

INSTITUTE FOR
INTERNATIONAL



3rd Annual General Meeting

October 20, 2016

Annual Report 2015—2016

IIWR-Manitoba is founded to:

- generate education,**
- awareness, and**
- action**

to promote women's human rights

*An organization in Special Status with the Economic
and Social Council of the United Nations*

Founding meeting held April 8th, 2013: The Institute for International Women's Rights - Manitoba is a corporation without share capital founded to deliver public education and information-sharing among members and their respective networks to support educational, economic, social, legal and health opportunities, to increase respect for and implementation of the human rights of women locally and globally, in consultation and cooperation with other organizations dedicated to promoting women's human rights, global women's health, women's peace and security in conflict zones and post conflict reconstruction areas.

AGENDA
Third Annual Meeting
INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S RIGHTS - MANITOBA
October 20th, 2016

Welcome - Florence Okwudili

Opening Reflection - Pahan Pte San Win

Business Meeting - Mary Scott

Review and acceptance of Minutes

Review and acceptance of Annual Report

Review and acceptance of Financial Report

Review and acceptance of By Law changes

Presentation and approval of Board slate

Acknowledgments

Introduction of Key Note Speaker: Elizabeth Aluk Andrea

Key Note Speaker: Rebecca Deng

**“A Story of Empowering Women in South Sudan:
The Diaspora Giving Back”**

Thank you to speakers

Community Announcements

Closing

MINUTES OF AN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S RIGHTS - MANITOBA INC. (the
"Corporation") held at the University Women's Club, 54 West Gate, Winnipeg, Manitoba, on
September 30, 2015.

PRESENT:

MARY LOUISE SCOTT
ELLEN RUTH JUDD
HILARY MAIRIN MILLIKEN TAYLOR
MURIEL SMITH
ANITA NEVILLE
LEONA MACDONALD
LEAMBER KENSLEY
FLORENCE OKWUDILI
MARILOU MCPHEDRAN
NADIA KIDWAI
NANCY COS WAY
ANGELINE RIVARD
HAZEL PERRIE
ALYSSA PRIESTLY
GERTRUDE HAMBIRA
CHRISTINA MCLEOD
JAN CHRISTIE
TECLAR GUDU
KOBRA RAHIMI
DONNA MARION
CHELSEA JEAN CATHERINE CALDWELL
WILMA SOTAS
ZULFIYA TURSUNOVA
ALANNA GREY

being a majority of the members of the Corporation.

MARY SCOTT was appointed Chairwoman and HILARY TAYLOR acted as Secretary of the meeting.

The Chairwoman stated that as a majority of the members of the Corporation were present in person, the meeting was duly constituted for the transaction of business. A notice of this meeting was sent to all the members of the Corporation, and the Chairwoman directed that a copy of such notice and proof of service be annexed to the minutes of this meeting.

The Secretary read the minutes of the meeting of October 8, 2014 and it was unanimously resolved that the minutes be adopted as read.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

It was moved, seconded and unanimously RESOLVED that the financial statements of the Corporation for the financial year ended December 31, 2014, consisting of the Balance Sheet, Statement of Retained Earnings, Income Statement, Statement of Changes in Financial Position, other supporting statements and Notes, are hereby received and approved.

CONFIRMATION OF RESIGNATIONS

It was moved, seconded and unanimously

RESOLVED that the resolution of the directors accepting the resignation of DONNA MARION as director of the Corporation, effective January 10, 2015, is hereby confirmed. It was moved, seconded and unanimously RESOLVED that the resolution of the directors accepting the resignations of the following persons as directors and/or members of the Corporation, effective September 26, 2015 are hereby confirmed:

Jessica Bloomfield (Director)

Roxana Obasi (Director and Member)

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

It was moved, seconded and unanimously

RESOLVED that the following persons are hereby elected directors of the Corporation to hold office until the next annual meeting of the shareholders or until her successor is elected or appointed:

Christina McLeod
Jan Christie
Teclar Gudu
Kobra Rahimi

APPOINTMENT OF CO-CHAIRS

It was moved, seconded and unanimously RESOLVED that the following persons are hereby elected Co-Chairs of the Corporation to hold office for the ensuing year or until her successor is elected:

Co-Chair Mary Scott
Co-Chair Florence Okwudili

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

It was moved, seconded and unanimously RESOLVED that the Corporation do not appoint an auditor and that MIKE MAJORS be appointed accountants of the Corporation to hold office until the close of the next annual meeting of the members at a remuneration to be fixed by the directors of the Corporation.

