

NISHNAWBE ASKI LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

APRIL 2022 NEWSLETTER

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**Nishnawbe-Aski Legal
Services Corporation**

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STUDENT PLACEMENT HIGHLIGHT: THE GLADUE PROGRAM: COMMUNITY INFORMATION EVENT

On March 21, 2022, the Gladue team from the eastern, central and western offices marked the return of the sun during the spring equinox with a successful information event. The team along with NAN community members and service workers gathered via zoom to learn about Gladue rights and its application during sentencing matters.

Learn About Your Gladue Rights!



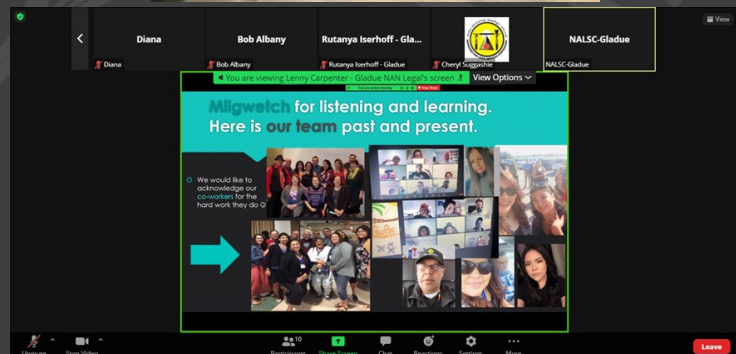
The Gladue Program at NAN Legal is hosting an information session on available Gladue services.

When: Monday, March 21, 2022
Time: 2:00 to 4:00pm (Eastern)
1:00 to 3:00pm (Central)
Where: Zoom - limited 200 participants

Prizes will be drawn, including 2 laptops and 1 iPad

Open to All NAN Members

To register, email Terri Zoccole at tzoccole@nanlegal.on.ca or Rutanya Iserhoff at riserhoff@nanlegal.on.ca



Speakers included Don Rusnak, Manager of Legal Services along with a “Know your Gladue Rights” presentation by Terri Zoccole, Senior Gladue Caseworker and Lenny Carpenter, Gladue Case Writer. George Edwards, Gladue Manager followed with a question and answer period and closing prayer to end the event.

Special thanks to all supporting staff and congratulations to draw prize winners!



Nishnawbe Aski Legal Services Corporation

Federal Indian Day School Assistance

Are you from a NAN First Nations community?

Do you have questions about the Indian Day School Settlement form?

Do you need Legal Assistance in submitting your claim?

If you need legal assistance with your **Federal Indian Day School Claims Form**, contact Nishnawbe Aski Legal Services Corporation Staff:

Megan Wood
Staff Lawyer

Thunder Bay Office

Phone: 1-807-622-1413

Direct: 807-627-8083

Toll Free: 1-800-465-5582

Email: mwood@nanlegal.on.ca

Cheryl Suggashie

**Public Legal Education &
Communications Coordinator**

Thunder Bay Office

Cell: (807) 620- 9253

Email: csuggashie@nanlegal.on.ca

**Who can assist in Direction and Resources*

Adam Mack

Public Legal Education

Timmins Office

Cell: (705) 262- 3389

Email: amack@nanlegal.on.ca

**Who can assist in Direction and Resources*

Mental Health Support and additional helpful resources

With the recent and on-going discoveries of the unmarked graves across the country, and even when you are filling out your “Indian Day School” application form, please know that talking or thinking about painful past experiences can trigger intense thoughts, and or feelings. It really helps to talk to a trusted person, such as a friend, family member or an Elder.

In some cases, you may not be aware of your own trauma, and it can resurface. Triggers can happen at anytime.

If you’re feeling overwhelmed, anxious and or upset, please reach out to someone immediately. Take time out, practice self care, especially through these trying times.

