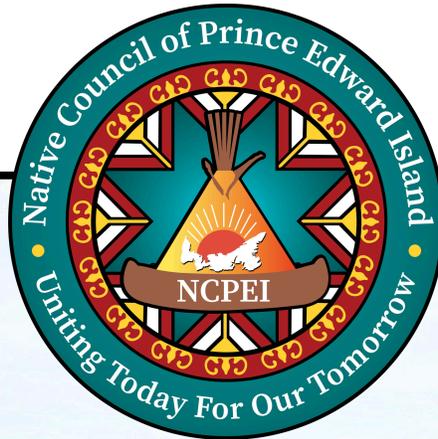


# 49TH ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPORT

NATIVE COUNCIL OF  
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

NOVEMBER 2ND & 3RD, 2024  
RODD BRUDENELL RIVER RESORT



48th Annual General Assembly  
November 4th & 5th 2023  
Mill River Resort

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## President & Chief Opening Remarks

Kwé Elders, Youth, Members, and Invited Guests,

Welcome to our 49<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly and my 9<sup>th</sup> year as your President & Chief. I want to especially welcome our invited guests which include members of the Grand Council, representatives from our national organization the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples, representatives from our regional organization the Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council, and representatives from our sister organizations – the New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council and the Native Council of Nova Scotia.

NCPEI continues to seek out funding for programs and services that will address the issues and needs facing the off-reserve Indigenous community. We are proud to have successfully operated the Winter Street Men's Shelter for a full year and have purchased a building in Cornwall that will become a women's shelter in the Fall of 2025.

Over the next two days, we will discuss our programs and services and shelters in more detail. We will also be discussing the financial status of the Native Council of PEI, and other new initiatives we have on the go.

I would also like to welcome our newly elected and re-elected Board members, Sarah, Robert, Judy and Kayla.

Once again, welcome to NCPEI's 49<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly!

Lisa Cooper



## **Introduction of Guests**

Including but not limited to:

- Brendan Moore, National Chief, Congress of Aboriginal Peoples
- Shawna Jean, National Vice-Chief Congress of Aboriginal Peoples - was not able to attend today but sends well wishes for a successful AGA
- Jim Devoe, Chief Executive Officer Congress of Aboriginal Peoples
- Lorraine Augustine, Chief and President Native Council of Nova Scotia
- Theresa Cooke, Finance Director, Native Council of Nova Scotia
- Melissa Diotte, Chief and President, New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council
- Members of the Mi'kmaq Grand Council:
  - Keptin Sean Paul
  - Keptin Russel Julian
  - Keptin Keith Julien
  - Keptin Michael Denny
- Mark Sheridan, Director of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, Province of PEI
- Roger Hunka, Director, Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council (MAPC) and Honorary NCPEI Member
- Barry Marsman, EMSA Coordinator, MAPC
- Vanessa Mitchell, Executive Director, MAPC
- Gavin Scott, Project Manager – AFSAR Comparative Assessment Project, MAPC
- Chris Smith, Lead Technician, AERF ResTORE Project, MAPC
- Payton Truyens, Marine Social Science Coordinator, MAPC
- Christina Davis, Habitat Impacts Advisor, MAPC

## **Board Members, Coordinators and Staff Positions**

### NCPEI Board of Directors

President and Chief	Lisa Cooper
Zone 1 Director	- vacant
Zone 1 Director	Judy Duguay
Zone 2 Director	Robert Panchuk
Zone 2 Director	Sarah Jackson
Zone 3 Director	Kayla Larkin
Zone 3 Director	Dana Wakelin
Elder Representative	Georgina Knockwood Crane
Youth Representative	Ebony Larkin

### L'nu Fisheries Board of Directors

President	Jordan Crane
Vice-President	Lisa Cooper
Zone 1	- vacant -
Zone 2	Dawne Knockwood
Zone 3	Chris St. Onge
Ex-Officio	Kenny Tuplin
Fisherman Representative	Stephen Clements

### Nanegkam Board of Directors

President	Lisa Cooper
Director	Emily Bernard
Director	Jordan Crane
Director	Wendy Anderson
Director	Dana Wigmore
Director	Dawne Knockwood
Director	Richard Cooper

### NCPEI Administrative and Core Staff

Director of Finance	Emily Bernard
Finance Assistant	Matt O'Brien
Human Resources Director	Vacant
Funding Reporting Officer	Stephen Gauthier
Kelewatl Commissioner	Jordan Crane
L'nu Fisheries Assistant	Amanda Trainor
Marine Safety Coordinator	Ryan Knockwood
Executive Assistant	April Whynot
Administrative Assistant	Katelyn Richard
Receptionist	Jamie Lee Augustine
Policy Analyst	Bradley Cooper
Policy Analyst	Jane Affleck
Policy Analyst	Jill Chapman
Policy Analyst	Kristine Greenlaw
Housing Development Officer	Chinedu Ubah

Nanegkam Housing Manager  
Nanegkam Maintenance  
Nanegkam Bookkeeper/Admin Assistant  
Digital Archives Coordinator/IT  
Promotions

David Rooney  
Merle Chappell  
- vacant –  
Paul Martin  
Janique Nomdarkhom

#### NCPEI Program Staff

Environment Program Coordinator  
Environmental Technician  
Fleet Assistant  
Gender Based Violence Prevention Coordinator  
Ignite Coordinator  
Indigenous Skills & Employment Training  
Membership Clerk  
Reaching Home Coordinator  
Language and Drumming Coordinator  
Language & Drumming Facilitator  
SAFE Coordinator  
Tapui'tjitja'amtij (2-Spirit)  
YESS Facilitator

Clara Jane Wood  
Bronte Handrahan  
James Fraser  
Anthonia Mbareri  
Danielle Moore Rayner  
Nancy MacLean  
Jody Jesso  
Chris Clay  
- vacant -  
Stephenson Joe  
Brenda Dion  
Kaelyn Mercer  
- vacant -

#### Winter Street Shelter

Shelter Manager  
Shelter Resource Worker  
Shelter Resource Worker

Andrea Schurman  
Nicole Gallant Gilks  
Jessica Harvey  
Matthew Forster  
Clayton Drake  
Ryan Dunn  
Tammy Nichols-Echlin  
Heather Baker  
Ying Chao Ma

Casual Shelter Workers

Jeremiah Bernard  
David Oliver  
Danielle Wilson  
Serena Shepard  
Jody Hustler  
Madison Jones  
John Ocheme  
Richard Nelson

## 49<sup>TH</sup> NCPEI AGA AGENDA

### Friday November 1<sup>st</sup> 2024

4:00 – 6:00	Registration
7:00 – 10:00	Cribbage Tournament

### Saturday November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024

8:00 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 10:00	Opening Ceremonies <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grand Entry &amp; Opening Prayer</li><li>• President and Chief Welcoming Remarks</li><li>• Introduction of Board and Staff</li><li>• Introduction of Guests</li></ul>
10:00 - 10:30	Procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nomination &amp; Selection of Chair/Co-chair</li><li>• Roll Call</li><li>• Acceptance of Rules of Order</li><li>• Acceptance of Agenda</li><li>• Nomination &amp; Selection of Resolutions Committee</li></ul>
10:30 – 11:00	Health Break
11:00 – 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reading and Adoption of 48<sup>th</sup> (2024) AGA Minutes</li><li>• Reading and Adoption of 48<sup>th</sup> (2024) Resolutions and Actions Taken</li><li>• Resolutions Committee Report</li></ul>
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch
1:00 – 2:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• President &amp; Chief's Report</li><li>• Board of Director Reports</li><li>• National Chief's Report</li><li>• Program Reports</li></ul>
2:30 – 3:00	Health Break
3:00 – 5:00	MAPC Presentations Group Photo
6:00 – 7:00	Dinner/Presentation of Crib Trophies
7:00 – 9:00	Bingo
9:00 – 10:00	All Ages Dance (Theme: TV Characters)
10:00 – 1:00	Dance and Cash Bar (19+ only)

