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Ka Ni Kanichihk Inc.

“those who lead”

**2021-2022
Annual Report**

Aanji-Bimaadizi – He/She/They Change Their Life

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Co-Chairs' Report



Once again, our community has navigated a challenging year and the Council was honoured to walk alongside community and staff in Aanji-bimaadizi – to change one's life. It is always wonderful to see people transforming their futures at Ka Ni Kanichihk, as we work with the community to address the issues and needs they've identified.

This past year, Council looked toward the future to develop a new Strategic Vision for Ka Ni Kanichihk's next five years. The vision is focused on prosperity, kinship, knowledge, healing and wellness, with culture always at the base of everything we do.

It is so important to acknowledge the work done in the past, to understand the present and plan for the future. Staff and Council honoured the achievements and challenges of the past as we engaged in a collaborative and comprehensive process to outline our goals over the next five years for our heart work based on community need. We look forward to growing alongside our community and sharing a prosperous, thriving and meaningful time to come.

Some journeys take longer than others, and the road to our Building Expansion has been a long and bumpy one. We are happy to report that our community's vision for Ka Ni Kanichihk will soon be realized as we move closer to our construction start in early 2023. Our community will soon have a new purpose-built cultural and wellness building that includes a cultural centre and ceremony space, a medical clinic and wellness space, access to Elders, training rooms, a much-needed community resource hub, and an inner-city green space. Our expanded daycare will have 32 more childcare spaces and will serve as a training ground for embedding Indigenous ways of being into early childhood learning.

All the perseverance has been well worth it because our Indigenous community deserves the best. Thank you to our amazing community for helping to make sure Ka Ni Kanichihk is here to walk with you for many years yet to come.

Sydney Levasseur-Puhach

Ken Sanderson

Co-chairs

Executive Director's Report



The theme of this year's annual report is Aanji-bimaadizi "To change one's life" (she/he/they change their life), as presented by James Vukelich's Ojibwe word of the day.

This word was shared with us for a few reasons. One is that it reflects the very foundation of the work we do, loving and supporting our relatives while their lives are ever-changing. It also speaks to the dramatic changes in the world over the last couple of years and how, by persevering together, our lives changed too.

Aanji-bimaadizi reminds us of the beautiful teaching that the one constant of this human experience is that our worlds are always changing and evolving. I also like to reflect on James' idea that the word 'decolonization' is not an Indigenous concept and maybe Aanji-bimaadizi could be our own term to use in place of that "...by returning to a place of living that brought them peace and balance".

When we let go of the way things were, acknowledging the losses and gains we collectively experienced, we can continue to work together to move forward in a good way, a new way, and in some cases a better way.

As we move together towards the changes, challenges and celebrations the coming year will

bring, I want to acknowledge the commitment of the Ka Ni Kanichihk staff who helped each other bring face-to-face programming, supports and services back to our community in a safe and loving way. Ekosani/Maarsii/Miigwetch to all the staff for being flexible and adaptable to the many changes you have faced, and for your amazing love and heart work.

The staff and I are so very grateful for our volunteer Council (Board of Directors) who also experienced significant changes over this past year, yet remained committed to the community and the needs of the organization. I feel privileged every day to work with our wonderful Council members.

Finally, I want to give a special acknowledgment to the many others who give their hearts every day. Those with lived and living expertise, past and present Council members, advisory committee members, past staff, volunteers, donors and helpers, and the community as a whole – thank you for everything you do to ensure Ka Ni Kanichihk can continue to walk beside our relatives on their journey to their best lives.

Chii Miigwetch,

Dodie Jorda
Executive Director

Associate Executive Director's Report



Aaniin Boozhoo Relatives

Very exciting! Another year I get the honour of reflecting and sharing an Associate Executive Director update with my Ka Ni Kanichihk family and community. The 2021-2022 program year was filled with so many transitions, exciting opportunities and much organizational growth. I always enjoy writing this report as it gives me space and time to reflect on where we have been, lessons learned, and where we want to go.

Our Annual Report theme this year is “Aanji-bimaadizi - he/she/they change their life” which was selected by staff and is absolutely fitting for the work Ka Ni Kanichihk has undertaken over the last year. As we begin to emerge from a global pandemic the one thing we know to be true is that our world looks and is radically different than it was prior to the last two and a half years. Despite this, our one constant of our human experience is that we as people are always changing, evolving and persevering.

