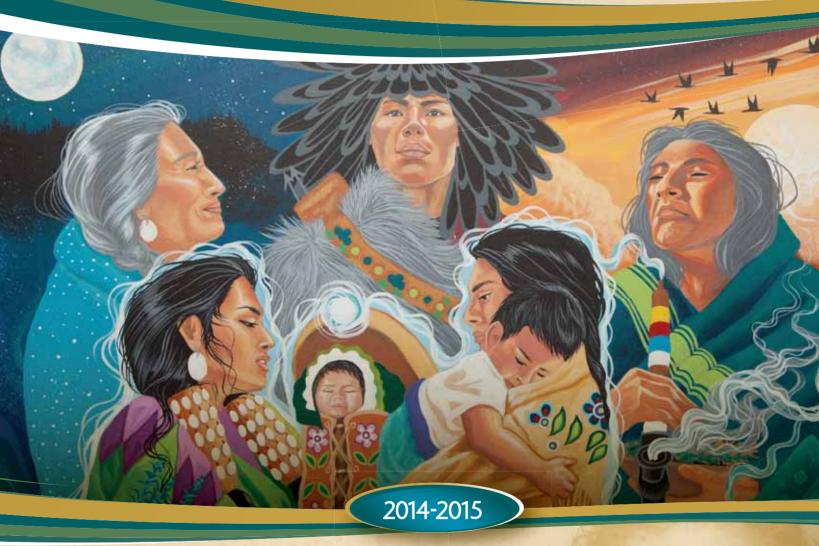
A Holistic Approach to Community Wellness



# REPORT



Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Family and Community Wellness Centre Inc.

# 2014-2015

# REPORT



Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Family and Community Wellness Centre Inc.



#### Cover Illustration by: GAYLE SINCLAIR

The cover artwork is a symbol of community unity and connectedness; it represents the "circle of supports" for family systems. The core center of the circle represents the "spirit" that gives Mitho Pimatisiwin (a good life). Next to the core is the representation of an infant and toddler that gives purpose and meaning to parents. Around the parents are family supports such as aunts, uncles and grandparents. The grandparents signify the role of "Ketiyatisahk" (the old ones) who are held in great esteem and respect. They are the keepers and transmitters of cultural knowledge. Around the old ones are the Warriors of the community. They are the protectors and leaders. They ensure safety and well-being for all. Each circle is related to the other and has their own role in order to respect, share, guide, and protect the children. The day sun and night moon represents the cycle of life and the life-long responsibility of caring for children. All relationships and interconnectedness to all Creation are of equal value and have strong principles to creating balance in life.

The concept of the Circle and Native Family Systems was developed and designed by Janet (Jann) Derrick. Jann is of Mohawk Ancestry and specializes in working with Native historical trauma. She is a registered Marriage and Family Therapist and presently a Ph. D. candidate. In 2000, she had published professionally *The Box and The Circle and Native Family Systems*, as well as contributing to books such *The Dispossessed* by Geoffrey York, Chapter 2; *Voices of Color-First Persons Accounts of Ethnic Minority Therapists and Multicultural Couple Therapy* ed. Rastogi and Thomas.

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Tansi. I am pleased to present this year's 2014/15 report, detailing the Centre's progress and accomplishments over the year. It has been a year of overcoming obstacles and challenges, finding new and innovative approaches to often-difficult issues and improving our operational and administrative processes. We have had success in many areas but plan to continually improve, as we move forward into next year and develop our strategic action plans.

We continue to work toward improving the range of health and wellness services offered directly in Nelson House and ensure our off-reserve members in Thompson, South Indian Lake, Leaf Rapids, Brandon and Winnipeg also have a means for support.

Among the accomplishments this year has been the success of the *Removal of Parent Program* and *Wecihitowin Project*. These programs have been instrumental in reducing the number of CFS Children in Care by record numbers. This means more children remain in the community with relatives, families or the community supports they need, rather than in foster care.

The Centre's childcare and daycare programming continues to be valuable – assisting parents and guardians by providing a safe place for infants and youth to learn and grow in professional early-childhood development environments. This program has also been effective by preparing children for their school years.

Another program gaining momentum has been our NCN Community Youth Cree Court, designed to keep youth offenders out of the criminal justice and child welfare system. The Youth Cree Court uses the wisdom of our Ketiyatisak and the supports of a community-driven court system to evaluate and rehabilitate youth involved in minor criminal offenses. The program is currently being evaluated and reviewed. Successful mock trails have been held, plans are in motion and we hope to begin operating the Court soon. Once operational, the community court will have jurisdiction to handle youth crimes and reduce the over-representation of our youth in the Manitoba court system.

Our Public Health department continues to provide a level of quality care to citizens directly in their home community. Immunizations, diabetes care and special programs for mothers, infants and families are integral in maintaining an effective level of health for NCN Citizens.

Our transportation services remain a key part of health care for immediate and scheduled medical and wellness treatments. The service has been ensuring citizens have access to care without the limitations of travel or travel costs.

Also very important this year has been our Counselling and Family Enhancement services which deal with many critical crisis cases in our community. Day-to-day, members of our First Nation are faced with violence, trauma, suicide and social issues that cause stress to individuals and the community as a whole. The collaborative work the Centre, in cooperation with many organizations, allows our programs to address major issues and evolve to handle a wider range of concerns.

We are always working to update and introduce new and innovative ways to improve the overall lifestyles and safety for our people. Through culturally appropriate programming and a network of proven services, our focus is to reconnect individuals and families with solid, inclusive and effective paths to healing and better living or care.

Overall, the Centre has been moving in a positive direction and effective financial management and program budget surpluses have allowed the Centre to now look toward enhancing programs. We will also extensively review the effectiveness of our current care programs to ensure optimal performance and quality.

We look forward to building on the strengths of this year and overcoming the challenges of the future with a renewed sense of optimism.

Felix Walker

CEO Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Family and Community Wellness Centre

# Executive Summary

#### **Board of Directors**

- Joyce Yetman, Chair
- Roslyn Moore, Vice Chair
- Jacqueline Hunter, *Director*
- Natalie Tays, *Director*
- Agnes Spence, *Director*
- Jim Moore, Former Director

The Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (NCN) Family and Community Wellness Centre was established to support holistic wellness by providing additional opportunities for the Citizens of the NCN to build on their strengths as individuals, as members of families and as part of the community.

The Centre has begun an extensive process of reviewing and improving our programs, administration and services, based on community consultation and will be working to include the advice and evaluations of third-parties outside of the community to further improve programs. Strategic planning will be conducted in the near future to identify objectives and goals and to help to develop action plans for Wellness Centre programs. Implementing these plans will allow the Centre to continually improve and be proactive in their operation and delivery of programming.

This 2014/15 annual report has been prepared to provide an overview of programming implemented by the NCN Family and Community Wellness Centre. The Wellness Centre has expanded and redefined programming over the course of the year to support our ongoing work within the community.

