

MI'KMAQ NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE FEDERATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND INDIANS

P.O. Box 460, St. George's, NL. A0N 1Z0

Winter 2007-08

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A vision of our elders is one step closer to reality as a result of an historic event which took place in St. George's on November 30th 2007, when the Federal Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs and I executed a document acknowledging our acceptance of the Agreement in Principle, witnessed by no other than, the Right Hon. Prime Minister of Canada, Mr. Stephen Harper. The Agreement in Principle which the FNI has been pursuing for some time will provide an opportunity to all Mi'Kmaq of Newfoundland & Labrador to resolve the long standing issue of official recognition, which we view as a constitutional omission that occurred when Newfoundland and Labrador joined Canada. The Terms of Union of 1949, failed to address the constitutional responsibility of the Government of Canada towards the aboriginal peoples of this province. I am very pleased with the Federal and Provincial Government's desire to move forward on this issue, without the Provincial Government willingness to work in good faith on this matter, it would not have been possible to even begin discussions with the Federal Government. I look forward to visiting you very soon in your community to answer questions about the Agreement in Principle and how the process will unfold.



Left to right: Prime Minister Stephen Harper witnessing the initialing of the AIP with Minister Chuck Strahl, Indian and Northern Affairs and President Brendan Sheppard of the FNI.

The next steps in the process of forming the Qalipu Mi'kmaq Band:

- * Develop and mail to each household an information package that will include:
 - ~ Executive summary of the Agreement in Principle (AIP) for the Landless Band;
 - ~A CD with an electronic copy of the full Agreement in Principle;
 - ~Detail description of programs and services;
 - ~Ratification details such as polling stations;
 - ~Frequently asked Questions.
- * Community consultation to discuss the AIP and answer questions;
- * Ratification of the Agreement of principle; If 51% of FNI members are in favour;

... Continued on next page

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 1 President's Message
- 2 Name for Landless Band
- 3 Diabetes Initiative
- 4 Youth Action News
- 5 News from the Bands
- 6 News from the Bands
- 7 Employment & Training News
- 8 Executive Listings

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

- * Enrollment process (all members to complete application with required documentation and submit to enrollment clerk within the region);
- * Formation of the Qalipu Mi'kmaq Band. Twelve - Eighteen months after the enrollment process begins all members who have been approved for membership will be listed as the first founding list of the band;
- * After the Qalipu Mi'kmaq Band is formed members will have approximately three years to submit application with documentation for consideration for the amended founding list of the Qalipu Mi'kmaq Band.
- * For further details the AIP can be viewed on the FNI's website at www.fni.nf.ca

I hope that together, we can accomplish the next steps in the process in a timely and cooperative manner. In closing on behalf of the FNI board of directors and staff, I wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Brendan Sheppard



Who submitted "Qalipu Mi'kmaq Band" as the proposed name for the landless band in 2006?

A name has been chosen for the Landless Band "Qalipu Mi'kmaq Band". In the spring of 2006 the Federation of Newfoundland Indians advertised a contest for naming the landless band. An individual submitted "Qalipu Mi'kmaq Band". The FNI has the transcription of the name and the rational behind suggesting this name but do not have an identified narrator. It is the wishes of the FNI for this individual to come forth and be recognized for this work. Please call and discuss your rational as proof of the narrator and claim your prize.

CAP YOUTH COUNCIL

Congress of Aboriginal Peoples National Youth Council New Executive

The Congress of Aboriginal Peoples National Youth Council (CAP NYC) held elections on November 3rd 2007, at the CAP Annual General Assembly in Halifax for the positions of National Youth Representative, and 3 Steering Committee positions. The results are:

National Youth Representative: Randy Drover- Federation of Newfoundland Indians

Steering Committee: Carmen Trask- Native Council Nova Scotia

Julie Bull- Labrador Metis Nation

Natalie Daniels- Aboriginal Council of Manitoba

To learn more about the CAP NYC and how you can be involved please visit <http://www.abopeoples.org/youth.html> .

The group can also be found on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=4702332527> .

PATHWAY TO A HEALTHIER LIFESTYLE

Happy Holidays to everyone. The FNI Diabetes Program "Pathway to a Healthier Lifestyle" has been very busy over the last few months. During the summer there were several summer camps held but with a twist. A treasure hunt was added as part of the camp which was a way for the children to be active but to also have fun at the same time. During the day long activities the children participated in information session on Diabetes, bowling, races, coloring activities as well as crafts. It was a fun time for all.



