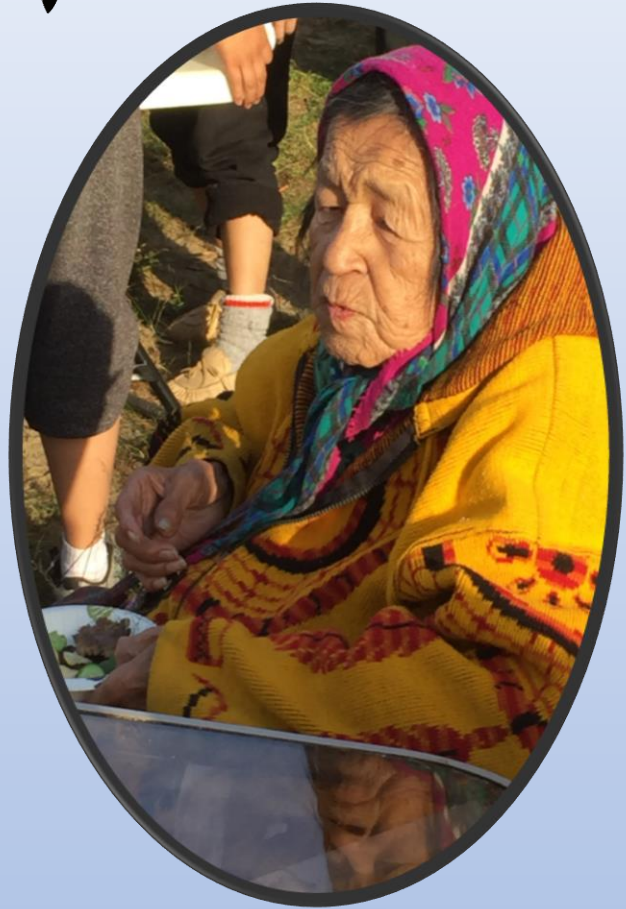




**MANIWAKI NATIVE
FRIENDSHIP CENTRE**
**CENTRE D'AMITIÉ
AUTOCHTONE DE MANIWAKI**



**Annual Report
2017-2018**



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Words from the President

Kwey Kakina,

I am pleased to have the opportunity to write this message for the Maniwaki Native Friendship Centre's 2nd annual report. Much like last year, 2017-18 was a whirlwind of activity, in which we saw much progress.

With funding provided by the Secretariat des Affaires Autochtones, we were able to buy a building that should fulfil our needs for the coming years. Funding provided by the CISSSO allowed us to complete some much necessary renovations on the building. These renovations provide us the space needed to better serve clients, to open a clinic, and to have a community kitchen, which many people enjoy. We fully appreciate that we were able to purchase this building so quickly, and to be able to renovate it so that it meets our needs.

Within this report you will see many of the things that Charlotte and her team were able to accomplish. They include the first annual powwow, our first summer camp, the Zombie Walk raising donations for the food bank, the partnership with Kitigan Zibi Health and Social Services and Wanaki Centre that led to the creation of the joint Mental Health Team, the hockey and broomball game with the SQ and CISSSO, and our first annual Aboriginal Day celebration. I want to thank Charlotte and her entire team for how hard they work and their unquestioned dedication to the Centre. I firmly believe that the success that we have had to date would not be possible without these extremely talented individuals, and we are privileged to have them working with us.

Personally when I think of the Friendship Centre what I am proudest of is that fact that we are able to help so many people; people whose needs were not being met before the Centre opened. I recognize that we are yet unable to fill all of the needs of our urban aboriginal population (as well as the rest of our clientele) and assure you that we are doing our best to close these gaps. I am very optimistic about the future of the Centre, and believe that it is already an indispensable organization within the region.

In closing I would like to thank everyone who has used the Centre over the past year; we would not exist without your participation. I would like to thank two Ministers who will not be running in the next Provincial election but were champions of the Centre, Stéphanie Vallée and Geoffrey Kelley, and I wish you both much success in your future endeavours. I would like to thank Michelyne Gagne for all of her support and for helping we acquire the funds for our renovations. A kichi migwetch to all of the volunteers, donors and everyone who contributed to the Centre..your generosity was integral to our success. Finally a big, kichi migwetch to my fellow board members, Johanne Ottawa, Lynn Whiteduck and Celine Thusky; I enjoy working with you all, I appreciate your contributions and look forward working with you in 2018-19.

Norm Odjick

President

Maniwaki Native Friendship Centre

families living or passing through the region of Maniwaki.

The Center promotes healthy living through holistic approach means, offers cultural activities and eases the transition to living in an urban area. It provides a link between the urban aboriginal population and the local communities by acting as a liaison and promoting cultural awareness.



vision and mission and to treat everyone with the upmost respect.

Being very new to accessing the provincial system which at times can be very challenging, I had to adapt and remind myself to be open and patient to a new way of direction. With the full support of the board of directors who in turn gave me the freedom to spread my wings, I assumed the challenge. Relying on my ability to access as much resources as possible. I am proud to state the centre is almost at full capacity.