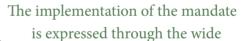


The elements of this report are as follows:

- 1 Governance
  Strategic directions, service delivery plans
- Narrative
  Program descriptions, progress and highlights
- 3 Statistical Data for Community
  Health and Wellness
  Related to child and family services and
  community health/wellness.

Our facility and approach is unique as it uses a strength-based approach to support children and families. Relationships between programs, individuals and families are viewed as paramount to change. The Centre has adopted a mandate to reflect this commitment by working to:

- 1 Promote the development of new ideas and innovative measures and to bring about meaningful change for the children and families of NCN within a holistic approach to human services policy development and service delivery.
- 2 Incorporate Indigenous traditions, culture, language, customs, and the teachings of the community's Elders.
- 3 Deliver mandated child and family services within a community capacity-building and health-promotion orientation.
- 4 Oversee the implementation of health-related services and assume a leadership role in the transfer process of a local health authority.
- 5 Promote community wellness and individual well-being.



range of community-based health related and child and

family services designed to support holistic wellness from conception and birth through to adulthood and Elder care.

The Centre continues to
work toward this model of
integrated service delivery
and the development of
meaningful and effective
programs, which reflect our
community values and beliefs.



## **CORE VALUES**

Social Justice: We will treat all residents of Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation equally.

Self-reliance: We will promote personal and family responsibility first.

Intrinsic Worth of People: We will think of everyone as having abilities, talents and skills that are essential to the overall health of the community.

Sustainability: We will provide services in a way that does not threaten our ability to meet basic human needs over the long term.

Cooperation: We will work together to achieve community wellness.

Community Wellness Focus: We will commit to a holistic health promotion orientation to program design and implementation.

# INCLUSION POLICY

All members and residents of the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (children, youth, adults and elders) shall have the opportunity to participate in activities and enjoy health and wellness regardless of age, gender or physical condition.

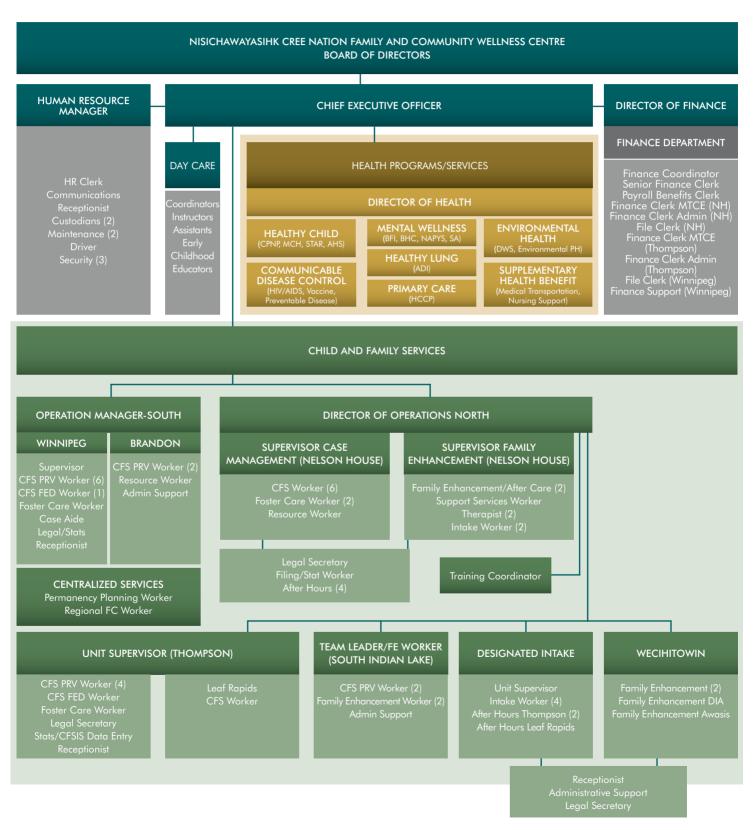
# MISSION

To promote, nurture and foster a sense of holistic wellness through the provision of meaningful, community-based and culturally appropriate activities in a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment.

# We're Committed to Helping Create a Healthier Lifestyle

The NCN Family and Community Wellness Centre was among the first facility of its kind in Canada. It recognizes the strength of the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation and how much we can accomplish by working together.

## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



# KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Significantly reduced number of CFS children in care
- Increased participation for many programs
- Refined NCN Youth Cree Court Initiative and held successful mock trial before attendees, Manitoba Premier Selinger and Manitoba cabinet members
- Medical transportation operated four runs to Thompson – serving over 40-50 people.
   Nearly 10,000 NCN Citizens are transported annually for local or out of town medical appointments by truck, van and aircraft



 Created a photo history wall of NCN past Chiefs to honour and recognize their achievements.

# GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND FOCUS FOR NEXT YEAR

- Identify and evaluate each program and make sure a solid focus is being placed on improved services to meet the needs of community members. Many programs are well established and operating smoothly but we want to ensure improvements are made.
   We will have outside sources validate and report on the effectiveness of each program offered.
- Improve administration and Citizen services at the Nurses Station and throughout all programs
- Administration will work to improve booking and reporting systems and logistics with improved technologies for intake, reporting and monitoring

- Work to develop individual Strategic Plans and Work Plans for all programs and a master plan for the Centre
- Develop training and knowledge-transfer initiatives and set standards and guidelines

that can be adopted and used by other First Nations Communities

 Improve monitoring and tracking for program reports, statistics and analytics.



# Year-In-Review

The NCN Family and Community Wellness Centre provides a wide range of health and wellness programs to Citizens both on- and off-reserve. Our holistic approach to care involves the collective unity of many services working together to achieve improved well-being and health for the individual, family and the entire community.

The following reports highlight some of the accomplishments from the 2014/15 fiscal year for each program along with statistics of individuals participating and receiving care. Programs or departments with goals and objectives for the next year have indicated the plans to improve services to Citizens, while other programs have maintained an effective level of service and will be developing goals in the near future as part of the strategic planning process.



# Child and Family Services

# **OVERVIEW**

The NCN Child and Family Services (CFS) is committed to working with families to build healthy relationships. It is responsible for the investigation of child maltreatment and case management services for NCN children in Nelson House, Thompson, South Indian Lake (OPCN), Winnipeg and Brandon (with a presence in Leaf Rapids).

The Centre is committed to improving the lives of children and families in the communities it serves by engaging in culturally appropriate program planning and service delivery that is coordinated, responsive, and empowering. This commitment to empowerment, combined with using a western traditional model of service delivery has resulted in a reduction of the number of children coming into care as well as the number of families with recurrent involvement with Child and Family Services.

#### NCN CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES PROGRAMS

- Wecihitowin Project
- Foster Care Program
- Family Support
- Removal of Parent Program
- Community Youth Cree Court Program



#### HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Since the Wellness Centre was transitioned to the new funding model in the fall of 2012 the overall Children in Care (CIC) numbers have decreased from 427 to 274
- In Nelson House the new funding model provided a funding influx for the prevention and family enhancement programming approach and helped to make a fundamental shift in its approach to reduce apprehension significantly
- Thompson saw the biggest change and this can be attributed to the DIA differential response Wecihitowin Project
- Winnipeg and Brandon CIC numbers remain pretty much the same as the Centre has no involvement in the FE/Prevention work being done
- Sought leave to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada on a Nelson House case advocating family reunification over the rights of foster parents to delay the return of children home.

