

# **Chibougamau Eenou Friendship Centre**

## **46<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**



**Honoured to serve the Chibougamau urban  
Aboriginal community since 1969**

**June 22, 2016**

**95 rue Jaculet, Chibougamau, Québec G8P 2G1  
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## **PORTRAIT OF THE CHIBOUGAMAU EENOU FRIENDSHIP CENTRE (CEFC)**



The Chibougamau Eenou Friendship Centre is proudly in existence since 1969. The Centre is a non-profit organization that has been providing a multitude of services to Aboriginal people in Chibougamau for 47 years. This Centre is one of ten (10) Friendship Centres in Québec. The Centre is affiliated with the Regroupement des Centres d'amitiés autochtones du Québec (RCAAQ), as well as the National Association of Friendship Centres (NAFC).

The town of Chibougamau has a population of almost seven thousand six hundred people (7600) and the vast majority are francophone. However; due to the proximity of the Cree communities, many Cree call Chibougamau home. The Chibougamau Aboriginal community is estimated at close to seven hundred and fifty (750) members, the majority of whom are Cree. Most community members choose to relocate to town from their home communities for work, housing, education, medical obligations and so on.

According to the 2011 Canadian census, the urbanization trend in Québec demonstrated that 52.3% of Native people now live off-reserve in Québec. This represents more than 52 300 Native people across the province. Note that numbers for Métis and Inuit were not available. These increases of First Nations people migrating from their communities and choosing to reside in urban areas, as well as members newly recognised by the courts have increased demands on urban-based organizations, such as the Chibougamau Eenou Friendship Centre and other Aboriginal Friendship Centres.

Throughout the years, Chibougamau has responded to the demands of this increasing population by promoting healthy balanced lifestyles through culturally significant programs, services and activities. This Centre will continue to serve its community and build upon its current services to meet the needs of the community with the mandate set forth for the Board of Directors and Executive Director.

## **MISSION AND VISION**

### **Mission**

Our mission is to provide quality services to the Aboriginal people residing in the urban area by:

- Providing a cultural gathering place for Natives living in Chibougamau;
- Promoting a multi-cultural centre that highlights Native culture and traditions and acts as a bridge to understanding between the Native and non-Native community;
- Facilitating and supporting Native participation in urban society and socio-economic development;
- Offering a comfortable and welcoming place that meets the various needs of the Native population.

### **Vision Statement**

To fulfill its mission, the CEFC will carry out projects that will maintain, develop and promote health, culture and community values. To attain this vision the CEFC will build quality infrastructure providing a healthy, secure and functional place of respite. This will be done with respect for members, its human resources and its budgetary parameter.

## A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear members,

We continue to be grateful for your presence today that marks the 46<sup>th</sup> annual general assembly of the Chibougamau Eenou Friendship Centre. It would seem that we have progressed as the hectic pace of the work we are all to do harries us from one project and meeting to the next. And yet. The mission remains the same: to improve the quality of life for the Aboriginal population living in and transiting through Chibougamau.

We live in momentous times; the creation in this territory of the Eeyou Istchee baie-James Regional Government, and this year its adherence to the Coalition of Municipalities for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination continues to maintain the eyes of the world upon us, as this huge tiny region learns how to work together towards the same aspirations for our children and grandchildren seven generations on.

We are inspired by these endeavours to persevere; our mission has merit and has lost none of its potency in 46 years. Indeed, a visit on any given day is an eloquent reminder why we prevail – an elder's need for rest, a wary visitor's need for respite and direction, a school child's smile of hope for welcome, a local organisation's request for support and collaboration to stretch change even more inclusively, your unexpected and well-met stop for coffee-for information-for a job- for friendship. THAT is what we are truly all about.

I cannot erase this observation from last year because it remains just as true and urgent in 2015-2016: "When we look back in a few years' time, 2014-2015 will have been the year of consultation. Although ever attentive to the evolving needs of our community, the pressing socio-political and economic landscape within which exist Friendship Centres and other community organisations have provided a diverse range of opportunities to identify, explore, validate and otherwise address needs-issues-opportunities-population segments-best practice-and more.... "

Heartfelt thanks go to the family that is our community.

- ❖ To our 2015-2016 staff at the Centre, to Agnes Moore, Jessica Thisdale, Fabienne Boulanger, Jessica Marceau, Nicolas Paillard, Annabelle Awashish, Angie Mark, Shannon Paddy, Walter Pawlikowski, Priscilla Coon-Come, Frédéric Launière – you are all the vital links that make the Centre work. Misti meegwich.
- ❖ To our Board of Directors: Cindy Morrison, Pierre Pelletier, Sarah Pashagumskum, Manon Richmond, Wayne Rabbitskin, LeeAnn Neeposh and Jessica Thisdale; the challenge of time got the better of us this year and yet your presence was felt in the discussions and orientations that guided our hands throughout the year. Meegwich to you all as well.
- ❖ And you, dear members and partners? I say it each and every year, you make getting up and coming to work each day a worthwhile endeavour. Thank you for the inspiration to be the change we seek.

