

REGIONAL REPORT – BOARD MEETING

Date: 19-Oct-07 **Name:** Ed Azure **Tel:** (204) 484-2256 **Region:** Manitoba Region

1. Networking – RWG meetings updates/highlights and/or:

Manitoba First Nations Addiction Committee hold quarterly meetings, along with several sub committee meetings each fiscal year. The committee represents all First Nations in Manitoba. The highlights last year include:

1. the distribution of computers to all NNADAP CAS Workers in Mb.,
2. sponsorship of 15 CAS workers to take 2 year accredited training: **Community Centered Therapy Program Diploma**
3. SASSI training to all NNADAP CAS and treatment workers in Mb.,
4. the establishment of our own website <http://www.mfnac.ca/> ,
5. updated the CAS Orientation Manual and distributed CD's of manuals to all Mb NNADAP programs, and to FNIH Headquarters,
6. approved First Nation Wellness & Addiction Certification C Board (Pacific Region) as addiction certification body and sponsored all NNADAP CAS workers to apply for certification through grandfather clause
7. Addressing the treatment referral waiting list at MB NNADAP Treatment Centres
8. MFNAC receives updates on a quarterly basis from
 - ✓ Mb First Nation Tobacco Circle
 - ✓ Assembly of Mb. Chief's FASD Working Group
 - ✓ Prov of Mb Co occurring Disorders Initiative Leadership Team
 - ✓ Gaming Group

• Events you attended in your region;

- ✓ There was a good representation from Manitoba that attended the Healing Our Spirits Worlwide Conference held in Edmonton Aug 06.
- ✓ The National Aboriginal Gaming Conference, held in Winnipeg had approximately 35 Mb Region CAS NNADAP workers attend
- ✓ Fetal Alcohol Canadian Expertise – there were approx 10 MB Region CAS NNADAP workers attend (see: <http://www.motherisk.org/JFAS/index.jsp>)
- News from other organisations/institutions working in addictions and/or issues of interest for NNAPF;
 - See <http://www.afm.mb.ca/>
- What are the most pressing issues regarding networking in your region?
 - Salary levels to retain qualified professional workers
 - Access to internet & computer training for CAS workers
 - Because there are a majority of First Nations that are isolated and remote in Manitoba, transportation to regional events is very expensive and prevents folks from participating.

2. Communications and Information exchange : News on addictions related programs, projects in your region and/or

- Best practices initiatives; Sorry we really have nothing to track these – but see the Addictions Foundation of Mantioba link above for provincial initiatives
- Regional media news; - as above
- Upcoming conferences.
 1. October 23rd and 24th, 2007
 - Location: To be determined in Winnipeg
 - This two day forum is being hosted by Ka Ni Kanichihk Inc.
 - The planning committee consists of:
 - The Stepping Stones Advisory Committee (coalition of community stakeholders facilitated by Klinic Community Health Center)
 - The Winnipeg Sexually Exploited Youth Regional Team (co-chaired by Rebecca Cook; Manitoba Association of Friendship Centers and Wendy Scheirich; Coordinator for the Manitoba Sexually Exploited Youth Strategy)
 - Ka Ni Kanichihk Inc.

- 2. Nov 16 – 18 NICHRO conference – Edmonton
- 3. MFNAC Computer training 101 Jan 28 – Feb 1 '08 location TBC
- 4. MFNAC CAS NNADAP Conference March 4 & 5 '08

3. Research : News about regional and community based research project or initiatives.

- What are the research needs in your region?
 - We are currently initiating a review of the wait times for clients being referred to in-house treatment within Mb Region and outside the province to determine if additional treatment facilities are required within Manitoba.
 - Other research initiatives required include
 - Best practice assessments – are NNADAP programs taking advantage of best practices that are showing effectiveness elsewhere? (Harm reduction, step-down medication, stages of change model, treating clients with co-occurring disorders, case management partnership strategies, etc???)
 - MFNAC is providing direction to the DUPPWG file within Manitoba Region. This process recently approved by the regional committee will see Manitoba’s five treatment centres as our “pilot community” within Manitoba Region for the one year pilot. Many processes surrounding qualitative/quantative data collection are in process of being finalized. This “pilot” will ensure all 64 first nation communities within Manitoba Region have direct input into the Report that will be submitted at the end of the pilot regarding prescription drug use/misuse/abuse.

4. Policy: What kind of policies would addictions workers/communities in your region like to see developed ?

- **All clients be SASSI’ed before a referral to treatment is approved**
- **All NNADAP CAS workers be required to have at minimum level one certification by FNWACCB within one year of being hired**
- **All clients be provided with at least 6 one-hour counselling sessions before referral to in-house treatment be made**
- **All clients be offered opportunity for healing ceremonies before referral to in-house treatment is made**
- **Community Addictions Specialist be provided with more “Prevention” training**
- **CAS programs make primary prevention a key component of their programs**

5. Emerging Issues :

- What are the most pressing addictions issues (and FANPLD related issues) affecting your communities?
 - Tobacco use among the youth
 - Alcohol abuse for all ages/sex
 - Crack Cocaine use
 - Crystal Meth
 - Alcohol use and pregnancy
 - Gangs and drug use in First Nations
 - Sexual Exploitation and Drug abuse
 - Indian Residential School settlements – large sums of money will soon be arriving in many of Manitoba First Nation communities. Strategies for Manitoba’s NNADAP network will need to be development along with an implementation plan
- How are these issues impacting Addiction Workers/your communities?
 - Workers are feeling left behind in lack of knowledge about increase of illicit drug use increasing in First Nations

6. Other Information (can just be attached to this form) : Do you have anything to share with NNAPF communications for your Region's Website, NNAPF newsletter and/or

- Articles of interest;
- Quotes;
- Stories;
- Photos;
- List of conferences etc...?

* **If you are member of a RWG, please attach minutes of your meetings – see MFNAC website**

<http://www.mfnac.ca/>