

September 2012 Update Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak City of Winnipeg's Aboriginal Youth Strategy



Background

In April 2008, City Council passed a motion to adopt an Aboriginal Youth Strategy. Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak, Ojibway for Young Aboriginal People Leading, was the name given to the strategy by Elders.

Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak's mission is to give Aboriginal youth positive opportunities in the community (*stream one*) and civic system (*stream two*) by bridging and providing culturally appropriate programs and supports related to employment, literacy and recreation to increase resiliency, self-sustainability, pride and future opportunities.

Projects fall under one of four pillars: Employment and Employment Development, Physical, Culture and Leisure, Literacy and Lifelong Learning or Community Connections.

Stream One - OAN Community Partner Updates

Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Secretariat Inc.: Eagle's Nest Aboriginal Youth Employability and Education Program

Eagle's Nest will begin its twelfth intake later this month! Eagle's Nest works with Aboriginal youth aged 15 to 24 who are out of school or unemployed and want to take part in a 12-week personal and professional development program. We wish these new youth luck in their program!

Indigenous Leadership Development Institute, Inc.: Aboriginal Construction Technology Program

This program prepares participants for employment in the construction industry. Many participants receive their Accredited Level 1 Carpentry certificate as well as the mature student grade 12 diploma. For more information, please contact Melanie Dean at 204-940-1706.

Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre Inc.: Future is Yours

Future is Yours is designed for youth, aged 14 to 20, to explore Aboriginal culture while gaining skills to build a resume like taking part in certified training, volunteerism, and interview and employment skills development. The next intake begins in October 2012.

Resource Assistance for Youth, Inc.: Growing Opportunities Program

Growing Opportunities works with street-entrenched and homeless youth to reduce their barriers to employment and to sustain employment once it is obtained by addressing the varied personal circumstances that keep youth out of the labour market. Growing Opportunities operates with an open recruitment; interested youth can get involved any time!



Stream Two - OAN Civic Partner Updates

Aboriginal Fitness and Sports Initiative (AFSI)

Designed for Aboriginal youth aged 15 and over, this program provides opportunities to take part in **free** sport programming including floor hockey, basketball, volleyball, and badminton. The first session begins September 24 and takes place at the North Centennial Recreation and Leisure Facility (90 Sinclair Street). All youth are encouraged to come out, have fun, and enjoy team and sport skills development. For more information, please call 204-986-7093.

By-law Enforcement Officer Internship

In May, Community By-law Enforcement Services and Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak welcomed Chantel Loveday and Ryan Proulx who were the successful incumbents of this internship recruitment. Beginning in September, Chantel and Ryan will embark on training through Northwest Academy Training School before returning to complete their field experience. We wish them much success in their formal training!

Library Page Internships

Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak partnered with Winnipeg Public Library to recruit up to four Library Page interns in September! These ten-week internships provide opportunities for youth to learn more about library services and what is available to Winnipeg citizens.

Next Step Awards

Awards provide financial support to Aboriginal youth attending training programs not traditionally eligible for scholarships and/or to purchase equipment, tools or uniforms to begin new jobs. This year, 11 Aboriginal youth received awards – congratulations recipients!

Post-Secondary Scholarships

Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak and Corporate Support Services distributed ten Aboriginal youth scholarships of \$1,000.00 to assist with tuition costs. Congratulations recipients!

Turtle Island Neighbourhood Centre

Beginning September 1, 2012 Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak will be overseeing the programming at the Lord Selkirk Park facility of behalf of Community Services. The project is guided by a community vision for a neighbourhood hub that houses a comprehensive continuum of services and supports for young people provided through civic and community partnerships. Turtle Island Neighbourhood Centre will be a place for young people in the community to have opportunities to learn and grow, participate in structured recreation, culture and leisure programming, and make community connections. We look forward to developing innovative Aboriginal and youth focused programs on behalf of community services!

Acknowledgements

This summer, the Animal Services Agency hosted two Aboriginal youth as **License Inspectors interns**. You may have read about the initiative in the August 13, 2012 media release

(http://winnipeg.ca/cao/media/news/nr_2012/nr_20120817.stm#1). Thank you ASA staff who both welcomed or actively participated in internships as supervisors and mentors!



Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak would like to thank all involved in making this year's City of Winnipeg **Career Camps** a success! For the past three years, Corporate Support Services, Winnipeg Police Service and Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service has partnered deliver two, free, week-long summer career camps for Aboriginal youth aged 12 to 17!



Lastly, we'd like to acknowledge the work of **Video Intern** Phil Dubuc. In August, he relocated to Alberta and we wish him well on his future endeavors! To view his work, please visit out Vimeo channel at

<http://vimeo.com/channels/AYSwinnipeg/>

Should you have any questions regarding the strategy, please call Rhonda Forgues, Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak Coordinator, at 204-986-6929.

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