

Mawpmi'tjik Qalipu'k

GOOD TEACHINGS: "MAWPMIT'JIK QALIPU'K" THE CARIBOU ARE TRAVELLING TOGETHER

Pronunciation **Ma be ta jik—ha le boo gee**

At the recent launch of the Qalipu Cultural Foundation my youthful elder, Perry Young, said to me, "You should really be introducing yourself in the Mi'kmaq language and using it a little in your communications." Challenge accepted, Perry.

Kwe', ni'n teluisi (hello, my name is) Alison White, I'm the Communications Coordinator for Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation.

To incorporate Mi'kmaq language into this newsletter, I turned to local language leader Delina Petit Pas to translate my idea for the Newsletter's title to represent the way of the caribou: they travel together, work together, and live in community with one another. This is the caribou way and, it is the attribute that we could all emulate to make our Qalipu First Nation strong.

"Mawpmi'tjik Qalipu'k. It means *'The caribou are travelling together.'*" Delina said, "Caribou have a great sense of community. This is how they flourish."

Perfect!

Delina has a passion for Mi'kmaq language, which she learned in part through listening to her father speaking it at home and later, by listening to language cassette



L-R Sharon Bennett, Kellee O'Brien White Frye, Delina Petit Pas, Darlene Sexton, Cora Butt, Marlene Farrell and Marcella Williams at a recent Mi'kmaq Language Enthusiasts Gathering

tapes made available by The Native Council of Nova Scotia. She has been sharing that passion since moving to Newfoundland.

Delina hosts a regular Mi'kmaq Language Enthusiasts Gathering and recently she was called on, along with Kalo'lin Baggs-Sheppard of Flat Bay, to share her knowledge and passion as a member of the Grandmother Steering Committee for the No'kmaq Village initiative 'Mi'kmaq Language Mentorship Program 2015'.

A desire to learn the Mi'kmaq language has been on the rise among Qalipu members since the formation of the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation in 2011. Many have been seeking new opportunities to self-identify and discover elements of their Mi'kmaq heritage, like language.

The Qalipu Cultural Foundation has been created to help address that need by reaching out to individuals with limited knowledge of their heritage, and providing them with information and experiences that will assist in the discovery process. Turn to page 2-3 for some great pictures and details of The Cultural Foundations' Launch this month and keep an eye out for programs that will be offered by the organization in the future.



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Qalipu
Mi'kmaq
First Nation Band

Qalipu Cultural Foundation Launch



(L-R) QCF Secretary/Treasurer and MC Tom Rose, Qalipu Chief Brendan Sheppard, QCF Vice Chair Sherry Dean and MHA Tony Cornect following the unveiling of the Qalipu Cultural Foundation Logo.



(L-R) Scott Butt, Troy Bennett, Brycen Young, Perry Young and Kenny (Mutchie) Bennett, some of the Mi'kmaq cultural leaders of the Bay St. George area.



Marilyn Bruce, one of the local artists featured at the Artisan's reception following the launch.

The Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation officially announced the launch of the Qalipu Cultural Foundation on February 11, 2015, during an event hosted at the K'taqmkuk Mi'kmaq Museum in St. George's. Through unique programs and services, the Qalipu Cultural Foundation will connect Qalipu members and the public with information and experiences aimed at preserving and promoting Mi'kmaq culture and history.

“Our people have a long and rich history of cultural, social, political and spiritual traditions. However, after centuries of European contact and through the assimilation of European policies and culture, many of our Mi'kmaq traditions have been eroded, if not completely lost,” said Chief Brendan Sheppard, “The launch of the Qalipu Cultural Foundation marks a significant milestone for Qalipu and it demonstrates our investment in preserving our culture and heritage. We believe we must understand where we have come from in order to create a vision for the future.”

The event was attended by more than 80 invited guests, included performances by The Strong Women's Drum Group, youth singers Brycen Young and Caitlyn Bennett and featured the treasured artwork of local artisans Marilyn Bruce and Scott Butt.



Part of the collection of featured work by Scott Butt.

