



Coalition of Manitoba Cultural Communities for Families Inc. ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT 2024-2025

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About CMCCF

Promoting the well-being of Manitoba's cultural communities

The CMCCF is a non-profit organization comprised of a diverse, collaborative network of individuals united to strengthen cultural communities and amplify diverse voices through the lens of Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (J.E.D.I.). We do this in many ways, including bringing cultural communities together with diverse service providers and public policy makers in dialogue to increase understanding and inspire positive action as well as creating spaces for storytelling and the sharing of strengths, ideas, and challenges at the individual and community level.

The CMCCF strives to achieve ***collective impact*** through partnership and collaboration in support of common goals, ***building trust*** through community dialogues and authentic mutual learning events, and supports ***individuals, families, and communities*** through connecting cultural communities with service providers and policy makers.

CMCCF's First Principle

CMCCF believes that those who are positively or negatively impacted by public policies have the right to have their powerful voices heard and respected in the development of these policies, their implementation, their evaluation, and in any corrective action that may be needed.

By following this first principle, CMCCF believes that we can ensure that public policies are developed and implemented in a way that respects and values the voices of both majority and minority communities, leading to fair and equitable treatment for all.

The CMCCF Board of Directors

Zarreen Barlas

Aklilu Teferi

Angie Millan

Shirlyn Minoja Kunaratnam (from Brandon)

Tony Reid (from Brandon)

Aisha Abdullahi

Florence Okwudili

Eriqueson Tayo-Jones

Adey Mohamed

Simret Daniels

Land Acknowledgement

The CMCCF engages in its work on Treaty 1 Territory, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene Peoples, and the homeland of the Métis Nation. We honor these Nations for their enduring guardianship of this land, their wisdom, and their resilience in the face of hardship.

We strive to not only to acknowledge the land but also to deepen our understanding of our shared responsibilities as we move toward reconciliation and peace. We commit to learning from Indigenous Peoples and to walking alongside them in our collective journey for justice, peace, and community solidarity.

Executive Report: Considerations and Hope for the Future

Prepared by: Zarreen Barlas (Chair) and Adey Mohamed (Co-Chair)

As the Coalition of Manitoba Cultural Communities for Families (CMCCF) reflects on the past year, we celebrate the progress, partnerships, and shared achievements that continue to shape our collective journey. Each year brings new opportunities to deepen our impact, strengthen relationships, and reaffirm our commitment to cultural engagement, peacebuilding, and belonging across Manitoba.

We are deeply grateful for the vision and leadership that have guided CMCCF since its founding. The dedication, wisdom, and collaborative spirit of our co-founders, Martin Itzkow and Steve Feldgaier, continue to inspire our work and influence the way we build inclusive, connected communities. Their contributions have laid a strong foundation that enables us to keep growing and evolving as a movement for positive change.

The Board of Directors and Executive team remain committed to building on this momentum. Together, we will continue to nurture the relationships, programs, and networks that have been cultivated with care and purpose over the years. Looking ahead, our focus will be on ensuring that the frameworks and partnerships established through CollaborationNet continue to thrive. These include:

- Sustaining cultural peacebuilding hubs in Winnipeg, Brandon, Portage la Prairie, and Thompson as spaces of dialogue, mentorship, and leadership.
- Building on CMCCF's Manitoba Model of Positive Peace to inform future community development and public policy initiatives.
- Empowering the next generation of youth and community leaders to carry forward the vision of healthy families and healthy communities.
- Continuing collaboration with governments, funders, and community partners to ensure that cultural voices remain central to shaping Manitoba's future.

Our hope for the future is that CMCCF's story continues to inspire others to believe that inclusion and peace are not distant ideals, but living values built through respect, courage, and collaboration. Each connection we make and each initiative we undertake strengthens the foundation for a more compassionate and cohesive society.

As we look ahead, we do so with gratitude for all who have contributed to this ongoing journey. Our founders, partners, board members, funders, and communities. Together, we will continue to build bridges, nurture understanding, and carry forward the shared vision of unity, belonging, and hope for generations to come.

CEO's Reflection

Prepared by: Martin Itzkow, FRSA – CEO

The Coalition of Manitoba Cultural Communities for Families (CMCCF) was founded on a simple yet powerful principle: those most impacted by public policies must have their voices heard, respected, and included in shaping decisions. From the very beginning, our work has been about more than advocating for cultural communities to have a seat at the table. It has been about changing the way communities engage with systems and governments, while also strengthening how they define their own leadership, peacebuilding, and futures.

As a relatively young organization, we have worked to create spaces where cultural communities can engage meaningfully in public policy. Too often, governments have viewed communities primarily as applicants for resources, rather than as equal partners in shaping policy. We set out to change this dynamic, introducing new ways of engaging in which governments and communities could learn from each other and co-create solutions. At its core, our work has been about impact: moving from invisibility to visibility, from neglect to respect, and from exclusion to recognition.

We also know that change rarely happens as quickly as we might wish. Progress is incremental, and it grows as communities gain confidence, step into public spaces, collaborate across differences, and imagine different futures for the next generations. From October 2023 onward, we engaged in over a year of collaboration with communities, working together to create a collective vision. The outcome of this process is reflected in the shared tagline we now proudly hold: *“Cultural Communities amplify our united voices, honour our heritages, drive equity, peace, and belonging, and sustain inclusive futures together.”* This milestone achievement gives us not just a statement of vision but a foundation to build on, and the challenge before us now is embedding this vision into all our work and encouraging policymakers to align with it meaningfully.

In the past five years, thanks to generous support from Canadian Heritage and The Winnipeg Foundation, our development has moved through four distinct phases. We began by building trust and respect so community members could feel genuinely heard. We then opened the door to dialogue across generations and cultures, bringing voices often overlooked into the centre. From these dialogues, we uncovered the hidden strengths of our communities, the traditions, structures, and customs that have supported peacebuilding for generations. Finally, this journey culminated in the creation of CollaborationNet, a living laboratory where these strengths now guide the formation of a pan-Manitoban peacebuilding network and the groundwork for a national roundtable of cultural communities.

This process was not accidental; it emerged from a convergence of need, readiness, and vision. Manitoba’s cultural communities had long contributed to peace and safety, yet their work remained invisible in public policy. With trust established and readiness in place, we could act on a shared vision that communities could lead both locally and nationally in building positive peace. Our work has also been grounded in evidence and research, with contributions from Dr. Muhammad Kabir Yusuf, whose thoughtful papers have helped us reflect, apply evidence, and shape our policy development. His work from *Building Bridges: Traditional Cultural Wisdom for Community Peace* to *CollaborationNet: Why Now?* continues to guide us as we test new approaches.

