



NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE OF MONTRÉAL INC.

2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: 01 APRIL 2020 - 31 MARCH 2021

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2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT • RAPPORT ANNUEL 2020-2021

NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE OF MONTRÉAL INC. • CENTRE D'AMITIÉ AUTOCHTONE DE MONTRÉAL INC.

2001 BOULEVARD ST-LAURENT, MONTRÉAL (QUÉBEC) H2X 2T3

TERRITORY SERVED: GREATER MONTREAL REGION

SCHEDULE: MONDAY - FRIDAY (9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.)

TÉLÉPHONE/ TELEPHONE: (514) 499 1854 • SANS-FRAIS/ TOLL-FREE: (855) 499 1854 • TÉLÉCOPIEUR/ FAX: (514) 499 9436

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT	1
MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	2
WHO WE ARE	3
BOARD OF DIRECTORS	4
OUR TEAM	5
OUR SERVICES	6
KAIE: RI NIKAWERA: KE DAY CENTRE	7
KA' WÁHSE STREET PATROL	9
HEALTH CANADA: RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS RESOLUTION HEALTH SUPPORT PROGRAM	11
NIAWEN'KÓ:WA FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM	12
FUNDING SOURCES	13
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	14
OUR FUTURE	15
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	16



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Community Members, Staff and Board of Directors of the NFCM:

I would like to express my gratitude to everyone who has been part of the Native Friendship Centre of Montreal, and to who still are today!

We have come a long way, and we must always remind ourselves that we all have a common goal, and that is to serve our community members. Thanks to our board of directors for always being present and willing to make a difference, even if it is a small one. Let's not forget that even the smallest changes, can make a positive impact for our community members.

The foundation of the NFCM is built with the strength of its community, and the beams are built by all its staff, from reception to the executive director. You all form a mesh that the community members rely on for support and services which brings me to say to you all: "Thank you for all that you do, your role is important!"

In friendship,

Jennifer Jerome

President of the NFCM

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The year 2020-2021 marked a period of continued transition, evolution and growth for the Native Friendship Centre of Montreal Inc. (NFCM) as we continue to execute a strategy to optimize resources and leverage valued partnerships according to an action plan set out as part of our five (5) year strategic plan.

We continue to pursue a diversified approach to funding sources and complementary partnerships, thus ensuring access to a broad range of direct integrated services and cultural supports. Partnerships in the areas of training, employability and law continue to develop and evolve.

Over time, the NFCM has consistently delivered solid results by ensuring access to essential health and social services, cultural supports, and urgent needs services. We continue to monitor and evaluate opportunities that support member interests and priorities within the context of our strategic plan.

Following the directives put forward by the provincial and federal governments in March 2020 in response to C-19, we temporarily adapted workplace practices and formulated plans to ensure the continuity of our services. Board and committee meetings took place as planned in order to maintain our decision-making process.

An integrated approach to management is complemented by an overarching strategic principle to ensure the stability, empowerment, and growth of the organization, all in pursuit of clear goals based on identified community priorities.

A history of more than four (4) decades demonstrates our respective vision and commitment within the community.



Brett W. Pineau, MBA

Executive Director

WHO WE ARE

OUR MANDATE

The Native Friendship Centre of Montréal Inc. (NFCM) is a non-profit, non-sectarian, autonomous community development agency whose principal mission is to promote, develop, and enhance the quality of life of the urban Indigenous community of Montréal. Since 1974, the NFCM has been the primary community service and referral point providing assistance and support to the urban Indigenous population consisting of the ten recognized First Nations of Québec, as well as the Inuit and Métis persons living within Montréal, including those migrating to the city or otherwise in transition. The NFCM is mandated to provide access and referrals to health and social services, through central, suitable, and appropriate facilities where cultural, educational, and recreational activities can be held. The NFCM also seeks to promote cross-cultural awareness in the Greater Montréal Area by promoting engagement and participation with other appropriate and relevant sectors working to serve the Indigenous community. The Native Friendship Centre of Montréal Inc. provides necessary community services where Indigenous people from across Turtle Island seek referral resources and support in a culturally-appropriate environment located in Montréal.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Native Friendship Centre of Montréal (NFCM) is to promote, develop, and enhance the quality of life in Montréal's urban Indigenous community.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

The Native Friendship Centre of Montréal's philosophy is founded upon the spirituality of Indigenous peoples for our collective well-being. Through exchange, training, discussion, conferences, and social engagements, the Friendship Centre works to develop, empower, and maintain a strong and integrated urban Indigenous community. The NFCM promotes justice, fairness and equality for Indigenous peoples through a holistic approach to programming and services. Our philosophy is one that encompasses all Native people in the community who request our assistance.

