

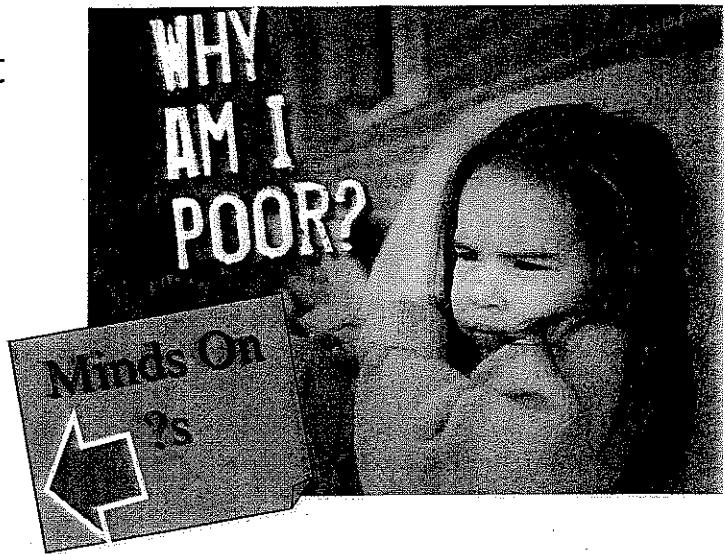
Learning goal... increase knowledge of social conditions for First Nations, Métis and Inuit in Canada today.

Aboriginal Health & Well Being

A Look at the Conditions of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Communities in Canada

Why are some First Nations, Métis and Inuit families poor?

1. Generally speaking why are any people poor?



Class brainstormed...

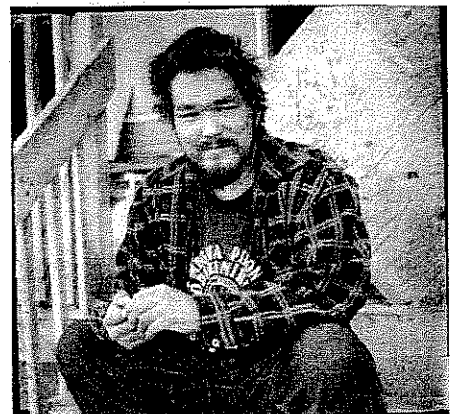
- underemployment / low paying jobs
- unemployment
- single parent households
- households where parents have less education/training
- disabilities

2. Specifically, why do you think many First Nations, Métis and Inuit families are poor?

- Indian Act → less land "ownership" - no capital for business loans
→ oppression reserves have fewer opportunities
- Education → Residential schools legacy
- Racism, discrimination
- Parents are on average younger, typically lower levels education
Statistically higher rate of single parents

Mapping the conditions of First Nations Communities

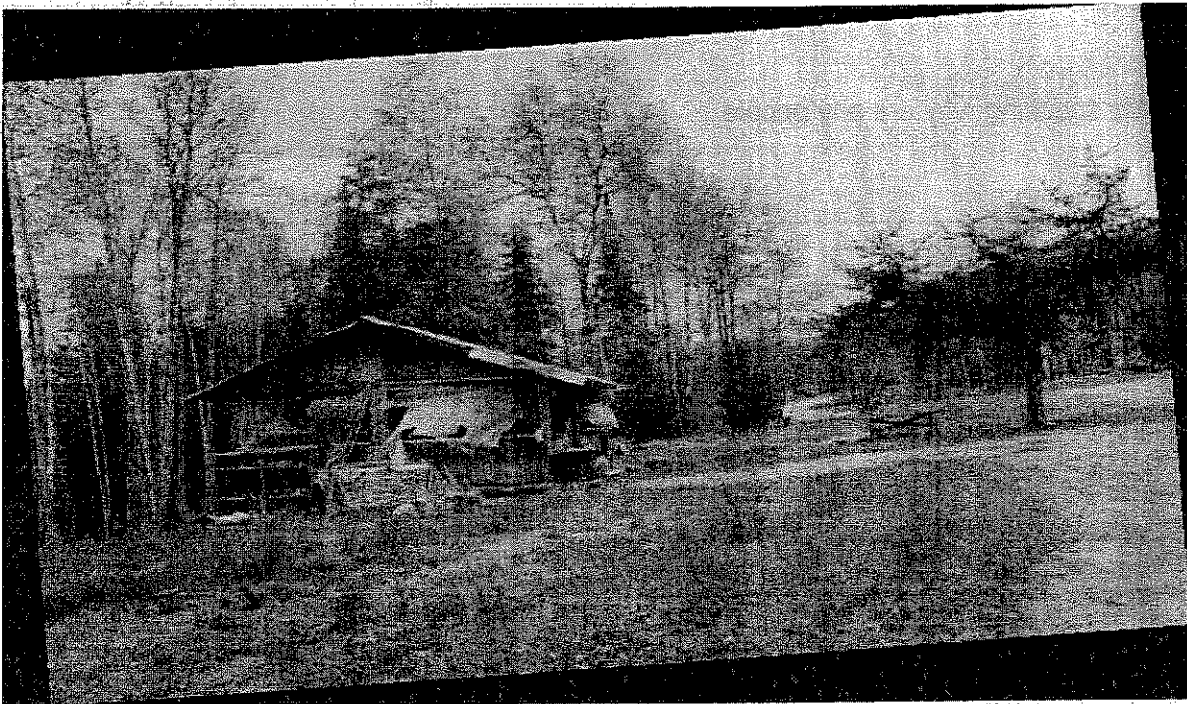
- ▶ As of 2011 there were just over 1,400,685 (4.3%) Aboriginal Canadians



