

**KENORA CHIEFS  
ADVISORY  
OGIMAAWABIITONG**



**ANNUAL REPORT  
2018-2019**



OGIMAAWABIITONG

# Annual Report

2018-2019



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## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Boozhoo. As the Executive Director of the Kenora Chiefs Advisory (KCA), I am pleased to offer you a summary of the activities undertaken by KCA in the 2018/2019 fiscal year.

This year's report is intended to inform our membership about what KCA has been doing in order to be more responsive to the needs of and the issues within our member communities. The Board of Directors and the staff of KCA continue to go above and beyond to meet the needs of our communities and their members.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Board of Directors, Elders Council, Youth Council and staff for all of their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

Thanks to these dedicated individuals, we have continued to grow as an organization, expanding our service delivery and welcoming a host of new employees. Without all of you, Kenora Chiefs Advisory would not have grown into the organization that it is today.



Miigwetch,  
Joe Barnes,  
Executive Director



## MISSION STATEMENT

Kenora Chiefs Advisory is committed and dedicated to providing culturally appropriate health and social services which address the needs and enhance the well being and capacity of community members in our affiliated First Nations.

## MANDATE

Kenora Chiefs Advisory (KCA) is an alliance of independent, participating First Nations within the Western Region and has been incorporated and in operation since 1995. The Kenora Chiefs Advisory's mandate is to provide programs and services to the First Nations in the field of health, education and social services in a holistic, traditional way ensuring the survival of the Anishinaabe way in the present and future generations. Chiefs from each of the nine communities constitute a board of directors and govern KCA while the day-to-day operations are managed by the Executive Director. These Chiefs are accountable to the First Nations that they represent.



### Board of Directors 2018-2019

#### President

Niisaachewan Anishinaabe Nation  
Chief Lorraine Cobiness

#### Vice President

Naotkamegwaning First Nation  
Chief Howard Kabestra

#### Secretary/Treasurer

Wauzhushk Onigum Nation  
Chief Chris Skead

#### Board Members

Animakee Wa Zhing #37 First Nation	Chief Vanessa Powassin
Asubpeechoseewagong First Nation	Chief Rudy Turtle
Northwest Angle #33 First Nation	Chief Darlene Comegan
Obashkaandagaang First Nation	Chief Marilyn Sinclair
Shoal Lake 40 First Nation	Chief Erwin Redsky
Wabaseemoong Independent Nation	Chief John Paishk

### Elder & Youth Council Members 2018-2019

#### **Organizational Elder**

**Niisaachewan Anishinaabe Nation**  
**Naotkamegwaning First Nation**  
**Wauzhushk Onigum Nation**  
**Animakee Wa Zhing #37 First Nation**  
**Asubpeechoseewagong First Nation**  
**Northwest Angle #33 First Nation**  
**Obashkaandagaang First Nation**  
**Shoal Lake 40 First Nation**  
**Wabaseemoong Independent Nation**

Allan White, Naotkamegwaning First Nation  
 Alice Kelly, Rachael Cameron  
 Andy White  
 Lynn Skead, Sydney Flett  
 Jim Major  
 Susan Fobister, Billy Fobister  
 Agnes Paul  
 Marvin Sinclair  
 Lillian Henry, Avery Meekis  
 George Land, Marlin Scott

## CODE OF ETHICS

The code of ethics are the organizations guiding principles. OGIMAAWABIITONG is dedicated and committed to “Excellence in all that we do”. The ethics along with the Seven Teachings speak to how the organization operates; in relation to interaction amongst clients, staff, members and other stakeholders.

The following ethics and teachings reflect in both decision-making and service delivery.

- \* Honour and respect the beliefs, traditions and values of the Anishinaabe people who we provide services to;
- \* Adhere to all policies and procedures outlined in the OGIMAAWABIITONG Finance & Personnel Manuals;
- \* I will promote and maintain at all times, “THROUGH MY ACTIONS AND WORDS”, the integrity and dignity of OGIMAAWABIITONG; its programs, staff, and Members;
  - \* Avoid conflicts of interests between work & personal affairs;
  - \* Respect Confidentiality;
- \* OGIMAAWABIITONG encourages fairness and diversity of all backgrounds and experiences in the workplace;
- \* OGIMAAWABIITONG shall maintain a culture which recognizes and values ethical conduct through the following Seven Sacred Teachings;

### HONESTY:

Don't lie or steal, WALK WITH HONOUR...

### TRUTH:

We are all personally accountable for what we say and do. If you believe in yourself, respect your actions, YOU ARE LIVING THE TRUTH...

### RESPECT:

Respect means never hurting or humiliating your colleagues by unkind words or gossip. TO HONOUR ALL OF CREATION IS TO HAVE RESPECT...

### BRAVERY:

Don't be afraid to stand up for what you believe in; take risks and learn something new, STEP OUT OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE...



### LOVE:

Love means showing compassion and understanding towards yourself and others. ASPIRING TO LIVE IN TRUTH & HARMONY...

### HUMILITY:

Show your humility by asking colleagues for their opinions and giving credit for their assistance and ideas. TO BE HUMBLE IS TO ACKNOWLEDGE OUR LIMITATIONS...

### WISDOM:

Wisdom is seeking to learn all that we can in a respectful manner and to take the time to reflect upon our teachings...



# FINANCIALS

## Statement of Financial Position

Assets	2018, 19	2017, 18
Cash	2,542,471	1,807,953
Accounts Receivable	529,426	604,384
Prepaid Expenses and Deposits	26,569	77,289
Capital assets	252,869	243,776
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>3,351,335</b>	<b>2,733,402</b>

### Liabilities

Accounts payable and accruals	1,597,441	1,443,985
Deferred revenue	280,786	443,329
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>1,878,227</b>	<b>1,887,314</b>

