KA MNAADENDANAA GAABI ZHIWEBAG MIINWAA
NANGO MEGWAA EZHWEBAG MIINWA
GEYAABI WAA NI ZHIWEBAG
We respect and honour the past, present, and future.

Union of Ontario Indians | Anishinabek Nation
ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17
Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe
All of our tribes in our Nations

Debenjiged gii’saan anishinaaben akiing giibi dgwon gaadeni mnidoo waadiziwin.
Creator placed the Anishinabe on the earth along with the gift of spirituality.

Shkode, nibi, aki, noodin, giibi dgosdoonan wii naagdowendmang maanpii shkagmigaang.
Here on mother earth, there were gifts given to the Anishinabe to look after: fire, water, earth and wind.

Debenjiged gii miinaan gechtwaa wendaagog Anishinaaben waa naagdoonjin ninda niizhwaaswi kino maadwinan.
The Creator also gave the Anishinabe seven sacred gifts to guide them. They are:

Zaagidwin, Debwewin, Mnaadendmowin, Nbwaakaawin, Dbaadendiziwin,
Gwekwaadziwin miinwa Aakedhewin.
Love, Truth, Respect, Wisdom, Humility, Honesty and Bravery.

Debenjiged kiimiingona dedbinwe wi naagdowendiwin.
Creator gave us sovereignty to govern ourselves.

Ka mnaadendanaa gaabi zhiwebag miinwaa megwaa ezhwebag, miinwa geyaabi waa ni zhiwebag.
We respect and honour the past, present and future.

Preamble to the Anishinabek Nation Constitution as adopted by the Grand Council in June 2011

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LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF THE ANISHINABEK NATION

Patrick Madahbee
Grand Council Chief
Aundeck Omni Kaning

Glen Hare
Deputy Grand Council Chief
M’Chigeeng First Nation

Gordon Waindubence
Head Getzit
Sheguiandah First Nation

LAKE HURON REGION
Chief Paul Eshkakogan
Regional Grand Chief
Sagamok Anishnawbek

Joe Endanawas
Board Member
Sheshegwaning First Nation

Ogimaa Shining Turtle
Board Member
Whitefish River First Nation

Ogimaa Duke Peltier
Board Member
Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Territory

Nokomis Elsie Bissaillion
Serpent River First Nation

NORTHERN SUPERIOR REGION
Pierre Pelletier
Regional Grand Chief
Red Rock Indian Band

Chief Peter Collins
Board Member
Fort William First Nation

Nmishomis Roy Michano
Ojibways of the Pic River

Nmishomis Mike Esquega
Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek

SOUTHEAST REGION
Chief James R. Marsden
Regional Grand Chief
Alderville First Nation

Chief Barron King
Board Member
Moose Deer Point First Nation

Nokomis Joan Hendrick
Moose Deer Point First Nation

Nmishomis Glenn Marsden
Alderville First Nation

SOUTHWEST REGION
Joe Miskokomon
Regional Grand Chief
Chippewas of the Thames

Chief Tom Bressette
Board Member
Chippewas of Kettle & Stony Point

Nmishomis Leroy Dolson
Munsee-Delaware Nation

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LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF THE ANISHINABEK NATION

PORTFOLIO CHIEFS AND DEPUTY CHIEFS

ANISHINABEK NATION GOVERNMENT & COMMUNICATIONS (CRANE CLAN)

Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee
Chief of the Anishinabek Nation Government

Deputy Grand Council Chief Glen Hare
Deputy Chief of the Anishinabek Nation Government

Ogimaa Duke Peltier (A)
Joe Miskokomon (A)

POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS (LOON CLAN)

Joe Miskokomon
Chief of Policy and Communications

Ogimaa Duke Peltier, Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve
Deputy Chief of Policy and Communications

Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee (A)
Deputy Grand Council Chief Glen Hare (A)

REVENUE, FINANCE & THE ECONOMY (MARTEN CLAN)

Pierre Pelletier, Red Rock Indian Band
Chief of Revenue, Finance & the Economy

Chief Barron King, Moose Deer Point First Nation
Deputy Chief of Revenue, Finance & the Economy

Joe Miskokomon (A)
Chief Peter Collins (A)

LANDS, RESOURCES & JUSTICE (FISH CLAN)

Chief Paul Eshkakogan, Sagamok Anishnawbek
Chief of Lands, Resources & Justice

Pierre Pelletier, Red Rock Indian Band
Deputy Chief of Lands, Resources & Justice

Chief Barron King (A)
Chief Tom Bressette (A)

EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING & LIFELONG LEARNING (EAGLE CLAN)

Chief James R. Marsden, Alderville
Chief of Employment, Training & Lifelong Learning

Joe Endanawas, Sheshegwaning First Nation
Deputy Chief of Employment, Training & Lifelong Learning

Chief Barron King (A)

HEALTH & HEALING (BEAR CLAN)

Chief Tom Bressette, Chippewas of Kettle & Stony Point
Chief of Health & Healing

Chief Peter Collins, Fort William First Nation
Deputy Chief of Health & Healing

Ogimaa Duke Peltier (A)

TREASURY BOARD

Secretary Treasurer
DWAYNE NASHKAWA

Lake Huron Region
HAZEL RECOLLET

Northern Superior Region
CHIEF MELVIN HARDY

Southeast Region
CHIEF JAMES MARSDEN

Southwest Region
LIZ CLOUD

** (A) Alternate
MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND COUNCIL CHIEF AND THE DEPUTY GRAND COUNCIL CHIEF

Aaniin,

Welcome Chiefs, Councillors, Citizens and guests to our 2017 Grand Council in beautiful Aamjiwnaang, the most southern community of the Anishinabek Nation. We are very happy to be here and the friendliness and genuine hospitality extended to us all from the Aamjiwnaang community is very much appreciated.

Grand Council, the coming together of leadership from the 40 Anishinabek Nation communities to discuss, provide direction and decisions on a wide range of issues, opportunities and challenges that are of interest to your community individually or as a collective as the Anishinabek Nation – is a gathering that has occurred throughout time. These collective interests and innovative approaches are the driving force that has made the Anishinabek Nation one of the proudest, productive and forward-thinking regions not only in this province, but nationally as well.

The theme of this Grand Council is honouring and respecting our past, our present and our future.

There is no doubt that the Anishinabek Nation leaders of the past have created significant strides in advocating for the benefit of the collective. Leadership is key to getting results. We have a rich and proud history that created the foundation from which today’s work evolves from. The Anishinabek Nation has been a major leader within ‘Indian Country’ in many areas: from opposing the 1969 White Paper, the constitutional inclusion of our people with rights, to institutional building in a wide range of sectors – First Nation policing, land claims, RCAP, etc. Yes, a great many leaders over time maintained the discipline and vision towards advancing our rights and insisting that the Anishinabek are the only appropriate people to look out for Anishinabek interests. We have come a long way, and there is still so much work to do.

We acknowledge those that have built our community over the years. We are experiencing a time where so many of our unsung leaders are leaving this physical realm. Deputy and I, like many of you, make it a priority to attend services to pay tribute to these great men and woman – the builders of our communities – to say Miigwetch. Their guidance and advice on many, many issues will be missed.

At present, the significance of the work being achieved may be lost on those who have not had input throughout the years in directing the journey of the Anishinabek Nation. We seem to sometimes be on a two lane roadway – one, focus on navigating the world around us today, side-stepping areas that may impede our journey towards our vision and two, the strengthening our Anishinabe collective – restoring and maintaining Anishinabe ways of doing, ways of thinking, and ways of knowing. The Anishinabek Nation only pursues interests as mandated by you, the Chiefs at Grand Council. When we come together, we work together for a common and desired end, and when we achieve those goals and objectives, not only do we make our ancestors proud, but our young ones too. Our children are the dynamic energy just waiting to take the lead – we have to help make their journey forward by doing what we can today for them to continue the building of our great Nation.

As the Grand Council Chief and Deputy Grand Chief, both Glen and I would not direct the energy we do, travel the distances we do and press as strongly as we do, if we did not believe in the vision of the Anishinabek Nation: that as a collective, we are a mighty force. Chiefs, you set the tone, set the priority and determine the focus. You do this through coming together at Grand
Council to make your aspirations known. Deputy Grand Chief and I, aided by the extremely studious staff of the Anishinabek Nation and all Chiefs who take the lead on many of the issues, work diligently to ensure progress. And progress is what we present.

This past year has seen the culmination of a significant number of achievements to advance support for our Anishinabe children. We claim there is no greater importance than having our children grow to their potential with their family in their community. The Anishinabek Nation Child Well-Being Law is a community developed model based on our inherent responsibility, a model that we ought to celebrate and embrace. And of course you are aware of the tremendous success in finally advancing in the field of Education. There is no end to what can be achieved – together. The vision of the past is being realized. Yes, there is much work yet ahead, but there is no doubt that the momentum to get to where we want to be will be swift and fierce. Governance is yet another visionary goal, directed by our leaders past and maintained by our leaders present – seeing the full potential of what it means to take responsibility for our governance systems and having our authority and freedom restored, again, once in the door, the potential is limitless. Good governance is the foundation of a good, healthy solid future. In the area of infrastructure, the Anishinabek Nation is proudly demonstrating, yet again, that the status quo is failing our people. Housing, water and a number of other critical issues related to the operational fabric of our communities are building momentum to seek a better way of addressing our interests, by us, for us.

In the area of Health – again, Anishinabek Nation Chiefs have clearly expressed that the status quo is not working. Transforming the delivery of health services from both the province and from Canada, is necessary. Significant effort is underway towards making a distinct difference in the lives of our families who live in our communities and beyond. Transforming the delivery of our health services will be driven by our communities as input will to be sought through a significant community engagement strategy. Whatever is decided from our communities will be guided by our Anishinabek health experts – experts who have worked in all facets of services. We will build on the models that are working, we will create new mechanisms and processes that have direct benefit to meeting the health service needs of the Anishinabe. Exciting work ahead, determined and delivered by our people for our people.

As Grand Council Chief, I make a point always to highlight the absolute need for implementation. Chiefs have directed the development of a great many interests, and when these developments are achieved, there appears to be uncertainty on the next step – implementation. The Anishinabek Nation Chi’Naaknigewin and community Chi’Naaknigewin’s guide, Anishinabek Citizenship Law, Election Synchronization, Matrimonial Real Property templates, seeking self-governing authorities in governance and education, and so many more achievements require decisions to be made towards implementing. We need to discuss and determine what is required to make the shift to realizing the true benefits of what was intended. How do we do this? I welcome your views.

In closing, on behalf of Deputy Grand Chief Glen Hare and myself, I would like to convey that it is our honour and pleasure to work for you – the Anishinabek Nation. The future holds many opportunities and challenges – let’s move forward in unity and make the work of our future leaders lighter.

