



# Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

## May 2018

Volume 18.4

## Greetings

My name is Darrell Brown and I am a current Director for the Board of the Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce (ACC) and a founding member from 2004. I am planning to let my name stand for Chairman of the Board at our upcoming Annual General Meeting on June 19 at the Delta Hotel. We hope to see you, as members, come out to your AGM to exercise your vote regarding our slate of candidates and our policy positions. My time over the years has been very focused on our indigenous business community and the ACC allows me a very effective way to advocate for that community both provincially and nationally.

I am a principal for Kisik Marketing & Communications Ltd. And Kisik Commercial Furniture.

It has been my pleasure to serve our marketplace for over 15 years now, working with First Nation, Metis and Federal government clients. My latest

venture is as an advisor with Lumos Energy on renewable energy projects for First Nation clients currently off grid and still relying on diesel power.

I hold a designation of ICD.D from the Institute of Corporate Directors as well as a Certificate from Indigenous Leadership, Governance and Management from the Banff Centre.

I feel very fortunate to work in these sectors and to volunteer with the ACC and United Way's Indigenous Relations Council.

I look forward to meeting the membership at our upcoming ACC Annual General Meeting.

Please check our website for more planned networking events.

Ekosi  
Darrell Brown, ICD.D

## Inside this issue:

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## SPECIAL THANKS

The Board of the Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce would like to acknowledge the funding provided by ***The North West Company*** that enabled the transition of our technology and social media platforms to The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce. This support provided ACC with the ability to keep our profile and lines of communication with our membership open and active throughout the transition period and beyond. We greatly appreciate the support of ***The North West Company*** in making our operating platform transition that much easier.



## Benefits of Becoming a Member of the ACC

- \* Networking Opportunities
- \* Admission discount pricing for all ACC events
- \* Professional and Educational Business Development
- \* Board and Sub-committee participation
- \* Monthly Newsletters
- \* Sponsorship Opportunities

- \* Promotion of your business on the ACC website ([www.AboriginalChamber.ca](http://www.AboriginalChamber.ca))
- \* Lobbying of Governments on issues relevant to the business community
- \* Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan
- \* Referrals

Our membership is open to both the Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Business Community. We believe our Chamber can create the partnerships and synergies essential to the growth and development of both Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal businesses. By joining the Chamber, you can become part of this effort.

## Group Benefits

- What are they?
- Why do I need them?
- How do I get access?

Two areas of group benefits; group insurance and group retirement. As one of the value-added Affinity Programs with your Chambers Membership, you have access to Chambers Benefits. Canadas #1 plan for small business - Chambers Plan Employee Benefits and the FutureStep® Group RSP and DPSP.

In today's marketplace it's a standard expectation of job candidates that firms provide employee benefits - group benefits can attract and retain the best talent. Statistics show that approximately 500,000 small to mid-sized businesses in Canada don't currently offer retirement savings plans to their employees.

The plan offers all of the core benefits, including ancillary benefits such as Critical Illness, Employee Assistance Program, and Health Spending Accounts. Benefit options that are guaranteed to be issued to a group of one. Insuring from one to 35 employees; or more with head office approval. Simple to implement and administer. On line access for both business owner and employee. Stable rate renewals with pooled benefits for health and dental. Smart choice, the Chambers Group Plan is nonprofit organizations, all surpluses go back into the program to lower premiums. Administration of the program is provided by the National Service Centre in Winnipeg Manitoba.

Speak with a qualified insurance advisor exclusively for the Chambers Benefits Program. For information contact: Theresa Wirth, KeyBenefits Inc. Ph: 204-654-3397 or email: [keybenefits@shaw.ca](mailto:keybenefits@shaw.ca) - you can also find us on Facebook or LinkedIn.

1<sup>st</sup> Annual Golf Classic Partnership  
Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce &  
The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce  
Wednesday, June 6, 2018  
Pine Ridge Golf Club  
10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.



Golf Tournament Sponsorship Packages are still available –  
contact Jon Goodspeed – (204) 944-3312 or  
Scott Rose – (204) 960-8678.

Move your office to the green and make valuable business connections - Register today  
at [www.winnipeg-chamber.com](http://www.winnipeg-chamber.com) or call (204) 944-8484.



## Important Reminder

# Annual General Meeting

Register today for our 2018 Annual General Meeting

**Tuesday, June 19th**

Delta Hotel

Breakfast

8:00am - 11:30am

\$50/ticket - Includes Breakfast

Register at [www.aboriginalchamber.com](http://www.aboriginalchamber.com) or call

(204) 237-9359

Agenda will include policy discussion and election of your Board of Directors. *Please support your Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce by having a voice at the AGM!*

2017 AGM

Left to right:

Terry Brown

Jessica Dumas

Darrell Brown



## Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce

It all started with a small group of business owners meeting over coffee to discuss areas of common concern.

A small napkin, on proud display at the ACC office entrance, shows the signatures of the founders of the organization.

In 2004, at the Premier's Economic Advisory Council Summit, the Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce was created by bringing Northern and Southern businesses together who recognized the strength in working together.



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[www.AboriginalChamber.ca](http://www.AboriginalChamber.ca)



## MEET YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Terry Brown**  
**Chair**

Partner - Business Advisory & Aboriginal Business Services at Legacy  
Bowes Group  
ACC Board member since June 2015



**Michael McMullen**  
**Vice Chair**

CEO MCM Consulting Limited  
ACC Board member since 2015



**Scott Robert Rose**  
**Secretary**

Owner - Winmar Winnipeg/Brandon  
ACC Board member since 2013



**Darrell Brown**

President of Kisik Commercial Furniture  
Founding member of the ACC  
ACC Board member since 2016



**Tanya Clarke**

Certified Life Coach, Professional Speaker & Trainer  
Founder of [EmpoweringKidsSchool.ca](http://EmpoweringKidsSchool.ca) & [EmpoweringLeaders.ca](http://EmpoweringLeaders.ca)  
Creator of the Empowering Leaders to Empower Youth Certification  
ACC Board member since December 2017



**Brian A. Kelly**

Kelly Associates  
ACC Board member since 2016



**Crystal Laborero**

Principal, Laborero Consulting  
Chair, Governance & Nominating  
ACC Board member since July 2017



**Ashley Richard**

Associate with Leaders International  
ACC Board member since December 2017



**Fabian Gabriel Sanderson**

Loans Account Manager – First Peoples Economic Growth Fund  
ACC Board Member since July 2017



**Nathan Vreyborg**

Innovator, Nation Innovation  
ACC Board member since 2017