Through this journey, CMCCF has transitioned from initiatives to infrastructure. We are no longer just running programs but building a living laboratory of peacebuilding. This approach has given our local work a global voice. At the G20’s V20 conference in Brazil, I had the honour of representing CMCCF as the only delegate from the global north. Our presence was recognized in the formal communiqué to the G20 from the V20 conference, a reminder that the lessons of inclusive leadership and authentic engagement from Manitoba resonate on a global stage.

A central part of our journey has also been engagement with the Manitoba government. Together with our partners of The Ethnocultural of Manitoba, Stronger Together (ECCM), The African Communities of Manitoba (ACOMI), The Manitoba Islamic Association (MIA), The Manitoba

Association of Newcomer Serving Organizations (MANSO), Mediation Services, CanU Canada and Palaver Hut, we have begun building political-level relationships. Over the past year and a half, we have met with the provincial caucus twice, sharing perspectives and learning together. This process takes time, but it is critical, because cultural communities are not a small part of Manitoba. They represent nearly one in five Manitobans or 19.7 percent of the provincial population, according to the 2021 Census. To exclude their voices weakens the ability of government to serve all Manitobans effectively. Authentic engagement cannot be symbolic; it must shift power, broaden the table, and lead to co-creation of policy.

Our mandate has always been to reduce racism, hatred, and discrimination, but our work is rooted in something deeper: advancing positive peace. Peace is not simply the absence of conflict but the presence of justice, belonging, equity, and well-being. The Manitoba Model shows that cultural communities are already leading this work. It also reminds us that peace begins within each of us. Inner peace and collective peace are inseparable, and together they shape the future we must build.

The creation of cultural peacebuilding hubs in Winnipeg, Brandon, Portage la Prairie, and Thompson represents the fourth building block of our model. These hubs, woven together as CollaborationNet, reflect Manitoba's diversity and form part of a provincial and national movement. CollaborationNet is more than a structure. It is a generational commitment. It nurtures youth as peace champions, honours elders as wisdom keepers, and ensures that families carry forward traditions of peace. Cultural practices of peacemaking are not relics of the past but living legacies that adapt to new realities. By sustaining and celebrating them, we create solutions that are both rooted and resilient.

From the beginning, CMCCF's invitation has been open to all. We welcomed people of every community and age to come, listen, reflect, and contribute. This generosity of vision has been the heartbeat of our progress, sometimes slow, but always steady and real. In my opinion, I believe that the future we are building is not about our governance structure but about vision (Healthy Families create Healthy Communities): the countless efforts of people across generations who have tested and confirmed what truly works for them. They have shared their worldviews, their wisdom, and their lived experiences, and they have agreed to carry this vision forward, not as bystanders but as leaders who rise with dignity, pride, and strength.

Most importantly, I believe that the true measure of our work is not in structures but in lives transformed, where communities once invisible are now visible, respected, and celebrated for the generations of knowledge they bring to Manitoba and beyond. And so, the question becomes: how do we continue to breathe life into this context of community change? How do we collectively keep strengthening, amplifying the inherent power and influencing communities hold to lead with confidence, dignity, and cultural pride?

I leave you with three questions: How will you help carry these ideas forward so that that Manitoban communities and their future generations thrive? And, in that regard, what does the future of cultural community leadership in Manitoba and beyond look like? And will we continue to be bold enough to dream this future together?

In conclusion, none of this journey would have been possible without the people who walked alongside us. To the community members who brought their courage and wisdom to every conversation, to the consultants who turned vision into action, to our Board of Directors, especially Zarreen and Adey for their steady leadership, and to Steve, who helped us think deeply.

Our sincere gratitude to **Nike Bello and her team at Compass Accounting** for their steadfast support and daily guidance in financial administration; to **Yasmin and Zulaika** for their thoughtful management and oversight of our two Winnipeg Foundation grants; and to **Betti and Christine at Mediation Services** for welcoming CMCCF into their offices, providing a warm and collaborative space that truly feels like home.

To Canadian Heritage and The Winnipeg Foundation, whose trust made our work possible. To our partners of The Ethnocultural of Manitoba, Stronger Together (ECCM), The African Communities of Manitoba (ACOMI), The Manitoba Islamic Association (MIA), The Manitoba Association of Newcomer Serving Organizations (MANSO), Mediation Services, CanU Canada and Palaver Hut, who ensured cultural perspectives remained central. And most importantly, to the youth, elders, families, and cultural leaders of many cultural communities and groups, who have guided us. Their traditions, stories, and visions continue to inspire and shape our journey toward healthier, safer, more peaceful communities in Manitoba and beyond.

Program Report

Prepared by: Steven Feldgaier, Ph.D.

Building Bridges: Traditional Cultural Wisdom for Community Peace

Much of this Report will focus on our *Building Bridges: Traditional Cultural Wisdom for Community Peace* initiative which was funded by Canadian Heritage, and which formally ran from April 1, 2024, until March 31, 2025. As the project title indicated, our focus was exploring and learning more about the many diverse and traditional ways in which various cultural communities practice positive peace and resolve conflicts within their families and communities.

The project proved very successful and the feedback that was received throughout the course of the initiative from diverse community members and participants was very positive. What follows are excerpts from the Final Report that was provided to our funder upon completion of the project.

Community Reference Group

Purpose

To provide a platform for community members from diverse cultural backgrounds to share their lived experiences, insights, and challenges. This group acts as a key advisory body to ensure that the program remains aligned with the authentic needs and aspirations of cultural communities.

How it fits CMCCF's goals

This group ensures community voices are integrated into policymaking and organizational efforts, reinforcing CMCCF's principle of amplifying those directly impacted by public policies.

Results

The community reference group for this project aligned with the CMCCF's existing Roundtable. This strategic decision allowed the organization and its community partners to support the work of the project while maintaining community consistency and knowledge in support of the work. This allowed continuity in the CMCCF's work to foster healthy and resilient cultural communities, while also allowing for a key platform for community members from diverse cultural backgrounds to share lived experience, knowledge, and insights into the Building Bridges Project. The Roundtable was actively involved in acting as the primary advisory body through the course of the project.

This Reference Group–Roundtable was grounded in CMCCF's broader organizational journey, which has evolved through a series of three interconnected phases, each supported in recent years by Canadian Heritage. These phases have collectively shaped our identity and impact. As CMCCF continues to advance its mission to reduce racism, hatred, and discrimination, we do so through a lens of positive peacebuilding. This approach has laid a solid foundation for positioning Manitoba's cultural communities not just as participants, but as recognized and celebrated leaders in peacebuilding efforts across the province.