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- Further reduce the number of children in care through the provision of proactive and culturally relevant programming
- Increase the effectiveness and quality of casemanagement practices and service delivery by training staff at the post-secondary level and as part of an ongoing professional development strategy
- Improve the coordination of services to children and families using the *Circle of Care* family planning model for children and families who need a combination of supports
- In the 2015/16 fiscal year the Centre will be looking at developing a program(s) to deal with a trend of attachment and family bonding issues where families are taking children back home
- In 2015/16 the Centre will be focusing more on the approach of leaving children in the home and removing parents from the residence in cases of apprehension
- With 58% of the Centre's CIC being permanent ward (PW) status, there will be a focus on pursuing adoptions and legal guardianships with interested foster parents. (Continued on next page...)



(Continued from previous page.)

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- The Centre plans to develop a number of program service manuals, enhance the website and formalize policies and procedures over the next year
- The Centre will be looking at investing in the revitalization of its information technology (IT) and internet/intranet assets both on- and off-reserve to improve administration
- Explore additional development and training for both the statistical and financial staff
- Manage surpluses and spending
- Promote clear and timely communication across all offices and make better use of social media and communication media
- Improve staff competency, retention, recruitment and professional standards
- Ensure that practices reflect provincial standards and regulations
- Improve schedules and reporting functions
- Establish a centralized intake in Nelson House
- Establish a trained Child Abuse Committee
- Ensure that all foster homes comply with provincial licensing requirements and increase the number of culturally appropriate child care homes and foster placements
- Stabilize the number of children coming into care through the provision of early intervention, prevention and resource-driven partnerships
- Decrease the number of permanent wards and improve effectiveness of permanency planning services and adoption practices for all children including those with special needs.

#### **STATISTICS**

Overview of Children in Care

LEGAL STATUS		COUNT	ANNUAL REVIEW COUNT
Ward	Permanent Ward	159	
	Temporary Ward	36	
	Voluntary Surrender of Guardianship	7	202
Voluntary Placement Agreement		36	36
Other	Apprehension	32	
	Petition Filed	7	39
TOTAL		277	277

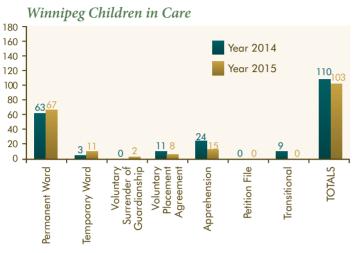
CASELOAD	COUNT	AR COUNT	FEDERAL	PROVINCIAL
CIC	277	277	97	180
Extensions in Care	25	25	6	19
Voluntary Family Service	20	20	4	16
Protection	157	157	30	127
Expectant Parent Services	12	12	10	2
Family Enhancement	63	63	50	13
TOTAL	554	554	197	357

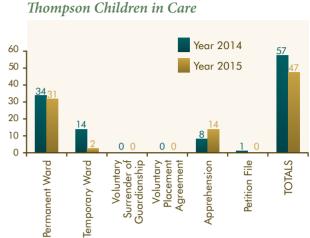
PLACEMENT		COUNT	ANNUAL REVIEW COUNT
Foster Home	Foster Home	67	
	Foster Home Specialized	139	206
Residential Care	Residential Care	10	10
Other Placement Resource	Place of Safety	45	45
	Not Known	4	
	Out of Province	0	
	Ind Living	5	9
Select Adoption Probation	Select Ada Prob	0	0
Other Non Pay Care	Correction	1	1
	Health/Mental	2	
	Own Home	4	6
TOTAL		277	277

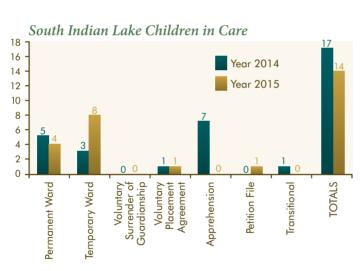
### COUNT OF CHILDREN UNDER AN ORDER OF SUPERVISION

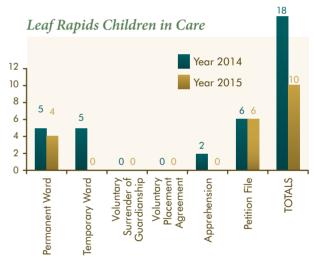
FACILITY COUNT	ON RESERVE	OFF RESERVE
Foster Homes	31	56
Places of Safety	26	34

ABORIGINAL STATUS		
Inuit	0	
Metis	1	
Non-Status	109	
Not Aboriginal	9	
<b>Treaty Status</b>	158	
TOTAL	277	

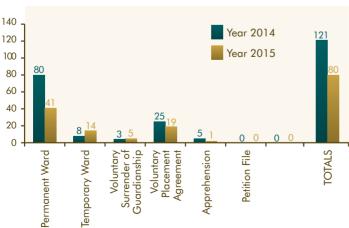


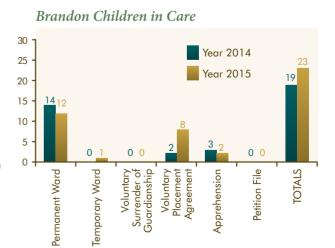












## WECIHITOWIN PROJECT

The Wecihitowin project provides First Nations children and families ongoing support by involving them in positive traditional and cultural activities and other resources to help them choose healthier living options. Through early intervention, prevention, education, and family supports the program has a continuous circle of connections that improves the well-being of individuals who may be experiencing difficulties in their lives.

A team of four workers including two NCN-CFS workers and two Awasis workers deliver services and programs which include community family spirit events, sharing circles, recreation, land-based activities, counselling, parent services, administrative/logistics assistance, linkages to other community resources, court support, transportation services as well as family and case conferencing.

# RESOURCES AND PROGRAMS USED:

- Raising the Child
- Back to Basics
- Rediscovery of Families Program
- Circle of Care Model
- Wabano Parenting Bundles
- I am a Kind Man Program Manual
- Journey Beyond Abuse Manual
- When a Child Becomes Strong
- Mother of Red Nations "Understanding the Child Welfare System"
- Traditional Parenting Program Manual
- Anger Management
- Parent & Teen Communication



- Currently there are a total of 33 active files, 23 of these are new referrals, and 10 are returning participants. Out of the 23 new referrals 6 have attended programming
- Held a potluck (25 participants) and two clothing giveaway drives
- Attended the Hope North Suicide Prevention Workshop (8 participants)
- Attended MKO open forum on Child and Family Services titled: "Bringing the Children Home" (14 participants attended and six of the Wecihitowin participants spoke)
- Attended the Clan Mother Teachings in Brokenhead First Nation (2 Wecihitowin Staff and 4 participants)
- Attended the Mile 20 Spring Ceremonies (Wecihitowin Staff and 6 Wecihitowin families which included 7 adults and 13 children participated)
- Helped a mother who requested assistance to plan, organize, and deliver a memorial for her daughter who died 3 years prior.

