
DOKIS FIRST NATION

Community Engagement Session Report

Dokis First Nation Community Engagement Session October 26, 2017

Number in Attendance: 12
Indigenous participants 12

**Participants with Lived
experience:** 0

**Organizational Encounters
with human trafficking:** 0

Types of organizations:
Dokis First Nation admin.

NORAHT Team: Rosemary
Miigwetch to Elder Beverly
Restoule for starting and
ending our day in a good
way.

Summary:

Dokis was a very welcoming community with a surprisingly high turnout. This session partly functioned as a public education event due to the presence of community members, not just service providers, and therefore included a presentation titled "Human Trafficking Overview." Some participants voiced concern that neighbouring tourists/cottagers might kidnap Dokis children. Research suggests that this seems an unlikely scenario based, perhaps, on "Hollywoodized" depictions of human trafficking. We recommend further education regarding the complexities of human trafficking and sexual exploitation including, as participants recommended, finding survivors willing to share their stories.

Participants at Dokis prioritized education and public awareness, including workshops on internet safety. Cultural concerns raised by participants included the importance of language, the need for Indigenous peoples, especially children, to learn their history, the importance of reconnecting to traditional practices, and the lack of connection between children in the community and grandmothers. Alongside cultural knowledge,

participants emphasized community vigilance and tight-knittedness as important means of prevention. Finally, participants noted plans for the community to get its own family violence shelter, which could perhaps also be used as a safe space from human trafficking.