



Tripartite Forum Newsletter



ALL MI'KMAW MEMBERS MEETING AND WORKING DEVELOPMENT SESSION

The Tripartite Forum's seven working committees collaborated all under one roof in Baddeck in June, this past summer, at the 2024 All Mi'kmaq Members Meeting and Working Development Session.

Working tables expressed concerns and shared their achievements at the June 5th-7th event at the Inverary Resort in Baddeck. Special attention was given to what each working table has been busy with, over the past year, through presentations, the Mi'kmaq Only Members Session and a series of collaborative roundtable discussions, where members discussed potential synergies between working tables.

During the same event, Heidi Weigand presented on her review of a series of policy and working table changes from 2019, advising members of current challenges, strengths and opportunities moving forward toward a more revitalized Tripartite Forum.

UNSM Policy Analyst Julia Whitmer also spoke to guests, updating members on progress toward a Regional Data Governance Centre for First Nations.

For more information on the event, please refer to our post about the event on the Tripartite Forum Website at: <https://tripartiteforum.ca/three-days-of-tripartite-forum-collaboration>.

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The Tripartite Forum Newsletter will be published on a quarterly basis. The next edition will be published in January 2025.

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Visit the website:
www.tripartiteforum.ca

TRIPARTITE FORUM: WORKING COMMITTEE UPDATES

While not all our working committees have provided updates for this edition, we're thrilled to present insights from those that have. These updates offer a window into the ongoing efforts and accomplishments of key committees within our organization. From strategic initiatives to noteworthy achievements, the contributions highlighted in this newsletter underscore the dedication and impact of our committee members.

SPORTS AND RECREATION WORKING COMMITTEE

After a battle with a serious, life-threatening illness, Sports and Recreation Committee Mi'kmaw Co-chair Geroge "Tex" Marshall has returned to the Tripartite Forum and has been active again with the Sports and Rec table since Spring 2024.

The illness sidelined Tex for eight months, and required the amputation of his leg – but it did not stop him from returning to his duties.

Tex, Manager of Sport at Mi'kmaw Kina'Matnewey, a founder and former board member of the Aboriginal Sport Circle of Canada, said he is excited to be back in the midst of things with this working table.

"I feel truly blessed that I am able to function again in the work environment," he noted.

Tex's goals include involvement in any new projects or initiatives for the Sport and Rec table. Going forward, he plans to focus on more opportunities for Mi'kmaw women and girls, noting they need support now more than ever.

Tex was an original member of the Sports and Rec Committee, and was later appointed Mi'kmaw Co-Chair by the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs. He recently played a major role in bringing the 2023 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) to Nova Scotia.

We are excited to welcome Tex back to the table. We're all looking forward to your contributions in

the coming months, Tex!

Please note: Bert Milberg is no longer the federal co-chair for Sport and Rec, and a new federal co-chair is yet to be nominated.

SPORTS AND RECREATION WORKING COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

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Michelle Aucoin, Provincial Co-chair
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SOCIAL WORKING COMMITTEE

The Social table was sad to say our goodbyes to our colleague, Federal Co-chair Natasha Fillmore. We wish Natasha the best and know that we will see her again. The Social table appreciates your kindness, your thoughtfulness and your positive energy!

With that said, the new Federal Co-Chair is Natacha Benoit, ISC Manager, Social Programs (Atlantic Regional Office). We welcome and look forward to working with Natacha this year!

The Social table is scheduled to meet in the new year. The Social table also hosts meetings via Zoom in between the in-person meetings, or as needed.

SOCIAL WORKING COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

Sandy-Lynn Fisher, Mi'kmaw Co-chair
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Shannon Kelly, Provincial Co-chair
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Natacha Benoit, Federal Co-Chair
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TRIPARTITE FORUM: WORKING COMMITTEE UPDATES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORKING COMMITTEE

Members of the Economic Development Working Committee were happy to attend the Working Development Session in Unama'ki in early June. The opportunity to network and engage with other Working Committees presented opportunities to consider new initiatives to support Communities.

