

“As long as the sun shines, grass grows, and the rivers flow”



TREATY RELATIONS COMMISSION OF MANITOBA

WE ARE ALL TREATY PEOPLE



**2009 – 2010
ANNUAL REPORT**





Dedication

Elder William Loone

(December 8, 1937 – June 4, 2009)

It is with great honour and deep admiration that the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba dedicates the 2009-2010 Annual Report to the memory of an Elder who has journeyed on to the Spirit World.

The late Elder William Loone, Northlands Dene First Nation, attended Sturgeon Landing, The Pas and Labret residential schools. Upon completing grade 11, he returned home to his community to care for his elderly parents and entered into fishing and trapping as his livelihood. William was married to Anne and was the proud father of six children. William was employed with the Manitoba Indian Brotherhood and Medical Services Branch. In addition, William served his community as Band Councillor for four years and worked as the Dene translator for the North of 60 Negotiation Team. For the past 3 years he had been the Dene representative on the AMC Council of Elders advising both the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba.

Elders keep First Nation culture alive. With their guidance, strength and wisdom they pass along the history and culture, teachings, language and direction for the future.

The Elders have left a legacy of Treaties; being the foundation of the relationship between First Nations and the Crown. The involvement of First Nations Elders is fundamental in maintaining the original spirit and intent of the Treaties.

The contributions, efforts and commitment by the Elders to have the true spirit and intent of the Treaties understood throughout Manitoba and Canada is instrumental and fully appreciated in the work of the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba.

Without their inspiration, guidance and advice, the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba would be critically disadvantaged in its research and public education about the significance of Treaties and the Treaty Relationship.

We humbly respect and acknowledge the Spirit of this Elder. Our deepest gratitude is extended to the family and friends of the late Elder William Loone in preparation of this report.

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Message from the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs

On behalf of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, an official partner to the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba, I acknowledge Treaty Commissioner Dennis White Bird for his leadership and vision in fulfilling and achieving the mandate to strengthen, rebuild and enhance the Treaty relationship. I also want to thank our Elders Council for their ongoing support and commitment to the TRCM.

During the past year, the AMC Executive Council of Chiefs and Chiefs-In-Assembly have been engaged in several discussions on the TRCM Renewal as directed through resolutions carried in August 2009 and March 2010. To assist in this process, a Chiefs Task Force on TRCM was mandated with three Chiefs appointed. I wish to acknowledge and thank Chief Norman Bone, Chief Derek Nepinak and Chief Arlen Dumas their participation.

Pursuant to the MOA Accountability Framework, in particular the Governance Structure, AMC participates in all TRCM Committees. I wish to express my appreciation to key staff assigned to the TRCM, Irene Linklater, Shirley Fontaine and Gail Flett. They demonstrate their continued commitment and dedication to ensuring a strong partnership and relationship with the Treaty Commissioner and the staff. Working together, they ensure that the AMC Council of Elders continues to have an active and meaningful role in TRCM activities such as the Speaker's Bureau and Learning Centre.

I extend my sincerest thank you to all for your hard work and commitment to the Treaties in Manitoba. I look forward to enhancing the understanding of the Treaties, the Treaty relationship, and First Nations history in the coming year. We will continue to work to ensure there is honour and respect as envisioned by our ancestors to share these lands and work towards renewing the spirit of these living Treaties by strengthening our relationship with the Crown as represented by the Department of Indian & Northern Affairs Canada.

Ekosani, Miigwech, Mahsee Cho, Wopida, Thank You

RON EVANS, GRAND CHIEF





Message from the Government of Canada

I am very pleased to recognize the important work conducted over the past 5 years by the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba (TRCM).

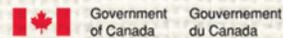
Treaty Commissions enhance cooperative relationships between First Nations and Canada and are the cornerstone for raising awareness on historic treaties and treaty issues across the country. The ongoing work by the TRCM contributes valuable knowledge and insight into the enduring and evolving relationship between Treaty First Nations and the Crown.

The TRCM is making great strides in their public education activities. From the development of a Manitoba Treaty Curriculum for Grades 5 and 6 to the educational play Kinikinik, the TRCM is spreading the message that, “we are all treaty people,” to the classroom. It also hosted the grand opening of its Learning Centre in September 2009, making information about treaties in Manitoba more accessible to the public.

Through new partnerships with Red River College, Riding Mountain National Park, University College of the North, and Winnipeg Police Services, the TRCM is contributing to an improved understanding of historic treaties and treaty relationships.

I thank the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba for its hard work in supporting a respectful and productive relationship between First Nations and non-Aboriginal Canadians.

THE HONOURABLE CHUCK STRAHL, PC, MP
Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians





Congratulations to the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba (TRCM) on another successful year of building and strengthening relationships between First Nations and non-First Nations Manitobans.

The Manitoba government is honoured to work with the Treaty Commission in holding a Treaty Day at the Manitoba Legislature on May 12th the 140th anniversary of this province to promote further understanding of the importance of Treaties in Manitoba. We are all Treaty people regardless of our Aboriginal status.

ERIC ROBINSON, MINISTER

Aboriginal and Northern Affairs
Deputy Premier of Manitoba





Message from the City of Winnipeg

It is with great pleasure that I acknowledge the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba (TRCM) as they continue their dedication to work with the community.

In an effort to strengthen, rebuild and enhance the Treaty relationship, the TRCM has been actively engaged in public education, research and facilitation. This has provided many discussions and opportunities to create awareness that “We Are All Treaty People”, enhancing the Treaty relationship.

The City of Winnipeg is located in Treaty One territory, and it is important to recognize this as a part of our vibrant history and the foundation for our strong future.

Together the TRCM and City of Winnipeg have engaged in dialogue and educational opportunities to ensure First Nation and non-First Nation Manitobans understand the obligations and benefits that stem from the Treaties in Manitoba.

As Mayor and Secretary of Urban Aboriginal Affairs, I support the TRCM as they continue to expand upon the understanding of the Treaties and enhance the Treaty relationship. I look forward to future partnerships to ensure continued success of the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba.

SAM KATZ, MAYOR
The City of Winnipeg





Message from the Treaty Portfolio Chair

As the Treaty Portfolio Chair it is my honour to congratulate the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba (TRCM) in its endeavor to enhance, rebuild, and strengthen the Treaty Relationship this past year. The awareness campaign, Speakers Bureau presentations, Learning Centre Opening, curriculum development, and community forums held this past year have been beneficial to both the general public and First Nations.

The Treaties are the highest expression of a respectful relationship – a living, breathing partnership that compels us all to work together. The rights received under the Treaties flow to both parties. The Treaty rights extended to Canadians through the numbered Treaties are as follows:

- Right to one's own religion through the recognition and understanding that each party to the Treaties were provided a specific way to communicate with the Creator;
- Right to share the land through the settlement of lands not utilized by the other party to the Treaties;
- Right to agricultural and economic activities through agricultural livelihood and an independent and self-sustaining economy;
- Right to political self-determination through the recognition of both parties to the Treaties as being sovereign within their own right; and
- Right to peace and good-will through respectful coexistence and cooperation between both parties to ensure a safe and secure future for all parties to the Treaties.

The Treaties were entered into by the First Nations based on the following principles – respect, relationships, recognition, and responsibility. The work being conducted by the TRCM embodies the spirit and intent of Treaties as well as the principles on which they are based – creating a legacy that benefits both parties.

As the TRCM moves forward, I would like to extend the sincerest wish of success for the fulfillment of its mandate. In addition, I extend my congratulations to Treaty Commissioner Dennis White Bird for completing his term, educating the public with respect to the Treaty relationship and bringing Treaties to the forefront of political thought once again. I wish him luck on his continuing journey.

CHIEF NORMAN BONE, TREATY NO. 2

Keesekoowenin First Nation

Treaty Portfolio Chair, Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs



Message from the AMC Council of Elders

It is our pleasure to acknowledge the excellent work that has been achieved, in the past year, under the leadership of Commissioner Dennis White Bird at the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba (TRCM). The AMC Council of Elders would like to commend the TRCM and its staff on the outstanding work it has accomplished this year. The Commission has achieved its objective of educating the public with respect to the Treaties and the Treaty Relationship.

The highlight of this past year was the TRCM spearheading the Manitoba Treaty Curriculum Project: Treaty Lessons for Grades 5 & 6. The Resource Guide is intended to provide teachers with an outcome based resource with foundation building information, outside links, and educational materials to facilitate teaching about the Treaties.

We would like to thank and acknowledge the Dennis Whitebird for his dedication and leadership over the past 5 years. With his term completed, the AMC Council of Elders congratulates him on creating a positive legacy and we wish him well in all his future endeavors. Looking to the future, as we continue our work with the TRCM, the AMC Council of Elders wish continued success to the TRCM in its efforts to strengthen, rebuild, and enhance the Treaty Relationship.

ELDER WAYNE SCOTT, TREATY NO. 1

Swan Lake First Nation



Message from the AMC Youth Council

The Manitoba First Nations Youth Council in partnership with the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Youth Secretariat would like to congratulate the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba on its success this past year and acknowledge all of the work that has been done to strengthen, rebuild and enhance the Treaty relationship.

The youth have been very receptive and provide positive feedback on the tremendous work that the Treaty Relation Commission of Manitoba continues to do for First Nations people in Manitoba.

