



Treaty Education Initiative (TEI)

September 2012 V. 2 Issue 2

Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba (TRCM)

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Trivia Question #1:

What is the significance of May 12, 2010?

www.trcm.ca

Message from Treaty Commissioner James Wilson



Commissioner James Wilson

Greetings teachers, administrators, students and all stakeholders of our children's education. We trust that everyone had an enjoyable summer and is ready for the upcoming school year. This year's training schedule has been tentatively set and events are moving along as planned. The Treaty Education Initiative is on task and the Teacher Resources are being developed accordingly.

This year, you will notice a series of training events which will include a second round of Grade 5 & 6 teachers, Catalyst teachers (consisting of divisional consultants and specialized teachers) as well K-4 Pilot Project training. The pre-selected schools for the Pilot Project will be the first to view the recently developed Teacher Resources. Grade 5 and 6 teachers are encouraged to attend any of the 4 Regional Treaty Education training sessions. The TRCM wishes for individual school divisions to begin to take ownership of the Treaty Education Initiative by offering Train the Trainer session by focusing on *Catalyst* teachers within their divisions. The Catalyst teachers would then take lead on the training and the TRCM would assist in delivering the Treaty Education Training.

Teachers are encouraged to participate in the Training sessions best suitable to their needs. During this school year, it is our hope that we surpass the number of teachers trained and the number of kits distributed to schools. In 2011-2012 we trained over 150 teachers and released 64 kits to individual schools province.

Message from Executive Director Jennefer Nepinak



Jennefer Nepinak, Executive Director

As the Executive Director of the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba (TRCM) it is my pleasure to welcome everyone to another exciting and busy school year.

The TRCM remains grateful to all of our partners including the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, Manitoba Education, Aboriginal Affairs Northern Development Canada, and the Manitoba First Nation Education Resource Centre, for their ongoing support of the Treaty Education Initiative. I would like to take this opportunity to offer our gratitude to the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Council of Elders, from whom we seek guidance and support as it relates to the spirit and intent of Treaties and the Treaty Relationship. A special thank you as well to the TRCM internal team for their continued passion, commitment and steadfast approach to the project. Partnerships and team effort have been the demonstrated keys to our success. We very much look forward to building upon these partnerships as we move forward with this most important initiative.

The TRCM is very excited to begin the next phase of the Treaty Education Initiative that now focuses on Kindergarten to Grade 4 classrooms. As we move forward, we recognize and honor the importance of the work being led by the TRCM and delivered by individual teachers to the students. Treaty Education in Manitoba has been long overdue and we are pleased to be able to offer leadership in the development and sharing of excellent Treaty resources to all educators.

We welcome your feedback to the Treaty Education Initiative. Please contact our office.

TRCM Speakers Bureau Profile – Aimee Craft



Aimee Craft B.A. (L.-Ph.)
(University of Manitoba),

Aimée is an indigenous lawyer from Manitoba. She has recently completed her LLM at the University of Victoria. Her thesis is entitled **Breathing Life Into the Stone Fort Treaty** and focuses on understanding and interpreting Treaties from an indigenous legal perspective. This re-interpretation project is rooted in the reconciliation of Canadian legal perspectives and Indigenous legal traditions relating to lands and Treaty relationships.

In her legal practice at the Public Interest Law Centre, she has worked with many indigenous peoples on land, resources, consultation, human rights and governance issues. Aimée is Chair of the Aboriginal Law Section of the Canadian Bar Association. Her Pro Bono work includes participation in the development of Federal Court Practice Guidelines for Aboriginal Law Matters. She has been a sessional lecturer at the University of Winnipeg Politics Department and has lectured at Universities and conferences in the areas of Consultation and Accommodation, Treaties, Indigenous Laws, Language Rights, and Aboriginal and Treaty Rights. In 2009, she successfully argued on behalf of language rights advocates in the first entirely French hearing at the Manitoba Court of Appeal.

TREATY EDUCATION INITIATIVE

SCHEDULE OF TRAINING EVENTS FOR 2012:

October 2012

K-4 Pilot Project Training #1
1567 Dublin Avenue Winnipeg
October 17 & 18, 2012

#2 Catalyst Teacher Training
1567 Dublin Avenue Winnipeg
October 30 & 31, 2012

November 2012

#1 Regional Treaty Education Training:
Brandon University, Faculty of Education
Building, Brandon November 14 & 15, 2012

#2 Regional Treaty Education Training
University College of the North, Thompson
Campus November 22 & 23, 2012

December 2012

**Provincial Train the Trainer MTS training
session for Administrators:** MTS Learning
Centre December 6 & 7, 2012

The Treaty Education Initiative wishes to extend our best wishes to Joel Edge-Rowntree as he pursues his Education Degree. While Joel was a Project Coordinator at TRCM, part of his duties was to coordinate Speakers Bureau presentations as well as TEI training sessions.