**Sunday November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024**

8:00 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:15	Attendance/Roll Call
9:15 – 10:30	Audited Financial Statements – Presented by Lauren Vail, BDO <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Native Council of PEI</li><li>• Nanegkam Housing</li></ul> Appointment of Auditor
10:30 – 11:00	Health Break ( <b>Hotel Check out</b> )
11:00 – 12:00	L’nu Fisheries Update Nanegkam Housing Corporation Managers Report
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch
1:00 – 2:30	Proposed Bylaw Amendments Resolutions
2:30 – 2:45	Health Break
2:45 – 4:30	Resolutions Continued
4:30	Prize Draws Other Business and Adjournment Grand Exit & Closing Prayer

## **RULES OF ORDER**

1. The assembly will meet each day at 9:00 am or as soon thereafter as a quorum of delegates is present.
2. An issue must be introduced by way of a motion duly moved and seconded before the Assembly can discuss it.
3. Any delegate may move or second a motion but may not do both for the same motion.
4. A motion may, at any time during discussion stage, be withdrawn or amended provided both the mover and seconder agree.
5. Any person wishing to speak on a motion shall proceed to one of the microphones provided for this purpose. When recognized by the Chairperson(s), the person shall identify themselves before addressing remarks to the question at issue.
6. No person may speak longer than five (5) minutes at a time on an issue and not speak more than once on that issue until all other persons who wish to speak have had an opportunity to do so.
7. A motion shall be open for discussion until such time as the Chairperson is satisfied that everyone wanting to speak has had an opportunity to do so. Only after “any further discussion” has been asked three (3) times may “question” be called by the Chair. “Question” can be called by any delegate on the floor at any time, but this declaration may or may not be acted on at the Chairperson’s discretion.
8. Either a show of delegate voting cards or standing vote on the basis of one (1) vote per delegate may be the voting method used to decide the status of motions.
9. All motions and resolutions shall require the affirmative vote of a majority (50% + 1) of those present and eligible to vote in order to pass. For clarity, “those present and eligible to vote” shall be determined from the roll call conducted each morning of the AGA and any abstentions in a vote shall not change the number of affirmative votes required.
10. The Chairperson shall make every attempt to have the Assembly settle all disputes that arise from the floor. The Chairperson shall, however, be empowered to make dispute-settling decisions in order that the business of the Assembly may proceed.
11. The Chairperson shall be required to refer to the rules of order, the constitution and by-laws, and their own experience and knowledge when making decisions or settling disputes.

## **DRAFT RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **Guidelines for Submitting Resolutions:**

1. All resolution will require a mover and a seconder who are registered voting delegates. If the mover or seconder are not present at the time resolutions are being discussed, another mover or seconder may be taken from the Assembly floor at the discretion of the AGA Chairperson(s).
2. All resolutions must be received in writing no later than \_\_\_\_\_. No resolution shall be taken after the deadline, including from the assembly floor.
3. Resolutions must be delivered to a Resolutions Committee member in person or emailed to \_\_\_\_\_ with the subject "AGA Resolution".
4. Any resolutions that appear similar in nature will be combined with the mutual consent from the movers and seconders of the resolutions.
5. Any resolution which deals with a constitutional change shall be noted as such prior to the discussion and vote. If carried, the resolution shall be brought forward as a Notice of Motion for Constitutional Change at the next AGA for a second vote and final approval.
6. Anyone requiring assistance with writing or preparing a resolution can ask for assistance from the Resolutions Committee.

### **Responsibilities of the Resolutions Committee:**

1. The Resolutions Committee shall select a Chair who shall oversee and act as a spokesperson for the Resolutions Committee. The Chair shall present the Resolution Committee's report to the Assembly and shall select members of the Resolutions Committee, which must include the Chair, to read resolutions and track amendments on behalf of the Assembly floor.
2. All members of the Resolutions Committee, with support from NCPEI staff, shall be responsible for helping to write, collect, and prepare resolutions prior to discussion. Members must also be prepared to read and track amendments to resolutions if selected by the Chair.
3. The AGA Chairperson(s) shall be responsible for chairing the discussion and vote on resolutions in accordance with the adopted Rules of Order.

**MINUTES**  
**Native Council of Prince Edward Island**  
**48<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly**  
**Saturday, November 4, 2023 and Sunday, November 5, 2023**  
**Rodd Mill River Resort, O'Leary, PE**

**Saturday, November 4, 2023**

**Opening Ceremony**

- Grand entry began at 9:22 am
- Opening prayer by Elder Georgina Knockwood Crane (Zone 2)

**President and Chief Opening Remarks**

Chief Lisa Cooper delivered President and Chief Opening Remarks

**Key Points:**

- Healthy growth in funding
- Now have 67 staff, up from 45 last year
- Increase in programs and services offered to community
- Financial status has grown to 4.9 million
- Wishes good luck to candidates in the election
- Evening activities
- Acknowledged two special gifts - Julie signed her book, book signed by John Joe Sark

**Introduction of Guests:**

- Elmer St. Pierre – National Chief, Congress of Aboriginal Peoples
- Hon. Ernie Hudson – Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure
- Mark Sheridan – Director of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, Province of PEI
- Keptin Benny Sark – Mi'kmaq Grand Council Member
- Keptin Keith Julien – Mi'kmaq Grand Council Member
- Keptin Michael Denny – Mi'kmaq Grand Council Member
- Keptin Sean Paul – Mi'kmaq Grand Council Member
- Brendan Moore – Chief and President, New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council
- Roger Hunka – Director, Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council (MAPC)
- Vanessa Mitchell – Executive Director, Maritime Aboriginal Aquatic Resources Secretariat (MAARS), MAPC
- Barry Marsman – MAPC
- Christina Davis – MAPC
- Bryan Martin – MAPC
- Gavin Scott – MAPC
- Mary-Rose Watts – MAPC

### **Introduction of Board and Staff:**

- NCPEI staff are key to the organization because of their dedication, programming, commitment to community and to deliver program to best of abilities in all zones
- Board of Directors meet quarterly. Their hard work and dedication to NCPEI is appreciated

### **Nomination of Chairperson**

Bradley Cooper was nominated as Chair by Mary Linda Mills (Zone 3) and seconded by Robert Panchuk (Zone 2)

Roger Hunka was nominated as Chair by Sarah Jackson (Zone 2) and seconded by Ebony Larkin (Zone 2)

### **Motion #1 – To Cease Chairperson Nominations**

Moved by: Sarah Stewart Jackson (Zone 2)  
Seconded by: Dana Wakelin (Zone 3)

#### **Discussion:**

- Roger Hunka declined the nomination
- Bradley Cooper indicated that in accordance with s. 9 of the Bylaws he cannot accept nomination as Chairperson cannot be a voting delegate at Assembly. This is one of the Bylaw amendments put forth to be changed this year. If it is the wishes of the Assembly, Bylaw can be ignored and AGA can proceed, making Bradley Cooper the Chairperson

There are no objections to Bradley Cooper accepting the nomination as a voting delegate.

#### **Motion Carried**

### **Motion #2 – To Nominate & Select Chairperson for 2023 AGA**

Moved by: Georgina Knockwood Crane (Zone 2)  
Seconded by: Robert Panchuk (Zone 2)

#### **Discussion:**

- Sarah Jackson (Zone 2) wished to make sure Assembly all agree and would like it to be official again for clarity
- AGA voted again
- Bradley Cooper accepted the nomination as Chairperson and clarified he will continue to be an unbiased and neutral party as Chair and will abstain from voting as a delegate during motions. Chair Cooper will vote in the election as it is secret ballot, which allows him to maintain neutrality for remainder of the AGA

#### **Motion Carried**

## Roll Call

Chair began roll for delegates. Delegate count is 60 (Majority vote to pass a motion or resolution is 50% + 1 (31) of those present and eligible to vote).