### Net Deficiency

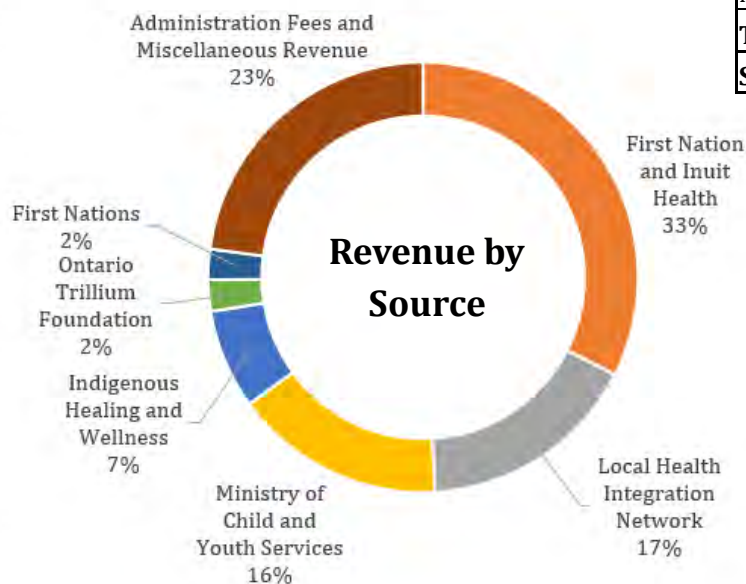
Unrestricted	1,220,239	602,312
Invested in capital assets	252,869	243,776
	<b>3,351,335</b>	<b>2,733,402</b>

## Statement of Revenues & Expenditures

Revenue by Source	2018, 19	2017, 18
First Nation and Inuit Health	4,310,702	3,104,551
Local Health Integration	2,208,293	2,162,904
Ministry of Child and Youth Services	2,104,756	2,130,575
Indigenous Healing and Wellness	992,384	894,920
Ontario Trillium Foundation	313,462	573,100
First Nations	304,120	329,120
Administration Fees and Miscellaneous Revenue	3,037,494	1,296,695
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>13,271,211</b>	<b>10,491,865</b>

### Expenses by Category

Salaries and benefits	6,156,828	4,339,119
First Nations	2,193,506	2,132,340
Travel	914,504	541,531
Consulting, audit, professional fees	506,061	299,905
Facility costs	488,763	518,948
Program supplies	378,669	369,856
Professional development, training	343,278	319,958
Administration	866,294	624,981
Miscellaneous expenses	796,419	572,178
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>12,644,322</b>	<b>9,718,816</b>
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>626,889</b>	<b>773,049</b>





# MIN-O-QWE-KE-GA-BWE'IN SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAM



**History**, the MSSSI program was implemented on January 26, 1998 by eight Chiefs who signed a resolution to support the initiative and agreed to design a consolidated business plan. The business plan was developed by a working group consisting of 3 members from each of the eight communities to enhance the Anishinaabeg lifestyle and provide culturally appropriate programs and services to community members and to ensure the program delivery of the Ontario Works legislation. This initiative came into effect October 1998. **This partnership has been in operation for 20 years.**

**Cluster Model**, In 2007, the group implemented the Cluster Model and started to deliver the full Ontario Works program with increased cost of administration. The Model is defined as “Each First Nation maintain their Ontario Works designation and deliver both the financial and employment assistance services in their communities. While cooperating with the other member First Nations, they share additional centralized Ontario Works functions delivered through the KCA-MSSSI program”.

**Ontario Works Administration**, the relationship between the member First Nations and KCA-MSSSI program is defined by service agreements. The Ontario Works program is funded by the Ministry of Community and Social Services and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

## **Communities & Social Services Administrators**

Grassy Narrows Adrian Keejick	Nootkamegwaning Leona Namaypoke	Niisaachewan Gina Peter	Shoal Lake #40 Arlene Redsky	Obashkaandagaang Brenda Chartrand	NWA #33 Tina Blackhawk	Eagle Lake Brad Napish
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## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- ⇒ November 16th 2018: 20th anniversary for MSSSI— MSSSI Training retreat in Winnipeg with all case workers, SSAs, Band Administration, and Chief and Council
- ⇒ October 2nd – 4th 2018: Participated in GCT3 Assembly in Obashkaandagaang
- ⇒ Jan 29th & 30th 2019: Community Engagement Session in Grassy Narrows on Income Supports
- ⇒ Training with Grassy Narrows Chief and Council on following topics; Home Makers, Travel Grants, ERS reports, Service Planning, and Presentation of Community Forum Report
- ⇒ March 29, 2019: Meeting with ONWAA EIS and Hydro rebates training
- ⇒ Celebration in Nootkamegwaning to honour community Ontario Works staff

# CENTRALIZED FUNCTIONS OF KCA-MSSI

**Community Visits**  
The MSSI staff conducted 85 on site visits out of 120 scheduled visits to the local OW program in the member FN communities.

**Appeals Process**  
To monitor program delivery, staff practices and to identify areas for improvement. Applicant or participant has the right to appeal any decision made that affects their eligibility for or the amount of their assistance. MSSI handles all appeals and will conduct the appeal process for the member FN. During the fiscal year the program completed 2 internal file audits.

**Policy Development**  
Local policies are in place to ensure group consistency and consists of an administration policy, local OW policy and discretionary policy with updates being conducted as per legislation and community changes. The program assisted with the implementation of the new Remote Community Allowance (Mandatory amount paid to recipients in communities North of the 50th parallel).

**Reporting Requirements**  
Importance was placed upon reporting requirements and meeting deadlines for the OW program. In April 2019 all OW sites started a new 2 year funding cycle for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 that included updating the OW Service Plans, receiving new OW Planning Allocations from MCSS and INAC and preparing new Budget Submissions. Further Assistance was provided with the Quarterly OW YTD reports for all OW related programs.

**Additional Supports**  
Network with MCSS program supervisors, providing Employment Information Sessions, Administrative Filing, Review of Subsidy Claims, Bank Reconciliations, ODSP Online Applications, and Support Services via Phone/Email.

**Internal File Audits**  
To monitor the program delivery, staff practices and to identify areas for improvement MSSI conducts file audits as they are requested. During the fiscal year the MSSI program also meets for one mass file audit one week out of the year.

**Family Support Worker**  
As the result of the government changes in February 2017, the MSSI minimized the FSW services. This fiscal year the program has 0 cases as clients are not required to pursue spousal and child support to be eligible for social assistance.

**Eligibility Review Officer**  
To investigate the eligibility of present and past applicants and recipients. During the fiscal year the ERO received 17 referrals for eligibility related concerns.

**Emergency Support Services**  
To provide member OW programs with ESS if the site is experiencing, staff turnover, vacation leave and/or any other leave. The MSSI program will assist the OW program to maintain client service delivery until the position is filled or until staff returns. MSSI assisted one (2) sites while the Administrators were on leave.

