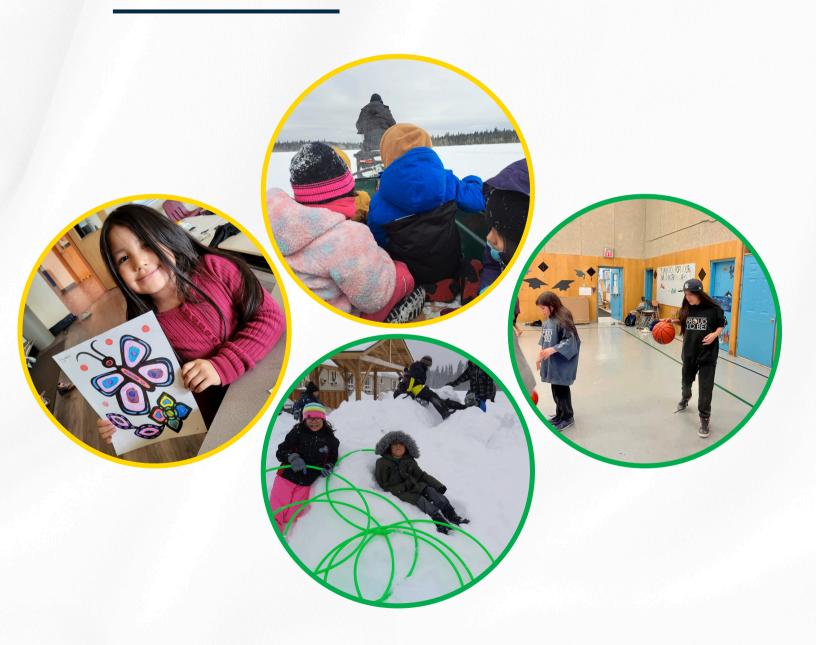
# 2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT







Hard to believe another year is in the review mirror but once again reflecting we see the impact you have made. Who is "You"? The caring, compassionate, giving individuals and businesses who belong to the Mikinakoos Children's Fund community. You support our work in so many ways ... from cash donation, to in-kind, to specific campaign giving, to volunteering, to hosting fundraising events, to supporting logistics and transportation ... Kitchi-meegwetch!

This past year saw continued delivery of healthy food, sporting equipment, sports camps, and creative activities. There was a significant impact to the number of children involved in sports and recreation through an amazing partnership with Sports for Social Development in Indigenous Communities (SSDIC). You will read about those children and many more impacted by our activities this past year.

Every action has a reaction and the support we receive from our community creates opportunities for children to access healthy food, recreation, and creative activity that lifts them up, reveals their individual talents and allows them to experience a happy heart. Knowing what makes our heart happy gives direction to our lives and positively impacts our relationships. These are opportunities that every child has an equal right to, but not necessarily equal access to, experience.

Together we need to create more opportunities not readily available to many more deserving children within remote First Nation communities. Let's double our efforts in the coming year to attract individuals and businesses to our community in support of our mission!

Colleen Martin **Board Chair** 



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The data presented pertains to the period from April 1st, 2022 through March 31st, 2023

### Meet Our Team



COLLEEN MARTIN
CHAIR OF BOARD

JAMES MORRIS
PAST CHAIR





BRIAN CALLEJA TREASURER

CORINNE FOX
DIRECTOR



### Meet Our Team



BRENT MASSARO DIRECTOR

JEFF STOUT
DIRECTOR





JESSICA MCLAUGHLIN DIRECTOR

TYRA OHMAN DIRECTOR



### Meet Our Team



TEAK FAVEL DIRECTOR

EMILY SHANDRUK EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR





KIELLY MCDONOUGH
MARKETING & DATABASE MANAGER

For full biographies visit the about section at www.mikinakoos.com

# Sports for Social Development in Indigenous Communities of Canada

In May of 2021, we received a grant from the Government of Canada's Sport for Social Development in **Communities Indigenous** (SSIDC) providing funding program, of \$230,605 over a two-year period. This program is focused on supporting positive outcomes in the areas of health, education, at-risk behaviour and/or employability, consistent with priorities set out in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action.

Throughout this year, this funding has played a pivotal role in empowering our initiatives. It has enabled us to meticulously plan and successfully execute three sports camps.

Our first camp was the baseball camp held in Sandy Lake in July 2022, which drew participation from approximately 50 local youths and aspiring coaches. This camp was facilitated retired bu baseball players, bringing a wealth of experience to the participants. To ensure the continued development baseball skills within the community, Mikinakoos provided 1000 pounds of baseball equipment, which remained in Sandy Lake for the youth.



Funded by the Government of Canada



# Sports for Social Development in Indigenous Communities of Canada

Our hockey camps, held in February 2023, were equally transformative. The first camp saw youth from Cat Lake travel to Thunder Bay for four days of intensive training with the Junior A hockey club. Fighting Kam River Walleye. Following this, the same team, along with some dedicated Mikinakoos employees, journeyed to Sandy Lake for a three-day hockey camp. These camps collectively engaged over 50 Indigenous youth, fostering skill development and growth. To guarantee safe participation, each community received essential equipment, with the hockey gear becoming a fixture within their permanent respective communities.

