

Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick (WNNB) NEWSLETTER

for Consultation
January 2019

The Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick (WNNB) consists of Madawaska Maliseet First Nation, Tobique First Nation, Kingsclear First Nation, St. Mary's First Nation and Oromocto First Nation. WNNB provides technical advice to Wolastoqey leadership and Resource Development Consultation Coordinators (RDCCs) in resource development matters that relate to Wolastoqey constitutionally protected rights. WNNB also acts to protect and promote traditional lands, ceremony, cultural practices, and language.

Consultation Director



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Fisheries Biologist



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All newsletters and job opportunities
are posted on our website at
www.wolastoqey.ca

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Changes at the Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick (WNNB) Office



The Consultation Director, Shyla O’Donnell, is on maternity leave and will return in November 2019. In September 2018, WNNB hired a new Legal and Governance Advisor, Gillian Paul from Tobique First Nation. She will also be the interim Consultation Director while Shyla is on maternity leave. Her legal experience from Olthuis Kleer Townshend LLP will be very valuable to the Wolastoqey. In December 2018, WNNB also hired a new Communications Manager, Peggy Brooks from St Mary’s First Nation.

Contact Information for Wolastoqey Communities

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

- Madawaska – Russ Letica (506-735-1757) email: RussLetica@madawaskamaliseet.com
- Tobique – Jamie Gorman (506-273-5544) email: matewas@gmail.com
- Woodstock – Amanda McIntosh (506-325-3570) email: amanda3mcintosh@gmail.com
- Kingsclear – Keyaira Gruben (506-363-3028 ext. 143) email: keyairagruben@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

Archaeology Updates

Indigenous archaeological monitoring is something WNNB continually requests when projects enter our territory. The intent is to provide greater protection of potential cultural resources that may be encountered during projects and to have direct reporting back to the communities.

WNNB is aware of two upcoming projects (set to begin in Spring 2019) where Indigenous environmental monitors and archaeological monitors will be required.

Please contact us if you are a graduate of the Archaeology Field Technician course delivered by the New Brunswick Community College and the New Brunswick Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour and are interested in the work set to begin in Spring 2019, or any future work that may arise.

If you have any other questions, comments or concerns, please contact Angie Paul at angie.paul@wolastoqey.ca or Gordon Grey at gordon.grey@wolastoqey.ca

Ethnohistory and Cartography Update

This fall, WNNB staff Dr. Jason Hall (Ethnohistorian) and Thomas Herbreteau (GIS Technician) began presenting the draft maps of traditional Wolastoqey/Wəlastəkwey territory and place names to Wolastoqey/Wəlastəkwey communities. These large maps are based on historic research in order to determine the extent of traditional Wolastoqey/Wəlastəkwey territory as well as important cultural features such as Indigenous place names, ancient portage trails, traditional story landscapes and waterscapes, burial sites, non-human beings important to Wolastoqey/Wəlastəkwey culture, and historic village locations. The purpose of these presentations is to inform community members about the ongoing mapping project and to receive their feedback on the draft maps.

The maps and the research databases being developed are important tools to help communities preserve Wolastoqey/Wəlastəkwey knowledge and culture. When completed, they will be useful for a variety of consultation projects as well as educational initiatives within Wolastoqey/Wəlastəkwey communities. Community members are encouraged to contact Dr. Jason Hall at jason.hall@wolastoqey.ca for further information about this work, or if they know of cultural features that they would like to ensure are documented in this project.

If you have any other questions, comments or concerns, please contact Dr. Jason Hall jason.hall@wolastoqey.ca or Thomas Herbreteau at thomas.herbreteau@wolastoqey.ca

Community Engagement Surveys

The RDCCs conducted community engagement surveys in their respective Wolastoqey communities earlier this year. Jamie Gorman from Tobique First Nation and Fred Sabattis from Oromocto First Nation have the results of their community engagement surveys. All RDCCs extend gratitude towards all participants who took the time to answer the surveys and provide data.