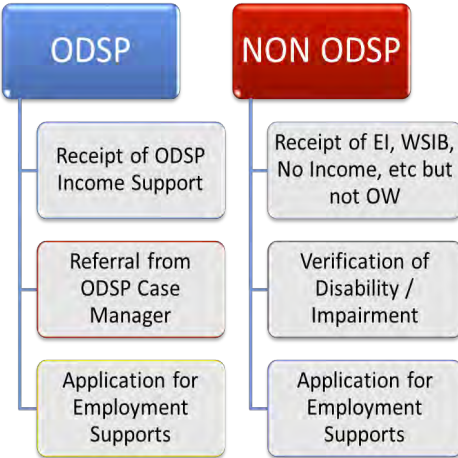
- Training & Meetings**
- Provided: 9 group meetings with SSA's;
  - 2 meetings with Chief & Council;
  - 3 meetings with another First Nation not affiliated with MSSI;
  - 3 days of training provided by ONWAA;
  - 4 days of GWA training;
  - 1 day training on Budget Submissions with additional one on one training;
  - Coordinated with GCT#3 a 2 day Community Engagement Session on Disability services and Income supports, and;
  - One-to-one OW Training provided on site during community visits where needed.

# ODSP EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT SERVICES (ES)

Purpose of the pilot project is to assess the viability of the KCA as an ODSP Employment Supports Service provider and to currently expand the service to an area currently lacking these services. The Pilot Project started on April 1, 2015 and will continue as a pilot until March 31, 2020. Funding is provided by the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

### Our Services

ES services are community based supports provided by Melanie Copenace - Employment Support Manager and Shannon Parmeter - Job Coach/Job Developer. Services include a full scope of employment counselling, personal wellness, community service referral, job searching, resume writing, job application services and job coaching services. These services are offered in the member communities or at the Kenora Chiefs Advisory office.



### **ODSP Employment Support Program Statistics**

To date the program has connected with a total of (25) persons interested in the program and (20) participants have been approved for employment supports. From program start date to present we have had to close a total of (10) files for the following reasons: Mental Health deterioration, transient due to lack of housing in the FN, Addictions issues, Incarceration, persons entered health care facilities, or ES criteria was not met (person was not employment ready). All of these files were referred to other programs within KCA such as Counselling with our MHA program, persons who weren't employment ready were referred to the appropriate services such as Life Skills and Youth In Transition Program.

Statistical Data	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Year 17/18	Year 18/19
# of participants who have completed an application for ODSP ES services	16	16	11	11	ODSP Income Support		
# of participants approved by ODSP for ES services	16	16	18	19	# of calls received from people requiring help with ODSP Income Support	52	87
# of participants who started a job placement	5	6	4	5	# of persons assisted with Online ODSP Applications	82	122
# of participants employed for 13 weeks	4	4	3	1	# of persons we assisted w ODSP applications where approval was granted	8	19
# of participants who start a business (self-employed)	0	0	0	0	NOTE: We do not always receive confirmation from applicants when approval is granted		
# of participants who start a business plan	0	0	0	0			

### **Other Statistics**

- ⇒ The program became recognized as a support system for people living with disabilities.
- ⇒ The support provided with ODSP applications allowed us to connect with potential clients for ES services.
- ⇒ Most commonly, people are experiencing issues and confusion with the ODSP application process and require navigation services.



# LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM

For the fiscal year 2018-2019, the Life Skills team completed sets of workshops for each community based around the communities choosing. These workshops included 10 key topics:

- ⇒ Getting to know you
- ⇒ Positive thinking
- ⇒ Managing Emotions & Self-Esteem
- ⇒ Decision making
- ⇒ Respecting Self & Others
- ⇒ Communication
- ⇒ Conflict Management
- ⇒ Critical Thinking & Problem Solving
- ⇒ Financial Management (Budgeting)
- ⇒ Balancing the force!

These ten workshops made up the core life skills within KCA. Some of them remained the same and some were combined to make one workshop.

Communities created sets of workshops that were identified in dialogue with their respective community contacts (Ontario Works staff).

Highlights include a life skills recognition banquet graduation which was held in July of 2018 in Wauzhushk Onigum with a Keynote speaker and traditional protocol to open the event. Graduates of the program from each community were gifted with certificates of completion and blankets. Another recognition luncheon was held before the Christmas break in December 2018 for individuals of the program that finished a set of workshops, gifts were handed out to appreciate their dedication to the program.

**Challenges**

1. **Connectivity**—The internet remains a challenge for the Life Skills workers, but have found methods of connectivity. Main use for internet is the Employment Readiness Scale which is an online program.
2. **Transportation**—Mainly hazardous winter driving conditions. Insurance purposes.
3. **Duplication of services**—Some communities offer programming similar to the Life Skills Program with different presenters. This overlap makes it difficult to keep the participants interested. Many communities have several organizations and programs visit them throughout the week and sometimes they feel overwhelmed with information. Our program aimed to become unique and maintains the relationship with the clients to continue working towards individual’s success.

## Employment Readiness Scale

We have made the ERS one of our priorities as we understand the importance of this data for our overall project.

As of March 2019:

Community	ERS - 1	ERS- Repeats	Average Workshop Attendance
Wauzhushk Onigum	15	2	2
Shoal Lake #40	28	8	10
Wabaseemong	7	1	3
Niisaachewan	26	4	5
Obashkaandagaang	21	6	6
Eagle Lake	19	7	8
Grassy Narrows	23	7	3
NW Angle #33	7	0	3
Naotkamegwanning	22	4	12

**Next Steps**

The team has accepted the ERS data collection and relationship building as their two priorities for the upcoming year, working towards building relationships with our clients, OW Administrators & service partners (Shooniyaa Wa-Biitong & Abinoojii Child and Family Services along with its devolved agencies).

These agencies have expressed their intentions to continue a referral system and working relationship to better strengthen the skills of individuals of the program.

# HEALTH SERVICES



## ANISHINAABE DIABETES EDUCATION

The KCA Anishinaabe Diabetes Education Program (ADEP) addresses the concerning prevalence and incidence of diabetes in the Aboriginal population.

