
Mi'kmaq - Nova Scotia - Canada Tripartite Forum 2006 Strategic Direction Document

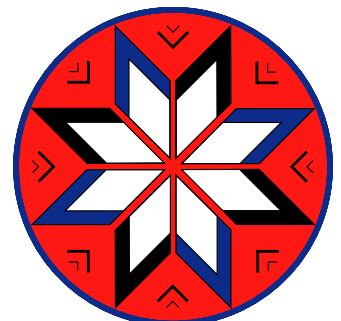
Preamble

The purpose of this document is to combine the findings of a number of strategic documents and sessions held over the past few years, and point a concise “way forward” for the working committees and members of the Mi'kmaq•Nova Scotia•Canada Tripartite Forum. In the end, the goal is to focus the work of the Forum and transform good ideas into positive change.

The document should be used to inform each working committees' annual work plan development process. Committees will be informed, by being reminded of the vision of Tripartite Forum, and secondly that committees must connect each work plan goal/objective and project to that vision through the outcomes (and therefore the priorities) of the Tripartite Forum.

In reading this document, we must be aware of two overarching strategic principles for the Tripartite Forum. Fundamental to achieving our collective vision within the Tripartite Forum is an on-going strategic focus on:

- **Ensuring that all our work is grounded in the history, culture and language of the Mi'kmaq nation. As stated at the 2006 AGA in Annapolis Valley - L'nui'ta'simk: the Mi'kmaq way of thinking or doing, and;**
- **Improving the health of Mi'kmaq communities and individuals.**



Mi'kmaq • Nova Scotia • Canada
TRIPARTITE FORUM

Vision:

Building a foundation for prosperous and vibrant Mi'kmaq communities through partnership, commitment and respect.

Mission:

Committed to working and learning together in partnership, in a manner that respects the needs of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq.

Value statements:

Commitment

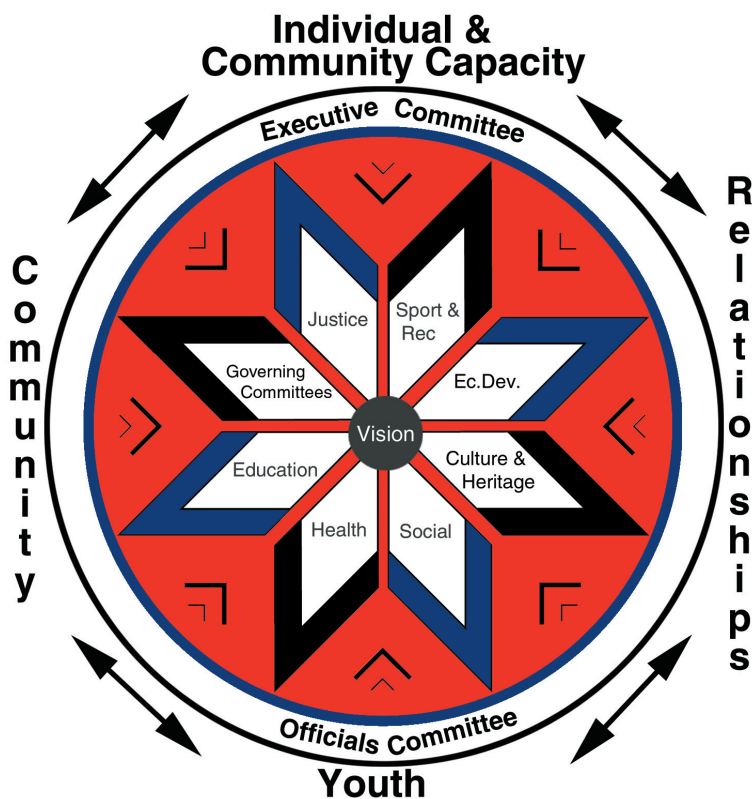
We are committed to working in open-minded relationships where all parties strive to reach the organization's vision.

Partnership

We will work together in good faith to build a strong and healthy Mi'kmaq community that will benefit all Nova Scotians.

Respect

We develop our relationship based on mutual trust and respect, where we learn and grow together.



Priorities

Individual and community capacity:

Building the capacity of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq.

Outcomes:

- Increase the skills of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq
- Increase participation of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq in labour market
- Increase employment of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Youth
- Increase Mi'kmaq language retention opportunities

Youth:

Ensuring the success of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Youth on their path of life-long learning.

Outcomes:

- Increase youth participation on issues and solutions
- Increase the number of healthy, active youth
- Increase youth governance development opportunities

Community:

Ensuring the work of Tripartite Forum is inclusive of communities.

Outcomes:

- Ensure all work is inclusive of, and linked to the communities' needs, priorities and plans
- Increase community participation and input

Relationships:

Building relationships among all partners for today and tomorrow.

Outcomes:

- Maintain links between work of Tripartite Forum and that of Kwilmuk Maw-klusuaqn – Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative
 - Achieve jurisdictional clarity when required
 - Ensure the work of Tripartite Forum considers Mi'kmaq cultural realities
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Document use in planning

Working Committees should use this document to help identify practical and concrete initiatives and projects to meet the identified outcomes.

To ensure initiatives do this, we suggest each project meets the S.M.A.R.T. model of planning:

- S** – Specific
- M** – Measurable
- A** – Achievable
- R** – Realistic
- T** – Timely

After setting targets/goals, we also suggest that planning takes into account monitoring of progress and methods of reporting to Official and Executive Committees to ensure accountability.

Example of planning and reporting outline:

Committee: Culture & Heritage

Project: Parent & Tot Mi'kmaw language lessons.

Priority & Outcome: Individual and community capacity: Increase Mi'kmaq language retention opportunities.

Deliverables/targets: Over a 2-year period (April 1st, 2006 – March 31st 2008), this program intends to teach 15 parents and 20 tots in each community to use conversational Mi'kmaw.

Progress Reporting: March 31st 2007 – the program has reached, on average 12 parents and 16 tots in 7 of 13 communities. There is still one year remaining in the project.