

Mi'kmaq • Nova Scotia • Canada
TRIPARTITE FORUM
www.tripartiteforum.com



2011 - 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

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A greeting from the Executive Chair



Kwé aqq Hello!

It is my pleasure as Executive Chair to present you with the 2011-12 Annual Report. This is my first greeting as Executive Chair and my first year with Tripartite was a busy and informative learning experience.

It is absolutely wonderful to know and acknowledge that 15 long years have passed since the Chiefs signed the Memorandum of Understanding was signed to create the Mi'kmaq – Nova Scotia – Canada Tripartite Forum. I would like to applaud everyone that has been involved with Tripartite's processes throughout the years. Because of the hard work and commitment of the Forum's members, we are actually able to celebrate a 15th anniversary and can look forward to greater things in the future.

While we all work towards a better future

for all Mi'kmaq in Mi'kma'ki, it is very important that we consider the Seven Grandfather Teachings: Kalsuti (love), Melkita'mkewey (bravery), Nsituo'qn (wisdom), Koqqwatmututi (honesty), Ketleweiwaqn (truth), Penoqite'lsuti (humility), and Kpmité'taqn (respect). By remembering and honouring the Seven Teachings, our youth have wonderful virtues to live and learn by with examples we set for them.

I would especially like to encourage everyone to get involved, to ask questions, and to educate themselves – and others, about the work of the Tripartite Forum, all while helping to shape the future of Mi'kmaq people in Nova Scotia together. I also hope that you enjoy the 2011-12 Annual Report and look forward a successful 2012-13.

Thank you and Wela'lin,

Morley Googoo,

Tripartite Forum Executive Chair
Assembly of First Nations Regional Chief
Nova Scotia and Newfoundland

“I would especially like to encourage everyone to get involved, to ask questions, and to educate themselves – and others, about the work of the Tripartite Forum.”

A message from the Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq



For the past 15 years, the Tripartite Forum has worked hard to address the shared issues facing Nova Scotia's Mi'kmaq. The dedicated committee members from the Mi'kmaq communities, the Province of Nova Scotia and the Government of Canada remain both committed and active. We are proud of the work and results that the Tripartite Forum members continue to make to this process.

This past year has been a year of changes for the Mi'kmaq in Nova Scotia and the Forum. We saw Rick Simon leave his position with the Forum and welcomed new Assembly of First Nations Regional Chief Morley Googoo as Executive Chair. Band elections changed the Forum's membership as it welcomed six new Chiefs to the Officials and Executive Committees.

The Tripartite Forum thanks the previous Chiefs and Rick Simon for their time and contributions through the years. We were especially pleased to see Annapolis Valley First Nation return to the Tripartite Forum.

Several successful events occurred over the past year, including the funding of 12 amazing projects through the Project Fund, the completion and publication of the Mi'kmaq Family Violence Research Report, the reproduction of the Tripartite Forum's Aknutmaq newsletter, and an Annual General Assembly with near-perfect attendance. As well, during Mi'kmaq History Month, the Pjila'si Mi'kma'ki Place Names place mat was featured at the 3-D Family Restaurant and Shillelagh House Restaurant in Truro, NS.

While reflecting on the accomplishments of the past 12 months, let us also reflect on the volume of achievements over the past 15 years. The journey has been long but the ride was smooth because of the efforts of everyone involved in the Tripartite Forum and its process.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the success of the Mi'kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Tripartite Forum over the past 15 years. Congratulations on 15 productive years!

“We are proud of the work and results that the Tripartite Forum members continue to make to this process.”

A message from the Province of Nova Scotia



For more than a decade the Province of Nova Scotia has worked collaboratively with the Mi'kmaq and representatives from the federal government on issues of mutual interest. The Tripartite Forum is an ideal setting for this work and as Premier and Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, I am pleased with the progress being made.

Through the Tripartite Forum, the province and its partners have been able to effectively address important issues and concerns of the aboriginal community, including healthy, active living, youth entrepreneurship and aboriginal procurement, family violence and the need for culturally appropriate programs and services, and recognition of the continuing significance of the Mi'kmaq culture and heritage.

The result is clear: healthier, safer, more self-sufficient and proud Aboriginal communities right across Nova Scotia.

The Tripartite Forum has also encouraged funding for projects that increase the progress toward stronger, more vital Mi'kmaq communities. These are key projects like Show Me Your Math and Bridging the Gap, and the Addressing Mi'kmaq Family Violence report. These projects represent significant steps that will make life better for Mi'kmaq people.

Nova Scotia remains committed to continuing to work with its partners on initiatives that help make Mi'kmaq communities, and the province as a whole, better places to live, work and raise a family.

On behalf of the Province of Nova Scotia, I want to thank the many government and Mi'kmaq representatives who have been involved in the Tripartite Forum over the past 15 years and here's to continued friendship and cooperation in the years to come.

Wela'lin,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darrell Dexter".

Darrell Dexter,
Premier
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs

***“Nova Scotia
remains committed
to continuing
to work with
its partners on
initiatives that help
make Mi'kmaq
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a whole, better
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and raise a family.”***

A message from the Government of Canada



“The Forum continues to demonstrate how the Government of Canada, the Mi’kmaq of Nova Scotia and the Province of Nova Scotia work together to address issues of common interest that affect the Mi’kmaq of Nova Scotia.”



It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to congratulate all those responsible for another successful year of the Mi’kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Tripartite Forum. I am very pleased to see that the Committees of the Forum are working diligently and showing significant progress in each of their respective fields.

I wish to thank former Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Regional Chief Rick Simon for his dedication to the Tripartite Forum over many years, and for his work in the role of Executive Chair of the Forum. I would also like to welcome the new AFN Regional Chief Morley Googoo to his new role as Executive Chair of the Tripartite Forum.

