



FALL GATHERING REPORT

NOVEMBER 23, 2011 from 8:30am to 4:30pm

**Université du Québec à Montréal
Complexe des sciences Pierre-Dansereau
Agora Hydro-Québec Room**

ADOPTED ON MARCH 30, 2012



ATTENDANCE

See attached list of participants (Appendix 1).

Agenda

1. Welcoming Words and Opening Prayers
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Adoption of Spring Gathering Report 2011
4. Presentation on the First Nations Circle of *Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM)*
5. NETWORK Update: Achievements of the Working Committees
6. Steering Committee and Quick Hits Committee
7. Draft of Strategic Plan 2012-2017
8. Presentation of Financial Statements 2010-2011
9. Recommendations from the Steering Committee: Decisions to be made
10. Workshop: Different but Equal: Let's Take Action against Prejudice and Racial Discrimination
11. Presentation by the Montreal Police Department on Safety Issues Concerning Urban Aboriginal People
12. Consultation: Urban Aboriginal Identity, Membership, Citizenship and Governance
13. Attendance Prizes
14. Closing Prayers

1. Welcoming words and Opening Prayers

Nakuset welcomed everyone. She warmly thanked all the members of the NETWORK for their presence on this first day of snow.

Imaapik Partridge and Mike Standup were invited to open the Fall Gathering with a prayer.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was unanimously adopted as read by Nakuset.

3. Adoption of the Spring Gathering Report of May 27, 2011

The members all received the latest report of May 2011. To accelerate the proceedings of the morning session, Nakuset invited the members to inform Ramélia Chamichian of any corrections or additions to the report, as necessary.

IT WAS MOVED THAT THE SPRING GATHERING REPORT OF MAY 27, 2011 BE ADOPTED.

**Moved by Imaapik Partridge
Seconded by Elizabeth Logue
Adopted unanimously**

4. Presentation on the First Nations Circle of UQÀM, by Gustavo Zamora Jimenez

The Circle's primary mission is to support the Aboriginal students at *UQAM*; promote and raise awareness about Aboriginal culture and establish links of friendship and cooperation between Aboriginals and non-Aboriginals. The Circle is the first French-speaking university organization dedicated to supporting Aboriginal students in urban areas. The values at the heart of the organization are authenticity, generosity, innovation and respect.

Since 1996, they have been partners of the First Nations Festival. In fact, they supported the festival by providing material resources via *UQÀM*. They are also partners of the *DIALOG* network (a strategic knowledge network created in 2001 and established at the National Institute of Scientific Research) and of *GIRA* (*Groupe interdisciplinaire de recherche sur les Amériques*).

In 2008, Canada refused to endorse the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In sign of protest, they jointly organized a demonstration with the Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador (AFNQL), Quebec Native Women and Amnesty

International. On November 12, 2010, Canada finally signed the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In addition to these realizations, they presented for the first time in 2007, archaeological artefacts belonging to the Attikamek nation. They are currently stored at UQÀM. In 2008, for three days, *Paroles et pratiques artistiques autochtones* examined the situation of Aboriginal art in Quebec.

Recently, one of their members was behind the campaign against the ESKA racist ads. The company has since withdrawn its advertisement.

Upcoming project for 2012:

In collaboration with the Employability-Training-Education Working Committee, the second job and training fair for Aboriginal youth should take place in this room.

Finally, the *ART•CULTURE* evenings that are scheduled the first Thursday of each month are a great opportunity to discover the talents of Aboriginal artists. The event is also an ideal place to create links between Aboriginals and non-Aboriginals.

Gustavo warmly thanked all partners and collaborators who contribute to the prestige of the First Nations Circle of UQÀM.

5. NETWORK Update: Achievements of the Working Committees

Odile Joannette introduced this item. The NETWORK consists of a Steering Committee and six Working Committees. However, the Youth Working Committee is not yet active. These committees work in a concerted and collaborative manner with various resources by initiating various strategic partnerships in order to enhance the development of collective projects dedicated to the urban Aboriginal community. Odile therefore invited each Working Committee representative to provide a report on the work underway.

