



Oinpegitjoig L'Noeigati Pabineau First Nation COMMUNITY PLAN

STRENGTHS & ISSUES

Health

STRENGTHS

- The home care program is a good program in the community.
- The health staff works well together.
- Having a health nurse in the community is a benefit.
- Awareness on health issues is done in a positive manner.
- The health staff is becoming more trained & skilled in their respective roles.
- Prevention initiatives.
- Community Health Representative Program.
- Own community members being trained.
- Strong active volunteers.
- Resourcefulness.
- Health team easy to work with.
- Qualified Nursing staff.
- New health center coming.
- Access to immunization & flu shots in community.
- Access to protection & information.
- Healing & outreach workers in the community.
- Health Plan
- Emergency Preparedness Plan
- Prenatal program
- AHTF initiative (Aboriginal Health Transfer Fund)

ISSUES

- Need to ensure there are qualified, trained, responsible individuals working at the Health Center.
- Coverage from Health Canada needs to be adequate with proper medical coverage.
- The community needs proper water system.
- Health program needs to promote more what the program has to offer within the community.
- There is a lack of funding from Health Canada and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada to cover the cost to deliver all programs.
- Include in health program more diet and exercise information and services.
- Mold problems in majority of homes.
- Older homes in the community need to be renovated and brought up to standard housing codes to address health issues due to poor housing.
- Alcohol & Drug program needs to have more programming for all the members within the community.
- Programs, workshops and information dealing with anger and stress management need to be developed and conducted more often.
- Nursing homes for Elders needs to be established in the community.
- Drug dealers living on reserve.
- Better coverage for the medication community members need.
- Recognition for the "Good" things people accomplish and are doing within the community need to be included in health programs offered.
- More programming on Sexual Transmitted Diseases & teen pregnancy.
- Need more prevention programs, activities, workshops and information sessions to support healthy living.
- Health program initiatives need to include the whole community.
- Dietician needed.
- Gym/workout center would be beneficial.
- Need to have something for mental health.
- Need our own drug & alcohol clinic or treatment center.
- Addiction to prescription drugs is the biggest issue.
- Need our own methane clinic.
- Dental clinic within community.
- More in depth information, workshops and programs addressing diabetes and heart problems.

Education

STRENGTHS

- Pabineau Post Secondary Education Program.
- Head Start Program.
- The hiring of a full time tutor.
- More taking advantage of the GED & essential skills program.
- Staff receiving & encouraged to take training.
- Video training available within community.
- Re-investment strategy fund accessible.
- Takes pride in its accomplishments as a whole & individually.
- Access to good places of study for University, Community College etc.
- More members are attending and achieving higher education levels.
- There is encouragement to stay in school.
- Utilizing people in the employment they are trained and educated in.
- People are accomplishing their educational goals despite the barriers.
- Mi'gmaq language classes once a week for youth & adults.
- Website on and off reserve resources available.

ISSUES

- More tutoring and computers.
- Access to education.
- Community members need to be employed in the schools.
- For the children; need more programs for problem learners.
- Parenting classes need to be put in place in community.
- Need more education and training for workers in offices.
- A program on reserve to encourage furthering education; to graduate, assist people with finding information. Pabineau needs a guidance counselor for teens as well as adults.
- More funding for parents to go to school while supporting their families.
- Mi'gmaq language taught more than one hour per week.
- Need incentives for children that do well in school.
- Encouragement to further education after high school.
- More parental involvement for school age children.
- Need to fund for trades.
- More funding is needed for children in the community to take part in extracurricular activities.
- Program needs to offer more workshops, training and information dealing with the topic of low self esteem.
- More educational resources need to be established on reserve.

Recreation

STRENGTHS

- There is a playground within the community.
- Pow wow.
- Establishment of Oinpegitjoig Sports Authority.
- Play equipment set up at Headstart.
- Strong and active volunteers.

ISSUES

- Need more facilities in community for recreation and sports. Programs and facilities poor.
- There is absolutely no recreation for our youth.
- Recreational programs need to include more sports and exercise activities.
- The community needs a recreational coordinator position on its staff.
- Need more recreational activities organized for Elders.
- Recreational activities and facilities need to be put in place for families. More family activities and outings.
- Ball park needs to be up kept so community can access it.
- Playground needs to be up kept.
- A greater commitment needs to be made to continue recreation projects.
- Youth have nothing to do after hours.
- A safe place to live where children play safely.
- Need a youth program.
- Need to have activities that people actually want.
- More social gatherings in community to bring families together.
- Not all of the recreational activities should be geared to the outdoors. Other initiatives need to be designed for leisure and indoor recreation.
- More support for music and arts. Initiatives need to foster and encourage art and music within the community. Funding made available.
- More volunteers need to be recruited so burnout doesn't occur.

Policing

STRENGTHS

- Development of Crime Prevention program in community.
- Building stronger relationship with Bathurst RCMP and municipal police.
- Available office space in community center for Bathurst RCMP.
- Strong and active volunteers.

ISSUES

- Vandalism within community.
- Not enough police presence within community.
- Feeling of helplessness, lack of support.
- Break and enters.
- Animals running loose in community destroying property.
- Bad people influencing the youth.
- Burning down of homes in community.
- Criminal activities and community members covering for some.
- Drug dealers living within community.
- Need our own police officer and own police program within community.

