

Aboriginal Healing Foundation



*1999
Annual
Report*

**Dedicated to those Aboriginal people
who attended Residential Schools,
their families and descendants...**



**...and to those who lost their lives as a result
of the Legacy of Physical and Sexual Abuse
arising from the Residential School system.**

Aboriginal Healing Foundation 1999 Annual Report

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



On behalf of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation we are pleased to provide this Annual Report, which covers our activities from the creation of the Foundation on April 1, 1998 to September 13, 1999.

As the following report shows, a great deal of work was undertaken and completed over the course of the year.

We would like, at the outset, to thank all of those people who have participated in the work of the Foundation during this time: Survivors, External Merit Review Panel members, Elders and, last but certainly not least, the Staff. Your dedication and hard work is appreciated.

We extend our gratitude to John Amagoalik, Charlene Belleau, Pitseolak (Janet Brewster), Maggie Hodgson, Ann Meekitjuk-Hanson, Debbie Reid and Gene Rheume, past Board members who have moved on to other challenges. We appreciate your tireless efforts and unwavering commitment to the healing of our peoples. Finally, we acknowledge the officials of the various Canadian Government departments who were instrumental in helping us establish the Foundation.

The mission of the Foundation is to encourage and support Aboriginal people in building and reinforcing sustainable healing processes that address the legacy of physical and sexual abuse in the residential school system, including intergenerational impacts. We have four years to spend or commit the money entrusted to us. Survivors have told us to get those funds flowing to the communities as quickly as possible. We have been driven by that need and have acted accordingly.

We set out, early last year, a number of specific objectives for our first year of operation. These objectives include: the selection of a Board of Directors, consultation with Survivors and Survivor organizations, the establishment of core documents (Program Handbook, Ethics Guideline and Framework for Project Evaluation), the establishment of a base of operations in Ottawa, organizational develop-

ment including the hiring of staff (90% of whom are Aboriginal), the development of supporting infrastructure (databases, funding and financial software), the establishment of investment policies in keeping with the requirements of our Funding Agreement with the Canadian government, the adoption of a Mission, Vision and Values Statement, and the development of funding proposal criteria based on input from Survivors.

We achieved those objectives and more: the establishment of a Proposal Development Assistance Fund, the completion of 18 information sessions across the country, the establishment of a new communications and identity program, and most importantly, the completion of the first funding cycle through which \$19.4 million has already been approved with a total of \$50 million projected for the first call.

We launched our first Call for Proposals on December 3, 1998. The call was divided into three deadlines: January 15th (Developing & Enhancing Aboriginal Capacity and Community Therapeutic Healing), February 26th (Healing Centres) and March 31st (Restoring Balance and Honour & History). The types of projects funded under the first funding round include: sex offender programs; education, counseling and trauma work; development of Aboriginal-specific materials; training of community members; employee assistance programs; and support for traditional therapeutic approaches.

Through the work we have accomplished and that which lies ahead, the Aboriginal Healing Foundation is assisting Aboriginal communities as they work to heal the legacy of the residential school system. We will continue to work to improve our ability to help. We will also work to engage Canadians in this healing process, encouraging them to walk with us on the path of reconciliation. We will reach out to a wide range of stakeholders including the churches, governments and the corporate sector to form partnerships in establishing a charitable foundation, the goal of which will be to continue the healing process once our work is done.

We know that the success of the projects we are funding today and those we will be funding in the future, will empower individuals, families and communities who are struggling to bind the wounds inflicted by the residential school system.

Masi.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Georges Henry Erasmus

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. Address: Aboriginal Healing Foundation, Suite 801, 75 Albert Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5E7 (613) 237-4441. *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); Chairman, University Canada North (1971-75); 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).



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 (1987); 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); Aboriginal Achievement Award for Public Service, (1998); 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).

Garnet Angeconeb

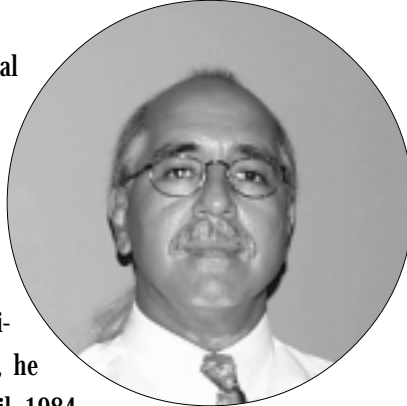
An Ojibway from Sioux Lookout, Ontario, Mr. Angeconeb is a consultant with a Diploma in Journalism from the University of Western Ontario. A former Director of the Wawatay Native Communications Society, he also served as Executive Director of Independent First Nations Alliance. His previous work includes First Nations' self-government issues and initiatives dealing with education, health, justice, economic development, management, planning and policy. His current consulting activities include media relations, communications and public relations strategies, team development, meeting facilitation and writing and research. Mr. Angeconeb is a Survivor of the Pelican Lake Residential School in Sioux Lookout.



Mr. Berthelette is the Regional Director, Manitoba Region, Medical Services Branch, Health Canada. He is a citizen of the Ahnishnabe Nation, Sagkeeng. The recipient of an LL.B from the University of Western Ontario, he was called to the Bar in April, 1984.

Mr. Berthelette is a former President of the Vanier Institute of the Family and is former Executive Director of the National Association of Friendship Centres (1986 - 1991). He served as the Commission Secretary, Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (1991 - 93).

Jerome Berthelette



Ms. Belleau is a member of the Alkali Lake First Nation in British Columbia. Active in the healing of Residential School survivors, she set up the first Residential School conference. She served on the Residential School Committee for the Assembly of First Nations from 1990-95, and spent four years coordinating the Residential School project for British Columbia. She is a former Chief of Alkali Lake, and has served on several national health committees and regional committees.

Charlene Belleau

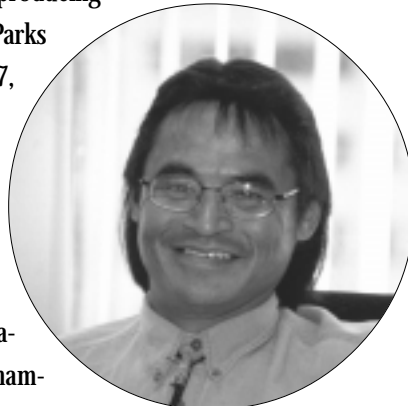


Mr. Chartrand is a Métis from Manitoba, and a former professor specializing in Aboriginal law and policy issues. He is a graduate of Manitoba Teachers College, the University of Winnipeg, Queensland University of Technology and the University of Saskatchewan. He served on the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples and has authored numerous publications, including a book on Métis land rights. He currently works as a private consultant in Victoria, British Columbia.

Paul L.A.H. Chartrand

Angus Cockney

Mr. Cockney is an Inuk from Tuktoyaktuk, NT. He was moved to Inuvik in 1962 and attended Grollier Hall, a residential school for students in the Western Arctic, until 1976. Angus is now the business owner of Icewalker Canada. He specializes in motivational speaking and is an artist involved in various media. Angus was the first Inuk to ski to the North Pole, and he uses this experience as a platform to speak on goal-setting, motivation, and commitment. His artworks in stone have been exhibited nationally and internationally, and he is considered to be one of the more distinctive contemporary Inuit artists. Angus is also involved in multimedia production and is currently producing an educational CD-ROM for Parks Canada. From 1988 to 1997, Angus worked as a media specialist for the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development, Government of N.W.T. He is a former Canadian National Cross-Country ski champion and a Canada Winter Games champion.



Ms. John is the Associate Regional Director General, Pacific Region of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. A citizen of the Musqueam First Nation in British Columbia, she



served three terms as Chief. She was the first woman in Canada to be elected to the office of Vice Chief for the Assembly of First Nations (British Columbia). She has represented Canada as a Commissioner on the Pacific Salmon Commission and has served as a member of the Board of the Canadian Lands Company Limited and the Board of the Royal British Columbia Museum. She is a founding member and Chairperson of the Residential Schools Project in British Columbia.

Wendy John

Ken Courchene

Mr. Courchene, a former Chief, is an Ojibway from Sagkeeng, Manitoba who has served in the health and social fields for several years. A Chief Executive Officer, he holds a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Bachelor of Education. He currently works in an adolescent solvent abuse program whose clients include many victims and survivors of physical and sexual abuse. Working with youth and adults suffering from addictions, he uses traditional methods for healing.



Mr. Kistabish is an Algonquin from Val-d'Or, Quebec who speaks English, French and Algonquin fluently. He is 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 Secretary-Treasurer of the Health Committee, Kitchisakik, and as President (Grand Chief) of the Algonquin Council of Quebec. His publications include: *Mental Health and Aboriginal People of Quebec - Postface*; *The Green Book - Position of the Algonquin Nation on Environmental Issues*; and the *National Inquiry into First Nations Child Care*.

