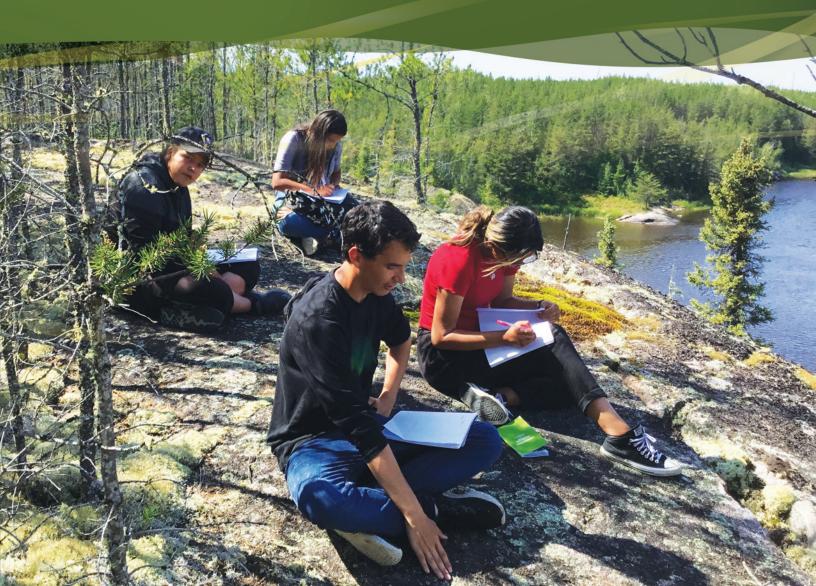


# PIMACHIOWIN AKI WORLD HERITAGE SITE



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# **Annual Report 2020**



ON THE COVER Poplar River First Nation students at Pinesewapikung Sagaigan (Weaver Lake), summer 2020

# PIMACHIOWIN AKI IS OJIBWE FOR THE Land that Gives life ( pim MATCH – 0 win – a KEH )

## **PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION**

Pimachiowin Aki Corporation is a not-for-profit charitable organization with a mandate to coordinate and integrate actions to protect and present the Outstanding Universal Value of an Anishinaabe cultural landscape and global boreal biome.

Pimachiowin Aki is a 29,040 km<sup>2</sup> World Heritage Site in eastern Manitoba and northwestern Ontario. The site was inscribed on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) *World Heritage List* in 2018.

The Corporation is a partnership of the Anishinaabe First Nations of Bloodvein River, Little Grand Rapids, Pauingassi and Poplar River, and the governments of Manitoba and Ontario.

# The Corporation's Vision

Pimachiowin Aki is celebrated for its cultural and natural values, and regarded as a model of sustainability. Pimachiowin Aki is an organization that is recognized as a cross-cultural, community-based leader in World Heritage Site management.

# THE CORPORATION'S MISSION

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







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# Message from the Co-Chairs

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Members of the Pimachiowin Aki Corporation, we are pleased to present the Corporation's Annual Report for 2020. This is a story of a year in the history of a young World Heritage Site, an ancient Anishinaabe cultural landscape, and one of the oldest protected areas on the planet.

At the time of writing this report, it seems like we last met in-person in an entirely different time. The first half of the year was filled with gatherings of our Directors, Members, Elders, Guardians, honoured guests and respected friends, culminating in the Corporation's Annual General Meeting. In the second half of the year, the onset of Covid-19 affected us all but did not diminish our ability to advance all aspects of the Corporation's mission. Conference calls, online meetings, live and post-event streaming, telephone interviews, contactless deliveries and other adaptations still filled our calendars without interrupting day-to-day operations and long-term commitments. In some ways, the pandemic forced us all to take a step back, appreciate life, respect how nature is rearranging itself, and remind us how important it is to maintain Pimachiowin Aki the way it was given to us.

We are grateful to everyone we learned from, learned with, and those who showed an interest in learning from us: Elders, Guardians, leaders, First Nations in Canada and Indigenous peoples from all over the world, curators of anthrolopology and botany, researchers, expert advisors, creative talent, cartographers, land managers, professional photographers, educators, the National Audubon Society, advisors to the World Heritage Committee, and partnerships promoting solutions across a range of conservation and sustainable development topics. Your support and interest is immense!

We acknowledge the financial and in-kind support from the governments of Canada and Ontario, in-kind support from Manitoba, gifts from private donors in New Westminister and Kelowna (British Columbia) Belair and Winnipeg (Manitoba), Kenora, Ottawa and Toronto (Ontario), and Austin (Texas). We are especially thankful to those who made repeat donations this year, and to The Winnipeg Foundation for matching grants and expertly managing our endowment.