Miigwetch.
NATION BUILDING COUNCILS
Getzidjig (Elders), Kwe-Wuk (Women), Youth

NATION BUILDING COUNCILS
The Anishinabek Nation is supported by three Nation Building Councils that are comprised of Getzidjig (Elders), Kwe-Wuk (Women) and Youth Council. These Councils meet from time to time as individual groups or collectively, to discuss areas of concern, review and provide advice on specific initiatives and engage in Nation Building activities. Effort is underway to establish an Urban Council to add to the complement of our Nation Building efforts. Presently, the three councils are comprised of the following members and technical support:

Getzidjig (Elders) Council
- Nmishomis Gordon Waindubence (Anishinabek Nation Head Getzit)
- Nokomis Elsie Bissaillion (Huron Region)
- Alternate needed (Huron)
- Nokomis Joan Hendrick (Southeast)
- Nmishomis Glen (Peach) Marsden (Southeast)
- Nmishomis Leroy Dolson (Southwest)
- Nmishomis Mike Esquega (Superior)
- Nmishomis Roy Michano (Superior)

Kwe-Wuk (Women) Council
- Donna Debassige (Huron)
- Bonnie Bressette (Southwest)
- Nora Sawyer (Southeast)
- Johanna Desmoulin (Superior)

Youth Council
- Quinn Meawasige (Head Male Bonnet Carrier)
- Nathalie Restoule (Head Female Bonnet Carrier)

Anishinabek Nation Urban Council
An effort is underway engaging with Urban Anishinabek Citizens towards eventual establishment of an Urban Council as per Grand Council Resolution

Nation Building Council Administrative Support
Rhonda Couchie, Special Projects Coordinator
Email: rhonda.couchie@anishinabek.ca
Phone: (877) 702-5200 ext. 2221
Local: (705) 497-9127 ext. 2221

Nation Building Circles and Forums
Nation Building members are asked to attend events, meetings and ceremonies at First Nation communities.

As well, members are invited to provide their support to various initiatives and causes at the Chiefs of Ontario and Assembly of First Nation levels. In addition, our Council members have been named to various committees (see Committee Participation below) and they attend sessions held by various governments, and public and private agencies. Council members attending act as advisors to Anishinabek Nation program staff and Directors on their initiatives and ongoing work for the benefit of the 40 First Nations that comprises the Anishinabek Nation. Advice, shared knowledge and experiences in specific areas of focus such as Family Violence, Missing and Murdered Women, Human Trafficking, Mining, Lands and Resources and Health are facilitated as often as reasonably possible. Participation strengthens the Anishinabek Nation capacity and networks, creates partnerships and helps the Anishinabek Nation move forward with specialized expertise in key areas.

Nation Building Steering Committee
The Anishinabek Nation Building Council members provide support to one another through in-house meetings, and when required, conference calls to keep up to date on activities and initiatives. In addition, Nation Building Councils members are available from time to time to support staff in their job by having an Elder-in-Residence program. The Elder-in-Residence program offers staff members the opportunity to participate in cultural teachings in a group setting or individual meetings and may take place where a staff member can discuss work issues (confidentially) that may be troubling them. This support is essential and a necessity for the health and well-being of staff members who diligently work on behalf of the Nation.

Grand Councils and Special Chiefs Assemblies
Prior to Grand Council and Special Chiefs’ Assemblies, the Councils (Getzidjig, Kwe-Wuk and Youth Councils) may be involved with preparation of these events (arranging and conducting Lodge, Fire, Sunrise and Ceremonies). Sunrise ceremonies are planned for each day and Council members attend to support those that are present (Chiefs, Grand Chief, Deputy and guests). The purpose of the Sunrise Ceremony is to give thanks for the day, for the gifts it provides such as life, nourishment, shelter, and to ask for support for Nation Building. A lodge ceremony is also held prior to day one, of each and every Assembly.

A Sweat Lodge is held the evening prior to Grand Council to help the Chiefs with their work in the days ahead. It also sets the tone for the Chiefs to hold discussions with respect for each other and for Nation Building. A Grand Entry, held on day one of Grand Council, involves participation of the Councils (Getzidjig, Kwe-Wuk and Youth Councils), who begin the procession inviting the Chiefs to enter the forum. Chiefs enter the Assembly by carrying the flag of their community.
The Elders Council will also close the Assembly with ceremony. Nation Building Councils are named as advisors under the Chi-Naaknigewin (Constitution). And finally, as a priority, the Elders arrange to have a local Elder be involved and engaged to open and close any organized meeting or Assembly with an Anishinabe prayer.

**Committee Participation**

Nation Building Council members participate in a spectrum of activities to support the Union of Ontario Indians in its mandate as directed by the Chiefs-in-Assembly and within the goals and objectives as stated by the Leadership Council, Grand Council Chief and Deputy Grand Chief. Getzidjig, Kwe-Wuk and Youth Councils are asked to provide their support and advice at various program meetings, Regional Chiefs meetings, and other focused forum. Nation Building members are appointed to these committees based on their areas of expertise. They are essential to the process and discussions, and greatly help to provide advice and guidance wherever required. For this area, Nation Building Council members also hold a seat on various committees as listed below:

**Working Group (Restoration of Jurisdiction)**
- Nmishomis Mike Esquega

**Anishinabek Ontario Resource Management Council (Lands and Resources)**
- Nmishomis Gordon Waindubence
- Nmishomis Mike Esquega Waindubence

**Anishinabek Nation Child Well-Being Working Group (Social Services)**
- Donna Debassige, Kwe-Wuk Council
- Gordon Waindubence
- Bonnie Bressette, Kwe-Wuk Council

**Family Violence (Social Services)**
- Donna Debassige, Kwe-Wuk Council

**Ontario First Nations Young Peoples Council (Chiefs of Ontario)**
- Quinn Meawasige, Youth Council
- Nathalie Restoule, Youth Council

**Anishinabek Nation MNDM Mining Technical Table (Lands and Resources)**
- Nmishomis Gordon Waindubence

**Research Partnership with Amelia Rising, Nipissing University, HIV-AIDS, North Bay, UOI (Community Research on Human Trafficking in the North), (Social Services)**
- Donna Debassige, Kwe-Wuk Council

**Anishinabek Nation Leadership Council**
- Nmishomis Gordon Waindubence
- Nmishomis Roy Michano
- Nmishomis Mike Esquega
- Nokomis Elsie Bissaillion
- Nokomis Joan Hendrick
- Nmishomis Leroy Dolson
- Nmishomis Glen Marsden

**Anishinabek Nation Advisory Council on Health (Health)**
- Nora Sawyer, Kwe-Wuk Council
- Nokomis Elsie Bissaillion, Getzidjig Advisory Council

The Anishinabek Nation is very fortunate to have the ongoing support and involvement of all Council members whose contributions to the Nation have been significant. Nation Building Councils are named as advisors and carry with them the spirit to remind us of who we are as a people by advocating for the protection of culture, language and inclusion of Elders. Nation Building Councils support the goals and objectives as directed by Leadership of the 40 Anishinabek Nation communities to assert jurisdiction and assert and have law-making authority in Education, Governance, Citizenship, and a wide range of other emerging interests towards the vision of “One Anishinabe Family”.

And finally, Nation Building Councils are guided by the Seven Grandfather teachings of Zaagidwin, Debwewin, Mnaadendmowin, Nbwaakaawin, Dbaadendiziwin, Gwekwaadziwin Miinwa Aakedhewin, in the work they do to strengthen our effort towards “A nishinabe Pane” for the Anishinabek Nation.
Aanii,

I am pleased to present the 2016-17 report to Anishinabek Nation Leadership and Citizens. The past year was an exciting and productive year for the Anishinabek Nation. We have made significant progress on many of the key files that we have been working on during the past few years. We have also started working on many new initiatives since the 2016 Grand Council.

The staff have worked diligently on the priorities identified by Leadership. We have advanced the key objectives presented at the Anishinabek Nation – Ontario Summit. The implementation plans have been further developed with the various Ontario Ministries and the Anishinabek Nation staff since the Summit. A formal meeting occurred in February with Anishinabek Nation Directors and staff from each of the Ontario Ministries to identify implementation plans for the priorities presented at the Summit. A Summit follow up report is included in the Grand Council kit.

We have met regularly with Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation staff during the past year through the Anishinabek Nation – Ontario bi-lateral process. The focus of these meetings is to develop implementation plans for issues that are discussed during Grand Council Chief and Minister Leadership meetings. We are also working with Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada to reactivate the federal bi-lateral process. An initial Leadership meeting with Grand Council Chief Madahbee and Minister Bennett occurred in March.

I meet regularly with the Senior Technical Committee which is coordinated by the Chiefs of Ontario. This committee includes the Chief Executive Officers of the Chiefs of Ontario and the other Provincial Territorial Organizations. We focus on issues that affect all Ontario First Nations and provide support to the Political Confederacy.

Last year was an important year which resulted in a successful ratification vote for the Anishinabek Education System in December 2016. The Restoration of Jurisdiction Department planned and coordinated all of the activities that were required for ratification of the Anishinabek Education System throughout the Nation. The Restoration of Jurisdiction Department is also working on the Master Education Agreement with Ontario. I want to acknowledge the work of all staff that worked tirelessly to ensure a successful ratification. This was a team effort that required support from staff throughout the entire organization. We look forward to supporting the Kinoomaadziwin Education Body Board of Directors during the implementation phase.

The Anishinabek Nation staff plan and coordinate many events each year. I would like to acknowledge the collaboration and teamwork skills of our staff. Events have been successfully organized in each department during the past year.

We have held several Leadership Council meetings to develop a strategic plan. There are many priorities within the Anishinabek Nation and it is important to focus resources on the highest priority items. We look forward to having a strategic plan to guide and prioritize our future activities.

It is important to acknowledge the contributions of Anishinabek Nation Leadership and Citizens. The Anishinabek Nation depends on many committees, working groups, and Chiefs’ committees to be successful. We are pleased that Rama First Nation re-joined the Union of Ontario Indians in 2016.

I want to acknowledge the work of all the Anishinabek Nation staff during the past year. There are many important initiatives in progress in each Department, I would encourage you to read the Program Reports contained in the annual report. We have made progress during the past year because of the dedication of our Leadership and staff to furthering Anishinabek Nation initiatives. I anticipate another productive year in 2017/18 and look forward to Grand Council in Aamjiwnaang First Nation.

Miigwetch,

Gary Dokis
Chief Executive Officer
Anishinabek Nation
PROGRAM REPORTS
MISSION STATEMENT

“Anishinabek citizens, communities and the Anishinabek Nation as a whole will achieve prosperity and wellbeing through the active pursuit of economic opportunities. Well-planned socio-economic development will support the elimination of poverty and creation of wealth, which will prove beneficial to all Canadians.”