Nishnawbe Aski Legal Services Corp. Community Legal Workers serve as Commissioners and can also assist with you with the Claims Forms. Please see below for our complete list of CLW's serving your community:

Jacob Mekanak

Serving Bearskin Lake, Cat Lake, New Slate Falls, Sachigo Lake, North Caribou Lake (Weagamow)

Tel: (807) 622- 1413

Cell: (807) 630-9503

Email: jmekanak@nanlegal.on.ca

Don Sainnawap

Serving: Kasabonika, Kingfisher Lake, Wapekeka, Wawakapewin, Wunnumin Lake

Tel: (807) 737- 5201

Cell: (807) 738-5076

Email: dsainnawap@nanlegal.on.ca

Lloyd Comber

Serving Big Trout Lake (Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug), Muskrat Dam, Lac Seul

Tel: (807) 467- 3225

Cell: (807) 464-3065

Email: lcomber@nanlegal.on.ca

Robert Ostamas

Serving Eabametoong, Webequie, Nibinimak, Ogoki Post, Neskantaga

Tel: (807) 622- 1413

Cell: (807) 632- 6339

Email: rostamas@nanlegal.on.ca

Evangeline Meekis

Serving Sandy Lake, Deer Lake, North Spirit Lake, Poplar Hill, Keewaywin, MacDowell Lake

Cell: (807) 464- 5599

Email: emeekis@nanlegal.on.ca

Stella Kiokee- Koostachin

Serving Attawapiskat, Fort Albany, Kashechewan, Peawanuk

Tel: (705) 997- 1285

Email: skoostachin@nanlegal.on.ca

Roberta Wesley

Serving Aroland, Constance Lake, Ginoogaming, Hornepayne, Long Lake #58

Tel: (705) 463-1155

Cell: (705) 373-2100

Email: rwesley@nanlegal.on.ca

Jackie Edwards

Serving Taykwa Tagamou, Wahgoshig, Moose Cree, Moose Factory, Moosonee

Tel: (705) 268-5544 ext. 204

Cell: (705) 221- 1112

Email: jedwards@nanlegal.on.ca

Madelaine Kioke

Serving Beaverhouse, Brunswick House, Chapleau Cree, Chapleau Ojibway, Matachewan, Mattagami

Tel: (705) 268- 5544 ext. 203

Cell: (705) 221- 1113

Email: mkioke@nanlegal.on.ca

Darlene Suggashie

Serving Pikangikum

Tel: (807) 773- 5587

Cell: (807) 620-5441

Email: dsuggashie@nanlegal.on.ca

Please see below for free available Mental Health Resources:

Argyle Community Support Program (For Indian Day Schools only)

One-on-one support by a trauma informed Claims Assistant for help completing the Claims Form

Phone: 1-877-515-7525

Monday through Friday 8am - 9pm Eastern

(Interpretation services provided upon request)

Email: idscommunitysupport@argylepr.com

<https://indiandayschools.com/en/support/community-support-program/>

Talk 4 Healing: Talk, Text, Chat

Services in Ojibway, Oji-Cree, Cree, English, French

24/7 culturally sensitive counselling, advice, and support to Indigenous women.

Toll Free: 1-855-554-4325

www.talk4healing.com

Hope for Wellness Help Line

24/7 Services in English, Cree, Ojibway, Inuktitut, French

Toll Free 1- 855- 242- 3310

www.hopeforwellness.ca with Chat Feature

NAN Hope

Toll Free 1-844-626-4673

Text: 1- 844- 626- 4673

www.nanhope.ca with Chat Feature

24-hour Residential School Crises Line

For immediate emotional assistance

Toll Free: 1-866-925-4419

Access Health Support Services & more information

Toll Free: 1-888- 301- 6426

www.healthcanada.gc.ca/irs

Indian Residential Schools Survivors and Family

Toll Free: 1-800-721-0066

www.irsss.ca

Native Women's Association of Canada

In-house elders offering support, Monday to Friday 9- 11am and 1 – 3 p.m. Eastern Time

Toll Free: 1- 888- 664- 7808

www.nwac.ca

MMIW Crisis Line

24/7 support to family, friends and community members impacted by the loss of a missing or murdered Indigenous woman, girl, or Two-spirit person

Toll Free: 1- 844- 413- 6649

<https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/>

Please stay tuned for our future “Virtual Gathering” as we will be discussing; Indian Day Schools, mental health topics, and the discoveries of the unmarked graves.

More information to follow!