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- ▶ That 4.3% of Aboriginal Canadians is made up of...
 - First Nations (60.7 %)
 - Métis (32.3 %)
 - Inuit (4.2 %)

- ▶ In Canada the Aboriginal population is on the rise, between 2006 and 2011 it grew 20 % compared to 5.2 % for the rest of Canada.



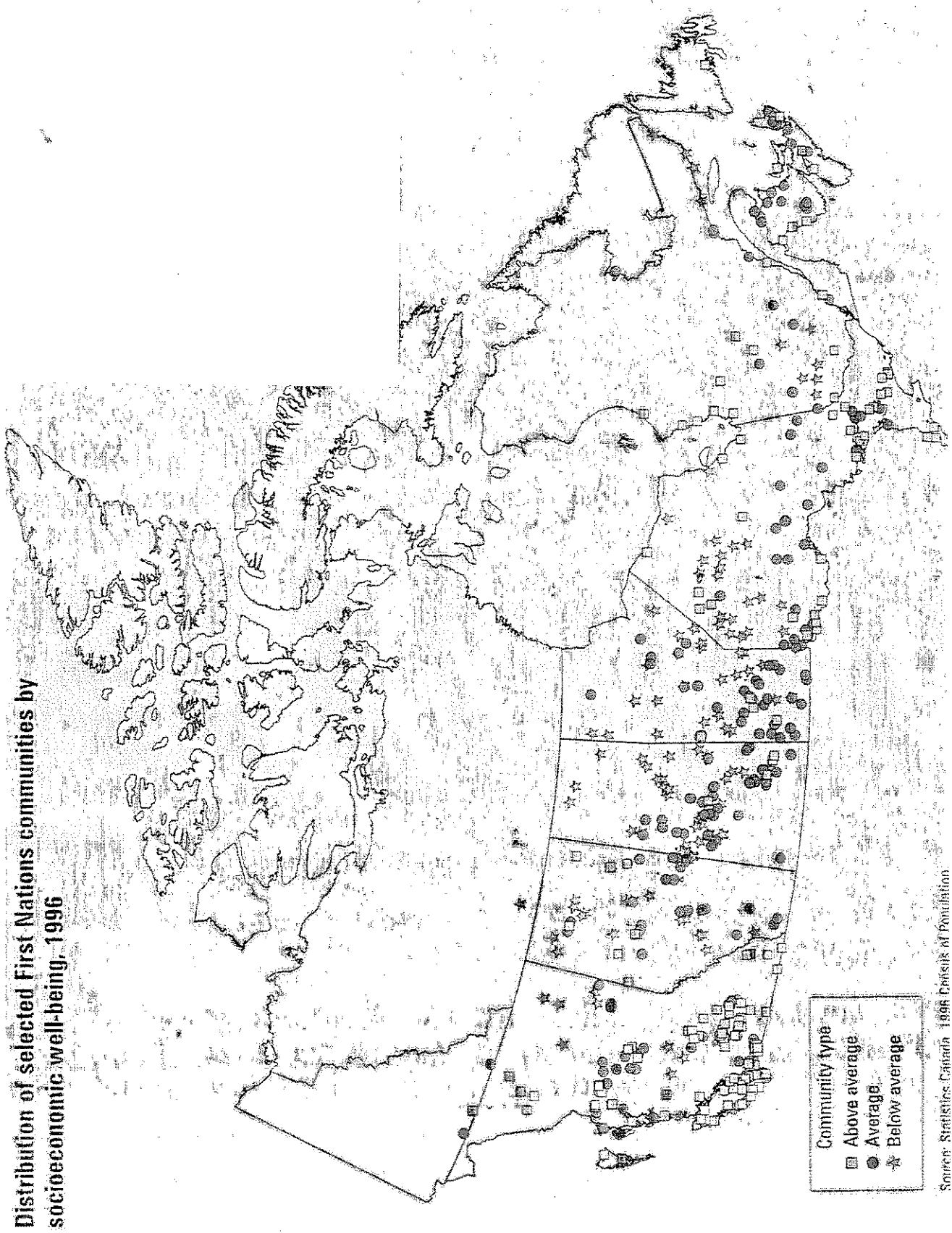
- ▶ The majority of Registered Indians in Canada live in approximately 900 small First Nations Communities.
 - Nearly all have a substantially lower than average standard of living than the average Canadian community - the best off First Nations communities compare with the worst off areas of non-Aboriginal Canada