Richard Kistabish

Carrielynn Lamouche

A Métis consultant from Gift Lake, Alberta, Ms. Lamouche studied with the Royal Conservatory of Music and possesses a degree of Master of Social Work. She co-ordinated and facilitated several events including Grant McEwan's Dreamcatchers Conference and a Métis Settlements Youth Conference. Ms. Lamouche has published articles on Métis settlement history and serves as a volunteer with challenged children and their families. An Aboriginal person with disabilities, she works with governments, businesses and educational institutions to identify and reduce barriers. Among her extensive Committee work is service with the Provincial Human Rights, Multicultural Education Fund Advisory Committee and Chair of the Gift Lake Métis Settlement Peace Advisory Committee. As a child, Ms. Lamouche attended St. Mary's Residential School in Kenora, Ontario.



Ms. Nahanee, B.A., LL.B (Ottawa), LL.M (Queen's), is a member of the Squamish Nation. A member of the Law Society of British Columbia, she currently practices law in Merritt, B.C. She has served as a Corporate Adviser, Aboriginal Programs with Correctional Services Canada and as a Constitutional Consultant for the Native Women's Association of Canada. Ms. Nahanee formerly worked in the office of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Secretary of State. She was a Regional Director, B.C./Yukon with the Native Economic Development Program. Ms. Nahanee spent two years in Washington, D.C., with one year as Special Assistant to the Commissioner, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and one year with the U.S. Congress Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. She has published several chapters of books, including examination of the subject of sexual assault in Canada. Ms. Nahanee attended St. Paul's Indian Residential School, 1951 - 1956.

Teressa Nahanee



Ann Meekitjuk-Hanson

Ms. Hanson is an Inuk who is a freelance writer and broadcaster living in Iqaluit, Nunavut Territory. She owns and operates a business with her husband, and works with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in Iqaluit. She has published historical works in a variety of publications, and has a close knowledge of the nature and effects of abuse. Ann is married to Bob Hanson. Together they have raised five daughters and are the proud grandparents of seven grandchildren.



Ms. Peters is an Elder from the Sto:Lo Nation. She was born on the Peters Reserve a few kilometres west of Hope, B.C. At an early age, her healing abilities were discovered, nurtured, and developed by her grandparents.



Throughout her adult life she worked with Elders from different cultural groups and learned many powerful lessons in the area of healing. Ms. Peters believes that Aboriginal people must go back and relearn the basic principles, including honesty, respect, being a role model, giving back to the community, sharing of resources, assisting those who are in need, keeping integrity and decency at the forefront of all official actions, transmitting the culture/language to the next generation, humility, spiritual cleansing and being a positive mentor to those who are gifted in the spiritual ways. It is in this way, she says, that we can recapture the true essence of ourselves as First Nations and heal the wounds of the past and present in order to create a positive future for the generations yet unborn.

Dorris Peters

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 and is now in the last stages of her articling with a firm in Halifax. Although she is not a Survivor of the Residential Schools, her close family members, including her late brother, are all Survivors.



Ms. Swanson is a fourth-year student working towards a Bachelor's degree in the Faculty of Education, specializing in Native Education at the University of Alberta. A Métis, she lives in Edmonton. She was appointed as a provincial member of the Métis National Youth Advisory Council (from October 1995 to September 1998) and has participated with Métis and First Nations Communities in a variety of capacities, but foremost with Métis and First Nations youth initiatives and organizations. She has conducted research into the Residential School syndrome and the intergenerational impact on Native children in today's school system.

Cindy Swanson



Grant Severight

Mr. Severight is currently involved in graduate studies on Aboriginal Justice and Corrections at the University of Saskatchewan. He is a member of the Saulteaux-Ojibway nation who resides in Saskatoon. He has served as the President of the Saskatchewan Treaty Indian Council and the Director of the Prince George Indian Friendship Centre. Music, carpentry, lifeskills instructing and volunteering are major interests in Mr. Severight's life.



A member of the Blood Tribe First Nation in Standoff, Alberta, Mr. Weaselhead is a health administrator with a 2-year Certificate in Health Care Administration. He served as Director of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment for eight years, and has been involved in health administration for a total of 15 years. He has been active in Aboriginal community issues and initiatives for the past two decades, and pursues an active interest in individual and community healing processes, in particular traditional and cultural methods. He is particularly interested in dealing with the negative cycles of abuse for children and in providing a safety net for victims and others affected.

Charles Weaselhead

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND CREATION OF THE FOUNDATION

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

Although in 1969 the Government officially withdrew, a few of the schools continued operating throughout the '60s, '70s and '80s. Akaitcho Hall in Yellowknife did not close until the 1990s. During the time they operated, generations of Aboriginal children were sent to government and church run schools which imposed a strict and often damaging policy of assimilation on their students. Physical, emotional, and sexual abuse were rampant in the school system and little was done to stop it, to punish the abusers, or improve conditions. Instead, attempts were made by the Department of Indian Affairs to deny and cover up the problems.

According to the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples report, which examined residential schools, *“There was a pronounced and persistent reluctance on the part of the department to deal forcefully with incidents of abuse, to dismiss, as was its right, or to lay charges against school staff who abused the children” (RCAP, Page 369).*

In enforcing the government's assimilation policy and the missionary agenda of the churches, the schools strove to alienate children from their families, communities, and cultures. They generally applied a harsh set of rules, forced children to abandon their cultural and spiritual ways, forcibly imposed foreign religious practices, punished students for speaking their languages and, in many cases, provided only marginal training or education. As late as the 1950s, more than 40% of the teaching staff at the schools had absolutely no professional training. The endemic underfunding of the system left the children living in squalor and poverty, without suitable facilities, clothing, or food.

The impacts of the residential schools have been felt in every segment of Aboriginal society. Communities suffered social, economic and political disintegration. Languages were lost 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, and neglect.

Subsequent generations of children were left with the legacy of what happened to their parents and grandparents. They grew up without the opportunity to learn their languages, to have traditional and cultural knowledge passed down to them, or to be part of a strong and healthy family and community.

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.

This apology was followed by apologies by the Oblate Missionaries of Mary Immaculate in 1991, the Anglican Church in 1993, and the Presbyterian Church in 1994. Around this same time, the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples was examining the issue of residential schools as part of its larger mandate, and in November 1996 its final report was released.

Included was a section outlining research and findings on residential schools and containing three recommendations specific to residential schools. Finally, the government took its first step when a 'reconciliation' statement and healing strategy was announced by the federal government in 1998.

On January 7, 1998, the federal government announced a new policy. It was called, *Gathering Strength, Canada's Aboriginal Action Plan*, a strategy to begin a process of reconciliation and renewal with Aboriginal Peoples. A cornerstone of Gathering Strength was the Canadian government's commitment of \$350 million to support community-based healing initiatives for Métis, Inuit and First Nations people on and off reserve, status and non-status, who were affected by the legacy of physical and sexual abuse in Residential Schools and its intergenerational impacts.

On March 30, 1998, the Aboriginal Healing Foundation was created following discussions with Survivors, members of the healing community, the Assembly of First Nations, the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples, the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, the Métis National Council, and the Native Women's Association of Canada.

The Foundation was to design, manage, and implement the healing strategy under the terms of a funding agreement with the Government of Canada. The funding agreement was signed by both parties on April 1, 1998.

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation is an Aboriginal-run, not-for-profit corporation that is independent of Governments and the representative Aboriginal organizations. The terms of the funding agreement call for the Foundation to "make best efforts to commit" the full \$350 million, plus related interest, over a four year period.

The four year time frame would begin when the first project was approved or from the anniversary of the signing of the agreement, whichever came first. The full amount of the fund is to be dispersed over a ten-year period from the start date of the time frame.

On June 23rd, 1998, Georges Erasmus, the Chair of the Foundation, announced the appointment of the full slate of Directors who would oversee the Foundation and its management of the healing fund. The 17-member Board of Directors is responsible for establishing overall policies and setting direction for the Foundation's programs. Consistent with the Foundation's desire to minimize administrative costs, day-to-day operations are carried out by a modest complement of staff who, among other things, administer the funding application and review processes.

OUR MISSION

Mission, vision and values statement

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation has developed and adopted the following Mission, Vision and Values statement to guide its work:

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation's 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 resiliency of Aboriginal people.

We emphasize approaches that address the needs of Aboriginal individuals, families and the broader community. We view prevention of future abuse, and the process of reconciliation between victims and offenders, and between Aboriginal people and Canadians as vital elements in building healthy, sustainable communities.

By making strategic investments of the resources entrusted to us, and by contributing to a climate of care, safety, good will and understanding, we can support the full participation of all Aboriginal people, including Métis, Inuit and First Nations, both on and off reserves and both status and non status, in effective healing processes relevant to our diverse needs and circumstances.

Our vision is one where those affected by the Legacy of Physical Abuse and Sexual Abuse experienced in Residential Schools 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.

FUNDING INITIATIVE

Overview of The Funding Initiative

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation, according to the funding agreement with the federal government, must ensure that eligible projects meet specific mandatory criteria. An eligible project:

- ❖ 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.

