

WINTER GATHERING REPORT

Friday, February 19, 2016 and Sunday, February 21, 2016

**EVO Hotel
420 Sherbrooke Street West**

ADOPTED ON JANUARY 25, 2017

AGENDA

1. Word of Welcome and Opening Prayer
2. Songs of Welcome with the *Buffalo hat Singers* Drum Group and Barbara Diabo, Hoop Dancer
3. Presentation and Adoption of the Agenda, Adoption of the Gathering Report of October 29, 2015
4. Updates from the NETWORK's Steering Committee: Financial Statements 2014-2015; Budget 2015-2016
5. ELECTION (Co-Chair) - Nominations

BREAK

6. ELECTION : Results
7. Urban Labour Force Profile, Montreal Area -
by the Montreal Urban Service Centre – FNHRDCQ
8. Presentation of the Accomplishments of the NETWORK's Working Committees
9. Energizing Activity with Barbara Diabo
10. *At the Crossroads – Integrating the Calls to Action of the TRC (Part I)*

BREAK

11. *At the Crossroads – Integrating the Calls to Action of the TRC (Part II)*
12. Community Announcements
13. Closing Prayer

1. WORD OF WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Dolorès André declared the Winter Gathering open at 9:30 a.m. She welcomed the participants and stated that she will be chairing the meeting in collaboration with Pascale Annoual because the Co-Chair, Nakuset, was unable to be present today.

1. SONGS OF WELCOME WITH THE *BUFFALO HAT SINGERS* DRUM GROUP AND BARBARA DIABO, HOOP DANCER

Dolorès invited elder Norman Achneepineskum to open the meeting with a song that he composed in memory of murdered and missing indigenous women, accompanied by the members of the *Buffalo Hat Singers* drum group.

He then delivered the opening prayer, which was preceded by a testimonial about his life philosophy and experiences.

This was followed by a hoop dance performance by Barbara Diabo.

Finally, Justin Charland performed a purification ceremony with four herbs. He remained available during the day for those wishing to be purified.

2. PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA, ADOPTION OF THE GATHERING REPORT OF OCTOBER 29, 2015

Pascale invited the participants to examine the agenda and the Gathering Report of October 29, 2015 and to propose their approval.

<p>It was moved by Garry Carbonnell and seconded by Geneviève Collard: THAT THE PROPOSED AGENDA BE ADOPTED. Adopted.</p>

Garry wished to know the basis on which the committees are established and whether there are any membership criteria. Pascale explained that individuals join the committee of their choice without having to provide justification.

Regarding the Winter Gathering report, Geneviève Collard made the following correction on page 3: place her presentation before the section pertaining to Mr. Maracle's presentation.

Some participants indicated that the attendance list was missing from the English version. It was ensured that it will be added. Also, it was noted that there were two different versions in French, one without the attendance list. Persons who received the version that did not include the attendance list were asked to contact Geneviève Beaudet who will provide them with the correct version.

<p>It was moved by Robert Paquette and seconded by Geneviève Collard: THAT THE GATHERING REPORT OF OCTOBER 29, 2015 BE ADOPTED WITH THE CORRECTION AND THE ADDITION OF THE ATTENDANCE LIST. Adopted.</p>

Barbara was invited to host an energizing activity, which was followed by a first draw.

4. UPDATES FROM THE NETWORK'S STEERING COMMITTEE: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2014-2015; BUDGET 2015-2016

Dolorès invited Nahka Bertrand, representative of the Youth Committee, to present the 2014-2015 financial statements and the 2015-2016 budget forecasts. Normally, the Treasurer, Odile Joannette, would have delivered this presentation, but she is currently on extended leave.

Nahka provided a summary of the 2014-2015 financial statements, which posted a surplus of \$18,593. The surplus is due to the additional amount of \$30,000 from the FNHRDCQ, an amount that was not included in the initial budget. It was allocated to the working committees to help them move forward with their projects. However, the *Secrétariat aux Affaires autochtones* (SAA) decided to subtract \$5,000 from its initial grant of \$45,000 because of the surplus achieved, so the actual surplus was \$13,593 on March 31, 2015. It will be transferred to the 2015-2016 budget.

A portion of the surplus – an amount of \$10,145 – was used to purchase promotional tools; this expenditure will appear in the 2015-2016 financial statements.

Questions

Garry inquired as to whether the NETWORK can keep its surpluses, or do the surpluses have to be returned to the funders.

