



# TRACTION

not INACTION



*Anishinabek*  
Union of Ontario Indians  
ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16

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*Anishinabek*



**Union of Ontario Indians, 2016**



# 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**  
Grand Council Elder  
Sheguiandah First Nation

## LAKE HURON REGION

**Chief Paul Eshkakogan**  
Regional Grand Chief  
Sagamok Anishnawbek

**Joe Endanawas**  
Board Member  
Sheshegwaning First Nation

**Wilmer Noganosh**  
Elder  
Magnetawan First Nation

**Elsie Bissaillion**  
Elder  
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

**Mike Esquega**  
Elder  
Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek

**Roy Michano**  
Elder  
Ojibways of the Pic River

## SOUTHEAST REGION

**Chief James R. Marsden**  
Regional Grand Chief  
Alderville First Nation

**Chief Barron King**  
Board Member  
Moose Deer Point First Nation

**Joan Hendrick**  
Elder  
Moose Deer Point First Nation

**Glenn Marsden**  
Elder  
Alderville First Nation

## SOUTHWEST REGION

**Joe Miskokomon**  
Regional Grand Chief  
Chippewas of the Thames

**Chief Tom Bressette**  
Board Member  
Chippewas of Kettle & Stony Point

**Leroy Dolson**  
Elder  
Munsee-Delaware Nation

## Wikwemikong Representative

Ogimaa Duke Peltier, Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve

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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)**

### INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS/ABORIGINAL TREATY RIGHTS (LOON CLAN)

**Joe Miskokomon**  
Chief of Intergovernmental Affairs

**Ogimaa Duke Peltier, Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve**  
Deputy Chief of Intergovernmental Affairs

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

### 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)**

### SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (DEER CLAN)

**Ogimaa Duke Peltier, Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve**  
Chief of Social Development

**Chief Peter Collins, Fort William First Nation**  
Deputy Chief of Social Development

**Chief Tom Bressette (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)**

### 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)**

\*\* (A) Alternate

## TREASURY BOARD

<b>Secretary Treasurer</b> Dwayne Nashkawa	<b>Lake Huron Region</b> Hazel Recollet	<b>Southeast Region</b> Chief James Marsden
	<b>Northern Superior Region</b> Mike Esquega (to Ap 19) Chief Bart Hardy	<b>Southwest Region</b> Liz Cloud

# MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND COUNCIL CHIEF AND THE DEPUTY GRAND COUNCIL CHIEF

## *Aanii Anishinabek Nation Elders, Chiefs, Councillors, and Citizens:*

We would like to offer our greetings and welcome everybody to the 2016 Grand Council, here in Aundek Omni Kaning First Nation. As we reflect on the past year it is important to recognize that we continue to make progress on many key issues and we recognize that there is still much work that needs to be done. We continue to be strong as a Nation and must continue to work together for the benefit of Anishinabek Nation Citizens.

We also continue to actively pursue Anishinabek priorities with the federal and provincial governments. We currently have a great opportunity, with both levels of government sending strong signals they want to work with us and advance our issues. Governments will work with those groups who have comprehensive plans, with outcomes that are practical and which we can move forward together. To do this we need to engage our people and leaders and develop strong, disciplined positions. This is what we will concentrate on over this next year. This can't be done overnight but we have 18 months to advance our issues with the Provincial government.

Political advocacy is an important aspect of the work of the Leadership. Protocols have been developed with the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada and the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs. We meet semi-annually with each Minister. The important issues of the Anishinabek Nation are presented and discussed at a high level during the Ministers meetings.

In early April we met with Prime Minister Trudeau at a private meeting. Prime Minister Trudeau indicated that there are challenges and opportunities and he is looking for success stories and wants to work with groups that are ready with plans and funding. Treaty education initiatives and resource issues were raised with the Prime Minister as well as citizenship, health, education and child well-being.

Earlier this year I also met with Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Bennett and raised our Anishinabek Education System and resources needed for capital infrastructure. She spoke about her preference to work with aggregates of First Nations communities.

Along with the Chiefs of Ontario Political Confederacy, we met with Ontario Premier Wynne and Cabinet Ministers Hoskins and Zimmer. Premier Wynne recommitted to improving our relationship and working with us to find solutions to our issues and advance our priorities.

This is a critical time for the AES. Ratification votes are scheduled for November to December 2016. The Restoration of Jurisdiction Department has been holding Education Ratification Information Sessions in our communities throughout the territory. I am strongly encouraging all Anishinabek Nation citizens to become aware of this important document and attend the information sessions in their community and to engage in dialogue with their Councils to support this initiative. We need to approve it for our children. It represents their chance for a brighter more successful future. The goal of Anishinabek control over education is over 40 years old. It's time to make it a reality. It's time to Say Yes to AES!

The Supreme Court of Canada recently issued its decision in the Congress of Aboriginal People (CAP) - Daniels case. The Court found that Métis and Non-Status were federal responsibilities under s. 91-24 of the BNA Act, but similarly, following the courts decision with the Inuit in 1939, said there is no requirement to legislate over them, nor to provide programs and services to them.

We shall be watching this case closely as the possibility the federal government could transfer much needed resources going to First Nation to share with this group. I have made it clear the creation of non-status Indians was done by the federal Indian Act and if the federal government had not interfered most of these people would have returned to First Nation communities. The Anishinabek Nation's E-dbendaagzijig "Those who belong" draft citizenship law states that every citizen of an Anishinabek First Nation is an Anishinabek Nation citizen and that a person is entitled to be an Anishinabek Nation citizen provided he or she can trace their desendancy through at least one parent to a status Indian who is registered or entitled to be registered with an Anishinabek First Nation.

We are moving on the Child Well-Being Welfare Law. Our child welfare agencies are well organized and most can do better than Ontario's Children's Aid Societies. We are working hard to make recognition of our law and jurisdiction a reality. We are developing the implementation plan for the Anishinabek Nation Child Well-Being law and hope to have the AN Child Well-Being Law in place by April 1, 2017. The Anishinabek Nation Child Welfare Working Group has been working hard on an implementation plan since the last

Grand Council. On April 20 we met with the Ministries of Child and Youth Services, Aboriginal Affairs and Attorney General to discuss the next phase, recognizing First Nation Child Well Being jurisdiction, and we are engaged in the development of a workplan to advance this important issue.

The Little NHL celebrated its 45th anniversary this year. The tournament was held in Mississauga, Ontario on March 14 to 17. The tournament was again a success with a record number of teams in 2016. I wish to acknowledge all of the fans and volunteers that have contributed to the success of the Little NHL.

Sadly, George Francis of Whitefish River First Nation passed into the Spirit World on April 9 at the age of 73. George received an Anishinabek Nation Lifetime Achievement Award for his many contributions to the First Nation community and his community of Whitefish River First Nation. He was inducted into the Little NHL Hall of Fame as a builder, dedicating 45 years to the hockey players of the Little NHL.

The federal budget was released on March 23, 2016. The 2016 budget proposes to invest \$8.4 billion over five years to improve the socio-economic conditions of Indigenous peoples and their communities. Some items noted include: funds to support clean drinking water, education facilities, housing, community infrastructure, improvements for waste management, health facilities, Indigenous early learning and child care facilities, construction for cultural and recreational facilities on reserve and renovations and construction of new shelters for victims of family violence in First Nation communities. We will continue to work to identify what portions of these resources can be accessed by Anishinabek communities.

We have to look at justice models and the creation of our own models, laws, and our own governance models. We have to have our own justice system. Current systems come from England and don't reflect our culture, history or traditions. We had good governance and peace long before contact with settler governments. We have extended family clan systems who know their responsibilities and we need to bring back some of those practices and put in place our own laws.

We need to complete community constitutions throughout the territory. Law making authority is crucial to development of our communities. The main benefit of a community constitution is that it will provide a First Nation the ability to make their own laws instead of relying on laws imposed by other governments. We are under constant threat of federal legislation in areas where we have not developed our own laws. Implementation of our own laws is a significant amount of work however it is worth the effort. Laws developed and implemented by our communities will always yield better results than laws imposed by other jurisdictions.

It is time to make decisions and advance our issues and processes. We have plans and its time to follow through. We have a choice of traction or inaction. In fact that is why this is the theme of this Anishinabek Grand Council - "Traction NOT Inaction!"

We enjoy travelling to Anishinabek communities and we are pleased to report that we have visited all of our communities during the past year and we hope to visit your community in the coming year to hear the issues and attend the events that are important to you.

Miigwetch!



*Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee and Chief Peter Collins, Fort William First Nation present Prime Minister Justin Trudeau with We Are All Treaty People Teachers Kit, April 2016.*



Grand Council Chief  
Patrick (Wedaseh) Madahbee



Deputy Grand Council Chief  
Glen Hare

# POLITICAL OFFICE ACTIVITY

## MARCH – MAY 2015

- Chiefs Committee on Governance meeting
- Political Confederacy meetings
- Mississauga # 8 First Nation constitution ratification celebration
- Leadership Council meeting
- Great Spirit Circle Aboriginal Business Conference
- Anishinabek Nation Child Well-Being information session
- Meeting with the Law Society of Upper Canada Treasurer
- Chiefs Committee on Health meetings
- Federal Minister of Health
- Meetings with the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs
- Numerous meetings on behalf or with Anishinabek First Nation leadership

## JUNE – AUGUST 2015

- Grand Council
- All Ontario Chiefs Conference
- Political Confederacy meetings
- Leadership Council meeting
- Chiefs Committee on the Economy meeting
- Chiefs Committee on Governance meeting
- Northern Superior Chiefs meeting
- Meetings with the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs
- Anishinabek Nation – Ontario Summit
- Assembly of First Nations Annual Assembly
- Political Confederacy meeting
- Leadership Council meeting
- First Nations Information Governance Centre meeting
- Meeting with the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs
- Meeting with the Ministry of Transportation
- Meeting with the Minister of Energy
- Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women's walk
- Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation Charity Evening of Excellence
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario Annual Conference
- Political Accord signing event
- Rally the First Nation vote event
- Numerous meetings on behalf or with Anishinabek First Nation leadership

## SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER 2015

- Political Confederacy meeting
- Child Well Being meeting
- Meetings with new Leadership
- Meeting with Aboriginal Affairs Minister Zimmer
- Meeting with Finance Minister Souza