I understand that the Forum is undertaking important work in a Tripartite Forum

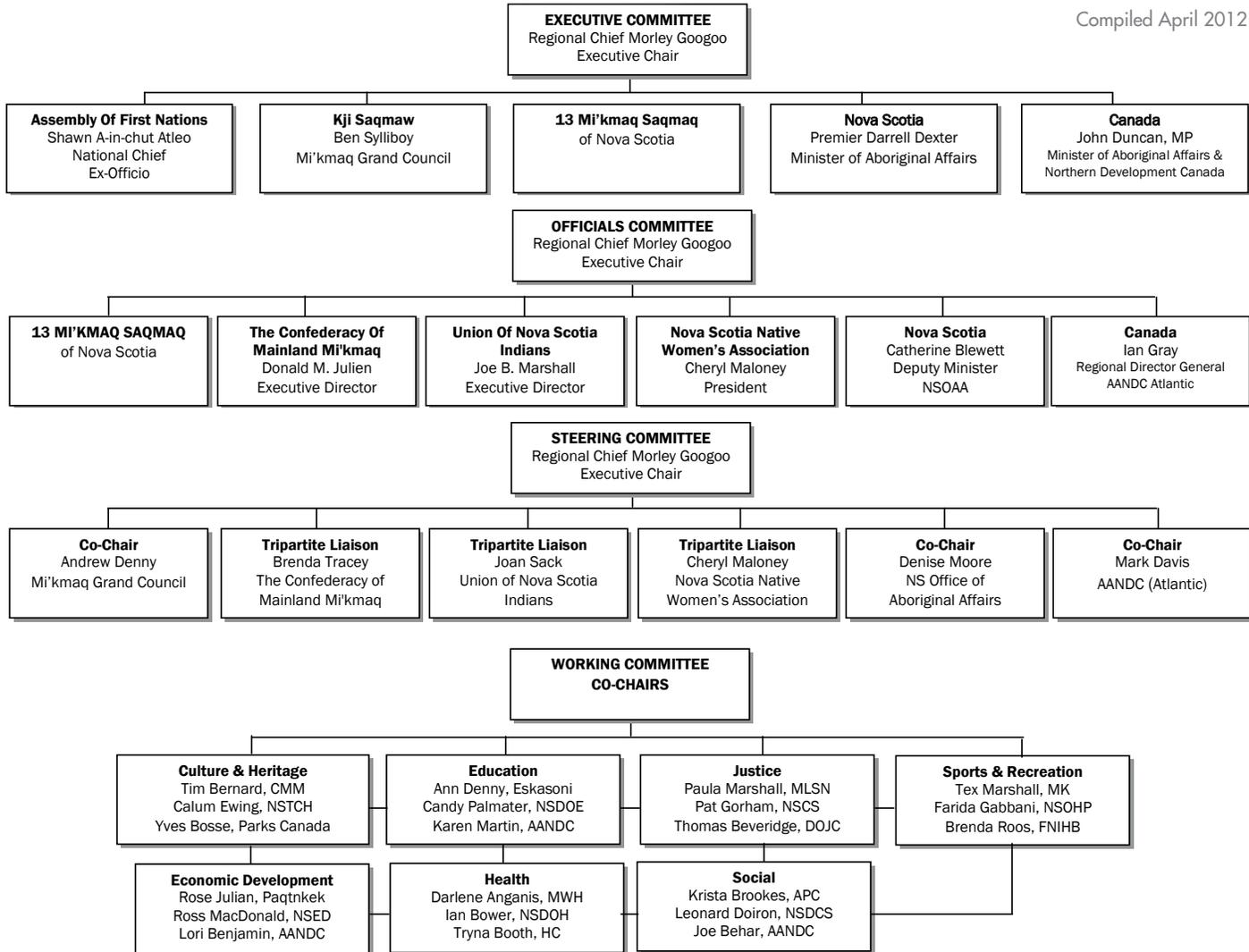
Review as well as an evaluation of the implementation of the Marshall Inquiry recommendations. I look forward to seeing the results of these initiatives.

The Forum continues to demonstrate how the Government of Canada, the Mi’kmaq of Nova Scotia and the Province of Nova Scotia work together to address issues of common interest that affect the Mi’kmaq of Nova Scotia. The Government of Canada is pleased to be part of this partnership and to witness the significant contribution the Forum has made to enhancing the working relationship between the partners in Nova Scotia.

The Honourable John Duncan,
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern
Development

Organizational Chart

Compiled April 2012



Key

AANDC Aboriginal Affairs & Northern Development Canada	DCS NS Department of Community Services	HC Health Canada	NS DOH Nova Scotia Department of Health	NSNWA Nova Scotia Native Women's Association
APC Atlantic Policy Congress	DOE NS Department of Education	MK Mi'kmaq Kina'matnewey	NS ED Nova Scotia Economic Development	NSOAA Nova Scotia Office of Aboriginal Affairs
CMM Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq (The)	DOJC Department of Justice Canada	MLSN Mi'kmaq Legal Support Network	NS OHP Nova Scotia Office of Health Promotion	UNSI Union of Nova Scotia Indians
	FN&IHB First Nations & Intuit Health Branch	MWH Membertou Wellness Home	NS TCH Nova Scotia Tourism, Culture & Heritage	
		NS CS Nova Scotia Correctional Services		

About the Tripartite Forum

The Mi'kmaq - Nova Scotia - Canada Tripartite Forum formed in 1997 as a partnership between the Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq, the Province of Nova Scotia and the Government of Canada, to strengthen relationships and to resolve issues of mutual concern affecting Mi'kmaq communities.

In 1997, the 13 Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs signed a Memorandum of Understanding

(MOU) with the Federal and Provincial governments. Under this MOU, the Chiefs would represent all of their registered band members in the Tripartite Forum. A "Without Prejudice" addendum to the MOU was signed in 1998 ensuring all Tripartite Forum meetings and discussions were not considered "consultation." A strong backbone for the Tripartite Forum was established in recommendations of both the 1989 Royal Commission on the Donald Marshall Jr. Prosecution and the 1996 Royal Commission on Aboriginal

Peoples.

The Forum operates with the following committee levels: Executive, Officials, Steering and Working Committees. Each committee level has representation from the three parties: the Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq, the Province of Nova Scotia and the Government of Canada. The parties work together with tolerance and by consensus to discuss and resolve issues and act as a catalyst for change.

Mission Statement

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

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Vision Statement

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

Value Statement

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'kmaw community that will benefit all Nova Scotians.

