Animikii Ozoson Child & Family Services, Inc.

2011-2012

Annual Report

Honouring Traditions

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he Board of Directors of Animikii Ozoson Child and Family Services Inc. are pleased to present the 2011-2012 Annual Report. This document provides an overview of the many service delivery and financial activities that have occurred over the past year.

The past year has been particularly challenging and stressful. Finding a new home for the agency within a limited time period, moving to an interim location while the agency's new office was being renovated, unforeseen delays, including changes at the leadership level, have been some of the challenges that our agency has faced over the year. At the beginning of the year we said good-bye to Mr. Terry Hinton, our previous Executive Director who retired. The Board wishes him well in his new endeavours. We are extremely thankful that Mr. Dave Rundle stepped in on short notice and immediately with the assistance of staff, began to search for a new home for the agency while the board focused on recruiting for a permanent Executive Director. During this time, staff worked very hard to develop, revise and implement the new business plan that will carry and sustain the agency over the next five years. We are particularly indebted to Loretta Doiron for her assistance and guidance in this respect.

The agency continues to see an increase in the volume of services for children and families. Despite the challenges, the Board, senior management and staff have endeavoured to maintain their commitment to strengthening families and to ensure the safety of children and youth.

Animikii Ozoson Child and Family Services Inc. continues to receive support from the Southern First Nations Network of Care and the Province of Manitoba. We are most appreciative of their continued guidance, direction and support. We would also like to acknowledge the assistance from Brenda LaRose, of Higgins International, who assisted in starting the processing for recruiting for a new Executive Director.

In closing the Board of Directors would like to thank all staff for their professionalism and steadfast commitment to the very important work that they do with our families. With the continued commitment from staff and board members, our agency will continue to provide protection to children and youth and strengthen supports to the families so that together we can all know what it means to "live and walk in a good way."

All our relations,

Marlyn Bennett - Chair Percy Tuesday Judy Courchene Sandra Jackson Paul Cormier

Paul Cormier

Marlyn Bennett, Chair

Message from the Board of Directors

Message from the Executive Director

ello, Booshoo. I am honored to present the 2011-2012 Annual Report on behalf of the Board and staff of Animikii Ozoson Child and Family Services. I joined the agency as Executive Director on June 25, 2012 taking over from Interim Executive Director Dave Rundle. Although I was not here for the reporting year I have heard firsthand from staff, management, families and the Board of the incredible year of change that they have experienced as an agency.

> The staff have demonstrated they continue to have "strong hearts and minds", that their belief in "strong families and beautiful children" is still at the heart of their decision making. They have worked very hard to develop "strong community networks" with the Ontario communities they are linked to. They have travelled to their Ontario sister communities and began the development of a working protocol with Tikanagan, Weechi-it-te-win, and Anishinabe Abinooji.

They continue to honor the drum they were gifted with and have added more sacred items to the agency bundle. They have included a focus on incorporating traditional beliefs into their business plan and in their work with their Family Enhancement and Family Services programs. They worked with their Ontario sister agencies to develop a Protocol that honors their relationships while providing guidance in their communication with each other.

Animikii Ozoson continues to move toward incorporating the traditional ways of teaching into all the service streams; family service, family enhancement and preservation and reunification. They have offered tobacco to Elder Robert Kakaygeesick who is available to work directly with families or youth. Robert also makes himself available to staff and the management team for consultation and teachings.

Robert is a wonderful addition to the agency and we are honored by his presence.

I have had the last few months prior to the writing of this report to gain an appreciation of the dedication of the Board and staff of Animikii Ozoson. Despite the multiple challenges they faced this year they continue steadfast in the faith in their families ability to work for change and better enhance their children's outcomes.

> They continue to advocate for the best outcomes for their children in care and work tirelessly to ensure that youth leaving their care have every opportunity for success.

I also want to acknowledge and thank the families and children we serve for choosing Animikii and putting their trust in us. We will work hard to fulfill that trust.

In closing I want to say Miigwetch to the creator for guiding my path to Animikii. I look forward to the opportunity of working with Ontario Treaty 3 First Nations leadership and community members and our collaterals in Manitoba in encouraging and supporting families in their care of their children.

Sandra Jackson

urchene

Percy Tuesday

Staff Listing as March 31, 2012

ay to day management of the organization is coordinated by the Executive Director, the senior managers, the supervisors and a staff component of 10 administrative/finance and 22 case management staff. Our organization has evolved to where it is today in response to the growing demands for service by our families and children.

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Dave Rundle, Acting Executive Director Gina Maxfield, Finance Director Daniel Jordaan, Human Resource Manager

SUPERVISORS

Maria McDougall, Family Services Supervisor Jodi McVicker, Family Service Supervisor Candice Lewsey-Ortman, Alternative Care Supervisor Cheryl Vieville, Family Enhancement Supervisor Vacant, Permanent Wards Supervisor

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Joanne Kakewash, Executive Assistant Mandy Coyne, Administrative Assistant Samantha McDougall, Administrative Assistant Amanda Wiebe, Administrative Assistant Geraldine Berens, CFSIS Clerk Holly Twoheart, File Clerk Janet Anderson, Receptionist

FINANCE TEAM

Mike Peters, Finance Clerk Fang Nan, Finance Clerk Marie Fontaine, Payroll Clerk

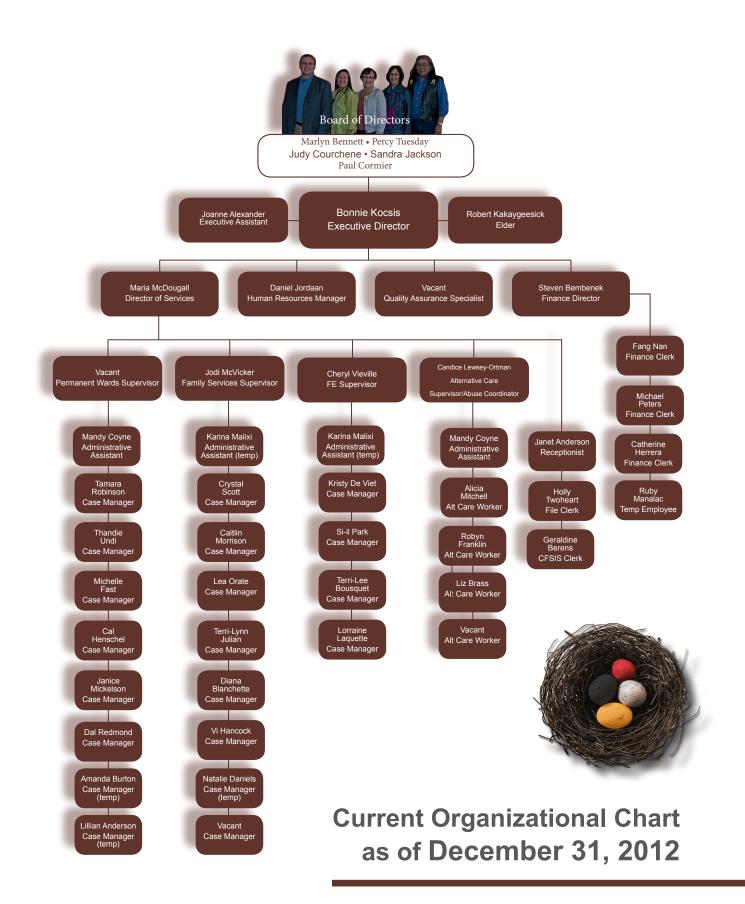
CASE MANAGERS

Tamara Robinson, Permanent Wards Case Manager Thandie Undi, Permanent Wards Case Manager Cal Henschel, Permanent Wards Case Manager Michelle Fast, Permanent Wards Case Manager Janice Mickelson, Permanent Wards Case Manager Raquel Flett, Permanent Wards Case Manager Tony Sevilla, Permanent Wards Case Manager

