

LAKE SUPERIOR / THUNDER BAY, ONTARIO RESOURCE GUIDE

MMIWG2S/ MAY 2022

PROVINCIAL RESOURCES:

Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres

Location: Ontario

Email: ofifc@ofifc.org

Phone: Toronto - 416-956-7575 / 1-800-772-9291

Website: <https://ofifc.org/>

Not connected to a particular First Nation

Overview: The Friendship Centre Movement (FCM) is the country's most significant urban Indigenous service delivery infrastructure. Friendship Centres are not-for-profit and charity corporations that are mandated to serve the needs of urban Indigenous people by providing culturally appropriate services in urban communities. Friendship Centres are governed by a volunteer Board of Directors consisting of elected members. They are membership driven organizations in urban communities that serve all urban Indigenous people, regardless of status.

Topics covered: Program Development, Children & Youth, Education & Employment, Ending Violence, Health & Wellness, Homelessness & Housing, Justice, Urban Programming for Indigenous People

Founded in 1971.

Ontario Native Women's Association (ONWA)

Location: Ontario

Phone: 1-800-667-0816

Website: <https://www.onwa.ca>

Not connected to a particular First Nation

Mission: ONWA's guiding principle is that all Indigenous ancestry will be treated with dignity, respect and equality; benefits and services will be extended to all, no matter where one lives and regardless of Tribal heritage.

Overview: ONWA supports all Indigenous women and their families in the province of Ontario through research, advocacy, policy development and programs that focus on

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local, regional and provincial activities. ONWA is committed to providing services that strengthen communities and guarantee the preservation of Indigenous culture, identity, art, language and heritage. Ending violence against Indigenous women and their families and ensuring equal access to justice, education, health services, environmental stewardship and economic development, sit at the cornerstone of the organization. ONWA celebrates and honours the safety and healing of Indigenous Women and Girls as they take up their leadership roles in the family, community and internationally for generations to come.

Topics covered:

- Breaking Free from Family Violence
- Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & girls
- Indigenous Anti-Human Trafficking
- Education
- Variety of Cultural Teaching

Founded in 1971

Other information: Ontario Native Women's Association (ONWA) provides its services through The Native Women's Resource Centre of Toronto (NWRCT) in Toronto. The website is filled with lots of educational information, magazine subscription, and local chapter site information.

Talk4Healing

Location: Ontario

Phone | 1-855-554-4325

Website: <https://www.talk4healing.com>

Not connected to a particular First Nation

Mission: A pathway to healing, acceptance and support.

Overview: Talk4Healing is a culturally grounded, fully confidential helpline for Indigenous women available in 14 languages all across Ontario.

Topics covered:

- Culturally sensitive crisis counselling, advice and support
- Personalized information and referrals
- Acceptance of Aboriginal women's issues in a non-judgmental way

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- Help to find the path to personal healing
- Scheduled telephone counselling sessions

REGIONAL RESOURCES

Beendigen Anishinabe Women's Crisis Home and Family Healing

Location: Thunder Bay, ON

Phone: 1-807-622-1221

Website: <https://www.beendigen.com>

Mission: To provide safety and shelter to Indigenous women and children experiencing violence, and to facilitate the cycle of healing through the delivery of culturally appropriate programs and services to individuals and families.

Overview: We believe every family deserves to live in a safe home free from violence. We believe that given the opportunity, women who have experienced abuse can move forward through healing. With influence from the Medicine Wheel Teachings and core social work values, we assist women to gain a strong foundation which can help them move ahead in a positive, healthy manner.

Programs:

- Anishinabe Women's Crisis Home
- Wakaigin Housing
- Anti-Human Trafficking
- Breaking Free from Violence
- Healing Our Own Counselling Unit
- Community Action Program for Children
- Prenatal Program
- National Native Alcohol & Drug Addiction Program
- Transitional House & Support Program
- Family Court Support Program
- Talk4Healing

Founded in 1978

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Indige-Spheres to Empowerment

Location: Thunder Bay, ON

Email: Sheila Wahsquonaikeshik - Executive Director: swahs@indige-spheres.com

Phone: 1-705-305-8349

Website: indige-spheres.com/

Mission: Dedicated to the health and well-being of Indigenous peoples.

Overview: Engages in partnerships and research activities to gain further education about issues that affect northern Indigenous youth such as gaming/gambling. Organizes events to teach and learn about human trafficking as it affects Indigenous youth/people. Offers culture-based workshops promoting health and well-being

ONWA Thunder Bay

Affiliated: Ontario Native Women's Association

Location: Thunder Bay, ON

Phone: 1-800-667-0816

Website: www.onwa.ca/thunder-bay-services

Mission: Changing the story for missing and murdered indigenous women.

