



MULTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION  
OF WOOD BUFFALO

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Celebrate | Educate | Integrate



## Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo

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@MCA4WB



@MCA4WB



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[bit.ly/mcawb-YouTube](https://bit.ly/mcawb-YouTube)



# MEET THE MCA TEAM

At MCA, we are proud to work with a talented and dedicated group of staff members and Board of Directors. Each help bring a unique aspect to the organization in achieving cultural diversity and awareness in the RMWB.

## MCA Board of Directors



**Dango Gogo**  
President



**Robert Cree**  
Vice President



**Brian Fung**  
Treasurer



**Annalee Nutter**  
Secretary



**Purva Sharma**  
Board Member



**J.D. Girado**  
Board Member



**Muhammad Etisham**  
Board Member



**Elliott Pierre**  
Board Member



**Rene Wells**  
Board Member

## MCA Staff Members



**Muna Ali**  
Executive  
Director



**Rasha Hassan**  
Events &  
Communications  
Manager



**Shannon Lloyd**  
Programs  
Manager



**Ashley Makey**  
Communications  
Coordinator



**Aysha Kadour**  
Welcome  
Centre  
Coordinator



**Marsha Titus**  
Language Services  
Coordinator



**Heather Hagerman**  
Indigenous & Rural  
Outreach  
Coordinator



**Precious Emelogo**  
Projects  
Coordinator



**Natasha Gregorek**  
ELLA Coordinator



**Suellen Ware**  
ELLA Tutor



**Rima Kadri**  
ELLA Tutor



**Uzma Afroz**  
ELLA Tutor



**Doha Hameid**  
ELLA Tutor



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# TREATY 8

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



### ENGLISH

We respectfully acknowledge that we are meeting on Treaty 8 Territory. We honour the traditional lands of the First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples who have lived, travelled and gathered here for thousands of years. It is their footsteps that have marked these lands before us. Let us together steward these lands today and for the future.

### FRENCH

Nous reconnaissons respectueusement que nous nous réunissons sur le territoire du traité 8. Nous honorons les terres traditionnelles des peuples des Premières Nations, des Métis et des Inuits qui ont vécu, voyagé et se sont rassemblés ici pendant des milliers d'années. Ce sont leurs traces qui ont marqué ces terres avant nous, gérons ensemble ces terres aujourd'hui et pour l'avenir.

### SPANISH

Reconocemos con respeto que estamos reunidos en el territorio del tratado Octavo, honramos las tierras tradicionales de las Primeras Naciones, los pueblos Metis e Inuit quienes han vivido, viajado y reunido aquí durante miles de años. Son sus pasos los que han marcado éstas tierras antes que nosotros, administremos juntos éstas tierras hoy y para el futuro.

### GERMAN

Wir erkennen mit dem höchsten Respekt an, dass wir uns auf dem Gebiet des Treaty 8 befinden. Wir würdigen das traditionelle Land der First Nation, Metis und Inuit Volksgruppen, die hier seit tausend von Jahren leben, reisen und sich versammeln. Es sind ihre Schritte, die dieses Land vor uns gekennzeichnet haben. Lasst uns zusammen dieses Land heute und in der Zukunft innewohnen.

### HINDI

हम सम्मानपूर्वक स्वीकार करते हैं कि हम संधि 8 क्षेत्र पर मिल रहे हैं, हम प्रथम राष्ट्र, मेटिस और इन्दुइट लोगों की पारंपरिक भूमि का सम्मान करते हैं जो हजारों वर्षों से यहां रहते हैं, यात्रा करते हैं और एकत्र हुए हैं। यह उनके पदचिन्ह हैं जो हमसे पहले इस भूमि पर चिन्हित हुए हैं, आइए हम एक साथ इन भूमियों को आज और भविष्य के लिए संभालें।

### ARABIC

نحن نعترف ونحترم ونقر تعليقنا سوي على ارض المعاهده الثامنه. نحن نقدر ونحترم السكان الأصليين للارض والميتيس والانويت الذين عاشوا فيها وسافروا وتجمعوا فيها قبلنا من ملايين السنين. نحن الان نخطوا ونشي على خطاهم ونعرف بفضلهم على الارض الممتلأه بعلماتهم وبفضلهم. ولذلك فلنجمع سويا ونعمل على المحافظه عليها في كل وقت الان وفي المستقبل.

### TAGALOG

Kami ay magalang kilalanin ang aming pagtitipon-tipon sa territoryo ng treaty 8, pinapahalagahan namin ang tradisional na lupain ng mga First Nations, Metis at Inuit na nabuhay, naglakbay, at nagtipon dito nang libo-libong taon. Ang kanilang yapak ang unang tumatak sa mga lupang ito bago tayo, magsama-sama tayong maging katiwala nitong lupa ngayon at sa hinaharap.

# MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo (MCA), I wish to express my profound gratitude to all our generous donors and sponsors, our dedicated staff, our incredible volunteers, the registered members of the Association and the resilient residents of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, for their support over the last year.

Please join us in welcoming our new Executive Director, Muna Ali, who brings with her an incredible set of skills and life experiences that would certainly facilitate MCA's quest to continue providing the highest level of multicultural events, programs and services. Muna is a passionate advocate for multiculturalism and has been a proud resident of Fort McMurray for over 16 years.

We would also like to thank our outgoing Executive Director, Therese Greenwood for her hard work and incredible leadership for almost four years. She led the organization with poise, seemingly effortlessly through the floods and a global pandemic. Therese's tenacity and continuous pursuit for opportunities to serve the diverse people of our region resulted in MCA increasing its programs, events and services, and almost tripling its revenue and budget in four years. We have no doubt that she will continue to be an advocate for multiculturalism.

We have recently released our strategic plan for 2022-2025, which aims to further our vision of having a multicultural community where everyone feels a sense of belonging, and where respect, diversity, openness, equity, and representation are celebrated daily. Our mission is to lead the way in promoting equity, inclusion and respect by advocating for the integration of diverse perspectives to ensure meaningful representation in all levels of community life in our region and beyond.

Our main strategic focus in the next three years is to advocate for our youth, newcomers and indigenous groups to have meaningful representation and equal opportunity to participate at all levels and in all aspects of community life. We will continue to strengthen our partnerships and relationships with stakeholders and be recognized as a partner of choice for cultural diversity, multiculturalism, equity and inclusion.