For more information and or assistance on “Indian Day School Settlement” claims form, with Nishnawbe Aski Legal Services Corporation, please visit our website:

<https://nanlegal.on.ca/federal-indian-day-school-class-action/>

Toll Free: 1- 800- 465- 5581

Phone: (807) 622- 1413

Fax: (807) 622- 3024

Email: info@nanlegal.on.ca

Website: www.nanlegal.on.ca



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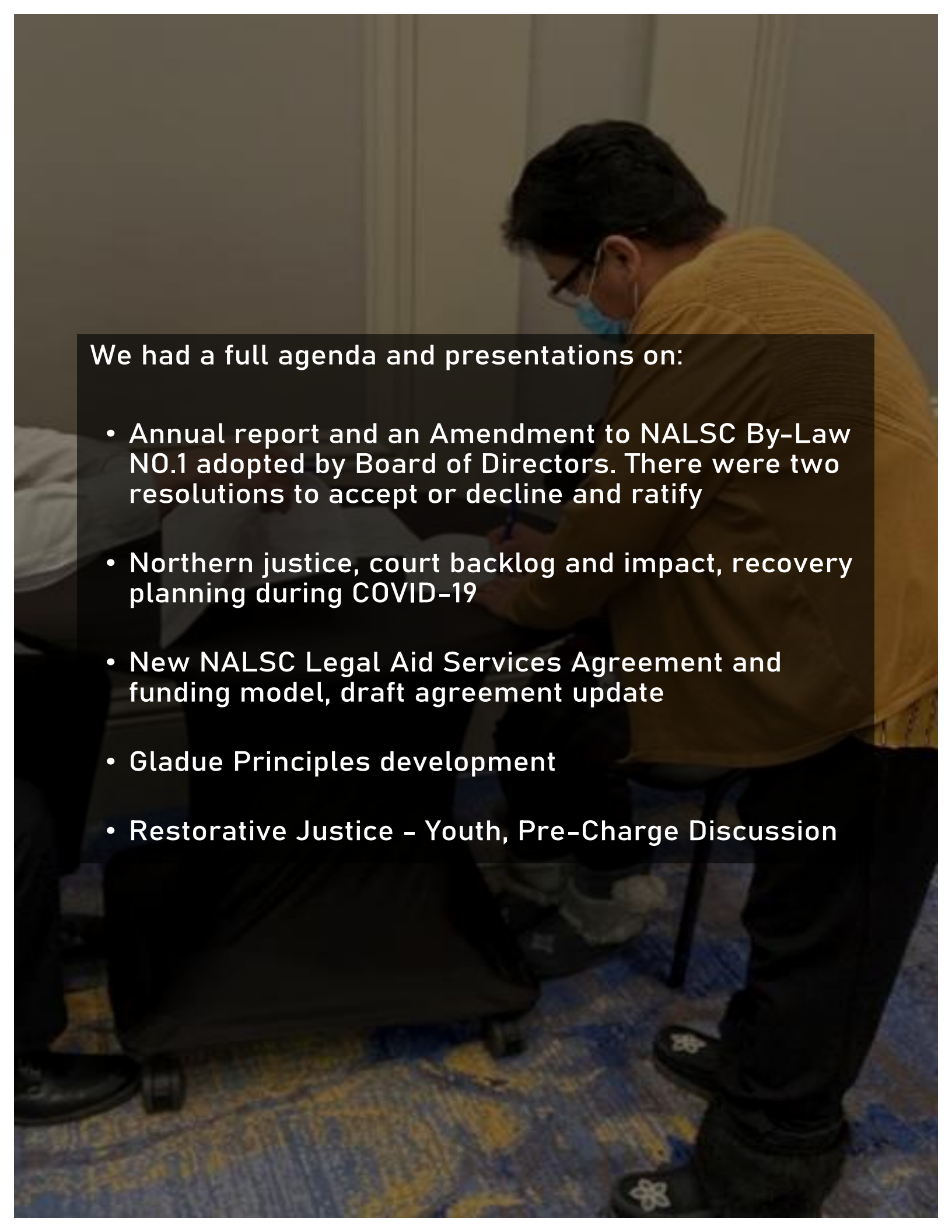
**Nishnawbe-Aski Legal
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Annual General Meeting 2022

