

2015

SCO Year End Report



Establishment and Mandate of Southern Chiefs' Organization (SCO)

Southern Chiefs' Organization was established in 1998 and became incorporated in 1999.

The Mandate of Southern Chiefs' Organization (SCO) is to protect, preserve, promote and enhance First Nation peoples' inherent rights, languages, customs and traditions through the application and implementation of the spirit and intent of the Treaty-making process.

Both the Accord of the Southern Chiefs of Manitoba and SCO Constitution were officially adopted by the Chiefs-in-Summit in July 2000.



Table of Contents

Establishment and Mandate of Southern Chiefs' Organization (SCO)	1
We Indigenous	3
SCO Organizational Structure.....	4
Grand Chief Terrance Nelson	5
Don Courchene, Chief of Staff.....	6
Finance	7-10
Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB)	11-12
First Nations Justice Strategy	13-14
Family Violence Prevention Program	15
Violence Prevention and Safety Planning.....	16
Health Services Integration Fund (HSIF)	17
Health Services Integration Fund (HSIF)	18
Child and Family Services.....	19-20
Business Development Assistant.....	21
Health Research and Engagement	22
SCO Communities	23
SCO Chiefs Committees	24
Special Events and Highlights.....	25-30

We Indigenous

Southern Chiefs' Organization is starting a new campaign called We Indigenous. The significance of the We Indigenous campaign is to recognize and promote our connection with all Indigenous peoples across the world.

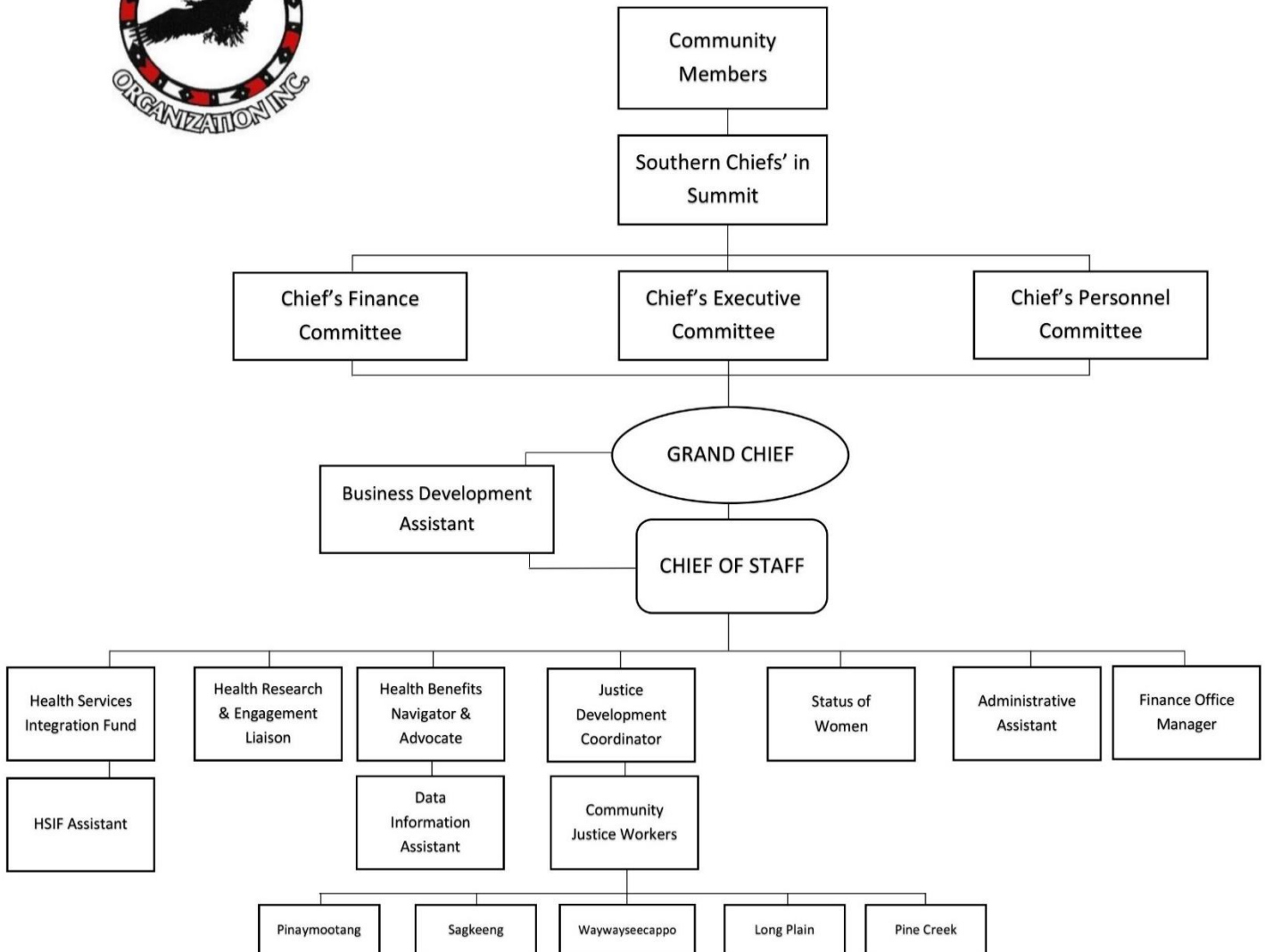


SCO Organizational Structure

The chart below indicates the positions and projects SCO currently has.



Southern Chiefs' Organizational Structure



Grand Chief Terrance Nelson

SCO has become a huge influence in the last year. Through the threatened boycott of the Winnipeg Sun advertisers, we were able to change the tone of the articles published by the Winnipeg Sun. You will notice that the Winnipeg Sun is no longer publishing hatred against First Nations. That change took place in the spring of 2015.