The representative of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC), Catherine Langlais, explained that the type of funding provided by AANDC stops at the end of the financial year while the funding granted by the SAA may be transferred to the following year. But the funding from AANDC may be carried forward to the next year if the surplus corresponds to salary expenditures.

<p>It was moved by Garry Carbonnell and seconded by Vicky Boldo: THAT THE 2014-2015 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BE ADOPTED. Adopted.</p>

As supplementary information, Nahka stated that the NETWORK has been experiencing difficulties due to the absence of the Treasurer. In addition, on January 18, 2016, a letter was received from the trustee organization, the First Nations Human Resources Development Commission (FNHRDCQ), informing the NETWORK of its decision not to renew the funding after March 31, 2016 and that it will no longer be acting as trustee. The FNHRDCQ considers that it provided helpful support to the NETWORK when it started and will continue to support the NETWORK through the collaboration of the Montreal Urban Service Centre and its coordinator, Dolorès André, who serves on the Education and Employability Circle.

Carole Chouinard, representative of the City of Montreal, said it is imperative for the NETWORK to find a new trustee by March 31, 2016. It is indeed the trustee organization that may apply for funding, act as custodian of the funds, manage the finances, prepare the financial report and have it approved by the Steering Committee. Another possibility would consist of incorporating the NETWORK, but this requires reflection on the part of the NETWORK's members. In any case, it is not possible to implement this solution by March 31, 2016.

Dolorès stressed the urgency of the situation and called on the member organizations of the NETWORK to reflect on the possibility of becoming the trustee or to suggest organizations that could do so.

Nahka then presented the 2015-2016 budget and said that the period is already 75% completed. She took the opportunity to provide an update on the third-quarter revenues and expenditures, as at December 31, 2015.

Dolorès André mentioned that the NETWORK encountered a number of challenges this year because of staff turnover due to the maternity leave of the Coordinator, Ramélia Chamichian and the medical leave of the Treasurer.

It was pointed out that the budget forecasts were not approved, if one refers to the Fall Gathering report. They thus have to be adopted.

It was moved by Catherine Langlais and seconded by Garry Carbonnell: THAT THE 2015-2016 BUDGET FORECASTS BE ADOPTED. Adopted.

5. ELECTION (CO-CHAIR) – NOMINATIONS

Dolorès stated that an election must take place for the Co-Chair position held by Odile Joannette, whose term has expired. The term of office is two years. She asked the members to appoint an election chairperson and an election secretary.

It was moved by Carole Chouinard and seconded by Nahka Bertrand: THAT SWANEIGE BERTRAND BE APPOINTED AS ELECTION CHAIR. Adopted.

It was moved by Vicky Boldo and seconded by Garry Carbonnell: THAT GENEVIÈVE BEAUDET BE APPOINTED ELECTION SECRETARY. Adopted.

Geneviève explained the role of the Co-Chair under the Terms of Reference.

The Election Chair opened the nominations.

Vicky Boldo: nominated by Garry Carbonnell and seconded by Dolorès André.

Dolorès André: nominated Garry Carbonnell and seconded by Carole Chouinard.

The Election Chair asked if the nominees if they accepted their nomination. Dolorès André declined. Vicky Boldo accepted.

6. ELECTION: RESULTS

Vicky Boldo, being the only candidate running, was elected by acclamation.

7. URBAN LABOUR FORCE PROFILE, MONTREAL AREA

Dolorès invited Geneviève Collard, project manager at the Montreal Urban Service Centre, to present the urban labour force profile. Status of Women Canada provided funding for the development of the profile, which will allow producing a profile that is differentiated according to gender. Three other urban service centres received support to produce their respective profiles: Quebec City, Sept-Îles and Val-d'Or. Other funding partners also contributed to the project, including the FNHRDCQ, Quebec Native Women and the Aboriginal Economic Development Strategic Partnerships Initiative of AANDC.

The profile development will take place from January to May 2016, with the participation of seven data-collection clerks. The project consists of an inventory of community needs in the area of training and employment so as to be able to adapt the services as much as possible. Over the longer term, it will allow developing new programs involving larger-scale collaborations. All Aboriginal community members, including the Inuit and Métis, are invited to participate.

Geneviève Collard asked the clerks to introduce themselves. They are: Myriam Thirnish, Jennifer Jerome, Swaneige Bertrand, Joann Cote, Jeannette Gabriel, Chantel Henderson and Manon Tremblay.

8. PRESENTATION OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE NETWORK'S WORKING COMMITTEE

❖ Health Working Committee

Pascale presented the Health Working Committee's report.