5.1 ART•CULTURE Working Committee, Represented by Catherine Joncas

The ART•CULTURE Working Committee is composed of Aboriginal arts and cultural organizations that are active on the Montreal scene (besides *Engrenage Noir/LEVIER*, which is not an Aboriginal organization but which has a status within the Working Committee as founding member and funder). The Committee meets every six weeks.

There is also an ad hoc committee which was created in fall 2010. It is a committee of experts formed of members of the ART•CULTURE Working Committee, representatives of the NETWORK Steering Committee and a pool of external resources who have the mandate of engaging in a process of reflection, consultation and recommendation for each step related to the project of establishing a community, cultural and arts venue in Montreal.

The Committee has been incorporated since May 26, 2011 as a non-profit organization, established in Quebec, as the Montreal Aboriginal ART•CULTURE Committee.

Following the formalities and establishment of the Committee, the Fund for Montreal Aboriginal Professional Artists and Writers was launched in February 2011 by the *Conseil des Arts et des Lettres du Québec (CALQ)*. The first period of applications for this fund ended on July 15, 2011 with fourteen registrations. Finally, out of twelve eligible registrations (two were not eligible), the CALQ awarded grants to six projects involving various art practices (visual arts, music, dance, literature) for a total of \$50,000 in financial aid. The first recipients were announced in November 2011. The Committee will soon be evaluating this first set of registrations in order to better adapt the funds to the needs of the Montreal Aboriginal artists.

Concerning the establishment of a community, cultural and art venue in Montreal, following the launching of a call for proposals in October 2011, they are now at the stage of selecting a consulting firm that would have the mandate of updating and developing the planning and feasibility study. The Selection Committee, composed of members of the ART•CULTURE Committee, members of the Ad Hoc Committee and members of the Steering Committee, met for the first time in November 2011 to screen the proposals and will meet again in December 2011 for additional discussions.

The ART•CULTURE Committee is participating in the development of the *Guide de découverte et de visite du patrimoine vivant et historique autochtone à Montréal*. This project, which includes many partners, is an initiative of the *Centre d'Histoire de Montréal*.

In recent months, they also supported certain steps towards the creation of the *Regroupement des artistes autochtones du Québec*, an initiative under the responsibility of Melissa Mollen-Dupuis, Committee member, in collaboration with Kathia Rock.

The main strategic planning priorities are:

- Stabilize the operations of the Committee;
- Ensure ongoing funding for the salary of the Coordinator;
- Relocate the coordination office;
- Form a board of directors.

Support to Aboriginal artists:

- Evaluate the Fund for Montreal Professional Artists and Writers of the *Conseil des Arts et des Lettres du Québec* in light of the first year of operation;
- Relaunch the steps with the *Conseil des Arts et des Lettres du Québec* in view of creating a grant program for the Aboriginal organizations of Montreal;
- Collaborate in the project of the City of Montreal's *Accès culture* network;
- Collaborate in the implementation of the *Regroupement pour les artistes autochtones du Québec*.

Establishment of community, cultural and art centre in Montreal:

- Updating and development of the planning and feasibility study in view of conducting an architectural study;
- Consolidate the Ad Hoc Committee;
- Seek funding (public, private, corporate, foundations, etc.);
- Create honorary committees composed of scientists, entrepreneurs and artists who are recognized in their milieu;
- Ensure ongoing follow-up with the office for the 375th anniversary of the City of Montreal.

Involvement within the NETWORK and the Steering Committee:

- Continue to be actively involved within the NETWORK as member of the Steering Committee, while maintaining a presence at the activities and events organized by the other Working Committees.

5.2 Health Working Committee, Represented by Chantal Robillard

All efforts are being made by the Committee for the realization of the project and implementation of the holistic health centre. They are at the consultation and research stage with various stakeholders (Public Health Agency of Canada, City of Montreal, funders, etc.), namely, the type of services and resources available for the realization of the project.

Already, funds have been advanced by the Public Health Agency of Canada and by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada to conduct the needs assessment.

Tools have been developed for the assessment. They met about one hundred Aboriginal persons in Montreal who expressed their health-related needs as well as health providers in this field. The responses will be compiled and they will then complete the analysis.

The next step to come in January 2012 will be the creation of an online database in order to make information on the health services in Montreal available to the Aboriginal population. A focus group is planned for December 2011 for stakeholders who provide health services to Aboriginal people.

