



# 2018-19 Annual Report



**Carl E. Gould  
1942 - 2019**

**The Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq dedicates the 2018-19  
Annual Report to the memory of Carl Gould.**

**We will always remember Carl as a generous and hard  
working individual, who had a wonderful sense of humour  
and dedicated his work to the betterment of Mi'kmaq people.**

**Our thoughts and prayers are always with him and  
he will continue to live on and lead within our  
hearts.**

# Table of Contents

Table of Contents	3
Executive Director message, Douglas Brown	4-5
Health Report, Sarah Johnson	6-7
Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative, Ann Gottschall	7-8
Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Mental Wellness Team	9-11
Jordan's Principle	12-13
Nutrition, Angela MacDonald	14-15
Home and Community Care, Beverly Madill	16-17
Capacity Development	18-19
Tripartite Forum, Adam Gould	20-21
Member Bands	22
Board of Directors	23
Organizational Chart	24
Finance Report	25-30
Our Mission and Objectives	31

# Executive Director Message

Douglas Brown

Executive Director

dbrown@unsi.ns.ca

(902) 539-4107 (ext. 204)

Welcome back to another year's overall reflection of the Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq (UNSM). This past year, 2018-2019, has seen remarkable change and growth. First, we are proud to announce that we have changed our organization's name. We now await the finish of our website and domain name as well as the rebranding of stationary and business cards. We are incrementally establishing the presence of a human resource and a communication department of the UNSM. Under Sally's Health department the new Cancer Care Strategy team was formed.

Our fiscal accountability is resulting in further funding flexibilities which allows the UNSM to structure itself to better serve our five Unama'ki member bands. This brings us to another change that has occurred this year – the withdrawal of Acadia Band from the UNSM. As you all know, Acadia Band and Chief Deborah Robinson have been a part of the UNSM for a very long time. Last December, the Acadia Band opted to engage the services of the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq as their representative tribal council. Chief Robinson and the vital leadership role she so naturally fit at the Executive and Board level will be missed greatly. As of June 30th of this year I have retired from the practice of law. I was called to the Nova Scotia Barrister's Society in October 1997, thus making my legal career one that had lasted 22 years. Of those, 17 years were spent in front of the Nova Scotia courts arguing the issue of Mi'kmaq night hunting – four (4) years on the Bernard case, 1998-2002, and 13 years on the Francis and Paul case, 2006-2019. Both of these cases were pursued at the direction of the UNSM Board of Directors. On March 7, 2019, the Supreme Court of Canada refused without reasons to hear the Francis and Paul appeal from the decision of the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal. Thus, yet again, we are

left in Nova Scotia with a ruling that denies rather than upholds constitutional s. 35 Aboriginal and Treaty Rights.

I am currently in the midst of writing a book that details exactly how these two cases unfolded. As these two cases will clearly demonstrate, among the many others that exist, there is good reason to remain vigilant in the advocacy and protection of any constitutional s. 35 recognition that may be achieved either through a) negotiated settlement or b) Supreme Court of Canada litigation. I phrase it this way because unfortunately my opinion (which I will defend in the book) is that s. 35 rights recognized through either of these methods, rather than being protected by the Courts of Nova Scotia may instead be jeopardized. It is my hope that the forth-coming book will help prepare future Mi'kmaq rights advocates for some of the tougher social and legal realities that they are sure to be confronted with.

Wela'lin

Douglas Brown



# Health

Sarah Johnson, Health Director

mha@unsi.ns.ca

(902) 539-4107 (ext. 207)



The Union of Nova Scotia Mi'Kmaq has increased the staffing of the organization in which the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC) approved a proposal submitted. There have been four people hired who consist of a Project Coordinator, Policy Analyst, Promotion and Prevention Lead, and Capacity Development Lead. There were numerous discussions with CPAC until we finished negotiating with them as to what is acceptable to us as an organization. This is a five year initiative.

The Jordan's Principle staff has also increased to accommodate the needs of the coordinators who have clients which contribute to their workload. Each coordinator has more than 100 clients who need various services. The total number of clients is 1475 in Unama'ki alone that the coordinators service. UNSM had submitted a proposal in March for additional personnel to alleviate the workload.

The Mental Wellness Team (MWT) has been in the communities to provide information session and for when a community is in crisis. Unfortunately, during the past year their services were in demand. We have discussed the need and the team requires training in this area. This will be addressed in the coming year. The MWT is also managing traditional healers whose services are required periodically. We also have the services of a clinical psychotherapist who can provide counselling to clients.

I have organized information sessions for NIHB (Non-Insured Health Benefits) for Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador which was funded by the Assembly of First Nations. The report was submitted to Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and I shared the document with FNIHB (First Nations and Inuit Health Branch). As a committee member for AFN's National Joint Review I have voiced the concerns of our communities as it relates to NIHB. I also submitted a proposal to FNIHB in the region to have a similar engagement for Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador which is scheduled for the new fiscal year. The committees that I have attended are:

- Health Partnership;
- Mental Wellness Committee;
- NIHB Committee;
- AFN committees (i.e., health technicians, mental health, Jordan's Principle Action Table, national joint review, public health);
- Healing Our Nation;
- Plus other regional committees in Nova Scotia.

During the past year there have discussions with the health staff at UNSM in which I provided guidance and support. I also attended various meetings both regionally and nationally.

Communities have had more needs especially with the number of deaths by suicide, and cancer. Families have been more affected by this and with the assistance by existing staff, and the Mental Wellness Team. Suicide is not being fully addressed due to the fact that it's kept within the family and not seeking the help. We need to address this to the communities. The MWT is scheduling community healing in some communities in the next fiscal year.



