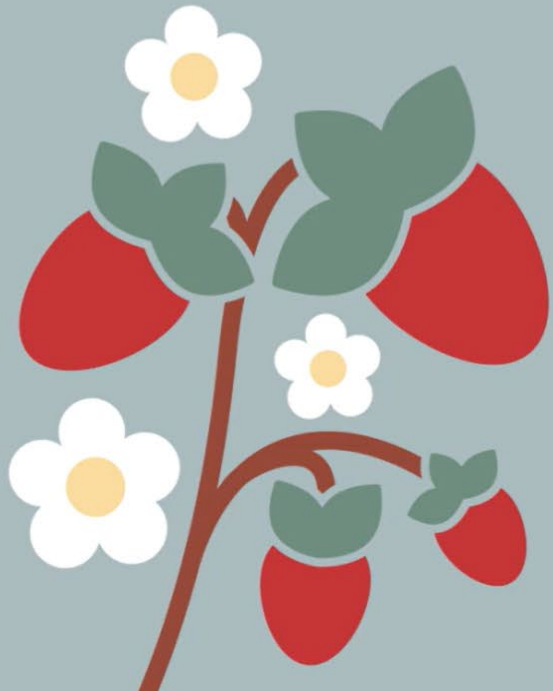


# URBAN INDIGENOUS HOMeward BOUND



**OFIFC**

UIHB



# The Friendship Centre Movement

Emerging from a nation-wide, grass-roots movement dating back to the 1950's, Friendship Centres are community hubs where Indigenous people living in towns, cities, and urban centres can access culturally-responsive programs and services.

In Ontario, more than 88 percent of Indigenous people live in urban communities.

Offer programs and initiatives that span across sectors including:

- 🍓 Justice
- 🍓 Health
- 🍓 Family support
- 🍓 Long-term care
- 🍓 Healing and wellness
- 🍓 Employment and training
- 🍓 Education



# Ontario Friendship Centres



- |                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1) Red Lake         | 17) Parry Sound         |
| 2) Kenora           | 18) Midland             |
| 3) Dryden           | 19) Owen Sound          |
| 4) Sioux Lookout    | 20) Barrie              |
| 5) Fort Frances     | 21) Peterborough        |
| 6) Atikokan         | 22) Toronto             |
| 7) Thunder Bay      | 23) Mississauga         |
| 8) Geraldton        | 24) Hamilton            |
| 9) Moosonee         | 25) Niagara-on-the-Lake |
| 10) Kapuskasing     | 26) Fort Erie           |
| 11) Cochrane        | 27) London              |
| 12) Timmins         | 28) Sarnia- Lambton     |
| 13) Sault Ste Marie | 29) Windsor             |
| 14) Sudbury         | 30) Brantford           |
| 15) North Bay       | 31) Elliot Lake         |
| 16) Ottawa          | 32) Kingston            |

# Urban Indigenous Homeward Bound



UIHB is a four-year initiative that aims to systematically address the barriers sole-parenting Indigenous women face when trying to find meaningful employment and prosperity for themselves and their children.

UIHB is founded on the provision of key supports such as:

- 🇺🇸 Housing stabilization supports
- 🇺🇸 Access to culture  
Childcare supports
- 🇺🇸 Life skills resources and post-secondary educational opportunities
- 🇺🇸 Transportation
- 🇺🇸 Case coordination
- 🇺🇸 Health access and mental health supports

# UIHB 4 Phase Model

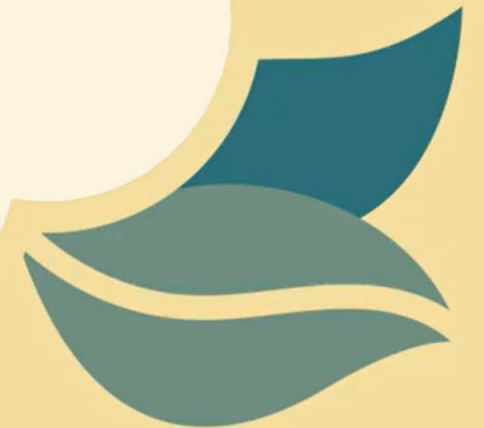
Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
4 -12 Months	8 – 24 Months	6 – 12 Months	6 -12 Months
Application Processing			
Intake & Skills Assessment			
Housing			
Childcare			
Friendship Centre & Cultural Supports			
Action Plan			
Skills/Educational Bridging			Placement/Employment
	Diploma/Certification		Transition
	Skills Enhancements		
Hire Case Counsellor		Training Pre-Employment	
	Peer Mentorship		
Living Allowance			
Transportation			
Partnership Management			
Evaluation			



