

NA-ME-RES

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



HELPING THE HOMELESS COMMUNITY OF TORONTO SINCE 1985

NA- ME- RES



A close-up photograph of two antlers resting on dark, rich soil. The antlers are light-colored, possibly bleached or dried, and have a textured, segmented appearance. One antler is positioned horizontally in the upper left, while the other curves more dramatically in the lower right. The background is a soft-focus view of the same soil, with some small twigs and debris visible.

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Mission

Through a culture-based approach that addresses the holistic needs of its clients, Na-Me-Res' (Native Men's Residence) mission is to provide temporary, transitional and permanent housing to Indigenous men experiencing homelessness in Toronto while providing outreach and support services to the broader Indigenous homeless population.

Vision

Na-Me-Res ensures that Indigenous people experiencing homelessness have access to a continuum of culturally appropriate supports that will assist them in securing stable, safe and affordable housing while helping them to achieve their personal goals and aspirations.

Values

Na-Me-Res is a community organization with proven practices in integrated culturally relevant social service delivery. Na-Me-Res strives to support a caring, compassionate and safe environment that addresses the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual needs of its clients. It also provides opportunities for them to develop the skills, knowledge and confidence required to lead healthy and self-determined lives.

My name is Kevin

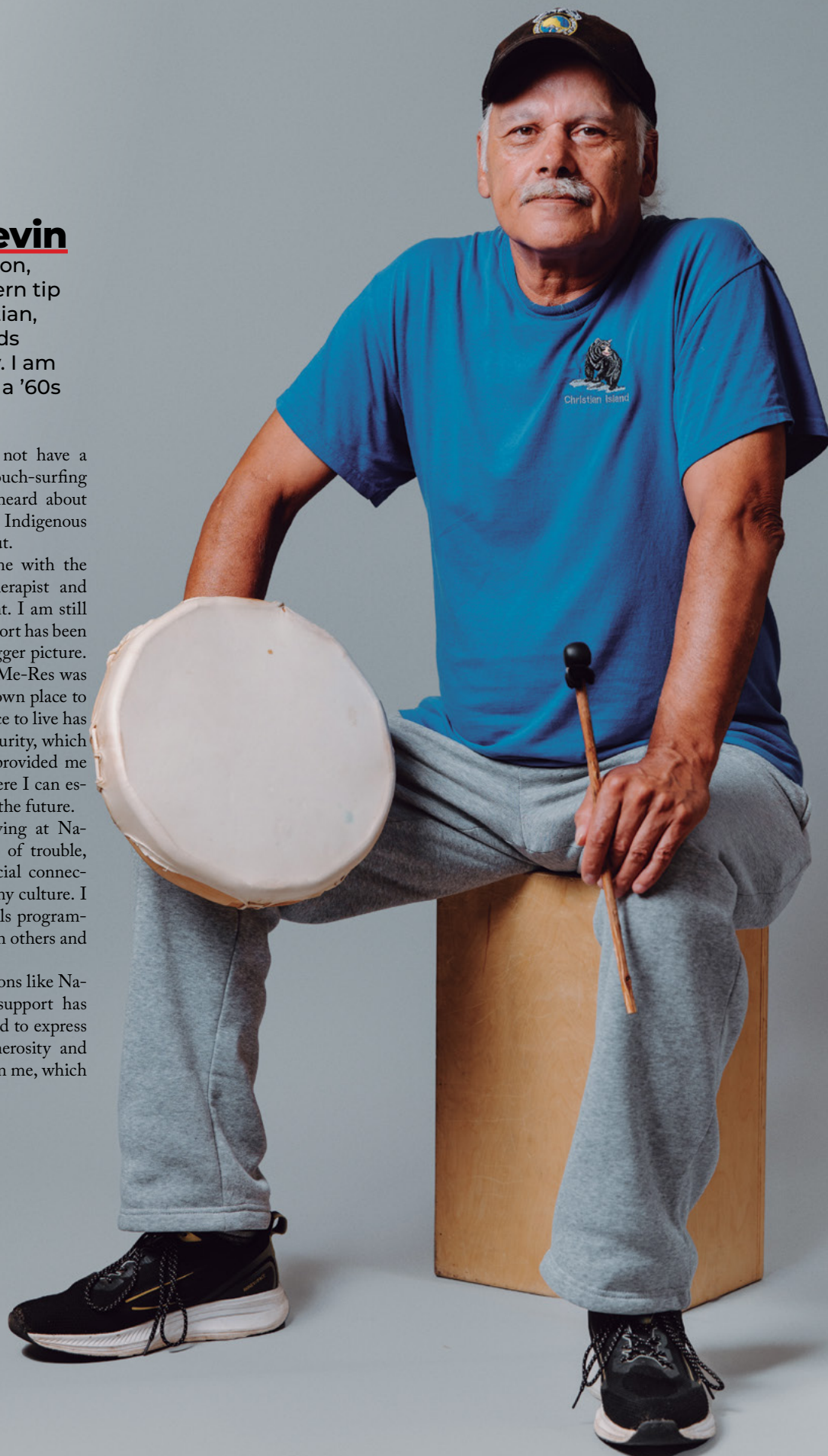
from Beausoleil First Nation, which rests on the southern tip of Georgian Bay on Christian, Beckwith and Hope Islands located in Simcoe County. I am a Chippewa/Ojibway and a '60s Scoop survivor.

When I came to Toronto, I did not have a place to stay and was homeless, couch-surfing and dealing with anger issues. I heard about Na-Me-Res and how it serves the Indigenous community, so I decided to reach out.

The support that staff helped me with the most was being referred to a therapist and dealing with my anger management. I am still connected to the therapist; this support has been great and has helped me see the bigger picture. The greatest opportunity from Na-Me-Res was getting me housed and having my own place to call home. Having a permanent place to live has given me a sense of stability and security, which reduced my stress and anxiety. It provided me with a predictable environment where I can establish routines and make plans for the future.

My accomplishments while staying at Na-Me-Res were learning to stay out of trouble, better time management skills, social connections, and finding out more about my culture. I participated in most of the life-skills programming, which helped me to work with others and be part of a community.

There need to be more organizations like Na-Me-Res in the community. The support has been a beacon of hope, and I wanted to express my gratitude for the support, generosity and kindness that has made an impact on me, which I truly appreciate!



President



Aaniin-Boozhoo.

It is once again a pleasure and an honour to bring you greetings on behalf of the Circle of Directors of Native Men's Residence. Our growing volunteer team is committed to providing sound direction and guidance to Ne-Me-Res and ensuring we play an effective role in supporting First Nations, Inuit and Métis men experiencing homelessness. The first thing I'll say is, if you are interested in being a part of our governance on the Circle of Directors, please reach out to us. We would appreciate your contribution to Na-Me-Res.

