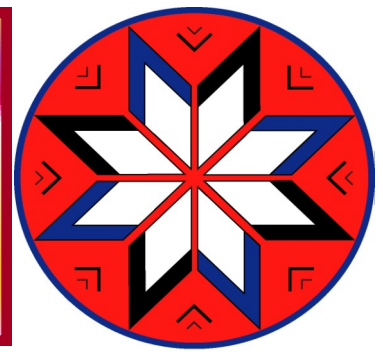


MI'KMAQ - NOVA SCOTIA - CANADA

# TRIPARTITE FORUM AKNUTMAQN



Mi'kmaq • Nova Scotia • Canada  
TRIPARTITE FORUM

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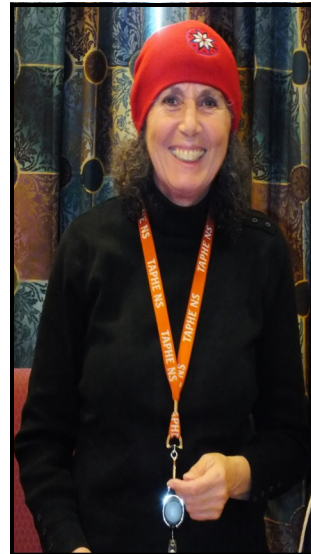
## SHARING A STORY ... OR TWO

Farida Gabbani brought enthusiasm and energy to the Tripartite Forum that can never be matched. Her involvement and expertise in sports and fitness made her a valuable member and co-chair of the Sports and Recreation working committee for nearly a decade.

On October 26, 2012, Farida joined her fellow committee members for her final meeting as co-chair and was then treated to a "surprise" party. The following evening, she was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Mi'kmaq Sport Council of Nova Scotia.

Only a few days later, on October 31, Farida's career came to a rewarding end as she joined the relaxing ranks of retirement. The Tripartite Forum would like to congratulate Farida on a wonderful career and thank her for the years of active work with the Sports and Recreation committee.

Cheers!



(Above) Farida Gabbani at her 'surprise' party.

(Below) Ernest Walker at his gathering.



When the Tripartite Forum was just an idea, Ernest Walker was there. Fifteen years later when the Forum celebrated its anniversary, Ernest Walker was still there. Throughout those years, Ernest worked with the Forum as a committee member, a co-chair, and eventually the deputy minister and CEO of the Nova Scotia Office of Aboriginal Affairs (NSOAA).

While he enjoyed several roles, the most ideal word to describe Ernest Walker is *friend*.

On November 30, 2012, members of The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq, NSOAA and the Tripartite Forum attended a gathering at the Millbrook Community Hall to congratulate and thank Ernest for his work and commitment to working with Mi'kmaq as he moves from NSOAA to the NS Department of Agriculture. Feel free to visit any time since you're now local, nitap!

## RNS CONFERENCE

Recreation Nova Scotia's welcomed a Mi'kmaq delegation to its 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Trade Show last October 2012 in Truro, NS. The Tripartite Forum Sports and Recreation Committee, with Project Fund support, sent 17 participants with a goal of increasing Mi'kmaw representation at future conferences while continuing to build partnerships across Mi'kma'ki.

Glenn Knockwood of the Mi'kmaq Native Friendship Centre provided a keynote address while entertainment was performed by A Tribe Called Mi'kmaq and Josee Bourgeois. Sports and Recreation Committee members Tex Marshall and Colin Bernard joined Gerald Gloade and Levi Denny for a panel discussion on recreation in Mi'kmaw culture.

-Matthew Pryde,  
Sports and Recreation Committee

## MARSHALL INQUIRY PROJECT

The Marshall Inquiry To date, sessions were held Recommendations in Membertou, Potlotek and Evaluation project focuses Waycobah. Upcoming on a community consultation sessions include Millbrook approach to evaluating the on January 22, Halifax on outcomes from and impacts January 29, Acadia First of the 82 recommendations Nation on January 30, and in the *Report of Royal Indian Brook on February 5, Commission on the Donald 2013.*

*Marshall Junior Prosecution (the Marshall Inquiry)*, paying particular attention to the eleven recommendations (20 -30) under the heading 'Nova Scotia Micmac and the Criminal Justice System'.

The project's goals are to develop a thorough picture of the impact of the recommendations, and to identify successes and gaps from the perspectives of Mi'kmaw community members.

For more information on the Marshall Inquiry Evaluation project, please contact project lead Paula Marshall at (902) 379-2042 or pmarshall@mlsn.ca or Dr. Jane McMillan at ljmcmill@stfx.ca. For more information on dates and locations of the public forums, please contact Barry Bernard at (902) 379-2042 or bbernard@mlsn.ca.

## PROJECT FUND UPDATE

The Project Fund Committee met on January 8, 2013, in Membertou to review current projects and discuss guideline amendments for the 2013-14 fiscal year. The amended guidelines will be available on the Tripartite Forum website in the near future.

No further funding applications were submitted for the 2012-13 fiscal year. The remaining budget is \$384.01.

The deadline for new submissions is Friday, March 1, 2013, with the next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 26, 2013. A location and venue have not been confirmed yet.

For more information on the Project Fund, please contact Robyn Crowe, Project Fund Manager, at robyn@tripartiteforum.com or (902) 895-6385.

## WELCOME NEW CHIEF

The Tripartite Forum welcomes Chief Rufus Copage to its Officials and Executive Committee. He was elected as Indian Brook's Chief in November 2012.

