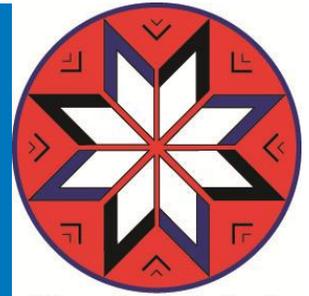


TRIPARTITE FORUM

AKNUNTMAQN

Winter 2015



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Upcoming
Committee
meetings

Steering

May 25, 2015

Culture & Heritage

September 2, 2014

Economic Development

May 12, 2015

Education

May 12, 2015

Health

May 14, 2015

Justice

June 18, 2015

Social

May 13, 2015

Sports and Recreation

August 20, 2015

All meetings are subject to change. Please check the Tripartite Forum website, or contact the Tripartite Forum administrators.

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Volume 4, Issue 3

FORUM FOSTERS CHANGE WITH MARSHALL SYMPOSIUM

Justice working Committee.

Twenty Five years after the Royal Commission into the wrongful conviction of the late Donald Marshall Jr., the Mi'kmaq –Nova Scotia- Canada Tripartite Forum held the Donald Marshall Symposium at the Membertou Trade and Convention Centre in Membertou, Nova Scotia on January 14-15, 2015. The Symposium brought together key stakeholders and decision makers to examine the impact of the Commission's recommendations.

Marshall was arrested in 1971 at age 17 for the murder of a black Nova Scotian youth, Sandy Seale, in a Sydney park. He was convicted of murder and spent 11 years in prison before his acquittal by the Court of Appeal in 1983.

Premier Stephen McNeil provided opening remarks on day one of the two day symposium. McNeil stated that progress is being made however; more work has to be done to improve the justice system for under-represented people like Aboriginal persons and African-Nova Scotians.

The 1989 report on the Royal Commission listed 82 recommendations. The Tripartite Forum Justice Working Committee, along with other officials, are

reviewing the progress that has been made on those recommendations using the symposium to comprise a list of further actions.

Continued on page 3.



Above: Panel discussion with facilitator Dan Christmas.

AKNUNTMAQN Winter 2015

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The Mi'kmaq Project for Innovation and Collaboration (MPIC) and their partnership with the First Nations Snowboard Team (FNST), Ski Wentworth, Ski Martock and Ben Eoin have kicked off the 2015 snowboarding season after the success of the 2014 snowboard year.

The Nova Scotia First Nations Snowboard Team began after immense success with the original program in British Columbia. The Nova Scotia division of FNST began last year with 23 youth participating from five communities (Pictou Landing, Millbrook, Sipekne'katik, Glooscap and Annapolis Valley) and two ski hills (Wentworth and Martock).

Since the program was widely popular in the 2014 season, this year the program is not only back, but with help from numerous funding partners (*Mi'kmaq - Nova Scotia -Canada Tripartite Forum, Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness, Snowboard NS, Maritime and*

Northeast Pipeline [M&NP], Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative [ADI], and Mi'kmaq Project for innovation and Collaboration [MPIC]/Confederacy of the Mainland Mi'kmaq [CMM]). There have been a number of improvements made such as a new ski hill Ben Eoin, and number of funding for youth participants has increased capacity from 23 to 75 and is now available for all 13 communities.

This year, in addition to all the new program changes, MPIC provided youth with their own helmets and gloves. Participants in the program were given boots, bindings, and boards to use during the program 2015 season, and will be donated back to the program in April for next year's season. Like last year the hill passes have been donated at a discount rate for participants and chaperones.

Kelsey Plumbing and Heating provided all youth with a snowboard tool, instructors on the hill will teach them how to do their

training that is provided to the youth will instill them with skills, knowledge, and experience to pursue careers as snowboard coaches, and instructors while also encouraging healthier lifestyles and physical activity during winter months.

The program creates mentors and role models for younger generations building sustainability within the program and growing interest within the community.

For more information regarding the Nova Scotia FNST or more photos of youth please contact Abby Brothers— MPIC Coordinator

ABrothers@cmmns.com or (902) 895-6385.

Quick Facts On Nova Scotia FNST

- **Start date January to March 2014 and January to March 2015**
- **2014– 4 youth completed CAS level 1**
- **2014– 3 youth completed Park instructor designation**
- **2015 budget for 16 youth to take CAS level 1 and Park instructor courses**
- **Without the partnership of Mi'kmaq Physical Activity Leader (MPAL) and recreation leaders in each community, the FNST would not be the immense success that it is today.**

(Left: FNST Wentworth)

(Below: FNST Ben Eoin)



Communications Update

Since the last newsletter there have been some changes in the Tripartite Forum Secretariat office.

Long time Tripartite Forum Communications Officer Adam Gould has gone to pursue other opportunities in his home community of Membertou.

In January the Secretariat office welcomed Rebecca Page as the new Communications Officer.

