



SASKATCHEWAN INDIGENOUS CULTURAL CENTRE

2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Early in SICC's history, the logo was developed by Elders depicting the green circle which represents Mother Earth. The images of the sacred pipe and braid of sweetgrass are acknowledged as gifts from the Creator. Each of the colors of the cardinal directions are represented as follows:

Red - North - Buffalo

Yellow - East - Sun

Blue - South - Thunderbird

White - West - Wind



VISION STATEMENT

Learning our ways, speaking our languages and living our lives as given by the Creator

MISSION STATEMENT

Protect, Preserve and Promote the Cultures and Languages of First Nations*

[*Denē, Nahkawē (Saulteaux), Dakota, Nakota (Assiniboine), Lakota, nīhithaw (Woodlands Cree), nēhinaw (Swampy Cree) and nēhiyaw (Plains Cree)]

PHILOSOPHY

The SICC has served First Nations people since 1972. It was the initial First Nations controlled educational institution serving at the provincial level. The Centre strives to maintain the cultural identity of First Nations culture who inhabit what is now known as Saskatchewan: Denē, Nahkawē (Saulteaux), Dakota, Nakota, Lakota, Woodlands Cree, Swampy Cree and Plains Cree.

GOALS

- To protect and revive First Nations languages in Saskatchewan
- To preserve and transfer knowledge on First Nations history, culture and traditions
- To promote First Nations cultural and linguistic identity
- To improve the sustainability of SICC
- To strengthen and enhance the capacity of SICC
- To improve and enhance the profile of SICC
- To attract and retain skilled and qualified First Nations employees
- To create a healthy work environment
- To transfer knowledge of our spiritual beliefs
- To support the Elders Council in preserving oral history, teachings and spiritual knowledge

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



On behalf of the Board of Governors of the Saskatchewan Indian Cultural Centre (SICC) we are pleased to present the Annual Report for 2022 – 2023 to the Chiefs-in-Assembly of the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN). This report highlights our progress over the past year and identifies challenges we confront in our mission to preserve and strengthen the First Nations languages and cultures in Saskatchewan.

There exists an immense, unmet desire for language education within all First Nations communities and language groups, particularly among First Nations youth. This is evident through the increasingly high demand for immersion language programs in urban centers like Saskatoon and La Loche. As custodians of First Nations youth education, it falls upon us, as First Nation leaders, to address the obstacles hindering Indigenous language education. Our First Nations Elders have consistently advocated for prioritizing language revitalization, recognizing that our languages are the bedrock of First Nations education.

More funding, resource development, and teachers are needed for language education. Our First Nations leadership and the SICC will continue to advocate strongly and persistently for increased language revitalization support. The SICC is the only province-wide institution in Saskatchewan providing direct support to

First Nations language educators; however, compared to similar institutions in other regions, the SICC receives much less funding. Despite that limitation, the SICC does significant and important work.

One essential support the SICC provides is working directly with language educators in-person, such as early childhood educators. Introducing language education to pre-kindergarten children in daycares and Head Start programs is critically important because at that age children readily learn language. The SICC continues to provide ongoing support to all language educators through telephone and online platforms, but recognizes in-person training is most effective.

Despite our successes, we are aware of the challenges that lie ahead. First Nations languages are in decline; some critically endangered with few fluent speakers. For the sake of our children, we must act now. We are not just preserving languages; we are preserving the stories, histories, identities, and worldviews of our humanity. Over the next year, we intend to intensify our efforts in communities where languages are most endangered. We will focus on community-led initiatives and encourage innovative digital solutions to engage younger generations. The continued support of First Nation leadership is crucial. Revitalizing our languages is a journey that we must undertake together, ensuring that our First Nations languages are preserved and thrive for future generations.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Bobby Cameron', written over a faint, stylized background graphic.

Chief Bobby Cameron

On behalf of the SICC Board of Governors



SICC BOARD OF GOVERNORS



Chief Bobby Cameron
FSIN



Chief Anne Thomas
ACTC



Chief John Waditaka
PAGC



Councillor Tanya Littlechief
SET4TC



Chief Francis Iron
MLTC



Chief Felix Thomas
STC



Senator Jenny Spyglass
FSIN SENATE



Vacant
BATC



Chief Leanne Kehler
TATC



Chief Alvin Francis
FHQTC



Councillor Russell Kennedy
BTC



Chief Robert Head
Independent Bands



Chief Clinton Key
YTC



Vacant
SFNWC

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



On behalf management and staff of the Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre (SICC), I am pleased to present the departmental activity reports and audited financial statements to our First Nations leadership for fiscal year 2022 – 2023. The SICC's Board of Governors represents all Saskatchewan Tribal, Agency, Grand Councils, and Independent First Nations. As well, there are representatives

of the Saskatchewan First Nations Women's Commission, the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN) Executive, the Senate of the FSIN, and the SICC Elders Council.

The SICC has entered its second half century of working to support the languages and cultures of all the First Nations in Saskatchewan. The Board of Governors support enables the SICC to deliver language and cultural programming for all 74 First Nations in Saskatchewan, which is essential for First Nations as sovereign Treaty Peoples.

We see how the loss of culture impacts many of our youth and negatively affects our communities, families, and society. Too many young Saskatchewan First Nations lives are lost to those effects. Many of our communities are in a state of crisis and ongoing grief despite our collective best efforts, including the persistent efforts of our Elders. Embracing our cultures and traditional ways of life can greatly

help our young people. The heartbeat of our cultures still beats strongly across all our First Nations, as seen in our traditional ceremonies and gatherings where we offer prayers, and protected by strong First Nations leadership.

The SICC was established to overcome historic colonial barriers to inherit the cultures and languages of our ancestors. For generations, our First Nations Elders have urged our peoples to embrace their languages, to be sovereign First Nations peoples who speak our languages, to conduct our vital and sacred ceremonies in our languages. Without our languages we lose our very identity as First Nation peoples. For the past year, the SICC has worked persistently to obtain much needed language revitalization funding, but need Saskatchewan First Nation leadership to advocate unequivocally for increased funding from all levels of government.

First Nations people must receive their fair

share of funding and resources for language revitalization. The SICC has not received a substantial funding increase in its entire 51-year history and, as such, we anticipate reductions in SICC services in the coming year. To ensure the SICC can fully carry out its mandate, increased funding is urgently needed. Until this is achieved, the SICC will strive to protect, preserve and promote the cultures and languages of the First Nations peoples in Saskatchewan.

