



## **Winnipeg River Regional Arts Council Press Release**

**Date: February 8, 2012**

The Winnipeg River Arts Council Inc. (WRAC) is now ready to enhance quality of life in north eastern Manitoba by advancing arts and culture throughout the region. Political leaders and interested individuals have worked for several years to make this dream a reality. The dream evolved from concept (2009) to an incorporated non-profit organization with a Board of Directors (2011) and will begin delivering arts services and programming in 2012. Arts councils provide opportunities to experience literary, visual, and performing arts, and also support the development of artists and arts organizations. The Winnipeg River corridor needed a regional arts council. And now it has one!

WRAC looks forward to serving residents, visitors, artists and arts groups within the Winnipeg River corridor (east of Highway 11 and north of Highway 317). The region is culturally diverse and home to many talented artists and arts organizations that provide opportunities for arts and culture. WRAC's regional structure will help community arts organizations, schools and recreation services work together to plan larger regional arts initiatives by facilitating the sharing of resources, information and talents. WRAC seeks to contribute to economic grow by promoting the region's arts and cultural assets to residents and tourists.

WRAC's support for development came from a variety of partners including the Town of Powerview/ Pine Falls, Town and Rural Municipality of Lac du Bonnet, Rural Municipality of Alexander, Local Government District of Pinawa, Winnipeg River Community Adjustment Committee, Community Futures Winnipeg River, Manitou Rapids Arts Council, Data Helps, and Sveinson Design.

WRAC invites all artists, arts organizations or individuals interested in the arts to support the Winnipeg River Arts Council by

- providing ideas and input through the inventory/needs assessment which will be conducted this spring
- becoming a member (individual, family, or organization)
- volunteering for committee work related to arts programming, fundraising, communications or governance.

Get involved and help enhance art and culture in our communities and region.

For more information, or to express your interest, please contact Don MacLellan, President at 204-367-2627 ([dsmaclellan@mymts.net](mailto:dsmaclellan@mymts.net)) or Donna Besel, Secretary at 204-345-8513 ([dab3@mymts.net](mailto:dab3@mymts.net)).