- Meeting with Environment Minister Murray
- Conference call with Children and Youth Services Minister MacCharles
- Presentation at Curve Lake First Nation
- Meeting with Chiefs Committee on the Safety of Our Citizens
- Meeting with Nishnawbe-Aski Nation Chiefs and Dilico Board
- Michipicoten First Nation – return of artefacts
- Meeting – Aboriginal Ontario Resource Management Council
- Meeting with INAC Regional Director General
- Attended several Community powwows
- Numerous meetings on behalf or with Anishinabek First Nation leadership
- Northern Superior Chiefs meeting
- Meetings with new Leadership
- Leadership Council meeting
- Child Well Being meeting
- Chiefs Committee on Health meeting
- Gwekwaadziwin Project meeting
- Chiefs Energy Forum
- Election "Rally the vote" sessions
- Political Confederacy Retreat
- Numerous meetings on behalf or with Anishinabek First Nation leadership
- Anishinabek Nation Chiefs Gathering
- Southeast Chiefs meeting
- Southwest Chiefs meeting
- Lake Huron Chiefs meeting
- Leadership Table – Minister of Aboriginal Affairs Zimmer
- Ontario First Nation Housing Steering Committee
- Numerous Community visits
- Non-insured health benefits review committee meeting
- Political Confederacy meeting
- Chiefs of Ontario Special Chiefs Assembly
- Chiefs of Ontario Days in the Legislature
- Meeting with Health Minister Hoskins
- Meeting with Ontario midwives

## DECEMBER 2015 – FEBRUARY 2016

- Lake Huron Chiefs meeting
- Trilateral First Nations Health Senior Officials Committee meeting
- Anishinabek Christmas Dinner – Thunder Bay
- Assembly of First Nations Executive meeting
- Meeting with INAC Regional Director General Howlett
- Assembly of First Nations Special Chiefs Assembly
- Ontario Caucus meetings
- Giiwednong Health Link meeting
- Anishinabek Education Institute

- Articulation Agreement Signing with Niagara College
- Numerous meetings on behalf or with Anishinabek First Nation leadership
- Aboriginal Ontario Resource Management Council
- Northern Superior Regional Tour
- Lake Huron Chiefs planning session
- Political Confederacy meeting
- Anishinabek Health Conference
- Ontario Pre Budget Consultation submission
- Strategic planning meeting
- Kenjgewin Teg session "Timing is Everything"
- Jurisdiction on Child Welfare meeting – Chiefs of Ontario
- Anishinabek Nation - MNDM engagement session - Mining
- Numerous meetings on behalf or with Anishinabek First Nation Leadership
- Numerous meetings on behalf of Anishinabek First Nations
- Political Confederacy Leadership meeting
- Restoration of Jurisdiction Education Ratification sessions
- Child Well-Being Working Group meeting
- Federal Strategy Planning meeting
- Non Insured Health Benefits meeting
- Political Confederacy meeting
- Chiefs of Ontario Health Forum
- Centennial College Aboriginal Outreach Program
- Anishinabek Nation – Ministry of Children and Youth Services Leadership Bi Lateral meeting
- Chiefs of Ontario Board meeting
- Jurisdiction of Child Welfare meeting – Chiefs of Ontario

## MARCH TO MAY 2016

- Chiefs Committee on Governance meetings
- Numerous meetings on behalf of Anishinabek First Nations
- Chiefs of Ontario Political Confederacy meetings
- Anishinabek Leadership Council
- Cross cultural awareness training
- Meeting with Prime Minister Trudeau
- Meeting with Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Bennett
- Return of land event - Chippewa's of Kettle and Stony Point
- Meeting with Premier Wynn, Minister Hoskins and Zimmerman
- Ontario Aboriginal Firefighters Association
- Northern Superior Regional Chiefs
- SE Regional Chiefs
- Trilateral Steering Committee on Water
- Lake Huron Regional Chiefs

# NATION BUILDING COUNCILS

## Elders, Kwe-Wuk, Youth

### INTRODUCTION

The Anishinabek Nation and the UOI are supported by three Nation Building Councils that are comprised of Elders, Kwe-Wuk and Youth members. These Councils meet from time to time as individual groups or collectively, to discuss areas of concern, review and provide advice on UOI program initiatives and engage in Nation Building activities. The three councils are comprised of the following members and technical support:

#### Kwe-Wuk Council

- Donna Debassige (Huron)
- Bonnie Bressette (Southwest)
- Nora Sawyer (Southeast)
- Superior (Superior Regional Chiefs currently selecting new member)

#### Elders Council

- Elder Gordon Waindubence (UOI Head Elder)
- Elder Elsie Bissaillion (Huron Region)
- Elder Wilmer Noganosh (Huron)
- Elder Joan Hendrick (Southeast)
- Elder Mike Esquega (Superior)
- Elder Roy Michano (Superior)
- Elder Glen (Peach) Marsden (Southeast)
- Elder Leroy Dolson (Southwest)

#### Youth Council

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

### 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 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 UOI program staff and Directors on their initiatives and ongoing work for the benefit of the 39 First Nations that the Anishinabek Nation represents. The outcomes are numerable where members gain expertise in specific areas of focus such as Family Violence, Missing and Murdered Women, Human Trafficking, Mining, Lands and Resources and Health. Participation builds the UOI's inventory of knowledge and networks, creates partnerships and helps the UOI to move forward with specialized expertise in key areas.

### Nation Building Steering Committee

UOI Nation Building Councils members provide support to each other through in-house meetings, and when required, conference calls to keep up to date on activities and initiatives. As well, Nation Building Councils members are available from

time to time to support UOI 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 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 UOI staff members who work so hard on behalf of the Nation.

### Grand Councils and Special Chiefs Assemblies

Prior to Grand Council and Special Chiefs' Assemblies, the Councils (Elders, Kwe-Wuk and Youth) work hard in preparation of these events (arranging and conducting Lodge, Fire, Sunrise and Ceremonies). In June 2015, special training was required for youth and helpers involved in Grand Council Elections. Council members each played a significant role in the process: Kwe-Wuk bring the leadership into power, the youth assist local community youth in counting the votes, and Elders are there to make decisions if a significant question comes into play. In addition, 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. The Lodge is held 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 is also held on day one. The Councils (Kwe-Wuk, Youth and Elders) 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, UOI Grand Chief and Deputy Grand Chief. Elders, Kwe-Wuk and Youth are asked to provide their support and advice at various UOI program meetings, Regional Chiefs meetings, and other focused forums. In the 2015-16 Fiscal Year, the Nation Building Councils members attended (collectively) 42 meetings. 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:

#### Education Working Group (Restoration of Jurisdiction)

- Elder Mike Esquega

#### Anishinabek Ontario Resource Management Council (Lands and Resources)

- Elder Gordon Waindubence
- Elder Mike Esquega

Anishinabek Nation MNDM Mining Technical Table (Lands and Resources)

- Elder Gordon Waindubence

Anishinabek Nation Advisory Council on Health (Health)

- Nora Sawyer, Kwe-Wuk Council
- Elsie Bissaillion, Elders Council

Ontario First Nations Young Peoples Council (Chiefs of Ontario)

- Quinn Meawasige, Youth Council
- Nathalie Restoule, Youth Council

Anishinabek Nation Child Well-Being Working Group (Social Services)

- Donna Debassige, Kwe-Wuk Council
- Bonnie Bressette, Kwe-Wuk Council
- Elder Gordon Waindubence

Family Violence (Social Services)

- Donna Debassige, Kwe-Wuk Council

Research Partnership (Amelia Rising, Nipissing University, HIV-AIDS-North Bay, UOI-Community Research on Sex Trafficking in the North, and Social Services)

- Donna Debassige, Kwe-Wuk Council

UOI Leadership Council

- All Elder Council Members (8): Gordon Waindubence, Roy Michano, Mike Esquega, Elsie Bissaillion, Joan Hendrick, Wilmer Noganosh, Leroy Dolson, Glen Marsden

The UOI 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 activities of Chiefs and Leadership to restore jurisdiction in Education and Governance so that there is something left behind to benefit the next 7 Generations to come.

And finally, Nation Building Councils are guided by the seven grandfather teachings of Zaagidwin, Debwemin, Mnaadendmowin, Nbwakaawin, Dbaadendziwin, Gwekwaadziwin Miinwa Aakedhewin, in the work they do to build a strong and proud Anishinabek Nation.

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**Nation Building Council Administrative Support**

Rhonda Couchie, Special Projects Coordinator

Email: [rhonda.couchie@anishinabek.ca](mailto:rhonda.couchie@anishinabek.ca)

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Local: (705) 497-9127 ext. 2221



*L to R: Mike Esquega, Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging; Elsie Bissaillion, Serpent River First Nation; Wilmer Noganosh, Magnetawan First Nation; Joan Hendrick, Moose Deer Point First Nation; and Leroy Dolson, Munsee Delaware.*



*Anishinabek Youth Council: Nathalie Restoule, Dokis First Nation and Quinn Meawasige, Serpent River First Nation.*



*Women's Council: Bonnie Bressette, Chippewas of Kettle & Stony Point and Donna Debassige, M'Chigeeng First Nation*



*Gordon Waindubence, Grand Council Elder, Sheguiandah First Nation*

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER



Aanii,

I am pleased to present the 2015/2016 report to Anishinabek Nation Leadership and citizens.

The past year was an exciting and productive year for the Union of Ontario Indians. We have made significant progress on many of the key files that we have been working on during the past few years.

The staff have worked diligently on the objectives identified in the Anishinabek Nation – Ontario Action Plan. We are in the process of developing and implementing the action plan objectives. The presentations that were delivered at the Summit in August were mainly based on the Action Plan. The Summit was a major success,

Premier Wynne and eight Ontario Cabinet Ministers attended the Summit. The staff devoted many hours preparing for the Summit and working with the Regional Chiefs on the presentations that were presented at the summit. The implementation plans have been further developed with the various Ontario Ministries since the Summit.

Grand Council Chief Madahbee has met twice with Indigenous Affairs Minister Bennett since she was appointed Minister. Grand Council Chief has been discussing the renewal of the bi lateral Leadership Table, which has been inactive during the past few years. The staff are in the process of preparing a federal action plan for future meetings with Federal Ministers.

This is an important year in regards to the Anishinabek Education System with ratification votes scheduled for November 2016. The Restoration of Jurisdiction Department has planned and carried out Education Ratification Information Sessions throughout the territory during the past year and will continue to do so right until the ratification vote. We are pleased that thirty-two Anishinabek First Nations have submitted band council resolutions in support of the Anishinabek Education System. The Restoration of Jurisdiction Department is also working on the Master Education Framework Agreement that was signed with Ontario in November 2015.

