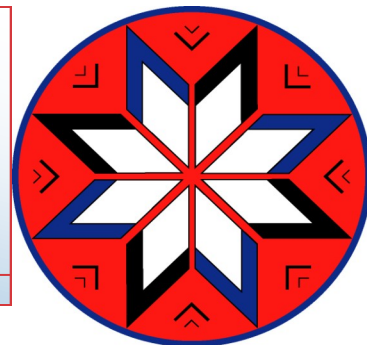


Tripartite Forum Aknutmaq



Mi'kmaq • Nova Scotia • Canada
TRIPARTITE FORUM

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Spring 2011

Bedford Barrens Petroglyphs Site Protection

The Tripartite Forum Culture & Heritage Committee recently completed a project entitled *Development of Site Protection and Presentation Options for the Bedford Barrens Petroglyphs*. The purpose of the project was to provide a summary of best practices for preserving and presenting petroglyphs using examples of such work in various parts of the world. The study provided options specific to the Bedford Barrens Petroglyphs, based on a review of the physical and cultural environment. Ian Wainwright, a conservation specialist with 37-years of experience in the field, both nationally and internationally, completed the study for the Tripartite Forum. On March 9, 2011, the study and options were presented to the Tripartite Officials Committee, which endorsed the design and construction of a



Mi'kmaw petroglyphs photographed by Ian Wainwright.

boardwalk, including a railing, beside the petroglyphs site. The design would ensure clear and unobstructed views of the petroglyphs at different visitor viewing heights. The next steps on this project

involve consulting with partnering organizations to move forward on implementation of this approach.

- David Burton

NAAF Blueprint for the Future • Halifax

Members of the Tripartite Forum Secretariat, Robyn Siteman and Adam Gould, participated in the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation *Blueprint for the Future* trade show and career fair on Tuesday, May 3, 2011, at the World Trade & Convention Centre in Halifax, NS. The event

attracted First Nations youth from across Atlantic Canada and as far away as Quebec who were looking for future career and educational opportunities. In addition to having opportunities to meet and talk with some of Canada's best industry and academic institutions, youth enjoyed entertainment and

words of encouragement provided by actor Glen Gould, comedian Candy Palmater, hip-hop artist Joey Stylez, and traditional dancer and musician Thomas Clair. The event was a great opportunity for organizations to meet face-to-face with First Nations youth and share in learning.

Education Committee Updates

The committee met in Paqtnkek on February 11, 2011, with two goals in mind: the first being the revitalization of the committee; and second, to draft a renewed work plan. The following priority areas were identified: restoration and revitalization of Mi'kmaq language, expansion of science and math camps, early childhood education, and identifying gaps in trade education.

On April 12, 2011, the committee met in Oak Island to discuss the implementation of the new work plan. Updates were

provided by the language revitalization sub-committee. The sub-committee goal is to work towards developing a strategy for creating a Mi'kmaq language iOS App (iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch Application). The Language Apps tool is to be utilized as a student learning tool. Continued support of the Mi'kmaq language is an ongoing work plan activity of the committee. Our next meeting is on June 7 in Potlotek.

-Karen Martin and Jarvis Googoo. Photo by Adam Gould.

Thanks!

The Tripartite Forum Aknutmaq would like to extend its thanks to this issue's contributing writers and photographers. Writers include David Burton, Leonard Doiron, Karen Martin and Jarvis Googoo, Trudy Sable, and Kim Bottomly. Photos were provided by Ian Wainright and Adam Gould. The next issue will be published in summer.



Social Committee Updates

It has been a great year for the Tripartite Forum Social Working Committee and the following are some of the highlights. Quarterly meetings were held and well attended throughout the year. The Active Measures Project (APC) continues from pilot stage to implementation stage in Membertou and Pictou Landing which will result in updated manuals and a First Nations Employability



Article by Leonard Doiron. Photo by Adam Gould.

Assessment tool. Also, quarterly, joint Federal/Provincial Training opportunities for collaboration among Social Development Administrators and Native Employment Officers have been established. These sessions are considered by all to be extremely beneficial regarding policy clarification and application consistency. This joint approach is also being considered as a model in the Atlantic region. Clarity

has also been brought to the policy issues concerning Assisted Living (eligible clients for Ni'kinen / respite care) and Early Intervention Services for special needs children. While much has been accomplished there is much left to be done. The Tripartite Forum Social Working Committee remains committed to improving the social condition of Mi'kmaq people and looks forward to the challenges ahead.

Annual General Assembly 2011

The Tripartite Forum 2011 Annual General Assembly (AGA) will be held at the Inverary Inn Resort in scenic Baddeck, Nova Scotia on Wednesday, May 11 and Thursday, May 12, 2011. Over the two days there will be several workshops focusing on pertinent issues and a host of

booths featuring local businesses and industry leaders. Committee members will have the chance to meet other committee members, trade stories and information and maybe win some fantastic prizes. The Inverary Inn and Resort prides itself as Cape Breton's most beautiful vacation resort. See you at the AGA!