Respect

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

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is the highest level of decision-making process in the Tripartite Forum. Final decisions are made at this level with consensus from all members. Decisions made here can overrule present policy, change future policy, initiate and provide input into legislative change if necessary. All Tripartite committees require approval from the Executive Committee in their formation, mandate and resolutions.

Composition:

- Executive Chair
- Grand Chief
- 13 Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs
- National Chief (ex-officio)
- Nova Scotia Minister of Aboriginal Affairs
- Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development



Officials Committee

The Officials Committee receives options and recommendations from the working committees and offers decisions within its authority and policy. The Officials Committee approves the working committees' mandate and provides direction as stated by the Executive Committee.

Composition:

- Executive Chair
- 13 Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs
- Executive Director – The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq
- Executive Director – Union of Nova Scotia Indians
- President – Nova Scotia Native Women's Association
- Chief Executive Officer – Nova Scotia Office of Aboriginal Affairs
- Other Federal/Regional Directors and Provincial Deputy Ministers



Steering Committee



The Steering Committee provides organizational direction and operational support for the Tripartite Forum. The Steering Committee also focuses on the overall relationships between the three parties within each of the Forum's Working Committees.

Composition:

- Tripartite Liaison – The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq
- Tripartite Liaison – Union of Nova Scotia Indians
- Tripartite Liaison – Nova Scotia Native Women's Association
- Mi'kmaw Co-chair
- Provincial Co-chair
- Federal Co-chair

Tripartite Forum Fund for Social and Economic Change



representative; and three Working Committee Co-chairs, one from each party. The Tripartite Executive Chair is a non-voting committee member.

To approve funding of a project, a quorum of six (6) voting members must be present. For the committee to reach quorum, a designated alternative can be utilized in voting.

Robyn Crowe is the Tripartite Forum Project Fund Manager.

In 2011-12, four working committees accessed the funding and 12 projects were funded for a total of \$328,680.77. The 12 projects are:

- PF 11/12-001: Mawio'mi 2011 - \$50,000.00 (Culture and Heritage)
- PF 11/12-002: Options for On-Reserve Daycare Licensing Research Study - \$10,000.00 (Social)
- PF 11/12-003: Administrative Support for Place Names Data Project - \$35,000.00 (Culture and Heritage)
- PF 11/12-004: Kluskap Cave

- Historical Site Designation \$12,573.60 (Culture and Heritage)
- PF 11/12-005: First Nations Active Measures - \$45,100.00 (Social)
- PF 11/12-006: First Nations Healthy Living Challenge - \$12,000.00 (Sports and Recreation)
- Project Fund 11/12-007: Aboriginal Sports Summit 2011 - \$60,500.00 with \$13,452.51 returned to PF (Sports and Recreation)
- PF 11/12-008: Daycare Directors Meeting - \$7,205.21 (Social)
- PF 11/12-009: Language Tool Kits - \$24,899.53 (Culture and Heritage)
- PF 11/12-010: Running for Fun Year 2 - \$11,376.72 (Sports and Recreation)
- PF 11/12-011: Show Me Your Math \$29,830.48 (Education)
- PF 11/12-012: Human Resource Capacity in Early Childhood Education - \$28,510 (Education)

The Project Fund Committee meets on a quarterly basis or more depending on necessity with all meeting dates set at the beginning of the year. Its membership includes three Steering Committees Co-chairs; one representative from the Province of Nova Scotia, one from the Government of Canada, and one from the Mi'kmaw

Tripartite Forum Working Committees

The “grass roots” of the Tripartite Forum is established through the seven working committees. As the various working committee members identify issues through research and community engagement, these issues are brought to the working committee table for discussion, solution development and next steps. Comprised of representatives from the three parties, experts and technicians in each of the seven areas work together

to develop and carry out their annual work plans. Open and public community participation is also encouraged as working committees attempt to host their meetings across the province in Mi'kmaq communities.

The seven working committees are Culture and Heritage, Economic Development, Education, Health, Justice, Social, Sports and Recreation.

Culture and Heritage

For the 2011-12 fiscal year, the Culture and Heritage Committee held three meetings. At the June meeting in Potlotek, the committee visited Chapel Island and discussed the island's history with Potlotek Band Councillor, Lindsay Marshall. At the September meeting in Pictou Landing, the committee visited Merigomish Island to view St. Ann's Mission Church and discuss the island's history and church restoration efforts with community members and archeologist Michelle Lelievre. In January 2012, the committee gathered at the Office of Aboriginal Affairs in Halifax for its last meeting of the fiscal year.

The Committee held a conference call on March 26, 2012, to discuss two proposals and made recommendations that the Mi'kmaq Cultural Landscape Project and the Environmental Scan of Mi'kmaq Culture, Heritage and Archaeology sectors move forward to the Project Fund. The Culture and Heritage Committee was approved for \$122,000.00 in funding from the project fund that enabled the committee to work with several partners. Four final project reports carried out for the fiscal year were also approved which included Kluscap Cave Historical Places

Initiative Designation, Merigomish St. Anne's Church Restoration (stabilization of footing), Pjila'si Mi'kma'ki: Mi'kmaw Place Names Digital Atlas and Website, and Mi'kmaq Language Tool Kits.

The Committee would like to recognize the contributions of Kim Paul of the Union of Nova Scotia Indians (UNSI), who stepped down from the working committee. We welcome Yolonda Denny, the Mi'kmaq Language Consultant at Mi'kmaq Kina'matnewey (MK) who will represent UNSI.

The Committee would also like to recognize the contributions of two past committee members: Federal Co-chair David Burton who stepped down as the Federal Co-chair on June 1, 2011, and long time member Rob Ferguson who retired in June 2011. Yves Bossé, Parks Canada, was named as the new Federal Co-Chair in January 2012 and we welcome Yves as Co-chair.