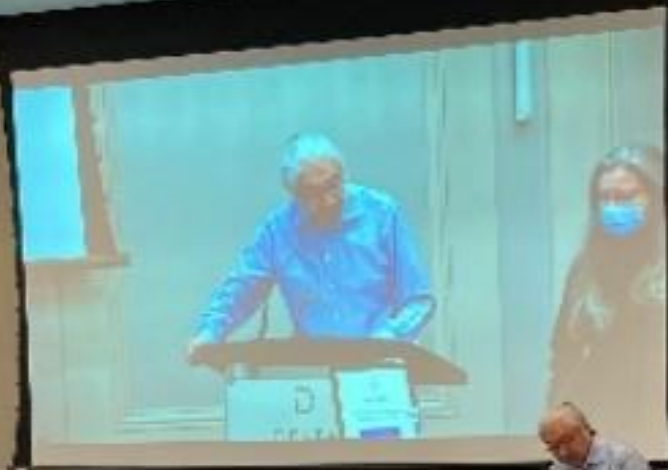
On Wednesday
February 9th, 2022 –
Nishnawbe Aski
Legal Services
Corporation and
Board of Directors,
hosted their first
Annual General
Meeting, in
conjunction with
Nishnawbe Aski
Policies Services. Our
AGM was held in a
Zoom Forum and was
aired publicly on
YouTube. All 49
Chiefs had a voting
right, and or proxy, in
order to vote on
resolutions

Matawa Drum Group pictured above



We had a full agenda and presentations on:

- Annual report and an Amendment to NALSC By-Law NO.1 adopted by Board of Directors. There were two resolutions to accept or decline and ratify
- Northern justice, court backlog and impact, recovery planning during COVID-19
- New NALSC Legal Aid Services Agreement and funding model, draft agreement update
- Gladue Principles development
- Restorative Justice - Youth, Pre-Charge Discussion



*Former Grand
Chief Charles Fox
and Executive
Director Irene
Linklater*



Nishnawbe Aski Police Services and Nishnawbe Aski Legal Services Corporation

**NAPS Chief of Police *Roland Morrison* and NALSC Executive
Director *Irene Linklater* sign Protocol Agreement**

Restorative Justice Program

The Presenters on Youth Justice and Youth Intervention, Pre charge Diversion and Community Learning Hub did an amazing job presenting. They explained the process and the numerous activities regarding the Youth in the NAN Territory. The presentation was very well received by the Chiefs

Kenneth Sackaney

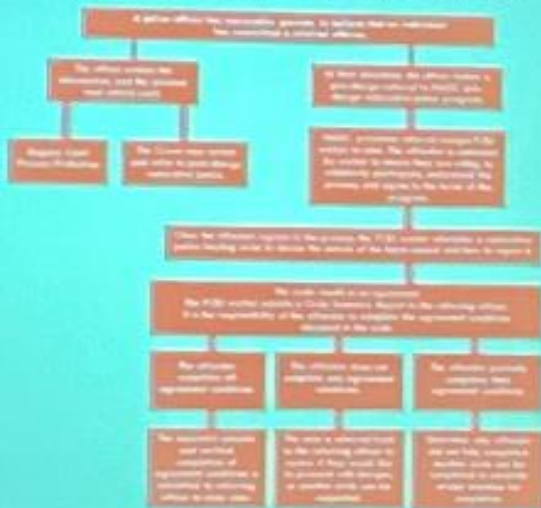
Restorative Justice Worker

the Community Youth
Intervention Program?

Intervention Program
for young people who are
at risk of becoming
involved in the justice
system. The Community
Learning Hub (CLH) works
with young people, operating as
a pre-charge diversion
and probation
service. It works with
young people including the
Community Education



