



THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

JUNE 21 2021

Reports

Third Annual General Meeting of
Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties

June 21, 2021

Agenda

- Welcome
- Opening ceremony
- Permission to record and post
- Land recognition
- Approve minutes of 2020 Annual Meeting
- Report of the Chair
- Report of the Education Working Group
 - Introduction of the Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties website
- Report of the Treasurer
- Nominating Committee report and selection of Keepers of the Circle
- By-law amendment to enable organizations to become Associate Members of Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties
- Comments and contributions
- Thanks and closing
- Refreshments (DIY)

Share the Gifts Honour the Treaties
2nd Annual General Meeting
May 26, 2020 Minutes

Present: *Russell Badger, Joanna Hiebert Bergen, Elaine Bishop, Kathryn Boschmann, Irene Greenwood, Ashlyn Haglund, Mary Lysecki, Ko'ona Saber, Kerry Saner-Harvey, Vincent Solomon, Rafael Terrain*

Regrets: *Se'Kwun Cochrane, Laverne Contois, Joy Eidse, Steve Heinrichs, Linda Migwans*

1. **Welcome** - Elaine welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited everyone to introduce themselves briefly.
2. **Opening-** Ko'ona opened with a song in continuation of the pipe ceremony she began this morning, recognizing National Sorry Day in Australia and the Canadian National Day of Reconciliation.
3. **Permission to record and post** - Elaine asked for permission from those attending to record the meeting and post it to Facebook – all present agreed.
4. **Land recognition** - Elaine acknowledged that we are meeting on Treaty One land.
5. **Approve minutes of 2019 AGM** – Elaine asked for agreement for the minutes of the 2019 AGM. There was an expression of unity to approve the minutes of the AGM of 2019.
6. **Report of the chair** - Elaine Bishop provided the chair's report. Elaine asked for support for sending a letter on our behalf thanking the Treaty Commission of Manitoba for their support of Share the Gifts Honour the Treaties over the years. All professed unity in acceptance of the chair's report and support for thanking the Treaty Commission.
7. **Report of the education working group** - Kerry Saner-Harvey provided the report of the Education Working Group. Ko'ona and others expressed appreciation for the work done on the logo and the website. Mary suggested that the next Keepers' meeting look at ways of saying good-bye to and

thanking Joy Eidse for her work. There was an expression of unity to accept the Education Working Group report.

8. Treasurer's report – Irene Greenwood gave the treasurer's report. All in unity to accept the report.

9. Nominating report – Mary Lysecki gave the nominating report. The following to serve as to serve as Keepers of the Circle for a term of two years from May 26, 2020 to the date of the fourth AGM in May 2022: **Elaine Bishop, Ashlyn Haglund, Ko'ona Saber**. The following Keepers will continue as elected at the 2019 AGM for a term of two years from May 27, 2019 to the date of the third AGM in May 2021: **Irene Greenwood, Mary Lysecki, Kerry Saner-Harvey, Rafael Terrain**. All in unity to accept the report.

10. Comments and Contributions – Elaine invited comments and contributions. Kathryn asked to join the Education Working Group. Rafael suggested that we consider having an exit interview when people leave the Keepers' Circle. Russell Badger joined the meeting from Saskatchewan and shared his wisdom and concerns around the Doctrine of Discovery and education about the true history of this land. Russell agreed to the meeting being recorded and posted to Facebook. Vincent Solomon pointed out that the Anglican Diocese of Rupert's Land has grants available for reconciliation work.

11. Closing ceremony – Ko'ona Saber offered a song and a prayer of thanks for the work of the committee. Ko'ona closed the meeting with a song of thanks for the pipe.

12. Link to recording of meeting:

Date: May 26, 2020 08:25 PM Atlantic Time (Canada)

[https://mcc.zoom.us/rec/share/5vUoaLGo-](https://mcc.zoom.us/rec/share/5vUoaLGo-3FIE6P_1lqAC5w7EojDT6a80SZKq6cLnR0jDL6iakoi_1_HgawyMqKG_P)

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Cloud recordings will be deleted automatically after they have been stored for 120 days.

