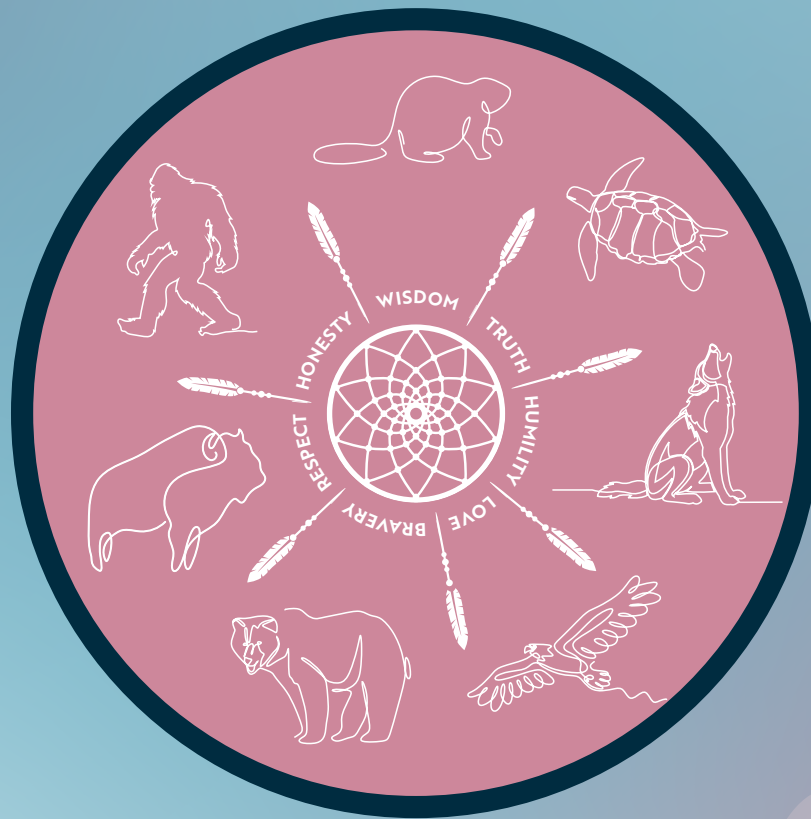




NWAC

PRESIDENT'S *Report*



JAN 2023

nwac.ca

Native Women's Association of Canada
L'Association des femmes autochtones du Canada



PRESIDENT'S REPORT – JANUARY

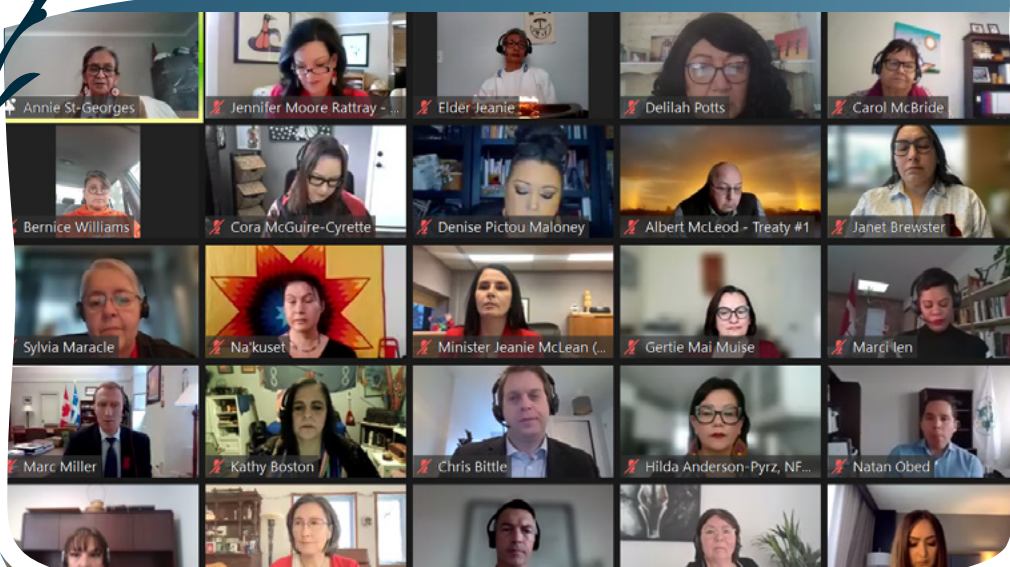
Happy New Year to all! As 2023 begins, I extend warm wishes for a happy and prosperous year to the staff and delegates of the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC). I recently spent time with my family, reflecting on our stolen sisters and those who were unable to celebrate the holidays with their loved ones. This drives my passion to advocate for the political voice of Indigenous women, girls, and gender-diverse individuals in Canada, including First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and those with and without status.