SCO sent the RCMP Murdered and Missing Report to all Embassies in Ottawa. We received some feedback from some of the Ambassadors. Our SCO website and Facebook page is monitored by over 40 countries worldwide. In one day, one of our posts on Liberal election received over 250,000 views. Our normal Facebook views hit over 7,000 per day. We are working on the Taxicab issue, the violence against our women and we are making progress on that. We have met regularly with the Winnipeg police and the RCMP.



SCO First Nations account for over 4,400 children in care. The 2014 expenditure on Child and Family Services in Manitoba was \$546 million on 10,300 children in care. The average cost per child in care is over \$50,000 per year. That means that the 4,400 children in care from SCO First Nations costs over \$233 million. We want to do prevention; we want those dollars spent on reserve to build homes, shelters, etc. Eighty-seven percent of the children in Manitoba are First Nations children; eighty-seven percent of the money spent on CFS should be spent on reserve for prevention. In the next ten years at this rate, over six billion dollars will be spent on CFS. Our children have become an industry; that is the new Residential School system.

We welcome the election of the new Liberal government, we have already seen a lot of change happening. We can and will do a lot on conversions of Treaty Land Entitlement. We can bring hundreds of millions in foreign investment and will be working with industry to create jobs and business development. We want an end to the intervention policy at INAC. Cuts happened under the Harper government need to be addressed. SCO coordinated information sessions on the pipelines and I made a presentation at the National Energy Board hearings.

Southern Chiefs' Organization is doing what it was mandated to open doors for the First Nation leaders. We were heavily involved in the federal election in getting our people out to vote. We will be involved in getting information to our people regarding the Provincial Election on April 19, 2016. Together we can make a difference in how we are treated. As indicated by the reports from staff at SCO, we have made big inroads on financing and on new funding.

We look forward to real progress in 2016.

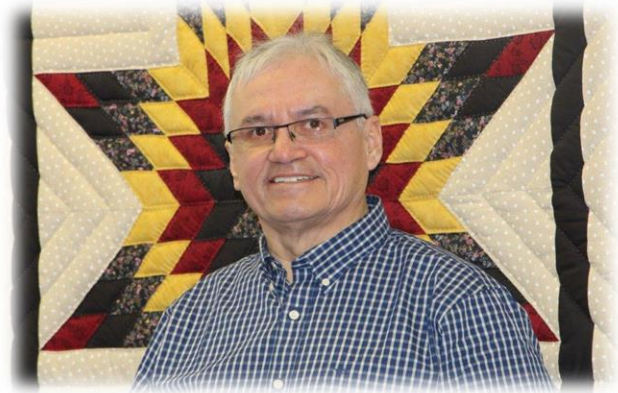
Don Courchene, Chief of Staff

Aneen, Boozhoo. We ended 2014 year with a feeling of optimism going into 2015; optimistic we could make inroads on advocacy for our Treaty and Human rights. We were not remiss in our duties in that area. We continued to face many changes and challenges; changes in staff and claw back of funding from previous administration plagued us again. Most of these challenges are behind us now and we have moved on to completely rebranding the organization. We are revamping our finance and human resources policies and our constitution to clearly reflect the culture of the revamped organization.

Accountability and transparency were the main focus as well as identifying new opportunities for SCO to be involved in. New positions were negotiated with the federal and provincial governments and we are continuing our pursuit of additional positions to address the ongoing concerns in health and in Child and Family Services. The challenges are not limited to these areas and they do not end. We continue to keep in touch with our members to identify their concerns.

Our annual report will provide brief summaries of the areas SCO was involved in and what we will continue to address in 2016. We faced a government that was building barriers in front of us with every issue and concern; we faced only austerity with that government. We, however, did succeed in obtaining additional funding in spite of these austerity measures imposed on us. We identified critical areas and presented our business cases in manners they couldn't readily deny us. Our financial position has changed for the better. This year we received a qualified audit due to fund raising activities for Kids for Golf campaign conducted the past year; we will now conduct those efforts differently so that our financial position will not be negatively impacted.

The election of a new government has given us renewed hope that we can make positive changes in the lives of our children and members as a whole. The provincial government has finally acknowledged SCO as the authority for the south for Child and Family Services and the Chiefs committee has appointed a new board to oversee the mandate from the Chiefs.



We are again optimistic going into this new year. The challenges will not change but there is a sense and feeling of open and genuine cooperation with the federal government. We know we can do better and we will work hard together to make those changes together.

Chi-meegwetch!

Finance

Bev Sinclair, Finance Manager

Collette Courchene, Administrative Assistant

Included in this Finance Report are documents for the 2014/2015 Fiscal Year.

- Independent Auditors' Report
- Statement of Financial Position March 31, 2015
- Statement of Operations Year Ended March 31, 2015



PKBW GROUP 219 Fort Street Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada R3C 1E2

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

GROUP
 CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
 & BUSINESS ADVISORS INC.

To The Members of Southern Chiefs' Organization Inc.:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Southern Chiefs' Organization Inc., which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2015, and the statements of operations, changes in net financial assets, and cash flow for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and the fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, 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.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the organization's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 organization's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

In common with many non-profit organizations, the Organization derives a portion of its revenue from sources where the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification, such as fundraising. Accordingly our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Organization and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to donations, deficiency of revenue over expenses, total assets or net assets.