Qalipu Cultural Foundation Launch

Sherry Dean, Vice Chair of the Foundation, spoke of the need for the organization and identified some of the services the Foundation will provide. “Many of our new members have grown up in a vacuum of information and knowledge of their heritage. The Qalipu Cultural Foundation is dedicated to reaching out to these individuals and providing programs and services that include culture, history and heritage workshops, elder community engagement sessions, Mi’kmaq language classes and genealogy programs.”

During the launch Qalipu member Dana Squire reinforced the need for Foundation and its services. “The Foundation will be an excellent resource for us to educate ourselves and learn about things that we have lost or have not been exposed to, such as our language, Mi’kmaq craft, traditional hunting and fishing, and spiritual practices.”

Qalipu has incorporated several of its existing programs into the Cultural Foundation’s mandate and will continue these services through the newly formed organization. Members are encouraged to connect with the Qalipu Cultural Foundation to gain a better understanding of their culture, to learn about their heritage and to volunteer with the organization.

Qalipu Cultural Foundation Website click [here](http://www.qalipuculturalfoundation.ca) or type this address into your web browser:

<http://www.qalipuculturalfoundation.ca>



Members of the Strong Women’s Drum Group enjoy a cup of chaga tea. (L-R) Jackie Snook, Kalo’lin Baggs-Sheppard, Lorraine Bennett and Anne-Marie Young. Missing from photo but, with group at event, was Joanne Miles.



Following the launch, drummers, singers and other guests gathered around the drum and shared songs.



Melvin White and daughter Melissa White prepared and served Chaga tea.



One of the students from the Appalachia High Mi’kmaq Studies Class, Caitlyn Bennett, shared song “Meet me by the Water”.

Natural Resource Division

RED CROSSBILL



This is one of the endangered species that were discussed at a recent series of consultations hosted by Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation Natural Resource Division.

The Red Crossbill's population has declined by 70% over the last 15 years. Research shows that threats such as habitat disturbance, decrease in food resources and oil spills and other toxins are to blame for their decline.

AMERICAN MARTEN



American Marten are found in many areas of the province and is one of the few species that are native to Newfoundland.

The marten relies on old growth coniferous or mixed forests. They are adversely affected by habitat loss and fragmentation.

SPECIES AT RISK/ABORIGINAL TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE SESSIONS

Members of the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation met in Stephenville, Corner Brook, Grand Falls and Gander to participate in meetings hosted by Qalipu's Natural Resource Division. The presentation and discussion based forums focus was Species at Risk in the province and Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge about those species.

"In the past year Qalipu has moved from a primarily aquatic-based research focus to include terrestrial, or land-based, species and habitats." Said Scott Caines, one of Qalipu's Natural Resource Technicians, "Our presentation made reference to some of those aquatic species such as American eel and banded killifish, and also included several land based species that are at risk and in need of further research, public awareness and a commitment to protect."

The presentation looked at facts based on federal research on Species at Risk in the province including statistics on declining populations, their habitats, as well as global threats. Local disturbances were also discussed and participants were invited to share their experience and what we can do as individuals to protect species and their habitats.

There were several local fish harvesters on hand at the Stephenville session who discussed the importance of American eel populations and maintaining sustainable fisheries. Louis MacDonald, a Qalipu member from St. George's who has been involved in the fish industry in aquaculture, harvesting and sales for more than twenty years, notes that green crab populations could be affecting the ecologically significant eel grass habitat.

"The population of green crab has exploded in the past year or two," Says Macdonald, "we need to know how this will affect the future of our fishery. It's reassuring to see Qalipu working together with industry to manage these issues."

Caines was pleased with the turnout at the four sessions and all those interested in ecological stewardship. He looks forward to further research in this area. If you missed the session, you can still share your knowledge and experiences. Please contact Scott Caines at Tel. 1 (709) 634-1500 or Email scaines@qalipu.ca.



A participant at one of four Species at Risk/Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge seminars held in February



Scott Caines, Natural Resource Technician

Natural Resource Division

TRADITIONAL USE STUDY IN FLAT BAY AND STEPHENVILLE WARDS

Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation is updating its Traditional Land Use Study During the months of February and March. Interviewers Ivan White, Alan Tait, Nina Tourette-Retieffe, and Michelle Matthews (Project Manager) will be collecting information about Qalipu members' knowledge of land use and food harvesting within his/her lifetime. This will include collecting information on cultural connections to the land.

