



# Annual Report 2016-2017

# Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre



Ottawa Inuit  
Children's  
Centre

ᐱᐱᐱᐱ ᐱᐱᐱᐱ  
ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ  
ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ



230 MacArthur Avenue  
Ottawa, Ontario K1L 695  
[www.ottawainuitchildrens.com](http://www.ottawainuitchildrens.com)

Cover Photography: Michelle Valberg  
Cover Painting: Anna Funnekotter  
Design by: CommPassion Creative



# Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre Annual Report 2016-2017

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alyssa Flaherty-Spence, President

Tamara Takpannie, Vice President

Melinda Shambare, Treasurer

Leila Mahoney, Secretary

Mary Shorten, Director

Jeannie Koonoo, Director

Andrée Lacasse, Director

Mary Hutton, Director

Bruce Uviluq, Director

## EX-OFFICIOS

Pam Stellick

Stephanie Puetz

David M. Zackrias

Maria Healy

Carl Dobbin

Trevor Gillis

Frederic Birt



# President/Executive Directors Welcome



## IMAGINE...

Imagine a place where children, youth and families can gather to celebrate their Inuit culture, heritage and combined strengths. A place where children and youth can access supports and programs that have been developed based on their individual needs. A place where parents can access a variety of culturally safe services. A place where staff work incredibly hard to meet the needs of community.



Imagine these community members and staff being in a beautiful building that is designed to meet their needs and to celebrate their Inuit culture. A building that welcomes not only our community but our partners who want to learn more about the community in hopes of delivering services that are reflective of needs of Inuit.

Imagine this building being in a city and province that believes that cultural programming and supports should be offered in a way that reduces any barriers that could stand in the way of being

accessed. Imagine this building imitates a “hub” model or a building that offers a continuum of services lead by community for community and is what researchers describe as the “ideal” model for reaching better outcomes for families.



Imagine that Inuit are no longer left out of provincial and federal discussions and that there is recognition that pan-aboriginal services are not the answer for this

distinct community and finally funding processes are fair and equitable.

**Alyssa Flaherty-Spence, President and  
Karen Baker-Anderson, Executive Director**

Imagine that mainstream agencies such as schools, mental health agencies, hospitals, banks, shelters and other service providers realize that they need to ensure that they truly understand the history of Inuit in the context of our country and stand up to say they need to do better. Imagine that they attend conferences offered by an agency or that they plan cultural days and or performances in their institutions.

Imagine that Inuit outside of Ottawa start to stand up and say that they too want cultural services for their families and following the Inuit IQ principal of Piliriqatigiinni/ikajuqtigiinni (working together for a common cause) that we look to the future and how we can share what we have learned in our journey in hopes of helping other Inuit children, youth and families.

It is only when we use our mind and heart to imagine what can be and when we listen to community and surround ourselves with willing partners, funders and competent staff that our dreams for community can become a reality. To fulfill these dreams for our future generations and community we continually strive to ensure the importance of staff support and education as priorities to better serve our families. This year we made huge steps towards making these dreams turn into reality; a reality that will benefit the children, youth and families of this community for years to come.

Not only are we working towards a building and dream that is built on culture, family, community, education and safety but we diligently are working towards growing our relationships within our province at the community and governmental levels.

Thank you sharing your vision for the OICC and for trusting us to move these dreams in the realm of possibility.

# Intake Assessment And Personal Plan

At the Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre (OICC), we see over 120 Inuit children and youth daily. We see another 100 plus participants in weekly/monthly programs. We also work with the families of these children and youth. Using our Theory of Change model, we base our programs and services on components steeped in culture. Our Theory of Change has headings that include: Intake Assessment and Personal Plan, Culturally Rich Children and Youth Programs, Family and Community Programs, and Advocacy and Awareness.

A new intake process was developed to ensure that all families have access to programs and services that best meet their needs and help meet the outcome of their family living a life of well-being. This year we had purchased and set up of a Database system that will keep all client information in a secure and confidential manner while ensuring that clients do not have to keep re-registering for programs. This assists us in better communication with all our families.

A new intake process was developed to ensure that all families have access to programs and services that best meet their needs and help meet the outcome of their family living a life of well-being.

## Intake Assessment and Personal Plan

Purchased and set up of a Database system that will keep all client information in a secure and confidential manner.



