

The
2008
Annual Report
of the
Aboriginal Healing Foundation

Ten Year Anniversary of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation • 1998-2008



1998 - 2008

Helping Aboriginal People Heal Themselves
From the Legacy of Residential Schools




The 2008 Annual Report of the
Aboriginal Healing Foundation



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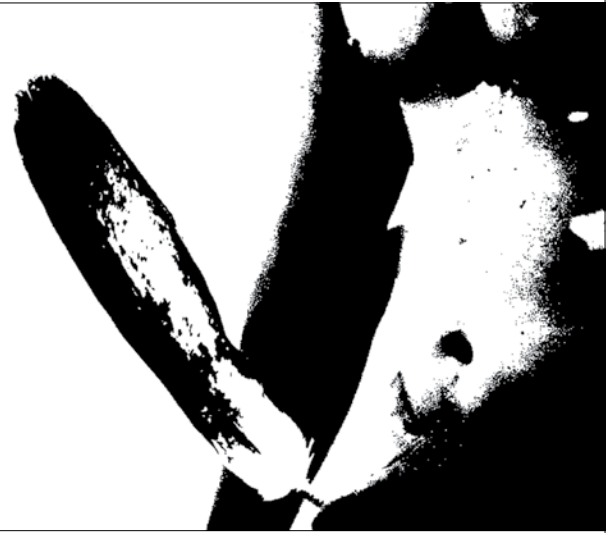


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 **Centrefold** – Condensed Timeline of
Residential Schools



Board Message



Welcome to the 2008 Annual Report of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation. In this document you will find general contemporary and historical narratives about Canada's Indian Residential School System and related initiatives as well as specific detailed information about the Aboriginal Healing Foundation and its work. We hope you find this helpful, and we encourage you to contact the Aboriginal Healing Foundation office (or visit us on the Internet: www.ahf.ca) for any additional information or to obtain regular updates.

In the fiscal year 2007-2008 we approach the ten-year anniversary of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation, which was established on March 31, 1998. The major event of this fiscal year has of course been the implementation of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement (IRSSA), the first undertaking of which has been the delivery of the Common Experience Payment to thousands of former Indian residential school students.

In anticipation of the Common Experience Payment, the AHF in this fiscal year released "The Circle Rechecks Itself," a research publication assessing the impacts of past compensation payments to Aboriginal people. The Circle Rechecks Itself presents the experiences and concerns of residential school survivors, families, and commu-

nity members in their own words. The goals and recommendations are grounded in community efforts to support healing, health, safety, and security. This study supports those recipients who will seek out practical and emotional support, whether it is trauma counseling, crisis management, investment advice, or entrepreneurship.

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation continues to focus on supporting direct therapeutic healing in communities, including communities of interest. The \$125 million we received during this fiscal year has been fully committed to existing funded projects, to help ensure that they are able to deliver the maximum benefits. After much difficult debate and examination, and knowing from our own research that meaningful and lasting change in a community takes years to achieve, we concluded that the most promising healing initiatives should be sustained. This does not mean that we do not want to fund new healing initiatives in communities yet to be reached by the Aboriginal Healing Foundation. We have delivered clearly the message, again with the support of independent research, that the implementation of the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement will very likely increase the need for healing work support.

We have worked with our partners to raise awareness and thereby support both the achievements and the challenges faced by Aboriginal communities engaged in healing. Addressing the historic trauma of residential schools requires a long-term vision and commitment, and it is this long-term project as well as the issues of today to which we apply ourselves as a Board and an Aboriginal-run organization.

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation continues to play its role in every component of the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement (common experience payments, truth and reconciliation, commemoration) by emphasizing the centrality of trauma and healing.

This was an active year for the AHF in other respects. Our organization, in accordance with the operations strategies outlined in the AHF Corporate Plan, has undertaken the extension of project contribution agreements for the next five years. Major AHF studies and media campaigns were launched around the Common Experience Payment and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The latter study, "From Truth to Reconciliation – Transforming the Legacy of Residential Schools," consists of twenty essays by twenty-three authors, each expressing a perspective on truth and reconciliation in Canada.

This 425-page document was prepared in anticipation of Canada's five-year Truth and Reconciliation Commission, mandated by the Federal Government to complete an accurate public record of Canada's Indian Residential School System, including testimonies from former students and administrators, and to promote awareness and public education about this history and its legacy. As we approach the ten-year anniversary of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation, we reflect with hope for the future upon the difficulties and achievements of the past decade. So much has changed since the 1998 Squamish Gathering, and yet so much remains to be done.

Although the Aboriginal Healing Foundation has a long-term operational plan covering the period 2008-2013, we know from past experience that we

operate in an environment subject to a degree of unpredictability. What we can say for certain is that the \$125 million committed to the Aboriginal Healing Foundation in the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement will sustain existing projects for an additional three years – to March 31, 2010 – and ten healing centres for four and a half years – to September 30, 2011.

During this period, there will be a Government evaluation of the AHF (as indicated by the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement) and, we anticipate as a possibility, a decision concerning additional AHF funding. In the absence of additional funds, we will initiate our winding-down strategy, culminating in a final audit and closure of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation.

In the meantime, Aboriginal people face the historic work not only of healing but of commemoration and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. In these challenging times of great potential we re-commit ourselves to supporting communities to the best of our ability in the work of healing and reconciliation. We acknowledge the resilience and courage of Aboriginal people who have been undertaking this work, in some cases for decades, and who will continue to undertake it until our communities have fully addressed the intergenerational legacy of the Indian Residential School System.

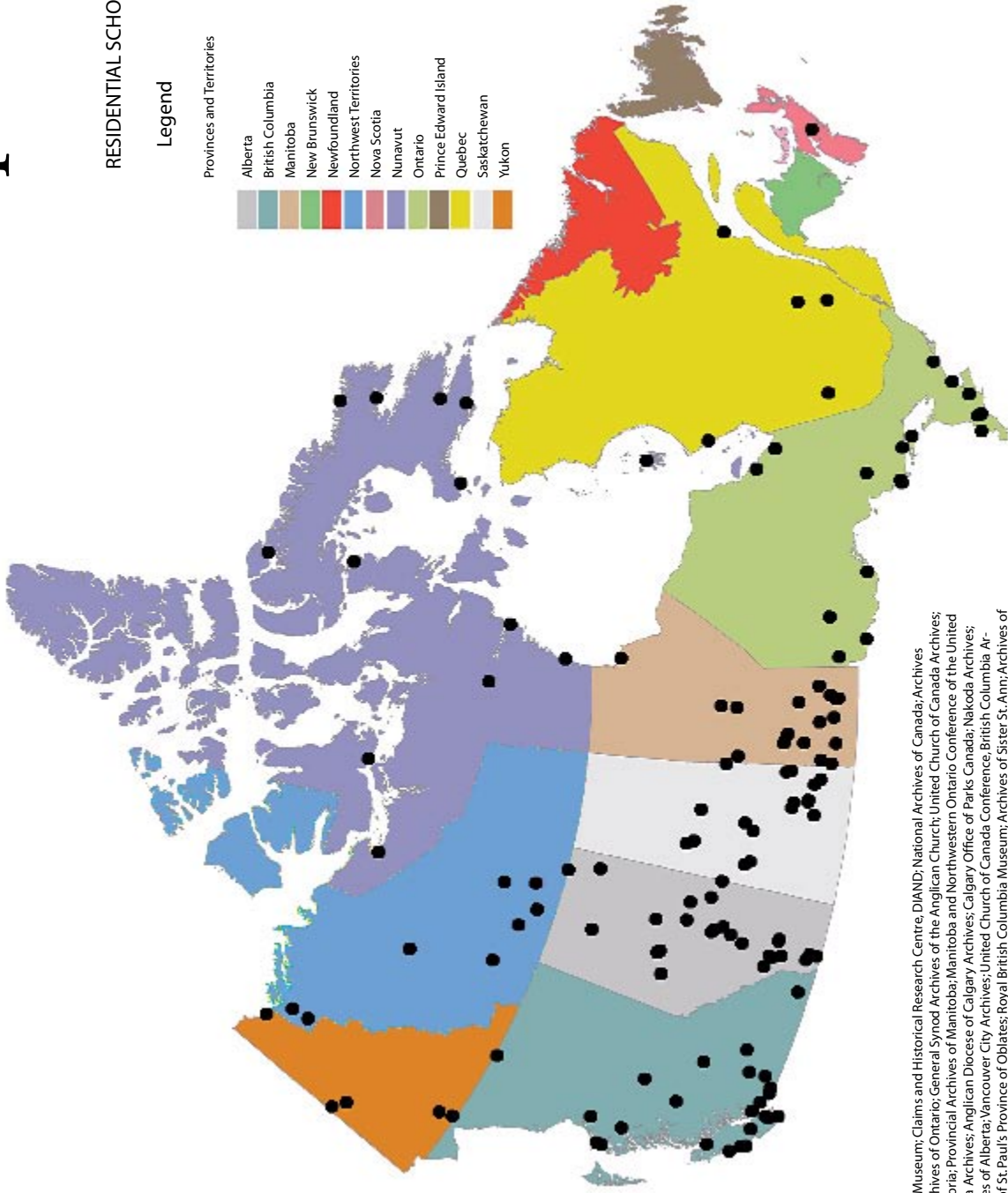
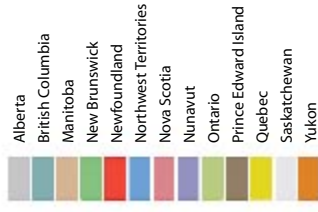
- In the spirit of healing and peace,
Board of Directors.

Residential School Map

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

Legend

Provinces and Territories



Sources: McCord Museum; Claims and Historical Research Centre; DIAND; National Archives of Canada; Archives Deschâtelets; Archives of Ontario; General Synod Archives of the Anglican Church; United Church of Canada Archives; University of Victoria; Provincial Archives of Manitoba; Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario Conference of the United Church of Canada Archives; Anglican Diocese of Calgary Archives; Calgary Office of Parks Canada; Nakoda Archives; Provincial Archives of Alberta; Vancouver City Archives; United Church of Canada Conference; British Columbia Archives; Archives of St. Pauls Province of Oblates; Royal British Columbia Museum; Archives of Sister St. Ann; Archives of Yukon; Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada; and Algoma University College, Sault Ste. Marie.

Disclaimer: This document is under development. The information contained herein is subject to change without prior notice. Produced April 2001, updated March 31, 2008.

Reporting Principles



Guided by the recommendations of Survivors attending the Residential School Healing Strategy, held in Squamish Territory in July, 1998, and by its Code of Conduct, the Aboriginal Healing Foundation has since the beginning sought transparency in all its practices.

AHF annual reporting follows four principles:

1. Clear context and strategies.
2. Meaningful performance expectations.
3. Performance accomplishments against expectations.
4. Fair and reliable performance information reported.

This report outlines how our results are related to our mandate, vision and mission, demonstrates how our management strategies and practices are aligned with our objectives and illustrates how the AHF departments are working together to achieve shared results.

The framework provided by these principles will enable AHF stakeholders to obtain a portrait of the Foundation's accomplishments against defined objectives and strategies, as well as Foundation efforts, capabilities and intent. The objectives, strategies, results and prospects in this annual report also allow the Foundation to fulfill in an efficient manner its own policy regarding the content of its annual reports, which must include: "...a statement of the Foundation's objectives for that year and a statement on the extent to which the Foundation met those objectives, and a statement of the Foundation's objectives for the next year and for the foreseeable future."

[AHF Funding Agreement,
Paragraph 10.05 (1) (c and d).]

Although many challenges have been met since 1998, the AHF is committed to surmounting the obstacles ahead with unwavering determination, and to pursuing the commitment to transparency and accountability it has pledged to Survivors and their descendants, to Aboriginal communities, and to Government.

Vision, Mission, Values



On March 31, 1998, the Aboriginal Healing Foundation was set up with a \$350 million fund from the Government of Canada, to be expended within an eleven-year time-frame. This one-time grant has enabled the Foundation to fund community healing projects and to cover expenses. The Foundation is an Aboriginal-run, not-for-profit corporation that is independent of governments and the representative Aboriginal organizations.

The Foundation's Board of Directors reflects Canada's diverse Aboriginal population. The Board's role is to help Aboriginal people help themselves by providing funds for healing projects, promoting knowledge about the issues and the need for healing, and gaining public support from Canadians.

Our vision is one where those affected by the legacy of physical abuse and sexual abuse experienced in residential school have addressed the effects of unresolved trauma in meaningful terms, have broken the cycle of abuse, and have enhanced their capacity as individuals, families, communities and nations to sustain their well being and that of future generations.

Our mission is to encourage and support Aboriginal people in building and reinforcing sustainable healing processes that address the legacy of physical abuse and sexual abuse in the residential school system, including intergenerational impacts.

We see our role as facilitators in the healing process by helping Aboriginal people help themselves, by providing resources for healing initiatives, by promoting awareness of healing issues and needs, and by nurturing a supportive public environment. We also work to engage Canadians in this healing process by encouraging them to walk with us on the path of reconciliation.