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

REVENUE FINANCE & THE ECONOMY (MARTIN CLAN) PORTFOLIO HOLDERS:

• Chief Pierre Pelletier, Chief of Revenue, Finance & the Economy
• Chief Barron King, Deputy Chief of Revenue, Finance & the Economy

Chief’s Council on the Economy:

• Chair, Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee, Portfolio Holders for Revenue, Finance & the Economy

Southwest Representatives:

• Chief Tom Bressette
• Regional Chief Joe Miskokomon

Southeast Representatives:

• Chief James Marsden
• Chief Barron King

Lake Huron Representatives:

• Chief Steve Miller
• Chief Linda Debassige

Northern Superior Representatives:

• Chief Peter Collins
• Chief Xavier Thompson

STAFF:

Brendan Huston, Economic Development Coordinator

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2016-17

Chiefs Council on the Economy

In March 2017, the Chief’s Council on the Economy met to provide guidance and recommendations to the Economic Secretariat. Agenda items included:

• Major Capital Project Financing
• Innovation – Youth Engagement
• Gas & Tobacco Tax Revenue Sharing

Gasoline & Tobacco Tax Revenue Sharing

During the June 2015 Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly, the Chiefs passed a resolution mandating the Chief’s Council on the Economy to develop a plan for the creation of a Gasoline and Tobacco Tax Compact between the Anishinabek Nation and the province of Ontario.

In September 2015, Grand Council Chief Madahbee and Regional Grand Chief Miskokomon met with Minister Charles Sousa to discuss Gasoline and Tobacco Tax Revenue Sharing. The Minister confirmed the province’s willingness to commence discussions to support the development of a regulatory framework regarding Gasoline and Tobacco Tax Revenue Sharing.

In March 2016, a discussion paper was commissioned to review current tax revenue sharing agreements, summarize tobacco and fuel markets, and to develop data to support dialogue on revenue potential. The discussion paper and summary was presented to leadership at the Chiefs Council on the Economy, Regional Chiefs meetings, Leadership Council, and leadership assemblies.

Additionally, a Gas & Tobacco Think Tank was held in March 2017 to openly discuss resource revenue sharing and to brainstorm potential components of a Gasoline and Tobacco Tax Revenue Sharing Framework.

Energy Opportunity

Throughout the 2016-17 year, the Anishinabek Nation continued to monitor developments regarding the potential ownership of a major energy company operating in Ontario. Updates were provided to leadership and the Chiefs Council on the Economy regarding key transaction terms and potential financial opportunity/benefits.

OBJECTIVES 2017-18:

Gasoline & Tobacco Tax Revenue Sharing

Following the completion of the second phase in the development of a Gasoline and Tobacco Tax Compact, Anishinabek Nation staff and key leadership will engage the Ministry of Finance to discuss the implementation of the third phase of developing a gasoline and tobacco agreement that will focus on the establishment of key framework principles as well as further leadership and community engagement.

Updates will be provided to the Chiefs Council on the
Economy, Regional Chiefs meetings, Leadership Council, and leadership assemblies.

**Due Diligence Process - Risk Assessment**

The Anishinabek Nation has developed a Due Diligence Process tool to assist Anishinabek Nation leadership and communities when making critical decisions regarding economic development investments.

The Due Diligence Process tool will be presented to the Chiefs Council on the Economy to receive feedback and recommendations regarding the finalization of the tool for presentation to Anishinabek Nation leadership and communities.

**Alternative Financing Solutions**

The Chiefs Council on the Economy has requested a scoping document to assist communities in leveraging collective assets derived from economic development opportunities and to provide an overview of access to capital fundamentals. The scoping document will be presented to leadership at Grand Council.

**Chief’s Council on the Economy**

In May 2017 the Chief’s Council on the Economy will be meeting to provide guidance and recommendation to the Economic Secretariat. Agenda items include:

- Alternative Financing Solutions
- Innovation: Employment Trends & Youth Engagement
- Economic Secretariat Updates
- Energy Sector Opportunity
- Gas & Tobacco Revenue Sharing
- Resource Revenue/Benefit Sharing Brainstorming
- Due Diligence Process Overview
- Economic Blueprint Update

The Chief’s Council on the Economy will continue to meet quarterly to provide guidance on current and emerging economic initiatives.

If you have any comments, questions or would like additional information, please contact Brendan Huston, Economic Development Coordinator, at (705) 497-9127 or at brendan.huston@anishinabek.ca.

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**EDUCATION SECRETARIAT**

**Anishinabek Educational Institute**

**EDUCATION SECRETARIAT**

The Education Secretariat provides leadership and administrative direction for the management of the Education Secretariat and the Anishinabek Educational Institute.

In leading the Education Secretariat, the Director is responsible for the over-all administration, direction and alignment of all areas of education and policy. These areas range from early childhood, elementary, secondary and post-secondary education for the Anishinabek Nation communities. The Secretariat is committed to monitoring and analyzing any policy and legislative proposals that come from both the Provincial and Federal governments of Canada.

The Education Director is responsible for the operation and administration of the Anishinabek Educational Institute (AEI) as mandated by the Anishinabek General Assembly resolution 93/13.

**LEADERSHIP COUNCIL PORTFOLIO HOLDERS**

- Chief James Marsden, Alderville First Nation, Chief of Employment, Training and Lifelong Learning
- Joe Endanawas, Sheshegwaning First Nation, Deputy Chief of Education, Training and Lifelong Learning
- Chief Barron King, Moose Deer Point (Alternate)

**STAFF**

- Murray Waboose, Education Director
- Jennifer Fletcher, A/Site Coordinator/Organizational Resource Analyst
- Jan McLeod, Registrar Services Coordinator
- Kelly McLeod, Recruitment and Promotion Coordinator
- Katie Twance, Education Development Officer
- Jazmine Glass, Education Development Officer
- Christine Babinski, Coordinator’s Assistant
- Bobbie Maxwell, Program Assistant

**Munsee-Delaware Satellite Office:**

- Barb Tabobandung, Program Assistant
- Frank Cooper, Program/Office Assistant
- Sue Ireland, Registrar Services Coordinator
- Heather Green, Education Development Officer
- Kassandra Sturgeon, Reception/Clerk
Curve Lake Satellite Office:
- Rachel Lafferty, Education Development Officer
- Mindy Taylor, Aboriginal Health Human Resources Initiatives Coordinator

HIGHLIGHTS 2016-17

Education Secretariat

In 2017, the Education Secretariat said farewell to long time Director, Murray Maracle and welcomed Murray Waboose. Murray (W) in collaboration with other members of the First Nations Education Coordination Unit continue to oversee the secretariat role in First Nations Education policy and advocacy.

The AEI was successful in this year’s proposal submission to receive another funding increase to support program deliveries. While, the overall status of the Post Secondary Student Supports Program (PSSSP) remained status quo, the Post Secondary Partnerships Program (PSPP) (formerly ISSP), that funds the program delivery, will be undergoing a review and possible transformation during the upcoming fiscal year. In the interim, funding allocations are limited to only multi-year programs identified in the previous year’s proposal submissions.

The Special Education Working Group continues to monitor the effects of the new formula that was implemented for 2016-17. A banking day for Special Education has also been instituted. The banking day occurs in September and attempts to re-distribute surplus funds to other First Nation communities that are running a deficit in order to expend the funds as opposed to returning the funds back to Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC). The Special Education Working Group is in consultation with communities to achieve attainable goals. The Working Group is currently analyzing the data to see if this process is successful and to identify what challenges communities face with their high cost Special Education funding, in which the current funding formula may need to be adjusted.

The Education Secretariat continues to work with the First Nations Education Coordination Unit to advocate for education, and along with the Aboriginal Institutes Consortium (AIC), to obtain accreditation for First Nation postsecondary institutes, as well as, maintaining positive communications with ANC, the province, and AN communities.

Aboriginal Health Human Resources Initiatives

The Education Secretariat was successful in securing funding for AEI through Health Canada to continue providing post-secondary health program students with the additional supports they need. Supports such as cultural knowledge, bursaries, tutors, classroom resources, and social activities are a few to name which assist in our students’ success. This funding also assists in the promotion and development of post-secondary health studies by researching potential new partnerships with mainstream post-secondary institutions. We continue to look for new program partnerships to assist in the educational needs of our communities in the health studies field.

Anishinabek Educational Institute (AEI)

AEI continues to expand its institute and program partnerships to meet community education and development needs. AEI is currently in the final negotiation stages for a partnership agreement with Ryerson University for the delivery of the Bachelor of Social Work degree program, scheduled for delivery in the fall of 2017. A community needs survey was developed and launched by the AEI’s Mentorship staff to examine how AEI can better meet community needs with our programming and what we can look towards for future program offerings.

As a member of the Aboriginal Institute’s Consortium (AIC), AEI has been working with other Aboriginal Institutes to develop the AIC’s Aboriginal Institute recognition and data collection project(s) in collaboration with the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development.

Health Care & Sciences Programming

Over the past year, AEI has been successful in running the third intake of the Practical Nursing program. The Nipissing site delivery, our first in partnership with Canadore College, is currently in the final semester. Successful completion of the consolidation term will enable the graduates to apply for their College of Nurses of Ontario (CNO) certification examinations. Due to high demand, a new intake at the Munsee-Delaware site, in partnership with St. Clair College, started in January and is scheduled for consolidation ending in February 2019. AEI’s multiple partnerships for the Practical Nursing program allows us to better meet the differing needs of the northern and southern communities in the Nursing field. AEI’s smaller classroom sizes not only allow for increased instructor/student contact and one-on-one support, but also offer students opportunities that other main stream colleges will not offer. A good example would be the incorporation of traditional medicines and teachings into our program, as well as health centre tours and educational workshops. The Munsee Site nursing students will continue in their first year this fall of 2017.

The Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) certificate...
program has had five intakes since it was introduced to AEI in 2013. This comprehensive accredited program, the first in Ontario, is designed to improve capacity, awareness and access for FASD services in the communities. Learners are provided with the skills to understand the complex challenges facing individuals, families and communities impacted by FASD, improve services for individuals with FASD, and design and implement effective prevention and intervention strategies.

AEI also offers opportunities for students to succeed in their field of study through additional elective skills development. AEI staff, certified as Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Trainers held two training sessions in 2016-17. Mandatory for the practical nursing students prior to placement in the North Bay Regional Health Centre, the training will also be offered to the health/human care services students (FASD & PSW). The FASD students also participated in a three-day skills development training which covered basic counselling skills, conflict resolution, effective communication, and personal wellness.

In anticipation of on-going student funding secured through the North Eastern Aboriginal FASD Education Partnership Project, AEI will be offering another delivery at the Nipissing site starting September 2017.

Child Development Programming

The Early Childhood Education: Binoojiinyag Kinoomaadwin (NECE) diploma is a four-semester program in partnership with St. Clair College that uses blended delivery methodologies (a combination of face-to-face and distance education) as well as online delivery via Contact North. This allows students to study academic courses and participate in practicum despite time, geographic, and financial barriers. The NECE program is compliant with provincial program standards and incorporates additional Aboriginal-specific components throughout the curriculum to prepare graduates to address the culturally specific needs of First Nation communities. Market sector research continues to indicate that there is a demand for Early Childhood Educators due to the number of children enrolled or waitlisted for enrolment in early childhood settings across the province. In September of 2016, the AEI began a community based delivery program in Curve Lake First Nation.

