

OCTOBER 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2014

## **Qalipu Announces Socio-Economic Agreement**

October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014

The Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation Band is pleased to announce the finalization of a Socio-Economic Agreement for the Maritime Link Project. This agreement builds on the positive relationship that has developed with Emera Newfoundland and Labrador over the past two years.

The agreement includes provisions to follow through on commitments made during the federal Environmental Assessment process to consider current use of land and resources for traditional purposes, and to monitor potential interactions. It will also promote training, employment and business opportunities for Qalipu members.



Rick Janega, CEO and President of Emera Newfoundland and Labrador, and Qalipu Chief Brendan Sheppard.

## **Qalipu and Marine Contractors Building for the Future**

Marine Contractors Inc. and the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation have recently teamed up to form **MCI Qalipu**, a new joint venture company that will be engaged in civil construction work. The new company will target major project development contracts in Newfoundland and Labrador.

MCI Qalipu has set its focus on the immediate opportunities surrounding the Muskrat Falls and Maritime Link Projects. The company also hopes to capitalize on subcontracting opportunities with other tier one companies.



## MCI Qalipu Finds Early Success in Partnership With Major Award

MCI Qalipu, has been awarded the Site Preparation contract for the Maritime Link Project in western Newfoundland.

The new company will perform much of the civil construction work for the Maritime Link Project, to prepare for the construction of the converter station and switchyards. Most of the construction will take place in Central and Southwestern Newfoundland. The site preparation work, which has already started, is scheduled to be completed by January, 2016 and will employ up to 100 workers.

## Women's Equine Retreat

October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014

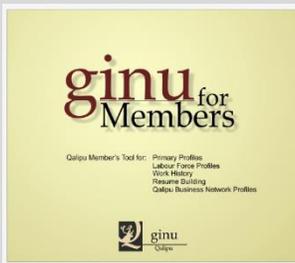
Qalipu held its first Women's Equine Retreat on October 4<sup>th</sup>. There were 16 participants who took part in this full-day event that included a cultural teaching from an Elder, a trail ride, and opportunities to bond with the horses.

The retreat aimed to empower women using Equine Assisted Therapy techniques. These can be used to address anxiety, depression, stress, relationship issues, and communication issues.

There was great feedback about the retreat, and the Band hopes to offer more events like this one in the future.



## Ginu



Ginu (ghee nu) is a Mi'kmaq word for 'us' which we use to describe our Membership and Labour Force database services for members.

As a part of our normal operations, we continually remind all of our members that if they wish to access programs and services offered by Qalipu, they will be required to update their personal information in Ginu to ensure that our database remains current and up to date.

Changes to your Ginu account can be made [here](#).



## WISE NL Aboriginal Youth Conference

November 20<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014

The Women in Science and Engineering NL (WISE NL) Conference is for female AND male high school students who are interested in learning more about career options in science and engineering. Successful applicants in grades 10-12 will participate in a 3-day conference to be held in Corner Brook November 20<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>. The conference will include professional development sessions, mentoring, and information about available opportunities.

More information about WISE NL can be found at [www.wisenl.ca](http://www.wisenl.ca)



Work Force Qalipu staff Kristina Duffy, Kristen Pittman and Samantha MacWhirter.

### Skills Parachute Program and Short-Term Course Funding

The Skills Parachute Program is designed to increase the skills of the client by improving their chances of maintaining or gaining employment. This program provides funding for short-term courses up to a maximum of 5 days in length and at a maximum cost of \$1000.

The Short-term Courses program is longer than 5 days, but less than 12 weeks in duration. Applicants can apply for funding through the Short-Term Course Funding Program.

For more information, contact Judy Falle at [jfalle@qalipu.ca](mailto:jfalle@qalipu.ca), 1-709-647-3171 or 1-888-251-7614. Application forms can be found [here](#).

### Work Force Qalipu School Visits

In September and October, staff members from Work Force Qalipu spoke to hundreds of students in Western and Central Newfoundland about funding available for post-secondary education and training. The staff were excited to have the opportunity to share information about their Youth Summer program and Graduate Incentive programs, and provided additional information for students to take home.

Both teachers and students were enthusiastic about the programs and services offered by Qalipu, and the staff had a great time making visits to many of the schools in the regions.

### Winter Semester Post-Secondary Funding

The deadline for post-secondary funding for the 2015 winter semester is **4:00 PM on Friday, October 31st**. More information and applications can be found [here](#). Students applying must be registered and keep their profile updated on the Ginu database in order to be eligible for funding. Contact Judy Falle at [jfalle@qalipu.ca](mailto:jfalle@qalipu.ca), 1-709-647-3171 or 1-888-251-7614.

### External Job Postings

Employers looking to advertise jobs on the Qalipu External Job Posting page on the Work Force Qalipu website can send ads and application deadlines to Kristina Duffy at [kduffy@qalipu.ca](mailto:kduffy@qalipu.ca).

### Emera Utility Services Career Fair

On October 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, Emera Utility Services held a career fair that was open to individuals looking for careers in the utility construction sector. The fair had a great turnout, and Work Force Qalipu staff members met with many Qalipu members to promote awareness of employment opportunities and assist them with their Ginu profiles.

## Qalipu Natural Resources Update



Qalipu member Rodney Bennett spearing an American Eel.

As the colorful leaves fall to the ground, many of us are busy storing wild foods for our winter diets. For Mi'kmaq in the region, one important wild food has been the American eel, traditionally speared through the ice in the winter. The American eel remains important to many Qalipu members today for cultural reasons including medicinal purposes. The Natural Resources Division has been studying the American eel for a number of years, focusing on the collection of traditional knowledge on harvesting methods, monitoring juvenile eels entering freshwater systems, and monitoring the commercial eel harvest to document eel population health.

During 2014-2015, The Natural Resources Division monitored juvenile eel entry into the Harry's River system and the fall commercial eel harvest in both Western and Central Newfoundland. The division

is also excited to mark the first year of a strong working relationship with Parks Canada. Qalipu staff worked closely with Gros Morne National Park to deliver an educational program for park visitors to educate the public on the biology and cultural significance of the American eel as they checked eel traps, and were permitted to measure and weigh any eels captured.

Natural Resources staff are currently completing funding requests to further these American eel studies into 2015-2016, and look forward to continued involvement with the species to preserve this valuable resource for generations to come.

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[www.qalipu.ca](http://www.qalipu.ca)