The Cultural Safety Subcommittee is dedicated to designing training workshops and manuals in order to develop the cultural competence of Montreal health professionals and support workers. A presentation was given last week to the Canadian Mental Health Association, which was also a source of revenue because fees were paid to the subcommittee. The twenty-five participants who attended the presentation wished to know the particularities that should be taken into account when intervening with the Aboriginal population.

The Sweat Lodge Subcommittee is seeking funds to hire a full-time coordinator to organize activities such as ceremonies because the sweat lodge is underutilized. There are only three sweat lodges in activity in Canada, the other two being in Winnipeg and Toronto.

The Subcommittee on the Holistic Health Centre is aiming to create a centre in Montreal that is similar to the Anishnabe Centre of Toronto and the Wabano Centre of Ottawa. The Montreal centre would be inclusive and would welcome various clienteles under one roof – English-speaking and French-speaking, First Nations, Métis and Inuit – unlike other cities where each community has a separate centre. The challenge here again is related to funding.

This is why a subcommittee was set up to incorporate the centre, which was accomplished two months ago. And the founding meeting will be held today.

❖ **Arts•Culture Working Committee**

Marie-Josée Parent reported that the Committee was mainly focused on two files. First, it reviewed its mode of operating because its members are very engaged in their respective organizations, and the cultural sector has few resources. Even if a number of persons wished to become involved, the manner in which the committee was structured made it difficult for them to attend the meetings. It was decided to work in smaller teams, without necessarily creating subcommittees, and to begin developing an awareness program on Aboriginal cultural realities for schools and to proceed with one school at a time. Artists from various disciplines, both traditional and contemporary, will be called upon. The objective is to have the program integrated into the primary school curriculum. The committee has already established links with a pilot school and keen interest on its part and on the part of the artists has been noted.

The second file naturally involves DestiNATIONS, the project for an Aboriginal cultural embassy, a space for creation and production. The project has received the support of the AFNQL Chiefs who unanimously adopted a resolution of support and also appointed the Regional Chief, who is already the Chair of DestiNATIONS, to support the project in its political representations. A business plan is being jointly prepared with Aboriginal Tourism who is dealing with the tourism component, which allows the committee to focus on artistic and cultural production. Aboriginal Tourism has gathered the necessary funding for the development of the business plan, conditional upon the latter showing that the tourism component will generate greater revenues while remaining free of charge for Aboriginal communities, which is a priority for DestiNATIONS. So far, the results have been positive. This consists of the last step before finalizing the funding agreements.

❖ **Education and Employability Circle**

As co-representative of the Circle, Dolorès reminded the participants that its mission consists of ensuring that urban Aboriginal people have access to employment, education and training programs and services. In this respect, networking activities and tools are made available to the Aboriginal community.

This year, the Circle obtained funding for the organization of the Aboriginal Employment Fair, particularly from Quebec Native Women, the FNHRDCQ and the NETWORK. The exhibitors at the Fair must also pay registration fees. Over the years, revenues were generated which helped to develop tools, organize events and hire extra staff.

Dolorès invited Mikayla Cartwright, project officer for the MAMU Fair, and Louise Legault, committee member, to present the Circle's accomplishments.

Mikayla stated that it will be the sixth edition of the MAMU Fair this year. A new edition of the Reference Guide was launched in January, with 650 copies in French and 850 in English.

Among the accomplishments of the Circle this year, one should note the Pakatan socio-professional integration project, led by the Montreal Urban Service Centre. Two cohorts of twenty participants each completed the first stage. They are now engaged in the integration of their learning. The FNHRDCQ supports Pakatan as a priority project for the Aboriginal community of Montreal. It began on August 8, 2015 and aims to help Aboriginal youth to develop essential skills in relation to understanding the labour market, information technology and communications as well as language skills, in view of improving their professional and personal profiles. Before starting a new cohort, a review of the program must be conducted.

The Circle also launched a Facebook group in order to promote its activities and to recruit new members. It recently welcomed two new members, one from the Lester B. Pearson School Board and the other from the Cree School Board. The recruitment campaign continues.

Finally, the MAMU Fair will be held at Dawson College on March 16, 2016. Spaces are still available for exhibitors. A call is extended to people who would like to collaborate as volunteers.

Louise then presented the activities of the Support Centre for Aboriginal students of John Abbott College, which she oversees. She has been involved in the Circle since its inception and was able to see the evolution of its activities. The Support Centre brings together teachers and professionals who wish to study the recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and see how they can be integrated into the college pedagogy.