The consultation files were divided into six categories and members were requested to identify important projects in each category. Below are some of the important projects identified by **Oromocto community members**. **This list is not exhaustive. The other Wolastoqey communities did not have their information ready for this newsletter, but it will be shared once it is received.**

Forestry	Fisheries	Current Projects
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Crown Forest Management Act 2. Glyphosate Spraying 3. Protected Natural Areas 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Aquaculture and Salmon Farms 2. Food/Social/Ceremonial Fisheries 3. Recreational Salmon Tags 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sisson Mine 2. Wind Farm 3. Oil/Gas Exploration Leases
GNB/NB Power Projects	Lands and Rights	Other
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mactaquac Fish Passage 2. Point Lepreau Power Plant 3. New Transmission/Generation Projects 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strategic Rights Plan (SRP) 2. Traditional/Ecological Knowledge 3. Co-Management/Shared Stewardship 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Climate Change 2. Clean Water 3. Federal Consultation Protocol

To get more information on the community engagement survey results for Oromocto First Nation, please contact Fred Sabattis at 506-478-4929 or tamagun@rogers.com. For Tobique First Nation, please contact Jamie Gorman at 506-273-5544 or matewas@gmail.com. For more information on the community engagement surveys, please contact your respective RDCCs (contact information is located at the bottom of page 2).

Mactaquac Dam Fish Passage Updates

NB Power is still working towards registering their Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Mactaquac Dam in 2019. NB Power is continuing to develop engineering and construction plans while engaging with First Nations, the public and stakeholders. WNNB is working with NB Power to improve fish passage on the Wolastoq by identifying species for passage and methods to move them upstream and downstream. Passage objectives are the focus of upcoming discussions with NB Power, which will factor into design criteria for conceptual passage. NB Power and the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans have entered into a protocol agreement for the operation of all NB Power facilities on the Wolastoq. Under this protocol agreement, NB Power is developing an adaptive fish management plan for the operation of all hydro facilities on the Wolastoq. This proposal is being reviewed and will be amended or approved by the protocol steering committee, which consists of Patrick Polchies (Kingsclear Councillor) and Colin Curry (WNNB Fisheries Biologist).

If you have any other questions, comments or concerns, please contact Colin Curry at colin.curry@wolastogey.ca or Kingsclear RDCC Keyaira Gruben at keyairagruben@kingsclear.ca

Fisheries Forum & DFO Negotiations

On October 5, 2018, WNNB hosted a Fisheries Forum (“Forum”) for the members of the WNNB communities (Kingsclear First Nation, Madawaska Maliseet First Nation, Oromocto First Nation, St. Mary’s First Nation and Tobique First Nation) to provide an update on the upcoming, without prejudice negotiations with Canada and to discuss the vision for how to meaningfully implement Wolastoqey fishing rights. The Fisheries Forum drew more than 60 members and provided a valuable opportunity for them to meet and exchange their views, and, most importantly, to provide feedback to the WNNB negotiation team to help inform and shape negotiations and develop a proposal for implementing fishing rights that will work for all WNNB communities.

The Forum was particularly focused on gathering feedback on:

- what meaningful domestic fishing rights mean to the Wolastoqey;
- what “moderate livelihood” fishing rights mean to the Wolastoqey; and
- to what extent members would like to see WNNB communities work collectively to seize fisheries opportunities and in fisheries management.

A comprehensive report of the forum was completed and sent to Chiefs, RDCCs and Fisheries Directors for distribution to Wolastoqey community members. The report may be freely shared with any Wolastoqey community member. WNNB is working on organizing another forum in the new year, please stay tuned for an announcement when dates are finalized.

If you have any other questions, comments or concerns, please contact Megan Fullarton at Megan.Fullarton@wolastoqey.ca, or call her at (506)-459-6341.

