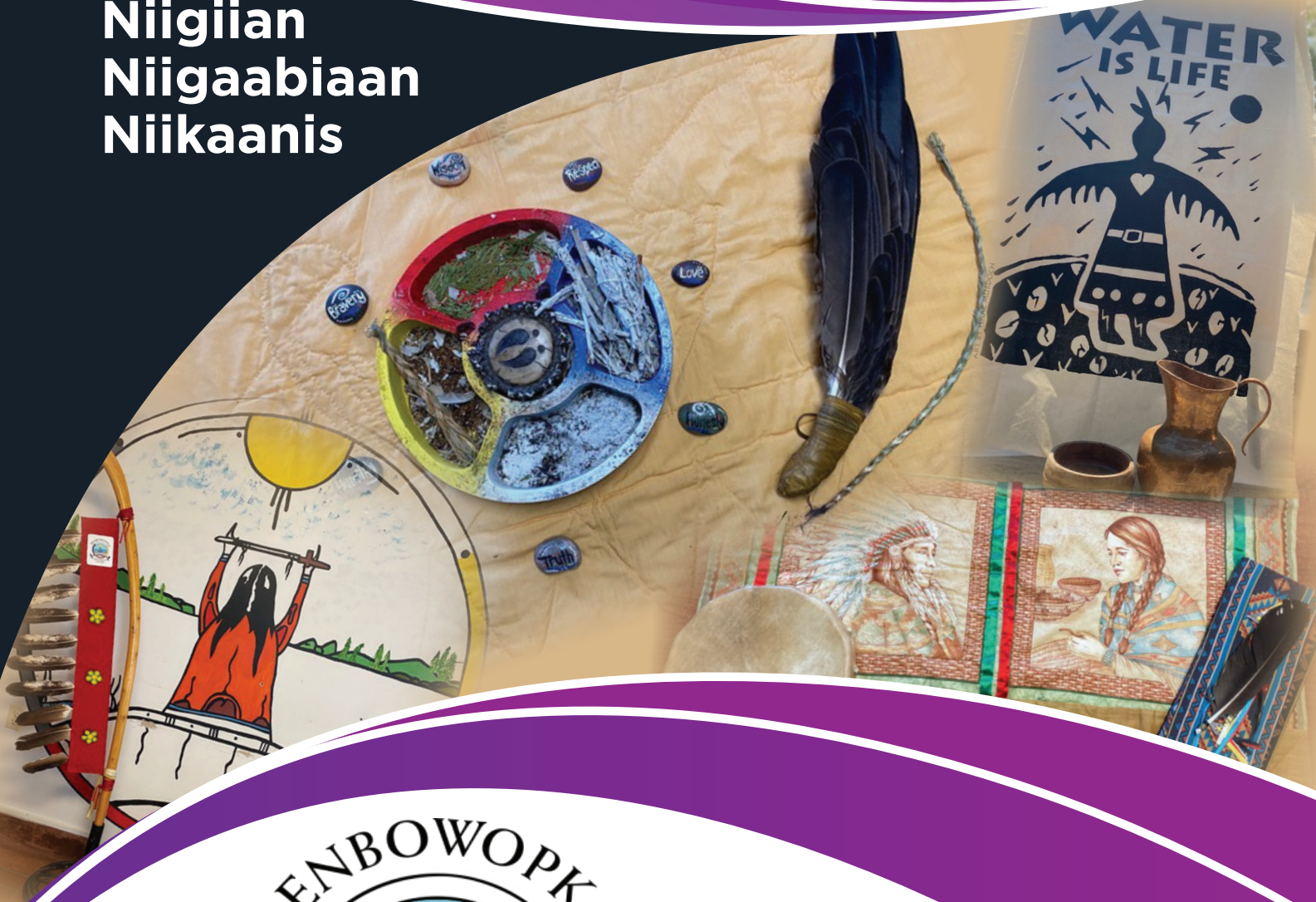


2022/2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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**Strengthening
Nations
Building
Relationships**