It is an honour to represent our Members and to be part of such a dedicated and diverse team. We thank the Directors and Executive Director of the Corporation for their work with us to realize benefits and share best practice in safeguarding an extraordinary Anishinaabe cultural landscape and boreal forest for all generations.

To learn more, please visit us at **pimaki.ca**, and follow us on FaceBook, Instagram and Twitter. Kichi miigwech!





# BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF

### CO-CHAIRS

**WILLIAM YOUNG** is the Director for Bloodvein River First Nation. William owns and operates Bloodvein River Lodge, offering fishing and guided tours of the Bloodvein Canadian Heritage River. He also works with Shawenim Abinoojii Inc., building positive home environments for children in his community. He is a former Chief, and served as Band Councillor for four terms. **BRUCE BREMNER** represents the Government of Manitoba on the Board of the Directors. Bruce retired from his position as Assistant Deputy Minister of Regional Services and Parks in November 2017, but continues his role on the Board of Directors. Bruce worked for the Manitoba government for 39 years in a variety of positions including Park Ranger, Park Planner, Park Manager, Director of the Eastern Region and Assistant Deputy Minister.

### DIRECTORS

**AUGUSTINE KEEPER** is the Director for Little Grand Rapids First Nation and is the Coordinator of the Abbalak Thunderswift Memorial School bundles program. Born in Winnipeg, he was educated in both Little Grand Rapids and Winnipeg. Previously he was the Lands Coordinator for Little Grand Rapids First Nation and worked for several years at the nursing station in his community.

**NORMAN PASCAL** represents the Pauingassi First Nation on the Board of Directors. Norman has served as the First Nation's Lands Coordinator and Guardian. He is currently the First Nation's Band Constable and Safety Officer. **MYLES PERCHUK** represents the Government of Ontario on the Board of Directors, and is the A/District Manager for the Red Lake District of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. Myles has been with the Red Lake Lake District for 17 years in various capacities, including in his home position as the Resource Operations Supervisor.

**ED HUDSON** is the Director for Poplar River First Nation, the Treasurer of the Corporation, and a Councillor for the First Nation's government. Ed is a business owner and managed transportation, housing, education and training projects for his community. He has also served as a Justice of the Peace and Magistrate.

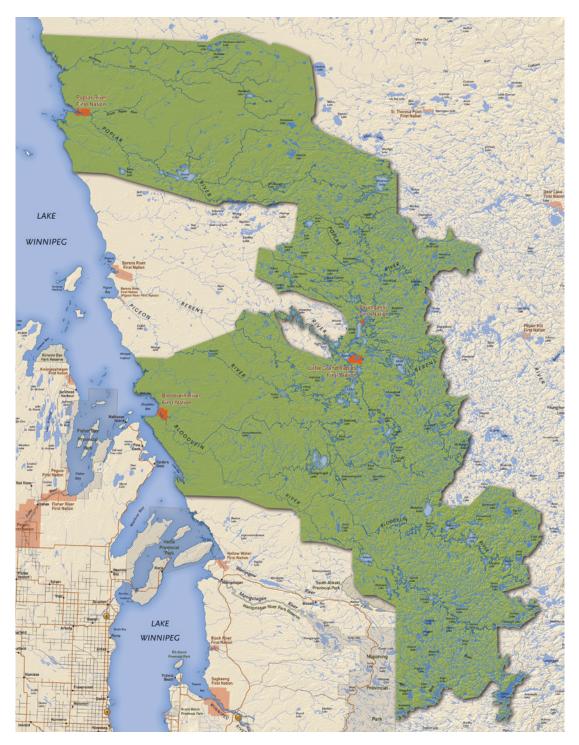
### Staff

**ALISON HAUGH** joined the Pimachiowin Aki Corporation as Executive Director in September, 2018 following positions for 10 years in the Manitoba public service in land use planning and management, and 15 years as a consultant to First Nations and First Nation organizations in Canada.



# Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Site

The Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Site is a 29,040 square kilometre boreal forest Anishinaabe cultural landscape spanning the Manitoba-Ontario border. The site includes ancestral lands of the Bloodvein River, Little Grand Rapids, Pauingassi and Poplar River First Nations, Woodland Caribou Provincial Park and Eagle-Snowshoe Conservation Reserve, and Atikaki Provincial Park.





