



Newsletter



October Updates

Fall time is here and the weather is turning crisp. The leaves are changing colour and the days are getting shorter. It's a good season to slow down, gather with family and give thanks for the harvest and for each other.

October is also an important month for us at Mnaasged as we prepare for Annual General Assembly on October 29th. We'll share our progress and the work happening across our communities, and we'll talk about where we're headed next.



MCFS
Job Postings

Upcoming Dates

Indigenous Peoples Day
October 12th

Annual General Assembly
October 29th

Yeyathókwas - Harvest Moon

Binaakwe Giizis - Falling Leaves Moon

**Kuwahnaateewi Niipaahum -
Falling Leaves Moon**

Member Nations



Message from Executive Director

This is a time when our communities have long come together to share what the land has provided, honour those who came before us, and prepare for the winter ahead. At Mnaasged, we carry that same spirit of gratitude into our work every day. To our staff, foster and kinship caregivers, Elders, and community partners: thank you for the care, patience, and strength you bring to supporting our children and families. Your commitment is the heart of everything we do.

This month, we also gather for our Annual General Assembly, an important opportunity to come together, reflect on the past year, and share the progress we have made as an agency. It is a chance to celebrate our successes, speak honestly about our challenges, and listen to the voices of the communities we serve as we plan for the year ahead. I warmly invite everyone to join us on October 29th, at Best Western Plus Stoneridge Inn, London. As we move into the colder months, let us continue to walk this path together, rooted in our teachings and guided by the well-being of our children, families, and Nations.



Melissa Patriguin

Executive Director

Mnaasged Child and Family Services



Welcome to the team

Misko Kechego Language Project Coordinator

Boozhoo Kina Weya,
Misko Giizhik Kwe ndizhnikaaz, Sydney
Kechego zhaaganashii noozwin, Mko
ndodem, Doshkan Ziibiing ndoonjiba,
miinwa Anishinaabe Kwe ndaw.

My name is Red Sky Woman, my
English name is Sydney Kechego (but I
prefer to go by Misko), I am bear clan
from Chippewas of the Thames, and I
am an Anishinaabe Kwe.

I am excited to be joining Mnaasged Child and Family Services as the Language
Revitalization Project Coordinator.

I bring lots of passion and drive when it comes to language revitalization. I
have experience in hosting language workshops, game nights, and creating
language resources for families within Chippewa. It has always been my goal to
help serve my people and with this position I am excited to take the lead!
Helping families having access to language in the home is something that fuels
my spirit. I started my own language journey back in high school and have been
on this path since. I continued my journey at Fanshawe, and I was apart of the
first cohort for the Paswe'atigook program. I am not fluent, but I work hard
everyday to practice and learn more.



Annual General Assembly October 29th, London, ON

Mnaasged Child and Family Services are hosting its Annual General Assembly October 29th at the Best Western Plus Stoneridge Inn & Conference Centre. The Annual General Assembly is a chance for our member First Nations, Board of Directors, Elders, staff and community partners to come together, look back on the past year and talk about the work ahead. This year means a lot to Mnaasged.

The day begins with a light breakfast at 8:30 a.m., followed by an opening prayer, smudge and honour song at 9:00 a.m. Highlights of the agenda include:

- Presentation of the 2025–2026 Auditor's Report, Financial Statements and Management Letter by BDO Canada
- Approval of the minutes from the 2025 Annual General Assembly
- Bylaw ratification
- A message from the Elders' Council
- The Executive Director's Report
- Appointment of the Auditor

Lunch will be served at 12:00 p.m. to close the day.

The 2025–2026 Annual Report will be shared at the Assembly. It includes updates from each department, our Data Snapshot, the Language Revitalization Project and more. The report will be published online.



Best Western Plus Stoneridge Inn
6675 Burtwistle Lane
London, ON, N6L 1H5



Communications Update

This year, more people than ever connected with Mnaasged online. Since the Stage C announcement, we've shared more job postings, news and community stories, and our website and social media have both seen strong growth.

By the numbers (January 1 – October 9, 2026)

86.9K Facebook views, up 175%

10,539 Instagram views, up 330%

3,673 website sessions, up 19%

12 newsletters created in the past 12 months

All of this growth came from organic reach, with no paid ads. Our most-viewed post was the Meet the Staff series, with 5.6K views, followed by the Youth Indigenous Artists call-out and our June newsletter.

Coming up: the Language Revitalization Project

Communications is helping with the Language Revitalization Project, which includes a 10-part video series about our communities, culture and language. Watch for community footage, interviews with language speakers and Elder stories in the months ahead.

Stay connected

Follow Mnaasged Child and Family Services on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn, and visit our website for job postings and updates.

Questions?

Byran Halona, Communications Officer

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CALL OUT FOR YOUTH INDIGENOUS ARTISTS

Mnaasged Child and Family Services is seeking **Indigenous Youth Artists** for a **multi-stage child, youth, and adult book series** focused on the traditional stories, cultures, and languages of the **Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Lunaapeew people.**

**SUBMIT SAMPLES
OF WORK**

GIFT CARD COMPENSATION

Iokarenhtha Elijah

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