OUR STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

To ensure the stability, enhancement, empowerment, and growth of the organization and the community we serve.

OUR CORE VALUES

Honour · Respect · Pride · Equality · Teamwork · Discipline · Trust

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Jennifer Jerome (2020-2022)
Elected 28 October 2020

VICE-PRESIDENT

Annie Roussy-Ste-Croix (2019-2021)

SECRETARY

Nina Segalowitz (2020-2022)
Elected 28 October 2020

TREASURER

Alfred Loon (2019-2021)

BOARD MEMBER

Marie Perrault (2019-2021)

BOARD MEMBER

Tim Stringer (2020-2022)
Elected 28 October 2020

BOARD MEMBER

Corey Thomas (2020-2022)
Elected 28 October 2020

2020-2021 BOARD MEETING DATES:

09 April 2020
Special meeting regarding COVID-19

01 May 2020
Special meeting regarding COVID-19

21 May 2020
Special meeting regarding COVID-19

03 June 2020

08 July 2020

04 September 2020

30 September 2020

09 December 2020

27 January 2021

24 February 2021

OUR TEAM

EMPLOYEE POSITIONS DURING 2020-2021 FISCAL YEAR:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1)
 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT (1)
 SERVICES AND PARTNERSHIPS COORDINATOR (1)
 FRONT DESK RECEPTIONIST (1)
 FRONTLINE RESOURCE WORKER (1)
 COMMUNITY RESOURCE WORKER (1)
 PROJECT SUPPORT WORKERS (3)
 - YOUTH EMPLOYABILITY MEASURES
 COOK (1)
 CASEWORKER (1)
 FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM OUTREACH WORKERS (2)
 FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM PROJECT COORDINATOR (1)
 STREET OUTREACH WORKERS (4)
 INTERVENTION WORKERS (2)
 SANITATION WORKER (1)

Human resources priorities identified by current administration include a focus on recruitment and retention of qualified personnel and corresponding stabilization of staffing levels. Management identifies staff training and development a priority and continues to monitor opportunities as they emerge.

We recognize the generous support provided by the Montréal Indigenous Community NETWORK. This support allowed us to expand our services to include the development and operation of our Niawen'kó:wa Food Security Program including its 1 Project Coordinator and 2 Outreach Workers. The additional resources from the Montréal Indigenous Community NETWORK also supported the employment of 1 Cook, 2 Intervention Workers and 1 Sanitation Worker.

OUR PROJECTS, SERVICES, AND ACTIVITIES

The Native Friendship Centre of Montréal Inc. (NFCM) is currently funded for projects intended to provide direct services and health supports to enable and facilitate increased participation in the economy including the **Kaie: ri: nikawera: ke Day Centre** (Employment and Social Development Canada - Homelessness Partnering Strategy), the **Ka' wáhse Street Patrol** team (Employment and Social Development Canada - Homelessness Partnering Strategy), the **Residential Schools Resolution Health Support Program** (Health Canada), and the **Food Security Program**.

Through these various projects, the NFCM provides on-site access to activities, services and programming which help meet the needs of Indigenous peoples and support their transition to the urban environment by facilitating access to direct integrated services, case management, referral, training and skills development initiatives, and cultural supports.

Our well-developed partnership network has enabled beneficiaries to access services outside the conventional health and social service infrastructure through qualified referral in the areas of health, legal, housing/shelter, employability and skills development. Through our well-coordinated and integrated approach between partner organizations we will continue our success by:

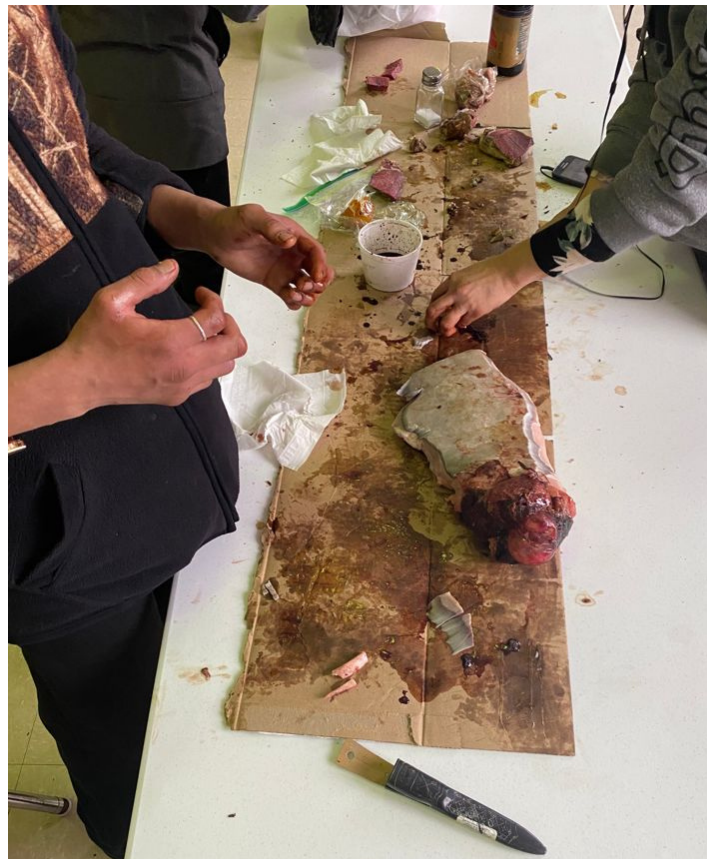
- a) Providing on-site direct integrated services and referral including urgent needs services, cultural supports, and programming that focuses on strengthening Indigenous values, traditions, and practices.
- b) Facilitating access to mobile urgent needs services and referral to disadvantaged, homeless or at-risk Indigenous persons as well as those with reduced mobility who otherwise do not use on-site services of the Centre.
- c) Making available immediate support and referral services.

KAIE: RI NIKAWERA: KE DAY CENTRE

The Kaie:ri nikawera: ke Day Centre provides central, suitable, and appropriate facilities where services such as referral, food, clothing, emotional support and other services may be provided to Indigenous people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless by improving their living conditions and overall quality of life.

The Day Centre continues to provide on-site support services to homeless people in downtown Montreal. Our team has worked towards an enhanced coordination of services among different organizations that support our mission. These efforts have resulted in stabilization and improvement of living conditions; enhanced capacity of staff; expanded public awareness and encouraged use of Day Centre.

The project targets an improvement in the quality of life, in the mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual health of urban Indigenous peoples who are homeless, transient, no fixed address, or who are at risk of becoming homeless.



Community members eating Country Food in the Kaie:ri nikawera: ke Day Centre. (2020)

KAIE: RI NIKAWERA: KE DAY CENTRE

HIGHLIGHTS



Our cook serving a hot lunch meal for a community member. (2021)

To support our mission during the period of 01 April 2020 to 31 March 2021, Moisson Montréal distributed 30 890 kilograms of food to the NFCM. This represents a value of \$178 235, 93. They also donated 120 Christmas baskets to our organization during the holiday season for distribution within our community.



11 373
hot lunches served



6 485
petits-déjeuners servis



1 107
individuals assisted



79 medical consultations



52 cultural activities



40 legal clinic beneficiaries



3 youth employability measures



1 health promotion activity

KA' WÁHSE STREET PATROL

The Ka'wáhse Street Patrol provides supplies, information, support, and referral services to Indigenous and non-Indigenous homeless people living within downtown Montréal. The Patrol's objective is to alleviate the hardships faced by those experiencing instability and improve the living conditions of those at risk of violence and abuse while on the streets. Due to the necessary restrictions imposed during the pandemic, the Ka'wáhse Street Patrol was unable to operate their regular programming. Such programming includes the 'centre de soir' which offers community members the opportunity to socialize and find comfort in a warm and culturally-appropriate environment.