## **Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative**

Ann Gottschall, RN BScN MN CDE  
Certified Master Trainer for Chronic Disease  
[ann.gottschall@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:ann.gottschall@ns.sympatico.ca)

I have worked with health directors, community health staff, diabetes prevention workers, and with recreation and education staff in addressing diabetes. Some UNSM communities have Community Diabetes Working Groups, which have been successful in addressing diabetes management and prevention at the community level. All community health staff receive yearly lists of programs and services that are available, allowing them to choose the best activities for their communities and/or to suggest alternative activities.

I have also been working with other ADI consultants on development of resources for post-partum gestational diabetes to help with prevention of diabetes in this high-risk group of women and children. I hope to distribute these resources to communities by fall.

The following programs were offered in 2018-19 fiscal:

### **Diabetes prevention programs:**

- Diabetes Month School Education/Walking Challenge for grades four-to-six in all UNSM community schools (approximately 329 students participated, a total of 44 education classes delivered in fall 2018);
- Healthy Living Program's 10,000 daily steps pedometer challenge;
- Children & Youth Diabetes Risk Factor screening program;
- Diabetes prevention program: child, youth and family follow-up program for those screened to be at risk for developing diabetes (newly developed with We'kokma'q nutritionist);
- Gestational diabetes with risk of developing Type 2 diabetes;
- School education session on diabetes and its prevention for all ages;
- Booth displays on sugary drinks for parents at parent-teacher meetings;
- Funded through Nova Scotia Health Authority Chronic Disease Innovation Fund and new this past year was Diabetes Month school Education & Walking challenge for grades 7 to 8 (approximately 276 students participated, 34 education classes delivered in fall 2018). New age appropriate tools and education sessions were developed;
- Brought Heart Smart program information to UNSM school and helped facilitate education of teachers and staff. This is an Indigenous program that addresses healthy living for kindergarten through grade six.

### **Diabetes management programs:**

- Diabetes Self-Management Journey;
- Community-based Mini Diabetes Self-Management Program;
- Adult Blood Glucose & Blood Pressure Screening Program ;
- Community sessions for those living with diabetes;
- Health and wellness centres staff education on new glucose metre Free Style Libre and shared 2018 Canadian Diabetes Management Guidelines;
- To support health staff with diabetes management, regular email updates and annual mail out for Heart Month containing diabetes and heart health updates;
- Continuation of longstanding Membertou Diabetes Working Group- meets 3-4 times per year to plan diabetes-related activities for the community;
- Open to all communities and new this year are lunch & learn diabetes self-management programs combined with an educational diabetes bingo.



# Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Mental Wellness Team



During this fiscal year our team increased in size, and we now have four full-time professionals, and one contracted Registered Psychotherapist, dedicated to enhancing mental wellness services for First Nations peoples in Unama'ki and Paqtnekek.

## **Team development and training**

Our team has been making efforts to engage in team building and to hold regular team meetings. We attended a beginners social sweat at Mi'kmaw Lodge in mid 2018 and have been trying to attend all the social gatherings organized by UNSM. In March of 2019 our team organized a day for UNSI staff to participate in a Wellness Day where Todd Vassallo taught us about Mindfulness.

In October 2018 we attended the UNSM Annual General Meeting and Treaty Day events in Halifax, where we were able to access some professional development workshops on best practices. In March 2019 several team members attended a one-day training on Crisis Intervention for clients with developmental disabilities.

## **Partnerships and networking**

One of the major partnerships we have been developing this past year is with the Nova Scotia Department of Justice and the First Nations Wellness Courts. In our meetings with these organizations we have discovered some huge unmet needs, such as the need for culturally relevant and accessible programming for intimate partner violence and anger management, and the need for services for First Nations inmates who will soon be released back into their communities. We've offered what services we can to meet these needs, and we've made efforts to help bridge the connections between these organizations and other community resources. Our Cultural Support Advisor and our Counsellor have begun to visit the Cape Breton Correctional Facility on a bi-weekly basis, and they attend monthly Wellness Court proceedings in Wagmatcook to connect with and support clients.

## **Community engagement**

We have received a great deal of invitations in the past year to represent

our services at various wellness events in communities. Whenever possible we attend these events to hand out swag, meet community members and service providers, to discuss our services, and to present on various wellness topics. Our presence often leads to invitations to future events, requests for services from community members, and effective networking with other organizations and service providers.

## **Information sharing**

In April 2018 we released a new pamphlet to replace our original rack card, providing more detail on our services and introducing our new Psychotherapist Todd Vassallo. In June 2018 we released a flyer providing details about our workshops and programming, this flyer was updated in September 2018 and again in February 2019. We continue to provide updates about programming, our presence at community events, and share informative resources on our Facebook page.

## **Mental wellness advisory committee meetings**

The Mental Wellness Advisory Committee met on the following dates: May 22 and October 29, 2018, and March 11, 2019. At these meetings both our team and the team from the mainland (CMM) provided updates, addressed various issues, and sought guidance and support from committee members as needed.

## **Workshop and program delivery and development**

Multi-session programming: We continue to provide Options to Anger programming at each new five-week intake at Mi'kmaw Lodge and on occasion in other communities when there are individuals requiring this program as part of a court order or recommendation. During this fiscal year we have offered 10 five session programs, for a total of 50 hours in education for this program alone. This program is well received by participants, and 59 community members received certificates for this program during this fiscal year.

Standalone workshops: In total we offered 21 standalone workshops (approximately 30 hours) during this fiscal year. These workshops and programs included topics such as anger management, trauma and grief, bullying and cyberbullying, healthy relationships, compassion fatigue, suicide prevention, mindfulness, and empowering parents delivered to over 200 community members.

