

# **P-HSJCC Webinar:**

## **2-Spirited People of the First Nations**

**Hosts:** Candace Vena and Erin Paquette



### **About today's webinar:**

- The webinar will begin at 12:00pm and conclude at 1:00pm.
- We will have a Q&A period at the end of our webinar; however, you may also ask a question using the Q&A box during the discussion.
- This webinar will be recorded. The recording, slides and resources will be emailed to you following the webinar.
- We will hold a few minutes at the end of the webinar for a short survey to hear your feedback from today's session.

### **About the HSJCC Network:**

The Human Services and Justice Coordinating Committee (HSJCC) Network is comprised of 38 Local Committees, 14 Regional Committees, and one Provincial HSJCC. Each HSJCC is a voluntary collaboration between health and social service organizations, community mental health and addictions organizations and partners from the justice sector including crown attorneys, judges, police services and correctional service providers.

# Introduction

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Saige McMahon (she/her) is an Anishnaabekwe settler mix from Treaty 3 Territories, Rainy River First Nations. She identifies as being a part of the queer community.

She is the Director of the Indigenous led Crisis Response Pilot and has been working in various capacities with 2-Spirited People of the 1<sup>st</sup> Nations for roughly 5 years.





# INDIGENOUS APPROACHES

# TO COLLECTIVE CARE



by Saige McMahon

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Let's talk about harm reduction, collective/community care and mental health response within an Indigenous framework!

01

POSITIONING  
ONESELF

02

FRAMING THE  
ISSUES

03

COLLECTIVE CARE

04

HARM REDUCTION

05

APPROACHES TO  
CARE

06


TCCS PILOT

# Who AM I?

Positioning myself, my community, and my experiences in this conversation.

Being able to position oneself in community, work, your role is very important.



A scenic landscape featuring a river, tall grasses, and a sunburst effect over a treeline. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and rays of light that fan out across the sky. The foreground is filled with tall, green grasses, and the background shows a dense line of trees. The overall mood is peaceful and natural.

*“KAY-NAH-CHI-WAH-NUNG IS PART OF OUR  
HOMELAND AND OUR HERITAGE. IT HAS DEEP  
SIGNIFICANCE TO OUR PEOPLE AND WE HAVE  
STRUGGLED LONG AND HARD TO PRESERVE AND  
PROTECT IT.*

WILLIE WILSON, FORMER CHIEF OF RAINY RIVER  
FIRST NATIONS

A solid yellow horizontal bar located at the bottom right of the page.

# FRAMING THE DISCUSSION

These conversations certainly did not begin with me, many came before me, just as many will after me.

Collective and community care has existed and been practiced within Indigenous communities since time immemorial.





