

# NOVEMBER 2013 - UPDATED INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE QALIPU MI'KMAQ FIRST NATION

## REQUIREMENTS FOR ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

*Note: This document is not a substitute for the [June 2013 Supplemental Agreement](#), the [June 2013 Directive to the Enrolment Committee](#), or the [2008 Agreement for the Recognition of the Qalipu Mi'kmaq Band](#).*

This document updates the July 31, 2013 bulletin entitled, [Important Information for Applicants](#), and includes general guidelines for applicants who wish to provide documents related to **self-identification and/or group acceptance** to support their application for enrolment in the [Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation](#). **Please read it carefully prior to providing additional documentation in support of your application.**

As announced in June 2013, all applications submitted between December 1, 2008, and November 30, 2012, except those previously rejected, are being reviewed to ensure that applicants meet the criteria for eligibility set out in the 2008 Agreement. This includes the applications of all those who have gained Indian status as members of the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation. No new applications will be accepted.

In November 2013, all applicants, except those previously rejected, have been sent one of two letters:

- 1) Where an application is invalid, the letter advises the applicant that their application has been denied.
- 2) Where an application is valid, the letter advises the applicant that they have the opportunity to provide additional documentation relating to self-identification and/or group acceptance in support of their application, pursuant to the June 2013 Supplemental Agreement.

Applicants in receipt of letters confirming the validity of their applications (outlined in point 2 above) are encouraged to read the following information and provide the necessary documentation in support of the review of their application.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**Letters have now been sent to all applicants, except those previously rejected. Applicants who have not received a letter by November 15, 2013 should call: 1-800-561-2266.**

**Applicants who have received a letter and intend to provide additional documentation related to self-identification and/or group acceptance must ensure their submission is postmarked or received by January 31, 2014.**

**Applicants are required to include their name and file number (found at the upper-right corner of the November 2013 letter) on all documentation and photos submitted in support of their application.**

**It is the sole responsibility of applicants to determine what additional documentation, if any, they wish to provide in support of their application.**



## **A** Demonstration of Self-identification

Pursuant to the 2008 Agreement, applicants are required to demonstrate that as of September 22, 2011 – the date of the Recognition Order creating the Qalipu Mi’kmaq First Nation – they had self-identified as Members of the Mi’kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland. “Member” is defined in the 2008 Agreement as someone having a “current and substantial connection with the Mi’kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland.”

Applicants who signed applications on or before September 22, 2011, and who completed Part 2 of the application form, are considered to have self-identified as a Member of the Mi’kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland. These individuals are not required to take further action or to provide additional documentation to demonstrate self-identification.

Applicants who submitted applications after September 22, 2011 must provide one or more of the following, or their application will be rejected:

- A statement by the applicant that he or she was named on a Membership List of one of the following Newfoundland Mi’kmaq groups prior to the signing of the Agreement on June 23, 2008: the Federation of Newfoundland Indians, the Ktaqamkuk Mi’kmaq Alliance, the Benoit First Nation or the Sip’kop Mi’kmaq Band. In order to assist in making a determination as to whether the applicant was named on a Membership List of one of these Mi’kmaq groups and to help ensure accuracy, the statement should include information such as: the group in which the applicant was a member, the approximate date of membership, other names the applicant may have used, date of birth, and address at time of membership. (**Note:** Applicants can enquire as to whether their name appears on membership lists for these organizations by calling 1-800-567-9604.)
- A copy of a census form, from 2006 or earlier, in which an applicant living in Newfoundland self-identified as an Aboriginal person, a North American Indian or a member of an Indian Band/ First Nation.

*Details on requesting census information are available by telephone at (613) 951-9483, or by mail from:*

**Statistics Canada  
Census Microfilm and Pension Search Sub-Unit  
B1E-34, Jean Talon Building  
170 Tunney’s Pasture Driveway  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0T6.**

- A copy of a Newfoundland newspaper article, pre-dating June 23, 2008 – the date of the original Agreement – where it is reported the applicant participated as a member of the Mi’kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland in ceremonial, traditional, cultural or religious activities of the Mi’kmaq of Newfoundland.
- A certified true copy of an application form dated before June 23, 2008, where the applicant self-identified as Mi’kmaq, Indian or as an Aboriginal person for:
  - a job in government, a public institution or with the Federation of Newfoundland Indians, the Ktaqamkuk Mi’kmaq Alliance, the Benoit First Nation or the Sip’kop Mi’kmaq Band; or
  - a program benefit sponsored by a government or government agency.
- Other relevant documents submitted to or issued by a government, a public institution or one of the Newfoundland Mi’kmaq organizations listed above, prior to June 23, 2008, showing that the applicant self-identified as a Member of the Mi’kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland.

