

***CREE JUSTICE SYMPOSIUM
JANUARY 27, 28, & 29, 2009
MISTISSINI, EYYOU ISTCHEE***

PRESENTATION

***CREE WOMEN OF EYYOU ISTCHEE ASSOCIATION (CWELA)/
ASSOCIATION DES FEMMES CRIS DE EYYOU ISTCHEE
(AFCEI)***

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND FAMILY ISSUES

***THE IMPACT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WILL BE DISCUSSED
ALONG WITH THE NEED TO DEVELOP SUPPORTIVE
PROGRAMS FOR VICTIMS AND FAMILIES.***

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JANUARY 28, 2009

CREE JUSTICE SYMPOSIUM

BACKGROUND ON WOMEN'S HISTORY:

PERSON'S DAY CELEBRATED OCTOBER 18TH A LANDMARK DECISION CHANGED THE FACE OF CANADIAN POLITICS

1929 PERSON'S CASE; "FAMOUS FIVE" ALBERTA WOMEN WHO FOUGHT AND WON THE RIGHT FOR CANADIAN WOMEN TO BE OFFICIALLY DEEMED "PERSONS" UNDER THE LAW.

80 YEARS AGO THIS YEAR, OUR FOUNDING MOTHERS PAVED OUR WAY TO JUSTICE NO MATTER WHAT RACE YOU CAME FROM.

WOMEN IN THE LEAD: EMILY MURPHY-JUDGE (WAS STILL NOT CONSIDERED A PERSON), LOUISE MC KINNEY, NELLIE MC CLUNG, IRENE PARLBY AND HENRIETTE MUIR EDWARDS

FOR AN EQUALITY AND JUST SOCIETY

BEFORE THE 1929 PERSON'S CASE WOMEN WERE NOT "PERSONS" IN THE EYES OF THE LAW.

THEN THE "BREAD & ROSES" BECAME THE SYMBOL FOR THE WOMEN TO JOIN THE WORKFORCE AND EQUALITY (SALARIES).

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY WAS DECLARED ON MARCH 8TH WOMEN'S EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE EQUALITY.

WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE OUR LEADERSHIP ENCOURAGE & SUPPORT THE EFFORTS TOWARDS THESE KINDS OF EVENTS.

FAMILY VIOLENCE;

HAS DEVASTATING CONSEQUENCES ON FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT EEYOU ISTCHEE. IN ORDER TO END THIS CYCLE OF ABUSIVE BEHAVIOR THE EEYOU GOVERNMENT AND SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS HAVE TO MAKE PREVENTING FAMILY

VIOLENCE ONE OF IT'S TOP PRIORITIES. WE NEED TO PROTECT EVEN MORE PEOPLE FROM FAMILY VIOLENCE TODAY.

IT STATES: FIFTY-SEVEN (57%) OF THE ABORIGINAL WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED ABUSE INDICATED THAT CHILDREN WITNESSED THE VIOLENCE (CANADIAN CENTRE FOR JUSTICE STATISTICS, 2001B)

AND

ABORIGINAL WOMEN ARE SIGNIFICANTLY MORE LIKELY TO EXPERIENCE SPOUSAL ASSAULT (24%) AND MORE SEVERE FORMS OF VIOLENCE (CANADIAN CENTRE FOR JUSTICE STATISTICS, 2005).

EXAMPLE: SISTERS IN SPIRIT CAMPAIGN (NATIONAL-NWAC) FOR LOST, MISSING, AND MURDERED ABORIGINAL WOMEN OF CANADA.

OF COURSE IT IS ALSO A REALITY THAT OUR CREE MEN ARE VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE TOO. IT IS NOT REPORTED AND RECORDED. THIS IS ALSO BECOMING A STATISTICAL KNOWLEDGE (NATIONAL) AND HAS TO BE RESEARCHED AND ADDRESSED. ABUSED MEN OFTEN HAVE SEPARATE AND DISTINCT SERVICE NEEDS FROM THOSE OF WOMEN.