Our program strives to provide practical and useful skills and knowledge to promote health and optimal diabetes management. This is done primarily through a variety of initiatives, including:

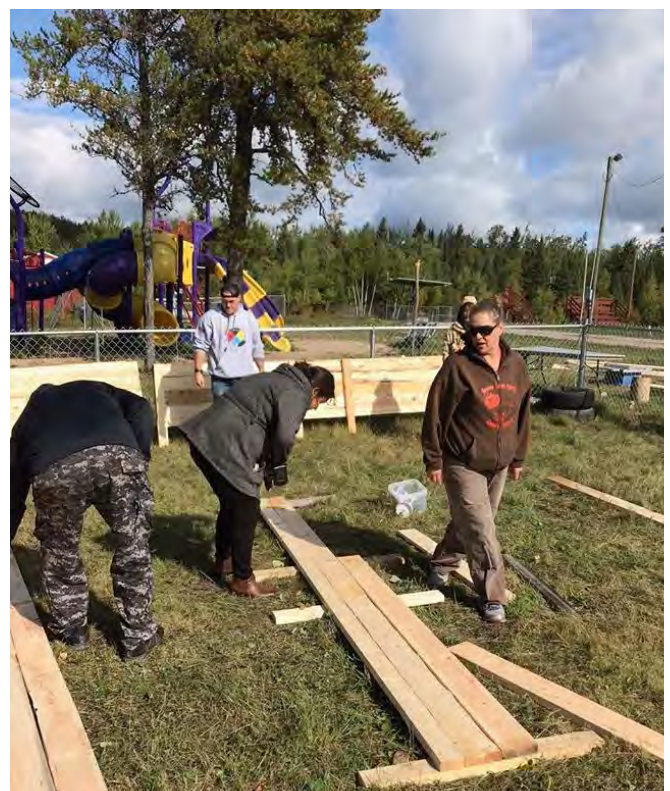
- Health fairs
- Community workshops
- Cooking classes
- Resource development
- Presentations in schools
- Partnerships and collaboration

### 2018-19 Highlights:

- ⇒ Program received base funding for on-going program delivery
- ⇒ Registered Dietitian joined ADEP team
- ⇒ Diabetes Planning Forum held and 5-year Diabetes Strategic Plan developed
- ⇒ Partnership with Indigenous Diabetes Health Centre and local organizations to provide 2-day Diabetes Wellness Event featuring a Foot Care Clinic
- ⇒ 20-Hour Lactation Certification course provided to communities
- ⇒ Community garden box building

## Manaa siizabaakotaapinetaa Let us avoid getting diabetes

	# of participants:
Attending education session	2920
Attending nutrition session	1765
Attending physical activity session	986
Receiving blood glucose screening	515 (155)
Blood pressure check requiring a referral	101



# CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROMOTION PROGRAM

The Children's Health Promotion Program is intended to create conditions in which parent and infant health will flourish. With the following goals:

1. To prevent Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) births,
2. To improve the knowledge skills and quality of life of FASD-affected children and families, and,
3. To provide children nutrition activities, workshops and nutritional supports for healthy development of children and their families.

FASD Program Statistics	
# Clients/Relations	20
# Services Provided	32
# Program Events/Workshops	49
# Participants Total	779

## Program Highlights:

- ⇒ Collaborating with Kenora Chiefs Advisory's dietitian to facilitate community kitchens, presentations, homemade baby food making courses and other workshops as requested.
- ⇒ FASD awareness and prevention presentations, workshops and activities.
- ⇒ Community Gardening: improve access to healthy food, rebuild & reintegrate food production skills in community, strengthen community cohesion & intergenerational relationships.
- ⇒ Training for community workers- 20-hr Baby-Friendly Initiative Breast-feeding Support.

# WISOKODAADIG PEER HELPER PROGRAM

A peer-to-peer support program that aims to empower youth with leadership, decision-making and communication skills utilizing a holistic approach to help address the high and persistent rates of suicide amongst Anishinaabe youth. Peer helping is about friendship, support, mediation, conflict resolution and problem solving.

2018-2019 Program Highlights					
Wiisokodaadig Peer Helper Training					
Total Communities		Total Trainings		Total Participants	
10		3		145	
				Total Graduates	
				38	
Workshops					
Communities/Organizations			Total Participants		Total Workshops
10			338		23
Overall Participants (Youth, Adults, Elders) and Graduates (Youth)					
# of Participants			# of Graduates		
1022			28		
Wiisokodaadig Youth Council	Youth Gathering		Program Promotion & Networking		Staff Capacity Building
Events	Communities	Participants	Events	Participants	# of Activities
10	6	70	20	566	34





Program Curriculum

LEVEL ONE		LEVEL TWO	
SPIRITUAL	PHYSICAL	MENTAL	EMOTIONAL
What is Wiisokodaadig Confidentiality & Trust Creation Story Women's Teachings Men's Teachings Clans & Relationships Traditional Ceremonies	Self Care & Self Esteem Healthy Sexuality Goal Setting & Decision Making Healthy Boundaries Significant Positive Influences Leadership Identifying Resources	Life Promotion Healthy Relationships Carefronting Substance Abuse Mental Health Trauma Stress	Peer Pressure Dealing with a Difficult Situations Bullying Empathy & Responding Skills Listening Coping Strategies Community Action Plans



# RIGHT TOPLAY

The Right to Play Promoting Life-skills in Aboriginal Youth (PLAY) program provides support to locally hired community mentors who deliver safe, fun and educational programming for the children and youth from our member communities. Each community play-based program is uniquely tailored to enhance peer-to-peer relationships, educational outcomes and improve physical and mental health based on the needs of the community children and youth.

Community	Youth Reached	Average attendance per month	Total Regular Program Hours	Average Regular Program Hours per month
Niisaachewan	33	11	167	15
Naotkamegwanning	39	17	160	13
Wauzhushk Onigum	21	14	156	13
Grassy Narrows	49	25	234	23
Northwest Angle 33	31	11	105	12
Obashkaandagaang	31	14	201	17
Shoal Lake 40	28	16	220	18
Wabaseemoong	57	16	176	15



July 2018 marked the launch of the 2nd successful Rookie League Program. Over 200 children and youth were engaged in weekly summer programming, while the season end tournament, reached over 250 children and youth, as well as parents, care-givers, and community supports. Each team played approximately 14 games, practiced one to two times a week, and participated in the season culminating Beyond the Ballpark Tournament.

The Rookie League Program continued into 2018-2019 to engage children, youth and communities in a newly developed Volleyball league. The Volleyball launched with a coach training in December 2019 and was facilitated by the Jays Care Foundation and the Rookie League Coordinator from Kenora Chiefs Advisory.



