





# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



## ST. JOHN'S NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE

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# MESSAGE FROM OUR **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Over the last 34 years the St. John's Native Friendship Centre has worked to ensure that the urban Indigenous community of St. John's has the support, programs, and services that they need to ensure they can be successful each and every day.

This core belief is the driving factor in the work of the staff and volunteers of the Friendship Centre. The continued support of the community is what continues to help push the growth of the organization and we strive to keep meeting the needs that emerge over time.

As we move forward into the future, my hope is that we can continue to have a strong foundation from which to connect with people in the Indigenous and broader community. It is this connection that truly nourishes the passion of everyone who calls the Friendship Centre home on a daily basis, people who truly make the Friendship Centre somewhere where they can feel supported, safe and comfortable

when they need to connect with who they are.

I look forward to helping build a great team that works hard to ensure that they can be themselves, while at the same time contributing to the strong history of an organization that so many people worked to create over the last 34 years to move forward for the next 34.

Again, I want to say thank you to all the community, staff, board and volunteers who continue to put their energy and time into making the St. John's Native Friendship Centre a success.

In Friendship,



Christopher Sheppard  
Executive Director

# OUR MISSION

To serve the Aboriginal and broader community through celebration and support of Aboriginal culture and the provision of appropriate programs and services delivered in an atmosphere of trust, respect and friendship.

# OUR BOARD

- Emma Reelis
- Rochelle Cote
- Ellen Ford
- Sophie Bennett
- Marguerite McKenzie
- Suzy Haghighi
- Bernadette
- Catharyn Andersen
- Camille Fouillard

# OUR STAFF

**5** Senior  
Leadership

**8** Social  
Enterprise Staff

**12** Program  
Staff

**22** Social  
Support Staff



# 189

CURRENT  
MEMBERS

# 9

BOARD  
MEMBERS

# 44

STAFF

# WHO WE ARE



## Language & Culture Camp

What an amazing weekend at Language and Culture Camp in February! We had over 115 community members join us out in Burry Heights for our camp. In addition to the full days of language lessons in Inuktitut & Mi'kmaw, we also had cultural activities running for the whole famil. A huge thank you to all our Elders, firekeepers, facilitators, volunteers, and staff who made this possible. We are so thankful to our language teachers, Curtis L. Michael and Sol Semigak who joined us and helped us all in learning to keep our languages alive!

## End of Summer Bash


Over 700 people joined us for our End of Summer Bash in Bannerman Park in August! We had such a great day hanging out with community, filled with traditional games, olympic games, a visit from Spirit Horse, face painting, a bouncy castle and delicious BBQ from Four Fires Catering. We want to send a special thank you to all our staff and volunteers, especially RBC Water Street, who made this day possible.

## Northern Youth Abroad

This summer, we also had the pleasure of hosting two youth from Northern Youth Abroad, Jaylene Ukpatiku and Alaasua Audlaluk. They are from Baker Lake and Grise Fiord, Nunavut. They both helped us running our programs and we thank our community for making them feel welcome. We were able to teach them about our cultures and community, and they taught us a lot about theirs - thanks Jaylene & Alaasua!


2017 - 2018

# HIGHLIGHTS



*"This weekend the staff put off a 3 day culture and language camp with teachings of language, music, drumming, legends, storytelling, and cultural practises and craft-making. I met a lot of people, made some new friends. The interaction was spontaneous and natural. Thank you all. Nakumingai ilonasi!"*

**- Community Member at Language & Culture Camp**



*"A beautiful day full of pride, culture, colour and fun had by all. I was very grateful to be of service volunteering on your special day of celebration for National Indigenous People's Day."*

**- Volunteer at NIPD**



# HIGHLIGHTS

## Spirit Song 2017

Every year, we are so excited to see Spirit Song grow and evolve. For our fifth installment of Spirit Song Festival, we decided to host a Mawiomi, and invite all of our community to join us for the festivities. We were joined by Eastern Eagle, Strength of the Drum, the Blake Sisters, Sherry Ryan, Maria Cherwick, The Secrets, Oroborous, Eastern Owl, and Wonderbolt Circus as well as many great vendors and fun activities for the whole family.

## Powwow Dance Workshops

This year we were so lucky to have Possasom Paul join us three times to offer Powow Dance sessions, as well as being the MC for both Spirit Song 2017 and National Indigenous People's Day. Offering dance workshops to the community, we learned so much and fun was had by all during these sessions. We look forward to working with him in the future, and to seeing those of you who took part in the workshops dancing at some of our upcoming events!

## National Indigenous People's Day

Thank you to everyone who came out and celebrated National Indigenous Peoples Day with us this year. Thank you to those who travelled to share this day with us, especially our host drum East Boyz and our fabulous MC Possasom Paul. We are so grateful to have such a beautiful community in St. John's and that this celebration gets bigger each and every year.

