

Annual Report 2022

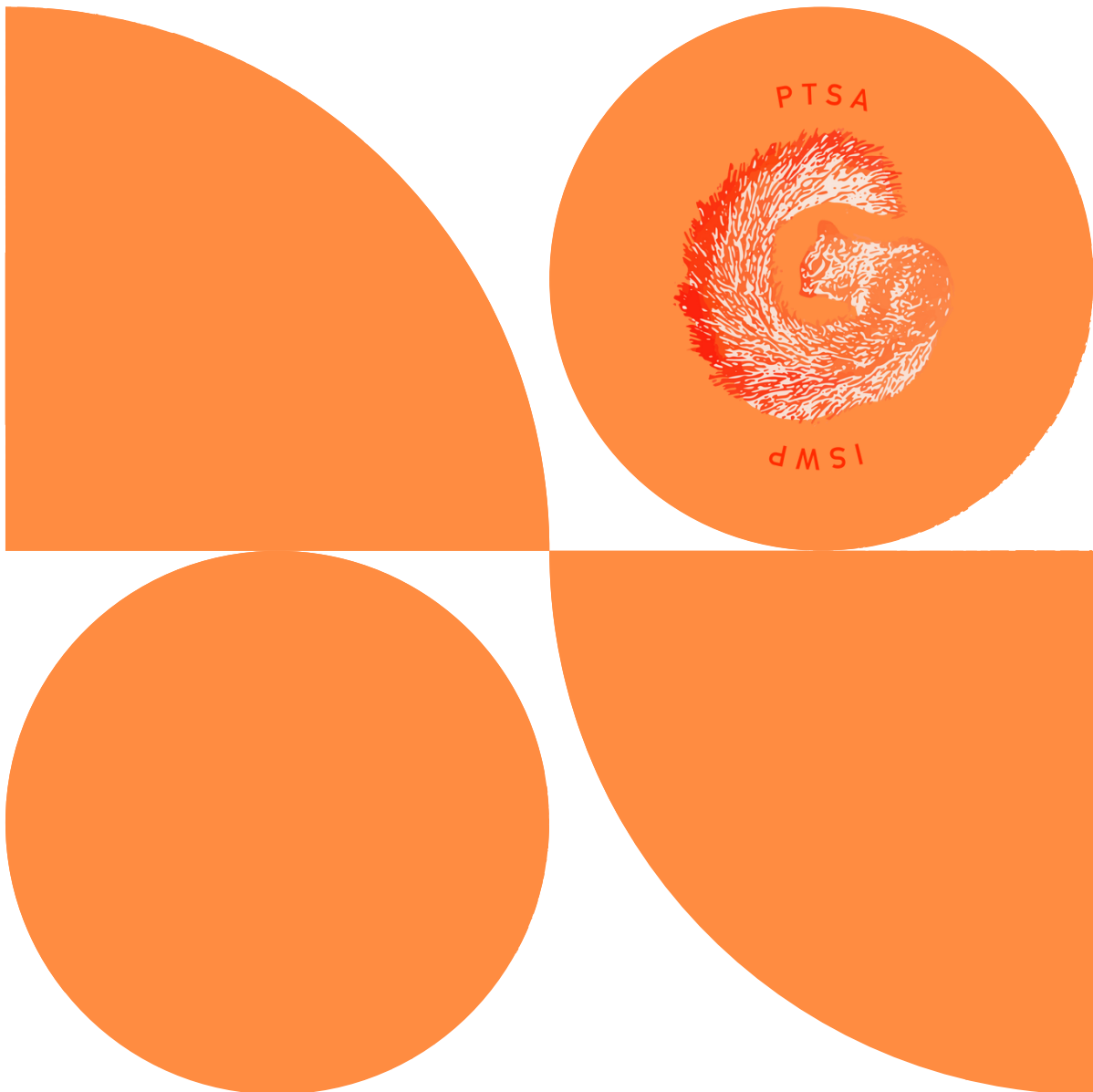


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Workers Project 2022

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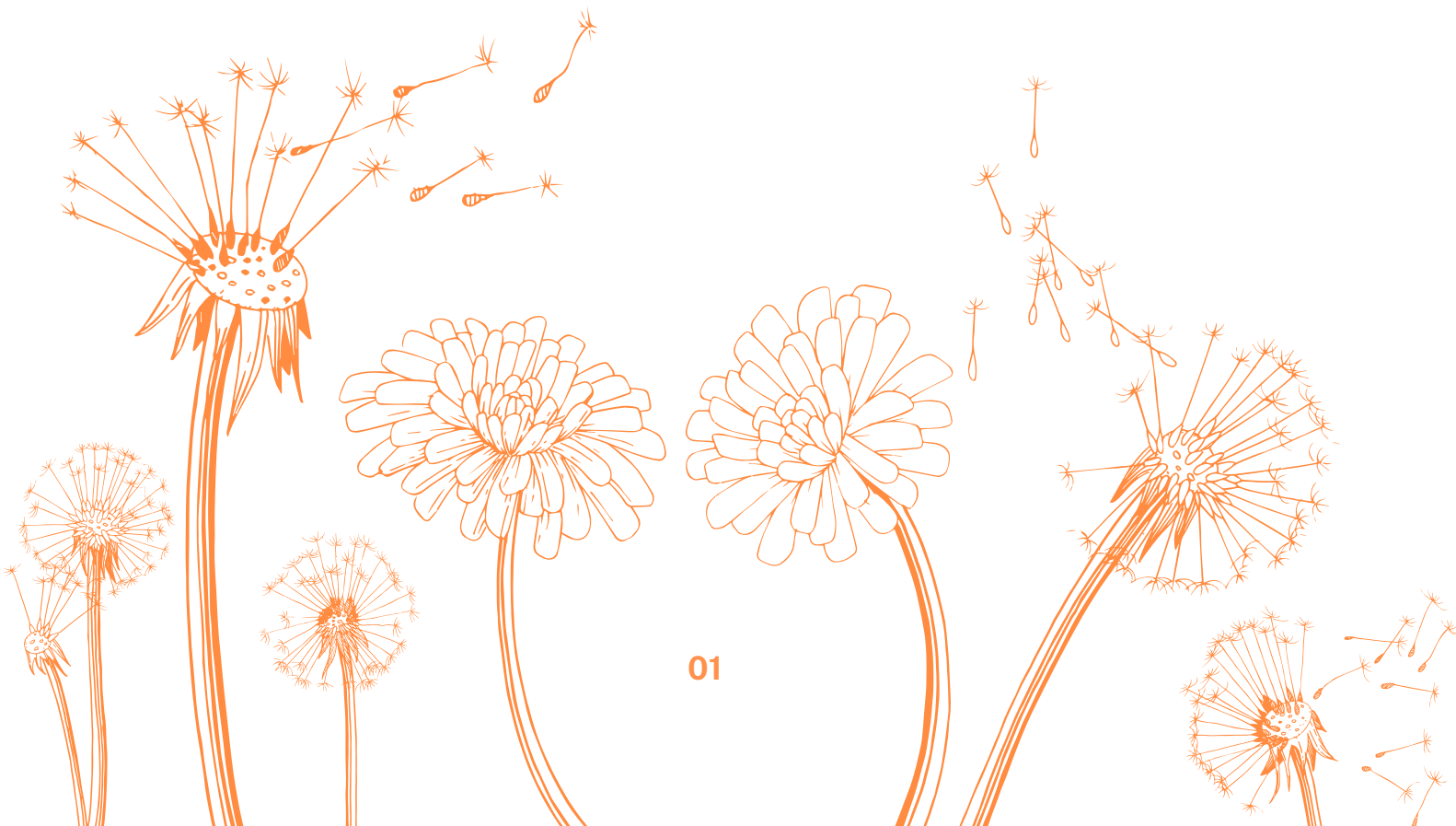
Acknowledgements

Land Acknowledgement

Indigenous Support
Workers Project 2022

Le Projet de Travailleurs de Soutien aux Autochtones (PTSA)/The Indigenous Support Worker Project (ISWP) operates on an island known as Tiohtiá:ke to the Haudenosaunee, as Mooniyang to the Anishinaabeg, and as Montreal to many others.

This traditional territory of the Kanien'kehá:ka people has also been a historical meeting place for other First Nations, Inuit, and Métis nations. Today, Tiohtiá:ke is home to a diverse population of First Nations, Inuit, Métis and other peoples. We respect continued connections with the past, present, and future in our ongoing relationships with First Nations, Inuit, Métis and other peoples in our work, and we are grateful to live and work on this territory. The majority of PTSA/ISWP's community members are Inuit and we are grateful for the contributions and wisdom with which they guide the organization.



