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Tungasuvvingat Inuit

Gladue

ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED TO BEGIN YOUR HEALING JOURNEY THROUGH TUNGASUVVINGAT INUIT

WHAT IS GLADUE?

Gladue refers to a special thought judges must make before sentencing Inuit and aboriginal persons for a crime they have been found guilty of, or have plead guilty to.

A **Gladue report** is given to the judge, this document tells a story of your life and how you ended up in the courts. The judge reads the report carefully before sentencing you. He or she will take everything that happened and consider what type of help you need after **sentencing**.

Gladue **does not** mean you won't go to jail. If the crime you committed was serious enough, the judge may have no choice but to send you to jail. Even if you are going to jail, the Gladue process must be followed by the judge.

> **718.2 A court that imposes a sentence shall also take into consideration the following principle(s):**
>
> **(e) all available sanctions, other than imprisonment, that are reasonable in the circumstances and consistent with the harm done to victims or to the community should be considered for all offenders, with particular attention to the circumstances of Aboriginal offenders**

***The term *Aboriginal offenders* encompasses all Inuit as well**

HOW CAN TI HELP YOU?

TI will help you connect with programs and services that are based on Inuit values and cultural needs. Your healing plan is made specifically for you. **(*COST FREE*)**

There are too many Inuit going through court and too many Inuit in prisons. TI will support and help you so that you do not repeat crime and that you don't end up back in prison.

THE GLADUE PROCESS

HOW DO I KNOW IF I NEED A GLADUE REPORT?

There are several steps in the Gladue Process. Before interviews can begin, you will have been told by the judge that you need a Gladue letter or a Gladue report.

Gladue report: when courts are looking to sentence you. The reports have information about what happened to you.

INTERVIEWS

- In order for the Gladue team to help tell your story well, it will take 3 or 4 interviews with you.
- We break up the interviews this way so that we work at your pace. We know sharing your life story, good or bad can be stressful and hard to voice. We try our best not to push too hard, as we do not want to re-traumatize you.
- It is important for you to be prepared for the Gladue team to ask you information and details about your home community, childhood, education and relationships. If you are going through personal struggles, we will ask about such things as poverty, homelessness, mental health issues, alcohol or drug abuse.
- At the end of each interview, the Gladue team will write and make changes to your draft letter or report.
- For the last interview, you will see the finished letter or report. This is when you take a careful look and go over anything that you would like to change.
- If there are no changes to be made and you are happy with the final letter or report, a copy will be sent to your lawyer or representative and to the sentencing judge. They will read the document before your sentencing date.

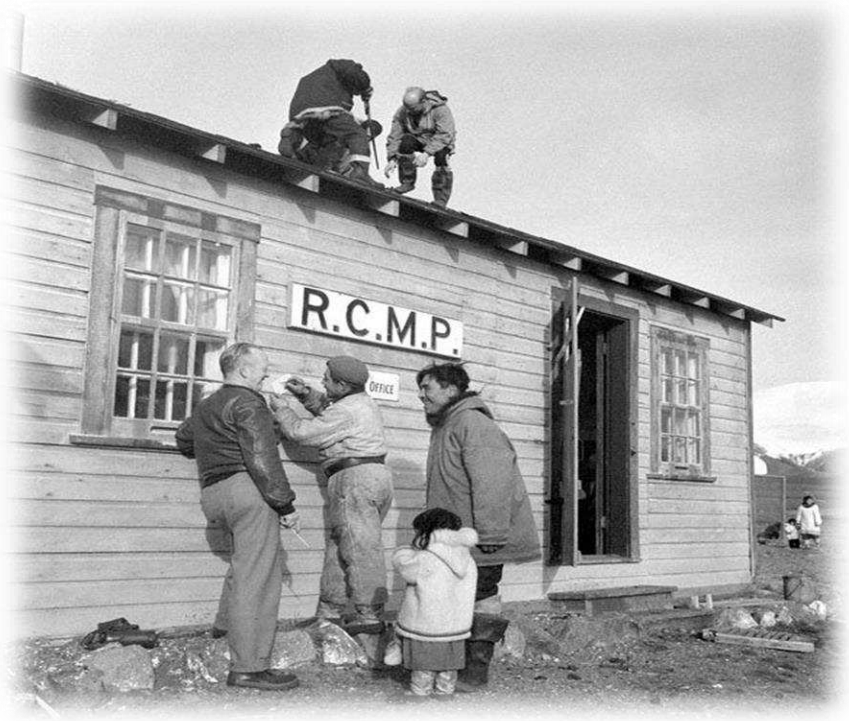
HOW IS GLADUE SENTENCING DIFFERENT FROM REGULAR COURT SENTENCING?

Regular court sentencing focuses on punishments, such as prison time. When the judge is sentencing you, he or she has no idea about your life, why you are in trouble or what kinds of help you need.

This does not help you or the justice system, it does nothing to stop you from breaking the law again in the future.

Gladue sentencing focuses on making sure your healing path is successful. Gladue will help you start healing from the suffering, hurt, pain and hard times. The goal is for you to begin living a healthy lifestyle.

A healing plan is made by you and the Gladue team. You may end up in certain counselling programs, addictions services, healing circles, or any other programs and services that meet your Inuit cultural needs.



WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN AND WHY?

WHO CAN USE GLADUE?

- **All** Inuit, First Nations and Metis can use Gladue.

WHY USE GLADUE, WHAT IS THE GOAL?

- Gladue helps you to break away from unhealthy life choices, it helps you stay out of jail.

WHEN CAN I USE GLADUE?

- You can use Gladue when a judge has found you guilty of a crime, or when you plead guilty to a crime.

WHERE DOES GLADUE TAKE PLACE?

- **Indigenous Peoples Court** (IPC) or Gladue Court happens at the 161 Elgin Street Courthouse.

WILL THIS COST MONEY?

- **NO!** TI does not charge any fees. It is absolutely free for you.

HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO LIVE IN OTTAWA TO USE GLADUE?

- It does not matter how long you have lived or stayed in Ottawa. All Inuit can use Gladue anytime, it is your right.

WHO CONTACTS ME FOR GLADUE?

- TI's Gladue Writers will contact you to set up interviews.

WHAT IS REQUIRED OF ME?

- You do not need to bring anything to your interviews with the Gladue Team.
- That you come to your interviews on time.
- We only ask you to be open, honest, and trust the process.

HOW LONG DOES THIS PROCESS TAKE?

- It can take a few weeks to a few months.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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