

# WINTER 2020

MAMOW  
OBIKI-AHWAHSOOWIN  
EVERYONE WORKING TOGETHER TO RAISE OUR CHILDREN

THE WAY TO GET  
TO KNOW KIDS IN  
PIKANGIKUM IS TO  
EARN THEIR TRUST.

WHYDERMAN BLACK,  
DIRECT SERVICES SUPERVISOR BASED IN PIKANGIKUM

## OUR MODEL

**Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin is the Tikinagan 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 TIKINAGAN 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](http://tikinagan.org).

# BUILDING ON TRUST IN PIKANGIKUM

Trust is one of the nine core values at Tikinagan Child & Family Services, and in Pikangikum First Nations it is one of the foundations in strengthening community relationships.

“The way to get to know kids in Pikangikum is to earn their trust and spend time with them in order to get to know them and in order to work with them,” says Whyderman Black, Direct Services Supervisor based in Pikangikum, adding that this same approach applies when working with families in the community, including extended family members.

"We get along with (families) pretty well," says Black.

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“ΓΔσ b·l· σΓμΔ·fΔ·Γα· Δ9·σΔ·\ (Nν<sup>3</sup>Γ9Δ·α<sup>3</sup>),” ΔΡΔ Λ<sup>ε</sup>Δ\.”



# I KNOW TIKINAGAN IS THERE TO HELP OUR FAMILIES

PIKANGIKUM BAND COUNCIL MEMBER  
SUSAN D. STRANG



Pikangikum Band Council Member, Susan D. Strang, speaking in Ojibway, is thankful for the work Tikinagan has done for her community's children and families, including hiring staff who live in Pikangikum.

"I know Tikinagan is there to help our families and not take the children away," says Strang. "We make mistakes with our children and Tikinagan is there to try and help us on how to keep our children."

Tikinagan understands that trust is essential to building effective relationships and we know that it must be earned through consistency and dependability. Like our efforts in Pikangikum, the largest of 30 First Nations communities we serve with a population of more than 2,500, Tikinagan is committed to being trustworthy in fulfilling the responsibilities inherent in our mandate as a First Nations child well-being organization.

Black highlights recent events Tikinagan hosted in the community, such as their annual Fall and Christmas feasts, has helped families get more involved. In addition, Tikinagan hosted two Meet & Greet events in the community (one in the summer and another in November), providing staff and the community the opportunity to connect, as well as promote current job opportunities in the community.

"I think the community is more anxious to get involved, to get to know Tikinagan," says Black. "They see that Tikinagan is trying to help them out."

Black notes that Pikangikum sees his community as an organization that works together with others in the community. Involvement in community and cultural events are a key part of Tikinagan's service model, Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin (in Ojibway/Oji-Cree, it means, "everybody working together to raise our children"). Having community-based staff and believing the answers lie within each community are also important to the success of Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin.

Black regularly encourages his team of nine staff to work closely with families by talking to them and getting to know their culture so they can build the trust. He says one priority in the community is the language. Currently, Black believes about half of the youth in the community speak Ojibway. One way Tikinagan supports this effort with families is by having staff speak the language.

Along with Black, the Pikangikum-based staff include Sonny Suggashie, Office Administrator; Case Aid Workers Shanda Quill, Michael Owen, and Philip Pascal; and Family Service Workers Robert Quill, Justin Suggashie, June McNally, Alicia Brown, and Santana King.

Λβ²ΓβΓ³ ΔσβσCΛ9, ²³ Π "Π³Δ³, ΔΓ>∇·Δ³ ∇Δ<ΓΔ³, ααΔ] ΠΡαβ³ βΓ ΔσβαΓ³ CΓ9Δ·σ³ ΔΔ·Γ³ Γα Π∇³Γ9Δ·α³ ββΔ³, ΔΓ³ β⁴ βΔσΡ"ΔβΔ³ ΔΛ Λβ²ΓβΓ³ ββ∇Γσ³.

"σΡ9³C³ ΠΡαβ³ ∇ΛΔ·Γ"ΔΔ³ σΠ∇³Γ9Δ·σα³ Γα ∇β ∇Δ³ ΔCΛαΔ³ ΔΔ·Γ³," ΔΡΔ "Π³Δ³. "σΔ³Δ·σΓ³ σσΛσΓσ βα∇³Γ9Δ·σα³ ΔΓ ∇β· C³ ΠΡαβ³ ΔΔ·ΓΔ³ ∇β9· Δ·Γ"ΔΔ³ Δσ³ 9ΔCΛ³ ΓΡ ΡΓΔ·αβ³Ρ<³ σσΛσΓσ³."

ΠΡαβ³ ΔσΓC∇³C³ Δ∇· Δ∇σ]Δ³ ∇ΡΓσ³Cβ· Δ"ΔΛ ΓΡ ΔΓ Γσ³βΛβΡ<σ³ Δ·CσΡΓΠΔ·α³ Γα β⁴ σΡ9³CΓ³ Δ"ΔΛ ΓΡ ΔΓ UΛσβU³ ΓΔσ Λδ β·β³ ΓΔ·CσΡΓΠασΔ³. Δβ³ Δ"ΔΛ βΔΓ Δ·ΓC·β³ Λβ²ΓβΓ³, ΛΔ³ ∇Γ"ω³ Δ"ΔΛ 30 βCΓΡ³ ΔσΓσσΔ· CΓ9Δ·α³ βΔΓ βαΔ³<³CΛ³ α³C Λδ ΔΔ·ΓΓ 2,500 ∇CΓΔ³ Δ"ΔΛ, ΠΡαβ³ <ΡΠσΠΓ ΓΔ∇σ]³CΔ·βΔ³ ΓΡ UΛσβUΡ³ ΛσΔ· <<ΓΓβ³CΛ9Δ·α³ Δ"ΔΛ βΔαU³ σΛ]Γ9Δ·σα³ βΔσβCΛ³ ΔσΓσσΔ· ΔΔ·Γ³ 9ΔΓ ΓαβΔ³ Λ]Γ9Δ³.