Kaya Wheeler has now been hired as the new Project Coordinator. If you are interested in having a speaker visit your school please visit TRCMs website to locate the Speakers Bureau request form or contact our office and ask for Kaya.

Also, please welcome Michelle Settee, who is now the receptionist at TRCM.

Trivia Question #2:

Why are We All Treaty People?

Moving forward with Grade 5 & 6 Implementation Year 2 - 2012-2013

2012-2013 marks the second year of Grade 5 & 6 implementation as the Treaty Education Initiative strives to include more schools as teachers introduce the Treaty Education Kits into their classrooms. Last year was a success as only 2 Regional Training sessions were originally planned; however due to requests the TRCM offered two additional sessions. Again this year, 4 Regional Training Sessions will be offered throughout Manitoba:

- **Brandon** November 14 & 15, 2012
- **Thompson** November 22 & 23, 2012
- **Island Lake Region** (exact date and location still to be confirmed)
- **Winnipeg** – tentatively scheduled for March – exact dates still to be confirmed

Each of these sessions will be on a first come first served basis; all registration information will be posted on the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba website and are to be faxed to 204-777-1874.

As a friendly reminder to those teachers/schools that have already participated and received a Treaty Education Kit, all other classroom teachers are welcome to attend. However, they will receive only relevant classroom resources, (ie. Grade 5 Teacher Resource & Grade 5 year at a glance chart) plus a USB that includes additional Treaty Education resources. At this time, only one kit will be distributed to each school.



Participants at 1st catalyst teacher training

SPECIAL FEATURE:

**Interlake School Division
Students visit TRCM Office to meet Commissioner Wilson**

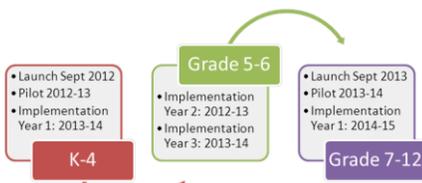
During the 2011-2012 school year, the Assistant Student Services Administrator and Aboriginal Educator for the Interlake School Division Siobhan Faulkner, participated in a Regional Treaty Education session as well as the first Catalyst Teacher Training session. This particular session was geared towards divisional consultants that work with several schools within their division to bring Aboriginal/First Nation awareness to the students they work with by introducing new initiatives such as the Treaty Education Initiative. Ms. Faulkner worked with several students from Teulon Collegiate Institute and they formed an Aboriginal Student group. This group of students visited several schools within the Interlake School Division and proudly shared their stories, knowledge and experiences as Aboriginal students. The students visited the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba office in Winnipeg to meet and share their experiences with Treaty Commissioner James Wilson. The students spoke of their individual presentations that they share with other students in their division. These students have also been invited to present for other students from other divisions throughout the school year. Pride and respect for their heritage was clearly visible during their visit to the TRCM Learning Centre. At the beginning of the school year, the students had decided they wanted to end the school year with a visit to the Forks in Winnipeg, a very important site for First Nation people, and as fate would have it, an National Aboriginal Trustees Gathering was taking place at the Forks at the same time of their visit to TRCM. The students also presented to participants from the conference and were well received by all in attendance. TRCM would like to congratulate all of these students as they continue to learn and share their knowledge with other students. Keep up the good work!



Students from Teulon Collegiate Institute visit to TRCM

Update on Treaty Education Initiative Development & Time Frames

Currently, all materials for the K-4 have been developed and will be piloted 2012-13 in a select number of schools. The Grade 5 & 6 materials are now entering their second year of implementation. The first drafts of the Grade 7-10 have been completed. The research and development for the Grade 11-12 teacher guides are targeted for completion December 2012. Piloting of the Grades 7-12 materials will take place September 2013. The TRCM is pleased with the progress of this initiative and wishes to thank the TEI partners, Council of Elders, participating schools, divisions, and the extended TRCM partner network for their support and encouragement. The following illustration provides a snapshot of the time frames associated with the respective grade level development, pilots, and implementation dates.



