

SCO Justice and Fisher River visit Healing Lodge in Saskatchewan



l-r: Nancy Harasemiw, Chief David Crate, Fisher River Cree Nation, Councillor Keith Sinclair, Violet Mason, Kim Cramer, Councillor Vince Crate and Rhonda Garson stand in front of the Okimaw Ohci Healing Lodge in Saskatchewan.

(Missing in Photo are Elders Harriet Amos, Helen Cochrane and Matilda Mallett).

On February 27, 2006, Fisher River Cree Nation's Chief and Council, First Nation Healing Centre's Program Administrator, Outreach Worker, Board of Directors, and SCO's Community Justice Development Coordinator, traveled to Maple Creek, Sask., for a tour of Okimaw Ohci, — meaning *Thunder Hills* in the Cree language. Okimaw Ohci is a healing lodge for federally sentenced women located in the territory of the Nekaneet First Nation, in southern Saskatchewan.

The delegation participated in a tour of the facility, discussions with various staff, and a sharing circle with the female residents. An understanding and perspective of this current operational model will assist in exploring the expansion of the FRCN Healing Centre to provide services to provincially sentenced indigenous women.

This is just one of the areas which Fisher River and SCO's Justice Department are currently engaged in, i.e., to develop a justice strategy for the community of Fisher River. Other areas being explored are Circuit Courts, Community and Youth Justice Circles, Legal Aid, Magistrate, and expansion of the Community Participation Agreement.

For more information regarding Justice issues and other project areas visit the SCO website at www.scoinc.mb.ca Until next time, take care and continue to be strong for the future generations to come.