An eligible project may also, but does not need to:

- ❖ focus on prevention and early detection of the effects of the legacy of physical and sexual abuse in residential schools, including the intergenerational impacts on all generations;
- ❖ include elements of research (those related to developing the necessary knowledge base of effective program design/redesign, implementation and evaluation) and of capacity building for communities, including communities of interest, to address their long-term healing needs;
- ❖ include, where and when possible, and depending on local needs and circumstances, a holistic approach, including medical and traditional methodologies;
- ❖ address special needs of segments of the population, including those of the elderly, youth and women; and
- ❖ be based on a community healing approach designed to address needs of individuals, families and communities, which may include communities of interest.

Healing projects which will be funded by the Foundation should address the mental, emotional, physical and spiritual realms of life. Aboriginal Healing Foundation funds will be directed to the healing needs of Métis, Inuit and First Nations persons residing in Canada, who have been affected by the legacy of physical and sexual abuse in residential schools, including intergenerational impacts. The Foundation will support innovative approaches that reflect local differences, needs, geography and other realities relating to the healing process.

The Foundation, in its funding agreement with the Government of Canada, cannot fund:

- ❖ existing programs, activities or services provided by or with funding from any level of government;
- ❖ research activities except those related to developing the necessary knowledge base for effective program design/redesign, implementation and evaluation;
- ❖ compensation to persons affected by the legacy of physical and sexual abuse in residential schools or who have suffered intergenerational impacts; and
- ❖ 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 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.

Program Themes

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation has initiated an ongoing consultation process with Aboriginal people and communities on the types of programs and activities which should be funded to alleviate the effects of the physical and sexual abuse suffered by Aboriginal students attending residential schools, and the resulting intergenerational impacts.

This consultation process has directed the Foundation to address healing activities at all levels including the individual, family, community, and nation. The Aboriginal Healing Foundation strives to nurture and support innovative, responsive community healing strategies which build on the resilience, courage, and strength of Aboriginal peoples. There are many groups which have been impacted by the residential school experience, and who may need special programming such as children, youth, elders, women, incarcerated people, gays and lesbians, and physically, mentally and emotionally challenged people.

The program themes described below were put in place to guide funding for the initial year. These may be modified as the consultation process evolves and more experience is obtained in the funding process. As well, new programs may be requested, as the survivors of residential schools and their families and communities use the funds provided and different or changing needs emerge. We recognize that as some needs are addressed, others will emerge and that the demand for services may increase as more individuals seek healing or as knowledge of the Foundation grows.

The four themes for project funding in year one have been developed around the healing continuum of prevention and awareness, treatment, after care, community development and capacity building, and public education. These themes are:

- I. Healing
 - ❖ Community Therapeutic Healing
 - ❖ Healing Centre Programs
- II. Restoring Balance
- III. Developing and Enhancing Aboriginal Capacities
- IV. Honour and History

An objective common to all themes, *Returning Voice to the Women*, provides targeted funding in all four of the themes listed above. The removal of children to residential schools and later to foster and adoption homes severed the bonds between women and children, with resulting impacts on all aspects of family and community life. This sub-theme addresses the legacy of residential school physical and sexual abuse on women in the community, and on the special relationship which exists between women and children.

The content of the four theme areas overlap, and together represent a total, holistic approach to meeting the healing needs of individuals, families and communities affected by the residential school experience.

I. Healing

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation provides funding in two areas of direct healing services: *healing centre programs* (residential and day) and *community therapeutic healing* activities. This program provides time-limited project funding for the healing of individuals, families or communities who have suffered the effects of physical and sexual abuse in residential schools, including intergenerational impacts. The scope of healing strategies which are eligible for funding includes client referral and access systems, treatment and case management, follow-up services and after care. After care refers not only to support provided to an individual, but also to the receptivity of the family and community to a community member who has returned from a healing program. Aboriginal approaches to healing are in a developmental form in many communities. All healing strategies in the *Healing* program which are funded by the Foundation are required to meet standards for therapeutic residential facilities or community therapeutic activities.

II. Restoring Balance

Addressing the cycle of abuse set in motion by residential schools is essential if Aboriginal communities are to become healthier places for children to be nurtured. Preventing further abuse and promoting the capacity of families and communities to sustain well being are essential to the renewal envisioned by Aboriginal people. The poverty, powerlessness and dysfunction now evident among Aboriginal people and communities in many cases has been translated into abuses inflicted on succeeding generations. *Restoring Balance* supports projects that focus on the early detection and prevention of the effects of the legacy of abuse in residential schools on all generations of Aboriginal people, using a holistic approach. The scope of eligible communities includes communities of interest which consider specialized needs, such as programs directed to women, families, youth and Elders. The restoring of community balance and harmony can take place on many levels including activities which promote healing through the restoration of culture and Aboriginal spirituality, and through awareness and community educational activities.

III. Developing and Enhancing Aboriginal Capacities

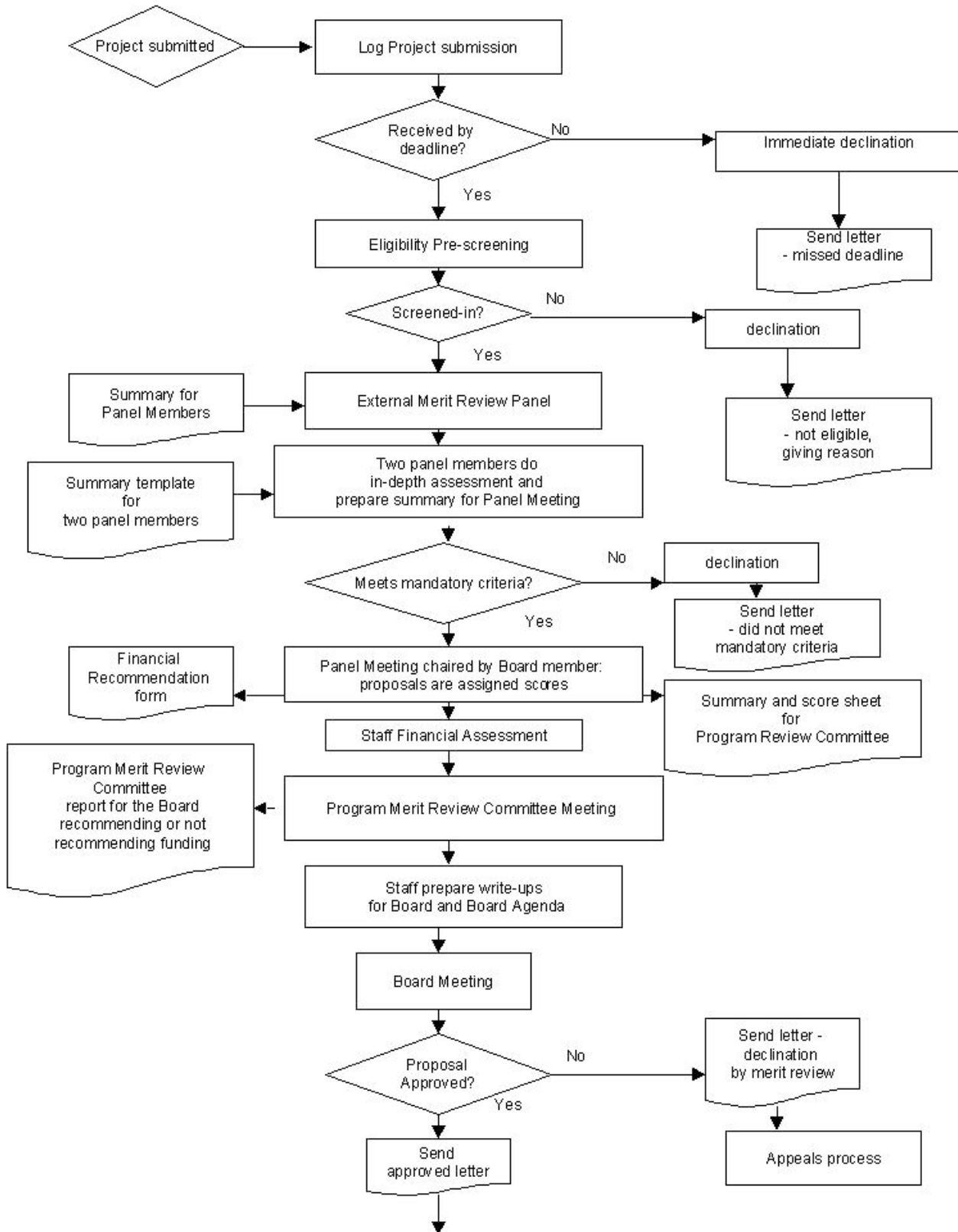
The founding objectives and conditions of the Foundation include support for projects that, where possible, include capacity building, such as training, in Aboriginal communities. The development and enhancement of capacity is essential to support communities' efforts in implementing a holistic healing approach. This can take place on many levels including: curriculum development and specialized education programs, increasing the number of Aboriginal people who provide healing services, and providing a supportive environment for those people involved in the healing of survivors. Projects in *Developing and Enhancing Aboriginal Capacities* must be designed to address the legacy of physical and sexual abuse in residential schools, including intergenerational impacts. These projects should be related to specific, individual needs of communities, and should support existing and developing Aboriginal programs and services.

