



April 23, 2015

Press Release

For Immediate Release

## Qalipu and Red Cross partner to prepare First Nation communities

April 23, 2015—Corner Brook, NL—As part of the National Emergency Preparedness week, May 3-9, Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation will partner with the Canadian Red Cross to offer Disaster Management training to members in First Nation communities within the Qalipu Wards. This will be the first time that this program will be offered in partnership with a First Nation in Atlantic Canada.

Judy Bond, Red Cross Coordinator for Western Newfoundland and Labrador, notes that disasters can happen at any time, often without warning and it's important to be prepared.

"Flooding, fires, serious storms and other emergency situations can leave you and your family without electricity or access to the supplies you need. The Disaster management and emergency preparedness training, offered in partnership with Qalipu, will raise awareness of those risks and how to plan to function for 72 hours independently if help is unavailable."

Brendan Sheppard, Chief of the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation, is pleased to work with the Canadian Red Cross to offer this training to members.

"Providing members with an opportunity for this type of training is very valuable in preparing them for some of the difficult moments in life that can happen any time. We are so thankful that the Red Cross has approached the Qalipu Band to work together on this initiative."

The first of three sessions will be launched in St. George's at the T'kaqmuk Mi'kmaq Museum. The training will run from 8:30-4:30 on Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. Lunch will be provided. Registration for this session is free and will be open until May 4. Space is limited.

For more information, or to register, please contact Judy Bond at (709) 634-4626 or by email at [judy.bond@redcross.ca](mailto:judy.bond@redcross.ca)

Members are advised that this training will also be offered in the Bay of Islands and Central region. Stay tuned for dates in your area.



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