

Manitoba Moon Voices Inc. Interim Board of Directors

Sylvia Boudreau: Co-Chair & Acting President

Linda Murphy: Secretary

Maxine Boulanger: Treasurer

Tasha Spillett: Director

Interim Grandmother's Advisory Council

Velma Orvis

Gwen Cook

Laverne Contois

Thelma Morrissette

Founding Circle

(Past Interim Board Members)

Shannon Cormier

Cheryl Wahlea Croxen

Linda Lamirande

Wendy McNabb

Barbara Nepinak

Vanessa Tait



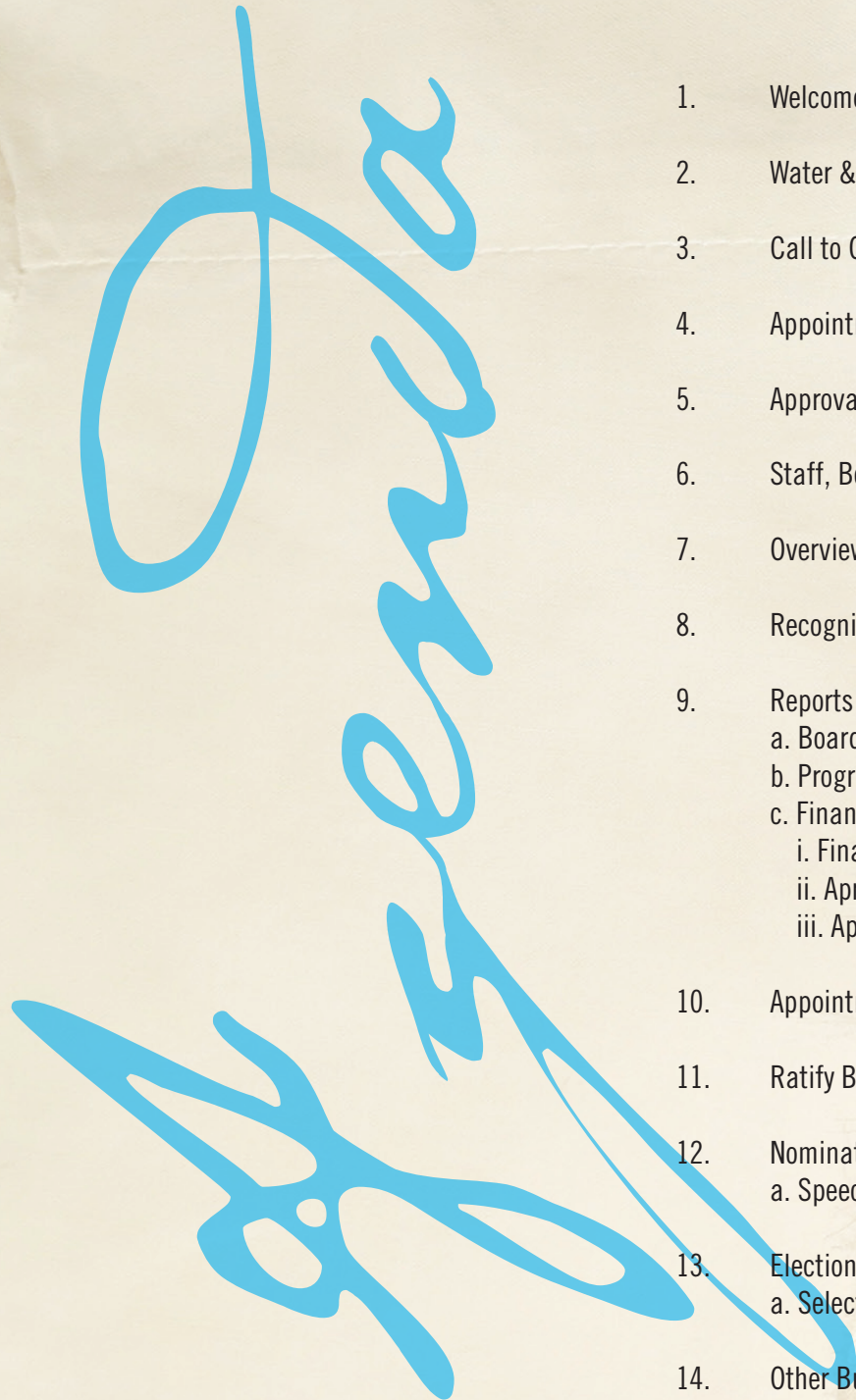
Annual
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

**SATURDAY, MAY 23, 2015 • 1PM-3PM
CIRCLE OF LIFE THUNDERBIRD HOUSE
715 MAIN STREET • WINNIPEG, MB**

300-245 McDermot Avenue Winnipeg, MB R3B 0S6
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MANITOBA MOON VOICES INC.



