



ANNUAL REPORT &  
SERVICE PLAN  
2021-22



30 YEARS SERVING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES





## Contact Us

### WINNIPEG OFFICE

(204) 988-7440

Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Monday through Friday  
346 Portage Avenue, Unit 100  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0C3

### THOMPSON OFFICE

(204) 677-7270

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Monday through Friday  
300 Mystery Lake Road  
Thompson, MB R8N 0M2  
(inside the City Centre Mall)

**TOLL FREE FROM  
ANYWHERE IN MANITOBA:**  
1-800-263-7146

Email: [info@manitobaadvocate.ca](mailto:info@manitobaadvocate.ca)  
**ManitobaAdvocate.ca**



# Land Acknowledgement

The mandate of our office extends throughout the province of Manitoba and we therefore travel and work on a number of Treaty areas. Our offices in southern Manitoba are on Treaty 1 land, and our northern office is on Treaty 5 land. The services we provide to children, youth, young adults, and their families extend throughout the province and throughout Treaty areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 10, which are the traditional territories of the Anishinaabeg, Anishinewuk, Dakota Oyate, Denesuline and Nehethowuk. Part of Manitoba is located on the beautiful homeland of the Red River Métis.

As an organization, we are committed to the principles of decolonization and reconciliation and we strive to contribute in meaningful ways to improve the lives of all children, youth, and young adults, but especially to the lives of First Nations, Metis, and Inuit young people, who continue to be under-served and over-represented in many of the systems which fall under our mandate for advocacy, investigation, research, and review.

With a commitment to social justice and through a rights-based lens, as an office we integrate the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child*, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, the national Truth and Reconciliation Commission's *Calls to Action* and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Inquiry's *Calls for Justice* into our practice. Our hope is that the scope of our work on behalf of children, youth, young adults, and their families contributes to amplifying their voices and results in tangible improvements to their lives and experiences.

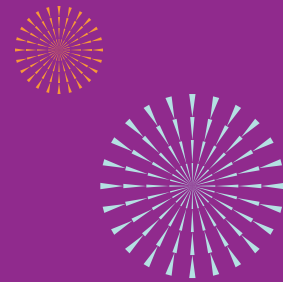
To view our ReconciliAction Framework, which describes the measures and activities we are taking as an office towards reconciliation, please visit: <https://manitobaadvocate.ca/wp-content/uploads/MACY-ReconciliACTION-Framework-Final.pdf>.

Óma ká itakisoyak émámawataskátamák kékwána, mitoni nipakitinisonan ká itastéki anihi ta mawínéskamák éko ta nócitáyák anima mino kakécihitowin éko sóki ni nócitánán óma nántaw ta isi wícihiwéyák ókik kita minénitamihikocik pimácihowin kakinaw awásisak, oskátisak éko anikik anocíké kákí kiskwá opikicik, wáwís anikik opimácihoniwáw Anisinápéwak, Ápatiwiwosisának, éko anikik ká oskátisicik Kíwétinowininiwak, éka isi ékwanikok étépi mino paminicik éko mína náspic é miscéticik óma é macitótácik éko é maci kinawénimicik wina óma ninanán ká isi kinawápatamák anihi ayamihistamakéwin, kakwécikémona natonikéhi kiskénitamona, éko tánisi ká kitwám ká isi kinawápacikátéki óhi ká tápitawi nócitáyák.

**2008**

Ceremony in 2008 for proclamation of Bill 11.





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# About Our Office

## Dibaajimowin owi Ndo Nakii Gamigonaa

The Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth (MACY) is an independent and non-partisan office of the Manitoba Legislative Assembly. That means we are separate and apart from the Government of Manitoba.

Owi Manitoba Geganoodamaaged gewe Binoojiinig miinwaa Eshkiniigijig (MACY) aawon e-njike gaabiwiimigag miinwaa gaawii gwaya misenimaasig nakii gamig owi Manitoba Inaakinigewin Ogimaag. Owi idamomigad ndo bakesing miinwaa bkaan nigoji owi gimaawin owi Manitoba.

Our role is to represent the rights and amplify the voices and opinions of all children, youth, and young adults in Manitoba. The Manitoba Advocate receives its mandate through *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act* (ACYA). The mandate includes:

**Advocacy Services** – to support, assist, inform, and advise children, youth, young adults, and their families on designated services.

**Serious Injury and Child Death Reviews and Investigations** – to review, investigate, and report on the serious injuries and deaths of children, youth, and young adults.

**Research** – to conduct research on designated services to improve the effectiveness and responsiveness of those services.

**Monitoring** – to monitor the implementation of recommendations made in investigations or special reports.

**Public Education and Youth Engagement** – to raise awareness and understanding of the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child*. To assist and inform children, youth, young adults, and their families in accessing designated services and promote the best interests of the child.

**Advice to Ministers** – to advise the ministers responsible for designated services. Designated services are the child and youth serving systems that the Manitoba Advocate has a responsibility to monitor. These include the provincial systems of child welfare, adoption, disabilities, education, mental health, addictions, victim supports, and youth justice.

# Our Mission, Vision, Values

### MISSION

We amplify the voices and champion the rights of children, youth, and young adults.

### VISION

A safe and healthy society that hears, includes, values, and protects all children, youth, and young adults.

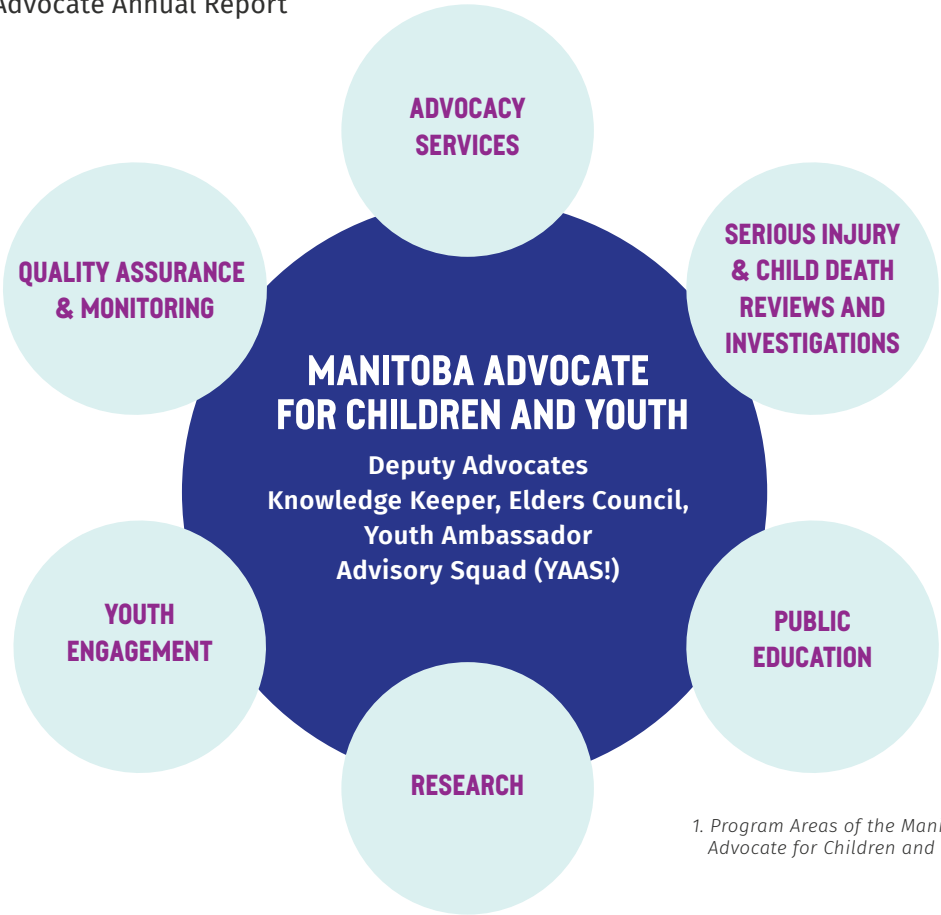
### VALUES

Child-centredness, equity, respect, accountability, independence.



### 2008

The 2008 Santa Claus Parade passes the MACY office on Portage Avenue.



1. Program Areas of the Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth

### PROGRAM AREAS

The Manitoba Advocate has two offices in Winnipeg and one in Thompson. There are six program areas and each works collaboratively to respond to individual and systemic issues challenging the rights of children, youth, and young adults in Manitoba. This includes the work, insight, and inspiration of the Youth Ambassador Advisory Squad! (YAAS!). (Figure 1).

### CULTURAL SUPPORTS

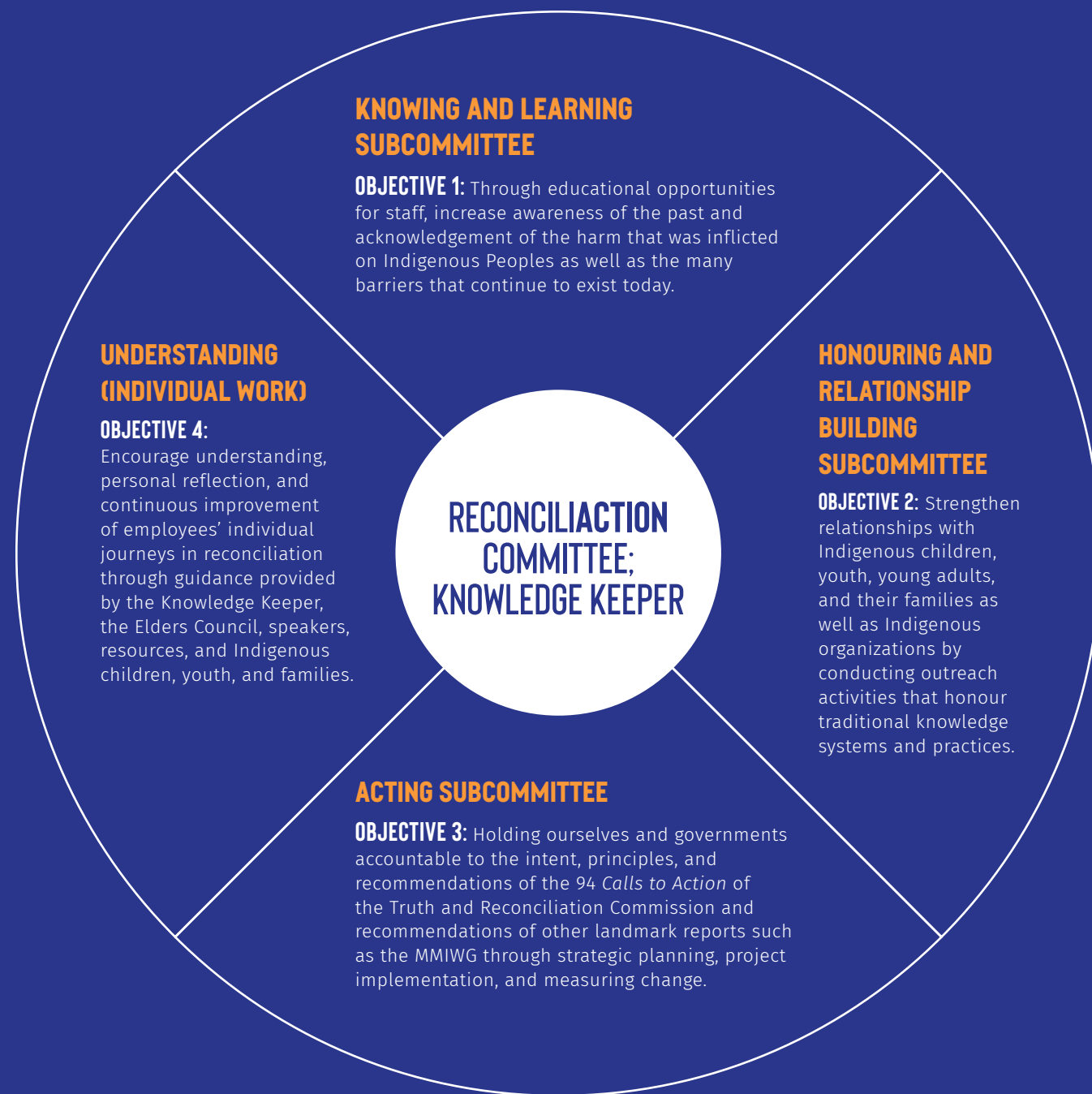
To ensure the Manitoba Advocate is culturally-safe and reflective of the children and youth it serves, we seek guidance and direction from the Knowledge Keeper in service areas. They assist us in providing ceremony on request of children, youth, young adults, and their families. We also consult with the Elders Council in service delivery and seek guidance in report writing. The Elders provide support to the Advocate in ensuring that we respect and are following the 7 teachings when we release reports and findings.

### THE CANADIAN COUNCIL OF CHILD AND YOUTH ADVOCATES

The Manitoba Advocate is a member of the Canadian Council of Child and Youth Advocates (CCCYA). The CCCYA is an association of government-appointed, independent children’s advocates and one ombudsperson from ten provinces and two territories: Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Nunavut, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Saskatchewan, and the Yukon.

### RECONCILIATION

Our office is committed to reconciliation and decolonization. We host an internal ReconciliACTION committee, which is guided by a ReconciliACTION framework and focuses on three components: learning, taking actions, and honouring and building relationships with First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Peoples and Nations.



“

It’s hard not to take on the struggles of the kids we advocate for. Having Knowledge Keeper support has showed me really helpful avenues for taking care of myself, while helping provide care, support, and advocacy to children and youth.

—MACY STAFF MEMBER

”





1993

**The Office of the Children's Advocate opens;** however, the Advocate reports to the Minister responsible for child and family services (CFS) and its mandate is within *The Child and Family Services Act*.



2008

**Child Death Investigations Unit opens** when the responsibility to review and investigate child deaths is moved from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, to the Office of the Children's Advocate.

1991

**Canada ratifies the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)**

2013

**The Wavy Guy, our happy, friendly mascot is born.**

Wavy Guy immediately begins handing out hugs and high fives and promoting children's rights and sweet dance moves.



# KEY MILESTONES

1985

**Release of the Kimelman Report**

that reviewed the practice in Manitoba of apprehensions and adoptions of First Nations and Métis children into non-Indigenous families, known today as the Sixties Scoop. The report recommended the development of an independent "child protector's office" to ensure that all children coming into care have their interests protected, and to receive and investigate complaints about the child welfare system.

1999

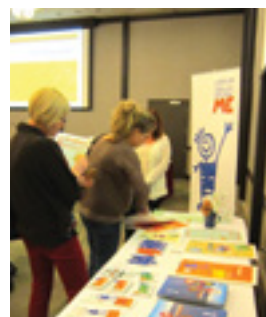
**The Advocate becomes an Independent Officer**

that reports to the Manitoba Legislative Assembly instead of a government Minister. Yet, the mandate of the office remains embedded within *The Child and Family Services Act*, meaning only children and youth involved with CFS are eligible for support from the Children's Advocate.

2012

**The Public Education Unit opens**

with a focus on promoting the work of the Children's Advocate and increasing awareness of the services available to Manitoba families.



2014

**Release of the Final Report of the Phoenix Sinclair Inquiry**

which recommended the development of stand-alone legislation for the Advocate and to extend its mandate beyond the child welfare system to "all children and youth in the province who are receiving or are eligible to receive any publicly funded service."

2015

**Release of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada**

2016

**Canada adopts the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

2017

**The new Advocate for Children and Youth Act (ACYA) passes**

with unanimous support from all parties in the provincial legislature. The new legislation ensures independence of the office and provides the Manitoba Advocate with expanded domains beyond child welfare. This marks the first time in Manitoba law that the UNCRC is mentioned.

2021

**Expansion of reviewable services to include mental health, addictions, and youth justice** which allows the Advocate to review and investigate the deaths and serious injuries of children and youth that had contact with those systems within a year of their deaths.

2013

**The Quality Assurance Program is established.**

The goal of this unit was initially to ensure quality services and continuous improvement in office programs. As of 2018, the unit is also charged with monitoring compliance with recommendations issued by the Manitoba Advocate under *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act*.

2018

**The Advocate for Children and Youth Act comes into force**

which allows the Advocate to publish special reports, make formal recommendations to additional departments and organizations, and track compliance progress on these recommendations publicly.

2019

**Establishment of the Youth Ambassador Advisory Squad! (YAAS!), the Elder's Council and the Knowledge Keeper position.**



# Message from the Acting Advocate for Children and Youth

It's a genuine honour to serve as Acting Manitoba Advocate as we approach the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of when our office opened. While the last three decades have brought enormous changes to our organization, one thing has remained the same: our commitment to Manitoba children and youth and to realizing the vision of a safe and healthy society that hears, includes, values, and protects all children, youth, and young adults in Manitoba.

## Our Journey

The journey of our office follows the growing recognition that children have inherent rights, and that governments, including the Government of Manitoba, have corresponding obligations to children and families. An independent and non-partisan office like ours, with the power to evaluate and investigate public services, is essential to public accountability.

This annual report focuses on our story as an office, beginning with the landmark Kimelman Report on the Sixties Scoop that led to our opening in 1993. Our journey also included the Phoenix Sinclair Inquiry report in 2014, which was the impetus for the enactment of our current legislation, *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act* (ACYA). Today, our mandate has expanded beyond child and family and adoption services and we now also provide advocacy

supports and oversight for services including disability, education, youth justice, mental health, addictions, and victim support services.

For the past 30 years, the office of the Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth (MACY) has played an essential role in supporting and advocating for families as they navigate complex systems. This has included reviewing and investigating child deaths, reporting on systemic issues, conducting child-centred research, amplifying young voices, and hatching innovations for real and sustained change in the lives of young people and their families. The achievements of the office have been possible thanks to a multi-disciplinary team of passionate and dedicated child advocates who work every day to serve Manitobans.



**Ainsley Krone, MA PC-IIC, RSW**  
A/Manitoba Advocate for  
Children and Youth

## The Future

Looking ahead, we will continue to be an office that centres the needs and rights of young people as we contribute to moving Manitoba forward to that vision where public policy and provincial services prioritize the safety and full potential of all young people across our province. This future involves continuing to work in meaningful collaboration with First Nations, Metis, and Inuit governments and communities in a spirit of reconciliation. All Manitobans are invited to join us in working to strengthen government accountability to the rights and experiences of children, youth, and young adults.

As we celebrate this milestone 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, I am grateful to the thousands of young people, their families, service providers, and community members who we have had the privilege to work with and advocate for over these many years. Thank you for trusting us with your stories, ideas, and opinions.

Sincerely,

**Ainsley Krone MA PC-IIC, RSW**  
A/Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth



# Message de la protectrice des enfants et des jeunes du Manitoba par intérim

C'est un véritable honneur pour moi d'agir comme protectrice du Manitoba à l'aube du 30<sup>e</sup> anniversaire de l'ouverture de notre Bureau. Notre organisme a grandement changé au cours des trois dernières décennies, mais une chose est demeurée la même : notre engagement à l'égard des enfants et des jeunes du Manitoba ainsi qu'à l'égard de la concrétisation de notre vision consistant à avoir une société sûre et en santé qui écoute, rassemble, valorise et protège tous les enfants, les jeunes et les jeunes adultes au Manitoba.

## Notre parcours

Notre parcours suit la reconnaissance croissante du fait que les enfants ont des droits inhérents, et que les gouvernements, y compris le gouvernement du Manitoba, ont des obligations correspondantes envers les enfants et les familles. Un bureau indépendant et non partisan comme le nôtre, ayant le pouvoir d'évaluer les services publics et d'enquêter sur eux, est essentiel pour rendre des comptes à la population.

Le présent rapport annuel porte sur notre histoire, en commençant par l'historique rapport Kimelman sur la rafle des années soixante, qui a donné lieu à l'ouverture de notre bureau en 1993. Notre parcours comprend aussi le rapport d'enquête sur la mort de Phoenix Sinclair, publié en 2014, qui a entraîné l'adoption de notre loi actuelle, la *Loi sur le protecteur des enfants et des jeunes*. Aujourd'hui, notre mandat s'est élargi au-delà de la prestation de services à l'enfant et à la famille et de services

d'adoption; nous offrons également du soutien pour la défense des droits et la surveillance des services, notamment les services aux personnes handicapées, d'éducation, de justice pour les jeunes, de santé mentale, de lutte contre la toxicomanie et de soutien aux victimes.

Nous jouons, depuis les 30 dernières années, un rôle essentiel dans le soutien des familles et la défense de leurs droits au sein de systèmes complexes. Notamment, nous examinons les décès d'enfants et enquêtons sur eux, faisons des rapports sur les enjeux systémiques, menons des recherches axées sur les enfants, amplifions les voix des jeunes, et introduisons des innovations visant à apporter des changements réels et soutenus dans la vie des jeunes et de leur famille. Nos réalisations ont été possibles grâce à une équipe multidisciplinaire de défenseurs des enfants passionnés et dévoués qui œuvrent tous les jours au service des Manitobains



**Ainsley Krone, MA PC-IIC,**  
travailleuse sociale autorisée  
Protectrice des enfants et des  
jeunes du Manitoba par intérim

## L'avenir

Regardant vers l'avenir, nous demeurons axés sur les besoins et les droits des jeunes alors que nous contribuons à faire progresser le Manitoba vers la vision selon laquelle les politiques publiques et les services provinciaux accordent la priorité à la sécurité et au plein potentiel de tous les jeunes de la province. Cet avenir comprend la poursuite de la collaboration fructueuse avec les gouvernements et les collectivités des Premières Nations, des Métis et des Inuits dans un esprit de réconciliation. Tous les Manitobains sont invités à se joindre à notre travail pour renforcer la responsabilité du gouvernement à l'égard des droits et des expériences des enfants, des jeunes et des jeunes adultes.

À l'occasion de ce 30<sup>e</sup> anniversaire, je suis reconnaissante aux milliers de jeunes, à leur famille, aux fournisseurs de services et aux membres des collectivités avec qui nous avons eu le privilège de travailler et de faire valoir les droits des enfants et des jeunes au cours de ces nombreuses années. Je vous remercie de nous faire confiance avec vos histoires, vos idées et vos opinions.

Sincerely,

**Ainsley Krone MA PC-IIC,**  
travailleuse sociale autorisée  
Protectrice des enfants et des  
jeunes du Manitoba par intérim

# Nistomitanaw askíya aspin kákí máci itácik anikik Atoskéwikamik ká ayamihistamawát óta Manitoba Awásisak éko Oskátisak

Mitoni nikisténimonán óma kákípe itatoskéyák Manitoba é ayamihistawamáyákok éko ékwani óma nistomitanaw askíya ásay ispík nistom kákípáskiténamák ékotowa atoskéwikamikos. Óma kakípe isi nócikeyák kákípe askíwakiy nistomitanaw mistahi kékwána kípé má méskwaténitákonwa, máka péyak kékwán péyakwan kiyápic ési paminamák: kákí pakitinisoyák ta wíciyáyákok anikik óta Manitoba awásisak éko oskátisak éko mína éki wápatamák óma ité takí péyatakénitákik éko ta mino ayániwak ta natotawácik, ta nákcayácik awásisa, oskátisa éko anikik anohc kákí kiskwá opikicik óta Manitoba.

## Nititátsiwininán

Óma kákípe itátisistamák kékwána anté nitatoskéwikamikosinák ni nistawinénán óma anikik awásisak é ayácik ta oci nákcihicik asotamáminikowisiwina, éko anihi kici wanasowéwikimáwa, ékota wísta Government of Manitoba, ayáwak pápéyakwan itasowéwina kita oci mino paminácik anikik awásisa éko kakinaw owícisániwáwa. Ká péyakwataskátamák éko móna-awiyak tipénitam óma atoskéwikamikos, éko nititakisonán éko nikakí natawi nanátonikéwi kiskéniténán kékwániw wéci ispaniki anihi maci nócitáwina, éko piko kakinaw awiyak ta kiskénitákik óma ékosi éki itócikániwak ité éko éka táti pisci wanitotamonaniwak ékwéniw oci.