## **BREAKING DOWN THE DISCUSSION**

**5X**

More likely to experience overdose

**100 PER 100,000**

Highest suicide rates in the world

**2.7 X**

HIV contraction rates

**33%**

Less than high school education

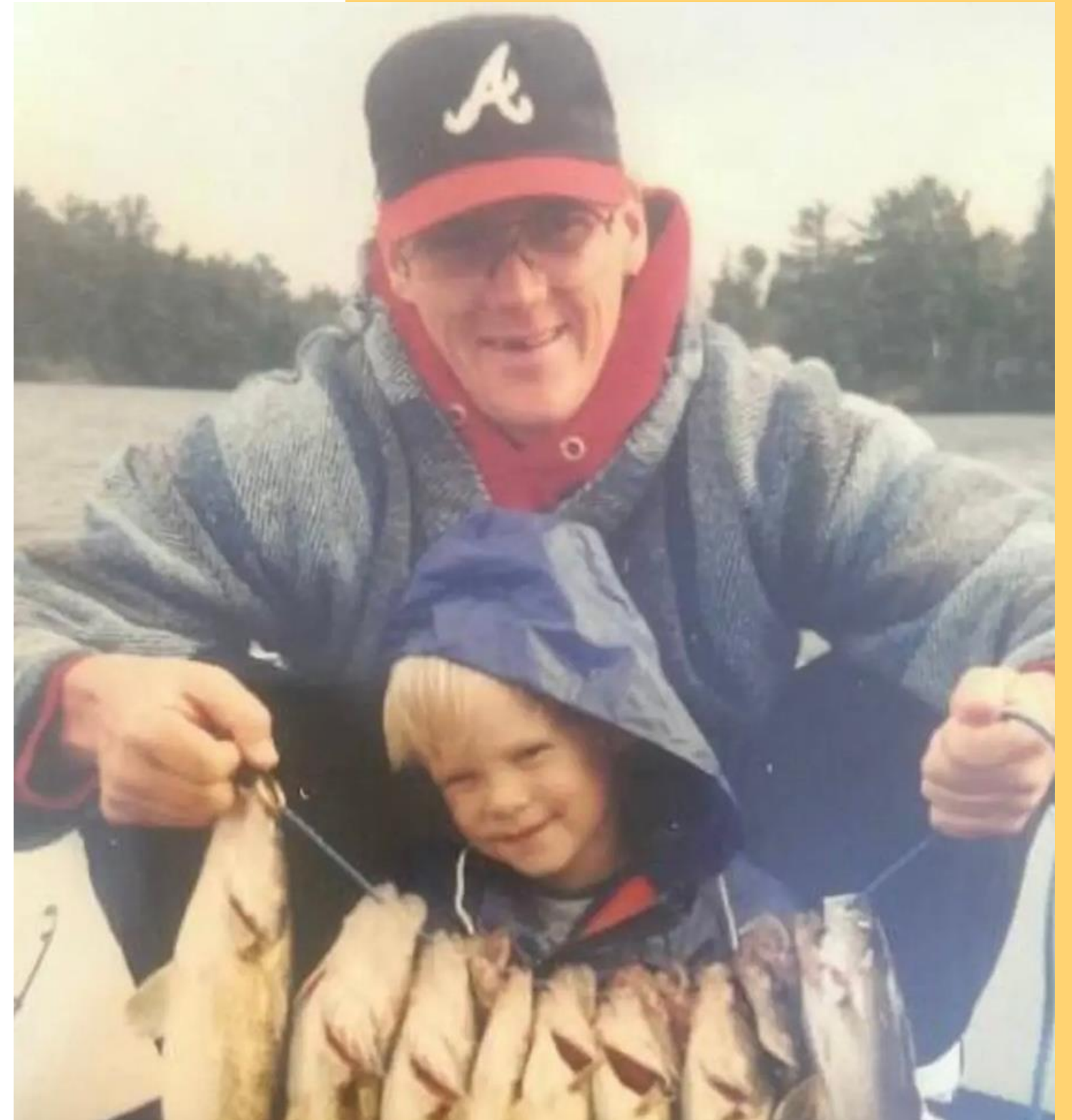


# What is

## COLLECTIVE/ COMMUNITY CARE?

"What we have is because someone stood up before us. What our Seventh Generation will have is a consequence of our actions today."