## Cochrane Centre Partnership

In June, we were very happy to announce a partnership with Cochrane Centre. The SJNFC will be managing the day to day operations of the Cochrane Centre and together, we will be using the space to run some of our SJNFC events & programs, managing 15 housing units, and working with the local arts community to host events & performances. Stay tuned as our partnership develops!

## Sociology 4205 Classes

Dr. Rochelle Cote has been holding some of her Sociology 4205 classes at our building on Water Street. These classes are open to the public, and allow our community to join in on discussions around being Indigenous in the city and what the Truth & Reconciliation means for us. This is a great opportunity as well for students to be introduced to our community and space at the Friendship Centre.

## Turtle Island Childcare Centre

We have always been proud to offer cultural learning opportunities to all of our children at Turtle Island Childcare Centre (TICC). This year, we have begun formally involving our SJNFC program facilitators into our programming at TICC. The children have had weekly opportunities to participate in many different cultural activities - throat singing, drumming, beading, dancing, language, smudging, and much more! We look forward to continuing to involve as much culture as we can into our programming at the childcare centre in the future.

2017 - 2018

# HIGHLIGHTS



*"Great for those who are not familiar with the St. John's Native Friendship center to learn more about the programs offered, the generosity and the positive impact in our community! Keep up the good work!"*

**-Community Member at End of Summer Bash**



**SOCIAL**

# FOUR FIRES CATERING

Four Fires Catering is a full-service catering company, focused on providing traditional Indigenous foods in contemporary ways. Four Fires Catering provides food services on site and off site, as well as within our own community programs.

We involve community members in our catering program in many ways, such as berry picking, processessing of wild animals, boil-ups, as well as cooking classes across almost all of our programs..

Four Fires Catering provides services to groups of all sizes, and for many different types of events – whether a sit-down meal, h'or d'ouvres, or refreshments for a meeting! We have been involved with special events for many orthroughout the city, and we're looking forward to being able to continue this service, and expand further in the future!

For more information, please contact [catering@sjnfc.com](mailto:catering@sjnfc.com).



*"Your Elk Stew was delicious!  
We had a great day, and everyone  
enjoyed the meal. Thank you so much! The  
presentation was an awesome addition.. we  
loved the seal skin and candles. ."*  
**- Four Fires Client**

# ENTERPRISE



# CULTURAL DIVERSITY TRAINING

*"Thank you for sharing your knowledge, insight, and personal experiences in a way that was kind, patient, open, honest, and inspiring. It was very enlightening and informative, and I'm very glad that I was able to participate."*

**- Training Participant**

Our Aboriginal Cultural Diversity Training program continues to grow each and every year. Along with regular sessions to the public, we are continuing to get frequent requests from organizations and businesses across the city.

Our training includes information on the Indigenous groups & cultures in the province, our history, current realities, and how to use that information to work on reconciliation in one's own life or workplace.

This year, we have received funding to enhance our training program - this involves creating our own resources and videos that will add on to what we currently offer. We are looking forward to adding more information that is relevant to our community and our Indigenous groups here in the province.

For more information, or if you're intersted in our training program, please contact [training@sjnfc.com](mailto:training@sjnfc.com).

# SOCIAL ENTE



**R P R I S E**

A black and white photograph of a man sitting on a rocky shore next to a campfire. The man is wearing a cap with 'THE WALL' on it, glasses, a jacket, and jeans. He is looking down at his hands. The campfire is burning brightly on the right. The background shows a body of water and distant land under a cloudy sky.

# LOOKI

*"Right now I'm really struggling... but when I'm at the Friendship Centre I don't think about drugs or alcohol"*  
- **Community Member at Men's Group**



# NG FORWARD

## New Branding

We have a big announcement coming soon about a change in our branding. We can't share any secrets right now, so you will have to join us for the launch to find out more. We will be making this announcement to community at Spirit Song 2018, so be sure to join us at the festival this year, and stay tuned to our Facebook page for more updates on this new branding.

## Infant Care

We are beyond excited that Turtle Island Childcare Centre has been approved for infant care. This means that our childcare centre family will be growing, and we can't wait until that happens. We will be sharing more information as soon as we get it, and will keep all of our community updated on the progress of this venture.

*It's important to note that the St. John's Native Friendship Centre runs many different programs, events, social enterprises, and services for our community. We try to summarize the highlights, but there is much that we can't fit into this summary!*

*For more information on any of our programs, or to become a member - be sure to reach out to us at [info@sjnfc.com](mailto:info@sjnfc.com).*