The year started off on a strong note with the Roundtable of Indigenous Leaders and Representatives and Federal-Provincial-Territorial Governments on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ People, hosted by Minister Miller of CIRNAC.





The president remarked on the timeliness and importance for bringing together leaders among all jurisdictions. She noted that this is a great platform to work together and that there is much work to be done to enable more supports to end suffering among our families. She also highlighted the Safe Passages web-based project as one of the exciting new initiatives being developed by NWAC which takes a survivor-centred approach. In addition, the President highlighted the work taking place to establish much-needed Resiliency Lodges across the country. Initiatives such as these are focused on safety, security and healing for the people we serve. She also remarked about the importance of urban Indigenous issues which she was pleased to see on the agenda.



MMIWG2S+ FPTI



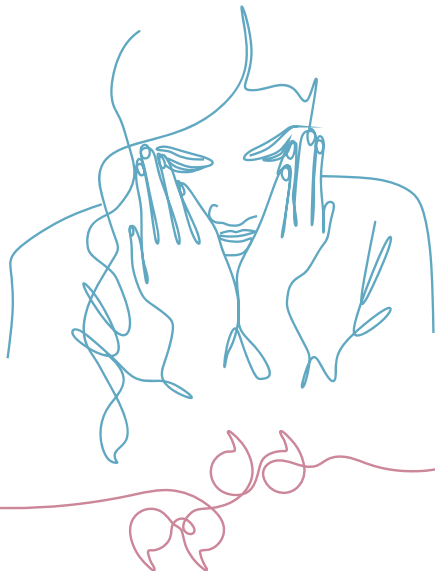


The roundtable was intended to help advance the development of a “collaborative, coordinated approach” among Indigenous leaders and representatives and Federal, Provincial, and Territorial governments. At a News conference following the meeting, Minister Miller announced that Jennifer Moore Rattray, the former Executive Director of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, would fill the role of ministerial special representative who will be tasked with providing recommendations for the creation of an Indigenous and human rights ombudsperson. This is a step in the right direction. However, NWAC will be monitoring timelines as implementing the MMIWG Calls for Justice is an urgent priority.

In January, I was also able to produce my 23-year workplan. We pulled inspiration directly from our strategic plan, as well as the NWAC-Canada Accord. The work plan aligns the Board of Directors priorities as well as NWAC’s action plan – Our Call, Our Actions. Our top goals are good governance, to ramp up lobbying efforts to ensure stable core funding and capacity building for our PTMAs.