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of the donations referred to in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Southern Chiefs' Organization Inc. as at March 31, 2015, and its results of operations, changes in net financial assets, and cashflow for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Winnipeg, Manitoba
October 2, 2015

PKBW Group
**CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
 & BUSINESS ADVISORS INC.**

**SOUTHERN CHIEFS' ORGANIZATION INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
MARCH 31, 2015**

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Accounts receivable (Note 3)	\$ <u>163,355</u>	<u>274,916</u>
LIABILITIES		
Bank indebtedness (Note 2)	34,708	24,509
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 5)	64,159	34,294
Due to government and other government organizations (Note 6)	239,699	287,002
Deferred revenue (Note 7)	<u>23,195</u>	<u>105,137</u>
	<u>361,761</u>	<u>450,942</u>
NET DEBT	<u>(198,406)</u>	<u>(176,026)</u>
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Tangible capital assets (Note 4)	13,495	19,697
Prepaid expenses	<u>11,500</u>	<u>10,193</u>
	<u>24,995</u>	<u>29,890</u>
ACCUMULATED DEFICIT	\$ <u>(173,411)</u>	<u>(146,136)</u>

APPROVED BY BOARD:

 Grand Chief
  Chief of Staff

**SOUTHERN CHIEFS' ORGANIZATION INC.
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2015**

	2015	2014
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
REVENUE		<u>Actual</u>
Federal Government		
Transfers for operating	\$ 1,005,227	941,158
Provincial Government		
Transfers for operating	313,000	313,000
Other revenue	<u>103,703</u>	<u>43,693</u>
	<u>1,421,930</u>	<u>1,603,605</u>
EXPENSES		
Education	178,637	155,442
Health	276,590	212,105
Band government	<u>957,134</u>	<u>957,579</u>
	<u>1,412,361</u>	<u>1,682,158</u>
ANNUAL SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	<u>\$ 9,569</u>	<u>(78,553)</u>
ACCUMULATED DEFICIT, BEGINNING OF YEAR	(146,136)	(67,583)
ANNUAL SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	<u>9,569</u>	<u>(78,553)</u>
ACCUMULATED DEFICIT, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ (136,567)</u>	<u>(146,136)</u>

Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB)

Joanne Soldier, NIHB Navigator



Southern Chiefs' Organization has been granted funding through First Nations Inuit Health Branch-Manitoba Region to staff a full-time Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Navigator and half-time Data Entry person. These positions provide support and advocacy to community members within the Southern Chiefs' Organization catchment area (32 First Nations).

The objective of the program is to provide assistance to eligible First Nations and Inuit clients who experience difficulty accessing the NIHB

Program and related provincial/territorial programs and services. Navigators also provide support to clients and communities in gaining a better understanding of the NIHB Program, existing health services, and jurisdictions. They also gather, collate and exchange information on health access issues and identify ways of improving health services for First Nations and Inuit clients.

Program activities are as follows:

1. Serve as first point of contact for communities, organizations, and individuals for the purpose of facilitating access to the NIHB Program and also provide support to address NIHB denials and appeals;
2. Collaborate with NIHB regional office on programs/projects/initiatives that would improve awareness and access to the NIHB Program and better integration of health services;
3. Develop a communication strategy and implement approaches to improve awareness and understanding of the NIHB Program;
4. Maintain a network of contacts in order to strengthen relationships with stakeholders, health care service providers and provincial, federal and territorial partners; and
5. Identify training needs and opportunities for improving access to health services and health outcomes.

Progress Report

The Health Navigator began networking and meeting with various health organizations and programs to cultivate positive and productive relationships. Requests for program presentations have increased as awareness of the NIHB program grows. Printed material (pamphlets, booklets) have been produced and distributed; the material outlines the Health Navigator role, and NIHB policy/procedures.

Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) - continued

NIHB Navigation Case Work

With the Navigator beginning the position at the beginning of the summer months, intake calls were a slow start from end of May to late August. The majority of intakes have been to assist with individual denials of medical supplies and equipment, and prescription drugs.

There has been a 30% increase in the amount of calls requesting assistance with NIHB related issues. This increase is seen as a direct result of the ongoing outreach/networking efforts made by the NIHB Navigator and Southern Chiefs Organization.

As this is a new program and position, modifications to the navigation process and approach will occur in the first 12 to 18 months. With many aboriginal programs and services available, the NIHB Navigator is aware of the possible overlapping of work (i.e. AMC Patient Advocate Unit) and networking has been an immense help in avoiding this.

AMOUNT OF CALLS RECEIVED TO DATE	INQUIRIES	APPEALS	RESEARCH	REIMBURSEMENT	ADVOCACY
Pharmacy	4	3	4	3	2
Dental		1		1	1
Vision Care	2				1
Medical Supplies & Equipment	7		3	1	1
Medical Transportation	5	3	3	1	3
TOTAL	18	7	10	6	8

Assembly of First Nations (AFN) National NIHB Navigator Meetings

The SCO NIHB Navigator has attended two Assembly of First Nation NIHB Meetings to date. The next gathering is scheduled for February 2016 in Ottawa. These meetings have proven to be very beneficial as it allows the opportunity to hear experiences and share information with other Navigators from across Canada.

NIHB Navigator – Next Steps

The NIHB Navigator will be carry out the following:

1. Continue increasing program awareness – additional public service announcements, printed materials, face-to-face presentations and community visits
2. Develop official database in accordance to First Nations Inuit Health Branch policies (in progress)
3. Attend Assembly of First Nations NIHB Navigator Conference(s)
4. Refine NIHB Navigator advocacy procedures where and when required
5. Develop a “crash course” on Non-Insured Health Benefits for communities/organizations

First Nations Justice Strategy

Bruce Bruyere, Community Justice Development Coordinator



The Restorative Justice Program provides alternatives to mainstream justice and includes alternative sentencing to decrease the rate of victimization, crime and incarceration among Indigenous peoples.

