



2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT

# Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba



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

**WE ARE ALL TREATY PEOPLE**

# TRCM Staff



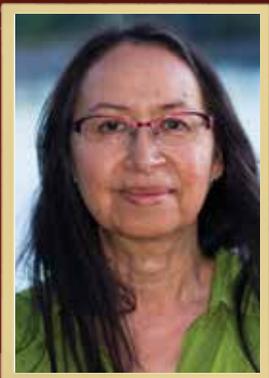
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## MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS

On behalf of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, I would like to congratulate the Treaty Commissioner, the Council of Elders, staff and associates at the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba for successfully promoting and increasing awareness of the importance of Treaties throughout the Province of Manitoba in 2017-2018.

Over the past year, your team has used creativity and innovation to help share information about Treaties. Whether this is done through your *Let's Talk Treaty* radio show, the many outreach booths you held at events across the province, or the various Speakers Bureau opportunities in which your experts participated, the Commission has remained committed to helping both First Nation and non-First Nation children, adults, and seniors learn more about the shared responsibility we all have when it comes to honouring the Treaties and agreements in this province.

Education and research continue to be an important aspect of your work. I am grateful for the curriculum and other educational resources you have created and made available for the public. You have also organized seven different Treaty commemoration events throughout the year, which are an impactful way to remind us all that the spirit and intent of our Treaties is still alive.

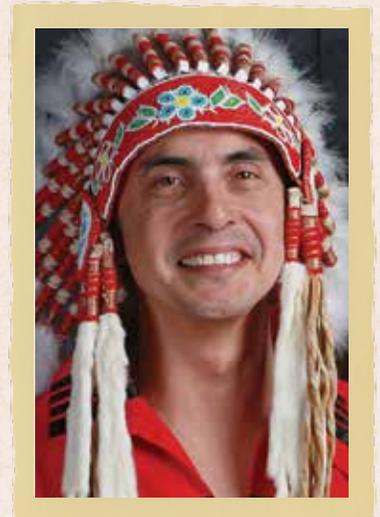
In addition to all of this, you have continued to work to create strong partnerships with organizations and educational institutions. Building partnerships requires patience, humility, and openness to hearing other's

perspectives. I commend you for the efforts you have put into creating and maintaining partnerships.

Let's continue to work together in a way that respects the spirit of the Treaties. With the continued dedication of the TRCM to this important work, I am confident that relationships will continue to grow in a good way. The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs remains committed to supporting the important work being done by the Commission.

Ekosi

Grand Chief Arlen Dumas



**GRAND CHIEF  
ARLEN DUMAS**

Mathias Colomb  
Cree Nation –  
Treaty No. 6

## MESSAGE FROM THE TRCM

It is with great pleasure that I present the 2017-18 Treaty Commission Annual Report. I am thankful to the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada for providing the opportunity to serve as Treaty Commissioner. I hold Treaties in high regard and believe they are the way forward in our journey of reconciliation. I have enjoyed working with and getting to know the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Elders Council and want to thank them for their patience and guidance during this past year. I also want to acknowledge the staff of the TRCM, AMC and Canada for their ongoing support during this year.

The TRCM office has undergone some staffing changes this year and I would like to welcome our new staff and thank our previous staff for their commitment and years of service to the Commission.

The Commission continues to work diligently on the Public Education pillar of our mandate, focusing on our Treaty Education Initiative and bringing Treaties to the classroom. We continue to receive tremendous support from provincial schools and administration and we have undertaken a number of efforts to encourage more engagement from First Nation schools and administrators. The demand for our training continues to reflect the desire to learn about Treaties and their significance in understanding the relationship between First Nation and non-First Nation people. Our Speakers Bureau continues to receive requests at an increasing rate, more so than in previous years, which is yet another reflection of the demand for Treaty knowledge. In an effort to broaden Treaty Education accessibility, the Commission has worked with NCI FM radio to host the radio show “Let’s talk Treaty”. The intent is to share Treaty knowledge with a wider and more diverse audience and we expect to utilize the Treaty shows at lunch and learn sessions in our Learning Centre and incorporate them into our existing Treaty Education curriculum support materials.

This past year has seen an increase in the establishment of Treaty Tables between the

First Nation and federal governments as well as ongoing engagement sessions under the federal government’s Rights and Recognition Framework process. Our research and facilitation team has been involved at these tables and engagement sessions and is working to identify ways in which the Commission can provide ongoing dialogue support.

The Commission understands the need to work with Newcomer communities to forge better understandings of the Treaties and, in this regard, has undertaken a Partnership with Immigration Partnership Winnipeg. The Commission has also signed on to the City of Winnipeg’s Aboriginal Protocol and is encouraged by the level of interest and sincerity of organizations making efforts to better understand the history and importance of Treaties.

The journey of reconciliation is clearly under way and the Treaty Relations Commission has an amazing role to play in assisting those with a desire to learn about the Treaties and the Treaty Relationship. I encourage everyone to explore how the Commission can assist in that journey.

