

Explanation of Terms and Meaning:

This Cree Glossary created by Dr. Makokis identifies key terms used in her keynote at **Omanitewak, Alberta Mentoring Partnership's annual summit.**

Omanitewak, our summit theme, means providing the best of ourselves to our community. Sharing our knowledge in everything that we do to come together with the highest level of hospitality towards others. In creating this standard for how we treat others, as we would ourselves appreciate being treated, we create balance and honour ourselves and the land we come from.

AMP chose to name the summit in Cree to honour the inherent role mentorship plays in Indigenous culture, as a way of elevating entire communities.

Nehiyaw - Cree

Comes from the word newo which means four and miyaw is the body.

This says that I am a four dimensional person.

The mental, physical, emotional and spiritual.

Nitisiyihkâson - my name is

comes from the word nitisiy -my belly button which means who I am connected to.

Niya – I, me

Iskwew - woman

Ninîhkwak- my parents

nikawiy – my mother

nohtawiy -my father

Oniyicikiskwaponihk – Saddle Lake

ochi - from

maka -but

kinokamasihk – from long lake

ni takimkawin- I am counted (I am a band member)

Iskwew - woman

wâhkômotowin.- relationship with people

wâhkôtowin - our relationship with mother earth and what she offers us. (animals, plants, birds, water beings, water, fire, air etc)

sahkihitowin- love and kindness

wiykask -sweetgrass.

Kwayaskatisiwin – honesty

Mîtos - tree

Wîycihtowin – sharing or helping one another

Paskwaw mostos – buffalo

miyo pimâtisiwin – the good life

sohkeyitamowin – strength

kisenapew asiniy - grand father

Omanitew – visitors (travellers) that arrive in your territory or your home.

Iyoki – look at these

e pastahoyek oma – you crossed a boundary. (sin)

ohcinanawaw – if you keep breaking a natural law suffering will result.

ki tapata – look at

wapahta - to see

ki petan ci – do you hear,

nitohta – listen to what is said

nistota – comes from the word nisto which means three, when we were told something important and that we should remember or learn from, nistota means that your body, mind and spirit understand what was relayed to you. That its meaning making.