

ACOMI 2023 Annual General Meeting





Agenda

Call to Order

Welcome Remarks

Approval of Agenda

President's Executive Report

Financial Report

Motions:

Adoption of AGM Report

Approval of Audited financial Report

Retain Craig Ross LLP as Auditors for

2024

Program Updates and Upcoming events

Calendar of Events

ACOMI Leadership and Governance

President's Announcement

AOB.-Closing and Adjournment

President's Report



I am delighted and honoured to welcome you all to what would be a historic Annual General Meeting for me as president of the Board of the African Communities of Manitoba Inc. ACOMI. As we gather to reflect on the accomplishments, lessons and challenges of 2023, let me begin by stating that our main goal of transforming ACOMI into a widely recognised and leading voice for the Black community gained significant traction through our strategic advocacy and public engagements in 2023.

We have diligently worked towards raising ACOMI and the black community from being on the outskirts of progress to rightfully claiming our spot at decision making tables in governance and public policy.

Today, there is no doubt that ACOMI is stronger and our community more recognised and acknowledge by different levels of government and other stakeholders in the province than ever before. This stands out as one of our notable achievements from 2023.



Transformational Leadership and Capacity Building Training

We have also recognized that as an umbrella organization, the stronger our affiliate members are, the more impactful our programmes will be and that it is critical to boost their organizational capacity to implement programs that would benefit our community. We focussed on enhancing their leadership capability and empowering them to access available resources for their community programs.

By providing Transformational leadership training, grant writing support, and involvement in strategic planning processes, many of our affiliates are now actively involved in running beneficial programs for their communities and securing grant funds from both provincial and federal government source

Not only is ACOMI stronger, but our Affiliates are becoming better organized, and this has led to an increase in resources available for our community.



Community Safe Space: The decision to establish a second office in Nassau was primarily driven by the need to create a culturally safe space for community engagement. The center has evolved into a thriving community hub, hosting over 50 events in 2023, including training sessions, empowerment workshops, art exhibitions, youth programs, financial literacy classes and meetings.

These events were not only organized by ACOMI and its affiliates but also attracted participation from organizations within and outside the community. Together with our Kennedy location, we are now able to run multiple programs concurrently giving our community members and affiliates more options to host community events and meetings.



Cultural Programming: Furthermore, the ACOMI cultural center is also the centre point for preserving and promoting the rich heritage of people of African descent. As part of our 2023 Black History Month initiatives, we launched the inaugural Traditional Art and Storytelling exhibition titled "Black History through Art," which garnered great success and has now become an annual event.

Continuing our cultural programming efforts, ACOMI proudly and successfully hosted the Africa Pavilion at the 2023 Folklorama festival. We expanded participation by increasing performing groups and offering financial assistance to nine cultural groups to partake in the Pavilion.



Empowering the Next Generation: Our focus and priority is on the younger generation, who we aim to empower through our "All that Kids Can Be" program. This initiative includes mentorship, summer job opportunities and financial aid through bursaries and scholarships. Last year, we offered two young individuals paid work experiences and extended the Andre Doumbe Award to recognize outstanding graduating students of African descent from one school to four high schools in Winnipeg.

Additionally, we assist our youth in accessing scholarships as a community partner of the RBC scholarship program. In 2023, and for the second year running, one of our ACOMI nominees was selected as one of the 20 recipients nationwide for the RBC Future scholarship \$10,000 for 4 years (worth \$40,000)

Promoting Digital Literacy

We also introduced STEM and Digital Literacy Training for young people of our community to equip them with essential skills for success in today's digital world.

As part of our summer activities, we organized free coding, game development and web design bootcamps for 62 children aged between 7 and 21 years.

We also organized a photography masterclass specifically for women and girls.





Financial Literacy and Economic empowerment:

We strengthened and sustained our partnership with Seed Winnipeg to provide financial literacy workshops and offer free income tax filing services. In 2023 alone, we assisted over 1,000 individuals in filing their taxes, resulting in more than \$1.5 million in refunds and benefits returned to members within our community. The ACOMI also hosted several events to provide connections with agencies that support black businesses and entrepreneurs.