CONFIRMATION OF NUMBER OF DIRECTORS

It was moved, seconded and unanimously RESOLVED that the resolution of the directors fixing the number of directors of the Corporation at nineteen (19) is hereby confirmed.

APPROVAL OF ACTS OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS It was moved, seconded and unanimously RESOLVED that all acts, contracts, resolutions, proceedings, elections, appointments, accounts and payments made, done and taken by the directors and officers of the Corporation since the date of the last annual resolutions of the members of the Corporation are hereby approved and confirmed.

The meeting then terminated.

Signed by Mary Scott, Co Chair, and Hilary Taylor, Secretary



QUICK REVIEW OF 2015-2016

IIWR-MB has continued in its mission of education, awareness and advocacy for women's human rights, with the involvement of many who support the outreach efforts, and are passionate about making a difference in women's lives.

We have held a number of informative programs, many in collaboration with others, such as:

- November 19th, IIWR-MB supported and attended a community debrief by Law Students from Manitoba who attended the Indigenous Bar Association meetings in Toronto. We brought refreshments to the Indian and Metis Friendship Center, and supported the students learning and participating, with discussion and dialogue on reconciliation.
- During the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence (between November 25th and December 10th, 2015), we promoted the many community events, circulating a calendar, prepared by IIWR-MB, and attending and volunteering at the events. We also sponsored an event on December 2nd, **Women Working for Peace in a State of War**. Approximately 50 people joined IIWR-MB and IIWR Global College. The evening was informative and the panelists shared stories that inspired the audience to do more to work for peace in the world. Many participants brought articles of outdoor clothing for the Syrian Refugees, and were donated to the Canadian Muslim Women's Association. Financial Donations were made, and Laila and Farouk Chebib facilitated the donations to the Manitoba Muslim Association to help the Syrian Refugees. Panelists included Mais Al Selah, Sandy Deng and Ellen Judd. At the end of the program, everyone filled in a sign to commit to what they would do.



- IIWR-MB held a program during International Development Week. For 26 years, International Development Week (IDW) has taken place during the first full week of February, and is a great opportunity to explore how Canada and Canadians are making a difference around the world! The theme for IDW 2016 was "We Are Making A Difference." As part of IDW, IIWR-MB held a special presentation on February 11th, **Voices From the Field – Winnipeggers are making a difference!** We heard from our members as they shared their stories of what they have learned in travels, work and study about the lives of women.



- April 27th, 2016 **Local to Global 2016 – Age of Reconciliation: Restoring the Roles Women Traditionally Play** – with Ellen Gabriel. This was the signature event of IIWR-MB, and we raised \$18,000 for 3 organizations: The MATCH International Women’s Fund; the Mohawk Language Custodian Association; and Global Citizenship Scholarships for students studying women’s human rights at the University of Winnipeg. IIWR-Manitoba was pleased to bring Ellen Gabriel to Winnipeg to speak to a packed venue at the Viscount Gort Hotel. Ellen spoke for over 50 minutes on the topic of reconciliation and restoring the traditional roles of women. She talked about the impact of colonization, residential schools, loss of language, the effects of which we see today. It was an educational and thought provoking evening, that also included a spoken word performance by Mary Black—Quiet—and beautiful singing by Dawn Lavant. Tina Keeper was the wonderful emcee. IIWR-MB thank the many who worked to make this evening such a success, and the many supporters who came out.