# Phase 2



**Post-secondary education**



# Phase 3



**On-the-job training**

# Phase 4



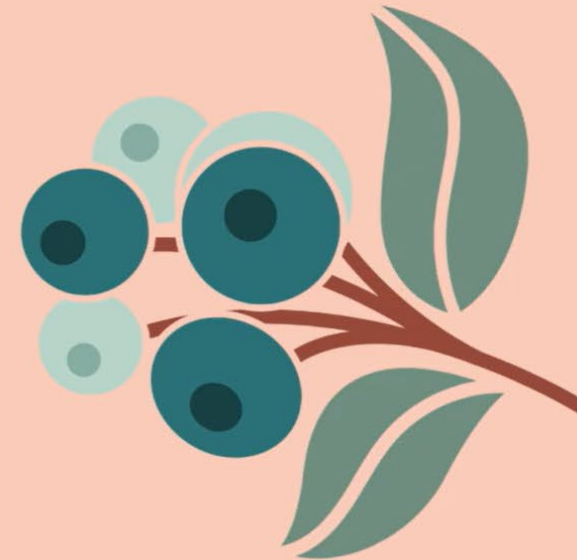
**Apply for work**

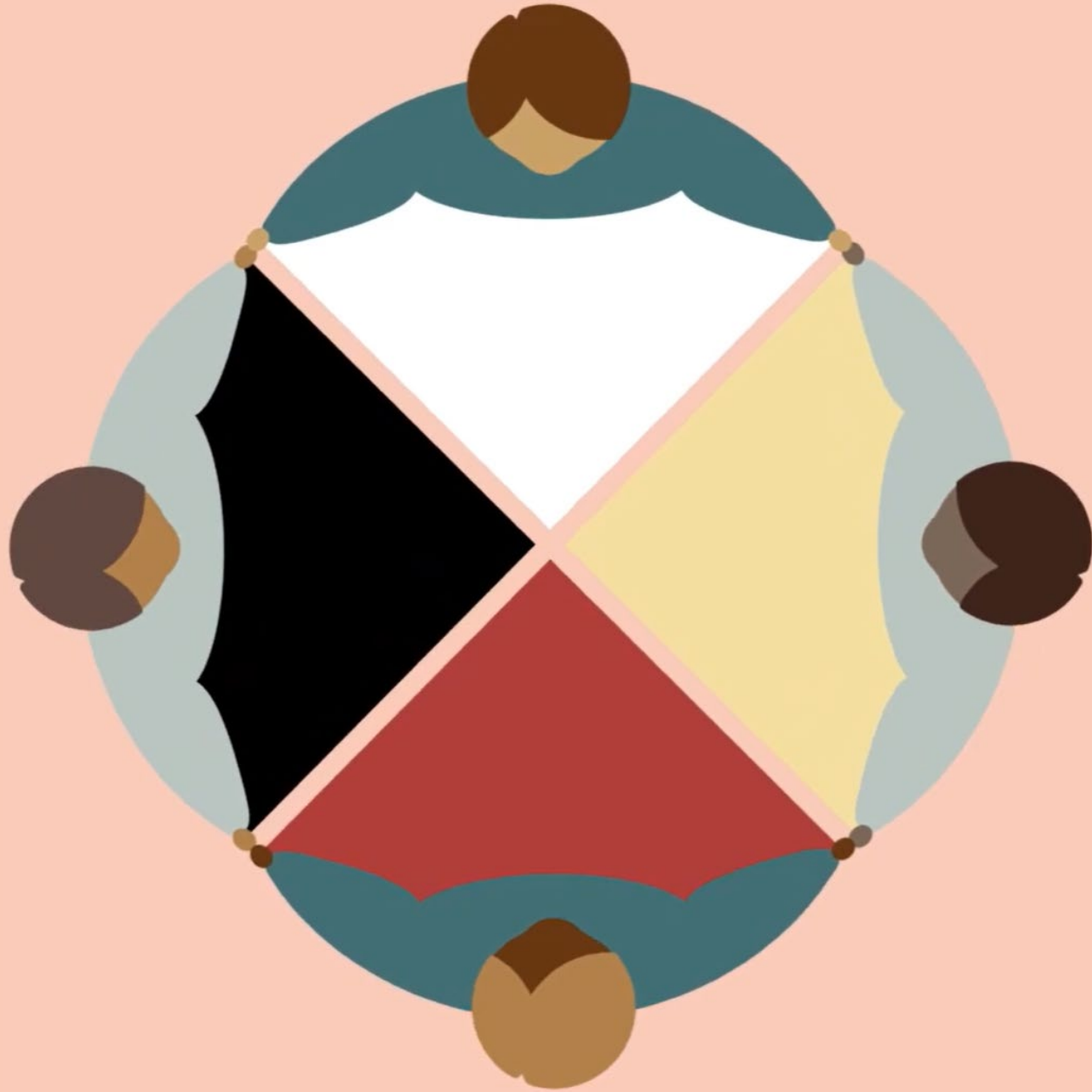


# Program Development

2012 - Partnership formed between WoodGreen and OFIFC to adapt their Homeward Bound model for local Indigenous communities