<b>ZONE 1</b>					
<b>Delegate Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Delegate Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Emma Bulger	X		Tracy MacEachern	X	
Stephen Clements	X		Chris O'Halloran	X	
Terry Clements	X		Helen Perry	X	
Tony Clements	X		Jamie Perry	X	
Vanessa Clements	X		Louis Perry	X	
Richard Cooper	X		Francis Pineau	X	
Judy Duguay	X		Rachel Pineau	X	
James Fraser	X		Loretta Ross	X	
Beverly Gallant	X		Tim Ross	X	
Earl Gallant	X		Clara Jane Wood	X	

<b>ZONE 2</b>					
<b>Delegate Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Delegate Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Jamie Augustine	X		Jody Jesso	X	
William Bourque	X		Dawne Knockwood	X	
Lynn Bradley	X		Georgina Knockwood-Crane	X	
Diane Burke	X		Ebony Larkin	X	
Pat Burke	X		Greg MacLean	X	
Mary Busch	X		Robert Panchuk	X	
Bradley Cooper	X		Julie Pellisier-Lush	X	
Lisa Cooper	X		Jolene Rolle	X	
Jordan Crane	X		Mike Viau	X	
Sarah Jackson	X		Roger Walker	X	

<b>ZONE 3</b>					
<b>Delegate Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Delegate Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
George Cheverie		X	Mary Mills	X	
Brenda Dion	X		Lori Sanderson	X	
Roxanne Gallant	X		Chris St. Onge	X	
Donna Gregory	X		Amanda Trainor	X	
Melvin Hinks	X		Dana Wakelin	X	
Gerald Jesso	X		Clifton Walker	X	
Tracy Kulluarlik	X		Deanna Walker	X	
Kayla Larkin	X		Doreen Woods	X	
Linda MacConnell	X		Melissa Woods	X	
Adele McGuire	X		Samantha Woods	X	

- Shortfall of one delegate in Zone 3 so alternate needed to fill position. Jordan Crane confirmed there is no alternate for Zone 3 and an alternate from Zone 1 or Zone 2 will be selected in order of list within that Zone.
- Zone 1 alternate is Joanne MacDonald, Zone 2 alternate is April Whynot

- Coin flip confirmed “heads” and Zone 1 delegate Joanne MacDonald was registered as delegate

### **Motion #3 –To Accept the Rules of Order**

Moved by: Jolene Rolle (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Sarah Jackson (Zone 2)

**Motion Carried**

### **Motion #4 – To Accept the 2023 AGA Agenda**

Moved by: Sarah Jackson (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Mary Linda Mills (Zone 3)

#### **Discussion:**

- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) wished to amend agenda to include Board of Directors reports

**Motion Carried (as amended)**

### **Nominations & Selection of Resolutions Committee**

Dawne Knockwood (Zone 2) asked if nominees are required to be delegates or if anyone in room can participate. Chair Cooper responded that nominees can be anyone in the room

- Dawne Knockwood (Zone 2) was nominated by Lynn Bradley (Zone 2) and seconded by Greg MacLean (Zone 2)

**Dawne Knockwood accepted the nomination**

- Amanda Trainor (Zone 3) was nominated by Sarah Jackson (Zone 2) and seconded by Mary Linda Mills (Zone 3)

**Amanda Trainor accepted the nomination**

- Chris St. Onge (Zone 3) was nominated by Georgina Knockwood-Crane (Zone 2) and seconded by Dana Wakelin (Zone 3)

**Chris St. Onge accepted the nomination**

- Lori Sanderson (Zone 3) was nominated by Dana Wakelin (Zone 3) and seconded by Kayla Larkin (Zone 3)

**Lori Sanderson accepted the nomination**

- Roger Walker (Zone 2) was nominated by Kayla Larkin (Zone 3) and seconded by Diane Burke (Zone 2)

**Roger Walker accepted the nomination**

- Vanessa Clements (Zone 1) was nominated by Diane Burke (Zone 2) and seconded by Richard Cooper (Zone 1)

**Vanessa Clements accepted the nomination**

- Wanda Lyle (Zone 2) was nominated by Dawne Knockwood (Zone 2) and seconded by Brenda Dion (Zone 3)  
**Wanda Lyle accepted the nomination**

### **Motion #5 – To Cease Nominations & Selection of Resolutions Committee**

Moved by: Sarah Jackson (Zone 2)  
Seconded by: Dana Wakelin (Zone 3)

#### **Motion Carried**

Invited dignitaries are invited to approach the microphone.

- The Honourable Ernie Hudson, MLA for Alberton/Bloomfield, and Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, addressed the AGA

### **Nominations & Selection of Elections and Credentials Committee**

- Corinne Chappell (Zone 2) was nominated by Diane Burke (Zone 2) and seconded by Jolene Rolle (Zone 2)  
**Corinne Chappell accepted the nomination**
- Mary Busch (Zone 2) was nominated by Lynn Bradley (Zone 2) and seconded by Ebony Larkin (Zone 2)  
**Mary Busch accepted the nomination**
- Tim Ross (Zone 1) was nominated by Dawne Knockwood (Zone 2) and seconded by Jolene Rolle (Zone 2)  
**Tim Ross accepted the nomination**
- Jolene Rolle (Zone 2) was nominated by Diane Burke (Zone 2) and seconded by Ebony Larkin (Zone 2)  
**Jolene Rolle accepted the nomination**
- Deanna Walker (Zone 3) was nominated by Ebony Larkin (Zone 2) and seconded by Sarah Jackson (Zone 2)  
**Deanna Walker accepted the nomination**

### **Motion #6 – To Cease Nominations & Selection of Elections and Credentials Committee**

Moved by: Sarah Jackson (Zone 2)  
Seconded by: Georgina Knockwood Crane (Zone 2)

#### **Motion Carried**

*Health break (10:23 a.m. to 11:01 a.m.)*

**Motion #7 – To Accept the Adoption of the 47<sup>th</sup> NCPEI AGA Minutes (2022)**

Moved by: Sarah Jackson (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Greg MacLean (Zone 2)

**Motion Carried**

**Motion #8 – To Accept the Adoption of the 47<sup>th</sup> NCPEI AGA Resolutions and Actions Taken (2022)**

Chair read “Be it Resolved” and “Actions Taken” from 47<sup>th</sup> NCPEI AGA Resolutions

Moved by: Sarah Jackson (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Greg MacLean (Zone 2)

**Motion Carried**

**Motion #9 – To Accept the Adoption of Resolution of the Board of Directors – Zoom Meeting held on April 6, 2023**

Moved by: Lisa Cooper (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Kayla Larkin (Zone 3)

**Motion Carried**

**Motion #10 – To Accept the Draft Resolution Committee Report**

Wanda Lyle, Chair of the Resolutions Committee, read guidelines for submitting resolutions and the responsibilities of the Resolutions Committee. Resolutions will be accepted in writing, in person, or by e-mail until 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 4, 2023.

Moved by: Dana Wakelin (Zone 3)

Seconded by: Sarah Jackson (Zone 2)

**Motion Carried**

*Lunch Break (12:00 p.m. – 1:08 p.m.)*

**Motion #11 – To Accept the Draft Elections and Credentials Committee Report – Rules for Election Process**

Draft report read by Chair (found at *Agenda* Tab, behind *Rules of Order*)

Moved by: Sarah Jackson (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Greg MacLean (Zone 2)

**Discussion:**

- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) inquired if requirement on ballot is for a check, X, or circle, or does it matter
- Jolene Rolle (Zone 2) clarified to mark X or checkmark in box
- Richard Cooper (Zone 1) asked for amendments – increase from 45 minutes to an hour, maximum speaking time from three to five minutes, and to ask question to multiple candidates

**Motion Carried as Amended****Nomination of Candidates for President and Chief**

- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) was nominated by Jordan Crane (Zone 2) and seconded by Mary Linda Mills (Zone 3)
- Lynn Bradley (Zone 2) was nominated by Jody Jesso (Zone 2) and seconded by Kayla Larkin (Zone 3)
- Robert Panchuk (Zone 2) was nominated by Dana Wakelin (Zone 3) and seconded by Kayla Larkin (Zone 3)

**Motion #12 – To Cease Nominations for President and Chief**

Moved by: Sarah Jackson (Zone 2)

Secunder: Greg MacLean (Zone 2)

**Motion Carried**

- Robert Panchuk accepted nomination
- Lynn Bradley accepted nomination
- Lisa Cooper accepted nomination

Each candidate delivered 10-minute speech and AGA floor opened for 60-minute question/answer period

- Lisa Cooper appointed Loretta Ross and Diane Burke as scrutineers
- Lynn Bradley appointed Wanda Lyle and Ebony Larkin as scrutineers
- Robert Panchuk appointed Helen Panchuk and Dana Wakelin as scrutineers

*Health Break (3:10 p.m. – 3:25 p.m.)*

Voting process for each Zone commenced following health break.