Ours is a holistic approach. Our goal is to help create, reinforce and sustain conditions conducive to healing, reconciliation and self-determination. We are committed to addressing the legacy of abuse in all its forms and manifestations, direct, indirect and intergenerational, by building on the strengths and resilience of Aboriginal people.

Common Questions



What is the Aboriginal Healing Foundation?

An Aboriginal-managed, national, Ottawa-based, not-for-profit private corporation established March 31, 1998 and provided with a one-time grant of 350 million dollars by the federal government of Canada. The Aboriginal Healing Foundation was given an eleven-year mandate, ending March 31, 2009, to encourage and support, through research and funding contributions, community-based Aboriginal-directed healing initiatives which address the legacy of physical and sexual abuse suffered in Canada's Indian Residential School System, including intergenerational impacts. The Aboriginal Healing Foundation received additional federal commitments of \$40 million in 2005 and \$125 million in 2006.

Why is the AHF necessary?

As a result of institutional abuses suffered in the past, Aboriginal people today suffer from the many effects of unresolved trauma, including but not limited to:

- lateral violence
- suicide
- depression
- poverty
- alcoholism
- lack of parenting skills
- weakening or destruction of cultures and languages
- lack of capacity to build and sustain healthy families and communities

Our vision is of a future when these effects have been meaningfully resolved and Aboriginal people have restored their well-being for themselves and for their descendants seven generations ahead.

How is the AHF managed?

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors made up of Aboriginal people from across Canada. The Members are appointed by Aboriginal political organizations, the federal government of Canada, and Aboriginal people at-large. The Board establish policy and give direction to staff. The Foundation is accountable through its Funding Agreement with Canada and

through its By-laws. Guided by these arrangements, the Aboriginal Healing Foundation has committed its resources according to clear and transparent funding criteria established in consultation with Aboriginal people.

Is there any funding available?

No. All of our funds have been committed by the AHF Board of Directors to community-based healing grants. Details of every funding grant is available on-line or from the office.

For project details, please visit:

<http://www.ahf.ca/funded-projects>

You may also contact the AHF office for details.

What is the “Settlement Agreement”?

The Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement (IRSSA) is a comprehensive settlement package negotiated between the Government of Canada, the churches, lawyers representing Survivors, and the Assembly of First Nations. This package includes a cash payment for all former students of Indian residential schools, healing funds, a Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and commemoration funding. For more details, please visit:

<http://www.residentialschoolsettlement.ca/>

or phone 1-866-879-4913. Please note that this is a Government of Canada initiative. The Settlement Agreement is not a program of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation.

Is the Foundation closing its doors?

Prior to the announcement of a commitment of an additional \$125 million from the federal government, in the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, the Aboriginal Healing Foundation mandate would expire March 31, 2009. The Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement will extend the Foundation’s life an additional five years beyond the date it takes effect. In other words, the Aboriginal Healing Foundation mandate has been extended by the IRSSA to September 2012.

Will there be funding for new proposals?

There will not be a call for new funding proposals at this time. The additional \$125 million committed to the AHF in the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement has been committed to existing AHF-funded projects.

Why haven’t the additional funds committed to the AHF been used to fund new proposals?

The Board struggled with this decision. We know there are many survivors and communities in urgent need of healing support. The decision came down to the following reasoning. For some years we have been delivering the message to government that the healing has just begun and must be continued. The Board felt an obligation to those who had put their trust in an AHF-funded healing project, and therefore decided it would be potentially harmful to allow those beginning the healing journey suddenly to lose their support. We therefore set ourselves to the task of deciding which projects would receive additional funds. Although of great importance, the additional money committed to the AHF is modest in relation to need. We knew we would have to apply as best we could a clear, reasonable, and public set of criteria.

The Board therefore settled on the following criteria:

- the project must have a history of sound financial management
- the project must have a broad reach, serving women, youth, Elders etc.
- the project must deliver direct therapeutic services

Even when the criteria were applied, there were many good projects doing good work that we could not fund. The decision was a matter of limited resources, by an organization that has already received over 1.3 billion dollars in funding requests from Aboriginal communities.

What help can I get to start a project in my community?

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation has many free resources, including research materials, practical guides, and a directory of funding resources — all of which were designed to help you go forward with healing in your community. We can also help you get in touch with others who have faced the same challenges and who have found creative and hopeful ways to take action. Please contact us for these resources.

What sort of other resources are available from the Aboriginal Healing Foundation?

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation has produced many resources, on topics ranging from Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Elder Abuse to the Common Experience Payment and Truth and Reconciliation. Our resources are designed to give practical and direct assistance to healing activities. Manuals, teaching tools, workshop aids, and project-based products are available free-of-charge.

We also provide healing and Survivor conferences with free materials. Contact the Aboriginal Healing for more information on the broad range of items available.

I have questions / concerns about a project in my community. Who should I talk to?

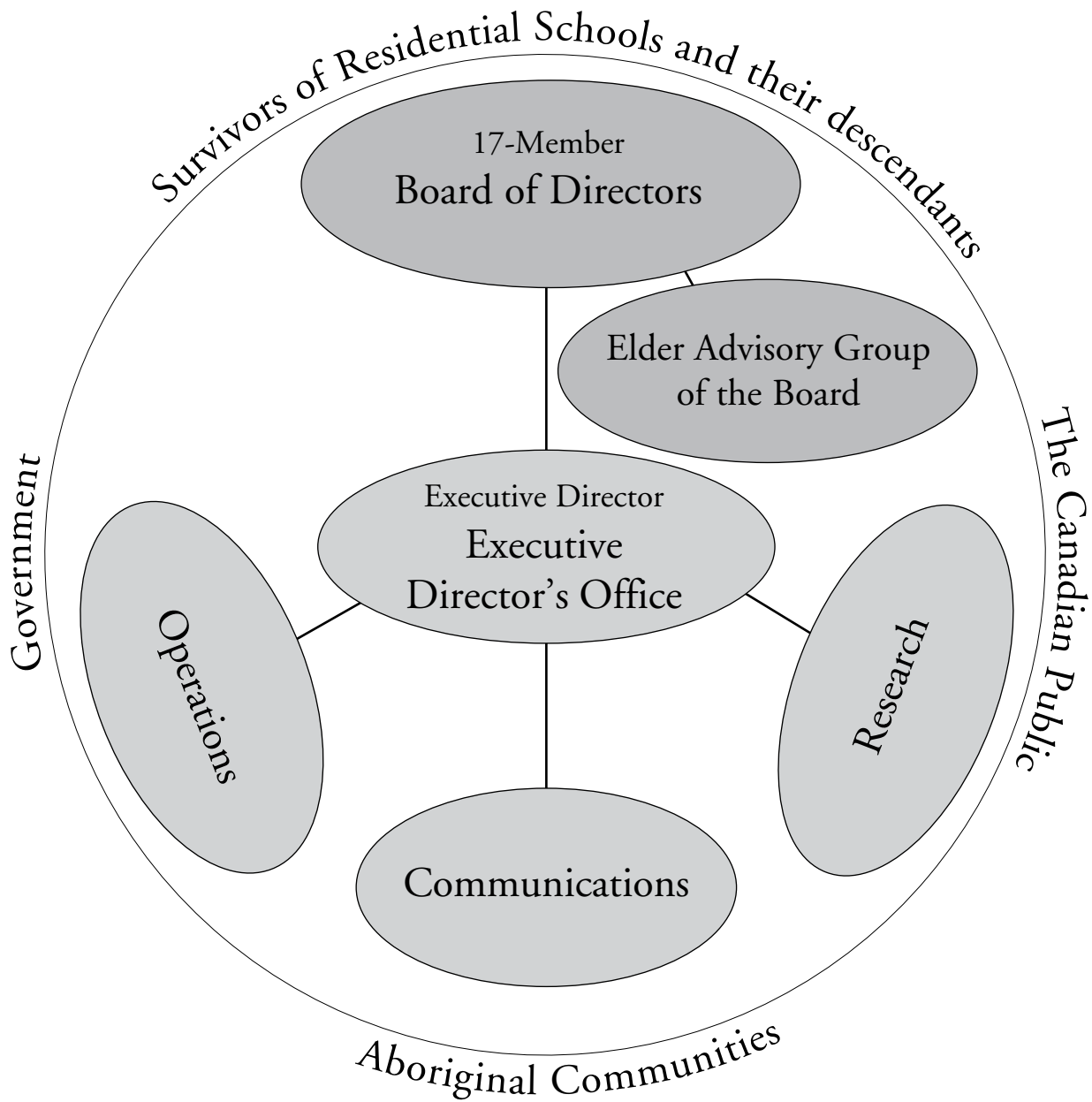
You may contact the projects for information about the projects' activities. If you have concerns, please contact the Aboriginal Healing Foundation. We appreciate and take seriously all comments and concerns that we receive from community members. As an Aboriginal-managed funding agency, it is in our interest to do all that we can to ensure the needs of Survivors and their families are best served with our limited funding dollars.

How can I get more information?

For more information please contact The Aboriginal Healing Foundation at:

Suite 801-75 Albert Street
Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5E7
Toll-free: 1-888-725-8886
In Ottawa: (613) 237-4441
Fax: (613) 237-4442
Internet: <http://www.ahf.ca>

Structure and Accountability



Historical Landmarks



In the wake of the Oka conflict, the Federal Government of Brian Mulroney appointed the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples in August of 1991. One of the two Co-chairs of the Commission was Georges Erasmus, the former National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations. Future AHF Board members Viola Robinson and Paul Chartrand were also RCAP Commissioners. The Commission had a very broad mandate, drafted by Brian Dickson, the former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada.

The Commission held hearings across the country and oversaw an extensive analysis of Aboriginal issues.

In November 1996, the Commission issued its final five-volume report featuring over 100 pages of detailed recommendations. Chapter 10, which addresses the issue of residential schools, revealed the full extent of the abuse perpetrated in residential schools.

On January 7th, 1998, as part of the Federal Government response to the report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, the Honourable Jane Stewart, Minister of Indian Affairs, announced Gathering Strength – Canada’s Aboriginal Action Plan at a public ceremony. The

Minister issued a Statement of Reconciliation to all Aboriginal peoples for the abuses in residential schools and announced a Healing Strategy and a \$350 million fund to address the healing needs of First Nations, Inuit and Métis individuals, families and communities who suffer the legacy of physical and sexual abuse at residential schools, including intergenerational impacts.

In mid-February, following discussions with residential school focus groups, a preliminary document entitled “Healing Strategy: principles and Proposed Approach” was tabled with five national Aboriginal organizations, and an interim Founding Board of prominent Aboriginal people was formed. During the three months of its initial mandate, the Interim Founding Board established a non-profit organization to oversee the \$350 million fund.

In March 1998, the federal government convened a two-day meeting to provide residential school survivors and representative groups, the healing community, and other interested parties with an update and an opportunity for input on developments regarding the Healing Strategy and Fund. The Interim Founding Board took part in the meeting as observers, to listen to the input of the participants.

On July 14, 15 and 16, 1998, a residential School Healing Strategy Conference was held at the Squamish Longhouse, in Squamish Territory. This conference was held to listen to the recommendations and ideas of Survivors of the legacy of physical and sexual abuse in residential schools.

On March 31, 1998, a funding agency called the Aboriginal Healing Foundation was established as an Aboriginal-run, not-for-profit corporation, independent of the government and the representative Aboriginal organizations. The Foundation was established with an 11-year mandate, ending March 2009.

In the Spring of 2000, the Aboriginal Healing Foundation initiated discussion with the Government of Canada concerning potential improvement of its performance, through an extension of its mandate and a revision of its investment restrictions.

In February 2001, a meeting was held with Federal Government representatives. The AHF presented the findings of a KPMG study which substantiated its established track record. An in-depth analysis of the AHF's current investment portfolio was also provided as well as alternative balanced and prudent investment strategies, with their respective financial benefits.

This analysis provided several scenarios delineating the benefits of optional investment policies over their respective length of mandate. Taking into account the amount of capital still available to the Foundation at the time of analysis, and with an annual grants and expenditure amount of \$21.2 million dollars, the Foundation would have been able to function indefinitely.

In late 2002, the capital of the Foundation, diminished by 2 years of grants and expenditures, was no longer sufficient to implement the strategy it developed in early 2000, and with no governmental decision forthcoming the Board proceeded to commit its funds within the terms and conditions of the original funding agreement.

In 2003, the Government of Canada offered to extend the mandate for the Foundation's commitment of funds. The Board of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation, having already taken the step to commit its funds, declined the offer to extend the timeframe.

With the exception of Inuit applications and applications for Healing Centres, the last deadline for submitting proposals to the Foundation was February 28, 2003. In October 2003, approximately six months ahead of our March 31, 2004 mandated deadline, the Foundation's Board of Directors committed the remaining available funds, bringing the commitment phase of our 11-year mandate to a close.

