

2013

Organizational Profile

Nokiiwin Tribal Council



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NOKIIWIN TRIBAL COUNCIL

ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

CONTACT

Name of Organization:	Nokiiwin Tribal Council
Mailing Address:	1000 Chippewa Road Fort William First Nation, ON P7J 1B6
Phone:	807 474 4230
Email:	director@nokiiwin.com
Website:	www.nokiiwin.com
Executive Director:	Audrey Gilbeau
Year of Establishment:	2008
Legal Status:	Incorporation

BACKGROUND

The idea of a Tribal Council within the Robinson-Superior Treaty area was brought to the table by First Nation leaders within the region. They realized the need for enhanced advisory services in the core areas of: Governance, Finance, Technical Services, Economic Development, and Community Planning, and they shared a vision for the creation of the Nokiiwin Tribal Council (NTC) to meet the growing needs of band administration staff and membership.

Over the next several years, the same community leaders campaigned for the implementation of this regional Tribal Council. As a result, Nokiiwin was incorporated in 2008 and has been fully staffed and serving its affiliate communities since 2009.

The Tribal Council Program (TCP) is one component of the First Nation Indian Government Support funding Program as provided through Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) support. The program was introduced in 1984 and operates under broad authorities provided by the same federal department.

Specific advisory services have been developed from AANDC and subsequently passed on to Nokiiwin Tribal Council who is responsible for the provision of these services to our affiliated membership communities.

Currently 6 of the 12 First Nation communities within the Robinson Superior Treat area are members of the Nokiiwin Tribal Council. These communities comprise a total population of 5,142 (3,290 on reserve and 1,852 off reserve).

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS

The Mission

The Nokiiwin Tribal Council is dedicated to working in unity with our member First Nations to enhance growth and prosperity.

The Vision

- Supporting a strong and unified working relationship with all First Nations within the Northern Superior region
- Promoting respect, unity, and pride in order to foster healthy, vibrant communities
- Promoting independence and self-sufficiency through the delivery of enhanced advisory services to member First Nations with a commitment to cultural values

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Nokiiwin is committed to supporting its members and working together as a regional group in order to build community strength for the future. A major role of the NTC is to promote and protect the cultural interests of the member communities. Culture provides a solid foundation from which member partnerships grow. It is the basic purpose for self-government and the reason for forming the Nokiiwin Tribal Council. With culture promotion as a main priority, the NTC can assist in providing member communities the following rights:

- To engage in intellectual, emotional, physical and spiritual features of our culture
- To preserve and protect traditions, value systems and beliefs of our people
- To enjoy and promote Ojibway language, art and lifestyle

VALUES FOR EXCELLENCE

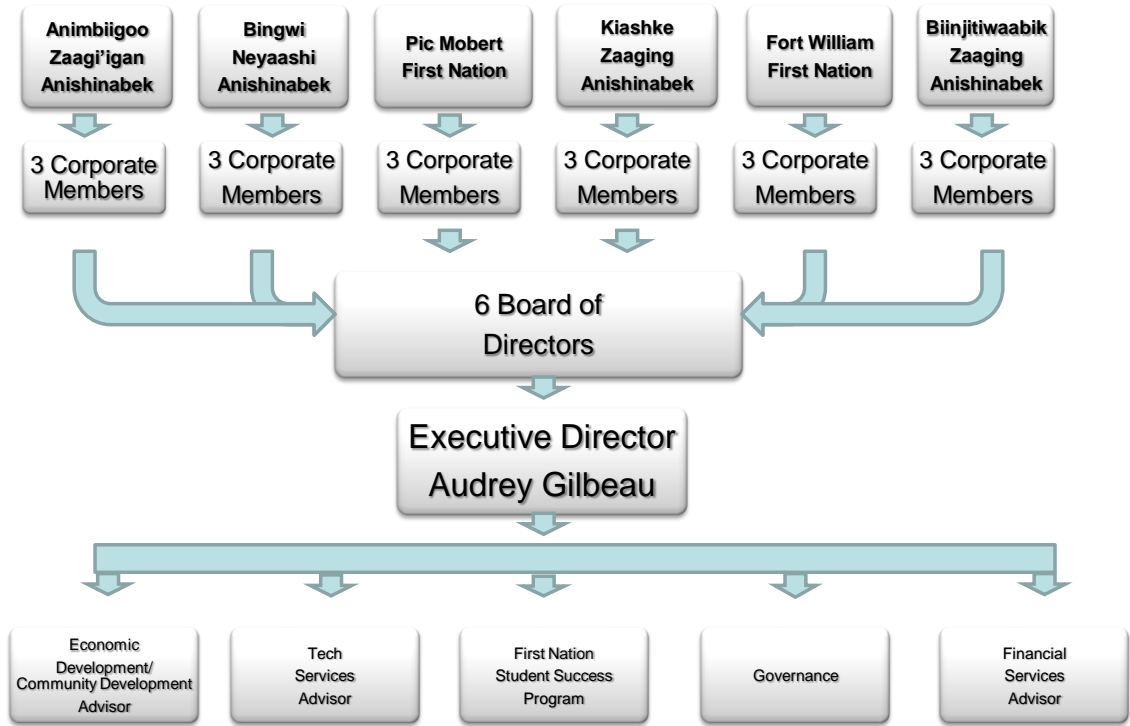
“We Value Your Values”. “Your Success Is Our Success”.

