



## 2022—2023 Oasis 30th Annual Report

***The Nipawin Oasis respectfully acknowledges that we are on Treaty 6 and very near Treaty 5 Territory. This is the Traditional Territory of the Cree Peoples and the Homeland of the Métis. This area was the travelling route – gathering place and meeting grounds for Indigenous Peoples whose histories, languages, cultures and traditions continue to influence our community today. We are grateful and honoured for the traditional Knowledge Keepers and Elders who are still with us and who daily share their knowledge, compassion, kindness, understanding and teachings with us at the Oasis. We pay our respect to the First Nations and Métis ancestors who we continue to feel their presence at the Oasis and continue to guide us to do what is right.***

***We are dedicated to ensuring that the Spirit and Action of Reconciliation is honoured, respected and acted upon daily at the Oasis in our thoughts, words, and actions.***

### ***The Vision of the Oasis is:***

***Our Centre will be a place where people care, belong, and get involved. Our Vision is to be one of the leaders in building an inclusive, supportive, safe and healthy community.***

On behalf of the Nipawin Oasis Board of Directors we would like to welcome you to the Nipawin Oasis Community Centre and thank you for attending our 30th Annual General Meeting.

We would like to thank the Elders, Cultural leaders, participants, funders, volunteers, members, supporters, and donors that provided support this year. This year was the most donations that the Oasis has ever received with a total of \$37,122.11. This includes \$2,000 designated for youth and \$329.42 general donation with the rest going in the Truth and Reconciliation fund where 100% goes to the people mostly for food and emergent needs. No \$ is spent on admin, salaries, rent or transportation.

We thank all of the employees for another successful year. We have a solid team with diverse experience and knowledge which makes working together enjoyable and enables us to provide

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If you would like more information please email

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or call 306-862-5551.  
we also have a website  
www.nipawinoasis.com.

Please like us on  
Facebook.

We appreciate donations that we receive.

the wrap around supports and services that are needed in the community.

We would also like to thank the Board of Directors for their support, dedication and their time they give out of their busy schedules towards the success of the Nipawin Oasis Community Centre.

Programs that are being offered through the Nipawin Oasis have provided positive results for program participants.

We were unable to access any capital funding this year but the board made the decision to purchase a 5 bedroom home out of the Oasis savings. This decision was made due to the affordability of the home and the need for large families to have adequate space for their family. This brings our total number of supportive housing homes for homeless families to 7.

We continued to receive financial support from:

- Ministry of Social Services as a service provider for the Family Support Program. This program provides support for families to maintain the integrity of the family through providing various supports and education.

- Service Canada – Reaching Home funding for the Housing and Homelessness program. This funding also assisted with providing a wide range of supports to house, prevent eviction, emergent needs as well as preventative supports.



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022/23**

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### **Joy Hanson**

- Executive Director

### **Leigh Landry**

### **Melisa Bear**

### **Pamela Nyberg**

### **Serena Garvin**

### **Melissa Cranch**

### **Sundance Umpherville**

### **Regina Ironstar**

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### **Brendon Mckay**

### **Carl Mckay**

### **Louisa Buck—Elder**

### **Harriet Burns—Elder**

### **Mary Dussion - Elder**

### **Ellen Merasty—Cultural Leader**

- Ministry of Education, TIP grant and CIF funding assists with funding the youth nutrition, cultural and literacy program.
- Ministry of Government Relations and Minister Responsible for First Nation, Métis, and Northern Affairs – funding for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls+ Community Response Fund Project – 1<sup>st</sup> time funding for this violence prevention program.
- Indigenous People’s Resilience Fund – this funding is used to assist with nutrition, shopping, cooking, literacy and budgeting for families and their children. Also includes Cree language and traditional knowledge.
- SaskCulture – funding for culture retention through preserving the traditions of the area through weekly programming, workshops, sewing, beading, medicine picking, and traditional teachings.



Even though the effects of Covid were less this year we provided supports for people that were isolating and with emergent needs. The centre remained open throughout the pandemic and we still provided office, in home supports and transportation following safety protocols.

Our staff continues to meet the challenging work environment due to the ever increasing needs in the community and limited supports and resources available for the people living in poverty with complex needs.