An important lesson we learned over the last year, is how truly creative and innovative we are when it comes to offering culturally safe programs and services to our relatives through unique and loving approaches. This year Ka Ni Kanichihk launched our Indigenous-Led Sexual Wellness Lodge in partnership with Shared Health. The Lodge is now operationalized and continuing to build its reach through internal and external outreach activities.

Lastly, in reflecting through the lens of our theme, I'd like to take time to acknowledge all our staff who have walked alongside community while they “Aanji-bimaadizi - he/she/they change their life”. Chii Miigwetch for everything you do and everything you are. You are loved. You are valued. You are celebrated.

In love and solidarity,

Dana Connolly (she/her)
Associate Executive Director

Keeping the Fires Burning

Gizhe' Manidoowiishkode Our Sacred Fire: Our Children & Youth

After two years of a virtual-only event, the 21st annual Keeping the Fires Burning gala on June 16, 2022 was a hybrid virtual and in-person event. 450 people joined in, either at the RBC Convention Centre or via live stream, to celebrate together while honouring seven Elders and Knowledge Keepers.

This year's theme was *Gizhe' Manidoowiishkode Our Sacred Fire: Our Children & Youth* and we were honoured to have two youth Masters of Ceremonies, Rylee Nepinak and Kay Lagimodiere.

Guests enjoyed live traditional and contemporary entertainment from renowned fiddler Clint Dutiaume and son Riley Dutiaume, the adorable and talented children of the Kinew Youth Jiggers, the Kind Hearted traditional singers, and drummers and singers Roger Green and Tristian Daniels. During the evening, artist Jackie Traverse worked live on the creation of a beautiful painting.

We were also honoured to present a tribute to the late Vince Fontaine, a Juno-Award winning guitarist, co-founder of the band Eagle and Hawk, and front man for the folk-rock group Indian City. His daughter Gabby Fontaine performed two songs, accompanied by Jay Bodner and Rich Reid, while attendees viewed a memorial slideshow of Vince.



Honourees

Leona Shorting, Roger Roulette, and Doris Flatfoot

During the awards part of the evening, Brandi Woodhouse became the 21st recipient of the Oscar Lathlin Memorial Scholarship Award in recognition of her entrepreneurial background, her giving back to her community, and acting as a role model for Indigenous girls all over the world. Brandi is the Owner and Founder of RezGal Lashes Inc.

Keeping the Fires Burning celebrates the achievements of Indigenous Grandmothers and Grandfathers, our first teachers and Knowledge Keepers. This year, seven Elders and Knowledge Keeper were honoured:

Leona Shorting *Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre*

Roger Roulette *Aboriginal Council of Winnipeg*

Doris Flatfoot *Ka Ni Kanichihk*

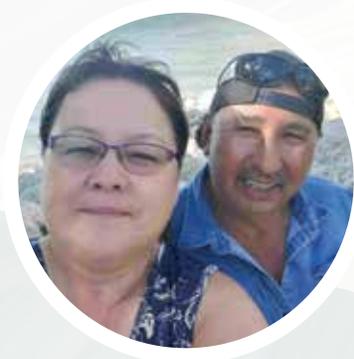
Yvonne Young *Southern Chiefs Organization*

Bernice Catcheway & Wilfred Catcheway *Manitoba Moon Voices Inc.*

Martha Peet *Keeping the Fires Burning Committee*

Ka Ni Kanichihk and the Keeping the Fires Burning Organizing Circle would like to express our gratitude to the generous sponsors of our 2022 annual event:

- All Nations Print
- AventPro
- Manitoba Arts Council
- NCI
- Province of Manitoba – Indigenous Reconciliation and Northern Relations
- sākhiwē festival
- Wawanesa Insurance



Honourees

Yvonne Young, Bernice Catcheway & Wilfred Catcheway, and Martha Peet



Looking Forward

Bringing our Community's Vision to Life

More than 20 years ago, our grandmothers, Elders and community leaders looked forward with a vision of creating a place in Winnipeg where Indigenous youth, women and families could find the support, guidance and love they needed to build on their gifts and live their best lives.

By the time Ka Ni Kanichihk opened its doors in 2001, they were already looking forward again, to envision what our relatives and our community might need in the future. One thing they knew for certain was that a time would come for Ka Ni Kanichihk to expand, so we could continue walking beside Winnipeg's rapidly growing Indigenous population.