The implementation plan for the Anishinabek Nation Child Well-Being law is currently being developed. The Anishinabek Nation Child Welfare Working Group has been working diligently on the implementation plan since Grand Council, the effective date of the AN Child Well-Being Law is April 1, 2017.

Allan Dokis recently vacated the position of Chief Operating Officer to pursue another opportunity. I acknowledge Allan's contributions to the Union of Ontario Indians and the Anishinabek Nation during his career and I wish him all of the best in his future endeavour.

I want to acknowledge the work of all the Union of Ontario Indians 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 look forward to another productive year in 2016/2017.

Miigwetch,  
Gary Dokis  
Chief Operating Officer



*Fort William Chief Peter Collins, Minister of Education Liz Sandals, Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee, Premier Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs David Zimmer and Deputy Grand Council Chief Glen Hare at the Anishinabek-Ontario Summit held in Fort William First Nation in August 2015.*

A stylized, light gray line drawing of a person in a suit, walking towards the right. The drawing is composed of simple geometric shapes and lines, giving it a modern, minimalist appearance. The person's head is tilted slightly upwards, and their arms are at their sides. The drawing is positioned on the left side of the page, with the text 'PROGRAM REPORTS' overlaid on it.

# **PROGRAM REPORTS**

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## 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."

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

- 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, Chippewas of Kettle & Stony Point
- Regional Chief Joe Miskokomon, Chippewas of the Thames

### Southeast Representatives:

- Chief James Marsden, Alderville First Nation
- Chief Barron King, Moose Deer Point First Nation

### Lake Huron Representatives:

- Chief Steve Miller, Atikameksheng Anishnawbek
- Chief Linda Debassige, M'Chigeeng First Nation

### Northern Superior Representatives:

- Chief Peter Collins, Fort William First Nation
- Chief Xavier Thompson, Pays Plat First Nation

## STAFF

- Barret Dokis, Economic Development Coordinator

## HIGHLIGHTS 2015-2016

### Forestry / Biomass Strategy

The Economic Development Coordinator, Barret Dokis, is a temporary board member with Biomass Development North while it establishes itself and builds up membership. Biomass Development North was formally known as the Biomass Innovation Centre with whom the UOI had signed a MOU outlining the intent of both organizations to develop a bio economy strategy for Northern Ontario.

### Ontario First Nations Economic Forum (OFNEF)

In January 2010 the Anishinabek Nation participated in the Ontario First Nations Economic Forum (OFNEF) which was held in Fort William First Nation. This forum produced a number of recommendations for Ontario, the Federal Government and First Nation organizations to implement in order to build

capacity to establish stronger economies for Anishinabek Nation communities.

In the Fall of 2016, the UOI in partnership with the Chiefs of Ontario proposed that the Ontario government work with the Chiefs of Ontario to host another OFNEF. The Minister of Economic Development, Employment and Innovation committed to investigating the potential of having another OFNEF.

### Energy Opportunity

In the Fall 2015, an opportunity to explore the investment in a major energy company operating in Ontario was revealed to Anishinabek Nation leadership.

The UOI political office has appointed a member of leadership council along with technical staff to act as the Anishinabek Nation's representatives regarding this opportunity. Before any formal decisions are to be made regarding this opportunity, leadership will be briefed in advance and proper analysis and recommendations will be made to Anishinabek Nation leadership.

For more information please contact Barret Dokis, Economic Development Coordinator.

### Tobacco Gas Agreement

At the Ontario – Anishinabek Summit held in Thunder Bay, Ontario on August 26th 2015, Anishinabek Nation leadership proposed to the province that a tobacco and gas compact agreement be investigated. Minister Duguid of the Ministry of Economic Development and Infrastructure responded positively on behalf of the Ministry of Finance.

In September 2015, Grand Council Chief Madahbee and Regional Grand Chief Miskokomon met with Minister Charles Sousa to discuss the commitment where the Minister confirmed the Province's willingness to commence discussions.

Since the fall of 2015, Union of Ontario Indians (UOI) staff have been meeting with Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs staff to discuss the establishment of a process to examine the development of the tobacco and gas agreement.

A phased approach to reaching an agreement was developed by UOI staff and the first phase, an environmental scan has been completed and is available to Anishinabek Nation Leadership.

### Risk Assessment

The UOI has developed a tool to assist Anishinabek Nation leadership and communities when making critical decisions regarding economic development investments. This tool will be available to Anishinabek Nation communities in the summer of 2016.



Barret Dokis  
Economic Development Coordinator

## PROJECTS FOR 2016-2017:

### **Ontario First Nations Economic Forum 2016**

The UOI will continue to work with the Chiefs of Ontario in the 2016/2017 fiscal in order to promote and implement OFNEF 2016. OFNEF 2016 is tentatively scheduled for October 2016 and will be comprised of two key roundtable topics; Infrastructure and Investment, and Wealth Creation.

The Economic Development Coordinator for UOI has been appointed to the planning committee for OFNEF 2016 and is ensuring that priority issues for Anishinabek Nation communities will be included and discussed at OFNEF 2016.

### **Energy Opportunity**

The UOI will continue to monitor developments regarding the potential ownership of a major energy company operating in Ontario.

Updates will be provided to leadership to help make informed decisions as necessary.

Please contact Barret Dokis, Economic Development Coordinator for more details.

### **Tobacco Gas Agreement**

Following up on the completion of the first phase of the development of a tobacco gas compact agreement, UOI staff and key leadership will engage with the Ministry of Finance to

discuss the implementation of the second phase of developing a tobacco/gas agreement.

The Chiefs Council on the Economy will be engaged and necessary updates will be provided to leadership and regional chiefs meetings, leadership council discussions and leadership assemblies.

### **Chief's Council on the Economy**

In June 2015 the Chief's Council on the Economy will be meeting to provide guidance and recommendation to the Economic Secretariat. Agenda items include:

- Tobacco/Gas
- Economic Secretariat Updates
- Energy Sector Opportunity
- Revenue Generation
- Resource Revenue Sharing/Resource Benefit Sharing
- OFNEF 2016

The Chief's Council on the Economy will have another meeting in the Fall/Winter to continue discussions.

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If you have any comments, questions or would like additional information, please call Barret Dokis, Economic Development Coordinator at (705) 497-9127 or email: [barret.dokis@anishinabek.ca](mailto:barret.dokis@anishinabek.ca)



*Northern Superior Elder Roy Michano and Fort William First Nation Chief Peter Collins listen while Northern Superior Regional Chief Pierre Pelletier discusses economic development priorities for the Northern Superior Region Grand Chief at the June 2015 Assembly.*

# EDUCATION SECRETARIAT

## Anishinabek Educational Institute

### MISSION STATEMENT

"The Anishinabek Educational Institute is mandated by the Anishinabek Annual General Assembly (Resolution 94/13), to provide quality education and training programs for First Nation communities.

The Anishinabek Educational Institute will provide community based programming which will better prepare the student for success in an ever changing world.

The mission shall always be by and for Anishinabek people; at our pleasure, at our pace, and by our own standards.

Forever to the Seventh Generation."

### LEADERSHIP COUNCIL PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

- Chief James Marsden, Alderville First Nation, Chief of Employment, Training & Lifelong Learning
- Chief Barron King, Moose Deer Point, Deputy Chief of Employment, Training & Lifelong Learning

### STAFF

- Murray Maracle, Director
- Jennifer Fletcher, A/ Site Coordinator/Organizational Resource Analyst
- Jan McLeod, Registrar Services Coordinator-Nipissing
- Sue Ireland, Registrar Service Coordinator-Munsee-Delaware
- Mindy Taylor, Aboriginal Health Human Resources Coordinator
- Rachel Lafferty, Education Development Officer-Child Development
- Katie Twance, Education Development Officer
- Jazmine Glass, Education Development Officer
- Heather Green, Education Development Officer
- Frank Cooper, Program/Office Assistant
- Christine Babinski, Coordinator's Assistant
- Barb Tabobandung, Clerk/Receptionist-Munsee-Delaware
- Lacey Taylor, Administrative Assistant
- Theresa Stevens, Program Assistant

### HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2015-2016

#### *Education Secretariat*

The status of PSSSP remains status quo and this is the third year of the Post Secondary Partnerships Program (PSPP). The PSPP has taken the place of the former ISSP and is now a national selection process versus the annual allocations we were receiving under the Chiefs Resolution in Ontario. This year once again the program was opened to applications from existing Colleges and Universities. AEI was successful in receiving an increase in this year's funding.

The Special Education Working Group continues to monitor the effects of the new formula that was implemented

for 2011/2012. A "banking day" for Special Education has been also 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 INAC. The Special Education Working Group is in consultation with communities to achieve goals. The working group is currently analyzing the data to see if this process is successful and also to identify what challenges communities face in 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 with the Aboriginal Institutes Consortium, to obtain accreditation for First Nation postsecondary institutes, as well as, maintaining positive communications with INAC, the province, and UOI communities.

### 2015-2016 OBJECTIVES

1. Implement goals outlined in Wedokdodwin as they pertain to the education program:
  - To actively support capacity-building initiatives through collaborative and leadership efforts in providing training and education programming; development of curriculum and networking with First Nations and other organizations. – Ongoing
2. Implement direction identified in Resolutions:
  - Increase program delivery opportunities; seek and develop alternative models of delivery; increase enrolment and student success rates. – Ongoing
3. To provide quality education and training programs:
  - Increase AEI's visibility and networking capabilities within the Anishinabek and other First Nations;
  - Opportunities to support AEI's on-going development. – Ongoing
4. The AEI has worked in conjunction with the Health Department regarding the Post Secondary Health Student Support funding. The Aboriginal Health Initiatives Coordinator works out of the Curve Lake office to research and promote Aboriginal students in health-care fields. The Coordinator also works with communities in coordinating the IIHCP summer student and community-based programs.
5. The AEI is working in relationship with partner institutes to develop programs that are in demand from First Nation communities:
  - In partnership with St. Clair College, AEI will be developing the Indigenous Mental Health Worker Diploma Program.

## Post Secondary Health Student Support

AEI was once again successful in securing funding through Health Canada to continue providing Post Secondary Health Program Students with the supports they need. Such supports as Cultural/Elder, bursaries, tutors and social activities are a few to name in which assist in our students success. This funding also assists in the development of new Post Secondary Health Studies Programs and new partnerships with mainstream Post Secondary Institutions. We continue to look for new post secondary health studies program partnerships and developments to assist in the educational needs of our communities.

### ***AEI – Post-secondary Program Delivery***

AEI continues to expand its institute and program partnerships to meet community education and development needs. AEI is proud to have signed a partnership agreement with Niagara College in December of 2015 for the delivery of the Autism and Behavioural Science certificate program.