The L.H. Lafontaine building was identified for the installation of the future health centre. However, this building was sold to foreign investors. They are currently discussing with the City of Montreal about the possibility of taking possession of the building. Always concerning the development of this project, they are also seeking funding and partnerships among various levels of government and various communities. In this aspect, there is the need to thoroughly examine the ethical, political and legal foundation of the centre. The Committee also has the responsibility of coordinating and seeking funds for the sweat lodge at the Montreal Botanical Gardens.

5.3 Communications Working Committee, Represented by Jean-François O'Bomsawin

Concerning the implementation of the strategic plan, in addition to the mandate of developing new communication strategies with the community, the Committee is working on the development of phase 2 of the NETWORK website. The Committee was approached by the City of Montreal to design the 2012 intercultural calendar. McGill University has also approached the NETWORK to participate in the 2012-2013 calendar. Requests are received on a regular basis to participate in the writing of articles, organizing a launch, etc. The Aboriginal community is finding its place and is recognized by Montreal. In the same vein, the Committee lends its support in the area of communications through a monthly newsletter to publicize Aboriginal activities.

5.4 Social Services Working Committee, Represented by Nakuset

Together with the Batshaw Youth and Family Centres, the Committee is still working on a version of the Aboriginal cultural awareness manual for non-Aboriginal foster families or adoptive parents. The manual should be ready for the next Gathering. As for the Justice Subcommittee, in addition to the mandate of working on crime prevention, the Subcommittee is working to find solutions to problems related to the presence of Aboriginals at Cabot Square. The Subcommittee is currently developing a proposal that will be sent to the City. The Homelessness Subcommittee is having difficulty in holding meetings. The members of this Subcommittee will be invited to the next meeting of the Social Services Working Committee.

5.5 Employability-Training-Education Working Committee, Represented by Dolorès André and Éric Pouliot (person-in-charge of communications)

The strategic plan is completed for one year. The Committee created a Facebook page. All the activities of the Committee are posted on it. The Reference Guide should be posted online in PDF format in the near future. The goal of this tool is to promote employment, training and education programs and services for urban Aboriginal people, stakeholders and partners.

The MAMU III! ENSEMBLE! TOGETHER! project is planned to be held on January 27, 2012. The goal of this activity is to make the youth and the urban Aboriginal community aware of the skills that are in demand on the labour market of the Montreal area and to provide them with information about going back to school at the secondary, college or university level. It is an opportunity to establish a network of contacts and links with potential employers.

Concerning the Ka Mamukanit employment reintegration project, the Steering Committee has prioritized the project in the Quick Hits Committee. The project started on August 8, 2011 with the participation of fifteen Aboriginal youth who are already in the employment reintegration process.

6. NETWORK Update: Steering Committee and Quick Hits Committee, Represented by Odile Joannette

The Steering Committee is composed of twelve members. Each member can represent only one Working Committee at a time. Six seats are reserved for Working Committee representatives, and five seats are filled by representatives of the five governmental and administrative bodies and the final seat is reserved for an Elder. The Steering Committee meets on a monthly basis to discuss the projects that are underway. When the task is too heavy, ad hoc committees are created in order to better distribute the work.

Quick Hits Committees, created in 2010, in collaboration with other Working Committees, to accelerate the realisation of four major projects:

- ❖ The Ka Mamukanit project (orchestrated with the Employability-Training-Education Working Committee), a socio-professional insertion project for Aboriginal youth of Montreal;
- ❖ The creation of funding (in collaboration with the ART•CULTURE Working Committee) specially dedicated to Aboriginal artists within the *Conseil des Arts et des Lettres du Québec*. The first call for applications ended on June 21, 2011;
- ❖ The creation of a venue for the Inuit community of Montreal project led by the Makivik representative. This project is postponed because the Association of Inuits in Montreal has to prepare a document relating the needs and steps to follow to improve the feeling of belonging of the Inuits in Montreal;
- ❖ Consolidation of *Projets autochtones du Québec (PAQ)*: a shelter open to Aboriginal women and men in a state of homelessness. The centre must be relocated by June 30, 2012. The NETWORK must make a decision concerning its continued support for the relocation project. Regarding the future of PAQ, the Quick Hits Committee met several times, notably to find funding sources for the organization, seek new premises, and establish a networking plan in case PAQ had to close. In this respect, the Steering Committee believes that the Quick Hits Committee gave considerable support to PAQ. The organization is now equipped with the necessary tools (information, support, etc.) and an additional extension of time to relocate. PAQ has to continue its research for new locations and file its applications for funding, activities in which the Quick Hits Committee is no longer needed. It is therefore time for the Quick Hits Committee to withdraw from this project.

