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Cree Nation Government

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Department of Justice and Correctional Services

**2018-2019 Justice Funds Annual Report**

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# **Working Together for Safer, Engaged Communities Across Eeyou Istchee**



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**Thank You!  
Meegwetch!**



# JUSTICE FUNDS REPORT

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## Welcome to our fourth annual Justice Funds Report!

Throughout this fourth funding cycle the Department of Justice and Correctional Services has witnessed the continued commitment of the Cree Nation to its people – many projects from this past year focused on engaging and inspiring our community as a means of crime prevention, holistic health, and social justice. This is just one of the ways that the Justice Funds are being utilized to fund initiatives focused on justice, crime prevention and youth engagement in each of the communities.

We have supported many of our applicants' ideas to provide effective programming as a mechanism of justice. Through projects that focused on demonstrating individual self-worth and sense of belonging, participants of the various Funded projects acquired confidence, leadership skills, knowledge, resources and tools for living a life of positive choices.

It is our belief that contributing to a strong foundation for our people and their ideas is just one of many examples of how Justice Funds projects can be used to help build an ever-stronger Cree Nation.



# JUSTICE FUNDS | AN INTRODUCTION

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**The Justice Funds support projects that promote crime prevention, rehabilitation and reintegration as a foundation for a positive and healthy life.**

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## A Bit of History

The Cree Nation Government's Department of Justice and Correctional Services (DOJCS) was established in 2008 following the 2007 justice agreement with the Government of Quebec to implement and expand upon Section 18 of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement.

In 2015, as one of the new initiatives to engage the Cree communities, organizations and people of Eeyou Istchee, a series of justice and corrections related Funds were established.

Complementing existing services and programs, the Funds foster engagement of youth and the larger community to contribute to the creation of community hubs that work together for Crees across Eeyou Istchee.

## The funds are:

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**Youth  
Engagement Fund**



**Crime  
Prevention Fund**



**Corrections  
Fund**

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The goals of the Funds are to support the development of innovative new projects related to the general prevention of crime and the rehabilitation of Cree individuals already in the justice system.

Promoting social healing as a foundation for a positive and healthy life, the Funds aim to support projects that facilitate crime prevention, rehabilitation and reintegration by elevating individuals' sense of self, development of life skills and understanding of responsibility and personal choices.

The Funds support initiatives that are for the Crees of Eeyou Istchee and are led by Crees, whether individuals, Bands, or Cree controlled organizations. It is of the utmost importance that funded projects and programs actively incorporate Cree traditions, values, and ways of life.

### **The Funds contribute to the community by:**

- Supporting community members and regional entities with initiating projects;
- Contributing to the prevention of crime;
- Supporting with reintegration post incarceration;
- Building community empowerment and capacity;
- Reinforcing Cree values and traditions;
- Connecting participants to each other and the wider community; and,
- Providing opportunities for holistic healing and well-being.

The Department of Justice and Correctional Services encourages individuals and organizations to bring forth projects that will facilitate safe and strong Cree families and communities in ways that connect participants to Cree core values, culture, and traditions and that are in connection with justice in the Cree Nation.



## 2018-2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

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**Funded projects demonstrated a distinct connection between innovation and Cree traditions, including land-based programs supporting the traditional Cree way of life to empower, heal and learn together.**





Geared for the people of the Cree Nation, our projects were led in the communities and out on the land, aligned with the Justice and Corrections themes. A variety of initiatives were supported by the Cree Justice Funds in this fourth year of the program, and this year our Justice Funds were leveraged to empower all community members, including youth leadership.

We demonstrated our continued commitment to engage and empower the Cree population by investing in the development of projects that prevent crime and inspire the development of confident community leaders.

The 2018-2019 Funded projects varied greatly and included:

- Projects aimed at empowering youth voices to discuss topics such as drug and alcohol abuse, crime prevention, suicide prevention, bullying, and Cree culture.
- Projects that encouraged youth to express themselves through art to address social and personal issues and to develop self-esteem and confidence.
- Projects that developed self-esteem through physical activities and demonstrated the benefits and value of living a healthy lifestyle free of drugs, alcohol and crime.
- Projects that focused on traditional teachings to connect youth to their Elders and demonstrate how to heal through the land.
- Projects that supported jobs placement and skills development.
- Projects that supported participants with reintegrating into the workforce.

These projects reflect the communities inspiration and the desire to partner with the Justice Funds to facilitate safe and strong Cree families and communities.

The variety and creativity expressed in the various projects is inspiring and we encourage community members to continue contacting the Funds Administrator with their ideas so that we can help make them a reality!