Óma tanto askíy ká pakitinikáték ácinókéwi masinahikan wésám piko wítam tánisi óma kákípe isi ácitáyák kita itatoskéyák óta óci, kákí oci mácipanik anima Kimelman Report ká isinikátákik ispík ókik Ininiwi awásisak kákí yá otinick wíkiwák oci Sixties Scoop kákí itakik éko anta isko inikok nistom kákípáskiténamák nitiskwátémínáni 1993 é askíwak. Anima mína níkipé atoskáténán Phoenix Sinclair Inquiry natonikéwi kiskénitamona kákí másinahikáték 2014 é askíwak, wina ékota kákí oci mácitáyák ta takok anima kici okimáwiwin wanasowéwin, The Advocate for Children and Youth

Act (ACYA) ká itakik. Anóhc ká kiskák, anihi ká sákóciy pimitisayamák móna piko awásisak éko owícisániwáwa ká kitinick kita opikihicik éko awásisak pamitáwina ni nócitánán máka mína ni tayamihistamawánánik éko mitoni papéyatak nikanawápaténán anihi kotaka nanátok paminikéwina tápiskóc anihi ká máskisinániwak, kiskinawámákéwina, oskátis ká isi wanasowátit, mamitonénicikaniwin, maci mácikwaspisowina, éko anikik kákípe nóti kitimáspinaticik nántaw isi.

Ékwáni óma kákípe nistomitanaw askíwaki, anikik Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth (MACY) mistahi kípé sítoskamákéwak éko ékipé ayamishitamáwácik anikik kámamawikamicik kita nisitotákik anihi nanátok kici okimáwiwin itasowéwina. Ékota óhi kítwám papéyatak éki kinawápatamák anihi awásisak kákí sasci póni pimátisicik, tánisi ká is paminick kici okimáwinik oci, ká natonikátéki kékwániw wéci macipanihikot awa awásis, ta sóki wíciákapawistawit awa awásis óma ispík nántaw kici kékwán káwí itwét, éko ká nato kocitániwaki kita minotótákocik ta minwápacitácik óma káti kisi opikicik ókik oskátisak éko éténitamiyácik aniki wícisániwáwa ékwéniw oci. Anihi kákí isi kaskitáyák kawisk kita isi itócikániwaki awásisiwi



**Ainsley Krone, MA PC-IIC, RSW**  
A/Manitoba Advocate for  
Children and Youth

paminikéwina óta oci nitatoskéwikamikonák kí ispaniw wina éki māmwi-kiskénitaniy wítatoskátaniwaki épakiténitákik kawisk kita atoskástamawácik ininiwa óta ta mino kinawápacicik Manitoba tanto kiskáw. young voices, and hatching innovations for real

## Óté Níkanik

Óté nikanik nika kinawápaténan óma kita tapitawi itápaták óma óta atoskéwikamikok ta nócitayák anihi kékwán ké natawénitákik éko mína anihi kici okimáwiwin asotámatowina ókik oci oskátisak éko óma mína étapitawi nikanitisayámak óhi Manitoba kici okimáwiwin wanasowéwina éko anihi nanátok paminikéwina énikanakitéki awásis omíno pamihikowin éko ta tápitawi papéyatákénimot ana awásis óta Manitoba kiyam piko ité ké wíkit. Óma ká isi wápatamák ta isi atoskátamák kita tápitawi mino wítatoskémáyákok anikik Anisinápéwak, Ápatawikosísanak éko Kíwétinowininiwi kici okimáwiwina éko anihi ká ayácik ité itáwina wina inikok ta paminakik ékota oci anima mino kakécihitowin. Kakinaw ininiwak óta ka wíciáki Manitoba wíkomáwak tapé wícihikoyákok óma ká atoskátamák ta kécináhonániwak anihi kici okimáwiwin wanasowéwina é wíkwóstkak ta takoki éko ta ápataki asotamátowina éko táti mino ayácik piko ita ité isi ókik awásisak oskátisak éko anikik kákí kisi opikicik.

and sustained change in the lives of young people and their families. The achievements of the office have been possible thanks to a multi-disciplinary team of passionate and dedicated child advocates who work every day to serve Manitobans.

Óma ká minawácikátamák éki otitamák nistomitanaw ispík kákí mácitáyák óma itatoskéwin, ni nanáskomáwák anikok kákípe ispítéyaticik épé natikoyákok ókik oskátisak, owícisániwáwa, nanátok opaminikéwak, éko anikik ininiwak ité ká ayácik itáwina óma inikok kákí minopanihikoyák kita wítatoskémáyákok éko kákípe ayamihistawámáyákok ékoma ispík. Míkwéc itáwak anikik kákí tápwékénimikoyákok óma ta ácimostákoyokok otácinókéwiníwáwa, ká inténitákik oci kékwána éko ká isi wítakik éyako.

Mitoni Nitápwéwokénitákosin,

**Ainsley Krone MA PC-IIC, RSW**

A/Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth



# Omasinahikan Manitoba Okanociketamaake

Maawac ninkiciinentaan ci yinanokiiyaan Kaani Ahkoshkawak Manitoba Okanociketamaake aasha ahpin nihsomitanawiyahki nintofciminaan kaakii paahkinikaatek. Aanawiin nihswaa mitaahsomitanawiyaki mishtahi kekon kiipi aancinaakwan nimpimowicikewininaank, peshik kekon mii peshikwan eshi naakwahk: kaa ishi pakitinintisoyaank ci wiichankic Manitoba aapinonciishihshak miina oshkaatisak miina citepinikaatek inaapishinowin keyishi peyatakatisiwaac miina mashkawaatisiwaac ke nontaakowaac, kaye, kaa kiciinentamowaac, miina kanawenimaac kakina aapinonciishihshan, oshkaatisak, miina kaani kiishikiwaac piinci Manitoba.

## Nimpimosewininaan

Opimosewiniwaa nintofciminaan opiminisha-haan kaani nisitawencikaatek aapinonciishihsh ehomanito wimiinikowisowinic, miina Okimaak, kaye Okimaa Manitoba, otayaan kewinci papaami-siikantawaac aapinonciishihshan miina otipencikewininiink. Kaa peshikokaapawiimakak miina ekaa peshik awiyan kaa onci peshwenimaac tapishkoc niinawint nintofciminaan, ehomashkawisiwiniyaank ci kotentamaank miina naanaakacihankic opimowiciketamaakewinan, maawac kiciinenta-akwan ci shaapwaahtenaakwak wiicihiwewin.

Ohowe tahso aki tipaacimowin otipaataa nintofciminaan, nishtam kici tipaacimowin Kimelman Aaci-mowin Ninkotwaasomitana Kaakii Manipahintwaa kaakii onci paahkinikeyaank 1993. Ninkii anokaata-min kaye Phoenix Sinclair nanaantawikikencikewin tipaacimowin 2004, miihimaa kaakii onci maacisek nintonaakonikewininaan nonkom, The Advocate for Children and Youth Act (ACYA) Aapinonciishihsh Onaakonikewin. Nonkom kaa kiishikaak, nintanoki-iwininaan onci mishaa awashime aapinonciishihsh miina tipencikewinink miina otaahpinaawahsow-in miina nonkom kaye ninkanocike tamaakemin

miina nintonci kanawenimaamin omaahkisiik, otishkoniiwiniwaa, Oshkaatis Mino Totaakewin, Mamitonencikan wiicihiwewin, Apacikcikewaah-pinewinan, miina Omiikaanaakan owiichikowinan.

Nihsomitanawiyahki otaanaank, Manitoba Aapinon-ciishihsh miina Oshkaatis Okanociketamaake (MACY) okii pi kici wiicihaan miina ekanociketamawaac Tipencikewinan aanimacikewinink ci shaaposh-kaminic. Kaye ci naanaakatawentank miina ci nanaantonank aapinonciishihshan kaakii onci ishkwaac ayaanic, ci tipaatotank monshak ekaa kaa minosenik kekonini, aapinonciishihshan oma-cisewininiin ci naanaakata wentank, ci kano-ciketamawaac oshkaatisan, miina ci oshitoc ke mino wiichikonic opimaatisowininink Oshkaatisan miina otipencikewininiink. Okash-kihowiniwaank anokiinaakanak onci ishiseni emishiinwa yekishkamiwaac otanokiiwiniwaa kaa saakitowaac miina kaa pakitinitisowaac ci anokawaawaac Manitoba kaa onciinic.



**Ainsley Krone, MA PC-IIC, RSW**  
A/Manitoba Advocate for  
Children and Youth

## Niikaan

Niikaan inaapiwin, mii piko kiyaapi nintanoki-iwininaan ketotamaank nenaawiyahi ci ayaanic aapinon ciishihsh onontesewin miina omashkawisiwin oshkaatis niikaan ahpin kaani maaciiwininc Manitoba aanti onaahkonikewin miina ahkiwikimaa owiicihiwewinan kaa niikaanatoc kahkina oshkaatisan ci tepi wiicihaac. Ohowe tash niikaan tocikewin kiyaapi ci wiitanokiimintwaa Anishininiwak, Wihsaahkotewinini wak, miina Kici Kiiwetinonk Anishininiwak otokimaawin-iwaa miina apiwinak wiitatisiimitowinink onci. Kahkina Manitobans kakwecimaawak ci wiitanokiimikoyaank ci mashkawatenik opapaamisiikancikewini waa aapinonciishi-hshan, Oshkaatisan miina kici Oshkaatisak.

Ohowe kaani kikinawaacitoyak nihsomitanawiyaki, maawac ninkiciinenimaak kici mishiinwaa mitaahso mitana oshkaatisak, otipencikewiniwaank, owiicihiwek, miina Anishininiwak kaakii ishisewaac ci wiitano kiimaawaac miina ci kanociketamawaawaac ohowe ishi mishiinoyaki. Miikwec kaakii tepakenimishiyaank ki tipaacimowiniwaa ci nontamaank, kitinentamowiniwaa, miina kitikitowiniwaa.

Tepwewinink,

**Ainsley Krone MA PC-IIC, RSW**  
A/Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth

# Wiindamaagewin owa Manitoba Geganoodamaaged

Aapaji gwa nigichi nendam awii nankii-aan aawiyaan Kowe Aawiyaan Manitoba Geganoodamaaged ani digoshinang owi nisimidana biboon minaajichige-aang owi apii agaa nisaakising ndo nakii gamigonaa. Aanwi gwa nisimidana biboon agii temigad gichi niibana aanjichigewinan ndo wiiji-nakiindiwin, bezhig naasaab agii aabaji aawon: ndo getinaamendamami gewe Manitoba binoojiinig miinwaa eshkiniigijig miinwaa agii waabmdamiwaad owi naabmdamiwin owi e’waankiiwendaagwog miinwaa mina yaawin aanikoominodewiwin e’nondang, digowenjiged, shpenjigaaziwaad, miinwaa gnowenjigaaziwaad kina binoojiinig, eshkiniigijig, miinwaa shki netaawigijig zhiwe Manitoba.

## Ndo Maadaadiziwin

Owi maadaadiziwin ndo nakiigamigonaa nopinadaan owi myaajiiging nisidwaabmjigaademigag gewe binoojiinig ado yaanaa-aa inin dibiniweziwiniwaa, miinwaa gewe gimaawinan, e’digosing Gimaawin owi Manitoba, ado yaanaa-aa naasaab yaawong inaangizhewiniwaa gewe binoojiinig miinwaa inodewiziwinan. E-njike gaabiwiimigag miinwaa gaawii gwaya misenimaasig nakii gamig dibishko niiniwi ndo nakiigamigonaa, owi mashkoziwin ayaamaang awii dibaabmdamaang miinwaa nanaadawi-gikendamaang bemaadizijig zhichigewinan, niigaanendaagwod owi bemaadizijig naanaagijiwewin.

Maanda nigo biboon wiindamaagewin ado ginowaabmdaan ndo dibaajimowininnaa aawong nakii-gamig, onji maajitaamigag owi gikinwaajichigan Kimelman Wiindamaagewin owi Sixties Scoop agaa onji nisaakinigaademigag apii 1993. Ndo maadaadiziwinnaa age digosin owi Phoenix Sinclair Nda-gikenjigewin wiindamaagewin apii 2014, agaa aawong owi agaanji maajitaamigag owi inaakinigaademigag owi megwaa etemigag naaknigewin, The Advocate for Children and Youth Act (ACYA). Nongo giizhigad, ndo inaangizhewininnaa agii maajiigin baashkijiwiing owi binoojiin miinwaa inodewiziwin miinwaa baminigewin zhichigewinan miinwaa nongo age ndo miigwenaa geganooodamaagewin aasgaabiwitaagewinan

miinwaa naagizowaabmdamaang zhichigewinan e’digosing mimaanjimizing, gikinomaadiwin, eshkiniigijig gwayak doodamowin, inendamowin mina yaawin, odadisigiwaan, miinwaa goopajichigaazad aasgaabwitaage zhichigewinan.

Newen agaa bimisemigag nisimidana biboon, owi nakii-gamig owi Manitoba Geganoodamaaged gewe Binoojiinig miinwaa Eshkiniigijig (MACY) agii nankiiwog nendowendaagwog nankiiwin owi aasgaabiwitaagaaziwaad miinwaa geganooodamowindwaa gewe inodewiziwinag ani zhiibaashkaawaad gechi zinagag zhichigewinan. Maanda age digosin aanji nda-gikenjigaademigag minwaa nda-gikenjigaademigag binoojiinig agaa nibojig, wiindamaageng newen izhichigewin maanaadag, zhitoong binoojiinig-memdage nda-gikenjigewin, ishpaamigag eshkiniigijig giigidowinan, miinwaa bimaajitoong shkiwii zhichigewinan owi gegeti yaawong miinwaa aabajitemigag aanjichigewin zhiwe bimaadiziwinnaa gewe eshki nitaawigijig miinwaa inodewiziniwaan. Newen gashkichigewinan owi nakii-gamig agii gazhkichigaademigad miigwetchiwiindwaa nowoonj gego e-nankiijig waaji nakiindijig gewe meshkowendamajig miinwaa gegetinaamendamajig binoojiin geganooodamaagejig ensa giizhigad getchi naakiijig awii nakiitwaawaad Manitoba bemaadizijig.



**Ainsley Krone, MA PC-IIC, RSW**  
**A/Manitoba Advocate for**  
**Children and Youth**

## Owi Niigaan

Niigan naabing, nga abajitaami aawiyaang nakii-gamig naanigwiwiing etemigag newen nendowendaagwog miinwaa dibineziwiniwaa gewe eshki nitaawigijig owi ezhi miigwe-aang ani maajiishkaamigag Manitoba niigaan owi waabmjigewin zhiwe bemaadizijig naakinigewin miinwaa kiinsing zhichigewinan ntam aawong owi waankiiwin miinwaa owi kina epiichi gashkitowaad gewe oshki nitaawigijig maziwe gdo kiinsnaa. Owi niigaan digo temigag aabajitaa-aang nakii-aang owi getchi piitendaagwog wiiji nakiindiwin gewe Anishinaabeg, Wiisakode miinwaa Eshkiimewi gimaawinan miinwaa odenwinan zhiwe owi inendamowin mina ginoondiwin. Kina bemaadizijig maampii Manitoba wiikijinigaaziwog awii wiiji nakiimigo-aang awii mashkochigaademigag gimaawin naanaagijiwewin newen dibiniweziwinan miinwaa bimaadiziwinnaa gewe binoojiinig, eshkiniigijig miinwaa oshki nitaawigijig.

Epiichi minaajito-ing maanda gikinwaajichigan nisimidana biboon minaajichigewin, ndo miigwechendam gewe gichi niibna midaaswaak oshki nitaawijig, ado inodewiziwinnaa, izhichigewin maagwejjig, miinwaa odenwining debendaagozijig agaa debizii-aan wiiji nakiimigwaa miinwaa geganooodamowaad ninda niibina nisa biboon. Miigwetch agii penimandoyaang newen gdo dibaajimowiniwaan, inendamowiniwaan miinwaa enendamowiniwaan.

Niin sa,

**Ainsley Krone MA PC-IIC, RSW**  
**A/Manitoba Geganoodamaaged gewe**  
**Binoojiinig miinwaa Eshkiniigijig**



# Message from the Incoming Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth

**Sherry Gott** MSW, RSW  
Appointed October 17, 2022



On October 17, 2022, Sherry Gott was appointed to a 5-year term as the new Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth. Sherry is a member of Sapotaweyak Cree Nation and speaks the Swampy Cree dialect. She graduated in 2019 from the University of Manitoba with a Master of Social Work degree.

Sherry has worked in various capacities in her 30-year career in social services from front line worker, Supervisor, Senior Manager, Acting CEO at the CFS authority level, including some time at the Manitoba Advocate office as a Deputy in the Advocacy Unit. She acknowledges all the Elders and community members in supporting her and mentoring her in this work; she seeks guidance at every opportunity as this keeps her grounded.

Sherry received an award from the Aboriginal Social Work Society of Manitoba in 2011 for her contributions to the community.

In her new role as the Manitoba Advocate, Sherry plans to continue the work to amplify the voices of children, youth, young adults, and their families. As community building is an area of focus for Sherry, she also intends to focus on creating strong relationships with all youth-serving organizations in the province. Further, Sherry will work to engage and create relationships with Indigenous communities and organizations throughout the province. Internally, Sherry looks forward to continuing MACY’s efforts to work from a decolonized lens and support the ongoing commitments of the office as described in MACY’s ReconciliACTION Framework.

**Sherry would like to acknowledge and thank the previous work done by the Acting Advocate and the staff at MACY.**

# Executive Summary

This annual report highlights the results achieved by our office between April 2021 and March 2022.

It provides an overview of our activities and initiatives, including:

- Events we participated in throughout the year, including I Love to Read Month and various webinars;
- Program updates from Advocacy Services, Youth Engagement, Public Education, Investigations and Child Death Reviews, and Research;
- The Knowledge Keeper's Report and an update from the Elder's Council;
- An overview of the special reports released in 2021-22 based on child death investigations and research on systemic advocacy issues;
- Formal recommendations issued to improve provincial child-serving systems.

This report also contains an annual financial report, outlines our 2021-22 and 2022-23 service plans, lists our team members, and shares successes from the past year.

2,721	requests for advocacy services
966	complex advocacy cases opened
1,255	children, youth, and young adults supported with complex advocacy supports
196	formal Manitoba child death notifications received
32	child death reviews completed
15	child death investigations completed
4	special reports completed
	1 report card on government compliance
	1 report based on the investigations of 45 boys who died by suicide and homicide
	1 report on the use of segregation and solitary confinement in youth custody facilities
	1 report summarizing the voices and priorities of young Manitobans
1	submission to the Manitoba Homelessness Strategy
1	peer-reviewed article published
5	formal recommendations issued to public bodies, based on concerns arising from child death investigations and systemic research on children's rights issues
323	children and youth who received educational boxes with rights-based activities for National Child Day
32,144	Thrival Kits™ delivered to students in partnership with the Canadian Mental Health Association – Manitoba and Winnipeg

# Sommaire

Le présent rapport annuel souligne les résultats atteints par notre bureau entre avril 2021 et mars 2022. Il donne un aperçu de nos activités et initiatives.

Il donne un aperçu de nos activités et initiatives, notamment :

- les activités auxquelles nous avons participé au cours de l'année, comme le mois de la lecture et différents séminaires en ligne;
- les mises à jour des programmes des services de défense des droits, de mobilisation des jeunes, d'éducation du public, d'enquêtes et d'examens portant sur les décès d'enfants, et de recherche;
- le rapport de la gardienne du savoir et une mise à jour du conseil des aînés;
- un aperçu des rapports spéciaux publiés en 2021-2022 au sujet des enquêtes portant sur les décès d'enfants et de la recherche sur les questions systémiques relatives à la défense des droits;
- la formulation de recommandations officielles pour améliorer les systèmes provinciaux servant les enfants.

Le rapport contient également un rapport financier annuel, énonce nos plans de services de 2021-2022 et de 2022-2023, présente la liste des membres de notre équipe et fait part de nos réussites.

2,721	demandes de services de défense des droits
966	dossiers complexes ouverts en matière de défense des droits
1,255	enfants, jeunes et jeunes adultes recevant des services d'aide pour des dossiers complexes en matière de défense des droits
196	avis officiels reçus concernant le décès d'enfants au Manitoba
32	examens sur le décès d'enfants réalisés
15	enquêtes sur le décès d'enfants réalisées
4	rapports spéciaux produits
	1 fiche de rendement sur la conformité du gouvernement avec des recommandations officielles
	1 rapport sur les enquêtes de 45 garçons décédés par suicide ou homicide
	1 rapport sur l'utilisation des pratiques d'isolement et d'isolement cellulaire dans les lieux de garde pour adolescents
	1 rapport résumant les voix et les priorités des jeunes manitobains
1	soumission à la Stratégie du Manitoba en matière d'itinérance
1	article revu par des pairs et publié
5	recommandations officielles formulées à l'intention des organismes publics, basées sur les préoccupations soulevées dans le cadre des enquêtes sur les décès d'enfants et de la recherche systémique sur les questions relatives aux droits des enfants
323	enfants et jeunes ayant reçu des boîtes éducatives contenant des activités axées sur les droits à l'occasion de la Journée nationale de l'enfant
32,144	trousses Thrival Kits™ remises aux élèves en partenariat avec l'Association canadienne pour la santé mentale – Manitoba et Winnipeg

# Naagaanizid Maandobiigewin

Maanda nigo biboon wiindamaagewin waabmdowemigad newen agaa gashkitchigaademigag ndo nakii-gamig biitwi-iing Ishkigamizige-giizis 2021 miinwaa Onaabidin-giizis 2022.

Owi Miigwemigad maamowibiigan agaa nankii-aang miinwaa maajitaawinan, e'digosing:

- Inakimigadoon agii digoyaa-aang gabe biboon, e'digotemigag N'bishgendaan Gindaasiyaan Giizis miinwaa nowonj waasamo asabi biiwaabikonsing gikinomaadiwinan;
- Nankiiwin oshki dibaajimowinan owi Geganoodamaage Zhichigewinan, Eshkiniigijig Wiidokwindwaa, Bemaadizijig Gikinomaadiwin, Nanaandawi Gikenjigewinan miinwaa Binoojiinig Nibowaad Aanji Nda-Gikenjigaademigag, miinwaa Nda Gikenjigewin;
- Owa Gikendaasowin Nyaagidowendang ado wiindamaagewin miinwaa owi oshki dibaajimowin gewe Gichi Ayaawijig Giigidonini(kwe)wog;
- Owi ginowaabmjigaademigag newen onjike-aag wiindamaagewinan agaa bagidinigaademigag apii 2021-22 owi onji binoojiin nibod nanaandowi-gikenjigewinan miinwaa nda gikenjigewin newen zhichigewin geganooodamaage zinagiziwinan;
- Onashowe giikimigewinan miiniding awii nanaawitoong kiinsing binoojiin naagidowenjigaaziwaad zhichigewinan.

Maanda wiindamaagewin age digosin ensa nigo biboon zhoonyaa agaa azhi nikaazang dibaajimowin, zhibiigaadeg ndo 2021-22 miinwaa 2022-23 izhichigewin inaaknigaadeg, noziwinan zhibiigaademigag ndo waaji nakiindijig miinwaa maadokiing gashkiweziwinan owi agaa bimisemigag biboon.