Here is an overview of the projects accomplished by the Steering Committee to date:

- ❖ Hiring of the NETWORK Coordinator;
- ❖ Operational funding obtained from the federal and provincial governments, City of Montreal, Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador;
- ❖ Funding through services provided by the City of Montreal;
- ❖ Partnership with the City of Montreal in order to complete the Directory of Resources Offered to Montreal's Aboriginal Community;
- ❖ Participation in the "Learning Event" of the Toronto Urban Aboriginal Strategy (UAS) in 2010;
- ❖ Creation of Quick Hits Committees to support local priorities in Montreal;
- ❖ Strategic planning 2010-2011, 2011-2012, 2012-2017;
- ❖ Development of the Terms of Reference for the Steering Committee and for the NETWORK;
- ❖ Participation in the "Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women" rally in February 2011;
- ❖ Meeting with *Wapikoni Mobile* and *Alternatives* in relation to submitting a funding request to the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in February 2011;
- ❖ Meeting with Donat Savoie and invitation to the signing ceremony of the agreement between Makivik and *Chez Doris* in April 2011;
- ❖ Presentation at the symposium "For a Quebec Proud of its Relationship with the First Peoples" (March 2011);
- ❖ Presentation at the "International Indigenous Community" seminar, (March 2011);
- ❖ Meeting with the City of Montreal, *Module du Nord Québécois*, YMCA, *Chez Doris*, *Service de police de la Ville de Montréal (SPVM)*, Westmount Public Safety, to discuss the relocation of the *Module du Nord Québécois* to Tupper Street;
- ❖ Meeting at the sweat lodge of the Botanical Gardens to discuss funding options for the hiring of a coordinator;
- ❖ Meeting with Karine Bouchard from Correctional Services of Canada for an update on the next steps to follow for Aboriginals who are no longer incarcerated;
- ❖ Presentation to *Réseaux et lieux autochtones* (May 2011);
- ❖ Meeting organized by the *Secrétariat aux Affaires autochtones*, Aboriginal Coordinators of various departments (June 2011);
- ❖ Holding of seasonal Gatherings since November 2008;
- ❖ Distribution of monthly newsletters to the NETWORK members;
- ❖ Hosting of ten (10) Seasonally Gatherings and of a social Gathering;
- ❖ Adaptation of a community evaluation tool concerning the progress of the Steering Committee;
- ❖ Meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee concerning the enhancement of the Gatherings and survey distributed to the community (July 2011);

- ❖ Meeting with the finance department of the NETWORK's trustee in order to conduct a follow-up on expenditures and develop an internal procedure specifically for the NETWORK;
- ❖ Continued collaboration with *Wapikoni Mobile* to obtain the funds required in order to allow *Wapikoni* workshops to be offered to the youth of Montreal;
- ❖ Participation in a roundtable on Aboriginal identity in urban areas organized by the *Regroupement des centres d'amitié autochtones du Québec (RCAAQ)* (September 2011);
- ❖ Presentation of the NETWORK to Environment Canada employees (September 2011);
- ❖ Presentation of the NETWORK at the Forum on First Nations Governance at the *Université du Québec* in Chicoutimi (October 2011);
- ❖ Participation in the Aboriginal pre-forum on social economy preceding the *Forum international de l'économie sociale et solidaire (FIESS)*;
- ❖ Follow-up with the Office of the Federal Interlocutor concerning the renewal of the UAS program (October 2011);
- ❖ Participation in the *Équitas, Parlons droits* working group and consultation session, a youth service initiative (November 2011);
- ❖ Participation in the consultation regarding Destination 2017, the 375th anniversary of Montreal (November 2011);
- ❖ Participation in the meeting of the ART•CULTURE Working Committee's representatives concerning the community, cultural and art centre as well as with Ms. Boudreau, Director of the 375th anniversary celebrations and Mr. Choquet from Social Diversity (November 2011);
- ❖ Participation in the Selection Committee for the bidders for the planning and feasibility study related to the future community, cultural and art centre (November 2011).