New workshops and programming: We introduced a number of workshops, including Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness, in response to crisis in communities. We held a number of sessions throughout February and March 2019 addressing these topics with a variety of groups in communities.

Our Registered Psychotherapist is developing a program called *New Paths*, to address intimate partner violence, which we will begin to offer as a pilot project to groups in the fall of 2019. This program was created in collaboration with Cornerstone, Cape Breton and a great deal of the materials are based on resources from NADACA which were developed by an honored community Elder. This program will meet the Department of Justice Requirements for programming around intimate partner violence in a culturally relevant manner.

## **Traditional healing**

During the 2018-19 fiscal year our team has continued to administer the Traditional Healing funds for the five communities in Unama'ki as well as Paqtnekek, and we were able to spend the entire amount of funds allotted for the six communities.

We held a number of group sessions for activities such as regalia making, art, hand drum making, learning Waltes, and a number of other activities that provide community members with activities in which to build their skills, connect with their culture, and take pride in their accomplishments. Engaging in these group activities also brings community members together to share their skills, build connections, and support one another.

We supported a number of on the land initiatives such as the Learn to Camp in Baddeck, as well as the first annual Ice Fishing Event in memory of an honoured Elder in collaboration with Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources (UINR). We have also provided funding to support the ongoing sweat lodges in several communities and have arranged for setup of the some of the teepees purchased for each community during the past fiscal year.

As word of our services spreads, we have begun to receive more individual requests for cultural activities such as beading, art, learning to smudge, and other activities that clients wish to do one-on-one or with a small group of family or friends.

Whenever possible we send a representative to attend Traditional Healing events in order to reintroduce our services to community members and engage with them about what events they would like to see in the future.

For more details on this funding, please see the Traditional Healers Annual Report for Non Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

# Jordan's Principle

**Membertou and Potlotek:** 201 Churchill Drive – Suite 304, Membertou, NS, B1S 0H1  
(902) 539-4107

**Eskasoni:** 44 Spencer's Lane, PO Box 7745, Eskasoni, NS, B1W 1B3  
(902) 379-3402

**Wagmatcook and We'koma'q:** 47 Humes Rear Road, Wagmatcook, NS B0E 3N0  
(902) 295-2755

Jordan's principle identifies the complex needs, gaps and barriers that First Nations families often face. In the fiscal reporting period for April 1, 2018, until March 31, 2019, it was evident that the gaps between provincial and federal services were impacting the lives of all First Nations children in Unama'ki. The total number of individual children serviced in 2018-19 was **1501, an increase of 1,003!** The total funding amount received in Unama'ki: \$5,410,315.00

## Types of services requested:

- Speech and language services;
- Structured respite care;
- FASD;
- Psycho-educational assessments;
- Tutoring;
- Fencing/capital projects;
- Allied health services;
- Educational assistants;
- Daycare subsidy;
- Respite services;
- Sensory items;
- Physiotherapy and occupational therapy;
- Assistive technology;
- Cultural activities and mentors;
- Medical (medical supplies/hospital/pharmacy/vision care);
- Transportation and medical transportation.



During this time period, the service coordinators thought it was imperative that working relationships were established with any organization involved with Jordan's Principle

families. It is a priority of the service coordinators to steward those partnerships and build those relationships. It is vital in order to ensure excellent service to our families. Effective communication is necessary with all partnerships and helps to build community capacity.

### **Highlights from 2018-19:**

- Presented at Innovation and Social Work Practice Conference;
- Presented at Mi'kmaq Family and Children's Services;
- Jordan's Principle Summit;
- Presentations done at conferences, in communities and other organizations including: Foster Families Association of Nova Scotia; Child Welfare Conference in Whitehorse, Yukon; Waychobah Women's Shelter; Wagmatcook Community Centre; Nova Scotia Community College; Cape Breton Victoria Regional Child Advocacy Group; IWK Health Centre; Cape Breton Interagency on Family Violence; and at an all Chiefs meeting;
- Under One Umbrella booth;
- CBC Radio Interview, <https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/1369237571659>;
- Organized Parks Canada Learn to Camp;
- Volunteered at 2018 Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Summer Games (Special Olympics) .

### **Goals and objectives achieved during fiscal reporting period**

- Community capacity building;
- Increased awareness of Jordan's Principle through advertising and communications;
- Strengthening partnerships between existing programs.

### **Future objectives**

- Development of long-term policy and/or program options community-based services working more collaboratively;
- Culturally appropriate services;
- Established collaborative, trusting relationships with province, which is seen as restorative;
- Development of consistent approach to tracking case management within the Atlantic Region;
- Request additional funding for staff to better service families;
- A set of guidelines on approvals and a better working relationship with the province and all other departments that offer these services both on and off reserve.

# Diet & Nutrition

Angela MacDonald, Nutritionist  
amacdonald@unsi.ns.ca  
(902) 577-0575



Program delivery is group based and updated to help meet the diverse needs of individual communities. Programming would not be possible without the strong commitment of health center staff. If you would like a detailed list of program planning a list can be provided. As the dietitian for the Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq I am happy to report on popular program activity over the past 2018-19 fiscal year.

## **Cooking Classes**

Youth and adult cooking sessions help to increase exposure to cooking skills, tips for preparing traditional foods, ideas for balanced menu planning and options for budget friendly recipes. As a group we share and learn from the wealth of expertise in the room. Classes offer the opportunity for peer learning which helps to increase support at the community level. Schools have expressed interest in offering cooking classes to students. On-going Support will be needed to help source funding.

