



# ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT CANADA

## MANITOBA REGION

### 2010/2011 Highlights



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## MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR GENERAL

I am pleased to introduce Manitoba Regional Highlights for the period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011. We have made progress in a number of areas by working closely with First Nation leaders, the Province of Manitoba and other partners.

Key accomplishments this past year included securing funding to implement the Enhanced Prevention-Focused Approach to Child and Family Services, unique partnerships on education, settlement of several long-standing claims, further progress on adding land to reserve and support for Aboriginal businesses. As well, Winnipeg was the site of the first Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) event in July which was well received. A Memorandum of Collaboration was also signed between the federal and provincial governments and the City of Winnipeg, which represented a major commitment to strengthen partnerships and better align resources to address the needs of Winnipeg's growing Aboriginal community.

This publication provides an opportunity to share how the work of AANDC here in the region fits into the overall vision of the Department, how we are organized to deliver on our commitments and some key accomplishments over the last year. If you have comments, please contact our office at the address or phone number listed on the back cover.

I look forward to continuing to work with partners, staff and communities to meet our goals in the year ahead.

Anna Fontaine  
Regional Director General  
AANDC Manitoba Region

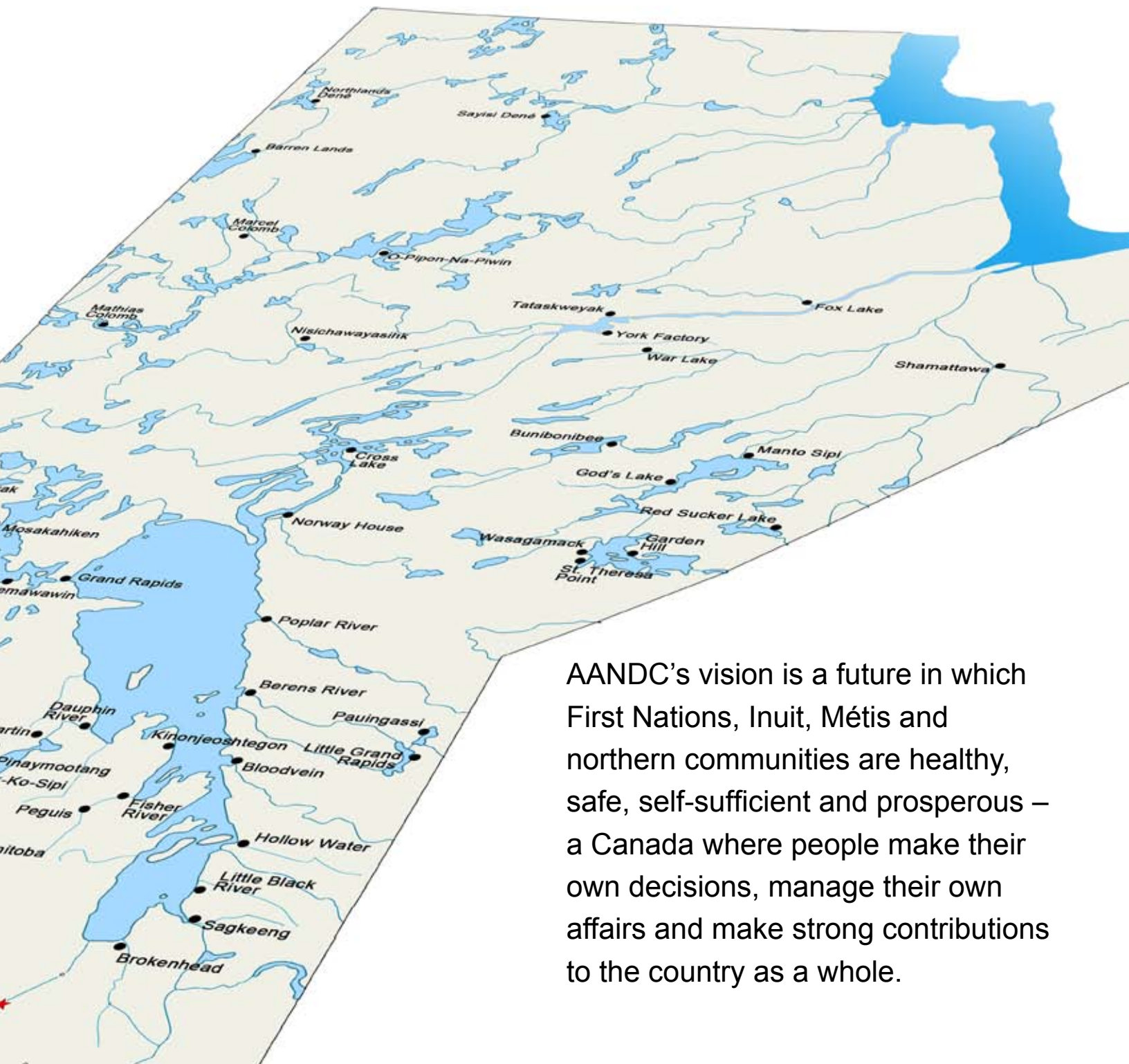
# THE BIG PICTURE

The Department is responsible for two mandates, Indian and Inuit Affairs and Northern Development, which together support Canada's Aboriginal and northern peoples in the pursuit of healthy and sustainable communities and broader economic and social development objectives.

The Program Activity Architecture for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) (see