We do not receive any core funding, nor funding from the Town of Nipawin for operations and no property tax relief. We found the increase in donations from the community this year made a significant impact in the supports and services we are able to provide. We do have a contingency fund in case of loss of funding. As part of the capital funding agreement for our supportive housing homes we needed to have a contingency fund for each home of \$40,000. Fortunately, the Oasis over the last 10 years has been able to have a surplus each year (due to low admin costs) which has allowed us to build up the contingency fund. We need to maintain a surplus each year to cover the capital depreciation and future capital replacement costs. We own the Oasis building, 7 supportive housing homes, 5 vans, and a garage to store our large donations of furniture in. We have no debt.

In 2012 the Oasis had put the building up for sale, was in financial difficulty, looking at possibly dissolving the organization and had to lay off staff to stay viable. The board of directors took over the operation of the Oasis on a volunteer basis until the fall of 2014 when we were able to hire an Executive Director. We are able to be sustainable due to our low administration costs, staff's ability to be flexible and work where needed along with our numerous volunteers and continued support from the funders and donors. The challenge for the Oasis in the near future is going to be how to remain sustainable.

The current Executive Director is the lowest paid employee at \$20/hr to a maximum of \$40,000 a year no matter how many hours is worked. This gets complicated but it is important to have a true picture of what Oasis is going to be faced with.

To replace the current Executive Director we predict it will possibly cost \$80,000 for an Executive Director and \$50,000 for a bookkeeper. We currently are averaging a surplus of \$50,000 a year but need to allow for depreciation of capital also. This means that to replace the current ED it will cost approximately \$130,000. If you take in to account the current ED wage of \$40,000 the Oasis will need to have an additional \$90,000 to cover these two positions. It is feasible in the short term with the current Oasis savings but will not be sustainable for the long term unless the Oasis is able to find additional funding that will assist with the administration costs.

Possibilities would be to receive some core funding, funding from the town of Nipawin and/or property tax relief. The Oasis contributes much to the community and surrounding area in the areas of Cultural supports, employment, nutrition, life skills education, reduction in crime, reduction in homelessness, reduction in poverty, increased literacy, increased health and wellbeing and sense of belonging.

The only way we receive our funds is through applying for grants to do the work that the funder wants us to do. Applying for grants, reporting is time consuming and administration heavy. When we apply for a grant we are not sure if we will receive it and for what amount. Most of the grants are year to year so unsure of the future makes it difficult to plan. Some funders do allow a portion for administration but not all do and not enough to cover the true costs of the administration for these supports and services and to remain viable. The Oasis is regularly requested to participate in meetings, partner with other agencies, provide a service and support that we are not funded for, and take on additional referrals. The need in the community is growing – we have interacted with over 300 homeless a year, daily give out food to the homeless or people in need, crisis interventions, cost of living increasing with income support shrinking. These will be some of the challenges the board of directors will be faced with over the next few years.

We are thankful for the participants who trust us to provide the services and supports that they are in need of. We are grateful for the continued funding and support we receive for the programs and your part in making the Nipawin Oasis a valuable and much needed organization in the community.

Joy Hanson – Executive Director

Debbie Peifer- President



## WHAT IS THE OASIS COMMUNITY CENTRE?

The Nipawin Oasis is a community resource centre that provides Cultural, prevention, educational, and intervention programming, services, support and employment opportunities to the community of Nipawin and area in Northeast Saskatchewan. We are working with over 400 individuals and families use the supports and services at the Oasis.

The Centre operates its activities and conducts its affairs under the Co-operatives, 1996 Act and is registered with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice with the Corporation Branch. The Community Centre is also registered with the Government of Canada with the Canada Revenue Agency as a registered charity. There are no dividends or interest on share capital to the members or patrons and no part of the surplus is to benefit the members or patrons.

The Board of Directors serve in a solely volunteer capacity of the Co-operative and are elected from the membership. The direction determined guides the operations of programs and services in the development of plans and annual goals.

The Nipawin Oasis Community Centre Co-operative Limited was incorporated in 1992.



## VISION AND MISSION

### **Our Vision:**

Our Centre will be a place where people care, belong, and get involved. Our Vision is to be one of the leaders in building an inclusive, supportive, safe and healthy community.

### **Our Mission:**

We are a Community Resource Co-operative Centre that provides cultural, prevention, educational, and intervention programming, services, support and employment opportunities to the community of Nipawin and area in Northeast Saskatchewan.

We strive to provide opportunities and **CHOICES** along with the values of:

Caring, supportive, non-judgemental, and respectful, using a

Holistic approach that promotes wellness and that provides

Opportunities and uses as its guides

Integrity which is accountable, transparent and responsible valuing a

Community that works together and that is

Effective in meeting the needs of the community and provides

Security within a safe, respectful, supportive environment.