Program Mandate:

Create and maintain adult and youth criminal diversions programs and with the goal to reduce the number of individuals in contact with the criminal justice system.

In 2014-2015, the SCO Restorative Justice program was in serious breach of the funding agreement and was about to be cancelled. A meeting with the province to discuss remedial action took place June 2015 and a letter was issued shortly thereafter indicating the province would like to continue service delivery with the Southern Chiefs' Organization Inc. The province encouraged crown attorneys to, where appropriate, consider making diversions to the community justice workers in SCO communities. Bruce Bruyere was hired in June 2015 for the Community Justice Development Coordinator position. Bruce brings sixteen years of federal public service in financial and contribution agreement management experience as well as fifteen years of Provincial policy development experience.

Accomplishments:

- Training of staff regarding flow of information, tracking systems and reporting
- Province's recent commitment to raise Community Justice Workers' salaries to a competitive level
- Number of diversions received is approximately 100 over the past year

Justice Committees:

An important part of the communities' participation is the local community Justice Committees. SCO assists participating First Nations to establish clear terms of reference, vision and mission statements and establish processes and procedures for each community justice committee. There are options for ongoing recruitment, training and support for volunteers/committee members.

Budget:

SCO Justice Budget consists of contributions from the provincial government in the amount of \$243,000 and \$80,000 from the federal government. These financial resources go to support the program, the coordinator and the five (5) Community Justice Workers' salaries and travel.

First Nations Justice Strategy - continued

Community Justice Workers:

Pictured from top to bottom

Long Plain First Nation: Lisa Assiniboine

Pine Creek First Nation: Amanda Chapman

Pinaymootang First Nation: Bonnie Woodhouse

Sagkeeng First Nation: Andrea Swampy

Waywayseecappo First Nation: Arlene Cooke



Moving Forward:

- SCO is confident that the disproportionate numbers of Aboriginal people in the judicial system can be significantly lowered by diverting more cases to the Restorative Justice.
- The Province has committed to extend the current agreement to March 31, 2017; a longer term agreement would enhance and provide more stability, flexibility, continuity, certainty and better overall planning.
- SCO will assist its member First Nations to assume greater responsibility for the administration of justice in their communities.
- SCO will provide better and timelier information about community justice programs; and include Aboriginal values within their justice programs.
- SCO will start working with the John Howard Society in January 2016
- Province will establish two hubs, one in Brandon and another in the Dauphin area as soon as possible.
- SCO will provide on-going capacity training for its Justice workers to help them perform their duties in a professional manner.

Family Violence Prevention Program

Shauna Fontaine, Family Violence Prevention and Resource Project Coordinator
Chloe Courchene, Project Assistant

The Family Violence Prevention and Resource project was granted 3 year funding by Status of Women Canada from 2012 to 2015; the project ended April 2015.

This 36 month project, led by Coordinator Shauna Fontaine and Project Assistant Chloe Courchene, brought together eight First Nations (Long Plain, Dakota Tipi, Peguis, Waywayseecappo, Pinaymootang, Sagkeeng, Roseau River, and Canupawakpa) service providers, the Winnipeg Police Services and the RCMP in southern Manitoba to develop a prevention and education focused Community Plan. The Community Plan was successful as it incorporated the use of culture, ceremonies, and traditions to reach out to community members in order to build self-esteem and reclaiming traditional family roles to build a foundation for healthy relationships.



The outcomes of the project supported changing attitudes about victims and perpetrators and encouraged the revitalization of culture to build self-esteem and healthy relationships. It helped broaden the understanding of the relationship between (mis)perceptions, attitudes and understanding violence against First Nation women and girls and institutional and systemic barriers. The most important outcome was that it produced a sustainable community plan that identified linkages to support the project model/plan beyond the three year project timeline.

Violence Prevention and Safety Planning

Shauna Fontaine, Violence Prevention and Safety Coordinator



The Southern Chiefs' Organization was granted funding for 3 years beginning June 29, 2015 for the Violence Prevention and Safety Program. The project, *Protecting Our Women*, is funded under the Status of Women theme "Working in Partnership to End Violence against Women and Girls". The main goal of this project is to work with southern First Nations and community stakeholders in the City of Winnipeg to develop a community safety plan for Indigenous women and girls moving to or residing in Winnipeg.

The main objectives of this project are to help change negative socially constructed attitudes and perceptions that perpetuate violence and create institutional barriers for women to access resources; and to empower Indigenous women to take individual and community action to end violence against women within their community and in Winnipeg through the development of a Safety Plan.

Some key activities include:

1. Build upon new and existing partnerships, including Women's Shelters, Winnipeg Police Services, Victim Services, and other community stakeholders.
2. Develop a Needs Assessment and Environmental Scan in the City of Winnipeg based on services and resources for Aboriginal women and girls.
3. Develop, implement and evaluate a strength-based and education focused safety plan through the development of interactive media and document style toolkits.

Some activities to date:

- The coordinator has been selected as Co-Chair for the Indigenous Advisory Council for the Winnipeg Police Board; this will enable the Indigenous community to guide the Police Board and the Winnipeg Police in strategies for crime and violence prevention.
- A call for submissions for the Logo Design was shared widely; Jordan Stranger of Peguis First Nation was chosen as the new design.
- An education and awareness video to promote safety planning and violence prevention will accompany the toolkit and safety plan; this video also honours Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and will be launched in 2016;
- An Oversight Committee has been put in place to provide advice and oversee the development of the safety plan and toolkit.
- The *Single Bead Project* was developed to stand up against violence towards women and girls. A single bead sewn onto a ribbon pin illustrates that one victim of violence is one too many.