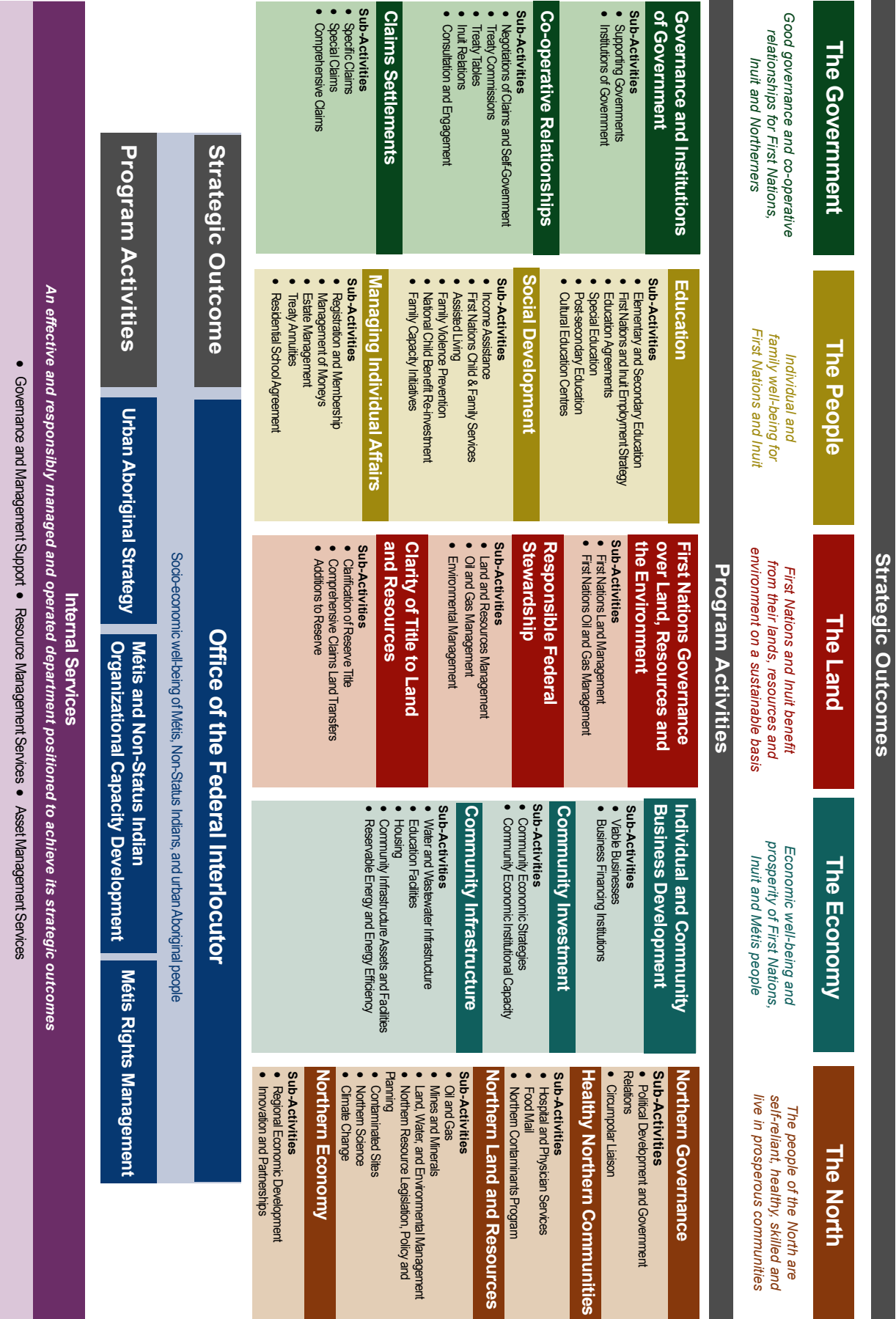
opposite page) outlines the five main business lines and associated activities for the department. The Manitoba Region office delivers on all these activities, with the exception of The North.

For more information on the mandate and structure of the Department, please visit the AANDC website at: [www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca](http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca).



AANDC's vision is a future in which First Nations, Inuit, Métis and northern communities are healthy, safe, self-sufficient and prosperous – a Canada where people make their own decisions, manage their own affairs and make strong contributions to the country as a whole.

# PROGRAM ACTIVITY ARCHITECTURE CHART 2010/2011



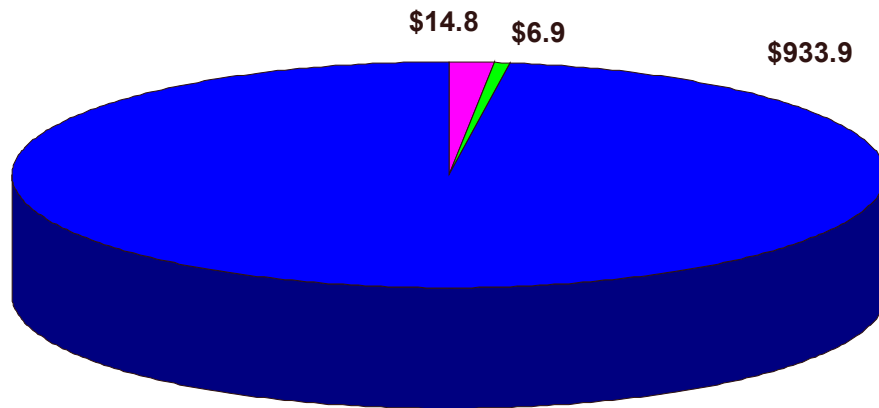
# MANITOBA REGION SNAPSHOT

There are approximately 220 employees at AANDC Manitoba Region and all are located in the Region's offices at 365 Hargrave Street in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

AANDC Manitoba Region's total year-end expenditures for the 2010-2011 fiscal year were \$955.6 million. Of this total, \$933.9 million (97.7 per cent) was delivered

directly to First Nations and First Nation organizations through grants and contributions. Operating costs (including salaries for the regional office) were \$21.7 million (2.3 per cent).