In peace and friendship, 3 | Page



## **2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT**

The federal Urban Aboriginal Strategy (UAS) has continued to have a profound effect on the work of Friendship Centres this past year. Consultations between 2013 and 2016 have made it crystal-clear that Chibougamau organisations rely on the CEFC to help them reach the Aboriginal population and the community relies on the CEFC to point them in the right direction regarding urban services. This year has been almost an echo of the previous in the sense that every conversation, initiative and effort invested in the past year with partners and community members is having a profound effect on funding, development opportunities and collaborations.

You will find this report divided into the key funding projects and major activities that gave rhythm to the Centre in the past year.

### **Community Capacity Support**

The objectives identified within the Community Capacity Support program under the federal Urban Aboriginal Strategy funding stream for 2015-2016 are as follows:

#### **Mobilise Chibougamau Aboriginal youth to increase engagement and strengthen identity in order to facilitate participation in the economy**

Programming was developed in the quiet summer to respond to youth requests throughout the previous year. It came as quite a shock to discover that a fair part of our regular youth no longer attended school in town or simply found other interests in the course of the summer and ceased attending the Chill Zone. Cultural activities in particular took a 180-degree tangent whereas sports were of greater interest once again.

A funding opportunity under Urban Partnerships enabled us to explore the reasons for this and is reported further on.

#### **Optimise Centre Services for Community Members and Partners**

Much of the Centre's focus this year was to position the Centre as liaison. A decrease in staff did have some impact on our efforts in this regard although we have been able to speak in various forums including the regional social development table, the Awenichii working committee, the coalition against domestic violence, the Centre-initiated Women, abuse and power ad hoc committee struck following the allegations of abuse towards our sisters in Val d'Or. Discussions are on-going and slow as we feel our way in truth to meet the needs of community members as well as the politics of fields of intervention.

In the meantime, referral, access to information and community gathering opportunities like crafting and potluck, the shop, workshops, a hot lunch and coffee – continue to be our bread and butter, the reason our Eenouch step through the door each day. Multitudes of meetings with collaborators on new projects, on evolving services, on creating awareness of the needs of

the urban Aboriginal community are also an important part of that fabric woven to serve our members. We translate, we intervene, we advocate and we share.

In 2015-2016, the CEFC responded to more than 11 566 requests for service. Many are for the children of our families. Many are referrals and support services disguised as staff communications. There was a temporary increase in meals served during renovations at the hospital. Decreases are noted in youth participation and shop custom. Both are on-trend and being attended to as you will see in the pages ahead.

### **Pursue and formalise community partnerships to support projects in skill development and community integration**

Many discussions were held in 2015-2016, indeed , it was the year of the meeting! Despite this, we were not able to formalise the partnerships desired in the time available. We rely on the close-knit aspect of this community in the interim as we continue to work together towards the same goals. These intentions however, continue to be pertinent and will carry into the next year.

A project of last year, the CPE Awash Utamet Childcare Centre, garnered much effort and time on the part of management in 2015-2016 as the committee struggled to meet the deadlines and criteria required to open and operate a subsidised childcare centre in these times of budgetary constraint.



The Childcare Centre received its permit for operation February 8, 2016 to the joy of parents and Board alike.

### **Urban Partnerships**

The CEFC presented two projects for consideration in 2015-2016 of which Awenichii garnered funding.

#### **Awenichii**

As part of the Urban Partnerships project, the Chibougamau Eenou Friendship Centre conducted a study on Native youth living in town. This project consisted in conducting an assessment among Aboriginal youth aged 15-24 years concerning their needs. The overall objective was to identify and characterize the clientele and its actual needs. Therefore, this study both drew a realistic picture of the target population and allowed a better understanding of the current situation of Aboriginal youth living in Chibougamau.



In order to meet the project's objectives, le CEFC developed a simple questionnaire containing 15 questions to be completed by participants aged from 15-24 years. Altogether, 45 youth completed the survey.

Partner organisations worked together with the compiled data to understand the preoccupations of youth and recognised the changes in means of access to information and services: our youth are tech-savvy, we are not. Becoming so, and bringing services to their attention through technology they enjoy and apply will be the collaborative work of the coming year.

### **Secrétariat aux Affaires autochtones**

The Secrétariat has been providing *Support of the Mission funding through the Fonds d'initiatives autochtones I and II* for more than 12 years now. Objectives to be undertaken beyond the usual services and activities of the centre include

#### **Long Term Planning**

*Strategic Reflection:* this process was unable to move forward this year due to Baord time constraints

*Renew Service Offer:* internal discussions were initiated regarding an organisational restructuring very much led by the need to assess space management in a future new building. With constructions costs high in the North and evolving communication needs with the community, this point will be a central feature of the 2016-2017 action plan.

*Revamp Human Resources Strategy:* as indicated above, discussions commenced and will continue in the coming year.

#### **Community Strategy**

##### ***CPE Awash Utamet Launch***

The CPE received its operations permit February 8<sup>th</sup> after a heavily invested concerted effort on the part of committee members. The Educational Plan and other essential documents were completed in early summer. The hiring process completed in early Fall. Chibougamau awaits the inauguration and first official annual general assembly that should be announced by summer 2016.

##### ***CEFC Building Project***

The Board dedicated resources from September 2014 to June 2015 to hire Walter Pawlikowski as project manager to move the reconstruction project forward. In the course of his mandate, a number of points were addressed.