2018/2019	# of weeks of program	# of hours per week	Total Number	Details
Volleyball League	12	16	120	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coaches training in January</li> <li>Games started January 26<sup>th</sup></li> <li>2 Practices per week from Jan till April</li> <li>Tournaments every weekend</li> <li>8 games per team</li> </ul>
Baseball League	20	26	250	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 pre-season games each team</li> <li>Spring mixer pre-season tournament</li> <li>Pre-Season Jays Care visit and practice</li> <li>16 practices preseason and 8 during season (per week)</li> <li>112 games played (all games)</li> </ul>

*Obashkaandagaang First Nation, home of the Wash Bay Wolves won the Toronto Trip 2018 from the points system KCA & Jays Care created for community involvement & for the youth. They attended the game in May 2019.*





# CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPT PROGRAM

## Aakozi'ma'gut Kima'Maa'anun (Mother Earth is Sick):

- ⇒ A child friendly, Indigenous owned and lead program by Kenora Chiefs Advisory.
- ⇒ First Nations from their respective communities have an opportunity to voice their opinions, and identify how mother earth is getting sicker within their communities.
- ⇒ How climate change is impacting their ways of life, wellbeing and how it is impacting their culture and tradition.
- ⇒ An open project to anyone within their respective community, and is respectful and is a safe environment for all those who participate!
- ⇒ Once data is collected, the report will be sent to their communities

**Progress Report:**

- ◆ **Phase one:** 3 communities:
  - ◇ Shoal Lake 40- 26 participants
  - ◇ Niisaachewan 15 participants
  - ◇ Wabaseemoong 16 participants
- ◆ **Brainstorming sessions**
- ◆ **Sorting and Rating sessions**
- ◆ **Photo-voice (Ages 7-15)**

# ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

The Environmental Public Health Program deals with all aspects of the natural and built environment that may affect human health. Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) work to ensure the health and safety of communities through inspection, education, and intervention via recommendations to Chief and Council.

EHOs identify hazards, discuss concerns with community leaders, educate the public, and respond to environmental health complaints in order to give people the knowledge needed to control their health outcomes.

**The goal is to prevent illness, promote health, and prolong life at a community level.**

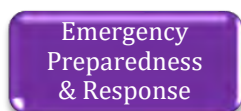
### EPH Program Statistics (Nov 1 2018 - Mar 31 2019)

Inspections	
Type	# of Inspections
Food Facility	11
Community Care	4
Housing	6
Recreational Facility	5
Septic	62
Communicable Disease Control	
Type	# of Cases
Rabies Investigation	5
Foodborne Illness Investigation	1
Health Promotion	
Type	# of Events
Health Fair	1
Promotion Resources Distributed	3
Food Recall Notifications	19

**Program Highlights:**

- ⇒ Officially transferred EHO services from FNIHB to KCA on November 1, 2018
- ⇒ Environmental Health Officer positions filled
- ⇒ Windigo Island long-term boil water advisory lifted on February 20, 2019

Water Sampling		
Community	Bacteriological Samples	Chemical Samples
Niisaachewan	11	2
Naotkamegwaning	22	2
Regina Bay	28	2
Windigo Island	8	1
Dog Paw	13	2
Angle Inlet	6	2
Grassy Narrows	14	2
O'Bash'Kaan'Da'Gaang	12	3
Shoal Lake 40	9	1
Wabaseemoong	33	2
Wauzhushk Onigum	34	2





## CULTURAL PROGRAM

### SHAABANDAWAN (TEACHING LODGE)

- ⇒ Located on the west side of the Seven Generations Education Institution
- ⇒ It is used for ceremonies, feasting ceremonies, blessing of the sacred items ceremonies, drumming and singing
- ⇒ Provides wholistic family support/healing ceremonies and sharing circles
- ⇒ It was constructed in June 2018 by the Kenora Chiefs Advisory (KCA) culturally oriented staff workers and coordinated by KCA Cultural Coordinator.
- ⇒ The Shaabandawan was directed and guided by the KCA Elders Council Members, the lodge was led by KCA Elder Council Member, Andy White, along with the support of our KCA Elder Council Members.
- ⇒ The Teaching Lodge is operational during spring and winter seasons.
- ⇒ Teaching lodge ceremony can be requested by KCA client(s), along with their KCA case workers while cultural coordinator makes arrangements.



Number of Activities	Number of Participants
1 Spring Feast (yearly)	150
1 Cultural Day (seasonal)	100
1 Family Support Sharing Circle	15

Number of Activities	Number of Participants
17 Sweat Lodge Ceremonies (Including KCA staff Cultural Support, Inviting clients)	5 – 18 (each ceremony varied on attendance) 12 estimated in total numbers from each ceremony
7 Sharing Circles facilitated at various locations/communities	7-16 people per session

### COMMUNITY VISITS

The Cultural Coordinator provides home visits to nine (9) of the affiliated First Nation when requested by clients to assist in sharing circles, smudging, etc.



### TRADITIONAL HEALER PROGRAM

- Mental Health Services has a traditional healer program
- Intake and/or referral must be completed by all clients and KCA case worker(s) in order to receive traditional healing services.
- Arrangements are made by the Cultural Coordinator who makes all appropriate arrangements from client's preferences (location, conductor of a ceremony, and time).
- The program also assists and helps with the honorarium for the conductor of a sweat lodge, including other expense to cover for wood and skaa-beh (conductor's helper).
- The program also helps client(s) with gifts, tobacco, and offerings before initiating the ceremony.

## CLIENT NAVIGATOR AND UTILIZATION PROGRAM

The Navigation and Discharge planning services targeted patients in hospital who meet one or all of the following criteria:

- ⇒ Discharged to home in Kenora-area First Nations communities, specifically the nine communities affiliated with Kenora Chiefs Advisory
- ⇒ Received home and community care services in their home community
- ⇒ Assisted with access and navigation of specialty healthcare services or funding mechanisms

# of patients served	42
# of patients discharged	29

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Coordinator worked directly out of the hospital and was able to build a good relationship with hospital staff and patients
- More communities not affiliated with KCA utilized the service

## LONG TERM CARE (LTC) PROGRAM

- ⇒ **Assesses & creates a customized home care plan** that meets the specific functional abilities and the duration of services to promote or maintain health and independence. as an alternative of a LTC home or a hospice setting.
- ⇒ **Is separated into two programs:** 1) the home care, and 2) home maintenance support program. There are eligibility requirements.
- ⇒ **Ensures the effective liaison between funders and the affiliated First Nations.**
- ⇒ **The LTC coordinator works with Community Coordinators** to facilitate training, education and awareness, advocate for training and adequate resources to ensure effective relations.