- Wecihitowin held an All Programs graduation (66 participants)
- Summer programming included Women's Retreat

   Rediscovery of Families Program (4 participants),
  Family Camps (5 Families attended 6 Adults and
  14 children), Sundance Camp in The Pas (1 family
  attended)
- Circle of Security was delivered over the course of three different dates
- Held an All Programs Graduation with a Christmas theme (28 participants)
- Although there are many services that Wecihitowin offers to parents that help them with achieving their goals, we are still finding that participants are experiencing challenges in attending program due to housing, transportation, finances or childcare concerns.



#### STATISTICS AND REPORTS

For the events, programs and activities offered regularly during the three Wecihitowin Project cycles in the 2014/15 reporting year the referrals and participation recorded was:

TOTAL NUMBER REFERRALS RECEIVED:	267
TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS WHO ATTENDED:	189
TOTAL NUMBER OF COMPLETIONS:	109
WALK-INS/OFFICE VISITS:	894
ONE-ON-ONE SESSIONS:	187

CYCLE #1: FEBRUARY TO JUNE 2014		
Referrals:	88	
Participants (Completed):	50	
TOTAL COMPLETION RATE:	57%	

CYCLE #2: OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2014		
Referrals:	56	
Participants (Completed):	37	
TOTAL COMPLETION RATE:	66%	

CYCLE #3: FEBRUARY – MARCH 2015 *		
Referrals:	43	
Participants (Completed):	22	
TOTAL COMPLETION RATE:	51%	

<sup>\*</sup>Still in progress at time of reporting



# INTERVENTION AND REMOVAL OF PARENT PROGRAM



With the recent and long-awaited findings on Canada's residential school system, First Nations communities fear that generational loss is happening again due to the large numbers of aboriginal children in foster care. The NCN Family and Community Wellness Centre may well be "ahead of the curve" when it comes to services and innovative approaches to care for children involved in apprehension or potential foster cases. In Nelson House the Centre operates a Removal of Parent program a community approach to reducing the trauma of child apprehension. The parent is removed from the home to take part in culturally appropriate counselling or care programs while the child is supported in-home by family or support staff. Families are then reunited after a care plan has been implemented and completed.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) concluded this year, after six years of research that the treatment of aboriginal people in residential schools amounted to "cultural genocide." Despite the fact that the last institution closed in 1996, survivors say that the country's foster system is having a similarly destructive effect on the community.

The Wellness Centre's *Intervention and Removal of Parent program* is leading the way to alternative care, and has pioneered a new approach for both parent and child that will keep children out of foster care.

Prior to the Removal of Parent Program, apprehension was the only recognized approach to secure a child from an unsuitable or unsafe living environment.



#### HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

■ Overall number of NCN Children in Care (CIC) has decreased from 427 in 2013 to 274 in 2015 and in Nelson House there was 46% reduction from 167 kids to 90 credited in part to the *Removal of Parent program*.

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- In 2015/16 the Centre will be focusing more on the approach of leaving children in the home and removing parents from the residence in cases of apprehension
- The Centre will continue to provide methods to care for children that are influenced by child apprehension and further reduce situations where the child is at risk.



# COMMUNITY YOUTH CREE COURT

The development of a *Community Youth Cree Court* began in 2010 and provides a community approach to address the root causes of the over-representation of youth in the child welfare and criminal justice systems.

The Centre is working to reclaim responsibility for NCN youth who commit minor crimes and plans to restore community harmony by undertaking this community-centered approach to justice.

It is a reality of today's world that many indigenous youth (under 18 years of age) who commit offenses have faced generational impacts, struggles in their life and have been or will become involved in the child welfare system. The *Community Youth Cree Court* seeks to unite child welfare concerns with youth criminal justice issues while strengthening the community's relationship with its youth. Once fully operational, the goal of the Court is to reduce the number of NCN youth in Manitoba courts and correctional facilities as well as decrease the number of children in care within and outside of the community.

The NCN Community Youth Cree Court will empower the community to resolve its own youth criminal justice and child welfare issues through holistic processes that draw upon tradition and elder teachings or wisdom. Community members will administer this justice system for NCN. The Court will be legitimate, meaningful, and effective. It will make the NCN community healthier and allow relationships between all people to thrive.



#### HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Conducted successful community mock trial in 2015 and presented to Premier Selinger, Justice Minister and Chief Judge in Nelson House
- Produced draft Youth Cree Court Guidelines to review with key stakeholders and legal advisors
- Sought funding from various Government programs and sources.

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- Increase support for the program through awareness, education and partnerships
- Secure funding
- Continue to refine policies and procedures to define the operation of the program
- Establish legal jurisdiction to further define roles, guidelines and responsibilities
- Share plans with other First Nations interested in developing a similar court model and establish ways of obtaining compensation.

# Public Health

# **OVERVIEW**

Public Health is focused on illness prevention, health promotion and health protection across the lifespan of Citizens. The public health team is managed by Public Health Nurses (PHNs), with the help of three Community Health Representatives (CHRs) and one medical vehicle driver to deliver child and family health-related services.

The public health program is staffed by public health nurses, knowledgeable in current trends for health promotion and disease prevention practices. The community health representatives specialize in prevention, awareness, education and protection in areas that include pre/postnatal clinics, chronic illness, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD), immunizations, programs for high risk pregnant moms, postpartum moms and baby visits, as well as conducting tests or monitoring for environmental issues such as mould, insects, water, sewage concerns and restaurant inspections.

A focus on education, support or referrals are also provided for HIV/AIDS education, sexually transmitted infections (STI), postpartum, flu clinics, diabetes and other health related issues as deemed necessary.



#### PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- Immunizations
- Diabetes Program
- Maternal Child Health Program
- HIV/AIDS, Disease Prevention
- STAR FASD Program
- Prenatal Program
- Medical Transportation
- Nursing Support
- Mental Wellness Programs
- Environmental Health
- Primary Care
- Healthy Lung Program



#### HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Conducted several educational sessions throughout the year as part of all regularly scheduled activities offered by the Public Health Program. This includes: reproduction health Grade 5 classes; Pre/Postnatal classes
- Offered chronic clinics; blood pressure and blood sugar checks; immunization clinics (e.g. Pre-school blitz, flu clinic and mandatory school immunizations)
- Provided essential health functions including; community health assessments; health surveillance; Communicable Disease Control (CDC) reporting; disease and injury prevention; immunizations; restaurant inspections; water testing/monitoring, emergency preparedness, STI cases, contact tracing, and postnatal visits.