On February 23, 2005, the Honourable Ralph Goodale, Minister of Finance, announced a commitment of \$40 million to the Aboriginal Healing Foundation. The AHF Board of Directors decided that there would be no call for new funding proposals and that the additional funds should be applied to existing projects. These additional funds assisted the AHF in extending the funding period of approximately one-quarter of the projects in operation at the time. The AHF mandate and timeframe were unchanged.

On May 10, 2006, the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement (IRSSA) received cabinet approval. Part of the IRSSA concerns a \$125 million commitment to the Aboriginal Healing Foundation. For more information on this funding, please see the section "Common Questions" beginning at page 8.

Resolving the Legacy



Residential schools officially operated in Canada from 1892 to 1969 through funding arrangements between the Government of Canada and the Roman Catholic Church, the Church of England (or Anglican Church), the Methodist (or United) Church, and the Presbyterian Church.

Although in 1969 the Government of Canada officially withdrew from this partnership, a few of the schools continued operating throughout the 70s and 80s. For example, Gordon's Indian Residential School in Saskatchewan did not close until 1996.

The impacts of the residential schools have been felt in every segment of Aboriginal societies. Communities suffered social, economic and political disintegration. Languages were attacked and continue to be threatened. Families were wrenched apart. The lives of individual students were devastated. Many of those who went through the schools were denied any opportunity to develop parenting skills and lost the ability to pass these skills to their own children. They struggled with the destruction of their identities as Aboriginal people, the loss of personal liberty and privacy, and memories of abuse, trauma, poverty, isolation, and neglect.

Thousands of former students have come forward to reveal that physical, emotional, and sexual abuse were rampant in the school system and that little was done to stop it, to punish the abusers, or to improve conditions. Many passed the abuse they suffered on to their children, thereby perpetuating the cycle of abuse and dysfunction arising from the residential school system.

After years of resistance, protest, and activism on the part of many Aboriginal people and others, the first major steps towards healing began. The churches involved in running the schools publicly apologized. The first to apologize was the United Church of Canada in 1986. Other apologies and statements followed – by the Oblate Missionaries of Mary Immaculate (Roman Catholic) in 1991, the Anglican Church in 1993, and the Presbyterian Church in 1994.

Around this same time, the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (RCAP) was examining the issue of residential schools as part of its larger mandate, and in November 1996 its final report was released.

The report included a section outlining research and findings on residential schools and contained

recommendations specific to residential schools.

In 1997, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops issued a statement expressing their regret for the pain and suffering that many Aboriginal people experienced in the residential school system. Pope John Paul II expressed similar regrets in the year 2000.

The creation of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation, in 1998, heralded a period of attempts to find solutions to the trauma that still affects Aboriginal individuals, families and communities as a result of the residential school legacy of physical and sexual abuse as well as the assaults on cultures and languages.

Between 1998 and 1999, the Government of Canada conducted a series of nine exploratory dialogues across the country with abuse victims and religious denominations to resolve Indian residential schools claims of physical and sexual abuse. In 1999, Canada initiated a series of dispute resolution projects, which explored various approaches to resolving these claims.

In September 2000, Jean Chrétien announced the appointment of the Deputy Prime Minister, Herb Gray, as Special Representative on Residential Schools. Herb Gray was given the responsibility of co-ordinating all initiatives on behalf of the Government of Canada. To this end, the residential school file was moved from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, and, in June 2001, the Prime Minister announced the creation of the Office of Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada (IRSRC), to centralize federal resources and efforts dedicated to addressing the legacy of Indian residential schools.

In August 2002, the Honourable Ralph Goodale, Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada and also Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians, assumed responsibility for the Office of Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada.

On May 30, 2006, the Government of Canada formally approved the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement and announced an Advance Payment program for former students 65 years of age or older on May 30, 2005, the day the negotiations began.

For more information on the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement, please visit:

<http://www.residentialschoolsettlement.ca/>

or call 1-866-879-4913.

Also as part of the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement, the Government of Canada established a Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), whose work was scheduled to begin on June 1, 2008.

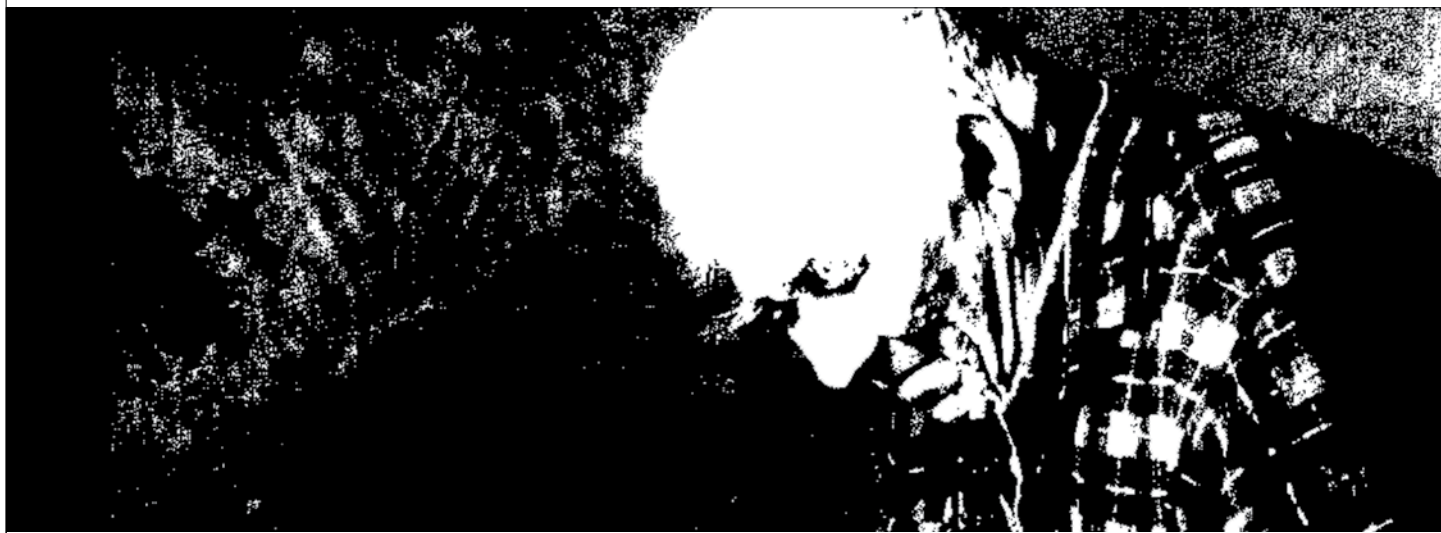
The TRC is an official, independent body with a five-year mandate to provide former students and anyone else affected by the Indian Residential School System with an opportunity to share, through statement-taking or truth-sharing, their individual experiences in a safe and culturally-appropriate manner.

First Nations, Inuit and Métis former Indian Residential School students, their families, communities, the Churches, former school employees, Government and other Canadians are encouraged to participate.

The TRC will research and examine the conditions that gave rise to the Indian Residential School legacy and will be an opportunity for people to tell their stories about a significant part of Canadian history that is still unknown to most Canadians. For more information please visit:

<http://www.irsr-rqpi.gc.ca/trc-eng.asp>

A Healing Context



Through two distinct initiatives – The Aboriginal Healing Foundation and the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement’s Common Experience Payment (CEP) – the Government of Canada has been moving ahead in addressing the long-standing and destructive legacy of the Indian Residential School System, which includes lateral violence, suicide, poverty, alcoholism, lack of parenting skills, weakening or destruction of cultures and languages, and lack of capacity to build and sustain healthy families and communities.

The Common Experience Payment provides direct payments to all former students of Indian Residential Schools. In essence, its purposes are to avoid decades of legal confrontation and to provide a timely, symbolic out-of-court settlement. It is important to recognize these two initiatives, healing and payments, address separate issues.

While there is a complementary relationship, healing is not compensation, and compensation is not healing. As the Government recognizes, healing programs do not fulfill legal responsibilities. Nor do financial payments for a victim’s pain and suffering heal physiological and psychological scars.

Government’s commitment to the Common Experience Payment can lead to quicker

settlements. As noted by the Law Commission of Canada, in its report *Restoring Dignity* (March 2000), money is but one means of reparation which, on its own, does not necessarily lead to healing and reconciliation; as payments flow to survivors, they should be received in the context of a healing environment. Community support networks should be established and maintained to maximize the potential benefits of the Common Experience Payment while minimizing its potential negative effects.

Although we have committed our existing funds and will be unable to accept new proposals for the foreseeable future, we continue to deliver the message that healing is a long-term effort requiring long-term planning and resources.

The healing has just begun.

Our Legal Obligations



The funding initiatives of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation have been developed and administered in conformity with the Funding Agreement between the Foundation and the Government of Canada.

Funding Agreement

Aboriginal Healing Foundation and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, as represented by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

This agreement defines, for the purpose of funds allocation, the Eligible Recipients. In conformity with the Agreement's criteria regarding Eligible Recipients, Eligible Projects and Eligible Costs, AHF funds have been directed to the healing needs of Aboriginal Peoples residing in Canada who have been affected by the legacy of physical and sexual abuse in residential schools, including intergenerational impacts: First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities, organizations or groups in Canadian organizations (i.e. Aboriginal women's groups, Inuit youth, Friendship Centres or Survivors' groups), Individual Aboriginal people living in Canada who have survived the Canadian residential school system or who are descendants of survivors, and networks of Aboriginal communities. The Foundation provides funding

only to those whose project answers the criteria set out for Eligible Projects and Eligible Costs.

Eligible Projects

Healing projects which will be funded by the Foundation should address the mental, emotional, physical and spiritual realms of life. The Foundation will support innovative approaches that reflect local differences, needs, geography and other realities relating to the healing process.

In order to be eligible, projects shall address the healing needs of Aboriginal people affected by the legacy of physical and sexual abuse in residential schools, which includes intergenerational impacts; shall establish complementary linkages, where possible in the opinion of the Board, to other health/ social programs and services (federal / provincial/territorial/ Aboriginal); and shall be designed and administered in a manner that is consistent with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and applicable Human Rights legislation.

All projects must have a positive impact on community healing, long-term benefits in the transfer of knowledge and skills, and complete transfer to the community when Foundation funding ends. Projects that benefit individual(s)

alone, without showing benefit to the larger community, will not be funded by the Foundation.

The Foundation cannot fund:

- the cost of purchasing, directly or indirectly, real property or of repairing or maintaining real property owned directly or indirectly by the eligible recipient

- the cost related to compensation, any litigation or any public inquiry related to Residential Schools (this does not however preclude projects involving locally-based public inquiries for healing purposes relating to Residential Schools)

- the cost related to a project which duplicates programs, activities or services provided by or within funding from the federal, provincial or territorial government

- research activities, except those related to developing the necessary knowledge base for effective program design/ redesign, implementation and evaluation.

The Foundation can, however, fund a project that moves into an area where there is an emerging need which is not being addressed. In this way, it can collaborate with and enhance programs and services to make them more responsive to Aboriginal needs and priorities.

Mandatory Criteria

1. Address the Legacy. Each proposal must address the Legacy of Sexual Abuse and Physical Abuse in Residential Schools, including Intergenerational Impacts.

2. Show support and links. A project will have more impact when it is linked with health, social services and other community programs. A project must have support in order to be funded.

3. Show how it will be accountable. The most important kinds of accountability you will need to show are accountability to people who have survived the residential school system, to the community where the project will take place, and to the target group who will benefit from the project.

4. Be consistent with Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Projects need to be designed and carried out in a manner that is consistent with Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms and all other Canadian human rights laws.

The following additional criteria have been developed and implemented: use of partnerships; meeting of a community need; the involvement of survivors, where possible and appropriate, or people who have suffered intergenerational impacts; use of safe healing processes; proposal of well-planned, strategic methods and activities; evidence of background and experience of the management team; evidence of lasting benefit of the proposal to the healing of survivors; evidence of sustainability of the project beyond the AHF funding contract; submission of a budget appropriate to the activities of the project.