Pimachiowin Aki (pronounced pim-MATCH-o-win-a KEH) means "the land that gives life", and "living the good life on the land". Pimachiowin Aki is a place that represents an ancient, enduring, and sustainable kinship between culture and nature.

This is Manitoba's first World Heritage site, and Canada's first and only mixed World Heritage site, recognized for both cultural and natural values.

# < 1%

Less than 1% of all World Heritage sites are in the same category as Pimachiowin Aki.

Pimachiowin Aki is an exceptional example of:

 a landscape that provides testimony to the cultural tradition of Ji-ganawendamang Gidakiiminaan, reflected through Anishinaabe interactions with the land, such as pictographs and other archaeological and ceremonial sites, travel routes, cabin and camp sites, traplines, named places, Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe / Saulteaux language), knowledge, beliefs and practices; and

• the global boreal biome, and is the best example of the ecological and biological diversity of the North American boreal shield ecozone, fully supporting wildfire, nutrient flow and species movements and predator-prey relationships. Large protected areas like Pimachiowin Aki are necessary to maintain ecological processes and integrity, build resilience to climate change, and maintain networks of sites supporting Indigenous livelihoods and cultural traditions.

The Pimachiowin Aki partners are grateful to everyone who has supported this initiative: Anishinaabe Elders, leaders and community members, the provinces of Ontario and Manitoba, the government of Canada, and to the many individuals and organizations who have donated to the Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Fund, and who have contributed their time, energy and talents to protect and transmit to future generations this exceptional and irreplaceable heritage.



Pimachiowin Aki Guardian for Bloodvein River First Nation at the 2019 AGM





Pimachiowin Aki Director for Poplar River First Nation at the 2019 AGM

## 2019 Annual General Meeting

The 2019 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Board of Directors was held on January 8, 2020 at the Best Western Downtown in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Elders from all of the Pimachiowin Aki First Nations, the Pimachiowin Aki First Nation Guardians, 16 community members, and 21 guests were welcomed to the meeting by the Board of Directors.

Highlights of the 2019 AGM and Board of Directors meeting are:

- Presentations were received from curators of botany and cultural anthropology and staff of the Manitoba Museum on the new Fire in the Forest Exhibit, the Pimachiowin Aki mural, and the Nametwaawin - Land and Language Project. The Manitoba Museum has collaborated for more than nine years with the Pimachiowin Aki Board of Directors and Members, conducting research, presenting cultural evidence for the World Heritage site nomination, and holding the largest collection of artifacts from the site in trust for Pimachiowin Aki First Nations;
- Approval-in-principle of a University of Manitoba

   Pimachiowin Aki Corporation Memorandum of Understanding that outlines how we could work together to meet mutual objectives for effective and adaptive site management;

- Presentation of a proposed research project by Dr. Nicola Koper of the University of Manitoba to work with Pimachiown Aki First Nation Guardians to monitor habitat intactness and climate change resilience using migratory birds;
- Presentation of the 2019 Annual Report by Alison Haugh, Executive Director for the Pimachiowin Aki Corporation in the reporting year;
- Presentation of the 2019 Finacial Statements by Mark Single, Auditor appointed by the Corporation for the reporting year;
- Information-sharing and training session with Pimachiowin Aki First Nation Guardians and Manitoba Government resource management staff to build and maintain relationships, co-produce knowledge about what is happening on the land, and discuss training needs; and
- Pimachiowin Aki Indigenous Tourism Pre-Planning Workshop with University of Winnipeg researchers and Travel Manitoba staff, to explore collaborative approaches and guiding values for engagement in tourism.



### Pimachiowin Aki Program Areas

### Monitoring

The Pimachiowin Aki First Nations Guardians Network and continued development of the Information Management System were primary elements of the Monitoring Program in the reporting year.

Following a successful year in operation of the Pimachiowin Aki Guardians Network, the Corporation was granted multi-year funding up until March 31, 2022 under the Indigenous Guardians Pilot Program. Pimachiowin Aki is proud to be part of this Program, and is grateful for the financial support of the Government of Canada.

