





# From Smart to Smarter – First Nation Health Centres Utilizing Broadband

eHealth Conference Vancouver, BC June 8, 2016



### In the beginning.....

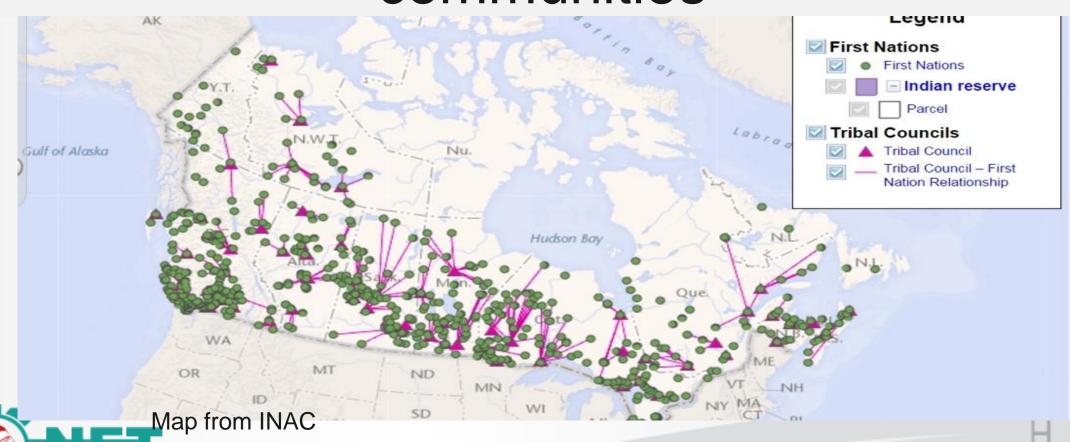
- In 1994, Keewaytinook Okimakanak (KO) started as a black and white electronic bulletin board to connect teachers.
- There was no broadband, teachers used dial up or was shipped a disk to open on their classroom computer
- In 2000, KO was part of Industry Canada's Smart Program to provide broadband and IT services to 5 First Nations



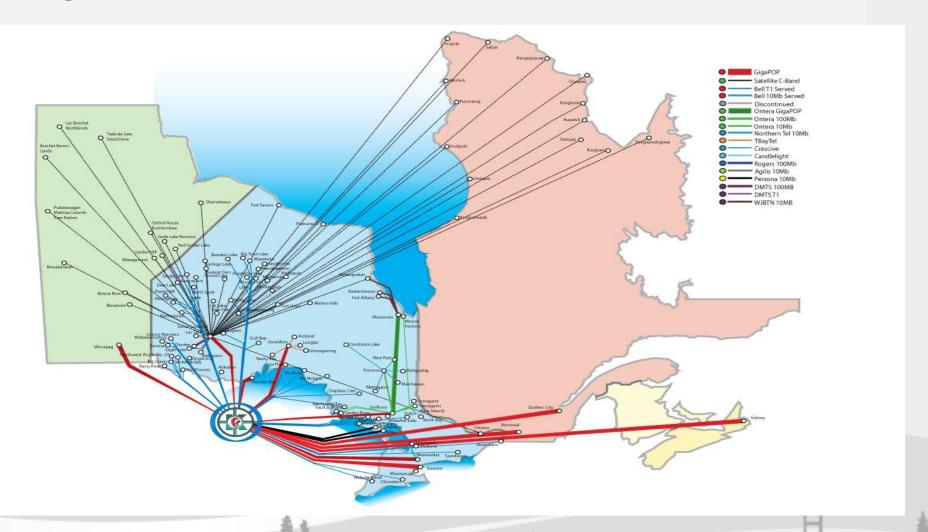
## Today



# Connected remote and rural indigenous communities



#### **KNet Network**





KNet covers Ontario's most geographically challenging landscapes and remoteness.







#### **KNet Network**

- KNet is the largest First Nation managed network connecting over 60 FN in Ontario, connecting FN organizations in Thunder Bay and Sioux Lookout
- KNet is an industry standard network
- Centralized service desk to troubleshoot and fix issues
- Incorporated network privacy and security policies and service desk management
- Supporting many community applications such as cellular, IP Telephones, community database development, KO Telemedicine, school databases, physician electronic medical records



#### Data Centre - KNet Cloud

- Industry Standard Data Centre respecting OCAP principles
- Incorporating privacy and security policies and procedures
- Supported by a 10 GiG circuit
- 24 hour backup