When it comes to providing these necessary supports, there are many aspects we can celebrate, while there are other aspects that continue to be troubling.

As an organization, Na-Me-Res has much to be proud of.

We continue to provide culturally safe programs, while growing to provide much-needed new housing. Specifically, deeply affordable housing is much needed and sought after in Toronto. In July, we opened the nine-unit Migize Pazaagwii Gamik on Carlton Street. Na-Me-Res will continue to find opportunities to add new deeply affordable housing stock to lift former shelter users out of homelessness.

Also to be celebrated is our Executive Director, Steve Teekens, who was honoured in May with the Toronto Community Champion Award for his outstanding work. Congratulations, Steve!

At the same time, we must concern ourselves with the dignity and safety of those who may be living on the streets or in public spaces. Indigenous-led solutions are needed to address the growing issue of homelessness in encampments and public spaces. This must be done with empathetic and caring hands in the spirit of respect and kindness. It is our values, not harshness, that must drive this response.

Coming from a small community in Ontario's near north, I know first-hand that many Indigenous people are resorting to, or choosing to, live in encampments in smaller urban centres. This illustrates that homelessness is not just a "big city" issue – it is an issue for us all.

Public policy-makers must be persuaded to invest in Indigenous-led housing supports in all communities where First Nations, Métis and Inuit live. We need to continue to advocate for enhancements to social supports, mental health, addiction and well-being programs, and public support of harm reduction programs.

All Canadians have a role in allyship, supporting Truth and Reconciliation, and holding our governments to account in providing respectful, empathetic and kind treatment of those experiencing homelessness.

We are forever grateful for your continued support of Native Men's Residence.

Chi-miigwetch (a big thank you).

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Goulais". The script is fluid and cursive.

BOB GOULAIS

Chairperson, Circle of Directors
Native Men's Residence



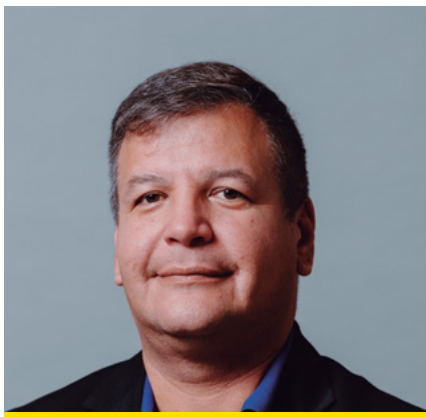
My name is Anthony.

I am from the Oneida of the Thames reserve.

I was '60s Scooped to the Children's Aid Society and adopted in the community of London, Ontario. I am now in my late 50s and have had an up-and-down existence until now. I have attended university and completed a couple of degrees. I developed an alcohol problem in high school and perpetuated it until recently. Approximately eight years ago, I became homeless in Toronto and stayed in a shelter before Na-Me-Res. When I started Na-Me-Res, Sagatay division, I was pretty much an alcoholic mess.

Since my entry to Na-Me-Res, I have utilized the services of Sagatay, Na-Me-Res and the Mino Kaanjigoowin program. I am currently living in the Na-Me-Res supportive housing program and have recently completed 17 months of sobriety. I am currently doing extremely well but haven't re-entered the workforce because of a disability; my process might be easier now because I received a pardon. This process took a number of years with Na-Me-Res, particularly Mino Kaanjigoowin, support. I am extremely happy at this point in my life, but I do struggle with addiction and other mental health aspects. I look forward to the near and far potential that life may present to me.

Executive Director



Ahniin friends,

It has been another year of fantastic opportunities for Na-Me-Res and the people we serve. As we strive to assist Indigenous men in finding their Mino Baamadiziwin (The Good Life), Na-Me-Res has been able to end homelessness for many individuals by connecting them to deeply affordable housing. Additionally, we have been providing health services for members of the Indigenous community, inclusive of all genders and ages, with the provision of services from Auduzhe Mino NeseWINong.

I often share with people that the cure to homelessness is very simple: it's affordable housing. The only problem is that affordable housing is an extremely rare thing in Toronto, and it is complicated and very time-consuming to create affordable housing in Toronto. Despite the time-consuming challenges to create deeply affordable housing, Na-Me-Res has been creating new deeply affordable housing units to help our residents and clients to no longer be homeless.

This year, Auduzhe Mino NeseWINong was successful in our proposal application to the Ministry of Health, and is now an Indigenous Interdisciplinary Primary Health Care Team. This accomplishment is not taken lightly by Na-Me-Res, as we have been trying to receive Ministry of Health funding for well over a decade. We have finally broken that barrier. I am also very proud that the Auduzhe building, located at 22 Vaughan Road, is 100 per cent accessible with the installation of our new elevator and is a culturally safe space.

This year marks 16 years that I have worked for Na-Me-Res. I have seen a lot of changes and growth within our organization. A lot of these positive changes are a direct result of the hard-working staff, management and Circle of Directors. Finally, I would also like to say chi-miigwetch to our donors and funders for supporting our important work in providing services to members of the Indigenous community.

Miigwetch,

Steve Teekens

STEVE TEEKENS

Executive Director

Native Men's Residence



My name is Jody,
and I am from the Oneida
of the Thames Reservation.

