



2013-2014

**Status of Women Council of the NWT
Annual Report**

June 30, 2014
Honorable Bob McLeod
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women
Government of the Northwest Territories



Dear Minister McLeod,

On behalf of the Status of Women Council, I am pleased to present our Annual Report for the year ending March 31, 2014.

This year has been a busy and productive year for the council. Thanks go to all our funding partners for allowing us the opportunities to work on women's issues in the Northwest Territories.

Along with our core work and yearly events, we have worked on special projects in collaboration with many community organizations on issues concerning Family Violence, Economic, Political and Social Equality, Women's Health and Wellness and Leadership. One of our events this was the 2014 In Dignity Conference Addressing Violence through Response Based Practice. Service Providers from across the north attended the training. Another project with northern women showcased food, clothing and shelter, expertly produced by women of the NWT. A publication offering a glimpse of the life and talents of northern women is also being produced.

I would like to thank our Council Directors and staff for their continued collaborative and coordinated efforts in our work towards women's equality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tina Gargan". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Tina Gargan
President 2013-2014



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Background

The mandate of the Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories is to work for the political, social and economic equality of all women in the NWT, through advice to the Territorial government, research, public education, advocacy on behalf of women, and assistance to women's groups. The Council was created in April 1990 under the NWT Status of Women Council Act. The Government of the NWT provides core funding for the operations of the Council, while special projects have been funded by various sources.



Our Mission

The Status of Women Council of the NWT is dedicated to achieving equality for all NWT women through:

- public education and awareness,
- research,
- advocacy,
- community development,
- interagency cooperation,
- advice to government, and
- identification and development of opportunities for women.

Our Vision

- Equality for women in all areas of life.
- Economic equality.
- Communities, workplaces and families free from violence against women.
- A society which respects and includes the diverse experiences and perspectives of all women.

Tina Gargan

President, Fort Providence, Appointed August 2007

A proud Dene woman and mother of two beautiful children, ages 10 and 5. She was the 2006 wise woman representing the Dehcho region prior to her appointment to the Board of Directors. She is currently employed by Dehcho Health and Social Services as the Community Wellness Worker. Tina has served as councilor, deputy mayor and mayor for the hamlet of Fort Providence. She has also served as a director, vice president and acting director for Association of Communities. Tina has also volunteered with the local justice committee and the Aboriginal Headstart advisory board.

Georgina Jacobson Masuzumi

Tuktoyaktuk, Appointed September 2010

Born in Tuktoyaktuk to the hunter/trapper/carver family of Jimmy & Bella Jacobson, Georgina attended Grollier Hall in Inuvik, Grandin College in Fort Smith, Mount Royal College in Calgary and Aurora College in Inuvik. She has held a variety of jobs: radio station announcer for CFCT in Tuk, flight attendant for Canmar, private business owner/operator, caterer, recreation coordinator, remote camp manager, caretaker for an elders' facility and foster parent. Other pursuits include Hamlet Councillor, Elders' Committee member, advocate for social justice and on the land traditional activities. She also participated in the first NWT Elders' Parliament as the Nunakput representative.

Paulina Roche

Deline, Appointed December 2011

Born in Fort Franklin (now Deline), Paulina has one sister and five brothers and is the youngest of the Tetso family. She attended school in Inuvik and stayed at Grollier Hall. Paulina is also an ex-member of the RCMP; she served eight years in Yellowknife (1988 – 1995). She also attended Aurora College Business Administration to get her diploma. She works for Deline First Nation as a manager since 2001 and sits as a Councilor for the Charter Community of Deline, Deline Housing Association and volunteers for community sports, wellness and traditional programs. She also won the Community Builder Award.

Doris Camsell

Hay River, Appointed December 2011

Born in Ft. Providence Doris has one brother and six sisters. She is married to Doug Camsell and has two sons: Malcolm & Kyle. Doris attended Sir John Franklin & Diamond Jenness. She received her BE in 1986, a Linguistic Certificate from University of New Mexico in 1986, a BA in Anthropology and Archeology in 2005, and Master of Education in Land Based Education in 2010. Doris participated in the development of the Den K'ede Curriculum and taught at all four schools in Hay River. Doris works at Harry Camsell School teaching Dene Thati and gym. Her passion is to revitalize and maintain Dene Thati in education.

Su-Ellen Kolback

Yellowknife, Appointed August 2007

This was Su-Ellen's last term with the Council. She was a beautiful addition to our board and will be missed. The North has been Su-Ellen's home for over 20 years. She attended school at both William MacDonald and Sir John Franklin High graduating in 1994. Her children, Anita (14) and Hilary (8) keep her grounded. In August 2007, she completed her Bachelor of Social Work and began her career with the GNWT Department of Justice. Working as a social worker for approximately four years gave her insight into the various social issues affecting northern peoples aside from those that she had personally experienced. Su-Ellen is a strong supporter of the women's movement in the north.

Jan Fullerton

Yellowknife, Appointed March 2014

Jan believes strongly that everyone is responsible for the world and communities we live in. If we want to live in safe and healthy communities, everyone needs to contribute to that goal, whether in big ways or small ways. Because of this belief, Jan has been volunteering since elementary school and has been working for Skills Canada NWT since 2005. Much of her work has been with youth but she believes that all people have a right to be treated with dignity and respect and all people should have equal access to opportunities/services regardless of their gender or any other quality that makes us different. Jan has been living/working in the NWT since 2002 and has developed a deep appreciation for the north, both for the land and for all the different people who live here.



Directors

The board for the Status of Women Council of the NWT is appointed by the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women. They serve for a three year term which can then be extended up to two times. During their appointment they meet face-to-face twice a year, in October and March, and hold several conference calls as required. The Board is a group of dedicated women, each representing one of the five regions of the north. They seek equality, change, and help direct the Council in how to follow their mandate and vision.

Advocacy

Advocacy is done on an as per need basis, responding to women's concerns, needs and requests for assistance. Women can request help by dropping by the Council office, calling toll free, or by email. Staff is assigned to advocacy cases as per their expertise and availability.

Often, the Council is the first agency that women approach in crisis or advocacy situations. Concerns raised by individual women often lead the Council to take action and/or make recommendations to the government to make changes to address the underlying systemic discrimination against women. For more information on the Council's advocacy please go to page 10.

Staff Meetings

The Council staff holds weekly staff meetings, with guest speakers attending as necessary. Through these meetings, the Council reviews progress to date on its activities and initiatives, annual events, and programs and projects. They also discuss new issues as they arise.

Professional Development

Staff at the Council have taken several courses this year to better serve the women that come through our door. Some of the courses that were taken this year include:

- In Dignity Conference 2013
- Motivational Interviewing
- Adobe Illustrator
- Canada's Foreign Worker Program
- Narrative Therapy





Activities, Mailouts & Resources

Council directors and staff carry out equality seeking work in several ways:

- Information Services
- Library Lending of Resource and Videos
- Coordinating Annual and Special Events
- Program Development
- Research and Writing for Recommendations and Submissions to the Government
- Working with NGOs and Committees
- Policy Review and Research
- Advocacy
- Special Projects



Information Service

The Council's mandate to provide public education is met through responding to inquiries from individuals, groups, governments, and the media on a variety of questions and issues. We also post interesting information on our website, through Facebook and have created several play lists on YouTube that can be used to help spread awareness around various issues. The inquiries vary from requests for resources, documented or statistical information to written referrals, phone referrals and requests for advocacy support. People make inquiries in person, by correspondence, telephone, or email. Often, the Council is the first agency that women approach in crisis or advocacy situations. Concerns raised by individual women often lead the Council to take action and/or make recommendations to the government to make changes to remedy underlying systemic discrimination against women.