Dolorès named the organizations that are part of the Circle. She mentioned that the Circle has brought together all the Aboriginal student associations of Montreal to allow them to share their ideas and projects because these organizations share the same clientele. And over the past seven years, this helped the majority of Aboriginal student associations of the universities to exchange best practices and to develop Aboriginal programs, even if this work is not always visible.

❖ Youth Working Committee

Nahka said that she coordinates the Youth Committee, which is primarily working on the interactive map. She is responsible for data entry and translation. She also works towards establishing partnerships with other organizations and artists in order to develop the interactive map. She also handles recruitment.

Last year, the committee gave itself the mandate of creating the NETWORK's map, which was expensive. This year, with the funds available through the NETWORK, the focus was more on coordination. This is how she was hired and she has noted that there is a lot of work to be accomplished. However, due to the fact that the funding was confirmed in August and to avoid a budget surplus, she must work 40 hours/week while it was initially planned that she work 15 hours.

The committee is also working with Cam Cheema of the Blue Dot - David Suzuki Foundation on environmental issues.

❖ Communications Working Committee

Stéphanie Chiasson, the Committee Representative, resigned. Vicky Boldo is the new Representative.

9. ENERGIZING ACTIVITY WITH BARBARA DIABO

An energizing activity was hosted by Barbara at the opening of the afternoon session.

10. AT THE CROSSROADS – INTEGRATING THE CALLS TO ACTION OF THE TRC (PART I)

Pascale Vincent Dumoulin and Jessica Barudin of the *Cedar and Gold* organization hosted the activity entitled “At the Crossroads”.

Cedar and Gold is a family-run organization that offers health and wellness programs to Aboriginal individuals and communities as well as non-Aboriginal allies, such as professionals who work with Aboriginal people. To this end, it organizes workshops, training activities and retreats. It established links with the Montreal urban community two years ago. It also works in Ontario and British Columbia. It aims to encourage Aboriginal people to return to their traditional practices and ceremonial teachings and values.

Jessica outlined the context of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that led to a formal apology from Prime Minister Harper to the residential school survivors, which represented a major historical turning point for the survivors. However, the residential school episode that spanned over 100 years is not the only factor influencing the reality experienced by Aboriginal people. One might mention foster care placements or the incarceration level of Aboriginal women and men, which is 33 times higher than for non-Aboriginals. These assimilation processes are still occurring in Canada and they must be countered.

The Commission sparked great energy. Cedar and Gold wishes to bring various strategic groups already in place to transform the energy into action.

The Commissioners deliberately chose to put forward 94 recommendations in the form of calls to action. It is no longer a matter of waiting for policies to change, but of taking action to provoke changes in relation to policies and getting them to truly respond to the needs of Aboriginal people.

The proposed activity consisted of a discussion about the Commission’s calls to action in order to determine how they could be integrated into the priority actions of the NETWORK. Members of the different committees selected various calls to action that correspond to the transversal priorities found in the strategic plan.

The participants were requested to divide into five groups. A transversal priority was assigned to each group. The aim of the discussion was not to add new priorities, but rather to analyze how the Commission’s calls to action could be realized within the existing transversal priorities

through activities and services. It could also identify the obstacles to their implementation and the concerns they raise as well as ways to enhance them by thinking of the needs of the future generations, in a spirit of long-term strategy.

11. AT THE CROSSROADS – INTEGRATING THE CALLS TO ACTION OF THE TRC (PART II)

The focus groups presented the reports of their respective discussions.

▪ Partnerships – Calls to Action 31, 36 and 57

Garry reported on the key points of the discussion on partnerships. First, the group lingered on defining what is meant by “partnerships”. The definition retained, but which is not exhaustive, is that partnerships are based on values and lines of action stemming from common principles that underlie the directions to be given to the work to be accomplished together. And these values must include respect and a willingness to adapt to cultural diversity. When developing a project, one must be able to demonstrate humility, honesty and recognition. In all cases, the clients must be at the forefront of our concerns. Unfortunately, we often think more of budgets because how can we help our clients if we have no funding? Therefore, one has to be creative in order to give priority to the clients.

The actions to be undertaken in relation to call to action 31 consist of:

- Awareness-raising;
- Sharing;
- Consciousness;
- Joint definition of objectives;
- Development of an action plan (in a particular case, the favoured partners are Service Canada and Inuit leaders);
- Identification of an Aboriginal organization that can provide assistance to persons released from prison in order to help them find appropriate resources in terms of food, health care, transportation, and all basic services; and special attention must be given to the Inuit as they represent a community clearly distinct from the others.