- On Tuesday, June 14th, a group from the community heard presentations about the experiences of delegates attending the 60th meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women, in the lovely Round Room at Ma Mawi. A group from Manitoba, delegates of the National Council of Women of Canada presented on **“Lessons from the Heart – Indigenous Women Bringing Our Children Home”**. It was a dynamite presentation, with the consequences of Residential Schools being felt strongly today. Manitoba has the highest percentage of indigenous children in care in Canada. We also heard about the actions being taken, and in particular the work at Ma Mawi, and Nelson House, where extended family care is practiced and supported. We also heard from students from University of Winnipeg Global College, who traveled to New York with Prof. Marilou McPhedran to participate in the UN CSW sessions, as delegates of the World Federalist Movement. We heard from Katrina Leclerc and Breanne Lavalee-Heckert who were members of the **YOUTH SPEAK OUT** panel co-hosted by the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders, Taking IT Global, and Canadian Voice of Women for Peace. The students reported on how much they learned about how the UN system works, and how important it is for young women to be there.

Organization Members of IIWR-MB include:

- IIWR Global College
- Canadian Women 4 Women Afghanistan
 - Council of Women of Winnipeg
 - MATCH Manitoba
 - Grands 'n' More Winnipeg
 - Manitoba Moon Voices Inc.
 - Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre
- Mondetta Charity Foundation
 - CUPE (Manitoba)
 - YMCA-YWCA

IIWR-MB is a member of:

- Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba
- The Steering Committee for the Winnipeg Safe Cities Initiative of UN Women
 - PEG (Public Engagement Group) of MCIC
 - FAFIA - Feminist Alliance for International Action
 - Manitoba Moon Voices, Inc. as a community ally



Dana Connelly and Florence Okwudili—at the Seven Sacred Fires at The Forks



Charlene Desjarlais and Mary Scott prepare for the Torch of Dignity Run.

IIWR-MB on the Web

**Check us out on the web at <http://iiwrmb.ca> and on facebook—
<https://www.facebook.com/InstituteInternationalWomensRightsManitoba>**

Advocacy Report
Prepared for the Annual General Meeting of the IIWR-MB
taking place on October 20, 2016

About the Advocacy Committee

The Advocacy Committee (the “Committee”) currently consists of 15 members, including:

Dinah Ceplis	Frances Molaro
Laila Chebib	Pamela Nordin
Leanne Ellard	Maddie Pearlman
Carolyn Garlich	Ange Rivard
Gertrude Hambira	Muriel Smith
Rosemary Kezaabu	Sally Thomas
Ellen Judd	Debra Wilson
Alyssa Mariani	

Throughout the year, the Committee reviews various external requests for support respecting local and global women’s rights issues and makes recommendations to the IIWR-MB board. The Committee also considers whether to participate with its own advocacy initiatives and in this regard, members of the Committee may conduct research or assist with drafting petitions, letters of support and/or opinion pieces.

The Year in Review

Since the 2015 Annual General Meeting, the Committee has participated in the following advocacy initiatives on behalf of the IIWR-MB:

- Wrote a letter to the political party leaders during the Canadian federal election expressing concern on two major issues: (i) the Canada Revenue Agency’s special political-activity audits, which effectively silences advocacy groups, and the recent internal government report on the status of women in Canada, which pointed out that Canada is falling behind the rest of the developed world with respect to women’s equality
- Wrote an editorial article to the Winnipeg Free Press regarding the 16 Days of Violence Against Women and specifically, its theme for 2015: women’s and girls’ right to education
- Signed onto a petition urging the Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick to reverse its decision to cut funding to its Women and Gender Studies Program
- Supported an open letter addressed to President Kabila and United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon urging an end to the violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Alyssa Mariani (Chair)



**INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S RIGHTS – MANITOBA INC.
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR END
DECEMBER 31, 2015**

Precise Accounting Services
Accounting and Income Tax Consultants

NOTICE TO READER

We have compiled the accompanying balance sheet of the **INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S RIGHTS – MANITOBA INC.** as at December 31, 2015 and the statement of income for the year ended from the information provided by the owner. We have not audited, reviewed or otherwise attempted to verify the accuracy or completeness of such information. Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purpose.