Overview: For over 46 years, The Ontario Native Women's Association (ONWA) has advocated for safety, equality and justice for Indigenous women. Our 1989 groundbreaking report, *Breaking Free*, exposed the true extent of the violence indigenous women faced. After building on this work for nearly another three decades, ONWA was pleased at the announcement of *Walking Together* in 2016, and the opportunity for partnership with Ontario to address the issue of violence against Indigenous women.

Programs:

- Trauma-informed care
- Community Wellness
- Ending violence against women
- Indigenous victim & family liaison
- Mental Health & Wellness
- Nihdawin – Helping indigenous population at risk of homelessness

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- Ska-Be – Health and wellbeing of urban indigenous elder women and families with chronic illness or disabilities
- Youth in transition

Founded in 1975

Other Info: See webpage for local events and calendar

Nishnawbe Aski Nation

Location: Thunder Bay, ON

Email: nancomms@nan.ca

Phone: 1-807-623-8228

Website: <https://www.nan.ca>

Not Connected to a particular First Nation

Mission: Nishnawbe Aski Nation is a political territorial organization representing 49 First Nation communities within northern Ontario. It represents the legitimate, socioeconomic, and political aspirations of its First Nation members of Northern Ontario to all levels of government in order to allow local self-determination while establishing spiritual, cultural, social, and economic independence.

Overview: Provides resources for families, teachers & students, health promoters and youth.

Founded in 1973

Other Info: Local resource to learn more about MMIW – just type MMIWG in search bar of website for updated information and local initiatives.

Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Center

Affiliated: Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres

Location: Thunder Bay, ON

Website: <https://tbifc.ca>

Not Connected to a particular First Nation

Mission: Rooted in culture, the Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre strengthens the lives of Indigenous people by providing holistic supports, services, and advocacy.

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Overview: A welcoming Indigenous community that nurtures healing, culture, traditions and self-determination.

Programs:

- Children and Family Services
- Employment, training, and education
- Healing and wellness
- Justice services

Founded in 1964

Other Info: Check out Cultural Resource Coordinator program focused on ending violence against indigenous women.

Thunderbird Friendship Centre

Affiliated: Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres

Location: Geraldton, ON

Email: karen.stephenson@thunderbirdfriendshipcentre.ca

Phone: 1-807-854-1060

Website: <https://ofifc.org/friendship-centre/thunderbird-friendship-centre-geraldton/>

Programs:

- Indigenous-led family centre
- Children's programs
- Family learning activities
- Cultural and traditional programming

Founded in 1967

Tree of Hope

Location: Thunder Bay, ON

Website: www.treeofhopeproject.com

Mission: Reconciliation, Hope and Resilience

Overview: Tree of Hope Project is a project is devoted to bringing awareness to Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in Canada. The campaign hopes to be able to solve more cases involving women and girls. Fundraising money is going

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towards individuals who provide assistance in solving cases that lead to arrests. We cannot achieve these goals alone.

United Native Friendship Centre

Affiliated: Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres

Location: Fort Frances, ON

Phone: 1-807-274-8541

Website: <https://unfc.org/welcome-united-native-friendship-centre>

Mission: In recognition of the ever changing world in which we live, the United Native Friendship Centre is dedicated to enhancing the lives of Native and non-Native people in our community and surrounding area. Its primary responsibility is to serve Aboriginal people with special services in the fields of social, educational and cultural development while, at the same time, building a bridge of understanding between Native and non-Native people.

Programs:

- Aboriginal Family Support Programs
- Aboriginal Head Start
- Aboriginal Healthy Babies
- Aboriginal Healing and Wellness
- Aboriginal Life-Long Care
- Aboriginal Prenatal Nutrition
- Akwe: go Program
- Alternative Secondary School Program
- Apatisiwin Employment Services
- Children's Mental Health Program
- Cultural Resources Program
- Cultural Resource Program
- Homelessness Outreach Program
- Indigenous Alcohol & Drug Work Program
- Indigenous Courtwork Programs
- Indigenous Mental Health and Wellness
- Kizhaay Anishnaabe Niin
- Urban Aboriginal Healthy Living Program
- Urban Aboriginal Healthy Living for Kids Program
- Wasa-Nabin Program
- Wiisinadaa Program
- Youth Justice Program

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List of Indigenous Churches

Cat Lake

Northern Lights Community Church

Jonathan Larsh

h: 807-347-9989 c: 807-738-0684

larshfam@gmail.com

Whitefish Bay

Whitefish Bay Church

Pam Capay

h: 807-582-0391 w: 807-582-3804

pamelacapay33@gmail.com

Summer Beaver Lake

St. Barnabas

Rev. Georgina Neshinapaise

(Priest-in-Charge)

807-593-9983