Jonathon Strickland, Manager of Qalipu's Natural Resource Division and TUS Team Leader says that members in the wards of St. George's and Stephenville Crossing were interviewed last year and this year members of the Flat Bay and Stephenville wards will be asked to participate in the Traditional Use Study.

"We want to hear from all our members." Said Strickland, "It will take some time to get around to everyone but, that is our plan."

To participate in an interview, individuals must be a member of the Qalipu Band from the Stephenville or Flat Bay Wards, and be at least 18 years of age. Individuals who were interviewed during the Traditional Land Use Study conducted by the Federation of Newfoundland Indians in 1999 will be invited to participate again to help keep the study current.



Manager of Qalipu's Natural Resource Department, Jonathon Strickland, briefs the team on the importance of the Study and how the data can be used to help guide industry away from culturally significant or sensitive land areas.

Call Today:

To arrange your interview time and location please contact a TUS Interviewer at one of the following locations:

Flat Bay: 647-1370

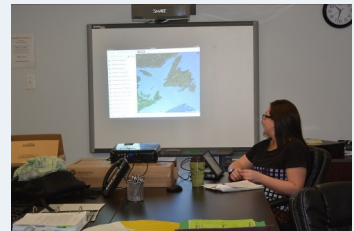
Stephenville:

643-0856,

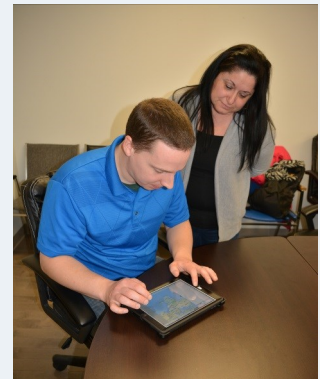
643-0857

Email:

mmatthews@qalipu.ca



Rebecca Ryan, Qalipu GIS Technician explains the technology that will store and map the data.



Scott Caines, Natural Resource Technician demonstrates data entry and mapping to Interviewer Nina Tourette-Retieffe

Arts and Crafts Consultations

WHAT MEMBERS SAID



(L-R) Mike Massie (Kippens) and Scott Butt (Flat Bay Brook)

“We need to keep Mi’kmaq art and crafts as part of our educational offering in NL. Having young people involved in learning and producing art leads to galleries, connections with craft distributors, and a strong Mi’kmaq arts community. If Qalipu has access to funds for education, why not funnel some of that money into developing our artists and crafts people. Education leads to the kind of sharing and cultural rediscovery we are talking about tonight.” —Mike Massie



Judy Lavaelle Dunphy (Stephenville)

“Artists could benefit from a digital link to feature their portfolio of work, their bios, and it could be an avenue for artists to sell their art through Qalipu.”



Evan Butler (Stephenville Xing)

“Art is a communication between the present and the past. It provides for freedom of expression. There is no set way, tools or methods that make art “traditional”. We can incorporate the traditional with the modern to share our heritage.”

MEMBERS IN STEPHENVILLE AREA SHARE THEIR THOUGHTS

Stephenville, NL, February 24, 2015—Snow squalls and flurries didn’t stop members from the Bay St. George area from coming out to an Arts and Crafts Consultation Session hosted by Qalipu Mi’kmaq First Nation at the Day’s Inn in Stephenville. The session was the second of three being held around the province with the aim of consulting with artisans and crafters on the development of Qalipu’s Arts and Crafts Strategic Plan.

Terry Hickey, the Qalipu consultant who led the discussions, said that the purpose of the session was to start discussions with artists and crafts persons to help define what role Qalipu can play in promoting opportunities for culture and heritage, like the expression of Mi’kmaq art and craft.

“Qalipu wants to define the role that the Band can play for you, and the role that you can play as you participate in this endeavor.”

Hickey went on to say that the newly established Qalipu Cultural Foundation will be the main point of contact for artisans and crafts people to connect with Qalipu.