August 17, 2016
Winnipeg, Manitoba

INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S RIGHTS - MANITOBA INC.
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2015
(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

ASSETS	2015	2014
Current assets:		
Cash and bank	\$ 7,126	\$ 8,300
Prepaid	<u>1,040</u>	<u>-</u>
	8,166	8,300
	<u>8,166</u>	<u>8,300</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	1,178	339
Unearned Revenue	<u>75</u>	<u>375</u>
	1,253	714
SHARE CAPITAL AND EQUITY		
Contributed Surplus (note 4)	<u>6,913</u>	<u>7,586</u>
	6,913	7,586
	<u>8,166</u>	<u>8,300</u>

APPROVED BY:

Treasurer

President

INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL
Statement of Operations and Deficit
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2015
(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

Revenue:	2015	2014
Membership Fees	1,905	810
	<u>1,905</u>	<u>810</u>
Other Income:		
Donations	2,571	2,755
Fundraising	-	14,765
Grant Revenue	-	250
Interest Income	3	3
Other Revenue	-	120
	<u>2,574</u>	<u>17,893</u>
Gross Revenue	4,479	18,703
Operating Expenses:		
AGM Expense	94	311
Donations	2,191	5,420
Fundraising Expense	-	2,714
Honorarium & Gifts	-	977
Seeds	-	47
Supplies	235	476
Travel	-	796
Workshop	224	83
	<u>2,744</u>	<u>10,823</u>
Administrative Expenses:		
Advertising and promotion	-	371
Bank charges	25	5
Dues and fees	90	-
Office supplies	181	114
Professional Services	1,079	562
Repairs and maintenance	34	-
Website	1,000	-
	<u>2,408</u>	<u>1,051</u>
Income (loss) for the year	(674)	6,829
Prior year earnings adjustment	-	(1,010)
Unallocated earnings beginning of year	7,586	1,767
Unallocated earnings end of year	<u>6,913</u>	<u>7,586</u>

Proposed Board to be elected as a slate at AGM 2016

Co Chairs

Florence Okwudili
Nancy Cosway

Treasurer

LeAmber Kensley

Secretary

Charlene Desjarlais

VP Admin

Christine Williams

VP Diversity

Nawal Tajdin

VP Youth

Dana Connolly

Chair Advocacy

Angeline Rivard

Members

Ellen Judd
Alyssa Mariana
Mary Scott
Hilary Taylor
Leona MacDonald
Anita Neville
Marilou McPhedran
Jan Christie
Hazel Perrie
Frances Molaro
Rosemary Kezaabu

And thank you to those who served during the last year

Christie McLeod
Teclar Gludu
Muriel Smith
Nadia Kidwai
Gertrude Hambira
Kobra Rahimi



From the IIWR-MB Organization Members

YMCA-YWCA Winnipeg

The YMCA-YWCA of Winnipeg will host our annual Power of Being a Girl Conference on October 25th at MTYP. This event targets young women of ages 12-14 who have had limited opportunity to engage in community activities and would benefit from a day of inspiring speakers, workshops, healthy lunch, physical activity, and an opportunity to meet other girls from within their division. This year's keynote is Lindy Norris.

The Strong Girl Strong World Committee is comprised of teen girls who may be from a marginalized socio-economical background, may not be previously engaged at school or afterschool programs, and therefore miss many opportunities to participate that could further their academic or professional development. They continue to— learn how to build a strong campaign surrounding their learning about consent, and how to utilize resources in order to self-advocate. The Winnipeg group participated in Pride events, held a launch of their proposed teaching tool at the University of Winnipeg and recently shared their learning with the general public by hosting an information table at Polo Park Shopping Center.

Our childcare portfolio welcomed 4 new school age child care centers this past fall increasing our complement of programs to 33 SACC programs and 4 preschool programs in and around the City of Winnipeg. Up next is the 2017 opening of the 100 space Great West Life infant/preschool program which the YMCA-YWCA of Winnipeg will operate as the Provider of Choice. The opening of this program will increase the Y's offering to over 1700 spaces. We continue to look for innovative opportunities to support families in need of care.

Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata

Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata is a grandmother in the Winnipeg family of community service providers. She was established in 1984 to reclaim Indigenous people's inherent role and responsibility as the caregivers for Indigenous children and families in Winnipeg. We are a community mandated, Indigenous directed and supported human service organization, delivering children in care and community based programs and services to Indigenous families. The name Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata translates from Ojibway into the phrase "*we all work together to help one another*" and our programs and services are developed and operate within a philosophy that is embodied in our name. These words reflect a vision of collective responsibility and reciprocity that drives our leadership in Indigenous community based care in Winnipeg.



