

Annual General Report 2019



Restoring Inherent Jurisdiction

*Advocating for MKO Nations to assert
authority over our lands,
children and culture*



Manitoba
Keewatinowi
Okimakanak Inc.

Table of Contents

Acronyms	3
Grand Chief's Message	4
Department Reports for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year	7
Grand Chief's Office and Funding	8
Child and Family Services Liaison Unit	10
Client Navigator	11
Clinical Care Transformation (Health)	13
Communications	14
Economic Development	15
Education	16
First Nations Justice Strategy: Restorative Justice	17
Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Program	19
Mental Wellness	22
Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Liaison Unit	24
Mobile Crisis Response Team	26
Thompson Urban Aboriginal Strategy	28
Traditional Healer Services Program	30
Staff List	32
Progress Report on 2018 Resolutions	34

Acronyms

AMC: Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs

CCT: Clinical Care Transformation

CFS: Child and Family Services

CJW: Community Justice Worker

FNJS: First Nations Justice Strategy

FNHSSM: First Nations Health and Social Secretariat of Manitoba

FNIHB: First Nations and Inuit Health Branch

KTC: Keewatin Tribal Council

MKO: Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak

MMIWG: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

NIHB: Non-Insured Health Benefits

Grand Chief's Message

In my first year as Grand Chief of Manitoba Keewatinow Okimakanak (MKO), I have made it my priority to be accessible and to provide support to MKO Chiefs and Councillors and their communities. I am dedicated to serving our North and have relocated to Thompson to make myself available to the people in our Northern communities on a regular basis and on short notice when possible.

I have met with federal and provincial ministers and officials on a number of occasions in my first year to advocate and lobby for MKO communities in areas of governance, infrastructure, health, child welfare, gaming, law enforcement, and in other important areas.

I have helped to build awareness on a number of issues, including missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls (MMIWG), high rates of child apprehensions in Manitoba, the state of hydroelectric development camps, and the privatization of air ambulance services.

Community advocacy and engagements:

I have visited 16 of our 26 MKO communities in my first year as Grand Chief to provide support at grand openings of facilities, Chief and Council inaugurations, and community and Elder engagements.

As Grand Chief, I have visited the following MKO communities to date: Barren Lands First Nation, Bunibonibee Cree Nation, God's Lake First Nation, Lake First Nation, Manto Sipi Cree Nation, Mathias Colomb First Nation, Misipawistik Cree Nation, Mosakahiken First Nation, Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation, Northlands Denesuline First Nation, Norway House

Cree Nation, Opaskwayak Cree Nation, Pimicikamak Cree Nation, Sapotaweyak Cree Nation, Sayisi Dene First Nation, Shamattawa First Nation, and York Factory First Nation.

Our Elders have always been the strength of our governance and our communities. They provide the traditional knowledge and wisdom handed down to them through generations. I will always seek guidance from the Elders and I thank those who have met with me in my first year as Grand Chief.

Our children are our future. To that end, I have revitalized the popular Santa Express visits to our children and community members. In December 2018, I joined Santa on visits to remote and isolated regions such as Shamattawa, Sayisi Dene, Northlands, and others. I look forward to visiting more communities during the holiday season in 2019.

Building relationships:

The MKO Chiefs-in-Assembly recently passed a resolution to support the efforts of the Summit of Treaty 5 Sovereign Nations. I have participated in meaningful dialogue and discussions and provided a presentation at the Annual Summit that took place in Black River First Nation in July 2019. The Summit of Treaty 5 aims to establish a Treaty 5 Commissioner, Treaty 5 Tribunal, and Leadership and Peoples' Forum.

I met with officials from the Prince Albert Grand Council on the Natural Resource Transfer Agreement (NRTA) Summit planned for August 2019. MKO will support the initiatives of the NRTA and participate in the ongoing discussions. The *Natural Resources Transfer Act* shifted control of Crown land and natural resources from the federal government to the provincial governments in 1930. This transfer adversely affected Indigenous rights and communities.

There is a direct partnership/kinship with Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) in Ontario. MKO's remote and isolated communities are just impoverished as the NAN communities. I have met numerous times with NAN's Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler on common goals and concerns and in particular the critical care transformation for improved health services.

I continue to work with our provincial counterparts at the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, Southern Chiefs' Organization, and Manitoba Métis Federation on our common vision and concerns to bring better services and infrastructure for the First Nations.



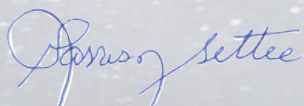
Moving forward:

I will continue to provide advocacy and lobbying for the rest of my mandate. I will continue to voice your concerns such as:

- **Health services and infrastructure:** I will continue to advocate for better programs and services, accessibility, and patient and medical transportation.
- **RCMP law enforcement:** I will continue to engage with the RCMP Commissioner and/or Superintendent on services in our First Nations.
- **Air transportation services including air ambulance:** There is a definite need for better passenger and freight services for First Nations. I will continue to have discussions with the airline industry, government representatives, and Transport Canada. The safety and well-being of each MKO citizen is a priority.
- **Child and Family Services legislation:** With the recent passing of the federal Bill C-92, I will work with the legislation and ensure the best interests of MKO communities and citizens are protected. This area is one where we need to continue to work to reassert our jurisdiction when it comes to our children, lands, culture, and language.
- **Roads:** Safe roads are a major concern for many of our MKO First Nations, both within the community and leading into the community. I will continue to advocate for better roads to ensure the safety of our citizens.
- **Other initiatives:** My priority is to act on the direction of the Chiefs-in-Assembly and its mandate. I will continue to work on the resolutions passed from Assemblies and provide a report in a timely manner.

As new developments occur at the regional, provincial, and national level, I will be ready and prepared to formulate a plan to benefit the MKO communities and citizens.

It is my great honour to serve as your Grand Chief. Kinanaskomitinan, masi cho, meegwetch, and thank you for your ongoing support.



Grand Chief Garrison Settee



Grand Chief Settee with Sayisi Dene Elders



Grand Chief Settee with Ovide Mercredi

MKO ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19



Grand Chief Settee speaking at the Treaty 5 Summit



Grand Chief Settee with Christine Wood's family

This section contains the following:

- Grand Chief's Office and Funding
- Child and Family Services Liaison

- Client Navigator
- Clinical Transformation (Health)
- Communications
- Economic Development
- Education
- First Nations Justice Strategy
- Indigenous Skills and Employment Training
- Mental Wellness
- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women's Liaison Unit
- Mobile Crisis Response Team
- Thompson Urban Aboriginal Strategy
- Traditional Healer Services Program



Grand Chief Settee at a MMIWG event

MKO has benefitted from an increase in project-based funding for the health transformation, child welfare, and MMIWG work that we have undertaken. As a result, we are able to employ a strong team of experienced, skilled, and dedicated staff. We have a total of 73 staff on payroll.

Although Garden Hill, St. Theresa Point, Wasagamack, and Red Sucker Lake First Nations are not currently a part of MKO, we continue to work with the First Nations by including them on the communications we send out and by sharing information we received about various opportunities. We hope to welcome them back to MKO in the future.

Over the last year, MKO has coordinated Chiefs' gatherings and forums on child welfare, urban reserves, and economic development, as well as a Chiefs' Assembly on Health. These gatherings and assemblies were well attended and

Grand Chief's Office and Funding

Core funding for the functions of the Grand Chief's Office has not increased, however, we have been successful in increasing project funding to the organization. Given the needs and demographics of our remote and isolated Northern First Nations, funding is still not where it should be given the mandate and national profile of the organization. Funding is particularly an issue when it comes to travelling to all of the MKO communities on a regular basis.

MKO continues to advocate for and work towards sustainable and adequate core funding. There is general consensus that the current federal government is favourable for organizations such as ours. Our funding allows us to effectively advocate and engage with the various federal and provincial governments and non-governmental organizations.

Political Team

Grand Chief Settee has worked to establish a team of support staff and advisors in his capacity to support his role as Grand Chief of MKO. He continues to bring awareness and advocacy to the important files of the MKO First Nations and people. Each member of the Political Team is helping us to increase our effectiveness as an organization and to open lines of communication.

Melanie Ferris, Communications Officer

Melanie handles the internal and external communications for MKO. This includes developing and managing tools such as our newsletters, website, brochures, posters, social media, and other items. She also handles media relations and is responsible for developing and distributing media releases and advisories. If you want to request an interview with MKO's Grand Chief, please email melanie.ferris@mkonorth.com or call/text her at 204-612-1284.



