

# MAW-PEMITA'JIK QALIPU'K



Qalipu  
FIRST NATION

Pronunciation [mow bemmy daa jick ha le boog]

Meaning: The Caribou are travelling together

Qalipu's Monthly Newsletter

April, 2016

## Information on the Recent Enrolment Update

**Applications determined to be invalid:** In April 2016, the [Government of Canada and the Federation of Newfoundland Indians \(FNI\)](#) [announced](#):

- Applicants with an application previously determined to be invalid will now have an opportunity to correct their applications for review by the Enrolment Committee. There is a 90 day period during which corrections and other documents can be submitted.
- The Enrolment Committee will add four members (two from the Government of Canada and two from FNI).
- The deadline for the Enrolment Committee to review applications has been extended to no later than January 31, 2017. The deadline for the completion of the appeals process is now September 30, 2017.
- If you have applied for membership and your address has changed since September 2011, please [update your contact information](#).

[Click here](#) for more information

For assistance at the Qalipu office regarding invalid letters please contact a membership clerk in your area:

Charmaine Bath (Glenwood Office)

Local: (709) 679-2142

Toll Free: 1-855-263-6440

Nancy O'Connell (Corner Brook Office)

Local: (709) 634-4010

Toll Free: 1-855-634-8611

**Secure Certificate of Indian Status (SCIS) Expiry:** In addition to helping navigate the recent Enrolment update, Charmaine Bath and Nancy O'Connell are also available to assist with application and renewal of SCIS cards. Note that children's cards expire and must be renewed every three years, and adult cards every ten years. Please take a look at your child's card and take note of the expiration date.



Photo taken near Port aux Choix by Trinda Hamlyn

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Pat Muise and grandson Brody at the Bay St. George Powwow

## Be Patient, Wait for the Signs

We are each uniquely led, whether by the Creator or our own intuition, to achieve what is in us to become or accomplish in this life. If we are patient and still we will notice not only the calling of our own heart's desire, but also certain phrases, objects, or events that resonate with us in a way that shows us the way to get there. These could be interpreted as signs that seem to say 'I'm interested in this, *my spirit wants to go this way.*' This is how we find our calling, our path or just the next step. Sometimes it's how you decide what to write about, the story that needs to be told. *Be patient, wait for the signs.*

Pat Muise, a gentleman I know from home and often see at Church, called the Qalipu office recently. I took a message and had a chat with Pat. Something he said left an impression.

He said, "How can we ever be happy if we aren't grateful for what we already have? The more gratitude you have, the happier you will be."

"Pat, I'm writing that down for the newsletter." I joked, "It's that good."

We had a big laugh about it but, the truth was that those words were good medicine, a sign, on a day that I was feeling sour about a situation and needed to change my perspective.

A few days later I talked to Pat again at the Tuesday night drum group at the Bay St. George Cultural Circle. Near the end of the evening, Pat asked me to join some of the drummers and the children on the big drum. It was my first time being asked to sit at the big drum and, I was honoured. Sitting in, I prepared myself for a serious moment. Much to my surprise, we began with *Itsy Bitsy Spider*, moved on to *Old McDonald* and finished with an uproarious version of the *Sponge Bob Square Pants* theme song.

Hanging around afterward I again remarked to Pat that this would be good in the newsletter: *Sharing Traditions with Children*. Then I realized, making the same comment about a potential newsletter piece, that Pat had an important story waiting to be told.

## Pat's Story

Pat had called the office that day looking to talk to Chief Mitchell about possible support for an existing drop-in centre in Stephenville. I asked Pat to tell me more about that.

He said, "It's an addiction recovery drop-in centre. A safe place to come and talk openly about addiction and be around other people who are going through the same thing. We support each other."

The drop-in centre, run by Don Russell, a retired addictions counsellor, is a place to gather socially without alcohol. "There's internet there, you can play pool or darts. You don't have to talk about addiction if you don't want to. You can just have a coffee and be social," Pat said.

When I asked if I could share his story he said, "Yes, there's nothing to hide." He said, "I struggled for years with shame and denial about my addiction. I was isolated. Now that I've found help, there's nothing to hide or lie about. I live my life in the open and talking about it can help others do the same."