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- Enhance Communicable Disease Control to prevent the occurrence and spread of communicable disease through increased prevention, awareness and immunizations
- Increase awareness and participation for member to receive vaccines
- Conduct more and increase attendance for education, awareness, prevention monitoring and surveillance of STIs including HIV
- Improve administration functions and record keeping for all CDC activities
- Improve health promotion and injury/illness prevention by:
  - Improving prenatal classes/clinics, postnatal visits, postnatal classes, family planning, breast feeding
  - Enhancing child health clinics, injury prevention education, development assessments, nutrition guidance and parenting programs
  - Broadening school health resources for teachers for vision, hearing, growth screening and adolescent health education on sexual health and puberty

- Improving adult health via prevention of diseases such as cancers, diabetes and hypertension
- Enhance administrative procedures including notification to parents, collecting consent forms, assisting in-home health teachings
- Create additional awareness to programs through organized health education workshops, posters, newsletters and website information
- Further develop client and community advocacy, cultural liaison and environment health initiatives
- Further integrate health planning by coordinating annual activities, sharing our vision, and by enhancing teamwork to ensure programs are working together
- Explore the effective use and implementation of eChart, Panorama and the Mustimuhw Community Electronic Medical Record (cEMR) client-centric electronic medical recording and charting system to improve record keeping
- Evaluate and enhance the use of Telehealth video link services for training and education.

#### Overview of 2014/2015 Public Health Services Provided

TYPE OF SERVICE	NUMBER COMPLETED
Distribution sites	255
Cisterns (Holding tanks)	232
Water treatment plants	0
Raw	32
Water truck 32: Test monthly (Positive)	9
Water truck 41: Test monthly (Positive)	6
Total# of samples	568
Home inspections (Mold/crawl spaces/plumbing)	22 +65
Fumigation	31 + 8 re-infestations
Nurse visits/CHR	500 (73 infants)
Tank cleaning requests	27
Reminder letters	490
School/community presentation/family enhancement (Sexual health, hygiene, MRSA)	10
Infection control (FNIHB)	1
Contraceptive distribution (oral, dams, female condoms, sexual health information)	1,025
Rabies report	12
STIS chlamydia	59
STIS gonorrhea	7
Syphilis	0
HIV/AIDS	0
HEPs	0
Immunization Carnival	35
Annual health fair (2 days)	400
Pandemic Planning	35
TOTAL	3,829

# IMMUNIZATION AND VACCINATION PROGRAM



Immunizations and vaccines are voluntary in Manitoba and help protect Citizens from disease and those with health conditions. The immunization program conducted the following shots this year:

#### Children Under 18 months of age

- Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b (DTaP-IPV-Hib)
- Pneumococcal Conjugate 13 valent (Pneu-C-13)
- Rotavirus
- Meningococcal C Conjugate (Men-C-C) Vaccine
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) Vaccine

#### Children 4-6 years of age

- Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Polio (Tdap-IPV)
- Pneumococcal Conjugate 13 valent (Pneu-C-13)
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) Vaccine

#### Children in Grade 4

- Meningococcal C Conjugate (Men-C-C) Vaccine
- Hepatitis B Vaccine

#### Children in Grade 6 (Girls Only)

• Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

#### Children 14-16 years of age

- Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap) Hepatitis B
   Vaccine had an eligible 47 children but only
   10 were completed due to school closure and absent children.
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) school year had an eligible 29 children but only 15 were completed due to school closure and absent children

#### INFANT IMMUNIZATION

In the first three months after birth, newborns are scheduled to have regular monthly immunization shots. Of the 50 eligible babies 27 of the 50 (54%) completed all three immunizations with the Centre.

Immunizations for eligible infants that were one year old in 2014 were provided for six of the eight children (75%) on record.

Total Vaccine Doses Administered in 2014/15

VACCINES	TOTAL NUMBER OF DOSES
DTaP-IPV	35
DTaP-IPV-Hib	280
Tdap	75
MMR	20
Hepatitis B	172
Meningococcal Conjugate	70
Pneumococcal Conjugate	250
Varicella	40
Pneumococcal Polysaccharide	50
HPV	63
Influenza	800
MMRV	70
Flu viral 10 dose vile	20
Agriflu	30
Flumist	200
Rotavirus	10
Cold Chain Breaks	1



## DIABETES PROGRAM

The staff of the diabetes program works with NCN Citizens to help decrease the rising rates of diabetes by conducting workshops at the local schools, youth centre and the Wellness Centre. Over the fiscal year the program handled the following:

- Conducted workshops to help educate community members on topics such as healthy eating, healthy cooking, shopping healthy, reading labels, physical activities, one-on-one education
- Provided information on the services and supports that are available to members with diabetes or those wanting to learn to care for a family member with diabetes
- Provided workshops in Cree language or with the use of an interpreter
- Conducted 24 Telehealth sessions between April 2014 and September 2015
- Held fitness classes, cooking classes, traditional activities, gardening and healthy meals within the school

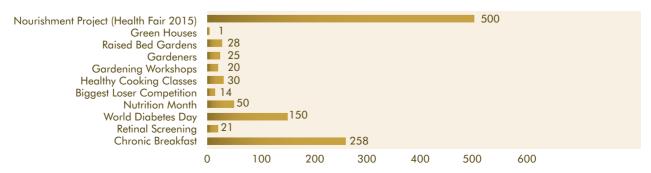
- Conducted home visits, to ensure all diabetics were receiving proper care and treatment
- Worked in partnership with all health programs to ensure clients received safe and adequate care and treatment in accordance with the Manitoba Diabetes Care recommendations
- Provided foot care referrals to Thompson/HCCP
- Referred patients to Diabetes Integration Project and Diabetes Retinal Screening Program (NHRA) every 3-6 months
- Referred diabetics to the gym, which is free for members to access
- Promoted gardening within the community to give members access to healthy fruits and vegetables.
   To date we have approximately 25 gardeners and 28 gardens within the community
- Scheduled 94 Diabetes Integration Project Appointments and had 30 participants. Two sessions were cancelled or rescheduled.

#### **STATISTICS**

#### **Diabetics and Diabetes Sessions**

TOTAL NUMBER OF DIABETICS:	147
TYPE I DIABETICS:	Male (1) Female (2)
TYPE II DIABETICS:	Male (51) Female (96)
TELEHEALTH SESSIONS HELD:	24
DIABETES INTEGRATION PROJECT ATTENDEES:	86 scheduled, 30 showed (35% participation)

#### Participants in Diabetes Programs and Activities



## MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH PROGRAM

The *Manitoba First Nations Strengthening Families Program* promotes the realization of strong, healthy, supportive First Nation families by allowing them to live a balanced lifestyle with access to holistic care. The voluntary program uses a strength-based empowering approach, grounded in First Nation culture to promote healthy children, families, women (preconception, prenatal, birthing, postpartum) and fathers.

Key components and service areas of the program include: health promotion; home visitation; referrals; access and case coordination of services for families enrolled in the program; and linkages with other services to support prenatal women and families. The program also provides case management and supports for families with complex needs.



#### HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

■ In July, 2015 the Government of Canada announced a commitment of ongoing funding for Aboriginal health programs and Maternal Child Health.

