public good, but they would face the threat of accusations of partisanship, as our organization has, and have to go through extensive and invasive charitable audits. Potentially even losing charitable status and having to close their doors once and for all. SPCW has pulled together a coalition of 50 plus strong to stop this from happening. We had an initial success as the Legal Aid Board was asked to advise the Minister of Justice on PILC's future. Our coalition was successful in our calls on the board to not agree with the recommendation. However, the government can take the board's advice or not. So again, we have work ahead of us. We need PILC.

Something else we are working with PILC on is with another coalition that was successful in getting intervening status in the Madut Inquiry. Mr. Madut was killed by members of the Winnipeg Police Service while seemingly in the midst of a mental health crisis. Our coalition is made up of refugee and mental health experts as well leadership from the Sudanese community. We have the support of Mr. Madut's family.

This work will also contribute to another and brand new coalition of almost 100 community based organizations calling for better police accountability and justice reform. On September 24, 2020, our initial [brief](#) was presented to the Winnipeg Police Board. It has recommendations for the board, the service and all levels of government. This coalition will be seeking to meet and influence everyone who has oversight and influence over how and why we police and incarcerate in this country. The media release is available [online](#).

Our support of and work with the Restorative Justice Association of Manitoba and the Gang Action Inter-agency Network (GAIN) continues to inform and increase our ability to contribute to the necessary and difficult discussions we need to have in order to

address the racism inherent in our ‘Justice’ system.

Another new initiative is actually the continuation of an old one. One of my predecessors, Wayne Helgason a long time SPCW executive director, started a working group called TAWG or Treaty Annuity Working Group. Its goal and achievement was to do the research and make the case that the Canadian government has failed in its Treaty responsibilities to increase the annuity that is due to Indigenous Peoples. Sadly, there was no political appetite for this then. This means that today, in 2020, all Indigenous people are ‘awarded’ \$5 a year. We should all find this offensive. However, Wayne and others such as Sheila North and Sheilla Jones amongst other leaders on income equality matters such as Basic Income Manitoba are picking the fight back up. This new iteration is called the Modernized Annuity Working Group. We are pleased to once again step in to play a supporting role.

We are a founding member of the Manitoba Health Coalition. This coalition is made up of community and labour groups with the aim of keeping our public health system publically funded and improving it for all. Last year, during the provincial election, rallies and debates were held. Please do check out their website and [social media](#).

We have a long-term impact goal of: Winnipeg is a community that advocates for social justice and benefits from being a just city. We know our history. Last year was the 100th anniversary of Winnipeg’s General Strike after all. We know Winnipeg has so many amazing advocates for change and count

ourselves lucky to be able to work with them.

I cannot end this report without thanking our board for their ongoing support and insights into our current work and what we should be looking at in the future. And since you will hear from the rest of the staff later in this report, I also want to thank Cindy Hoover, office manager, and Oke Ojekudo, office administrator and communications co-ordinator. As a backbone organization that supports many others, we could not function without our own. Cindy and Oke are that to the rest of us.



Oke Ojekudo and Cindy Hoover at a fundraising community event back in May, 2019, pictured with SPCW’s Community Animator - Albert Boakye and former IPW Administrative Assistant - Temitope Ojo (R->L).

Finally, again, I hope you see how our work supports our intended goals but most importantly that how we work demonstrates our commitment to our guiding principles.

Kate

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.

COVID-19 Work

This and more will all be reported on next year but we wanted to take this opportunity to tell you a bit about the pandemic specific work we have undertaken.

“Thanks to Tech Manitoba and Computers for Schools, we were able to get 50 computers to families with school-aged-children during the pandemic. SPCW hosts the Ethno-cultural Council of Manitoba and through their connections, we ensured that the computers went to homes where there was a need” - Albert

“We met with Ethnocultural community leaders to learn about the impact of COVID-19. We translated State of Emergency and Social Distance guidelines into multilingual videos to disseminate the information widely and effectively to individuals who might not be reached through general means of communication, and translated [back to school materials](#) into various languages to support parents and students.” - Reuben

“I developed a tip sheet on the facts and myths about COVID-19 and collaborated to manage social media campaign accounts on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#), *Manitobans: COVID-19 Doesn't Discriminate. Nor Should You* and *Don't Discriminate MB*, respectively.” - Gloria

“UofM's Kathleen Vitt and I worked on the Indigenous & Newcomer Youth Relationship Building Project. The [video](#) was shared on the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs COVID-19 webpage and with other community organizations to showcase IPW's contribution towards the Truth & Reconciliation Calls for Action.” – Rose

“We worked with MPHM on their COVID-19 response, Campaign 2000 on CERB Forgiveness, and MFNPO on a survey and report detailing how the sector has been hit. We joined the calls to establish a stabilizing fund for the sector due to cancelled fundraisers, hosted WED 3:30 Meetings to support E.D.s, and participated in the auditor general's upcoming report on provincial government's response to COVID-19” – Kate

“The Newcomer Education Coalition continued its work during the pandemic, supporting our newcomer youth and partnering with our educational stakeholders and settlement organizations to ensure that the needs of the community are addressed during this challenging time. NEC has been participating in the Manitoba Association of Newcomer Serving Organizations (MANSO) Sector Calls to bring together settlement organizations and ethnocultural community leaders to identify and address barriers newcomer parents, children and youth have been experiencing with the adjustment to remote learning. NEC worked with MANSO to create an information guide that was sent out to all school divisions in Winnipeg, to ensure that the barriers newcomer learners and communities are facing are well addressed, accommodated and clearly communicated to parents.” - Kathleen

“Some of the work I did include—COVID-19 Anti-Racism Campaign – [Manitoban's Covid-19 Doesn't Discriminate. Nor Should You!](#), Newcomer Youth Council of Winnipeg's Social Distancing Contest, Training: *Supporting Those Who Have Experienced Racism, Uniting Communities Against Racism Lunch and Learns, Racial Trauma Counselling and Support*, and providing support for settlement sector coordination” - Jessica

“I created an online information hub, tailored to both [SPCW](#) and [IPW](#)'s website with resources for dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic and [anti-racism](#), and helped promote these resources on our various social media platforms.” – Oke

2019-2020 Staff and Students

Staff

Kate Kehler

Executive Director

Cindy Hoover

Office Manager

Oke Ojekudo

Office Administrator & Communications Coordinator

Josh Brandon

Community Animator

On partial unpaid leave

Albert Boakye

Community Animator

Hani Ataan Al-Ubeady

Immigration Partnership Winnipeg (IPW) Director

Reuben Garang

Ethnocultural Communities' Resource Coordinator - IPW

Jessica Praznik

IPW Project Manager

Jamie Banias

IPW Indigenous Engagement Coordinator

Rose Roulette

IPW Indigenous Engagement Coordinator

Abdi Ahmed (Resigned March 2020)

IPW Program Director

Noëlle DePape (Resigned Sept 2019)

IPW Senior Program Manager

Contract Staff

Connie Wyatt Anderson

Curriculum Developer - Indigenous Orientation Tool Kit (IOTK)

Elijah Osei-Yeboah

IPW Research Consultant

Jennifer Chen

Outreach Coordinator - Ethnocultural Council of Manitoba (ECCM)

Krishna Lalbiharie

IPW Design Contractor

Maria Rabadi

IPW Contract Worker

Maryam Rahimi

SPCW Archives Project

Nicki Ferland

Curriculum Developer - Indigenous Orientation Tool Kit (IOTK)