IV. Honour and History

An important component of the community healing process identified by survivors is the creation of a historical record of the residential school experience. Sharing history is an aspect of prevention as it allows Aboriginal children to understand the reasons behind their actions and those of family members, and will help prevent these children from continuing the cycle of abuse when they become adults. Survivors have told the Foundation that public communication on the residential school experience will also be healing for them. The disclosure of residential school abuse and the validation of the abuse is in itself part of the healing process. This program could also provide funds for a memorial to honour those residential school students who never returned home, either physically, mentally, emotionally or spiritually.

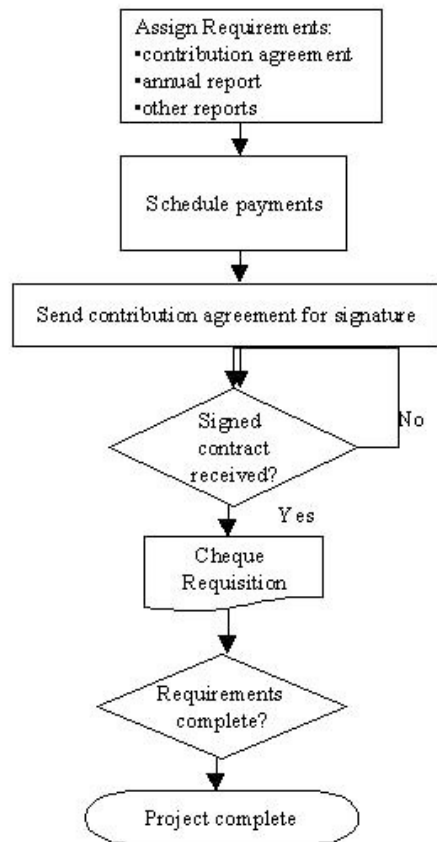
THE PROPOSAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Aboriginal Healing Foundation : Process for a Project Submission



Go to Approved Grants Process (Page 2)

Approved Grant Process



The First Funding Cycle

The Foundation launched the first Call for Proposals on December 3, 1998. The call was divided into three deadlines, each specific to identified themes: January 15th (Developing & Enhancing Aboriginal Capacity and Community Therapeutic Healing), February 26th (Healing Centres) & March 31st (Restoring Balance and Honour & History).

The first call (all three deadlines)

- ❖ 1,066 proposals in total were received in time for all three deadlines
- ❖ The Board approved \$19.4 million in project funding for the first deadline (\$50 million total projected for first call)
- ❖ 1,268 requests for Proposal Development Assistance Funding were received with a total of \$3.2 million granted and more in progress.

The January 15th deadline (Developing & Enhancing Aboriginal Capacity and Community Therapeutic Healing):

- ❖ 370 proposals were received in this call for proposals
- ❖ 115 of these were off-reserve, including urban & Métis settlements
- ❖ The average budget of approved projects to date: \$210 thousand
- ❖ Range of budget of approved projects to date: \$19,200 to \$1.1 million

To date, we have entered into 75 Contribution Agreements totalling \$16.8 million. Negotiations continue on the balance of the projects approved for these two themes.

Projects under the Healing Centre, Restoring Balance and Honour & History themes will be considered at our September 1999 Board meeting. Approved projects will then enter the negotiations stream and funded projects will be posted on our website on a monthly basis.

The types of projects funded under the first funding round include: sex offender programs; education, counseling and trauma work; development of Aboriginal-specific materials; training of community members; employee assistance programs; and support for traditional therapeutic approaches.

Summary of Funded Projects

YUKON

CT-183 (Kwanlin Dun First Nations Health Program)

Total costs of the project	\$245,276.50
AHF Contribution	\$182,976.00
Payment released to date	\$45,744.00

CT-416 (Carcross/Tagish First Nation)

Total costs of the project	\$166,800.00
AHF Contribution	\$166,800.00
Payment released to date	\$33,770.79

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

CT-209 (Tl'oondih Healing Society)

Total costs of the project	\$330,300.00
AHF Contribution	\$330,300.00
Payment released to date	\$82,575.00

CT-411 (Hamlet of Cape Dorset)

Total costs of the project	\$126,080.00
AHF Contribution	\$121,080.00
Payment released to date	\$27,243.00

DV-160 (Dene Cultural Institute)

Total costs of the project	\$537,700.00
AHF Contribution	\$347,700.00
Payment released to date	\$100,975.00

BRITISH COLUMBIA

CT-65 (Gitksan & Wet'suwet'en Residential School Committee)

Total costs of the project	\$731,600.00
AHF Contribution	\$471,200.00
Payment released to date	\$150,200.00

CT-99 (Chawathil First Nations)

Total costs of the project	\$145,280.00
AHF Contribution	\$192,480.00
Payment released to date	\$43,308.00

CT-128 (Sulsilalelum Healing Centre Society)

Total costs of the project	\$227,200.00
AHF Contribution	\$198,330.00
Payment released to date	\$62,555.00

CT-138 (Kitamaat Village Council)

Total costs of the project	\$491,182.50
AHF Contribution	\$369,420.00
Payment released to date	\$92,355.00

CT-161 (Tseil-Waututh Nation)

Total costs of the project	\$283,920.00
AHF Contribution	\$283,920.00
Payment released to date	\$94,546.00

CT-203 (Prince George Native Friendship Centre Society)

Total costs of the project	\$263,342.00
AHF Contribution	\$255,342.00
Payment released to date	\$71,585.00

CT-206 (Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council Community & Human Services)

Total costs of the project	\$3,071,795.00
AHF Contribution	\$1,122,084.00
Payment released to date	\$282,221.00

CT-208 (Squamish Nation 'Na Nichimstm Tina Tkwekin')

Total costs of the project	\$487,568.00
AHF Contribution	\$450,328.00
Payment released to date	\$144,692.00

CT 302 (Urban Native Youth Association)

Total costs of the project	\$82,000.00
AHF Contribution	\$81,420.00
Payment released to date	\$19,164.00

CT-350 (Healing Our Spirit BC First Nations AIDS Society)

Total costs of the project	\$262,875.94
AHF Contribution	\$230,342.63
Payment released to date	\$57,585.66

DV-52 ('Namgis First Nation)

Total costs of the project	\$63,900.00
AHF Contribution	\$63,900.00
Payment released to date	\$15,975.00

DV-136 (Heskw'en'scutxe Health Service Society)

Total costs of the project	\$56,695.00
AHF Contribution	\$51,765.00
Payment released to date	\$14,814.25

DV-182 (Lower Similkameen Indian Band)

Total costs of the project	\$224,500.00
AHF Contribution	\$220,800.00
Payment released to date	\$73,599.00

DV-233 (Nuxalk Nation)

Total costs of the project	\$91,940.00
AHF Contribution	\$161,145.00
Payment released to date	\$76,324.00

DV-491 (Tsawataineuk Band Council)

Total costs of the project	\$28,118.00
AHF Contribution	\$29,118.00
Payment released to date	\$26,206.20

DV-580 (Lax Kw'alaams Indian Band Family Counselling Centre)

Total costs of the project	\$212,640.00
AHF Contribution	\$176,180.00
Payment released to date	\$35,236.00

DV-1369 (Chawathil First Nations)
 Total costs of the project \$124,480.00
 AHF Contribution \$122,480.00
 Payment released to date \$27,558.00

ALBERTA

CT-207 (Paddle Prairie Métis Settlement)
 Total costs of the project \$112,500.00
 AHF Contribution \$112,500.00
 Payment released to date \$23,875.00

CT-272 (Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation Health Services)
 Total costs of the project \$162,773.00
 AHF Contribution \$140,922.00
 Payment released to date \$50,731.92

CT-316 (Alexis Health Department)
 Total costs of the project \$336,845.25
 AHF Contribution \$192,747.00
 Payment released to date \$64,071.75

CT-390 (Saddle Lake Health Care Centre)
 Total costs of the project \$128,450.00
 AHF Contribution \$128,450.00
 Payment released to date \$38,053.00

CT-649 (Siksika Health Services)
 Total costs of the project \$388,585.00
 AHF Contribution \$365,915.00
 Payment released to date \$83,410.20

DV-101 (Loon River First Nation #476)
 Total costs of the project \$164,717.00
 AHF Contribution \$156,600.00
 Payment released to date \$47,900.00

DV-343 (Kainaiwa Board of Education - Aakssokinaapiossiwa)
 Total costs of the project \$538,150.00
 AHF Contribution \$402,352.00
 Payment released to date \$90,529.00

DV-344 (Blood Tribe Human Resource Management Department)
 Total costs of the project \$261,135.00
 AHF Contribution \$261,135.00
 Payment released to date \$60,565.26

SASKATCHEWAN

CT-167 (Kaneweyimik Child & Family Services Inc.)
 Total costs of the project \$414,062.00
 AHF Contribution \$406,662.00
 Payment released to date \$91,499.00