Clyde Flett, Assistant to Grand Chief

Clyde is responsible for the day-to-day activities of the Grand Chief. This includes ensuring all documents are prepared for meetings and engagements. He responds to calls and emails from Chiefs and Councillors and communities and to other enquiries. Clyde provides technical and advisory services. You can email clyde.flett@mkonorth.com or call/text him at 204-390-2702.



Stewart Hill, Senior Research and Policy Analyst

Stewart is responsible for responding to issues or policy concerns brought to the attention of MKO in the natural resources, environment and lands sectors, and anything related to their development or allocation that affect, or might affect, the Aboriginal and Treaty rights of MKO citizens. Stewart provides research, writing, technical and advisory services. He also does research and policy analysis of a general nature on any other issue affecting or pertaining to MKO citizens. You can email stewart.hill@mkonorth.com or call/text him at 204-794-4384.



Karen Kejick, Intergovernmental Relations Analyst

Karen is responsible for building and enhancing MKO's political relations at the international, national, and regional levels. She also advises on key legislative and policy changes that impact Northern First Nations. Karen writes position papers, political and policy briefings, correspondence, and business proposals for the Office of the Grand Chief. You can email karen.kejick@mkonorth.com or call/text her at 204-794-4231.



Jaiden Sandberg, Administrative Assistant

Jaiden is the first point of contact in the MKO Winnipeg office. She answers and directs all calls and faxes that come through the front desk, as well as tends to outgoing and incoming mail. Jaiden handles office tasks such as reordering supplies, general filing, and booking the MKO boardroom. You can email jaiden.sandberg@mkonorth.com or call her at 204-927-7500.



Dorothy Smith, Executive Assistant

Dorothy provides administrative support to the Grand Chief. She manages daily information from the office of the Grand Chief such as meeting requests, invitations, letters, agreements, and other correspondence.

She updates the Grand Chief's schedule, coordinates meeting requests, and ensures staff accompany the Grand Chief with all required briefings, speaking notes, and correspondence. To send an invitation or letter to the Grand Chief, please email Dorothy.smith@mkonorth.com or call her at 204-918-8101.



Child and Family Services Liaison Unit

The role of the Child and Family Services Liaison with the MKO and the First Nations of Northern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority is to serve the needs and aspirations of both organizations in developing and delivering child welfare practice in Northern Manitoba.

The challenge of child welfare is rewarding. We continue to work towards the betterment of our children's lives and their families among our people in the North. We continue to strengthen cooperation and coordination among all child and family services stakeholders and our First Nations.

Work over the past year includes:

- Implementing the Unity Declaration for all seven Northern Authority mandated agencies. This declaration seeks to unite all the mandated agencies to develop a common approach to child welfare practice under the principles of *Bill C-92: An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families*.
- Research and application of MKO's First Nation Family Law. The MKO Chiefs-in-Assembly adopted this law in 2000. It can be a factor in adopting or creating a legislative framework within which to create the appropriate mechanisms to establish a customary care practice under Bill C-92.
- The research and development of a Northern First Nations Child and Family Secretariat as proposed by the MKO Chiefs-in-Assembly in 2000. This was the vision cast for an accountability and advocacy mechanism for the child welfare agency that existed at the time and the agencies that would come into being in the future.
- Preparing for Bill C-92 by educating leadership and stakeholders on its impact as well as helping to develop a vision for how this law will affect child welfare practice in Northern Manitoba and within our First Nations.
- Researching coordination agreements that would be converted from the 1983 Master

Agreement between Canada, Manitoba, and MKO for child welfare in Northern Manitoba. Studying these agreements will aid in the usage and application of future agreements between MKO and other governments.

- Researching culturally appropriate standards, programs, and services to inform the creation of our own customary care practices.
- Developing and presenting a foundational strategy proposal to enable the development of customary care practice.

We continue to work and liaise with the Northern Authority. This cross-organizational effort has benefits such as increased efficiencies in research, document and proposed policy creation, as well as political advisement. These factors will serve our Northern organizations well as we move through this period of immense change in child welfare. We must navigate the broad changes happening in child welfare funding, policy, and law within Manitoba by using the best possible experience, expertise, and imagination. We are capable of ensuring a clear way forward as our communities take control of our children's welfare as it always was and as it always should have been.



Pow wow dancers

Client Navigator

Our Client Navigator provides access to health services to registered First Nations and Inuit who are experiencing difficulties with the Non-Insured Health Benefits and related provincial programs and services. Our objective is to improve access to health services for members seeking medical care while in transit or to acquire supplies and equipment.

Statistics

From June 2018 to January 2019, the Client Navigator provided advocacy services to 694 people as follows:



We provide the following:

- 1) Serve as first point of contact for communities, organizations, and individuals for facilitating access to the NIHB program
- 2) Support for NIHB denials and appeals
- 3) Collaborate with the NIHB regional office on programs, projects, and initiatives to improve awareness and access to the NIHB Program and better integration of health services
- 4) Develop a communication strategy and implement approaches to improve awareness and understanding of the NIHB Program
- 5) Promote an understanding of the Navigator's role and responsibilities to the MKO communities, health care providers, and agencies
- 6) Maintain a network of contacts to strengthen relationships with stakeholders, health care providers, and partners

7) Liaison with First Nations and Inuit, federal and provincial health services, professional organizations, and health care providers to assist eligible clients in navigating the NIHB Program on accessing benefits

8) Identify training requirements and opportunities for improving access to health services and health outcomes

We acknowledge all that has been accomplished and know that we have advocacy personnel who provide access to NIHB when our members are faced with challenges and obstacles when in transit for medical purposes away from home. The year was filled with wonderful opportunities and many challenges.

Highlights

- Program strengthened through community visits and setting up a booth at various conferences/workshops in Winnipeg, Thompson, and in First Nations
- All NIHB policies and procedures can be viewed online with Health Canada website at www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/services/first-nations-inuit-health/non-insured-health-benefits/benefits-information/non-insured-health-benefits-program-update-first-nations-inuit-health-canada.html
- We are a part of the National Navigators with the Assembly of First Nations
- NIHB Revision were approved with dental, vision, and mental health counselling benefits. The Joint Steering Committee developed these changes based on input received from regional reports, community engagement, literature reviews, provider and client surveys, and submissions. The directives may require changes in the future to reflect changing realities and on-the-ground activities. The Joint Review Steering Committee considers the process of providing input and working together with FNIHB to improve the benefits to be part of a long-term and ongoing discussion. Medical transportation is being discussed with the many ongoing problems and issues being addressed to better serve First Nations and Inuit.

MKO ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

Challenges

- Delayed wait time continues to be a huge grief for people on medical travel. We plan to meet with the Chief Executive Officer of the Keewatin Tribal Council to discuss how we can collaborate and provide services to our members without interference with wait times and find solutions to minimize the disruption.
- The Northern Patient Transportation Program at the Thompson General Hospital continues to be a challenge with members who live off reserve. The program manager advises First Nation members who need to attend specialist appointments in Winnipeg that up-to-date letters from physicians are necessary for the purposes of escorts and air travel.

Meetings

We attended the Tribal Council and Independence Health Director's meeting; the ISET seminar; the Northlands Denesuline Health Forum; the AMC's Wahbung Vision workshop; a visit with Elders in Tadoule Lake; a meeting with FNIHB; the AMC Jordan's Principle Forum; and we presented at the Mental Wellness and Mobile Crisis Response Team meeting. We also did home visits and met with members one on one.



...—◇—...
Improving access to health care services for members seeking medical care while in transit or to acquire supplies and equipment.
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MKO's Client Navigator Bernice Thorassie

Clinical Care Transformation (Health)

The Clinical Care Transformation Team is working to transform clinical care for Northern First Nations.

Fiscal analysis: Review of health costs in Manitoba

Our team engaged Faculty of Economics at the University of Winnipeg to conduct a health funding analysis specific to Northern First Nations in the spring/summer of 2018.

The research team accessed data from the FNIHB Manitoba region as well as publicly available information to develop this report.

We received the draft analysis report; it requires review with / by other First Nations health system experts. The report is entitled *A Health Care System in Transition: Present and Future Funding for Health Care in MKO Communities*.

