

AWN PROJECT TIMELINE



2018

October: AWN Community meeting and open call for volunteers to create the AWN Citizenship & Governance working group. AWN-WLGL Research Agreement Signed.

December: AWN Community Winter Gathering – Feast and Mini-Rounddance, Pancake Breakfast, Artisan displays, Petting Zoo, Children’s crafts. Working Group introduced to the community, two day family focused celebration of culture, identity and belonging.

2019

January – April: NS 445/NS 550 Native Studies Course Partnership with AWN LAW 590 Course Partnership with AWN AWN Citizenship and Governance Working Group meeting weekly for PLE sessions on legal issues relating to Indigenous citizenship and membership.

Summer: Survey Results and PLE resources shared to community members through kinship-visiting method, with teams of WLGL Researchers and AWN Community Coordinators. Questions answered and further open-ended information on citizenship gathered through visiting.

October – December: the Citizensh Working Group met biweekly to discuss what they needed to learn, and what needed to be done to develop a draft Citizenship Code in a good way. Community Self-Identification Survey developed by WLGL based on information identified by the working group and AWN’s legal counsel as useful.

October 2018 – March 2019: Self-Identification Surveys administered by AWN Community Coordinators. Youth and Elder Video Created for AWN with AWN youth.

April: Second Community Gathering: Youth Focused Celebration: One Day, Powwow Initiation for Community Youth, Round Dance, Youth Film Debut.

Fall: WLGL Researchers analyzed and wrote up data and themes from summer community visits.

2020

January: WLGL led “Wisdom Workshop” with AWN Working Group to incorporate past work and feedback from community visits into a summary of research for drafting instructions to WLGL lawyer.

January to June : WLGL RA worked on writing up research results for 7 Key Foundation Cree Principles of Citizenship WLGL lawyer worked on drafting draft AWN Citizenship Code.

July: Report Back to AWN Working Group with Summary of Research and Draft Citizenship Code.

October: Draft Citizenship Code Presentation to the AWN Board.

October to December: The Seven Cree Principles ‘Language Bundles’ presented to AWN staff and individually validated with participating Elders, knowledge holders.

December: WLGL Final Report

Note: From 2018 to 2020 Wahkotowin Law & Governance Lodge led the project. 2021 to 2024 Urban Matters led community work.

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2021

January: Project Launch with Community

February–April: 1 on 1 interviews with members from community re: Members from the Community (produced summary report).

November: Community Visit– Deep Dive into Existing Code developed by Wahkohtowin and Governance Lodge– was determined a more deliberate approach would be needed to satisfy outstanding issues.

August: Community Open House re: What membership means to the community (project re-launch).

2022

January–March: Launch Working group online sessions to address outstanding questions in the code.

June: AWN Board Update on work completed and seeking direction on next steps. Board suggests broader community engagement on working group efforts.

August: Community Open House #2– Feedback gathering re: Working group positions on outstanding issues.

2023

January: Training of community members to conduct in home surveys of outstanding issues.

February–April: Ambassadors conduct in home surveys.

September: Presentation to AWN Board re: survey results and next steps direction.

April–June: UM analysis of survey findings and final report development re: community.

September: Brief working group on community survey results. Working group suggests its time to engage JFK on the work. David and Michelle Agree.

2024

November 2023–April 2024: AWN Membership code legal review and development. Process begins for final stages of the project.