Annual Report

Please note that the deadline for the 2009-2011 Tripartite Forum Annual Report is **FRIDAY, MAY 27, 2011**. Please have reports from the past two years sent to **Adam Gould** at **adam@tripartiteforum.com** by the end of the day on May 27.

Doctors Nova Scotia Youth Running for Fun program

In Nova Scotia, 11,400 children and youth have laced up to participate in the Doctors Nova Scotia *Youth Running for Fun* program. The free school-based running program has been offered to all 10 band-run schools in Nova Scotia. It's also available to First Nations communities to be facilitated through community centres.

To help support the growth of the program Doctors Nova Scotia hired William Meuse, a member of the First Nations community, originally from Bear River and currently a resident of We'koqma'q, to promote and support the implementation of its running program in participating First Nations schools and communities. "My mother often jokes that I started running the moment I was born and haven't stopped yet," said Meuse. For Meuse running has always been a part of his life. He began running as a young child and in grade six he finished first in the 10k Terry Fox Run and that's all it took for him to become hooked.

When Meuse learned of the Doctors Nova Scotia Youth Running for Fun program opportunity, he knew it was one he could not ignore. He suggests that the running program found him and not vice-versa. He was attracted to the idea of working in the communities he once lived and encouraging the young children and youth to be active through one of the simplest activities – running.

The position is funded by a grant from the Mi'kmaq • Nova Scotia • Canada Tripartite Forum. The 12-week full-time contract position is a pilot project that will be evaluated upon its completion. If successful, the Tripartite Forum has allowed for funding to be provided for a second year. The Doctors Nova Scotia *Youth Running for Fun* program began with 3,500 participants and 58 schools in 2004-05 and last year finished with 11,400 kids from 182 schools across Nova Scotia.

-Kim Bottomly, Doctors Nova Scotia

Project Fund deadline

Please note that the next Project Fund deadline is **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2011.**

All project funding applications should be sent to Robyn Siteman, Project Fund Manager, by the end of the day on June 15. They can be emailed to robyn@tripartiteforum.com.

Pjila'si Mi'kma'ki:

Mi'kmaw Place Names Digital Atlas & Website

A digital atlas and website documenting more than 13,000 years of Mi'kmaw presence in Nova Scotia, including place names, traditional land uses and oral histories, will be available to the public in the next few years. We need your help looking for more Mi'kmaw place names for our new, more detailed map which we hope to make available for all our people. Your participation is necessary and important.

The vision of the atlas and website is to raise public awareness and create an authoritative resource documenting the presence of the Mi'kmaq within Mi'kma'ki, the place of the Mi'kmaq. The majority of the research will be conducted by Mi'kmaw researchers and interns, and will include community-based work with Mi'kmaw Elders and other knowledge holders. The digital atlas will directly support other Mi'kmaw activities including the development of educational products for schools, and the promotion of cultural awareness about Mi'kmaw people. The digital atlas

will also form the basis for *Pjila'si Mi'kma'ki: Mi'kwaw Place Names Website*, a multimedia, interactive, educational website that ultimately will be accessed throughout the world.

To help this project come to fruition, we would like to ask the help of community members or others with information living throughout Nova Scotia, for input into the place names you may know.

The project was initiated by the Tripartite Forum Culture and Heritage Committee, Place Names Subcommittee, and in partnership with the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq, the Mi'kmaw Association of Cultural Studies, the Traditional Aboriginal Rights Research Center, Saint Mary's University/ Gorsebrook Research Institute's Office of Aboriginal and Northern Research, Parks Canada, and the Nova Scotia Museum, with support from Kwilmu'ku Maw-klusuaqn Negotiation Office.

-Dr. Trudy Sable, St. Mary's University

Spring Office Closures

Please note that the Tripartite Forum office will be closed on the following dates for holidays:

- Monday, May 23, 2011 for Victoria Day.
- Tuesday, June 21, 2011 for National Aboriginal Day.

May

- Steering Committee on Friday, May 6 at The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq Boardroom in Truro, NS.
- Health Committee on Tuesday, May 10 at the Wagmatcook Cultural Centre in Wagmatcook, NS.
- Annual General Assembly on May 11 and 12 at the Inverary Inn & Resorts in Baddeck, NS.

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.

June

- Education Committee on Tuesday, June 7 at Candy Palmater's house in Halifax, NS.
- Culture & Heritage Committee on Wednesday, June 8 in Potlotek, NS.
- Communications Committee on Wednesday, June 8 in Truro, NS, at 9:30 a.m.
- Social Committee will meet at the Bear River Cultural Centre in Bear River, NS on Thursday, June 9.
- Sports & Recreation Strategic Planning Session on Thursday, June 16, and Friday, June 17, at White Point Beach Resort in Hunt's Point, NS.
- Co-chairs Committee at Sarah Denny Cultural Centre in Eskasoni, NS, on Wednesday, June 22.
- Project Fund Committee will meet on Wednesday, June 29, in Eskasoni, NS.

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

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

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