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Press Release

For Immediate Release

Qalipu Cultural Foundation receives charitable registration status

Corner Brook, April 15, 2015—with its newly acquired designation as a registered charity, the Qalipu Cultural Foundation is well on its way to achieving its mandate of supporting Mi'kmaq culture and heritage in Newfoundland.

The Foundation was launched in February with a logo unveiling and an afternoon of celebrations at the T'kaqmuk Mi'kmaq Museum in St. Georges however, Chairman of the Foundations Board of Directors, Charles Pender, says that the group has been working for over a year to get this important initiative going.

“Our work to this point has been to get set up, to be properly established with a strong base and accountability to members. We have done this and, being recognized as a registered charity is a very important part of this process.”

Pender went on to say that being registered with the Canada Revenue Agency provides greater opportunity for accountability and transparency. “Money raised to support the development of programs and projects will flow through the guidelines of the Canada Revenue Agency. This means members and other stakeholders can be sure of the purpose it is being used for.”

The purpose Pender is referring to is the Foundations plan to offer unique programs and services that will connect Qalipu members and the public with information and experiences aimed at preserving and promoting Mi'kmaq culture and history.

Vice Chair of the Foundation, Sherry Dean, notes that there are many options being considered for fulfilling this mission.

Dean said, “Programs could include culture, history and heritage workshops, elder community engagement sessions, Mi'kmaq language classes, genealogy programs and provision of resources to Mi'kmaq artisans and crafters. There are so many possibilities and we are so excited to get started.”

Mitch Blanchard, Qalipu's Resource Coordinator, provides support to the Foundation and said that charitable status will give the Foundation access to grants provided by various organizations and different levels of government who require charitable status as part of their application criteria. It also gives Qalipu members the opportunity to support initiatives they care about, and receive a receipt for income tax.

“This charitable status will allow the Qalipu Cultural Foundation to hold fundraising events, and find support from members and other participants who want to get behind the Foundations mandate.” Said Blanchard, “I look forward to the possibilities at hand.”

To find out more about the Qalipu Cultural Foundation, or to donate, visit their website at <http://qalipuculturalfoundation.ca/>

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