Miigwetch,

Loretta Ross,  
Treaty Commissioner



**COMMISSIONER  
LORETTA ROSS**

Hollow Water  
First Nation –  
Treaty No. 5

## MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL OF ELDERS

On behalf of the AMC/TRCM Council of Elders I would like to extend congratulations and a warm welcome to Loretta Ross on her appointment as Treaty Commissioner. Having had the pleasure of working alongside Commissioner Ross throughout most of the 2017-2018 year, the Elders Council is confident that she will serve the TRCM with passion and dedication and look forward to collaborating with her on new and exciting endeavors to honour our historical Treaties as part of her vision for the future of the TRCM.

In addition to annual Treaty Commemorations, Speakers Bureau engagements, and Community Outreach events sponsored by the TRCM, the Elders Council also participated in some new initiatives in 2017-2018 including joining Commissioner Ross for discussions on different aspects of the Treaty Relationship on NCI's *Let's Talk Treaty* radio program. The Elders Council is honoured to continue to be part of education, facilitation and research projects within the TRCM Mandate and is dedicated to honouring the spirit and intent of the original signed Treaties and all that they encompass.

TRCM experienced a few staff changes in addition to the appointment of the newest Treaty Commissioner, welcoming a new Research Coordinator, Communications Coordinator, Operations Manager and Executive Assistant. So many new additions

have brought an abundance of fresh perspectives and ideas for new initiatives and projects for the TRCM to consider in the coming fiscal year.

The Elders Council is excited to be part of this new era for the TRCM and will continue to enjoy building relationships with people, communities and organizations through thoughtful, informed and respectful dialogue.

Miigwech,

Florence Paynter



**ELDER  
FLORENCE  
PAYNTER**

Sandy Bay  
First Nation –  
Treaty No. 1

# About TRCM



Three Treaty Commissioners of Manitoba, James Wilson (2010–2016), Loretta Ross (2017–) and Dennis Whitebird (2005–2010)

**The Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba (TRCM) is a neutral body, created through a joint partnership between the Government of Canada and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) 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 inter-governmental 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.

The Government of Canada and AMC signed a historic Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in November 2003 that recognized the need for the establishment of a Treaty Relations Commission in Manitoba to promote Treaty awareness.

Coming into the year 2017 we also welcomed a new Treaty Commissioner, Loretta Ross, to bring us forward into the future with a fresh perspective:

Treaty Commissioner Ross (Bimaashi Migizi) is a member of the Hollow Water First Nation in Manitoba. She attended Queen’s University where she earned her law degree and has served as legal counsel to numerous First Nation people, governments and organizations, including the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and Assembly of First Nations. Over the



Blanket Ceremony welcoming Commissioner Loretta Ross, Elder’s Council meeting, June, 2017

years, Treaty Commissioner Ross has served as counsel for First Nations on land issues including specific claims, treaty land entitlement, trusts and hydro development. Her practice has also included child and family matters and residential school claims.

Treaty Commissioner Ross also serves as a board member to several community focused foundations in Manitoba.

Treaty Commissioner Ross was taught at an early age from her grandfather, George Barker, who served for 44 years as Chief of Hollow Water, that as a First Nation person, she would always carry the responsibility of advocating and educating on behalf of First Nation people. This is a responsibility that she fully embraces. She is also a big believer in family and community and therefore strives to find balance between her work and family which includes her husband, four children and her young grandson. In her spare time, she loves to curl, golf and watch her children participate in their extra-curricular activities.



Treaty Commissioner Ross meeting with Treaty Commissioner Mary Culbertson



Professor Aimee Craft, Speakers Bureau member and Dr. Maureen Matthews, Manitoba Museum, Holiday Open House, December 2017



Drummers at Heritage Day, Lac du Bonnet September, 2017



Treaty Commissioner Ross with Treaty Commissioner Mary Culbertson of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner in Saskatchewan, March 2018



TRCM Education Manager Amanda Simard and Ginger Arnold, Sustainable Development Certified Indigenous Relations Program Developer, Holiday Open House, December 2017

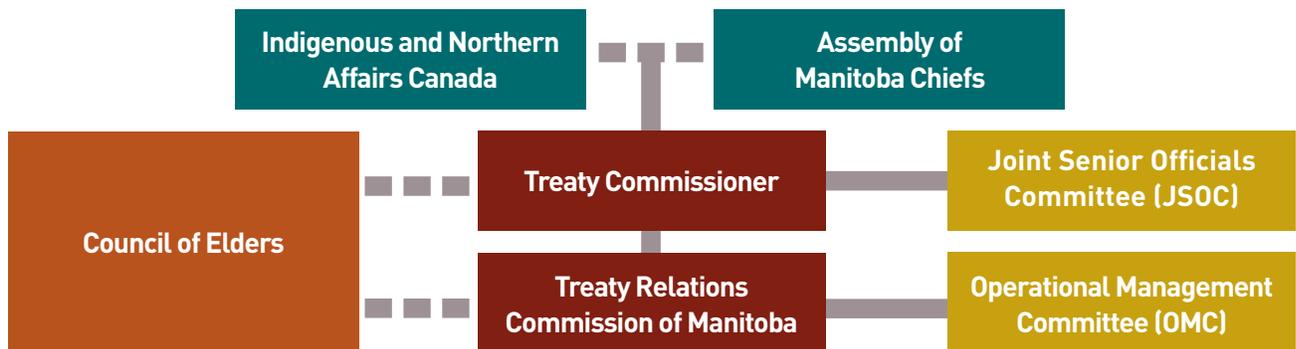
## TRCM MANDATE

The TRCM's Mandate is to focus on improving Treaty Relations and government cooperation by strengthening, rebuilding and enhancing the Treaty Relationship. Through the examination of existing public education information, the TRCM searches for gaps of information about the Treaties and the Treaty Relationship. The TRCM then conducts research of those gaps to create opportunities for new facilitation opportunities in all sectors of our mandate. From facilitation opportunities, the TRCM then continues to create public education and awareness materials for all Manitobans.



