



Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

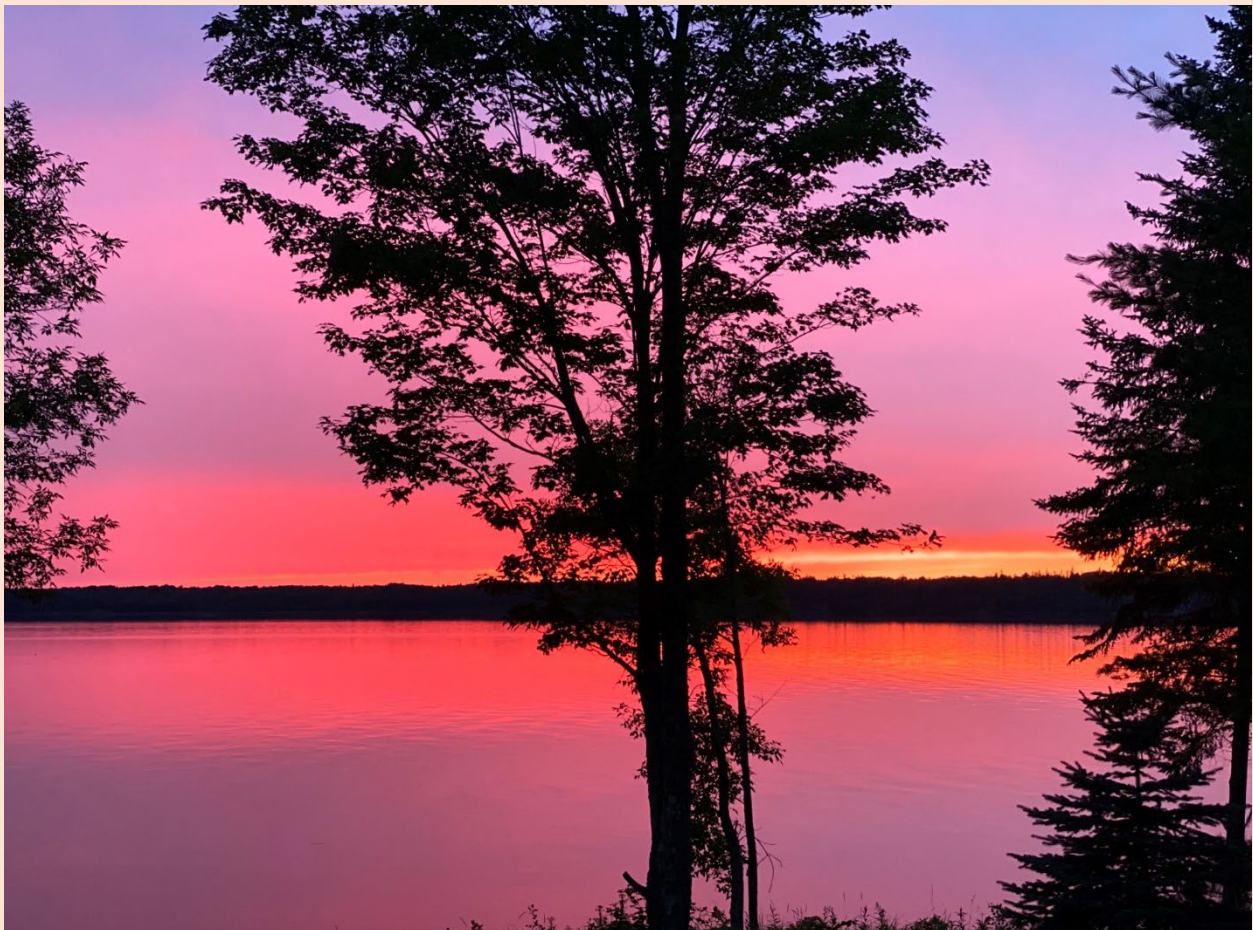
# **2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 2022 @ 10:00 AM**

**COUCHICHING FIRST NATION**

**MULTI-USE FACILITY**

## **A NEW DAY IS DAWNING**





## Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

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*In Memory Of*

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Bessie Mainville July 17, 1935 – October 4, 2021



Gladys Debungie February 26, 1939 – January 29, 2022





# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

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# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

## *Board of Directors, Member Representatives and Chiefs*

<b>Community</b>	<b>Board of Director</b>	<b>Member Representative</b>	<b>Chief</b>
Big Grassy	Brian Major	Brian Major	Lynn Indian
Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing	Wes Big George	Virginia Handorgan	Wes Big George
Couchiching	Lucille Morrisseau – Secretary <b>Executive Council Member-Secretary/Treasurer</b>	Dave Bruyere	Brian Perrault
Lac La Croix	Carrie Atatise-Norwegian	Carrie Atatise-Norwegian	Carrie Atatise-Norwegian
Mitaanjigamiing	Chris Henderson – Vice President <b>Executive Council Member- Vice President</b>	Roy Morrison	Janice Henderson
Naicatchewenin	Adrian Snowball	Darlene Smith	Wayne Smith
Nigoonsiminikaaning	Tracy Allan	Clayton Windigo	Will Windigo
Ojibways of Onigaming	Candice Kelly <b>Executive Council Member- President</b>	Dorothy Copenace	Jeffrey Copenace
Rainy River	Rob McGinnis	Karen Oster-Bombay	Rob McGinnis
Seine River	John Kabatay Sr	Tom Johnson Jr	John Kabatay Sr



# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

## *Elders' Council*

<b>Elder</b>	<b>Community</b>
Bessie Tom	Big Grassy
Patrick Handorgan	Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing
Val Norris	Couchiching
Margaret Ottertail	Lac La Croix
Agnes Kabatay	Mitaanjigamiing
Louis Councillor	Naicatchewenin
Don Jones Nancy Jones	Nigigoonsiminikaaning
Bev Wilson	Rainy River
Rosie Boshkaykin	Seine River





# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

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## *Maango'inini*

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Charles Friday	Drummer
Gilbert Smith	Shkaabez
Rosie Boshkaykin	Stick holder
Elton Bruyere	Drummer
Freeman Trottier	Drummer

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## *Message from the Board President, Candice Kelly and Executive Director, Laurie Rose*

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Boozhoo

On behalf of Weechi- it-te-win Family Services, we would like to welcome everyone to our AGM.

Our Annual Report reflects and highlights some of the work that Weechi-it-te-win and the Community Teams have accomplished with the oversight and leadership of our Board of Directors.

In 2021-22, Covid-19 created some challenges within the Agency and our First Nations. Although it was not ideal to work remotely and virtually, we are proud to state that we continued to see progress and success. We must also mention that although we put safety first, we still responded in-person to crisis and other situations involving child safety.

We lost some of our precious Elders during the pandemic. We were so fortunate to have the wisdom of elders to guide Weechi-it-te-win and my condolences go out once again to the families of Bessie Mainville and Gladys Debungie. Some of the current Elders on the Council are experiencing health related issues which has impacted the attendance at Elders' Council meetings.

We have also experienced challenges related to governance and as a result bi-monthly Board of Directors meetings were implemented. Attendance continued to be an issue; however, we are confident that this will be addressed by the current members of the Board.

Of significance this past year is the work on Abinoojii Inakonigewin, our Treaty #3 Child Care Law. The project has been sharing information and seeking input from our communities to collaborate and support First Nation independence. Weechi-it-te-win supports our First Nations' inherent right to govern and exercise jurisdiction over family services. The WFS Abinoojii Inakonigewin project has given all of us hope in reaching the goals envisioned for our communities since WFS came into existence.

There have been enhancements within Weechi-it-te-win's services such as the Developmental Support Services, Family Healing Program, Clinical Team, Family reunification and Administration which have been put in place to increase access for the First Nations. We hope that these services will continue to be a



## Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

valuable resource to our First Nations as communities establish autonomy from the federal and provincial systems.

We see the tide shifting in our system from protection to family preservation and prevention. The decreased number of children in care speaks to the work being done in our communities. We have the least number of children in care in the history of our Agency.

Onigaming First Nation made the decision to move from our organization and transfer under the license of Anishinaabe Abinoojii Family Services in Kenora. This transfer includes all mandated and non-mandated services within their service agreement. We wish them all the best as they work toward their own vision for their community. The feather that represents Onigaming on our Eagle Staff will remain as our Elders have made it clear that the cultural bond cannot be severed.