CT-180 (Ile-A-la-Crosse Friendship Centre)
 Total costs of the project \$147,028.00
 AHF Contribution \$138,328.00
 Payment released to date \$34,582.00

CT-190 (Yorkton Tribal Administration Inc.)
 Total costs of the project \$1,154,100.00
 AHF Contribution \$230,820.00
 Payment released to date \$51,934.50

CT-229 (Prince Albert Associated Counselling & Mediation Services)
 Total costs of the project \$319,935.00
 AHF Contribution \$278,570.00
 Payment released to date \$69,642.50

CT-249 (Beardy's and Okemasis First Nation)
 Total costs of the project \$113,780.00
 AHF Contribution \$113,780.00
 Payment released to date \$37,947.00

CT-282 (Community Renewing Spirits - Muskowpetung First Nation)
 Total costs of the project \$118,230.00
 AHF Contribution \$118,230.00
 Payment released to date \$29,557.50

CT-2429 (Building a Nation Life Skills Training Inc.)
 Total costs of the project \$212,830.00
 AHF Contribution \$210,229.98
 Payment released to date \$82,474.16

DV-165 (Prince Albert Associated Counselling & Mediation Services)
 Total costs of the project \$272,375.00
 AHF Contribution \$215,819.00
 Payment released to date \$53,954.75

DV-181 (Cote First Nation)
 Total costs of the project \$198,439.00
 AHF Contribution \$198,439.00
 Payment released to date \$44,649.00

DV-211 (Prince Albert Grand Council Health & Social Development)
 Total costs of the project \$705,090.00
 AHF Contribution \$627,230.00
 Payment released to date \$188,769.00

DV-369 (Agency Chiefs Tribal Council)
 Total costs of the project \$719,542.00
 AHF Contribution \$104,185.84
 Payment released to date \$93,767.26

DV-1343 (Pasqua First Nation #79)
 Total costs of the project \$82,400.00
 AHF Contribution \$82,400.00
 Payment released to date \$18,540.01

MANITOBA

DV-597 (Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre)
 Total costs of the project \$176,605.00
 AHF Contribution \$176,605.00
 Payment released to date \$43,241.00

DV-1345 (Sandy Bay Health Centre)
 Total costs of the project \$197,312.00
 AHF Contribution \$188,572.90
 Payment released to date \$47,143.23

ONTARIO

CT-212 (Native Child and Family Services of Toronto)
 Total costs of the project \$99,996.00
 AHF Contribution \$99,996.00
 Payment released to date \$24,999.00

CT-267 (UCCM Mnaamodzawin Health Services)
 Total costs of the project \$101,500.00
 AHF Contribution \$101,500.00
 Payment released to date \$22,838.00

CT-277 (Georgian Bay Native Friendship Centre)
 Total costs of the project \$22,600.00
 AHF Contribution \$22,600.00
 Payment released to date \$20,340.00

CT-291 (Giizhgaandag Gamig Healing Lodge Inc.)
 Total costs of the project \$98,868.00
 AHF Contribution \$92,868.00
 Payment released to date \$19,355.00

CT-324 (Mnjikaning First Nation)
 Total costs of the project \$23,400.00
 AHF Contribution \$23,400.00
 Payment released to date \$21,060.00

CT-365 (Naandwedidaa "Let's Heal One Another" Program)
 Total costs of the project \$881,709.00
 AHF Contribution \$469,474.00
 Payment released to date \$105,632.00

CT-377 (Aboriginal Women's Support Centre)
 Total costs of the project \$37,691.48
 AHF Contribution \$28,813.00
 Payment released to date \$25,931.70

CT-596 (Big Grassy First Nation)
 Total costs of the project \$314,620.00
 AHF Contribution \$314,620.00
 Payment released to date \$120,000.00

CT-998 (Nimishomosis -- Mokomis Healing Group)
 Total costs of the project \$894,900.00
 AHF Contribution \$540,015.00
 Payment released to date \$153,283.50

DV-163 (Whitewater Lake Community Development Corporation)
 Total costs of the project \$156,440.00
 AHF Contribution \$143,200.00
 Payment released to date \$50,000.00

DV-232 (Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation)
 Total costs of the project \$109,054.00
 AHF Contribution \$88,457.00
 Payment released to date \$30,968.00

DV-266 (Chapleau Cree First Nation)
 Total costs of the project \$203,952.00
 AHF Contribution \$203,952.00
 Payment released to date \$132,026.00

DV-297 (Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health)
 Total costs of the project \$146,268.50
 AHF Contribution \$133,348.00
 Payment released to date \$28,450.50

DV-307 (Children of Shingwauk Alumni Council)
 Total costs of the project \$46,645.00
 AHF Contribution \$46,645.00
 Payment released to date \$41,980.50

DV-334 (Chippewas of Nawash)
 Total costs of the project \$101,646.00
 AHF Contribution \$101,646.00
 Payment released to date \$30,217.00

DV-404 (Constance Lake First Nation)
 Total costs of the project \$73,063.25
 AHF Contribution \$73,063.25
 Payment released to date \$16,439.23

DV-581 (Ojibways of the Pic River First Nation)
 Total costs of the project \$19,178.00
 AHF Contribution \$19,178.00
 Payment released to date \$17,260.00

DV-592 (Walpole Island and First Nation Council)
 Total costs of the project \$42,100.00
 AHF Contribution \$42,100.00
 Payment released to date \$37,890.00

DV-595 (Wabaseemoong Independent Nations)

Total costs of the project \$257,300.00
AHF Contribution \$142,290.00
Payment released to date \$39,323.00

QUEBEC

CT-164 (Onkw'takaritahsheraa Healing the Family Circle)

Total costs of the project \$80,000.00
AHF Contribution \$80,000.00
Payment released to date \$20,000.00

CT-259 (Conseil des Montagnais de Natashquan)

Total costs of the project \$112,363.00
AHF Contribution \$112,363.00
Payment released to date \$28,090.75

CT-345 (Chiiwaschaauiin -- Chisasibi Circle of Women)

Total costs of the project \$193,720.00
AHF Contribution \$192,050.00
Payment released to date \$60,744.00

CT-917 (Nemaska First Nation of James Bay)

Total costs of the project \$105,500.00
AHF Contribution \$146,500.00
Payment released to date \$34,000.00

DV-310 (Conseil de la nation atikamekw inc.)

Total costs of the project \$547,263.00
AHF Contribution \$517,317.00
Payment released to date \$135,000.00

DV-375 (Council of the Cree Nation of Mistissini)

Total costs of the project \$247,220.00
AHF Contribution \$247,220.00
Payment released to date \$51,089.00

NEW BRUNSWICK

CT-78 (Metepenagiag First Nation)

Total costs of the project \$69,300.00
AHF Contribution \$69,300.00
Payment released to date \$15,592.50

DV-326 (St. Mary's First Nation Healing Program)

Total costs of the project \$123,169.00
AHF Contribution \$123,169.00
Payment released to date \$61,584.48

DV-896 (Eel Ground Community Development Centre Inc.)

Total costs of the project \$74,142.00
AHF Contribution \$71,400.00
Payment released to date \$21,175.00

NOVA SCOTIA

CT-53 (Eskasoni Mental Health & Social Work)

Total costs of the project \$150,000.00
AHF Contribution \$141,500.00
Payment released to date \$20,175.00

CT-223 (Wagmatcook First Nation and Waycobah First Nation)

Total costs of the project \$141,200.00
AHF Contribution \$141,200.00
Payment released to date \$30,401.00

CT-391 (Membertou Band Council)

Total costs of the project \$32,600.00
AHF Contribution \$30,000.00
Payment released to date \$27,000.00

Review of the Funding Process

Throughout the course of our first funding cycle, AHF staff have monitored reaction and feedback to the process. We have also encouraged people to provide their feedback on our funding process at every turn. The Program Handbook contains a Feedback Form and we have provided feedback forms at all of our Information Workshops. We have also recently completed a number of strategic planning sessions with our staff to strategize about how to best improve our operations. Together we have prepared a long term work plan that will see us through the remainder of our mandate.

What we have learned is that we need to re-examine proposal deadlines; increase staff assistance to applicants at the outset of the process; provide more targeted financial support; address the need for multi-year funding; and find ways to better target high need and under-served areas. Survivors have told us they want the process to meet their needs and to be grassroots oriented. Many have also told us the application procedure was “too complicated.”

We are currently addressing all of these areas and will continue to make changes to improve the Foundation’s operations in the months ahead. We recognize that the funding process and Handbook are comprehensive and, therefore, can seem complex to those who are simply trying to apply for funding. Although certain elements are necessary to ensure accountability and to assist the Board in making wise and effective investments in healing, we are trying to balance this by providing as much assistance as we can to help people through the process.

As a result of our review, the following action is being taken:

Proposal Development Assistance Fund

A Proposal Development Assistance Fund has been set up to help applicants enhance their capacity to prepare good proposals. This funding initiative expired on March 31, 1999.

