



At the **Ontario Native Women's Association (ONWA)**, we celebrate and honour the safety and healing of Indigenous women and girls as they take up their leadership roles in the family, community and internationally for generations to come.



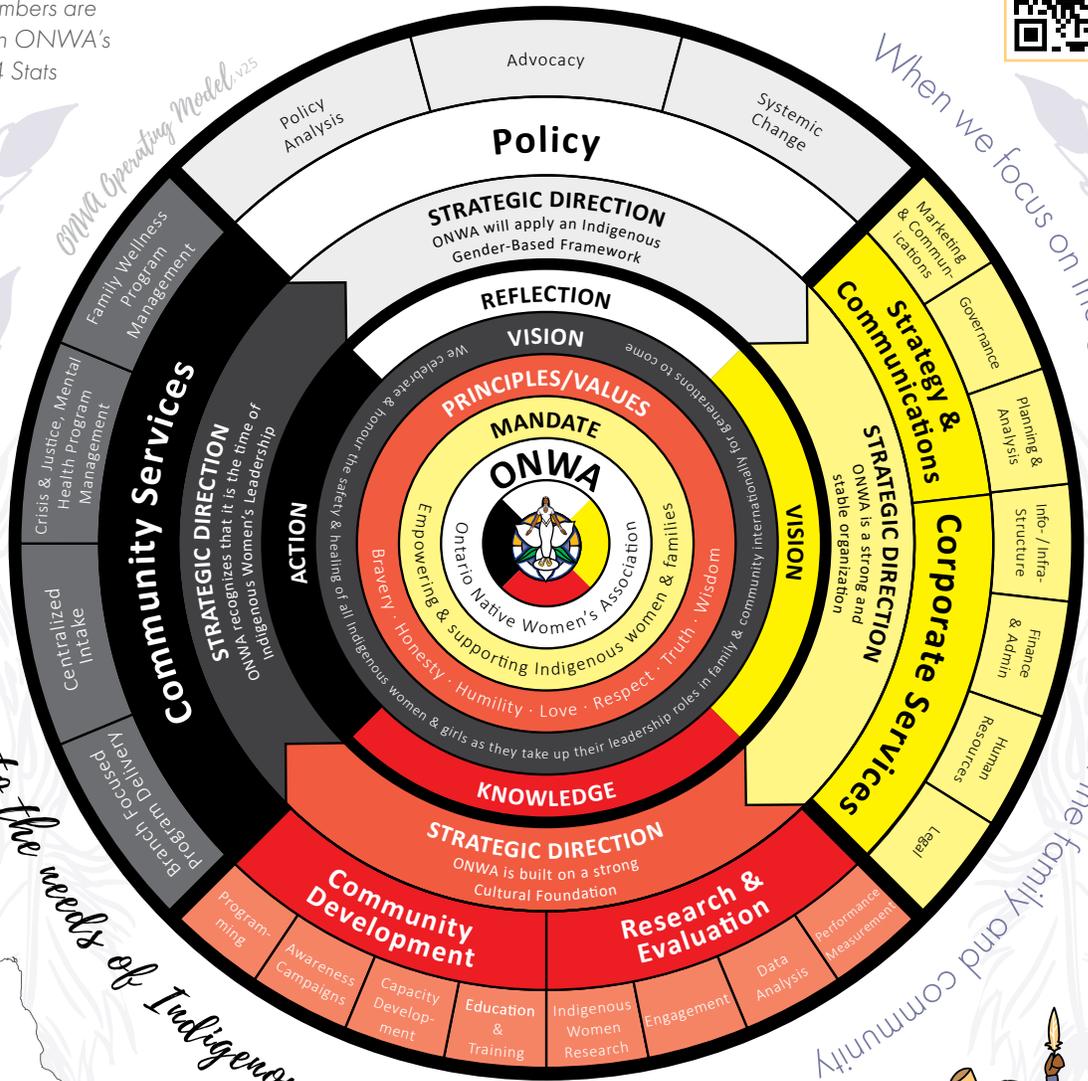
76
Programs/
Projects/Services

373K
(372,701)
Total Community
Impact

186K
(186,006)