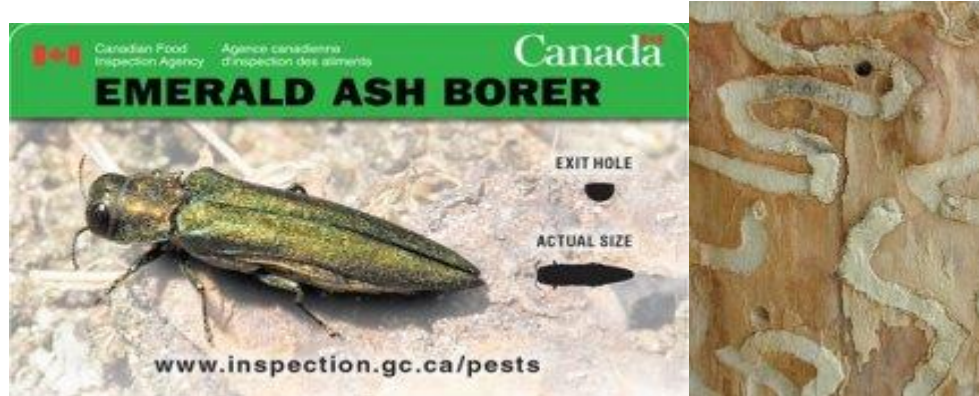


Emerald Ash Borer

On May 17, 2018, an announcement was made by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) that Emerald Ash Borer was confirmed in Edmundston, New Brunswick. The CFIA website reported that “the new finding is the first finding in Atlantic Canada and was outside of the regulated area. Effective immediately, the movement of all ash material such as logs, branches, and woodchips, and all species of firewood from the affected site, is restricted.”

What is an Emerald Ash Borer?

An emerald ash borer (EAB) is a beetle which is emerald green in colour and loves to crawl and eat its way through or “bore” itself into and throughout ash trees. It begins its life cycle as an egg laid underneath the outer bark and will continue feeding off the ash tree throughout its life-cycle until adulthood when it will exit the tree to mate, reproduce and die.



Where did it come from?

The EAB is native to China and eastern Asia. In May 2002, it was discovered in southeastern Michigan in the United States and in July 2002 it was found in Ontario. It is considered an invasive species as the beetle has proven to be highly destructive with few natural predators.

Why do we care?

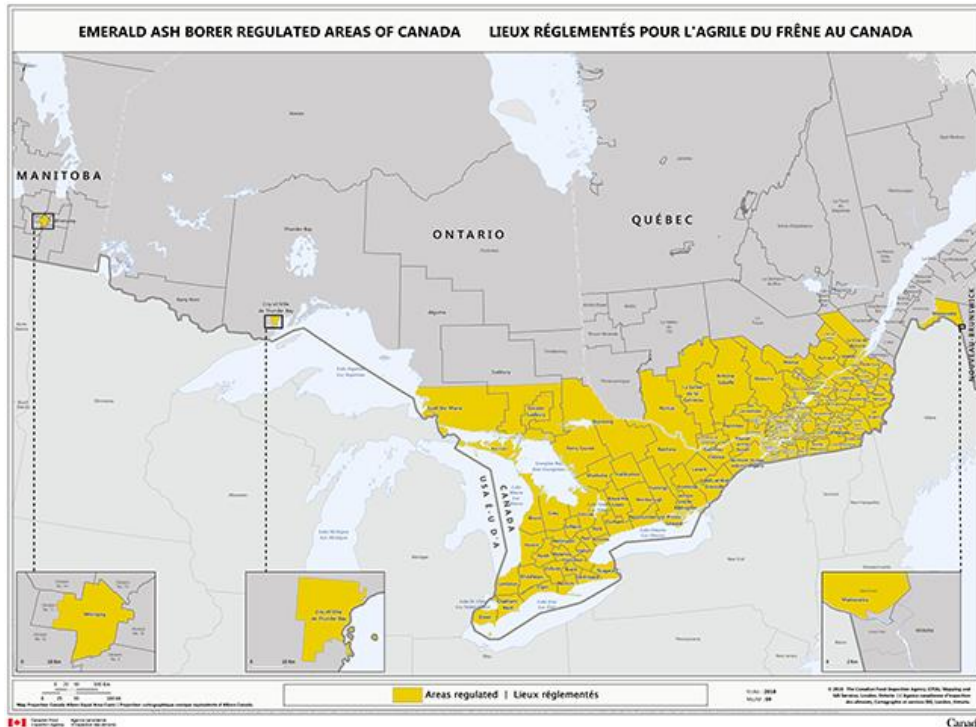
The Wolastoqey use ash for basketry and may require it for firewood to heat our homes or firewood for gathering purposes. When CFIA restricts the “movement of all ash material such as logs, branches, and woodchips, and all species of firewood from the affected site” it is directly impacting First Nations access to the traditional resource, as well as impacts to economic development derived from the resource.