**Election Results (Report from Election and Credentials Committee)**

- Election and Credentials Committee announced Lisa Cooper as elected candidate for NCPEI President and Chief

### **Motion #13 - To Approve the Destruction of Ballots**

Moved by: Greg MacLean (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Tim Ross (Zone 1)

**Motion Carried**

### **Motion #14 - To Approve the Dissolution of the Elections and Credentials Committee**

Moved by: Richard Cooper (Zone 1)

Seconded by: Greg MacLean (Zone 2)

**Motion Carried**

### **Board of Director Reports**

*All Board of Director Reports can be found at the “Executive Reports” Tab of the AGA Kit*

- Richard Cooper read Zone 1 Board of Director report
- Julie Pellisier-Lush (outgoing Board of Director) read Zone 2 Board of Director report and introduced Mary Busch (in-coming Board of Director). William Bourque introduced himself and invited Zone members to call or e-mail any time
- Kayla Larkin read the Zone 3 Board of Director report and introduced Dana Wakelin (in-coming Board of Director). Kayla invited zone members to call or e-mail any time
- Georgina Knockwood Crane read Elder Representative Report. Georgina urged community members to visit Elder veterans – they are lonely and it is important to keep them safe and hear their stories. It is also important to connect with youth as they are the next generation

### **Motion #15 - To Accept the Board of Director’s Reports**

Moved by: Sarah Jackson (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Greg MacLean (Zone 2)

#### **Discussion:**

- Richard Cooper (Zone 1) suggested Youth Board of Director report be moved to tomorrow’s agenda since author of report is not feeling well
- Assembly in agreement

**Motion Carried**

## **Motion #16 - To Accept the President and Chief's Report**

*President & Chief Summary Report can be found at the "Executive Reports" Tab of the AGA Kit*

Moved by: Sarah Jackson (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Mary Linda Mills (Zone 3)

**Motion Carried**

## **Motion #17 - To Accept the National Chief's Report**

A verbal update was provided by Elmer St. Pierre, National Chief, Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP)

### **Key Points:**

- Acknowledged Elders, drummers and dancers
- Expressed appreciation to Lisa Cooper for having him and for her hard work on CAP board/all committees
- CAP is national voice representing PTO's including NCPEI
- In September attended AGA out west – mandate with 39 resolutions and will be with Board of Directors to ensure actions on 39 resolutions will be followed through
- Acknowledges Bradley Cooper and thanks him for his hard work/dedication on CAP board and leading National Youth Council
- CAP is to voice concerns to government
- Bill C-29 is top achievement – going into third reading
- Recently had a meeting with Minister Miller re: MMIWG
- CAP/Daniels case is still a pipe with the government
- Putting his name forward in September to run for National Chief for next four years – asking for support

Moved by: Sarah Jackson (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Mary Linda Mills (Zone 3)

**Motion Carried**

Program Reports moved to Agenda for tomorrow

*Day one concludes at 5:02 p.m.*

**Native Council of Prince Edward Island  
48<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly  
Saturday, November 4, 2023 and Sunday, November 4, 2023  
Rodd Mill River Resort, O'Leary, PE**

**Sunday, November 5, 2023**

**Roll Call**

Chair began roll for delegates. Delegate count is 57 (Majority vote to pass a motion or resolution is 50% + 1 (29) of those present and eligible to vote).

<b>ZONE 1</b>					
<b>Delegate Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Delegate Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Emma Bulger	x		Tracy MacEachern	x	
Stephen Clements	x		Chris O'Halloran	x	
Terry Clements	x		Helen Perry	x	
Tony Clements	x		Jamie Perry	x	
Vanessa Clements	x		Louis Perry	x	
Richard Cooper	x		Francis Pineau	x	
Judy Duguay	x		Rachel Pineau	x	
James Fraser	x		Loretta Ross	x	
Beverly Gallant	x		Tim Ross	x	
Earl Gallant	x		Clara Jane Wood	x	

<b>ZONE 2</b>					
<b>Delegate Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Delegate Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Jamie Augustine	x		Jody Jesso	x	
William Bourque	x		Dawne Knockwood	x	
Lynn Bradley		x	Georgina Knockwood-Crane	x	
Diane Burke	x		Ebony Larkin	x	
Pat Burke	x		Greg MacLean	x	
Mary Busch	x		Robert Panchuk	x	
Bradley Cooper	x		Julie Pellisier-Lush	x	
Lisa Cooper	x		Jolene Rolle	x	
Jordan Crane	x		Mike Viau	x	
Sarah Jackson	x		Roger Walker	x	

<b>ZONE 3</b>					
<b>Delegate Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Delegate Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Joanne MacDonald Zone 1 (shortfall delegate)	x		Mary Mills	x	
Brenda Dion		x	Lori Sanderson	x	
Roxanne Gallant	x		Chris St. Onge	x	
Donna Gregory	x		Amanda Trainor		x
Melvin Hinks	x		Dana Wakelin	x	
Gerald Jesso	x		Clifton Walker	x	
Tracy Kulluarlik	x		Deanna Walker	x	
Kayla Larkin	x		Doreen Woods	x	
Linda MacConnell	x		Melissa Woods	x	
Adele McGuire	x		Samantha Woods	x	

**Motion #18 - To Accept the NCPEI Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2023**

Lauren Vail, Senior Manager from BDO presented financial statements for NCPEI for fiscal year ending March 31, 2023

Moved by: Donna Gregory (Zone 3)  
Seconded by: Kayla Larkin (Zone 3)

**Motion Carried**

**Motion #19 - To Accept the Nanegkam Housing Corporation Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2023**

Lauren Vail, Senior Manager from BDO presented financial statements for Nanegkam Housing for fiscal year ending March 31, 2023

Moved by: Kayla Larkin (Zone 3)  
Seconded by: Greg MacLean (Zone 2)

**Motion Carried**

**Motion #20 - To Appoint BDO as NCPEI Auditor for 2024 Fiscal Year**

Moved by: Diane Burke (Zone 2)  
Seconded by: Mary Mills (Zone 3)

**Motion Carried**

Chief Lisa Cooper presented Roger Hunka with a plaque to extend appreciation an honorary member and lifetime supporter of NCPEI. Roger thanked AGA for appreciating his verbiage – some is history, some is story telling. Roger is glad to be part of beautiful organization like NCPEI

***Health Break (9:55 a.m. – 10:26)***

## **Motion #21 – To Accept 5 Year Plan Introduction - BDO**

Chair Bradley Cooper provided introduction to plan as BDO Representative not able to be here due to illness. (*Separate handout provided to delegates*)

- Membership engagement sessions will be held in each Zone to develop five-year strategic plan which includes dedicated chapter on economic development.
- Four sharing circles will be held in January/February 2024 for each Zone.
- Will also have one engagement session with NCPEI staff members
- Electronic survey will be available for Membership for input

Moved: Sarah Jackson (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Greg MacLean (Zone 2)

### **Motion Carried**

## **Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council (MAPC) Presentation**

*MAPC/MAARS AG Report can be found at “MAPC-MAARS AGA Report – NCPEI” Tab of the AGA Kit*

***Lunch (12:11 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.)***

Elder Georgina Knockwood-Crane opened with a prayer for the AGA

## **Proposed By-Law Amendments**

Chair Bradley Cooper read the NCPEI Constitution and By-Laws Proposed Amendments (*found at “NCPEI By-Laws Before-After Comparison” tab*)

### **Discussion:**

- Sarah Stewart Jackson (Zone 2) referred to pages 9 and 10. Seeking clarity on if a Zone 3 member came forward, why couldn't they be in that role as a zone director
- Chair Bradley Cooper explained that since By-laws are two years in the making this doesn't address that issue. Problem continues to exist in the By-laws where a zone director can represent the zone in which they are elected from but they can only vote in the zone in which they reside. For example, Richard Cooper is a zone 1 director, he's here today as zone 1 delegate. Richard cannot vote in zone 1 meetings but can vote in zone 2 meetings. He's a zone director for the zone in which he's elected from although he may reside in different zone. This is clarifying the terminology used, not the process
- Chair Bradley Cooper indicated process is not part of these By-law amendments. The Board of Directors are considering doing a second set of By-law amendments clarifying other issues
- Sarah Stewart Jackson (Zone 2) referred to page 14 (Article VI – Zones, Zone Meetings, Zone Delegates). Understands that Zone Directors, Youth Council, Elder Council, and President & Chief have first seats. Doesn't leave room for anybody else because limit of 10. This year names put forward in case zone directors not able to make it. Wasn't done like this in September