Sincerely,

Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre



Dr. Jessie Sylvestre, B.Ed., M. Ed., ipk.doc
President



ELDERS COUNCIL

Since its inception, the SICC has been guided by a traditional Elders Council. This council's membership comprises representatives from the Dakota, Dene, Lakota, Saulteaux, Nakoda, Plains Cree, Swampy Cree, and Woodland Cree communities. A significant motivation for the Elders involved in the SICC's founding was to support an institution that would counter the negative impacts of the Residential Schools Era.

The Elders Council balances male and female Elders, all of whom possess a wealth of cultural knowledge of the First Nations languages and cultures in Saskatchewan. A member of the Elders Council also serves on the SICC's Board of Governors. The CRM Department acts as the access point, making the Council accessible to the FSIN, its institutions, Tribal Councils, and all First Nations. The SICC normally hosts seasonal gatherings of the Council; however, due to ongoing health concerns, Elders Council meetings conducted over the past year involved fewer members. These gatherings ensure that the Elders can provide guidance on matters of significance concerning culture and languages.

The Elders met on May 10 and 11, 2022, for SICC updates on staff changes, future work, and progress on the Buffalo Child Stone. The Elders also discussed Tasha Hubbard's upcoming feature documentary, "Singing Back the Buffalo," which showcases Indigenous visionaries, scientists, and communities restoring the buffalo across the heart of the North American plains. Elders received updates on the Cultural Centre's Collections and potential future work regarding Sacred Sites. The Elders reviewed the Birds of Prey Application, but due to a lack of quorum, no changes to the policy could be made. On May 12, 2022, the Elders met with the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport (PCS), and SICC provided an update on the Buffalo Child Stone. PCS indicated there were no re-interments to discuss, but shared information on various programs and documents they were working on.

In consultation with the Elders Council, the CRM Department coordinated a Pipe Ceremony and Feast at the SICC office on January 23, 2023. On February 6, 2023, the SICC held a Dene Pipe Ceremony at its office. On March 20-21, 2023, the SICC staff had two days of department head meetings, with pipe ceremonies led by ceremonial Elders.



Abel Charles
Woodland Cree



Hartland Goodtrack
Lakota



Margaret Reynolds
Dene



Melvina Eagle
Dakota



Ken Armstrong
Nakota



William Ratfoot
Plains Cree



Rita Nawakayas
Swampy Cree



Rose Pambrun
Saulteaux

FEBRUARY CULTURAL TEACHINGS

LANGUAGE AND LAND-BASED LEARNING PLANNING

Early Learning Program:
Language Group:

February
Cultural Teachings

Love: If we are to live in harmony, we must accept one another as we are and accept others who are in a different circle. Love means to be kind and good to one other. Love is a powerful force, our Creator taught us to love one another and love all things he created.

Greetings: Greetings are demonstrated and repeated through the year.

Get up/wake up			
TPR:			
Basic Commands	Set 6		Translations
	Smile		
	Laugh		
	Cry		Translations
	Get angry		
ASLA: Combining the basic commands & nouns	Scream/yell		
	ASLA 2:1		
	Girl is sitting		
	Boy is running		
	Dog is eating		Translations
Land-Based: Cultural activities	Cat is playing		
	Man is cleaning		
	Storytelling		
	Snowshoe making	Fire making	
	Snowshoe walking	Sewing	Bannock making
Holistic Growth:	Dog sledding	Beadling	Singing/drumming
	Love is another powerful energy. Everything the Creator created can't go without this ultimate emotion. We must release the love he put in front of us. We must love our children; love comes in various elements. We must love our Creator because he created us and he provided everything we need on earth. We must love our family, our communities, and people we don't know.	Making moss bags	Round dance
			Animal tracking



LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT



OVERVIEW

The Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre (SICC) Languages Department's task is to preserve and revitalize Saskatchewan First Nations languages and cultures for present and future generations. We support Dakota, Dene, Lakota, Saulteaux, Nakota, Plains Cree, Swampy Cree and Woodland Cree languages. During the pandemic, the Department adapted by moving its work online, including programming and educational resource development. Despite challenges, we successfully served our communities and even created new resources for early childhood education. Since in-person training is preferred for language educators, we were relieved to return to in-person programming in the past fiscal year.

SICC ONLINE LANGUAGE RESOURCES

The Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre (SICC) has successfully completed the editing of a language video series focusing on the Dene language, encompassing both the k-dialect and the t-dialect. The development team included Dene guest speakers who utilized the SICC's Teaching Sacred Language Curriculum, incorporating oral and visual language methodologies like Total Physical Response and Accelerated Second Language Acquisition.

This video series features approximately 600 target words spoken, repeated, and sounded out by Dene speakers. David McIntyre and Delia Black were recorded for the Dene t-dialect, while Daryl Adams and Rose Pacquette featured in the Dene k-dialect. The series includes both male and female voices for each dialect, offering learners a variety of voices. Due to the extensive content, including 600 words, two dialects, and two speakers for each dialect, the series comprises thousands of clips.

In addition, the SICC has developed an online resource dedicated to Plains First Nation Sign Language, aiming to preserve this knowledge and stimulate language learning naturally. The video editing process for this project is also complete.



EARLY LEARNING LANGUAGE CURRICULUM & WORKSHOPS

The Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre (SICC) has collaborated closely with the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN) Education and Training Secretariat to develop the First Nations Early Learning Curriculum project, for pre-kindergarten to grade 6. This resource, focuses on land, language, and culture, is in the final stages of publication. It originated from discussions at the First Nations Early Childhood Circle (FNECC) meetings, addressing the need for suitable language learning materials. SICC facilitated workshops on effective language learning methodologies of Total Physical Response (TPR) and Accelerated Second Language Acquisition (ASLA), leading to the curriculum's creation, designed to enhance language learning for preschool children. The project has involved extensive coordination with early childhood education partners, offering training sessions to educators and organizing workshops to implement land-based education and language learning methodologies. The curriculum is designed to bolster further language learning for children engaged in elementary school programs. Additionally, the Languages and AV Departments have recorded eight fluent

speakers translating vocabulary words for the curriculum, benefiting communities who will receive a copy of the recordings and a booklet.