Weechi-it-te-win has heeded the advice of our chiefs to always put our traditional ways first. The Relationship Protocol signing ceremony with seven of the nine chiefs at Naicatchewenin First Nation roundhouse reaffirmed the relationship between WFS and the communities. The relationship protocol speaks to universal understandings between WFS and the First Nations with the underlying touchstone of respect and transparency.

Within the package today, there are many pictures from events and activities that we have hosted this past year. These events were open and enjoyed by all people within the Rainy River district. We look forward to hosting more events that bring communities together in the spirit of healing and happiness.

On a final note, on behalf of our Board of Directors, we want to commend the staff at Weechi-it-te-win Family Services for ensuring our culture is at the forefront of everything we do in way of service provision, events, and daily work. Their dedication and commitment to go above and beyond is apparent and we are so grateful.

Miigwetch to everyone in attendance today for making this another positive event.



# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

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## *Agenda*

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- 1 Traditional Opening Ceremony & Prayer
- 2 Call Meeting to Order – Candice Kelly, President
- 3 Welcoming Address, Chief Perrault, Laurie Rose and Candice Kelly
- 4 Roll Call – President
- 5 MNP Presentation of Audit March 31, 2022
- 6 Approval of Band Council Resolutions
- 7 Approval of 2021 AGM Minutes
- 8 Service Reports
- 9 Traditional Selection Process
  - President
  - Vice President
  - Secretary/Treasurer
- 10 Other
- 11 Closing





# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

2021 AGM Draft Minute



**WEECHI-IT-TE-WIN**  
Family Services Inc.  
Annual General Meeting

Date | time July 26, 2021 Nigigoonsiminikaaning Round House | Meeting called to order by Sue Boshey,  
Chair ,

## Attendance

FIRST NATION	NAME	TITLE	ATTENDANCE
Nigigoonsminikaaning	Sue Boshey	Board President	Present
	Garry Windigo	Member Representative	--
	Wil Windigo	Chief	Present
	Clayton Windigo	Incoming Member Representative	Present
Mitaanjigamiing	Chris Henderson	Vice President	Present
	Roy Morrison	Member Representative	Present
	Janice Henderson	Chief	Regrets
Couchiching	Lucille Morrisseau	Secretary/Treasurer	Present
	Dave Bruyere	Member Representative	--
	Brian Perrault	Chief	Present
Rainy River	Robin McGinnis	Chief/Member Representative	--
	Shawn Brown	Board of Director	--
Naicatchewenin	Adrian Snowball	Board of Director	Present
	Darlene Smith	Member Representative	Present
	Wayne Smith	Chief	Present
Onigaming	Candice Kelly	Board of Director/Chief	Present
	Dorothy Copenace	Member Representative	Present
Lac La Croix	Carrie Atatise-Norwegian	Board of Director	Present
	Michael Ottertail	Chief	--
Seine River	Tom Johnson Jr.	Board of Director	Regrets
	Carrie Boshkaykin	Member Representative/Chief	Regrets
Big Grassy	Brian Major	Board of Director	Present
	Lynn Indian	Chief	--
Naongashiing	David Paul Jr	Board of Director	--
	Virginia Handorgan	Member Representative	--
	Wes Big George	Chief	--



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OTHERS PRESENT	ORGANIZATION	TITLE	ATTENDANCE
Laurie Rose	WFS	Executive Director	
Dean Wilson	WFS	Director of Administration	
Arlene Bruyere-Parker	WFS	Director of Naaniigaan Abinoojii	
Candace Morrisseau	WFS	Executive Assistant	
Stacey Boshey	WFS	Cultural Coordinator	
Don Jones	Nigigoonsiminikaaning	MC	
Taylor Radford	MNP	Auditor	
Agnes Kabatay		Elder's Council	
Rosie Boshkaykin		Stick Holder	
Charlie Friday		Drummer	
Gilbert Smith		Shkaabez	
Nancy Jones		Community Elder	
Norman Jordan		Drum Keeper	
Margaret Ottertail		Elder's Council	
Faith Lovato		Stick Holder	
Gayle Windigo	Nigigoonsiminikaaning	Community Member	
Verna Windigo	Nigigoonsiminikaaning	Community Member	
Clayton Windigo	Nigigoonsiminikaaning	New Member Representative	

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Opening Prayer/ Roll Call/ Meeting called to order

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Elder Rosie Boshkaykin rendered the opening prayer following the 4 Maango'inini songs being sang. Agnes Kabatay did the water ceremony.

Don Jones, MC welcomed everyone, reviewed agenda and conducted roll call.

Will Windigo, Chief of Nigigoonsiminikaaning welcomed everyone, acknowledged the sacred items and thanked and acknowledged Laurie Rose, Executive Director, for all that she deals with on a day to day basis. Chief Windigo spoke of the threat the new Grand Council Treaty #3 organization poses to the Agency and stated that he does not agree with nor understand GCT3 process 100%. Chief Windigo supports WFS and reaffirmed that he wants the Agency to remain as a resource to his community. He requested a healing song for the children that lost their lives at the residential schools and for the Nation that is in mourning. He presented a gift to Sue Boshey and thanked her for her term as she is exiting the Board of Directors and Executive Council as Chair.

Sue Boshey, Chair called the meeting to order at 11:20 am. It was determined that quorum was achieved and the Board could conduct business. Sue read the welcoming address.



# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

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## Welcoming Address & Roll Call

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Roll Call: see above for attendance

Sue Boshey gave the welcoming address.

Laurie Rose, Executive Director acknowledged items, Board, elders etc., welcomed everyone and thanked Chief Will Windigo for hosting. There have been 1900 children through WFS system and the Agency always knew where they were. Acknowledged all the hard work that has been done. WFS goal is to keep children in their home. WFS goal to remain a resource as communities move to be stand alone. Thanked Sue Boshey for her service as President.

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## Acknowledgement of Appointments/Acceptance of BCRs

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**MOTION: That the Board accepts the following BCRs:**

Big Grassy – Brian Major appointed to continue as both the Board of Director and Member Representative

Nigigoonsiminikaaning – appointed Clayton Windigo as Member Representative and Tracy Allan as Board of Director.

**MOVED: Carrie Atatise-Norwegian**

**SECONDED: Chris Henderson**

**Motion accepted.**

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## Approval of 2020 AGM Minutes

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Board reviewed minutes as provided in report.

**MOTION: That the Board approves the minutes from AGM November 16, 2020.**

**MOVED: Candice Kelly**

**SECONDED: Adrian Snowball**

**Motion accepted.**

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## Audit Report Fiscal Year 2020/2021

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Dean Wilson acknowledged sacred items etc. Audit was completed last week and the Board was provided with the draft audit. MNP worked diligently to get the draft report ready for the AGM.

Taylor Radford, MNP auditor, presented the audit report.



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MOTION: That the Board to accept the audit report as presented by Taylor Radford, MNP Auditor.

MOVED: Adrian Snowball

SECONDED: Brian Major

Motion accepted.

MOTION: That the Board appoints MNP for audit 2021/2022.

MOVED: Candice Kelly

SECONDED: Chris Henderson

Motion accepted.

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### Service Reports

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Stacey Boshey, Cultural Coordinator presented his report.

Arlene Bruyere-Parker summarized the service reports.

Will Windigo pleased with stats and would like to see it continue. Questioning what specialized help is available and the importance on follow-up. Spoke about a high needs child that requires professional help. DSS child was booked with OT. Program offers respite which was offered. Specific caregiver homes for high needs children. The request was passed along.

Chief Wayne Smith addressed the AGM. The AGM is a time to regroup. Saddened all leaders are not present – some have valid reasons. 6/10 board members in attendance is disappointing. Concerned about the low turnout especially in a time like this with all that is going on. Would like to see CCP teams here rejoicing some of their accomplishments.

MOTION: That the Board accepts and approves the service reports as presented.

MOVED: Adrian Snowball

SECONDED: Candice Kelly

Motion accepted.

Elder Nancy Jones addressed the AGM. Nancy was outside and she found a raven feather. She was taught the raven looks after the children. They fly around the communities. The feather is being given to the community. Stacey Boshey accepted on behalf of the Agency and it will be a part of the bundle. A song was rendered to honour the feather.



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## Traditional Selection Process – Executive Council

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Gilbert Smith explained the process. Sacred Lodge marked by wigwas (birch bark) – we are inside the lodge.