Nicole Jewett

IPW Research Advisory Project

Temitope Ojo

IPW Administrative Assistant

Students

Alidina Aliraza - *Fostering Safe Spaces for Dialogue report, IPW*

Barnabas Njoroge - *Alternative Provincial Budget, IPW*

Gloria Dovoh - *Ethnocultural Council of Manitoba*

Melanie Duncan - *City Watch, SPCW*

Samuel Akanbi - *ECCM Projects*

2019-2020 Board of Directors

Executive

Karl Gowenlock

President

Shelley Marshall

Vice President

David Kron

Treasurer

Lionel Houston

Director at large

Tyler Blashko

Past President

Directors

Abdul-Karim Abdul-Bari

Andi Sharma

Danielle Carriere

Glenn Michalchuk

Ify Idigbe

JohnDavid Pankratz

Hayley Caldwell

Humaira Jaleel

Sid Frankel

Quinton Delorme (resigned)

Partners and Coalitions

Organizations We Have Been Fortunate to Work With

Aboriginal Council of Winnipeg	New Directions for Children, Youth, Adults, and Families
Aboriginal Youth Opportunities	North End Women's Centre
Amnesty International	North Point Douglas Women's Centre
Aurora Family Therapy Centre	Onashowewin
Canadian Mental Health Association	Palaver Hut Project
Canadian Community Economic Development	Pembina Trails School Division
Network Manitoba (CCEDNet)	Province of Manitoba
Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA)	Public Interest Law Centre
Canadian Muslim Women's Institute (CMWI)	Resource Assistance for Youth
Circle of Life Thunderbird House	Rossbrook House
City of Winnipeg	The Laurel Centre
Coalition of Manitoba Neighbourhood Renewal Corp	The Salvation Army Correctional and Justice Services
Eagle Urban Transition Centre	Siloam Mission
Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba	Southern Chiefs Organization
End Homelessness Winnipeg	Spence Neighbourhood Association
Family Dynamics	Success Skills Centre
Food Matters Manitoba	University of Manitoba
Functional Transit Winnipeg	Wa Ni Ska Tan: Manitoba Hydro Alliance
Government of Canada	West Central Women's Resource Centre
Initiatives for Just Communities	Westman Mediations
Institute of Urban Studies	Winnipeg Food Council
John Howard Society of Manitoba	Winnipeg Harvest
Lived Experience Circle	Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Council
Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre	Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
Main Street Project	Winnipeg Without Poverty
Manitoba Association of Newcomer Serving Organizations	Youth Agencies Alliance
Manitoba Health Coalition	
Manitoba Childcare 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	

Coalition Partners

Access Without Fear
Basic Income Manitoba
City Watch
Gang Action Interagency Network
Make Poverty History Manitoba
Manitoba Collaborative Data Portal
Manitoba Cosmetic Pesticide Coalition
Modernized Annual Annuity Working Group
Restorative Justice Association of Manitoba
Right to Housing Coalition
Winnipeg Data Consortium

Soccer For Peace

Badri Abdilahi
Bill Warnick
Bonnie Emerson
Chino Argueta
Darcelle Paquette
Dean Melvie
Denis DePape
Ibrahim Farah
Julie Deslauriers
Jannelle Dyck
Korey Dyck
Maria Buduhan
Maryam Rahimi
Nicole Courier
Omar Rahimi
Rehan Bokari
Rex Neundorff

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
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
Mernisa Hadzic
Othello Wesee
Patricia Eyambe
Sarah Tubman

Indigenous & Newcomer Sector Table

Anny Chen
Jobb Arnold
Jonathan Meikle
Lisa Forbes
Mandela Kuet
Poonam Chopra
Sarrah Deane
Wyeth Krauchi

Civic Engagement and Inclusion Sector Table

Albert Boakye
Alex Kozelko
Codi Guenther
Eliyana Angelova
Erika Frey
Gololcha Boru
Halima Jelloul
Ibrahim Farah
Janelle Dyck
Jennifer Chen
Kat Brosowsky
Krishna Lalbiharie
Lori Wilkinson (Co-chair)
Nicole Jowett
Nina Condo (Co-chair)
Noelle DePape
Omar Abdullahi
Paula Migliardi
Ray Silvius
Roslyn Advincula
Sarah Zell
Surafel Kuchem
Shereen Denetto
Traicy Roberston
Valeria Castellanos

COVID-19 Anti-Racism Working Group

Alex Kozelko
Aly Raposo
Clayton Sandy
Elaine Burton-Saindon
Eliyana Angelova
Gololcha Boru
Gloria Dovoh
Halima Jelloul
Jennifer Chen
Yenny Trinh
Krishna Lalbiharie
Magaly Guzman
Perla Javate
Ray Silvius
Sandra Krahn

Newcomer Education Coalition

Abdul-Bari Abdul-Karim
Muuxi Adam
Yusur Alhassani
Roselyn Advincula
Brahim Ould Baba
Golocha Boru
Coralie Bryant
Jennifer Chen
Shereen Denetto
Fadi Ennab
Vinh Huynh
Malou Josue
Nicole Jowett
Paul Kambaja
Surafel Kuchem
Bequie Lake
Tim MacKay
Ben Marega
Sunni Matthews
Jana Mckee
Raymond Ngarbou
Jennifer Nicholson
Alana Ollinger
Cheryl Radcliffe
Candace Rea
Wayne Ruff
Tom Simms
Chrissy Spafford
Daniel Swaka
Tony Tavares
Seeba Wahabi
Sara Warkentin
Francine Wiebe

Newcomer Ethnocultural Youth Council Winnipeg

Magi Hadad
Maryam Rahimi
Mustafa Mahdi
Oke Ojekudo

Employment Sector Table

Adelola Abioye
Albertine Watson
Amie Membrano
Carinna Rosales
Elizabeth Cron
Gaurav Sharma
Gololcha Boru
Judith Hayes
Louise Simbandumwe
Maria Polovinka
Michelle Strain
Monika Feist (Chair)
Murray Beakley
Ralph Kurth
Roy Vallance
Seid Oumer
Shannon Mackay
Thandiwe Ncube
Todd Demers

Indigenous Consultation Circle

Loretta Ross, Treaty Commissioner
Clayton Sandy
Connie Wyatt Anderson
Jamie Wolfe
Jennifer Chartrand
Joe Thompson
Nicki Ferland
Paul Sash

A final thank you for all the extra support
provided by the Treaty Relations Commission
and Circle For Reconciliation.

Albert Boakye

Community Animator



Albert at the Black Lives Matter rally

2019/2020 was my second year with SPCW. Since we are a small staff, we all have our own projects and initiatives that we lead on but we all also help each other out whenever possible. I am happy to be part of a team that is resolute in pursuing social inclusion and justice. Here are some highlights of some of the work I have been involved in:

Data Consortium

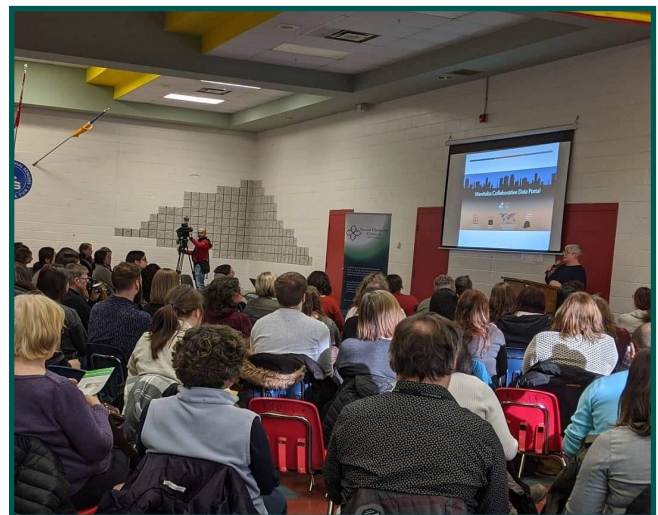
We continue to host the MB Data Consortium which is a partnership of some city and provincial government departments along with community based organizations. We join forces to be able to afford to buy Census data so we can all be sure that our work is evidenced based. Some of the highlights of some partners this year are [CCPA's State of the Inner City Report, Reducing Poverty to Improve Educational Outcomes: What a School Division and a Local Community Can Do Together](#) and United Way Winnipeg's [2019 Peg Report on Winnipeg and the Sustainable Development Goals](#). While we partner with the consortium on the data purchase, we also are the facilitators. If you are interested in learning more and perhaps in joining, please don't hesitate to be in touch. This year, SPCW used census data to update our poverty profiles. See [Winnipeg Seniors](#) as an example.