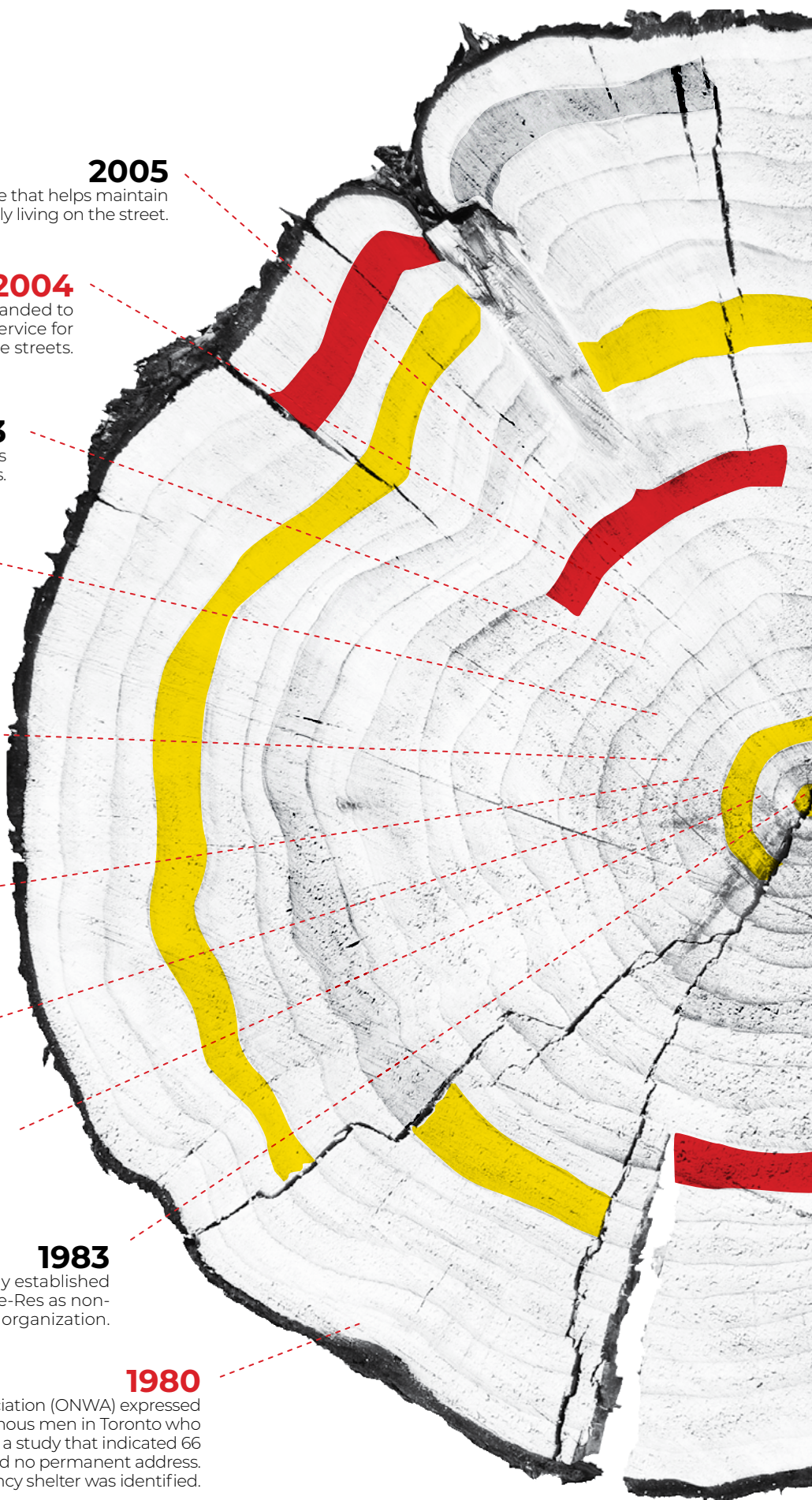
I moved to Toronto from London, Ontario, when I was 19 years old with my then girlfriend. I felt that I was leaving my old life behind. In reality, I was running from, and burying, childhood trauma.

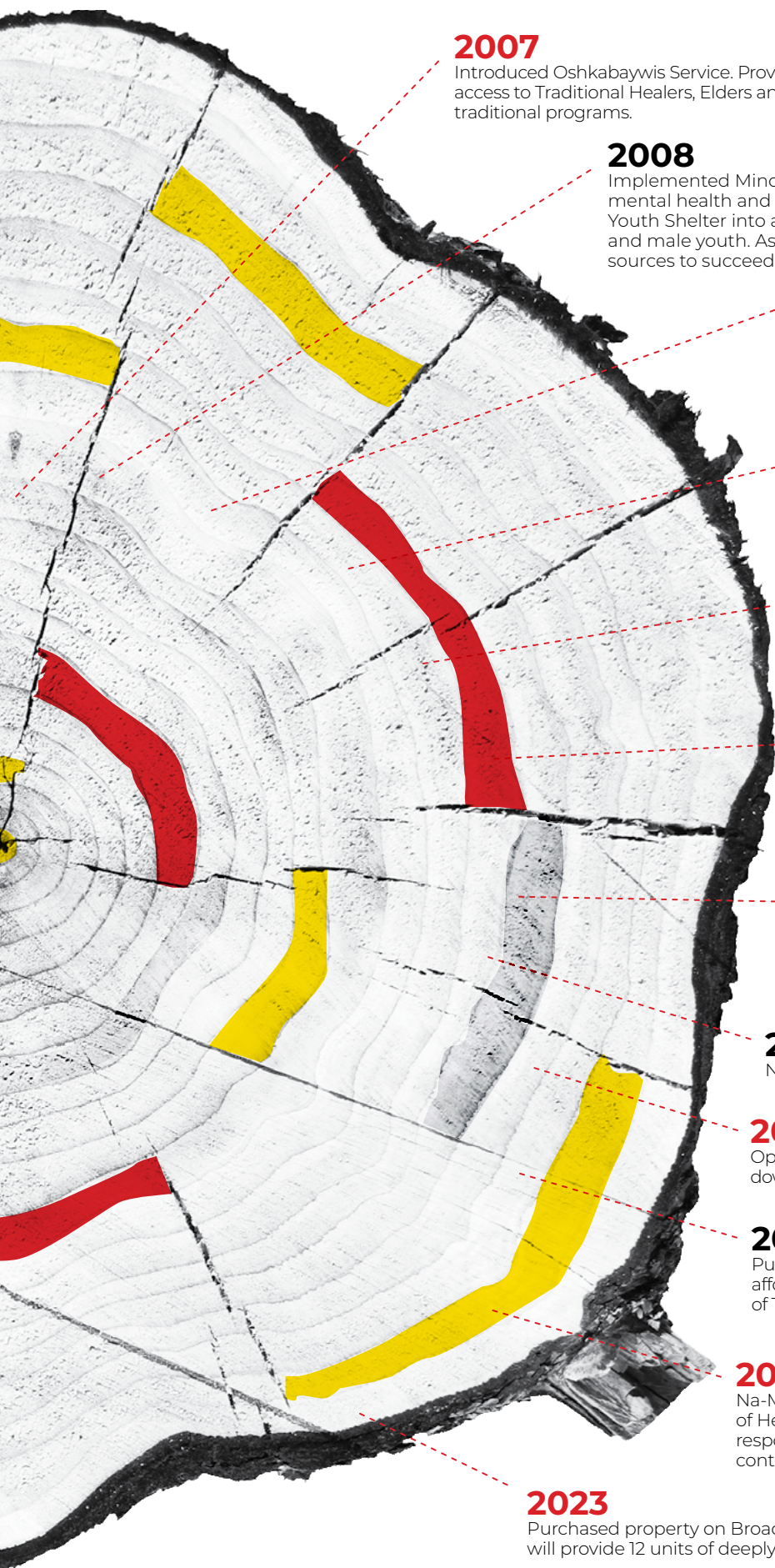
I attended college for about a year but became very isolated as my girlfriend was attending school elsewhere. It wasn't long before I started drinking after work, and soon I was a full-time working alcoholic. After 11 years together, my then fiancée and I split up, and I was lost. I dove deep into drugs and alcohol while working in the Bar/Restaurant industry.

After over 15 years of couch surfing, multiple failed relationships, living in and out of shelters, and severe drug and alcohol use, I came to the realization that I needed help. I had been running from my culture for so long; I was ready to help myself. By then I was living at Na-Me-Res, and I approached the Oshkabaywis John Roy and asked for his advice. He asked if I was ready to commit to the Sagatay Program, and helped me meet and greet the Sagatay team. I applied and was accepted.