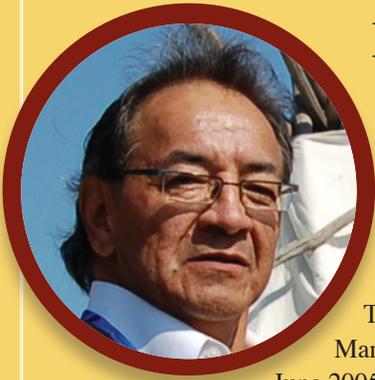
We feel that the First Nations Youth have a greater understanding of the Treaties and the Treaty relationship thanks to the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba.

The Manitoba First Nations Youth Council and Youth Secretariat look forward to continue working with the Treaty Relations Commission. We wish the Commission continued success and say “Thank You, Commissioner” for informing all Manitobans that We Are All Treaty People”.

JERRY DANIELS

Regional Representative

Co-chair Manitoba First Nations Youth Council



Message from the Treaty Commissioner

I am pleased to present the 2009-10 Annual Report. The Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba (TRCM) has had a very busy year. As Treaty Commissioner for Manitoba, it is my duty to articulate the role of the TRCM. Created by the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) and Canada in June 2005, the TRCM is a neutral organization with a mandate to facilitate public understanding of the importance and role of Treaty making in building a stronger and healthier nation.

In 2009-10 the TRCM concentrated its efforts specifically in the public education sector and has reached more people, more effectively, than ever before. The TRCM public education strategy is designed to foster greater understanding, relationship building and a renewal of trust and mutual respect. A key to our outreach success has been to showcase our educational excellence via various educational tools and mechanisms.

In 2009-10, the TRCM continued its public awareness campaign entitled 'We Are All Treaty People' in print media and television. In partnership with CTV-Winnipeg the TRCM developed a series of 5 relationship building messages. The fundamental aim of the ad campaign was to create public attention and promote dialogue on Treaties and the Treaty relationship. The campaign has had measured success and provided a building block for the longer term discussions relative to the history, importance and relevance of the Treaty making process. We are proud to note that the ads recently received an honorable mention in the government category by the Television Bureau of Canada - Retail Commercial Awards which are Canada's only commercials competition judged solely by consumers. Our gratitude goes out to CTV-Winnipeg for their ongoing and continued support relative to this community campaign. The strength and visual appeal of these messages are lasting and will continue to engage the public on an ongoing basis.

As part of the TRCM's mandate for public education and development of curricula for school children, the Commission is proud to be spearheading the Manitoba Treaty Curriculum Project. The project consists of a series of lesson plans for Grades 5 & 6, along with a Teacher Guide which is intended to provide teachers with an outcome based resource with foundation building information, outside links, and educational materials to facilitate teaching about the Treaties. To date, the collaborative development and writing process has produced a preliminary draft of The Teacher Resource Guide for Grades 5 & 6 along with a draft implementation plan. Piloting of the project, along with plans and a time frame for expansion to K

to 12 in subsequent years is planned for the 2010-11 fiscal year.

Other milestones in the TRCM's public education mandate include the TRCM Speakers Bureau which works to create an understanding about the numbered Treaties and the TRCM Learning Centre which provides a forum for all Manitobans to hear and learn first-hand about the Treaty relationship. The TRCM is also proud to have commissioned Kinikinik: A Treaty Play by Ian Ross. Designed for all ages it serves to educate and share experiences relative to the Treaty and the Treaty relationship. Overall, the feedback generated from the TRCM public education campaign has been very positive and continues to be received with increasing interest.

As part of the TRCM research and facilitation mandate, the parties also continued to explore Treaty priority areas in 2009-10. While several research reports have been commissioned to date, the parties continue to dialogue in an effort to identify a collaborative research approach to support next steps. Such discussions will require a facilitated approach as we move forward and the TRCM stands ready to contribute where applicable. It is also important to note that in 2009-2010, the TRCM entered into its evaluation year with information sessions and planning relating to the important and valued work of the Commission. The evaluation process has been completed and it is anticipated that a final report will be completed in the summer of 2010.

Although much work remains to be done, The TRCM continues to make solid progress. The past year has been one of significant growth and accomplishment for the TRCM. We have grown into a larger and more mature organization that wields increasingly more influence on the Treaty discussion. In the face of these accomplishments, I share the benefits of our success with the individuals, partners and communities that I have served during my term.

It has been my honour and privilege to serve all Manitobans in my role as Treaty Commissioner and I would like to take this opportunity to say *gichi-miigwech* to the TRCM staff and all those who have helped support the work of the Commission over the past 5 years. I would also like to extend a special thank you to the Elders of Manitoba, the AMC Council of Elders and the youth for their wisdom, commitment, dedication and support. Your involvement is fundamental to understanding of Treaties and Treaty relationships and the TRCM could not successfully progress without your contributions.

Gakina Awiiya (For Us All),

DENNIS WHITE BIRD
Treaty Commissioner

About the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba

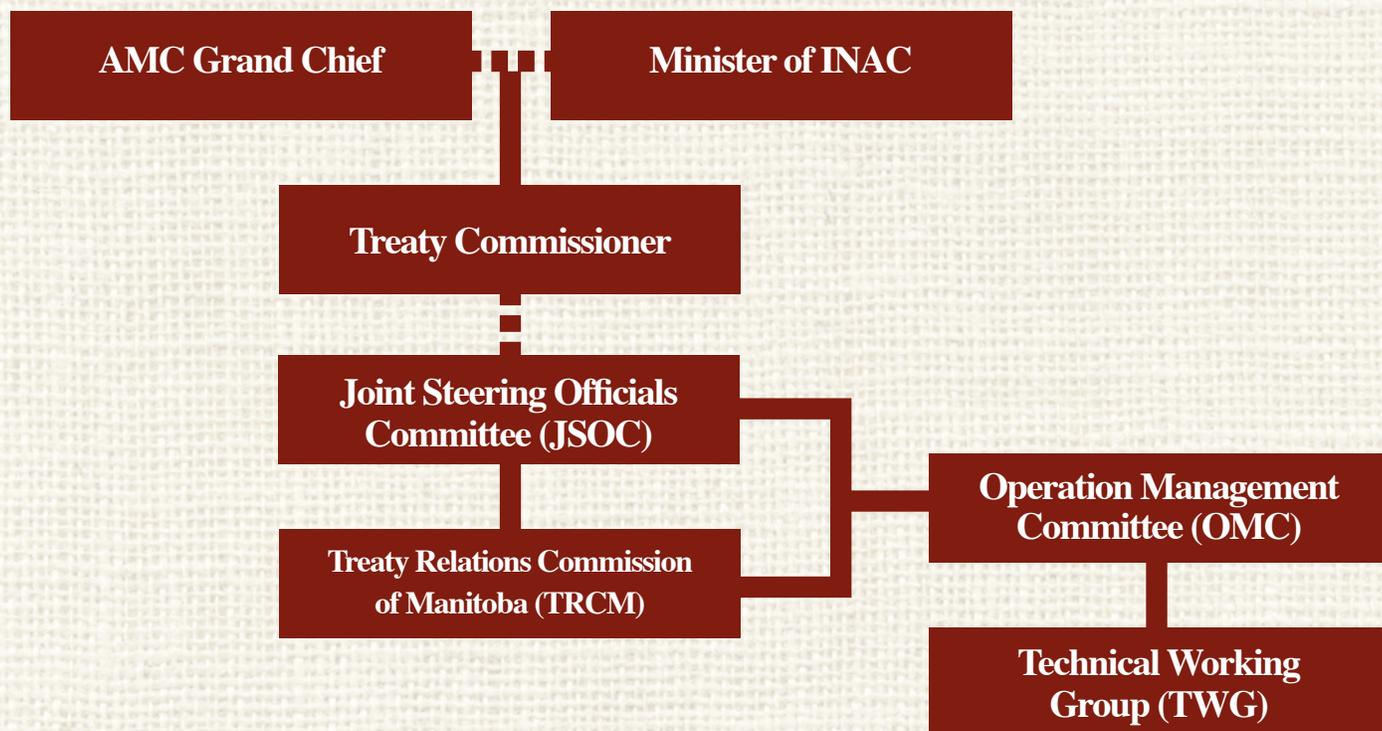
On November 19, 2003, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) and the Government of Canada signed a historic Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that recognized the need for the establishment of a Treaty Relations Commission in Manitoba (TRCM) to address Treaty issues. This agreement is intended to be inclusive of all First Nation communities within Manitoba. In June 2005, through an Order-in-Council, the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba was created. On June 1, 2005, Dennis White Bird was appointed as Commissioner of the newly formed TRCM.

The TRCM is a neutral body, created through a partnership between the AMC and Canada with a mandate to strengthen, rebuild and enhance the Treaty relationship and mutual respect as envisaged by the Treaty parties. The Commission will enhance and maintain positive intergovernmental

relations and cooperation, conduct independent research that advances discussion on Treaty related issues and facilitate public understanding of the importance and role of Treaty making in building a stronger and healthier nation.

TRCM ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK

The following organizational chart reflects the accountability framework of the TRCM:





Within this structure, the Grand Chief of the AMC and the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs have overall responsibility for the work of the Treaty Commissioner.

