



SPRING GATHERING REPORT

Friday and Saturday, March 30-31, 2012

Marché Bonsecours

350 St-Paul Street East, Montreal

ADOPTED ON OCTOBER 3, 2012



ATTENDANCE

See attached list of participants (Appendix 1).

AGENDA

March 30, 2012

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer with Kakaionstha Deer
2. Songs of Welcome by the Buffalo Hat Singers
3. Adoption of the Agenda and of the Fall Gathering Report
4. NETWORK Updates: Working Committees' Achievements and Announcement of New Representatives and Alternates
5. NETWORK Steering Committee Update
 - 5.1 Presentation and Adoption of Strategic Plan 2012-2017
 - 5.2 Presentation and Adoption of Budget 2012-2017
 - 5.3 Amendments to the Terms of Reference
6. Community Announcements
7. Closing Prayer with Kakaionstha Deer

March 31, 2012

Family Gathering: games and activities for children and adults

MARCH 30, 2012

1. WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER WITH KAKAIONSTHA DEER

Ramélia Chamichian welcomed everyone. Kakaionstha Deer, Elder from the community of Kahnawake was invited to open the Gathering with a prayer.

2. SONGS OF WELCOME BY THE BUFFALO HAT SINGERS

Norman Achneepineskum and Samuel Ojeda from the Buffalo Hat Singers performed songs accompanied by their drums.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OF THE FALL GATHERING REPORT

Nakuset chaired the morning session. She also thanked Kakaionstha and the members of the Buffalo Hat Singers.

She invited John Gordon of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) to present the items of the recently adopted Federal budget that could have an impact on the NETWORK.

John mentioned that some major changes were made during the week with regard to the urban Aboriginal sector. Thus, three programs were transferred from Heritage Canada to AANDC: the *Native Friendship Centres* program, *Cultural Connections for Aboriginal Youth* and *Young Canada Works*.

Moreover, under the recent budget, the budget envelope of the Urban Aboriginal Strategy (UAS) was renewed for two years at the same level of funding. In the coming years, a way of combining these various programs within the Aboriginal communities will have to be considered, as this will make more sense.

John mentioned that another issue to be considered is related to the Native Friendship Centres. The manner in which the Government of Canada operates is that it funds the National Association of Friendship Centres, which is responsible for the management and delivery of the various programs across Canada through provincial and territorial organizations. John mentioned that he is aware that the local community of Montreal is faced with various issues concerning the Native Friendship Centre of Montreal (NFCM). Other community members asked him what is expected to be done about the closing of the NFCM. The Federal government cannot intervene.

In closing, John reiterated the will of his department to continue working with the NETWORK and to support its development.

Questions and comments

Odile Joannette mentioned that the allocation mode pertaining to the UAS envelope will be reviewed. To date, the program has been geared towards designated cities. Will the allocation mode continue in the same manner for the next two years or will it eventually evolve towards regional budget envelopes?

The announcement concerning the UAS only confirms its renewal at the same level of funding of 27 million dollars. There is some indication that the government wishes to make changes but these are not yet known. The UAS targets coexisting communities in order to give them a voice and enable them to

recognize the challenges that they face together as well as the solutions to put forward. It may be viewed as a facilitator that aims to promote exchanges between communities, to help them to determine their priorities and solutions and, subsequently, to find funding to meet the identified needs.

Harry Adams pointed out that the majority of the NETWORK participants are members of First Nations or are Métis. Are there any Inuit representatives or representatives of Inuit organizations connected to these programs?

In the urban context, the Office of the Federal Interlocutor (OFI) also works with the Inuit Relations Secretariat on a number of issues that affect urban Inuit people. The Friendship Centre Movement also focuses on the community as a cultural mosaic, and not exclusively on First Nations (FN). Thus, in Montreal, First Nations are divided into western FN or eastern FNs, which can be as different from each other as the Métis and the Inuit. OFI aims to serve all the components of this mosaic through its programs, which are inclusive in nature.

Vivien Carli wished to know if the OFI has specific priorities within the UAS, such as education, justice, or health.