Health Services Integration Fund (HSIF)

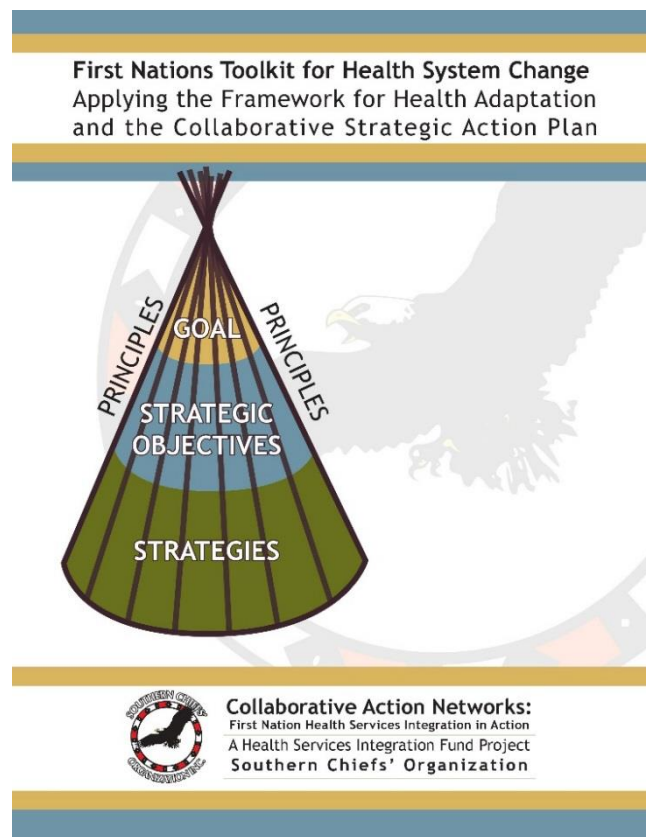
This 36 month project concluded March 31, 2015. The main goal for this project was to improve health status through adaptation of existing health services. SCO with the help of the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA) created a Framework for Health Adaption. The Framework included four main strategic objectives:

1. Collaboration and partnerships with health service providers and stakeholders
2. Reorientation of health services
3. Communications and transitions
4. Evaluations

SCO and the WRHA also created a Collaborative Strategic Action Plan which included five strategies:

1. Access
2. Quality
3. Awareness
4. Structure
5. Communication

Southern First Nations health managers and experts shared knowledge with SCO which led to the development of a Toolkit for Health System Change by applying the Framework for Health Adaption and the Collaborative Strategic Action Plan.



Health Services Integration Fund (HSIF)

The Southern Chiefs' Organization has again negotiated funding for the Health Services Integration Fund (HSIF). The four year agreement commencing January 2016, is to improve access and outcomes in health for First Nations. Under the HSIF agreement SCO will continue to promote and foster a network of partners among service providers and stakeholders. The goal is to advocate for an improved health status of First Nations people living on and off the reserve. SCO plans on establishing a consultative process between all partners to make direct contact with all independent communities and their Health Directors. SCO will utilize technical support to develop an online survey for Health Directors and on/off reserve community members to capture quantitative data and ensure information is captured in a database format for analysis.

The HSIF program also includes tools that will be of practical use to First Nations health stakeholders when addressing First Nation health outcomes. SCO previously built the "First Nations Toolkit for Health System Change" and First Nations can now use this toolkit as a guide for addressing the needs or issues that currently exist for members and for First Nations.

The Southern Chiefs' Organization will again spearhead the goal of improving the health status of First Nations people living on and off the reserve by facilitating collaboration and partnerships. The reorientation of existing resources and services, the promotion of effective communication and an ongoing evaluation process will aid with this process.



The SCO through the HSIF will continue to assist First Nations stakeholders in developing relationships in order to plan and implement changes aimed at improving health outcomes for First Nations in southern Manitoba.

Child and Family Services

The Southern Chiefs' Organization started the process of reviewing the position of the overall Child and Family Services operation in the fall of 2013. The Southern Authority was operating under Administration status as per the Order of Administration issued and implemented on November 23, 2012.

The SCO became the official designated organization in November 8th, 2015 and is responsible for identifying and appointing members to the First Nations of Southern Manitoba Child and Family Services (Southern) Authority's board.

The order of administration was officially lifted on January 12, 2016, recognizing the new board of directors for the Southern First Nations Network of Care.

Prior to being officially designated as the official organization, SCO conducted the review of the terms of reference for the board. This was a long process to review and make changes that currently reflect the demands on the new board of directors and their responsibilities as board members.

The selection of the board was a long process, an official call and advertising of board members commenced in July of 2014 and interviews conducted in September 2014. The Chiefs Personnel Committee conducted the interviews of all applicants who submitted their names for consideration. The Chiefs who were members of the Chiefs Personnel Committee at the time were; Chief Nelson Bunn, Chief Frank Abraham, Chief Eugene Eastman and Chief Derrick Henderson. The Chiefs committee consists of five Chiefs and a quorum is three (3). SCO is still conducting ongoing recruitment of board members and has advertised for youth members and other general board members.