The Committee has three main areas of activity, each supported by a dedicated subcommittee:





Cultural Expression

- The Mi'kmaw Place Names placemats were printed and are being distributed through the Tripartite Forum Secretariat. The placemats are available to communities for free and were circulated during Mi'kmaq History Month with the great help of Brenda Tracey and Adam Gould.
- Chief's Regalia: The Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs passed a resolution to move forward on getting a Provincial Order-in-Council signed to ensure protection of this material while in the province.
- New Mi'kmaw Branding Program for cultural tourism operators and artisans is available on the Mi'kmaq Association for Culture Studies (MACS) website for review. It is awaiting final approval by the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs.
- Mawio'mi 2011: A proposal was submitted to the Tripartite Project Fund to support the marketing and promotion of this very successful event held in Halifax.



Community Identity

- Highway Signage: This project ensures that signs are present on Nova Scotia's 100-Series highways to identify Mi'kmaw communities. The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq's (CMM) Lands Department worked with all Mi'kmaw communities over the spring and summer for additional discussions on highway signage. After a lengthy delay regarding Orders-in-Councils (OICs) for band name changes and reserve name change. Aboriginal Affairs and Northern



Development Canada have received clarification of the new process for OICs. Through CMM's Lands Department, this is communicated to the Chiefs and Councils on what steps and procedures need to happen in order for Mi'kmaw communities to be identified from the 100-Series Highways.

- Mi'kmaw Language: Members of the Language Subcommittee continue to meet jointly with the Language Subcommittee of the Education Committee.
- o Project approval for the promotion of Mi'kmaw language through the Project Fund that will dedicate 12 pages in the Mi'kmaq Maliseet Nations News for language promotion and create a CD with educational resources for educators and students. The committee also developed a crayon set and colouring book to promote Mi'kmaw language to our children and youth. They should be ready for distribution to communities in mid-April 2012.

- Mi'kmaw Place Names Database project: This Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) approved project is running through the Gorsebrook Research Institute at St. Mary's University. This past summer, four Mi'kmaw interns were hired to conduct interviews with community members and enter information on place names into the database. The interviews are digitally recorded and archived for future research use. The database continues to grow and over 1,000 Mi'kmaw place names (Rand, Pacificque, Smith/Francis) have been entered into the database and of those over 300 have been transliterated into the Smith/

Francis Orthography.

- The Committee is positioning for another summer of research and may potentially hire six students to work with Dr. Trudy Sable and the project team. We were advised in early March that an additional SSHRC grant of \$100,000.00 was approved for the project. Team members including Roger Lewis, Bernie Francis, Dr. Sable and Bill Jones showcased a demo website and database at the All Chiefs and Council Conference in Membertou on March 27 and 28, 2012. The C&H committee recognizes the importance of the relationship built with Bernie Francis and Trudy Sable and congratulate them on the launch of their new book *The Language of This Land, Mi'kma'ki*.

Heritage Preservation

- **Malagawatch:** Shoreline erosion-control work along the causeway and surrounding the cemetery site was completed and the results seem to be very successful. Archeological material that was discovered in the eroded areas was examined, reburied and protected on-site. A budget surplus was used to extend the erosion barrier longer than originally planned.
- **St. Ann's Mission Church:** The Committee is working with the Pictou Landing community to identify other funding sources to assist with the long term restoration work needed on site. Emergency repair work, funded through the Tripartite Project Fund, was completed.
- **Klu'scap's Cave:** An initial research project was completed with funding from Parks Canada. The Committee

continues to work with Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources (UINR) to plan a second phase work to determine the extent of the area to be proposed for designation as a Mi'kmaq cultural landscape under the Historic Sites and Monuments Board. A final report and recommendations from the project were discussed on March 26, 2012.

- **Bedford Barrens Update:** On March 9, 2011, the Officials approved a motion to accept Option 5 of the February 28, 2011, Conservation Report done on the Bedford Barrens. This option will see a boardwalk with railings and interpretive panel be placed at the site. The subcommittee has met twice to start work on this option and is working with the Department of Natural Resources on developing the boardwalk and trail design. An alternate route was identified for the trail. Partnerships were formed to develop the costs of boardwalk installation. The Committee will utilize the Project Fund to off-set the trail modification costs. It is recognized there is a need for continued archeological monitoring to be done at all stages of the work site. Work was done on pricing the cost of the site's interpretive signage. Mi'kmaq artists/designers will be used to reflect cultural values and perspectives. There is excellent opportunity to integrate with Mi'kmaq Cultural Tourism Network (MCTN) Mi'kmaq branding initiative on the signage. There are long-term issues to be addressed with protecting site and the Committee will work closely with Tripartite partners on the issues. The Committee has followed up with Parks Canada to discuss the steps needed to designate Bedford Barrens as a National Historic Site as currently



only the petroglyphs are designated. The Bedford Barrens committee has had some committee members retire and new members have been added to carry on the work to protect and preserve the site.



1997 - 2012 15 YEARS OF



WORKING TOGETHER!



Economic Development



Three Tripartite Economic Development Working Committee (TEDWC) meetings were held in the 2011-12 fiscal year: June 14 in Indian Brook, October 13 in Bear River, and February 27 in Millbrook.

In June 2011, the committee lost two Co-Chairs: Tracy Menge and Chuck Maillet, the Mi'kmaq and Federal Co-Chairs. Their contributions to the committee and the Tripartite Forum were greatly appreciated. The committee was pleased to welcome Rose Julian, from the Paqtnkek Mi'kmaq Nation as the new Mi'kmaq Co-Chair, and Lorie Benjamin from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) as the new Federal Co-chair. Although the committee membership fluctuated over the year, an emphasis was placed on ensuring the appropriate people are included as committee members.

The priorities for 2011-12 were Youth Entrepreneurship, Aboriginal Procurement and Partnership Development. These priority areas were chosen as the TEDWC's primary focus as they encourage employment and overall community economic development opportunities for Mi'kmaq in Nova Scotia. Several presentations were made at regular meetings to inform and support the committee members on matters relevant to the work plan priority areas.

In Indian Brook, a presentation was provided on the St. Francis Xavier Extension Aboriginal Women's Leadership Program. An adaptation of the program that supports innovative approaches to community and business leadership was developed and will be delivered in 2012. The adaptation is geared for young Aboriginal leaders from across Nova Scotia.