Nominations for Executive Council:

Secretary/Treasurer:

- Candice Kelly offered asemaa to and nominated Lucille Morrisseau. Candi wished to keep continuity. Lucille accepted the asemaa and nomination. She has served as secretary for 3 years and wishes to move forward with the Board on initiatives especially AI. Lucille is the new Secretary/Treasurer

Vice-President:

- Adrian Snowball offered asemaa to and nominated Chris Henderson. Adrian nominated Chris as he has been on the Board and has done an excellent job. Chris accepted the asemaa and nomination. Chris accepted as he has been on the board off and on for a number of years and knows the position. Chris Henderson remains as the Vice-president.

President:

- Chris Henderson offered asemaa to and nominated Carrie Atatise-Norwegian. Chris admires her advocacy for children and believes she will make a good president. Carrie accepted the asemaa and nomination. Carrie Atatise-Norwegian is the new President/Chair of the Board.

New Executive: Carrie Atatise-Norwegian President, Chris Henderson Vice President, Lucille Morrisseau Secretary/Treasurer of the Board

Meeting adjourned at

Sue Boshey  
Chairperson



## *Message from Cultural Coordinator*

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### **Cultural Coordinator Annual Report**

Boozhoo, aaniin.

It is with great pleasure that I submit my annual report to the Board of Directors and Leadership of the Treaty 3 First Nations.

It has been a better year with the restrictions slowly being lifted in our territory. We have been able to conduct in person meetings and ceremonies with the Elders and staff. I have been fortunate to be bringing Mongo Innin to school powwows. The reception from the students and teachers has been a positive experience. Being in person and having these events has been a positive impact on our Elders committee.

I continue to conduct ceremonial openings, blessing in various capacities. Working with the staff of Weechi it te win and the First Nation communities with teachings for our youth and staff. I have recently been involved with meeting the Chief Coroner, who has established an Elders committee across Ontario. His goal is to gain the knowledge of the Elders on proper protocols of when one of our people go to the spirit world. He is wanting to implement these teaching and protocols to his staff of coroners in Ontario to ensure the traditions and teachings are respected and followed.

I continue to provide support to the staff and CCP teams.

Miigweech for your time and leadership

Stacey Boshey



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## Manager of Administration Report AGM July 2022

For the fiscal year 2021-2022 was a busy and increased year as far as funding for Weechi-it-te-win Family Services and beneficial for the First Nation's we represent.

### **MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REVIEW**

The monthly financials are reviewed by the executive director and the board at meetings.

### **REVIEW OF FINANCIAL AUDITS 2021-2022**

The Board reviewed and approved the Financial Audit for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022 and the board has reviewed and approved the Audit.

### **MARCH BREAK AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES**

The Agency continues to support the communities during March break by providing \$5,000 to each community for their family and children's activities. As well, the Agency provided community support to each community for their pow wow.

### **Wage Parity**

The agency accessed the wage parity funds for the positions within the agency and within the First Nations CCP team. The agency is still continuing to work with the First Nations to have provincial wage parity for their staff.

### **Prevention Position's**

In the fiscal year the agency was able to fund prevention positions which to go along with the Family Preservation worker 3 other workers. Cultural Outreach position, Addiction Position, Youth Worker and these positions were to be an assistance to the teams already core fund staff positions. -

### **Community Relation worker**

Bill Morrison was hired end of March 2022 and started to promote and help inform and promote the activities and resources the organization has to provide.

### **Human Resource Officer**

Jackie Debenedet has joined the organization in September of 2021 working with the staff in which we have hired 9 staff members in the fiscal year up to March 2022.

### **Jordan Principal**

As per attached .

### **Enhanced Funding for CCYS**

The agency was able to enhance the financial supports provided to our CCYS to assist them in an easier transfer to young adult life and becoming independent.



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## **OBJECTIVES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2022-2023**

- 
- Updating and acceptance of Financial Policy
- Updating and acceptance of personnel policy
- Review of Community Care Program funding allocations.
- Delivery of OCBE savings payments for eligible children.
- Continue to Diligently Monitor Operating Expenditures and eliminate unnecessary expenditures.  
The Executive director will continue to monitor monthly financial statements and has made efforts to eliminate unnecessary expenditures to allow for more resources in other area
- Canadian human rights tribunal ruling – working with for added new resources.
- Enhancement of program resources – Jordan Principal program
- Post majority care program





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## WEECHI-IT-TE-WIN FAMILY SERVICES

25/04/2022

### CONTACT:

Sasha Galbraith  
Jordan's Principal Coordinator  
1455 Idylwild Drive  
Fort Frances, ON  
P9A 3M3  
807-274-3201 EXT. 4011

### Recipient Name

The Jordan's Principal Program at WFS has proven success in being awarded approval on each Individual and Group Request that has been submitted in the last 4 months.

We were approved February 2022 for another year of funding (2022-2023), for the Jordan's Principal Service Coordination Group Request – total dollar value **\$102,606.00**.

Some of the greater highlights and achievements were being awarded the funding to extend the new **Aftercare Clinician** position for the Family Healing Program Services for another year, which created an opportunity for our families, CIC's and other clients to receive better more streamlined services, without a delay or long wait periods. The dollar value of this approved request is **\$110,250.00**. We have also successfully re-profiled **\$66,748.00** from our 2021 budget to use within the program on items such as a healing lodge, family retreats, craft supplies, land base teaching supplies, among others.

The second year of approval for **Developmental Support Services – Speech and Language Therapy**, was approved early this year, as well as the **Developmental Support Services – Behavioral Intervention Services** being successfully approved in February, which will shorten the two year wait list for children to be assessed/diagnosed for the Autism Spectrum along with many other notable benefits. Total dollar value of this program is **\$1,550,100.93**.

We were successful in approvals for (3) 1:1 worker and EA Support requests, 1 Orthodontic (braces) request, as well as a Medical Support Worker Request.

I believe the program has been a success, and I am happy to have been able to provide support in acquiring over **1.5 million dollars** in funding for education, programing, and essential services for our children in care, and for our Ten First Nations within this region.

I am hoping this spring I will be able to visit communities and meet clients in person as well as spread awareness about Jordan's Principal and the services it is able to provide.

Miigwech, Sasha Galbraith



### 2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT – NANAANDAWEWENIN

The meaning of Nanaandawewenin (naanun duh way way nin) is a term that refers to healing in the here and now. To the staff, the name is about helping families heal and that is what we strive to do. The name was given before this current Director of Nanaandawewenin, around 2009-2010, by the elders. Because many of our Elder's Council could not recall the story or process of this name, it was recommended in 2018, that WFS attend a ceremony for direction. The direction provided gave information about the origin of the name and the responsibilities of the team to feast the name at the WFS spring and fall ceremonies. To ensure everyone understands our programs under Nanaandawewenin, we are also referred to as Weechi-it-te-win's Healing and Support Programs.

#### Message from the Director of Nanaandawewenin:



2021-22 was an unpredictable year due to the pandemic and new variants of Covid-19; however, services continued to be delivered in the safest way possible. We worked from home for several months during this year to ensure that we did not spread the virus within the First Nations and especially to the unvaccinated children.

This report will include highlights from the year and further information will be provided within each section.

1. **Nanaandawewenin Operations Manual** was developed that includes the description, philosophy, values, case management process and operations of all programs. This is used to help orient all new employees, to serve as a guide for management, and staff.
2. **Crisis Response Policy** was updated to include the current practices and processes for our Crisis Response. This was board approved in March 2022
3. Development of a new **Semi-independent Living Program** for youth transitioning out of the care of WFS. The program was named Nizigos (Auntie) Nimishomeh (Uncle) Endaad (home/house). The program was developed based on Anishinaabe family systems and reflects how auntie/uncles



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are very important guides for adolescents. The Nizigos Nimishomeh Endaad program is located at 601 Victoria Avenue and operates under a live-in caregiver model with regular respite coverage.

