

TREATY RELATIONS COMMISSION OF MANITOBA



In June 2005, through a Federal Order-in-Council, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) in partnership with the Government of Canada established the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba (TRCM) as a neutral, arms-length organization between First Nations and the Crown.

On June 18, 2010, through a Federal Order-in-Council James B. Wilson was appointed as the second Treaty Commissioner of the TRCM effective to March 31, 2011. Commissioner Wilson brings extensive experience in the education field. In 2008, he graduated with a Masters in Education Administration from the University of Manitoba. Since graduating, he has worked as the Director of Education for the Opaskwayak Education Authority Inc. In 2008, Mr. Wilson was the recipient of The Pas and Area Chamber of Commerce 'Citizen of the Year' award. His experience and leadership on various boards and committees over the years will benefit the TRCM.

"It is an exciting time to be appointed as Treaty Commissioner for Manitoba. I feel humble and proud that I will have an opportunity to create a broader understanding of the Treaties and the Treaty relationship while working with communities, business and government. I sincerely look forward to the tasks and challenges with my appointment as Treaty Commissioner and the continuation of the TRCM's mandate".



TRCM Mandate:

With a five year mandate to strengthen, rebuild and enhance the Treaty relationship as envisaged by the Treaty parties, the TRCM 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.

In the written text of the Treaties, the land mass of Manitoba is covered by Treaties No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 10. Through dialogue and information sharing the TRCM is working to create an understanding about the historical and contemporary issues that relate to Treaty and the Treaty relationship. As part of the Commission's mandate for public education, the TRCM has embarked on the Manitoba Treaties Curriculum Project. This initiative is a collaborative undertaking that includes support of the AMC, Manitoba First Nation Education Resource Centre, Manitoba Education and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. Its purpose is to provide foundation-building information, outside links and education material to facilitate the delivery of Treaty education for all Manitoba students. The pilot project is anticipated to commence in September 2010.

The following are TRCM learning tools that are adaptable to various audiences while providing expert knowledge and a wide variety of resources.

TRCM Speakers Bureau:

The TRCM Speakers Bureau was launched in 2006, which now consists of 30 active members from the Treaty territories in Manitoba. Members are well versed with vast knowledge and experience about the

Treaties. Elders have been instrumental in the development of the Speakers Bureau and many have become members in light of their wealth of experience and traditional knowledge. Focused attention has been given to the Speakers Bureau to ensure that it remains versatile and continues to grow as it becomes well-known and the best resource for information about the Treaties throughout Manitoba.

TRCM Learning Centre:



In 2009, the TRCM celebrated the Grand Opening of its Learning Centre for Treaty Education and Awareness with an open house and theatrical performance of **Kinikini: A Treaty Play by Ian Ross**. Kinikini is a short instructive piece of theatre that seeks to enlighten, educate and share experiences relative to Treaty and the Treaty relationship.

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 Learning Centre recognizes and seeks to integrate traditional knowledge while incorporating various viewpoints, values, cultural traditions and demographic realities to ensure its relevance for all Manitobans. The TRCM Learning Centre is a resource tool that provides a visible 'sense of place' for Treaty education and awareness.

For more information about the Treaties and the Treaty relationship, visit www.trcm.ca or contact the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba.

WE ARE ALL TREATY PEOPLE.

Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba

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The TRCM Resource Library has a large volume of resource material available for public use and research to learn more about the Treaties and the Treaty relationship.