### Health Sciences Programming

Over the past year, AEI has been successful in running a second intake of Practical Nursing students. The AEI's new partnership with Canadore College allows the students living in the northern communities to be able to access programming in the Nursing field. This new partnership is part of the northern consortium, which allows students to return to their studies and easily transfer previously earned credits.

The AEI plans to run a sixth intake of the Pre Health Sciences program in partnership with St. Clair College in September of 2016. This program is a stepping-stone into the medical field and allows students to bridge into health related programs at college or university. The high and increasing percentage of elders in the population are and will continue to put pressure on the health care system, and therefore, increase the demand for health care professionals.

The Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) certificate program has had four intakes since it was introduced to AEI in 2013. In March 2016, students in the FASD certificate program participated in a two-day skills development training which covered basic counseling skills, conflict resolution, effective communication, and personal wellness. In September 2016, AEI will be running two cohorts, in North Bay and Thunder Bay, in the FASD certificate program. 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.

### Personal Support Worker Program

In September 2015, AEI began a Personal Support Worker Program at the Munsee-Delaware Campus with a cohort of 7 students. This program has not been delivered at AEI in over 7 years, and with that came new program requirements. Students are progressing well and will graduate in June of 2016.

The PSW program provides current and relevant health care skills necessary to deliver safe and effective service to the people of our communities.



*NCW/TAHM Munsee-Delaware campus convocation ceremony.*

### Social Work & Counselor Programming

Social Service Worker: Indigenous Knowledge (SSW: IK) Program, Cohort 2: On June 10, 2015 a cohort of 12 students made a field trip to Kettle and Stony Point. The event was held for learners to visit with an Elder to learn about its land claim, and events regarding the Ipperwash standoff.

The Elder also engaged the learners with traditional teachings in regards to the connection, relationship and responsibility to land, self, family, community and nations. Learners became more aware about the importance of understanding the foundational beliefs and traditions of Anishinabek people in order to help from a respectful caring space.

In September 2015, 12 learners, and 3 AEI staff took a field (Camp) trip to Aundeck Omni Kaning to learn about the sacred site of Dreamer's Rock and Bell's rock. We engaged in teachings about medicines of the land and alternative healing methods.

On March 2016, 12 learners created their own deer hide shakers for their personal healing bundles. The shaker is used for singing and prayer, an Indigenous concept in relation to healing.

Learners of this program are in the final semester and will graduate in June of 2016.

SSW: IK Program, Cohort 3: On September 30, 2015, a new cohort of 10 students engaged in creating a hand drum and beater. The purpose was to create an awareness of alternate ways of practice as it relates to social work and working within First Nations communities. Medicines, song, prayers, ceremony, drum birthing and feasting were introduced.

Throughout the SSW:IK program, an Elder and Traditional/Professional instructors (MSW level) facilitate the courses. Therefore, Indigenous worldview and practice are prevalent in the curriculum alongside mainstream theory and practice throughout the lifetime of the program.

The Native Community Worker:Traditional Aboriginal Healing Methods (NCW:TAHM) program has been busy this last year, learning, sharing and participating in field adventures that will provide them with the experience they will carry with them into the future.

During the beginning of the year the students attended visits to the local healing lodges and met with various community Elders. We had guests in the classroom that brought many stories and provided learners with outstanding views of the life of a helper.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester we have visitors to the class, access to Elders, workshops that deal with Child Welfare, FASD, and Healing. Visits to a birthing centre provided insight as to the supports moms and babies need before and after the joyous

event and how the NCW student could fit into the support person role.

### Child Development Programming

The Early Childhood Education-Binoojiinyag Kinooaadwin (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 Nations.

The Autism and Behavioural Science (ABS) certificate is a two semester post-graduate program in partnership with Niagara College; the articulation agreement was signed on December 11, 2015. The program is offered exclusively online via Contact North, allowing students who are employed full-time to study academic courses and participate in practicum despite time, geographic, and financial barriers. The course schedule is designed to appeal to working professionals who, due primarily to employment responsibilities, may otherwise not be able to access education for the additional ABS credential desired or required for their current or future position. The ABS 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. Students are provided with the specialized knowledge and skills required in the assessment and treatment of individuals with Autism and Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). The curriculum includes Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) principles and practices including Intensive Behavioural Intervention (IBI) techniques. AEI will be welcoming the first cohort of students in September of 2016.

### ***Promotion and Recruitment Initiative:***

#### Building Relationships to Increase Awareness

Throughout the 2015-2016 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 2016, and have been invited back to a few of the neighbouring communities to host information sessions to potential students.

#### Other Promotion and Recruitment Strategies initiated:

- 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

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Inquiries on any of the Education initiatives, please call Murray Maracle, Education Director at (705) 497-9127 or email: [murray.maracle@anishinabek.ca](mailto:murray.maracle@anishinabek.ca)

# HEALTH SECRETARIAT



## 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
- Pierre Pelletier, Northern Superior Region

## STAFF

- Jamie Restoule – Health Director
- Rosa Roussel - Health/Social Services Admin Coordinator
- Laurie McLeod-Shabogesic - FASD Program Coordinator
- Laura Liberty - Lake Huron FASD Regional Worker
- Chochi Knott - Southeast/Southwest FASD Regional Worker
- Lynda Banning - Northern Superior FASD Regional Worker
- Janine McCue - AHWS Community Development Worker
- Stephanie Peplinskie - Healthy Babies, Healthy Children Coordinator
- Priscilla Goulais – Risk Management Capacity Development Advisor
- Linda Sullivan – Mental Health and Addictions Coordinator
- Tony Jocko - Federal Policy Analyst
- Laurie C. McLeod - Provincial Policy Analyst

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2015-2016

### ***Non Insured Health Benefits***

Works continues on the comprehensive review of the Non Insured Benefits Program (NIHB) of Health Canada that was first articulated in the 2013 Chiefs in Assembly AFN Resolution # 2008/14.

The Joint NIHB Review consists of a comprehensive joint review of each benefit area (Vision, Dental, Medical Transportation, Medical Supplies & Equipment, Pharmacy, and Short Term Mental Health Crisis Counseling) of the NIHB program. The overall objective of the review will be to identify and implement actions that:

- enhance client access to benefits
- Identify and address gaps in benefits
- Streamline service delivery to be more responsive to client needs, and
- Increase program efficiencies

Regional Engagement Sessions are being planned for the summer of 2016 for Operational Benefits Review. Community Mapping will be conducted region by region for all remaining

benefits (Medical Transportation, Dental, Pharmacy, Medical Supplies & Equipment, and Vision) as opposed to a benefit by benefit approach.

The Federal Health Policy Analyst continues to provide technical support to Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee, who is co-chair of the NIHB Review.

### **Aboriginal Healing and Wellness Strategy**

There have been a number of changes to the AHWS Strategy this past fiscal year. The Strategy as a whole received a \$10M funding increase that was targeted at addressing a number of shortfalls. Funding to support training for Aboriginal Healthy Babies Health Children workers was one key area addressed as was overall salary enhancements for AHWS front-line workers.

After a number of years of ongoing advocacy efforts, the Dan Pine Healing Lodge, located in Garden River First Nation, has received Healing Lodge Program funding. Congratulations to NSTC and Mamaweswen on all their hard work in making this vision a reality.

### **Mental Health and Addictions**

In December, 2015 the UOI formally embarked on the Anishinabek Nation Mental Health and Addictions Engagement Strategy, a one-year project funded through Phase 2 of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's Mental Health and Addictions (MH/A) Strategy. The first phase of the Strategy was to "Take Stock" of key services, issues and gaps across UOI communities. To address key "Taking Stock" issues, the following tasks were undertaken:

A Community of Practice (CoP) was launched in order to create a forum to collaborate with frontline staff, clients, and service providers to identify issues. To date, fourteen members sit on the CoP;

A literature review was conducted to gather relevant research on MH/A reform, First Nations-specific MH/A issues, and issues surrounding what constitutes a comprehensive the MH/A continuum of care.

Several face-to-face and phone-based key informant interviews were held with program administrators and frontline MH/A staff;

An online survey was conducted to gather information from program administrators and frontline staff on the current array of MH/A service delivery and key MH/A service issues and gaps impacting programs, clients and/or communities.

Beginning in late spring/summer, community engagement sessions will be held to solicit community feedback and to validate responses received through surveys and key informant interviews. Following community engagement, a final report will be developed outlining the foundational components required for an Anishinabek Nation MH/A continuum of care framework.

### **Public Health**

There continues to be a lack of funding support dedicated to supporting Public Health initiatives. This issue continues to be raised at the Trilateral Public Health Working Group. A very successful engagement event was held in February of last

fiscal for communities in the Huron Region. The UOI continues to advocate for funding to host similar events in each of our regions.

### **Risk Management (AHWS)**

The Risk management 2-year pilot project is undertaking an evaluation of Aboriginal Healing and Wellness Strategy (AHWS) funds that are administered by the UOI. An initial assessment was conducted in 2015 by key personnel. The initial assessment determined that the organization is in good standing with respect to the AHWS funding administration. In order to support the Health department and areas identified as possible risk, a toolkit is being developed for future use.

### **Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Program**

This past year, the FASD Program Team facilitated a total of 113 Capacity Building and Community Awareness workshops with a total of 2,844 participants.

At the request of communities, 58 of these workshops were very culturally-based focusing on such issues as: Traditional Teachings for a Healthy Pregnancy, Creation of Ojibwe Moss Bags, Baby's First Bundle as well as Traditional Medicine, Environmental Issues, Nutrition and Water Teachings. We also conducted 24 booth displays actively engaging 2,780 participants in FASD discussions/activities at various conferences and First Nation events throughout Anishinabek territory.

We were also very fortunate to secure additional funding and support from First Nation and Inuit Health, Health Canada to host regional workshops specifically for Anishinabe men. Our "Keepers of the Fire" Shkode Bemwidoowad sessions focused upon traditional men's teachings as they relate to roles and responsibilities, traditional parenting and their work as firekeepers in their communities.

Through our work at the Provincial Level we also helped to coordinate Diagnostic Training on the newly revised FASD Diagnostic Guidelines for FASD Diagnostic Clinics and frontline workers across Ontario.

We coordinated and co-hosted six International FASD Awareness Day events, which included an: Honouring Mothers Mini Pow Wow, FASD Movie Night features in two communities, conducted presentations in First Nation schools, booth displays at the 10th Annual Wikwemikong International FASD Day Event and supported numerous other events throughout 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) reflects 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 fifth intake with classes scheduled to begin in the Fall of 2016.