#### **Services Offered:**

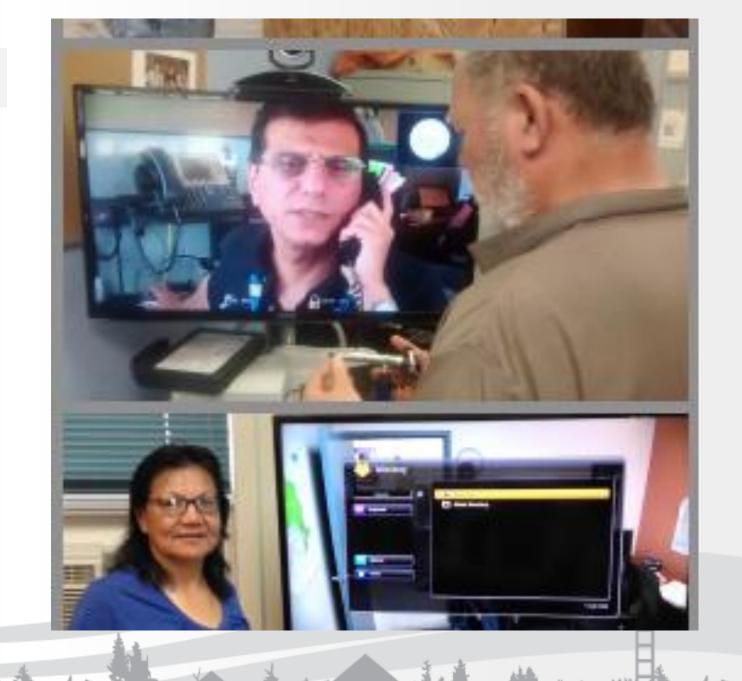
- Virtual backup for First Nation databases
- Data hosting



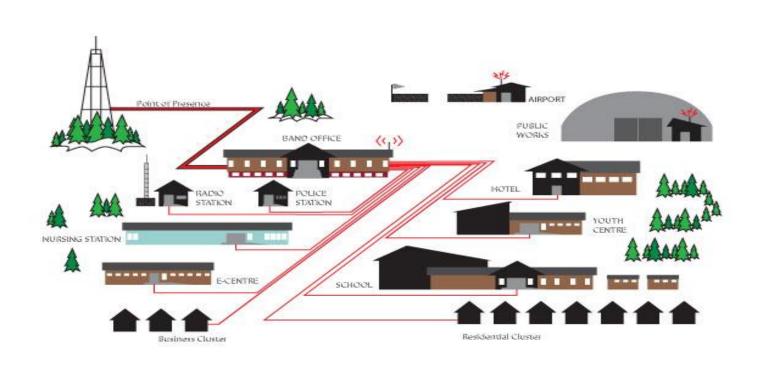
#### **Knet Services**

- ➤ IT Equipment purchases and installation
- ➤ Broadband deployment
- ➤ Service desk support
- Cable plant/wireless plant maintenance
- > Fibre termination
- > Cellular sales





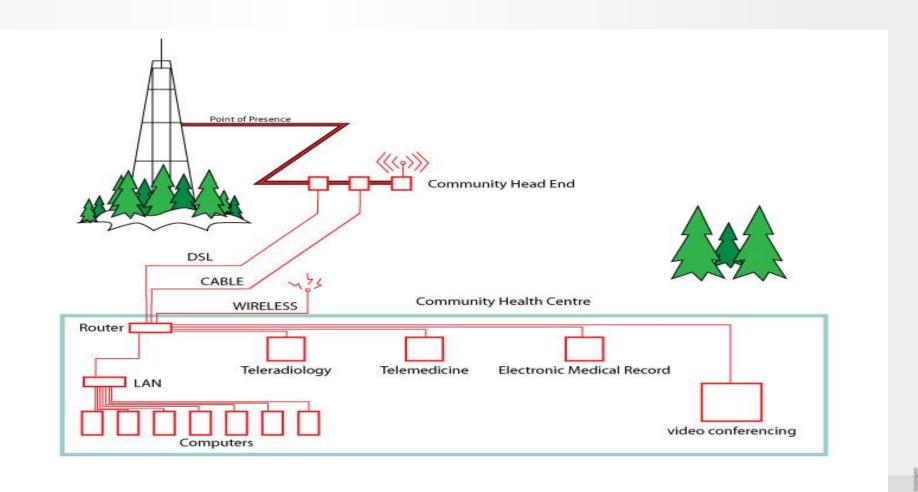
## Community





## E-Community Model







#### **Building Local Capacity**

- **❖** Local infrastructure
- **\*** IT Technicians
- **Community Telemedicine Coordinators**
- **\*** Leadership