Pat talked about the problems he sees in his community like home invasions and break & enters, as a result of drug and alcohol addiction. He commented that alcoholism and other addictions affect the whole family, the whole community. He wants all these people, young and old, to know that there is support out there at regular meetings and at the drop-in centre where you can work on staying sober, one day at a time.

"We share our experiences, our strengths and our hopes. We understand each other. You don't have to do it alone."

Pat Muise has been sober for 3 years and 7 months. He attributes much of his success to a spiritual awakening and the counselling he received at a rehabilitation treatment centre for native people in Eskasoni. It is accessible through the Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program and Non Insured Health Benefits available to Qalipu members. Read more about this in Renée Dyer's latest Health Bulletin "[Let's Talk about Health, Dealing with Addictions](#)"

### Addiction Support Meetings/Drop In in Bay St. George

- Drop-in centre, Room #2, Harmon Mall, Stephenville 11:00 am—2:00 pm on Tuesday's, Thursday's and Friday's
  - St. Anne's Hall, Stephenville, 8:30 pm Fridays and Sundays
  - United Church basement, St. Claire Ave., Stephenville, 8:00 pm on Thursdays
  - Town Hall, side door, Stephenville Crossing 2:00 pm Wednesdays
  - Bay St. George Cultural Circle, Thursdays at 8:00 pm
- Contact Pat bat (709) 649-7024 or email [patrick.m.muise@gmail.com](mailto:patrick.m.muise@gmail.com)

## So you Want to Learn Mi'kmaw?

-Submitted by Dean Simon

If you've ever searched online for a Mi'kmaw translation you may have noticed that there is more than one way to write the Mi'kmaq language (L'nui'suti). The Smith-Francis (S/F) Orthography is the official system in Nova Scotia, P.E.I. and Conne River (Miawpukek). In New Brunswick another older system is still in use, commonly referred to as Listuguj. Since the Qalipu First Nation uses S/F, I will focus on that for this language lesson.

Mi'kmaq words probably look very unfamiliar to most so, I will write a phonetic representation of the word to help with pronunciation. Let's begin with two simple words that you can begin to practice in basic conversation. Remember the more you practice, the easier it will be.

### "Thank You" (to one person) = Wela'lin (WELL-LAA-LIN)

*Notes:* The apostrophe after the 'a' means that you hold that "ah or A" sound a little longer. It is important to start realizing the role of the apostrophe and long vowel because similar looking words mean different things with or without an apostrophe present.

### "You're Welcome" = Weliaq (WELL-EE-AH)

*Notes:* There isn't really a word or expression that literally translates to "you're welcome" but you can use *weliaq* to get that meaning across. *Weliasq* can also mean "that's good" and be used to react to any good news someone tells you

*Dean Simon is a Qalipu member and is one of two language apprentices (along with Marcella Williams) hired by the Flat Bay Band. He is currently studying in Whycocomagh First Nation, in Cape Breton Nova Scotia.*



Group shot: Moccasin Workshop in Flat Bay

## Workshops

Throughout the month of February Qalipu Cultural Researcher Michelle Matthews travelled to seven communities to deliver workshops in moccasin, drum and medicine bag making. Approximately 135 members of the Band, ranging from 12 to 93 years old, participated.

"Michelle traveled by herself to all the locations-Benton, Badger, Gillams, Benois Cove, Flat Bay and Kippens. She even got stranded in central one night with the bad weather we had in February," said Mitch Blanchard, Project Manager. "Between the travel and the extra effort she put into making sure everything was ready for the workshops, its clear that Qalipu is lucky to have someone so dedicated on staff."

Michelle would like to acknowledge all the volunteers who helped to prepare and/or deliver the workshops including Colleen Paul, Kellie Kerpan, Jenna Osmond, Gerard Alexander, Sharon LaSaga, Nicole Companion, Cassie McCarthy and Tara Saunders.