YMCA - YWCA

**We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.**



MA MAWI WI CHI ITATA CENTRE
We all work together to help one another.



**MANITOBA
MOON VOICES INC.**

Manitoba Moon Voices, Inc.

In the coming year as we gain greater capacity we will continue to reach the goals in our mission: *“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.”*

1. Governance and Administration

- May 23, 2015 MMVI held its first Annual General Assembly, electing a 7 member Board of Directors.
- A 3 year (2016 – 2019) Strategic Plan was developed and shared with membership at the 2nd Annual General Assembly held in June 2016. The priorities identified reflect the important issues, opportunities and key focus areas, that when addressed will allow the organization to flourish.
- From 2016 - 2019 MMVI will strategically focus efforts around the following priorities: Indigenous Women’s Leadership; Issues arising from Child Welfare and the issues of Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls.
- Completed implementation of promotional plan for membership recruitment. Membership recruitment efforts to date **343 - verified memberships as of March 31, 2016**
- Hired Executive Director, and ASETS program Coordinator

2. Communications and Programming

- Launched Website and Facebook page. Continued development and expansion of communications strategy.
- Participated in over 50 community events and met with organizations profiling MMVI, creating networks and initiating relationships to consider future partnerships on issues affecting indigenous women in Manitoba.
- Completed a Leadership Guidebook, currently working on implementation and promotion plan for delivery to Indigenous women’s groups across the province.
- Received funding for Aboriginal Skills Employment and Training Strategy (ASETS) through Native Women’s Association of Canada (NWAC) for 2015-2016 and again in 2016-2017.
- In 2015 – 2016 - 8 of 8 ASETS participants graduated from their program(s). Graduates were Indigenous Women from various regions of Manitoba including: 3 Northern, 1 Interlake; 3 Southern; 1 out of Province.
- In 2016 – 2017 – funding included supports for: short term programs; required documentation; and childcare (focus being on removing barriers to employment). Currently, funding has been extended to 3 participants for longer term (up to one year) programs. The number of applications received far outweighs the amount funding available.

3. Information and advocacy Supports

- Child welfare information/supports
- Training and employment information - Winnipeg/urban locations, Northern communities & Reserves
- Volunteer requests
- Support services for Health related issues - Dealing with trauma/IRS, Addictions, Depression/suicide, Sexual exploitation, Homelessness
- Issues affecting murdered and missing indigenous women and girls - Family participation in political meetings, Supports for memorial recognition (Family feasts, Spiritual supports i.e. headstone, counselling, Elder/Traditional, Public Events)

Respectfully Submitted by:

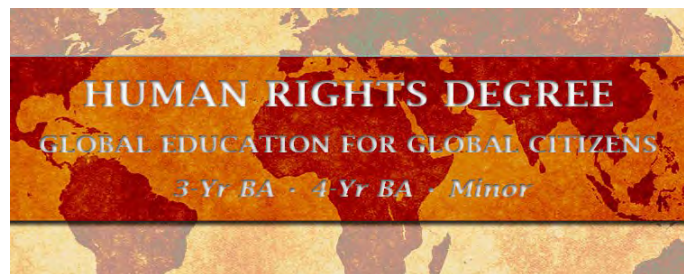
Manitoba Moon Voices Board of Directors

Institute for International Women's Rights at the University of Winnipeg Global College

The Institute for International Women's Rights at The University of Winnipeg Global College was established in 2009 to provide students and faculty with channels for dialogue and action to further international women's rights.

The founding director, Prof. Marilou McPhedran, has a focus on facilitation of student engagement with research and activities that support 'demystifying' global governance in human rights through individual research projects (in collaboration with other universities and NGO partners), field courses (including the biennial UN field course held every second year eg 2013, 2015, 2017 etc.) - as well as facilitating internship and practicum opportunities with UN agencies and international NGOs to promote women's human rights in the international systems.

