

KENORA CHIEFS ADVISORY ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

For the year ended March 31, 2023

Our strengths are our people.



A young boy with dark hair is shown from the chest up, looking slightly to his left. He is wearing a vibrant yellow long-sleeved shirt under a blue and orange patterned vest. A wide sash with a blue background and white text is draped across his chest. The sash features the text 'Drum 7' in a large, stylized font, and 'Wave 2023' below it. A circular medallion with a feathered design is pinned to the sash. The background is a blurred green field with other people in the distance.

our mission

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

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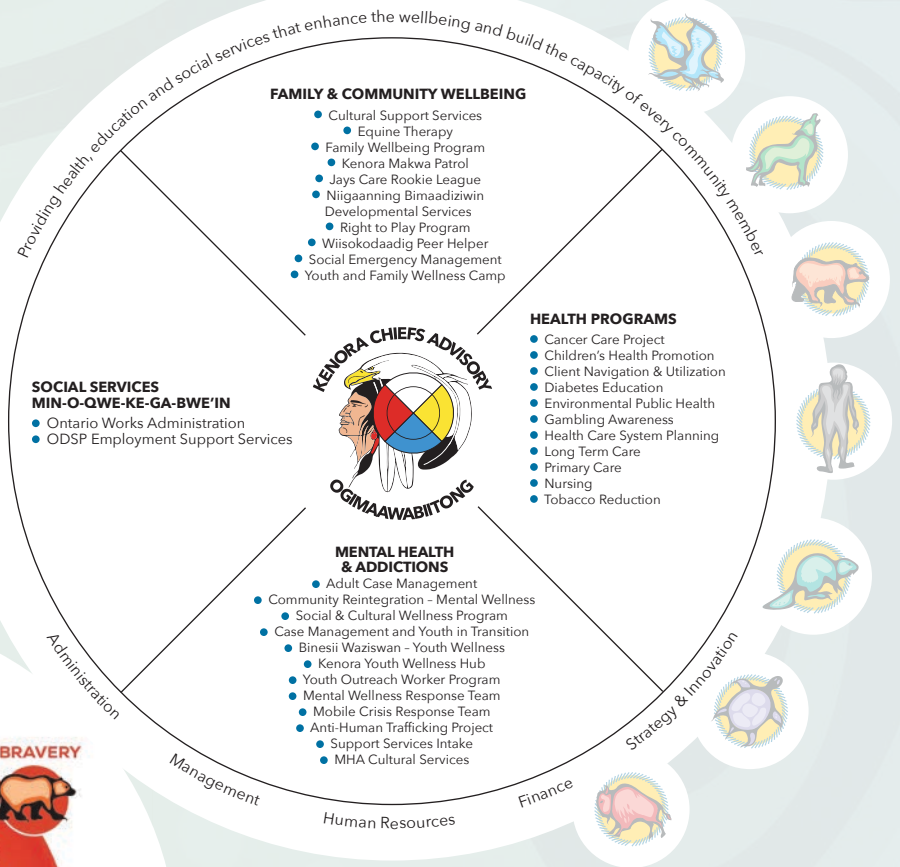


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Organizational Structure

MANDATE

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

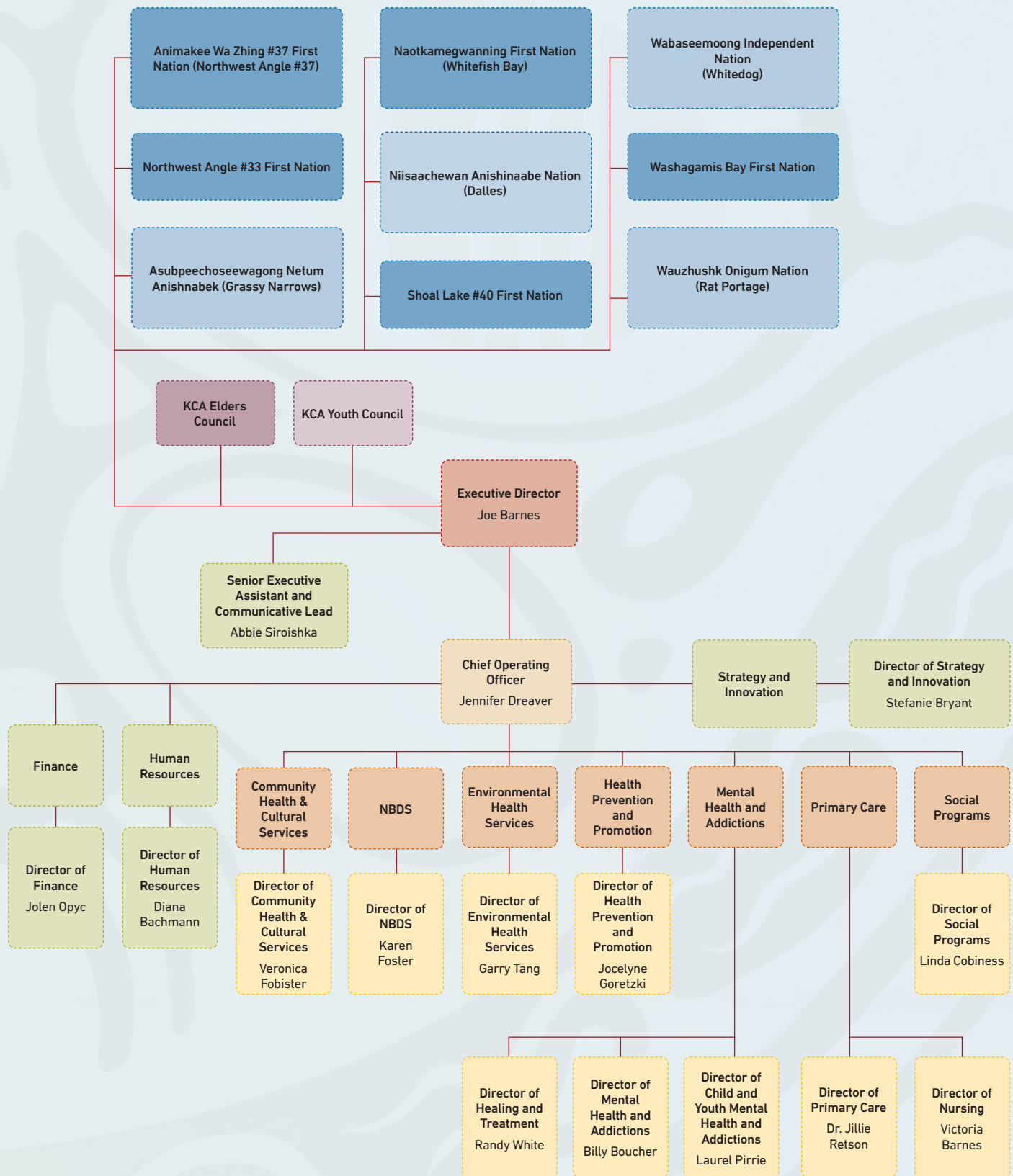


CODE OF ETHICS

Ogimaawabiitong shall maintain a culture which recognizes and values ethical conduct through the following 7 Sacred Teachings. Culture remains at the centre of the work Ogimaawabiitong does and is identified as an important determinant of health and wellness. Ogimaawabiitong works to enhance service coordination among various systems and deliver culturally safe services to create a pathway towards healing and wellness for our communities and members.



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ELDER AND YOUTH COUNCIL *(AS OF MARCH 2023)*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chief Lorraine Cobiness, President
Niisaachewan Anishinaabe Nation

Chief Howard Kabestra,
Vice President
Nautkamegwanning First Nation

Chief Chris Skead, Secretary/
Treasurer Wauzhushk Onigum Nation

Chief Waylon Scott
Wabaseemoong First Nation

Chief Kevin Redsky
Shoal Lake #40 First Nation

Chief Rudy Turtle
Asubpeeschoseewagong First Nation

Chief Darlene Comegan
Northwest Angle 33 First Nation

Chief Vernon Copenace
Washagamis Bay First Nation

Chief Linda McVicar
Animakee Wa Zhing #37 First Nation

KCA YOUTH COUNCIL

Vacant
(Niisaachewan Anishinaabe Nation)

Vacant
(Nautkamegwanning First Nation)

Avery Meekis
(Shoal Lake #40 First Nation)

Vacant
(Washagamis Bay First Nation)

Vacant
(Wabaseemoong Independent Nations)

Vacant
(Asubpeeschoseewagong First Nation)

Harmony Scott
(Northwest Angle #33 First Nation)

Vacant
(Animakee Wa Zhing #37 First Nation)

Sydney Flett
(Wauzhushk Onigum Nation)

KCA ELDERS COUNCIL

Allan White (Organization Elder)
(Nautkamegwanning First Nation)

Andy White
(Nautkamegwanning)

Susan Fobister
(Asubpeeschoseewagong First Nation)

Merv Cobiness
(Niisaachewan First Nation)

Lillian Henry
(Shoal Lake #40 First Nation)

Phyllis Shagabay
(Washagamis Bay First Nation)

George Land
(Wabaseemoong)

Agnes Paul
(North West Angle #33)

Lynn Skead
(Wauzhushk Onigum)

Luanne Kavanaugh
(Animakee Wa Zhing #37 First Nation)

Tommy Keesick
(Urban Elder)



KCA and MWF Foundation Board of Directors (and guests):
Kathleen Wynne, Hanita Tiefenbach, (unknown), Chief Howard Kabestra, (unknown), Patricia Erb, David de Launay, Chief Rudy Turtle, Gary Gladstone, Chief Chris Skead



Message from the Executive Director

Boozhoo

As the Executive Director for Kenora Chiefs Advisory, I am happy to offer you a summary of the activities and programming undertaken by KCA in the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

This year for me personally was a very different year as it was my last one as Executive Director of the organization, as in December of 2022, I announced my retirement.

This year, similar to the last few years, we continued to navigate serious growth and expansion of our programs and services. This was the first year we really resumed service delivery post the major shutdown during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

I want to take this time to express my deepest gratitude and thanks to our Board of Directors, our Elders Council, our Youth Council, and all our staff for the remarkable job again this year. Every single year our staff never cease to amaze me with their level of dedication, commitment, and love for what we as an organization do.

I would also like to take this opportunity to reflect on the last decade leading Ogimaawabiitong and say a huge Miigwetch to everyone along the way. Working so closely with leadership, the communities, our team and partners has been something extremely valuable and personal to me. I have always believed in the work KCA does, and the pathway forward the organization paves. KCA continues to be leaders in the healthcare field, and I am so grateful to have been a part of that.

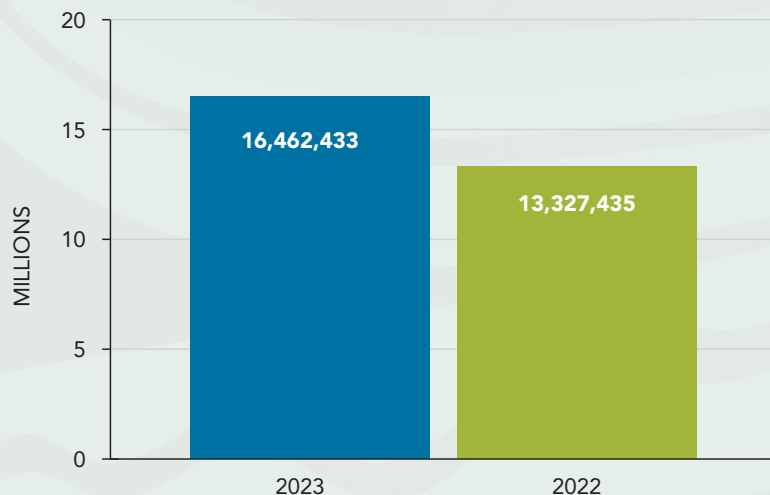
This is not goodbye, but a shift into a new working relationship and I am very excited to watch the new leadership of the organization continue to push forward for change, that is grounded and rooted in culture and tradition.

*Miigwetch,
Joe Barnes
Executive Director*

Financial Report

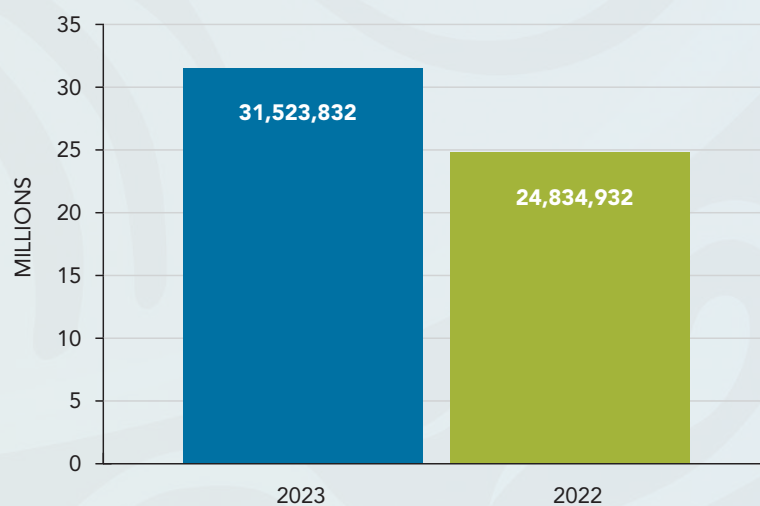
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION		
Assets	2023	2022
Current		
Cash	–	819,158
Accounts Receivable (Note 3)	5,961,730	4,690,820
Prepaid Expenses and Deposits	106,678	42,919
	6,068,408	5,552,897
Capital Assets (Note 4)	8,643,856	6,740,322
Due from Wiigwas Elder and Senior Care (Note 5)	1,750,169	1,034,216
	16,462,433	13,327,435
Liabilities		
Current		
Bank Indebtedness (Note 6)	153,443	–
Accounts Payable and Accruals (Note 7)	3,967,588	5,498,753
Deferred Revenue (Note 8)	1,520,979	1,399,963
	5,642,010	6,898,716
Long-term Debt (Note 9)	441,981	–
	6,083,991	6,898,716
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	2,176,567	(311,603)
Invested in Capital Assets	8,201,875	6,740,322
	10,378,442	6,428,719
	16,462,433	13,327,435

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION – NET ASSETS



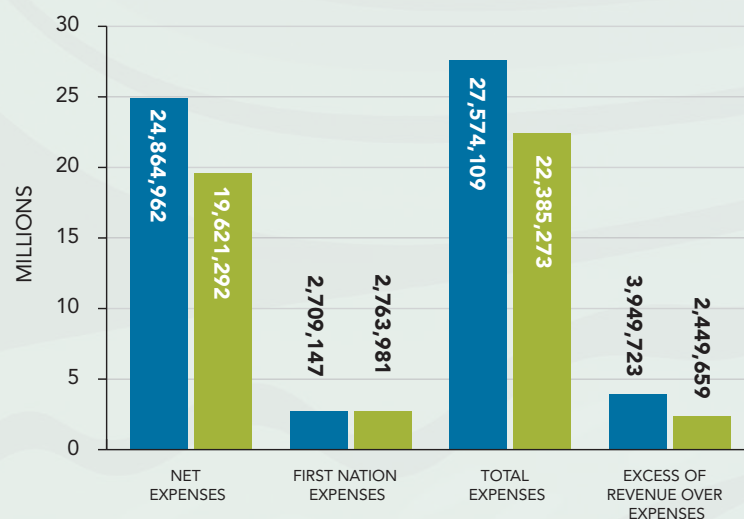
STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENDITURES		
Revenue	2023	2022
Province of Ontario	13,876,544	12,439,634
First Nations and Inuit Health	12,306,056	7,377,204
Own Source Revenue	876,599	210,750
First Nations	846,552	752,936
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health	650,000	650,000
Kenora District Services Board	557,500	870,745
Northern Ontario Heritage Fund	476,833	–
Ma' Mo' Weh Charity	379,842	366,000
Federal Economic Development Agency for Northern Ontario	317,889	–
Ontario Trillium Foundation	291,400	216,600
Ontario Community Support Association	261,453	196,090
Right to Play	205,387	142,551
Canadian Partnership Against Cancer	192,049	185,578
Employment and Skills Development Canada	100,000	–
Jay's Care Foundation	79,300	74,857
Lease Revenue	75,833	–
Lake of the Woods District Hospital	69,515	41,669
Weeneebayko Area Health Authority	58,851	71,419
Save the Children	13,420	70,500
Grand Council Treaty #3	7,812	–
Interest	2,013	4,163
Deferred From Prior Year (Note 8)	1,399,963	2,564,199
Deferred to Subsequent Year (Note 8)	(1,520,979)	(1,399,963)
Total Revenue	31,523,832	24,834,932

STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENDITURES – REVENUE



STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENDITURES (CONTINUED)		
Expenses	2023	2022
Administrative (recovery)	(4,212)	44,812
Advertising and Promotion	111,754	28,564
Amortization	613,919	521,645
Bad Debts (recovery)	(60,010)	(46,858)
Bank Charges and Interest	18,224	36,302
Computer	123,591	95,601
Equipment Rental/Lease	2,000	5,360
Furniture and Equipment	34,133	29,859
Honoraria	380,470	198,886
Insurance	311,682	106,606
Membership Fees	10,000	9,909
Miscellaneous	30,292	191,751
Office Supplies	342,803	259,088
Primary Care	–	15,000
Professional Development	87,345	38,771
Rent	396,899	501,147
Repairs and Maintenance	507,316	60,763
Salaries and Benefits	14,939,154	11,559,681
Supplies	3,401,702	3,424,351
Telephone	110,665	106,491
Training and Education	542,014	193,483
Travel and Meetings	1,952,659	1,609,445
Utilities	96,324	29,957
	24,864,962	19,621,292
First Nation Expenses	2,709,147	2,763,981
Total Expenses	27,574,109	22,385,273
Excess of Revenue Over Expenses	3,949,723	2,449,659

STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENDITURES – EXPENSES



Human Resources

The Human Resources Team is committed to our Code of Ethics and “excellence in all that we do” and our core values: Respect, Love, Courage, Honesty, Wisdom, Humility and Truth. Our Team operates within a culturally humble team-based environment. As a strategic partner, our Team oversees a variety of responsibilities that are essential to KCA’s performance, needs and strategy.