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS April 2022 – March 2023

Ogimma Dean Sayers
Batchewana First Nation
Harvey Bell – NSTC Elder

Ogimma Andy Rickard
Garden River First Nation
Cindy Belleau-Jones

Ogimma Edward Boulrice
Thessalon First Nation
Mary Ann Giguere

Ogimma Bob Chiblow
Mississauga First Nation
Peyton Pitawanakwat

Ogimma Brent Bissaillion
Serpent River First Nation
Wilma-Lee Johnston
Michelle Owl

Ogimma Angus Toulouse
Sagamok Anishnawbek
Lawrence Solomon

Ogimma Craig Nootchtai
Atikameksheng Anishnawbek
Harvey Petahtegoose

Executive Committee

Ogimma Brent Bissaillion
Serpent River First Nation

Peyton Pitawanakwat
Mississauga First Nation

Harvey Petahtegoose
Atikameksheng Anishnawbek



Benbowopka Treatment Centre April 2022/March 2023

Acting Executive Director's Message

The theme for this year's joint Annual General Meeting with our Parent Corporation North Shore Tribal Council is "Strengthening Nations and Building Relationships". Benbowopka Treatment Centre continues to play a significant role in strengthening our local First Nations as we help them address the addiction challenges that have faced their communities. Benbowopka Treatment Centre has also continued its strong relationship with North Shore Health Network that allows for the support of an onsite nurse practitioner on a weekly basis to assist with the management of our relatives' health needs.

This past year Benbowopka's partnership with Niigaaniin has allowed for the development of a permanent land-based detox/stabilization structure on the east end of our property. Relatives from our local First Nations complete their 10 day detox/stabilization and can seamlessly go directly into Benbowopka Treatment Centre for treatment.

Benbowopka Treatment Centre's treatment model continues to place a strong emphasis on building relationships with key partners to help our relatives continue on a successful healing path in addressing their addiction once they leave Benbowopka Treatment Centre. A good example of this is the expanded strategic partnerships that we have formed with Maamwesying North Shore Community Health Services (MNSCHS) focusing on creating better wraparound services for the individuals while they are in our treatment program and follow up services after they leave treatment.

Benbowopka Treatment Centre continues

to be a Core Partner of MNSCHS' Ontario Health Team and as Acting Executive Director, I now attend their Executive Team Planning Meetings. MNSCHS is the largest Indigenous Primary Care, Community Health Support and Mental Wellness and Addictions service provider in our area and is also providing support services to our local First Nations. This strong partnership has helped integrate Benbowopka Treatment Centre into MNSCHS' coordinated delivery of mental health and addictions services to our local First Nation Communities.

MNSCHS is already providing Traditional Medicine Practitioner support to Benbowopka's treatment program and we are excited to confirm that MNSCHS will be offering 2 additional support services to Benbowopka Treatment Centre for the next fiscal year. Mental Wellness Counsellors will be available for relatives who want to access their counselling services while in treatment and after discharge. As well, MNSCHS's Traditional Counsellor will begin providing cultural support services as part of Benbowopka Treatment Centre's new 50-day curriculum.

One of our Strategic Goals has been to create stronger partnerships and communication with our First Nation communities. One of the ways of achieving this goal this past year was to host an Open House with all our First Nation communities and partner organization. This occurred on August 18th and we had great participation from all our partner organizations and communities. The event was so successful that we look forward to make this an annual event.

This past year required Benbowopka Treatment Centre to continue operating according to Ontario Health COVID-19 restrictions that changed as the pandemic lessened in intensity. Benbowopka Treatment Centre chose to continue to proceed with caution having its staff bi-weekly PCR tested and all relatives coming into the residential program tested prior to entry. Despite these precautions at one point during the year almost all our staff tested positive for COVID-19 causing significant challenges for staffing. As the year comes to a close the future looks more positive about managing COVID-19 across the province. Benbowopka Treatment Centre has continued to adjust its existing space that will increase our capacity to have bedroom space for 11 relatives by the end of this year.