# FINANCES

| Revenue                                    | 2018 | 2017               |
|--|------|--------------------|
| National Association of Friendship Centres |      | \$645,000          |
| Canadian Heritage                          |      | \$22,600           |
| National Aboriginal Day                    |      | \$4,000            |
| Shelter - Accommodations                   |      | \$590,772          |
| Shelter- Meals                             |      | \$65,660           |
| Memberships                                |      | \$530              |
| Fundraising                                |      | -                  |
| Province of Newfoundland and Labrador      |      | \$162,491          |
| Human Resources Development                |      | \$6,579            |
| Parent Fees                                |      | \$14,187           |
| Craft Sales                                |      | \$1,682            |
| Donations                                  |      | \$20,556           |
| Health Canada                              |      | \$179,838          |
| Memorial University                        |      | -                  |
| Corrections Canada                         |      | \$11,140           |
| Eastern Regional Health Authority          |      | \$166,500          |
| Administration and Overhead                |      | \$415,692          |
| Royal Bank                                 |      | \$39,000           |
| Nunatsiavut Government                     |      | \$155,954          |
| Sheshatshiu Innu First Nations             |      | \$2,902            |
| Other Income                               |      | \$183,496          |
| Amortization of Deferred Contributions     |      | \$21,685           |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>                       |      | <b>\$2,710,264</b> |



## Expenses

2018

2017

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Administration                          | \$115,613          |
| Advertising                             | \$15,811           |
| Amortization                            | \$83,438           |
| Bad Debts                               | \$2,202            |
| Capital Expenditures                    | -                  |
| Donations & Memberships                 | \$3,299            |
| Equipment                               | \$49,410           |
| Heat & Lights                           | \$15,712           |
| Insurance                               | \$17,863           |
| Interest & Bank Charges                 | \$3,027            |
| Interest on Long Term Debt              | \$16,542           |
| Miscellaneous                           | \$632              |
| Office Supplies                         | \$15,007           |
| Other Supplies                          | \$3,115            |
| Overhead                                | -                  |
| Professional Fees                       | \$50,087           |
| Program Supplies                        | \$104,891          |
| Rent                                    | \$276,153          |
| Repairs & Maintenance                   | \$47,543           |
| Salaries & Benefits                     | \$1,404,480        |
| Shelter Food & Supplies                 | \$61,270           |
| Telephone                               | \$36,517           |
| Training                                | \$29,049           |
| Travel - Programs                       | \$181,542          |
| Travel - Board                          | \$10,425           |
| Vehicle Operating                       | \$72,409           |
| Water Tax                               | \$6,127            |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>                   | <b>\$2,622,163</b> |
| <b>EXCESS REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES</b> | <b>\$88,101</b>    |

# 34th AGM - OCT 30 2017 **MINUTES**

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1. Opening Prayer: Emma Reelis

2. Welcome by the President: the Report from the Board was read.

3. Introductions: Each Board member said a few words.

4. Roll Call: members wrote their names on a paper that was circulated.

5. Adoption of agenda

Motion 1 to adopt the agenda by Rochelle Côté, seconded by Bernadette Power, carried.

6. Minutes of 34th Annual General Meeting, November 26, 2017

Motion 2 to adopt the minutes by Stacey Howse, seconded by Dan Pottle, carried.

7. Business arising from minutes of previous meeting: no business.

8. Report from the Board of Directors: read during the welcome.

Motion 3 to accept the report of the Board of Directors by Caitlin Urquhart, seconded by Tom Gordon, carried.

9. Report of the Executive Director

Motion 4 to accept the report of the Executive Director by Caitlin Urquhart, seconded by Heidi Dixon, carried.

10. Youth Director's Report

Motion 5 to accept the report of the Youth Director by Angie Paul, seconded by Dan Pottle, carried.

11. Treasurer's Report

Motion 6 to accept the financial reports by Bernadette Power, seconded by Tom Gordon, carried.

12. Auditor's Report

Motion 7 to accept auditor's report Rochelle Côté, seconded by Caitlin Urquhart, carried.

13. Appointment of auditor

Motion 8 to appoint William P. Collins as auditor for 2017-18 by Dan Pottle, seconded by Bernadette Power, carried.

14. Election of Directors

Motion 9 to open nominations by Stacey Howse, seconded by Heidi Dixon, carried.

Motion 10 to close nominations by Dan Pottle, seconded by Tom Gordon, carried.

Kayla LaCosta was acclaimed as Youth Director; five people were nominated for four positions and spoke briefly about why they wanted to serve on the Board.

Break: people were invited to vote, if a member, and then pick up food to while the votes were counted.

Elected: Bernadette Power, Marguerite MacKenzie, Camille Fouillard and Catharyn Andersen

Motion 11 to destroy the ballots by Suzy Haghighi, seconded by Heidi Dixon, carried.

15. Unfinished, new and other business: no business.

16. Resolutions

SUBJECT: Amendments to Articles of Association

Resolution: That Article 3.7 be updated to state:

Annual and five year memberships will be valid for one year, or five years from the date that membership but the membership may be extended to the end of the fiscal year March 31 by a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Proposed by: Heidi Dixon

Seconded by: Breannah Tulk

Carried: X    Defeated: \_\_\_\_\_    Tabled: \_\_\_\_\_    Withdraw: \_\_\_\_\_

17. Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.

Motion 11 to adjourn by Suzy Haghighi, Angie Paul, carried.



 SJNativeFriendship  @SJNFC  @stjohnsnativefriendshipcentre

*Design work by Heidi Dixon*