

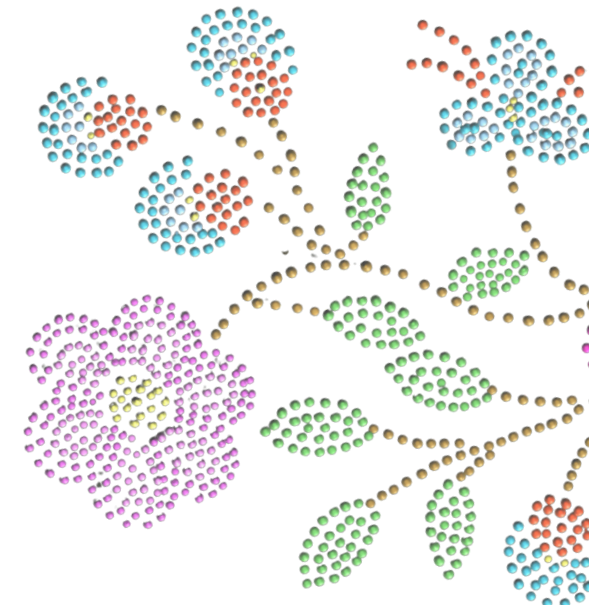


OTTAWA ABORIGINAL COALITION

One of seven Indigenous Coalitions in Ontario

Introduction

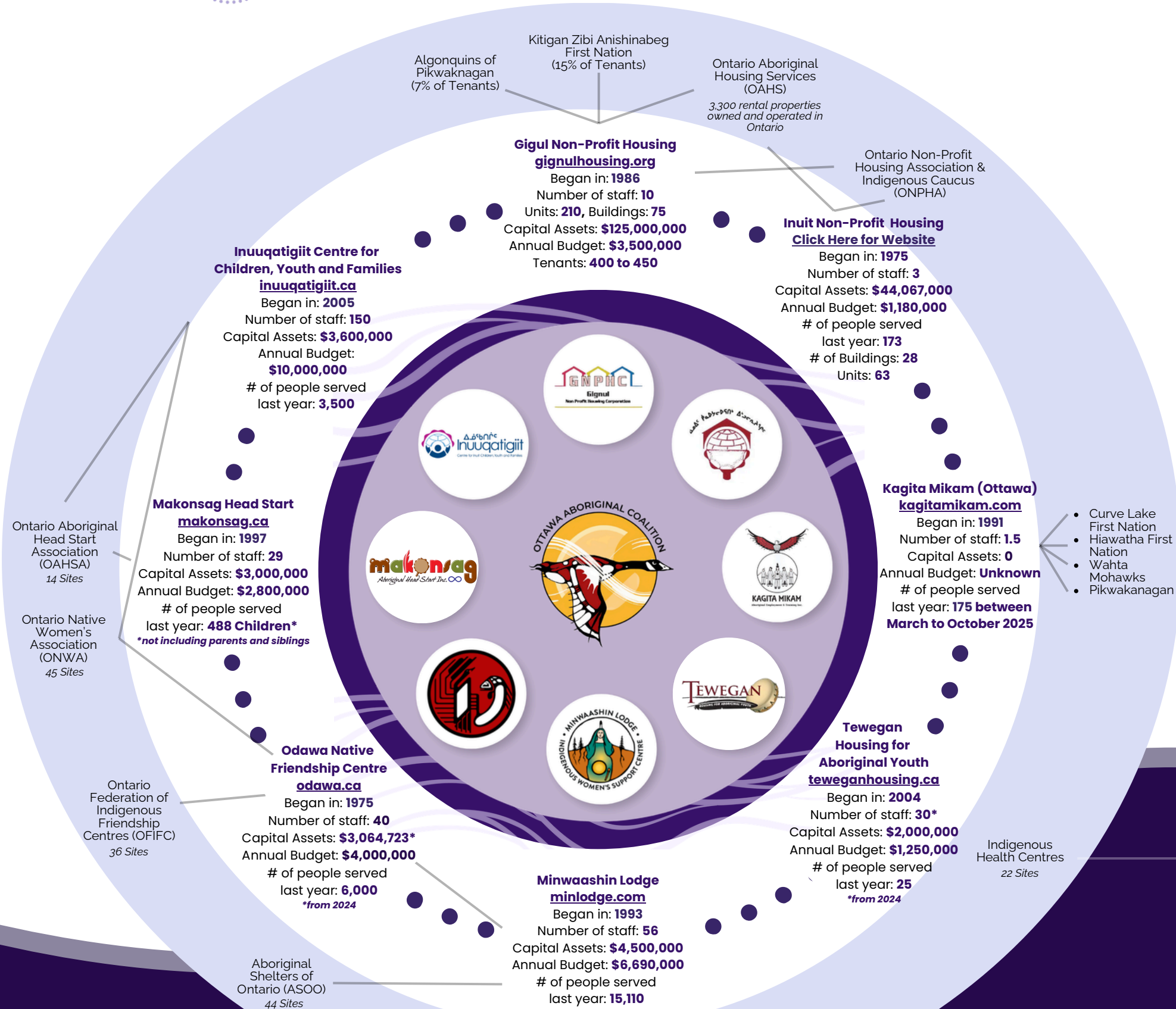
The OAC advocates at the community, municipal, provincial, and federal levels, aiming to educate and raise awareness about Indigenous issues and the unique circumstances of Indigenous people in Ottawa. Our goal is to enhance the positive and healthy choices available to community members and their families across various areas, including health, housing, education, employment, training, and access to cultural activities.