The business plan for the project was drafted by the end of his mandate. The conceptualisation of the building according to the needs assessment with its implantation on the site and derogations accepted by the Town of Chibougamau was finalised. Floors plans were drafted in

preparation of a call to tender for formal plans. Projected costs bring the project to 4.2 million in construction, six million in total project costs. We now have the tools to address funding opportunities as they arise.

### *Urban Aboriginal Strategy(UAS)*

Nation-wide, Friendship Centres and their collaborators were called upon to pursue the strategic planning undertaken in 2013. The objective is to determine how best to orient federal funding streams for services required by the communities served. Specific to this past year were the development of *Chantiers*, calling upon the best practices and expertise of Centres throughout Québec as well as partner organisations to develop the framework of future discussions and programming in fields as diverse as : Social Economy, Education, Health and Social Services, Employment and Skills development, and Research. The CEFC was active in the development of the Social Economy and Research Chantiers.

### *NINAN*

Another province-wide research initiative led by the Regroupement des centres d'amitié autochtone du Québec, is Ninan – Together. Supported by the Avenir d'enfant, the aim of this three-year project is to identify and develop a plan to meet the needs of Quebec urban Aboriginal children and their families to positively influence academic and socio-economic wellbeing.

In this second year of consultation, the CEFC hosted a focus group to broaden the consultation completed to date with regards to early childhood needs in Chibougamau. One consultation took place in Chibougamau in the course of the winter with the parents of young children to explore their knowledge of existing resources as well as inventory the lapses in service that would benefit from development. Four parents took part in a focus group activity in the course of a shared meal where they were invited to discuss services they use for their children and family.

## **Governance and Administration**

### **Governance**

A Board meeting was held over the course of the year as well as two executive committee and two extraordinary meetings. Amongst topics under discussion: a Movement-wide Charter of Unity focussing on the place and purpose of Friendship Centres and the work we accomplish together for urban Aboriginal people throughout Québec.

### **Administration**

Staffing has remained stable over the 2015-2016 fiscal year at 90%, a staff member in the shop moved away creating an opportunity to welcome a new team member. Through projects and regular programming, the Friendship Centre maintained five (5) full-time positions and three (3) part-time jobs throughout the year. Seventy percent (70%) of staff over the year were Aboriginal.

## Training

The Centre took part in one specific training this year called “Pricing”, *Coût de revient*. The goal was to train the executive director, community coordinator and accounting clerk in the notion of how to set fair yet competitive prices and budgeting when developing new projects. As with most professionals who do business with the Centre for the first time, there was not enough time to address all our questions and needs, nor the diversity of all we do. However, we have heartily agreed to pursue the coaching/ training when next it is offered to further our understanding of the process. In the interim, we finally made the change over from cash accounting to project accounting and expect some amount of upheaval in our audit because of it as we adjust to reporting anticipated earnings rather than simply what has come into our coffers. Slowly, the CEFC is entering the electronic age!

## CEFC Partners and Collaborators

The work of any Aboriginal Friendship Centre takes place as much outside its walls as within. Below is a non-exhaustive list of the partnering organisations and collaborators that actively worked with us this year to provide service to the community.

### Local:

Awash Utamet CPE Board of Directors  
CAVAC  
Carrefour communautaire  
Carrefour jeunesse-emploi de la Jamésie  
Centre de femmes les Elles du Nord  
Centre d'entrepreneurship nordique  
Centre Jeunesse du Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean  
Centre local d'emploi de Chibougamau  
Chibougamau Chamber of Commerce  
Chibougamau Poverty and Social Inclusion Committee  
Commission scolaire de la Baie-James  
Comité local en matière de violence conjugale  
École Vatican II  
École Notre-Dame-du-Rosaire

École secondaire la Porte du Nord  
Gang Active  
MacLean Memorial School  
Maison des jeunes le Sac ados  
Maison Oxygène-Raymond-Ross et Réseau Hommes Québec  
Ministère de l'Économie, innovation et exportations Québec  
Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale  
Office municipal d'habitation de Chibougamau  
SADC Chapais-Chibougamau  
Sûreté du Québec  
Ville de Chibougamau

### CEFC-initiated working groups

Women and power  
Awenichii

### Regional:

Centre régional de la santé et des services sociaux de la Baie-James

Comité condition féminine de la Baie-James  
Comité de saines habitudes de vie

Commission loisirs et sport de la Baie-James  
Commission scolaire de la Baie-James  
Administration régionale de la Baie-James  
Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay  
Aainschuukamikw Cree Cultural Institute  
Cree Native Arts and Crafts Association  
Cree Nation Government  
Cree Social Economy Regional Table  
Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee Association

Centre local de développement de la Baie-James  
Emploi-Québec regional office  
Jean Boucher, Ungava MNA, Ungava  
Ouje-Bougoumou Band Council  
Programme de travaux compensatoires  
Pôle de l'économie social Baie-James  
Réseau jamésien de Développement social  
Roméo Saganash, Member of Parliament of Abitibi-Eeyou Istchii, Baie-James –Kativik  
Tourisme Baie-James

Provincial:

Alliance ODENA / Réseau DIALOG  
Regroupement des Centres d'amitiés autochtones du Québec and affiliated Centres  
Secrétariat aux affaires autochtones

National:

National Association of Friendship Centres and associated Centres

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

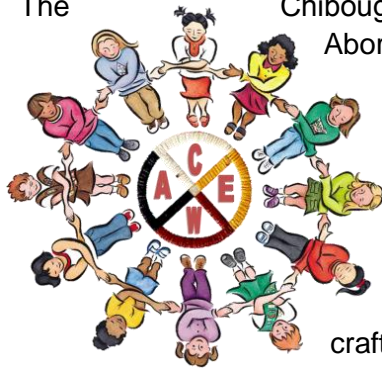
Under the care and guidance of our Community Coordinator, Jessica Marceau, the Centre's activities and events came together through the teamwork, comraderie and attention to detail she invests in all she does.



### Activities and Projects

#### Chibougamau Eenou Women's Circle and Local Association

The Chibougamau Eenou Women's Circle is a loosely woven group of Aboriginal women living in Chibougamau that gather around the activities and initiatives of the Chibougamau Eenou Friendship Centre, especially craft.



The Women's Circle exists since 2006 and was initially created after the Centre obtained a grant from Status of Women to host empowerment workshops focused on feminism and leadership. The workshops did not last long but the desire to meet around crafting projects did. Break out beading groups have become popular over the past few years although the demand for traditional sewing and crafting is being heard once again.

From 2014 to January 2016, LeeAnn Neeposh was the Chibougamau member to the Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee Association Board of Directors. This position is currently vacant and pending a new annual assembly to elect a new president. We wish to thank LeeAnn for her commitment to CWEIA and to the women of Chibougamau during her tenure.

Chibougamau sent a delegation of three (3) to the annual general meeting held in Washaw Sibi early September. LeeAnn accompanied by youth, Alice Ann Neeposh Shecapio, and Jo-Ann Toulouse enjoyed the gracious hospitality of the community on their traditional grounds as well as the lovely wedding of Jocelyne and Oscar Kistabish!

In the course of Intercultural Friendship Week was held a two-evening workshop led by SKY-owner, Irene Neeposh of Waswanipi on goal setting and personal budgeting.

#### Homework Assistance

The Ministry of Education, Recreation and Sport financially supports the existence of this program, enabling local children to benefit from additional help with their lessons and assignments free of cost.

This year, the CEFC received 26 registrations for the homework assistance program. Among these are students from Maclean Memorial, Notre Dame du Rosaire, Vatican II, and Bon Pasteur. Event though not all 26 attended the homework sessions on a daily basis, some were

present regularly. This year, as we couldn't hire an official tutor for the program, Jessica Marceau ensured a pleasant atmosphere and that homework was done efficiently. Every day, the students were welcomed with a healthy snack to get their tummies full and their mind straight to attack their homework!

### Hot Lunch Program

Sixteen (16) students coming from different elementary schools registered for the Hot Lunch Program this year. The diners were provided with hot healthy meals during lunch hour throughout the school year. Damian Nine o'clock, the lunch monitor led activities ranging from arts and crafts, board games, playing in the fresh air (driveway hockey is always a hit!) as well as the treat of a Friday movie if the kids behaved well during the week!



As part of the Gang Active movement in Chibougamau, active games like Wixx, and food adventures in the shape of new fruits and vegetables were introduced to participants throughout the school year. What parent would not be thrilled (and somewhat confused) by their child clamoring for pineapple and or cauliflower in the veggie aisle because they «had some at Centre!»

### Family Gym Nights



From January 26th to April 19th, we had the gym night activity that was happening every Tuesday from 6:30 to 8pm. The first few weeks, the participation was good, between 9 to 12 people were coming for the first 8 weeks. After that, people started coming less and less to the activity. With Goose Break approaching and our clientele that was coming less and less to the activity, after having a talk with Jo-Ann, we decided that it was better to stop the activity for this year and try to come up with

something else for next school year, because the Native population here in town are not participating in the activity.

Most kids always arrived alone on gym night. The parents are rarely there with them. This year, I put a rule that the children under 10 years old had to come with an adult, I saw even less kids under 10 coming and a little more kids between 10 to 12-13 years old. I didn't get a lot of the 13 to 17 years old teenager at this year's gym night. The participant always wanted to play the same sports, floor hockey and basketball. The activity should be happening between September to March because that's the time that I saw the biggest participation from the population!



It was difficult this year to get gym time because there is a lot of demand for rentals. Because we were unsure of funding for the pool after March 31, we lost the pool activity for the following school year which is too bad.

Fred Launière

### Chachabayoaw (Young Parents Group)

Beginning at the end of the 2014-2015 fiscal year, Chachabayoaw met every two weeks from March to mid-July, with a brief pause at Goose Break. Working in collaboration with the Centre Jeunesse, this pilot open group was created to work with young parents using youth protection services in Chibougamau but without children in public care. The collaboration was a preventive measure to maintain children in the families and provide parents away from extended family with the support to build their confidence as parents. The group has specific objectives such as helping to improve parenting skills by providing tools, breaking isolation, and encouraging a healthy family lifestyle. Two families took part in the activities and became autonomous in their actions.

