

# **KEEWAYTINOOK OKIMAKANAK**

RECOMMENDATION	RECOM A) B)	MENDATION IS: ACCEPTED; ACCEPTED IN PART; REJECTED	DETAILED EXPLANATION/RATIONALE FOR RESPONSE
#6 – In order to commemorate the lives of Jethro Anderson, Curran Strang, Paul Panacheese, Robyn Harper, Reggie Bushie, Kyle Morriseau and Jordan Wabasse, and in consultation with their families, memorial scholarships should be awarded to students in highschool who excel at the talents in which the seven youths were gifted.		A	Under the guidance and direction of Late Kyle Morriseau's parents and siblings, the Seventh Generation Memorial Scholarship (SGMS) was established in 2017. Funding for these presentations has been ongoing the Ministry of Education's (MOE) and they have recently committed to multi-year funding of this initiative that will see the presentations through 2023.  Due to the global pandemic and Ontario's Emergency Order that came into effect in March 2020, we were unable to host and/or attend any graduation ceremonies. To celebrate 2020's SGMS's recipients, Inquest Staff have collected student's information and posted on the kmms.ca website, as well as celebrated the students through newspaper advertisements.  The 4 recipients are from Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School. Pelican Falls First Nation High School, and Sioux North. SGMS promotional items have been sent to the Morriseau family for late Kyle's anniversary (November 10 <sup>th</sup> ) and for Christmas. Due to limited events this past year, we have not had any SGMS booths since the NAN Chief's meeting in March 2020.

		Promotion of the Seventh Generation Memorial Scholarship and the sharing of Kyle's life is hosted on our established website: kmms.ca  All efforts continue each year to fundraise and promote the SGMS scholarship.  To date, SGMS has been awarded to 14 Indigenous graduates and a total of \$28,000 has been presented.  For the fiscal year of 2021/22, Seventh Generation Memorial Scholarships were presented to three students. Students were from Sandy Lake, Deer Lake, and North Spirit.  For the fiscal year of 2022/2023, Seventh Generation Memorial Scholarships were presented to five students. Students graduating from Pelican Falls Highschool, Dennis Franklin Highschool, and KiHS.  For the fiscal year of 2023/2024, Seventh Generation Memorial Scholarship were presented to four students. Two students graduating from Dennis Franklin, one student graduating from Pelican Falls, and one student graduating from Sioux North.  For the fiscal year of 2024/2025, Seventh Generation Memorial Scholarships were presented to five students. Two students who graduated from Dennis Franklin, two students who graduated from Pelican Falls, and one student who graduated from Pelican Falls, and one student who graduated from RIHS.
#7 – In moving forward with any initiatives that respond to the Inquest recommendations, the parties should be guided by the following statements:	А	KO utilizes Recommendation #7 as a reference point for all inquest-related meetings held with the Parents. It has become a priority to include these guiding principles in the implementation of recommendations with all partners;

- i) All of the Treaty Partners, including Indigenous communities and governments, Canada and Ontario, must respect the treaty rights of others and work together towards fulfilling treaty obligations;
- ii) First Nation governments exercise inherent control over their education systems;
- First Nation communities seek to have greater responsibility to govern their own spiritual, cultural, social and economic affairs;
- iv) Without the improvement of conditions in First Nations reserve communities, a gap in education outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous students will remain;
- v) Canada should support individual First
   Nations communities as they develop local
   solutions to the effects of colonial policy;
   and,
- vi) In order to ensure timely delivery of publicly funded services to First Nations children, where jurisdictional divisions or disputes within or between governments threaten to delay or impede the provision of services, Jordan's Principle should apply.

interdepartmental meetings, updates to the Keewaytinook Okimakanak Board of Education and in our updates to the KO First Nations.

Rec. #7 is recognized by all Inquest Partners and is referred back to on an as needed basis in all Working Group Meetings. The statements listed in this Recommendation require further technical and policy work in order to adequately address each of the 5 points. The next step for the implementation of these is to support local First Nations in their development of local solutions or in their response to the colonial policy;

KO recommends research to be completed in this area by the Education Table (Task Teams). Currently, there are numerous analyses being undertaken through the regional PTO that would have an impact on the research necessary to conduct a thorough analysis of the KO communities and their needs. KO is waiting on the completion of this research before determining next steps. One analyses has been received and we await the others that are in progress.

To implement the recommendations detailed in the Seven Youth Inquest, Canada and Ontario need to adequately fund the infrastructure needs that have been identified as an ongoing priority. Our services have expanded exponentially since the delivery of the Inquest Recommendations in 2016 and KO has been restricted to delivering these services in existing infrastructure.

As stated in Recommendation 7. I) "All of the Treaty Partners...must respect the Treaty Rights of others and work together towards fulfilling treaty obligations." To develop local solutions to the effects of colonial policy (as stated Rec. 7.v.), to work together towards fulfilling treaty obligations (Rec. 7.i), and to provide the services as outlined in the

recommendations: the guiding principles call for transformative change. However, KO cannot undertake these principles responsibly and in a manner that is respectful to our First Nations leadership, and their membership, without the equitable funding and investments in education, health, programming, and infrastructure from our Treaty Partner. Our Federal and Provincial Treaty Partners must recognize their fiduciary duty in addressing the work that is required in the implementation of these recommendations.

At this time, all funding for the implementation of the Inquest recommendations remains *proposal-based* which does not allow for the proper research and development that is necessary for the community-based recommendations. Canada has denied funding to implement recommendations at a community level while Ontario has provided multi-year funding for positions that would have a direct impact on children and youth. The imbalance of funding between the Treaty Partners are an issue of concern and KO will bring this forward at the next Seven Youth Inquest Political Table. KO continues to support the implementation of the Seven Youth Inquest Recommendations and has identified numerous as in progress. Any discussions to move into post-Inquest programming should be discussed with the First Nation Inquest Partners and determined by an evaluation of the work done to date; in student programming and the First Nations.

It has been raised to the Inquest Political table and government officials that inquest programs should have core funding and secure. This still needs to be worked on.

Ongoing, KO/KOBE will continue to bring forth to the next Inquest table for 2023/24.

		For the fiscal year of 2023/24, KOBE attended the Inquest table meeting, and gave updates about the recommendation. KOBE also spoke about the funding that is needed to keep these recommendations successful.  For the fiscal year of 2024/25, KOBE has attended partner meetings. However, the Inquest table has been postponed until further notice. Before cancelation, KOBE invited KO chiefs and KOBE board members for support. KOBE plans on attending and bringing forth the funds that are needed to keep KOBE successful.
#49 – In order to provide students from First Nations communities in NAN Territory and their families with firsthand information regarding the community supports and opportunities that are available when they attend school in Thunder Bay, consult with other community partners to encourage and facilitate visits by those community partners to the NAN communities to speak and engage with students prior to their move to Thunder Bay.	KO accepts this recommendation where resources are available.	KO conducts visits and intake sessions to each of its member communities throughout the year to conduct parent interviews and collect applications. Winter road trips/visits are held annually to engage students in various activities (feast, square dancing, classroom visits and presentations done by KO students and staff)  KO has developed a student handbook to outline KOSSS services: Elder's Programming, Land Based Programming, Activity Centre Hours, Tutoring Sessions, Well-being Support and staff contact information. Also included are community services within the City of Thunder Bay.  KO is currently revising our website that will provide programming information in all areas pertaining to our students and their care while away from home. The website will have a parent/guardian portal that where parents/guardians can access information and can check on their student's progress during the academic year. The development of this database is under design and will be user-friendly for both parents/guardians and our staff.

Each year, KO organizes a pre-orientation session in August in each of our First Nations. This pre-orientation allows students to meet KOSSS Staff and for any questions students and/or their parents/guardians may have prior to their travel and what to expect upon arrival at their sites.

In 2019, KO program coordinators travelled to each of the communities to visit with community leadership, parents/guardians and education staff/students to provide information on all new programming that has been developed in 2018/19 academic year to conduct student intake and information sessions. Previously, funding only permitted two trips/year.

KO was able to complete their annual Winter Road Trip in March 2020 this year and they were able to visit the communities of Deer Lake, North Spirit Lake, and Poplar Hill. This annual visit brings current students' home to share their experiences with the elementary classes and provides an opportunity for parents/guardians to connect with program staff.

In March 2020, Inquest staff visited Deer Lake, North Spirit Lake and Poplar Hill First Nations to provide an update on the progress of the implementation of the recommendations to date. We hosted an information session in the school gym in North Spirit Lake, via local television in Deer Lake, and via local radio in Poplar Hill. Community feedback was important and it was shared that they didn't think anything had been happening with the Inquest and were encouraged to hear there is progress. The message we shared with the community members/parents/guardians was to highlight all new programming we are currently providing to ensure the safety and well-being of their students while they attend school.

Due to the Emergency Act that is in place within Ontario, we have not been able to conduct the community visits that were completed last June. As our communities remained in lockdown and there were strict requirements on all KO staff and students who were attending provincial high schools, unfortunately we were not able to conduct any orientations and community visits since March 2020.

In the fiscal year of March 2021-22, the KO First Nations continue to be under pandemic conditions. No travel was allowed into the First Nations.

This also delayed student intake trips into May 2022.

For 2023/24 Tentative Travel Dates. Staff will be visiting all communities to update KO members about Inquest. A KOBE Inquest News Letter has been started and will be sent out in the fall of 2023.

