

Annual Report

USF Annual Report. 2009

Our annual report this year takes into account work in progress by the USF since March of 2009. This is a short reporting period and brings our annual reporting into an orderly schedule of filing for our respective compliance agencies and sister organizations in the community.

Let me begin by saying that all of our good conceptual and organizational work to date provides a very good base for moving to a more operational and developmental stage.

The state of the economy and the challenges of securing resources continue to provide an ongoing basis for our efforts. What is clear is that the importance of our work is undiminished and it has a heightened sense of urgency.

This year the Board launched or accomplished a number of its objectives. I want to name some of these now.

We held a strategic retreat in June which put a sharp focus on our annual business plan. This crystallizes our main themes for action, gives us some concrete measures of where we are going and when we plan to be there.

We have incorporated a reporting format for donors that is professional and fully achieves all regulatory requirements as well as responding to donor contributions in a timely and professional way.

The Board has worked with staff to find the right financial reporting format for Board meetings and one which also makes aggregation of reports for annual audits much more straightforward.

Members of the Board have taken individual initiative to establish permanent endowments with the USF, confirming their personal commitment to its mission. As well we have received and receipted individual donations to our core capital.

The Board has announced scholarships and Bursary funds in the amount of \$7000. that will be actioned in the coming year. The Board has also completed a defined contract for services which is founded upon the realization of the mission of USF through a direct service agency.

We have begun to reach out to others in the Foundation sector in order to develop our own capacity and build the basis for further relationships that we hope for in our own growth and development.

We are moving on a number of policy fronts as our need arises.

We have retained an E.D. on a part time basis to move us to our next stage of development.

We continue to enjoy the support and goodwill of the Board, Staff and Community in treasuring this vision of building a permanent financial capacity to support the well-being of urban Aboriginal people. Our work is just beginning and like all creation our beginnings are both fragile and filled with our hopes, aspirations and love for all that it can become....mighty cedars grow from the smallest of cones.

My (our) thanks to all who care and are making this vision a reality.

Thank you

Susan Tatoosh and David Driscoll