**Winona LaDuke, Anishnabe**





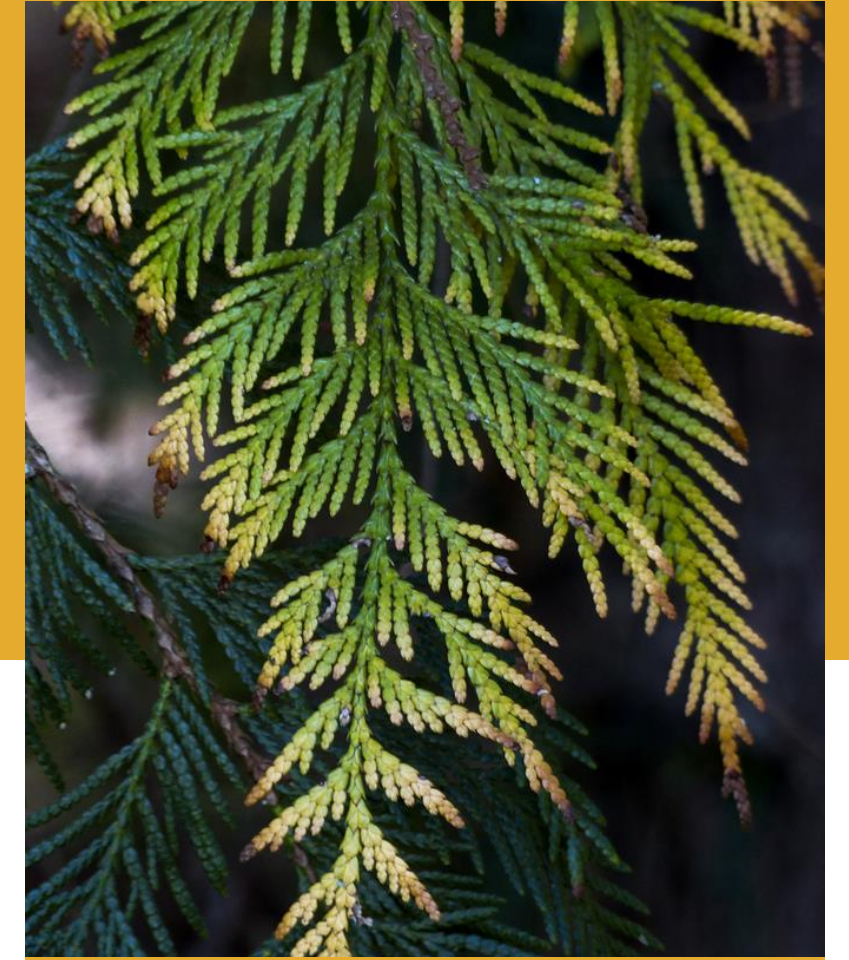
Wholistic



Strength Based



Culturally Grounded



Relational

# Indigenous Harm Reduction

What is Indigenous Harm Reduction? How is it different from Westernized Approaches? How can we learn from it?