Our programming focus is on **CRAFTS** which also serves as a strong foundation for the cultural, personal and leadership development of the youth, individuals and families

Caring and Culture

Relationships

Action

Food and Fun

Teamwork and Time

Safety and Security

The Oasis was conceived as an umbrella that promotes sharing between user groups. The ownership, financial support, and responsibility for programs is shared by the local community (through the Board, members, volunteers, and local fundraising), local, regional and provincial agencies.



2022—2023 OASIS PROGRAMS AND SUPPORTS

**Family Support Program (5 FTE)**

**Reaching Home Program (2.5 FTE)**

**Nutrition, Literacy, Culture Programs (1.5 FTE)**

STATISTICS 2022-23

<b>Homelessness/Housing Program—Service Canada</b>			
Individuals/families on case load in homelessness/housing	200 +	# of Homeless - couch surfing and street this year	300 +
Individuals housed	87 with 52 being homeless more then 12 months	Number of people that did not remain housed from last year—2 deceased, 4 incarcerated, 8 returned to homelessness	14
Total # benefitted from Emergency Housing funding to remain housed	100	# began receiving income assistance	40
# started new paid employment	16	# began education program/job training	22
# who received social supports from Oasis/# total instances	127/2071	# of Oasis supportive housing homes	7
<b>Family Support Program—MSS</b>			
# Mandated direct service hours—Family Support—April 2022 to Nov 2022 (out of contract hours) average 80 hours DS per month	682 hours	# Diversion direct service hours Family Support—April 2022 to Dec 2022 (out of contract hours) average 250—300 DS hours per month	3000 + hours
Family Support Program average # of families per month	65 –85		
<b>Nutrition Programs</b>			
Parent/Child Nutrition Classes	208 sessions with CNP total (816 participants)	Youth Kitchens—CNP	156 youth sessions with 624 participants )
Meals Delivered/Served	4950 CNP	Indigenous People`s Resilience fund \$14, 761 on nutrition	5200 meals—500 plus sessions
Social Media Main Facebook page	1400 followers	Oasis participants	400 +

## FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Family Support Program has been funded for a seventh year by the Ministry of Social Services under two contracts, mandated and diversion, to provide support and education to families. We offer wrap around services in the Family Support Program. We have seen our case load double this year and are working with anywhere from 65 – 85 families a month, both in Mandated and Diversion.

The Family Support Program workers this fiscal year were: Melisa Bear, Pamela Nyberg, Melissa Cranch, Hilda Roberts, Danesha Head, Serena Garvin, Sundance Umpherville who are providing assistance in the healthy development and support of families and children in the Northeast area by completing home, office visits, and visits by phone due to the pandemic.

The Family Support Program have been busy with training—Triple P, online parenting courses, to improve on services provided to families. This year we continued to develop and utilize numerous workbooks to work with our families such as Child Development, Anger Management, Parenting, Communication skills, Stress management, Relapse Prevention, ADHD, Family Violence, Grief, Respect in the Home, and Traditional Parenting. The Family Support Program goals are:



To maintain the family unit and well-being of the child or children

To enhance family wellness

To empower families

To ease reunification between children in care and their families

In Addition our goals:

To increase the strength and resilience of families while respecting and supporting their culture and traditions.

To support parents as they help their children with special needs achieve their full potential.

We assist the families with making connections with other resources in the community and online.

We do fun and recreational activities that support the entire family.



## CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

This funding was used to support the afterschool program and summer youth program. This funding was used for transportation costs (pick up youth at school and bring them home), food costs (snack and supper meal), and supplies. It also included an understanding of basic nutrition; safe food handling, cleanliness, hygiene, meal planning; budgeting, shopping, storing, and preparing food. Information on Diabetes. Program varied in length from 2-6 hours. 156 sessions with 624 youth attending, 15 volunteers and 4 staff involved in delivery.

Learned about various plants, where food comes from, nutritional value, how to take care of a garden, harvesting and preserving. We assisted families that are in poverty with seeds, garden tools and knowledge to assist with planting their own garden at home. We also roto-tilled gardens for families at no charge.

Kitchens at the Oasis and in their homes. Parents and their children were involved in the preparation, budgeting, shopping, cooking, and cleanup. Skills taught were safe food handling, sanitation, preserving, budgeting, nutrition. This program was very popular. Held 208 parent child nutrition classes.

