### Cree Justice Symposium

Bringing Cree Justice to Life

Cree Nation of Nemaska





Justice is the concept of moral rightness based on ethics, nationality, law, natural law, fairness, and equity. A conception of justice is one of the key features of society.



# Key Criminal Justice issues affecting our community.

#### ■ LEGAL SYSTEM

- Disorganized legal assistance
- Leniency on aboriginal offenders
- Lack of parental involvement in youth cases

#### LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Lack of Police patrol at nights
- Reaction time of Police is too slow.

#### SOCIAL ISSUES

- Social isolation
- Gang related offences
- Drug and alcohol abuse and addictions
- Dependency
- Social Services on-call personnel are unreachable at times
- Inadequate parental involvement in lives of youth
- No accountability or real consequences

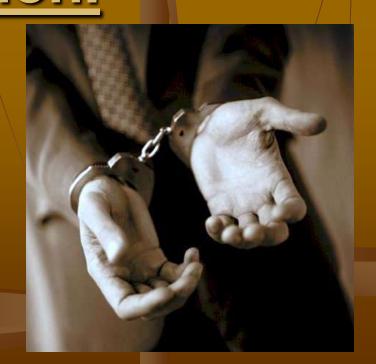
#### OUTSIDE INFLUENCES

- Youth desensitized by violence on television
- Glamorization of crime in media



# Our community's suggestions as to what can be done to reduce crime and victimization.





#### LEGAL SYSTEM

- Local parole officers
- Harsher sentences for domestic crimes

#### EDUCATION

- Reports from youth based entities such as schools, youth centers, etc. on troubled youths
- Teaching of 7 Natural Laws in the schools (Honesty, Love, Respect, Truth, Courage, Wisdom, Humility)
- Disciplinary actions. The youth must be shown to take responsibility for their actions by accepting the consequences. However, it must start with the adults. Adults also need to be disciplined just as the youth are. Youth are at the rebellious stage in their life, so when they see adults getting away with wrong doings, while they (youth) get punished, it gives them more reason to rebel.

#### LAW ENFORCEMENT

 Enforcement of Community By-laws such as the Alcohol By-law and the Curfew by-law



#### SOCIAL ISSUES

- A mentorship program in the community to assist alcoholics on their road to recovery
- Aftercare programs such as Alcoholics Anonymous meetings. The problem lies not only with the alcoholics but also with the recovering alcoholics. Recovering alcoholics coming back from treatment centers require continued support from the community
- Family support groups. A healthy family relationship between the parent and the child is very important because the parents are the child's first educators. It is imperative to maintain the lines of communication open throughout the childhood.
- Residential School Generation needs to come to terms with their traumatic experiences, which seem to have negative effects on the younger generations.

- Workshops regarding the understanding of youth behaviour. People need to see that when the youth act out, it is a language. It is the youth's way of telling the adults that they do not feel loved, understood, trusted, and respected. The high crime rate is a reaction to the negligence and a cry for help.
- Teach community members to be more independent. The members must learn to assume responsibility for themselves. While accepting assistance from others they need to help themselves as well in order to solve their problems.

What assets (people, money, programs, etc.) can your community invest into this crime preventions/reduction process for the benefit of all Cree people.

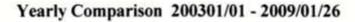
- Youth Protection Awareness
- Cooperation between schools, parents, youth centers, and other similar youth based institutions.
- Street worker program on an annual basis rather than seasonal. (Frontline workers more in tune with the goings on, on the street.)
- Block Parenting Program
- Local Vocational Programs
- Recognition Programs
- Need more social workers