Funding Snapshot

As at March 31, 2008

Revenues

Government of Canada Grants · \$515 million

Total interest generated · \$102,086,180

Total Fund · \$617,086,180

Expenditures

Total committed to project funding · \$515,052,445

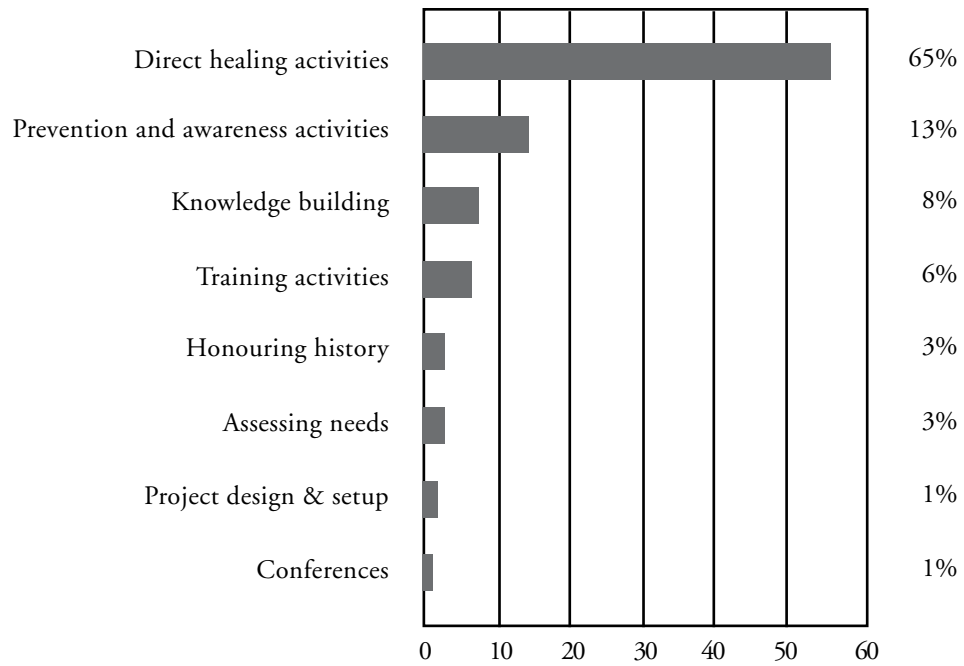
AHF Administration costs to date · \$66,063,443 ¹

Total expenditures/commitments · \$581,115,888 ²

¹ Represents approximately 11% of Total Fund (includes research).

² Represents approximately 94% of Total Fund (\$617,086,180).

Project Categories



* numbers are for percentages of total number of grants

Board of Directors

Board Elders



Nora Cummings



Helen Maksagak



Danny Musqua

Directors



Garnet Angecone
Secretary



Georges Erasmus
President and Chair



Carrielynn Lund
Treasurer



Richard Kistabish
Vice-President



Rose-Marie Blair



Marlyn Cook



Martha Flaherty



Dan George



Susan M. Hare



Murray Ironchild



Elizebeth Hourie Palfrey



Viola Robinson



Cindy Swanson



Navalik (Helen) Tologanak



David Turner



Dr. Dennis Wardman



Gina Wilson

Georges Erasmus Chair/President

Born August 8, 1948, Fort Rae, North West Territories (N.W.T.), Canada.

Education: High School, Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Principal Occupation: Chair, Aboriginal Healing Foundation/Chief Negotiator, Decho First Nations.

Affiliations:

Secretary, Indian Band Council, Yellowknife, N.W.T. (1969-71); Organizer and Chairman, Community Housing Association, Yellowknife, N.W.T. (1969-72); Advisor to President, Indian Brotherhood of N.W.T. (1970-71); Fieldworker and Regional Staff Director, Company of Young Canadians (1970-73); Director, Community Development Program, Indian Brotherhood of Northwest Territories (later the Dene Nation) (1973-76); President, Indian Brotherhood of Northwest Territories/Dene Nation (1976-83); President, Denendeh Development Corporation (1983); elected Northern Vice-Chief, Assembly of First Nations (1983-85); elected National Chief, Assembly of First Nations, Ottawa, Canada, (1985); re-elected National Chief (1988-91); Co-Chair, Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (RCAP), Ottawa, Canada (1991 - 1996); Chair, Aboriginal Healing Foundation, Ottawa, Canada (1998); Chief Negotiator, Decho First Nations (2004).

Membership: Honorary Member, Ontario Historical Society (1990).

Awards, Honours:

Representative for Canada on Indigenous Survival International (1983); Canadian delegate to World Council of Indigenous Peoples International Conferences (1984-85); appointed Director of the World Wildlife Fund of Canada (1987); appointed to the Order of Canada (Member, 1987; Officer, 1999); appointed to the Board of the Canadian Tribute to Human Rights (1987); Board Member, Energy Probe Research Foundation, Operation Dismantle (1988-

98); Honorary Committee Member, International Youth for Peace (1988); Advisory Council Member, the Earth Circle Foundation (1988); Honorary Degree of Doctorate of Laws from: Queen's University (1989), University of Toronto (1992), University of Winnipeg (1992), York University (1992), University of British Columbia (1993), Dalhousie University (1997), University of Alberta (1997), University of Western Ontario (2006), and University of Dundee (2007); Aboriginal Achievement Award for Public Service, (1998); Public Policy Forum Award for Public Policy Work (2006); Board of Directors, Earth Day (1990); Board of Directors, SAVE Tour (1990); art, school, athletic awards.

Interests: Reading, travel, outdoors, canoeing and art.

Published work: Co-author, *Drumbeat: Anger and Renewal in Indian Country* (Summer Hill Publishers, 1990).

Richard Kistabish Vice Chair/Vice President

Mr. Kistabish is an Algonquin from the Abitibiwinni first nation, Quebec, who speaks English, French and Algonquin fluently. He is the former president of Social Services Minokin and has been involved in the field of health and social services at the regional and provincial levels for many years. He served as administrator and manager of the health committee, Kitcisakik, as Chief of Abitibiwinni First nation, and as Grand Chief of the Algonquin Council of Quebec for 2 terms. His publications include *Mental Health and Aboriginal People of Quebec*, the *Green Book Position Paper of the Algonquin Nation on Environmental Issues*, and the *National Inquiry into First Nation Child Care*.

Garnet Angeconeb Secretary

Mr. Angeconeb is Anishinabe originally from the Lac Seul First Nation near Sioux Lookout, Ontario. He has a Diploma in Journalism from the University of Western Ontario. A former Director of the Wawatay Native Communications Society, he also served as Executive Director of Independent First Nations Alliance. More recently, Mr. Angeconeb is semi-retired due to living with a rare muscular degenerative disease. He continues to be active with the Indian Residential School healing movement. Mr. Angeconeb is a Survivor of the Pelican Indian Residential School in Sioux Lookout.

Carrielynn Lund Treasurer

Ms. Lund is a Métis consultant from Gift Lake, one of Alberta's eight Métis settlements. She possesses a degree from the Royal Conservatory of Music and a Master's degree in Social Work. An Aboriginal person with disabilities, she works with governments, businesses, and educational institutions to identify and remove barriers that prevent or discourage persons with disabilities from full participation in community. Among her extensive committee work is service on the Premier's Council on the Status of Persons with Disabilities, the Provincial Human Rights, Multicultural Education Fund Advisory Committee, the Canadian Institute of Health Research Ethics Standing Committee, and Chairperson of the Gift Lake Peace Advisory Committee. Ms. Lund coordinated and facilitated several events, including the Métis Settlements General Council Youth and Elder's conferences. As a child, she attended St. Mary's Residential School in Kenora, Ontario.

Nora Cummings Board Elder

Ms. Cummings was born and raised in Saskatoon. Founder of the Saskatchewan Native Women's Association (in 1971), she has been involved in

the creation of several organizations including the Saskatoon Metis Society Local #11 and the Native Women's Association of Canada (founding member of the Board of Directors). She is a former Member of the Saskatoon Indian and Metis Friendship Centre Board of Directors and former Chairperson of the Metis Nation – Saskatchewan Election Commission. Among her awards and recognitions are the Guy Bouvier Lifetime Achievement Award, Queen's Golden Jubilee Award (in 2002), and the 2003 Blue Lantern Award (Heritage/Culture). In December, 1993, Senator Nora Cummings took the Oath of Office, as a Senator for the Metis Nation Saskatchewan Senate, where she still remains.

Helen Maksagak Board Elder

Helen Mamayaok Maksagak was born at Bernard Harbour in the Northwest Territories. Her professional history includes work as a civilian employee of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the management of a transient center. In 1992, Ms. Maksagak became the Deputy Commissioner for the Northwest Territories, receiving in December 1994 an appointment to Commissioner. She was both the first woman and the first Inuk to occupy these positions. In March, 1999, she was chosen the first Commissioner of the then-newly created Nunavut Territory. Her term lasted until April 2000.

Danny Musqua Board Elder

Mr. Musqua is currently the resident Elder for the Masters of Aboriginal Social Work at the First Nations University of Canada (formerly the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College). He also teaches in the Masters program, co-ordinates culture camp, provides traditional activities such as sweatlodge ceremonies and supports individuals through traditional counselling. He holds an honorary degree from the U of S, where he formerly taught. He has been a band councillor and has received a Citizen of the Year award from the FSIN.

Rose-Marie Blair

Ms. Blair is a White River First Nation member of the Crow clan from the Yukon. She holds a diploma in Social Work and a B. of Ed. from the University of Regina. She has held a number of political offices with the Council of Yukon First Nations, in addition to serving as the Chief of her First Nation community. As the Vice-Chair, Social Programs, she implemented initiatives to combat the effects of residential schools on the Yukon First Nations. Rose-Marie was a key organizer for the Circumpolar Health Conference and was a researcher on Self-Government provisions for the Yukon Land Claim agreements. Over the years, Rose-Marie has contributed to many boards and committees, including the Yukon Territory Water Board, the Yukon College Board of Governors, the Training Committee for the White River First Nation, and the steering committee for the Yukon Education Act Review. She is currently the principal/teacher for the Kluane Lake school. Rose-Marie is a devoted grandmother to Nantsana, Daniel, Nints'ia and Amy Rose, and mother to Joleene and Curtis. As a survivor of Christ the King Convent, she continues to relearn her culture and language and works towards passing them on to the younger generation. Reclaiming traditions and relationships through healthy perspectives and choices is her current pet project in her journey towards wellness.

Dr. Marlyn A. Cook

Dr. Cook was born at Norway House, Manitoba. A graduate of the University of Manitoba (M.D.), she currently practices Family Medicine at the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Department of Health, in Cornwall, Ontario. Among her previous positions are Co-Chair, First Nations Task Force on Child and Family Services (in Winnipeg, Manitoba), Consultant to the Medical Services Branch (Winnipeg), Province of Manitoba Medical Examiner, University of Manitoba Faculty of Medicine's Traditional Teachings Program - Debriefing Tutorials, and Assistant Director, Clinical Operations, at the Medical Services Branch of Health Canada (Winnipeg).

Marlyn Cook has sat on numerous Committees and Boards, including the Swampy Cree AIDS Steering Committee, the Manitoba Chapter of the College of Family Physicians of Canada Board, the Mino-Ayaawin Advisory Committee of the Native Women's Transition Centre, the Thompson General Hospital Perinatal Mortality Committee, the National Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee (NIHB-Medical Services Branch), and the Balancing Choices and Opportunities in Sciences and Technology for Aboriginal People National Steering Committee. She was also the Chair of the Facility Planning Committee and a Board Member at the Sioux Lookout Mino-Ya-Win Health Centre.

Dr. Cook is currently a member of the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch Drug Utilization Committee.

Elizebeth Hourie Palfrey

Ms. Palfrey is a Métis based in Winnipeg and Rankin Inlet and has an extensive health and business background. She is currently working on special projects for the Evaz Group as a Board Member and shareholder.

The Evaz Group, a company with operations throughout Nunavut, has been active in business development for thirty years and is committed to developing a healthy and diverse private sector economy to allow greater opportunity for its residents.

Ms Palfrey, a grandmother, has been active on community boards and issues for many years and continues to be committed to aboriginal youth, assisting wherever possible to instill cultural pride, self-esteem, and hope for the future.

Viola Robinson

Ms. Robinson is a Mi'kmaq woman born in Amherst, Nova Scotia. She attended the Indian Day School at Shubenacadie Reserve (Indian

Brook), then went to the Sacred Heart Academy in Meteghan, Nova Scotia and Maritime Business College in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She has spent her life as an advocate for the Mi'kmaq people and for the human rights of First Nations across the country. While she is best known as the founding and long time president of the Native Council of Nova Scotia as well as the Native Council of Canada, her other achievements are numerous. She was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Law Degree from Dalhousie University in 1990. She served as a Commissioner with the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples. She completed a law degree at Dalhousie Law School in May 1998. She is now a Senior Mi'kmaq Advisor on the Negotiations Team with the Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative. Although she is not a Survivor of the Residential Schools, her close family members, including her late brother, are all Survivors.

Dan George

Dan George, President of Four Directions Management Services Ltd. (1994) and Chief Executive Officer of the First Nations Mountain Pine Beetle Initiative, is a lifelong resident of Prince George B.C. Mr. George is a member of the Gilseyhu Clan (Big Frog) of the Wet'suwet'en People and his home community is Hagwilget Village.

Mr. George's extensive experience in Aboriginal community development includes: Chief Negotiator, Office of the Wet'suwet'en; Executive Director, Prince George Native Friendship Centre and Treaty Director, Carrier Sekani Tribal Council.

Dan is a proud and committed Board Member of: the Aboriginal Healing Foundation, the Fraser Basin Council, Partnerships BC, Positive Living North, and the Cedar Project.

Dan has been involved in First Nations and Aboriginal issues for more than twenty-five years. He has been married for twenty-one years to his wife Teresa, they have two teenage daughters, Amanda and Brittany, and one granddaughter, Kiana.

