



PIMACHIOWIN AKI


WORLD HERITAGE PROJECT

The Land that Gives Life

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Annual Report 2017





PIMACHIOWIN AKI IS OJIBWE FOR THE *Land that Gives Life* (pim MATCH cho win - ahh KEY)

PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION

Pimachiowin Aki Corporation is a non-profit organization working to achieve international recognition for an Anishinaabe cultural landscape in the boreal forest in central Canada as a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Site.

Members of the Pimachiowin Aki Corporation include the First Nations of Bloodvein River, Little Grand Rapids, Pauingassi and Poplar River and the provinces of Manitoba and Ontario

THE CORPORATION'S MISSION

"To acknowledge and support the Anishinaabe culture and safeguard the boreal forest; preserving a living cultural landscape to ensure the well-being of the Anishinaabe who live here and for the benefit and enjoyment of all people."



THE CORPORATION'S OBJECTIVES

- To create an internationally recognized network of linked protected areas (including aboriginal ancestral lands) which is worthy of UNESCO World Heritage inscription;
- To seek support and approval from governments of First Nations, Ontario, Manitoba, and Canada to complete the nomination process and achieve UNESCO designation;
- To enhance cooperative relationships amongst members in order to develop an appropriate management framework for the area; and
- To solicit governments and private organizations in order to raise funds to implement the objectives of the Corporation.



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MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

This report reviews the activities of the Pimachiowin Aki Corporation for 2017. The Board of Directors has overseen the Corporation's activities during this period.

Based on advice received from the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, we submitted a new nomination for Pimachiowin Aki in 2017. The preparation and evaluation of the new nomination were our top priorities this year. We are confident that Pimachiowin Aki will be recognized as Canada's first mixed World Heritage Site during the the 42nd Session of the World Heritage Committee scheduled from June 24 to July 4, 2018 in Manama, Bahrain.

Having to focus primarily on the nomination process since 2013, following the deferral of our initial nomination, has been challenging. However, this circumstance is also a testament to the commitment of the Pimachiowin Aki partners to achieve the goals articulated in the First Nations Accord. We express our sincere appreciation to community members, Chief and Councils, the provincial governments, the government of Canada, and to our Board colleagues who, throughout this lengthy process, have continued to support the creation of a Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Site.

We have begun the transition from an organization focussed on nomination requirements to one with a new purpose, supporting the effective management of a new World Heritage Site and achieving benefits for people within and beyond the communities of Pimachiowin Aki. We are taking a strategic approach to better position our organization to assume new responsibilities and to respond to new opportunities. We have set a goal to be a cross-cultural community-based leader in World Heritage management.

We look forward with optimism to the inscription of Pimachiowin Aki on the World Heritage List in 2018, and to new challenges that lie ahead. We know it will take the same spirit and commitment, and a lot of hard work to achieve the vision that has guided and sustained the Pimachiowin Aki partnership. With the encouragement and support of the many individuals and organizations that have stood with us, we will strive to fulfil our responsibility to carry forward Pimachiowin Aki as a gift to all nations.

William Young, Director
Bloodvein River First Nation

Bruce Bremner, Assistant Deputy Minister
Manitoba Sustainable Development





BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ADVISORS AND STAFF

CO-CHAIRS



WILLIAM YOUNG is the Director from Bloodvein River First Nation. William is Southern Safety Officer for Norwin Construction Co. Ltd. He also owns and operates Bloodvein River Lodge and is Chair of Eastside Aboriginal Sustainable Tourism Inc. of Manitoba. He is a former Chief and served as Band Councillor for four terms.



BRUCE BREMNER the second Co-Chair, represents Manitoba on the Board of the Directors. Bruce retired from his position as Assistant Deputy Minister of Regional Services and Parks, Sustainable Development in 2017, but continues his role on the Board of Directors. Bruce worked for the Manitoba government for 35 years in a variety of positions, (*Park Ranger, Park Planner, Park Manager, Director of the Eastern Region and Assistant Deputy Minister*) in northern, western, and eastern Manitoba.

DIRECTORS



AUGUSTINE KEEPER of Little Grand Rapids is his community's Land Use Planner. Born in Winnipeg, he was educated in both Winnipeg and in his community and is fluent in Ojibwe. Previously he worked for several years at the nursing station in his community.



GRAEME SWANWICK has been a member of the Pimachiowin Aki Board of Directors and treasurer since its inception in 2006. Graeme has been an Ontario Public Servant for 25 years and is currently the district manager for the Red Lake District of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.



JOE OWEN of Pauingassi First Nations served as Chief for six years before becoming his community's Lands Coordinator. His varied career includes being a Health Care Representative taking care of birthing mothers and sick children before his community had a nursing station.