The TRCM is also comprised of:

- The JSOC comprised of senior executives from INAC and AMC. Its role is to provide direction and advice to the Treaty Commissioner and OMC with regard to the fulfillment of the overall mandate;
- The OMC comprised of representatives from INAC, AMC and the TRCM. The OMC role is to provide advice on policy direction and ongoing operational requirements to the Treaty Commissioner, JSOC and TRCM with regard to the fulfillment of the overall mandate; and
- The TWG comprised of members from INAC, AMC and the TRCM. The TWG role is to provide advice on ongoing operational requirements to the OMC with regard to the fulfillment of the overall mandate.

TRCM MANDATE

The Parties will work cooperatively with the TRCM to achieve the following objectives:

- Enhance and maintain positive intergovernmental relations and cooperation;
- Conduct independent and focused research to advance discussions of Treaty related issues; and
- Facilitate public understanding of the importance and role of Treaty making in building a stronger and healthier nation

TRCM PRINCIPLES

The parties and the TRCM shall be guided by the following principles:

- Treaties are a fundamental part of the relationship between First Nations Treaty signatories and the Crown;
- The involvement of First Nations Elders is fundamental to understanding Treaty relationships;
- Respect for Treaty and inherent Aboriginal rights is an important part of maintaining the honour of the Crown in its relations with First Nations;
- Recognition that the Treaty relationship is dynamic and will evolve over time;
- The Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba shall be based on mutual respect, operating at arms length from the parties as a neutral body;
- Recognition that in order to advance the Treaty relationship it will be necessary for the Parties to share information and fully participate in the process; and
- Other principles may be added as mutually agreed to by the Parties.



Elder Doris Pratt and Commissioner White Bird at the AMC Chiefs Assembly March 23, 2010



Public Education

OUTREACH STRATEGY

As part of the TRCM's Public Education mandate, an Outreach Plan was initiated in 2008-09 to increase awareness and public understanding of the Treaties and the Treaty relationship. Through the Outreach Plan the TRCM has seen positive outcomes in terms of expansion of the Speakers Bureau, officially launching the newly developed Learning Centre, hosting the Brown Bag Lunch Series and solidifying instrumental Partnerships that complement the mandate of the Commission. Further, the TRCM has developed a Communications Strategy and Outreach Strategy to further enhance the TRCM's presence in Manitoba.

The Outreach Strategy identifies three (3) clusters that target 14 audiences varying in demographics, areas of focus, and understandings of the Treaties and Treaty relationship. The clusters are education, government, and public-influencers/partners. The purpose of this strategy is to gather views so the TRCM can provide thoughtful responses that can lead to dialogue about the Treaties. Implementation of the Outreach Strategy adds positively to the overall success of the TRCM and increases conversations relating to the Treaties and the Treaty relationship.



Commissioner White Bird speaks to the FNIHB Jan 21, 2010



Commissioner White Bird and German exchange student at INAC, MB Region, April 2009

IMPORTANT MEETINGS & CONNECTIONS

Occasionally, the TRCM is invited to participate in events that are outside of Manitoba. As an example, to discuss many aspects of the Treaties with leaders, Elders and Youth, Treaty Commissioner White Bird was invited to attend the annual National Treaties 1 – 11 Gathering which was held in Enoch, Alberta. His participation in the event provided the TRCM with a broader perspective of the Treaties allowing for a greater focus throughout the year.

Elder Harry Bone and Project Coordinator Sherry Smith had an opportunity to attend the Treaty Awareness Day held by INAC Head Quarters on February 18, 2010 in Ottawa. Elder Bone presented a balanced perspective of the Treaties to attendees as a member of the Speakers Bureau and on behalf of the Treaty Commissioner. During the event, Ms. Smith was able to engage participants in dialogue and elaborate on various initiatives and activities undertaken by the TRCM. The TRCM was also afforded the opportunity to present *Kinikinik: A Treaty Play* by Ian Ross which was very well received and directed much attention to the TRCM booth.

On April 22, 2009 Commissioner White Bird met with Chief Commissioner Manny Jules of the First Nation Tax Commission relating to supporting shared values and objectives, promoting public understanding of Treaties and joint initiatives to support working relationships between First Nation governments and local municipal governments.



Continuing with the TRCM's Outreach Strategy, Commissioner White Bird met with many key leaders such as new federal MP Shelley Glover of St. Boniface, Assistant Commissioner Bill Robinson of the RCMP "D" Division, AFN National Chief Shawn Atleo and Provincial Minister Eric Robinson. Generally, these discussions focused on how the TRCM can work within its mandate to better strengthen the Treaty relationship and engage partnerships to enhance understandings about the Treaties.

The Treaty Commissioner has been involved with First Nation leaders from communities and organizations including, but not limited to: Buffalo Point, Keeseekoowenin, Long Plain, Red Sucker Lake, Rolling River and Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation. The Commissioner also engaged the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak and Southern Chiefs Organization in areas relating to Treaty Commemorations, Youth initiatives and the TRCM Speakers Bureau.

In addition, through the Speakers Bureau, the Commissioner is requested to participate in specific events. As a result the Commissioner has been able to share information about the Treaties with various organizations, universities and businesses such as; the Canadian Mennonite University, Health Canada, the City of Winnipeg and Manitoba Student Aid.

NEXT STEPS

The TRCM is committed to continuing direct dialogue with the community. It is essential that the TRCM continues to work with its partners and new supporters to enhance the relationship. It is expected that the TRCM will continue to meet new individuals in each cluster.



Chief Commissioner Manny Jules, FNTC & Commissioner White Bird discuss potential areas of collaboration, April 22, 2009



AFN Regional Vice Chief Bill Traverse, Chief Russell Lambert from Poplar River, AFN National Chief Shawn Atleo & Commissioner White Bird at the AMC Annual General Assembly Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation, August 26, 2009



Assistant Commissioner Bill Robinson, RCMP "D" Division & Commissioner White Bird discuss the TRCM-RCMP "D" Division partnership, December 16, 2009

Public Education

AMC COUNCIL OF ELDERS

The AMC Council of Elders is fundamental to the work of the TRCM. The Elders are historians, teachers, spiritual caregivers, language experts and advisors. With the input, support and guidance of the Elders the TRCM is able to address specific Treaty language and knowledge to ensure deeper understandings in the TRCM research initiatives such as: the Manitoba Treaties Oral History Project and the Historical Atlas of First Nations in Manitoba. In addition to the research initiatives the Council of Elders has advised in curriculum development, leadership forums, and participated as members of the TRCM Speakers Bureau.

The current members of the AMC Council of Elders are:

Treaty No. 1	Wayne Scott	Swan Lake
Treaty No. 2	Harry Bone	Keeseekoowenin
Treaty No. 3	Helen Cobiness	Buffalo Point
Treaty No. 4	James Cote	Waywayseecappo
Treaty No. 5	Nathan McGillivray	Opaskwayak
Treaty No. 5 Adhesions	D'Arcy Linklater	Nisichawayasihk
Treaty No. 6	Angus Linklater	Mathias Colomb
Treaty No. 10	Vacant	N/A
Dakota Oyate	Doris Pratt	Sioux Valley

ELDERS' BIOGRAPHIES



Elder Wayne Scott (Naazhikigaabow from the Mashtadim Clan) is from Gaa-biskigamaag. Elder Scott has completed extensive research as a member of a dedicated team in Treaty Land Entitlement for his community that was successful in settling the outstanding TLE claim. This work allowed Elder Scott to continue his research and assist other First Nation communities in conducting independent research to file Comprehensive Land Claims. Elder Scott is interested in understanding legislation and policies as they relate and affect Treaty and Aboriginal rights.



Elder Harry Bone (Giizis-inini from the Mikinaak Clan) is from Giizhigoowining in Treaty 2 territory. Elder Bone is fluent in the Ojibwe and English language. Currently, Elder Bone is doing research on the original Spirit and Intent of Treaty. Elder Bone is a member of the AMC Council of Elders and also a member of the TRCM's Speakers Bureau. Elder Bone's special interest is the history of Treaties, as well as Federal and Provincial governments. Elder Bone specializes in the First Nations government at the community level.



Elder Helen Cobiness is originally from Okwewanashko-ziiibiing and is the daughter of Andy Acoby and Jenny Pierre. She married into Mashkode-Bizhiki Neyaashiing. Elder Cobiness and her husband, Eddy are the proud parents of five children. Content at being home first for her children then later grandchildren and great-grandchildren Elder Cobiness has taken the time for the past three years sitting on the AMC Council of Elders advising the AMC and the TRCM.



Elder James Cote (Makade Makwa from the Makwa Clan) is from Wewezhigaabawing. He is the son of James and Margaret Cote. Elder Cote attended the Birtle and Brandon Residential Schools from 1947-1957. He had worked as a farm labourer prior to his marriage to Lena McKay in 1967. He was a Band Councillor for 16 years and Ojibwe Language Instructor for two (2) years. Currently, he is enjoying his retirement and sitting on the AMC Council of Elders advising the AMC and the TRCM.



Elder Nathan McGillivray from Opaskwayak is the son of Alfred George and Miriam McGillivray. He attended the Dauphin Residential School where he completed grade 11. Elder McGillivray has been married to Ida Caroline and has three children. Elder McGillivray has served the First Nations people in various forms throughout his career:



Manitoba Indian Brotherhood Vice-President North-West Region, Swampy Cree Tribal Council Executive Director, and as the Assembly of First Nations Regional Vice-Chief for Manitoba. For the past year he has been sitting on the AMC Council of Elders advising the AMC and the TRCM as the alternate Elder for Treaty No.5.