Stay tuned for more information next year as we have been asked to be the lead on a regional effort to create

data profiles on Black communities. To date, neither the provincial nor city government does a good job on collecting this data and that makes it easier to ignore the needs of these communities. We hope that the data will help with community led advocacy efforts.

Manitoba Collaborative Data Portal

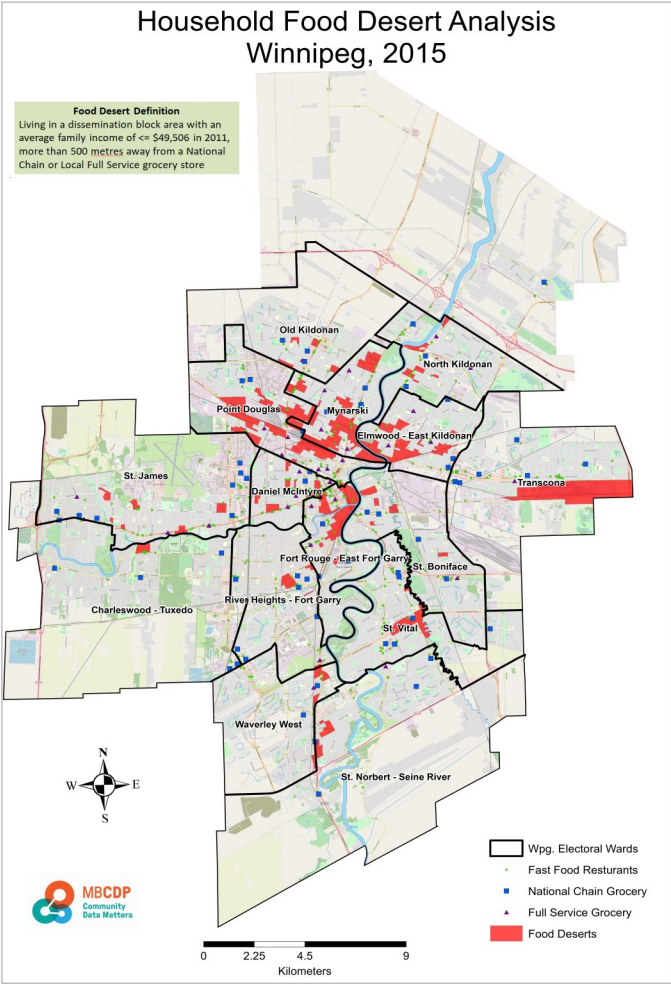
As reported last year, the Manitoba Collaborative Data Portal came out of the MB Data Consortium. While the consortium partners cannot make all of their purchased data available for free, we all recognize how essential it is to get good information into as many hands as possible. The Data Portal was developed to compliment United Way Winnipeg's Peg as the portal can publish new and a variety of data while Peg tracks an established set of indicators over a longer period of time. We fully launched the data portal at a public event with over 120 people in attendance.



Manitoba Collaborative Data Portal public launch

We used one of the portal's dashboards to highlight both just how much food insecurity exists and how the portal works. We wish to thank Dr. Joyce Slater for her leadership on our food insecurity dashboard. The portal itself would not exist without the work and support of Chris Green and Hannah Moffatt. To develop the dashboard, we worked with partners from University of Manitoba, Winnipeg Harvest, Food Matters Manitoba, Winnipeg Food Council, and Winnipeg Regional Health Authority. The portal is a

community of practice-led approach so if you have ideas for another dashboard or data needs, please get in touch with me so we can continue to build out what we hope will be a much used resource. Our official [launch](#) gave us a huge spike on the portal's [website](#) with over 700 visits in just 2 days. Before COVID-19, we sent out our newsletter to over 850 recipients. We continue to respond to several data requests from community organizations.



We can't always provide the answers if we don't have the data, but the requests do help us identify the needs. This work is not project funded so we thank United Way Winnipeg as always for their core funding that allows us to continue this work.

Community Building

I have been very happy to get more involved with the Access Without Fear coalition. Too many people lose their status because our immigration system can be confusing and inflexible. Of particular concern is how vulnerable migrant workers are to the whims of employers, some of whom might not be entirely scrupled. We want the city to adopt an Access Without Fear policy so that people can still access city services without fear of having their status questioned. Even for people with full and regularized status, having it questioned by the police or any city service can be upsetting even furthering trauma in some who have come from countries where authority figures are feared.

Albert

Gloria Dovoh

Practicum Student



Gloria Dovoh, Master's in Development Practice:
Indigenous Development (MDP)

In May 2020, I was accepted as an intern for a three-month field placement with the Immigration Partnership Winnipeg (IPW) and the Ethnocultural Council of Manitoba-Stronger Together Inc. (ECCM). The field placement has been meaningful in various ways; firstly, because even amidst a global health crisis, I had the opportunity of connecting and learning from the community virtually. Secondly, it is my year of graduation and I was fortunate to have been hired by the host organization after my placement ended!

With my placement, I joined a team that completed and submitted four major grant applications of which three were successful accruing to \$118,329.62 from the United Way Winnipeg and the Canadian Red Cross. I participated in the planning of events including the annual Multiculturalism Day Celebration organized by the ECCM and IPW's summer lunch and learn series.

I also worked as part of various working groups including the anti-racism campaign working group for which I developed a tip sheet on the facts and myths about COVID-19 and collaborated to manage its social media campaign accounts on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) named Manitobans: COVID-19 Doesn't Discriminate. Nor Should You & Don't Discriminate MB, respectively.

I participated and hosted virtual meetings with different partner organizations including Social Planning Council of Winnipeg, IPW, ECCM, Manitoba Association of Rights and Liberties, Elmwood Community Resource Centre and various anti-racism sector tables made up of representatives from not-for-profit organizations, government and academic institutions. I also documented meeting proceedings and volunteered to take up other roles as and when they came up.

Through my placement with IPW and ECCM, I have built relationships and networks that I believe will assist me on my career path. It has also provided me with exposure to know and deeply understand issues related to community integration and social inclusion. I can confidently say that even under this global health crisis, my placement has been excellent and the learning process has been very meaningful.

Gloria

Immigration Partnership Winnipeg

Director

Immigration Partnership Winnipeg underwent major changes this past year. I am going to let the team talk about the specifics of all of the work they have been up to and focus my remarks on thanking the amazing people who have helped keep the work going. The report does list all the members of our sector tables and Council. We have community folks, community organizations, business and government representatives that lend us their experience and expertise. I do want to specifically thank Greg Dandewich, our outgoing Council co-chair. While he was executive director at Economic Winnipeg, he immediately threw his support behind us because he understood the real and tangible benefits that newcomers bring to Winnipeg.

