

Our Mission

By building on the work that our people and previous leadership accomplished through agreements such as:

- **JBNQA (Section 18)**
- **NRA 2008**
- **2007 Justice Agreement (AJA)**

Established in 2008 to provide for the implementation of Section 18 of the JBNQA, and the AJA. Within these agreements, there is clear recognition of Cree usages, customs and ways of life, which remain an important part of our society and have been a part of our institutions for many generations

Our Objectives

Increasing **accessibility** to the justice system.

Reinforcing and promoting **traditional values** in the Cree Nation to better deal with the **root causes** of our challenges and the negative impacts they produce.

Reducing **crime** and **victimization** in the Cree Nation and enhancing community safety through a **Cree global** crime prevention strategy, and by **partnering** with key Cree entities.

Providing **quality services** for **Cree people** in the Cree communities and judicial district of Abitibi.

Providing a more **restorative** treatment of **Cree people** in detention facilities.

The DOJCS-EEPF Partnership

Strategic Leadership & Advocacy

- Charges laid by the EEPF are administrated in provincial courts hosted by the DOJCS. The process includes CJOs, CROs, CJsCs, Court workers, CAVAC officers, Court Liaison, and many others within our Department.
- DOJCS and JAC meet with the Police Commission to discuss collaborative work and social issues to address.
- When we are invited to discuss issues provincially or federally on justice plans, we request the EEPF be involved too.

Operational Support & Professionalism

- Joint meetings with Judiciary and Prosecutors include EEPF.
- Court Liaison roles filled by two EEPF officers and former members
- When required, EEPF provides additional security during court sittings
- Specialized training sessions for EEPF on CAVAC and victim support.
- We have hosted EEPF training in our facilities

Community-Led Prevention & Restoration

- Funding for Cree Neighbourhood Watch.
- Initiatives like "Motorcycle Build" using hands-on work for restorative justice.
- Police Appreciation Days and Crime Prevention Week integration.



Our Pillars

Our Objectives

Regional Administration

Provides leadership, governance, and administrative support to ensure the Department fulfills its justice mandate.

Correctional Services

Delivers correctional and reintegration services that support rehabilitation and community safety.

Community Justice Services

Supports community-based justice services that strengthen accessibility and community well-being.

Crime Prevention Initiatives

Advances prevention, youth engagement, and innovation to address root causes of justice involvement.

Capital Infrastructure

Plans and delivers justice-related capital infrastructure to support effective service delivery.

Facilities and Equipment Operations

Maintains facilities and equipment to ensure safe and continuous justice operations.

Our Managers

Our Objectives

Regional Administration

- DOJCS Director
- Manager of Strategic Planning

Correctional Services

- Manager of Correctional Services

Community Justice Services

- Manager of Justice Services

Crime Prevention Initiatives

- Manager of Prevention Programs
- Coordinator of Youth Services and Administration

Capital Infrastructure

- Managed by CWS

Facilities and Equipment Operations

- Managed by CWS

From Pillars To Action

Our Objectives

Regional Administration

Management
Activities

Correctional Services

Programs and
Projects

Community Justice Services

Programs and
Projects

Crime Prevention Initiatives

Programs and
Projects

Capital Infrastructure

- Managed by CWS

Facilities and Equipment Operations

- Managed by CWS

Regional Administration

- Our regional administration staff are responsible for building and maintaining the organizational structure and operational foundations of the Department by:
 - Supporting Cree participation in the Judicial Advisory Committee (JAC)
 - Leading work in financial planning
 - Policy development
 - Strategic planning
 - Establishing and managing partnerships
 - Implementing and supporting IT and digital systems
 - Coordinating department-wide staff initiatives and events