Pre-Charge Referral Flow Chart



Zachary Borutski

Pre-Charge Diversion Worker



Barney Batise
Elder for the East



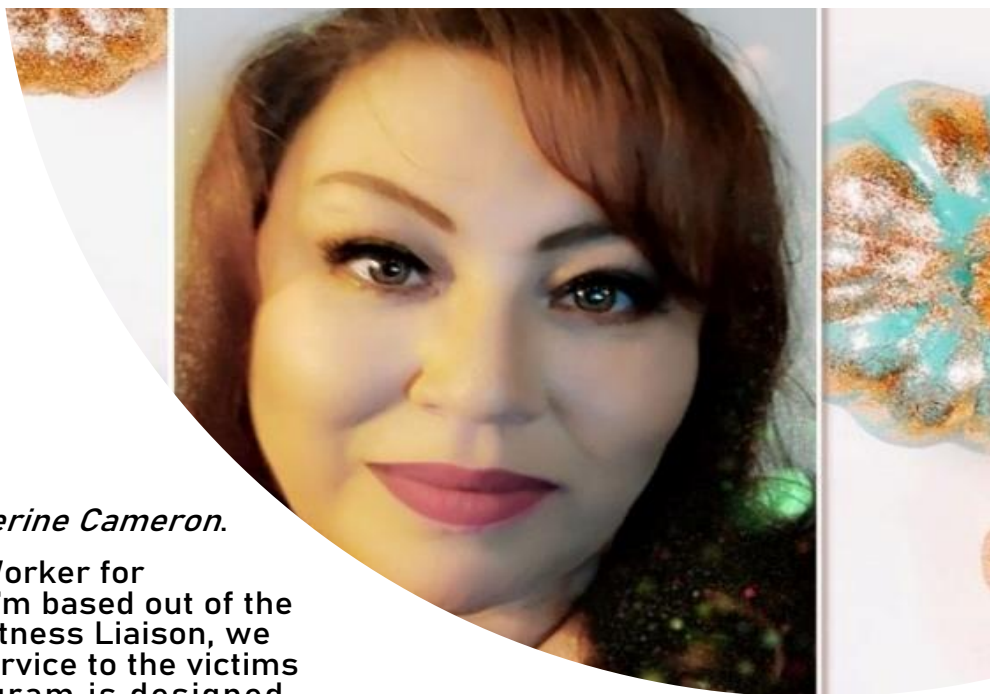
Photos of the Smudge Ceremony (at the Timmins Office) hosted by *Ralph Taylor* (Restorative Justice), *Vernon Morris* (Restorative Justice), *Jordon Akiwenzie* (Bylaw worker), attended by *Melanie Mohan* our new Restorative Justice Worker and myself *Shannon Naveau* (Gladue Caseworker). These ceremonies will happen in the office every Spring and Fall.

We encourage staff to attend these amazing teaching circles Miigwetch to *Nathan Naveau* and *Pierre Belec* for the teachings and we thoroughly enjoyed this event

Our Guest *Nathan Naveau* (Cultural Resource Coordinator) from the Timmins Native Friendship Centre, conducted the ceremony with a drum song and Smudge.

Pierre Belec (I am a Kind Man Program Coordinator) assisted Nathan with the Ceremony and Teachings. The goal for the Ceremony is to keep a positive environment for our staff, so that we can continue helping our people.





Boozhoo, Aniin, my name is *Catherine Cameron*.

I am the Victim Witness Liaison Worker for Nishnawbe Aski Legal Services. I'm based out of the Kenora Site Office. As a Victim Witness Liaison, we strive to improve the quality of service to the victims and witnesses of crime. The program is designed to help clients understand their rights and navigate through the justice system, locate information, connect with resources, access referrals, and create steps to regain control their lives based on a holistic approach.