The Roundtable was able to provide opportunity and space for the authentic engagement of cultural communities to share, experience, and discuss cultural traditions of peacemaking in communities. This created space for intercultural learning and dialogue of cultural traditions in peacemaking as participants shared and engaged in the lived and felt experiences of their

colleagues. This work supported the development of two community engagement events on February 22, 2025, and March 20, 2025. The Coalition of Manitoba Cultural Communities for Families (CMCCF) convened a community engagement roundtable on February 22, 2025, under the theme “Exploring Traditions, Customs, and Practices for Creating Peace.” This initiative brought together Rwandan, South Sudanese, Vietnamese, and Filipino cultural leaders and community members in Winnipeg to share and analyze traditional peacebuilding practices, with a goal to inform policy, increase intercultural understanding, and support community-led conflict resolution. A follow up event on March 20, 2025, was convened.

Through its creative strategies, tools, and inclusive approaches, the Roundtable actively contributed to:

Amplifying Voices: Sharing narratives that celebrate the resilience, contributions, and lived experiences of cultural communities.

Building Solidarity: Creating spaces for mutual learning and collaboration among diverse stakeholders.

Promoting Equity and Inclusion: Influencing our policy and practice to dismantle systemic barriers and promote belonging.

In essence, the Cultural Community Roundtable on Peace represents a vital mechanism for advancing CMCCF’s vision and goals, including replacing the original Reference group.

The Roundtable evolved beyond its initial model, encompassing many of the same participants while expanding its scope and impact.

Partner’s Leadership Table

Purpose

To convene leadership representatives from partner organizations of MANSO, MIA, ECCM and ACOMI to coordinate efforts, build trust, and align strategies for collective impact. This table focuses on strategic decision-making and resource-sharing among stakeholders.

How it fits CMCCF's goals

By fostering collaboration, the table strengthens the coalition's ability to address systemic challenges and unify efforts towards cultural community agency and inclusion.

Results

Our initiative to bridge the traditions, structures, customs, and internal mechanisms of cultural communities toward building cohesion, peace, and community is both visionary and transformative. This effort focuses on fostering a leadership partnership model with cultural community leaders, extending beyond Winnipeg to include regions such as Portage, Brandon, and Thompson. By leveraging the networks of key umbrella organizations like MIA, ECCM, ACOMI, and MANSO, we aim to deepen engagement with communities across Manitoba, recognizing the nuanced needs of both large and small cultural groups.

In response to this desire to expand and develop a leadership model that is culturally and geographically inclusive across Manitoba, the CMCCF has been working with the identified partners to integrate geographic hubs at the local level in communities across the province. While the foundations of this work have been laid through the Building Bridges project, the work

has continued into the next phase of the CMCCF's organizational and network development: CollaborationNet.

The framework for integrating geographic hubs into the processes and activities of community peacebuilding directly follows from the Building Bridges Project's goal of convening leadership from MANSO, MIA, ECCM, and ACOMI to build trust and align strategies. It does this by establishing an inclusive, consensus-based structures, where community representatives collaborated on both tactical and strategic decision-making. Trust is fostered through culturally grounded governance, while alignment is achieved via regular dialogue, shared visioning, and responsive feedback loops. These efforts promote collective impact by mobilizing resources, amplifying grassroots voices, and reinforcing a unified peacebuilding agenda. Overall, the activities represent a clear transition from relationship-building under Building Bridges to a sustainable, community-led governance model among Manitoba's cultural community umbrellas.

This partnership is not just about collaboration; it's about creating a sustainable alliance of cultural communities. Together, we focus on our guiding principle: fostering peace in communities. This involves long-term initiatives like planning youth-focused programs that emphasize inner peace and shared understanding. Through these efforts, we position cultural communities as active co-creators in systems-level peacebuilding, ensuring their voices shape the narrative and solutions.

On a national level, we have started an engagement with partners in Toronto, such as the Toronto Metropolitan University's CERC, to explore broader collaborations, including future research opportunities. This growing network aligns with other initiatives, like the Public Health-focused Network of Networks, with our interest in how the Ottawa Charter speaks to our interests in cultural communities, and to advocate for cultural communities as leaders in addressing social determinants of health and peacebuilding.

At its core, this leadership partnership is essential for:

Strengthening Collective Impact: It creates a unified framework for cultural communities to lead and co-create solutions with broader systems.

Empowering Communities: By recognizing cultural traditions as assets, this partnership ensures cultural communities have agency in public policy and peacebuilding.

Expanding the Reach of Positive Peace: It builds momentum for cross-regional and national collaborations, amplifying the impact of community-driven leadership in creating inclusive, resilient societies.

Cultural Communities Roundtable – Peace in Community:

Purpose

To create a space for cultural communities to explore and discuss positive peace, conflict resolution, and approaches to fostering social cohesion. This roundtable emphasizes traditions and customs of peacebuilding within cultural contexts.

How it fits CMCCF's goals

It builds on the theme of positive peace by encouraging cross-cultural learning and the development of actionable solutions for maintaining peace and harmony within and across communities.

Results

The Cultural Community Roundtable on Peace has grown into a vital platform for dialogue, advocacy, and action, supporting a number of cultural communities (ever changing) in navigating systemic challenges in our communities. Initially, the Roundtable served as a space for cultural communities and allies to come together, share their experiences, and explore strategies for fostering positive peace. Over time, it has evolved into a more structured and dynamic forum, addressing broader systemic issues and creating actionable insights for building equity and inclusion. As a collective, it was a space for dialogue, exploration, creation of a number of new approaches to bring communities together to assist in the development and preparation of a number of our engagements, including the February 22, 2025, and March 20, 2025, events. As well, this roundtable acted as a forum to discuss a number of papers created by CMCCF and its researcher Dr. Muhammad Bakir Yusef.

This forum played a pivotal role in shaping the vision for CMCCF's next phase of development, building seamlessly on the foundation of the previous three phases, and remaining deeply rooted in our core values and commitment to peace, guided by the leadership of culturally grounded, community-led initiatives.

Evolution Over Time - Early Stages

The Roundtable began with foundational conversations focusing on identifying shared challenges and aspirations among diverse cultural communities. This stage emphasized creating trust, understanding the unique contexts of each community, and fostering a sense of solidarity. We shared a list of our deliverables for the project and highlighted where their input would be especially valuable. The process was a meaningful one for CMCCF. It encouraged openness and helped set the tone for what the initiative could become. It also sparked new ideas, inspired fresh approaches, and welcomed new voices and leaders who are now helping guide and support our engagement efforts.

Expansion and Innovation:

Recognizing the need for sustained action, the Roundtable expanded its scope to include creative tools and approaches, such as participatory action papers prepared, storytelling, and cultural conversations. These methods allowed for richer engagement and a more inclusive understanding of peace through diverse cultural lenses.

One memorable process was to have a number of thoughtful engagements designed to explore what a youth peace-building training program could become. Through conversations with some youth, families, and community members, we commissioned Mediation Services to gather diverse insights into the values, practices, and structures that would make such a program meaningful.