Correctional Services Programs

Program	Target	Description	2024-2025 Impact
Staff Support for Cree Detainees	Cree Detainees	Our DOJCS staff visit clients in different facilities to provide a wide range of assistance and support to try and address issues that our people face while in detention.	125 Visits
Elder Visits in Detention	Cree Detainees	Elders are a voice of moderation, experience and wisdom. They are invited to go to detention facilities to talk to and help detainees re-connect with their Cree values, land and people.	5
Cree Psychologist Visits in Detention	Cree Detainees	A psychologist offers some of our clients with one-on-one sessions to help them address and heal from past traumas and improve their chances of reintegrating into the community	39 (Sessions)
Traditional Food in Detention	Cree Detainees	We see justice in a broad, holistic sense, and believe that the land plays a strong role in the healing process. It is a fundamental Eeyou Istchee principle, as that is where the Cree values come from. Since we cannot bring detainees on the land, we bring the land to them, in the form of traditional foods.	14 Visits (multiple detainees join)
C.R.E.E. Program	Cree Detainees and Family	Primary purpose of the Cree Reintegration, Education, and Employment Program (C.R.E.E. Program) is to help individuals who have a criminal record and who are facing significant employment barriers successfully reintegrate into Cree society.	31 Participants

Correctional Services Programs

Program	Target	Description	2024-2025 Impact
Tiny-Homes Facilities	Cree Detainees meeting certain conditions	The Tiny Homes Program is a transitional support program that combines stable housing with structured wrap-around services to support individuals and families facing complex social, mental health, and justice-related challenges. The program provides counselling and targeted interventions focused on mental health, addictions, trauma, conflict resolution, and restorative justice, delivered through a holistic and culturally grounded approach that includes Cree land-based and cultural activities. Participants develop practical life skills, personal responsibility, and routine through skills workshops, daily chores, meal preparation, and community volunteering, supporting reintegration, accountability, and long-term stability.	Not operating last year
Record Suspension Program	Eligible Crees with a criminal record	A record suspension (formerly a pardon) allows people who were convicted of a criminal offence, but who have completed their sentence and demonstrated that they are law-abiding citizens for a certain number of years, to have their criminal record “sealed” and kept separately from active criminal records stored in the RCMP database. This helps them to access employment and educational opportunities and to reintegrate into society.	-

Correctional Services Programs

Program	Target	Description	2024-2025 Impact
Corrections Initiatives	Detainees or at-risk community members	Our local Reintegration Officers or other Corrections Staff plan and manage projects throughout Eeyou Istchee to support clients. Project Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Violence and Trauma Workshop (Regional Tour)	-

Important Barrier

Program delivery in detention settings is **constrained by institutional barriers**. For example, in federal detention facilities, DOJCS staff are permitted to deliver food programming and facilitate sharing circles; however, in provincial detention settings, additional restrictions prevent staff from engaging in similar activities beyond restricted service delivery. These differences in access and operational permissions **significantly limit the scope and frequency of programs** that can be offered in provincial detention compared to other settings.

Healing in Eeyou Istchee

When the Department was established in 2008, we consulted all Cree communities and held public meetings. Cree Elders from across the Nation repeated an important Cree principle: **Healing Comes from the Land**. Since that time, we have ensured support to making this principle a practice by investing in Land-based initiatives throughout Eeyou Istchee for our clients and incorporating projects that include the healing nature of the Land to Crees while in detention.



Restorative Justice

Building on the ways, customs and beliefs, and the understanding that healing best happens on the Land, the Justice Department collaborates with partners on approaching justice through **restoration rather than just punishment**. Our programs emphasize Cree values recognizing that harm is best addressed by healing people, families, and relationships, not by isolating individuals.

HEALING & WELLNESS

Restoring balance after trauma, loss, and harm

Justice programming supports individuals in healing emotionally and spiritually, often through land-based and culturally grounded approaches.

FAMILY & INTERGENERATIONAL SUPPORT

Justice as a collective responsibility

Justice work strengthens families and restores intergenerational relationships, recognizing that support for healing happens within familial systems.

EMOTIONAL REGULATION & HARM REDUCTION

Addressing the roots of harm to prevent further conflict and harmful acts.

Rather than responding only after harm occurs, Justice programs help individuals develop tools to manage anger, addiction, and emotional distress.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT & LIFE SKILLS

Prevention through guidance, culture, and opportunity for the largest demographic in our systems.

Justice invests in youth as a way to prevent future harm, offering skills, connection, and positive pathways grounded in Cree identity.