Our goal is to provide culturally safe, empathetic, kind-hearted and people-first HR services and we strive to design and deliver a satisfying, innovative and engaging employee journey, truly making a meaningful and positive difference in our employees’ lives.

HR services are provided through several tools and functions such as recruitment, benefits and compensation, health and safety, employee relations, performance management, culture, payroll, wellness initiatives, onboarding, career development and various unique initiatives.

The Human Resource Team would like to say Miigwetch for your continued support through the growth and challenges our Team met with during this past year. We appreciate all your hard work, knowledge, strengths and personal best.



RECRUITMENT PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

- Recruitment: HR Generalist, focus on training and learning new role
- Developed HR Recruiting workflow
- New EAP provider: Homewood Health
- HR Restructure: Health & Safety Program under HR. Responsible for KCA H&S, JHSC and Wellness Committees, H&S-Training, Participate in Accreditation Process, community assistance, inventory & events
- Mid Strategic Check-In
- Policies and Procedures Updates: working on introducing new policies and updating current policy
- HR Rebranding: Brochures for community resource fairs and recruitment fairs
- Recruitment Fairs: 7Gens Career Fair, U of T Career Fair
- San'yas Indigenous Cultural Safety Training
- Support staff with training and development
- Summer Student Initiative, COOP Student Placements
- KCA Job Postings: 50% Increase 2022-2023
- Applicants applying to KCA: 53% Increase 2022-2023
- Average seven interviews per week: higher in spring/summer months

Health Promotion and Prevention Services

RIGHT TO PLAY PROGRAM

The RIGHT TO PLAY (PLAY: Promoting Life-skills in Aboriginal Youth) program provides support from locally hired community mentors who deliver safe, fun, and educational programming for 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 youth and children in each community we serve.



Community	Average Program Hours Per Month	Number of Youth Participants Male/Female/Identify as Others
Asubpeeschoseewagong	39	11 Male/25 Female
Naotkamegwanning	37	9 Male/6 Female
Niisaachewan	32	23 Male/24 Female
Northwest Angle #33	37	3 Male/1 Female
Shoal Lake 40	37	11 Male/9 Female
Wabaseemoong	36	3 Male/17 Female
Washagamis Bay	32	22 Male/14 Female/1 Other
Wauzhusk Onigum	37	12 Male/12 Female
KCA Wellness Camp	38	16 Male/22 Female/5 Other

Program Activities	Average Number of Activities Per Month
Sports & Physical Activity	25
Healthy Eating & Cooking Skills	10
Creative Expression & Coping Skills	15
Land-Based	8

RTP Intergenerational Events: A Beach Volleyball event at the KCA Family & Youth Wellness Camp was held at the end of the summer, there were 45 youth from our KCA communities participating in the event.

Hockey Skills Camps were hosted during the fall & winter in Shoal Lake 40, Asubpeeschoseewagong First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, and Kenora (for Wauzhushk Onigum Nation and Washagamis Bay to participate in). The camps were geared towards all skill levels of hockey players,

with time slots scheduled for new skaters/ hockey players and for the more experienced players. Approximately 10-15 youth participated during each hockey camp, including some parents.

The beginner camps focused on the basics: stop and starts, cross overs and skating backwards. The more experienced players were able to enhance their skills with puck handling at high speed, shooting and passing drills.



INDIGENOUS ROOKIE LEAGUE PROGRAM

The KCA Indigenous Rookie League program focuses on supporting youth with physical and mental wellness, healing, connection and community involvement through the love of sport. A year-round sports program provides our youth with the opportunity to participate in a variety of sports, activities and leagues in a fun, safe space, allowing them to and learn new skills or further develop existing skills. Our program is for youth ages 5-21.



Program Highlights:

- Partnered with RTP, Health Promotion, and Children’s Mental Health to host a youth beach volleyball tournament.
- Partnered with RTP and hosted Hockey Skills Clinics in Shoal Lake 40, Asubpeeschoseewagong First Nation, Nautkamegwanning First Nation and Kenora (for Wauzhushk Onigum and Washagamis Bay to participate in).
- Assisted at the Cultural Days, Fall Harvest, Right To Play Events, NIPD, Floor Hockey events, Archery Events, Hockey Skills Training.
- Our program provides transportation for youth and has healthy snacks and drinks available at all program activities.
- Indigenous Rookie League Baseball
 - 2022 season point winners was the community of Wauzhushk Onigum who were sent to Toronto to watch a Blue Jays Game live at Rogers Centre.
 - Fall Classic Tournament September 25th, 2022
 - We had 125 youth participate in our Indigenous Rookie League baseball.
- Indigenous Rookie League Volleyball
 - League ran Monday and Thursday nights each week.
 - An average of 25 participants attended each event.

Activities Offered	
Sports & Physical Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseball • Volleyball/Beach Volleyball • Archery • Indoor & Outdoor Hockey • Basketball • Soccer
Healthy Eating & Cooking Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooking Sessions With Youth • Teaching Fish Filleting, Moose Filleting, Buffalo Harvesting
Cultural & Land-Based	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jingle Dress Making • Moss Bag Making • Dreamcatcher Making
Total Number of Youth Participants	285

WIISOKODAADIG PEER HELPERS PROGRAM

The Wiisokodaadig Peer Helpers Program (WP) aims to empower youth with decision-making, leadership, communication, and personal skills development and knowledge to become confident 'peer helpers'. The program's goal is to build community capacity by providing peer support training to youth.

Workshops and information sessions we support with:

1. Self-esteem & Self Care
2. Life Promotion
3. Bullying
4. Healthy Relationships & Healthy Boundaries
5. How to deal with difficult & stressful situations
6. Trauma
7. Ability to Listen & Understand
8. Understanding Empathy, and How to Respond to your Feelings
9. Leadership Skills
10. Goal Setting & Decisions Making
11. Understanding Physical & Mental Health
12. Land Based Learning & Teachings

2022-2023 Initiatives:

- The Wiisokodaadig Program Coordinator worked on re-introducing the program to the nine communities we service and reviewed program curriculum.
- The Wiisokodaadig Program was also working to fully provide youth council representation at KCA.
- The Wiisokodaadig Program partnered with Youth Engagement and took initiative in the Laidlaw Foundation – Youth Led, Land Based Teaching Project Activities.
- Assisted and contributed to the 2022 Grassy Narrows Youth Empowerment Gathering.
- Assisted with the Youth Volleyball Tournament & Youth Healing Conference at KCA Youth and Family Camp in August 2022.
- Have helped with the transportation of youth for a youth conference.
- Attended Youth Planning Meetings and strategic planning for Grassy Narrows.
- Attended Facilitation Training, ASIST & ASK.



CHILDRENS 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 for FASD-affected children and families.
3. To provide children nutrition activities, workshops and nutritional support for healthy development of children and their families.

Program highlights:

- Worked closely with the Healthy Babies Healthy Children/Maternal Health workers to facilitate workshops in baby food making, picky eating, cooking with allergies, healthy after school snacks and other workshops as requested.
- Coordinated kids' yoga sessions as well as mom and baby yoga sessions.
- Provided access to FASD awareness/prevention training and activities as well as hosting an FASD/ Back to School BBQ event at the Youth Hub. We also came together to host the FASD Trailblazer Event at Garrow Park.
- Contributed to help build the Youth and Family Wellness Camp gardens to improve access to healthy food for all community members.
- Supported the community members of Asubpeeschoseewagong First Nation and Wabseemong to help improve wellness with evacuation and flood support of various kinds.
- Coordinated Family Paint Night sessions and provided supplies for all nine communities.
- Supported a Woman's Health Gathering
- Played a supporting role at the Youth and Family Wellness Camp for all nine surrounding communities to help increase cultural awareness at NIPD, Fall Harvest, Cultural Wellness Days, and Family Fun Days.
- Collaborated with the KCA Cultural Services Team to plan and host the 3rd Annual Healing Your Spirit Pow Wow.



April 2022 – March 2023 FASD and Child Nutrition Program Statistics

# Direct Support Services Provided	6
# Program Events/Workshops	41
# Participants Total	664

ANISHINAABE DIABETES EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Anishinaabe Diabetes Education Program (ADEP) at Kenora Chiefs Advisory addresses the concerning prevalence and incidence of diabetes. Our program consists of a registered practical nurse and a registered dietitian with services often being offered in collaboration with other organizations and professions.

The ADEP program started work on the Waasnooden/Wawatay - Wind Blowing/Northern Lights project. The project is a collaboration between KCA, WNHAC and IDHC. The project will help to develop community capacity with education, training and supporting awareness and prevention of Type 2 and Gestational Diabetes.

Our program hosted a Northern Ontario School of Medicine learner, who was able to increase her knowledge about dietetics and diabetes care. Her biggest takeaway was the immersive Indigenous cultural exploration, her rewarding conversations with elders and knowledge keepers, and how she was encouraged to dive in and learn as much as she could. Her placement underscored the significance of cultural responsibility and the critical role it plays in dietetics.

The ADEP program offered a number of different types of programming throughout the 2022/23 fiscal year. As well as the opportunity to speak at the All Nations Childcare Gathering – Nurturing Our Spirit-Journey to Wellbeing virtual conference.

Program highlights:

- #loveyourself Event – Promoting positive body image workshop
- Gardening support in communities
- Development of the new Youth and Family Wellness Camp garden
- Nutrition and care for pregnancy presentation
- Recreation Centre passes
- Diabetes Jeopardy
- Wellness trivia
- Traditional foods presentation
- Mental health and nutrition presentations
- Diabetes and the Seven Sacred Grandfather Teachings resource
- Bingos – Foot care, traditional foods
- Kids, mom & baby yoga
- Community kitchens – Diabetes and allergy friendly cooking
- Diabetes education/awareness – 4 Types
- Rethink Your Drink – How Much Sugar is in Your Food & Drink Awareness?

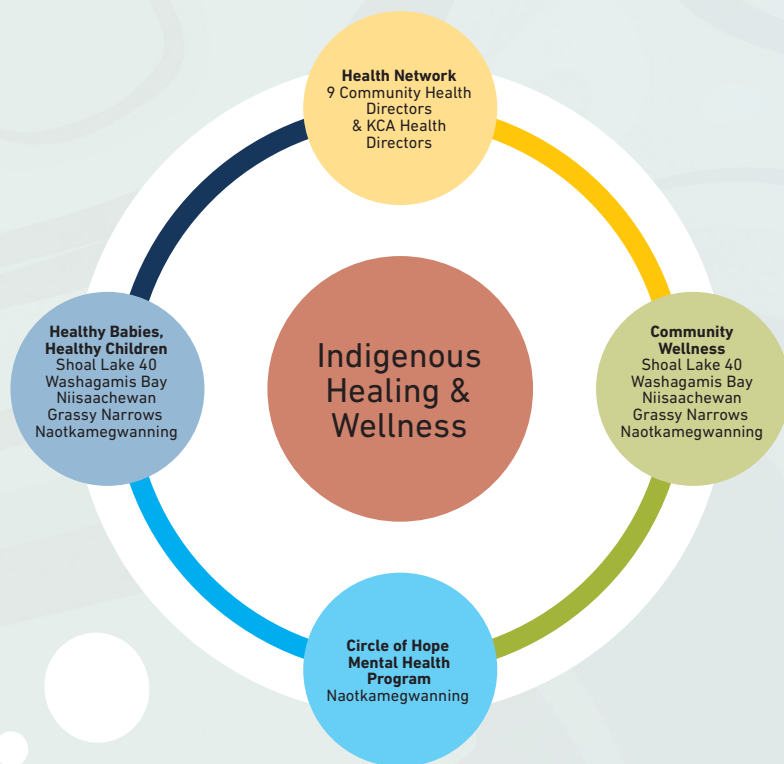
Partnerships and collaborations:

- Food security working group
- Community Food Centres Canada member
- Food in the North funding
- Northern Fruits and Vegetable Program
- Good food Organization member

Activity	Presentations, Resources and Activities	Event Planning and Community Meetings	Blood Glucose Screening	A1c Screening	Blood Pressure Screening	Referrals
Number of Participants	2328 (166 events)	804	31	19	11	24

INDIGENOUS HEALING AND WELLNESS PROGRAM

The IHWS Program is funded by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) at KCA to support networking for the Health Directors of the 9 member communities. This is done by facilitating Health Network meetings. MCCSS also provides funding to KCA to administer and support the Community Wellness, Healthy Babies, Healthy Children and Community Mental Health Programs. KCA provides program support, assists community workers with reporting and facilitates professional development training.



COMMUNITY WELLNESS ACTIVITIES

Client-Based Services	# of Individuals	Group-Based Activities	# of Participants
290	335	86	1374

HEALTHY BABIES, HEALTHY CHILDREN

Client-Based Services	# of Individuals	# of Families	Group-Based Activities	# of Participants
422	153	77	47	375

HEALTH NETWORK ACTIVITIES

Meetings	Training/Workshops
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 Health Network 1 GCT#3 IHWS Partner 1 GCT#3 IHWS Strategic Planning Session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IHWS & Health Director Self-Care Workshop

IHWS PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Meetings	Training/Workshops	Networking & Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 IHWS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IHWS & Health Director Self-Care Workshop Youth Healing & Wellness Fair – Partnered with CMH, WPH, RTP, YWC, NBDS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 Community Visits for Administrative Support and Networking

THE GAMBLING ADDICTIONS AWARENESS PROGRAM (GAAP)

The Gambling Addictions Awareness Program (GAAP) mandate is to design, develop, and deliver wholistic approaches that address problem gambling, and promote responsible gambling within the 28 First Nation communities of Treaty 3 in a culturally appropriate manner.

GAAP has 5 objectives which includes:

1. Promotion & Awareness
2. Training & Education
3. Resource Development
4. Advocacy & Support
5. Treatment & Rehabilitation Supports

The GAAP delivers workshops, and problem gambling training, develops and distributes problem gambling and responsible gambling resources, and offers support and information for problem gambling treatment, and services.

The Gambling Addictions Awareness Program has:

- Delivered 16 workshops to 430 participants in Treaty 3.
- Provided Gambling Information Booths at 6 Health & Resource Fairs to 1,000 participants (approximately).
- Provided Problem Gambling Training & Education on 22 occasions including monthly webinar training and 3-3-day problem gambling training to NNADAP & Youth.
- Provided gambling information and promotion of GAAP at 9 Community & Special Events where up to 2,885 people attended these special events.
- Attended up to 35 meetings for resources deliveries, and to gather information on the needs of Treaty 3 First Nation communities in gambling.

TOBACCO REDUCTION PROGRAM

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



Activity	Child/Youth Session	School Engagement	Community Event	Targeted Session
# of Participants	0	0	37	74

In Person Counselling Community Members	Telephone Counselling	KCA Peer Support/Orientation	
1	0	# of Group Sessions Offered	4
		# of Attendees	30

Community Health and Cultural Programs

CULTURAL COORDINATORS/ ELDERS ADVISORY

The Cultural Coordinators work closely with the KCA Elders Advisory Council to ensure our elders attend meetings, ceremonies, and feasts where they are required. Elders are asked to do opening prayers and attend ceremonies to provide direction for KCA.

We practice and follow proper protocols as set out in our cultural practices, and ceremonies. We've also been asked to prepare and gather medicines when requested. As per protocol, we use tobacco when the elders are requested to attend any function, we also use the same protocol when our Kookum Drum Shaawanoong Banaise'sseek is requested.

We work alongside other programs. We provide the cultural support that they require such as

smudging, adhering to proper steps taken in ceremonies, proper steps taken in protocols when requesting elder's advisory/direction and or requesting the drum.

Ceremonies we've participated in include shaking tents, naming ceremonies, sweats, pipe ceremonies, sunrise ceremonies, water ceremonies, and spring and fall feasts. Since November 2022 the Elder's Advisory Team has participated in about 150 functions, meetings, workshops, ceremonies, powwow, Indigenous day celebrations, residential school gatherings, and cultural orientation.

The Shkabe (Cultural Coordinators) work in the background making sure all protocols, elders, medicines, offerings, the drum, and singers are in place and done accordingly.

Activity	Amount Hosted	Number of Participants
Events	30	6000
Meetings	40	400
Workshops	40	1000
Ceremonies	40	450
Cultural Orientations	30	unknown



FAMILY WELLBEING PROGRAM

The Family Well-Being program delivers prevention-focused, culturally responsive supports to promote healthy communities, by supporting families to heal from the effects of Intergenerational trauma, reduce violence and address the high rate of children and youth in child welfare and youth justice systems. The Family Wellbeing Program is staffed by seven Family Wellbeing Workers.

KENORA MAKWA PATROL

Kenora Makwa Patrol (KMP) is a community-driven, culturally safe initiative that was developed to promote and provide safety to individuals within the City of Kenora. The Patrol is a visible point of contact for vulnerable populations to connect to services that support their wellbeing. Following the 7 Grandfather teachings, the Patrol builds strong relationships within the community based on respect and understanding. This is achieved in a non-violent, non-threatening, non-judgmental and supportive manner via relationship building and reconciliation.

Highlights:

- Ongoing partnerships developed with local organizations. Morningstar Treatment Centre, Kenora Shelter, Fellowship Centre
- Maintained and held quarterly Community Council Meetings with all partners.
- Full complement of patrollers was achieved
- 3rd Year of Partnering with the City of Kenora to run a Winter Warmth Drive in the Community
- Partnered with several schools in Kenora and ran sock drives, and blanket drives
- Makwa Patrol has received several monetary donations to assist our patrollers and patrons.
- Fundraised for AED Machine by putting together car wash event
- Three days of training and wellness in Winnipeg. Staff received training in first aid, naloxone, and safe needle handling.

Core Components:

- Maintaining family well-being workers to increase access to supports and connect families to existing services;
- Providing community-based programming for children, youth, and families who have experienced, or been exposed to violence;
- Creating safe places where children, youth and families can receive culturally appropriate support and access services.