In general, the programs and services provided are all designed to stimulate the economy and participation in economic activities. This goal can be achieved in several ways. The three previous priorities included job skills, training and improving the living conditions of children and education; they were all related to employment in one way or another. This being the case, in some communities there may be a friendship centre that could provide job training while in others, there may be a lack of daycare spaces or other support services that can prevent people from accessing the labour market. So the work of the OFI is to collaborate with each of the communities to help them define their priorities.

Nakuset thanked John and invited the members to adopt the agenda and the Fall Gathering report.

IT WAS MOVED THAT THE AGENDA BE ADOPTED.

Moved by Guy Lacroix
Seconded by Carole Brazeau
Adopted unanimously

IT WAS MOVED THAT THE REPORT OF THE FALL GATHERING HELD ON NOVEMBER 23, 2011 BE ADOPTED.

Moved by Jean-François O'Bomsawin
Seconded by Amélie Girard
Adopted unanimously

4. NETWORK UPDATES: WORKING COMMITTEES' ACHIEVEMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW REPRESENTATIVES AND ALTERNATES

❖ ART • CULTURE Working Committee

Amélie Girard, Committee Coordinator, presented the activity report. The Committee began the feasibility study for the implementation of an Aboriginal cultural centre. The selection committee received several bids and in February 2012 proceeded in the selection of the Montreal firm ArtExpert.ca. The Committee also sought funding of \$104,000 for the feasibility study.

At another level, with regard to the establishment of a local development fund for the benefit of artists and cultural workers, launched last year by the *Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec (CALQ)*, the Committee conducted an evaluation of the first-year registrations. The registration deadline for the second year is set for April 20, 2012. Professional artists and writers are therefore invited to submit a proposal by that date.

The opening of the cultural centre should ideally take place in 2017, to coincide with three important anniversaries: the 375th anniversary of the founding of Montreal, the 150th anniversary of Canada and the 50th anniversary of Expo 67. The firm has a timeframe of 24 weeks. This period will be devoted to an extensive consultation of all Nations in Montreal and across Quebec so as to develop a strong sense of belonging to this centre and to encourage participation.

André Dudemaine will be the Representative and Devora Neumark the Alternate.

❖ Health Working Committee

Harry Adams reported on the health-related needs assessment concerning Aboriginal people living in Montreal. The research coordination team consists of: Chantal Robillard, Rossel Bérard, Carrie Martin and Morgan Phillips.

The Health Working Committee submitted its annual report. The last meeting was held in January 2012. It receives its funding from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) and the Public Health Agency of Canada.

The research team collected data from interviews conducted with 91 Aboriginal service users in Montreal in order to obtain information on various health issues. A similar questionnaire was distributed to 94 service providers in Montreal to examine issues related to governance, perception of health and well-being and delivery of services. The research team also collected stories about the personal experiences of 21 Aboriginal persons living in Montreal with regard to their health. A focus group attended by 15 service providers was held to discuss solutions to shortcomings in services. Analysis of the data is underway.

The Committee's mandate is coming to term. New members have not yet been appointed.

❖ **Employability-Training-Education Working Committee**

Paige Isaac presented the Committee's update. The Committee prepared a one-year strategic plan. However, the members put forth many ideas which will sustain the plan over a longer period. The Committee developed the Montreal Aboriginal Reference Guide to be used by various organizations, students, newcomers in Montreal. This tool lists resources for persons who are seeking a job or vocational training. A few corrections must be made and new copies will be printed in April 2012. The guide will also be made available in PDF format and posted on the NETWORK website. The organizations that are present are invited to create a link towards the PDF file.

In January 2012, the Committee launched the second edition of its job fair and networking event *MAMU! ENSEMBLE! TOGETHER!* which was a great success. A large number of persons attended and were able to establish contacts.

The Committee has a Facebook page to keep the community informed of job opportunities, upcoming events and training programs that are offered.

Finally, the Ka Mamukanit socioprofessional insertion project, mainly led by the First Nations Human Resources Development Commission of Quebec, developed programs that are working very well. Fifteen youth are participating and are engaged in an employment reintegration process.

Paige agreed to continue her mandate as Representative and Kakwiranoron Cook will act as Alternate.

Harry asked whether there are any Inuit organizations involved in these initiatives. He is aware that it is often difficult to recruit people. But he works for the Kativik School Board and he sees many youth who are seeking employment. In some cases, they are faced with a language barrier if they do not speak French. Is the Committee concerned about the particular situation of Inuit youth?