Status of Women Council Publications & Created Resources

The following are a list of items created by the Council in 2013-2014:

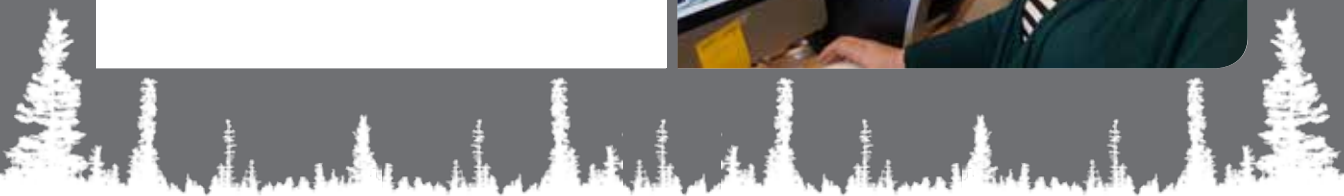
- Family Violence Awareness Week Poster
- Updated Honoring our Northern Women
- Updated pamphlets
 - Status of Women
 - Coalition Against Family Violence
 - Family Violence
- Newsletters
- What can I do about Family Violence
- Family Violence Report Card
- Bookmarks for Family Violence
- Facts sheets for Family Violence
- Ads for events
- Annual Report

YouTube Play Lists

The Council has started several play lists on their Youtube Channel www.youtube.com/user/statusofwomennwt that you can check out. Right now the play lists are:

- Feminism
- Body Image
- Family Violence and Violence Against Women
- Internet Safety
- The Girl Effect
- Events
- Favorites

We update these whenever we find new material that might be of interest or can be used as a good teaching tool. If you have any videos you would like to suggest we add please let us know.



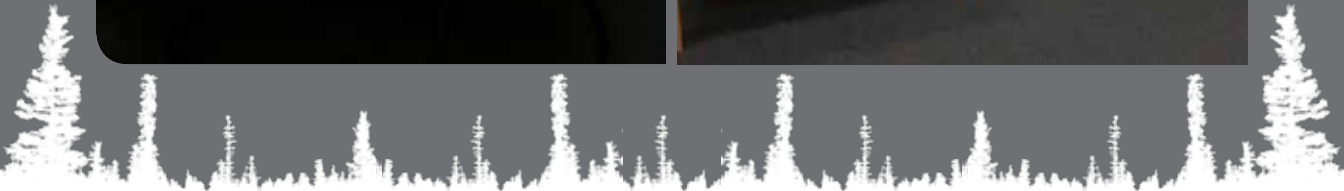


Safety & Office Improvements

There have been several improvements to the Council's office space this year. The main concern in the office was safety for the staff and those that use our office space. Therefore there was a new policy in place that states that if a staff member is by themselves the main office door is locked and clients can meet with staff on an appointment bases. We also combed through the library and we kept only information that was not easily available online and was up to date. This allowed us to remove several shelves in the front that were blocking the view to the front door and opening up the space. This created a new area for us to place a large boardroom table and nice chairs to host bigger meetings and allow other organizations to use our space for free use when available.

The Council was also given a small face lift with new carpets and a general clean up of older materials and out of date promotional information. The staff took advantage of this time to clean up their offices and change to safer layouts for working with clients.

We also purchased a new portable speaker system for events such as the Take Back the Night March. This along with many other devices are available for other organizations to borrow when needed. Other devices include laptops, projectors, a portable screen, speakers, mega phone, tables, etc.





Resource and Video Library

The Council provides resources to community agencies throughout the Northwest Territories by request through the Council's free video and resource lending library, which serves all NWT communities. A video catalogue is available by request to the Council's office. Drop by the Council's office to check out the resource library, and the large selection of research reports on various topics. Occasionally staff receives requests for these resources outside of the territory and we do our best to accommodate these requests.

In 2013-2014, the following mail outs and kits were provided across the NWT:

- May Newsletter
- Aug. Family Violence Awareness Week Kit & Take Back the Night Info.
- Oct. 11th Day of the Girl ad, special requests for materials, facebook promotion
- Dec. Newsletter and December 6th Info, Annual Report, Wise Women Nomination Form

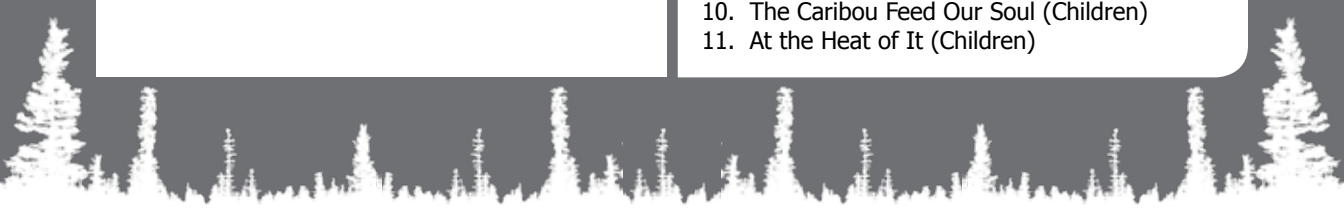
Other information may be sent out depending on projects we are working on. Drop by the Council's office to check out the resource library, and the large selection of research reports and videos on various topics.



New to the Library

The following resources were added to our library in 2013-2014:

1. When Love Hurts: Understanding and Healing Domestic Abuse (DVD)
2. Run, Broken Yet Brave (DVD)
3. Arnait Nipingit Voices of Inuit Women in Leadership and Governance
4. the birth house
5. Failure to Protect
6. Stories from the Lives of Three Inuit Women Saqiyuq
7. Last Tomato
8. Stolen Innocence
9. Dances with Dependency
10. The Caribou Feed Our Soul (Children)
11. At the Heat of It (Children)



Advocacy

Over the past few years there has been a marked increase in individual advocacy at the Council. The Council does advocacy in many different ways including lobbying on behalf of a client. Other services that are offered are fax, phone and internet use for clients to locate jobs or help their particular case along. Staff can accompany individuals to appointments such as medical, legal, court, human rights, income support, housing or other.

The Council is mainly a referral agency and does not provide counseling. At times, staff may use motivational interviewing and other forms of listening to help move a client in the direction they want to go. Some clients may need help advocating for themselves. Staff can assist with writing or formatting letters or resumes. Whatever the issue may be the Council is here to listen and find the best path in order to resolve/help the issues that women in the NWT face.

We have consistently been court watching the Domestic Treatment Options Court and attending special interest court cases. We have been paying close attention to how Sexual Assault Kits are administered and stored throughout the NWT.

Another key piece of advocacy has been around the Anti-Poverty Strategy and the inclusion of an equity lens or component.

Community Development

The Council provides a wide range of community services to help other community groups that focus on women. We have had an increase in requests for design services including posters, web, facebook, pamphlets, media packages, commemorative booklets, annual reports and many other material development. There has also been an increase in the use of the video library for educational purposes.

In order to enhance services for women in the NWT the Council tries to support as many women's organizations as it can either through mail outs to all communities in the NWT, workshops (when funding is available) or events. We have a position dedicated to events coordination which has helped with many of the annual events in Yellowknife and has provided materials to over 500 agencies in the north. This information helps agencies so that they may host their events in their communities.

The Council is always open to helping small communities with their events by providing support and advice when possible. We have donated door prizes and provided speeches at several events this past year. We also provide support letters to causes that support our mandate.

Lunch & Learns

The Council hosted a Lunch & Learn Series that focused on topics that are important to women in the north. Each Lunch & Learn had materials for women to bring home and participants were encouraged to ask questions while at the session. The Council utilized multi-media presentations, written information packages and special guests to explore different topics. A small section of our website has been dedicated to the Lunch & Learn topics. Below are some of the topics that were discussed.

- April Equality Day
 Healthy Relationships
 Anti Bullying
- Sept. Internet Safety
- Oct. Feminist Theory





Wise Woman Awards

The Wise Women Award has been given to 103 women in the north over the past 22 years and we hope to see this award continue well into the future. It is important that we take this time to reflect on all the women in our lives that have the strength and compassion to continue in the work they do. Women who are choosing to live healthy lifestyles and role model values that are important for community change help our society to move forward. This award was created to recognize all the women that are behind the scenes working tirelessly to make a difference for their families and their communities, so that future generations have role models and current generations have women to look up to.

The awards ceremony was held during the annual Bread and Roses Luncheon held at the Tree of Peace. The original Bread & Roses campaign resulted from the "Bread and Roses" strike of 1912 in which workers demanded both fair wages and dignified conditions. The bread symbolized economic justice and roses represented quality of life. An opening blessing was done by the Sisters of the Sacred Circle then the Honourable Premier Bob McLeod, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, opened the ceremony. Dawn Lacey performed the original marching song for the Bread & Roses March in historical attire. The awards were presented by the Council board members. Each winner was given a few minutes to speak, a framed certificate and an etched bowl commissioned by the Council from the Old Town Glassworks.