Let us always remember that the strength of our region is not just the oilsands, it is in our diversity. "It is time for parents to teach young people early on that in diversity there is beauty and there is strength." Maya Angelou.

It is time for us to have a meaningful representation and showcase of our diversity.

**Dango Gogo**  
MCA President

# MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I am absolutely thrilled and honored to be the new Executive Director of the Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo. I believe deeply in the power of people to make meaningful change in the places where we live. My goal is to preserve and build upon the incredible, 37-year-old legacy that this organization has, while simultaneously looking toward the future with growth in mind. Luckily, we have the right people on our side. We have an enthusiastic, committed Board of Directors, a knowledgeable staff, and a community full of incredible partners and volunteers.

2022 saw the return of many incredible programs, events and services that were put on hold over the past few years. As we have been returning to in-person events, I am excited for what the future holds for the Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo (MCA).

The MCA team have been working diligently to bring the best of cultural programming, events, and services to the region. I am excited to be working on bringing new programs such as the Financial Literacy Program for Indigenous Youth, which we are working to start up later this year.

We have also been working hard on the development of a new Anti-Racism Training program that aims to collaborate with a network of regional BIPOC, cultural and educational groups in order to share lived experiences and work towards a future of understanding, acceptance and positive change.

We want to thank all of our sponsors for allowing us to serve the community in new ways while staying true to our vision and mission. We are also very grateful for the strong partnerships we have with other organizations who are working very hard with us to promote culture diversity in the region.

I am looking forward to many years of exciting opportunities for MCA to continue to serve its clients and communities in unique and innovative ways and enhance our mission in promoting equity, inclusion, and respect within the multicultural communities of the Wood Buffalo region.

**Muna Ali**  
MCA Executive Director

# ABOUT MCA

The Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo (MCA) was established in 1985 as a way to support cultural groups and newcomers through various programs and events, as well as to foster cross-cultural awareness and understanding.

## Our Vision

A community where everyone feels a sense of belonging, and where respect, diversity, openness, equity, and representation are celebrated.



## Our Mission

The Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo leads the way in promoting equity, inclusion, and respect by advocating for the integration of diverse perspectives to ensure meaningful representation in all levels of community life. We create an environment where everyone can contribute to their full potential for the prosperity of our community.

## Our Values

Our values define how we serve and build relationships with our multicultural community, as well as our workplace.

**Diversity:** MCA values the diversity and differences among persons from all over the world who live and work in the RMWB. All programs and activities celebrate and educate the multicultural contributions from our citizens.

**Integrity:** MCA values integrity. All programs and activities are distinguished by a commitment to honesty, accountability and transparency.

**Inclusivity:** MCA values the inclusion of all persons in our community. All programs and activities ensure that every culture feels at home in Wood Buffalo and supports integration to ensure our cultural community members have the skills and resources necessary to be successful in our community.

**Mutual Respect:** MCA values mutual respect. All programs and activities promote a welcoming environment for all cultures and people from around the world.

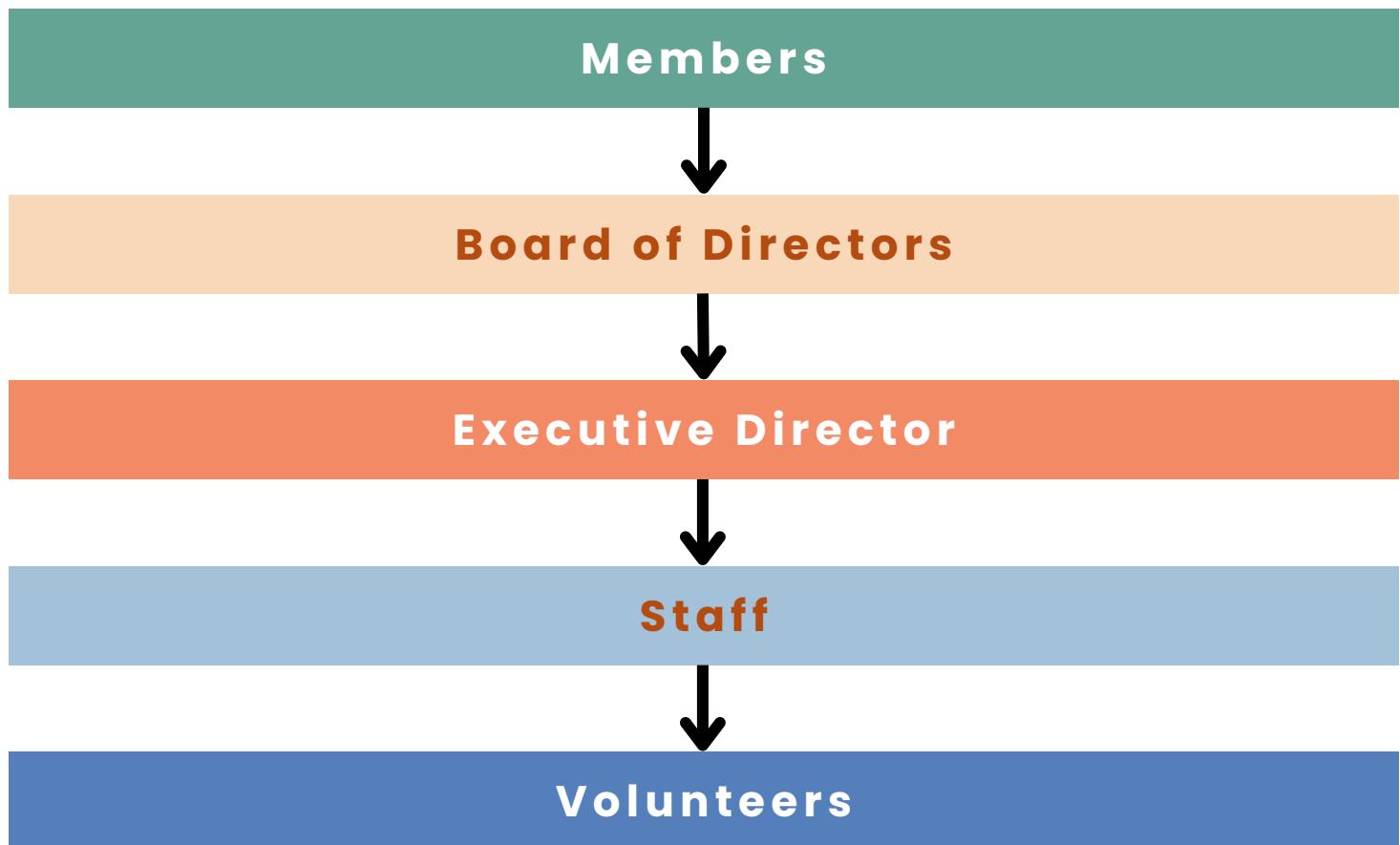
# MEMBERSHIP & VOLUNTEERING

MCA membership is open to organizations (voting) and individuals (non-voting) to share the benefits of early-bird registrations and program discounts. MCA has an ever-growing member and volunteer base.