A participant cuts fur to be used as trim on her moccasins



Participants stretch the leather, an important step in drum making



Stephenville Ward Councilor Gerard Alexander and a participant at the Kippens Drum Making Workshop



## New Grad? Qalipu can Help you land your First Job

The Graduate Incentive Program is designed to financially support Aboriginal graduates to further their employability skills by offering the following services:

- Bonus (lump sum payment to be paid to an Aboriginal graduate who had to relocate to a different province for employment)
- Wage Subsidy Program

To be eligible, the graduate must not have worked in the field of study for more than 4 consecutive weeks since graduation and have graduated no longer than 2 years prior to the application date.

When applying for the Wage Subsidy, a letter of Good Standing from Workers Compensation will be required by the employer. The graduate cannot be an immediate family member of the employer or currently employed with the company. Wages shall be agreed upon with the employer prior to the approval of the wage subsidy. Work Force Qalipu will pay the wages up to a maximum of \$13.00 per hour. Please note that if the employer is willing to pay a higher wage, it would be at the employer's own expense. The Graduate Incentive Wage Subsidy Program will pay:

- 100% of the wages for the first 12 weeks
- 75% of the wages for the next 12 weeks

\*The employer must agree to maintain employment for the employee following the incentive program for an additional 6 weeks at their own expense

The Wage Subsidy program is based on an application process and all employers must apply to Work Force Qalipu prior to hiring the potential employee. Graduates seeking to apply for the lump sum bonus must also complete an application form. Please visit our website or click here for the application form. For more information, contact Judy Falle at 1-888-251-7614.

## Workplace Training Initiative

Submitted by Monique Carroll, Manager of Education and Training

Work Force Qalipu offered a Work Place Training Initiative program to members of Qalipu in the various Ward areas in hopes of preventing barriers to seeking employment opportunities. Over a three week period from March 7-24, 2016, twenty-five students took part in a Work Place Training Initiative Program

The Program offered courses which were identified by membership including: Fall Protection, Confined Space, Traffic Control, First Aid/CPR, WHMIS, Powerline Hazards, Fork Lift Operation and Zoom Boom Operation. Several of these safety courses gave the students hands on training with such equipment as a telehandler and a forklift machine. These courses were instructed by the Marine Institute, College of the North Atlantic, AMGWES Safety Inc. and First Aid Instructor, Jeffery Lee.

Safety is on the forefront of every job site and these participants will be prepared to engage in a safe work environment.

Marlene Farrell, Spiritual Leader with the St. George's Indian Band, was on hand during one of the training sessions to do a Traditional Opening with a Smudging, allowing our members the opportunity to share in the Culture.

Work Force Qalipu is a department of The Qalipu First Nation, which strives to help members in finding Employment and further their Educational goals. Other programs, like this Safety Training, have been offered in the past and have shown to be successful.

All students who took the training were very pleased with the training they received and are very eager to find Employment.



Group shot at the Ktaqmuk Mi'kmaq Museum



St. George's Ward Councilor Arlene Blanchard-White

## Women's Policy Office

During the January meeting of Council Arlene Blanchard-White, Ward Councilor for St. George's, was selected to represent Qalipu at the Women's Policy Office.

The Women's Policy Office is the central agency within the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador that supports the development of programs and policies to advance the status of women in the province. The Office is located within Executive Council, and the staff report to the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women.

Recently a steering committee was established to work toward a program called "Empowering Indigenous Women for Stronger Communities". Arlene notes that this is an important milestone in that all indigenous groups of the province are represented on this committee, and they are working together to be able to deliver this program.

Areas that have been identified as objectives to address include: mental health, funding, violence against women, homelessness and reconnecting generations & engaging youth. Sub-committees have been struck to represent each of these areas.

In addition to being our representative at the Women's Policy Office, Arlene also sits on the steering committee for Empowering Indigenous Women for Stronger Communities, and will be active on the Reconnecting Generations and Engaging Youth sub-committee.

Members from all Wards can speak with Arlene about the Women's Policy Office and their activities, as well as request information and resources related to the status of women in the province.