IPW is structured by the sector and Council tables in that the work or direction for IPW actually begins at the community level by either the members of the sector tables or is brought to them. It is then looked at through the lens of: Is this work for us? Is it our role? If not us, then who? And if there is no one else and it is timely and necessary, we still take it on, if at all possible. If it is definitely our role, then we ask who else do we need to connect with on it? In this way, we accomplish the outcomes we need to create a more welcoming community in Winnipeg for newcomers but also the way we work, by being inclusive and looking for the voices that don't normally get heard, we also create a more welcoming community in Winnipeg for newcomers.

As I mentioned, this year has seen a major shift in IPW as two key members of our team moved on to other challenges. Abdi Ahmed was the founding director of IPW. He took a leap of faith with former SPCW executive director Dennis Lewycky and left his job at IRCOM to take on the pilot project not knowing if it would succeed or not. The process that they followed ensured broad community support for the establishment of a permanent local immigration partnership which became today's IPW. The structure that the founding principles and scope of work they and the steering committee developed has allowed us to grow from a staff of 1 to now 6. It also firmly established what has become a majority of our current work, that is building better relationships between newcomer and



L-R: Reuben Garang, Abdi Ahmed, Noelle DePape, Jennifer Chen, and Hani Al-Ubeady after the IPW / ECCM “Go Vote” campaign launch

Indigenous communities. You will read more of that work later in the report but interest in the results of this work is nation-wide. Noelle DePape was the second to join the team. She brought incredible energy and expertise to the work and looked at every challenge as a possibility in disguise. While we were sorry to see them go, Abdi is now working on policy with Minister Hussein and Noelle is with the City in Community Services. So, we still get to work with them!

I would like to end by welcoming the new team members. Rose Roulette and Jamie Baniyas are taking over the majority of the work on the development of the Indigenous Toolkit and EAL curriculum development to help newcomers to Canada better understand the full history of Indigenous Peoples in Canada. As I stepped into the leadership role left by Abdi, a lot of work fell on the then remaining team members to keep things going. Jessica, Reuben and Albert from SPCW took on a lot of extra work. So, we are all happy to welcome Kathleen Vyrauen to the team. Kathleen had been with the Newcomer Education Coalition at her previous work with NEEDs so she is the perfect fit to become IPW's lead there and she is already taking on more!

Hani

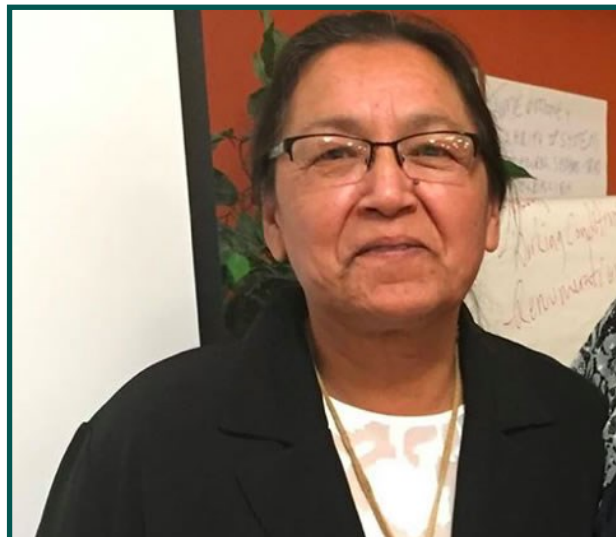
Indigenous Engagement Coordinator

As noted in previous annual reports, IPW was the first of the local immigration partnerships across Canada to identify relationship building between Indigenous and newcomer communities as absolutely essential. It was clear that there were too many misconceptions of 'the other'. As we all know, the only way to get passed those is to meet and talk them through. As an Indigenous Engagement Coordinator I chair the Indigenous Consultation Circle which has 8 members (listed on page 16) and ongoing recruitment. These members come from the Treaty Relations Commission, Circle for Reconciliation, University of Manitoba Community Service Learning, Canadian Mental Health Association, First Nations Family Advocate, and a Pine Creek School teacher. This committee is how we ensure that our initiatives are well grounded with the proper direction.

One of my main projects has been to take over the development of the Indigenous Orientation Toolkit or IOTK. We have been working with curriculum developers - Connie Wyatt Anderson and Nicki Ferland. We are working section by section and have piloted two themes already - Land and Treaty. We have also been designing the website, and have the domain name HOPEtoolkit.ca which stands for Helping Our People Engage. Our hope is that we develop a toolkit that will be used across the country and even have sections delivered before newcomers arrive in Canada.

I was gifted "[*The Resurgence of a People: Clearing the Path for Our Survival*](#)" by Elder Dave Courchene, as part of the ceremony launching of Wahbanung, which was written by Knowledge Keepers Dr. David Courchene Jr, Chief Harry Bone, Florence Paytner and Phillip Paytner, Chief Katherine Whitecloud, Chief Robert Maytwayashing, Mary Maytwayashing, and Gordon Walker, at the Turtle Lodge Central House of Knowledge. I am using some of their teachings in the work I do with the IOTK Workshop Facilitators. They will help in developing future themes.

I am also continuing the work on the EAL Language Component. We are building Indigenous curriculum to be included as all newcomers are required to



Rose, Indigenous Engagement Coordinator

achieve a benchmark level 4 before they can apply for citizenship. This is another wonderful teaching opportunity. It is designed to teach EAL/ESL learners and those who help them settle in Manitoba about the full history of Indigenous Peoples in Canada. These training modules have been developed to support students from literacy to CLB7/8 and include requirements of Portfolio Based Language Assessment (PBLA). It will contain units that will be useful for informal language programs including conversation circles and /or one-on-one tutoring. The primary responsibility for teachers and those who use the modules as shared by the Treaty Relations Commission is to educate themselves in order to teach Indigenous history with an Indigenous lens and understanding.

MANSO is the Manitoba Association of Newcomer Serving Organizations and is SPCW's partner on IPW. They are working to expand the reach of the Indigenous Orientation Toolkit. There is ongoing interest within the EAL/ESL community for authentic, accurate, and vetted educational language materials on Manitoba's Indigenous Peoples and history. Teachers from various school divisions are working with us so the Indigenous Toolkit can be adapted as a teacher's guide.

I have also created a database of Indigenous contacts from Indigenous organizations which also includes First Nations Elders and Knowledge Keepers, Indigenous fluent speakers, translators and

interpreters. I am fluent in Ojibway and we have community partners who are Cree Speakers. This is now a resource for our staff and others.

During the implementation of the National Indigenous Week Celebrations, I arranged a First Nations Cultural visit out to Turtle Lodge for a land based educational day for Newcomers. We also helped host other activities including Indigenous authors, and artists for events throughout the week. We connected with Elders and Knowledge Keepers to assist in all of these events.

- Anti-Racism Campaign – connected the working team with the National Act2End Racism Campaign, with suggestions on topics and appropriate event locations. In addition I helped to edit questions and answers that would meet the needs of the audience, and distributed the information to Indigenous and Settlement organizations to be shared.
- Bridging Social Distance during COVID-19: Indigenous & Newcomer Youth Relationship Building Project was done with University of Manitoba Kathleen Vitt and myself which is also on the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs

website on COVID 19 and shared with other community organizations to show what kind of work IPW is doing towards the Truth and Reconciliation Calls for Action (Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kubvp_Ef2m4)

I was very happy to continue the relationship building work by participating in a dissertation project by Joanne Katherine Gall a Masters student at the London School of Economics. Joanne is studying International Migration and Public Policy. Her dissertation project sets out to understand how community organisers across Canadian cities are working to support community building and intercultural exchanges between Indigenous peoples and migrant newcomers. We will be sure to share the work when it is done. Finally, it was heartening to attend the Black Lives Matter Rally with the full SPCW team. The organizers did a wonderful job of making sure that all people of colour were represented and respected given that we share so many of the same experiences. I hope IPW's work on relationship building adds to the momentum.