Building Relationships to Increase Awareness

Throughout the 2016-17 fiscal year, the Anishinabek Educational Institute engaged in promotion and recruitment to increase the awareness of Anishinabek Educational Institute Programs and Services. During this time, we initiated many new relationships with many Employment and Training Offices and various Indian Friendship Centre’s Employment and Training Directors. We have hosted an open house at our main campus location, and also attended community career fairs, hosted a booth at Little NHL 2017, and have been invited back to a few of the neighbouring communities to host information sessions to potential students.

Other Promotion and Recruitment Strategies that have also been initiated include:
- Development of a new and improved website
- Development of a professional quality promotional video
- New promotional materials have been distributed to all communities of the Anishinabek Nation

OBJECTIVES 2017-18

Program Delivery and Recruitment

- In the upcoming fiscal year AEI will continue with the delivery of current programs: Practical Nursing, Early Childhood Education, Native Community Worker, Social Services Worker, as well as fulfill delivery requirements for programs scheduled for completion over the summer months.
- Planning for AEI’s annual convocation ceremonies is underway and scheduled for June 24 (Nipissing) and July (Munsee). AEI will also be hosting a booth at the Little NHL in Mississauga.
- Continue on with AIC’s data collection project, AEI will be implementing the Edison data management/learning management system through Orbund. Implementation of this system in conjunction with AEI’s new website will allow for greater efficiency of student administration and information management as well as greater access to online classroom communications and delivery options.
- The AIC member institutes met with a consulting firm, hired by the AIC, to complete a comprehensive review of the AIC members and draft recommendations relating to the recognition of AIC’s in post-secondary education.
- Moving forward, AEI will continue to work on the recognition, accreditation and policy development process with AIC, including the recommendation that all member institutes be stand-alone and what the process, requirements, impacts and logistics will be for AEI.
VISION STATEMENT
"Minomadzawin of the Anishinabek"
(Good Health for Our People)

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL PORTFOLIO HOLDER
• Chief Tom Bressette, Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point

CHIEFS COMMITTEE ON HEALTH MEMBERS
• Chief Peter Collins, Northern Superior Region
• Chief Tom Bressette, Southwest Region
• Chief Phyllis Williams, Southeast Region
• Ogimaa Duke Peltier, Lake Huron Region
• Chief Paul Syrette, Lake Huron Region

STAFF
• Jamie Restoule, Health Director
• Laurie McLeod-Shabogesic, FASD Program Coordinator
• Laura Liberty, HIV/AIDS Coordinator
• Chochi Knott, Southeast/Southwest FASD Regional Worker
• Lynda Banning, Northern Superior FASD Regional Worker
• Janine McCue, Aboriginal Healing and Wellness Strategy (AHWS) Community Development Support Worker
• Stephanie Peplinski, Healthy Babies, Healthy Children Coordinator
• Priscilla Goulais, AHWS and Communications Coordinator
• Tony Jocko, Federal Policy Analyst
• Laurie C. McLeod, Provincial Policy Analyst

HIGHLIGHTS 2016-17

Health Transformation
Health system transformation has been a central topic of discussion amongst the Anishinabek Nation for many years. Recently, the political leadership committed to renewed advocacy and dialogue with the province to pursue this as a priority.

In June 2016, at the Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly, a resolution was formalized calling upon the province to engage in dialogue and consultation with the Anishinabek Nation to support the development of a First Nations Local Health Integrated Network.

Towards that end, in November 2016, the Chiefs Committee on Health began exploratory meetings with the First Nations Health Authority in British Columbia as one potential model from which to learn.

On March 2017, Grand Council Chief Madahbee and Chief Tom Bressette met with Sharon Lee Smith, Associate Deputy Minister, Policy and Transformation of the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, to discuss health transformation, and specifically, the possible signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Health between the Anishinabek Nation and Ontario.

The province is very open to this concept. A Draft MOU has been developed, and has been shared at the most recent Regional Chiefs meetings.

A one-day workshop session exploring Anishinabek Health Transformation was held in April 2017, in Toronto involving representatives of the Anishinabek Advisory Committee on Health and the Chiefs Committee on Health. The meeting was to map a plan for advancing movement in this direction.

On the federal side, Grand Council Chief Madahbee and Chief Bressette met with Dr. Valerie Gideon, Assistant Deputy Minister, Regional Operations for Health Canada in Ottawa. The meeting was very positive and there may be opportunities to advance the Health Transformation process federally as well.

Lastly, a second meeting is being planned in Toronto with the Chiefs Committee on Health, the Anishinabek Advisory Council on Health, and guest Grand Chief Doug Kelly of the BC First Nations Health Authority.

Life Promotion
Both levels of government have committed to providing financial aid directly to First Nations to support the issue of mental health and youth suicide. This proactive approach is to support First Nations to deliver culturally appropriate and community-specific programming.

The province provided $950,000 in funds, which were flowed directly to First Nations in the latter part of fiscal 2016-17 for any Life Promotion activities that took place in 2016-17, from June 1 onward. Autonomy was given to the First Nations to decide how best to use the funds within their programs. It is anticipated that early in the 2017-18 fiscal year funds will be made available in a similar amount.

In addition, a Life Promotion Youth Summit is being planned for the late summer of 2017. We will be working with the youth advisory council to develop and implement this important gathering.

As well, on-going advocacy will continue on this issue.

Non Insured Health Benefits
The Comprehensive Joint Review of the Non Insured Health Benefits Program (NIHB) continued throughout the year. The review was slated to wind up in March 2017. Due to the enormity of the work required, has seen the final
recommendations expected later in 2017.

Major improvements in benefit policies that came about by sound business case presentations and ongoing lobbying by the First Nations NIHB Network, including the Anishinabek Nation’s Federal Health Policy Analyst, were highlighted by the following:

- Hospital beds, and intermittent pressure type mattresses, were added to the Medical Equipment and Supplies NIHB benefits listings as eligible benefits.
- Hearing tests conducted on any Status Indian, of any age, conducted by an audiologist, in a free standing audiology clinic became an eligible benefit.
- Several flavours of the nutritional supplement ENSURE were added to the Palliative Care Drug Formulary.
- All expectant mothers were allowed one (1) non-medical escort.


**Joint Aboriginal Cancer Care Committee (JOACCC)**

Grand Council Chief Madahbee was appointed as the first ever First Nations, Inuit and Métis (FNIM) representative on Cancer Care Ontario (CCO) Board of Directors. The Board is responsible for overseeing all policy making, and strategic planning to ensure full compliance with the provincial government’s direction and mandate for all Ontarians.

Province-wide screening initiatives on breast, colorectal, and cervical cancer prevention continued and screening rates across Anishinabek Nation continue to increase. In the NE region of Ontario, new Aboriginal targeted pilot initiatives focused on cervical and high risk lung cancer began by the NE Regional Cancer Program, based at Health Sciences North in Sudbury.


The ACCU continued to expand with the hiring of two new staff, including one new Aboriginal Tobacco Program Lead, Alicia Topp, who is based in Sudbury.

**Bewiidoonkagejig Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Program**

The FASD Program Team facilitated a total of 78 specialized FASD workshops with a total of 1,687 participants. We conducted 23 booth displays actively engaging 3,826 participants in FASD discussions/activities at various conferences and First Nation events throughout Anishinabek territory. The Protecting Our Children’s Future: A Caring for Mother Earth Collaborative Project, which is an ongoing partnership between the Northern Superior Regional office and the Thunder Bay District Health Unit was highlighted at The Ontario Public Health Convention in Toronto. This provided an opportunity to share our story of collaboration and FASD Prevention strategies with 60 Public Health Professionals from across the province.

Our SE/SW Regional Program Worker has been working very closely with the Achieve Potential Through Unique Services (APTUS) Treatment Centre for Complex Disabilities to launch a new pilot project. If successful, the focus will be to provide training on the creation and use of sensory development tools for children with special needs. Once the initial pilot is completed our goal is to expand the project to all regions of the Anishinabek Nation.

We also created and launched a brand new resource on Traditional Medicines. “Mshkiki Detibisenh” is a rotating Medicine Wheel that features 64 medicines found throughout Anishinabek territory, complete with their uses and Ojibwe names. We have completed our “Keepers of the Fire” multi-year initiative which enabled us to host regional workshops imparting traditional men’s teachings. We coordinated and co-hosted nine International FASD Awareness Day events, which included: Honoring Mothers Mini Pow Wow, FASD Movie Night features in two communities, conducted presentations in First Nation schools, co-hosted several training sessions, as well as booth displays at colleges and universities throughout the Anishinabek territory.

The FASD Program is also active in the coordination of the very first FASD Post-Secondary Program launched in Ontario. This joint initiative is part of a decade long partnership which operates under the term: North East Aboriginal Partnership (NEAP) reflecting the work of Noojmowin Teg Health Centre, North Shore Tribal Council, Shkagamik-Kwe Health Centre and the Union of Ontario Indians. The project has once again secured full-funding for a sixth intake with classes scheduled to begin in September. We have two new partners in the expansion. Kenjgewin Teg Educational Institute is currently conducting intake to launch the program this coming Fall. Sault College will offer an online version of the program for families and frontline workers.

**HIV/AIDS Program**

In the 2016-17 fiscal year the HIV program completed 19 community based workshops focusing on HIV/Hep C prevention and awareness. 11 of these sessions were specifically for youth and promoted cultural knowledge and creative activities such as tobacco pouch and copper...
vessel creation, in addition to HIV prevention and awareness information.

In the first full year as HIV coordinator, educating was a top priority. Approximately 1,000 surveys about HIV/Hep C and Two Spirit LGBTQ topics and a prevention campaign ‘Are you Positive You’re Negative?’ was completed at: Two Spirit LGBTQ Health Conference; Grand Council Assembly in Aundeck Omni Kaning; FASD Conference in Sault Ste Marie; Mental Health Conference, Chippewa of the Thames; Rama Health Fair; Gathering at the Rapids Pow Wow; and Little NHL. Additional HIV information booths were provided in partnership with the Ontario First Nation HIV AIDS Education Circle at Assembly of First Nations in Niagara Falls and the Chiefs of Ontario Health Forum in Toronto.

This year, the HIV program assisted in coordinating the Two Spirit LGBTQ Health Conference with Noojmowin Teg and the Annual HIV Youth Peer training in partnership with OFNHAEC. Assistance was also provided to the 2nd Annual AN Health conference, SSM, by providing keynotes and bringing in members of the Two Spirit, and HIV community who co-facilitated and/or supervised the information booth. Harm reduction resources, and prevention campaign promo items were distributed.

The HIV program supported a four-week student placement from the Indigenous Wellness program at Canadore College with a focus on resource development.

The HIV program continues to support GIPA Greater Involvement of People Living with HIV through the creation of an HIV committee tentatively called ‘Niichiiwak’. The first meeting was held in March focusing on recruitment of additional committee members and skills and resource develop.