**Pamela Faith
Gordon**

Beaufort/Delta Region

Faith works for the Hamlet of Aklavik and is known for her help in organizing many local and regional events across the Beaufort Delta. She has spent many hours planning the Shingle Point Summer Games. Whenever people need fund-raising whether it is to assist them to be with loved ones who are traveling on medical or to be with families who are dealing with loss Faith will take that task on without being asked. She is a single mother who is committed to supporting people because she has gone through a lot and has firsthand experience. Whether it is Aklavik Drum Dance group, the Sing-a-Long group, the Mad Trapper Rendezvous Committee or the Recreation Committee there is always a need for an organizer and someone to seek donations and support that person is Faith.



Harriet Geddes

Deh Cho Region

Harriet understands the ways of the Dene people and the land, she was taught well by her parents. She learned from childhood how to be a good care-giver and has not stopped giving since. She is a role model for keeping tradition and cultural values and knowledge alive. Though she has been through many obstacles on her journey with the ability to help others overcome their grief, health issues and spiritual needs she has become a very powerful advisor. Harriet works tirelessly and effortlessly every day to make a difference for her community. She takes elders to her camp all year round and loves to see how happy they are to spend time on the land. Harriet has offered many workshops around health, abuse, and family violence awareness. Through these and her natural gift as wise woman she has made a difference in so many of women's lives.



**Sister Margaret
(Maggie) Ann
Beaudette**

South Slave Region

Sister Maggie was a teacher for over 38 years, acted as the librarian for the Hay River Dene and has improved many women's lives through her passion for literacy. Even after retirement she has continued to help adults advance their literacy skills. She is involved in many events that benefit the community such as fund-raising for the Soup Kitchen and Women's Centre as well as the Ministerial Christmas musical program. Another passion that Sister follows is music. She not only has a beautiful voice but is the choir director for the church. She also created and directed a children's choir at Chief Sunrise School that was unique as it taught students to take pride in their culture through songs that used their language (Slavey) and working together. Sister Maggie was born to give to those around her and is a light that brings wisdom to those that seek it every day she demonstrates the qualities of kindness, charity and generosity. She is a strong woman who leads by example and reaches out to those in need.



**Patricia
Modeste**

Sahtu Region

Patricia has been involved with community events, volunteering and healthy living for a very long time. She helps women in need either through counselling that is desperately needed or helping with personal needs like food. She helps out with the local church and cooks for women during workshops and gatherings. Patricia is a model worker and a loving family woman with her community at the forefront of her mind; she is always giving back when she can.



Karen Willy
North Slave Region

Karen is a vocal and passionate supporter of women's rights and women's safety. She has volunteered her time and talents as a ghost writer for many campaign's, information sessions, research projects, and presentations. She has helped raise awareness around women's issues, family violence and children with disabilities. This former Delta girl is a voice for those that cannot speak and a power house for justice and adult education. Always willing to help out a friend from the smallest request to the most heartfelt sacrifice, Karen is a model of promises kept and her word is her bond. She is a staple volunteer for all annual events and conferences the Status of Women Council puts on not excluding helping every year with the set up for this very award. Though professionally she has been involved in a lot of her passions most of Karen's advocacy work has been done after hours or through volunteer work.





Anti Poverty

Background

Between 2010 and 2012, the Council participated in three major roundtable consultations held in Yellowknife, Hay River and Inuvik, and contributed to developing a foundation for developing the Anti-Poverty Framework for Action. The meetings included the 2010 No Place for Poverty Workshop, which was organized by Alternatives North and the YWCA in Yellowknife, and two roundtables hosted by the GNWT to develop a territorial anti-poverty strategic framework. The Council participated as a delegate and presenter, promoting gender equity language in the documents, and consistently highlighting poverty issues of particular interest to women and children, such as safe and affordable child care, and addressing family violence.

2013/14

In the past year, the Council has continued to be heavily involved in providing input and feedback to the development of the publication "Building on the Strength of Northerners: A Strategic Framework toward the Elimination of Poverty in the NWT" (June 2013), as well as other supplementary documents produced in the Anti-Poverty strategy process. We have attended all formal meetings.

We participated in the 'Targeting Poverty 2013' Workshop held on October 8th and 9th, which began the work of outlining an Action Plan to implement the Strategic Framework.



We participated in a roundtable consultation in Dettah on November 28th and 29th. At this meeting the GNWT revealed an anti-poverty charter and encouraged all meeting participants to sign to show their willingness to continue work on reducing and eliminating poverty.

On January 14, 2014 the Council met with Minister Abernethy, the lead GNWT Minister for anti-poverty initiatives, to discuss the importance of including equity language in future Anti-Poverty documents. The Minister requested that the Council conduct a language review on the Anti-Poverty Action Plan currently being developed.





Victim's of Crime Awareness Week

Helping Victims Rebuild Workshop Friday, April 26, 2013

Rael Kalley, author of a Canadian best-seller, *Life Sinks or Soars – the Choice is Yours*, presented a one-day course that offered service providers a hands-on approach to planning and goal setting that offers new hope to victims of crime.

Building on the 2012 course 'Moving Forward', this course review the roles, beliefs, choices and habits at play in shaping healthy and unhealthy behavior, and explore the challenges front-line workers face in assisting victims of crime rebuild their lives and adopt healthier lifestyles.

Goal-setting was examined as a key component to facilitate transition. Course participants will learn the skills to assist clients develop well-defined, effective plans toward healthier goals.



**Spruce Gum Gathering in January
to gather for making lip balm**

Traditional Living Workshop February 1st

This workshop focused on traditional aboriginal foods, medicines, cultural stories and their place in the lives of modern aboriginal families. Gathering natural ingredients and preparing country food keeps alive direct links between nature, history and culture. However, when living in a city it is can be challenging to reconnect with the natural world and keep traditions alive. Drawing upon Elders knowledge of traditional practices that they have kept up while living in an urbanized world, participants learned how others have incorporated traditional foods, medicine, aesthetics and their preparation as part of their way of life.

NWT Status of Women Committee

Canadian Heritage Federal Project





Medicine Bag were handed out to all participants and Presenters

A medicine bag is a traditional container for various items that possess healing power. As something that holds powerful items, the medicine bag must also have some power of its own.

The color and fabric serve to protect the spirit of the medicine and "put it to sleep" until it is time to open the bag and "awaken" the helping spirit once more.

The red material of this medicine bag symbolizes a healing energy.

The four stripes represent the four directions:

- White represents north for winter, Elder, intellectual, and is an air element.
- Red represents east for spring, Infancy, physical, earth element.
- Yellow represents the South for summer, Youth, emotional, fire element
- Black represents West for fall, Adult, spiritual, water element.



Contents

Tobacco – is used to pray with first before any other medicine used. It's a plant that is connected most to mother earth and use for praying and offering to that sacred connection to all beings. It is used as a gift of offering to honour the spirit and the connection to mother earth and for a safe journey. Always give offerings of tobacco when picking any medicine.

Cedar bough – is a powerful medicine, a purifier, a protector. It can be used in a variety of ways; bathe in it, smudge to cleanse and protect. It's one of the strongest medicines. Can be placed in entry ways and even worn in shoes for protection. It's more a protection medicine.

Sweet Grass – is a purifier; it's a women's medicine. It's braided to represent the male and female connection. It is used to purify and connect to mother earth. Also it attracts high spiritual beings. It's the best to purify energies.

Spruce Gum Balm – spruce gum is considered the blood of the spruce tree, and it's good for women. Any sap that comes from a tree is considered women's medicine.

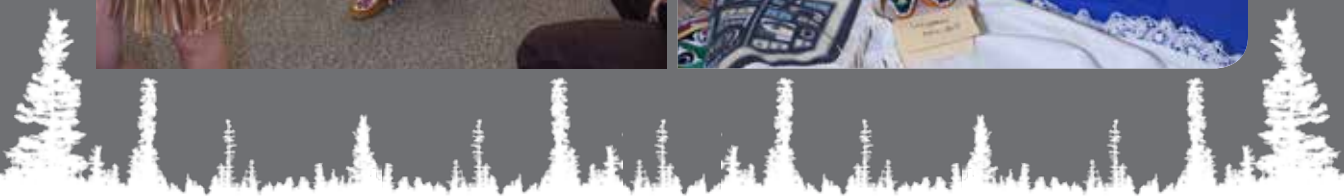
Worry Stone – when rubbed it releases worry/stress and brings about balance, inner peace and a sense of patience and is blessed by the spirits. It should be smudged after holding it or using it. Its power comes from the mother earth.

Celebrating Urban Aboriginal Women March 8th

On March 8th, the Council hosted a celebration to showcase the culinary talents, fabric artistry and traditional knowledge of local Aboriginal women. Guests were invited to come and bring a traditional/local potluck dish to share, and/or a locally made garment to show off. We shared in the food, enjoyed the presentations, and relaxed with friends old and new.