To foster a culture of leisure and reduce the financial burden on members of our community, we offered complimentary tickets to sports games, museums, zoos and outdoor activities to more than 350 community members, including seniors, women and youth. Additionally, we supported picnics and outings to enhance community engagement.

Strategic Partnerships and Advocacy

In our efforts to establish ACOMI as a key player in the nonprofit sector and ethno-cultural community in Manitoba, we formed strategic partnerships and engaged in cross cultural collaborations. By participating in think tanks, advocacy groups and sector specific organizations related to issues like Newcomer settlement support, Refugee claimants' coordination and Mental health initiatives, we aim to ensure that the voice of the black community is heard in policy making processes.

We also intensified our advocacy and engagements with the municipal and provincial government for support for the acquisition of land for our Affordable housing and community centre project which is gaining traction.



The year under review therefore marked a significant growth and expansion both in terms of the clients served, services provided and number of programs.

Output in 2023

Total clients: 5692

<i>African Pavilion :</i>	3000
<i>Trainings and Meeting at ACOMI Centre</i>	1250
<i>Tours and excursions:</i>	350
<i>Free Income tax:</i>	1015
<i>Digital Literacy-Coding/Photography class</i>	77

Number of New Affiliates: 15

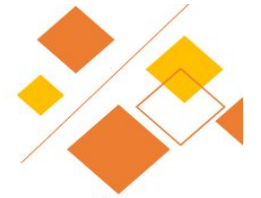
Mailbox services: We provide mailbox services to **15** Organizations



We also expanded our programs and we currently run six programs: Cultural Program; Seniors Program, Financial Literacy/Income tax Program, Youth Program, Capacity building and training and Newcomer support programs.



CURRENT PROGRAMS



Cultural Programs

ACOMI works to preserve and promote the rich, diverse and unique culture of people of African descent in Manitoba!

Folklorama African Pavilion. ACOMI has been sponsoring the Africa Pavilion for over 20 years.

We also organize Dance classes, drumming workshops, art exhibitions, and cross-cultural tours

All That Kids Can Be" Youth Program

Mentors and helps young people to improve, acquire leadership skills, adopt healthy lifestyles and cope with challenges of integration and growing up. We provide mentorship opportunities, summer job programs, digital literacy programs and scholarships for educational advancement

ACOMI Seniors' Wellness program

Addresses issues around social isolation among our seniors by providing opportunities and safe spaces for seniors to meet, socialize and engage in physical and social activities. Activities include exercise sessions, field trips, tutoring, Intergenerational interactions and cultural heritage sharing

Training and Capacity Building

- Transformational Leadership Training,
- Skills and Talent Development development
- Digital Literacy Training for Youth

Newcomers Support services

- Facilitating community connections and capacity building for newcomers.
- =Employment and entrepreneurial training

Community Volunteer Income Tax Program

Helps low-income individual file their annual returns for free. Every Year we help get over \$1.5million in tax benefits for our community members and this figure continues to grow. This is part of a financial literacy program designed to empower low-income individuals and newcomer families to better management their money and utilized their assets more efficiently

These variety of programs are designed to cater for the increasing needs of our community members, particularly newcomers.

To address these needs in effectively and in a sustained manner, in 2023 we began the process of developing a new strategic plan that would guide our institutional development and programming for the next 3 years 2024-2027. This is part of our institutional strengthening initiative that would involve restructuring and strengthening our governance system and staffing.



Despite our accomplishments, we still face some challenges. Securing sustainable operational and long-term funding remains a hurdle for us to support our office activities and scale up our programs for greater impact.

In response to these challenges, we expanded our donor base and received support from funders to whom we would like to express our appreciation for their faith and belief in our work.

These include:

- Federal Government (ESDC, SBCCI, Community Services Recovery Fund)
- Manitoba Government
- Winnipeg Foundation
- United Way
- SEED Winnipeg
- Individual Donors





Conclusion

We acknowledge that despite our many accomplishments, we are not yet where we should be, but we are highly encouraged that with the enhanced status and visibility of ACOMI, the commitment of our Board and staff, the dedication of our affiliates and the goodwill of our community, we are no doubt on the right path to building a stronger organization and a more united black community in Manitoba. I am confident that together we will achieve even greater things in 2024.