Clinical Care Transformation development

To move our work forward in transforming clinical care, we have completed the following:

- Held engagement sessions and meetings
- Expanded our human resources capacity
- Developed partnerships
- Increased communications
- Worked towards establishing an entity

Service areas

The FNIHB provided \$7.8 million during this fiscal year for the following areas of work:

- Providing on-call support via Nurse Practitioners for Nursing Stations
- Digital X-ray imaging in 19 remote and isolated communities of which 14 are within the MKO region
- Pigg-o-stat X-ray machine accessory (23 devices)
- Providing physician salary that has been traditionally used for travel time and paid for as physician salary, to increase physician services by all providers

- Providing a centralized travel booking service for these health care professionals
- Natawewewak Clinic
- Point of Care Testing (year 1 & 2)

Jordan's Principle: Pediatricians and Clinical Psychology Project



All nine communities identified to receive initial services have now been visited at least once with two more pediatric visits to be scheduled before December 2019. The second phase triparty services agreement is being developed and contemplates three more years of services. The service provider partners include Winnipeg Regional Health Authority and Northern Regional Health Authority and Ongomiizwin Health Services / University of Manitoba.

Phase two will include a community-based needs assessment, extension of services to support other under-served MKO First Nations, and the establishment of an advisory group with Tribal Council Service Coordinators and Northern First Nations Case Managers.



Clinical Care Transformation Team

Communications

The communications role at MKO has been filled by three people between April 2018 to today. The current Communications Officer is Melanie Ferris, who started in May 2019.

MKO has continued to have a social media presence throughout the year. In June 2019 we expanded our efforts and are now using Instagram and LinkedIn. We have also started using Twitter on a regular basis.

We aim to share information on social media about MKO program, services, and advocacy work along with updates on the Grand Chief's activities.

Communications staff continue to support the Grand Chief by responding to issues of concern by using tools such as media releases and press conferences. We look forward to continuing to raise the profile of MKO and the issues that concern First Nations in Northern Manitoba.

We also provide support to First Nations that need help connecting with media on a variety of issues. MKO has hosted press conferences on a variety of issues over the past fiscal year.

Stay connected with MKO on social media :



www.facebook.com/MKONorth



[@MKO_North](https://www.instagram.com/MKO_North)



www.linkedin.com/company/manitoba-keewatinowi-okimakanak



[@MKO_North](https://twitter.com/MKO_North)



Press conference at the MKO Winnipeg office

Economic Development

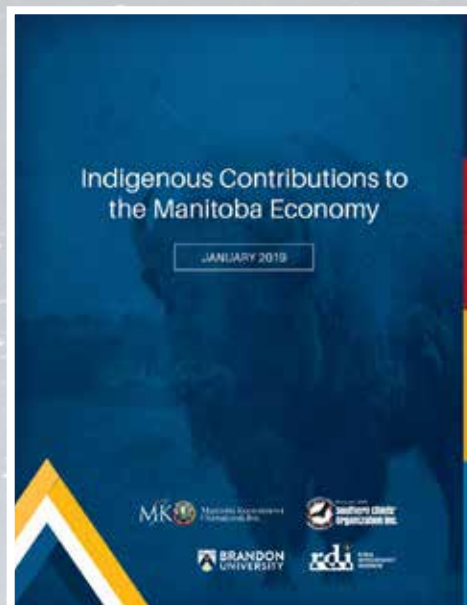
Grand Chief Settee was on hand to launch the *Contributions to the Manitoba Economy: At a Glance Summary* report in January 2019. Highlights of the report include:

- The Indigenous economic impact is at \$2.3 billion in gross domestic product
- About 36,000 jobs have been created
- \$1.1 billion in labour income has been generated

The overall contribution by Indigenous Peoples is \$9.3 billion.

A separate launch was held in April 2019 for the *Look North: Indigenous Economy Report*. It highlighted the contributions of the Northern Indigenous Peoples to the Manitoba economy. It found:

- 73 per cent of Northerners are Indigenous peoples
- Spending by MKO Indigenous businesses, governments, and households was valued at \$3.1 billion dollars to the Manitoba economy
- MKO Indigenous communities have created and are maintaining over 9,442 jobs, providing \$304 million dollars in wages and salaries to workers in Manitoba



The report also examined four existing urban reserves in Northern Manitoba. These are growing in importance as a revenue source for First Nations and allow First Nations to provide support services for their members, plan for future generations, and pursue economic development opportunities.

The four urban reserves are:

- Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation in the City of Thompson
- Opaskwayak Cree Nation adjacent to The Pas
- Two urban reserves in the Town of Swan River belonging to Sapotawayak Cree Nation

Education

Over the last quarter of fiscal year 2018-2019, education work involved research on education innovation for its application and relevance to our Northern schools.

MKO's two main focuses were the kindergarten to grade 12 education transformation with the 2016 federal budget commitments and the establishment of an education sector within MKO. With this, an education team would ensure resolutions by MKO Chiefs-in-Assembly are addressed and assist the Grand Chief's Office with engaging provincial and federal governments and other national education partners.

MKO's objective was to promote education concerns and priorities from remote and isolated Northern community members for second and third level education supports and institutional development for language and culture.

The five-year First Nations School Systems Agreement came into effect on July 1, 2017. This is an agreement between the Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre, the participating First Nations, and the Government of Canada. There are 12 eligible schools. Two of these are from the MKO Region—Fox Lake and York Landing.



Grand Chief Settee at a graduation ceremony

Community members should decide on how they want to control education in consultation with leadership and education specialists. The agreement represents a step toward improving education to attract and retain qualified teachers. MKO is aware that First Nations may assess the agreement before joining and may prefer local control of their school system.

With the Manitoba First Nations Education Funding Formula and Agreement, there were discussions around accessing similar funding to the Frontier School Division. In December 2018 Indigenous Services Canada advised they will not commit any further funding beyond the funding formula.

Education is a Treaty right. MKO continues to advocate for Northern First Nations education and have representation at the various regional and national education levels.



MKO ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19



Irene Young, Assistant Program Manager, presenting Mr. Lavallee with a gift for the excellent work he did for us during the training

It is essential that CJWs establish a good working relationship with law enforcement. Direct referrals, either from law enforcement agencies or community sources, addresses critical issues in the court system. Systemic delay and alleged discrimination associated with the court process are bypassed by using direct referral processes. Our program also provides an opportunity for communities to actively develop and implement appropriate and effective justice practices within their communities.

The program has developed and continues to provide successful results in the area of restorative justice. This success is a result of the continuum commitment of the community justice workers in providing services that are reflective of the cultural appropriateness of their approach, understanding of the local languages and customs, and knowledge of the geographic and social realities (day school and residential schools effects) of the communities they serve.

There are 14 First Nations that are part of the MKO Justice initiative and are served by the prosecutions office from Thompson, The Pas, Swan River, and Winnipeg. These First Nations are Nelson House, Oxford House, Shammattawa, Split Lake, Gods Lake, Lac Brochet, Pukatawagan, Grand Rapids, Moose Lake, Easterville, Sapotaweyak, Opaskwayak, Garden Hill, and Wasagamack.

The CJWs attended a three-day training in Winnipeg on how to use the new database. Other topics included discussions on future restorative innovations, challenges, and success approaches. Wilfred Lavallee, Manager of Restorative Justice at Manitoba Justice, did the training on the database and MKO senior staff did all the other training. Rick Sinclair of Aboriginal Policing stopped by to talk about pre-charge diversions by the RCMP.

The Department of Justice Canada and Manitoba Justice renewed our funding to March 31, 2022.



First responders attend our June 21 celebrations in Thompson

Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Program

The Indigenous Skills and Employment Training (ISET) program supports a number of Indigenous organizations throughout Canada that deliver skills and training and support services to prepare First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people to sustain and succeed in the workforce.

Our ISET Program was launched on April 1, 2019. We have a 10-year agreement for the program to run until March 31, 2029, which was designed to replace the Aboriginal Skills Employment Training Strategy agreement.

MKO is one of the master agreement holders with Services Canada. The three pillars that support the ISET Program are:

1. Demand-driven skills development
2. Partnerships
3. Accountability for measuring and improving results

These pillars determine what kind of programs and expenses are eligible under the ISET Program funding.