There was a pilot activity held in Gander Bay this past summer as well. This activity is Youth/Elder Survival Night. This activity gave our Elders a way of passing on important information on surviving in the wild to the Youth. The Elders showed the youth the importance of taking from the land to survive. This activity in Gander Bay went extremely well. There were 17 youth between the ages of 13 to 17 who participated in the activity which included learning how to build a shelter, building a fire, as well as physical activities such as archery, games of knowledge and an obstacle course. The youth were given a survival kit which included: small axe, knife, frying pan, line, hook and instruction book. All the participants enjoyed the two days and stated that they looked forward to next year.

Students and teachers from Stephenville Elementary, Minister Joan Burke, Mayor Tom O'Brien, President of the Federation of Newfoundland Indians- Brendan Sheppard, Diabetes Coordinator – Barbara Lannon, and Principal Gerry Lannon participated in a Walk for Diabetes on November 23, 2007 promoting Diabetes Awareness and prevention.

The Weight Loss/Physical Activity Challenge has come to the end of the challenge. Any member who participated in this activity can send their completed booklet to the Diabetes Coordinator at our new office. The address for the new office is: Federation of Newfoundland Indians, Diabetes Coordinator, 5 Church Road, Grand Falls-Windsor, NL A2A 1Y9. Once all booklets have been returned, the winners of this challenge will be announced.

During the month of November, which was Diabetes Awareness Month, several activities were completed to promote Awareness. There was an information forum with the Public Health in Central to inform everyone about the importance of being aware of what diabetes is, and that everyone should be tested. There was a Diabetes Walk held in Stephenville at the Stephenville Elementary School. During this walk, students from the school as well as Minister Joan Burke, Mayor Tom O'Brien, President of the Federation of Newfoundland Indians - Brendan Sheppard, Principal Gerry Lannon, teachers, a few members of the FNI and myself walked. It was a great opportunity to promote the importance of Diabetes Awareness especially in the schools. Thank you to everyone who participated in the walk. It was a great opportunity to promote diabetes awareness. Also during Diabetes Awareness month, a Diabetes Forum was held at the Stephenville Holiday Inn. The Diabetes Program partnered with Roche Diagnostics to have this forum. During the afternoon forum participants learned the importance of Diabetes, risks, complications, testing, using clean strips and needles, and the different types of meters which are available. During the afternoon, meters were given to all participants as well as door prizes.

Although the holiday season is fast approaching, it is important that everyone still remember to eat healthy and stay active and live long.

The Federation of Newfoundland Indians and the Diabetes Program worked together to promote Healthy Eating and donated to schools in the area to assist in the Kids Eat Smart Program. This donation enabled the schools to purchase healthy, nutritious foods for the children during snack time.

BARBARA LANNON

Diabetes Coordinator

Phone: 709-489-8420 or

Toll free **1-888-489-8420**

5 Church Street

Grand Falls-Windsor, NL

A2A 1Y9

email: barbara@fni.nf.ca



YOUTH ACTION NEWS

Congress of Aboriginal Peoples National Youth Council Award Winner

One of our own, has been awarded, the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples National Youth Council's 2nd Youth Achievement Award for Community work. The Community award is given to someone who has made impact in his or her community, by doing something that has created positive change.



Ms. Sarah Wells is 19 years old and is a proud member of Indian Head First Nations Band. Throughout school Ms. Wells faced her share of skepticism and ignorance from others who criticized her transparent pride in her Mi'kmaq culture and her wish to help revive our traditions for all to benefit from. However, this barrier did not hold her back. Sarah is a founding member of the Indian Head First Nations Youth Group and the drum group "Rainbow Thunderbird Women". She is very active within many other aboriginal organizations such as the Ktaqmakuk Heritage Foundation and the Grenfell Aboriginal Association. She has recently been appointed as a Director representing youth on Indian Head First Nations Band Council.

Through teachings she has received from respected spiritual persons such as Gertie Mai Muise and Maggie Paul, Sarah has set out to educate others regardless of age, aboriginal and non-aboriginal about our Mi'kmaq culture. Due to the knowledge she holds, Ms. Wells has been invited to take part in local ceremonies, cultural retreats, and powwows.

Sarah is currently pursuing a degree in Social Culture Studies at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College in Corner Brook, NL. It is her hope to work within the Mi'kmaq community in the future.

To learn more about the CAP NYC Awards, who won and to look into nominating youth for the 3rd Annual Youth Achievement Awards please visit: <http://www.abo-peoples.org/youth/awards.html> .

