

MI'KMAQ NEWS

SPECIAL EDITION HOUSING SPRING 2010



IMPORTANT

Off-reserve Housing program has assisted 351 homeowners carry out repairs to their homes.

Deadline dates are outlined in this newsletter.

Applications will be available at www.fni.nf.ca or by calling our housing office.

OFF-RESERVE ABORIGINAL HOUSING REPAIR PROGRAM

Dear Members, once again the Robin's have returned and Mother Nature is beginning to show signs of transforming her trees, shrubs and plants etc into a obsession of beauty. I trust we will all treat our environment and all forms of life that live within it as a very special gift from the Creator.

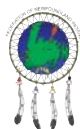
Briefly I would like to take this opportunity to inform you, that there has been a delay in forming the Qalipu Mi'Kmaq First Nation Band. This delay is due to a Court Motion filed in the Federal Court of Canada to challenge plans to form the Qalipu Band based on all Applications filed before November 30th 2009, not considered by the Enrolment Committee. The Government of Canada has decided to delay the band's creation until the results of that Motion are known. I anticipate that a Mi'Kmaq News Letter will be sent to the households of the FNI membership again in June 2010 and hopefully at that time I will be able to provide you with further details on the creation of the Qalipu band . Both Canada and the FNI are continuing to work on band formation. The Enrolment process is proceeding and people are now receiving letters from the Enrolment Committee. Obviously, applications being received have slowed down considerably and for that reason the Central, NL office will only be opened one week per month as we move forward with the process. As of May 14th the Central office will only be open one week each month starting on the 2nd Monday of each month.

Now, to the reason for this Mi'Kmaq News Bulletin. The Federation of Newfoundland Indians (FNI) received a total of \$ 2,542,000 for housing repairs since January 2009. To date the FNI has assisted a total of 351 homeowners carry out repairs to their homes. As you will see from the collage below this has been a very worthwhile project for our members. The last deadline date for applications on this project was August 31, 2009. Currently individuals are completing work that was approved from the August 2009 deadline. It is anticipated that the FNI will have approximately \$ 189,000 remaining upon completion of the August 2009 approvals. Therefore, the FNI will be accepting applications for housing repair program until June 30, 2010. Please note it is expected that only a further 20-25 households can expect assistance based on the \$189,000 remaining in the budget. For those of you that have completed an application since August 31, 2009 you will be considered after June 30, 2010 with all other remaining applicants who have submitted an application prior to June 30, 2010.

~ President Brendan Sheppard

THIS ISSUE

1. President's Message
2. Band News



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Newfoundland
Indians**



Pictured above is a collage of a home before and after home repairs were completed through the Home Repair Program.

Employment Opportunity

As the FNI prepares for future program development in the areas of Education and employment we will be developing a Labour Force Strategy. We will be hiring two researchers in the near future to assist with this project. These individuals will require good oral communication skills, office administration procedures, skilled in conducting telephone interviews, and doing data entry using onscreen forms, individual having a business or office administration diploma would be an asset. \$500 per wk for 24 wks. Deadline to apply for these positions is June 11, 2010. These positions can be in various locations. Please send resume to Corner Brook office.

BAND NEWS

To Members of the Port au Port Indian Band:

The contact information of the Port au Port Indian Band needs to be updated. There are members of the Band who have email addresses but are not currently receiving notices of Band meetings etc. thru their email. We would ask these members to email littymac@persona.ca so their names can be added to the contact list of the Band. In addition to the email we also have a phoning list which we are updating. Please contact us if you do not use email and haven't been receiving notices by way of the phone.

Students: The Port au Port Band will be hiring this summer. Notices will be done through the Service Canada Student Office.

To Members of the Sple'tk First Nation Indian Band:

There will be a general membership meeting on Sunday June 6, 2010 at 2 pm at the Friendly Fifty Plus Club, 50 Main Street in Windsor. FNI President Brendan Sheppard will be attending the meeting with an update on the Qalipu First Nation Band application process.

SUMMER STUDENTS

Are you interested in a summer job? Are you between the ages of 15-30? Have been attending school this past semester? And are returning to school this fall? You may be eligible for a summer job with your local Indian Band please contact your local Indian Band to submit a resume for summer employment, most bands will be hiring students to do various jobs in their areas this summer.

HOUSING OFFICE

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