Our program is one of the First Nations Agreement Holders. We deliver funds directly to our sub-agreement holders. Funding supports salary and travel for MKO ISET Program staff to monitor and assist our sub-agreement holders with their programs. This includes program monitoring, help with financial reporting, client results reporting, audit preparation, client assessments, and any other assistance that the community may require. Our new agreement does not include the Island Lake First Nations as they are pursuing their own standalone agreement with Service Canada.

Service Canada has made positive changes to the ISET Program. One major change to the ISET Program is that after the 2020-2021 year, the First Nation and Inuit Child Care Initiative will no longer be a part of the agreement.

The funding for this initiative will flow directly from the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs to all 63 First Nations in Manitoba under the community health program.

Service Canada did a capacity assessment with our program in February 2019. Our program qualified for the capacity enhancement category where Service Canada will flow funds twice a year instead of the quarterly funding we have received in the past. Communities will receive funds on a regular basis rather than having to wait.

We have reorganized our staffing to deliver and assist the communities in a more effective manner. We have identified one coordinator for a community instead of having three workers for a community. This enhances communication and productivity in all areas of program delivery.



ISET graduates

MKO ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

We have the following three level of programs where we deliver and assist First Nations:

1. Employment and training
2. First Nation and Inuit Child Care Initiative (FNICCI)
3. Database

We have also made changes on how we handle the audit. In the past our program would wait for all the sub-agreement holder's audits to come before we do our audit. This delayed the quarterly funding to the communities.

For the year 2018-2019 year we used quarterly financial information from the communities to do the audit. This has been an effective and positive change for MKO. We are wrapping up our CEP program under FNICCI. We have renovated a number of childcare centers in various First Nations.



ISSET graduates participating in traditional games

Our program has been focusing on training internal employees to ensure they have the support they need to be the most effective employees. With the assistance of Workplace Education Manitoba, our staff received train the trainer for Communication Effective Needs Assessment. Our staff delivered this training to all sub-agreement holders from August 2018 to January 2019.

We successfully created a *Client Assessment Workbook Toolkit* for clients who are seeking employment readiness. Our focus with the workbooks was to better assist MKO First Nations to get into the workforce. These toolkits will be accessible to all the sub-agreement holders to order at any time. We have also created program pamphlets for MKO First Nations to have a better understanding of how they can access the MKO ISET Funds.

Our program has completely updated information on our website, making it easier for all First Nation members to access. Updates include an overview of the entire program, including forms, guides, contact information, success stories, and links to alternative sources of funding.

In June 2019, we successfully delivered a seminar to all MKO First Nations in partnership with Service Canada, Workplace Education Manitoba, Thompson Skills and Employment Partnerships Branch, and the Department of Education and Training. Over the span of four days we delivered breakout sessions to the sub-agreement holders and their entire team from the First Nations. Our focus was on program delivery, partnership development, and identifying program gaps moving forward.

Our main focus with the new agreement is to provide tools, services, and resources to all the sub-agreement holders to be better, more effective program coordinators as well as bringing program awareness to MKO First Nations clients on how they can access program funds and to better seek and find employment in their area.

The MKO ISET Partnership Coordinator

The coordinator was an integral part of the Northern Skills Trades Training Program, a partnership with the Northern Manitoba Sector Council, Apprenticeship Manitoba, Manitoba Hydro, University College of the North, Workplace Education Manitoba, and MKO.

The objective is to train up to 30 Northern Indigenous peoples into industrial electricians, industrial mechanics (now switched to heavy duty mechanics), and steamfitter/pipefitters. Most students have completed Level 3 and are now working on Level 4 hours. At least six have already completed their Red Seal Exam and passed. This program ended on December 31 however, the students are still going for their final year.

The ISET Partnerships Coordinator is also active at the following tables and projects:

- Northern Manitoba Mining Academy
- Career fairs
- Welding Camp
- University of Manitoba Science Summer Camp
- Staff training
- Driver training
- Thompson Aboriginal Advisory Committee
- Thompson 2020
- Women's Circle
- Look North Steering Committee



*ISET graduates
participating in a learning
workshop*

Mental Wellness

Statistics

Our Mental Wellness Teams provided the following services during this fiscal year:

- Aftercare: 1269 cases
- Care coordination: 537 cases
- Counselling: 2816 cases
- Crisis response: 429 cases
- Early intervention: 1953 cases
- Land-based healing: 596 cases
- Monitoring pre-crisis reporting: 184 cases
- Screening and assessment: 370 cases
- Trauma-informed care: 375 cases

Types of crisis handled in 2018-2019:

- Accident involving a fatality: 5
- Adult suicide: 23
- Attempted murder: 10
- Attempted suicide by a youth: 82
- Attempted suicide by an adult: 35
- Declared state of emergency: 2
- Drunk driving: 2
- Fire: 9
- Flooding: 6
- Home invasion: 11
- Multiple deaths: 5
- Murder: 10
- Other: 77
- Sexual assault: 13
- Stabbing: 3
- Sudden death of a youth: 9
- Sudden death of a child: 2
- Sudden death of an infant: 6
- Violent assault: 70
- Youth suicide: 16

Communities served

MKO flows the funding to six Mental Wellness Teams that serve 40 First Nations. This represents an on-reserve population of 51,208 as follows:

Wellness Team	Communities
Dakota Tribal Council	7 communities, on-reserve population of 10,599: Birdtail Sioux, Dakota Tipi, Long Plain, Roseau River, Sandy Bay, Swan Lake, and Waywayseecappo
Interlake Tribal Council	6 communities, on-reserve population of 7,566: Dauphin River, Kinojeoshtegon, Lake Manitoba, Lake Saskatchewan, Peguis, and Waywayseecappo
Keewatin Tribal Council	8 communities, on-reserve population of 6,585: Barren Lands, Fox Lake, Northlands, Sayisi Dene, Shamattawa, Tataskweyak Cree Nation, War Lake, and York Landing
Natawiwewak Medical Clinic	4 communities, on-reserve population of 6,534: God's Lake, God's River, Bunibonabee, and Chemawawin
Opaskwayak Health Authority	7 communities, on-reserve population of 10,389: Marcel Colomb, Mathias Colomb, Mispawistik, Mosakahiken, Opaskwayak, Sapotaweyak, and Wuskwi Sipihk
Southeast Resource Tribal Council	8 communities, on-reserve population of 9,535: Berens River, Bloodvein, Brokenhead, Hollow Water, Little Black River, Little Grand Rapids, Pauingassi, and Poplar River

How our teams work:

This was the third year of a three-year funding arrangement with the First Nations Inuit Health Branch for six Manitoba Wellness Teams and our Mobile Crisis Response Team. The Mental Wellness Teams have a diversity in service models including crisis response; community development; and clinical, cultural, and land-based approaches.

On average, each team employs or contracts three full-time workers. Health professionals who are part of the team include psychologists, nurses, social workers, and clinical therapists. Other professionals who are part of the teams include Elders and traditional healers, wellness workers, school-based professionals, Resolution Health Support Workers, Brighter Futures and Building Healthy Communities advisors, National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse program workers, and cultural support workers.

We have provided cultural competency crisis response training to 127 para and professional workers.

Successes

Our successes during this fiscal year include:

- Promoting our services at Treaty days to the communities
- Supporting people with traditional healing/ Indigenous practices and developing further capacity in this area
- Facilitating traditional days in communities, including netting 150 fish and harvesting two moose to feed community members during traditional celebrations
- Hosting a two-day youth camp
- Hosting a youth gathering in Winnipeg with a focus on wellness, covering topics such as healthy relationships, life skills, Safe Talk, and Elder's teachings
- Hosting Indigenous ceremonies in communities
- Providing and referring youth to specialized services in mental health such as psychiatric care
- Helping to respond to emergencies and stabilizing crisis in communities
- Helping with community infrastructure: we are helping to develop cottages and a group home for land-based healing in two communities
- Providing follow-up after care: Some teams provide follow-up, aftercare, and links to resources for people returning from treatment
- Developing service plans, accreditation processes, orienting new employees, and mapping assets
- Developing partnerships with community resources along with a variety of regional organizations
- Developing capacity and providing training and workshop for communities for addictions recovery; prescription drug abuse/addictions; drug abuse and opioid use; bullying; crisis response training; domestic violence and how children are impacted; grief and loss recovery; identifying training needs with frontline community workers; Indigenous lateral violence; mental health first aid; non-violent crisis intervention; Safe Talk; self-care; Teen Talk; and case management techniques.