I was determined to make the best of this opportunity, and I have. I get up and put my best foot forward every day. I started weekly therapy and volunteered at The Stop's Farmers' Market as well as working for the Sagatay Job Training Program on the weekends. I then applied for a job opening and I now hold a full-time position with The Stop Community Food Centre. With the help and support I found at Na-Me-Res and Sagatay, I am proud to say that I am a success story and I hope to inspire everyone and anyone who wishes to help themselves. I am living proof that it is never too late to turn your situation or life around.

Brief History

- 
- 2005**
Introduced Aftercare, a service that helps maintain housing for those previously living on the street.
- 2004**
Outreach Services expanded to include Mobile Housing, a service for people living on the streets.
- 2003**
Increased capacity of Na-Me-Res Men's Shelter from 26 to 63 beds.
- 2002**
Opened Tumivut Youth Shelter. Outreach Services expanded to include Shelter Access, a shelter-to-shelter transportation service for people living on the street.
- 2001**
Outreach Services expanded to include Gimme Shelter, a case-management service for people living on the street.
- 1995**
Outreach Services began with Street Help, a harm-reduction service for people living on the street.
- 1989**
Became member of the United Way of Greater Toronto.
- 1985**
Opened 26-bed shelter for Indigenous men without a place to live.
- 1983**
Circle of Directors formally established and incorporated Na-Me-Res as non-profit charitable organization.
- 1980**
The Ontario Native Women's Association (ONWA) expressed concern about the number of Indigenous men in Toronto who had nowhere to live. ONWA conducted a study that indicated 66 per cent of Indigenous men surveyed had no permanent address. A need for emergency shelter was identified.



2007

Introduced Oshkabaywis Service. Provides client access to Traditional Healers, Elders and other traditional programs.

2008

Implemented Mino Kaanjigoowin for individuals with severe mental health and addiction issues. Converted Tumivut Youth Shelter into a transitional service for Indigenous men and male youth. Assists participants to develop the resources to succeed in the broader urban environment.

2009

Sagatay, the new transitional housing service, opened and welcomed its first residents.

2010

Delivery of Apaenmowineen, a life-skills training program for residents of Sagatay. Delivery of on-site psychiatric services for Mino Kaanjigoowin. Secured funding from Federal Infrastructure Stimulus Fund and City of Toronto-HPI to renew the Men's Residence.

2011

Introduced Ngim Kowa Njichaag (Reclaiming My Spirit) Program to help clients reclaim their culture, identity, role and responsibilities through culture-based services in a safe and healing environment.

2012

Secured funding from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, RRAP (Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program) and Miziwe Biik Development Corporation to complete an affordable housing project.

2013

Received funding to offer Elder Outreach. Elders accompany Outreach Workers to offer culturally appropriate support to Indigenous people on the streets. New elevator and laundry facilities installed at 14 Vaughan Road.

2015

Na-Me-Res Men's Shelter expanded to 71 beds.

2019

Opened new affordable housing, with 16 units, in the downtown core.

2020

Purchased property on Coxwell that provides 20 units of deeply affordable housing. Entered into a long-term lease with the City of Toronto for nine units of deeply affordable housing on Carlton.

2020

Na-Me-Res opened Auduzhe Mino Nesewinong (Place of Healthy Breathing) as a "for Indigenous, by Indigenous response" for culturally safe COVID-19 testing, vaccination, contact tracing and follow-up services.

2023

Purchased property on Broadview Avenue that, once retrofitted, will provide 12 units of deeply affordable housing.



NA-ME-RES POW WOW 2024

Na-Me-Res' annual Traditional Pow Wow is held yearly in the month of June in recognition of National Indigenous Peoples' Day. The pow wow this year was on Saturday, June 15.

The event is free, open to the public. This year's event featured traditional dancing, drumming and information booths, as well as First Nations and Métis crafters from across Ontario.

Seven drums set up to share their songs. A total of 133 dancers registered, of whom 79 were adults, 42 were youth ages six to 17 years old, and 12 were tiny tots under six years old. After speaking to Fort York and Na-Me-Res staff, it was generally agreed the attendance exceeded 23,000 people throughout the day.

Everyone who attended the pow wow seemed to have a good time. As with previous pow wows, many of the pow wow organizers were thanked multiple times by some of the people who attended.

I would like to say *chi-miigwetch* to Heritage Canada for supporting the Na-Me-Res pow wow. We are extremely grateful for their support.





Affordable Housing

For the past 13 years, Na-Me-Res has been providing deeply affordable housing for Indigenous men in Toronto. Na-Me-Res has a track record of acquiring properties and converting them into attractive affordable housing for our clients to help end their issues around being homeless.

Additionally, once someone has been successfully housed, we assign a Follow-up Worker to work with our tenants to ensure that barriers to their long-term tenancy are reduced.

Our deeply affordable housing projects are Na-Me-Res' attempt to address the huge gap in the availability of deeply affordable housing in Toronto with a lens on housing Indigenous men. Na-Me-Res currently operates a total of 47 deeply affordable housing units. We hope to add another 32 units of deeply affordable housing in the next year or so when our two new housing projects come online.

O'GITCHIDAA MUSHKIKI WIGWAM (OMW)

O'Gitchidaa Mushkiki Wigwam is the Na-Me-Res affordable housing located in Parkdale; when translated into the English language, the name loosely means the Warriors Medicine House. Na-Me-Res owns the two houses, both of which opened in September 2012.

Na-Me-Res clients can transition to OMW as tenants. When clients transition to OMW, workers are in place to help ensure a successful tenancy. Workers offer suggestions on ways to effectively deal with budgeting, conflict resolution and other housing aftercare matters.

KINEW POONII WAAHKIIGANAAN

Kinew Poonii Waahkiiganaan is a 16-unit affordable housing building located in the Cabbagetown area of Toronto that opened in June 2019. The first floor of the building has accessible units for tenants who may have accessibility or mobility issues. Through this housing, we are empowering some formerly homeless Indigenous men with a real opportunity to grow roots and create positive opportunities for themselves. When translated into English, the name loosely means Golden Eagle Landing in Anishnawbe.

