



Youth Substance Addiction Committee Inc. ANNUAL REPORT

2024-2025

Executive Summary



On behalf of the Youth Substance Addiction Committee (YSAC), we are honoured and humbled to present the 2024–2025 YSAC Annual Report. This has been an exceptionally active and transformative year as we conclude our first year as a federally incorporated organization. This milestone represents not only a new chapter in our governance structure but also a renewed commitment to leadership, innovation, and accountability in Indigenous youth wellness. We extend deep gratitude to Indigenous Services Canada, whose ongoing partnership and belief in our work make it possible for us to grow, evolve, and respond meaningfully to the needs of our communities.

Program Development and Innovation

This year, YSAC was proud to pilot the new Life is Sacred Integrated Treatment Program at three of our member centres. This culturally rooted intervention supports the treatment of suicide ideation and risk by building internal trainer capacity and weaving cultural knowledge directly into therapeutic care. We also introduced new tools and frameworks to enhance safety and healing, including:

- ❑ An updated incident reporting and monitoring system
- ❑ A holistic risk and resilience assessment grounded in the Indigenous Wellness Framework
- ❑ A centre-based safety planning tool aligned with trauma-informed and culturally grounded approaches

Workforce Development

Our commitment to workforce excellence continued with the development of a new online course, Principles of Harm Reduction, which will be pilot tested with treatment centre staff in June 2025.

Celebrating Our Member Centres

We also celebrate the achievements of several of our YSAC member centres:

- ❑ Clear Hills Youth Treatment Centre welcomed its first cohort of youth in July 2024—congratulations on this inspiring beginning.
- ❑ Ka-Na-Chi-Hih launched a community-based traditional parenting program, weaving cultural knowledge into family strengthening.
- ❑ Charles J. Andrew Healing Centre hosted a powerful week-long harm reduction focused drop-in in December 2024, featuring cultural, educational, and relationship-building activities that reflected the spirit of holistic wellness.

Looking Ahead

As we look toward the next five years, YSAC remains deeply committed to advancing quality improvement initiatives, strengthening workforce development and expanding the continuum of addictions care. We are also committed to collaborating with our partners, including the Thunderbird Partnership Foundation, to further the reach and impact of our collective efforts. We walk this path with intention, rooted in culture, community, and connection. Thank you to every partner, Elder, youth, staff member, and supporter who continues to walk with us.

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YSAC Centre's

CENTRE	# OF FUNDED BEDS	AGE RANGE	GENDER	INTAKE DATES	SPECIAL SERVICES	TOTAL RESIDENTIAL ADMISSIONS 2024-2025
Charles J Andrew Healing Centre Sheshatshiu, Labrador Established May 2000	10	Families	Families	8-week cycles	Youth and Family Treatment Land-based Treatment Day Counselling, Outreach	60
Clear Hills Youth Treatment Centre Hythe, Alberta * Expected opening July 2024	10	12 – 17	Gender Blocks	Jul/Oct/Jan	Culturally Based Youth Treatment	No Data Received
Ka-Na-Chi-Hih Treatment Centre Thunder Bay, Ontario Established November 1996	6	18-30	Gender Blocks	Continuous	Youth Treatment Land Based Program	30
Leading Thunderbird Lodge Inc. Fort San, Saskatchewan Established January 2007	10 Residential + 5 Transition House	12-17	Male	Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct	Culturally Based Youth Treatment Land Based Treatment Transitional Housing, Outreach	33
Nenqayni Wellness Centre Society Williams Lake, British Columbia Established September 1996	10 youth + Families	13-18 Families	Female Families	Jan/May/Sep	Youth Treatment Family Treatment Outreach	28
Nimkee NupiGawagan Healing Centre Muncey, Ontario Established January 1997	9	12-17	Gender Blocks	Jan/May/Aug (alternating genders)	Youth Treatment Community Based Interventions	37
Walgwan Centre Gesgapegiag, Québec Established May 1996	12	12-17	Co-Ed	Continuous	Culturally Based Youth Treatment 14-week residential program (or based on youth and family needs) Outpatient Services – Virtual Care	38
Whiskyjack Treatment Centre Norway House, Manitoba Established October 1996	10 Youth + 6 Family	12-17 Families	Gender Blocks	Jan/Apr/Sep 8 weeks Family	Culturally Based Youth Treatment Family Treatment Outreach	95
White Buffalo Treatment Centre Inc. Muskoday, Saskatchewan Established January 1997	10 youth + 2 Transition Beds	12-17	Female	Jan /Apr/Aug	Culturally Based Youth Treatment Outreach Transitional Housing	60
Maskwacis Young Spirit Winds Society Maskwacis, Alberta Established October 2006	Day Treatment	12-17	Co-Ed	Jan/Apr/Jul/Sep	Culturally Based Day Treatment Program Outreach, Aftercare	Day Treatment



Annual Workplan

From 2019 through 2025 YSAC was working on a five-year workplan that is reviewed and updated at each YSAC meeting. While training and human resource development formulate the bulk of the workplan activity, other areas including governance development, policy development, programming, strategic planning, accreditation support and emergency intervention make up much of the YSAC day to day activities. In addition, YSAC aligns its work with the Honoring our Strengths framework for action.

Element
1

Community
Development,
Universal
Prevention and
Health
Promotion

Element
2

Early
Identification,
Intervention and
Aftercare

Element
3

Secondary Risk
Reduction

Element
4

Active Treatment

Element
5

Specialized
Treatment

Element
6

Care Facilitation

Supports to the Care Elements

Workforce Development	A well-trained, certified, stable workforce with the support needed to effectively meet the complex needs of the clients it serves.
Governance and Coordination of Systems	Effective oversight of the system at community, regional and national levels.
Addressing Mental Health Needs of Clients, Families and Communities	Supports to ensure that the mental health needs of clients and communities can be addressed within addictions programming or through referral.
Performance Measurement and Research	Information to support planning at a program, community, regional and national level; research and knowledge exchange to develop and apply approaches to care and services that work for First Nations clients and communities.
Pharmacological Approaches	Awareness of the need for the correct use of medications to address addictions and mental health issues.
Accreditation	A process that ensures excellence and effectiveness in programs and facilities.

Workplan Accomplishments

Governance and Co-ordination of Systems

- Delivered Board Governance Training to CJAY Board of Directors in November 2024
- Assisted with new Board Member Orientation to two new Centre Directors
- Conducted Pre-Opening Review for CHYTC in May 2024
- Completed strategic planning processes with CJAY
- Conducted four Board Self Evaluation Surveys for YSAC Centres
- Implementation of our first national Board Self Evaluation benchmarking
- Hosted three YSAC Directors Meetings
- Completed YSAC Incorporation process

Workforce Development

- Core Competency survey completed November 2024 and expanded to individual development reports for each respondent
- National Staff Satisfaction Survey completed in December 2024
- Delivered ten different course subjects over the calendar year
- Ten Phase one: Life is Sacred Suicide Prevention Trainers trained in March 2025
- Completed development of a new course: Principles of Harm Reduction

Addressing Mental Health Needs of Clients, Families and Communities

- Provided three Inhalant Prevention Zoom Presentations for Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social services
- Participated in ISC National Summit on Indigenous Mental Wellness in October 2024
- Trained 93 staff members from six Centre's on Phase II: Life is Sacred Intervention

Workplan Accomplishments Continued

Performance Measurement and Research

- Conducted and collated eight Client Satisfaction Annual Summaries for YSAC Centres
- Developed a full auto generated core competency report with training needs and suggestions for individual employee reporting
- Conducted National core competency survey October 2024

Pharmacological Approaches

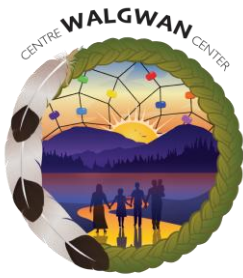
- A total of 19 learners completed Pharmacology (Substances of Misuse) this fiscal year
- Harm Reduction Course for frontline staff was developed

Accreditation & Certification

- 90% of YSAC Centres are accredited through either the Canadian Accreditation Council (CAC) or Accreditation Canada (AC) - 1 new Centre will be applying for Accreditation with AC in 2025/2026
- Held six Accreditation support meetings in 2024/2025 to inform new employees of the accreditation process and support accreditation staff with the accreditation process for their respective Centres
- Continual support for Centre staff with certification/re-certification through ICBOC

Our Centres





Walgwan Centre



Vision

Empowering First Nations and Inuit Youth on taking charge of their well being.