## **Prenatal Sessions**

Healthy eating for pregnancy, infant feeding, making homemade baby food as well as considerations for gestational diabetes and diabetes in pregnancy are offered throughout the fiscal year. Allowing time for participants to share and ask questions helps to ease the worries of soon to be parents. Discussion jars and homemade prenatal boxes help to prompt discussion amongst the group.

## **Healthy Living Programs**

Six to eight week healthy living sessions were offered to help discuss menu planning and ways to promote behaviour change. Many communities chose to meet biweekly to help stretch the duration of programming. Having support was seen as a key component in helping to reach realistic healthy living goals.

## **Allergy Awareness**

Headstart, daycare and school staff were given support on how to build allergen safe environments. Nut, egg, dairy, seafood and gluten remain the top requested allergen foods. Many communities have developed allergy policies to support community members living with life threatening reactions.

## **Men's Health**

Men are less likely to attend nutrition sessions, however; advertised men's health sessions are well attended. Health center staff offer participant led rotating topics. Heart healthy in-community grocery tours and heart healthy cooking classes have been welcome additions.

## **Preparing for Canada's Food Guide Update**

January proved to be an extremely busy month preparing for the release of the new Canada's Food Guide. Unlike other years there was no educators guide to help understand the rationale behind the 2019 updates. The Championing Public Health Conference held in Ottawa in October of 2018 provided background rationale for the new food guide. I was able to participate in various Health Canada teleconferences to help network with peers to discuss update details. January to March was dedicated to updating communities on the new Canada's Food Guide. Sessions discussed changes to the food guide and to share aspects from an environmental and cardiovascular focus. The new Canada's Food Guide has gone digital. While there is a two page snap shot of the food guide there are 60 plus pages for the public to access on the web. To date no updated First Nations, Inuit and Metis food guide versions have been provided. To review the full update on Canada's Food Guide please visit the following web link: [Canada.ca/FoodGuide](http://Canada.ca/FoodGuide)

## **Policy Work**

Work is ongoing with draft UNSM healthy living policies and helping to support policy work at the community level. When working over large geographical areas policy helps healthy living guidelines to exist between visits. Policy work was completed to help develop health center, school and wider community policies to aid in the fight against chronic disease. Sample policy ideas developed include menu planning tips to offer healthy breakfast, lunch, snack and drink choices. Simply serving water over juice or fruit over baked goods are great starting places. UNSM was fortunate to receive a 2018/2019 Chronic Prevention and Management Project Fund to offer a one day summit for Una'maki Chiefs, health and physical activity workers to meet and discuss policy development. Participants were able to form groups to discuss policy ideas at the community level. Ongoing support is offered to help with policy development.

*I am honoured to continue my role as the UNSM dietitian and look forward to celebrating the organizations 50th birthday! If you would like more information or have identified group nutrition needs please do not hesitate to contact me for a brainstorming session. I am still pursuing my Masters of Education via distance option and am excited to apply this learning to future programming. For more information I can be reached via email at [amacdonald@unsi.ns.ca](mailto:amacdonald@unsi.ns.ca) or via cell at 902-577-0575.*

# Home Community Care

Beverly Madill, Community Home & Care Coordinator

(902) 564-5283

homecare@unsi.ns.ca



The First Nations and Inuit Home and Community Care Program celebrates 20 years of service and continues to be a mandatory program of Indigenous Services Canada's program delivery. Communities have opportunities to celebrate their programs success with colleagues, elected leadership, community members, and families. Community and home care has grown significantly and is not be possible without community support and dedication.

The program itself is built upon nine (9) essential elements of the Home Care program framework - Assessment process by a Registered Nurse; Case management and coordination; home care nursing; home support; respite care; linkages to other services; data collection; and access to medical supplies and equipment. Supportive elements options are described as adult day care, meal or exercise programs, health promotion activities, and other activities or programs that the community offers to support changing needs of their home care program.

All communities submit monthly Service Delivery reports (eSDRT) to Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and a yearly report on human resources information. The data can be used by the community to understand home care needs and submit suggestions for further training and advocate for increased funding: one area this has been effective is looking at the needs or gaps for Palliative Care and bringing those concerns forward through our Quarterly Home and Community Care meetings and presenting these funding and provincial service delivery gaps to the Aboriginal Continuing Care Policy Forum, the Elder Care Working Group, as well as ISC. We have also been able to bring our Palliative Care concerns about funding and medication and equipment gaps to our Assembly of First Nations Health Tech, who in turn shares our issues at a national table.

During the past year, the Home Care program has been continuously working with Nova Scotia's provincial Continuing Care Program, the Palliative Care Networks and Executive, Caregivers Nova Scotia, and co-chairs the ACCPF, along with our HCC representative Terry Knockwood (Sipekne'katik). The Cape Breton representation seat is vacant at this time.

Training and education requests are gathered from the frontline HCC staff and last

year, we were approved by the Atlantic Health Partnership process to hold the following workshops: Palliative Care for First Nations communities in three sites, Millbrook, Moncton and Membertou in March, 2019, as well as the advanced care planning education.

Home care is also represented at the Atlantic Health Partnership through First Nation co-chairing of the Public Health and Primary Care Committee. The co-chair position is a two- year term, and a new co-chair will be selected in fall or winter. The role is also responsible to meet with a First Nation caucus prior to Health Partnership, along with Atlantic Health Directors meetings and CCG committee. There was also a request to present our Home Care program to the Nova Scotia Provincial Nurses Network in May 2018, and a representation request for the Long Term Care Symposium that reported back to the Minister of Health for their Strategic Plan. Representation was also requested by Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC) in December 2018 in Happy Valley to support the First Nation, Inuit and Metis Cancer Strategy Development Initiative for Partners meeting. UNSM now has a CPAC funded Mi'kmaq cancer team in place moving forward. Janet Rhymes has been our facilitator in securing a successful project proposal and setting up a four year strategy in conjunction with the NS Health Directors and the Mi'kmaq Cancer Network.