Rose

Indigenous Engagement Coordinator

I am very happy to be working with IPW on this 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 just some of our activities:

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. We would have been doing this work anyway, but the Accord and the reporting is an added public accountability piece. We also hope to encourage others in this work as reconciliation is a shared responsibility.

Even prior to my hiring, IPW had been working on building relationships. IPW hosts an annual welcome fair for newcomers. The goal is to help newcomers to Canada who settle in Winnipeg learn about city and community services available to them. It is also just meant as a day of celebration and welcome. From the beginning, IPW has partnered with Indigenous leaders such as Clayton Sandy on this day. We have been fortunate that some Indigenous Elders have brought words of welcome and teachings. We have also set up opportunities between people just about to take their citizenship oaths at these events to meet with these same Indigenous leaders. For some, it has been the first time they have had the opportunity to have a genuine conversation.



Canadian citizenship ceremony in partnership with IPW and Indigenous leaders



Jamie, Indigenous Engagement Coordinator

I partner with Rose on the Indigenous Orientation Tool Kit (IOTK). We are the first dedicated staff to this project thanks to a Canadian Heritage grant. Rose told you about the content and some of our processes and I just want to add my thanks to our growing list of partners in this work.

On January 28 & 29, 2020 the first modules were launched in a pilot workshop at the Sargent Tommy Prince Place. This was a two-day workshop, attended by 25 participants from 17 organizations that work closely with Newcomers to Winnipeg by providing direct services. We wanted to try out the material we developed to be sure those who would be using it, found it useful. The end goal of the entire project is a fully developed teachers' guide for Settlement Service Providers on Indigenous Peoples and their traditions. These modules were specifically on land and Treaties. The participants were then given a facilitator's guide and both digital and printed resources to share the information and activities from the workshop with their organizations and program participants.

We are continuing to develop six additional themes that have been identified and approved by the Indigenous Consultation Circle. The curriculum developers have completed draft agendas for the future workshops and begun work on compiling information and activities and developing resources.

As Rose mentioned, we have developed a website for IOTK. Community partners asked that since some organizations may not be able to attend IOTK workshops in person an online resource should be developed. This will allow newcomer serving organizations across Canada to access the information and resources we develop. Given that the materials IOTK develop are fully vetted and approved by our

Indigenous and Newcomer Engagement Sector Table, and overseen by the Indigenous Consultation Circle, we are confident that what we develop will truly support reconciliation as they will focus on the truth first. We will be focusing more on the development in the second half of 2020.

We continue to be grateful for the partnership of the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba (TRCM). The TRCM is mandated to strengthen, rebuild and enhance the Treaty relationships and mutual respect between First Nations and Manitobans. IPW is especially privileged to work with the TRCM to help newcomers understand their role as Treaty People. The TRCM is an important partner in the development of the 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.

On January 15, 2020, IPW hosted a report launch for the *Fostering Safe Spaces for Dialogue and Relationship Building between Newcomers and Indigenous Peoples*, researched and written by Aliraza Alidina, Jenna Wirch, and Darrien Morton.



L-R: Oke, Jamie, Kate, Aliraza (author), Hani, Jen, Reuben & Jessica at the Jan 15th report launch

Fostering Safe Spaces for Dialogue and Relationship-building Between Newcomers and Indigenous Peoples

Wise practices for the relationship-building process and recommendations for the development of an orientation toolkit

By Aliraza Alidina, Darrien Morton & Jenna Wirch

REPORT LAUNCH

Moving the Load by Leah Dorian

JANUARY 15, 2020
10 AM – 12 PM

Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre
445 King Street Winnipeg, MB

Please RSVP by January 8, 2020 to:
hataan@spcw.mb.ca

Food will be provided

Join us to hear about lessons learned and wise practices on building relationships between newcomers and Indigenous Peoples in Winnipeg, Manitoba

Immigration Partnership Winnipeg

WITH SUPPORT FROM THE WINNIPEG FOUNDATION

This report discussed wise practices for the relationship building process between Newcomers and Indigenous Peoples, as well as recommendations for moving forward (www.ipwinnipeg.org/fostering-safe-spaces-for-dialogue)

The report launch was attended by more than 100 community members from government, non-profit and grassroots organizations, respected Elders and Community Leaders, and members of the general public, as well as local media.

Jamie

Newcomer Civic Engagement and Inclusion

Got Citizenship, Go Vote (GCGV) Provincial and Federal Campaigns:

In 2019, IPW's Civic Engagement and Inclusion Sector Table ran two '[Got Citizenship, Go Vote](#)' newcomer civic engagement campaigns leading up to both the Provincial and Federal Elections. Both of these campaigns aimed to increase the political literacy and voter turnout of immigrant and refugee citizens and to bring forward issues that are important to the newcomer community to elected officials, candidates and the media.

Some of the highlights on these campaigns included:

- Assisted Elections Manitoba translating their brochures in 10 languages for the Manitoba Provincial Election
- Hosted a Federal Election GCGV launch
- In partnership with ECCM, hosted a Civic Engagement Training for Ethnocultural Leaders during the Federal Election
- In partnership with IRCOM, developed Federal Election GCGV videos in 13 languages. The Tagalog video reached 20,000 people!
- Developed immigration factsheets by Federal election ridings in Manitoba



Jessica, Abdi, Reuben, Jen and Hani at the 2019 Go Vote campaign launch

City of Winnipeg's Newcomer Welcome and Inclusion Policy

The City of Winnipeg's [Newcomer Welcome and Inclusion Policy](#) was adopted by City Council on February 27th 2020. IPW played a crucial role in the development of Policy. Starting in 2016, members of the Civic Engagement and Inclusion Sector Table and IPW staff met with the Mayor and City Councils and began calling for such a policy. By April 2019, the Human Rights Committee of Council directed the Winnipeg Public Service to develop a Newcomer Welcome and Inclusion Policy framework for the City. IPW worked with the City of Winnipeg to host four community consultations to inform the policy and organized delegations to speak in favour of the policy as it passed through various City of Winnipeg committees before being adopted.

CCPA's Alternative Provincial Budget

The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives developed the [Alternative Provincial Budget](#) (APB) in collaboration with many community stakeholders. IPW was the lead for providing input related to the needs of newcomers in the APB. In the summer of 2019, IPW held two consultations with settlement providers and ethnocultural groups, and one on one meetings with other key stakeholders, to write both the newcomer chapter that is focused on the budgetary items that falls under the Department of Economic Development and Training and other activities related to newcomers in other chapters throughout the APB. We were very fortunate to have an excellent practicum student from the University of Manitoba, Barnabas Njoroge, who assisted with research and co-authored IPW's input into the Alternative Provincial Budget.



Newcomer Sport and Recreation Inclusion.