ED HUDSON of Poplar River First Nation is a business owner and former elected Band Councillor serving eight terms. He has managed transportation, housing, education and training projects for his community. He has also been a Justice of the Peace and Magistrate.





ADVISORS



ALISON HAUGH is a corporate resource planner with Manitoba Conservation, working on traditional area Crown land use plans. Alison provides land use planning expertise on provincial policy and legislation.



MARILYN PECKETT is the Field Unit Superintendent for Parks Canada in Manitoba responsible for the operation of Wapusk National Park and nine national historic sites, most notably Lower Fort Garry and The Forks.



RAY RABLIAUSKAS of Poplar River First Nation was his community's Land Use Planner for more than a decade, directed by community elders. He has also worked as an advisor for Southeast Tribal Council serving several First Nations in Manitoba.

STAFF



GORD JONES is the Project Manager for the Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Project. He joined the Pimachiowin Aki Corporation in 2007 following a career in the Manitoba public service in parks and forestry.



SOPHIA RABLIAUSKAS is a member of the Poplar River First Nation and formerly has served as Community Coordinator and spokesperson for the Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Project. She currently assists the organization on a part-time basis. She has been a member of the Band Council for Poplar River and has been recognized internationally for her environmental and community work.



HISTORY

In 2002, Little Grand Rapids, Poplar River and Pauingassi First Nations of Manitoba and Pikangikum First Nation of Ontario – signed a document called the *Protected Areas and First Nations Resource Stewardship: A Cooperative Relationship Accord (the Accord)*. Through the Accord the First Nations agreed to work together to propose lands within their traditional territories as a World Heritage Site. A short time later, Bloodvein River First Nation also signed the *Accord*. These First Nations are linked by a shared Anishinaabe/Ojibwe culture and identity.

The *Accord* states, “Our First Nations are joining together in the spirit of cooperation and mutual respect. We are joining together so that we may support each other and work together in our shared vision of protecting the ancestral lands and resources of our respective First Nations.”

As part of the *Accord*, the First Nations committed “to pursue, cooperatively and collectively, the shared objective of creating an internationally recognized and designated network of linked protected areas on our ancestral lands” and to “seek support and recognition for our network of linked protected areas in the form of UNESCO World Cultural Heritage and World Natural Heritage designation.” The study and planning area for this proposed World Heritage Site encompassed over 40,000 square kilometres.

Following the *Accord’s* approval by the First Nations, the provincial governments of Ontario and Manitoba joined with the First Nations to develop a submission to Parks Canada, the government agency responsible for the World Heritage program in Canada. In May 2004, Parks Canada published its new Tentative List of sites that would be forthcoming from Canada to the World Heritage Centre over the next 10 years. The Pimachiowin Aki site was included on that list.

The next major milestone was the creation of the Assembly of Partners, which originated in a meeting held in December 2004. The First Nations and the provincial governments met and agreed that a formal process should commence to develop a World Heritage nomination dossier.

The Pimachiowin Aki Corporation was incorporated in 2006 as a legal entity that would co-ordinate the work necessary for the development of the nomination

package. A Project Manager was hired in April 2007 and work began on further defining the approach to the project, the recruitment of project teams and the development of the background information required to complete the nomination.

The Board of Directors oversaw the development of the Pimachiowin Aki nomination dossier between 2007 and 2012. The Pimachiowin Aki nominated area encompassed 33,400 square kilometres of land and water in the North American boreal shield. During this same period, the First Nations prepared land management plans for their traditional territories with provincial support. Manitoba and Ontario each introduced new legislation to enable all First Nations in the Pimachiowin Aki region to create and implement land management plans.

The World Heritage Advisory Bodies (IUCN and ICOMOS) carried out a field mission to Pimachiowin Aki in 2012 as part of the evaluation of the nomination. In May 2013, the Advisory Bodies recommended that the nomination of Pimachiowin Aki be deferred. The Board of Directors, in concert with Parks Canada, decided to let the nomination stand on the agenda of the 37th Session of the World Heritage Committee held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in June 2013.

The World Heritage Committee upheld the Advisory Bodies’ recommendation to defer the nomination and suggested that Canada invite a joint ICOMOS and IUCN Advisory Mission in order to address issues raised during the evaluation. The Committee also requested the World Heritage Centre, in consultation with the Advisory Bodies, to examine options for changes to the criteria and/or to the Advisory Body evaluation process to address broader concerns resulting from the Pimachiowin Aki evaluation process, and to discuss this matter during the Committee’s 38th Session in 2014.

