



Saralikitaag

The Native Women's Shelter of Montreal (NWSM) has identified the urgent need for a welcoming, safe and Indigenous-led space where First Nations, Inuit and Métis families can access services, ensure their rights and achieve wellbeing in a dignified, culturally sensitive and empowering way.

With the support of several key partners, the NWSM will soon be opening **Miyoskamin**, a second stage housing resource for First Nations, Métis and Inuit women and their children. Located on the main floor of this resource will be **Saralikitaag Centre**, a community social pediatric centre that will be open to Indigenous children and their families from across Greater Montreal.

Together, these services will help to ensure that families stay together and mitigate the likelihood of children ending up in placement by ensuring continuous and fluid support and care.

In the not-so-distant future, First Nations, Inuit and Métis children in Montreal will thrive and excel, secure in their families, identity and culture, with equitable access to opportunities, programs and services that ensure their health, wellbeing and rights.





Saralikitaaq

Based on Dr. Julien's model of Community Social Pediatrics and guided by the Social Determinants of Aboriginal People's Health, Saralikitaaq Centre will provide Indigenous children with coordinated medical, social, educational and legal support as well as traditional healing, ceremony, programming and various other services through a Two Eyed Seeing approach¹.

Where

Located on the first floor of Miyoskamin, a private room in the clinic will provide space for children to be assessed and to meet with their care team. The Skáthne Entewaké:ni' Community Room will be used for circles, workshops, and other group activities.

What

In line with the Dr. Julien model, families will have access to:

- medical and social services
- psychoeducational services
- legal services

Additionally, Saralikitaaq Centre will provide families with:

- traditional healing services, including ceremony
- intergenerational trauma counseling

How

The guiding principles of Saralikitaaq Centre will ensure that services are:

- child centered
- strengths based; rooted in empowerment
- accessible, trustworthy and safe
- Indigenous led and centered in Indigenous cultures
- high quality care grounded in two-eyed seeing¹



Saralikitaaq Centre will act as an entry point and coordinating service for vulnerable First Nations, Inuit and Métis children to ensure their care and wellbeing in a culturally safe environment.

¹ Two-eyed seeing is "learning to see from one eye with the strengths of Indigenous knowledges and ways of knowing, and from the other eye with the strengths of Western knowledges and ways of knowing ... and learning to use both these eyes together, for the benefit of all." Marshall, M., Marshall, A., and Bartlett, C. 2018. Two-Eyed Seeing in Medicine. Chapter 5 (pp 44-53) in "Determinants of Indigenous Peoples' Health in Canada; beyond the social", 2nd edition, Margo Greenwood, Sarah de Leeuw, & Nicole Marie Lindsay. Canadian Scholars Press, Toronto.