These programs exemplify the positive and lasting impact made possible through strategic partnerships and dedicated efforts. We are grateful for the support of the SSIDC program and remain committed to nurturing the growth and development of Indigenous youth across our communities.



Funded by the Government of Canada



#### FedNor Funding - Team Expansion

We are delighted to announce our selection as a recipient of a substantial grant from the Federal Economic Development Agency for Northern Ontario (FedNor), courtesy of the federal government. This grant, amounting to \$295,000, will be allocated over a three-year period.

The primary objective of this funding is to facilitate the implementation and enhancement of our Supply Chain Management system. At its core, this initiative seeks to bolster the efficiency and effectiveness of our supply chain processes. This is of particular significance as it directly impacts our 33 partnering First Nation communities in remote regions of northwestern Ontario.

To achieve these objectives, we will be dedicating resources to the recruitment of a new team member. This individual will play a crucial role in the development of an innovative supply chain management model, tailored to meet the unique needs of our partnering communities.

We view this grant as a testament to our ongoing commitment to excellence in all aspects of our operations. Through strategic investments like this, we continue to strengthen our ability to provide exceptional services and support to the communities we serve.



# Second Harvest Funding

In the spring of 2022, we were honoured to be the recipient of a \$50,000 grant from the Second Harvest Emergency Food Security Fund. This funding has had a profound impact on our ability to serve the needs of our partnering First Nation communities.

Through this support, we were able to support six First Nation communities, including Kingfisher Lake, Wapekeka, Neskantaga, Nibinamik, Keewaywin, and Wunnumin Lake. Each shipment contained nearly a month's supply of various food for the children and families of the community.

#### Food Banks Canada Grant

In a testament to a year filled with success, we received a \$30,000 grant from Food Banks Canada. This funding allowed us to provide three substantial food shipments in March to Keewaywin, Mishkeegogamang, and Slate Falls First Nation Communities.

These shipments, totalling 300 pounds of food and bulk ingredients, made a significant impact on our mission to address food security challenges in our partnering communities.





#### Community Giving

From April 2022 to March 2023 there were a multitude of businesses, individuals, schools and other organizations that went above and beyond in the support of Mikinakoos Children's Fund. This support has been nothing short of remarkable and holds immense significance for us as a small grassroots charity.

We are particularly delighted to spotlight our exceptional partnership with Guru Animation Studio. They demonstrated extraordinary commitment by organizing multiple company fundraisers, channeling both monetary contributions and artistic supplies towards the betterment of First Nation Communities. Additionally, Guru Animation Studio hosted two enlightening virtual workshops, providing an introduction to the captivating world of animation.



# Year in Review



#### New Followers

On Facebook, we gained 111 followers, and 150 followers on Instagram.



#### Gifts per Donor

On average, our donors gave 3.42 each gifts versus 3.07 gifts in the previous fiscal year



#### Total Gifts

We received a total of 1,203 gifts versus 1,105 gifts in the previous fiscal year



#### Recurring Donors

We increased our number of recurring donors by 19%, a total of 134 versus 114 in the previous fiscal year



#### **New Donors**

We welcomed 214 new donors into our community this year



#### Monthly Donors

We received the support from a total 55 monthly donors and 29 employee giving donors, a 17% increase from the previous fiscal year

# Year in Review



#### Shipments

In the previous fiscal year we completed 35 shipments, this year we increased this number by 26% completing a total of 44 shipments.



#### Community Outreach

We reached the same number of communities as the previous fiscal year, 16 total, with the distinction that 5 of these communities were ones that we had not previously worked with



#### UNDER \$100.00

Monthly Donors\*

TIGIST ABEBE SHELDON COOPER\*
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GAIL LOW JON RAPPOPORT
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Monthly Donors\*

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Monthly Donors\*

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SYLVIE ARCHAMBAULT

**BRADLEY BANKS \*** 

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# Closing Message

I would like to express my deepest appreciation for all the donations our school, Missabay Community School, has received from you over the past year and before.

We are a small community school located on a remote northern Ontario reserve. We have had the pleasure of working with the Mikinakoos Children's Fund for the past few years and each year your support is much needed and also much appreciated.

This year you have provided our school with backpacks so that students could have a way to bring their learning materials and lunches to and from the school. I also know that many of them used it for their hunting trips on the traplines which was great for family trips. Both the students and their families were very happy about that.

The Junior and Senior Kindergarten classes as well as our community Early Years Program received 'First Rearer', a fabric book with letters and numbers that children can learn to manipulate and these teachers were delighted to have this new resource available in their classrooms.

As part of our healthy eating program, we received children's vitamins that were distributed among the students. This gave us a great chance to discuss the importance of a healthy diet and what function vitamins play in human development. The donation of various food items (such as nuts, spices, oils and oats to name a few) is a constant and daily enhancement of our daily school life. Students have a chance to try out different kinds of healthy snacks and our cooking and baking classes are a hit every time!

As a result, our students have acquired many new experiences and skills and we would not have achieved these milestones without your sincere and excellent effort.

Again you have proven that our partnership is a great asset to our school and made a huge contribution to our students' progress. I wish you more success in the future and keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

Missabay Community School Staff and Students