Since the last Annual General Meeting (AGM), we have had 398 volunteer hours logged.

## ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

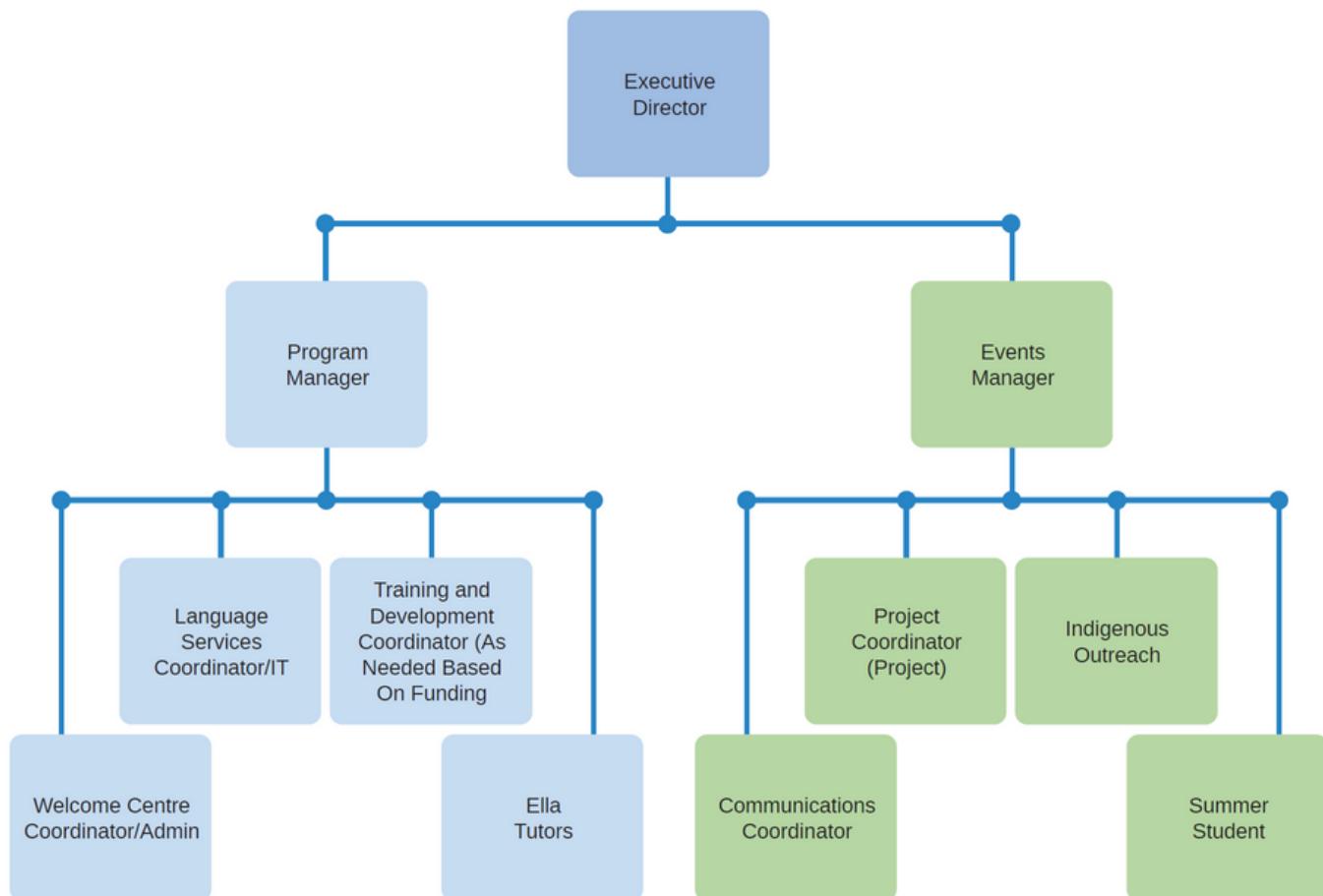
The MCA is governed by a board of directors whose mandate is to provide strategic leadership to the organization. They are responsible for developing policies on code of conduct, conflict of interest, meeting management, policy development, recruitment of Executive Director, strategic planning, as well as board recruitment, evaluation and succession planning.



# Objectives

- Advocate for cultural diversity and meaningful inclusion throughout the RMWB.
- Support everyone in preserving and revitalizing language, tradition, and culture.
- Promote cultural sharing between individuals, groups, industry, businesses, government, and other sectors of society
- Educate and enable transitions to equity, meaningful representation and institutional change.

## Staff Organization Chart



# STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-25

## Strategic Goals

### **Goal 1: MCA ensures fiscal sustainability and internal controls so that continued quality events, programs and services can be delivered.**

- Financial inventory and opportunities
- Develop operating capacity and capability to deliver on funded programs
- Keep our funding in place
- Match growth in number and depth of programs to anticipated influx of new immigrants
- Find a permanent home that also has space diversity that the community can access
- Keep strategic plan alive - not set aside with new ideas/work/etc.
- New board members orientation

### **Goal 2: MCA ensures, encourages, and promotes that youth, Newcomers, and Indigenous groups have meaningful representation and equal opportunity to participate in all aspects of community life.**

- Create youth advisory committee/mentorship opportunities
- Enhance the engagement with the youth
- Youth programs through Welcome Centre
- Define/expand relationship with the Indigenous community
- Continue and enhance our partnership with the Indigenous community
- Build and expand relationships with Indigenous community
- Welcome Centre becomes drop-in hangout centre
- Expand and redefine Welcome Centre to cultural navigator service
- Position MCA to be prepared for more incoming newcomers - more staff at Welcome Centre

# STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-25

## Strategic Goals

**Goal 3: MCA strengthens its partnerships and relationships with stakeholders to be recognized as a partner of choice for cultural diversity, multiculturalism, equity and inclusion.**

- Continue to partner
- Continue to find ways to collaborate with like-minded organizations (reduce competition/duplication of services)
- Continue our relationship with the municipality
- Seek out new partnerships
- Purposeful involvement with key sectors enabling the transitioning
- Lead community in developing anti-racism training
- Advocate for outcomes of "you do you" for everyone
- Educate corporate and civil organizations in the promotion of equity and creation of safe spaces

**Goal 4: MCA seeks ongoing feedback through internal and external evaluations to continually adapt, develop and improve.**

- Develop a way to get real-time feedback from the community to match MCA offering with the emerging needs
- Regular member/user benchmark surveys
- Enhance annual signature event
- Promotional initiatives that enhance public awareness



# 2022 PROGRAMS

MCA's programs aim to help educate members of the Wood Buffalo region on what it means to be a part of a Multicultural Community. These programs also aim to help equip people with the tools they may need to integrate and thrive in our community.