Direct 1:1
Services

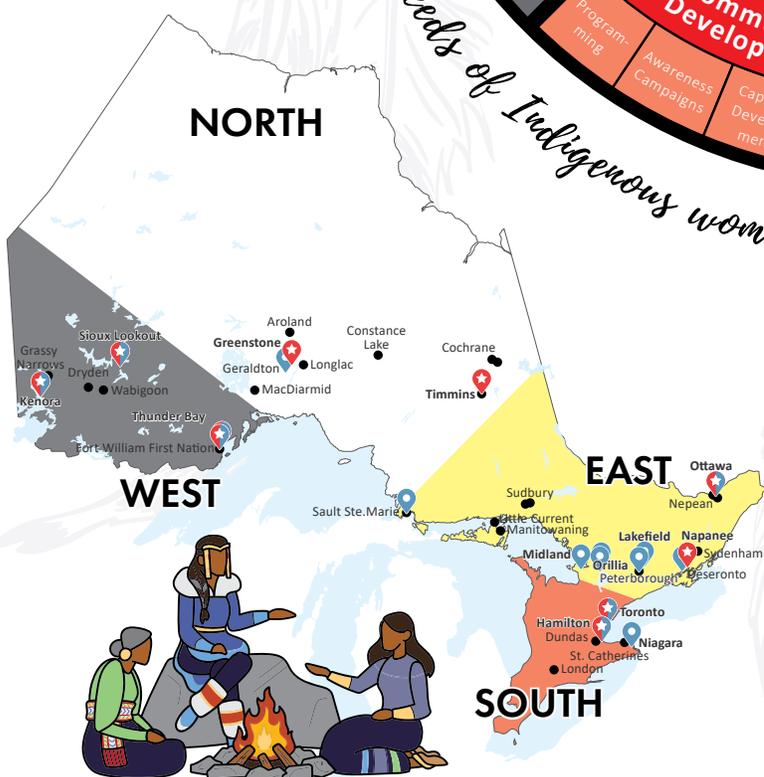
541M
(541,210,356)
Overall Media
Impact

These numbers are based on ONWA's 2023-24 Stats



Responding to the needs of Indigenous women

When we focus on Indigenous women we focus on the family and community



ONWA is represented in **four regions**: East, South, West, and North.

Map of ONWA's provincial reach.



