



FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 20 2022

Reports

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

September 20, 2022

Agenda

- Welcome
- Opening ceremony
- Permission to record and post
- Land recognition
- Approve minutes of 2021 Annual Meeting
- Report of the Chair
- Report of the Education Working Group
- Report of the Treasurer
- Nominating Committee report and selection of Keepers of the Circle
- Comments and contributions
- Thanks and closing
- Refreshments (DIY)

SHARE THE GIFT – HONOUR THE TREATIES

DATE/TIME: June 21, 2021 at 10:30am

Type of meeting: Annual General Meeting

Facilitator: Elaine

Note taker: Rafael

Attendees: Kerry Saner-Harvey, Rafael Terrain, Elaine Bishop, Ko'ona Saber, Randi Gage, Irene Greenwood, Mary Lysecki, Brenda Buleziuk, Verna Reitmeier, Kathryn Fournier, Daniela Chivu, Margaret Mullin, Joanna Hiebert, Esther Epp-Tiessen, Michael Welch,

Regrets:

Agenda Items:

1. Welcome and Opening Ceremony
2. Last AGM Minutes
3. Report of Chair of Keepers of the Circle
4. Education Working Group Report
5. Treasurer Report
6. Nominating Committee Report
7. Questions, Comments, Feedback & Closing

Action Items:

- **ACTION:** Ask that we correct number from 65 to at least 70% of funds go to the reparations fund (in the report)
- **ACTION:** Raf bring feedback to next Ed group meeting
- **ACTION:** ask Ed group – should I add a short blurb below “who we are” and the other heading at the bottom of the home page? It looks unbalanced with the first two having no description

Notes:

1. Welcome and Opening Ceremony

Elaine:

- Welcome

Koona:

- opening ceremony

Elaine:

- Asking for permission to record to help with making minutes, won't be posting anywhere, but feel free to turn cameras off if you want.

Rafael:

- land acknowledgement

Elaine:

- “keepers of the circle” trying to decolonize how we work together, how we name things
- Explaining background of this group in pay the rent in Australia – relationship with Indigenous and settler people there and paying rent payments.
- Coming back to Winnipeg, translating that in treaty territory
- With guidance from Elders, over years, guided by UNDRIP, and TRC Calls 45, 46 61 – creation of a fund where the spending is determined by Indigenous people, opportunities to honour and participate fully in treaty relationships
- 3rd annual general meeting, trying to decolonize this concept, opportunity to renew relationships and be accountable to each other.

(Keepers introductions and some introductions in chat from people in attendance)

2. Last AGM Minutes

- All agree to approve the past minutes

3. Report of Chair of Keepers of the Circle

- Started talking about Treaty, this is 150 years commemoration of treaty in this territory, referring to relationship, respect, reciprocity, renewal from Aimee Craft's book on treaty 1
- This work depends on relationship, we are looking forward to being able to meet in person again
- Looking forward to reparations fund that we are working on to be part of this relationship
- We have the circle of keepers and have consulted with groups of Elders, before we had the name, the name came out of a consultation arranged by treaty commissioner at the time, seeking direction and wisdom without putting too much weight on Elders, some wisdom has been that it is settler responsibility to educate other settlers and also have supported us to develop this work on money as a gift, and money that can damage and developing how we set up this fund
- We needed to get bank account to get money together, so after consultation we set this up
- At keepers meetings we welcome people to attend that, its about 5-7 keepers who have the accountability formally for this work
- We have the education working group, we also need a communication working group – this came from a consultation as well. We invite people to join us in this work
- In January we identified 4 major areas to work on, so we are moving past website to get our name out
- We have direction from elders for this to be a strong reparations organization, exploring meaning of money, gift and risk, looking at land and land return, and looking at what it means for settlers to be partners
- The circle has met 10 times via June
- We joined the Wpg Indigenous Accord, to connect with others and bring the issue of reparations there
- We developed and launched our website
- We initiated the reparations fund, so we have the beginning of this that will only be spent by Indigenous people, unclear on mechanism for decision-making yet
- We have a few admin costs, but we commit that minimum 70% will go to reparations fund, many settler and newcomer people are uncertain about giving up control over where money is spent – but that is our work through education