4. A **MOU** (Memorandum of Understanding) was development between Weechi-it-te-win Family Services and Fort Frances Tribal Area Health Services which outlines how the organizations will work together when called to a community during a crisis. The MOU was approved in principles by both Executive Directors but a signing ceremony has yet to take place. The Clinical Team Leader will be following up on this promptly.
5. To ensure there are minimal wait times for counselling services and to ensure we can provide coverage for First Nation with vacant Family Counsellor position, a **3<sup>rd</sup> Family Counsellor** was added to the WFS Family Counselling Unit during 2021.
6. In June 2021, WFS submitted proposal to ISC to **Support Indigenous Family Service System Development for transition to Abinoojii Inakonigewin**. This was successfully approved for year 1 funding and WFS was notified on October 27, 2021. Further information about this project to follow in the report.
7. The Nanaandawewenin Team **relocated** to 281 1<sup>st</sup> Street in Fort Frances in July 2021. Now the Clinical Unit, Trainer, Director, and all of Developmental Support Services are in one building.
8. The Clinical Team, Developmental Support Services and the Family Healing Program redeveloped their referral and program information materials, these were all **redesigned and rebranded** during 2021-22.
9. Capacity Building remained active during the 2021-22 year. 15 staff were **certified in Crisis and Trauma Response** by completing a total of 8 courses through the Crisis and Trauma Response Institute, some of which were complete prior to April 1, 2021. A total of 4 management trainings were provided in December 2021 and January 2022, and two trainings in Diversity provided by Trans-wellness Canada were provided.
10. In October, a proposal was submitted to ISC through Jordan's Principle for **Behavioral Intervention Services** to be delivered through the WFS Developmental Support Services Program. This proposal was approved to begin on April 1, 2022. Recruitment for the 5 new positions (Behavioral Intervention Lead, 2 Behavioral Intervention Workers, Intake Coordinator, and Early Intervention Worker).

### FAMILY HEALING PROGRAM (FHP)HIGHLIGHTS

#### After-Care Clinician Position

Our Clinical After Care Position was developed last year and was filled in November 2021 to support client and individual families in a counselling setting, after they have completed the FHP treatment cycle. This allows clients to continue this trauma work as well as developing healthy coping and communication skills. The response to this portion of the program has been very favorable.

#### Covid Response:

Covid-19 has limited the FHP to 4 cycles this past year. We normally run between 8 - 10 cycles per year. We have developed a Covid-19 Policy to ensure safety for our clients and staff which includes screening



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and testing while in program. We continue to reach out to clients through facebook, messenger, Zoom and telephone during this time.

### **CLINICAL TEAM HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **WFS Family Counselling Unit:**

The Family Counselling Unit hired a 3<sup>rd</sup> Family Counsellor, Nancy Indian, to join the team with Darren Yerxa and Cheyenne Calder. The family counsellors were all certified in Crisis Response. The team participated in researching and acquiring resources for our growing resource library and will attend the communities to support the CCP family counsellors in implementing the resource materials. Throughout the year there was a focus on connecting more closely with the CCP teams and to work more collaboratively with the community workers. There has been a greater emphasis on engaging the children in more culturally-based learning and healing when moving through the counselling process.

#### **Tele Mental Health Coordination:**

The TMH program is seeing referrals from new agencies since our last mail out in February 2022, indicating that outreach attempts are working. There is also a notable influx of new referrals/re-Assessments from Anishinaabe Abinoojii Family Services with the hiring of a new position at Grassy Narrows. The year was quite busy and provided hundreds of individuals with Telemental health services.

#### **Youth In Transition Program:**

The YIT program is compiling a Resource Workbook to organize and direct the facilitation of the YIT program. The book will be used to systematically work through all the skill and knowledge components of the program. The YIT Worker and Clinical Team Leader have acquired an assessment tool to be used with adolescents entering the age of transition. The assessment tool will highlight areas of strength and need for each individual and create a service plan unique to each adolescent. Another project includes the development of a "Caregiver Checklist/ Youth Independence Milestone Continuum" to guide and the teaching of life skills prior to transitioning out of care.

#### **Clinical Coordinator:**

Our program was able to purchase a wide range of counselling resources for the CCP and WFS Family Counsellors. These resources included books, therapeutic games, play therapy resources, fidget toys, aroma diffuser's, smudge kits etc. These kits were distributed in April 2022 but purchased with year end funds. Before the COVID restrictions were put into place our program was able to host a Family Counselor Networking meeting at our new office. This was the first time we were able to meet as a group.



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## **DEVELOPMENTAL SUPPORT SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Speech and Language Services:**

DSS Manager submitted an application to Sasha Galbraith, WFS JP Coordinator, to re-profile surplus funds to be spent on office supplies, gas gift cards for clients, meat boxes for clients and supplies and resources for the program. This was approved on March 31, 2022.

### **Developmental/Occupational Therapy:**

Throughout 2021-22, including during lockdowns, the program continued with normal operations regarding assessments, re-assessments and clinical supervision from the designated Occupational Therapist from Creative Therapy Associates.

### **Education Liaison:**

The Education Liaison program services a high case load as there are many challenges and barriers in the Education System for our children in care. The Education Liaison Worker (EL) participates on the First Nations, Inuit and Metis Committee which meets monthly. EL also sits on the Education Liaison Committee which also meets monthly.

There were 5 high school graduates this year. Each graduate received \$500, an eagle feather, case and air pods.

24 of the 33 clients the EL services are on Individual Education Plans. At this time, this position only serves children in care due to significant needs in that area.

### **Cultural Developmental Therapy:**

In spite of Covid restrictions, this program was able to service 123 clients through the year. Programs were facilitated virtually and in person where appropriate. A teaching lodge was constructed with the guidance of



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elder Gilbert Smith and kept up all winter. This is a special program because WFS is the only Developmental Services that includes cultural and spiritual development as an integral part of service provision.



### **Behavioral Intervention Services:**

DSS Manager submitted a proposal to Sasha Galbraith, WFS JP coordinator for submission for a Behavioral Intervention Services program. The application was submitted on November 4, 2021. The application was partially approved by Jordan's Principle on January 21, 2022. This program is geared towards children and youth experiencing behavioral challenges, diagnosed with a developmental delay or disability and implements Applied Behavior Analysis strategies and interventions under the supervision of a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst. The funding was set to commence on April 1, 2022, although recruitment and planning began in the 2021/22 fiscal year.

### **Virtual Engagement:**

DSS program engaged virtually through the year with promoting programs and Facebook challenges. The posts on the Healing and Support Circle page by DSS reached a total of **27, 460** people; posts were shared 202 times and there were 595 direct engagements (comments) with the posts.

### **SEMI-INDEPENDENT LIVING – NIZIGOS NIMISHOMEH ENDAAD PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

The Housing Support Worker position was vacant from May 2021 through until the end of September 2021. During this period, Weechi-it-te-win Family Services focused on the re-development of the job description,



## Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

expanding the responsibilities of the position, and renaming the position to Housing Support Coordinator (HSC).

The HSC was then hired in late September and has remained in the position. Over the next few months while COVID-19 was still prevalent in the surrounding communities, the HSC along with the Director of Nanaandawewenin worked towards the development of the Nizigos-Nimishomeh Endaad Semi-Independent Living Home located at 601 Victoria Ave. Their focus was creating a Policy and Procedure Manual, which was later approved by the Board of Directors, recruitment of caregiver/respice workers, supervising of ongoing renovations (Main bathroom, both youth bedrooms) and the intaking of youth for the home. An open house/ceremony was held for mid April and the first bed was filled shortly after.



Youth's Living Area



Caregiver Living Area



# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

## ABINOOJII INAKONIGEWIN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

### 1. **Advisory Group**

Internal advisory group are Laurie Rose, Shannon Blight, Dean Wilson, Arlene Parker, Diane Kelly and Farah-Lynn Landry. Farah is one of the new hires for the Transformation Technician/Policy Analyst and have one other position to fill. Bi-weekly meetings are held to maximize oversight in the project, collaborate on decision making, and ensure efficient progression within the deliverables of the workplan.

### 2. **Workplan: Completed Tasks**

Some of the completed deliverable include formulation of the relationship protocol, and communication strategy. WFS website will be re-designed and will include a specific section for Abinooji Inakonigewin. The strategic planning session was held in October of 2021. Re-affirmation for declaration of principles was signed in June of 2021

Meetings have been held with our First Nation Chiefs on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021, February 16<sup>th</sup> and March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Letters have been sent out to the Chiefs for refresher engagement sessions.

Initial Community engagement sessions were held in nine First Nation Communities prior to the pandemic (2019/20), one was held in September 2021 (AON). A full report has been completed with each 10 First Nation Communities. We were also invited for a meeting with Big Grassy on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

We have continued to collaborate with Grand Council Treaty #3 through attendance of the technical working group, and bi-lateral meetings. We have also been in contact with Indigenous Services Canada. The most recent meeting was held on March 24<sup>th</sup> with the internal advisory group.

