



miskananawah

empowerment • strength • family

Oral Truthing

Presented by: Chantel Large
and Paige Cairns

Disclaimer

This information shared today is meant to be used as a reference for enhanced learning and understanding of Indigenous parallels within Miskanawah's body of work, and is not to be copied or implemented without prior consultation on protocol with Miskanawah.

Who Are We?

Miskanawah (meaning “**many little paths**” in Cree) is an Indigenous-led charitable organization grounded in cultural traditions and teachings, that has operated in Calgary for over 36 years. Miskanawah is a multi-service organization, offering programs and services in the areas of family support (ranging from prevention and early intervention to intervention), youth services, clinical and cultural mental health supports, crisis support, housing support, and cultural and ceremonial supports.



Our Mission:

Guided by Indigenous teachings,
Miskanawah offers culturally-
informed, supportive services to
people in the Calgary area as they
strengthen their circles of self, family,
community and culture.



Our Vision:

Children, youth and families thrive within a culturally responsive community.

Our Values:

Culture, Community, Respect and Trust





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Miskanawah's Creation Story

Elder Patrick Daigneault

Youth Programs

Strengthening Home Fires

Oskâpêwis (*oska-pe-wis*)

Diamond Willow Youth Lodge

Nipisis (*neep-sis*)

re:VISION Indigenous Youth
Employment



Family Programs

Tawaw Family Resource Networks
(*ta-wow*)

Nitsanak Mamawintowak



Community Programs and Initiatives

Ka-pe-kiwehtahat (*ka-pi-kiwih-ta-hat*)

Nanatawiho Kamik
(*na-taw-i-haw ka-mik*)

Land-Based Healing

Honoring Our Lost Spirits



Four Core Teachings:

Miyo-pimatsiwin – Elder Elizabeth Nadolnick (5:11)



Living a good life in a balanced way so that you can help yourself and others.

Siim'ohksin Wahkotiwin - Elder Reggie Crowshoe (4:06)



Blackfoot and Cree Natural Law for living in relationship. Founded on the principles of Respect, Responsibility, Accountability, and Discipline.

Nagatohke - Elder Patrick Daigneault (2:32)



Be careful; be safe.

Setoskatowin - Chantel Large (3:26)



We are all well together, I will help you, you will help me.

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The Indigenous Evaluation Framework: History and Overview

- Developed in 2019
- Involves two separate yet-related processes (one cannot occur without the other):
 - Pipe Ceremony that culturally validates the process
 - Oral Truthing ceremony (evaluation)



The Indigenous Evaluation Framework in Practice: Oral Truthing Ceremonies

Step 1: Beginning – Pipe Ceremony

Step 2: Content – Four Teachings

Step 3: Closing – Oral Truthing

Step 4: Forming the Narrative

Step 5: A Final Step



https://youtu.be/VlcdLoxMUjM?si=Q3wSH_uZsceDFe-U



Building Relatives:

Guided by the traditional teachings embedded within **Wahkotiwin** (Cree Natural Law of interconnection and kinship), our **relationships and connections** with those we serve are the foundation for the services we provide.

Miskanawah has a strong reputation for being collaborators and leading a way that naturally creates **ethical space** between Indigenous and Western knowledge systems. We understand that true Reconciliation involves learning and engagement by all communities, in an environment that welcomes collaboration, intergenerational knowledge sharing, and relational accountability. Miskanawah **invites relatives from diverse backgrounds** to miskamaso (discover for yourselves) how we can walk alongside each other to enhance cultural connections, cultural understandings and **Reconciliation** within Moh'kinstsis.

Miskanawah Core Building Relatives Offerings:

**Annual Truth & Reconciliation Bringing Them Home:
4-day Sacred Fire Ceremony (12:56)**



Annual Friendship Round Dance (1:55)



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- Children and Family Services
- Indigenous Relations
- Provincial Family Resource Networks



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For more information, please phone:

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or visit us at:

www.miskanawah.ca

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