MIGIZE PAZAAGWII GAMIK

Na-Me-Res has been selected to be the operator of another affordable housing project in the downtown east side of Toronto in the Cabbagetown area. This project started construction in November 2022, and was completed and occupied in June 2024. This affordable housing project has a total of nine units, which are a combination of bachelor and one-bedroom units. An Elder was given tobacco to find an appropriate name for this new housing. The beautiful name given is "Migize Pazaagwii Gamik," which translated from Anishnawbe means the uplifting place of the bald eagle.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECTS IN THE WORKS

In October 2020, Na-Me-Res purchased a 6,631 square-foot plot of land on the east side of Toronto. The project, which involved demolition of a single-storey structure, is finally progressing and work on the foundation is well underway. A total of 20 affordable units will be provided on-site: a mixture of bachelor and one-bedroom units, with four barrier-free one-bedroom units. We are extremely pleased with this housing project, which will be our first new build from the ground up. Na-Me-Res has faced some very heated and fierce opposition to this project from some of our neighbours. This project just passed the Committee of Adjustment in June 2023 and is able to proceed as planned.

Na-Me-Res purchased another property in the Riverdale area in September 2023. This property will be a total of 12 deeply affordable units once the retrofit is complete.

My name is Cody.

I am 26 years old and was born in Belleville. My Aboriginal ancestry derives from Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory. I was raised in Trenton and had a great childhood as my parents always worked hard. I was given the opportunity to play on many different hockey and soccer teams with my brother. I made the local rep hockey team and played from the time I was five to 12.

After Grade 6, I had to change schools, and it was at this point that I was introduced to marijuana. This is when my life started to take a turn – I started smoking and selling marijuana. This seemed to lead me down a path of trouble. I was in and out of youth facilities and youth jail throughout my teenager years. I became a dad at 15 and had my second child at 17. At 18, I continued to make the wrong choices. My criminal activity landed me in adult provincial jail – drug trafficking escalated from marijuana to more serious drugs. By the time I was in my early 20s, I had been arrested numerous times and found myself in and out of custody. At the age of 23, I was arrested for trafficking and carrying a gun. I was sentenced to nine years in the federal penitentiary. I completed the required programs, was granted day parole and transitioned to Sagatay.

I wanted more than anything to change my life and live legit, but after living my whole teenage and adult life on the wrong side of the law, I wasn't sure how I was going to get there. I came to Sagatay not knowing what to expect. I was given a curfew and was told that as long as I was able to abide by that, it would increase over time. I was very happy with the support I got from the staff of Sagatay, and I completed my three months of the mandatory life-skills program. During this time, I was able to obtain all of my ID, and opened my very first bank account. I finally felt like my life was starting to head in the right direction. I was advised that there was an Apprentice Program through Centennial College that I could apply to. I did just that and had an interview. Only having street and jail experience, this was something that made me pretty nervous, but I was excited to hear that I was accepted.

I am currently attending Centennial College in the Electrician Program, and my goal is to continue to grow as a person. I hope to work my way up to being a Master Electrician and eventually own my own business one day. I wish that I had found this path sooner, but what I have gone through has made me the person I am today. I am very grateful for this path that brought me to Sagatay, which has given me legitimate goals to strive for.



Programs and Services

In 1985, Na-Me-Res began offering emergency shelter to Indigenous men who were without a place to live. Since then, a greater understanding of the underlying causes of Indigenous homelessness has emerged.

As an Indigenous organization, Na-Me-Res strives to meet the physical, mental, spiritual and emotional needs of all clients by providing them access to its multidisciplinary care team, which includes traditional Elders and Teachers, Case Managers, Counsellors, Client Care Workers, Street Outreach Workers, Housing Workers, Aftercare Workers, Registered Nurse (RN), Psychiatrist, Medical Doctor (MD), Oshkabaywis (spiritual helpers), Life Skills Co-ordinator and other community-service providers as identified. Based on a culturally responsive, strengths-based case management approach to client care, these programs include:

THE MEN'S RESIDENCE 14 VAUGHAN ROAD

Clients who are homeless are provided with temporary shelter, assistance and support to secure housing appropriate to their needs. To meet the increasing number of Indigenous men who come to Toronto for a better life, the residence has grown since 1985 from a 26- to a 71-bed residence; however, since the pandemic, we have had to reduce our beds to 54 to accommodate physical distancing.

SAGATAY (A NEW BEGINNING) 26 VAUGHAN ROAD

Sagatay is a safe and supportive learning and housing environment with 20 beds for Indigenous men. The programs offered here provide residents with the opportunity to develop the skills required to succeed in the broader urban environment as strong, self-confident Indigenous men.

APAENMOWINEEN (HAVING CONFIDENCE IN MYSELF)

This three- to six-month life-skills program is offered in a safe and supportive learning environment at Sagatay. Workshops include, but are not limited to, Ojibway and Cree language classes, healthy living, drumming, literacy, community gardening, sharing circles, financial literacy, creative writing, traditional teachings, photography, addictions programming and employability workshops.

NGIM KOWA NJICHAAG (RECLAIMING MY SPIRIT)

The goal of the Ngim Kowa Njichaag program is to assist all Na-Me-Res clients in claiming their culture, identity, role and responsibilities through the delivery of culture-based services within a safe, healing environment.

MINO KAAJIGOOWIN (CHANGING MY DIRECTION IN LIFE)

Through this program, clients challenged with severe mental illness and addiction issues are provided with intensive case management to meet their particular needs. As with all Na-Me-Res programs, the goal of Mino Kaanjigoowin is to assist clients in securing and maintaining housing appropriate to their needs. Once these clients have been housed, the case managers will continue to offer supports to help keep the clients successfully housed.

A man with short dark hair and a goatee is sitting on a large, light-colored wooden block. He is wearing a plaid shirt with a mix of brown, black, and white patterns, over a black t-shirt. He is also wearing dark, worn-in jeans and black boots. His hands are clasped in his lap, and he is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.

My name is Marc

and I'm from Fort Albany, Ontario. Fort Albany First Nations is a Cree First Nation in Cochrane District in Ontario, a member of the James Bay Band of Cree Indians, Treaty #9 on the southern tip of James Bay, Ontario.

I was adopted by an American family and lived in the United States. I wanted to look for my biological family, so I came to Canada during the pandemic. Upon my arrival, I was quarantined for three weeks. During this time, a quarantine officer researched online and found Na-Me-Res for me to go to.

I was struggling with addiction and staying in the Shelter. Eventually, with the support of staff, I slowly began accomplishing goals. I worked on getting all my identification replaced, staying sober and out of trouble. I started to build social connections and become part of a community.

I was able to access a Physician, Nurse and Optometrist while I was at the Shelter. With their support, I was given the diagnosis of glaucoma.

Eventually, I was provided a housing opportunity through Na-Me-Res, and this started my journey of being independent. I was able to gain employment through the job board at Na-Me-Res and started working with Inner City Movers. I started to attend AA meetings and successfully attended an inpatient treatment program.

Na-Me-Res staff provided me with emotional support. In my sobriety, I recognize this fully and want to give back to my community and help others who are struggling. I am now a Peer Support Worker at Native Canadian Centre.

I am grateful to be housed by Na-Me-Res. The emotional support by staff – especially Andy, who supported me with gift cards for diapers for my daughter – has been greatly appreciated!