### 3. **New Proposal – Indigenous Services Canada**

March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting with ISC via zoom. We shared updates on completed tasks, they were impressed at the amount of activity in light of the pandemic. The 2022-2023 application for capacity development funding was discussed. They explained how fiscal funds can be carried over into the new year. We are required to re-submit the budget reflecting carryover funds, an updated workplan and an informal document of renewed supporting documentation of participating communities. Documentation can be an email, letter or we could use the signed relationship protocol. They will also be sending some resources to share with communities including a technical guide.

### 4. **2022/23 Workplan Development Updates**

A new workplan has been finalized. There will be continued communication, collaboration throughout the upcoming year. The new activities highlight the reconstitution plan of Weechi-it-te-win Family Services.





## Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

### 5. Signing Ceremony

The relationship protocol template has been developed. A ceremony took place in June 2022 where we honored the reciprocal relationship with each of the First Nation Communities. Although the initial page is universal for all participating First Nation, the second page will be developed with each First Nation Community at refresher engagement sessions which will reflect the unique relationship with each individual community.

### TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING HIGHLIGHTS

It was a very challenging year for WFS in terms of our Agency Trainer position. We hired a trainer in June 2021 and we were recruiting again in October 2021. In November 2021, WFS hired Shana Windigo. Shana spent much time coordinating trainings through Q3 and Q4 and worked diligently on getting herself authorized as a designated Trainer through the OACAS (Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies). This required ongoing virtual training, training observation, and finally co-facilitation, in addition to resume submission and interviews. In Q1 of this current year, Shana was fully authorized as a Trainer for the Pathways to Authorization series through OACAS. Welcome Shana!





# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

STATISTICAL REPORTS – APRIL 1, 2021, TO MARCH 31, 2022

WFS SERVICE	AON	BGFN	RRFNS	NFN	MFN	CFN	Nigig FN	SRFN	LLCFN	OFN	OTHER	TOTAL
<b>Family Healing Program</b>												
Pretreatment-Intake	4	4	4	5	0	5	4	8	3	1		38
Treatment Cycle	4	3	11	12	0	14	5	27	7	5		88
Relapse Prevention				7		5		6				18
After Care Program	1	8	3	14	3	7	16	11	10	2	2	77
<b>Clinical Services</b>												
Telemental Health	9	4	10	7	0	17	6	7	2	6	318	386
Family Counselling Unit	5	3	5	2	4	9	2	3	2	0	0	35
Youth in Transition	4	2	1	1	0	3	1	6	3	0	0	21
Psychological Service Coordinatio	1	2	1	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	9
Crisis Response	0	2	1	11	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	23
<b>Developmental Support Services</b>												
Navigation and Intake	7	5	7	12	18	15	5	19	1	3		92
Developmental Therapy	1	2	2	4	2	8	1	2	1	1		24
Speech and Language		2	3	8	7	5	1	8		1		35
Cultural Development/Therapy	3	6	10	6	9	39	29	4	2	0	65	173
Education Liaison	6	1	2		9	2	3	9		1		33
Early Intervention												
Behavioral Intervention (outreach)											1	1
<b>NNE SEMI IND LIVING - Outreach</b>						1						1
<b>HOUSING SUPPORT COORDINATC</b>	2					2	1	4	1			10



# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

## Capacity Building

DATE OF TRAINING	TITLE OF TRAINING	AON	Big Grassy	RRFNS	NFN	CFN	MFN	Nigig	SRFN	Onigaming	LLC	WFS	Other	# OF Individuals Trained
	Motivational Interviewing CTRI											19		19
15-Jun-21	Vicarious Trauma- CTRI											19		19
14-Jul-21	SRFN CCP - Case Management								6					6
08-Aug-21	ACE exam Proctor		2											2
August 25-26, 2021	Onigaming CCP - On Call Training									10				10
24-Aug-21	ACE exam Proctor						1							1
November 30 2021	Achieve Leadership Training - Personality Differer		1		1				1			4		7
December 9 2021	Abinoojii Inakonigwein Education Session											9		9
December 13 2021	Achieve Leadership Training - Managing Mental Health										1	3		4
26-Jan-22	Achieve Leadership Difficult Conversations		1									7		8
27-Jan-22	Achieve Leadership - Leadership and Culture										1	3		4
09-Feb-22	Supporting Diverse Youth		1		1				2					4
11-Feb-22	Supporting Diverse Youth											4		4
<b>Clinical Services Coordinator</b>														
	One on one Consults			8	3		4							15
	Networking Meeting	2	2		2		2	2	2			2		14
	Trauma Training		1	1	1				1					4
	Assist			1		1			1			1		4
<b>TMH Program Consults and Education Seminars</b>														
	Program Consults	3	5	6	2	2	0	2	1			16	1	38



# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

## Funding Initiatives

FUNDING INITIATIVES 2021-22	DSS	DSS	CMH 0-18	CMH 0-18	CMH 0-18	CMH 0-18	FN MHA Proposals
	Day Cares and School	ISC Cultural Develop	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
AON					1,460.90		
Big Grassy	1		\$1,460.90	1,460.90	1,460.90	1,460.90	\$40,000
RRFNS			\$1,460.90	1,460.90	1,460.90	1,460.90	
Onigaming	1	1	\$1,460.90	1,460.90	1,460.90		\$40,000
Naicatchewenin	1		\$1,460.90	1,460.90	1,460.90	1,460.90	\$8,610
Mitaanjigamiing							\$40,000
Couchiching	1						\$20,000
Nigigoonsiminikaaning	1	1					
Seine River		2	\$1,460.90	1,460.90	1,460.90	1,460.90	\$80,000
Lac La Croix							
Other							



## Weechi-it-te-win Family Service



### NAANIIGAAN ABINOOJII REPORT

Naaniigaan Abinoojii team is the agency resource to our 10 First Nations. WFS holds the MCCSS operational license on behalf of our First Nations and maintains intakes and investigation for services from referrals to caregiver inquiries to closures. This collaborative relationship speaks to the many years of working in the frontline along with our First Nation to deliver a First Nation run alternative to mainstream Child Welfare system. WFS and our First Nation paved the way for First Nation to access their Customary Care over a Mainstream protection system that has historically been intrusive and oppressive to our Treaty # 3 children and families.

WFS has always reviewed MCYS Child Wellbeing tools to ensure they are not placing First Nation Children and Parents on a mainstream due date for healing. Customary Care speaks to the truth of family healing, family protection and family reunification.

Children are gifts to the family and are not to be taken lightly, but to forever protect the child within its family, community and culture. WFS works with our Treat#3 First Nations in their development of their Child Care Codes / Laws that maintains the First Nations vision of WFS 's establishment as the interim Child Protection System.

Our devolution model has once again shown during Covid-19 that having front line services at the First Nations played a key role for Children and youth, particularly during the worlds Covid-19 pandemic lockdown.

Covid-19 has brought all types of new challenges and adjustments to children, caregivers, parents and staff. Restrictions began to ease over the last part of the year. This allowed for most services to return to normal. The child wellbeing sector is staying on top of safety and mitigation of any risks to our children and communities. The beginning of the year, where restrictions continued to be in place, visits were mostly conducted virtually.



## Weechi-it-te-win Family Service



Weechi it te win would like to acknowledge the photos shared in this report. These photos are a beautiful the creation of our Treaty# 3 children and youth and are on display in our Naaniigaan team hall way.