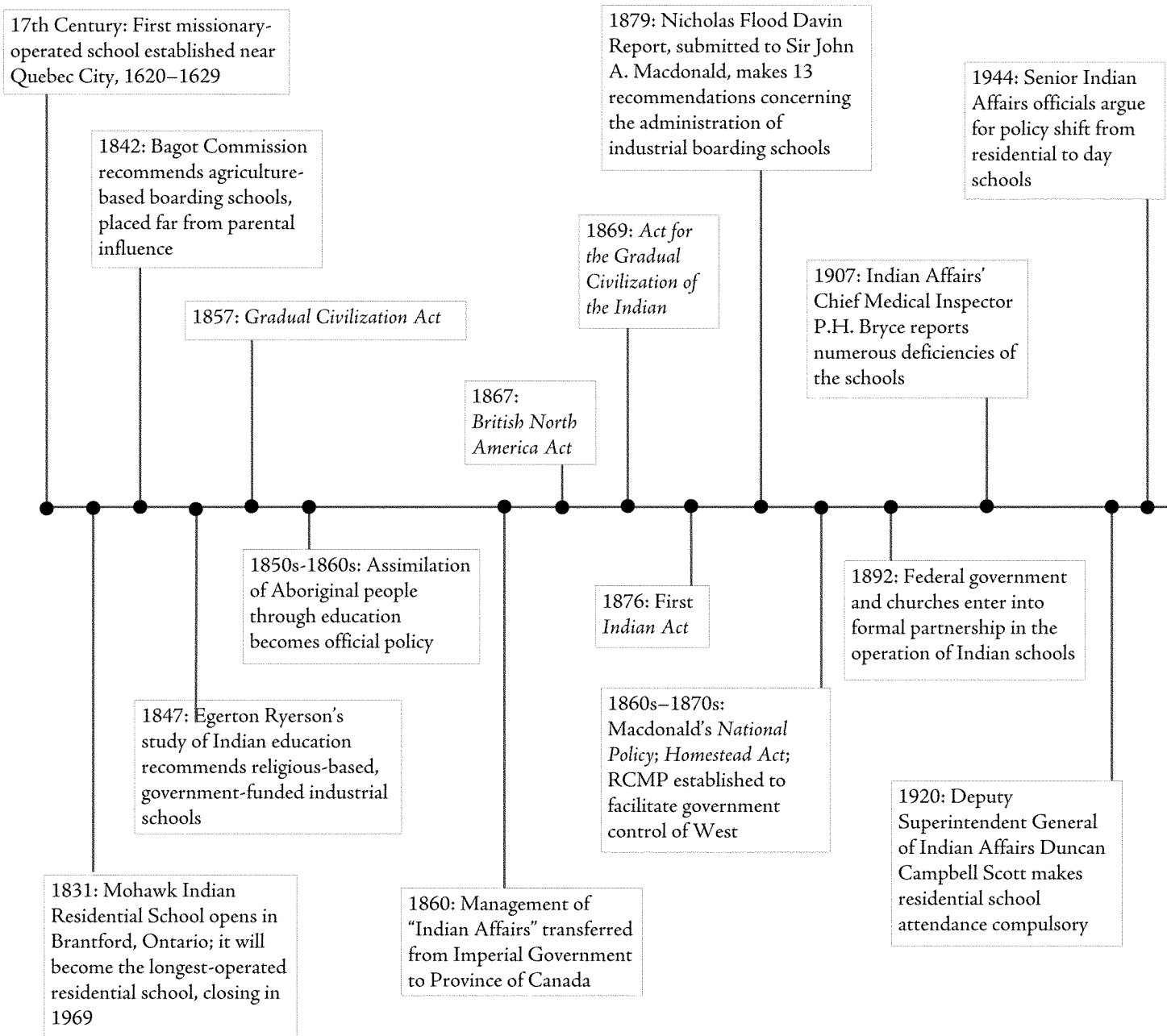
Navalik Helen Tologanak

Born in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut. Also a survivor of residential school where she attended school in Inuvik for 9 years living at Stringer Hall, the Anglican hostel. Also attended junior high in Yellowknife for a couple of years, living at Akaitcho Hall. Quitting school to return home to her parents to Cambridge Bay helping her mother with 9 other siblings. At home she managed to find jobs with the local settlement office and government of NWT doing jobs as clerical, mostly. Since returning home to Cambridge Bay Navalik has managed to get most of her traditional language back Innuinaqtun and getting to know her relatives and people whom she never knew from being away at residential school. Learning Innuinaqtun again has given her the talent to write and speak her dialect of the Kitikmeot region, has been now writing a weekly column in the only NWT/Nunavut wide newspaper "News North" since 1995. Also very active in Inuit issues, one of the founders of the local women's group in Cambridge Bay and also was a past board member for Kitikmeot Region on Pauktuutit – Inuit Women's Association of Canada and also was a member of the NWT Status of Women.

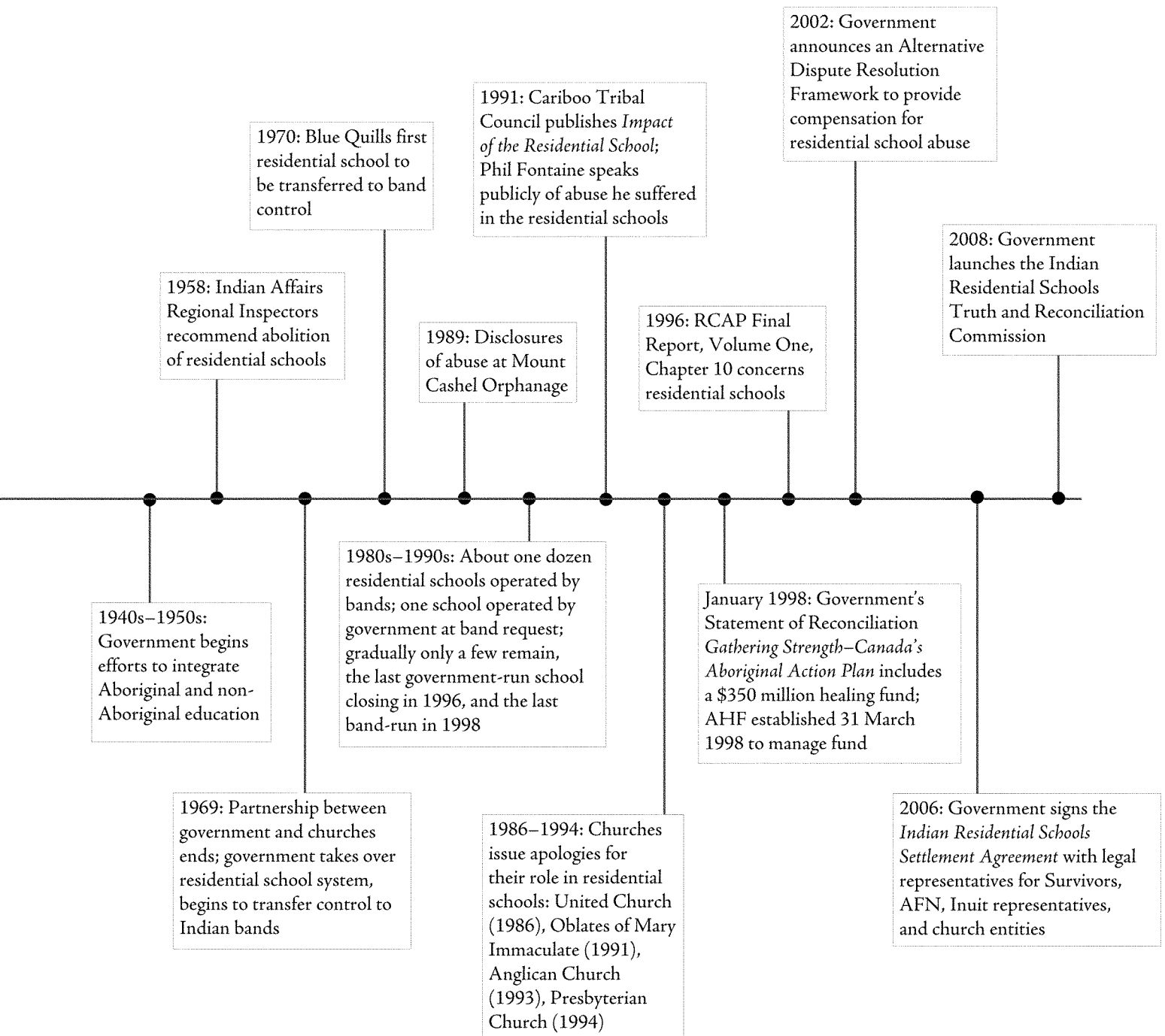
"I have three wonderful children, a daughter and 2 sons Kingnektak and Tologanak and Scott."

Navalik continues to write in both Innuinaqtun and English for her readers across Canada for News North. Navalik also does volunteer work for her community working with Elders and youth. Also does contract work with various on her spare time. Her goal is to continue speaking and supporting Inuit of Canada. Also wishes to learn some of her cultural identity in sewing which Inuit women still carry the tradition and make it a fashionable and beautiful way showing Inuit culture and traditions.

Condensed Timeline



of Residential Schools



Martha Flaherty

Ms. Flaherty was born in Inukjuaq, Nunavik (formerly Port Harrison, Quebec) and resides in Almonte, Ontario with her family.

She is past President of Pauktuutit Inuit Women's Association, and also a previous Executive member of the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK). Due to her extensive experience and training, she is a distinguished Inuktitut interpreter and translator - one of the first Inuktitut/English Interpreters for television, film and radio, and one of the select few Canadian Interpreter/Translators for the Tunngavik Federation of Nunavut.

As a steadfast advocate for Inuit Women, children and youth, she has served as a member of the Canadian Panel on Violence Against Women, the Panel on Economic Development for Canadian Aboriginal Women, the Nunavut Implementation Commission on Gender Equality, and the Canadian delegation of representatives to counter the powerful anti-fur lobby groups in Europe.

Ms. Flaherty has studied journalism and photography and has developed her own photography collection of the North. One of the most respected Inuit leaders in Canada, she is inspired by her grandfather, Robert Flaherty, an internationally acclaimed film-maker.

Cindy Swanson

Ms. Swanson is a Metis elementary teacher with the Edmonton Public School Board since 2000. She lives in Edmonton where she teaches in an Aboriginal school. She was appointed as a provincial member of the Metis National Youth Advisory Council (from October 1995 to September 1998) and has participated with Metis and First Nations youth initiatives and organizations.

Murray Ironchild

Murray Ironchild is a former councillor and Chief of the Piapot First Nation in Saskatchewan.

Currently working as a Cultural/Traditional Advisor with the All Nations' Healing Centre of the File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council, Mr. Ironchild brings to the Aboriginal Healing Foundation his interest and experience in traditional medicine and Aboriginal health.

Susan Hare

Ms. Hare is an Ojibway of the M'Chigeeng First Nation. A practicing lawyer, she worked to establish the Intensive Program in First Nations Lands, Resources and Governance at York University's Osgoode Hall.

She has Adjudicated institutional abuse settlements including Indian Residential Schools and finds time to practise native child welfare law and criminal law. She is presently a Bencher with the Law Society of Upper Canada (elected 2007).

Dr. Dennis Wardman

Dr. Dennis Wardman is a member of the Key Band in Saskatchewan.

He has completed medical school, a fellowship in Public Health, Addiction Medicine training, and a Masters Degree in Community Medicine (Universities of Alberta and Calgary). He is the first Aboriginal person in Canada to complete specialty training in public health.

Dr. Wardman is employed with First Nations and Inuit Health Program, BC Region as a Community Medicine Specialist with a special interest in Addiction Medicine and presently is the Director of the Health Promotion and Prevention Directorate.

In addition, Dr. Wardman practices clinical medicine – he has a methadone maintenance clinic in downtown Vancouver.

He has served on several advisory committees, including the Assembly of First Nations' Public Health advisory committee and the advisory committee for the National Collaborative Centre

on Aboriginal Health. He has represented Aboriginal people on expert addiction committees, including Canada's National Alcohol Strategy Working Group and the Expert Group for Alcohol Policy within the Northern Dimension Partnership in Public Health and Social Well-being, an international initiative.

Dr. Wardman is also committed to Aboriginal health research – he has been a team member of research-funded projects, has published numerous peer-reviewed research papers and serves on the scientific peer review committee for the Canadian Institutes of Health Research – Institute of Aboriginal Peoples' Health.

David Turner

A non-status Indian of Saulteaux (Fairford Band, Manitoba) and African American descent, David is an independent consultant with a Diploma of Social Work (Honours) from Mount Royal College in Calgary. Formerly a contract manager for Health Canada's Aboriginal Head Start Program, David's experience includes initiatives in health, social services, management, and policy development. A former director of child welfare with Tsuu T'ina First Nation, David has worked with both urban and First Nations social services programs. Mr. Turner has 15 years experience facilitating complex government contracts and public relations/ stakeholder relations with Aboriginal communities across Canada. His current consulting activities include meeting facilitation, team development, and cross cultural understanding between northern First Nations and Métis Settlements and the oil and gas industry.

