



# Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services Corporation



Cat Lake First Nation, August 2024

## ACCESS NALSC COURT INFORMATION

Advance Court Virtual Zoom Connection – October 2024

Northern Duty Counsel Calendar October 2024

Visit our website:

<https://nanlegal.on.ca/>

## INSIDE YOU WILL FIND:

- Advice Lawyer/Duty Counsel
- Community Legal Workers
- Harvesting Rights
- Youth Centre
- Talking Together Program
- My Journey Back Home
- Community Events
- Annual General Meeting
- National Truth and Reconciliation Day
- NAN Territory Orange Map

## Advice Lawyer

---

The Advice Lawyer provides brief service or short summary legal advice to qualifying NAN Community members. This legal service applies only to questions for qualifying legal issues.

Advice Lawyer Hours:

- Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday  
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST

Advice Lawyer Contact:

- Phone: (807) 622-1413
- Toll-Free: 1-800-465-5581
- Email: [legalaid@nanlegal.on.ca](mailto:legalaid@nanlegal.on.ca)

## Duty Counsel

---

NALSC Legal Aid provides Duty Counsel – on the day before court day (Advance Day) and on Court Day – to assist people who appear in Court without a lawyer. Duty Counsel can assist people in the community, by providing summary legal advice on legal issues.

Duty Counsel services include:

- summary legal advice without a fee
- assistance with legal and government forms.

## Community Legal Workers

---

Community Legal Workers provide legal, paralegal, and law-related services to the band members of Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN). CLW's work with justice personnel and NAN communities. They help clients with legal matters and are often the first point of contact for clients in the court process. They help clients apply for Legal Aid and to find a lawyer.

# Community Legal Workers

---

## **Jacob Mekanak**

Cell: (807) 630-9503

Email: [jmekanak@nanlegal.on.ca](mailto:jmekanak@nanlegal.on.ca)

56 Front Street, Upper Floor

Sioux Lookout, ON P8T 1B8

*Bearskin Lake, Cat Lake, New Slate Falls, Sachigo Lake, North Caribou Lake (Weagamow), Lac Seul*

## **Don Sainnawap**

Cell: (807) 738-5076

Email: [dsainnawap@nanlegal.on.ca](mailto:dsainnawap@nanlegal.on.ca)

56 Front Street, Upper Floor

Sioux Lookout, ON P8T 1B8

*Kasabonika Lake, Kingfisher Lake, Wapekeka, Wawakapewin, Wunnumin Lake*

## **Sarah Desforges**

Cell: (807) 630- 3490

Email: [sdesforges@nanalegal.on.ca](mailto:sdesforges@nanalegal.on.ca)

Red Lake, ON

*Deer Lake, North Spirit Lake, Poplar Hill, Keewaywin, MacDowell Lake, Fort Severn*

## **Robert Ostamas**

Cell: (807) 632- 6339

Email: [rostamas@nanlegal.on.ca](mailto:rostamas@nanlegal.on.ca)

101 N Syndicate Ave. Suite 101

Thunder Bay, ON P7C 3V4

*Eabametoong, Webequie, Nibinimak, Ogoki Post, Neskantaga, Mishkeegogamang (New Osnaburgh)*

## **Ashley Cederwall**

Cell: 807-464-5599

Email: [acederwall@nanlegal.on.ca](mailto:acederwall@nanlegal.on.ca)

308 Second Street South, Suite 14

Kenora, ON P9N 1G4

*Big Trout Lake, Muskrat Dam, Sandy Lake*

## **Stella Kiokee-Koostachin**

Tel: (705) 997-1285

Email: [skoostachin@nanlegal.on.ca](mailto:skoostachin@nanlegal.on.ca)

P.O. Box 152

Attawapiskat ON, P0L 1A0

*Attawapiskat, Fort Albany, Kashechewan, Peawanuk*

## **Roberta Wesley**

Cell: (705)-373-2100

Email: [rwesley@nanlegal.on.ca](mailto:rwesley@nanlegal.on.ca)

37 Wawaskashoo, P.O. Box 236,

Constance Lake, ON P0L 1B0

*Aroland, Constance Lake, Ginoogaming, Hornepayne, Long Lake #58*

## **Jackie Edwards**

Cell: (705) 221- 1112

Email: [jedwards@nanlegal.on.ca](mailto:jedwards@nanlegal.on.ca)

119 Pine Street S., Suite 210

Timmins, ON P4N 2K3

*Takway Tagmou, Wahgoshig, Moose Factory, Moosonee*

## **Madeline Kioke**

Cell: (705) 221- 1113

Email: [mkioke@nanlegal.on.ca](mailto:mkioke@nanlegal.on.ca)

119 Pine Street S., Suite 210

Timmins, ON P4N 2K3

*Beaverhouse, Brunswick House, Chapleau Ojibway, Chapleau Cree, Matachewan, Mattagmi*

## **Darlene Suggashie**

Cell : (807) 620-5441

Email: [dsuggashie@nanlegal.on.ca](mailto:dsuggashie@nanlegal.on.ca)

Pikangikum, ON P0V 2L0

*Pikangikum*

# Know your Harvesting Rights

YOU MAY ALSO HAVE MESHAKE RIGHTS



## HARVESTING OUTSIDE YOUR TERRITORY? KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

NISHNAWBE-ASKI LEGAL  
SERVICES CORPORATION  
Toll Free: 1-800-465-5581  
Tel: (807) 622-1413  
Fax: (807) 622-3024

[www.nanlegal.on.ca](http://www.nanlegal.on.ca)

## YOU MAY ALSO HAVE MESHAKE RIGHTS

### What is Meshake?

- In Ontario, if you are married or in a common law relationship with a member of a different community or treaty, and your relationship is accepted by the community, then you have the right to hunt, trap or fish on their territory through "kinship".

### What are the restrictions?

- The community whose lands you want to hunt, trap or fish on, must have a tradition of sharing harvests between families.

To speak to a lawyer, call Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services at 1-800-465-5581

## YOU HAVE SHIPMAN RIGHTS

### What are Shipman Rights?

- Shipman Rights allow you to hunt, fish, trap, and harvest outside of your home community.
- You may share the wildlife harvesting rights of another community by "Sheltering Under" or "Borrowing" their treaty rights.
- The community whose land you are hunting, fishing, trapping or harvesting on must have a tradition of granting permission to people from other First Nations to use their resources.

### How do I exercise my rights?

- You must get a written letter of permission from the Chief of the community where you wish to harvest. The letter must include:
  - (1) Your name;
  - (2) The species and quantity of fish or game authorized;
  - (3) The geographical area where permission is granted;
  - (4) The timeframe in which it may be harvested; and
  - (5) The Chief's signature.
- You must carry the letter with you and produce it to a Conservation Officer at their request, along with any other identifying document.



## HARVESTING OR HUNTING, TRAPPING, FISHING OUTSIDE YOUR TERRITORY? KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

NISHNAWBE-ASKI LEGAL  
SERVICES CORPORATION  
Toll Free: 1-800-465-5581  
Tel: (807) 622-1413  
Fax: (807) 622-3024

[www.nanlegal.on.ca](http://www.nanlegal.on.ca)

If you have been charged and/or your property has been seized, contact our office if you are a band member from a NAN First Nation. Your rights are extremely valuable and you must do all you can to protect them.

You can make a complaint against a Conservation Officer by:

Telephone: 1-855-497-7445

E-mail: [howarewedoing@ontario.ca](mailto:howarewedoing@ontario.ca)

Online form: [ontario.ca/form/make-complaint-or-compliment-conservation-officer](http://ontario.ca/form/make-complaint-or-compliment-conservation-officer)

To speak to a Lawyer, call Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services at 1-800-465-5581

## YOU HAVE ABORIGINAL, TREATY & CHARTER RIGHTS

### What are my hunting, trapping and fishing rights?

- You have the right to hunt, trap and fish for personal, community and ceremonial purposes on your traditional territory without a license.
- Hunting and fishing rights are community-specific. Make sure your practice has a historical significance to your community.

### What can get me in trouble?

- Unsafe hunting practices.
- Commercial sale or trade of fish and wildlife.
- Hunting on visibly occupied or private land.
- The fish or wildlife is at risk or endangered.

### Who can stop me?

- Conservation Officers from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

### What are my responsibilities?

- You must provide proof of your rights by showing your status card.
- You must show the fish, wildlife, or other item as requested by the officer.

### What are my rights if I am stopped?

- If you are stopped for an inspection, you may leave and not answer questions if you are NOT being detained or arrested.
- If you are being detained or arrested, you have the right to know why, the right to speak with a Lawyer AND the right to stay silent.

**Youth Space now available in Timmins, ON!**  
**Contact a Youth Intervention Worker for more information.**

# YOUTH SPACE

AGES  
12-17

97 PINE STREET SOUTH  
UNIT 6  
TIMMINS, ON

A SAFE PLACE FOR  
NAN YOUTH TO  
HANGOUT

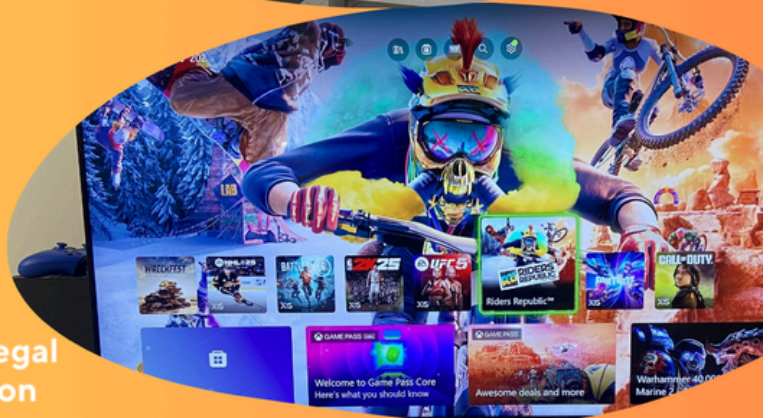
- Gaming
- Movies
- Music
- Snacks
- Culture

 /youthprogram4



Nishnawbe-Aski Legal  
Services Corporation

ᐱᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ ᐱᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ  
ᐱᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ ᐱᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ



Monday-Friday, 9AM-5PM



# TALKING TOGETHER

## KEEPING FAMILIES TOGETHER IN THE COMMUNITY

### WHAT IS TALKING TOGETHER?

Talking Together is an innovative method of Indigenous Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) based on Traditional Talking Circles that has been used by First Nations since time immemorial to restore harmony to families and communities. By bringing people together in a non-judgmental way, a plan will emerge which has the support of the family and community. This provides an alternative to the Court process and returns control to the First Nations concerning the planning and protection of their children.

**KNOW YOUR RIGHTS:  
ABORIGINAL CHILD  
PROTECTION  
ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE  
RESOLUTION IS A  
RIGHT!**

When a children's aid society removes an Indigenous child from their home, it must give notice to the Indigenous community or band representative who then can participate in the court proceedings and work out an out-of-court agreement through Alternative Dispute Resolution.

Under Ontario law, child protection services to Indigenous people must recognize their culture, heritage, and traditions as well as the importance of preserving the child's cultural identity.

If a child is, or may be, in need of protection, a children's aid society must consider whether a prescribed method of ADR could assist in resolving any issues related to the child or a plan for the child's care (section 20.2(1)).

### CONTACT INFORMATION

**Carol Buswa, Manager**

Cell: (807) 621-3523 Fax: (807) 622-3024

Toll Free: 1-800-465-5581

Email: [cbuswa@nanlegal.on.ca](mailto:cbuswa@nanlegal.on.ca)

**CALL US  
NOW**

**Zelda Watt, Program Lead**

Cell: (807) 620-8150 Fax: (807) 622-3024

Toll Free 1-800-465-5581

Email: [zwatt@nanlegal.on.ca](mailto:zwatt@nanlegal.on.ca)

### TALKING TOGETHER FACILITATORS

**Thunder Bay**

Cell: (807) 631-2415

**Timmins**

Cell: (705) 288-4075

**Sioux Lookout**

Cell: (807) 633-1784

**Moosonee**

Cell: (705) 288-5500

[WWW.NANLEGAL.ON.CA](http://WWW.NANLEGAL.ON.CA)

### TALKING TOGETHER PROGRAM AVAILABLE IN FIRST NATIONS IN NISHNAWBE-ASKI NATION (ON & OFF RESERVE)

AROLAND FIRST NATION  
ATTAWAPISKAT FIRST NATION  
BEARSKIN LAKE FIRST NATION  
BEAVERHOUSE FIRST NATION  
BRUNSWICK HOUSE FIRST NATION  
CAT LAKE FIRST NATION  
CHAPLEAU CREE FIRST NATION  
CHAPLEAU OJIBWE FIRST NATION  
CONSTANCE LAKE FIRST NATION  
DEER LAKE FIRST NATION  
EABAMETOONG FIRST NATION  
FLYING POST FIRST NATION