- Chair Bradley Cooper explains that it is difficult to plan ahead because it's CAP who determines how many delegates from year-to-year. Directors are first pick. President & Chief decides who goes beyond directors. Directors pick their own alternate
- Sarah Stewart Jackson (Zone 2) indicates that has never happened. If Board of Director not able to go to CAP AGA it has always been names picked from floor. Never seen Board of Director not able to go and nominate someone else to go
- Chair Bradley Cooper indicates that has always been the process. Doesn't go by list, goes by Board of Director picking their own alternate
- Sarah Stewart Jackson (Zone 2) explains that hasn't happened in past. Clarified that they have the choice to pick who they want to send in their place
- Chair Bradley Cooper confirmed with one restriction – if Zone 2 Director can't go, must be a Zone 2 person who goes
- Lori Sanderson (Zone 3) is confused because it was stated President & Chief determines who gets to go. How does that process work?
- Chair Bradley Cooper explained that's above and beyond the nine Board of Directors. If CAP allows ten delegates, the nine Board of Directors are first picked. Tenth delegate is picked by President & Chief
- Lori Sanderson (Zone 3) questioned regarding dormant membership. She understands living on, versus living off reserve. Has an issue with full voting member who physically moves off of PEI. If she's a student taking a program or course in Moncton, she loses her voting membership. If two-year program, come back and wait six months to regain voting rights. Could be looking at three years and being penalized for getting education
- Chair Bradley Cooper confirmed Board of Directors discussed exact situation. Decided it still remains as is. If move from PEI for over six months for any reason, you don't have membership
- Lori Sanderson (Zone 3) questioned why fiscal year versus calendar year is changed
- Chair Bradley Cooper answered that main reason was back in COVID, tried to get AGA within calendar year but wasn't going to happen so tried to hold AGA in January or February instead. Wouldn't count as calendar year, just fiscal year. Board of Directors wanted to update to be fiscal year instead of calendar year so AGA could be held in January, February, March, if needed
- Lori Sanderson (Zone 3) asked what would happen in case of fiscal year gets changed. Possible to change fiscal year, not possible to change calendar year.
- Chair Bradley Cooper clarified fiscal year could change as defined within By-laws, would be a great undertaking
- Lori Sanderson (Zone 3) referred to Page 18 and asked if in both sections whether it automatically ceases or to be a board member you can't have a criminal record
- Chair Bradley Cooper clarified that when someone is voted to be a Board of Director we don't know criminal record at that time. They have 60 days to provide it. If they do have a criminal record the proposal is they would be automatically removed
- Lori Sanderson (Zone 3) indicated main issue she has is due to intergenerational trauma our youth are on board for having high incarceration/criminal charges. By having this in place it means someone who has made a mistake, bad choice, charged with it, do their

crime, make restitution, they can never be a Board of Director. If someone has a criminal record 10, 20 years ago, shouldn't be penalized

- Lori Sanderson (Zone 3) asked what happened to Article III of old constitutional bylaws with new membership criteria
- Chair Bradley Cooper confirmed there is no new membership criteria introduced into By-laws. The current Article III found on Page 3 is under subsection 1.4. Board never amended By-law, just a new form required for membership under section 1.4 of current By-laws
- Lori Sanderson (Zone 3) asked if in previous constitution and By-laws that has section 3 membership and citizenship has been removed without voting. It was changed at board level, it is a constitution by-law change
- Chair Bradley Cooper answered it was not a constitution By-law change. Section 1.4 gives power to Board of Directors to prescribe any membership form/document required at time of membership
  
- Roger Hunka asks for leave of assembly and chair. Refers to page 1 and 2. Section 8 as it reads presently and Section 8 proposed are two different thought sentences. One talks about to advocate and hold all levels of government accountable on behalf of the Mi'kmaq and Aboriginal peoples on PEI for Treaty rights and land claims. The proposed Section 8 is talking about a proposed change talks about consultation and cooperation, which follows what Section 6 is about. He wonders if legal counsel has looked at that. Section 8 as it reads is about NCPEI is a represented organization that advocates for Aboriginal treaty rights for its Mi'kmaq people members. To leave out "for treaty rights and land claims" puts in jeopardy. Legal counsel should talk to Board and they should take it under advisement
- Chair Bradley Cooper answered the lawyer did review but is a business lawyer, not an Indigenous advocacy lawyer
- Roger Hunka suggested there's a big difference between advocating and representing versus consulting
- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) agreed with Roger. Leave Section 8 as it is. Can add another section
- Chair answered it would become Section 11
- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) recommended to keep Section 8 as is and create Section 11 to consult and cooperate in good faith
- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) referred to page 8 where it says "electronic meeting". Noticed "the board of directors". In last paragraph it says "the board". Should be "the board of directors" to be consistent throughout.
- Chair Bradley Cooper indicates that is a minor change
  
- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) referred to page 14. Suggested clarification to in order to be a youth Board of Director must be between ages of 18 to 29 because 18 is when you can legally sign a document
- Chair Bradley Cooper indicated this is currently not clarified and wasn't part of clarification process. All Board of Directors need to be 18, that's part of Canadian law. The By-law is silent on what to do once a youth Board of Director approaches 29 or 30. Needs to be further clarification to By-laws either through a Resolution or different action of the Board

- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) acknowledged some youth that run for youth Board of Director at age 29 and age out while in two-year position
- Chair Bradley Cooper clarified in order to be elected as youth Board of Director for CAP, you must be 28 at time of election and age out at 30 at end of term. CAP went through this process, NCPEI has not. The Board should work on it for next year
- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) referred to page 18 in relation to what Lori Sanderson spoke to. Re: criminal or summary conviction, the wording says “which is relevant or relating to the position of the director”. If you were charged and convicted with theft working at a store or business, is that somebody you’d want on Board looking at financials etc. If you’re looking at someone that is repeated as convicted for domestic violence, pedophile etc., we have to protect the board and integrity. If someone got a DUI that is irrelevant for being on the Board. If youth conviction, that’s irrelevant. More looking at those relevant or related to position of Director. There is also the opportunity to have record expunged after so many years (possibly 7)
- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) referred to page 24 and asked if this is where the zone can elect a zone rep to fill an interim and permanent position
- Chair Bradley Cooper answered this has nothing to do with zone election. This is for board appointment only
- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) indicated this needs to be clarified. She understood process for CAP is different. Always left it to the zones because this is what zones wanted. Have a zone meeting and select replacement out of a hat. Look at last three years we sent up 30-40 names. If name not on alternate list, can’t use it. Under the assumption that members want the zones to pick alternates same way they pick delegates and alternates for AGA
- Sarah Stewart Jackson (Zone 2) Doesn’t understand why NCPEI has to bring own delegate up as whip at expense of CAP. That’s up to NCPEI to pay for, not CAP. Why is the whip taking up a spot for a member who could potentially be a delegate in place of the Board of Director. Someone who has voting right should be sent.
- Chair Bradley Cooper indicated the tenth voting spot selected by President and Chief is not being discussed. That’s part of day-to-day operation. This past year it overlapped, person was both delegate and whip at same time. If there’s a tenth member above and beyond Board of Directors, that’s determined by President & Chief. Two separate issues. Whip not part of this conversation
- Chair Bradley Cooper answered nine positions reserved for Board of Directors. President & Chief is dealing with tenth delegate and beyond
- Sarah Stewart Jackson (Zone 2) asked when it comes to legal counsel and Board of Directors from time-to-time shall appoint legal counsel on behalf of NCPEI. How and when is this used?
- Chair Bradley Cooper answered used time to time as decided. In some organizations it’s the AGA who selects the legal counsel for the next year. This is clarifying for NCPEI it’s not the AGA that selects legal counsel, it’s the Board of Directors through simple vote
- Sarah Stewart Jackson (Zone 2) asked when is that legal counsel called upon at Board of Director’s meeting
- Chair Bradley Cooper answered Board of Directors appoint legal counsel on retainer. Currently Ken Lecky is on retainer