The Nokiiwin Tribal Council strives to be different. To go further. To be more. It is a non-political tribal council, dedicated to building lasting relationships with its member First Nations. The organization has a deep respect for individual cultural values, is committed to delivering its services in a spirit of unity, collaboration, and trust. Nokiiwin strives to work with its members to enhance growth and prosperity through capable and effective change management.

Nokiiwin Tribal Council Organizational Chart



Nokiiwin Tribal Council Organizational Chart



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Executive Director, under guidance and direction of the Board of Directors, manages the NTC. The board is comprised of 6 voting members, which are representatives selected by each member community and 1 non-voting member. The non-voting member is a Chief's representative, elected by member community leadership at the NTC Annual General Meeting.

Ray Nobis, President
Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek

Crystal Vincent, Vice President
Pic Mobert First Nation

Vacant, Chief's Representative

Joe Donio, Secretary/Treasurer
Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek

Vacant
Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek

Edmund C. King, Director
Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek

Ian Bannon, Director
Fort William First Nation

ADMINISTRATION

Audrey Gilbeau, Executive Director/Governance Advisor

Phone: 807 474 4230 x 1
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Diane Dunford, Financial Management

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Roger Rozon, Technical Services

Phone : 807 474 4230 x 3
Mobile : 807 620 1136
Email : techservices@nokiiwin.com

M. Catherine Banning, Economic Development/Community Planning

Phone: 807 474 4230 x 4
Mobile : 807 474 6268
Email : edo@nokiiwin.com

Ron Fisher, FNSSP Project Manager

Phone: 807 474 4230 x5
Mobile : 807 629 9362
Email : fnssp@nokiiwin.com

Arlene King, Executive Assistant

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Matt Lane, Marketing & Communications Intern

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Email: info@nokiiwin.com

MEMBERSHIP

Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek (Lake Nipigon Ojibway)

Population: 403 (2 on reserve, 401 off reserve)
Location: In the process of being located along Highway 11 and the shores of Partridge Lake
Land Size: 1,269.90 Hectares
Website: www.aza.ca
Note: AZA has its headquarters in the town of Beardmore which is located 191 km from Thunder Bay

Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek (Rocky Bay First Nation)

Population: 699 (333 on reserve, 366 off reserve)
Location: Along the shores of Lake Nipigon, 20 km from the town of Beardmore and 185 km from Thunder Bay on Highway 11
Land Size: 3.40 Hectares
Website: www.rockybayfn.ca

Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek (Sandpoint First Nation)

Population: 202 (4 on reserve, 192 off reserve)
Location: On the shores of Lake Nipigon along Highway 11
Land Size: 986.60 Hectares
Note: The Band Office is currently located in the City of Thunder Bay
Website: www.bnafn.ca

Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek (Gull Bay First Nation)

Population: 1,183 (336 on reserve, 847 off reserve)
Location: Along the shores of Lake Nipigon, 185 km north of Thunder Bay on Highway 527.
Land Size: 3,940 Hectares

Pic Mobert First Nation

Population: 863 (345 on reserve, 518 off reserve)
Location: Southwest end of White Lake, 359 km from Thunder Bay
Land Size: 30.20 Hectares
Website: www.picmobert.ca
Note: The reserve is composed of Pic Mobert North and Pic Mobert South

Fort William First Nation

Population: 1,798 (832 on reserve, 966 off reserve)
Location: On the shores of Lake Superior and is neighboring the City of Thunder Bay
Land Size: 5,815.1 Hectares
Website: www.fwfn.com

Map of Member Communities

Our Communities

Learn more about the individual communities the Nokiwin Tribal Council serves.