Benbowopka Treatment Centre continued to operate its programs in buildings that are over 100 years old. Staff have been creative in utilizing the 30 acres of land at Benbowopka Treatment Centre to offer a variety of land-based activities and community outings that helped with programming this past year. However, it highlighted the need for a new treatment facility. I continued to work with the staff from the Capital Branch of Indigenous Services Canada over the past year on meeting their requirements

for submitting Benbowopka's proposal for building a new 16 bed treatment facility. The Class A Estimates have been revised to \$13,983,205.00 and submitted to Indigenous Services Canada to better reflect current construction costs. An Environmental Review was also completed on the proposed site space this past year. We remain optimistic that we will receive positive approval and funding from Indigenous Services Canada to build this new facility!

In reflecting back on the last 12 months Benbowopka Treatment Centre has continued to make positive strides forward in supporting our relatives as they continue their healing journey to address their mental health and addictions. This success has come from the strong support we have received from our Board of Directors, Elders, staff, partner organizations, First Nation communities and funders. Because of your support Benbowopka Treatment Centre's future continues to be bright as we WORK TOGETHER to continue to Strengthen our Nations and Build Relationships to support our relatives!

Chi-Miigweetch to you!

Jim Baraniuk

Acting Executive Director

Program Manager's Report – Roberta Degagne

Looking back on the past three years with the challenges experienced with COVID 19, Benbrook Treatment Centre, entered a new fiscal year 2022/23 with fewer restrictions and moved forward with much anticipation for a successful year providing services for those in need.

To ensure the safety and wellbeing of our relatives and Team Members, Benbowopka continued with PCR swabs for our relatives following admission and five days prior to completion. For Team Members as per direction from Carol Ann Agnihotri, RNP, the weekly PCR swabs were scheduled and completed. In addition,

In July 2022, as our Seven First Nations continue to experience ongoing and increasing concerns related to insufficient services available for those with substance use disorders and following recommendations of our community service providers and stakeholders, Benbowopka Treatment Centre recognized the need to increase our residential healing journey program to a longer duration. A decision was made for Benbowopka Treatment Centre to become a 50-day healing journey program. Benbowopka Treatment Centre Team Members completed a program curriculum review and ensured the emphasis of our cultural program continued and remains to the main focus of our healing journey program.

In August 2022, Benbowopka Treatment Centre experienced a COVID 19 outbreak amongst relatives and a decision was made to isolate the relatives, request they wear masks and continue with the program. For any possible future outbreaks, all team members were in agreement to

continue to provide services and follow Ontario Health guidelines.

In fiscal year, Benbowopka Treatment Centre delivered eight, 28-day treatment programs, remained at a six-bed capacity and prioritized our seven First Nation along the North Shore. As precautionary measures, for those entering the program, Benbowopka continued to provide transportation for relatives entering and discharging from the program.

As Benbowopka Treatment Centre and Niigaaniin – Anish Naa Program, continued their partnership, four treatment cycles were designated to the ten-day land base detox program which reflected the four seasons – Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter during the fiscal year. Collaborative efforts with Niigaaniin, for pre-treatment services allowed for a seamless entry into Benbowopka.

Training For Fiscal Year 2022/2023

Training and development is the process of improving the skills and the knowledge base of the employees, an opportunity for employees to grow and improve and become more effective within the organization.

In the spring of 2020, as the treatment program was shutdown due to COVID19, Benbowopka ceased the opportunity to enroll all Team Members in the on-line training courses offered through ALLCEU Professional Training. During fiscal year 2022/2023, Benbowopka continued to

enroll all Team Members with ALLCEU Professional Training. In the fall of 2022, two Team Members completed their Addictions Counsellor Certification Training course. Upon receiving their certificates, in December of 2022, the two Team Members submitted applications to Indigenous Certification Board of Canada. In recognition of their studies through the on-line course, the two Team Members, met all standards and requirements established by the Certification Board. Certificates levels received were:

- Indigenous Client Support

Addictions Worker

- Indigenous Addictions Specialist-Level 1

2022, in Toronto, Ontario. Benbowopka Treatment Centre selected three Team Members to attend the event and receive training. The training consisted of:

To date, Benbowopka has six Team Members certified with the Indigenous Certification Board of Canada.