Booklet

A booklet will be created showcasing our project activities and women of the north.





December 6th Vigil

The Council organized the December 6th National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women and Girls. On December 6, 1989, armed with a semi-automatic rifle, ammunition and knives, a man walked through the halls of L'Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal, separating the males from the females, and then proceeded to shoot and kill 14 women while making violent gender-based statements against them. Thirteen others were wounded.

This event marked the 24th anniversary of what came to be known as the Montreal Massacre. Events were held throughout the country to remember the 14 women who were killed and all women who have suffered violence in their lives because they were women. The public joined us in remembering those we have lost and declaring that violence against women will not be tolerated in our community.

This year Lorraine Phaneuf was the MC. There was a blessing from Captain Ruth Gillingham and opening remarks from the Honourable Glen Abernethy. A slide show showing each of the 14 women that were lost was shown while women came up and placed a red rose into a vase. After the slide show was complete, Sandra Lockhart from the Northern Territories Federation of Labour spoke about all the northern women we have lost due to gender violence and about a survey on family violence that is happening country wide. A moment of silence was called for and then Lyda Fuller finished the vigil speaking about a National Action Plan.



Trade Shows & Presentations

- BBQ in the park,
Crime Prevention Week
- Seniors Information Highway
- Tree of Peace Tradeshow,
National Addictions Awareness Week
- Presentation to Nurses on Family
Violence
- Presentation to Dene Nation on
Family Violence
- Presentation to
NWT Seniors Society
- Presentation to Aurora College on
Safer Schools



Committees

- Coalition against Family Violence (Chair)
- Family Violence Awareness Week
(Chair)
- December 6th Vigil (Chair)
- In Dignity Conference Team (Chair)
- NWT Status of Women Committee
(Chair)
- Social Media Campaign for Family
Violence
- Abuser Programming Committee
- Sisters in Spirit Planning Team
- Implementation Steering Committee
for Recommended Actions on Family
Violence
- NWT Abuse of Older Adults Network

Coalition Against Family Violence NWT

The Coalition Against Family Violence is a territorial interagency group that brings together individuals, non-government and government agencies to share information and undertake projects in keeping with the mandate. The Coalition meets once a month; specific project committees also meet at least monthly. The Coalition is chaired and administered by the Status of Women. Minutes and other documents concerning family violence are distributed by email to members. The Status of Women Council NWT chairs subcommittees for annual events. Coalition events often include mail out packages to agencies across the NWT, and an event in Yellowknife.

Coalition Mandate

The Coalition Against Family Violence NWT envisions a peaceful, equitable society where all territorial residents, as individuals, members of families, communities, organizations or governments, are valued, respected, safe and free from abuse and inequalities.

Coalition Purpose

1. To increase awareness of family violence issues for NWT residents.
2. To bring together like-minded people from all sectors of the community to develop, establish and implement specific actions or initiatives to address family violence issues and the needs of those people affected by family violence.
3. To work collectively to reduce the incidence of family violence and to more effectively respond to family violence in the NWT.



NWT Family Violence Report Card

September 2013, First Edition



25



Written and produced by the Coalition Against Family Violence with special thanks to the Status of Women Council of the NWT.

Highlights

- There have been 531 Emergency Protection Orders granted since their inception (2005) to April 2013.
- There were 8 homicides directly related to family violence between 2008 and 2012.
- In 2012 there were 337 incidents of family violence reported where the offender was male, and 71 where the offender was female.

What is the NWT Family Violence Report Card?

This report card is a snap shot of how our community has been responding to family violence. In time, it will be a way to document, measure and compare community responses to family violence against responses in previous years. For now this document reflects the current state of family violence in the NWT as of September 2013. This baseline data will provide us with a means of comparing changes in the area of family violence in the NWT over time.

This Report Card is not the answer to ending family violence in the NWT, but a tool to increase opportunities to review public policy, share knowledge and help form new policies. With this tool we can better identify actions and changes needed to further the development of strategies on how to make northern families violence free and healthy.

Report Card Recommendations

There is certainly no quick fix for issues around family violence in the NWT. The impact of family violence on the community is far-reaching. We must remain committed to the work we are currently doing and look at ways to engage the community, industry and all levels of government to help in the fight to eradicate family violence.

Some of the ways that we recommend are:

- Raise awareness of the problem of family violence and establish social norms that makes violence unacceptable.
- Connect community residents to services and programs in an equitable way so that all residents have the same level of service.
- Change social and community attitudes and behaviors that contribute to violence.
- Build networks of leaders within communities that stand up against family violence.
- Hold services and institutions accountable to addressing community needs.

Violence
Not part of our cultures



No place in our lives

Coalition Against Family Violence NWT

For a copy of the NWT Family Violence Report Card or make suggestions for the next report card please contact the Coalition Against Family Violence, care of the Status of Women Council of the NWT. You can download a copy on our website at www.statusofwomen.nt.ca/familyviolence.htm

Activities This Year

- The Coalition Against Family Violence meets once a month to work on family violence issues in the NWT.
- Administration and networking is done by the Status of Women Council NWT.
- A Family Violence Report Card was launched publicly and presented to government and appropriate agencies.
- Training for Coalition members continues this year and is a focus of interest to the members.
- On Demand – Dignity Bags for all NWT Shelters have been created and are mailed from the Status of Women Council NWT office.



Family Violence Awareness Week (FVAW) 2013

The focus of this year's week was on what community members could do to help end family violence. The slogan was "It's EVERYONE'S Business, What Will YOU Do?" There was a main target of four sectors of the community (business, faith, sports and media). At the launch the Honorable J. Michael Miltenberger addressed this year's theme with guest speaker Reverend Chris Williams, a community member and retired Anglican Bishop. A very compelling PSA clip "Children See, Children Do" was shown with a small warning given to the crowd warning that the clip was very emotional. Several other events in Yellowknife included the Take Back the Night March, and the Sisters in Spirit Vigil.

To launch and raise awareness of FVAW in communities there was an advertising campaign done by radio, newspaper, radio interviews, Facebook, Twitter, community calendars, posters and cable TV ads over a three week period. So far social media and word of mouth are the most effective ways to attract people to events. We provided additional media support for two events happening during that week in Yellowknife and also provided information regarding events happening in other communities.



Resource Kit and Mail Out

Information packages contained safety planning and information (Emergency Protection Orders) for individuals living in violent environments. The kit also contained tools and promotional items that community organizers could use to hold awareness and prevention activities/events. This year the committee developed targeted sheets that spoke to each area of the community. There was one for business, faith, sports and media. We also developed ready-to-use presentations that people could request. A report from BC called "Domestic Violence Response: A Community Framework for Maximizing Women's Safety" was also in the kit. Lastly, a small booklet called "What I Can Do to Help End Family Violence" was created.

Small Grants (\$1,000)

This year the committee decided to build on the last three years of success and send out small grants of \$1,000 to communities of the NWT that apply and help them with their events. We received funding inquiries and managed to fund nine communities in the NWT. The results we received were very positive and everyone who applied would like to see this fund offered to them again in the future. The grants were awarded to the following communities:

1. Inuvik
2. Paulatuk
3. Tuktoyaktuk
4. Fort Good Hope
5. Fort Liard
6. Fort McPherson
7. Fort Providence
8. Fort Resolution
9. Tsiigehtchic

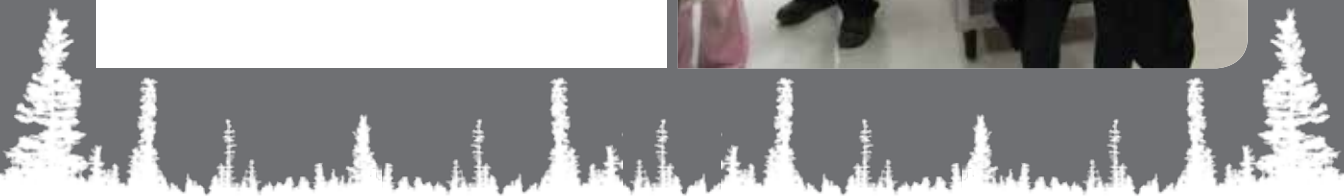
Unfortunately three communities that applied were not able to receive a grant due to lack of funding, but all were encouraged to apply next year with their ideas. The funding is supplied on a first come first serve basis with a few conditions that the event must meet. We did have one organization that applied that was denied because the proposal did not meet the criteria.

