

MIKINAKOOS CHILDREN'S FUND



2020-2021

ANNUAL REPORT



2020 was a year unlike any other. The global pandemic is still creating challenges for us all, and while First Nation's communities fared well in the first wave, it began to change with the second wave as many communities are doubling down on efforts to isolate. The need to 'wall' off communities as protection also creates additional challenges for families to access healthy, affordable food and other necessities for their children. When schools are not open, access to breakfast and weekend food programs is no longer possible. Winter road travel is limited, so getting out to purchase clothing and other items is no longer possible in many instances.

Throughout 2020, the Mikinakoos Children's Fund was able to send much-needed shipments of baby items, school supplies, winter clothing, recreational equipment and other necessities into communities based on single, one-time donations. This has been thanks to our ability to grow as an organization and add staff, and through government grants, ensure that our overhead costs stayed extremely low. As we look forward, we recognize that other partnerships are needed to ensure continued shipments to the remote north; freight costs and logistics remain the most challenging hurdle for our charity. One pillar of the new year strategy will include employee-giving programs at First Nation agencies in northwestern Ontario; organizations are expressing interest in presenting the option to their staff.

As the Board of Directors begins its planning for the new fiscal year, we are excited to once again clarify who we are, what we do and why it matters.

I look forward to connecting more with our donors this year, as we journey forward telling our story and attracting more people to our cause to improve the quality of life for First Nations children. As my mother always said, "Many hands make light work."



Colleen Martin

Chair of the Board of Directors, Mikinakoos Children's Fund



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STAFF & BOARD MEMBERS



Emily Shandruk,
Executive Director



Kielly McDonough
Marketing & Community
Capacity Building Specialist



Colleen Martin
Chair of the Board



James Morris
Past Chair



Brian Calleja
Treasurer



Corinne Fox
Director



Brent Massaro
Director



Jeff Stout
Director

BOARD MEMBERS BIOGRAPHIES



Colleen Martin - Chair of the Board

Grew up in Atikokan, and attended Carleton University in Ottawa, obtaining a Bachelor of Commerce with Honours in Accounting. Colleen's personal career led her through a journey with First Nations for more than 25 years. As a result, one of her passions is to bring awareness of history and Indian legislation to create an understanding of, and compassion for, the challenges still faced by First Nation peoples in Canada. She has facilitated dialogue and efforts to improve quality of life for First Nation peoples through activities of The Catholic Women's League of Canada. Since 2015, Colleen has represented the League nationally, as part of a coalition of Catholic partners focused on renewing and strengthening relations with Indigenous people of Canada through activities focused on reconciliation. Her work to improve the quality of life for First Nation's children continues as a member of the Board of Directors of Mikinakoos Children's Fund.

BOARD MEMBERS BIOGRAPHIES



James Morris - Past Chair

Born in 1947 and is from Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug (Big Trout Lake), in Northwestern Ontario. At nine years of age, he contracted tuberculosis and was sent to a hospital in what is now Thunder Bay for 22 months. It was here that he learned to speak English, his first language being Anishinabe. James began his career in education and communications, playing a leadership role in the creation of the Wawatay Native Communications Society and continuing his involvement in Anishinabe communications by working for the Northern Native Broadcast Access Program in the Department of Secretary of State from 1984 to 1988. Between 1988 and 2000 James was the Deputy Grand Chief of Nishnawbe-Aski Nation (NAN) where he was responsible for the Health and Social Services portfolio. Since 2001, he has been the Executive Director of the Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority.

BOARD MEMBERS BIOGRAPHIES



Brian Calleja - Treasurer

Works as the Chief Financial Officer for the Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority. Brian moved to Sioux Lookout from Ottawa with his family in 2018, after working in tax administration at the Canada Revenue Agency for 17 years and holding positions of increasing responsibility including the Assistant Director of Service Delivery Relations and the A/Director of Information Management. Brian holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Laurentian University and is a Chartered Professional Accountant, CGA. In his off time, Brian enjoys fishing, participating in outdoor activities and spending time with family and friends. Brian joined the Board for the Mikinakoos Children's Fund because of his desire to improve the quality of life of First Nations Children in remote Northwestern Ontario communities. He looks forward to working with the communities and stakeholders to ensure the organization moves forward in meeting its mission and vision.

BOARD MEMBERS BIOGRAPHIES



Brent Massaro - Director

Is co-owner of Thunder Bay Broom & Chemicals Ltd. in Thunder Bay. A lifelong resident of Thunder Bay, he is a father of two children Max and Sienna and husband to Lisa. In his 20 years of experience working in the wholesale supply and service industry, Brent understands the requirements an organization needs to meet to service the procurement, logistics and project management challenges facing remote communities throughout Ontario. Brent and his company are proud supporters of many regional initiatives and they are proud donors to many charities such as the Mikinakoos Children's Fund, Thunder Bay regional hospitals 'Hearts for Home' campaign, the Shelter House Thunder Bay and Children's Centre Thunder Bay.