For example, students are trained in how to be a rapporteur for a UN related meeting so that attendance at UN events requires of students a higher level of engagement, with responsibility to provide support to NGO work in those venues. These opportunities are made available through long standing international relationships and financial support from members of the broader Winnipeg community, derived from the 'Local to Global' events hosted by the Institute for International Women's Rights - Manitoba - the independent sister organization based in the community.



MATCH International

MATCH International has been working for 40 years to match the needs of the most marginalized women and girls in the global south with Canadian resources. The MATCH International Women's Fund supports grass roots groups with projects that dismantle barriers, challenge perceptions, change systems and transform society for a more equal world. Our committee in Manitoba works to raise funds for the MATCH International Women's Fund, and to raise awareness about the response of the MATCH Fund to violence, injustice and poverty.

We are very grateful for the generous donation to the Women's Fund from the IIWR to support human rights for indigenous women and girls. Together we are making the world a better place for women and girls.

We've been busy!

IIWR-MB held 7 Board Meetings and 2 Executive Committee Meetings in 2015

IIWR-MB held 6 Board and Event Planning meetings so far in 2016

and the really big news -

IIWR-MB is now an organization in Special Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations!

Mondetta Charity Foundateion (MCF)

MONDETTA CHARITY FOUNDATION (MCF) is pleased to be an organizational member of IIWR. In the early 1970s, two families left East Africa. Settling in Winnipeg, members of these two families came together and founded Mondetta Clothing Company in 1986. Nearly 20 years later, Mondetta created a foundation to give back to Kenya and Uganda. MCF was formed in 2004 and acquired charitable status in 2006. In 2016 Mondetta acquired charitable status as well in the U.S.

Mondetta Charity Foundation (MCF) strives to reduce barriers to education for children in East Africa through local partnerships.

MCF works with Kamwokya Primary School, located in a sprawling urban slum in Kampala, Uganda. Since 2005, MCF has maintained a food program that provides a hot meal to the school's almost 2,000 students on a daily basis, and has served about 3 million meals to date. MCF also supports the New Life Home Trust Day Centre in Madogo, a small settlement located in north-eastern Kenya. The Centre provides educational lessons and daily meals, and is a safe and welcoming space for the sixty children that attend. The Centre also offers a community outreach initiative for adults.

Through generous donations and a major bequest, MCF was able to contribute to the construction of a new three-storey classroom wing at the Kamwokya School reducing classroom sizes to a more reasonable size and creating space for more children to attend. One of these classrooms is now being converted into a new library.

MCF is also in the beginning stages of a water harvesting and filtration project that will collect and purify rainwater, reducing the cost of water for the school, as well as providing a source of clean water.

For more information, please visit us at MondettaCharityFoundation.org, or on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.



Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan

Founded in 1996, Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan (CW4WAfghan) is a non-religious, non-political, federally registered charity in Canada. With thirteen volunteer chapters across Canada, CW4WAfghan is a member-based, not-for-profit organization. Our goals are to advance education and educational opportunities for Afghan women and their families and to educate Canadians about human rights in Afghanistan. Donor-funded projects fall within our two main field program areas: (1) Community Libraries & Literacy Program; and (2) Investments in Public Education. For more information about our organization and a list of our projects, visit our website at, www.cw4wafghan.ca.





Grands 'n' More Winnipeg

Working for the grandmothers and AIDS orphans of Africa

AFTA 2 (Art from the Attic) – Grands'n'More Winnipeg held its second Art from the Attic sale in September. This has become an annual event, given that over \$30,000 has been raised at each sale. Due to sponsors and our raffles, ALL the dollars spent by our buyers go to the Stephen Lewis Foundation in support of the African grandmothers caring for their AIDS-orphaned grandchildren. This event involves almost all our members in a variety of tasks – among which are some who price the donated art over the three-month collection phase, the drivers who collect those art works, our amazing publicity folks, the dozens and dozens who help load, unload and cover many jobs during the sale itself. Mark your calendars for AFTA#3; final date TBA, but either the third or fourth Sunday in September, 2017 and feel free to get involved – you do NOT have to be a Grands'n'More member to be part of this fun event. jeanaltmeyer@shaw.ca or www.grandsnmore.com