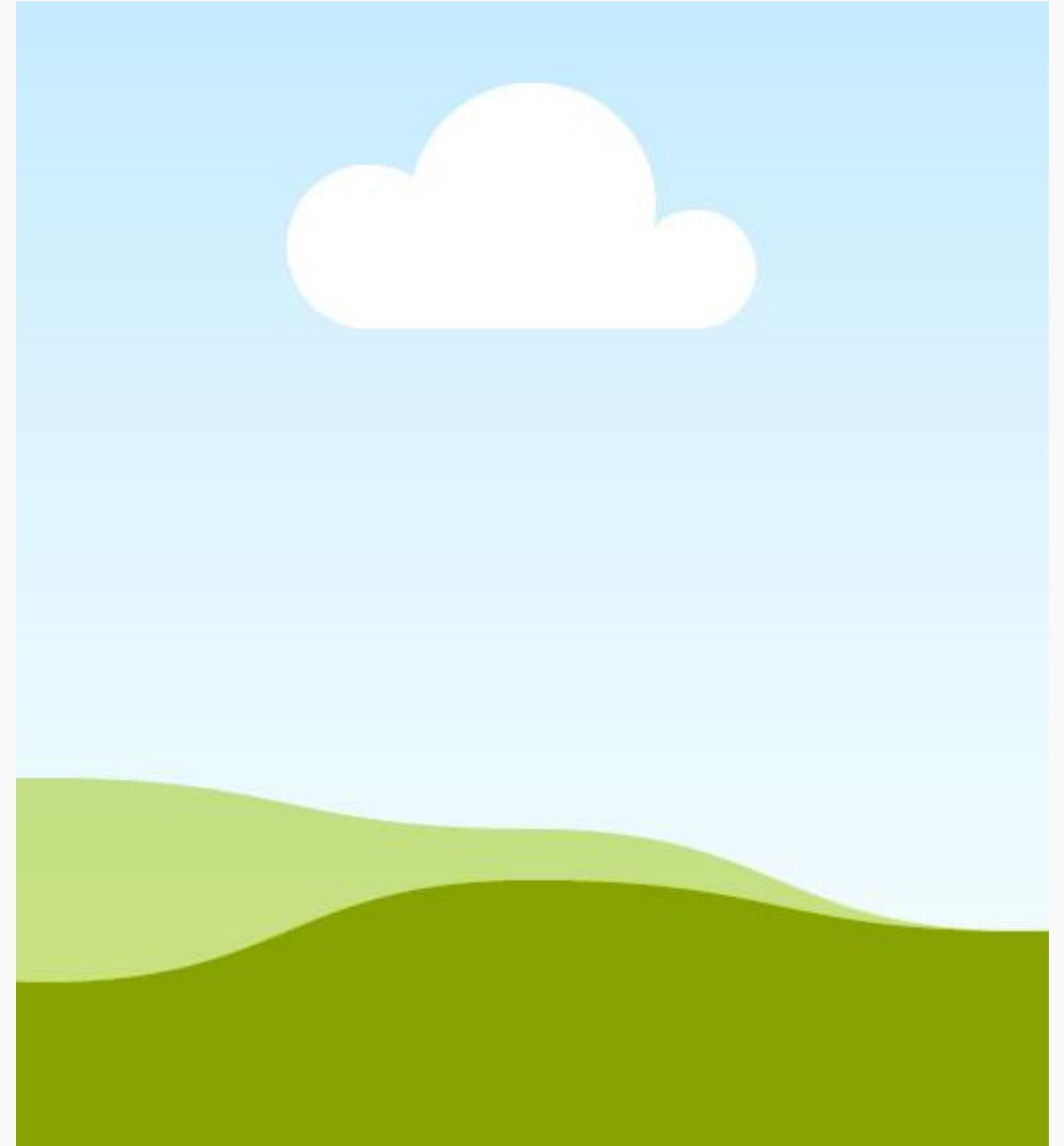
# WHOLISTIC WELLNESS

Spiritual, Emotional, Physical,  
Mental balance within the  
context of ourselves and our  
communities.





# KNOWLEDGE SHARING



# Why are

# INDIGENOUS APPROACHES SO IMPORTANT?



## **Collective/Community Care**

It is fundamental to who we are as people and communities.



## **Harm Reduction**

Acknowledges the historical, and systemic structures that pose harm.



## **Wholistic Wellness**

Allows us to acknowledge ourselves within community, and within all aspects of ourselves.

# APPROACHES TO CARE:

Both bigger picture and everyday tangible approaches to care, and practices you can use to better support and nurture relationships with Indigenous people around you: (Especially for non-Indigenous folks working in social work or community work!)

01

POWER  
DYNAMICS

03

CENTRE LIVED/LIVING  
EXPERIENCE

05

BIAS CHECKING

02

RELATIONSHIP  
BUILDING

04

NO '3 STRIKES'

06

SERVICE PROVIDERS  
AS BARRIERS

# APPROACHES TO CARE:

07

LANGUAGE

08

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

09

NO BULLSHIT

10

GET COMFORTABLE  
WITH  
UNCOMFORTABLE

11

NOT A PAN-INDIGENOUS  
APPROACH

12

WHAT IS YOUR ROLE?

# TCCS PILOT

TCCS provides a community-based alternative response to mental health and/or substance use crises, utilizing an equity based, anti-racist, person-centred, trauma-informed response.







# TCCS OVERVIEW:



## Who

2-Spirits currently serves anyone meeting the eligibility criteria in Division 14, as well as Indigenous community members in divisions 51/52.



## What

Kamaamwizme wii Naagidiwendiiying -  
Coming together to (heal or look after or  
take care of) each other.



## When

Launched July 11, 2022 and have been in  
operation 24/7 since then.