## TRCM ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK

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



Within this structure, the Minister of Indigenous Affairs and Northern Development Canada (INAC) and the Grand Chief of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) have the overall responsibility of the Treaty Commissioner.

The TRCM is accountable to the following:

- A Joint Official Steering Committee (JSOC) comprised of senior executives from INAC and senior executives

from AMC who provide direction and advice to the Treaty Commissioner; and

- An Operational Management Committee (OMC) comprised of representatives from INAC, AMC, and the TRCM who provide policy direction to the TRCM.



Elder Elmer Courchene, Elder Doris Pratt and Elder Jim Cote, AMC Assembly, September 2017



Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada Minister Carolyn Bennett with Elder Harry Bone of the AMC/TRCM Elders Council, September 2017

## TRCM COUNCIL OF ELDERS

The commitment of the Council of Elders is fundamental to the work of the TRCM. The Elders are historians, teachers, spiritual caregivers, language experts, and advisors from each of the numbered Treaties and the Dakota Nations in Manitoba. With their input, support and guidance, 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 First Nations Historical Timeline. In addition to the research initiatives, the TRCM Council of Elders has advised in curriculum development, leadership forums, and participated as members

of the TRCM Speakers' Bureau. The Elders Council plays an integral role in furthering the Mandate and Principles of the TRCM.

## TRCM PRINCIPLES

The TRCM, AMC and the Government of Canada are guided by the following principles:

- Treaties are a fundamental part of the relationships between First Nations Treaty signatories and the Crown;
- The involvement of First Nation Elders is a fundamental 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 arm's length from the Parties as a neutral body;
- Respect for Treaty and Inherent rights is an important part of maintaining the honour of the Crown in its relations with First Nations; and
- 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.

## COUNCIL OF ELDERS



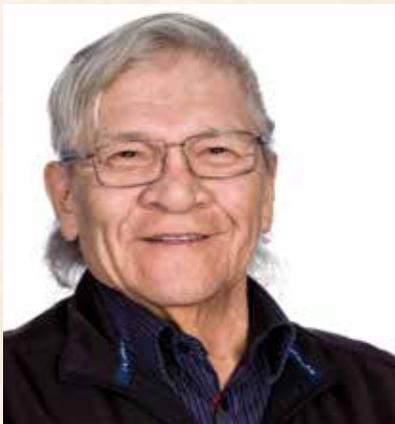
**TREATY NO. 1 –  
FLORENCE PAYNTER**  
(Sandy Bay First Nation)



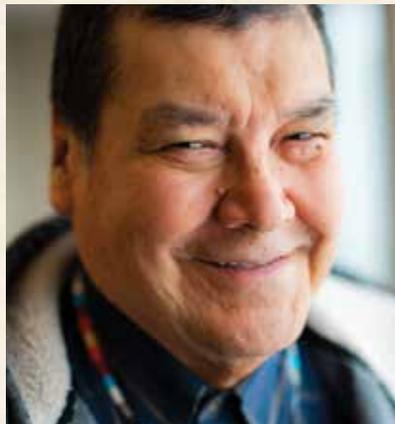
**TREATY NO. 2 –  
HARRY BONE**  
(Keeseekoowenin First Nation)



**TREATY NO. 3 –  
ELMER COURCHENE**  
(Sagkeeng First Nation)



**TREATY NO. 4 –  
JAMES COTE**  
(Waywayseecappo First Nation)



**TREATY NO. 5 –  
ELDER WILLIAM G. LATHLIN**  
(Opaskwayak Cree Nation)



**TREATY NO. 5 ADHESION –  
D'ARCY LINKLATER**  
(Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation)



**TREATY NO. 6 –  
VACANT**



**TREATY NO. 10 –  
ELDER JOE HYSLOP**  
(Northlands Denesuline First Nation)



**DAKOTA NATIONS –  
DORIS PRATT**  
(Sioux Valley Dakota Nation)



# Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba

## TRCM VISION STATEMENT

We Are All Treaty People sharing and shaping mutually beneficial and prosperous relationships for all Manitobans.

## TRCM MISSION STATEMENT

The TRCM encourages and facilitates cooperation, dialogue, and understanding to strengthen and enhance Treaty Relationships to **Inspire Individuals, Empower Change, Build Canada.**

## TRCM VALUES

The TRCM values: respect, knowledge, balance, collaboration, honour and integrity, traditions and protocols, and passion and commitment.