# Culturally Rich Children's Programs

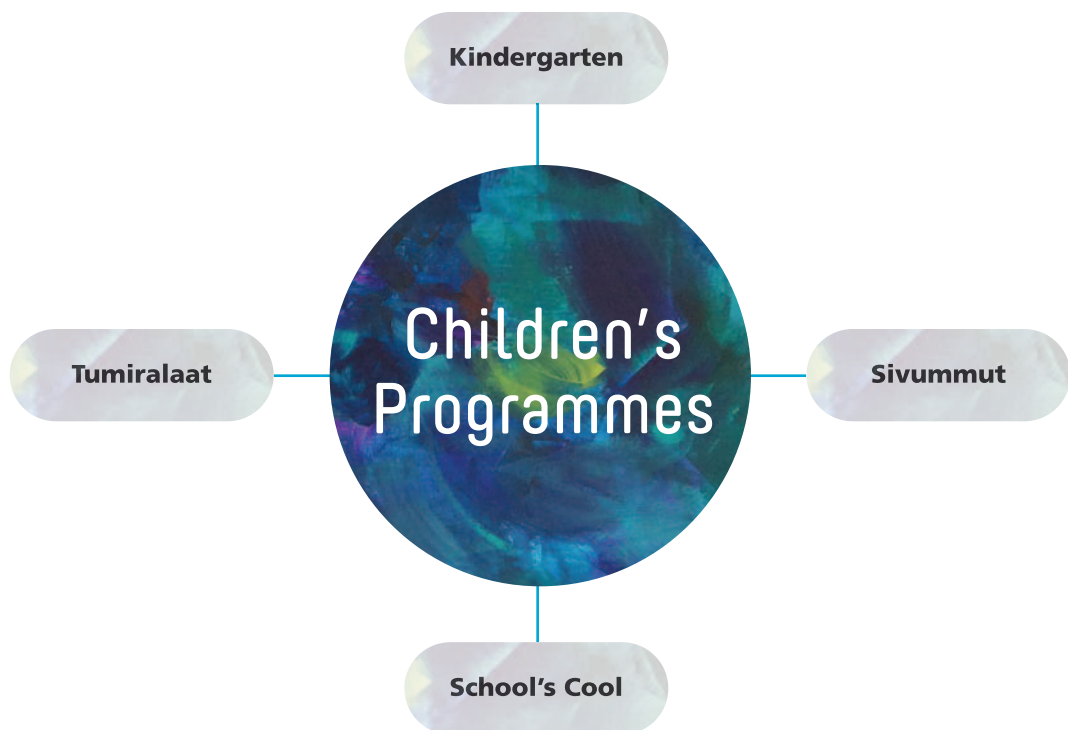
## JUNIOR AND SENIOR KINDERGARTEN

In partnership with the Ottawa Carleton District School Board, the OICC Kindergarten Program allowed children to attend school in a familiar environment that included Inuit culture while covering provincial curriculum guidelines. With instruction in English, French and Inuktitut, weekly access to country food, well-child checks, dental screening, music therapy, regular fieldtrips, and door to door transportation this program was unique in the province. Children participated in cultural performances. Eighteen children are enrolled in the program. Eighteen children registered for 13,000 hours of programming each for a total of 234,000 hours.



"I was very grateful to find the Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre. Aspects of their programs involve the preservation of the Inuktitut language, something mainstream programs don't provide."

—Parent





## SIVUMMUT

Sivummut Head Start is part of the Aboriginal Head Start initiative. Children aged 18 months to six years of age attended this culturally rich half-day program that focused on the 6 Aboriginal Head Start components: Education; Nutrition; Parental/Guardian Involvement; Culture & Language; Health Promotion; and Social Support. Instruction in Inuktitut and English and opportunities to eat country food, sing Inuktitut songs, skin seal, wear traditional clothing, and light the qulliq is what makes this an enjoyable program where young child thrive in their culture. Thirty-two children were registered with each child receiving 400 hours of programming for a total of 12,800 hours.

## SCHOOL'S COOL

School's Cool was a 6-week summer program that prepared children for kindergarten. In consultation with the developer, OICC made cultural adaptations to this evidence-based program to better respond to the language, cognitive, self-help and social development of our Inuit children. Sixteen children were registered for 6 weeks during the summer, for a total of 1,024 hours of programmings.



"It gives young Inuit parents opportunities to look for jobs and to apply for school knowing that their young one is in a beautiful, culturally safe, and creative environment."

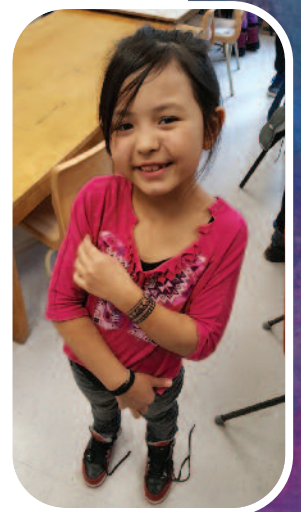
—Grandparent



"My child comes home singing songs in Inuktitut. I never thought that that would happen in the South."