Monitoring Program outcomes in the reporting year include:

• full-time Guardians were employed in each of the four Pimachiowin Aki First Nation communities;



Pauingassi First Nation youth accompanied Guardian Colin Owens on a monitoring trip, summer 2020

- Elders and youth accompanied Guardians to complete several monitoring trips throughout Pimachiowin Aki and manage ancestral lands according to traditional laws and values;
- Guardians created a composite range map and added data and information about the cultural landscape and ecosystem health (in particular: moose, migratory birds, fish, cultural waterways

and pictograph sites) to the Pimachiowin Aki Information Management System and spatial data library;

- akiiwigikendamowining (Anishinaabe land-based knowledge) and western scientific knowledge were applied to fully develop locally-relevant monitoring indicators;
- research projects were initiated with the University of Manitoba and the National Audubon Society to exchange knowledge about migratory birds as messengers and sentinels of climate change;



Bloodvein River First Nation Elders and knowledge-keepers at a meeting with Guardian Melba Green, winter 2019

- a meeting of Pimachiowin Aki First Nation Elders and Guardians was hosted and facilitated by the Pimachiowin Aki Director for Bloodvein River, to share successes and challenges in governance of lands and waters in Pimachiowin Aki and support evidence-based policy;
- connections were made with organizations that expressed interest in collaborating on development and delivery of an accredited Guardians' training program in a manner that follows Anishinaabe customary monitoring approaches and scientific inquiry;
- skills and capacity among Guardians were further developed in record-keeping, equipment operation (GPS, computing, satellite communications), bird identification and surveys, photography, and data interpretation;
- work continued on the Pimachiowin Aki Information Management System to facilitate the storage, organization and retrieval of information and data from many different sources stored in a variety of formats over the past 40 years, and make it accessible to the people who need it;
- habitat mapping using remote sensing datasets and classification methods was investigated as a way of improving the collection, analyses, storage, and sharing of data and information;
- the Corporation joined the Land Needs Guardians



campaign, supporting a business case for new investments in a National Guardians Network;

- Pimachiowin Aki First Nation members presented at the week-long *First Nations' Protecting the Land Gathering* hosted by Nature United, sharing knowledge on land use planning, protected areas, and Indigenous Guardians;
- a "Meet our Guardians" webpage was launched on the Pimachiowin Aki website, with profiles on the Pimachiowin Aki Guardians to better introduce them to their communities and the world;
- a brochure to build awareness of who Guardians are, how they keep the land, and how the public can help by reporting concerns such as invasive species or illegal hunting was created and distributed to First Nation communities and provincial government departments and agencies in Manitoba and Ontario;



Information-sharing session at the 2019 Annual General Meeting

- Guardians and Manitoba government resource managers met to discuss what is being monitored, at what times of the year, how information is collected, and with whom information is shared;
- information and applications circulated by the governments of Manitoba and Ontario were reviewed, and significant or sensitive issues which require shared management decisions were identified; and
- compiled monitoring results and an assessment of management outcomes were produced for periodic reporting on application of the *World Heritage Convention* in Canada.

The Board of Directors acknowledges the dedication and professionalism of the Pimachiowin Aki First Nation Guardians and information managers: your work and connections with the land and people advanced progress on all Monitoring Program goals.

### **Conserving Ecosystems**

Pimachiowin Aki is part of the largest forest left on Earth where all native biodiversity, including viable populations of wideranging species, are maintained. Pimachiowin Aki is also part of North America's bird nursery, vital to the health and abundance of bird life. This year, much attention was given to monitoring migratory birds as indicators of ecosystem health and the efficacy of conservation measures.



Guardian Norway Rabliauskas records bird songs in Poplar River First Nation to help identify any changes in bird populations

Pimachiowin Aki First Nation Guardians and staff had the opportunity to attend a webinar and online meeting with the

National Audubon Society Science Team to learn about a pilot project to share climate change-related bird, wildlife or habitat observations or stories. This is an opportunity to be the first testers and partners in the development of an online tool for collecting observations around climate change.

The project with Audubon also became an opportunity to combine efforts on a bird survey project with the University of Manitoba. A goal of both projects is to validate climate change model predictions about biodiversity and bird species distributions, to help us better predict future conditions, and prepare for and adapt to change.

Many other indicators of ecosystem health in Pimachiowin Aki were monitored in the reporting year, including the condition of habitat for fish species during spawning seasons; abundance or loss of species at risk; presence of any invasive species; wildfire occurrences; seasonal timing of plants and animals; flooding, drying trends, and ice conditions. Investment in the Conserving Ecosystems Program contributed to protection of lands and waters in a time-honoured way that meets or exceeds World Heritage standards, and supported implementation of recovery strategies for species of conservation concern.