Summary of Impact

2024-2025

Staff: **334 +**
 Capital Assets: **\$199,200,000 +**
 Annual Budget: **\$34,420,000 +**
 People Served: **30,900 +**



Ottawa Aboriginal Coalition



ottawaaboriginalcoalition.ca
 Began in: 2001
 Number of staff: 15
 Capital Assets: **\$14,000,000**
 (Inuit VAW Shelter to open in 2027)
 Annual Budget: **\$5,000,000**
 # of people served last year: 5,000

Primary Local Partnerships

- Children's Aid Society of Ottawa
- Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario
- City of Ottawa
- Ottawa Police Services
- Ottawa Public Health
- United Way

Ottawa Indigenous Non-Coalition Members

- Akusavik Inuit
- Métis Nation of Ontario
- Ontario Native Women's Association
- Tungasuvvingat Inuit





OTTAWA ABORIGINAL COALITION PRIORITIES & IMPACT

One of seven Indigenous Coalitions in Ontario



Indigenous Mental Health Strategy

The Mental Health Strategy came out of the OAC COVID Research. We took the survey results to the Research committee to guide the priorities. Some of the key findings was that community heals, land heals and culture heals. Work that has come out of the strategy includes:

- **Ongoing seasonal gatherings with the Twenty Elders and Traditional Knowledge Holders** circle ensures that the OAC is provided with cultural insight and guidance for our projects including on our current research project to develop and Indigenous Palliative Care Framework.
- The **Indigenous Well Being workers program** provide wellbeing support to tenants.
- Working with CHEO and Kids Come First the research project, entitled **Collectively Caring for Indigenous Children and Youth** are identifying specific ways to overcome barriers that Indigenous families are experiencing when trying to access services and assessments for their children and youth experiencing mental health and development challenges.

“ The community is so strong, everyone truly looked out for each other and kept everyone close even at times that make us distant. ”

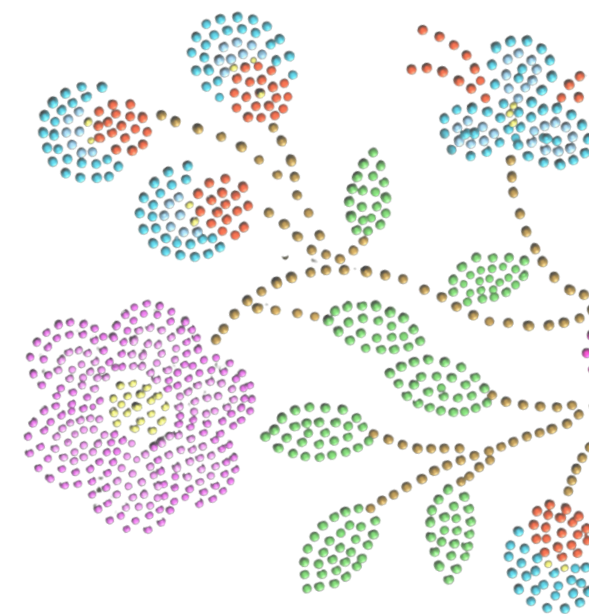
COMMUNITY MEMBER TALKING ABOUT COMMUNITY

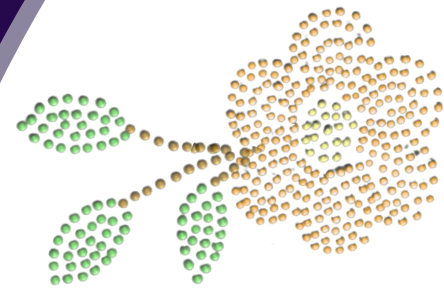


Ottawa Indigenous Employment Hub

Building on **three successful Career Fairs** that connects Indigenous community members with employment and training opportunities, the OAC is increasing employment and training opportunities for Indigenous community members. The OAC has set a number of key goals including

- Connecting **Indigenous youth to training that leads to** new infrastructure projects in Ottawa.
- Continuing to co-chair the **United Way Leadership Employment table**
- Growth of individual member **organization’s employment programs**





OTTAWA ABORIGINAL COALITION PRIORITIES & IMPACT

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Indigenous Housing and Homelessness Strategy

OAC has committed **to create 1,000 homes in 10 years for Indigenous community members in the City of Ottawa**, while working with partners and responding to the different housing needs.