Although she is new to The Confederacy of the Mainland Mi'kmaq (CMM) and The Tripartite Forum, she has immense knowledge in the communications field. She received her education in public relations in Ottawa and has worked in National Associations and Not-For-Profit organizations ever since.

Her specialties include social media, stakeholder management, brand management and crisis communications.

Rebecca will be present at upcoming meetings and looks forward in continuing the open communications process that the Tripartite Forum has delivered in the past.



Please feel free to contact Rebecca regarding communications questions, or the Tripartite forum .

Rebecca@tripartiteforum.com

Or

902-895-6385

Project Fund Update

The Tripartite Forum Fund for Social and Economic Change, or Project Fund has approved five projects for the 2014/2015 project year.

- 1) Mi'kmaq Language Recommendation Research
- 2) Nova Scotia Snowboarding Team
- 3) Marshall Symposium
- 4) Life success—A Mi'kmaq Youth Retreat.
- 5) Designing and Using Mi'kmaq language Resource Material Catalogue tool Kits.

The next deadline for Project fund submissions is Friday March 27, 2014. The Project Fund Committee will meet in Eskasoni on Thursday April 9, 2015 at 10:00 am. A venue is not yet confirmed

For more information on the Tripartite Forum Fund for social and Economic Change, please contact Project Fund Manager Robyn Crowe at robyn@tripartiteforum.com or (902)895-6385

The next Project Fund deadline is Friday May 22, 2015

Forum Fosters Change with Marshall Symposium (continued)

Continued from Page 1

Dan Christmas, who has served in various leadership positions in the Mi'kmaq Nation of Nova Scotia acted as facilitator of the event. Speeches, world café sessions, and panel discussions were used to engage the audience and to inspire change.

Representatives from Nova Scotia's Mi'kmaq communities, the federal and provincial government, police agencies, and other legal experts discussed progress on issues of mutual concern affecting Mi'kmaq communities and the justice system, discussing success and remaining challenges.

“The legacy of Donald Marshall Jr. is cast within the bedrock of the Mi'kmaw Nation,” “As we examine the lessons from a 25-year review, we are confident that this forum will provide much needed dialogue and a sound basis for continued improvement for Mi'kmaq involved in the criminal justice system.” Said Chief Paul J. Prosper of the Paq'tnkek (Afton) First Nation.

Moving forward, the Tripartite Forum Justice Working Committee

will meet to discuss the findings generated by the symposium and reevaluate their work plans.



L. Jane McMillian Phd; Author of report, speaking at the Marshall Symposium.



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Working Committee Updates

Note the Name change!

The AGA (Annual General Assembly) is now known as the Working Development Session .

Committee members will have already received notices and requests for RSVPs for the Working Development Session , please do so at your earliest convenience.

Sports and Recreation Working Committee

Sports and Recreation met for a two day planning session in January to set their work plan for the upcoming fiscal year.

With projects such as First Nations Snowboarding Team and lacrosse being homerun successes, the committee plans to add to their initiative of greater awareness and practices of healthy eating and living by, adding archery.

Along with the enhancement of past projects, the committee also plans to leverage their communications networks to bring more information to youth about major sports events and competition tryouts in hopes of inspiring and educating more Mi'kmaq youth to train and tryout for sporting competitions like the Aboriginal summer games and provincial sports teams. They believe by raising awareness of the try outs it may inspire more Mi'kmaq youth to train, try out and participate. ●

Education Working Committee

The Education Working Committee met on Thursday March 5, 2015. this meeting took place in Member-tou the day after the Treaty Education workshop which took place March 3-4, 2015.

The group gathered to discuss updates with sub committees as well as inform members who were unable to attend the workshop their thoughts on the days prior.

The Committee plans to meet again in the new fiscal year in Eskasoni with a planning session in the morning and a joint brainstorming session in the afternoon with the Economic Development committee to benefit their joint sub committee.

Social Working Committee:

After a long hiatus, the social working committee held their first meeting, since May 2014.

On Friday February 20, 2015 the committee met in Millbrook at the Millbrook Community Hall. They welcomed Krista Brooks back, now as Mi'kmaq Co-chair.

Although some restrictions are still placed on the committee regarding content, the committee was successful in drafting and updating their work plan for the 2015/2016 year, and have already made sub-committees who plan to submit projects, to the project fund.