There need to be more places like Na-Me-Res.

Nursing Services

The Nurse offers support to all clients of Na-Me-Res, including residents of the Emergency Shelter and Sagatay, clients of the Mino Kaanjigoowin and outreach programs, as well as previous residents who are currently housed or who continue to experience homelessness.

The Nurse acts as a familiar point of contact to assist clients in addressing their health concerns and navigating the healthcare system. The Nurse responds to health issues that arise at the Emergency Shelter and Sagatay.

She assesses and responds according to each client's needs, whether that be providing emergency first aid, connecting to the appropriate care, or activating emergency medical services when needed. The Nurse looks to mitigate the number of emergency department visits to minimize the number of preventable hospital visits.

The Nurse works with clients to co-create care plans to support their health in a holistic and culturally safe manner, and will adjust the level of support provided based on the needs of the individual. She works closely with our Primary Care Provider and Psychiatrist, who are available to be seen by clients weekly. The Nurse will also identify patients who may benefit from Auduzhe Mino Nesewinong's Comprehensive Health Screening Program, a program developed to provide preventative health screenings related to the client's age and/or expo-

sures they may have had. The Nurse will connect clients with providers, triaging based on the acuity of the health issue(s) presented. She has also begun referring clients in the community to Auduzhe Mino Nesewinong for ongoing primary care services. Additionally, the Nurse will connect clients to interdisciplinary health services within the community, such as Pharmacies, Dentists/Denturists, Optometrists, Audiologists, Chiropractors, Primary Care Providers, Community Health Centres, Therapists and/or Counsellors.

The Nurse continues to partner with the Smoking Treatment for Ontario Patients (STOP) program through the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), which allows clients to obtain free nicotine replacement therapy to aid in smoking cessation. The Nurse has also facilitated various in-house clinics for our clients to access, such as Foot Care Clinics with the Lower Limb Preservation Program, and Hearing Clinics with Allard Audiology. The Nurse is continuously seeking new community connections to better support the needs of the clients of Na-Me-Res.

Oshkabaywis Report

"Oshkabaywis" is defined as a helper in ceremonies, a ceremonial attendant or messenger. The work as Oshkabaywis aids clients and staff to learn more about our ceremonies. Elders need to be looked after and helped with the work they do.

We are blessed to have people within our organization who help and do ceremonies such as conducting the Sweat Lodge. Working together as a team is beneficial to our clients and staff. Clients have been taught about the building of the Sweat Lodge while working with one of our Elders, Colin Mousseau.

We've had a few highlights this year with the opening and naming of Migize Pazaagwii Gamik, which is our affordable housing in Cabbagetown. This year's Pow Wow at Fort York was enjoyed by all. Graduations for Sagatay clients are always great to see. Members of the Auduzhe Mino Nesewinong team were able to go into the Sweat Lodge for the first time.

Mashkikii;aki'ing, the Medicine Garden at Hillcrest Park, is beautiful with all the plants being looked after by the residents of Na-Me-Res and Sagatay. The garden is a place where we have our sacred fires and ceremonies. The clients helped with making signs in Nishnaabemowin for the names of some of the plants at Mashkikii;aki'ing.

It was an honour to be asked to perform a ceremony for a few clients before they went to the spirit world. Teaching clients how to braid sweetgrass in a ceremonial way was requested by them and completed. Working with the female staff to harvest cedar for our sweats was also a great thing to do; it also gave me time to harvest birch bark for our fires.

Indigenous Outreach & Support Services

20A VAUGHAN ROAD

These city-wide services are provided to people living on the streets and in encampments, providing them with support and assistance as they transition from streets to homes. To ensure clients remain successfully housed, an Indigenous-specific case-management service called Aftercare is provided for each client enrolled. An additional follow-up team called Big-eya-wah-anduyaun (meaning “a lot of people going home” in the Ojibway language) assists newly housed individuals transition from shelters to homes. Our goals are to manage issues that arise once housed. These issues can include the need for a primary healthcare provider, ID clinics, neighbourhood meal sites, food banks and walk-in clinics.

OUTREACH VAN AND MOBILE HOUSING

This Indigenous-specific outreach service uses a mobile approach that includes Van Outreach Workers and Mobile Housing Workers. They engage with male and female Indigenous homeless clients to secure housing, develop a crisis plan, and provide services and referrals to assist clients to develop a greater sense of cultural awareness. The Na-Me-Res Oshkabaywis regularly accompanies the Outreach Workers, and offers traditional and cultural ceremonies that can be performed where clients are found, creating a spiritual, cultural and traditional connection lost to Indigenous people through the colonization process. The service provides teachings and ceremonies that focus

on Indigenous customs, values and traditional practices while recognizing and respecting the distinctiveness among our Indigenous cultures.

INDIGENOUS HOUSING AFTERCARE

This service provides follow-up supports to newly housed individuals who have been referred from the Coordinated Access program. Three Aftercare Workers provide case management supports that address a wide range of presenting issues, including eviction prevention, housing maintenance, mental and physical health, community integration, and spiritual needs and support. The overall goal of the project is to support homeless individuals to effectively transition into housing and build their stability by addressing all elements of their health and well-being using an Indigenous approach.

BIG-EYA-WAH-ANDUYAUN (A LOT OF PEOPLE GOING HOME)

This project has a Na-Me-Res shelter-specific Follow-up Worker and four other Follow-up Workers who receive referrals from Coordinated Access. These workers use intensive case management to support Indigenous clients who are newly housed and at risk of losing their housing. The workers have a blended caseload consisting of clients with low, moderate or high needs. All Follow-up Workers provide case management support that addresses the clients' spiritual, physical, mental and emotional needs. This includes housing eviction prevention, housing maintenance and community integration.

Cree & Ojibway Language Classes

Na-Me-Res and Sagatay are fortunate to have opportunities for our residents to learn First Nations languages such as Cree and Ojibway. The Ojibway language instruction is done by our Oshkabaywis John Roy.

At Sagatay, the Cree language classes have been taught by Jimmy Dick for a little over eight years. In addition to learning the Cree language, participants also get to know the history and culture of

the Cree people. Jimmy also teaches songs in the language and facilitates storytelling. The residents really enjoy the classes that Jimmy teaches.

Mashkikii;aki'ing (Medicine Earth) Medicine Wheel Garden

Na-Me-Res has been actively involved in the stewardship of a beautiful garden in Hillcrest Park since 2003. Coincidentally, Mashkikii;aki'ing (Medicine Earth) Medicine Wheel Garden is Toronto's first contemporary Indigenous community garden.

The gardening experience has been a very positive learning experience for our residents and staff. Nurturing the garden and watching seedlings grow to be mature plants that are harvested is a fulfilling teaching and healing experience. Not only do our staff and residents work with the soil and grow Indigenous plants, they also harvest them, learn to make teas and salves, and learn about the medicinal properties of the plants. Additionally, some of the plants grown in the garden are some of our sacred medicines.