### Anishinabek Nation Health Milestones

- First Nation Inuit Health Branch Thunder Bay Zone Facilities Manager Lawrence Dorey announced $3M for construction of a new health centre in Pic River First Nation. The projected completion date is the Fall of 2017.
- An interim treatment facility site on Manitoulin Island received one-time funding of $600,000 for renovations to an existing building.
- Wikwemikong, M’Chigeeng, Whitefish River and Sagamok received joint pilot project funding approval from Health Canada/AANDC in the amount of $5.2M for on reserve elementary schools with comprehensive services not presently funded services, such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and speech services.
- Sheshegwaning First Nation held the grand opening for their new 24/7 air ambulance helipad on May 5, 2016. The strategically located helipad will service the entire west end of Manitoulin Island, and dramatically improve 24/7 air ambulance coverage/response times for a large geographical area.;
- Rama First Nation hosted the annual "ALL GIRLS" Team Canada Alumni hockey school for area First Nations on Dec. 13, 2016. The school, sponsored by AEI/Health Secretariat, was conducted by the dynamic duo of Team Canada Alumni, World Champion and Olympic Gold Medalists Cheryl Pounder and Becky Kellar. Day two the presenters moved on to a Curve Lake First Nation-hosted event in Lakefield and conducted the school for the area First Nation participants. Kudos to all involved in this annual project!

### AHWS Community Development Support Worker

All AHWS funded projects had another successful year of programming and reporting.

### Site/First Nation Visits: The CDSW conducted site visits to Alderville, Sagamok Anishnawbek and Whitefish River First Nations.

### Training:

- Prescription Addiction Awareness Workshop
- Empowerment Workshop
- National Indigenous Diabetes Prevention Conference
- Fish Scale Art Workshop
- Mino Mshkiki – Maawnjidwing 2017 Annual Conference
- Workplace Safety & Prevention Services Workshop
- Microsoft EXCEL I, II, III Training

### Mental Health Project

Sagamok Anishnawbek is in its second year of a five year project in which the First Nation received funding for the “Saaswin Mental Health Services”. The project is focused on “At-Risk/High Risk Children, Youth and their Families. The project is to establish Client-based Mental Health services for Children, Youth and their families in the community.

### 2nd Annual Anishinabek Health Conference

Finally, the Union of Ontario Indians Health Team jointly co-hosted a major training conference titled: Mino Mshkiki (Good Medicine) Conference. This conference provided training to frontline workers from the fields of Health, Education, Social Services and Justice. With over 150 participants, the conference was a huge success and plans for the 3rd Annual are underway!
LABOUR MARKET DEVELOPMENT

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL PORTFOLIO HOLDER

• Chief James R. Marsden, Alderville First Nation

ABORIGINAL SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT TRAINING STRATEGY (ASETS) STAFF

• Polly Bobiwash, Director, Labour Market Development
• Janet Blackned, Program Officer

BACKGROUND

The Anishinabek Nation has held a Labour Market Development Agreement with Canada since 1996. The current agreement with Canada is the Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS) Agreement. The existing First Nation Employment and Training programs and services provided by the UOI Local Delivery Mechanism offices are critical in assisting First Nation citizens gain the skills and training required to enter the labour market and succeed.

The purpose of the Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy is to deliver employment and training programs and services that address the labour market needs of workers and employers in the designated First Nation communities. ASETS aims to improve labour market outcomes by supporting demand driven skills development, fostering partnerships with private and public sectors and emphasizing increased accountability and results. The Union of Ontario Indians delivers employment and training programs under the current agreement to 25 participating First Nations through the utilization of sub-agreements with First Nation based Local Delivery Mechanism (LDM) organizations.

The nine Local Delivery Mechanisms are:

1. Anishinabek Employment and Training Services
2. Fort William First Nation
3. Gezhtoojig Employment and Training
4. Long Lake #58 First Nation.
5. Mnidoo Mnising Employment and Training
6. M’Chigeeng First Nation
7. Thessalon First Nation
8. Nipissing First Nation
9. Whitesand First Nation

The Union of Ontario Indians also delivers the First Nation and Inuit Child Care Centre Initiative (FNICCI) to nine participating First Nation Child Care Centres. Childcare funds are utilized for enhancement and enrichment of existing licensed Child Care Centres. These funds can be used to train staff, enhance playgrounds, and subsidize wages. The communities are: Henvey Inlet First Nation, M’Chigeeng First Nation, Whitefish River First Nation, Wasauksing First Nation, Long Lake #58 First Nation, Pic River First Nation, Nipissing First Nation (2), and Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation.

HIGHLIGHTS 2016-17

The fiscal year of 2016/2017 has been marked the third consecutive annual extension of the ASETS to March 31, 2018. An emphasis has been placed on advocating to Canada for the need for an improved and enhanced ASETS successor strategy and preparing for a renewal or new Aboriginal Human Resource Development Strategy by Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC).

The activities of the Labour Market Development Department and sub-agreements are guided by the five year ASETS Strategic and Operational Plan. Strategic pillars of the AN ASETS Strategic Plan include training for demand driven occupations, partnership development and increasing accountability measures. The current human resource compliment of this department is challenged to meet ASETA accountability requirements.

Principles that are lobbied for under ASETS include the need for increased budgets, increased connections to the employer community and respect for the Nation-to-Nation First Nation/Government of Canada relationship. These principles continue to be challenged under the ASETS and require attention and lobby efforts.

OBJECTIVES 2017-18

Over the coming year, the Labour Market Development Department will be working towards preparing for a new and improved First Nation Federal Employment Strategy by:

• Completing LDM and Daycare Agreement financial reconciliation to ensure maximum expenditure of funds;
• Lobbying Canada for a First Nation Employment Strategy that addresses current shortfalls of the ASETS Agreements;
• Examining options and pursuing funding to conduct Labour Market Information and Skills Inventory research within interested Anishinabek communities;
• Advocacy with the Ontario Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities for First Nation access to Ontario Labour Market Development and Canada Job Fund Agreement Funding that provides funding to Employment Ontario Programming and Services.
MISSION STATEMENT
The Lands and Resources department works to foster a better quality of life by ensuring access to natural resources in support of the goals, principles, and values of the Anishinabek Nation.

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL PORTFOLIO HOLDERS
• Chief Paul Eshkakogan, Lake Huron Region, Chief of Lands, Resources & Justice
• Pierre Pelletier, Northern Superior Regional Grand Chief, Deputy Chief of Lands, Resources & Justice

STAFF
• Jason Laronde, Director
• Arnya Assance, Program Coordinator
• Rhonda Gagnon, Policy Analyst
• Lisa Robinson, Program Coordinator (Transportation)
• Cameron Welch, Policy Analyst
• Tammy Desmoulin, Program Coordinator

HIGHLIGHTS 2016-17
Mineral and Mines
In 2013, the Anishinabek Nation, and the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (MNDM) signed an agreement with the desire to strengthen collaboration, educate communities and heighten the level of awareness of the mineral development and mining process for members, as well as promote the importance of the mining sector.

During the reporting period the Anishinabek Nation – Ministry of Northern Development and Mines Advisory Council met several times. The Advisory Council has tracked a large number of issues and continues to work to address the challenges faced by the Nation.

In Feb. and March 2017, the Regional Round Tables were established in the four Regions of the Anishinabek Nation and inaugural meetings took place. At these Regional Tables, leaders, portfolio holders and technicians met with MNDM staff to discuss local and regional engagement with the mining sector, to identify barriers to Anishinabek participation in the mining industry and to seek solutions to challenges countered at the local or regional level. The AN will continue to monitor and address minerals and mines issues and concerns within the AN territory, promote and provide outreach sessions throughout the Anishinabek Nation and engage the Anishinabek Nation and its leadership.

Ministry of Transportation – Moving Forward
The AN and Ministry of Transportation (MTO) negotiated a multi-year agreement in November 2016, following a short hiatus. This financial commitment will continue to build a positive relationship and carry on the existing work.

In 2015-16, the UOI the AN/MTO Technical Table as a mechanism to address the opportunities and gaps in Priority Focus Areas established in previous engagement sessions throughout the regions.

On February 28th, 2017 at the ‘Closing the Loop’ Summit Follow Up, discussion about Transportation of Dangerous Goods and Community Emergency Response Plans was held with MTO Indigenous Relations Branch. This issue was referred to the AN/MTO Technical Table and stands as a priority issue.

The AN/MTO Technical Table met March 23, 2017, and finalized the Terms of Reference and Priority Focus Areas as follows:
• Economic Development & Procurement
• Traffic
• Corridor Management
• Policy and Programs
• Planning and Design, Environment
• Transportation of Dangerous Goods and Nuclear Waste

The AN/MTO Technical Table met on May 2-4, 2017 to discuss and develop next steps to address concerns and to facilitate opportunity for communities around Aggregates, Procurement and the Transportation of Dangerous Goods and Nuclear Waste.

The Program Coordinator will also help with upcoming MTO summer engagement sessions for the Northern Ontario Multimodal Transportation Strategy and Traffic Safety and Signing on Provincial highways.

Anishinabek Ontario Resource Management Council (AORMC)
The 2016-17 fiscal year saw the Anishinabek Ontario Resource Management Council in their first year of a three year Memorandum of Understanding between the Union of Ontario Indians (UOI), and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF).

The agreement targets the following goals:
• Strengthened and enhanced relationships between the parties.
• Better communications through the development of tools to support and inform information-sharing and consultations related to resource management.
• Better management of natural resources, through the promotion of cooperative and collaborative approaches.

The AORMC welcomed Chief Shining Turtle to the council
as Lake Huron Representative and co-chair role while Craig Brown, Director of Strategic and Aboriginal Policy Branch, maintained his position as the MNRF co-chair.

The Union of Ontario Indians will continue to monitor and address natural resource management policy issues and concerns within the Anishinabek Nation territory, support the AORMC, provide opportunity for leadership to meet bi-annually, promote and provide outreach sessions throughout the Anishinabek Nation and engage the Anishinabek Nation leadership.

**Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change**

In September 2016, the Union of Ontario Indians (UOI) and the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) signed a multi-year agreement with the desire to strengthen collaboration, educate communities and heighten the level of awareness of climate change and Great Lakes priorities for First Nation members, as well as promote the importance of the environment. The agreement targets the following goals:

- Provide Climate Change and Great Lakes education and awareness to community members;
- Ensure First Nation communities are meaningfully engaged on Climate Change and Great Lakes initiatives;
- Promote and provide opportunities to member communities;
- Engage in policy analysis of environmental matters such as the climate change action plan and mitigation, cap and trade, Great Lakes Protection act implementation, permits to take water, etc.;
- Provide support and expertise to member First Nation communities;
- Support Grand Council Chief on the co-chair role to the Great Lakes Guardian Council;
- Support the First Nations on water priorities in general such as the Anishinabek Nation Water Needs Assessment.