These discussions focused on how youth can be meaningfully supported in cultivating emotional resilience, empathy-based leadership, and a deep sense of responsibility to foster peace within themselves, their families, and their communities. From these rich conversations emerged a vision for a youth program rooted in a framework that honours cultural wisdom, amplifies lived experience, and nurtures a new generation of peacebuilders dedicated to community well-being.

This evolving framework is now being shaped collaboratively with a group of community facilitators. This program will be an important offer to our CollaborationNet hubs to support youth leadership.

Our facilitators will align this new program with CMCCF's previous youth leadership training and guide upcoming dialogues focused on anchoring peacebuilding in core community values. These future conversations will also explore intergenerational engagement and identify new opportunities for strengthening cultural community peacebuilding leadership across generations.

Intersectional Focus

As the Roundtable matured, it incorporated an intersectional framework, addressing how racism, hatred, and discrimination uniquely affect different communities. This phase deepened its commitment to addressing systemic inequities by wishing for CMCCF to engage allies, policymakers, and service providers (for example, the disability sector) to amplify cultural communities' voices and foster systemic change. It was important to ensure that we continued to bring forward the idea of how many cultural communities have community strengths in areas of traditional structures, customs, roles and responsibilities to build community solidarity, cohesion, and a deep sense of history to build and sustain community peace. This included a number of conversations with Provincial MLAs to see if and when the policymakers would be ready to engage, and how this process could be ongoing and have impact for the communities and the policy makers.

The work of the Roundtable aligns closely with CMCCF's vision of fostering healthy and resilient cultural communities. Through its creative strategies, tools, and inclusive approaches, the Roundtable actively contributes to:

Amplifying Voices: Sharing narratives that celebrate the resilience, contributions, and lived experiences of cultural communities.

Building Solidarity: Creating spaces for mutual learning and collaboration among diverse stakeholders.

Promoting Equity and Inclusion: Influencing policy and practice to dismantle systemic barriers and promote belonging. The Cultural Community Roundtable on Peace represents a vital mechanism for advancing CMCCF's vision and goals.

Achievements:

The Roundtable has delivered significant outcomes, including:

Replacing the Original Reference Group: The Roundtable evolved beyond its initial model, encompassing many of the same participants while expanding its scope and impact.

Facilitating Open Dialogue: Highlighting traditional community structures, roles, and customs as models for cohesion, conflict resolution, and peace building while advocating for Western-centric systems to learn from these practices.

Generating Research and Insights: Giving direction for the preparation of background papers on cultural traditions, and equity-focused policymaking, and the systemic barriers that exacerbate racism and discrimination.

Identifying Focus Communities: Selecting Four to Six cultural communities for further exploration of traditional peace building structures, with Roundtable members helping facilitate these sessions.

Creating Future Opportunities: Establishing the foundation for sharing findings with service providers and policymakers to co-create inclusive systems that reduce racism, hatred, and discrimination. (our bridging work)

Supporting Future Initiatives: Assisting in the development of a future peace conference framework and contributing to youth peace training initiatives to cultivate future community leaders. This would include a new partner to our Roundtable, namely the Dakota Plains First Nation who wish to share in the decision-making for a shared peace conference between youth and elders from Indigenous and cultural communities.

Sustaining Peace Dialogues: Committing to ongoing conversations about peace as a cornerstone for community leadership in broader societal contexts.

Conclusion

The Cultural Community Roundtable on Peace is a cornerstone of CMCCF's mission, embodying its goals through innovative engagement, actionable advocacy, and deep community collaboration. By addressing systemic challenges and amplifying the voices of cultural communities, the Roundtable ensures that these communities are recognized as essential partners in building an inclusive and equitable society. Looking ahead, its continued evolution will solidify its role as a catalyst for meaningful change and a beacon of hope and guidance for CMCCF.

Cultural Communities, Service Providers and Policymakers:

Purpose

To facilitate dialogue between cultural communities, service providers, and policymakers to create a shared understanding of community needs, align services and policies effectively. This area promotes participatory governance.

How it fits CMCCF's goals

It bridges gaps between Policy Makers, Service Systems and Cultural Communities, ensuring cultural inclusivity and equitable access to resources

Results

Among these are groups of people who have expressed a genuine curiosity about the identity and lived experiences of cultural communities, along with a shared interest in creating safe and brave spaces where open dialogue can begin. For these spaces to be meaningful, it is important that expectations remain grounded and realistic, prioritizing trust-building, mutual respect, and a gradual deepening of understanding, rather than imposing ideals that may feel unreachable or disconnected from community realities.

A key element of this work lies in CMCCF'S expertise in bridge-building, which we have refined through years of cultivating authentic relationships with cultural communities. We excel in creating environments that encourage dialogue grounded in respect, cultural humility, and inclusivity. Our approach involves listening deeply to lived experiences, co-developing solutions, and ensuring that communities feel empowered to share their narratives without fear of judgment. This commitment to honouring agency and self-determination has made us a trusted partner to cultural communities, who see us as advocates for their voices in spaces where they might otherwise remain unheard.

Based on this approach to engagement through this Roundtable, we created two engagements, one followed the other. On February 22, 2025, community leads invited members of the South Sudanese, Rwandan, Filipino and Vietnamese communities to this learning café. This conversation café brought together participants in a dynamic, respectful space for dialogue and exchange. Each community shared their community's unique approaches to peacebuilding, conflict resolution, and strengthening social cohesion. Participants highlighted traditional roles, customs, and practices that foster solidarity within their communities, including intergenerational support systems, storytelling, and community mediation models.

The community conversations revealed powerful, often overlooked methods of sustaining peace at the grassroots level, including methods that are deeply embedded in cultural traditions but remain largely invisible within formal policy frameworks. This session also explored how these community-based practices could inform or partner with broader systems like government and service agencies.

Key Themes Emerging from Cultural Community Voices

Visibility and Recognition: Participants spoke powerfully about the need for their longstanding peacebuilding practices, rooted in cultural traditions, storytelling, kinship roles, and community wisdom, to be seen, valued, and integrated into public policy. These methods, while often invisible in formal systems, are active and effective in sustaining harmony at the grassroots level. Recognition is not only about validation, but about justice.

Solidarity and Connection: Across communities, there was a shared longing to build bridges, deepening relationships across cultural lines and generations. Participants emphasized that the strength of cultural communities grows when stories, rituals, and solutions are exchanged in spaces of mutual respect. These connections are key to forging a united front in the pursuit of peace and well-being for all.