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- More effectively reach out to all parents and caregivers in the community to offer resources and supports
- Further encourage first time parents to enter the Strengthening Families Program at the beginning of their pregnancy to build the foundations for strong family functioning
- Secure ongoing funding.

#### **STATISTICS**

Participation in 2014/15

ACTIVITY	2014	2015	TOTAL
Intake	25	6	31
Development Screens	69	19	88
Home Visits	140	87	227
Referrals to Maternal Child Health Program	11	14	25
Strengthening Families Screen	26	8	34
Decline/Discharge	30	7	37

#### PRENATAL NUTRITION PROGRAM

The program for expectant mothers provides nutrition screening, counselling, education; maternal nourishment and breastfeeding education, promotion and support. The overall goal of the program is to improve nutritional health of mothers and infants. In 2014/15 prenatal and postnatal milk coupons were distributed to a total of 771 individuals.

#### **PREGNANCIES**

Certain pregnancies are considered higher risk to carry full-term. The Centre offers assistance to mothers considered higher risk. For the 73 pregnancies concluding in the 2014/15 reporting year, the following risk factors, indicated in the table below, were present among participants.

PREGNANCY RISK FACTORS	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
Maternal age less than 20	8
Maternal age 35 or higher	3
Smoking by mother during pregnancy	34
Alcohol use by mother during pregnancy	5
Diabetes diagnosed before pregnancy	0
Drug or solvent use by mother during pregnancy	3
Diabetes diagnosed during pregnancy (gestational diabetes)	0
Postpartum mood disorders (previous diagnosis)	0
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS (CONCLUDED PREGNANCIES DURING REPORTING PERIOD)	73

It is important to note that 47% of mothers smoked cigarettes during pregnancies which leads to other health risks.

#### **BIRTHS**

SEX	NUMBER OF BIRTHS
Male	35
Female	38
TOTAL	73

86% of births were between 5 pounds, 9 ounces and 8 pounds, 11 ounces.

BIRTH WEIGHT CATEGORY	FULL TERM	PRE TERM
Less than 5 lb. 9 oz. (less than 2500g)	3	1
Between 5 lb. 9 oz. and 8 lb. 11 oz. (2500g - 4000g)	63	0
More than 8 lb. 11 oz. (more than 400g)	7	0
TOTAL	72	1

#### **BREASTFEEDING PROGRAM**

Mothers are encouraged to breastfeed babies in the early development. Mothers in the program are educated on the benefits of breastfeeding and monitored for the duration of the care in the first year. The following statistics were recorded for the 73 mothers who recorded feeding duration in 2014/15:

DURATION OF BREASTFEEDING	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
Breast fed less than 3 months (15 weeks)	13
Breast fed for 6 months (24 weeks to 27 weeks)	3
Breast fed for longer than 6 months (28 weeks +)	15
Did not initiate breastfeeding	11
Did not report	31
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS	73

## STAR FASD PROGRAM

The Success Through Advocacy Role Modeling – Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (STAR FASD) program aims to reduce the number of babies exposed to the effects of alcohol and/or drug exposure while in their mother's womb and assist families affected by FASD.

The program is a harm-reduction model based on developing positive, supportive, mentoring relationships with women who have used substances during their current or recent pregnancy. These relationships are maintained for three years – a period of time long enough to allow women to make changes and make a difference in their lives.



- Between 2014-15 the program hosted 27 active clients, 3 clients are no longer active or are transient, and 4 were closed
- 984 visits were conducted to clients
- Conducted Mustimukew training, health fair, teen-talk training
- Distributed awareness information, organized a community walk and pancake breakfast on FASD DAY
- Attended a harm reduction conference in Thompson and a living well mental health conference in Winnipeg
- Held a staff development in Thompson and meeting with STAR FASD specialists and mentors.

#### MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION

Medical Transportation has been successful making four runs to Thompson daily and serving well over 40-50 people weekly and on weekends. Nearly 10,000 NCN Citizens are transported annually for local or out of town medical appointments by truck, van and aircraft.



#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- To reduce the number of babies exposed to and suffering the effects of alcohol and/or drug exposure while in their mother's womb
- To assist women to engage in harm reduction strategies and/or obtain alcohol and/or drug treatment
- To support women in their efforts to provide a safe and healthy environment and improved quality of life for themselves and their children
- To link women to community resources in order to help them reduce isolation, improve access to needed resources, and become more independent
- To reduce the number of alcohol/drug exposed births through abstinence from alcohol/drugs and improved access to reliable family planning methods
- To demonstrate to community service providers strategies for working more effectively for those affected by FASD by advocating to improve the outcomes for both women and children
- To facilitate access to FASD diagnosis and to connect clients to multidisciplinary teams and other internal/external supports and services.

#### **NURSING STATION**

The NCN Nursing station provided immediate medical and health care and immunizations to NCN Citizens in the reporting year. More serious medical patients were transported to Thompson or Winnipeg via transportation services.

# Home and Community Care

# **OVERVIEW**

Home visits and assessments are conducted to address the needs of clients requiring such things as continuing care, extended care and respite. The program offers elderly, people with disabilities and individuals with persistent or acute illnesses the opportunity to receive the care they need in their home and community.

Home care is delivered by nurses, health care aides and home support workers in cooperation with other relevant community-based services and programs.

#### TYPES OF SERVICES PROVIDED:

- Structured client assessment
- Referrals and linkages within and outside the

- community (i.e. BRHA-physiotherapy, dietitian, foot care, respite, hearing centre and homecare)
- Managed care process, home care nursing services and personal care services (i.e. palliative care, bath/personal care, homemaking referral, home care maintenance, health promotion, program monitoring/reporting requirements, wheel chair transportation within the community, teaching of medication regime and ordering and delivery of equipment and supplies)
- Record keeping and data collection.

#### HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

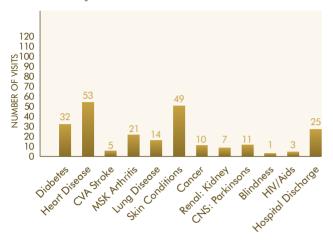
- Averaged approximately 70 clients per month
- HCCP Charting and documentation is now electronically uploaded on a Mustimuhw eCMR system as of April 2015
- More acute care services were provided to clients who are homebound such as wound-care management and daily dressing changes
- Returned more clients home to heal comfortably in their community and decreased healing time
- Staff attended various training and improvement programs (e.g. the "Palliative Care Conference," Cree Nation Tribal hosted "Collaborative Chronic Disease Education Conference" in Winnipeg, webinar by St. Elizabeth "Effective Practices on Building and Maintaining Partnerships," Legal Issues in Nursing, Interpretation of Lab Tests, Geriatric Gems, Paediatric TB Education, Wound Care Webinars, Non-violent Crisis Intervention and KTC Quarterly Meetings).