## From the Diary of Reverend Henry Lind

Historical excerpts from an 1857 diary share one man's impression of the Mi'kmaq he encountered in Bay St. George

Submitted by Karen White, historical researcher and Chief of the St. George's Indian Band



**July 17, 1857:** *Went across the harbour to visit a family belonging to the church. Also visited a family of R.C.'s The father Sheppherd a native of English Harbour near Trinity formerly a Protestant, the mother of French descent. In the afternoon sailed along shore to Seal's Rocks where there is a small settlement of MicMac Indians all R.C. Looked into several of their huts where they appeared to live in the very lowest state. They obtain a livelihood by fishing and hunting; the women making baskets and moccasins. They are a squalid miserable race chiefly from Cape Breton having mixed blood of the Indians and French. On my return to Sandy Point went to see a poor man who has been ill for 7 months. He and all his family belong to a much despised and neglected race called Jack a Tars, they speak an impure dialect of French and Indian, RC's and of almost lawless habits. A school here kept by a layman would embrace the children of these poor degraded creatures, would be of incalculable benefit bet alas/ The cry and complaints when the important subject is mooted "no funds". Oh if the Christians in our highly favoured land could witness the depth of depravity and degradation to which these their fellow creatures are subjected I am confident that a teacher of the character alluded to would soon be provided.*

**Aug 31, 1857:** *This day attended to several sick calls; requested to visit a poor couple (the man French, the woman Indian) at Seal Rocks or Indian town. Sent some medicine and promised to see them tomorrow (Morelle)*

**Sept 2, 1857:** *Crossed the harbour to Seal Rocks or Indian Town to see the poor people spoken of on the 31<sup>st</sup>.; found the man in a very low state, administered to his relief but fear the worst; his poor wife has a bad leg, a large abscess had formed and broken in the calf and has assumed an erysipelas character looking dark and angry. Applied such remedies as I thought desirable and promised to see both on Friday, for which they appeared grateful. While attending to the sick some of the poor Indians of the place caught some lobsters and eels and put them into the boat which was to bring me home. Another woman (French) provided a comfortable meal of fried salt pork and eggs with new potatoes of which I partook having a good appetite after travelling. The wind being contrary and blowing fresh I could not return sufficiently early to meet the young people for singing.*

**Authors note:** The Indian woman talked about above was Rosalie Benoit daughter of George Benoit & Charlotte Alexander of Seal Rocks. She was married to Jean-Baptiste Morel. They lived at Indian Town or Seal Rocks. Morel died on Sept 10, 1857

Rev. Henry Lind was a native of London, England. He and his wife arrived in Newfoundland to teach school at Port de Grave c. 1829. He was ordained by Bishop Spencer in 1840 and made a priest two years later. His first mission was at Catalina, Heart's Content. Rev. Lind was appointed Rural Dean of Bay St. George in 1857, and he died in 1869



Scott describes how to use a minnow trap to study Banded Killifish, Mummichog, Sticklebacks, and other small fish. Photo: Emma Bocking

## World Water Day: Educating Youth on Conserving our Aquatic Resources

Submitted by Scott Caines, Natural Resource Technician

Every year, on March 22, the world comes together to celebrate and appreciate the world's most important natural resource. Approximately 71% of the Earth's surface is made up of water, 97% of which is ocean. According to the United Nations, about 1.5 billion people rely on water for their jobs and livelihood. The Mi'kmaq people of Atlantic Canada and Newfoundland have strong ties to our aquatic resources and many of our cultural practices, legends, and traditions are tied to water (Mi'kmaq word for water: samqwan). In fact, water is recognized in many Mi'kmaq ceremonies and is the element representing the eastern direction on the Medicine Wheel. Many of Atlantic Canada's Mi'kmaq Bands, including Qalipu, have dedicated themselves to researching and conserving our aquatic resources and traditional practices. Qalipu Natural Resources (QNR) research initiatives have fed directly into Federal and Provincial programs and have led to meaningful advancements in knowledge on numerous species and have contributed to the protection of these species and their habitats.

World Water Day was celebrated at Corner Brook City Hall and had 10 booths from local stakeholders. This year's theme was *conserving water and water related jobs*. QNR had a booth aimed at educating western Newfoundland's youth on how we research and protect our aquatic natural resources. We provided a highly interactive and engaging booth that highlighted the equipment used to study fish and their habitats, including culturally important species such as American eel, and how we trap and study aquatic invasive species. We interacted with a total of 157 students from four schools, which may have included a few of Newfoundland's upcoming aquatic scientists. Overall, this proved to be another exciting event and we look forward to World Water Day 2017.

