

Four More First Nations Conduct the Searching Together Process

In 2009, Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug, Bearskin Lake, North Spirit Lake and Kasabonika Lake First Nations began the searching together dialogue. All the communities are partners within Mamow Sha-way-gi-kaywin; North South Partnership for Children. The searching together process highlights each community's unique needs and strengths.

Webequie First Nation and Mishkeegogamang Ojibway Nation completed their community assessments in January 2007. The assessments which are now called Searching Together reports brought attention to their community needs and provided an insight as to how Canadians can help the people who have lived in poverty since confederation and otherwise forgotten.

In February and March 2009, a Mamow Na-nan-da we-ki-ken-chi-kay-win; Searching Together team visited Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug, North Spirit Lake, Bearskin Lake and Kasabonika Lake First Nations to conduct the searching together process. There was much excitement to the interaction both by the community and by the Searching Together team. Not only does the process bring to light the needs of a community, it is the beginning of sustainable relationships.

The Searching Together Program brings to Mamow Sha-way-gi-kay-win the community voice reflecting the needs for each First Nation that has participated. Once completed, we can then begin our partnership work by providing the help as requested by each community.

The Searching Together Reports will be published in the summer of 2009.

Pikangikum First Nation Searches Within for Answers

In a rare opportunity for Mamow Shawaygikaywin Partners, one of our First Nation partners began their own Searching Together process in February 2008. Pikangikum First Nation is a unique community with significantly higher levels of tragic incidents than the other Mamow Sha-way-gi-kay-win communities. Pikangikum has bravely and respectfully participated in the Searching Together process in hopes of finding the answers within and to seek help from the generous people that live in Canada.