Gina Wilson

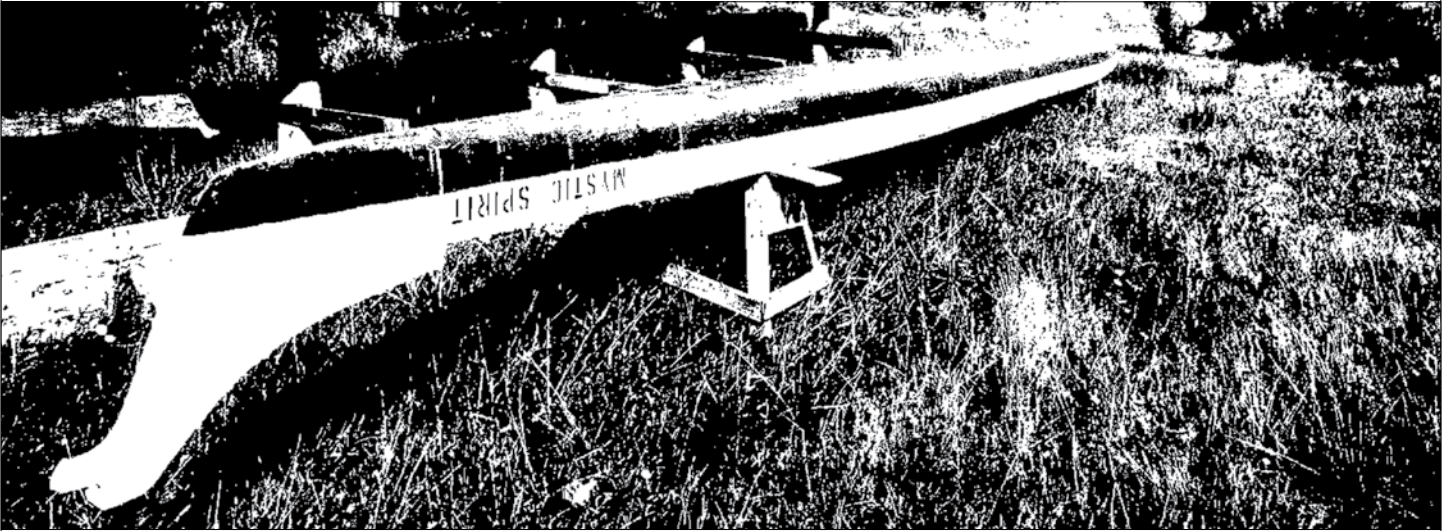
Gina Wilson is Algonquin and has been working over the past fifteen years in senior-level and executive positions in the Aboriginal community and federal government. She worked in her First Nation community of Kitigan-Zibi as Executive Director of Health and Social Services and as Director of the Wanaki Treatment Centre.

Ms. Wilson worked from 1992-97 as Chief Executive Officer with the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), a national Aboriginal organization, representing First Nation communities in Canada and then joined the Federal Government as Director General of the Aboriginal Issues branch at the Correctional Service of Canada. Gina has worked in claims and self-government at Indian and Northern Affairs and led the renewal of the Aboriginal Human Resources Development Strategy (AHRDS) in 2005, before moving to the Privy Council Office (PCO) as Director General of Engagement in the Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat. At PCO, Gina worked with federal departments, provinces, territories and national Aboriginal organizations in a process leading to the First Ministers Meeting (FMM) on Aboriginal Issues in Kelowna in November, 2006.

Gina Wilson is currently Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) of the Indian Residential Schools Canada (IRSRC) and a partner in the implementation of a settlement agreement for approximately 80,000 survivors of residential schools in Canada.

She lives with her husband Royce and children Dylan, Kayla and RJ in Aylmer, Quebec.

Board of Directors



The Board of Directors, composed of First Nation, Métis, and Inuit members, governs the Aboriginal Healing Foundation. The Board manages the property, business, and affairs of the Foundation and is responsible for the establishment and monitoring of policy (including, but not limited to, investment policies), standards, and procedures. The Board gives final approval to the funding of healing projects. It is morally accountable to Aboriginal people and legally accountable to the Government of Canada and to Aboriginal people.

Main Objectives

- To establish and review as necessary the policies of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation
- To review and approve major organizational planning activities

- To review and approve projects
- To oversee the Executive Director's management of the AHF
- To manage Board affairs in conformity with all legal and ethical requirements
- To build public trust and communicate an effective public image of the AHF and its work
- To maintain integrity, reliability and transparency of the AHF.

Executive Director



The Executive Director reports to the Board of Directors. In partnership with the President, he enables the Board of Directors to fulfil its governance role and facilitates interaction between management, staff, and the Board of Directors. He provides the leadership required for the achievement of the AHF mission, strategy, and objectives, and exercises powers and duties as specified and delegated by the Board of Directors.

With a staff of three, the Executive Director's office assists the Board of Directors to fulfil its governance role, builds and maintains the integrity of the AHF in the eyes of the public and enhances its public profile, implements the AHF mission and objectives, ensures the efficient performance of Management and that all AHF activity complies with legal and ethical requirements.

The Executive Director's office attends to its responsibilities in the following areas:

- Board of Directors
- Management
- Staff
- Finance

- Research
- Communications

Objectives

- To assist the Board of Directors to fulfil its governance role
- To build and maintain the integrity of the AHF in the eyes of the public and to enhance its public profile
- To implement the AHF mission and objectives
- To ensure the efficient performance of Management
- To ensure that all AHF activity complies with legal and ethical requirements.

Communications



Function

Communications is made up of four individuals: a Director, Executive Assistant, Communications Officer, and a Public Affairs Officer. Main strategic responsibilities are communicating Board policy decisions and promoting the vision, mission, and activities of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation among Survivors, Aboriginal people generally, and the Canadian public.

The work of Communications is guided by an Integrated Communications Strategy which identifies present and emerging considerations related to the residential school system, healing, and reconciliation, and which establishes principles and guidelines for Communications work.

Communications plays a supporting role for the staff of the AHF and bears lead responsibility for:

- Non-research publications
- AHF website (<http://www.ahf.ca>)
- Media liaison (interviews, media requests)
- Public presentations and presentations to Government and Aboriginal organizations
- Promotional items
- Public education initiatives
- Mailing and database

- Translation & editing
- Funded project support related to media work and informational resources
- Communications lines
- General public inquiries

Communications provides regular funding updates, advises the Executive on Communications issues, and facilitates the flow of information within and outside of the AHF.

Objective

To report on the Foundation's activities to Survivors and their descendants, as well as to Government and the Canadian public, and to generate awareness of our mandate.

Strategy

Communications this year hired a full-time Public Affairs Officer to travel extensively to gatherings, conferences and other events, representing the Aboriginal Healing Foundation.

Communications also prepared speeches, decks, and briefing notes for individual, community, Government, and university audiences.

Objective

To foster understanding of the nature and effect of Indian residential school abuses on victims, their families and their communities; to educate the public about the importance of healing initiatives.

Strategy

Communications works closely with Canadian media agencies, providing them with resources and arranging interviews to raise the profile of the residential school system and to foster awareness and understanding. This year several awareness-raising media campaigns were organized around the Common Experience Payment, the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement, and the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Our strategy has been to situate all of these developments within the context of historic trauma, healing, and reconciliation.

Results

The message of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation has reached a broad national audience. Awareness of the residential school system and the work of community-based healing initiatives continues to grow. However, there remains much work to be done.

Objective

To provide support to AHF staff in the areas of document translation and editing, correspondence, briefings, and preparation of documents.

Strategy

- Providing editing and translation services
- Supervising the performance of a core team of external translators

Results

During this fiscal year, Communications arranged the internal editing and external translation of research studies (in-house and external), of items of correspondence, of documents and other materials from other AHF departments, and of all Communications publications.

Objective

Promote and support the funded projects of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation

Strategy

Communications supports projects through the provision of documents, images, and information related to the residential school system. We also provide resources and support for the projects' media relations. To promote awareness of funded projects, we have provided profiles and summaries through printed materials such as our newsletters and on the AHF website (<http://www.ahf.ca>). We also provide speakers and promotional items at project gatherings and workshops.

Results

We have provided funded projects with educational resources and supplemented their promotional materials. AHF documents are being used in the context of healing and education among our funded projects. Our newsletters Healing Words (English) and Le premier pas (French), the largest serial publication in Canada devoted exclusively to healing the effects of abuse suffered in Canada's Indian Residential School System, continue to receive universal positive feedback and are one of our most popular documents.

Assessment and Finance Operations



Functions

Led by the Chief Operating Officer, Assessment and Finance Operations is grouped into two units, Finance and Programs, who work closely together. Assessment and Finance Operations supports all corporate needs and objectives.

This Department has twenty-four employees that are responsible for:

- information and community support services;
- data entry and proposal assessment;
- contracting and monitoring funded projects;
- budgeting and financial reporting;
- managing the \$515 million healing fund (initial \$350 million, \$40 million and \$125 million) investment portfolio;
- informatics and system maintenance, including the project database (GIFTS);

- overall administration, including reception, mail and supplies.

- managing all accounting processes and maintaining financial controls.

Strategic Objectives

Ensuring that Aboriginal communities across Canada have fair access to funding for healing projects which address the legacy of physical and sexual abuse in the residential school system, including intergenerational impacts.

Ensuring that all proposals go through the same process for funding. Managing, in an effective and efficient manner, the \$515 million healing fund and carrying out the financial policies and objectives of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation.

Strategies

Support the Foundation Board of Directors to make appropriate funding decisions by providing accurate and timely information.

Deliver accurate and relevant information, assisting senior management in constantly evaluating the performance of the Foundation at all levels of the organization.

Support communities by providing information and follow-up communication through a 1-888 toll-free line, as well coordinating Information Sessions and Networking Visits.

Specific Goals & Outcomes

1. To enhance eligible project contribution agreements for the anticipated \$125 million.

Result: 99 percent of the eligible project contribution agreements were signed and put in place.

2. To monitor all projects in accordance with the risk management strategy.

Result: Staff undertook twenty site reviews. A site review determines a project's governance, program delivery, and fiscal management performance levels.

3. To close all project files with end dates between April 1, 2001 and March 31, 2004.

Result: Fifty nine percent of files (23 of 39) have been closed. The remaining forty one percent are in the process of being closed.

4. To ensure the AHF exercises proper financial management.

Result: For the ninth consecutive year, the AHF has received an unqualified or clean audit opinion.

5. To strengthen internal and external financial accountability.

Result: The AHF reviewed and improved upon its internal policies and procedures.

6. To develop and carry-out an organizational

winding-down strategy.

Result: The AHF readjusted its wind-down strategy to accommodate the additional \$125 million to be provided by the Government of Canada under the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement.

7. To prepare staff with knowledge and skills that will assist them in future organizational contexts.

Result: AHF staff improved their skills in computerized accounting packages, writing and presentations.

Prospects

Assessment and Finance Operations continually strives to streamline a process based on understanding, compassion and fairness while ensuring that Aboriginal communities receive access to projects which offer real opportunities for healing. We will continue to offer information and support as applicants move from planning to realization and completion of their projects, addressing throughout a project's lifetime the needs of survivors and their descendants.

Assessment and Finance Operations' objectives for FY 2008-2009 are the same as the previous year which are as follows:

1. To enhance eligible project contribution agreements for the \$125 million.

2. To monitor all projects in accordance with the risk management strategy.

3. To close all project files with end dates between April 1, 2003 and March 31, 2005.

4. To ensure the AHF exercises proper financial management.

5. To strengthen internal and external management practices.

6. To develop and carry-out an organizational winding-down strategy.

7. To prepare staff with knowledge and skills that will assist them in future organizational contexts.

Research



Function

The Research unit for 2007-2008 included three core employees (Director, Executive Assistant, and Research Officer) and two part-time contract employees (Research Assistants). Research is responsible for:

- Supervising AHF Evaluation efforts
- Maintaining the AHF Resource Centre
- Undertaking research on AHF issues that inform Board decisions
- Conducting and contracting research that supports healing initiatives
- Coordinating the preparation and publication of the AHF Evaluation and Research Series

The research agenda and activities of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation focus on applied or strategic research that contributes to developing the necessary knowledge base for the design, implementation, effectiveness and evaluation of community-level healing projects.

Goals

1. To contribute to effective program design/ redesign, implementation and evaluation.
2. To promote holistic healing and identify “promising healing practices” from community-based projects.
3. To provide information on substantive issues that support healing practices and enhance capacity-building in Aboriginal communities.
4. To contribute to the national healing legacy of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation.
5. To encourage a more informed and supportive public environment.