## Qalipu, Miawpukek and DFO Working Together

This year, Qalipu Natural Resources, Mi'kmaq Alsumk Mowimsikik Koqoey Association (MAMKA), and Fisheries and Oceans Canada participated in a large partnership project focused on collecting data on sea temperature and species at numerous harbours throughout Newfoundland (see map). This data will allow Fisheries and Oceans to better understand how a changing climate might impact our near shore coastal environments and will allow us to predict the likelihood of a successful range expansion of non-native species.



This figure shows the 14 sites that QNR deployed monitoring equipment in 2015

*Note from the Editor: I am sad to say that this will be the last article from Scott Caines as he has decided to explore another career opportunity. Scott's stories, and his ability to bridge scientific research and Mi'kmaq cultural and traditional practices, will be missed. On behalf of the Qalipu team and all our newsletter readers, thank you and good luck in your future endeavors.*

# Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Programs: *What you “Need-to-Know”*

Submitted by Renée Dyer, Manager of Health Services

The Qalipu Health Services division team have worked together to identify concerns that members have had with completing applications related to NIHB Programs. Often, paperwork errors and missing documentation can lead to unnecessary delay in receiving your claim reimbursements so, we would like offer some “need-to-know” tips when it comes to preparing your NIHB claim(s).

## General “Need-to-Know”

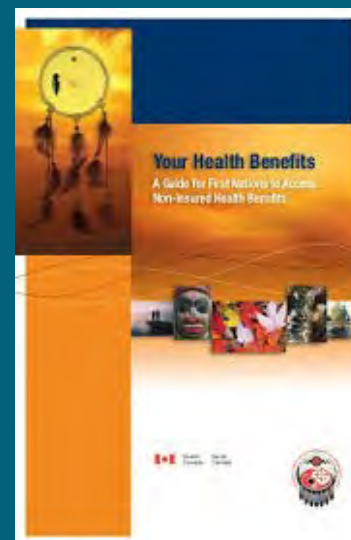
- You have *one year from the date the service(s) was provided* to apply for reimbursement.
- A separate [NIHB Client Reimbursement Form](#) *must be completed* for each eligible client and benefit. Remember, different types of benefits (e.g. prescription, dental, vision) should not be included on the same form.

## Important “Need-to-Know”

- Remember to include your Qalipu Band Registration (or identification) Number. (Parents can provide their identification number for children under 12 months of age who have not yet been registered/recognized. For dental benefits, children of any age must have their own identification number)
- Ensure you have signed and completed all necessary sections or forms will be returned.
- As part of your claim, include original receipts as proof of payment. Receipts must include the client’s full name, date of service, provider/office name, description of services, and proof of total amount paid.
- If you have secondary health coverage you must submit your claim to them first. When you submit your NIHB claim, be sure to include a detailed statement or explanation of benefits form from all other health plans/programs, as well as a copy of the original receipts (because your primary insurer will require the original receipts).

## Other “Need-to-Know”

- All members from the 3 Central Wards living in NL must complete a [Medical Transportation Reimbursement Form](#) and send it to *Qalipu’s Corner Brook Office* for processing. All other Qalipu members must complete the form and submit your claim to your nearest Regional Office (pg. 4 of the NIHB Client Reimbursement Form linked above) for reimbursement. (Proof of your medical visit must be included with the Medical Transportation Claim)
- For all other reimbursements, completed forms and supporting documentation must be sent to the applicable Regional Office, with the exception of dental claims which must be sent to the National Dental Predetermination Centre (pg. 4 of the NIHB Client Reimbursement Form linked above)
- Preapproval is required to be eligible for Medical Transportation Benefits.
- If you are required to travel beyond the nearest health facility then medical justification will be required. Include documentation from your health care provider with your reimbursement form that explains why you were required to travel beyond the nearest health facility. Note: NIHB does not accept ‘long wait-lists to see a specialist’ as sufficient medical justification for travel beyond the nearest health facility.
- If your dentist does not direct bill, you must complete the General Reimbursement form and a standard dental form which can be accessed from your dental office. Include detailed invoice of services received.