Completed this year:

- 3744 wellness checks
- 9731 area checks
- 22,952 items of food handed out
- 10,560 drinks handed out
- 1,162 blankets and items of clothing handed out
- 7,490 safe rides given
- 19,774 male assists
- 11,000 female assists



**CULTURAL SERVICES PROGRAM:
LAKE OF THE WOODS
DISTRICT HOSPITAL**

Cultural Services Program was established in October 2022. The year has been dedicated to learning and implementing the delivery of cultural services and practices, including building relationships with local service providers to deliver and improve the services offered within the hospital setting.

Program Highlights:

- Visit to Fort Qu'Appelle Health Centre, learning how they incorporate traditional ceremonies, medicines and herbal teas into hospital.
- Work closely with the Mental Health Team at the hospital
- Active member of the Indigenous Advisory Council and Current Operations innovation working group.
- Anti-Indigenous Racism Cultural Safety Partnership – Funding was received through Indigenous Services Canassda to create an initiative focused on getting a better, and deeper understanding of Anishinaabe history and culture, learning about traditional perspectives and distinct challenges experienced by the First Nations in our area.

- Funds will be specifically used to develop Anishinaabe Cultural Competency and Culturally Safe Care training programs, which will be delivered to all LWDH and KCA employees. Planning for Elder, Youth, and community engagement sessions was a focus in order to complete the training programs next fiscal.
- KCA and LWDH have a deep on-going partnership on existing projects such as the client navigators, the All Nations Health Partners, the All Nations Hospital project and this new funding will allow us to continue the expansion and development of that partnership side by side.
- “This is the type of change and work that we need to see happening in systems everywhere. We are very excited that we are able to work in a true side by side partnership with the hospital, and really begin incorporating this type of training on a larger scale,” said Chief Lorraine Cobiness, Board President for Ogimaawabiitong.

In the last year we have had the following	
Traditional Healer	1
Traditional Consult Over the Phone	10
Smudge for Patients	238
Traditional Medicine for In-Patient	6



INDIGENOUS PATIENT RELATIONS DEPARTMENTS - CLIENT NAVIGATION AND UTILIZATION

The Indigenous Patient Relations Department is situated out of the Lake of the Woods District Hospital. They provide a variety of care and services to Indigenous patients. They provide companionship, translation, and support to families during the end-of-life process of a loved one and do their absolute best to ensure that patients have a full understanding of the medical care they are receiving. They also work very closely with the LOTW discharge planner ensuring that patient care is continued upon discharge.

The services provided in the Emergency Department include assisting patients with navigating services, providing moral support to elderly patients and palliative care, arranging transportation, referrals, and translation services to the hospital and Wiigwas residents.

Number of clients that required navigator assistance	670
Number of clients that needed translation assistance:	84
Admitted	260
Discharged	248
Deaths	12

Highlights:

- Completion of the Indigenous Patient Relations Department (IPRD) Brochure
- Training – Trauma informed care and the therapeutic process
- In the last year, there has been a big increase in the utilization of the smudge room by the patients and staff.

LONG TERM CARE PROGRAM:

- The Long Term Care Program (LTC) is a First Nation-based Homemaker & Home Support Service. It is designed to provide in-home services

to the elderly and disabled as well as prenatal, postnatal, and post-surgical care clients who require support.

- The focus of the LTC program is to assist individuals to remain in their homes instead of in long-term care facilities or hospital settings.

Essential services include:

- In-home services
 - Cooking
 - Cleaning
 - Personal care
- Home support services
 - Yard cleaning
 - Chopping wood
 - Shoveling snow
- Support and services to families in need of services.
- There are 17 Home Maintenance and Repair Workers (Home Support Workers), 15 Homemakers and 6 Community Coordinators supported through KCA. There are 130 Active home support clients and 35 homemaker clients.

Program Highlights:

- Virtual Palliative Care Workshops for Indigenous Communities with the Centre for Education and Research on Aging and Health (CERAH) Palliative Care
- Education for Indigenous Communities/ Care Planning for the Journey Back Home.
- Palliative Care for Front-Line Workers in Indigenous Communities (PCFLWIC).
- Attended Online Palliative Care Conference, over 400 workers across Canada attended.
- Diabetes sessions in the communities with our Diabetes Educator.
- We were fortunate to get a 2nd time funding for the Meals on Wheels Program where the communities served 12,601 meals and 1,423 hampers altogether in the 9-month program.

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM

The Environmental Public Health Program deals with all aspects of the natural and built environment that may affect the wellbeing of community members. The Environmental Health Team works to ensure the health and safety of communities through inspection, education, and intervention via recommendations to Chief and Council.

Environmental Health Officers identify hazards, discuss concerns with community leaders, educate the public, and respond to environmental health complaints in order to build community capacity. We want to give people the knowledge and support needed to control their own health outcomes. Our goal is to prevent illness, promote health and prolong life at a community level.



Physical Environments:

Physical environments are a social determinant of health and may affect health outcomes either directly or indirectly. For example:

- Contaminants in the air, soil, and/or water can lead directly to negative health outcomes.
- Dangerous physical conditions like an icy sidewalk can lead to injuries.
- Where you live can indirectly affect health outcomes. This includes accessibility, distance to services, social isolation, availability of nutritious food, etc
- Constant nuisances (noise, pests, etc) can cause stress which affects mental health, emotional health, and eventually physical health.



Program Highlights:

- Hired and trained a new Water Quality Analyst.
- Partnered with the Northwestern Health Unit to facilitate training an Environmental Public Health Practicum Student.
- Assisted with sandbagging and flood mitigation efforts from Spring 2022 to Fall 2022.
- Provided support and consultation for a local water emergency in Wabaseemoong from December 2022 to March 2023.
- Raised awareness for First Nation Drinking Water Settlement (due March 2024) .
- Provided input for water quality and helped set-up regular water testing at the KCA Youth and Family Wellness Camp.
- Assisted with several Earth Day cleanup events in our communities.



It is important to improve physical environments to not just prevent illness but also to improve quality of life and decrease health inequities.

EPH PROGRAM STATISTICS (APRIL 1, 2022 – MARCH 31, 2023)

Inspections	
Type	# of Inspections
Food Facility	8
Community Care	11
Housing	56
Other Facility (Offices, Health Centres, etc.)	6
Septic Inspections	82
New Septic Applications	14
Environmental Sampling (Soil, Air, etc.)	13
Communicable Disease Control	
Type	# of Cases
Rabies Investigation	27
Other CD Investigation	2
Health Promotion	
Type	# of Events
Resources Created/Distributed	12
Activities (Resource Fairs, Special Events, etc.)	10
Presentation/Training	7
Food Recall Notifications	11

WATER SAMPLING

Community	Lab Bacti Samples	Colilert Samples	Chem Samples
AWZ 37 Regina Bay	42	88	49
AWZ 37 Windigo Island	21	55	28
Asubpeeschoseewagong	36	35	41
Naotkamegwanning	39	111	67
Niisaachewan	31	137	41
NWA 33 Angle Inlet (DWA)	4	6	6
NWA 33 Dog Paw	26	41	41
Shoal Lake 40	38	213	39
Wabaseemoong*	39	20	53
Washagamis Bay	38	177	55
Wauzhushk Onigum	41	89	52

*Wabaseemoong had no running water for 3 months

Social Emergency Management

The Social Emergency Management program works in conjunction with many of the other KCA programs to assist with emergencies at all stages including prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery. When not in a state of emergency, the SEM will engage with community leadership to assist with planning for future events. This year we hired a new Social Emergency Manager, Leana Leask.

Below is a list of activities and programming that the Social Emergency Manager took part in, working in conjunction with our communities.

FLOODING:

High water levels occurring from Spring 2022 – Fall 2022

- Assisted with sandbagging to protect critical infrastructure such as roadways, pump stations, water treatment plants, etc.
- Provided support with Asubpeeschoseewagong First Nations evacuation efforts.
- Engaged in planning meetings with PEOC and LOTW Control Board.
- Helped assess flood damage and provided advice for those living in affected areas.



WATER OUTAGES:

Water outages in Wabaseemoong from December 2022 – March 2023

- Facilitated evacuation of community members during the Christmas season by arranging hotel and transport.
- Worked to deliver bottled water, medication, food, and other essential goods to evacuated clients and those remaining in the community.
- Set up alternative spaces for showering and laundry in Kenora.
- Worked with partner organizations to ensure clients were safe and comfortable.
- Arranged delivery of pet food for those who were not able to evacuate with their pets.
- Assisted with an assessment of homes and moving people back to the community when water was restored.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

- Started work with engaging community emergency management teams and reviewing existing emergency management plans.
- Created a KCA Social Emergency Handbook to help orient clients in case an evacuation is needed.
- Prepared presentations on Social Emergencies and the JEMS document for Evacuations.
- Attended several training events for Emergency Managers.
- Regularly meet with the Ministry of Indigenous Affairs and other Social Emergency Managers in NWO to discuss recent events and initiatives.

Primary Care Program

The KCA Primary Care Initiative began in August 2019 with a participatory action research study that identified large gaps in primary care in communities.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

To expand and further coordinate wholistic, patient-centered, culturally appropriate primary care services for First Nations communities, to create a more robust primary care system within communities.

In the 2022/23 Fiscal Year, Ogimaawabiitong continued to ensure ongoing essential in-person primary care services in 9 First Nation communities including ER diversion, COVID-19 safety protocols in place, and after-hours physicians' assistance to primary Care Nurses.

Ogimaawabiitong continued to recruit additional physicians, Nurse Practitioners, and nurses to work in communities towards our goal of expanding on existing services and creating robust primary care within First Nations communities. One additional Nurse Practitioner was recruited with the goal of increasing Cancer Screening for community members.

Who provided these services in 2022/23:

- 10 family physicians
- 2 nurse practitioners
- Primary care administrative assistant
- Director of Primary Care

Community	Primary Care Provider	Total Number of Primary Care Clinics 2022/23 Fiscal Year
Niisaachewan	Dr. Emily Drake	9
	Dr. Kerry Anderson	13
Wauzhushk Onigum	Dr. Jillie Retson	18
	Brandi Milko, NP	43
	Dr. Mandy Spencer	10
Naotkamegwanning	Dr. Kerry Anderson	31
Shoal Lake 40	Dr. Shannon Wiebe	23
Wabaseemoong	Dr. Michelle Thomas	32
Asubpeeschoseewagong	Dr. John Vaudry	7
Northwest Angle 33 and Angle Inlet	Dr. Brad Kyle	11
	Dr. Kerry Anderson	17
Animakee Wa Zhing #37	Dr. Dave Kyle	2
	Dr. Kerry Anderson	2
Washagamis Bay	Brandi Milko	9
Total		227

INTEGRATED PRIMARY CARE TEAM

In January 2023, KCA started hiring professional services to create part of an integrated team to deliver Primary care. Its team included a pharmacist/clinical diabetes educator. KCA will continue as directed to expand the integrated Primary Care team moving forward.

Program highlights:

- Supported 227 primary care clinics across nine First Nations (11 community sites).
- Ensured ongoing essential in person primary care services in communities and ER diversion during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- Held engagement sessions with each community to obtain direction in regard to Primary Care services.
- Added a pharmacist/clinical Diabetes educator as a member of an integrated care team.
- Participated in the NOAMA Research Innovation Grant with NORTH – “Routine Cancer Screening Across a COVID-timeline: An Integrated Primary Health Care Investigation with Kenora All Nations Health Partners.

Future opportunities:

- Ogimaawabiitong continues working in partnership with Grand Council Treaty Three in the next fiscal year to take on the GCT#3 Regional Indigenous Cancer Lead position across Treaty Three Territory. This role is divided into 2 people. One with clinical experience and one person with community and cultural experience.
- Primary Care looks forward to continuing to work with our Cancer Care Project.

Ogimaawabiitong continues to work with the All Nations Health Partners and OHT to create the long-term goal of a fully integrated All Nations Primary care system both on reserve and off for the Kenora area.



Nursing

COMMUNITIES RECEIVING NURSING FROM KENORA CHIEFS ADVISORY			
Community	Primary Care	Public Health	Home Care
Nautkamegwanning	Yes	Yes	Yes
Shoal Lake #40	Yes	No	Yes
Wauzhusk Onigum	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wabaseemoong	Yes	Public Health Assistance	No
Niisaachewan	Yes	Yes	Yes
Washagamis Bay	Yes	No	Yes
Asubpeeschoseewagong First Nation	No	Public Health Assistance	No

The Primary Health Care Nursing program: Started during Covid to address gaps in the communities, Primary Health Care allows the nurses to work with clients in the communities and their doctors, as well as other health care providers to provide services directly in the community and prevent visits to the Emergency room. Primary Care Nursing is provided in each community that has given direction to KCA on how they wish care to be delivered. There was a total of 5 sites receiving primary care nursing for the fiscal year 2022-2023.

The Home Community Care program: This program funded through Indigenous services Canada with some funding provided through the provincial government, each community decides who will help deliver their Home Care Program. KCA provides Home Care nursing visits as directed to each community. Care is delivered in People's homes to help with acute and chronic conditions. This program also provides case management services for home care clients. Anyone can refer to the homecare program. There was a total of 6 sites receiving Home Care Nursing.

The Public Health/Community Health program: This program is funded through Indigenous services Canada. This program provides prevention and promotion, as well as some treatment for communicable disease, including STI's, TB, Covid etc.

Immunizations are also provided through this program. Some follow-ups for chronic illness. Well woman, well man clinics. Screening programs. There was a total of 5 sites receiving Public Health Nursing

KCA has a total of 12 nurses plus one nursing manager and one director of nursing. These nurses spend Monday to Friday in the community.

KCA Nursing COVID-19 Response:

- Vaccine clinics were held in Kenora, Nautkamegwanning, Niisaachewan, Wauzhushk Onigum, Asubpeeschoseewagong First Nation.
 - From April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023, there were a total of 27 vaccine clinics held for four communities.
- KCA has a Genex Machine and has 7 people trained to use it through the Public Health Agency of Ontario. This machine enables Nurses to do PCR testing in the communities and have the results within one hour. KCA also orders and delivers rapid COVID-19 tests to member communities.
 - KCA Nursing offers testing and support for people who have had COVID-19.

Cancer Care Project



The Cancer Care Project is a multi-partner, multi-year community-project aimed to improve care and outcomes for cancer patients and their families within the First Nation communities serviced by the KCA. 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) was based working in partnership with other organizations involved in policy and delivery of cancer care.

The two streams of project activities include:

- Traditional Healing and Cultural Safety Program Development, with a focus on integrating into existing pathways, allowing traditional healing and cultural safety to be incorporated with mainstream health care services. A focus will be ensuring mainstream healthcare providers become more familiar and comfortable with discussing/referring to cultural practices. The development of this approach and framework is intended to have wider implications, with the hope of being shared with and used by other jurisdictions and communities, and for other health problems.
- Addressing Jurisdictional and Service Gaps, through partnerships and formalizing relationships. Gaps throughout the entire cancer care journey will be identified and validated to opportunities to support seamless transitions in care and focus on patient and community-based needs.

Project highlights:

- Over the pandemic the project had re-purposed some of the funds to support one-time COVID-19 costs, funding COVID-19 educational resources for all communities.
- During 2020/21 the project completed the development of the Ojibwe translation and update of the Silent Enemy Comic animated video, which was released on YouTube October 2022.
- Graphic design work of the Cancer Journey Mapping and accessing care in Ontario was completed across all communities.
- Over the spring of 2023, issues related to accessing care in Manitoba were escalated to government in partnership with GCT#3.
- Although the project was extended until March 31, 2023, the KCA was able to secure additional funding until September 30, 2023.
- The funding ensured:
 - Continued support for traditional medicine education camps and cancer screening clinics (over 16 clinics across 8 communities).
 - Engagement with communities to support education and awareness of cancer, supporting resources, and careers in healthcare.

Project next steps:

KCA is working to confirm approval for 2 multi-year fundings opportunities (funding until March 31, 2027)

1. Implementing Kenora Chiefs Advisory cancer screening data and education strategy:

- To enhance the implementation of an existing electronic health/medical record system to support the development of community cancer screening reports and tracking of screening participation activities for breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer screening (i.e., invitation, screening clinics, and follow-up).
- Continuing to support greater awareness of cancer among KCA community members including education of traditional Anishinaabe knowledge and practices with youth (through traditional medicine camps). This work would also identify and support opportunities to

incorporate Anishinaabe knowledge and practices into the cancer care journey (working with health care providers, KCA staff, elders, and knowledge keepers).

2. Supporting Palliative Care closer to home:

- To promote early integration of a palliative care approach across KCA teams and community members (including but not limited to Primary Care, Diabetes workers, Patient Navigators, Mental Health, Wiigwas Elder and Senior Care Facility).
- To provide culturally appropriate and safe palliative care training with KCA team and community members.
- To provide palliative care education and tools to support community members (i.e., patients and/or caregivers).



English QR Code
to Youtube Video



Ojibwe QR Code
to Youtube Video

Mental Health and Addictions

MENTAL HEALTH AND CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (AGE 16+)

Case Management services are provided to the members of the community in a manner that maintains the client's right to choose, respects culture & spiritual beliefs/traditions, respects the person's needs and values, develops personal strengths and abilities, advocates for client's rights and provides support as long as it is required.

COMMUNITY TREATMENT PROGRAM (AGE 12+)

Case managers provide outreach community-based treatment, counselling and aftercare in a culturally sensitive manner that incorporates Traditional healing.

PRE-ARREST DIVERSION PROGRAM (AGE 12+)

This program was developed to reduce the probability of contact with the legal system for those living with mental illness and/or addiction issues. Service delivery is based on the case management model with an emphasis on illness stabilization, life skills development, building social and family support systems, education and advocacy and restorative justice.

BAIL RESIDENCY PROGRAM (AGE 18+)

This program, through a service agreement with Ne-Chee Friendship Centre and KDSB, provides insular mental health counselling, life skills workshops, group led land-based and culturally appropriate activities to mandated clients that have had exposure or are currently interacting with the Legal Community. The goal of this program is to augment rehabilitation and re-integration into community when client has met all of their respective legal mandates.