Treaty Education Training,  
Turtle Lodge, August 2017

The TRCM strives to be the primary resource for all Treaty information in Manitoba through services such as the Treaty Education Initiative, We Are All Treaty People Campaign, Speakers Bureau, Learning Centre, and Website ([www.trcm.ca](http://www.trcm.ca)). Through public education the TRCM is actively engaging with all Manitobans, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to rebuild and reconcile relationships and enhance understanding about the unique, vibrant, and fundamental building blocks of Manitoba and Canada – the Numbered Treaties.

## TREATY EDUCATION INITIATIVE

The Treaty Education Initiative (TEI) falls under the public education pillar of the mandate of the TRCM. The TRCM in partnership with AMC and including the Council of Elders, INAC, Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre (MFNERC), and Manitoba Education and Training (MET) have made a commitment to educate all Manitoba students on the Treaties and the Treaty Relationship. This public education strategy for K-12 students is known as the Treaty Education Initiative (TEI). The work has resulted in the development and implementation of K-12 Treaty education teacher resources and a full Treaty Education Kit to complement and enhance Manitoba curricula outcomes for all students across the province.

The learning outcome of the TEI is that all Manitoba students should be expected to demonstrate knowledge of key topics, concepts and understandings of the Treaties and Treaty Relationship by the end of grade 12.

Since 2010, teacher resources have been developed, piloted and implemented into provincial and First Nations local controlled schools and privately funded schools.

The long-term goal of the TEI remains full integration of comprehensive Treaty education from K-12 in all schools across Manitoba, supported by a province-wide education policy so that all students can have access to Treaty Education.

The TEI team consists of a TEI Advisor, TEI Education Manager, TEI Facilitation lead and the TEI in-School Support Teacher, working closely under the guidance of the Treaty



Treaty Education training at Nisichiwayasihk Cree Nation



Teachers at the Treaty Education Summer Institute, O-Chi-Chak-Ko-Sipi First Nation, August 2017

Commissioner and the AMC/TRCM Council of Elders on all aspects of training, implementation, and additional student resource developments, including the Grade 12: Treaties and the Treaty Relationship Course and post-secondary course.

### **MANDATORY GRADE 12: TREATIES AND THE TREATY RELATIONSHIP COURSE**

Under the direction and guidance of Manitoba First Nation leadership and a through a series of resolutions passed at concurrent Assemblies held by AMC, the TEI team has been working on a mandatory high school course that is meant as a capstone to the TEI program. As a culminating experience, students, through a process of inquiry, are given the opportunity to bookend their TEI experience, with the ultimate goal of attaining a high school credit in order to graduate. The first draft of the course was completed and submitted to the TRCM on February 28, 2018. The Document is a full curriculum for implementation and meets all Manitoba Education requirements for credit attainment. The grade 12 course is completed and ready to be offered as a pilot course during

the coming school year, with the long-term goal of becoming a prerequisite to attain a high school diploma.

### **TEI STUDENT RESOURCES**

Within the TEI work plan, additional student resource development has been identified as a deliverable. From the beginning it was apparent there was not enough resources available to assist teachers in the classroom when introducing Treaties and the Treaty Relationship. For this reason, the TEI writers continue to develop additional resources that can be used in conjunction with Teachers Guides and all other resources within the Treaty Education Kits.

### **TEI CURRENT STATUS**

To date, all provincial school divisions have sent at least one educator, whether teacher or administrator, to a two-day Treaty education training session. Provincial schools have been very receptive and appreciative of the teachings and resources received over the past several years.