Mission

With full respect for the dignity and value of each person, the Centre provides a safe environment to each First Nations and Inuit Youth with a personally centered, holistic and culturally appropriate transition to her/his own path to well-being and a healthy life.

Program

Walgwan Centre is an accredited 12 bed residential treatment centre located in the Mi'gmaq First Nation community of Gesgapegiag in Eastern Quebec. Our intake is continuous, and we welcome and assist First Nations and Inuit youth from 12 to 17 years of age from both genders. We help restore a harmonious balance between their physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual needs while assisting them in recapturing their sense of hope, meaning, purpose and belonging.

The residential program has 4 phases and is culturally based with clear indicators for each phase. In the completion of each of these phases our elders do a specific ceremony in recognition of the achievement. We also provide aftercare services for up to two years.



Charles J Andrew Centre

Vision

Happy, healthy and empowered communities.

Mission

The Charles J. Andrew Youth Treatment Centre is committed to empowering aboriginal youth and families throughout Canada through the provision of a holistic healing program. The program is strongly influenced by traditional aboriginal values, beliefs and practices. Spirituality and reconnecting to the land will be key components in nurturing and building self-confidence and developing skills amongst youth and families to help them reach their full potential as community members.

Program

The clinical portion of the program takes place at the main building in Sheshatshiu. A team of dedicated staff works with families on core issues of trauma, family dynamics, life skills, emotional management, and addictions processes. Nutshimit is one of the core components of the program based on aboriginal culture, this land-based program comprises 50% of the treatment delivery. This included elder's traditional knowledge and teachings.



Nimkee Nupigawagan



Vision

The Creator has provided us with the greatest gifts...our young people. Today's generation will help the next generation continue to heal until all indigenous communities are free from solvent abuse and other addictions.

Mission

With respect, humility, and compassion, NNHC is committed to empowering Indigenous youth, families, and communities through culturally based holistic treatment services.

Program

Nimkee Nupigawagan offers residential treatment services for First Nation Youth, ages 12 to 17, and 18 to 25 who are challenged with solvent and substance abuse addiction. As a culturally based program, assessment and counseling begin from a place of respect that focuses upon the strengths of Native youth, their family and community.

There are 4 intakes per year: these intakes alternate between female and male gender- based program. When necessary and appropriate, psychological, and psychiatric assessments are completed through referral.

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Ka-Na-Chi-Hih Healing Lodge

Vision

That all youth, who have been part of Ka-Na-Chi-Hih, will have gained the strength and skills necessary to continue on their life's path with pride, dignity, respect, and a strong sense of identity. They will have achieved balance in their life's long journey towards fulfillment and will be contributing members of their communities and to society.

Mission

In keeping with the sacred teachings of the creator, Ka-Na-Chi-Hih will provide a safe, nurturing, and supportive environment for First Nation youth who are embarking on their healing journey to wellness of body, heart, mind, and spirit.

Program

Ka-Na-Chi-Hih Healing Lodge provides pre-treatment services, a 7-week bed-based program, and aftercare supports. Ka-Na-Chi-Hih Healing Lodge provides mental health and addictions programming to indigenous youth ages 18-29 who are dealing with mental health and or polysubstance misuse.

The 7-week program is a strength-based, trauma-informed program that is rooted in indigenous culture to provide holistic care to every individual. Each program has capacity for 6 individuals with their own private bedroom, desk for hobbies and self-reflection, and private bathroom and shower. While staying in the 7-week program, individuals will have access to case management services, 1:1 and group counselling via the Redpath Programming, access to family supports via the family support specialists, and 1:1 cultural counselling and group cultural activities. While in the program, individuals will be able to co-collaborate on an individual treatment plan with their case manager and circle of care. Individuals will receive many opportunities to build on life-skills, cultural connections, land-based activities, arrangement of medical appointments, group counselling, and 1:1 counselling. The program aligns with the First Nations Wellness Continuum Framework to support various methods of treatment that will target health promotion, prevention, early identification, along with coordinated care and aftercare.

Upon completing the 7-week program, individuals will receive various certificates for all the milestones they achieved in the program, such as, completion of the Redpath program, completion of various cultural ceremonies and activities, completion of strawberry medicine, and much more. They will also have an opportunity to build their aftercare plan before graduation which will have built-in supports from the care-team to continuously support and check-in on the individual goals and healing journey post-treatment.



Nenqayni



Mission

To provide holistic healing to First Nations, Inuit youth and families, and communities in a safe and secure environment.

Program

Nenqayni is located in the heart of the Cariboo Region of British Columbia in the territory of the Chilcotin, Shuswap and Carrier First Nations. Nenqayni's Youth Program has been running for over 20 years. We serve First Nations Youth and their families from communities across British Columbia. The Youth & Family Inhalant Program is a four-month program for the treatment of female solvent abusers ages 13–18. The program also addresses other issues through individual and group sessions, such as drug, alcohol and cross addictions, grief and loss, anger management, family violence, self-esteem, sexual abuse, co-dependency, self-awareness, communication skills, life skills, spirituality, health education and personal wellness. The balanced program is enhanced by cultural teaching, academic assistance, handcrafts, recreation and a variety of physical activities. We believe that the family and community are an important part of youth treatment. We provide a family component near the end of the youth's treatment cycle. The families are given an opportunity to join the program for a period of eight weeks to participate in family counselling sessions designed to strengthen family unity prior to their return to their home community. Aftercare is also provided for the youth, 24-hour telephone counselling is available, and community visits are made by staff whenever possible.



White Buffalo Treatment Centre

Vision

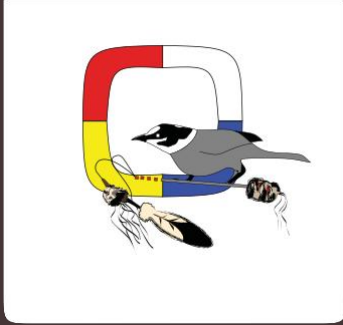
Indigenous youth use the Creator's gifts to achieve well and vibrant communities.

Mission

To empower Indigenous youth through culturally-based, holistic treatment and community outreach services.

Program

The White Buffalo Treatment Program is a 10-bed residential facility located on Muskoday First nation, 15 minutes Southeast of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. The Treatment Centre is designed to meet the needs of First Nations youth between the ages of 12 and 17, who are involved with substance misuse and who are experiencing related problem areas. The program is based on a holistic treatment model. Using the four cornerstones of treatment, spiritual emotional, physical and mental, as well as using the concept of “living therapy” whereby treatment is integrated into all interactions in which the youth participate. It is the belief of the White Buffalo Treatment Centre that while it is essential to have both intensive casework and group sessions to review individual problems, it is equally important to integrate relaxation, recreation life-skills, formal education and cultural activities into a positive therapeutic, interdisciplinary treatment model. The Treatment Program at White Buffalo Treatment Centre is designed to maximize youth potential through systematically improving self-esteem and equipping youth with “tools for life” The concepts of inner resiliency and strength-based assessment are used extensively throughout the treatment process. The Treatment Program is separated into four distinct six-week phases, with each phase designed to teach different skills useful in developing a substance free lifestyle. One of the unique features of the White Buffalo program is the extensive prevention, early intervention and mobile treatment services that are available to communities of Saskatchewan through the outreach component of the program.



Whiskyjack Centre

Vision

The Whiskyjack Treatment Centre provides effective holistic healing for youth and their families within a safe environment of respect, trust, and love. The Whiskyjack Treatment Centre leads First Nations communities to wellness by delivering quality care through consistent teamwork.

Mission

The Whiskyjack Treatment Centre leads First Nations communities to wellness by delivering quality care through consistent teamwork, unique services and traditional values.

Program

Whiskyjack Treatment Centre is licensed for 20 beds, for residential treatment, designed to accommodate First Nations youth, between the ages of 12–17. The culturally based program “provides effective holistic healing for youth and their families within a safe environment of respect, trust and love.” The program operates 3–16 week gender specific intakes per year; of which, one week of each intake is dedicated to family programming. When necessary and appropriate, Psychological and Psychiatric assessments are referred.