Kristy De Viet, Family Enhancement Case Manager Si-il Park, Family Enhancement Case Manager

Terri-Lee Bousquet, Family Service/Family Preservation Case Manager Lorraine Laquette, Family Service/Family Preservation Case Manager Crystal Scott, Family Service/Family Preservation Case Manager Terri-Lynn Julian, Family Service/Family Preservation Case Manager Natalie Melia, Family Service/Family Preservation Case Manager Carley Gower, Family Service/Family Preservation Case Manager Samantha Sanderson, Family Services/Family Preservation Case Manager Brenda Cameron, Family Services/Family Preservation Case Manager

Mary Ann Cirio, Alt. Care Case Manager Shannon Pistun, Alt. Care Case Manager Amanda Burton, Alt. Care Case Manager Tatiana Murray, Alt. Care Case Manager



Special Acknowled

Terry Hinton Executive Director 2005-2012

Terry started his career with Animikii Ozoson in 2005-2006 as a supervisor. During 2008 to 2010 Terry was the Interim Acting Director and became the Executive Director between 2010 until February 2012. The staff and Board of Animikii thank him for his years of dedication and hard work and wish him all the best in his retirement.



Elder Robert Kakaygeesick Buffalo Point First Nation

For sharing the teachings with our families and our staff.

Anishinaabe Abinooji Family Services, Tikinagan Child and Family Services and Weechi-it-te-win Family Services

For working with us to develop the Interagency Services Protocol.

dgments

Dave Rundle Interim Executive Director February 8 - June 24, 2012

For stepping in to lead us on short notice. Besides supporting and nurturing staff he guided us through finding a building and getting us started on the renovation "highway".

Kevin Baldwin Specialized Foster Parent

Who was honored this year by the Southern First Nations Network of Care for his dedication to the high risk young men he cares for on our behalf. Kevin often goes that extra mile for our youth.

Our Amazing Foster Parents

Who continue to get up every day with the belief that they can make a difference for our children. They are dedicated and caring and we couldn't do our work without them.

> Portions of the image to the right come from a painting by Simone McLeod, 2011, called "Working Together."





he year 2011-2012 has been the beginning of many transitions most notably the transition of moving forward on our commitment to developing stronger ties with our Ontario First Nations Agencies. We hope to gain a better understanding of and relationship with the communities that our children and families are originally from. After many meetings throughout the years with Ontario First Nation's we have moved in the direction that they have requested and by doing so we are "Honoring (their) Traditions". This is a year that we believe that we really can say that we have begun to move towards utilizing the traditional ceremonial gifts that we have received and incorporate this in how we deliver service to our Ontario First Nation members, agencies and communities.

It has always been a pleasure meeting with the agencies from Ontario as well as educational. It was at one particular meeting with the former Weechi-it-te-win Family Services Executive Director George Simard when he posed the question "Where are your sacred items: your pipe, your drum and your staff." At the time we had no sacred items and had to let him know this. It was obvious that we needed to have more consultation with the Ontario community and that is exactly what we did. We moved in a direction of humbly asking for guidance from the people from Ontario if we were to work in a respectful way with them. We were told that in order to really serve the community member's from Ontario that we needed to honor their traditions and beliefs and in doing that it would make our agency a stronger one and one that they would be more able to work with.

This seemed like a daunting task and almost unattainable. In speaking with the Elders they would say not to worry that in due time the items would come when we were ready and sure enough they did... one by one ...piece by piece...it is absolutely amazing when we look back and think about the time at how easily they actually came to us.

It was shortly after this that the agency was approached with the gift of the "Sacred Drum" which was welcomed into our agency through a beautiful



ceremony. It was not long after that when one of our Elders Mike Calder had a dream and gifted us with a "Sacred Pipe" for the agency. It was at this time that the realization began to sink in and we could see that we were well on our way of creating a more culturally appropriate service within our agency.

Also during this transition year we began the development of the Interagency Services Protocol with Anishinaabe Abinooji Family Services, Tikinagan Child and Family Services and Weechi-it-tewin Family Services. This took place over several meetings which began in 2011. We have been able to establish a working group and have commitment from each agency to see the protocol take form. The committee has been working collaboratively and diligently in creating a document that assists workers in how we work together ensuring that children and families receive the best possible service when transitioning between provinces. Throughout our discussions we have also spoken about continuing our relationships and meeting regularly to ensure that there is less chance of communication breakdown.

In previous years it was decided that the agency would incorporate the use of the seven sacred teachings which include love, respect, wisdom, honesty, courage, humility and truth to guide us in practice and how we work with our families. This continues to be a practice that we are reminded of daily. The Agency Elder Robert Kakaygeesick has provided teachings at some of our staff meetings which we are hoping will continue once we have settled in our new office space.

In closing we would like to acknowledge that we honor every single family and child that we encounter. We are reminded daily of our vision statement "Strong Hearts and Minds, Strong Families, Beautiful Children, Strong Community Networks" and our Mission Statement "Building Circles of Care, Protecting Children, Empowering Families, Strengthening Community Networks" which guides us in how we work within our organization. Every day our staff work hard at providing the best possible service for our children, families and foster parents that we work with.

From all of us at Animikii we would like to say Thank You, Gitchi Megwetch.

The Origins of Animikii Ozoson **Child and Family Services Inc.**

nimikii Ozoson Child and Family Services, a Manitoba First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) agency is unique in that it provides culturally appropriate services in Winnipeg for Aboriginal families and children who have cultural ties and affiliations to the First Nations of Ontario. The genesis of Animikii Ozoson CFS is in the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry - Child Welfare Initiative, when during the implementation stages of the initiative, it was determined that a significant number of First Nations children in foster care 71940 600 hill de released later in 2013 and open Family Services cases in Manitoba originated from Ontario First Nations communities. Thanks to the vision of aboriginal leaders at the table and the provincial government, a decision was made to establish a "stand alone" agency to specifically serve the needs of these families and children.