The pandemic may have slowed down our planning a little, but now, led by the wisdom of the community and with incredible support from the private and public sectors, Ka Ni Kanichihk will be ready to begin work on its campus expansion by early 2023.

In 2024, our beloved community will be celebrating the start of a new era of growing, healing and learning together at an expanded Ka Ni Kanichihk campus.

A Place to be Safe, 24/7

For years, community members have been advocating for an Indigenous-led safe space for women and members of the 2SLGBTQ+ community who are experiencing violence, exploitation or houselessness. In March 2021 Velma's House opened in a temporary location and immediately began providing support.

It is now the only 24/7 community space in Winnipeg dedicated to meeting the safety needs of women, girls and 2SLGBTQ+ people. It's a place where survivors can come to escape, heal and connect to resources.

In its first year alone, Velma's House has seen more than 6,000 visits, and our community's need for a 24/7 safe space with culturally relevant, wrap-around supports for vulnerable women and 2SLGBTQ+ people in Winnipeg is continuing to grow.

It was important to establish Velma's House as soon as it was possible, but the existing facility cannot adequately meet the community's needs over the long term.

Our community needs and deserves a permanent 24/7 space that will both help folks seeking immediate safety and offer ongoing, wrap-around supports to help them find wellness and stability in their lives.



We continue to seek a permanent home for Velma's House, and we hope to have news for you soon about a new space that will not only meet today's needs, but provide opportunities to deliver more life saving, survivor-led care.

Restoring the Sacred



Group of Restoring the Sacred participants, 2022

Restoring the Sacred (RTS) is a culturally-based after school peer-mentoring program that supports Indigenous youth, aged 14-21 who have relocated to Winnipeg to attend high school.

Last year, 33 participants engaged with 25 mentors. There were over 3100 community contacts made, providing supports to assist students with their transition to living in Winnipeg. These included health and wellness supports, educational supports, and individual counselling. Workshops incorporating culture and ceremony were offered on topics such as gaining important life skills and training and building connections and relationships with other participants.

Participants were also supported through access to harm reduction supplies and food that was provided for them and their families.

“For a long time, I was in a bad place - associating with bad people and doing stupid things. I found myself depressed with that lifestyle because I was living for the moment and not thinking about my future. Once I was involved with RTS, I got the help I needed to start recovering from the addictions I was dealing with. I was able to express my feelings without being judged and I finally was able to feel worthy of love.

I have had a lot of positive outcomes from the programs, like making connections with people who are on the same path as I am. Just being in such a positive environment helped me to get healthier and grow as a person.

I’m now expecting my first child and because of my time in RTS, I’m feeling confident in myself and able to make better judgment calls around my future.”

- Kecia K.

“ Just being in such a positive environment helped me to get healthier and grow as a person. ”

Butterfly Club

Butterfly Club is an after school program for Indigenous girls and two-spirit youth between 9 and 13 years old, focused on building cultural identity, personal confidence, self-esteem, and leadership skills.

In 2021-22 Butterfly Club worked with 37 participants through 628 on-line and group sessions, including 265 cultural learning opportunities. To provide food security for families during the pandemic, 504 hampers were delivered.

Six new community interagency collaborations/partnerships were established to help provide wrap-around supports for Butterfly Club participants.

“For a long time, I didn’t know who I was, what I was good at or what I was interested in. Butterfly Club helped me reconnect with my culture and learn to grieve in a positive way. It shaped me into a strong, independent, Indigenous role model.”

- Madison S.



Butterfly Club on the land picking medicines

Kistesimaw

“My Eldest Brother”

Kistesimaw focuses on one-on-one and small group mentorship to boys under the age of 12 who are in conflict or at risk of being in conflict with the law. It provides wrap-around supports where we take care of the whole person and their family as well.

The Kistesimaw Program had 9 participants who participated in over 100 cultural opportunities, and received family supports.



Kistesimaw participants with Elder

“Kistesimaw kept my sons active and connected to their culture. I could see it was good for their mental wellbeing.” - Angela C.

White Wolf Speaking

White Wolf Speaking is an Indigenous-led harm reduction initiative that provides training for service providers as well as education, outreach and supply distribution to the community. White Wolf Speaking training ensures service providers are knowledgeable about sexual health education and best practices for people who use drugs. White Wolf Speaking provides education to community so they are able to make informed decisions around safer drug use and safer sex practices. White Wolf Speaking distributes harm reduction supplies such as safer smoking, safer injection, safer sex kits and Naloxone.