**Donald Nicholls**

Director, Justice and Correctional Services



# 2018-2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS



Youth Engagement Fund



Corrections Fund



Crime Prevention Fund

In the **2018-2019** funding year,  
**14 projects** were funded for a total of

## \$613,900



### 2018-2019 | Funded Projects



### Key project themes:

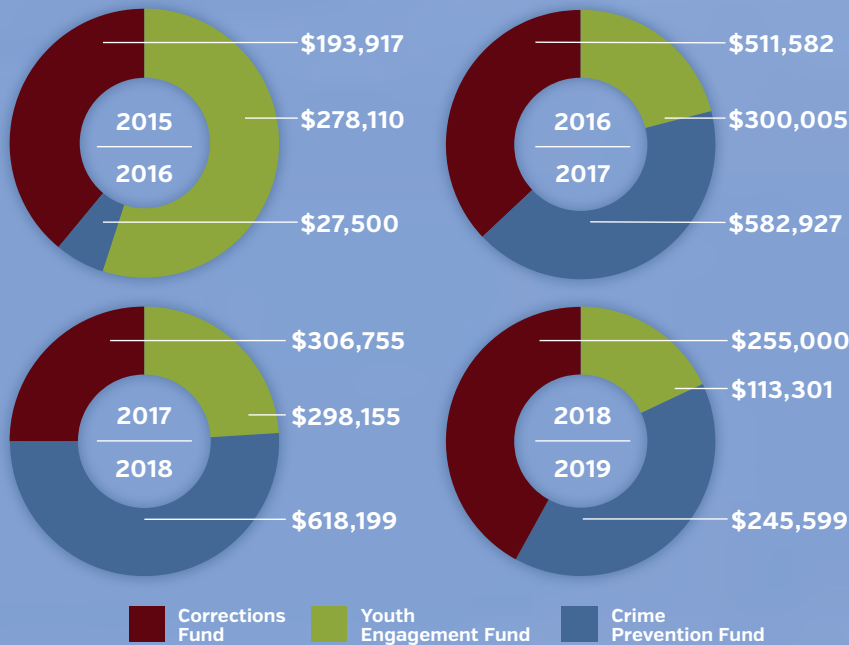
- EMPOWERMENT AND SELF-CONFIDENCE**
- Mental health**
- Cree culture and traditions**
- JOBS PLACEMENT AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**
- Healthy and active lifestyle**
- Giving back**
- Creating a dialogue around social issues**



## 2015-2016 to 2018-2019 | Overall Approved Projects and Granted Funding



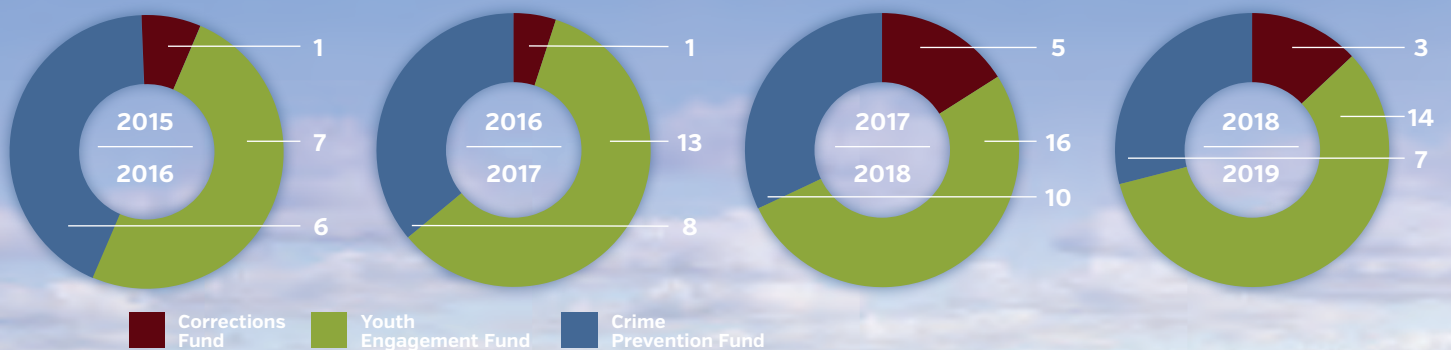
## 2015-2016 to 2018-2019 | Overall Funded Amounts per Fund



Over **3.5 million dollars** in funding since 2015

**91 different projects** have been funded by the Justice Funds

## 2015-2016 to 2018-2019 | Total of Approved Projects per Fund



# A FAIR PROCESS, SUPPORTED FROM APPLICATION TO APPROVAL

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**While each Fund has a specific objective, scope, and target audience, all funded projects contribute to the Justice Funds goals to create safe communities and ensure that fundamental rights and practices are protected.**





To ensure projects are successful in achieving their desired impacts, the Department of Justice and Correctional Services provides applicants with ongoing guidance and support with the application submission, finances, and reporting activities.