Report of the Chair of the Circle of Keepers

To the Third Annual General Meeting of Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties

June 21, 2021

Treaty: Aimée Craft, in her powerful book *Breathing Life Into the Stone Fort Treaty: An Anishinabe Understanding of Treaty One*¹ speaks of the four Rs of Treaty—Relationship which embodies Respect, Reciprocity and Renewal. One way of understanding Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties is that we seek to live these values. A step in de-colonizing the concept of an Annual General Meeting is to see it as an opportunity for renewal—bringing together those involved to renew relationship, participate in accountability and affirm directions for the work to come.

Covid 19: We have had a full year of Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties, and the rest of the world, living within this pandemic. A significant aspect of relationship is that it needs opportunities for being together, face to face, to come to know one another. Yet the past year we have been required, and needed, to do our work without being able to come together. We, the Keepers, have been blessed to be able to do our work through zoom technology. Yet we recognize that there has been a price for our inability to be physically together. Especially the gift of sharing wisdom from and with Elders calls for being together. We anticipate that our work this past year has been preparing us for the time when we can gather face to face again to learn, to renew and build relationships, to develop the reciprocity of the Reparations Fund and to take out the message of Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties.

Our structure: we incorporated in 2017. Our reason for being is:

Guided by the purposes and principles of the *United Nation's Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* 'Recognizing the urgent need to respect and promote the inherent rights of Indigenous Peoples ... affirmed in treaties, agreements and

¹ Craft, A, *Breathing Life Into the Stone Fort Treaty: An Anishinabe Understanding of Treaty One*. Saskatoon: Purlich Publishing Limited, 2013.

other constructive arrangements with states' (preliminary statements in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples) and in the spirit of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action 45, 46 and 61 as a contribution towards building reconciliation, **Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties** exists to create an organization that enables Settler and Newcomer peoples in Canada to express their full engagement as Treaty people by making financial contributions to a fund the spending of which is controlled by Indigenous People. It will: a) provide education enabling Settler and Newcomer peoples to learn about their roles as Treaty Peoples; b) provide opportunities for Settler and Newcomer people to honour the Treaties and participate fully as Treaty Peoples; and c) provide opportunities for building relationships between Indigenous Peoples and Settler and Newcomer peoples.

Our ways of working:

- We received this direction from Elders: take your time, develop slowly, reflect on the gifts and dangers of money
- Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties incorporated Nov 7, 2017 after an Elders' consultation confirmed that it was right for this to develop;
- Our by-laws were approved at the 2019 AGM. We are still new and tender! We acknowledge the challenge of language and structure of incorporation, coming out of colonial structures, which is needed to establish a bank account.
- We make decisions through seeking unity.
- We have a membership Circle that we want to grow! Members are essential participants at our Annual General Meeting. We encourage those who share this vision to become members! See our membership application form: https://honourthetreaties.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Membership-Application_Final_202008.pdf
- The Circle of Keepers is our Board of Directors. It consists of 5-7 members, elected at the AGM. Keepers are responsible for decision making to take the organization and work forward. Keepers serve two year terms and may serve for three terms before taking a break.
- We welcome visitors to the Keepers' meetings. We value their voices which enriches our work, yet acknowledge that the Keepers are accountable for taking the work forward.

- We have an Education Working Group and look forward to developing at least two other working groups—Communications and Event Planning. The Working Groups report to Keepers for decision making.

Directions for our work

In January we identified four areas of work to take forward:

- Getting our name out
- Understanding and exploring money—its meaning in society, its gifts and its risks
- Land and reparations
- What does it mean to be a Treaty partner?

Work of the Keepers' Circle

- Since the last AGM the Keepers have met ten times, all via zoom.
- As a way of getting our name out and expanding our networks we have joined the Winnipeg Accord—a City of Winnipeg initiative—a network of organizations committed to implementing the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. We are required to identify goals each year and report annually on our work. Our goals:
 - Goal 1: related to Calls to Action 46 ii (repudiating the Doctrine of Discovery); 46 iv (renewal or establishment of Treaty relationships based on principles of mutual recognition, mutual respect, and shared responsibility for maintaining those relationships into the future) and 48 (education and action to support the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples) to continue and expand our education work through completing our website and beginning presentations/workshops.
 - Goal 2: related to Call to Action 61—(...to establish permanent funding to Aboriginal people ...) and respecting Principle #7 of the Winnipeg Indigenous Accord to continue to explore and understand the role of money in colonization and ways of decolonizing money in the process of establishing our Reparations Fund as advised to do at our most recent Elders' consultation.
- We have developed our website and launched it. Warm thanks to Jupiter and Raf for their work on it! See: <https://honourthetreaties.ca/>