During 2022-23, the SICC offered training on the curriculum to nearly 300 early childhood educators, including sessions for File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council, Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation, Lac La Ronge Indian Band, Prince Albert Grand Council, Saskatoon Tribal Council, Touchwood Agency Tribal Council, Saskatchewan Independent Bands, Meadow Lake Tribal Council and Battlefords Agency Tribal Council.

The Languages Department organized the final FSIN FNECC workshop for the year in Saskatoon, on February 22nd and 23rd, 2023. Approximately 70 participants from First Nation communities across Saskatchewan attended the training, the majority being Head Start and childcare educators. The two-day workshop centered on the implementation of land-based education, TPR, and ASLA into daily work plans, and included hands-on activities demonstrating these three methodologies. Plans for further workshops are underway, with continued support and follow-ups.



2022 FIRST NATIONS LANGUAGE KEEPERS GATHERING

The Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre (SICC) has been hosting the annual SICC First Nations Language Keepers Gathering since 2006, recognizing and celebrating the efforts of First Nations involved in language preservation and promotion. This event has grown to become a prominent Indigenous languages conference at the national level.

November 2 saw the 17th Gathering, with Randy Morin, Plains Cree from Whitefish First Nation as MC. The event was broadcasted online and opened with FSIN Vice-Chief Heather Bear; SICC Board Member Chief Alvin Francis, Plains Cree; First Nations Confederacy of Cultural Education Executive Director Claudette Commanda, Algonquin Anishinabe; and SICC President Dr. Jessie Sylvestre, Dene speaking.

The Gathering showcased pre-recorded sessions including an Elders Panel with distinguished individuals such as Margaret Reynolds, Peter McArthur, Peter Nippi, and William Ratfoot. Guided by the theme: Our Sacred Languages Walk with Us, these Elders shed light on their experiences with traditional First Nations way of life, emphasizing the integral role of languages in kinship and their spiritual significance.

The keynote speakers were Rosalie Tsannie-Burseth, Dene from Hatchet Lake Denesuline Nation, and Dr. Kevin Lewis, Plains Cree from Ministikwan Lake Cree Nation. Tsannie-Burseth highlighted the fusion of community knowledge into an English curriculum and the pivotal role of Elders in bringing language and culture into the classroom. Dr. Kevin Lewis delved into the use of Indigenous languages for nation-building and provided insights into the society in the COVID and post-COVID era.

Three workshop sessions focused on land-based education and online learning were held. The first workshop on Land-Based and Target Language Immersion was led by Priscilla St. John and Donna McDonald, both Plains Cree, discussing education through language immersion. The second workshop, Chief Ahtahkaho School Land-Based Learning, was presented by Elder Margaret Rabbitskin, Marcy Whitefish, and Paul Ledoux, discussing the revitalization of nēhiyawēwin pimahtisiwin and our ancestors' history of living off the land. The third workshop, pīkiskwēwin - Sharing our Indigenous Languages Online, was conducted by Natalie Langan, discussing a program to assist Language Keepers in creating podcasts in their languages.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ON LANGUAGES

The SICC Languages and Cultural Resources Management Departments were invited to the Mosquito, Grizzly Bear's Head, Lean Man First Nations Cultural Camp for youth and schools from September 12 – 16, 2022 to do presentations on Tipi raising and pemmican making. Approximately 100 people participated in this four-day cultural camp that featured a variety of cultural activities such as bead making, medicine preparation, and fire making.

On September 22, 2022, the Languages and CRM Departments engaged with grade 11 students at an Ahtahkakoop First Nation Land-Based Education session. This presented a fantastic opportunity for the group to participate in activities like dry meat preparation, cranberry picking, listening to Elder's stories, and sharing a communal lunch.

The Yellow Quill First Nation has been actively developing Saulteaux language and cultural programs for their Elders and youth. The community invited the Languages Department to share insights on language revitalization using Total Physical Response and Accelerated Second Language Acquisition, and to illustrate how Land-Based Education can be used to forge connections with the land. The Department utilized three SICC resources

during this event: Land-Based Education, Mentor and Apprentice Guide, and Teaching Sacred Language Curriculum. Approximately 30 Elders and 30 youths attended this two-day workshop.

In collaboration with Wāhkōtowin School in Saskatoon, the Language Department commemorated Kindness Day, also known as Pink Shirt Day, on February 22, 2023. The event involved *kisēwātisiwin*, an Elder's talk emphasizing the value of kindness, and keychain crafting activities for students in grades 7 and 8. A poster contest was also held for students from pre-kindergarten to grade 5, with a total of 120 participants partaking in the event's activities.

The Languages Department was also invited to present at the annual Ahtahkakoop Education: *nēhiyaw kikinwahamakēwin*-Cree Teachings event on March 16 and 17, 2023 for 150 staff members, including classroom teachers, teacher assistants, Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and administrators. Our main focus during the event was to showcase how Total Physical Response and Accelerated Second Language Acquisition methodologies can be used daily with SICC's Teaching Sacred Language Curriculum.





CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Through the year the Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Department provided a wide range of programs and services to meet its objectives that are:

- To facilitate policy development and other initiatives to guard against expropriation and exploitation of Saskatchewan First Nation languages, traditions, ceremonial practices, cultural resources, traditional arts, and history. This ensures that research, study, and usage are done in an ethical and culturally appropriate manner;
- To advocate for the preservation of First Nations' Treaty, historic, sacred, traditional usage, and other sites of a special nature and to facilitate policy development and other initiatives required for ensuring the preservation of sites of significance;
- To facilitate the repatriation of human remains, sacred objects, objects of cultural patrimony, historic documents and other Saskatchewan First Nations' cultural property maintained in government, non-government, and private collections and to facilitate policy development and initiatives required to ensure repatriation and appropriate stewardship of items repatriated; and,
- To serve as a central repository for objects pertaining to the languages, traditions, ceremonial practices cultural resources, arts, and history of Saskatchewan First Nations and to manage the Centre's collections.