UNSM is also holding the funding for the Tripartite Project from October 2018 until October 2019, for the Social, Health and Justice project *The Development of a Potential Addictions Journey Aftercare Model*. The first staff engagement was held in Millbrook in December 2018. We then hired a consultant to prepare a model for further discussion to be held this year, before the final report is due in October 2019. We hosted a UNSM Chiefs Summit in February 2019 under Chronic Disease Strategic Action Plan to learn and discuss chronic disease prevention and management in Unama'ki communities. Home care data shows that our clients have multiple chronic diagnoses, and each one requires a healthier lifestyle to prevent and manage complications. We are optimistic that communities will continue to work with their homecare team to develop activities and policies that promote healthy living for all ages.

In the upcoming year, funding will be used to continue a palliative care focus, footcare training; dementia and Alzheimers education, and Case Management and Coordination training. It is hoped future training will include Trauma Informed Care and Fall Prevention. A palliative care symposium is scheduled for fall 2019.

Welcome to new homecare staff in our communities, and to new UNSM staff of the Home Care Program. It will benefit all community members when programs work together for better health outcomes. Congratulations to community staff in marking the 20th anniversary, and we should be proud of a program that takes its direction from a community perspective!

# Capacity Development

Joan Sack,  
Director of Capacity Development  
(902) 401-4421  
joansack@unsi.ns.ca

Kirstin Ward,  
Capacity Development Coordinator  
(902) 539-4107 (ext. 211)  
kward@unsi.ns.ca

Mallery Denny,  
Capacity Development Coordinator  
(902) 539-4107 (ext. 211)  
maldenny@unsi.ns.ca



## 2018-19 PRIORITIES

Our 2018-19 priorities were community involvement (community engagement); Planning (comprehensive community planning, strategic planning); human resource management (policies and procedures, training); and wills and estates management.

## 2018-19 HIGHLIGHTS

### Community involvement

- Community events and promotion
  - Attended grand opening of Wagmatcook Courthouse, June 2018
  - Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Summer Games, August 2018
- Logo contest, November 2018 to January 2019
- Webpage, work in progress

### Planning

- AFOA Canada 'Business Plans and Funding Proposals,' December 2018

- Comprehensive community planning
  - Ongoing training and advisory support, 2018-19
  - 'The Art of Hosting,' July 2018
  - Attended:
- Indigenous Community Development National Strategy, 2018-19
- Co-resolve: 'Deep Democracy,' November 2018
- Applying Strategic Thinking (Saint Mary's University), December 2018
- Comprehensive Community Planning (CCP) Atlantic Workshop, February 2019

## Human resources management

- Human Resource Management certification (Kirstin), 2018-19
- AFOA Canada Certified Aboriginal Professional Administrator, 2019
- Ongoing advisory support

## Wills and estates

- Community Information Sessions and Wills, 2018-19
- Legal information session for lawyers, October 2018

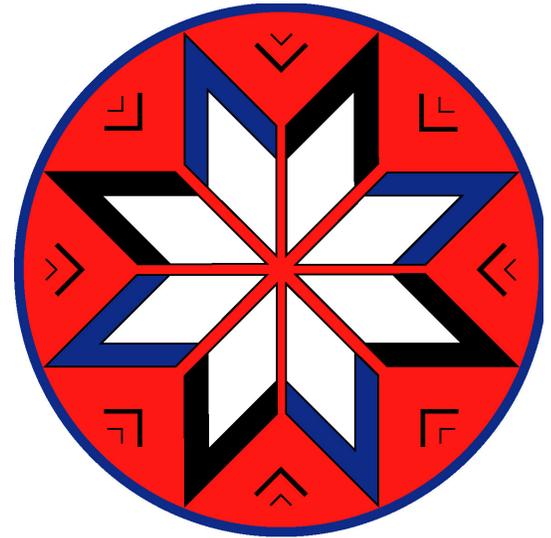


CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT  
UNION OF NOVA SCOTIA MI'KMAQ

*Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Capacity Development department's new logo, designed by Membertou's Carol Sylvester and Cageless Content's Ethan Fenton.*

Mi'kmaq - Nova Scotia - Canada  
**Tripartite Forum**

Adam Gould,  
Communications Manager / Tripartite Liaison  
(902) 322-9965  
agould@unsi.ns.ca



## **Overview**

The following is a summary of the 2018-19 fiscal year for the Tripartite Forum, compiled by UNSM Tripartite Liaison Adam Gould. Throughout the fiscal year, I updated the board of directors (BOD) with monthly briefing notes, and would provide updates at BOD meetings, and the UNSM annual assembly on September 30 in Halifax.

UNSM member bands would later choose to withdraw individual community membership from the Tripartite Forum, until March 2019 when the Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq withdrew its membership entirely. Discussions on restructuring the Forum for greater efficiency and service delivery will continue in next fiscal year.

## **Steering Committee**

I played an active role as UNSM's liaison, the Steering Committee's representative for Justice and Sports and Recreation Working Committees (WCs), and alternative rep for Economic Development, Health, and Justice WCs. Our committee met 10 times throughout the year, all of which I attended as part of my duties. Conference calls were also held.

## **Working Committees**

All seven (7) Working Committees met throughout Mi'kma'ki / Nova Scotia during fiscal year for a total of 27 meetings. I attended 12 of the 27 meetings in my duties as Steering rep for Justice and Sports and Recreation, or if another WC met in an Unama'ki community.