The Forum would like to thank outgoing Chief, Jerry Sack, for his years of work with Tripartite.

It's a brand new year and the Forum is eager to work with the new Chief. Welcome, Chief Rufus Copage!

# 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ABORIGINAL SPORTS SUMMIT

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Nova Scotia Aboriginal Sports Summit took place October 26-28 in Dartmouth. The Summit's Awards Banquet was held that Saturday evening at the Park Place Ramada, and was hosted by Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey, Tripartite Forum Sport and Recreation Committee, and the Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness.

Athlete representatives from 13 Mi'kmaq communities in Nova Scotia attended the three-day event to learn how to access sport & recreation programs for their own communities.

Tex Marshall, Aboriginal Sports Consultant for Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey, and organizer of the summit, said he was grateful for the continued support from all partners and the First Nation communities across the province.

"Our athletes and coaches continue to raise the bar each year," said Marshall. "When we all come together for the love of the sport, great things happen."

The event's awards banquet honoured male and female coaches and athletes of the year.

The banquet opened with a welcoming address by Farida Gabbani from the Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness. The banquet's keynote speaker, author Jason Peters of Saint John, New Brunswick (Glooscap First Nation), addressed the crowd and held a signing of his book "Aboriginal Sport Heroes: Atlantic Canada."

Leon Knockwood of Indian Brook First Nation, and Lindsey Denny of Pictou Landing First Nation were named Male and Female Athletes of the Year. In the coaching category, Levi Denny of Eskasoni First Nation was recognized as Male Coach of the Year, and Janean Marshall of Eskasoni First Nation was awarded Female Coach of the Year.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Farida Gabbani in recognition of her long-time dedication and outstanding contributions to Aboriginal sport in Nova Scotia.

Individual communities also had the chance to honour athletes from their own communities with special awards. Paqtnkek First Nation recognized Cherise Basque and Raheem Johnson for their athletic abilities and sportsmanship. From Potlotek First Nation, Kent Denny was recognized with an athlete award, and Misel Basque was recognized with a coach award. Caroline Sylvester and Stephanie Gould were recognized for their athletic accomplishments and sportsmanship by Membertou First Nation.

Thanks go out to this year's organizers, partners, sponsors and volunteers for their support, hard work and dedication in making this year's summit another resounding success.

Congratulations to this year's award winners and nominees on a job well done. You make your family, teams, friends and communities very proud!

-Meghan Finney,  
Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey



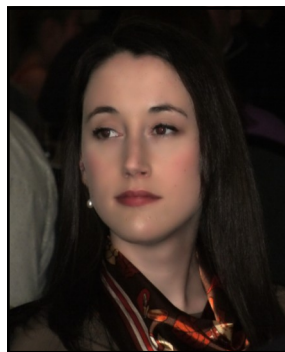
(Left) Keynote speaker Jason Peters.



(Right) Head table with special guests and summit organizers.



(Left) Award winners Farida, Janean, Lindsey and Levi.



(Right) Meghan Finney.

## THANKS, CANDY!

The Tripartite Forum will miss former Education Committee co-chair Candy Palmater who has moved on from the Department of Education to focus on her comedy career and *The Candy Show*.

We'll sure miss you at meetings and at the AGA, girl! Stop by and visit us sometime or maybe we'll see you at the show!

# UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

## JANUARY

- Marshall Inquiry public forum on January 22 at the Mi'kmaq Native Friendship Centre in Halifax at 5:00 p.m.
- Marshall Inquiry public forum on January 29 at the Community Hall in Millbrook at 6:00 p.m.
- Marshall Inquiry public forum on January 30 at Acadia First Nation band office in Yarmouth at 6:00 p.m.
- Marshall Inquiry public forum on January 31 at the band office in Bear River at 6:00 p.m.

## FEBRUARY

- Marshall Inquiry public forum on Tuesday, February 5, in Indian Brook.
- Culture and Heritage Committee meeting on February 13 in Millbrook.
- Education Committee meeting on February 14 in Eskasoni.
- Marshall Inquiry public forum **tentatively** on February 19 in Pictou Landing.
- Steering Committee meeting on February 22 in Membertou.
- Economic Development on February 26 in Membertou.

## MARCH

- Project Fund applications for 2013-14 fiscal year due on March 1.
- Project Fund Committee meeting on March 26.
- Office closed on Friday, March 29, and Monday, April 1, for Good Friday and Easter Monday.
- Annual Report write-ups due on Thursday, March 28, at the end of the day. Financial reports are due at the end of April.

All Tripartite Forum Working Committee meetings are open to the public. If you wish to attend and/or have a topic added to the agenda, contact Denise and/or Sam. All meetings begin at 10:00 a.m. unless otherwise specified. For more information, please visit the Tripartite Forum website calendar at [www.tripartiteforum.com/calendar](http://www.tripartiteforum.com/calendar). All guests must RSVP with either Denise or Sam.

Please contact Administrators, Samantha or Denise, to confirm location and date. They can be reached at [sam@tripartiteforum.com](mailto:sam@tripartiteforum.com) and [dgloade@tripartiteforum.com](mailto:dgloade@tripartiteforum.com) or by calling (902) 895-6385.

The Mi'kmaq - Nova Scotia - Canada Tripartite Forum Aknutmaq is a summary of the Tripartite activities for distribution to the committees. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact:

Adam Gould  
Communications Officer  
[adam@tripartiteforum.com](mailto:adam@tripartiteforum.com)

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