Additional Materials

A poster/insert was developed that focused on several areas of a community and what each person could do depending on what position they held in their community. The front of the poster was an interactive "yes or no" quiz offering suggestions as to what someone might do when helping someone who is experiencing violence. On the back of the poster was contact information for all RCMP, Family Violence Crisis Lines, Victim Services and other supports someone may wish to contact if they are in need of information or help. The contact for EPO's was also provided. The poster was distributed in the News/North, during the launch and was included in all resource packages. Promotional items such as window stickers and buttons were purchased and distributed as advertising and during the week's events. They were also sent out to communities upon request. This year we have received the highest level of response from communities requesting more promotional items and written materials than any other year, with a particular uptake from the faith community.

Additional Support Provided to:

- Yellowknife
- Fort Simpson
- Tuktoyaktuk
- Fort Providence
- Norman Wells
- Fort Smith
- Hay River
- Hay River Reserve
- Fort Good Hope
- Paulatuk
- Fort Resolution
- Fort Laird
- Tsiigehtchic
- Inuvik
- N'Dilo/Dettah
- Norman Wells
- The Arctic Diocese
- Wallaceburg, Ontario





Take Back the Night - September 30, 2013

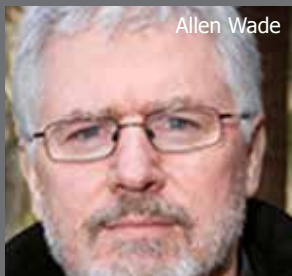
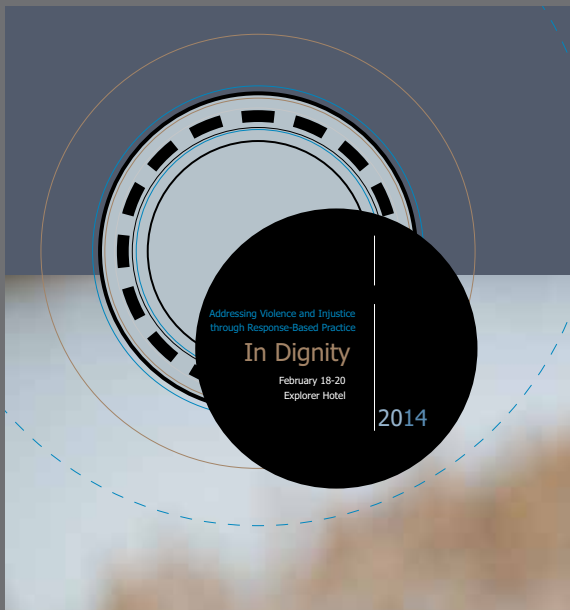
Continuing from previous years of success the committee agreed to have the Take Back the Night March the same evening as the launch. The build up throughout the day allows for individuals to dedicate their time to either of the events, or both, making the turn out for the March much larger than the launch itself. We had over 200 people marching to end violence in Yellowknife. The March started at Sombe K'e Plaza with an address from the Honourable Dennis Bevington (Member of Parliament, Western Arctic) and then from his Worship Mark Heyck (Yellowknife Mayor). Then Gail Cyr (Coalition Member) led the March as chant leader over to the RCMP and the group heard from Greg Towler (RCMP). At the Post Office where Victim Services is housed Yasemin Heyck (Victim Services Volunteer) spoke of their program and the need for more volunteers. From there the crowd gained a new chant leader (Arayah Hudson, Student, Mildred Hall, age 10) and marched to the alley behind the Gold Range where Cheryl Fountain (community advocate & concerned citizen) spoke to her experience of being attacked on the street that year with her daughter. Finally we ended at the Holy Trinity Church with an address from Melissa May (On Eagle's Wings) and a thank you from Lorraine Phaneuf (Co-Chair for Coalition). City By-Law, in partnership with the White Ribbon Campaign supporters, helped keep the marchers safe and on the right side from traffic during the event. Many people came early to collect flags and placards to march in solidarity.

Addressing Violence Through a Response-Based Practice: In Dignity Conference 2014

In May 2013 Northerners attended training in Calgary around response-based practice. The training was so inspiring they needed to bring it to the Northwest Territories (NWT) to benefit more individuals working to prevent violence. The training addressed violence and injustice through a response-based approach, paying particular attention to language and positive and negative social responses. Through an eight-member partnership, a northern version of the Calgary conference was rolled out over three days in Yellowknife on February 18-20, 2014. The partnership was spearheaded by the Status of Women Council of the NWT and YWCA Yellowknife, and involved the Coalition Against Family Violence, Centre for Response-Based Practice, Growing Together, NWT Justice, NWT Seniors' Society, and RCMP 'G' Division.

The conference featured 17 presenters with 12 sessions, and almost 150 people participated. The presenters were response-based practitioners in the private, academic, First Nations, government, and community sectors. Participants came from throughout the NWT. They work on the front-line and in policy positions in community justice, education, women's, corrections, policing, wellness, home care, social, health, and victim services.

The conference was hosted by the Status of Women Council of the NWT and moderated by Lois Little, Lutra Associates Ltd. and received very positive feedback from the evaluations.



Allen Wade



Shelly Bonnah



Cathy Richardson



Linda Coates

Evaluation of Conference

Seventy-one participants completed evaluations. Eighty-nine percent or more of participants said that the training conference met their expectations, shared helpful information, and helped them to acquire new skills and knowledge. So many elements of the conference impacted participants but the use of stories and real-life experiences and examples were particularly influential. Learning about the power of language also had a tremendous impact.

Participants took away a diverse array of messages and learnings including new insights and ways of looking at their own methods and approaches. Many are excited about the potential of response-based practice to upend old ways of intervening in violence and to empower victims. Most participants plan to share and apply their learning and remain conscious of human resistance and the need to preserve dignity.

Suggestions for improving the conference were mainly focused on eliminating disturbances from a neighboring gathering; more attention to participant interaction and needs; and greater emphasis on plain language in some of the more complex presentations. To follow-up on the training conference, information sharing, networking, and smaller education and training sessions were suggested.

The presenters, sponsors, and organizations were lauded for putting on a great conference.



Lissa Samantaraya-Shivji



Gillian Weaver-Dunlop



Renee-Claude Carrier



Barbara McInerney

We Want Your Opinion

The Council will be seeking further funding in order to continue this training. Though we do not have funding now we want to make sure when applying for funds that we are asking for things that will work best for service providers to access and retain the information. This could be anything from workbooks and/or webinars to another conference and/or workshops. If you have any ideas on what makes you remember training please let us know either by email council@statusofwomen.nt.ca or phoning toll free at 1.888.234.4485

Consultations

Face to Face Meeting

Meeting with Regional NWT Status of Women Council Board Members and the Minister for Status of Women Board of Directors meets with the premier bi annually to ask questions concerning women in their regions and discuss issues concerning women in NWT

GNWT Minister meeting with Honorable Glen Abernethy – Anti-Poverty to include equity lens

As the GNWT works towards developing a territorial Anti-Poverty Strategy, the Status of Women Council of the NWT has actively lobbied the Minister Responsible to ensure that gender issues are given fair consideration.

Recommendations/Outcomes

33

Areas of Discussion & Inquiries Include

1. Approaches on prevention and awareness for Violence Against Women and ways of addressing recommendations from the Family Violence Report Card
2. Child apprehensions and apprehensions at birth/looking at protocols and understanding issues and concerns around apprehensions
3. Equity placed as an integral piece within the anti-poverty strategy. How can we work together to include an equity lens in the continued work on anti poverty?
4. Campaign Schools for Women - funding
5. Collaborative ways of working together
6. Rape Kits accessibility, availability and protocols
7. SFA and Childcare Subsidies – Gaps

Discussions

In addition to highlighting issues of concern to women in the NWT, the Council is has urged the Minister to ensure the concept of equity be included in the final Strategy. The Minister committed to sharing our concerns with his Advisory Committee and recommend that they meet with us early in their mandate. This commitment was fulfilled. The Minister further committed to allowing the Council to conduct a language review of the Strategy before final editing.