*Health break (2:28 p.m. – 2:47)*

Discussion on proposed changes to By-law amendments continued

- Sarah Stewart Jackson (Zone 2) referred to membership and criminal record. Requested more clarification on what is relevant. Lori Sanderson brought up good point about moving on if served time. If convicted of theft, if you're reading financials, nothing to do with money. Asked for clarification and feedback. Somebody's past shouldn't continue to prevent them from moving forward in a good way
- Georgina Knockwood Crane (Zone 2) wondered if pardon is close enough to continue life
- Chair Bradley Cooper clarified it's called expunging of record and wouldn't show up on criminal record check. Can't expunge certain crimes such as pedophilia and child molestation. Most "normal" convictions can be expunged through different process
- HR representative (Mary Lynn) spoke – does vulnerable sector and criminal record checks as part of hiring process. If looking at somebody's past there's different points to look at. Each situation/person is different. If something six months ago or not fully resolved, that could be something to go against that. Look at time past, relevant, did they serve their time, get a pardon, go back to school, move life forward, or are they in same situations causing same problems. Has worked with people and looked past things that people grown and moved on from. Wouldn't hold someone's past against them if they've put in the work.
- Sarah Stewart Jackson (Zone 2) appreciated what Mary Lynn said but amendment hasn't taken into consideration what the hiring process looks like and doesn't allow for that. Not fair and needs to be re-worded for those who have or had criminal record, served time, moved on. Yes, criminal record may follow you, can get expunged but not a guarantee. Offenders Sarah works with, it's another reminder of their past. Maybe bring forward at a later date. Doesn't think should be voted on. Don't want to risk youth and put them in jeopardy. Need to not have a blanket with no room for movement/change
- Chair Bradley Cooper indicates Sarah's points are heard
- Jolene Rolle (Zone 2) strongly disagreed with dormant membership for those going off-island to attend school. Very wrong and harmful if someone has to wait six months after being back. A student's permanent address would still be PEI. Not right to punish them to go off-island for school.
- Chris St. Onge (Zone 3) clarified page 18 for Sarah Stewart Jackson. Somebody or Board has to make that decision of whether something is relevant, so it's not black and white. Has to be in line with our HR policy
- Deanna Walker (Zone 3) followed up on Jolene's point. Partner looking to go to college and best option for education is off-island. Course not offered in PEI. Deanna going through ISET program right now and if membership is dormant because going off-island for partner's education, may prevent her from furthering education

- Chair Bradley Cooper hears a lot of discussion around dormant membership and automatically removal for criminal record conviction. Asked if wish of Assembly to divert those two particular changes for further discussion before the Board and consider rest as is
- Changes made in reference to dormant membership process as well as changes to automatic removal for criminal conviction will be reverted to what they are as is in current By-laws
- Richard Cooper (Zone 1) sought point of clarification. Not going to be a uniform process that fits every scenario, offender, victim, criminal offence, etc. What parameters would this Assembly be comfortable with for to suit everyone
- Chair Bradley Cooper thinks conversation too lengthy for this assembly. Will be handled by BOD and zone meetings.
- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) reminded this is not one person's decision, it's the Board. Been in works for past two years. Lisa chairs meetings and requires majority vote of Board
- Dawne Knockwood (Zone 2) asked for point of order. Nobody picking on anybody
- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) explained there's been Board turnover. Some Board members very adamant about this. Loving the discussions and don't want to get heated. Hearing needs more work/discussion. That's giving us direction. That's what we need to do
- Chair Bradley Cooper is no longer entertaining discussion surrounding it. Need to get to other business
- All changes in reference to dormant membership as well as automatic removal for criminal conviction reverted and removed from amendments.
- Amendment AGA agreed to – section 8 will stay as is. Proposed changes will be added as section 11 which is a new section at end

**By-laws have so been amended.**

Chair invited Resolutions Committee to head table to read the proposed Resolutions

### **Resolution #2023-01**

WHEREAS the NCPEI community has grown to such a large number of members, 60 delegates can't accurately express the view of all members;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCPEI move to a universal suffrage voting system to reach as many community members as possible.

Moved by: William Bourque (Zone 2)  
Seconded by: Julie Pellissier-Lush (Zone 2)

### **Resolution Withdrawn (Mover and Seconder not in room)**

### **Resolution #2023-02**

WHEREAS the NCPEI used to hold a "Freezing for Warmth" fundraiser which involved sleeping outside overnight to raise awareness and funds for the old shelter;

AND WHEREAS the NCPEI is once again operating a men's shelter in Summerside and plans to open more shelters in the future;

BE IT RESOLVED that the NCPEI resume holding an annual "Freezing for Warmth" fundraiser.

Moved by: Jordan Crane (Zone 2)  
Seconded by: Lisa Cooper (Zone 2)

### **Discussion:**

- Richard Cooper (Zone 1) loves the idea. Asked if looking to do one in Summerside and Charlottetown or just continue with the one in Charlottetown as used to do
- Chair Bradley Cooper indicates management can discuss afterwards
- Sarah Stewart Jackson (Zone 2) asked if there is a fundraiser, do funds go towards men's shelter, other shelters being worked on. Loves the idea.
- Chair Bradley Cooper answered the intent is fundraising just for shelter-related funding as it was in the past. Can be figured out later down the line

### **Resolution Carried**

### **Resolution 2023-03**

WHEREAS each zone should be empowered to elect their Zone Directors;

BE IT RESOLVED that the NCPEI Board of Directors draft a By-law amendment for zones to be allowed to hold elections to replace or fill a vacant Zone Director position.

Moved by: Diane Burke (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Tim Ross (Zone 1)

**Discussion:**

- Chair Bradley Cooper clarified this would be constitutional change as it mentions drafting By-law amendment. By-laws does not allow zones to fill vacancy on the Board. Can only be filled by appointment to the Board. Would be giving powers back to zones to hold zone elections to fill a vacant position in between annual meetings

**Resolution Carried (as a constitutional change to be brought forward for next year)**

**Resolution 2023-04**

WHEREAS Panmure Island is important to NCPEI and the off-reserve Indigenous community of PEI;

BE IT RESOLVED that the NCPEI negotiate a long-term lease or ownership of Panmure Island.

Moved by: Christopher Burke-St. Onge (Zone 3)

Seconded by: Tim Ross (Zone 1)

**Resolution Carried**

**Resolution 2023-05 (written as amended)**

WHEREAS the NCPEI holds an annual Powwow in Panmure Island every year;

AND WHEREAS the cost associated with this event is large and should not be detrimental to L'nu Fisheries or NCPEI's budgets;

BE IT RESOLOVED that the NCPEI work with the Zones to create a fundraising committees comprised of volunteer staff and community members to start year-round fundraising, such as dinners, tickets, and goldrush, etc.

Moved by: Dawne Knockwood (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Lori Sanderson (Zone 3)

**Discussion:**

- Diane Burke (Zone 2) indicated nobody is going to do committees. Doesn't like the idea of staff taking time from position to fundraise. Zones and locals should take on fundraising
- Chair Bradley Cooper recommends friendly amendment to that extent
- Sarah Stewart Jackson (Zone 2) Staff work the Powwow spending weeks, time, energy, cleaning, organizing, painting, grass cutting. Knows L'nu Fisheries has been amazing contributor but takes out of that program. Powwow is ours as community. Would be nice if community members stepped up and helped with this and took load off staff

- Chair Bradley Cooper states friendly amendment proposed. In terms of wording, not intent to say staff can't participate. "Be it resolved that the NCPEI work with the zones to create fundraising committees..."
- Dawne Knockwood (Zone 2) offered clarification. Reason put for staff and community members, need to get community members more involved. Was looking more at logistics – already have criminal record checks, dealing with money, direct line to finance people whereas zones may not have that
- Kayla Larkin (Zone 3) agrees with amendments. Growing up in NCPEI and being part of Powwow, believes due diligence as members to take on some of that. Up to zone and Board of Directors and members in zone to take on responsibility and help as much as they can. Would be glad to hold zone meeting to see what members would love to come bring ideas together
- Chris St. Onge (Zone 3) asked if the Assembly okay with paying staff to fundraise and adding fundraising to job descriptions and paying people to do that
- Chair Bradley Cooper suggested to clarify – can put in "comprised of volunteer staff and community members..." Emphasize volunteer as President & Chief can't order staff to be on committee if they don't want to be – not a paid position

## **Resolution Carried**

### **Resolution 2023-06 (written as amended)**

WHEREAS the Elders often need assistance when dealing with health care and home care issues;

BE IT RESOLVED that the NCPEI seek funding to hire an Elder Navigator to assist in these areas.