The Advisory Mission to Pimachiowin Aki was held in October 2013 and a joint ICOMOS/IUCN report on the mission was issued in November 2013. Following this mission, work began on a second nomination. A new Pimachiowin Aki nomination dossier was submitted to the World Heritage Center in January 2015. The 39th Session of the World Heritage Committee in July 2015 marked a number of significance changes in World Heritage processes, which had been influenced by the Pimachiowin Aki project.





Pimachiowin Aki's inscription on the World Heritage List at the 40th Session of the World Heritage Committee, in Istanbul, Turkey in July 2016, was highly anticipated. Given the unforeseen decision by Pikangikum First Nation to withdraw from the project, the World Heritage Committee referred the nomination back to Canada. In a written decision to refer the nomination, the Committee expressed appreciation for the combined efforts of the State Party, First Nations, and all authorities and stakeholders in deepening the understanding of nature-culture connections in the context of the World Heritage Convention. The Committee commended Canada for a landmark nomination for sites nominated through the commitment of Indigenous peoples, and confirmed that Pimachiowin Aki meets the conditions of integrity and authenticity, has adequate protection and management, and justifies Outstanding Universal Value on the basis of criteria (iii), (vi) and (ix).

The Pimachiowin Aki partners decided to move forward with a revised boundary for the nominated area (reduced from 33,400 km² to 29,040 km²), initially proposing to Canada the development of an Addendum to the nomination, rather than preparing a new nomination. The Addendum would examine the implications of the reduced area on the adopted Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for the site, demonstrating that there was no material change to the Outstanding Universal Value. Canada in turn consulted with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies on the proposed approach. The World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies however recommended that a new nomination be prepared for submission by February 1, 2017.

2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

This meeting was on January 19, 2017 at the South Beach Resort in Brokenhead, Manitoba, and was well attended by First Nation community members and representatives of the provincial government partners. Simon Hall of Simon Hall Chartered Accountants, Auditor to Pimachiowin Aki, joined the AGM to present the 2016 financial statements.

The Board of Directors was pleased to welcome Chiefs and Councillors of the Pimachiowin Aki First Nations

to the AGM. Discussion focused on the status of the nomination process and the relationship with the new Manitoba government. Of particular interest was the status of agreements between the First Nations and Manitoba regarding lands programs. The possibility of Berens River joining the project was also raised.

Sophia Rabliuaskas provided an overview of the Women's Forum held at the Brokenhead First Nation Council office on January 18, 2017. A number of Forum participants attending the AGM spoke in Ojibwe about the gathering. Other commentators expressed pride that women had come together in this manner and support for their work.

The meeting also featured a presentation by Shaun Loney of Aki Energy regarding Aki Energy's successful geothermal and food projects, particularly work at Garden Hill First Nation to create a sustainable and affordable food system. Shaun identified potential opportunities for Pimachiowin Aki communities and offered the expertise of his organization to follow up potential interests and ideas.

The Board was pleased to welcome Doug Gilmore, former Superintendent of Woodland Caribou Provincial Park, as a special guest. Augustine Keeper and Joe Owen presented a gift to Doug in recognition of his valued support and commitment to First Nations lands management planning and the Pimachiowin Aki project.



Presentation to Doug Gilmore, January 2017



2017 NOMINATION OF PIMACHIOWIN AKI

The new nomination dossier contained an updated nomination document, management plan, five display maps and a new e-dossier. There was no requirement to include many of the documents from the previous nomination package (e.g. background studies, land management plans etc.).

The new nomination included textual changes throughout reflecting the current partnership and the revised nominated area. A number of other textual changes were made to reflect current events. All the maps were updated to show the new boundary of the nominated area, several new maps were developed illustrating various cultural attributes, and some new photography was included in the document.

The new nomination retained the same statement of Outstanding Universal Value as the 2015 nomination. Pimachiowin Aki provides the most complete testimony to the ancient and continuing cultural tradition of *Ji-ganawendamang Gidakiiminaan* (Keeping the Land) (Criterion iii). Pimachiowin Aki is directly and tangibly associated with the living cultural tradition of *Ji-ganawendamang Gidakiiminaan* through which Anishinaabeg uphold a sacred trust to ensure *aki* (the land and all its life) is cared for and respected (Criterion vi). Finally, Pimachiowin Aki is the most complete and largest example of the North American boreal shield, including its characteristic biodiversity and ecological processes (Criterion ix).





Pimachiowin Aki nominated area, 2017

Canada Lambert Conformal Conic



EVALUATION MISSION

The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies envisioned a brief mission as part of the evaluation of the 2017 nomination of Pimachiowin Aki. Very limited review of the site's Outstanding Universal Value and criteria was needed since these were well understood and there was no requirement for a field visit.