MHA CULTURAL SERVICES

MHA Cultural Services provides on-going cultural support, training and development to Ogimaawabiitong's 13 mandated communities, as well as to Ogimaawabiitong's internal programs. From April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023, MHA Cultural Services provided 181 in person sessions and 6 annual gatherings with 7474 participants. The key function of the Cultural Services team is to plan and deliver cultural events, training, workshops, and programming for MHA Clients, community members, and community-based staff that promote wellness through the Anishinaabe traditional way of knowing and practices.



Encounter = 1 encounter represents one unique interaction with a client.

ADULT MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTIONS – CASE MANAGEMENT (MARCH 31, 2022 – APRIL 1, 2023)			
	Clients	Encounters	
Total	456	7195	
Face To Face	192	761	Community, home, or school visits
Virtual Care	316	2633	Phone or online (text or email)
No Show	36	66	
Indirect	1	1	Task (s) on behalf of the client
Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek (Grassy Narrows)	74	921	
Animakee Wa Zhing #37	23	350	Regina Bay & Windigo Island communities
EASTERN Communities	20	648	Eagle Lake, Wabauskang, Wabigoon
Lac Seul First Nation	30	101	Frenchman's Head, Whitefish Bay, Kejick Bay
Nootkamegwanning (Whitefish Bay)	57	971	
Northwest Angle #33	17	342	Dogpaw and Angle Inlet communities
Niisaachewan (Dalles)	16	91	
Shoal Lake #40	28	640	
Wabaseemoong (Whitedog)	83	885	
Washagamis Bay	4	222	
Wauzhusk Onigum (Rat Portage)	21	474	
URBAN Population	35	981	Kenora, Dryden & Fort Frances
Non KCA communities	18	569	Treaty #3, Treaty #9, Treaty #5, etc.
Travel			668.8 Hours

ADULT MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTIONS – COMMUNITY TREATMENT (MARCH 31, 2022 – APRIL 1, 2023)			
	Clients	Encounters	
Total	44	732	
Face To Face	8	41	Community, home, or school visits
Virtual Care	19	331	Phone or online (text or email)
No Show	0	0	
Indirect	34	79	Task (s) on behalf of the client
Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek (Grassy Narrows)	7	17	
Animakee Wa Zhing #37	4	9	Regina Bay & Windigo Island communities
EASTERN Communities	10	721	Eagle Lake, Wabauskang, Wabigoon
Lac Seul First Nation	5	1	Frenchman's Head, Whitefish Bay, Kejick Bay
Nootkamegwanning (Whitefish Bay)	3	3	
Northwest Angle #33	0	0	Dogpaw and Angle Inlet communities
Niisaachewan (Dalles)	2	5	
Shoal Lake #40	1	1	
Wabaseemoong (Whitedog)	12	53	
Washagamis Bay	0	0	
Wauzhusk Onigum (Rat Portage)	1	1	
URBAN Population	3	3	Kenora, Dryden and Fort Frances
Non KCA communities	1	1	Treaty #3, Treaty #9, Treaty #5, etc.
Travel			11.7 hours

Tables continued on next page

Table continued from previous page

Encounter = 1 encounter represents one unique interaction with a client.

ADULT MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTIONS – PRE-ARREST DIVERSION PROGRAM (MARCH 31, 2022 – APRIL 1, 2023)			
	Clients	Encounters	
Total	56	683	
Face To Face	0	0	Community, home, or school visits
Virtual Care	16	48	Phone or online (text or email)
No Show	5	6	
Indirect	34	79	Task (s) on behalf of the client
Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek (Grassy Narrows)	2	32	
Animakee Wa Zhing #37	0	0	Regina Bay & Windigo Island communities
EASTERN Communities	2	5	Eagle Lake, Wabauskang and Wabigoon
Lac Seul First Nation	1	11	Frenchman's Head, Whitefish Bay, Kejick Bay
Naotkamegwanning (Whitefish Bay)	3	28	
Northwest Angle #33	1	1	Dogpaw and Angle Inlet communities
Niisaachewan (Dalles)	0	0	
Shoal Lake #40	1	1	
Wabaseemoong (Whitedog)	2	10	
Washagamis Bay	0	0	
Wauzhusk Onigum (Rat Portage)	2	1	
URBAN Population	13	206	Kenora, Dryden and Fort Frances
Non KCA communities	29	388	Treaty #3, Treaty #9, Treaty #5, etc.
Travel			0 hours



WE WILL DO
SOMETHING to
MOVE FORWARD!

Cultural and Connections Facebook page:

The Cultural Services Manager and Promoters are responsible for maintaining the Cultural and Connections Facebook page. They help to provide virtual culturally informed training about healthy relationships, grief and loss, selfcare, and women and men's groups. They also provide information on activities/specials & challenges such as Anishnaabemowin classes, live teachings with elders and youths, drumming, beading, powwow dancing, and physical activity.

The Cultural and Connections Facebook page is very active on the platform and frequently features collaborations with internal programs such as Diabetes Program, Kenora Youth Wellness Hub and Children and Youth Program, as well as external collaborations with outside organizations like WNHAC, Grand Council Treaty #3, and the Kenora District School Board.

MHA – CULTURAL SERVICES TEAM		
	Total	Participant Total
Naming Ceremony	8	23
Sweat	46	260
Building Wellness Together	6	130
Staff Onboarding	5	5
Drum Teachings	5	65
Ribbon Skirt Making	7	97
Jingle Dress Making	4	53
Full Moon Ceremony	7	37
Healthy Relationships	4	25
Moose Hide Tanning Camp	1	10
Drum Making	2	25
Shooshimaan Teachings	4	67
Star Teachings	2	47
Creation Story Teachings	2	125
Sweat Lodge Building	2	10
Bullying Workshop	2	27
Team Building	35	350
Self Care	23	217
Harm Reduction	5	560
Leadership Culture and Development Training	2	280
Conflict Resolution	4	340
Elders Retreat	1	35
Fish Filleting	4	220
Buffalo Ceremony and Harvesting	1	35
Fall Harvest	2nd Annual	850
Cultural Services Summer Day	2nd Annual	890
Healing Your Spirit Pow Wow	3rd Annual	2000
Cultural Services Winter Days	2nd Annual	368
Annual Wellness of Our Nations Gathering	1st Annual	323
Total		7474

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL WELLNESS PROGRAM

The Social and Cultural Wellness program aims to improve the mental wellness of inmates and create a connection to their culture to reduce rates of recidivism in Indigenous people. The culture of Indigenous Peoples is at the foundation of the program with mental health and wellness teachings being the primary focus of delivery.

Program Objectives:

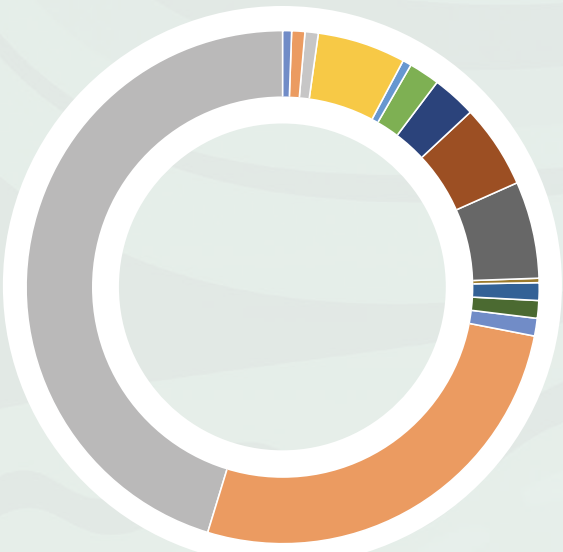
- Provide direct culturally appropriate group and one-on-one support to inmates with a focus on the enhancement of resiliency and self-awareness.
- Deliver bi-cultural education on Mental Health and Wellness, with a foundation based upon Culture, Traditional Teachings, Language and the 7 Grandfather Teachings.
- Build upon the strengths of individuals and be responsive to needs through support in navigation and advocacy throughout release from custody planning process.
- Empower individuals through the development of life stabilization skills within aftercare services, with the goal of successful reintegration into community.

This past year the Social Cultural Wellness Program has participated in many events at the Kenora Distract Jail including NIPD, spring and fall feasts and National Truth and Reconciliation Day. We have welcomed new team members and have been able to provide extra group programming at the jail. The team is excited that the new extension of the Kenora Distract jail has been completed. This will allow for many more opportunities to work with clients to reconnect them to their culture.

SCW has taken past custody clients to events including KCA Youth and Family Wellness Camp to volunteer with the equine program as well as cultural days and attending ceremonies in the community.

Encounter = 1 encounter represents one unique interaction with a client.

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL WELLNESS PROGRAM – JUSTICE	
Total Number of Client	351
1. Total Number of Encounters	3704
2. Breakdown of KCA Community, where possible (all programs) = see below	



Social and Cultural Wellness Home Communities

NWA 33 (2)	WD (21)
Niisaachewan (3)	WB (1)
NWA 37 (3)	Wabigoon (4)
GN (20)	Wabaskaung (4)
SL40 (2)	WON (4)
EL (7)	Urb (95)
WFB (10)	Other (160)
LS (19)	

SUBSTANCE USE COUNSELLING

"The Substance Use Counsellor is responsible for providing therapeutic intervention to individuals ages 12-29 who are both justice-involved, as well as identifying substance use as a challenge. This position supports individuals across the spectrum of substance use from early intervention/psychoeducation, harm reduction, assessing treatment readiness as well as the recovery and relapse prevention process. This position is heavily tied to the new Kenora Justice Centre, working inter-professionally alongside justice partners, nurses, case management staff, treatment centres, community health staff, as well as traditional healers and knowledge keepers".

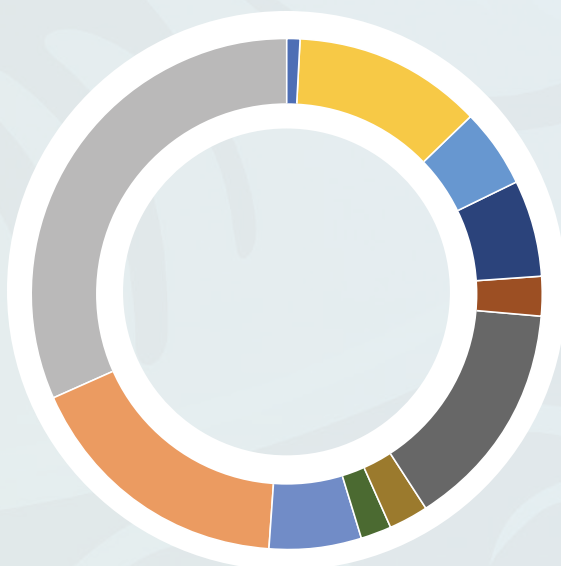


North West Angle 33 (NWA #33)	Eagle Lake (EL)	Washagamis Bay (WB)
Niisachewan (NI)	White Fish Bay (WFB)	Wauzhusk Onigum Nation (WON)
Animakee Wa Zhing #37 (NWA #37)	Lac Seul (LS)	Urban Population - Kenora,
Asubpeeschoseewagong	Waabigoniw (WAB)	Dryden, and Fort Frances (UB)
First Nation (GN)	Wabaseemong (WD)	Other (0)
Shoal Lake #40 (SL #40)	Wabauskang (WABK)	

Encounter = 1 encounter represents one unique interaction with a client.

CJC ADDICTION SPECIALIST – JUSTICE

Total Number of Clients	117
1. Total Number of Encounters	1214
2. Breakdown by KCA Community, where possible (all programs) = see below	



CJC Addiction Specialist Home Communities

NWA 33 (1)	WD (17)
Niisaachewan (0)	WB (3)
NWA 37 (0)	Wabigoon (0)
GN (14)	Wabaskaug (2)
SL40 (6)	WON (7)
EL (0)	Urban (20)
WFB (7)	Other (37)
LS (3)	

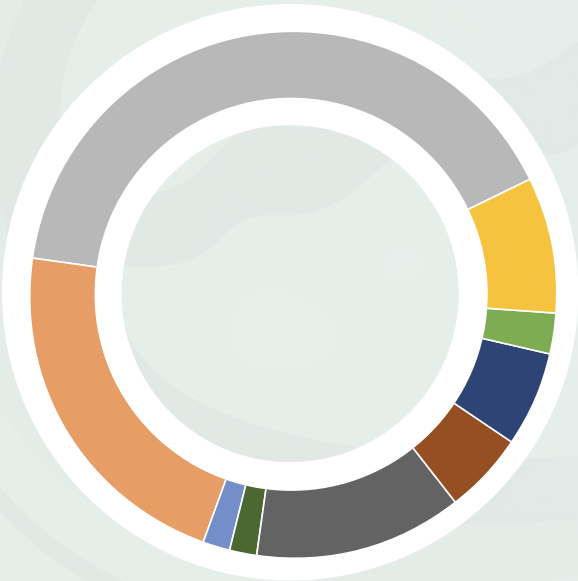
COMMUNITY REINTEGRATION PATHWAYS

The Reintegration Support Workers support Indigenous clients as they reintegrate into the community after release from the Kenora District Jail (KDJ). They provide short-term transitional case management to facilitate transition to the community with a focus on high-risk discharge planning and navigation through mental health and addictions

(MHA) supports. Clients are identified through weekly KCA-led Indigenous case management meetings and discharge planning meetings with all community partners at the KDJ. The KCA Reintegration Support Workers are a core member of the multidisciplinary team and part of a network of systems and services in connecting and creating support for people on their healing journey as they reintegrate into and community.

Encounter = 1 encounter represents one unique interaction with a client.

COMMUNITY REINTEGRATION PATHWAYS – JUSTICE	
Total Number of Client	119
1. Total Number of Encounters	811
2. Breakdown of KCA Community, where possible (all programs) = see below	



Community Reintegration Pathways
Home Communities

- NWA 33 (2)

Niisaachewan (26)

NWA 37 (0)

GN (10)

SL40 (0)

EL (3)

WFB (7)

LS (6)
- WD (15)

WB (0)

Wabigoon (0)

Wabaskaung (2)

WON (2)

Urban (0)

Other (0)

ADULT MHA STATISTICS

The following information represents the number of clients that were encountered during the last fiscal year in the illustrated categories.

North West Angle 33 (NWA #33)	Eagle Lake (EL)	Washagamis Bay (WB)
Niisachewan (NI)	White Fish Bay (WFB)	Wauzhusk Onigum Nation (WON)
Animakee Wa Zhing #37 (NWA #37)	Lac Seul (LS)	Urban Population - Kenora, Dryden, and Fort Frances (UB)
Asubpeeschoseewagong	Waabigoniw (WAB)	Other (O)
First Nation (GN)	Wabaseemong (WD)	
Shoal Lake #40 (SL #40)	Wabauskang (WABK)	

Encounter = 1 encounter represents one unique interaction with a client.

COMMUNITY BREAKDOWN REPORT (APRIL 1, 2022– MARCH 31, 2023)						
ADULT SERVICES						
	NWA 33 Encounters	NWA 33 Clients	Niisaachewan Encounters	Niisaachewan Clients	NWA 37 Encounters	NWA 37 Clients
Case Management	342	17	91	16	350	23
Community Treatment	0	0	5	2	9	4
Pre Arrest Diversion Program	0	0	1	1	0	0
Social and Cultural Wellness	9	2	40	3	76	3
Cultural Services	1	1	1	1	5	4
CJC Addiction Specialist	1	1	0	0	0	0
Community Reintegration Pathways	0	0	0	0	0	0
	GN Encounters	GN Clients	SL40 Encounters	SL40 Clients	WB Encounters	WB Clients
Case Management	921	74	640	28	222	4
Community Treatment	17	7	1	1	0	0
Pre Arrest Diversion Program	32	2	0	0	0	0
Social and Cultural Wellness	369	20	41	2	1	1
Cultural Services	1	1	0	0	2	1
CJC Addiction Specialist	208	14	8	6	10	3
Community Reintegration Pathways	107	10	0	0	0	0
	WFB Encounters	WFB Clients	WON Encounters	WON Clients	WD Encounters	WD Clients
Case Management	971	57	474	21	885	83
Community Treatment	3	3	1	1	53	12
Pre Arrest Diversion Program	28	3	2	1	10	2
Social and Cultural Wellness	136	10	52	4	359	21
Cultural Services	8	5	0	0	4	3
CJC Addiction Specialist	39	7	69	7	380	17
Community Reintegration Pathways	105	7	3	2	145	15

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Encounter = 1 encounter represents one unique interaction with a client.

COMMUNITY BREAKDOWN REPORT (APRIL 1, 2022– MARCH 31, 2023)						
ADULT SERVICES						
	EL Encounters	EL Clients	Wabigoon Encounters	Wabigoon Clients	Wabaskaung Encounters	Wabaskaung Clients
Case Management	203	10	154	3	291	7
Community Treatment	567	7	67	2	0	0
Pre Arrest Diversion Program	0	0	4	1	1	1
Social and Cultural Wellness	63	7	14	2	19	2
Cultural Services	0	0	0	0	0	0
CJC Addiction Specialist	0	0	0	0	10	2
Community Reintegration Pathways	7	3	0	0	49	2
	LS Encounters	LS Clients	Urban Encounters	Urban Clients	Other Encounters	Other Clients
Case Management	101	30	981	35	569	18
Community Treatment	5	1	3	2	1	1
Pre Arrest Diversion Program	11	1	206	13	388	29
Social and Cultural Wellness	242	19	618	95	1665	160
Cultural Services	0	0	3	1	3	5
CJC Addiction Specialist	17	3	178	20	294	37
Community Reintegration Pathways	16	6	75	26	304	48



Crisis Response Programs

MENTAL WELLNESS RESPONSE TEAM (MWRT)

The MWRT is formerly known as the Short Term Crisis Counselling (STCC) team which provides culturally safe and congruent counselling and de-briefing during crisis situations for nine (9) communities namely Niisaachewan, Nautkamegwaning, Wauzhushk Onigum, Washagamis Bay, Shoal Lake #40, Wabaseemoong, Anishnabek, NWA #33, Animakee Wa Zhing #37 in our catchment area.