LET'S NOT FORGET OUR CHILDREN THAT WITNESS VIOLENCE, THOSE WHO ARE EXPOSED TO THE VIOLENCE ON A REGULAR BASIS, AT HOME, COMMUNITY, SCHOOL, T.V., MEDIA, SPORTS, GAMES, VIDEO, TOYS, MOVIES AND OF COURSE BULLYING AND GANGS.

IMPACTS/EFFECTS OF VIOLENCE ON THE LIVES OF OUR CHILDREN, THE DAMAGE IT CAN HAVE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

WHO WILL SPEAK UP FOR THOSE WHO ARE SILENCED?

WHO WILL SPEAK UP FOR THESE CHILDREN WHO SUFFER, SENSELESSLY?

WE MUST TEACH OUR CHILDREN VERY YOUNG ABOUT SPEAKING OUT AGAINST VIOLENCE AND TELLING SOMEONE ABOUT IT IF IT AFFECTS THEIR LIVES AND/OR WITNESSING VIOLENCE.

AND ALSO TEACHING SLOGANS SUCH AS: HANDS ARE NOT FOR HITTING/WORDS ARE NOT FOR HURTING.

PROVIDE AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS FOR CHILDREN AND ON THE TOPIC WHAT IS FAMILY VIOLENCE?

FAMILY VIOLENCE CAN DISGRACE A FAMILY UNITY AND ONE OF THE HIGHEST EMOTIONAL DISTRESSES THAT CAN DESTROY OUR UNITS IS WHEN HURT AND ANGER GROWS WITHIN US, COMMUNICATION BREAKS DOWN THEN SILENCE BECOMES THE MOTIVATOR WHICH TAKES AWAY OUR POWER TO MAKE A CHOICE TO HELP US TO MOVE AHEAD OR GET OUT OF OUR DISTRESS MODE.

LET'S PUT AN END TO THE SILENCE; AND STOP THE VIOLENCE IN EEEYOU ISTCHEE FOR PEACE & HARMONY; JUSTICE & ORDER!

THE HURT OF ONE

IS THE HURT OF ALL.....!

HOW TO FIGHT CRIME:

OUR GOAL: TO RESTORE AND RETURN BACK 100% PEACE AND HARMONY IN OUR COMMUNITIES.

TARGET: POLICE FORCES/POLICY MAKERS

TO REDUCE VIOLENT CRIMES BY A CERTAIN % WITHOUT SPENDING OR REQUIRING MORE MONEY OR MAKING POLICE MORE AGGRESSIVE IN THEIR INTERVENTIONS (TO SET A TARGET DATE).

TO CURB CRIME TO ANALYZE POLICIES

PROSECUTING FAMILY VIOLENCE CASES: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS PUNISHABLE BY LAW, STALKING/CRIMINAL HARASSMENT

PROVIDE SAFETY TIPS IN THE COMMUNITIES

TO HAVE MORE INFORMATION ON THE MORE SERIOUS /VIOLENT OFFENDERS AND ADEQUATE INFORMATION ON THEM AS WELL

POLICE TO HAVE TOOLS NEEDED TO ADDRESS THE OFFENDERS- EXAMPLE: HOW TO BE MANAGED AND MONITORED IN THE COMMUNITY UPON RELEASE.

TO CREATE A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TRAINING TEAM, FOR THE COMMUNITIES REGARDING THESE OFFENDERS

FURTHER ON TO THIS POLICE OFFICERS NEED TO BREAK OUT OF THEIR ISOLATION AND GET OUT OF THEIR PATROL TRUCKS AND OUT ONTO THE COMMUNITY STREETS (USE AND FIND OTHERS MEANS/MEASURES OF BEING IN THE COMMUNITY).