## TUMIRALAAT

Tumiralaat is our full-day, year-round licensed Childcare Program where educators provided an enriched learning environment based on the principles of Aboriginal Head Start and "How Does Learning Happen: Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years." Instruction was in Inuktitut and English and culture was woven into play based activities with furs, bones, ulus, amautis and other cultural materials. Twenty-six children, 18 months to six years of age were provided with free transportation, healthy meals including traditional food, regular field trips, visits from elders, well-child checks, dental screening, and music therapy. Each child was in programming for 2,000 hours for a total of 52,000 of hours of programming.



# Culturally Rich Youth Programs

## TUKIMUT AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

The Tukimut Afterschool Program connected 52 youth aged 6–13 with their culture in a fun learning environment and provided dinner, transportation, and homework help. Tukimut ran three days a week from 4–7 pm. Each day comprised of activities that incorporated art, culture, homework support and physical activities. Life skills such as how to cope with adversity was taught throughout the program. Participants gained knowledge of Inuit culture, traditions, history, and language. Youth learned food preparation and kitchen safety. A youth staff created a lyric writing and music workshop for participants.

The Elders Program visited multiple times which ensured knowledge sharing between Elders and youth.

School teachers reported increased engagement from Tukimut youth participants in their classes.

Youth participated in the “Have a Heart Day” organized by Cindy Blackstock and the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada. Youth had the opportunity to read out their letters to

the Prime Minister on the steps of Parliament Hill in English and Inuktitut. Each youth participated in 396 hours of programming for a total of 20,592 hours.

## SYSTEMS NAVIGATION

The System Navigator provided case management, screening and assessments, referrals and advocacy. Youth and families in Ottawa with youth aged 6–18 who were experiencing complex mental health challenges and/or addictions. The System Navigator assisted families in navigating the health and social system, organized and managed care to overcome barriers and ensured adequate care from various community and government agencies and organizations. This program offered families the opportunity to engage in the Aboriginal Integrated Plan of Care process (IPC). The IPC process is an inter-professional team approach to individualized care, and operates from a child/family focused and strengths-based approach. One hundred and seventy-two youth and families accessed mental health supports and 6 children/youth along with 11 parents/guardians received direct individualized care.



“I really look forward to the school visits, we share pictures of our home communities, eat country food, and meet other friends.”

— Participant



## AKWE:GO

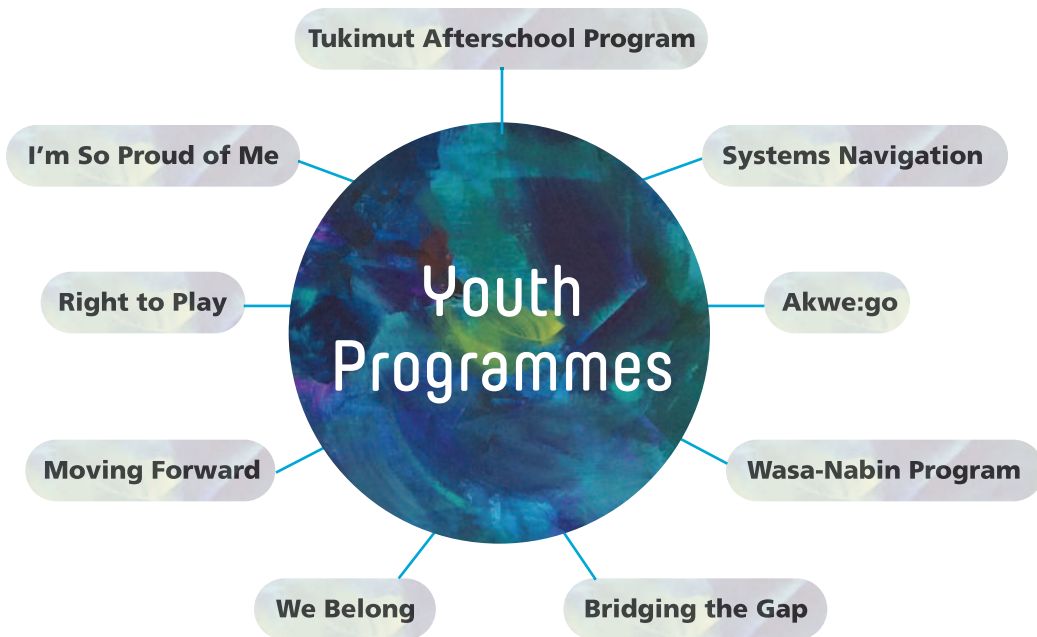
The Akwe:go Urban Aboriginal Children's Program worked with 20 at-risk children aged 7–12 to provide supports for their specific needs. The program provided a direct, individualized service approach to address each child's unique needs based on program objectives. Akwe:go participants focused on fostering positive self-esteem, and developing a healthy lifestyle through physical activity and balanced eating. An additional number of children participated in the "I Love to Program" as well as other small group activities.