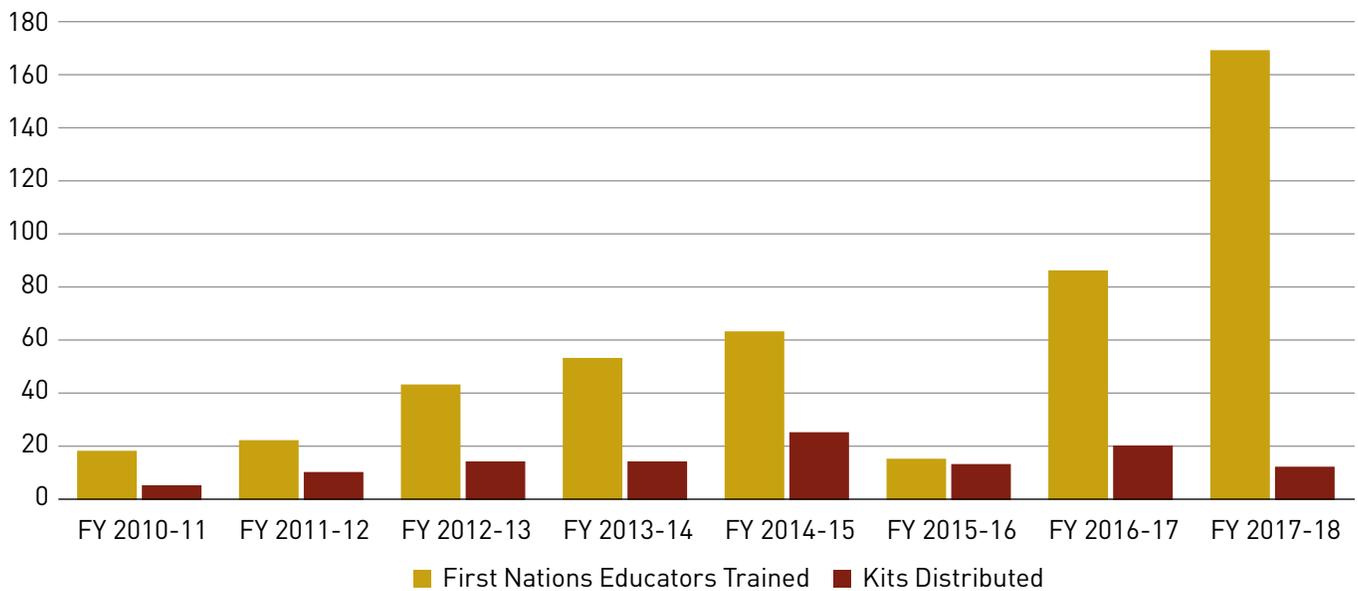


TEI Summer Institute, Lower Fort Garry Manitoba, August 2018

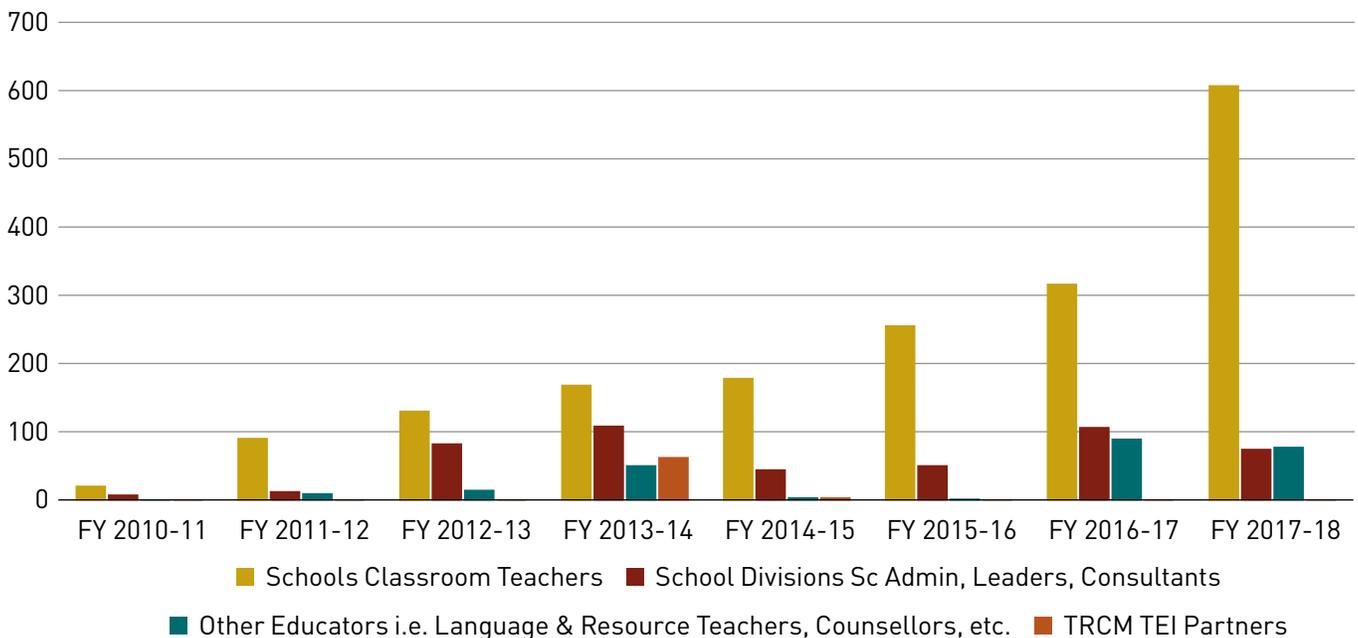
During the 2017-18 fiscal year, all training deliverables have been met, and additional training sessions have been offered due to the increased demand for training. Some highlights include:

- All training sessions have been on demand as requested by school divisions, First Nation local controlled schools and specialized interest groups
- School divisions and First Nations schools have continued to request and receive full divisional training
- TEI has been invited to participate in a First Nation Summer Institute held in O-Chi-Chak-Ko-Sipi First Nation and also to Poplar River First Nation School orientation
- Teacher Librarians have requested a full two-day training session with full facilitation costs covered by the School Division
- Individual schools have received training on a cost share basis with TEI
- Two Northern First Nation teaching schools have received on-site training:
  - Nisichiwasihk Cree Nation
  - Lac Brochet School

### TRAINING AND KIT DISTRIBUTION



### TRAINING BY DEMOGRAPHIC

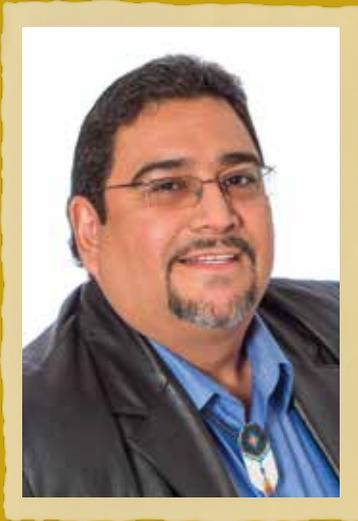


## SPEAKERS BUREAU

The TRCM Speakers Bureau provides dialogue and information sharing to create an understanding about the historical and contemporary issues that relate to Treaty. The Speakers Bureau members provide various perspectives on Treaties and the Treaty relationship, including the written and oral interpretations of the Treaty relationship, as well as sharing their expertise on Treaties including the topics of education, law, health and Elder's expertise on the Treaty relationship.