With the addition of economic tourism development as a priority area, Jennifer MacIntyre, Tourism Development Officer, presented an overview of provincial tourism activities and discussed how it relates to Mi'kmaq tourism development activities.

The committee's work plan for 2012-13 focuses on the following priority areas:

- Mi'kmaq Economic Development Strategy;
- Increased employment and youth entrepreneurship;
- Land use planning;
- Economic Tourism; and,
- Continual efforts on networking and information sharing.

Subcommittees have been established under each priority area and the agenda for each meeting will centre on updates by the subcommittees and progress being made in each work priority area. Presentations from individual communities will also be made to the TEDWC to build capacity among the committee membership and to better facilitate the objectives of the Tripartite Forum on a community-by-community basis.



Education

The Education Working Committee had four meetings: June, September, December (2011) and February (2012). The Committee had excellent participation at all meetings. Over the past year the following goals and activities were achieved:

Goal 1: Promote the restoration and preservation of Mi'kmaq Language through revitalization activities.

The Committee was involved in the development of the Mi'kmaq Language Tool Kit and explored different methods and programs to revitalize Mi'kmaq language such as Bunn is Barr Master-Apprenticeship Language Program and the different Mi'kmaq immersion methods existent in communities. The Committee participated in the Mi'kmaq Maliseet Nations News' Mi'kmaq Language Themes. Existing Mi'kmaq language initiatives were also viewed such as Jilapto'q Mi'kmaq Language Lab, Dalhousie University Pain Project, Veteran's Project and the Talking Dictionary.

Goal 2: Advocate and promote the integration of Mi'kmaq culture in Early Childhood Education; delivery of community-based training and exceptionalities training in Early Childhood programs.

The main goal was to build capacity in Early Childhood Education programs in Mi'kmaq communities and prepare early childhood educators to teach Mi'kmaq language and culture. This goal will support the initiative of licensing Early Childhood Daycares in Nova Scotia's Mi'kmaq communities. The specific tasks of the project were to:

- Establish the Mi'kmaq Early Childhood Curriculum Committee (MECCC) to collaborate with post-secondary institutions to develop components and/or course(s)

in Early Childhood Education (ECE) that reflect Mi'kmaq language and culture. Once developed, these components and/or courses will be formally adopted by the institutions and be available to students in, or close to, their communities. The MECCC is comprised of Mi'kmaq experts.

- Develop a pamphlet that described the steps in acquiring early childhood education credentials and contact information for post-secondary institution for distribution in Mi'kmaq communities.

Activities:

A five-member MECCC was established to work with curriculum developers at post-secondary institutions in Nova Scotia offering ECE programs. The Committee developed a list of resources on Mi'kmaq culture for course developers at Mount Saint Vincent University. Cape Breton University will make courses available for teaching Mi'kmaq language. ECE educators and people wishing to be early childhood educators will have opportunities to take courses on teaching language and culture.

An information gathering session was held on February 17, 2012 with participation from Mi'kmaq and provincial organizations that offered programs and services to young children and families. A main feature of the project was a pamphlet that contained information on acquiring credential for teaching in ECE centres. The pamphlet was designed by the committee with assistance from the Ta'n Lnvey Etl-mawlukwatmumk Mikmaq (TLE) Curriculum Development Centre.

Goal 3: Advocate and promote science and math in Mi'kmaq schools. Show Me Your Math (SMYM) is a program

that invites Aboriginal students in Atlantic Canada to explore mathematics that are evident in their own community and cultural practices. The program also enables participants to see that mathematical reasoning is an important part of their own heritage. Through exploring aspects of counting, measuring, locating, designing, playing and explaining, students discover that mathematics is all around them.



Activities:

To assist in the promotion of SMYM, a website was developed (www.showmeyourmath.ca) with web designer, Anthony MacPherson, and the SMYM team. Many teachers have used the site to introduce the SMYM program to their classes. A team of students and their teacher from Wekoqmaq



Mi'kmaw School created and edited videos for the SMYM website. Six are currently on the website with 10 more coming. Many of the videos were recorded in Mi'kmaq and documents students' SMYM projects. The website has proven to be a very helpful tool.



Professional Development Day was held in November and 26 teachers, a board consultant, a Director of Education, seven Elders and the SMYM team attended. Nine MK schools and seven public schools participated. The day featured learning about the history of SMYM, the theory of ethno-mathematics, and networking on how to implement SMYM in schools.

The SMYM team used every opportunity to visit schools to promote the project and provide on-going support with lead teachers.

The schools participating in the SMYM program will take part in a SMYM Regional Math Fair in May 2012.

Goal 4: Advocate and promote Mi'kmaw student transition from trades education and training to employment

The Adult Education Subcommittee held a meeting to gather resources to bridge gaps between trades education and employment. Other agencies that deal with training and employment have been contacted for on-going dialogue, including Unnoweg Development Group Inc., Unama'ki Economic Benefits Office, Mi'kmaq Employment & Training Secretariat, Active Partnership Strategy, and Unama'ki College of Cape Breton University.

Health

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The Health Working Committee (HWC) has had a busy and productive 2011-2012. This past year, the Committee met four times: May 10 in Wagmatcook, September 29 in Dartmouth, January 17 in Potlotek and February 29, in Millbrook. Staff from the District Health Authorities (DHAs) continue to participate in HWC meetings, to present on DHA work in high priority areas such as mental health and addictions and to talk about the collaborative projects between the district and the communities in their catchment area. For example, a director from the Guysborough Antigonish Strait Health Authority attended the HWC's January 17 meeting to present on the innovative partnerships that the district and the communities of Paqtnkek and Potlotek have developed. The partnerships are designed to increase and coordinate Mi'kmaw peoples' access to health services and to increase communication between the district and the two communities.

linkages to the DHAs relates to a key goal area in the committee's work-plan: relationships and collaboration. Through this goal area, the HWC seeks to promote the development of new relationships and improve existing relationships between the communities and the provincial health authorities. These relationships are important to increasing Mi'kmaq individual's access to quality, culturally safe and appropriate services. In 2011-12, in support of this goal, the HWC:

- Developed a communication and knowledge translation plan relating to the learning from the Aboriginal Health Transition Fund (AHTF) evaluations and several recent committee led projects (a special meeting of health stakeholders, held on November 24, 2010, and a research study which explored the factors and conditions necessary for successful First Nations community- health authority relationships) and will begin implementation in 2012-13.