The Union of Ontario Indians will continue to monitor and address the environmental concern, issues and opportunities within the Anishinabek Nation territory, support the Regional Round Tables that address Climate Change and Great Lakes matters, establish the AN MOECC Advisory Council and as well as establish the Bilateral process between Grand Council Chief and the Minister of MOECC. In addition, the policy analyst will promote and provide outreach sessions throughout the Anishinabek Nation and engage the Anishinabek Nation leadership.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

To provide legal services to the Anishinabek Nation, Union of Ontario Indians (UOI), and the Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation Charity.

**PORTFOLIO HOLDER**

- Chief Paul Eshkakogan, Sagamok Anishnawbek

**STAFF**

- Fred Bellefeuille, Legal Counsel, Director
- Leanna Farr, Legal Counsel (start Oct. ’16)
- Linda Newhook, Legal Admin. Coordinator
- Sarah Gammon, Paralegal (March ’17 move to Policy & Communications Dept.)
- Cathy Bellefeuille, Articling Student (July ’15 - Oct. ’16)
- Crystal Head, Articling Student (July ’15 - Oct. ’16)

**NOOKIIYAN MINO BIMAADZIN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

The UOI Legal Department was established to provide cost effective and responsive legal services to the Anishinabek Nation, Union of Ontario Indians, related corporations, and Anishinabek communities.

The goals of the Legal Department are:

- To be the preferred legal advisor for the Anishinabek Nation, Union of Ontario Indians, Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation Charity;
- To support the evolution and operation of the Anishinabek Nation, Union of Ontario Indians;
- To be recognized as an accessible and leading advisor to Anishinabek First Nations, leadership and citizens of the member First Nations on First Nation legal issues;
- To provide legal services to the ROJ Self-Government Initiatives;
- To provide project management and policy development services; and
- To support and protect Anishinabek Nation water rights.
HIGHLIGHTS 2016-17

Treaty and Aboriginal Rights

Workshops and presentations were made to various groups and governmental bodies promoting a better understanding of Aboriginal and Treaty rights including local universities, Ontario Ministry of Transportation, Natural Resources and Forestry.

Constitution Development

The legal department worked with a number of First Nations in developing and communicating/consulting on First Nation constitution development in order to assist them to be ready for the Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement ratification processes. 29 First Nations participated in the Ratification process and all had draft constitutions ready for the vote.

Dispute Resolution

The Anishinabek Nation Tribunal & Commission has been utilized on a fee for service basis with First Nations requiring mediation services. Our trained Anishinabek Commissioners were called upon to assist in these mediations.

Restoration of Jurisdiction (ROJ)

Our office continued to support and work with the ROJ Department on the Education ratification activities including supporting consultations, contract development and human resources advice for various ratification activities. We also supported the Governance Agreement process including advising on the Main Agreement, Fiscal Transfer Agreement, Implementation Plan and consultation on these items, and working with the Governance Working Group and other related projects.

Fred Bellefeuille was also a member of the Education Ratification Committee which supervised the implementation and conduct of the ratification vote process in accordance with the Education Agreement. The Committee developed guidelines, rules, processes and procedures to augment those in the Agreement, with regard to the conduct of the ratification vote.

Citizenship Conference

The Legal Department assisted in coordinating a Citizenship Conference with INAC day session in Sudbury, Sept. 28-29. Here the AN met with technicians and member First Nation Chiefs, Radisson Hotel, Sudbury to discuss the issue of citizenship as described under the draft Anishinabek Nation Citizenship Law. In addition, representatives from Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) provided presentations and led discussions on Canada’s response to the Descheneaux Case and Quebec Supreme Court Decision.


Policy and Communications

On March 8, 2017, an Elders Heritage and Burials Knowledge Sharing Session was held. The main purpose of the session with the Anishinabek Nation Elders Council was to promote the education of Anishinaabe traditions and culture on heritage and burials. Knowledge shared from these key knowledge holders would be instrumental to developing culturally sensitive and appropriate protocols or other initiatives moving forward. A final report from the session and a draft protocol were completed for the Policy and Communications Department.

The Elders were provided with an overview of the work completed surrounding heritage and burials matters to date (COO Working Committee, Anishinabek Nation research and toolkit, etc.), and they shared knowledge that could be utilized to help protect Anishinabek Nation rights and interests regarding heritage and burials matters.

Lands and Resources – TEK Gathering

Leanna Farr facilitated a gathering for Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Stakeholders of the Great Lakes, March 2017. The goal of the gathering was to:

1. Educate and provide an understanding on what TEK is to Stakeholders;
2. Bridge the gap on the concerns and issues of TEK sharing;
3. Identify ways or avenues to include and/or incorporate TEK in the Great Lakes Virtual Space; and
4. Identify focus areas and themes of TEK for the Great Lakes Virtual Space.

A final report was created for the Lands and Resources Department that will be shared with the participants will
assist the Lands and Resources Department further with regards to the Great Lakes Virtual Site.

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls
The Legal Department provided preliminary written submissions of behalf of the Union of Ontario Indians.

Anishinabek Educational Institute
Various services were provided to AEI including human resource management advice, contract review services, etc. Leanna Farr was invited as a guest speaker at both the North and South Anishinabek Nation Entrepreneurship Sessions, March, 2017.

The sessions were held for sharing surrounding entrepreneurship challenges and successes and visioning for future AEI entrepreneurship programs and courses. Leanna provided participants with a general overview of the various business models available to entrepreneurs.

Leanna Farr was also invited as a guest speaker at the Anishinabek Nation First Nation Education Engagement Forum, Thunder Bay in March, 2017. The session was held to review the INAC National Education Initiative and Chiefs of Ontario’s Charting Our Own Path Forward documents, and to share views and perspectives surrounding these initiatives and Anishinabek Nation education. Leanna presented to the participants surrounding the Education jurisdiction, the Indian Act and the Anishinabek Education System (AES).

OBJECTIVE FOR 2017-18:
• To present information on Treaty and Aboriginal Rights
• To assist First Nations to prepare constitutions for the Governance agreement ratification process.
• We will continue to operate the Anishinabek Nation Tribunal & Commission on a fee for service basis as requested.
• To bring the Governance Agreement to ratification readiness.
• To further assist Lands department with policy initiatives.
• To further assist MMIW with initiative on an as requested basis.
• To further support AEI in its expansion and growth.

Policies and Communications

VISION STATEMENT
The Policy and Communications Department is committed to the protection of Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and supporting the goals, values and aspirations of the Anishinabek Nation.

MISSION STATEMENT
“The Anishinabek Nation Policy and Communications department is committed to supporting the protection of Aboriginal and Treaty Rights, building positive communications and relationships between our member First Nation governments and the Crown, and supporting the goals, values and aspirations of the Anishinabek Nation.”

The goals of the Policy and Communications Department are:
• Effective strategic analysis, communications, planning and advice
• Leadership and support on policy development and related activities
• Effective internal and external liaison and co-ordination support
• Effective communications planning, advice and implementation
• Effective internal and external communications

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL PORTFOLIO HOLDERS
Intergovernmental Affairs (Loon Clan)
• Joe Miskokomon, Southwest Regional Chief
• Ogimaa Duke Peltier, Wikwemikong

Communications (Marten Clan)
• Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee
• Deputy Grand Council Chief Glen Hare

Treaty Research (Fish Clan)
• Chief Paul Eshkakogan, Lake Huron Regional Chief
• Pierre Pelletier, Northern Superior Regional Chief

STAFF
Policy (Loon Clan)
• Allan Dokis, Director
• Kevin Restoule, Government Relations Coordinator
• Sarah Gammon, Policy Analyst

Communications (Crane Clan)
• Marci Becking, Communications Officer
• Emma Williams, Communications Assistant

Lands, Resources and Justice (Fish Clan)
• Alicia McLeod, Treaty Research Coordinator
OVERVIEW

Policy

Policy and Communications is committed to the advancement of Anishinabek Nation priorities through awareness, advocacy and addressing of crucial issues in addition to the cultivation and promotion of government relationships. The Policy and Communications department actively participated in and/or coordinated the following initiatives within the mandate of the organization in support of both First Nation community issues and Union of Ontario Indians (UOI) departmental issues:

• Support First Nation requests for government-to-government engagement
• Support UOI Departments in development of Anishinabek Nation – Ontario Action Plan framework
• Anishinabek Nation – Action Plan coordination
• Anishinabek Nation – Ontario Government Political Leadership coordination

Work to ensure ongoing relations with all levels of governments in areas of planning and community development opportunities. This includes:

• Community advocacy and support for government policies and processes

Coordination of bilateral roundtables with the Government of Ontario through its Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation. This includes:

• UOI-ON Protocol – Leadership and Technical Tables

Communications

Activities are based on an Anishinabek Medicine Wheel teaching about the gifts of the four directions: TRUTH (Media Relations), HONESTY (Public Education), SHARING (Voices) and RESPECT (Communications Support).

The Communications Unit covers activities related to the Media and offers public relations services on behalf of the UOI.

The staff are also responsible for managing the Anishinabek News online edition, the annual Great Lakes Pow Wow Guide, website maintenance, social media platforms and production of public relations products such as the “We Are All Treaty People” and “Gdoo-Sastamoo Kii Mi” teacher resource kits. Mzhigan, a bi-weekly staff newsletter as well as the Niijii Circle Page in the North Bay Nugget is produced by the communications unit.

Communications Activities:

• Treaty Education resources
• Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement with Canada
• Master Education Framework Agreement with Ontario

• Core Governance Communications
• Election process education and awareness
• Government liaison communication support
• Social media and website content and coordination

Treaty Research

The Treaty Research Program’s mandate is to support the research and development of specific claims within the Anishinabek Nation in support of the resolution of many of the outstanding issues with the crown.

Each year the Treaty Research Program supports, facilitates and encourages progress of specific claims that are on the UOI work plan. This work includes identifying specific claims, conducting historical research, providing legal analysis, and providing education to First Nation on the specific claims process.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2016-17

• Completed Secondary Treaty Education and Awareness kit
• Participated in launch of the Treaty Learning Centre at Nipissing University/Canadore College
• Participated in Treaties week
• Special edition of the Anishinabek News- Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement (AES)
• Supported AES ratification activities
• New UOI website
• Bilateral Leadership Meetings:
  » July 8/16 at UOI
  » January 12/17 – Red Rock Indian Band
• UOI-ON Summit Follow Up Session
• Heritage and Burials - Elders Session-March 2017

Treaty Education and Awareness Kit Sales:

Total sold of elementary kits: English 1,400, French 600
Total sold of high school kits: English 300, French 125
MISSION STATEMENT

“The Restoration of Jurisdiction Department at the Union of Ontario Indians is committed to building better governing structures which can help improve the quality of life for our citizens. Our process is to facilitate the recognition of the inherent jurisdiction of the Anishinabek Nation and our member First Nations by supporting governance related initiatives to ensure the political goals, values, and aspirations of the Anishinabek Nation and member First Nations are realized.”

The Restoration of Jurisdiction Department (ROJ) at the Union of Ontario Indians was mandated by the Anishinabek Grand Council Chiefs-in-Assembly, by resolution #1995-25 to establish and carry out negotiations with the Governments of Canada and Ontario to restore jurisdiction in several areas including, but not limited to: Governance, Education, Social Services, Jurisdiction, Economic Development, and Health.