For the fiscal year of 2023/2024, KOBE continues to visit the communities to update KO members on KOBE programs. Intakes were also done for the 2024/2025 year, while visiting the communities.

For the fiscal year of 2024/25, KOBE visits KO communities to update members about KOBE programs and do in-person applications. KOBE struggles with lack of accommodations. Travel funds/accommodations in communities are needed to travel to KO communities. KOBE Student Services travels to communities for intakes. Inquest joins on the intake trips to provide community members with information regarding the recommendations.

#64 – In order to improve education outcomes of First Nations youth who attend secondary school in Thunder Bay and to develop important values, in consultation with NNEC, KO, DFCHS, PFFNHS and MLC, provided ongoing, predictable and reliable funding to ensure that there is an appropriate staff complement and programs to address the cultural needs of DFCHS, PFFNHS and MLC

Students starting for the 2016-2017 school year, including:

- Appropriate ratio of education assistants to students;
- ii) Appropriate number of Elders (male and female) to be available during school hours;
- iii) Dedicated space for the Elders to spend time with students and resources for the activities that they wish to engage in with the students;
- iv) Curriculum development that supports language, culture and traditional activities;
- Regular professional development for teachers with respect to how to incorporate traditional language, culture and activities in day-to-day teaching;
- vi) Additional staff members or members required for each school whose sole role is to take the lead in teaching traditional skills, culture and land-based learning;
- vii) Funding for land-based learning; and,
- viii) Funding to facilitate the development and implementation of Ojibway/Cree immersion programming.

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KO accepts this recommendation where resources are available.

With the additional funding that has been received since the 2017/18 school year, there have been extra cultural and educational resources/support staff available to our students. KO continues to identify and justify the need for on-going, predictable and reliable funding to continue these services and for staff retention.

KO believes it is imperative for a student's well-being and identify that they retain their language, cultural knowledge and connection to the land while away from home to attend school. The development of our Land Based Programming and the activities being provided by the Land Based Coordinators (2-based in Sioux Lookout and Thunder Bay) is essential to the cultural and well-being needs of our students.

Our Land-Based Program incorporates our program Elders and invites community Elders and Knowledge Keepers to participate in their programming. KO has begun the development of land-based site on Treaty No. 9 territory, just north of Upsala, Ontario staff and students use this area for their traditional hunting and trapping excursions, and the program has become an essential part of our well-being program and as an incentive to our students. Activities will include moose harvesting, fishing, trapping, survival training, wilderness training, and conservation workshops. It will also be utilized for cultural awareness training for all non-Indigenous staff.

KO has used the funding available to develop programming that fits the capabilities of the Elder's involved in providing support to our students. There have been various activities at the DFC, PFC, Sioux Lookout and Dryden sites that are guided by our Elders and students have been able to access them on a regular basis. This connection is a significant support to

students while they are away from home. The Elder's use of language with our students and the promotion of language use is an important part of a young person's identity. KO has been able to dedicate space for our Elder's in our Sioux Lookout and Thunder Bay sites.

KO was successful in receiving funding for the development and implementation of Ojibway/Cree immersion programming for the 2018/19 academic year. The Native Language teachers (2 – based in Sioux Lookout and Thunder Bay) were tasked with the development curriculum in collaboration with land-based lessons and program staff.

As this was a short-term funding in the 2018/19 academic year, we were not able to sustain the Native Language teachers and the immersion piece to programming. KO has been fortunate to have Elders that are able to speak 2 of the 3 dialects of our First Nations; Ojibwe and Oji-Cree, for the 2019/20 academic year.

All previous programming identified remains in place through various funding sources. KO will be working internally to develop KO/KOBE-wide programming that all communities and students would be able to access.

In fiscal year 2021/22, KO/KOBE continue to deliver land-based programming to the students that attended school in person in Sioux Lookout and Thunder Bay. This programming included fall hunting trips at Graham Road Site.

DFC and PFC were closed most of the year, we had limited students that attended in person.

For fiscal year 2022/23 some of the land base programming includes the following activities: two moose hunts at Graham

Road site (with elder participation), ice fishing trip to Lac Seul, ice fishing trip at Graham, skidoo ride days/cookouts, goose hunt in Selkirk Manitoba.

For the fiscal year 2023/24, Thunder Bay and Sioux Lookout Land Base programming did the following: September 2023:

- 2 students, 1 staff -Fishing
- 1 student, 1 staff -Camp maintenance Co-op hours
- 3 students, 1 staff- Fishing in Nipigon
- 2 students, 2 staff- Camp Preparations Graham KOBE

#### October 2023

- 14 Students, 4 staff, 8 camp helpers/guides Graham KOBE Camp- moose hunting, partridge hunting, fishing, safety food preparation, elder teachings, boat safety, cooking and cleaning.
- 2 students, 2 staff Camp Preparations Graham KOBE and fishing
- 12 students, 4 staff, 8 camp helpers/guides Graham
   KOBE Camp- moose hunting, partridge hunting, fishing, safety food preparation, elder teachings, boat safety, cooking and cleaning.

#### November 2023

- 1student, 1staff- Camp preparations and moose scouting
- 8 students 4 staff, 2 camp helpers Graham KOBE Camp- moose hunting, partridge hunting, fishing, safety food preparation, elder teachings, boat safety, cooking and cleaning.

# December 2023

6 students, 2 staff, 1camp helper – KOBE Graham
 Camp Moose hunting, ice-fishing, and snowmobiling
 January 2024

- 2 students, 1 staff KOBE Graham Camp Prep Community hours
- 5 students, 2 staff- Nipigon Ice fishing
- 10 students, 2staff, 1 camp helper KOBE Camp Sioux wild food preparations, smoking wild foods, wiener roast, snowmobiling
- 10 students, 2 staff -KOBE Camp Sioux snowmobiling, brush cutting for trails, snowmobile riding

## February 2024

- 1 student, 1 staff Delivery of wild foods, scouting for ice fishing spots -community hours
- 5 students, 3 staff -KOBE Graham Camp snowmobiling, and ice fishing,
- 16 students, 5 staff, 2helpers -Donnelly's Minitaki Camp Ice fishing and snowmobiling
- 2 students, 1 staff: Camp clean up and snowmobiling April 2024
  - 2 students, 1 staff: snowmobiling and making trails-KOBE Sioux Camp
  - 2 students, 2 staff Fur harvesting -Skinning and boarding martens
  - 3 students, 1 staff: Plucking Canada Geese for grilling, smoking, and cooking
  - 17 students, 5 staff: Fur Harvesting-Skinning and boarding martens for drying
  - 10 students, 5 staff: Canada Goose Hunting- Shoal Lake, Manitoba

# May 2024

- 8 students, 4 staff, 1 elder/helper: Canada Goose Hunting - Shoal Lake, Manitoba

#### June 2024

- 5 students, 2staff: Fishing on Lake Minitaki Sioux Lookout.

For the fiscal year of 2024/25, Thunder Bay, Sioux Lookout, and Dryden did the following programming:

#### August 2024

 10 Staff, 2 trainers - Wilderness Safety Training - Graham Camp

# September 2024

 10 students, 2 elders, 5 staff/guides PFC-Dryden 17
 Graham KOBE Camp- moose hunting, partridge hunting, fishing, safety food preparation, elder teachings, boat safety, cooking and cleaning.

#### October 2024

- 5 students, 1 staff- Dryden boys' home, butchering and bagging moose
   1 staff- Putting away moose, bones, and washing cooler trailer
- 10 Students, 7 staff -camp helpers/guides/elder- T Bay students. Graham KOBE Camp- moose hunting, partridge, hunting, fishing, safety food preparation, elder teachings, boat safety, cooking and cleaning.
- 13 students, 5 staff, 1 camp helper, & 2 elders- Sioux North Students. Graham KOBE Camp- moose hunting, partridge hunting, safety food preparation, elder teachings, quad safety, cooking and cleaning.

#### November 2024

- 6 Students, 4 Staff Sioux Lookout KOBE Camp- PFC
   Students Cookout and activities.
- 13 students, 4 staff, 1 camp helper KOBE Graham
   Camp. Continuation of Teepee Construction, moose & partridge hunting.

- 6 Students, 4 staff -PFC Students - KOBE Sioux Lookout Camp- Snowmobiling, cook out, trail clearing.

#### December 2024

 15 students, 3 staff - Sioux North Students. KOBE Sioux Lookout Camp- Snowmobiling, cook out fish fry and moose meat.

#### January 2025

- 4 Staff, Fort Severn Trip Caribou KIHS 4 Caribou scouting/hunting - Due to extreme cold of -50 conditions School & KIHS were closed and students were not taken out on the land.
- 18 students, 4 staff, -Minnitaki Lodge- Ice Fishing Weekend. PFC, DFC, SN, & Dryden Students-Snowmobiling & Ice Fishing
- 14 students, 4 staff -KOBE Sioux Camp Fish fry, cooking, and snowmobiling

# February 2025

- 4 students, 1 staff -KOBE Sioux Camp/Dryden 3 Dryden Boys 1 Dryden Girl - Wood harvesting, chainsaw safety for 3 Dryden Boys 1 Dryden Girl
- 3 students, 1 staff -Dryden Boys House 4 Wood delivery and stacking
- 15 students, 1 elder 7 staff/ presenter KOBE Sioux Camp - Alcohol and Marijuana Prevention Programming, Snowmobiling, traditional foods (Precooked), and Hotdogs, burgers. Prevention workers conveyed information on alcohol/drugs to students. Prayers & drumming provided-In collaboration with the Wellness Program.
- 5 students, 4 staff KOBE Graham Camp Ice fishing, snowmobiling, and moose hunting

 8 students, 3 staff- Camp Brigitte Dryden. Tube sliding and snowmobiling- Pelican Falls Centre Students In collaboration with Wellness program.