- We have opened our Reparations Fund as an expression of our commitment to living reparations. A minimum of 70% of all donations received are deposited into the Reparations Fund. Gifters can ask that 100% of their contribution be placed in the Reparations Fund. The other 30% is, with Gifter permission, used to cover the administrative costs of Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties such as paying our annual costs of being a non-profit or costs for Elder consultations.
- We approved holding the First Annual Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties pow wow, organized by Ko'ona Saber, to be held in Treaty 5 territory. This year it will be limited by covid restrictions. We look forward to being together in the future!

Towards the future

- We are exploring ways building on the wisdom we have received to move Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties forward in a good way. Next steps include taking the messages of Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties out to churches and other groups to invite Settler and Newcomer peoples to explore what it means to be an engaged member of Treaty 1 and to contribute gifts to the fund.
- Our work to implement our four directions will include:
 - Developing an Elders' Circle. Wisdom from prior Elders' gatherings confirmed the rightness of creating this Circle. The by-laws assigns the responsibility of implementing this to the Keepers of the Circle.
 - Developing right ways for the Reparations Fund to be disbursed by Indigenous Peoples.

Appreciations

I want to express deep appreciation to everyone who is working on and contributing their gifts to developing this concern!

- To the Elders whose wisdom offers such a significant contribution to keeping us moving in a right way.
- With those serving as Keepers and on the Education Working Group.
- All the Gifters making financial contributions to Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties.

It is an honour to work with you and to serve as the Chair of the Keepers' Circle!

Thank you!

Elaine Bishop

SHARE THE GIFTS - HONOUR THE TREATIES

EDUCATION WORKING GROUP ANNUAL REPORT

DATE: May 27, 2021

PROJECT: Education Working Group

NAME: Rafael Terrain

CURRENT MEMBERS: Elaine Bishop, Kathryn Boschmann, Kerry Saner-Harvey, Mary Lysecki, Rafael Terrain

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

1. Member Roles and Responsibilities
2. Communications
3. Workshops

1. MEMBER ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

One challenge we have faced is finding and retaining members in order to accomplish our group's goals. Joy Eidse needed to step back from Share the Gifts organizing, but we recognize the important contributions she made to this working group.

We have since welcomed Kathryn Boschmann and Mary Lysecki to our group. At this time, we determined our roles and responsibilities and decided to continue to take on the Communications Working Group roles until more people are available to take on a second working group. We identified that the Keepers Circle will be better suited to hold the Events Working Group roles – until there are enough members to support that group as well.

Next Steps:

- Recruit more members to fill the Communications and Events Working Groups
- Recruit more members to support the Education Working Group
- Incorporate recruitment into presentations and workshops to provide an option for community to take action with us in a form of “Sweat Equity”

2. COMMUNICATIONS

We accomplished a number of our communications goals over this past year;

- Rafael Terrain and Carly Fraser built the foundations of a website for Share the Gifts
- The working group, with support from the Keepers Circle, developed introductory and educational content to fill this site
- With the Keepers approval, the site is complete and ready to launch
- Rafael Terrain produced a Share the Gifts – Honour the Treaties logo to use on the website, with input from the working group and Keepers Circle
- 2 blog posts have been published – drawing from existing educational handouts and with permission from Joy Eidse’ personal blog

Next Steps:

- Update all Share the Gifts content: pamphlets, handouts, etc. with the new logo and our website address
- Continue to create blog posts as we learn about relevant topics and invite other community members to contribute their perspectives to the discussion

3. WORKSHOPS

Currently, we have presented introductory information to outside groups on who we are as an organization. Over the course of our meetings, we are continually building our knowledge on the topics of relationships with money, white privilege, treaty relationships, reparations and land return. We are continuing to discuss ways to format workshops on these topics in the community. We are also checking in with Kathryn Boschmann and Elaine Bishop’s work on a treaty-related workshop that may be used for Share the Gifts in the future.