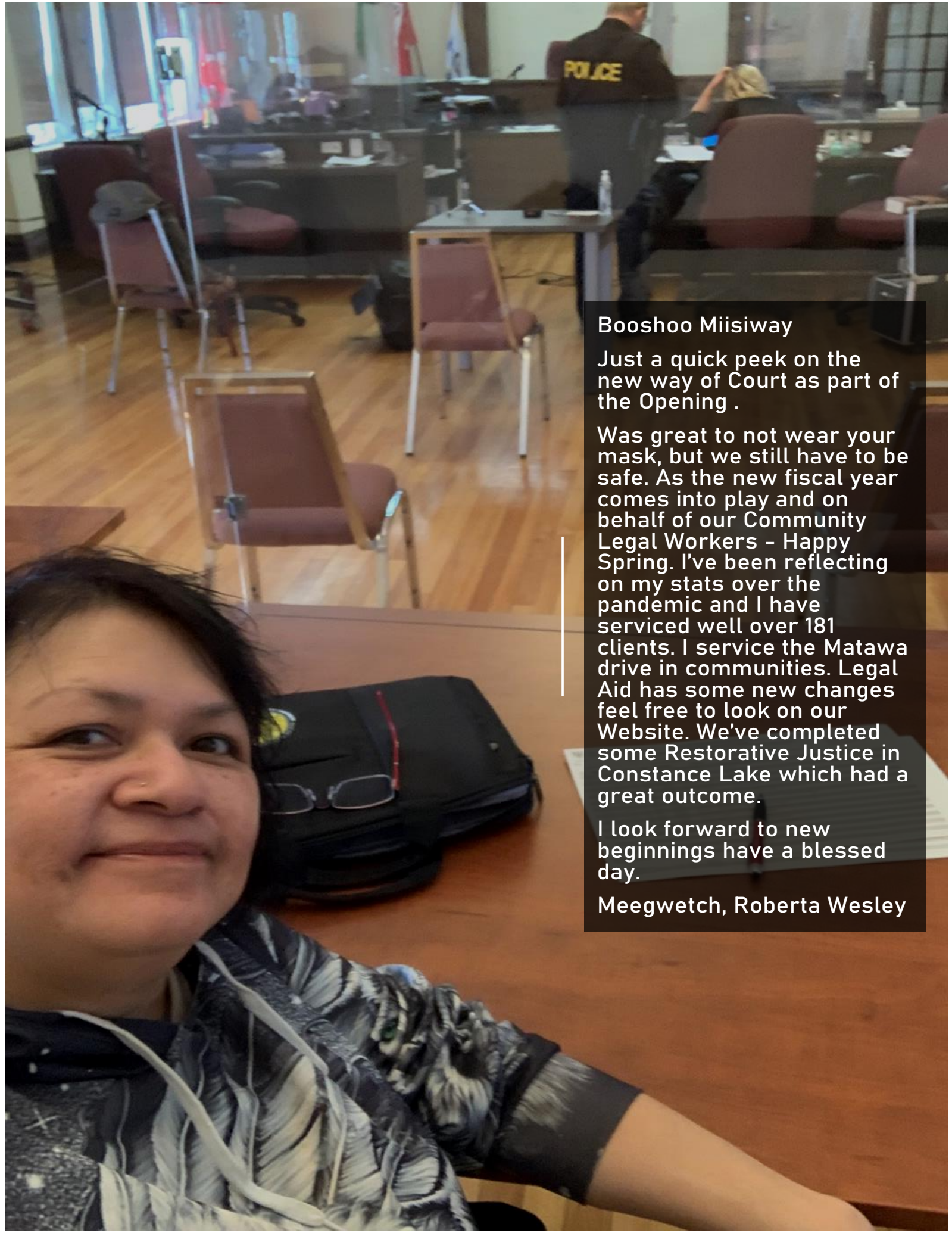
I have had more than 35 years of experience working for non-profit organizations in the Kenora area and in my own community, specifically in community outreach and education where I have gained profound relationships. I have always seen myself as a visionary and helper. I have always enjoyed inspiring individuals through life projects that encourage confidence and contentment.

Outside of work, I enjoy traveling, fishing and shopping. I also spend my free time volunteering with community programming, participating in tradition activities and spending time with friends and family.

Melanie Mohan – *Victim Witness Liaison to Restorative Justice*

My name is Melanie Mohan and I have been with Nishnawbe-Aski Legal for almost three years. In February 2022, I transitioned from my role as a Victim Witness Liaison to the Restorative Justice team.

I thoroughly enjoyed my time on the VWL team and feel an immense amount of gratitude for all the wonderful people I met. Although change can be hard, I am very much looking forward to the new challenges and opportunities the Youth SADV position will bring!



Booshoo Miisiway

Just a quick peek on the new way of Court as part of the Opening .

Was great to not wear your mask, but we still have to be safe. As the new fiscal year comes into play and on behalf of our Community Legal Workers - Happy Spring. I've been reflecting on my stats over the pandemic and I have serviced well over 181 clients. I service the Matawa drive in communities. Legal Aid has some new changes feel free to look on our Website. We've completed some Restorative Justice in Constance Lake which had a great outcome.

I look forward to new beginnings have a blessed day.

Meegwetch, Roberta Wesley

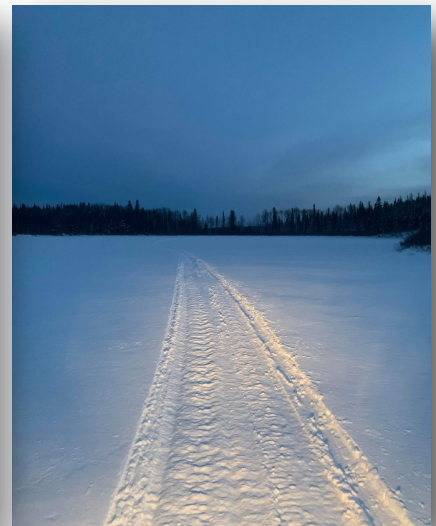
Elton Crowe

Restorative Justice Program: Youth Justice,
Youth Intervention Worker in Sandy Lake, Ontario



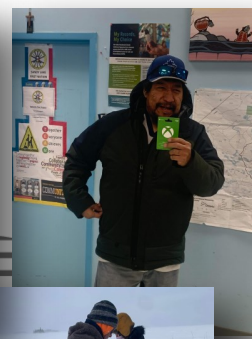
Hello everyone, my name is Elton Crowe. I started working with NAN Legal on November 5, 2021, as a Youth Intervention and Restorative Justice Worker.