Prairie Regional Gathering held in Winnipeg – September 24th & 25th, 2016 Grands 'n' More Winnipeg was the host group for the bi-annual Prairie Gathering this fall. The weekend was an opportunity for grandmother groups from across Manitoba and Saskatchewan to “Remember – Reflect – Revitalize” about the 10 years of the Grandmothers to Grandmothers campaign of the Stephen Lewis Foundation. The gathering featured a sharing of member's experiences of the South African trip to the International AIDS conference in July 2016 as well as themed networking table groups where grandmother group members shared ideas for awareness and fundraising. A highpoint of the Gathering was Saturday evening's “Conversation with Stephen Lewis and Ilana Landsberg-Lewis” who not only shared the stage as part of a cross-Canada tour but delivered a retrospective of the 10 year grandmothers campaign and the current state of the AIDS pandemic. Sunday featured “Listening to the voices of the African Grandmothers” where 5 community leaders from the funded projects of the Stephen Lewis Foundation shared experiences about their grassroots organizations. The gathering closed with the Stephen Lewis Foundation staff leading workshops on “Impact and Resilience” as well as how to “Express Solidarity” with the African grandmothers and their orphaned grandchildren. Grandmothers and grandmothers left inspired by solidarity with the African organizations and the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

CUPE·SCFP / Canadian Union of Public Employees
Syndicat canadien de la fonction publique

CUPE National and CUPE Manitoba continue to support the Institute of International Women's Rights in Manitoba. The following is a snapshot of some of the involvement CUPE has had within the last year. In 2016, CUPE celebrated the 100 year anniversary of the Women's Right to Vote, sent a delegation to speak at the UN session on the Status of Women, and compiled and published bargaining guidelines to help our locals bargain equality into our collective agreements for members.

We continue to focus on fighting for pay equity both provincially and nationally, to advocate for and support groups working on the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous women, and facilitate workshops on domestic violence in the workplace as a health and safety issue.

CUPE supports the María Elena Cuadra Movement (MEC) in Nicaragua and Central America who seek to improve the ability of workers to defend their human and labour rights from a gender perspective. CUPE representatives attended the World Social Forum (WSF) which is one of the largest global gatherings of civil society. The Forum brings together tens of thousands of activists with the intention of identifying solutions to the most important issues of our time affecting the economy, the environment, human and trade union rights, and democracy. Thirteen themes came out of the Forum. One of these themes is Struggles against Racism, Xenophobia, Patriarchy and Fundamentalism.

Council of Women of Winnipeg



2015-16 has been a busy year for the Council of Women of Winnipeg albeit our Council is small the Council has been able to accomplish some rather large goals and events. The first undertaking for CWW was a partnership with PCWM to organize a Federal Election Candidates debate with the focused discussion of key issues affecting women, families and communities. Expert women panelists presented key issues that were not been adequately addressed in the Federal campaign; Murdered and missing women and girls, Gender wage gap women, Women in leadership roles and Immigrant and refugee policies.

The forum was well attended by candidates and room was at capacity. The forum received national and local media coverage - a very successful event indeed.

After the election forum we had the wonderful opportunity to have Lore Mirwaldt QC as our program guest speaker addressing the issues of Family Law Basics for 2016 covering both provincial and federal legislation including spousal support advisory guidelines, custody, pensions, family property, divorce and separation. The National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC) and Council of Women of Winnipeg (CWW) were honoured to participate in the presentation "Lessons From the Heart" Indigenous Women Bringing Our Children Home at the sixtieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW60) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York March 23, 2016, New York, NY. The presenters were Sarah Gazan & Jackie Walker from Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Family and Community Wellness Centre Inc., Margaret MacKinnon from Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre, Lore M. Mirwaldt from Mirwaldt, Gray, Poudrier Law, Cora Morgan from Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs. Moderated by Kelly-Ann Stevenson 1st Vice President National Council of Women of Canada and President Council of Women of Winnipeg. Manitoba leads the Western World in the removal of Indigenous children from their families. Lessons From the Heart; Indigenous Women are leading the way by challenging existing systems using Indigenous knowledge, laws, traditions and belief systems to create positive change. Note: IIWR-MB organized a report back to the community by the Manitoba delegation to the 60th meeting of the CSW at Ma MaWii in June.