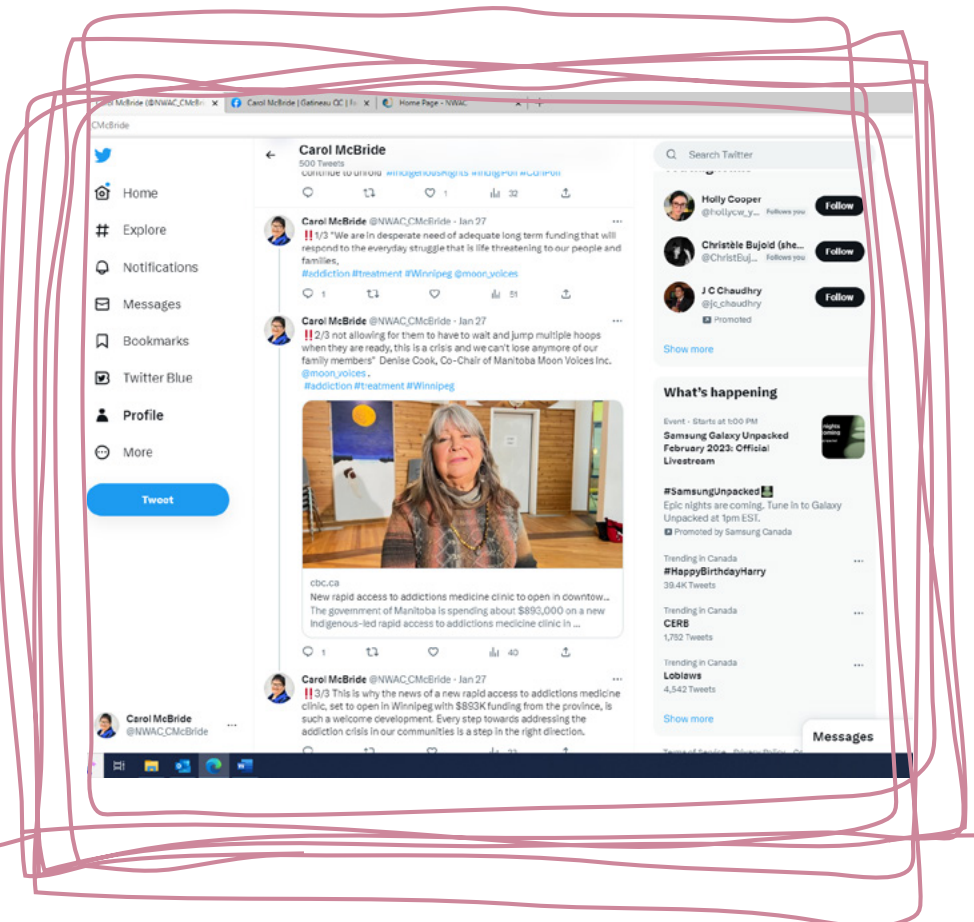
I was able to revamp my coffee chats with Carol sessions and have started my second round of meetings with all of our PTMAs. I met with Denise Cook, Co-President of Manitoba Moon Voices. We had a meaningful discussion. Denise was able to provide us with a quote for our social media surrounding a funding announcement in Manitoba which is an Indigenous-led rapid access to addictions medicine (RAAM) clinic in downtown Winnipeg.





"We are in desperate need of adequate long term funding that will respond to the everyday struggle that is life threatening to our people and families, not allowing for them to have to wait and jump multiple hoops when they are ready, this is a crisis and we can't lose anymore of our family members"

Denise Cook, Co-Chair of Manitoba Moon Voices Inc.



PRESIDENT'S *Report*





Media Relations is also identified as an important goal of my office's work plan. I was glad to see that Human Rights Watch referenced NWAC's MMIWG scorecard in their 2023 World Report. I was interviewed by APTN on this issue.

Here is a list of other interviews I did in January:

- **JANUARY 10, 2023** – interview with the National Observer regarding the Roundtable of Indigenous Leaders and Representatives and FPT Ministers on MMIWG
- **JANUARY 11, 2023** – Interview with Turtle Island News – Wanted comments regarding the recent national roundtable convened by Minister Miller on missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQI+ persons.
- **JANUARY 11, 2023** – Interview with APTN News – Concerning The federal government making the announcement late on January 10th that they have hired an advisor to help them appoint an ombudsperson to monitor progress on the MMIWG final report's calls to justice.

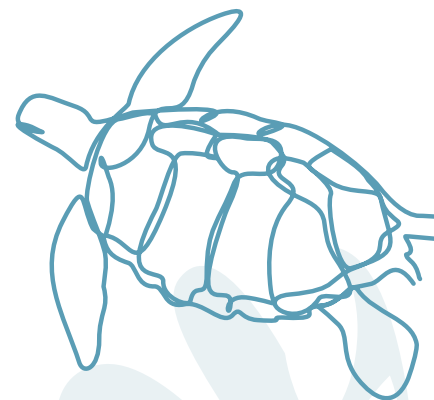
In sum, January proved to set the tone for the important work ahead. I would like to thank everyone for uplifting the voices of MMIWG.



Yours Sincerely,

Carol McBride

President





PRESIDENT'S *Report*



JAN 2023

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