2018 - Urban Indigenous Homeward Bound Program welcomed first families



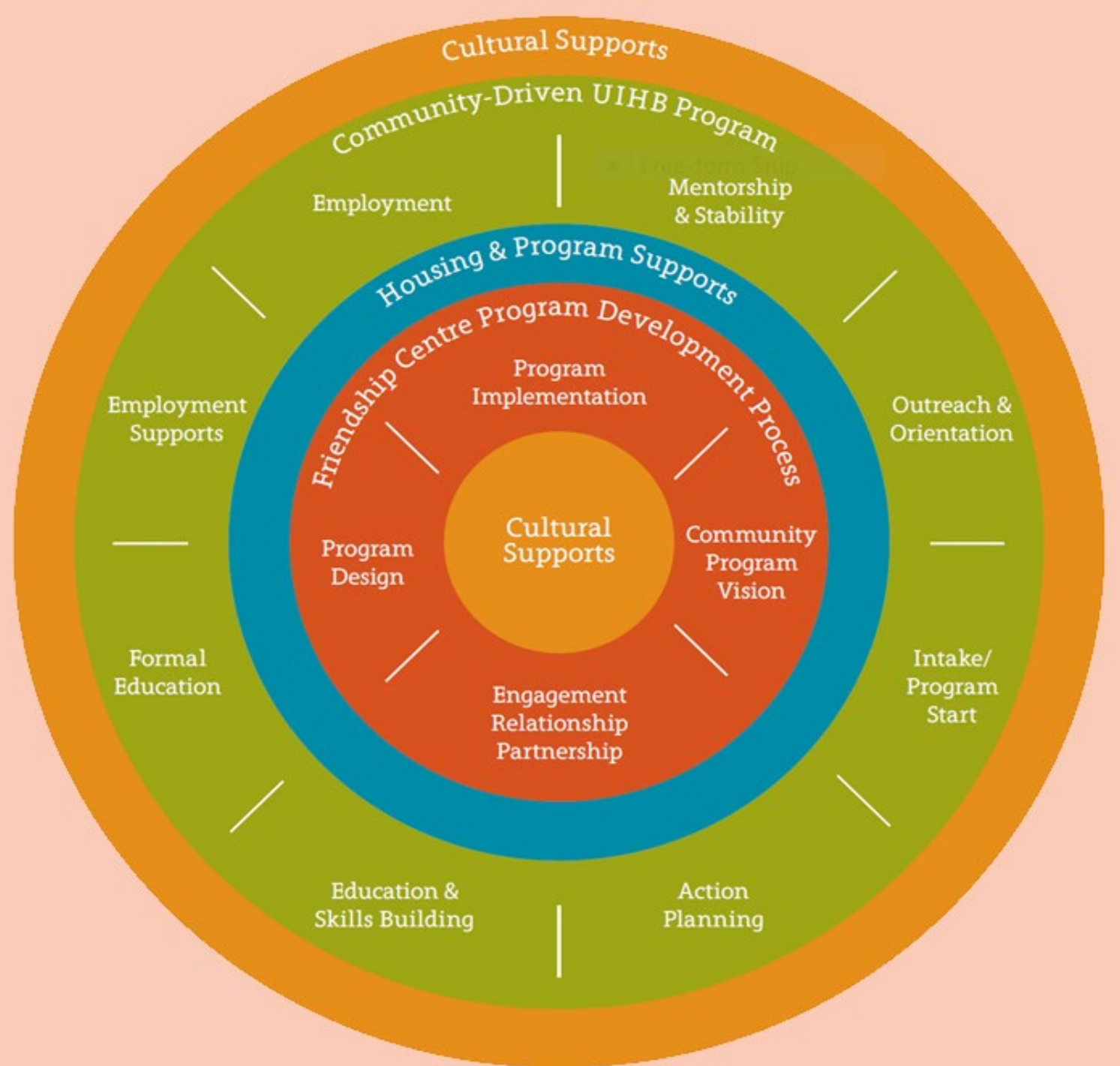


## UIHB Program Goal

To generate intergenerational wellbeing and prosperity by systematically addressing the barriers sole-parenting Indigenous mothers face when trying to enter the workforce.



# Culture & Flexibility

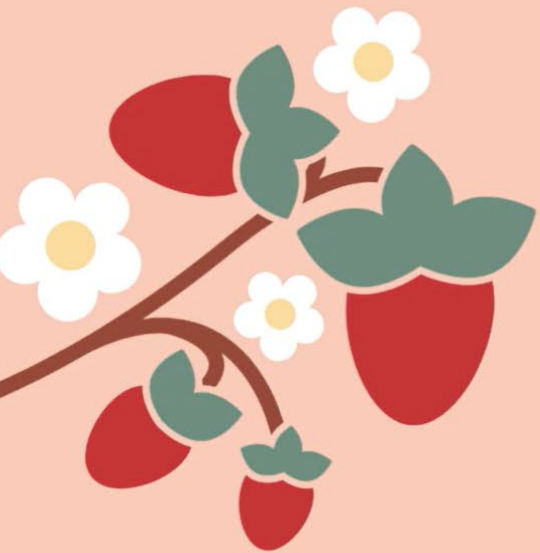


# UIHB Friendship Centres



- 🍓 Dryden
- 🍓 Sault Ste Marie
- 🍓 Peterborough
- 🍓 Hamilton
- 🍓 London
- 🍓 Niagara-on-the-Lake
- 🍓 Fort Erie