<b>Program Objective</b>	<b>How was this objective achieved?</b>
a. Programming promotes good nutrition practices for children.	This objective was achieved by providing information on Canada Food guide to youth and parents. When shopping we model and practice healthy and nutritional shopping and have developed the Nipawin Oasis nutritional guidelines for purchasing that we give to youth and parents when shopping.
b. Programming helps develop independent living skills for children and their families.	Through the program the participants are involved in the menu planning, shopping, budgeting, cooking and clean up. All of the families and youth that we work with are food insecure and are living in poverty and are on social assistance. This programming has assisted with food security as well as having foods that they normally would not be able to purchase due to the high costs such as fruit and vegetables.

## CHILD NUTRITION, LITERACY AND CULTURE PROGRAM

**Community Initiatives Funded** - This project was for youth and children at a high risk assisting them with addressing some of the adverse childhood experiences the youth are facing. This was addressed through the delivery of a Cree Culture, language, life skills, play, physical activity and literacy project that followed an inclusive, holistic, and strength based approach. It assisted with providing protective factors to decrease the risk factors they are facing. The needs of the children and youth in the program were identified by observation, disclosures, parent involvement, requests and referrals from self, family, schools, justice, social services, health and other community agencies. This grant assisted with funding 120 (2-3 hr) sessions (averaging 5-7 children/youth a session) for over 150 at risk children/youth that included volunteers, parents/caregivers and staff. The project started June 1, 2022 and went to Dec. 31, 2022 (7 months) The project was held at the Nipawin Oasis Community Centre, in their homes, in the community, parks, pool, and other community resources.

This provided a safe, welcoming place where the youth gained a sense of belonging, were involved and contributed.

In addition to the planned sessions we daily had children drop in come for literacy assis-



tance, asking us to teach them to read/math/life skills - we worked with them as able. We are seeing children not attending school and leaving school as young as grade 5. We provided school supplies, back packs, books, literacy supplies, and craft supplies for children/youth. We also worked with families in the home providing the same resources. We do see an improvement and the demand for the supports continually increase.

We provided swimming, attending parks, walks, outside sports and games, fishing, sewing, skating, land based learning, medicine picking, beading, and bowling. We see the children love being outdoors and enjoy being active.

The children and youth would willingly participate in the beadwork program, Cree language, drumming, medicine picking, Elder support services, cutting up moose, deer, elk, traditional food preparation, sweat lodge ceremonies, ribbon skirt making, regalia and powwow dancing, traditional parenting and teachings.

We worked with youth that had suicide ideation, anxiety, and behaviour issues. The staff took training on Mental Health First Aid. We also have developed workbooks for Anxiety, Depression, Grief and Loss that we work with the youth and parents on. We had several of the youth who lost caregivers and close family members this year.

We have developed our own workbooks to work with parents on positive parenting, positive discipline, coping skills, stress management, anger management, nutrition, traditional parenting and healthy relationships. We provide and work with the parents on these as time allows. We regularly see families request fruit and vegetables and due to the high costs its difficult for families to purchase. We provide this as much as possible. We have also seen a reduction in families drinking pop.

Due to receiving less then the requested funding we were unable to provide as many sessions as in the application and along with the higher costs of supplies/nutrition/transportation. We had more youth requesting to participate then anticipated and unable to accommodate. Some youth were only able to attend once a month. We also had to decline requests from the community members for their children to attend due to the children not meeting the criteria of being at risk. This is difficult situation for us when the need is higher then we can meet.

We received more nutrition donations from the community then anticipated so spent less on nutrition as anticipated. Due to less funding also less was spent on salaries. More was spent on supplies due to increase costs and assisting with school supplies that wasn't anticipated. When doing the final report some costs that we submitted were not eligible expenses such as school supplies, water bottles, certain snacks/nutrition, towels for swimming resulting in us spending over what was received.

Some decisions will need to be made to continue with the intense youth program or not due to the insufficient funding, admin costs, no core funding, requirements and needs of the program.



## Reaching Home—Homelessness/Housing Program

The key impacts are the supports and services we provided. These have helped improve the quality of life of the individuals we support as well as the ability to prevent eviction. This also assists with being able to house some of the homeless in our community. We assisted with household items and paying bills in certain emergent unique situations due to the low income of the participants and to remain housed. We are also assisting individuals with an extra income, job experience and skills that they would otherwise not receive elsewhere. We assisted individuals and families to obtain ID, and assisted with applying for the appropriate income assistance program. We are providing anger management, stress management and addiction relapse programming for individuals receiving supportive housing services. During the last quarter we purchased our 7th supportive housing home with the Oasis savings. No capital funding grant was obtained. With the help of household donations from our amazing community members we were able to fully furnish the 5 bedroom, 2 bathroom home for a family of seven.