It goes without saying that the multitude of projects and meetings have undoubtedly served to raise awareness about the NETWORK, increase membership and initiate new partnerships with various resources.

Current projects:

- ❖ Continue the monthly Steering Committee meetings in order to ensure the smooth functioning of the NETWORK and to plan the seasonal gatherings;
- ❖ Complete an environmental analysis in order to have a holistic picture of the Aboriginal population in the Montreal area;
- ❖ Finalize the 2012-2017 strategic plan;
- ❖ Continue to support the development of partnerships;
- ❖ Research and analyze potential partnerships and produce a final report;
- ❖ Provide the NETWORK members with the opportunity to participate in the national consultation on Aboriginal identity in urban areas.

These projects will most certainly ensure the continuity of the NETWORK activities, solidification of the organizational structure and planning of financial year 2011-2012. The five-year strategic plan will doubtlessly foster full credibility and earn recognition from the City of Montreal with regard to the UAS program.

Upcoming projects:

- ❖ Organize a Winter Gathering;
- ❖ Meet with the RCAAQ;
- ❖ Participate in the Day dedicated to the youth organized by the City of Montreal, December 5, 2011;
- ❖ Participate in the annual general assembly of the Native Friendship Centre of Montreal (NFCM) on December 7, 2011.

7. Draft of Strategic Plan 2012-2017

See Appendix 2.

8. Presentation of Financial Statements 2010-2011

Mr. Christopher Coté, Director of Finances for the First Nations Human Resources Development Commission of Quebec was invited to present the 2010-2011 financial statements. The financial statements were deemed compliant with the terms of reference of the NETWORK.

Recommendations from the Steering Committee: Decisions to be made

- 1. We recommend that the Quick Hits Committee for the consolidation of PAQ cease its activities, given that the objective of the said Committee has been achieved and that PAQ has the necessary information to continue its work until its relocation.***

IT WAS MOVED THAT RECOMMENDATION 1 AS DEFINED ABOVE BE ADOPTED.

Moved by Shirley Pien
Seconded by Melissa Mollen-Dupuis
Adopted unanimously

- 2. We recommend that the Steering Committee be mandated to re-post the Call for Proposals among individuals and organizations for the production of an environmental analysis and partnerships report, given that no proposals were selected within the first call for proposals.***

IT WAS MOVED THAT RECOMMENDATION 2 AS DEFINED ABOVE BE ADOPTED.

**Moved by Louise Legault
Seconded by Kathleen Angus
Adopted unanimously**

- 3. We recommend that the Steering Committee be mandated to create a Youth Working Committee and that it call upon greater involvement from the Inuit organizations.**

IT WAS MOVED THAT RECOMMENDATION 3 AS DEFINED ABOVE BE ADOPTED.

**Moved by Melissa Mollen-Dupuis
Seconded by Gustavo Zamora Jimenez
Adopted unanimously**

Comments:

- A NETWORK member mentioned that the Steering Committee must multiply its efforts towards having an Elder sit on the Steering Committee.
- It was suggested that the Steering Committee approach youth committees of all backgrounds in the hopes of establishing a functional Youth Working Committee within the NETWORK.
- A NETWORK member suggested proceeding through a consultation in order to know the barriers and obstacles that prevent the youth from wanting to become involved. However, this action should not be initiated by the Steering Committee.
- In relation to the *Université de Montréal*, there could be the creation of an official Aboriginal association that could subsequently set up a support service for Aboriginal students.

- 4. We recommend that the Steering Committee be mandated to finalize the 2012-2017 Strategic Plan, while taking into account the comments collected at today's Gathering, and that it be adopted for the next five years.**

IT WAS MOVED THAT RECOMMENDATION 4 AS DEFINED ABOVE BE ADOPTED.