If you have questions or concerns regarding the NIHB program or need assistance completing a form please contact:

NIHB Navigator  
Howard Thistle  
709-679-5743  
855-675-5743  
[hthistle@qalipu.ca](mailto:hthistle@qalipu.ca)

NIHB Data Entry Clerk  
Jasmine Collis  
709-679-2238  
[jcollis@qalipu.ca](mailto:jcollis@qalipu.ca)

## Forms

[NIHB Client Reimbursement Form](#)

[Medical Transportation Reimbursement Form](#)

[Request for Non Medical Escort](#)

**Central Wards send Medical Transportation Claims to:**

Corner Brook Office  
3 Church Street  
Corner Brook, NL  
A2H 2Z4

# Making ginu Work for You



In the next year the ginu membership database will be enhanced to allow members to apply directly through ginu for employment, training, post-secondary funding, wage subsidies and a host of other current and future programs and services.

In order to help members find meaningful employment we are pleased to announce that Vickie MacDonald has been hired as our Employment Coordinator. Services to include:

- Assisting members with completing their profiles in the ginu database
- Providing Employers with a means to getting their job ads in front our membership through ginu
- Maintaining a list of members looking for work opportunities
- Assisting members to ensure they are registered on the necessary job banks for the various energy sector projects underway in our province.
- Using ginu to search for members with specific skill sets to help businesses with hard to fill positions.

We look forward to assisting our members. For information please feel free to contact Vickie at [vmacdonald@qalipu.ca](mailto:vmacdonald@qalipu.ca) or via telephone at (709) 634-8611



## Notice for Athletes

The Newfoundland and Labrador Winter and Summer Games will now include Aboriginal Teams from each Aboriginal Nation beginning at the Summer Games, to be held in August, 2016, in CBS, NL. Therefore, in the 2016 NL Summer Games we have the opportunity to enter a Team Mi'kmaq.

The Aboriginal Sports Circle intends to enter teams in the following sports: Swimming, Golf, Track and Field and beach volleyball.

To identify our Mi'kmaq athletes, the Aboriginal Sports Circle would like to know where your children attend school, their name, age and grade, and which of the 4 sports for the 2016 Games they would like to try out for. Your child can try out for all 4 if they wish, but can only compete in one sport. The NL Summer Games will be very competitive. All athletes who compete will be trying to do their best and be noticed as a candidate for the 2017 NL Canada Games Team. We will be assessing the aboriginal athletes and coaches for the 2017 North American Indigenous Games to be held in Toronto.

For full details, and to complete the questionnaire identifying our student athletes, please [click here](#).

## Walking with Conrad : Rise Up National Walk to End Violence



On April 3 Qalipu and the community of St. George's came together to welcome Conrad Burns and companion Sheri Campeau. The pair are walking across Canada to raise awareness about the cycle of abuse and violence in relationships, families and communities.



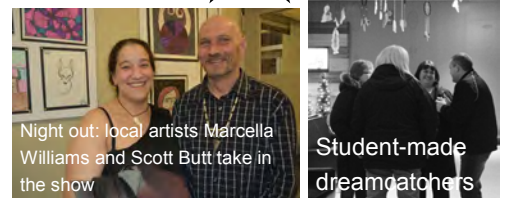
In his blog following the day's event Conrad Burns said "Saint George's is a small community of about 1500 people. 80 percent of the community is aboriginal. Their teachings are a lot like Cree but not. They are a national that is rediscovering their roots. They to were hurt by colonization. With strong leaders and open hearts, the drum is being played again, they songs are being sung, the scared herbs are being burned and the people are healing."



Thank you for spending time with us, and good luck on your journey.