Moved by: Mary Linda Mills (Zone 3)

Seconded by: Linda MacConnell (Zone 3)

### **Discussion:**

- Mary Linda Mills (Zone 3) stated would be nice to have a navigator to check in with us and see how we're doing. Help with groceries, companionship, etc.
- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) loves this resolution but caution on if saying NCPEI to hire – if we don't have funding, would have to come out of other funding. Suggest amendment to advocate or find funding
- Chair Bradley Cooper suggested "seek funding to hire"
- Lori Sanderson (Zone 3) inquires about position Jody did have, one part was genealogy and one was Elder support. She suggests resolution to separate that. Might be some of the problem with hiring as someone may be qualified with some parts and not others. Maybe split those two positions. Could be cheaper because based on need. Genealogy may not be full-time position.
- Chair Bradley Cooper stated there was a question re: clarification from Chief and President on how that role is split between the two. One of the reasons two have been combined is because wasn't enough funding to cover either position independently. Will

try to have funding available for Elders separately. Intent moving forward trying to split two positions

## **Resolution Carried**

### **Resolution 2023-07**

WHEREAS the President and Chief of the NCPEI sometimes travels out of town or may get sick;

BE IT RESOLVED that the position of Vice Chief be reinstated and that his be a “pay for service” position until the Chief returns.

Moved by: Georgina Knockwood Crane (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Mary Linda Mills (Zone 3)

#### **Discussion:**

- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) is not in favour of this. Vice Chief is a whole election process and salary. Not sure we can do election position paid for service. Currently have two HR, office supervisor. Lisa is senior staff as well as President & Chief, Jordan is senior staff. When Lisa is not there, Jordan holds the office down. I acknowledge that’s my role. If position is reinstated that’s a whole election and payroll.
- Richard Cooper (Zone 1) agreed with Chief. Senior staff are able to attend meetings. Chief has elected a board member to attend meeting on her behalf if unable to. Processes in place and negates need for vice chief.
- Chief Bradley Cooper noted this is considered constitutional change. If accepted must be voted at this AGA as well as next year’s AGA.

## **Resolution Withdrawn**

### **Resolution 2023-08 (written as amended)**

WHEREAS PEI weather and storms can be severe;

AND WHEREAS this weather can often cause extended power outages which may leave Elders vulnerable;

BE IT RESOLVED that the NCPEI establish a phone tree and an emergency preparedness plan to check on the well-being of our Elders during those times.

Moved by: Georgina Knockwood Crane (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Mike Viau (Zone 2)

#### **Discussion:**

- Georgina Knockwood Crane (Zone 2) spoke about Hurricane Fiona and was out of home for about 6 weeks. Thinks can add on to Resolution Linda and Mary Linda put in is almost the same. Asked if can add on the other Resolution a phone tree and delete this one. Would like a phone tree or try and drop in on a skidoo or whatever

- Clara Jane Wood (Zone 1) commented that in Environmental Program report she mentioned received funding through climate challenge fund. This would be emergency preparedness project for NCPEI. Part of project includes creating emergency preparedness plan for NCPEI to refer back to. These emergency climate events are going to keep happening and frequently. Would like to take this into consideration. Won't be creating report herself but will have a say in it. Will put phone tree into that plan
- Richard Cooper (Zone 1). Understands intent but needs to be amended. Can't accept as written
- Chair Bradley Cooper clarified this only deals with phone tree, not other parts of emergency preparedness or door knocks, etc.
- Richard Cooper (Zone 1) indicates if phone doesn't work, phone tree doesn't work
- Lori Sanderson (Zone 3) states out of respect to Elders, should be voted on through Elder's Council. Doesn't feel comfortable voting on Elders' needs.
- Chair Bradley Cooper stated can be done through Elders' Council as well. If done through AGA Resolution, NCPEI has to report on actions taken for next year. Makes Resolutions very powerful. Whether or not accepted or defeated here, can also go through Elders' Council process
- Georgina Knockwood Crane (Zone 2) would like to see that the if Elders are alone and the power goes out, too bad we didn't have in here to supply us with generator.
- Chair Bradley Cooper suggested to add on to not only establish a phone tree but also an emergency preparedness plan to check on wellbeing of Elders

## **Resolution Carried**

### **Resolution 2023-09**

WHEREAS NCPEI relies on L'nu Fisheries to cover any financial shortfalls that may be incurrent over the fiscal year;

AND WHEREAS members of L'nu Fisheries and NCPEI should be aware of where the financial shortfalls are and what profits are being used to cover non-fishery-related expenses;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that L'nu Fisheries be allotted time at the NCPEI AGA to answer questions from the NCPEI Assembly regarding the expenditures L'nu makes for NCPEI.

Moved by: Vanessa Clements (Zone 1)

Seconded by: Dawne Knockwood (Zone 2)

### **Discussion:**

- Vanessa Clements (Zone 1) is a fisherman with L'nu. Would like to see a simple/basic report on how much money was made and what we bought. Works on a boat and some of the repairs are not being done year after year. If money being spent elsewhere we need to make sure we keep vessels up to date. L'nu Board should have the word of the people and what we think money should be spent on vs. what money shouldn't be spent on. Fished for L'nu for 7 years and never been asked opinion, never been asked what the boats need

- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) indicates the struggle is we have grown so fast. To put L’nu into NCPEI AGA became too much. One day L’nu, one day NCPEI and Nanegkam. All three have a board. Loves this resolution. Into transparency and members should be aware of L’nu and can attend L’nu’s meetings. May need to incorporate part of it back into AGA. L’nu Board members should be approached with questions, as well as Jordan. Appropriate time should be allotted
- Vanessa Clements (Zone 1) states bought Hannah Grace five years ago – was a beautiful boat and now condition is sad and concerning. Can do better in that front
- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) is in support of Resolution
- Mary Linda Mills (Zone 3) asked why haven’t fishing fleets been kept up?
- Chair Bradley Cooper answered going too far outside scope of Resolution. Better answered one-on-one with L’nu Board or President

## **Resolution Carried**

### **Resolution 2023-10 (written as amended)**

WHEREAS some members are not able to access a boat to go fishing;

AND WHEREAS practicing in harvesting activities can be beneficial for cultural connectedness;

BE IT RESOLVED that NCPEI seek funding to have a boat available at least one day per fishing season for community members to have the opportunity to recreationally fish;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NCPEI seek funding to provide an opportunity for members to experience “deep sea fishing” on a lobster vessel for the experience and community connection.

Moved by: Melvin Hinks (Zone 3)

Seconded by: Jody Jesso (Zone 2)

### **Discussion:**

- Melvin Hinks (Zone 3) has been coming to meetings for a long time. Would like to have someone to go out on a boat with.. Would be nice to get out on a boat and catch some fish.
- Jordan Crane (Zone 2) is not totally against this if directed at NCPEI and not L’nu. Has insurance and liability and to provide L’nu boat not going to work. Maybe NCPEI can seek funding to purchase smaller FSE vessels or figure out mentoring program where members volunteer to take others out fishing. Doesn’t think this is a L’nu Fisheries Resolution
- Chris St. Onge (Zone 3) suggests seeking funding to hire a charter boat
- Chair Bradley Cooper states two part of amendment. Amend resolution to focus on NCPEI instead of L’nu Fisheries, and second, to seek funding for these opportunities
- Melvin Hinks (Zone 3) not agreeable to amendments
- Chair Bradley Cooper clarified amendments.
- Melvin Hinks (Zone 3) states it takes money to sending out tags

- Chair Bradley Cooper clarified “for profit” side of things. Not food, social, ceremonial, harvesting. No boats designated for food, social, ceremonial, or harvesting
- Melvin Hinks (Zone 3) believes there should be a boat available for the people
- Chair Bradley Cooper clarified seeking funding to maybe get a boat for that purpose

**Resolution Carried**

DRAFT

## Resolution 2023-11

WHEREAS a certified letter from a genealogist is required for membership applications;

AND WHEREAS the only certified genealogist is unavailable approximately five months of the year and charges \$30 per hour to prospective members;

BE IT RESOLVED that NCPEI hire a full- or part-time person depending on the need to specifically assist new applicants with genealogy documentation to establish their native ancestry. This will cut the expense required for the genealogist and will help prospective members cut expenses and will reduce the demand on the position formerly held by Jody Jesso.