In accordance with Ojibway traditions, the agency received its name through a naming ceremony held by Elders in February, 2005 at Shoal Lake First Nation, Ontario, which is part of the Treaty 3 Territory. On that beautiful, serene and lightly snowy winter evening, the agency received the name, Animikii Ozoson which signifies, celebrates and honours the sacredness

of the Thunder Bird in Ojibway culture and epistemology. The role of the Thunder Bird is to protect its babies in their home (the nest). Hence, the name The nest to the right is the temporary logo of Animikii Ozoson CFS "Animikii Ozoson" which means Thunder

Strong Hearts and Minds, Strong Families, Beautiful Children, Strong Community Networks

We have a vision of a strong community circle of care where healthy empowered families provide a nurturing place for children and where everyone – Elders, leaders, helpers, grandmothers, grandfathers, mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, sisters, brothers, husbands and wives - work together to build a better place for all children.

Vision Statement

Building Circles of Care, Protecting Children, Empowering Families, Strengthening Community Networks

Animikii Ozoson Child and Family Services is the fruition of an idea, around which caring people have organized. It is an idea about helping aboriginal families and children by empowering them to care for themselves and one another. It is an idea rooted in aboriginal family values, beliefs and cultural traditions. It requires commitment and faith in the strength of families and their ability to change; to improve their lives and provide a nurturing place for children.

The overall purpose of the agency is to protect children from child maltreatment and support families so they can maintain their children at home. When necessary, the agency will provide children in need of protection with temporary out-of-home care within their extended family if at all possible or within a network of culturally appropriate/culturally sensitive alternate caregivers. In all cases, the agency will take a comprehensive and culturally sensitive approach that emphasizes family preservation and family reunification. When family reunification is not possible, the agency will provide long term alternate care for children who become permanent wards, while maintaining a strong connection to their extended family and community of origin.

Mission Statement

Goals of Service:

- to deliver culturally appropriate services to families and children
- to take a "least disruptive measures" approach to intervention, delivering services from an orientation and philosophy of prevention and support
- to provide family support services with a view to keeping families together
- to provide alternate care for children requiring outof-home care, with an emphasis on using extended family and aboriginal caregivers whenever possible, while still ensuring that the child's best interests are being met
- to keep sibling groups together, when these children require out-of-home care, whenever possible and

Core Values

appropriate

- to develop and maintain a placement resource program, incorporating a regular and ongoing training program for foster parents, homemakers, parent aides, and volunteers
- to repatriate children in care to extended family and/or home community, whenever possible and appropriate
- to reach out to the Ontario Aboriginal Child and Family Services agencies for their assistance in providing services to client families and children affiliated with the First Nations served by their agencies
- to work cooperatively with other First Nations CFS agencies in the development of comprehensive supports for cases being transferred to/from each other

Successes and C

nimikii has some amazing youth! Our young people continued to prove that they are resilient and strong. One young man won first place in a ballet competition and is considered to be a "future star" by the agency representing him. He studies ballet, goes to school and works part-time. Thankfully with the support of great house parents. Another youth has had his art work published in the Grassroots newspaper. One of our young women worked very hard to complete her goal of becoming a hair stylist. She is already hard at work in a salon.

Animikii has youth at both University of Winnipeg and Red River College, with support from University of Winnipeg Tuition waivers and student funding from various communities. We have athletes who are making their mark in football, swimming and hockey. We have many special needs children and youth who not only survive but are thriving thanks to a dedicated, fiercely committed group of foster parents.

Our Alternative Care department was very busy this year and licensed another 38 new homes. Kudos to them for their hard work and dedication as this was done while managing with less than three staff! One of Animikii's long term foster parents Mr Kevin Baldwin was honored by the Southern First Nations Network of Care for his dedication and specialized work with at risk youth. We are very grateful to him for the many nights he spends out on the streets ensuring our youth make it home safely.

But there have been challenges too. The loss of the lease on Donald Street forcing the agency to find a new home was compounded by changes in leadership. The initial search was undertaken by Terry Hinton then picked up by Interim ED Dave

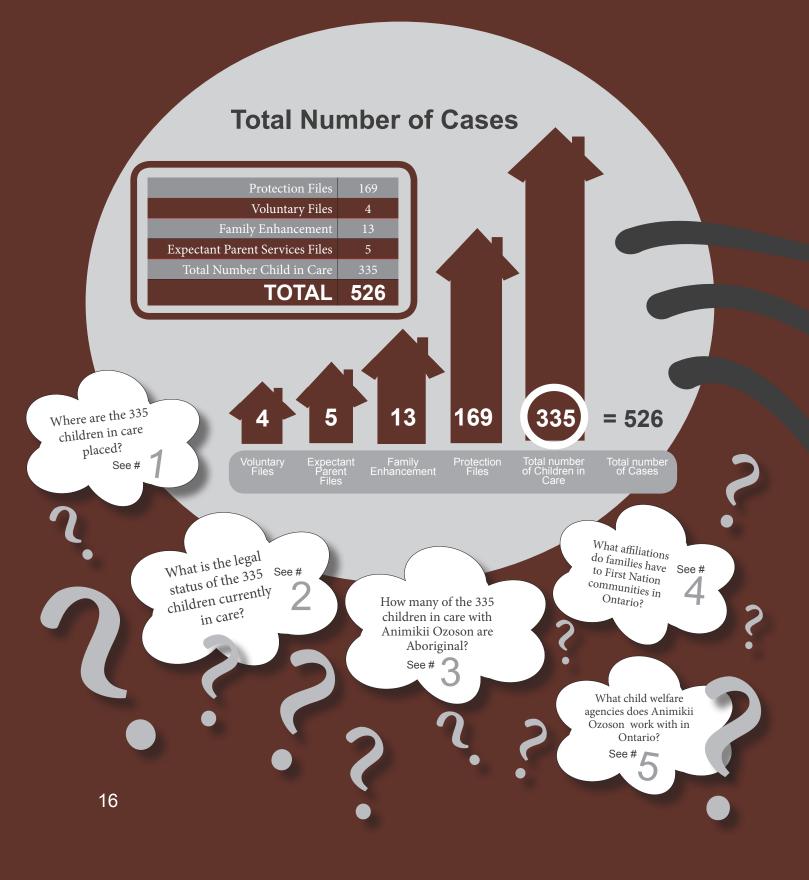
nallenges

Rundle who was eventually able to secure a space and arrange for the renovations necessary.

The stress of a move and multiple changes in leadership was compounded by staff turnover as staff left on various leaves or to further their education. An ongoing challenge is the high demand for qualified Aboriginal professionals across all job markets creating a shortage of seasoned workers who are most in demand.

Animikii Ozoson continued to see a rise in both permanent wards and more modestly, overall case numbers this past year. Twenty two front line staff carried 526 files this year with 335 children in care; 194 permanent wards. It has been a challenge and an honor to work with these children and families.