### Events

#### Community and Potluck Suppers

The CEFC hosted seven (7) suppers in the course of the year from April to March. Some had themes like Thanksgiving, Christmas, Intercultural Friendship, Goose Break or the annual Aboriginal Day macouchan, Others were an opportunity to gather friends and neighbours together for an evening of catching up. Each supper brought together between five and seventy people each time. However, the potluck supper activities were put on hold after January due to a lack of participation. From then on, only community suppers took place.

#### Intercultural Friendship Week 2016



For its 12<sup>th</sup> edition, the Chibougamau Eenu Friendship Centre invited other community organizations to participate in the planning of our annual Intercultural Friendship Week. La ville de Chibougamau, Réseau Hommes Québec, le Centre de femmes les Elles du Nord, le Centre de santé de Chibougamau, la Maison des jeunes Sac-Ados as well as Stéphane Hudon, street worker joined the steering committee to plan and organize the events that took place during the week.

Activities began on March 21<sup>st</sup>, honouring the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination with the launch at town hall of the Aanischaaukamikw Cree Cultural Institute «Remember This» exposition. The exposition welcomed more than 100 people over three and a half days. The Friendship Centre hosted open house activities in collaboration with le Centre de femmes les Elles du Nord and Stéphane Hudon street worker. Participants toured the Centre and chatted over bannock and tea. The youth also enjoyed a tour

of the Friendship Centre followed by a tourtière feast at the Maison des jeunes Sac-Ados and an evening of activities at the Porte du Nord gym.

Opération Wachiya grew this year as all partners took part in the radio campaign to bring awareness regarding racism and discrimination including the Towns of Chibougamau and Chapais, the Centre régional de la santé et des services sociaux de la Baie-James and the Chamber of commerce of Chibougamau and Chapais. The powerful message carried by local change makers was heard throughout the week; it takes one word to change the world, say hello.



Wedakodadowiin (Working Together), a one-day workshop developed to encourage cultural sensitivity in the health and social services, was provided twice in the course of the week. A total of 36 people took part in the training. A fabulous Intercultural potluck supper marked the close of the 2016 Friendship Week. The event took place at Place le Chainon where over 75 participants attended. The world was well represented at this feast with food from Africa, Latin America and Eénou meechum as well as what the Québécois of our parent's generation would call good old *ordinaire*! We ate like royalty and hugged in parting like old friends - a graceful and appropriate end to this racism awareness week.



Economic partners include the Town of Chibougamau, the Eeyou Istchee Baie James Regional Government, the Commission Loisir et Sports and the Ministère de la Culture et des communications as well as the Cree Regional Government through their support of the Centre's mission. Kitchi meegwich to our partners and friends who help us make a difference for our community.

### Nisk Supper

We held our annual Nisk Supper on celebrating the return of the geese in associated with it. We are happy to event the best way possible, by geese made to the hunters with a hunters brought us plenty of geese attendants enjoyed the meal!



May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015, our territory and the hunt celebrate this ancestral honouring the gift the community feast. The this year, and the 40

### Tsteyihtaakusuu Youth Gala 2015



This year, Tsteyihtaakusuu took place June 4<sup>th</sup> at the Harricana Hall in Chibougamau. A total of 81 participants attended, including the nominees and their families, as well as the Aboriginal graduates from



Maclean Memorial School that we congratulate for their diploma! Tsteyihtaakusuu celebrates youth for expressing the Grandfather Teachings in their daily lives be it at school, their extra curricular activities, through traditional practice or the arts. There is no age to be a role model and so we were delighted to honour youth with a feather and certificate in recognition of their teachings to us.



A bigger participation would have made a bigger success of this night. Since it was my first time organizing and attending this kind of event, I think it went really well. The supper was good, the catering did a good job of serving. By 9 pm, the event was done for another year.

Frédéric Launière

### Aboriginal Day 2015

We celebrated the 34th edition of our Chibougamau Eenou Friendship Centre Aboriginal Day on June 6th 2015 at the Gilman Beach. Aboriginal Day is a special moment to gather, celebrate our heritage and share our culture with Chibougamau's population. More than 300 people answered the call and celebrated with us.



We offered tastings throughout the day. This was a great success with people who drop in rather than spend the day. Many planned their visit according to the menu and the musical entertainment by local artists! Games were organized for children and adults, including an improvised canoe race which appeared to be very appreciated by the participants as well as the spectators!



Throughout the day, Aboriginal artists, games, tastings, arts and crafts expressed the breadth of our traditions carrying forth into tomorrow. Special thanks again to Aanischaaukamikw Cree Cultural Institute for their participation. And grateful shout outs to the craftspeople, vendors, performers, volunteers, staff and guests for having celebrated the day so beautifully with us.

### Sisters in Spirit



This year, women of Chibougamau were invited to participate in an activity to commemorate our missing and murdered sisters. The activity took place at the Friendship Centre, where the participants were brought to write a prayer, a word or draw something that represented their way of remembering the missing and murdered native women of Canada. Five participants were present at the event.