Sport and recreation can act as a bridge for newcomers to integrate into their communities, it can provide a sense of belonging and help newcomers make new connections. However, newcomers face many barriers to participating in sports and recreational activities in Winnipeg, such as access to programming, financial accessibility, and discrimination. IPW has worked on a variety of initiatives that strive to reduce these barriers and make sport and recreation more inclusive and accessible for newcomers. Some of these initiatives include:

- **Winnipeg Newcomer Sport & Recreation Coalition:** IPW helped to co-found the Winnipeg Newcomer Sport & Recreation Coalition that seeks to make sports and recreation more sports and recreation more inclusive and accessible for newcomers in Winnipeg. IPW helped organize a consultation and connection session with the City of Winnipeg on February 27, 2020 between newcomer youth settlement providers and many sport associations to discuss the barriers newcomers face while participating in sport and recreation activities. The findings will be used to inform the direction of the coalition's priorities and initiatives.
- **Sport Leaders Workshops and Information Sessions:** This is a collaborative work between IPW and Newcomer Sport Academy (NSA), which IPW recently helped to establish. The purpose of the cross-cultural training for sport leaders, using the train the trainer format, is to create awareness among sport leaders and bring identified gaps, barriers and challenges that newcomers face in sport. Once trained, the sport leaders will be ambassadors of changing/amending the current sports systems to create a space for newcomer talents and recreational needs to exist, be cherished and supported. These allies will collectively work on fighting racism and discrimination. Two facilitation guide developers were contracted by IPW to develop learning materials inspired by Indigenous and newcomer lived-experiences. A working group consists of seven subject experts from newcomers and others to advise on the facilitation guide's development. An evaluator

has been recruited to assess and measure the trainings impact. A four-step presentation will be offered by IPW, NSA and the facilitation guide developers in November of 2020 at the Coaching Association of Canada conference.

- **Soccer for Peace Tournament:** IPW helped to plan and organize the [Soccer for Peace Fundraiser Tournament](#) that was original set for March 29th 2020 at the University of Winnipeg Axworthy Health and RecPlex. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 the tournament was cancelled. The tournament was the vision of Omar Rahimi, founder of the Liberty FC, a soccer club for refugee young adults, and was organized in partnership with an amazing and diverse group of volunteers and organizations who are both soccer enthusiasts and supporters of the newcomer community in Winnipeg.



While the main goals of the tournament were to raise funds for the Liberty Football Club and create a new bursary for low-income players through the Manitoba Major Soccer League, the tournament was also organized to raise awareness about refugee issues and build bridges between diverse communities in Winnipeg. We are very appreciative to the 36 teams who registered and the support of the tournament sponsors including: University of Winnipeg Axworthy Health and RecPlex, Manitoba Major Soccer League, Pitblado Law, AC Trading Inc.

Lakeview Insurance Brokers, Red Moon Media, Tall Pines Drywall, and Children's Dental World.

- **Anti-Racism in Sports Campaign:** IPW is developing a two-year city-wide anti-racism in sport and recreation campaign with various sport stakeholders and partners. The campaign would include in-school presentations, training workshops with key sport stakeholders, and a public awareness campaign all targeted at eliminating racism experienced by racialized communities, religious minorities and Indigenous Peoples in sport and recreation activities. We currently have 23 partners for the campaign including: Valour FC, Winnipeg Blue Bombers, Sport Manitoba, City of Winnipeg, WASAC, Circles of Reconciliation, MANSO, SEED Winnipeg, United Way of Winnipeg, IRCOM and others.

Pembina Trails Newcomer Community Hub

In January 2019, IPW in partnership with MANSO, Mosaic Newcomer Family Resource Network, Pembina Trail School Division and many other organizations, helped to establish the Pembina Trails Newcomer Community Hub out of Ryerson School in the south end of Winnipeg. With the support of Mosaic's Hub Coordinator and various settlement agencies, the Hub became a safe, centralized location for the Yazidi community to receive holistic support services. Over the year, IPW continued to provide

operational support by working closely with MANSO, Mosaic and the Pembina Trails School Division to organize advisory committee meetings and support with planning for the Hub. Given the Hub's success, Mosaic received an additional year of funding for the Hub coordinator position from the Winnipeg Foundation and expanded its reach for all newcomers in the area.

Newcomer Employment

Through the guidance of the Employment Sector Table IPW has been working with the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce to develop an initiative to connect businesses with newcomer employment serving agencies to get newcomer job seekers into employment opportunities. The first step in the development of the initiative was to conduct consultations with both newcomer employment serving agencies and businesses. IPW hired a research consultant, Elijah Osei-Yeboah, to support the consultation process. The Research Consultant in partnership with IPW conducted a survey, one-on-one meetings, and a group consultation with employment service providers to gather feedback on the model and implementation of the initiative. IPW is now working with Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce to consult their members on the initiative in hopes to have a pilot stage commence in the Spring of 2021.

Jessica

Newcomer Education Coalition:

The Newcomer Education Coalition or NEC as it is often referred to as, is a coalition of partner organizations and ethno-cultural community leaders who work to support newcomer children and youth and their families and who are committed to addressing educational needs among newcomers in Winnipeg schools. Founded in 2014, NEC has been serving as a backbone organization responsible for coordinating and supporting multi-sectoral stakeholders. NEC works to create welcoming inclusive and equitable educational environments for newcomer learners where all students are respected and can have the opportunity to flourish and achieve their social and educational goals in a culturally proficient, safe, and supportive school environment.

NEC came about through conversations between community advocates who have extensive knowledge of both the education and settlement sectors and were seeing major gaps in services and policies surrounding education, that supported the clients, families, and communities they were serving. CEDA (Community Education Development Association) in partnership with other community organization and ethnocultural leaders founded the Newcomer Education Coalition to address those gaps and advocate for the community voice in our Manitoba Education system. Immigration Partnership Winnipeg has been an integral partner in moving forward the coalition's key priority areas, they currently host the Co-chair of the General Committee and have partnered in finding grant opportunities to further research projects and stakeholder consultations.

Projects: 2019-2020

State of Equity in Education Report:

The coalition has been working with the Winnipeg Indigenous Executive Circle to implement a State of Equity in Education Survey that will be distributed among all school divisions in Winnipeg to garner a projected look at how diversified the teaching and administrative landscape of the Winnipeg education system is currently. The hope is to use the results of the survey to develop an annual report that will advocate for the need to adjust hiring practices to allow the school teaching and administrative staff to greater reflect the students they are working with.



This report is scheduled to be released in September of 2020, however due to COVID-19 the release may be pushed back.

As a precursor to the release of the report an op-ed was released in the Winnipeg Free Press by the Co-Chair of NEC and the Chair of the WIEC in partnership to bring awareness for the need for diverse representation at all levels within the Manitoba education system.

Supported Transitions for Older Youth with Interrupted Schooling Report Launch:

Immigration Partnership Winnipeg conducted a research project on needs and supports in place for older newcomer and refugee youth with interrupted schooling in partnership with the Newcomer Education Coalition and the University of Winnipeg which was funded by CYRRC. An independent researcher, Nicole Jowett was hired to lead the research project with contributions from Noelle DePape, Abdi Ahmed, and Dr. Ray Silvius, and guidance from an advisory committee of key stakeholders. The report is titled: [Supported Transitions: Effective Educational Approaches for Older Refugee Youth with Interrupted Schooling](#). The report included community consultations with youth, frontline workers from settlement organizations, teachers, and school administration.

On February 12, 2020 we launched the report to the public in partnership with the University of Winnipeg, NEC, and MANSO. NEC, IPW and the lead

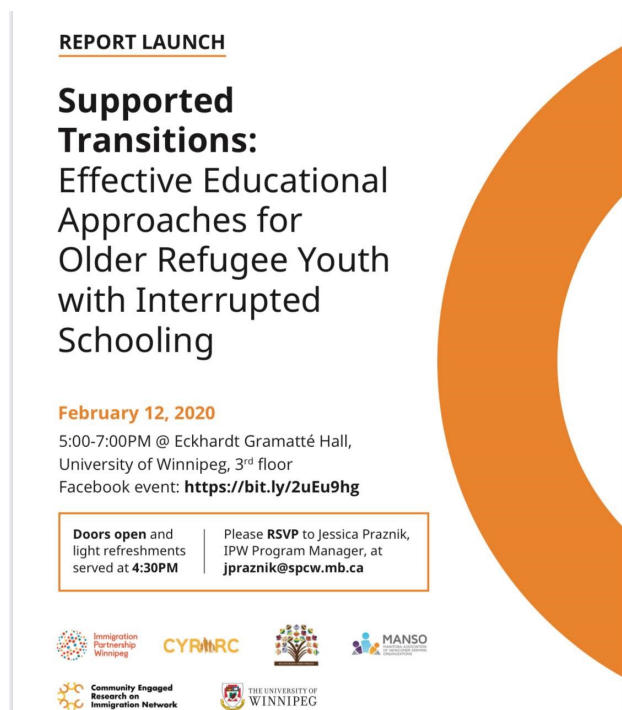
researcher have also been sharing the report through presentations, most notably at the University of Winnipeg's Lost Prizes conference.