#### March 2025

- 7 Students, 4 staff- KOBE Sioux LB Camp. Students learned to cut geese to hang for smoking & grilling in teepee.
- 3 staff- Delivery of ammunition, supplies, food, water, pop. Delivery to Fort Severn for planned Goose Hunt.
- 25 students, 4 staff Pelican Falls First Nation Highschool. Student Luncheon- Tradition moose meat, stew, soup, & Bannock. In collaboration with Wellness Program.

#### April 2025

- 8 girl students, 4 staff, 1 guide -KOBE Sioux Site & Houghton Lake. Ice fishing, snowmobiling, outdoor fire with tea and food.
- 5 students, 2 staff -Dryden Students-KOBE Sioux Land Based Camp. Rabbit Snaring, snowmobiling, and cooking in teepee.
- 10 students, 4 staff, Shoal Lake Manitoba. Spring goose hunting for Lesser Canadian geese.
- 10 students, 2 staff, KOBE Student Activity Center.
   Geese plucking teaching & contest for students, with staff assistance. Geese luncheon with students and staff on April 30th w/Joshua Gray.

#### May 2025

 12 students, 4 staff- KOBE Sioux Lookout Land Based Camp. Smoking geese, smoking caribou ribs, fish fry, hamburgers, hotdogs & fries.

		<ul> <li>10 Kobe Staff -NAN Land Based Gathering. Attend Land Based presentations, do KOBE LB Presentations</li> <li>June 2025</li> <li>4 students, 4 staff - SN &amp; Dryden students-KOBE TBay Graham Camp. Teepee work and completion, fishing, quadding, etc.</li> <li>20 staff, Tbay, Dryden, Sioux LKT staff, (day trip) Teepee Blessing and cookout of fish, geese, caribou &amp; moose.</li> <li>3 students, 1 staff -SN students, evening fishing on boats</li> </ul>
#65 – All intake forms, behavior contracts, report cards and any other documentation that is given to the parents regarding their children should be provided to them in their preferred language.	A	In 2017/18, KO reviewed and revised the identified student intake forms, behaviour contracts and all other pertinent documentation that relates to the student's education and well-being. Each were translated in the three dialects of the KO First Nations: Hudson Bay Cree, Oji-Cree and Ojibway.  The forms remain stored on our Team Drive and all program staff have access to the forms and utilize as needed.  KO has introduced several new program related policies with additional forms that have been developed to assist our staff in the care and tracking of information pertaining to our students. This information is shared with parents/guardians as necessary and additional translation is in progress. (See Rec. 145 for complete list of new KO policies)  The new policies, protocols and forms are related to: Well-Being, Academic, Behaviour, Incentives and Student Intakes at the Safe Sober Site. Each policy has been reviewed by the KO Board of Education and our legal counsel, and has been sent for translation.

		This is ongoing as programming and policies are created and/or amended. It's been an important communication tool for all parents/guardians and has also been used for programwide information sharing.  In 2021/22 Student Services reviewed and updated Student Services Policies and Land Based Programming Policies.  For 2022/23 this is ongoing as programming and policies are created and/or amended. It's been an important communication tool for all parents/guardians and has also been used for program-wide information sharing.  For 2023/2024, this continues as keeping up with programming and policies are important to KOBE.  For 2024/25, this is ongoing.
#71 – In order to ensure that any special needs or supports required for First Nations students are identified and addressed while attending secondary school in Thunder Bay, ensure that funding and resources are in place upon arrival of students in Thunder Bay to identify:  i) Special education needs; ii) Substance and/or alcohol abuse issues; iii) Mental health issues; and, iv) Any other supports required, including gaps in academic achievements that require additional supports or additional time for achieving necessary credit for graduation.	A  KO accepts this recommendation where resources are available.	KO continues to identify students with unmet needs and assists their families to secure access to services and supports comparable to those available to other children living in the same jurisdiction, in a timely manner. With all departments involved, KO is working on establishing protocols and processes to assist children/youth both on and off-reserve.  KO has developed a Circle of Care model for students who attend high school away from their families and home communities. This model will address mental health concerns, access to specialized services, continuity of care when at home/school, and educational/cultural supports that provide students with the continued land-based teachings of their families and communities.

KO continues to develop it's Continuum of Care framework that will involve multiple parties at the Tribal Council and First Nation level to develop a plan for returning students to continue their education, and for ongoing support of their health/mental health plan of care.

KO and its departments, education, health, mental health, eHealth, and KNet, reviewed the Circle of Care model that was developed within Keewaytinook Okimakanak Secondary Student Services (KOSSS) and determined the next steps for numerous recommendations, including Rec. 71. A working group has been established with a member from each identified department to develop a continuum of care, interim process for the transition of student's home when they are removed from the KOSSS program, and to develop protocols for referring students to specialized services that are provided by other departments.

KO Staff received privacy & security training and the policies were approved by the Keewaytinook Okimakanak Board of Education (KOBE) members in March 2019. The first phase of implementation has been completed which saw KOSSS staff trained and utilizing the database for their required reporting submissions and secure recordkeeping.

KO has begun phase two of its implementation and training has been completed for the KOBE Well-Being staff, who work with the KO First Nation schools and KiHS classrooms, and a workshop/orientation session was developed for the implementation of the Citizen Portal.

While phase two is in progress, it has encountered technical difficulties with the Mustimuhw cEMR. While KOSSS has trained all well-being and student support workers on the

Mustimuhw cEMR. While KOSSS has trained all well-being and student support workers on the Mustimuhw cEMR (Community Electronic Record) database and it's been operational since July 2018, the citizen Portal that was a secondary component and would allow our students/clients access to their workers, is no longer available in Canada. We are currently testing an alternative with Mustimuhw and are exploring options.

Phase three will connect the KOSSS/KOBE education staff portion of Mustimuh cEMR to the KO Health/Mental staff. This will allow for any referrals, and access to the KO Health/Mental Health specialized services on a year-round basis. KOSSS and KO Health have completed test clients and completed successful transfers of client information and/or files that would support our interdepartmental communication in an efficient and secure manner.

Phase four will connect all KO departments to our KO First Nations service providers and/or leadership. i.e. Nursing Station Staff, School Staff, Education/Social Counsellors and community Choose Life programming.

The Circle of Care Technical Working Group continues to meet and will be seeking a resolution of the KO Chiefs to support the Continuum of Care Framework and for their approval on the development of protocols/partnerships necessary that will directly support all clients. Initial framework design will be submitted to the KO Chiefs for their review and approval and we will be connecting with the community-based KO Jordan's Principle Working Group for further collaboration and development.

The Continuum of Care Framework is still under development. Due to the global pandemic, many of the work on this has been delayed. The pandemic also had each department develop a pandemic plan that prioritized the safety and wellbeing of students and staff, as they provide support and/or care. During the pandemic, there were many gaps and issues that First Nations required assistance with as students were issued that First Nations required assistance with as students were attending school online. The community infrastructure was tested in the areas of available physical space and technical support i.e. chromebooks and broadband capabilities.

Throughout this time, KO has worked directly with First Nations to access funding and support students as needed, while only able to do so virtually. KO has also taken an approach to addressing priority recommendations for implementation and have created additional positions to assist:

- 1. Circle of Care Development Coordinator KO/KOBE wide program initiative
- Children & Youth Identification Coordinator Direct frontline support to KO/KOBE First Nations and Schools (Rec.#17)

For fiscal year 2021/22, we hired a Circle of Care Development Coordinator.

The Circle of Care Development Coordinator will implement Circle of Care Framework.

Continuum of Care: Promotion, Prevention, Treatment, Recovery & Maintenance Draft Diagram.

Next steps: Interdepartmental Strategy Development, Development of Workplans, Proposal Development & Submission, Training on Model.

Children & Youth Identification Coordinator that has been hired is a Commissioner of Oath. She has been working along side with Nishnawbe Aski Nation in planning for the KO communities. This has been a pilot project and has been in awhile.

In the fiscal year of 2021/22, NAN and the Children & Youth Identification Coordinator will work together and help as much as they can with the application forms. The Birth Certificates (replacements), Certificate Statement of Birth, Health Cards, S.I.N. and possibly to assist in filling out renewal of Indian Status Cards.

NAN has found funding to have the Birth Certificates fees waived. Therefore, this service is free to whomever needs it.

Due to Covid, planning process of community rep training for each KO communities has been delayed.

In fiscal year of 2022/23, Circle of Care development program not yet begun using an online portal system such as Mustimuhw as the organization is looking at other software options. The last circle of Care working group meeting was set for Thursday, June 22, 2023 but did not have invited guests present as many scheduling conflicts arose due to end-of-year events. Another meeting will be set for August as most working group members will take their vacation in the month of July. Circle of Care has developed promotional materials such as brochures & posters that have been distributed in various events such as student fairs, education gatherings & annual general meetings. These items are ready to be ordered

and ready for community distribution at KOBE and external events.