Speakers Bureau Objectives:

- Promote the concept “We Are All Treaty People”;
- Raise awareness of Treaties and their importance;
- Raise awareness of the rights and obligations associated with Treaties;
- Facilitate discussion on Treaties; and
- Enhance the Treaty relationship



### ALLEN SUTHERLAND

Waabiskhi Mazinazoot Mishtaatim (White Spotted Horse), Anishinaabe Saulteaux, Skownan First Nation (Treaty 2 Territory) and of the Bizhiw Doodem (Lynx Clan).

## SPEAKERS BUREAU PROFILE:

### SPEAKING TOPICS

- **Historical Timeline (Treaty relationship since Newcomer contact)**
- **Treaty No. 1**
- **Anishinaabe Spirituality**

Allen Sutherland is currently the Indigenous Relations Officer of Parks Canada – Lower Fort Garry, National Historical Site of Treaty One. Allen assists Parks Canada Agency in building and maintaining formal relations with the local First Nations that are in the Treaty One traditional territory and providing Treaty education. Allen is also an Independent Consultant who provides facilitation and training under his own company *WHITE SPOTTED HORSE*, where he is a sought-after resource person on the history and cultures of Indigenous Nations of Canada. In 2014, he is the recipient

of the Aboriginal Circle of Educators 'Researcher and/or Curriculum Development' award for developing the Canadian Indigenous Historical Timeline poster that is now currently being utilized in the Manitoba Education System. Additionally, under his other company name *BIMOSEYAAN OMA AKIN* (Walking thru life on this Earth) Allen is an Anishinaabek Traditional Knowledge Keeper providing traditional ceremonies, teachings, spiritual advice and healing. Allen has been a speaker for the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba – Speakers Bureau for the last 10 years.

Allen currently lives in Winnipeg and is married to Elaine Cowley Sutherland, Cree member of Opaskwayak Cree Nation and has three children and two grandsons.



Elder Peter Atkinson speaks at Heritage Day, Lac du Bonnet, September 2017

The Speakers Bureau continues to be a driving force behind Treaty Education and has been consistently utilized by organizations from the public and private sector for the purpose of providing information and cultural education to the members of the organizations requesting speaker services. The TRCM Speakers Bureau will continue to grow and evolve with the changing priorities of the TRCM. One new member was added to the Speakers Bureau in 2017-2018 and it is hoped that 2018-2019 will show an even larger increase in the Speakers Bureau members as demand for speakers continues to increase. In 2017-18 there were 178 Speaking engagements including 4,960 participants.

Speaking events cost shared with the TRCM include:

- University of Winnipeg
- Winnipeg Police Services
- Sunrise School Division
- Seine River School Division
- University College of the North – Onikaniwak – The Pas

- United Church of Canada
- Province of Manitoba – Sustainable Development – Certified Indigenous Relations Program
- Canadian Grain Commission
- Parks Canada

The Treaty Education Initiative has led to many Speakers Bureau events at educational institutions, especially public and private schools from primary to secondary years.

Schools continue to submit the highest number of requests for speakers with a total of 66 events and some schools have requested repeat engagements. The University of Manitoba made four requests for speakers in the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

In response to a steady increase in requests for presentations this year TRCM is in the process of recruiting a full-time Speakers Bureau Coordinator for the next fiscal period. Additionally, TRCM is hoping to expand the scope of the presentations through the addition of new speakers in the coming year.

## LEARNING CENTRE

The TRCM Learning Centre provides a safe, culturally sensitive environment for both First Nations and Non-First Nations participants to engage in ceremonies, facilitated meetings, Treaty information sessions, and workshops. The TRCM Learning Centre has hosted brown bag lunch series in previous years. Although no events have been held recently, TRCM is set to resume the brown bag lunch series in the new year.

The TRCM tradeshow booth was able to provide public outreach services at Vision Quest, Manito Ahbee festival, Folklorama First Nations Pavilion, the Chief Sam Cook Education Centre Career Fair in Split Lake and held a joint Indigenous Day Treaty Exhibit booth with the Manitoba Museum.

TRCM has hosted 222 participants from the following organizations:

- Certificate of Indigenous Relations Program – Manitoba Sustainable Development (3 Events)
- Manitoba Association of Newcomers Serving Organizations (MANSO)
- St. Amant Centre
- Pierre Elliot Trudeau Foundation
- City of Winnipeg public service workers
- Immigration Partnership Winnipeg
- University of Manitoba – Faculty of Architecture – (2 Events)
- University of Manitoba – Faculty of Social Work
- Brandon University
- Manitoba Indigenous and Northern Relations
- Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
- TRCM Staff presentation by Four Arrows

The annual Speakers Bureau meeting was also held in the learning centre, attended by the members of the Elders Council. The Elders were invited to meet with the Speakers Bureau members and participate in a presentation by Four Arrows (Rarihokwats) on Treaties as set out in historical documents as part of a professional development session.