Who We Are

Indigenous Support
Workers Project 2022

Current Staff

Lyn Black
Molly Chamagne
Shirley DeWind
René Florence
Jaimee Kopali
Simon Marchand
Shania Riche
Mary Shearman
Melissa Simon

Contractors

Matthias Augoyat
Vanessa Langlois
Allison Reid
Alain Roy

Board of Directors

Lyn Black
Joseph Gabereau
Francois-Xavier Michaux

Interns

Camila Colmenares
Samuel Davies
Maisha Moon

Circle of Wisdom

Anna Aude
Jani Greffe Bélanger
Tealey Kasennisaks
Kitty Partridge

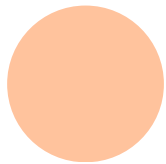


Mandate and Objectives

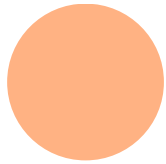
Indigenous Support
Workers Project 2022

The mandate of PTSA/ISWP is to center and support the well-being of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people with lived experiences of homelessness through decolonial advocacy and revitalization practices.

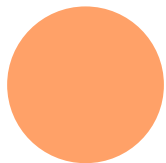
PTSA/ISWP is committed to providing wrap-around care and fostering relationships of trust, based in wholistic healing and skills development to support our community members' transition to an autonomous and empowered life free from homophobia and transphobia, and other forms of structural violence. This is accomplished by providing:



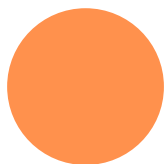
By-and-for peer services for community members and service users using a rights-based harm reduction approach centring Indigenous ways of being, knowing and healing.



Education and training for peer organizations and other groups that serve PTSA/ISWP community members.



Resources in response to community needs.



Training and employment opportunities for Indigenous workers with lived experience of homelessness working in the mental health, rights-based harm reduction, support work, street outreach, and/or homelessness-serving sector.

Approach and Values

Indigenous Support
Workers Project 2022

PTSA/ISWP continues to draw inspiration from the collaborative spirit of Plateau Mont-Royal, and most importantly, directly from community members. Our work focuses on outreach to First Nations, Inuit and Métis community members who are at risk or in precarious situations through the presence of streetworkers.

Our work aims to embody the following values:

- Anti-Capitalist.
- Anti-Oppressive.
- Decolonizing and revitalizing.
- Anti-Imperialist.
- Anti-Racist.
- Feminist.
- Gender affirming and queer friendly.





**“It’s not about resolving the tensions
between colonialism and bureaucracy, it’s
about how we can live in the tension in a way
that maintains relationships.**

Lyn Black
Lead Coordinator
2022



Our Story

Indigenous Support
Workers Project 2022

Founding (2019)

ISWP was founded in the autumn of 2019, emerging from the Homelessness Committee of the Montreal Indigenous NETWORK. Our first iteration was two street workers and a part-time supervisor, working on weekends and after hours to provide physical and emotional first aid when no other services were available.

First Project

Our first community-based project was the Handwashing for Homeless stations that were operated by a network of community volunteers during the pandemic. At the time, these were the only way First Nations, Inuit and Métis people experiencing homelessness could access hand-washing facilities while most places were closed.

COVID-19 Pandemic

During the first lockdown of the COVID-19 Pandemic, ISWP staff were one of the few organizations that stayed open and active on the streets. In particular, demands around the winter holidays shifted ISWP's focus to a more peer-based approach.

Community Space

ISWP was invited to host an outdoor space for community members. Located near Mont-Royal station, this trailer became a site of connection and gathering as well as a site for disseminating harm reduction supplies. Other projects operating out of the trailer included:

- Soup social (Country food drop-in on Sundays)
- Warming terrasse (Warming space for community)
- Providing clothing and outdoor gear

Peer Crews

Due to the staffing crisis and COVID-19 restrictions, ISWP employed peers to provide services to community. This included peer clean-up crews and outreach. The staff team grew to around 17 employees at this time.



**The culture shock is overwhelming.
Everything is different down here. It hits you
hard. The hustle and bustle, the noise, it
makes you homesick like you couldn't even
imagine. I miss the people, the land, the
animals, I miss how fresh each breath feels
up there.**

Sailah Noah for *The Rover*, on moving to
Montreal
Artist
2021



Board Report

Indigenous Support
Workers Project 2022

PTSA/ISWP officially incorporated on May 10, 2022. After 2 years of working as a program of other organizations, including our partners, the Montreal Indigenous Community NETWORK and Exeko. PTSA/ISWP became its own stand-alone Indigenous non-profit organization.