In addition, to the ALLCEU on-line training, in the November 2022, six Team Members attended and completed the Seeking Safety training. In December of 2022, Benbowopka arranged on-site training for Mental Health First Aid and nine Team Members successfully completed and received their certificates.

Ontario Regional Addictions Partnership Committee - Following a two-year hiatus due to COVID 19, ORAPC hosted their 21 Annual NNADAP Conference in November

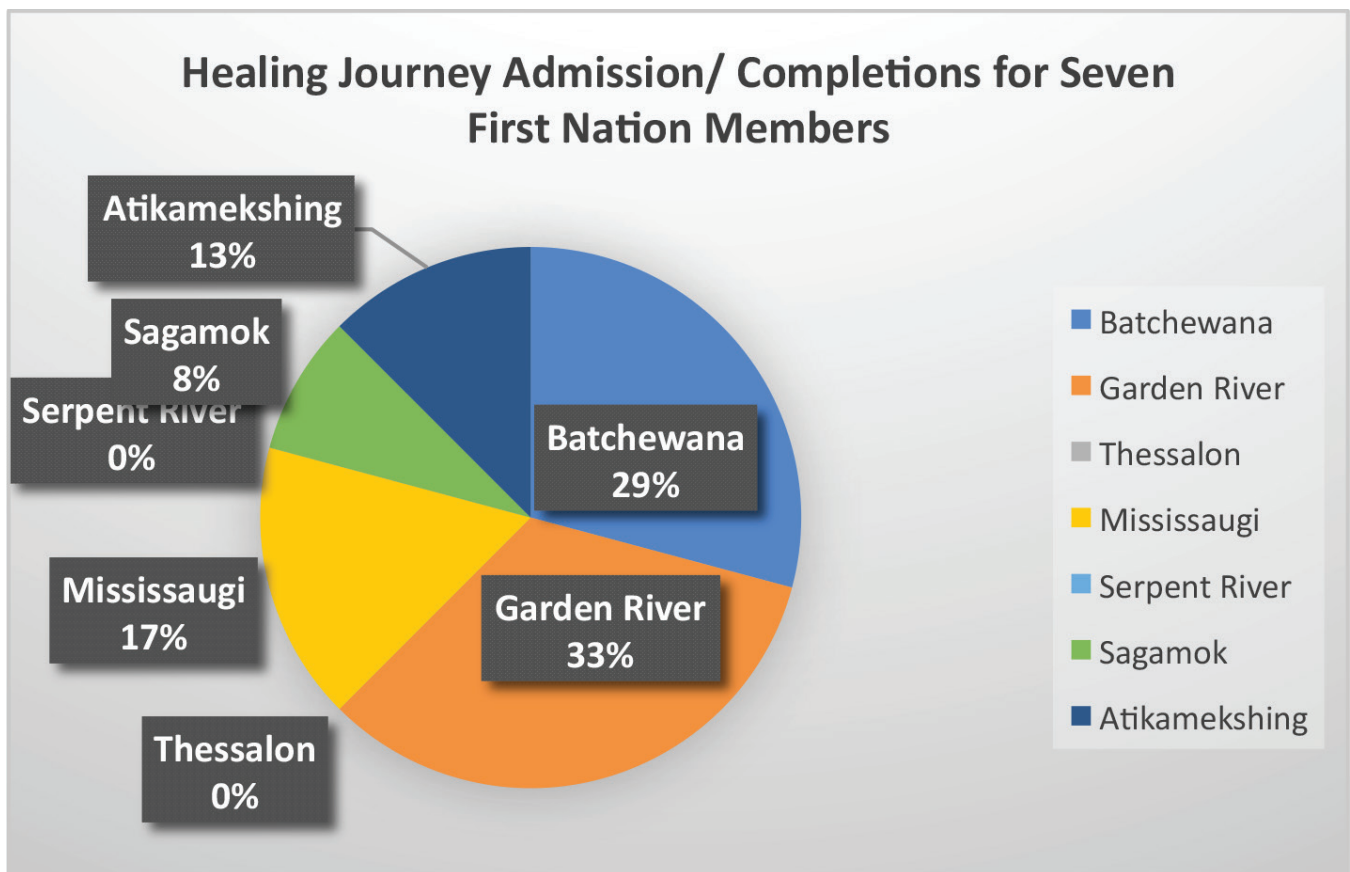
- Cultural Activities, Keynotes and Group Learning
- Lateral Violence - Seven Generations
- Healing Through Song
- Art Activity
- 2 Spirit and Indigiqueer Resurgence
- Creative Approaches to Wellness
- Self Care: Sound Therapy & Yoga
- The Art of Effective Facilitation

