



September 17, 2015

Press Release

For Immediate Release

**Chief Sheppard disappointed with Town of Grand Falls-Windsor failure to act, honour last known Beothuk, Shanadithit**

In early June of this year Brendan Sheppard, Chief of the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation, appealed to the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor to do something about the state of disrepair of the commemorative monument at *The Shanadithit Centennial Park*, and the recent practice of referring to the park simply as Centennial Park. It was in 1967, during the celebration of the Centennial of Canada, that the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor took the opportunity to honour the Beothuk of Newfoundland by erecting a monument and naming a park after a well-known Beothuk woman, Shanadithit, who is understood to have been the last known Beothuk of this province.

“To help keep the history of the Beothuk’s in Newfoundland alive as we approach the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Canada, we, the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation Band, honourably request the town of Grand Falls-Windsor to seriously consider making repairs to the existing monument to bring it up to the standards of the original construction and to once again refer to the park by its name, in signage and documentation” Said Chief Sheppard in the letter to the Town dated June 8, 2015.

As of the date of this release Chief Sheppard has not heard from the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor, and from our understanding it has not been discussed in the public domain.

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Media

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