## Out and About: Identity Art Show at the Arts and Culture Centre, Stephenville. Led by Miawpukek artist Kayla Stride



Night out: local artists Marcella Williams and Scott Butt take in the show

Student-made dreamcatchers





## Qalipu Cultural Foundation Volunteer Appreciation Event

On Friday, April 15, the Qalipu Cultural Foundation hosted an appreciation luncheon at the Qalipu Community Room in Corner Brook. This event was to acknowledge and show thanks for the hard work and dedication of the many volunteers who have been involved with the Band or Foundation over the past year. An open house with light refreshments was also offered in the St. George's, Glenwood and Grand Falls-Windsor Offices. Approximately 65 volunteers turned out at the event and open houses.



Presentation of the Bernie Hanlon Scholarship  
L-R Chief Brendan Mitchell, Brittany Pittman and  
Keith Goulding, Director of Work Force Qalipu

*Bernie Hanlon dedicated her life to supporting and encouraging the aboriginal people of Newfoundland both culturally and working with them to achieve their educational dreams. The Bernie Hanlon Memorial Scholarship, valued at \$1000 was created to help a Qalipu funded student pursue those dreams.*

*The winner was chosen based on a combination of grades and a 500 word essay on how the individual demonstrates his/her embodiment of the Bernie Hanlon spirit.*

*Congratulations to Brittany Pittman, this years winner.*

## Qalipu Breakfast Program Donations

1. Exploits Ward Councilor Andy Barker and Central Vice Chief Joe Bouzanne present \$500 donation to Avoca Collegiate in Badger for the school's Breakfast Program on March 24. Included in the picture are Ann Marie Young, Breakfast Program Coordinator, and Asher Cutting, Principal.
2. On March 24 St. George's Ward Councilor Arlene Blanchard White presented \$250 to Our Lady of Mercy Breakfast Program (pictured here with Principal Wally Childs). She also presented \$250 to Appalachia High's program.
3. Corner Brook Ward Councilor Brian Dicks presented a \$500 donation to C.C. Loughlin Elementary School Breakfast Program. Pictured with him are (L-R): Maggie Callahan, Bailey Simms, Helen Coleman (Principal), and Shantel Hurley

\*donations have also been made by other members of Council at Riverwood Academy, St. James Elementary, St. Peters Academy, E.A Butler All Grade, Burgeo Academy, Lakewood Academy and St. Michael's Elementary



# Qalipu First Nation

Qalipu is a vibrant Mi'kmaq First Nation established in 2011 as an Indigenous Band under the Indian Act. With some 24,000 members spread across many communities on the island and abroad, we are one of the largest First Nation groups in Canada.

We have been busy since our establishment. Qalipu has four office locations, representing the regions of our dispersed communities, that are home to nearly 50 employees. This dedicated group facilitates the delivery of a variety of programs and services including education and training, health benefits, employment services, environmental monitoring, and community economic development.

Our leadership, too, has been busy overseeing all of this while developing the Qalipu Business Network and pursuing connections that will help the Band not only to be an active player in the local economy, but also to provide opportunities for members and member-owned businesses.

We have focused our efforts on establishing a strong foundation upon which to build a prosperous and progressive Band; a community which cherishes and wants to share its heritage, holds the overall health and education of its members as highest priority and faces its future with confidence.

## Contact Us

Maw-pemita'jik Qalipu'k is a monthly newsletter. In it, we aim to share not only the happenings of the Band but also, to help connect our dispersed communities.

If you would like to give your thoughts on what you've read here, or share an upcoming community event, achievement, news item, or anything else that may be of interest to our indigenous community, please get in touch:

Alison White  
Communications Officer  
Qalipu First Nation  
Tel. 709-634-5163  
Email [awhite@qalipu.ca](mailto:awhite@qalipu.ca)

## New Website, Qalipu.ca, Online Now!

Have you stopped by Qalipu.ca lately? The Band's homepage recently underwent a complete overhaul and has a new layout which should make it more user friendly, and easier to find what you're looking for. We have also developed some new areas for content including the addition of Council Meeting Reports, a Health Bulletin and Natural Resources Reports under Communications, as well as a quick link for all documents and forms. Here you will also find an events calendar that you are invited to use to share upcoming events of interest to the indigenous community. Please contact Alison at [awhite@qalipu.ca](mailto:awhite@qalipu.ca) to share your event.

