

FALL 2020

MAMOW

OBKI-AHWAHSOOWIN

EVERYONE WORKING TOGETHER TO RAISE OUR CHILDREN

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ბრძანებულია: დავადასტურებ, რომ ეს დოკუმენტი
არის სწორად შევსებული და სწორად ასახავს
მეცნიერების მდგომარეობას.

OUR MODEL

Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin is the Tikanagan service model. In Ojibway/Oji-Cree, Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin means, "Everyone working together to raise our children." It is a system of protecting and caring for children and supporting families that has been designed and is delivered by First Nations people.

OUR VISION

The Creator entrusted First Nations with the sacred responsibility of protecting our children and developing strong families and healthy communities. The Chiefs created Tikanagan to support and strengthen our children, our families, and our communities. The future of our communities is our children.

TIKINAGAN.ORG

For more information, career opportunities, or to become a Foster Parent, visit tikinagan.org.

**FOSTER CONNECTION.
BECOME A FOSTER PARENT**

We need caring Indigenous Foster Homes and Foster Parents in the Thunder Bay district to care for children. We are looking for people who support Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin, the Tikinagan service model.

REMEMBERING TIKINAGAN'S LEADERS



William Fothergill & Tommy Fiddler

This summer, Tikinagan mourned the loss of two important contributors to the agency's legacy, William J. Nothing and Tommy Fiddler.

Remembered as a visionary and negotiator for Tikinagan and many other First Nation organizations in northwestern Ontario, Nothing laid the foundation for our agency. Nothing negotiated a ground breaking memorandum that First Nations Chiefs signed in Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug First Nation in 1984, which was the founding event for Tikinagan.

From there, Nothing stayed with Tikinagan as Board Chair, and later become Executive Director for a short stint, to help guide Tikinagan through its development stages.

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Leaving Their Mark Since 1990

When Marie Hudson started her career with Tikinagan Child & Family Services as an optimistic, unwittingly the 35-year-old in September 1990 thought she was accepting a temporary reception position.

Now, 30 years later, wise and experienced, she's still in the same chair.

"When I applied, it was to cover the person who was on maternity leave," explains Hudson, a Bearskin Lake First Nation band member. "I was supposed to be there for a couple of weeks until they found someone permanent. I never heard back from anyone after that. I suppose that was my hiring day when I arrived here."

Based out of the Sioux Lookout office, Hudson recalls her first week as a "hectic time" by learning on the go after a 15-minute orientation. Not only was she overwhelmed by the number of calls, but the size of the phone and the number of buttons were daunting. Back then, she recalls handling as many as 400 calls in one day.

But Hudson did more than answer and redirect calls. She tells of her experience as a Case Aide Worker, traveling to several of Tikinagan's First Nation communities.

"I got to travel by vans, cars, and airplanes to pickup parents and children to where they needed to go," Hudson explains. Hudson has also kept busy as a Foster Parent, supporting teenagers in difficult times and sharing many positive memories.

"I liked looking after teenagers, some even wanted me to adopt them. It was busy doing this, it's like you have extra children to take care of. It was never boring. It was fun and hard at times."

Thirty years ago, Caroline Derouin moved from Weagamow Lake First Nation to Sioux Lookout to support her children's education with the hopes of finding a career where she could work with children.

Her friends invited her to check out Tikinagan Child & Family Services. Derouin has enjoyed it ever since.

"I really enjoy working with children, and that's where I was most of my career," reflects Derouin. "To be able to make a

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Derouin concludes: "I hope that Tikinagan continues to grow, and provide its services to our clients and our children. And as for myself, I am going to stay until they kick me out!"

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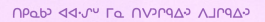
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Tuesday, October 27



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#IDressPurpleBecause

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