Five hundred and forty-eight one-on-one support visits contributed to the clients' success in reaching their self identified goals.

One hundred and twenty-two youth participated in different small group activities including homework support, culture activities, nutrition support and working on self regulation techniques.


## WASA-NABIN PROGRAM

Wasa-Nabin is a self-development program for 20 Inuit youth aged 13–18. Youth learned goal setting, leadership skills and healthy choices. Youth participated in cultural activities such as Inuit games and preparing country food, as well as activities such as volunteering which helps improve interpersonal skills, knowledge, attitudes, and explored values. Thirty youth participated in a Cultural camp during March break. Elders attended the programming which contributed to the client's success in reaching their self identified goals.



## BRIDGING THE GAP

The Bridging the Gap program brought Inuit culture into schools within the Ottawa area. Bridging the Gap presenters taught elementary and high school students about Inuit culture and history through 931 classroom presentations and interactive learning based on the provincial curriculum to 26,500 students. Program staff also acted as a liaison between Inuit students and schools which provided educational support for 74 students and cultural training for school staff. Seven hundred and twenty teachers/school staff attended 26 teacher presentations. Thirty students also engaged in summer activities.

 "Overall, it has made a huge impact. It would be great to have more one-on-one tutoring available for Inuit youth. Continue Inuktitut classes at schools."

— Teacher



"I know when I come to the youth building, I will see friends and get something good to eat."

— Youth

## WE BELONG

We Belong engaged 48 Inuit youth aged 13+ during out of school hours in activities that focused on school engagement, skills development, community contribution, cultural, social, and physical competency. Sixteen guest speakers were booked to educate the youth on post-secondary and career options. Youth attended 11 fieldtrips to places such as Universities and art centres to learn about what is offered in Ottawa. The youth building is a place for Inuit youth to come and do their homework, talk to someone, and socialize with friends.

## MOVING FORWARD

The Moving Forward program provided 52 youth aged 13+ with daily programming that focused on life skill development, social skills, employment readiness, education, and volunteerism. Each evening the Moving Forward program had a different theme; homework club, employment clinic, guest speakers (professionals and educational institutions), goal setting and one-on-one's, and life skills/volunteering. Youth and parents reported that school attendance and performance improved as a result of the Moving Forward program. Four youth obtained their G1 licence and 2 youth graduated from high school with the support and encouragement of a tutor. Six youth volunteered their time on several Saturday mornings to bake and make Christmas baskets for local shelters.





## RIGHT TO PLAY

The Right to Play Program promoted healthy lifestyles for Inuit children and youth aged 6–21 through Play-based Learning. Right to Play promoted understanding of culture and history, leadership skills, physical activity, healthy eating and pride. It provided connections between children/youth and Elders. Right to Play enhanced positive coping skills and increased self-esteem. Youth reported excellent results in terms of their overall health. Eighty-seven percent reported an increase in healthy behaviour; 75% learned how to prepare health meals and 90% felt more confident.



“If I could tell other youth about Right to Play programming, I would say it’s a good place to make friends, good food and play”

— Youth

## I’M SO PROUD OF ME


This program was for 24 youth aged 13–24 to learn skills such as sewing, jewelry-making, painting, and carving. Youth were taught traditional and contemporary skills by community artists and Elders, as well as business and entrepreneurial skills. Art created in the workshops was sold at craft sales with artists receiving 60% and the studio 40% to ensure sustainability. Youth reported feeling a sense of pride in learning how to do Inuit crafts. They also appreciated learning new business skills and enjoyed learning how to sell their creations. Our youth along with Raven Studios participated in a full day recording session of a song entitled “Someone Who Understands”.