## **ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

The English Language Learners Assistance (ELLA) Program aims to build confidence in newcomer youth students so that they can actively participate in class and school activities. ELLA helps children with their reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.

Due to language barriers, newcomer students in Wood Buffalo often struggle in school and frequently do not have sufficient homework support at home, as their parents may also be learning English. The program is typically offered during school hours with a maximum of 2-to-1 students-to-teacher ratios for half an hour sessions.

In 2022, MCA saw a high need for English support within school-aged children. Due to this need, ELLA tutors divided students into groups that were instructed 4 days a week rather than the usual programming of once a week over the course of a month. In addition, 2022 continued the 2021 implementation of online instruction for those who couldn't make it to in-person tutoring sessions.

Throughout the year, the ELLA program has continued to receive tremendous response as tutors were able to assist 111 children and youth from grades 1 - 12 from 7 local schools with English language learning.

Moving forward into the 2022-23 school year, MCA estimates 317 students through a new hybrid model that is established at one school in the community, and is looking at serving 7 schools in the community, with a total of 101 hours per week 5 tutors available to help students in need.

# 2022 PROGRAMS

## FINANCIAL LITERACY PROGRAM

Participants of the Level 1 Financial Literacy Program gain knowledge in banking, budgeting, credit, debit, taxes, insurance, government support programs, avoiding frauds & scams, and investing. Level 2 covers financial goals, net worth, company stocks, private offerings, real estate investing, and cryptocurrency.

The sessions provided are highly interactive and provide newcomers with tools to help them and their families understand the Canadian financial system. Participants are provided with workshop material that serves as a great resource and document for future reference.

The 2022 Financial Literacy Program saw a total of 35 participants in attendance.

After the Spring 2022 term, MCA bid a fond farewell to long-term volunteer program facilitator, Jay Falcone, who has guided the Spring and Fall semester courses since 2014. The Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo team thank Jay for his time volunteering with the organization and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.



## CULTURAL AWARENESS TRAINING

MCA's Cultural Awareness Training (CAT) provides workshops to the community that aim to address cross-cultural differences, as well as potential causes of misunderstanding and conflict. These workshops are tailored to each participating group in order to provide tools and strategies that can help address cross-cultural challenges.

In 2022, the CAT program provided 8 workshops (6 virtual and 2 in-person) to over 100 individuals from different community agencies, including social/non-profits, Municipal and corporate departments, and educational institutions.

## IN 2022...





# 2022 EVENTS

The Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo hosts a number of annual events which seek to help the Wood Buffalo Community celebrate diversity, learn about different cultures and to further help integrate people into the community.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021

Due to the circumstances surrounding the global situation with COVID-19 in late 2021, the MCA held their Annual General Meeting for the second consecutive time through online conferencing in order to keep in line with provincial health guidelines. The AGM took place on November 29th, 2021 via Zoom.

## HUMAN RIGHTS DAY 2021

Human Rights Day is observed annually on December 10th in commemoration of the day in 1948 when the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly.

On December 10, 2021, the MCA hosted a Virtual Conversation Café which featured a panel discussion between five local women from diverse backgrounds within the Wood Buffalo region. The theme of the 2021 panel discussion kept with the United Nation's 2021 Human Rights Day theme of "Equality: Reducing inequalities, advancing human rights". The event originally aired on MCA's Facebook page (@mca4wb) and YouTube channel ([bit.ly/mcawb-YouTube](https://bit.ly/mcawb-YouTube)).

## VOLUNTEER AND BOARD APPRECIATION 2021

Due to the circumstances surrounding the global situation with COVID-19 in late 2021, there was no physical event coordinated to celebrate the contributions and achievements of MCA's board and volunteers. Instead, the staff had custom-made gift baskets locally curated which were delivered to each board member and volunteer as an appreciation gift.

## MULTICULTURAL EXPO 2022

As the global pandemic moved into the new year, the 2022 Multicultural EXPO was once again expanded to a month-long virtual format for the second consecutive year. This year, MCA was able to provide a professional space with thanks to Keyano Theatre, along with a professional videographer to help create a professional and safe space for cultural fashion and performance videos.

Throughout the month of February, four featured weeks of themed programming took place on both the MCA Facebook page (@mcawb) and YouTube channel ([bit.ly/mcawb-YouTube](https://bit.ly/mcawb-YouTube)). The themes were similar to the 2021 virtual layout, with the themes featuring a Welcome Week, Cultural Attire Showcase and Cultural Performance. This year also saw a live broadcast of the cultural Youth Talent Show, which aired on MCA's YouTube channel and was hosted by MIX 107.3.

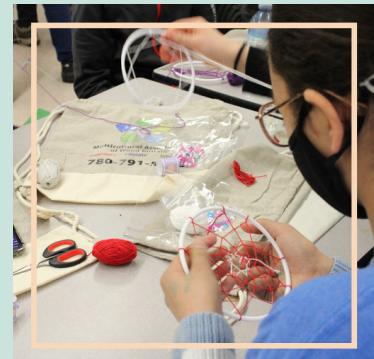
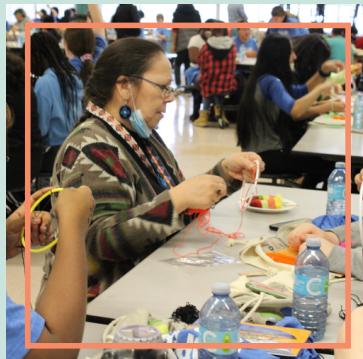
The event saw over 10,000 views that experienced 14 cultures showcased by 117 participants through dance, food, fashion and music.