Next Steps:

- Begin outreach to find groups in the community we can offer our introductory presentation to
- Develop workshops that go into more detail on the topics of relationships with money, white privilege, treaty relationships, reparations and land return
- Make connections with individuals and groups who have been doing reparations and land return already
- Recruit more Friends and Keepers of the Circle
- Build capacity in ourselves and the broader community to take informed action on reparations and land return

THANK YOU

Contact us: honourthetreaties@gmail.com

Financial Report

The financial statement for 2020 is included in the Annual Report

Financial activity was very limited over the year. This was due, largely to restrictions that the Covid 19 pandemic has placed on our activities. We had one regular donor over the course of the year and our expenses were small - a donation to Winnipeg Harvest, our annual return and web site fee.

A reparations fund was established in the latter part of the year. As of the new year, we have agreed that a minimum 65% of moneys donated to Share the Gifts - Honour the Treaties will be transferred to the Reparations Fund. The fund requires two signing authorities for all transactions.

As we move ahead we will need to continue to search out ways of raising funds.

I have appreciated the opportunity to be a part of the Keepers Circle and to serve as treasurer over these last couple of years. I believe this work of reparation is extremely important. However, for personal reasons I am now in a place of needing to resign from these roles. I do wish to maintain my membership and look forward to contributing to this work in other ways.

Irene Greenwood, Treasurer

Share the Gifts Honour the Treaties

2020 Year End Financial Report

	Income	Expenses	Transfer Out	Balance
Jan 1, 2020				2660.09
Donations	205.00			
Total Income	205.00			
Annual Return		40.00		
Winnipeg Harvest		25.00		
Name Cheap (web sight)		23.50		
Total Expense 2020		88.50		

Outstanding Cheque from 2019		570.00		
Total Expense		658.50		
Transfer to Reparations Fund			1000.00	
Dec 31, 2020				1206.59

Share the Gifts Honour the Treaties Reparation Fund

2020 Year End Financial Report

	Income	Expenses	Balance
Jan 1, 2020			0
Transfer from Community Builder Account	1000.00		
Int.	0.38		

Dec 31, 2020			1000.38
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Nominating Report to Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties

3rd Annual General Meeting

June 21, 2021

Through Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties incorporation “Keepers of the Circle” is identified as the board of directors for the organization. The range of Keepers to serve at any time is a range of a minimum of five to a maximum of seven.

The terms of service identified in the By-laws is for two year terms with the capacity for Keepers to be selected for up to three consecutive terms for a total of six years before leaving the Circle of Keepers.

First of all it is important to recognize and give thanks for the contributions of Ashlyn Haglund as Keeper, and Irene Greenwood who has been a member for some time and more recently as Keeper and as treasurer.

We put forward the following nominations to serve as Keepers of the Circle for a term of two years from June 21, 2021 to the date of the fifth AGM in 2023:

- Mary Lysecki
- Kerry Saner-Harvey
- Rafael Terrain
- Michael Welch

The following Keepers will continue as elected at the 2020 AGM for a term of two years from May 26, 2020 to the date of the fourth AGM in 2022:

- Elaine Bishop
- Ko’ona Saber

Mary Lysecki

June 8, 2021

Proposed Bylaw Amendment

May 18, 2021

Re minute 6 March 15, 2021 regarding establishing organizational membership in Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties

2.01 Types of Membership

- (a) Members of the Circle: decision-making members responsible for attending the Annual General Meeting to participate in decision making.
- (b) Friends of the Circle: are non-decision-making yet participating in the activities of the Circle.

The Keepers Circle proposes the following addition to the By-laws:

That the following category be added to the Categories of Membership:

Section 2.01 Types of membership

c) Associate organizational membership: are organizations that support the purposes of the Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties.

2.02 Membership Qualifications

- (a) Affirms the purposes of the organization.
- (b) Has submitted a written application for membership that has been approved by the Keepers of the Circle or a person authorized by the Keepers to approve membership applications

Associate organizational members are entitled to participate in activities of Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties but without the voting responsibilities of members. Voting is only used in those situations in which unity cannot be reached and a vote is required on a decision.

Organizational members are asked to appoint a contact person to act on its behalf in activities of Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties.

Reasons for proposed amendments: to enable organizations supportive of Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties to express their support by becoming members of Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties.