



First Peoples Justice Center of Montreal/ Centre de justice des Premiers Peuples de Montréal

Annual Report

April 1 2016 – March 31 2017

About the First Peoples Justice Center of Montreal

In March 2010, during an annual gathering for all Aboriginal community justice initiatives in the province of Quebec (representing northern and rural Aboriginal communities), a working group on Aboriginal community justice was formed. At one of the working group meetings, the members identified the need to have an Aboriginal community justice structure/resource available for members of their communities who had moved both temporarily or permanently to the Greater Montreal Area. The need stemmed from the fact that:

- There are limited services for Aboriginal people in Montreal in conflict with the justice system and for those in correctional facilities that offer a full continuum of support from prevention to when individuals exit the correctional facility;
- There is a lack of alternative mechanisms for conflict resolution/conflicts based on Aboriginal values and culturally appropriate approaches available in Montreal; and
- There is a need for culturally appropriate information tools to improve understanding on the issues and the underlying causes behind crimes committed by Aboriginal people.

This idea of developing an Aboriginal community justice structure/resource was brought to the Justice sub-committee of the Montreal Urban Aboriginal Community Strategy Network (NETWORK). The idea was explored through various research projects to investigate the following:

- Would the judicial interveners and institutions as well as social resources in Montreal find such an Aboriginal community justice program needed, beneficial and useful?
- Would these interveners and institutions be open to collaborate with this program?
- What was needed for such a program to function well?
- What form should such a program take?
- What models exist elsewhere in Canada that could be adapted to Montreal?

Based on the research and consultations in 2013 with judges, defence lawyers, prosecutors, legal aid, Services parajudiciaires autochtones du Québec (SPAQ), Centres d'aide aux victimes d'actes criminels (CAVAC), probation and parole officers, and various socio-judicial services in Montreal, it was evident that some form of a Aboriginal community justice program was needed in Montreal. Further, those consulted were interested in building partnerships and taking part in the program. Four scenarios were presented to

the Justice sub-committee based on the consultations and on research collected from similar urban-based Aboriginal justice programs across Canada. The Justice sub-committee decided to set up one of the proposed scenarios. It would have its own office and its own administrative board, which in part would consist of members of the NETWORK's Justice sub-committee, and a name for the future organization was created.

On January 22 2014, the First Peoples Justice Center of Montreal was incorporated as a non-profit organization.

Mission statement

- The organization seeks to work with the Indigenous community to end the systemic issues of marginalization, discrimination, and victimization of Indigenous Peoples in the justice and correctional system, through culturally safe supports and services.

Objectives of the Center:

1. Offer support services, guidance, and follow-up to Aboriginal people involved in the justice and correctional system regarding criminal, penal, family or civil matters.
2. Provide culturally appropriate alternative conflict resolution mechanisms adapted to Aboriginal values and approaches.
3. Develop culturally appropriate tools to improve understanding on the issues and underlying causes of crimes committed by Aboriginal people.

Vision statement:

- A community which is empowered, innovative, and self-sufficient in its response to conflict.
- A community involved in developing and implementing compassionate and culturally based justice alternatives

Values/Principles:

- The organization:
 - o is driven by the importance of understanding and responding to the history and ongoing impacts of colonization
 - o believes in Indigenous values of respect, honour, forgiveness, wisdom and reciprocity
 - o believes in the importance of healing our communities
 - o believes in equitable treatment in the justice system and access to holistic and culturally safe legal and justice-related resources

Activities for April 1 2016 – March 31 2017 and expected activities for 2017-2018

In June 2016, Alexandra Lorange was hired as the Coordinator. Alexandra received various training, and met with partners. A preliminary collection of information regarding existing socio-judicial services in Montreal and possible collaborations/partnerships was developed for the Center. In October 2016, Alexandra stepped down from the position. In November 2016, the Center hired Rachel Deutsch to take over as Coordinator. A final draft of the collection of information was developed and a first meeting to create the strategic plan took place at the end of 2016.

From January 2017, Rachel has received ongoing training and guidance from Clinique des Droits Devant. The training has related to the Criminal Code, Municipal Court proceedings, advocacy around policing issues, and the PAJIC procedure.

The following information outlines the Center's realized impacts to date and expected impact per program:

Program: Prevention and diversion

The Center is currently building its programming for clients at-risk, involved with the criminal justice system, ex-offenders, and victims. The Center has started to offer some programming.