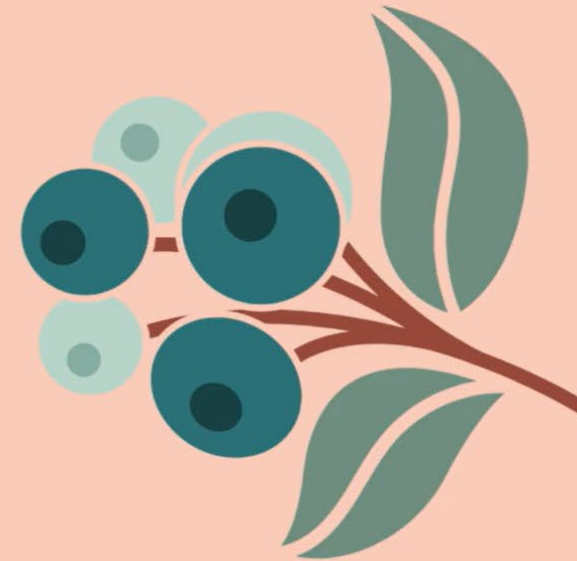




# UIHB Program Partners

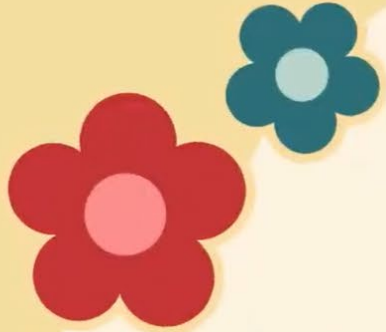
UIHB is based on a multi-sector, coordinated, partnership-based approach to service delivery including:

- 🍓 Municipal social services and governments
- 🍓 Not-for-profit housing partners
- 🍓 Local colleges
- 🍓 Childcare providers
- 🍓 Community Social Service Agencies
- 🍓 Employers
- 🍓 Community members











## Current Funders

- 🍓 Apatisiwin
- 🍓 National Indigenous Collaborative Housing Inc. (NICHI)