In addition, through our NEAP partnership, we also serve on the Advisory Committee for the FASD Diagnostic Clinic which is conducted in partnership with the Pediatric Centre for Excellence, Health Sciences North. The clinic has received a 900% increase in referrals in the past year and is expecting to



complete 92-96 assessments in the coming year. Although the demand for this critical service continues to grow, we are still working hard to secure a commitment for dedicated, annualized funding for the FASD Diagnostic Clinic. This remains an ongoing priority issue for the Committee, as early access to Diagnostic services is critical for families.



Finally, the Union of Ontario Indians Health Team jointly co-hosted a major training conference titled: Awakening the Nation: Renewing the Spirit Conference. This conference provided training to frontline workers from the fields of Health, Education, Social Services and Justice. The FASD Program team was actively involved with all aspects of the conference from securing Keynote and workshop presenters to helping coordinate and promote the conference.

The FASD Program Team deeply appreciates working with our communities and look forward to continuing to expand the range of workshop topics at the community level. G'chi-miigwetch kina waya!

### **Community Wellness Worker Program**

#### Site/First Nation Visits

The CDSW had the opportunity to conduct site visits to the First Nations of Sagamok Anishnawbek, Serpent River, Henvey Inlet, Magnetawan, Moose Deer Point, and Curve Lake First Nation.

#### Training

The UOI Training program and the Southwest Regional Healing Lodge, KiiKeeWaaNiiKaan assists both AHWS front line workers for the purpose of improving direct services to clients, as well as other training participants (non-AHWS workers) received training activities such as workshops, conferences related to AHWS priorities with a focus on improving Aboriginal health and reducing family violence.

Training/workshops included:

- The Community is the Medicine Grief & Trauma Healing and Wellness Workshop
- Traditional Teachings...Moss Bag workshop, co-hosted/co-facilitated with UOI FAS'D program
- Awakening the Nation – Renewing the Spirit, co-sponsored
- Don't Fear the Podium, Communication, Public Speaking
- Keepers of the Fire, co-sponsored with UOI FAS'D program
- Re-awakening Traditional Lifestyle Strategies, co-sponsored with UOI FASD program
- Biidaaban Healing Lodge Annual Wellness Conference
- Anishnaabemowin Language Conference

### **Mental Health Project**

Sagamok Anishnawbek was the successful applicant to receive funding for "Saaswin Mental Health Services"; this project will be funded for 5 years. The project is focusing on "At-Risk/High Risk Children, Youth and their Families. The focus of the project is to establish Client-based Mental Health services for Children, Youth and their families in the

community of Sagamok Anishnawbek that are "at risk" or "high risk". The services are secondary and tertiary prevention and intervention in nature thereby ensuring that service will be provided to children and youth that are impacted by individuals with a diagnosed and recognized mental illness or mental health condition. The project will engage in capacity development training and infrastructure development through the implementation of a Comprehensive Community Development Plan and Alcohol and Drug Strategy to 2020. Capacity development and training and infrastructure development will include participation in a First Nation-Tribal Council memorandum of understand and a service agreement articulating interdisciplinary and inter-agency case conferencing and case management.

### **Supplies and Equipment Increase**

An additional \$3,000.00 was allocated to the Community Wellness Workers for the purchase of supplies and equipment for fiscal year 2015-2016, this again was provided for fiscal year 2016-2017.

### **HIV/AIDS**

Former FASD worker Laura Liberty filled the HIV/AIDS Coordinator position after a 5-month vacancy. Thirty-five front line workers learned about alarming HIV infection rates among First Nations heterosexual women at the annual HIV All My Relations training in March in North Bay.

First Nation people living with HIV and LGBTQ 2S community members attended 3 training sessions, created and organized prevention and harm reduction resources shipped directly to communities in August and distributed directly to workers attending the Anishinabek Health Conference in January. Inaugural Point of Care testing occurred in Sheshegwaning First Nation during World AIDS Day events in partnership with Noojmowin Teg, OAHAS and Sudbury District Health Unit. Additional information sessions in Garden River, and Thessalon also occurred. Service coordination and partnerships with Ontario First Nations HIV/AIDS Education Circle, Noojmowin Teg Healing Centre, Vision Health, Ontario Health Treatment Network, Needle Exchange committee and the Drug Strategy-Harm Reduction Pillar are ongoing.

If you have any comments, questions or would like additional information on any of the Health initiatives, please call Jamie Restoule, Health Director at (705) 497-9127 or email: [jamie.restoule@anishinabek.ca](mailto:jamie.restoule@anishinabek.ca)



# LABOUR MARKET DEVELOPMENT

## LEADERSHIP COUNCIL PORTFOLIO HOLDER

- Chief James R. Marsden, Alderville First Nation

## ABORIGINAL SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT TRAINING STRATEGY (ASETA) 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 these agreements 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 LDM (Local Delivery Mechanism) organizations.

The 09 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 9 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.

## 2015-2016 HIGHLIGHTS

The fiscal year of 2015/2016 has been marked by the sun setting Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS); advocating to Canada for the need for an improved and enhanced ASETS successor strategy and preparing for a



*Polly Bobiwash and Janet Blackned of ASETA.*

renewal or new Aboriginal Human Resource Development Strategy of Employment and Social Development Canada's (ESDC).

It is important to note during this year a one year extension of the 2010 – 2015 ASETS Agreement was announced by ESDC. This resulted in an extension of the UOI ASETS Agreement with ESDC to March 31, 2016.

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 Union of Ontario Indians 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. Under the ASETS Agreement, the UOI and local Communities have been required to consider demand for occupations being approved for training and entering into partnerships with employers and other funders in order to achieve community and individual occupational goals.

Principles that are lobbied for under ASETS included 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.

Over the coming year we will be looking to and preparing for the future. Included in these preparatory activities will be the reconciliation of agreements, lobbying Canada for a new and improved First Nation Employment Strategy and increased partnership development. Renewal efforts of the next year will provide the Department with opportunities to address current shortfalls of the ASETS Agreements that are impeding improved labour market outcomes for First Nation citizens. This coming year is an opportunity to assist in the definition of an enhanced First Nation Employment Strategy to meet the needs of the citizens and employers of the Anishinabek Nation and the greater Canada.

# LANDS & RESOURCES

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Lands and Resources department is 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. Values include Environmental; by respecting Mother Earth we foster change which will sustain our lands and resources, preserving the integrity of the Seventh Generation and our Anishinabe Bimaadziwin." In addition to Awareness and Communication; "with a continual effort to understand our communities we are committed to facilitate education, sharing current events and traditional wisdom."

Guiding Principles of the Lands and Resources Department reflect Capacity Building; "By creating opportunities our communities are empowered to increase the natural, technical, and financial capacity derived and generated from our lands and natural resources"; access to Lands and Resources; "our communities are strengthened by continuous advocacy efforts to increase access to lands and resources", as well as Jurisdiction and Treaty Rights; "by building and preserving Anishinabek laws within our territories, communities can continue to assert and exercise jurisdiction, implementing ownership of lands, water, air and resources."

## LEADERSHIP COUNCIL PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

- Chief Paul Eshkakogan, Sagamok Anishnawbek, Chief of Lands, Resources & Justice
- Pierre Pelletier, Northern Superior Regional Grand Chief, Deputy Chief of Lands, Resources & Justice

## STAFF

- Jason Laronde, Director
- Arnya Assance, Resource Management Coordinator
- Rhonda Gagnon, Water Resources Policy Analyst
- Sarah St.Louis, Special Projects Officer



Left to right: Arnya Assance, Sarah St. Louis and Rhonda Gagnon

## 2015-2016 HIGHLIGHTS

### Mineral and Mines – Mining Capacity

In 2013, the Union of Ontario Indians (UOI), 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. The agreement targets the following goals:

- Provide mineral and mines education and awareness to community members;
- Ensure First Nation communities are meaningfully engaged in the mineral sector;
- Promote and provide mineral and mining opportunities to member communities;
- Engage in policy analysis of mining activities such as the Ring of Fire, Mining Act implementation, Plans and Permits and Online Staking
- Provide support and mineral expertise to member First Nation communities.

The Union of Ontario Indians will continue to monitor and address mineral and mines issues and concerns within the Anishinabek Nation territory, support the Mining technical table, promote and provide outreach sessions throughout the Anishinabek Nation and engage the Anishinabek Nation leadership.

Supplemental to the Mining Agreement, in late 2013 the UOI signed an agreement and began engaging in the "**Mineral Development Advisor**" pilot program with the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (MNDM). The program approach is to support the capacity of our communities to effectively participate in, and benefit from the consultation processes, mineral exploration and development activities stemming from the amendments made to the Mining Act.

It will be at the discretion of the individual communities and regions on how they wish to engage with the MDA. For example capacity can be increased through:

- Broad-based education efforts aimed at increasing awareness of the mineral exploration and development sequence and its opportunities;
- Development of resources and materials to benefit communities when engaging with proponents or other governments
- Technological supports to enable electronic and other timely delivery of information such as review of plans and permits as received from the Mineral Exploration Development Consultants (MEDCs)

The Union of Ontario Indians will continue to monitor and address mineral and mines issues and concerns within the Anishinabek Nation territory, support the Mining technical table, promote and provide outreach sessions throughout the Anishinabek Nation and engage the Anishinabek Nation leadership.

### Ministry of Transportation – Moving Forward

The Union of Ontario Indians and Ministry of Transportation (MTO) relationship will see a short hiatus during the summer of 2016 while both parties negotiate a stronger agreement that will see a financial commitment to continue to building on a positive relationship. A partnership that includes a mutually beneficial framework for communities and the Ministry to work together on priority policies, projects and engagement with each other and industry players.

In 2015 and early 2016, the UOI in partnership with the MTO established the Anishinabek Nation/ MTO technical table as a mechanism to address the opportunities and gaps in priority focus areas established in previous engagement sessions throughout the regions.

The priority focus areas within the transportation sector include but are not limited to:

- Procurement
- Aggregates
- Safety
- Environment
- Corridor management
- Policy

The Union of Ontario Indians will continue to work with the Ministry towards further engagement for the Anishinabek Nation in the Transportation sector with the potential renewal of the relationship this fall.

### **Anishinabek Ontario Resource Management Council (AORMC)**

The 2015/16 fiscal year saw the Anishinabek Ontario Resource Management Council in their third 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 back Deputy Grand Council Chief Glen Hare to the council as Co Chair, and welcomed Craig Brown, new Director of Strategic and Aboriginal Policy Branch, as the MNRF Co Chair.