“The Foundation is mandated to discover, enhance, and grow the culture and heritage of the Mi’kmaq people of Newfoundland and focus on discovering what the Qalipu story is. That is to say, who are the Qalipu Mi’kmaq, from a culture and heritage point of view, and what is authentic and real? Qalipu recognizes that the artists and crafts people are key to this discovery process.”

Share your thoughts by participating in the Arts and Crafts [online survey](#)



(L-R) Marcella Williams, Perry Young and Cora Gallant Aucoin discuss their experiences as Mi’kmaq artists living in Newfoundland and how Qalipu can be a part of the arts community.

Tourism Survey



Photo by Danny Stanford, Central Guardian

PLEASE, SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

The Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation has identified tourism as a promising economic growth area. We envision building on the tourism infrastructure already in place in the province to create a uniquely Aboriginal tourism strategy and implementation plan. We want to work with all Band members to accomplish this.

Qalipu Survey on Tourism

As an important element of the Band's Economic Development action plan, Qalipu has engaged an experienced team of specialists to prepare a **Tourism Strategy and Implementation Plan** for the Band.

YOUR OPINIONS ON THE FORM AND NATURE OF QALIPU TOURISM IS IMPORTANT TO THIS PROCESS.

Please take some time to **CONFIDENTIALLY** complete this online Survey on Tourism and watch for on-going opportunities to connect with development of the plan. This survey will be open from February 26 to March 26, 2015 (4 weeks).

If you have any questions about development of the plan or additional ideas please contact Nicole Companion: ncompanion@qalipu.ca

Thank you!

Click [here](https://tractconsulting.typeform.com/to/WYNCIE) to start the survey or type this address into your web browser

<https://tractconsulting.typeform.com/to/WYNCIE>

Renewing your SCIS Card

We have been reminding members that all Secure Certificates of Indian Status (SCIS) cards have a set date at which they expire. This occurs on all members' birth dates, with adult cards expiring in a 10 year time frame, and children's in a 3 year time frame.

It should be noted that the majority of children's SCIS cards will be expiring in 2015. Parents must re-apply for a new card for their children.

Qalipu is here to help with the process of reapplication. An SCIS clerk, Jody Davis, has been hired to take appointments at the Corner Brook office. She will also be traveling to St. George's for appointments with members in that area. Please call (709) 634-0996 or email jdavis@qalipu.ca to book your appointment.

Charmaine Bath, Indian Registration Administrator, will continue to assist members from the Glenwood office and she will travel to Grand Falls to assist members there. Please contact Charmaine at (709) 679-2142 or email cbath@qalipu.ca

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada has posted a helpful how-to video on their website. Click [here](#) to watch it, or type this address in your web browser:

<http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1414500795986/1414500927223>



Mawio'mi, Qalipu's Annual Aboriginal Business Forum

A key measure within the Qalipu Strategic Plan is the degree to which we are able to provide support to Aboriginal Entrepreneurs. One of those support tools is Mawio'mi 2015, our fourth annual business forum where we will

bring our members together to network with key industry officials.

The intent of Mawio'mi 2015 is to provide our entrepreneurs with the knowledge and tools to avail of the various business opportunities that are present within the provincial economy. We will highlight the many procurement and supplier development opportunities that exist within the Hebron, Muskrat Falls and Maritime Link projects.

This year's event will be hosted in Stephenville on March 26th at the Days Inn. Registration is free for Qalipu Members and currently available online [here](#) or by calling Nicole at (709) 634-8043.



Aboriginal Arts & Stories Competition

Are you a youth between the ages of 11 and 29 with a passion for art or story telling? A project by Historica Canada invites you to submit your Aboriginal Arts & Stories for a chance at winning up to \$2000 or one of many other great prizes! Check out it out at www.our-story.ca

COMPETITION GUIDELINES

THIS YEAR'S DEADLINE IS MARCH 31, 2015. THE CONTEST IS OPEN TO CANADIANS OF ABORIGINAL ANCESTRY (STATUS, NON-STATUS, INUIT AND MÉTIS) BETWEEN THE AGES OF 14-29.

New this year: our competition is open to emerging writers and artists between the ages of 11-13!

Create a writing or art piece that explores a moment or theme in Aboriginal history or culture.

A 200-400 word Artist's or Author's Statement that explains how your piece reflects or interprets the moment or theme you selected must accompany your entry into the Aboriginal Arts & Stories competition.