∇β· Λ⁴Δ³ ΔΡΔ δ⁴ βΡ ΔσβC]Δ³ ΠΡαβ³ Δ"ΔΛ CΓ9Δ·σ³, Δβ³ CΓCβ·Ρ³ Γα ΛδΓΡΓβΔ· ΛδΓΔ·α³, ΔΔ·Γ"ΔΔαΔ³ Π∇³Γ9Δ·α³ ΓΛΛΔ· Δ·Γ"ΔΠΔ³. ΔΓ³ β⁴, ΠΡαβ³ ΔΡ ΔCαΔ³ ΛΛΔ³βΔ³ ΔΛ CΓ9Δ·σ³ ΓΔΓ ΓαΔ·ΓΔ³ ΔΔ³ (∇Γ³ βΡ σΛ³ Γα δC³ Γβ· Δβ·ΠΔΔ·ΛΓ³), ∇Ρ ΔΓ ΓαΔ·ΓΔ·ΠΔ³ ΔσΡαβα³ Γα CΓ9Δ·σ³ ΔσΓσσΔ³ ββΔ³, Cδ β⁴ ∇Ρ ΔΓ Δ³CΛβσΔ³ ∇Cβ·Ρ³ ΔσΡΔ·α³ Δ"ΔΛ CΓ9Δ·σ³.

"ΔΓC³ ∇Δσ³CΛ³ Δ"ΔΛ CΓ9Δ·σ³ αΛ³ ∇Δσ Γ9³C]Δ³ ΓΔ·Δ·ΓC·Δ³, ∇Δ· β9· Ρ9σΛΔ³ ΠΡαβ³ βΔασΡσ³," ΔΡΔ Λ⁴Δ³. "ΔσΓCΔ·ααΔ³ ΠΡαβ³ ∇β9· Δ·Γ"ΔΔ³."

Λ⁴Δ³ ΔΡΔ Λβ²ΓβΓ³ ΔΔ³<C³ ΔCΓ9Δ³ ∇ΛΓCΔ·σΔ³ βΔ·CσΡΓΠΔ³ Δ"ΔΛ CΓ9Δ·σ³. βΔ·Γ"ΔΠασΔ³ Δ"ΔΛ CΓ9Δ·σ³ Γα ΔσΓα∇Δ· ΔC]Δ·α³ βΔΓβUΡ³ ΔΓ"Δ∇· βΔ<C³ ΠΡαβ³ ΔΔ·Γ"Δ∇Δ· ΛΓα"Δβ³ βΛΓσω³Δ]Δ³, ΛΛ³ ΔΛΡ"ΔΔ³ ΔΓ>∇·Δ³/ΔΛC ΔΛ³Ρδ]Δ³, ΔΡΔΛβ³, "βΡα ∇Δ·CσΡΓΠβ³ Γβ³ΛΡ"Δβ³ ΡσΛσΓσ³ "). Δ"ΔΛ C³ ββ³ΠαβσΔ³ CΓ9Δ·σ³ ΔσΡαβα³ Γα ∇U∇·ΓβU³ Δ"ΔΛ Δ·Γ"ΔΔΔ·α³ ∇Cβ·Ρ³ βCΓ³ <∇Γβ·Ρ³ CΓ9Δ·α³ ΔΓ"∇· ΛΔ³ ∇ΡΓσ³Cβ· ΓΓσ³βΛβ³ ΛΛ³ ΔΛΡ"ΔΔ³ ΔΔ³.

Λ⁴Δ³ ΔΛΓ ωΓ³ΡΛ³ ΔCσΡαβα³ ββ³βΓσ³ ΓΔσ β·β³ ΓΔ·CσΡΛΔ³ Π∇³Γ9Δ·α³ ΓΔβΓ"ΔΔ³ Γα Γβ9· σΓC∇³C]σ³ ΔCσΓσσΔ³ΠΓΔ³Δ³ ΔΓ ∇C Δ"ΔΛ Δ∇σΓΠΔ³ 9Δ³ΓΛβ³. ∇β· Γα ΔΡΔ Δ∇· ΔΓΡω∇·Δ³ ΛΔ³ ∇σβσ³Cβ· Δ"ΔΛ CΓ9Δ·σ³. Γβ· Δ·σδ, Λ⁴Δ³ ∇Γ U∇·C³ α³CΛδ 9β³ ΔΛC ΔσβΠβ³ Δ"ΔΛ CΓ9Δ·σ³ ΔΓ>∇·Δ³ ∇Δ<ΓΔ³. ∇Γβ·⁴³ ΠΡαβ³ ∇Γ Δ·Γβ<Δ·CΔ³ Π∇³Γ9Δ·α³ ΔσΓσ∇]Δ³ ΓΔ<ΓΔσ³ ΔCσΡαβσΛ³.

ΔΓ³ 9Δ³ Λ⁴Δ³, ΔΛ βCασΡΔ³ Λβ²ΓβΓ³ Δ9·σΔ³ βΔσΡCΛ9Δ³ ḡσ ḡβΓ, ΛΓα"Δ9Δ·βΓ³ βσβσ³β³; ΔΓ⁴Δ·α³ βΔΓ ΔσβC]Δ³ ω³C Ρ∇·⁴, ΛΔδ ΔΔ³, Γα Δ³ Λ⁴Δ³, Δ⁴Δω Λ⁴Δ³, Γα ḡCα Ρ³.