Family Services Cases and Children in Care Statistics as of March 31, 2012



	Foster Home Foster Home - Specialized Independent Living Place of Safety Correctional Own Home / Relatives Health Residential Care / Group Home	230 12 10 50 3 5 0 17	
Placement for Children in Care	Out of Province Not Known - AWOL TOTAL	5 3 335	J
Legal Status of Children in Care	Арр	nent Ward prehension rary Ward	193 51 22
	Voluntary Placement A Transition Voluntary Surrender Gua Pet	nal (AOM)	45 20 3 1
3	Other Soci	iety Wards DTAL	⁰ 335
Aboriginal Status	Metis19Non-Status58Not Aboriginal9Status (Treaty)249TOTAL335		



	North Caribou Lake 1
Bearskin Lake 2	North Spirit Lake 7
Big Grassy 5	Northwest Angle 15
Big Island 9	Osnaburgh 17
Big Trout Lake 4	Pikangikum 2
Chippewa of the Thames 1	Rainy River 7 As of March 31,
ol innewas of Nawash	Rat Portage 1 2012, the agency
Couchiching 5	Red Gut 1 had 526 open
Deer Lake 9	Red Rock 1 cases, with 374 -
Eagle Lake 7	Rocky Bay 4 of them having
Elving Post 6	Sabaskong 6 an Ontario
Fort Hope 13	Sachigo Lake 4 affiliation to 48
Fort Severn 8	Sandy Lake 02 different First
Garden River 1	Scharbert Lake 2 Nations.
Grassy Narrows 24	Seine River o
Gull Bay 4	Shoal Lake 22
Keewaywin 18	Six Nations 2
Kingfisher 2	Temagami 1
Lac La Croix 3	Wabauskang
Lac Seul 12	Wabigoon Lake
Landowne House 1	W Intedog
Long Lac 6	Whitehshi Day
Martin Falls 4	Wintesand
Moose Factory	Wikwemikong
Muskrat Dam 2	TOTAL 374
	Ontario based CFS Agencies Number of Number of
	Anishinaabe Abinoojii Family Services 83 Communities Brue of 83
Within the	Di uce County CAS
48 Ontario	Dilico CFS 1
First Nation	Frontenac One
communities	Renora-Patricia Cha
there are 13 🗨	1 I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I
Ontario based	Nipissin (7
Child and Family	a da-iiiin Family C
Service Agencies	ayukotayno James CFS
involved:	Six Nations CES
	Tikinagan CFS 181 Weechi-it-te-win Famili 6
	18 Ist te win Family Services
	TOTAL 374 (19)
	(48)

Family Services / Family

he Family Service unit is comprised of two Family Service teams that offer Protection Services, Children in Care Services, Voluntary Family Services, Expectant Minor Parent Services and Family Enhancement Services.

This past year, our unit has continued to work very hard in supporting and guiding our families towards success. Working with families and children is an empowering and inspirational feeling that the family service team is able to experience on a daily basis. The family service team works in partnership with their families towards success, independence and positive changes. We believe in preservation and reunification in order to allow our families to grow, strengthen and function as a family unit. Being a case manager takes dedication, perseverance, commitment and the drive to want to assist with empowering families. Our Animikii Ozoson Child and Family Services Protection unit is a great team that possesses those qualities and much more.

We would like to acknowledge and thank the past and current staff for their work with the families, youth and children.

Our unit continues to work in partnership with our Ontario agencies towards successful case planning and repatriation opportunities. Animikii Ozoson values our working relationship with Ontario and understands the importance of working together in order to continue to provide quality services for our families. We have been working hard with other Ontario agencies in developing a working Protocol to enhance our communication, information sharing and inter-agency responsibilities when collaboration is required.

/ Preservation Program

The agency has also hosted numerous fun events for our families we work with and their children. The Family Service teams planned bi weekly family picnics for our families at St. John's Park. Many families were able to come and enjoy lunch and activities. Other events included are our annual end of summer picnic where all families and foster families came to enjoy a fun day at Kildonan Park with clowns, magicians and bouncers. In December, we planned a holiday event with Santa, food and gifts for the children with over 500 guests in attendance.

The family service unit also faced challenges unique to child welfare. Workers are faced with high case load with an average case load of approximately 35-40 cases. The agency is looking at adding workers to provide workload relief and bring case numbers down in order for workers to provide more effective services to the families. Workload stress also produced high employee turnover rates which directly impacted service to our families. We are working with our new Human Resource Manager to develop ways of training and retaining our staff.

In the next year we look forward to implementing more creative and strategic ways to enhance our work with our families, we look forward to offering more training opportunities for our workers to better service our families. We are also looking forward to being in our new location in the upcoming year.

Meegwetch, Jodi McVicker, BSW Family Service Supervisor

Differential Response

he Differential Response (DR) Service Model includes four service paths; Brief Services, Family Enhancement, Voluntary Family Services, and Protection/Reunification Services. DR allows Child and Family Services to respond to the diverse needs of families with the primary focus of prevention and early intervention. Animikii has traditionally provided a variety of services to families to address the diverse needs of families; however until recently this practice

has not been well supported in funding models, legislation, standards, staffing, and other resources. As Differential Response continues to roll out throughout Manitoba the Agency began the development of the Family Enhancement Program.

Family Enhancement (FE) is an early intervention/ prevention program that falls under the umbrella of Differential Response. Services are provided to families who are struggling with challenges that if left unaddressed, will likely result in children being in need of protective services in the future.

Throughout the last year the Agency has been working on developing numerous policies and procedures for the Family Enhancement Program.

The Agency continues to utilize the Structured Decision Making Assessment to ensure that families receive the appropriate services and build on family strengths while addressing the needs. In January 2012, a Family Enhancement Team was established that includes two Family Enhancement Case Managers, and a Supervisor. The case managers provide short-term intense services to families while honouring the families' strengths and Traditions. The Family Enhancement team looks forward to the further development of the Family Enhancement Program and building relationships with our families, community, and with our relations in Ontario.

Meegwetch. *Cheryl Vieville*, BSW Differential Response Coordinator

Permanent Wards

am honored to prepare this report for Animikii Ozoson Child and Family Services. This report focuses on the activities, accomplishments, case counts and prospective plans for the Permanent Ward Unit.

First, as a new employee I want to thank all the Permanent Ward workers and Management Team for their patience and tolerance while I was familiarizing myself to their policies and procedures of the agency. I continue to marvel at the workers' accomplishments, their tenacity, and ongoing commitment to the children and families they serve, despite all the obstacles, barriers, changes and challenges they faced this past year. Our case count is steadily increasing.

The statistics on the next page highlight the total number of the permanent wards but it also speaks to the number of youth that may also need extensions of care.