In fiscal year of 2022/23 Child and Youth ID Coordinator has recently completed in a one-year pilot project with Nishnawbe Aski Nation that ended on March 31, 2023. With NAN, she has travelled to Keewaywin, North Spirit Lake and Deer Lake. She has also travelled to Fort Severn, Sioux Lookout district and had follow up clinics in North Spirit Lake and Fort Severn. During these ID clinics NAN had funding to take care of all costs of fees. C.Y.I.C has hosted 8 ID clinics in the communities and it is reported that a total of 717 applications were taken and processed while hosting.

Although she is no longer partnering up with NAN, she continues to host ID clinics for the communities, along with Keewaywin Okimakanak's Jordan Principle's worker.

For the fiscal year of 2023/24, the Child and Youth ID Coordinator has visited four Community ID Clinic's were hosted in Deer Lake, Keewaywin, North Spirit Lake and Poplar Hill.

Within all the communities, there were a total of 217 applications completed:

- Ontario Birth Certificates 65
- Manitoba Birth Certificates 41
- Delayed Birth Registrations 11
- Ontario Health Cards 83
- Registration for Ontario Health Insurance Coverage 6
- Application for Registration on the Indian Register 11 (applying for a band registry number)

Child and Youth ID Coordinator also works with community members that reside off reserve.

She has completed 17 applications:

- Ontario Birth Certificates 11
- Manitoba Birth Certificates 5
- Ontario Health Cards 1

Child and Youth ID Coordinator works and hosts the Community ID Clinic's with Keewaytinook Okimakanak Jordan's Principle Worker.

For the fiscal year of 2024/25, the Child and Youth ID Coordinator has done the following applications: North Spirit Lake

- Ontario Birth Certificate 12 children/youth, 9 adults
- Registering a Delayed Birth 2
- Birth Amendment 3
- Manitoba Birth Certificate 10 children/youth, 4 adults
- Indian Band Registry 15
- Health Card Renewals 4 children/youth, 16 adults
- Registering for OHIP 1

Total Applications – 76

### Keewaywin

- Ontario Birth Certificate 9 children/youth, 7 adults
- Registering a Delayed Birth 3
- Birth Amendment 2
- Manitoba Birth Certificate 1 child/youth, 3 adults
- Health Card Renewals 21 children/youth, 20 adults
- Registering for OHIP 5
- Indian Band Registry 2

Total Applications – 73

#### Deer Lake

- Ontario Birth Certificate 16 children/youth, 16 adults
- Online Birth Registration 1
- Registering a Delayed Birth 5
- Birth Amendment 1
- Marriage Certificate 1 (to allow name change)
- Manitoba Birth Certificate 7 child/youth, 4 adults

# KO INQUEST ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

		<ul> <li>Health Card Renewals – 21 children/youth, 41 adults</li> <li>Indian Band Registry – 7</li> <li>Total Applications – 120</li> <li>Fort Severn         <ul> <li>Ontario Birth Certificate – 7 children/youth, 7 adults</li> <li>Health Card Renewals – 5 children/youth, 7 adults</li> <li>Indian Band Registry – 5</li> </ul> </li> <li>Total Applications – 31</li> <li>Poplar Hill         <ul> <li>Ontario Birth Certificate – 2 children/youth, 2 adults</li> <li>Manitoba Birth Certificate – 1 child/youth, 1 adult</li> <li>Health Card Renewals – 5 children/youth, 7 adults</li> <li>Registering for OHIP – 1</li> <li>Indian Band Registry – 2</li> </ul> </li> <li>Total Applications – 21</li> <li>Winnipeg, MB – KO Off-Reserve Members         <ul> <li>Ontario Birth Certificate – 2 adults</li> <li>Manitoba Birth Certificate – 2 adults</li> <li>Manitoba Card Renewals – 1 adult</li> </ul> </li> <li>Total Applications – 8</li> <li>Sioux Lookout, Dryden, and Pelican Falls – KO Off-Reserve Members and KOBE Students         <ul> <li>Ontario Birth Certificate – 2 children/youth, 2 adults</li> <li>Manitoba Birth Certificate – 2 adults</li> <li>Health Card Renewals – 9 children/youth, 3 adults</li> <li>Indian Band Registry – 2</li> </ul> </li> <li>Total Applications – 20</li> <li>GRAND TOTAL APPLICATIONS – 349</li> </ul>
#73 – In order to ensure that students receive	A	KO established a Peer Mentor program in September 2017 and
orientation at the time of their arrival as well as		this remains ongoing. First year students are partnered with

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ongoing support as they transition to life in Thunder Bay, in addition to their current orientation sessions conducted by DFCHS, MLC, and the City of Thunder Bay and other community partners, new students should be partnered with peer mentors who have experience in Thunder Bay and are willing to assist with day-to-day issues that may arise, including:

- i) Resisting negative peer pressure;
- ii) Reporting incidents of racism;
- iii) Encouraging students to attend school and apply themselves to their studies;
- iv) Reporting concerns regarding boarding homes;
- v) Promoting healthy lifestyles; and,
- vi) Organizing activities to reduce risk factors.

senior students to provide support while adjusting to the school, boarding home and the city. This program is ongoing and will continue each school year. There was significant success of the program in the last school year as it provided additional comfort and guidance to first time students.

Partnering students with a Mentor will be based on common interests, favorite subjects, personalities and other criteria that will create an ongoing support for new students as well as a positive sense of responsibility with senior students.

Our Transition Worker works hand-in-hand with the Retention Coordinator, Tutors, Student Support Workers, and the Well-Being Team to develop workshops/activities and to address and encourage students on a daily basis.

Our Student/Boarding Home Coordinator works diligently with the boarding home parents to provide appropriate training to support our students while they are away from home.

#73 – In order to ensure that students receive orientation at the time of their arrival as well as ongoing support as they transition to life in Thunder Bay, in addition to their current orientation sessions conducted by DFCHS, MLC, and the City of Thunder Bay and other community partners, new students should be partnered with peer mentors who have experience in Thunder Bay and are willing to assist with day-to-day issues that may arise, including:

- vii) Resisting negative peer pressure;
- viii) Reporting incidents of racism;
- ix) Encouraging students to attend school and apply themselves to their studies;

x) Reporting concerns regarding boarding homes; xi) Promoting healthy lifestyles; and,
Organizing activities to reduce risk factors
In the fiscal year of 2022/23.
For the fiscal year of 2022/23 the following activities were completed to reduce risk factors:
<ul> <li>BBQ orientation and Peer Mentor program was completed at the beginning of the school year, students were paired with the senior students.</li> <li>Had former KOBE SS students speak with current students and beading activities.</li> <li>Safe Sober Site did moccasin making workshops with the KOBE students, beading activities, game night, dinners.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>For the fiscal year of 2023/24, orientation included:</li> <li>BBQ with students and staff</li> <li>Safe Sober Site Tour</li> <li>Weekly programming started</li> </ul>
For the fiscal year of 2024/25, orientation included:  - BBQ with students and staff  - Safe Sober Site tour  KOBE is looking to improve this recommendation by bringing back the peer mentor programming. This program will allow students who already have experience with going to school to show new students on how to adjust to school, boarding homes, and the city.

#81 – In order to ensure the safety of all First Nation students while going to school on reserve or off-reserve, conduct annual training of all staff and boarding parents associated with First Nation schools with respect to:

- Recognition, management and care of intoxicated students;
- ii) Crisis intervention;
- iii) Suicide prevention; and,
- iv) First Aid, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

KO has conducted training as identified in this recommendation and this is ongoing for any new Board Home Parents or staff. Additional training for Staff:

Α

Wilderness First Aid, Mental Health First Aid, Confidentiality and Duty to Report, Bullying/Cyber-Bullying, Missing Student Protocol Guide, Lakehead Search and Rescue Training, cEMR Database Management, CTRI: Counselling Certificate Training, Land Based & Well-Being Intervention, Self-Care Techniques, Debriefing, FN Mental Health First Aid, Case Note/Incident Reporting, and Intergenerational Trauma.

KO believes that ongoing training is imperative for student well-being and success. KO will continue consultation with staff and boarding home parents to determine areas of training for this coming year. All new staff receive the above-mentioned training and for this coming year. All new staff receive the above-mentioned training and will continue to explore training that is relevant to the issues that they encounter.

KO Boarding Home Parents/Student Home Workers participate in the training sessions that are coordinated annually by Nishnawbe Aski Nation and this is ongoing.

Each area completes training on an ongoing basis each year. Whether it's to refresh their skills and/or for new staff to obtain their certification. Due to the Emergency Act that has been in place since March 2020, our staff have been participating in various webinars that focus on student mental health, how to work with high-risk youth, etc, through CTRI.

Training for KO/KOBE staff is ongoing and has been supported annually the Choose Life Initiative.

