

Biindigen!

"WELCOME" (OJIBWAY)

SPECIAL FEATURE

Pages 5 to 9

Truth, reconciliation and the path forward:
U of M to house the National Research Centre

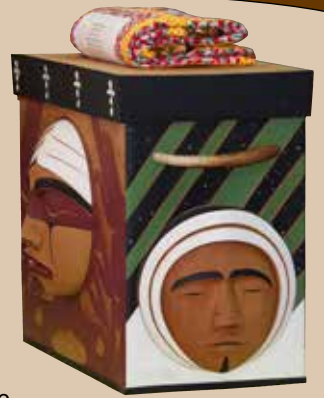
The Bentwood Box

(Also pictured on the front and back pages)

A Bentwood Box, commissioned by the TRC, arrived at the Commission office in Ottawa, Ontario on April 27, 2009, from Vancouver Island, British Columbia, where it was steamed and bent from a single piece of red cedar.

Carved by Coast Salish artist Luke Marston, the TRC Bentwood Box is a lasting tribute to all Indian Residential School survivors. The carved panels represent the unique cultures of former First Nations, Inuit and Métis students.

The TRC Bentwood Box reflects the strength and resilience of residential school survivors and their descendants, and honours those survivors who are no longer living. The artist pays respect to his own grandmother by depicting her residential schools experiences at Kuper Island in the carvings. As the Box travelled with the Commission to different provinces and territories, offerings were made to it to commemorate personal journeys toward healing and reconciliation. At the end of the TRC's mandate, it will be housed in the permanent NRC venue.



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE

The moving a n d powerful signing ceremony on June 21

establishing the University of Manitoba as the home of the National Research Centre for Residential Schools was a highlight in a year of milestones where our world-class faculty and staff demonstrated their enormous commitment to our community and country.

At the signing ceremony, Truth and Reconciliation commissioner Murray Sinclair proclaimed that our proposal stood "head and shoulders" above other submissions. The importance of this national research centre to our university, province and country is its power to help us all move forward on a path of reconciliation and healing.

I cannot overstate the need for this transformational change to address the brokenness of our shared history. It is critical to ensuring that Indigenous peoples and cultures are reflected and respected in schools, workplaces and all public institutions.

I am proud that our faculty, staff and students have embraced and championed the need to reject the status quo when it comes to our relationships with Indigenous communities and cultures and aspire to something better for all the right reasons.

You often hear me speak about the need for the evolution of our community of learning, discovery and engagement. The

pace of transformation of our world — politically, economically, technologically and socially — is at times difficult to comprehend.

At the University of Manitoba, we are witnesses, champions and at times challengers of change that we have and will continue to experience.

If the University of Manitoba is to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of students, faculty and staff, as well as the broader community it serves, we too must evolve in a way that makes sense to all of us.

Faculty and staff are living that change and we have asked a lot of you as we consider how we can best advance our mission as Manitoba's only research-intensive university. The process of evaluation and re-evaluation of how our community functions, as with the Academic Structure Initiative, is important and necessary, and will lead us to a better place.

Hundreds of staff members have been involved in service-oriented projects that are on-going across our university. Many of the initiatives that have been implemented are a result of your suggestions and feedback. These initiatives have inspired our community to adopt a culture of change that will help propel us forward as a more effective, modern and efficient organization, better able to do our work of learning, discovery and engagement in the community.

We recognize the need to be open, flexible and responsive to your ideas on how we proceed with change.

As a result of a mutual agreement with ARAMARK, effective September 1, 2013, Physical Plant reassumes responsibility for managing custodial services at the University of Manitoba.

We are also currently developing a policy regarding the use of personal printers paid for by personal funds that will soon be released to the community as we continue to roll out the Managed Print Services Initiative.

We offer training to faculty and staff so we can all be more comfortable with Concur, the online system the University of Manitoba has adopted for flight bookings, management of expenses and reimbursement. Many sessions are available throughout the summer and the balance of 2013.

While these actions were all taken based on feedback we received from you that prompted us to refine our plans, we are committed to change because of the results we are achieving together.

We need to ensure we are good financial stewards of our limited resources and that we position ourselves to move forward on projects that directly support our mission.

I am proud of the progress we have made together over the past year on creating suitable spaces for our community, initiatives that enhance our student experience and efforts to attract and retain faculty and staff.

The passion, commitment and quality of our world-class climate change team, and the critical relevance of their work to the future of our fragile planet, has inspired us to build the Nellie J.

Cournoyea Centre for Arctic Research, which opened this March.

I want to congratulate our staff for making such a strong case for new investments in our libraries. The result of those conversations is the redeveloped Elizabeth Dafoe Library, now one of most popular student learning and study spaces on the Fort Garry Campus.

Over the years, we have heard that "The Gritty Grotto" does not meet the needs of a community committed to healthy, active and sustainable living. As a result, we are now building a state-of-the-art Active Living Centre. We broke ground on that project in October. This spring we also saw the opening of the new state-of-the-art stadium, the Investors Group Field, where we will welcome the wider community to our campus as our Bisons Football team and the Bombers electrify the crowds.

The enormous capacity for collaboration among faculty, staff, students and the broader community enabled our graduate students to shine at the University of Manitoba's first-ever Three-Minute Thesis (3MT*) competition late this winter.

When I reflect on the past year, it becomes abundantly clear that the strength of this community is its people: remarkable individuals who meet and exceed the extraordinarily high standards you have set for yourselves and our community.

While I am proud of what we have achieved over the last 136 years, I know the best days for the University of the Manitoba are ahead of us, thanks to all of you.

The Bulletin

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PUBLISHER

John Kearsley, Vice-President (External)

EDITOR

Marianne Mays Wiebe
Phone 204-474-8111 Fax 204-474-7631
Email bulletin@umanitoba.ca

PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Pat Goss
Phone 204-474-8388
Email pat.goss@umanitoba.ca

ACADEMIC ADVERTISING

Kathy Niziol
Phone 474 7195 Fax 474 7505
Email kathy_niziol@umanitoba.ca

ISSUE CONTRIBUTORS

Sean Moore, Mike Latschislaw,
Katie Chalmers-Brooks, Dan Gwozdz

Special thanks to Andrea Bilash and Niigaan Sinclair

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