We assisted with damages to homes, emergent medical needs, emergent gas vouchers to transport the homeless, propane tanks for emergency heat, washers and dryers, garbage removal, towels, hygiene items, pest control supplies, footwear, household items, cleaning supplies, blankets, furniture, table and chairs, emergent nutrition, pillows, cultural leaders, printing supplies for workbooks, lights, snow removal, beds, bed covers, cultural supplies, jackets, hats and mitts to assist families, homeless and couch surfing individuals as warm winter attire is very needed. We have received an outpour from the community from donations of clothing, household items, diapers, food, and cash donations, all of which go directly to families and individuals with none being spent on wages or operations of the Oasis.

We attended the homelessness conference put on by Métis Saskatchewan in March. 3 staff and 3 participants attended. We were on the panel regarding rural homelessness. One of our participants was able to get up and speak of her experience in front of everyone in attendance regarding her experience of living in a tent with her children and 21 people in a 1 bedroom home to now being housed in an Oasis supportive housing home. She also spoke in Cree first followed by English as her first language is Cree. We all found this conference to be a highlight of our year and gained much valuable experience and knowledge for attending.

We have been in numerous articles in the paper regarding homelessness in our area.

We applied to the provincial government to be a supportive housing provider. This allows tenants in our supportive housing home to receive \$325/month for family and \$275/month for individual that does not come off their income assistance benefits. This has enabled our tenants to improve their standard of living and pay their rent. We continue to provide to our tenants just one bill – rent with all utilities, furnished, wifi included. This really assists with reducing stressors for the tenants and leads to an improved quality of life and increases the potential of remaining housed.

## CULTURE AND COMMUNITY INCLUSION PROGRAM

MIF-A funding was received from Sask Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation. We were fortunate to receive funding for two years. This funding was for culture retention through preserving the traditions of the area through weekly programming, workshops, sewing, beading, medicine picking, and traditional teachings.

FUNDED BY



**SASK LOTTERIES**



We held weekly cultural programming for 4-5 hours weekly. This program was for women and children. It included sewing, beadwork, moccasin and wrap around making, lanyards, traditional food preparations, regalia making, ribbon skirts, mossbags, bonnets, medicine picking and teachings, Elder services, Cree language, cultural teachings of the teepee, sweat lodge, Indigenous ways of knowing.

We held birch bark basket making class with Mitch Fineday for 12 people.

We attended Powwows, sweats, culture camps at Red Earth, Shoal Lake, James Smith and Elder camp at Cumberland House. We also attended various workshops at the Marguerite Riel Centre in Melfort.

Youth cultural programming included powwow dancing, drumming, fishing, beadwork, medicine picking, Cree language, teepee teachings, regalia making, traditional cooking and ribbon skirt sewing.

Staff and youth participated in cultural events at the school by demonstrating jingle dancing and traditional dancing.







## INDIGENOUS PEOPLES RESILIENCE FUND

This fund is to assist with food for the vulnerable Indigenous population we work with. We have been doing family kitchens in the home or at the Oasis. We assist with knowledge of nutrition, shopping, budgeting, cooking and literacy. This project also includes emergent needs, supplies, transportation, and salaries. Traditional knowledge and Cree language will be included as much as possible. The project is delivered by Cree speakers and traditional knowledge keepers. This



funding has helped tremendously with being able to assist with food security, nutrition, budgeting, shopping and overall well being.



## MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN



The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to advancing the safety of Indigenous women, girls, and Two Spirit+ people by supporting community and grassroots initiatives that build safety and prevention by building and developing partnerships.

**The First Nations and Métis Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls+ Community Response Fund Project, a program of the Ministry of Government Relations has provided funding for this project.**

Dec 2023).

Our objectives are to: (Jan 2023–

Prevent normalization of violence towards Indigenous women, girls and Two Spirited + people

Improve opportunities and supports for income, employment, education, housing, justice, safety, health, identification, transportation, healthy relationships and well-being to prevent vulnerabilities of violence towards Indigenous women, girls and Two Spirited + people

Increase supports for Cree language and Culture opportunities

Provide opportunities and supports for healing and prevention

This funding allows us to add in an additional day for healing/talking circle lead by Indigenous cultural leaders for the men. In addition to other programs. This program is in progress and will have a final report next annual report.



## What difference has the Oasis made?

We often hear people say I don't know what the Oasis does actually.

