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Tikinagan
Child & Family Services

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Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin

Everyone Working Together
to Raise Our Children

Tikinagan provides services using a service model called Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin, which means “everyone working together to raise our children.” Everyone in the community, including parents, extended family, Elders, Chief and council, local service providers and Tikinagan, is responsible for protecting and caring for children.

Key aspects of Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin:

- Protecting and caring for children is a community responsibility
- Culturally appropriate services based on traditional practices and values
- Services are designed and delivered by First Nations people
- Recognizes inherent authority of First Nations over child welfare



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Tikinagan
Child & Family Services

Services Available 24/7
Contact Tikinagan



1-800-465-3624



tikinagan.org

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Learn more about
Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin
and protecting children



**Working with
your family**

When Tikinagan visits your home

1-800-465-3624 | [tikinagan.org](https://www.tikinagan.org)



Tikinagan investigates reports when a child may be in need of protection

Every parent needs help from time-to-time. That is why we strongly believe in the cultural traditions of the community working together to raise our children. Tikinagan is a part of your community. We are here to help you, not judge you.

Why is Tikinagan involved?

If we've come to see you it is because someone has told us they are concerned about your child(ren). The person who comes to your home is a Tikinagan Intake/Investigation Worker or an After Hours Family Service Worker. They are trained to help with supporting your family, and will work with you to ensure your children's safety and wellbeing.

The Worker will talk to you about:

- Why we are visiting you
- Any worries you have about your family
- What your family's strengths are
- How we can help to keep your child safe and well cared for

What happens next?

If you're talking to us for the first time, you might be wondering what is going to happen next. After our initial visit, we may require more information to ensure your children are safe, here's what we'll do:

- Gather information about your home and family
- Spend time talking to you, your children and other people so we can work out your family's needs, strengths and any support that can help your family
- Keep your information private and only share it with people who have a right to know
- Ask who you think we should talk to
- Be available to talk through any concerns and answer any questions you might have

How long will Tikinagan be in my life?

Gathering information to complete an investigation can take up to 45 days, with the possibility of an extension. This will depend on how old your child is, how serious the concerns for their safety are, and what needs to be done to keep your child safe. It may just take one visit, or we may keep in touch for a longer time. Remember, the Worker is there to help you and your family, so talk to them about any worries or questions you have throughout the process.

Making decisions

At the initial contact a discussion with caregivers will occur to put a safety plan in place. Every effort is made throughout the investigation to maintain open communication to help answer your questions. Your collaboration is essential. This includes a meeting with you to make decisions about what's best for your child with your child, your family, other employees at Tikinagan, and a representative of your First Nation leadership. By law, we are required to include your First Nation in the decision-making process.

What happens when my child(ren) come into the care of Tikinagan?

Ask your Worker for our resource brochure or download it here by scanning the QR code.