In support of Resolution #1995-25, the key initiatives of the ROJ for the 2016/17 fiscal year were: continued liaison with the Chiefs Committee on Governance, Ratification of the Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement (ANEA), continued support for the Master Education Agreement (MEA) negotiations, support and establishment of the Kinoomaadziwin Education Body, continued negotiations of the Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement, implementation of the Comprehensive Communications Strategy, and finally, support for First Nation constitution development.

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

- Joe Miskokomon, Southwest Regional Grand Chief, Governance Portfolio
- James R. Marsden, Southeast Regional Grand Chief, Education Portfolio

NEGOTIATORS

- R. Martin Bayer, Chief Governance Negotiator
- Tracey O’Donnell, Education Legal Counsel

STAFF

- Dave Shawana, ROJ Director
- Barb Naveau, ROJ Administrative Coordinator/Ratification Committee Coordinator
- Jessica Sandy, Ratification Admin Assistant/Special Projects Officer
- Lisa Restoule, Governance Negotiations Admin. Assistant
- Marci Becking, Ratification Communications Coordinator
- Laura Barrios, Assistant ROJ Communications Officer
- Esther Gilbank, Regional Communications Coordinator
- Tammy Desmoulin, Regional Communications Coordinator
- Doreen Trudeau, Regional Communications Coordinator
- Murray Waboose, Regional Communications Coordinator
- Sarah Kaelas, Regional Communications Coordinator
- Faye Sabourin, Regional Communications Coordinator Assistant
- Joe Endanawas, Education Ratification Vote Manager
- Rhea Assinewe, Education Ratification Deputy Vote Manager
- Sarah St. Louis, Special Projects Officer
- Dianne Chretien, Information Clerk

HIGHLIGHTS 2016-17

CHIEFS COMMITTEE ON GOVERNANCE

The Chiefs Committee on Governance (CCOG) mandate is to provide leadership, direction, and support for the Restoration of Jurisdiction initiatives. The CCOG also provides political leadership direction to achieve the aspirations of our member First Nations and the Anishinabek Nation.

A key deliverable of the CCOG this fiscal year was the ongoing reviews of the “consultative drafts” of the Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement (ANGA), Anishinabek Nation Fiscal Transfer Agreement (ANFTA), and the Governance Implementation Plan. In addition, the CCOG reviewed and supported the implementation of the Comprehensive Communications Strategy in support of the Education Ratification Process. The CCOG continues to support Resolution #2015-07; Education-Related Major Capital Funding, Minor Capital Funding, and Operation and Maintenance Funding. The CCOG was committed to advancing and were instrumental in helping to ensure a positive outcome of the Education Ratification Process and the ongoing Governance negotiations.

EDUCATION

Education Ratification Process

The Education negotiations concluded by both parties initialing off on the ANEA, EFTA, EIP, in August 2015. This signaled the beginning of the ratification process. The ratification process was supported by a jointly developed Comprehensive Communications Strategy (CCS), which was launched November 2015. The CCS supported communications activities for those 3,700 eligible voters involved in the education vote.

29 Anishinabek First Nation communities ran the education vote during the week of November 30 to December 2, 2016.
The results of the vote to-date;

- 14 Anishinabek First Nations ratified the ANEA with more than the 25%+1 threshold of their members voting “yes”.
- 2 Anishinabek First Nations voted “no” to the ANEA.
- 13 Anishinabek First Nations did not meet the 25%+1 threshold.
- 8 Anishinabek First Nations have taken the position that their members passed the ANEA, even though they did not meet the 25%+1 threshold.

The ROJ along with the Anishinabek Nation Political Office continue to support the eight (8) First Nations in being a part of the ANEA. The official results of the education vote continue to be confirmed. Once the official results have been confirmed, the signing of the ANEA between those First Nations and Canada is expected to take place during the summer of 2017.

Canada federal approval process is underway. Cabinet’s approval will provide the authority to the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) to sign the ANEA.

Tripartite Work Plan

A tripartite work plan has been jointly developed by the Anishinabek First Nations, Canada and Ontario to support the First Nations to establish the Anishinabek Education System.

Master Education Agreement

The Master Education Agreement (MEA) negotiations with the province of Ontario have concluded and are now seeking the approval (BCRs) from those First Nations who successfully ratified the ANEA. The MEA negotiations were supported by the Education Working Group, Kinoomaadziwin Education Body, and Anishinabek citizens who attended various education forums. The signing of the MEA with Ontario will take place jointly with the signing of the ANEA with Canada.

Finalizing Education Negotiations

In order to conclude the education negotiations in support of those First Nations who ratified the ANEA, the following activities are scheduled to be completed before the effective date (April 1, 2018):

- Finalizing Education Fiscal Arrangements
- Enabling Legislation

Kinoomaadziwin Education Body

The Kinoomaadziwin Education Body (KEB) continues to work towards the establishment of the Anishinabek Education System (AES). The KEB will also be supporting the signing ceremony, developing plans to support opening of the AES, assisting FNs in determining the location of the head office of the AES, develop the Regional Education Councils, and supporting the implementation of the Tripartite Work Plan.

GOVERNANCE NEGOTIATIONS

In order to ensure the activities of the Education Ratification process were a priority this past fiscal year, the Governance negotiations proceeded with an emphasis on developing “final consultative drafts” of the Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement (ANGA), Anishinabek Nation Fiscal Transfer Agreement (ANFTA), and the Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement Implementation Plan (ANGIP).

The other key focus was the capacity development related to drafting laws, and a draft framework for Anishinaabe institutions.

These developments were provided by the direction and
Building on the success of the ratification of the Education Agreement, the focus of the ROJ Department’s work plan for the next three years (2017-2021), will be on advancing the Governance negotiation related activities to support the completion of the negotiations and preparation for the First Nation ratification of the Governance Agreement in 2019.

GOVERNANCE OBJECTIVES:

Objectives for 2017/18:

Objectives for 2019/20:
- Governance Ratification Voting – May/June 2019

Objectives for 2020/21:
- Cabinet approval / legislation
- EFFECTIVE DATE – April 1, 2020

COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

The Comprehensive Communications Strategy (CCS) was created to support a positive outcome of the Education ratification process and to support ongoing communications of the Governance Agreement.

To support the education ratification activities, a four-phased communications approach was implemented in order to raise awareness and to ensure the “informed consent” on the Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement. Other key communications activities included: a social media plan, an education ratification website - www.sayyestoaes.ca, education toll-free telephone number for citizens to get informed about the ratification vote, door-to-door campaign, securing campaign manager, securing champions, and capacity support from the Union of Ontario Indian’s organization.

The CCS also supported the communications associated with the Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement and the MEA with Ontario.

FIRST NATION CONSTITUTION DEVELOPMENT

Along with of the Education Ratification process, the First Nation Constitution development work plan was geared to support those 29 Anishinabek First Nations in the education vote. The work plan supported the completion of 23 ratified constitutions and six (6) completed drafts.
LEADERSHIP COUNCIL PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

Social Development – Marten Clan
- Ogimaa Duke Peltier, Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve, Chief of Social Development
- Chief Peter Collins, Fort William First Nation, Deputy Chief of Social Development

STAFF
- Adrienne Pelletier, Mno Giizhigat Kwe, Social Services Director
- Laureen Linklater-Pizzale, Family Well-Being Coordinator,
- Dan Truchon, Finance Administrative Officer,
- Rebecca Timms, MMIWG Interim Coordinator,
- Cecile Hookimaw, Interim Social Administrative Assistant

The Social Department will ensure that Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe is incorporated in all our work going forward.

HIGHLIGHTS 2016-17

Anishinabek Nation Child Well-Being Law
The Anishinabek Nation (AN) Child Well-Being Working Group The Anishinabek Nation (AN) Child Well-Being Working Group (CWBGW) has been working on addressing the changes required for the AN Child Well-Being Law (CWBL) over the past year. The AN CWBGW met on April 2016, Fort William FN, July 2016; Mississauga #8 FN, September 2016; Aundeck Omni Kaning, January 2017; and Indian Hills Golf Club, April 2017. The next CWBGW is scheduled for July 2017 in the Northern Superior Region.

The Social Services Director and legal counsel Tracey O’Donnell have been meeting with the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS) on a technical table to discuss the implementation of the AN CWBL. We have been meeting since January 2017 and continue to meet every two weeks. A draft protocol agreement should be in place by the June Grand Council Assembly.

The CWBGW will continue to work on the implementation plan and strive to complete the implementation work by April 1, 2018. We are in the process of seeking individual band council resolutions for the ratification and adoption of the AN CWBL. We have been meeting since January 2017 and continue to meet every two weeks. A draft protocol agreement should be in place by the June Grand Council Assembly.

The CWBGW has been working on addressing the changes required for the AN Child Well-Being Law (CWBL) over the past year. The AN CWBGW met on April 2016, Fort William FN, July 2016; Mississauga #8 FN, September 2016; Aundeck Omni Kaning, January 2017; and Indian Hills Golf Club, April 2017. The next CWBGW is scheduled for July 2017 in the Northern Superior Region.

Canadian Human Rights Tribunal
The CHRT has ruled on the case involving FNs under-funding of child welfare services on-reserve. The immediate relief order was issued on April 26, 2016.

The tribunal panel ordered that Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) immediately consider Jordan’s Principle (JP) as including all jurisdictional disputes (including between federal government departments) and involving all FNs children, (not just the children with multiple disabilities). Pursuant to the purpose and intent of JP, the government organization that is first contacted should pay for the service without the need for policy review or case conferencing before funding is provided. There are a number of JP focal points in the province who have just started to work together to assist coordination of JP cases, the focal points are still being identified and plans are still being developed on the best way forward in navigating and ensuring timely responses to the health and well-being of all FNs children.

INAC has responded to the immediate relief order and will increase funding for the FNs Child and Family Services Program. There will be immediate adjustments to the operations and prevention through additional investments to update existing funding agreements. The federal government announced the following allocations for child welfare prevention funding for the FNs in Ontario in the following amounts:

Ontario Indigenous Child and Youth Strategy
MCYS has been meeting with FNs leadership and technicians to co-develop an Ontario Indigenous Child and Youth Strategy. The main priority of the AN is to exercise our jurisdiction in child welfare through the implementation of our AN CWBL.

Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee, DGC Glen Hare and Elder Gordon Waindubence attended the November 10, 2016 AN/MCYS Bilateral meeting with the MCYS Minister Michael Coteau, MCYS and the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs hosted another leadership table meeting with the PTO’s and Independent FNs on May 15, 2017. DGC Glen Hare and Ogimaa Duke Peltier attended the Leadership Roundtable. Agency Directors are provided opportunities to attend and submit briefing notes at the bilateral AN/MCYS meetings as required.