Elder D'Arcy Linklater (Wapiskiwi-Ma'inkan from the Ma'inkan Clan) is from Nisichawayasihk. He was raised by his grandparents who taught him to live openly like the water and the river to experience life to the fullest. His great grandfather was Pierre Moose the Chief who made the Adhesion to Treaty No. 5 with the Crown in Nelson House on July 30, 1908. Elder Linklater has worked as a trapper, fisherman, hunter and miner. Elder Linklater has been Executive Director and an elected leader for over fifteen years. Elder Linklater has a keen interest in justice and equal rights for his people. He continues to work tirelessly with the aim of combating injustices and poverty. He seeks sustainable ways to use the natural resources in a way that will provide meaningful opportunity for First Nations people while at the same time providing the protection and respect for the land.



Elder Angus Linklater from Mathias Colomb First Nation is the son of Isaac and Selagie Linklater. Born in High Rock Lake Narrow he attended Sturgeon Landing School and left school after grade four (4) to begin his life as a trapper, fisherman and local guide. Elder Linklater married

his wife Phyllis in 1967 and began his career as a carpenter and later Band Councillor. Currently, he is enjoying his retirement and sitting on the AMC Council of Elders advising the AMC and the TRCM.



Elder Doris Pratt, from Wipazoka Wakpa, has dedicated her life to revitalizing and preserving the Dakota Language for the benefit of this vibrant and resurging culture. She has shared with her three (3) daughters and three (3) sons, encouraging them always to take pride in the gifts of the Dakota culture. Elder Pratt has her Masters in Education from Brandon University and holds an Educational Specialist Degree from the University of Arizona. Elder Pratt has developed a wide range of Dakota Language related materials for classroom and/or home education, including materials that range from the Primary School Level to Senior Advanced Studies in the Dakota Language.



AMC Council of Elders

**Minik igo giizis bimosed, minik gegoo ji-nitaawigik, minik nibi ge-bimijiwang.
Mii'ye Gaagige-Onakonigewin.**

(As long as the sun shines, grass grows and the waters flow, that's Eternal Law.)

—Elder Wayne Scott

Public Education

SPEAKERS BUREAU

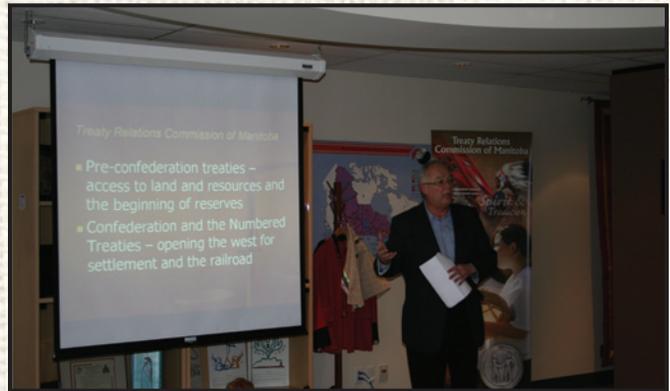
Through dialogue and information sharing the TRCM's Speakers Bureau is working to create an understanding about the historical and contemporary issues that relate to Treaty and the Treaty relationship.

The Speakers Bureau is a communications mechanism that is adaptable to each audience. The Speakers provide expert knowledge; have individual presentation styles and a wide variety of resources. Presentations are dynamic and inspirational as the Speakers raise awareness about the Treaties and their importance throughout Manitoba.



Commissioner White Bird at the Mennonite Central Committee on Sept 18, 2009

The Speakers Bureau has had a positive 2009-10 fiscal year. Utilizing 9 essential Speakers from the roster, the TRCM has reached educational institutions and students, various levels of government departments, the City of Winnipeg departments, private sector business and First Nation communities. As awareness continues to increase, the Speakers Bureau has held 52 events with an estimated total of 1500 participants averaging 28 individuals per event. Further, the Speakers Bureau participated in two (2) public tradeshows in Winnipeg and two (2) SAG Conferences that provided additional exposure to the TRCM, Speakers Bureau and TRCM website. Evaluation forms from the participants all highlight the progress the TRCM Speakers Bureau is making and demonstrates the continued efforts needed to raise awareness about the Treaties and the Treaty relationship.



Jeff Harris – February 25, 2010

On April 16, 2009 the TRCM held the first Speakers Bureau Think Tank for current members and new recruits to provide insight into the advanced development and coordination of the Speakers Bureau for the current fiscal year. New recruits were selected on their knowledge base and ability to contribute to the education and public understanding about the significance of the Treaties.

Prior to the Think Tank the TRCM Speakers Bureau had 15 active members. Through the outreach and recruitment process eight (8) members that participated in the Think Tank have expressed interest in becoming active members. One current member of the Speakers Bureau has withdrawn his participation in the Speakers Bureau due to a commitment made to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The TRCM wishes him much success in his endeavors.

The Think Tank developed a strong team for outreach and assisted it developing a consistent message to build skills and ideas for the entire Speakers Bureau. This in turn assists in broadening the reach across the province and improves the level of information being shared.

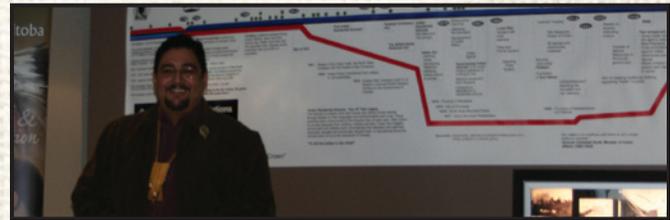
On February 23, 2010, the TRCM held the second Speakers Bureau Think Tank including individuals that were originally targeted to join the Speakers Bureau during the first Think Tank. This event had 18 participants with a keen interest in continuing their work in assisting the TRCM in disseminating information about the Treaties and the Treaty relationship.



The two (2) Think Tanks complimented one another; while the first focused on roles, responsibilities and expectation from both the Speakers themselves and the TRCM, the second Think Tank proved essential in discussing the “We Are All Treaty People” message of the TRCM, the Treaties, member perspectives and consistency in Speakers Bureau operations. As a result of the two (2) Think Tanks, the TRCM now has 30 actively engaged individuals as members of the TRCM Speakers Bureau.

NEXT STEPS

To ensure that the Speakers Bureau is the best avenue to receive information about the Treaties, the TRCM will continue developing tools that can be used by the most novice user or most experienced. Continued monitoring of targets reached is ongoing.



Top: Participants at the Speakers Bureau Think Tank, February 23rd, 2009

Bottom: Allen Sutherland – January 28, 2010

Born and raised in Dauphin, Manitoba, Mark Young has worked with Parks Canada Agency since 1997. Stationed in beautiful Riding Mountain National Park of Canada, Mark has been involved in advocating and advancing First Nation worldview in protected area management for many years. Mark holds a bachelors degree in Political Science and Native Studies from Brandon University.

Mark’s heritage stretches to northern Manitoba with his father coming from Opaskwayak Cree Nation and mother hailing from Mosakahiken Cree Nation, Treaty 5 (1875). Since 2003, Mark has worked as Aboriginal Affairs Manager for Riding Mountain National Park (RMNP). Mark assists park managers in building and maintaining formal relations with the local First Nations that consider Riding Mountain as part of their traditional territory.

Throughout Mark’s time in RMNP, he has consistently advanced his knowledge and skills of First Nation issues by representing Parks Canada Agency at tables dedicated to increasing First Nation influence on the RMNP Management Plan. He has a keen interest in advocating First Nation issues while serving in the public service. Mark’s goal is to share what he has learned in his journey as a First Nation person working for the government. In this simple way, he hopes to continue the process of change towards a world where indigenous difference and identity is respected.

PROFILE MARK YOUNG



Public Education

PARTNERSHIPS

The TRCM successfully secured the Royal Canadian Mounted Police “D” Division in 2007-08 as its first official partner. In 2008-09, Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre, Aboriginal Leadership Institute, Inc. now known as the Indigenous Leadership Development Institute, Inc., Parks Canada, Manitoba Conservation and Brandon University became official Partners of the TRCM.

A Partnership Protocol has been created to assist in developing and solidifying Partnerships in a consistent and meaningful way. The Protocol identifies ‘steps’ in creating, solidifying and maintaining external relations with new and potential Partners.

The TRCM continues to engage organizations, groups, community members, leaders and businesses in discussions as identified in the Outreach Plan. Due to those conversations the TRCM has had the opportunity to generate four (4) Partnerships in the 2009-10 fiscal year.

SPRING FEAST – MAY 29, 2009

The TRCM recognizes partnerships as opportunities to make positive changes, build relationships and to support the commonalities between organizations. The TRCM also recognizes the importance of supporting and celebrating the community while reflecting on our strengths and ability as a whole. On May 29, 2009 the TRCM held a Spring Feast in honour of the Treaties in Manitoba and for its partnerships in the community. The TRCM used this opportunity to move forward to address the goals and objectives identified in their creation. Each Partnership is unique and provides the TRCM with greater opportunities to strengthen, rebuild and enhance the Treaty relationship.

The following quotes are from the Partnerships created in 2009-10.

RED RIVER COLLEGE – MAY 8, 2009

“The TRCM and Red River College share the objective that an un-wavering commitment to ongoing dialogue will provide opportunities for students, future leaders, young academics and children to gain a greater understanding of the Treaties in Manitoba”

WINNIPEG POLICE SERVICE – MAY 29, 2009

“The TRCM and WPS believe that all people should live in harmony based on a knowledge and understanding of cultural traditions, customs and history particularly as they relate to Treaty. Enhancing knowledge to develop understanding of our neighbours and their perspectives is essential and we must maintain principles of honour and respect in our coexistence”.