PCWM agreed to partner with CWW in a spring fundraising event – High Tea with Nellie McClung April 24, 2016 at Dalnavert Museum and it was a profitable and enjoyable afternoon. CWW agreed to support and assist our Federate – Woman Healing for Change Inc. In their fundraising endeavours for Little Stars PLAYhouse (formerly known as the Phoenix Sinclair Playhouse) For the past seven years, they have been running a program called North End Stay and Play, the objective of which is to provide children and their families a place to play together, and together to learn the benefits that play provides. NESF has been running on a modest budget and has only been able to operate one afternoon a week, usually out of a donated church basement, but they have a dream they are working very hard to fulfill – a new, custom-built play house on Selkirk Avenue that will operate five or six days a week. It will be called the Little Stars Playhouse. CWW & Women Healing for Change's first shared fundraising event is the Margaret' Choir Benefit choir on May 6, 2016.

CWW's AGM was held on May 5th and the focus of our AGM was approval of the newly revised CWW By-laws and Standing Rules. Currently we are planning our fall / winter 2016/17 program starting with the development of two working groups Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls and Railroad Relocation and Safety for Winnipeg. Feedback from these groups will help us to develop resolutions for National Council of Women of Canada AGM June 2017 Ottawa, Ontario

Special thanks:

- Caryn Douglas, who created and supported the IIWR-MB web site
- Sylvia De Sousa, Thomson Dorfman Sweatman, LLP &
- Ali Hyde, Articling Student at Law for pro bono services
- Institute for International Women's Rights at Global College, for support and for use of their space
- **And to everyone that came out and supported Local to Global: 2016, with Ellen Gabriel!**

Winnipeg Safe City: Update

Prepared for Institute for International Women's Rights Annual Report (October 2016)

In 2013 Winnipeg became the first North American city to sign onto UN Women's Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces Initiative. The global initiative seeks to end sexual violence against women and girls in public spaces. Immediately after signing onto the initiative, the City of Winnipeg and Manitoba Status of Women worked to bring together organizations, agencies and government representatives who shared the commitment to work towards ending sexual violence against women and girls in Winnipeg. The Institute for International Women's Rights – Manitoba has been a committed partner and member of the Winnipeg Safe City steering committee from the very beginning.

This past September, the Winnipeg Safe City reported on progress achieved to-date and announced a number of current/new initiatives, including:

- The release of a comprehensive report ("Scoping Study") examining the prevalence and experiences of sexual violence in Winnipeg. This report includes data sets from a number of quantitative and qualitative sources, including from focus groups held with over 150 Indigenous and newcomer women living in Winnipeg.
- The release of the Winnipeg Safe City website (winnipeg.ca/UNWpgSafeCity) and twitter account (@WpgSafeCity) which will be maintained by the City of Winnipeg.
- The release of Taxicab Passenger Safety brochures, available in six languages: English, French, Cree, Ojibwe, Tagalog and Arabic. These brochures were developed by the Southern Chiefs' Organization and were translated by the Province of Manitoba
- The re-release of Winnipeg Transit's Request Stop Program, a program which allows passengers to request to be let off between regular stops after 7 pm.
- Program update from Heart Medicine Lodge at Ka Ni Kanichihk. Heart Medicine Lodge is Canada's first Indigenous-led healing program for survivors of sexual violence and trauma. The program runs in 12-week sessions and is currently in its second round. Program participants are provided with the opportunity to experience a cedar bath ceremony, pipe ceremony, sweat lodge lodge and full moon ceremony as part of their healing journey.

Additional information, including links to the Scoping Study and brochures are at www.winnipeg.ca/

On behalf of the Winnipeg Safe City steering committee, Manitoba Status of Women would like to thank IIWR-MB for their support and commitment to this issue. We look forward to continuing to work with you in the year ahead.

IIWR-MB stands for
EDUCATION
AWARENESS AND
ACTION FOR WOMEN'S
HUMAN RIGHTS