Ka Ni Kanichihk is a Naloxone distribution site at all of our locations.

- 156+ contacts
- 34+ supports for service providers
- 2054+ harm reduction kits distributed
- 9649+ safer sex supplies distributed
- 105+ Naloxone kits distributed



Heart Medicine Lodge



Heart Medicine Lodge (HML) is a 12-week, culturally-based, healing-centered and trauma-informed program that supports Indigenous, female-identifying survivors of sexualized violence.

HML is committed to providing a safe space for people to process their lived experience and trauma, so they can move forward on their healing journey.

Last year there were 217 program participants and 1679 program contacts made. The Promising Practises Project (Heart Medicine Lodge Program in rural communities) has continued expanding within Manitoba, and a grant from the provincial Victims of Crime Fund provided an opportunity to increase staffing.

Most programming took place virtually over 2021-22, with contactless delivery of program supplies. Programming also included activities that focused on mindfulness practise, coping, stress management, self-care and healing. We completed four 12-week healing groups, and increased our land-based activities such as harvesting medicines.

“In my early 20s I found myself drinking a lot and not taking time to care for myself. Instead of healing from my assault, I focused on my work and drank to cope.

I wanted to change the way I viewed my assault and learn how to love myself again. I was trying to find a program where I could meet new people and hang out in a sober and positive environment. I wanted to practice the traditional teachings I had received in a good space, with like minded people.

Then I saw a post on Facebook for the Heart Medicine Lodge Program.

At HML, I found a greater appreciation for myself and my self-worth. I felt more comfortable in my own skin. I felt stronger as a woman.

I hope other community members will have this opportunity to learn healthy ways to cope with abuses and traumas they have experienced. I hope they’ll come to experience cultural traditions and ceremonies and to know their self-worth as Indigenous women.

I want them to feel the love, kindness and hospitality that HML showed me.” - Jasmine P.

Medicine Bear Counselling

Medicine Bear Counselling, Support and Elder Services provides families of murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls the opportunity to heal from complicated grief and trauma within a culturally safe and supportive environment. It offers wrap-around support, where we take care of the whole person. Along with counselling, we offer wellness check-ins, food security, emergency response with high-risk individuals, and advocacy for individuals dealing with the Justice System, Child and Family Services, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority and other agencies.

During the past year, Medicine Bear Counselling saw 450 participants and made 4120 contacts. There were numerous healing sessions throughout the year, ranging from art therapy to beading circles and medicine picking.

“Medicine Bear Counselling really helped me get through my trauma and find the balance I was lacking. Now I’m a better parent and a better leader.” - Angela L.



Elder leading cultural workshop

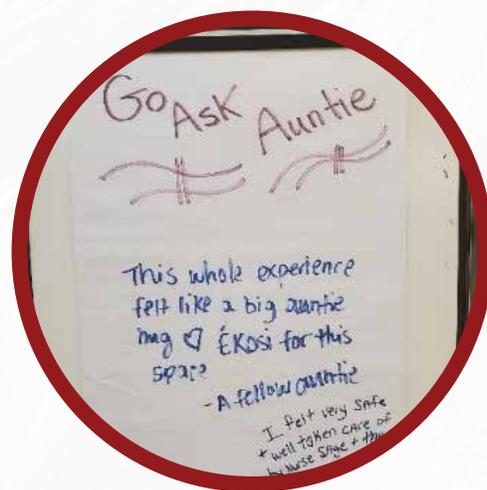
Mino Pimatisiwin

The Manitoba Mino Pimatisiwin Model of STBBI Care project is a community initiative led by Ka Ni Kanichihk. It is creating a model of culturally safe service delivery to address the disproportionately high rates of sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections among Indigenous people in Manitoba.

Last year, 24 people participated in the Mino Pimatisiwin Sexual Wellness Lodge and Go Ask Auntie programs. Contacts were made with individuals accessing STBBI testing and treatment services, cultural supports, and safer sex and harm reduction supplies.

“This whole experience felt like a big auntie hug, ekosi.” - Participant

*“I felt very safe and well taken care of by nurse Sage and the staff – a complete judgement-free zone!”
- Participant*



Medicine Children's Lodge Daycare



Medicine Children's Lodge is a licensed child care facility, primarily offering care for children whose parents are participating in Ka Ni Kanichihk programming.