Annabella Gliddy, CTC Wunnumin Lake



Stephanie Kejick, CTC Lac Seul



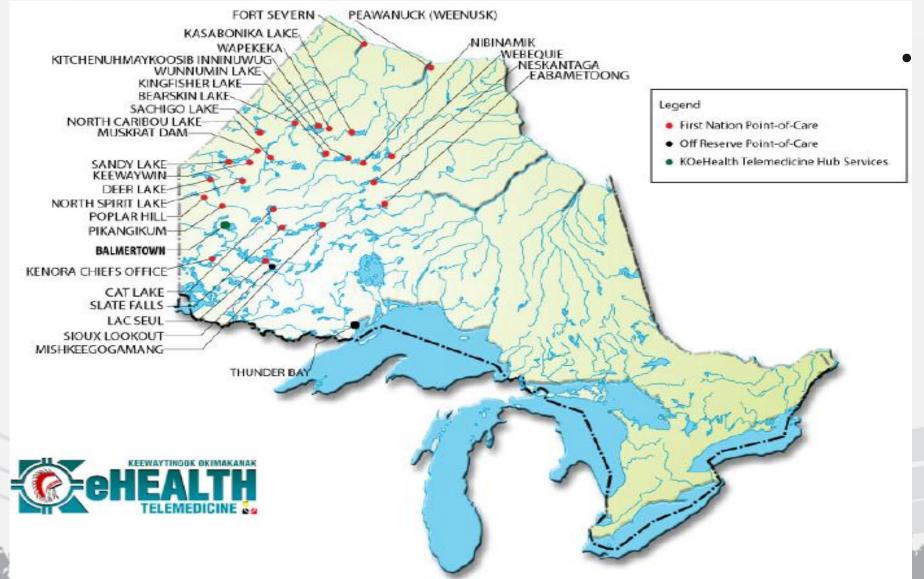
Ida Fiddler, CTC Keewaywin



Peggy Sugarhead, CTC Eabametoong



#### First Nations Telemedicine Sites



## KOeTS AdvisoryCouncil

- 26 northern & remote FNs pointsof-care
- 10 northern provider sites
- 210,000 km<sup>2</sup> mostly fly-in First Nations

#### **EMR**

- Doctors' group serving the Sioux Lookout First Nations
- Federal and First Nation nurses do not have access
- In some communities, Knet manages the bandwidth at the health centre so the doctor has enough bandwidth to use the program



#### What we are currently working on....



#### Investments in community-based infrastructure

- Fibre to health centre
- Provides the health centre with optimal access to bandwidth
- This means the health centre management can incorporate virtual care tools such as telemedicine, emrs, community health databases, teleradiology into their health care delivery



#### **EMOBILE** Staying Positive mobile.knet.ca Fort Severn Bearskin Lake Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug Wunnumin Lake Attawapiskat Thunder Bay GSM COVERAGE tbaytel Coverage MOBILE Staying Positive mobile.knet.ca

#### 3G Cellular

#### Welcome to DiabeTEXTs!



DiabeTEXTs is a new joint initiative by K-NET and KO Health to provide diabetes education and information to interested community members through SMS texting and other electronic mediums. If you have any questions, please contact the developer Michael Mak at makamizz@gmail.com