As aforementioned, these past six months have been exhilarating and challenging. We work diligently to promote teamwork within our unit, as we all believe in having the team spirit, and helping one another find solutions to help our children, foster parents, and biological parents.

We deliver services by using a culturally appropriate and culturally sensitive approach. Therefore on a daily basis, our work involves dealing with the foster parents, biological parents, and other collaterals, in meeting the demands of the children in care. The better part of our work involves doing home visits, school visits, ensuring that all the children are protected and safe. I will highlight some of our daily activities' and they are as follows;

- Case Planning, and Problem Solving, Crisis Management,
- Preparing Special Needs Rates,
- Ensuring Quarterly Reports are done in a timely manner,
- Face to Face Contacts on a Monthly basis,
- Extensions of Care, Age of Majority Planning,
- Ensuring all Photos of children in care are on file and updated, and entered on CFSIS,
- Transitional Planning for children aging out,
- Case Reviews, Individual Supervision, and Evaluations.



The above mentioned duties are not the only activities throughout any given day, we also have to deal with new intakes, preparing reports, establish goals and developmental plans that will help clients as well as training the employee.

The case managers are responsible for providing care primarily to children and youth who are under Treaty 3 communities in Ontario. In addition to our permanent wards, we do provide supervision services for six children from other provinces. As a result, the agency has entered into Inter-Provincial agreements to allow them to provide the required services for those children.

Nevertheless, I feel we still need to expand on our programs and service, especially where the youth are concerned. In light of this, my vision is to develop a culturally appropriate life skills program, recommend a transitional planning worker and develop life books for the permanent wards. These life books will track their accomplishments and milestones during their life journeys, as well as capturing those most significant events throughout their lives.

Finally, our vision includes the expansion of our way of working with all collaterals to better meet

the children in care challenges, and work closely with collaterals and resources.

Some of our prospective plans include:

- An integrated cultural model to assist the youth toward their independence,
- Development of a Cultural Life Skills program,
- Age of Majority Celebration for youth who leave care,
- Continuing Child in Care Recognition ceremonies to recognize special accomplishments.

Finally, on a positive note, I would like to acknowledge some youth who have met their goals. We have a young man who won an award in ballet dance, and another who is an artist and was noted in the Grassroots newspaper. We also have another who realized her dream to become a hair stylist and work in a beauty salon. Another ward became an ambassador for Folklorama.

In closing, I want to thank everyone for having had the opportunity to partake in writing this report.

Kitchi Miigwetch! Joan Bruyere, BSW, MSW

Alternative Care

he Alternative Care unit is comprised of 4 alternative care workers, one administrative support and one unit

supervisor.

The primary goal of the Alternative Care Unit is the recruitment and retention of a strong circle of care providers, who are dedicated to the well- being of children in care.

The Alternative Care Team is responsible for a number of duties within the agency including placement, recruitment, licensing of resources, counseling, crisis intervention, supporting the Family Service and Permanent Ward units, completing background checks and assessments, building and maintaining relationships with other Child and Family Service agencies and collaterals, training and orientation for foster parents.

As of March 31, 2012 the Unit was responsible for managing a total of 105 placement resources (an overall increase of 15 placement resources from the previous year). The number of the agency's specialized foster homes increased. We now have 3 high risk male youth homes and 2 high risk female youth homes. This past year we licensed a total of 29 kinship homes. We are pleased to report that the number of children placed with family, continues to increase each year.

This past year we experienced an increase in the number of inquiries from individuals interested in fostering for the agency. In response to the large number of inquiries, a total of 4 foster parent orientation sessions were offered throughout the year and were well attended.

Foster parent training continues to be a high priority for the agency .Over the past year, a number of training opportunities were offered to foster parents and included the following: CPR/ First Aid, ASIST, Relationship Based Strengths Approach to Discipline, Attachment 1 & 2, Sensory Perception &FASD, FASD Life Stories, Tattered Teddies, Conflict Management and Mental Health First Aid. The majority of the training offered was accessed through the Southern First Nations Network of Care.

To formally recognize the hard work and dedication of our foster parents, the unit hosted a number of organized events throughout the year. In August we held our Annual Family Fun Day. This popular event, featured, a lunch, bouncers, games and clowns for the kids and a grocery scramble for the adults. This event was well received with over 300 people in attendance. In November we hosted an appreciation dinner for foster parents. Each foster parent was given a small gift along with a personalized thank you card.

Looking forward, the unit is committed to continuing to be a strong support to both our foster families and agency departments to ensure all children receive the highest quality of care.

Meegwetch, *Candice Lewsey-Ortman*, BSW Alternative Care Supervisor





he Administrative Team is comprised of the following team members: Joanne Kakewash-Executive Assistant Janet Anderson- Receptionist Geraldine Berens- CFSIS Clerk Holly Twoheart - File Clerk Amanda Coyne- Administrative Assistant Amanda Weibe- Administrative Assistant Samantha McDougall - Administrative Assistant The Administrative Team provides daily ongoing support to all program areas within the agency. They are a huge support to our staff and supervisors and without their dedication and team effort the agency would certainly fall apart. They are responsible for keeping the agency files up to date,

gathering statistical information, maintaining various databases, providing team support which would include various duties that assists the case managers in completing the everyday tasks that they are required to do.

We are committed to providing training opportunities to the administrative team. This will enhance what our administrative team is currently doing and will build on the individual strengths and gifts each individual brings to the team.

Over the next year we look forward to moving and settling into our new building and continuing to provide the best possible support to the staff and families of our agency.

The image above is from a portion of a painting by Simone McLeod, 2011, "Working Together."

Finance

y name is Steven Bembenek. I am the \mathbf{N} Bembenek. I am the Finance Director for Animikii and will be reporting on results generated by the past Finance Director. I have been employed by the Agency since October 2012. My professional career as a Certified General Accountant has spanned over 20 years and has been focused primarily in the manufacturing industry but I have been in public practice as well. I feel I bring a very well-rounded wealth of experience to our Agency which I expect will lead to long-term stability in my department. For years I have wanted to be involved

in the public service sector and am very happy to have found the home I have at Animikii.

My finance team includes:

- Fang Nan Fang is responsible for accounts payable transactions and travel reimbursements.
- Mike Peters Mike is responsible for Provincial Billings for children in care and voucher requests.
- Cathy Herrera Cathy is responsible for Agency payroll, bank reconciliations, travel bookings and medical cards.
- Ruby Manalac Ruby is responsible for maintaining children in care records, foster care payments, and children special allowances and rates.

These people are truly dedicated professionals all working hard to ensure accuracy and confidentiality of our finance records while maintaining transparency to our reporting bodies.

Summary of Audited Financial Results:

Our fiscal year saw a changeover of our recordkeeping from a manual system to a computerized system employing AccPac as our software of choice. This changeover was not without its challenges but was, for the most part, handled extremely well by the acting Director of Finance, Gina Maxfield. We still have a ways to go in utilizing AccPac to its fullest potential but in time we will take full advantage of all it has to offer.