Since then, PTSA/ISWP has started transitioning from a fiduciary of Exeko shifting to more autonomous governance and financial management. In honouring the decolonial values of PTSA/ISWP, the Board of Directors takes direction from the newly formed Peer Advisory Council (PAC) which meets both formally and informally to discuss the needs of PTSA/ISWP's service users.

For the inaugural year, the board primarily took on the role of supporting staff initiatives to stabilize the organization including:

- ◆ Setting up a bank account.
- ◆ Reviewing by-laws and other governance documents.
- ◆ Designing the website.
- ◆ Starting a PTSA/ISWP branding package.
- ◆ Long-term visioning.
- ◆ Staff training on PTSA/ISWP's history and commitment to a safe(r) workplace environment.

In total, our **3 founding Board members contributed** approximately **100 hours** to the organization.

Core Activities and Statistics

Indigenous Support
WorkersProject 2022

Outreach Team

The PTSA/ISWP Outreach Team attends **weekly** Tam-Tam festivals on Sundays in order to support our community and prevent targeted surveillance.

City Tam Tam Committee estimates that there has been a **reduction** in police interventions by **80%** from previous years.

Peer Clean-Up Crew

The Clean-up Crew consists of 4 people per shift every Saturday. Individuals rotate so that it is a different group every shift.

There were **180** people **employed by the Peer Clean-up Crew**.

Harm-Reduction Supplies Distribution

On every peer-outreach shift, harm-reduction supplies are distributed.

There have been **150 shifts** where **members of the community receive harm-reduction supplies**.

Organized Activities

There have been approximately **50 weekly** organized **activities** of about **10-15** participants each.

Activities included but were not limited to: going to the movies, having parties at the beach, hosting BBQs, going to museums, festivals, and carving.

Core Activities and Statistics

Indigenous Support
Workers Project 2022

Weekend Activities: A Snapshot

Over the weekend of January 27-29, 2022 the street team connected with 69 individuals, out of which:

- **48** identified as **male**
- **15** identified as **female**
- **2** were unknown
- **1** identified as **trans**
- **1** identified as **Two-Spirit**

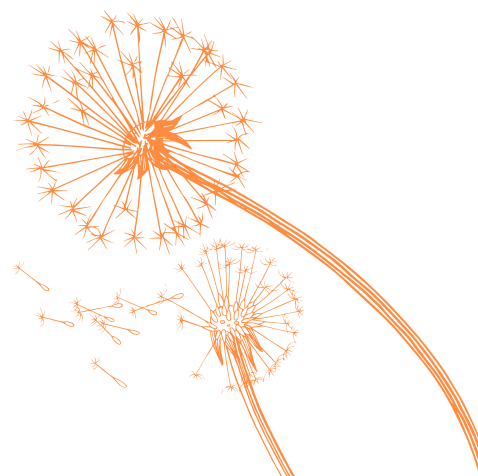
- **39** were youth

On this weekend, ISWP provided:

- These community members, when appropriate, with referrals to **6 other support organizations** including the Native Friendship Centre of Montreal (NFCM), Native Montreal, Open Door, Plein Milieu, and the Southern Quebec Inuit Association (SQIA).
- One community member with support contacting the CRA and submitting their taxes.
- **5** people with **menstrual products**.

Nurse Program

PTSA/ISWP initiated an exciting upcoming partnership with Medecin Du Monde (MDM) to provide street based nursing services to community members on the weekends (anticipated launch date August 5, 2023).



Core Activities and Statistics

Indigenous Support
Workers Project 2022

Navigator Program

Between October 28 and November 25, a team of two health network workers hired by ISWP provided outreach and health navigation services to people who were concerned with Indigenous health and social services.

Simple outreach interventions included sensitization about Indigenous health, gathering of information about health and social service needs, description of the service provided by ISWP and health navigators in general, and quick referrals.

Dedicated interventions took place with community members of ISWP who expressed needs in terms of health navigation. The services included interactions with the healthcare providers, translation, facilitating a cultural safe environment, support during the different procedures related to their specific situation, general support, and counselling.