#### Admin

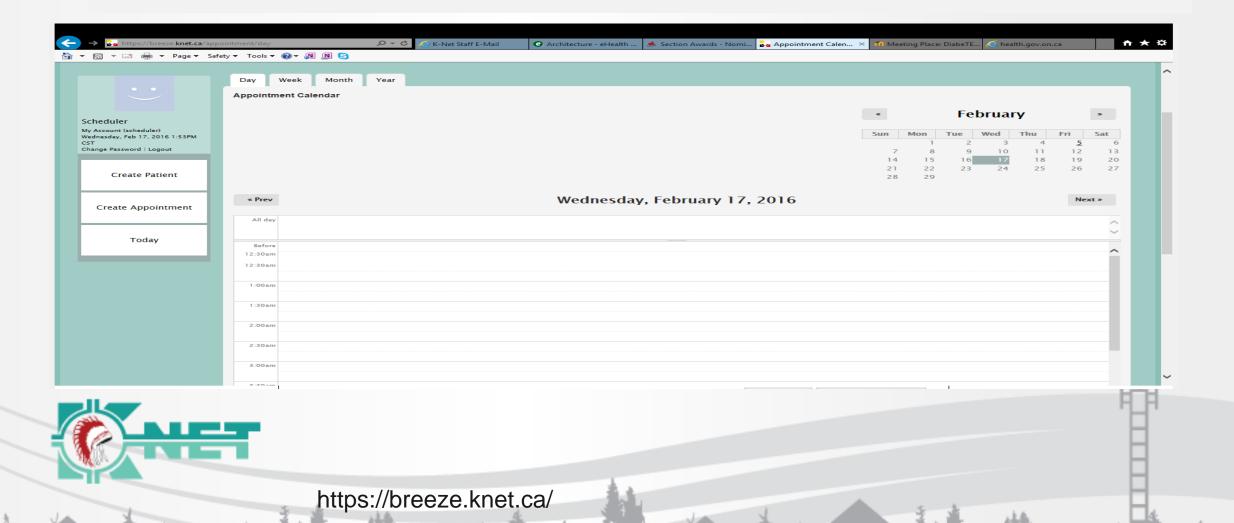
Enrol me in this Meeting Place



#### Electronic Health Records

- Currently the physicians use OSCAR as their electronic medical record
- The Sioux Lookout area is in the Menoyawin Hospital catchment area. The hospital uses Meditec
- Federal Nurses do not use either system. Conceptual PIAs are under way to determine if the Federal nurses can use these systems.
- Community health workers do not use any centralized health record

#### Health office scheduling program



#### Emergency telemedicine

- Ad-Hoc group exploring emergency telemedicine
- There is a high cost of medivacs in the Sioux Lookout area
- Looking at improving process
- Part of the solution is to research options for telemedicine in the emergency room of the health centre.

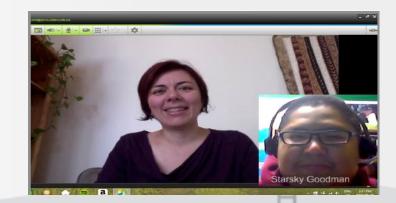


#### Virtual Health Innovations

 Virtual Maternal Addictions Aftercare Services with Shibogama First Nations, Meno-Ya-Win & Nodin Child & Family Services (pending)



 Alternative Points-of-Care Access Project with the Sandy Lake First Nation and Dr. Lisa Letkemann

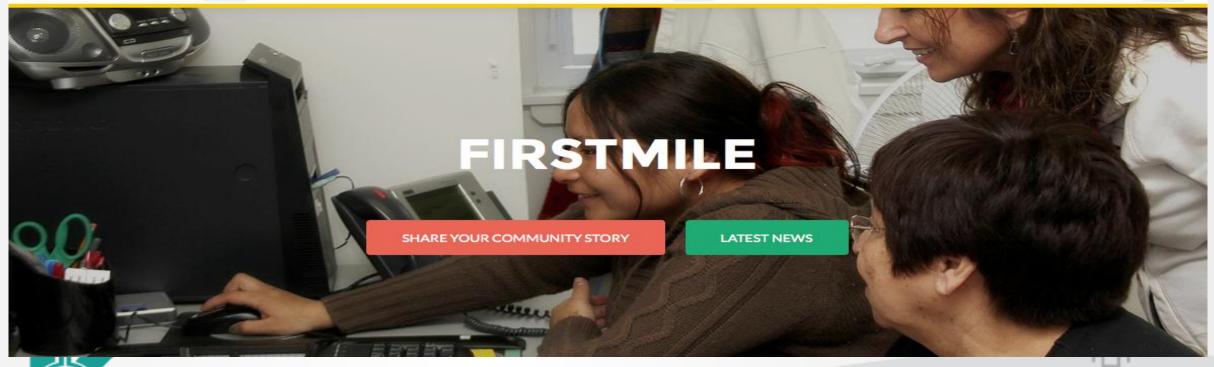




#### First mile website



Home News About FMCC Community Stories Research Online Course





## CRTC – BSO Hearings – Apr 2016





#### E - Rant



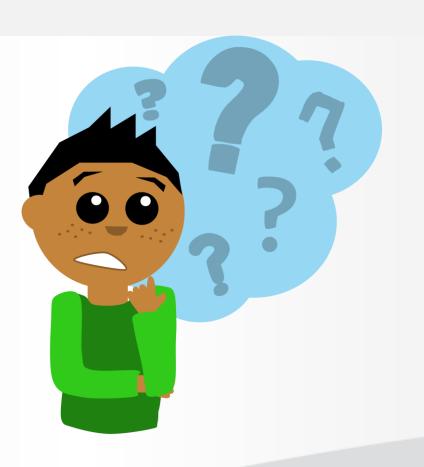
#### Next Steps

- Harness new 3G & broadband capacities
- Move beyond telemedicine service desk and negotiate service desk support for other Health Canada funded services at the First Nation health centres
- Sioux Lookout area Virtual Care Planning Group
- Collaborate and share with all First Nation and Inuit in Canada





#### Questions?





## Penny Carpenter, Knet Director pennycarpenter@knet.ca