Statistics for Fiscal Year 2022/2023

Cycle:	Referred	Closed	Admission	No Show	Completed	Female	Male
1-2022	19	15	4	0	4	8	11
2-2022	15	10	5	0	5	7	8
3-2022	18	12	7	0	5	11	7
4-2022	23	16	7	0	5	12	8
5-2022	28	23	5	0	5	16	12
6-2022	4	0	4	0	3	3	1
7-2022	8	0	8		5	4	4
8-2023	10	1	9		6	5	5
9-2023	Closed						
10-2023	Closed						
	125	77	49	0	38	66	56

Fiscal year 2022/2023 had eight healing journey programs, with 125 relatives being referred. The data depicts 49 relatives entered the program with 38 completions. The referral closures for this fiscal year were due to referent being outside of catchment area and client/referral abandonment of file. Please note, Healing Journey Programs 9-2023 and 10-2023 were closed for the purpose of completing a program curriculum review for the new 50-day healing journey program scheduled to begin April 7, 2023.

Fiscal Year April 2022- March 2023 - The first graph illustrates referrals Benbowopka received from our Seven First Nations/Others. The second graph depicts the percentage of community members from the Seven First Nations who had entered Benbowopka and successfully completed the healing journey program.



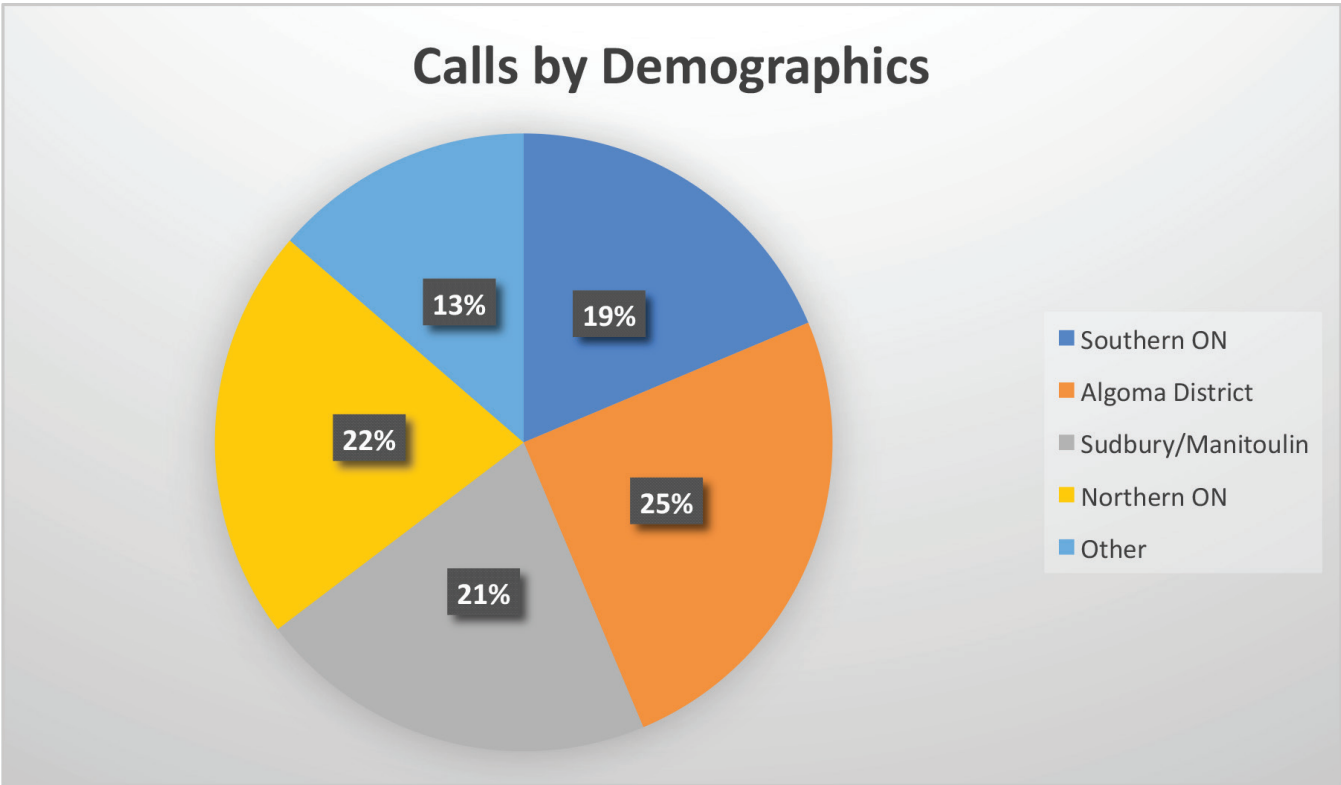
Requests for Treatment Services By Demographics