During this pilot, there were a total of:

- **17 locations** visited,
- **278 simple outreach interventions** (<10min),
- **24 longer outreach interventions** and navigation (>30min),
- **243** interactions with the general public re. Indigenous health
- **61** interactions with healthcare workers

Additional Statistics

- Though Indigenous people account for less than **1%** of Montreal's population, **10%** of the city's homeless population is Indigenous.
- Up until 2022, ISWP's work was featured in **5** articles.

Acknowledgements

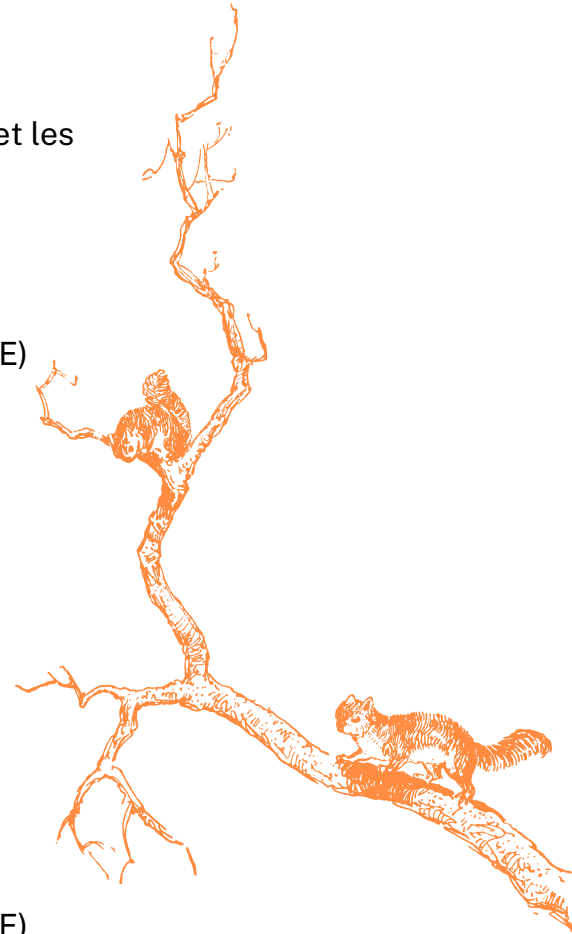
Thank You

Partners

Centre for Community Organizations
Centre de recherche de Montréal sur les inégalités sociales et les discriminations (CREMIS)
City of Montreal
Centre intégré universitaire
de santé et de services sociaux (CIUSSS) Regional
Concordia University, Office of Community Engagement (OCE)
Exeko
McConnell Foundation - Innoweave
Medecins du Monde (MdM)
Montreal Indigenous Community NETWORK
Plein Milieu
Projets Autochtones du Quebec (PAQ)
Southern Quebec Inuit Association (SQIA)
Willy Fournier

Funders

City of Montreal
CIUSSS Regional
Concordia University, Office of Community Engagement (OCE)
McConnell Foundation - Innoweave
Montreal Indigenous Community NETWORK
Women and Gender Equality Canada (WAGE)



The graphic design and layout of this document were done by Camila Colmenares as part of an internship with Concordia University.
Logo created by artist FeCoB (@felipecb98)

PROJET DE TRAVAILLEURS DE SOUTIEN
AUX AUTOCHTONES (PTSA)
INDIGENOUS SUPPORT WORKERS PROJET (ISWP)

Financial Statements

March 31, 2023

**PROJET DE TRAVAILLEURS DE SOUTIEN
AUX AUTOCHTONES (PTSA)
INDIGENOUS SUPPORT WORKERS PROJET (ISWP)**

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Amstutz Inc.
Comptables Professionnels Agréés

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of
PROJET DE TRAVAILLEURS DE SOUTIEN AUX AUTOCHTONES (PTSA)
INDIGENOUS SUPPORT WORKERS PROJET (ISWP)

Opinion - We have audited the financial statements of PROJET DE TRAVAILLEURS DE SOUTIEN AUX AUTOCHTONES (PTSA) / INDIGENOUS SUPPORT WORKERS PROJET (ISWP) (the Organization), which comprise the balance sheet as at March 31, 2023, and the statements of operations and changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at March 31, 2023, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "*Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements*" section of our report. We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements - Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements - Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

First time adoption of Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations - Without modifying our opinion we draw attention to Note 2 to the financial statements which describes that PROJET DE TRAVAILLEURS DE SOUTIEN AUX AUTOCHTONES (PTSA) / INDIGENOUS SUPPORT WORKERS PROJET (ISWP) adopted Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations on May 10, 2022 the day the organization was incorporated.