Systems Influence and Transformation: Participants expressed a clear desire not just to be consulted, but to help shape how government and service systems engage with cultural communities. They called for authentic partnerships that honour lived experience and cultural leadership, moving beyond tokenism toward co-creation. The aim is a future where systems listen, learn, and adapt, becoming more inclusive, responsive, and grounded in the realities of community life.

This event surfaced community strengths and opened pathways for future collaboration, influence, and policy engagement grounded in the wisdom of lived experience.

Two discussion papers were prepared for the February 22, 2025, and March 20, 2025, events. They are as follows:

Beyond Western Justice: Institutionalizing Cultural Peacebuilding in Manitoba, Exploring Traditions, Customs and Practices for Creating Community Peace Engagements by Muhammad Kabir Yusuf, PhD. (February 22, 2025)

Beyond Western Justice: Institutionalizing Cultural Peacebuilding in Manitoba: A Report from the Community Engagement from February 22, 2025 (March 20, 2025)

A previous CMCCF paper was produced in January 2025 for context setting, titled:

The Critical Role of Cultural Community Traditions, Structures, and Customs as Assets for Community Cohesion and Peacebuilding.

In that regard, our March 20, 2025, event was the epic event for the year. We led with our Cultural Communities Leading Peacebuilding: A Gathering of Wisdom, Courage, and Possibility event.

Four cultural communities came together in an extraordinary gathering that showcased the strength, traditions, and enduring spirit of communal leadership. Building on a year-long journey of conversations, research, and shared inquiry, first explored in our February 22 session, this event marked the public release of our findings and invited community members, policymakers, and service providers into the heart of the work. The event highlighted how cultural traditions, customs, norms, and deeply held responsibilities serve as powerful foundations for community-based peacebuilding. Each participating cultural community shared its distinct worldview, shedding light on traditional conflict resolution methods, the transmission of intergenerational wisdom, and the vital roles anchored in kinship, storytelling, and collective stewardship. These contributions underscored the richness and relevance of cultural knowledge in fostering peace and cohesion at the community level.

Key ideas that emerged included:

1. The importance of elders and knowledge keepers in facilitating healing and intergenerational dialogue.
2. The role of cultural rituals and ceremonies in restoring relationships and building communal trust.
3. The power of youth leadership and mentorship as bridges between tradition and innovation.
4. The value of language, and community storytelling as pathways for expressing hope and co-creating new understandings across diverse communities.

This gathering reaffirmed that cultural communities are not just stakeholders, they are “stewards of peace”, already equipped with the frameworks and wisdom to lead across neighborhoods, generations, and sectors.

Looking ahead, we believe that the insights from this event can inform future:

1. Policy development that honors and integrates cultural approaches to peace and well-being.
2. Service redesign rooted in relational and culturally anchored practices.
3. New partnerships and collective impact networks, where cultural leadership shapes decisions, leads communally not just participates in them.
4. Education and training models, that pass on these traditions to future generations and non-cultural partners alike.

These insights point to a critical opportunity for future public policy: to recognize and elevate the peacebuilding leadership already present within Manitoba’s cultural communities. Despite their proven ability to mediate conflict through traditional, low-cost, and community-driven methods, these practices remain largely invisible within current policy frameworks. Moving forward, policy development must focus on legitimizing and supporting these culturally grounded approaches, by investing in community-led peace infrastructure, integrating traditional conflict resolution into mainstream systems, and ensuring that cultural communities are co-creators in designing policies that impact their well-being and safety. This shift will not only make

peacebuilding more inclusive and sustainable, but also affirm the leadership and wisdom embedded in Manitoba's diverse traditions.

As we move forward, we carry with us the message that cultural communities are not waiting to be included, they are already leading. This event was not a conclusion, it was our call to walk alongside, to listen, and to amplify the powerful traditions that have always been there: resilient, wise, and ready to build peace across all communities. As our Board chair stated at this event: "As Manitoba grows more diverse, we face both opportunities and challenges. Among them is the need to bridge traditional peacebuilding wisdom with Western systems of policy and service delivery. This isn't easy, but it's essential. Only by blending these worlds can we co-create truly inclusive, peaceful communities."

Based in this engagement and the yearlong exploration in community discussion, we believe that our bridge-building expertise is rooted in several key conditions that we consistently prioritize:

Cultural Safety: We ensure that spaces are safe for communities to speak freely and share their truths without being dismissed or tokenized.

Equity-Centered Dialogue: We establish processes that allow all voices—particularly those of marginalized groups—to carry equal weight in discussions.

Capacity for Mutual Learning: We encourage sectors to reflect on their assumptions, biases, and self-awareness, creating opportunities for them to grow alongside cultural communities.

Accountability Frameworks: We design collaborative agreements that outline shared goals, commitments, and mechanisms for evaluating progress.

Trust-Building Through Transparency: By consistently demonstrating integrity, transparency, and follow-through on commitments, we earn the trust of both communities and sectors.

Through these efforts, we help sectors understand their roles, responsibilities, and limitations, fostering environments where cultural communities can authentically express their needs and aspirations. By facilitating these initial conversations, we help sectors explore their own self-awareness and how they perceive themselves, what they seek from cultural communities, and the extent to which they are willing to listen, adapt, and co-create solutions.

Ultimately, our work is about ensuring that cultural communities can manifest their agency and self-determination in ways that reflect their values and lived realities, while also influencing service delivery in meaningful, transformative ways. This is why we are trusted and because we not only advocate but actively create the pathways for voices to be heard and respected.

Youth Leadership and Peacebuilding Training:

Purpose

To empower young people from cultural communities with skills in leadership, advocacy, and peacebuilding. This program aims to prepare the next generation of leaders who can champion social justice and harmony.

How it fits CMCCF's goals

Investing in youth ensures sustainability and fresh perspectives for building stronger, safer communities while fostering engagement with public policy development.

Results

The Coalition of Manitoba Cultural Communities for Families (CMCCF) has identified youth engagement as a critical focus for fostering future leaders capable of convening and facilitating community engagements. Over the past few years, CMCCF successfully piloted a convening and facilitating leadership development program based on a Social Justice Lens, which proved to be an effective tool for recruiting, training, mentoring, and encouraging young people from diverse cultural backgrounds. Building on this success, CMCCF plans to expand this initiative by integrating it with new priorities and partnerships.

Leadership Development for Convening and Facilitation:

Our objective is to equip youth with skills to convene and facilitate community engagements, particularly around peacebuilding initiatives. The program will leverage CMCCF's past leadership training model (2 parts), with support from seasoned cultural community trainers. Partnerships with organizations such as Mediation Services and CanU Canada will strengthen recruitment efforts by drawing from established networks within Winnipeg's schools and communities. Our goal is to develop a cohort of youth leaders who can actively engage their communities, identify local skills and traditions, and foster peacebuilding.