I've always liked working with kids and adults and
I'm an avid outdoorsman all year long.





Some events I've done so far with this COVID in the way, include a BBQ introduction of myself to the community, two co-ed broomball tournaments, kids co-ed broomball tournament, arena family night, ice net fishing, draws at work, hockey tournament and sewing nights.



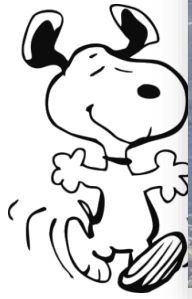
Gloria Turtle

Restorative Justice Program: Youth Intervention,
Youth Justice Worker in Pikangikum, Ontario

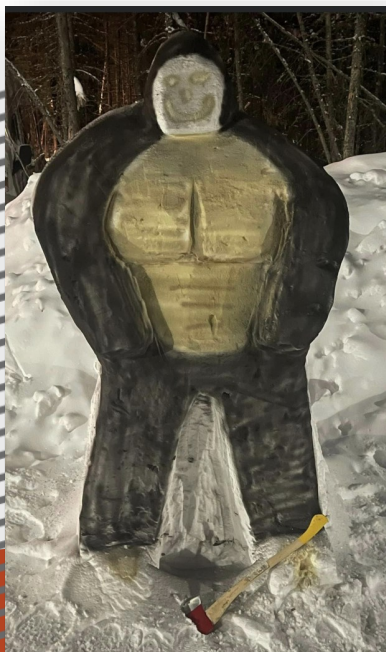


Hi, my name is Gloria Turtle. I recently started working part-time with NAN Legal in January 2022 as a Community Youth Intervention Worker for Pikangikum. We have started a Facebook group where we hold contests that involve parents and their children. As COVID has been holding us back from holding activities amongst youth, we have had families join the fun with their youth online. Here are a few things we did since January. Baking cake contest, with a little supervision from their parents.





There also was a family snow sculpture contest. These activities were held amongst families inside or outside their homes. The activities proved that we can still have fun times with our youth online. Thanks to NAN Legal for making this all happen. I really enjoy setting up these activities and seeing the youth happy when they are engaging with their parents and to just have a good time. Hopefully COVID will be resolved soon, so we can all see each other again in a gathering. Meegwetch for taking the time to read my story.



Have you experienced discrimination or felt you were discriminated against in any of the following settings?

- Urban Centers
- Justice System
- Healthcare system

We would like to hear your story!

NALSC will be hosting community engagements sessions in Timmins, Thunder Bay, Sioux Lookout, and a fourth Urban setting throughout 2022/ 2023.

Stay tuned for announcements.