AMC Grand Chief Arlen Dumas addresses the Elders and Speakers Bureau members at the Speakers Bureau annual meeting in the TRCM Learning Centre, March 2018



Elder Harry Bone with Elders Council and Speakers Bureau members at the Speakers Bureau annual meeting in the TRCM Learning Centre, March 2018



AMC Treaty Task Force Chief Ted Bland speaks at the Speakers Bureau annual meeting, March 2018



Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba  
Resource Library

## COUNCIL OF ELDERS

The commitment of the Council of Elders is fundamental to the work of the TRCM. The Elders are historians, teachers, spiritual caregivers, language experts, and advisors. With their input, support and guidance, 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 First Nations Historical Timeline. In addition to the research initiatives, the TRCM Council of Elders has advised in curriculum development, leadership forums, and participated as members of the TRCM Speakers' Bureau.

## MANITOBA MUSEUM

The Manitoba Museum continues to collaborate with the TRCM Elders Council on a two-year project to refurbish major galleries in the museum. One of the objectives is the introduction of Indigenous Manitobans as part of contemporary Manitoba History. The museum has hired Indigenous curatorial assistant Amanda McLeod to create research files on prominent Indigenous Manitobans to include in the new Winnipeg Gallery and renewed Grasslands Gallery in the museum.

Plans are in place to move the complete set of Manitoba Treaty Medals to the Orientation Gallery where they will

become the first thing visitors will see upon entering the museum along with the “We are all Treaty People” message. The current Treaty Exhibit in the Parklands Gallery will be converted to tell a more elaborate story about the signing of Treaty 3.

Upon completion of the changes in 2020, the museum plans to have a new “We are all Treaty People” exhibit at the front of the museum and three specific exhibits further into the galleries on Treaties 1, 2 and 5. With the opening of the “We are all Treaty People” Exhibit four years ago the Museum began a tradition of an annual feast of the eight pipes in Roseau River First Nation. This year the Ceremony took place November 25<sup>th</sup> and was attended by Commissioner



Ceremonial Pipes, regularly housed for preservation at the Manitoba Museum, at the annual Feasting of the Eight Pipes Ceremony in Roseau River First Nation, October 2017

Ross, TRCM and AMC staff and Roseau River students and community members.

This Winter the museum developed new 1½ and 3-hour Treaty Education Programs for adults with the assistance of Dr. Harry Bone, Chair of the Elder’s Council, Elder Peter Atkinson, and Professors Aimee Craft, Niigaan Sinclair, and Gina Starblanket. Commencing in April of 2018, they will be presented by Dr. Maureen Matthews, Curator of Cultural Anthropology.

## RESOURCE LIBRARY

The TRCM Resource Library continues to grow, as new books and journal articles are regularly added. All newly acquired resources are also added to our digital library catalogue, Library World. The Library is available for public use and staff are frequently employed to respond to information requests, conduct research and prepare presentation. The TRCM plans to increase the amount of journal articles, theses and dissertations in the library in order to reflect recent scholarship on Treaties.

## CANADA’S HISTORY MAGAZINE

TRCM staff, Speakers Bureau members and associates participated in the creation of a special edition release of the magazine with articles written in Indigenous perspective on the Treaties and Treaty Relationships. The Edition “*Treaties and the Treaty Relationship*” is set for distribution in April 2018.



TRCM collaborated with Canada’s History Society to create a special edition of Canada’s History Magazine dedicated to Treaties across Canada

## COMMEMORATIONS

Treaty Commemorations promote, enhance and create awareness of the Treaty Relationship. It is a way to create a better understanding of First Nations cultures, traditions and communities.

Between April 1, 2017 and March 31, 2018 the TRCM supported the following treaty commemorations:

- Lake St. Martin First Nation Treaty Days
- Northlands Denesuline First Nation Treaty No. 10 Gathering

- Legacy Flag Exhibit unveiling ceremony at Lower Fort Garry
- Folklorama First Nations Pavillion
- Treaties 1-11 Gathering in Cochrane Ontario
- Tech Vic High School Commemoration Workshop
- Manitoba Aboriginal Youth Achievement Awards Scholarship

In addition, the TRCM sponsored and attended the Parks Canada Treaty One Commemoration by attending the site of the new Treaty 1 First Nations flag display and the Treaties 1-11 National Gathering.



Dancers from Winnipeg’s Aboriginal School of Dance perform in the First Nations Pavilion, Folklorama, August 2017



Annual Feasting of the Eight Pipes Ceremony, Roseau River First Nation, October 2017



Treaty 1 First Nations Flag commemoration at Lower Fort Garry, honouring the signing of Treaty 1 at Lower Fort Garry, August 2017



Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba  
Information Booth

TRCM regularly participates in a range of community outreach activities which lead to ongoing opportunities for collaboration and teamwork. To date, TRCM has 17 formal partners and numerous informal partners with whom we work to meet all pillars of our mandate: Public Education, Research and Facilitation.

