

Naakitiwaayititaaau Pimaatisiinun

Commission d'enquête sur les relations entre les Autochtones et
certains services publics

Val d'Or, Quebec
August 17, 2018

Suicide in Iyiyiyuu/linuu Aschii

- Suicide is a sensitive and complex issue, sadly it is an issue we face in our communities. Our Elders always remind us that life is sacred and that we should take of it.
- However, there has also been great suffering and great personal pain. We have failed some members of our families and communities, and some have taken their own lives. The loss of a single person is unacceptable; the loss of so many is a matter that requires all of us to come together to address. And, together as a Nation, we can do something to prevent suicide.
- For many years and generations, we have been subjected to various forms of colonialist abuse, including residential schools. We have survived because of our resilience, the strength of our families and communities.
- Our strength also comes from our culture (the way we do things), in our language (the way we think) and our strong connection to the land. This is what makes us Cree.

Timeline – Suicide Prevention, Intervention and Postvention in Iyiyiyuu Aschii

2006 – Resolution

2010 – June
Shaakaashtiwaau Gathering

2008 – May. Started with
Mental Health

2010 – Declaration –
Shaakaashtiwaau

2008 - 1st multi-disciplinary
meeting with Cree Health
Board employees

2011 – Elder’s Council
(April), 1st regional meeting

2009 – Presented at the
Special General Assembly
on Health Social Services

2012 (5years) – until now,
there has been nine regional
meetings.

Regional Suicide Prevention, Intervention, Postvention Strategy

- The 2010 Shaakaashtiwaau Gathering was the start of our process of developing a strategy for Iyiyiyuu/linuu Aschii.
- Once the community representatives were identified. The idea was to have them create local committees on Suicide prevention, intervention and postvention.
- So far, Chisasibi is the only community that has created one. They meet once a month.
- The regional committee's name is Naakitiwaayititaaau Pimaatisiun, given by an elder.
- Hoping that each community follows suit, or is it something that they need?

Vision and Mission – Shaakaashtiwaau Declaration

Our Vision is to develop and implement a suicide prevention, intervention and postvention strategy aimed at improving the well-being of strong Eeyou/Eenou individuals and families who value and celebrate life.

Our mission is to support communities with a holistic design for suicide prevention, intervention and postvention services taking the best practices of traditional and contemporary ways of life which are accessible and which reflect the unique needs of the Cree Nation

Other Projects

- Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training
- First Nations Mental Health First Aid
- Life Promotion Campaign
- Suicide Intervention Protocol
- Association Québécoise de Prévention du Suicide

A serene landscape featuring a calm lake that reflects the surrounding environment. In the background, misty mountains rise against a soft, hazy sky. The right side of the image shows a forested shoreline with trees reflected in the water. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and ethereal. The text "Thank you!" is centered in the middle of the image.

Thank you!