Leading Thunderbird Lodge

Vision

We reawaken healthy communities and families by rebuilding cultural pride and holistic health.

Mission

To empower Indigenous youth by providing a culturally based program to eliminate substance misuse.

Program

Leading Thunderbird Lodge provides a 16-week culturally based residential treatment program for First Nation or Inuit male youth from across Canada who are between 12 – 17 years of age. The holistic treatment program provides personal development in the four areas of: Spiritual, Physical, Mental and Social well-being. Education, Addiction, and Mental Health programming are the focus of the treatment program, which are all grounded in the First Nations teachings and culture of the local Cree, Saulteaux, Dakota, Lakota and Nakota First Nations.

An extension of LTL's programming includes Pekiwewin House – a transitional home for older graduates of the residential treatment program, that provides enhanced life skills, and where they can continue their education and/or gain work experience.

LTL also has a land-based camp which provides youth in treatment with on-the-land educational and healing experiences within the Porcupine Provincial Forest.



Clear Hills



Vision

Nanaskomaow Kisemanito, using teachings left to us from our ancestors, the Clear Hills Youth Treatment Centre will offer programming that ensures every youth's unique healing journey to strengthening the belief in oneself is supported through First Nation culture and western approaches to recovery and wellness.

Mission

Nanaskomaow Kisemanito, The Clear Hills Youth Treatment Centre is a distinctive healing and treatment program based on Indigenous traditions, ceremony, culture, and land-based teachings.

Program

Holistic, client-centered, needs-based approach, celebrating inclusion, identity & diversity. The First Nation's health and wellness worldview encompasses caring for the individual from a wholistic perspective, physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually; therefore, all of these aspects will be integrated and reinforced in the programming at CHYTC. Tapwehtamowin (Belief in Self) supports celebrating inclusion, identity and diversity. CHYTC practice includes developing specialized programming that is client-centered and based on each youth's unique needs.



Young Spirit Winds

Vision

The Maskwacis Young Spirit Winds Society empowers healthy, balanced, proud First Nations youth in a safe, respectful and holistic environment.

Mission

While maintaining high quality standards of service, Maskwacis Young Spirit Winds Society offers First Nations youth holistic treatment, aftercare and support by utilizing cultural teachings, appropriate resources and partnerships.

Program

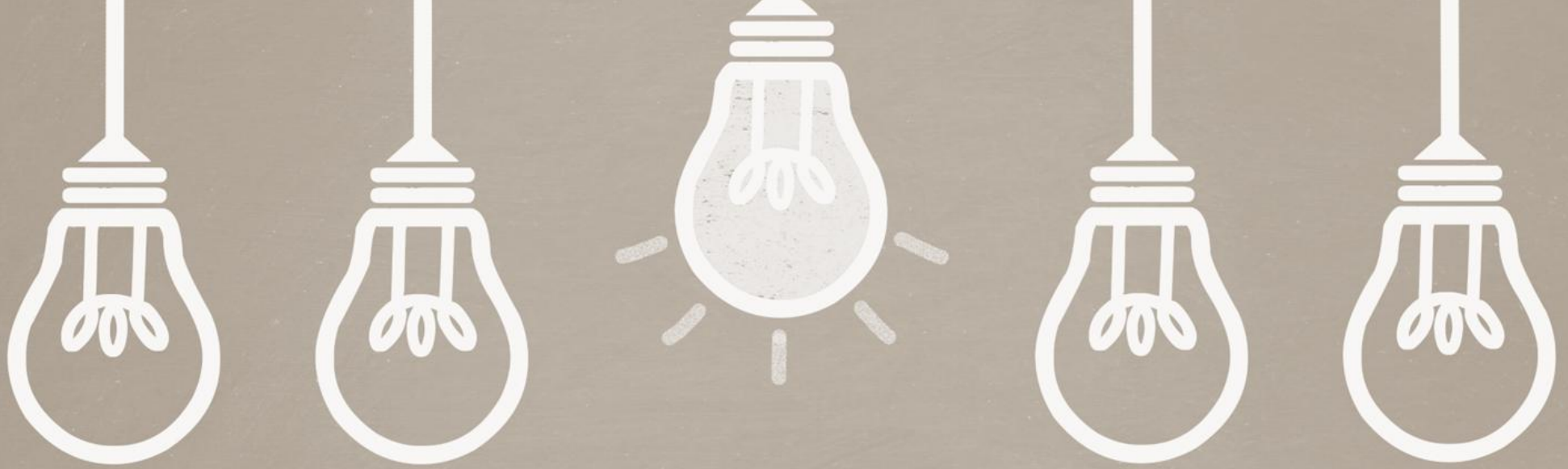
Young Spirit Winds is an outpatient day program for aboriginal youth ages 12–17 years of age. It is a co-ed program with a seat capacity of 12 youth for the day program. The Youth begin at 10:00 am and leave at 3:00 pm. Transportation is provided for those who reside within the 4 bands of Maskwacis Alberta.

Day Treatment

Topics covered in the day treatment program includes: Communication & Self Awareness; Addictions & Assessments; Cultural Identity; Health & Awareness; Grief, Loss & Recovery; Self Esteem & Peer Pressure; Anger Management & Cycle of Violence; Family & Community; NAAAW; Addictions & Relapse Prevention; and Coping Skills & Change.

Mobile Treatment

Topics covered in the mobile treatment program includes: Substance/Process Addiction Education; Self-Esteem & Peer Pressure; Communication; Cultural Awareness; Anger Management & Cycle of Violence; Residential School Impacts; Grief, Loss & Recovery; Gang Awareness & Prevention; Health Awareness; Brain Gym, and Brain Power.



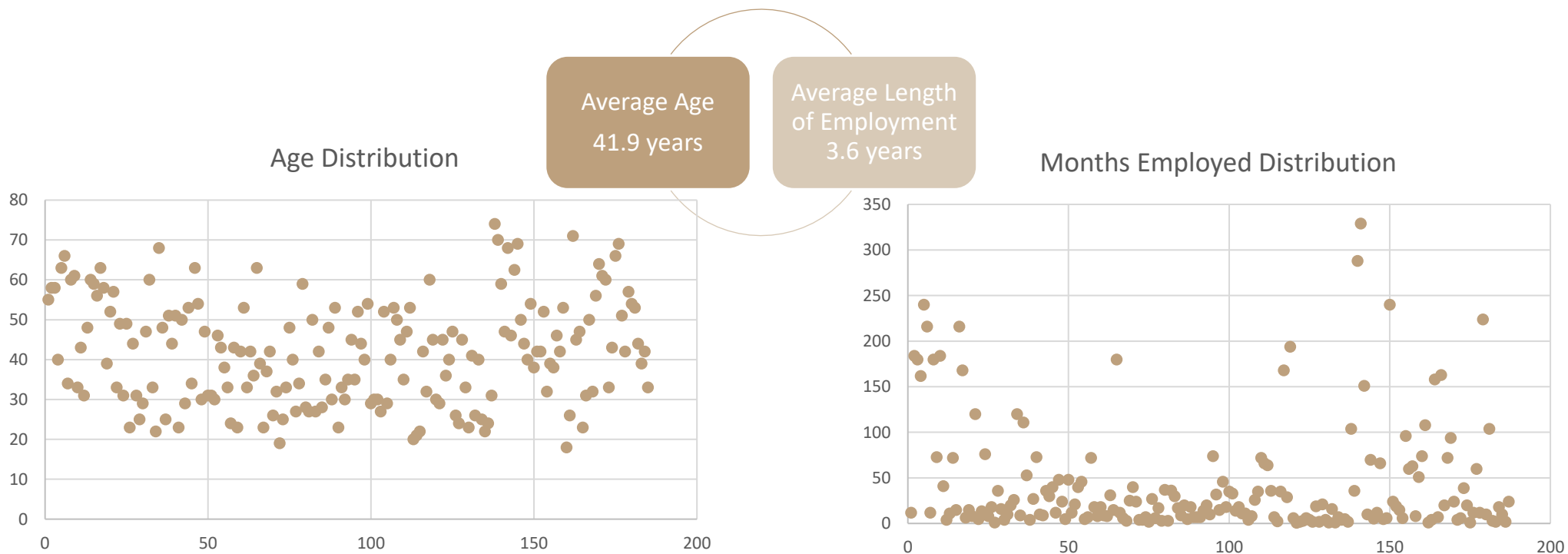
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

YSAC National Workforce Satisfaction

Each year in December, YSAC conducts an anonymous National Staff Satisfaction Survey. In November, YSAC Directors are invited to review the past year's survey questions and suggest any additions or changes before the national collection. The survey has evolved since the fiscal year 2011 to include more areas and indicators of strength-based practice. Each YSAC centre is given a hyperlink to an electronic survey to include in an email inviting all staff to participate in anonymous feedback collection. The survey is open for a full 30 days to allow time for various centre projects to conclude. In January, reports are collated at an individual centre level and include full data from survey ratings (quantitative) and comments sections (qualitative). The total national report is concluded in late January, and the centres are each given a copy for benchmarking purposes.