Attention: New Youth Directors!

A little over 4 years ago when Councils began electing/appointing a Youth Director to their Board 3 of the 9 bands were able to fill this position. Over the years the youth in our areas have become more involved with the movement and we now have 6 Councils, which have a filled Youth Director Position.

New Youth Directors to the areas are as follows:

St. George's Indian Band- Gillian Lee

Contact Info: Email: gilliansplace@gmail.com
Phone: 647-3638

Indian Head First Nations- Sarah Wells

Contact Info: f6indian@nf.aibn.com (Place in subject Attention Sarah)

Elmastogoe First Nations- Kristina Duffy

Contact Info: Email: kristinaduffy@hotmail.com
Phone: 789-3459

If you have any interests, concerns or questions within your area please contact your local Youth Director they would love to hear from you.

Employment Opportunity Module Developer

The successful candidate must be 29 years of age or younger as of March 31, 2008. This person will be responsible to develop and deliver a series of modules that will enhance the resources of Aboriginal youth in Educational, Employment, Economic and Cultural disciplines.

Qualifications:

- ~ A minimum of a two-year diploma course in Community Studies with a minimum of two years experience in that field or any combination of skills equivalent to the minimum.
- ~ Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written.
- ~ Knowledge of aboriginal history in Bay St. George.
- ~ Computer Skills (Microsoft Office)

Duration: 13 Weeks

Application Deadline: December 27th, 2007

Anticipated start date: January 2nd, 2008

Salary: \$600.00 per week

Resumes can be dropped off at Indian Head First Nations Band Office. Resumes can also be faxed to 643-6711 or emailed at f6indian@nf.aibn.com

NEWS FROM ST. GEORGE'S INDIAN BAND



Left to Right: Eva Praught volunteer with the Breakfast program with Our Lady of Mercy Elementary School receiving a cheque from Acting Chief Karen White.

Left to Right: Joanne Miles Secretary with Appalachia High School receiving a cheque from Acting Chief Karen White for the breakfast program.

St. George's Indian Band has donated \$150.00 each to both Appalachia High School and Our Lady of Mercy Elementary School in St. George's for their Breakfast Program. Both schools run a breakfast program which encourages children to eat healthy and have a good breakfast before school each morning which can help students who may not have had time to eat a healthy breakfast before coming to school. The St. George's Indian Band is proud to support local organizations such as the Breakfast program and many more.

News From Flat Bay

The Flat Bay Indian Band wishes to remind membership if you have a change in information (ie. Change in name; change in address; birth of a child; EST.) Please notify us so we can better document you. Notices can be emailed to ckyle@nf.sympatico.ca, or called in at the band office: 647-1370.

Any of our membership who wishes to be added to an electronic mailing list to receive band updates please submit your email to the email provided above.

NEWS FROM ELMASTOGOEG FIRST NATIONS



Pictured from left to right: Kevin Barnes, Lesley Sheppard, Ross Companion and Bern White

The Elmastogoeg First Nations Indian Band donated \$ 250.00 to the school in Lark Harbour for the Eat Smart Program. The band also donated \$250.00 to St Peters Academy in Benoit's Cove during the Remembrance Day assembly which was attended by members of the local legion.

Elmastogoeg First Nations is proud to work in conjunction with the local schools to promote healthy eating and physical activity and are always willing to lend a helping hand and in this case in the form of funding for these schools to promote healthy eating through their Eat Smart Program.

Youth Coordinator...Youth Director???

In the past while we have been hearing and reading the terms Youth Coordinator and Youth Director making confusion for some, wondering why the two terms are being used and the question being asked "what is the difference"?

A Youth Coordinator is a hired individual to work with the youth. These individuals do so in various way ranging from creating skills link programs for youth to gain employment and skills, passing on beneficial information such as scholarships, helping with resume writing, filling out application forms, and arranging cultural events just to name a few.

A Youth Director, on the other hand, is an elected or appointed individual, who is a volunteer, to a band council or the FNI's Board of Directors. Their purpose is to serve as a voice for the youth in discussions at the board table.

NEWS FROM INDIAN HEAD FIRST NATIONS

In order to accommodate their new constitution Indian Head First Nations has appointed Gerard Alexander and Sarah Wells to their Board. The Board will consist of nine members including Sarah who will be the youth representative on the board and Gerard will be a director at large. Both will serve until the next Band Annual General Assembly, at which time an election will fill these positions for the interim, until the next general election. The addition provides much needed resources and allows flexibility when it comes to quorum for Band business purposes.