1. Rachel Deutsch (certified social worker and responsible for the Prevention and Diversion program at the Center) has begun to offer weekly programs in partnership with Onen'to:kon Healing Lodge, Mike Standup, and Cedar and Gold, with the goal to prevent offending for those at-risk of committing a crime, to prevent re-offending for those incarcerated and released, and to assist parents who have lost their child to youth protection as a means of working towards regaining custody of the child:
 - a. Healthy relationships program: 5 clients so far, expected to help 10 more clients this year
 - b. Substance abuse program: 8 clients so far, expected to help 10 more clients this year
 - c. Culturally based therapeutic program for victims of crime: 1 client so far, expected to help 5 more clients this year
2. Rachel also offers individual counselling: 7 clients so far, expected to help 12 more clients this year
3. Center staff will be developing other programs in fall 2017 in collaboration with Elizabeth Fry Society, YMCA, Native Women's Shelter of Montreal, Cedar and Gold, Jason Phelps, the Healing Lodge, and others:
 - a. Parenting – offered in collaboration with the Healing Lodge and Native Women's Shelter of Montreal: Expected to help 3 clients this year
 - b. Elder and cultural programming including visits to prisons: Expected to help 10 clients this year
 - c. Inuit specific AA program (Nutaraaluk Jaaka – to be confirmed): Expected to help 10 clients this year

4. Adapting programs at the Montreal Municipal Court to reduce underlying issues and facilitate access for Indigenous peoples:
 - a. Rachel Deutsch received training from Clinique des Droits Devant and the Montreal Municipal Court to manage cases. The Center is adapting the existing “Programme accompagnement justice itinérance” (PAJIC) for the Indigenous population. ¹
 - i. Rachel Deutsch has started to take on cases, with guidance from Clinique des Droits Devant and a Municipal Court Prosecutor. They have developed a culturally adapted process and a first phase of recommendations to adapt PAJIC have been made: 20 cases so far, expected to take on 10 more cases this year. It takes approximately one year for PAJIC cases to be closed.
 - ii. A second stage of larger recommendations will be developed during fall 2017 to fully adapt the Montreal Municipal Court program. Rachel Deutsch will work with Dr. Marie-Ève Sylvestre (Vice-Dean, Research and Communications and Full professor at the Civil Law Section, Université d’Ottawa) and Marie-Andree Denis-Boileau (Secretary-Treasurer of the Center).
 - iii. On June 2 2017: An initial Indigenous PAJIC date (there will be a day for PAJIC cases for only Indigenous peoples, it will take place at the Center). 5 out of 8 people showed to the appointment: 5 cases so far
 - iv. July 28 2017: A second Indigenous PAJIC date - Met with 8 out of 11 people who were registered in the program by the Center, 2 others were seen on August 18. Others are in the process of beginning this program
 - v. November 25 2017: A third Indigenous PAJIC date.
5. Research
 - a. In order to help us better understand the judicialization of the Indigenous population (in homelessness and other vulnerable situations) in Montreal, the Center is working with Professors Céline Bellot (School of Social Work, Université de Montréal) and Marie-Ève Sylvestre (Law, University of Ottawa) on a research project. This research is focused on the Municipal Court that deals with both tickets resulting from Municipal bylaws and summary charges, such as minor theft and violence. The research will help us make important contributions to improving the PAJIC program, and preventing discriminatory and repressive practices leading to increasing: number of tickets given; and incarceration of Indigenous peoples.
6. Case management and counselling:

¹ It was agreed that the Center would start with PAJIC and in 2018 start to adapt the other programs offered, such as Programme d’accompagnement en justice – Santé Mentale: le PAJ-SM. The Center will attempt to merge these programs. PAJIC acts as a diversion program for those accused of minor crimes and for municipal tickets. Indigenous people do not currently access it as it is not culturally adapted

- a. The Center is receiving cases from self-referral, SPAQ, community organizations (such as Projet Autochtones du Quebec, Native Women's Shelter of Montreal, Native Friendship Centre of Montreal, Chez Doris), Correctional Services, and Clinique Droits Devant that refers people involved with the Municipal Court of Montreal for those at-risk or those accused of a crime: 10 referrals so far
- b. Individuals have approached the Center themselves for prevention-based assistance. These people are accessing the prevention programming at the Center: 41 clients so far
- c. Individuals undergoing the PAJIC program with the assistance of the Center: 20 clients so far
- d. Case management: 41 clients so far as all clients require case management. Issues include help reporting abuse by police, mental health crisis, suicide prevention, grief and loss, substance abuse, and missing persons reporting. Of all clients, there are 10 Inuit women, 9 Inuit men, 8 First Nations women, and 14 First Nations men. Half are Inuit and half are First Nations. The majority are English-speaking either as a first or as a preferred second language (for those who speak Inuktitut). There are several clients from outside of Quebec that speak English. Some Innu and Cree service users prefer to communicate in French