- In the first two years of the Strategy, the OAC, with partners has confirmed 90 new homes for Indigenous community members.
- Sitting at the **City of Ottawa Housing and Homelessness Leadership Table** and working in partnership with the City's 10 year strategy.
- Connecting **Downtown Outreach** and our homeless community members with Transitional and Supportive Housing.
- **Eight projects are being worked on** including transitional housing, supportive housing and an Indigenous Housing Hub all designed based on Indigenous values and concepts of home and community



Indigenous Women's Safety Table

The Indigenous Women's Safety Table was established in 2021 after the National Inquiry on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. The table has **four key priorities**:

- Enhancing the Ottawa Police Services capacity to keep Indigenous women safe through learning events and a joint workplan;
- Public education including through the Red Dress Day event (500 people attended on May 5, 2025 at City Hall) and the Tree of Hope.
- The **establishment of a Family Healing Lodge** where Indigenous women can come to **heal, address their addictions and bring their children with them for up to 6 months.**
- The **Aging Out Initiative** will establish a safe space to house up to 30 young women (18- 30 years old) as they transition out of a child welfare and into a situation that can support them to be successful, participating member of society who can live independently.



Inuit Violence Against Women Shelter

The OAC will have completed the building of **the first Inuit VAW Shelter south of Inuit Nunagaut in the beginning of 2027**. The shelter will have space for **30 women and children**. In addition to the capital funding of **\$9M from the federal government** and support from the City and province, the federal government is providing \$1.8M in operating costs for each year for 20 years. Minwaashin Lodge, Inuuqatigiit and Inuit Non-Profit Housing has been leading this with the OAC.





OTTAWA ABORIGINAL COALITION PRIORITIES & IMPACT

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Current Priorities

OAC Priorities

- Indigenous Women's Safety Table
- Indigenous Housing and Homelessness
- Indigenous Well Being Strategy
- Indigenous Employment Hub

Ottawa is a Place of Belonging

"Reconciliation starts with healing. Healing starts with our relationship with the land and culture." (Mary Daoust, OAC Co-Chair)



Urban Indigenous Community, Recognition & Governance

Collaborative Relationships

- Federal, Provincial, and City of Ottawa
- United Way
- Ottawa Public Health
- Children's Aid Society Ottawa
- Ottawa Police Services

Key Projects

- Violence Against Women Inuit Shelter
- Family Healing Lodge
- Aging Out Initiative
- 1,000 new homes by 2033