## MANITOBA REGION 2010/2011 TOTAL YEAR-END EXPENDITURES \$955.6 MILLION

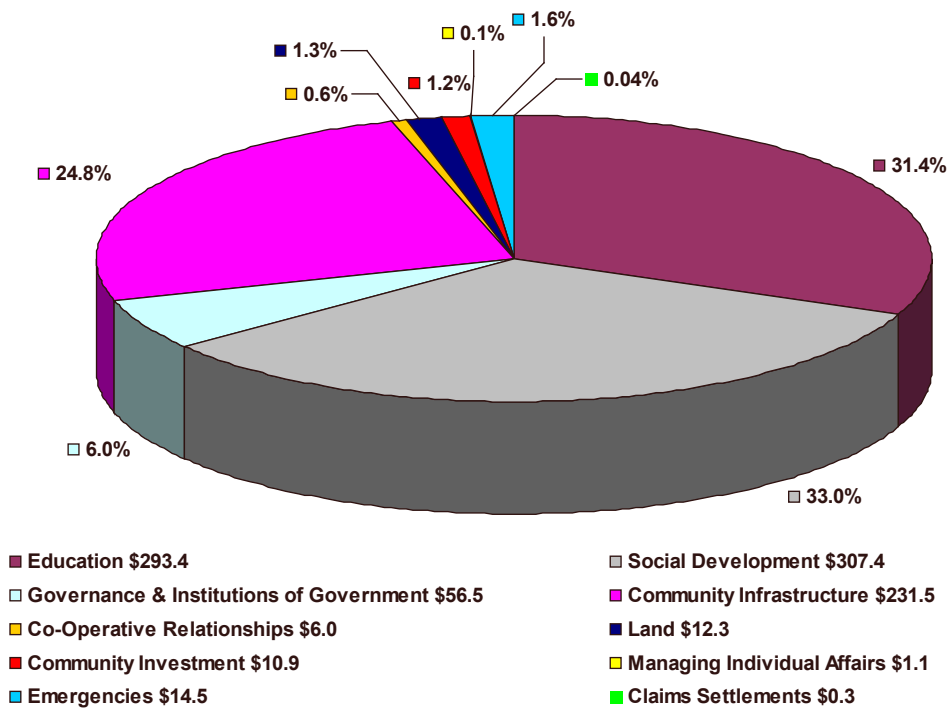


■ Salary \$14.8 ■ Non-Salary \$6.9 ■ Grants & Contributions \$933.9



# MANITOBA REGION 2010/2011 GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS EXPENDITURES \$933.9 MILLION

Of the \$933.9 million — or 97.7 per cent — of the Region's 2010/2011 Total Year-End Expenditures that went directly to Manitoba First Nations in the form of grants and contributions, the largest areas of expenditure were Social Development, Education and Community Infrastructure.



# MANITOBA REGION — WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO



In Manitoba, AANDC programs and services are delivered through directorates of the regional office and the Office of the Federal Interlocutor (OFI). The directorates of the regional office are:

- The Office of the Regional Director General
- Funding Services
- Governance and Community Development
- Infrastructure and Housing
- Lands and Economic Development
- Programs and Partnerships
- Corporate Services
- Human Resources

## **Office of the Regional Director General**

- ▶ The Regional Director General (RDG) is responsible for implementing the government's initiatives and the Department's programs and policies. The RDG, along with the Associate Regional Director General, deal frequently with First Nations on political, social and other issues, and both are involved with internal operational matters.
- ▶ The RDG's office also includes the Communications, and Executive Services and Strategic Planning units.

## **Funding Services**

- ▶ Delivers funds to support the operation of First Nations including — but not limited to — education programs and social programs.



- ▶ Primary point of contact for First Nations organizations and critical issue coordination.
- ▶ Responsible for the First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) program which provides funding to support the delivery of culturally appropriate child and family services on-reserve, in accordance with provincial legislation, regulations and program standards.
- ▶ Responsibilities include the following:
  - gathering data or proposals on which to base budget allocations,
  - preparing funding agreements for recipients,
  - following up on funding agreement terms and conditions including on-site compliance reviews,
  - conducting annual financial audit reviews, and,
  - intervening when necessary to help recipients address funding agreement defaults.

## **Governance and Community Development**

- ▶ Supports the development of First Nations' institutions and governance capacity through programs, including the Professional and Institutional Development Program (PIDP).
- ▶ Supports organizations and institutions within the Manitoba Region including — but not limited to — the three Provincial/Territorial Organizations (Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, Southern Chiefs Organization and Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak).
- ▶ Provides funds to the Aboriginal Financial Officers Association and the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba for specific projects.
- ▶ Issues Certificates of Indian Status, maintains the Indian Registry System database and provides training to Indian Registry administrators in First Nation offices. Distributes annuity payments and hunting and fishing supplies as identified in the numbered Treaties, and maintains the Treaty Payment System database.
- ▶ Assists with First Nations' general elections under the *Indian Act*. Provides guidance on the development of First Nation bylaws, and reviews allegations and complaints regarding band governance. Also assists, reviews and/or administers estate files for First Nation members.

## **Infrastructure and Housing**

- ▶ Manages the funding of construction and maintenance of on-reserve infrastructure such as buildings, houses, water and wastewater systems and roads.
- ▶ Implements the Capital and Facilities Maintenance (CFM) program, which helps First Nations acquire, construct, operate and maintain basic community facilities, such as fire protection and electrification systems, water and sewage systems, roads, schools and other community buildings. Also provides loan guarantees and subsidies to help communities and individuals meet on-reserve housing needs.
- ▶ Manages the First Nation Water and Wastewater Action Plan (FNWWAP) in Manitoba and the building projects funded by Canada's Economic Action Plan (CEAP).
- ▶ Coordinates on-reserve Emergency Management with First Nations.

## **Lands and Economic Development**

- ▶ Responsible for land and natural resource management on-reserve, including preparing transactions for reserve surrenders, designations and expropriations, and with First Nations negotiating and executing leases, licences and permits to non-Indians on-reserve.
- ▶ Responsible for the requirements related to creating new reserves and expanding existing reserve land bases. The Additions to Reserves process is used to add land to a reserve, thus fulfilling legal obligations such as Treaty Land Entitlement or a claim settlement agreement, for community development or for the creation of a new reserve.
- ▶ Implements the First Nations Land Management Act and the Reserve Land and Environment Management Program, which includes advisory services to First Nations performing land management responsibilities.
- ▶ Works with partners to address environmental legislation, policy, directives and programs to protect the environment of on-reserve lands. This includes the remediation of contaminated sites, environmental reviews of Additions to Reserves proposals, environmental assessments of capital projects, and providing training to First Nations to

promote responsible environmental stewardship of reserve lands.

- ▶ Delivers programs pertaining to Aboriginal business and community economic development. The Aboriginal Business Program is designed to improve and enhance the access of eligible majority-owned Aboriginal businesses to capital, investment funds and loan guarantees.

### **Programs and Partnerships**

- ▶ Supports the priorities of Education, Active Measures, Child and Family Services, Assisted Living and Personal Care Homes.
- ▶ Collects and compiles data and proposals on which to base budget allocations.
- ▶ Administers programs under the First Nation and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy. This includes the Summer Work Experience Program (SWEP) for First Nations and Inuit secondary and post-secondary students, and the Skills Link Program (SLP) which funds activities in areas such as career promotion and awareness and work placements.
- ▶ Administers the High Cost Special Education program, supporting First Nation learners with special education needs.
- ▶ Administers the Tuition and New Paths programs.
- ▶ Responsible for Active Measures, an initiative designed to increase educational attainment outcomes for First Nation youth, increase employment outcomes and decrease dependency on Income Assistance.
- ▶ Provides policy support for First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) and oversight and assistance of business plan review for the Enhanced Prevention-Focus Approach to FNCFS.
- ▶ Leads the regional office in its work with Manitoba Health, Health Canada and the First Nations Personal Care Home Networking Group to obtain provincial licensing criteria for five First Nation personal care homes.

### **Corporate Services**

- ▶ Corporate Services is responsible for accounting, financial reports, internal resource allocation, procurement, information management and technology, facilities management, security and common administrative services.