NOKIWIN

Kiashke Zaaging Anishinabek

Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinabek

Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinabek

Pic Mober First Nation

Fort William First Nation

Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek

[read more](#)

Robinson-Superior Treaty

The image is a map of the Robinson-Superior Treaty area, which is shaded in light green. A central red area represents the Nokiwin Tribal Council's service region. Within this red area, several yellow dots indicate the locations of member communities. Lines connect these dots to their respective names: Kiashke Zaaging Anishinabek (top), Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinabek (top-right), Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinabek (right), Pic Mober First Nation (bottom-right), Fort William First Nation (left), and Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (bottom). The Great Lakes are shown in teal. The Nokiwin Tribal Council logo is at the top left, and a 'read more' button is at the bottom left. The text 'Robinson-Superior Treaty' with a small red map icon is at the bottom right.

EXISTING PROGRAMS

Governance

Nokiiwin Tribal Council Inc. supports a broad range of services, which cater to the diverse needs identified by the communities. The primary focus is to assist the communities with upgrading the quality of services that are provided to their respective members.

It is difficult to overstate the importance of governance. It impacts all areas of society and plays an essential part in First Nation communities.

As a governance advisory service provider, Nokiiwin Tribal Council is available to assist with a variety of activities:

- Strategic planning and development of government structures
- Streamlining of basic administrative functions
- Interpretation of Section 74 of the Indian Act and Band Custom Elections and Referenda
- Election codes
- Conflict of interest codes
- Codes of conduct
- Management training
- Orientation and development programs for elected officials and department managers
- Interpreting the Indian Act for members and membership registration

Finance

Nokiiwin provides financial administrators with the skills to support:

- Financial planning
- Financial training
- Formulation and implementation of financial management policies and procedures
- Budgeting
- Debt consolidation
- Remedial management and repayment plans

Finance Activities

- Technical training in proper set-up and use of computerized accounting systems
- Audit preparation assistance
- Funding application assistance

- Financial report preparation assistance
- Financial and human resources policy writing assistance
- Assisting the development of management action plans
- Assisting third party and co-management exit strategies
- Designing and delivering workshops and presentations in financial management

Technical Services

To achieve and maintain high standards, member First Nations are offered advisory services in the following areas:

- Housing
- Operation and maintenance of capital assets
- Water and waste water
- Capital planning and development
- Fire and safety
- Environment
- Infrastructure (i.e. electrification, roads, and irrigation)

Community Planning

The objective of the Community Planning Program is to make planning an ongoing and routine exercise for members in order to maximize limited resources and address the myriad of community issues in an integrated manner.

Community planning is a process through which a community establishes a direction for the future and determines the specific actions needed to realize that direction. A completed Comprehensive Community Plan:

- Guides individual decisions
- Indicates where and how the community should grow
- Establishes how community resources should be managed
- Serves as a basis for negotiating agreements
- Is transparent and holds everyone accountable

In order to encourage neighbourhood design and land use planning approaches that reduce costs and environmental impacts, while maintaining community livability, Nokiwin promotes effective community planning practices that include:

- Providing orientation on community planning
- Planning and implementing community development strategies
- Building human resource capacity

Economic Development

The Economic Development Program is committed to the continuous improvement of business development services, business enterprises, management processes, work environments, and individual job functions.

Nokiiwin Tribal Council understands the goals and values of its First Nation membership and provides focused business and economic development advisory services to help communities achieve new business and job creation successes.

In order to improve the standard of living and economic health of member communities, Nokiiwin Tribal Council promotes effective community business development activities and strategies by supporting:

- Planning and implementation of economic development strategies
- Promoting on-reserve economic development
- Assisting with strengthening the economies of its communities
- Assisting with developing sustainable businesses; seeking business opportunities and community land and resource development
- Providing assistance and advisory support to Economic Development Officers related to projects, proposals, and possible funding sources
- Establishing a strong network of business relationships within the region
- Providing training and professional business development opportunities

Economic Development Activities

- Researches and advocates on behalf of our communities in the different sector areas that will benefit them most
- Provides workshops in developing capacity building within the communities
- Networking and acting as liaison between the First Nations and Municipal, Provincial, and Federal governments
- Assists communities by forwarding pertinent information concerning the development of their economic development projects
- Provides advisory and assistance in proposal preparation

First Nation Student Success Program

The First Nation Student Success Program (FNSSP) is a proposal-driven program designed to help First Nation educators on reserve (Kindergarten to Grade 12) and improve school results.