The Union of Ontario Indians will continue to monitor and address natural resource management 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.

## **2015-2016 OBJECTIVES**

### **Mineral and Mines**

- Increased community engagement in the mineral and mine activities in Ontario
- Provide technical enhancement and support through the Mining technical table
- Support community capacity development and mining opportunities
- Support the Anishinabek Nation and Ministry of Northern Development and Mines Bilateral Leadership Forum

### **Transportation**

- Renew agreement that will allow for continued growth of the relationship with MTO
- Host operational meetings with the AN/MTO technical table to begin accessing opportunities and gaps for First Nations in the Transportation sector
- Provide community engagement and follow up on technical table outcomes through development of a Transportation forum
- Establish a bi lateral process for leadership engagement with MTO Minister and key staff.

### **Anishinabek Ontario Resource Management Council**

- Secured Three Year MOU with MNRF on March 21, 2016
- Forest Vegetation Management and Herbicide Use Information Sharing Workshop
- Incidental Cabin Policy Framework Development
- Cross-Cultural Training Workshop
- Crown Lands
- Aboriginal Work Youth Exchange Program – secure position for AN

### **Environment**

- Seeking partnership with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change to pursue opportunities in Great Lakes initiatives such as the Great Lakes Protection Act, Canada Ontario Agreement, Great Lakes Guardian Council, etc.
- Continue to advocate for the refusal of NWMO's deep geologic repository within the Anishinabek Nation territory
- Provide updates to leadership on upcoming priority issues such as the Ontario Climate Change Strategy and their "Cap & Trade Program".

If you have any comments, questions or would like additional information on any of the Lands and Resources initiatives, please call Jason Laronde, L&R Director at (705) 497-9127 or email: [Jason.laronde@anishinabek.ca](mailto:Jason.laronde@anishinabek.ca)



*Northern Superior region Elder Mike Esquega with Jason Laronde.*

# LEGAL DEPARTMENT

## MISSION STATEMENT

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

## PORTFOLIO HOLDER

- Chief Paul Eshkakogan, Sagamok Anishnawbek

## STAFF

- Fred Bellefeuille, Legal Counsel
- Linda Seamont, Legal Admin. Coordinator
- Sarah Gammon, Paralegal
- Cathy Bellefeuille, Articling Student
- Crystal Head, Articling Student

Cathy and Crystal joined our team in July, 2015 and will be here until June, 2016.

## BACKGROUND

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

The goals of the Legal Department are:

- To be the preferred legal service provider 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, Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation Charity;
- 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 Initiative;
- Support Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women initiatives;
- Support Jury Roll Implementation; and
- Support First Nation Matrimonial Real Property initiatives.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF 2015-2016

### *Constitution Development*

The legal department worked with a number of First Nations in developing and communicating/consulting on First Nation constitutions including ratification processes. Workshops were held from September – November, 2015 and January – March, 2016. The following 5 Anishinabek First Nations have already ratified their constitutions. Nipissing First Nation, Wikwemkoong Unceded Indian Territory, Biigtong Nishnaabeg (Pic River) First Nation, Mississauga #8 and Atikameksheng Anishnawbek. We continue to plan to finalize constitutions for ratification, and final draft constitutions.



*Fred Bellefeuille, Crystal Head, Cathy Bellefeuille and Myrtle Swanson from Michipicoten at a Constitution drafting workshop.*

Ratification for the Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement is set for November 2016. As stated in the Agreement each First Nation must have a constitution in place in order to exercise jurisdiction under the Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement. All Participating First Nations must have their Constitutions “vote ready” by June 30th 2016.

### *Health*

The legal department assisted the Health Department in the development of several program specific policies, Terms of References, memorandums of agreements and reporting templates.

### *Economic Development*

The Legal Department developed a First Nation Request for Proposals Manual that was distributed to each First Nation of the Anishinabek Nation.

### *First Nation Representation on Juries*

The Legal Department participated in a questionnaire that the Ministry of Attorney General sent out. The questions were related to a proposed Aboriginal Justice Liaison Program. We provided our feedback to the Ministry of Attorney General and await the results of this initiative and be able to participate in such a Program.

### *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. We will continue to operate this Tribunal on a fee for service basis as requested.

### *Restoration of Jurisdiction (ROJ)*

Our office continues to support and work with the Restoration of Jurisdiction Department on the Governance and Education negotiations including advising on the Main Agreements, Fiscal Transfer Agreements, implementation plan consultation on these items and working with the Governance Working Group and other related projects.

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

Sarah Gammon coordinated the first phase of the Anishinabek Nation Education Related Capital Funding Needs project that resulted in the development of a preliminary assessment of existing and future education related needs for First Nations with and without schools. A resolution was passed at the 2015 Grand Council Assembly providing direction to the Union of Ontario Indians to pursue negotiations with Canada to secure education related Major, Minor and Operations and Maintenance funding. The Legal Department has been working with the CCOG and the Political Office to assist with this resolution.

### ***Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls***

The legal department provided preliminary written submissions on behalf of the Union of Ontario Indians. These are in addition to oral submissions at the various sessions held in regards to this issue and in addition to any future submissions on this matter.

### ***AEI – Alternative Dispute Resolution and Cultural Self-Care Training***

The legal department facilitated a two-day workshop for Anishinabek Education Institute students enrolled in their FASD Program. Training was provided to students on how to manage conflict, how to choose alternatives to resolve any conflicts that may arise in the classroom, their work placements, or personal life.

The students were provided materials to start their own person bundle. Traditional teachings were provided on self-care, 7 Grandfather teaching and using their bundles.

### ***Other***

- Prepared Briefing Notes for the Ontario Summit that was held in August, 2015 for the political office.
- Participated in the Child Well Being law with development through working groups.
- Prepared a Due Diligence Handbook for the Economic Development Department.

# POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS

## **VISION STATEMENT**

The Policy and Communications Department is committed to the protection of Aboriginal and treaty rights, ensuring access to land and resources, and supporting the political goals, values and aspirations of the Anishinabek Nation.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

“To give a voice to the vision of the Anishinabek Nation and to preserve Anishinabe Bimaadziwin while advancing our goal of Nationhood.

Ensure all our First Nations understand what we do.

The goals of the Policy and Communications Department are:

- Effective strategic analysis, 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, Chief of Intergovernmental Affairs
- Ogimaa Duke Peltier, Deputy Chief of Intergovernmental Affairs

### Communications (Marten Clan)

- Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee, Anishinabek Nation Government & Communications
- Deputy Grand Council Chief Glen Hare, Anishinabek Nation Government & Communications

### Treaty Research (Fish Clan)

- Chief Paul Eshkakogan, Chief of Lands, Resources & Justice
- Pierre Pelletier, Deputy Chief of Lands, Resources & Justice

## **STAFF**

### Intergovernmental Affairs (Loon Clan)

- Kevin Restoule, Policy Analyst

### Communications (Marten Clan)

- Marci Becking, Communications Officer
- Emma Williams, Communications Assistant

### Lands, Resources and Justice (Fish Clan)

- Alicia McLeod, Treaty Research Coordinator

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF 2014-15**

### ***Intergovernmental Affairs***

Intergovernmental Affairs is committed to the advancement of Anishinabek Nation priorities through



Premier Wynne speaks to Anishinabek and Ontario delegates at the summit held in Fort William First Nation on August 26, 2015.



Policy and Communications team Alicia McLeod, Emma Williams, Kevin Restoule and Marci Becking with puppets Strawberry, Bear, Rabbit and the Elders.

awareness, advocacy and addressing of crucial issues in addition to the cultivation and promotion of government relationships. The IA 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 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 – Ontario Action Plan Development
- Anishinabek Nation – Ontario Government Political Leadership Summit

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

- Community advocacy and support for government policies and processes

Coordination of bilateral roundtables with the Government of Ontario through its Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs (MAA). 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: RESPECT (Media Relations), HONESTY (Public Education), SHARING (Voices) and RESPECT (Communications Support).

### **Media Relations**

Distribution of 28 UOI-specific news releases and media advisories including:

- Treaty Education resources
- Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement with Canada
- Master Education Framework Agreement with Ontario
- Federal Election
- Anishinabek-Ontario Summit
- MOU with MNRF

### **Public Education**

Translation of the ***“We Are All Treaty People - Teachers Resource Kit”*** into French. Now making the resource available in both official languages. Creation of the new High School kit titled: Gdoo-sastamoo kii mi. Teachers will be able to further explore aspects of First Nation history since treaty. Some of the topics include Treaties, Residential Schools, United Nations Declaration on The Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Ipperwash, and medicine wheel learning and First Nation constitutions.

Since the launch of “We Are All Treaty People – Teachers Resource Kit” - 600 English Kits were sold. Since 2011, 9,000 English copies sold of graphic novel: “We are all Treaty People”, 2,500 copies of the book in French since 2013 and the Anishinaabemowin version was printed in February 2015 and has sold 1,500 copies

Since 2013, over 2,000 copies of the book “Nation to Nation: A resource guide to Treaties in Ontario” have been sold.

2016 marks the 16th year that award-winning Niiijii Circle pages – produced by UOI Communications – have been published in Saturday editions of the North Bay Nugget. Each week an estimated 70,000 people learn more about First Nations.

### **Voices**

- This was the second year that the Anishinabek News has been solely an online publication – www.anishinabeknews.ca-Averages 30,000 views/month.
- Anishinabek News highlights is distributed monthly to communities for the purpose of printing and distributing to those community members without internet access.
- Great Lakes pow-wow guide reached its 21st year of publication in 2015.
- Social media presence reaches nearly 11,000 Twitter and over 5,000 Facebook followers.

### **Treaty Research**

#### **Overview**

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.

### Implementation

Throughout this fiscal year, the Treaty Research staff, including contracted Historical Researchers and Legal Counsel has conducted in-depth research and legal analysis into new claims as well as continued to research claims from the previous year.

The IA Department remains active in all aspects of the federal legislative and policy issues related to the Specific Claims process including the implementation and review of INAC's Justice at Last initiative. This has been achieved through National First Nation Research Directors forums, Assembly of First Nation policy reviews as well as written submission to INAC.