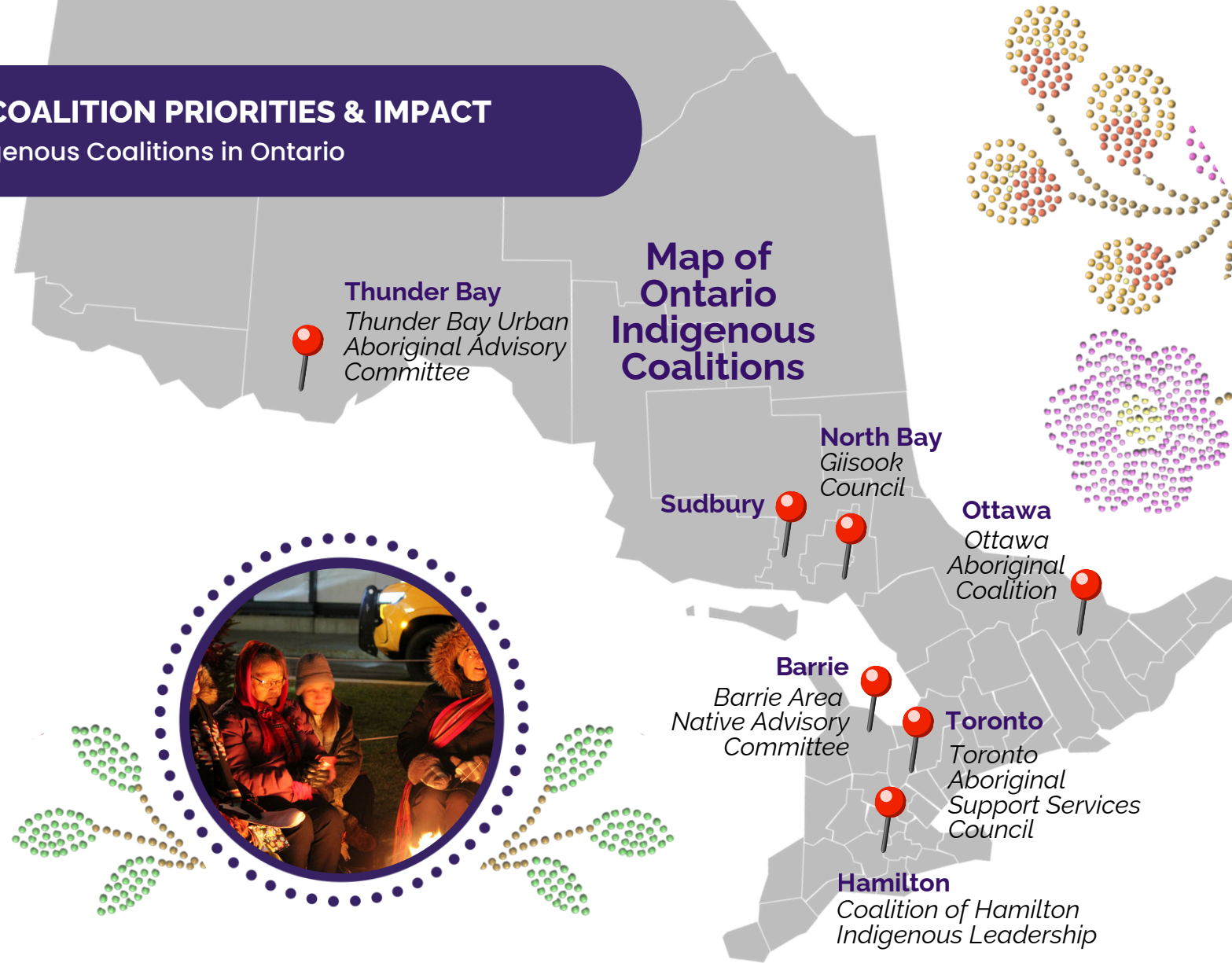
Systems Change

- Racism in the Health Care System
- City Engagement

Research & Storytelling

- Collectively Caring for Indigenous Children and Youth (Kids Come First)
- Palliative Care
- COVID-19 Research Project
- Point in Time Count 2024

Map of Ontario Indigenous Coalitions



Coalition Partners/Relationships

Education

Algonquin College
 Carleton University
 Ottawa Catholic School Board
 Ottawa-Carleton District School Board
 St. Pauls University
 University of Ottawa

Violence Against Women

Interval House Ottawa
 Ottawa Coalition to End Violence against Women
 Ottawa Rape Crisis Centre
 Women and Gender Equality Canada

Health Care

Centretown Community Health Centre
 Champlain Palliative Care
 CHEO Indigenous Circle
 CHEO- Integrated Care Delivery
 Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario
 Ottawa Public Health
 Roger Neilson Childrens Hospice
 Sandy Hill Community Health Centre
 The Ottawa Hospital Indigenous Leadership Table
 The Royal Ottawa Hospital

Mental Health and Addictions

Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction (CCSA)
 Inuit Synergy
 Ottawa Guiding Council for Mental Health and Addictions

Kids and Youth

Crossroads Children First Words
 Kids Come First - CHEO PLEO
 Youth Services Jeunesse
 Youturn Youth Support Services

Career Fair Partners

Over 100 Partners including:
 ARUP - Alexandria Bridge
 Canadian Museum of History and Canadian War Museum
 Centre for Social Enterprise Development
 DREAM
 Eastern Ontario Building Trades Council
 House of Commons
 Hydro One
 Invest Ottawa
 Mwanza
 NVision Insight Group Inc
 Ottawa & District Labour Council
 Ottawa Senators
 Ross Video
 Royal Canadian Mint
 United Way
 WCG Services

Housing and Homelessness

Alliance to End Homelessness Ottawa
 Housing and Homelessness Leadership Team
 John Howard Society
 Mayor's Youth Homelessness Committee
 Multifairth Housing Initiative
 Options Bytown
 Parkdale Housing Group
 Salus Ottawa
 Sandy Hill Housing Co-operative
 Windmill Developments

Inuit VAW Shelter Partners

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)
 Formline Architects
 Fotenn
 LGA Architectural Partners
 McDonald Brothers

Ottawa Community Partners

Bridge Building Group
 Centretown Citizens Ottawa Corporation
 Children's Aid Society
 City of Ottawa
 City of Ottawa - PiT Count
 City of Ottawa Aboriginal Community Advisory Board (ACAB)
 City of Ottawa, Employment Community Safety and Wellbeing Advisory Board
 Housing Registry of Ottawa
 Ottawa Community Benefits Roundtable
 Ottawa Community Foundation
 Ottawa Food Bank
 Ottawa Public Library (Ādisōke)
 Ottawa Safety Council
 Three Words

Police and Law Enforcement

Ontario Special Investigations Unit
 Ottawa Police Services
 Parliamentary Protective Service (PPS)

Connect With Us

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