1. Welcome & Registration
2. Water & Pipe Ceremony
3. Call to Order
4. Appointment of Recording Secretary
5. Approval of Agenda
6. Staff, Board and Volunteer Introductions
7. Overview of MMVI first years
8. Recognition to past MMVI Founding Circle
9. Reports
 - a. Board Report – Sylvia Boudreau
 - b. Program Coordinator – Ko’ona Cochrane
 - c. Financial – Thornton & Co.
 - i. Financial Statements
 - ii. April 1, 2012 – March 31, 2014 (2 fiscal years)
 - iii. April 1, 2014 – March 31, 2015
10. Appointment of Auditors 2015/2016
11. Ratify By-Laws
12. Nominations
 - a. Speeches
13. Election of Directors
 - a. Selection of Executive
14. Other Business
15. Adjournment

History

Manitoba Moon Voices Inc. (MMVI) is in its third year of existence; in July 2013 MMVI became the Native Women’s Association of Canada’s (NWAC) Provincial Territorial Member Associate representing the interests of Indigenous women of Manitoba. What initially began four years ago as a pilot project called “Aboriginal Women Reclaiming Our Power” hosted by Ka Ni Kanichihk Inc, has evolved to become an independent non-profit incorporated organization; managed, directed and operated by graduates of the original project. The transition from a funded project to the evolution of an independent non-profit organization models leadership in action and is a practice of reclamation of power on personal and collective levels.

Moon Voices Founding Circle

The Moon Voices founding representatives circle consists of a group of Aboriginal women who were a formation of a three year grant based project entitled Aboriginal Women Reclaiming Our Power.

- a. The project was originally created in response to the alarming rate of violence against Aboriginal women and young Aboriginal girls.
- b. During the three years, the work developed into a unique leadership ACTION circle utilizing strength-based experience and gifts and culturally-based ways of being and traditional teachings in combination with popular education techniques, storytelling, and community engagement to support decolonized healing, transformation, and mobilization towards reclaiming voice and power.
- c. As of March 31, 2012 the funding ended for the project but the Moon Voices group was committed to continue to influence change and work towards creating a provincial platform for Aboriginal women’s voices to be heard on key issues that impact their daily lives.
- d. The three year funded allowed this group to develop partnerships with regional groups and build a connection with community, giving them a solid foundation to build from.
- e. The group of Aboriginal women are what make this circle, and therefore the MMVI will include this circle of women as it pursues its vision, mandate and objectives.

Our Logo

Guiding principles and strengths within the Grandmother Moon circle are represented in the Manitoba Moon Voices Inc. logo. Re-connect, support and empower each other by following the Good Life on Turtle Island.

The 13 stones in Turtle’s back remind us of the steps toward the well-being of our Indigenous women and girls. We embrace inclusion in the 4 colors and encourage all the unique gifts and talents of our Indigenous women within the circle.



Lets walk together,
Talk together,
Work together,
Lift our voices in the circle together.

Graham Constant from Opaskwayak Cree Nation developed our logo

Who We Are

In August 2013 Manitoba Moon Voices Inc. (MMVI) became an affiliate of the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) and is the elected Provincial and Territorial Member Associate (PTMA) with NWAC and is dedicated to creating a platform for Indigenous women within Manitoba.

MMVI is prepared to ensure that the issues and voices of Indigenous women across Manitoba are heard and brought forward. Our organization is dedicated to working collaboratively with groups and organizations already doing excellent work. Without duplicating services or support, we hope to bridge resources ensuring opportunities for collaboration – like bringing strands of Sweetgrass together in hopes to secure strong relationships throughout Manitoba.

Our Vision

While respecting the diverse paths of self-determination of Indigenous women, Manitoba Moon Voice Inc. (MMVI) is a resurgence between women, their communities, organizations and allies by connecting, collaborating and moving forward locally, nationally and internationally.

MMVI will acknowledge, reclaim and remember Indigenous women's roles and responsibilities in leadership and traditional governance, while honouring their accomplishments.

Our Mission Statement

Building stronger connections among Indigenous women, their communities, organizations and allies across Manitoba to support our collaborative voice and empower each other.

We share and promote knowledge and resources through positive actions and self-determination, while incorporating ancestral practices, with Indigenous women everywhere.

Our Mandate

To build a strong connection among Indigenous women, organizations and allies across Manitoba supporting a collaborative voice in support of each other while also delivering responsive, effective, and valued research, education, access to resource sharing, and advocacy at the local, provincial, national and international levels.