		For the fiscal year of 2021/22, KOBE staff has continued to participate in staff training webinars.  For the fiscal year of 2022/23, KOBE staff has continued to attend in person and online training. Training includes, First Aid, Mental Health First Aid, ASIST.  For the fiscal year of 2023/24, 3 KOBE workers are now qualified ASIST trainers. These workers trained Student Home Workers and Safe Sober Site workers. The trainers will continue to train the rest of KOBE staff. As for other training First Aid has been renewed, along with Mental Health First Aid. KOBE staff have also taken On-call Nan Training when it is offered.  For the fiscal year of 2024/25, KOBE workers have renewed First Aid CPR, Mental Health First Aid and ASIST, This is done yearly, as staff have different dates when it needs be renewed. KOBE staff also take the on-call training that NAN offers. As for the boarding parents, the Boarding Home Worker and Addiction Crisis worker have met with each boarding parent to go over how to expect a student is under the influence and what to do if they suspect it. Each boarding parent is provided with an information sheet with the proper steps to take when their student is suspected under the influence or if they need extra help. On-call and Safe Sober Site contact is also provided.
#83 – In order to increase awareness regarding risks related to alcohol, substance and solvent use and ensure consistent mandatory education for First Nations students attending school in Thunder Bay, in consultation with local community partners, including Centers for Addiction and Mental Health, the Thunder Bay District Health Unit and Dilico ensure that students	A	KO invites individuals from various life experiences, including community-based individuals, to talk to the students about the effects of alcohol/drugs and to encourage healthy role models/lifestyles.  Workshops and sharing circles are held regularly at each of our sites and topics vary depending on the needs of the students.

are provided with regular, appropriate, accurate, up-todate information relating to:

- i) The health and social issues associated with alcohol, substance and solvent use;
- ii) The legal consequences of underage drinking;
- iii) The resources available in the community to address issues relating to alcohol, substance and solvent use;
- iv) Current misconceptions relating to "accepted" drinking practices (i.e. drinking homebrew vs spirits); and,
- v) The important of assisting and staying with intoxicated peers and reporting any concerns to boarding parents, on-call workers, and other support workers.

KO, in partnership with the TBRHSC P.A.R.T.Y. Program, hosts monthly seminars via videoconference and students are welcome to share any questions following each.

Ongoing information sharing and awareness of new dangers (drugs/lethal substitutes) that are flagged by the TBDHU. They are developing a communication protocol that would provide "alerts" to our well-being. Student support, student home workers, on-call workers, boarding home parents and other pertinent staff on any possible dangerous areas and/or what to do when responding to an intoxicated student.

The Safe Sober Site have developed several harm reduction modules and has conducted online virtual sessions for the 2020/21 academic year, due to the global pandemic.

This will continue as part of their programming each year and will be done in-person, should students be on site.

For the fiscal year of 2021/22, continued to develop modules for the returning students in the fall of 2022.

For The fiscal year of 2022/23, the Safe Sober Sites continue to host Harm Reduction programming. These programs include culture activities, student discharge meetings which include nature walks.

For the fiscal year of 2023/24, the Safe Sober Sites continues to host Harm Reduction programming. This year, Thunder Bay Safe Sober Site partnered with Circle of Care worker to do weekly programming which has been a success. This year, every month a special guest would do programming with the

		students and explain what harm reduction means to them. These guests include: Shannon Gustafson – Split-Toe Moccasin Susan Medicine – Baby Bundles Shannon Gardner – Ribbon Skirt Making Regan Ferris – Painting  For the fiscal year of 2024/25, the Safe Sober Sites host Harm Reduction programming. This year, the site hosts programming where special guests come in to speak to the students on what harm reduction means to them. The following programs were held: Ribbon Sweater Workshop – Paige Morriseau Diabetes Awareness – ONWA Baby Bundles – Suzanne Medicine Cooking Traditional Food Teachings Vision Boards Ribbon Skirt/Shirt Making Safe Sober Site has also collaborated with the Well-being Team and the Health Unit to plan future activities.
#84 – In order to allow students to continue their education in Thunder Bay while dealing with substance or alcohol issues, in consultation with local community partners, NNEC, KO and MLC should continue to develop harm reduction programs to address alcohol and substance use by students at their schools. The development of such programs should consider including a day program (if necessary) or a course option or students at the school [sic]. Canada should sufficiently fund NNEC, KO and MLC for these activities.	A  KO accepts this recommendation where resources are available.	KO students have access to a "suboxone program" at DFC and staff access the services that are provided by the DFC Medical Team.  KO has previously had students attend an intensive therapy session in Sault St. Marie, as an alternative intervention option for students. Staff have developed a well-being and land-based intervention program that will assist in stabilizing the physical/emotional/spiritual/well-being needs of our students while allowing them to continue their education.  KO implemented a Land-Based Intervention Site just outside of Sioux Lookout and it's been operational since November 2018.

The purpose of this site is to provide programming, 3 to 5 days, for students who have been referred by their Student Support Worker or Well-being Worker for any alcohol/substance related concerns.

The intervention site has recently been renovated to ensure safety of our students while on site. The site has a teaching lodge that provides cultural teachings that are shared from KO Elders and are a part of our community's tradition. The intervention site is also an emergency option to care for our students while they await treatment and/or require stabilization.

Referrals to allied health services are ongoing as necessary and plans of care/follow-up is completed with their workers. A critical component of this site remains the land-based activities provided by our Elders/Knowledge Keepers and maintaining communication with parents/guardians on their child's progress.

For the fiscal year of 2021/22, this was ongoing and will be reviewed by the KO Circle of Care Working Group as they develop the Continuum of Care Framework to support the students dealing with substance and alcohol abuse.

For the fall of 2022, the Circle of Care Coordinator will develop a workplan that will implement the objectives of the Framework. #85 – In order to assist First Nations students in Thunder Bay with alcohol/substance use and addiction problems, in consultations with community partners, including the Centres for Addiction and Mental Health, Dilico and St. Joseph's Care Group, explore alternatives to sending students back to their home communities, including treatment programs that would allow students to pursue their studies in Thunder Bay.

A KO continuously engages with community partners to access services for the students. KO will conduct further research and consultation with community partners to streamline/facilitate intake protocols so our students may have ease of access to

services.

KO also believes strongly in alternatives to mainstream services and utilizes the Elders and Land Based programming as an alternative method of therapy for at risk students. In response to this recommendation, KO has developed the Intervention Site based in Sioux Lookout. (See Rec. 84 response)

This is ongoing. KO continues to utilize the Telehealth Psychiatry program as well as our KO Mental Health Workers. The Safe Sober Site has developed information on treatment services within Ontario that will be shared with KO First Nation leadership, Tribal Council and KOBE staff, as a reference tool to support ALL membership with addictions treatment options.

For the fiscal year of 2021/22, KO/KOBE continues to identify programming to support students, to prepare for student learning in the fall of 2022.

KOBE will continue to develop and share information on addictions treatment options with the KO communities and partners.

For the fiscal year of 2022/23, the Addictions Crisis worker and Circle of Care Coordinator worked with Student Services to provide care including development of a recovery plan.

For the fiscal year of 2023/24, each student who has had an intake at the Safe Sober Site, will follow up with the Addiction

		Crisis Worker. The student is to attend all Harm Reduction programming while being grounded due to using substances. The Addiction Crisis worker will follow up with the Circle of Care Coordinator and Student Service workers to develop the necessary plans that are needed for each student.  For the fiscal year of 2024/25, this is ongoing. The Addiction Crisis worker continues to meet up with students after their intakes at the Safe Sober Site and follow up with the Circle of Care Coordinator and Student Services to develop plans for each student.
#86 – In order to increase awareness of DFCHS and MLC students regarding the risks associated with the purchase of alcohol through second party purchasers ("runners"), consider incorporating the Crimestoppers video made by DFCHS students into the orientation session held upon the arrival of new students in Thunder Bay each September. If the Crimestoppers video is not incorporated, include information in the orientation regarding the risks associated with the purchase of alcohol through second party purchasers.	A	A copy of the Crimestoppers video will be incorporated into the KO orientation sessions and KO will invite LCBO to present during the orientation sessions.  KO Staff continue to be vigilant in being aware of any potential dangers to students, including those individuals who may cause harm through second party purchasers ("runners'). KO, MLC and DFCHS share information of any potential harms.  This initiative is ongoing for each academic year and orientations are conducted in Thunder Bay and Sioux Lookout.  KO's Safe Sober Site staff will be including this in their orientation session each semester. Information will be provided via handouts and shared at each site.  For the fiscal year of 2021/22, Safe Sober Site update handouts, pamphlets, and newsletter. Safe Sober Site staff will partake in the student orientation 2022/23 school year.  This initiative is ongoing for each academic year and orientations are conducted in Thunder Bay and Sioux Lookout.

		For the fiscal year of 2023/24, Safe Sober Site has updated pamphlets and information. The Safe Sober Site and Student Services staff continues to speak to students about second hand alcohol purchasing and the legal consequences that can happen.  For fiscal year of 2024/2025, this initiative is ongoing orientations are conducted in Thunder Bay, Sioux Lookout, Dryden.
#87 – In order to ensure continuity of care and increased prospect (where desired) of a return to Thunder Bay for those students who are sent back due to health and safety concerns, make all efforts to ensure that community supports, including a continuing education, health and mental health plan, are in place prior to sending a student back to his or her home community. Canada and Ontario should ensure that there is sufficient funding and resources in place for these support programs.	A	As stated in Rec. 71, KO has developed a Circle of Care model for students who attend high school away from their families and home communities. This model will address mental health concerns, access to specialized services, continuity of care when at home/school, and educational/cultural supports that provide students with the continued land-based teachings of their families and communities.  KO continues to develop its Continuum of Care framework that will involve multiple parties at the Tribal Council and First Nation level to develop a plan for returning students to continue their education, and for ongoing support of their health/mental health plan of care.  KO and its departments, education, health, mental health, eHealth, and KNet, reviewed the Circle of Care model that was developed within Keewaytinook Okimakanak Secondary Student Services (KOSSS) and determined the next steps for numerous recommendations, including Rec, 71. A working group has been established with a member from each identified department to develop a continuum of care, interim process for the transition of student's home when they are removed from the KOSSS program, and to develop protocols

for referring students to specialized services that are provided by other departments.