Cost of Status Quo	Cost of UIHB
<p><b>Per person: \$135,812</b></p> <p>Annual cost of public service usage for one individual based on case study calculations</p>	<p><b>Per person: \$ 24,135</b></p> <p>Annual cost of UIHB program for one individual</p>
<p><b>Province: \$40.7 million</b></p> <p>Annual cost of public service usage for 300 individuals based on case study calculations</p>	<p><b>Province: \$ 7.2 million</b></p> <p>Annual cost of UIHB program for provincial program serving 300 individuals.</p>

# UIHB Alignment with the Calls for Justice

The UIHB program aligns to a number of Calls for Justice from the *National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls*, including:

- 1.1 All governments, with Indigenous peoples, develop and implement a National Action Plan to address violence. The Plan should ensure equitable access to basic rights such as employment, housing, education, safety, and health care – programs must be no-barrier and apply regardless of Status or location
- 1.3 All governments, when developing budgets and determining government activities, to prioritize resourcing of measures to eliminate social, economic, cultural and political marginalization
- 4.4 All governments to provide supports and resources for educational, training, and employment opportunities for all Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people – available within all Indigenous communities.



# UIHB Alignment with Provincial Mandates

The UIHB program aligns with the following priorities of the provincial government:

- 🍓 Strengthening the economy
- 🍓 Improving individuals' connection to the labour market
- 🍓 Reducing long-term reliance on social assistance
- 🍓 Reducing red tape
- 🍓 Ending violence in Indigenous communities



# Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

Ministry Mandate Intersections with UIHB Program Objectives	Investment Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supporting social assistance recipients to build skills and enter the workforce</li><li>• Reducing child welfare involvement for Indigenous families</li><li>• Improving access to childcare supports to facilitate Indigenous women's education and training achievements</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Indigenous women on social assistance will be connected to the labour force</li><li>• Intergenerational cycles of poverty and involvement with social assistance and child welfare will be broken</li></ul>



# Ministry of Indigenous Affairs Ontario

## Ministry Mandate Intersections with UIHB Program Objectives

- Supporting self-determining initiatives of Indigenous organizations and improved outcomes for Indigenous communities
- Coordinating provincial ministries to support Truth and Reconciliation priorities and respond to the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

## Investment Outcomes

- Friendship Centres' capacity to support community issues is strengthened
- Indigenous-designed and led service delivery initiatives are supported through a multi-sectoral response



# Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Ministry Mandate Intersections with UIHB Program Objectives	Investment Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supporting housing stability for program recipients while they complete their post-secondary programming;</li><li>• Reducing Indigenous homelessness</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Housing stability among sole-parent Indigenous families will lead to greater connections to the labour force, higher rates of home ownership, and reduced costs to healthcare, justice, and shelter systems</li></ul>





# Ministry of Colleges and Universities & Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development

<b>Ministry Mandate Intersections with UIHB Program Objectives</b>	<b>Investment Outcomes</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supporting program participants to complete education and training programs to increase their job skills and employability</li><li>• Reducing the post-secondary achievement gap for Indigenous youth</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Indigenous women complete training and education programs and are connected to the labour market</li></ul>



# Ministry of Health & Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions

Ministry Mandate Intersections with UIHB Program Objectives	Investment Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supporting improved health outcomes for Indigenous women and their families</li><li>• Improving mental health and addictions supports for Indigenous communities</li><li>• Reducing dependence upon costly emergency medical care</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Indigenous women are connected with primary health care and Indigenous healthcare services</li><li>• A social determinates of health approach improves Indigenous families health and wellbeing</li><li>• Dependency upon emergency medical care is reduced</li></ul>



# Ministry of Transportation

Ministry Mandate Intersections with UIHB Program Objectives	Investment Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supporting safe and affordable transportation solutions in Indigenous communities that connect people to the labour market and economy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Indigenous communities experience greater mobility and ability to access opportunities</li><li>• Decrease social isolation and increase community cohesion</li></ul>



# Ministry of Attorney General

## Ministry Mandate Intersections with UIHB Program Objectives

- Reducing Indigenous people's involvement in Family and criminal courts through life stabilization and wraparound supports
- Addressing the high rates of victimization experienced by Indigenous women and girls