- ▶ 23 % were considered above average communities, most were clustered in Quebec, mid and southern Ontario, & the southern and coastal areas of British Columbia ■

- ▶ 41 % were considered average, found in the Maritimes, southern Manitoba and southern Saskatchewan ★

- ▶ 32 % were considered below average and these were situated in mid Quebec, north western Ontario, northern Manitoba and Saskatchewan and Alberta ●

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Source: Statistics Canada 1996 Census of Population.

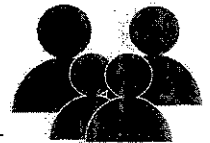
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Stats	Worst off non Aboriginal regions	Best off First Nations communities	Below Average	Average	Below Average
% with less than grade 9 education	20	12	15	20	44
% employed	57	58	50	42	35
# persons per room in homes	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.9	1.3
average annual income	18,900	18,200	16,000	11,000	10,000

FYI The average parental income for Fenelon Falls Secondary is 44,700

What is a LICO?

DYK Poverty LICOS are 24,000 for a family of 4 in Fenelon or 36,000 a family of 4 in Toronto



LICO Low Income Cut off - the rate of income or level at which a person or family is considered to be living in poverty - if you are below that LICO rate, whatever it is

So... What do we know so far?

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#1 Comparatively Speaking, Just How Bad is it?

According to the 2012 resource Why Am I Poor...

- ▶ the current rates of overall child poverty in Canada are 1.5 in 10] 2002-03 25% FN children on reserve poverty vs 16% other Cdn children
 - ▶ the current rates of Aboriginal child poverty in Canada are 1 in 4
 - ▶ the United Nations rank Canada's standard of living overall as high - one of the best in the world
 - ▶ the UN rank Canada's standard of living for Aboriginal people 78th in the world
-
- ▶ the cost of lost revenue based on low income tax and social assistance costs is 7.5 billion \$s in 1996 → expected to grow to 11 billion by 2016
 - ▶ the difference between the rates of poverty of for First Nations children living off reserve versus non Aboriginal children is twice as likely 49% vs 18%
 - ▶ the difference between the rates of poverty of for First Nations children living in big cities versus non Aboriginal children is 57% versus 21%

#2 Employment

Go to http://www.beststart.org/resources/anti_poverty/pdf/WhyAmIPoor.pdf find pages 8 & 17 of this pdf

Go to <http://hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/pubs/aborig-autoch/2009-stats-profil/index-eng.php> and answer the following questions...