- 1st powwow is today
- We will continue working on these, building on Elders' wisdom and finding ways to take direction without making more burden
- Finding more people to contribute to reparations fund
- Developing mechanisms for an Elders circle and ways to disperse funds through this circle
- 3rd annual general meeting, some have been working on this for 8 or 9 years
- Thanks to Elders for their support and guidance
- Thanks to gifters who have contributed so far
- (no questions posed) happy to receive questions later via email or zoom

4. Education Working Group Report

Raf:

- reports on Education working group activities over the past year
 - website
 - logo
 - starting to shift focus to developing workshops

Kerry:

- Share screen to launch website
- Work in progress, about year and a half
- Carly and Raf to do tech part of website, and all of us contributed to the website content
- This is one of the main ways for us to communicate what we are about to the public
- We welcome feedback
- We also have a Facebook group for people to follow us
- Nod to MCC for funds to create website and logo
- Shows home page, short video that is collaboration from we are all treaty people celebration – encourage people to see the video
- Contact us directs you to the gmail account
- About us – about ourselves and our values
- This helps people to know why we are working and how
- Also history about this group
- Also talks about our logo and the meaning that has gone into this – “for as long as the sun shines, the grass grows and the water flows” and the two row

wampum – we spoke with _____ Adrian Jacobs? Who is Haudenosaunee about this teaching and including the image in the logo

- We also added the city scape to acknowledge that this discussion includes all land in these territories including city environments
- How to get involved, how to make reparations and land return, and sweat equity and doing better solidarity
- We also point to others doing this work and learn from them
- we also have a learn more page with lots of resources, bringing people into the conversation, as well as a blog for us to add more content as we learn – we are looking to talk more about reparations from a faith background as well

Elaine:

- We are also a member org, and we have a membership application on the get involved page, so you can get some info from us and be invited to the AGM
- Share the info with others, if you think anything on website would be helpful, please use it

5. Treasurer Report

Irene:

- So far we haven't had a lot of financial work, because we've been doing more education related tasks, but we are going forward with more gathering of funds
- We made 1000\$ from working account into reparations fund,
- **ACTION:** Ask that we correct number from 65 to at least 70% of funds go to the reparations fund (in the report)
- Written report available in AGM report for anyone to read, we are moving into more fundraising in future

Elaine:

- we made a donation to “harvest” – this was when we met in the Treaty commission office, they asked for donation to harvest, so this was our payment for meeting there.

6. Nominating Committee Report

Mary:

- Time of year to revisit and renew relationships and part of this is recommitting to roles in the organization, keepers function partially as board of directors, as well as other roles
- Putting forward nominations for next 2 years: Mary, Raf, Kerry, Michael, following will continue on their 2 year terms – Elaine Bishop and Ko'ona Saber
- All agree and approve these nominations

Elaine:

- We welcome anyone to join, sit in on keepers meetings and join as members, please contact us through website or email address
- We were asked recently if organizations can become members of STG – originally we had it set up for individuals, we welcome Indigenous and non-Indigenous members, we had full membership category (part of decision making and support) and other groups who want to be less active and are called Friends of the circle,
- We are putting forward an addition to bylaws that would allow organizations to become association members.
- We think this will help us take the word out, yes, this could include a church or any other group of individuals formal or informal who want to take on this work. spiritual and secular, a community of people living on this land together, working for non-Indigenous members to accept fully our responsibilities,
- We are not letting government off the hook, we are just not waiting, part of sweat equity is the solidarity to hold government to account
- All agree this bylaw addition

7. Questions, Comments, Feedback & Closing

- Question from community member & answer: It is possible to request a workshop already, and we can communicate about how to respond to it
- Kathryn and Elaine are working on a treaty-related workshop that can be used to this purpose
- More discussion is needed on what is needed to develop workshops
- Powwow starting soon

- Hope you will join us and check out website

Feedback:

- Language of treaties is not something that many Indigenous people can come meet at the table with on this project, because it doesn't recognize the trauma that is currently being dealt with because of the racism and all the harms that have happened since then
- You need to have an Indigenous face on this topic.
- **ACTION:** Raf bring this feedback up to next Ed group meeting
- **ACTION:** ask Ed group – should I add a short blurb below “who we are” and the other heading at the bottom of the home page? It looks unbalanced with the first two having no description.

Report of the Chair of the Circle of Keepers

To the 2022 Annual General Meeting of Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties

September 20, 2022

Renewal: In my report last year I identified an annual general meeting (AGM) as an opportunity for renewal of relationship in an organization. Through gathering to hear from the Keepers' Circle, provide accountability and renew relationship we can support the organization in continuing its journey towards enabling the organization that reflects our vision.

Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties reason for being as stated in our registration as a Manitoba non-profit organization: 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 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.

A fragile time: although this is our fourth AGM some of those involved in the Keepers' Circle have carried this vision for more years. The first meeting for which I have documents took place in 2012, hosted by then Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba, Jamie Wilson, to explore with Elders ways of adapting the Australian initiative *Pay the Rent* to Treaty territories in Manitoba. Five years' work, including further consultation with Elders, resulted in our incorporation in 2017. Five years more work has seen the development of our website, membership

in the Winnipeg Indigenous Accord and concerted work especially done by the Education Working Group to generate resources and explore developing workshops to take out the Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties message beyond our still small circles.

This was done in the context of the continuing provincial limitations of covid-19 and challenging life circumstances of several members of the Keepers' Circle, including my own health challenges. The strong sense that it is right to meet with Elders in person rather than on zoom has delayed further Elder consultations. Keepers' Circle has not been able to meet in person for more than two years.

Consequently Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties has been less active over the past eighteen months—our 2021 year and first part of 2022—than I have wished. It is why we are meeting for our 2022 AGM in September instead of June, and why we needed to postpone the Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties pow wow that we had envisioned happening around June 21, 2022.

So this opportunity for renewal is most welcome! I hope out of this time together I and we can be re-energized as the need for this work continues, intensifies even, as awareness of the historic and continuing genocide grows.

This awareness offers both opportunities and risks. Opportunities are that more individuals and groups are seeking to acknowledge past wrongs and act in ways that contribute to changing attitudes, correcting historical mis-representations and contributing to reparations. Yet it is a risk that this new seeing may result in Settler-initiated calls for 'reconciliation' before full truth is known and accepted, and before restitution, reparations seeking to help to heal the harms done, is undertaken. Retired Chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Honourable Murray Sinclair, reminded us that as it took seven generations to create the conditions of today, so too will it take seven generations to heal relationships. Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties is a resource for this first generation because we need to do our work so that future generations can continue the work beyond our times.

Directions for our work: we continue to be guided by these four directions discerned in January 2021:

- 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 in the past year

- Since our last AGM the Keepers' Circle has met eight times on zoom.
- At our last AGM we officially launched our website. We have continued to upload additions to the website. This is a major way in which we get the word out about Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties. Plans are in place to write more blogs for the website.
- After the 2021 Annual General Meeting Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties hosted its first powwow. Warm thanks to Keepers' member, Ko'ona Saber, for her amazing work in organizing this online powwow. Our deep thanks, too, to Elder Randi Gage and Rachel Ann Snow from Morley Alberta who as the MC also was our teacher.
- We continued our membership in the Winnipeg Indigenous Accord filing all needed documentation reporting on our activities for the past year and the goals for our next year. This year the Indigenous Accord has added a requirement for a goal related to the Calls for Justice of the Inquiry on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. Our goal for that is: 'related to Calls for Justice for All Canadians 15.2 (decolonize by learning true history...) and 15.4 (become a strong ally) to continue expanding own understandings and the information on our website concerning MMIWG including seeking blog posts by those involved in MMIWG advocacy and expanding understanding of and acting on structural reparations--advocacy on issues related to MMIWG.'
- Slow work has gone on in exploring the meaning of money, as advised in our last Elders' consultation. Various Keepers are reading about the meaning of money, mainly from Euro-colonizer perspectives but also including some Indigenous resources. This turns out to be a very complex issue that also demands understanding of issues such as the economy. Plans are in place to have a gathering of Keepers to consolidate the information that is being gathered and to create a set of questions for a next consultation with Elders.
- Some development of potential workshops is taking place in preparation for taking out the message of Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties to wider

groups. Topics planned includes What It Means To Be a Good Treaty Partner, What Are Reparations and Introducing Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties.

- Keeper Ko'ona Saber led us in ceremony on the Winter Solstice.
- Tracking information on reparations projects developed by others resulted in members of the Keepers' Circle sharing information about various ways in which others are working on reparations. This included information on the Treaty Land Sharing Network which developed in Saskatchewan and is now developing in Manitoba.