Refined Community Support Process

The Community Support process has been refined to provide more intensive staff and professional reviews of proposals before they go to the External Merit Review phase of the process. These reviews will determine whether a proposal meets Mandatory Criteria, as well as the Administrative pre-screening requirement. Staff will work with applicants who need help bringing their proposals up to a minimum standard. This interaction should not be construed as a guarantee of funding. Rather, it is intended to assist applicants in ensuring that the application is complete and meets mandatory criteria. We will be unveiling this amended process at the launch of our next call for proposals.

Proposal Development Workshops

Proposal Development Workshops, open to anyone interested in preparing and submitting a proposal, will be held in all regions to provide information and help to applicants. The full schedule will be publicized once it has been finalized.

Funding Cycles

Several funding cycles have been set over the life of the Foundation to provide potential applicants with more opportunities to submit proposals. Applicants who were not successful or who missed the first cycle can resubmit their proposals when new calls are made. In the near future we will be sending out the Call for Proposals, releasing a Revised Program Handbook, and holding more Information/ Proposal Development Workshops.

REACHING OUT

Survivors' Conference

Residential School Healing Strategy Conference Squamish Nation Territory (July 14-16, 1998)

The purpose of the conference was to obtain input and direction from residential school survivors and other stakeholders. In his opening address the Foundation's Board Chairperson, Mr. Georges Erasmus, emphasized that the conference was being held to listen to the recommendations and ideas of survivors. Other Board members introduced themselves and spoke about their personal backgrounds and vision for the Foundation.

Over the three days of the conference, plenary panels involving delegates from the Aboriginal Healing Foundation, Health Canada, Indian Affairs, and survivors came together to discuss issues and develop recommendations for the future. Many valuable suggestions were made with regard to the types of projects and activities that would be most appropriate to recommend for funding. In workshops, delegates discussed the meaning of healing, and made suggestions about operating values and principles for the Foundation's statement of mission and values. Delegates also provided ideas for communication strategies aimed at reaching survivors and other target audiences. A separate youth workshop was also convened.

Recommendations provided by delegates were extracted from the conference summary and grouped into six categories: Recommendations to Board Members; Issues for Board Consideration; Foundation Operations; Program Design and Content; Program Criteria; and Other Recommendations. (Other Recommendations included those that addressed partnerships with federal and provincial organizations and churches, and a request for the Government of Canada to be involved in the healing process.)

A copy of the complete conference report may be obtained by contacting the Communications section of the AHF. A copy of the Executive Summary of the conference is provided on the AHF website at www.ahf.ca.

Communications

The Communications section was established in 1998 to develop and carry out a communications strategy and plan that will suit the needs of the Foundation and those we serve.

Integrated Communications Strategy

There are important strategic communications considerations and implications in every aspect of the Foundation's work. The achievement of these goals will require a concerted communications effort. From the start, the Board wanted to ensure the money entrusted to the Foundation is administered and invested in the most effective and fair manner possible. It was deemed essential to seek the guidance of survivors in order to ensure the work of the Foundation is relevant. The Residential School Healing Strategy Conference, held in Squamish Territory on July 14, 15 and 16, 1998, was organized for that purpose.

One message that rang clearly from survivors is that they expect a high degree of accountability from the Board. In order to maintain credibility and to garner trust, the Board must communicate that they are accountable to residential school survivors, that the Foundation is responding to their recommendations and that people at the grassroots are guiding the work of the Foundation.

A comprehensive communications strategy is currently being developed and should be approved by the Board in late 1999. It provides a framework for the Foundation to communicate with its target audiences. The strategy discusses, in general terms, the need for and purpose of the Foundation's communications, as well as, the goals of the strategy. The document also identifies specific communications tools and activities that could be implemented to assist the Foundation in realizing its goals.

The goals of the Foundation's communications strategy are to make the Foundation more effective in:

- ❖ Helping Aboriginal people help themselves by providing resources for healing initiatives;
- ❖ Promoting widespread understanding of the residential schools history and of the legacy of physical and sexual abuse in residential schools, including intergenerational impacts, to the Canadian public;
- ❖ Promoting awareness of healing issues and needs;
- ❖ Nurturing a supportive public environment;
- ❖ Engaging Canadians in this healing process by encouraging them to walk with us on the path of reconciliation;
- ❖ Maintaining a consistently open and transparent process for the operation of the Foundation and its use and allocation of funds;
- ❖ Ensuring that the relationship and image of the Foundation to the community at large is positive;
- ❖ Promoting networking and fostering partnerships.

In order for a communications strategy to be successful, activities that are developed must, to the extent possible, be easily implemented by staff, board members and volunteers. As well, given the fact that the Foundation does not have limitless resources to develop many new initiatives, any suggested activities must be cost-effective. The Foundation needs a defined process to inform our target audiences, to change public opinion, to ensure consistency in our message, and to measure results along the way.

To fulfil its goals, the Foundation will use a variety of communications tools, including:

- ❖ Regular Newsletter
- ❖ Posters & Pamphlets
- ❖ Reports (Quarterly, Annual and Special)
- ❖ Information Booth
- ❖ Public Information Kits
- ❖ Website

Reporting

- ❖ Annual Report
- ❖ Regional Gatherings (4 are scheduled for 1999);
- ❖ Attendance (by Board members) at Annual General Meetings of the National Aboriginal Organizations;
- ❖ Attendance at other conferences, upon invitation, whenever possible;
- ❖ Proposal Development Workshops;
- ❖ Quarterly Newsletter;
- ❖ Special Reports.

Consultations

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation is keenly interested in hearing from residential school survivors, organizations and others. To facilitate this we have put in place a number of ways people can share their views and feedback with us. The key method is through a series of information and feedback sessions held in various regions throughout the country.

Consultations Held:

December 8, 1998:	Iqaluit
December 11, 1998:	Winnipeg
December 14, 1998:	Vancouver, Yellowknife, Thunder Bay, Toronto, Montreal, Halifax
December 15, 1999:	Edmonton
December 16, 1998:	Whitehorse, Saskatoon
February 16, 1999:	Prince George, Edmonton, Moncton
February 17, 1999:	Saskatoon, Thompson
February 18, 1999:	Inuvik
February 19, 1999:	Sudbury, Ottawa

We also encourage people to speak with us when we travel to their regions for conferences, workshops and other gatherings. We can also be reached by phone, fax, email and regular mail. There is a toll-free line for those calling outside of the local Ottawa area. Email can be accessed through our web site.

ORGANIZATION

Staffing

Our community has grown into a diverse group of individuals who strongly believe in our mission.

In the beginning, the Foundation had a minimal complement of staff (5 people) to assist in setting things up. We have quickly grown from that number to a staff of over 35.

We set about bringing people on board in a number of ways. We actively sought out people because of their expertise and experience in the field of Residential school trauma and healing.

We have also held a number of competitions. We are currently completing our latest staffing exercise and have recently hired Proposal Analysts, Communications Officers, a Director of Programs, a Director of Research and an Office Manager. We anticipate hiring additional staff in the near future.

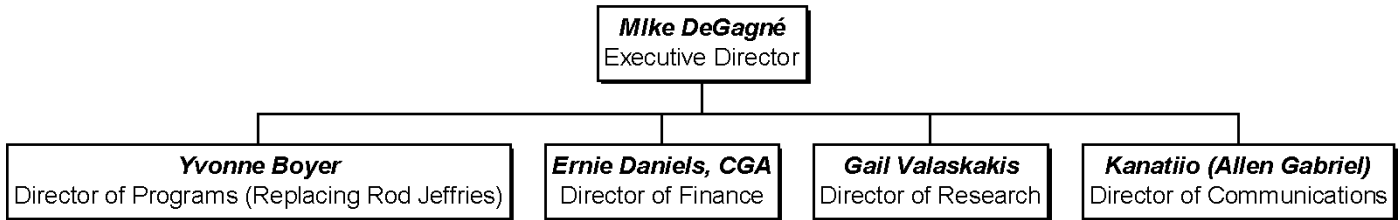
We strongly believe in encouraging young people to develop and expand their skill sets. To this end, we have a number of students working at the Foundation in various supportive capacities.

All of our personnel are committed to fulfilling their responsibilities with the utmost professionalism and dedication. Our office represents a microcosm of the world around us.

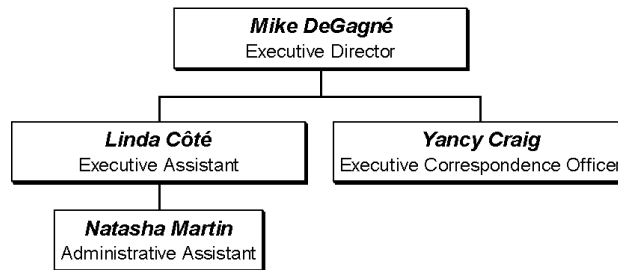
Many nations are represented here: Inuit, Métis, Algonquin, Ojibway, Gwichin, Dene, Cree, Kaniekehaka, Coast Salish, Musqueum, Kainai, Wyandot, Canadian and Lebanese, to name but a few.

Organizational Charts

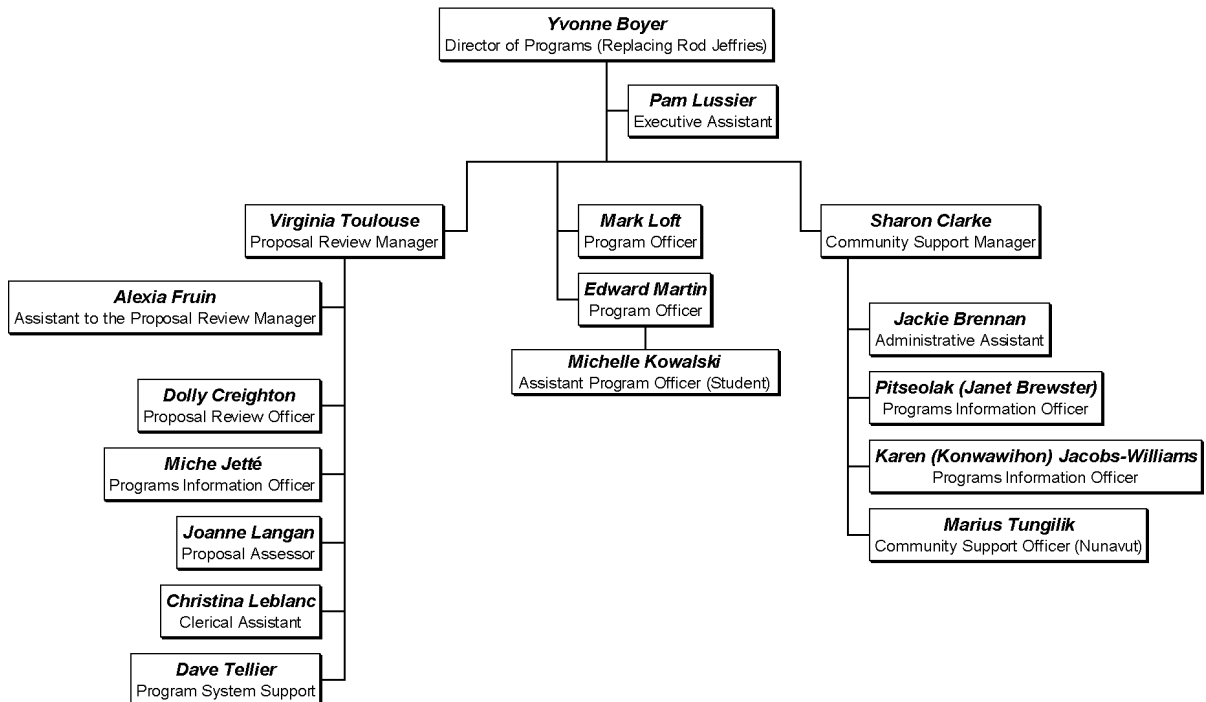
Departmental Overview



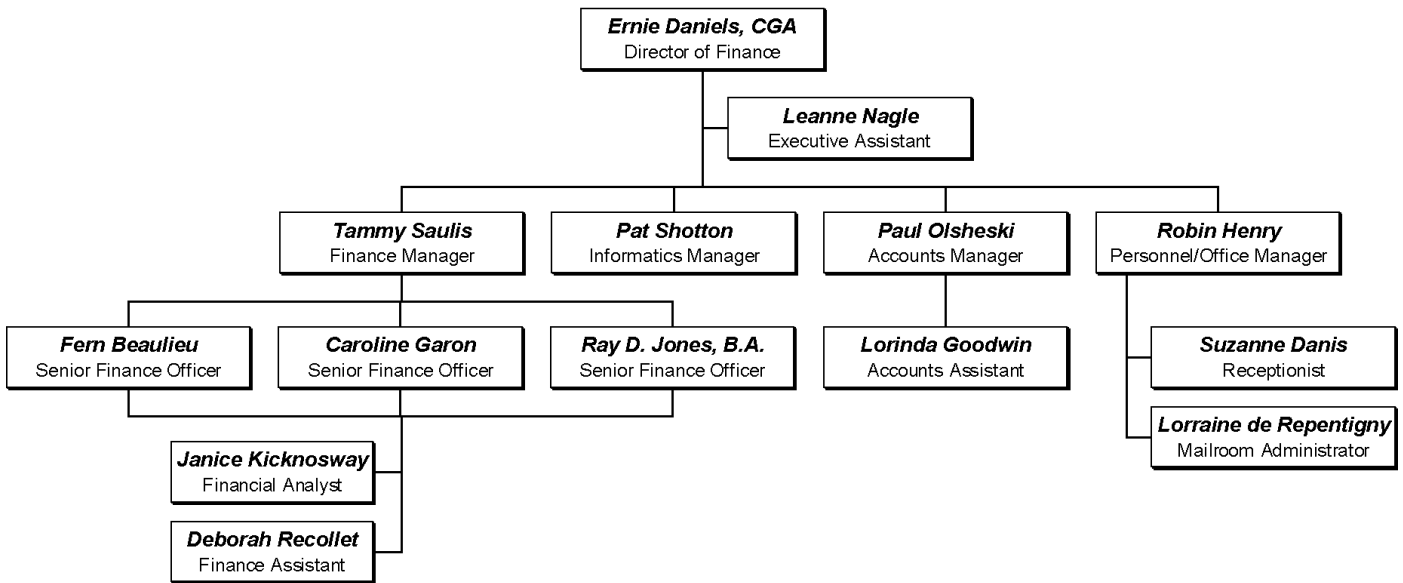
Executive Offices



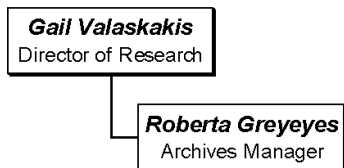
Programs Department



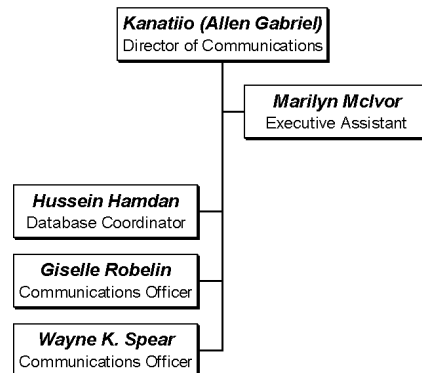
Finance Department



Research Department



Communications Department



ADMINISTRATION

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation is developing guidelines to help the people involved in our work.

Personnel Policies & Procedures Manual

The Foundation has a mandate to promote healing and wellness. All members of the Foundation share a desire to promote well-being and increase the productivity of the employees so that the people we are here to help will be well and efficiently served.

The Foundation Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual is a necessary part of the Organization to maintain harmony and mutually beneficial relationships between the Foundation and its employees.

The Manual sets forth certain terms and conditions of employment relating to pay, hours of work, employee benefits, and general working conditions affecting employees.

Code of Conduct

The Foundation has developed a Code of Conduct that will apply to all Parties associated with the Aboriginal Healing Foundation. The Foundation is establishing these standards to guide the ethical conduct of those involved in our work. These standards are designed to help build a healthy environment within which the Foundation can carry out its responsibilities.

Much of what is contained in this Code serves to identify and promote certain positive behaviours and values. Because of the nature of our work we hold a position of trust. This places certain obligations upon our shoulders.

Since some of us are Survivors and the vast majority of us have suffered an intergenerational impact in one form or another, this healing process is close to our hearts. We were all brought together for a reason - a common purpose - and we are all at various stages of our healing journey. It is important that the rebuilding begin with us as individuals and that this is reflected in the way we work together.

Ours is a holistic approach. Our goal is to help create, reinforce and sustain working conditions that are conducive to healing, reconciliation and self-determination. We want to help break the cycle of abuse and dysfunction that cripples many of our families, communities and nations. Each member of the Foundation's staff plays a vital role in achieving our collective goals and objectives. All are equally worthy of respect and dignity. As such, we will be respectful of one another and of Creation as a whole.

Financial Statements of

**ABORIGINAL HEALING
FOUNDATION**

From date of incorporation on March 31, 1998 to March 31, 1999



KPMG LLP
Chartered Accountants

Suite 1000
45 O'Connor Street
Ottawa ON K1P 1A4
Canada

Telephone (613) 560-0011
Telefax (613) 560-2896
www.kpmg.ca

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE DIRECTORS

We have audited the statement of financial position of Aboriginal Healing Foundation as at March 31, 1999 and the statements of operations, changes in deferred contributions and cash flows from date of incorporation on March 31, 1998 to March 31, 1999. 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 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, 1999 and the results of its operations and its cash flows from date of incorporation on March 31, 1998 to March 31, 1999 in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Chartered Accountants

Ottawa, Canada

June 2, 1999



KPMG LLP, a Canadian private limited liability partnership established under the laws of Ontario, is a member firm of KPMG Network, a Swiss entity.