The FNSSP supports First Nation education organizations (kindergarten to grade 12) in developing and implementing three interrelated components:

- School success plans
- Student learning assessments
- Performance measurement

These three interrelated components in turn help educators to plan and make improvements in the three priority areas of:

- Numeracy
- Literacy
- Student retention

FNSSP Activities

- Two new computer systems for data input within the Dadavan framework
- Ongoing licensing and support for Dadavan student information system which will be exportable to AANDC, in the near future. The Trillium and Maplewood student information systems are not compatible like this
- Dadavan training on student information, attendance, IEP's, etc.
- Literacy support from specialized contracted literacy support people. This includes assessments, resource discussion, literacy programming, literacy intervention, training and school success planning
- \$75,000 in funding directly for literacy resources divided amongst four schools
- Thousands of dollars in literacy training
- Access to literacy assessment tools: OLA, DRA, CASI, OCA

Governance

Good governance is a solid foundation for growth. The core functions of government are the foundation upon which all other activities and functions are built. Nokiiwin Tribal Council has the capacity to assist, advise, and/or train member First Nations in a broad range of band governance activities to address the ten core functions of governance including:

1. Leadership
2. Membership
3. Planning and Risk Management
4. Community Involvement
5. Lawmaking
6. Financial Management
7. Human Resource Management
8. Information Management
9. External Relations
10. Basic Administration

Good Governance Activities

- Provide Chief and Council orientation (roles and responsibilities)
- Support individual First Nation lawmaking initiatives i.e. election code, membership code, and financial and administration codes
- Support First Nation organizational development processes
- Assist in providing human resource management support in the areas of policy development, clarification of roles and responsibilities i.e. job descriptions and organizational charts
- Support team building activities
- Facilitate community planning sessions
- Promote best practices in community governance development
- Facilitate the development of effective communication processes and strategies

SUCCESS STORIES

Since the incorporation of the Nookiiwin Tribal Council in 2008, the organization has been involved in several regional initiatives and can lay claim to many accomplishments including:

- Coordination and subsidization of meeting and participant travel costs of the Aboriginal and Northern Development Canada Annual Funding Information Sessions, both in the Southern and Northern Ontario regions, on behalf of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC)
- Coordination of regional community consultation meetings with the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forests on the forest tenure process
- Establishment of a partnership agreement with Anishinabek Employment & Training Services in economic development sectors, forestry, mining, tourism, and energy
- Approval under the First Nation Student Success Program and AANDC to enable First Nation educators to plan and make improvements in three priority areas: literacy, numeracy, and student retention
- Development of a Natural Resources Training to Employment Proposal. Nookiiwin signed a two-year partnership agreement with Anishinabek Employment & Training Services, allocating \$4.7M to nine communities in the Northern Superior Region for skills training in the tourism, forestry, environment, mining, and energy sectors.
- Facilitation of consultations with eight communities within the Northern Superior Region on behalf of the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, and Forests with reference to the framework to modernize the Forest Tenure & Pricing system for Ontario.
- Development of a Community Strategic Planning Toolkit
- Completion of a Comprehensive Community Planning Guide
- Development of a Comprehensive Community Planning Handbook
- Assisted member communities by forwarding pertinent information concerning the development of their community planning projects
- Assisted communities in the request for proposal process (RFP) and preparation of terms of reference for consultants and their comprehensive community plans

CURRENT INITIATIVES

Educational Structural Readiness

This is a 373500 proposal submitted as a result of the Educational Organization Planning Tool (EOPT) that was conducted Dec. 2012 at the Valhalla Inn with community representatives and the assistance of John Higham from Chignecto Consulting.

The EOPT session looked at deficiencies in upper level services that have been identified within some of our education systems such as:

- Education agreements
- Bussing agreements
- External relations (school boards)
- Parental/community involvement
- Education supports

This was approved in a letter April 22, 2013. A suitable candidate will be hired June, 2013. Some of the activities to be undertaken will be:

- Assist front line First Nation education officials in administration, management and development of education services and programs in their community
- Help strengthen first nations control and administration of first Nations education programs
- Assess new regional/provincial education initiatives and recommend actions
- Assist with needs assessments and design of alternative programs
- Enable cost effective professional supports
- Outline methods to measure success
- Research and outline/propose new curriculum ideas
- Assist with data management, student record keeping and track school performance