FORT ALBANY FIRST NATION  
FORT SEVERN FIRST NATION  
GINOOGAMING FIRST NATION  
HORNEPAYNE FIRST NATION  
KASABONIKA LAKE FIRST NATION  
KASHECHEWAN FIRST NATION  
KEEWAYWIN FIRST NATION  
KINGFISHER LAKE FIRST NATION  
KOOCHENCHING FIRST NATION  
LAC SEUL FIRST NATION  
LONG LAKE #58 FIRST NATION  
MCDOWELL LAKE FIRST NATION

MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION  
MATACHEWAN FIRST NATION  
MATTAGAMI FIRST NATION  
MISHKEEGOGAMANG FIRST NATION  
MISSANABIE CREE FIRST NATION  
MOCREEBEC COUNCIL OF CREE NATION  
MOOSE CREE FIRST NATION  
MUSKRAT DAM FIRST NATION  
NESKANTAGA FIRST NATION  
NIBINAMIK FIRST NATION  
NORTH CARIBOU LAKE FIRST NATION  
NORTH SPIRIT LAKE FIRST NATION

PIKANGIKUM FIRST NATION  
POPLAR HILL FIRST NATION  
SACHIGO LAKE FIRST NATION  
SANDY LAKE FIRST NATION  
SLATE FALLS NATION  
TAYKWA TAGAMOU NATION  
WAHGOISHIG FIRST NATION  
WAPAKEKA FIRST NATION  
WAWAKAPEWIN FIRST NATION  
WEBEQUIE FIRST NATION  
WEENUSK FIRST NATION  
WHITewater LAKE FIRST NATION  
WUNNUMIN LAKE FIRST NATION



NISHNAWBE-ASKI LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

# MY JOURNEY BACK HOME “NIH-KEEWAYWIN”

## 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. The process has been used since time immemorial to restore harmony between families and community members. By bringing My Journey Back Home and their supports together in a non-judgmental 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 ADR-MJBH include:

- Domestic Violence
- Human-Trafficking
- Drug Addiction
- Lack of education/skills
- Legal Issues
- Basic Needs
- Homelessness
- Mental Health

IT IS HOPED THAT MJBH CAN  
FILL THE GAPS WITH  
OPPORTUNITY TO GUIDE YOUTH  
AND BREAK THE NEGATIVE  
CYCLE TO FIND SUCCESS  
ON THEIR JOURNEY TO  
A GOOD LIFE

## PROGRAM SUPPORTS

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

The MJBH Facilitator & aftercare worker, along with all participants of the Circle, will assist youth in resolving issues and help develop their plan while incorporating the mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual needs of the individual. The process assists the youth in navigating systems and develop community connections.

The process would allow Youth who leave care to make an easier transition to independent living and gain life skills, education, physical and emotional well-being and supports and resources that would assist with their transition 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”.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Carol Buswa, Manager

Cell: (807) 621-3523 Fax: (807) 622-3024

Toll Free: 1-800-465-5581

Email: [cbuswa@nanlegal.on.ca](mailto:cbuswa@nanlegal.on.ca)

CALL US  
NOW

### Zelda Watt, Program Lead

Cell: (807) 620-8150 Fax: (807) 622-3024

Toll Free: 1-800-465-5581

Email: [zwatt@nanlegal.on.ca](mailto:zwatt@nanlegal.on.ca)

### TO MAKE A REFERRAL:

Email: [talkingtogether@nanlegal.on.ca](mailto:talkingtogether@nanlegal.on.ca)

### My Journey Back Home Facilitator

Cell: (807) 738-5805 Fax: (807) 622-3024

Toll Free: 1-800-465-5581

### My Journey Back Home Aftercare Worker

Cell: (807) 627-8433 Fax: (807) 622-3024

Toll Free: 1-800-465-5581

“Servicing the City of Thunder Bay”

[WWW.NANLEGAL.ON.CA](http://WWW.NANLEGAL.ON.CA)

# Community Events

## Women's Gathering

Nishnawbe-Aski Nation held their Women's Gathering in July 2024, many women from NAN first nations were in attendance. We are grateful to be able to have a booth set up at this event.



## NAN Student Orientation

In September, Nishnawbe-Aski Nation held a NAN Student Orientation, many high school students attended. Many organizations were set up with their booths, we had a great time engaging with the youth as they made their rounds to each table to complete their "bingo" cards!





# Community Events

## CreeFest 2024

NALSC staff were able to set up booths for the 2024 CreeFest that took place in Cochrane, ON. Community Legal Worker Jackie Edwards had the chance to meet the special guest - actor Adam Beach!