Expectations for the mission focused on changes to the nomination since 2016 (notably the boundaries), management/governance of the nominated area, updates on any key issues/threats to the site, and an update on the area previously included as part of the proposed World Heritage Site.

The mission took place in Winnipeg, Manitoba on September 6 and 7, 2017, at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights and the Manitoba Museum, respectively. We welcomed back Mr. Greg De Vries, representing ICOMOS, who participated the 2015 field mission.

We were pleased to meet Mr. Brent Mitchell, who represented IUCN. Mr. De Vries and Mr. Mitchell are from the United States of America.

The Board of Directors was very pleased to welcome The Honourable Rochelle Squires, Manitoba Minister of Sustainable Development, who joined the meeting to bring remarks on behalf of the Government of Manitoba.

At the conclusion of the session both experts indicated their needs and requirements for reporting to the respective Advisory Bodies had been fully met. The Board of Directors expressed sincere thanks to Mr. De Vries and Mr. Mitchell for their expertise and professionalism.

The Board Executive participated on conference call at the invitation of ICOMOS in November to review the status of the evaluation. The results of the evaluation will be made public in May 2018.



Participants in the 2017 evaluation mission at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, September 2017

STRATEGIC PLAN

In 2016, the Corporation prepared a Strategic Plan to facilitate the organization's transition to roles and responsibilities associated with a new World Heritage Site. The plan is a tool to further guide and support effective management of the proposed site. It presented the organization's vision, mission, goals core programs and detailed actions for three years.

The organization's core programs are:

1. Safeguarding tangible and intangible cultural heritage;
2. Conserving and understanding ecosystems and species;
3. Supporting sustainable economies;
4. Informing and educating the public;
5. Coordinating monitoring and reporting; and
6. Supporting community-based initiatives.





The plan was updated in 2017 to reflect Lands Guardians as an emerging priority and, for purposes of the evaluation mission, to illustrate the organization's approach to strategic planning and highlight ways the partners were addressing recommendations from the 2016 draft decision of the World Heritage Committee.

SAFEGUARDING TANGIBLE AND INTANGIBLE HERITAGE

WOMEN'S FORUM

The Governance Study for Pimachiowin Aki proposed a Women's Forum as a standing institution within the governance structure of the Corporation. The inaugural Women's Forum was held on January 18, 2017 at Brokenhead First Nation.

Twelve women from the Pimachiowin Aki communities and two guests gathered to review the goals of the Women's Forum to focus on introducing and sharing about the Pimachiowin Aki project.

The session followed a workshop format, examining a series of questions posed to the group. Outcomes were discussed and plans were developed for a future meeting. Some suggestions from the session were:

- Develop a contact list to enable encouragement and support women
- Visit each community to share learning experiences
- Use syllabics in any written materials that are developed
- Develop proposals for community projects for consideration by the Board of Directors of Pimachiowin Aki Corporation
- Have more workshops on women's teachings and ceremonies.

Forum coordinator, Sophia Rabliauskas, noted the prevalent use of Ojibwe, and the women's excitement about the opportunity to come together to discuss ways to help each other in helping the communities, especially our children, youth, young families and Elders. The women agreed that there was much work to be done in the planning and development of community programs to help sustain cultural values and beliefs in our communities.



Participants in the Women's Forum, January 2017

VISIT TO BELLA BELLA, BRITISH COLUMBIA

William Young and Sophia Rabliauskas visited the community of Bella Bella, BC, Heiltsuk First Nation, in April 2017. The community was featured in a McLean's article about reconnecting youth with the land. Mr. Larry Jorgenson, of the Qqs Projects Society, was a gracious host for this visit. The Qqs Projects Society is a non-profit organization that took the lead in establishing a youth camp and engaging youth with scientific researchers in the area. In addition to learning about the youth camp, a number of other community initiatives were discussed during the trip including school programs involving field trips and Elders language teachings, a community youth center, and a Guardians Watchmen Program. Fundraising and careful integration of various programs were necessary to achieve successful outcomes.

Sophia and William described the experience as very informative and inspirational. They also identified the idea of an exchange program for youth between Bella Bella and Pimachiowin Aki.

SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIES

William and Sophia's travel to BC also involved attending a Sustainable Indigenous Tourism conference in Nanaimo. Thirteen keynote speakers and presenters at this conference emphasized the importance of "Authentic Aboriginal tourism". Some of the highlights discussed as foundations of indigenous tourism were to:

- Maintain traditional values
- Maintain both community and individuals aspirations and economic development
- Make use of local resources
- Have cultural continuity through input from knowledge keepers

- Encourage partnerships with other communities
- Ensure respect and integrity through community enjoyment
- Focus on cultural and eco-tourism programming.