Our Objectives

Resource Sharing - Physical:

To create culturally safe and sacred space and opportunities for dialogue around issues facing Indigenous women and their families.

Research - Psychological:

To promote and model educational learning and development opportunities that embody de-colonization, healing, transformation, and mobilization that supports the process of reconciliation and self-determination of Indigenous women and girls

Advocacy - Emotional:

To serve as a vehicle for Indigenous women to reclaim our voice and rightful leadership position in the political arenas to ensure opportunity and authority to collectively raise issues at the regional, national, and international levels.

Re-Membering - Spiritual:

To increase women's ability to affect change personally and within their families and communities through sharing stories and acts of power; resilience and resistance; and re-connecting to culturally appropriate ways of building peace and well-being for Indigenous women and their families in all areas of our lives.

INTERIM *President's* REPORT



Boozhoo!

Welcome to Manitoba Moon Voices Inc.'s (MMVI) Annual General Assembly!

I would like to begin by acknowledging that we gather here today on Treaty 1 Territory. I alongside acknowledge our Elders, dignitaries, community members, Mother Earth and the Four Directions, which guide us.

Today is a very special day — a day of much planning, coordination and effort carried-out by many: Manitoba Moon Voices' staff and volunteers, our Grandmothers' Advisory Council and our interim Board of Directors. Today's gathering would not have come to pass were it not for you, and for that I say, Gitchi Miigwetch for your time and dedication in seeing this endeavor come to fruition.

It has been an amazing path traveled as we move MMVI past the eastern doorway of new beginnings towards a vibrant and sustainable future of capacity-building. We will see a continued growth in leadership among our Aboriginal women, their families and our communities — all the while embracing the Seven Sacred Teachings that were gifted to us as a Nation by the Creator.

The Seven Sacred Teachings of love, respect, wisdom, bravery, honesty, humility and truth will guide MMVI in all aspects of relationship-building with allies, communities and nations. Indeed, these Seven Teachings form MMVI's code of conduct within our policies and bylaws. In respect of these, we will move forward in a positive, kind and compassionate way to ensure that our Aboriginal women in Manitoba — and everywhere — are heard and respected.

And while the myriad of issues that impact Aboriginal women in Manitoba remain daunting, MMVI will not shy away from its advocacy role in our province, and will continue working towards creating healthier and stronger families for future generations to come.

With respect to all my relations,

Sylvia Boudreau
Interim President, MMVI

Program COORDINATOR'S REPORT



Boozhoo/Aaniin/Tansi/Greetings!

It has been a true honour to serve as Program Coordinator for Manitoba Moon Voices Inc., and to provide this brief synopsis of the work our staff has under taken since October 2015. The Interim Board and Grandmothers Advisory Council did an incredible amount of work to first establish MMVI and then to secure the title of Provincial Territorial Member Associate of the Native Women's Association of Canada. Those initial steps, leading to establishing a physical office space and secured funding for the advocacy work ahead, has been the beginning of a journey that will lead Indigenous Women in Manitoba to achieve stronger places of leadership.

Over the past several months, our office has:

- Successfully implemented a Strategic Plan developed by community in 2013
- Participated in over 22 events profiling MMVI, thus creating networks and initiating relationships for our growing organization
- Increased MMVI membership by 78% with 168 registered members
- Connected with 14 First Nations in Manitoba and 54 organizations
- Mentored a practicum student for 22 weeks in her first Office working environment
- Completed drafting a Leadership Guidebook to share with interested members in a workshop train the trainer format
- Received and acted-upon over 95 requests for information and advocacy affecting Indigenous women in Manitoba (details listed on table below)

The newly elected board will determine the direction of this organization; it is with a great sense of pride to stand alongside supporting the growth of Indigenous Women's Leadership in Manitoba. I trust the future will bring positive change as we continue to advocate and advance issues affecting Indigenous Women.

In the Spirit of Our Ancestors,

Ko'ona Cochrane
Program Coordinator, MMVI



Information/Advocacy Requests	Details	Totals
Child Welfare information/supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to get legal help • Parental Rights/access • Where to appeal decisions 	21
Training and employment related services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winnipeg/urban locations • Northern communities • Reservations 	7
Volunteer opportunities		27
Support services for Health related services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dealing with trauma/IRS • Addictions • Depression/suicide • Sexual exploitation • Homelessness 	21
Political Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian Status/Band Membership • Support Letters to agencies 	8
Issues affecting murdered and missing indigenous women and girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family participation in political meetings • Supports for memorial recognition ie. Family feasts • Spiritual supports, i.e. headstone, counselling, Elder/Traditional 	21

