About Us

Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak, the City of Winnipeg's Indigenous Youth Strategy was adopted by City Council in late 2008 and has been working with community and civic partners to deliver and support programs for Indigenous youth ever since!

Why It's Important

From 2006 to 2011 the Indigenous population in Canada increased by 20.1% or by 232,385 people. Winnipeg has both the highest percentage (11%) and the largest urban Indigenous population (72,300) in Canada. Indigenous youth are the fastest growing demographic in Winnipeg with a median age of 26 as of 2011. Investing in Indigenous youth ensures the City of Winnipeg is laying a solid foundation to build a stronger tomorrow.

How We Work

We partner! We partner with community organizations in Winnipeg who design and deliver programs for Indigenous youth. See our Community Partner List on page 3 for more information.

We also partner with civic departments to design and deliver programs for Indigenous youth, such as internships, scholarships and awards, career awareness weeks, career training, and recreation programs!

MISSION STATEMENT

To give indigenous youth positive opportunities in the community and civic system by bridging and providing culturally appropriate programs and supports related to employment, literacy and recreation to increase resilience, self-sustainability, pride, and future opportunities.
Our Name

In a 2009, a naming ceremony for the Indigenous Youth Strategy was held, Elders Jules Lavallee and Mary Richard gifted the spirit name Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak meaning “Young Indigenous People Leading” in Ojibway. This spirit name guides and reminds us that Indigenous youth are the leaders of today and tomorrow.

Our Symbol

Jasmine created the symbol for Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak in 2010. She based her artwork on visions shared during the naming ceremony and incorporated elements of equality, diversity, and pride. Graham Constant digitized the symbol in 2011.

Our Principles

Our guiding principles are sharing, caring, kindness, and truth. During the naming ceremony, Elders also provided guiding principles for the strategy to remind us that the involvement of the heart and spirit are as necessary as the involvement of the mind.
ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS SECRETARIAT INC.
Eagle’s Nest Program

This program works with Indigenous youth aged 15 - 30 who are out-of-school or unemployed. It offers support and guidance for youth to return to school, enroll in training opportunities or obtain employment.

INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE INC.
Aboriginal Construction Technology Program

This program is delivered with Prairie Active Trades Training Centre. The 36-week program provides training towards completion of Level 1 Accreditation in Carpentry and a Mature Student Diploma. Graduates can apply their skills within the fields of carpentry, plumbing, electrical, plastering, drywall and painting!

RESOURCE ASSISTANCE FOR YOUTH INC.
Growing Opportunities

This program works with street-entrenched and homeless youth to overcome obstacles to employment. The program provides assistance to youth who face barriers such as few personal supports, identification, education, experience and/or personal circumstances. Growing Opportunities helps youth identify goals, seek training, find supportive work placements and sustain employment.

MA MAWI WI CHI ITATA CENTRE INC.
Future Is Yours

This program provides youth aged 15 to 21 with skills, volunteer experience, job shadowing, training, mentorship and Indigenous cultural awareness opportunities! The program prepares youth for City of Winnipeg and Province of Manitoba summer employment opportunities.

NDINAWEMAAGANAG ENDAAWAAD INC.
Youth Resource Centre Recreation Program

This program allows participants of all athletic backgrounds to learn different sports. Participants learn everyday life skills such as teamwork, commitment, physical fitness and responsibility. Activities include mixed martial arts, golf, weight training, horseback riding, tobogganing, ice-skating, floor & ice hockey, baseball, and soccer.
Community Partners

SPENCE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION INC.
FJ4Y

FJ4Y is a paid summer and fall work experience and training program for Spence neighbourhood youth aged 16 to 18. During the summer, participants get certificates and experience while completing workshops and helping with programs or community gardens. When classes resume in the fall, successful participants are offered part-time work with local businesses, agencies or institutions.

KA NI KANICHIHK INC.
Honouring Gifts

This program works with Indigenous mothers up to age 30 to discover gifts and talents. Participants develop individual life plans and explore career aspirations. The program helps through training, employment or education. Participants have the opportunity to participate in career and educational options, gain exposure to workplaces, complete on-site work internships and receive certification in a variety of areas. The program includes culturally authentic opportunities in a safe environment.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF WINNIPEG INC.
Youth Recreation Activity Worker Program

This program is open to young people aged 18 to 29 who live in Winnipeg’s core area. It offers in-class training, positive role models and recreation leaders to children and youth who attend after-school programs. Ultimately, the aim of the program is to empower students to obtain work in community-based youth serving agencies!