2,721	gagwedwewinan newen geganooodamaage zhichigewinan
966	zenegag geganooodamaage naadimaagewin agaa nisaakinigaademigag
1,255	binoojiinig, eshkiniigijig, miinwaa oshki netaawigijig aasgaabiwitaagaazijig newen zenegag geganooodamaage aasgaabiwitaagewinan
196	mashkowi Manitoba binoojiin nibod wiindamaagewinan agaa debinigaadeg
32	binoojiin nibod aanji nda-gikenjigaademigag giishichigaademigag
15	binoojiin nibod nanaandawi-gikenjigaademigag giishichigaademigag
4	onjike-aag wiindamaagewinan giishichigaademigag
	1 wiindamaage mazinigan owi gimaawin naagijigewin
	1 wiindamaagewin onji newen nanaadowi-gikenjigewinan gewe niimidana shi naanan gwiizensag agaa nibowaad owi nisdizawaad miinwaa nisigaaziwaad
	1 wiindamaagewin owi nikaazang owi bakenigaazad miinwaa njike gibaakogaazad zhiwe eshkiniigijig enji gibaakogaaziwaad
	1 wiindamaagewin maamowisijigaademigag newen ekidowaad miinwaa netamising gewe oshki bimaadizijig endinakiwaad Manitoba
1	niindaawewin odi Manitoba Gwiiniwidaang Gajichigewinan
1	waaji-piitiziing aanji ginowaabmdamiwaad zhibiigan agaa mazinaakozigaadeg
5	mashkowi giikimigewinan miinigaaziwaad bemaadizijig naagaanzijig, dibaamjigaadeg newen zinagendamowinan onjibaamigag newen binoojin nibod nanaadowi-gikenjigewinan miinwaa zhichigewin nda gikenjigaadeg newen binoojiinig dibiniweziwinan zinagiziwinan
323	binoojiinig miinwaa eshkiniigijig agaa debinamiwaad gikinomaage makakon owi temigag dibiniweziwin abi onjibaamigag nankiiwin owi Miziwe Gaanada Binoojiin Giizhigag
32,144	Mina maajiishkaang nikaaziwinan maajiinigaadeg gewe gikinomaagaazijig wiiji nakiwin owi Canadian Inendamowin Mina Yaawin – Manitoba miinwaa Winnipeg



# Kaa Tahkwaak Aacimowin

Ohowe tahso aki aacimowin onci waawiin cikaatewan paahpankii nintanokiwininaan maaci April 2021 miina March 2022.

Otaatotaan paahpakaan nintanokiwi ninaan miina kaakii maatanokaatamaank, kaye:

- Ishicikewinan kaakii wiicitooyaank kaa pimi ahkiiwahk, kaye Niminwetaan ehayamici keyaan Kiisis miina paahpahkaan piinci pii waapik kikinwahamaakewinan;
- Wiicihiwewinan eshisekin otaatipaataotaa naawaa Okanociketamaakek, Oshkaatis Kanocikewin, Kakina Awiya Okikinwaha maakowin, Shimaakanish Onaanaakatawe ncike winan miina Apinonciishihsh Kaa Ish kwaa Pimaatisic Naanaakacicikewinan, mii na Kekon kaa Macisek Miinwacikewin;
- Kaa Kanawentank Kikentamaawinini Oti paacimowin miina onci aacimowak Kici Ahak Otapiwiniwaa;
- Paahpankii ekitomakahk Kici Tipaacimowin an kaakii pakitinikaatekin 2021-22 onipowi niwaa apinonciishihshak naanaakatawenci kewinan aan wenci macisekin kanociketa maakewinan;
- Okimaakank Ihkitowinan kii ishinishahikaa tewan ciwinci minosekin owiicihikowinan apinonciishihsh.

Aacimowin kaye kikinikaa tewan Tahso Aki Shooniyaa Aacimowin, wii ncikaatewan 2021-22 miina 2022-23 anokii winan, akinepiihikaasowak nintanokiinaa kaninaanak miina kaakii ishi minosenik ota nokiiwiniwaa otaanaank akiink.

2,721	kakwetwewinan ci kanociketamake naniwank
966	kaa aanimahk kanociketamaakewi nan kii paahkinikaatewan
1,255	apinonciishihshak, oshkaatisak, mii na kici oshkaatisak ewiicihintwaa kaashi aa nimaninik wiicihiwewinini
196	okimaakank kii oncisewan nipowipe panon
32	apinonciishihsh onipowin naanaakacici kewinan kiishicikaatewanon
15	apinonciishihsh onipowin shimaakanish okii kiishitonan
4	kici aacimowinan kii kiishicikaatewan
	1 otaacimikowin okimaa ekii totank opako senimikowin
	1 aacimowin ekii naanaakacihintwaa niimi tana niyaanan napewapinonciishihshak ekii nisitowaac miina ekii nisintwaa
	1 aacimowin ekii niikatesinc miina ekii paa peshiko kipahikanowic oshkaatis kanawen cikewinink
	1 aacimowin ekii ohkopiihikaatenikin otiki towiniwaa Manitoba oshkaatisak
1	masinahikan kii ishinishahikaate Manito ba Okitimaakisii Owiicihikowinink
1	oshkaatis ekii ayamitoc masinahikanini kii oshipiihikaate
5	okimaakank kii ishi pakitinikaatewan ihkitowinan minsiwe awiyak ci miinintwaa, kaa oncisekin shimaakanish kaa naakaci haac apinonciishihshan kaa poni pimaatisi nic miina kaa nanaantonan wenci macise nik apinonciishihshan omashkawisiwin ishisewinan
323	apinonciishihshak miina oshkaatisak kaakii miinintwaa ishkoniiwimitikowashan omashkawisiwiniwaa kewinci kikentami waac ishicikewinan National Child Day
32,144	Acikewi mitikowashan kii miinaawak otishkoniiik ehonci wiitanokiimaawaac Canadian Mental Health Association – Manitoba miina Winnipeg

# Kici Paminikéw Okísácinókéwi Masinahikan

Óma tanto askíy ácinókéwi masinahikan wésám piko átotam anihi kici kékwána kákípe paminamák óta oci nitatoskéwikamikosinán óhi kákípe askíwaki Aníki Písim 2021 éko Niski Písim 2022

Ékota masinahikátéwa kákípe isi nócitáyák anihi nanátok nócicikéwina éko oskáyi paminikéwina, ékota óhi:

- Ispaniwina ité kákí natawi tasi wícihiwéyák óma kákípe askíwak, éko ékota óma Niminénitén náspic é Ayamicikéyán éko anihi ita ká nánókopaniki nanátok ki masinastahikéwina;
- Paminikéwina kákí isi nócitaniwak anté oci Ayamihistamákéwin Paminikéwina, Oskátisak ká Nísokamacik Kiskinawamakéwina, Natonikéwi Kiskénitamona éko kákí Pisci Póni Pimátisit Awásis kítwám Kinawápatamona, éko Nátonikéwi Kiskénitamonal
- Ana Kayitéyátis Okiskénitamáw Otácinókéwi Masinahikan éko mína otácinókéwiniwáw anikik kákí wanáskonicik anta ta isi akisocik Kayitéyátisak Wanasowéwininiwak;
- É mámawi kinawápacikátéki anihi kici ácinókéwina kákí pakitinikátéki 2021-22 ékota anihi kákí pisci póni pimátisicik awásisak éko ká natonikátéki anihi ká isi paminikátéki ayamihistamákéwina átototamowina;
- Énisitawinikátéki píiskwéstamáwina ká átotamonániwaki kita nahi nakisístániwaki anihi óta písci tipáskánik ká isi paminicik awásisak.

Ékota mína óma ácinókéwi masinahikan takwasinahikáso tánikok éko tánisi kákípe itápacihit sóniyaw ité kákí isi pakitinít, wítam anihi 2021-22 éko 2022-23 nanátok paminikéwina wanénitamona, éko ékota masinahikásowak anikik kákí wícihikoyákok éko kákí isi mámawi kaskítáyák ta itótamák óma kákípe askíwak.

2,721	kakwetwewinan ci kanociketamake naniwank
966	kaa aanimahk kanociketamaakewi nan kii paahkinikaatewan
1,255	apinonciishihshak, oshkaatisak, mii na kici oshkaatisak ewiicihintwaa kaashi aa nimaninik wiicihiwewinini
196	okimaakank kii oncisewan nipowipe panon
32	apinonciishihsh onipowin naanaakacici kewinan kiishicikaatewanon
15	apinonciishihsh onipowin shimaakanish okii kiishitonan
4	kici aacimowinan kii kiishicikaatewan
	1 otaacimikowin okimaa ekii totank opako senimikowin
	1 aacimowin ekii naanaakacihintwaa niimi tana niyaanan napewapinonciishihshak ekii nisitowaac miina ekii nisintwaa
	1 aacimowin ekii niikatesinc miina ekii paa peshiko kipahikanowic oshkaatis kanawen cikewinink
	1 aacimowin ekii ohkopiihikaatenikin otiki towiniwaa Manitoba oshkaatisak
1	masinahikan kii ishinishahikaate Manito ba Okitimaakisii Owiicihikowinink
1	oshkaatis ekii ayamitoc masinahikanini kii oshipiihikaate
5	okimaakank kii ishi pakitinikaatewan ihkitowinan minsiwe awiyak ci miinintwaa, kaa oncisekin shimaakanish kaa naakaci haac apinonciishihshan kaa poni pimaatisi nic miina kaa nanaantonan wenci macise nik apinonciishihshan omashkawisiwin ishisewinan
323	apinonciishihshak miina oshkaatisak kaakii miinintwaa ishkoniiwimitikowashan omashkawisiwiniwaa kewinci kikentami waac ishicikewinan National Child Day
32,144	Acikewi mitikowashan kii miinaawak otishkoniiik ehonci wiitanokiimaawaac Canadian Mental Health Association – Manitoba miina Winnipeg





# The Knowledge Keeper

The Indigenous Knowledge Keeper provides advice and guidance to all MACY (Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth) program areas across three offices and delivers cultural supports to the youth and families that we serve. Importantly, the Knowledge Keeper co-chairs our internal ReconciliACTION Committee meetings with the Indigenous Deputy Advocate, supports the implementation of MACY’s ReconciliACTION Framework, and coordinates the Elders Council at our office.

## KNOWLEDGE KEEPER REPORT

Cheryl Alexander, the Knowledge Keeper at MACY, brings her extensive history of traditional Indigenous ceremonies and customs to our office. Her many roles include opening and closing meetings and events with prayers, meeting with staff and young people in support of the work of the office, and building relationships with various communities and organizations.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continued last year, in-person visits were changed for a time to online platforms to provide supports, maintain care, grow relationships, and stay connected with Elders, youth,

staff, and others in the community. She met with various organizations to help secure guest speakers for MACY’s ReconciliACTION work and was also able to meet with many leaders from First Nations and Métis governments and organizations.

Another highlight was participating in various community events on behalf of the office. Cheryl travelled to Thompson to work with staff in MACY’s Thompson office and maintain relationships with community members in Thompson and surrounding communities. In addition, Cheryl hosted Lunch and Learn sessions with MACY staff, featuring a Beading and Craft Club, bannock making, sweet grass braiding, tea and teachings, and ribbon skirt making.



## PROGRAM STATISTICS

<b>Cultural Teachings and Ceremonies</b> – This includes Facebook Live teachings, group medicine picking trips, organizing office participation in ceremonies, providing teachings at Youth Ambassador Advisory Squad (YAAS!) meetings, leading staff beading/ribbon skirt lessons, organizing feasts, and more.	36
<b>Cultural Support for Management</b> – This includes offering prayers to open and close meetings, giving advice before, during, and following meetings, and providing input on office activities and initiatives.	156
<b>Cultural Supports for Staff</b> – This includes visits, teas, and individual supports for YAAS! and MACY staff.	180
<b>Lunch and Learn sessions for MACY employees</b>	18



# Kayitáyátisiwin Okiskénicamásak

Awina ká Kayitáyátisit Okiskénitamáw ita ká ayát ni wíchikonán oci kakéskikémowina éko ni kiskinotahiwéwin anihi oci MACY (Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth) paminikéwina óta nistoyik ká takoki itowa atoskékewamikwa éko ékiskinawámákéyák nistom pimácihona kiskénitamona anihi oci oskátisak éko anikik wícisaniwáwa nanátok ká isi pamináyákok. Éko mína ékisténitákok, awa kayitáyátis Okiskénitamáw mína nété isi wíci-nikánakisow mána ká mámawapicik anima MinoKAKÉCIHITOWIN tako anikik Ininiwi Okimáwin Wicihiwéw Otayamihistamákéw, sítoskamákéw ta wanastániwak anima MACY minoKAKÉCIHITOWIN Atoskéwasinahikan, éko mína níkánitapístam Kayitáyátisak Wanasowéwak óta ká isi akisocik nitatoskékewamikosínák.

## KAYITÉYÁTIS OKISKÉNITAMÁW OTÁCINÓKÉWI MASINAHIKAN

Cheryl Alexander, éyako Kayitáyátis Okiskénitamáw anté ká atoskét MACY, pétaw anihi kayás oci itótamowin Ininiwi isitwáwina éko kayité isícikéwina óta nitatoskékewamikosínák. Nanátok itakisow éko itatoskéw awa é páskiténak éko é kipayak mámawi pítokéwina éko mína ékota é ayamihístamáké, é wítapimát ta átotakik otatoskéwin-iwáw ininiwak éko oskátisak inikok kékwána kita mino wícikikémakaki ita atoskékewamikok, éko mína é tápitawi wítapimát kita minwákótocik ókik nanátok ité itáwinik ká wíkcik éko anihi nanátok ité itáwinik ká wíkcik éko anihi nanátok ká mámawi paminikécik ité.

Ká iskwá pimakoték anima macákosiwin COVID-19 óma kákípe askíwak, kákípe-itotéyan mána mwác éko éko-si wina éki méskwacyi itócikániwaki kékwána ékwéniw oci tápiskóc anihi ká ápataki ká nókopaniki ki masina-hikéwina ta oci sá sítóskamawat ana ká wíciyat, ta oci nákatawi nákacyat, táti minwákótowék, éko ta tápitawi náta-cik piko kékwán oci Kayitáyátisak, oskátisak, otato-skénákanak, éko kotakiyak ita ká ayá-cik anima itáwinik. Kí wítapiméw kotak nanátok ká mámawi paminakik wícihi-

towina éki wícihiwét kécinác kita miskát awiyak tapé ayamit kita wítak anima MACY MinoKAKÉCIHITOWIN atoskéwin éko mína kí ispanihiko kita wítapimát miscét anikik oníkánístamákéwak Iskonikanik oci éko anikik Ápitawikosísán kici okimáwiwin wanasowéwak ékosi ká isi mámawi nócitácik kékwána.

Kotak mína kici kékwán mána káki nitá natawi wícihiwét piko kékwána ké nócitániwaninik óté nanátok ohi kíwétinok itáwina ta nókotát ékospík anima tánisi óma étakisot éko étatoskét. Cheryl awa kí itotéw Thompson éki natawi wítatoskémát aniki anté anima MACY Thompson atoskékewamik éko mína éki ná natawi kíhokét kita minwákómát ta kiskénimát ininiwa anta Thompson éko anihi itáwina ité ká takoki. Éko mína, Cheryl awa kí isícikéw ta tipayak ápitákísicikéwin éko kiskinawámátowin nócicikéwina anikik oci MACY otatoskénákanak, éko kí nócitáwak Míkisistawikéwin éko Métawákana ká ositániwaki, pakwésikanikéwin, minomáko maskosí apikéwin, tikéwin éko itácínókéwina, éko sínipánékina éki ositániwaki.

PAMINIKÉWINA KÁ ITATOSKÁNIWAKI	
<b>Nistom Pimácihona Kiskinawámákéwina éko Isitáwina</b> – Ékota óhi Facebók ká nókopaniki kiskinawámátowina, ká natawi mámawi máwasakonakik pakwacáyi maskíkiya, énikánístakik anikik anta ká atoskécik kita wícihiwécik ispík nántaw ká isitáwinak, é natawi kiskinawámákécik mána ká natawi mámawícik anikik Youth Ambassador Advisory Squad (YÁS!) ká iticik, énikánístakik óma ká míkisistahikániwak wéká sínipániy miskotákaya ká ositániwaki, ékísitépocik mána ité ká tasi asakániwak, éko mína kotaka nanátok ékosi isi paminikéwina é nócitácik.	36
<b>Nistom Pimácihona Sítoskamátowina ká Nikánakisocik Otatoskéwak oci</b> – Ékota óhi ká ayamihistamákániwak ispík ká páskiténikáték wéká ká ati póni mámawapicik, ká kákwéskikémonániwak émwés, mékwác, éko ká póni mámawapinániwak, éko ká nitá wíchiwécik óma nántaw káwí itakamikak wéká káwí isi koci nócitániwaki kékwána ité ká tatatoskániwak.	156
<b>Nistom Pimácihona Sítoskamátowin Otatoskéwak oci</b> – Ékota óhi ta kíhokécik, ta wísámicik ta natawi tíminikwécik, éko ésitasicik kita pápéyako sítoskamácik óma YAAS! Éko MACY ká atoskécik.	180
<b>Ápitákísikánikéwin éko Kiskina Wámátowina anihi oci anté MACY piko</b> ká itatoskécik ita	18

# Kikentamaawin Okanawencike

Kikentamaawin Okanawencike okanonaan miina omaamiinomaan kahkina MACY (Manitoba kaa Kanociketama waac Aapinonciishihshan miina Oshkaatisan) wiicihiwewinink aashawiyahii nisin anokiiwi kamikonk miina epakitinank inaatisiwi wiicihiwewinan oshkaatisiikaank miina tipencikewinink kaa wiici hankintwaa. Kiciinentaakwaac, Kikentamaawin Okanawencike oniikaanapitwaan reconciliACTION mama wapiwinikewinan kaa anishininiwic kaa akoshkawaac Okanociketamaaken, ewiickaapawiihtank ci aapa taninik ReconciliACTION aapacitaakan, miina ewinci wiicihaac kici ahaan Otapowininiin nintafacimi naank.

## KIKENTAMAAWIN OKANAWENCIKE TIPAACIMOWIN

Chery Alexander, Kikentamaawin Okanawencike ohoma MACY, opiitoon mishtahi okikentamaawin Kete Anishinini-wi Kanaacikewinan miina totamowinan nintanokii-wikamikonaank. Mishiinatinonan ke anokaatank kaye ci paakinikec miina ci kipahikec maawacihitowinink miina ishikikewinan ci ayamihaac, ci nakishkawaac anoki-inaakanan miina oshkaatisan ci wiicitoc anokiwinini otofi-cimink, miina ci wiicitoc wiitanokiimitiwinini paahpahkaan apiwinan miina onahcikewinan.

Kiyaapi kaashi pimosemakak Covid-19 otaanaank kaa akiiwak, ci ishaac awiya kii aancicikaate nomake piinci piiwaapik ci ishi waapaminc, kanaweniminc, ci anonci kikenimintwaa awiyak, miina ci ani kikenimin twaa Kici Ahaak, oshkaatisak, anokiinaakanak, miina kotakiyak apiwinink. Okii nakishkawaan paahpah kaan onahcikew-inan ekii wiicihiwec ekii ontinaac ke kitonc ihimaa MACY omaamiinwacikewin anokiwin miina okii kashkiton ekii nakishkawaac mishiin Anishininiwan oniikaanetamaaken kaye Wiihsaakotewini niwkwimaan miina onahcikewinan.

Kotak kiciishicikewin ekii wiicitoyaank apiwinink oototamowiniwaan nintoficiminaan ekii wiicicikeman kitwaa. Cheryl kii ishaa Thompson ekii antawi wiita-nokiimaac Thompson anokiinaakanan miina awashi me ci onci kikenimaac ihimaa kaa kapeshinic Thomp-son miina ihimaa kiipitaa ahii. Kaye, Cheryl okii wii tancikemaan miina ekii kikentamowaac MACY anoki-inaakanan, ekii miinkisikwaahsowaac miina kekonan ekii wawishitowaac, ekii pahkweshikanikewaac, ekii ahpikewaac wiinkashkoon, ekii tiikewaac miina ekii kikinwahamaakewaac, kaye ekii senipaanikewaac.

WIICHIWEWINAN KIKENTAMAAWINAN	
<b>Inaatisiwiin kikinwahamaakewin miina Kanaacikewinan</b> – Wiinkwaani masinahikan kaye ta aapatan ci kikinwahamaakenaaniwank, maamaw nanaantawi mashkikiwewin, ci winacikaatenik anokiinaakanak ci wiicitowaac anishininiwi kanaacikewinan, kikinwahamaakewin ci ayaak Youth Ambassador Advisory Squad (YAAS) oshkaatisak omaawacihitowiniwaank, ci niikaanishkank otanokii miinkisikwaahson/seni paan oshiikanakotikewinan, makoshewin ci onatowaac, miina kiyaapi kekonan.	36
<b>Inaatisiwiwiicihiwewin Okimaak onci</b> – Ohowe kaye ci pahkinikewi ayamihaac miina ci kipahikec maawacihitowinink, keshi minosenik ciishi wiintamaakec nishtam, mekwaa, miina ishkwa maawacihito winikenaaniwank, miina ci kanotank anokiikwikamikonk ishikikewinan miina maacikikewinan.	156
<b>Anokiinaakan Otinaatisiwiwiicikhikowin</b> – Kikinikaate kaye kiiwikewin, tii minikwewinan, miina owiichi kowiniwaa YAAS miina MACY anokiinaakanak.	180
<b>Aapitaakiishkaninekewin miina Kikinwahamaakowiniwaa MACY anokiinaakanak.</b>	18

# Owa Gikendaasowin Nyaagidowendang

Owa Giizhaa Agaa Yaajig Gikendaasowin Nyaagidowendang miigwen giikimigewin miinwaa zhinomaagewin gewe kina MACY (Manitoba Geganoodamaaged gewe Binoojiinig miinwaa Eshkiniigijig) nankiiwinan gikina nisiwi nakii-gamigon miinwaa miigwen inaadiziwin aasgaabiwitaagewinan gewe eshkiinigijig miinwaa inodewiziwinan e'nakiitwindwaa. Gechi piitendaagwog, owa Gikendaasowin Nyaagidowendang aanke-niigaanwidoon ndo Mina ginoondiwin BIMAAKWIIWIN Wiii-ewin nakweshkidaadiwinan owa Giizhaa Agaa Yaajig Aanke Gaabiwid Geganoodamaaged, aasgaabiwitaan owi maajiishkaachigaademigag owi MACY ado Mina ginoondiwin BIMAAKWIIWIN Naagsijigan, miinwaa wiijitoon owi Gichi Ayaawijig Giigidonini(kwe)wog odi ndo nakii-gamigonaa.

## GIKENDAASOWIN NYAAGIDOWENDANG WIINDAMAAGEWIN

Cheryl Alexander, owa Gikendaasowin Nyaagidowendang odi MACY, biidoon ado gichi niibna getewiin newen inaadiziwin Giizhaa Agaa Yaajig manidokewinan miinwaa naagijigewinan odi enji nakii-aang. Newen gichi niibna ado naangizhewinan digosin nisaakinigaademigag miinwaa gibaakogaademigag nakweshkdaadiwinan miinwaa danakamigadowinan owi nimaawin, nakweshkwaad enkiitaagejig miinwaa oshki nitaawigijig aasgaabiwitod owi nakiwin owi nakii-gamig, and azhitood minawendiwin nowonj newen odenwinan miinwaa wiii-ewinan.

Apii owi COVID-19 miziwe kamig aakoziwin agii aaba-jisemigag shkwaach biboon, wiiji yaayin nibwaachewinan agii aanjisenon gmaaminig owi waasamo asabi biiwaa-bikoonsing mazinaatesing awii miigweng aasgaabiwitaagewinan, aabajisemigag gnowenjigewin, maajiigitoong minawendiwinan, miinwaa aabajisemigag ginondiwin gewe Gichi Ayaag, eskiniigijig, enkiitaagejig, miinwaa aanin bkaan bemaadizijig zhiwe odenwining. Agii nakweshkwaan nowonj wiii-ewinan awii naadmaaged debinindwaa owaa dinaangidonijig owi onji MACY ado Mina ginoondiwin BIMAAKWIIWIN nankiiwin miinwaa age agii gashkitoon awii nakweshkwaad niibna naagaangaabiiwii onji Anishinaabe Inakaanewiziwinan miinwaa Wiisaakode gimaawinan miinwaa wiijiindiwinan.