The Newcomer Education Coalition plans to use the report findings in future discussions with education stakeholders, use to write some op-eds, and use it to frame further discussions as the province conducts their education review.

Expansion of Research Project:

IPW in partnership with the University of Winnipeg received funding from CYRRC to expand the research to assess the needs of older adult youth who have experience with interrupted school in rural Manitoba. The advisory group who provided oversight for the first project will meet in the coming months to decide how to start the rural project and beginning community consultations similarly to what was completed in the Winnipeg Context.

Kathleen



REPORT LAUNCH

Supported Transitions: Effective Educational Approaches for Older Refugee Youth with Interrupted Schooling

February 12, 2020
5:00-7:00PM @ Eckhardt Gramatté Hall,
University of Winnipeg, 3rd floor
Facebook event: <https://bit.ly/2uEu9hg>

Doors open and light refreshments served at 4:30PM

Please **RSVP** to Jessica Praznik, IPW Program Manager, at jpraznik@spcw.mb.ca

Logos: Immigration Partnership Winnipeg, CYRRC, MANSO, Community Engaged Research on Immigration Network, THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

ECCM 2019/2020 Fiscal Year Report

Established in 2018, the Ethnocultural Council of Manitoba-Stronger Together Inc. (ECCM) continues progressively to achieve its goals and objectives. For the 2019/2020 fiscal year, the Council made some achievements and attempts in many areas of its priorities. Because of the funding received from the Department of the Canadian Heritage, Multiculturalism Secretariat, United Way Winnipeg, and continued supports and contributions from the Immigration Partnership Winnipeg (IPW), Social Planning Council of Winnipeg (SPCW) and Aurora family Therapy Centre, the Council improved its governance structure and accomplished some important work, influenced policies, engaged on civic issues and promoted multiculturalism. This work would not have been implemented without the exceptional contributions and leadership by the ECCM working board. Below, are just some of the highlights:

Part-time staff hired

The Public Engagement Lead was hired to coordinate the work of the Council on a part-time basis. Although the Council rented its own office, for ease as the ECCM was then in the midst of developing governance etc, SPCW was contracted to provide human resources oversight and direct supervision through IPW staff. The Canadian Heritage funding was project based so the ECCM was not able to continue the position or separate office space. However, we continue to be supported by Aurora, IPW and SPCW as we look for more stable funding.

Improved Governance Structure

- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Council members was reviewed and approved. The MOU is the document to be signed by new organizations acquiring membership with the Council. It outlines the values of the Council and what is expected of new members to adhere to.
- The previous bylaws were adapted to reflect the ECCM's new vision and mission. The Council's website was completed and launched. The following activities went into the completion of the website:
 - ⇒ Developed the website contents.
 - ⇒ Presented the website contents to the board for approval.



- ⇒ Designed a logo that was approved by the board. Board provided input that was incorporated into the design.
- ⇒ Organized meetings with the website designer and committee members.
- Board training was provided. Most of the board members had not served on a board before. Therefore, it was deemed necessary to train them on the roles and /or difference between the roles of board, executive and staff. After the training, the board recommended a consultant be contracted to develop the board's guiding documents and policies. The consultant was hired and subsequently drafted the following documents which were reviewed and approved by the board:
 - ⇒ Operating Committee, Personal and Practices Process.
 - ⇒ Responsibilities and Commitments of the Operatizing Committee/Board
 - ⇒ Conflict of Interest
 - ⇒ Guide-Successful Board Recruitment
 - ⇒ Financial Policy
 - ⇒ Relationship between the Board and Staff Policy
 - ⇒ Roles, Duties and Responsibilities of the Board

The board still has two documents to review and approve.

- Dragan Blue Consulting was hired to facilitate the development of the strategic priorities for the ECCM. From the beginning of July to the middle of August 2019 five focus groups were held with total of 40 people. The questions such as identify challenges faced in the settlement and integration and what would be the strategies to address the named challenges were asked. Participants were also asked to

share personal experiences and experiences from their communities. After a series of discussions, many issues were identified, but then screened and reduced to just four priorities areas through voting. The following three years' priorities were identified:

- ⇒ ECCM to assess, mobilize resources and establish an Ethnocultural Community Centre.
- ⇒ ECCM to advocate and campaign on issues of importance to Ethnocultural Communities and newcomer settlement and integration.
- ⇒ ECCM to empower women, youth and other marginalized groups within the Ethnocultural communities.
- ⇒ ECCM to develop comprehensive programs to engage newcomer and Ethnocultural youth.

The Strategic Priorities document was presented to ECCM for the approval. Two meetings attended by a total of 90 people were organized to share the information. The action plan, infographic and the full document were shared with Council members. Action Plan pamphlets were also shared at the annual Stronger Together dinner.

- February 15 2020, the Council organized Intercultural Conflict Awareness and Conflict Resolution Training. It was facilitated by Karen Ridd of the Menno Simon College/University of Winnipeg who specializes in conflict resolution and peacebuilding trainings. The participants shared experiences and understanding of the word conflict from the perspective of their unique cultures, as well as gained understanding on how to identify and resolve conflict in multicultural settings. The participants gained shared conflict resolution practices that exist in their communities. Attendees explored the dynamics of inter-cultural conflict in multicultural settings. More than fifty leaders attended from the following community organizations - **Nepalese, Somalian, Kurdish, Syrian, Congolese, Chinese, South Sudanese, Columbian, Ghanaian, Peruvian, Filipino, Afghan, Persian, and Sierra Leone community association**
- The Council in partnership with the Circle for Reconciliation helped organize the training of

advocates from the Indigenous and newcomer community on welfare and other government systems. More than ten people from these two communities took part in three weeks of training. While they were learning together on how to navigate the complex welfare and other systems, the participants also had the opportunity to learn about common and dissimilar struggles faced by their two communities. ECCM embraces the importance of building mutual understanding and partnership with the Indigenous Peoples.



Built and Improved Partnerships

Formed partnership with Eastern Manitoba Broad Alliance for Cultural Enrichment (EMBrACE); a newly established Ethnocultural organization based in the city of Winkler.

The two organizations signed an MOU on the following terms:

1. The term of this MOU is for a period of 2 years from the effective date of this agreement and may be extended upon written mutual agreement.
2. It shall be reviewed at least annually to ensure that it is fulfilling its purpose and to make any necessary revisions.
3. Either organization may terminate this MOU upon thirty (30) days of written notice without penalties or liabilities.
4. EMBrACE will operate as an autonomous organization under its own board, create and implement its overall mission, priorities and strategies as it sees fit.
5. EMBrACE will continue to operate under its name – EMBrACE (Eastern Manitoba Broad

Alliance for Cultural Enrichment) with its own logo.