In preparation for assuming the responsibility SCO conducted the following process. Review and amendment of these materials;

1. Materials

- Prepare draft criteria for the selection of Board members
- Prepare draft criteria for the selection of a new Board chair
- Prepare draft skill sets for Board members
- Prepare a draft advertisement to facilitate the recruitment of new /board members
- Prepare a draft set of questions for the interview process associated with recruiting new Board members
- Prepare a draft process for the selection of new Board members

Child and Family Services - continued

2. By-laws

- Review the existing by-laws and identify areas for further review and changes as required for the new Board
- Review the existing by-laws and identify areas for the attention of the Sothorn Authority Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
- Where possible/appropriate, draft alternatives to the wording and/or provide sample wording for the new elements with respect to the areas for consideration by the CEO and the new Board

3. Legislation and regulations

- Review legislation and regulations and identify areas that may require amendment in order to facilitate the replacement of the AMC as the designating body responsible for appointing new Board members with the SCO.

During this process, the Grand Chief participated in the leadership council meetings which lead to the announcement of the Customary Care initiative, a mechanism to stop more apprehensions of First Nation child to outside families, to keep children in their own communities. This is still in the process of being fully developed.



Business Development Assistant

Delores Day, Business Development Assistant

The Business Development Assistant's main responsibilities include providing operational, secretarial and administrative support to the Grand Chief. The Business Development Assistant provides support to Grand Chief for workshops, special events, meetings and summits.



Grand Chief Terrance Nelson met with the Seminole Tribe leadership of Florida regarding economic opportunities in November 2015.

Health Research and Engagement

Christy Anderson, Health Research and Engagement Liaison

Southern Chiefs' Organization has been actively engaging with community Health Directors and various Indigenous Health Committees. Having a Southern First Nations voice in areas of health concerns such as Cancer Care, Tuberculosis, Diabetes, and involvement in projects like Debwewin: The Sound of Our Hearts, has been instrumental in advocating for the improved health and well-being of Manitoba's First Nations.



SCO's Health Research and Engagement Liaison has been involved in various working groups such as the Manitoba First Nations Health Technician Network (MFNHTN) and the Intergovernmental Committee for Manitoba First Nations Health (ICMFNH). SCO is working towards agreements that will assist First Nations in accessing better quality health services in a timely fashion through collaboration with Provincial and Federal Health Departments. We continue to advocate for a tripartite agreement on health care with Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) and Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO) with the support of tribal councils and independent communities. In the coming years, we hope to have a unified health system that is administered and operated by First Nations for First Nations.

In preparation for the anticipated transfer of power and responsibility for health services into the hands of First Nations, the following research has been conducted in 2015:

- Examination of By-laws governing the First Nations Health and Social Secretariat
- Political Unity Accord (2011) and Political Unity Accord on Health (2011)
- Research on the BC First Nations Health Authority – history, governance, community engagement
- Strategic communications plans have been evaluated and implemented for engagement purposes
- SCO has created a collaborative network with all Health Directors in the Southern Manitoba Region

Looking Ahead

SCO will be hosting a Southern Health Directors' Conference in January 2016. The purpose of the conference is to strategize with frontline health managers to determine the regional priorities. We are proud that the BC First Nation Health Authority will join us to present on their organization and best practices on collaboration.

We are optimistic that First Nations will make considerable progress in their collective efforts to create a unified health care system that is both the responsibility and pride of Manitoba's First Nations communities. Community Engagement continues to be a priority as we move forward in understanding what our grassroots members' desire out of a First Nations health care system.

SCO Communities

FIRST NATION	CHIEF
Berens River First Nation	Hartley Everett
Birdtail Sioux First Nation	Ken Chalmers
Black River First Nation	Sheldon Kent
Bloodvein First Nation	Roland Hamilton
Brokenhead Ojibway Nation	Jim Bear
Buffalo Point First Nation	Andrea Camp
Canupawakpa	Delbert Cruise
Dakota Tipi First Nation	Dave Pashe
Dauphin River First Nation	John Stagg
Ebb And Flow First Nation	Nelson Houle
Gamblers First Nation	David Ledoux
Hollow Water First Nation	Larry Barker
Keeseekoowenin Ojibway Nation	Norman Bone
Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation (Jackhead)	David Traverse
Lake Manitoba First Nation	Cornell McLean
Lake St. Martin First Nation	Adrian Sinclair
Little Grand Rapids First Nation	Roy Dunsford
Little Saskatchewan First Nation	Hector Shorting
Long Plain First Nation	Dennis Meeches
O-Chi-Chak-Ko-Sipi First Nation (Crane River)	Eugene Eastman
Pauingassi First Nation	Michael Owens
Peguis First Nation	Cindy Spence
Pinaymootang First Nation (Fairford)	Barry Anderson
Pine Creek Anishinabe Nation	Charlie Boucher
Poplar River First Nation	Russell Lambert
Rolling River Anishinabe Nation	Morris Swan Shannacappo
Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation	Alfred Hayden
Sagkeeng First Nation	Derrick Henderson
Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation	Lance Roulette
Skownan First Nation (Waterhen)	Cameron Catcheway
Swan Lake First Nation	Francine Meeches
Tootinaowaziibeeng Treaty Reserve (Valley River)	Barry McKay
Waywayseecappo First Nation	Murray Clearsky

SCO Chiefs Committees

CHIEFS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

	CHIEF	POSITION	FIRST NATION	TRIBAL COUNCIL	PHONE
1	Chief Morris Swan Shannacappo	Chairperson	Rolling River	WRTC	204-636-2211
2	Chief Cindy Spence	Member	Peguis	IRTC	204-645-2359
3	Chief Dennis Meeches	Member	Long Plain	DOTC	204-252-2731
4	Chief Derrick Henderson	Member	Sagkeeng	IND	204-768-3492
5	Chief Derek Bushie	Member	Hollow Water	SERDC	204-363-7278