### Festival Folifrets

This year at the Festival Folifrets Baie-James Family Day, the CEFC staff set up a tent frame much to the curiosity of passersby. Within was a display of craft objects from our collection tied to life in a winter camp. Innu *fendu* was served with molasses (syrop noir) and Labrador tea – the children came back for seconds much to the surprise of their parents; molasses and children seem to be a pairing that stands the test of time! As always, staff were delighted to share about the CEFC's history, activities, services offered and upcoming events to the more than 150 people who popped in for a look and a chat.

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Socio-Economic Development Sector ensures that the CEFC contributes to its financial autonomy by creating means of sustainability, profit and longevity. A social enterprise long before the term became current in Québec, the Centre adheres to the principle that profit returns to those who generate it – the artisans, employees and community members - through programs, activities and respectful mark-up. The two key services that enable us to work towards our goal of sustainability are the Lunch Program and the Craft Shop.

### Lunch Program

The Centre continues to be a very lively place at lunch time with nine (9) to thirty-five (35) starving children and teens clamouring for food and attention. This program encourages students to feel at home in town while eating a healthy, low-cost meal in good company. MacLean Memorial high school students at a loss for a lunchtime hangout during the winter joined us for lunch each day.

Pricing was maintained this year. Menus continue to be scrutinised to maximize appetites rather than the litter bin. Increasing fresh fruit and vegetables and healthy choices for dessert and snacks for youth and staff helped continue the effort to change attitudes although carrots continue to not gain ground over poutine on Thursday noons. While still in some deficit, the social gain in providing a known and valued place for lunch for our children makes the program a success.

A special arrangement was made over the course of Fall and Winter to host again for breakfast and lunch patients coming to town for appointments while the hospital kitchen underwent major renovation. It was a happy hectic period combining medical and children clienteles over a few months and it went well. We averaged an increase of 900 meals over the two seasons. We had missed these opportunities to visit with community members in transit and were glad to see them at the Centre once again.

### Craft Shop



The Friendship Centre is renowned for its Craft Shop. Over the past years, it continues to maintain its reputation for being the best place to find Cree crafts in the lower North. Native community members, local residents and tourists make the shop a popular spot for supplies and quality traditional merchandise.

We have continued to innovate and source crafting supply much in demand. Online competition for similar product is fierce and customer loyalty has been challenged over the past two years. The shop's many strengths lie in the diversity of quality handmade product, honest pricing, dedication to preserving and promoting Aboriginal craft and a concerted effort to celebrate the

beautiful work of hobbyists to master crafters. An online shop is still in the planning stages; the vast array of product makes placing the whole shop on the Web a colossal undertaking!

The Centre's custom that the major part of the sale price go to the craftsperson that created the item remains constant, honour to the maker. More than 73% of the shop's clientele is Aboriginal which suggests that we continue to hear and respond to the needs and interests of the community through the shop. The modest increase in local non-Native sales we saw last year continues too to increase as shoppers, especially young professionals, discover the varied wares on offer, many of whom seek gifts and personal items that reflect the peoples of the region.

Diversified hours for the shop were maintained over two quarters and were not conclusive. Maintaining an additional employee increased overhead and did not generate enough custom to maintain the service. We have however, arranged for the shop to open off hours, upon appointment.

## **Chibougamau Eenou Friendship Centre Team**

### **Board of Directors**

Cindy Morrison – Acting President

Cindy Morrison – Vice-President

Pierre Pelletier – Secretary-Treasurer

Norman Wapachee – Director

Sarah Pashagumskum – Director

Manon Richmond - Alternate

Jessyca Thisdale – Youth Representative

### **Administration**

Jo-Ann Toulouse – Executive Director

Agnes Moore – Accounting Clerk

Alice Ann Shecapio Neeposh – Reception/Shop

### **Community Services**

Frédéric Launière – Youth Coordinator

Jessica Marceau – Community Coordinator

Damian Nine o'clock – Lunch Monitor

Fabienne Boulanger – Cook

## **APPENDIX**

## FICHE D'INFORMATION

### PROFIL SOCIAL ET ÉCONOMIQUE DE LA POPULATION AUTOCHTONE À CHIBOUGAMAU

Faits saillants tirés de *Cartographie sociale et économique de la population autochtone des villes du Québec. La ville de Chibougamau et la zone d'influence territoriale du Centre d'amitié Eénou de Chibougamau*. Rapport de recherche.

Carole Lévesque, Philippe Apparicio, Martin Gagnon, Édith Cloutier, Jo-Ann Toulouse et Josée Goulet. 2011.

Cahier ODENA no. 2011-03. Alliance de recherche ODENA, Réseau de recherche et de connaissances relatives aux peuples autochtones (DIALOG) et Regroupement des centres d'amitié autochtones du Québec, Montréal.

[www.odena.ca](http://www.odena.ca)

#### LA POPULATION AUTOCHTONE À CHIBOUGAMAU

**Entre 1996 et 2001, la population autochtone de la ville de Chibougamau a augmenté de 50%:** cette population se chiffrait à 105 en 1996 alors qu'elle se chiffre à 145 personnes en 2001.

**Depuis 2001, la population autochtone de la ville de Chibougamau est pratiquement stable.** Elle est de 140 personnes en 2006.

#### UNE POPULATION NOMBREUSE D'INDIENS INSCRITS

**Pratiquement toutes les personnes ayant une identité autochtone sont inscrites au Registre des Indiens :** en 2006, cette proportion atteint 98,5% dans la zone d'influence, soit plus que dans toute autre zone.