**Nishnawbe-Aski Legal
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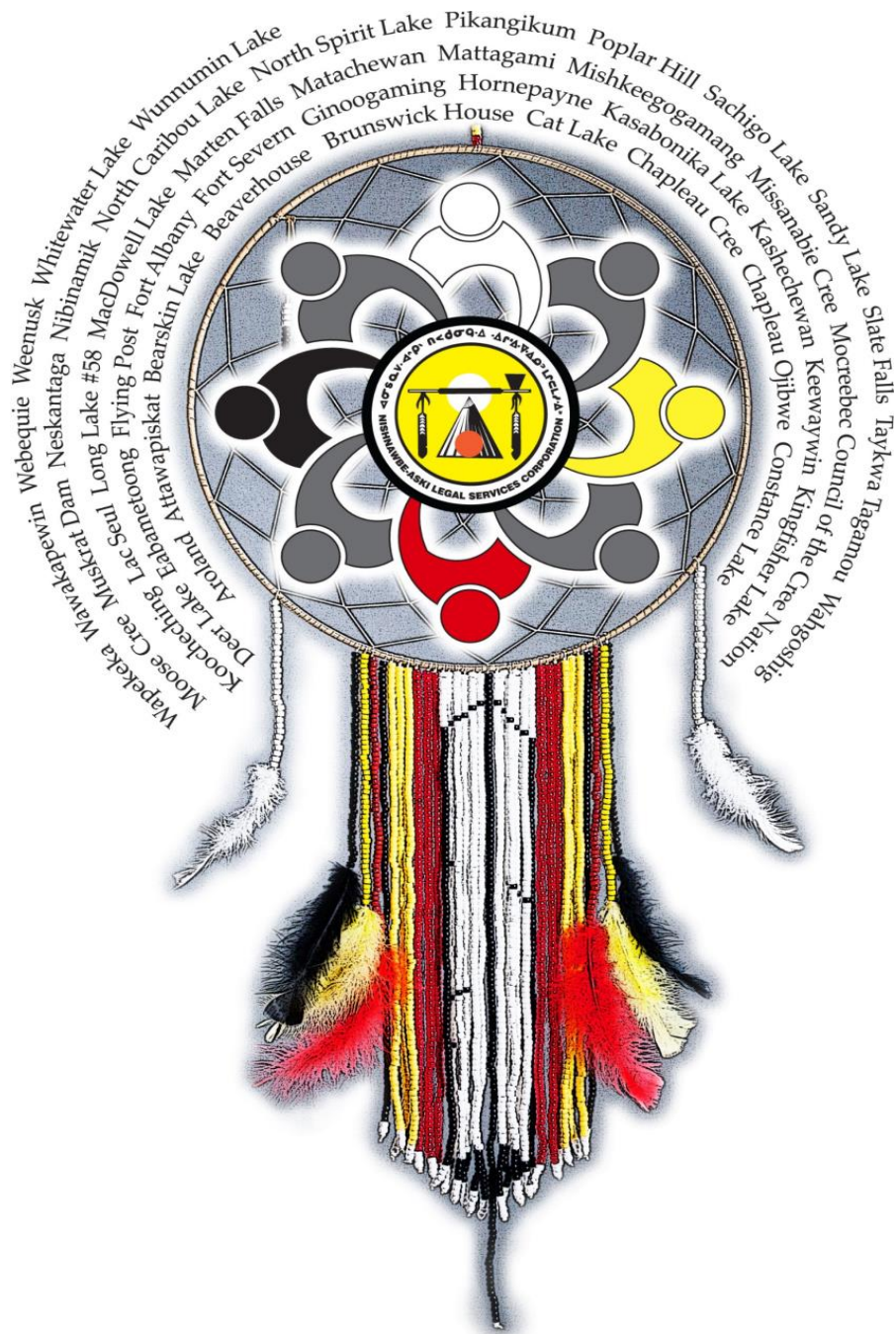
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NISHNAWBE ASKI LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITIES



INDEPENDENT FIRST NATIONS ALLIANCE	SHIBOGAMA FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL	MUSHKEGOWUK TRIBAL COUNCIL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug First Nation Muskrat dam First Nation Pikangikum First Nation Lac Seul First Nation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kasabonika Lake First Nation Kingfisher Lake First Nation Wapekeka First Nation Wawakapewin First Nation Wunnumin Lake First Nation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attawapiskat First Nation Chapleau Cree First Nation Fort Albany First Nation Kashechewan First Nation Missanabie Cree First Nation Moose Cree First Nation Taykwa Tagamou First Nation
WINDIGO FIRST NATIONS	MATAWA FIRST NATIONS	WABUN TRIBAL COUNCIL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bearskin Lake First Nation Cat Lake First Nation Koocheching First Nation North Caribou Lake First Nation Sachigo Lake First Nation Slate Falls First Nation Whitewater Lake First Nation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aroland First Nation Constance Lake First Nation Eabametoong First Nation Ginoogaming First Nation Marten Falls First Nation Long Lake #58 First Nation Neskantaga First Nation Nibinamik First Nation Webequie First Nation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brunswick House First Nation Chapleau Ojibwe First Nation Matachewan First Nation Mattagami First Nation Flying Post First Nation Beaverhouse First Nation Wahgoshig First Nation
KEEWAYTINOOK OKIMAKANAK	Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services Corporations Toll Free: 1-800-465-5581 (T) 807- 622-1413 (F) 807-622-3024 www.nanlegal.on.ca	INDEPENDENT BANDS <small>(Bands not affiliated with any Tribal Council)</small>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deer Lake First Nation Fort Severn First Nation Keewaywin First Nation Macdowell Lake First Nation North Spirit Lake First Nation Poplar Hill First Nation 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mishkeegogamang Ojibway Nation Mocreebec Eeyoud Council Sandy Lake First Nation Weenusk First Nation (Peawanuck)



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