To the question of whether the group is suggesting particular action in relation to recommendation 31 in view of improving partnerships, Mr. Carboneil replied that it is important that only one organization, not two or three, carry out the work. Duplication has to be avoided. But the group has no recommendations for action to present because it considers that a plan has to be reflected upon by deciding what it wants to do and by identifying organizations that are active at the field level. One must be able to agree on a memorandum of understanding specifying the objectives to be achieved and the respective responsibilities of the partners. But the 20-minute period allotted is just enough to skim the surface of the subject. In fact, to go deeper, there should be sessions of two or three hours.

Dolorès added that within the NETWORK itself there are 800 members, with various partners at various levels. However, the members do not know each other very well. She said that just at the discussion table, the organizations present are already able to carry out actions together.

Therefore, a practical recommendation that could be made to the NETWORK would be to hold work sessions that would help the organizations to become better acquainted with each other. *Partnerships dating* and *speednetworking* among the members were suggested as well as common concrete actions. The list of members could be shared – the names of individuals, the organizations for whom they work and the telephone numbers – so as to allow communication between members. This consists of concrete action that could easily be achieved.

Ideas shared within the group included:

- Developing common standards;
- Conducting an inventory of existing tools;
- Identifying organizations that offer training and that raise awareness;
- Holding meetings with school boards and having them distribute our material, for example, through awareness leaflets;
- Encouraging the clients we meet in the frontline environment to become part of the overall solutions while taking responsibility for their own actions.

▪ **Education and employability – Calls to Action 7, 8 and 63**

Mikayla explained that the group began by discussing what the Education and Employability Circle is already doing.

The group reviewed the proposed calls to action in order to identify shortcomings or gaps so as to determine possible courses of action, some more general, but others more concrete and achievable in the short term.

Gaps	Solutions
Call to Action 7	
Lack of motivation to attend school Lack of Aboriginal representation among teachers and authority figures A need to promote education and role models Tendency to stigmatize people who do not want to attend school, in the colonial sense Systemic barriers to success	In a broad sense, bring school boards to adapt themselves Be able to decolonize education (ways of teaching, ability to determine what we wish to achieve through education, promotion of traditional knowledge) Raise awareness among service provides about cultural differences Propose Aboriginal role models who have achieved success and build a database pertaining to these models MAMU: present opportunities for Aboriginal youth

Call to Action 8	
Lack of integration of youth who leave the reserve to study “in town” Intergenerational issues: parents do not transmit the desire to have a good education or to succeed in the labour market	Improve the standards within the education network in the communities in order to bridge gaps with the off-reserve network Standardize the quality of on-reserve schools and teaching programs Increase the budget in order to be able to hire more Aboriginal teachers and offer equal pay off- and on-reserve
Call to Action 63	
Access to resources: there is still some catching up to do in terms of graduation rates for the current generation to obtain the qualifications to teach in secondary and postsecondary schools Need for discipline	Integrate the history of Aboriginal people into curricula as early as kindergarten: an example is that of the First Nations Garden at the Botanical Garden, which welcomes school groups who have the opportunity to receive information that their teachers are not necessarily able to provide

The calls to action are general in nature and typically consist of urging the government to adopt various policies. The question here is to know how to translate them into actions to be taken by the committees. Can we design our own programs to escape colonialism and support the teachers? It is difficult for the focus group to arrive at concrete solutions that can be applied in the short term. But an idea that emerged is to create a guide for Montreal teachers and community members providing references that reflect the Aboriginal reality. And the Education and Employability Circle could contribute to it.

A participant wished to know if the focus group raised the possibility of a paradigm change in education so as to integrate Aboriginal models, not only for Aboriginal people, but also for Europeans who occupy the territory. Reference was made to Philip Deering who is completing a PhD at Concordia University and who puts forward such a paradigm shift, including in the methodology. He notably studied the *Indian School of Kahnawake*.

The focus group did not actually discuss different teaching models. But it shared views on ways to decolonize the education system.

▪ **Health – Calls to Action 21, 22 and 23**

Pascale reported that the focus group identified concrete actions:

- Some work has already been carried out, especially with the proposal to open a health centre. Call to action 21 would imply citing the calls to action in the letters that we have written and that we must send to the federal, provincial and municipal governments.