### Justice Funds Administrator

A dedicated Justice Funds Administrator role was established in order to ensure that the applicants were supported throughout the process. Acting as a guide and mentor, the role of the Justice Funds Administrator is to:

- Support applicants with any questions or concerns;
- Oversee all steps of the process;
- Support applicants with the funding process;
- Help applicants resolve any challenges that they have with the application;
- Streamline the process to make it more efficient and effective by evaluating and learning from applicants feedback and personal experience;
- Monitor projects; and,
- Promote the Funds to increase awareness and accessibility of information.

The Justice Funds Administrator is the applicant's main point of contact during the application process and will remain the go-to person for funding recipients throughout the year. The Justice Funds Administrator has been thoroughly trained to guide and coach potential applicants through the process and to track and follow up on the ongoing projects. Applicants and potential applicants are encouraged to contact the Justice Funds Administrator at any point throughout the year should they have any questions or wish to receive coaching on the process.

It is important for the applicant to keep in close contact with the Justice Funds Administrator throughout the process, including submitting reporting, sharing photos taken during the project, and providing regular updates. Keeping lines of communication open ensures that the applicants get access to any necessary support for the project to run smoothly and achieve its objectives.



# A FAIR AND SUPPORTED PROCESS, FROM APPLICATION TO APPROVAL

## Promotion of Funds

Promotion of our Funds through an integrated, community-based marketing strategy allows Eeyou Istchee community members the chance to learn and make the most of the project opportunities that the Funds provide. Our strategy entails communicating information about the Funds to community members, the Cree local governments, Cree controlled organizations, and Cree beneficiaries of all nine communities.

Many new efforts and initiatives have been identified to strengthen the reach of the Justice Funds Administrator to community members across the Cree Nation and to encourage the development and initiation of new project ideas. Utilizing various Design Thinking processes, the funding experience has been reimaged from the perspective of (pre)applicants in order to increase engagement and improve access to funding.

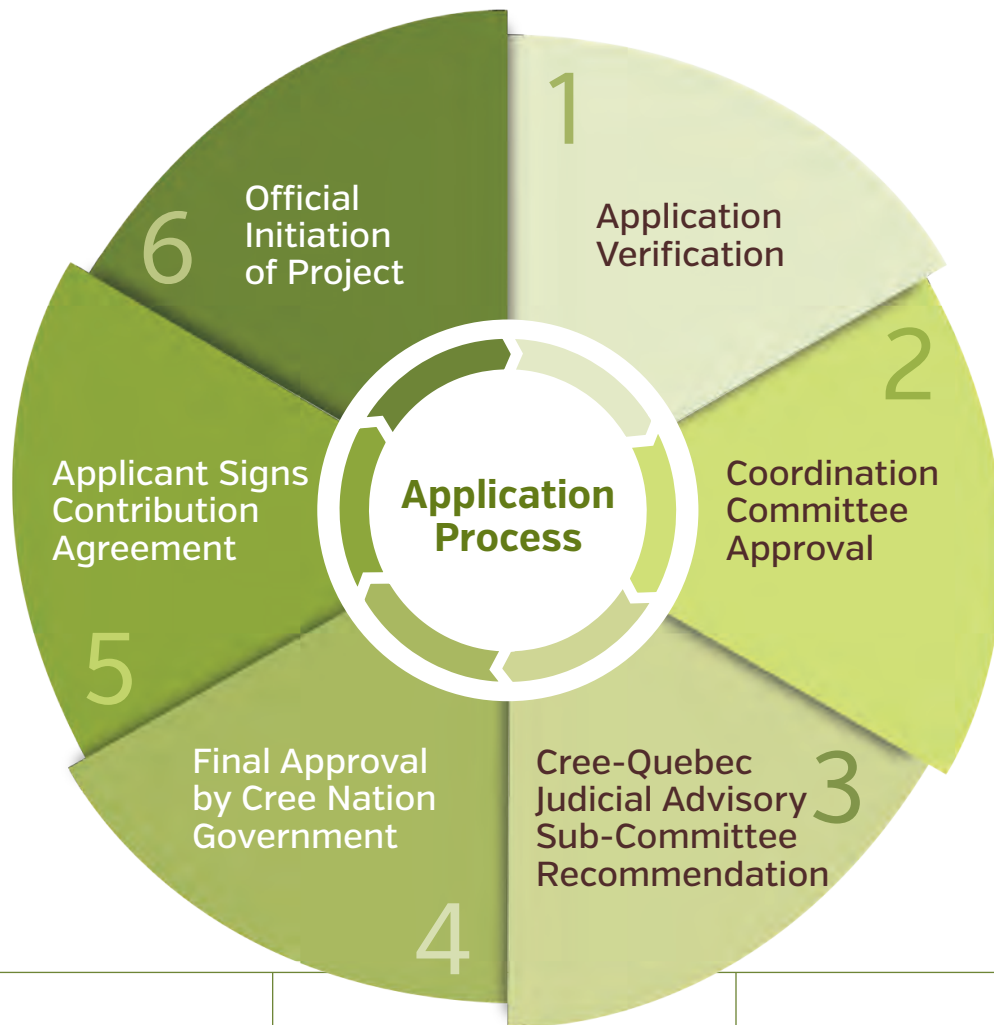
Initiatives have been developed to inform community members on the opportunities that the Funds offer, the application process and to facilitate access to the Justice Funds Administrator, such as:

- Youth Engagement Initiatives – announce specific, relevant programs through social media to engage and inspire young voices and new youth leadership;
- Webinars – online information sessions about the Funds and who to contact for more details;
- Community Tours – Justice Funds Administrator community visits to present and discuss the funds;
- Reporting Clinics – to help with reporting questions or challenges on interim or final reports; and,
- Pitch Events – applicants have a chance to test out their ideas with Justice Funds Administrators and gather feedback and direction to guide their application.

Our approach to promoting the Funds also includes classic promotional campaigns such as advertising in The Nation magazine, regional radio ads on JBCCS, local radio ads featuring the DOJCS Coordinators, local presentations by DOJCS staff members, information booths at Local and Annual General Assemblies, and advertising materials available in English and Cree.







This process was developed to ensure that applications are processed fairly and that approved applications are aligned with Fund objectives.



At any stage in the application process, the Justice Funds Administrator will communicate with the applicant updates or requests for additional information. To facilitate a smooth process, applicants are encouraged to regularly communicate with the Justice Funds Administrator.



In addition to new applicants, all successful applicants who have submitted their final report are invited to reapply next year with new ideas - let's continue to work together to build on your success!

# APPLICATION CRITERIA BY FUND

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## YOUTH ENGAGEMENT FUND

The **Youth Engagement Fund** aims to empower and engage youth under 35 years of age by steering them away from high-risk behaviours and intervening at an early stage to prevent negative activities from escalating into criminal offences.

Projects funded by the Youth Engagement Fund focus on crime prevention and social development through:

- Innovative and relevant programs that support making healthy life choices; and,
- The creation of concrete opportunities to connect youth with their Cree culture and traditions.



### Areas of Priority and Targets:

- Prevention of crime;
- Prevention of alcohol and drug abuse;
- Anti-bullying;
- Suicide prevention; and
- Emotional support.



### Projects should:

- Target youth < 35 years old who are experiencing difficulties at school or in their communities; and,
- Enable Cree youth to develop skills to keep from offending/re-offending;



### Eligible Applicants:

- Cree Bands (Youth Departments);
- Cree Nation Youth Council; and,
- Local Youth Councils.

# APPLICATION CRITERIA BY FUND



## CRIME PREVENTION FUND

The **Crime Prevention Fund** supports projects that contribute to the prevention of crime by addressing the underlying causes of crime in the Cree communities of the Eeyou Istchee.



### Areas of Priority and Targets:

- Violence, including family violence;
- Alcohol and drug abuse, and addiction;
- Addressing trauma and mental health;
- Building parenting skills and encouraging safe family and community environments;
- Promoting alternatives to school suspensions
- Prevention of school-based bullying; and,
- Promoting alternatives to criminal justice.



### Projects should:

Targeting 'at-risk' youth and adults, Crime Prevention projects incorporate Cree traditions, culture, and values and support three levels of crime prevention:

**LEVEL 1:** Early prevention by strengthening community and social structures through programs on themes such as parenting skills, drug and alcohol abuse, and staying in school.

**LEVEL 2:** Changing the behaviour of individuals who are actively committing crime or whose choices are already having a negative impact on the community.

**LEVEL 3:** Rehabilitating and building a foundation of stability for individuals who have been released from federal or provincial facilities and who desire a life free of continued criminal behaviour.



### Eligible Applicants:

- Cree controlled organizations;
- Cree beneficiaries;
- Partnerships between Cree controlled organizations and other organizations (Cree partners must have > 50% control of the project); and,
- Community Justice Committees





## CORRECTIONS FUND

The **Corrections Fund** provides a unique opportunity for Cree beneficiaries, local Bands, and Cree controlled organizations to welcome Cree offenders as they transition from incarceration in the South to their community and family life in the North. Projects funded by the Corrections Fund provide individuals with new skills, mentorship and job placement opportunities. The goal of these projects is to improve their employability within the community post incarceration.