Services provided included parenting support, emergent transportation, cultural supports and supplies, crisis interventions, emergent nutrition, cooking skills, shopping, budgeting, filling out forms and applications, obtaining income, obtaining ID, children's activities, emergent clothing, housing assistance, eviction prevention, garbage removal, furniture donations, home repairs, landlord/tenant relations, cultural ceremonies, use of phone/computer/fax, donations, housing applications, work experience, household items, worked with the RCMP, HUB, Social services, Schools, Legal aid, Physicians, Health region, Home care, CLSD, Nipawin Housing, accessing Food Bank, Landlords, and this is only the services provided this month to families and does not include services and supports to the individuals. This is only possible due to the amazing staff that we have.

How we give back to the community the Oasis spent the following in the community for the 2022-23

Boreal Waste Authority - \$2575

CJ's \$975

DC Import Auto Care Centre - \$2306

Elaine's Fabric & More - \$646

Lake Country Coop \$44,623

Market Tire \$2,129

MTN Disposal \$787

Nipawin Taxi \$677

Paramart - \$2027

Proven Insurance \$5263

Richardsons \$6440

Sk Valley Services \$1053

SaskEnergy \$10149

SaskPower \$15409

SaskTel \$14532

Save U IGA \$13500

Spectrum \$672

Cooperators Insurance \$14140

Town of Nipawin \$27160

TSN Law \$1158

Wayford Trucking \$318

Dollar Store \$2280

Fields \$1500


Matt's No Frills \$14,100

For a total of \$184,419 spent in the community April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023 😊

## What difference has the Oasis made?

### **Some of the comments we have received from our participants :)**

*I would jus like to say is that whenever I need plan B, y'all try your best to help me and my family out and for the we are truly grateful because without oasis, idk where else I would've turned to, im so glad I was introduced to you guys, staff is always welcoming and soft spoken, you all are truly a blessing to those in need of the services you offer*

- *Highly recommend for family services and great support  you guys make sure families are ok in needs, making sure we would like to attend activities. Offer people to volunteer in need of help*
- *Love being apart of the oasis family. Definitely great place to go to when you need something done help with resumes and job searches etc. Your resources Definitely helped us in so many ways.*
- *Since being with oasis, it has been a great impact on my life. Getting out at least once a week for woman's day & has helped me when I was in need also. Great support to have. Also doing kitchens with my support worker from oasis has been great with learning how to cook!*
- *It's very comforting meet our needs. That's for sure. If it wasn't for oasis. Lord know where or what we'd be doing. Be bored Let's play bingo again. It's so fun. Yabadabadop.*
- *Oasis has help my family and with alot this past year, needs for babies, and also food when we really need, I hope it's continues with its programs also!!*
- *The oasis help with my parenting skills and other skills for other things we need to know that most of their community has! Plus coming with other ways to prove the process for families and need of help from Oasis all worker's are amazing to work with and friendly community. I appreciate to have Oasis for there truly amazing people in this world.*
- *Well,,hmmm where to begin,lol I first went to Oasis to get a resume done and had the best welcome and wonderful help! Then again started attending for a basket making teaching ! Loved going there ever since! They have given me more then I can express in words!! Make me feel like I'm at home when I'm with wonderful friends and ladies group!! Thanks for sharing and caring Oasis!!!*
- *Men's group was cool I got to start coming again and I miss getting visits and stuff enjoyed it thanks for everything*

## What difference has the Oasis made?

### **Some of the comments we have received from our participants :)**

- *Oasis helped my kids and I to reunite as a family by giving us one of their supportive homes to live in. The kids have been returned to my care since last year. Thank you Oasis for your support*
- *Being with Oasis has and still is a great experience with them. They have helped my girls and I since day one. We moved here a little over 2 years now and we are so so blessed to have them in our lives. With the women's group, and other activities they host is the best! They make me feel like I'm not even shy lol knowing the friendly atmosphere they have in there is just, Ugg! I can't even say it I even got help from them while I was working on my drivers license and happy to say I passed! Best support system I've had since we've been here! Much, love and respect to the Oasis team!*
- *Oasis great This is where I build my self esteem from It has helped me a lot being there brings me joy n Good memories of my late sister Leanne hat worked for them going there n learn new things n meeting new friends made me stronger I love going to Oasis cus I ve seen helping a lot of ppl when we re in need stuff to b done also Thank you for the swimming n pizzas Joy n Serena my very first time going swimming lol finally came out of my turtle shell to b in public lol Tkz again hopefully we can do this again soon*
- *Oasis has been and always will be my main supporting group, I enjoy going to woman's group, I love when they have these family event, it makes my kids happy and they enjoy gathering with there friends. And I love when they do family cooking at our homes. Oasis is great, amazing people*
- *One of the big differences is, i get to go and socialize every week with my friends, i like saying that "my friends" my worries disapper while i'm there. Its always a good time there, good friends, good food, lots of laughter-good medicine for the soul these are just a few things, believe me the list goes on.*
- *Oasis had help me through hard time in my pass what I been doing and how I can stop helped me get better at being nice to people making friends but I do miss the person how made me laugh the most Melissa, joy they just made my day saying how nice and helpful you guys are the best to be honest*