Culture and Heritage met five (5) times; Economic Development met four (4) times, and held five (5) conference calls for related work; Education met four (4) times; Health met four (4) times; Justice met five (5) times; Social met only once, and Sports

and Recreation met four (4) times. Most WCs also completed the annual workplan meetings, which are done over two days.

## **Executive / Officials / Co-chairs Committees**

The Officials Committee met on November 21 in Membertou. This meeting replaced the previously-scheduled Executive Committee meeting. The May 11, 2018, Officials meeting was also cancelled. Co-Chairs meeting was held on September 2, in Millbrook. The Executive Committee did not meet in the 2018-19 fiscal year (but was scheduled for November 21).

## **Working development session (WDS)**

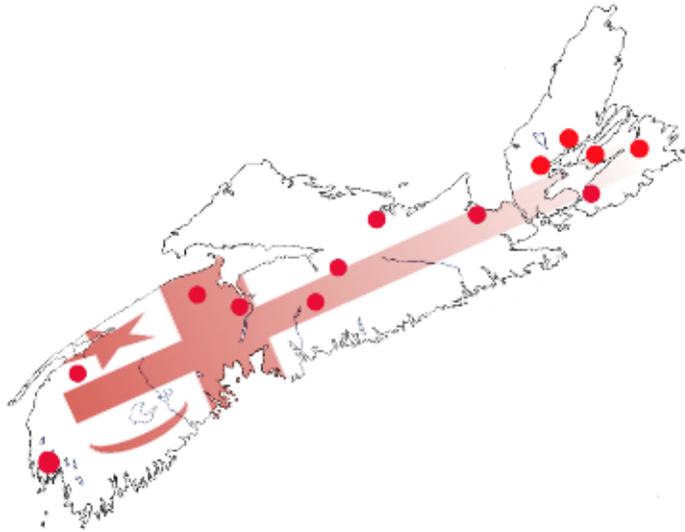
Tripartite Forum WDS held on June 7-8 at Digby Pines in Digby, NS. I was part of planning committee and also hosted a UNSM information booth. The WDS is formerly known as the annual general assembly.

## **Project fund for social and economic change**

A total of six (6) projects were approved for 2018-19, bringing the grand total to

- PF18/19 #001 - Phase Two: Mawio'mi Economic and Cultural Impact Study (Economic Development Working Committee), \$23,800.00;
- PF18/19 #002 - Mapping Death and Burial on Bras d'Or Shores (Culture & Heritage Working Committee), \$25,960;
- PF18/19 #003 - Phase One: Mi'kmaq Jurisdictional Authority Over By-Laws (Justice Working Committee), \$65,575.00;
- PF18/19 #004 - Printing and Distribution of Racism in Sport Signage (Sports & Recreation Working Committee), \$6,696.80;
- PF18/19 #005 - Exploring "Wraparound" Service Delivery Development of Addictions Journey Aftercare in Mi'kmaw Communities (Health Working Committee), \$86,641.74;
- PF18/19 #006 - IRS Commemoration Phase One: Engaging Survivors and Descendants (Culture & Heritage Working Committee), \$61,490.00.

# Member Bands



**Membertou**  
111 Membertou Street  
Membertou NS, B1S 2M9  
Phone: (902) 564-6466  
Fax: (902) 539-6649

Chief Terrance Paul  
Craig Christmas  
Dean Christmas  
Gail Christmas  
Robin Googoo  
Lee Gould  
Johanna LaPorte  
David Marshall  
Graham Marshall  
Paul MacDonald  
Allister Matthews  
Cary Paul  
Lawrence Paul Jr.

**Wagmatcook**  
P.O. Box 30001  
Wagmatcook, NS B0E 2N0  
Phone: (902) 295-2598  
Fax: (902) 295-3398

Chief Norman Bernard  
Kimberly Denny  
Cornelia Peck  
James Peck  
Lester Peck  
Jason Pierro  
Peter Pierro

**Eskasoni**  
63 Mini Mall Drive  
PO Box 7040  
Eskasoni, NS B1W 1A1  
Phone: (902) 379-2800  
Fax: (902) 379-2172

Chief Leroy Denny  
Bertram Bernard  
Dion Denny  
Leon Denny Sr.  
Barry Francis  
Gerald R. Francis  
Eldon Gould  
Allan Jeddore  
Derek Johnson  
Tom Ji'j Johnson  
Brendon Poulette  
Chris Stevens  
John Frank Toney

**Potlotek**  
1204 Highway 4  
Box 538  
RR 1 St. Peter's NS B0E 3B0  
Phone: (902) 535-3317  
Fax: (902) 535-3004

Chief Wilbert Marshall  
Anita Basque  
Jeremy Basque  
Quentin Doucette  
Basil Johnson  
Wayne Johnson  
James Marshall  
Blayne Murray

**We'koma'q**  
P.O. Box 149  
Whycocomagh, NS B0E 3M0  
Phone: (902) 756-2337  
Fax: (902) 756-2393

Chief Roderick Googoo  
Stuart Basque  
Cyrus Bernard  
Jason Bernard  
John Leonard Bernard  
John W. Cremo  
Annie Daisley  
Steve Googoo  
Anthony Phillips  
Stanford Phillips