- ▶ In 2006, comparatively speaking, the unemployment rates on reserves were 4 x higher than other Cdn's for FN's people] 2006 unemployment rate for NonAboriginals was 5.2% ; 13% for FN off reserve;

- ▶ First Nations children are at a higher risk of living with less than 50% of the average median income of Canadians or less?] 22.1% FN on reserve

- ▶ The employment rate for Registered Indians on-reserve compares to the general Canadian rate 37.4% vs. 61.7%

- ▶ Between ~~1996~~ 2001 figures on-reserve Registered Indians labour force participation, employment rates and unemployment rates were 37.4% vs. 27.7%

- ▶ for the rest of Canada 7.3%

- ▶ The median annual income for Registered Indians on-reserve is less than 1/2 that of the general Canadian population 2016 - 11,000; off reserve is 17,000] average non-ab income 26000

As of 2007 43% aboriginal pop over 15 yrs. old unemployed or not in work force

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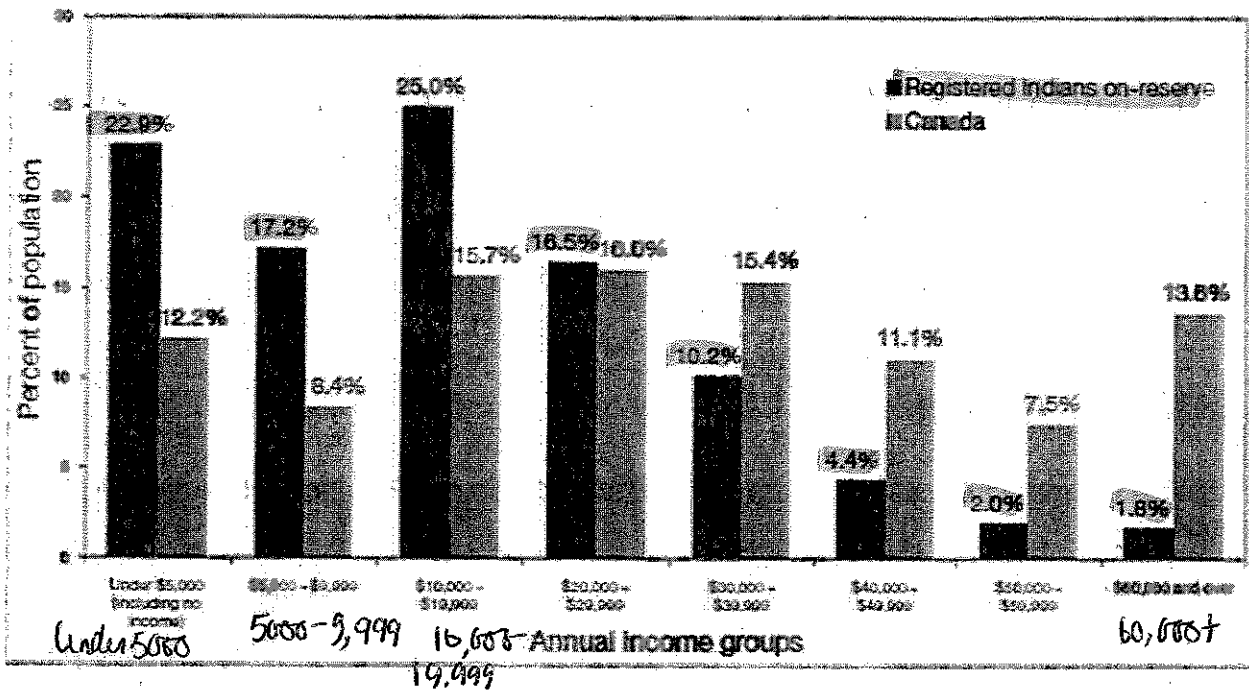
- ▶ Given equal education and experience First Nations people have the highest unemployment rates among Canada's visible minorities

Go to <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/as-sa/97-559/table/t7-eng.cfm>

- 2006 ▶ On reserve statistics compare to off reserve statistics for Registered Indians
- Employment on - 51.9% off 64.8%; Unemployment 23.1% vs 13.1% off

Annual Income Brackets

Figure 6. Annual Income Groups for Registered Indians' On-reserve and Canada², 25 to 64 Years, 2000



- ▶ The unemployment rates are improving but it is still 3 xs higher
- ▶ Unemployment rates dropped 4.9% for FN in 2001 but dropped 7% for non FN

What does this chart tell us?	Non Aboriginal Man Employed	Aboriginal Man Employed	Non Aboriginal Woman Employed	Aboriginal Woman Employed
Not finished high school	41%	32%	62%	42%
University Graduate	78%	84%	82%	86%