As we engage our partners, one theme has emerged as an area of need and focus: economic opportunity for First Nations peoples in Manitoba. In response to this need and the recognition of Treaty Rights to include the right to livelihood in traditional and modern environments, the TRCM continues to seek and sustain partnerships with those who share our commitment to this effort.

## TRCM FORMAL PARTNERSHIPS

The TRCM is dedicated to the partnerships that it has created in its efforts to strengthen, rebuild and enhance the Treaty relationship. The partnerships commit to an ongoing dialogue and assist in establishing a framework for collaboration to enhance Treaty education and understanding. These important partnerships are dynamic and have unique characteristics that support the goals and objectives of the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba.

Current formal partners include:

- Royal Canadian Mounted Police – “D” Division
- Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre
- Indigenous Leadership Development Institute Inc.
- Parks Canada
- Manitoba Conservation
- Brandon University
- Red River Community College
- Winnipeg Police Services
- Riding Mountain National Park and the Coalition of First Nations with interests in Riding Mountain National Park
- University College of the North
- Canadian Human Rights Commission
- Manitoba Human Rights Commission



Commissioner Ross signing the City of Winnipeg Partnership Accord on behalf of the TRCM, June 2017

- Treaty Land Entitlement Committee of Manitoba Inc.
- Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM)
- Mennonite Church Canada
- University of Manitoba
- The Manitoba Museum

We are deeply appreciative of our partners and the initiatives produced through their collaborative work and dedication educating communities and the general public on Treaties and the Treaty Relationship.

## TRCM INFORMAL PARTNERSHIPS

TRCM has also established informal partnerships and collaborated in a myriad of areas related to Treaties and the Treaty Relationship.

Current informal partnerships include:

- Business Council of Manitoba (BCM)
- Council of School Leaders
- Dakota-Ojibway Tribal Council

- Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCOM)
- Immigration Partnership Winnipeg
- Manitoba Association of School Superintendents
- Manitoba Education Research Network (MERN)
- Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO)
- Manitoba School Boards Association
- Manitoba Teachers' Society
- Province of Manitoba – Manitoba Education and Advanced Learning (MEAL)
- University of Winnipeg (UofW)
- Winnipeg Free Press

## PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

In March of 2018, TRCM entered into an informal partnership with Immigration Partnership Winnipeg with the intent to provide more culturally appropriate information on Treaties and the Treaty relationship to newcomers. TRCM provided funding and information for a video project that

would be included in newcomer toolkits that help to inform newcomers of the history and culture of the First Nations communities and peoples of Manitoba. This project is in progress with a project completion date of September 2019.

TRCM also partnered with Mennonite Church Canada on publication of a book of articles on created to bring awareness in diverse religious communities regarding the importance of Treaties, exploring how spiritual communities can engage with issues of land justice and modeling respectful Indigenous-Settler dialogue. “Nanabush and Buddha Link Arms: Why Treaties Matter to Religious Communities” should be ready for publication sometime in 2019.

### LET’S TALK TREATY, NCI FM

In June of 2017, TRCM launched “Let’s Talk Treaty”, a 15-minute bi-weekly radio series on NCI FM featuring Treaty Commissioner Ross and a guest speaker engaged in insightful and thought-provoking discussions on the Treaties and Treaty Relationships. As a public outreach tool, the radio aims to reach a broad audience including rural and remote regions of Manitoba. Airing bi-weekly, each show has a different

topic and has received very positive feedback. TRCM plans to renew the series for another season based on its popularity. To date, some of the topics covered on the show include:

- Spirit and Intent of Treaties
- The Selkirk Treaty
- Clans and Governance
- Treaty 5 and Treaty 5 Adhesion
- The Dakota Experience
- Treaties and the International Day on the Elimination of Racism
- The Anishinaabe in Treaty 3
- Anishinaabe Constitutionalism

### FACILITATION OF DIALOGUE

In 2017-18 TRCM facilitated discussions on the Treaty 2 Tables with Treaty 2 members on several occasions and is hoping to expand the Treaty Tables to other numbered Treaties in Manitoba in the future.

### COMMUNITY SERVICE AND OUTREACH

As part of the overall facilitation mandate the TRCM also provides Community Service in number of capacities through Advisory Committee and Community Board volunteerism. These committees and boards provide a vehicle for networking and outreach within the City of Winnipeg, Manitoba and beyond.

In June of 2017, TRCM signed on to the City of Winnipeg Partnership Accord alongside several other organizations in Winnipeg. The Partnership Accord was developed to encourage both public and private sector organizations to adopt policies and practices that address the calls to action directly indicated for each specific practice. The accord will celebrate its first anniversary in June of 2018 with an update from each organization on where they are with their individual actions.



Treaty Commissioner Ross and Elder Fred Kelly, “The Anishinaabe in Treaty 3” Let’s Talk Treaty, NCI Radio, March 2018



Treaty Commissioner Ross and Elder Peter Atkinson, “Creation Story”, Let’s Talk Treaty, NCI Radio, November 2017.



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