The HWC's efforts to create stronger

Another key goal area in the HWC's 2011-12 workplace was mental health and addictions. Through this goal, the HWC seeks to increase First Nations' access to the full range of available federal, provincial, and district mental health and addictions services and to ensure First Nations' needs and priorities are reflected in their design and delivery. In support of this 2011-12 goal, the HWC:

- Advised the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation on the process to engage First Nations individuals and communities for their perspectives and opinions about issues, needs, and priorities to be included in the province's new mental health and addictions strategy. This advice and follow-up discussions with partners by The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq led to First Nations Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) funding a one-day facilitated meeting of health directors and a mental health provider from each community. Meeting participants developed a collective position and recommendations regarding gaps and needs the strategy should address for First Nations.
- Formed a mental health and addictions subgroup, which recommended that a proposal be developed and submitted to the Health Services Integration Fund (HSIF) to conduct a gap analysis regarding mental health services on reserve and to conduct a feasibility study to identify potential areas for improved access to DHA services. A proposal was submitted to the HSIF in fall 2011 and the project, if funded, is expected to begin sometime in 2012-13.

- Supported two members to attend the national Mental Health Summit, which was held in Winnipeg from February 15-16, 2012. Nova Scotia stakeholders who attended have committed to continuing the dialogue and working on priority areas that were identified. Regular updates on progress will be provided in 2012-13.

Other activities of the HWC in 2011-12 include:

- Members of the Health and Social Committees began discussions about barriers facing First Nations' access to the provincial and districts' disabilities programs and services. The Social Committee submitted a proposal to the Tripartite Forum Fund for Social and Economic Change (TFFSEC) to hire a consultant to identify jurisdictional issues, develop critical pathways to access, and to create a compendium of services. The project is expected to begin in 2012-13. A project steering committee was struck to guide the work.
- A policy statement regarding how and when the HWC will involve and engage youth in its work was developed. This policy intends to formalize and ensure consistency in the committee's future approaches. HWC's youth engagement is ongoing since youth were identified as a priority in 2006. Youth opinions and perspectives are reflected in past HWC projects (i.e., a 2008 health priority setting project). The policy affirms HWC's commitment to engaging youth in the strategic aspects of its work.



Justice



The Tripartite Justice Working Committee's main focus was bringing the Family Violence Research initiative to a good conclusion. This involved receiving formal endorsement by Officials in Fall 2011 and completing final edits to both the full report and the very comprehensive executive summary, which was distributed extensively. With the active assistance of the Tripartite Communications Officer Adam Gould, the committee was able to showcase the research report at the December 6 Commemoration and Celebration Ceremony at Province House. Mi'kmaw co-chair Paula Marshall provided an overview of the research at the Province's Crime Prevention Symposium on March 28, 2012.

The committee now focuses on how to support implementing the report's recommendations, looking first to the prevention aspect with support to the Nova Scotia Native Women's Association's Sistersness Project.

At the request of Officials, the Committee also developed a project proposal to examine the impact of the Marshall Report recommendations, and this project, which is undertaken in partnership with the Barristers Society, and the Schulich School of Law Indigenous Black and Mi'kmaw Program, will proceed in 2012-13.

Social

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The Social Committee met on a regular basis in 2011-12 and four meetings were held this year: April 14 at the Membertou Trade and Convention Centre, June 9 at Bear River Band Office, September 22 at The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq in Millbrook, and January 26 at the Glooscap Heritage Centre in Millbrook. The 2011-12 work plan guided the work and focused on the following goals: support and implementation of Social Development Framework, clarify policy and jurisdictional issues concerning assisted living (Disabilities) and daycare (Licensing Options).

The Social Committee was funded to complete three projects this year which included: Active Measures Social Pilot Projects: Implementation and Testing Phase (\$45,100.00), Options for Daycare on Reserve in Nova Scotia: Legal Research Study (\$10,000.00), and Options for Daycare on Reserve in Nova Scotia:

Daycare Directors Meetings (\$7,205.21).

Social Pilot Projects: Implementation and Testing Phase Active Measures Phase II

Active Measures Phase I was completed and Phase II proposal was approved. The project is in the implementation and testing phase within the communities of Pictou Landing and Membertou using all of the policy manuals and forms which were developed in Phase I. Also, Social Development Administrators (SDAs) and Native Employment Officers (NEOs) met quarterly with provincial and federal colleagues to discuss policy issues. The Province, in collaboration with the SDAs and NEOs, developed a First Nations Employability Assessment Tool and will provide relevant training opportunities as they arise.

The National Income Assistance Manual was updated and had an impact on the rollout of the Regional Income Assistance Manual, as all regional manuals must be consistent with the national manual. This was overshadowed by the acknowledgement that Provincial Rate Structures must be applied in First Nations communities. There are ongoing discussions regarding sectoral self-governance concerning social services.

Options for Daycare on Reserve in Nova Scotia: Legal Research Study

Naomi Metallic was hired through a

Project Fund proposal to research and develop options for on-reserve daycare in Nova Scotia. Options paper having been completed, the work progressed with the research findings being reviewed at a daycare directors meeting resulting in recommendations made to Chiefs.

Early Intervention Services and Assisted Living (Disabilities)

The Early Intervention Subcommittee presented their findings to Officials. Whereas the mandate was completely fulfilled having access clarified, relationships established and increased

service delivery for First Nations communities, the subcommittee was disbanded. Officials gave direction to the Social Committee to develop a Disabilities Subcommittee to address policy and jurisdictional issues. A joint committee was established and has developed a project proposal with the goal of identifying critical pathways to accessing provincially and federally funded disability programs and services for First Nations living on-reserve in Nova Scotia.

Sports and Recreation

The Sports and Recreation Committee continues to meet in different communities for each meeting and enjoys meeting community members and having the opportunity to visit the community and, on one occasion, took a physical activity break and walked on a trail in the community.