- FNs are overrepresented in mining, construction, and public administration
- FNs are underrepresented in management, professional, scientific, tech, finance & insurance

being non aboriginal means you can get away with lower education a little more easily; also Aboriginal people with University degree more likely to be using that via employment education matters

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#3 Housing

Go to <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/story/2011/11/24/f-first-nations-infrastructure.html> and read the article and answer the questions

▶ Attawapiskat housing conditions are rough, appalling, uninsulated sheds, wood frame tents

▶ 25% percentage of First Nations communities have unsafe drinking water

▶ 1000s First Nations people are currently living without indoor plumbing
Thousands

▶ Chief Shawn Atleo thinks that these conditions are allowed to continue because

out of sight, out of mind

▶ Some of the other hazards these communities face connected to housing include not mould
overcrowding, no plumbing, no reliable power, poor infrastructure

Go to <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/story/2011/11/25/f-native-housing.html>

▶ 41.5% percentage of homes on reserves require major repairs

▶ 7% of the average Canadian home require major repairs

▶ The overcrowding rates on reserve compared to the average Canadian rate are

6x greater on reserve than off; as many as 18-21 people living in one small dwelling

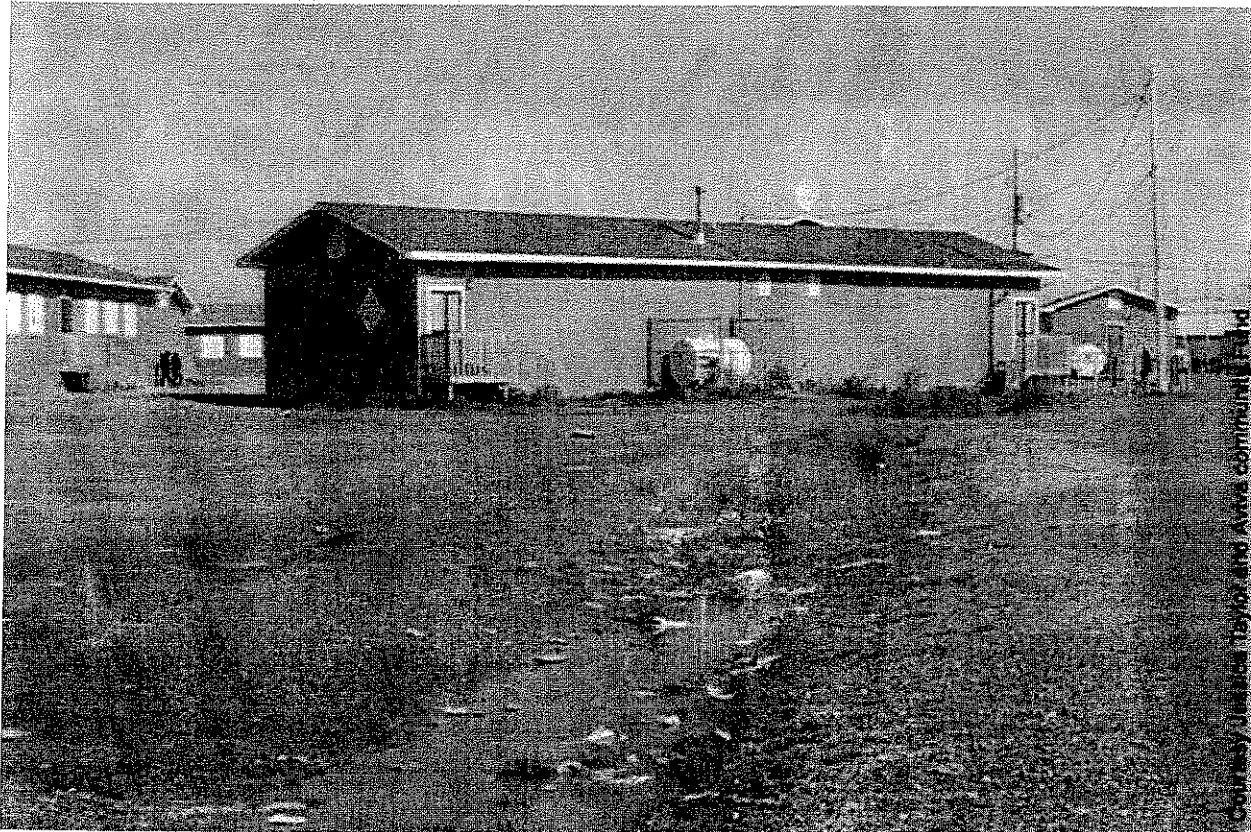
roads, schools, community resources

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Go to http://www.beststart.org/resources/anti_poverty/pdf/WhyAmIPoor.pdf

