



OSHKI ANNISHINABE NIGAANIWAK

JULY - DECEMBER 2014 NEWSLETTER

• • ABOUT US • • • • •

In 2008 City Council adopted Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak, the City of Winnipeg’s Aboriginal Youth Strategy. This innovative program is allocated one million dollars annually in order to provide positive opportunities for Aboriginal youth in the community and civic service. Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak is coordinated by the City of Winnipeg’s Aboriginal Relations Division.

• • OUR MANDATE • • • • •

To give Aboriginal youth positive opportunities in the community and civic system by bridging and providing culturally appropriate programs and supports related to employment, literacy and recreation to increase resiliency, self-sustainability, pride and future opportunities.

• • COMMUNITY PARTNERS • • • • •

Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Secretariat Inc.:
Eagle’s Nest Program

Boys & Girls Clubs of Winnipeg Inc.:
Youth Recreation Activity Worker Program

Broadway Neighborhood Centre Inc.:
Just TV

Indigenous Leadership Development Institute Inc.:
Aboriginal Construction Technology Program

Ka Ni Kanichihk Inc.:
Honouring Gifts

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

Ndinawemaaganag Endaawaad Inc.:
Youth Resource Centre Recreation Program

Resource Assistance for Youth, Inc.:
Growing Opportunities

Spence Neighborhood Association Inc.:
First Jobs 4 Youth

Our community partners are leaders in the delivery of youth-focused programming that result in youth building skills essential for the workplace and essential for a good life. Every young person in our city deserves to find hope for the future and the opportunity to pursue a dream.

In the past six months youth have received essential supports for their journey. They’ve also shared their time and enthusiasm in giving back to their community through local volunteerism.

Did you know? The image in the background was actually taken from a mural painted in the Aboriginal Relations office by a young Aboriginal woman named Jasmine Anderson.

OUR EXTERNAL INITIATIVES

TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT

Youth are finding new pathways to employment and education opportunities through community-based, culturally relevant programs and services developed and delivered by our community partners. Through these programs, Aboriginal youth have successfully obtained new skills, contributed to their community through volunteerism, strengthened their resumes, and found employment and renewed commitments to education.

Youth have provided over 729 hours of volunteer service in our community!



RECREATION & LEISURE

Over 2,000 youth participated in sport, recreation, and physical activity through Ndinawemaaganag Endaawaad's Youth Resource Recreation Program. That's hockey, soccer, baseball, basketball, boxing, trampoline, swimming, skating, weight-lifting, and hip-hop!



OUR INTERNAL INITIATIVES

TRAINING INITIATIVES

Winnipeg Transit and Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak worked in partnership to increase Aboriginal representation of bus operators in Winnipeg. Four bus operators were recruited, hired and successfully completed a comprehensive training program. Franklin Lea was one of those recruits and is well on his way to becoming an outstanding bus operator with Winnipeg Transit! We recognize their positive impact as role models to others interested in a career with Winnipeg Transit.



Right photo: Franklin Lea
(Winnipeg Transit Bus Operator)

PRIMARY CARE PARAMEDICS UPDATE

In our last newsletter we shared news of 16 First Nations and Metis students of the Primary Care Paramedic Training Program graduating in June 2014. This past October, SEVEN of these graduates started their careers with the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service!

See one student's story [Graduate, Layne Berens](#). (Link directs to CTV's interview.)

POST-SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS

5 students enrolled in a full-time program at a recognized post-secondary institution in Winnipeg and received a \$1,000 scholarship towards their tuition this past August! These students have an aim to earn a degree in one of the following areas of study: social sciences, politics, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and human nutritional sciences and expressed an interest in a career with the City of Winnipeg!

"... I am a Metis father that you have assisted from your generous scholarship awards. I am currently in my second year and pursuing a career in engineering. Having a son increased the financial cost and stress while I attend school. Worrying about food and clothes for his ever growing body is just as stressful as my studies. I am very grateful for your contribution to my studies and helping us achieve our goals."

Chanse Kornik
2014 Post-Secondary Scholarship Recipient

INTERNAL INITIATIVES CONT'D

INTERNSHIPS

Corporate Finance

Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak partnered with the City of Winnipeg's Corporate Finance department to establish two Aboriginal internship positions in the following divisions: Materials Management and Infrastructure Planning. We would like to highlight [Andre Man](#), and [Justin Resendes](#). Click their names to read their biographies!

Assessment and Taxation

Dylan Allary completed a six-week finance internship in the Assessment and Taxation department of the City of Winnipeg. He gained important hands-on experience on various duties within the department to gain insight on how the department and its financial aspect functions. He has been able to take away a great deal of relevant experience that will help him in his future endeavours. Dylan has now returned to the University of Manitoba's Asper School of Business to complete his second year of studies. Way to go Dylan!

Corporate Communications

Chantal Traverse joined Corporate Communications as the Aboriginal Public Information Assistant, a one-year communications internship. She originally joined Aboriginal Relations as a work placement student and then successfully moved into the communications internship position this past July. She is gaining valuable exposure to the communications field through her work with Corporate Communications and her daily involvement in managing and coordinating Aboriginal Relations' communications strategy. Chantal designed this newsletter!

Data Application Services

Cassy R. joined us this past December as the Corporate Web Services Specialist. This one-year web internship is delivered in partnership with Data Application Services. Cassy is already designing media products and contributing to the development of Aboriginal Relations new web page, and updating the existing Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak web page.



Laninia Higheagle is currently a projects intern with Aboriginal Relations and provides the team clerical and project support. She's humbled to have had the opportunity to work with the team and gain experience to further herself professionally. She will soon fulfill her term and pursue a permanent position within the civic system.

SUMMER CAREER WEEKS

This past August, Aboriginal and newcomer youth from across the City of Winnipeg participated and explored careers with the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service and the Winnipeg Police Service. Youth between the ages of 15-18 participated in fun and exciting hands-on activities and found new friendships while getting an inside look at an exciting career as a Police Officer, Firefighter, or Paramedic.

5TH ANNUAL OAN CELEBRATION

This past November, Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak's 5th Annual Celebration took place to honour Aboriginal youth achievement in education and employment initiatives developed under the City of Winnipeg's Aboriginal Youth Strategy. Over 145 guests including Mayor Brian Bowman, senior administration, civic department representatives, Aboriginal youth honourees and family members, community elders, traditional performers, contemporary youth performers, and our community partners attended.



Above from the left: Mayor Brian Bowman, Chantal Traverse, Elder Jules Lavallee, and Clive Wightman.

This annual celebration event is an opportunity to recognize individual success and is a result of the initiatives developed together with our community and civic partners.



Another successful year for the youth of Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak!
We wish you the best in your future endeavours!