### Areas of Priority and Targets:

Projects should support Cree offenders (both during detention and after release) with:

- Learning and applying the skills and strategies they need to prevent a cycle of reoffending;
- Overcoming barriers to successful reintegration;
- Developing awareness of the consequences of their behaviour; and,
- Giving back to the community while contributing value to community life



### Projects should:

Target Crees who are subject to:

- Social reinsertion;
- A conditional sentence order; or,
- A suspended sentence or parole.



### Eligible Applicants:

- Cree Bands and related entities;
- Cree controlled organizations;
- Cree beneficiaries;
- Partnerships between Cree controlled organizations and other organizations [Cree partners must have > 50% control of project]; and,
- Community Justice Committees.

A person is shown from the back, wearing a black t-shirt. The text 'EEYOU WARRIOR CLUB' is printed in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the upper back of the shirt. The person's hair is dark and pulled back. The background is a blurred indoor setting with warm yellow and orange tones, suggesting a gym or community center.

**EEYOU WARRIOR CLUB**

**At the end of a long day going to a safe environment, seeing familiar faces and being able to take your mind off of your daily stresses has a positive impact on your mental health, well-being and resilience.**





## Eeyou Warrior Club Youth Engagement Fund Waswanipi



The Eeyou Warrior Club works closely with youth who lack confidence and a sense of belonging. Youth are provided with guidance, support and encouragement to develop their self-esteem and live a positive, healthy and active lifestyle. Participants are taught that drugs and alcohol are unnecessary and they are provided with tools to boost their confidence to make the right, though at times tough choices.

This program offers something very different to the community by getting participants up and moving, challenging both their physical and mental ability. Activities includes jogging, hiking, sports, group exercise classes and general fitness.

This program provides a safe venue for individuals to let off steam while working out with their family and friends. Engaging in physical activity enables participants to work through their frustrations by letting it all out during the training session. By the end of the session everyone is smiling and feeling good.

The Eeyou Warrior Club aims to keep youth occupied and away from substance abuse and crime by challenging them physically and mentally. Through this program, participants learn the value of working together towards a common goal and connecting through sport and physical activities. It is important that the Justice Funds provides funding to support initiatives that focus on crime prevention by connecting with youth in creative ways in order to set them on a positive path. These projects help to create a strong foundation for the future of the Cree Nation.





## Cree Youth Identity Program Youth Engagement Fund Ouje Bougoumou



The Cree Youth Identity Program aims to develop a sense of belonging for at-risk youth by reconnecting them with Cree culture and traditions.

The Elders council was engaged in the development of this program and played a central role in its design. Elders actively participated in the implementation of this program by teaching the Cree language while engaging in traditional activities.

**It is important that Elders are present in the lives of our children to provide positive influences, support, encouragement and a sense of security and belonging.**

The Cree Youth Identity Program was developed with a multitiered focus of teaching the Cree language, emphasizing Cree culture and traditions and supporting crime prevention. The program took place over 8 months and consisted of events such as traditional cooking, feasting, storytelling from our elders, and weekend outings that focused on teaching youth traditional skills out on the land. Through these different activities participants also learned the importance of healing in the land. If there is no healing and way to help people, then yes, there will be crime.

Funded projects aimed at strengthening our Cree culture and sense of belonging of our youth are important because they demonstrate the support that exists throughout the community and help to provide individuals with encouragement and guidance to live a positive and crime free life.







## Community Integration Program

Corrections Fund  
Mistissini



The purpose of the Community Integration Program is to support past offenders with reintegrating into the workforce. This program provides participants with the opportunity to develop and demonstrate their work ethic and accountability which in turn facilitates community members with rebuilding their trust in individuals post incarceration.

Participants in this program are provided with judgement free encouragement and support. A key component of this program is that participants feel respected and understood while being held accountable to the boundaries and expectations of the Community Integration Program. This level of accountability reinforces their sense of worth and commitment to the program.

Through the Community Integration Program participants are exposed to many different types of work, such as odd jobs throughout the community as well as fixing and cleaning Elders' camps. Participants are also given the opportunity to attend trainings in order to acquire and develop traditional skills including setting snares and nets, and preparing fish.

This program is important because it supports individuals by demonstrating that they are capable of being productive members of the community. Individuals are provided with the guidance and support that they need to successfully reintegrate into the workforce while being able to demonstrate to community members that they are capable of being productive members of the community.