TO CREATE A PROTECTION AGAINST FAMILY VIOLENCE ACT

TO PROVIDE FAMILY VIOLENCE EMERGENCY SHELTERS (EVENTUALLY TO BUILD A WOMEN'S SHELTERS IN EYYOU ISTCHEE COASTAL/INLAND) WITH DEVELOPED PROGRAMMING TO ANSWER TO THE NEEDS OF THE VICTIM/OFFENDER (ABUSER)

AN EMERGENCY PROTECTION ORDERING:

DIRECT POLICE TO REMOVE THE PERSON WHO IS COMMITTING AN ACT OF FAMILY VIOLENCE (DISTURBING THE PEACE AND HARMONY WITHIN THAT FAMILY)

GIVE THE VICTIM SOLE USE OF THE HOME AND OR OTHER PROPERTY.

NOT ALLOW COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE PEOPLE INVOLVED UNTIL PROPER MEASURES HAVE BEEN APPLIED AND TAKEN (EX: REFERRALS TO PROPER SERVICES NEEDED TO SERVE THE SITUATION IN CRISIS).

DIRECT THE POLICE SERVICES TO ASSIST WITH THE REMOVAL OF PERSONAL BELONGINGS

PROTECT PROPERTY IN WHICH THE VICTIM HAS AN INTEREST

REQUIRE THE SEIZURE OF WEAPONS OR FIREARMS BY THE POLICE UNTIL ALL INTERVENTIONS HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY INTERVENED.

PROTECTION ORDERS SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE VICTIMS AS SOON AS THE INTERVENTION HAS BEEN DONE BY POLICE MAY ALSO BE ASSISTED BY THE SOCIAL SERVICES. MAY ALSO CONTAIN PROVISIONS AS AN EMERGENCY PROTECTION ORDER,. MAY ALSO INCLUDE FINANCIAL COMPENSATION AND COUNSELING ORDERS (CAN ALSO INCLUDE TO ORDER BOTH THE VICTIM AND THE PERSON COMMITTING AN ACT OF FAMILY VIOLENCE).

EMERGENCY PROTECTION ORDERS CAN BE DONE THROUGH THE COURTS OF THE LAW OR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE (LOCALLY) OR POLICE ORDER (UNDERTAKING)/JUSTICE PANELS/COMMITTEES

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SYSTEM

CHALLENGES:

WESTERN AND CULTURAL CULTURES

CLASHES/GAPS WITHIN COMMUNITIES, LEADERSHIP, YOUTH/ELDERS, SERVICES ETC....

CONVENTIONAL WISDOM

TRADITIONAL WISDOM

PROMOTING CULTURAL POLICIES AND PRACTICES

SAFETY AND SECURITY FOR ALL LIVING PERSONS IN EYYOU ISTCHEE

IN SUPPORTING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE AND YOUNG LEADERS

FAMILY VIOLENCE AND BULLYING

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

RIGHTS OF MARRIAGE

THE POWER OF BEING A GIRL/WOMAN

DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS OF AT RISK GIRLS (13-17 YRS.)

WOMEN SHELTERS/EMERGENCY SHELTERS

QUESTIONS:

WE NEED TO ASK OURSELVES

***ARE WE GOING TO LET CRIME AND/OR INAPPROPRIATE
BEHAVIORS REACH THE LEVELS IT HAS REACHED TODAY?***

RESULTS- HURT, PAIN AND ANGER

***SOME EXAMPLES WE FEEL NOW ARE MURDERS, TRAFFICKING EVEN
FOR SEX, DAMAGES TO PROPERTY AND INDIVIDUALS.***

***WE HAVE PAID A HIGH PRICE IN SOME
INSTANTANEOUS/COMMUNITIES***

IS THIS WHAT WE WANT FOR EEU ISTCHEE?.....

DO WE HAVE ANSWERS TO THIS QUESTION!!!