Community Justice Services

Program	Target	Description	2024-2025 Impact
Community Justice Committees (CJC) Cases	Crees going through Justice System	These committees are independent bodies composed of community members, it exists to improve judicial outcomes and community safety for all people by diverting certain cases from the justice system.	26 cases diverted
CJC Land-Based Initiatives	Crees going through Justice System and community	<p>Our CJCs along with local staff run land-based projects offered to clients of the Department and the community at large. The goal is to reduce harmful activities by inspiring value in Cree-based identity and programming.</p> <p>Project Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing and Blueberry Picking Retreat (575 Participants) • Chishanoochimi Bush Program (8 Participants) • Traditional Teachings #1 (Old Nemaska Gathering) (82 Participants) • Traditional Gathering Workshops (36 Participants) • Sewing workshop - Mittens/moccasins (20 Participants) • Winter Bush Program – Inland (9 Participants) • Ski-Doo trailer making (6 Participants) • Anger Management Workshop (7 Participants) • Traditional Teachings #3 (Nemaska Trappers Festival) (93 Participants) • Nemaska Healing Week – NAAW (126 Participants) • Anger Management November (7 Participants) • Beading Program – February (10 Participants) 	117 Projects in total with over \$1.4M in funding

Community Justice Services

Program	Target	Description	2024-2025 Impact
Cree CAVAC Services	Victims of crime and their family	Through our 5 offices in Eeyou Istchee, Cree CAVAC services pledge to walk alongside victims of crime, be they directly affected, witnesses, or relatives of victims and regardless of whether the perpetrator of the crime has been identified, apprehended, prosecuted, or convicted. Assistance is in the form of accompaniment to court, providing information, or through post-traumatic intervention.	217 Service Requests
Gladue Report Writing	Crees going through the Justice System	We support efforts to consider alternative sanctions for individuals who come in contact with the criminal justice system. Gladue reports, following on the 1999 Supreme Court of Canada ruling R. v. Gladue, are an effort to draw attention to the unique historical backgrounds of Indigenous offenders and present alternatives to prison. The flexibility comes from Criminal Code Section 718.2 (e) but the new bail hearing amendments proposed by federal government may impact these.	23 Reports written for Crees 12 Reports written for the Inuit
Hosting of Courts	Crees needing to attend court hearings	Each year we host the itinerant court services (among other courts) through its Justice Facilities located in the Cree communities. These facilities were built by the Cree Nation Government, which also operates them. Our facilities are equipped with state-of-the-art audiovisual equipment which meets the diverse court needs of our people.	Court of Québec (special sessions for Cree First Nation law) The Superior Court of Québec
Translation Services	Crees going through Justice System	To address inequities and language barriers that have historically affected our people going through the justice system we have local Community Justice Officers that are available for assisting local clients and a department translator.	-



Community Justice Services

Program	Target	Description	2024-2025 Impact
Local Neighbourhood Watch Program	Local governments	The Local Neighbourhood Watch Program provides annual funding to Cree communities to support the enforcement and prosecution of local laws and to strengthen community-based neighbourhood watch initiatives.	-

Crime Prevention Initiatives

Program	Target	Description	2024-2025 Impact
CREE Stop Now And Plan (SNAP)	Children in community aged 6-11	Cree SNAP has helped coach children manage their emotions by pausing, identifying the emotion, and planning the response. This program is an active outreach to children in their formative years, with the goals of imparting them with unique strategies to better manage their wide range of emotions at the time of the program and in the future.	1500-2000 children enrolled (provided in school classrooms)
Youth Enrichment Services (YES)	High-school youth at-risk	This program diverts high-school youth at-risk of suspension to a personalized program where they are supported in maintaining their school work while also receiving specialized workshops to address maladaptive behaviors. Running in 3 communities, Waskaganish, Mistissini, Ouje-Bougoumou, and Waswanipi to begin January 2026.	31 Students supported
YES Summer Camp	High-School youth at-risk	The annual one-week YES summer experience at Sonrise Camp offered workshops (e.g., anger management and bullying) and activities (example, swimming and campfires) for 12 at-risk youths representing three communities (Mistissini, Waskaganish, Ouje-Bougoumou)	12 at-risk youth
Y-Mind Program	High-School youth at-risk	Y Mind is a free, structured mental wellness program designed to help manage stress, anxiety and uncomfortable emotions. It is not a therapy group or clinical treatment, but a psychoeducational early-intervention program that teaches coping skills..	Launch in 2026