# Community Events

## Cat Lake First Nation Community Visit



NALSC staff members from Legal Aid, Restorative Justice, Human Resources and Public Legal Education made a visit to Cat Lake First Nation to provide an Information Session and connect with the community.

Chi-Miigwetch Cat Lake for hosting us!



**Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services Corporation**  
 ᐱᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ ᐱᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ  
 ᐱᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ

CAT LAKE FIRST NATION

**Join NAN Legal Staff for our Information Session!**

*We will have a Staff Lawyer present along with Legal Aid Staff, HR Recruiter, and Restorative Justice Staff.*

DATE: TUESDAY AUGUST 20, 2024  
 TIME: 1:00 - 4:00 PM  
 PLACE: COMMUNITY HALL, CAT LAKE FIRST NATION

**Snacks provided.**

# Community Events

## Sioux Lookout Career Fair

Kurtis and Ashley were able to set up a booth at the Career Fair held at the Sioux Lookout High School. Many students were in attendance and came to visit!



## Mushkegowuk Showcase

Mushkegowuk Showcase held in Timmins during the week of July 19th. Staff from Gladue had set up a information booth. A lot of festivities and entertainment.

Our very own Madeline Kioke, Community Legal Worker provided the opening prayer.



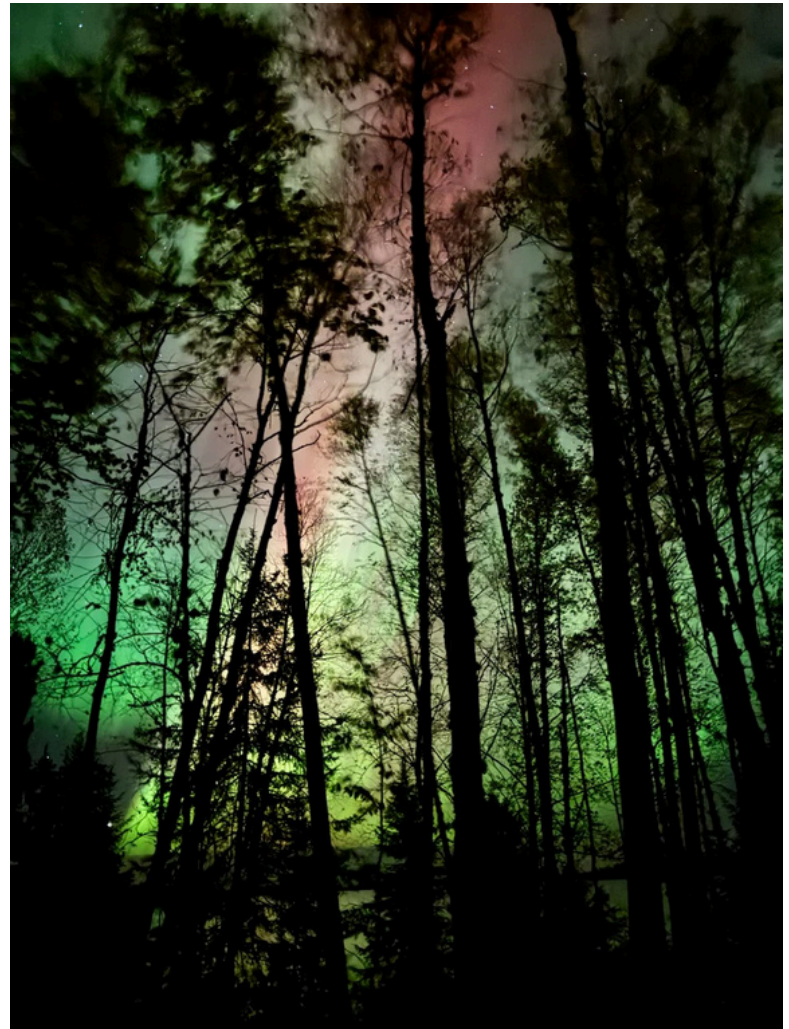
# Community Events



## **The Northern Lights seen from Eabametoong First Nation!**

The Northern Lights (Waawaate) were spectacular this past October, our Youth Empowerment worker captured the incredible scene from her home community.