**Moved by Imaapik Partridge
Seconded by Suzanne Bourdon
Adopted unanimously**

Comments:

- A NETWORK member recounted an incident where she had witnessed racism towards an Aboriginal person. Aboriginal people are still too often victims of racism and prejudice. In order to combat these prejudices, it was suggested that an awareness campaign be launched in order to fight against racism towards Aboriginal people.
- The Communications Working Committee wholeheartedly agreed. It is very important to maintain strong ties within the Montreal Aboriginal community. In this regard, it can be observed that there are many fine initiatives in Montreal and projects that bring hope to the community.

9. Workshop: *Different but Equal: Combating Prejudice and Racism*

Presented by Shirley Sarna, *Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse (CDPDJ)*

Some elements of today

The Black and Aboriginal communities are doubtlessly the two groups most affected by discrimination on the labour market. In addition, for equivalent levels of education, these individuals born in Canada earn up to 30% less income than other Canadians.

On the concept of “race”

Racism is a broader phenomenon than racial discrimination. The *CDPDJ* seeks to combat racism through education and advocacy/promotion of human rights. Despite the progress made by Canada, racism and racial discrimination remain a permanent reality in Canadian society.

About the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, it guarantees the rights to:

- Life and to personal security, inviolability and freedom;
- Freedom conscience, religion, opinion, expression, peaceful assembly and association;
- Safeguard of one’s dignity, honour and reputation;
- Respect for one’s personal life;
- Respect of professional secrecy.

Section 10 and Grounds of Discrimination

Every person has the right to equality, without discrimination based on:

- Race;
- Color;
- Sex;
- Pregnancy;
- Sexual orientation;
- Civil status;

- Age, except as provided by law;
- Religion;
- Political convictions;
- Language;
- Ethnic or national origin;
- Social condition;
- A handicap or the use of any means to palliate a handicap.

About the different forms of discrimination

Direct discrimination

It is the most basic and flagrant form of discrimination. It is “when a person is openly and avowedly subject to a different treatment based on prohibited grounds for discrimination”. Frequently, there is an intention to discriminate a person or a group of persons because of group characteristics, either real or perceived.

Indirect discrimination

It is a much more subtle form of discrimination than direct discrimination. It usually occurs with no intention of discrimination.

Systemic discrimination

The existence of historical disadvantages is a factor that contributes to reproducing the systemic discrimination faced by Aboriginal people.

About the equal opportunities programs

The objective of the programs is to make the composition of the staff of a business or organization more representative of the skilled human resources available on the labour market.

The programs, developed under the Act Respecting Equal Access to Employment in Public Bodies target:

- Women;
- Handicapped persons within the meaning of the Act to secure handicapped persons in the exercise of their rights with a view to achieving social, school and workplace integration;
- Aboriginal peoples, meaning First Nations, Inuit and Métis of Canada;
- Persons who are members of visible minorities because of their race or the colour of their skin;
- Members of ethnic minorities whose mother tongue is neither French nor English and who belong to a group other than the Aboriginal peoples group or the visible minorities group.

The Commission must promote and uphold, by any appropriate measures, the principles enunciated in the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms. The Commission must also ensure, by any appropriate measures, the promotion and the protection of the rights of children recognized by the Youth Protection Act and the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

The responsibilities of the Commission include the following:

- Make investigations, in accordance with the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, into any case of discrimination, harassment, and exploitation of aged or handicapped persons;
- Make investigations, pursuant to the Youth Protection Act, in any situation where the Commission has reason to believe that the rights of a child or of a group of children have been encroached upon by persons, establishments or bodies;
- Develop and conduct a program of public information and education relating to human rights and freedoms or the protection of young persons' rights;
- To point out any provision in the laws of Quebec that may be contrary to the Charter and make the appropriate recommendations to the Government.

10. Presentation by the Montreal Police Department on Safety Issues of Urban Aboriginal People
Presented by Adalbert Pimentel and Laurent Dyke

Équipe de médiation urbaine (ÉMU) is seeking to find solutions to the many complaints filed by citizens concerning incidents that occur at Cabot Square. The members of the Aboriginal community of Montreal are frequently involved in these incidents caused mostly by the consumption of drugs or alcohol. The problem is complex. In many cases, Aboriginal youth coming from the North are visiting Montreal to receive health care or other services. Therefore, they are faced with a real culture shock which is sometimes the reason for committing certain crimes. So how does one protect the citizens and how does one help people in distress?