### **Human Resources**

- ▶ Human Resources provide a full range of services to the management and employees of the Region which include: classification, Human Resources planning and reporting, recruitment, learning, performance management, official languages, employment equity/diversity, compensation, labour relations, and occupational health and safety.

### **Office of the Federal Interlocutor**

- ▶ The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development also serves as the Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians. The Federal Interlocutor helps to find ways to improve federal programs and services for Métis, Non-Status Indians and urban Aboriginal people.





# QUICK FACTS

## Manitoba

According to the 2006 Census, Manitoba had a total population of 1,133,510. Of that total, 175,395 or 15.5 per cent identified themselves as Aboriginal people (comprised of three groups: Indian or First Nation, Métis and Inuit).

100,645 or 8.9 per cent of Manitoba's population identified themselves as First Nation.

71,805 or 6.3 per cent of Manitoba's population identified themselves as Métis.

560 or 0.05 per cent of Manitoba's population identified themselves as Inuit.

Among Manitoba's Aboriginal population of 175,395, 57.4 per cent were First Nation, 40.9 per cent were Métis, and 0.3 per cent were Inuit.

## Other highlights

There are 63 First Nations in Manitoba.

There are five First Nation linguistic groups in Manitoba: Cree, Ojibway, Dakota, Oji-Cree and Dené.

According to the 2006 Census, within Manitoba, Thompson had the highest percentage of those who identified themselves as Aboriginal people with 36.4 per cent. Thompson had a total population of 13,540. Of that, 4,930 were Aboriginal people.

Winnipeg had a total population of 686,035 in the 2006 Census. Of that total, 68,385 people or 10 per cent identified themselves as Aboriginal people.

Portage la Prairie had a total population of 19,875 in the 2006 Census. Of that total, 4,535 people or 22.8 per cent identified themselves as Aboriginal people.

Brandon had a total population of 47,455 in the 2006 Census. Of that total, 4,355 people or 9.2 per cent identified themselves as Aboriginal people.

(Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census)

*Note: Some numbers and percentages do not add up due to a procedure that Statistics Canada applies to census data which is intended to protect the confidentiality of Canadians. For further information, please visit the Statistics Canada website at: [www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca).*

# 2010/2011 MANITOBA REGION HIGHLIGHTS



## THE GOVERNMENT

*Good governance, effective institutions and cooperative relationships for First Nations, Inuit and Northerners.*

### **Professional and Institutional Development Program update**

The objective of the Professional and Institutional Development Program (PIDP) is to develop the capacity of First Nation and Inuit communities to perform the core functions of government. Governance-related projects at the community and institutional levels are funded through the program.

In 2010-2011, 33 projects totalling \$1.4 million were funded in Manitoba. Thirty First Nations and two Tribal Councils were involved in projects relating to leadership, decision-making, information management, information technology, financial management, human resources management, basic administration and community involvement.

### **Resolution of Claims**

Specific claim settlements correct past wrongs and honour Canada's legal obligations to First Nations. Negotiated settlements provide fair compensation to First Nations for past damages and provide them with capital to invest in new opportunities for economic development and new business partnerships. These investments can bring economic benefits to both First Nations and local communities.

The two Manitoba First Nations below had claims resolved.

#### **Peguis First Nation:**

In October 2010, the Government of Canada announced that an outstanding claim with Peguis First Nation had been settled. The claim related to the surrender of St. Peter's Reserve in 1907. The First Nation asserted the land was unlawfully taken from them without their proper consent.

This settlement was achieved through negotiation under Canada's Specific Claims Policy. The negotiated Settlement Agreement was approved by First Nation members in a community ratification vote on June 13,





2009. Canada signed the Settlement Agreement on September 27, 2010.

The settlement included \$126 million in financial compensation, making it one of the largest of its kind achieved to date across the country. The First Nation members also approved a Trust Agreement that set out the First Nation's plans to use and manage its settlement dollars.

Mathias Colomb Cree Nation:

On March 15, 2011 members of Mathias Colomb Cree Nation ratified a settlement agreement with the Government of Canada that addressed the impact of diesel fuel leaks in the 1970s and 1980s.

The Agreement provided \$17 million to allow the First Nation to replace, at its discretion, some demolished buildings, and to address social, education and economic impacts of the fuel leaks and disruption resulting from the clean up. In return, Mathias Colomb Cree Nation ceased litigation in relation to the diesel spill.

This Agreement was the result of extensive collaborative efforts among the parties and demonstrated the Government of Canada's commitment to settling outstanding claims.

## THE PEOPLE

*Individual and family well-being for First Nations and Inuit.*

### Child and Family Services

How is AANDC involved?

AANDC funds or reimburses First Nation service providers and provinces for administrative and protection services (operating costs), and for the direct costs of placing children in temporary or permanent care of foster parents (maintenance costs). AANDC has funding arrangements in place with 14 First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) agencies, which deliver services to 63 First Nations in Manitoba. With the new framework announced in July 2010, AANDC funding can now be used for prevention-based services.

#### A New Prevention-Based Approach

On July 19, 2010 the federal government announced a historic framework for FNCFS in Manitoba. Over five years, \$177 million will be invested to implement an Enhanced Prevention-Focused Approach to FNCFS on Manitoba reserves.

This new approach will help more First Nation children and parents get the help they need to prevent the types of crises that lead to intervention and family breakdown. It means that in addition to funding the costs related to children in care, AANDC can now fund programs which encourage healthy families and prevent children from having to be taken into care.

Manitoba FNCFS agencies choosing to opt into the framework must submit a five-year Business Plan for approval by their respective First Nation Authorities and AANDC. Agencies will provide annual results-based reporting to their respective communities, AANDC and the Northern and Southern Child and Family Services Authorities. Regular meetings will take place between these partners to discuss progress and share best practises.

### **Active Measures – A New Approach**

Active Measures is not a program but a new approach – an initiative that influences existing programs with a focus on job opportunities and self-reliance. The goal is to help First Nation members on income assistance make the transition to the workforce.

Active Measures refers to programs and projects designed to do the following:

- Increase educational attainment outcomes for First Nation youth;
- increase labour force attachment and employment outcomes for First Nations; and
- decrease the dependency rate on Income Assistance.

AANDC Manitoba Region invested approximately \$1.4 million in the 2010-2011 fiscal year to initiate Active Measures pilot projects in the areas of training, economic development opportunities, and development of an Active Measures framework and guidebook for Manitoba First Nations. Approximately \$2.3 million has been invested since 2007-2008, with a strong focus on

career assessment, employment services and work-based training.

In addition, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs' Social Development Advisors Technical Group (SDATG) was engaged and partnerships were established with other government departments and the Province of Manitoba. The SDATG includes representatives from First Nations and Tribal Councils and works with AANDC on social development issues, including income assistance programs.