Revenues – \$3.76 million for the year ended March 31, 2012. This is an increase of approximately \$1.0 million from last year. Primarily this increase was due to funding model changes from the prior year. Expenses – Decreased slightly to \$2.73 mill for 2012 from \$2.84 mill for 2011. Average daily cost per child in care (based on 335 children at March 31, 2012) is \$97.76. The agency provided 107,575 days of care for the year. This is an increase of 7,328 days of care from the previous fiscal year.

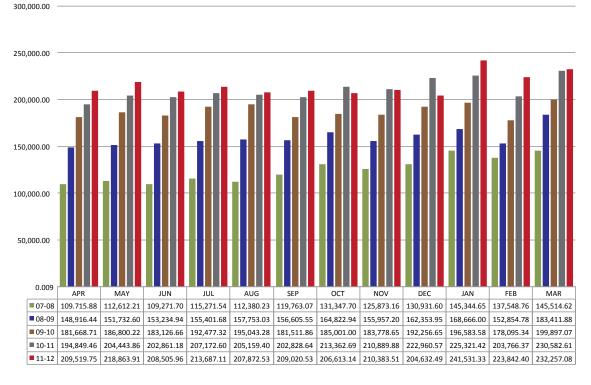
EAGL

Overall, this was a year of many changes for our department. With the vision our Agency had and the improvements that my predecessors have strived to attain I believe we shall see my department continue to expand its horizons leading to continued benefits for our Agency in the future.

Meegwetch, Steven Bembenek, Finance Director

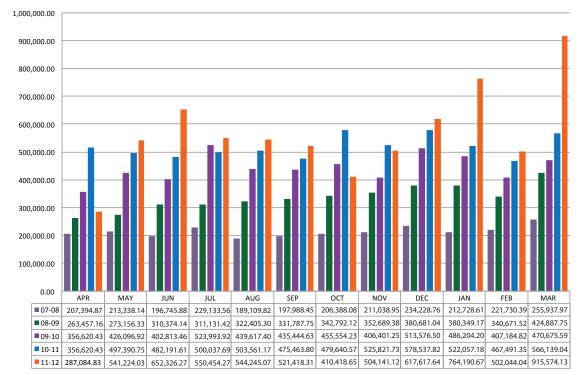
BASIC MAINTENANCE COMPARISON FIVE FULL YEARS

BASED ON PROVINCIAL BILLINGS



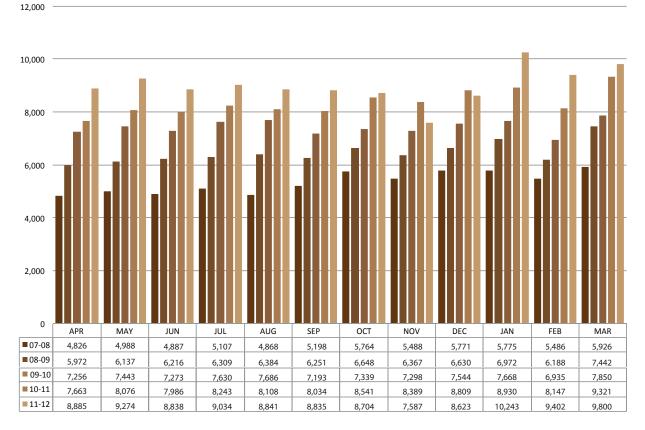
MONTHLY EXPENDITURES COMPARISON 5 FULL YEARS

BASED ON PROVINCIAL BILLINGS

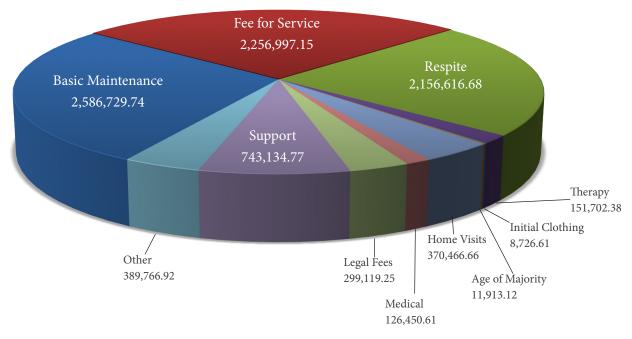


DAYS CARE COMPARISON 5 FULL YEARS

BASED ON PROVINCIAL BILLINGS



SEPARATION OF EXPENDITURES





Fuman Resources

n November 2011 Animikii Ozoson Child and Family Services Agency took concrete steps to create a fully-operational Human Resources department responsible for the employment, recruiting, compensation administration, benefits, wellness, training and development and employee relations for the organization. The Human Resources department invested in two major initiatives during the expansion. First, ongoing revisions of new and amended policy and procedures designed to meet the most current employee standards and in keeping with the lines of business for the organization.

Significantly, the Human Resources department began pro-active measures to expand and improve policy to recruit and retain high performance staff and focus on refining the workplace culture to a higher measure and performance.



The second major initiative was the implementation of the Human Resources department, working to develop a foundation for the transition that would continue to support our employees, the organization, and our children and families.

Meegwetch,

Daniel Jordaan, Human Resource Manager





Financial Statements

Audit March 31, 2012

nimikii Ozoson Child and Family Services' 2011/2012 Audit was conducted by Meyers Norris Penny, Chartered Accountants. The audit was conducted in accordance with Canadian Accepted Generally Audited Standards; the results of the audit are summarized on the following pages (13 in total) and will be available at the Annual General Meeting.

Management's Responsibility

To the Members of Animikii-Ozoson Inc.:

Management is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the accompanying financial statements, including responsibility for significant accounting judgments and estimates in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles and ensuring that all information in the annual report is consistent with the statements. This responsibility includes selecting appropriate accounting principles and methods, and making decisions affecting the measurement of transactions in which objective judgment is required.

In discharging its responsibilities for the integrity and fairness of the financial statements, management designs and maintains the necessary accounting systems and related internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are authorized, assets are safeguarded and financial records are properly maintained to provide reliable information for the preparation of financial statements.

The Board of Directors is composed primarily of Directors who are neither management nor employees of the Organization. The Board is responsible for overseeing management in the performance of its financial reporting responsibilities, and for approving the financial information included in the annual report. The Board fulfils these responsibilities by reviewing the financial information prepared by management and discussing relevant matters with management. The Board is also responsible for recommending the appointment of the Organization's external auditors.

MNP LLP, an independent firm of Chartered Accountants, is appointed by the members to audit the financial statements and report directly to them; their report follows. The external auditors have full and free access to, and meet periodically and separately with, both the Board and management to discuss their audit findings.