CHIEFS FINANCE COMMITTEE

	CHIEF	POSITION	FIRST NATION	TRIBAL COUNCIL	PHONE
1	Chief Derek Bushie	Chairperson	Hollow Water	SERDC	204-363-7278
2	Chief John Stagg	Member	Dauphin River	IRTC	204-659-5370
3	Chief Dennis Meeches	Member	Long Plain	DOTC	204-252-2731
4	Chief Eugene Eastman	Member	O-Chi-Chak-Ko-Sipi	WRTC	204-732-2490
5	Chief Derrick Henderson	Member	Sagkeeng	IND	204-367-2287

CHIEFS PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

	CHIEF	POSITION	FIRST NATION	TRIBAL COUNCIL	PHONE
1	Chief Eugene Eastman	Chairperson	O-Chi-Chak-Ko-Sipi	WRTC	204-732-2490
2	Chief Derrick Henderson	Member	Sagkeeng	IND	204-367-2287
3	Chief Derek Bushie	Member	Hollow Water	SERDC	204-363-7278
4	Chief David Traverse	Member	Kinonjeshtegon	IRTC	204-394-2255
5	Chief Dennis Meeches	Member	Long Plain	DOTC	204-252-2731

Special Events and Highlights

Aah-zii-mii-naw Wee-kee-koo-tii-min: We're Talking Again

SCO hosted its second annual open forum on breaking the cycle of family violence at the Thunderbird House in February 2015. The forum was a success with presentations by David and Sherryl Blacksmith, Spirit of Peace Program, Community input and a panel discussion on racism and violence with Grand Chief Terrance Nelson, Sandra Delaronde, Shahina Siddiqui, and Jacqueline Romanow. Community learned about programs available and how to use culture as a tool to end violence.



Indigenous Music Awards

In 2014 SCO developed a video on Family Violence and Suicide Awareness, in which the message 'We Love You, Stick Around, You Make a Difference' was shared. The video was accompanied by the song, *One Day* written by Indian City. This video was nominated for an Indigenous Music Award as part of the Manito Ahbee 2015 Festival. The video was not selected as the winner, however, we are proud that the message has been shared widely across the nation and is viewed as a tool for our communities in Suicide Prevention Awareness.



National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG)

SCO was invited to join the Manitoba Delegation for the first National Roundtable on MMIWG in February 2015. Grand Chief Terrance Nelson, Don Courchene and Shauna Fontaine attended various events in Ottawa during this time including The Families Gathering, The Peoples Gathering and the National Roundtable. Shauna Fontaine the Violence Prevention Coordinator represented SCO at the National Roundtable to share perspectives with the five national PTOS, Provincial, Territorial and Federal governments regarding the grassroots needs relating to ending the violence against women.

Special Events and Highlights

Protecting Our Women Video Development

SCO has developed an awareness video as part of the Protecting Our Women project. This video captures the need for personal safety plans as danger can arise in many settings. This video honours the lives of MMIWG as well as promotes safety plans for individuals to protect individuals from violence. The video will be launched early in 2016.



Bethany and Irma Thompson



Kyle Schmutz, Collette Courchene and Monique MacPherson

Genocide Video

SCO's Administrative Assistant Chloe Courchene developed an awareness video about the Genocide committed against Indigenous peoples in Canada. SCO hopes that Canada will recognize the atrocities inflicted on Indigenous peoples as one of the Genocides in the world. This video was shared on SCO's YouTube and Facebook page on August 25, 2015 and can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xpgFeGQ7orA>



Special Events and Highlights

Golf Camps for Kids

In 2014, SCO had our first annual Golfing for Kids Golf Tournament which raised funds to host Golf Camps for Kids. SCO wants to support youth in sport engagement to build self-esteem.

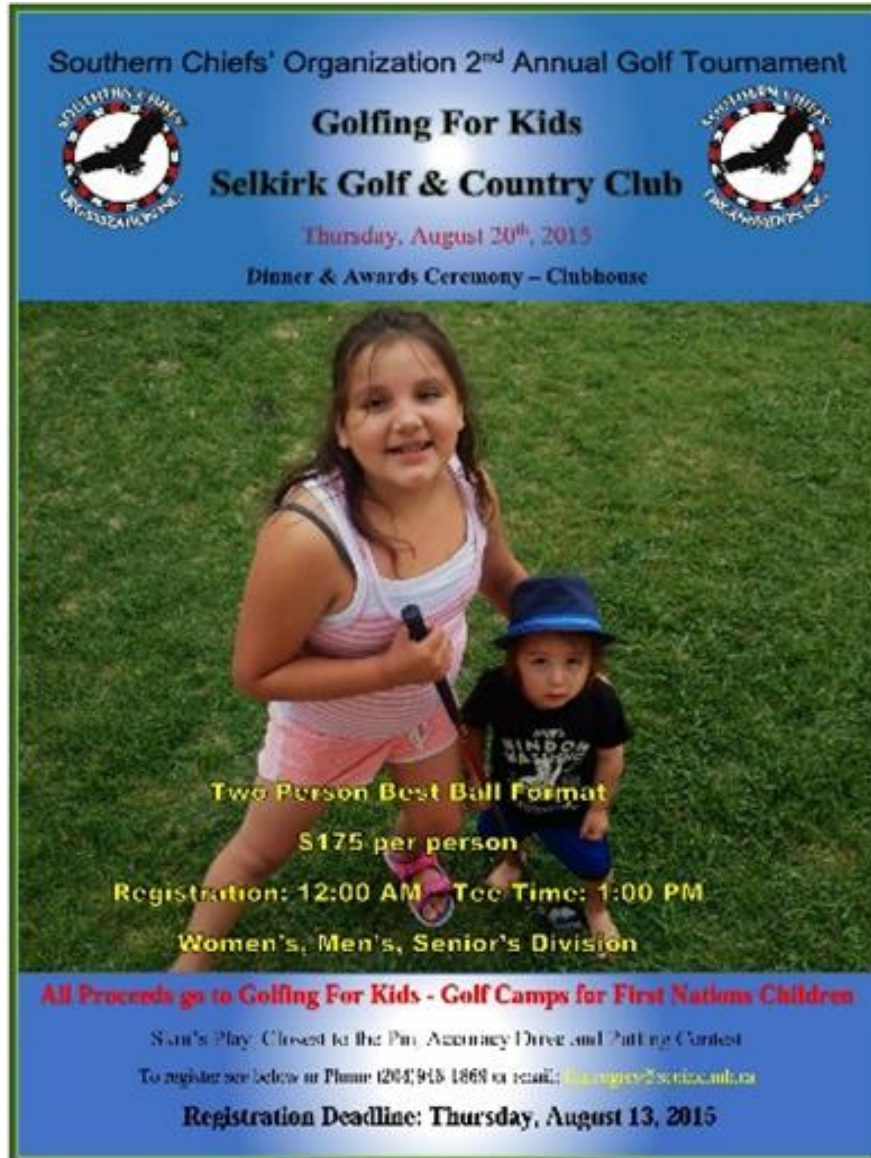
In June 2015, we are proud to announce we hosted the first three day Golf Camps for Kids at The Players Course. Golf Pros Rob and Sean, and SCO staff and volunteers worked with youth to teach them the basic skills of golf. Twelve youth from the southern First Nations, Saskatchewan and children in care were among the participants. Each day was concluded by a round of golf where the kids were excited to be out on the course.