## **HONOURING SPECIFIC TREATY OBLIGATIONS**

Treaty annuity payments were made in 57 Manitoba communities and at The Forks in Winnipeg in 2010. A special payment was also made at the Whitewater Cree Nation of Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan, for members of the Mathias Colomb Cree Nation who live in the community.

- 48,754 individuals were paid a total of \$528,910, including 7,915 who collected their payment during Urban Treaty Payments at The Forks in June 2010.
- 232 Government of Canada employees from various departments participated in the Treaty Payment process, including 90 from the AANDC Manitoba Region office.
- 100-year Treaty Event commemorations were celebrated with Mathias Colomb Cree Nation, Shamattawa First Nation and York Factory First Nation. A 135-year Treaty Event commemoration was also celebrated with Fisher River Cree Nation.





## FIRST NATIONS CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES IN MANITOBA

There are currently 16 FNCFS agencies in Manitoba. These agencies report to either the Southern Authority or the Northern Authority, which are funded by the Province of Manitoba. Under the provincial Child and Family Services Authorities Act, the Authorities are responsible for the governance of agencies under their mandate (listed below).

### The Northern CFS Authority:

- Awasis Agency of Northern Manitoba
- Cree Nation Child and Family Caring Agency
- Island Lake First Nations Family Services
- Kinosao Sipi Minisowin Agency
- Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Family and Community Services
- Opaskwayak Cree Nation Child and Family Services

### The Southern CFS Authority:

- All Nations Coordinated Response\*
- Animikii Ozoson Child and Family Services\*
- Anishinaabe Child and Family Services
- Dakota Ojibway Child and Family Services
- Intertribal Child and Family Services
- Peguis Child and Family Services
- Sagkeeng Child and Family Services
- Sandy Bay Child and Family Services
- Southeast Child and Family Services
- West Region Child and Family Services

*\* These organizations are not funded by AANDC.*

AANDC, in partnership with the Province of Manitoba and the FNCFS authorities, agreed in early 2010 to conduct financial reviews of the 14 Child and Family Service Agencies. As of March 31, 2011, three agency reviews have been completed.





## Education

The following two programs are instrumental in improving educational outcomes for First Nation students in Manitoba.

### Education Partnership Program (EPP)

The Manitoba First Nation Education Resource Centre (MFNERC) administers the EPP based on a Letter of Understanding (LOU) that was signed by the Province of Manitoba, the Grand Chiefs of Manitoba and AANDC in October 2009.

Currently in its third year, a three-year work plan in the amount of approximately \$5 million per year is being implemented.

The LOU and EPP are aimed at improving education outcomes in the following areas:

- Early learning programs focusing on school readiness for children;
- Virtual schools to increase course availability and options for First Nation students in Manitoba;
- Education for Sustainable Development; and
- A literature review and development of a Private Home Placement Framework.

### First Nation Student Success Program (FNSSP)

The FNSSP is administered by MFNERC on behalf of the Region and helps First Nation educators plan and make improvements in three priority areas: literacy, numeracy and student retention.

Currently in its third year of activities, the proposal and three-year work plan were approved in the amount of approximately \$12.5 million.

Of 63 First Nations in Manitoba, 37 have opted into the program, representing 84% of the student population.

For more information on the EPP and FNSSP please visit the AANDC website.

## EDUCATION AT A GLANCE

- AANDC provides education funding for approximately 23,000 First Nation students in Manitoba (Kindergarten to Grade 12).
  - Approximately 17,500 are educated in 57 band-operated schools on-reserve.
  - Approximately 5,500 on-reserve students attend provincial schools, as their program of study is not available in their community. More than 55% of these students attend schools administered by Frontier School Division.
- AANDC delivers funding support directly to Band Councils and First Nation education organizations. First Nations or their regional organizations have the responsibility for managing and delivering education programs and services in band-operated schools on-reserve.
- For students who live on-reserve but attend provincial schools off-reserve, AANDC pays the tuition amount that the applicable province charges for non-Aboriginal students.
- The Education Partnership Program (EPP) and the First Nations Student Success Program (FNSSP) are two key programs in the Region with the goal of improving educational outcomes.