Pimachiowin Aki youth learn about their cultural heritage at the Manitoba Museum

### Safeguarding Cultural Heritage

The year began with an invitation to speak at the National Trust Conference, the largest heritage conference in Canada. The Pimachiowin Aki session was presented by the Pimachiowin Aki Guardian for Pauingassi First Nation in his first public-speaking engagement, along with an esteemed Elder from Pauingassi First Nation, the Corporation's Executive Director, the Curator of Cultural Anthropology at the Manitoba Museum, and a prominent archaeologist with Lakehead University who has worked with the Pimachiowin Aki partnership for many years. Artifacts from the Manitoba Museum's Pauingassi collection - retired from ceremonial use and never before seen by the general public - were brought to the Manitoba Heritage Showcase exhibit by the collection's Guardian who told their stories and gave meaning to Pimachiown Aki for conference delegates in a tangible and compelling way.

The Corporation was pleased to contribute financial and in-kind resources to support completion of a Traditional Place Names map of Asatiwisipe Aki, Poplar River First Nation's ancestral lands in the World Heritage Site. Poplar River First Nation Elders shared their knowledge over several years, preserving Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe language), history, navigational information, teachings, beliefs and practices for future generations. The map features stories that give meaning to these named places, and 149 toponyms that are now officially recognized in provincial and national geographical names databases. The map will be displayed in community spaces and in the new school at Poplar River when construction of the school is complete.

For the second year in a row, the Corporation sponsored Pimachiowin Aki youth to spend a night at the Manitoba Museum to learn more about Pimachiowin Aki and the responsibility to take care of the land and maintain Anishinaabe relationships to the land. An Elder and educator from Miskooseepi School (Bloodvein River First Nation) shared teachings, stories and songs in Anishinaabemowin. The students knew all of the words to the songs; a powerful expression of their role in preserving language and cultural vitality in Pimachiowin Aki.

The Corporation also supported opportunities for youth in experiential land-based learning, including along Asatiwisipe (Poplar River) to Pinesewapikung Sagaigan (Weaver Lake), and on Miskooseepi (Bloodvein River). Under the guidance of Anishinaabe Elders, youth participation in apprenticeships and language revitalization continue to be promoted to protect and celebrate cultural heritage in Pimachiowin Aki.



Pimachiowin Aki Guardian Colin Owens shares traditional knowledge with youth in Pauingassi First Nation

In-kind support was provided by the Corporation's Directors and staff, and Guardians for the Manitoba Museum's Nametwaawin – Land and Language Project to provide educational materials for the four Pimachiowin Aki First Nation schools. Assisting in curriculum development and engaging future leaders in protection and management of Pimachiowin Aki advance realization of Safeguarding Cultural Heritage Program goals. The Corporation looks forward to seeing the results of the Nametwaawin project next year.

### **Supporting Sustainable Economies**

Partnerships, employment, capacity development and training helped to shape how the Corporation supported sustainable local and regional economies in Pimachiowin Aki this year. Highlights of our accomplishments are:

 the Corporation hosted a University of Winnipeg Masters in Development Practice student field placement to develop options and recommendations for an Indigenous tourism facility and experience, and a business plan based on the recommended course of action. The student also led a workshop with Pimachiowin Aki First Nation Elders, Directors and Members of the Corporation, and Travel Manitoba staff to solicit ideas, document a set of values and meanings of the cultural landscape, and identify possible interpretive or educational sites and themes;

- the Corporation facilitated continued dialogue among the four First Nations, Travel Manitoba, Tourism Operators, and the Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada (ITAC) to advance a sustainable Indigenous tourism development, based on the woodland retreat concept plan developed last year;
- on behalf of the Board of Directors, the Corporation's Executive Director attended the 2019 International Indigenous Tourism Conference and reported on current trends in – and markets for - the Indigenous tourism industry, the launch of a new Indigenous Culinary Tourism strategy, and business start-up resources shared by the Government of Alberta, in partnership with ITAC and the Indigenous Tourism Association of Alberta;
- direct employment of community-based Guardians and Coordinators created economic returns and renewed dialogue on economic development opportunities, including integration of cultural heritage conservation and tourism activities where Guardians are instrumental in providing interpretive services, communicating codes of conduct to operators and visitors, and finding ways to secure sustainable financing for the Guardians Network; and
- continued investigation into ecologically and cultural sustainable opportunities for local economic development and enhancement of Anishinaabe land-based livelohoods, including nontimber forest products, research partnerships, and payments for ecosystem services.