Working in the garden has been a wonderful way for our Sagatay and Na-Me-Res residents to get in touch with Mother Earth and learn to grow, nurture and harvest medicinal and sacred plants. We are grateful for the partnership we have with The Stop Community Food Centre in sharing their program space at Wychwood Barns and for working alongside our guys to help them learn about planting.



Annual Shelter Statistics

April 1, 2023–March 31, 2024

Na-Me-Res	Sagatay	Outreach	Mino Kaanjigoowin	Total
Youth				
35	7	27	1	70
Adult				
211	46	95	18	370
Senior				
10	1	16	2	29
Indigenous				
111	54	116	21	302
Non-Indigenous				
145	0	22	0	167
Total Housed				
52	10	13	16	91
Total Served				
256	54	138	21	469



Auduzhe Mino NeseWINong (Place of Healthy Breathing)

Auduzhe Mino NeseWINong (Place of Healthy Breathing) is an evolving Indigenous Interprofessional Primary Care Team that began through a partnership with Native Men's Residence, Call Auntie Clinic and Well Living House, as a response to the disparities affecting the FNIM (First Nations, Inuit and Métis) population during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The ongoing gaps in access to culturally safe and effective holistic primary care leave more than 24,000 FNIM without a provider, which leads to subsequent gaps in preventative care, and a higher burden of disease and mortality. As a result, Auduzhe has been advancing to include vaccination as well as preventative, episodic and primary care to aim to meet the voiced needs of the community. Over the past three years, Auduzhe has been at the forefront of developing and delivering culturally safe access to urgent health and social supports, testing, contract tracing, case management and access to treatment with a small team and even smaller budget. Auduzhe focuses on disease prevention, vaccines across the lifespan, health promotion, holistic care and data over-

eignty, through outreach partnerships, home visits and on-site healing.

Our team is also providing STBBI (sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections) education, testing and treatment to Indigenous clients and communities with high Indigenous representation, in both clinic and community-based settings. We have been successful in building relationships with clients, who are often experiencing overlapping realities related to poverty, homelessness, addictions and sex work. Auduzhe addresses the chronically underserved and under-resourced, yet incredibly resilient, Indigenous population of Toronto. We look forward to continuing our work in the years to come!

The Numbers of Immunization

(for the period March 31, 2023–March 31, 2024)

	Immunization Auduzhe Clinic	Immunization Outreach Clinics	Immunization Home Visits	Immunization Total
	99 clinics	55 clinics	28 visits	
COVID ▶	408	340	28	▶ 776
Flu ▶	323	265	20	▶ 608
RSV ▶	27	49	1	▶ 77
Other Publicly Funded Vaccines ▶	297	172	21	▶ 490
Total ▶	1,055	826	70	▶ 1,951



The Auduzhe Mino Nesewinong team

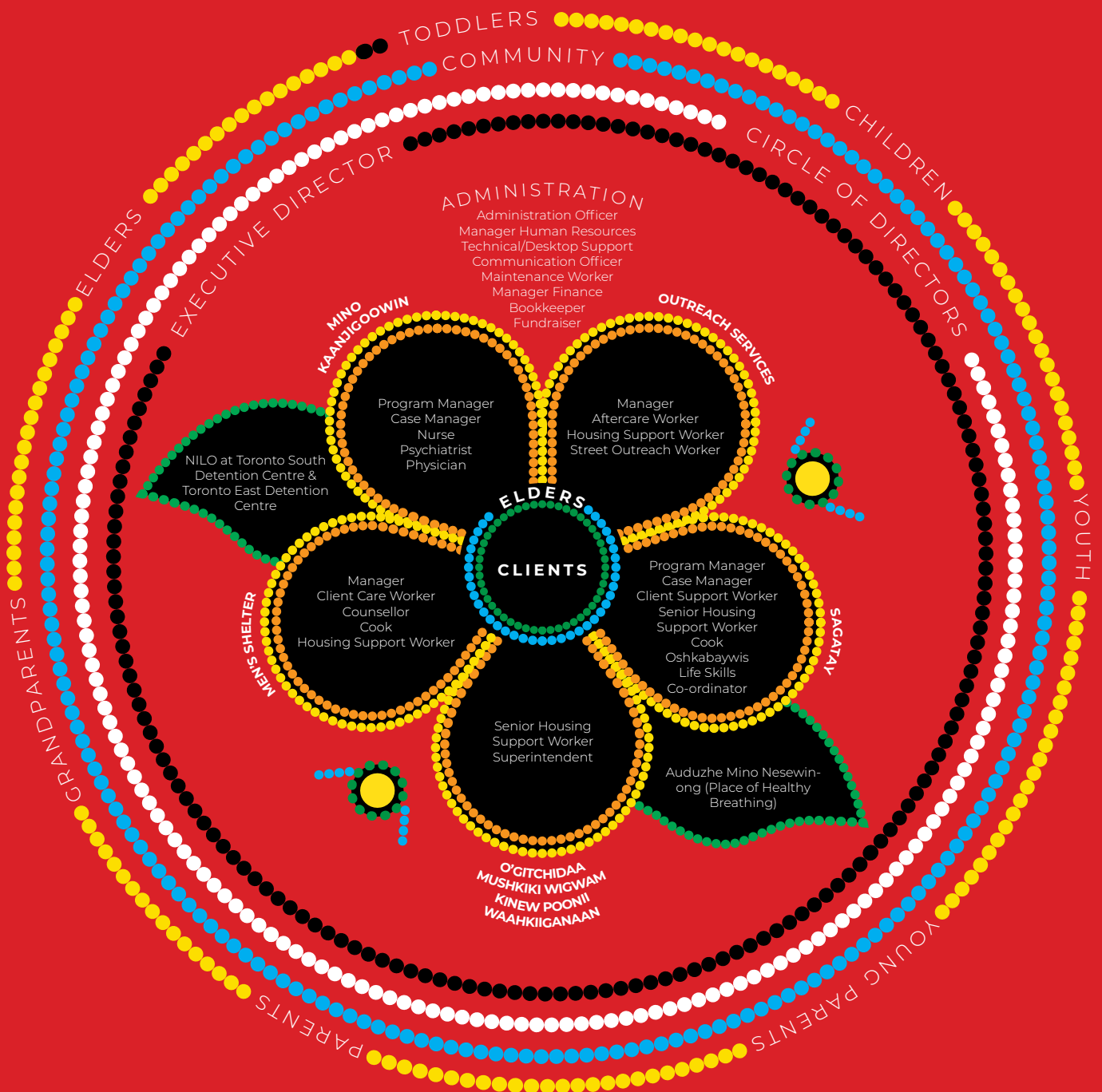
“

We visited your clinic this past week and I wanted to thank you and the staff for making us feel so welcome and supported. From you and your continuous e-mails, to the front desk being so attentive (offering coffee, water, snacks) to Nurse Nicole – super professional and knowledgeable... – we had a very peaceful experience in (what can be) a very stressful downtown neighbourhood. Makes me proud and thankful to be Métis.