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Liaison Unit

MKO leadership is committed to supporting the efforts of our Northern families in their search for answers. Our families cannot rest until they know what has happened to their loved ones. As such, addressing the issue of the MMIWG is one of a key priority areas of MKO.

We bring grandmothers, therapist, spiritual guides, Elders, and traditional knowledge keepers to the various activities and events we are undertaking to support impacted individuals.

Our team is very committed and passionate in carrying out the sacred work we do in supporting impacted families and communities. Our efforts are tireless efforts in moving this file forward from a place of tragedy to place where Indigenous women and girls can feel safe and thrive.

Our team brings a diversity of knowledge to the unit and builds on the strengths and resources that exist with families and communities.

Clients served

Our Unit provided support to more than 200 individuals.

Highlights

- MKO was successful in obtaining regional and national standing with the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG). Jessica Barlow from Jerch Law was the legal representative for MKO. Hilda Anderson-Pyrz and Jessica Barlow participated in several hearings across the country and provided several written recommendations that contributed to the final report for National Inquiry into MMIWG.

- We have funding dedicated specifically to providing supports to families who have been impacted by MMIWG in the North. We provide

support through culturally appropriate and trauma-informed supports. We assist families in navigating the justice system and other institutions, along with accessing services and supports to promote wellness and healing.

- We have expanded and are

now providing supports and resources to the entire Province of Manitoba for anyone who has been impacted by the tragedy of MMIWG. We now have four team members and an office in Thompson and Winnipeg.

- Community engagement is large part of the work being undertaken. We create awareness on ending violence against Indigenous women and girls and build partnerships and relationships with various governments, organizations, and communities to enhance supports and resources using a strength-based approach.



- We were successful in obtaining funding through the Status of Women Canada Commemoration fund. This will allow for a monument to be built in Thompson honouring the lives of MMIWG along with eight commemoration events in various communities identified by impacted family members.
- We are developing a resource toolkit for schools and communities on safety for Indigenous women and girls in community and urban environments.
- We hosted a two-day information knowledge exchange on human trafficking and sexual exploitation in Thompson with various experts educating service providers and community members.

Challenges

- The geographical location of communities and the cost of travel has been a barrier in our ability to provide supports in all the communities. We have taken a unique approach to bring impacted family members together twice per year for a healing gathering in Thompson with the supports including but not limited to therapists, cultural and spiritual supports, and sharing of healing tools.
- We encounter colonial systems that are ineffective and create barriers for Indigenous women and girls who are seeking supports and resources. This results in creating further harm to victims and their families.

Projects

We are managing the following projects:

- Family Information Liaison
- Status of Women Canada Commemoration Project
- Health and Cultural Support Services for the MMIWG Initiative
- Grandmother Support Victim Services



Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Women
and Girls



*Hilda Anderson-Pryz with MMIWG National Inquiry
Commissioner Michèle Audette*



*Grand Chief Settee
with councillor
Darlene Osborne
from Norway
House.*

Mobile Crisis Response Team

Our Mobile Crisis Response Team provides holistic, culturally sensitive and safe crisis response trauma intervention to First Nations in Manitoba.

Statistics

The following are a summary of the deployment statistics for our team between April 1, 2018, and June 30, 2019:

- 154 deployments
- 45 communities have requested support, including Thompson and Winnipeg
- Southern deployments: 83
- Northern deployments: 72

Deployment summary

- Continuum of care deployments: 31
- Curriculum trainings: 17
- Fire evacuation supports (large scale): 2
- Information sharing opportunities (i.e.: resource tables): 9
- MMIWG supports: 11
- Prevention work, including workshops and crisis planning emergency meetings in community: 7
- Red Cross support deployments: 15
- Suicides: 18
- Suicide attempts: 9
- Tragic experiences: 24
- Violent related, including homicides: 9

MKO was approached, and agreed, to coordinate the Mental Health Wellness Initiative for the Manitoba region. As part of the agreement, MKO received \$10 million in funding over 3 years to create and manage a multi-faceted mental health enterprise. We used this funding to:

- Create the MKO Mobile Crisis Response Team
- Create three Wellness Teams in 2016/17 with three more Wellness Teams created over the following two years
- Develop capacity in communities

Since its inception in March 2017 we have:

- Started a recruitment and selection process to build a team consisting of 12 front-line staff, 1 deployment coordinator, and 1 program manager
- The team is located in the two MKO offices, with seven team members in the Thompson office and five team members in the Winnipeg sub-office.
- Since its inception, the Mobile Crisis Response Team has deployed to over 40 of the 63 First Nations in Manitoba.
- On average, requests for service come in about 2.5 time per week.
- Deployments occur for, but are not limited to, traumatic and tragic events such as death by suicide; death by homicide; accidental, unexplained, or unexpected deaths; multiple deaths; missing persons; violent assaults; fire evacuation; flooding evacuation; suicide attempts/threats; and natural disasters.

Future operations

In January 2019, the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch and MKO announced a renewal of funding for the Mental Health Wellness Initiative for the next fiscal year, ending in March 2020. There is no timeline for a sunset in operational funding for the Mental Health Wellness Initiative for the foreseeable future.

MKO ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19



Mobile Crisis Team - Winnipeg



Mobile Crisis Team - Thompson

MKO CRISIS RESPONSE TOOLKIT

WITHIN THE FIRST 8-12 HOURS

STEP 1

Establish safe room/debriefing area.

- A quiet space, staffed with support for individuals who may wish to sit and talk about the crisis.
- If possible have water, blankets, food, etc., for those who may need them.

STEP 2

Connect with the individuals connected to the crisis.

- Identify those who are most impacted by the crisis.
- Ask what support they may require?
- Crisis situations leave individuals feeling unsafe, disconnected, and powerless. Allowing individuals the autonomy to make decisions on what supports they need will help them to regain the establishment of control.
- **LISTEN.** Allow the individual to share what they are comfortable sharing and avoid plying them with too many questions. There is no need to provide solutions or suggestions to remedy the situation right away.
- Individuals will express a wide range of emotions. Whatever feelings they are experiencing is normal. See the Common Reactions to Trauma and Responding to Trauma section on page 8 for more information.

STEP 3

If additional resources from outside the community have been brought in, establish time for the community response team to meet with them.

- Brief them on the crisis.
- Familiarize the additional resources with relevant details of the community.
- Determine which tasks will be undertaken by the community response team and which will be undertaken by the additional resources.

COMMUNITY RESPONDERS

Identify the individuals in your community who can assist with the crisis response and what strengths they have to offer. Characteristics to look for in community responders are

- Authority to make decisions that will impact the community or have financial repercussions
- Quick thinkers
- Ability to remain focused and calm in stressful situations
- Knowledge of the community
- Have knowledge or training in responding to crisis situations

Examples – youth, Elders/Knowledge Keepers/Clergy, community members, service providers (NINADAP workers, health directors, FNHB counselors, social workers), school principal or guidance counselor.

While it's important to have a broad range of representation, keeping the number of people on the crisis response team between 5-8 people will ensure quick decisions are made, as time is always a factor when in crisis.

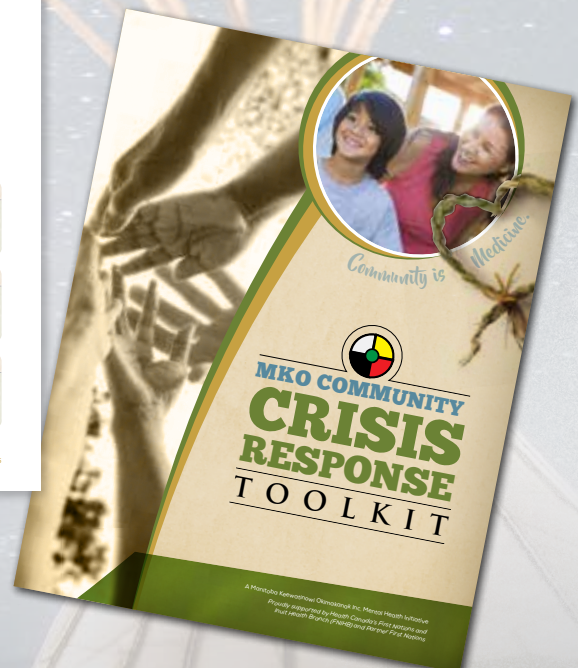


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Thompson Urban Aboriginal Strategy

Over 14 years, the Strategy has invested in numerous successful community projects and initiatives. We continue to focus on these priority areas:

- Employment
- Education and training
- Youth
- Housing
- Culture
- Indigenous women and children

The Strategy aims to narrow the socio-economic gap between urban Indigenous people and the mainstream population. The objectives of the Strategy are to build organizational capacity; develop partnerships to engage in sustainable community development; and coordinate federal government resources across departments in the project cities to address the disparity between urban Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.