Limitations:

Though some questions have possible identifiers (age/months worked), no individual centre sees those answers except in aggregate form. The data from those questions are combined to give workforce trend indicators related to the age of the workforce and length of employment. This year our employee ages range from 19 through 74 years, and months worked from one through 329. (N= 187).



Client Satisfaction Surveys

Every year YSAC acts as a third-party research partner to YSAC centres who volunteer to collect anonymous client satisfaction data. Reports are collated for each centre in April. Some YSAC centres have more than eight years of continuous data on these important quality indicators. In 2024-2025 **60%** of YSAC centres participated in this data collection.

Client satisfaction is important in substance misuse care for several compelling reasons. Firstly, substance misuse is a complex issue requiring a client-centred, culturally responsive approach. When clients feel satisfied with the care they receive, it enhances their overall experience and fosters a positive therapeutic alliance. This promotes trust and open communication between clients and the centre staff and can lead to a more accurate understanding of the client's needs and challenges.

High levels of client satisfaction can lead to better treatment retention and engagement. Satisfied clients are more likely to actively participate in their treatment plans, follow through with goal setting and remain committed to their healing journey. Meaningful experiences with substance misuse care can reduce the stigma surrounding seeking help, encouraging more individuals to seek treatment and support.

For YSAC and its member centres, prioritizing the collection of indicators of client satisfaction not only improves the quality of care provided but helps us as an organization to be reflective on programming and strategic directions.

We link the questions in the survey to key indicators of quality treatment, including safety, cultural responsiveness, benefits and learnings and qualifications and attentiveness of our workforce. Annual Satisfaction Reports support the ongoing quality assurance plan and helps us understand our movement towards indicators of holistic wellness (hope, belonging, meaning and purpose) as outlined in the Indigenous Wellness Framework.



Open Learning and Distance Learning Courses

All YSAC courses are built on the Community of Inquiry Framework whereby there is a collective emphasis on shared knowledge construction and distributed expertise. Learning outcomes are based on significant learning taxonomies, including attention to outcomes on foundational knowledge, application, integration into practice, caring and the human dimension of each major topic.

Each course includes content linkages to major guiding processes, including accreditation, workforce certification, and the Indigenous Wellness Framework. The majority of the courses run on a course calendar with cohort registration; Infection Control and Medication Management are on-demand courses, delivered for treatment teams as requested. YSAC Online courses are delivered in two formats, some are hosted in our online learning portal, giving learners maximum flexibility to complete during a one to six-week asynchronous time frame depending on the course. Shorter courses are delivered in webinar style using synchronous teaching in Zoom meeting software.

COURSE NAME	DISTANCE LEARNING FORMAT Release Date	TOTAL REGISTERED LEARNERS	TOTAL CLASSES	TOTAL CERTIFICATES ISSUED
1. Ethics and Ethical Decision Making	June 2021	113	4	84
2. Infection Prevention and Control	June 2020	160	Continuous	-91
3. Life is Sacred Community Prevention	2015	303	24	295
4. Life is Sacred Train The Trainer	March 2025	10	1	10
5. Life is Sacred Intervention Training	N/A	93	7	93
6. Medication Management	January 2021	240	Continuous	160
7. Motivational Interviewing	May 2020	10	1	6
8. Pharmacology	Feb 2020	31	1	19
9. Quality and Outcome Collection	October 2021	98	8	78
10. Self Harm	July 2023	4	90	75
11. Treatment Planning	February 2021	27	2	12
12. Workforce Diversity	May 2020	74	2	49

Ethics and Ethical Decision Making



Learning Objectives

- Understand the addiction professional's obligations to adhere to ethical and behavioural standards of conduct in the helping relationship.
- Understand, interpret and apply confidentiality regulations appropriately (including limits)
- Understand the importance of effectively practicing strategies to maintain one's own physical and mental health to maintain ethics.
- Apply the ethical decision-making process to practice scenarios
- Accurately document and record the ethical decision-making process

ICBOC Certification Competencies Linkages

- Core knowledge: self-care and wellness
- Ethics

Accreditation Standard Linkages

- 5.1.1 Code of Ethics
- 5.1.5 Response to Ethical and Moral Conflicts
- 5.2.6 Contravention of Policy
- 8.1.6 Scope of Practice
- 8.2.3 Orientation

Date	Certificates
May 9, 2024	18
September 5, 2024	25
November 21, 2024	26
February 6, 2025	15
TOTAL	84

Infection Prevention and Control

Centres
Involved
7



Total
Certificates
Issued
92

Course Objectives

- Know the 6 links in the Chain of Infection and how to break the links to prevent infection
- Know how to perform a risk assessment to determine the appropriate infection prevention measures to decrease the risk of transmission and exposure to infections
- Know how to perform hand hygiene with soap and water as well as hand sanitizer
- Know how to recognize approved disinfectants
- Demonstrate how to clean and disinfect areas in the residential facility and transportation vehicles
- Know how to put on and remove personal protective equipment
- Apply infection prevention and control measures in routine daily practices (e.g., medication administration, meal preparation, group activities)
- Know how to perform audits on infection prevention and control practices

ICBOC Certification Competencies Linkages

- Related knowledge and skills
- Client Safety
- Risk Management
- Client Support
- Trauma Informed- Infection Control

Accreditation Standard Linkages

- 417.22 Management of Infection
- 417.22.2 Monitoring of Communicable Diseases, Infections, and Parasites
- 417.22.3 Control of Communicable Diseases, Infections and Parasites
- 417.12.10 Trauma Informed Practice

Life is Sacred Suicide Prevention & Life Promotion

Course Objectives

- The Learning Module is meant to support and inform practice as a front-line worker/helper. The basic belief in this training is that suicide prevention and life promotion should be addressed by comprehensive, broad programming. Some of the key goals of this training are to:
- Teach risks and resiliencies
- Build awareness
- Reduce stigma
- Advocate for broader community approaches, including youth engagement and responsible media

Accreditation Standard Linkage

- 417.12.4 Suicide Awareness
- 417.15.6 Crisis De-escalation Training
- 417.20.1 Reportable Incidents

ICBOC Certification Competencies

- Knowledge required for all Certifications in Addictions & Wellness

Community Training Delivery

9



Treatment Centre Training
Delivery

15



Certificates Issued

295

Life is Sacred Train The Trainer (Prevention)

Course Objectives

The Learning Module is meant to teach, guide and support new Facilitators in presenting the YSAC Life is Sacred suicide prevention and life promotion training to First Nation communities, organizations and Treatment Centre Staff. The basic belief in this training is that suicide prevention and life promotion should be addressed by comprehensive, broad programming and that all individuals can play a role in suicide prevention with awareness and education.