I express my gratitude for the support that I have received as President of the Board of ACOMI.

Thank You

FINANCIAL REPORT



*Note: An independent auditor's report (Craig Ross LLP) and a complete set of financial statements are available from:
ACOMI at:
200-301 Nassau St. N.
Winnipeg.*

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Statement of Financial Position

September 30, 2023



Note: An independent auditor's report (Craig Ross LLP) and a complete set of financial statements are available from:
ACOMI at:
200-301 Nassau St. N.
Winnipeg.

	2023	2022
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 580,175	\$ 473,480
Term deposits	95,090	90,646
Accounts receivable	2,500	19,114
Prepaid expenses	1,147	1,147
	<u>678,912</u>	<u>584,387</u>
EQUIPMENT (Note 4)	129,138	168,666
INTANGIBLE ASSET UNDER DEVELOPMENT (Note 5)	7,916	-
	<u>\$ 815,966</u>	<u>\$ 753,053</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 13,271	\$ 14,231
Deferred revenue - general	74,090	97,450
Deferred revenue - capital	59,861	93,510
	<u>147,222</u>	<u>205,191</u>
NET ASSETS		
General fund	<u>668,744</u>	<u>547,862</u>
	<u>\$ 815,966</u>	<u>\$ 753,053</u>

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Statement of Operations



Year Ended September 30, 2023

	2023	2022
REVENUES		
Grants	\$ 404,523	\$ 462,091
Membership dues	3,000	2,200
Rental income	8,695	1,950
Folklorama income	47,150	67,494
Donations	16,780	53,905
Interest income	6,106	233
	<u>486,254</u>	<u>587,873</u>
EXPENSES		
Advertising and Promotion	4,062	-
Amortization	39,528	32,341
Donations	10,500	14,861
Folklorama expenses	39,039	49,247
Insurance	5,139	4,864
Interest and bank charges	2,130	4,725
Licenses	55	100
Meals and entertainment	151	6,238
Moving and storage	1,365	3,164
Office	7,393	3,404
Program expenses	54,890	46,897
Professional fees	12,597	18,055
Rental	37,788	34,520
Repairs and maintenance	2,888	1,214
Salaries and wages	134,829	142,416
Staff development	6,273	-
Utilities	5,874	3,774
Volunteer expenses	871	1,860
	<u>365,372</u>	<u>367,680</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	<u>\$ 120,882</u>	<u>\$ 220,193</u>

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Statement of Changes in Net Assets



Year Ended September 30, 2023

	Capital Fund	General Fund	2023	2022
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ -	\$ 547,862	\$ 547,862	\$ 327,669
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	-	120,882	120,882	220,193
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$ -	\$ 668,744	\$ 668,744	\$ 547,862

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Statement of Cash Flows



Year Ended September 30, 2023

	2023	2022
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 120,882	\$ 220,193
Items not affecting cash:		
Amortization	39,528	32,341
	<u>160,410</u>	<u>252,534</u>
Changes in working capital accounts:		
Accounts receivable	16,615	(18,963)
Prepaid expenses	-	3,703
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(960)	7,592
Deferred revenue	(57,008)	(137,038)
	<u>(41,353)</u>	<u>(144,706)</u>
Cash flows from operating activities	<u>119,057</u>	<u>107,828</u>
INVESTING ACTIVITY		
Purchase of capital assets	-	(131,923)
Development of intangible capital assets	(7,916)	-
	<u>(7,916)</u>	<u>(131,923)</u>
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	111,139	(24,094)
CASH - BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>564,126</u>	<u>588,220</u>
CASH - END OF YEAR	\$ 675,265	\$ 564,126
Cash consists of:		
Cash	\$ 580,175	\$ 473,480
Term deposits	95,090	90,646
	<u>\$ 675,265</u>	<u>\$ 564,126</u>

Summary of Financial Position



I humbly move a motion for the approval of this AGM report.