BIRDS OF PREY

The SICC hosts an annual Birds of Prey program, facilitating the distribution of raptor feathers and other materials from Eagles and Hawks to Saskatchewan First Nations for ceremonial and spiritual purposes. These bird remains are collected by conservation officers when found in the wild. The SICC Elders Council reviews applications and decides on distribution. On May 11, the Elders Council met to consider applications, leading to a Feather Issuance Ceremony on May 27 at Wanuskewin Heritage Park. Out of 30 applicants, 22 requests were approved.





BUFFALO CHILD STONE COMMEMORATIVE SITE

The SICC has successfully established a commemorative site for the Buffalo Child Stone, or mostos-awāsis, a historical spiritual and ceremonial center for Saskatchewan's First Nations. As the oral histories recount, this site was once a place of significant gatherings, where thousands of First Nations people would conduct multiple concurrent Sundance Ceremonies. Located on an elevated outlook at the eastern edge of Douglas Provincial Park, the stone's original location can be viewed in the valley below. Unfortunately, the stone was destroyed in 1966 to make way for the flooding of Lake Diefenbaker.

On May 13, 2022, the day began with a Pipe Ceremony at the SICC's offices, involving

Elders, staff, and representatives of the Government of Saskatchewan. This was followed by an Unveiling Ceremony for the interpretive panels installed at the Buffalo Child Stone Commemoration Site. Despite the harsh weather that day, the event saw a modest turnout of about 50 people, including representatives from the Government of Saskatchewan, community members, a local school group, SICC staff, and Elders. Speeches were given by Councillor Russell Kennedy, Little Pine First Nation, on behalf of the Board of Governors; the Government of Saskatchewan; and the SICC.

After the event, a gathering celebrated the release of a booklet that provides a detailed



account of the site's significance. The six interpretive panels installed at the site offer an introduction to the historical site, the Plains Cree Buffalo Child Stone story, the stone's recent history, a recounting of the stone's destruction, the story of the establishment of the commemoration site, and a panel featuring acknowledgments.

Beginning in October 2019, the SICC initiated the process of relocating fragments of the Buffalo Child Stone from Elbow and other locations to the site. The most notable fragment, formerly part of a cairn in the Town of Elbow, along with three smaller pieces repatriated from the Western Development Museum in Saskatoon, were the first to be relocated.

The SICC intends to continue this process of moving the remaining fragments of the Buffalo Child Stone to the commemoration site as circumstances allow.

Adjacent to the commemoration site, the SICC has established ceremonial grounds which are separate and not open to the public. The SICC continues to hold seasonal ceremonies with the Elders Council at this location. The Centre also performs seasonal landscaping and organizes Elder teaching sessions for staff and community members at the site. The commemoration site has already seen several offerings left at the stones by visitors.



FIRST NATIONS LANGUAGE KEEPERS GATHERING CEREMONIES & COORDINATION

The annual First Nations Language Keepers Gathering is a prominent national event dedicated to the preservation, promotion, and protection of First Nations languages. The 17th Gathering was held on November 2, 2022, at Prairieland Park in Saskatoon. The decision to continue with a virtual format was due to concern for the health of the many participants for the Gathering who are Elders, and language teachers who are seniors. Consequently, the scale of the Gathering was considerably reduced.

From the start of 2022, the CRM Department assumed the role of lead coordinator for the event, overseeing various tasks. These included the preparation of the meeting schedule, selection of keynote speakers,

appointment of a master of ceremonies, choice of workshop presenters, and constitution of the two panels. It was decided to pre-record most of the sessions, an approach that would safeguard the event against potential technical disruptions. Additionally, this strategy provided an opportunity to edit the content, ensuring that any missteps or delays could be removed seamlessly.

Throughout the Gathering, the CRM Department supported the master of ceremonies, aiding in the introduction of speakers, presenters, and performers, engaging, and entertaining the audience, and generally ensuring a smooth flow for the event.



TRADITIONAL PARENTING ONLINE VIDEO SERIES

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the SICC adapted its programs, including Traditional Parenting workshops, by developing online virtual sessions hosted by respected Traditional Parenting Knowledge Keepers. Starting in February 2022, Jeff Wastesicott hosted weekly sessions focusing on the 10 Stages of Life and other teachings, which were well-received and available on demand through the SICC website. These online sessions catered to

individuals at different life stages and resumed in the fall after a summer break.

Additionally, in June 2022, Dr. Darlene Auger, a renowned Indigenous Health Practitioner and Knowledge Keeper, conducted a workshop on The Four Cycles of Life, which was recorded and featured online in the fall as part of the Traditional Parenting Workshop series, receiving positive feedback and viewership.



REPATRIATION OF SACRED STONES FROM CANADIAN MUSEUM OF HISTORY

The SICC is actively involved in supporting the repatriation of historical artifacts, ancestral remains, funerary items, and cultural objects to the First Nations people of Saskatchewan. This work reconnects communities with their heritage, promotes empowerment, facilitates healing, and strengthens the bonds among descendants of the original custodians.

The SICC was honored to participate in the repatriation of two sacred stones with significant historical connections to Saskatchewan's First Nations. These stones, originally located near Drumheller, Alberta, were taken by the Canadian government in 1883 and 1925. First Nations communities have long advocated for their return.

In June 2022, SICC staff, Chief Alvin Francis of Nekaneet First Nation, and the SICC Board of Governors inspected the stones at the Canadian Museum of History. Later, in November 2022, the SICC President's Office, along with Elders

William Ratfoot, Betty Peepeekoot, and Sidney Ben, viewed the stones and conducted a pipe ceremony.

Originally, seven such stones existed in Drumheller, but only two remain. One is the larger Smiling Buffalo Rock, made of iron with a reddish hue, weighing approximately 256 kilograms, and resembling a golf ball's surface. The other is the smaller Kekip Stone, made of quartz rock, weighing about 80 kilograms, with possible petroglyphs.

Both Plains Cree and Blackfoot peoples considered these stones sacred and made offerings at the sites. Initially intended for a cairn in Fort Qu'Appelle, SK, the stones were eventually transported to the Canadian Museum of History and are part of its sacred collection, not available for public viewing. The repatriation process is ongoing.



TRADITIONAL ARTS AND CRAFTS

The SICC is continuing to develop sessions and workshops for the Language & Culture, Connected program. This online program helped to keep people connected to both culture and language during the pandemic when social distancing was so essential. The SICC is concentrating on traditional arts for the last leg of this programming. In February 2023, the SICC coordinated a workshop with a Dene hand drum maker Victor Tsessaze. Over the course of two days, he shared both teachings and a session on how to make hand drums. This session was recorded and will be available online.