The Economic Development Committee will review the discussions and outcomes further in its meetings this fall to determine if new projects can be pursued.

The committee will also endeavour to pursue its 2024-25 work plan activities and priorities including:

- Facilitating information-sharing opportunities for the committee and all economic development organizations (EDO) across the 13 Communities;
- Increase EDO capacity through networking with each other and the committee;
- Support Communities to understand and build capacity, initiate (joint or solo), participate in, and/or assess clean and renewable energy projects;
- Support and accelerate development of tourism business in Communities, as appropriate; and,
- Support and accelerate development of forestry initiatives and/or business in Communities, when identified and as appropriate.

Some committee members are participating in new roles:

- Michelle Gallivan – Service Canada
- Kim Milley – Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq
- Eileen Paul - Unama'ki College

With support from the Tripartite Forum Project Fund, the Economic Development

Committee will be holding a two-day symposium for Economic Development Officers and Indigenous Employment Officers, details to follow. For now, save the dates April 9-10, 2025 in your calendars.

We are excited to be holding our meetings in Communities across Nova Scotia again. The November meeting was recently held in We'koqma'q L'nue'kati.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORKING COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

Michael Peters, Mi'kmaw Co-Chair

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Rhonda MacDougall, Provincial Co-Chair

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Mike Rothenburg, Federal Co-Chair

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HEALTH WORKING COMMITTEE

The Health Working Committee met at the Wagmatcook Culture and Heritage Centre on October 17, 2024. Jewel Stevens, Tripartite Liaison, provided an update on efforts to strengthen collaboration across various health projects and shared details on upcoming meeting dates. She also briefly discussed the 2025 Working Development Session, for which the Strategic Plan Recommendations report prepared by Heidi Weigand is in its final stages of completion. This report will help set the direction for future work with the Tripartite Forum.

Brad Sullivan, Project Fund Coordinator, gave an update on the status of project funding, including upcoming opportunities to apply for additional support for new health initiatives.

The Office of L'nu Affairs provided an update on their progress in mapping Jordan's Principle services in Nova Scotia to better support children and families. Ongoing discussions...

TRIPARTITE FORUM: WORKING COMMITTEE UPDATES

HEALTH WORKING COMMITTEE

...continue around a potential Tripartite project related to mapping Jordan's Principle services along with the Education and Social Tripartite Committees. L'nu Affairs also provided an update on recent Chiefs and cabinet discussions.

Tajikeimik provided an update on the hiring of new staff, the outcomes of their Mawi'omi community engagements, and their pending proposal to the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer for funding to implement the Mi'kmaq cancer strategy. They also highlighted their ongoing efforts to assess risk and establish the business case for transfer through Health Transformation.

Shannon Fougere from Indigenous Services Canada provided an update on the Indigenous Health Equity Fund, including how the fund can help address gaps in health services and recent uptake in Atlantic Canada.

Chelsey Purdy, a dietitian with the Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq, updated the committee on food security and nutrition initiatives across all 13 Mi'kmaw Communities in Nova Scotia.

The committee also discussed the need for better communication strategies, emphasizing the importance of using more engaging, visual storytelling methods to make updates more accessible.

Finally, the committee welcomed new member Kara Pictou and expressed excitement for her contributions. They also committed to seeking additional members to ensure balanced representation. The next meeting is scheduled for the New Year.

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TRIPARTITE FORUM: SECRETARIAT UPDATES

Tripartite Forum Secretariat Welcomes New Liaison Officer

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to the new Tripartite Forum Liaison with the Nova Scotia Native Women's Association (NSNWA).

Welcome, Joanne Cope! A member of the Millbrook Band, Joanne is a longtime volunteer and advocate for local volunteerism, who has attended many events around the province in those capacities.

Joanne joined the NSNWA in late September, and has a strong background in justice, social and governance-related fields.

Over the years, she has forged many community connections, having worked with Mi'kmaq communities, Indigenous organizations and their leadership – as well as all levels of government and industry. She has built a wealth of experience and fresh ideas.

In her new role as liaison, Joanne plans to draw on that experience and the network of community connections she built over the years to help with the work she does with the Tripartite Forum.