Some of the key goals of this training are to:

- Provide facilitators with a training guide to learn the presentation training material.
- Allow facilitators to co-facilitate the presentation with other facilitators to familiarize themselves with presentation processes, flow, supplies, and key learning outcomes.
- Provide Facilitators with a checklist of items required for presenting, along with a facilitator start-up kit
- Build overall facilitator confidence and competency



From L to R: Trevor Merasty, Caelan Hutchison, Caroline Martel, Diane Younger, Elizabeth Saunders, Shannon Obey, Will Main, Roberta Sanderson

Accreditation Standard Linkage

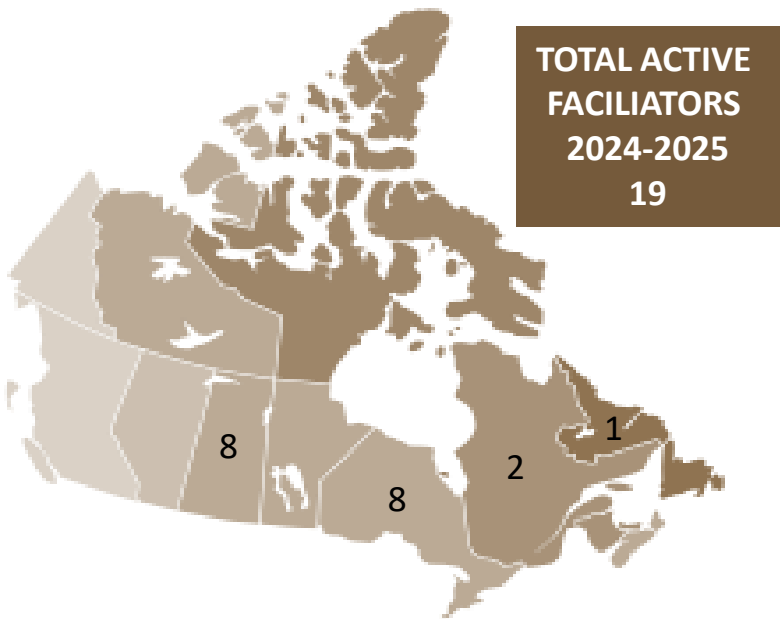
- 417.12.4 Suicide Awareness
- 417.15.6 Crisis De-escalation Training
- 417.20.1 Reportable Incidents

ICBOC Certification Competencies

- Knowledge required for all Certifications in Addictions & Wellness

Delivery Calendar

Date	TTT Certificates
March 19 & 20, 2025	10
TOTAL NEW TRAINERS 2024-2025	10



Life is Sacred Intervention Training

Life is Sacred Intervention is a new course piloted in 2024-2025. The course was developed over two years and involved better tools for risk-resilience assessment and centre-based safety planning. The model relies heavily on the Indigenous Wellness frameworks and is designed to centre treatment integrated life promotion.

Course Objectives

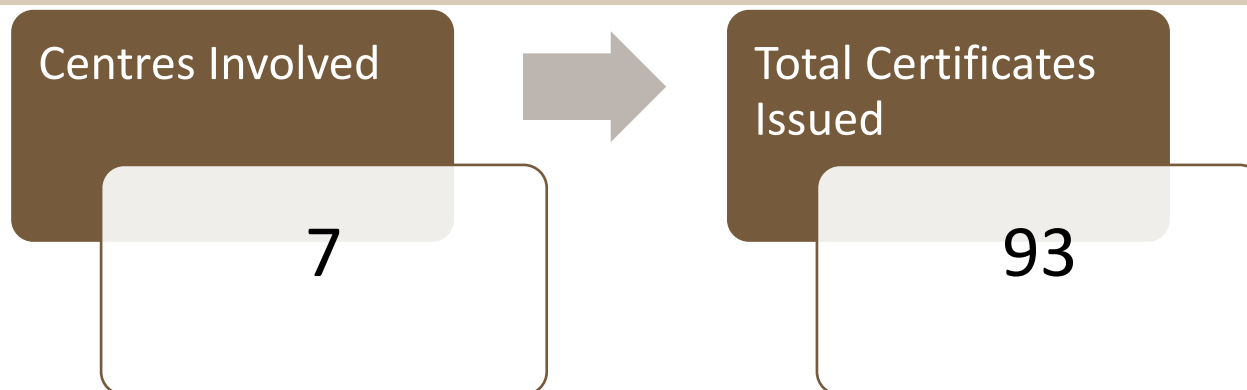
- Understand the complexity of suicide risk and resilience factors and transactional- ecological approach.
- Understand the theoretical basis for “self-continuance” and its connection to cultural continuance and culture-based treatment.
- Employ Indigenous Wellness Framework (Hope/Belonging/Meaning/Purpose) as an intervention strategy.
- Assess risk for suicide in a manner that is sensitive to individual, familial and community factors (Trans Ecological).
- Utilize the Life is Sacred intervention (acronym) conversational framework as a means to understanding stepped intervention and postvention.
- Create a 24-hour safety plan seven day and long-term cultural treatment intervention as an adjunct to the ongoing residential treatment plan.
- Understand centre-based policy, the duty of care, incident reporting and follow-up requirements.

Accreditation

CAC Standards (417.12.4)

417.15.6 Crisis De-escalation Training

417.20.1 Reportable Incidents



Medication Management

Course Objectives

- 1. Foundational Knowledge** - Foundational Knowledge includes specifics about drug safety, client information rights, adverse reactions, and specific centre policies.
- 2. Application** - The Application taxon encompasses critical, creative, and **practical thinking**, this comes for your reflections on content and how it might affect your work or other parts of your growing competence as an addictions professional.
- 3. Integration** - Integration includes connecting different ideas about medication management to understanding the complexity of daily schedules, land-based activities, behavioural issues that might include medication refusal, **and incident reporting**.
- 4. Human Dimension** - The Human Dimension stresses the human factor and gives human significance to learning. In a course on medication management, this means respecting client rights, being clear and respectful in educating the client about any new medications and **listening** to them if they express issues with medications.
- 5. Caring** - Caring is the taxon that provides the motivation and energy for learning by developing new interests, feelings, and values associated with the course material. In this course, we want to develop **attention to caring** medication supervision
- 6. Learning How to Learn** - Drug pharmacology is a constantly evolving science. In medication management, we want employees to know how and where to get more information about medicines, adverse reactions, etc. We advocate for partnerships with the local pharmacy, community nursing, and FNI to get informed help for addressing any deeper or emergency questions.

Accreditation Standard Linkages

- 417.5.2 Service Delivery Planning Measurements
- 417.12.2 Medication Training
- 417.15.3 Portable Record
- 417.18.2 Prohibited Techniques and Strategies
- 417.19.8 Review of Injuries Due to a Restrictive Procedure (visual review of swallowing meds)
- 417.20.1 Reportable Incidents (Medication Related)
- 417.23.2 Self-Administration of Medication
- 417.23.1 Management of Medication

ICBOC Certification

Competencies Linkages

- Core knowledge
- Safety and Security Issues and Topics
- Infection Control linkages
- Client Supervision and Support
- Client safety
- Client rights

Centres
Involved

9



Total
Certificates
Issued

160

Motivational Interviewing

Course Objectives

- Develop a foundational understanding of Motivational Interviewing concepts and how to begin the application of skills to support change in themselves and others.
- Define and describe Motivational Interviewing (MI)
- Examine evidence of the effectiveness

Accreditation Standard Linkage

- Workforce competency
- Explain ambivalence to change and

ICBOC Certification Competencies

- Knowledge required for all Certifications in Addictions & Wellness
- Harm Reduction
- Holistic Health,
- Addictive Cycle

Delivery Date

May 13-18, 2024

Centres Involved

2

Total Certificates Issued

5

- Discuss and practice MI communication

Quality & Outcome Collection

Course Objectives

- Define Quality, Outcome Indicators and Outcome Collection
- Connect Data gathering (outcome collection) to indicator and outcome monitoring
- Understand how indicators lead to quality service delivery
- Understand how to monitor and measure a variety of centre outcomes
- Link AMIS data collection to treatment planning and indicators of success/change through NWA and DUSI-R
- Delivery Mode- Fully online synchronous webinar



ICBOC Certification Competencies Linkages

- Core Knowledge, Screening, Intake, Assessment
- Outcome, Development
- Program Management

Accreditation Standard Linkages

- 4.17.12.11 Measurement tools
- 1.2.5 Quality Improvement Plan
- 1.2.6 Support for quality improvement plan

Delivery Calendar

Date	Certifications
April 11, 2024	5
June 20, 2024	6
August 1, 2024	5
October 3, 2024	13
December 5, 2024	37
January 9, 2025	6
February 13, 2025	2
March 6, 2025	3
TOTAL	77

Pharmacology



Course Objectives

- Describe the Effects of various substances on the human body
- Recognize signs and symptoms of use, as well as associated health risks.
- Explain the relationship between brain mechanisms and substance misuse.
- Describe psychological dependencies and complications
- Explain patterns of progression/regression and recovery
- Understand harm reduction practices as they relate to specific substances.
- Honor the connection of hope, belonging, meaning and purpose to recovery.
- Understand the major drugs and drug classes currently used in the DSM