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 1999

1999

Assets

Current assets:

Amounts receivable	\$ 89,980
Interest receivable	1,516,056
Prepaid expenses	8,896
	<u>1,614,932</u>

Capital assets (note 3) 490,318

Investments (note 4) 357,346,918

\$ 359,452,168

Liabilities and Deferred Contributions

Current liabilities:

Bank overdraft	\$ 1,063,423
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	431,660
	<u>1,495,083</u>

Deferred contributions:

Deferred investment income	7,466,767
Deferred capital contributions	490,318
Deferred grant	350,000,000
	<u>357,957,085</u>

Lease commitments (note 5)


Project commitments (note 6)

Contingency (note 8)

\$ 359,452,168

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Approved on behalf of the Board of Directors:

 Chairman

 Treasurer

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Statement of Operations

From date of incorporation on March 31, 1998 to March 31, 1999

	1999
Revenue:	
Investment income	\$ 5,506,767
Vancouver workshop funding	400,000
Start-up funding	86,000
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	38,958
Other	6,000
	<hr/> 6,037,725
Expenses:	
Project:	
Proposal development (note 6(a))	1,758,340
Administrative:	
General (note 7)	1,590,509
Governance	859,214
Start-up costs	636,144
Vancouver workshop	428,889
Communication and promotion	331,405
Merit review	241,417
Information sessions	103,182
Ethics Committee	88,625
	<hr/> 4,279,385
Excess of revenue over expenses	<hr/> \$ -

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Statement of Changes in Deferred Contributions

From date of incorporation on March 31, 1998 to March 31, 1999

	Deferred investment income	Deferred capital contributions	Deferred grant	Total 1999
Balance, beginning of period	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Federal government grant	-	-	350,000,000	350,000,000
Investment income (note 4(b))	13,502,810	-	-	13,502,810
Recognized as revenue	(5,506,767)	-	-	(5,506,767)
Capital asset additions	(529,276)	529,276	-	-
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	-	(38,958)	-	(38,958)
Balance, end of period	\$ 7,466,767	\$ 490,318	\$ 350,000,000	\$ 357,957,085

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Statement of Cash Flows

From date of incorporation on March 31, 1998 to March 31, 1999

	1999
Cash provided by (used for):	
Operations:	
Increase in amounts receivable	\$ (89,980)
Increase in interest receivable	(1,516,056)
Increase in prepaid expenses	(8,896)
Increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	431,660
Amortization of capital assets	38,958
	<u>(1,144,314)</u>
Investments:	
Purchase of investments	(4,139,181,880)
Sale of investments	3,783,977,108
Amortization of bond discounts/premiums	(2,142,146)
Capital asset additions	(529,276)
	<u>(357,876,194)</u>
Financing:	
Increase in deferred investment income	7,466,767
Increase in deferred capital contributions	490,318
Increase in deferred grant	350,000,000
	<u>357,957,085</u>
Decrease in cash, being bank overdraft, end of period	<u>\$ (1,063,423)</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Notes to Financial Statements

From date of incorporation on March 31, 1998 to March 31, 1999

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 are to be made by April 1, 2003 and the actual disbursements can be made over a ten-year-period ending March, 2008.

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.

(b) Capital assets:

Capital assets are recorded at cost with the exception of software which is expensed in the period of acquisition. Amortization is provided on a straight-line basis using the following annual rates:

Asset	Useful life
Furniture and equipment	10 years
Computer hardware	5 years

(c) Investments:

Investments are recorded at cost plus or minus amortization of bond discounts or premiums. Interest on the investments is accrued as earned. Gains or losses on the sale of investments are recognized in the year of disposal. Amortization of bond discounts or premiums are accrued over the term of the investment. Investment income earned in the year is recorded as an increase in deferred investment income.

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Notes to Financial Statements, page 2

From date of incorporation on March 31, 1998 to March 31, 1999

2. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(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.

3. Capital assets:

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	1999 Net book value
Furniture and equipment	\$ 274,317	\$ 13,462	\$ 260,855
Computer hardware	254,959	25,496	229,463
	\$ 529,276	\$ 38,958	\$ 490,318

4. Investments:

(a) Investments held by the Foundation are to be used for project funding during the ten-year period ending March 2008. The cost and market values of the investments are as follows:

	Carrying value 1999	Market value 1999
Cash	\$ 53,988	\$ 53,988
Cash equivalents:		
Federal government	34,557,146	34,557,146
Provincial government	4,172,154	4,172,154
Corporate	8,107,864	8,107,864
Bonds, coupons and residuals:		
Federal government	221,909,909	222,688,948
Provincial government	60,687,202	59,993,986
Corporate	25,716,509	25,317,413
	355,204,772	354,891,499
Amortization of bond discounts/premiums	2,142,146	-
	\$ 357,346,918	\$ 354,891,499

(b) Investment income is comprised of:

Interest	\$11,437,312
Loss on disposal	(76,648)
Amortization of bond discounts/premiums	2,142,146
	\$13,502,810

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Notes to Financial Statements, page 3

From date of incorporation on March 31, 1998 to March 31, 1999

5. Lease commitments:

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

2000	\$ 123,960
2001	124,387
2002	123,247
2003	113,871
2004	45,295
	<hr/>
	\$ 530,760

6. Project commitments:

(a) Proposal development:

The Foundation has authorized the disbursement of proposal development funding to a maximum of \$6,323,000. In 1999, \$1,758,340 was disbursed for this purpose.

(b) Project funding:

The Foundation has approved agreements for the funding of projects in the 1999/2000 fiscal year totalling \$12,044,000. In addition, the Foundation has conditionally approved agreements for the funding of projects in the 1999/2000 fiscal year totalling \$7,569,000.

7. General expenses:

	1999
Salaries	\$ 692,141
Office	262,953
Professional fees	188,236
Investment fees	130,066
Computer maintenance	115,845
Rent	100,754
Amortization	38,958
Travel	38,558
Insurance	22,998
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,590,509

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION

Notes to Financial Statements, page 4

From date of incorporation on March 31, 1998 to March 31, 1999

8. Uncertainty due to the Year 2000 Issue:

The Year 2000 Issue arises because many computerized systems use two digits rather than four to identify a year. Date-sensitive systems may recognize the year 2000 as 1900 or some other date, resulting in errors when information using year 2000 dates is processed. In addition, similar problems may arise in some systems which use certain dates in 1999 to represent something other than a date. The effects of the Year 2000 Issue may be experienced before, on, or after January 1, 2000, and, if not addressed, the impact on operations and financial reporting may range from minor errors to significant systems failure which could affect the Foundation's ability to conduct normal business operations. It is not possible to be certain that all aspects of the Year 2000 Issue affecting the Foundation, including those related to the efforts of funding agencies, suppliers, or other third parties, will be fully resolved.

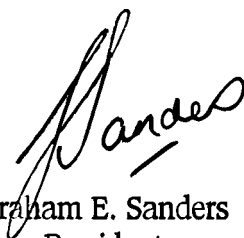


August 16, 1999

The Board of Directors
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 Aboriginal Healing 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.



Graham E. Sanders
President

LOOKING AHEAD

Future Directions

We are committed to continuing to find more effective and efficient ways to conduct our work for the benefit of Aboriginal communities. Over the year ahead we will be making changes that will help us to best assist Survivors and their communities, in fulfilment of the mandate entrusted to us. We hope, as a result, to become even better at meeting the needs of Survivors, their families and descendants. Some of our plans for the future are outlined below:

The Funding Process

A refined Community Support process will be unveiled at the launch of our next call for proposals. This process will provide more intensive staff & professional reviews of each proposal before it goes to the External Merit Review phase of the process. This is intended to assist applicants in ensuring that their applications are complete and meet mandatory criteria.

Funding Cycles

Several funding cycles will be held over the life of the Foundation so everyone should have the opportunity to submit a proposal. Applicants who were not successful or missed the first cycle can resubmit their proposals when new calls are made. Deadlines for each call will always be firm and clearly publicized.

Proposal Development Workshops

Proposal Development Workshops, open to anyone interested in preparing and submitting a proposal, will be held in all regions to provide information and help to applicants. The full schedule will be publicized once it has been finalized.

Revised Program Handbook

In the near future we will be releasing a Revised Program Handbook which has been updated to reflect changes to the Funding Process.

Integrated Communications Strategy

An Integrated Communications Strategy has been developed and will be approved and in place by late 1999.

Consultations

Four meetings are currently scheduled for the remainder of 1999. They will be held in: Yellowknife on September 30th, Thunder Bay on October 14th, Montreal on October 28th, and Edmonton on November 4th.

Code of Conduct

A Code of Conduct to help build a healthy environment within which the Foundation can carry out its responsibilities is currently being developed.

REACHING US

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

The Foundation's staff members are here to help you. Please call if we can be of service.

Executive Offices

Mike DeGagné, Executive Director
Linda Côté, Executive Assistant (Extension 236)

Programs Department

Yvonne Boyer, Director
Pamela Lussier, Executive Assistant (Extension 223)

Finance Department

Ernie Daniels, Director
Leanne Nagle, Executive Assistant (Extension 261)

Research Department

Gail Valaskakis, Director

Communications Department

Allen Gabriel, Director
Marilyn McIvor, Executive Assistant (Extension 245)