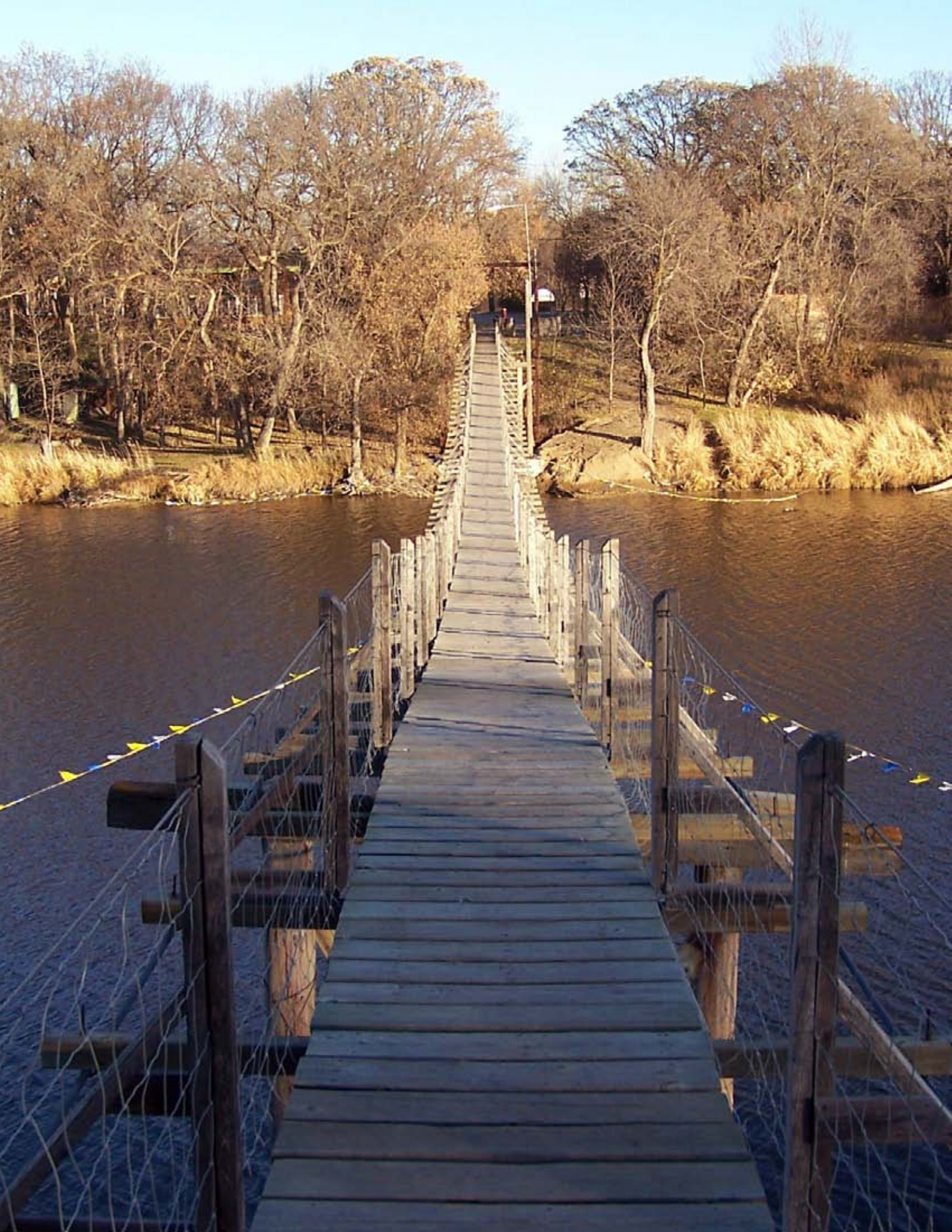
Open a

book

and

read







## WAPASKWA VIRTUAL COLLEGIATE

Wapaskwa Virtual Collegiate (WVC) is a virtual high school servicing First Nation communities within Manitoba. Established under the EPP in 2009, WVC received \$1.2 million in funding in 2010-2011. WVC was identified as a need by the Education Directors of Manitoba's First Nations and is a group venture for First Nation schools. Course delivery to 40 students began in the spring of 2010 as a pilot.

Pilot program courses — such as Web Design 25S, Pre-Calculus 30S and Physics 40S — are offered over the Internet in a virtual classroom format with the daily presence of an online teacher. These courses can be taken for credit recovery or course enrichment. Prior online course experience is not required to participate.

Fully qualified teachers conduct the online classes which are designed for approximately 80 minutes of instruction per day. Students can take an online course at any location, which allows for greater flexibility in their academic environment. Student support is also available via phone, e-mail and evening tutoring sessions.

“Providing a variety of opportunities for feedback to students in the blended program is essential for establishing this positive working relationship,” said Howard Burston, ICT Coordinator for the Manitoba First Nation Education Resource Centre (MFNERC).

The principal purpose of WVC is the coordination of e-Learning services between the First Nation K-12 institutions; introduction and implementation of innovative ideas; inclusion of new partnerships; and development of e-Learning curriculum infused with First Nations' perspectives.

## SEEDS OF EMPATHY AND ROOTS OF EMPATHY

With approximately \$425,000 in funding provided by AANDC through the EPP, MFNERC partnered with the Healthy Child Manitoba Office to launch the Seeds of Empathy (SOE) program in the fall of 2010, and to also continue the provision of the Roots of Empathy (ROE) program in First Nation communities.

Over the course of the 2009-2010 year, regional orientation sessions were offered to First Nation community early childhood programs, such as Aboriginal Head Start, Nursery and Child Care centres. Early Childhood Educators participated in the orientation to learn more about the SOE program, and training for teams of three early childhood educators took place in August 2010. Delivery of SOE began for the first time in Manitoba in September and October 2010.

SOE is designed for Early Childhood settings to foster social and emotional competence and early literacy skills and attitudes in children three-to-five years old while providing professional development for their educators. Roots of Empathy, “the older sibling” of SOE, is also designed to decrease aggressive behaviours and enhance social and emotional development.

Through participation in the SOE program, children are given the opportunity to learn how babies develop and grow. By learning about and appreciating the distinct needs that babies have and the care that babies require, children can hopefully learn how to understand their own feelings. Additionally, they see firsthand how relationships and bonds are built between parents and their children.

Through the SOE and ROE programs, MFNERC anticipates outcomes such as children being able to understand their own feelings, thus enabling them to better understand the feelings of others. Children are then in a better position to develop positive social relationships, are more open and inclusive, and less likely to upset each other through bullying and other hurtful behaviours.

## MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS SCIENCE FAIR

The 8th Annual Manitoba First Nations Science Fair which took place at Red River College in April 2010 was supported through the FNSSP. A total of 374 students from 29 First Nation schools participated in the two-day event which consisted of science project exhibitions, a career fair and fun and engaging science workshops.

The MFNSF aims to encourage participation in science fairs in general by First Nation schools. The number of participants in the science fair continues to grow every year, a testament to the greater level of interest that students are taking in the subject.

## Personal Care Homes:

In the Manitoba Region, AANDC provides funding to First Nations for personal care homes. These facilities are licensed and monitored by the province and managed within the community.

The Department is working with First Nations and the Province of Manitoba toward licensing personal care homes on-reserve. This will improve the standard of care and quality of service. Officials from AANDC and the Province of Manitoba meet regularly to coordinate efforts towards provincial licensing.

There are eight First Nation Personal Care Homes on-reserve in Manitoba. Two facilities are provincially licensed and six are working towards meeting provincial licensing criteria.





# THE LAND

*Sustainable management of First Nation and Inuit lands, resources and environment.*

## Treaty Land Entitlement

Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) claims are intended to settle the land debt owed to those First Nations who did not receive all the land they were entitled to under historical treaties signed by the Crown and First Nations. Twenty-three First Nations have ratified and executed their TLE agreements with Canada and Manitoba which allow them to gain — as reserve — unoccupied provincial Crown land and land purchased from willing sellers.

As of March 31, 2011, more than 850,000 acres have either been selected or purchased. Significant progress has been made toward the target initially set in August 2006 to convert 600,000 acres to reserve over four years. With a one-year extension, a total of 421,852 acres has been converted.

For more information on TLE, please visit the AANDC website.

## Additions to Reserve

An addition to reserve (ATR) is a parcel of land that is added to the existing land base of a First Nation. Long Plain First Nation's Municipal Development Services Agreement (MDSA) negotiated with Winnipeg is the result of land purchased under its TLE entitlement. This is a historic "first" as it will pave the way for the city's first urban reserve. The proposed uses for the 2.81-acre property are for the construction of a five-storey professional office complex, a gasoline service station and a convenience store, and an educational facility. The existing building on-site will be renovated for these purposes, providing commercial ventures to increase Long Plain's economic self-sufficiency.