## **2015-2016 OBJECTIVES**

### ***Government Relations – Internal***

- Support coordination of Anishinabek First Nation protocols
- Support coordination of UOI Department in various processes
- Support dialogue with First Nation organizations through the Chiefs of Ontario
- Host Nation Council Sessions with the aim to give greater definition to roles and responsibilities while identifying communication channels for more appropriate and effective leadership advocacy

### ***Intergovernmental Relations – External***

- Effective implementation of the UOI-INAC Protocol Table
- Effective implementation of the UOI-Ontario Protocol Table
- Continued support to establish tripartite relations
- Technical support to various process and policy forums coordinated by the Chiefs of Ontario

### ***Upperwash Inquiry***

- Participation and support for the Chiefs of Ontario Heritage and Burials Working Group
- Development, promotion and distribution of the Anishinabek Nation Toolkit for Understanding Aboriginal Heritage & Burial Rights & Issues

### ***Communications***

- Development of new videos around Treaty Education to be used with the teachers kits.
- Translation of Gdoo-sastamoo kii mi into French
- Continued promotion of anishinabeknews.ca

### ***Specific Claims***

- Specific claim policy issues
- Community awareness and engagement on claims
- Community support for claim submission
- Input into the development of the Tribunal process

# **RESTORATION OF JURISDICTION**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

“The Restoration of Jurisdiction Department at the Union of Ontario Indians is committed to rebuild traditional governance. Our process is to facilitate the recognition of the inherent jurisdiction of the Anishinabek Nation by supporting and executing the Nation Building initiatives to ensure the political goals, values, and aspirations of the Anishinabek Nation are asserted. Our key initiatives are; Ratification of the Anishinabek Education Agreement, Comprehensive Communications Strategy, Governance Negotiations, Anishinabek Nation/Ontario bilateral Education negotiations of the Master Education Agreement, Governance Working Groups, Chiefs Committee on Governance, and First Nation Constitution Development.

## **LEADERSHIP COUNCIL PORTFOLIO HOLDERS**

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

## **NEGOTIATORS**

- R. Martin Bayer, Chief Governance Negotiator
- Fred Bellefeuille, Governance Legal Council
- Tracey O'Donnell, Chief Negotiator for Education & Education Legal Council

## **STAFF**

- Dave Shawana, ROJ Director
- Barb Naveau, ROJ Administrative Coordinator/Ratification Committee Coordinator
- Patricia Campeau, Education Negotiations Admin Assistant/Ratification Committee Admin Assistant
- Andrew Arnott, Fiscal Relations Analyst
- Lisa Restoule, Governance Negotiations Admin Assistant
- Marci Becking, Ratification Communications Coordinator
- Esther Gilbank, Regional Communications Coordinator
- Faye Sabourin, Regional Communications Coordinator
- Tammy Desmoulin, Regional Communications Coordinator
- Doreen Trudeau, Regional Communications Coordinator
- Murray Waboose, Regional Communications Coordinator
- Sarah Kaelas, Regional Communications Coordinator
- Vaughn Johnston, Education Ratification Vote Manager
- Joe Endanawas, Education Ratification Deputy Vote Manager
- Jessica Sandy, Information Clerk

## **HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2015-2016**

### ***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 Chiefs Committee also provides political leadership to convey the vision of a self-governing Anishinabek Nation. A key deliverable of the CCOG this fiscal year was the input to the completion of the



*Chiefs sign the Master Education Framework Agreement with Ontario on Nov. 19, 2015.*

“Table Level” Drafts of the Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement, Anishinabek Nation Fiscal Transfer Agreement, and the Governance Implementation Plan. Additionally, the CCOG supported the implementation of the Comprehensive

Communications Strategy, providing awareness on the self-government agreements and the Education Ratification Process. The CCOG continue to support Resolution #2015-07; Education-Related Major Capital Funding, Minor Capital Funding, and Operation and Maintenance Funding. The CCOG is committed to advancing a positive outcome of the Education Ratification Process and the Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement.

### ***Education and Governance Agreements***

The Anishinabek Nation and Canada have been in self-government negotiations for more than twenty (20) years. The two self-government negotiations include Governance and Education.

The Education negotiations have since concluded with the initialing off of the Education Agreement (EA), Education Fiscal Transfer Agreement (EFTA), and Education Implementation Plan (EIP) by the parties on August 2015. The negotiations will now take on activities related to a ratification process with 3700 Anishinabek First Nation citizens. To support the education ratification process the parties jointly developed a Comprehensive Communications Strategy (CSS), to support the awareness and “informed consent” of the ANEA, EFTA, and EIP. The CCS identifies a four phased communications approach, which was launched on November 2015 and will continue to support communications activities up to the implementation of the vote week November/December 2016. Phase one was completed March 2016, with Phase two currently running till June 2016. Both phases provide the background, educational landscape and contents of the Agreements (ANEA, EIP, EIP). The education ratification communications process also has a supporting social media plan (website, Facebook, and Twitter). The CCS is being supported by key champions who include Leadership, Nation Building Councils (Elders, Women, Youth), Education Working Group (EWG), and the Kinooaadziwin Education Body, Board of Directors.

The bilateral discussions with Ontario was advanced by the signing of the Master Education Framework Agreement (MEFA) between the Minister of Education, Honorable Liz Sandals and 31 Anishinabek First Nations who have submitted BCRs in support of signing of the MEFA with Ontario. The successful signing took place at the Anishinabek Nation Fall Special Assembly in November 2015. Both the Anishinabek Nation and Ontario have developed a joint critical path to support the negotiations of the MEA. The negotiations will be guided by the Kinooaadziwin Education Body (KEB), as per their mandate to support the development of the Anishinabek Education System. A communications and consultations strategy has also been established to support the negotiations.

The Governance negotiations have completed a “Table Level” consultative Draft of the Anishinabek Nation Government Agreement (ANGA), Anishinabek Nation Governance Fiscal Transfer Agreement (ANFTA), and the Governance Implementation Plan (GIP). For the 2016/17 Fiscal year the Governance Main Table in conjunction with the Governance Working Group (GWG), will be implementing a consultation work plan to seek input on the Drafts. Based on Canada’s Fiscal Approach to Self-Government Arrangements, the Governance Main Table will be doing an analysis of the new policy and compare it to the current provisions within the ANGA, GFTA, and GIP.

Other key 2016/17 activities of the Governance Main Table this fiscal year is to finalize any outstanding issues in the ANGA (Enforcement and Adjudication), ANFTA, GIP, continued meetings with Ontario, finalizing the fiscal chapter and ANFTA,

### ***Fiscal Relations***

During the 2015-2016 fiscal year, the Fiscal Relations support to the Education negotiations centred mainly on communications. Activities included: participating in meetings with Chiefs and Councils on the Education Fiscal Transfer Agreement and Canada’s fiscal offer (as part of the BCR seeking process); developed communications materials (plain language Fiscal Transfer Agreement, summary of Canada’s Fiscal Offer, Draft Fiscal Allocation Options, etc.); and participated in presentations on the Education self-government agreements and the Anishinabek Education

System to Anishinabek citizens as part of Phase 1 ratification communications.

Support to the Governance Negotiations Table included: review and analysis of Canada's Fiscal Policy and associated fiscal agreements; review and analysis of proposed language for the Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement (fiscal chapter) and Anishinabek Nation Fiscal Transfer Agreement; as well as presentations to the Governance Working Group on: proposed amendments to current funding agreements, proposed internal funding allocation agreements and draft internal fiscal allocation options and formulas.

### **Community Engagement Strategy (CES)**

The CES is in its seventh year, with the 2015/16 activities shifting its focus on the implementation of the Comprehensive Communications Strategy (CCS). The CCS was created to support a positive outcome of the Education and Governance Agreements. In addition, the primary focus of the CCS is to communicate the spirit, intent, purpose and impacts of the respective agreements to the Anishinabek citizens. There are approximately 37,000 eligible voters that will potentially vote on the Governance and Education Agreements.

To support the ratification of the ANEA First Nation community information sessions took place from August to November 2015, in order to seek Band Council Resolutions (BCRs) to approve the initialing of the Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement and to confirm that the First Nation would run a ratification vote. 32 Anishinabek First Nations have successfully submitted BCRs.

To support the ratification activities a four phased communications approach was implemented in order to raise awareness and the "informed consent" on the negotiated agreements. Phase one implementation, from January to March 2016 had five (5) regional sessions which were held throughout the Anishinabek territory and at least one First Nation community meeting was held in each of our 32 participating First Nations. The content for Phase One included information on the education landscape and First Nations constitution development requirements for the Education Agreement. Participants of the information sessions included Chiefs, Councillors, Band Managers, Finance Personnel, Band Administrators, Education Administrators/Managers and First Nations citizens. A social media plan was also created to support the ratification activities, and included the launching of an education ratification website – [www.sayyestoaes.ca](http://www.sayyestoaes.ca) in November 2015, as well as an education toll-free number for citizens to get informed about the ratification vote. The remaining three phases will be implemented up to the ratification vote week scheduled for November 28 to December 2, 2016.

The CCS also supported the communications associated with the Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement and the bilateral education negotiations with Ontario.

### **Education and Governance Working Groups**

The Education Working Group has changed its capacity support to that of being a communicator in the Education Ratification Process. As key communicators the EWG provide information on the Anishinabek Education Agreement, Anishinabek Education System and the Ratification Process to Anishinabek Nation citizens, leadership, and 3rd party entities (District School Boards, First Nation Education organizations,



**Education Negotiators Tracey O'Donnell and Murray Pridham sign the Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement in July 2015.**

etc). The Governance Working Group (GWG) continues to provide ongoing input and support to the Anishinabek Nation's Governance Main Table negotiations with Canada. The GWG are representatives from the 39 Anishinabek First Nations, with a background in First Nation governance and administration. The GWG helped to finalize the "Table Level" Drafts of the Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement, Anishinabek Nation Fiscal Transfer Agreement, and the Governance Implementation Plan. The working groups also supported First Nations Constitution development. The working groups supported the implementation of the Comprehensive Communications Strategy to provide awareness of the self-government negotiations, education ratification process, and other supporting capacity development activities.

### **Constitution Development**

The main focus for fiscal year 2015-2016 was to assist Anishinabek First Nations in drafting their Constitutions and to increase understanding of the benefits of having a written constitution. Regional Information sessions on the Constitutions were held during September, 2015 to March 1, 2016. There were key information sessions in order to develop a draft Constitution, create consultation strategies, provide legal reviews, and identifying options to prepare for ratification. Status of Anishinabek First Nations constitution development; 30 First Nations are either beginning, editing, or in final stages of finalizing a draft constitution. Five Anishinabek First Nation communities have ratified their Constitutions, Atikameksheng Anishinawbek, Mississauga #8 First Nation; Nipissing First Nation Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve, and Ojibways of Pic River First Nation. For the fiscal year 2016/17 the Restoration of Jurisdiction department will be implementing a work plan that would provide key legal support to the 30 Anishinabek First Nations to complete their constitutions and to prepare them for ratification with their Anishinabek citizens.