We are working to achieve strategic management on a region-wide basis; increased federal responsiveness to community needs; strong policy recognition; more academic research and interest; more publicly available statistics and research; an enhancement of stakeholders and resources; identification of best practices; improved employment capability and job readiness; and increased skills and abilities.

Highlights

- We are creating a reflection space by the Miles Hart Bridge and Red Plane site. It will be launched on Orange Shirt Day 2019. Bush planes like the one by the bridge helped build the Northern economy and opened up the North. These planes also transported children to residential schools. The image of the plane creates painful memories for many. This space will honour residential school students and their families.

- In collaboration with the University College of the North and FEMNorthNet, we commissioned Jasyn Lucas do a “Timeline Art Series.” The unveiling of the art series will take place in 2019. The intention is to capture the perspectives of women and Indigenous people in Thompson and the traditional territories to which we are connected. The series will bring out the beauty and resilience of the Northern urban Indigenous peoples and the hope that endures within us.



Drummers at our June celebration

- The Strategy and Thompson Aboriginal Accord hosted a planning session in March 2019. The partners met to discuss the strategic directions and framework. We will continue to collaborate to successfully realize the intentions of the Accord.

- We hosted a Northern Urban Reserve, Municipality and Economic Development Forum along with Look North in April 2019. The forum had a strong focus on economic development, urban reserves, and partnerships required for success. The launch of the Look North Indigenous Economy Report: Contributions of Northern People to Northern Manitoba took place. The forum was a success and we have received requests to make it annual. We are exploring opportunities with partners.

MKO ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

- Grand Chief Garrison Settee met with the Strategy and the City of Thompson. He requested collaboration between the Strategy and the Thompson Aboriginal Accord to begin to capture history and seek truth from people for corrective stories. The City of Thompson is seeking input on possible naming of streets, buildings/other after Indigenous leaders of Northern Manitoba, Cree words/titles, and/or of Thompson region names to give the city a positive Indigenous visual of our culture and history to help correct the stigma surrounding the Indigenous population.
- We once again hosted the celebrations for National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21 in Thompson. First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people gathered to celebrate with traditional dancing, songs, art, and food. It was a fun-filled day for the whole family and was also an opportunity to learn more about Indigenous people and our contributions to Canada.
- We took the lead on producing a report to highlight the 10th anniversary of the *Thompson Aboriginal Accord Report*. The Strategy was instrumental in creating the Accord in collaboration with the City of Thompson in 2009.
- The Accord is a ground-breaking document that recognizes the role of Indigenous people in our history. It affirms its partners' commitment to strengthening relationships with Indigenous governments and peoples. The Thompson Aboriginal Accord is one of only a few of its kind in Canada and has received nation-wide coverage.
- As a living document, the Accord is not a single one-time event, but an ongoing responsibility adopted by signatories and partners who continue to meet and collaborate throughout the year. The Strategy continues to work to assist and maintain the integrity of the commitment to the Indigenous people of Thompson within the Accord.
- We attended the National Urban Program for Indigenous peoples in Toronto and Gatineau.
- We attended monthly Strategy meetings; quarterly Thompson Aboriginal Accord meetings; and Traditional Healers meeting.
- Our Strategy coordinator is also a member of the Thompson Housing Board; the Community Advisory Board; the Thompson Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee; and the Intergovernmental Federal Working Group. She is also the coordinator of

National Indigenous Peoples Day and the MKO event planning coordinator.

Moving forward

As the Strategy moves into the future, we resolve to strengthen our mandated objectives. We will collaborate and align our collective and strategic efforts to support Thompson's urban Indigenous community; promote increased urban Indigenous participation in the economy; ensure commitment, continuity, accountability, and integrity of the Strategy; serve as an advisory committee to community stakeholders on urban Indigenous issues; support and work with Thompson Aboriginal Accord partners and will discuss the purpose and intent of the Accord with its partners and signatories; and strengthen relationships. We are committed to a collaborative planning process that includes co-creating tangible action plans.



Youth with their academic awards on National Indigenous Peoples Day (June 21, 2019)



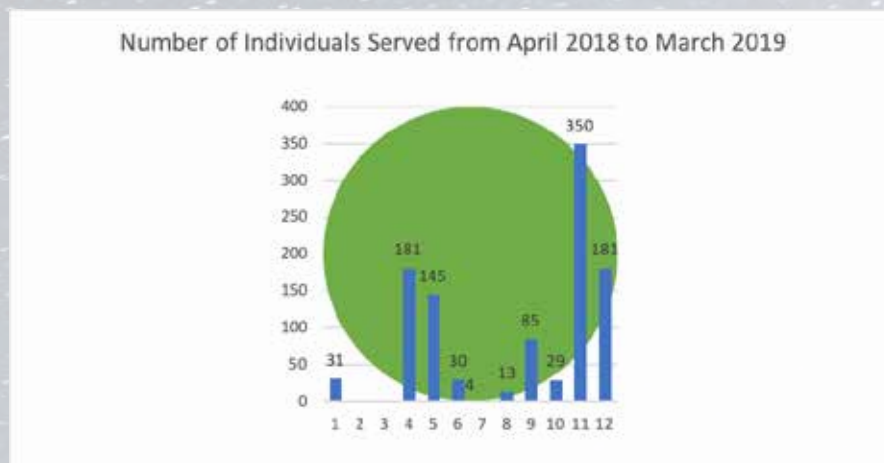
National Indigenous Peoples Day (June 21, 2019)

Traditional Healer Services Program

Over the past year, the Traditional Healer Program has worked to improve access to traditional healing services for First Nations people and families whose mental wellness, counselling, and healing needs require a traditional approach.

Clients served:

The following chart shows the number of clients served over the year from April 2018 to March 2019:



MKO agreed to take on the delivery of FNHIB's mental health and Elder support services. The Department of Indigenous Services Canada (formerly known as the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch) provides funding for the Traditional Healer Program as part of transitioning the NIHB.

Our program ensures clients have safe access to services by determining a provider's capacity and eligibility to provide the services. Our program intends to continue providing services to individuals, families, and groups of community members, all members living on and off reserve in Manitoba who are eligible for NIHB.

The requests for Traditional Healer services has been constant recently. We process supports routinely and immediately. People who seek traditional healing require financial resources and support as there are costs associated with Indigenous traditional healing for both the consumer and the provider. We provide travel to seek the services of a Traditional Healer outside the community.

This includes accommodations, food, and gas. The rates are based primarily with the interim NIHB Medical Transportation Policy Framework. We offer mileage, bus transportation, and/or taxi fares. We also fund air transportation if there's no road access from the community.

As per our Contribution Agreement with FNHIB, we require a Treaty number and date of birth with the name of the client(s). We have reviewed and examined ways to provide compensation to providers in a form and manner that is appropriate to their traditional roles. While we provide ceremonial offerings such as tobacco, cloth, or a gift, the more contemporary gift is monetary. The monetary gift is for the Traditional Healer and their helpers.

We have received requests for Traditional Healers to provide healing in communities, to provide traditional teachings, protocols, ceremonies, and to learn about medicines plus harvesting the medicines. Healers receive travel assistance to go to the community.

We are considering including ancillary costs (e.g.; supplies, designated helpers) to support the events in the community specifically for the healer's services.

Traditional Healers Gathering:

From July 31 to August 2, 2018, we held the Traditional Healers Gathering to seek engagement with First Nations to unfold the NIHB primarily for the Traditional Healer Program. We invited three representatives—a Chief, Health Director, and Traditional Healer—from each of the 64 First Nations in Manitoba. Each day, the attendance reached 200.

The purpose of the gathering was to engage participants on how First Nations in Manitoba will implement the Traditional Healers Program. This program is one of the NIHB programs being transitioned to Manitoba First Nations' control by First Nations and Inuit Health.