These letters are very specific because they ask for a health centre, as is the case in call to action 21.

- Calls to action 21 and 22 overlap. In the health centre proposal, we demand that it offer Aboriginal traditional approaches, which means the application of Aboriginal knowledge in healthcare. The request was already sent to the governments, but we were told that it is too specific in terms of the cultural aspect and that it would not be approved. It is now a matter of submitting a new request supported by call to action 22.
- It could also be proposed, even if it is not particularly satisfactory – because it often involves funding for a single year – that a pilot project be conducted in Montreal that could serve as a model to be replicated in the regions, which is proposed by calls to action 21, 22 and 23.
- In terms of working in partnership, we will convene a meeting with the Education and Employability Circle as it has already accomplished a lot of work in the area of education. The calls to action also refer to the importance of health education. We could jointly establish a list of health resources, which will become the next action, related to the maintenance of links.
- It would be a question of ensuring ongoing liaison in order to maintain collaborations with the university, college and even secondary school environments in order to see where there are Aboriginal students who are likely to choose careers in healthcare and where there are non-Aboriginal students who are taught in all areas of health. Thus, both aspects would be addressed at the same time.

Still on the topic of partnerships, we could join with the centres that visit the communities to recruit individuals who may be interested in careers in the field of health. This is what Dr. Stanley Vollant is already doing in the primary schools.

- This same model could be applied with the Aboriginal children of Montreal.

- **Social Services – Calls to Action 1, 3 and 12**

Vicky stated that the focus group found the exercise difficult. When one thinks of social services, homelessness first comes to mind. The group then reflected on the need to provide safe spaces while taking the cultural reality into account. The police are concerned about the fact that there is no place for Aboriginal people to go between 3:00 pm and 8:00 pm, and it is frequently during this period that they are most called to intervene. This is why there should be a greater number of visible spaces, such as Cabot Square or places to have a coffee. Certain neighbourhoods such as Verdun, St-Louis Square, Angrignon Park, or Lafontaine Park should be targeted because they are places frequented by Aboriginal people. There should be more field workers who are sensitive to cultural security issues.

For this focus group, the issues are interrelated. But to return to the topic of social services as such, here again, as in education, there is the question of decolonization. How does one “decolonize” because ultimately we are all colonized. We no longer live like our ancestors. We

have to create something that fits with our time. Reconciliation offers us opportunities in this respect.

For example, Vicky has in fact toured the universities and colleges to talk to students, sharing her healing journey. It is not a topic that is covered in textbooks. But this knowledge and experience represent a richness that should clearly be more present in the educational environment, including daycare centres.

This therefore consists of action to be undertaken. A list could be produced of resource persons who are able to act as facilitators or custodians of traditional knowledge and who could intervene at the level of educational institutions.

Precedents exist, such as the agreement between the Batshaw Centre and the Native Women's Shelter, but there is a need for more. Frustrations continue. For example, she attended a meeting on the mentoring program where rules were presented concerning children placed in foster care or adoption and what one has the right to do or not to do in their regard. And they clearly go against our cultural values. She left the meeting with the conviction that she could not be selected as a mentor. It would be necessary to review the program in order to build a better partnership. It would also be necessary to assess the impact of the restructuring resulting from Bill 10.

A question was raised as to whether this situation could be linked to Jordan's Principle where the interests of the child comes first when it is a matter of resolving jurisdictional disputes to determine who should pay for services regarding First Nations children.

Jordan's Principle is used when Aboriginals fall through the cracks of a system where certain elements fall under the federal government and others under the provincial government. This is particularly the case in Quebec, and doubtlessly elsewhere, of status Aboriginal children. We must keep watch and continue to pressure the governments.

Vincent Dumoulin said he considers that an action that can be taken with regard to the situations described might be to state in writing the calls to action that are violated by these rules and procedures. It could lead to a formal step towards creating discomfort among the board of directors by making it aware that it is preventing First Nations members from providing mentorship that is based on a cultural approach.

Vicky stated that she has already raised the question, and social services replied that by refusing our mentorship offers, they aim to protect us by not exposing us to the problems experienced by the children. They do not understand that we have life experience. She said she raised four children, has grandchildren and is able to judge whether there are risks in acting as mentor for a youth. They do not listen and do not understand that in our communities, elders are respected. We raise our children and grandchildren differently. We are not talking here about isolation and separation.

One might also make reference to Dr. Cindy Blackstock who says that governments do not create change, they respond to change.