Paige replied that Lisa Watt from the Makivik Regional Government as well as another representative were part of the Committee for about a year. In fact, a major effort should be made to increase communications with the Kativik School Board. At McGill's First Peoples' House, a colleague who is working on a project for sustainable development, implemented just one month ago, a "week of Arctic activities" which was very successful. He established several contacts and helped raise awareness about the realities of the North in relation to economic development, health, climate change and how these changes are affecting life in the North. The week culminated with a cultural event at the NFCM. But it is true that closer ties could be forged with Inuit organizations.

❖ **Communications Working Committee**

Jean-François O'Bomsawin listed the most recent achievements of the Committee: the website is now equipped with the option of content management, allowing the Steering Committee and Working Committees to update their respective sections; hiring of a trainee, Alexandre Paré, for the past six months thanks to a contribution from the City of Montreal, he worked on the preparation of the Communications Policy and Procedures, which was adopted and the Sponsorship Guide, currently being translated.

With the implementation of the various tools that help to better convey the message of the NETWORK and of its various committees, the Communications Working Committee considers that it has fulfilled its mission and no longer has a reason to exist. He therefore recommended that the NETWORK members vote for as to whether or not the Committee should continue existing. As for himself, Jean-François announced that he will be leaving both committees to join the ART•CULTURE Working Committee and thanked the members of the Steering Committee for their support.

Moreover, the Communications Working Committee members recommend the hiring of a Communications Officer, in accordance with the measures provided in the five-year Strategic Plan adopted by the NETWORK. Odile mentioned that the Steering Committee endorses the recommendation, which would ensure greater cohesion.

Besides producing the NETWORK's Newsletter, which requires a lot of time and cannot be left to Ramélia on a permanent basis, the mandate of the Communications Officer would include raising awareness and recognition of the Aboriginal community of Montreal and of the achievements of the NETWORK's Working Committees.

Geneviève Beudet recalled that it was previously mentioned that the issue of communications also included mobilization. Jean-François agreed with this comment and underlined that the NETWORK must first mobilize its members before working on the external communications. However it is a great challenge to reach all the Aboriginal people in the Montreal area.

In conclusion, Nakuset mentioned that the NETWORK members are not all present today. She suggested that Ramelia consult the members by email to seek their views on the proposed dissolution of the Communications Working Committee. Following the consultation, a recommendation could be presented at the next Gathering.

❖ Youth Working Committee

Odile reported that the NETWORK is still experiencing difficulty in attracting youth, although this priority is a top concern for the Steering Committee. Many organizations such as *Exeko*, *Equitas* and *L'Aphatie c'est plate* wish to collaborate in the establishment of a youth committee. However, the NETWORK does not wish to be based on organizational structures but would rather encourage the participation of individual members of the community who will be able to collectively determine their priorities.

With the new budget that was presented at the Fall Gathering, it would now be possible to allocate an amount for operations at the rate of 20 hours per week to all of the Working Committees to offer better mobilization resources.

Viola Day mentioned that the main problem faced by the youth is that of consumption. It is perhaps the reason for their lack of participation. For her part, she is not aware of any program that deals with this issue or of any follow-up program that supports youth who have completed a treatment program; consequently, putting them at a greater risk of relapse. There should be some reflection on programs that will help youth who are dealing with identity problems.

Odile said that indeed it is important to consider the healing process. She stated that Ka Mamukanit should continue beyond the three years of funding because it is very successful. It is a program that integrates Aboriginal identity and mutual understanding of different cultures. It leads to a life project from which leadership will surely emerge.

Viola specified that one reason for the success of the program is that its design was based on the participation of Elders. She further suggests the creation of a mentoring program with the university committees.

Odile stated that there would be a need to contact the staff of Intertribal Youth Centre to seek their expertise.

Gordon Bird is vice-president of the NFCM. He explained that the drug-use intervention program for the youth has been abolished. Odile said that she is very pleased that representatives from the NFCM are in attendance because invitations were extended on several occasions but to no avail. She reiterated the wish that the NETWORK and the NFCM sit together to find ways to support each other and find solutions to various issues facing Aboriginal youth.