### NANKIIWIN GINDAASOWINAN

<b>Inaadiziwin Gikinomaagewin miinwaa Manidokewinan</b> – Ninda digozinon Facebook Mazinaatesing gikinomaagewinan, maamowi mashkiki maandoonigaademigag bibaayaang, bimiikamang nakii-gamig wiidokaazang zhiwe manidokewinan, miigweng gikinomaagewinan odi Youth Ambassador Advisory Squad (YAAS!) giigidowinan, niigaanwidoon enkiitaagejig naabidogaaziwaad minidominesag/zenebaan giishkijigooday zhitowin, bimikimang wiikwandiwanan, miinwaa aanin woshme gegu.	36
<b>Inaadiziwin Aasgaabiwitaagewin gewe Bimaabiiginigejig</b> – Maanda digosin inamaawin owi nisaakinigaademigag miinwaa gibaakogaademigag nakweshkdaadiwinan, miigweng giikimigewin jibwaa, epiichi, miinwaa shkwa nakweshkdaading, miinwaa miigweng inendamowin newen nakii-gamig nankiiwinan miinwaa maajiishkachigewinan.	156
<b>Inaadiziwin Aasgaabiwitaagewin gewe Enkiitaagejig</b> – Maanda digosin nibwaachewinan, niibiishaabo minikweng, miinwaa bebezhi bemaadizid aasgaabiwitaagewin gewe YAAS! Miinwaa MACY enkiitaagejig.	180
<b>Naakwe Wiisining miinwaa Gikendamowin nakweshkidaadiwin gewe MACY enkiitaagejig</b>	18

Miinwaa aanke ishpendaagwog agii aawon wiidokaazad nowonj odenwining danakamigadowinan owi onji owi nakii-gamig. Cheryl agii bibaazhaa Thompson awii wiii- nakii- maad enkiitaagejig zhiwe MACY ado Thompson nakii-gamig miinwaa gnowendang minawendiwinan gewe odenaang debendaagozijig zhiwe Thompson miinwaa gaataawiiing etemigag odenwinan. Miinwaa aanke, Cheryl agii bamibidetonan Naakwe wiisiniwinan miinwaa Gikinomaadiwin nakweshkidaadiwin gewe MACY enkiitaagejig, ayaawong Naabidogaaziwaad Minidominesag miinwaa Ozhichigan Wiii-ewin, ombijiizigan zhichigaadeg, wiingash gikaadenigaademigag, niibiish aabo miinwaa gikinomaadiwinan, miinwaa zenebaan zhitowin.

“Zinagad awii bwaa daapinigaademigag newen bakwaagipi-iwinan gewe binoojiinig geganoodamowindwaa. Ayaamaan Gikendaasowin Nyaagidowendang aasgaabiwitaagewin ngii waabmido-igan getchi naadmaagiyaan nikiiyaa awii naagidowendiziyaan, epiichi naadmaage-aan miigweng gnowenjigewin, aasgaabiwitaagewin miinwaa geganoodamaagewin gewe binoojiinig miinwaa eshkiniigijig.”  
–MACY enkiitaaged

# The Elders Council

The Manitoba Advocate acknowledges the valuable role of the Elders Council, which provides the office with cultural support and guidance on activities and cultural protocols. These included smudging, pipe ceremonies, water ceremonies, cloth offerings, feasting and saying prayers for children, youth and their families. Guided by the Seven Teachings — love, respect, truth, courage, wisdom, honesty and humility — the Elders are respected by their communities and hold the knowledge that is needed to ensure MACY services are delivered in a respectful and culturally-informed manner.

Supported by the Knowledge Keeper, beginning in 2022, the Elders Council has increased its meetings from quarterly to bi-monthly with the Advocate and the two Deputy Advocates. During these meetings, members of the Elders Council are briefed on all ongoing investigations, research, and systemic advocacy issues and offer their wisdom and insight to the office. The Elder’s Council met four times

in the 2021-22 fiscal year. The Elders Council is integrated into the development and launch of special reports, for which it provides ceremony during feasts with families, and feedback that helped guide the content, presentation, and recommendations in special reports.

Some of the highlights of the contributions of the Elders in 2021-22 included Elder Fred Stevens delivering a sweetgrass teaching and Elder Ed Azure’s contributions to the *Finding the Way Back* report which focused on the experiences of First Nations and Metis boys.

This year the Elders Council has grown from five to seven members, reflecting the Seven Sacred Teachings. The Elders Council at MACY consists of members from Indigenous communities and Nations that are representative of the children and youth that we serve. Currently, we have representation on the Elders Council from Metis, Cree, Ojibway, and Dakota Nations.

“This is the work that gives me such pride...the government knows they have eyes on them...[through]... uninfluenced investigations that produce hard biting truth  
— ELDER ED AZURE

NAME	COMMUNITY
Elder Bill Ballantyne	Brokenhead Ojibway Nation
Elder Ed Azure	Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation
Elder Fred Stevens	Sapotewayak Cree Nation
Elder Gertrude Ballantyne	Brokenhead Ojibway Nation
Elder Louise Lavallee	St. Laurent, Manitoba
Elder Albert McLeod	Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation and Norway House
Elder Lynn Courchene	Sagkeeng First Nation



# Kayit y tisak Wanasow wak

Anikik Manitoba Otayamihistam k wak nan skomowak  ma k  ispic kist nit kosicik Kayit y tisak Wanasow winiwak,  wiciy cik aniki  ta atosk wikamikok k  ay cik nistom pim cihona s toskam towin  ko  kiskin tahiw cik t ntowa anihi  ko kay si pim cihona isicik wina  pimitisahik t ki.  kota  hi nan tok isicik wina kask pasowin, taspw kan k   patisit, nipy k  n cit niwak, pakwan kina k  pakitinik t ki, w kok mowin  ko   ayamihistam cik aw sisak, osk tisak  ko owicis niw wa.  kiskin tahicik    pacit cik anihi T pakop Ininiwi Kiskinaw m k wina- s khitowina, kist nitamowin, t pw k nimowin, s kit h win, nipw k win  ko t p t nimisowin-anikik Kayit y tisak kist nim wak otit winiw k  ko ay wak anihi kisk nitamona k  nataw nit koki ta k cin hon niwak anihi MACY paminik wina    pataki k  isi kist nit koki  ko k  isi nistom pim cihon nisitot mowin ta isi paminik t ki.

K  s toskam kocik aniki Kayit y tisa Okisk nit kosa-anikik Kayit y tis Wanasow winiwiniwak w  w pac  ko nawac ispic tanto n yo pisimwak oci isko nisw  p yak pisim   ispanit  ko k  w tapim cik anihi Otayamisihistam k wa  ko n so anihi Ow tat sk n kana.  ma ispic k  m mawapin niwak, anikik Kayit y tis Wanasow winiwiniwak w tamaw wak t niw ki anihi kiy pic k kw na k  natonik wi kisk nitamon niwak oci, natonik wina,  ko t n ki kakinaw p yakwak  si paminit awina anim cik wina  ko  kota oci  totamwak  si kayit  nisitotakik  yako  ko ta w tamaw wak  kwani k ta  pacit cik anikik ita otatosk wak. Anikik Kayit y tis

Wanasow winiwiniwak k  m mawapiwak n y w  ma k k p  askiwaki 2021-22. Anikik Kayit y tis Wanasow winiwiniwak m mawast wak okisk nitamowiniw w  ma ta wanast niwaki  ko k  isi m cit niwaki kist cimona,  ko  kot   ma   isi w cihiw cik   w kok cik tap  m mawi m cisocik ininiwak,  ko ta natotakik  tw niwak k kw na oci ta oci w cit niwak ta kiskin tahiw cik k  itasinahik t ki, k  isi pakitinik t ki kakinaw awiyak ta w patak,  ko ta w takik anihi p kiskw stam wina anima oci kist cimowin masinahikan.

 kwani  hi  tit kici k kw na k ki isi w cihiw cik  kiskinaw m k cik  kik Kayit y tisak k ki askiwaki 2021-22  ko Kayit y tis Fred Stevens  kiskinaw m k t ta isi  patak minom kosiwi maskosiy  ko Kayit y tis Ed Azure k ki pakitinak  cin k wi masinahikan Finding the Way Back ita k   cimick t nisi  ma k k p  isi m  macipanihikocik  kik Anisin p wi  ko  pitawikosis ni n p sisak.

An hc k  askiwak k  nakasow wak  ma niy nan ita k ki isi n k n akisocik t p kop  ko ta tasicik  pimitisayakik anihi T pak p Ininiwi Kiskinaw matowina. Anikik Kayit y tis Wanasow winiwiniwak ant  MACY k  oci wan skon wak n t  Ininiwi it wina  ko oskan siniwak k  atosk takik anima  kik aw sisak  ko osk tisak nan tok k  isi pamin y kok. M kw c  ma,  kota apiwak  kosi   isi n k nakisocik anima Kayit y tis Wanasow winiwiniwak  pitawikosis nak, Ininiwak, Nakaw winiwak  ko Pw tak.

�SINIK�SOT	OTIT�WINIK K� OC�T
Kayit�y�tis Bill Ballantyne	Brokenhead Ojibway Nation
Kayit�y�tis Ed Azure	Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation
Kayit�y�tis Fred Stevens	Sapotewayak Cree Nation
Kayit�y�tis Gertrude Ballantyne	Brokenhead Ojibway Nation
Kayit�y�tis Louise Lavallee	St. Laurent, Manitoba
Kayit�y�tis Albert McLeod	Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation and Norway House
Kayit�y�tis Lynn Courchene	Sagkeeng First Nation

  

 koma atosk win n spic k  kist nimihikoy n...anikik kici okim wiwin kisk nitamwak   t pitawi n kacihicik (ant  isi)... k  n ntaw k  isi nak skik niwak natonik wi kisk nitamowin  ko  kota   oci miskik t ki s kaci kisk nitamona

  KAYIT Y TIS ED AZURE

  

# Kici Ahaak Otapiwiniwaa

Manitoba Okanociketamaake okikentaan epiici kiciinentaakosinic Kici Ahaa Otapiwiniwaa, kaa wiicitoc anokiiwini Anishininiwatisowinink miina eni wiintamawaac keniishicikenic miina keni tootaminic. Tapishkoc paashkinewepahotisowin, opwaakanikewin, nipi kanaacikikewinan, owekin pakitinikewinan, makoshewinan miina ayamihetamawintwaa apinonciishihshak, oshkaatisak miina otipencikewiniwaa. Ekwayahkomikowaac niishwaahso kikinwahamaakewinan – sakihiwewin, kitenimiwewin, tepwewin, sonkaatisowin, kakiihtaawentamowin, kwayahkwaatisowin miina tapahsenimowin – Kici Ahaak okiteni mikowaan otapiwiniwaank miina ominciminaanaawaa kikentamaawinini kaa antawencikaatenik keci naac MACY otanokiiwiniwaa ci pipakitinikaatenik kitencikewinink miina ci Anishininiwaataninik.

Ewiicihikowaac Kikentamaawin Okanawenciken, Kici Ahaa Otapiwin okii onci nankitoon mawacihitowin peshikwaa niso kiisihs ahpin peshikwaa naaniishwaa ishise Okanociketamaaken miina niishin okanoci ketamaakensak. Ohowe mekwaac maawacihitowinan Kici Ahaa Otapiwin wiintamawaawak kahkina naa naakatawencikewinan kaa anokaatenik, kaa nanaantawencikaatek kekoon kaashi macisek, miina mon shak kanocikewin kaa ishi pakitinikaatek, miina ci ashotamaakewaac okakiitaawentamowiniwaa miina otishi

waapantamowiniwaa anokiiwinink. Kici Ahaa Otapiwin kii maawacihitowak niiwaa 2021-2022 shoo niyaa wahkiink. Kici Ahaa Otapiwin ishi kikinikaate kaa oshipiihikaatek miina pakitinikaate kin kici tipaacimowinan, ihimaa kaa ishi pakitinank kanaacikikewinan mekwaac kaa makoshewicikewaac tip encikewinak, miina ihkitowinan kaa wiicikikemakakin keniishinaakwak, keniinitaakwak miina ikitowinan keni kikinikaatekin aacimowinan.

Aaninta opakitinikewiniwaa Kici Ahaak 2021-22 kaye Kici Ahaa Fred Stevens ewiintamaakec Shiiwashko kikinwahamaakewinini miina Kici Ahaa Ed Azure’s opakitinikewin ihimaa aacimowinink Finding the Way Back aacimowinink kaakii aatotenik otishisewiniwaa Anishininiwak miina Wihsakotewininiwi apinoncii shihshak.

Nonkom kaa ahkiiwak Kici Ahaa Apiwin onci mishaa Niyaanan minikok niishwaahso awiyak, kaa ishi naa kwahkin niishwaahso kikinwahamaakewinan. Kici Ahaa Apiwin ihimaa MACY apiwak anishininiikank miina Anishininiwak oniicaanishihshiwaan kaa wiicihimankic miina oshkaatisak kaa wicihankitwaa. Mekwaac nonkom kaa apiwaac Kici Ahaa Apiwinink Wihsaakotewinini, Mushkego, Ojibwe miina Dakota Anishininiwak.

  

Mi ohowe anokiiwin maawac ninkiciinentaan...okimaa okikentaan ekanawaapamaac... ekaa kaa wiitaaciikaatek naanaakacikikewin kaa ontinikaatek mushkawancikewi tepwewin

  KICI AHAA ED AZURE

  

NAME	COMMUNITY
Elder Bill Ballantyne	Brokenhead Ojibway Nation
Elder Ed Azure	Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation
Elder Fred Stevens	Sapotewayak Cree Nation
Elder Gertrude Ballantyne	Brokenhead Ojibway Nation
Elder Louise Lavallee	St. Laurent, Manitoba
Elder Albert McLeod	Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation and Norway House
Elder Lynn Courchene	Sagkeeng First Nation



# Owi Gichi Ayaawijig Giigidonini(kwe)wog

Owa Manitoba Geganoodamaaged nisdwaabmdaan owi getchi gichi piitendaagwog enankiwaad owi Gichi Ayaawijig Giigidonini(kwe)wog, owi maagwemigag owi nakii-gamig inaadiziwin aasgaabiwitaagewin miinwaa zhinoomaagewin newen dinakimigadoon miinwaa inaadiziwin naagijigewinan. Ninda digosinon bakwenezigeng, opwaagan manidokewinan, nibiish minidokewinan, gidagiigin manidokewin, maamowi wiisining miinwaa kidang namewinan onji binoojiinig, eshkiniigijig miinwaa ado inoodewiziwiniwaan. Gikinoowizhigowaan newen Niizhwaasowi Gikinomaadiwinan – zaagidiwin, minaadendamowin, debwewin, aakode'ewin, nibwaakaawin, gwayakaadiziwin miinwaa dibaadendiziwin – gewe Gichi Ayaawijig minaadengjigaaziwog ado odeniwiniwaan miinwaa majiginaanaa-aa owi gikendaasowin nendowendaagwog awii gakwenjigaademigag MACY zhichigewinan miigwem minaadengjigeng miinwaa inaadiziwin-gikendamang nikiiyaa.

Aasgaabiwitaaged owa Gikendaasowin Nyaagidowendang, owi Gichi Ayaawijig Giigidonini(kwe)wog agii giikinaanaa-aan ado nakweshkdaadiwinan onji ensa nisiwi giizis apiinish niizhing ensa giizis owa e' Geganoodamaaged miinwaa niish Aanke Gaabiwigig Geganoodamaagejig. Epiichi temigag ninda nakweshkdaadiwinan, waajii-ejig owi Gichi Ayaawijig Giigidonini(kwe)wog wiindamowaawog newen kina megwaa ayaabijisemigag naandowi gikenjigewinan, nda gikenjigewin, miinwaa izhichigewin geganooodamaage zinagiziwinan miinwaa bagidinamiwaad ado nibwaakaawiniwaa miinwaa nisastamiwin odi nakii-

gamig. Owi Gichi Ayaawijig Giigidonini(kwe)wog agii nakweshkdaadiwog niwing minik owi 2021-22 biboon. Owi Gichi Ayaawijig Giigidonini(kwe)wog digoyaawog zhiwe zhichigaademigag miinwaa gijwebinigaademigag newen e'njike'aag wiindamaagewinan, owi onji miigwemigag manidokewin epiichi wiikondiwinan gewe inodewiziwinag, miinwaa ne-aab dibaajimowaad agaa naadmaagemigag daakaajigaademigag owi e'digosin, dibaataamang, miinwaa giikimigewinan zhiwe e'njike'aag wiindamaagewinan.

Aanin memaanji shpendaagwog owi newen maagwewaad gewe Gichi Ayaawijig 2021-22 apii agii digosinon Gichi Ayaawid Fred Stevens miigwed wiingash gikinomaagewin miinwaa Gichi Ayaawid Ed Azure's miigwewin owi Finding the Way Back wiindamaagewin memdage agaa ginowaabmjigaademigag newen bimaadiziwiniwaan gewe Anishinaabe miinwaa Wiisaakode gwiizensag.

Maanda biboon owi Gichi Ayaawijig Giigidonini(kwe)wog agii maajiiigin onji naanan apiinish niizhwaaswi waajii-ejig, dibewenjigaademigag Niizhwaaswi Gichitwaa Gikinomaadiwinan. Owi Gichi Ayaawijig Giigidonini(kwe)wog odi MACY digoyaawog waajii-ejig onji Giizhaa Agaa Yaajig odenwinan miinwaa Inakaanewiziwinan giigitamowaa-aad gewe binoojiinig miinwaa eshkiniigijig enkiitaagaazijig. Nongo megwaa, ndo ayowaanaanig giigidotamaagejig zhiwe Gichi Ayaawijig Giigidonini(kwe)wog onji Wiisaakode, Omashkiigiwog, Ojibwe, miinwaa Dakota Inakaanewiziwinan.

NOZIWIN	ODENA
Gichi Ayaa Bill Ballantyne	Brokenhead Ojibway Nation
Gichi Ayaa Ed Azure	Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation
Gichi Ayaa Fred Stevens	Sapotewayak Cree Nation
Gichi Ayaa Gertrude Ballantyne	Brokenhead Ojibway Nation
Gichi Ayaa Louise Lavallee	St. Laurent, Manitoba
Gichi Ayaa Albert McLeod	Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation and Norway House
Gichi Ayaa Lynn Courchene	Sagkeeng First Nation

“  
Amii maanda nankiiwin maanigowaan  
gichi azhayaawin...owi gimaawin  
gikendaanaa-aa gikinowaabmjigaaziwaad...  
[nikiiyaa]...gaawii wanashkwechigaadesinag  
naandowi gikenjigewinan  
moogsemigag wiisigi debwewinan  
— GICHI AYAAWID ED AZURE  
”

# Program Areas



**2012**  
The 2012 Santa Claus Parade block party at the MACY office featuring the Aboriginal School of Dance



**2012**  
A powwow attended by MACY staff in 2012



# Advocacy Services

The Advocacy Services Program was created in 1993 and has continued to develop and evolve over the course of 29 years. The program provides direct support to children, youth, young adults, and families in Manitoba. Referrals come to Advocacy Services through phone, email, walk-ins, mail, or social media.

Using trauma-informed approaches, Advocacy Officers listen to concerns and work alongside children, youth, parents, service providers, and other community members to resolve concerns with the delivery of public services.

Kanociketamaakewin wiicihiwewin kii oshi cikaate 1993 mii tash eshi pimi ani ompikaapawiimakahk ishi niishitanawi shaankahsoshapi aki. Wiicihiwewin maayam owiicihaan apinonciishihshan, oshkaatisan, kici oshkaatisan, miina tipencikewinan piinci Manitoba. Nimpi kakwecimikomin wiicihiwewin kitowinink, piinci piawaapik masinahikan, pi moci piishaawak, pimasinahikewak, naanta piawaapikonk.

Enisitaweniminc ekii kiciinaapinaninc mii eshi naasikawinc, Okanociketamaakek opisintaanaawaa enin twaa miina owiitanokiimaawaan apinonciishihshan, oshkaatisan, oniikihikoon, owiicihiwek, miina kotaki yak anishiniwak ci ani miionikaatekin kaa maamitonentamihikowaac kaawii ishi pakitinikaatek wiici hiwewinan.

## THE ADVOCACY PROCESS

- Direct Contact:** A person calls, emails, or visits our office with an enquiry
- Intake Services:** The person speaks to an Advocacy Officer
- Three options may happen next:**
  - Brief Advocacy:** We listen, answer questions, and provide options to resolve their enquiry and help the person navigate systems, if this is an option, or if the person prefers this approach.
  - Complex Advocacy:** If the issue requires long-term supports or complex interventions, we open an advocacy case.
  - Systemic Advocacy:** If the person refers to concerns regarding a facility or multiple children and youth, we may open a systemic advocacy case.
- Child or Youth Advocacy Issues Assessed:** We create a plan with the individual to address concerns and system barriers, execute the plan, and close their case once the issues are resolved and the plan is completed.

## PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

**2,721**  
requests for services,  
12% increase since last fiscal year

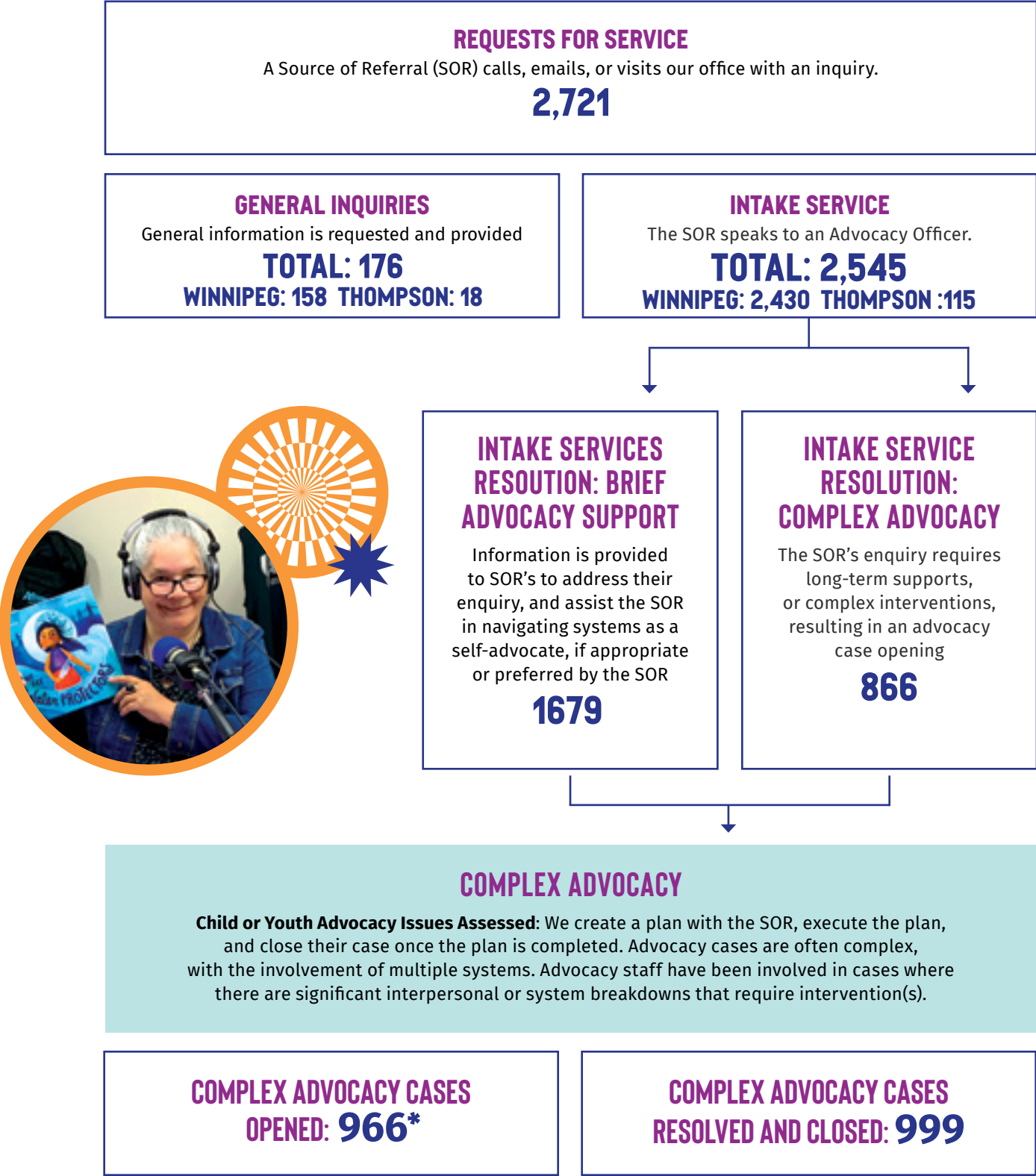
**966**  
complex advocacy cases opened,  
3% increase since last fiscal year

**1,255**  
children, youth, and young adults  
supported with complex advocacy,  
a 1% increase since last fiscal year

**2013**  
MACY celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child* by sharing information at an event.



## THE ADVOCACY PROCESS



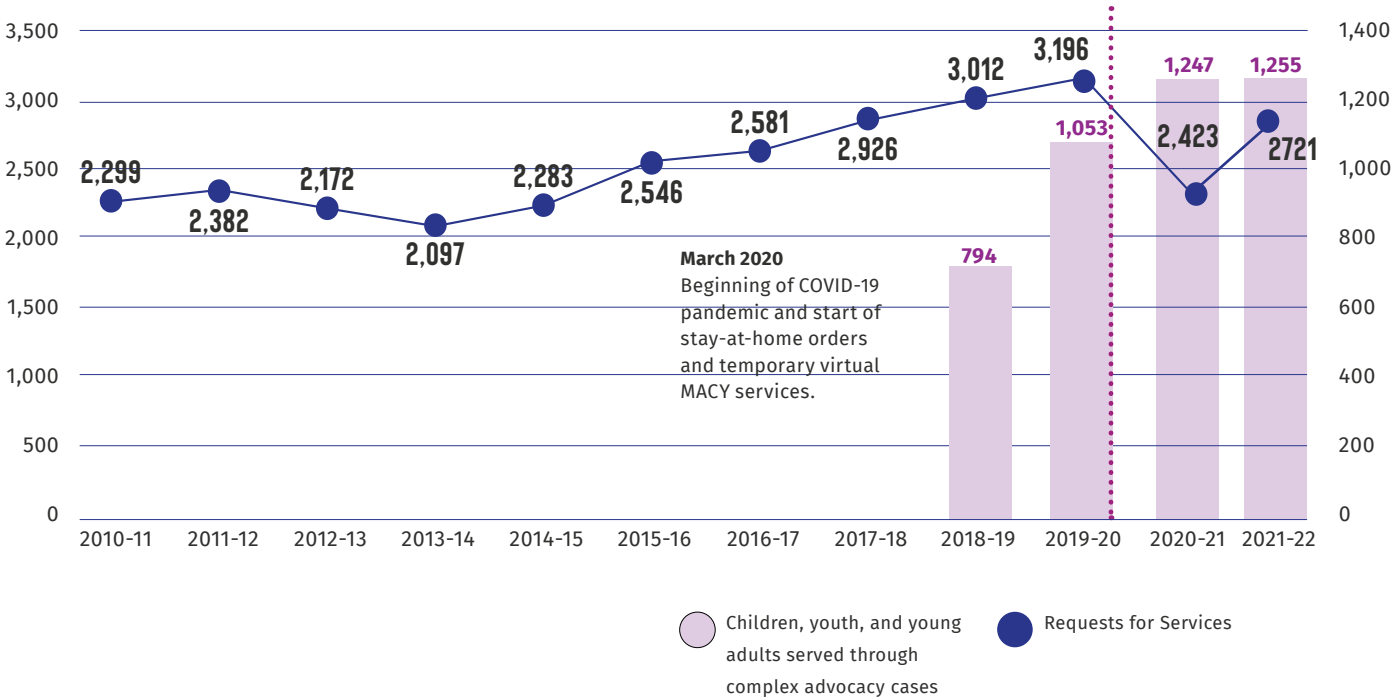
\* We open complex advocacy cases for all affected children after the intake service phase, resulting in more complex advocacy case openings than original complex advocacy intake resolutions.