**A great justice system is one that allows the opportunity for Cree communities to provide tailored support to Cree people as they reintegrate into their community.**

The Justice Funds supports projects and initiatives that specifically address the unique needs of the Cree community and helps make initiatives like the Community Integration Program possible.



## Youth Wilderness Camp

Youth Engagement Fund  
Waskaganish



The Youth Wilderness Camp aims to teach at-risk youth the skills that they need to adapt to change and to new environments. This is done in parallel with learning about self-respect and respecting others and working towards developing into the Cree person that they are capable of being. The camp is implemented with the support of the Elders and individuals that have expert knowledge in traditional practices. It highlights the value of who we are as First Nations people and the rich history of the Cree Nation.

This camp connects participants to the traditional practices of the Elders that have been passed down from one generation to another.

The goal of the Youth Wilderness Camp is to get at-risk youth out of the community in an environment that they are comfortable in to participate in workshops focused on mental health and well-being and to engage in activities to learn Cree culture, values and traditional activities.

During the camp participants learn traditional activities such as how to make bannock; cut, prepare and cook fish in different ways; cook goose over a fire; build wigwams and teepees to sleep in; axe and knife safety; and how to paddle properly. In addition to the traditional activities, Elders also share stories from yesteryear, about the differences between this era and the era in which they grew up in and about their way of life.







The camp hosts several workshops that are geared at empowering youth that cover a range of topics such as discussions around identifying one's long-term goals and directions; encouraging healthy living; responsibility to the environment, and social issues such as struggling with addiction, troubles at home or school, abuse and violence. These workshops aim to demonstrate to participants that they are valued, appreciated and have a lot to contribute to the community. The goals for these workshops are to provide participants with tools to apply to their daily life so that they can develop into mentally strong and healthy adults.

The Youth Wilderness Camp would not be possible without funding. The funding allows youth from all socioeconomic backgrounds to attend the camp and gain access to all the same opportunities to succeed. The funding also makes it possible to compensate people for the work that they do throughout the camp.

**It is important that we teach young people traditional practices, Cree culture and values and to embrace who they are.**