September 17, 2012

Bonnie Kocsis, Executive Director

Independent Auditors' Report

To the Members of Animikii-Ozoson Inc.:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Animikii-Ozoson Inc., which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2012, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets (deficit) and cash flows for the years then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

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

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Animikii-Ozoson Inc. as at March 31, 2012 and the results of its operations, changes in net assets (deficit) and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Winnipeg, Manitoba

September 17, 2012

MNPLLP

Chartered Accountants

2500 - 201 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 3K6, Phone: (204) 775-4531, 1 (877) 500-0795

Animikii-Ozoson Inc. Statement of Financial Position As at March 31, 2012

201
085,364
129,438
062,754
35,874
313,430
145,730
459,160
396,551
574,854
410,221
4,000
9,820
395,446
395,446
13,003
35,417
11,429
204,000
659,295
·
100,495
300,630
200,135
159,160

Animikii-Ozoson Inc. Statement of Operations

For the year ended Man		ch 31, 2012
	2012	2011
Revenue		
First Nations of Southern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority		
Operations	3,581,452	2,265,931
Family Innovations	-	27,600
Differential Response	41,180	201,616
Family Care		172,800
Leasehold improvement reimbursement	1,945	284
Other revenue	139,247	101,839
	3,763,824	2,770,070
Expenses		
Advertising	14,051	4,690
Amortization	44,825	47,647
Board	5,772	2,450
Consultant	-	16,463
Differential response	22,800	69,173
Family support	113,735	62,805
Foster parent training	4,632	8,512
Insurance	49,955	50,018
Interest and bank charges	9,791	6,772
Licences and fees	672	-
Office supplies	203,765	222,208
Professional fees	34,290	24,209
Rent	135,597	120,464
Repairs and maintenance	8,243	17,355
Salaries and benefits	1,938,804	2,027,925
Telephone	46,314	38,068
Travel	96,423	120,278
Total expenses	2,729,669	2,839,037
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses before maintenance	1,034,155	(68,967)
Maintenance (Schedule 1) Maintenance	(19,363)	32,075
Mantenance	(19,363)	32,075
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	1,014,792	(36,892)

Animikii-Ozoson Inc. Statement of Changes in Net Assets (Deficit) For the year ended March 31, 2012

				, .
	Invested in capital assets	Unrestricted	2012	2011
Net assets (deficit) beginning of year	100,495	(300,630) .	(200,135)	(163,243)
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	-	1,014,792	1,014,792	(36,892)
Amortization of capital assets	(44,825)	44,825	-	-
Invested in capital assets	5,931	(5,931)	-	-
Payment of capital lease obligations	9,820	(9,820)	-	-
Net assets (deficit), end of year	71,421	743,236	814,657	(200,135)

Animikii-Ozoson Inc. Statement of Cash Flows For the year ended March 31, 2012

	2012	2011
Cash provided by (used for) the following activities		
Operating activities		
Cash received from funders	12,948,169	10,282,161
Cash paid to suppliers	(12,890,496)	(9,406,304)
Cash paid to employees	(1,938,804)	(2,093,576)
Interest paid	(9,791)	(6,772)
Interest received	1,945	284
	(1,888,977)	(1,224,207)
Financing activities		
Repayment of current portion of long-term debt	(4,000)	(4,000)
Repayment of capital lease obligations	(9,820)	(9,354)
Increase in Province of Manitoba payable	1,121,165	1,001,903
Increase in working capital advance	-	797,110
	1,107,345	1,785,659
Investing activities Purchase of capital assets	(5,931)	(14,375)
	(3,331)	(14,070)
Increase (decrease) in cash resources	(787,563)	547,077
Cash resources, beginning of year	2,214,802	1,667,725
	4 407 000	0.014.000
Cash resources, end of year	1,427,239	2,214,802
Cash resources are composed of:		
Cash	1,297,740	2,085,364
Short-term investments	129,499	129,438
	1,427,239	2,214,802

1. Incorporation and commencement of operations

Animikii-Ozoson Inc. (the "Organization") was incorporated in the Province of Manitoba as a corporation without share capital on February 3, 2005, and began active operations in October 2005.

The Organization operates to provide child and family services under First Nations of Southern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority.

The Organization is registered as a non-profit organization under the Income Tax Act (the "Act") and as such is exempt from income taxes. In order to maintain its status as a non-profit organization under the Act, the Organization must meet certain requirements within the Act. In the opinion of management, these requirements have been met.

2. Significant accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles and include the following significant accounting policies:

Revenue recognition

The Organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Capital assets

Capital assets are recorded at cost. Amortization is provided using methods and rates intended to amortize the cost of assets over their estimated useful lives.

	Method	Rate
Computer equipment	declining balance	45 %
Computer software	declining balance	100 %
Equipment	declining balance	20 %
Leasehold improvements	straight-line	7 years
Photocopier	straight line	5 years

Long-lived assets

Long-lived assets consists of capital assets with finite useful lives. Long-lived assets held for use are measured and amortized as described in the applicable accounting policies.

The organization performs impairment testing on long-lived assets held for use whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset, or group of assets, may not be recoverable. Impairment losses are recognized when undiscounted future cash flows from its use and disposal are less than the assets' value. Any impairment is included in earnings for the year.

Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period.

Accounts receivable are stated after evaluation as to their collectibility and an appropriate allowance for doubtful accounts is provided where considered necessary. Amortization is based on the estimated useful lives of capital assets. These estimates and assumptions are reviewed periodically and, as adjustments become necessary they are reported in earnings in the periods in which they become known.

2. Significant accounting policies (Continued from previous page)

Financial instruments

Held for trading:

The Organization has classified the following financial assets and liabilities as held for trading: cash and short-term investments.

Held for trading financial instruments are initially and subsequently measured at their fair value. Fair value is approximated by the instrument's initial cost in a transaction between unrelated parties. Gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are recognized immediately in the statement of revenues and expenses.

Loans and receivables:

The Organization has classified the following financial assets as loans and receivables: accounts receivable. These assets are initially recognized at their fair value. Fair value is approximated by the instrument's initial cost in a transaction between unrelated parties.

Loans and receivables are subsequently measured at their amortized cost. Amortized cost is the amount at which the financial asset is measured at initial recognition less principal repayments, plus or minus the cumulative amortization using the effective interest method of any difference between that initial amount and the maturity amount, and less any reduction for impairment or uncollectability. Gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are recognized in excess of revenues over expenses upon derecognition or impairment.

Other financial liabilities:

The Organization has classified the following financial liabilities as other financial liabilities: accounts payable and accruals, Province of Manitoba payable, working capital advance, long-term debt and capital lease obligations. These liabilities are initially recognized at their fair value. Fair value is approximated by the instrument's initial cost in a transaction between unrelated parties.

Other financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortized cost using the effective interest method. Under this method, estimated future cash payments are exactly discounted over the liability's expected life, or other appropriate period, to its net carrying value. Amortized cost is the amount at which the financial liability is measured at initial recognition less principal repayments, and plus or minus the cumulative amortization using the effective interest method of any difference between that initial amount and the maturity amount. Gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are recognized in excess of revenues over expenses upon derecognition or impairment.