Fiscal Year 2022/2023

Statistics:

From April 2022 – March 2023 Benbowopa Treatment Centre received 300 telephone calls requesting information about our treatment program and requests for a Referral Package. The percentage of calls received are illustrated by demographic areas:

Southern Ontario – 19% **Algoma District** – 25% **Sudbury/Manitoulin** – 21% **Northern Ontario** – 22% and **Other/Unspecified** – 13%



Data was collected from Fiscal Year 2017/2018 to 2022/2023. For statistical purpose, the data illustrates to the Leaderships of our Seven First Nations, an increase in band members of the Seven First Nations seeking

assistance with their substance misuse and healing journey. Note, the decrease in Fiscal Year 2020/2021 was due to COVID19.

Benbowopka Treatment Centre Strategic Goals 2022 – 2025

Strategic Goal 1

Develop strategies that will enhance the safety and wellbeing of Relatives and staff by:

- a. Developing an Annual Health and Safety Plan that will incorporate training to address gaps identified through feedback from:
 - i. Health and Safety Committee
 - ii. Quality Assurance Surveys
 - iii. Staff surveys
 - iv. Staff/Patient Safety Incident Reports
- b. Develop a Staff Wellness Committee and members will create an organizational Wellness Plan with the focus on staff retention and selfcare
 - i. Annual Wellness Plans will be developed and actioned commencing in 2022

Strategic Goal 2

Look at ways of enhancing Benbowopka Treatment Centre's treatment program to better meet the needs of its Relatives and First Nation communities by:

- a. Securing funding for the construction of a new sixteen bed treatment centre
- b. Expanding the partnership with Niigaaniin's land-based detox/stabilization program
- c. Enhancing staff training through feedback from Relatives, collaterals, and communities
- d. Engaging Relatives, strategic partners, and communities on possible changes to the length of the treatment

program to better meet the needs of Relatives and communities

- e. Developing a plan with strategic partners for the repurposing of Benbowopka Treatment Centre's existing buildings, once the new treatment centre is constructed to address gaps in addictions services related to detox/stabilization, transitional care, and relapse prevention
- f. Actively participate as a Core Partner in Maamwesying North Shore Community Health's Ontario Health Team initiative with a focus on enhancing primary care support to Benbowopka Treatment Centre's Relatives

Strategic Goal 3

Create stronger partnerships and communication with the seven local First Nation communities' Elders, mental health, and addictions staff to help facilitate better pre-treatment readiness for Relatives entering into Benbowopka Treatment Centre and post-treatment support as a preventative measure for relapse. Benbowopka Treatment Centre will:

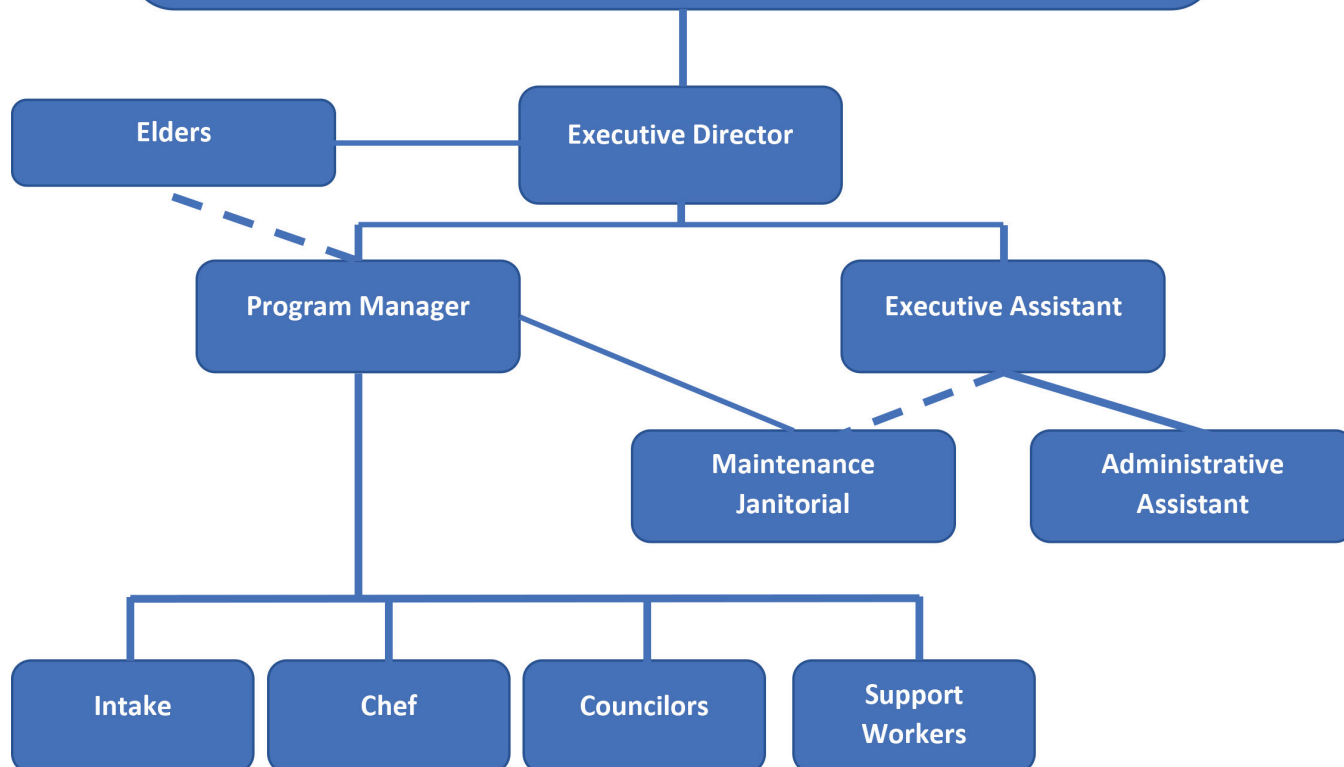
- a. Develop annual onsite addictions planning days on each First Nation community with their Elders, mental health/addictions staff and any other interested staff to look at ways of enhancing pre-treatment readiness and relapse prevention
- b. Invite First Nation communities and strategic partners to an annual Open House for an orientation to Benbowopka Treatment Centre programming and services