**2014**  
Wavy Guy giving out high-fives to youth heading to 2014 We Day in downtown Winnipeg.

REQUESTS FOR ADVOCACY SERVICES

Most requests for Advocacy Services are received by phone (78%) followed by email (10%) and in-person (7%). Likely as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we saw a continued trend that indicates an increase in the percentage of Advocacy Services requested by phone or email over in-person walk-ins.



After a decline in the number of requests for Advocacy Services in 2020-21, the number of requests increased during 2021-22 and has continued to increase since then. This was likely due to changing COVID-19 public health orders in 2021-22, which meant adults increased their contacts with children, leading to more children and youth being identified as in need of advocacy supports. Many service providers began shifting from remote work back to in-person services, meaning they also had more contact with young people. As sources of referral for advocacy services can include educators, case workers, and other professionals who work directly with children, an increase in requests may be attributed to more children and youth accessing services from these professionals as public health orders eased.



# What is Brief Advocacy?

Sometimes when people call us for support they do so because they don't know how to address a problem they are facing. They may not know their options, who to talk to, or what to do. Our staff will listen to the challenge the person is facing, and then we provide information and navigation supports to the individual about their rights and their options. This includes the services they are entitled to receive in Manitoba. We work with them to identify possible solutions. Many requests for services can be resolved by providing information,

support, and guidance that empowers individuals to self-advocate, or other short-term interventions by our office that resolve issues and barriers Manitobans may be experiencing. Of the 2,721 requests for advocacy services, 2,545 requests were eventually resolved by our team by providing support and information for an individual through brief advocacy.

## Story #1: A Story of Securing Family Disability Supports

A parent called MACY stating that due to public health restrictions, they were prevented from acting as a support in the hospital for Anna\*, who has a vision-related disability and an intellectual disability. The parent attempted to work with the hospital to develop a plan but was met with resistance. An Advocacy Officer from our office contacted hospital management

expressing concerns on behalf of the family. Hospital management stated that the hospital's screening process was changed to allow for the parent to be with an individual who needed support. The Advocacy Officer followed up with the parent, who confirmed that the hospital contacted them and communicated they would be able to accompany their child to act as a support.

\*Name changed to protect privacy of the youth involved

**2014**  
A visit by MACY staff to God's Lake First Nation in 2014.



# What is Complex Advocacy?

Some requests for services require intensive and longer-term advocacy supports. For these requests, a complex advocacy case is opened. In 2021-22, there were 966 complex advocacy services cases opened.

Beginning in April 2021, we carried over 362 open complex advocacy cases from the previous fiscal year. A total of 999 complex advocacy cases were resolved in 2021-22. There were 1,255 unique children, youth or young adults helped with complex advocacy during the 2021-22 fiscal year.

PROGRAM STATISTICS	
Open Cases (carried over from 2020-21)	362
New Cases	966
Closed Cases	999

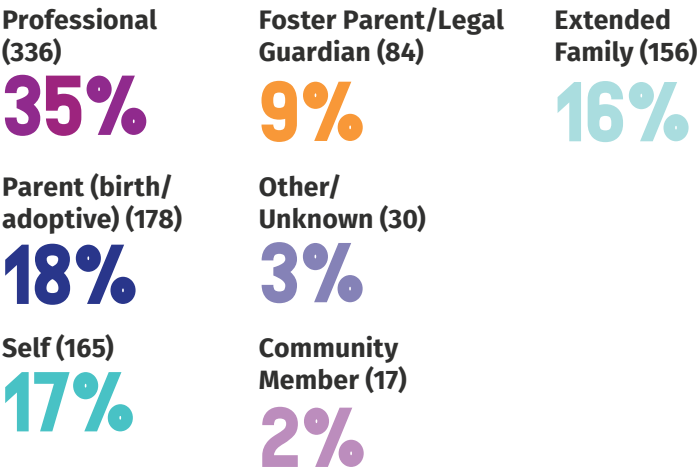
## Story #2: A Story of Family Reunification

Two young children in care of a CFS agency were referred to our office because of concerns with visitation. Their mother identified that the CFS agency had decreased visitation hours despite a court order that prescribed weekly visits. In addition to working with the adults involved, we spoke with the children, who expressed their desire to be returned home. Since the family's involvement with MACY, we have advocated for consistent visitation for the children with their mother and for the agency to review a plan for reunifying the family. MACY met with the CFS agency, which committed to a review of this case and rebuilding the relationship between the agency and family. MACY staff remained involved, advocating for the best interests of the children. The two children were reunified with their mother in 2021.



# Who Calls Us for Complex Advocacy Supports?

The majority of complex advocacy cases opened during the 2021-22 fiscal year originated from calls from professionals working with children, youth, and young adults. This is followed by parents and children, youth and young adults, who reached out to us directly for support.



## ANYONE CAN CALL US!

If you have concerns about services provided to children and youth, please reach out to our office to voice your concerns. We are here to help.

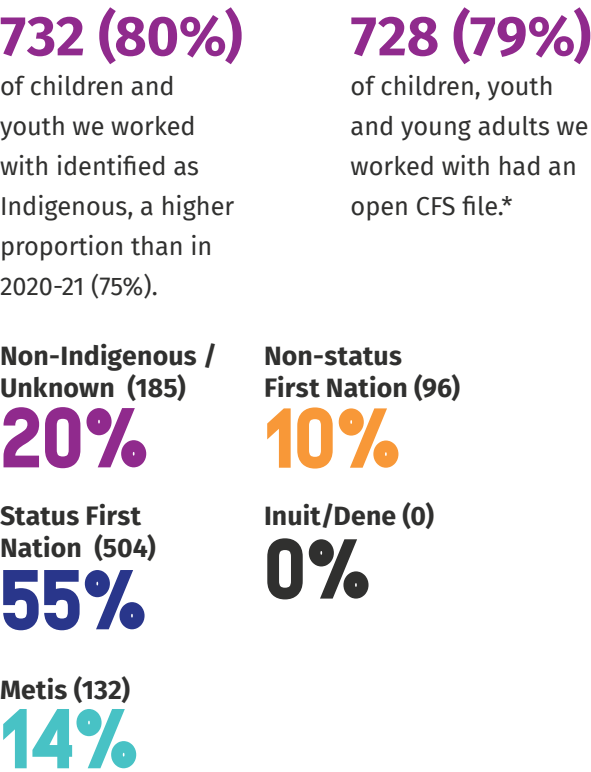
Historically, MACY has provided advocacy for anyone involved in the child and family services and adoption systems. While we continue to advocate for children and youth involved in those systems, our mandate has expanded to also include advocacy for children, youth, young adults, and their families in the areas of disability, education, mental health, addictions, victim supports, and youth justice services.

## PIKO ANA AWIYAK NIKAKÍPÉ AYAMIHIKONÁN

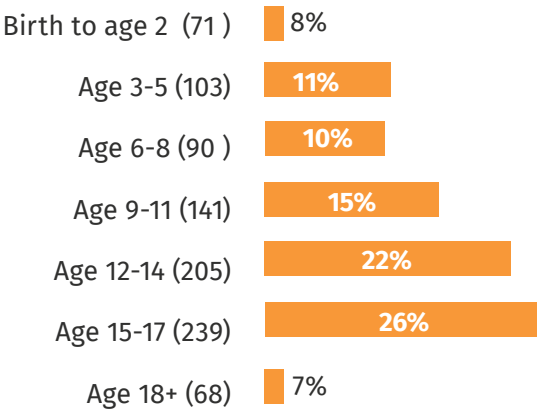
Kisáspin kitayán kékwán é kinomáciskákoyan óma ká isi paminicik ókik awásisak éko oskátisak, kécinác piko pé ayamihinán óta nitatoskéwikamikonan ékwéniw oci. Ta wícihiták óma ota ká oci itáyák.

Kayásk oci, ókik MACY kákí máci ayamihistamawácik anikik kákípe nátikocik ta ápácitácik anihi awásis éko aniki wíciśániwáwa éko anikik kákí otinick wíkiwák oci kotakik ité ta natawi ayácik inikok ta kisi opíkihicik. Inikok óma kiyápic ká pimi wíciyáyákok anikik awásisak éko aniki wíciśániwawa óma ká isi paminicicik, ékwani tápitaw óma ékí isi kinawápatamák tátu máci tápitawí wíciyáyákok ékwani anté isi anihi kotaka pamikéwina tápiskóc anihi máskisiwin, kiskinawámákéwin, mamitonécikan, mamácikwapisowina, ká wanitótácik nántaw isi éko anikik oskátisak ká isi wanasowátaminit anihi ité ká oci paminit.

# The Children and Youth We Serve Through Complex Advocacy



The Acting Manitoba Advocate, Deputies, and Knowledge Keeper meet with the Inuit Association: Tunngasugit



\* An open file is determined by having an active case category with a CFS agency including the following categories: Child in Care, Child in Care-Supervision, Family Enhancement, Intake Module, Post Adoption, Protection, Protection Expectant Parent, Agreement with Young Adult (Support Beyond Termination of Guardianship), or Voluntary Family Services



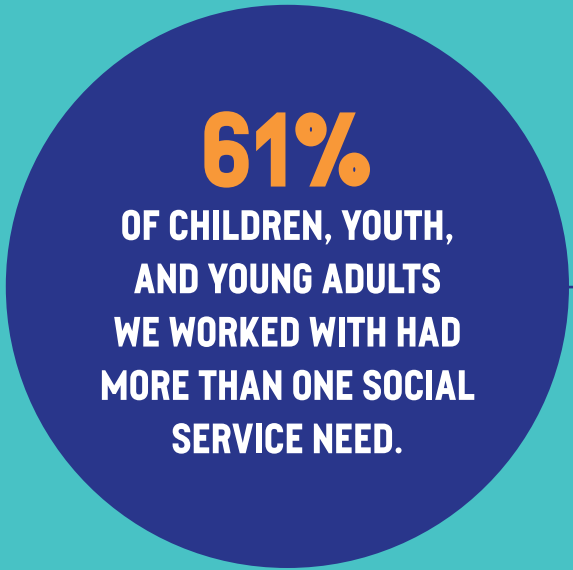
# How Systems Interact

In 2021-22, 61% of the children, youth, and young adults we worked with had more than one social service need. This compares to 56% in 2020-21. Increasingly, advocacy cases are getting more complex, with children, youth, and young adults receiving services from multiple systems. This highlights the vital importance of ensuring that the services they are receiving are working collaboratively to meet their needs.

## Story #3: A Story of Two Brothers with Complex Needs

Over the past two years, MACY’s advocacy team has worked with two brothers and their parent. At the time they came to MACY, the two brothers were disconnected from their family, school, and other support systems. MACY’s advocacy officers attended many systems meetings to problem-solve, explore placement options, and ensure collaboration was happening between service providers.

The brothers were eventually placed in supportive school settings which met their complex needs. Their rights to an education, a safe home, to protection from harm and violence, and connection to family, culture, and community were prioritized. The increased supports resulted in tangible improvements in the lives of the brothers.



97% of respondents to MACY’s Advocacy Services Feedback Survey reported feeling treated with respect\* and 91% said they would recommend MACY to a friend.

\* We are always seeking to learn and grow. While we know that sometimes the options people may desire might not be possible in a particular situation, we always strive to ensure people feel respected and heard by our team. Due to small sample sizes, the responses from children, youth, and adults were combined to calculate percentages. If you are unhappy with any interaction, you can email us at [complaints@manitobaadvocate.ca](mailto:complaints@manitobaadvocate.ca).

## AN INCREASE IN MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS

Since last fiscal year, we have seen a **23% increase in the proportion of children and youth with mental health and/or substance use service needs**. This reflects a trend across Canada<sup>1</sup>. In 2018, 62% of Canadian youth aged 15-24 reported having excellent or very good mental health, this dropped to 40% during the pandemic. Young people experienced the largest drop in self-reported mental wellbeing of any age group. Mental health and/or substance use issues consistently rank as the highest social services need in the children, youth, and young adults we work with in any given year. The Manitoba Advocate continues to monitor mental health services in the province, urging the government to prioritize responding to this critical need through increased access and investments as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic.

<sup>1</sup> Source: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/45-28-0001/2020001/article/00003-eng.htm>

59%  
had mental health  
and/or substance  
addiction issues

36%  
were victims  
of abuse,  
neglect, assault

28%  
were living with  
a disability

24%  
had been victimized  
through domestic  
violence or sexual  
exploitation

21%  
were chronically  
absent from  
school, or were  
suspended  
or expelled  
from school

12%  
were involved  
with the criminal  
justice system

# Trends in Advocacy Cases

The trends identified below is based on the 999 complex advocacy cases resolved and closed in 2021-22. Following the resolution of a complex advocacy case, MACY Advocacy Officers will identify the concerns they addressed with service providers. The following table represents the top concerns addressed in each service area.

## TOP TRENDS BY DESIGNATED SERVICE

### Child Welfare and Adoptions

- Case planning
- Safety concerns at home/placement
- Placement concerns or breakdown
- Unresponsive worker/agency
- Family reunification planning

### Education

- School absenteeism
- School registration
- Special needs support

### Mental Health and Addictions

- Access to mental health treatment
- Suicide ideation/self-harm
- Access to addictions treatment

### Youth Justice

- Transition planning and placement out of custody
- Gang involvement
- Mental health and addiction treatment services while in custody

### Disability Services

- Cognitive disability supports
- Physical disability supports
- Transition to adult supports (Community Living disABILITY Services)

### Victim Support Services

- Supports for sexual abuse/exploitation
- Impacted by domestic violence

## WHAT ARE PEOPLE SAYING ABOUT THE ADVOCACY PROGRAM?

Did you feel your advocate listened to you and heard what you had to say?

“Yes. You could tell it wasn’t just going through the motions, she was really listening and compassionate.”

Would you recommend contacting the Manitoba Advocate to a friend?

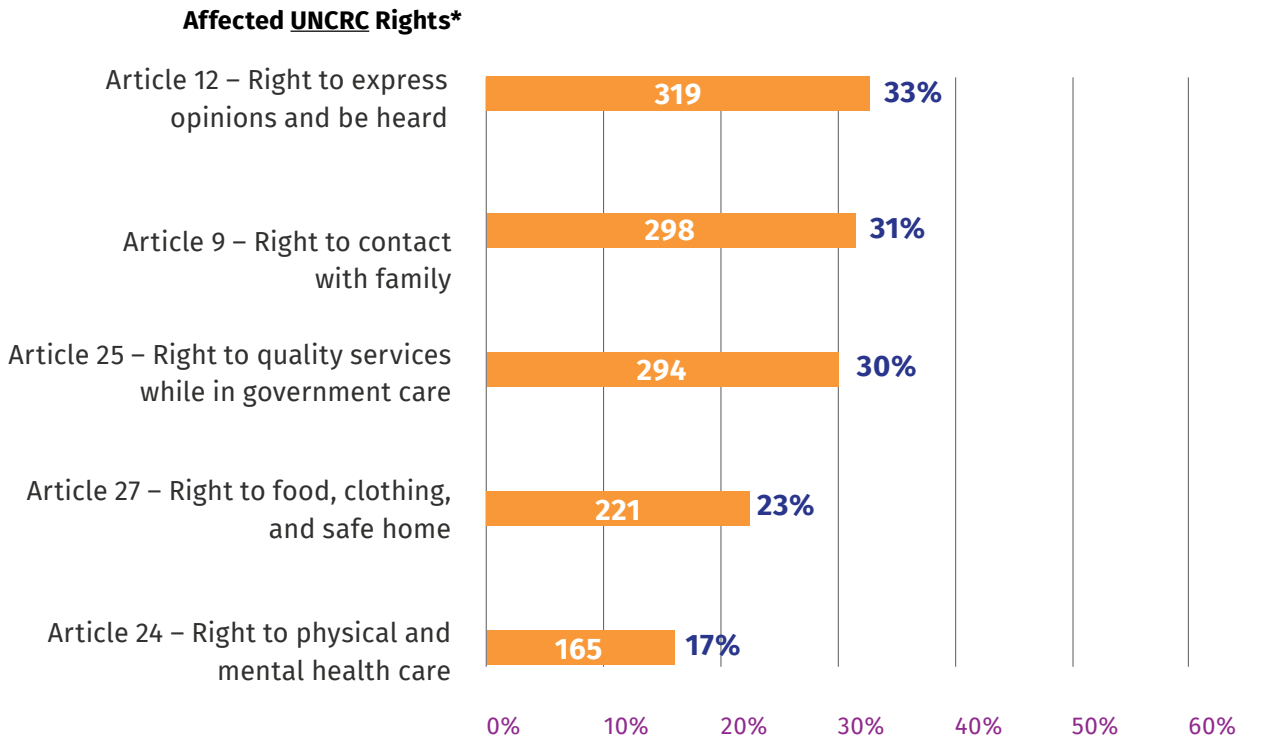
“Yes. Because it’s an important resource for people who are going through the system.”

# Children’s Rights Issues in Manitoba

Every child and youth in Manitoba has inherent rights. These rights are enshrined in the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child* (UNCRC). The UNCRC is an agreement between nearly every country in the world that recognizes and honours young people and the special support they need to experience happy, healthy, and safe childhoods.

MACY is guided by the UNCRC and tracks children’s rights issues identified in the Advocacy Services Program. In 2021-22, Advocacy Officers saw that the primary children’s rights issue in 33% of new complex advocacy cases was the right to express opinions and be heard, followed closely by the right to contact with family, which came up in 31% of cases. The right to access quality government services while in care was identified in 30% of cases.

## TOP 5 RIGHTS WE WORKED TO PROTECT



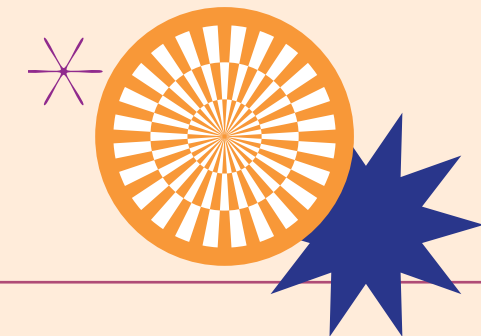
\* Closed Complex Advocacy cases can involve more than one child’s rights issue.

To view MACY’s poster versions of the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child* in English, French, Cree, Ojibwe, Oji-Cree, Tagalog, and Michif, visit our [website](#).



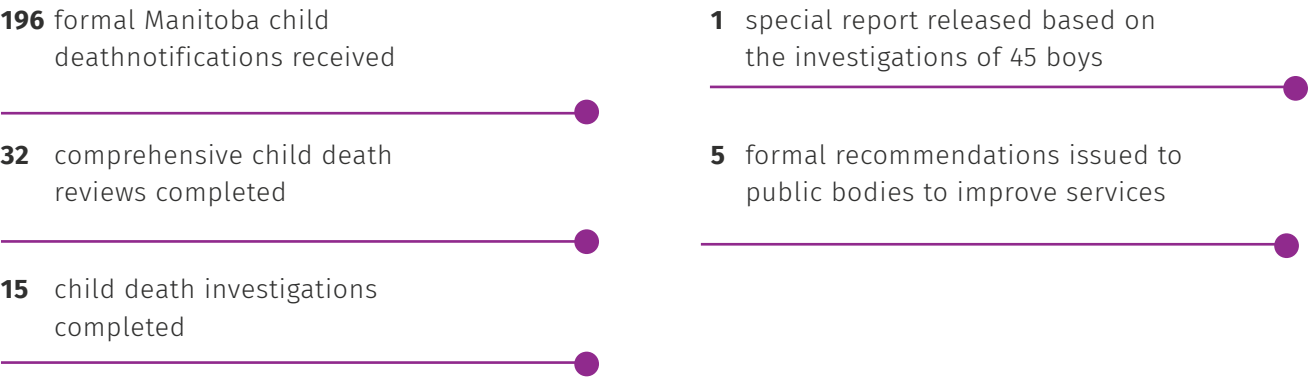
# Investigations and Child Death Reviews

When any child, youth, or young adult under age 21 dies in Manitoba, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) officially notifies the Manitoba Advocate of the death. If the child or their family had any contact with child welfare services, mental health or addiction services, or the youth justice system within one year of the death of the child, the Manitoba Advocate may review and investigate any of the public services that were delivered to the child and their family. The purpose of investigations is to make recommendations to improve the effectiveness and responsiveness of child-serving services in Manitoba.