You may enter [online](http://www.our-story.ca) with your desktop computer, or by [e-mail](mailto:our-story@historica.ca), [mail](mailto:our-story@historica.ca) or [fax](mailto:our-story@historica.ca).



Celebrate
creativity,
heritage
and legacy.



ABORIGINAL
ARTS & STORIES

Between the ages
of 11 and 29?

Showcase your creativity and explore your heritage.
Win up to \$2,000 and other great prizes!

Deadline: March 31
1.866.701.1867

OUR-STORY.CA

A Project of:  HISTORICA CANADA

Presenting Sponsor:  ENBRIDGE

Supporting Sponsors:  Canada  TD  CANADIAN HISTORY

Media Sponsors:  CBC  #WALRUS

Your Community Events



Bay St. George Pow Wow Recycling Fundraiser:

Pow Wow Committee Chair Victor Muise says this year it's going to be another big event! Please help them to manage the costs by donating your recycling at your Scotia Recycling locations in Stephenville and Corner Brook, Grand Falls, Gander and St. John's. Just ask them to add your refund money to the 'Pow Wow 2015' fundraising account.

Bay St. George Singing and Drumming Sessions

The Bay St. George Cultural Circle invites all Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people to attend their singing and drumming sessions Tuesday nights from 6:30–8 p.m. Anyone interested in learning to drum and sing traditional Mi'kmaq songs and receiving teachings is invited to visit the Bay St. George Cultural Circle at 329 Main St. in St. George's. For more information contact Odelle Pike at 721-0195.

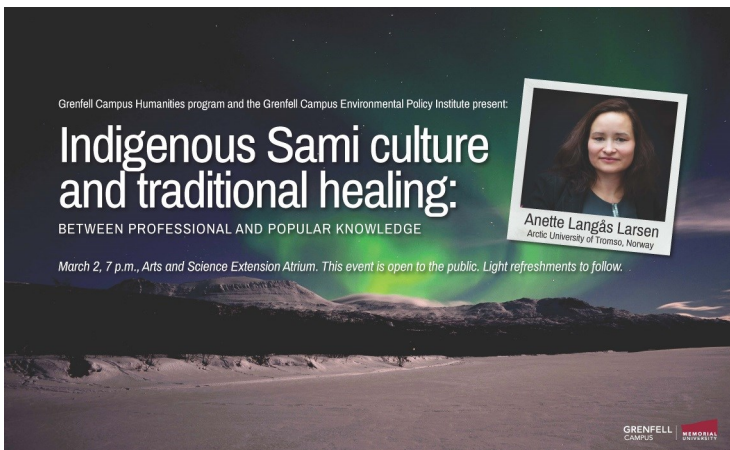
Port au Port: Language, Singing and Drumming

Students and parents are invited to come learn about Mi'kmaq language and songs with Victor Muise and Marcella Williams every Thursday from 6:00-8:00 PM at St. Thomas Aquinas School in Port au Port.



General Meeting for Corner Brook/Benoit's Cove Qalipu members

Qalipu Ward Councilors Brendan Mitchell and Bernard White invite members from Corner Brook and Benoit's Cove to attend a meeting at the Pepsi Centre in Corner Brook on Wednesday, March 4, 2015 at 7:00 pm. The Councilors will share information on Qalipu programs, services and benefits for members. Work Force Qalipu Director Keith Goulding will also be on hand to give a presentation on economic development.



To share your community events please contact Alison White at Tel. (709) 634-5163 or Email awhite@qalipu.ca

Mi'kmaq Language Get Together

Where: St George's Elementary School
When: Saturday February 28, 2015

Time: 11:30am- 4:15pm

Agenda for February 28, 2015
11:30 Honour Song and Opening Prayer
11:50 Mi'kmaq language session,
Creating Mi'kmaq Language Posters
1:00- 2:30 Break
2:30-3:30 Practising our Mi'kmaq Language
3:30-4:00 Debriefing Circle
4:00 Song and Closing Prayer

Next gathering: March 14 at 5 Boyd's Lane, St. George's.
Visit Facebook page "Traditional Knowledge" to stay tuned.