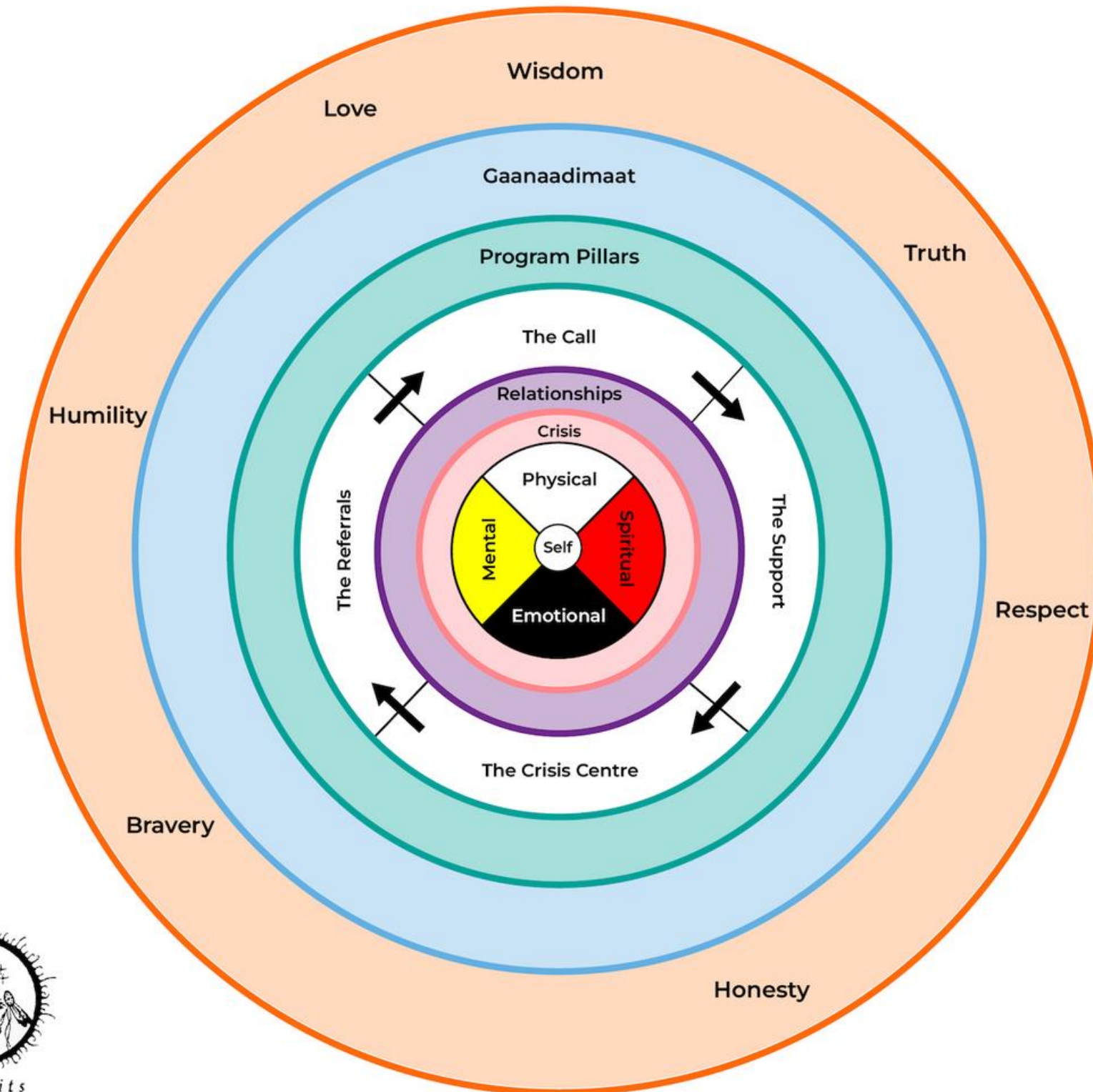
## Where

Division 14  
Division 51  
Division 52

# Kamaamwizme wii Naagidiwendiiying

Coming together to (heal or look after or to take care of) each other

## Naagdobiigewin



### Relationships

- People with lived/living experience
- Partnering Agencies
- Community leaders/workers
- 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals
- Aunties and Uncles program
- Peer workers
- Elders/Knowledge Keepers
- City of Toronto

### Program Pillars

- Providing culturally grounded support
- Applying flexible approaches to care (not a one size fits all model)
- Providing wholistic health and wellness supports
- Ensuring that individuals in crisis have self-determination and are empowered in their care and response plans
- Providing accessible, trauma-informed care services
- Community participation and by-in throughout each phase of the pilot
- Continuous quality improvement of our supports and services

### Gaanaadimaat (How it helped us?)

- Enhanced feeling of safety
- Increased sense of wellness and belonging
- Crisis stabilization
- Increased access to appropriate care
- Increased capacity
- Decreased institutional involvement
- Increased community well-being

# High-Level Service Map



# How TO ACCESS TCCS



Designated Access Pathways



In the Community



2S Crisis Line

# TCCS PILOTS

There are 4 pilots operating in different areas of the city, specific to the communities they operate within.



Gerstein Crisis Centre



TAIBU CHC



CMHA Toronto

# Pilot Service Areas

TPS Divs. 23 & 31  
Active July 18, 2022

Northwest  
Pilot

TPS Divs. 41, 42 & 43  
Active April 4, 2022

Northeast  
Pilot



Downtown West Pilot  
- Kamaamwizme wii  
Naagidiwendiriing

Downtown  
East Pilot

TPS Div. 51 & 52  
Active March 31, 2022



Indigenous-led Pilot:  
TPS Div. 14  
Active July 11, 2022





# CHI MIIGWETCH

Saige McMahon, Director of the Indigenous specific Mental Health Crisis Response Pilot