# Family Supports

## INUNNGUINIQ PROGRAM

The Inunnguiniq Parenting Program supported 33 Inuit parents/guardians who are raising at total of 60 children. Twenty OICC staff and community partners were trained to be facilitators of the Inunnguiniq Parenting Program. This program was developed in Nunavut; this program focused on the strengths of the Inuit culture to engage and build parenting skills. Additional supports to parents were offered through parent mentoring program, women's healing circles, father's group and home visits. An on the land cultural camp was enjoyed by 35 parents and children. Participants

 "I love the Inunnguiniq program. It reminds me of things my mom used to say when I was a kid."


— Parent

supported each other outside the circle, sharing childcare, play dates, going out for coffee and other social activities. One hundred and seventy-seven support visits happened at the centre or in people's homes.



## FAMILY WELL BEING

The Family Well-Being program implemented a team approach through preventive services, holistic family intake, cultural programs, wrap-around individual and family supports, safe spaces and crisis support. Wellness programs focused specifically towards women healing from trauma. We offered a holistic approach where families and community accessed a variety of services specific to their needs. Programming included: on the land family camps, mom and dad healing circles, Saturday drop-ins, support group for adoptive and foster families, monthly cultural nights for families and a dad's breakfast group. A joint event was held at OICC with the Montreal based Tasiutigiiit, allowing the two groups to have cultural teachings and connection to each other, with over 55 people in attendance.

 "Elders and youth group keeps me close to Inuit community in our heritage and birthright."

— Participant



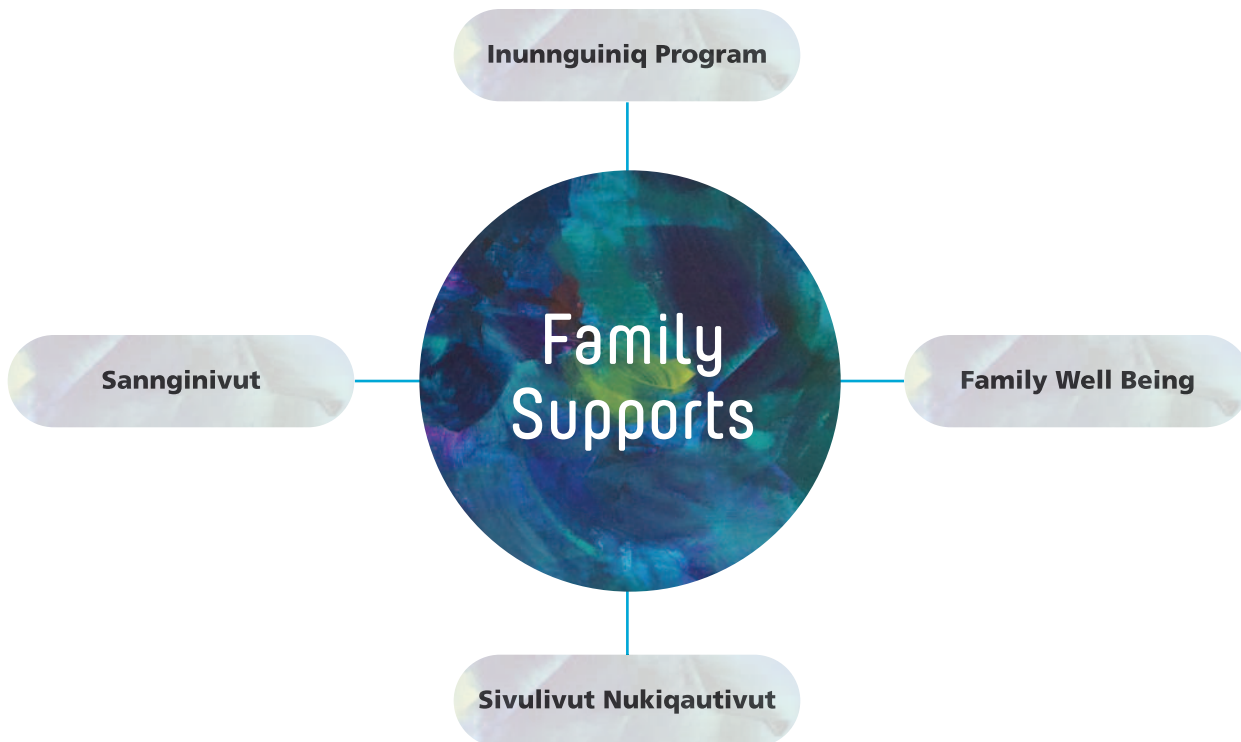


## OUR HISTORY IS OUR STRENGTH — “SIVULIVUT NUKIQAUTIVUT”

Sivulivut Nukiqautivut strengthened relationships between Inuit youth and Elders. Elders developed plans to facilitate three intergenerational events focused on on-the-land activities. The Elders group met bi-weekly to discuss activities, traditions and games about Inuit culture. We ran events for the community including: co-facilitating Inuit Day, the Return of the Sun Celebration, Siqinnaruut and the March Break Camp. Youth appreciated learning directly from their Elders. Elders also visited other OICC programs such as the Sivulivut Program. Three hundred and thirty-seven individuals participated in various events.