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

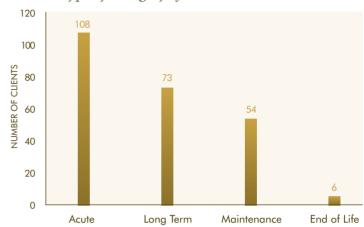
- Improve safe, competent and efficient care services to clients, their families and/or support systems
- Further enhance the services already in the community
- Assist clients and family members and support them to maintain emotional, mental, physical and spiritual well-being as they strive towards independent living
- Improve quality services through ongoing staff and professional development
- Demonstrate improved accountability in all areas of service management
- Uphold the required nursing education competency as required through the College of Registered Nurses by completing online training seminars, Telehealth video training and health-related courses

#### **STATISTICS**

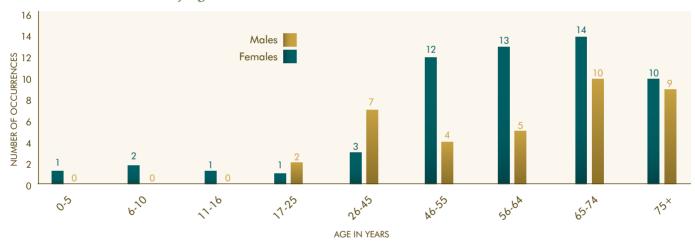
#### Reason for Home Care Visits in 2014-15



Client Type by Category of Service



Home Care Occurrences by Age and Gender





# Counselling Services and Family Enhancement Program

# **OVERVIEW**

Counselling Services provide holistic programming to support and empower individuals and families. The programming offered includes the *Rediscovery of Families* Project, individual, couples and family Counselling, critical incident stress debriefing, advocacy, bereavement support and workshops.

The Counselling Services department staff includes; a supervisor, two community support workers, an Elder's program coordinator and two family therapists.

#### **PREVENTION INITIATIVES**

In order to effectively address the needs of the community, it is imperative community members are able to participate in relationship building activities, which promote healthy lifestyles and address issues before they escalate.

#### CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS DEBRIEFING

Critical Stress Debriefing is a process which supports the community members through a traumatic experience such as the death of a loved one.

# COUNSELLING AND FAMILY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMS:

- Rediscovery of Families
- Circle of Care
- NCN Kehtiyatisak Project



#### SUICIDE PREVENTION

Suicide continues to be a serious issue in our community. Counselling Services provides intervention to the community with suicide ideations and works to help create awareness and prevention.

#### **ELDERS PROGRAM**

The Counselling Services oversees the Elders Program. This program is designed to bring elders together to socialize with their peers, to share stories and enjoy indoor and outdoor activities.

#### HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The Counselling Services Department implemented a total of 274 prevention and intervention activities designed to meet the needs of individuals
- Counselling workshops, training or retreats totaled 282 individuals families or group sessions
- Throughout the year Counselling Services provided 23 suicide intervention sessions in the community
- The Elders program ran every Thursday at 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. during the fall, winter and spring. During the summer months, elders were periodically involved in planned outdoor activities.

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- Enhance safety and support for all community members and their families
- Provide improved crisis intervention, aftercare, and training for community members and care givers to deal with crisis
- Provide ongoing assessments, counselling services and referrals for treatment, after care and rehabilitation
- Provide both Western and Traditional concepts of therapy to support, guide and assist in alleviating issues through individual, couple, group and family counselling
- Provide traditional teachings that allow community members and their families to relate to each other and create an understanding of each others' roles and responsibilities in their own family unit
- Create improved links between families and community resources
- Continue to report any forms of abuse including threats of suicide or self-harm to child and family service if it involves child abuse of any form.

#### **STATISTICS**

Types of Intervention

INTERVENTION	FEMALE	MALE	FAMILY/COUPLES	TOTAL
Counselling	44	4	17	65
Grief Counselling	4	5	5	14
Suicide Intervention	3	20	-	23
Critical Stress Debriefing/Management	28	20	-	48
Conflict Mediation	-	-	2	2
Elder Abuse	7	3	-	10
Domestic Violence	10	2	-	12
Circle of Care	-	-	20	20
FNIB Referrals	13	8	-	21
Family Therapy	42	-	17	59
TOTAL	151	53	61	274

#### Workshops, Training and Retreats

DESCRIPTION	FEMALE	MALE	GROUPS	TOTAL
Rediscovery of Families	-	-	18 Families	18
Women's Retreat	18	-	-	18
Mother/Daughter Retreat	14	-	-	14
Domestic and Youth Violence Conference	30	15	-	45
Sundance Ceremonies (3 held)	-	-	-	64
Spring Ceremonies	-	-	-	24
Traditional Parenting	23	2	-	25
Traditional Teachings	4	-	-	
Memorial Feast	50	20	-	70
TOTAL	139	37	18	282

#### FAMILY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

The program provides support to families to prevent children from being placed in CFS care. Preventative measures provide one-time support and/or emergency respite service and help address any issues that may be relevant. Families experiencing various challenges that interfere with their ability

to provide basic necessities are eligible for support services whether voluntarily or implemented by the program. A strengths perspective and empowerment approach to family planning is used to build family relationships and connections, via supportive solutions or the Circle of Care process. An eight-week parent program is also used to assist and guide the families. Parents learn how to take care of themselves while learning to connect with their children in new ways and get involved in healthy community supports. Topics covered are Traditional Parenting, Circle of Security, anger management, living in two cultures, roles and responsibility of the parents, orientation to the child welfare system, budgeting, cooking classes, health and hygiene, safe sex/STI, self-care, positive discipline, self-esteem and building healthy relationships.

#### Family Enhancement Participation

PROGRAM	CHILDREN	PARENTS	SESSIONS
Parent program	-	112	84
Yoga	33	49	11
Youth Soccer	75	-	16
TOTAL	108	161	111

#### CIRCLE OF CARE PROGRAM

The *Circle of Care* program is based on the principles of the holistic teachings of the Medicine Wheel. This year, it has acted as a guide for working with families who require a combination of several services. The program provided support to help individuals and families find balance in their lives.

An emphasis was placed on the values of 'planning together' with a direct involvement of family to implement services collaboratively. This means efforts were taken to increase shared responsibility, shared decision-making, shared goals and shared accountability.

The program continues to be coordinated through a multi-service plan approach intended to strengthen families who have a number of challenges. It supports and encourages the active participation of extended family, elders and spiritual leaders.

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- Provide children, youth, elders, families and their communities with additional coordinated multiservice support and refine program offerings to achieve maximum benefit for members
- Build on the collaboration and strengths, which already exists within the Wellness Centre and its suboffices, as well as other services and programs external to the Centre.

#### **REDISCOVERY OF FAMILIES**

The purpose of the *Rediscovery of Families* Project is to support families, with guidance and teachings of the Elders and support workers, in finding practical ways to care for families in a manner that is consistent with our community values, beliefs and traditions. This includes opportunities to reconnect with the land through participation in traditional activities such as fishing, setting fish nets, cleaning fish, picking and learning about the medicine plants, picking berries, hunting, ceremonies (pipe and sweat lodge ceremonies) and exploring historical sites like the dancing circles.

#### HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

■ Held a total of 18 sessions including on-the-land and traditional activities.

