

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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*“Servicing the City of Thunder Bay”*

## CONTACT USTODAY



## MY JOURNEY BACK HOME “Nih-Keewaywin”



## NISHNAWBE-ASKI LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

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## “Memory of our Seven Youth”

“It is hoped that MJBH program can fill the gaps with opportunities to guide youth and to break the negative cycle to find success on their journey to a good life.”



## What is 'My Journey Back Home'

My Journey Back Home is an innovative method of dispute resolution designed for youth 12-29 based on traditional circles. This process has been used since time immemorial to restore harmony between family and community members. By bringing My Journey Back Home and their supports together in a non-judgemental way, a plan will emerge which has the support of the community and allows the voice of our youth to be heard in a safe place. This provides an alternative to the judicial process.

Some proposed issues for an ADR-MJBH: Domestic Violence, Human-Trafficking, Basic needs, homelessness, drug addiction, mental health, lack of education, legal issues, lack of life skills.

### Program Supports:

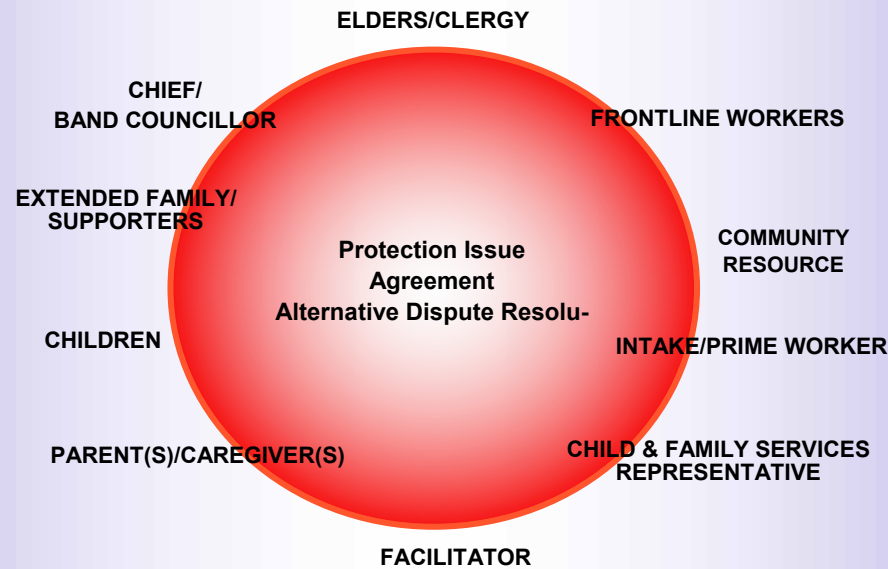
MJBH Facilitator will provide an Alternative Dispute Resolution process known as 'Talking Together' a traditional ADR Circle approach that allows youth to make decisions, safely share, speak freely, and be acknowledged in a respectful traditional manner.

The MJBH Facilitator & MJBH Aftercare Worker along with all participants of the Circle will assist youth in resolving issues and help develop their plan incorporating the mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual needs of the individual. The process assists the youth in navigating systems and develop community connections which may include: traditional supports and activities, educational goals, employment and training, advocacy, life skills, mental health, addiction, housing, legal services, and human-trafficking awareness.

The CIRCLE is a voluntary process. Participants may include YOUTH, Family, First Nation Band Council Representatives. Discussions will allow the youth to have a voice in a safe place to share and be heard.

When a plan of care/agreement is reached the MJBH Aftercare Worker will continue to support the individual.. Our goal is to utilize traditional ADR.

The goal is to provide ongoing supports and advocate to the youth for easier access to services and resources, and who are dealing with issues as homelessness, mental health, addictions, unemployment, lack of education, involvement in corrections, basic life skills and etc.



The process would allow Youth who leave care to make an easier transition to independent living and gain life skills, education increase level of physical and emotional well-being and to gain supports and resources that would assist them when moving into adulthood. It is our hope to partner with YOU to support the youth needing services, safety supports and develop a path to 'their journey back home.'

## Alternative Dispute Resolution

"defined as a process to resolve disputes out of the judicial system"

ADR-includes negotiation, mediation, and arbitration. It allows parties to combine these methods and tailor the rules to fit their needs.

Aboriginal ADR seeks to restore collective harmony between both parties, unlike the western-based Dispute Resolution system that bases its judgement on the evidence adduced.

ADR encompasses mechanisms used in resolving disputes outside of adversarial litigation. ADR seeks to restore collective harmony between both parties in a case.

### Your Right: To an ADR Approach

The Child and Family Services Act mandates the following: If a child is or may be in need of protection, a children's aid society must consider whether a prescribed method of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) could assist in resolving any issue related to the child or a plan for the child's care (section 20.2 (1)).

The Court, at anytime during proceeding with consenting of the parties, may adjourn the proceeding to permit the parties to utilize a prescribed method of ADR to attempt to resolve the issues in dispute (section 51.1)