The proposed regulations raise concerns regarding the hefty fines and possible seizures of ash that members may face while exercising their right to access ash wood. The expansion of the regulated area from the City of Edmundston, to the entire Madawaska county (excluding Grand Falls) went into effect Sept 28, 2018.

The EAB is also expected to decimate the ash species to near-extinction. Efforts and discussions on how to mitigate or avoid this are underway amongst forest researchers, entomologists, ecologists and natural resource managers.

Why is EAB in the WNNB newsletter?

- Notice of a public information session in Edmundston was sent to Wolastoqey Chiefs and WNNB staff attended the session. The session provided information on the restrictions and regulations that would come into force if Madawaska County was added to the EAB regulated area.
- WNNB wrote a letter to CFIA and arranged a meeting with CFIA representatives and RDCCs to discuss our concerns around the “Proposed Expansion of the Emerald Ash Borer Regulated Area” and potential impacts to Wolastoqey Aboriginal & Treaty Rights.
- CFIA responded to WNNB’s request for Community Information Sessions in all 6 Wolastoqey communities which WNNB and RDCCs of each community are in the process of coordinating.



Want to know more?

- Ask your RDCC when the upcoming Community Info Session on EAB will be in your community
- You can also look on CFIA’s website (<http://inspection.gc.ca/plants/plant-pests-invasive-species/insects/emerald-ash-borer/latest-information/eng/1337287614593/1337287715022>)

If you have any other questions, comments or concerns, please contact Angie Paul at angie.paul@wolastoqey.ca, or call her at (506)-459-2181.

Assembly of First Nations annual AGA Logo Contest

The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) 40th Annual Generally Assembly (AGA) will be held on Wolastoqiyik Territory in Fredericton, New Brunswick, on July 23, 24 and 25, 2019.

The AFN is a national advocacy organization for First Nations. Its role is to advance First Nation priorities and objectives as mandated by the Chiefs-in-Assembly, who meet annually to set national policy and direction through resolution. The AFN Annual Generally Assemblies typically attract up to 1700 delegates to various events held throughout the week.

The AFN is reaching out to the Mi'kmaw, Wolastoqiyik, and Passamaqoddy of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island First Nations artists from the host region to seek artwork to be featured in promotions and publications for the AGA. The selected artwork will be used for a variety of materials such as the agenda, presentations, signage, and the AFN annual report and website. The selected artwork must reproduce well on both small scale for publications and a large scale for signage.

The AGA artwork should represent the rich culture and heritage of the host nation. The theme for the AGA is “One Drum, One Song”, the artwork could reflect the concept of bringing nations together or building healthy and thriving First Nations communities.

The AFN will purchase the selected original artwork and require that the artist sign an authorization/release form granting AFN the unrestrained rights to use the artwork for purposes related to the AGA and the subsequent Special Chiefs Assembly in December 2019.

If you are interested in submitting artwork for consideration by the AGA Planning Committee, we will be accepting samples until February 21, 2019. Photos can be emailed to peggy.brooks@wolastoqey.ca. Please feel free to contact me by email if you have any questions!

All newsletters and job opportunities are posted on our website at

www.wolastoqey.ca

Upcoming WNNB Events

Like last year, WNNB will host an Annual General Assembly (AGA) open to all Wolastoqey members. Mark down the dates of March 26 and stay tuned!

Community engagement meetings on diverse topics from February 19 to March 1st – please contact your RDCCs for specific dates for your communities.

