nîsohkamâkewin Council Members



My name is Dawn Anderson and I am Cree from the Saddle Lake First Nation. I am a proud mother, wife and grandmother and take pride in my connection to my culture and traditional ways of being. I have 20 years front line experience working with Edmonton's most vulnerable populations. I take pride knowing that I have influenced different levels of change with the ultimate being a contribution to creating a safe home and society for Alberta's future leaders. I believe that change can happen with we work in unity for common goals as we continue to work towards the truest definition of reconciliation.



2 Courtney Auger

Tansi, I am standing bear woman. I come from treaty 8 territory but have planted roots in treat 6 where I have dedicated my career to supporting, advocating, and uplifting our indigenous communities. Living in Edmonton my entire life I have faced, witness and challenged adversity. It is through my lived experience that I found my voice. A voice that I believe was meant to help my people. I believe this to be my purpose and I am so honoured to be able to live within my purpose.





3 Chancy Black Water .

Awakasi'ikitstahkiaki (Deer Offering Woman) is from the Blood Tribe, a member of the Blackfoot confederacy in Treaty 7 Territory. My parents are Miisumohkoin'namaaki (Nina Smith) and Aakoat'si (Clarence Black Water). I am apart of the Mamioyiiksi (Fish Eaters Clan). I am a sister and auntie which I am thankful for everyday. I graduated from the University of Alberta in 2010 with a Bachelor of Arts in Native Studies as well as obtained the Aboriginal Governance and Partnerships Certificate. I have experience working within my community by creating initiatives which focused on the importance of prevention education, mobilizing communities, and youth empowerment. I enjoy playing slopitch, hanging with family and friends, sewing, and attending concerts with my partner Jon.



4 Tonya Gardner

As a person who was raised in a very dysfunctional household, there was no addictions but there was a lot of abuse, I've learned to navigate my life trusting no one and only depending at myself which can be a very lonely road. However I've always been a helper for as long as I can remember, so working with children just came naturally to me, I wanted to make change I wanted to help support, show love and kindness to those in need. The indigenous culture is beautiful, it is accepting, it is loving, it is sharing and I think that it's critical that we get back to those basics, even the seven teachings can teach so much ...not just to indigenous but to every walk of life. I have made changes in my life to become a better person to become a better listener to become a better friend, and I think if we work together we can make great changes. I believe in meeting people where they are at .. not "expecting" change, but being open to fostering relationships. we can talk about the things that we would like to do but action is what makes a difference, what we do how we do it and how we say it ...these things will start to be the catalyst to build trust and make change. I believe we will have peace one day, but the stigma needs to be addressed.





Shawna Jean

5

I am Cree woman who is First Nations from Swan River First Nation located in the Lesser Slave Lake area. I have a formal education from the University of Alberta and currently enrolled in the Masters program with a focus in psycho-therapy with a trauma focus. I am a mother of 5 adult children and a kookum to 3 beautiful grandchildren. I am a family focused individual who takes great pride in passing on my cultural ties and practice's. I believe that getting involved and volunteering is important in order to gain experience as well as knowledge. I enjoy collaborating and researching to the betterment of the cause. It's my hope that I can be as asset as well as an important contributor to assisting the community/program excel.



6 Robbie Kaboni

Robbie Kaboni of Wikwemkoong Unceded Territory on Manitoulin Island. Edmonton is my home I have lived here since 1979 (tender age of 6 years old when we moved here). I have worked in the Human Services field for 25 years in a variety of roles both here in Edmonton and briefly in the Wood Buffalo Region Fort McMurray. I have been connected and employed with Bent Arrow since 1998 leaving briefly for 11 short years to live in Fort McMurray. Even while away I remained very connected to my Bent Arrow Family so when I moved back in 2014 I picked right back up with Bent Arrow. I thoroughly enjoy the community we serve and watching their resilience flourish into building confidence in self and what they bring to the table. It's been a absolute pleasure learning and growing as persn alongside the community we serve.





Community members partake in conversations as part of recruit training



Constable Catlin Chiasson at his Naming Ceremony with Elder Fred Campiou



Edmonton Police Members sharing after a Blanket exercise



Hailey-Emma MaRae

"Hailey-Emma McRae is a Cree-Métis, a budding artisan and a musician eagerly seeking community and opportunities for learning. After spending 9 years mentoring her peers and participating in Indigenous leadership programs, Hailey-Emma was offered the opportunity to work with the Otipemisiwak Métis Government (Métis Nation of Alberta) in community engagement with Métis youth throughout Alberta. This seems like a perfect fit as she possesses a deep passion for building authentic relationships, strengthening her community, and sharing resources and knowledge to empower the next generation to preserve their cultural traditions. Hailey-Emma has a passion for empowering others in her Indigenous

community to rise above adversity. To speak Hope into their lives and to affirm that despite their circumstances, there is purpose for their life.

If not hosting a paint or games night at her place, Hailey-Emma enjoys her time being creative through artwork and composing music on her piano. Hailey-Emma also participates in the performing arts and always pursues trying new things! "



8 Adam North Peigan

Adam North Peigan is Blackfoot from the Piikani First Nation in Southern Alberta. Adam has resided in Edmonton since 2011 and has been a leader in advocating for the improvement of the lives of Indigenous people in Canada. He has significant years of experience in governance and has served his community as an elected member of the Piikani First Nation Chief and Council. Adam has served in senior management positions in First Nation Governments and the not for profit sector. Adam is the recipient of the Okimaw Awards for his Leadership in Human Rights and Advocacy and the Queens Platinum Jubilee Medal for his leadership in moving reconciliation forward for all Canadians.





Oskayak Police Academy in 2019



Smudging Ceremony for new Northwest Campus Facility

9

Jordan Weeres

Jordan is a Metis educator and musician. She has been teaching music and working with the Metis and Indigenous communities for the last ten years. When she is not working, Jordan can often be found volunteering or spending time in community. She encourages others to take up the space they've been given and to spend time reconnecting with those who have walked the paths before them.