RIDING MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK & THE COALITION OF FIRST NATIONS WITH INTERESTS IN RIDING MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK – JUNE 17, 2009

“The TRCM will be able to better work with the communities surrounding Riding Mountain National Park creating an environment for understanding and reconciliation, relationship building and cooperation as well as securing a foundation for future collaboration in areas of environment, sustainability, diversity and a vibrant healthy existence”.



Red River College



Winnipeg Police Service



**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF THE NORTH
– OCTOBER 27, 2009**

“The TRCM and the UCN are committed to working together to increase the knowledge of the Treaties in the spirit of cultural diversity and pride. Treaties were made to create opportunities for all people in Manitoba. Our scholars; our future leaders need to take pride in our rich history as we forge to build a stronger brighter future for our youth and the next 7 generations”.

SPIRIT OF THE CIRCLE – MAMAWOPEWIN

As a first opportunity to partner, the TRCM and UCN worked to plan, participate and engage invitees in a two (2) day workshop to explore and discuss Treaty and the topic of ‘Peace, Order and Good Governance’. Through concept development, the workshop title ‘Spirit of the Circle – Mamawopewin’ was established to reflect the importance of ‘sitting together’ and the need for the interdependent relationship between First Nations and the Crown to be respectful and positive in ongoing Treaty relations.

Invited guests were asked to share their perspectives on a wide array of topics that fall within the governance theme; women’s role, Clan systems and the 7 principles of nationhood. Elders were invited from both UCN and the TRCM to share their wealth of knowledge in respect to the traditional forms of governance and to provide guidance as discussions progressed. Youth were also included in the workshop to ensure the transfer of knowledge regarding Treaties and traditional governance.



Elder Stella Neff (Chair UCN Elders) & Elder Doris Young (Advisor to the President on Aboriginal Affairs-UCN), Spirit of the Circle Workshop

NEXT STEPS

The TRCM currently has two (2) unofficial Partnerships; Manitoba Hydro and CTV Television – Winnipeg. Further discussion are required to formalize the details of these partnerships. The TRCM would like to take this opportunity to thank Manitoba Hydro and CTV-Winnipeg for their continued commitment and support to the work of the TRCM.

As the Outreach Plan progresses the TRCM continues to make new connections within the community and new opportunities arise to create Partnership. The TRCM has been working with both the Canadian Human Rights Commission and Manitoba Human Rights Commission in areas that each Commission shares. Collectively, the three (3) Commissions are in the process of securing a formal Partnership. Further discussions and development of a Terms of Reference will be solidified in the short term.

To learn more about the TRCM partnerships, visit www.trcm.ca



Riding Mountain National Park & The Coalition of First Nations with Interests in Riding Mountain National Park



University College of the North

Public Education

COMMUNICATIONS

Through effective communication mechanisms such as billboards, television, transit buses, posters, Treaty map, DVDs, advertising and brochures the TRCM has reached the general population to introduce itself as a resource to gain valuable information about the Treaties. To further solidify the campaign the TRCM was able to successfully deliver many of the newly developed tools to various educational institutions within the Province of Manitoba.

WE ARE ALL TREATY PEOPLE CAMPAIGN

The TRCM continues to create a presence in the community through standard communication mechanisms. Awareness is strong by means of new creative in the “We Are All Treaty People” campaign. The TRCM has developed a second phase to the Transit Campaign engaging active community members to showcase the shared benefit and mutual obligation of Treaties.

In partnership with CTV Television Winnipeg, the TRCM developed its fifth (5th) vignette emphasizing the Learning Centre and increased awareness about the Treaties and Treaty relationship. With the guidance of its partners (AMC and INAC), the TRCM invited students from Elmwood Collegiate, Cst. Gerri Beardy from the RCMP “D” Division - Aboriginal Policing Services Branch and respected community Elder Tobasonakwut Kinew to participate and be showcased in the vignette. The process proved to be an excellent opportunity to transfer knowledge to the students as the format was to highlight the versatility and use of the Learning Centre. Further, the vignette aims at increasing the public knowledge about the Centre and availability for all Manitobans to utilize the space.

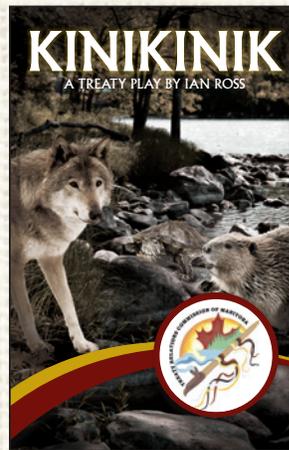


Elder Kinew, Cst. Beardy and Commissioner White Bird are showcased in the TRCM 5th CTV vignette

Over the year, key performance evaluators indicate that the TRCM can attribute the effectiveness of the “We Are All Treaty People” campaign to resource tools at the TRCM such as the Outreach Plan, Speakers Bureau and Learning Centre. Response to the campaign has been positive and has served to initiate dialogue and discussion relating to the Treaties and the Treaty relationship.



Elder Kinew & students from Elmwood Collegiate in the TRCM Learning Centre



KINIKINIK

Kinikinik: A Treaty Play by Ian Ross serves to educate and share experiences relative to Treaty and the Treaty relationship. The story and issues are explored through three main characters who act as guides to those who view the play. Written for all ages with a focus on a youthful audience; the play will serve as an adaptable tool for exploration

of themes surrounding Treaties. Ultimately, the message of *Kinikinik* lies in the fact that ‘We Are All Treaty People’.

In an effort to promote and utilize *Kinikinik* at various events and in schools, the TRCM developed tools to further enhance its performance. As a medium to teach about the Treaties in a fun and dynamic way, a Script was developed that can be left in the classroom or a part of the TRCM Tool Kit. This allows students to use the Script and engage each other in discussions about the Treaties and the Treaty relationship. Accompanying the Script are study questions that essentially ask; what have you learned and what did you think?



To engage the audience in a meaningful way, the TRCM had costumes developed depicting the three (3) animals highlighted within the play. All costumes are housed at the TRCM for future use and promotion of *Kinikinik*.

WEBSITE

The TRCM website continues to be a focal point in the TRCM's Communications Strategy as it is a repository of information for the general public. Its users are from all demographics with diverse interests and motivations for learning and understanding Treaties. The TRCM recently revamped its website to make information more accessible and aesthetically pleasing for visitors. There is new Treaty related material available on the website in a user friendly design that will improve the user's experience when perusing the website.



LIBRARY

The TRCM Resource Library has continued to expand over the 2009-10 fiscal year. The TRCM has accumulated approximately 1400 resources in the form of Books, Journals, Articles, Treaties, Dissertations and Theses', Speeches, Teaching Guides, Reports, Reference Materials, Atlases, Legal Materials, Newspapers and electronic materials (VHS, DVD and CD). Due to the nature of the materials and sensitivity to original documents, the TRCM requires the use of the materials on-sight and through reproduction. In an effort to better serve and increase users, the TRCM will continue to develop and enhance the collection.

NEXT STEPS

As the TRCM continues to develop the Communications Strategy, the print advertisements will continue to be placed in various mediums throughout the province on an 'as needed' basis. To further engage the general public the TRCM website is currently under review and is being updated to reflect new additions and increase usability.

As the second phase of the Poster Campaign is developed the TRCM has identified a selection of active community members to assist in spreading the We Are All Treaty People message. Once the TRCM has successfully engaged the community members, photography and design will take place. The TRCM will distribute the posters to every school, its partners and general public to raise the awareness of the Treaties and the Treaty relationship.

The TRCM is in discussion with Ian Ross to develop an educational DVD performance of *Kinikinik* (in full costume) to distribute to all schools and educational institutions within Manitoba to further strengthen the Treaty relationship and so that everyone within the province can benefit and understand that "We Are All Treaty People".



Public Education

COMMEMORATIONS

Throughout the 2009-10 fiscal year, the TRCM has actively supported communities in their Treaty Commemorations. Events have been held to promote and enhance the culture and traditions of First Nation communities as they were at the time of Treaty Making. It is the TRCM's view that creating Treaty awareness and understanding in Manitoba and beyond can be supported by recognized Treaty Commemorations/monuments. Such events serve as important mechanisms for showcasing the Treaties and all they entail. As such, the TRCM embraces the opportunity to support events which will in turn serve to create a greater understanding of the Treaty relationship.

In the 2009-10 year, the TRCM supported two (2) communities and one (1) Tribal Council; Mosakahiken Cree Nation, God's Lake First Nation and the Island Lake Tribal Council.

Mosakahiken Cree Nation (Moose Lake) celebrated their 124th Commemoration on July 9th, 2009. Events specific to the Commemoration were the Treaty re-enactment where Chief Tobacco, Chief Ross and the local RCMP officers were showcased as Chief O-TIN-IK-IM-AW, Commissioner Morris and officials of the government at the making of Treaty No. 5. Within the re-enactment a traditional Feast was held for the community where the traditional ceremony of a 'giveaway' was made to honour the guests of the community. Further activities that the TRCM supported throughout the Commemoration were the traditional games and activities of Mosakahiken Cree Nation. Youth, Elders and community members participated in learning how to make a Tipi and traditionally hunt and gather foods (Geese, Fish, Moose and Berries). Community Elders were engaged as teachers to show the youth how to make bannock on a campfire and how to clean up the campsite so that wild animals would not be attracted to the site.