Land can be added to a reserve for a number of reasons: to fulfill a legal obligation (such as a treaty land entitlement or claim settlement agreement), for community growth or for the creation of a new reserve. First Nations may wish to add land to their reserve for community expansion and economic development.





## Environment

Core responsibilities for the environment unit include:

- Conducting environmental reviews for the remediation of contaminated sites, Treaty Land Entitlement selections, and First Nation land management initiatives.
- Performing environmental assessments of capital projects and reserve land transactions.
- Coordinating major projects through major project management organizations.
- Developing environmental management strategies for the regional fuel storage tank registry system and solid waste management, and,
- Implementing the Department's Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS).

The unit works with First Nations to address environmental issues in their communities. This includes developing capability in the region to respond to issues such as fuel spills, solid waste management and sewage breakdown.

The unit is exploring the link between environmental stewardship and economic development opportunities in partnership with First Nations, the Province of Manitoba and other federal departments. Opaskwayak Cree Nation, Chemawawin First Nation and Swan Lake First Nation are working with the unit on environmental site assessments and remediation of contaminated sites. It's anticipated economic opportunities will develop as a result of this work.

The Sustainable Development Strategy encourages AANDC and other departments to implement sustainable development in policies, programs, legislation and operation. The region contributes to national working groups for the development of SDS tools and resources.

Accomplishments:

- 260 environmental assessment screenings were conducted in 2010-2011.
- Under the Contaminated Sites Management Program, 75 environmental site assessments involving nine projects and 18 remediation sites involving 15 projects were completed on Manitoba reserve lands.







- Statutory obligations sessions were delivered through the seven Tribal Councils to all 63 First Nations with a focus on solid waste management. Also, one Tribal Council awareness session was held focusing on roles and responsibilities with respect to environmental stewardship.
- Two Environmental Learning Regime sessions, two Canadian Environmental Assessment Act screening courses and one environmental career fair were held internally while one Lands Environmental Action Fund workshop was delivered to Tribal Councils.

## **Lands and Resources**

This unit contributes to program activities that enhance First Nations' governance over land resources and the environment to fulfill responsible federal stewardship. This includes:

- Administering and enforcing leases, permits, and other land and resource conveyance documents under the *Indian Act* and its regulations;
- Developing and delivering land and resource management capacity strategies in collaboration with First Nations, such as the First Nations Land Management Act; and
- Maintaining and overseeing the Land Registry system.

Accomplishments:

- Swan Lake and Chemawawin First Nations entered into the First Nations Land Management regime.
- Four designations for leasing purposes were initiated in Brokenhead, Berens River, Fisher River and Bunibonibee.
- The new Indian Land Registry system was implemented and training was provided to First Nation partners.
- The mapping of projects was completed and new aerial photography was obtained for ten reserves.

A new construction, use and occupancy permit template was developed for two renal health care centres and five University College of the North projects.



## THE ECONOMY

*Economic well-being and prosperity of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people.*

### **The Aboriginal Business Development Program (ABDP)**

New generations of Aboriginal leaders are business-oriented and increasingly recognize economic development as a means to self-reliance and greater autonomy for their communities and their people. To support this growing movement, the ABDP provides financing, business support, and information to increase the competitiveness and success of Aboriginal businesses in Canadian and world markets.

Under the ABDP in Manitoba, 46 projects were approved and funding totalled approximately \$4 million for the 2010-2011 year.

For more information on the ABDP, please visit the AANDC website.

### **Infrastructure and Housing**

The following key programs support First Nations infrastructure and housing:

- Capital and Facilities Maintenance (CFM) program;
- First Nation Water and Wastewater Action Plan (FNWWAP); and
- Canada's Economic Action Plan (CEAP).

### **Schools**

Construction was completed in 2010-2011 on a \$34 million school at Mosakahiken Cree Nation, of which AANDC contributed \$21.4 million.

Construction was completed in 2010-2011 for a new school at Opaskwayak Cree Nation. AANDC's contribution was \$21.7 million.

A new school is under construction at St. Theresa Point with an anticipated completion date of fall 2011. The AANDC contribution is \$38 million over three years.



## Personal Care Homes

In the summer of 2010, Fisher River Cree Nation re-opened its band-operated Ochekwi-Sipi First Nation Personal Care Home. AANDC contributed \$3.5 million for required upgrades related to safety and security to bring the 32-bed facility in line with Manitoba's Capital Guideline and to accommodate Level 4 residents. These capital upgrades included a call bell system, fire sprinklers and the replacement of some flooring.

Construction upgrades to the Rod McGillivray Memorial Care Home in Opaskwayak Cree Nation are underway with an anticipated completion date of summer 2011.

## ISLAND LAKE WATER AND WASTEWATER

First Nation water and wastewater issues were high profile in Manitoba this year. AANDC is working with the leadership of the Island Lake communities (Garden Hill, St. Theresa Point, Red Sucker Lake and Wasagamack) where many people live without running water, to assist them with both short and long-term solutions to this issue. During the winter road season, a new water truck and septic truck were delivered to each community.

For more information on investments in water and wastewater in Island Lake communities, please visit the AANDC website.

## FIRE PROTECTION

Fire protection is a priority issue in the Manitoba Region. AANDC is partnering with the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and the provincial Office of the Fire Commissioner on a technical assessment of fire fighting capabilities on Manitoba First Nations. AANDC provided approximately \$3.2 million for operations and maintenance of fire protection services in Manitoba for the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

## Water and Wastewater

At Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation construction was substantially completed on the approximately \$7.3 million water treatment plant upgrade and water/sewer expansion (with \$55,000 in finishing work to be completed in early 2011-2012).

Construction was completed on the approximately \$6.2 million water treatment plant project at Red Sucker Lake First Nation.

Construction was completed on the approximately \$4.8 million in upgrades for the War Lake First Nation water treatment plant expansion.

\$1.3 million in work was done at York Factory First Nation to replace sewer pipes.

Construction started on the approximately \$13.5 million sewage lagoon for Norway House Cree Nation, with an anticipated completion date of fall 2011.

Construction on the upgrade and expansion of the Sagkeeng (Fort Alexander) First Nation Water Treatment Plant is underway, with an anticipated completion date of fall 2011.

A new lagoon has been designed for the Long Plain and Dakota Plains First Nations. Construction began in fall 2010 and is targeted for completion in the fall of 2011.

Design activities for water and wastewater upgrades are currently underway at both Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin First Nations.