Indian Head First Nations are happy to announce the approval of a \$25,000 project under the New Horizons for Seniors Program. This funding will be used to develop a Cultural Elders in School Program and will commence early in the new year with completion expected by the end of June, 2008.

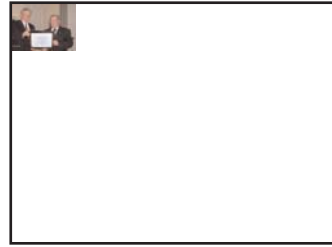
Indian Head First Nations are continuing to update their files and are urging all members who have moved or have changed their address or contact information to contact our enrollment clerk Dale Young at 643-5209 or forward the information via e-mail IHFN.daleyong@nf.aibn.com.

NEWS FROM SPLE'TK BAND

Exploits Native Women's Association

The Exploits Native Women's Association held another successful Elders Feast on November 22, 2007. Fifty four Elders and invited guests enjoyed a hot roast beef dinner served by the Windsor Salvation Army Men's League. Every Elder and their guest received a gift as a token of our appreciation for their wisdom and understanding. Ed Power and Friends supplied the entertainment that was enjoyed by all. Several of the Elders danced to some lovely sentimental songs. Along with the Sple'tk Dancers and Drummers (including the faithful helpers), Sheila Robinson, President of the Newfoundland Aboriginal Women's Network also attended. Appreciation gifts were presented to Marie Eastman, President of the Exploits Native Women's Association, Chief Nellie Power of Sple'tk First Nation and Bernie Hanlon, Secretary/Treasurer for both organizations. Chief Power presented hams to each Elder on behalf of Sple'tk First Nation. Everyone expressed their appreciation and said they are looking forward to next year's feast.

Indian Head First Nations elder one of two local gentlemen to win prestigious Lieutenant Governor's Greenwing Conservation Award.



Neil Dollard receiving his award from the Lieutenant Governor Ed Roberts.



Terry Downey receiving his award from the Lieutenant Governor Ed Roberts.

Terry Downey, an elder with Indian Head First Nations and good friend Neil Dollard of Stephenville Crossing were at the Lieutenant Governor's residence in St. John's on October 23rd to receive this award. Terry and Neil are both avid birdwatchers and conservationist and with Terry's knowledge of flora he could also be called an amateur Botanist.

Terry and Neil have been ambassadors for the community of Stephenville Crossing and its wetlands for many years and both continue to protect and promote the area whenever possible.

These gentlemen were nominated by Indian Head First Nations and as a Band we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them on their achievements and wish them continued success.

Poetry Corner

"WINTER MAGIC"

The snow falls softly,
Gently touching the ground.
It blankets the earth,
Not making a sound.

The wind is sleeping,
So silent and calm.
Mother Nature holds everything,
All in her palm.

The little brook is frozen,
There is no movement anywhere.
The silence is tremendous,
Nothing can compare.

And far away up in the sky,
The stars are twinkling bright.
The moon is full and shining,
Oh, what a beautiful night!

Dedicated to Alana From: "Strawberry Heart"

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

THE FEDERATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND INDIANS

Role of the Public Service Commission in Provincial Government

The Public Service Commission (PSC) is an arms length entity of government responsible for all Staffing and Recruitment functions in the public service. This includes recruitment for both internal and public positions.

As an advocate for the principles of merit, fairness, and respect, as well as good public administration, the PSC plays a vital leadership and support role for the broader organization.

The PSC is responsible for recommending qualified, competent candidates for appointment or promotion to positions within the public service. The PSC is also responsible for designing and implementing the recruitment and selection processes and related policies and procedures to be applied for staffing public service positions. This includes research, evaluation and leadership in the development and implementation of current best practices to meet the evolving staffing needs of scheduled departments and agencies.

The PSC is working to address recruitment challenges within the public service. These challenges include an aging workforce, declining population especially in rural areas, and out-migration. At this time, positions such as heavy equipment operators, skilled trades, engineers, and specialized technical and financial positions are becoming harder to fill. The Public Service Commission must ensure that there are qualified applicant pools available to provide quality service to the people of Newfoundland and Labrador. It is necessary to ensure that no barriers exist for access to public service employment that may prevent the public service from being representative of the population it serves. The PSC is taking specific steps towards promoting awareness and access to employment in the public service.