”

Governance

NA-ME-RES ORGANIZATION CHART



Circle of Directors

Bob Goulais, President
Randy Pitt, Treasurer

Lori Mishibinijima, Secretary
Cyndy Baskin, Director

Seth Zuk, Director
Thunder Jack, Director

Acknowledgements

Chi-miigwetch to our donors and funders.
They provide us with the financial resources we need to deliver our programs and services.

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Anderson Family Foundation	McLean Foundation
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Daily Bread Food Bank	Roncesvalles United Church
Denise Francis	Trinity St. Paul's United Church
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Miziwe Biik Development Corporation	Women's College Hospital
National Indigenous Collaborative Housing	
Inc (NICHl)	

City of Toronto

Shelter, Support & Housing Administration	Housing Secretariat
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Provincial Government

Ministry of the Solicitor General

Federal Government

Canada Mortgage and Housing
Corporation – Urban Native Housing
Correctional Service Canada
Heritage Canada



Everyone I've encountered has been kind, caring, patient, informative, friendly and FANTASTIC!"

Community Partners 2023-2024

2-Spirited Peoples of the First Nations
Aboriginal Shelters of Ontario
Alexandra Park Neighbourhood Learning Centre
Anduhyaun
Anishnawbe Health Diabetes Education Team
Art Gallery of Ontario
Book Club For Inmates
Call Auntie Clinic
Canadian Mental Health Association (Opening Doors Project)
Carpenters' District Council of Ontario
Centre for Wise Practices in Indigenous Health – Women's College Hospital
Cob's Bread
Community Resources & Initiatives, Natalie Zlodre
Costco
Daily Bread Food Bank
DineSafe – Toronto Public Health – City of Toronto
Fort York
Furniture Bank
Gabriel Dumont Non-Profit Homes
ICHA – Homeless Connect
Inner City Health Associates – Dr. Herschler, Dr. Shoush
Kapapamahchakwew – Wandering Spirit School
Maggie's Toronto
Mainstay Housing
Native Canadian Centre of Toronto
Not Far From the Tree
Ontario Arts Council
Paula Wing
Petroglyphs Provincial Park
Royal Ontario Museum
Seventh Generation Midwives Toronto
Social and Enterprise Development Innovations (SEDI)
St. Michael and All Angels Church
Street-to-Trail
The STOP Community Food Centre
Thunder Woman Healing Lodge
Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council (TASSC)
Toronto Hostel Training Centre – Life on Track Sessions
Toronto Public Health
Toronto Writers Collective
Tungasuvvingat Inuit
University Health Network
University of Toronto – First Nations House
University of Toronto, Woodsworth College (Transitional Year Program)
Vance Latchford
Waakebiness-Bryce Institute for Indigenous Health, Dalla Lana School of Public Health
Well Living House – St. Michael's Hospital
Wigwamen Incorporated

Local Politicians

Honourable Dr. Carolyn Bennett, MP Toronto St. Paul's	Councillor Chris Moise, City Councillor Ward 13 Toronto Centre
Jill Andrew, MPP Toronto St. Paul's	Councillor Gord Perks, City Councillor Ward 4 Parkdale-High Park
Councillor Josh Matlow, City Councillor Ward 12 St. Paul's	

Visiting Elders and Traditional People

Jimmy Dick	Colin Mousseau
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Na-Me-Res Team

A chi-miigwetch goes out to all our staff, former and current, for their contribution to the work of Na-Me-Res in delivering quality services to Indigenous people experiencing homelessness through a culture-based approach addressing clients' mental, physical, emotional and spiritual needs.

Current Staff

Badger, Sheldon	Chicago, Jason	Hookimawillillene, A	McCarthy, Chloe	Perricciolo, Stephanie
Bates, Donna	Cho, Hyunjin	Jackson, Brian`	Mccomb, Andrew	Pitawanakwat, Arlene
Belleau, Keihlah	Cicansky, Sabrina	Jardin, Erwin	Meawasige, Jade	Pitawanakwat, Jace
Bentz, Chris	Costello, James	Johnstone, Nicole	Misquadis-Mack, M	Pragg-Singh, Thomas
Bertrand, Allysha	Cote, Elaine	Kassis, Pierre	Namgyal, Thonyon	Quarrington, Nemke
Bisson, Benjamin	Debassige, Nancy	Kataquapit, Jaicee	Obazee, Charles	Quewezence, Roxanne
Bobiwash, Allen	Dunkley-Abrams, D	King, Janice	Olanbiwonninu, Azeez	Rebortura, Michelle
Bowyer, Devon	Erwin, Martin	Labrecque, Albert	Osborne, Suzanne	Reid, Jaden
Buttar, Pavan	Eskins, Jade	Laform-Scodellaro, R	O'Selmo, Clive	Robinson, Lisa
Cairns, Catherine	Foster, Jason	LaForme, John	Osen, William	Rolfe, Trisha
Cecchetto, Andrew	Hasan Sibtain	MacDonald, Morris	Peltier, Caleja	Roy, Clarence



The Outreach Team



The Sagatay Team

Roy, Jane
Roy, John
Sabourin, Martin
Sanchez, Tarah

Teekens, Steve
Timmins, James
Topcagic, Emina
Trinier, Ruth

Turner, Ashley
Uihwan Park, James
Walmsley, Tim
Wangkhang, Lobsang

Wilson, Cleon
Woodcock, Dennis
Wylie, Brittany
Yamada, Kinji

Former Staff

Alam, Shuhita
Alkebsi, Fatima
Ansah, Prince
Bach, Brian M
Beaucage, Shayne

Bruce-Kemevor, S
De La Cruz, Giordano
Fabian, Jeffrey
Gaudet, Gabe
Graziano, Daniela

Kemsley, Jesse
Kropf, Roxanne
Matsubara, Aya
Mazen, Dirani
Misquadis, Ray

Muganga, Mark
Nicholas, M
Parker, Richard
Pitawanakwat, S
Ramadhan, Halokhan

Takyi, Brenda
Tempest, Allison
White, Tristen
Williams, Paul



The Na-Me-Res Shelter Team



The Administration Team

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If you would like to contribute, please contact our fundraiser at fundraising@nameres.org.

If you have any questions, concerns or compliments, please contact our Communication Officer by e-mail at general@nameres.org.



Registered Charitable #119050516RR0001 • This publication is available in other formats •

Design and production: Fresh Art & Design Inc. • Principal photography: stefandethan.com • Proofreader: Ruth Hanley • Printer: Colour Innovations





Native Men's Residence
www.nameres.org