Inner Peace Training for Youth Well-being:

Our objectives are to address the psychological impact of racism, discrimination, and other adversities by providing tools for inner peace and resilience, as well as training the skills for restorative justice models of conflict resolution. CMCCF in consultation and development led by Mediation Services (a partner) has developed a new model of inner peacebuilding as part of our current project. This model focuses on helping youth explore questions of safety, well-being, and personal grounding. Also, the other element is focused on the knowledge and skills of restorative justice approaches to conflict resolution in cultural communities and their families. The program is planned to be rolled out in tandem with the leadership development training, creating a holistic approach to youth empowerment.

Peace Conference and Community Engagement:

In the future our desire is that community is enabling trained youth leaders to facilitate peace conferences and community dialogues, drawing on their skills in convening and leading inner peacebuilding.

Cultural Community Social Justice Award Celebration on March 10, 2025:

On March 10, 2025, CMCCF hosted a gathering to recognize the contributions of individuals from Manitoba's cultural communities who are advancing social justice and peacebuilding in their own ways. The event featured the presentation of the Youth Social Justice Award, which acknowledged five recipients between the ages of 15 and 26. These young individuals were recognized for their consistent efforts within their communities, often through creative, faith-based, cultural, or family-rooted work, to foster safer, more inclusive environments.

Many of the awardees have been quietly leading initiatives or embodying values that promote empathy, belonging, and equity. Their work spans from informal mentorship and cultural preservation to cross-community relationship-building.

In addition to the youth awards, the event included the Lifetime Emeritus of Social Justice Award, honouring two individuals whose long-term commitments to equity and community

well-being were highlighted. Both recipients have spent decades confronting systemic barriers and advocating for cultural inclusion and justice. The recognition reflected the depth of their contributions, including the policies they helped shape, the communities they supported, and the relationships they sustained over the years. Throughout the evening, attendees heard reflections that emphasized peace not merely as the absence of conflict, but as an ongoing, community-based practice rooted in justice, compassion, and shared responsibility. The awards served not just as recognitions of achievement, but also as an acknowledgment of the quiet, consistent work being done across Manitoba to build communities where every individual can feel valued and heard.

Community Participation, Communications and Social Media

Estimated total number of direct participants

Since the beginning of the Building Bridges project approximately 50 individual participants have taken part in various project activities. Many of these individuals have also taken part in several different activities including the further development of the project, project committees and Roundtables, and in community engagement events, etc.

We were also pleased to see that we have been able to expand the demographic of those who are involved in some fashion with the project. While in our previous JEDI project the vast majority of participants, consultants, etc. were over the age of 40, we have now begun to see a shift to participation from younger members of our communities especially those in the 18 - 35 age range. Community members in this age range are now participating in our committees, community engagements, as consultants, etc. Several of them have also progressed in recent months to taking on more leadership-oriented responsibilities including serving as a committee chair or serving on the organization's Board of Directors. Many of them also come from a variety of different cultural communities which has also led us to expand our reach into these communities as well.

Estimated total number of engagements

Over the course of the project to date, increased efforts have been undertaken to expand the reach of the project and the work of the organization. This has proven successful and has led to an increase in both overall project involvement but also in more passive engagement. For instance, we have increased our Instagram presence and have posted 49 times from March 2024 to March 2025. For example, our most recent analytics have shown a 13% increase in the number of followers (220 total) between January and March 2025. In this positive light, we were also able to reach 995 accounts in the last month of the project, 93% of which were non-followers. Similarly, 31 accounts were engaged, of which 25.7% were non-followers (a 60% increase over the previous month).

Similarly, we have tried to also further develop our CMCCF website in order to begin adding additional information about this new project. From January to March 2025 the CMCCF website had 12,000 organic impressions, an increase of 44.5% over the previous three months. These past three months have seen an increase of 89% in page views (1319) and over a 200% increase in impressions (57). As well, there was a 70% increase in unique visitors. Examination of specific page views also indicated that while our former JEDI project had the most specific views, our current project came in a close second in total views (156 vs 144).

We have also made a much more determined effort to increase our visibility by recently adding an additional YouTube channel which is focused on posting relevant ‘Shorts’ which have been extracted from our full-length videos which we have done. This has led to a total of 12 Shorts having been posted to date along with 6 full length videos in recent months. We have been pleased to see a positive response to these efforts had upwards of 7,000 views from January to March 2025, a 142% increase over the previous three months. We are also pleased to see that we are now shifting our viewer demographics to a somewhat younger age range with the majority of viewers now in the 25 – 44-year range.

Our hope with the addition of our Shorts to also begin increasing viewership amongst the 18 – 24-year-old demographic.

What Helped Make the Building Bridges Project a Success

1. **Deep Community Trust and Relationships:** The project was rooted in longstanding relationships across diverse cultural communities and our community of consultants. This foundation of trust allowed for honest dialogue, sensitive storytelling, and brave conversations around justice, identity, and peace. Because the initiative was community-led and culturally respectful, participants felt safe to share and contribute fully.
2. **Intercultural Learning Environments:** By designing roundtables and forums that welcomed diverse voices and traditions, the project created a vibrant intercultural learning space. Participants didn't just talk about diversity, they experienced it through shared models of peacebuilding, such as Vietnamese intergenerational wisdom, Filipino values of pakikipag-kapwa-tao, and Rwandan restorative approaches. These cross-cultural exchanges sparked empathy and curiosity, dissolving biases and building solidarity.
3. **Youth and Elder Co-Leadership:** Intentional intergenerational structures helped bridge cultural knowledge with contemporary realities. Youth were empowered not just as learners, but as cultural interpreters and future leaders. Elders were recognized as knowledge holders whose stories and practices formed the backbone of peacebuilding conversations.
4. **Culturally Grounded Policy Development:** Participants moved from storytelling to strategy and crafting concrete recommendations like hybrid mediation models and cultural liaison roles. These proposals reflected lived realities and cultural logics, grounding advocacy in community wisdom rather than institutional assumptions.
5. **Adaptive, Reflexive Facilitation:** The project team demonstrated agility in adjusting to community needs, rhythms, and feedback. Sessions were designed not as rigid agendas but as evolving conversations that respected the emotional pace and cultural nuances of participants. This created space for organic growth and mutual discovery.

Wisdom of Hope Circle

(Formerly The Wisdom of Hardship Circle)

In previous reports we noted that the Coalition has served as the host for bringing together a group of passionate and committed people from a number of countries including Canada, Hong Kong, Austria, England, Scotland, Brazil, and Sweden who developed a new initiative called the Wisdom of Hardship which CMCCF launched in partnership with these global contacts over the

past few years. This Wisdom initiative centred on a series of inspiring stories from those who had overcome adversity prior to the COVID 19 pandemic. The series explored the values that helped them weather profound change and learn lessons that could potentially help others through the current crisis. A series of stories was posted on the CMCCF website (cmccfamilies.ca) and the feedback from those who have read the stories was quite positive.