Medicine Children's Lodge provided service to 35 families in 2021-22.

Early-years educators enriched the children's connection to Indigenous teachings around land, animals, nature and family importance throughout their daily play.

Children relished the Vegetable Garden and Mud Kitchen Teachings. Community connections were broadened with walk-abouts.

A federal grant increased the number of Indigenous resources and equipment available for the children. It is also supporting the development of Indigenous teacher-led activities and strong parent child/participation.

"I became a single mom after ending a long-term toxic relationship with my son's father.

I wanted to become a better mom and build a better future for myself and my son. I knew I needed to further my education, and that I needed to reconnect with my culture to heal.

I learned about the Honouring Gifts Program and that there was daycare available at Ka Ni Kanichihk for my son. Without the Medicine Children's Lodge Daycare, I would not have been able to attend the program or school.

I eventually enrolled in the University of Manitoba's Inner-City Social Work Program.

My son attended Ka Ni Kanichihk's Medicine Children's Lodge Daycare during my time in the Honouring Gifts Program and even through my 1st year of university. It had a big impact on him. He learned so many new things and I loved watching his cultural growth while he was there.

Ka Ni Kanichihk helped in other ways as well, such as providing us with food hampers, diapers, snacks, fluoride treatments for my son, and other supports.

My favorite part of being part of Ka Ni Kanichihk is knowing I will always have a community to turn to if I need anything." - Alex D.

MYTEAM



Briana in the middle, celebrates her graduation

Manitoba Youth Transitional Employment Assistance Mentorship (MYTEAM) provides a range of services focused on improving education, employment and housing outcomes for youth in the care of Child and Family Services.

Last year, MYTEAM saw 19 participants, made over 4600 community contacts, provided Covid-19 related supports, and contributed to community food security by delivering 95 hampers.

Participants engaged in cultural learning opportunities, and in life-skill sessions focused on problem-solving, decision-making, and healthy relationships and communications. All 19 participants graduated from the program.

“All I ever wanted was to have a simple life - to have a home, a family and a job so I could take care of my family.

But there was a time when I was struggling and living on the streets, feeling alone and depressed, and thinking my beautiful dream might never come true. When I was pregnant with my first child my social worker helped me apply for the MYTEAM Program at Ka Ni Kanichihk.

At MYTEAM, I was able to get more stability, get supports through CFS, and learn about traditional parenting. I was then referred to the Honouring Gifts Program and graduated from there.

Through all that time, I felt connected with the mentors - it felt like someone was there for you no matter what. They help you go forward with things, and they guide you - not do it for you, but guide you.

Now I have a beautiful home with my kids. I love being a mom and I feel blessed that MYTEAM gave me the supports I needed to pursue my dreams of becoming an early childhood educator.”

- Briana W.

Mushkowzee Ikwe – Strong Woman’s Program



Mushkowzee Ikwe – Strong Woman’s Program is a mentoring program with wrap-around supports, designed to support female and non-binary youth aged 14-29 who are in conflict with the criminal justice system. The program was designed for 20 participants, but as demand is growing, we increased the program to 30 last year.

The participants took part in 66 cultural opportunities and 12 of the program sessions linked with the UMMatter program on preventing dating violence. Mushkowzee Ikwe – Strong Woman’s Program actively supported our community by preparing and serving 2600 community lunches. The program also provided food and transportation for participants who attended in-person sessions.

“When I was growing up, I was exposed to a lot of bad influences. By grade 10, I was partying with friends after school, and I was anxious a lot of the time. I could see my life going down a path that wasn’t good.

Then a friend invited me to come with her to the Strong Women’s Program. I felt so relaxed and comfortable there that it made me want to keep coming back. I’m embracing my culture, and my social anxiety has gotten so much better because I can just be myself.

Now I have good life goals. I want to graduate and get a full-time job. I live with my grandmother, and she recently told me “I’m proud of you my girl”. That felt so good because it’s something I haven’t heard from her in a long time.”

- Faith M. K.

Honouring Gifts



Honouring Gifts engages Indigenous single mothers, aged 18 to 30 in building skills for employment. Participants learn new skills through training and education and work internships, receive certification in areas such as food handling and First Aid/CPR, and explore further education and learning opportunities.

Traditional knowledge is woven throughout all content.