Hide Tanning in Mosakahiken Cree Nation



Youth from Mosakahiken Cree Nation learn how to make and set their traditional fishing nets

God's Lake First Nation celebrated its 100th anniversary of making Treaty No. 5. The Commemoration was designed to assist community members and all Manitobans in gaining a better understanding of the importance of Treaty making and the Treaty relationship. On August 6, 1909, signatories of Treaty No. 5 arrived in God's Lake First Nation to make a Treaty. To demonstrate the traditional ceremonies and protocol that are a part of Treaty making, God's Lake First Nation performed a re-enactment. "Actors" arrived by canoe, the drum group welcomed the Treaty party to the community where Treaty negotiations were conducted and Treaty annuity payments were made. Oral history is a strong component of the community; Elders were engaged to share stories of how the Treaty was made in God's Lake First Nation.

Island Lake Tribal Council with member First Nations; Garden Hill, St. Theresa Point, Wasagamack and Red Sucker Lake gathered historical material relevant to their communities Treaty anniversary. On August 13, 2009, Island Lake held their 100 year Treaty Commemoration at the "Old Post" on Linklater Island celebrating the signing of the Adhesion to Treaty 5 made in 1909. Individual communities coordinated Treaty Commemorations which assisted the Tribal Council in developing a regional plan. Events held during the Treaty Commemoration were a re-enactment with Chiefs from the participating communities, Treaty payments, Speeches by dignitaries, Unveiling of a Treaty Monument and a Pow-wow. The event was seen as a great success by the participating communities and enhanced the understanding of the Treaties within the communities of Island Lake.



LEARNING CENTRE

DEVELOPMENT

To ensure an inclusive and integrated design approach, the TRCM engaged the support of a committee consisting of members of the TRCM, the AMC and INAC. Consulting with the AMC Council of Elders was integral to ensuring recognition and integration of traditional knowledge into the overall concept.

The concept and usability of a user friendly environment includes the four (4) directions and circular elements reflecting an organic and holistic approach. The intent is to engage school aged children in the Treaty discussion and the design allows for cultural appropriate activities such as smudging and ceremonies.



LAUNCH

On September 23, 2009 the TRCM celebrated the Grand Opening of the Learning Centre for Treaty Education and Awareness with an open house and theatrical performance of *Kinikinik: A Treaty Play* by Ian Ross.

The Learning Centre is intended to provide an opportunity for all Manitobans to learn more about the Treaties and the Treaty relationship thus building stronger relationships and mutual respect in the community.

The TRCM followed traditional protocols and held a Pipe Ceremony to honour the Learning Centre and the intentions of the design and development. Elder Bob Wasicuna provided the TRCM with guidance, wisdom and spiritual support for the success of the Learning Centre.

The TRCM was pleased to host members from our partners; INAC and AMC along with the Minister of Education, Citizenship and Youth Peter Bjornson, Elders, students from Niji Mahkwa School, community leadership and members and key individuals from educational institutions as the first visitors to the Learning Centre.



Students from Niji Mahkwa School officially open the TRCM Learning Centre with then Minister of Education Peter Bjornson, Elder Harry Bone, Commissioner White Bird and INAC Director General Joëlle Montminy

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Within the five (5) months of the official opening of the Learning Centre the TRCM has had visitors from the Winnipeg School Division, Aboriginal and Northern Affairs of Manitoba and an unofficial visit from students that were a part of “Bring your Child to Work Day” organized by the Canadian Human Rights Commission. Further, through the TRCM Speakers Bureau two (2) events were held in the Learning Centre for the Interdepartmental Federal Working Group hosted by Jeff Harris and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Youth Secretariat by Allen Sutherland. These events proved very successful and led the TRCM to the development of the Brown Bag Lunch Series.

In February, 2010 the Brown Bag Lunch Series was officially launched. Five (5) key members of the Speakers Bureau participated in the series offering their unique presentations and perspectives of the Treaties to a captive audience. To ensure that the message was received and there was adequate space for participants over the lunch hour, sessions were capped at 20 individuals. From the evaluations received, it has been expressed that the Brown Bag Lunch Series is an excellent opportunity to learn about Treaties and engage the community in the Treaty relationship. As an added output, the

Public Education

TRCM was able to further engage participants of the Brown Bag Lunch Series in delivering a tour of the TRCM office, share information and resources about the TRCM's mandate and Public Education campaign.

To advertise in the short term, the TRCM developed a Flyer to increase awareness of the Learning Centre. To date, it has been distributed to every school in Manitoba (880) through the Aboriginal Education Directorate and 500 flyers were disseminated through an Aboriginal Educators conference organized by the Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre. The TRCM has incorporated this into the general communications package that is distributed when new meetings and connections are made.

To generate interest in the Brown Bag Lunch Series the TRCM utilized its partnership with CTV Winnipeg and promoted the Series on the "What's Up Manitoba" segment of the local news announced by Sylvia Kuzyk. Further, web alerts were sent by the TRCM to general contacts to raise awareness and garner interest in the Lunch Series. As a result, the TRCM had to keep a 'running list' of participants for future sessions.

The TRCM's long term goal is to develop the Operating Strategy and Administration Protocol in the 2010-11 year to support visits from the community with aims to increase traffic in the Learning Centre.



Elder Pratt, Brown Bag Lunch Series, March 11, 2010

NEXT STEPS

As the TRCM continues to promote and introduce the newly launched Learning Centre and reinforce that the TRCM is 'the' place for Treaty education and awareness, the Learning Centre will be included into the TRCM Communications Strategy.

From the positive feedback gained from the Brown Bag Lunch Series, the TRCM will develop ongoing sessions



Top: Chief Derek Nepinak, Brown Bag Lunch Series, March 25, 2010



Bottom: Commissioner White Bird with support staff of Winnipeg School Division No. 1

in the fall of 2010. Engaging additional presentations from the TRCM Speakers Bureau the TRCM will work to incorporate the INAC perspective of Treaties for a balanced message in accordance to the TRCM mandate.

THE MANITOBA TREATY CURRICULUM PROJECT

As part of the TRCM's mandate for public education, the Commission has embarked on the Manitoba Treaty Curriculum Project. This pilot project is a collaborative undertaking that includes the support of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, the Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre, and Manitoba Education, with financial support from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

The purpose of the development of the Manitoba Treaty Curriculum Project foundation-building information, outside links and educational materials to facilitate the delivery of Treaty education for all Manitoba students. The project provides an opportunity for the partners to work



collaboratively to develop Treaty resources that focus on the Manitoba First Nations Treaty experiences and the benefits of the Treaty relationship with other non-First Nations peoples.

The intention of the Manitoba Treaty Curriculum Project is to enhance the current Manitoba Social Studies curriculum by presenting a balance of perspectives that includes First Nations' voices by beginning at the Grades 5 and 6 levels, and then expanding the curriculum to Kindergarten to Grade 12. This initiative is similar to the Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC) in Saskatchewan which has already implemented a mandated K to 12 Saskatchewan Treaty Curriculum.



Support material for the Teacher's Resource Kit in the Manitoba Treaties Teacher Resource Guide Project

The project has structured a vetting process that includes a Sub-Committee representative of the collaborating partners; a Development Team of classroom teachers from First Nations and provincial schools across Manitoba and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs' Council of Elders.

- The Sub-Committee is responsible for providing ongoing direction, support and feedback on the development and implementation of the curriculum;
- The Elders are advisors to the project by identifying content (what should be taught); ensuring that the content on Treaties and the Dakota experience reflects Manitoba First Nations' truths; to advise on traditional knowledge and protocols that support the Treaties, the Dakota experience, and the overall development of the curriculum; and
- The Development Team is responsible for assisting in the vetting process by evaluating the working draft of the Resource Guide and providing recommendations

PROJECT'S ACCOUNTABILITY STRUCTURE

TREATY RELATIONS COMMISSIONER
TREATY RELATIONS COMMISSION OF MANITOBA (TRCM)

TREATIES SUB-COMMITTEE

ELDERS

DEVELOPMENT TEAM
(TEACHERS & EDUCATORS)

CONTRACTOR
(WRITER)

for revision. This will include assisting in suggesting content, writing strategies, and piloting parts of the curriculum prior to completion of the whole package.

- The writer is working closely with these three bodies through a series of teleconference calls, face-to-face meetings, and telephone and email communications; including a reporting process through the preparation of written progress reports, briefing notes, and formal presentations.

NEXT STEPS

The project has entered the second phase of development. A detailed Curriculum Project implementation strategy is being developed as part of the phase 2 time frame. Several meetings have been scheduled with the various committees over the next fiscal year to determine next steps the curriculum from K-12.



Research Strategy

The TRCM Research Strategy was developed by Dr. Winona Wheeler in early 2007 following a series of discussions with the MOA parties, Academics and Elders. The TRCM received an extensive set of recommendations on a myriad of research topics. The research projects were selected by ensuring concurrence with the areas identified in the MOA, capacity to fill the gaps in literature and expanding Treaty knowledge.

The Research Strategy was presented, discussed and approved by the parties to the MOA through the TRCM Technical Working Group (TWG) and Joint Seniors Officials Committee (JSOC) tables. As a result, several research projects have been commissioned since 2007. The overall Research Strategy has been held in abeyance for the 2009-10 fiscal year and the parties are currently conducting a review and analysis of the Research Strategy. Upon completion, the parties will work collaboratively to identify next steps.