This program operates using a bi-cultural model 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. The MWRT is accessible to all accessible KCA clients across lifespan.

The service model for individual clients is focused on assessment and stabilization through brief services delivery. These services are:

1. Assessment of risk to self or others e.g. Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale, Safety Plan
2. Critical Incident Stress Debriefing and Brief Counselling
3. Introduction and modeling of adaptive coping skills e.g. traditional and clinical interventions
4. Supporting clients to traditional ceremonies, access to traditional medicines and connection to Elders, Healers, Helpers and Knowledge Keepers.
5. Immediate mental health support to community-level crises e.g. suicide attempts/death, multiple suicides, violent or tragic sudden death, complex trauma due to an event in the community, self-harm.
6. When feasible, the MWT responds to surge requests from communities outside of KCA. catchment area and fly-in communities

In this reporting period, the MWRT responded to 218 unique individuals over a span of 2256 direct sessions. The MWRT also responded to 34 crisis situations in the community and provided mental health support to families and community members, palliative residents at Wiigwas, a suicide attempt at Angle Inlet, a missing at Asubpeeschoseewagong First Nation, and a stabbing incident at Wabaseemoong Independent Nations. The team also responded to surge requests in Onigaming, Sachigo and Sandy Lake.

The Mental Wellness Response Team is in the process of expansion to meet the increasing needs of the communities.

MOBILE CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM (MCRT)

The MCRT formerly known as the Youth Mobile Crisis Team is a partnership with both Treaty #3 Police Services as well as the O.P.P. The MCRT with T3PS is now known as First Nation Mobile Crisis Response Team (FN MCRT) which serves all youth between the ages of 12-24 years old and across lifespan living in thirteen (13) communities namely Shoal Lake #39, Eagle Lake, Waubaskang and Onigaming in addition to the 9 communities mentioned above. While the MCRT with O.P.P serves all youth between the ages of 12-24 years old living in Kenora.

The MCRT provides a joint mobile response, assessment and intervention. The MCRT will provide de-escalation and short-term crisis intervention for the individual at risk including crisis/risk assessment, brief intervention and safety planning. Other duties of MCRT are ongoing assessments,



follow-ups, wellness checks, referrals and transition support services. Part of the follow-up functions of MCRT are to support the police-hospital transition support if/when an individual is apprehended by police under Section 17 of the Mental Health Act and is required to attend the Emergency Department. These interventions will be provided based on recovery-oriented practices.

As of this reporting period, the MCRT responded to 162 unique clients through 1499 unique encounters.

AFTER-HOURS PROGRAM

The KCA after-hours program ended early this year in response to the hiring of the Mental Health Therapist/ Social Work in the Emergency Department. This program used to work within the parameters of our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Lake of the Wood District Hospital (LWDH). In this fiscal year, the after-hours program responded to 84 clients for 275 unique encounters.

In the last fiscal year, KCA after-hours staff responded to all ages who presented in acute mental health crisis at LWDH outside of business hours. The mental health worker would assess the individual, help in crafting a safety plan, advocate on behalf of the client, and would make referrals to the appropriate KCA program, or to

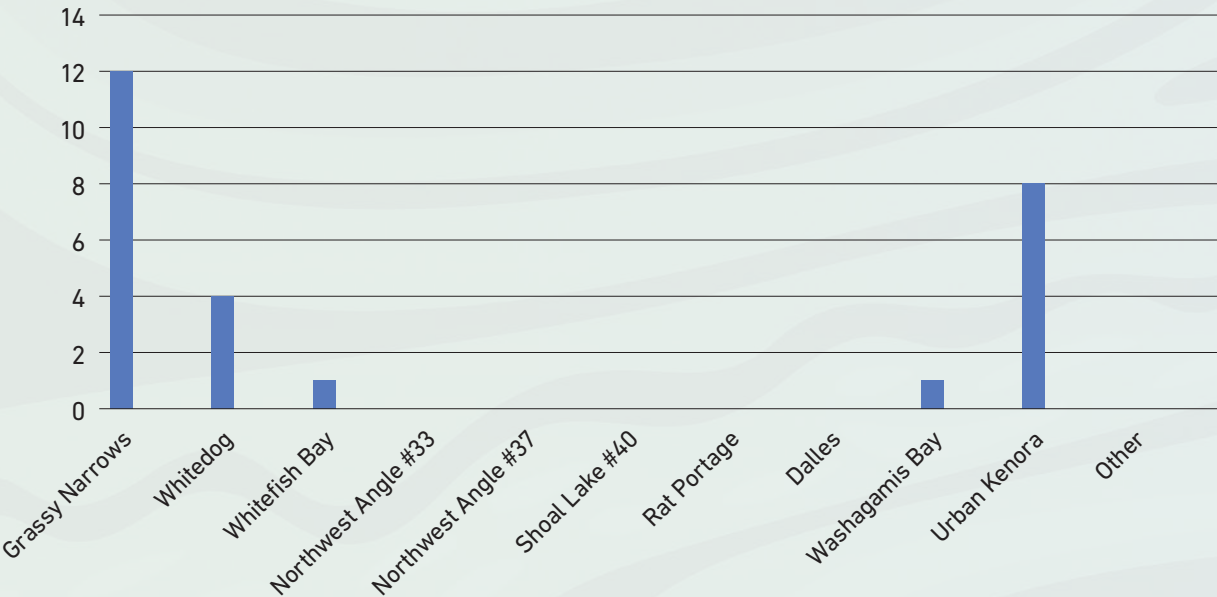
another service provider if the client does not want services from KCA or does not fit within one of our program parameters.

ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING PROGRAM

The anti-human trafficking program at Kenora Chiefs Advisory focuses on 4 key areas: prevention, protection, treatment, and capacity building. The program is targeted to those who are in the 12-24 age range. As there is no age limit on human trafficking, we've supported several clients outside these parameters as well, and will continue to do so as requested.

There are two coordinators who work in conjunction with one another. The support coordinator is more client focused. The support coordinator will meet clients where they're at, and offer culturally safe & congruent services, connect clients with traditional healing opportunities and help connect them with other support services they may need, whether within KCA or externally. The program coordinator will also support clients when needed but is more involved with liaising with communities for presentations, workshops, training etc., as well as building capacity as it pertains to anti-human trafficking both within KCA and the communities we service. Furthermore, the program coordinator represents KCA on the Anti-Human trafficking coalition for the NWO region.

Anti-Human Trafficking Client Breakdown



CRISIS RESPONSE STATISTICS

The following information represents the number of clients that were encountered during the last fiscal year in the illustrated categories.

North West Angle 33 (NWA #33)	Eagle Lake (EL)	Washagamis Bay (WB)
Niisaachewan (NI)	White Fish Bay (WFB)	Wauzhuk Onigum Nation (WON)
Animakee Wa Zhing #37 (NWA #37)	Lac Seul (LS)	Urban Population - Kenora,
Asubpeeschoseewagong	Waabigoniw (WAB)	Dryden, and Fort Frances (UB)
First Nation (GN)	Wabaseemong (WD)	Other (O)
Shoal Lake #40 (SL #40)	Wabauskang (WABK)	

Encounter = 1 encounter represents one unique interaction with a client.

COMMUNITY BREAKDOWN REPORT (APRIL 1, 2022– MARCH 31, 2023)						
CRISIS RESPONSE						
	NWA 33 Encounters	NWA 33 Clients	Niisaachewan Encounters	Niisaachewan Clients	NWA 37 Encounters	NWA 37 Clients
Short Term Crisis Counselling	112	9	58	7	43	7
KB01 Crisis	2	2	0	0	20	2
Anti-Human Trafficking	0	0	0	0	0	0
Youth Crisis Mobile Outreach OPP	0	0	2	1	0	0
Youth Crisis Mobile Outreach T3	18	2	35	6	19	2
After Hours	5	2	11	5	4	1
Intake	229	41	386	58	269	43
	GN Encounters	GN Clients	SL40 Encounters	SL40 Clients	WB Encounters	WB Clients
Short Term Crisis Counselling	438	53	56	9	2	1
KB01 Crisis	23	9	10	1	3	3
Anti-Human Trafficking	148	13	0	0	1	1
Youth Crisis Mobile Outreach OPP	144	15	0	0	25	1
Youth Crisis Mobile Outreach T3	318	28	20	2	28	4
After Hours	48	8	9	2	7	1
Intake	1332	247	322	55	289	38
	WFB Encounters	WFB Clients	WON Encounters	WON Clients	WD Encounters	WD Clients
Short Term Crisis Counselling	358	29	178	11	389	42
KB01 Crisis	9	8	12	4	38	14
Anti-Human Trafficking	4	1	0	0	76	9
Youth Crisis Mobile Outreach OPP	29	6	23	4	61	9
Youth Crisis Mobile Outreach T3	334	23	57	10	144	19
After Hours	4	15	13	4	40	13
Intake	1016	151	539	78	1461	237

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Encounter = 1 encounter represents one unique interaction with a client.

COMMUNITY BREAKDOWN REPORT (APRIL 1, 2022– MARCH 31, 2023)						
CRISIS RESPONSE						
	EL Encounters	EL Clients	Wabigoon Encounters	Wabigoon Clients	Wabaskaung Encounters	Wabaskaung Clients
Short Term Crisis Counselling	0	0	0	0	12	1
KB01 Crisis	0	0	0	0	2	1
Anti-Human Trafficking	1	1	0	0	0	0
Youth Crisis Mobile Outreach OPP	0	0	0	0	0	0
Youth Crisis Mobile Outreach T3	10	1	0	0	0	0
After Hours	0	0	0	0	1	1
Intake	187	46	136	22	149	27
	LS Encounters	LS Clients	Urban Encounters	Urban Clients	Other Encounters	Other Clients
Short Term Crisis Counselling	4	1	199	20	93	9
KB01 Crisis	1	1	5	2	2	1
Anti-Human Trafficking	0	0	15	2	0	0
Youth Crisis Mobile Outreach OPP	0	0	133	25	11	6
Youth Crisis Mobile Outreach T3	8	1	27	6	52	4
After Hours	0	0	63	26	24	6
Intake	538	146	776	207	989	197



Child and Youth Mental Health Services

Child & Youth Mental Health at Kenora Chiefs Advisory has come three service delivery models that provide a range of mental wellness and treatment supports for Anishinaabe children and youth.

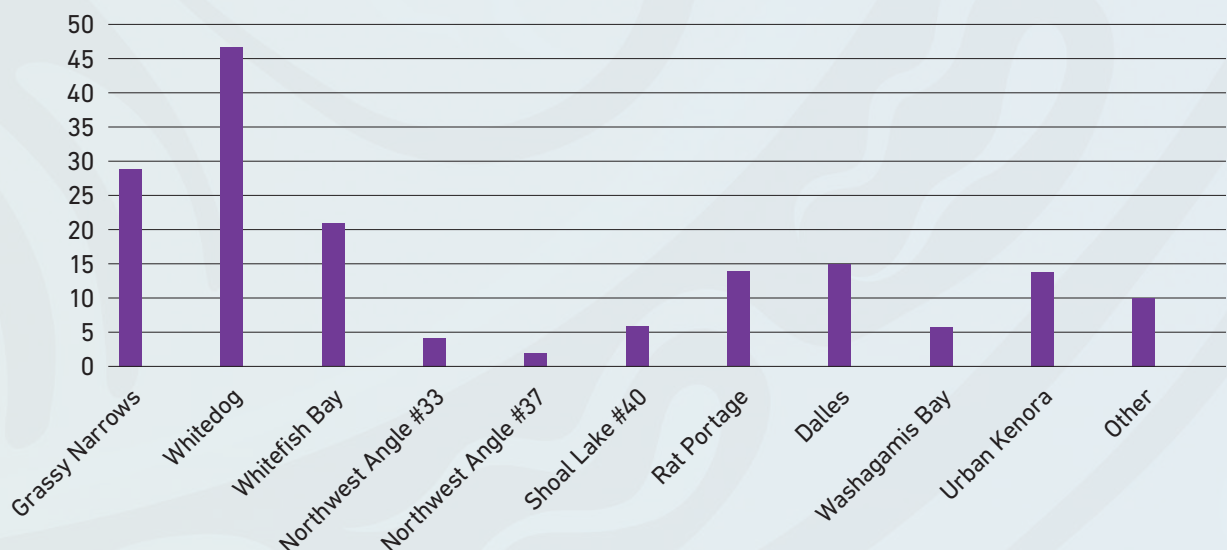
1. Child & Youth Mental Health Services are a part of Mental Health and Addictions (MHA) services at KCA. Child & Youth Services includes Children's Mental Health Case Management, Youth in Transition, and Youth Outreach Workers who serve the nine (9) member First Nations of KCA.
2. Kenora Youth Wellness Hub offers a range of walk-in, easily accessible services for all nations youth from 12-25 years of age, across a range of sectors including mental health and substance use, primary care, employment and training, education, cultural programming, as well as offering a drop-in daily for youth. This is a place of belonging for youth in our communities and Kenora.

3. The Child and Youth Psychiatry Clinic is provided in partnership with the NBDS program and is available to KCA clients with priority for youth are from the member First Nations of KCA.

CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES – CASE MANAGEMENT (AGES 0-18)

This program provides mental health services to youth (0-18). Child & Youth case management services focus on empowering young people through direct mental supports, building capacity within youth and guardians to comprehend their mental health struggles, connecting youth to cultural opportunities, reinforce and building positive identity, assist in building and maintaining healthy coping skills, and referral/linkages to access comprehensive assessments, psychological/psychiatric consultations when necessary, and community linkages. Community linkages make up participation at resource meetings, advocacy, and meetings with families/caregivers.

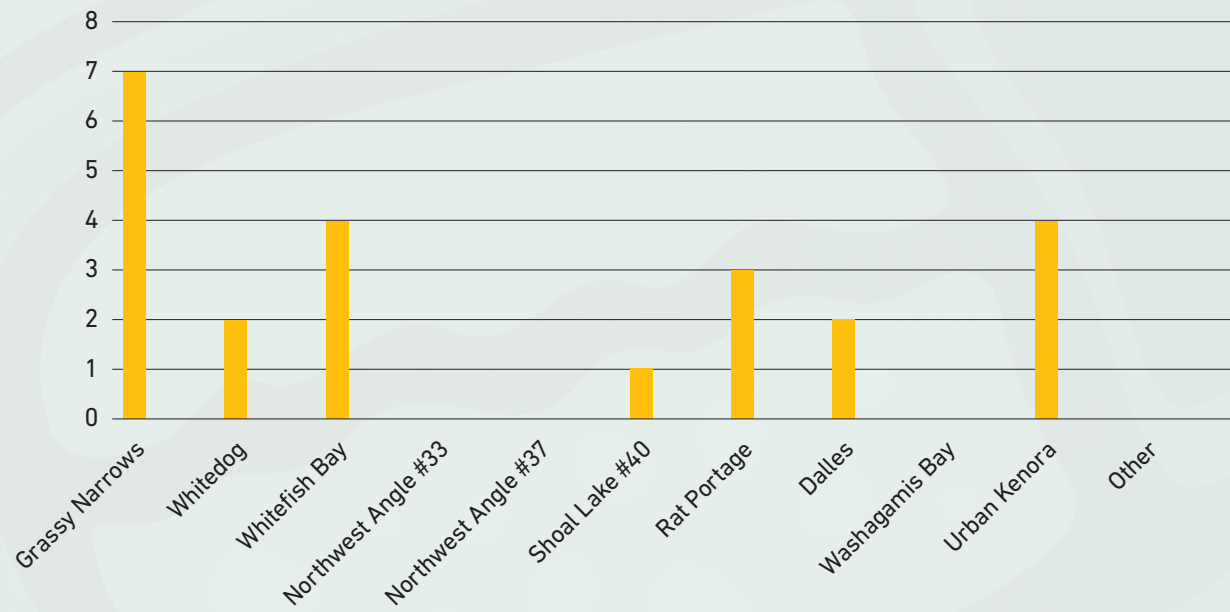
Child & Youth Case Management Client Breakdown



YOUTH IN TRANSITION PROGRAM

The Youth in Transition Program supports and assists youth (16-24) in transitioning from the child welfare system into adulthood. This program is for youth in the 9 KCA communities as well as those from our communities who reside in the urban Kenora area. The youth in transition worker helps youth with identifying, setting, and working towards their goals. Some examples may include life skills, employment support, access to housing, mental health services, and educational support.

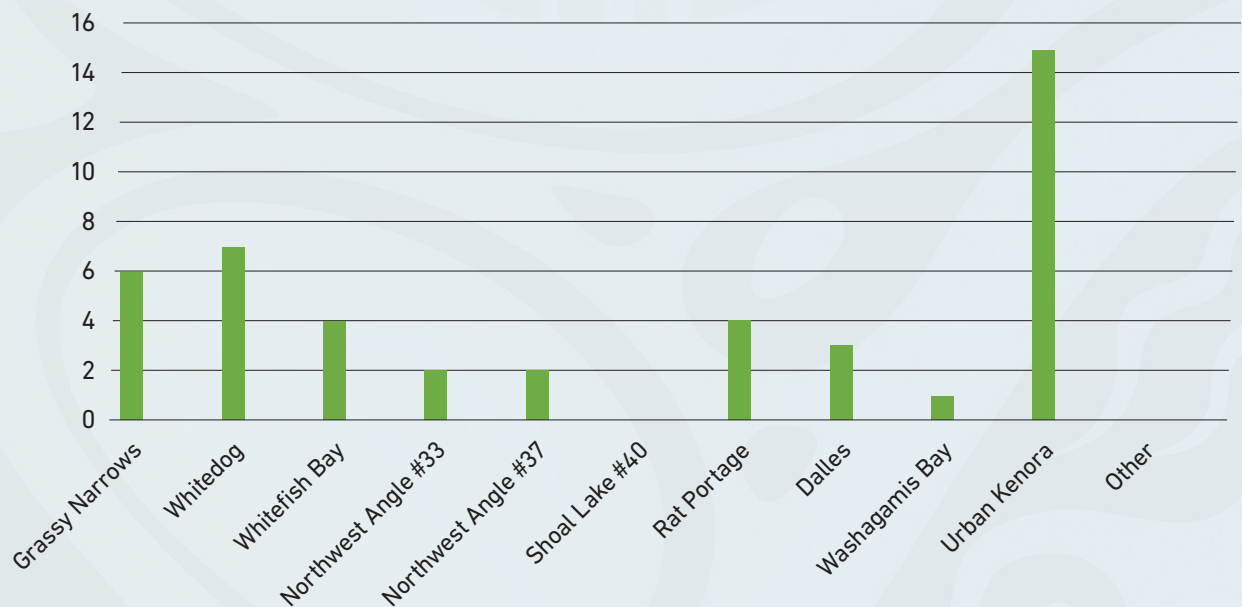
Youth In Transition Client Breakdown



YOUTH OUTREACH WORKER PROGRAM

The youth outreach worker (YOW) program supports youth (12-29) in the 9 KCA communities, as well as those from communities living in urban Kenora, who might be missed by more conventional mental health supports. The YOWs are expected to meet clients where they're at across all quadrants of the medicine wheel. As a result, they spend a lot of time helping support youth navigate where they're mentally and emotionally, the service providers connected to them, and connecting them to other KCA programs if needed. Additionally, they help support youth in accessing land-based activities as a way of programming, and furthermore will strive to connect youth with their traditional cultural beliefs and practices. Should a youth not have been afforded this opportunity before, they will collaborate with our cultural team to ensure they are given this opportunity.

