

## How Do You Say Dnaagdawenmag Binnoojiiyag?

(Nog-dah-wen-mawg) (Bin-oooh-zhee-yug)

## What Does Dnaagdawenmag Binnoojiiyag Mean?

It's Ojibway and it means to look after and to always keep children at the centre of our thoughts.

## Our Values

The philosophy and approach of Dnaagdawenmag Binnoojiiyag Child & Family Services is first and foremost, based upon the principles contained within the Seven Grandfather Teachings of our people:

 Wisdom "Nbwaakaawin"

 Love "Zaagidiwin"

 Respect "Mnaadendamowin"

 Bravery "Aakdehewin"

 Honesty "Gwekwaadziwin"

 Humility "Dbadendizwin"

 Truth "Debwewin"

## About Us

Dnaagdawenmag Binnoojiiyag Child & Family Services is a multi-service Indigenous wellbeing agency.

We provide a stable foundation for children, youth and families, through wraparound services that are culturally-based and family-focused. We seek to support our families in the way they deserve, with care and authenticity, and by recognizing and respecting spirit.

We form a wholistic, inclusive and nonjudgmental circle of care. We seek to honour and support those we serve, with a constant commitment to growing our base of knowledge and expertise.

We are an agency that delivers culturally-intelligent services to First Nation, Inuit and Métis\* communities on and off territory within our jurisdiction. With our dedicated staff, we work with children, youth and families as early as possible to help them navigate various obstacles and access services.

*\*We are currently in the process of seeking a formal protocol with the Métis.*

### Administration

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Dnaagdawenmag Binnoojiiyag  
**Child & Family Services**

# Rights and Responsibilities of Indigenous Children & Youth in Care

This pamphlet has been created to help you understand the rights of all children, youth and families we serve.

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## Rights of Indigenous Children and Youth

1. The right to identity to know who they are within the context of their family, heritage and culture.
2. The right to know, learn and speak their language.
3. The right to traditional and contemporary healing that reinforce their identity and cultural pride.
4. The right to a good life.
5. The right to land or access to land.
6. The right to a lifestyle that offers opportunity for good health, prosperity and happiness.
7. The right to education that includes opportunities to learn experientially from their people as well as learning from books and formal institutions.
8. The right to their spiritual name, as applicable.
9. The right to know and be a member of their clan, as applicable. Dnaagdawenmog Binnoojiiyag is committed to ensuring the rights of Indigenous children and youth are upheld.
10. The right to know where the child belongs and to which community.
11. The right to protection both inside and outside the family.
12. The right to live a life full of purpose.
13. The right to know and be a part of their family.

## Rights of Indigenous Children and Youth Cont'd

There is no universal version of the rights of Indigenous children and youth, however many versions include an overlapping list of rights that fundamentally cover the same issues. These rights are based in our teachings and our understanding of our place in creation. We acknowledge the egregious effects of colonization and the history of child welfare policies in this country, including residential schools and the 60s Scoop, have resulted in generational trauma and many complex issues leading to high rates of child welfare involvement.

Notwithstanding this reality, our culture, teachings, ceremonies and our original ways of being and knowing all hold children as sacred gifts at the centre of our purpose.

**Dnaagdawenmog Binnoojiiyag is committed to ensuring the rights of Indigenous children and youth are upheld.**

For Indigenous children, their cultural and spiritual needs, and their Indigenous identity must absolutely be an integral consideration in the determination of best interests. To that end, First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities will be provided all opportunities to be a part of the planning for children, youth and families.

### To Find Out More...

If you would like to know more about your rights or if you have questions, speak with our staff or someone you trust like your band representative.



**Dnaagdawenmog Binnoojiiyag supports the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.**

"The Declaration addresses both individual and collective rights, cultural rights and identity, rights to education, health, employment, language, and others. The text says indigenous peoples have the right to fully enjoy as a collective or as individuals, all human rights and fundamental freedoms as recognized in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the rest of international human rights law. Indigenous peoples and individuals are free and equal to all other peoples and individuals and have the right to be free from any kind of discrimination, in the exercise of their rights, in particular that based on their indigenous origin or identity. Indigenous peoples have the right to self-determination. By that right they can freely determine their political status and pursue their economic, social and cultural development. They have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions, while retaining their rights to participate fully, if they choose to, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the state."