### Information, Education and Communications

World Heritage status creates a tremendous opportunity to enhance understanding of Pimachiowin Aki's cultural and natural values and share these values with the world. Notable Program achievements of the year are:

- a new map of the Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Site was published, with updated information about the site and how to contact us;
- a new mural and exhibit at the Manitoba Museum were supported by the Corporation to inform people about Pimachiowin Aki and Anishinaabe understandings of the natural world;
- the Corporation worked with the IUCN World Heritage Programme and the UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre to include Pimachiowin Aki into the World Database of Protected Areas;





Gathering medicine near Pauingassi First Nation, fall 2020

- the Canadian Commission for UNESCO Public Affairs team was assisted by the Corporation to update several of their communications products;
- input on an ongoing Parks Canada project for Canada's World Heritage Site Network was provided to address branding needs, commonlyused communications and promotional templates;
- digital content was contributed to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, in partnership with the ICCROM/IUCN World Heritage Leadership Programme, to enhance Pimachiowin Aki's international online presence;
- with the help of creative communications and information technology expertise, the Corporation's photo library was organized into themes and contributors, and a Sharepoint site for access by Directors and Members of the Corporation was created;
- Pimachiowin Aki Directors, Guardians and staff accepted invitations to contribute content and photos for articles about Pimachiowin Aki in *The Canadian Encyclopedia* (September 2019), the 2020 Ontario Highway 105 Adventure Guide (November 2019); Canadian Geographic (May 2020), the

*Northern Ontario Travel magazine* (May 2020), and *The Irish Times* (June 2020);

- two 15 second promotional videos were produced using content from a telecast that aired in July 2018, and were broadcast at no charge on a billboard at Portage Avenue and Main Street in Winnipeg. Thank you to 201 Portage for creating a prominent space for us to raise awareness of Pimachiowin Aki;
- Pimachiowin Aki Directors and others contributed to the Canadian Heritage Rivers System - Bloodvein River Story Map, an interactive map that allows people to learn more about the natural, cultural and recreational heritage values of the Bloodvein River, a 306 kilometre river that is almost entirely within the Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Site;
- Pimachiowin Aki was featured in Historic Places Day (July 4 – August 31, 2020), an online celebration of Canada's cultural heritage and historic places that reached 4.6 million Canadians;
- seasonal eNewsletters were distributed to a growing number of subscribers, reaching 418 people by August 31, 2020—an increase of 76 subscribers over the course of the year. In the

0 | PIMACHIOWIN AKI WORLD HERITAGE SITE

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newsletter, we shared stories of our relationship with the land and our work to protect cultural heritage. Stories included:

- the fall moose hunt, and family traditions passed down through generations;
- impacts of climate change in Pimachiowin Aki;
- the Songmeter project with Poplar River First Nation and National Audubon Society to record bird sounds and help identify any changes in bird populations over time;
- tips on how to smoke meat and fish; and
- a close up look at five spectacular pictographs on the Bloodvein River waterway.
- other means of informing the public about Pimachiowin Aki this year included creating a lunar calendar that people can download from our website, maintaining active Twitter, Instagram and Facebook channels, and developing a digital strategy to draw visitors to our website. In the reporting year, pimaki.ca received 6532 visitors. In addition, we gained 341 Facebook followers for a total of 1053.

### Governance and Financial Sustainability

The Board of Directors continued to advance the Corporation's mission and ensure the organization remained viable throughout the year. Over our 15 year history, the Board has consistently fulfilled its fiduciary responsibility in a way that was respected by the constituents, community members and general public the organization serves. We are proud of and dedicated to – our work to lead and guide the Corporation, maintain strong relationships among the partners and corporate goals, and ensure public trust and accountability. No changes in the Corporation's operating environment were needed, no significant variances in the organization's revenues and expenditures occurred, and no loans or wage subsidies were required as a result of Covid-19. As we transitioned to virtual forms of service, effects of the pandemic were felt as inperson meetings were suspended and training and skills development activities were postponed. Directors demonstrated resilience by convening conference calls and online meetings more frequently than the Board's meeting schedule prescribes, for people to receive regular updates, share information, discuss and decide on items together, and ensure continuity of corporate governance.

The Corporation enhanced its long-term ability to deliver progams and services by growing its professional network, accessing multi-year funding, and making connections with grant-making foundations this year.

The Pimachiowin Aki Corporation is fortunate for the support of people who made contributions to the Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Fund over the past decade since the Fund was established. Special recognition of this year's donors is given below. The Fund, invested with The Winnipeg Foundation, is critical to the financial sustainability of Pimachiowin Aki, and assures funds to maintain charitable programming consistent with the Corporation's mission.