The centre now has a visiting Doctor, Nurse clinician, mental health support, clinical supervision, summer camp, employment and training programs, prevention programs in addictions and healthy living. These programs contribute and reinforce the collaboration of partners who believe in the centre's goals and are realizing that the best path to healing for Indigenous people is to respect and acknowledge the Anishinabe Culture. Using a different perspective and approach that may have been tried in the past, opportunities were created for service providers to access Cultural Awareness training delivered by our own professional team of Anishinabe people. This has hopefully reduced racism and improved relationships. The centre takes every opportunity to educate the general public with the coordination of Cultural activities in the town of Maniwaki. These events demonstrate that we originate, belong and are here to stay. Although much more has to be done in racial tension, I believe we have to start somewhere and use our voice and continue to contribute to the betterment of living conditions of our people.

We have always understood that not everyone has the opportunity to learn about our people and that we are intelligent, valuable members of society and have contributed in many ways to the survival of many others with our knowledge and expertise. What we know is that our educational systems are not conventional to mainstream Quebec or even Canada but are in some ways similar to other nations across the world.

In addition, we are the new owners of a building that has been renovated to meet our needs and ensure the safety of all its members. An honourable mention to Minister Kelly, Stephanie Vallee, Michelyn Gagne and the Regroupement des Centres D'amitie autochtones du Quebec who supported the project from the beginning. The centre has developed into an accessible centre which has a full kitchen, clinic, cultural group therapy room, board room, activity room and office space.

In 2017-2018 the strategy was to sustain the funding, increase the membership, improve access to service and establish a solid foundation. As we continue to move forward in a positive direction the center has accomplished many of its objectives. There are many opportunities to grow and have the abilities to achieve much more. In fact the centre has become a valuable contribution to the town of Maniwaki and its operations.

In conclusion, this has been such a rewarding experience for me as I have reached many personal goals when I accepted this new venture. One was to be true to my roots, protect our identity and to prove that we as Anishinabe people know what is best for us and are more than capable of developing and delivering quality services. We have created a family at the centre and protecting the well being of our Anishinabe children will continue to be a priority. I will continue with the best of my ability to strive that our children will have equal opportunity. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank my co-workers for their continuous support and energy which keeps me motivated. A special migwetch to the members who have faith in us and continue to walk through our doors knowing that not only do we hear them, we listen.

Migwetch

Charlotte Commonda
Executive Director

New Beginnings



- ❖ **Executive Director:** Charlotte Commonda
- ❖ **Administration/Table accessibility Coordinator:** Terianne Cote
- ❖ **Mental Health Support Worker:** LeighAnn Cote
- ❖ **Cultural Advisor:** Steve Wawatie
- ❖ **Mental Health Counsellors:** Judy McConnery, Faye McLaughlin

- ❖ **Youth Workers:** 4
- ❖ **Part-time Workers:** 3
- ❖ **Casual Employees:** 8
- ❖ **Cultural Resources:** 20





PARTNERSHIPS

- ❖ CISSSO
- ❖ Western Quebed School Board
- ❖ Wanaki Centre
- ❖ Kitigan Zibi Health and Social Services

Table d'Accessibility Participants:

- ❖ SQ
- ❖ CISSSO
- ❖ Education
- ❖ Emploi Quebec

STAFF TRAININGS:

- ❖ Self Harm
- ❖ Thunderbird
- ❖ ASIST (Applied Suicide Interventin Skills)
- ❖ CPR and First Aid
- ❖ Governance Training
- ❖ Staff Sweatlodge
- ❖ Trauma Recovery

PARTICIPATING AT TABLES

MEETINGS:

- ❖ Board of Directors: 5
- ❖ RCAAQ Directors: 4
- ❖ RCAAQ CA 4
- ❖ MAMU Attustae: 4
- ❖ Table d'Accessibility: 4
- ❖ Social Development: 5
- ❖ Mental Health Team 16



Cultural Awareness Events

Cultural Awareness Training
30 participants

Cultural Awareness Week at Cite Etudiante de la Haute Gatineau

Mawondoseg Pakwaun Winter Festival
450 visitors

Information Sessions with Surete du Quebec

Recreation Event in Maniwaki
150 visits

National Aboriginal Day
June 21
150 visits

1st Annual Powwow
350 visits a day



PROGRAMS & SERVICES



SECRETARIAT OF ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

- FIA III

The purpose of this component is to improve the lives of Aboriginal people residing in Québec cities and towns and to provide community organizations with the means to offer direct, high-quality services to this clientele. Such organizations are the preferred service delivery channels for Aboriginal people in vulnerable situations outside their communities. More specifically, this component seeks to provide and develop culturally appropriate and reassuring direct services to meet the needs of Aboriginal people in vulnerable situations in cities and towns, help develop the response capabilities of community organizations that serve Aboriginal women and their families who live in or are passing through urban environments, encourage cooperation between community organizations and the Québec networks, help improve the socio-economic circumstances of Aboriginal people, and renovate and improve infrastructure used by community organizations that serve an Aboriginal clientele in urban environments.