The two (2) major research initiatives that have external partners have been in progress: the Manitoba Treaties Oral History Project and the Historical Atlas of First Nations in Manitoba.

MANITOBA TREATIES ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

TREATY ELDERS TEACHINGS SERIES

In July 2008 the TRCM and AMC entered into a Protocol Agreement on the Manitoba Treaties Oral History Project (OHP). From October 2006 to December 2008, the OHP Research Team met with 62 of the 64 Manitoba First Nations and held 14 Focus Groups, 7 Community Forums and 60 Follow-up Elder Interviews that included 228 Elders from the seven Treaty areas and 5 Manitoba linguistic groups including the Dakota Nation.

Although the original intent of OHP was to prepare a Final Report, the focus shifted during the field research and a four volume series of “Treaty Elders’ Teachings” was then envisioned to help educate the general public on Elders perspectives of the history of the Treaties and First Nations people. The series consists primarily of selected teachings from the Anishinaabeg, Anishininwak, Ininiwak, Dakota Oyate and Denesulene Elders in Manitoba.

In July 2009, AMC and TRCM conducted a review of the Treaty Elders’ Teaching series to allow for research into

the issues of authorship, intellectual property, ownership and publications. Although there are over-arching concerns assurances were made by consent forms signed by Elders participating that the oral history provided would be protected by traditional law and protocols. It was agreed that intellectual property, copyright and ownership of the materials are to remain with the respective Elders. To address consent issues, AMC developed a second consent form for contributing Elders.



Elders from the Oral History Project participate in a review meeting of the Treaty Elders Teaching Series at Opaskwayak

During the drafting of the Treaty Elders’ Teachings series, the AMC Council of Elders and Treaty Commissioner served as the Ethics Review and Editorial Board for the draft four volume series which includes:

- **Volume 1:** “Untuwe Pi Kin He (Who We Are) with authorship to be held by Doris Pratt, Harry Bone with the Treaty and Dakota Elders in Manitoba;
- **Volume 2:** “Ka’esi Wahkotumahk Aski (Our Relations With The Land) with authorship to be held by D’Arcy Linklater, Harry Bone and the Treaty and Dakota Elders in Manitoba;



- **Volume 3:** “Dene” (Our Relations to the Newcomers) with authorship to be held by Harry Bone and the Treaty and Dakota Elders in Manitoba; and
- **Volume 4:** “Gakinagidagwi’igoomin Anishinaabewiyang” (We Are All Treaty People) with authorship to be held by Harry Bone, Wayne Scott and the Treaty and Dakota Elders in Manitoba.

In March 2010, two Regional Forums were held in the south and north with some of the Anishinaabeg, Dakota and Ininiwak Elders to review their information and provide consent.

Although consent forms from all contributing Elders have not been received, the TRCM and AMC are hopeful that additional can be held with Anishininwak, Ininiwak and Denesulene Elders to ensure completion of the OHP. The end result is intended to publish the Treaty Elders’ Teaching series later this year.



Elders Colomb, Hart and Linklater at Review Meeting in Opaskwayak



Anishinaabe Elders Review Meeting at Brokenhead



Dr. Frank Deer and Treaty Commissioner Dennis White Bird



Treaty 1 Elders Review Meeting at Brokenhead



Research Strategy

THE HISTORICAL ATLAS OF FIRST NATIONS IN MANITOBA PROJECT

When you say “atlas” most people might think of a physical map with your main stream atlas that outlines countries and provinces but I think this is going to be far different from what can be regarded as a main stream atlas and its going to be something that speaks to the experiences of the Manitoba First Nations and those who are related to the land.

—Dr. Frank Deer, Editorial Board Member

The “Atlas Project” arises out of a series of consultations with the MOA parties [Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada], First Nation leaders, Elders, community members, and Treaty researchers. This culminated in the drafting of the TRCM Research Strategy which included a section called: Livelihood & Manitoba First Nations Traditional Knowledge and Practices and finally the project itself in 2007. Throughout the consultations the Elders from the AMC Council of Elders were instrumental in moving this project forward.

Given the breadth and depth of this project – 64 First Nations, 5 language groups, 7 Treaty regions, as well as the large number of contributors, this project engages and involves many individuals, organizations, and First Nations with vast areas of expertise. The end result will be the

Historical Atlas of First Nations in Manitoba.

The project itself has four major phases with specific deliverables as described below:

- **Phase I – [Initiation of Project]:** Creation of a Research Team/Editorial Board which was to be made up of University and public scholars, INAC Treaty Researcher, Province of Manitoba Researcher, AMC Researcher, AMC Council of Elders Representatives, and TRCM Staff; Comprehensive Literature Review/ Environmental Scan which would include compiling a list of land use and occupancy studies completed by individual First Nations; Compilation of maps and other visual representations of Manitoba First Nations; Identification of gaps in literature; Development of research strategy; Base Map development; Proposal Development and Submissions; and Research Team meetings;
- **Phase II – [Research]:** Development of large and small scale research projects under the supervision of an Editorial Board Member; Selection of Co-Editors for the atlas; Preliminary outline of the Atlas to be developed; Cartographic development; and Research Team meetings;
- **Phase III – [Research and Map Development]:** Follow-up research; Portfolio development; Poster map development; Indigenous toponomy research; revision of outline of Atlas; Proposal Development and Submissions; Cartographic development; and Research Team meetings; and
- **Phase IV – [Writing and Map Development]:** Research Team meetings, Atlas Plate Editing, and Publication of the Atlas Portfolio.



Atlas Project Editorial Board Meeting with Cartographers



Atlas Project Editorial Board meeting with Researchers



**HISTORICAL ATLAS OF FIRST NATIONS IN
MANITOBA – EDITORIAL BOARD**

In Riding Mountain National Park, there is a lake called Clear Lake what they call Wasagaming but the Anishinaabe name for it is Waazhegami-Zaaga’igan – there is a message in that lake’s name. That lake is clear for one purpose; it’s a place to create peace, sincerity, a state of mind, quietness, closeness to nature, that’s what it’s there for. The naming and mapping of our land by us in an atlas is so important.

—Elder Harry Bone, Keeseekoowenin

The Editorial Board consists of 12 permanent members from a variety of specialties and community involvements:

Co-Editors/Lead Researchers

- Dr. Frank Tough, Professor, University of Alberta
- Dr. Winona Wheeler, Associate Professor, University of Saskatchewan

Elders

- Doris Pratt, Sioux Valley Dakota Nation
- D’Arcy Linklater, Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation

Volunteer Editorial Board Members

- Dennis White Bird, Treaty Commissioner, Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba
- Dr. Arthur Ray, Professor Emeritus, University of British Columbia
- Dr. Jennifer Brown, Professor, University of Winnipeg
- Dr. Frank Deer, Associate Professor, University of Manitoba
- Ralph Abramson, Executive Director, Treaty and Aboriginal Rights Research Centre
- Victor Lytwyn, Historical Geographer, Independent Consulting

- Anne Lindsay, Research Assistant, Centre for Rupert’s Land Studies
- Darren Courchene, Researcher, Independent Consulting

**HISTORICAL ATLAS OF FIRST NATIONS IN
MANITOBA – ATLAS PORTFOLIO**

Gida’akiinan (our land) to us is a birth right, the land we walk on is our birth right, we are created from it, we die and we’ll go back to it.

—Elder Wayne Scott, Swan Lake

The Editorial Board had a goal of developing 25 plates to create an Atlas Portfolio to submit to outside sources for further funding in the 2009-2010 fiscal year. The Research Team was only able to complete 10 draft atlas plates:

- Plate 1** Star Knowledge (Darren Courchene);
- Plate 2** Fur Trade Exploration (Victor Lytwyn);
- Plate 3** Selkirk Treaty (Anne Lindsay and Jennifer Brown);
- Plate 4** Manitoba, 1870 (Frank Tough);
- Plate 5** Treaties 1 and 2, Land and Territories (Frank Tough);
- Plate 6** Education (Frank Deer);
- Plate 7** Treaty Land Entitlement Process (Ralph Abramson);
- Plate 8** Economic Change in the Reserve Transition Era, 1870-1900 (Frank Tough);
- Plate 9** First Nations Political Organization, ca. 800-2000 CE (Darren Courchene); and
- Plate 10** Ochekwí Sipi (Fisher River) Cree First Nation (Winona Wheeler)

Research Strategy



Dr. Winona Wheeler and The late Elder William Loone examine base maps for the Atlas Project

Twenty years ago this wouldn't have happened; twenty years ago the Researchers wouldn't be coming together with Elders to get direction and guidance and to work with them on a project. Researchers went out, took and owned the knowledge and then published it as their own. We've come a long way since then. I know this project

is going to be successful because we have Elders who are willing and happy to work with us and we have researchers who have done community based research, who have experience working with Aboriginal people before, and who also bring their passion for research to this project.

—Dr. Winona Wheeler, Co-Editor

NEXT STEPS

Two additional plates are currently under development for inclusion into the Atlas Portfolio – First Nations Economic History by Frank Tough and the Sagkeeng (Fort Alexander) First Nation community profile by Darren Courchene.

The Atlas Portfolio will include a preface, acknowledgements, introduction, indigenous place names map, the 12 atlas plates, and bibliography – a mini-publication in itself. The Atlas Portfolio is intended to be used to recruit additional authors and contributors for the two volumes that are the final goal of this project. The TRCM will be consulting with its working groups to determine next steps for the project.