Board of Directors



- Titi Tijani
- Rene Tondji-Simen
- Frank Indome
- Maggie Yeboah
- Jude Chigbo
- Babatunde Busari
- Nishant Singla

Staff & Interns



Staff	Position/Role
Chuks Ojidoh	Director of Community Programs
Dorothy Harmon	Youth Engagement Coordinator/Office Manager
David Jeanson	Program Coordinator/ CVITP Income Tax Clinic Coordinator
Rami Saad	Program Assistant
Lihem Yosief	Youth Services Coordinator
Praise Lijoka	Youth Services Coordinator

ACOMI Affiliate Organizations



Affiliate Organizations

African Movie Festival in Manitoba (AM-FM)	Ijesa People in Diaspora Manitoba	Sous le Baobab	B.- Women on Wings Canada International
Africans in Winnipeg South	JBB Services	The Excel Empowerment Centre Inc.	United Mandingo Association of Canada
Ajorosun Descendants' Union Manitoba	Kenya Association of Manitoba Inc.	Umunna (Igbo) Cultural Association of Manitoba	Pan African Legacy
Al-Haqq Prayer Group	Liberian Canadian Association of Manitoba Inc.	UMUCYO Association (Rwanda)	Northern Sparkle Media Corp.
Amicale des Guineens du Manitoba	Manitoba Somali Association	Unemployed Youth Africa Inc.	Afri-Mama Peace & Culture Initiative Inc.
Anglophone Cameroon Association of Manitoba	Manitoba Women for Women of South Sudan	United Brothers and Sisters of Manitoba Inc.	STO Global Concept Inc.
Canadian African Muslim Women Association	Ndegbornei Development Organization Inc.	Wadi Salih Association of Manitoba Inc.	African Integrated Diaspora Connection Of Manitoba
Canadian Sierra Leone Friendship Society Inc.	Neighbors Mission For Kids/Youth Enrichment Program Inc.	Warm Heart Of Africa	God's Family Church
Community of Sudanese Canadians in Manitoba	Nigerian Association of Manitoba, Inc.	We Yone Palaver Hut Project Inc.	Jita Consulting Ltd.
Congolese Community of Manitoba Inc.	Nigerian Professionals in Manitoba	Winnipeg Oromo Union Inc.	Somali Cultural Center of Manitoba Inc.
Egbe Omo Yoruba	Okin International Club of Canada	The Blin Community of Manitoba Inc.	GPD - Foundation: Girls with Pride & Dignity
Eritrean Community in Winnipeg, Inc.	Sierra Canada Organization Inc.	The Fanos Light Education and Virtues Inc.	Canada (Manitoba) Africa Cup of Nations
Ghanaian Union of Manitoba Inc.	Sierra Leone Nationals Association of Manitoba	Uyi Edo Manitoba Association Inc.	



Thank you





Agenda

Program Updates and Upcoming events
Calendar of Events



Program Updates and Upcoming Events

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION FORUM ON EMBRACING WELLNESS

THEME A CALL TO BE KIND!

Together, we can create a supportive community where everyone's mental wellbeing matters!

SATURDAY
4th MAY,
2024.

ACOMI CENTRE
301 Nassau Street,
N. Winnipeg

5pm



To confirm participation,
Call: 204-294-6160 or email: info@acomi.ca



Register Here!

Organized by:

IPW-Newcomer Ethnocultural-Led Mental Health Sector Table

Partners:



Dinner will be served

Important dates to mark on your calendar

- Mental Health Initiative (Community Conversation on Mental wellness (May 4, 2024)
- Seniors program- (Online safety Workshop)
- Leadership Training and visioning workshop- May 11 & 18 2024
- Doing Business in Canada- Virtual Workshop-Seed Winnipeg/ACOMI- May 14, 2024
- Summer Student Job Program 2024- June 2024





Agenda

ACOMI Leadership and Governance

President's Announcement



ACOMI Leadership and Governance



President's Announcement and updates on Major programs and future plans.

- *Affordable Housing and Africa Centre Project*
- *Reconstitution of Steering Community*
- *Board Expansion*
- *Leadership Change*

Agenda



AOB.-Closing and Adjournment