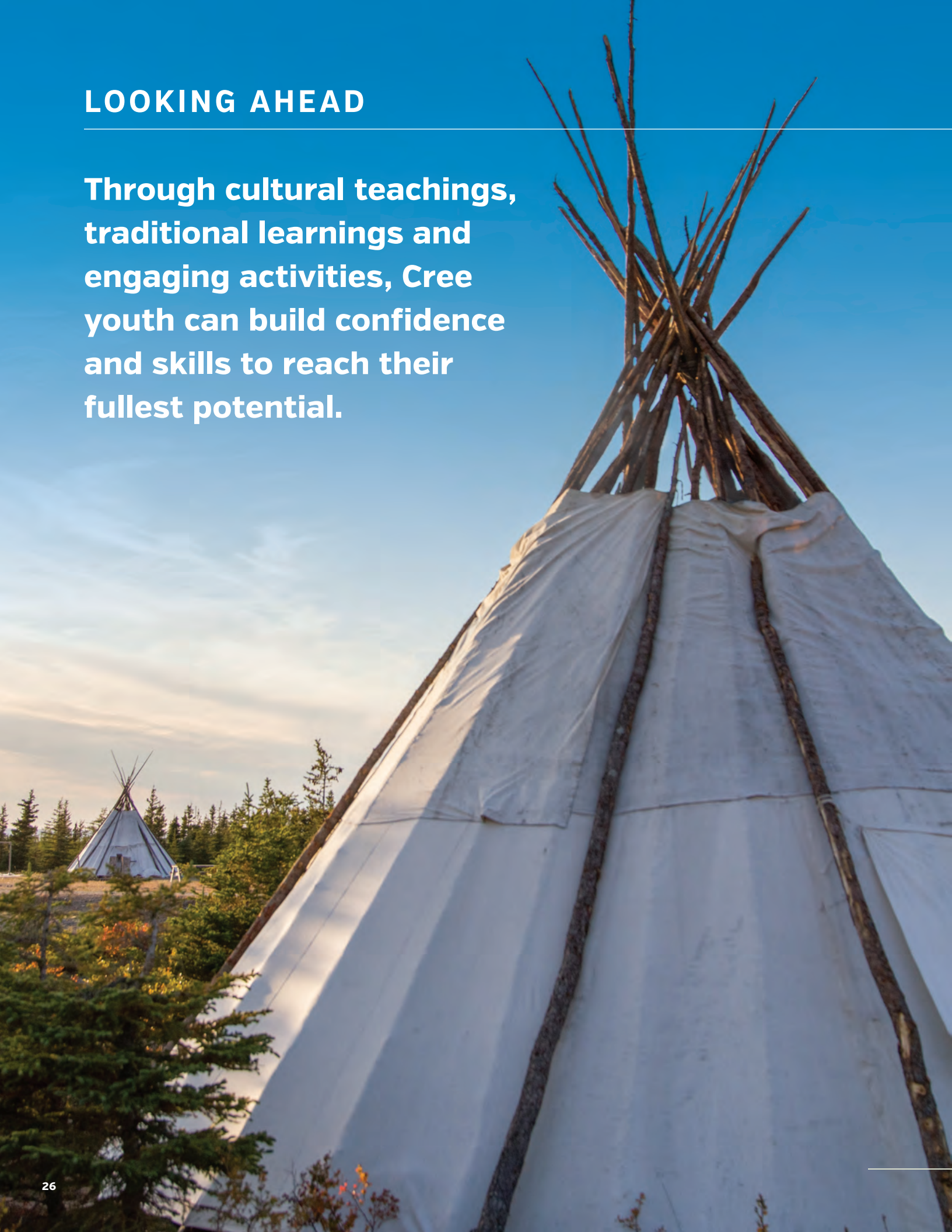




## LOOKING AHEAD

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**Through cultural teachings, traditional learnings and engaging activities, Cree youth can build confidence and skills to reach their fullest potential.**





A particular area of importance will continue to be Cree youth and our support for programs that focus on encouraging youth to connect to themselves and to their communities. In addition, support for projects and programs that develop community members and improve the safety and well-being of the community as a whole will continue to occur alongside initiatives that help those who are transitioning back into their communities.

The 2019-2020 funding year is well underway, and another round of applications will be submitted in September 2019. The response remains positive and the momentum continues to build as more community members and entities get involved. The Department of Justice and Correctional Services will continue to promote the Funds at the community level and guide and mentor applicants to submit by the next deadline.

Next deadline to submit an application	Ongoing
September 16 <sup>th</sup> 2019	Reporting and monitoring:
February 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2020	Please check your
June 1 <sup>st</sup> 2020	agreement for terms and due dates.

In the coming months, the Justice Funds Administrator will be touring communities, hosting Pitch Events, sharing ideas, giving presentations, and providing information and support wherever needed. Community visit dates will be posted on our website soon. Also, look for the DOJCS booth at the Local and Annual General Assemblies where protentional applicants are encouraged to ask questions and pick up printed materials.

Ultimately, it is our hope that Justice funded projects will continue to grow and blossom in the years to come and that increasing numbers of Eenouch Eeyouch will be inspired to get involved.



# 2018-2019 FUNDS REPORT ANNEX



## CRIME PREVENTION FUND

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### **Driving School Initiative** *Multi-Community*

#### **Description**

Aligned with the Road Safety Education Program, this program aims to educate high risk individuals and youth on the benefits of holding a driver's license and practicing safe and courteous driving. This program also addresses the dangers of driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol. Successful completion of this program results in the participant being issued a driver's license.

In order to participate in this program, participants had to be volunteering within their community. The purpose of making this a prerequisite for the program was to teach participants of the value of hard work and the associated rewards.

Successful completion of this program results in the participant being issued a driver's license.

#### **Objective**

Empowered, confident and independent individuals who are less likely to engage in dangerous and criminal driving offences and are more employable as a result of holding a driver's license.



### **From Schools to Communities: A Youth Engagement Program to Encourage School Perseverance and Reduce Juvenile Delinquency** *Multi-Community*

#### **Description**

Focusing on at-risk youth, this program aims to strengthen community and social structures by organizing engaging and fun hands-on activities that support the student curriculum and foster the development of crucial soft skills such as communication, self-esteem, leadership, and teamwork. This program works with youth to encourage and develop their professional aspirations.

Throughout the program there were certain activities that welcomed all community members (youth, adults and elders) in order to create an opportunity for positive intergenerational experiences in a safe environment.

#### **Objective**

Reengage youths who are at-risk of dropping out and encourage dropouts to come back to school to continue their education.





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## Wilderness Mobile Healing Paddle Expedition

*Chisasibi and Wemindji*

### Description

This program aims to challenge struggling and at-risk Cree individuals in a land-based cultural healing setting. This risk-taking adventure teaches participants how to become more self-aware, self-reliant, and how to respect themselves.

### Objective

Empower individuals to recognize and embrace their potential and encourage them to take proactive steps towards leading physically and emotionally healthy lifestyles.



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## Youth Wilderness Camp

*Waskaganish*



### Description

Through workshops and traditional camping activities, this land-based program aims to teach at-risk youth the skills that need to adapt to change and to new environments. Participants learn what it means to respect themselves and others while working towards developing into the Cree individual that they are capable of being.