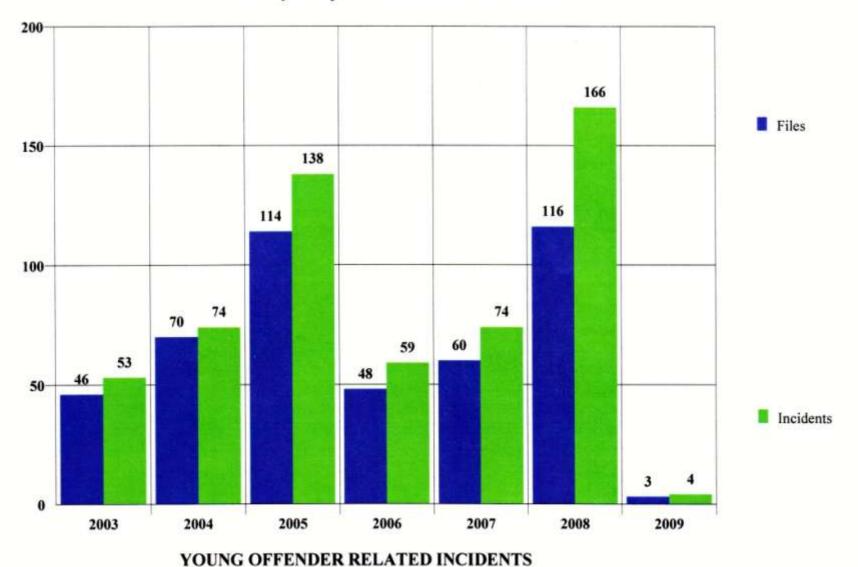
- Anonymous call centers to provide information to the Police
- More youth programs
- Traditional Programs
- Healthy lifestyle workshops
- Proper disciplinary actions to students, employees, ect.
- Need proper role models
- Big Brother/Big Sister Programs

- A rehabilitation program where aboriginal criminals are not locked inside but taken out onto the land where they would practice our traditional lifestyles with supervision where they would be taught the old ways and this would instill the purpose of the individual. As provider, caretaker, teacher, and role model the program would give purpose back to the individual to rebuild the pride of being Native.
- Alternate sentences for summary convictions (volunteer work, therapy, mandatory participation in programs, ect.)
- A pre-integration program for newly released criminals.