## SPEAK UP AGAINST RACISM

Every year on March 21, the United Nations recognizes the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. In acknowledgement, the MCA partners with local schools each year in order to host a workshop for teachers & students where participants learn tools to help them speak up against racism and promote inclusion.

In 2022, the MCA went to two local schools, Composite Highschool and Westwood Highschool, to host the Speak Up Against Racism workshop for Grade 7 students. This year, 261 teachers/students from both schools took part in the event through a Cultural Awareness workshop and discussion, which was then followed by cultural teachings.



# 2022 EVENTS

## CANADIAN MULTICULTURALISM DAY 2022

Multiculturalism Day is held every year in Canada on June 27th. In 2022, the Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo held their first ever in-person festival in acknowledgement of the day.

This festival was held on June 11, 2022 at Heritage Park Village in Fort McMurray and featured local artisans, performers and vendors from various cultural backgrounds. 48 volunteers helped put together the day-long event, which also saw over 1000 participants, vendors and guests.



## WORLD MEETS IN WOOD BUFFALO - ALBERTA CULTURE DAYS 2022

The Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo (MCA) hosted the annual World Meets in Wood Buffalo event in collaboration with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, Regional Recreation Corporation of Wood Buffalo, Arts Council of Wood Buffalo, and Government of Alberta. This event was held throughout September 2022 at Macdonald Island Park and was part of Alberta Culture Days.

The event featured a Cultural Art Exhibition which was held at the Kirschner Family Community Art Gallery at Macdonald Island Park from September 8-23, 2022. It was a cultural showcase of various arts and crafts from local artists of the Wood Buffalo region. The event was free to attend and featured 17 artists from different cultures who showcased their unique and diverse arts and crafts.

In addition, the Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo also partnered with various artists from the Wood Buffalo region to put together free cultural workshops for the community. The two day event included 8 cultural workshops that hosted a total of 150 attendees.



## SENIOR COOKERY PROJECT

The Seniors Cookery project officially launched in August 2022 and has been working with local seniors from various cultural backgrounds with local youth - typically grandchildren of the senior - to curate cooking videos for the local community.

This project aimed to create understanding between cultures and bridge intergenerational gaps while also sharing the cultural stories of the seniors and youth participating in the project.

At the release of this Annual Report, the Seniors Cookery Project has worked with seniors and youth from 13 cultural backgrounds, including: Russian, Indian, Venezuelan, Colombian, Nigerian, Cameroonian, Ivorian, Iraqi, Syrian, Egyptian, Canadian, Pakistani, and Indigenous.

The videos will be released on MCA's Facebook and YouTube channels, and a cookbook presenting all dishes made during the course of this project is also in development.

## MULTICULTURAL COOKERY 2022

October 2022 saw the return of MCA's popular Multicultural Cookery. This event was paused due to the health restrictions and social distancing regulations placed during the pandemic in 2020.

With restrictions lifted and as Alberta moved back to in-person events, the first official Multicultural Cookery of 2022 launched on October 15th and featured 3 courses that participants were able to learn how to create.

Since its return, there have been two Multicultural Cookery classes that had a combined total of 35 participants and featured cuisine from Indigenous and Pakistani culture.



녕하세요.

ciao



Sveiki

saluton

alo

ສ່ວນສະເໜີ

مرحبا

你好

Hallå

Hej

Dia duit

## 2022 SERVICES

The Multicultural Association provides a number of services that assist the local Wood Buffalo community and aims to help overcome language barriers.

### INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION

The MCA offers Interpretation and Translation (I&T) services to help overcome language barriers in the Wood Buffalo community through certified and non-certified document translations as well as interpersonal interpretation.

In 2022, the Interpretation and Translation unit saw over 200 translations completed as well as over 50 interpretation bookings. Overall, 17 languages have been requested for interpretation and/or translation, with the top most requested languages being: Ukrainian, Arabic, Farsi, Urdu, French and Mandarin.

The MCA's I & T services also worked on 3 major projects, which included translating YMCA's Link Survey into 8 languages, Closing out the 2021-22 Red Cross Mental Health project in 10 languages, and translating the Welcome Centre's latest Welcome Package into 10 languages.

This year also saw the implementation of the community initiatives support program, which saw over \$8000 put back into the local economy through the utilization of local translators and interpreters. So far 8 interpreters have begun Community Interpreter Training (CIT).

## WELCOME CENTRE

In 2022, the Welcome Centre once again became fully operational. The Welcome Centre is a free resource center designed to help guide newcomers to the various support services offered locally. The Centre has served up to 54 clients within this year, many of whom were recent immigrants to the region.

## NOTARY SERVICES

The Notary Clinic is a free service for newcomers and immigrants in the Wood Buffalo region. In partnership with McMurray Regional Law office (previously Don Scott Law Office), the MCA is able to host the Notary Clinic and provide volunteer Commissioners of Oath to help each client with their notarization needs. This service helps notarize documents such as travel document applications, police record documents, commissioning documents, witnessing visa applications, certified copies, Powers of Attorney, travel consents, proofs of life, and more.