**Note:** A certified true copy is a copy that has been certified by a Notary Public, Commissioner of Oaths or other officer authorized to take such an oath in the jurisdiction.

It is the sole responsibility of applicants to determine what additional documentation, if any, they wish to provide in support of their applications.

Further information on the requirements for demonstration of self-identification can be found in section 8 of the June 2013 Supplemental Agreement, which is available at [www.qalipu.ca](http://www.qalipu.ca) and [www.aandc.gc.ca/qalipu](http://www.aandc.gc.ca/qalipu).

## **B** Demonstration of Group Acceptance

There are two ways in which applicants can demonstrate they meet the criteria of the Agreement for group acceptance by the Mi'kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland:

1. **Resident in one of the locations of the Mi'kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland:**  
Applicants who, on September 22, 2011, were resident in one of the locations of the Mi'kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland (listed below) meet the group acceptance criteria as long as they submitted the documentation outlined in [Section 27 of Annex A of the 2008 Agreement](#).
2. **Frequent Visits/Communications/Mi'kmaq Cultural Activities:**  
Applicants who, on September 22, 2011, were not residing in one of the locations of the Mi'kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland must demonstrate, through the provision of documentary proof, that on a regular basis over a reasonably extended period of time they made frequent visits to and/or communications with members of the Mi'kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland and participated in the group's ceremonial, religious, traditional or cultural activities. These activities must have taken place prior to September 22, 2011 and resulted in group acceptance.

Applicants should be aware that, in considering whether they have demonstrated group acceptance, primary regard will be given to documentation from the five year period immediately preceding the date of application. Documentation from later than September 22, 2011 will not be considered.

Applicants should provide as many of the following as possible:

- Copies of documents demonstrating that an applicant made frequent visits and/or communications to Members of the Mi'kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland, including air plane tickets, travel itineraries, credit card bills, phone bills or other written communications;
- Copies of newspaper or magazine articles or other publications describing an applicant's involvement in the activities mentioned in section 18 of the June 2013 Directive;
- Original photographs showing the applicant's participation in the activities mentioned in section 18 of the June 2013 Directive;
- Original family or personal documents (e.g. e-mails, correspondence, other written documents) demonstrating the applicant's interaction with the Mi'kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland;
- School transcripts or documents showing the applicant's registration in a course to gain knowledge on Mi'kmaq history, culture or traditions;
- Papers, essays or correspondence reflecting the pursuit of knowledge of the Mi'kmaq way of life or supporting recognition under the *Indian Act* of the Mi'kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland;

- Minutes from a meeting of a Newfoundland Aboriginal organization showing the applicant's attendance;
- Receipts showing the applicant's subscription to a community newspaper circulated in a location of the Mi'kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland;
- Trapping, hunting or fishing permit or license to an area in Newfoundland that historical documents show was used by the applicant's ancestors for these purposes; and
- Deed, Notice of Assessment for municipal tax purposes, affidavit from a municipal official, or utility bill showing address in a location of the Mi'kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland.

**Note:** Where original documentation is requested, applicants may provide certified true copies certified by a Notary Public, Commissioner of Oaths or other officer authorized to take an oath in the jurisdiction.

It is the sole responsibility of applicants to determine what additional documentation, if any, they wish to provide in support of their applications.

**Applicants are required to add their name and file number (found at the upper-right corner of the letter) to all documentation and photos submitted in support of their application.**

Further information on the requirements for demonstrating group acceptance can be found in the June 2013 Directive, which is available at [www.qalipu.ca](http://www.qalipu.ca) and [www.aandc.gc.ca/qalipu](http://www.aandc.gc.ca/qalipu).