▪ **Arts and Culture – Calls to Action 82 and 83**

Marie-Ève of Wapikoni mobile presented the focus group's discussions. What was mentioned first was the DestiNATIONS project. But the group took time to discuss what could be done outside DestiNATIONS. The ideas that emerged, although they are not linked to the calls to action, included:

- Implement an Aboriginal historical reappropriation pathway through monuments and symbols spread across the city. To determine the locations, we could consult the Mohawk people to whom the territory belongs and use the interactive map created by the Youth Committee to integrate cultural paths. Mobile screenings could be designed throughout the city so as to ensure that Aboriginal art and culture are present in various locations in Montreal and not only in one place.
- At Wapikoni, we match nations with nations, southern nations and northern nations. An idea that emerged is to pair Montreal with another city having Aboriginal heritage in order to promote culture reappropriation and to organize a meeting to discuss Aboriginal issues that bring them together.
- There was also a discussion about highlighting the Great Peace of Montreal, which is not highly showcased in Montreal.
- And we felt it would be desirable to develop partnerships between organizations that work with the Aboriginal community: Mohawk nation, Land InSights, *L'Autre Montréal*, World Social Forum, projects of the Society for the Celebrations of the 375th Anniversary of Montreal, Tourism Montreal and, naturally, the NETWORK.

12. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

▪ **Wapikoni mobile**

Marie-Ève announced that season 2016 of Wapikoni mobile will start in May 2016. A stopover will take place in Montreal in June with the hosting of audiovisual creation activities. Any Aboriginal person, French-speaking or English-speaking, who wishes to make a film with the Wapikoni team, is welcome. And Wapikoni will be travelling to 10 communities this summer.

Customized workshops are being prepared for organizations that would like to offer camera introduction sessions to the young and not-so-young, or any type of cinema-related learning. And Wapikoni can also broadcast films that have already been produced.

▪ **Annual Meeting of the Aboriginal Health Centre**

Dolorès reminded the participants that immediately after the NETWORK gathering, at the same location, the Health Committee will be holding its first general meeting for the new Aboriginal Health Centre of Montreal.

13. CLOSING PRAYER

The agenda being exhausted, Dolorès invited Norman to deliver the closing prayer.

NETWORK Family Gathering, February 21, 2016

Family activities were held on the second day of the Gathering. A number of children participated in the hoop dance as well as crafts activities.

Attendance list – February 19, 2016

No .	Nom Name	Prénom First name	Organization
1	Achneepineskum	Norman	Buffalo Hat Singers
2	André	Dolorès	CEE RÉSEAU
3	Annoual	Pascale	Comité Santé RÉSEAU
4	Bacon	Jasmin	Centre de services urbains CDRHPNQ
5	Barudin	Jessica	CEDAR-GOLD
6	Beaudet	Geneviève	coordonnatrice intérimaire RÉSEAU
7	Bélanger	Pascale	
8	Belleau	Anne-Marie	Maison Nivard-de Saint-Dizier
9	Bergeron	Marie-Ève	Wapikoni mobile
10	Bertrand	Swaneige	Centre de services urbains CDRHPNQ
11	Bertrand	Nahka	Comité jeunesse RÉSEAU
12	Blanchette	Stéphanie	Native Montreal/Montréal autochtone
13	Boldo	Vicky	Mtl Native Women's Shelter Board Member & MUHC Women's Health
14	Canet	Raphael	Forum social mondial 2016
15	Carbonnell	Garry	
16	Caron	Mireille	
17	Cartwright	Mikayla	Salon emploi autochtone CSU Mtl
18	Cash	Ted	
19	Charland	Justin	Buffalo Hat Singers
20	Cheezo	Frederick	Buffalo Hat Singers
21	Chevalier	Andréanne	Journal MÉTRO
22	Chouinard	Carole	Ville de Montréal
23	Collard	Geneviève	Centre de services urbains CDRHPNQ
24	Constantin	Louise	Centre St-Pierre
25	Côté	Jo-Ann	Centre de services urbains CDRHPNQ
26	Diabo	Barbara	Buffalo Hat Singers
27	Dumoulin	Vincent	CEDAR-GOLD
28	Etcheverria	Carolina	Native immigrant
29	Fontaine	Lauréanne	Femmes autochtones du Québec
30	Gabriel	Jeanette	Centre de services urbains CDRHPNQ
31	Gagnon	Emma-Denise	Buffalo Hat Singers
32	Gauthier	Marc-André	Ville de Montréal
33	Goupil-Landry	Mélissa	Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse
34	Henderson	Chantel	Centre de services urbains CDRHPNQ
35	Heutte	Jacques	Innutelecom
36	Hooper	Crystal	
37	Jerome	Jennifer	Centre de services urbains CDRHPNQ
38	Lacroix	Guy	Ville de Montréal
39	Langlais	Catherine	Affaires autochtones et du developpement du Nord Canada
40	Laperle	André	
41	Legault	Louise	Collège John-Abbott
42	Létourneau	Céline	Secrétariat des affaires autochtones du Québec