The Communications Working Committee has underlined the need to build bridges with Aboriginal communities, chiefs, band councils because they know the youth who are planning to leave and thus are able to distribute the guides and directories that have been produced. It must also be said that Montreal is a particular environment because all nations are found there. It could be referred to as Aboriginal multiculturalism. If the members have other suggestions, they are invited to contact Ramélia who will ensure that the Steering Committee receives them.

❖ Social Service Working Committee

Nakuset presented the Social Service Working Committee update. The Cultural Guide for non-Aboriginal families who adopt an Aboriginal child has been completed. It should be published in the near future and it is expected that it will be launched at the next NETWORK Gathering.

As for Cabot Square, it raises many issues for Inuit and First Nations persons who frequent the area. At a public consultation, the sub-committee proposed to hire an outreach worker and to call on mediators. This project should be implemented this year before the expected changes (condo constructions) are in place.

Harry added that each time the Inuit are mentioned now; it is to associate them with homelessness and consumption. *La Presse* published devastating articles last week. When there are negotiations, they are behind closed doors. Many Inuit persons are exasperated.

Nakuset agreed to continue her mandate as Representative and Alana-Dawn Phillips as Alternate.

❖ Social Service Working Committee, Justice Sub-Committee

Vivien explained that the sub-committee secured a grant of \$23,000 to conduct research by April 30, 2012 on the experiences of First Nations and Inuit youth aged 18 years or older who have been incarcerated who have been involved with the criminal system in one way or another. No information exists on the subject. Vivien invited the participants who know such young people to bring them into contact with her. The interviews are strictly confidential and participants are compensated with a \$ 20 gift card.

Nakuset reminded the participants that several persons within the sub-committee are Aboriginal members who are associated with the Department of Justice Canada and wish to make changes. And the NETWORK had invited representatives from the Montreal Police Department (SPVM) to the last Gathering to make a presentation on the approach used with regard to homelessness.

5. STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE

5.1 Presentation and Adoption of Strategic Plan 2012-2017

Odile stated that the transversal priorities selected for the Strategic Plan 2012-2017 are found on the last page of the report of November 23, 2011. They remain unchanged.

The Steering Committee considered each priority and identified activities to be implemented in order to achieve them. The aim is to ensure transversality as well as a holistic view and to avoid working in isolation. The Steering Committee and Working Committees divided the task and produced a working document. The NETWORK members are invited to provide their comments so that it may be enhanced and finalized. The document will be updated and distributed via email to the NETWORK members.

Overall, 15 new members joined the NETWORK in 2012. It now has 617 members representing more than 120 organizations. Recruitment is ongoing so that the NETWORK can represent a significant percentage of the 18,000 Aboriginal persons living in the Montreal area (Statistics Canada 2006).

• Priority 1: Enhance the effectiveness of the coordination

- To achieve transversality, ensure transparency and the flow of information on all activities related to the components of the NETWORK within the Steering Committee.
- Provide each Working Committee with a coordinator for 20 hours / week on a permanent basis and secure funding for this purpose.
- Ensure stable funding for the NETWORK Coordinator's position and to this end, submit a funding proposal for a minimum period of two years to the NETWORK's major partner, AANDC, and if possible to other partners.
- Possibly abolish the Communications Working Committee (depending on the results of the poll which will be sent out to the members), create a permanent Communication Officer's position and secure funding to this end.
- Ensure ongoing operational funding and diversify the funding sources, including contributions in kind, by associating with new partners.
- Establish an agreement with a trustee for the management of funds because the NETWORK does not plan to become a legal entity. Up to now, the First Nations Human Resources Development commission of Quebec (FNHRDCQ) has played this role and is willing to continue the mandate. An amount of \$1,500 is paid to it to cover the portion of the annual audit that applies to the NETWORK.
- Develop a human resources policy in order to standardize the working conditions for all NETWORK employees.

Questions and comments

Amélie asked if the contribution in human resources provided by the various participating organizations has ever been assessed because it represents of a significant contribution.

Odile replied that it would be indeed relevant to calculate this contribution and to include it in the budget structure, which would certainly provide an impressive financial portrait of the NETWORK's operations.

Viola wished to know what happens to surpluses at the end of the year. Must they be returned to the funders?

The NETWORK does not generate surpluses, otherwise they must be returned to the funders. In addition, everything possible is done to spend the funds received within the year.

