

Youth Peacebuilding Project

March 2009

Memorandum of Understanding

1. Partners:

- a. Ka Ni Kanichihk Inc. “Those Who Lead”;
- b. Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council Inc.;
- c. Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba Inc. (IRCOM);
- d. YMCA-YWCA of Winnipeg;
- e. Newcomer Employment and Education Development Services, Inc. (NEEDS);
- f. Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre Inc. “We All Work Together To Help One Another”;
- g. Institute for Community Peacebuilding.

2. Term of the partnership:

- a. Any continuation of work is dependent on further funding and continued interest;
- b. New partners added through recommendation and a meeting with current group. Consensus must be had to add new partner.
- c. The partnership will be renewed at the end of November of each year.

3. Objectives:

To create space to share and dialogue about values of inclusion, respect, responsibility, honesty and caring in youth from diverse backgrounds and worldviews.

To promote the skills and abilities of youth and partners within the project as they work to build peace in their communities.

To provide a safe, fun, interactive environment where connections can be made and enduring relationships can be built.

4. Outcomes:

To decrease the stereotypes, myths, and racist/prejudicial attitudes that lead to bullying, hatred, antagonism and violence between identity groups.

For the different groups of youth to become genuinely curious about and more aware of their similarities; overcoming obstacles to relationship between each other and with each other.

To create a group of youth leaders who are able to incorporate respectful, positive actions of co-existence into their activities and choose to engage the wider youth community in those actions.

To build a strong community of partners who work together to empower each other and their constituencies in active peacebuilding.

To create a culture of openness within the youth community, where free expression of issues and challenges are encouraged and supported, with a view to collaborative resolution.

4. Contributions to the Partnership: to be determined on an as-needed basis within the organizational capacities and constraints of each partner. These include:

- a. Funds
- b. Time
- c. In-kind contributions
- d. Expertise/experience
- e. Facilitating youth engagement in the project

The phases of the work that need these kinds of contributions are:

- a. Preparation/planning
- b. Community based (winter) programming
- c. Gathering

The specific contributions from the partners will be decided as Camp approaches.

5. Authority, Rights and Responsibilities of Each Partner:

- a. The primary employer within the project is The Institute for Community Peacebuilding. The other partners may be involved in providing funds to compensate volunteers and youth leaders for their time.
- b. Appropriate record-keeping is to be maintained by each partner as pertains to their contributions to the project. All relevant records from each partner must be available to the other partners.
- c. Applications for grants/fundraising will be generated by The Institute for Community Peacebuilding in collaboration with the partner group.
- d. Recruitment of and making agreements with content providers will be done by the Institute for Community Peacebuilding. The Coordinator is responsible for communicating with the rest of the partnership group and/or subcommittees regarding potential providers.
- e. Use of names of logos and partners is contingent upon the approval of each partner. All significant correspondence using names and/or logos must be copied to all partners prior to dispersal.
- f. Advertising & promotion should be in consultation with the partnership, as with logos and names.

- g. Administrative costs to be covered by the Institute for Community Peacebuilding.
- h. Banking/cash management to be managed by the Institute for Community Peacebuilding, inclusive of project-specific fundraising initiatives.

6. Decision-making process:

- a. Decisions that have the potential for a perceived or actual conflict of interest or could be perceived to be controversial require partnership approval. Those decisions that could have an adverse affect on the reputation of any or all of the partners must have partnership approval. Fund expenditures and media relations are examples.
- b. Define partnership approval – consensus if at all possible, majority vote if a decision must be made and consensus cannot be reached.
- c. Regular meetings are called at least every month and not more than every two weeks. If special meetings are required they are convened when needed. Meetings can be called by any member of the partnership.
- d. Meeting location is rotated to all the partners, and the host is the chair of the meeting. The agenda is prepared by the coordinator in consultation with the partners (by email).
- e. When the Director of the institute is not present in Winnipeg, the Coordinator runs significant decisions by the partnership by email, and makes her decision based on any feedback received that same day.

7. Resolution of Disputes:

- a. First speak to the party directly, focusing on understanding, and being clear.
- b. If that does not resolve the issue, a mutually agreed upon mediator from the group may be involved to assist in resolution.
- c. If not resolved, add to the agenda for the next meeting.

8. Representatives of the partners and notice:

- a. It is expected that the following will represent their respective organizations:
 - i. David Pankratz – the Institute for Community Peacebuilding;
 - ii. Phoebe Burns – Coordinator of the project;
 - iii. Noëlle DePape/Abdi Ahmed – Director of IRCOM/Program Coordinator;
 - iv. Daniel Negussie – Director of MMRC;
 - v. Albert McLeod/Elissa Kixen - Ka Ni Kanichihk;
 - vi. Wanda Yamamoto/JP Venegas – Project Coordinator/Youth Counsellor: Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council Inc. (Welcome Place);
 - vii. Ken Mason – YMCA-YWCA of Winnipeg;
- b. If the organizational designates are not able to be at a meeting, they will send a representative.
- c. The decisions at duly called meetings are binding after approval of distributed minutes, and it is expected that the responsible people in their respective organizations will be informed of any decisions at meetings at which they are not present.

9. Dissolution or renewal:

- a. This project, in its current form, can be dissolved by notice from the Institute for Community Peacebuilding.

- b. Events that give this right are: lack of funding for either the project or the Institute for Community Peacebuilding.
- c. Renewal: If funding is secured for a second and subsequent years, the project will be renewed, each existing partner is free to renew or withdraw, and new partners will be discussed and an appropriate screening process adopted and used.

10. Distribution of assets upon Dissolution:

- a. Upon dissolution, all assets will be divided equitably among the partners of record. Intellectual property created throughout the project will be made available to all partners.

11. Obligations that will continue:

- a. None

12. Insurance:

- a. All partners will obtain liability insurance for their part in the project.

13. Amendment:

- a. The agreement can be amended by quorum (4 of 6) or unanimous agreement at a meeting duly called with this agenda item advertised at the previous duly called meeting.