KO Staff received privacy & security training and the policies were approved by the Keewaytinook Okimaakanak Board of Education (KOBE) members in March 2019. The first phase of implementation has been completed which saw KOSSS staff trained and utilizing the database for their required reporting submissions and secure recordkeeping.

KO has begun phase two of its implementation and training has been completed for the KOBE Well-Being staff, who work with the KO First Nation schools and KiHS classroom, and a workshop/orientation session was developed for the implementation of the Citizen Portal.

While phase two is in progress, it has encountered technical difficulties with the MUstimuhw cEMR. While KOSSS has trained all well-being and student support workers on the Mustimuhw cEMR (Community Electronic Record) database and it's been operational since July 2018, the Citizen Portal that was a secondary component and would allow our students/clients access to their workers, is no longer available in Canada. We are currently testing an alternative with MJustimuhw and are exploring options.

Phase three will connect the KOSSS/KOBE education staff portion of Mustimuh cEMR to the KO Health/Mental Health staff. This will allow for any referrals, and access to the KO Health/Mental Health specialized services on a year-round basis. KOSSS and KO Health have completed test clients and completed successful transfers of client information and/or files that would support our interdepartmental communication in an efficient and secure manner.

Phase four will connect all KO departments to our KO First Nations service providers and/or leadership. i.e. Nursing Station Staff, School Staff, Education/Social Counsellors and community Choose Life programming.

The Circle of Care Technical Working Group continues to meet and will be seeking a resolution of the KO Chiefs to support the continuum of Care Framework and for their approval on the development of protocols/partnerships necessary that will directly support all clients.

The Continuum of Care Framework is still under development. Due to the global pandemic, many of the work on this has been delayed. The pandemic also had each department develop a pandemic plan that prioritized the safety and wellbeing of students and staff, as they provide support and/or care. During the pandemic, there were many gaps and issues that First Nations required assistance with as students were attending school online. The community infrastructure was tested in the areas of available physical space and technical support i.e. chromebooks and broadband capabilities.

throughout this time, KO has worked directly with First Nations to access funding and support students as needed, while only able to do so virtually. KO has also taken an approach to addressing priority recommendations for implementation and have created additional positions to assist:

3. Circle of Care development Coordinator – KO/KOBE wide program initiative

4. Children & Youth Identification Coordinator – Direct frontline support to KO/KOBE First Nations and Schools (Rec. #17)

Ongoing – both of the positions have been filled and will start the implementation of the Framework.

For the fiscal year of 2022/23, there have been no community visits as of yet due to cancellations of trips, reasons include COVID outbreaks, lack of accommodations, flight availability. Trips are now being planned further in advance and a tentative travel date have been set for remainder of the year and early 2024.

Plan to gather information through Community Engagement Sessions (poster sessions, icebreakers, guest speakers with discussion, online surveys, student input.) All information gathered will be included in the development of protocols in keeping children and youth safe, part of recommendation #87. Community visits, Community engagement sessions will be an in-community event hosted by Circle of Care working group members/any KO Health/KiHS/KOBE staff with a guest speaker, presenter and/or influencer with time for discussion (this is where we will gather information for protocol development and provide support/programming to students during a long break where there is less support) By inviting a guest this will hopefully raise interest from community members to gather as much information as we can.

For the fiscal year of 2023/24, The Circle of Care program has completed eight intakes in Deer Lake, past students were hesitant

and unsure at first but completed forms to access mental health supports and provide an update for staff

after some discussion about the new program. Each intake will now be debriefed with the Circle of Care
Working Group to create a Plan of Care to ensure student safety until return to program or graduate from the program. Meetings have also been set to ensure implementation of Circle of Care across each site starting September 2024. Assisting forms such as "Circle of Care intake procedures" have started to be created to ensure all staff are aware of how to start these processes as many removals were not properly filed to Circle of Care Staff correctly, unfortunately this has caused more students to not have proper follow-up.

For the fiscal year of 2024/2025, Circle of Care program has maintained regular contact with Choose Life counselors, enhancing communication with the key stakeholders is now a priority.

Based on the feedback from clients (including input from the students), currently the following are being updated:

- Redesigning the Intake Form: The goal is to make the form clear, accessible, and user-friendly for all involved.
- Developing a PowerPoint Presentation: Presentation will outline the program's vision and will serve as a communication tool to gather input from the community regarding their expectations and needs.
- Organizing Key Files: Compiled essential documents such as academic records, student profiles, wellness notes, Safe Sober Site information, and intake and consent forms.

To keep our program successful, we are using performance measures similar to KO Health Services. This will help us stay on track and make improvements where needed.

#90 – In order for First Nations youth to have a voice regarding decisions relating to their education off-reserve, and to ensure that there is accountability in decisions made regarding their education and wellbeing, NNEC, KO, and MLC, with the support or Canada and NAN, should consider creating a special seat on their Boards of Directors for a youth representative who is a student or former student of DFCHC or MLC under the age of 25. Canada should provide the funding for any costs associated with this position.  A Keewaytinook Okimakanak Board of Education (KOBE) has approved a Terms of Reference and have adopted two Youth Representative (2) seats.  These positions will be funded by Canada (Education) in the 2019/20 year and the members will being their 2-year term in September 2019.  For the fiscal year of 2021/22, KOBE board has reviewed the terms of reference. Due to the pandemic, KOBE board have not had the opportunity to recruit Youth Representatives.  For the Fiscal year of 2022/23, KOBE has had two youth panels. The first one, two students spoke at the Political Table meeting. The two youth were able to express how the 145 Recommendions affects the well-being while being in school and 2 key challenges you may face or have faced while attending school. The students were able to speak about challenges they face while attending school, the support options that are available to them, and spoke about extracurricular activities.  For the fiscal year of 2024/25, KOBE has had two youth attend the Political Table meeting. Each student was able to express how the recommendations affects their well-being while attending school. The students were able to express what KOBE works for them and what does not. In the future, there will be defined the political fable may be appeared to a press of the support of t			
health is okay.	regarding decisions relating to their education off- reserve, and to ensure that there is accountability in decisions made regarding their education and well- being, NNEC, KO, and MLC, with the support or Canada and NAN, should consider creating a special seat on their Boards of Directors for a youth representative who is a student or former student of DFCHC or MLC under the age of 25. Canada should provide the funding	A	approved a Terms of Reference and have adopted two Youth Representative (2) seats.  These positions will be funded by Canada (Education) in the 2019/20 year and the members will being their 2-year term in September 2019.  For the fiscal year of 2021/22, KOBE board has reviewed the terms of reference. Due to the pandemic, KOBE board have not had the opportunity to recruit Youth Representatives.  For the Fiscal year of 2022/23, KOBE board has reviewed the terms of reference, and recruited the Youth Representatives.  For the fiscal year of 2023/24, KOBE has had two youth panels. The first one, two students spoke at the Political Table meeting. The two youth were able to express how the 145 Recommendations affects the well-being while being in school and 2 key challenges you may face or have faced while attending school. The second was at the Continuity of Care forum. The students were able to speak about challenges they face while attending school, the support options that are available to them, and spoke about extracurricular activities.  For the fiscal year of 2024/25, KOBE has had two youth attend the Political Table meeting. Each student was able to express how the recommendations affects their well-being while attending school. The students were able to express what KOBE works for them and what does not. In the future, there will be debriefs for the students after panels to ensure mental

#91 – In order to ensure timely reporting of missing students and consistent practice among institutions when students are reported missing or during sudden death investigations, the City of Thunder Bay; TBPS; NAN; NAPS; NNEC; DFCHS; KO; and MLC should establish a working group to discuss best practices applicable to their respective roles pertaining to students from remote First Nations communities attending secondary school in Thunder Bay ("Students"). The working group should consider:

i) The need to ensure timely reporting to police of all missing person matters that involve a Student: The working group should review and revise current education authority policies and procedures in order to generate a consistent set of policies. In particular, the document entitled Missing Student Protocol Guide [Exhibit Number 133 at Tab 21] should be reviewed and revised with the benefit of information learned at the joint inquest to help generate a consistent set of policies and procedures. The revised set of policies and procedures, once agreed upon, should be disseminated to – and adopted by – NNEC, KO and MLC. The revised procedures should include language that directs education authority employees to file a missing person report with police as soon as any member of the education authority determines that a search needs to be undertaken for a student whose whereabouts are unknown;

KO has developed a Missing Student Protocol Guide (MSPG) that will be utilized by all staff. The protocol identifies:

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Timely reporting of a missing student, student profiles with pictures, volunteer waiver, Missing Person Poster Template, Search Checklist (high risk areas/known contacts), Supplies Checklist (Search Equipment/Command Centre/Mobile Unit), internal/global search plans, Press/Media/Social Media Protocols, and Missing Person Risk Factors to prepare staff for different circumstances and emergencies.