The Honouring Gifts Program had 10 participants, all of whom graduated from the program. Participants were supported with food security, furniture, advocacy with EIA and housing, budgeting, and band funding. They accessed training in CPR, food handling, WHIMS (workplace hazard standards), money management, trauma informed care, harm reduction and resume writing. Participants also participated in traditional cultural sessions such as dream catchers, pipes, feather teachings, rattles and medicine bags.

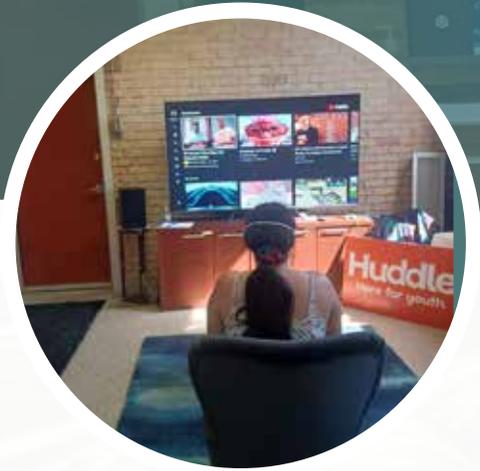
There were 4120 contacts made within the community, including 1180 food security contacts made with hot meals, snacks, and hampers.

“I am a single mother living on income assistance and am struggling financially. Honouring Gifts helped me to learn more about Indigenous traditions, so I was able to find peace and be proactive for my mental and physical wellbeing and take care of my daughter the best way I can. My favorite part of being at Ka Ni Kanichihk is being surrounded by non-judgmental people, who use laughter and humor as a medicine. I learned so much and made friends who are also working towards their goals.”

- **Haley F.**

“I learned so much and made friends who are also working towards their goals.”

Ka Ni Kanichihk Huddle



Youth accessing Huddle services

The Youth Huddle is a program for youth aged 12 to 29 years old, offered in partnership with the Manitoba Harm Reduction Network and Klinik Community Health. The Youth Huddle offers a 'one-stop-shop' to access services such as peer support, advocacy, ceremonies, cultural healing, harm reduction, primary health care, mental health care, and drop-ins.

Last year, the Youth Huddle's 56 participants accessed ceremony, cultural supports and clinic services, and received harm reduction supplies.

"When my family and I came to Winnipeg, I was really feeling out of touch with my Indigenous identity and struggling with not having a sense of community and belonging.

At the Youth Huddle I found a sense of family and love and finally felt like I had a place in this lonely world!

I'm going to continue learning and growing for my family. I want my kids to grow up feeling the same closeness to our Indigenous community and learn all the values that are taught to preserve the culture."

- Sasha P.

**I'm going to continue
learning and growing
for my family.**

Social Innovation/ Community Development

Social Innovation/Community Development is an innovative career and employment training program that helps young Indigenous mothers aged 18 to 30 build on their natural and acquired abilities through career internships, skill development, and training.

Although the program focuses on education, participants are given wrap-around supports to nurture their overall wellbeing so they can succeed.

Last year all 3 SICD participants graduated.

“I was feeling unsure of myself, with no sense of belonging. I knew I needed to begin healing and start my life from scratch. In the SICD Program, I learned a lot about my culture, who I was, what my attributes are, and what I wanted in life. This all helped with my confidence and self-worth and I was able to find a summer job.”

- **Victoria O.**



UMatter

UMatter is a youth dating violence prevention project focused on prevention, awareness, intervention and support. Curriculum is integrated into Ka Ni Kanichihk's existing programming.

Our goal is to increase young people's understanding of the dynamics of dating violence and the difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships. Youth gain skills and strategies to prevent dating violence, such as safety planning, self-confidence, assertiveness, and accessing community youth resources. There is a huge emphasis on weaving cultural knowledge through all activities.

The UMatter Program had a total of 58 participants, 41 of whom graduated, competing all 12 modules. We have presented the curriculum to 4 internal programs and provided 696 traditional learning kits, along with 532 meals, 1476 incentive prizes, and 264 bus tickets given out to participants.

“I really liked the Indigenous aspect and the teachings received in each module, plus we were presented our own bundles and an eagle feather for graduation ceremony. It helped bring more awareness to dating, as this is something I am just starting to do.” - **Sam B.O.**



Velma's House



Velma's House is a 24/7 safe space that provides low barrier, drop in support and care to women and members of the 2SLGBTQ+ community who are experiencing sexual exploitation, street violence or homelessness.