## Investment Outcomes

- Indigenous women are connected to culture-based healing supports



# Program boosts the fun Indigenous single mothers Peterborough area

Partnership between Nogojiwanong Friendship Centre and Fleming

June 29, 2022 | 2 min read



News / Local News

# Single mothers find strength, purpose in N'Amerind education program

Beatriz Baleeiro

Published Sep 22, 2023 • 3 minute read

Join the conversation



# 'The true': Hamilton helps Indigenous single mothers and their passion

Indigenous Homeward Bound (UIHB) program helps Indigenous women reach their goals

1 | Share





## **Ashley's Journey**



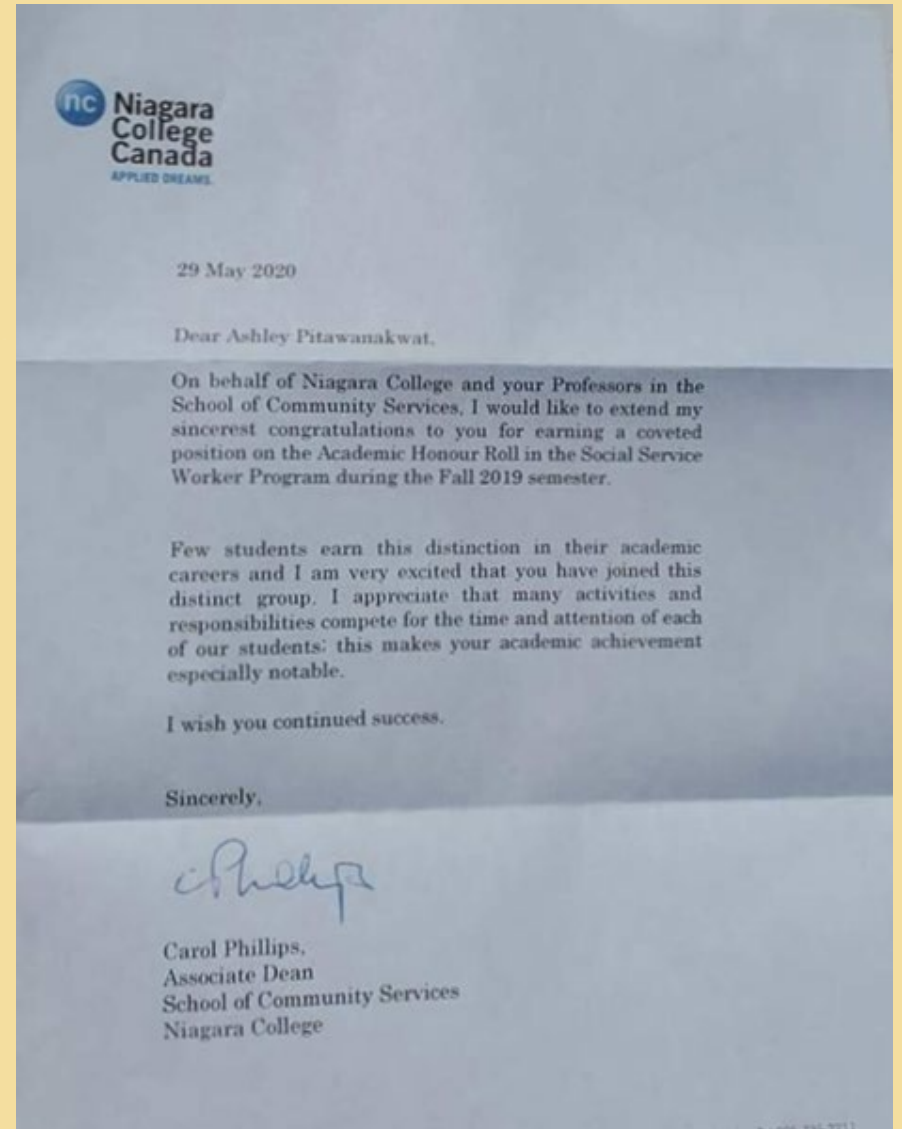
**Ashley**

Yup decision made. I Wana go to college!





Good Morning.... So happy to have reached the end of my first term in the Social Service Worker Program at Niagara College. Believe in yourself, you will be amazed when the universe responds and before you know it, you are on the path you have always dreamed of!











# Questions?





## **To Learn More:**

[Urban Indigenous Homeward Bound Overview Video](#)

[2019 UIHB Evaluation & Cost Benefit Analysis](#)

[2024 Friendship Centre Decent Work Report](#)