## **C Provision of Affidavits and Sworn Declaration (in support of Section B)**

Applicants providing new documentary evidence in support of group acceptance (Section B: Frequent Visits/Communications/Mi'kmaq Cultural Activities, above) must also provide:

- **at least two affidavits** from residents of the Mi'kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland on the island of Newfoundland sworn before a Commissioner of Oaths, Notary Public, or other officer authorized to take oaths in the jurisdiction, which describe in detail the nature and purpose of the visits or communications, and the religious, ceremonial, traditional or cultural activities practiced by the applicant in one of the locations of the Mi'kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland (see section 11 of the June 2013 Directive); and
- **a sworn statutory declaration** by the applicant, made before a Commissioner of Oaths, Notary Public, or other officer authorized to take oaths in the jurisdiction, regarding the authenticity of the evidence they provide and how it relates to their participation in or integration into the ceremonial, traditional, religious or cultural activities of the Mi'kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland (see section 12 of the June 2013 Directive). This form is available at [www.aandc.gc.ca/qalipu](http://www.aandc.gc.ca/qalipu).

**Note:** Affidavits or sworn declarations do not constitute independent proof of group acceptance and must be accompanied by documentation as outlined in Section B.

## **D Applicants Under the Age of 18 Years at Time of Application**

The assessments of **self-identification** and **group acceptance** for applicants who were under the age of 18 years at the time of applying for enrolment (or as of September 22, 2011) can be based on information contained in the application of one of their parents or on the provision of documentation demonstrating that at least one of his or her parents had self-identified and had been accepted as a Member of the Mi'kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland. These applicants are not precluded from also providing documentation to demonstrate that they, on their own, had self-identified and been accepted as a Member of the Mi'kmaq Group of Indians of Newfoundland as of September 22, 2011.

## **E Provide Additional Documentation**

Please send all additional documents that you wish to provide in support of your application to the following address:

**Enrolment Committee**  
**c/o Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada**  
**Box 9100**  
**Winnipeg, MB R3C 0M9**

Your submission must be postmarked or received by January 31, 2014.

### **Before sending, have you:**

- Included all documentation supporting self-identification, if applicable (Section A)?
- Included all documentation supporting group acceptance, if applicable (Section B)?
- Included affidavits and sworn declaration as required, if applicable (Section C)?
- Ensured that all documents, affidavits and sworn declarations are clearly identified with your name and file number (found at the upper-right corner of the letter confirming the validity of your application)?
- Updated your contact information, if it is different from what was provided on your original application, by calling 1-800-561-2266?

## **F For More Information – consult the websites and watch for updates**

For more information – including links to the June 2013 Supplemental Agreement, Directive to the Enrolment Committee and Frequently Asked Questions – the following can be consulted:

Web: [www.aandc.gc.ca/qalipu](http://www.aandc.gc.ca/qalipu) or [www.qalipu.ca](http://www.qalipu.ca)

Phone: 1-800-561-2266

TTY: 1-800-465-7735

### **List of geographic locations of Mi'kmaq groups of Indians on the Island of Newfoundland**

Abrahams Cove	Deer Lake	Lower Cove	Sheaves Cove
Appleton	Flat Bay	Mainland	Ship Cove
Badger	Fox Island River	Massey Drive	Sop's Arm (added by
Birchy Bay	Gallants	Mattis Point	the parties on
Bishop's Falls	Gander	McIvers	Oct. 17, 2008)
Black Duck Brook	Gander Bay South	Meadows	St. Albans
Black Duck Siding	Gander Bay North	Millertown	St. Fintan's
Boswarlos	Gilliams	Mount Moriah	St. George's
Botwood	Glenwood	Norris Arm	St. Teresa's
Brown's Arm	Grand Falls/Windsor	Northern Arm	Steady Brook
Buchans	Hughes Brook	Pasadena	Stephenville
Burgeo	Humber Arm South	Peterview	Stephenville Crossing
Campbells Creek	Irishtown/Summerside	Piccadilly	Swift Current (added by the
Campbellton	Kippens	Point Leamington	Enrolment Committee)
Cape St. George	Lark Harbour	Port Au Port East	Three Rock Cove
Comfort Cove	Leading Ticks	Port Au Port West	West Bay
Corner Brook	Lewisporte	Red Island	York Harbour
Cox's Cove	Lourdes		