Velma's House offers a wide variety of services including meals, hygiene supplies, clothing, shower and laundry, cultural programming, and help with navigating systems.

Last year, there were approximately 6400 visits where people accessed a culturally safe space to eat and rest while in times of crisis. 72 workshops and cultural events were offered, included beading, medicine teachings, painting and coloring, and medicine picking.

Activities such as Full Moon Ceremonies, yoga and meditation promoted self-care and wellness and helped visitors connect with culturally appropriate healing from trauma.

Some visitors accessed additional support to enter detox, advocate for EIA and receive physical and mental supports through referral.

"I was living in a very abusive situation, suffering with drug addiction, and absolutely hating myself and my life. I was looking for change, but I needed to get out of my house and situation just to survive. Because of the contacts I made at Velma's House, I've made a commitment to myself and I'm continuing to work on building my self-esteem and changing my life."

- Participant

“Because of the contacts I made at Velma's House, I've made a commitment to myself...”

Waniska

Waniska is an Indigenous, culture-based STBBI (Sexually Transmitted Blood Borne Infections) research initiative focused on reducing service inequities within and across Indigenous communities in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and other parts of Canada.

Conducting research through partnerships with Indigenous and non-Indigenous experts in the field of health research, Waniska aims to create a new pool of Indigenous researchers focused on identifying inequities and gaps in care faced by Indigenous people living with STBBI's, and how these may be addressed through Indigenous methodologies.

Last year, there were 10 participants, including seven Sisters of Fire (Indigenous women living with HIV) and three from Nisōhtēwak (guiding council participants).

173 contacts were made with participants for supports, resources, hampers and opportunities for Sisters of Fire to succeed.



Waniska knowledge holders Gayle Pruden and Sandra LaFramboise in Saskatoon at the pre-conference for the World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Viral Hepatitis in June 2022

Notably

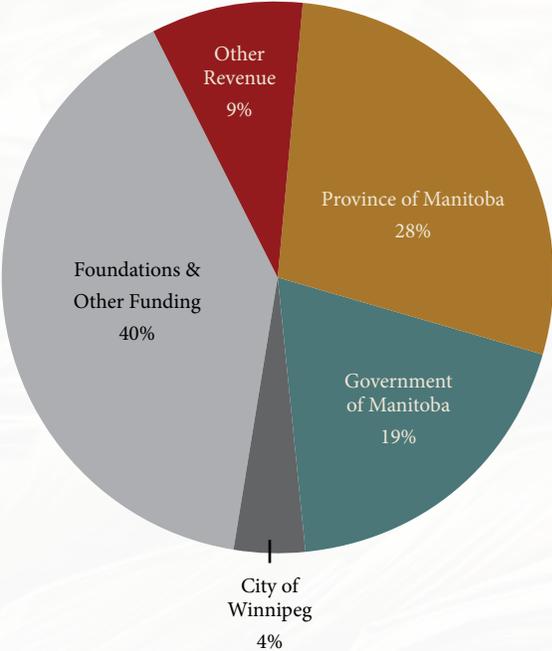
There were two workshops delivered in partnership with CATIE (Canadian AIDS Treatment Information Exchange) on disseminating HCV (Hepatitis C) information and effective community strategies for solving HCV issues within our Indigenous communities.

We had over 50 participants for both workshops, which were delivered at the CAAN (Communities, Alliances, and Networks) Wise Practices conference in Winnipeg and the pre-conference for the World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Viral Hepatitis, held in Saskatoon. The workshops were well received and highlighted the need for more discussions and information on HCV for service providers.

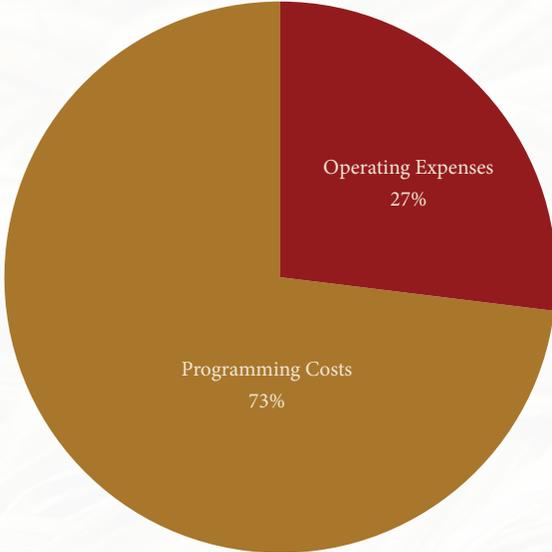
Ka Ni Kanichihk was part of a research group that received one of four, \$25,000 Feast Centre for Indigenous STBBI Research, Community Fellowship Awards. Ka Ni Kanichihk, along with Sunshine House and the University of Manitoba will use the funds to conduct a qualitative research project to assess the effectiveness of rapid testing on meeting the needs of our Indigenous communities.