Where is the NETWORK situated in terms of being able to issue tax receipts?

As the NETWORK is not constituted as a legal entity, it cannot register as a charitable organization. However, it may solicit sponsorships and the Communications Working Committee prepared a guide for that purpose.

- **Priority 2: Establish a community, cultural and arts venue**

This priority was discussed during the report presented by the ART•CULTURE Working Committee. Odile continued with the objectives that were identified in relation to this priority.

Questions and comments

In addition to the information provided in her report, Amélie emphasized the creation of *Artistes autochtones du Québec* last year whose mission is to publicize and promote Aboriginal artists; it is overseen by Méliissa Mollen-Dupuis.

Gustavo Zamora Jimenez announced the creation of a Facebook page to post all Aboriginal art events in Quebec. Artists and organizations are invited to directly post their activities.

Geneviève wished to know more about the concerted efforts with the NFCM in relation to Priority 2 because she noted a significant similarity between the respective missions. Odile recognized that this is the case and a meeting is planned to be held shortly to examine the complementarity of respective actions in the community. The NETWORK must not be seen as a threat because the needs of the Aboriginal community of Montreal are immense. Gordon's presence today bodes well and we hope that we will receive a favourable response to the invitations we sent to the NFCM.

- **Priority 3: Create a holistic health centre**

This priority was also addressed during the presentation of the Health Working Committee's report.

Due to a lack of time, the presentation of the activities related to the three last priorities will be found in the working document that will be sent by email. These priorities are:

- **Priority 4: Develop Cabot Square so it becomes a crossroads of references of Aboriginal resources**
- **Priority 5: Develop common reference tools and networking activities**
- **Priority 6: Commit to ensuring the presence of an Elder and ensure the integration of Aboriginal culture in all NETWORK activities**

Guy Lacroix mentioned, however, that in terms of Cabot Square, the City of Montreal has no malicious intent to drive out Aboriginal people. On the contrary, the aim is to expand it to serve everyone. A meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2012 at Batshaw Youth and Family Centres to discuss ways to integrate Aboriginal persons into the development project. Odile underlined that the City of Montreal has always been an important and valued partner of the NETWORK and there has always been an excellent collaboration.

5.2 Presentation and Adoption of Budget 2012-2017

Budget 2011-2012

As the financial year is ending on March 31, 2012, Odile reviewed the details for 2011-2012.

In terms of operations, the budget has remained stable since the beginning of 2009-2010. Odile drew attention to the professional fees. It was planned that a strategic environmental analysis of the Aboriginal community of Montreal would be conducted. A call for proposals was launched but it did not lead to any interesting proposals. Therefore, the amount of \$4,500 that was planned for that activity was transferred to the "Seasonal Gatherings" item and will be used for the family day that will take place tomorrow in response to requests from members. Consequently, the three annual Gatherings, which were budgeted at \$25,500, will cost about \$31,600. However, the idea of conducting such a study has not been abandoned and will be included in the next budget forecasts.

The "Printing and Graphics" item exceeded the forecasts because the NETWORK produced various promotional tools this year, such as banners and USB sticks, which are at the disposal of the members. In terms of publicity, the expenditure of \$415 corresponds to the NETWORK booth at the First Peoples' Festival. The NETWORK does not have the means to pay for advertising because it is very expensive.

The "Operating costs" amount to \$54,900. The Statement of Operations will be formally audited by the Director of Finances of the FNHRDCQ.

Odile will also consider the relevance of adding the equivalence of an in-kind contribution for human resources that were made available to the NETWORK.

Odile explained that surplus funds represent 35% of the budget and this amount had to be spent in three weeks. But the NETWORK was ready; it had projects that could be submitted and promptly implemented and executed. She also presented the respective contributions, in cash and in-kind, of the various partners:

- AANDC: 59 %
- City of Montreal: 16 %
- Secrétariat aux affaires autochtones (SAA): 15 %
- Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador (AFNQL): 5 %

Makivik did not contribute funding this year. Its representative, Allison Irqumia, is on maternity leave. However, a symposium organized by the FNHRDCQ will be held in Val-d'Or in May 2012 and the new president of the Makivik Corporation, Jobie Tukkiapik, will be attending. The NETWORK is counting on the fact that the Regional Chief, Ghislain Picard, will talk to him about the importance of Makivik being actively involved in the NETWORK.

