

CSESM – 049M
C.P. – Exploitation
sexuelle des mineurs



Shakotihenté:se They are Leaders

Crime Prevention in Kanesatake



Crime Prevention in Kanesatake: background

- ❖ **During the Spring of 2004, a social upheaval involving the political body, the criminal element in Kanesatake and the Kanesatake Mohawk Police (KMP) service ended in the forcible closure of the police station and to this date has not reopened;**
- ❖ **Kanesatake had to depend on the Sûreté du Québec (SQ), an outside police agency for public security;**
- ❖ **Deep rooted anger still resonates amongst those that experienced the Crisis of 1990 in Kanesatake and resists the authority of the SQ;**
- ❖ **Hate and anger towards police has now been passed on to the youth causing them to be rebellious over an event they didn't even experience;**
- ❖ **Since then the percentage of criminal activity involving youths raised;**
- ❖ **The city of Montréal has become an attraction of a "better life" for our youth, which for most is an illusion, leaving them susceptible to being lured into the life of human trafficking;**



Risk factors identified affecting the youth in Kanesatake

> Drugs > Alcohol > school violence > sexual aggression > anti-social behavior

> Fear of retribution "Bullying" > School drop out > Teenage pregnancies

> gang related activities

- ❖ **Once the risk factors were identified the need to bring a crime prevention program to Kanesatake was made priority;**
- ❖ **The program would be aimed at: - boys and girls between the ages of 10-17, "Latch Key Kids" children who would normally go home to an empty house due to parents working, single parent or multi-generational family home environment (grand-parent rearing), high risk homes involving drugs, alcohol and abuse (physical, mental, sexual)**
- ❖ **The intent was to target the youths engaging in high-risk behavior and pre-involvement in criminal activity;**
- ❖ **Due to the lack of joint partnerships with schools, community services on and off territory; the project was put on the "shelf".**



Collaboration of Services

- ❖ After years of staying focused to the vision of a better life for our youth in Kanesatake, all the right partners pulled together and supported the creation of the "Youth Will Walk a Path of Good Mind" crime prevention project which was eventually renamed Shakotihenté:se – Kanesatake Crime Prevention (KCP);
- ❖ Throughout this journey Shakotihenté:se – KCP established many valuable partners in a large scope of professions such as schools, community services, public safety and security, Montreal human trafficking division, Montreal Native friendship center, as well as the health and social services of Kahnawake and Akwesasne;
- ❖ **This crime prevention project was developed using the blueprint of "PROJECT VENTURE*" which was originated from Albuquerque, New Mexico**

Project Venture In a Nut Shell

- ❖ Mentor /Leadership program proven to be extremely effective in the prevention of substance abuse by Aboriginal Youth.
- ❖ **Based on traditional Aboriginal values: Awareness, Respect and Responsibility for self, family and community**



Shakotihenté:se – KCP's core programming consists of the following:

“Key Components” delivered to the targeted population

- ❖ **Class-room based activities**
- ❖ **Outdoor activities**
- ❖ **Adventure wilderness camps/ nature treks**
- ❖ **Community-oriented service learning**

“Guiding Principles” - defining characteristics of the program

- ❖ **Culture and tradition**
- ❖ **Strength-based approach**
- ❖ **Experiential learning**
- ❖ **Engagement with nature**
- ❖ **Service ethics – giving back to the community**
- ❖ **Connection building: Family – Community - Culture**

Guardians of the Playground is a gem award system under the anti-bullying initiative which was developed to encourage students to take notice of the actions of self and fellow peers.

A new addition to our in school activities is our First Nations Emergency Social Services Youth Team. A Youth Emergency Management component sponsored by the Canadian Red Cross. Anticipated outcome is to empower and strengthen self-worth. This will provide the means to take ownership of their community. Provide the opportunity to step out of the “victim” role and take position of the “leadership” role.



Full Value Commitment Words Written on the Wall

- ❖ **Be Here**
- ❖ **Be Safe**
- ❖ **Speak Your Truth**
- ❖ **Care for Self and Others**
- ❖ **Let Go and Move On**
- ❖ **Set Goals**

Every Youth agrees to upholding the full value commitment;

Prior to enrolling, each youth signs an agreement of understanding of the program and agrees to be held accountable for their actions, whether it be negative or positive;

When you walk in the Team activity room the words of our Full Value Commitment is literally written on the walls as a reminder of our commitment to program and community.



What Shakotihenté:se - KCP is all about:

- ❖ **Prevention** - from the use of substance abuse among our native youth;
- ❖ **Encouragement** – Know your option's to stand up against peer pressure;
- ❖ **Development** – build confidence to develop leadership abilities and improve social and decision making skills;
- ❖ **Opportunity** - to lead a health life style and take charge of ones life path;
- ❖ **Action** – engage in positive projects that build strength from within.

Every Youth has it in them to be great... We just have to allow them space for their strengths to grow and shine through



Protective Factors

Positive influences that focus on the betterment for self, others and community.:

- ❖ **Bonding; family, friend**
- ❖ **Healthy beliefs and clear standards;**
- ❖ **The right to spiritual preference;**
- ❖ **Development of individual characteristics;**
- ❖ **Safe environment to express sexual preference;**
- ❖ **Opportunities;**
- ❖ **Skills;**
- ❖ **Positive peer group interaction**
- ❖ **Grounded values**

The anticipated outcome with the protective factors is to lessen the crime rate and instill stronger core values.



Crime Prevention In the Community

- ❖ Now in the 7th. year of programming, the Shakotihenté:se - KCP team is a familiar and trusted service in the circle of youths so much so that it was renamed "Shakotihenté:se – They are Leaders" by our young participants - a show of taking ownership of the program;
- ❖ **Parent, community and support from the territories Governing Body, the Mohawk Council of Kanesatake is expressed in a positive way through verbal praise and commented on the Kanesatake crime prevention Facebook page;**
- ❖ Working in the high schools and providing after school activities that attract the older teenagers can be challenging but the collaboration from teachers and principals have made this challenge easier;
- ❖ **Activities are designed to help youth develop their leadership skills and when ready they will mentor the younger groups;**
- ❖ For the past 3 years the Shakotihenté:se – KCP team have partnered with Montreal's human trafficking division who's been providing guidance as we become more pro-active in the campaign to expose the truth about sexual exploitation of Native women and children;



- ❖ **Created a partnership with Corrections Service Canada for inmates to conduct their community service and to prepare them for reintegration into society. A venue to re-establish connection to family, community and culture. The “Broken Links” project provides inmates the opportunity to make right their wrongs done to society and mentor the younger generations who are venturing down the criminal path.**
- ❖ **Forward Movement: Most recent partnership has been established with the SPVM Human Trafficking division, The Kahnawake Mohawk Territory and Shakotihenté:se – KCP to host a community presentation on Human Trafficking and Prostitution for sexual exploitation focussing strongly on the links Between Human Trafficking and First Nations Missing women and children.**
- ❖ **Future Endeavours: Establish a commitment between the three Mohawk sister reserves to form a resolution to strongly work collectively to bring awareness to Human Trafficking and Prostitution for sexual exploitation to First Nations People.**

“Our Youth Will Walk a Path of Good Mind”