An Inuk community member sharing their completed stone carving of a polar bear. (2021)

During the 2020-2021 year, the Ka'wáhse Street Patrol served the urban Indigenous and non-Indigenous community by:

- Providing core services to homeless or at-risk individuals who would not otherwise be using the services of the Kaie:ri nikawera: ke Day Centre at the Native Friendship Centre of Montréal;
- Monitoring the wellness and location of homeless individuals;
- Distributing food, clothing, blankets, active listening, coaching, and counseling;
- Assisting homeless or at-risk clients with transportation to shelters and medical facilities;
- Encouraging Indigenous clients to use the Kaie:ri nikawera: ke Day Centre;
- Networking and coordinating with partner organization serving the Indigenous community within Tio'tia:ke (Montréal).

KA' WÁHSE STREET PATROL

HIGHLIGHTS



1 815
basic needs and essential
services



510
intervention and support
services



240
transports and deliveries



Ka'wáhse Street Patrol Intervention Workers while on foot patrol. (2021)

HEALTH CANADA: RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS RESOLUTION HEALTH SUPPORT PROGRAM



An abalone shell burning sage during a smudging ceremony in the Kaie:ri nikawera: ke Day Centre. (2021)

The Native Friendship Centre of Montréal Inc. (NFCM) is collaborating with Health Canada to continue providing emotional and cultural support services to former Indian Residential School System (IRSS) students and their families before, during, and after participation in Settlement Agreement (SA) processes, including Common Experience Payments (CEP) and the Independent Assessment Process (IAP), as well as those who participated in Truth and Reconciliation Commission events and Commemoration activities.

288

**individuals have received assistance
from our Emotional Support Workers**

344

**individuals have received assistance
from our Cultural Support Provider**

To access our Emotional Support Workers or Cultural Support Provider (Traditional Healer), call us at 514-499-1854 (Toll-free: 1-855-499-1854) or visit us in person at 2001 St. Laurent Boulevard, Montréal (Québec) H2X 2T3. Cultural support services are available Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday on a first-come, first-served basis from 1:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

A 24/7 Crisis Line is also available to provide referrals and immediate emotional assistance: 1-866-925-4419.

NIAWEN'KÓ:WA FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM

The COVID-19 Pandemic exacerbated the need for emergency food aid for Indigenous community members currently facing food insecurity in Tio'tia:ke (Montréal). To address this growing issue, the Native Friendship Centre of Montréal (NFCM) adopted control and development of a food security initiative established by the Montréal Indigenous Community Network in January of 2021.

The overall objective of the Food Security Program (Niawen'kó:wa) is to establish, increase, and ensure the access of food aid to the urban Indigenous community of Montréal. To secure the needs of the participants, NFCM developed a plan that aims to increase sustainability and productivity by assessing the unique needs of the individuals within our community. We work towards achieving these goals by providing substantial and nutritious food baskets, offering emotional support by active listening and honest communication through outreach work, and increasing awareness of relevant resources and provide appropriate referrals.

In addition to our outreach work, the service includes biweekly deliveries of food baskets to the homes of our housed community members, as well as the opportunity for community members to pick up food baskets on a biweekly basis at our Kaie:ri:nikawera:ke Day Centre.

NFCM is profoundly fortunate to receive generous donations of goods that contribute to the contents of our food baskets — such donations include frozen meals and organic products. The goods provided by our donors allow us to incorporate existing and anticipated deficit items in order to follow the Canada's food guide as closely as possible.

With the support of our team members and our affiliated partners Moisson Montréal, Santropol Roulant, la Tablée des Chefs, and Horizon Nature, Niawen'kó:wa empowers community members to develop resilient minds and nourished bodies by increasing food security.



An Outreach Worker from the Niawen'kó:wa Food Security Program delivers a food basket to a community member. (2021)

640

**community members
accessed Niawen'kó:wa**

FUNDING SOURCES

CORE FUNDING

Indigenous Services Canada: Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples	
Federal	\$375,760
Ministère de la Santé et des Services Sociaux	
MSSS (Québec)	\$93,312

PROJECT-BASED FUNDING

Employment and Social Development Canada	
Kaie: ri: nikawera: ke Day Centre	
Reaching Home: Designated Communities	\$124,081
Ka'wáhse Street Patrol	
Reaching Home: Designated Communities	\$55,744
Reaching Home: Aboriginal Homelessness	\$143,725
Secretariat aux affaires Autochtones (SAA)	
FIA III	\$77,538
Indigenous Services Canada: First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB)	
Resolution Health Support Program	\$73,057

OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

Ville de Montréal	\$30,000
Montréal Indigenous Community NETWORK (Measure A and Measure B)	\$197,291
Rio Tinto	\$25,000
Loto-Québec (Fondation Mise-sur-toi)	\$30,000
Miscellaneous sources	\$343,239

TOTAL FUNDING RECEIVED **\$1,568,747**

OUR COMMUNITY

2020-2021 MEMBERSHIP

225 FULL (INDIGENOUS) MEMBERS

90 ASSOCIATE (NON-INDIGENOUS) MEMBERS

21 FULL (INDIGENOUS) MEMBERS ATTENDED
THE ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON
28 OCTOBER 2020

13 VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNS
THAT CONTRIBUTED TO OUR
ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES*

**Due to COVID-19 and the Centre's restricted
capacity, we limited the number of volunteers we
were able to welcome.*

COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT

NFCM PARTICIPATES IN THE FOLLOWING 9 COMMITTEES:

- Comité d'action sur la sécurité urbaine et l'amélioration de la qualité de vie au square Cabot et ses environs
- Local roundtable on access to health and social services for Indigenous Peoples in Montréal
- Montréal Indigenous Health Advisory Circle
- Mixed Regional Committee for the Professional Integration of First Nations and Inuit
- The First Nations Adult Education Council (Kanekó:ta)
- Indigenous Vigil Committee SPVM
- NETWORK C-19 Indigenous Community Response
- NETWORK – Food Security Committee
- Homelessness Committee – Arrondissement Verdun

OUR FUTURE

NFCM will continue to guide its planning and implementation of activities, services, and programming according to its Strategic Plan, the 2017-2022 Government Action Plan for the Social Development of the First Nations and Inuit, the 2015-2020 Gouvernement du Québec Plan d'action interministériel en itinérance, and 2018-2020 Ville de Montréal Plan d'action montréalais en itinérance;

NFCM will continue to focus on opportunities to address community health priorities and engage in partnerships which will provide for the advancement of primary care;

NFCM will continue evaluate calls for proposals and partnership opportunities to ensure they are consistent with the mission and mandate of the organization and that they are aligned with strategic and organizational objectives and goals;

NFCM will examine strategies and approaches to meet the challenges and needs of our membership base including youth, families, students, adults, and Elders.



An Inuk community member sharing his stone carving of a whale while also demonstrating the carving process. (2020)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

NIÁ:WEN KOWA!
CHI-MIIGWECH!
NAKURMIIK!
TSHINASHKUMITIN!
WELA'LIN!

to all our partners and affiliations for helping us fulfill our mission of improving the quality of life for the urban Indigenous community of Tio'tia:ke. We are sincerely grateful for your shared expertise, generous financial contributions, and valuable in-kind donations to the Native Friendship Centre of Montréal Inc. during the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



RÉSEAU
de la communauté
autochtone à Montréal

Montreal
Indigenous
Community
NETWORK



Montréal 

Québec 

Canada 



Canada Helps.org · CLSC Fauborgs · CLSC Metro · Correctional Services Canada
Croix-Rouge canadienne - Canadian Red-Cross · Dawson College - Soc.
Services Internship · First Nations Human Resources Commission of Qc.
(FNHRCQ) · First People's Justice Centre of Montréal · Health Canada RHSP ·
Horizon Nature · Ivirtivik · Kanekó:ta, Adult Education Program · La Tablee des
Chefs · Loto-Québec (Fondation Mise-sur-toi) · Masquebec · McGill Faculty of
Dentistry · Mazon Canada · McGill Faculty of Arts Internship · McGill Faculty of
Law · McGill Faculty of Medicine - CHAP · McGill Faculty of Nursing · Médecins du
Monde (MDM) · Ministère de la justice du Québec - Interpretation Services ·
Ministère de la Santé et Services Sociaux (MSSS) · Moisson Montréal · Montréal
Indigenous Community NETWORK · PAQ (Projets Autochtones du Québec) ·
Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec · Rio Tinto · Santropol Roulant · Service
de Police de la Ville de Mtl. (SPVM) · Services Parajudiciaires du Qc. (SPAQ) ·
UdeM (InCommunity) · World Wide Hearing - Audition mondiale



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