**Submission to GNWT
Department of Justice
Residential Tenancies Act (RTA)–
Summary of Suggested Amendments**

Recommendations

Full submission is available on our website at www.statusofwomen.nt.ca/publications.htm

Federal Senator Assistant Meeting

Council strives to improve services for women of a federal component by meeting with federal government to discuss gaps and services

Recommendations for Consideration

1. Improved processes for federal funding and reporting
2. National Action Plan on Violence Against Women
3. National Childcare Strategy

Consultation

CBC 150th birthday for Canada

Areas of Discussion

1. Local planning for the 150th birthday celebration
2. Ways of incorporating local talent and expertise for the festivities
3. Keeping our northern culture in community planning

Roundtable Discussions

Honorable Peter McKay Federal Department of Justice –

Areas of Discussion

Victims Bill of Rights Consultation

1. Concerns from front line workers
2. Concerns of victims
3. Ideas and solutions for the Victims Bill of Rights

Meeting

NWT Coroner Cathy Menard

Areas of Discussion

- Ways of working together on a social media campaign for family violence
- Exploring ways of recognizing and analyzing the impact of family violence as it pertains to homicides in the NWT



Annual Meeting

Coalition of Provincial and Territorial Advisory Councils for Status of Women
Discussions on federal/provincial and territorial issues facing women and girls in Canada

Recommendation

Joint recommendation to lobby that all jurisdictions request their ministers to bring forth to the table at the ministers meeting a National Strategy for Violence Against Women and Girls

Consultation

Dr. Anne Tyrie, Associate Professor
University of Calgary

Areas of Discussion Promotion of Women in Trades

- Best Practices from Women Mining and Oil and Gas Projects
- Project to engage women in nontraditional occupations pre-recruitment, training and retention in employment

Panel Discussion

Safer Schools panel discussion at Aurora College

Areas of Discussion

Information on services available to students if a crime or assault has happened
Information on counselling and other services available at the college



GNWT Department of Justice – Rape Kits

It was brought to the attention of the Council that the availability of rape kits across our territory, the type of rape kits currently in inventory, and the protocols surrounding the use of these rape kits were in need of review. We have been working with the Department of Justice and the Department of Health and Social Services to identify the current deficiencies, and have offered our assistance in developing and implementing expeditious solutions.

Inquiries on Rape Kits

1. What is the current protocol for administering rape kits in the various regions?
2. What policies are in place regarding the decision about when it is appropriate to have a rape kit administered?
3. What training will there be for building new community capacity to sustain new protocol/policies?
4. What training is available and/or required for community nurses regarding dealing with victims of sexual assault?
5. As of January 1, 2013, how many rape kits were in inventory
 - i. in each RCMP detachment in the NWT
 - ii. at each health centre in the NWT

Stakeholders meeting to discuss issues of immigration and economic prosperity

The Northwest Territories has a large and diverse immigrant population. In Yellowknife alone, with a population of approximately 20,000 people, we have first-generation immigrants (foreign-born) from 110 countries. The Council has held initial consultations with local organizations providing services to immigrant women, including the local federal Immigration Officer, Aurora College (which offers English language assessment, language training and other support services to immigrants), Federation franco-tenoise (which offers French language assessment, language training and other support services to immigrants), and the YWCA (offering transitional housing to many immigrant women.

Areas of Concerns

We have established that concern exists among service providers for the well-being in particular for women immigrants. Many are brought over as spouses once their husbands have secured work and have themselves become somewhat established in the Northwest Territories. Due to many reasons, including cultural differences, lack of childcare and differing language requirements for spouses, many immigrant women in the Northwest Territories live in isolation and are wholly dependent on their husbands financially, and for any contact with people and services and organizations outside the home. Reaching these women and developing strategies for addressing the integration barriers they face is critical to ensuring their prosperity in our territory.

Stakeholders meeting to discuss issues of Aboriginal women fleeing violence and economic prosperity

We have held initial formal and informal consultations with local organizations providing services to women affected by violence, including Community Justice/Victim Services (Government of the Northwest Territories - GNWT- Department of Justice), Community Wellness and Social Services (GNWT Department of Health & Social Services), the NWT Senior's Society, Yellowknife YWCA and front-line shelter workers.

Areas of Concern

Urgent action is required, but the form and focus of the most effective action is not clearly understood. While we recognize that some highly effective programs and services are available to women in our territory, we note also that key services are not available to all women. Too often, women that are at the highest risk have the least resources available to them in their community to help them avert crises.

The high frequency and staggering level of violence against women in the Northwest Territories is costing the territory in innumerable ways and urgently needs to be addressed. In the Northwest Territories, violence against women and related gender inequality are exacerbated by numerous factors, including the fact that northern women tend to have more children at a younger age, they experience higher rates of poverty, homelessness and overcrowding, and suffer from substance abuse and other mental health issues at rates significantly higher than women in other parts of Canada. Availability and affordability of quality childcare services are also major issues, as is the fact that single mothers earn substantially less than single fathers, despite higher average education levels.

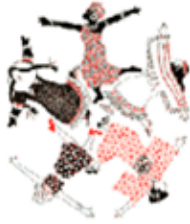


**Status of Women Council
of the Northwest Territories
Yellowknife, NT**

**Financial Statements
March 31, 2014**

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Status of Women Council of the N.W.T.

P.O. Box 1320, Yellowknife, NWT X1A 2L9

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The accompanying financial statements of the Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories are the responsibility of the management and have been approved by the directors.

The financial statements have been prepared by the management in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for the public sector and include some amounts that are necessarily based on management's best estimates and judgment. Financial information presented elsewhere in the annual report is consistent with that contained in the financial statements.

The Council maintains systems in internal accounting and administrative controls of high quality, consistent with reasonable cost. Such systems are designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial information is relevant, reliable and accurate and that the Council's assets are appropriately accounted for and adequately safeguarded.

The directors are responsible for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibilities for financial reporting and are ultimately responsible for reviewing and approving the financial statements. The directors carry out this responsibility principally through review of the annual budgets, comparison of actual results to budgets on a periodic basis, approval of the financial statements, and engagement of the external auditor.

The auditor annually provides an independent, objective audit for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.

Lorraine Phaneuf
Executive Director

Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
June 27, 2014



Independent Auditor's Report

To the Directors of Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories

I have audited the statement of financial statements of The Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories, which comprise the statements of financial position as at March 31 2014, and the statements of operations, changes in net financial assets, and cash flows for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's responsibility for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audits. I conducted my audits in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparations and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

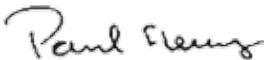
Opinion

In my opinion these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories as at March 31, 2014, and the results of its operations, changes in net financial assets, and cash flows for the years ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Other matter

As required by the Financial Administration Act of the Northwest Territories, I report that, in my opinion, the accounting principles in Canadian public sector accounting standards have been applied.

Further in my opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories and the financial statements are in agreement therewith. In addition, the transactions of the Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories that have come to my notice during my audits of the financial statements have, in all significant respects, been in accordance with Part 1X of the Financial Administration Act of the Northwest Territories and regulations; the Status of Women Council Act (Act) and regulations; the by-laws of the Council; and any directives issued to the Council by the Minister under the FAA or the Act.

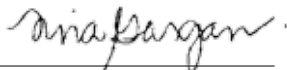


Paul Fleury, CGA
Yellowknife, NWT
June 27, 2014

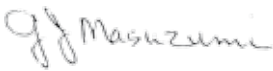
**Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories
Statement of Financial Position
as at March 31, 2014**

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Financial assets		
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 4)	\$ 183,089	\$ 92,145
Accounts receivable (Note 5)	5,554	51,859
	188,643	144,004
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	52,205	\$ 10,455
Vacation payable	19,776	18,661
Employee deductions payable	1,704	1,384
Benefits Fund (Note 6)	38,261	38,159
Contingency Fund (Note 7)	42,772	42,657
	154,718	111,316
Net financial assets	33,925	32,688
Non-financial assets		
Capital Assets -Council	4,040	2,213
-Projects	1,126	1,608
	5,166	3,821
Accumulated Surplus	\$ 39,091	\$ 36,509

Approved on behalf of the Board



President



Board Member

The accompanying notes and supplementary schedules are an integral part of the financial statements.

**Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories
Statement of Operations
For the year ended March 31, 2014**

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
REVENUE		
Contributions		
Government of the NWT	\$ 437,500	\$ 419,150
Government of Canada	57,046	159,296
Other Revenue		
Administration fees & miscellaneous	34,022	2,825
Contributed Rent	70,870	70,870
	599,438	652,141
EXPENDITURES		
Wages and Benefits	275,961	302,412
Professional development, staff	650	2,910
Contracted Services	37,533	44,670
Courses purchased	-	17,086
Participants support	200	1,369
Honoraria	5,525	6,850
Books, videos, subscriptions	150	1,139
Office supplies & photocopies	26,188	12,068
Supplies and workshops	7,593	17,361
Travel	31,009	38,601
Food service special events	45,725	10,250
Facility rental	16,452	10,352
Contributed rent	70,870	70,870
Bank charges	1,204	876
Audit, Legal and accounting	10,139	8,159
Advertising	29,670	8,576
Meetings and conferences	1,102	4,391
Dues & fees	3,476	3,430
Telephone, fax, internet & website	8,284	6,524
Postage & courier	4,882	6,122
Design & printing	10,066	11,682
Project management	8,700	65,221
Amortization	632	891
Administration fees	2,822	2,375
Bad debts	-	655
	598,833	654,840
EXCESS REVENUE (EXPENDITURE)	\$ 605	\$ (2,699)

The accompanying notes and supplementary schedules are integral part of the financial statements

**Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories
Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets
for the year ended March 31, 2014**

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Annual (deficit) surplus	\$ 605	\$ (2,699)
Effect of change in tangible capital assets		
Amortization of tangible Capital assets	632	891
Increase (decrease) in net financial assets	1,237	(1,808)
Net financial assets at Beginning of year	32,688	34,496
Net financial assets at end of year	\$ 33,925	\$ 32,688

The accompanying notes and supplementary schedules are an integral part of the financial statements

**Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories
Statement of Cash Flows
for the year ended March 31, 2014**

	2014	2013
Operating Activities		
Excess revenue/ (expenditure)	\$ 605	\$ (2,699)
Interest earned	218	633
Amortization	632	891
Accounts receivable	46,305	(8,652)
Payables	43,184	(47,179)
Funding refundable	-	(21,246)
	90,944	(78,252)
Investing Activities - Capital Assets	-	-
Change in cash position	90,944	(78,252)
Cash position, beginning of year	92,145	170,397
Cash position, end of year	183,089	92,145
Represented by		
Petty cash	\$ -	300
Cash in Bank	90,276	\$ (750)
Guaranteed investment certificates	92,813	92,595
	\$ 183,089	\$ 92,145

The accompanying notes and supplementary schedules are an integral part of the financial statements

**Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories
Notes to Financial Statements
March 31, 2014**

1. AUTHORITY AND MANDATE

The Council was established by the consolidation of *Status of Women Council Act*, S.N.W.T. 1990(1).c.6. that was proclaimed in force on April 4, 1990 by SJ-006-90 by the Government of the Northwest Territories.

The objectives of the Council are:

- a) to develop public awareness of issues affecting the status of women;
- b) to promote a change in attitudes within the community in order that women may enjoy equality;
- c) to encourage discussion and expression of opinion by residents of the Northwest Territories on issues affecting the status of women;
- d) to advise the Minister on issues that the Minister may refer to the council for consideration;
- e) to review policies and legislation affecting women and to report its findings to the relevant government departments or agencies;
- f) to provide assistance to the Minister in promoting changes to ensure the attainment of equality of women; and
- g) to provide the appropriate assistance to organizations and groups whose objectives promote the equality of women.

The Council may:

- a) receive and hear submissions and suggestions from individuals and groups concerning the status of women;
- b) research matters relating to the status of women;
- c) suggest research areas in relation to matters relating to the status of women that may be studied by any interested persons;
- d) recommend and participate in programs concerning the status of women;
- e) recommend legislation, policies and practices to improve the equality of opportunity for women and to improve the status of women;
- f) publish any reports, studies or recommendations that the Council considers advisable;
- g) present reports to the Minister to be laid before the Legislative Assembly;
- h) contract and be contracted in the name of the Council; and
- i) make bylaws to regulate the affairs of the Council.

**Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories
Notes to Financial Statements
March 31, 2014**

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards ("PSAS") as established by the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants.

a) Financial Instruments

The Status of Women Council has reported Financial Instruments as per the requirements of Section 3450 of the Public Sector Accounting Standards Handbook.

b) Measurement Uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with PSAS requires the Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses reported in the financial statements.

By their nature, these estimates are subject to measurement uncertainty. At the time of preparation of these statements, the Council believes the estimates and assumptions to be reasonable. Some of the more significant management estimates relate to amortization, non-monetary transactions, and revenue accruals.

c) Tangible Capital Assets

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost. Tangible capital assets are amortized following the declining balance method at the following annual rates.

Equipment	20%
Computers	30%

d) Employee future benefits

Employees are entitled to severance benefits, as provided under labour contracts and conditions of employment, based upon years of service. The benefits are paid upon resignation, retirement or death of an employee.

The cost of severance benefits are recorded as expenses in the year paid.

**Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories
Notes to Financial Statements
March 31, 2014**

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

e) Government contributions

Contributions from the Government of the Northwest Territories represent the source of funding for the Council's operating expenses. Contributions received for operating expenses are recognized as revenues in the fiscal year to which they relate.

f) Government contributions-services received without charge.

The Government of the Northwest Territories provided the Council with office premises. The estimated value of these rental premises are recognized as expenses with an offsetting credit to revenues in order to reflect the full cost of the Council's operations in the financial statements.

g) General revenues

Administrative fees, donations, interest income and other miscellaneous income are recognized on an accrual basis as they are earned.

h) Project income and deferred project income

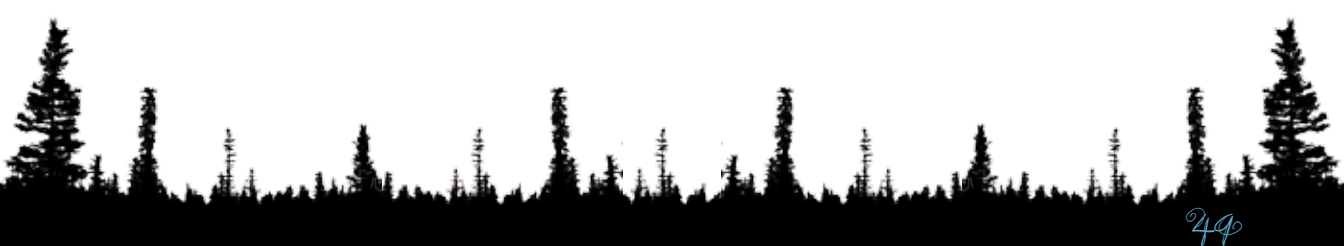
The Council receives contributions from the Government of The Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada for the delivery of projects. Payments received under these contributions for the delivery of projects which are not completed are recorded as deferred project income.

i) Contract services

Contract services acquired by the Council are recognized as expenses in the year the services are rendered.

j) Contingent liabilities

A contingent liability is a potential liability which may become an actual liability when one or more future events occur or fail to occur. To the extent that the future event is likely to occur or fail to occur, and a reasonable estimate of the loss can be made, an estimated liability is accrued and an expense recorded. If the likelihood is not determinable or an amount cannot be reasonably estimated, the contingency is disclosed in the notes to the financial statements



**Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories
Notes to Financial Statements**

March 31, 2014

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

k) Prepaid expenses

Prepaid expenses are charged to expenses over the periods expected to benefit from them.

l) Funds and reserves

Certain amounts, as approved by the Board, are set aside in accumulated surplus for future operating and capital purposes. Transfers to and from funds and reserves are an adjustment to the respective fund when approved.

m) Income taxes

The Council is exempt from income taxes under section 149(1) (e) of the Income Tax Act.

3. FUTURE ACCOUNTING CHANGES

Liability for Contaminated Sites, Section PS 3260

PSAB released Section PS 3260-Liability for Contaminated Sites. This new Section establishes recognition, measurement and disclosure standards relating to contaminated sites of those organizations applying the CICA Public Sector Accounting Handbook.

This section is effective for fiscal periods beginning on or after April 1, 2014.

The Status of Women Council does not own any property and is therefore not affected by this Section

Government Transfers, Section 3410

Section 3410 applies to years beginning on or after April 1, 2015 with earlier adoption permitted. The Status of Women Council has not yet adopted this section. Adoption of Section 3410 is not expected to have an impact on the entity.

**Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories
Notes to Financial Statements**

March 31, 2014

4. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash balances are made up as follows:

	2014	2013
Petty Cash	\$ -	\$ 300
Cash	90,276	14
Guaranteed Investment Certificate	92,813	92,581
Bank overdraft	-	(750)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 183,086</u>	<u>\$ 92,145</u>

5. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Project income Government of Canada	\$ 4,985	\$ 51,859
Other	569	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total accounts receivables	<u>\$ 5,554</u>	<u>\$ 51,859</u>

6. BENEFITS FUND

The Council, under its amended contribution agreement, is allowed to create a Maternity and Parental Leave Benefit Fund, using 100% of its annual unexpended core contribution to a maximum of \$ 40,000.00.