The AN has been working with Wikwemikong Health Centre to incorporate “Wikwemikong’s Children’s Well-Being Measure” into FNs and FN Agencies across Ontario and will be incorporated into the AN Child Well-Being Law system. The measure is also known as “Aanish Naa Gegii.”
We are also working with the Association of Native Child and Family Service Agencies of Ontario (ANCFSAO) on developing culturally appropriate assessment tools and the implementation of Heart and Spirit to replace Safe and Pride mainstream assessment tools.

**FAMILY WELL-BEING PROGRAM (MCYS)**

The Family Well-Being (FWB) Program is an initiative provided in partnership between the MCYS and Indigenous partners. The FWB program is a three-year commitment geared to ending violence against Indigenous Women, under Ontario’s Indigenous Children and Youth Strategy.

This program is currently in Phase II, Program Implementation stage where ANs are supported to implement the three Core Components of the FWB Program based on their community needs:

- **Family Well-Being Front-line Workers**
- **Safe Spaces**
- **Community-Based Programming**

Phase 1, Program Design/Engagement was completed in the four AN Regions through means of engagement sessions and start-up funds. UOI will be working with AN communities to provide guidance, support and coordination of the FWB Program by:

- Assisting with data collection and evaluation in a culturally appropriate manner, including the design of a unique evaluation and data collection system;
- The provision of training and community capacity development through toolkits and training modules for the FWB community workers
- Resourcing best practices that support our Indigenous culture

Note: FWB program funding is not to be confused with any funding related to the CHRT—Immediate Relief Order, or other current existing programs currently in-place in communities.

**Band Representative Funding**

The CHRT Immediate Relief Order has identified the Band Representative issue as intermediate issue that will be reformed in accordance with the 1965 Indian Welfare Agreement Review. The Social Department is in the midst of completing a band representative costing study that we started to compile in February of 2017 and will be shared with the Federal and Provincial Governments at the CHRT Technical Table.

In addition, the Anishinabek Educational Institute (AEI) has changed the delivery format of the “FN Child Welfare Advocate” accredited certificate program. AEI is encouraging students to register in the spring of 2017 to ensure you secure one of the limited seats for the FNCWA program.

**Social Assistance and Daycare/Childcare**

The AN will commence community engagement sessions with all 40 FN communities on Early Years. There are plans to host a central meeting with all FN’s and the Ministry of Education-Early Years division to discuss the opportunities for Child and Family Services Early Years programming to support young children and parents. We are working with the Ministry of Education on the early year’s engagement initiative and look forward to the opportunity to bring the messages forward to our partners.

There are also plans to set up meetings this summer with our Federal partners on Early Years and opportunities to enhance childcare/daycare spaces for those FNs who have assessed and demonstrated a need for licensed childcare centres.

AN has been participating on the FNs Income Security Reform Working Group (FNISRWG), a group established by COO. The FNISRWG is a standing forum for engagement and collaboration between FNs and the province with a focus on issues related to income security, social assistance and other elements of the broader social services sector. Shelley Trudeau from Wikwemikong has been attending these meetings on behalf of the AN along with the representatives from the group delivery sites, Niigaaniin and Stepping Stones.

The FNs Income Security Reform Working Group (FNISRWG) has had an aggressive schedule with 7 multi-day meetings since January 2017 and have two more set for June. Meetings included discussions with Minister Helena Jaczek, Minister...
of Community and Social Services and Minister Ballard, Minister of Housing and Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy.

**Family Violence and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls (MMIWG)**

The Northeastern Ontario Research Alliance on Human Trafficking (NORAHT) for the purposes of sexual exploitation will be hosting Participatory Action Research Workshops across Northeastern Ontario. Scheduled so far are full day workshops in North Bay on Monday, June 26th and another in Sudbury on Wednesday, June 28th.

The AN was funded by the Ministry of the Attorney General under the "Ending Violence Against Aboriginal Women" fund to host Healthy Relationships Retreats. The couples retreat was well received and a tool kit was developed as well and has been shared with our member communities and affiliated shelters.

This year UOI filled the position of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (Girls, Men and Boys) Coordinator to assist with overseeing the development of the MMIWG files as the National Inquiry into MMIWG progresses. The MMIWG Coordinator has been working with COO to assist with coordination of AN families who are participating in the MMIW’s pre-inquiry sessions and public advisory meetings with the Federal Government. Example, the MMIWG Coordinator assisted COO in its 2nd Family Gathering this March 2017 hosted in Six Nations.

The UOI participates on the FNWC through the COO. The FNWC was mandated to develop an Ontario FN-specific inquiry. Launching the development of and advocacy for the Strategic Framework on Ending Violence Against Indigenous Women and Girls to be used as a tool by AN communities. UOI supports COO’s initiatives developed through the FNWC, including the “Who is She” campaign. UOI developed the “Digital Stories” project and “Raising Our Spirits” booklets as tools to combat Family Violence.

The UOI has been involved in a partnership through the Northeastern Ontario Research Alliance on Human Trafficking (NORAHT) which investigates patterns of human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation in our area. NORAHT will be hosting PAR Workshops across Northeastern Ontario. Scheduled so far are full day workshops in North Bay on Monday, June 26th and another in Sudbury on Wednesday, June 28th.

The UOI is also engaged in a partnership with Nipissing University and the North Bay Indian Friendship Centre with the goal of co-generating knowledge that is conducive to the creation of a mechanism to bring together Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, organizations and communities towards collaboration on reconciliation. To date we are exploring possibilities for engaging people and community.

Chi-Miigwech to all community members, Chiefs and Councils, front line social services staff who provide the services and advocacy for our Anishinabek citizens.

Baa maa pii.
MISSION
As the official charitable fundraising arm of the Anishinabek Nation, the Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation Charity (AN7GC) is committed to improving the quality of life of Anishinabek Nation citizens by providing support where no other funding exists.

VISION
The Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation Charity will help create educated, healthy, and culturally enriched citizens that will continue to grow a stable, strong, and prosperous Anishinabek Nation.

GOVERNANCE
The AN7GC is governed by the Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation Charity Board of Directors. The AN7GC Board of Directors oversees all planning and fundraising initiatives of the AN7GC. It is responsible for budget approvals, grant application reviews/approvals and policy development.

EXECUTIVE
• Patrick Madahbee, President, Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief
• Glen Hare, Vice-President, Anishinabek Nation Deputy Grand Council Chief

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
• Wayne Sabourin, Pic Mobert First Nation
• Chief Scott McLeod, Nipissing First Nation
• Myrna Burnside, Moose Deer Point First Nation
• Chris Plain, Aamjiwnaang First Nation

STAFF
• Jason Restoule, Manager, Dokis First Nation
• Samantha Restoule, Intern

HIGHLIGHTS 2016-17
In 2016, the AN7GC hosted its two annual fundraising events: the 18th Annual Anishinabek Evening of Excellence, where prestigious Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Awards are presented, and the 18th Annual Anishinabek Veterans Memorial Golf Tournament. Both events were once again very successful, raising tens of thousands of dollars for the Grant program of the AN7GC. In addition to this, the AN7GC has negotiated agreements with several businesses which provide user discounts while at the same time help in raising funds for the AN7GC. Through a successful grant application, the AN7GC had the opportunity to hire an intern which was very beneficial. Key outcomes of this included the development of a quarterly AN7GC newsletter which helps to increase public awareness as well as an extensive list of charitable foundations that have the potential to make private donations to the AN7GC.

The AN7GC has provided a smaller number of grants in 2016-17, which resulted in growing its financial base allowing for more gifting in the future. Over the past five years, the AN7GC has focused its giving in the areas of health/medical as well as emergencies. The AN7GC has plans to expand to include other areas in the near future. In addition to this financial assistance, the AN7GC was also able to provide valuable non-monetary assistance and guidance to many who needed a helping hand.

Each year, the AN7GC strives to do as much as possible to provide help to our Anishinabek communities and citizens in need. This upcoming year will be no different as plans are in place to increase donations as well as gifting in order to continue making its Vision a reality. Some highlights for this upcoming year include the development of a fundraising report which will give insight in regards to new fundraising opportunities. Policies and procedures will be reviewed and updated as well as the communications and marketing plan in order to increase efficiency. The strategic plan will also be updated to guide the Charity through the next few years.

We are proud to have so many generous sponsors and supporters that partner with us for many of our initiatives over the year. Their financial contributions are vital in the success of our events and programs and ultimately allow the AN7GC to provide much needed assistance during these challenging times.

Thank you to the following sponsors and supporters of the AN7GC, for 2016.

ANISHINABEK NATION 7TH GENERATION CHARITY
The Anishinabek Nation established the Union of Ontario Indians as its secretariat in 1949. The UOI is a political advocate for 40 First Nations across Ontario.

**HEAD OFFICE**
NORTH BAY
Nipissing First Nation
1 Migizii Miikan
P.O. Box 711, Hwy. 17W
North Bay, ON  P1B 8J8
Ph: 705.497.9127
Fx: 705.497.9135
Email: info@anishinabek.ca

**SATELLITE OFFICE**
CURVE LAKE
Curve Lake First Nation
Curve Lake Post Office
Curve Lake, ON  K0L 1R0
Ph: 705.657.9383
Fx: 705.657.2341
Email: CLreception@anishinabek.ca

**SATELLITE OFFICE**
THUNDER BAY
300 Anemki Place, Suite C
Fort William First Nation
Thunder Bay, ON  P7J 1H9
Ph: 807.623.8887
Fx: 807.623.7351
Email: judy.currie@anishinabek.ca

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**Naabdooganan ge naajitoonginba kiri wii-naabidoomong**
(Guiding principles for us all.)

Ji zaagtoonyaan kendaaswinin mii iw ji kendaamon
NBWAAKAWIN. Wisdom
To cherish knowledge is to know WISDOM. Nbwaakaawin

Ji kendiemon ZAAGIDWIN mii iw bizaanii’iiwin. Love
To know LOVE is to know peace. Zaagidwin

Ji mnaadendamon maage ghichi-twaanendamaan
kino gego kiin eteg mi iw MNAADENDAMON/MAAGE GHICHI-
TWAWENDAMONG. Respect
To honour all the creation is to have RESPECT. Mnaadendmowin

AAKIDE’EWIN nkwejkaaadeeg mnji’aawashiwin mii iw bwaayaamom dash
zegiziwin, mii iw aakide’ewin. Bravery
BRAVERY is to face the foe with integrity. Aakide’ewin

GWEKWAADIZIWIN, nkwejkaamon iw gego ezhiwebak mi iw
gwekwaadiziiyan. Honesty
HONESTY in facing a situation is to be brave. Gwekwaadiziwin

DBAADENDIZIWIN, mii iw kendizioniy wi sa ghichi-pi-itendaagoziiyan ezhi-
gichi-pi-itendaagok zhichiganan maanpii kiiing. Humility
HUMILITY is to know yourself as a sacred part of the creation. Dbaadendiziwin

DEBWEWIN mi iw kendiemon kino nanda. Truth
TRUTH is to know all of these things. Debwevin

Edward Benton-Benai, 1979, The Mishomis Book