Nature and extent of risks rising from financial instruments

The Organization has exposure to the following risks as a result of holding financial instruments: credit risk, liquidity risk, market risk and interest risk. The following is a description of those risks and how the Organization manages the exposure to them:

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument fails to discharge an obligation and causes financial loss to another party. Financial instrument which potentially subject the Organization to credit risk is receivables. The Organization is not exposed to significant credit risk since majority of receivables are with agencies and Province of Manitoba. An allowance for doubtful accounts was not recorded as of March 31, 2012.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Organization will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they come due. The Organization manages liquidity risk by balancing its cash flow requirements through its available working capital payable and its cash balance.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market places, such as interest rates will affect the Organization's net earnings or the fair values of its financial instruments. The significant market risk that the Organization is exposed to is interest rate risk.

2. Significant accounting policies (Continued from previous page)

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The interest rate exposure relates to cash and capital lease obligations. The interest risk exposure on cash is considered to be low because of their short term nature; interest risk exposure on capital lease obligation is 4.88% per annum (2011 - 4.88%)

Comprehensive income

All gains and losses, including those arising from measurement of all financial instruments have been recognized in net income for the year. There are no items giving rise to other comprehensive income, nor is there any accumulated balance of other comprehensive income.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations

In October 2010, the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) approved the incorporation of the "4400 series" of standards, which discusses the accounting for the unique circumstances of not-for-profit organizations (NFPO), from the CICA Handbook-Accounting into the CICA Public Sector Accounting Handbook ("PSA Handbook"). This set of standards will be appropriately modified to fit with public sector accounting standards. Effective for fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2012, all GNFPOs will have the option to apply either the PSA Handbook with or without the NFPO standards. Earlier adoption is permitted. The Organization expects to adopt the PSA Handbook with the NFPO standards . The Organization has not yet determined the impact of the adoption of the new standards on its financial statements.

3. Cash

4.

	2012	2011
Petty cash	1,708	13,745
Operating bank account	226,287	134,137
Maintenance bank account	1,069,745	1,937,482
	1,297,740	2,085,364
Short term investment		
	2012	2011
Guaranteed Investment Certificates	129.499	129.438

The above noted investments all mature within one year and bear interest at 0.75% (2011 - 1.45%).

5. Accounts receivable

	2012	2011
Accounts receivable - operations	2,382,783	961,350
Goods and Services Tax receivable	34,814	18,534
Accounts receivable from employees	1,300	3,090
Accounts receivable - maintenance	3,409,269	2,079,780
	5,828,166	3,062,754

6. Capital assets

7.

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2012 Net book value
Computer equipment Computer software	36,956 9,402	34,169 9,402	2,787
Equipment Leasehold improvements	49,908 180,514	28,405 126,915	21,503 53,599
	276,780	198,891	77,889
Assets under capital lease Photocopier	56,858	27,913	28,945
	333,638	226,804	106,834
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2011 Net book value
Computer equipment	36,956	31,888	5,068
Computer software Equipment	9,402 43.977	9,402 23,029	- 20,948
Leasehold improvements	180,514	101,117	79,397
Assets under capital lease	270,849	165,436	105,413
Photocopier	56,858	16,541	40,317
	327,707	181,977	145,730
Accounts payable and accruals			
		2012	2011
Accounts payable - operations Accounts payable - maintenance		- 75,251	48,318 339,310
Accounts payable - payroll and other accrued liabilities		174,647	-
Due to Southern First Nations Child and Family Services		-	8,923
		249,898	396,551

8. Payable to the Province of Manitoba

During the fiscal year ending March 31, 2007 the Organization began receiving Children's Support Allowance funding from the Province of Manitoba on an annual basis. This funding was deemed repayable by the Province of Manitoba. The Organization has started to make payments subsequent to year end and will have to repay the balance owing within next fiscal year in order to move to a new funding model.

Long-term debt		
	2012	2011
Pitney Bowes, non-interest bearing unsecured loan with quarterly payments of \$1,000, due April 2015	13,003	17,003
Less: Current portion	4,000	4,000
	9,003	13,003
2015 5,003		
Obligation under capital lease		
Obligation under capital lease	2012	201
Pitney Bowes Finance lease bearing interest at 4.88% per annum, repayable in quarterly blended payments of \$2,967. The lease matures on July 20, 2015 and is secured by specific		2011
Pitney Bowes Finance lease bearing interest at 4.88% per annum, repayable in quarterly	2012 35,417	201 ⁻ 45,237
Pitney Bowes Finance lease bearing interest at 4.88% per annum, repayable in quarterly blended payments of \$2,967. The lease matures on July 20, 2015 and is secured by specific		

Minimum lease payments related to the obligations under capital lease are as follows:

2013	11,858
2014	11,858
2015	11,858
2016	2,951
	38,525
Less: imputed interest	(3,108)
	35,417

11. Working capital advance

The working capital advance is payable to First Nations of Southern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority. The working capital advance is non-interest bearing and has no specified terms of repayment.

12. Commitments

The Organization has entered into various lease agreements. The new office lease starts on June 1, 2012 with the monthly payments of \$20,000. Annual lease payments increase by \$10,000 each year. Below is estimated minimum annual payments:

2013	264,669
2014	263,934
2015	273,934
2016	273,644
2017	278,333

13. Economic dependence

The Organization's primary source of funding is from the Province of Manitoba. The Organization's ability to continue viable operations is dependent on this funding.

The secondary source of funding is from the First Nations of Southern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority.

14. Capital management

The Organization's objective when managing capital is to safeguard the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, so that it can continue to provide child and family services under First Nations of Southern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority.

The Organization sets the amount of capital in proportion to risk and manages the capital structure and makes adjustments to it in light of changes to economic conditions and the risk characteristics of the underlying assets.

The Organization monitors capital quarterly through Board of Directors meetings. During the year, the Organizations strategy is to protect the capital through managing revenues and expenses. The strategy remained unchanged from the prior year.

Animikii-Ozoson Inc. Schedule 1 - Schedule of Maintenance For the year ended March 31, 2012

	2012	2011
Revenue		
Province of Manitoba - Maintenance	11,860,648	8,916,628
Province of Manitoba - Agency allowance	73,302	115,910
	11,933,950	9,032,538
Expenses		
Agency allowance	73,302	115,910
Child maintenance	11,880,011	8,884,553
	11,953,313	9,000,463
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	(19,363)	32,075

Acknowledgments

Photography, Design and Layout by EB² IMAGE DESIGN RESEARCH

www.eb2imagedesignresearch.com

In-kind support and equipment usage provided by



Our Vision Statement: "Strong hearts and minds, strong families, beautiful children, strong community networks."

Contact Us

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