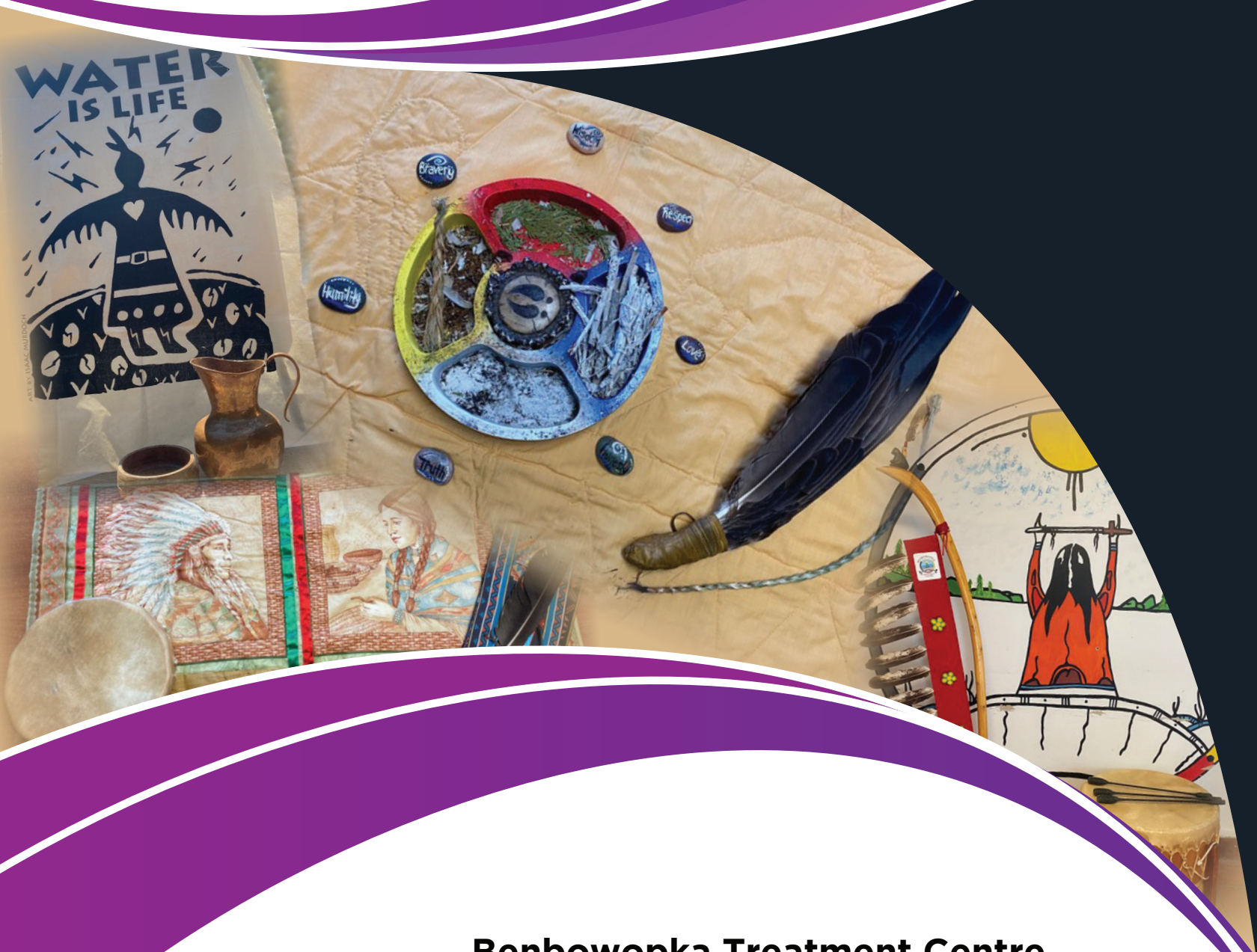
Benbowopka Organizational Structure

North Shore Tribale Counsel Board of Directors

Voting Members: Atikameksheng Anishnawbek, Sagamok Anishnawbek, Serpent River, Mississauga, Thessalon, Garden River, Batchewana

Non-Voting Members: Chapleau Cree, Chapleau Ojibway, Brunswick House, Nipissing, Dokis





Benbowopka Treatment Centre
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www.benbowopka.com