LIBRARY DEPARTMENT

LIBRARY DEPARTMENT

The Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre's (SICC) Library Department serves as a resource hub with a primary mission to cater to the educational, research, and reference needs of First Nations in Saskatchewan. It offers reference services and lends materials to various groups, including students, teachers, academics, researchers, community members, and non-First Nations individuals, promoting cross-cultural understanding and raising awareness about First Nations' uniqueness. The Library aligns with SICC's core values of language and culture by granting access to relevant resources. Established in 1973, it holds a comprehensive collection focused on Indigenous peoples in the Americas, with a special emphasis on Saskatchewan First Nations. Additionally, the Library is the central repository for oral history collections and provides teaching and curriculum resources for Saskatchewan First Nations' languages while offering assistance and support to First Nations schools.

LIBRARY COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT

Through the year, the Library Department maintained the Librarika Integrated Library System (ILS), including the patron database, circulation records, and catalogue records. Materials are shelved regularly and shelf-read to maintain organization of the library. completed a collections management project involving entering records of the Library's holdings into the Integrated Library System (ILS); editing existing records to improve discoverability and access; and evaluating the condition, currency, and relevancy of materials to the collection.

Print materials that have been in storage for several years were evaluated and either accessioned and input into the ILS or deaccessioned from the circulating Library collection. This project has created space for new acquisitions and has aided in the improvement of record metadata and searchability in the ILS. The circulating Library collection consists of over 7,400 print materials, and 200 audio/visual resources. During the year, the Library added 112 resources for the general library collection which consisting of books, CDs, DVDs, flashcards, and games.

SICC FIRST NATIONS LANGUAGE CURRICULUM CENTRE

The Library continues to maintain the SICC First Nations Language Curriculum Centre for the eight language groups in Saskatchewan including access to the collection for students, teachers, and the general public. The First Nations Language Curriculum Centre has nearly 500 items of curriculum including language texts, workbooks and children's books. This collection is primarily used by First Nations language educators. Maintaining this collection includes processing loans and responding to inquiries.

A total of 161 new language resources were acquired for the collection. New resources were acquired for each of the eight language groups – Plains Cree, Swampy Cree, Woodland Cree, Saulteaux, Dene, Dakota, Nakoda, and Lakota. New resources acquired included dictionaries, textbooks, activity workbooks for language learners, monolingual and bilingual books for children, young adult, and adult audiences. In addition, there were games, flashcards, audiovisual materials, and multimedia kits added. These materials were processed, catalogued, and records entered into the Librarika ILS upon arrival.



LIBRARY USER PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Through the year, the Library continued to provide material loans for patrons as requested through contactless pickup. Between April 1, 2022, and March 31, 2023, 175 library materials were circulated. Reference services, research assistance, and support for accessing resources continued to be provided via phone or email. Between April 1, 2022, and March 31, 2023, 68 patron inquiries were responded to. Reference inquiries included research assistance, locating resources, providing material loans, and providing access to archival materials.

2023 INDIGENOUS STORYTELLING MONTH

Every year, the Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre (SICC) commemorates Indigenous Storytelling Month in February by celebrating oral traditions, cultural teachings, and traditional stories. In December and January, the Library and Information Services Department meticulously planned events revolving around the theme Storytelling Through Art. These events showcased storytellers and artists who shared stories and their relationship with artwork with students across Saskatchewan.

In February 2023, SICC hosted a mixture of in-person and virtual storytelling sessions. In-person sessions were held at three schools in Saskatoon. On February 7, Carol Estralshenen shared Dene stories with a Grade 4 class at Westmount Community School. On February 17, Lyndon Linklater narrated stories to two groups of students at St. John Community School. Lastly, on February 27, Darwin Atcheynum told Cree stories to a combined Grades 2 and 3 class at Westmount Community School. These face-to-face storytelling sessions collectively engaged approximately 100 students.

This year's virtual sessions featured storytellers and artists Darwin Atcheynum and Lyndon Tootoosis. These sessions were promoted to schools across Saskatchewan. Teachers could register online to access the prerecorded sessions, which were available for viewing throughout the entire month of February. The event garnered an overwhelming response, with a total of 388 registrations and approximately 9,500 students getting the opportunity to partake in the virtual storytelling sessions.

A feedback survey of registered participants attested to the positive learning experience the storytelling sessions provided for their students. Many teachers commended the engagement and interest sparked in their students by the stories and expressed appreciation for the program's alignment with their curricular objectives. Teachers were thankful for the opportunity to share Indigenous stories and culture with their students, and the virtual format was appreciated, as it allowed flexibility to integrate the storytelling sessions into their class schedules throughout February.







AUDIO/VISUAL DEPARTMENT

AUDIO/VISUAL DEPARTMENT

The main purpose of the Audio/Visual (AV) - Technical Department at the Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre (SICC) is to record and document the cultural, community, governance, and artistic activities of the First Nations in Saskatchewan. As pandemic restrictions eased, the AV Department became increasingly active, responding to various audio, visual, publishing, design, and technical sound needs of the 74 First Nations in Saskatchewan. Additionally, the Department provided its services to the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN) and its member institutions upon request.

The AV Department has been providing a variety of streaming and online services for conferences, workshops, press events, the development of online resources, and cultural sessions. Due to the increasing demand for these services, the AV Department has developed strong capabilities in delivering them. It anticipates a continued rise in demand for such services in the future.

The central activity of the AV Department is to provide technical support and design input on a range of projects within the other departments of the SICC. The support and input includes audio visual recording, graphic design, photography services and sound production. The AV Department provided services at a wide range of SICC events and projects throughout the year, including the First Nations Language Keepers Gathering, Board of Governors meetings, and the SICC's Storytelling activities in February.

The retail and other functions of the SICC are supported through the reproduction of audio, CDs, DVDs, and videos for distribution both internally and externally. The AV Department reviews, edits, and makes historic videos from the collections of the Cultural Centre available on the SICC's social media platforms. Some of these videos have attracted remarkable interest online.