## SANNGINIVUT: STRONG VOICES FOR STRONGER COMMUNITIES

The goal of this three-year program was to improve access to services and to bring about system change and better support for Inuit women and children affected by violence. The multiagency advisory group guided the project. This year 4 training modules were developed with input from Inuit women living in Ottawa, local service providers and community. One train the trainer workshop was developed and 5 Inuit women were trained to deliver the 4 training modules. The goal is to address institutional barriers and to help end violence against women.



# Community Supports

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Every year the OICC staff host some amazing community events that are widely popular for the entire community but especially for our families.

Families started off the year with a BBQ to kick off the start of the school year. At Christmas, 563 community members poured into our fun-filled family party where children enjoyed a visit from their friend from the North Pole. Each year, we recognize and award one family with our Strong Parents, Strong Family Award. The family is nominated by the community. In February 489 community members joined us for our Traditional Inuit Day where folks enjoyed eating traditional food in the tent, played games and took part in activities such as tattoo face

painting, bannock making and a scavenger hunt. We also celebrated the end of the school year with a Year End Celebration to acknowledge the children enrolled in our Early Years Programs.



“Me learning Inuktitut has had an immerse impact on my family. We are a foster family with 3 special needs Inuit children. This has helped them embrace their culture, and showed them the value of culture. It lets their families know their culture is welcome.”

## UQAUSIVUT PROGRAM

Uqausivut focused on the preservation of the Inuktitut language in an urban setting. This program centred on 61 language classes attended by 83 children, youth, adults, and partner agencies at a beginner and intermediate level. Supported by a lending library, composed of culturally relevant books, artifacts, games, music and activities that can be used by anyone. A music CD that includes 10 songs was created.



“This program is very important, especially for indigenous children placed in non-indigenous homes. Please continue to fund these projects generously.”



# Advocacy And Awareness

Much of OICC's work was advocating for Inuit children, youth, and families with the broader community, locally, provincially, and beyond. Awareness training for non-Inuit is one part of

this advocacy. Participating on committees, attending working groups and technical tables and informing provincial policy was all part of our work.

- Facilitated a cultural conference called "Seeing the Light", over 100 professionals attended.
- Approximately 160 front line service providers have attended our Inuit-specific training.
- Senior staff participated in monthly provincial meetings hosted by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services. Discussion and decisions made have led to the development of a strategy for indigenous children, youth and families living in Ontario.
- Staff actively participated in changes to the *Child and Family Services Act* which is the legislation that governs child welfare in Ontario.
- The OICC participated in provincial conversations regarding legislation and policies pertaining to group home care in Ontario.
- The staff and Elders sat on a committee hosted by the Ministry of Education that planned and delivered a provincial language symposium. The staff also attended meetings with the Ontario child welfare agency regarding the needs of the Inuit community.
- Senior staff and board members attended a leadership meeting with the Honourable Michael Coteau, Minister of Children and Youth Services and Minister Responsible for Anti-Racism, as well as the Honourable David Zimmer Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation.
- Senior staff also attended meetings regarding the National Framework for Childcare.



Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre ᐱᐱᐱᐱ ᐱᐱᐱᐱ ᐱᐱᐱᐱ

## Seeing the Light Conference

**Wednesday  
November 1, 2017**

Vanier Richelieu  
Community Centre  
300 Pères-Blancs Ave.  
Ottawa, Ontario  
9:00am – 4:00pm

### Inuit Cultural Education for Service Providers

Increase your knowledge in:

- Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Principles
- Moving Forward towards Reconciliation
- Adoptions and Family Relations
- Providing Culturally Safe Services
- Understanding Inuit Communication

**Elders Panel, Lunch and Performances**

To Register Contact: **Rachel Quinn**  
Telephone: 613.889.2303  
Email: [seeingthelight@ottawainuitchildrens.com](mailto:seeingthelight@ottawainuitchildrens.com)

Registration Deadline: **October 18, 2017**  
Cost: **\$175**  
Limited space available.