By: R. Amstutz, CPA auditor
July 28, 2023
Montreal, Quebec
Permit No: A105202

PROJET DE TRAVAILLEURS DE SOUTIEN
AUX AUTOCHTONES (PTSA)
INDIGENOUS SUPPORT WORKERS PROJET (ISWP)
OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
year ended March 31, 2023

	<u>2 0 2 3</u>
REVENUES	
Grants and contributions	
Women and Gender Equality Canada	\$ 25,000
Missions Exeko	<u>2,998</u>
	<u>27,998</u>
EXPENSES	
Women and Gender Equality Canada	25,000
Insurance	2,848
Interest and bank charges	<u>21</u>
	<u>27,869</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES AND NET ASSETS END OF YEAR	\$ <u><u>129</u></u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

PROJET DE TRAVAILLEURS DE SOUTIEN
AUX AUTOCHTONES (PTSA)
INDIGENOUS SUPPORT WORKERS PROJET (ISWP)
BALANCE SHEET
as at March 31, 2023

2 0 2 3

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash	\$	175,228
Accounts receivable		<u>2,848</u>
	\$	<u>178,076</u>

LIABILITIES

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts payable and accrued charges	\$	25,000
Deferred revenues (Note 4)		<u>152,947</u>
		<u>177,947</u>

NET ASSETS

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted		<u>129</u>
		<u>129</u>
	\$	<u>178,076</u>

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

....., Director

....., Director

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

PROJET DE TRAVAILLEURS DE SOUTIEN
AUX AUTOCHTONES (PTSA)
INDIGENOUS SUPPORT WORKERS PROJET (ISWP)
CASH FLOWS
year ended March 31, 2023

	<u>2 0 2 3</u>
OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 129
Changes in non cash operating working capital	
Accounts receivable	(2,848)
Accounts payable and accrued charges	25,000
Deferred revenues	<u>152,947</u>
INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AND CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	\$ <u><u>175,228</u></u>

Cash and cash equivalents are comprised of cash.

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements

**PROJET DE TRAVAILLEURS DE SOUTIEN
AUX AUTOCHTONES (PTSA)
INDIGENOUS SUPPORT WORKERS PROJET (ISWP)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
as at March 31, 2023**

1. STATUTES OF INCORPORATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES

The organization, incorporated on May 10, 2022 under Part III of the Quebec Companies Act, is a not-for-profit organization and is exempt from income taxes.

The organization's mission is to support the physical, emotional, cultural and spiritual well-being of Indigenous people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, using a harm reduction approach and traditional Indigenous principles.

2. IMPACT OF FIRST TIME ADOPTION OF CANADIAN ACCOUNTING STANDARDS FOR NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

These financial statements are the first financial statements for which the organization has applied Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. First-time adoption of this basis of accounting was applied as of the date of incorporation May 10, 2022.

3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and include the following significant accounting policies:

Accounting estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Revenue recognition

The organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions related to general operations are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

PROJET DE TRAVAILLEURS DE SOUTIEN
AUX AUTOCHTONES (PTSA)
INDIGENOUS SUPPORT WORKERS PROJET (ISWP)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
as at March 31, 2023

3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)

Cash and cash equivalents

The organization's policy is to disclose cash and cash equivalents, including bank overdrafts with balances that fluctuate frequently from being positive to overdrawn and term deposits with a maturity period of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

Financial instruments

The organization initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value. The organization subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at cost or amortized cost.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash and accounts receivable. Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and accrued charges.

4. DEFERRED REVENUES

Received during the year	\$ 180,945
Recognized as revenue	<u>(27,998)</u>
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 152,947</u>

The deferred revenues are comprised of the following:

Montréal Indigenous Community NETWORK	\$ 128,290
CIUSSS - Nurse project	<u>24,657</u>
	<u>\$ 152,947</u>

5. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Risks and concentrations

The organization is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides a measure of the organization's risk exposure and concentrations at the balance sheet date.

Liquidity risk - liquidity risk is the risk that the organization will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The organization is exposed to this risk mainly in respect of its accounts payable and accrued charges.

Credit risk - credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. The organization's main credit risks relate to its accounts receivable.