Publications

- Aboriginal Healing Foundation Final Report (hard copy and CD-ROM): Volume 1: A Healing Journey: Reclaiming Wellness; Volume II: Measuring Progress: Program Evaluation; Volume III: Promising Healing Practices in Aboriginal Communities

- A Healing Journey: Final Report Summary Points;
 - Aboriginal Sexual Offending in Canada;
 - Mental Health Profiles for a Sample of British Columbia's Aboriginal Survivors of the Canadian Residential School System;
 - An Interim Evaluation Report of Aboriginal Healing Foundation Program Activity (2001);
 - Journey and Balance: Second Interim Evaluation Report of Aboriginal Healing Foundation Program Activity (2002);
 - Directory of Residential Schools in Canada (revised working document);
 - Aboriginal Domestic Violence in Canada;
 - Aboriginal People, Resilience and the Residential School Legacy;
 - Third Interim Evaluation Report of Aboriginal Healing Foundation Program Activity (2003);
 - Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Among Canadian Aboriginal People in Canada: Review and Analysis of the Intergenerational Links to Residential Schools;
 - Aboriginal Elder Abuse in Canada (article);
 - Examining HIV/AIDS Among the Aboriginal Population in Canada in the post-residential school era (article);
 - Historic Trauma and Aboriginal Healing;
 - Reclaiming Connections: Understanding Residential School Trauma Among Aboriginal People: A Resource Manual;
 - Warrior-Caregivers: Understanding the Challenges and Healing of First Nations Men: A Resource Guide;
 - Community Guide to Evaluating Aboriginal Healing Foundation Activity;
 - A Directory of Funding Sources for Healing Activities (revised working document);
 - The History and Experience of Inuit in Residential Schools in Canada (Summary Booklet);
 - Decolonization and Healing: Indigenous Experiences in the United States, New Zealand, Australia and Greenland;
 - Métis History and Experience and Residential Schools in Canada.
 - Addictive Behaviors and Aboriginal People in Canada;
 - Aboriginal Suicide in Canada;
 - Lump Sum Compensation Payments Research Project: The Circle Rechecks Itself; and
 - From Truth to Reconciliation: Transforming the Legacy of Residential Schools.
- Published in partnership with other organizations/governments:
- Mapping the Healing Journey: The Final Report of a First Nation Research Project on Healing in Canadian Aboriginal Communities (with Aboriginal Corrections Policy Unit, Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada);
 - A Cost-Benefit Analysis of Hollow Water's Community Holistic Circle Healing Process (with Aboriginal Corrections Policy Unit, Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada); and
 - A Cost-Benefit Analysis of Biidaabiin: the Mnjikaning Community Healing Model (with Aboriginal Corrections Policy Unit, Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada).

In press:

Aboriginal Healing in Canada: Studies in Therapeutic Meaning and Practice, edited by James Waldram, University of Saskatchewan. Research in partnership with the National Aboriginal Mental Health Research Network (CIHR-funded).

Reprinted in 2007/08:

AHF reprinted the following research reports in 2007/08:

- From Truth to Reconciliation: Transforming the Legacy of Residential Schools
- A Healing Journey: Final Report Summary Points
- Where are the Children: Healing the Legacy of Residential Schools
- Les Guerriers-Soignants: Comprendre les difficultés et la guérison des hommes des Première Nations

AHF Research distributes 2,700 copies of research studies through the Research database and a minimum of 2,000 copies to workshops, conferences, meetings, colleges and universities (for specific courses), and the general public.

In progress:

- Traditional Healing Practices;
- Aboriginal Homelessness in Canada and the Legacy of Residential Schools;
- Aboriginal Children in Care in Canada (to be published by the University of Manitoba Press);
- Curriculum: Aboriginal Awareness and Residential School;
- The History and Experience of Inuit in Residential Schools in Canada (to be published by the University of Manitoba Press);

- Aboriginal Residential School Workers;

- Directory of Residential Schools in Canada (final book format);

- Common Experience Payment and Healing Research Project

Objective

To evaluate the impact of AHF-funded projects

Strategy

As of September 2007, the Research unit's role with regard to evaluation is guided by the terms outlined within the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. As such, Research will assist Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada, as required, in its obligation to conduct an evaluation as per the Agreement.

Results

The Research unit's efforts will build upon the knowledge developed in the three interim evaluation reports (published in 2001; 2002 and 2003) and the three-volume Final Report of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation (2006), as well as information collected from AHF-funded project reporting tools.

Volume 1 of the Final Report is a narrative overview of the AHF's development, impact, accomplishments and contribution to the healing movement and a discussion of future healing needs. Volume II is an overview of AHF evaluation, including three national surveys, thirteen case studies, seven focus groups and twelve hundred individual participant questionnaires. Volume III summarizes Best or Promising Healing Practices, highlighting what AHF has learned from funded projects through file search, surveys and a national gathering. Summary points of the AHF Final Report were published as a separate document in 2007.

Objective

To contribute to the knowledge base for effective program design/redesign, implementation and evaluation of community-based healing projects.

Strategy

As of September 2007, the Research unit's role with regard to evaluation is guided by the terms outlined within the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. As such, Research will assist Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada, as required, in its obligation to conduct an evaluation as per the Agreement.

The AHF has published twenty-eight reports or papers in the AHF Research and Evaluation Series to date: two in 2001; four in 2002; eight in 2003. In addition to working on the AHF Final Report, Research published three studies in 2004-05; three in 2005-06; two in 2006-07; and three in 2007-08.

Results

Eight research reports or papers are in progress, including two book-length manuscripts that will be published by the University of Manitoba Press in 2008 and a book-length Directory of Residential Schools in Canada.

Objective

To participate in networks to maximize the AHF's limited resources for research and to contribute to an informed and supportive public environment.

Strategy

Research has collaborated on four research projects that fall within the mandate of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation, three with the Aboriginal Corrections Policy Unit, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada, with whom Research also partnered on two gatherings of healers. With the Legacy of Hope Foundation AHF Research

continues to support the curatorship of an exhibit on residential schools that continues to travel across Canada, and the development of the Legacy of Hope Foundation's virtual exhibition project *Where Are the Children* (www.wherethechildren.ca).

AHF Research has been an active participant in the network of Aboriginal, academic and government organizations that are involved in research that is relevant to healing the Legacy of Physical and Sexual Abuse in the Residential School System including intergenerational impacts. Some of these activities in 2007-08 include:

- The Research Department participated in the following conferences/meetings: 1) Network for Aboriginal Mental Health Research, Annual Meeting; 2) Correctional Service of Canada: Aboriginal Offender Substance Abuse Program Fall Gathering, Research Advisory Group; 3) Correctional Service of Canada: Security Reclassification Scale (Aboriginal men) SRSA Project - Expert Panel; 4) First Nations and Inuit Health Branch, Health Canada: Mental Wellness Advisory Committee; 5) Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth Committee; 6) Métis Nation Health Forum: Culture, Identity and History; 7) National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health: Indigenous Social Determinants of Health; 8) Embrace Life Council Prevention Strategy Steering Committee; and 9) Truth and Reconciliation Committee: Briefing Material review Process.

- The Aboriginal Healing Foundation is an institutional partner in a four-year, \$720,760 grant from Canadian Institutes of Health Research for a National Aboriginal Mental Health Research Network and the support of four research projects, one of which is the Models and Metaphors of Healing Project based on AHF-funded healing projects. The CIHR grant was extended for a fifth year. In conjunction with the work of this network, the Co-Directors have edited a book on Aboriginal Mental Health entitled *Healing Traditions* that will be published by the University of British Columbia Press 2008. Dr. Laurence Kirmayer and the former AHF Director of Research, Gail Guthrie Valaskakis, submitted a 2007 grant proposal entitled,

Network Environment for Aboriginal Health Research, which has been approved.

Results

Networking will continue to increase our knowledge of the impacts of the residential school experience and allow us to maximize the return of our investments in research and to expand our research initiatives. In addition, through research partnerships and relevant presentations, we will continue to access the expertise and resources of outside agencies and to contribute to a more informed and supportive public environment.

Objective

To develop a National Aboriginal Archives and Library to house materials that relate to residential schools. The AHF Incorporation Papers makes reference to establishing and operating “A National Aboriginal Archive and Library to house records concerning residential schools.” This activity responds in part to the Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, recommendation 1.10.3, which calls for the “establishment of a national repository of records and video collections related to residential schools ... to facilitate access to documentation and electronic exchange of research on residential schools...”

Strategy

Research has continued to assemble books, articles, reports and videos on subjects related to the Legacy of Physical and Sexual Abuse in the Residential School System, including Intergenerational Impacts. This growing collection includes documents donated by the Law Commission of Canada; material related to the design and implementation of healing practices; archival materials and material developed

by AHF-funded projects. Since 2006 Research has focused on organizing and cataloguing the material collected over the past several years.

Results

In 2007/08 the AHF focused on formalizing and standardizing the organization and management of this highly specialized collection to develop a relevant, professional-quality, sustainable resource library, which will be renamed the Gail Guthrie Valaskakis Resource Centre and Reading Room in honour of the Foundation’s original Director of Research who passed away in 2007.

The AHF Resource Centre currently contains over 4,000 documents.

In addition to external research material, the Resource Centre houses a growing collection of materials on “promising” healing practices drawn from AHF-funded projects; and materials produced by AHF-funded projects. The Resource Centre will also house any archival documents received by the AHF, including personal memoirs, journals, photographs or other items consigned by the Residential School Survivors, their descendants or other parties. These efforts will be formalized within a collections development plan, including an acquisitions strategy, and formal policies and procedures will be developed to guide the operation of the centre.

These efforts to formalize and professionalize the collection in this manner address the need for the centre’s eventual transfer to a partner organization, when the AHF sunsets as per its mandate. These efforts will ensure a smooth transition, the ongoing availability of the resource material, and a long-term memorial for both the AHF and Dr. Guthrie Valaskakis.

Financial Statements of

**ABORIGINAL HEALING
FOUNDATION**

Year ended March 31, 2008



KPMG LLP
Chartered Accountants
Suite 2000
160 Elgin Street
Ottawa, ON K2P 2P8
Canada

Telephone (613) 212-KPMG (5764)
Fax (613) 212-2896
Internet www.kpmg.ca

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE DIRECTORS

We have audited the statement of financial position of Aboriginal Healing Foundation as at March 31, 2008 and the statements of operations, changes in deferred contributions and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Foundation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Foundation as at March 31, 2008 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. As required by the Canada Corporations Act, we report that, in our opinion, except for the change in the method of accounting for financial instruments, as explained in note 9 to the financial statements, these principles have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Chartered Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

Ottawa, Canada

May 29, 2008

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

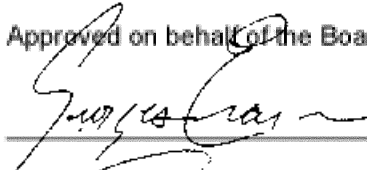
	2008	2007
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 303,868	\$ 348,227
Amounts receivable	190,348	117,833
Interest receivable	527,234	70,734
Prepaid expenses	150,032	129,624
	<u>1,171,482</u>	<u>666,418</u>
Capital assets (note 3)	473,349	381,318
Investments (note 4)	123,691,489	35,824,402
	<u>\$ 125,336,320</u>	<u>\$ 36,872,138</u>

Liabilities and Deferred Contributions


Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 4,730,231	\$ 13,414,138
Deferred contributions:		
Deferred capital contributions	473,349	381,318
Deferred grant	120,132,740	23,076,682
	<u>120,606,089</u>	<u>23,458,000</u>
Lease commitments and guarantees (note 5)		
Future accounting standards (note 10)		
Project commitments (schedule)		
	<u>\$ 125,336,320</u>	<u>\$ 36,872,138</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Approved on behalf of the Board of Directors:



Chairman



Treasurer

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Statement of Operations

Year ended March 31, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

	2008	2007
Revenue:		
Grant	\$ 27,708,458	\$ 47,614,443
Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada - research	95,000	89,385
Investment (note 4(b))	5,524,369	1,966,246
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	143,453	152,523
	<u>33,471,280</u>	<u>49,822,597</u>
Expenses:		
Project:		
Project funding (schedule)	27,617,428	43,568,790
Administrative:		
General (note 6)	4,003,885	4,432,494
Research	1,035,822	563,162
Governance	320,339	556,884
Communication and promotion	230,377	181,810
Amortization of capital assets	143,453	152,523
Monitoring	116,253	92,447
Community support services	1,482	27,717
Regional meetings	–	242,444
Loss on disposal of capital assets	2,241	4,326
	<u>5,853,852</u>	<u>6,253,807</u>
	<u>33,471,280</u>	<u>49,822,597</u>
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ –	\$ –

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Statement of Changes in Deferred Contributions

Year ended March 31, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

	Deferred capital contributions	Deferred grant	Total 2008	Total 2007
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 381,318	\$ 23,076,682	\$ 23,458,000	\$ 71,224,966
Recognized as revenue	–	(27,708,458)	(27,708,458)	(47,614,443)
Grant received (note 1)	–	125,000,000	125,000,000	–
Capital asset additions	237,725	(237,725)	–	–
Loss on disposal of capital assets	(2,241)	2,241	–	–
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	(143,453)	–	(143,453)	(152,523)
Balance, end of year	\$ 473,349	\$ 120,132,740	\$ 120,606,089	\$ 23,458,000

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended March 31, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

	2008	2007
Cash provided by (used for):		
Operations:		
Decrease (increase) in amounts receivable	\$ (72,515)	\$ 235,223
Decrease (increase) in interest receivable	(456,500)	475,629
Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses	(20,408)	41,715
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(8,683,907)	12,708,214
Amortization of capital assets	143,453	152,523
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	(143,453)	(152,523)
Loss on disposal of capital assets	2,241	4,326
	<u>(9,231,089)</u>	<u>13,465,107</u>
Investments:		
Increase in market value of investments	(1,532,303)	—
Purchase of investments	(329,566,172)	(167,277,321)
Sale of investments	243,231,388	201,849,873
Amortization of bond premiums (discounts)	—	(14,088)
Capital asset additions	(237,725)	(202,129)
	<u>(88,104,812)</u>	<u>34,356,335</u>
Financing:		
Increase in deferred capital contributions	235,484	197,803
Increase (decrease) in deferred grant	97,056,058	(47,812,246)
	<u>97,291,542</u>	<u>(47,614,443)</u>
Increase (decrease) in cash	<u>(44,359)</u>	<u>206,999</u>
Cash, beginning of year	348,227	141,228
Cash, end of year	<u>\$ 303,868</u>	<u>\$ 348,227</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2008

1. Description:

Aboriginal Healing Foundation (the "Foundation") was incorporated without share capital on March 30, 1998 under Part II of the Canada Corporation Act. The Foundation is a not-for-profit organization and therefore is, under Section 149 of the Income Tax Act, exempt from income tax.