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- Raise awareness of traditional values, beliefs and culture as these relate to relationships in NCN families
- Provide families with the support required to identify strengths or issues that have had a negative impact on family functioning and find practical solutions that can be used in every day life
- Reconnect more families with the land as a source of food, medicine and spirituality
- Improve family service approach at the community level when families return from Left rook Lake to meet service and resource needs.

#### NCN KEHTIYATISAK (ELDERS) PROJECT

Another Counselling Services Program is the NCN Kehtiyatisak (elders) project. It provides cultural and advocacy services to our elders with weekly peer-to-peer gatherings and periodic outdoor outings for medicine and berry picking, nature walks, and ceremonial camps.

# Child Care and Community Wellness

## **OVERVIEW**

Child care in the early development years is important to prepare young learners for their school years. The Centre offers daycare services and plenty of activities for preschool children to assist them in early childhood development.

#### DREAMCATCHERS HEADSTART PROGRAM

This is an early intervention children development enrichment program for children from birth to six years of age, and their families living on-reserve. The Centres are focused on learning with an emphasis on language development and parental involvement.

Program services are delivered by earlychildhood educators, community workers, elders, administrators, parents and community volunteers. This year's themes and lessons included:

- Getting to know our environment
- Nutrition
- Seasons
- Germs and hygiene
- Halloween safety
- National Children's Day
- Christmas party with songs in Cree and English
- Traditional teachings
- Mini Festival animal track race, jigging, best traditional outfit and animal calling.

#### **KEY COMPONENTS:**

- Culture and language
- Health and hygiene
- Education
- Social support
- Nutrition
- Parental involvement

#### PROGRAMS:

- Infant/toddler Program (prenatal- 3 years)
- Preschool Program (4-6 year olds)
- Parenting Program

# CHILD CARE AND COMMUNITY WELLNESS PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- Dreamcatchers HeadStart Program
- Jean McDonald Treasures of Hope Day Care Centre
- Fitness Centre

#### HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- This year 20 preschool students registered for the Head Start Program
- The infant and toddler program had 12 children and 11 parents registered
- Field trip in June took children to Thompson to tour the fire hall, eat at a restaurant and spend time at the new play park
- 2015 Dream Catchers Graduation on June 2015 had 10 graduates
- The program has no registration fees programs are free and transportation and nutritious snacks are provided daily. Registrations are taken all year at the Centre
- Open houses were held in September and January
- The centre-based program ran forty-two weeks, with a two-week spring break in March.

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- Demonstrate more effectively that locally controlled and designed intervention strategies can provide First Nations' preschool children with a positive sense of themselves, and opportunities to develop fully and successfully as young people
- Provide a safe, reliable and well-structured facility of care and programs.







#### JEAN MCDONALD TREASURES OF HOPE DAY CARE CENTRE

The Centre, offers parents affordable, quality childcare for their children and continues to provide meaningful experiences in a positive learning environment.

The Centre provides opportunities for children to learn and discover new and creative handson preschool activities, while they explore and play in various discovery centres. Our Early Childhood Educators provide a daily, structured, theme-based program designed to introduce and enhance social skills and preschool readiness.

#### HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The Jean McDonald Treasures of Hope Daycare had 7 infants and 24 preschoolers registered
- Activities this year included traditional teachings, science, drama, fine motor, gross motor, reading, construction in a fun and play-based environment
- Held a number of special events like; children's day events show & tell mini winter festival, fun fair, spirit week, fire drill practices and field trips
- Started the Seeds of Empathy (SOE) program which teaches children about their own feelings and the feelings of others, empathy, social inclusiveness, bullying and unkind acts.

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- Continue to provide meaningful opportunities to learn in a structured, safe and nurturing learning environment
- Improve activities to promote the social, emotional, mental and physical growth of each child
- Enhance partnerships with other child and health
- programs to support and promote healthy living and positive choices
- Provide stimulating learning environments and facilities
- Reduce fees to make program available to working parents or those needing income assistance.

#### **FITNESS CENTRE**

This popular facility is open throughout the week and has an aerobic exercise area, the latest fitness equipment, and change rooms. NCN members can discover how to modify the onset of cardiac disease, lessen the risk of diabetes and build overall strength and endurance for a long, healthy life.

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

■ Provide effective staffing and program offerings to increase participation

#### HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS,

■ Gym visits 6,600 visits, 3,200 male visits and 3,400 female visits.



# Conclusion

The NCN Family and Community Wellness Centre continues to deal with community crisis and issues. Citizens are affected by incidences of violence, neglect, drugs and alcohol abuse, sexual abuse and suicide attempts that have become a part of their daily lives.

The Centre will continue to look at new ways to support families and to develop effective and meaningful community-based services. The Centre will continue to look to the community for guidance – to be there to listen and to share ideas.

Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation is a community with values, with beliefs and well-connected families. It is imperative the Centre takes an honest look at the future we are creating for children.

It takes a community to raise a child and it is up to everyone to decide what kind of children NCN – as a community – wants to raise.





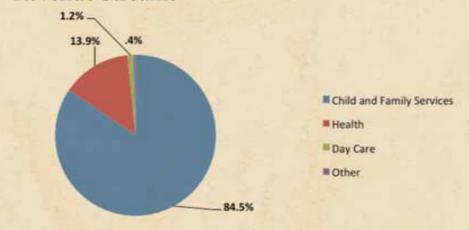
# Financial Summary Statement

## Summary

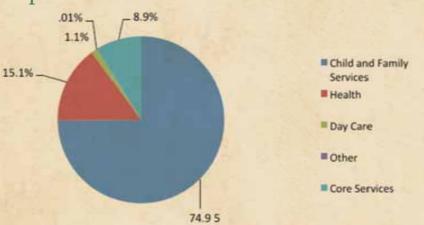
In 2014-2015, the Centre received just over \$22.3 million in revenue and expended just under \$21.5 million in core operations and programs, resulting in a \$828,694 surplus for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Accumulated surplus for the Centre currently sits at just over \$4.1 million.

The surplus is created by the Federal CFS Activities. While the Centre is working on a spending plan for the surplus funds, carrying out those plans are challenging due to the significant receivables owing from the funders.

#### Revenue Streams



### **Expenditure Streams**



The NCN Family and Community Wellness Centre received an unqualified audit report for the year ended March 31, 2015. To view copies of the complete audited financial statement and notes to the financial statements please contact the NCN Family and Community Wellness Centre. Where/if discrepancies exist between this report and the full audited report, the complete audited financial report shall be considered final.



# Special Acknowledgments

Many of our Ketiyatisak have passed on but their dream of seeing our First Nation community without child welfare and adapting a culturally sensitive approach has been shared in their teachings. These teachings and wisdom remain a "guiding light" in the aspirations and innovations of the Centre's programs and development.



Chief Jerry Primrose and Council, Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Chief Marcel Moody and Council, Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation

And to the following individuals for their tireless efforts promoting an alternative approach to Child and Family Service:

Jon Gerrard

Jon Gerrard Dennis Packer



Enhancing the Lives of Children by Working to Keep the Family Together