Examples of projects and services the AV Department provided Saskatchewan First Nations communities and organizations in the fiscal year include:

- Audio and video streaming services for the FSIN Veteran's Assembly and Election on April 1, 2022 at the Saskatoon Inn.
- Video recorded Lyndon Linklater, Thunderchild First Nation on his life story and red willow basket making on April 12 and 13, 2022 at the Saskatoon Inn.
- Audio and video streaming services for the FSIN Lands & Resources meeting at the Don Ross Centre in North Battleford on May 4 and 5, 2022.
- Audio and video streaming services for the FSIN Press Conference regarding the Archbishop of Canterbury at Muskowekan First Nation on May 9, 2022.
- Audio and video streaming services for the FSIN Spring Assembly at the Exhibition Grounds in Prince Albert on May 17 and 18, 2022.
- Video recorded Dr. Dalene Auger on Traditional Parenting at the Saskatoon Inn on June 7 and 8, 2022.
- Audio and video streaming services for the Battlefords Agency Tribal Chiefs Residential School Survivors Meeting in North Battleford on June 29 to 30, 2022.
- Audio services for the Treaty 10 Gathering on July 4 to 5, 2022 at La Plonge Indian Reserve #192 of English River First Nation.



- Video recorded Nakoda Elder Peter Bigstone while on a plant walk at Pheasant Rump Nakota Nation, Ocean Man First Nation, and White Bear First Nations on July 25 to 26, 2022.
- Audio and video streaming services for FSIN and Office of the Treaty Commissioner Healing Together Through Kindness: Understanding the Effects of Intergenerational Trauma event at Prairieland Park Hall C in Saskatoon on November 9 to 10, 2022.
- Audio and video recording and online streaming services for FSIN Inherent Treaty Rights-Based Education Funding Model Template Information Session on March 15, 2023 at the Delta Hotel in Saskatoon.
- Audio and video recording and online streaming services for FSIN Inherent Treaty Rights-Based Education Funding Model Template Information Session on March 28, 2023 at the Delta Hotel in Regina.

In most years, the AV Department has the special honour of providing video recording services for Elder testimonials and interviews in support of other departments of the SICC. Some of these sessions in the past fiscal year include:

- Video recording of Elder Albertine Desjarlais on sacred sites, a house fire, and a loon legend; Elder Emilian Desjarlais on sacred sites; and Elder Vitaline Billette on January 17 to 19, 2023 at Buffalo River Dene Nation.
- Video recording of Elder Bernadette Eaglechild on her life, language, traditional places, and stories from the land around English River on January 31, 2023.
- Video recording of Elder Noel McIntyre and Elder Victor McIntyre on their lives, ceremony, language, sacred sites, traditional places, and stories from the land around English River on February 1 and 2, 2023.





FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2023



Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre

Contents

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	<i>Page</i>
Management's Responsibility	
Independent Auditor's Report	
Financial Statements	
Statement of Financial Position.....	1
Statement of Operations.....	2
Statement of Changes in Net Assets.....	3
Statement of Cash Flows.....	4
Notes to the Financial Statements.....	5

Management's Responsibility



To the Members of Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre:

Management is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the accompanying financial statements, including responsibility for significant accounting judgments and estimates in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. This responsibility includes selecting appropriate accounting principles and methods, and making decisions affecting the measurement of transactions in which objective judgment is required.

In discharging its responsibilities for the integrity and fairness of the financial statements, management designs and maintains the necessary accounting systems and related internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are authorized, assets are safeguarded and financial records are properly maintained to provide reliable information for the preparation of financial statements.

The Board of Governors is composed entirely of Governors who are neither management nor employees of the Centre. The Board is responsible for overseeing management in the performance of its financial reporting responsibilities, and for approving the financial statements. The Board fulfils these responsibilities by reviewing the financial information prepared by management and discussing relevant matters with management, and the external auditor.

MNP LLP, an independent firm of Chartered Professional Accountants, is appointed by the Board to audit the financial statements and report directly to the Members; their report follows. The external auditor has full and free access to, and meet periodically and separately with, both the Board and management to discuss their audit findings.

July 27, 2023



President

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre:

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre (the "Centre"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2023, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Centre as at March 31, 2023, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Opinion

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

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

MNP LLP

119 4th Ave South, Suite 800, Saskatoon SK, S7K 5X2

1 (877) 500-0778 T: (306) 665-6766 F: (306) 665-9910



MNP.ca

Independent Auditor's Report *(continued from previous page)*

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

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

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

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

July 27, 2023

MNP LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

MNP



Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31, 2023

	2023	2022
Assets		
Current		
Cash	381,615	836,924
Accounts receivable (Note 3)	410,877	289,660
Prepaid expenses and deposits	14,055	14,864
Inventory	2,200	2,200
Goods and Services Tax receivable	8,311	3,956
	817,058	1,147,604
Tangible capital assets (Note 4)	569,392	619,784
	1,386,450	1,767,388
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accruals	81,409	197,274
Deferred contributions (Note 5)	277,956	310,495
Current portion of capital lease obligations (Note 6)	32,763	34,641
	392,128	542,410
Capital lease obligations (Note 6)	74,856	107,608
	466,984	650,018
Commitment (Note 7)		
Contingency (Note 8)		
Net Assets		
Equity in tangible capital assets - internally restricted (Note 13)	461,773	477,535
Unrestricted	457,693	639,835
	919,466	1,117,370
	1,386,450	1,767,388

Approved on behalf of the Board


Governor


Governor

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements



Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre

Statement of Operations

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023	2022
Revenues		
First Nations Confederacy of Cultural Education	1,675,827	1,675,827
Other	434,623	117,173
Grants	267,994	59,000
Canadian Heritage	121,233	260,836
Sales	72,337	55,360
	2,572,014	2,168,196
Expenses		
Salaries and benefits	1,151,662	1,109,803
Sustenance	248,071	108,007
Office	238,982	185,059
Rent	176,700	176,700
Workshops and meetings	139,736	34,141
Contracts	139,036	139,616
Communication	119,333	105,905
Travel	119,200	57,635
Amortization	59,935	72,238
Professional fees	55,908	36,665
Insurance	25,631	24,100
Telephone	23,500	23,123
Bank charges and interest	16,230	18,304
Repairs and maintenance	3,875	4,848
Training and education	1,509	4,403
Bad debts	610	-
	2,519,918	2,100,547
Excess of revenues over expenses before other item	52,096	67,649
Other item		
Litigation settlement (Note 14)	(250,000)	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	(197,904)	67,649