6. EMBRACE will be responsible for funds received through its own solicitation and private donations.



148th Anniversary of the Signing of Treaty #1

On August 3, 2019 at Lower Fort Garry, ECCM, Immigration Partnership Winnipeg and Circles for Reconciliation jointly organized the 148th Anniversary of the signing of Treaty #1. A ceremony was hosted by Parks Canada in collaboration with the seven Treaty No. 1 First Nations and the Canadian Armed Forces at Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site to honour members of Treaty No. 1 First Nation communities who served to protect Canada and her allies during both world wars. Over 30 members of the Ethnocultural communities attended the ceremony in the morning. In the afternoon, Circles for Reconciliation held a sharing circle for the ECCM. Stories of past and present challenges were shared.

Women's Event on August 31, 2019, at Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute.

The theme was “mindfulness,” which provided space for women to share how they cope with stress in a different cultural environment at the same time using some of the tools from their own culture. Because our event was a women-only event, participants felt comfortable to share their thoughts. We also provided interpreters for each table, it helped participants understand the questions and increased the sense of participation. More than 100 women from diverse cultural backgrounds attended the half-day event, including women from Chinese, Filipino, African, South American, and middle eastern communities.

Participants enjoyed the lunch and games. At the end of the event, an Indigenous Elder provided blessings. Multi-faith blessings were provided as well.

Annual Stronger Together Dinner

The goal of this annual event was to enhance relationships between community members, Ethnocultural organizations and to promote better understanding, collaboration and cooperation among Manitoba's diverse Ethnocultural communities. We wanted to build bridges between Ethnocultural communities and the broader community through showcasing of cultural performances, story sharing, and highlighting the economic contributions that immigrants and refugees make to Manitoba society. Relationships and trust are key elements in fostering an environment where people are able to live peacefully with one another. The event highlighted talent from diverse cultural backgrounds, celebrating everyone's diversity. This created potential for deeper understanding and continued joint ventures. The evening was kicked-off with a prayer by Indigenous Elder Clayton Sandy, and followed by opening remarks from MLA for Waverley Lisa Naylor and Markus Chambers, Deputy Mayor of Winnipeg. The cultural program included a Salsa dance by Salsa Explosion, Syrian dance by Syriana, and a Persian dance. The Kurdish community offered an informative dialogue on the struggles of the Kurdish people. The keynote speaker was Abdo El Tassi, a prominent businessman in the community. Awards were presented to Manika Pradhan, Abdo El Tassi, Nour Ali, and Topher San Juan in recognition for their outstanding contributions to Manitoba and to Ethnocultural communities in the province. 450 people joined us from over 30 Ethnocultural communities, newcomer serving organizations, government, the business sector and Indigenous leaders.



ECCM Annual Stronger Together Dinner (December 2019)

Civic Engagement

Organized Ethnocultural Civic Engagement Training before Elections Canada. The Council partnered with IPW's Got Citizen, Go Vote campaign. The training workshop provided attendees with knowledge on:

- ⇒ How to explore Canadian democracy and how to advocate for issues related to their communities in the context of the upcoming federal election.
- ⇒ How Canadians have been engaged in democracy and elections throughout Canada's history and information on the different roles between the federal and provincial government.
- ⇒ Information on federal ridings in Winnipeg, how to inform people on their rights and responsibilities related to upholding democracy and its values

Elections Manitoba Multi-Language Brochures Development and Distribution Launch on August 20, 2019 at IRCOM (372 Notre Dame Ave). The ECCM worked with Elections Manitoba to develop the very first multi-language brochures in 10 different languages for new Canadians and first-time voters. Close to 10,000 brochures have been distributed to over 20 Ethnocultural communities in Winnipeg. Over 50 community members attended the launch. Pamphlet distributors then went to places such as hair salons, laundry and convenience stores, barber shops, ethnic food grocery stores, ethnic restaurants, health clinics, community centres, places of worship, Sunday Tai Chi classes, and other locations where members of Ethnocultural communities gather every day. Each distributor received a \$250 as honorarium for their time and mileage. Attendees and distributors received t-shirts to identify them as campaign participants. The launch was profiled in multiple [news outlets](#).



ECCM partnership with IPW for the launch of multi-language videos and resources for 2019 election

Elections Canada Workshop was organized on September 30, 2019 at 627 Erin St. In the first hour, a representative from Elections Canada talked about civic action – now and then. Participants thought about something they would like to change in their community; examined historical case studies that resulted in real change, e.g., women getting the right to vote in Manitoba, and the inclusion of Aboriginal and Treaty Rights in Canada's Constitution; examined the actions citizens took to understand how political change happens, and applied that understanding as a model for their own civic action on an issue they care about. In the second hour of the training, the Council provided its own training on information about federal ridings, candidates, how to form a government, what the federal government's roles are, and how to be an informed voter. There were approximately 30 leaders from different communities who attended.

The ECCM also joined Immigration Partnership Winnipeg on October 9th, 2019 in launching the multi-language [videos](#) for the federal election. Members of the ECCM recorded [videos](#) in 13 different languages.

Engaging with Winnipeg Policy Service

UMOJA, which means unity or oneness in Swahili, was formed in 2009 to provide a platform for newcomers to Winnipeg to engage with law enforcement including Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) on issues that are relevant to the immigrant and refugee communities.

Through education and awareness, advocacy, increased communication and joint initiatives UMOJA worked to build positive relationships between Peace Officers and newcomer communities. This project was put on hold though because community members were looking for more systemic change than seemed possible at the time. We are now in the process of reinvigorating it given the growing public awareness around the issue. We are putting a report together which came from the community consultations done on how best to turn this work into meaningful work with the tangible outcomes. This report is nearly finished. After its completion; a joint meeting will be organized among the stakeholders to develop new action plan.

Reuben

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, 2020, 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 25, 2020, 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.



Chartered Professional Accountants

Winnipeg, Manitoba
August 25, 2020

SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL OF WINNIPEG
Summarized Financial Statements
Year ended March 31, 2020

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2020	2019
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 294,034	\$ 276,222
Accounts receivable	154,437	65,480
Prepaid expenses	8,751	23,123
	<u>457,222</u>	<u>364,825</u>
FIXED ASSETS	<u>25,987</u>	<u>32,879</u>
	<u>\$ 483,209</u>	<u>\$ 397,704</u>
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 31,546	\$ 26,113
Deferred Special Projects revenue	209,414	111,912
Current portion of deferred leasehold improvements	4,725	4,725
	<u>245,685</u>	<u>142,750</u>
DEFERRED LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS	<u>18,901</u>	<u>23,626</u>
	<u>264,586</u>	<u>166,376</u>
FUND BALANCES		
REVENUE STABILIZATION	60,000	60,000
TECHNOLOGY REPLACEMENT	5,000	5,000
100TH DOCUMENTARY FUND	-	9,000
UNRESTRICTED	153,623	157,328
	<u>218,623</u>	<u>231,328</u>
	<u>\$ 483,209</u>	<u>\$ 397,704</u>

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

	2020	2019
REVENUE		
Special projects	\$ 661,197	\$ 809,757
United Way of Winnipeg	317,822	317,538
Affiliation fees	1,099	637
Earned fee for service	47,297	56,834
Amortization of deferred leasehold improvements	4,725	4,725
Other	61,688	65,632
	<u>1,093,828</u>	<u>1,255,123</u>
EXPENSES		
Special projects	647,351	812,682
Salaries, wages and benefits	282,637	239,688
Office and maintenance	81,176	79,834
Discretionary events	17,022	12,546
Administration	49,148	32,438
Amortization of fixed assets	6,892	8,061
Documentary costs	22,307	16,000
	<u>1,106,533</u>	<u>1,201,249</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR	<u>(12,705)</u>	<u>53,874</u>
FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>231,328</u>	<u>177,454</u>
FUND BALANCES, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 218,623</u>	<u>\$ 231,328</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**



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WINNIPEG



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien

Assiniboine
CREDIT UNION



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