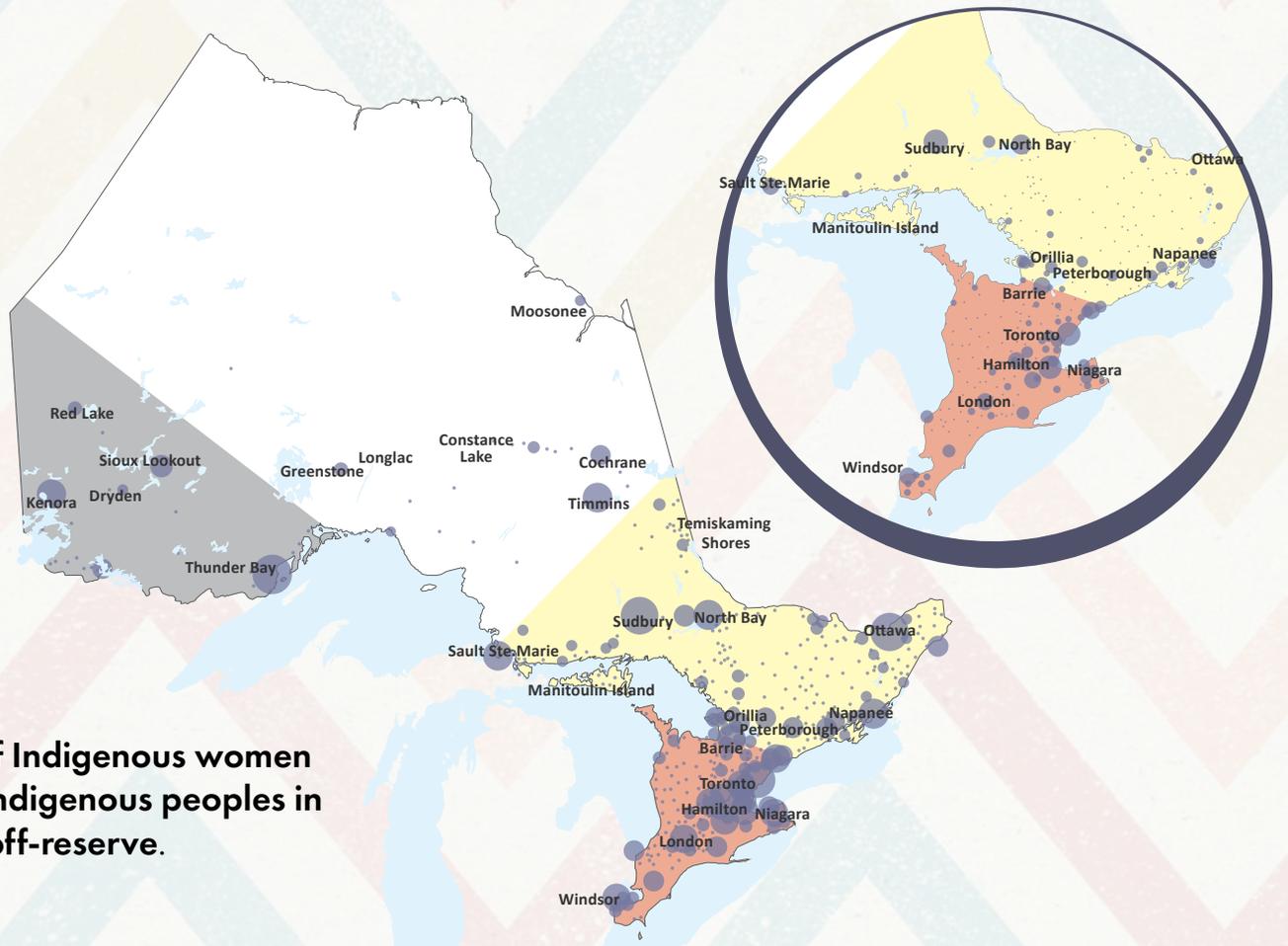
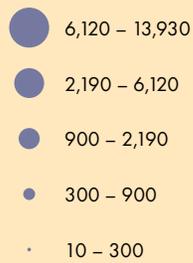
26

- Sites across Ontario delivering programs and services
- 10 ONWA direct service delivery sites
 - 16 Chapter membership organizations
 - 23 Councils

Membership numbers and map updated 2024-August

Distribution of Indigenous Women across Ontario

Population of Indigenous women



Today, **88% of Indigenous women and 88% of Indigenous peoples in Ontario live off-reserve.**

Demographic Profile of Indigenous Women in Ontario



Ontario has the highest population of Indigenous women in Canada.

211,495 in 2021

Ontario has the largest Indigenous population in Canada.

406,585 in 2021
Indigenous peoples in Ontario



88%
of Indigenous women in Ontario live off reserve

9.4% growth of Indigenous population in Canada between 2016-2021. Compared to

5.3% growth in non-Indigenous population.

The female Indigenous population is growing much more rapidly than the rest of the female population in Canada.

8.78% growth rate in the number of Indigenous women in Ontario from 2016 to 2021.

Indigenous women in Ontario:

62% First Nations (130,485)

33% Métis (69,765)

1% Inuit (2,220)



The median income of Indigenous women (aged 25-64) increased to **\$34,800** in 2021, from **\$30,616** in 2016.



In 2021, the percentage of Indigenous women (aged 25-64) with a postsecondary qualification was **58.4%**, up from 52.2% in 2016. This includes an apprenticeship, trade certificate or diploma, college, CEGEP, university degree etc.

In 2021, **18.4%** of Indigenous women (aged 25-64) in Ontario had a bachelor's degree or higher, up from 14% in 2016.

In 2020-21, Indigenous peoples in Canada were **2-5 times more likely** than non-Indigenous people to report exposure to some form of discrimination in health care.



In 2023-2024, ONWA has saved the provincial government a minimum total of

\$333,000,000 - 375,000,000

(\$332,673,562 - 375,005,410 approx.)