# Board of Directors



Kji Saqmaq  
Norman Sylliboy

Mi'kmaw Grand Council



Chief Roderick Googoo

We'koma'q



Chief Terrance Paul

Membertou



Kji Keptin Antle Denny

Mi'kmaw Grand Council



Chief Norman Bernard

Wagmatcook



Chief Leroy Denny

Eskasoni



Regional Chief  
Morley Googoo

Assembly of First  
Nations



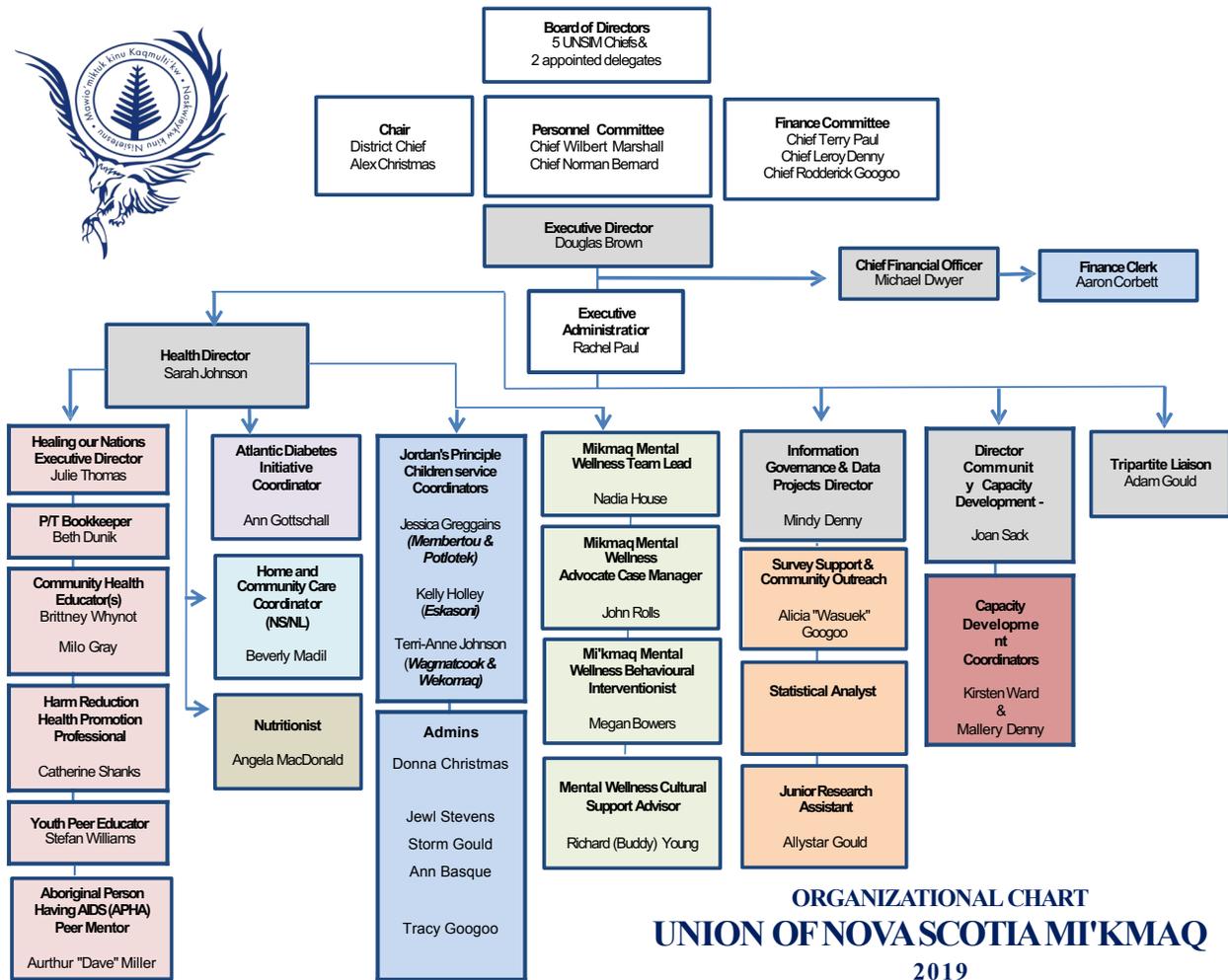
Chief Wilbert Marshall

Potlotek



District Chief  
Alex Christmas

# Organizational Chart



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART  
UNION OF NOVA SCOTIA MI'KMAQ  
2019

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of The Union of Nova Scotia Mi'Kmaq

### Opinion

I have audited the consolidated financial statements of The Union of Nova Scotia Mi'Kmaq (the Union), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at March 31, 2019, and the consolidated statements of changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the consolidated financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Union as at March 31, 2019, and its results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

### Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Union in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the consolidated financial statements in Canada, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### Other Matter

The consolidated financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2018 were audited by another auditor who expressed an unmodified opinion on those financial statements on July 26, 2018.

### Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Union's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Union or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Union's financial reporting process.

### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

(continues)

PO Box 148  
1 Fraser Avenue, Suite 6  
Sydney Mines, NS  
B1V 2B8

☎ 902 736 7610

✉ info@hannem.ca

☎ 902 736 7532

## Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of The Union of Nova Scotia Mi'Kmaq (continued)

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Union's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Union's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Union to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Sydney Mines, Nova Scotia  
July 29, 2019



**Chartered Professional Accountant**  
**Licensed Public Accountant**



PO Box 148  
1 Fraser Avenue, Suite 6  
Sydney Mines, NS  
B1V 2B8

☎ 902 736 7610

✉ [info@hannem.ca](mailto:info@hannem.ca)