In the next year with renewed energy we will continue to take this work forward. This seems like a right time to spread the word and invite more people into becoming members and Friends of Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties. The Keepers already have planned for moving ahead with the exploration of money, refining questions to bring to an Elders gathering especially seeking a right structure for decision making over the Reparations Fund. Our goal of spreading the word will be enhanced through the gathering planned for February 2023 with members of diverse faith groups in Winnipeg. We also will have information about Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties at the 6th annual (2022) We Are All Treaty People Celebration which will take place on September 18 from 1-4 pm at The Forks. I look forward to reporting on these and other initiatives in June 2023 when we gather again as the Annual General Meeting of Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties.

Elaine Bishop

Share the Gifts – Honour the Treaties Education Working Group Annual Report

Current Participants: Elaine Bishop, Kathryn Boschmann, Kerry Saner-Harvey, Mary Lysecki, Rafael Terrain, Karin Kirchner, Michael Welch, and Margaret Mullin.

Roles and Participants:

At the last AGM, the Education Working Group committed to recruiting more participants to support the Education Working Group. While this continues to be one of our goals so that we can divided tasks between Education and

Communications Working Group, we are very excited to have been able to welcome Karin Kirchner, Michael Welch, and Margaret Mullin to our team!

Communications:

We posted a short video on the website with Treaty Commissioner Loretta Ross speaking on land and Treaty. This provides a wonderful and accessible introduction to thinking about Treaty relationships. We sent a gift to Sakoieta Widrick as a thank you for his permission to include his beautiful flute music in the video.

We updated the Share the Gifts - Honour the Treaty brochure and are ready to print and distribute it whenever needed. We've also designed a business card for members to easily carry and hand out when they meet someone who is interested in what we do and would like to find more information. The Share the Gifts logo has also been added to all our other existing educational materials.

Kerry and Elaine wrote a new blog post called "Questions about our Reparations Fund" and the rest of the EWG team provided support with editing. The purpose of this blog was to provide a resource to direct people who have questions about the current thinking and intentions around our Reparations Fund. We will be working on a new blog for the website about states and municipalities legislating reparations.

We are continuing to work on updating the website and adding additional resources as they come to our attention. <https://www.honourthetreaties.ca/>
Welcome any feedback...

Workshops and Events:

We have been working on brainstorming workshop ideas and have decided on a few topics to focus on in the future. However, we are currently directing our efforts on organizing a small interfaith round table with around 10 guests from local faith communities. The goal is to discuss Treaty relationships and reparations from different faith perspectives and to build relationships with these communities. This round table is currently scheduled for the afternoon of October 2, 2022, at the Westminster Housing Cooperative.

We are also regularly considering various outreach opportunities and ways to introduce ourselves as a resource for Settler and Newcomer communities who want to become better Treaty partners.

Report prepared by Kathryn Boschmann, 21 August 2022

Share the Gifts Honour the Treaties – AGM Financial Report 2022.09.06

By Treasurer Michael Welch with Elaine Bishop

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 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.

Financial Administration

Towards the end of 2021 Treasurer Irene Greenwood ended her role. We thank Irene warmly for her work on the Keepers’ Circle including her role as Treasurer!

Michael Welch, new member on the Keepers’ Circle accepted the role of Treasurer in early 2022. We thank Michael for taking on this role! In the interim Elaine Bishop, Chair of the Keepers’ Circle finished the 2021 financials and introduced Michael to his new role.

During the year Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties began developing some of the financial procedures that will be needed as the organization grows. This includes contributor tracking and thanking contributors at the end of each fiscal year.

Financials

The financial year for Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties is the calendar year. Consequently the financials presented to the Annual General Meeting are the financials for the year ending December 31, 2021.

o The Operating account received income of \$404. It paid for expenses of \$533.50. The year-end balance was \$1077.09. This means that the operating account, after transferring the annual share of 70% of income to the Reparations Fund for 2020 of \$282.80 the deficit for 2021 is \$412.30.

o The income for the reparations fund was \$145.50 which was made up of the 2020 transfer of \$143.50 with the rest monthly interest on the balance. The year-end balance of the reparations fund is \$1,145.88. Once seventy percent of the income for 2021 is transferred to the Reparations Fund the balance will be \$1,428.68.

Contributors to Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties may indicate that they wish all of their contribution to go to the Reparations Fund. Or they may indicate a willingness to help cover the operating costs of the organizations. In that case 70% of income contributing to operations, excluding grants from other funders, is transferred to the Reparations Fund at the end of each fiscal year.