#### SITUATION FAMILIALE

**Une majorité de la population est formée d'enfants vivant avec au moins un parent :** ils constituent 52,1% des effectifs autochtones de la zone d'influence en 2006, la seule où ils sont majoritaires avec la zone d'influence de La Tuque.

#### INDICATEURS ÉCONOMIQUES

**Une forte proportion des revenus provenant des emplois :** elle atteint 75,6% en 2005 dans la zone d'influence du CAEC, soit davantage que dans toute autre zone ainsi que dans la population du Québec (73,2%).

**Plus d'un homme sur cinq au chômage :** le taux de chômage des hommes autochtones de la zone d'influence atteint 21,9% en 2006, en baisse de seulement 0,5 % depuis 1996.

#### LA SITUATION ÉCONOMIQUE DES FEMMES AUTOCHTONES EST PLUS PERFORMANTE

**Le revenu des femmes autochtones est presque aussi élevé que dans la population du Québec :** leur revenu atteint 95,8% de celui des Québécoises en 2005, soit la plus forte proportion de toutes les zones d'influence.



## FICHE D'INFORMATION

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#### LANGUE AUTOCHTONE

La plupart des résidents autochtones de la ville de Chibougamau parle la langue crie.

#### QU'EST-CE LA ZONE D'INFLUENCE TERRITORIALE D'UN CENTRE D'AMITIÉ AUTOCHTONE ?

La zone d'influence territoriale d'un centre d'amitié autochtone est l'aire de distribution et de circulation de la population autochtone à l'intérieur d'un territoire donné. Ce territoire est déterminé selon plusieurs échelles : municipalité, agglomération, municipalité régionale de comté (MRC) et regroupement de MRC, et intègre, selon le cas, les villes, villages, communautés ou autres lieux de rencontre saisonniers ou permanents. Ce territoire est également traversé de nombreuses infrastructures. Cette zone d'influence territoriale est le théâtre d'un ensemble de relations de diverses natures (sociales, commerciales, économiques, etc.). À l'intérieur de cette zone, le centre d'amitié agit comme un pôle de convergence qui engendre une nouvelle mobilité ou circulation des individus. La zone d'influence se mesure à la fois sous l'angle démographique et sous l'angle des services offerts à la population concernée.

#### La portée spatiale d'un centre d'amitié autochtone

La présence d'un centre d'amitié autochtone dans une ville engendre une nouvelle dynamique territoriale pour la population autochtone de l'endroit et des environs. À partir des données du recensement canadien, nous proposons un nouvel agencement des données statistiques et spatiales relatives à la population autochtone résidant dans ces villes ou dans les communautés environnantes en matière d'identité, d'âge, de sexe, de situation socioéconomique, de langue et de mobilité.



Sources : Statistique Canada, recensement de 2006, voir aussi les cartes de l'ODENA.

#### LA ZONE D'INFLUENCE DE CHIBOUGAMAU

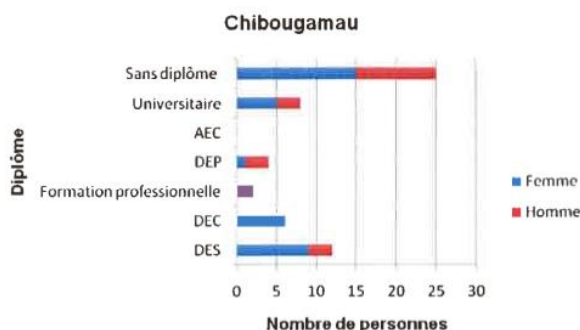
La zone d'influence de Chibougamau comprend l'essentiel du territoire équivalent à une MRC de Baie-James (la partie sud de la région administrative Nord-du-Québec), ainsi que le village et la Terre crie de Whapmagoostui. En sont exclues les populations des municipalités de Baie-James, Lebel-sur-Quévillon et Matagami. La zone d'influence comporte au total dix-sept localités, soit deux villes (Chapais et Chibougamau), huit villages crie, huit Terres crie et un établissement crie. Elle occupe une superficie totale d'environ 303 680 km<sup>2</sup> en date du recensement de 2006. En 2006, elle compte une population totale de 23 310 personnes dont 13 800 ayant déclaré une identité autochtone. En plus des habitants de la municipalité de la ville de Chibougamau elle-même, la zone d'influence du CAEC considère les résidents de la totalité du territoire de la Baie-James précitée (Eeyou Itchee) notamment celle des neuf communautés crie.