## What difference has the Oasis made?

### Some of the comments we have received from our participants :)

*You guys are totally great I love all the support you and staff give very friendly and understanding it's easy to approach people there as everyone is treated kindness and respect and I love it thanks joy and staff*

*Jeremy Severight*

*That's awesome :) Oasis does do alot for the area and it's definitely appreciated by so many people*

*Barbara Aden*

*You do inspire people to pitch in because of all the good you do in the community. That is such a great act of generosity. Very happy for you and those who participate in your activities and projects. Keep doing what you are doing.*

*Feb 14, 23 Shelley Pierlot commented on FB post A huge thank you to Nipawin Oasis Community Centre Co-operative Ltd. for all that you do to reach out and support people in our community. Your work helps children and families and we appreciate you all so much.*



**Thelma Schellenberg**

We are so blessed to have an "Oasis" in Nipawin & to have so many kindhearted people & businesses donate so generously to help with the needs of our community. Big hug & thanks to [Joy Hanson](#) & staff for their tireless work to keep the programs in play. Thank you so much from this elder! 😊

Leaving me in tears.  
Thanks for the washer  
Oasis community  
centre. You  
guys rock.

Had awesome cooking with Sundance

👍👍👍 10

3 comments

Love

Comment



## Donations making a difference

We are extremely grateful for your generosity and time **Jessie Funk (Extensions by Jessie - Spahh)** for volunteering your skills, products and time to give haircuts and styling for people at the Oasis. You are loved and are amazing! She did this for two days :)



# Donations making a difference

We are overjoyed with the tremendous donation of vegetables from the **Carrot River Coop**. Thankyou so much! Photos also from some of the meals that were made from the vegetables :)





We are overjoyed with the tremendous donation of vegetables from the Carrot River Coop. Thankyou so much! Photos also from some of the meals that were made from the vegetables :)



## Donations making a difference



We are very grateful for the generosity of the Nipawin Lake Country Co-op employees who would each contribute \$1 per week for the Casual for a Cause fund each Friday. "We collected \$4313. Our employees selected the Nipawin Oasis as the casual for a cause recipi-

ent for last year's funds, and they are excited to provide this donation to you, as we work to build sustainable communities together - Tammy Nilson - Director of People and Culture/Casual for a Cause Committee Member

We appreciate this very much 100% of this donation will be going towards people in need of food (no \$ is spent on salaries, admin, rent, or transportation)

Many thanks to Lake Country Coop and community for the donation of \$2963.11 from the sales of the orange shirt pins in recognition of orange shirt day and National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - Sept. 30th. This day was chosen as a symbol of the time of year when the children were taken from their homes and sent to residential schools. Orange because Phyllis Webstad of Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation had her orange shirt taken away when she attended a residential school, as well as her language, culture and



childhood joy.

100% of the donation will go towards youth program for nutrition, emergent clothing and needs. ( no \$ will be spent on salaries, admin, rent or transportation.)

## Donations making a difference



Thankyou to the Nipawin Kinsmen and John for your donation of \$2750.00. We love you! This was so kind and thoughtful of you to think of us. Your dedication and hard work for the community is appreciated! All of this donation will go towards food for people in need.

(No \$ will be spent on salaries, admin, rent or transportation) Thankyou so very much!!!

“Nipawin, you guys clogged the toilets with donations for Telemiracle! Thanks everyone for being great sports with our Toilet Drop fundraiser! As promised, we could not be happier to match the donation grand total and donate in kind to the Nipawin Oasis Community Centre Co-operative Ltd. in the amount of \$2,750!!! Merry Christmas and thanks to all involved!



We are so thankful for the amazing support and donation of \$2500 from Derek Wiebe and Mark Pelechaty on behalf of Old Dutch Foods, Pratts Wholesale, Fine Foods Advertising.