### OVER VIEW OF NAANIIGAAN SERVICES THIS PAST YEAR

- Review and update of Naaniigaan Resource Manual.
- Review of protocols with Police and school boards and other agencies
- Update CCSY, VYSA, SHS policy's (enhancements and extensions)
- Review of AI Tech Table and WFS resource support
- Caregiver Manual
- Caregiver Forms
- Intake and Investigation Policy and Procedures
- Case Management Forms
- Training needs
- Interagency Protocol
- Bill 84 Review
- OPR reviews with OACAS/ ANCFSAO
- Tools for FN workers
- Covid-19 Support from ISC, Treaty #3, and WFS and MCYS



# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

## TRAINING AND SUPPORT

- June 15, Zoom meeting with CCP Supervisors
- Sept 8, 9 On call Training All CCP Protection teams
- Nov 8, 9 Supervisor training Winnipeg
- November 28,29 2021, Networking meetings with First Nation CCP teams
- Dec 13 CCP admin support training
- Dec 14 Parent workers support training
- March 31 Supervisor meeting
- Feb Naaniigaan Mini Case Reviews all CIC's

## VIRTUAL TRAINING AND TECHNICAL SUPPORTS WITH ANCFSAO & MCYS

- Quality Assurance
- QIP reportings
- Customary Care
- IIS Convergence
- Intake and Investigations
- Pediatric Death Committee
- DOS meetings
- Data Governance
- Privacy table
- JP/CHRT
- Crisis Response
- Men's Group: Invited ED Yerxa presented to ANCFSAO and the members in group
- MMIWG
- Youth in Transition
- Place of Safety Assessment
- Court of Appeal Decision
- Child Protection Tools
- Covid-19 Policy
- Interagency agreements



## Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

### HISTORY OF WEECHI IT TE WIN AND FIRST NATIONS DEVOLUTION MODEL 1982-2022

**1982** Rainy Lake Tribal Chiefs intended to take necessary measures to ensure that our children and families are protected and commenced upon the process to create indigenous Child welfare services for its 10 area First Nations

**1986** George Simard becomes WFS Executive Director

**1987** Weechi it te win received its Agency Designation. Weechi it te win was entrusted to hold the license for our First Nations as they bring to fruition it's Child Care Law.

**2003-2004** our 10 First Nation have taken on the direct services under child welfare protection and Family Counselling programs.

**2008** Naaniigaan Abinoojii- Our Central Purpose is implemented as a result of Bill 210.

**2012** Laurie Rose: WFS first Female Executive Director

**2013** Transfer of Jurisdiction agreement between Weechi it te win and Kenora Rainy River Child and Family Services.

**2014** Family Preservation program is established and devolved to our 10 First Nations.

**2016** Devolution of administration of each First Nations Children's holiday culture and recreational supports.

**2018** WFS joins the Treaty #3 Abinoojii Inakonigewin technically Table.

**2019** Enhancement to Continue Care Support for Youth Programs (CCSY), Voluntary Youth Service Agreements (VSYA). Following youth Conference and the voice of the youth was heard! Weechi it te win and the Board approved a majority of the youth's needs. Enhanced financial supports for start-up costs, Cell phone Deposit/ start up, incentives for graduation and post-secondary graduates. A key highlight of their new contracts has been youth/ young adult section to request items not previously covered or noted. Each youth's contracts are unique to them and speaks to their individual needs.

**2019-2020:** Established and devolved enhanced supports to First Nations Families a Youth Worker, Addictions Worker, Cultural Worker and Case aide to their Community Care Programs. It intent is to have ready access to a holistic approach to all children, youth and First Nations families with hoped that resiliency and pride is maintained while ensuring outreach and access to support that would prevent any further anxiety and stress onto the family system which may ultimately result in a Child Welfare call.

**2021-2022:** The First Nations are continuing their development of Abinoojii Inakonigewin with the support of Weechi it te win and its Board. This year will continue this endeavor as Weech it te win advocated between Ministry, OACAS, ANCFSAO and other government bodies on our unique and thriving model of First Nation Child Wellbeing Services. Ongoing commitment to strengthen our First Nations Community Care Programs and their service supports to its members. WFS continues to support the FN's in the development and completion of Abinoojii Inakonigewin.





## Weechi-it-te-win Family Service



### **WFS ENHANCED SUPPORTS FOR CHILDREN AND CAREGIVERS During Covid-19 MCYS Extension**

WFS has ensured that children continue to have access to mental health activities as well as caregivers having supports to help bridge to stress with Children in Care during the last two years.

WFS along with our First Nations Community Care teams and First Nations programming have been creative for this past two years with virtual activities for children and youth, families.

2021-2022 with relaxation of restrictions have allowed for more outside activities and face to face interactions. It has also allowed for normalcy to return to the lives of the children and families we service. Supports to the Caregivers and teams has continues as children transition back to the classroom.



## Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

### MCYS ENHANCED EXTENDED SUPPORTS DURING COVID-19

During this past year, while many were navigating half the year under Covid-19. Special exemptions were put in place to support Children exiting Care and our young adults who would otherwise find themselves at the end of their Continued Care Support for Youth contracts. The supports have been extended at this time until September 30, 2022. WFS understands that MCCSS may expand supports for youth and former youth in care and await more information to speak to this exciting enhancement.

Children in Care during this period are eligible to remain in their caregiver setting with the same supports as in care status during the pandemic. The same is to be said for our otherwise transitioning youth are given an opportunity to remain with their supports under the CCSY contracts.

### WFS REUNIFICATION PROGRAM



The reunification program was designed to help reunite children to parental care upon service completion from Customary Care in Care Services. The unique vision of the program was designed by the years of understanding of lack of in-home support for parent's service involvement was coming to an end. The Gap in reestablishing the family home with bedding, food insecurity, safe storage of food, family gathering centers such as a dining room, living room needs for family to share and celebrate their reunification success. This unprecedented program now breaks many barriers and needs of family reunification by providing extended support to parents and in turn their children.

Understanding reunification factors such as upgrading the home living environment to have their children returned. Strengthening child parent relationship by having children design and decorate their rooms is providing a sense of permanency for them. Validation of the hard work of the family and, removing barriers identified by family following their services. Celebrating the care and work of overcoming personal struggles we can assist the family in removing any burdensome needs of a home to fully reunite as one family.

This past year 9 children in care 12 months or more were reunified through this program as a result of the hard work of their parents and success they all achieved. With the help of the reunification program, parents were able to provide for their children without the stress of worrying where finances, furniture or food will come from while they apply for their child tax subsidy etc. The program has been a success thus far and will continue into the next year.



# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

## INVESTIGATION AND ASSESSMENT TEAM

No Changes this past year with regards to staffing in the Unit. Protocols from Covid had lifted for the most part where all interviews were once again conducted face to face in the homes. Safety assessments continued with the use of PPE at times where warranted. This past year the increasing focus on prevention services.

## ANNUAL STATISTICS

INTAKES /REFERRALS	<b>622</b>
INVESTIGATIONS ASSIGNED	<b>60</b>
INVESTIGATIONS EARLY CLOSURE	<b>20</b>
<b>TOTAL NUMBER *NEW CHILDREN IN CARE</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>RE-ADMITTANCE TO CARE</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Investigation Assist Requests from other Agencies</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Request for Manager to assist in child death review (KRR)</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>WFS/Police Joint Investigations</b>	<b>3</b>

## Reflection of 2020-2022 fiscal year

2021-2022 reports increases in intakes/referrals and requirements for further investigations

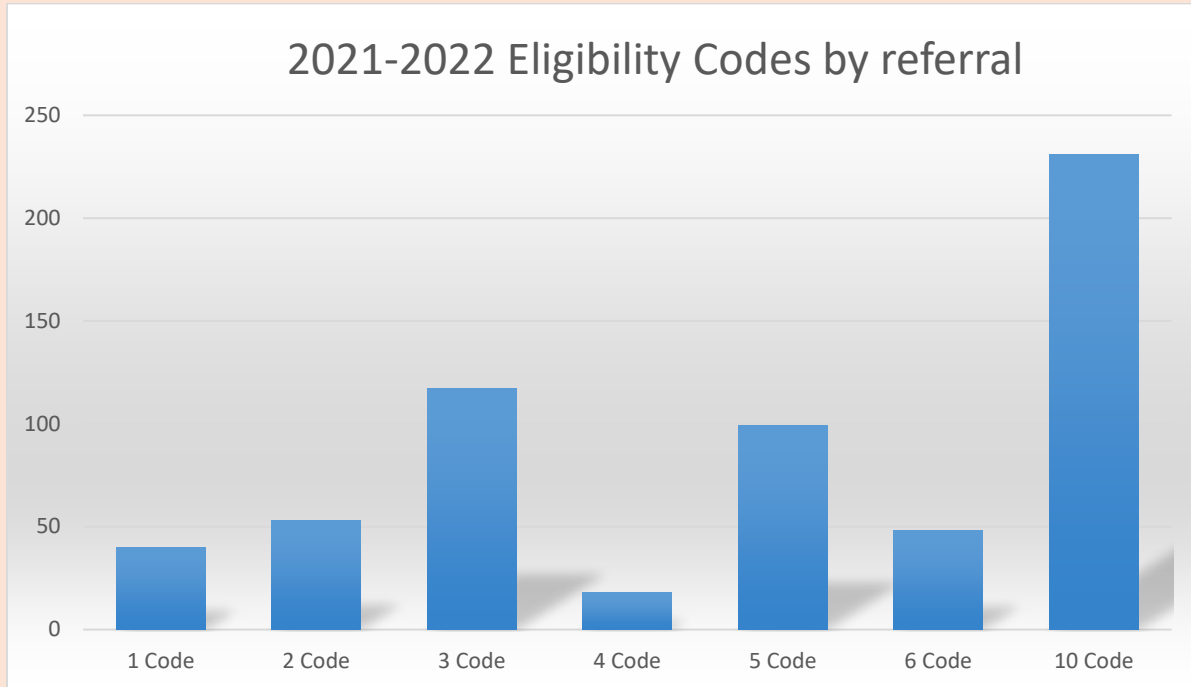
Referrals	2020/21= <b>833</b> 2021/22= <b>962</b>
Investigations	2020/21= <b>45</b> 2021/22= <b>60</b>
ON-CALL/ After Hours Calls/Referrals	2020/21= <b>432</b>