Youth Outreach Worker Client Breakdown



KENORA YOUTH WELLNESS HUB

Kenora Youth Wellness Hub offers a range of walk-in, easily accessible services for all youth from 12-25 years of age, across a range of sectors including mental health and substance use, primary care, employment and training, education, cultural programming, as well as offering a drop-in daily for youth. This is a place of belonging for youth in our communities and Kenora.

Throughout the fiscal year, the Hub had a core wellness team made up of two Mental Health and Substance Use Counsellors, an Intake Coordinator, a Drop-In Coordinator, a Peer Support Worker, a 2SLGBTQIA+ Youth Peer Navigator, and a Manager. The services provided by the Hub staff are also supported through partnerships with 20+ organizations in the community. These partnerships allow us to provide primary care, education and employment support, cultural teachings, recreational activities, counselling, and care coordination, all on a walk-in basis.

This year we oriented 198 new youth to the space, 68% of whom self-identified as Indigenous. The youth who accessed the drop-in services attended 969 activities over the fiscal year. While attending

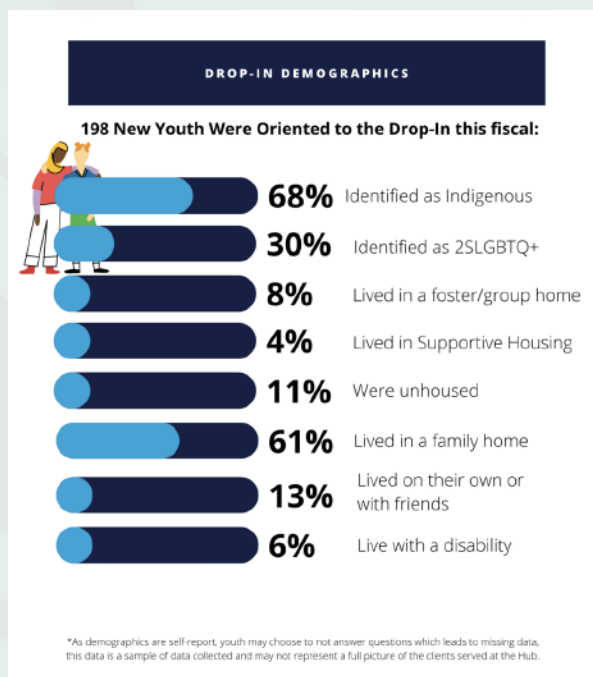
these activities, youth are supported by peer support workers and counsellors in an informal way to forge connections with service providers.

Our clinical and community services (counselling, care coordination, education navigation, employment supports, etc.) were provided to 103 unique youth, with 400 unique visits this past fiscal. All data listed on clinical/community services is based on client and community provider willingness to utilize the Youth Wellness Hub's mywellnesspassport database and will not always capture the full extent of number of visits.

On top of the Hub's typical programming some projects included:

- Biweekly group named SAGE aimed at creating safe community for 2SLGBTQIA+ youth
- An 8-week group for Young Parents including child development education, activities, and resources.
- Drivers' education support for Indigenous Youth
- The introduction of a snack bag program aimed to provide non-perishable, ready-to-consume nutritional support for youth facing barriers in access to storage space or kitchen facilities. Started in September 2022, and gave out 443 snack bags by end of March 2023 (6 months).
- Provided 25 youth in need with winter boots in December, of those youth 22 identified as Indigenous.

Looking ahead the Hub is working towards a renovation project in order to improve the accessibility, visibility, and programming infrastructure for the Hub. Highlights would include an accessible washroom equipped with a shower, a kitchen to assist with more sustainable food support, an onsite laundry room to bolster life skills building and basic needs support, and a semi-private room in the drop-in to provide a space for reduced distractions from the busy drop-in space (overstimulation breaks, working on school work, chatting with employment advisor, etc.). Moving forward, the Hub is also hoping to increase the availability of primary care services, as well as build more opportunities for family and caregiver engagement.



BINESI WAZISWON HEALING & TREATMENT SERVICES

Binesi Waziswon Healing & Treatment Services is a voluntary, short-term live-in stabilization and treatment program designed for youth. Our services are provided by a dedicated interdisciplinary team, which includes child & youth workers, care coordinators, counselors, Anishinaabe cultural and traditional supports, primary care providers, and specialists as needed.

During the 2022/23 fiscal year, Binesi Waziswon marked a period of substantial growth and positive changes. Notably, we relocated to a new facility at the Youth & Family Wellness Camp, significantly enhancing our land-based and experiential service modalities.

In this transformative year, Binesi Waziswon introduced several key enhancements. We commenced operations of the Anweshinan program, further broadening our offerings. Our re-established 30-day Residential Program continued to provide essential support. We expanded our team with the addition of 9 full-time Child and Youth worker positions, 1 bicultural and 1 youth counsellor, 2 care coordinators, 1 clinical manager, 1 operations manager, 1 land-based manager, and 1 director. Binesi Waziswon actively explored collaborations with external partners to ensure specialized services are readily available to meet the unique needs of our youth.

In the 2022/23 year, the Binesi Waziswon Residential Program served 20 youth and the Anweshinan Program served 23 youth.

Anweshinan (Bed Based Addiction Program):

Anweshinan offers a culturally immersive land-based experience tailored for individuals seeking to continue their healing journey within a culturally enriched environment. Facilitated by knowledgeable Elders, this program incorporates cultural land-based teachings and aims to provide mental health respite while equipping participants with Anishinaabe tools for self-empowerment.

The Anweshinan Healing Experience is specifically designed for individuals between the ages of 18 and 29 who are seeking traditional healing practices in a land-based setting.

Residential Program:

The Binesi Waziswon residential program provides a two-bed facility specifically designed for youth aged 12 to 24 years. Participants can benefit from a stay of up to 30 days, during which they will have access to culturally grounded support as well as clinical assistance, if deemed necessary. The program aims to address unmet needs while fostering an understanding of essential structures, responsibilities, and boundaries.

To ensure continuity of care, referrals to relevant services will be made with the intention of facilitating ongoing support after discharge from the program. Services may be found in community or outside community.

Step Up, Step Down Program (undergoing licensing):

The Voluntary Short-Term Live-In Stabilization and Treatment Program caters to youth between the ages of 12 and 17, providing a stay of up to 30 days. The primary objective of this program is to bridge the gap between inpatient and community care by addressing the needs of youth who may require intervention to prevent admission to an inpatient unit or those who require additional support before transitioning back to the community following their stay in an inpatient unit.

It is important to note that this program is currently undergoing the licensing process and is not operational currently. We are diligently working towards completing the necessary licensing requirements.

There are 6 beds available under this program. The program is available for youth in the Ontario Health North Region.

Timeline of the year:

• April to May 2022

- Binesi Waziswon continued operations of our residential program supporting youth from our member communities. Binesi began offering day programming as well during this time.
- Binesi Waziswon began developing our Step-Up Step-Down program. With the development of this program came the awareness that we needed a much larger thunderbird nest. Thus commenced the construction of our home.

• June 2022 to September 2022

- With our growing thunderbird nest the Binesi team had to do some shifting. This didn't slow us down. Land-based programming was right at our fingertips more than ever before. We created office spaces in our campers and day programming commenced. We spent our summery

days building jungle gyms in the forest, learning to cook our meals over the fire, building, creating, growing and learning is what drove the healing of our youth during these months.

• October 2022 to January 2023

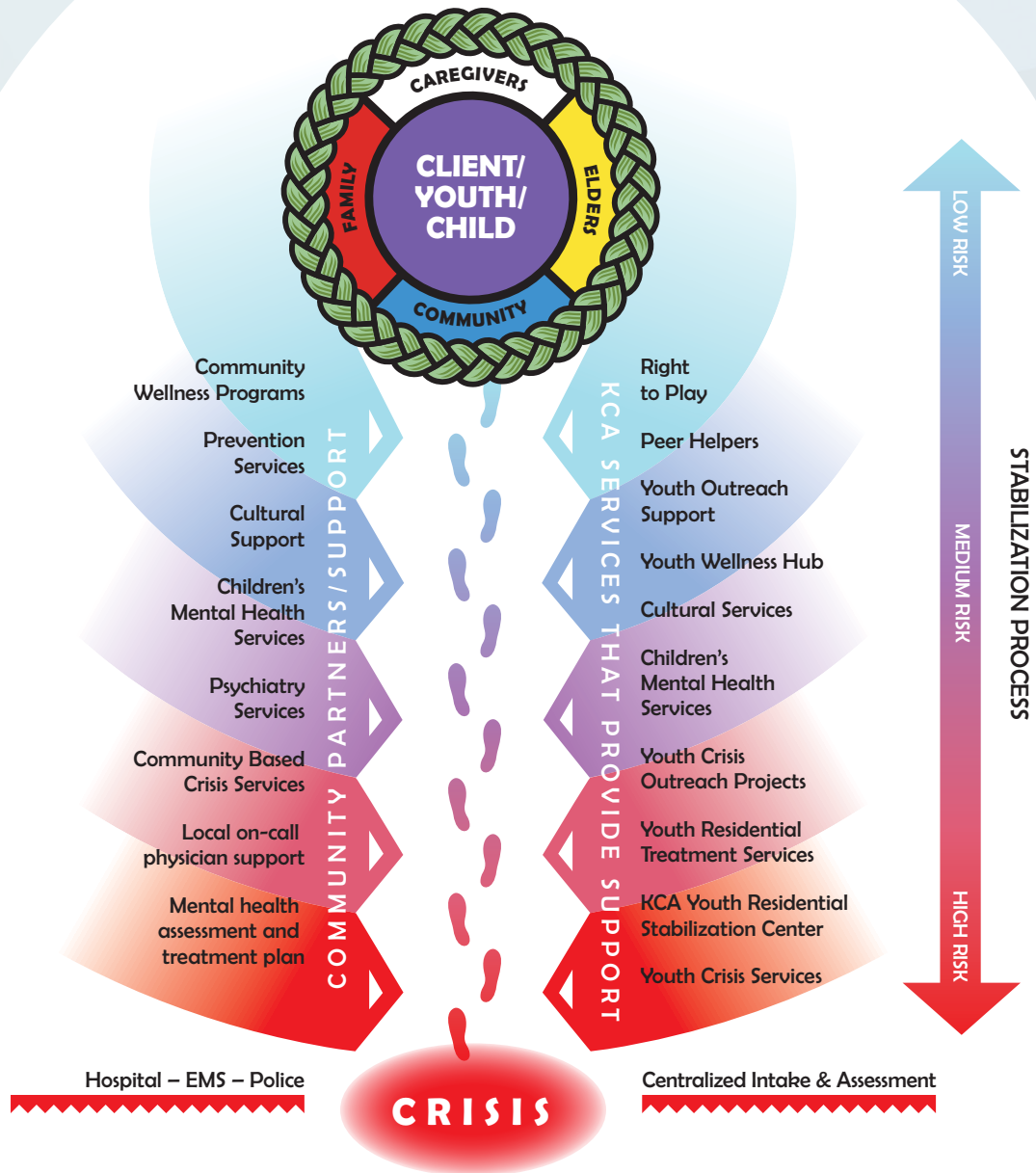
- Binesi Waziswon was in the process of transitioning to the new facility at the Youth and Family Wellness Camp. Binesi operated multiple cohorts of the Anweshinan and residential program at the Youth and Family Wellness Camp.

• February 2023 to March 2023

- Multiple Anweshinan programs were operated during the end of the fiscal year.



PATHWAY OF CARE NAVIGATION MAP TO WELLBEING YOUTH RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT SERVICES



CHILD AND YOUTH STATISTICS

The following information represents the number of clients that were encountered during the last fiscal year in the illustrated categories.

North West Angle 33 (NWA #33)
Niisachewan (NI)
Animakee Wa Zhing #37 (NWA #37)
Asubpeeschoseewagong
First Nation (GN)
Shoal Lake #40 (SL #40)

Eagle Lake (EL)
White Fish Bay (WFB)
Lac Seul (LS)
Wabigoniw (WAB)
Wabaseemong (WD)
Wabauskang (WABK)

Washagamis Bay (WB)
Wauzhusk Onigum Nation (WON)
Urban Population - Kenora,
Dryden, and Fort Frances (UB)
Other (O)

Encounter = 1 encounter represents one unique interaction with a client.

COMMUNITY BREAKDOWN REPORT (APRIL 1, 2022– MARCH 31, 2023)						
CHILD AND YOUTH						
	NWA 33 Encounters	NWA 33 Clients	Niisaachewan Encounters	Niisaachewan Clients	NWA 37 Encounters	NWA 37 Clients
Case Management	70	4	350	15	21	2
Youth Outreach Workers	1	1	38	2	20	1
Youth Wellness Hub	0	0	7	4	0	0
Youth in Transition	0	0	48	2	0	0
Binesi Waziswan	0	0	0	0	0	0
	GN Encounters	GN Clients	SL40 Encounters	SL40 Clients	WB Encounters	WB Clients
Case Management	443	29	151	6	261	6
Youth Outreach Workers	97	9	0	0	36	2
Youth Wellness Hub	43	8	1	1	0	0
Youth in Transition	90	7	0	0	0	0
Binesi Waziswan	0	0	20	2	0	0
	WFB Encounters	WFB Clients	WON Encounters	WON Clients	WD Encounters	WD Clients
Case Management	238	21	291	14	1516	47
Youth Outreach Workers	26	3	9	4	80	9
Youth Wellness Hub	0	0	43	4	27	10
Youth in Transition	84	4	19	3	135	2
Binesi Waziswan	0	0	143	3	4	1
	EL Encounters	EL Clients	Wabigoon Encounters	Wabigoon Clients	Wabaskaung Encounters	Wabaskaung Clients
Case Management	0	0	0	0	0	0
Youth Outreach Workers	0	0	0	0	0	0
Youth Wellness Hub	0	0	0	0	0	0
Youth in Transition	0	0	0	0	0	0
Binesi Waziswan	1	1	0	0	0	0
	LS Encounters	LS Clients	Urban Encounters	Urban Clients	Other Encounters	Other Clients
Case Management	55	2	263	14	207	10
Youth Outreach Workers	0	0	41	8	26	5
Youth Wellness Hub	0	0	85	15	146	9
Youth in Transition	0	0	36	4	0	0
Binesi Waziswan	0	0	5	1	0	0

Niigaanning Bimaadiziwin Developmental Services (NBDS)

Niigaanning Bimaadiziwin Development Services for Children and Youth works closely with children, families, community resources, and educational support to help children reach their full potential. The target group for services offered by NBDS is 0-18 years.

Kenora Chiefs Advisory, in partnership with Firefly, is providing child development services to 13 affiliated communities in the Treaty 3 area; Eagle Lake, Asubpeeschoseewagong First Nation, Lac Seul, Naotkamegwaning, Northwest Angle #33, Northwest Angle #37, Obashkaandagaang, Niisaachewan Anishinaabe Nation, Shoal Lake #40, Wabaseemoong, Wabauskang, Wabigoon and Wauzhushk Onigum.

Child rehabilitation services include Occupational Therapy (OT), Physiotherapy (PT), Speech Language Pathology (SLP), Recreational Therapy, Art Therapy, Infant Development, Family Group Programming, and Anishinaabe Cultural Support Services. The child-centered program blends Anishinaabe cultural knowledge with Western methods of rehabilitation to help our children and youth reach their full potential: mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually.

Since September 2017, NBDS has focused on providing consistent child development services to the communities. We have been able to build our team to include the following professionals:

- Director of NBDS (1 FTE)
- Program Manager (2 FTE)
- Child and Youth Development Services Support Worker (7 FTE)
- Anishinaabe Cultural Service Worker (1 FTE)
- Recreational Therapist (2 FTE)
- Art Therapist (1 FTE)

- Administrative Support (1 FTE)
- FASD Clinic Coordinator (1 FTE)
- FASD Admin. Support (1 FTE)
- FASD Cultural Support Worker (1 FTE)
- Speech-Language Pathologist (1 FTE)
- Jordan's Principle Coordinator (1FTE)

This year, Kenora Chiefs Advisory has hired a Speech and Language Pathologist for the Niigaanning Bimaadiziwin team. Speech and Language services are in full force for the communities of Wabaseemoong, Asubpeeschoseewagong First Nation, and Eagle Lake. Connections have been made with school teams, daycares, and community resources. The SLP has been clarifying and investigating the wait list and completing clinical file reviews. In-house training has been provided to the Child and Youth Development Service Support Workers on SLP tools and skills when working with children and families. This has been a learning experience for NBDS, as it is a step towards independently providing our own child development services for children and youth.