ÉMU is very concerned about this problem and is seeking to develop proactive solutions adapted to the needs of this clientele.

Two projects have been developed:

- A brochure (in English and Inuktitut) on the safety of residents living near Cabot Square;
- A video translated into English and Inuktitut on the services of the Montreal police, if needed.

Comments and questions:

- What type of crimes committed by the Aboriginal community are the most common? According to the police officer, it seems that it would be armed robbery, sexual assault, inappropriate behaviour when under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- People commit crimes under the threat of someone else. For example, a young Aboriginal visiting Montreal could be asked to bring drugs back to the North. Then, he gets caught at the airport. What does one do in that case? Once again, according to the police officer, the problem is complex. In cases of arrest, investigations are launched.

Presentation of the *ÉMRII* Service by Laurent Dyke, Police Officer

First, *ÉMRII* means: Mobile Homelessness Referral and Intervention team. The primary mission of the *ÉMRII* is to create close links with the said vulnerable clients (mental health, abusive consumption of drugs and alcohol, gambling, etc.). The *ÉMRII* provides support services and makes favourable representations to the courts. Also with a view to create close links with vulnerable clients, and especially to better assist them, Mr. Dyke wishes to establish collaborations with various stakeholders who already have expertise in this area. He also called upon the members of the NETWORK in order to find out if there are people who are able to collaborate with the *ÉMRII*, namely, social workers, people in charge of foster homes, etc.

Comments and questions:

- Where does the distrust of the Aboriginal community towards the police come from? The answer is not simple. Often, we have to deal with people who are heavily under the influence of drugs and alcohol. How, then, can a police officer establish a helping and trusting relationship with those persons?

Also, I believe that trust is built over time. We truly try to help people who are in need. In fact, when these people see that we can really help them and that we are no longer perceived as “bad cops”, a true dialogue and helping relationship between the two parties can then be established.

11. Consultation: Urban Aboriginal Identity, Membership, Citizenship and Governance

Odile participated in an extensive national consultation on Aboriginal multiculturalism. In order to enhance this consultation, Odile wished to submit the questions of the research to the members of the NETWORK. The form will thus be sent to the NETWORK members via the Internet as an attachment when the next NETWORK newsletter is distributed.

12. Attendance Prizes

Door prizes were drawn.

13. Closing Prayers

Imaapik Partridge and Mike Standup were invited to close the Gathering with prayers. The Fall Gathering therefore closed on a note marked with spirituality and a message of hope for the continuity of the NETWORK.

Appendix 1: List of participants

No.	Name	First name	Organization
1	André	Dolorès	Urban service centre of Montreal at the FNHRDCQ
2	Angus	Kathleen	Correctionnal Services Canada
3	Annoual	Pascale	Arts, Racines et Thérapies
4	Archambault	Sylvain	Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse
5	Auclair	Patricia	Regroupement des centres d'amitié autochtones du Québec
6	Beudet	Geneviève	Individual
7	Bérubé	Marie-Stéphane	Centre St-Pierre
8	Blanchet	Ariane	Cercle des Premières Nations de l'UQAM
9	Boucher	Lyne	Agence de la santé et des services sociaux de Montréal
10	Boudreault	Valérie	Secrétariat aux affaires autochtones
11	Bourdon	Suzanne	Le Rapprochement
12	Brassard	Éric	Innutelecom
13	Bulamatarari	Emmanuel	Conseil jeunesse de Montréal
14	Carbonnell	Garry	National Native Addictions Partnership Foundation

