

Main Goal:

To engage Indigenous men and youth in ending violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people.

Objective:

- To ensure access to Indigenous cultural knowledge and increase understanding of their traditional roles and responsibilities based on local Indigenous knowledge.
- Increase resiliency amongst program participants by empowering men and male youth to acknowledge and resolve their own trauma.
- To support the reclamation and revitalization of men's responsibility to end violence perpetrated against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people
- To promote improvements in men's overall wellbeing and foster enhanced community wellness through the provision of effective culturally based program service delivery.

“A nation is not conquered until the hearts of its women are on the ground. Then it’s finished; no matter how brave its warriors or how strong their weapons.” Cheyenne Proverb

Are you an Indigenous male who is looking for supportive resources?

- Who wants to learn to be non-violent, and be a positive role model?
- Who wants to end Violence Against Indigenous Women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people?
- Who wants to connect to other men who choose not to use Violence?

For more information contact:

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KIZHAAY ANISHINAABE NIIN (I AM A KIND MAN)



Is to reconnect men to their traditional and cultural duty as protectors of women and children and to live a Mino-Bimaadiziwin (Good Life)

Responsible for:

- The provision of Indigenous culture-based men's programming: promotive of healing, skill building and the practice of alternative options to the use of violence.
- Facilitation of programming capable to visit correctional institutions and the provision of reintegration support for men and youth-aged males involved within various stages of criminal justice system involvement.
- To educate men and youth-aged males in approaches to identifying and addressing their own abusive behaviours and implement alternative approaches to conflict resolution.
- To encourage healthy violence free lifestyles through the provision of educational supports and the establishment of a supportive learning environment.

"The woman is the foundation on which nations are built. She is the heart of her nation. If that heart is weak, the people are weak. If her heart is strong and her mind is clear, then the nation is strong and knows its purpose. The woman is the center of everything." Late Elder Art Solomon

Coordination:

- The coordination of local community events to promote Indigenous men's responsibilities is to engage Indigenous men to ending violence against Indigenous women.
- Create opportunities for Indigenous men and youth-aged males to engage with Elders, Traditional people, cultural and land-based activities as a component of programming.
- The referral of participants to appropriate counselling and treatment services in instances where mental distress and substance abuse are identified as issues of concern by the participant.
- The promotion of healing circles, peer support networks and self-help processes to assist in men's healing, positive identity development, learning alternative approaches to intimate partner conflict resolution strategies.
- Build community leadership capacity by supporting men who have undergone their own healing journey with the Kizhaay Anishinaabe Niin Program and support them in continuing their work by contributing to community.
- Provide alternative options to institutional involvement through collaboration with Ontario Courts of Justice administration, Probation and Parole Offices, and Correctional Institutions.

Program Activities:

- One-to-one supports
- Group-Based Services
- Participant-Based Activities
- Networking and Partnership Building Activities
- Public Awareness Community Engagement Activities (Broader)
- Advocacy Support Justice-Related
- Individual Supports
- Individual/Family Support
- Individual Traditional Teachings
- Referrals to Other Friendship Centre Programs

The Kizhaay Anishinaabe Niin program uses the seven Grandfather Teachings as a guide to a healthy living:

- **Nbwaa kaa win:** To cherish knowledge is to know Wisdom.
- **Zaa gid win:** To know Love is to know peace.
- **Mnaa ded mo win:** To honour all of Creation is to have Respect.
- **Aak de he win:** Bravery is to face the foe with integrity.
- **Gwe kwaad zi win:** Honesty is to practice fairness.
- **Dbaa den di zin:** Humility is to know yourself as a sacred part of Creation.
- **De bwe win:** Truth is to know and live all of these things.