The 5th Annual Aboriginal Sports Summit took place at the Citadel Halifax Hotel from September 30 to October 2, in Halifax, NS, which brought together advocates in sports, physical activity, and personal and community wellness. Dr. Janice Forsyth, PhD, of London, Ontario, held the keynote address on Friday evening. She is the Director of the International Centre for Olympic Studies at The University of Western Ontario and drew upon her experiences to explore what sport is and also hosted a workshop on sport in residential schools.

The Mi'kmaw Sports Award Banquet crowned the 2010-11 Nova Scotia Athletes of the Year, Aaron Prosper and Samantha Belanger; and Coaches of the Year, Levi Denny and Christena Dykstra. Diver and former Olympic-hopeful Wegadesk Gorup-

Paul was the guest speaker at the banquet. Presentations and workshops were held earlier in the day.

The Summit capped off with an information session on the 2012 North American Indigenous Games by Tripartite Forum's Sports and Recreation Committee members. Congratulations to 2010-11 award winners!

Doctors Nova Scotia Running and Healthy Living Programs

Running Club is a free school-based program based on fun, supplying runners and coaches with handbooks. Over 1,100 students from seven schools participated. The goal for 2012 is to engage all students in elementary and junior high with a final running event.

Healthy Living Challenge focuses on Grades 4-6, and all but one school participated in the program, which consisted of a classroom presentation on healthy living and a gym session. Community programs were also offered to adults in four communities.





Lacrosse Program: The committee will be working with Lacrosse Nova Scotia in 2012-13 to institute an Aboriginal Lacrosse initiative throughout the province. The initiative will have four phases consisting of the following:

- Try lacrosse sessions that will introduce the game of lacrosse, create exposure, awareness and teach basic lacrosse skills in each First Nation community in Nova Scotia.
- Three regional sessions with Iroquois Master Facilitators to mentor the groups. There will be one session in Cape Breton, one on the Mainland and the third to be held where there is the most interest.
- Participation in the Summer Games where a 7-on-7 exhibition game at the Summer Games. Also, Lacrosse Nova Scotia will have an information booth for community members to access further information on how to become involved in lacrosse.
- Lacrosse Fits program to be implemented in five schools to: introduce the game of lacrosse, create exposure, awareness, develop leadership skills and teach basic lacrosse skills.



Bridging the Gap

This networking session was held in Membertou in early November 2011 and was the first time Mi'kmaq, municipal, provincial and non-governmental organizations all came together to discuss physical activity and recreation in Mi'kmaq communities. The different organizations brainstormed on ways to work together and, as a result, there are examples across the province of reserve communities becoming a part of municipal physical activity strategies. Mi'kmaq are being included in the planning

of the upcoming Recreation Nova Scotia Conference and the invisible line between reserve communities and their neighbours has begun to fade away in terms of recreation programming and opportunities.

Representatives made a presentation to the Mi'kmaq Kina'matnewey (MK) Board, Principals, teachers and parents to share the goals and priorities to collaborate and work with MK on connecting our common goals and priorities. It was recommended that the goal to collect data could be added to the data collection already in progress by MK. A number of other initiatives were also presented such as after-school programs and an Aboriginal lacrosse initiative, a healthy eating policy and a Doctors Nova Scotia Running and Healthy Living initiative. The presentations were made by George "Tex" Marshall, Brenda Roos, Blaise Landry and Farida Gabbani. A sincere thank you is extended to MK for the invitation and for the gifts.

Presentation to All Chiefs on "An Inventory of Physical Activity Facilities Programs and Barriers in Nova Scotia First Nation Communities"

On March 1st, a presentation was offered to the Atlantic Chiefs on the results of Bridging the Gap, as well as the findings from the Atlantic Physical Activity Asset Mapping Project. The Chiefs were very engaged and really had a strong understanding of the importance of physical activity and recreation in improving many of the social issues found on-reserve. Chief Leroy Denny suggested that the Chiefs put together a resolution to Health Canada and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada to request additional funding to support recreation. Others spoke about private partnerships and how they might be able to support recreation on communities.



Tripartite Forum Secretariat

The Secretariat is responsible for the Tripartite Forum's daily operations. This includes providing logistical support and coordinating meetings for the seven Working Committees, the Steering Committee, the Officials Committee and the Executive Committee. The Secretariat also works to communicate the positive results of the Tripartite Forum through its website, newsletter, presentations and

publications.

The Tripartite Forum Secretariat consists of four full-time staff; two Administrators, a Project Fund Manager and a Communications Officer. The office is located at The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq in Millbrook, NS.



Tripartite Forum Liaisons

Each First Nation organization within the Tripartite Forum has a Liaison Officer. They are: Brenda Tracey, The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq; Joan Sack, the Union of Nova Scotia Indians; and Cheryl Maloney, Nova Scotia Native Women's Association.

Responsibilities:

- Report the ongoing work of the Tripartite Forum to their respective Board of Directors.
- Participate as active members on the Steering Committee, various sub-committees, and the seven Working Committees.
- Provide general support when needed within the Tripartite Forum.
- Liaison for all members appointed to working committees related to their individual organization.



Joan Sack is the Liaison Officer for the Union of Nova Scotia Indians



Cheryl Maloney, Liaison Officer for the Nova Scotia Native Women's Association



Brenda Tracey, Liaison Officer for The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq

Annual General Assembly 2011



The 2011 Tripartite Forum's Annual General Assembly (AGA) was held on May 11 and 12, 2011, at Inverary Inn Resort in Baddeck, Nova Scotia. The 8th Annual Assembly was one of the highest attended in Tripartite history with nearly 100 forum members participating. In addition to a trade show, workshops included presentations on Mi'kmaq language, Project Fund review procedures, Mi'kmaq history, social media and its uses, as well as the work being done at Mi'kmawey Debert. Staff from

the Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn Negotiation Office (KMKNO) along with members of the Tripartite's Officials Committee offered a shared presentation on the Portfolios Mandates Terms of Reference. A special thank you is extended to the 2011 AGA Planning Committee members: Robyn Crowe, Denise Gloade, Adam Gould, Jim Hepworth, Samantha Higgins, Mark Igloliorte, Tracy Menge, Joan Sack and Brenda Tracy.