- ▶ 21-22% (vs. 14% for non) of Aboriginal Canadian families across Canada have core housing needs (costs more than 30% of their income)?
- ▶ Off reserve FN more than 2x rate 22% Aboriginals live in housing that is need of major repair

15% overall for Aboriginal across Canada



Courtesy Justice Taylor and Anna Community Centre

#4 Education

Go to http://www.beststart.org/resources/anti_poverty/pdf/WhyAmIPoor.pdf page 16 to 18

- ▶ 24% percentage of non Aboriginals hold a University degree? 25-64 yrs old
- ▶ 4.3% percentage of on reserve Aboriginals do? 9.2% percentage of off reserve Aboriginals do?
- ▶ 15% ~~46%~~ percentage of non Aboriginal Canadians have less than a high school diploma?
- ▶ this compares to 40% ~~15.7%~~ First Nations Canadians?
- ▶ First Nations, Métis and Inuit cultures taught in schools across Canada _____
devaluing of their culture & identity
are taught ~~with~~ what about their cultures?

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- ▶ 70% percentage of FN children felt that they were unwelcome?
- ▶ 100% percentage of FN children experienced racism at school?
- ▶ Aboriginal school funding has been capped since 1996

Go to <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/story/2011/11/24/f-first-nations-infrastructure.html>

- ▶ The school conditions in many Aboriginal communities are below standard, portables, mould problems, all the same problems connected to housing & poor infrastructure.

#5 Health & Life Expectancy

Go to http://www.beststart.org/resources/anti_poverty/pdf/WhyAmIPoor.pdf page 21

- ▶ These aspects of poverty and housing that affect health include food insecurity, substandard housing, poor water quality
- ▶ 5.2% is the infant mortality rate in Canada; it is 7.2% on reserve; and off reserve for Aboriginal people it is 7.2%

- ▶ mold & mildew, crib safety, smoking, no breast feeding all contribute to higher rates of SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) Aboriginal babies

more common among younger moms

- ▶ Food security is connected to health because hungry children have poorer immune systems, have anemia, stomach aches, headaches, low self-esteem, lack of concentration, shame, moodiness, behavioural issues

FN babies 3x5 more likely to die 1-12 months of age

- ▶ The rates of respiratory conditions include bronchitis & respiratory infections

3.6% on reserve rate bronchitis vs. 1.4% other pop.

- ▶ Poverty is connected to mental health because behaviour issues, depression, emotional problems, family dysfunction

Go to http://hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/diseases-maladies/2005-01_health-sante_indicat-eng.php#potential

- ▶ The life expectancy rates for Non Aboriginal versus Aboriginal Canadians are In 2000 76.6 females, 68.9 ; 5.5 years less for ♀ & 8.1 years less for ♂

- ▶ The Potential Years of Life Lost rates (unintentional injury and or suicide) are

2000
suicide accounted for 1,079.91 PYLL per 100,000 pop FN 3x5 Cndn rate
accidents " " 2,571.7 PYLL per 100,000 pop FN 4.5x5 Cndn rate

FN on reserve heart 72.7 vs 52.1 \approx Cndn
 " " " Stroke 71.5 vs. 34.2 \approx Cndn

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Additional Health Concerns include...

- ▶ lower health care standards
- ▶ Diabetes rates are 3 to 5 x's higher
- ▶ More than 1/2 First Nations children are overweight - 22.3 % overweight and 36.2 % obese
- ▶ HIV AIDs annual # stabilized but growing over recent years in aboriginal communities from 1 % in 1990 to 7.2 % in 2001
- ▶ Tuberculosis rates 8-10 x's higher

Now what do we know?

- life is harder statistically on reserve than off for FN people
- hardly any FNs in highest salary 60,000+ 1.5% vs 13.6%
- education makes a difference, particularly for FN people

except for big cities where it is slightly harder for both FN & non FN 57% & 21% children in poverty