### Objective

Empowered youth who are adaptable, resilient, self-aware, and contributing members of the community.

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## Mistissini Youth Canoe Brigade

*Mistissini*

### Description

This program aims to connect at-risk youth with themselves mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually. Through this challenging canoeing adventure, youth learnt how to overcome difficult situations as well as social skills to interact with others for an extended period of time in a land-based setting.

### Objective

Provide youth with vital skills to develop coping mechanisms to overcome difficult situations, to better understand themselves and to effectively communicate with others.





## CORRECTIONS FUND

### **Community Integration Work Program** *Mistissini*

#### **Description**

The project aims to provide assistance to the correctional services by offering rehabilitation and reintegration resources to their adult clients that are experiencing a lack of job opportunities as a result of time spent in a detention center. In addition to providing numerous employment opportunities, participants are given the opportunity to acquire new skills and develop their work ethic by training and participating in local activities.

#### **Objective**

Facilitate participants reintegration into the workforce by increasing their self-esteem through different work experiences and improving their contribution and providing them with an environment that will enable them to reconnect with their community.







## YOUTH ENGAGEMENT FUND

### Eeyou Warrior Club *Waswanipi*

#### Description

This program aims to educate youth on the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and the ramifications of substance abuse and crime by engaging them with the challenges and rewards of working out and participating in group physical activities. Participants learn the value of a healthy lifestyle and that along with the hard work, keeping fit is a lot of fun.

#### Objective

Youth who are strong and healthy (mentally and physically) and recognize that drugs and alcohol are not needed in order to live a fulfilling and positive life. This program results in invested community members that support and encourage one another both inside and outside of the gym.



### Youth Expressing through Art *Waswanipi*

#### Description

This program aims to increase the self-esteem and confidence of at-risk youth by developing their creativity. This program teaches participants that art is a form of communication and demonstrates how it can be used as a form of expression. Participants learned that channeling emotions through art is a healthy mechanism for understanding and managing emotions.

#### Objective

Empowering youth with additional tools to express themselves and to support their emotional well-being.





## YOUTH ENGAGEMENT FUND

### Positive Pathways Pilot Project *Mistissini*

#### Description

This program aims to support at-risk youth with planning for their future by exposing them to different projects and experiences and by providing opportunities to experience successes. Through the support of the community participants learn about the different paths that they can take for their future.

#### Objective

To help youth become more optimistic, motivated and confident about their future.



### Cree Youth Identity Program *Ouje-Bougoumou*

#### Description

This program aims to develop a sense of belonging for at risk-youth by reconnecting them with Cree culture and traditions and raising awareness for the importance of the Cree language and the central role that it plays in our Cree identity. This program creates opportunities for youth to engage with elders, exposes them to various traditional activities, as well as helps youth to develop a sense of belonging within the community.

#### Objective

Engaging youth to develop a strong sense of identity and belonging, who are connected to Cree culture and traditions through language and therefore have more confidence and tools in order to express themselves.



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## Youth Week *Waskaganish*

### Description

Through different workshop and presentations this program aims to raise awareness amongst youth of community struggles with grief, suicide, drugs and alcohol and to discuss ways for overcoming these struggles.

### Objective

To create a strong network of support within the community and youth who are aware of the resources that are available to them should they be going through a difficult time and require assistance.



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## Harlem's House *Ouje-Bougoumou*



### Description

This program aims to increase and strengthen the collaboration between at-risk youth and their support system (parents, teachers and staff) by providing students with after school activities in a safe and healthy environment.

### Objective

Engaging youth in various activities to reduce school dropout rates, keep kids 'off the streets' in a safe environment where they can improve their social behaviors and ultimately prevent situations that could lead to crime.

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## Don't Fear the Podium – Using your Voice *Waswanipi*

### Description

This program aims to teach youth the value and power of their voice. This event provided participants with tools and tips for speaking in front of a crowd and for how to harness their words to express themselves and speak up when they are in trouble or have witnessed wrongdoing.

### Objective

To develop and empower youth to become confident and comfortable to use their voice to speak up about difficult topics with peers and adults.



# THANK YOU! MEEGWETCH!

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We would like to recognize the Cree-Quebec Judicial Advisory Committee, and the Cree Nation Government for their continued support for these Funds. We appreciate the hard work of the Department of Justice and Correctional Services staff, whose dedication and energy help to facilitate the administration of the Funds. Finally, we would like to thank all the organizations and individuals who have submitted projects and brought them to fruition in the past year. Our shared passion and vision to make our communities and Nation safer and stronger is very encouraging for the future.