Information about the fund is as follows:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Benefits Fund, beginning of year	\$ 38,159	\$ 37,860
Interest earned	102	299
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Benefits Fund, end of year	<u>\$ 38,261</u>	<u>\$ 38,159</u>

**Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories
Notes to Financial Statements**

March 31, 2014

7. CONTINGENCY FUND

The Council created a contingency fund to protect against funding cutbacks.

Information about the fund is as follows:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Benefits Fund, beginning of year	\$ 42,657	\$ 42,323
Interest earned	115	334
Benefits Fund, end of year	<u>\$ 42,772</u>	<u>\$ 42,657</u>

8. TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS- ASSOCIATION

March 31, 2014	Furniture	Projector	Computer	Total
Cost				
Opening balance	\$ 2,412	\$ 1,125	\$ 28,721	\$ 32,258
Additions	2,459	-	-	2,459
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Closing balance	<u>\$ 4,871</u>	<u>\$ 1,125</u>	<u>\$ 28,721</u>	<u>\$ 34,717</u>
Accumulated amortization				
Opening balance	2,088	855	27,102	30,045
Amortization	65	81	486	632
Closing balance	<u>2,153</u>	<u>936</u>	<u>27,588</u>	<u>30,677</u>
Net book value	<u>\$ 2,718</u>	<u>\$ 189</u>	<u>\$ 1,133</u>	<u>\$ 4,040</u>

March 31, 2013	Furniture	Projector	Computer	Total
Cost				
Opening balance	\$ 2,412	\$ 1,125	\$ 28,721	\$ 32,258
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Closing balance	<u>\$ 2,412</u>	<u>\$ 1,125</u>	<u>\$ 28,721</u>	<u>\$ 32,258</u>
Accumulated amortization				
Opening balance	2,007	739	26,408	29,154
Amortization	81	116	694	891
Closing balance	<u>2,088</u>	<u>855</u>	<u>27,102</u>	<u>30,045</u>
Net book value	<u>\$ 324</u>	<u>\$ 270</u>	<u>\$ 1,619</u>	<u>\$ 2,213</u>

**Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories
Notes to Financial Statements**

March 31, 2014

9. TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS-PROJECTS

March 31, 2014	Computer
Cost	
Opening balance	\$ 13,664
Additions	-
Disposals	-
Closing balance	<u>\$ 13,664</u>
 Accumulated amortization	
Opening balance	12,056
Amortization	<u>482</u>
Closing balance	<u>12,538</u>
Net book value	<u><u>\$ 1,126</u></u>

March 31, 2013	Computer
Cost	
Opening balance	\$ 13,664
Additions	-
Disposals	-
Closing balance	<u>\$ 13,664</u>
 Accumulated amortization	
Opening balance	11,367
Amortization	<u>689</u>
Closing balance	<u>12,056</u>
Net book value	<u><u>\$ 1,608</u></u>

10. ACCUMULATED SURPLUS

	2014	2013
Balance, opening April 1, 2012	\$ 36,509	\$ 39,897
Operating surplus (deficit)	605	(2,699)
Capital asset addition	2,459	-
Amortization tangible capital assets - projects	(482)	(689)
Balance, closing	<u>\$ 39,091</u>	<u>\$ 36,509</u>

**Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories
Notes to Financial Statements**

March 31, 2014

11. GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

	2014	2013
Operating contributions	\$ 379,000	\$ 368,000
Project contributions	115,546	210,446
Services received without charges	70,870	70,870
	<u>\$ 565,416</u>	<u>\$ 649,316</u>

12. RELATED PARTIES

The Council receives contributions from the Government.

Accounts Receivable

	2014	2013
Accounts receivable (Note 5)	<u>\$ 5,554</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

Expenses

Under the terms of administrative agreements, the Government charges for certain support services provided to the Council. The Council reimbursed the Government \$4,643 for Mail Service.

Services received without charges

During the year, the Council operated in office premises provided free of charge by the Government of the Northwest Territories. This service has been valued at \$ 70,870 for the year ended March 31, 2014.

13. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Management is not aware of any contingent liabilities outstanding against the Status of Women Council

14. COMMITMENTS

The Council is committed to office equipment leases of \$ 1,904.30 per quarter. Remaining payments on this lease amount to \$ 32,373.10.

**Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories
Revenue And Expenditure
Period Ending March 31, 2014**

Schedule A

	Core Budget	Core Actual
REVENUE		
GNWT - Core Funding	379,000	379,000
Service Revenue		1,822
Contributed Rent		70,870
	379,000	451,692
EXPENSE		
*Wages & Benefits	290,604	274,291
Professional Development - Staff	3,000	650
Professional Development - Board	4,500	-
Facilitators /Contractors	1,600	2,001
Honoraria	7,500	5,525
Books	700	-
Office Supplies	8,900	11,728
Equipment Rental	-	9,710
Travel Council Directors	14,600	-
Travel Community Worker	3,000	-
Travel F/P/T	5,400	24,887
Bank Charges	800	1,204
Audit	9,000	9,300
Advertising & Promotion	7,806	10,610
Telephone & Fax	5,600	6,262
Postage , Courier , mail service	5,500	3,163
Meeting Expenses/Conference Fees	-	715
Food Service Special Events	1,490	4,048
Materials, Resources/Subscriptions	-	2,409
Workshop Expenses	-	2,807
Design & Printing	3,500	2,979
Computer Services and Internet	5,500	2,559
Amortization	-	632
Facility Rental	-	4,254
Contributed Rent	-	70,870
	379,000	450,604
NET INCOME (DEFICIENCY)	\$ 0	\$ 1,088

**Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories
Revenue And Expenditure
Period Ending March 31, 2014**

Schedule B

	Donations	Family Violence		FV Educational Series
REVENUE				
GNWT - HSS	-	10,000		-
GNWT - Justice (Victims Assistance Fund)	-	13,500		15,000
GNWT - Executive	-	5,000		-
Service Revenue	-	-		1,500
Donations, Events Grants	700	-		-
Miscellaneous Revenues	-	-		30,000
	700	28,500		46,500
EXPENSE				
Office supplies - Small Equipment	-	434		-
Research / Contract Fees	-	-		15,000
Design and Printing	-	5,836		-
Project Management	-	8,700		-
Advertising and promotion	179	9,550		-
Telecommunications	-	577		-
Postage and Courier	-	180		-
Mail Service	-	1,540		-
Materials, Resources,/Subscriptions	105	-		-
Workshop Expenses	234	-		197
Food Services-Special Events	400	300		32,000
Administration Fees	-	1,500		-
	918	28,617		47,197
NET INCOME (DEFICIENCY)	-\$ 218	-\$ 117	-\$ 697	

**Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories
Revenue And Expenditure
Period Ending March 31, 2014**

Schedule C

	Leadership Workshops	NWT Status of Women Committee	Victim Awareness Week
REVENUE			
Dept of Justice Canada	-	-	7,196
Canadian Heritage	-	49,850	-
GNWT - Executive	15,000	-	-
	15,000	49,850	7,196
EXPENSE			
Office supplies - Small Equipment	1,100	12,928	-
Design and Printing	312	591	349
Advertising and promotion	2,833	5,488	1,010
Accommodation - General	-	-	541
Travel - General	5,582	-	-
Salaries and wages	-	-	1,670
Materials, Resources/Subscriptions	-	449	-
Telecommunications	-	1,028	417
Workshop Expenses	-	810	907
Computer Services	-	742	-
Meeting Expenses	-	387	-
Research and Contract Fees	-	20,871	500
Facility Rental	-	1,535	-
Equipment Rental	-	952	-
Food Service-Special Events	4,426	2,747	1,802
Awards & Gifts and Hospitality	200	-	-
Administration fees	-	1,322	-
	14,453	49,850	7,196
NET INCOME (DEFICIENCY)	\$ 547	\$ -	\$ -

Equality



Equality implies that everyone starts off at the same level and is treated the same way regardless of their life's circumstances.

Equality doesn't always mean fairness.

Equity



Equity acknowledges that some may have more or different obstacles to overcome and looks at the end results being the same.

Equity equals equality and fairness.