BOARD MEMBERS BIOGRAPHIES



Corinne Fox - Director

Has been a part of the Mikinakoos Children's Fund Board since its inception. She is a member of Bearskin Lake First Nation located in northern Ontario and also has familial roots with Gull Bay First Nation where her father is from. Corinne has been working with Anishnawbe children and families in a variety of roles with Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN), Northern Nishnawbe Education Council (NNEC), and the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. She has her Masters of Social Work from Lakehead University. Corinne has also served as Vice-President of Anishnawbe Mushkiki, which provides culturally appropriate, holistic care utilizing the teachings of the Medicine Wheel. They offer primary, traditional and alternative approaches to health care throughout the four stages of life.

BOARD MEMBERS BIOGRAPHIES



Jeff Stout - Director

Is currently the President of North Star Air, based in Thunder Bay. Despite being born and raised in Chicago, IL, Jeff's roots in Northern Ontario go back 20+ years with his family's long-standing interest in the airline. Upon completing his degree in Business and Entrepreneurship and his Bachelor of Science, Business Administration from Babson College in Boston, Jeff moved up to Thunder Bay to fully engage in the airline. In his 7 years with North Star, Jeff has formed strong relationships with many Northern Ontario communities, and through North Star's revenue-sharing agreements, has helped in providing over \$5m in funds back to the communities in this time frame. Understanding the unique challenges faced in many Northern communities, and the expense of logistics in the North, Jeff brings a unique skill-set and perspective to the Mikinakoos Board.

HIGHLIGHTS

Government of Canada's Emergency Community Support Fund

In December 2020, we received a \$50,000 grant from the Government of Canada's Emergency Community Support Fund (ECSF), which is also supported by United Way of Thunder Bay, Thunder Bay Community Foundation, and Community Foundations of Canada. This funding was used exclusively to support North Spirit Lake First Nation, a community of Keewaytinook

Okimakanak, as they were the only community to not receive Jordan's Principle Funding. With the help from businesses in Thunder Bay, Mallons and Giant Tiger, sourcing us with our winter gear for the children including hats, mitts, winter coats, pants, boots, socks and more, we delivered 21 boxes (1400lbs) worth of winter gear to the North Spirit Lake community to serve 125 children. Also included in this shipment were 24 boxes (700lbs) worth of sporting gear such as cross country skis, road hockey equipment, and a variety of basketballs, footballs, soccer balls, and baseballs. This assortment of sporting gear was donated by Play It Again Sports in Thunder Bay.



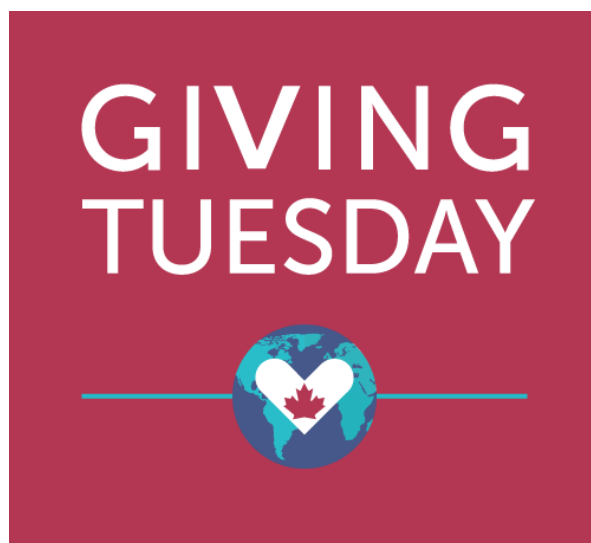
HIGHLIGHTS

Giving Tuesday 2020

On December 1st, 2020, we raised \$1,000 from our Giving Tuesday campaign in support of Neskantaga First Nation, who at the time, was forced to evacuate from their community due to an ongoing water crisis.

We made a shipment of 500 pounds (80 bags) worth of snack foods for the children of Neskantaga. This included snacks such as peanut butter, granola bars, chips and many more!

Also included in this shipment, was a variety of brand new toys and other children's items donated from the Shelter House in Thunder Bay, Ontario.



Mazon Grant

In December 2020 we received a grant of \$5,000 from the Jewish Community of Canada, who through MAZON Canada, provided much-needed financial support to our youth food security program.

We supplied 150 children from the Mishkeegogamang community with several weeks' worth of food totalling 1000lbs.