Crime Prevention Initiatives

Program	Target	Description	2024-2025 Impact
Local Crime Prevention Initiatives	Community members of all ages	<p>Our department staff (PPOs, PPAs, and PYWs) design, plan, execute, and supports a wide range of projects throughout Eeyou Istchee in an effort to create awareness, community wellbeing, and a safer home for our people:</p> <p>Project Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medicine Walk (Eastmain) • Community 4-Weeks Summer Camp (Mistissini) • The Family Challenge – 12 Days of Fun! (Nemaska) • Sewing and Beading Program (Eastmain) • Walking Out Ceremony Workshop (Whapmagoostui) • Sonshine Buddies Camp (Special Needs Camp) (Nemaska) • Young Mother’s Mentorship Activities (Mistissini) • Support for Breakfast Program (Waskaganish) 	1500-2000 children enrolled (provided in school classrooms)
Crime Prevention Fund	Community-Led Crime Prevention Projects	The Crime Prevention Fund supports projects that prevent and reduce crime by addressing early risk factors and strengthening protective supports for individuals, youth, and families. The fund prioritizes evidence-based crime prevention approaches that reduce contact with the justice and corrections system, prevent recidivism among high-risk groups, and raise education and awareness on priority crime issues.	-

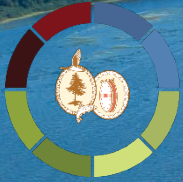
Crime Prevention Initiatives

Program	Target	Description	2024-2025 Impact
Youth Engagement Fund	Youth Councils and CNYC	The Youth Engagement Fund supports local Youth Councils in developing and delivering community-based programs designed specifically for Cree youth. Funded initiatives focus on prevention and early intervention in areas such as crime, alcohol and drug abuse, bullying, school disengagement, and suicide, while also promoting Cree culture, language, history, and traditions. The fund strengthens youth leadership, cultural identity, and positive engagement as protective factors that contribute to healthier youth outcomes and safer communities.	-
CREE CICR 4-Week Program	DOJCS Staff and other organizations	Our signature Cree CICR program continues to provide significant skills to members of the Cree Nation. The unique approach, adapted to honour Cree values and traditions, provides hands-on, practical training in conflict resolution, interpersonal communication, mediation, group facilitation, and other peacebuilding activities. The entire program is rooted in the restoration of dignity and trust, and a greater understanding of why people behave the way they do by appreciating their underlying human identity needs.	256 Graduates to date
CREE CICR 1-Week Conflict Resolution for Leaders Program	Directors and Managers from Cree Entities	The one-week intensive program is designed to equip managers with practical tools to address conflict, strengthen communication, and support respectful workplace and community relationships. Adapted to honour Cree values and traditions, the program provides applied training in conflict awareness, interpersonal communication, basic mediation principles, and group facilitation techniques relevant to leadership roles.	150 Graduates to date

Crime Prevention Initiatives

Program	Target	Description	2024-2025 Impact
Engagement Strategy Program	Cree Youth	Supports Cree youth through summer student placements and internship opportunities within the Department of Justice and Correctional Services for those interested in justice or corrections careers. The program builds early exposure, practical experience, and professional pathways for Cree youth, strengthening long-term capacity and future workforce development within the justice system.	-
Cree Justice Collaboration Fund	Cree Entities	<p>Provides designated funding to support collaborative events and projects delivered in partnership with Cree entities, such as the Cree School Board, Cree Women’s Association, and other Cree organizations. The program strengthens Cree-led, community-based responses by enabling coordinated initiatives that advance healing, prevention, and justice-related objectives through shared capacity and collaboration.</p> <p>Project Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The women’s leadership conference with CWEIA • Gatherings of Cree men against violence • CNYC special events • Business Summit 	-

*Working together for **equity**, **justice**, and **stronger communities**.*



ΔΙΥΠΟΥΣΙΟΝ ΣΥΝ ΤΗ ΔΙΚΑΙΟΣΥΝΗ ΔΙΟΙΚΟΥΣΑ
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES
DEPARTEMENT DE JUSTICE ET SERVICES CORRECTIONNELS

MEEGWETCH - THANK YOU