Culture

STRENGTHS

- Annual Pow wow.
- Community efforts to restore and promote Mi'gmaq culture and traditions.
- Community participation in Mi'gmaq cultural events.
- The Elders within the community.
- Well known community members in the community who teach Mi'gmaq culture, language and traditions.
- Community members who live their culture.
- Excellent resource people within community.
- Talented crafts people within community.
- Community gatherings.
- Traditional native activities.
- Community always included in events in nearby townships.
- Freedom to express oneself & beliefs.

ISSUES

- The loss of Mi'gmaq language and culture.
- More religions should be promoted. Not everyone agrees with native traditions.
- The elders need to be connected in initiatives with the youth to pass down Mi'gmaq language, culture, traditions and lineage.
- More availability of resources.
- More Mi'gmaq language classes to promote language usage.
- Promote lifestyle of Mi'gmaq culture.
- A greater involvement from community.
- Mi'gmaq and First Nations history not taught in our schools. Need to have this added to the school curriculum.
- The Elders need to have initiatives that support them meeting regularly among themselves to speak the Mi'gmaq language.
- Community members need to learn more about the Mi'gmaq culture, language and traditions.
- More funding support from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada needs to be committed to ensure that the Mi'gmaq language is funded more within the community. There is a serious danger of losing the Mi'gmaq language if access and programs are not supported.
- Need to be a community, not a bunch of houses.
- Some are more interested in what they can get from their native rights than from their culture.
- Elders need to be visited & checked on after hours.
- A resource base of Mi'gmaq literature, history, legends, stories and music need to be established within the community.

Employment

STRENGTHS

- Employment is available to the majority.
- More employment available through the Seafood Market.
- More long term employment.
- Re-vamping, upgrading, re-structuring current Personal Policy.
- Establishment of Human Resource Policy & training.
- Some employees are eager to participate in training & skill building.
- University graduates employed in community.
- Policy that supports staying in school. Under 21, no schooling, no employment.

ISSUES

- Not enough full time permanent employment.
- Wages. Not everyone is paid what they are truly worth.
- Lack of benefits & retirement plan.
- A persons valuable contribution sometimes goes unnoticed.
- People are spoiled on reserve. People would not know how to work outside of reserve.
- Employment needs to be available for all families in the community.
- More aggressive and better work ethics.
- Need more businesses established in community to create higher employment opportunities. Self-employment opportunities.
- Job placements within federal and provincial offices need to be advocated and established for members of the community.
- Not everyone working diligently.
- Older members of the community need employment opportunities to support themselves.
- We need to establish more partnerships to increase employment.
- Some employees who are not productive.
- Need more fulfilling job placements.
- Non-native spouses in community are not given the chance for employment in the community to support their families.
- Employees who do not do their job description should have penalties.
- Lack of professionalism by some.
- Insubordination.
- Employees that feel that they are not accountable to anyone because of politics.
- Need consistent progress in all projects.
- Lack of interest in work place.
- Need work on confidentiality, respect for fellow employees, & less gossiping.

Governance

STRENGTHS

- Different family members represented in Band administration.
- Strong leadership.
- Political team that is dedicated and working united towards making the community more cohesive and stronger.
- Ability to get new programs & to improve the community.
- Wisdom, strength, understanding.
- Keeping the audit positive and still seeing buildings built.
- Opening of first band-owned business: Seafood Market.
- A social development program that is recognized by various government organizations as well managed & delivered.
- Community based website as a communication tool.

ISSUES

- Too politically driven.
- Disagreements. Incompatibility among membership.
- More united as opposed to political.
- Jealousy. Poor attitudes.
- No job security.
- Bill C - 31. Discrimination Act. Non-status children have no benefits on reserve. No benefits off reserve - Provincial.
- Community members are too dependant on elected council.
- Need to be more self sufficient.
- Politics destroy peoples relationships.
- Need to increase our land base for future development & growth.
- Need training for management on Human Rights, Labour Laws, & changes to the Indian Act.

Housing/Infrastructure

STRENGTHS

- Better housing.
- Housing conditions are continually being upgraded.
- Expansion of Administration building.
- Some are self sufficient in the upkeep of their own homes.
- Construction of day care facility.
- New pow wow arbour & grounds.
- Construction of health center.
- Upgrading of current water system.

ISSUES

- Poor water system in community.
- Need our own garbage truck.
- Living conditions for many are very poor.
- Older structures in community need upgrading in heating systems, plumbing, structure and insulation.
- People do not want to fix their own homes they always want the band to fix everything.
- People move away from the community because the living conditions on reserve are so poor.
- All homes should have air exchangers.
- To much partying. Everybody ruins their house themselves.
- Road conditions in community are very poor.
- Need to bring living conditions up to New Brunswick standards.
- Only a few can help themselves in the community.
- Dilapidated houses on reserve. Old vacant houses need to be torn down.
- Houses being built are not being completed.
- Expansion of homes.
- Need stop sign at intersection of Prisk Street & Peter Paul Street.
- Need shelter around the mail boxes.
- Trained skilled workers are needed.
- Ditches over flow every spring & after heavy rain fall.