This course was developed in 2020 as a fully online course. The course focuses on the brain and body systems and understanding the similarities and differences in different drug classes and their effects. Each unit is framed with a holistic recovery and harm reduction focus. There is a strong emphasis on understanding and applying learning in a community context through reflective exercises, readings, and discussions

ICBOC Certification Competencies Linkages

- General Knowledge
- Types of Drugs
- DSM Classifications
- Physiological effects on the body
- Harm Reduction
- Holistic Health
- Addictive Cycle

Accreditation Standard Linkages

- 417.19.7 Chemical or Pharmacological Restraints
- 8.1.4 Competency-Based Hiring

Delivery Calendar

Date	Certificates
January 20-31, 2025	19

Treatment Planning

Course Objectives

- Assess the behaviour of the client within the context of his/her individual development, family situation, and culture.
- understand the need for and the use of methods for measuring treatment outcomes.
- assist the client or family to identify the impact of substance use on current life problems and the effects of continued harmful use.
- Understand and recognize the stages of change and holistic health and other signs of treatment progress.
- Understand the behavioural indicators and dynamics of depression, unresolved anger, grief, low self-esteem, family dysfunction, and other emotional disturbances and knows how to match the same to effective treatment interventions.
- Assess treatment and recovery progress and, in consultation with the client and family members, make appropriate changes to the treatment plan to ensure progress toward treatment goals.
- describe and document the treatment planning process, progress, and outcomes.
- Conduct continuing care, relapse prevention, and discharge planning with the client and community/family members.
- Use DUSI-R and NWA information to develop treatment plans that address the emotional, social, spiritual, mental, and physical factors (medicine wheel) contributing to substance misuse.

ICBOC Certification Competencies Linkages

- Treatment Planning
- Wellness Promotion
- Addiction Interventions
- Interviewing Techniques
- Case Management
- Reports and Record Keeping

Accreditation Standard Linkages

- 417.4.3 Individual File
- 417.5.1 Measurement System 417.5.2 Service Delivery/Care Planning Measurements
- 417.5.4 Individual Care Plan Components
- 417.12.11 Quality Improvement and Outcome Measurement Tool

Delivery Calendar

Date	Certificates
June 17-30, 2024	7
February 10-21, 2025	5
TOTAL	12

Self Harm - Dealing with Non-Suicidal Self Injury



Course Objectives

This course was developed in 2023 as a fully online course. Due to the increase in self-harm behaviours within the treatment centres and the need for more frequent training for new employees, it was readapted from a unit on the longer in-person course Mental Health—Building Concurrent Capable Treatment Centres.

The course focuses on understanding the continuum of self injurious behavior in the context of a 24 hour care model. The activity portion of the course has learned complete a practical activity to link self injury thoughts with functions as a means to develop an effective treatment plan.

ICBOC Certification Competencies Linkages

- Harm Reduction
- Risk
- Crisis response
- Addiction and Mental Wellness Related Topics

Accreditation Standard Linkages

- 417.12.4 Suicide Awareness
- 417.15.6 Crisis De-escalation Training
- 417.20.1 Reportable Incidents

Delivery Calendar

Date	Certificates
June 27, 2024	30
July 24, 2024	18
December 3, 2024	21
March 3, 2025	6
TOTAL	75

Workforce Diversity



Learning Objectives

- Learners will articulate a variety of indicators or dimensions of diversity
- Demonstrate openness to new perspectives and diverse others
- Listen while withholding judgment about the new or unfamiliar
- Demonstrate communication skills that enable intercultural communication, including effective listening skills
- The learner will integrate the foundational theory of diversity into workplace practice
- Learners can integrate CAC accreditation standards for diversity and articulate centre-based compliance mechanisms
- Recognize and critically reflect upon one's own culture, gender, age, and other biases
- Harness the power of diversity through inclusive communication and perspective taking as a source for creativity, innovation, and/or productive collaboration
- Understand how improved diversity competence leads to better quality care

ICBOC Certification

Competencies Linkages

All Certifications in Addictions & Wellness (General Knowledge and Skills in Support of:

- Professional Practice
- Cultural Knowledge and Skills
- Addiction and Mental Wellness Related Topics

Accreditation Standard Linkages

- 4.2.1 Analysis of Collected Data
- 4.2.2 Awareness of Diversity
- 8.1.2 Recruitment Reflective of Person Served
- 8.1.8 Duty to Accommodate
- 8.2.7 Supervision
- 417.8.12 Diversity
- 417.8.13 Inclusion of Person Served
- 417.8.14 Respect and Support of Diversity
- 417.12.8 Diversity or Cross-Cultural Training

Delivery Calendar

Date	Certificates
June 10-13, 2024	22
March 10-15, 2025	26
TOTAL	48

Addictions Management Information System (AMIS) Statistics

AMIS ❖ **SGIT**

Addictions Management Information System

Système de gestion de l'information sur les toxicomanies



Available Treatment Spaces

In this report, we summarize clients served and services provided by the YSAC centres during the fiscal year 2024-2025. These data include clients served in our National Youth Solvent Abuse Program (NYSAP). The clients and the services are diverse, and the data is complex. This report will, at different times, report different (n/N) numbers that refer to different subgroups or events that are based on specific filtering of the data. We also distinguish between unique clients and unique episodes of care. This distinction is important: Client demographic and social history counts are unduplicated counts in which each client is counted once. Episode counts represent an episode of care to a client – entailing admission, all services received, and discharge. All occur within the context of a period of healing for a client. Each client may have multiple levels of care (treatment instances) that occur within the fiscal year; thus, the client may be counted multiple times in some data sets that relate to services. In all cases, N values are reported so percentages can be considered.



**Nimkee and Clear Hills data not included

Level of Care & Client Age

Level of Care	Number of Treatment Instances	Number of Unique Clients
Day Program	15	15
Inpatient - Residential	262	226
Outpatient	92	84
Outpatient - After Care	80	72
Outpatient - Virtual	18	16
Pre-Treatment Services	355	330

Age Group	Males	Females	Combined
under 12	N=5 (3%)	N=4 (1%)	N=9 (2%)
12	N=8 (5%)	N=10 (4%)	N=18 (4%)
13	N=8 (5%)	N=27 (10%)	N=35 (8%)
14	N=14 (9%)	N=48 (17%)	N=62 (14%)
15	N=15 (10%)	N=60 (21%)	N=75 (17%)
16	N=14 (9%)	N=43 (15%)	N=57 (13%)
17	N=25 (16%)	N=32 (11%)	N=57 (13%)
18	N=3 (2%)	N=8 (3%)	N=11 (3%)
over 18	N=65 (41%)	N=51 (18%)	N=116 (26%)
Total Number of Clients	N=157	N=283	N=440
Average Age	19	16	17