HIGHLIGHTS



Major Donor: Brent Massaro

Brent Massaro, the co-owner of Thunder Bay Broom & Chemicals, has committed to a \$25,000 donation over a five-year span. Brent is an active member of our board and this donation shows his commitment to our programs and charity.

iA Financial Group Philanthropy Contest

In December 2020, we were one of the top 10 finalists for the iA Financial Group's Philanthropy Contest. Canadians all over the country voted for their preferred charity and we were up against some big, well-known charities. Although we didn't win the prize of \$100,000 we were granted \$10,000 towards our programs.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2020-2021



Independent Auditor's Report



To the Board of Directors of Mikinakoos Children's Fund:

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Mikinakoos Children's Fund (the "Charity"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2021, and the statements of operations and changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section of our report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Charity as at March 31, 2021, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, the Charity derives revenue from donations, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of this revenue was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Charity and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to donation revenue and excess of revenue over expenses for the years ended March 31, 2021 and 2020 and assets, liabilities and net assets as at March 31, 2021 and 2020. The audit opinion on the financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2020 was qualified accordingly because of the possible effects of these limitations in scope.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Charity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2020-2021



- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Charity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Thunder Bay, Ontario

September 30, 2021

MNP LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Licensed Public Accountants

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2020-2021



Mikinakoos Children's Fund Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31, 2021

	2021	2020
Assets		
Current		
Cash	91,201	43,426
Accounts receivable	15,000	-
	106,201	43,426
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accruals	1,500	1,500
Due to Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority (Note 4)	31,810	-
	33,310	1,500
Net Assets	72,891	41,926
	106,201	43,426

Mikinakoos Children's Fund Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

For the year ended March 31, 2021

	2021	2020
Revenue		
Donations	44,940	46
Ministry of Economic Development	18,778	-
United Way	50,000	-
Total revenue	113,718	46
Expenses		
Administrative (Note 4)	31,810	-
Bank charges and interest	58	45
Program expenses	50,135	-
Reinstatement fees	-	500
Wages and benefits	750	-
	82,753	545
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	30,965	(499)
Net assets, beginning of year	41,926	42,425
Net assets, end of year	72,891	41,926

DONOR LISTING



Under \$100.00

Andrea Bergman
Michael Childs
Alexis Marie Cruz
Jared Fanti
Natalie Garside
Andrie Gedye
Margaret Gwyn
Dorothy Henderson
Jesse Leithwood
Jay Reid
Rose-Marie Richards
Douglas Mark
Elizabeth McDonough
Kielly McDonough
Sharon Morin
Emaan Naeem
Aviva Nelkin
Jeff O'Brien
Judith Parked
Amanda Phillips
Leora Pinhas
Rick Saunders
Barbara Silva
Shawn Stillman
Peeranut Visetsuth
Jessica Walter
Mike Winer
Mary Wilson

\$100-\$499

Elaine Atkinson
Melanie Berteig
Susan Cook
Josh Cousins
Kei Ganaha
Karie Hanson
Tanja Harrison
Allison Hill
Kayla Huang
Pauline Krupa
Terrence Levine
Patrick McQuarrie
Sylvia Poetschke
Don Richardson
Emily Shandruk
Jason Thompson
Cathy Trocchi
Hélina Van Zeggelen
Michelina Visconti
Anthony Carfagnini
Sherri-Lynne Pharand

\$500-\$999

Daniel Pope
Jordan Lester
Dianne Murray

\$1000+

Deborah Anderson
Gillian Hanley
Colleen Martin
Susan Vollmar

DONOR LISTING



MONTHLY DONORS

Melanie Berteig

Allison Hill

Terrence Levine

Douglas Mark

Colleen Martin

Kielly McDonough

Patrick McQuarrie

Emily Shandruk

ORGANIZATIONAL DONORS

Thunder Bay Broom & Chemical

New Gold Inc.

MAZON Canada

LCPS Chartered Accountants

Keewatin-Aski Ltd.

NADF

Power Systems Solutions Ltd.

iA Financial Group

Government of Canada Emergency Support Fund



Susan Vollmar, Monthly Donor

"Mikinakoos Children's charity is the ideal charity to help me pay it forward. I taught children in Moose Factory (Moose Cree First Nation) and on several reserves in Southern Ontario as a classroom teacher and special education consultant. Now retired, I would like to use some of my retirement funds effectively to help provide children in Northern Ontario to obtain the nutrition, clothing and support they deserve to live more fulfilling lives. I am impressed with Mikinakoos' ability to meet their mission statement and agree with their vision. I fund some annual bursaries and funds to help remove barriers for Native students living where I have taught in the south. I would encourage others to research Mikinakoos Charity's ability to meet the needs of children on remote reserves in northern Ontario and support this charity."

CLOSING MESSAGE



When I first started the Mikinakoos Children's Fund in 2013, I had a vision that we would provide the youth of the North an opportunity to have hope. Imagine if your stomach was not always hungry, or if you weren't always cold. Imagine if you, like hundreds of thousands of other Canadians, could pick up a hockey stick and play without worry as to who would provide your skates? The essential items that Mikinakoos is providing to the children are not extravagant. They are not beyond what a child, living elsewhere would not be provided.

My vision is to provide hope. Hope that living in a remote community is not perceived or felt to be wrong or disappointing. Hope others care and are willing to help. Hope that one day there won't be a need for such a charity, but that in the meantime, it is bridging the gap for all those that need it.

My vision is becoming more and more of a reality, thanks to the generosity of donors, supporters and our staff and Board of Directors.

I hope that you truly know how blessed this makes me feel.

James Morris,
Past Chair, Mikinakoos Children's Fund