KO developed search Equipment Kits for each site: Thunder Bay (2). Radio equipment with a mobile base for longer-range capabilities have been purchased for each site and have a dedicated radio frequency through Industry Canada.

Training on the MSPG and Lakehead Search & Rescue Training was conducted in July and August of 2018 for all staff. A comprehensive review of the MSPG, internal/global search plans and on all equipment with various scenarios was conducted.

The KO MSPG covers each of the identified items in this recommendation and it is reflective of the policies and procedures of the organization. Most importantly, it is reflective of the direction and wishes of the parents and communities of our students.

KO participated in the Public Awareness Campaign and will share all information and material within our member communities.

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- ii) Public awareness: The working group should discuss implementation of a public information campaign emphasizing the importance of reporting missing person matters to police without delay;
- iii) Information Sheet: The working group should discuss the preparation of information forms for all Students to be stored with education authorities. The working group should also review the steps necessary to obtain appropriate consent to disseminate these individual forms to police in the event that a missing person report is filed;
- iv) Social Media Search: The working group should consider how to utilize social media to assist in missing person searches and should designate roles and responsibilities for all parties accordingly;
- v) Press Release: The working group should discuss approaches to press releases pertaining to any missing person matter that involves a Student. The working group should also discuss approaches to press releases in the event that a Student is found deceased. The working group should discuss the various circumstances that may influence the media releases should or should not go out. The working group should also discuss circumstances that may influence how a media release may need to be worded;
- vi) Best Practices for Interviews: The working group should discuss best practices to

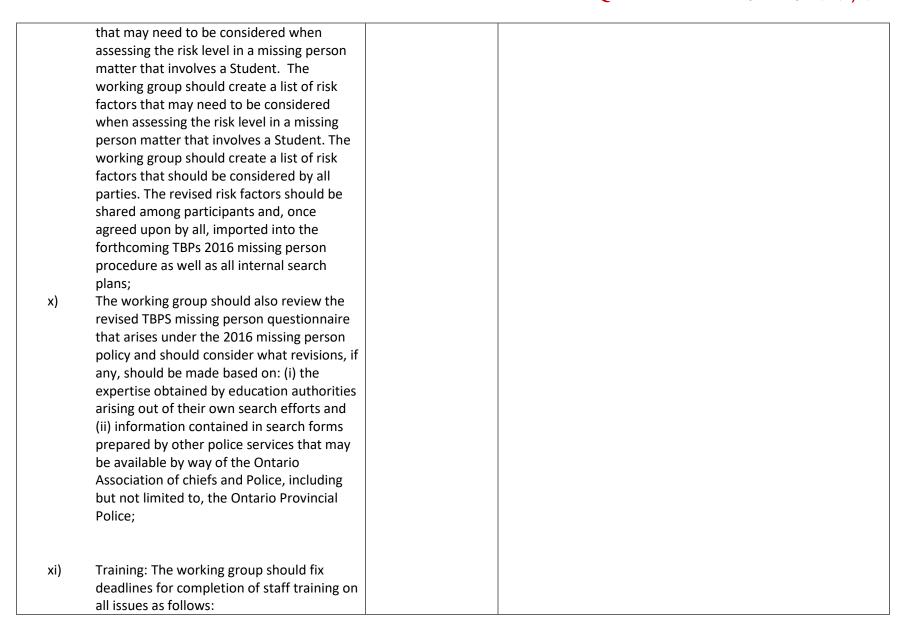
This item remains ongoing and MSPG Training and Lakehead Search & Rescue Training will be conducted again in July and August of 2020.

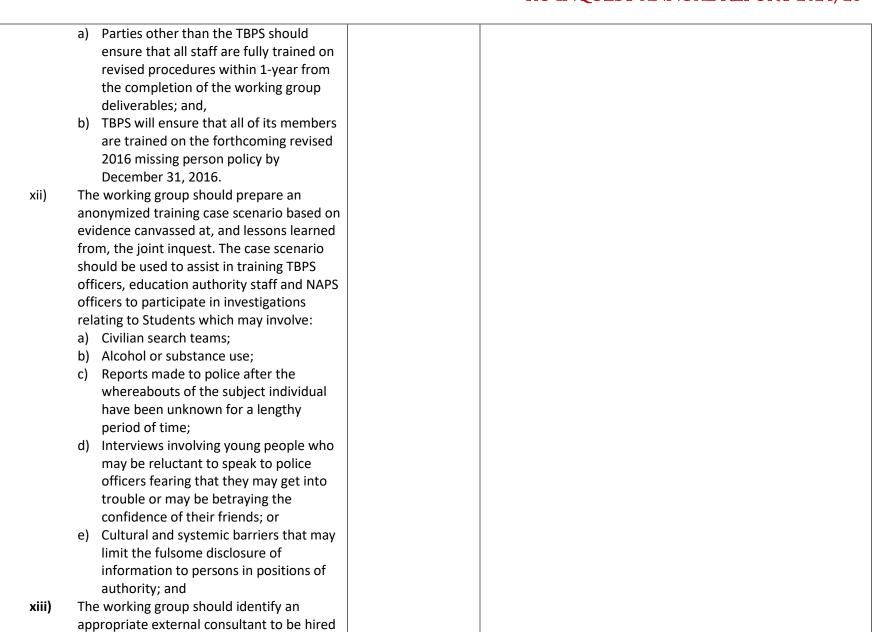
KO will participate in the Working Group being developed by NAN to share the Rec. 91 campaign to sites outside of Thunder Bay i.e. Sioux Lookout, Dryden, Timmins. As the legislation was changed and is Ontario-wide, we found it important that all our community members in various towns, cities and/or their home communities are aware of the new missing person legislation. While we did undertake a mail-out and poster campaign last year, greater education and understanding comes with in-person sessions.

**Ongoing.** KO/KOBE staff receive training on the Missing Student Protocol Guide to ensure that all staff are prepared when student goes missing.

		T
	facilitate interviews of young people in	
	exigent, non-criminal, circumstances. The	
	working group should also discuss best	
	practices to facilitate interviews in exigent,	
	non-criminal, matters with individuals of	
	any age who may be unfamiliar or	
	uncomfortable dealing with individuals in	
	positions of authority;	
vii)	Internal Search Plans: The working group	
	should ensure that appropriate participant	
	institutions have an internal search plan	
	that can be implemented if a Student goes	
	missing. Without limiting the generality of	
	what the internal plans may include:	
	a) Internal search plans should identify	
	pre-determined internal points of	
	contact to act as information	
	coordinators and liaisons to third	
	parties in the event of a missing person	
	search involving a visiting student;	
	b) Internal search plans should set out a	
	clear supervisory structure so that each	
	institution is able to identify an	
	individual(s) who will ensure that the	
	internal search plan is properly	
	executed;	
	c) Internal search plans should set out	
	how information will be provided to	
	family members and will contain	
	provisions that permit family members	
	to identify third parties to act as their	
	agents/advocates as they prefer. The	
	plan should ensure that more than one	
	individual can be designated by family	

	members to receive information where
	necessary;
	d) Internal search plans should also set
	out how employees will share
	information externally with any other
	relevant institutions, political bodies or
	family members;
	e) All internal search plans should
	contemplate the possible arrival of
	community searches and how to
	manage such volunteers. Internal
	search plans should explain best search
	practices for non-police searchers with
	particular emphasis on, among other
	things, evidence preservation;
viii)	Global Search Plans: the working group
	should also ensure that each internal search
	plan dovetails into a larger global search
	plan that should be implemented by all
	participant institutions in the event that a
	Student goes missing:
	a) Global search plans should adopt pre-
	determine points of contact within each
	institution that are consistent with the
	internal search plans discussed above;
	b) Global search plans should include at
	least one Appendix that will contain a
	handout listing the best practices for
	community searchers discussed above.
	This document can be disseminated to
	community searches as needed;
ix)	Missing person risk factors: The working
,	group should share expertise on risk factors
	Broad strong strain experience on the fractions





to assist the TBPS (and any other interested organizations) to revise current training modules to ensure that curriculum covers cultural issues that are relevant to members of the Indigenous community in and around Thunder Bay and:  a) TBPS will also present an annual report on training to the Police Services Board to provide the public with information to police training. The report will be made during the public session and will include, among others things, a summary of the number of officers who completed training courses in different policing areas and will include information about training curriculum related to Indigenous issues.		
#107 – The City of Thunder Bay Aboriginal Liaison, NNEC, DFCHS, KO and MLC should work together – perhaps through designated contact people in the schools – to coordinate participation of DFCHS and MLC students in Thunder Bay recreation programs and City sponsored events that students may be interested in attending throughout the school year – for example, the use of skating rinks in the winter.	A	KO students continue to utilize the City of Thunder Bay municipal parks and skating rinks during the nine school months they are here. Our students utilize the rinks for hockey and broomball on a weekly basis.  KO is participating on two Interagency Committees to develop intramural activities with our partners in Sioux Lookout and Thunder Bay. KO partners with Windigo, Independent First Nations Alliance, Northern Nishnawbe Education Council, KO, and Shibogama (WINKS). Another partnership is under development in Thunder Bay with the above-mentioned partners and will include Matawa Frist Nations Management and Nishnawbe Aski Nation.

		Due to COVID-19, this was not permitted during this past year.  For the 2022/23 School Year, KOBE will revisit the interagency committees to support student afterschool activities.  For the fiscal year of 2024/2025, Sioux Lookout students continue to utilize the WINKS program, Thunder Bay students use the arenas, and outdoor skating rinks.
#114 – Consultations should occur between the City of Thunder Bay through the Thunder Bay Drug Strategy, the TBPSB, Health Canada, the Ministries of Health and Long-term Care and Child and Youth Services, the Northwest Local Health Integration Network ("NWLHIN"), EMS, the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre ("TBRHSC"), NAN, NNEC, KO, Shibogama, Independent First Nations Alliance ("IFNA') and MLC in order to develop of an alternative facility for intoxicated youth, including remote First Nation students who cannot return home until their intoxication level has subsided [sic]. Such an alternative facility could include a shelter or detox unit, open to Youth who are 25 years or younger, with appropriate trained staff.	A	KO has established our alternative detoxification facility, "Safe Sober Site", in Thunder Bay and it went live in April 2019. Through partnership with Matawa Education and Care Centre and Northern Nishnawbe Education Council, our site is prepared to receive and provide services to any intoxicated students who do not require emergency care. Canada and Ontario (Ministry of Health and Long -Term Care) have committed to funding this initiative for 3 years, ending in March 2021.  KO Sober Site has had a total of 74 intakes in the 2019/20 fiscal year. Of these intakes, 2 students arrived by TBPS, and 7 required hospital intervention. Our staff have received a great response and cooperation from TBPS and EMS who were very pleased to see our facility in operation. All intakes that KO was able to accommodate provided a safe space for out students to detoxify, while keeping them out of emergency room and/or jail facilities.  KO has a second site established in Sioux Lookout and are prepared to accommodate 3 students. We are currently in the process of hiring staff and will begin their training and job shadowing July/August 2021.

The Sioux Lookout Site will go live October 2021. Due to COVID-19, the Sioux Lookout Site was not able to be staffed in 2020. This is currently in process for the 2021/22 academic year and KO plans to be operational October 2021.

KO continues to participate in the Rec. 114 Working Group and will assist in the development of a fourth site within the City of Thunder Bay that will service all youth not currently covered by the FN Partner sites.

Fiscal year 2021/22, Safe Sober Site in Sioux Lookout was delayed due to pandemic.

The Inquest Coordinator is working with the Sioux Lookout Municipality for their approval in order to commence our delivery services to the students. KO plans to be in operational by October 2022.

KO/KOBE has hired staff for the Safe Sober Site in Sioux Lookout, for the 2022/23 School year.

Thunder Bay Sober Site has had a total of 21 intakes in the 2022/23 fiscal year. These intakes, 2 students needed police intervention and 2 required hospital intervention. Sioux Lookout Safe Sober Site is had its Grand Opening on May 15, 2023. KOBE Board members, staff, elders, Tribal Councils, Sioux Lookout Mayor, Sioux North High School, Police and neighbours were invited.

Sioux Lookout Safe Sober Site has a permit and is now able to be fully operational. For the fiscal year of 2023/24, the Safe Sober Site plans to continue to be fully operational and will host Harm Reduction programming for students.

		For the fiscal year of 2023/24, both sites remained fully operational. Thunder Bay Safe Sober Site has had 43 intakes in total, 22 females and 21 males. Sioux Lookout Safe Sober Site has had 18 intakes, 12 females and 6 males. Both sites host Harm Reduction programming. KOBE is currently in the process of setting up a Safe Sober Site in Dryden. This site is to be operational by 2025.  For the fiscal year or 2024/25, both sites continue to be open for student intakes. Thunder Bay site has had 21 intakes in total, 11 females and 9 males. Sioux Lookout site has had a total of 13 intakes. KOBE is still currently in the process of setting up Dryden's site. The Senior Manager of Student Academic Support Services is currently meeting with the Municipality of Dryden for approval of the site. Once approved, the site will undergo the requirements for the permit. The furniture is now ordered and will be delivered on
		July 15 <sup>th</sup> .
#115 – The city of Thunder Bay, TBPS, NNEC, DFCHS, KO, IFNA, Shibogama, and MLC should consult on the terms of reference for a safety audit of the river areas frequented by First Nation students and youth in the evenings. The consultation and resulting audit should be undertaken as soon as practicable. Subject to the findings of the audit, some possible responses to identified issues could include improved lightning, emergency button poles, under-bridge barricades, or increased police patrols.	A	The City of Thunder Bay has implemented a Working Group with the identified parties to address this recommendation. Currently, the improved lighting, emergency button poles and increased video capabilities are in a proposal stage and funding has not been secured for this. City of Thunder Bay does maintain the river areas as their maintenance crews have added these areas onto their service routes.  KO has stressed their own concerns regarding the rivers through this process and the ongoing urgency for these issues to be addressed prior to the school year (Fall 2018).  KO continues to participate on this working group and the biggest challenge to implementing the changes has been lack

		of funding from Ontario and/or Canada. This item is ongoing and we will continue to participate with this Working Group.
		On-going for fiscal year 2024/25.
#117 – The city of Thunder Bay, NNEC, KO, DFCHS, and MLC should consult with community partners to arrange for speakers or skills instructors to attend the schools in order to make presentations on topics which are aimed to engage and provide information to the students	A	KO does this by utilizing current Elders on staff and by inviting community leadership and Knowledge Keepers to be a part of our programming.  This is ongoing and the KO Staff and we ensure that all special quests/speakers attend each of our four main sites: Dryden, Sioux Lookout, Pelican Falls Centre and Thunder Bay.  This has been ongoing and has been done virtually during the 2020/21 academic year. KO has conducted beading circles with our Elders, motivational speakers (Theo Fleury), musical performances by previous KO Secondary Students and so on.  For the fiscal year of 2021/22, KOBE developed onsite, and virtual learning for students. This included face to face, online, telephone, email, and social media.  For fiscal year of 2022/23, KOBE continues to utilize elders, staff and KO members to take part in programming to provide information to the students.  For the fiscal year of 2023/24, KOBE still continues to invite elders to programming. The elder provides support by sharing knowledge, providing warm meals and engaging with students. KOBE also has positive influencers come do programming with students. These influencers provide traditional teachings to the students.
		This is ongoing for the fiscal year of 2024/25.

#143 – Al	l organizations that receive recommendations	A	The Annual Report will be submitted by June 28, 2021 at 10:00
	repare an annual report following up on the		a.m.
recomme	endations that:		
i)	Indicate whether each recommendation is		Keewaytinook Okimakanak has submitted an annual report to
	(a) accepted, (b) accepted in part, or (c) rejected;		the Corner's office in 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and will continue to do so.
ii)	Provides an explanation for any		to 40 30.
",	recommendations that are not accepted in		2021/2022 Annual Report will be submitted. Late submission
	whole or in part and indicates an		of the report for this year is due to not having an Inquest
	alternative approach to achieve the same		Coordinator. New hired Inquest Coordinator was hired in late
	aim;		June 2022.
iii)	Indicates, for all recommendations that are		
	accepted, whether implementation is (a)		For the fiscal year of 2022/23 the annual report will be
	pending, (b) in progress, or (c) complete;		submitted for June 28, 2023.
iv)	Provides a detailed update regarding the		
	steps that have been taken and are planned		For the fiscal year of 2023/24 the annual report will be
	with respect to the implementation of the		submitted by June 28, 2024.
	accepted recommendations;		
(v)	Is sent by email to any person who requests		For the Fiscal year of 2024/25 the annual report will be
.,	to receive a copy; and,		submitted by June 30th, 2025.
vi)	Is prepared each year for delivery at 10:00		
	a.m. on the anniversary date of the release		
	of the inquest recommendations (until the party has provided an annual reporting		
	indicating that all of the recommendations		
	it received have either been rejected or		
	implanted).		
	iniplantea).		

#144 – The organizations receiving recommendations should endeavor to agree on a process whereby the annual reports will be posted in a central location on the internet (e.g. on a website of one of the organizations). Acknowledging that the First Nations parties who receive recommendations have limited resources, those parties should prioritize actual actions responding to recommendations over reporting on those actions and should only be expected to provide annual reports if they have the resources to do so.	A	The NAN website hosts the Annual Reports of all Inquest Partners on their website.  KO will post our Inquest Annual Report on their Keewaytinook Okimakanak and/or Keewaytinook Okimakanak Board of Education website.  This is ongoing.
#145 – Organizations that accept recommendations should revise their current policies to reflect new tasks and procedures.	A	New Policies that have been developed and reviewed by the KOBE members in the March 2019:  • KOSSS Circle of Care Model  • Land Based Programming  • Boarding Home Guidelines  • Student Home Policies  • Missing Student Protocol Guide  • Well-Being Program  • Land Based Intervention Site  • Safe Sober Site  • Privacy & Security Policy (cEMR and Data Management)  Each of the policies will be included in the main KOSSS Policies & Procedure Manaual.  All policies and forms are currently being translated and will be made available to all staff each site. This is ongoing.

Keewaytinook Okimakanak Board of Education has adopted policies and procedures in March 2021 and this has been reviewed with all staff.
All KO/KOBE policies will be updated with the implementation of new programming and/or models of care.
For the fiscal year of 2021/22, KOBE/Student Services have been working in updating the Student Services policies.
On-going for fiscal year 2023/24, the Safe Sober Site policies are currently in the process of being updated.