Information on any of the ROJ initiatives, please call Dave Shawana, ROJ Director at (705) 497-9127, ext 2257 or email: [shadav@anishinabek.ca](mailto:shadav@anishinabek.ca).



# SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

## 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
- Rosa Rousell, Administrative Coordinator
- Scott Wemigwans, Social Development Intern

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

## HIGHLIGHTS 2015-2016

### *Anishinabek Nation Child Well-Being Law*

The Anishinabek Nation (AN) Child Well-Being Working Group (CWBWG) has been working on addressing the changes required for the AN Child Well-Being Law over the past year. The Anishinabek Nation Child Well-Being Law has been re-drafted several times over the last year in accordance with the direction given at the AN CWBWG meetings and at information sessions held with Chiefs and Councils. The AN CWBWG met on April 2015, Manitoulin Hotel & Conference Centre; July 2015, Sagamok Anishnawbek; September 2015, Munsee-Delaware; December 2015, UOI-North Bay; February 2016, Alderville; and April 2016, Fort William. The next CWBWG is scheduled for July 2016 on Mississauga # 8 FN.

The CWBWG will continue to work on the implementation plan and strive to complete the implementation work by April 1, 2017. We are in the process of seeking individual band council resolutions for the ratification and adoption of the AN Child Well-Being Law. The community presentations will be scheduled over the next fiscal year or you may contact the Social Development department to arrange a presentation.

### *Canadian Human Rights Tribunal*

The Canadian Human Rights Tribunal has ruled on the case involving First Nations 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 as including all jurisdictional disputes (including between federal government departments) and involving all First Nations children, (not just the children with multiple disabilities). Pursuant to the purpose and intent of Jordan's Principle, 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.

INAC has responded to the immediate relief order and



*Child Welfare Working Group member Ron George, Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point with Adrienne Pelletier, Social Development Director make Child Welfare Law presentation at UOI Special Fall Assembly, 2015, SSM.*

will increase funding for the First Nations Child and Family Services Program. There will be immediate adjustments to the operations and prevention through additional investments to update existing funding agreements.

### *Aboriginal Child and Youth Strategy*

The Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS) has been meeting with First Nations leadership and technicians to co-develop an Aboriginal Children and Youth Strategy. The main priority of the Anishinabek Nation is to exercise our jurisdiction in child welfare through the implementation of our Anishinabek Nation Child Well-Being Law.

Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee, Ogimaa Duke Peltier, and Chief Peter Collins have been attending the Bilateral and Leadership meetings with the MCYS. The most recent bilateral discussion took place in February 2016. The MCYS and the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs hosted another leadership table meeting with the PTO's and Independent First Nations on May 5, 2016. Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee, Ogimaa Duke Peltier and Chief Peter Collins and Social Services Director attended the meeting. Agency Directors are provided opportunities to attend and submit briefing notes at both the bilateral and leadership roundtable meetings.

The AN has been working with Wikwemikong Health Centre to incorporate "Wikwemikong's Children's Well-Being Measure" into First Nations and First Nation Agencies across Ontario and will be incorporated into the AN Child Well-Being Law system. The measure is also known as "Aanish Naa Gegii."

Ontario's newly announced "Family Well-Being Program" as part of the Walking Together Strategy will begin with an engagement of First Nations communities to discuss the best possible use of resources to support children and families in our communities as part of their prevention programming. The resources will be targeted based on the input received by communities and the funding will flow directly to the programs and services identified by each of our First Nations as set out in the funding agreements.



*L to R: Adrienne Pelletier; Leona Nahwegahbow, Kina Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services; Chief Peter Collins, Deputy Chief of Social Development, Fort William First Nation; Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee and Deputy Grand Chief Glen Hare at the UOI Fall Assembly, Nov. 2015.*

### **Band Representative Funding**

The Canadian Human Rights Tribunal 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. INAC is not meeting their fiduciary obligations to provide funding for Band Representatives.

In addition, the Anishinabek Educational Institute has changed the delivery format of the "First Nation Child Welfare Advocate" accredited certificate program.

### **Social Assistance and Daycare/Childcare**

We began service orientation by attending Regional Supervisor Network meetings with Anishinabek Nation Day Cares/Child Cares Centres, the First Nation Child Care Gathering with the Ministry of Education, information sessions and working group sessions, etc.

Current initiatives in place are:

- The review of the Phase 2 Proposed Regulatory Changes regarding the Child Care and Early Years Act; changes which have been retracted at this time due to contributed feedback provided by many centres and organizations across the province with the UOI being one of those contributors.
- Membership of the Healthy Smiles Ontario 2 Trilateral Working Group.
- Advocating for support for local initiatives such as the Youth Job Connect project to begin with Niigaaniin Group Delivery based out of the NSTC.

Future initiatives will include engagement with the Ministry of Community and Social Services to address Ontario Works reform. There will be ongoing networking within the AN to ensure Social Assistance service delivery receive the political support and advocacy.

A common theme within Social Assistance is affordability in poverty. Our community members are having difficulty in living an adequate standard of life while rent, groceries, and especially hydro and utilities must be decided upon by a month-to-month basis of which is to be paid.

The interim "Transitional Support Fund" policy is in effect as of April 1, 2013. A working group coordinated through COO met in 2014-15 to monitor and address issues with the implementation of the new policy. There are issues with the limited funding identified and First Nations continue to seek an exemption from the cap on health and non-health

discretionary benefits. There has been no response to the First Nations proposal submitted to the Ministry of Community and Social Services. INAC has incurred significant savings as a result of the changes to Ontario Works delivery in Ontario.

The Social Development department will continue to explore these issues that affect our communities, our families, "us," and effectively assist the managers, case workers, and technicians as we address those issues together.

### **Family Violence and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW)**

- The AN has a strategic plan to address family violence issues.
- INAC provides funding to the First Nations on a project proposal basis for UOI communities to address family violence issues. There will be a yearly call for proposals in December-January of each fiscal year. The funding requests for this program exceeds the funding available through INAC.

The Social Department has also been working with COO to assist with coordination of UOI families who are participating in the MMIW's pre-inquiry sessions with the Federal Government. We will ensure that "Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe" is incorporated in all our work going forward. *Ngo Dwe Waangized Anishinaabe is the preamble to the Anishinabek Nation Chi Naakngewin (Constitution).*

- The UOI has completed the "Digital Stories" project. The link to the digital stories is: <http://anishinabeknews.ca/2015/04/28/experiences-of-familyviolence-shared-in-digital-stories-project/> Videos can also be accessed through the Anishinabek Nation YouTube Channel;
- The next training initiative to address violence issues will be held in the fall of 2016. The Ministry of the Attorney General is providing funding for the Healthy Relationships Conference.
- The UOI participates on the First Nations Women's Caucus (FNWC) through the COO. The AN supports the "Who is She" campaign introduced by the COO;
- Social Development continues to work with our First Nation communities to develop community plans to address the prevention of Family Violence in our communities.

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.



# ANISHINABEK NATION 7<sup>TH</sup> GENERATION CHARITY

## 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

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Chief Wayne Sabourin, Pic Mobert First Nation
- Chief Scott McLeod, Nipissing First Nation
- Myrna Burnside, Moose Deer Point First Nation
- Chief Chris Plain, Aamjiwnaang First Nation

## STAFF

- Jason Restoule, Dokis First Nation

## HIGHLIGHTS 2015-2016

The Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation Charity (AN7GC) raises funds for 39 Anishinabek First Nation communities and the citizens of those communities, whether living in the communities or abroad. The AN7GC is committed to improving the quality of life of Anishinabek citizens by providing support, where no other funding exists, in the areas of Education, Health, Culture, Youth, Elders, Social, Emergency Crisis and Disaster Relief.

In 2015, the AN7GC hosted its two annual fundraising events; the 17th annual Anishinabek Evening of Excellence, where prestigious Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Awards are presented as well as Post-Secondary Anishinabe Student Scholarships, and the 17th annual Anishinabek Veterans Memorial Golf Tournament. Both events were very successful, raising tens of thousands of dollars for the grant program of the AN7GC.

The Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation has provided over \$30,000 in Grants and scholarships during the 2015-16 fiscal year. In addition to this financial assistance, we were also able to provide non-monetary assistance to many others who needed a helping hand.

Each year, the AN7GC strives to do as much as possible to provide help to our Anishinabek Nation communities and citizens in need. This upcoming year will be no different as plans are in place to launch new fundraising initiatives and increase awareness of the AN7GC in order to continue making our Vision a reality.

Through the generous contributions of our sponsors and supporters we are able to provide assistance during these challenging times.

Thank you to the sponsors and supporters of the AN7GC which in 2015 included:



Union of Ontario  
Indians staff





## Naabdooganan ge naabjitoonginba kino wii-naabidoomong

(Guiding principles for us all.)

**Ji zaagtoonyaan kendaaswinan mii iw ji kendaamon  
NBWAAKAAWIN. Wisdom**

To cherish knowledge is to know WISDOM. Nbwaakaawin

**Ji kendimon ZAAGIDWIN mii iw bizaanii'iiwin. Love**

To know LOVE is to know peace. Zaagidwin

**Ji mnaadendamong maage gchi-twaanendamaan  
kino gegoo kiin eteg mi iw MNAADENDAMONG/MAAGE GCHI-  
TWAAWENDAMONG. Respect**

To honour all the creation is to have RESPECT. Mnaadendamong

**AAKIDE'EWIN nkwejkagaadeg mnji'aawashiwin mii iw bwaayaamon  
dash zegiziwin, mii iw aakide'ewin. Bravery**

BRAVERY is to face the foe with integrity. Aakide'ewin

**GWEKWAADIZIWIN, nkwejkaamon iw gegoo ezhiwebak mi iw  
gwekwaadiziyan. Honesty**

HONESTY in facing a situation is to be brave. Gwekwaadiziwin

**DBAADENDIZIWIN, mii iw kendiziyin wi sa gchi-pi-itendaagoziyan  
ezhi-gchi-piitendaagok zhichiganan maanpii kiing. Humility**

HUMILITY is to know yourself as a sacred part of the creation. Dbaadendiziwin

**DEBWEWIN mi iw kendimon kino nanda. Truth**

TRUTH is to know all of these things. Debwewin

Edward Benton-Benai, 1979, *The Mishomis Book*

The Anishinabek Nation established the Union of Ontario Indians as its secretariat in 1949. The UOI is a political advocate for 39 First Nations across Ontario.

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*Anishinabek*