## TOBACCO REDUCTION PROGRAM

The Tobacco Reduction Program was developed out of research conducted in Northwest Angle 33 and Niisaachewan. The research concluded that community members were wanting non-traditional tobacco supports. This included counselling services, tobacco cessation presentations, smoke-free home campaigns, commercial tobacco control policy development, programming & promotional materials, education & promotion to distinguish traditional and commercial tobacco, and public education campaigns.

Tobacco Reduction statistics April 2018 - March 2019 (program start August 2018)	
Engagements with users of commercial tobacco	106
Information sharing engagements	508
Engagements with school aged children/youth	255
Support given for traditional teachings	3

### Activities:

- Booths as Health Fairs and events
- Community kitchens
- Resource meetings
- Promote harm reduction
- Direct support to commercial tobacco users
- Supporting food sustainability
- Cultivating Aseema (Traditional Tobacco)
- Classroom presentations
- Poster contest
- Community workshops
- Youth group workshops
- Addiction week
- Family wellbeing workshops
- Creating resource materials
- Interactive information booths
- Elder led traditional Tobacco Teachings



## FAMILY VIOLENCE PROGRAM

To increase awareness of family violence and the effects; and partners with KCA Health Services to provide awareness and education to community members and service providers. The education is based on presentations, workshops and information sessions on topics such as family violence, bullying, self-esteem, lateral violence, peer pressure and workplace violence.

### Training Attended:

Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Conferences, What's new in Violence Against Women, Domestic Violence training - Duluth Model and was a committee member on the Kenora Coalition to End Human Trafficking.

Prevention Activities	# of Activities	# of Participants
Seminars/Workshops	24	562
Healing Circles	5	50
Health Fairs / Networking	14	541

## FAMILY WELL-BEING PROGRAM

Supports and assists in the program and evaluation phase of the Family Wellbeing Program (FWBp) for six (6) of the member First Nation communities.

### **The Program is designed to:**

1. Reduce family violence in the homes;
2. Reduce children & youth from child welfare and youth justice systems;
3. Improving the health and wellbeing of the community.

### Highlights of the Program and Activities:

- ⇒ Complete Evaluation of the Program
- ⇒ Total number of clients: 2805
- ⇒ Family Wellbeing Workers: 7 in 6 communities

## GAMBLING ADDICTION AWARENESS PROGRAM

GAAP's mandate is to design, develop, and deliver wholistic approaches that address problem gambling (PG), and promote responsible gambling (RG) with the 28 First Nation communities of Treaty 3 in a culturally appropriate manner.

### Highlights

- ⇒ Serviced 1,943 Treaty #3 Community members
- ⇒ Attended 9 Health Fairs to: promote RG, awareness of PG, and the GAAP
- ⇒ Delivered 24 Workshops / Presentations on RG & PG
- ⇒ Attended 4 NOW committee meetings 2 (sub-committee, 2 in-person) regarding the new casino in Kenora
- ⇒ Delivered Annual Regional Training to 15 Treaty 3 youth from Kenora, Dryden, Fort Frances regions Youth were trained in PG & RG as well as Human Trafficking and Leadership development
- ⇒ Delivered a provincial wide training workshop to NNADAP workers across Ontario who obtained their mandated certifiable training hours at the NNADAP conference
- ⇒ Delivered Annual Regional Training to 14 NNADAP workers representing 14 communities that received certificates and certifiable hours towards their Gambling Information Certification.
- ⇒ Attended 9 Resource/Planning meetings with Treaty 3 communities for service delivery
- ⇒ On going RG & PG training and education provided to Treaty 3 front line workers via webinar training
- ⇒ Partnership with the RGC to deliver the Game Brain to 4 High Schools. 550 youth were educated on the facts/realities of gambling, losses, signs of problem gambling, avoiding risks, and help resources available.



# MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTIONS

The KCA Mental Health & Addictions Program provides culturally safe and sensitive Mental Health & Addictions (MHA) services. Our program works with the community resources to enhance and address MHA needs.

## Services

- Culturally Based
- Case Management
- Counselling
- Workshops/Presentations
- Crisis Response



## Case Management

- Referral
- Intake
- Assessment
- Care Planning
- Closure



## SHORT TERM CRISIS COUNSELLING (STCC)

Short Term Crisis Counselling program (STCC) provides counselling and de-briefing during crisis situations for 9 communities in our catchment area. Clinical intervention is provided to individuals, families and communities.

This program is intended to support the immediate emotional and psychological needs of individuals in significant distress, with the goals to stabilize their condition, minimize potential trauma from an acute life event and, as appropriate, transition them to other mental health supports. This program also provides immediate support to community level crises – for example: community evacuations (forest fires, floods), and states of emergency declared (mental health and addictions crises). With a priority on delivering these supports in a culturally congruent manner.

Last year the STCC team, through KCA entered a MOU with the Keewatin Patricia District School board. We now have a dedicated crisis counsellor who is regularly stationed at Beaver Brae Secondary School and able to respond to crisis calls with KPDSB.

## MOBILE YOUTH CRISIS & OUTREACH PROGRAM

In the past fiscal year 82 clients across our catchment area received services from one of, if not both the STCC program as well as the Mobile Youth Crisis Program.

This program has KCA in partnership with both Treaty #3 Police services as well as the O.P.P. The program serves all youth between the ages of 12-24 years old. This program helps triage mental health calls away from the hospital and/or legal system if appropriate. A mental health worker accompanies a Treaty #3 officer or O.P.P officer respectively on suspected mental health crisis calls involving youth.

The mental health workers accompanying the officers provide mental screening and assessments to the youth in crisis. In life threatening circumstances they will accompany the police officers and youth to the hospital.

These workers are consistently engaging with youth through community presentations, outreach to build positive relationships between policing and community members. Furthermore, they provide some short-term counselling supports, and referrals for additional mental health supports, as well as connecting youth with traditional supports, ceremony. These workers, with their respective police force will also conduct post-vention check-ins.

## MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTIONS: ADULT SERVICES



Adult Services provides counselling, referral and advocacy to individuals ages 19+ to KCA's 9 member communities as well as Eagle Lake, Wabigoon, Wabauskang and Lac Seul First Nations. Utilizing a case management model, we provide holistic mental health care that includes land-based activities (medicine gathering, canoeing etc.) and traditional ceremony as needed in partnership with KCA's Traditional Support program.

In August of 2018, in partnership with the Kenora District Services Board and the Nechee Friendship Centre, we expanded programming with addition of 2 full-time Mental Wellness Workers for the Bail Residency Program (known previously as the Northland) at 216 Matheson St., Kenora. Here we serve up to 24 program residents (many from Treaty 9 communities) as well as Treaty 3 community members residing in the Kenora area.

