NISHNAWBE-ASKI LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION



AND



OPP POLICING TREATY #9 NW REGION PIKANGIKUM, BIG TROUT LAKE AND WEAGAMOW POLICE PROTOCOL

August 10, 2012

Between:

AGENCY

Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services Corporation (NALSC)

And

OPP Policing Treaty #9 NW Region, Pikangikum Police, Big Trout Lake Police and Weagamow Police

(Herein referred to collectively as the "OPP/NW Region Police")

WHEREAS NALSC offers services in the areas of Restorative Justice; Victims Services; and Child Welfare under the Talking Together program;

AND WHEREAS the OPP polices areas Treaty #9 NW Region along with Pikangikum, Big Trout Lake and Weagamow Police; (hereinafter collectively referred to as the **OPP/NW Region Police**);

AND WHEREAS the OPP/NW Region Police and NALSC wish to cooperate in an integration of these services such that OPP/NW Region Police officers are made aware of and agree to refer proper cases to these programs;

THEREFORE THE PARTIES AGREE to enter into a protocol with the following conditions:

Pre Charge Diversions:

The OPP/NW Region Police officers in cases deemed appropriate (example, first time offences) may prior to the laying of charges, contact the appropriate NALSC worker or manager, as per Appendix 'A' (attached) in order to divert the case to the Restorative Justice Program.

1. The Restorative Justice Worker:

The worker will report to the OPP/NW Region the result of the Circle and all follow-up and if for any reason the process breaks down the matter will be referred back to OPP/NW Region Police who will then proceed to lay charges. (In cases of summary conviction offences the process must be finalized within 6 months of the date of the offence.)

2. Post Charge Diversions:

Once charges are laid OPP/NW Region Police Officers agree to make recommendations to the Crown Attorney if it is considered that the accused might benefit from the Restorative Justice program. Once Crown agreement is obtained the officer can make the referral to the worker as per appendix 'A' or if there is no worker covering the community to the Head Office Restorative Justice Manager.

3. Victim Services:

Should the investigating officer determine that the victim involved could benefit from the services of the NALSC s/he will contact the Victim Witness Liaison.

4. Talking Together:

In the event that, as a result of a criminal occurrence, children become involved with the Child Welfare System, officers involved will make their best efforts to refer the case to the Talking Together Manager who will work with the family and the community to mediate the matter in accordance with the Talking Together Protocols with the relevant Child Welfare Agencies.

5. Training and NALSC:

NALSC Agrees to provide training to OPP/NW Region Police officers in the Restorative Justice Facilitation process and the Talking Together process as well as information sharing about all NALSC services.

6. Staff:

NALSC agrees to provide list of workers to the OPP/NW Region detachments and update them as required.

7. Terms of Agreement:

This Operating Protocol shall continue in effect until terminated, with or without cause by either party upon giving thirty (30) days written notice to the other.

8. Amendment:

This Operating Protocol may be amended upon the written agreement of all parties.

This agreement will take effect from the date of signing and OPP/NW Region Police agrees to supply their officers with copies pursuant of this agreement and Appendices and to encourage officers to look for diversions, receive training, and otherwise undertake to further the agreement.

Dated at Thunder Bay this day of _	August, 2012.
Ron Van Straalen Regional Commander OPP/ NW Region Police	Withess
Celina Reitberger Executive Director	Witness

Appendix A

COMMUNITY LEGAL WORKERS

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