As we reported now for the past several years, we expanded our Circle to include new members from the Ukraine and the United States. Over the course of these past years our conversations have served to bring the group more tightly together and to re-frame our group as the “Wisdom of Hope Circle” rather than the “Wisdom of Hardship Circle”. As in past years, we were also pleased to be invited to host another global engagement on World Values Day which we held again in October 2024 and recently again earlier this month. These virtual sessions have been very well received and has resulted in the addition of several new members to our Circle.

[CollaborationNet: Seeking Peace and Safety in Community by Enhancing and Weaving Social Justice Networks and Partnerships across Manitoba and Canada](#)

Building upon our success with our Building Bridges initiative, we were excited to learn last year that we had been successful in receiving another grant from Canadian Heritage for our CollaborationNet (CLNET) project. This initiative will run through until March 31, 2026, and provides an opportunity to expand our work beyond Winnipeg to other locations in Manitoba as well as to several cities across Canada. In many ways, CLNET reflects the evolution of CMCCF’s growth and the progression of our various projects over the years. With our mission of promoting positive peace and peacebuilding, this new initiative is centred on creating a network of community hubs in Manitoba and in other Canadian cities where community members can come and find safe spaces to talk about positive peace and inner peace and the role that cultural communities must play in building positive peace within our families, within our many diverse communities and in our broader Manitoba and Canadian societies.

In creating local hubs, our cultural communities will have the opportunity to foster a culture of safety, understanding and inclusion. *The hubs will function as both learning communities and action networks creating the voices of a future vision of what peaceful communities become.* Through these hubs, communities can document stories, and develop ideas that strengthen relationships across cultural, generational, and geographic lines. Each hub becomes a microcosm of positive peace addressing not only the absence of conflict but the presence of fairness, inclusion, and wellbeing.

Progress to Date

Despite various challenges that ere encountered in the early days of the project, significant progress has been made in recent times. Within Manitoba, we have identified three communities in addition to Winnipeg to serve as Positive Peacebuilding Hubs. These are Portage la Prairie, Brandon and Thompson and in each of these communities we have also recently had a consultant join our team to serve as a local community peacebuilding connector. In Winnipeg, we are excited to have our community organizational partners join us as community connectors along with an experienced longstanding CMCCF consultant.

A series of workshops for our community connectors began this summer and we recently held a very productive weekend Retreat in Portage la Prairie that brought together our many connectors,

members of the Portage community and other consultants and Board members to begin mapping out our next steps in creating our local hubs.

In each of our four Manitoba locations, our connectors are beginning to plan for their first community gathering later this fall. These gatherings will bring together community members who have indicated an interest in talking about positive peace and peacebuilding. Following these initial gatherings, each hub will continue to meet in the new year so that community hub members can begin crafting their vision for peace within their communities which will then be unveiled at community events next March.

Beyond expanding our reach within Manitoba, our current funding will also provide us with an opportunity to begin a series of dialogues nationally. In doing so, we are planning for our first virtual National Roundtable on Cultural Peacebuilding Communities shortly. Working with our consultants in Toronto, our goal is to bring together a diverse group of community members from Toronto, Vancouver, Halifax, and Manitoba to share perspectives, ideas, action plans and insights as we strive to raise awareness of the power of positive peace in contributing to strengthening the wellbeing of our communities across the country.

In expanding our reach across Canada, we will also use this opportunity to share with community members, policy makers, and system decision makers, *our Manitoba Model for Cultural Community Leadership* (September 2025), an important policy paper developed by Martin Itzkow, CMCCF CEO and approved as policy by the CMCCF Board of Directors. The purpose of this paper is to demonstrate how cultural communities across Manitoba - working with limited resources but tremendous energy, vision, and commitment—are leading the way in creating peace within their own communities and across our province. This work, guided by agency and self-determination, shows that cultural communities are not only participants in peacebuilding but leaders who are shaping new possibilities for the future. This paper is written both for those here in Manitoba and for our colleagues across Canada through the National Roundtable on Cultural Peacebuilding Communities. It illustrates how, step by step, cultural communities have begun to define peace for themselves, drawing on their traditions, strengthening their families, and anchoring their leadership in both their cultural and geographic communities.

Along with a recent paper (September 2025) developed for CMCCF by Dr. Muhammad Kabir Yusuf entitled: *Community Collaborative Network (CLNET) for Cultural Peacebuilding: Why Now?* (which is intended to inform the development of a sustainable, inclusive and intercultural CLNET initiative and to advance the Manitoba Model), CMCCF is well positioned to advocate for the role of cultural communities in leading a movement towards positive peace and wellbeing.

As with all our projects we will also continue to expand our social media, institute a new series of community podcasts and enhance our CMCCF website. In addition, we will continue to publish important papers on positive peace and peacebuilding and document the journey that community members undertake within this CLNET initiative.

Finally, we will continue to focus on youth as a priority for our organization. In the coming months, we will pilot a new Youth Peace Champions program which will integrate many elements from our previous youth programs along with an increased emphasis on examining inner peace, family and community peace and strategies for positive peacebuilding within our various communities. As well, we will be calling for nominations for this year's Youth Social

Justice Award and highlighting the many incredible activities and leadership that our youth are making across communities.

Our Consultants

While we are very appreciative of our partnerships with ACOMI, ECCM, MIA, MANSO, Palaver Hut, Mediation Services, and CanU and are honoured by the support and participation of our many community members, we also want to acknowledge the ongoing commitment and dedication of our many consultants who have worked in partnership with us over the years on our various initiatives. Currently, our team has over 20 members and they represent not only diverse cultural communities but also are of varying ages, faiths, perspectives and lived experiences. While most live in Manitoba, we have others in various Canadian locations and some who join us from outside of Canada.

While they each bring their own unique skills and talents to our initiatives, they all share a passion, a commitment, and an enthusiastic spirit for the work that we do. They are both colleagues and friends and strong supporters of CMCCF's vision and mission. They are advocates in promoting the voices of cultural communities and are dedicated to social justice and the wellbeing for all. Our gratitude for their tireless efforts and many creative talents is huge, and our success is due to their ongoing belief in what we do.

Treasurer's Report

Presented by Aishah Abdullahi CPA, FCCA

As the treasurer of CMCCF, my primary role is to oversee financial matters as an integral part of the Governance Committee. We maintain the integrity of financial transactions, to safeguard the organization's assets, to eliminate fraud, and enhance public accountability.

For the year ending March 2025, I report on the extracts from the compiled financial statements as prepared by Compass Accounting Compass Accounting CPA Ltd.