**FICHE D'INFORMATION**  
**RÉSULTATS PRÉLIMINAIRES DE L'ENQUÊTE RÉALISÉE**  
**AUPRÈS DE LA POPULATION AUTOCHTONE DE LA VILLE DE**  
**CHIBOUGAMAU, MAI 2013**  
**(échantillon = 59 personnes)**

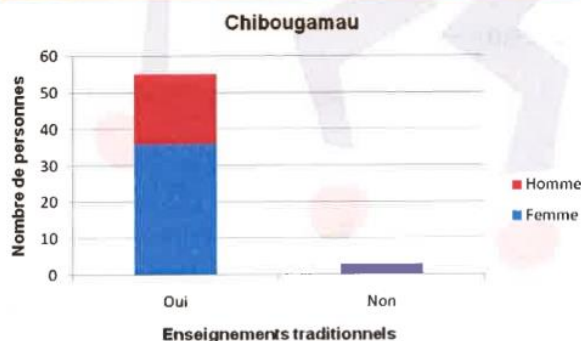
## Diplomation

**56 % des personnes détiennent au moins un diplôme**



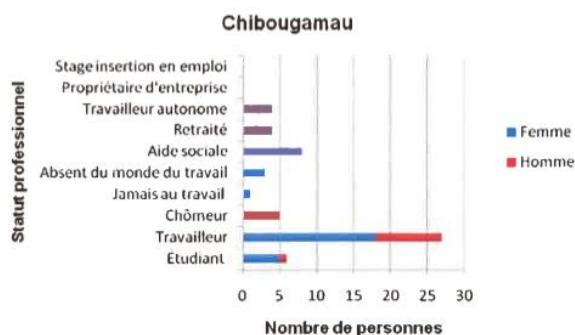
## Savoirs traditionnels

**94 % des répondants ont reçu des enseignements traditionnels**



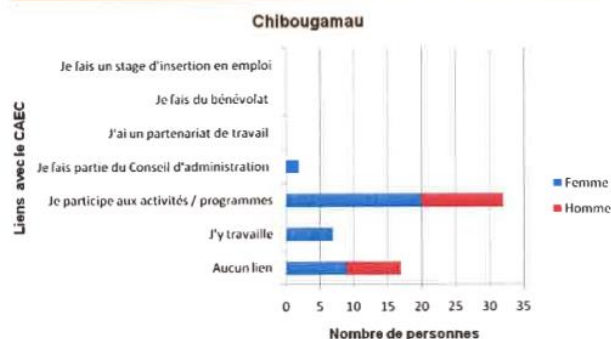
## Statut professionnel

**52 % des personnes sont sur le marché du travail**



## Liens avec le CAEC

**70 % des personnes rencontrées ont un lien avec le CAEC**



## Centre d'amitié Eenou de Chibougamau

Mis sur pied en 1969, le Centre d'amitié Eenou de Chibougamau fut le premier centre d'amitié autochtone à ouvrir ses portes au Québec (sous le nom de Centre indien Cri de Chibougamau). Sa mission est d'encourager la compréhension entre Autochtones et allochtones et de favoriser la participation des Autochtones à la société urbaine. Le Centre participe aussi à la promotion de la culture et des traditions autochtones à travers une boutique d'artisanat qui propose une vaste gamme d'objets artistiques.

# FICHE D'INFORMATION

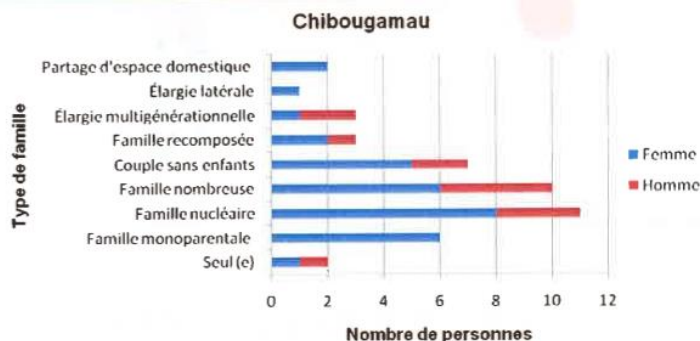
## RÉSULTATS PRÉLIMINAIRES DE L'ENQUÊTE RÉALISÉE AUPRÈS DE LA POPULATION AUTOCHTONE DE LA VILLE DE CHIBOUGAMAU, MAI 2013 (échantillon = 59 personnes)



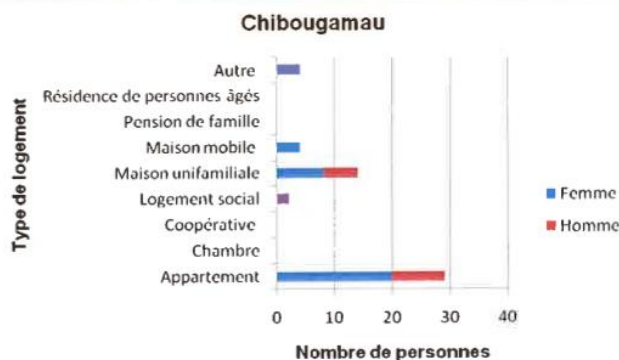
L'enquête provinciale de l'Alliance de recherche ODENA vise à recueillir des informations de première main sur les conditions de vie des Autochtones qui résident de manière permanente ou temporaire dans les villes du Québec. Cette fiche présente les résultats préliminaires de l'enquête en cours. Pour en savoir plus, consulter : <http://www.odena.ca/fr/recherche/enquete-provinciale-110/>.

### Ménages

24 % des personnes habitent avec leur famille nucléaire ; 22% vivent dans une famille nombreuse



54 % des personnes habitent en appartement



### Mobilité

16 % vivent un mode d'alternance résidentielle ou professionnelle entre une ville et une communauté autochtone