Extra special thanks and gratitude to all the staff and managers Ashley Dayton and Neil Banman of Paramart and owners Cumberland House Cree Nation for selecting us to be the recipients.

100% of the donation will go towards food for people in need (no \$ will be spent on admin, rent, salaries, or transportation)

## Donations making a difference



We want to thank Danielle Grunberg of White Fox who ran a yoga class to raise money \$80 and food for the Oasis. Thankyou so much Dani for thinking of us and your kind words 100% of this donation will go towards food for people in need (no \$ spent on salaries, admin, rent or transportation)



We are very thankful to Brett and Raelene at North Fringe Industrial Technologies for their donation of food to a family in need 😊 this was actually the family's wish list and more 😊 we appreciate your kindness and generosity 😊 ❤️



What can we say always thinking of other people is Jessica Brost and Northeast EMS for their generous and kind donation of goodies, and \$1000. 100% of this donation will go towards food for people in need (no \$ will be spent on salaries, admin, rent or transportation) thank you so much Jessica for your ongoing support in more ways than one. ❤️

## Donations making a difference



We want to thank Lindsay Cochran and girls for their generous donation to an Elder couple. You are loved 🥰  
This was the Elders response  
“Thank you once again. We are truly grateful. There here. The food we needed. God bless”



We want to thank Josh and the young adults group from the Emmanuel Baptist church for their donation of a food box to a family in need and dropping it off tonite ty 😊  
Your generosity, kindness and thoughtfulness is much appreciated 🥰 ❤️



We are thankful for the generous donation of cucumbers from the Mabel Hill Marketplace ty 😊



We are extremely grateful for the donation from Monica, Aoife and Marwa of Bunge 🥰 your kindness and generosity are very much appreci-

## Donations making a difference



We want to thank the gentleman (don't know name) who spent his \$500 cheque on muck boots, snow pants and mitts for youth and dropped them off at the Oasis this morning :) you are loved and appreciated!!!.



Thankyou Keisha and the Lake Country Co-op for thinking of us 😊 very much appreciated 😊

### **Food Boxes donated for families during Dec**

Jamie Grandfield and family

Dave and Colleen from Super Dave's Honey

Brett and Raelene—North Fringe Industrial Technologies

Justin Hryciuk and minor hockey

Ladies from East of Carrot River

Jean and Bob Hosaluk

Lindsey and Preston Kosedy

Nipawin Bible College Alumni

Tara and Kim Larsen

Jessica Brost and Northeast EMS

Nacole Cowan and Andi and Charlie

Bungee

Lindsay Cochran

Marie Fafard

Emmanuel Baptist Church young adults group

THANKYOU :) FUNDERS 2022-2023



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Financé par le gouvernement du Canada



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THANKYOU :) DONORS 2022-2023

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Anonymous	Sharon Rettaler	Danielle Grunberg
Norman and Joanne Thomson	Gary Jamieson	Jeanne Hosaluk
Lindsey Kosedy	Lake Country Co-operative - Employees	Lake Country Co-operative – Orange shirt pins
Ashley Harvey—Nipawin Hospital Christmas Telegram sales	Nipawin Kinsmen Club	Steve Meeres
Janine Brooks Jean	Ken and Joy Hanson	Eileen M Fogarty
Nathalie Hagel	Canadian Online Giving Foundation – Nutrien employee	Garry & Gloria Schenstead

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www.nipawinoasis.com

## Our Mission

*We are a community resource co-operative centre that provides cultural, prevention, educational, and intervention programming, services, support and employment opportunities to the community of Nipawin and area in Northeast Saskatchewan.*

## Our Vision

*Our Centre will be a place where people care, belong, and get involved. Our Vision is to be one of the leaders in building an inclusive, supportive, safe and healthy community.*

**C**aring, supportive, non-judgemental and respectful, using a

**H**olistic approach that promotes wellness and that provides

**O**pportunities and uses as its guides

**I**ntegrity which is accountability, transparency and responsible while valuing a

**C**ommunity that works together and that is

**E**ffective in meeting the needs of the community and provides

**S**ecurity within a safe, respectful, and supportive environment

*Our programming focus is on **CRAFTS** which also serves as a strong foundation for the cultural, personal and leadership development of the youth, individuals and families*

**C** Caring and Culture

**R** Relationships

**A** Action

**F** Food and Fun

**T** Teamwork and Time

**S** Safety and Security



*Providing Opportunities  
for  
Positive Choices*