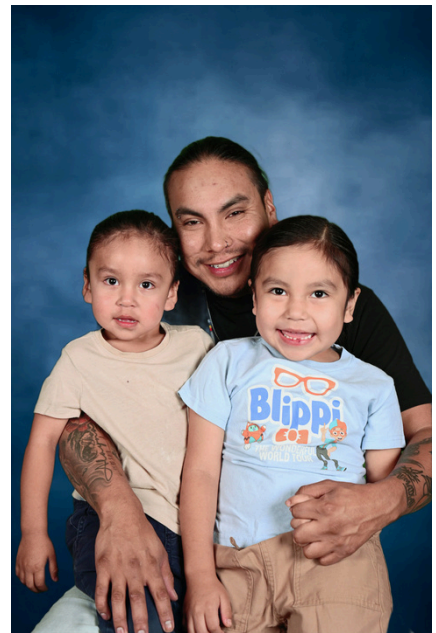
Photo by: Jeanette Slipperjack  
Location: Ozhiski Lake, Ontario



# Annual General Meeting

Portrait shots courtesy of Kenneth Sackaney from the Annual General Meeting of 2024.

NALSC along with Nishnawbe-Aski Police Services and Nishnawbe-Aski Nation held their annual general meeting from October 1 - 3, 2024.



# National Truth and Reconciliation Day

Staff participated in National Truth and Reconciliation Day by wearing Orange Shirts. A few staff members attended the Walk put on by Nishnawbe-Aski Nation, where we walk to remember and honour the survivors of residential school.





# NISHNAWBE ASKI LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

## FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITIES



### EVERY CHILD MATTERS

#### NISHNAWBE ASKI LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION SUPPORTS AND RESOURCES

**Nishnawbe Aski Legal Services Corporation**  
 Toll Free: 1-800-485-5581  
 Phone: (807) 622-1413  
 Fax: (807) 622-3024  
 Email: [info@nanlegal.on.ca](mailto:info@nanlegal.on.ca)  
 Website: [www.nanlegal.on.ca](http://www.nanlegal.on.ca)

**Argyle Community Support Program (For Indian Day Schools only)**  
 One-on-one support by a trauma informed Claims Assistant for help completing the Claims Form  
 Phone: 1-877-515-7525  
 Monday through Friday 8am - 9pm Eastern (Interpretation services provided upon request)  
 Email: [idscommunitysupport@argylepr.com](mailto:idscommunitysupport@argylepr.com)  
<https://indianschools.com/en/support/community-support-program>

**24-hour Residential School Crises Line**  
 For immediate emotional assistance  
 Toll Free: 1-866-925-4419  
 Access Health Support Services & more information  
 Toll Free: 1-888-301-6426  
[www.healthcanada.gc.ca/lrs](http://www.healthcanada.gc.ca/lrs)

**NAN Hope**  
 Toll Free 1-844-626-4673  
 Text: 1-844-626-4673  
[www.nanhope.ca](http://www.nanhope.ca) with Chat Feature

**Hope for Wellness Help Line**  
 24/7 Services in English, Cree, Ojibway, Inuktitut, French  
 Toll Free 1-855-242-3310  
[www.hopeforwellness.ca](http://www.hopeforwellness.ca) with Chat Feature

**Talk 4 Healing: Talk, Text, Chat**  
 Services in Ojibway, Oji-Cree, Cree, English, French  
 24/7 culturally sensitive counselling, advice, and support to Indigenous women.  
 Toll Free: 1-855-554-4325  
[www.talk4healing.com](http://www.talk4healing.com)

**Native Women's Association of Canada**  
 In-house elders offering support,  
 Monday to Friday 9-11am and 1-3 p.m.  
 Toll Free: 1-888-664-7808  
[www.nwac.ca](http://www.nwac.ca)

**MMW Crisis Line**  
 24/7 support to family, friends and community members impacted by the loss of a missing or murdered Indigenous woman, girl, or Two-spirit person  
 Toll Free: 1-844-413-6649  
<https://www.mmlwg-ffada.ca>

**Indian Residential Schools Survivors and Family**  
 Toll Free: 1-800-721-0066  
[www.lrsss.ca](http://www.lrsss.ca)

#### NISHNAWBE ASKI NATION TRIBAL COUNCILS:

1. Independent First Nations Alliance
2. Keewaytinook Okimakanak Council
3. Matawa First Nations
4. Mushkegowuk Council
5. Shibogama First Nations Council
6. Wabun Tribal Council
7. Windigo First Nations Council
8. Independent Bands



## Contact us

Phone: (807) 622-1413

Toll Free: 1-800-465-5581

[www.nanlegal.on.ca](http://www.nanlegal.on.ca)