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements



Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre Statement of Changes in Net Assets

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	Equity in tangible capital assets - internally restricted	Unrestricted	2023	2022
Net assets, beginning of year	477,535	639,835	1,117,370	1,049,721
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	(59,935)	(137,969)	(197,904)	67,649
Invested in tangible capital assets (net)	44,173	(44,173)	-	-
Net assets, end of year	461,773	457,693	919,466	1,117,370

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements



Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023	2022
Cash provided by (used for) the following activities		
Operating		
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	(197,904)	67,649
Amortization	59,935	72,238
	(137,969)	139,887
Changes in working capital accounts		
Accounts receivable	(121,217)	62,647
Prepaid expenses and deposits	809	3,638
Goods and Services Tax receivable	(4,355)	(3,295)
Accounts payable and accruals	(115,865)	(337,043)
Deferred contributions	(32,539)	(253,726)
	(411,136)	(387,892)
Financing		
Repayment of capital lease obligations	(34,630)	(33,866)
Investing		
Purchase of tangible capital assets	(9,543)	(11,066)
Decrease in cash resources	(455,309)	(432,824)
Cash resources, beginning of year	836,924	1,269,748
Cash resources, end of year	381,615	836,924

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements



Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended March 31, 2023

1. Incorporation and nature of the organization

Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre (the "Centre") was incorporated December 2, 1974 under the Non-Profit Corporations Act of Saskatchewan. Its purpose is to strengthen and support education and cultural awareness of Indigenous people. Operations are based in Saskatchewan.

Impact on operations of COVID-19 (coronavirus)

In early March 2020 the global outbreak of COVID-19 (coronavirus) began to have a significant impact on businesses through the restrictions put in place by the Canadian, provincial and municipal governments regarding travel, business operations and isolation/quarantine orders.

The Centre's operations were impacted by COVID-19 due to certain restrictions during the year; however, the impacts on the operations have decreased as restrictions lifted. The Centre anticipates operations for 2024 will be back to how they were before the outbreak of COVID-19.

2. Significant accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations using the following significant accounting policies:

Financial instruments

The Centre recognizes financial instruments when the Centre becomes party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument.

Arm's length financial instruments

Financial instruments originated/acquired or issued/assumed in an arm's length transaction ("arm's length financial instruments") are initially recorded at their fair value.

At initial recognition, the Centre may irrevocably elect to subsequently measure any arm's length financial instrument at fair value. The Centre has not made such an election during the year.

The Centre subsequently measures all arm's length financial instruments at amortized cost. Transaction costs and financing fees are added to the carrying amount for those arm's length financial instruments subsequently measured at cost or amortized cost.

Related party financial instruments

The Centre has no related party financial instruments required to be recognized at fair value.

All related party financial instruments are measured at cost on initial recognition. When the financial instrument has repayment terms, cost is determined using the undiscounted cash flows, excluding interest, dividend, variable and contingent payments, less any impairment losses previously recognized by the transferor. When the financial instrument does not have repayment terms, but the consideration transferred has repayment terms, cost is determined based on the repayment terms of the consideration transferred. When the financial instrument and the consideration transferred both do not have repayment terms, the cost is equal to the carrying or exchange amount of the consideration transferred or received.

The Centre subsequently measures all related party financial instruments using the cost method. Transaction costs and financing fees directly attributable to the origination, acquisition, issuance or assumption of related party financial instruments are immediately recognized in excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses.



Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre Notes to the Financial Statements *For the year ended March 31, 2023*

2. Significant accounting policies (Continued from previous page)

Financial asset impairment

The Centre assesses impairment of all its financial assets measured at cost or amortized cost. The Centre groups assets for impairment testing when available information is not sufficient to permit identification of each individually impaired financial asset in the group; there are numerous assets affected by the same factors; or no asset is individually significant. Management considers whether the issuer is having significant financial difficulty in determining whether objective evidence of impairment exists. When there is an indication of impairment, the Centre determines whether it has resulted in a significant adverse change in the expected timing or amount of future cash flows during the year. If so, the Centre reduces the carrying amount of any impaired financial assets to the highest of: the present value of cash flows expected to be generated by holding the assets; the amount that could be realized by selling the assets at the statement of financial position date; and the amount expected to be realized by exercising any rights to collateral held against those assets. Any impairment which is not considered temporary is included in current year excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses.

The Centre reverses impairment losses on financial assets when there is a decrease in impairment and the decrease can be objectively related to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognized. The amount of the reversal is recognized in excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses in the year the reversal occurs.

Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost less accumulated amortization.

Amortization is provided using the declining balance method at rates intended to amortize the cost of assets over their estimated useful lives. No amortization is taken in the year of acquisition.

Automotive	30 %
Computer equipment	30 %
Furniture and fixtures	15 %
Leasehold improvements	15 %
Library material	10 %
Equipment under capital lease	15 %

Paintings and artwork are not amortized.

Leases

A lease that transfers substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership is classified as a capital lease. At the inception of a capital lease, an asset and a payment obligation are recorded at an amount equal to the lesser of the present value of the minimum lease payments and the property's fair market value. Assets under capital leases are amortized on a declining balance basis, over their estimated useful lives. All other leases are accounted for as operating leases and rental payments are expensed as incurred.

An arrangement contains a lease where the arrangement conveys a right to use the underlying tangible asset, and whereby its fulfillment is dependent on the use of the specific tangible asset. After the inception of the arrangement, a reassessment of whether the arrangement contains a lease is made only in the event that:

- there is a change in contractual terms;
- a renewal option is exercised or an extension is agreed upon by the parties to the arrangement;
- there is a change in the determination of whether the fulfillment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of the specific tangible asset; or
- there is a substantial physical change to the specified tangible asset.

Long-lived assets

Long-lived assets consist of tangible capital assets with finite useful lives. Long-lived assets held for use are measured and amortized as described in the applicable accounting policies.

The Centre writes down long-lived assets held for use when conditions indicate that the asset no longer contributes to the Centre's ability to provide goods and services. Assets are also written-down when the value of future economic benefits or service potential associated with the asset is less than its net carrying amount. When the Centre determines that a long-lived asset is impaired, its carrying amount is written down to the asset's fair value.



Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended March 31, 2023

2. Significant accounting policies (Continued from previous page)

Revenue recognition

The Centre follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions and funds received in advance for the Canadian Heritage - Language Keepers (FNLKG), the Canadian Heritage - Community Language Planning (CLP), the Canadian Heritage - COVID 19 Emergency Fund, the SaskCulture - Elders Interview, the Wanuskewin - Translation Project, the SaskCulture - OGP, the Traditional Parenting Program, and the SaskCulture - Language and Cultural Connect projects are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. 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.

Other revenue is earned from services provided by the Centre and is recognized when the services have been provided, and collection is reasonably assured.

Sales are recognized when the sale is made and the customer takes possession of the merchandise.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period.

Accounts receivable are stated after evaluation as to their collectability and an appropriate allowance for doubtful accounts is provided where considered necessary. Amortization is based on the estimated useful lives of tangible capital assets. Deferred contributions are based on estimates of eligible costs incurred for each restricted source of funding.

These estimates and assumptions are reviewed periodically and as adjustments become necessary they are reported in excess of revenues over expenses in the periods in which they become known.

3. Accounts receivable

Accounts receivable is comprised of the following:

	2023	2022
First Nations Confederacy of Cultural Education Centres	167,583	167,583
Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN)	122,579	-
Canadian Heritage	10,000	104,766
Other receivables	161,692	68,288
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(50,977)	(50,977)
	410,877	289,660



Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended March 31, 2023

4. Tangible capital assets

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2023 Net book value	2022 Net book value
Automotive	50,302	49,850	452	645
Computer equipment	351,741	296,813	54,928	72,906
Furniture and fixtures	445,145	364,668	80,477	76,230
Leasehold improvements	53,055	44,830	8,225	9,676
Library material	266,044	262,685	3,359	3,732
Paintings and artwork	292,528	-	292,528	292,528
	1,458,815	1,018,846	439,969	455,717
Equipment under capital lease	179,132	49,709	129,423	164,067
	1,637,947	1,068,555	569,392	619,784

5. Deferred contributions

	2023	2022
Canadian Heritage - Aboriginal Language Initiative (ALI)	119,571	-
Canadian Heritage - Community Language Planning (CLP)	95,000	-
Canadian Heritage - Language Keepers (FNLKG)	63,385	-
Canadian Heritage - COVID 19 Emergency Fund	-	100,000
SaskCulture - Elders Interview	-	80,000
Wanuskewin Translation Project	-	51,095
SaskCulture - OGP	-	40,000
Traditional Parenting Program	-	30,000
SaskCulture - Language and Culture Connect	-	9,400
	277,956	310,495



Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended March 31, 2023

6. Capital lease obligations

	2023	2022
Konica Minolta capital lease payable in monthly installments of \$3,192 including interest at an imputed rate of 5.99% per annum, due April 2027, secured by equipment with a net book value of \$129,423 (2022 - \$152,262)	107,609	138,462
SaskTel capital lease payable in monthly installments of \$429 including interest at an imputed rate of 5.45% per annum, due April 2024, secured by equipment with a net book value of \$10,034 (2022 - \$11,805)	10	3,787
	107,619	142,249
Less: Current portion	32,763	34,641
	74,856	107,608

Future minimum lease payments related to the obligations under capital lease are as follows:

2024	38,319
2025	38,309
2026	38,309
2027	3,193
	118,130
Less: imputed interest	(10,511)
	107,619
Less: current portion	(32,763)
	74,856

7. Commitment

The Centre has a lease agreement for office space that expires November 2026, with estimated minimum payments as follows:

2024	176,700
2025	176,700
2026	176,700
2027	117,800

8. Contingency

These financial statements are subject to review by the Centre's funding agencies. It is possible that adjustments could be made to revenues earned based on the results of their reviews.



Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended March 31, 2023

9. Economic dependence

The Centre is economically dependent on federal government funding provided through First Nations Confederacy of Cultural Education Centres. The Centre's continued receipt of this funding is dependent upon compliance with the requirements of its funding agreement. Management believes they are in compliance with all such requirements at March 31, 2023.

10. Financial instruments

The Centre, as part of its operations, carries a number of financial instruments. It is management's opinion that the Centre is not exposed to significant interest, currency, credit, liquidity or other price risks arising from these financial instruments except as otherwise disclosed.

Credit concentration

Accounts receivable from First Nations Confederacy of Cultural Education Centres represents 41% (2022 - 58%), FSIN represents 30% (2022 - 2%), and the Province of Saskatchewan represents 22% (2022 - 0%) of total accounts receivable at March 31, 2023. The Centre believes there is minimal risk associated with the collection of these receivables as they are from governments and government agencies and/or represent holdbacks for funding agreements that will be released when required reporting is submitted.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Centre will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Centre enters into transactions to purchase goods and services on credit; borrow funds from financial institutions or other creditors; lease office equipment from various creditors, etc., for which repayment is required at various maturity dates. The Centre manages the liquidity risk resulting from its accounts payable and accruals and capital lease obligations by maintaining liquid assets.

11. Income taxes

The Centre must meet certain requirements within the Income Tax Act to be exempt from income taxes. In the opinion of management these requirements have been met.

12. Other information

The Centre has an agreement with the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN) to provide in-kind services such as audio, video and printing services as well as advisory services to FSIN.

13. Restrictions on net assets

The Board of Governors has internally restricted net assets invested in tangible capital assets. These internally restricted amounts are not available for other purposes without approval of the Board of Governors.

14. Litigation settlement

During the year the Centre made the decision to settle an ongoing lawsuit, which required a payment to the plaintiff by the Centre. As a result the plaintiff discontinued its lawsuit against the Centre.

FIRST NATIONS
LÀŋqUÀqÉ
kÉÉPÉrS

GATHERING

Our Sacred Languages Walk With Us

SAVE THE DATE

January
17 & 18, 2024

Ramada Plaza, Regina



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
WWW.SICC.SK.CA





Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre

305-2555 Grasswood Road East

English River First Nation #192J

Saskatoon, SK S7T 0K1

Phone: (306) 244-1146 Fax: (306) 665-6520

E-mail: info@sicc.sk.ca Website: www.sicc.sk.ca



/saskatchewanindigenous



/siccmultimedia