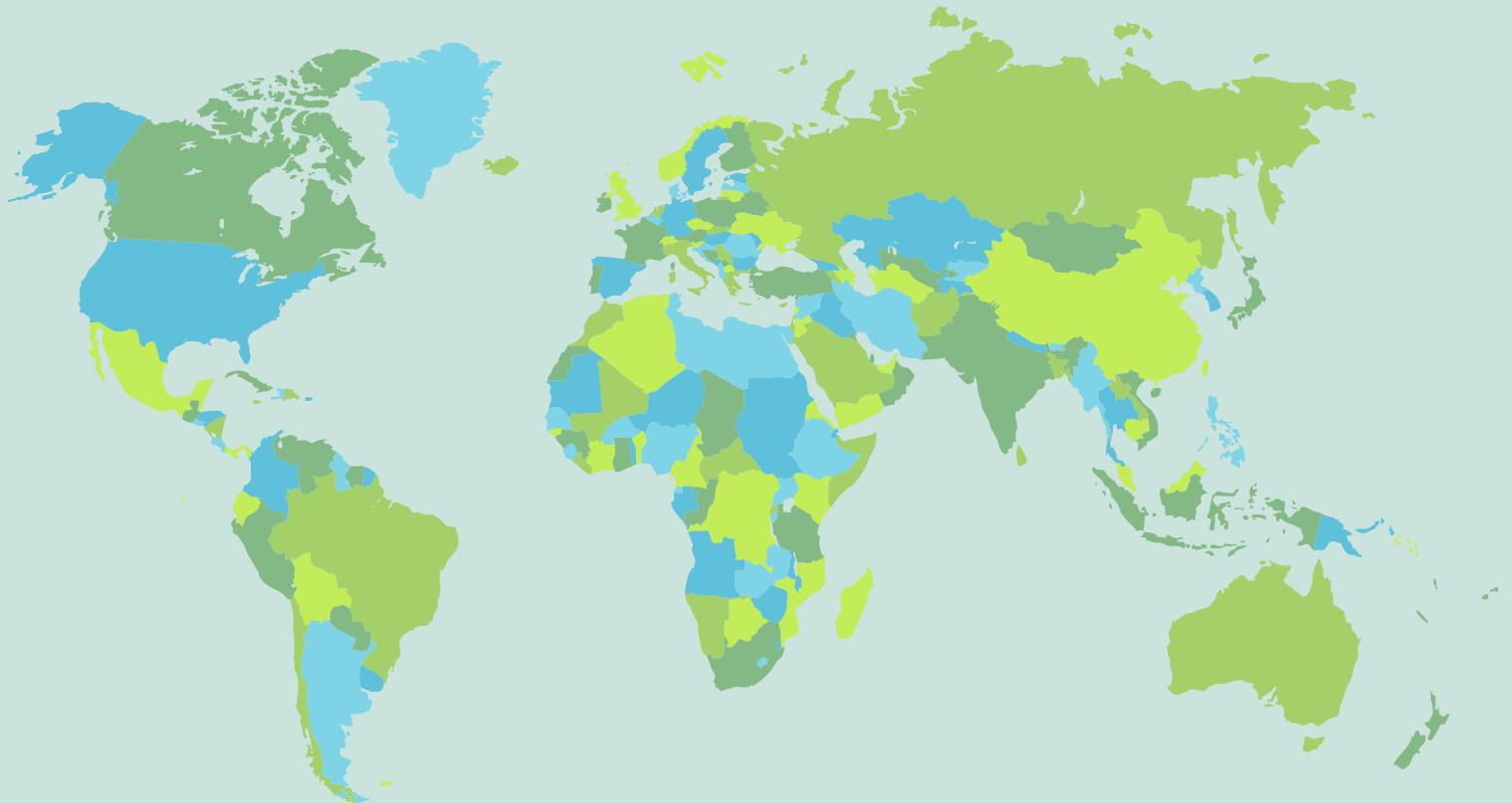
In 2022, after restrictions were dropped, the Notary Clinic was able to once again allow for a drop-in program instead of the pre-scheduled timeslots that were used in 2021.

Since the last Annual General Meeting, the Notary Clinic has served 69 clients with 260 documents, saving the community approximately \$28,800 in notary fees. This year, most of the clinic's clientele have been Canadian Citizens (51%), Permanent Residents (48%), with the remaining 1% as clients of other immigration status (work visa, student, etc).

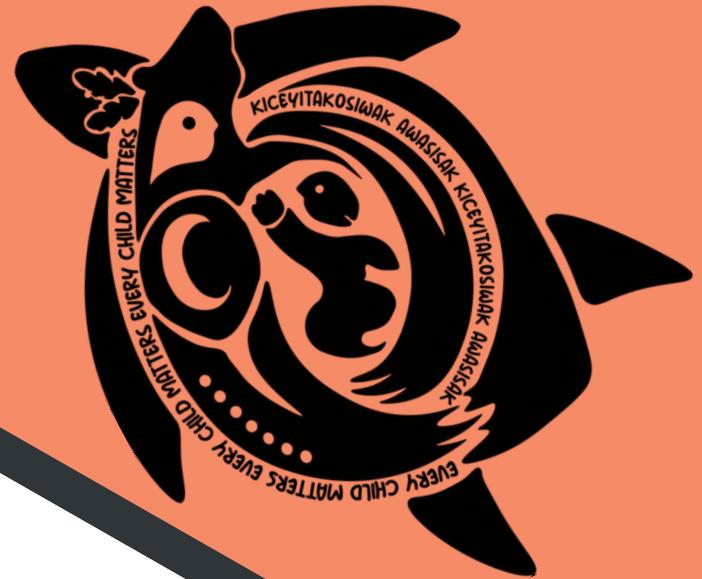
## IN 2022...



MCA's Programs, Events and Services have reached individuals and groups from the following countries:



Bangladesh	Hungary	Moldova	Somalia
Brazil	India	Morocco	South Korea
Cameroon	Indonesia	Netherlands	Sri Lanka
Canada	Iran	New Zealand	Sudan
China	Iraq	Nicaragua	Trinidad &
Colombia	Ireland	Nigeria	Tobago
DR Congo	Italy	Pakistan	Ukraine
Egypt	Ivory Coast	Panama	U.S.A
England	Jamaica	Philippines	Venezuela
Eritrea	Japan	Poland	Yemen
France	Kenya	Romania	Zambia
Germany	Lebanon	Russia	
Grenada	Libya	Scotland	
Guyana	Mauritius	Serbia	



# 2022 INDIGENOUS OUTREACH

The Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo works with various local Indigenous groups to help preserve cultural practices as well as to bring awareness and understanding of Canadian Indigenous Cultures.

## ORANGE SHIRT DAY

Every year on September 30th, Canada recognizes the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Since 2021, this day has officially been recognized as a statutory holiday by the Canadian government in order to raise awareness about the history and legacy of the residential school system in Canada.

This day serves as a reminder to all Canadians that we have a part to play in reconciliation, which starts with recognizing the wrongdoings of the past, learning about Indigenous cultures and participating in events that aim to advance reconciliation efforts.

In acknowledgement of this day, the Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo hosted an Orange Shirt Day contest at Father Patrick Mercredi school, where grade 10 students designed a t-shirt graphic after learning more about Orange Shirt Day and the history of Residential Schools. The winner of this contest was Hilianny Ocando, whose design was added to MCA's Orange Shirt. These shirts were made available to the public to wear for September 30th, and 300 were sold via donation towards MCA's Indigenous and Rural Outreach programs.



# 2022 INDIGENOUS OUTREACH

## INDIGENOUS VETERAN'S DAY

November 8th is recognized each year as National Indigenous Veterans Day. This day is a day of remembrance in which we acknowledge and commemorate the many important contributions of Indigenous veterans in the First and Second World Wars, as well as the Korean War.

