

Ahnii my spirit name is Woman who is beautiful as the fire, im mukwa clan, my home is treaty 13

Good morning advisory members, Miigwetch for the opportunity to virtually meet before you on this beautiful morning that creator has given us. I am a long standing community member and oshkabwis for many years, I declare I have a disability

This is my second time speaking virtually in front of you. I want to first start off by giving my deepest apologies for my last presentation, I prepared a lengthy presentation to share, it was difficult to condense a one hour presentation on the spot, my apologies again

It is with great sadness and urgency that I'm here to speak to you today. Within the last seven days my 12 year old indigenous daughter was abducted, assaulted, and was very close to being the next murdered and missing indigenous girl statistic.

I come to you today with a deeper understanding and urgency to create a solution focused approach to address the concerns of the Toronto Indigenous community. I would like to communicate that a call out to the aunties and grandmothers for guidance has been made. Semma has been offered and received. The aunties and grandmothers have laid the semma; ceremony was conducted. Spirit gave a clear message and direction of what needs to be done.

I am pleased to present to the aboriginal affairs committee that the implementation and creation of the first Toronto community run indigenous family advocacy center has been created.

The matriarchal indigenous family advocacy center's main objective is to create a rapid response approach to meet the immediate needs of the indigenous community.

The matriarchal indigenous family advocacy centre will empower, educate and consult with all indigenous community members and agencies to identify the ongoing current needs and gaps that are not being met by the current systems, we will address these gaps.

The matriarchal indigenous family advocacy center is committed to supporting all community members navigate various areas of systems which include: human trafficking, crisis response, health, missing and murdered indigenous women and girls, children and adult mental health, 2 spirited issues, housing, homelessness, child welfare, and legal systems.

The Matriarchal Indigenous Family Advocacy Centre is committed to creating a rapid access support services referral system that works.

The matriarchal indigenous family advocacy center will continue to advocate the systems, and ensure all community members receive a responsive approach to access the appropriate services they need that will foster their plan of care to healing and wellness. The matriarchal family advocacy center will continue to empower community members to effectively navigate the systems that are currently in place

There is currently 6 vacant seats on the aboriginal advisory council. I would like to ask the committee to consider these 6 seats be allocated to community members with lived experiences. There is a wealth of knowledge peoples with lived experiences have which is very valuable to the committee.

I would like to recommend that a community lead advisory committee be created. The purpose of the advisory committee is to oversee the Tassc, the aboriginal affairs committee and the indigenous affairs office. The advisory committee will work to establish true transparency, accountability, and to ensure the Toronto indigenous community is being consulted, informed and communicated about the current decisions that are being made. Nothing about us without us.

Miigwetch for your time.

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