Since approximately January 2022, to present, Michael Welch as new Treasurer has kept the financial track record of StG-HtT with the occasional assistance of Elaine Bishop. There has been little difficulty so far as most of the action in the group has been more planning than execution. There has been a constant flow from a monthly contributor plus an individual contribution at the beginning of the year. So the group is financially in good shape.

Note about Future Expenses

While the reserves are quite secure for now, I could only comment about expenses on the horizon. An upcoming meeting with faith groups, an important endeavour, is not anticipated to be too cost prohibitive with only costs of meeting space refreshments, tobacco, etc. Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties has been invited to apply for a small grant to cover these expenses.

As the group continues to develop more interest and more meetings of some sort are in store then there will be need to devote more time to finding funds to support this work. And being a reparations-based organization we also want to build the Reparations Fund so that it may contribute to our vision of contributing to reconciliation. Current increases in our costs by only a small amount per month will see restrictions in the not too distant future.

We express our warm appreciation to all contributors to Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties! We encourage all members and supporters to consider whether they feel called to contribute to this work. Contributions to both the operating expenses and the Reparations Fund will be warmly received.

This is looking ahead. Again, given our financial shape we are in no danger of a short fall anytime soon!

Miigwetch,
Michael Welch
Treasurer, StG-HtT

**Share the Gifts Honour the Treaties
2021 Year End Financial Report**

	Details	Income	Expenses	Chq #	Balance	Reconciled
Jan 1					1206.59	Y
Jan 15	Donation EB	15.00			1221.59	Y
Feb 15	Donation EB	15.00			1,236.59	Y
Mar 15	Donation EB	15.00			1251.59	Y
Mar 30	Honorarium to Fearless R2W from MCC grant re website		200.00	22	1,051.59	Y
Apr 15	Donation EB	15.00			1,066.59	Y
May 15	Donation EB	15.00			1,081.59	Y
June 15	Donation EB	15.00				
June 22	Donations various	164,00			1,260.59	Y
July 15	Donation EB	15.00			1,275.59	Y

Share the Gifts Honour the Treaties AGM 2022

Aug15	Donation EB	15.00			1,290.59	Y
Sept 15	Donation EB	15.00			1,305.59	Y
Sept 22	EB for 2019 annual return		40.00	23	1,265.59	Y
Oct 10	S Wedrick for flute music		150.00	24	1,115.59	
Oct 15	Donation EB	15.00			1,130.59	
Oct 18	Transfer to rep Fund for 2020 financial year		143.50	25	987.09	Y
Nov 15	Donation EB	15.00			1,002.09	Y
Dec 10	Deposit ML and KS	60.00			1,062.09	
Dec 15	deposit EB	15.00			1,077.09	Y
2021 12 31	Totals	404.00	533.50		1,077.09	Y
2022 01 13	Gift in kind filing Coop Annual Return	40.00	40.00		1,077.09	Y

2022 01 13	Revised totals	444.00	573.50		1,077.09	Y
-----------------------	-----------------------	---------------	---------------	--	-----------------	----------

**Share the Gifts Honour the Treaties Reparation Fund
2021 Year End Financial Report**

	Details	Income	Expenses	Chq #	Balance	Reconciled
Jan 01	Balance forward				1,000.38	
Jan 31	Interest	0.17			1,000.55	Y
Feb 28	Interest	0.15			1,000.70	
Mar 31	Interest	0.17			1,000.87	
Apr 30	Interest	0.16			1,001.03	
May 31	Interest	0.17			1,001.20	
June 30	Interest	0.16			1,001.36	Y
July 31	Interest	0.17			1,001.53	
Aug 31	Interest	0.17			1,001.70	

Share the Gifts Honour the Treaties AGM 2022

Sept 30	Interest	0.16			1,001.86	
Oct 31	Interest	0.17			1,002.03	
Nov 30	Interest	0.16			1,002.19	
Dec 10	Transfer 70% 2020 op income	143.50			1,145.69	
Dec. 31	Interest	0.19			1,145.88	Y
2021 12 31	Total Income	145.50			1,145.88	Y

Nominating Report to Share the Gifts-Honour the Treaties
4th Annual General Meeting
September 20, 2022

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 Draft 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.

We put forward the following nominations to serve as Keepers of the Circle for a term of two years from September 20, 2022 to the date of the sixth AGM in 2024:

- Elaine Bishop
- Ko’ona Saber

The following Keepers will continue as elected at the 2021 AGM 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

Mary Lysecki

September 20, 2022