This year, MCA recognized the day by hosting a gathering of 204 grade 5 students from 5 different schools to honour the veterans who fought for us. The students created luminary art that was coloured in and lit in memory of all who lost their lives while fighting for our country. This gathering also included an Elder prayer, ceremonial drumming and the laying of a wreath in memory of Indigenous veterans. The schools that were in participation were Thickwood Heights, Our Lady Rivers, École St. Paul, École Boréale, and Father Beauregard.

As well, MCA also hosted an Indigenous Beading workshop on November 8, where participants learned to make beaded Remembrance Day poppies.



# 2022 FINANCIAL UPDATE

## Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31, 2022

	2022	2021
<b>Assets</b>		
Current		
Cash	466,697	477,751
Restricted cash (Note 3)	32,874	12,220
Accounts receivable	14,504	3,072
Goods and services tax receivable	7,383	3,184
	<b>521,458</b>	496,227
Capital assets (Note 4)	29,477	25,761
	<b>550,935</b>	521,988
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current		
Accounts payable and accruals	66,971	81,406
Deferred contributions (Note 5)	335,407	237,588
	<b>402,378</b>	318,994
Commitments (Note 6)		
Significant event (Note 9)		
<b>Net Assets</b>		
General fund	72,443	88,915
Capital fund	29,477	25,761
Internally restricted fund (Note 7)	46,637	88,318
	<b>148,557</b>	202,994
	<b>550,935</b>	521,988

Approved on behalf of the Board

signed by "Dango Gogo"

Director

signed by "Brian Fung"

Director

**2022  
FINANCIAL UPDATE**

**Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo  
Statement of Revenue and Expenses**  
*For the year ended March 31, 2022*

	2022	2021
<b>Revenue</b>		
Municipal grant funding (Note 5)	539,910	539,910
Provincial, federal, and other grant funding (Note 5)	167,481	31,552
United Way funding (Note 5)	75,000	138,901
Sponsorship and fundraising (Note 5)	14,598	29,770
Cultural performance, translation and interpretation services revenue	12,523	2,008
Casino revenue (Note 5)	6,028	-
Program revenue	4,600	5,570
Memberships	351	380
Donations	95	4,587
Government subsidy (Note 9)	-	13,997
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>820,586</b>	<b>766,675</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Salaries and benefits	586,554	565,818
Professional fees	66,711	71,647
Events expense	56,456	8,007
Advertising	36,864	7,656
Programming costs	32,763	26,803
Office supplies	28,826	39,815
Rent (Note 9)	24,262	16,684
Training	15,507	12,779
Amortization	9,487	5,839
Telephone	5,285	4,227
Insurance	3,975	3,925
Equipment rental	3,073	2,322
Meals and refreshments	2,282	542
Bank charges and interest	1,978	40
Donations	1,000	-
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>875,023</b>	<b>766,104</b>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>(54,437)</b>	<b>571</b>

**2022  
FINANCIAL UPDATE**

**Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo  
Statement of Changes in Net Assets**  
*For the year ended March 31, 2022*

	<i>General fund</i>	<i>Capital fund</i>	<i>Internally restricted fund</i>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Net assets, beginning of year</b>	88,915	25,761	88,318	<b>202,994</b>	202,423
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses</b>	(54,437)	-	-	<b>(54,437)</b>	571
<b>Capital asset purchases</b>	(13,203)	13,203	-	-	-
<b>Interfund transfers (Note 7)</b>	41,681	-	(41,681)	-	-
<b>Amortization of capital assets</b>	9,487	(9,487)	-	-	-
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>	<b>72,443</b>	<b>29,477</b>	<b>46,637</b>	<b>148,557</b>	202,994

**2022  
FINANCIAL UPDATE**

**Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo  
Statement of Cash Flows**  
*For the year ended March 31, 2022*

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Cash provided by (used for) the following activities</b>		
<b>Operating</b>		
Cash receipts from operations	906,973	843,307
Cash paid for program service expenses	(288,541)	(136,481)
Cash paid for salaries and benefits	(595,629)	(587,492)
	22,803	119,334
<b>Investing</b>		
Purchase of capital assets	(13,203)	(24,144)
<b>Increase in cash resources</b>	9,600	95,190
<b>Cash resources, beginning of year</b>	489,971	394,781
<b>Cash resources, end of year</b>	<b>499,571</b>	<b>489,971</b>
 <b>Cash resources are composed of:</b>		
Cash	466,697	477,751
Restricted cash	32,874	12,220
	499,571	489,971

**Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo  
Notes to the Financial Statements**

*For the year ended March 31, 2022*

**1. Incorporation and nature of the association**

Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo (the "Association") was incorporated under the authority of the Societies Act of Alberta. The Association has a mandate to foster and promote equality, social justice and institutional change. It encourages communities to share their cultures and grow together in Canadian life.

The Association is a registered charity and thus is exempt from income taxes under the Income Tax Act (the "Act"). In order to maintain its status as a registered not-for-profit organization under the Act, the Association 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 accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations set out in Part III of the CPA Canada Handbook - Accounting, as issued by the Accounting Standards Board in Canada using the following significant accounting policies:

***Revenue recognition***

The Association follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions paid. 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. Sponsorship revenue is recognized based on the term of the sponsorship contract. Program and services revenue is recognized when services are delivered to the customer.

***Cash and cash equivalents***

Cash and cash equivalents include balances with banks and cash on hand. Cash subject to restrictions that prevents its use for current purposes is included in restricted cash.

***Capital assets***

Purchased capital assets are recorded at cost. The policy of the Association is to capitalize assets when the useful life is greater than one year and the acquisition cost meets the capitalization threshold of \$500. Contributed capital assets are recorded at fair value at the date of contribution if fair value can be reasonably determined.

Amortization is provided using the declining balance method at rates intended to amortize the cost of assets over their estimated useful lives.

	<b>Method</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Computer equipment	declining balance	30 %
Office equipment	declining balance	20 %

***Long-lived assets***

Long-lived assets consist of capital assets. Long-lived assets held for use are measured and amortized as described in the applicable accounting policies.

The Association writes down long-lived assets held for use when conditions indicate that the asset no longer contributes to the Association's ability to provide goods and services. The assets are also written-down when the value of future economic benefits or service potential associated with the asset is less than its net carrying amount. When the Association determines that a long-lived asset is impaired, its carrying amount is written down to the asset's fair value.

