

# AWASHISHUG OONAH-KINOO-KEWIN CHILD AND FAMILY LAW WORKSHOP MARCH 13-17, 2023, THUNDER BAY

Norwestor, Thunder Bay

## Parts 1 - 6 of the Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug Law





# Wholistic Approach

All of the 14 Parts and Preface  
are interconnected





# Preamble

AND WHEREAS it is the custom of Big Trout Lake people that every parent, every family member and every member of the community has responsibility for the safety, well-being and to pass on traditional and spiritual teachings of children and youth;

AND WHEREAS Big Trout Lake people have the right to establish our own governing structures and programs and services;

AND WHEREAS Big Trout Lake people have the right to make our own laws and determine our own procedures;







# Part 1: Definitions - Family (pg 9)

- Nuclear family
- Single parent family
- Grandparent family
- Extended family
- Blended Family
- Church Family
- Community Family
- Clan family
- Inter-Nation families
- Same sex family
- Childless family
- Widowed Family
- Foster families
- Multi-generational Family





# Part 2: Vision

Our goal is to create a Healthy Self, Healthy Family, and a Healthy Community. Our ancestors held everything sacred and thanked the Creator every day for all that he had given them. We also hold everything sacred and thank the Creator for all that he has given to us.

The Creator, Kishe-Manidoo has given us our values, principles, customs, language, and the traditional and spiritual teachings which provide a foundation to guide us to a strong community composed of healthy families who are raising children or youth grounded in their culture and language.





# Part 2: Mission

We will revitalize our values, principles, customs, language, and traditional and spiritual teachings so that we can support our families to raise our children and youth in healthy homes within our community. Let us help and support each other as parents and members of our community.



In your language



# Part 2: Principles

2.3.1 Our values, principles, customs, language, and traditional and spiritual teachings are fundamental and critical to our healthy sense of identity and our programs and services.

In your language



2.3.2 Every person will be treated with respect.

In your language





# Part 2: Principles

2.3.5 The parents, extended family and person raising a child will focus on the needs of the child or youth.

## In your language

2.3.6 Programs and services to families should try to prevent harm to the child and youth, to avoid the need to bring them into care, to build on their strengths to help keep them together, and to support them in caring for their children and youth.

## In your language



# Part 2: Principles

2.3.7 Big Trout Lake People decision makers must consider the modern context in which Big Trout Lake People govern themselves

In your language



# Part 3: Big Trout Lake People

3.1 INHERENT RIGHTS

3.2 RECOGNITION

3.3 JURISDICTION

3.4 MANDATE - ROLE OF CHIEF AND COUNCIL









# Part 3.4: Mandate – Role of Chief and Council

Chief and Council are the ultimate authority with respect to all matters related to the child, youth and family.

- List of approximately 20 actions for Chief and Council to undertake and/or implement to accomplish/meet this mandate
- Responsibility for some of this work is delegated to the Family Keepers Governance Structure in Part 7



# Part 3.4: Mandate – Role of Chief and Council

**Big Trout Lake People  
Child and Family Law**

**Chief and Council**

**Family Keepers Governance Structure**





# Part 4.8: Responsibility to Help Parents

Key Phase for Elders, Chief and Council, Grandparents, Community Programs and Services, Church Leaders, All community members, Natural Helpers:

By passing on values, principles, customs, language, and traditional and spiritual teachings on prenatal care, childbirth, newborn and raising a child.



# Part 4.13: Role of Big Trout Lake People

All members of Big Trout Lake People share the responsibility to ensure that children or youth are safe and well cared for.

Anyone aware of a child or youth needing help should take action to ensure the child, youth and family receive the help needed.

This responsibility includes reporting a concern to the Family Keeper and providing care for the child and youth.



# Part 5: Parental Relationships

- 5.1 GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING
- 5.2 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
- 5.3 SEPARATED PARENTS
- 5.4 PARENTING CHILDREN AND YOUTH WHERE PARENTS ARE SEPARATED
- 5.5 NO CONTACT
- 5.6 RESUMING CONTACT
- 5.7 DISPUTE RESOLUTION







# Part 6.5: Child Care

6.5.3 No child or youth should be placed outside of Big Trout Lake People or a nearby First Nation, unless there are circumstances which require that the child or youth be placed elsewhere (e.g. special needs, treatment etc.).

When child or youth is are place outside of Big Trout Lake People, there is a special responsibility to keep these child or youth connected to their family, their community and their Elders.



# Appendix

Part 7: The Family Keepers Governance Structure

Part 8: Service Providers

Part 9: Services Process

Part 10: Traditional Practice of Child Rearing and Care

Part 11: Custom Adoption

Part 12: Big Trout Lake People Dispute Resolution

Part 13: Process for Big Trout Lake Decision Makers

Part 14: General