The Foundation was established for the purpose of funding projects which address the healing needs of Aboriginal People affected by the Legacy of Physical and Sexual Abuse in Residential Schools, including intergenerational impacts. In 1998, The Foundation entered into a funding agreement with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development under which the Foundation received a one-time grant of \$350,000,000. The Foundation is required to hold, invest, administer and disburse the grant, plus any investment income earned on it, in accordance with the funding agreement. The decisions with respect to grant approval were to be made by April 1, 2003 and the actual disbursements can be made over a ten-year-period ending March 31, 2008.

The funding agreement was amended in the 2005 Federal Budget and, as a result of the amendment, the Foundation received a one-time grant of \$40,000,000 during the 2006 fiscal year. The Foundation is required to hold, invest, administer and disburse the grants, plus any investment income earned on it, in accordance with the funding agreement. The decisions with respect to grant approval are to be made by March 31, 2007 and the actual disbursements are to be made over a four-year period ending March 31, 2009.

In fiscal 2008, the Foundation entered into two new funding agreements with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development under which the Foundation received one-time grants of \$25,000,000 and \$100,000,000 respectively. The Foundation is required to hold, invest, administer and disburse the grants, plus any investment income earned on them, in accordance with the funding agreement. The decisions with respect to grant approval were to be made by March 31, 2008 and the actual disbursements are to be made over a five-year period ending March 31, 2012.

2. Significant accounting policies:

(a) Revenue recognition:

Grant revenue is recorded using the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable. Externally-restricted contributions are deferred and recognized as revenue in the period in which the related expenses are recognized.

Restricted investment income is recognized as revenue in the year that the related expenses are incurred.

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Notes to Financial Statements, page 2

Year ended March 31, 2008

2. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(b) Capital assets:

Capital assets are recorded at cost. Amortization is provided on a straight-line basis using the following estimated useful lives:

Asset	Useful life
Furniture and equipment	10 years
Computer hardware	5 years
Computer software	5 years
Leasehold improvements	5 years

(c) Investments:

Investments in bonds are designated as held for trading and are measured at fair value. Purchases of bonds are recorded on the settlement date. Transaction costs related to the acquisition of bonds are expensed.

For comparative periods, investments are recorded at cost plus or minus amortization of bond discount or premium.

(d) Deferred capital contributions:

Contributions received for capital assets are deferred and amortized over the same term and on the same basis as the related capital asset.

(e) Use of estimates:

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the period. Actual results could differ from these estimates. These estimates are reviewed annually and as adjustments become necessary they are recorded in the financial statements in the period in which they become known.

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Notes to Financial Statements, page 3

Year ended March 31, 2008

3. Capital assets:

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2008 Net book value	2007 Net book value
Furniture and equipment	\$ 666,153	\$ 460,194	\$ 205,959	\$ 195,464
Computer hardware	655,839	500,148	155,691	136,297
Computer software	136,805	136,805	—	—
Leasehold improvements	176,735	65,036	111,699	49,557
	<u>\$ 1,635,532</u>	<u>\$ 1,162,183</u>	<u>\$ 473,349</u>	<u>\$ 381,318</u>

Cost and accumulated amortization at March 31, 2007 amounted to \$1,400,653 and \$1,019,335 respectively.

4. Investments:

(a) Investments consist of the following:

	2008 Fair value	2007 Cost	2007 Fair value
Cash equivalents:			
Federal government	\$ 8,922,332	\$ 27,150,423	\$ 27,813,234
Corporate	2,905,465	3,187,898	3,189,364
Bonds, coupons and residuals:			
Federal government	87,615,382	31,263	30,147
Provincial government	14,573,140	868,479	855,704
Corporate	9,675,170	4,572,251	4,552,068
	<u>123,691,489</u>	<u>35,810,314</u>	<u>36,440,517</u>
Amortization of bond discounts	—	14,088	—
	<u>\$ 123,691,489</u>	<u>\$ 35,824,402</u>	<u>\$ 36,440,517</u>

(b) Investment revenue is comprised of:

	2008	2007
Interest	\$ 3,447,775	\$ 1,952,922
Loss on disposal	—	(764)
Amortization of bond discounts	—	14,088
Realized gains on sale of investments	544,291	—
Unrealized gains on investments	1,532,303	—
	<u>\$ 5,524,369</u>	<u>\$ 1,966,246</u>

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Notes to Financial Statements, page 4

Year ended March 31, 2008

5. Lease commitments and guarantees:

(a) Commitments:

The Foundation has committed to make the following future minimum payments by fiscal year under various equipment operating and premises rental leases:

2008/2009	\$ 214,194
2009/2010	3,855
	<hr/>
	\$ 218,049

(b) Guarantees:

In the normal course of business, the Foundation has entered into lease agreements for premises and equipment. It is common in such commercial lease transactions for the Foundation as the lessee, to agree to indemnify the lessor for liabilities that may arise from the use of the leased assets. The maximum amount potentially payable under the foregoing indemnities cannot be reasonably estimated. The Foundation has liability insurance that relates to the indemnifications described above.

6. General expenses:

	2008	2007
Salaries	\$ 2,669,094	\$ 2,909,580
Rent	346,918	356,170
Office	256,757	281,352
Computer maintenance	169,273	174,318
Travel	197,413	177,474
Training	110,638	93,376
Investment fees	51,837	52,476
Insurance	36,473	42,350
Equipment lease	54,066	51,212
Professional fees	84,268	273,489
Translation	27,148	20,149
Fundraising	-	548
	<hr/>	
	\$ 4,003,885	\$ 4,432,494

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Notes to Financial Statements, page 5

Year ended March 31, 2008

7. Related party transaction:

The Foundation is related to the Legacy of Hope Foundation (the "Charity"), which is a registered charity. The Foundation appoints the majority of the Board of Directors of the Charity.

The Charity's mission is to encourage and support Aboriginal communities in building the capacity to sustain healing processes that address the broader Intergenerational Legacy of the Residential School System.

The Charity's assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses are as follows for the years ended March 31:

	2008	2007
Assets	\$ 599,103	\$ 575,604
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities:		
Due to Aboriginal Healing Foundation	\$ 3,171	\$ 26,000
Other liabilities	462,533	466,446
	465,704	492,446
Net assets	133,399	83,158
	\$ 599,103	\$ 575,604
Revenue	\$ 1,100,785	\$ 1,474,566
Expenses	1,050,430	1,447,502
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 50,355	\$ 27,064

The Foundation provides payroll services without charge and subleased office space to the Charity at \$12,000 for the year which included operating costs.

8. Fair value of financial instruments:

The carrying values of cash, amounts receivable, interest receivable and accounts payable and accrued liabilities approximate their fair values because of the relatively short period to maturity of these instruments. The fair value of investments is disclosed in note 4.

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Notes to Financial Statements, page 6

Year ended March 31, 2008

9. Adoption of new accounting standards:

(a) Financial instruments:

Effective April 1, 2007, the Foundation adopted the new standards for Financial Instruments in accordance with various sections of the CICA Handbook including Section 3855 "*Financial Instruments – Recognition and Measurement*". In accordance with the transitional provisions of this Section, the Foundation has prospectively adopted the recommendations, and therefore the 2007 comparative figures have not been restated. The impact of the implementation of these standards on the Foundation's financial statements is described below.

(i) Investments:

The Foundation classified investments as held for trading, and as such, investments are recorded at fair value on the statement of financial position. This classification resulted in an increase of \$616,115 in investments and deferred investment income at April 1, 2007, reflecting the prior years' net appreciation of the fair value of the Foundation's investments. The deferred investment income was recognized as revenue in the year.

(ii) Other financial assets and liabilities:

The Foundation has classified accounts receivable and interest receivable as loans and receivables and accounts payable and accrued liabilities as other liabilities. These classifications do not impact the amounts on these financial statements.

(iii) Embedded derivatives:

The Foundation adopted a transition date for embedded derivatives of April 1, 2004 and, accordingly, only recognized those embedded derivatives requiring separation from host contracts issued, acquired or substantially modified subsequent to this transition date. There were no derivatives or embedded derivatives recognized in the Foundation's financial statements as a result of the adoption of these new standards.

(b) Accounting changes:

Effective April 1, 2007, the Foundation adopted the revised CICA Handbook Section 1506 "*Accounting Changes*" relating to changes in accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and errors. Adoption of these recommendations had no effect on the financial statements for the year ending March 31, 2008, except for the disclosure of accounting changes that have been issued by the CICA but have not yet been adopted by the Foundation because they are not effective until a future date (refer to Future Accounting Standards in note 10).

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Notes to Financial Statements, page 7

Year ended March 31, 2008

10. Future accounting standards:

On December 1, 2006, the CICA issued two new accounting standards: Handbook Section 3862 *Financial Instruments – Disclosures*; Handbook Section 3863 *Financial Instruments – Presentation*. These standards are effective for the Foundation's reporting period beginning on April 1, 2008. The new Handbook Sections 3862 and 3863 replace Handbook Section 3861 *Financial Instruments - Disclosure and Presentation*, revising and enhancing its disclosure requirements, and carrying forward unchanged its presentation requirements. These new sections place increased emphasis on disclosures about the nature and extent of risks arising from financial instruments and how the entity manages those risks.

The Foundation is currently assessing the impact of these new accounting standards on its financial statements.

11. Comparative figures:

Certain 2007 comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the financial statement presentation adopted for 2008.

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Schedule of Project Commitments and Expenses

Year ended March 31, 2008

	Opening cumulative project commitments	Current year net project commitments	Closing cumulative project commitments	Opening cumulative project expenses	Current year project expenses	Closing cumulative project expenses	Remaining project commitments
General Projects	\$ 406,460,182	\$ 108,592,263	\$ 515,052,445	\$ 399,456,048	\$ 27,617,428	\$ 427,073,476	\$ 87,978,969

Statement of Remuneration *

With respect to Section 11.05 (i) of the Funding Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Aboriginal Healing Foundation, the following represents those Employees, Board Members and Contractors earning over \$75,000.

Employees

Position	Public Service Equivalent
Executive Director	EX-05
Director, Research	EX minus 1

The remuneration package for the Executive Director has been developed and recommended by an independent compensation consultant and approved by the Board of Directors. A review of Executive Director remuneration is conducted every three years. All other staff remuneration is based on two comprehensive reviews by external consultants, conducted in 2000 and 2006 by Hay Group and Peralman Iddon Associates Inc., respectively. AHF salaries are consistent with salaries for similar work in the federal public service.

AHF positions do not qualify for the Public Service Benefits and Pension Plan. Accordingly, staff are provided an equivalent plan, budgeted at 18 percent of base salaries for benefits and a payment in lieu of pension.

Other allowances are provided for health, healing, and fitness.

Contractors

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation has 1 (one) contractor receiving total payments in excess of \$75,000. Informici Information Services provides computer and technical services to the Aboriginal Healing Foundation.

Board Members

Acting in the capacity of both President and Board Chair, the President is remunerated in excess of \$75,000.

* This Statement of Remuneration does not form part of the audited financial statements of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation.




March 31, 2008
Aboriginal Healing Foundation,
75, Albert Street,
Suite 801,
Ottawa,
Ontario K1P 5E7

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am writing to confirm that the investments of the Foundation continue to be managed in accordance with the Guidelines laid out in the Funding Agreement with the Federal Government. These guidelines cover the credit quality, diversification and maturity structure of eligible investments and have been met since the inception of the fund in 1998.

Yours sincerely,



Graham E. Sanders
President

◇ Notes ◇

Aboriginal Healing Foundation
75 Albert Street, Suite 801, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5E7
Telephone: (613) 237-4441
Toll-free: (888) 725-8886
Fax: (613) 237-4442
Email: programs@ahf.ca
Website: www.ahf.ca