FNIHB required a recognized, capable entity to oversee the transitioning of the Traditional Healer Program. Our success in implementing the regional Crisis Response Teams across the region positioned us to champion the transitioning of the Traditional Healer Program.

The three-day gathering began with and maintained ceremony throughout the event. High level, foundational presentations were featured on day one followed by a blend of Elder's panels and focused group-work on day two and three.

The gathering culminated with the selection of a Traditional Healer's Program Oversight Committee. It is made up of 10 Elders—a female and male representing the Cree; Ojibway; Dene; Dakota; and Oji-Cree Nations.

Over the past months, the group has met to deliberate on the healing efforts, education, information sharing, and networking for those who work with our citizens. A report on the 2018 Traditional Healer Gathering will be shared with all Manitoba First Nations.

We have shared updates on program development activities at other Chiefs' Assemblies, at Tribal Council and Independent Health Directors meetings, and at the First Nation Community Health Representatives meetings. We are providing ongoing updates periodically at the MKO/NIHB Joint Committee meetings. We will create a communication strategy with the primary purpose of keeping First Nations in Manitoba informed of the program development and activities. The strategy will include the use of live radio program on NCI FM, brochures, a website, and social media.



Grand Chief Settee with Elder Marie Ballantyne



Grand Chief Settee visits with Dene Elder

Staff List

- Garrison Settee, Grand Chief
- Kelvin Lynxleg, Executive Director
- Shirley Allarie, CFS Policy Analyst
- Gregory Anderson, Crisis Response Team Member
- Karen Anderson, CCT Community Engagement Coordinator
- Hilda Anderson-Pyrz, MMIWG Liaison Unit Manager
- Stephanie Austin, ISET Finance Manager
- Chris Baker, Lead Negotiator- Northern Authority
- Hunter Beardy, Youth Career Focus Leader
- Duke Beardy, Traditional Healer Program Manager
- Darina Beardy, ISET Program Coordinator
- Mary Bloomfield, Finance Assistant
- Miriam Campbell, Crisis Response Team Member
- Hann Chong, IT Consultation
- Edward Cook, FNJS Community Justice Worker - Sapotaweyak
- Mabel Cook, Crisis Response Team Member
- Justin Courchene, Crisis Response Team Manager
- Joanne Crate, CFS Liaison Officer
- Darlene Curci, MMIWG Cultural Support Liaison
- Joseph Lloyd Daniels, FNJS Community Justice Worker- Mathias Colomb
- Leona Daniels, Crisis Response Intake and Deployment Coordinator
- Agnes Dantouze, Finance Manager
- Moriah Davis, CCT Health Policy Analyst
- Louise Denechezhe, FNJS Community Justice Worker- Northlands
- Laura Denedchezhe, Finance Employee
- John James Easter, FNJS Community Justice Worker - Mosakahiken
- Kestin Fenner, SOS Coordinator
- Melanie Ferris, Communications Officer
- Melissa Fiddler, Crisis Response Benefits Analyst
- Brian Flamand, CCT Administrative Coordinator
- Larry Flett, ISET Program Manager
- Leonard Flett, FNJS Community Justice Worker - Garden Hill
- Clyde Flett, Assistant to Grand Chief
- Greg Fontaine, Crisis Response Team Member
- Lacey Fourre, MMIWG Executive Assistant
- Theresa Garson, Mental Wellness Benefits Analyst

MKO ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

- Courtney Gazandlare, Finance Employee
- Michele Genaille, Crisis Response Team Member
- Pat Godin, Receptionist (Thompson office)
- Roba Gott, FNJS Community Justice Worker - Tataskweyak
- Virginia Goulet, Assistant to Executive Director
- Janet Head, Crisis Response Team Member
- Glenda Henderson, ISET Finance Assistant
- Theresa Henderson, Crisis Response Team Member
- Stewart Hill, Senior Research and Policy Analyst
- Selena Hunter, Payroll & Benefits Administrator
- Karen Kejick, Intergovernmental Relations Analyst
- Gloria Kejick, Crisis Response Team Member
- Dora Kematch, FNJS Community Justice Worker - Chemawawin
- Dr. Barry Lavallee, CCT Medical Advisor
- Freda Lepine, ISET Partnership Coordinator
- Terry Linklater, FNJS Community Justice Worker - Nisichawayasihk
- Shyanna Lynxleg, Thompson Urban Aboriginal Strategy Coordinator
- Sharon McKay, CCT Program Manager
- Carol Munroe, FNJS Community Justice Worker - Misipawistik
- Kathleen North, CCT Jordan's Principle Clinical Liaison
- Jacquie Ogemow, Traditional Healer Benefits Analyst
- Robert W. Ogemow, FNJS Community Justice Worker - Manto Sipi
- Maryssa Oniske, ISET Program Coordinator
- Carolyn Peckford, ISET Program Coordinator
- Jaiden Sandberg, Reception (Winnipeg office)
- Trevor Sinclair, Crisis Response Team Member
- Roy Smith, FNJS Program Manager - Thompson Based
- Dorothy Smith, Executive Assistant
- Gina Spence, Crisis Response Team Youth Suicide Prevention
- Heidi Spence, Crisis Response Team Member
- Catherine Stadnichuck, CCT Planning and Organizational Development Coordinator
- Sandra Starr, MMIWG Community Engagement Liaison
- Trudy Stevenson, Crisis Response Team Member
- Bernice Thorassie, Client Navigator
- Tammy Weenusk, FNJS Community Justice Worker - Bunibonibee
- Clinton Whitehead, FNJS Community Justice Worker - Opaskwayak
- George Wood, FNJS Community Justice Worker - Wasagamack
- Theresa Yetman, Mental Wellness Manager
- Irene Young, FNJS Assistant Program Manager

Progress Report on Resolutions

Number	Title	Assigned to	Status	Status Report
2018-08-01 Mover: Onekanew Christian Sinclair, Opaskwayak Cree Nation Seconder: Chief John Clarke, Barren Lands First Nation Carried	Commissioning a New Eagle Staff	Shyanna Lynxleg	Complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MKO commissioned local cultural medicine person Melvin Contois to create an Eagle Staff to represent MKO and its First Nations. • The Eagle Staff was completed with specific instructions and protocols to ensure its safety and well-being as it is a sacred item. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Eagle Staff and each of its eagle feathers are sacred symbols that are held in high esteem. ○ It is a representation of our MKO Nations and must be cared for and held by a male. ○ The MKO Eagle Staff has 30 eagle feathers. ○ Each feather represents the spirit of the 30 MKO First Nations, as it still represents those First Nations that are no longer within MKO with instructions for MKO to continue to care and be the voice for all the Indigenous People.
2018-08-02 Mover: Onekanew	Pediatric Care: Addressing Unattended	Moriah Davis	Phase 1/year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Jordan's Principle pediatric and clinical psychology services are

Christian Sinclair, Opaskwayak Cree Nation Seconder: Councillor Nathan Neckoway (Proxy), Tataskweyak Cree Nation Carried	Development in Chronic Health Needs of First Nations Children in Northern Manitoba		near completion Planning for phase 2 underway	<p>being deployed to the identified nine First Nations during year 1/phase 1. Three pediatrician visits will have occurred over the first phase, which will end in the fall/winter of 2019.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 2 contemplates an expanded and amended service model that will be based on a longer time frame (2 to 3+ years), analysis of the outcomes of phase 1, and a new needs assessment that will involve canvassing all Northern First Nations in partnership with Northern Tribal Councils and the First Nations Jordan's Principle case management teams. MKO's CCT medical advisor and other clinical advisors will play a key role in the expansion, evaluation, and adaptation of the existing service model. A research component may also be incorporated within the next phase, if agreed upon by leadership.
2018-08-03 Mover: Chief Walter Spence, Fox Lake Cree Nation Seconder: Onekanew Christian Sinclair,	Reports of Past Administration Orders of the Cree Nation Child and Caring Agency, the Awasis Agency of Northern Manitoba and	Joanne	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grand Chief has met with Northern Authority Chair Sydney Garrioch regarding the request. Grand Chief to meet with Sydney Garrioch to get an update on the requested documents.