Owi apii wegwen gwa binoojiin, eshkiniigid, maage oshki nitaawigid nondaa'j niishtana shi bezhig mashi epiitizisig nibod biinji Manitoba, owi Nakii Gamig owa Ogimaa Mashkiki Nenda'gikenjiged (OCME) mashkowi wiidamowaan owi Manitoba Geganoodamaaged owi nibowin. Giishpin owa binoojiin maage ado inoodewiziwinan agii ayaang dinaangidoniwin newen binoojiin azhiwenjige zhichigewinan, inendamowin mina yaawin maage odadisigiwaanan zhichigewinan, maage eshkiniigijig dibaakinige zhichigewin biinji ningo biboon agii nibod owa binoojiin, owa Manitoba Geganoodamaaged gnimaa adaa aanji nda-gikendaan miinwaa nanaandawi-gikendaan wegwen gwa bemaadizijig zhichigewinan agaa miinigaaaziwaad owa binoojiin miinwaa ado inodewiziwin. Owi e'naabidag newen nanaandawi-gikendamowinan aawan awii zhitoong giikimigewinan aawii naawichigaademigag owi epiichi nishing miinwaa ezhi nakwetimaagemigag newen binoojiinig nagidowenjigaaziwaad zhichigewinan zhiwe Manitoba.

## PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

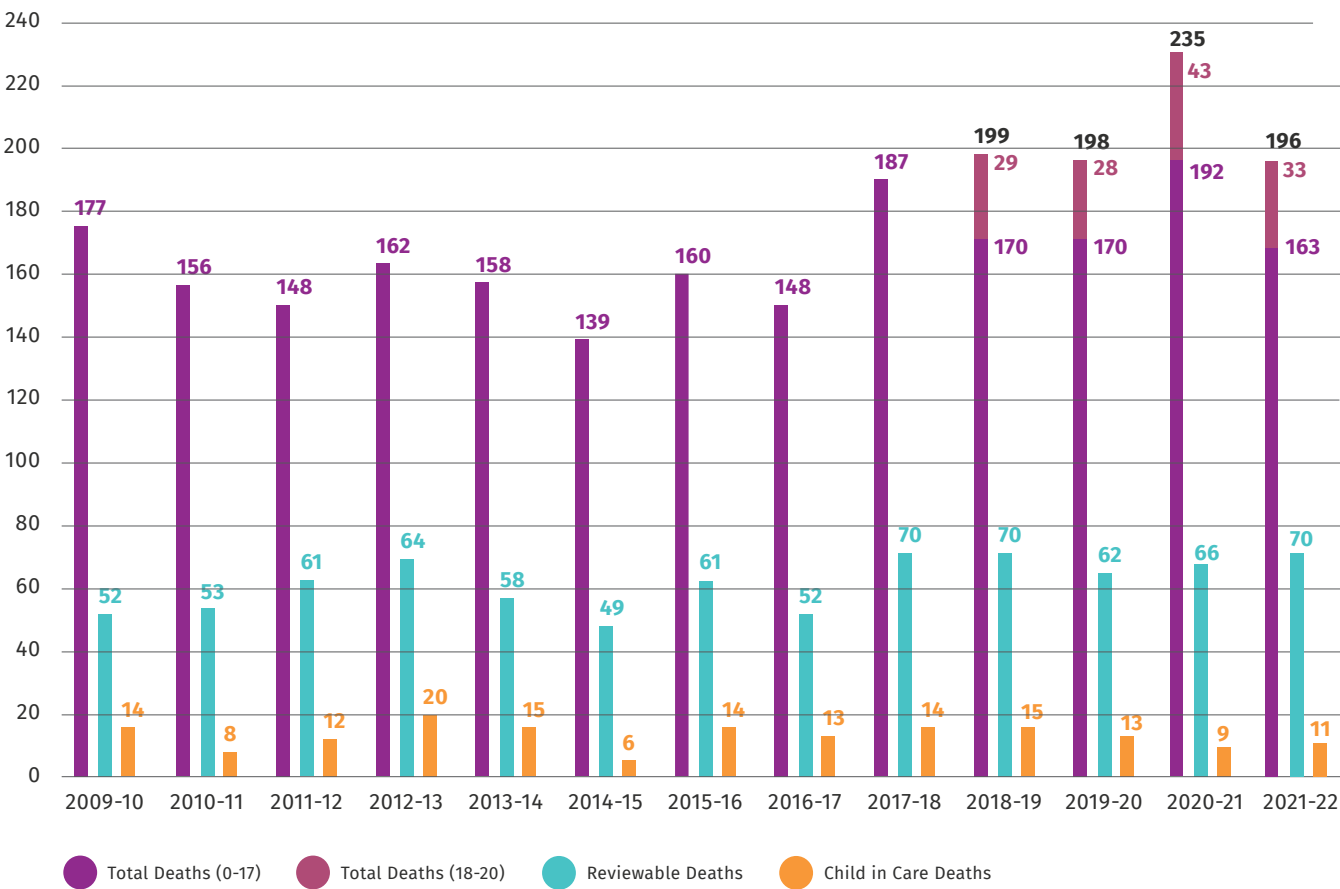


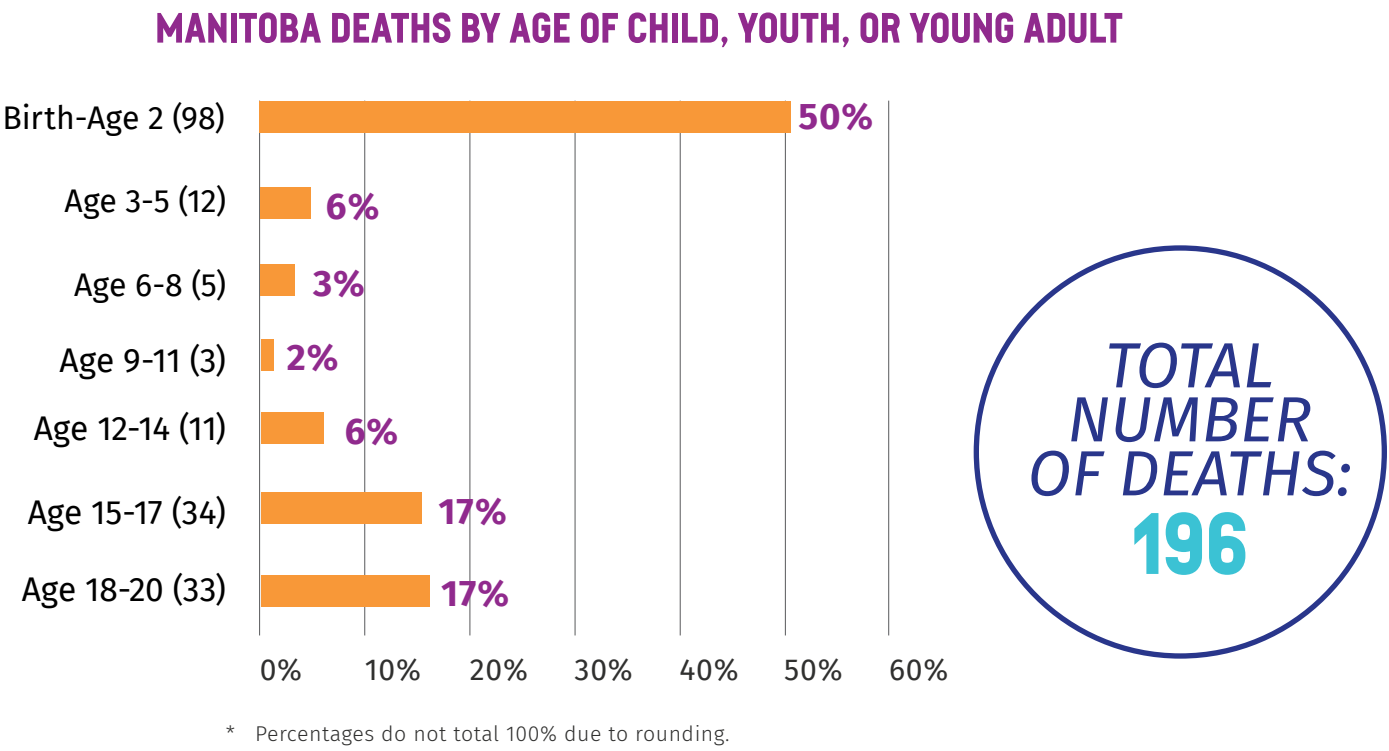
# Program Statistics

- MACY received a total of 196 official Manitoba child death notifications from the OCME in 2021-22. This number decreased by about 16% from the year previous when the Manitoba Advocate received 235 child death notifications.
- 163 notifications for children/youth aged 0-17.
  - 33 notifications for young adults aged 18-20.
  - 70 notifications were in scope for a review (receiving services from child welfare\* at the time of death or in the year prior to the death)
  - Of those 70 deaths reviewable by the Advocate, 11 notifications were for a child in care under the age of 18.

\* As of June 1, 2021, the Advocate can now review any death where a child, youth or their family had contact with the child welfare, mental health, addiction, or youth justice systems in the year before their deaths. These are considered reviewable services per *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act*.

## ANNUAL MANITOBA CHILD DEATHS





# Expanded Powers to Review and Investigate

On June 1, 2021, the Government of Manitoba proclaimed additional provisions of *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act* (ACYA), which allow the Child Death Review and Investigations Program to formally examine a wider scope of child deaths.

Where a child or their family received service within one year of the child’s death from any “reviewable service” (i.e. CFS, addictions, mental health, or youth justice), that death now falls into scope for review by the Manitoba Advocate. Once a death is determined to be in scope, the Manitoba Advocate can examine any “designated service” (i.e. CFS, addictions, mental health, youth justice, education, disabilities, victim supports) that had been involved with the child’s family.

Throughout the summer and fall of 2021, a collaborative inter-departmental group of staff from the Manitoba Advocate met with leadership and staff in the addictions, mental health, and youth justice systems to establish protocols to implement the expanded mandate. New protocols and systems were established and fully implemented within six months of the mandate expanding.

One area under the ACYA remains un-proclaimed. This relates to the duty of government agencies and public bodies to report serious injuries of children involved in these systems to the Manitoba Advocate. Full proclamation will go a long way in implementing the recommendations of the Honourable Commissioner Ted Hughes, who presided over the public inquiry into the death of Phoenix Sinclair.

## REVIEWABLE DEATHS BY SERVICE PROVIDER

Of the 70 child death notifications that were assessed as in scope for review, we found that 62 were reviewable under one service area (89%), while the remaining 8 (11%) of deaths had more than one reviewable service (child welfare, mental health, addictions and/or youth justice) involvement in the year prior to the death. This data only represents a partial year, from June 2021 until March 2022.



• Note: Percentages add up to over 100% because some children, youth, or young adults were involved with multiple systems in the year prior to their deaths.

These numbers do not reflect the needs of these young people or the fact they may have been on wait lists for these services due to the chronic lack of services in Manitoba for child and youth mental health and addictions.

“By expanding the reviewable services our independent office can investigate, the Manitoba government is ensuring we can do more in-depth investigations to explore system gaps and make recommendations for necessary improvements. My hope is this will ultimately lead to better outcomes for all Manitoba children and youth.

—AINSLEY KRONE, A/MANITOBA ADVOCATE



MANNER OF DEATH BY AGE

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner reports child deaths to the Manitoba Advocate within hours or days of a child’s or youth’s death. It is the responsibility of the Chief Medical Examiner to assign a manner of death. Manners of death can change once final autopsies and medical examiners’ reports are completed. Hence, some of the information in this table remains preliminary.

\* Undetermined is the label the chief medical examiner gives when they cannot conclusively determine how the death occurred, even if the physical cause may be known. This category includes sudden unexpected infant death (SUID) and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).

PRELIMINARY MANNER OF DEATH (Assigned by the Chief Medical Examiner)	TOTAL MANITOBA DEATHS	TOTAL PERCENTAGE	REVIEWABLE DEATHS		NON-REVIEWABLE DEATHS	
			Birth to 17	18 to 20	Birth to 17	18 to 20
Natural	86	44%	17	0	67	2
Premature	30	15%	8	0	22	0
Disease	11	6%	3	0	7	1
Medically Fragile	37	19%	4	0	32	1
Other	8	4%	2	0	6	0
Accidental	19	10%	7	1	9	2
Motor Vehicle	12	6%	3	0	7	2
Drowning	2	1%	0	0	2	0
In Home	4	2%	4	0	0	0
Other	1	1%	0	1	0	0
Suicide	26	13%	14	1	7	4
Homicide	9	5%	5	1	0	3
Undetermined*	56	29%	20	4	17	15
TOTALS	196	100%	63	7	100	26

Trends in Child Death Reviews

One of the purposes of child death reviews is to identify and analyze recurring circumstances or trends in order to improve the effectiveness and responsiveness of reviewable services, or to inform improvements to public policies. Throughout the 2021-22 year, there were 32 reviews completed with the following recurring circumstances that the Manitoba Advocate is currently monitoring:

CONTINUITY OF CARE AND DISCHARGE PLANNING FROM PSYCHIATRIC ADMISSIONS

The Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth continues to see young people underserved in the provincial mental health system, some of whom have died by suicide. Concerns include when children and families receive minimal ongoing support following a young person’s discharge from inpatient mental health care. The lack of ongoing supports and the confusion of families in knowing where to turn can increase risk to young people. Many families are left to desperately navigate the system on their own, sitting on long waitlists and accessing short-term crisis services with insufficient results.

Despite the presence of multiple indicators of risk, young people are sometimes discharged and a discharge plan is provided to their family. Some of those discharge plans do not address the scope of the child’s needs, and too often the burden of arranging aftercare falls to the family, who may be unfamiliar with how to access needed services. Further, those services may not be available to them in their community, or the family may be experiencing other barriers which limit their success. As a result, often families are left to pull together a patchwork of services for their child who may remain in a mental health crisis. Many of these issues have been exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic, which has had a devastating impact to children and youth’s access to outpatient and community-based mental health services. Further, the effects of the COVID-19 virus have also placed additional burdens on health systems that are under-resourced with some of the already-scarce child and youth mental health supports being repurposed to respond to the pandemic.

TRANSITIONS FROM CARE AND AGREEMENTS WITH YOUNG ADULTS (AYA)

An AYA is an agreement for support services for youth who were in care at the time they turned 18. The transition between youth and young adulthood is a critical stage of development and presents multiple challenges. For adolescents who

experienced complex trauma in their early years, including children who were in care, the challenges may continue when they reach the age of 18. Recognizing these unique circumstances, agencies may enter into Agreements with Young Adults (AYA). AYAs can be in place until the young person turns 21 and can support them in their educational goals, training, treatment programs, in transitioning to adult services or independent living, or any other areas that can help the young adult succeed.

While AYAs are an important tool to support young adults, MACY continues to note concerns with AYAs in a number of areas. For instance, there is little consistency across agencies, or even AYAs inside the same agency, with respect to how AYAs are offered, approved, administered, and cancelled. Additionally, AYAs may be offered based on a pre-determined set of goals which young adults must meet to maintain support. AYAs can become contingent on subjective measures of success, thus leaving some of the young adults facing the greatest challenges, without support.

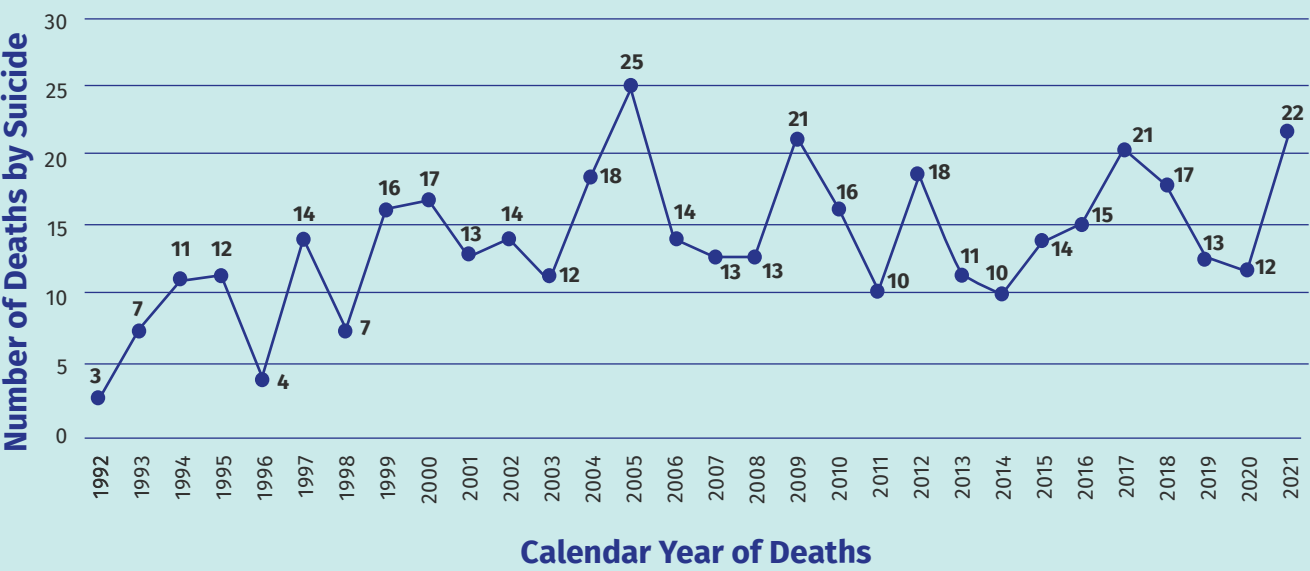
SERVICE IMPACTS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted every aspect of our lives over the past two years. Systems have had to navigate ever-changing public health orders while still providing essential services to children and families. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated already-scarce resources, especially in rural and northern communities. As noted in our special report *The Right to be Heard*, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the mental health needs of young people are crippling an already struggling mental health system. In May 2021, the Manitoba Advocate joined with other members of the Canadian Council of Youth and Child Advocates to issue a statement urging governments to increase investment in child and youth mental health during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. This is a top concern for the Manitoba Advocate as it affects children and youth’s right to quality health care (Article 24, UNCRC).

# An Enduring Crisis: Youth Suicide in Manitoba

## SUICIDE IS THE LEADING MANNER OF DEATH FOR YOUTH AGES 10-17 IN MANITOBA.

Since the beginning of the Investigations and Child Death Reviews Program in 2008, the Manitoba Advocate has examined the issue of youth suicide, a public health crisis that has continued to affect too many families in Manitoba. Through child death investigations, public special reports, and research the Manitoba Advocate has continued to focus on actions to address gaps that contribute to this crisis.



\* Note: this graph is based on OCME data (for 1992-2008) and MACY data for (2009-2021). As our office receives updated information from the OCME, manners of death are updated. As such, the data in this graph should not be compared to previous point-in-time reports. There also may be slight differences between OCME and MACY data due to when death notifications were received and recorded.

Over the past 30 years, 413 children and youth under the age of 18 years old have died by suicide in Manitoba. As can be seen in the figure above, during the 2021 calendar year, 22 young people died by suicide. The connection between mental illness, including addictions, and suicide is well established, including evidence and research in a number of MACY’s public special reports. Indeed, youth lost to suicide often struggle with addictions and significant mental health challenges.

In the face of such tragedy, it is important to remember that suicide is preventable, and, with, timely early intervention supports, mental illness and addiction issues can be prevented or minimized. For this reason, MACY has issued several recommendations calling for a continuum of youth mental health and addiction services and supports that are evidence-based, culturally-safe, trauma-informed, and accessible when they are needed. For more information about these recommendations and compliance by the Government of Manitoba with them, please visit our [recommendation tracking website page](#).

Number  
of deaths  
by suicide  
(<18 years old)  
**413**

Nearly every year since 2015, the Manitoba Advocate has launched initiatives to highlight the ongoing crisis of youth suicides in the province.

- 2013 – Poster presentation at the Canadian Association of Suicide Prevention examining youth suicide in Manitoba between 2009 and 2012.
- 2015 – (Phase I) [The Changing Face of Youth Suicide in Manitoba and the Narrow Window for Intervention](#): An examination of 50 youth who died by suicide.
- 2016 – (Phase II) [The Changing Face of Youth Suicide in Manitoba and the Narrow Window for Intervention](#): A research study comparing 50 youth who died by suicide in Manitoba between 2009 and 2013 with a randomized control group of 100 youth who were also involved with child welfare during that time.
- 2017 – (Phase III) Thrival Kits™ Pilot Project: A mental health promotion program developed from the findings of Phase I and Phase II. Developed through a partnership with the Canadian Mental Health Association – Manitoba and Winnipeg. Learn more here <https://manitobaadvocate.ca/adult/helpful-resources/thrival-kits>.
- 2019 – [A National Paper on Youth Suicide](#): Developed in partnership with members of the Canadian Council of Child and Youth Advocates, including three calls to action to the Government of Canada.
- 2020 – [The Slow Disappearance of Matthew: A Family’s Fight for Youth Mental Health Care in the Wake of Bullying and Mental Illness](#): This special report stems from the investigation of a youth who died by suicide, and issues eight recommendations for system change.

- 2020 – (Phase IV) [Stop Giving Me a Number and Start Giving Me a Person”: How 22 Girls Illuminate the Cracks in the Manitoba Youth Mental Health and Addiction System \(2020\)](#): This special report reviews the suicide deaths of 19 girls who had child welfare involvement and issues seven recommendations for system change.
- 2021 – [Finding the Way Back: An Aggregate Investigation of 45 Boys Who Died by Homicide or Suicide in Manitoba](#): Complementing the special report published in 2020 which focused on girls, this special report reviews the deaths of 45 boys who died by suicide or homicide, and issues five recommendations for system change.

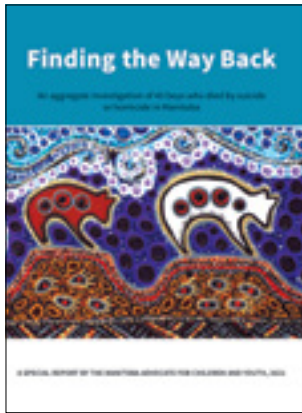
The Manitoba Advocate continues to monitor, with concern, the issue of youth suicide and the actions the Government of Manitoba is taking to implement recommendations made in the reports outlined above. Our unrelenting advocacy focuses on the persistent service gaps in Manitoba’s child and youth mental health system. Suicide deaths can be prevented, if early assessment and interventions are available and offered to children and youth. The Government of Manitoba has a duty to children and their families to provide the highest attainable standard of health care, including mental health care and addictions under the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child* (Art. 24).



## SPECIAL REPORT:

### Finding the Way Back.

#### An Aggregate Investigation of 45 Boys who Died by Suicide or Homicide in Manitoba (November 2021)



Too often unseen, boys in Manitoba need our attention. As a follow-up to a 2020 investigation focused on the suicide deaths of girls, the Manitoba Advocate set out to see what common issues exist among boys in Manitoba who are at risk of suicide or homicide and what systemic improvements can be made to help boys, particularly those who are First Nations, Metis, or Inuit. Of the 45 boys who died by either suicide or homicide and whose stories inspired this special report, 78% were identified as First Nations youth and 49% lived in northern Manitoba.

Guided by the Knowledge Keeper and Elders Council at the office of the Manitoba Advocate, the Manitoba Advocate combined investigative and qualitative research approaches in the drafting

of this report. Together with Dr. Marlyn Bennett, a First Nations scholar and professor, the office also held a digital storytelling workshop with two First Nations young men, who are also members of MACY's Youth Ambassador Advisory Squad! They created a music video which was released by the Manitoba Advocate alongside the special report, which details some of their lived experiences. In accordance with her authority under *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act*, and in alignment with *Calls to Action* from the national Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the Manitoba Advocate made four recommendations in this report and re-issued an important recommendation from 2018 to improve the effectiveness and responsiveness of child welfare, education, and youth justice services in Manitoba.

#### RECOMMENDATION SUMMARIES:

1. Implement evidence-based, culturally-safe interventions for caregivers with substance use disorders.
2. Continue work on an Indigenous Inclusion Strategy in schools, in collaboration with school divisions.
3. Develop anti-racist education initiatives in schools for students and staff.
4. Fund a comprehensive provincial youth gang prevention strategy.
5. Immediately respond to the lack of effective substance use treatment services for youth by prioritizing the development and implementation of a youth addictions strategy.