Sophia noted there are many indigenous operators in BC who are taking advantage of this growing industry. The conference provided a valuable opportunity to talk with individuals about their experiences as indigenous business entrepreneurs, to hear how they got started, and about their challenges.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

A brochure summarizing the 2017 Pimachiowin Aki nomination was produced for broad distribution to partners and stakeholders, and the video booklet developed in 2015 was updated to reflect changes in the partnership and the nominated area.



Work began on a poster illustrating named places within Poplar River's traditional territory. The concept is to create posters for display in offices, schools and other community spaces, east side airports, and in other locations. The poster is a means to support cultural heritage locally, and to inform other audiences about aspects of Anishinaabe culture. Similar products may be developed for Bloodvein, Little Grand Rapids and Pauingassi.

Pimachiowin Aki Corporation published the "Pimachiowin Aki Cultural Landscape Atlas" in 2013 through an agreement between the Corporation and the Natural Resources Institute of the University of Manitoba. The Atlas illustrated the proposed Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Site through a journey of maps, images and stories. This year we sold the last of our stock of some 400 copies through McNally Robinson in Winnipeg. The Atlases were a valuable educational resource for individuals and institutions, and provided a modest fundraising opportunity for

Pimachiowin Aki. Current discussions with the Natural Resources Institute are identifying new opportunities to collaborate with the University.



MONITORING

The Board of Directors determined to investigate the establishment of Lands Guardians program as an important component of the management system for the proposed Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Site. Lands Guardians are important aspects of monitoring and, as other studies have shown, guardians programs provide social, cultural and economic community benefits. Lands Guardians will contribute to Pimachiowin Aki's core programs. The Board undertook the following steps:

- Shaunna Morgan-Siegers of the Indigenous Lands Initiative attended a Board meeting to make a presentation on lands guardians programs in Canada.
- The Board created a Working Group to define requirements, anticipate needs and make recommendations on a Land Guardians initiative. The Working Group met on several occasions and developed initial recommendations regarding financing, governance and timing to initiate a program.

The Corporation was notified by the Manitoba Crown Lands and Property Agency government about a Crown land permit request by Bloodvein First Nation for a proposal youth camp. Having previously discussed this initiative, the Corporation was pleased to provide written support for this request.

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry also notified the Corporation about several annual work planning schedules and forest management planning initiatives in forest units adjacent to the nominated area.





GOVERNANCE

Following the completion in 2016 of an assessment of current and future technology needs regarding computer hardware and software, website upgrading, constituent relationship management/fundraising support and IT support, the Corporation consolidated a variety of technology support services (e.g. web hosting, computer/software support) with Peaceworks Technology Solutions, in Winnipeg, and acquired Microsoft Office 365 to facilitate information sharing. The Corporation also joined TechSoup Canada, an organization that provides technological support to the non-profit sector in Canada, particularly through discounted pricing on software products and services.

COMMUNICATIONS

Pimachiowin Aki staff attended the annual General Meeting of ICOMOS Canada in Halifax in May 2017. ICOMOS Canada is the Canadian committee of the International Council on Monuments and on Sites (ICOMOS). We were requested to present on some of the lessons learned, questions, challenges, and successes related to Pimachiowin Aki that could help identify opportunities for support from ICOMOS Canada. Foremost among our recommendations was that ICOMOS Canada support the continuation of “Connecting Practice”, previously adopted by the Advisory Bodies.

Several Board members and staff were invited to attend the Central Region Gathering on Indigenous Protected area in Winnipeg in September. This gathering was part of a national consultation to facilitate the establishment of Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas in Canada (IPCA's). IPCA's could contribute to the government of Canada's goal of conserving by 2020, at least 17% of terrestrial areas and inland water, and 10% of coastal and marine areas, through networks of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures. We were pleased to give a presentation on Pimachiowin Aki project at this gathering, and to respond to a number of queries from participants following the session.

Augustine Keeper gave a Pimachiowin Aki presentation at the Early Table meeting in Thunder Bay in September.

The Corporation was invited to attend a second workshop in Berens River, Manitoba, regarding land use planning by this First Nation. This workshop provided the chance to describe in more detail the work of the Pimachiowin Aki partners. Berens River representatives expressed interest in attending a meeting of the Board in 2018.

Pimachiowin Aki was featured in “Call of the Forest, the Forgotten Wisdom of Trees”, a film by Jeff McKay. The film explores ancient forests of the northern hemisphere, revealing the profound connection that exists between trees and human life and the vital ways that trees sustain all life on the planet. The film was launched in Winnipeg this summer and has been shown across Canada.