We're all excited to see you at the table, Joanne!

Joanne can be reached at:
tripartiteliaison@nsnwa.net

UNION OF NOVA SCOTIA MI'KMAQ

The Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq (UNSM) is a Tribal Organization that has been established for over 50 years. The UNSM came into existence to provide a unified political voice for the Mi'kmaq people of the province in the face of a proposed federal government policy to assimilate Canada's First Nations people into mainstream society.

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CONFEDERACY OF MAINLAND MI'KMAQ

The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq (CMM) is a Tribal Council incorporated in 1986 as a not-for-profit organization under the Societies Act of Nova Scotia. The mission statement best summarizes the objectives of the organization: "To proactively promote and assist Mi'kmaw communities' initiatives toward self determination and enhancement of community."

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NOVA SCOTIA NATIVE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The Nova Scotia Native Women's Association is a provincial Indigenous organization incorporated under the Nova Scotia Societies Act that develops and delivers programs promoting equal opportunity for Indigenous women, 2SLGBTQQIA people and their families.

Main Office

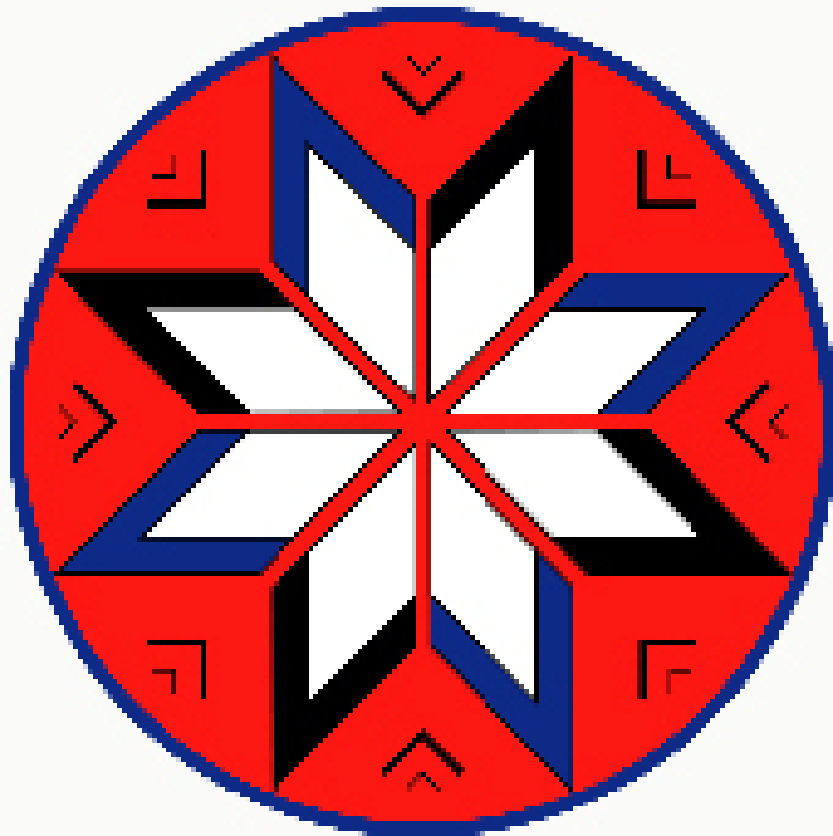
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WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION**



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NOW LIVE!**



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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

UNION OF NOVA SCOTIA MI'KMAQ

Are you passionate about making a difference? The Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq is currently hiring for the following positions:

- Administrative Assistant
- Projects Coordinator
- Operations Coordinator
- Diabetes Community Consultant

To view job descriptions, visit:
<https://unsm.bamboohr.com/careers>

OR scan the QR code:



CONFEDERACY OF MAINLAND MI'KMAQ

The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq is hiring for a variety of positions within our Tribal Council, including:

- Community Liaison
- Field Technician (River Monitoring)
- Diabetes Dietitian
- Emergency Management Training and Engagement

To see more career opportunities, visit:
<https://cmmns.com/career-opportunities/>