**Read the report:** <http://manitobaadvocate.ca/wp-content/uploads/MACY-Special-Report-Finding-the-Way-Back.pdf>



## The Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth's Submission to Manitoba's Homelessness Strategy (February 2022)

In February 2022, MACY was pleased to make a submission to the Department of Families with the purpose of informing Manitoba's Homelessness Strategy. This submission falls under MACY's legal responsibility to advise ministers responsible for the provision of designated services about any matter relating to that service, as per section 13 of *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act*. This submission – and the work of MACY as a whole – is guided by human rights instruments including the *United Nations*

*Convention on the Rights of the Child* (UNCRC). People experiencing homelessness, including children and youth, are rights-holders entitled to safe, affordable, and adequate housing. Using this children's rights lens, the submission presents information and 13 summary actions intended to provide useful guidance to the Minister and the department as they embark on the development of Manitoba's homelessness strategy.

**Read the submission:** <https://manitobaadvocate.ca/wp-content/uploads/MACYS-Homelessness-Submission-to-FAM-February-2022.pdf>

## Eishia Hudson Investigation and Inquest

As many Manitobans know, Eishia Hudson died in 2020 after a gunshot wound inflicted by a member of the Winnipeg Police Service. Immediately after that tragic event, the Manitoba Advocate publicly committed to a review of Eishia's life through a child-centred lens. On March 5, 2021, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner called a public inquest into Eishia's death, in accordance with *The Fatality Inquiries Act*. In February 2022, the Manitoba Advocate applied for and was later granted full standing in the upcoming public inquest examining the circumstances of Eishia's death. This is the first time in the office's 30-year history that the Advocate has been granted standing in an inquest.

In granting standing to MACY, the Chief Judge of the Provincial Court stated:

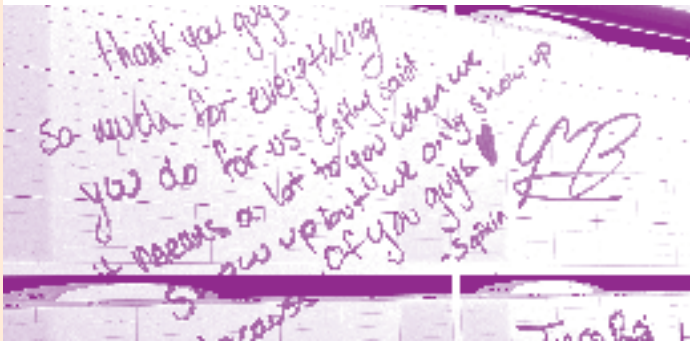
**“MACY's role is to support, assist, inform, and advise children, adults and their families regarding services which are meant to be supports for them. MACY is also an advocate for children's rights. It works to amplify the voices of youth across Manitoba. Importantly MACY works to ensure the safety and well being of all children in Manitoba.”**  
(Decision of the Provincial Court of Manitoba, 2022)

This precedent-setting decision allows the Office of the Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth to represent the interests of children and continue to advocate for the advancement of their rights through involvement in the public inquest processes.

# Youth Engagement

Guided by the articles described in the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child*, the Youth Engagement Program promotes children’s rights and believes every child should have a voice in decisions that affect their lives. The 2021-22 fiscal year marked the third year for the Youth Engagement Program and the Youth Ambassador Advisory Squad (YAAS!). Following MACY’s guiding principles, one Youth Engagement Coordinator and YAAS!, supported by the Knowledge Keeper, offered public education, engagement, and outreach activities virtually throughout the province.

Epimi miikoshimikoyan ishi piihikan Minsiwe Ahkiink Okimaak Otinacikewiniwaa Omashkawisiwiniwaa Apinonciishihshak, Oshkaatis Kanoniwewin Wiicihiwewin okanotaan apinonciishihshan Omashkawisiwin niniin miina otepwetaan kahkina apinonciishihsh ci kii kanotank kaa wii tootawinc. 2021-2022 shooniyaa wahki mii hiwe niso ahki Oshkaatis Wiicihiwewin miina Oshkaatis kaa Wiicihaac wiici Oshkaatisan (YASS!) Piminishahikaatenik MACY otepwetamowin inacikewin, peshik Oshkaatisan kaa wiitanokiimaac miina YASS! okii wiicihaan Kikentamaawin Okanawenciken, okii pakitinaanaawaa minsiwe ci naakwak



## PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

565 connections

with child- and youth- serving organizations,

323 children and youth

who received received educational boxes with rights-based activities for National Child Day

67 outreach activities

where the primary audience was youth, 49% increase from last year



# Youth Ambassador Advisory Squad – YAAS!

MACY’s Youth Ambassador Advisory Squad (YAAS!) is one of the key components of the Youth Engagement Program. Nearly two dozen members between the ages of 17 and 25 represent their lived experience and their home communities from across the province. YAAS! members meet regularly and are engaged in the activities at MACY.

## YAAS! members are from these communities across Manitoba:

- Bloodvein First Nation
  - Poplar River First Nation
  - Fox Lake Cree Nation
  - Sagkeeng First Nation
- York Landing First Nation
  - Dauphin
  - Steinbach
  - The Pas
  - Thompson
  - Winnipeg

YAAS! OUTPUTS - 2021-22 *	
Cultural activities – This includes medicine picking, drumming, and more.	13
YAAS! meetings – These are bi-weekly meetings attended by MACY staff and YAAS! throughout the year.	25
Number of times YAAS! provided research consultations – These include internal MACY consultations and with external research partners.	12

\* Youth outreach in the community was lower in 2021-22 due to ongoing public health orders that made in-person gatherings more challenging. The program was also understaffed for part of the fiscal year.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2021-22

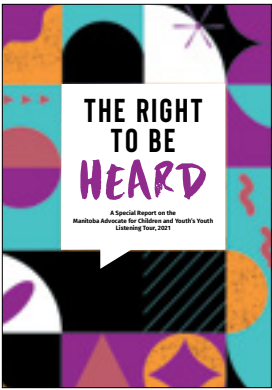
**National Child Day Webinar** – YAAS! members Cleche Kokolo and Cherice Liebrecht hosted a live webinar with the Manitoba Advocate on the topic of how youth can be effective advocates for children’s rights.

**National Forum on Equity in Education for Children in Care Webinar** – YAAS! members, Trevor Merasty and Michael Breland, participated along with MACY staff in this national forum webinar on *Perspectives on School for Children in Care*

**Community Action Project Training through Equitas** – YAAS! Youth members Rose Fontaine and Sophia Stang participated in a series of sessions to learn how to lead a Community Action Project. This culminated in them leading the Manitoba Advocate’s children’s rights mural initiative, known as the Re-Right Project. For more information about the Re-Right Project, visit our website: <https://manitobaadvocate.ca/youth/who-we-are/yaas/re-right/>.



# SPECIAL REPORT: The Right to be Heard: A Special Report on the Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth's Youth Listening Tour (August 2021)



The *Right to Be Heard* is a special report featuring the thoughts and opinions of hundreds of Manitoba youth who discussed community issues and proposed solutions for a better future. The findings are based on a province-wide Youth Listening Tour and online survey, which were hosted by MACY staff in 2020. The purpose of the Youth Listening Tour was to raise awareness of children's rights while also gathering information about the challenges, priorities, and solutions youth identify in their communities and beyond. Youth raised a variety of diverse, but often related issues they face in their communities, including substance use, mental health and well-being, poverty, violence, racism, and discrimination.

Overwhelmingly, youth spoke about the need for more investments in accessible mental health and addictions programs and the need for more recreational activities that provide healthy opportunities and community belonging. This special report underscores the importance of the Manitoba Advocate's open recommendations, including in the area of mental health and addictions, and presents governments and decision-makers in Manitoba with the opportunity to hear the voices of youth and let these contributions guide them to make informed decisions about their strategic priorities and funding.

**Read the report:** <http://manitobaadvocate.ca/wp-content/uploads/MACY-Mini-Youth-Report-Listening-TourSCREEN-Spreads-FIN.pdf>

## Celebrating National Child Day

Every year, MACY celebrates National Child Day on November 20th with a project to engage young people in conversations about their UNCRC rights. On the heels of the previous year's success with the *Got Rights?* boxes, a new lesson plan was developed to distribute to participating middle and senior years' classrooms across Manitoba. The 'How to Become an Advocate' lesson plan was distributed along with MACY information and a copy of the special report, *The Right to Be Heard*, which highlighted issues raised by youth across Manitoba and their ideas about how to address their concerns.

This year's lesson plan was intended:

- To teach students about advocacy and that their voices are important and can make a difference in their community.
- To provide an overview of the work of the MACY office and the significance of National Child Day (November 20, 2021).
- To familiarize students with MACY's youth-friendly special report, *The Right to be Heard*, based on findings from the Manitoba Advocate's Youth Listening Tour

Students were encouraged to extend their learning on advocacy and do some local advocacy on a topic that would be important to them.

The project reached 323 students in five communities across Manitoba.

Would you like a *Got Rights?* box for your classroom? Please contact us at [info@manitobaadvocate.ca](mailto:info@manitobaadvocate.ca)



## Digital Storytelling

As part of the *Finding the Way Back* special report, two Youth Ambassador Advisory Squad (YAAS!) members, Michael Breland and Trevor Merasty (Tyson T), worked with Dr. Marlyn Bennett to create a video describing their experiences in care.

**Link:** ['Lied To' - Digital Storytelling Project - YouTube](#)



## The Re-Right Project

Our YAAS! team began thinking about creative ways to promote children's rights in 2019, when a member talked about painting rights on outdoor walls. From this discussion, the idea of a project with murals painted throughout Manitoba highlighting UNCRC rights was born. Sophia Stang and Rose Fontaine, YAAS! members and the mural project leads, worked on the project name, logo, and mural design, and along with other members of the YAAS! team, painted our inaugural mural on a Project Neechewam building at 591 Sherbrook Street in Winnipeg, in summer 2021.

The mural highlighted Article 19 – *The right to rest, play and enjoy your life* and featured muralist Annie Bergen who mentored the YAAS! members. An important partner in this project is Take Pride Winnipeg who have provided important support to our YAAS! group.

The next iteration of the project has begun in working with other youth serving agencies across Manitoba in various communities to complete murals on other UNCRC rights. In March of 2022, the Youth Advisory Group at the Huddle on Broadway completed a mural featuring muralist Jeanie Red Eagle and the UNCRC Article 6 – *The right to not only live but thrive*. Two more projects will be completed in 2022.

Organizations that are interested in collaborating on a mural can reach out to the Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth office by phone at 1-800-263-7146 or email [info@manitobaadvocate.ca](mailto:info@manitobaadvocate.ca).

**Re-Right Project Video:** <https://youtu.be/OduhPH23xgw>





# Public Education

The goal of the Public Education Program is to enhance public understanding of the experiences and rights of children, youth, and young adults in Manitoba. This involves bringing knowledge into action through engaging and multi-media projects, connecting with media to elevate the stories of children and youth, organizing special report launches, maintaining the website and social media pages, and coordinating presentations and community outreach

In 2021-22, COVID-19 public health orders continued to limit MACY's typically busy travel and presentations schedule. The Public Education Program continued to do much of its programming online this past year. As a result, MACY was able to extend its outreach to include larger audiences and people from around the world, with popular webinars, a new original podcast about human trafficking, and our I Love to Read Month programming, which was in high demand.

## PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

**107 public education presentations**

made (including 59 virtual presentations to classrooms for I Love to Read Month)

**6 original webinars**

produced

**1 new podcast series**

titled *Inside Human Trafficking in Canada*

**32,144 Thrival Kits™**

delivered to students and **1,915 kits** delivered to facilitators

**7 language translations**

of MACY materials, including UNCRC posters in English, French, Cree, Ojibwe, Oji-Cree, Tagalog and in Braille (English)

## NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

To mark the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, our office released our internal ReconciliACTION Framework, which includes a workplan. Led by the Indigenous Deputy Advocate and Knowledge Keeper at our office, the [ReconciliACTION Framework](#) is a guide we use in our office to advance meaningful reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

We chose the term ReconciliACTION because it goes beyond the conceptual awareness that something has to change. It means collectively we need to put a plan into place through a set of actions that show a change

in our belief systems, support for social justice where Indigenous rights are concerned, and an allyship that is unwavering. We are committed to receiving ongoing feedback from individuals and communities to guide this work. To share your comments, please fill out our ReconciliACTION Framework Feedback <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ReconciliACTION>.

Video: Honouring Orange Shirt Day at the Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FBvsBD8axp4>



The Knowledge Keeper and Indigenous Deputy Advocate joined the Manitoba Advocate on air from our podcast studio to discuss the importance of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.





## A Webinar Series on Achieving Substantive Equality for Children with Disabilities in Manitoba

Throughout October 2021, this webinar series provided an overview of the themes covered in the Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth's (MACY's) report, [Bridging the Gaps: Achieving Substantive Equality for Children with Disabilities in Manitoba](#). The Bridging the Gaps report is a special report stemming from a child death investigation and broader systemic research, which includes nine recommendations for systemic change in the children's disability services system of Manitoba.

Our webinar series included three interconnected webinars:

1. **10 Things You Need to Know About Equity for Children with Disabilities**, presented by the MACY Research Hub
2. **Best Practices in Case Coordination and Integration**, a conversation with Dr. Richard Antonelli, Medical Director and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School
3. **Implementing Jordan's Principle for First Nations Children and Youth**, with representatives from Jordan's Principle

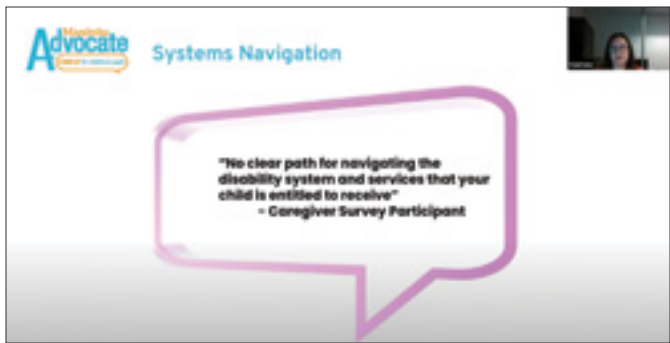
This webinar series was very well-attended and MACY received a great deal of positive feedback. Over 81% of participants said they would recommend the webinar to others and over 90% of participants found the webinar relevant to their work.

“

The updates on JP [Jordan's Principle] in the province regarding support for Inuit families and the initiative through Action Therapy is positive for our advocacy support.

– Webinar participant, service provider

”



## Webinar: How to Support Indigenous Boys

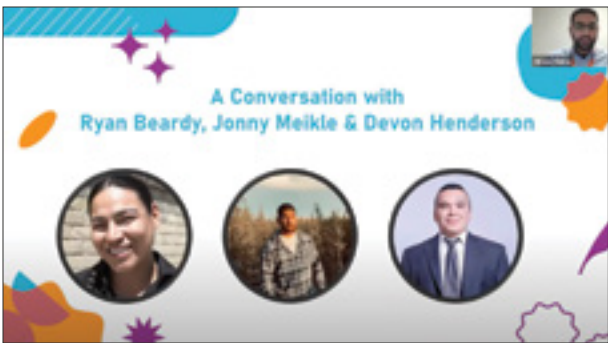
On November 8, 2021, MACY hosted a webinar called *How to Support Indigenous Boys*. The conversation included findings and recommendations for systemic change made in a special report released by the Manitoba Advocate titled *Finding the Way Back: An aggregate investigation of 45 boys who died by homicide or suicide in Manitoba*.

MACY hosted a discussion with panelists Ryan Beardy, Jonny Meikle, and Devon Henderson who offered their wisdom on how Indigenous boys can be supported to heal and thrive.

This webinar was MACY's most well-attended ever, with hundreds of attendees, and generated many important conversations on social media and during the webinar itself.

### Did you know...

All webinar participants who fill out evaluation surveys receive MACY certificates of completion, which may be used for learning credits through some professional regulatory bodies.



## Piinci Piiwaapik: Keyishi wiicshintwaa Anishiniwapiwoncii shishshak

Ihima November 8, 2021, MACY okii naakotoon piinci piiwaapik kikinwahamaakewin Keyishi wiicshintwaa Anishiniwapiwonciiishshak. Kii tashincikaatewan mihkikewinan miina ikitowinan minsiwe ci aancicikaatekin eyikitomakahk kici aacimowin Manitoba Okanociketamaake eshinikaatenik Mikaman Keyishi Kiiweyan: *Minsiwe nanaantawencikewin niimitana niyaananoshaap apinonciishshak kaakii nihsintwaa naanta ekii nihsitiwaac piinci Manitoba*.

MACY okii wiici tashincikemaan kaakii apiwaac Ryan Beardy, Jonny Meikle, miina Devon Henderson ekii pakiti namiwaac okakiitaawentamowiniwaa aani kekii ishi wiicshintwaa naapewapiwonciiishshak ci kiikewaac miina ci mashkawaatisiwaac.

This webinar was MACY's most well-attended ever, with hundreds of attendees, and generated many important conversations on social media and during the webinar itself. Ohowe piiwaapiko kikinwahamaakewin mawaac mishiin kii piishaawak MACY otocikewinink, mishiinwaa mitaahsomitana awiyak okii wiicitonaawaa, miina mishtahi ikitowinan kii pakitinikaatewan piinci piiwaapik miina mekwaac kaakii totcikaatek.

### Would you like a presentation?

We offer MACY and UNCRC-focused presentations to children, youth, and adults. Please contact us at [info@manitobaadvocate.ca](mailto:info@manitobaadvocate.ca)

“

The story and discussion was [sic] appropriate for the students. Charlene explained parts of the story to the students and related it to their personal experiences.

”

## I Love to Read Month

In February 2021, MACY offered free reading sessions to classrooms for *I Love to Read Month*, featuring books about children's rights. The readings were facilitated by our staff in both English and French. This initiative proved very popular based on the large number of requests we received, and we are planning to continue to work with schools to offer it each February.



**Book 1:** *I Have the Right to be a Child* by Alain Serres, Aurélia Fronty

**Book 2:** *This Child, Every Child – A Book about the World's Children* by David J. Smith

**Book 3:** *Our Rights: How Kids Are Changing the World* by Janet Wilson

**Book 4:** *Our Heroes: How Kids Are Making a Difference* by Janet Wilson

**Book 5:** *When We Were Alone/Quand on était seul* by David Alexander Robertson

**Book 6:** *On the Trapline/Ligne de trappe* by David Alexander Robertson

**Book 7:** *Phyllis' Orange Shirt/L'histoire du Chandail Orange* by Phyllis Webstad, Brock Nicol

**Book 8:** *We Are Water Protectors/Nous sommes les protecteurs de l'eau* by Carole Lindstrom

**Book 9:** *I Sang You Down from the Stars* by Tasha Spillett-Sumner



### Podcast: Inside Human Trafficking in Canada

Human trafficking is one of many forms of modern slavery that persists today. Canada is a source, transit, and destination country for forced labour, forced marriage, and commercial sexual exploitation, which are all forms of human trafficking. Children have a right to be protected from exploitation and abuse.

To explore this issue further, the Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth teamed up with Youth Troopers for Global Action to host our original podcast called *Inside Human Trafficking in Canada*. The goal of the podcast was to help the audience get educated to stop exploitation.

Hosted by MACY’s Program Manager for Research and Quality Assurance, Dr. Karlee Sapoznik Evans, the podcast included interviews with guest experts and lived experience leaders from across Canada, discussing the effects of human trafficking, as well as solutions to this often-hidden crime.

The podcast was launched in February 2022 and the seven-episode series featured illuminating conversations with guests Elder Mae Louise Campbell, Elder Laurie Mackenzie, ‘Mimi’ Shamin Brown, Dr. Bob Christmas, Deepa Mattoo, Michael Sacco, Shelley Gilbert, Kelly Tallon Franklin, and Ainsley Krone, Acting Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth.

The podcast can be found on Apple podcasts and on Spotify, or by following this link: <https://insidehumantraffickingincanada.wordpress.com/>



### Thrival Kits™

The Public Education Program is also responsible for helping deliver Thrival Kits™ to Grade 4-6 classrooms across the province, in partnership with the Canadian Mental Health Association – Manitoba and Winnipeg. This year marked the largest roll-out and delivery of Thrival Kits™ ever, thanks to a large investment by the Government of Manitoba. Thrival Kits™ were also made available in French for the first time as Trousses vivacité MC.

#### Number of students participating in the Thrival Kits™ project

2017-18	450
2018-19	2,250
2019-20	4,000
2020-21	28,100
2021-22	32,144

Throughout the year, our team worked to develop a new look and new content for our website ([thrivalkits.ca](http://thrivalkits.ca)), which included a new internal side of the site designed for project leads and facilitators to facilitate conversations and locate all curriculum materials in a central hub.

Early on in the pandemic, the team produced eight online activity videos and posted them on social media to help promote mental health for all, inside and outside of classrooms. Over the summer, the team also created seven videos for Thrival Kits™ project leads and facilitators, introducing and then exploring each of the curriculum themes. We also regularly seek feedback from our collaborators in the education system and are grateful for their great reviews of the project so far.

Next steps for the Thrival Kits™ project include developing more virtual content and collaborating with additional First Nations and Metis educators in Manitoba to develop more cultural enhancements to the curriculum. In addition, the project will be undergoing a formal impact evaluation in the 2022-23 school year.

Thrival Kits Video <https://youtu.be/3Dg757ru4mY>

“

I absolutely LOVE the program and look forward to implementing it again in the future! I think the more we implement it, the more comfortable students will get with mental health conversations. It will help become even more of a regular occurrence.

– CLASSROOM TEACHER AND FACILITATOR

”

A brief introduction to MACY, narrated for a youth audience: <https://youtu.be/Xdefg4Dpnec>

#### Follow MACY on social media



Facebook: [facebook.com/ManitobaAdvocate/](https://facebook.com/ManitobaAdvocate/)

Twitter: [twitter.com/MB\\_Advocate](https://twitter.com/MB_Advocate)

Instagram [instagram.com/manitobaadvocate/](https://instagram.com/manitobaadvocate/)

YouTube: [tinyurl.com/ManitobaAdvocate](https://tinyurl.com/ManitobaAdvocate)



# The Research Hub

The Research Hub facilitates, collaborates, and conducts high-quality research projects – including reports, briefings, submissions, and statements of concern – in order to inform policy decisions and improve the effectiveness and responsiveness of designated provincial services provided to children and youth in Manitoba. These research projects are used to inform work on systemic issues, including child death investigations and special reports. Research and any resulting special reports released by the Manitoba Advocate may include recommendations for government departments, provincial Minister(s) responsible for the provision of a designated service, and/or any public body or other person providing a designated service that the Advocate considers appropriate.

Anima Natonikéwikamik níkánístam, papéyatoki wítam, éko kinawápatamwak anihi ká-kici natoní kiskénitamona isícikéwina-éko ékota óhi, ácinóké masinahikan wítamáwi masinahikan, káwí isi nócitániwak káki pakitinikátéki masinahikana, éko anihi kékwána ká kinomáciskákocik óma oci masinahikan-ékota ta oci kiskénitakik tánísi kéki isi wanasowátakik kékwána éko mína ta mínwastácik óma ká isi ápataki éko óma nawac sémák ta nócitániwaki éyako óma ká isi paminat óta pici tipáskanik Manitoba kakinaw awásisa éko oskátisa. Óhi natonikéwi kiskénitamona isícikéwina ápatanwa ta wítakik óma étatoskátakik anihi ká isi paminicik ininiwak, éko ká pisci nántaw isi póni pimátisit awásis mína kici ácinókéwina masinahikana. Natonikéwina éko piko anihi kici ácinókéwi masinahikana kákipé pakitinak awa Manitoba otayamishistamákéw ékota taki takonwa óhi pikiskwéstamáwina anihi oci kici okimáwin paminikéwina, éko/wéká piko anikik wéká awiyak nántaw ká isi paminát óki kakinaw ininiwak éko ékosi anima kawisk é isícikániwak ká isi kinawápatakik ókik Otayamishitamákéwak.