Financial Overview

2021-2022 Revenue



2021-2022 Expenses



Funders

Ka Ni Kanichihk is grateful for the support and friendship of our funders and partners who share our vision for building a better community for all.

Bell Let's Talk Diversity Fund
Canadian National Railway
Canadian Women's Foundation
Centre for Aboriginal Human Resource Development – Indigenous Skills and Employment Training
Children and Youth Opportunities
City of Winnipeg
City of Winnipeg - Aboriginal Youth Strategy, Community Services
City of Winnipeg – Indigenous Relations Division
Community Food Centres Canada
Second Harvest Emergency Fund
Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Department of Justice
Employment and Social Development
End Homelessness Winnipeg
Family Services and Consumer Affairs
Family Services and Labour – Child Protection Branch
Health and Seniors Care
Healthy Child Manitoba
Indigenous Reconciliation and Northern Relations
Indigenous Services Canada
Manitoba Education and Training
Public Health Agency of Canada – Community Action Fund
Public Safety Canada & Emergency Preparedness
Urban Programming for Indigenous People
Jobs & Economy
Justice – Crime Prevention Branch, Lighthouses, Victim Services
Manitoba Arts Council
Mental Health, Wellness and Recovery - Tracia's Trust: Manitoba's Strategy to Prevent Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking
Status of Women
Urban/Hometown Green Team
Sexuality Education Resource Centre
TD Bank Group
The Winnipeg Foundation
United Way of Winnipeg
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
Women and Gender Equality Canada

and the many, many community donors who make all our hard work possible. Thank you!

Our Vision

Our Vision

*We are living Mino Biimadziwiiwin
(The Good Life)*

We honor the spirit of our ancestors and seek their wisdom to guide our Peoples back to balance and wellness. We are happy, healthy, respected and self-determining.

Our Mandate

We provide culturally safe programs and services that focus on wholeness and wellness and that build on the strength and resilience of Indigenous Peoples.

Our Beliefs

Indigenous Traditional Knowledge is enshrined into the heart of our organization's practice.

The laws of our Creator and the knowledge of the Ancestors is incorporated into the work that we do.

We honor our responsibility to the children, those who are here now, and those still waiting to come - seven generations from now.

We understand that our attitudes, actions, behaviors, and practice constitute the "sum of the whole" and that these reflect greatly on the reputation of Ka Ni Kanichihk.

Our Values

-  We walk our talk
-  Share the strength, health, and wellness of Indigenous Peoples
-  Provide welcoming and culturally safe spaces
-  Walk in balance, with strength, values, and Indigenous Knowledge
-  Value reciprocity, belonging, mastery and generosity
-  Believe in independence and interdependence with all our relations
-  Deliver high-quality and culturally informed programs in partnership with our community
-  Develop resilient and authentic leadership



Council & Staff

Ka Ni Kanichihk Governing Council

Elder: Jessie Howell

Executive Members:

Co-Chair: Sydney Levasseur-Puhach

Co-Chair: Ken Sanderson

Treasurer: Carter Wilson

Secretary: Herb Zobell

Members:

Eman Agpalza

Nike Bello

Brett Huson

Jeremy McKay

Audrey Richard

Bethany Ettawacappo

Joana Bersamina

Danielle Carriere

River Turner

Management & Operations Staff

Executive Director: Dodie Jordaan

Associate Director: Dana Connolly

Director of Programs & Services: Ieesha Sankar

Finance Director: Asif Siddiqui

Program Accountant: Sheila Chua

Finance Clerk: Janel Marion

Human Resources Administrator: Jessica Macaig

Office Administrative Assistant: Christine Harper

Network Administrator: Shawn Webster

Staff Recognition

We are pleased to recognize and thank these long-serving Ka Ni Kanichihk staff members for their years of dedication and service to our community:

Five Years:

Shawn Webster

Ieesha Sankar

Ten Years:

Adalia Costa



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