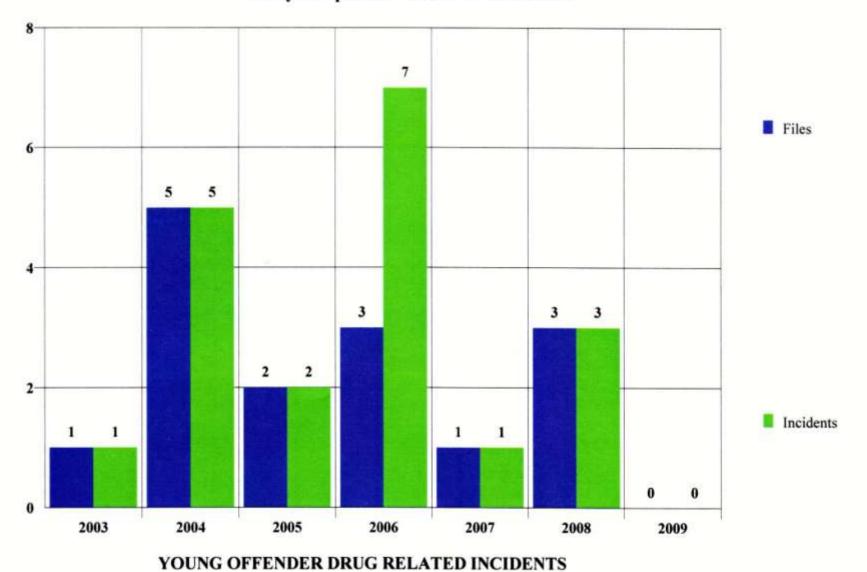
## Nemaska Statistics



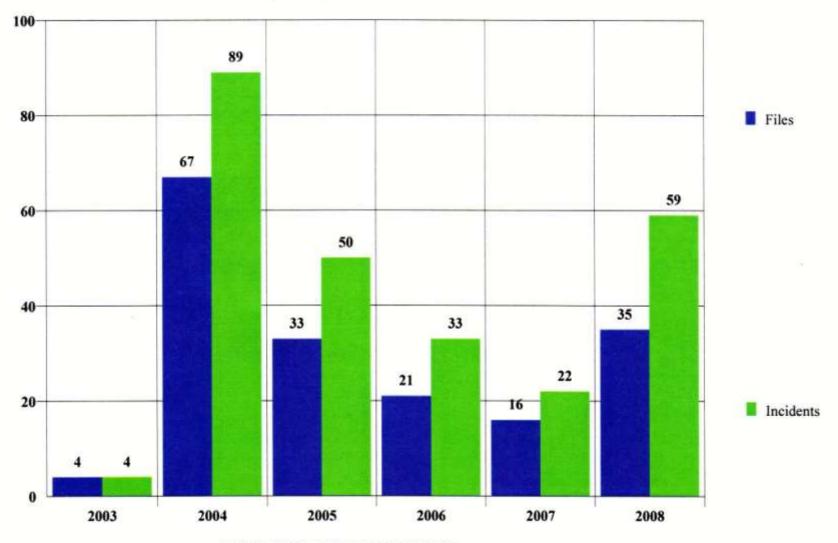






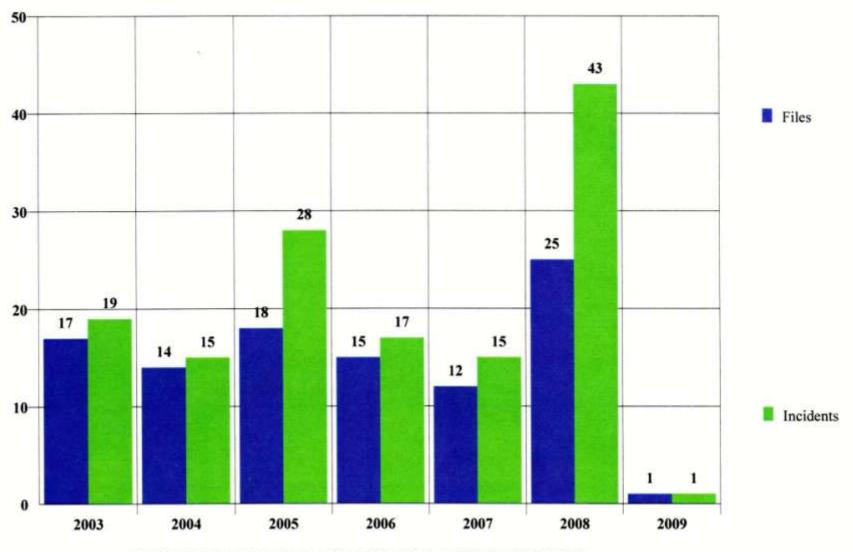


#### Yearly Comparison 200301/01 - 2009/01/26



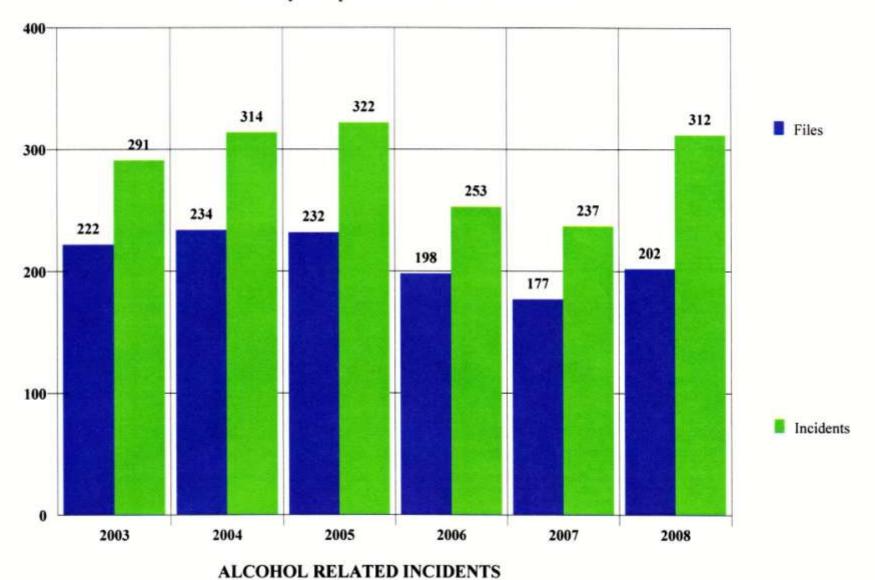
DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS

#### Yearly Comparison 200301/01 - 2009/01/26



YOUNG OFFENDER ALCOHOL RELATED INCIDENTS

#### Yearly Comparison 200301/01 - 2009/01/26



In conclusion we feel that we need to address these situations head on using the legal system, law enforcement, education system and societal structure to our advantage to make the necessary changes to ensure that our community will be safe for our people.