Special Events and Highlights

Golfing for Kids Golf Tournament

In August of 2015, SCO held a Golf Tournament fundraiser at the Selkirk Golf and Country Club. A total of \$7,000 was raised for the second annual Golf Camps for Kids which will take place in the summer of 2016.



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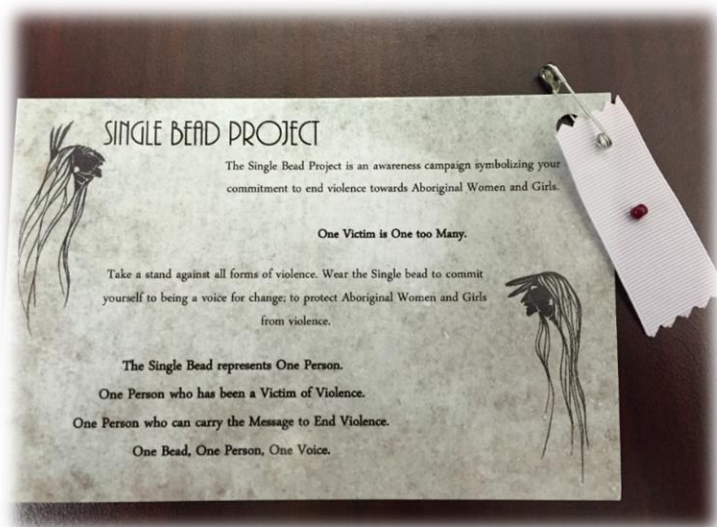
Special Events and Highlights

Taxicab Concerns

SCO has heard various concerns about the safety of passengers while riding in Taxicabs. SCO invited the public to come forward and share their stories of discrimination and at times violence while using Taxicab service. These personal experiences have guided SCO to meet and begin discussions with the Taxicab Board to ensure that Indigenous passengers are safe and free from discrimination while using these services. We will continue to work with the public to support education on Taxicab safety and promote policy changes through the Taxicab Board.

Single Bead Project

SCO developed the Single Bead Project Awareness Campaign in the fall of 2015, to symbolize the commitment to ending violence against Indigenous women and girls. A single bead sewn to a ribbon and worn as a pin illustrates one person, one person who has been a victim of violence, and one person who can carry the message to end violence. SCO has encouraged partners and stakeholders to begin their own Single Bead project in their communities and organizations with much success. Ribbons are available at the SCO office.



Christmas Cheer Board

This past Christmas, the staff at SCO opted to focus on families in need by contributing time and effort through the delivery of Christmas Hampers. Staff volunteered their time with the Christmas Cheer Board and delivered more than 30 hampers to families in need.

Special Events and Highlights

Sun Media and Winnipeg Sun Boycott

SCO launched a full year boycott of the Winnipeg Sun and Sun Media beginning on January 1, 2015. The boycott was triggered by a discriminatory mindset towards Indigenous peoples. Articles and media reports often portrayed Indigenous peoples in a negative way, for example, the Winnipeg Sun published an article, “Race Card Approach is Getting Old”, in which the article appeared to blame Indigenous peoples themselves for issues and problems which affect our communities. SCO encouraged the public to join in the boycott and urged companies who advertised in these sources to refrain from doing so in order to end discriminatory publications.

Assistant Deputy Minister Dave Brickwood

Bruce Bruyere presents Dave Brickwood some fine art on the occasion of Dave’s retirement at the Legislative Buildings. On behalf of the Southern Chiefs, Mr. Bruyere thanked the Assistant Deputy Minister for his contributions toward the Restorative Justice Program.



Chiefs-in-Summit

SCO held the Chiefs-in-Summit October 6 & 7, 2015. The main topics discussed were SCO’s Financial Audit and the Federal Election. SCO also had the Canadian Red Cross present on flooding and evacuees.



Southern Chiefs' Organization

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