7. Alternative Measures Program

- a. The Center will begin to develop a manual on procedures, types of measures, and resources in order to set up an Alternative Measures Program at the Court of Quebec in Montreal. The document will be ready this autumn.
- b. The Board of Directors and staff members of the Center will work with Dr. Marie-Ève Sylvestre and advisors (Lyne St. Louis, Marjorie Saulnier and members of the NETWORK's Justice sub-committee²). Me. Marie-Eve Theriault from Justice Quebec is involved in this process.
- c. The Center is beginning to build its Indigenous justice committee that will assess and suggest culturally appropriate alternative measures and diversion plans for accused individuals when the program has been set up. The NETWORK Justice sub-committee will assist to provide names of individuals who will be invited to sit on the indigenous justice committee as well as to provide ideas for diversion programs.

8. In 2017 the Center will continue to develop a link with the Youth Protection system to provide mediation, and it will be based on the successful model - GiiwedIn Anang program provided at Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto for families involved in child welfare: 5 cases expected by year 3

² Native Women's Shelter, SPAQ, Educaloi, Quebec Native Women, First People's Justice Center, Makivik, Correctional Services Canada.

Program: Intervention

The Center has hired a second Coordinator to build and to lead this program as outlined in the Strategic Plan. The Center staff and the Board have already begun the process of building the program.

1. Gladue reports:
 - a. The Coordinators of the Centre received training on Gladue reports at Makivik Corporation in August 2017: Expected to do 1 Gladue report this year
2. Legal Aid:
 - a. Legal Aid has agreed to provide 1 lawyer to offer services 1.5 days per week at the same location as the Center - the Native Friendship Centre of Montreal – which is also where a SPAQ officer is located. This will prevent losing clients and facilitate access to the proper services.
3. The Center is providing money for transport for 20 clients so far to access services, attend court and visit their lawyer. This is extremely important and is resulting in more people, for whom poverty is an issue, showing up for appointments and court dates.
4. The Center will be involved upon release by the crown attorney, at the bail hearing stage or on request by offenders throughout the court process. The Center will assist the individual in getting the services he/she needs, to receive guidance, and to repair their actions: Expected to help 1 client this year
5. Bail plans:
 - a. The Center will assist to develop bail plans, and offer the Center's services as part of the plan (if necessary): Expected to help 1 client this year
6. Compensatory work:
 - a. The Center developed an informal collaboration with the YMCA social reinsertion service and compensatory work program. The Center will find placements for Indigenous clients (in culturally-appropriate situations), and for the first year the YMCA will do the administrative part of the program. The NETWORK Justice sub-committee will assist to provide ideas for work programs in the community: Expected to help 5 clients this year

7. The Center will be present at the sentencing stage through counselling and consulting other parties to make recommendations:
Expected to help 1 client this year
8. The Center will be present if the person is detained to offer elder/cultural mentorship, one-on-one counselling and group activities.
 - a. The Center will begin providing elder visits/culturally-based mentorship in provincial detention centers. The first one will begin in September. This was an urgent demand by Services parajudiciaires des autochtones du Québec (SPAQ): Expected 4 visits this year
9. The Center will be involved after sentencing; during the community sentence (probation or house arrest) by doing non-formal counselling, traditional activities and offering guidance, to prepare the person to reintegrate back into the community, and to assist that person once he/she is fully released back into the community. Discussions have begun with Correctional Services Canada regarding intervention services by the Center.
 - a. Probation: 2 clients so far, expected to help 4 more clients this year
10. The Center has gathered information on conducting sentencing circles in urban areas. Further training will be provided to staff at the Center, and it will be further developed in the manual for the Alternative Measures Program. NETWORK Justice sub-committee will assist to provide names of individuals who will be invited to sit on the indigenous justice committee that will also run sentencing circles with the Center.
11. Victims and families:
 - a. The Center has been in discussion with CAVAC and an informal collaboration will be developed to offer services to victims. One or two CAVAC workers will be trained and will work specifically with Indigenous clients.
12. 2 McGill Law Students are based at the Native Friendship Center of Montreal and provide referrals to lawyers, legal information, filling out forms when no lawyer is needed. They assist the Center and SPAQ, and possibly Legal Aid in the future. The law students have assisted the Center on 2 occasions, including with administrative help.