This fiscal year, our 9 case managers served over 2100 individuals and made 11,000 client visits.

## MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTIONS: SUPPORT SERVICES

Intake Coordinator and Intake Support Worker provide intake services to the KCA organization and 13 First Nation Communities.

During the 2018/2019 fiscal year, KCA received funding for 2 Mental Health Trainer/Promoters.

From April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019, the Mental Health Trainer/ Promoter provided 176 workshops & presentations, with 2020 participants in 13 First Nation Communities.

Workshops and presentations presented and available are:



ASIST	Suicide & Self-Harm Awareness	Lateral Violence	Stress Management & Burnout Prevention	Substance Abuse
safeTALK	Healthy Behaviours & Emotions	Conflict Resolution & Team Building	Mental Health & Addictions Awareness	Grief & Loss
Bullying & Harassment	Setting Boundaries	Self-Care & Self-Esteem	Healthy Relationships	Elder Abuse
Peer Pressure & Assertiveness	Anger Management	Understanding Trauma	Intergenerational Trauma & Resilience	Parenting Programming

## MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTIONS: CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES

The Child & Youth Services within the Mental Health and Addictions Program make up four program areas in 2018-2019. Children's Mental Health Case Management, Youth in Transition, the Youth Outreach Worker Program, and the Kenora Youth Wellness Hub.

Communities being served are Wabaseemoong (Whitedog), Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek (Grassy Narrows), Shoal Lake #40, Niisachewan (Dalles), Wauzhushk Onigum (Rat Portage), and Obashkaandagaang (Washagamis Bay) First Nation, Nautkemegwaning (Whitefish Bay), and Northwest Angle 33 and 37.

## CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH (CMH) CASE MANAGEMENT (AGES 0-18)

In 2018-2019, KCA's CMH Case Managers provided mental health services to 146 clients through over 1000 face-to-face service interactions that include emotional support, crisis follow-up, case conferences, and community linkages. Community linkages make up participation at resource meetings, advocacy, and meetings with families/caregivers. Case Managers focus on empowering young people through emotional support, and helping them achieve goals related to their overall well being. Building capacity of families to understand mental health struggles, while reinforcing and building positive identity formation, healthy coping, and referral/linkages to access psychological/psychiatric consultations when necessary.

CMH Case Managers are committed to supporting children, youth and families to access traditional Anishinaabe ceremony and healing when requested, and rely on Elders/Knowledge Keepers from our communities, as well as KCA's Cultural Coordinator for guidance.



## YOUTH IN TRANSITION PROGRAM (AGES 16-24)

This program is designed to support and assist youth in transitioning from involvement with Child and Family Services as they walk into adulthood. The worker supports youth to identify their needs, and set goals. Individuals' needs may include things like life skills, education and employment supports, housing, or mental health services. 40 individual youth were served between April 1, 2017 and March 31, 2018, with 144 service interactions/contacts reported.

## NEW OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCED—YOUTH OUTREACH WORKER (YOW) PROGRAM

In Spring 2018, the Ontario Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) announced it would be naming Kenora Chiefs Advisory as the lead in expanding its Youth Outreach Worker Program to the area. The YOW Program at KCA is made up of 4 staff. The role of YOW staff include creating positive opportunities for at-risk youth, helping youth prepare themselves to connect to support services like therapy, as well as being a support for families with respect to their youth. YOW staff are both Peer Supports and Cultural Liaisons, helping youth where they are in themselves, and connecting youth to culture and ceremony as ways to heal and understand themselves. The YOW Program serves youth between the ages of 12-25 years, and will be delivered in KCA's 9 member First Nation communities. YOW staff will be co-located at the Youth Wellness Hub on 120 Main Street in Kenora on days they are not in community.



## KENORA YOUTH WELLNESS HUB

The Youth Wellness Hub (YWH) is a multi-year funded project through the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, in which KCA is the Lead Agency, amongst a network of partners representing an array of social services across sectors such as Education, Employment & Training, Mental Health & Substance Use, Culture, and Primary Care. The objective of the YWH is to provide an integrated youth service site where all youth (12-25 years) are able to access the right service, at the right time, based on what the needs are.

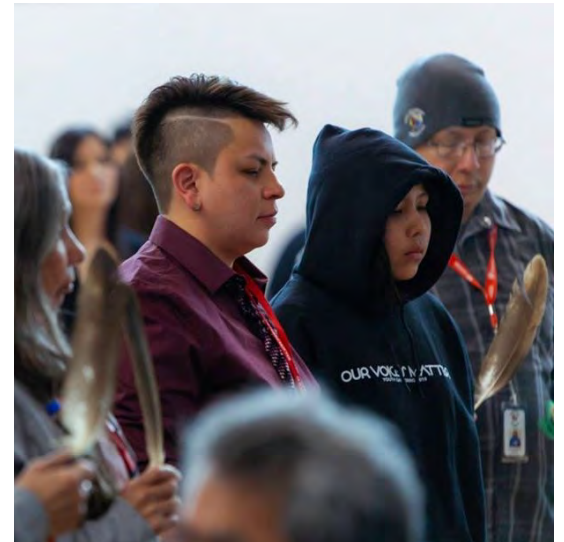
In 2018-2019, the major activities of this project were recruitment and hiring of staff, and establishing the governance structure of the project so that youth, families and community are involved in developing the YWH.



### **Special Highlight:**

#### **Our Voices Matter, Youth Conference – March 11-13th 2018**

This youth conference was hosted in collaboration with Anishinaabe Abinoojii Family Services, and Wabaseemoong Child Welfare Authority. The age range of participants were 16 years and older, with a special focus of youth from our member communities who have been involved with child and family services, or been 'in care'. Over the course of 3 days, workshops and guest speakers focused on Wellness, Self-Expression, and Telling One's Story. Out of the discussions came feedback directly from youth about how they wish to be supported by community organizations, and what they need to feel whole and well. It was a powerful few days.



## NIIGAANNING BIMAADIZIWIN DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

Kenora Chiefs Advisory, in partnership with Firefly, is providing development services to 13 affiliated communities in the Treaty 3 area; Eagle Lake, Grassy Narrows, Lac Seul, Naoatkamegwanning, Northwest Angle #33, Northwest Angle #37, Obashkaandagaang, Ochiichagwe'babigo'ining, Shoal Lake #40, Wabaseemoong, Wabauskang, Wabigoon and Wauzhushk Onigum.

