



INDIGENOUS COURTWORKER PROGRAM

Supporting fair and culturally sensitive
justice for Indigenous individuals



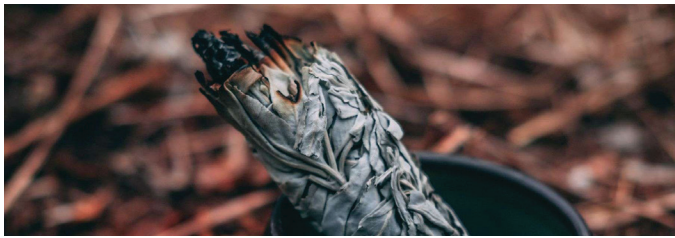
Mi'gmaq Justice
Initiative



What Is An Indigenous Courtworker?

Indigenous Courtworkers (ICWs) support Indigenous peoples to receive fair and equitable treatment within the Canadian criminal justice system.

While new to New Brunswick, the ICW has been operating across Canada since 1978. Recognizing that involvement in criminal legal proceedings can be overwhelming, ICWs provide essential guidance in navigating a system that is often unfamiliar, complex, and at times, adversarial.



What Can An ICW Do For You?

Provide basic information about the legal processes as soon as possible, including:

- The nature and reason for criminal charges.
- What are the steps to a trial.
- What you are required to do at each stage of the process.
- What rights you have at each stage of the process.
- What happens if you do not comply with court orders.
- How to act in a formal court setting.
- Help you manage the legal process, including:
 - › Connecting you and communicating with a lawyer.
 - › Explaining legal documents and assisting you to complete them.
 - › Speaking with court officials with you.
 - › Attending court with you.
 - › Connecting you to relevant community services and resources (e.g. social and medical services, education, employment, and Indigenous support).

On a broader level, ICWs are a bridge between the court and Indigenous communities.

ICWs are not lawyers. They cannot provide legal advice or representation. They also cannot supervise bail, probation, or parole.

Who Is Eligible For Assistance?

To be eligible for support under the Indigenous Courtworker Program, you must:

- be registered, or be entitled to be registered, under the Indian Act;
- be a member of a First Nation or recognized under a First Nation's identity law;
- be recognized from your Inuit land claim organization;
- have an ancestral connection to a community and prove community acceptance;
- or provide other evidence of Indigenous identity that is deemed satisfactory by the agency.

How To Access ICW Services In New Brunswick

Contact an ICW in your region.

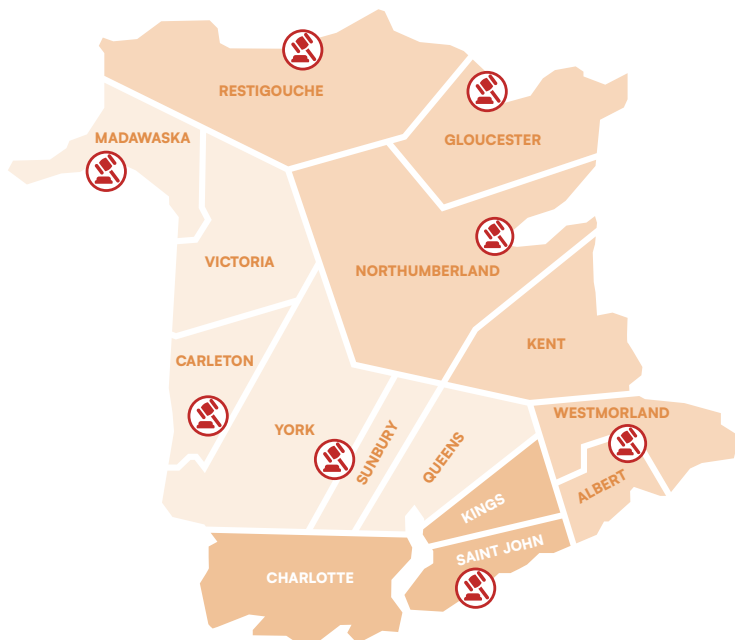
Consult your lawyer or a community organization to connect you with a courtworker.

Set up an appointment with the courtworker to discuss your case and the assistance you need.



Indigenous Courtworker Services in New Brunswick

Indigenous Courtworker Services in New Brunswick are delivered by MJJ (Mi'gmaq Justice Initiative) and the Wolastoqey Tribal Council Inc. (WTCI (Wolastoqey Tribal Council Inc.)). Services are delivered regionally — Eastern New Brunswick and Western New Brunswick, while the Saint John Courthouse is jointly serviced.



Western Region

Madawaska to Queens County.

Serviced by WTCI
(Wolastoqey Tribal Council Inc.).

Eastern Region

Restigouche to Albert County

Serviced by MJJ (Mi'gmaq Justice Initiative).

Saint John Courthouse

Serviced by MJJ and WTCI.

NOTE: Charlotte, Kings, and St. John County are jointly serviced.



Who To Contact

Eastern Region

If you reside in the Eastern Region of the province (includes Campbellton, Bathurst, Miramichi, Moncton Courthouses) please contact ICW services at MJJ.

 (506) 451-1430

 ICW@migmaqjustice.org

Western Region

If you reside in the Western Region of the Province (includes Madawaska, Woodstock, Fredericton, St. John Courthouses) please contact ICW services at WTCI.

 (506) 459-6341

 ICW@wolastoqey.ca

IN COLLABORATION WITH:



Canada