In Partnership with Firefly, additional rehabilitation services are offered to our communities:

- Speech-Language Pathologist (2.74 FTE)
- Occupational Therapist (3.0 FTE)
- Physiotherapist (0.5 FTE))
- Communication Assistant (2 FTE)
- Rehabilitation Assistant (1.5 FTE)

Niigaanning Bimaadiziwin Development Services for Children and Youth has continued to provide children's rehabilitation services for developmental needs and provide support for the parents and guardians based on their needs and requests for service. This year our focus was to promote child

development services in each community and build capacity and relationships with community resources through collaboration.

Slight changes were made to the current service delivery model and case management process. Rapport with the child and their family is key. While gathering information from the parent or guardian about the child it is crucial for the worker to listen and learn from the parent. During this process, a relationship of trust will be built between the family and the worker. This method has been useful and successful in building the working relationship between the worker and the client.

The clinicians continue to work with the community schools and daycares to provide speech and language services, art therapy, and recreational therapy to children on an individual basis and in group settings. The NBDS staff have been involved in planning and facilitating community events which have had great numbers in participation.

Professional development and team building sessions took place throughout the year for Niigaanning Bimaadiziwin and Firefly. The sessions strengthened the partnership and gave an opportunity for staff to interact and learn from one another. Staff from NBDS and Firefly attended a session on “Being Trauma-Informed from the Indigenous Lens” – facilitated by KCA’s Billy Boucher. This was a one-day workshop that included a wellness circle and a sweat lodge ceremony open for participants to attend.

The Family Navigator and Infant Development Worker role was combined into one position, “Child and Youth Development Support Worker”. With this new change, workers will be assigned to fewer communities which will allow them to be present in their assigned community on a weekly basis rather than on a bi-weekly basis. When the CYDS workers enter their assigned communities, they see the children and families on their caseload at the family’s preferred location to meet. The CYDS Workers have all taken, “Moe the Mouse” training in January 2023 and have facilitated the speech and

interactive program at the community daycares and on a 1:1 basis while working with children. The Cultural Liaison Worker has taught the CYDS Workers the Anishinabamowin terms to include in their “Moe the Mouse” presentations using Spirit animal and incorporating the Anishinaabe language into the presentation.

At NBDS, we have utilized our elders and knowledge keepers for ceremonies, advice, and guidance. Elders have attended the monthly staff meetings to share teachings and share information on the history of their communities. It is important for staff to know the history of the people and community we serve so that we have a better understanding.

There have been in-house and ongoing cultural teachings led by the Cultural Liaison Worker, sharing the knowledge and teachings with the NBDS and Firefly staff. Some of the sessions include ribbon skirt-making and medicine picking. Also, cultural programming has been active in the communities offering workshops for drum making, talking sticks, and language sessions in the community daycares and schools. At the parent’s request, naming ceremonies for children have been coordinated by the Cultural Liaison Worker. As part of the orientation, new staff are also taught and introduced to the cultural protocols and teachings of; the importance of tobacco and other medicines, offerings, ceremonies, etc.

Monthly wellness circles for staff are offered. It is a safe space and opportunity for staff to share their personal and work experiences. It is an environment to provide support to one another. Wellness for staff is a priority as they provide services to children, families, and communities.

A Program Evaluation on Niigaanning Bimaadiziwin Development Services for Children and Youth was completed by consultant, Sherry Copenace in the fall of 2022. Information was gathered from NBDS management and staff, clients who are currently utilizing NBDS services, and elders who have been involved with NBDS. The intent was to strengthen areas within the program.

NBDS STATISTICS

The following information represents the number of clients that were encountered during the last fiscal year in the illustrated categories.

North West Angle 33 (NWA #33)	Eagle Lake (EL)	Washagamis Bay (WB)
Niisachewan (NI)	White Fish Bay (WFB)	Wauzhusk Onigum Nation (WON)
Animakee Wa Zhing #37 (NWA #37)	Lac Seul (LS)	Urban Population – Kenora, Dryden, and Fort Frances (UB)
Asubpeeschoseewagong	Waabigoniw (WAB)	Other (O)
First Nation (GN)	Wabaseemong (WD)	
Shoal Lake #40 (SL #40)	Wabauskang (WABK)	

Encounter = 1 encounter represents one unique interaction with a client.

COMMUNITY BREAKDOWN REPORT (APRIL 1, 2022– MARCH 31, 2023)						
NBDS						
	NWA 33 Encounters	NWA 33 Clients	Niisaachewan Encounters	Niisaachewan Clients	NWA 37 Encounters	NWA 37 Clients
Intake	16	7	28	14	30	15
Family System Navigation	53	19	248	42	144	34
Infant Development	35	5	184	13	154	15
Art Therapy	8	1	106	6	0	0
Recreational Therapy	0	0	11	5	59	5
SLP	159	8	234	16	225	17
OT	108	5	223	16	301	9
Anishinaabe Cultural Services	0	0	36	5	0	0
FASD Clinic	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jordan's Principal	65	6	6	1	50	7
Physiotherapy	0	0	5	1	0	0
Psychiatry Clinic	0	0	0	0	0	0
	GN Encounters	GN Clients	SL40 Encounters	SL40 Clients	WB Encounters	WB Clients
Intake	1664	74	28	20	29	20
Family System Navigation	846	125	131	26	126	37
Infant Development	107	10	37	2	143	24
Art Therapy	81	12	23	1	49	6
Recreational Therapy	106	11	36	8	21	5
SLP	645	62	32	5	617	27
OT	107	18	131	10	163	18
Anishinaabe Cultural Services	19	3	1	1	10	1
FASD Clinic	7	2	0	0	1	1
Jordan's Principal	50	7	61	2	11	2
Physiotherapy	98	8	1	1	7	1
Psychiatry Clinic	7	3	0	0	0	0

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Encounter = 1 encounter represents one unique interaction with a client.

COMMUNITY BREAKDOWN REPORT (APRIL 1, 2022– MARCH 31, 2023)						
NBDS						
	WFB Encounters	WFB Clients	WON Encounters	WON Clients	WD Encounters	WD Clients
Intake	30	20	76	33	165	100
Family System Navigation	280	88	161	40	747	133
Infant Development	143	18	46	8	157	24
Art Therapy	0	0	137	6	49	13
Recreational Therapy	23	6	8	2	87	12
SLP	788	59	425	22	711	98
OT	362	24	316	19	695	39
Anishinaabe Cultural Services	4	1	1	1	48	9
FASD Clinic	2	1	0	0	10	4
Jordan's Principal	81	6	0	0	0	0
Physiotherapy	34	2	0	0	616	13
Psychiatry Clinic	2	1	2	1	2	1
	EL Encounters	EL Clients	Wabigoon Encounters	Wabigoon Clients	Wabaskaung Encounters	Wabaskaung Clients
Intake	34	25	30	11	17	13
Family System Navigation	222	47	131	31	279	33
Infant Development	118	13	59	10	316	15
Art Therapy	0	0	0	0	0	0
Recreational Therapy	2	2	23	3	0	0
SLP	312	23	56	10	28	9
OT	36	3	74	8	29	8
Anishinaabe Cultural Services	0	0	0	0	95	7
FASD Clinic	0	0	1	1	4	4
Jordan's Principal	8	1	10	2	0	0
Physiotherapy	10	1	43	5	101	6
Psychiatry Clinic	0	0	0	0	0	0

Encounter = 1 encounter represents one unique interaction with a client.

COMMUNITY BREAKDOWN REPORT (APRIL 1, 2022– MARCH 31, 2023)						
NBDS						
	LS Encounters	LS Clients	Urban Encounters	Urban Clients	Other Encounters	Other Clients
Intake	50	36	19	14	13	5
Family System Navigation	545	128	229	24	31	8
Infant Development	419	32	37	4	14	1
Art Therapy	10	2	45	2	11	1
Recreational Therapy	11	2	15	4	0	0
SLP	335	70	262	11	61	3
OT	446	32	102	7	31	3
Anishinaabe Cultural Services	0	0	16	1	0	0
FASD Clinic	4	3	0	0	0	0
Jordan's Principal	32	6	14	2	0	0
Physiotherapy	200	12	0	0	6	1
Psychiatry Clinic	0	0	0	0	4	2



Social Services Department

Member First Nations – Ontario Works Delivery Agents 2022/23:

1. Asubpeeschoseewagong First Nation
2. Nootkamegwanning
3. Niisaachewan Anishinaabe Nation
4. Shoal Lake #40
5. Washagamis Bay
6. Eagle Lake
7. North West Angle #33

MSSI Centralized Functions – Roles and Responsibilities:

1. Community Visits
2. Internal File Audits
3. Appeals Process
4. Local Policy Development
5. Reporting Requirements
6. Eligibility Review Officer
7. Staff Development & Training
8. Program Meetings
9. Emergency Support Services
10. Program Review
11. Additional Supports as requested

MIN-O-QWE-KE-GA-BWE'IN SOCIAL SERVICES INITIATIVE PROGRAM (MSSI)

*History: this initiative came into effect in October 1998.
This partnership has been in operation for 25 years.*

Cluster Model: To access all available funding offered for the program by the Ministry, First Nations were required to “Cluster” together to realize some administrative efficiencies. 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-MSSI program”. The MSSI program works to support communities with enhancing the Anishinaabeg lifestyle and provide culturally appropriate programs and services to community members while ensuring the program is delivered in accordance with the Ontario Works legislation.

Cost of Administration Funding: the First Nation Ontario Works program is funded by the Ministry of Community and Social Services and Indigenous Services Canada. The cost of administration funding flows directly to each First Nation.

Administrative Allocation: The portion of Cost of Administration Funds, based on set allocation and rate, to be forwarded from the First Nation to KCA in exchange for the coordinated and centralized services. The relationship between the member First Nations and KCA-MSSI program is defined by service agreements, aligned by the two-year business cycle, with the Ontario Works program.

Highlights of the MSSI Centralized Functions provided to member OW programs:

- In person Group meetings were re-introduced after a lengthy 3 years of virtual sessions, the group realized the need for personal healing, reconnecting to ceremony to help strengthen themselves as helpers.
- MSSI provided emergency services to 2 communities without an OW Administrator and provided training to 1 newly hired OW Administrator.
- On-site community visits are now continued and well received.
- The Ontario Works program is an essential service within the community therefore staff continued service of their OW programs following safety measures. Offices provided financial assistance services and support with the implementation of safety measures and flexibility in all areas of the program i.e., minimal reporting requirements for clients, reduction in client participation requirements with more focus on client life stabilization. OW programs are now re-introducing all mandatory requirements.
- The Ontario Works Programs received additional funding from MCSS and ISC related to COVID-19. The MSSI Program assisted the programs with planning and issuance of the benefits, including reporting requirements.
 - MCSS provided additional Transitional Supports Funding COVID-19 to this funding can be used at the discretion of delivery agents to support vulnerable populations, including low-income individuals and those without jobs or homes, within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - ISC provided additional funding for COVID-19 for the Income Assistance program to help ensure that First Nations individuals and families who rely on Income Assistance and those who support them will be able to cover their essential living expenses during the COVID-19 pandemic. This included a monthly temporary benefit (top-up) for clients and additional funding for the administration of the OW Program.
- Provided Emergency Support Services to (2) member communities experiencing staff turnover. The service provided maintained client service delivery until the position is filled and/or staff returns.
- Implementation of the new provincial reporting system Transfer Payment Ontario (TPON). All Ontario Works sites are preparing for the new fiscal year and new reporting cycle with new funding allocations for program administration and update of their OW Service Plans.
- Currently we have contracted psychological services from Dr. Lawrence Hunt and his assessment team to fill the need for a range of assessments specifically; psychological, vocational, and psychovocational, that are culturally respectful to Indigenous members. These assessments will help individuals qualify for Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) Income Support in addition it will identify job seekers and workers' strength and barriers to employment, explore realistic job goals, and help our people with disabilities restore functionality.
- KCA & First Nation Group Delivery of ODSP - As per KCA and Grand Council Treaty #3 Resolution we have always asserted our interest to deliver ODSP Income Support within our first nation group model, we would like the Ministry to be informed that this is still our interest.
- Income Tax Preparation was completed in our MSSI participating communities for OW/ODSP clients and low-income families.

- Additional Supports included: 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.
- Assisted with reporting requirements and reimbursements, provided one on one training for new staff.
- Assisted with Long Term Care reporting for the Home Makers Program and provided one on one training for new staff.
- Group training

Onsite Services Provided:

- Asubpeeschoseewagong First Nation – 35
- Nautkamegwaning – 30
- Niisaachewan Anishinaabe Nation – 35
- Shoal Lake #40 – 35
- Washagamis Bay – 25
- Eagle Lake – 50 (added emergency services)
- North West Angle #33 – 40 (added emergency services)
- Extra presentations (provided to any other service provider upon request) – 3
- Group meetings (all Ontario Works Administrators and staff) – 7
- Community Information Sessions – 5

** Note: Cancelled visits due to community requests were rescheduled at the next availability**

ODSP (ODSP) EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Intent of this program is to provide ODSP Employment Supports services to ODSP recipients and/or persons with a disability and to assist eligible persons to prepare for, obtain and maintain competitive employment. Overall services for the program are conducted in accordance to the Employment Support program directives outlined by the Ministry even though our communities lack the resources and abundance of employment opportunities in comparison to municipalities.

In an effort to further support individuals, we have delivered the program in the following ways:

- Continue to seek out funding sources, utilize and collaborate with external organizations to create training, pre-employment training, and accessing wage subsidy opportunities.
- Fill Gaps in community-based training, capacity building, and alleviate backlog in the amount of community members awaiting assessment/ diagnoses. Providing referral and completion assistance to a new contract between KCA and Dr. Hunt for people to access medical needs, benefits, and resources.
- Provide job coaching, wellness coaching, pre-employment preparation, one on one employment coaching, and job development.
- Assist with referrals for additional support/ case management for seamless transitions and monitored supports.
- Facilitate employment action plans in phases of pre-employment, employment, and job maintenance, report and track participate progress.
- Aid Minor transportation issues by providing bus passes, access to Remote Community Allowance for participants to conduct Job related activities in Kenora.

Other Statistics:

The program continues to navigate incoming calls with inquiries about the program and/or persons calling on behalf of ODSP income support clients. These calls were directed to the appropriate programs using KCA Central intake where necessary and/or the person was assisted with the income support application process online/Ontario Works referrals. We have been providing additional support to make links to potential Employment Support Clients and also to develop rapport.

Most commonly people who are pursuing ODSP benefits require navigation services and case management with their application for Income Support. People are still experiencing difficulties with this process, particularly those with mental health issues and trauma related barriers. Our new contract with KCA and Dr. Hunts office for referral process that was established is designed to elevate stress for clients and provide the ability for clients to complete the ODSP application process to benefit them more while providing care and access to resources that clients need immediately while their applying.

In addition, we have assisted 267 people with the applications for social assistance – ODSP Income Supports.

- 251 – calls received from people requiring help with their ODSP income support files
- 267 – people assisted with ODSP application

ODSP income support caseloads are increasing in our member First Nation communities, and it is necessary to secure equitable “Employment Support” to those eligible persons. ODSP caseloads have increased in all communities but more substantially in Grassy Narrows, Wabaseemoong, Eagle Lake and Nootkamegwaning.

KCA will continue to lobby for improved transportation systems to eliminate barriers faced by participants wanting jobs. Providing alternative means of transportation such as bussing, taxi, and/or work shuttles.



Makaatewaagmichewang – Youth and Family Wellness Camp

The Makaatewaagmichewang Youth and Family Wellness Camp provides 327 acres of open space, kilometers of beach and forest, access to water, and a world of possibilities for children, youth and families who've had to navigate difficult paths. This camp, owned, operated, and maintained by the KCA member First Nations, serves as a new treatment, cultural, recreation, and reconciliation centre to address the multiple determinants of health and socioeconomic challenges in the communities.

The camp creates a safe but connected space for activities and programming to enhance strengths-based programming to support community members through the Anishinaabe culture. KCA's goal is to have the strengths of their programs, staff and community members engage children & youth in social participation and resilience-building activities in a safe way that is not always available within the First Nation communities.



Some of the highlights this year at the camp included the following:

- NIPD
- Truth and Reconciliation Day
- Camp Craft Nights
- Teepee Building
- Beach Volleyball Tournament
- Northern Ontario Youth Climate Action Summit
- Fall Harvest
- Winter Wellness Gathering
- Lawson Foundation Visit and Project Kick-Off
- Summer Student Retreat
- Kiizhik School Visits
- Community Beach Days
- Gardening
- Special Projects – Mess Hall & Outdoor Hockey Rink

KEY ACTIVITIES:

National Indigenous Peoples Day:

June 21st 2022 marked the inaugural day for the first annual National Indigenous Peoples Day at the KCA Youth and Family Wellness Camp in partnership with Grand Council Treaty 3 and Ne-Chee Friendship Centre. It was a truly special day that saw over 3,000 people from around Treaty 3 come out to participate.

Our goal for the event was to provide a safe space that is open to everyone, allowing for education, connection, and an opportunity to showcase the amazing indigenous talent we have throughout Treaty 3. The gathering saw people of all ages come out to the camp to enjoy a variety of various activities. Some of the activities included a mini powwow, a story-sharing circle, an Indigenous crafters market, face painting, yard games, a fish fry, an Indigenous fashion show, and the day was wrapped up with a performance from Shadow Junction.

Truth and Reconciliation Day:

Kenora Chiefs Advisory was proud to recognize National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on Friday, September 30, 2022 by hosting a day of education and reconciliation at the Youth and Family Wellness Camp.

The day began with the rising of the sun as staff and community members came together for a sunrise ceremony. As the morning continued, over 400 students, ranging in age from grade 1 to 8, from local schools came to the Camp to participate in the day.

As the children gathered, guest speakers spoke of the importance of the day, which was then followed by a healing song from the KCA drummers. Students spent the day walking around the property and engaging in activities meant to spark conversations such as drumming, blanket exercises, and colouring/ activity books.