Development services include occupational therapy (OT), physiotherapy (PT), speech language pathology (SLP), infant development, Anishinaabe cultural support services and enhanced service coordination. This community based-family centred program blends Anishinaabe cultural knowledge with western methods of rehabilitation to support our children and youth to reach their full potential: mentally, physically, emotionally & spiritually.

### The vision

**To create a system where individuals, families and communities have access to services that enhance self-determination and community capacity towards well-being and resiliency.**

The program began in September of 2017, and we have been working hard to bring the services to the communities on a regular basis. We have been able to build our team to include the following professionals:

- Program Manager (1 FTE)
- Sr. Family System Navigator (1 FTE)
- Family System Navigator (2 FTE)
- Infant Development/Communication Assistant (4 FTE)
- Anishinaabe Cultural Service Worker (1 FTE)
- Speech-Language Pathologist (1.8 FTE)
- Occupational Therapist (2.55 FTE)
- Physiotherapist (0.5 FTE)
- Rehabilitation Assistants (4 FTE)
- Administrative Support (0.5 FTE)

Moving forward we will strive to continue to grow our team with new positions and services in order to meet community needs.



Number of children that received services from September 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018.

Service/Support	Number of Children
Occupational Therapy	<b>295</b> Tier 1 & 2
Physio Therapy	<b>5</b> Tier 1 & 2
Speech Language Pathology	<b>627</b> Tier 1 & 2
Infant Development Worker	<b>64</b> Tier 3
Communication Support Workers	<b>504</b> Tier 1
Rehabilitation Assistants	<b>35</b>
Anishinaabe Cultural Support Worker	<b>3</b>
Family Systems Navigator	<b>187</b>

\* Tier 1 are universal supports that are delivered in the daycares and schools

\* Tier 2 are small group supports delivered in daycares and schools

\* Tier 3 are individual 1:1 services provided to identified children.



## **NEW PROJECTS ANNOUNCED**

### **CANCER CARE PROJECT**

The focus of this multi-year, multi-partnership project is to assess, evaluate, reconfigure, create and implement a complete and seamless pathway in the cancer journey for the KCA communities. The goal of improving the continuum of the cancer care journey from first suspicion to survivorship (whether it be palliative care, end-of-life care or ongoing health promotion/education, monitoring and support) is achievable only in partnership working with and for communities most affected by the high burden of illness together with those involved in policy and delivery of cancer care

Two streams of project activities include:

- ⇒ Traditional Healing and Cultural Safety Program Development, with a focus on integrating into existing pathway, allowing for a bicultural approach to care.
- ⇒ Addressing Jurisdictional and Service Gaps, through partnerships and formalizing relationships.

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### **ALL NATIONS HEALTH SYSTEM PLANNING** aims for

reconciliation through health. Their work will:

- ⇒ run parallel and overlap with the planning of the All Nations Hospital and the All Nations Health System, while driving physician recruitment and cross-border access
- ⇒ integrate and collaborate amongst area agencies to deliver culturally appropriate, patient-centred, equitable care for people in First Nations communities, unincorporated areas and municipalities through strong partnerships with First Nations and Métis
- ⇒ create efficiencies and improve population health to allow realignment of funds away from high-cost transportation, emergency & judicial services, and towards improved primary care and preventative programs.



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### **YOUTH RESIDENTIAL SERVICES PROGRAM**

The Residential Youth Services Program is a step-down service for Treaty 3 area youth who are experiencing a psychiatric and/or substance abuse related crisis, and who have received acute stabilization at a medical facility. This center will provide on-going assessment and observation, crisis intervention, and wrap-around bi-cultural services aimed at long-term healing and recovery. The 30-day program will provide a voluntary service for young persons who wish to participate in programming that will support their continued stabilization and recovery from mental health crisis.

The Program is a two-bed community home for youth between 12 and 24 years of age. The program takes a strength-based approach and works toward fulfilling previously unmet developmental needs, balanced with learning the acceptance of simple structures, responsibilities and boundaries. The program offers psychological assessments, individual therapy, group treatment, life-skills training, sex education, victim/offender specific treatment, educational/vocational programming, recreational programming and, when possible, family involvement.



## TRI-COMMUNITY DRUG ACTION TABLE

In October 2018, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Northwest Angle #33 First Nation, and Animakee Wa Zhing #37 collaborated with the support of Kenora Chiefs Advisory to establish the Tri-Community Drug Action Table. The goal of the Action Table is to implement and drive a community action plan to address the problem of illegal drug use and trafficking activity in the three communities. The Action Table meets regularly to shape and direct a model for community response and develop culturally appropriate and safe activities to take action against the increase in drug activities.

The focus is on research and evidence based decisions around the four pillars of response:

1. **Prevention:** Preventing problematic drug and substance use
2. **Treatment:** Supporting innovative approaches to treatment and rehabilitation
3. **Harm Reduction:** Supporting measures that reduce the negative consequences of drug/substance use
4. **Self-Enforcement:** Addressing illicit drug production, supply and distribution

## PARTNERSHIPS AT A GLANCE

All Nations Health Partners  
Bimose Tribal Council  
Canadian Mental Health Association  
Cancer Care Ontario  
Centre for Addictions and Mental Health  
Community Health Care Professionals  
Firefly Community Services  
Kenora Association for Community Living  
Kenora District Jail  
Kenora District School Board  
Kenora District Services Board  
Kenora-Rainy River Child and Family Services  
Kitapinoonjiiminaanik Family Services  
Lakehead University  
Lake of the Woods District Hospital  
L.E.A.P.  
Mamow Ahyamowen

McGill University  
Metis Nation of Ontario  
Nechee Friendship Centre  
Northwestern Health Unit  
Ontario Native Welfare Administrators Association  
Ontario Native Women's Association  
Ontario Provincial Police  
Ontario Renal Network  
Right to Play  
Save the Children  
Seven Generations Education Institute  
Shawendaasowin Child and Family Services  
Shooniyaa Wa-Bitong  
Treaty 3 Police Service  
University of Toronto  
Women's Place Kenora

We recognize that there are many more partnerships in the form of organizations, programs and people that have not been listed. We thank all those we have worked with in the past year, and we look forward to working with you in the future. Miigwetch!





**OGIMAAWABIITONG**

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## *In Memory*

*Alice "Kokum" Kelly*

*Oh-zow-kwe-zans*

*January 1st, 1946—July 18th, 2019*

*"Forever Loved & Never Forgotten"*