Facilitation

Within its mandate, facilitation is a key pillar of the TRCM. Opportunities to facilitate discussions in respect to the Treaties and the Treaty relationship are considered invaluable and key to building relationships for organizations and groups to work together who otherwise may not. It is used by the TRCM to expand the public understanding, building cultural acceptance and increasing Treaty education and awareness while building organizational capacity. While the TRCM continues to position itself as a liaison in the community, it strives to provide a service that brings balance to a table providing resources such as experience, tranquility and respect of the issues and matters that are presented. In the context of the Treaties, through facilitation the TRCM works to create a resolve as the Treaty relationship is brought to the forefront of the mind of Manitoba's society and environments evolve. The TRCM has had the following opportunities to facilitate throughout the year:

1. AMC & the Province of Manitoba: Honouring First Nations Treaties Day at the Manitoba Legislature – May 12, 2010
2. Parks Canada: Lower Fort Garry & Treaty One First Nations
3. AMC/MMF/Manitoba: Residential Schools Speakers Bureau
4. Canadian Human Rights Commission
5. Manitoba Human Rights Commission

COMMUNITY FORUMS

In 2009-10 the TRCM held three (3) Community Forums focusing on three (3) target areas; Woman and Leadership, Generating a PATH for children in care and mentorship between Elders and Youth leadership.

With a mixture of presentations and breakout sessions in the Community Forums, participants were asked a variety of questions such as; what are some initiatives the TRCM should focus, what are the main challenges your community faces in understanding Treaties, what myths relating to the Treaties can the TRCM work towards dispelling and what areas of Treaty should be explored more broadly.

INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE, INC.

To reach a wider audience the TRCM engaged the community to share information relating to the Treaties and the Treaty relationship. On May 26 & 27, 2009 the TRCM engaged its partner the Indigenous Leadership Development Institute, Inc (ILDII formerly Aboriginal Leadership Institute) to host a forum for the Aboriginal Women Leaders: Manitoba Initiative funded through ILDII and the Status of Women Canada. Individuals with a strong interest in governance and leadership within their community participated in the session and provided insight into their perspective of the Treaties and their role within the Treaty relationship.



A facilitated discussion circle on Treaties at the Aboriginal Women's Leaders Conference hosted in partnership with IDLII

7 GENERATIONS: OUR LEGACY OF HOPE

On June 3 & 4, 2009 the TRCM in partnership with the Southern First Nations Network of Care and the First Nations of Northern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority hosted a community forum to discuss the Treaties and seek a way forward for First Nation children and families. The forums objective was to create "Our Legacy of Hope" through education, research and dialogue that lead to tangible solutions for children based on the knowledge and history of the Treaties.

With participation from Elders, community leaders and experts the forum focused on three (3) key themes; Treaties, Family Wellness and Moving Forward. In its

Facilitation

design the forum discussed issues that families face to create a path process that would create tools for technicians and administrators, family care providers and support workers to reach the children and provide an understanding of where they come from so they can know where they are going.



Participants in the 7 Generations: Our Legacy of Hope Forum work to develop a PATH process

YOUTH AND ELDERS GATHERING

On September 15 & 16, 2009 at the Buffalo Point First Nation, the TRCM engaged leadership in a two day Youth and Elders Gathering with a focus on strengthening, enhancing and transferring Treaty knowledge with the guidance of the Elders.

The goal of the Youth and Elders Gathering was to present and transfer knowledge to the Youth leaders that will get them to consider their understanding of the Treaties and the Treaty relationship that they are a part of. As a facilitator of the process, the TRCM provided information relevant to the discussions and probed the mindset of the audience.

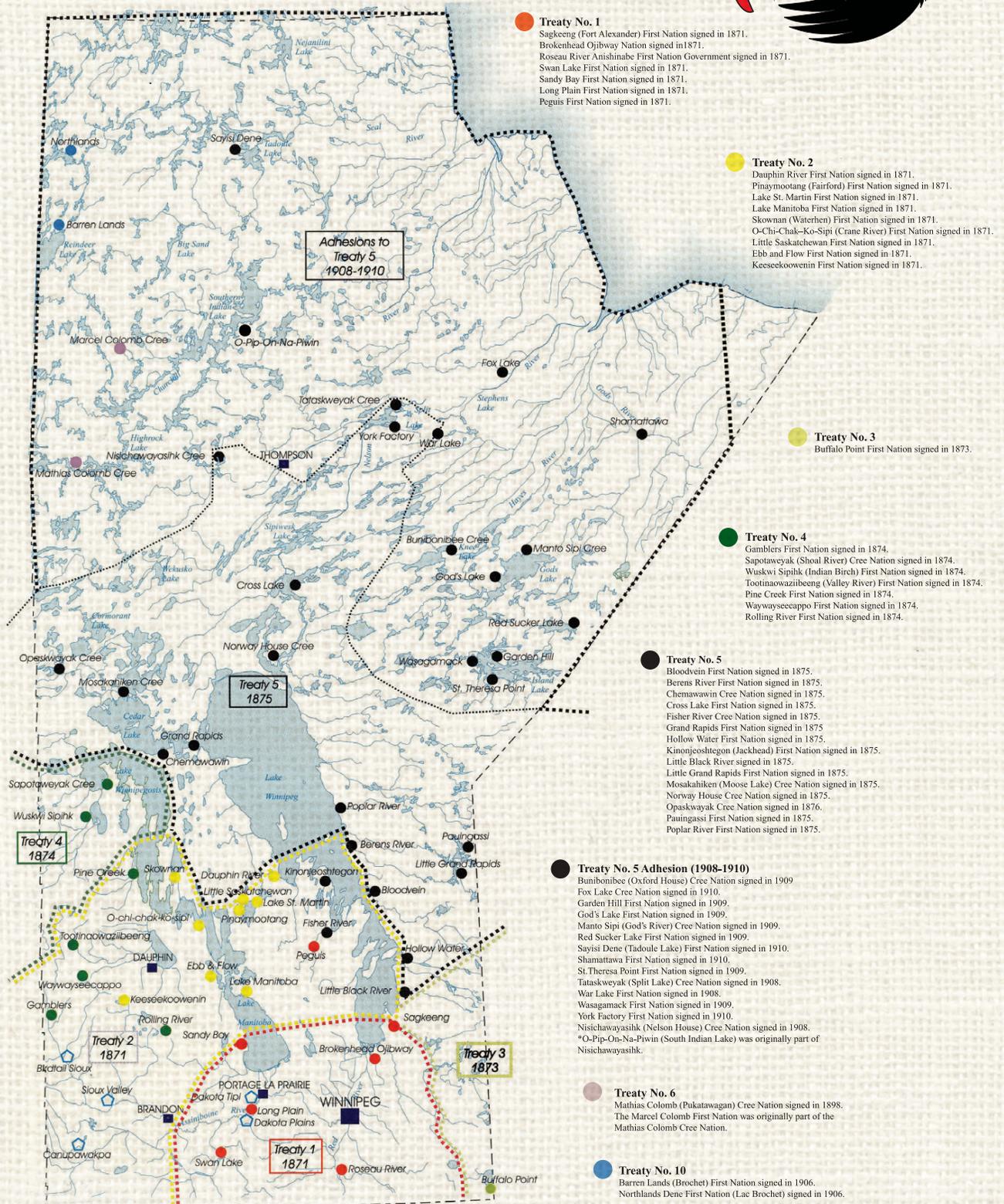
The TRCM's objective was to ensure the Manitoba First Nation Youth Council has a stronger understanding of the TRCM roles and responsibilities in addition to creating awareness about the Treaties and the Treaty relationship. Further the TRCM encourages Youth input in to the activities of the TRCM, building Youth capacity and relationships between the Youth and Elders.



Participants at the Youth and Elders Gathering in Buffalo Point First Nation in September 2009

NEXT STEPS

As the TRCM moves forward to ensure that it reflects thoroughly on the information received at the Community Forums an internal analysis needs to be conducted to generate a summary of the work and report on the outcomes to its partners. The TRCM will cross reference the outcomes based on the questions posed at each of the forums allowing the TRCM to develop focus areas for 2010-11 work plan within the community. To report back to the community on findings, a 'fact sheet/information flyer' will be developed and disseminated to forum participants to highlight the work that was embarked on and how the community can move forward together in areas presented commonly at the forums.



Explanatory Notes:

- The boundaries of the Treaty Areas on the map do not correspond in some cases with a Treaty that a First Nation signed.
- Example:
 - Gambler's, Rolling River, Pine Creek, Tootinawaziibeeng and Waywayseecappo are located in Treaty 2 area but signed Treaty 4.
 - Fisher River and Kinonjioshtegon are located in Treaty 2 area but signed Treaty 5.
 - Marcel Colomb was formed from Mathias Colomb. Both are located in the Treaty 5 Adhesion area but signed Treaty 6.
- The Treaty Boundaries of No. 6 do not extend into Manitoba.
- Northlands and Barren Lands are located in Treaty 5 Adhesion area but signed Treaty 10.
- The Treaty boundaries of Treaty No. 10 do not extend into Manitoba.
- Peguis is located in Treaty 2 area but signed Treaty 1.
- The Dakota Nations - Birdtail Sioux, Sioux Valley, Canupawakpa, Dakota Tipi and Dakota Plains are not signatory to any Treaty with Canada.
- *O-Pip-On-Na-Piwin is in the process of being recognized as a First Nation.



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