The Board also gratefully acknowledges funding and in-kind support for the partnership's programs and operations provided by the governments of Manitoba, Ontario and Canada.





# FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The attached Financial Statements show the position of the Pimachiowin Aki Corporation at the end of its fiscal year, August 31, 2020.

PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION Financial Statements Year Ended August 31, 2020

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#### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Members of Pimachiowin Aki Corporation

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Pimachiowin Aki Corporation (the Corporation), which comprise the statement of financial position as at August 31, 2020, and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Corporation as at August 31, 2020, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Corporation in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with those requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Corporation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Corporation's financial reporting process.



#### **ONBUSINESS** Chartered Professional Accountants Inc.

25 St. Anne's Road Winnipeg, Manitoba R2M 2Y1 p. 204.985.6767 f. 204.255.6045 onbusiness.ca Unit H - 2450 Main Street Winnipeg, Manitoba R2V 4H5 p. 204.667.8292 f. 204.667.8352

104 - 32 Brandt Street Steinbach, Manitoba R5G 2J7 p. 204.326.3849 f. 204.326.3469



#### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Pimachiowin Aki Corporation (continued)

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Corporation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Corporation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Winnipeg, Manitoba December 22, 2020

Q.Q. A.

Chartered Professional Accountants Inc.



### PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION Statement of Financial Position

August 31, 2020

			2020		2019
ASSETS					
CURRENT					
Cash		\$	892,800	\$	638,677
Accounts receivable (Note 3)			7,049		5,140
Prepaid expenses			199		199
		\$	900,048	\$	644,016
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	5				
CURRENT					
Accounts payable and accrued li	abilities	\$	102,753	\$	27,914
Wages payable		Ŷ	4,220	Ψ	4,109
Government remittances payable			2,322		5,119
Deferred contributions (Note 4)			785,228		601,349
			894,523		638,491
NET ASSETS			5,525		5,525
	_	\$	900,048	\$	644,016
ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD					
Mater					
19	Director	et tag	nd-	Dire	ctor
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See notes to financial statements

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#### PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION

#### Statement of Revenues and Expenditures

Year Ended August 31, 2020

	2020	2019
REVENUES		
Winnipeg Foundation distribution (Note 5)	\$ 290,540	\$ 121,043
Environment and Climate Change Canada	185,300	÷ · · · · ·
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources	73,100	100,000
Manitoba Sustainable Development		100,000
Miscellaneous income	-	2,289
Donations	-	840
	548,940	510,629
EXPENSES		
Communications	10,828	11,869
Consulting fees	6,089	3,245
Courier and postage	1,254	1,042
GST on expenses not recovered by rebate	-	5,015
Inform & education public	27,016	67,729
Insurance	2,788	1,992
Interest and bank charges	505	575
Meals and entertainment	164	5,822
Monitoring	257,425	157,420
Office	7,940	7,995
Professional fees	38,263	30,182
Safeguarding cultural heritage	9,775	15,337
Salaries and wages	131,767	129,709
Telephone	5,669	4,409
Travel	49,457	68,283
	548,940	510,629
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	s -	\$-

See notes to financial statements



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### PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year Ended August 31, 2020

	2020	2019
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 5,525	\$ 5,525
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$ 5,525	\$ 5,525

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See notes to financial statements



#### **PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION**

**Statement of Cash Flows** 

Year Ended August 31, 2020

	2020		2019	
OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ -	\$	-	
Changes in non-cash working capital:				
Accounts receivable	(1,910)		(2,599)	
Prepaid expenses			1.992	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	74,840		19,733	
Wages payable	111		4,109	
Government remittances payable	(2,797)		2,802	
Deferred contributions	183,879		105,763	
0	254,123	_	131,800	
INCREASE IN CASH FLOW	254,123		131,800	
CASH - BEGINNING OF YEAR	 638,677		506,877	
CASH - END OF YEAR	\$ 892,800	\$	638,677	

See notes to financial statements



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#### PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION Notes to Financial Statements Year Ended August 31, 2020

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE CORPORATION

Pimachiowin Aki Corporation (the "Corporation") is a not-for-profit organization federally incorporated in Canada. The Corporation is a registered charity, and accordingly is exempt from the payment of income tax under Section 149(1) of the Income Tax Act.

The corporation operates to protect and preserve the cultural landscape of an area east of Lake Winnipeg recognized as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Basis of presentation

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNFPO).

#### Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Such estimates are periodically reviewed and any adjustments necessary are reported in earnings in the period in which they become known. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

#### Financial instruments policy

#### Measurement of financial instruments

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value when acquired or issued. In subsequent periods, financial assets with actively traded markets are reported at fair value, with any unrealized gains and losses reported in income. All other financial instruments are reported at amortized cost, and tested for impairment at each reporting date. Transaction costs on the acquisition, sale, or issue of financial instruments are expensed when incurred

Financial instruments measured at amortizes cost include cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities and government remittances payable.

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

#### Fixed assets

Fixed assets are stated at cost or deemed cost less accumulated amortization. The estimated useful lives, residual values and amortization methods are reviewed if events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying amount may not be recoverable. Fixed assets are amortized over their estimated useful lives on a straight-line basis.

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### PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION Notes to Financial Statements Year Ended August 31, 2020

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### Revenue recognition

Pimachiowin Aki Corporation follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

Government funding from Environment and Climate Change Canada, Manitoba Sustainable Development and Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources is recognized as revenue when the terms of the respective agreements are met, related expenses are incurred and collection is reasonably assured.

Winnipeg Foundation distributions are recognized when related expenses are incurred, the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Miscellaneous income is recognized as revenue in the period it is received

#### 3. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

	2020	 2019
GST receivable Accounts receivable	\$ 7,049	\$ 5,015 125
	\$ 7,049	\$ 5,140

#### 4. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS

Deferred contribution relate to externally restricted contributions received or generated in the current or prior periods to fund related expenses in future periods as follows:

	2019	1	Additions		Revenue ecognized		2020
Environment and Climate Change		÷		¢	105 000	0	
Canada	\$ -	\$	370,450	\$	185,300	\$	185,150
Ontario Ministry of Natural							
Resources	-		127,580		73,100		54,480
The Winnipeg Foundation	 601,349		234,789		290,540		545,598
	\$ 601,349	\$	732,819	\$	548,940	\$	785,228

#### 5. WINNIPEG FOUNDATION

In 2010 the Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Fund was established at The Winnipeg Foundation. As of September 30, 2019, the year-end of The Winnipeg Foundation, there was a total of \$3,336,990 in contributed capital to the fund with a market value of \$4,923,978. The current spending policy rate is 5% (2019 - 5%) distributed annually, with the allocated spending amounts for 2020 set at \$234,789. Funds received through distributions from The Winnipeg Foundation are restricted in use per the fund agreement and Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Fund Act C.C.S.M c.P70. Fund revenue is recognized as expenses are incurred related to the purpose of the organization, and any remaining amounts recorded as a deferred contribution.



### PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION Notes to Financial Statements Year Ended August 31, 2020

6. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

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

7. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Some of the comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

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#### PIMACHIOWIN AKI CORPORATION

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures by Program (Unaudited)

(Schedule 1)

Year Ended August 31, 2020

	2020	2019
REVENUES		
Environment and Climate Change Canada	\$ 185,300	\$ 186,451
Winnipeg Foundation distribution	290,540	121,043
Manitoba Sustainable Development	-	100,000
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources	73,100	100,000
Miscellaneous income	-	2,289
Donations	-	 846
	548,940	 510,629
EXPENSES		
Communications	10,305	11,122
Economic diversification	721	99
Fundraising	-	138
General administration	213,298	234,782
Governance	881	1,590
Inform & Education Public	27,016	67,129
Monitoring	286,944	180,432
Safeguarding cultural heritage	 9,775	 15,337
	 548,940	 510,629
INCOME FROM OPERATIONS	\$ -	\$ -

See notes to financial statements

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# Thank you to our Donors

A full list of the more than 200 donors who contributed to the Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Fund since its inception in 2010 is available in previous years' reports. In this report, we acknowledge those who endowed the Fund over the past year. For the first time in its history, the Fund's market value reached \$5 million (CAD), thanks to your generous gifts, and the expertise of The Winnipeg Foundation in managing funds for charitable purposes.

For more information about the impact of your donations, please visit: pimaki.ca

Miigwech, thank you, for sustaining our mission to protect, preserve and present Pimachiowin Aki as a gift to future generations!

- Anonymous
- Jocelyn Dockerty
- Doug Gilmore
- Cheryl Graham
- Great-West Life Assurance Company
- Gord Jones
- Tarik Khan
- Siegfried and Tannis Laser
- Joe Owen
- Christina Priest, in honour of Mary Beaver, and Maani Amik Batchewana First Nation
- Andrew F. Sanger
- Don Sullivan



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# PIMACHIOWIN AKI world heritage site

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