



Karine Awashish

Social Economy Advisor



Karine Awashish is a Native of the Atikamekw Community of Opitciwan.

She holds a Master's degree in Leisure, Culture and Tourism (earned from UQTR), and a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration (earned from UQAM), and she brings over 15 years of experience to the social, cultural and economic development of the First Nations in Quebec.

Her graduate's thesis, entitled « L'économie sociale en contexte autochtone : la création d'une coopérative d'artisanat atikamekw » (*Social Economy in an Aboriginal Context: the creation of an Atikamekw Arts and Crafts Cooperative*) investigated a model of sociocultural and economic model adapted to the specific characteristics and cultural specificities of her nation.

Committed to community-based entrepreneurship, she co-founds the « Coop Nitaskinan » Solidarity Cooperative, in 2015. Her involvement in various cultural and social initiatives will enable her to combine two personal and professional goals she feels strongly about: the dissemination and the enhancement of First Nation cultural identity, and the development of young people.

As a Social Economy Advisor for the past five years, Karine is committed to developing and promoting this cooperative model among Quebec's First Nations. She currently coordinates the Table on First Nations Social Economy.

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