*CJAY and Whiskyjack families not included in this chart

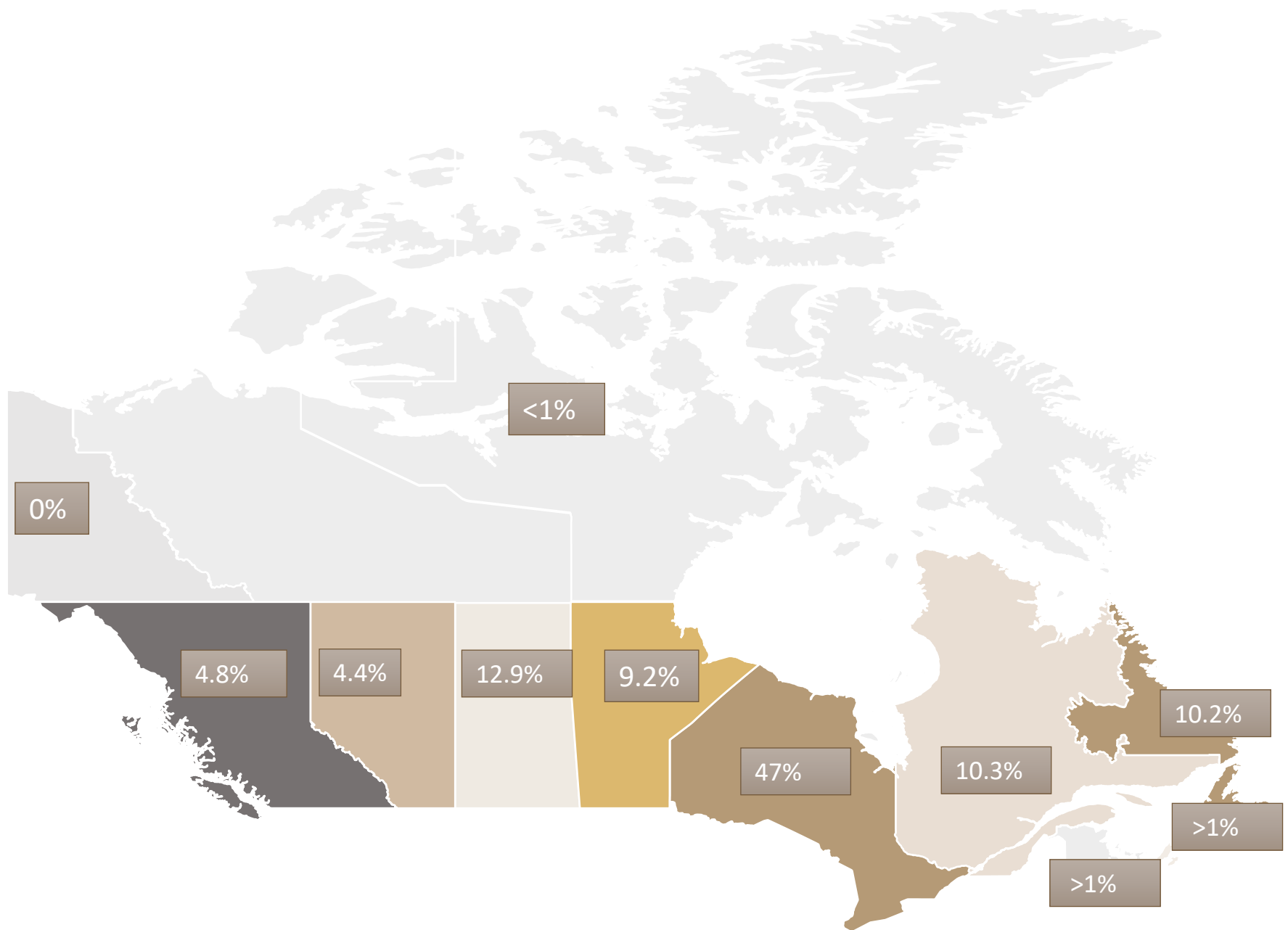
**Nimkee and Clear Hills data not included

Indigenous Status

Status	Males	Females	Combined
Client Not Eligible for Status	N=6 (3%)	N=6 (2%)	N=12 (2%)
First Nation Non-Status	N=9 (5%)	N=12 (4%)	N=21 (4%)
First Nation Status	N=167 (89%)	N=301 (90%)	N=468 (90%)
Inuit Non-Status	N=0 (0%)	N=0 (0%)	N=0 (0%)
Métis	N=5 (3%)	N=12 (4%)	N=17 (3%)
Recognized Inuit	N=1 (1%)	N=3 (1%)	N=4 (1%)
Total Number of Clients	N=188	N=334	N=522

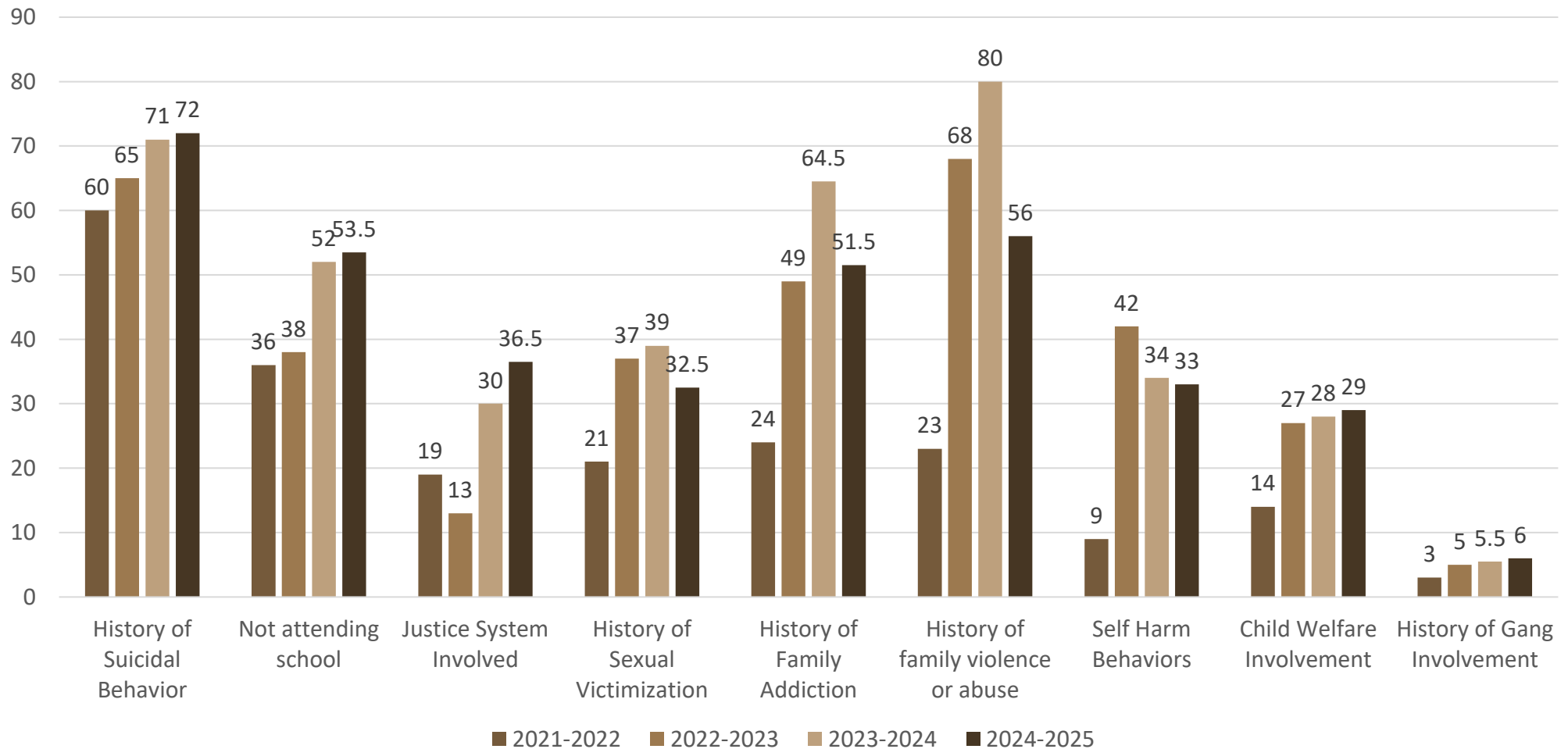
**Nimkee and Clear Hills data not included

Region of Origin



Client Characteristic Profile

All data in %



**Nimkee Data not included for self harm, child welfare or gang involvement

** Clear Hills data not included

Substance Utilization

Drug utilization rates are gathered through standardized assessment using the Drug Use Screening Inventory at entry. Each program applicant completes a screening for the 12-month preceding time period.

In 2020 the AMIS/DUSI-R system was updated to reflect better drug classifications based on DSM-V.

Many centres are using DUSI-R as a pre and post-treatment outcome collection tool. Outcome/follow-up data is available for each individual centre.

