

# Anishinabek Cannabis Gathering

May 25<sup>th</sup> 2019 Wahnapiatae First Nation

HOST - **Creators Choice Natural Health Solutions Medical Cannabis**

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**BACKGROUND** In recent weeks, Bimaadzwin and Creators Choice have had several discussions regarding the current position of leadership in Wahnapiatae First Nation and in Anishinabek communities in the Ontario region. These discussions focused not only on operational issues of Creators Choice, rather focused on two dominating themes: 1) **Securing support in the First Nation** from community and leadership to operate a cannabis business, and, 2) **Setting jurisdiction as the basis of support from leadership** supporting cannabis operations in First Nations.

*“Some First Nations want to review their First Nation’s inherent rights to produce and dispense cannabis and the need to focus on our own First Nations laws, and not necessarily fall under Canada and Ontario laws. Participants concluded that First Nations need to focus on their own laws and to pressure governments to secure support and recognize First Nations legal rights to governance over this issue. This can be achieved through development of by-laws, land codes, enforcement measures with funding mechanisms to support them.*

*The Anishinabek Nation (Union of Ontario Indians) supports community-driven perspective and positions on cannabis and will continue to advocate for information sharing as well as enhanced partnerships with all levels of government and organizations involved in the cannabis sector.”*  
**Anishinabek Nation Cannabis Gathering – Sudbury Ontario, March 2018**

**Creators Choice Natural Health Solutions Medical Cannabis** has taken the position that it will provide the following as its responsibilities and its opportunity in the cannabis industry:

- Safety Paramountcy as an Indigenous Operator in the Cannabis Industry
- Education on the Uses and Effects of Cannabis to All
- Response to Consumer Needs/Questions from the Cannabis User/Clients
- Transparency of its Operations to those without a Punitive Motive
- Establishing an Open Working Relationship with Wahnapiatae First Nation
- Providing both Employment and Wealth Impact Benefits to the Community
- Providing training and seeking to contribute to Quality of Life in WFN
- Open-Door to First Nation Citizens and Leaders in Wahnapiatae First Nation
- Setting the Highest Standards for First Nation Cannabis Dispensaries in First Nations throughout the Nation, Province and across the country.