281 people housed & 63 children reunifications & 111 CAS apprehension preventions & 751 women who have exited Human Trafficking

(Based on ONWA's 2023-24 Annual Report Stats)

Nihdawin Housing Program



281

People ONWA has helped find safe & stable housing

55% in <60 days
67% in <90 days

Individuals/Community Members who received housing

Costs of Homelessness (per person, per year)

95	Total re-housed	X	\$18,594 - 25,746*	per Year (Approx.)
			costs of supportive & transitional housing	
186	Total new housed	X	\$18,594 - 60,073*	per Year (Approx.)
			costs of emergency shelters (cross section of youth, men, women, family & victims of violence)	
			\$94,400 - 171,637*	per Year (Approx.)
			costs of institutional responses (prison/detention & psychiatric hospitals)	

Provincial Savings = **\$12,274,872 - 23,994,900** per Year (Approx.)

858 people helped to find and maintain safe and stable housing.

*Rate increased to account from inflation from date of study.

Sources: 1. Pomroy (2005) 2. The Homeless Hub Paper #3, The Real Cost of Homelessness

Parenting Across the Lifestyle



63

Child Reunifications
Children ONWA helped reunified with their families

63	X	\$140 - 622*	per Day (Approx.)
		= \$8,820 - 39,186 per Day (Approx.)	
		= \$3,219,300 - 14,302,890 per Year (Approx.)	

111

Apprehension Preventions
Children ONWA assisted in prevention of CAS apprehension

111	X	\$140 - 622*	per Day (Approx.)
		= \$15,540 - 69,042 per Day (Approx.)	
		= \$5,672,100 - 25,200,330 per Year (Approx.)	

Provincial Savings = **\$8,891,400 - 39,503,220** per Year (Approx.)

*Rate increased to account from inflation from date of study

Children and Youth Review

Sources: Johnson-Matoyama, M., Brook, J., Yan, Y., & McDonald T. (2013). Cost analysis of the strengthening families program in reducing time to family reunification among substance-affected families.

Anti-Human Trafficking Program



751

services provided to women
ONWA has helped exit
Human Trafficking

751	X	\$414,790*	per Year (Approx.)
		costs directly attributed to women who exited Human Trafficking	
		= \$311,507,290 Total (Approx.)	

*Rate increased to account from inflation from date of study

Sources: Nicole Barrett, An Assessment of Sex Trafficking in Canada; Barrett, Assessment, 45; Mental Health Commission of Canada et al, Turning the Key: Assessing Housing and Related Supports for Persons Living with Mental Health Problems and Illness, 2013, 84; L. DeRiviere, "An Examination of the Fiscal Impact from Youth Involvement in the Sex Trade: The Case for Evaluating Priorities in Prevention" (2005); Barrett, Assessment, 51



ONWA's 9 Key Areas of Focus

RECLAIM
 Indigenous women's role as matriarchs (leadership) in their families and communities.

RESTORE
 Indigenous women's identity and inherent rights beyond a jurisdictional approach.

RECONCILE
 relationships to ensure that Indigenous women have a right to safety regardless of location.

RECOGNIZE
 that Indigenous women are the medicine needed to heal ourselves, families, and communities.

Quotes about ONWA from Community Members

"ONWA fought for me when I was not fully willing to fight for myself. I have a life today that I never even imagined possible. It wouldn't have been possible without ONWA, with the support I was able to get the help I needed...to build a new life."

"Prior to this, I had been homeless, living secretly with my sister. I was feeling hopeless and overwhelmed by trying to find housing all by myself... I am now happily in my own apartment that meets my medical needs as well. I honestly believe that without her [Nihdawin Worker] support, I would have continued to be homeless. Her work matters. She changed my life for the better."

"ONWA has and always will be a huge part of my life, from being so down and out to completely transforming and reclaiming myself, my life, and my family. I will forever maintain my connection to the ONWA and send people their way."

"I'm happy that I wasn't alone. I don't think I could deal with everything by myself. My worker helped me by explaining and supporting me as I dealt with the Child Welfare agency."