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15	Carroll	Andrea	Native Women's Shelter of Montreal
16	Chagnon	Anouchka	RHDCC
17	Chamichian	Ramélia	NETWORK
18	Chartrand	Chantal	Correctionnal Services Canada
19	Chouinard	Carole	City of Montreal
20	Comat	Ioana	Cercle des Premières Nations de l'UQAM
21	Crépeau	Martin	Conseil jeunesse de Montréal
22	Di Marcantonio	Loic	Secrétariat aux affaires autochtones
23	Drugge	Jeffrey	Health Canada
24	Dubé	Jaimie	Individual
25	Dubé	Lori-May	First Nations Human Resources Development Commission of Québec
26	Dyke	Laurent	SPVM
27	Eshkibok	Patricia	Native Para-judicial Services of Quebec
28	Forbes	Garnett	Batshaw Family and youth Centres
29	Gabriel	Kelly	Omentokon Treatment Services
30	Gagné	Lisa	Correctionnal Services Canada
31	Gareau	Jean-Marc	Individual

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32	Gianolla	Olivier	Individual
33	Girard	Amélie	NETWORK
34	Gordon	John	Aboriginal Affairs and northern Development Canada
35	Hall	Gillian	Batshaw Family and youth Centres
36	Harrilal	Lorraine	Individual
37	Janin	Anais	Artial
38	Joannette	Odile	First Nations Human Resources Development Commission of Québec
39	Joncas	Catherine	Ondinnok
40	Julien	Gylène	SPVM
41	Juras	Dina	Aboriginal Affairs and northern Development Canada
42	Labranche-Hamelin	Jessica	McGill University
43	Lambert	Guillaume	Service Canada
44	Leduc	Micheline	Individual
45	Lee	Tina	CPE Rising Sun
46	Legault	Louise	John Abbott College
47	Lemay	Donna	Quebec Native Women
48	Logue	Elizabeth	Inuit Relations Secretariat

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49	Lord	Audrey	Individual
50	Martel	Julie	Secrétariat aux affaires autochtones
51	Martin	Carrie	Native Women's Shelter of Montreal
52	Mazur	Brenda	Aboriginal Affairs and northern Development Canada
53	McDonald	Nicole	Aboriginal Affairs and northern Development Canada
54	McIntosh	Heather	Batshaw Family and youth Centres
55	Mollen-Dupuis	Mélissa	Wapikoni mobile
56		Nakuset	Native Women's Shelter of Montreal
57	Neumark	Devora	Engrenage NOIR
58	O'Bomsawin	Jean-François	APTN
59	O'Bomsawin	Marie-Claude	Statistics Canada
60	Pagé	Pierre	ICÉA
61	Paré	Alexandre	NETWORK
62	Partridge	Imaapik	Elder
63	Phillips	Alana-Dawn	CPE Rising Sun
64	Pien	Shirley	Native Women's Shelter of Montreal
65	Pimentel	Adalbert	SPVM

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66	Poulain	Tiphaine	Wapikoni mobile
67	Pouliot	Eric	Cercle des Premières Nations de l'UQAM
68	Quinteros	John	Batshaw Family and youth Centres
69	Richard	Isabelle	Atelier Habitation Montréal
70	Robillard	Chantal	
71	Ruperthouse	Françoise	Centre des femmes de Montréal
72	Saindon	Marc	Cercle des Premières Nations de l'UQAM
73	Samoisette	Gilles	Innutelecom
74	Sanchez	Edward	Canadian Forces
75	Sarna	Shirley	Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse
76	Simon	France	Centre Wampum
77	Simon	Marie-Laure	Centre Wampum
78	St-Amour	Louise	Statistics Canada
79	Standup	Mike	Elder
80	St-Louis	Lyne	Taiga Vision
81	St-Louis	Marie	Agence de la santé et des services sociaux de Montréal
82	Tétreault	Annick	Individual

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83	Tuckatuck	Sarah	Correctionnal Services Canada
84	Vertolli	Ianik	Service Canada
85	Voyer	Élise	Equitas
86	Williams	Ken	Individual
87	Wood	Jennifer	UAS Winnipeg
88	Zamora Jiménez	Gustavo	Cercle des Premières Nations de l'UQAM

Appendix 2: NETWORK Transversal priorities for 2012-2017

Recommendations of the Steering Committee for the NETWORK Transversal Priorities 2010-2017
Upgrade the efficiency of the NETWORK's coordination
Create a community, cultural and artistic venue
Create a holistic health centre
To develop Cabot Square into an initial Aboriginal orientation point for resources
Develop common reference tools and networking activities
Commit to the presence of an Elder and assure the integration of Aboriginal protocols in all NETWORK activities