BROADWAY NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE INC.
Just TV

This program provides youth aged 16 to 24 opportunities to express themselves through multimedia in a safe and creative environment while also exploring career options within this exciting field! Participants engage in all facets of the audio and video industry from script writing to production while making personal videos based on their lives as well as work aimed at dissuading young children from drugs, crime and gang activity. All videos and projects are showcased at a year-end celebration for friends, families, and supporters!
Scholarships & Awards

Post-Secondary Scholarships
Invest in your future! Each summer, up to ten $1,000 scholarships are awarded to Indigenous students who are enrolled in a full-time program at a recognized post-secondary institution in Winnipeg. This $1,000 monetary reward will support your tuition cost for the current academic school year and will be directly applied to the post-secondary institution you are registered in.

Aboriginal Education & Civic Pathways Award
How do you turn your gifts and talents into a career? Continuing your education and exploring careers today will strengthen your opportunities for a bright and rewarding future. The Aboriginal Education & Civic Pathways Award is offered to Indigenous students in grades 7-12 attending school in Winnipeg. This award program also provides youth with the opportunity to explore exciting career fields at the City of Winnipeg such as city planning, architecture, engineering, information technology, law enforcement, paramedicine, and firefighting!
Internships

So you’ve completed an education or training program and you’re wondering what’s next? It’s time to gain hands-on experience with the City of Winnipeg!

As an intern, you will have multiple opportunities to contribute to corporate projects, and as many opportunities to leave an impression of your good work! Internships can last anywhere from 10 weeks – 24 months. Come onboard with the City of Winnipeg and begin your journey with us!

Training Initiatives

If you’re working on a dream, we want to see you succeed. Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak in partnership with community-based organizations and civic departments provide opportunities for Indigenous youth to access training programs that will provide a combination of academic study, field experience, and mentorship in a specific field. Indigenous youth found pathways to exciting new careers as Primary Care Paramedics and By-Law Enforcement Officers after successfully completing intensive training programs. If your dream includes hard work and commitment, you will obtain the education and training necessary to fully qualify and effectively compete for career opportunities with the City of Winnipeg!

Email OshkiAnnishinabeNigaaniwak@winnipeg.ca to subscribe for email updates on upcoming opportunities such as internships, employment, scholarships, and programming!
**Young Aboriginal People Leading**

We are very blessed to meet and work with talented, passionate and amazing Indigenous youth. Check out some of their incredible bios and testimonies about how they participated in Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak.

### Jessica Williams

Jessica Williams has always had a passion for helping others. She has volunteered with charities such as the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, for over eleven years.

With help from the Manitoba Metis Federation, Jessica graduated from the Creative Communications program at Red River College. Her goal is to work with a non-profit organization.

She now works at the City of Winnipeg’s Indigenous Relations Division as the Indigenous Public Information Assistant. She works with Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak to promote and raise awareness about programs and awards.

She hopes to learn more about Indigenous culture while gaining skills that will help her help others.

### Jared Bone

Jared Bone is a video intern at the City of Winnipeg’s Indigenous Relations Division. His responsibilities include writing, filming, and editing videos to engage youth in current opportunities offered by Oshki Anishinabe Nigaaniwak as well as highlighting the successes of the Indigenous Relations Division and the Indigenous community as a whole.

In 2013, Jared decided to pursue his passion for multimedia. Despite many bumps in the road he has managed to take part in several video shoots such as music videos, short films, promotional videos, and a documentary.

He plans on enrolling in formal training course for cinematography that will enhance his current skills.
Raven Boulanger

Raven Boulanger grew up in the City of Winnipeg and attended Red River College where she played for the women’s basketball team. She helped win the team a championship banner. Raven was enrolled in the Community Development/Community Economic Development program and graduated with a certificate in May 2016. She also had an internship with Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak.

Raven is part of an internship placement through Victoria International Development Education Association (VIDEA). Her placement is located in Lusaka, Zambia in Southern Africa, where she is working for a non-profit organization called ‘Women for Change’ as the Community Development Assistant.

She is hoping to inspire youth in a positive, holistic way.

Randi Monkman

Randi is 22 years old and a full time student with the University of Manitoba.

Randi started working as a hairstylist, but wanted more out of life. She wanted employment experience but most importantly, she wanted to be working with Indigenous people.

Unable to find a new job, Randi applied to post-secondary school. There, she learned about, and joined, the Eagles Nest program. The program offers many types of training and cultural teachings. During her time in the program she won the Next Step award.

At the Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak Celebration Randi met the director of the Indigenous Leadership Development Institute, and was offered a summer position with the organization.