## RESEARCH PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

**1** special report update on the use of segregation and solitary confinement in Manitoba youth custody facilities

**1** special report on the thoughts and opinions of hundreds of Manitoba youth who discussed community issues and proposed solutions for a better future

**1** peer-reviewed academic article published

## SPECIAL REPORT: Breaking the Cycle: An Update on the Use of Segregation and Solitary Confinement in Manitoba Youth Custody Facilities (June 2021)

Since the release of our 2019 report, [\*Learning from Nelson Mandela: A Report on the Use of Solitary Confinement and Pepper Spray in Manitoba Youth Custody Facilities\*](#), the Manitoba Advocate has been closely monitoring the use of segregation and solitary confinement in Manitoba youth custody facilities and the government's progress by analyzing monthly data and working with departmental officials on strategies to move each recommendation made in our 2019 report

closer to completion. To date, only one out of six recommendations — increasing oversight of pepper spray use — has been deemed fully compliant by MACY.

The special report update, *Breaking the Cycle*, provides new insight and amplifies the voices of youth who continue to experience segregation and solitary confinement in Manitoba youth custody facilities as well as the voices of justice personnel who need more tools to manage the needs of youth, many who enter custody carrying emotional trauma and other complex needs. In the report, the Manitoba Advocate again reiterated recommendations made in 2019 calling for an end to solitary confinement of youth over 24 hours, changes in the law to further restrict segregation under 24 hours, and for investments in trauma-informed and culturally-appropriate care for youth in custody.

**Read the report:** <https://manitobaadvocate.ca/wp-content/uploads/MACY-2021-Solitary-Confinement-Update-Web.pdf>

## A Ten-year Retrospective Case Review of Risk Factors Associated with Sleep-related Infant Deaths (March 2022)

As highlighted in our 2020 special report, [\*Safe and Sound: A Special Report on the Unexpected Sleep-Related Deaths of 145 Manitoba Infants\*](#), sleep-related infant deaths are a serious public health concern in Manitoba: they remain the second leading cause of death for infants between the ages of one month and 12 months.

In order to reach a wider national and international audience, including policy makers, clinicians, nurses, and other medical professionals, Dr. Matthew Maher from MACY led the development of an article which was submitted to a peer-reviewed medical journal and subsequently published in February 2022. The article examines the specific risk factors that contributed to unsafe sleeping environments and the sleep-related deaths of 145 Manitoba infants between 2009 and 2018. Only after identifying and addressing the changing patterns of these known and modifiable risk factors can we hope to increase infant safety and reduce sleep-related infant deaths in the future.

**Read the article:** Godoy, M., & Maher, M. (2022). A ten-year retrospective case review of risk factors associated with sleep-related infant deaths. *Acta Paediatrica*, 111(6), 1176–85. <https://doi.org/10.1111/apa.16281>



## Research Partnerships

The Manitoba Advocate collaborates with experts and researchers in Manitoba working on children’s rights issues, including:

1. First Nations Health and Social Secretariat of Manitoba
2. Institute of Urban Studies, University of Winnipeg
3. Centre for Human Rights Research, University of Manitoba
4. Manitoba Centre for Health Policy (includes SPECTRUM – Social Policy Evaluation Collaborative Team at Universities in Manitoba)
5. Dr. Roberta Woodgate, University of Manitoba, Tier 1 Canada Research Chair Award in Child and Family Engagement in Health Research and Healthcare
6. Dr. Kendra Nixon and the Research and Education for Solutions to Violence and Abuse Network (RESOLVE)
7. *Supporting the Health of Survivors of Family Violence in Family Law Proceedings*, Winnipeg and Area Community of Practice
8. Centre for Healthcare Innovation, Rady Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Manitoba
9. Master of Human Rights Program, Faculty of Law, University of Manitoba

## Systemic Advocacy

The Systemic Advocacy Analyst is responsible for tracking trends in systemic issues and designing effective and strategic response plans. While working as part of the Research Hub, they coordinate with the Advocacy Services and Investigations and Child Death Review Programs to identify and assess issues that are affecting multiple children, youth, young adults, and families. This year, Systemic Advocacy projects included monitoring the well-being and stability of youth impacted by the closure of Brightscapes Endeavours, specifically, reporting on any outstanding advocacy needs facing the youth and evaluating how the transitions were managed. The Systemic Advocacy Analyst also continued to monitor the issue of segregation in youth custody

facilities by attending the youth centre on a monthly basis to meet with the juvenile counsellors and impacted youth to identify any trends in outstanding support needs. Another aspect of MACY’s Systemic Advocacy program was to connect with organizations around Manitoba to identify systemic issues, offer presentations, and expand awareness of MACY’s mandate inside designated service areas. This included connecting with other Canadian Council of Children and Youth Advocates (CCCYA) offices in other provinces and territories about their systemic advocacy assessment processes. Those consultations helped develop screening and complexity assessment tools that will soon be ready to pilot at MACY.

# Quality Assurance

The Manitoba Advocate’s Quality Assurance (QA) program focuses on the development and maintenance of internal quality assurance processes and protocols, including the development of tools and resources used to support and strengthen programs. The program also provides analysis to the Manitoba Advocate and to the office on provincial, territorial, and federal issues that have implications for Manitoba children

and youth. Finally, the QA program is responsible for monitoring the levels of compliance demonstrated by the government with recommendations made by the Manitoba Advocate in investigations or special reports. In short, the QA program works to ensure effective and efficient service delivery of public systems serving children and youth in Manitoba, including by MACY.

### QA PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

**1** special report analyzing government compliance with MACY recommendations

**85** recommendations from special reports and investigations reviewed and analyzed for compliance

**1** policy and protocol updated and implemented



QA Program Highlights

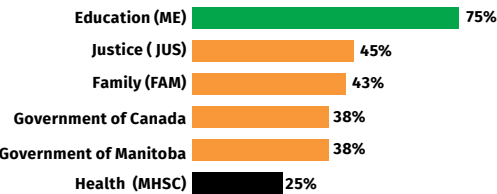
- MACY continues to receive positive feedback on its updated compliance process and handbook.
- We use data-driven research to complement our reports and other work. We are also able to provide data to organizations working on issues affecting children and youth.

Compliance Monitoring

In accordance with Section 11(1)(d) of *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act* (ACYA), the Manitoba Advocate has the legal responsibility to monitor the implementation of recommendations issued by the Advocate in investigations or special reports. The Advocate may include information on the levels of compliance with previous recommendations made by the Advocate, per section 30(4) of the ACYA.

by primary government department. The QA team continues to track government compliance with all MACY recommendations and the Manitoba Advocate publishes this report card annually to ensure public transparency.

**How do various departments measure up?** Education was 75%, followed by Justice at 45%, Families at 43%, the Government of Canada at 38%, the Government of Manitoba at 38%, and Health at 25%.



**Read the report:** Link to the report: <https://manitobaadvocate.ca/wp-content/uploads/MACY-Compliance-Report-2021-Final-Print.pdf>

Kids Can't Keep Waiting: Summary Assessment of Government Compliance with Recommendations Made under *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act* (December 2021)



This special report is the Manitoba Advocate's annual report card on government compliance and provides Manitobans with a summary of the progress made by the provincial government toward fulfilling the intent of the 51 recommendations that the Manitoba Advocate has made since *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act* came into effect on March 15, 2018. This report, released in December 2021, included all formal recommendations issued by the Manitoba Advocate up to December 31, 2020. Specifically, *Kids Can't Keep Waiting* outlines individual assessments for each of the recommendations, as well as trends observed in compliance by special report, by systemic issue, and

Updated Handbook for Compliance Assessment of MACY Recommendations (revised November 2021)

In order to ensure accountability, transparency, consistency, and comparability of compliance assessments and to provide a standardized process to guide assessments and collaborate with public bodies tasked with responding to recommendations, last November, MACY updated its handbook outlining the procedures for the creation and compliance assessment of the Manitoba Advocate's recommendations. The handbook was updated with permission after consultation with the European Systemic Risk Board, an oversight body of the European Union, whose innovative compliance model we adapted in 2020 for a Manitoba context. We are grateful and acknowledge their expertise and guidance.

**Read the handbook:** <https://manitobaadvocate.ca/wp-content/uploads/Handbook-Compliance-Assessment-of-MACY-Recommendations-Dec.-1-2021-Final.pdf>  
<https://manitobaadvocate.ca/wp-content/uploads/MACY-Compliance-Report-2021-Final-Print.pdf>

Participation in the 2021 Association of Human Rights Institutes Conference

In August 2021, the Manitoba Advocate participated virtually in a breakout session at the Association of Human Rights Institutes Conference held in Maastricht University in the Netherlands, where she delivered a presentation called, "*The Limits of "Naming and Shaming": Building Relationships to Further the Rights of Children in Manitoba, Canada.*" This conference, attended by human rights advocates from around the globe helped bring international attention to the work of MACY.

COMPLIANCE HIGHLIGHTS: 2021

43%

OF RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE DEMONSTRATED ACTIONS TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION.

IN 2021, MACY ASSESSED

28 NEW RECOMMENDATIONS

FROM 2020.

75%

COMPLIANCE RATE FOR MANITOBA EDUCATION

Two more MACY recommendations have been deemed full compliant.

MATTHEW REC. 1

Highlight and promote provincial learning objectives focusing on mental health literacy and well-being coping skills.

MATTHEW REC.3

Continue promoting the Safe and Caring Schools: A Whole School Approach to Planning for Safety and Belonging in school divisions, so all schools in Manitoba are implementing the optional tools.

8% (4)

OF MACY RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE BEEN FULLY IMPLEMENTED

To improve progress, MACY recommends...

PRIORITIZING

action to address sleep-rated infant deaths

ENHANCING

collaboration between govt. departments

RELEASING AND ACTING

on reviews into child-serving systems, such as mental health

# Service Plan for 2021-22 and Strategic Priorities for 2022-23, 2023-24

In accordance with *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act* (ACYA), the Advocate must prepare a service plan with specific objectives and performance measures. The Advocate then reports on service plan results in the office’s annual report (Sections 29 and 30 of the ACYA).

The following section outlines the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs – also known as the expected results) that are associated with each strategic direction, related activities, and status. We have also included strategic priorities and targets for the next two fiscal years.

BY THE NUMBERS

86%

of the 2020-21  
Key Performance  
Indicators (KPIs)  
have been met

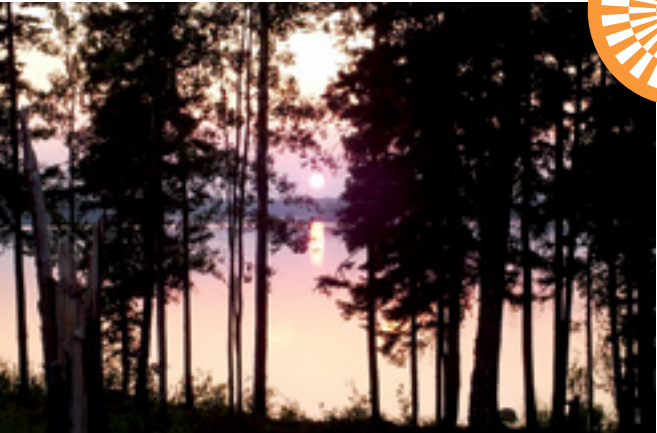
57%

of the 2020-21 KPIs  
have surpassed  
their target

1 ENGAGING AND EMPOWERING YOUTH VOICES

Guided by the value of child-centredness, MACY seeks out the voices and opinions of young people to amplify their voices and ensure our programs and services meet their changing needs.

KPI	21/22 TARGET	ACTUAL OUTPUT	22/23 TARGET	23/24 TARGET
Number of outreach activities where the primary audience is youth	30	67	40	50
Number of online or in-person presentations on children’s rights for youth and youth organizations in the community	30	22	30	40
Percentage of children and youth who report knowing more about children’s rights following a presentation	85%	92%	90%	90%
<b>New:</b> Number of reports (internal and external), research projects, proposals, where the voices of youth with lived experience were consulted and included	4	6	2	2





2 ACCELERATING RESPONSIVENESS TO ADVOCACY SERVICES

MACY delivers advocacy supports to children, youth, young adults, and their families across multiple service systems with the goal of ensuring our activities reflect our commitment to child-centred service. Responsiveness of advocacy services requires both timeliness and effectiveness, and is measured by the following indicators.

KPI	21/22 TARGET	ACTUAL OUTPUT	22/23 TARGET	23/24 TARGET
Percentage of new intakes requesting advocacy services that receive a response/callback on the same day**	85%	87%	90%	90%
Percentage of children and youth who indicate that they received respectful services***	90%	97%	90%	90%
Percentage of children and/or youth that would recommend MACY to a friend***	90%	91%	90%	90%

\*\* All walk-in intakes are responded to immediately. Sometimes calls are received after hours and responded to the next business day.

\*\*\* We are always seeking to learn and grow. While we know that sometimes the options people may desire might not be possible in a particular situation, we always strive to ensure people feel respected and heard by our team. Due to small sample sizes, the responses from children, youth, and adults were combined to calculate percentages. If you are unhappy with any interaction, you can email us at [complaints@manitobaadvocate.ca](mailto:complaints@manitobaadvocate.ca).

3 INCREASING TRANSPARENCY AND SYSTEM CHANGE THROUGH INVESTIGATIONS

MACY reviews public services through the eyes of the child with the goal of identifying gaps and making recommendations to improve child-serving systems and services for children, youth, and young adults.

KPI	21/22 TARGET	ACTUAL OUTPUT	22/23 TARGET	23/24 TARGET
Percentage of comprehensive child death reviews completed within 12 months of the child death	75%	74%	80%	85%
Publish a year-end analysis of reviews that identifies systemic trends	1	1	1	1
Publish special reports following an investigation that makes recommendations	2	2	1	1

4 ADVANCING RESEARCH AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

MACY examines provincial service systems and emerging best practices from a child’s rights lens so we can advocate for what young people need to live to their best potential.

KPI	21/22 TARGET	ACTUAL OUTPUT	22/23 TARGET	23/24 TARGET
Number of public education activities, presentations, and events both in-person and online	60	108	65	70
<b>New:</b> Number of people reached via public education presentations/knowledge translation activities	500	2,825	750	800
Publish special report with original research and respective public education materials that make recommendations	2	2	1	1
Growth in social media (live videos, YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram) through social media indicators	30%	32%	30%	30%

5 STRENGTHENING CULTURAL PROFICIENCY IN PRACTICE

Acknowledging MACY’s positionality as a publicly-funded independent organization, we strive towards Indigenous allyship through our ongoing commitment to achieve equity and social justice for all children, youth, and young adults.

KPI	21/22 TARGET	ACTUAL OUTPUT	22/23 TARGET	23/24 TARGET
Number of yearly ceremonies for children, youth, young adults and families funded and resourced	4	6	4	4
Number of one-to-one cultural supports and resources to children, youth, young adults, and their families	75	82	75	75
Include a preference for hiring Indigenous Peoples in all new employment postings	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of learning events for staff focused on reconciliation, anti-racism, and/or anti-oppression to strengthen cultural proficiency	6	17	7	8

6 PROMOTING ACCOUNTABILITY IN CHILD-SERVING SYSTEMS

To ensure child-serving systems are responding to the changing needs of young people, MACY promotes accountability by listening to and amplifying the voices and experiences of children, youth, and young adults. We also recommend evidence-informed system changes, monitor government compliance with recommendations we’ve made, and speak publicly and honestly about provincial services.

KPI	21/22 TARGET	ACTUAL OUTPUT	22/23 TARGET	23/24 TARGET
Report publicly on government compliance with recommendations made by the Manitoba Advocate	1	1	1	1
Reviews of policies, procedures, and logic models for each program annually	1	1	1	1

Year of Internal Development

The COVID-19 pandemic has upended our work. It meant quickly shifting to work-from-home arrangements, and changing the ways we interact with each other and the communities we serve. Despite the many challenges, MACY’s team continued to produce and publish special reports, serve families, and introduced innovations in many program areas.

One area of internal development MACY focused on during the past year was increasing support to the Francophone community and French Language Services:

- In partnership with Alliance Française, MACY provided staff two eight week (one hour per week) French learning opportunities. The first opportunity took place in June-July 2021 with 17 MACY staff enrolled, and the second in March-April 2022 with a further 16 MACY staff enrolled. Participants were divided in three groups: complete beginners, beginners, and intermediate and advanced.
- During I Love to Read month (February), for the first time MACY offered nine readings in total in French to various schools. Materials such as books and PowerPoint slides were prepared and presented in French. Over 165 students in French kindergarten to grade 6 participated in these sessions.

To reflect and learn from our internal development processes, the Manitoba Advocate announced an internal initiative to seek feedback from employees about MACY, with the purpose of informing improvements to the organization. Throughout the winter months, employees made individual or team submissions about their thoughts on priorities for the organization. Upon analysis, the responses fell into three main goal areas:

1. Enhance workplace mental health and wellness
2. Increase community outreach and engagement
3. Align program policies and procedures with our values

During the 2022-23 fiscal year, MACY has identified action items to respond to these priorities and ultimately enhance the work of MACY to serve families in Manitoba.

2021-22  
FINANCIAL  
REPORT

\$1,155,000  
OPERATING

\$4,482,000  
SALARIES AND  
BENEFITS

\$5,637,000 TOTAL

All numbers include the Thompson office.



## OUR TEAM

### Knowledge Keeper

**Cheryl Alexander** – Knowledge Keeper (until September 2022)

### Executive Team

**Ainsley Krone** – Acting Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth

**Maria Godoy** – Acting Deputy Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth, responsible for Investigations, Research, Quality Assurance, and Public Education

**Denise Wadsworth** – Indigenous Deputy Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth, responsible for Advocacy Services and Youth Engagement (until October 2021)

**Pooja Sigauke** – Executive Coordinator

**Michelle Commodore** – Executive Coordinator (until October 2021)

### Management

**Allen Mankewich** – Manager, Public Education (from June 2022)

**Jessica Botelho-Urbanski** – Manager, Public Education (until February 2022)

**Cyndi Menke** – Manager, Finance and Administration

**Dr. Karlee Sapoznik Evans** – Manager, Research and Quality Assurance

**Kirstin Magnusson** – Manager, Advocacy Services

**Michelle Kowalchuk** – Manager, Advocacy Services and Youth Engagement

**Tanis Hudson** – Manager, Investigations and Child Death Reviews Program

### Legal Counsel

**Issie Frost, Q.C.** – General Counsel

### Administration

**Karen Morrow** – Reception, Administrative Secretary

**Ila Miles** – Administrative Assistant

**Mary Cruz** – Senior Clerk

**Reji Thomas** – Senior Clerk

### Youth Engagement

**Jon Skrypnyk** – Youth Engagement Coordinator

**Emmanuel Allieu** – Youth Engagement Coordinator (from April 2022)

**Cathy Cook** – Youth Engagement Coordinator (until June 2021)

**Wavy Guy** – Mascot

### The Research Hub

**Aliraza Alidina** – Researcher

**Alexandra Guemili** – Systemic Advocacy Analyst

**Dr. Matthew Maher** – Researcher

**Charlene Muzyka** – Researcher

### Quality Assurance

**Alison Carrey** – Policy Analyst

**Dr. Elkanah Babatunde** – Policy Analyst

**Janine Bramadat** – Policy Analyst (until November 2021)

**Johsa Manzanilla** – Policy Analyst

### Investigations and Child Death Reviews

**Whitney Moore** – Investigator

**Anna Los** – Investigator

**Benji Greenberg** – Investigator

**Jamie Robinson** – Investigator

**Kayla Marcq** – Investigator

**Kelsey VanOsch** – Investigator

**Leigh Enns** – Investigator

**Lynda Schellenberg** – Investigator

**Melanie Johnson** – Investigator

**Sara Yager** – Investigator

### Advocacy Services

**Dawn Gair** – Advocacy Officer

**Debra De Silva** – Advocacy Officer

**Doug Ingram** – Advocacy Officer

**Gerald Krosney** – Advocacy Officer

**Joanne Lysak** – Advocacy Officer

**Kim Wuirch** – Advocacy Officer

**Krista Rey** – Advocacy Officer

**Mae Choo-Mah** – Advocacy Officer

**Margherita Gagliardi** – Advocacy Officer

**Michelle Sanderson** – Advocacy Officer (from June 2022)

**Naomi Evans** – Advocacy Officer

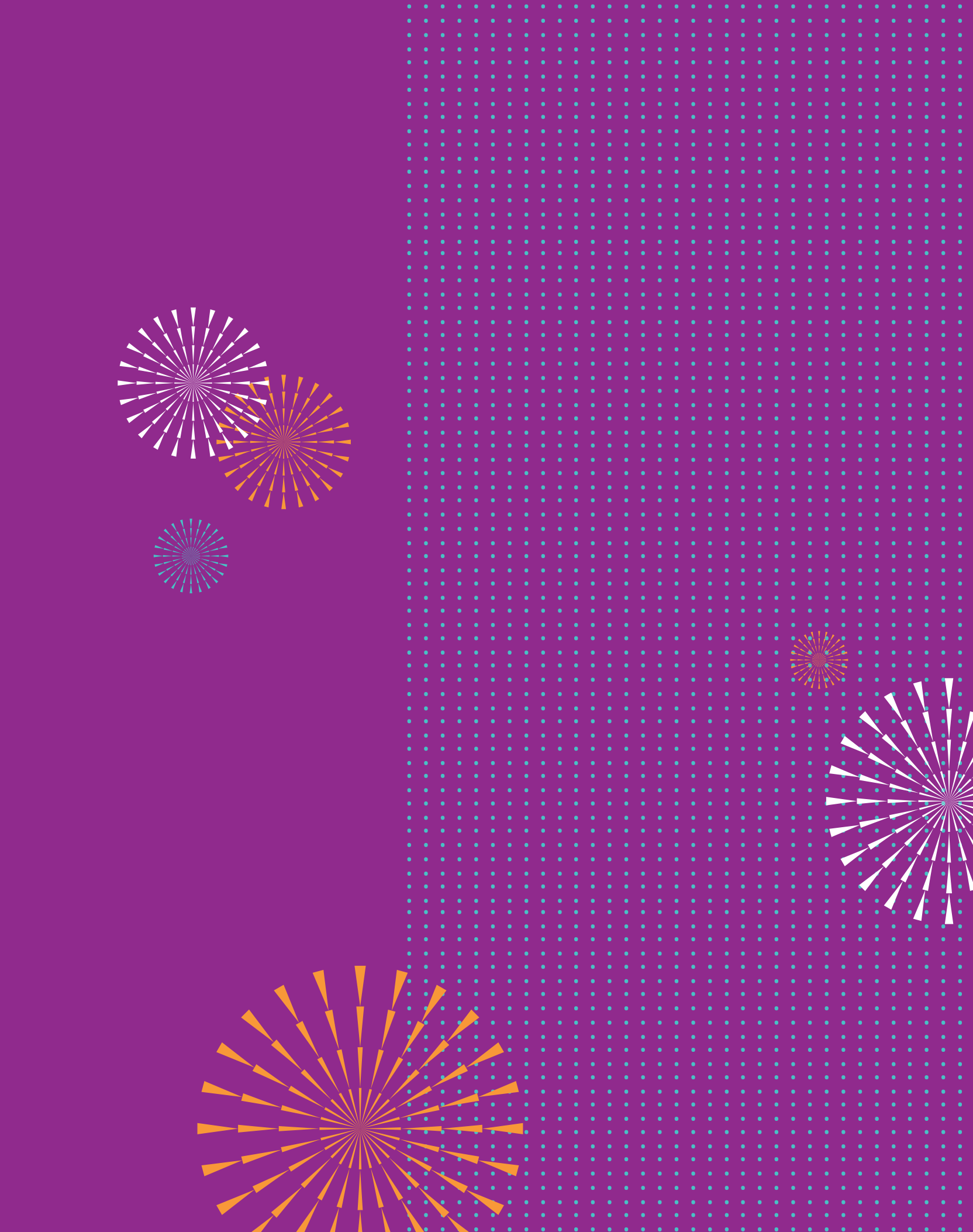
**Carly Lewadniuk** – Advocacy Officer (until November 2021)

**Paula Zimrose** – Advocacy Officer (until January 2022)

**Milan Patel** – Advocacy Officer (until February 2022)

**Megan Braun** – Advocacy Officer (until August 2022)

**Loretta Ouskun** – Intake Assessment Officer (Thompson office) (from August 2022)







1 (800) 263-7146

[info@manitobaadvocate.ca](mailto:info@manitobaadvocate.ca)

346 Portage Ave., Unit 100  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0C3