The total amounts to more than \$234,000. The next budget forecasts will be based on the results obtained during the last two years and on the Strategic Plan.

There was a discussion about the mandates to be entrusted to the Steering Committee, namely:

- finalize the 2012-2017 Strategic Plan;
- prepare budget estimates for the next five years;
- ensure accountability by April 30, 2012;
- mobilize persons who are interested in developing the Youth Working Committee;
- ensure that each Working Committee has duly appointed representatives and make them known to the entire NETWORK.

Whereas there was no objection or amendment:

THE PROPOSED MANDATE OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE WAS APPROVED BY CONSENSUS.

Budget 2012-2017 was not presented.

The appointments of the governmental representatives will be confirmed next week. They must sit on the Steering Committee and be also actively involved in a Working Committee.

5.3 Amendments to the Terms of Reference

This item was not addressed.

6. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Native Friendship Centre of Montreal**

Gordon raised the fact that there is a risk that the NFCM will have to close its doors in 90 days. As for the Intertribal Youth Centre, it is already closed. He informed the members that they can view a letter posted on the NFCM website. In addition, a Facebook page allows easy tracking of events and offers a link to sign an online petition. The NFCM needs the support of the community. He has already done a lot of work at the legal and political levels and feels it is time to turn to the grassroots level. He requested help from the NETWORK and solicited support letters. The president of the NFCM, Eric Ravenelle, was unable to attend today because he is working.

He also invited the members to attend a special assembly on April 5, 2012 at 6:00pm in order to exchange ideas and find solutions to resolve the current crisis.

A participant raised the fact that the NFCM operates primarily in English. It would be useful for the information to be available in French on the website and on the Facebook page because some members of the Innu and Anishnabe Nations and other French-speaking non-Aboriginal persons would like to provide support but are faced with the language barrier. Gordon will see to having the information translated into French.

A participant mentioned that she read a press release announcing that the Intertribal Youth Centre has closed at the NFCM but the *Regroupement des centres d'amitié du Québec (RCAAQ)* is seeking another funding agency to continue its activities. Gordon replied that he was not aware of this and that it must be recent news.

- **Tour of Rwandan Women**

Amélie wished to share information about the upcoming tour of a group of Rwandan women of diverse backgrounds who have turned to the drum in a healing and reconciliation process after the genocide. Devora Neumark came into contact with the group during a trip to Rwanda. The group tours the world and Devora felt it was important to invite them to Quebec to demonstrate the role of art in the process of healing and resilience. Thanks to a co-production of *Engrenage Noir / LEVIER* and the *Projet Anipiska*, they will be touring Quebec from April 19 to May 13, 2012 and several activities are planned. There will also be exchanges with the Rwandan women who live in Quebec, for example during a round table discussion. Their stay will be filmed by Mélanie O'Bomsawin and Sandra Cassana so that their visit will have a lasting effect.

- **Eleven Nations Exhibition**

The NETWORK held the present Gathering at *Marché Bonsecours* in order, among other reasons, to allow the members to visit the “Eleven Nations Exhibition”. It was organized by Sacred Fire Productions, founded by Nadine St-Louis, who made a brief presentation. She mentioned that 40% of the profits are returned to the artists.

The exhibition will then travel to Chile, among the Mapuche people. Nadine would then like to invite the Mapuche people to visit here.

Finally, she is negotiating with the Old Port to sign a five-year lease and would like to create a non-profit organization to support artists.

- **First Nations Circle of the *Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM)***

Gustavo announced that the next ART•CULTURE evening will take place on April 5, 2012 and will feature Béatrice Deer. On April 14, 2012 a benefit concert organized by *UQAM* will be held at *UQAM* to denounce the *Plan Nord*. On May 17, 2012, a caravan will travel to St-Donat, Quebec to take part in a forgiveness ceremony organized by Dominique Rankin.

7. CLOSING PRAYER WITH KAKAIONSTHA DEER

Kakaionstha closed the Gathering by underlining that the discussions held during the day were carried out with a clear mind and generous heart. She invited the participants to unite their minds and to turn to Mother Earth and all living species and the elements of nature to thank them and ask for their cooperation.

Odile thanked all the participants and reminded them of the family day that will take place tomorrow. She also invited those present to complete the assessment form.