[www.ottawainuitchildrens.com](http://www.ottawainuitchildrens.com)

# Financial Statements

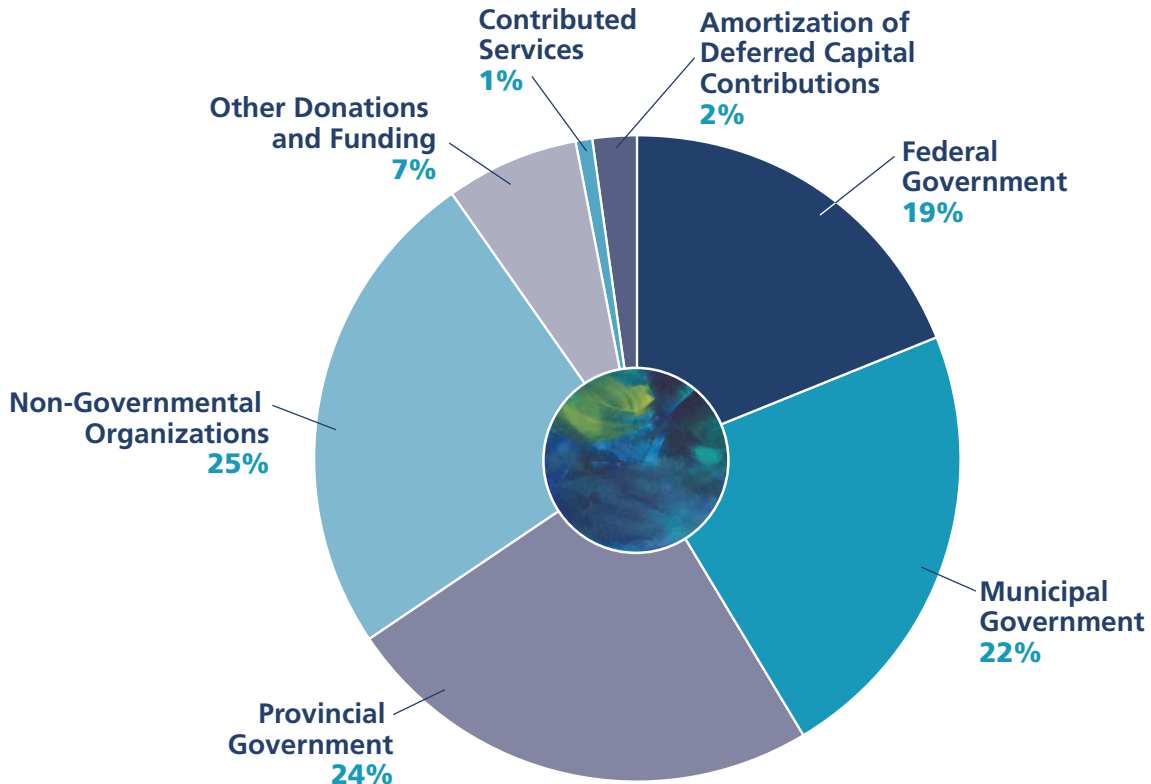
March 31, 2017

## SUMMARY STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES

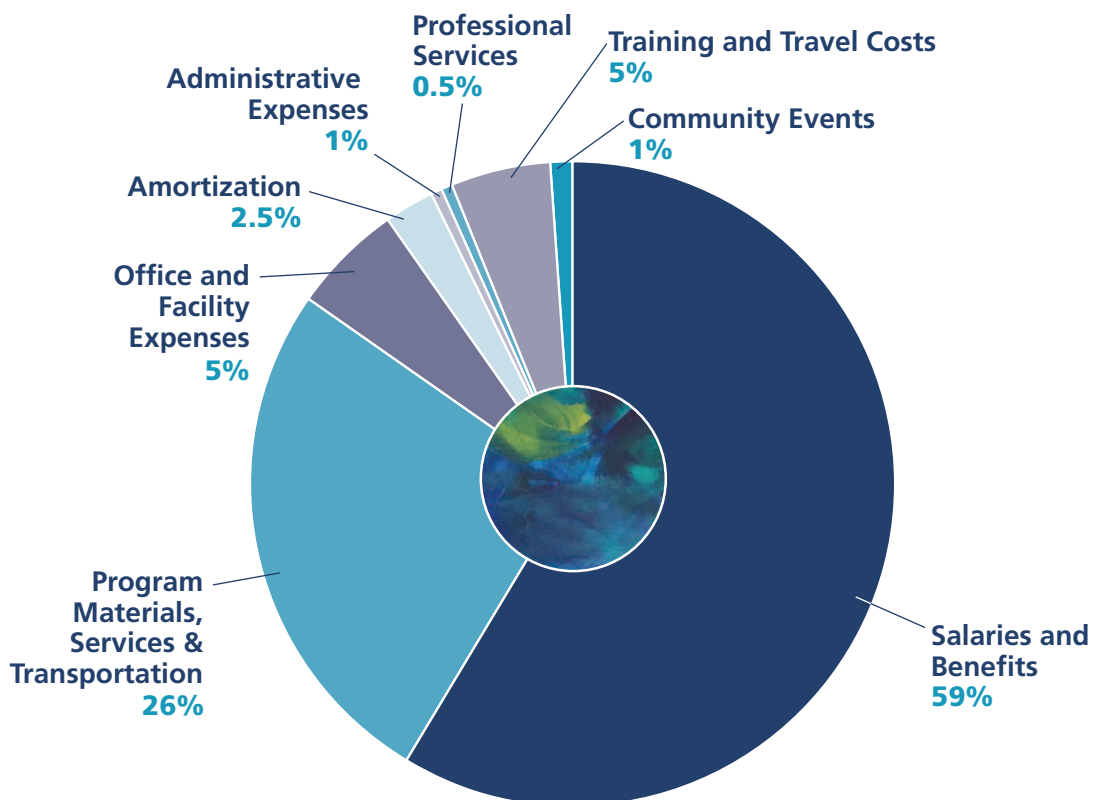
<b>WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
1. Federal Government	600,299	457,984
2. Municipal Government	708,397	617,484
3. Provincial Government	762,393	325,975
4. Non-Governmental Organizations	778,268	592,652
5. Other Donations and Funding	215,179	285,263
6. Contributed Services	27,793	32,817
7. Amortization of Deferred Capital Contributions	62,395	68,477
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>3,154,724</b>	<b>2,380,652</b>
<b>WHERE THE MONEY GOES</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
1. Salaries and Benefits	1,777,896	1,471,402
2. Program Materials, Services & Transportation	800,264	505,408
3. Office and Facility Expenses	161,895	158,241
4. Amortization	77,050	77,105
5. Administrative Expenses	22,106	20,112
6. Professional Services	14,414	15,174
7. Training and Travel Costs	152,572	55,783
8. Community Events	27,140	13,938
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>3,033,337</b>	<b>2,317,163</b>
<b>EXCESS of REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>121,387</b>	<b>63,489</b>



## Where the money comes from



## Where the money goes



# Financial Statements

March 31, 2017

## SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET

	March 31, 2017	March 31, 2016
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash	662,613	495,995
Accounts Receivable	336,801	203,056
Prepaid Expenses	10,711	29,824
	<u>1,010,125</u>	<u>728,875</u>
<b>Capital Assets</b>	1,579,123	1,624,910
	<u><b>2,589,248</b></u>	<u><b>2,353,785</b></u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	284,328	220,704
Deferred Revenue	445,177	332,330
	<u>729,505</u>	<u>553,034</u>
<b>Deferred Contributions relating to Capital Assets</b>	1,131,515	1,193,910
	<u><b>1,861,020</b></u>	<u><b>1,746,944</b></u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Invested in Capital Assets	447,608	431,000
Internally restricted — Contingency Reserve	30,000	—
Unrestricted	250,620	175,841
	<u><b>728,228</b></u>	<u><b>606,841</b></u>
	<u><b>2,589,248</b></u>	<u><b>2,353,785</b></u>



## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The accompanying summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at March 31, 2017 and the summary statement of revenues and expenses for the year then ended, are derived from the audited financial statements of The Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre for the year ended March 31, 2017. I expressed a qualified audit opinion on those financial statements in our report dated June 29, 2017. Those financial statements, and the summary financial statements, do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on those financial statements.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements of The Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre.

### Management's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the summary financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

### Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810, Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

### Opinion

In my opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited financial statements of The Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre for the year ended March 31, 2017 are a fair summary of those financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

I expressed a qualified audit opinion on the audited financial statements in my report dated June 29, 2017 with regards to the completeness of revenues from donations and fundraising, which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification.

*vanBerkom Professional Corporation*

Chartered Professional Accountants  
(Authorized to practise public accounting by the  
Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario)

Ottawa, Ontario  
September 25, 2017

# Funders

City of Ottawa

Canadian Heritage

Employment and Social Development Canada

Kagita Mikam

Ministry of Children and Youth Services

Ministry of Education

Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport

Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (OFIFC)

Ontario Trillium Foundation

Ottawa Carleton District School Board (OCDSB)

Public Health Agency of Canada

Right to Play

Pinecrest Queensway Community Health Centre

Status of Women Canada

United Way/Centraide d'Ottawa