The Public Service offers a wide variety of career options. Positions exist in many fields including policy and planning, financial services, clerical, audit, legal/uniformed services, social work, skilled trades, and information technology. As well as career choices, the Public Service in Newfoundland and Labrador offers a competitive salary, comprehensive benefits, a pension plan, and an opportunity for career progression. Equally important, it offers Newfoundland and Labradorians an opportunity to live and work in our beautiful home province and to enjoy all the benefits of our unique lifestyle.

If you are interested in learning more about a career in the public service, the PSC will be happy to assist you. The PSC is located in the Sir Brian Dunfield Building, 2 Canada Drive, St. John's, Newfoundland and serves all regions of the province. The toll free # is 1(877)729-2182. Further information is also available through the PSC website www.psc.gov.nl.ca.

CENTRAL **Aboriginal Client Relation** **Officer**

Bernie Hanlon: (709) 489-6770
Toll free 1-877-489-6770
Email: exploits@fni.nf.ca

AHRDA MANAGER

Annie Randell: (709) 634-0823
Email: arandell@fni.nf.ca

WESTERN **Community Liaison**

Shelley Garnier: (709) 647-3009
Toll Free: 1-866-647-3009
Email: shelly@fni.nf.ca

The next review of applications will take place end of January 2008, deadline for applications is January 15, 2008 no exceptions. If you would like to submit an application please make sure it is complete and send to either the St. George's or the Grand Falls office; addresses are below.

*Federation of Newfoundland Indians
Employment & Training
5 Church Road
Grand Falls-Windsor, NL A2A 1Y9*

*Federation of Newfoundland Indians
Employment & Training
P.O. Box 460
St. George's, NL A0N 1Z0*

The St. George's office of the Federation of Newfoundland Indians will be moving from it's present location to the Museum building (formerly the Courthouse) effectively January 2008; the mailing address will stay the same.

FEDERATION DIRECTORY

CHIEFS

Chief Calvin Francis

Gander Bay Indian Band
Clarke's Head
Gander Bay, NL
A0G 2G0
Phone: 676-2188
Fax: 676-2187
cal.francis@nf.sympatico.ca

Chief Laetitia MacDonald

Port au Port Indian Band
P. O. Box 156
Port au Port, NL
A0N 1T0
Phone/ Fax: 648-2692
littymac@persona.ca

Chief Liz LaSaga

Flat Bay Indian Band
Box 15, Site 2, RR #1
St. George's, NL
A0N 1Z0
Phone/Fax: 647-3336
liz.lasaga@gmail.com

Chief Nellie Power

Sple'ik First Nations
5 Church Road
Grand Falls-Windsor, NL
A2A 1Y9
Phone: 489-8425
Fax: 489-8417
npower@warp.nfld.net

Acting Chief Marie Vaters

Glenwood Mi'kmaq First Nation
P.O. Box 149
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Phone: 679-2285
Fax: 679-2344
glenwoodmikmaqfirstnation@nf.aibn.com

Chief Hayward Young

Indian Head First Nations
35 Carolina Ave
Stephenville, NL
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Phone: 643-5215
Fax: 643-6711
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Acting Chief

Ed Webb

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Phone: 634-1696
ewebb_234@hotmail.com

Chief Kevin Barnes

Elmastogoe First Nations
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Phone: 789-2726
barneskevin@yahoo.ca

Acting Chief Karen White

St. George's Indian Band
P.O. Box 262
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EXECUTIVE

Mr. Brendan Sheppard President

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Randy Drover Central Vice President

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Phone: 258-2996
randy.drover@fn.sympatico.ca

Kevin Barnes Western Vice President (see chief listings)

Ms. Annie Randell Executive Assistant

P.O. Box 956
Corner Brook, NL
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Phone: 634-0996
Fax: 639-3997
arandell@fni.nf.ca

YOUTH DIRECTOR

Ms. Cindy Kyle Youth Director

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Flat Bay, NL
A0N 1Z0
Phone: 647-3097
ckyle@nf.sympatico.ca

Mi'kmaq Words

check out <http://www.mikmaqonline.org/>

maqamigew - Pronouced (ma.hga.mi.gew) - Land

a's'guatl - Pronouced (aa.se.gu.a.del)- Meet

Lnu - Pronouced (ell.nu)- Aboriginal

MI'KMAQ NEWS

We are always looking for event listings, stories, suggestions, poems, ideas, and artwork. You can send them to:

Federation of Newfoundland Indians

P.O. Box 460

St. George's, NL

A0N 1Z0

Phone: (709) 647-3009 Fax: (709) 647-3509

email: shelly@fni.nf.ca

website: www.fni.nf.ca