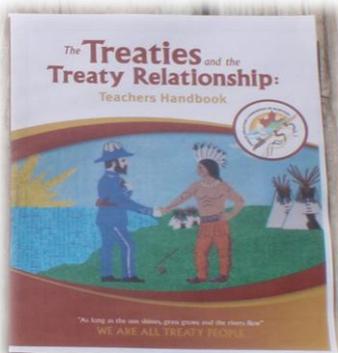
Sneak Peak to 2013

Grade 9 Teacher Resource Overview

The Grade 9 theme is entitled “First Nations and Contemporary Treaty Issues”. Students investigate the Treaty experience from a historical and contemporary perspective, with a focus on the evergreen nature of the Treaty relationship. They explore the role of the Assembly of First Nations on the national stage and the Treaty Relations Commission in Manitoba as standard-bearers in the modern Treaty relationship. The students appreciate that First Nations preserve and transfer their traditional laws and procedures through oral history and oral traditions, and that the Treaty relationship was entered into in both a written and oral capacity. They also acknowledge that the federal government of Canada recognizes that Aboriginal peoples have an inherent, constitutionally-protected right to self-government. In their course of study, the students investigate the role of First Nations in the Canadian constitutional process, focusing on Elijah Harper and the Meech Lake Accord. Students also study the assimilative policies of the Sixties Scoop and the unique Treaty relationship with the Dakota people in Manitoba and the First Nations of British Columbia.



Announcement: TEI Teacher Handbook



The TEI Teacher Handbook is now Available in Treaty Education Kits for the 2012-13 school year. This handbook includes the background information on the TEI, the development and design process, and Treaty education essential learning linkages to Manitoba education curriculum outcomes.

Answer Question #1:

May 12, 2010 was proclaimed Treaty Day at the Manitoba Legislative assembly, signed to encourage and promote understanding of the significance of Treaties to all Manitobans

Answer Question #2:

We are all Treaty people because:

- a. **Benefits to Newcomers:**
peaceful access to lands for settlement, farming, railways and development.
- b. **Benefits to First Nations:**
a transition to a new lifestyle by learning different technologies within education, economics, health and other benefits.

Treaty Education Kit Updates

The Treaty Education Kit continues to evolve and expand to include more resources for teachers to utilize as they continue to teach Treaties in their classrooms. During the last school year, additional resources were sent to individual teachers as new resources were added to the Kits. The Grade 5 and 6 Treaties and the Treaty Relationship: Teacher Guides have been redesigned and are available in the Treaty Education Kit this school year, along with the Treaties and the Treaty Relationship: Teacher Handbook.

The K-4 Teacher Guide cover pages have also been designed using the same theme. These guides will be available for broad distribution September 2013, as they are only being piloted this year. The TRCM is not responsible for replacing any lost resources; however we do intend to distribute new resources as they become available to teachers who have already received training. All resources will be sent to school librarians so that they may add new resources to the kit for all teachers to use.

Treaty Education Initiative K-4 Pilot: 2012-13

The K-4 Treaty education resources will be available to the participating pilot schools beginning October 17-18, 2012 when the classroom teachers come together in a two-day Treaty education workshop. Pilot schools will also receive a Treaty Education Kit. Teachers are responsible for piloting the new K-4 Treaty education resources in their classrooms from November 2012 to January 2013. In February 2013 they will be invited back for a one-day workshop to debrief on their experience and share what worked and what didn't. This pilot experience will help prepare the resources for another round of editing in preparation for the broader implementation of K-4 in the 2013-14 school year.

New K-4 resources to be piloted in 2012-13 school year include:

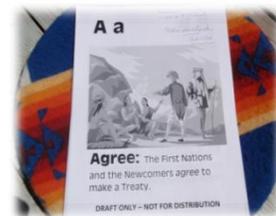
- Teacher Guides K-4;
- Series of children's readers: The Handshake, The Friendship, We Are All Treaty People (authored by Dr. Betty Lynxleg, MFNERC)
- The Dakota Oyate Reader (authored by Elder Doris Pratt, AMC Council of Elders);
- Treaty ABC's (authored by Dr. Betty Lynxleg, MFNERC); and
- Hand puppets (turtle, wolf, and beaver).



New puppets added to kits



Elder Doris Pratt



Sample of Treaty Reader Series

Other Treaty Education Initiative (TEI) News Bites:

- **TEI tab on the TRCM website** continues to be updated. Please continue to check out the site for upcoming training sessions @ <http://www.trcm.ca/treaty-education-initiative/index.php>
- **School Administrators to receive Treaty Education Training.** As with every new initiative being introduced into Manitoba Schools, the Treaty Education initiative is now being introduced to the School Administrators for both provincial and First Nation local controlled schools.