Camp Craft Nights:

Camp Craft Nights were established to create a safe space to reconnect with the culture, to create meaningful connections and to be utilized as an outlet that allows people to take a break. For every class, we had our regulars who attended weekly and many that joined for classes that were specific to the craft they wanted to learn. We strived to have at least one elder at each class when possible. The youth ranged from ages 0 to 21. Young mothers would bring their children, their mothers and siblings. Many classes we were able to have many generations from the same family.



Weekly craft nights were held from September 13, 2022, to December 13, 2022 (28 nights in total), and included teachings from elders/grandmothers, beading, quilting, jingle/ribbon skirt making, and other regalia.



Teepee Building:

A total of nine teepees have been purchased by Kenora Chiefs Advisory (KCA) for the Youth and Family Wellness Camp with funding received through MCCSS. These teepees were purchased to represent the nine communities that Ogimaawabiitong works with. All nine of the teepees will be set up in the spring in their new location at the camp. They will stay up for three of the seasons, coming down each winter.

Tony Solomon, an expert from British Columbia, made the journey to Kenora to help the team at the Youth and Family Wellness Camp build two of the nine teepees. Solomon worked with the team from start to finish while telling the group stories of how the teepee poles were picked. They also received teachings on the significance of the teepees and how they were used by Indigenous peoples.

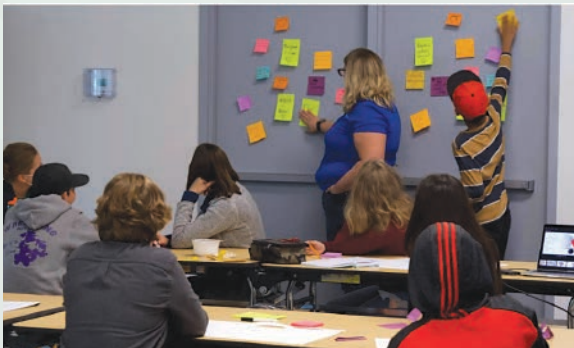


Beach Volleyball Tournament:

Kenora Chiefs Advisory Right To Play Program held the First Annual Beach Volleyball Tournament out at the KCA Youth and Family Wellness Camp. The tournament saw 45 youth come out to the Camp on September 1st 2022 for an afternoon of beach volleyball.

Northern Ontario Youth Climate Action Summit:

The Youth and Family Wellness Camp was swarming with kids on September 23, 2023 for day one of the Northern Ontario Youth Climate Action Summit presented by Science North. Local school children from grades 7 to 12 were invited to the camp to learn about climate change and participate in different science demonstrations and activities. The Northern Ontario Youth Climate Action Summits are presented by Science North in partnership with Roots and Shoots, and they were inspired by the Wild Centre.



Fall Harvest:

Hundreds of youth and community members were able to give thanks to the summer season and welcome in the fall with KCA's 2nd annual Fall Harvest on October 17-19, 2022. The three-day celebration took place at the KCA Youth and Family Wellness Camp, where students and community members were able to gather, participate in a number of cultural activities, and learn more about the practices of our Anishinaabemowin ancestors.

Teachings included moose, deer, and caribou harvesting and hide scraping, medicine making and teachings, bear grease making, fish filleting, duck, beaver, and muskrat harvesting, language teachings, Bannock making, wild rice teachings, and a visit from the camp's Ojibwe Ponies, with traditional Cree games in the field.



Winter Wellness Gathering:

With support from Ontario Health North, KCA held its second Winter Wellness Gathering on March 2-5, 2023. This was a 4-day youth led gathering in which over 480 community members attended both from the 9 KCA affiliated First Nations and urban population of Kenora. The goal of the event was to increase mental wellness in preparation for the next seasons of life through the creation of an enjoyable, culturally safe space that focuses on the Anishinaabe culture in a land based setting.



Lawson Foundation Visit & Project Kick-Off:

KCA received a 3-year grant from the Lawson Foundation for a project called Diabetes and the Seven Sacred Grandfather Teachings, which is led by the Youth and Family Wellness Camp. The project will build relationships across generations and prepare youth and families to live a healthy lifestyle free of diabetes and ready to face the hurdles in pursuit of mino-bimaadiziwin (living the good life).

This project will provide opportunities for cross-generational knowledge sharing, learning and physical activities throughout the year at the KCA Youth and Family Wellness Camp. With the support of KCA staff and Elders, this project will prepare youth and families to live a healthy lifestyle by sharing traditional knowledge, wisdom and learning ways to help prevent diabetes.

On August 24, 2022, the Lawson Foundation came to Kenora to tour KCA sites, including the Youth and Family Wellness Camp. The Project Kick Off was held on February 22, 2023 in conjunction with the Diabetes Care Planning Forum.



Summer Students Retreat:

KCA summer students wrapped up their summer employment experience by learning leadership skills, participating in cultural activities, and enjoying some outdoor fun. The Kenora Chiefs Advisory Youth and Family Wellness Camp were host to youth summer students from both KCA and Treaty Three Police Service (T3PS) on August 22-23, 2022. The students, ages 15 to 25, spent their summer working with multiple programs and organizations across both KCA and T3PS.

During the two-day retreat, students participated in activities such as land-based learning with local Knowledge Keepers, equine assisted learning with Ojibway Spirit Ponies, storytelling with local Elders, and recreational activities such as canoeing, sports and games. KCA would like to say miigwetch to our community partners, Seven Generations Education Institute and Shooniyaa Wa-Biitong, the Community Foundation, and the Government of Canada – Canada Summer Jobs program for supporting this youth employment initiative.

Community Beach Days:

Over the summer months, the camp was available for communities to utilize the beach. We provided staffing support to help with children and youth, provide fun activities and help cook meals on the barbeques or over the fire.

Kiizhik School Visits:

During the school year, Kiizhik School utilized the camp to do land-based activities and learning. The school utilized the camp weekly to bring out the whole school.

Gardening:

Throughout the summer, the garden at the camp was in full use. Programming out at the camp in the garden included learning to plant vegetables, fruits and medicines. Youth also learned to maintain a garden through weeding, watering and plant health. Youth learned how to harvest the bounty that they planted in the spring.

Makaatewaagmichewang Equine Program

Therapeutic Horse Time provides a safe space for individuals to explore their physical and mental wellbeing. An Equine Therapy Program was established at the Youth and Family Wellness Camp and commenced operations in August 2021 for communities that KCA service. We have seen our services help individuals through significant life events, keep youth engaged and stable, develop life skills, and improve moods.

One of our many success stories features one youth, who is in and out of the foster care system and struggles with her mental health all while navigating the daily challenges of life as a teenage girl. There are days where she arrives despondent and withdrawn and after as little as 30 minutes with the horses is smiling and engaging with the horses, other attendees, and staff. On several occasions her foster parents have noted how thankful they are for the services we provide as they witness the positive changes Horse Time makes in their lives. More recently, this youth unexpectedly lost their biological mother and the request the youth made to their therapist was to visit the horses as she feels they are helping her with her grief.

As a team, we see these types of successes every day. Horses have a natural ability to bring people out of their shell and we see our participants making deep, lasting connections with our horses that encourage them to make positive changes in their personal lives.

Since August 2021, visiting the horses has been a great attraction and the popularity of this service quickly outgrew the capacity of two staff running 12 sessions per week with minimal infrastructure. The Equine Therapy program has grown considerably in 2022 to meet the increasing demand.

The Equine Team has grown to a team of five and an outdoor riding arena was installed. This has allowed an increase from 12 to 28 sessions per week, including after-school and weekend sessions.

The Equine Farm saw 5,200 in 2022 and are forecasting an additional 7,000 in 2023. Of our attendees, 91% of the bookings having indigenous participants and 64% including indigenous youth. The Equine Therapy service continues to support mental health and addictions, cultural programs, and local organizations in the Treaty 3 area including KCA programs (64%), schools (15%), families from Communities and Kenora (9%), Kenora Association for Community Living (6%), and family services (3%). It is forecasted that we will see 10,000 attendees by the end of summer 2023.

In the 2022 fiscal year, we saw a 23% client cancellation rate which would have added an additional 871 attendees in the period if cancellations could have been avoided. Adverse weather continues to be the main cause of cancellations with 60% of booking cancellations by clients occurring during the winter and early spring. We plan to significantly reduce this with the addition of an indoor riding facility. Funding is currently being sought for this facility.

An online booking system is used to book Horse Time (petting, brushing, riding), Family Time (launched in November 2022 as weekend bookings to allow travel time for residents of communities serviced by KCA) and Guided Trail Rides. Only Equine Assisted Learning (EAL) sessions and unplanned crisis requests are booked directly with the Equine Manager. There have been over 400 sessions booked on the booking system since it was put in place.

Saddles, safety helmets, riding boots, enclosed stirrups, jackets, hats, gloves, and socks continue to be provided for guests who need them. There are eleven horses, five ponies, two miniature horses, 4 rabbits, 4 cats, and 6 chickens at the facility. They continue to be regularly trained, fed and watered, and maintained with farrier and veterinary visits. In 2023, staff will be trained as Certified Therapeutic Riding Instructors via the internationally recognized Canadian Therapeutic Riding Association (CanTRA).



Communications

The Communications Team within Ogimaawabiitong continued to expand this fiscal year and develop into a full team within the organization. The 2022/23 fiscal year saw the addition of the Communications Assistant to the team, who reported to the Senior Executive Assistant and Communications Lead.

The focus of the Communications Team this year was the development of foundational and guiding principal documents which are included but not limited to the Brand Standards Guidelines, Communications Procedures, Communications Request Form etc. At this stage in the fiscal year these guiding documents are at the final review and approval stage and will be fully implemented within the next fiscal year.

The Communications Team works with all the programs within the organization for a variety of requests. The team is responsible for creation of

posters, brochures, social media posts, look books etc. The team works to have cohesive and consistent communications across the organization, and the main goal is to effectively communicate the goals and mission of the organization, as well as assist in providing the public, partners, stakeholders, and the communities with continuous updates on what is happening and changing within the organization. The team will continue to expand so all communications elements can be done in-house.



LinkTree QR Code

Strategy and Innovation

The Strategy and Innovation department works alongside all levels within Ogimaawabiitong, communities and partnerships to provide much-needed support in ensuring responsiveness to community needs by developing evidence-based and community-driven processes in project development through: team formation, research, community-engagement, communications internally and externally for partnership and collaboration, local capacity building, reporting and ongoing review and revisions to service delivery, programs and projects.

The following provides an overview of the most substantial tasks, activities, and projects worked on within the Strategy and Innovation department in 2022-2023 fiscal year.

RESEARCH AND PRODUCTION

Grant Writing Workshop:

An exciting new project that the Strategy and Innovation team developed this year was our Grant Writing Workshop. The knowledge and passion that create the best proposals comes directly from the community. Through supporting our communities to develop their proposal writing skills and understanding of grant applications, we are empowering our communities to access funding and resources for community projects.

Our interactive workshop is designed to share our knowledge, skills and experience with those community members who will be applying for the grants. By working through various grant applications and providing workshop participants with tools and resources, we aim to make the process less intimidating and provide the applicants with the confidence and abilities to successfully apply for grants for their own communities.

A pilot session was held in Asubpeeschoseewagong First Nation (Grassy Narrows) in February 2023 where ten participants dove right into the workshop's teachings. We are excited about the positive impact this workshop will have and look forward to visiting our communities to deliver this workshop.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION

The Program Development and Evaluation role demonstrates a framework and approach that allows projects to get up and running effectively and become sustainable, so they respond to the needs of Ogimaawabiitong community members for the long-term. Key activities and projects include:

Binesi Waziswon – Step Up, Step Down (SUSD) Residential Program

The Program Development and Evaluation Planner has played a large role in supporting the new Healing & Treatment Department, under which the Binesi Waziswan Step-Up, Step-Down (SUSD) residential program operates.

The Program Development and Evaluation Planner finalized the residence procurement, service delivery



model, staffing model, and intake process to get the program up and running as soon as possible. While Binesi Waziswon worked on the operational preparation, the Program Development and Evaluation Planner completed and submitted the license application, a requirement under the Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services. This entailed networking with the SUSD program in Southern Ontario, liaising with the Ministry of Health, and ensuring the residence met specifications, and the writing of policies and procedures.

Once the license is approved, the program will receive temporary approval to operate the full 8-bed program for 6 months after which a final inspection will take place and the full license issued.



Binesi Waziswon – Anweshinan, Land-Based Mental Health and Addictions Program

Alongside the Step-Up, Step-Down program development, Binesi Waziswon was also awarded funding for an intensive supportive treatment program. The Program Development and Evaluation Planner similarly supported with the service delivery model, staffing model, intake, and evaluation processes.

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The roles within Senior Development, Capital Projects and Project Planning are key in supporting organizational development, managing funding applications, and collaborating with communities, partners, and key stakeholders for successful outcomes to address community needs effectively. Key projects and activities include:



Youth and Family Wellness Camp

The development of the Youth and Family Wellness Camp was a focus for the Strategy and Innovation team to be able to support year-round opportunities for land-based traditional healing and wellness activities. Exciting infrastructure projects include but are not limited to the completion of the Mess Hall, work on the Baseball Fields, and delivery of the

Outdoor Hockey Rink. This dedicated piece of land for on-the-land based programming is something very special and has already demonstrated what can be accomplished through our Fall Harvest, Winter Wellness Days and Equine Program. The camp has so much promise and potential to heal and positively influence our communities and to provide a space for greater resilience.

Ga naa na ga da waa ba dang – Kenora Community Justice Centre (CJC)

Ogimaawabiitong, as the building owner where the CJC is located, continued their collaboration and engagement with the Ministry of Attorney General, Ontario Court of Justice, First Nations leadership, judiciary, Indigenous organizations, local service providers, law enforcement and justice system participants on the design and implementation of the CJC.

At one of our meetings with the Elders selected by Ogichidaa Kavanaugh to guide the CJC, the Elders gave direction to post “Gizha’we’ni’min” (I care, I love you unconditionally) near the entrance where everyone coming into the space could see and feel the significance of the statement in everything that happens within the space.

Construction of the space was completed in the fall of 2022, followed by furnishings and outstanding work by the various partnerships to accommodate their staff. Staff from the various partnerships began working out of the space in January of 2023.

On February 5, Ogimaawabiitong’s Youth and Family Wellness Camp hosted the traditional welcoming ceremony ahead of the Grand Opening on February 6, 2023, at the CJC’s location at 33 Main in Kenora. At the Grand Opening on February 6, at the request of the Ministry of Attorney General, Ogichidaa Frances Kavanaugh bestowed the name “Ga naa na ga da waa ba dang” (One who reviews, considers and deliberates) on the CJC. The first court at Ga naa na ga da waa ba dang was held on February 28, 2023. A Community Open House was held on March 24, 2023.

ALL NATIONS HEALTH SYSTEM PLANNING

All Nations Health Partners (ANHP): KCA continues to be committed to strengthening relationships, partnerships, and collaborations to ensure a seamless and comprehensive health care system is developed and designed, which ensures there is improved access to health services and better health outcomes.

As the ANHP have become an Ontario Health Team, and partners continue to work together to re-design a health care system that provides the right service, at the right time, in the right place, no matter where the patient lives, within the catchment area. Partners are invested in equitable service delivery, with a wholistic, inclusive approach that furthers the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions Calls to Action.

All Nations Hospital Planning: This project is being planned under a unique partnership between Lake of the Woods District Hospital (LWDH), Kenora Chiefs Advisory and a Steering Committee with community representatives working together.

The Project Planning Team with representatives from KCA and LWDH worked closely with Colliers Project Leaders and LM Architecture on the development of the Phase 1 business case submission which was submitted to the Ministry of Health for review in April 2021 and worked throughout the 2022-2023 fiscal on the Phase 2 planning phase.

Proposed is a new hospital designed to meet modern hospital standards, both in service delivery, staff, and patient/family needs, as well as space requirements to achieve these standards. Key service delivery model themes identified in the proposal include accessibility, functionality, efficiency, blending of Western Medicine and Traditional Healing on a new campus, and building strong partnerships for service coordination with other providers across the continuum of care. Site development options were extensively explored, and a recommended site has been proposed.



The Strategy and Innovation team supported the development of an Indigenous Services Model and Business Case by building on the successes of this partnership to enhance care. The Indigenous Services Model focuses on developing and supporting a system that: is innovative, designed locally to address needs of Indigenous people, harmonizes funding and services to provide barrier-free access by putting people first, supporting community well-being, celebrating Indigenous healing and governance, and strengthens partnerships.

KCA is also a part of the LWDH Current Operations Innovation Working Group, which meets monthly to support planning and evaluation of programs and services, and to discuss issues and advise on improvements to programs, services, and other operational matters to ensure systemic changes are made within the health care system before a new hospital is built.



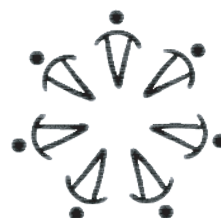
MA'MO'WEH WII'SOO'KA'TIWIN FOUNDATION (MWF)

Ma'mo'weh Wii'soo'ka'tiwin (People Helping People) Foundation is a registered Canadian Charitable Foundation which was founded in 2019. Its mission is to "Rekindle hope, reclaim culture and restore strength through People Helping People."

The goal of the foundation is to help KCA diversify its funding sources to enable greater independence and flexibility to develop innovative and effective approaches to strengthen Indigenous communities.

The Foundation raises funds through direct solicitation, email campaigns, www.CanadaHelps.org Campaigns and applying for grants from Foundations. As needed, it also acts as a Trustee for KCA and other community organizations receiving funds.

The Foundation launched its own website www.MWFoundation.ca and is also represented on the KCA and Canada Helps website. Financial information is also available on the Canada Revenue Agency's list of registered charities.



MA'MO'WEH
WII'SOO'KA'TIWIN
PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE



This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. In the center, there is a large, very faint watermark. It appears to be a circular emblem containing a stylized figure or symbol, possibly related to a school or institution. The watermark is light enough that it doesn't distract from the writing area but is clearly visible upon close inspection.

NOTES:

This image shows a full page of a document template. It features a light gray background with faint, wavy, abstract patterns. Overlaid on this are numerous thin, dark gray horizontal lines spaced evenly apart, resembling notebook paper. There are no margins, text, or other markings present.



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