43	Macé	Marion	Programme Iohahi:io
44	Marouf	Étienne	Forum social mondial 2016
45	Martin	Carrie	Comité Santé RÉSEAU
46	Medrano	Samuel	Buffalo Hat Singers
47	Normandin	Tealey	Foyer pour femmes autochtones de Montréal
48	Paquette	Robert	conseiller Gespeg
49	Parent	Marie-Josée	Comité Arts-culture RÉSEAU
50	Peters	Cedar-Eve	artisan
51	Raymond	Norman	Buffalo Hat Singers
52	Robinson	Wayne	Native Montreal/Montréal autochtone
53	Ruffin	Émilie	Unité de diversité de la main-d'œuvre
54	St-Amour	Louise	Statistiques Canada
55	Thirnish	Myriam	Centre de services urbains CDRHPNQ
56	Thomas	Wally	
57	Tremblay	Manon	Centre de services urbains CDRHPNQ

Attendance list – February 21, 2016

No .	Nom Name	Prénom First name	Organization
1	Achneepineskum	Norman	MUSICIEN - Buffalo Hat Singers
2	André	Dolorès	PARTICIPANT - ADULTE
3	André	Pishym	PARTICIPANT - ADULTE
4	André	Anthony	PARTICIPANT - ENFANT
5	André-Quiscappie	Nico	PARTICIPANT - ENFANT
6	Aster	Abeille	PARTICIPANT - ENFANT
7	Avila	Ashley	PARTICIPANT - ADULTE
8	Barudin	Jessica	PARTICIPANT - ADULTE
9	Beudet	Geneviève	RÉSEAU
10	Bertrand	Swaneige	EXPOSANT - CSU
11	Bertrand	Nahka	PARTICIPANT - ADULTE
12	Blanchette	Stéphanie	PARTICIPANT - ADULTE
13	Cartric	Victor	PARTICIPANT - ENFANT
14	Cartric	Marion	PARTICIPANT - ENFANT
15	Chamichian	Ramélia	PARTICIPANT - ADULTE
16	Charland	Justin	MUSICIEN - Buffalo Hat Singers
17	Cheezo	Frederick	MUSICIEN - Buffalo Hat Singers
18	Diabo	Barbara	MUSICIEN - Buffalo Hat Singers
19	Dumoulin	Vincent	PARTICIPANT - ADULTE
20	Dumoulin	Maya-Sequoiah	PARTICIPANT - ENFANT
21	El-Achkar	Sofia	PARTICIPANT - ENFANT
22	El-Achkar	Peter	PARTICIPANT - ENFANT
23	Gadoury	Sylvain	PARTICIPANT - ADULTE
24	Gagnon	Emma-Denise	MUSICIEN - Buffalo Hat Singers
25	Henderson	Chantel	EXPOSANT - CSU
26	Jerome	Jennifer	EXPOSANT - CSU
27	Lasry	Naomi	PARTICIPANT - ADULTE
28	Lemay	Nyima	PARTICIPANT - ENFANT
29	Lepage	Sylvie	PARTICIPANT - ADULTE

30	Medrano	Samuel	MUSICIEN - Buffalo Hat Singers
31	Mok	Kimberly	PARTICIPANT - ADULTE
32	Moreau-Lacasse	Kathy	PARTICIPANT - ADULTE
33	Moreau-Lacasse	William	PARTICIPANT - ENFANT
34	Moreau-Picard	Julie	PARTICIPANT - ENFANT
35	Peters	Cedar-Eve	EXPOSANT - ARTISTE
36	Ruffin	Émilie	PARTICIPANT - ADULTE
37	Thirnish	Myriam	EXPOSANT - CSU
38	Thomas	Wally	PARTICIPANT - ADULTE
39	Thomas	Mady	PARTICIPANT - ENFANT
40	Vollant	Sylvain	PARTICIPANT - ADULTE
41	William	Nico	EXPOSANT - ARTISTE