The Gathering was declared closed at 3:55 pm.

MARCH 31, 2012

From 10:00am to 3:00pm at *Marché Bonsecours*.

Family day brought together parents and children who participated in cultural activities and various games. Artists from various Nations gave highly appreciated performances, namely singing, drumming, and hoop dancing.

The participants expressed their satisfaction with this initiative and hope that it will be repeated.

Appendix 1

No.	Nom Name	Prénom First name	Organization
1	Achneepineskum	Norman	Buffalo Hat Singers
2	Adams	Harry	Kativik School Board
3	André	Dolorès	Urban service centre of Montreal at the FNHRDCQ
4	Annoual	Pascale	Arts, Racines et Thérapies
5	Ayoub	Rachelle	Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
6	Beaudet	Geneviève	Individual
7	Bélanger	Diane	Individual
8	Bird	Gordon	Native Friendship Centre of Montreal
9	Boucher	Lyne	Agence de la santé et des services sociaux de Montréal
10	Bourdon	Suzanne	Individual
11	Brassard	Eric	Innutelecom
12	Brazeau	Carole	National Aboriginal Circle Against Family Violence
13	Burgaud	Mailis	Exeko
14	Carli	Vivien	International Crime Prevention Centre

**Montreal Urban Aboriginal Community Strategy NETWORK
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No.	Nom Name	Prénom First name	Organization
15	Caron	Mireille	Innutelecom
16	Chamichian	Ramélia	NETWORK
17	Chouinard	Carole	City of Montreal
18	Constantin	Louise	Centre St-Pierre
19	Day	Vyola	Native Friendship Centre of Montreal
20	Deer	Kakaionstha	Elder
21	Drugge	Jeffrey	Health Canada
22	Dupuis	Berenice	Individual
23	Finagin	Vlada	Buffalo Hat Singers
24	Girard	Amélie	ART●CULTURE Working Committees
25	Gordon	John	Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
26	Hester	Dustyn	Individual
27	Irdac	Julien	Individual
28	Isaac	Paige	McGill University
29	Joannette	Odile	First Nations Human Resources Development Commission of Québec
30	Kiesman	Sacha Rose	Arts, Racines et Thérapies

No.	Nom Name	Prénom First name	Organization
31	Labranche- Hamelin	Jessica	Individual
32	Lachapelle	Louise	Collège Maisonneuve
33	Lacroix	Guy	City of Montreal
34	Lafferty	Chailyn	Individual
35	Lafferty	Lois	Individual
36	Laverdière	Isabelle	Individual
37	Leo	Sonia	Individual
38	Lord	Audrey	Individual
39	Martin	Brenda	Individual
40	Martin	Carrie	Native Women's Shelter of Montreal
41	Miller	Joe	Individual
42	Mollen	Marie-Helene	Regroupement Mamit Innuat
43		Nakuset	Native Women's Shelter of Montreal
44	Nicholls	Robie	Native Friendship Centre of Montreal
45	O'Bomsawin	Jean- François	APTN
46	O'Brien	Travis	Individual

No.	Nom Name	Prénom First name	Organization
47	O'Connor	Michael	John Abbott College
48	Ojeda	Samuel	Buffalo Hat Singers
49	Pagé	Charlotte	Individual
50	Perreault	Marc	Individual
51	Picard	Claude	Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador
52	Prantyeau	Sheri	Individual
53	Rahmanian	Jeiran	Individual
54	Raymond	Normand	Buffalo Hat Singers
55	Riboulet	Mireille	Individual
56	Richer	Catherine	Individual
57	Saindon	Marc	Cercle des Premières Nations de l'UQAM
58	Shedrick	Tony	Individual
59	Sieber	Thomas	Individual
60	Sifu	Gabrielle	Projets autochtones du Québec
61	St-Louis	Nadine	Individual
62	Thernish	Marjolaine	First Nations Human Resources Development Commission of Québec

No.	Nom Name	Prénom First name	Organization
63	Trépanier	Emmanuelle	Individual
64	Trépanier	Rebecca	Individual
65	Voyer	Élise	Equitas
66	White Quill	Dolores	Projets autochtones du Québec
67	Zamora Jimenez	Gustavo	Cercle des Premières Nations de l'UQAM