Financial Overview 2011-12

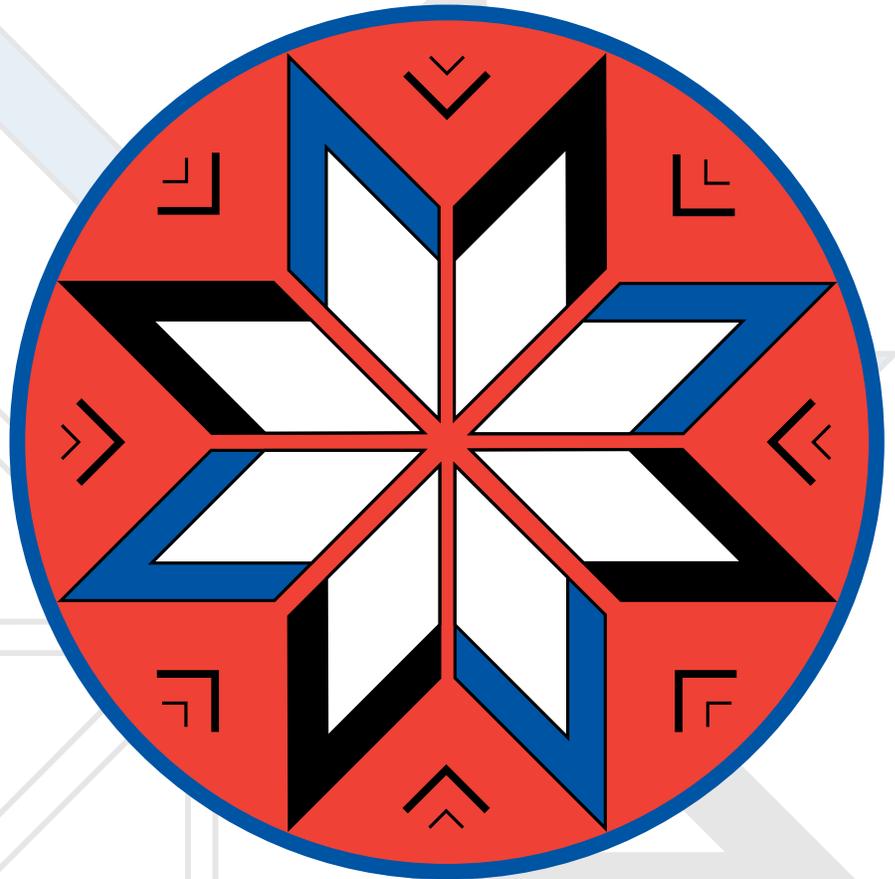
REVENUES	CMM/Secretariat	UNSI	NSNWA	Total
Communications				
Province of Nova Scotia				
AANDC				
Deferred from prior year	100,265.00			
Total Communications Revenue	100,265.00			100,265.00
Project Fund				
Project Funding - AANDC and OAA	77,797.75			
Project Fund	300,000.00			
Deferred Project Fund	66,177.55			
Total Project Fund / Manager Revenue	443,975.30			443,975.30
Core Services				
Province of Nova Scotia		116,793.00	109,824.00	
AANDC				
Core Funding - AANDC & OAA	101,816.00			
Deferred				
Other income			193.87	
Total Core Services Revenue	101,816.00	116,793.00	110,017.87	328,606.87
Secretariat				
Secretariat Funding - AANDC & OAA	258,473.25			
Deferred	22,255.71			
Total Secretariat Revenue	280,728.96			
Grand Total Revenue	926,785.26	116,793.00	110,017.87	1,153,596.13

EXPENSES	CMM/Secretariat	UNSI	NSNWA	Total
Communications				
Administration	13,447.98			
Salary/Benefits/Rent	52,094.99			
Travel/Advertise/Promotional	34,722.03			
Total Communications Expenses	100,265.00			65,753.00
Project Fund				
Project Funds	338,302.57			
Administration	7,268.00			
Salary/Benefits/Pension	53,916.35			

EXPENSES (continued)	CMM/Secretariat	UNSI	NSNWA	Total
Audit	1,577.00			
Rent	3,600.00			
Telephone/Fax	1,525.57			
Travel	9,910.83			
Total Project Fund/Manager Expenses	416,100.32			471,389.39
Core Services				
Administration & Office supplies				
Administration	9,256.00	4,667.10	9,984.00	
Leadership/Executive Director	7,501.21			
Audit	2,000.00	326.64		
Cleaning		757.86		
Insurance		5,609.60		
Legal and audit			5,487.50	
Tripartite Liason Officer				
Tripartite Policy Analyst/Native Women's Analyst & Project Development				
Salary/Benefits/Pension	64,607.78			
Salary and Benefits		57,932.85	60,755.00	
Rent	6,000.00	2,235.17	6,000.00	
Telephone/Fax/Internet	2,402.57	1,876.15	2,958.69	
Travel & Accommodations	9,048.44			
Travel		43,387.63	21,859.37	
Comm. Cord.			2,992.88	
Total Core Services Revenue	101,816.00	116,793.00	110,037.44	328,646.44
Secretariat Expenses				
Salary/Benefits/Pension	89,141.60			
Administration/Travel	61,383.51			
Co-chairs	1,528.84			
Working Committees	65,783.87			
Executive Chair	17,781.84			
Executive/Officials	8,183.93			
Steering Committee	2,620.21			
General Assembly	20,938.44			
Deferred				
Total Secretariat Revenue	267,362.24			
Grand Total Expenses	885,543.56	116,793.00	110,037.44	1,111,374.00
Net	\$41,241.70	\$0	-\$19.57	42,222.13

Our Logo

The chosen logo of the Tripartite Forum is the Mi'kmaq eight-pointed star. The historic Mi'kmaq symbol originally had seven points to represent the traditional seven districts of the Mi'kmaq Nation. An eighth point, representing the British Crown, was added when the Mi'kmaq began signing treaties with the British Crown. All discussions of the Tripartite Forum will be guided by the spirit and intent of the treaties and the treaty relationship.



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