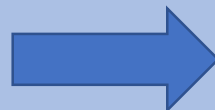
SECRETARIAT OF ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS PUMA URBAN ABORIGINAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

Aboriginal people in Québec are living through a period of significant change, with many leaving their reserves for urban centres. This migratory phenomenon has increased over the last decade for a number of reasons: Aboriginal people are moving to cities to pursue better career or educational opportunities, escape difficult socioeconomic situations, or to seek medical treatment for specific health issues.

Objectives

The Program seeks to improve living conditions of Aboriginal people in Québec urban centres by providing community organizations that serve this clientele with the means to provide high-quality direct services. These organizations are the preferred channels for services aimed at vulnerable Aboriginal people off reserve.

- Maniwaki Native Friendship Centre
- Mental Health Support



MALE VISITS	17
FEMALE VISITS	33
YOUTH VISITS	45
INDIVIDUAL VISITS	42
GROUP VISITS	63

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

Organization Community Capacity

The Government of Canada values its relationship with Indigenous Representative Organizations (IROs) and recognizes the contribution they make on behalf of their members. To support the work of IROs across Canada, INAC provides both basic organizational capacity (core) funding and project funding.

INAC provides basic organizational capacity funding towards the core operations of national, provincial, territorial and/or regional representative Indigenous organizations and national Aboriginal women's organizations representing the interests, issues, and concerns of their members.

Basic organizational capacity (core) funding supports items such as salaries, rent and utilities.

Family Violence Prevention Program

Prevention Initiatives: funding for community-driven prevention projects, assessments on- and off-reserve.

The project promotes family violence prevention activities that are culturally adapted and will bring awareness to available services by involving partners in the delivery of the program.

Number of visits: 1224

Weekly Cultural Act.: 35

Cultural Special Act.: 22

Number of participants for special activities: 600

Number of visit from teens: 1157

Average attendance per day: 30-35

Teen activities: 43

Teen Workshops: 24

MamU Attusetau

is an advocacy strategy that aims to improve the quality, cultural relevance and coordination of services in early childhood, family, and health and social services offered to urban Aboriginal people. This strategy, relies on the establishment for implementation, in leading consultation forums and on developing and enriching collaborations with local, regional and provincial partners.

Number of partners reached: 29

Number of partner meetings: 60

Number of Table d'accessibility mtgs: 5

MEES: Ministère Education et Enseignement Superieur

Education Retention :

The Native Friendship Centres play a natural role in providing liaison between the schools, the families and the communities.

Homework Support

School support is available for students 3 days a week on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 – 4:30. Bi-lingual tutor available.

30 youth participated

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

- ❖ We day in Ottawa
- ❖ Drum Social
- ❖ Women`s day
- ❖ Zombie Walk
- ❖ Women`s Cultural Camp
- ❖ Honouring our Sobriety
- ❖ Family Bingo
- ❖ Girls/Boys Groups

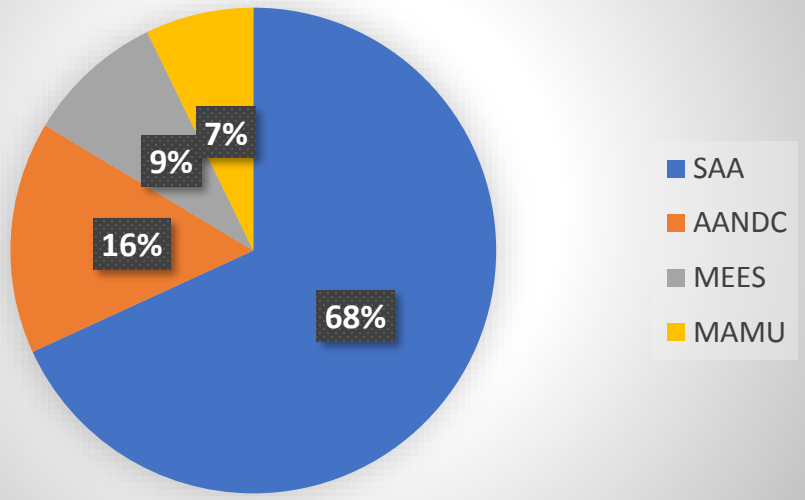


SPECIAL EVENTS:

- ❖ Role Model inspiration worker with NHL alumni
- ❖ John Chabot
- ❖ Suicide Awareness Week
- ❖ Addictions Awareness Week
- ❖ International Women`s Day
- ❖ Bell Let`s Talk Day Radio Show
- ❖ Hockey and Broomball game with SQ and CJO
- ❖ Trauma Recovery Program with Rapid Lake



SOURCES OF FUNDING



INFRASTRUCTURE

Funding:

Purchase of Building: \$410,000.00 + tax
SAA: \$ 328,000.00
Mortgage: \$82,000.00

Renovations:

SAA \$37,200.00
Loan: \$9,300.00
CISSSO: \$92,000.00