Prevention Services are always recommended and will continue to be the main focus from intake to closure. Prevention Services such as family healing program, First Nation family support, First Nation Family Preservation or Cultural Services. Prevention of Children being removed from families and brought to a place of Safety was prevented at every possible outcome. In Care numbers had went up slightly from last year. Numbers reflect re admittance to care cases and in Care for a brief period of time. WFS recommendation at every available opportunity is to safety plan with measures to ensure children remain



# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

with parents. This requires continued supports from the First Nation community workers to ensure the risks are lowered and First Nation resources are accessed by families



### Eligibility Code:

1 Code	Physical/Sexual Harm by Commission	40 Referrals
2 Code	Harm by Omission (failure to adequately care)	53 Referrals
3 Code	Emotional Harm	117 Referrals
4 Code	Abandonment & Separation	18 Referrals
5 Code	Caregiver Capacity	99 Referrals
6 Code	Request for Counselling	48 Referrals
10 Code	Request for Assistance/Consultation/Information/ Alerts from Justice/Education	231 Referrals

First Nations Case Management Calls – Case Note for FN 337 Calls

16 Referrals were 8 Codes for inquiry, home study and approval of Caregiver homes



# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

## PRIVACY OFFICER

During the previous fiscal year, The Privacy Officer reported 19 separate file disclosure requests. We received 10 Gladue Requests and 9 additional complete file requests. For the purposes of this report and in satisfaction of the requirements contained within Part X of the CYFSA, The Privacy Office included all legal matters in which documentation was requested and provided to our retained counsel for the purpose of responding to litigation. At the present time we are currently involved with 8 Superior Court of Justice matters that are presently in the early stages of setting dates for Examinations for Discovery. The Privacy Officer is also able to advise that we had received 4 other file requests that were reported as abandoned/incomplete. We received no further information or contact from the individual requestor after attempts to contact. These requests may be revived upon contact and will be reflected in the next report in the event such occurs.

As previously advised, the law is continuing to develop in response to the implementation of Part X and the Privacy Protocols contained within. Privacy Officer continues to attend bi-weekly Privacy Designate meetings to discuss the developments within this sector and the Agencies individual response and daily interactions with individual requestors.

## ALTERNATIVE CARE REPORT

<b>WFS CURRENT CAREGIVER LISTING</b>			
<b>INQUIRY</b>	<b>HOMESTUDY</b>	<b>APPROVED</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>134</b>

The total number of caregivers is somewhat lower than the previous year. Alternative Care Workers have a higher number of discharged caregivers who have either been stagnant in services or CIC was discharged and caregivers chose to close their home after the service was no longer required for specific children.

## CAREGIVER YEARS OF SERVICE

<b>APPROVED CAREGIVER YEARS OF SERVICE</b>			
<b>1-5 Years</b>	<b>6-10 years</b>	<b>11 &amp; over</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>37</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>103</b>



# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

The caregivers for the 10 First Nations communities are dedicated to providing care to Anishinaabeg children. WFS numbers of stable placements and low numbers of placement breakdowns are noted favorably by the Ministry auditors in comparison to other Child welfare agencies in the province.

## SSRP

<b>CHILD IN CARE BY SERVICE TYPE</b>			
<b>REGULAR</b>	<b>SPECIALIZED</b>	<b>TREATMENT</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>98</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>133</b>

This report reflects that 34% of all children in care require specialized or treatment care above the regular care rate received. These children receive specialized care according to their needs and assessment recommendations. The caregivers are provided training to meet the child's needs and are compensated for their extraordinary care and support provided.

## **FOSTER CARE LICENSING REVIEW 2021 RESULTS**

A Licensing and Compliance site review was conducted during the period of July 12th through September 7th, 2021 by Jared Olsen and Rikki Wallace, Licensors with the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services.

A foster care licensing checklist under the Child, Youth and Family Services Act (CYFSA) was completed. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, this review was conducted remotely. Access was provided to remote desktop to review children/youth and caregiver files. Interviews with children/youth, caregivers and staff were conducted via telephone and video conferencing applications. The communities involved in this year's review: Mishkosiminizziibiing/Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing First Nation, Rainy River First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, and Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation.

## **FOSTER CARE LICENSING REVIEW DATA:**

<b>CHILDREN IN CARE</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
Total number of foster children/youth in care.	184	
Number of foster children/youths interviewed	18	1 child declined to be interviewed
Number of open foster children/youth files reviewed	19	
Number of closed files reviewed	2	
Placing agencies	1	Kenora Rainy River Districts Child and Family Services.



## Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

<b>FOSTER PARENTS</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
Total number of approved foster homes (parents)	107	
Number of foster parents interviewed.	11	
Number of open files reviewed.	11	
Number of foster homes closed since last review.	7	
Number of closed files reviewed	2	

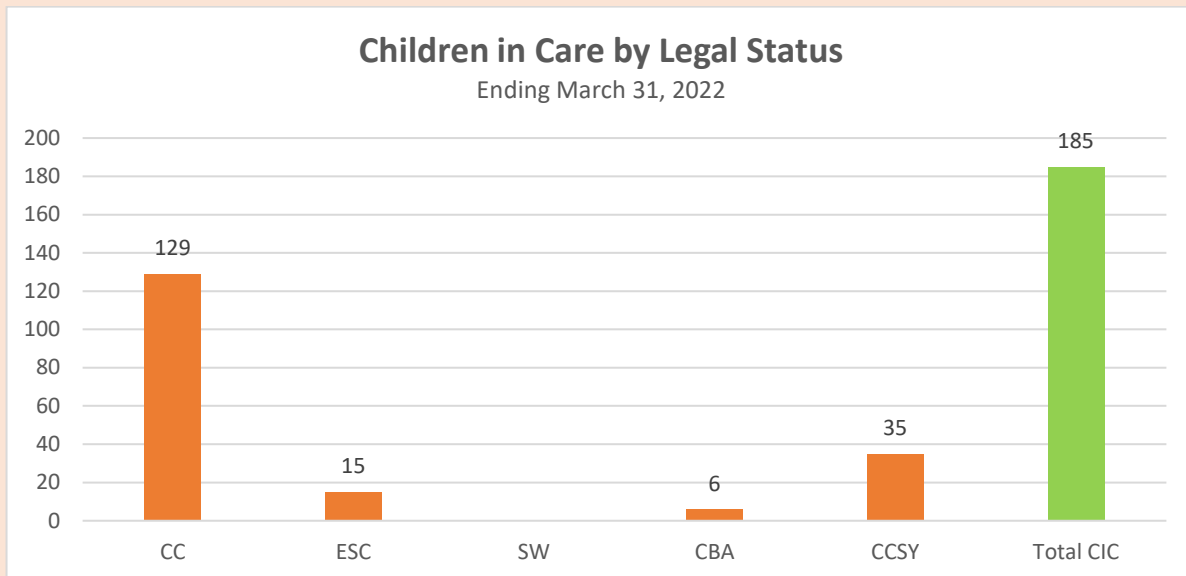
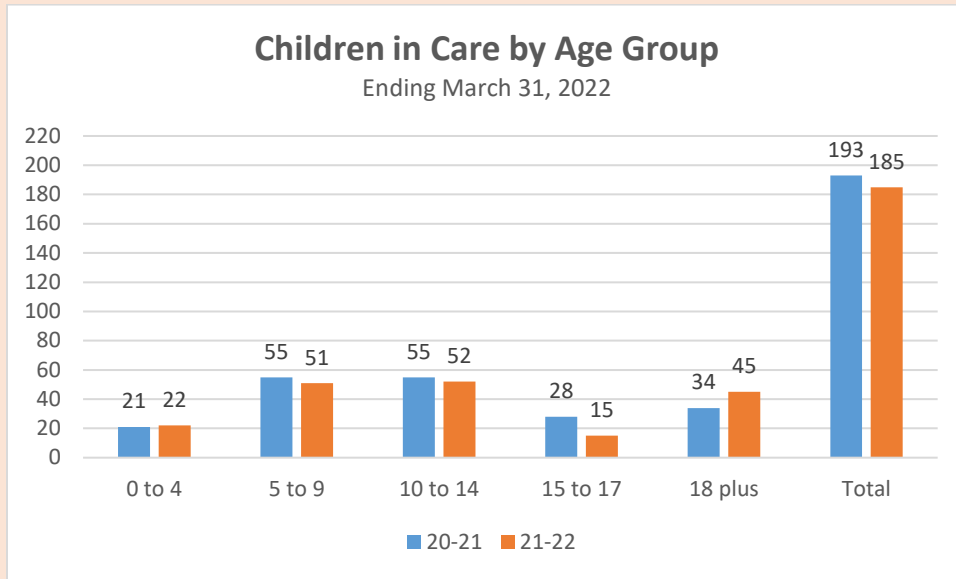
<b>RESOURCE STAFF</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
Total number of foster workers.	23	7 Alternative Care Workers 16 Child in Care Workers
Number of foster workers interviewed	5	2 Alternative Care Workers 2 Child in Care Workers 1 Licensee