***WHERE CAN I GO TO FIND INFORMATION ABOUT FAMILY VIOLENCE
PREVENTION?***

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. TO REDUCE CRIME INCREASE PREVENTION (OUR FOCUS)***

- 2. TO TEACH OUR CHILDREN VERY YOUNG OF THE RULES TO LIVE BY AND LIVING TOGETHER PEACEFULLY**
- 3. TO DECLARE A PROCLAMATION: FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION MONTH**
- 4. TO WORK TOWARDS A WOMEN SHELTER/EMERGENCY SHELTERS: NEEDED IN EEYOU ISTCHEE**
- 5. TO ESTABLISH PROTECTION AGAINST FAMILY VIOLENCE ACT (THIS IS IN EXISTENCE ALREADY-WEST)**
- 6. TO SUPPORT CREE WOMEN OF EEYOU ISTCHEE RESOLUTION ON NON-VIOLENCE RESOLUTION NO. 2008-003, VALD'OR**

EXAMPLES:

PROTECTION AGAINST FAMILY VIOLENCE ACT

(A MODEL PROGRAM IN EXISTENCE FOR REFERENCE-ABORIGINAL-WEST)

FIVE (5) YEAR STRATEGY ON FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION

FUNDING/PROGRAMS AVAILABLE (SERVICES/LOCAL BANDS/MINISTRY)

PLAN: TO FORM A REGIONAL COMMITTEE WITH CHAIRPERSON REPRESENTATIONS FROM ALL THE TEN (10) COMMUNITIES AND CREE GOVERNMENTS.

THIS COMMITTEE CAN WORK CLOSELY WITH POLICE, COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, YOUTH GROUPS, JUSTICE SYSTEMS/PANELS/COMMITTEES, TO BEGIN TO ADDRESS A VARIETY OF ISSUES RELATED TO VIOLENCE WITHIN FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES INCLUDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, CHILD ABUSE AND ELDER ABUSE.

IT WOULD PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THE SERVICES WHO DIRECTLY DEAL WITH THESE ISSUES, SOCIAL SERVICES, POLICE COURTS, ETC.

IT CAN ALSO SPONSOR WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING SESSIONS, OFFER PUBLIC EDUCATION AND WOULD BE INVOLVED IN DEVELOPING POLICY/PROTOCOLS RELATED TO SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF FAMILY VIOLENCE AND NOT TO SINGLE OUT THE OFFENDERS (ABUSERS) WHO COMMIT THESE ACTS OF VIOLENCE WHICH IS HURTING OUR COMMUNITIES.

CREE WOMEN OF EYYOU ISTCHEE ASSOCIATION

RECOMMENDATION: PROCLAMATION

TO BE ADOPTED BY EVERY COMMUNITY

FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION MONTH: NOVEMBER 2009

WHEREAS THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE IN EYYOU ISTCHEE WHO EXPERIENCE THE IMPACTS OF FAMILY VIOLENCE; AND

WHEREAS THE IMPACT MAY BE CARRIED ON FROM GENERATION TO GERNERATION

WHEREAS ALL PERSON'S IN EYYOU ISTCHEE HAVE A ROLE IN THE PREVENTION OF FAMILY VIOLENCE

NOW, THEREFORE WE THE EYYOU OF EYYOU ISTCHEE DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2009 AND THEREON TO BE FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION MONTH.

WE CALL UPON ALL EYYOU ISTCHEE TO SPEAK OUT AGAINST FAMILY VIOLENCE. WE CALL UPON YOU TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY CREATING A CULTURE OF SUPPORT FOR THOSE IMPACTED BY FAMILY VIOLENCE. AND WE CALL UPON YOU TO ENCOURAGE ALL EYYOU OF EYYOU ISTCHEE TO HELP MAKE OUR COMMUNITIES

***VIOLENCE FREE IN 2009 AND BEYOND. YOU CAN END THE SILENCE
AND STOP THE VIOLENCE NOW.***

IN WITNESS WHEREOF

DAY OF.....2009

NAME/TITLE OF COMMUNITY.....

LOGO OF COMMUNITY.....