## Housing

Investments in Manitoba First Nation housing under Canada's Economic Action Plan (CEAP) were \$14 million for 2010-2011 and \$14 million for the previous fiscal year of 2009-2010. This does not include CEAP investments under Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

## Emergency Management

AANDC Manitoba Region has responsibility for providing emergency management assistance to First Nation communities in the province. Emergency management activities supported include mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

Throughout the 2010-2011 fiscal year, either directly with First Nations or with other federal and provincial emergency management partners, AANDC supported emergency response and recovery activities in the following situations:

- 2010 spring flooding (Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation, Sioux Valley Dakota Nation, Peguis First Nation and Fisher River Cree Nation);
- 2010 summer forest fire evacuations (Hollow Water First Nation, Berens River First Nation and Northlands Dené First Nation);

- 2010 summer flooding (Peguis First Nation and Fisher River Cree Nation); and
- 2011 spring flooding (Dauphin River First Nation, Fisher River Cree Nation, Lake Manitoba First Nation, Lake St. Martin First Nation, Little Saskatchewan First Nation, Peguis First Nation, Pinaymootang First Nation, Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation and Sioux Valley Dakota Nation).

## KID CITY — THE ULTIMATE INDOOR PLAY CENTRE

Deena Caplette is an Aboriginal entrepreneur from Winnipeg who received a \$99,970 non-repayable contribution and development support from ABDP to start and grow her business – Kid City.

Kid City is an indoor play centre for children from the ages of 1 to 12. The 8,500 square foot facility hosts a plethora of activities that encourage physical and social development for children. The unique, one-of-a-kind, three-level play structure has slides, tunnels, ropes, mazes, a punch bag forest, trolley glide, balance beam and sports court. There is also an inflatable bouncer, air hockey, foosball and ping pong tables, and Nintendo Wii gaming consoles.

“We want children to come here and play, but not even realize that they’re learning as they’re playing,” says Deena. “I’ve always wanted to open up a business and this business came about by visiting my sister in B.C. She took me to a place very similar to Kid City and that’s what sparked the idea for this in Winnipeg.”

The business is a huge success. “If there’s a need for it in Winnipeg, we’d love to open up another location...definitely expansion is always in the back of my mind!” she says.

In addition to the funding support from ABDP, she also received advice with respect to business planning, start-up and marketing. “They have been absolutely wonderful,” said Deena. “I couldn’t be more pleased with the opportunity they have given to me.”

## FISHER RIVER CREE NATION COTTAGE LOTS

Fisher River Cree Nation has 88 new cottage lots thanks to federal funding from the Community Economic Opportunities Program (CEOP). CEOP provides support to assist First Nation and Inuit communities in developing economic opportunities.

Federal and provincial governments partnered with Fisher River to develop the cottage lots along lake-front property on the west side of Lake Winnipeg.

Over the past two years, AANDC contributed approximately \$992,000 for the project. The creation of new revenue and new jobs for the First Nation community is anticipated, including on-going employment opportunities related to construction of the cottage development and on-going services to cottagers.

Throughout the 2010-2011 fiscal year, AANDC worked with the Manitoba Economic Development Advisory Committee during the CEOP recommendation process. 45 proposal submissions were approved and funded for a total amount of approximately \$2.3 million.

For more information on CEOP, please visit the AANDC website.

# OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL INTERLOCUTOR

## Urban Aboriginal Strategy Memorandum of Collaboration signing

The Office of the Federal Interlocutor (OFI) has three main responsibilities:

- Maintaining and strengthening the Government of Canada's relationship with national Aboriginal organizations that represent Métis, Non-Status Indians and urban Aboriginal people;
- Participating in negotiation processes with these organizations and other provinces; and
- Coordinating and implementing the government's Urban Aboriginal Strategy (UAS).

An intergovernmental Memorandum of Collaboration (MOC) signed on July 16, 2010, by the Government of Canada, the Province of Manitoba and the City of Winnipeg, was a result of the successful partnerships the Government of Canada has achieved through the UAS.

The MOC represents a major commitment from all levels of government to strengthen partnerships and better align resources to address the needs of Winnipeg's growing Aboriginal community.

By working collaboratively and better aligning work and resources, all levels of government are in a better position to help Winnipeg's Aboriginal people access economic and development opportunities. The capacity of Aboriginal organizations serving Winnipeg's Aboriginal people is also supported and enhanced.

Strategies and action plans have been developed and will be updated to improve outcomes for urban Aboriginal people in the following areas:

- Healthy lifestyles, safety practices and coping skills;
- Social support and community participation;
- Healthy environments; and
- Building capacity, community supports and personal engagement.

Outcome evaluations will be done on a regular basis so all stakeholders will have a better understanding of the elements that significantly contribute to closing social and economic gaps for urban Aboriginal people in Winnipeg.

Winnipeg has one of the fastest growing urban Aboriginal populations in the country and the largest concentration of urban Aboriginal people in Canada on a per capita basis. More than 10 per cent of Winnipeg's 686,000 residents identify themselves as urban Aboriginal (Inuit, Métis and First Nations), which is more than four times higher than 25 years ago.

First developed in 1997, the UAS brings together various partners who share their knowledge, skills and expertise to help respond to the needs of Aboriginal people living in key urban centres. These partnerships support projects that respond to local priorities and advance the UAS national priority areas of:

- Promoting job training.
- Improving life skills and entrepreneurship, and
- Supporting Aboriginal women, children and families.

For more information on OFI and the Urban Aboriginal Strategy, please visit the AANDC website.





### **3rd Annual National Urban Aboriginal Federal/Provincial/Municipal Meeting**

On March 1 and 2, 2011, public servants from across the country came together in Winnipeg to participate in the 3rd Annual National Urban Aboriginal Federal/Provincial/Municipal Meeting in Winnipeg.

The signatories of the MOC invited public servants from across Canada to the two-day meeting to discuss enhanced cooperation between governments and better aligned efforts aimed at improving the lives of Aboriginal people. An opportunity to discuss the renewal of the UAS was also on the agenda.

On March 3, a supplementary learning event helped employees from all three levels of government learn about intergovernmental collaboration and how to use it to create positive outcomes for urban Aboriginal people.

The learning event, “Creating Positive Outcomes for Urban Aboriginal People through Intergovernmental Collaboration,” engaged public servants in insightful presentations and interactive discussions to increase awareness and understanding of the impacts and opportunities that intergovernmental collaboration can produce.

The main theme throughout the course of the meeting and learning event activities remained that of encouraging and maintaining healthy, positive and supportive working relationships amongst partners.



*The Memorandum of Collaboration (MOC) was signed by the Government of Canada, the Province of Manitoba and the City of Winnipeg on July 16, 2010 at the Urban Circle Training Centre in Winnipeg.*



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