☎ 902 736 7532

**THE UNION OF NOVA SCOTIA MI'KMAQ**  
**Consolidated Statement of Financial Position**  
**March 31, 2019**

	2019	2018
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Cash	\$ 1,325,857	\$ 436,687
Accounts receivable	1,600,461	293,211
	<b>\$ 2,926,318</b>	<b>\$ 729,898</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 847,594	\$ 692,625
Deferred revenue	1,942,515	309,054
	<b>2,790,109</b>	<b>1,001,679</b>
<b>NET ASSETS (DEFICIENCY)</b>		
<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>136,209</b>	<b>(271,781)</b>
	<b>\$ 2,926,318</b>	<b>\$ 729,898</b>

**Contingent liability (Note 10)**

**Lease commitments (Note 11)**

**On behalf of the Board**

 \_\_\_\_\_ Director

 \_\_\_\_\_ Director

See Notes and Schedules to Consolidated Financial Statements

**THE UNION OF NOVA SCOTIA MI'KMAQ**  
**Consolidated Statement of Operations**  
**Year Ended March 31, 2019**

	Budget	2019	2018
<b>Revenue</b>			
Health Canada	\$ 7,500,000	\$ 8,791,679	\$ 2,173,780
Province of Nova Scotia	58,500	68,500	73,500
First Nations Information Governance Centre	725,000	741,417	744,792
Indigenous Services Canada	1,000,000	1,142,613	907,030
National Indian Brotherhood	100,000	100,000	69,495
Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq	-	102,761	-
Atlantic Policy Congress	-	19,822	-
Canadian Partnership Against Cancer	-	51,155	12,000
Other	490,000	487,598	421,645
Chase the Ace	-	9,475	-
Nova Scotia Health Authority	-	21,042	-
	<u>9,873,500</u>	<u>11,536,062</u>	<u>4,402,242</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Accounting fees	27,000	26,450	-
Administration	400,000	403,084	314,843
Award	-	2,000	-
Bad debts	-	605	-
Cleaning	13,000	12,969	13,711
Equipment rental	20,000	14,393	18,986
HIV/AIDS Strategy	125,000	123,978	80,633
Insurance	2,000	1,964	1,840
Interest and bank charges	4,500	5,697	3,873
Meetings and conventions	160,000	156,385	79,695
Office	310,000	307,258	339,791
Performer fees	-	9,491	-
Prize payout	-	5,514	6,898
Professional fees	283,000	238,745	210,427
Rent	120,000	118,768	94,868
Service delivery	5,000,000	4,917,795	213,471
Salaries and wages	2,444,000	2,161,692	1,682,392
Supplies	65,000	30,984	61,031
Telephone	25,000	24,991	23,872
Traditional healer	-	70,574	-
Training	10,000	7,821	-
Travel	765,000	761,590	629,482
Youth gathering	100,000	85,363	97,700
	<u>9,873,500</u>	<u>9,488,111</u>	<u>3,873,513</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,047,951</u>	<u>528,729</u>
<b>Deferred revenue</b>	-	(1,633,461)	(309,054)
<b>Clawback of current year surplus</b>	-	(6,500)	(172,981)
	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,639,961)</u>	<u>(482,035)</u>
	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 407,990</u>	<u>\$ 46,694</u>

See Notes and Schedules to Consolidated Financial Statements

---

**THE UNION OF NOVA SCOTIA MI'KMAQ**  
**Consolidated Statement of Changes in Net Assets**  
**Year Ended March 31, 2019**

---

	2019	2018
Net assets (deficiency), beginning of year	\$ (271,781)	\$ (318,475)
Excess of revenue over expenditures	<u>407,990</u>	<u>46,694</u>
Net assets (deficiency), end of year	<u>\$ 136,209</u>	<u>\$ (271,781)</u>

**THE UNION OF NOVA SCOTIA MI'KMAQ**  
**Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows**  
**Year Ended March 31, 2019**

	2019	2018
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 407,990	\$ 46,694
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Accounts receivable	(1,307,250)	(87,466)
Accounts payable	154,969	337,642
Deferred revenue	1,633,461	59,784
	<u>481,180</u>	<u>309,960</u>
<b>Net change in cash and cash equivalents during the year</b>	<b>889,170</b>	<b>356,654</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year</b>	<b>436,687</b>	<b>80,033</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 1,325,857</b>	<b>\$ 436,687</b>

See Notes and Schedules to Consolidated Financial Statements

# Mission Statement

- To protect and maintain Mi'kmaq rights and entitlement;
- To preserve an enhanced way of life for the Mi'kmaq that is assured by our ancestry and guaranteed by our Mi'kmaq Treaty Rights;
- To guarantee liberty and freedoms and restoring title;
- To fulfill the goals and objectives of the Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq as stated in the Constitution;
- To promote the education of the bands in matters affecting the Mi'kmaq.

## Objectives

- To promote the welfare and well-being of the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia;
- To improve the economic and social conditions of the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia;
- To promote the rights of Mi'kmaq people, to inform Mi'kmaq of their rights and to assist Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia in their enforcement of their rights;
- To promote discussion of Mi'kmaq problems;
- To seek to promote a better understanding between Mi'kmaq and other people;
- To initiate and carry out programs for the advancement of Mi'kmaq people;
- To cooperate with governmental and private agencies for the promoting of the interests of Mi'kmaq people;
- To do all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objectives.

# **UNION OF NOVA SCOTIA MI'KMAQ**

## **Main Office**

201 Churchill Drive, Suite 304  
Membertou, Nova Scotia B1S 0H1  
Tel: (902) 539-4107  
Fax: (902) 564-2137

## **Cole Harbour sub-office**

87 Millbrook Avenue, Suite 103  
Cole Harbour, NS B2V 0A1  
Fax: (902) 564-2137

[www.unsi.ns.ca](http://www.unsi.ns.ca)