FUNDRAISING

Board Co-chair, William Young wrote to Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate change and Carolyn Bennet, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs regarding the Government of Canada's announcement to support the development of an Indigenous Guardians network in Canada. The Ministers identified officials who were contacted to initiate discussions about potential financial support by the government of Canada for the Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Project.

The Corporation appreciates the many donors who have contributed to the Pimachiowin Aki Fund managed by The Winnipeg Foundation to date. Donor letters sent in 2017 expressed appreciation for ongoing support of the project.

The Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Fund (TWF) is critical to the financial sustainability of the Pimachiowin Aki Corporation. It will ensure a consistent stream of operating funds for the Corporation as well as supporting community-led projects to ensure the world learns more about the boreal forest and the Anishinabe people and their boreal forest environment.

At the end of September 2017, the market value of the fund was \$4,773,696. It is the long-term objective of The Winnipeg Foundation to make available for annual grant making activities an amount of 4.5% of the average of the three preceding years' market value of each fund.



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The Corporation is funded primarily by grants from the governments of Manitoba and Ontario. The attached Financial Statements show the position of the Corporation at the end of its Fiscal year, August 31, 2017.

PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AUGUST 31, 2017

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SIMON HALL CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT
82 ST CROSS STREET
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA
R2W 3Y1

(204) 943-9931 (T)
(204) 943-9932 (F)

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board Members of
PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION,
Winnipeg, Manitoba

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Pimachiowin Aki Corporation, which comprise the statement of financial position as at AUGUST 31, 2017 and the statement of operations and changes in net assets, and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting standards for Not For Profit organizations, 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 audit. I conducted my audit 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 from 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 judgement, 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 preparation 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.

Clear Opinion

In my opinion the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Pimachiowin Aki Corporation as at AUGUST 31, 2017, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations.

SIMON HALL CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

December 8, 2017
Winnipeg, Manitoba

PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AUGUST 31, 2017

	<u>2017</u> \$	<u>2016</u> \$
		CORRECTION OF ERRORS - NOTE 7
<u>ASSETS</u>		
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash in bank	287,368	271,040
Accounts receivable (note 3)	2,866	4,338
Prepaid expenses	<u>7,303</u>	<u>201</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>297,537</u>	<u>275,579</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Accounts payable (note 4)	6,913	25,811
Deferred revenue (note 5)	<u>290,624</u>	<u>249,768</u>
	<u>297,537</u>	<u>275,579</u>
<u>NET ASSETS</u>		
Unrestricted net assets	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>297,537</u>	<u>275,579</u>
APPROVED BY BOARD:		
_____ : Director	_____ : Director	
_____ : Director	_____ : Director	
_____ : Director	_____ : Director	
_____ : Director		

"See Auditor's Report and Accompanying Notes"





PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2017

	<u>2017</u> \$	<u>2016</u> \$
		CORRECTION OF ERRORS - NOTE 7
REVENUES:		
Mantitoba Sustainable Development	134,000	-
Ontario M.N.R.	100,000	-
Sustainable Development Innovations Fund	-	-
Mac Arthur Foundation	-	-
Sales	1,186	747
Winnipeg Foundation	1,259	157,390
Miscellaneous Income	4,916	4,603
Donations	630	471
Deferred - to future period	(40,856)	-
Deferred - from prior period	-	152,041
Total Revenues	<u>201,135</u>	<u>315,252</u>
EXPENSES:		
Celebratory Material (Pg 9)	-	14,300
Communications (Pg 9)	8,175	44,272
Economic Diversification (Pg 9)	8,202	-
First Nation Participation (Pg 9)	8,500	35,271
Fundraising (Pg 10)	-	13,082
General Administration (Pg 10)	112,832	149,706
Management Plan - Revised (Pg 10)	4,618	-
Miscellaneous (Pg 11)	-	1,666
Nomination Evaluation (Pg 11)	-	19,409
Nomination - Printing/Summary (Pg 11)	-	7,377
Revised Nomination (Pg 11)	51,440	-
Succession Planning (Pg 11)	-	11,439
Technology assessment (Pg 11)	-	6,900
Tourism Capacity Training (Pg 12)	-	4,540
WH Committee Meeting (Pg 12)	-	6,127
Women's Forum/Cultural (Pg 12)	7,368	1,163
Miscellaneous (Pg)	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Total Expenditures	<u>201,135</u>	<u>315,252</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of revenues over expenses	-	-
Net assets, beginning of year	-	-
Net assets, end of year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

"See Auditor's Report and Accompanying Notes"

PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2017

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
	\$	\$
		CORRECTION OF ERRORS - NOTE 7
CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR) OPERATIONS:		
Excess (Deficiency) of revenues over expenses expenses for the year	-	-
Change in working capital:		
Accounts receivable	1,470	4,079
Prepaid expenses	(7,100)	2,418
Accounts payable	(18,898)	(1,076)
Funds in trust	-	(45,102)
Deferred revenue	<u>40,856</u>	<u>(152,041)</u>
	<u>16,328</u>	<u>(191,722)</u>
Increase (decrease) in cash for the year	16,328	(191,722)
Cash, beginning of year	<u>271,040</u>	<u>462,762</u>
Cash, end of year	<u>287,368</u>	<u>271,040</u>
Represented By:		
Cash in bank	<u><u>287,368</u></u>	<u><u>271,040</u></u>

"See Auditor's Report and Accompanying Notes"





PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2017

1. FORM OF ORGANIZATION

Pimachiowin Aki Corporation (Pimachiowin hereafter) is a non profit corporation, federally incorporated in Canada. Pimachiowin Aki is working to create an internationally recognized network of linked protected areas and managed landscapes which is worthy of UNESCO World Cultural and World Heritage designation. Pimachiowin Aki is working with governments of First Nations, Ontario, Manitoba and Canada to complete the nomination process and achieve the UNESCO designation.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for non profit organizations. Because a precise determination of many assets and liabilities is dependent upon future events, the preparation of financial statements for a period necessarily involves the use of estimates which have been made using careful judgment. The financial statements have, in management's opinion, been properly prepared within the reasonable limits of materiality and within the framework of the significant accounting policies summarized below.

i) Revenue Recognition

The organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Restricted contributions are deferred and recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Other donations are recorded on a cash basis since pledges are not legally enforceable claims.

ii) Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are recorded at cost in the year of acquisition. The cost of the fixed assets less any expected residual value is expensed over the assets useful life.

"See Auditor's Report"

PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2017

iii) Measurement Uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Accounts receivable are stated after evaluation as to their collectibility and an appropriate allowance for doubtful accounts is provided where considered necessary. These assumptions are reviewed periodically and, as adjustments become necessary, they are reported in earnings in the period in which they become known.

iv) Financial Instruments

It is management's opinion that the corporation is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from its financial instruments

vi) Accounting standards for Not-for-Profit organizations

Pimachiowin Aki follows Canadian Not For Profit accounting standards.

3. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
	\$	\$
G.S.T. receivable	2,417	4,211
Misc Receivable	<u>449</u>	<u>126</u>
	<u>2,866</u>	<u>4,337</u>

4. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
	\$	\$
Accounts Payable and Accrued liabilities	<u>6,913</u>	<u>25,811</u>

5. DEFERRED REVENUE

The deferred revenue balance is made up of funding received in prior years for the furtherance of the Pimachiowin Aki efforts to establish and develop a world heritage site in Canada. The use of the funding is restricted to that purpose.

"See Auditor's Report"





PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2017

6. COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Certain 2016 comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the 2017 financial statement presentation in order to provide meaningful comparative information.

7. CORRECTION OF ERRORS IN PRIOR PERIOD FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The 2016 financial statements included a misclassification of the Pimachiowin Aki Corporation's deferred revenue as net assets. The prior year financial statement balances have been corrected retroactively to reflect the correct balances. The following prior year (2016) balances were affected:

The deferred revenue balance was increased by \$394,871;

The net assets balance was reduced by \$394,871; and

The deferred revenue balance was increased by \$15,541.

The 2016 financial statements incorrectly included funds belonging to The Winnipeg Foundation. The prior year financial statement balances have been corrected retroactively to reflect the correct balances. The following prior year (2016) balances were affected:

The investments balance was reduced by \$145,103; and

The net assets balance was reduced by \$145,103.

8. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

The organization's primary source of funding is through government grants. The organization's ability to continue viable operations is dependent upon maintaining these grants.

"See Auditor's Report"



PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AUGUST 31, 2017

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"See Auditor's Report"





PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION
SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2017

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
	\$	\$
<u>CELEBRATORY MATERIAL</u>		
EXPENDITURES:		
Celebratory poster	-	1,830
Celebratory video	-	12,470
	-	14,300
<u>COMMUNICATIONS</u>		
EXPENDITURES:		
Consultant fees	8,175	39,742
Logo Package	-	4,530
	8,175	44,272
<u>ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION</u>		
EXPENDITURES:		
Consultant fees	1,000	-
Meals & accommodations	1,307	-
Travel	5,895	-
	8,202	-
<u>FIRST NATION PARTICIPATION</u>		
EXPENDITURES:		
Honorarium	900	5,850
Meals & Accommodation	3,955	9,066
Travel	3,645	20,355
	8,500	35,271

"See Auditor's Report and Accompanying Notes"

PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION
SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2017

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
	\$	\$
<u>FUNDRAISING</u>		
EXPENDITURES:		
Consultants	-	13,082

<u>GENERAL ADMINISTRATION</u>		
EXPENDITURES:		
A.G.M. - Travel, Meals & Accomodations	11,230	-
Audit Fees	5,428	4,320
Bank Charges	455	1,220
Board - Travel	11,033	21,452
Bookkeeping	8,400	8,400
Community Coordinator-Fees	9,325	10,118
Community Coordinator-Travel, Meals & Accomodations	1,362	4,532
Computer & Office Equipment	147	1,196
Courier & Postage	455	961
Employee Benefits	614	1,276
GST	4,944	8,517
GIS Support	-	808
Insurance	2,241	2,418
Internet	270	180
Legal Fees	1,191	546
Miscellaneous	316	140
Office Supplies	1,657	1,348
Project Manager - Travel, Meals & Accommodation	4,826	4,441
Telephone	2,422	3,197
Website Hosting	3,170	4,097
Wages & Salaries	43,346	70,539
	<u>112,832</u>	<u>149,706</u>

<u>MANAGEMENT PLAN - REVISED</u>		
EXPENDITURES:		
Consultant fees	4,618	-

"See Auditor's Report and Accompanying Notes"





PIMACHIOWIN AƁI CORPORATION
SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2017

	<u>2017</u> \$	<u>2016</u> \$
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>		
EXPENDITURES:		
Mc ARTHUR Grant expense	-	1,666
<u>NOMINATION EVALUATION</u>		
EXPENDITURES:		
Consultant fees	-	10,966
Travel & accommodations	-	8,443
	-	19,409
<u>NOMINATION - PRINTING/SUMMARY</u>		
EXPENDITURES:		
Printing	-	7,377
<u>REVISED NOMINATION</u>		
EXPENDITURES:		
Consultant fees	51,440	-
<u>SUCCESSION PLANNING</u>		
EXPENDITURES:		
Consultant fees	-	11,439
<u>TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT</u>		
EXPENDITURES:		
Consultant fees	-	6,900

"See Auditor's Report and Accompanying Notes"

PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION
SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2017

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
	\$	\$

TOURISM CAPACITY TRAINING

EXPENDITURES:

Consultant fees	-	3,690
Meals & accomodations	-	500
Travel	-	350
	-	4,540

WH COMMITTEE MEETING

EXPENDITURES:

FN Preparation	-	1,770
Travel	-	2,823
Video books	-	1,534
	-	6,127

WOMEN'S FORUM/CULTURAL

EXPENDITURES:

Community Coordinator - Fees	1,400	750
Honoraria	1,500	150
Travel & accomodations	4,468	263
	7,368	1,163

"See Auditor's Report and Accompanying Notes"





THANKS TO OUR DONORS

The following donors have generously contributed to Pimachiowin Aki, *the Land that Gives Life*. Thank you for contributing. Your support is greatly appreciated. Meegwetch!

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Gifts in Honour

These gifts celebrate and honour the lives of loved ones and friends as they contribute to the Campaign for the Land that Gives Life, which in turn support the efforts of the five First Nation communities of Pimachiowin Aki to nominate an area as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and gain international recognition as one of the most important boreal forests in the world.

In Memory of Diana Jones from Jean Guy Bourgeois
In Honour of Joanne Goldstone from Colin Goldstone
Memory of Harry Venema from Sue Barkman
In Honour of Kerry Skinner from Jamie Skinner
In Honour of W. J. Berezowsky from Lisa Kelly

In Memory of Mr. And Mrs. Labun from their son Paul
In Honour of Julia Wiebe from Paul Labun
In Honour of Pam Lucenkiw from Holly Lucenkiw
In Honour of Jutta Rathke from Willetta and William Preston

In Memory of Mr. Austin P. Rathke from Willetta and William Preston
In Honour of Evelyn Ruta from Tracy Ruta-Fuchs
In Honour of Nick Ruta from Tracy Ruta-Fuchs
In Honour of Sophia Rabliauskas from Shirley Muir
In Memory of Nelson Owen from Gord Jones
In Memory of Oliver Hill from Gord Jones

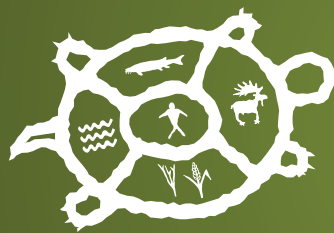
Special thanks to or major donors, the Province of Manitoba, The MacArthur Foundation and Great West Life.





This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.





PIMACHIOWIN AKI

WORLD HERITAGE PROJECT

The Land that Gives Life

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