Program: Awareness and capacity building

This year, the Center is starting to set up this program:

1. Currently the Center is assisting Éducaloi in developing a legal information guide to help “intervenants” to be more aware of clients’ rights and the criminal justice process. The outcome will be a legal guide created by Éducaloi that is available to service providers in Montreal who work with Indigenous people. For this year, considering the amount of work in building the programs at the Center, the Center will advise Éducaloi. Training will only begin next year.
2. The Center will work with Éducaloi and Clinique Droits Devant to develop workshops on rights for clients: This year the training will be developed and in the next year, this training will be provided to at least 20 people.
3. The Center has been invited to provide a training to probation officers in the Montreal area in 2017.
4. In 2018, the Center will carry out other tasks in this program, listed in its Strategic Plan:
 - o Develop tools to improve understanding on the issues underlying the causes of the crimes committed by Indigenous peoples, and how to intervene (culturally adapt existing services).
 - o Develop training for judicial and socio-judicial actors on: diversion, alternative measures, services and program at the Center, rights of Indigenous peoples and obligations of the justice system toward the population, Gladue reports, and new approaches to the justice and correctional systems.
 - o Share information with victims, accused, family, or anyone interested on the criminal justice system, rights, and general legal information.

Summary of Audited Statements of Financial Position

April 1 2016 – March 31 2017

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 2017-05-17
 Accrual Basis

Centre De Justice Des Premiers Peuples De Montréal
Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison
 April 2016 through March 2017

	Apr '16 - Mar 17	Apr '15 - Mar 16
Income		
Program Income		
Contributions 1	10,000.00	0.00
Contributions 2	17,586.00	27,020.00
Total Program Income	<u>27,586.00</u>	<u>27,020.00</u>
Total Income	27,586.00	27,020.00
Expense		
Bank service charges	32.45	0.00
Business Expenses		
Business Registration Fees	275.26	0.00
Total Business Expenses	<u>275.26</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Contract Services		
Accounting Fees	4,534.58	0.00
Consulting	2,730.00	0.00
Payroll service charges	312.90	9.78
Translation services	477.28	0.00
Total Contract Services	<u>8,054.76</u>	<u>9.78</u>
Facilities and Equipment		
Rent	4,000.00	0.00
Total Facilities and Equipment	<u>4,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Operations		
Logo design	700.00	0.00
Office Supplies	3,515.75	0.00
Payroll	33,727.72	0.00
Training	259.74	0.00
Wed development	191.76	0.00
Total Operations	<u>38,394.97</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Other Types of Expenses		
Adverstising	274.10	0.00
Board meeting expenses	152.30	0.00
Insurance	2,703.80	0.00
Total Other Types of Expenses	<u>3,130.20</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Travel	773.67	0.00
Total Expense	<u>54,661.31</u>	<u>9.78</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-27,075.31</u></u>	<u><u>27,010.22</u></u>

Proposed Budget for April 1 2017 – March 31 2018

	Justice QC + Justice Canada	Ville de Montreal CONFIRMED	McConnell Foundation	Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC)	Makivik CONFIRMED	Secretariat des Affaires Autochtones CONFIRMED Managed by The Native Women's Shelter of Montreal	Total Budget (Does not include Secretariat des Affaires Autochtones)
Ressources humaines							
Directeur				\$21,850.00			\$21,850.00
Salaire 8 mois – Coordonnateur	\$21,500.00	\$22,000.00					\$43,500.00
Salaire 12 mois Travailleuse sociale	\$29,888.00		\$4,420.00		\$254.00	\$29,888.00	\$34,562.00
Location							
Centre d'amitié autochtone de Montréal	\$4,500.00					\$4,800.00	\$4,500.00
Coûts directs de programme							
Honoraires (aines, Consultants)	\$2,612.00	\$6,000.00	\$10,000.00			\$18,000.00	\$18,612.00
Coûts pour le developpement des programmes			\$30,000.00	\$1,500.00			\$31,500.00

Impressions, traduction des documents, publicités, annonces Eng--Fr, design, courrier	\$4,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$10,000.00			\$9,000.00	\$15,000.00
Frais de déplacement / transport	\$3,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00		\$7,328.00	\$10,000.00
Formation du personnel	\$2,500.00		\$5,000.00				\$7,500.00
Nourriture pour les programmes			\$2,000.00	\$4,000.00			\$6,000.00
Équipement et mobilier de bureau				\$2,000.00			\$2,000.00
Fourniture de bureau	\$500.00		\$2,000.00				\$2,500.00
Administration et comptabilité							
Frais bancaires, frais annuels	\$500.00		\$500.00				\$1,000.00
Assurance			\$3,400.00				\$3,400.00
Comptabilité	\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00				\$6,000.00
Vérification	\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00				\$6,000.00
Programme logiciel - Base de données			\$300.00				\$300.00
Evaluation			\$10,000.00				\$10,000.00
Frais d'administration Foyer des Femmes Autochtones de Montreal						\$6,820.67	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$75,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$86,620.00	\$32,350.00	\$254.00	\$75,836.67	\$202,374.00