



### **The Development of Noojmowin Teg as an organization (including logo, building)**

**1995:** Health directors from Wikwemikong, M’Chigeeng and UCCM (Mnaamodzawin) met after hearing of potential provincial funding from Aboriginal Healing & Wellness Strategy (AHWS). They partnered in conducting a comprehensive need assessment of the seven First Nations. There were major gaps in services that were identified and those were:

- Nurse Practitioner & General Practitioner Services
- Registered Dietitians
- Psychological Services
- Traditional Medicine
- Research & Evaluation

**1995-96:** AHWS put a call out for proposals. Wikwemikong and UCCM put in joint application. In 1996, AHWS approved the proposal. The next step was for all the FN’s to formalize an agreement between all First Nations and Off-Reserve members to support an independent incorporated organization.

**1997:** The first Executive Director was hired following the recruitment and hiring of other health care professionals.

**1998:** Noojmowin Teg Incorporation was finalized. Prior to this, Wikwemikong acted as the secretariat.

**1998 – Name & Logo:** Noojmowin Teg, which translates into “A Place of Healing”, was named by the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation’s Elder’s committee. The committee also hosted a logo contest for Aboriginal youth and the winner was Yvette Pitawanakwat. The original logo reflected the three tribes (Ojibway, Odawa and Pottawatomi); healing; the medicine wheel; sweet grass silhouettes of the child, female and male.

#### **KEY Accomplishments:**

**1999:** Noojmowin Teg partnered with the North Shore Tribal Council and Shkagamik-Kwe to organize an Elders Gathering at Sunshine Alley in Whitefish River First Nation. It was a huge gathering that was well attended by approximately 100 participants.

**1999:**

- Noojmowin Teg developed a partnership with Manitoulin Secondary School and the Sudbury and District Health Unit in setting up a Teen Wellness Clinic at the high school. This was an innovative and unique service for the province of Ontario.

- Grand Opening of Mnaamodzawin and Noojmowin Teg Building in Sheguiandah First Nation. Building included a Traditional Healing Lodge

**2001:**

- Sheguiandah facility is expanded to include a new wing for integrated mental health services.
- Loss of facility due to fire.
- Noojmowin Teg hosts a Research Conference that results in the establishment of the Research Review Committee to develop the Guidelines for Ethical Aboriginal Research. Noojmowin Teg was an advocate and pioneer for this process and it was a major initiative and a significant piece for communities as there was a lot of community partnership in regard to this initiative.
- Funding is received from the Ministry of Community / Youth Services for the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and Child Nutrition Program.

**2002:** Noojmowin Teg hosts first Manitoulin First Nations Triathlon.

**2004:** Noojmowin Teg plays an instrumental part in implementing the Cardiac Rehabilitation Program at the Manitoulin Health Centre.

**June 2004:** The New Beginnings (FASD) Program and Research & Evaluation program finalizes the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Needs Assessment and the final report is distributed to area First Nations.

**October 2004** - Noojmowin Teg's hosts a "Cooking with the Wolfman" two-day session with Chef David Wolfman how is featured on Aboriginal People's Televisions Network (APTN)

**2005** – The Mnutgood cookbook is launched and sales for cookbooks go towards snack and breakfast programs at Island schools.

**October 2005:** Noojmowin Teg and Mnaamodzawin host Grand Opening for new building at 48 Hillside Road in Aundeck Omni Kaning.

**February 2005:** Guidelines for Ethical Aboriginal Research are finalized.

**March 2005:** Research Review Committee receives training from the National Council of Ethics in Human Research in order to establish a community-based Ethics Review Committee.

**April 2006:** Noojmowin Teg, M'Chigeeng, Mnaamodzawin and Wikwemikong Health Services host a smoking cessation conference "Reclaiming Our Traditional Use of Tobacco".

**May 2006:** Noojmowin Teg launches first monthly newsletter that gets distributed to each household on all seven First Nations.

**June 2006:**

- Noojmowin Teg's Child Nutrition and Dietitian Program host a Healthy Lifestyles Conference with guest speakers and famous cook book authors Bonnie Stern and Fran Berhoff.
- The Sacred Fire Arbour has been added to the facility and an Opening Ceremony & Feast was held.

**July 2006:** Communities partner with Researcher from Northern Ontario School of Medicine on a Diabetes Care and Prevention Services Research Project. Partners for this project include Noojmowin Teg, Mnaamodzawin and M'Chigeeng Health Authorities.

**August 2006** - The Noojmowin Teg website [www.noojmowin-teg.ca](http://www.noojmowin-teg.ca) is launched.

**October 2006** – The New Beginnings Program hosts first Annual Parent & Teaching Symposium.

**November 2006** – Noojmowin Teg and Mnaamodzawin partner to participate at the Canadian Aboriginal Festival in Toronto for their Health Pavilion Expo.

**July 2007** – The Community Food Advisory Program has Graduation Ceremonies for twelve Community Food Advisors that successfully completed the program.

**September 2007** – The Community Food Advisory Group launches a six-week Colour It Up Program to inform and educate community members on making healthier eating choices.

**February 2008:**

- The Child nutrition Program and Community Dietitians host First Annual Child Nutrition & Wellness Educators Symposium.
- Noojmowin Teg's Traditional Program receives funding from the Indian Residential Schools Resolution Health Support Program for former residential school students and their families. Services include Traditional Healing, Traditional Circles and Family circles.

**April 2008** - Noojmowin Teg partners with Mnaamodzawin, M'Chigeeng and Wikwemikong to host a two-day Mental Health Conference.

**October 2008** – The Giiwednong Health Program and website is launched. This program is in partnership with Noojmowin Teg, Mnaamodzawin, M'Chigeeng, Wikwemikong and the Mamaweswen Health Access Centre. The project is a multi-year project aimed at developing a system that can address health information data management, broadband development and secure network connectivity as well as privacy and security policy development.

**November 2008** – Noojmowin Teg accesses funding from the Ministry of Health Promotion to hire an Aboriginal Children's Recreation Specialist. Programming is focused on the importance of promoting and participating in physical activities to enhance health and for the prevention of diabetes and obesity.

**July 2008** – Noojmowin Teg receives Aging at Home Dodge Caravan from the Northeast Local Health Integrated Network to provide transportation services for community members 55 years and older.

**February 2009:** The Traditional Program's Indian Residential School initiative hosts a Gathering for former Indian Residential School Students and their Families.

**March 2009:** Noojmowin Teg's hosts a Good Life Family Gathering in M'Chigeeng.

**April 2009** – Noojmowin Teg hosts first annual “More Than Just Fish Sticks” Gathering: a Male mentorship activity aimed at bringing together grandfather/father and grandson/son; uncles/nephews; and big brother/small brothers.

**July 2009** - The New Beginnings (FASD) Program launches an Island-wide FASD Network.