### QUALITY ASSURANCE REPORT

In Care at Start Date (April 1, 2021): 193  
First Admissions: 23  
Re-Admissions: 22  
Discharges: 52  
In Care at End Date (March 31, 2022): 185



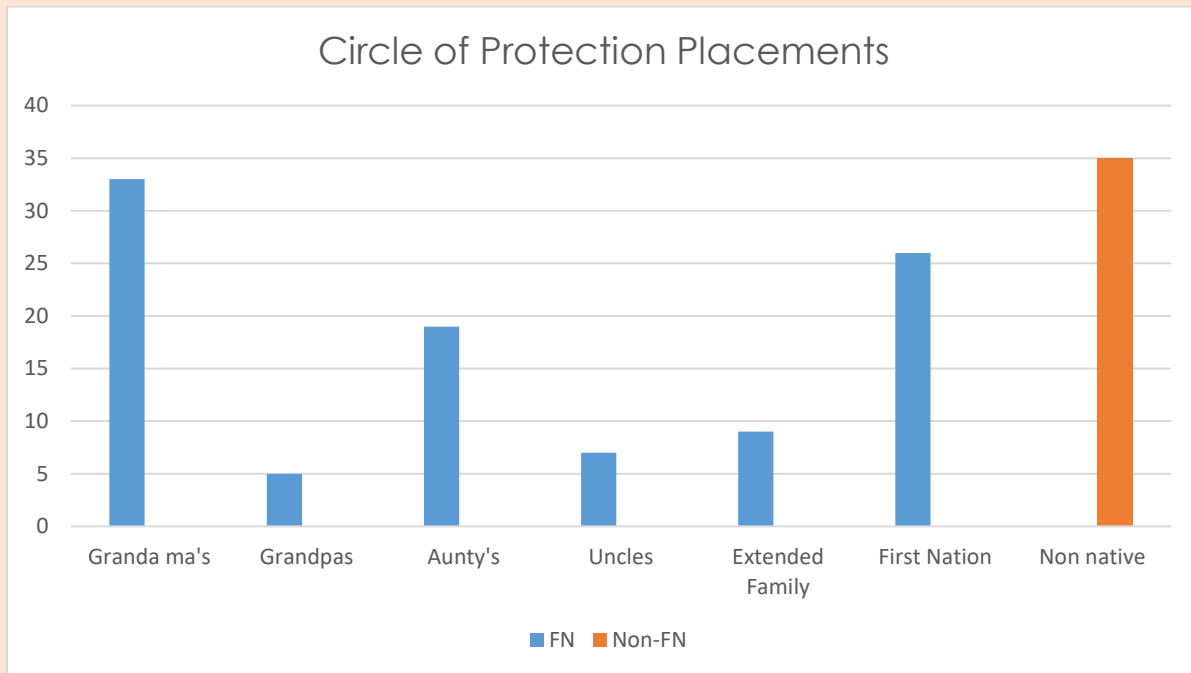
# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service







# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service



Circle of Protection Chart reflects Child placements within family and community. The love and care to our Children are supported by immediate or extended family. From time to time when a wellbeing placement reflect continuity of children maintaining connection to parent location (ex: Thunder Bay, or within their school community) placement may follow nontraditional placements but will always speak to the youths supports systems while maintain connection to their First Nation



# Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

## **COMMUNITY SUPPORT TECHNICIANS**

Weechi it te win has three CST's who are the direct contacts for the Community Supervisors. The CST's work directly with the FN to Support the Supervisor where needed and to help in providing Best Practices to our clients and ensure the licensing standards are met. CST's act as the liaison between the FN and the Agency. WFS as license holder at this time needs WFS signature as agency on behalf of our First Nations.

## **CST HIGHLIGHTS**

First Nation Community Care Program teams now have full compliments of staff totally 111 frontline workers at the 10 First Nations.

All continue to strive for the same goal which is to ensure all their clients receive the best possible care. New office space and/or buildings have come to fruition within a few of the CCP teams. This new space has allowed for greater programming and much needed privacy for the clients. Some of the services the CCP teams offer include, setting up cultural activities such as naming ceremonies, cultural healing and regalia making, girls and boys circles, sweats, craft sessions along with the wrap around services the communities have to offer.

There have been changes within some teams to better suit the worker to the position. This has been a positive change and will be more beneficial to the clients.

The CST's have been included in the case reviews per the Service Agreement and this gives the team and the CST an opportunity to brainstorm and come up with plans that are best practice for all of the clients. It also gives all involved a chance to maintain agency and First Nation relationships. Weechi it te win Family Services Inc. continues to support the CCP teams and help with skill development as they move towards Abinoojii Inakonigewin.

Community Care Program teams are moving towards a prevention focused service delivery methodology. CCP teams providing the prevention services first and foremost where ever possible before ever taking an intrusive approach.



## Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

### CLOSING REFLECTION

Weechi it te win Family Services continues to promote through our Naaniigaan team, it's intended purpose which is to advocate for children and their families and their community through our position within our First Nations, the Ministry and at technical working groups.

We continue to strive for a true indigenous child wellbeing program not only in our territory but share in our unique service delivery system and circle of care for all First Nations children. Miigwech!





# Abinoojii Inakonigewin Relationship Protocol Signing Ceremony





Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

# Sand Bagging in Couchiching





Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

# Spring Feast 2 Drum Ceremony





# Promoting our various services at the RL Square





**CELEBRATING LAURIE'S  
10TH ANNIVERSARY AS  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



**The Elders' Council gifted Laurie  
this Star Blanket**







Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

# TEACHING LODGE





Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

# Family BBQ Developmental Support Services



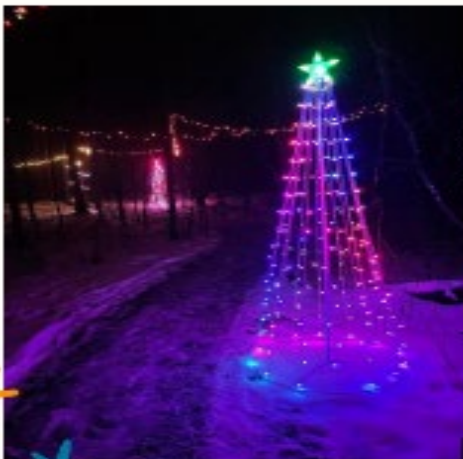


Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

## MCTAVISH ROAD WINTER WONDERLAND



Join Weechi-it-te-win Family Service  
*McTavish  
Winter  
Wonderland  
Trail of lights*  
71 McTavish Road, Lavallec Township  
December 16, 2021 4:00-8:00PM  
Hot Soup, Bannock, Cookies, Hot Chocolate  
bags for kids.  
Dress accordingly for the weather, please be  
safe for smaller children  
Covid protocols in place



TRAIL OF LIGHTS



Weechi-it-te-win Family Service

# Truth and Reconciliation Day



**McTavish Road**



# ELDER TEACHINGS