**2. Significant accounting policies (Continued from previous page)**

***Contributed materials and services***

Contributions of materials and services are recognized both as contributions and expenses in the statement of operations when a fair value can be reasonably estimated and when the materials are used in the normal course of the Association's operations and would otherwise have been purchased.

Volunteers have made significant contributions of their time to the Association's program and supporting services. Because of the difficulty in determining and supporting their fair value, services provided by volunteers are not recognized in the financial statements.

***Financial instruments***

The Association recognizes financial instruments when the Association becomes party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument.

***Arm's length financial instruments***

Financial instruments originated/acquired or issued/assumed in an arm's length transaction ("arm's length financial instruments") are initially recorded at their fair value.

At initial recognition, the Association may irrevocably elect to subsequently measure any arm's length financial instrument at fair value. The Association has made such an election during the year.

The Association subsequently measures all of its financial assets and liabilities at cost or amortized cost, except for equity instruments that are quoted in an active market which are measured at fair value. Fair value is determined by published price quotations. Changes in fair value of these financial instruments are recognized in excess of revenue over expenses

Transaction costs and financing fees directly attributable to the origination, acquisition, issuance or assumption of financial instruments subsequently measured at fair value are immediately recognized in excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses. Conversely, transaction costs and financing fees are added to the carrying amount for those financial instruments subsequently measured at cost or amortized cost.

***Related party financial instruments***

The Association initially measures the following financial instruments originated/acquired or issued/assumed in a related party transaction ("related party financial instruments") at fair value:

All other related party financial instruments are measured at cost on initial recognition.

At initial recognition, the Association may elect to subsequently measure related party debt instruments that are quoted in active market, or that have observable inputs significant to the determination of fair value, at fair value. The Association has not made such an election during the year, thus all such related party debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortized cost.

The Association subsequently measures investments in equity instruments quoted in an active market and all derivative instruments, at fair value.

Transaction costs and financing fees directly attributable to the origination, acquisition, issuance or assumption of related party financial instruments are immediately recognized in excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses.

***Financial asset impairment***

The Association assesses impairment of all its financial assets measured at cost or amortized cost. The Association reduces the carrying amount of any impaired financial assets to the highest of: the present value of cash flows expected to be generated by holding the assets; the amount that could be realized by selling the assets at the statement of financial position date; and the amount expected to be realized by exercising any rights to collateral held against those assets.

Any impairment, which is not considered temporary, is included in current year excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses. The Association reverses impairment losses on financial assets when there is a decrease in impairment and the decrease can be objectively related to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognized. The amount of the reversal is recognized in excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses in the year the reversal occurs.

**2. Significant accounting policies (Continued from previous page)**

***Measurement uncertainty (use of estimates)***

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations 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.

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 excess of revenue over expenses in the periods in which they become known.

**3. Restricted cash**

Restricted cash may not be used for purposes other than those approved by Alberta Gaming, Liquor, and Cannabis.

**4. Capital assets**

	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Accumulated amortization</i>	<i>2022 Net book value</i>	<i>2021 Net book value</i>
Computer equipment	47,771	22,821	24,950	25,608
Office equipment	19,304	14,777	4,527	153
	<b>67,075</b>	<b>37,598</b>	<b>29,477</b>	<b>25,761</b>

**5. Deferred contributions**

Deferred contributions consist of unspent contributions which are externally restricted. Recognition of these amounts as revenue is deferred to periods when the specified expenditures are made. Changes in the deferred contribution balance are as follows:

	<i>Municipal grant</i>	<i>Casino</i>	<i>Provincial and federal grants</i>	<i>United Way</i>	<i>Other funds</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2021</i>
Balance, beginning of year	-	12,220	18,807	20,275	186,286	237,588	158,878
Funds received or receivable during the year	539,910	26,682	99,600	75,000	164,690	905,882	823,810
Revenue recognized during the year	(539,910)	(6,028)	(20,407)	(75,000)	(166,718)	(808,063)	(745,100)
Balance, end of year	-	32,874	98,000	20,275	184,258	335,407	237,588

**6. Commitments**

The Association has entered into premises and equipment lease agreements with estimated minimum annual payments as follows:

2023	9,002
2024	9,002
2025	9,002
2026	6,001
	<hr/>
	33,007

**7. Internally restricted fund**

During the year, the Board of Directors approved the use of internally restricted funds of \$21,030 (2021 - \$14,753) for the Expo event, \$11,915 (2021 - \$nil) for the Financial Literacy Program, \$nil (2021 - \$8,334) for flexible funds, \$nil (2021 - \$3,359) for interpretation and translation services, and \$55,374 (2021 - \$41,552) for operational expenses.

In addition, the Board of Directors approved the transfer of \$41,297 (2021 - \$85,202) from the general fund to the internally restricted fund. This amount includes \$12,034 (2021 - \$21,030) for the Expo event, \$1,915 (2021 - \$8,799) for the Financial Literacy Program, and \$27,349 (2021 - \$55,373) for operational expenses.

**8. Financial instruments**

The Association, as part of its operations, carries a number of financial instruments. It is management's opinion that the Association is not exposed to significant interest, currency, credit, liquidity or other price risks arising from these financial instruments except as otherwise disclosed.

**9. Significant event**

In March 2020, there was a global outbreak of COVID-19 (coronavirus), which has had a significant impact on businesses through the restrictions put in place by the Canadian federal, provincial and municipal governments regarding travel, business operations and isolation/quarantine orders. The Organization has continued to provide services in accordance with provincial and federal restrictions and regulations.

At this time, it is unknown the extent of the impact the COVID-19 outbreak may have on the Organization as this will depend on future developments that are highly uncertain and that cannot be predicted with confidence. These uncertainties arise from the inability to predict the ultimate geographic spread of the disease, and the duration of the outbreak, including the duration of travel restrictions, business closures or disruptions, and quarantine/isolation measures that are currently, or may be put, in place by Canada and other countries to fight the virus.

***COVID-19 Related Rent Concessions***

During the 2021 year, the Association received rent concessions which were directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Association received a reduction in rent for 6 months totaling \$nil (2021 - \$13,291) which has been recorded as a direct reduction to expenses.

# THANK YOU

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Tany Yao, MLA  
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Thank you all for helping us strengthen multiculturalism and inclusion in our community!