While our income increased by 43%, the organization embarked on two programs running in parallel (CollaborationNet and Building Bridges). This translated into increased number of consultants, many of whom were working across both new initiatives at the same time. Thus, consultants' fees rose from \$154k to \$ 237k (increased by 53%), projects costs went up by 36% while we made some savings on professional fees, venues, and training. Also, Admin, advertising and travel went up in support of the new mandate per our sponsor, resulting in a deficit of (\$145) for the year ending March 2025.

Our Financial outlook was incredibly positive; we ended the year on a strong note both in fiscal responsibility and cash reserve for future capital use leaving \$12,847 in cash and cash equivalents. We also partnered with new stakeholders to provide high-quality services and engagements to our communities.

Our future looks promising as we improve the financial reporting integrity with the emphasis on strong internal control, compliance, and budgetary process to streamline and mitigate against risks and uncertainties.

On a final note, CMCCF delivers excellence in flourishing cultural communities by focusing on our core values: Diversity of families, Respect, Mutual learning & teaching, Generosity and Commitment & active participation.

I recommend that the board of directors approve the compiled financial statements for the year ended March 2025.

Financial Statement

**COALITION OF MANITOBA CULTURAL COMMUNITIES FOR FAMILIES
Financial Statements**

Year Ended March 31, 2025
(Unaudited - See Compilation Engagement Report)

COALITION OF MANITOBA CULTURAL COMMUNITIES FOR FAMILIES
Index to the Financial Statements
Year Ended March 31, 2025
(Unaudited - See Compilation Engagement Report)

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Compilation Engagement Report

To the Shareholders of COALITION OF MANITOBA CULTURAL COMMUNITIES FOR FAMILIES

On the basis of information provided by management, we have compiled the balance sheet of COALITION OF MANITOBA CULTURAL COMMUNITIES FOR FAMILIES as at March 31, 2025 and the statements of income, and retained earnings for the year then ended, and Note 1, which describes the basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the compiled financial information.

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial information, including the accuracy and completeness of the underlying information used to compile it and the selection of the basis of accounting.

We performed this engagement in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO), Compilation Engagements, which requires us to comply with relevant ethical requirements. Our responsibility is to assist management in the preparation of the financial information.

We did not perform an audit engagement or a review engagement, nor were we required to perform procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion, or provide any form of assurance on the financial information.

Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

Compass Accounting Chartered Professional Accountant Ltd.

July 28, 2025
WINNIPEG, MB

COALITION OF MANITOBA CULTURAL COMMUNITIES FOR FAMILIES

Statement of Financial Position as at March 31, 2025

(Unaudited - See Compilation Engagement Report)

ASSETS	2025	2024
Current		
Cash	\$ -	\$ 1,622
Cash In Trust	978	5,177
Accounts receivable - Canadian Heritage	8,150	-
Accounts receivable	1,665	3,418
Prepayment	1,783	-
	<u>12,576</u>	<u>10,217</u>
	<u>\$ 12,576</u>	<u>\$ 10,217</u>

LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	-	4,309
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,309</u>
Deferred Income	12,847	6,034
	<u>12,847</u>	<u>10,343</u>
Shareholders' equity		
Deficit	(271)	(126)
	<u>(271)</u>	<u>(126)</u>
	<u>\$ 12,576</u>	<u>\$ 10,217</u>

Approved by:

Director: _____

Director: _____

COALITION OF MANITOBA CULTURAL COMMUNITIES FOR FAMILIES

Statement of Changes in Net Assets for the year ended March 31, 2025

(Unaudited - See Compilation Engagement Report)

		2025		2024
Deficit, beginning of the year	\$	(126)	\$	(355)
Net income (loss)		(145)		229
Deficit, end of the year	\$	(271)	\$	(126)

COALITION OF MANITOBA CULTURAL COMMUNITIES FOR FAMILIES

Statement of Operations for the year ended March 31, 2025

(Unaudited - See Compilation Engagement Report)

	2025	2024
BB - Federal Government Grants	\$ 169,410	\$ 188,549
CLNET Federal Government Income	123,649	-
Federal Government SP # 3	13,000	-
Winnipeg foundation income	3,771	23,907
WRHA		4,037
Interest income	153	87
Net trade Sales	<u>309,983</u>	<u>216,580</u>
Cost of sales		
Gross Profit	<u>309,983</u>	<u>216,580</u>
Operating Expenses:		
Administrative expenses	25,027	16,674
Advertising and promotion	10,515	8,870
Interest and bank charges	2	-
Professional fees	725	3,500
Events/Venues	9,263	13,103
Consultants	237,945	154,710
Projects	15,536	11,894
Training	1,000	4,100
Travel expense	8,515	3,500
Rent	1,600	-
	<u>310,128</u>	<u>216,351</u>
Income before income taxes	(145)	229
Net income (loss)	<u>\$ (145)</u>	<u>\$ 229</u>

COALITION OF MANITOBA CULTURAL COMMUNITIES FOR FAMILIES

Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2025

(Unaudited - See Compilation Engagement Report)

1. Basis of accounting

The accounting policies of the Organization are in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO) applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year. Outlined below are those policies considered particularly significant.

- Cash and cash equivalents includes cash in chequing and saving accounts, and cash in trust.
- Prior to opening their own bank account, all cash receipts were held by the Canadian Muslim Women's Institute Inc. in trust for the Organization. All disbursements were paid with the cash held in trust.
- accounts payable and accrued liabilities

2. Accounts Receivable

	2025	2024
Due from Federal Government (5% holdback)	\$ 8,150	\$ -
Due from CMWI	3,447	3,419
	<u>\$ 11,597</u>	<u>\$ 3,419</u>

3. Deferred Contribution

The Organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses occur.

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.

	Winnipeg Foundation	WRHA	CMHA	Canadian Heritage Project - CLNET	2025	2024
Balance - beginning of the year	5503	373	160	-	6036	33980
Grants Received				134,983.69	134,983.69	
Less amount recognized	4525	0	0	123648.69	128173.69	27944
Balance -End of the year	978	373	160	11,335.00	12,846	6,036
					<u>\$ 12,846</u>	<u>\$ 6,036</u>

4. Cash In trust

The Organization works with The Canadian Muslim Women's Institute Inc. (CMWI), an independent, not-for-profit organization. CMWI maintains a portion of the Organization's cash balances that originated from The Winnipeg Foundation per funding agreements. Because of this relationship, the auditors are not able to verify the opening and closing balances of this account.



**We
as
Manitoban
Cultural
Communities
Amplify Our Unified
Voices, Honour Our
Heritage, Drive Equity, Peace
and Belonging, and Sustain
Inclusive Futures Together.**

**A Path to the Future:
Thriving Cultural Communities**

CMCCF

www.cmccfamilies.ca