Opaskwayak Cree Nation Carried	the First Nations of Northern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority			
2018-08-04 Mover: Councillor Louella Chartrand (Proxy). Sapotaweyak Cree Nation Second: Onekanew Christian Sinclair, Opaskwayak Cree Nation	Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak, Inc, support the mandate of Clear Sky Connections to pursue and take the lead in building Manitoba's network of the future	Clyde Flett	Inactive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The resolution was defeated on the table. No further actions have been initiated.
2018-08-05 Mover: Chief Harold Turner, Misipawistik Cree Nation Second: Chief Clarence Easter, Chemawawin Cree Nation Carried	Support for Swampy Cree Tribal Council to Secure Funding for Family Treatment Centres	Clyde Flett	Ongoing	Grand Chief's Assistant to get further information and develop an advocacy plan to assist with securing funding.
2018-08-06 Mover: Chief Clarence Easter, Chemawawin Cree Nation Second: Chief Harold Turner, Misipawistik Cree Nation Carried	Establishing an Aggregate Northern First Nations Health Transformation Entity	Sharon McKay	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oct. 2018: Letter sent to all MKO Chiefs inviting Chiefs task force formation. Refer to info in Chiefs' binder related to engagement sessions, meetings, and presentations. Jan. 22 & 23, 2019: MKO Chiefs Assembly on Health was held

2018-08-07 Mover: Onekanew Christian Sinclair, Opaskwayak Cree Nation Seconder: Chief Harold Turner, Misipawistik Cree Nation Carried	University College of the North	Clyde Flett	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Former employee Curtis Mallet was assigned to attend discussions on AFN Education Transformation • The Political Team met with Doug Lauvsted, UCN President and Vice-Chancellor. Discussions are ongoing. • Grand Chief Settee hasn't had an opportunity to meet with Premier Pallister on amending the UCN Act in nominating members of the Governing Council of UCN. <p>The matter is on hold due to the provincial election this Fall.</p>
2018-08-08 Mover: Vice Chief Ron Spence (Proxy) Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Seconder: Onekanew Christian Sinclair, Opaskwayak Cree Nation Carried	MKO to establish a Search and Rescue Committee	Hilda Anderson-Pyrz	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requests for donations for search and rescue efforts in the North have been ongoing. • Some equipment and supplies have been donated. • Three members of the MMIWG Liaison Unit Staff have successfully completed Search and Rescue Training through Manitoba Emergency Services College. • Networking with institutions and agencies is ongoing to identify what services and supports exist for search and rescue efforts in the North. • Discussions have

				<p>occurred with local experts within the MKO territory.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accessing funding specific to search and rescue has been challenging. Efforts to seek funding are ongoing.
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Progress Report on 2019 Resolutions

Number	Title	Assigned to	Status	Status Report
2019-01-01 rev. 1.0 Mover: Chief Clarence Easter, Chemawawin Cree Nation Seconder: Chief Marcel Moody, Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Carried	Transition of Non-Insured Health Benefits – Mental Health Programs	Theresa Yetman	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feb. 2018: FNIHB was eager to transition NIHB mental health to MKO. Feb. 2019: MKO sent a letter from Grand Chief Settee to Pam Smith with a copy the resolution to proceed with the transitioning of mental health. Apr. 25: MKO received Pam Smith's letter of response dated March 1, 2019. Pam Smith indicated the transfer of all NIHB mental health services will require evidence of support from the other First Nations. Meanwhile, they will work with MKO to seek collaboration as part of the resolution. MKO met twice with FNIHB to get further clarification on FNIHB's letter. A Joint Committee meeting on

				<p>April 30, 2019, and Chiefs Task Force meeting with Pam Smith. Valerie Gideon, Senior Assistant Deputy Minister, was invited but unable to attend. The FNIHB's tone has significantly changed since Feb. 2018. FNIHB now wants MKO to show support via a Band Council resolution from every FN that MKO would like to transition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FNIHB will go back to the MKO Chiefs resolution and put something in place with a plan that FNIHB is going to do. It is up to MKO to ensure people are supportive. • As part of the transfer of resources for services for the North that are inside FNIHB, MKO needs to discuss and resolve service issues around the south and whether FNIHB will leave them with MKO to manage. • June 6, 2019: MKO and SCO met and identified two action items. One is to meet again to strategically position as a region (FNSHM, MKO & SCO) to move and get from underneath FNIHB. The strategy will look at delivery models, governance model,
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				quality improvement, engagement, data management, workforce recruitment, and a development plan. The second action item is to set up a meeting with Keith Con and Valerie Gideon.
2019-01-02 Mover: Chief Clarence Easter, Chemawawin Cree Nation Seconder: Councillor Richard Hart, (Proxy) Bunibonibee Cree Nation Carried	Support for Wekitowak Communications to proceed with construction of the fibre optic Broadband Network in Northern Manitoba	Clyde Flett	Inactive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The resolution was deferred after a motion was passed to call for Chiefs Special Meeting. The meeting was held in April 2019 and no motions or resolutions were tabled. ISED Krista Campbell did her presentation and the Chiefs present were able to forward their concerns on the fibre optic project.
2019-01-03 Mover: Chief Clarence Easter, Chemawawin Cree Nation Seconder: Chief Marcel Moody, Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Carried	Support of the Summit of Treaty Five Sovereign Nations and the Treaty Five Initiative on Nation Rebuilding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clyde Flett or Stewart Hill 	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The resolution was passed that supports the Summit of Treaty Five Nations and the initiatives on nation building. Clyde Flett has been involved in ongoing discussions prior to the Summit held in Black River First Nation from July 9 to 11, 2019. The next step in moving forward is to develop and sign an MOU between MKO and Summit of Treaty 5 Sovereign Nations.

<p>2019-01-04 rev. 1.0</p> <p>Mover: Chief Leroy Constant, York Factory First Nation</p> <p>Seconder: Councillor Nathan Neckoway (Proxy), Tataskweyak Cree Nation</p> <p>Carried</p>	<p>Call for Inquiry into Racism, Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Violence against Indigenous Community Members at past and present Hydroelectric Development Projects in Northern Manitoba</p>	<p>Hilda Anderson-Pyrz</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sept. 7, 2018: Press conference held at the MKO office. Chief Betsy Kennedy of War Lake First Nation and Chief Leroy Constant and Councillor Evelyn Beardy of York Factory First Nation asked the province to launch a formal inquiry into the conduct of Manitoba Hydro past and present employees. Jan. 18, 2019: A rally was held at the Manitoba Legislative Building to call on the provincial government to meet with the impacted community to examine the scope of the inquiry and appoint a commissioner to address the structural and systemic issues. Amnesty International became engaged and provided support to York Factory First Nation through media and a community visit to meet directly with impacted community members. The MKO MMIWG Liaison Unit was present along with the MKO Mobile Crisis Team to support impacted community members. April 2019: Chief Leroy Constant of York
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				<p>Factory First Nation presented to the Senate Standing Committee on Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources in for the inclusion of gender-based analysis on Bill C-69.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aug. 7, 2019: Amnesty International Secretary General Alex Neve sent a letter to Premier Brian Pallister and to Manitoba Hydro President Jay Grewal requesting a meeting to discuss the troubling pattern of harmful, unintended consequences of hydro development in Northern Manitoba to Indigenous people.
<p>2019-01-05 Mover: Chief Clarence Easter, Chemawawin Cree Nation Seconder: Vice Chief Donnie McKay (Proxy), Cross Lake Band Carried</p>	<p>Parks Canada plan to consolidate indigenous artifacts into single facility in Gatineau, Quebec</p>	<p>Freda Lepine</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MKO has been working with the Honourable MaryAnn Mihychuk Member of Parliament for Kildonan-St. Paul on this issue. Parks Canada would not allow MKO to tour the facility with MP Mihychuk. MKO and other organizations need to apply pressure to Parks Canada on this issue. MKO needs to request a tour for the Grand Chief and encourage any other groups to do the same.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every First Nation should send a letter to Parks Canada insisting that they be engaged/consulted throughout the process. • Parks Canada claims that no Indigenous communities or organizations have contacted them with concerns or requests for consultation. • The MP has managed to push the date back to 2022-2023, but Parks Canada is still planning on removing everything.
2019-01-06 Mover: Chief Gilbert Andrews, Gods Lake First Nation Seconder: Chief Marcel Moody, Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Carried	Clinical Care Transformation (CCT) Task Force formation	Sharon McKay	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chiefs Task Force (CTF) established. • May 6, 2019: CTF held first meeting • Briefing note prepared for MKO Executive to add more members. • Chief Clarence Easter and Chief Simon Denechezhe were approved and named to task force.



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