Economic Development Working Committee

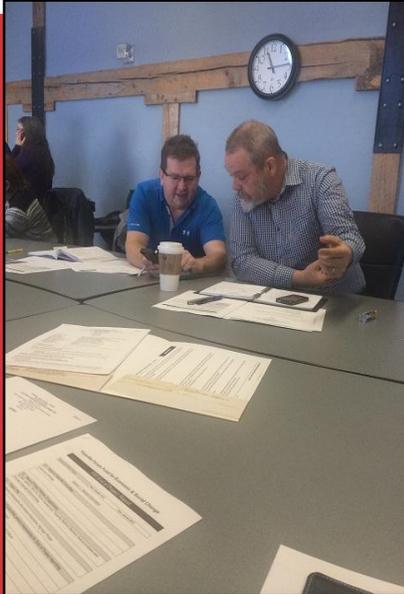
This year the Economic Development Working Committee, paired their work plan session with facilitator Kelly Campbell-Lefoit, Kelly lead a brainstorming session that allowed the committee to better assess what they felt the communities need in order to prosper. The group also decided that they will put more emphasis on employment. In the afternoon, the committee had Terry French come in and speak about Millbrook Partnership Development.

At the Co-chair's meeting in February, the Economic Development Working Committee's work plan and meeting agenda was considered an exemplary model by the Tripartite Steering representatives for how meeting agenda's could be arranged.



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This years **Working Development Session (formerly the AGA)** will be held on **Thursday May 28 & Friday May 29, 2015 in Membertou.**



Culture and Heritage Working Committee

Bedford Barrens has been a large project for the Culture and Heritage Working Committee. Actual work on the Trail began the first week of August, the work is now completed. The group is hoping to have a soft launch of the site in spring and have a blessing of the trail hopefully on Aboriginal Day.

Next steps for the Bedford Barrens, is creating and designing a historical plaque that shows the cultural significance to the Mi'kmaq people.

Culture and Heritage also has a subcommittee that is working on specific plans for Mi'kmaq History Month. The Culture and Heritage Working Committee plans to meet again in April in Wagmatcook.

(above Tim Bernard and Calum Ewing at the Culture and Heritage Working Committee meeting in January).

Health Working Committee

On Tuesday March 10, 2015 the Health working Committee met in Millbrook at the Millbrook Community hall to discuss and draft their 2015/2016 work plan.

Their work planning session not only included discussions of where they believe the committee should focus their efforts during this fiscal year, but it also included an informative presentation about Paramedics Providing Palliative Care at home Project.

While the committee is looking forward to their projects and work this year, they are sad to see long time Provincial Co-chair Ian Bower go, but are delighted to welcome Patricia Murray as the new provincial co-chair. The committee wishes to thank Ian for his commitment to the committee, and welcomes Patricia in her new role.

Justice Working Committee

The Justice Working Committee held the Marshall Symposium in January (see Article page 1).

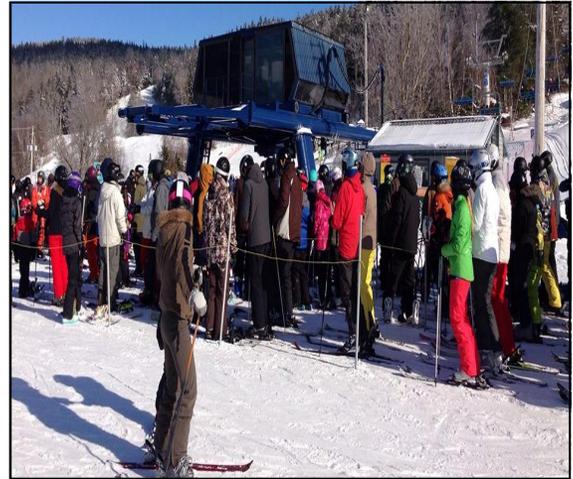
The findings generated at the symposium will be used to reevaluate their work plan moving forward. The Committee plans to meet on June 7-8, 2015 in Membertou.

(Above : Shelly Martin: Mi'kmaq Co-chair speaking. In the background provincial Co-chair: Bob Purcell and federal Co-chair: Rhonda Vamderhoek).





Left: Nova Scotia Premier Stephan McNeil providing the opening remarks at the Marshall Symposium, held on January 14-15, 2015 in Membertou, Nova Scotia.



Above: Nova Scotia FNST enjoying another day on the slopes in January.



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Below: Nova Scotia FNST at Martock in March.



Above: Participants at the Marshall Symposium during Day one panel discussion.

The Mi'kmaq - Nova Scotia - Canada Tripartite Forum Aknutmaq (newsletter) is a summary of the Tripartite activities for distribution to the committees.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact:

Rebecca Page
Communications Officer
Tripartite forum

rebecca@tripartiteforum.com

Contact Information

All Tripartite Forum Working Committee (WC) meetings are open to the public. If you wish to attend and/or have a topic added to the agenda, contact Denise and/or Sam.

Meetings begin at 10:00 a.m. unless otherwise specified.

Please contact Administrators Denise Gloade or Sam Trites, to RSVP, confirm location and date. They can be reached at sam@tripartiteforum.com and dgloade@tripartiteforum.com or by calling (902) 895-6385.

For more information, please visit the Tripartite Forum website calendar at www.tripartiteforum.com/calendar.