

Consultation Newsletter Wolastoqey Nation

Feb 2018
Issue 8



WNNB Office

The Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick (WNNB) provides technical advice to Wolastoqey leadership and Resource Development Consultation Coordinators (RDCC's) in resource development consultation matters that relate to the implementation and exercise of Wolastoqey constitutionally protected rights. WNNB also acts to protect and promote traditional lands, ceremony, cultural practices, and language. WNNB consists of:

- Consultation Director: Shyla O'Donnell (Shyla.Odonnell@wtci-nb.ca)
- Administrative Assistant: Brett Collins (admin@wtci-nb.ca)
- Ethnohistorian: Dr. Jason Hall (Jason.Hall@wtci-nb.ca)
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- Forestry Advisor: Angie Paul (Angie.Paul@wtci-nb.ca)
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- HR/Finance: Sandra Polchies (Sandra.Polchies@wtci-nb.ca)
- Fisheries Biologist: Dr. Colin Curry (Colin.Curry@wtci-nb.ca)
- Atlantic Link Liaison: Stone Bear (Stone.Bear@wtci-nb.ca)

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WNNB is currently in the process of hiring an archaeologist and has a job competition for a Marine Scientist/Ecologist. Please visit our website for more details at:

www.wolastoqey.ca

Things We Do

The WNNB staff is always working hard to serve our member community's best interests.

Some of the project we are working on include:



Forestry



Strategic Rights Plan



Fisheries



Climate Change



Environmental Reviews



Traditional Land Use Studies

Wolastoqey Makwahahtin (A Maliseet Special Gathering)

On February 27, 2018, WNNB and the Wolastoqey Tribal Council Inc. (WTCI) hosted the first Wolastoqey Makwahahtin. The event included:

- Keynote speaker Waneek Horn Miller who discussed overcoming trauma experienced during the Oka Crisis to make it to the Olympic water polo team.
- Indigenous Services Canada Regional Director General Chris McDonnell, who reiterated Canada's commitment to improving relationships with First Nations
- The importance of reviving Wolastoqey language by Imelda Perley and Andrea Bear Nicholas
- A Chief's Panel to answer community questions
- Introductions to the organizations and its employees, and
- Facilitated sessions: (1) Community Engagement (2) WTCI services – what do you want to see?



What we heard:

Although the report is just underway, some of the messages that we heard yesterday include:

- More presence/involvement in the communities
- An email registry should be set up to receive information regularly
- A variety of engagement options: door to door, meetings, social media, elders and youth involvement
- Enhanced website / phone apps

Throughout the coming year, we will be working on the recommendations from our members. Woliwon/Wəliwən for your advice!

In addition to the participants and presenters, we would also like to thank the facilitator Darrah (Pine) Beaver for her work, as well as the drummers and youth dancers who keep our culture strong.

WNNB / WTCI

What's the Difference?

We are often asked - what is the difference between WNNB and WTCI? It can be confusing because we share the same office, the same director, some core staff (e.g., finance) and the same email domain. However, the mandates of the organizations are quite different.

WNNB provides technical advice in consultation matters that relate to the implementation and exercise of our constitutionally protected rights. Therefore, we look at those issues that may affect land and natural resources, archaeology and commercial interests relating to resources, such as forestry and commercial fisheries.

The board of directors includes the Chiefs of Madawaska, Tobique, Kingsclear, St. Mary's and Oromocto.

WTCI's role is to provide capacity building opportunities for its member communities. They do this by providing program and service delivery in support of each communities' representative voice, while respecting their unique needs. This includes the Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS) program, which links training to labour market demand to ensure that our communities can fully participate in economic opportunities.

The board of directors includes the Chiefs of Madawaska, Kingsclear, St. Mary's and Oromocto.

National Engagement on the Recognition of Indigenous Rights

The Government of Canada has committed to review its laws, policies and operational practices to ensure that constitutional commitments made to Indigenous peoples are respected.

An engagement process includes:

- Accelerating progress toward self-determination, with a focus on nation and government rebuilding and rights recognition
- Legislation to anchor Canada's relationship with First Nations in rights recognition and develop tools for the recognition of Indigenous governments
- Elements of new policy, based on the distinct needs of First Nations to replace the current Comprehensive Land Claims and Inherent Right to Self-Government policies
- Creating two new departments that can better serve the distinct needs of First Nations

In the *Engagement Towards A Recognition and Implementation of Rights Framework*, there are 22 questions on ways to support Indigenous peoples, e.g.:

- How can the Government of Canada improve the implementation of historic treaties and resolve historical grievances?
- How would you define the role of Provinces and Territories have in recognizing and implementing the inherent and treaty rights of First Nations, Inuit, and Metis peoples?
- Who should determine who is an Indigenous nation and who is not?

The complete list of questions can be found at:

<http://www.metisnation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Engagement-Discussion-Guide-draft-eng.pdf>

Members can directly respond to the questions through the website link, or they can send their answers to our staff to compile at: admin@wtci-nb.ca

Where to report deformed/diseased wildlife

Are you a hunter/gatherer or a member that has come across deformed or diseased wildlife? Did you know that you can report your find to the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative?

Their regional staff can advise you on the next steps or discuss options for carcass submission. The carcass allows them to investigate the cause of death, screen for diseases and parasites and gather information.

The Atlantic region head office is located in PEI at the Atlantic Veterinary College and can be contacted by phone at 902-628-4317 or email: atlantic@cwhc-rcsf.ca

For more information, please visit their website at:

http://www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/report_submit.php

Community Update

INPUT YOUR INFO HERE

Contact Information:

If you have any questions about the content of this newsletter and would like more information, please contact your community RDCC.

- Madawaska – Russ Letica (506-735-1744)
email: leticaruss@yahoo.com
- Tobique – Jamie Gorman (506-273-5544)
email: matewas@gmail.com
- Woodstock – Amanda McIntosh (506-325-3570) email: amanda3mcintosh@gmail.com
- Kingsclear – Natasha Sacobie (506-363-3028 ext. 143) email: natashasacobie@kingsclear.ca
- St. Mary's – Timothy Plant (506-459-2200 ext. 126) email: timothyplant@smfn.ca
- Oromocto – Fred Sabattis (506-478-4929) email: tamagun@rogers.com
- Oromocto (Assistant RDCC) email: zcroftonmacdonald@gmail.com