* Nimkee data not included

Substance	Males	Females	Combined
Aerosols	N=6 (6%)	N=9 (6%)	N=15 (6%)
Anabolic Steroids, Anti-Inflammatory Drugs, Antihistamines, Nitrous Oxide/Laughing Gas	N=13 (13%)	N=16 (10%)	N=29 (11%)
Antianxiety Medications	N=19 (19%)	N=30 (20%)	N=49 (19%)
Barbiturates	N=7 (7%)	N=6 (4%)	N=13 (5%)
Beer, wine, Liquor	N=85 (85%)	N=135 (88%)	N=220 (87%)
Benzodiazepines	N=14 (14%)	N=13 (8%)	N=27 (11%)
Chewing	N=26 (26%)	N=12 (8%)	N=38 (15%)
Cocaine, Uppers, Khat	N=51 (51%)	N=65 (42%)	N=116 (46%)
Coffee, Tea, Soda/Pop, Energy Drinks, Chocolate	N=86 (86%)	N=151 (99%)	N=237 (94%)
Diverted Methadone	N=6 (6%)	N=4 (3%)	N=10 (4%)
Diverted Suboxone	N=4 (4%)	N=2 (1%)	N=6 (2%)
Fentanyl	N=13 (13%)	N=22 (14%)	N=35 (14%)
Gas/Fuels, Butane Lighters	N=14 (14%)	N=12 (8%)	N=26 (10%)
Glue	N=3 (3%)	N=6 (4%)	N=9 (4%)
Marijuana, Pot, Weed, Hash	N=83 (83%)	N=142 (93%)	N=225 (89%)
Methamphetamine - Crystal Meth	N=21 (21%)	N=42 (27%)	N=63 (25%)
Methamphetamine - Ice/Glass	N=13 (13%)	N=17 (11%)	N=30 (12%)
Methamphetamine - Speed	N=19 (19%)	N=30 (20%)	N=49 (19%)
Non-Potable Alcohol - Hairspray, Sanitizer, Mouthwash, Aftershave	N=15 (15%)	N=33 (22%)	N=48 (19%)
Non-Prescription Codeine	N=26 (26%)	N=19 (12%)	N=45 (18%)
Non-Prescription Heroin	N=6 (6%)	N=5 (3%)	N=11 (4%)
Non-Prescription Morphine	N=13 (13%)	N=11 (7%)	N=24 (9%)
Non-Prescription Oxycodone	N=13 (13%)	N=4 (3%)	N=17 (7%)
Non-Prescription Oxycontin	N=9 (9%)	N=6 (4%)	N=15 (6%)
Other - LSD, Mescaline, MDMA/Ecstasy, DOM/STP, DMT, Magic Mushrooms, Morning Glory Seeds, Jimson Weed, Salvia Divinorum	N=54 (54%)	N=70 (46%)	N=124 (49%)
Other Volatile Compounds	N=3 (3%)	N=3 (2%)	N=6 (2%)
Over the counter Cold Remedies	N=35 (35%)	N=49 (32%)	N=84 (33%)
Over the counter Weight Loss Aids	N=7 (7%)	N=10 (7%)	N=17 (7%)
Paint, Paint Thinner, Lacquer	N=7 (7%)	N=5 (3%)	N=12 (5%)
Phencyclidines - PCP, Angel Dust, Ketamine, Cyclohexamine, Disocilpine	N=9 (9%)	N=13 (8%)	N=22 (9%)
Prescribed Antianxiety Medications	N=15 (15%)	N=35 (23%)	N=50 (20%)
Prescribed Cannabis	N=18 (18%)	N=11 (7%)	N=29 (11%)
Prescribed CBD	N=10 (10%)	N=8 (5%)	N=18 (7%)
Prescribed Sleeping Medications	N=28 (28%)	N=45 (29%)	N=73 (29%)
Prescription Methadone	N=7 (7%)	N=10 (7%)	N=17 (7%)
Prescription Oxycontin, Oxycodone, Codeine, Morphine	N=20 (20%)	N=17 (11%)	N=37 (15%)
Prescription Suboxone	N=9 (9%)	N=10 (7%)	N=19 (8%)
Propane	N=7 (7%)	N=2 (1%)	N=9 (4%)
Shatter	N=59 (59%)	N=65 (42%)	N=124 (49%)
Sleeping Medications	N=42 (42%)	N=56 (37%)	N=98 (39%)
Smokeless Tobacco	N=33 (33%)	N=45 (29%)	N=78 (31%)
Smoking	N=94 (94%)	N=138 (90%)	N=232 (92%)
Synthetic Cannabis - K2, Spice and others	N=14 (14%)	N=21 (14%)	N=35 (14%)
	N=100	N=153	N=253

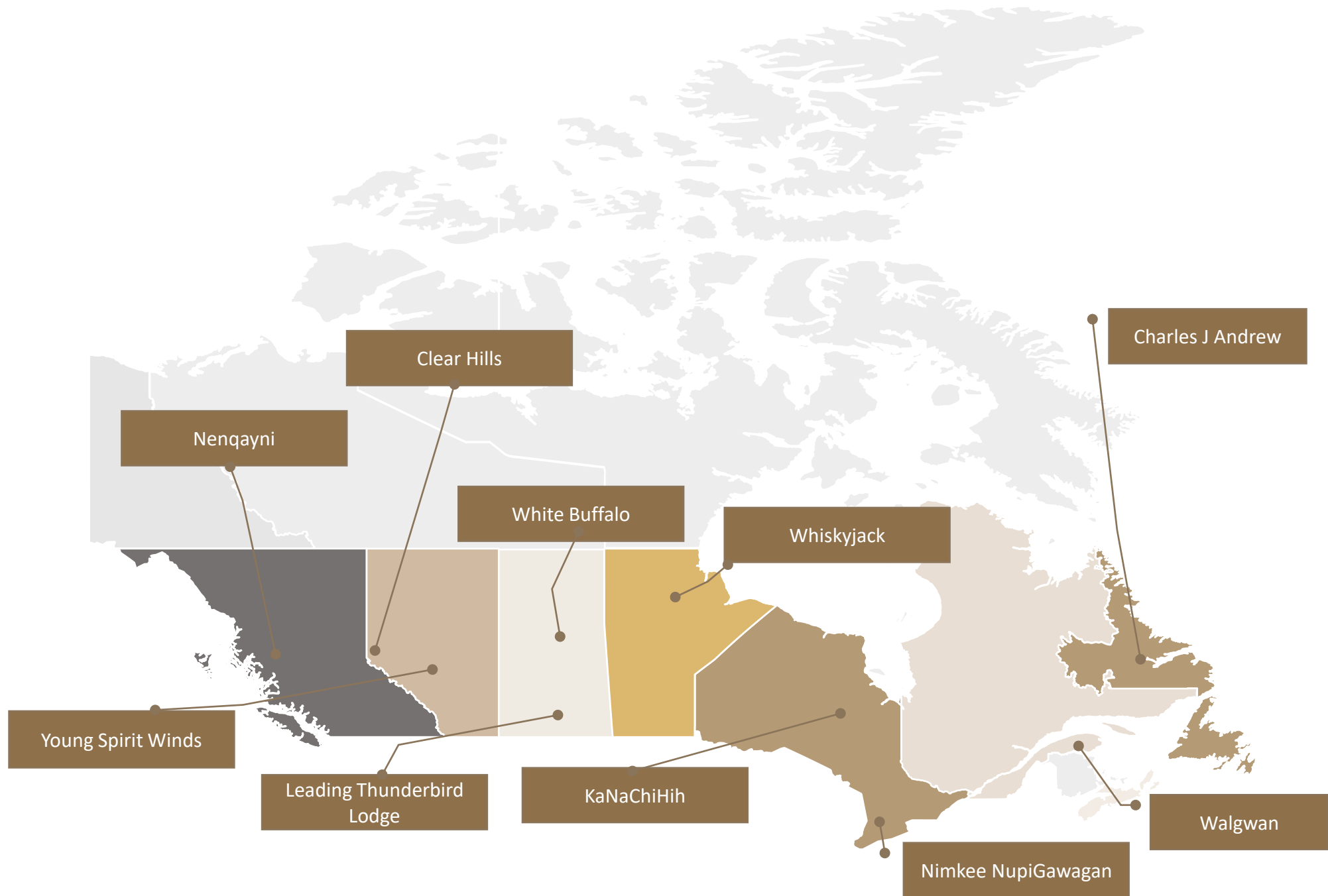
Financial Summary

All YSAC centres are federally funded projects through the Federal Brighter Futures Initiative. Each centre is managed through some form of First Nations governance structure which may include Provincial or Federal Incorporation or tribal administration. As a result of their various governance structures, all centres undergo an annual audit performed by an independent provincial auditor. Audit reports, as well as individual centre annual reports, are submitted to Indigenous Services Canada both regionally and nationally.

The youth substance addiction committee is funded for coordination services, meeting expenses, and projects as submitted in advance by way of a five-year strategic work plan. Itemized financial statements are reviewed at YSAC meetings. This fiscal year KaNaChiHih Treatment Centre acted as administrator for the YSAC accounts.

In 2024-2025 YSAC was audited by MNP Inc. in Thunder Bay, Ontario. A full audited report is available by request.

Geographic Locations



Contact List

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