Moved by: Lori Sanderson (Zone 3)

Seconded by Mary Linda Mills (Zone 3)

### Discussion:

- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) wondered if we keep position vacant as opposed to hiring a membership clerk, members would work directly with William. Take what would have paid for salary and put towards genealogist. Maybe only part-time. May be more feasible to hire genealogist for so many hours per week as opposed to membership clerk. There's people who need help applying for status
- Chair Bradley Cooper's understanding the way it's worded, this would be a position in addition to membership clerk position to reduce their workload. Would also be additional full- or part-time position dedicated to helping prospective members complete genealogy before passed on to certified genealogist
- Richard Cooper (Zone 1) is confused. Genealogist does the genealogy part, not the staff member. Staff member would help fill out the form. That \$30 doesn't get cut in half, still \$30/hour. Most files are still about an hour to go through everything and doublecheck all sources. Okay with hiring part-time person to help fill out membership forms. Genealogy cost will be incurred anyway
- Chair Bradley Cooper believes the intent is to hire assistant membership clerk. Would directly help genealogy research of applicants
- Lori Sanderson (Zone 3) agreed as genealogist doesn't do the genealogy for you. He confirms what you have given him is accurate. Takes more than an hour for him to confirm it. Doesn't do the genealogy aspect for prospective members. His availability is half of a year
- Richard Cooper (Zone 1) clarified the genealogist has done genealogy work that hasn't been found by person. If this is to hire assistant membership clerk, agrees with that
- Wanda Lyle (Zone 2) If membership and Elders positions were separated, maybe membership position full-time with expansion on duties. Membership clerk could be helping in locating documents.
- John Richard (Zone 3) asked for permission to speak
- Chair Bradley Cooper granted permission
- Chris St. Onge (Zone 3) asked if this another seek funding to hire. Jody's old position is out right now so seek funding doesn't necessarily apply. Is this a new position or Jody's old position?

- Chair Bradley Cooper clarified this is hiring a new position, an assistant position. Asks for clarification from Mover and Seconder on how they wish to proceed with resolution
- Lori Sanderson (Zone 3) clarified it is to separate Jody's position. Someone may be qualified to do Elder support but not genealogy, and vice versa. Recommend to separate that position where genealogy part is to assist potential members with genealogy background
- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) stated part of Jody's frustration was how many members getting angry/frustrated/demanding at her. Asked Jody if she sees this working as full-time membership clerk and the qualification is genealogy.
- Jody Jesso (Zone 2) thinks it should be separated and some genealogy training. At beginning of role she did a lot of research but wasn't in work plan so had to stop.
- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) asks Jody how many hours if potential member has nothing, to help one person
- Jody Jesso (Zone 2) answered if person came with nothing only grandparent's names, could take days/weeks/long time
- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) is in support of this and will have to split. Will pull the position
- Chair Bradley Cooper clarifies will have a dedicated full-time membership clerk and not have it split with Elders' support position. Is it still intention and seconder to add second position, assistant position, to be hired
- Lori Sanderson (Zone 3) never intended this to be a second position. Full- or part-time depending on need. Mover wishes to withdraw
- Chair Bradley Cooper indicates going beyond scope of Resolution. Talks about hiring second position to support the role of the current membership clerk.
- Mover and Seconder wish to withdraw resolution with understanding President & Chief has explained it

### **Resolution Withdrawn**

### **Resolution 2023-12**

WHEREAS there are not provisions in our Constitution and By-laws to hold board members accountable for actions or activities that go against their Code of Conduct, confidentiality, and Oath of Office other than removing them from Office;

AND WHEREAS the threshold for a removal vote is high and considered harsh and does not enable to put a board member "on notice" for not following their Code of Conduct, confidentiality, or Oath of Office;

AND WHEREAS breaching confidentiality can be damaging when it pertains to community member(s);

AND WHEREAS not upholding the Code of Conduct and or Oath of Office by pushing one's personal agenda and not that of the community they represent can divide a community;

BE IT RESOLVED that a process other than a "removal" can be created such as a three-strike to enable a board member to correct their behavior to ensure the integrity of the NCPEI's Board of Directors

Moved by: Diane Burke (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Loretta Ross (Zone 1)

**Discussion:**

- Diane Burke (Zone 2) has had a lot of issues when going to zone meeting. Asking for sanctions for directors like any other board out there.
- Chair Bradley Cooper clarifies this is a By-law change to be implemented. Also very open and interpretative. Nothing in here saying necessarily process in which zone can sanction Director but that's what's being heard here. Understand the intent of what wants to be accomplished
- Kayla Larkin (Zone 3) asked for clarification. Understanding this is up to the zone to write a letter to Board to smack the hands of that Director
- Chair Bradley Cooper clarified could be how the process is implemented. Meant to be open for discussion amongst the Board how it might look
- Chris St. Onge (Zone 3) asked if Mover is referring to something like suspension of Director (page 22 of amendments). Would be constitutional amendment to our newly amended amendment
- Chair Bradley Cooper indicated it's open for Board to look at and basing it on three-strike system. NCPEI falls on three-strike system: verbal warning, written warning, dismissal. Three-strike system for Board of Director could be smack on hand, suspension, removal. Could be whatever sanctions look like. Have to discuss at future board meetings and zone meetings to be brought forth for next year, want there to be good safeguards
- Dawne Knockwood (Zone 2) asked who holds the power to sanction. Who is going to control/oversee that. The Board can't be in charge of sanctioning themselves
- Chair Bradley Cooper stated will be part of the detailed process
- Richard Cooper (Zone 1) Board can talk over the year and figure out process that works
- Chris St. Onge (Zone 3) asked Chair to clarify in situations discussed under current By-laws is there a way for zone to hold director accountable at all
- Chair Bradley Cooper answered under current By-law a zone cannot hold director accountable. At best can write a letter to the Board
- Chris St. Onge (Zone 3) wants AGA to realize there is currently no way to hold zone director accountable. Once voted in, stuck with them. Doesn't matter if whole zone bands together – nothing you can do unless they resign or Board removes them. Board may come up with process
- Chair Bradley Cooper indicates will look at process and how it's carried out. Intent is there from Mover and Secunder to look at sanctions process and how to best implement it.

**Resolution Carried (By-law amendment and constitutional change to come back next year)**

*Break (4:30 p.m. – 4:44 p.m.)*

### **Resolution 2023-13**

WHEREAS the President and Chief provide financial, President and Chief Report, and program reports quarterly to the Board of Directors;

AND WHEREAS there is no such requirement for Zone Directors to bring these documents to their zone meetings;

AND WHEREAS many members have requested these documents but are not receiving them to review;

AND WHEREAS this process is outlined in the Zone guidebook which is only a guide that doesn't need to be followed;

AND WHEREAS these documents are essential for zone members to review to stay updated on NCPEI's programs, services, financial status of NCPEI, and President and Chief's activities to provide feedback and direction to their Zone Directors;

BE IT RESOLVED that these documents be listed under the responsibility of Zone Directors to bring each quarterly zone meeting to review and discuss with members.

Moved by: Richard Cooper (Zone 1)

Seconded by: Diane Burke (Zone 2)

#### **Discussion:**

- Seconder indicated requested documents from zone director – didn't make a difference. We should be getting all reports and financials. Never want to go back to where we were before
- Chair Bradley Cooper indicated requires Constitutional change to be voted on this year and next year

### **Resolution Carried**

### **Resolution 2023-14**

WHEREAS seven days prior to the AGA for a candidate to submit their intent to run;

AND WHEREAS there are no opportunities for candidates to meet their delegates before the AGA;

BE IT RESOLVED that he requirements to run for Chief be 30 days prior to the AGA;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a zone meeting be held a week after to enable candidates to attend to introduce themselves if they so choose.

Moved by: Richard Cooper (Zone 1)

Seconded by: Diane Burke (Zone 2)

## **Discussion:**

- Chair Bradley Cooper indicates this is Constitutional change. Notes the timing of By-laws doesn't quite line up. Supposed to be zone meeting held 20 days before AGA whereas notice would be 30 days, so actually 10 days later instead of week, but week is more subjective rather than hard deadline. Intent of By-laws is there
- Mover and Secunder agree
- Chris St. Onge (Zone 3) asked for amendment to the zone meeting prior to the AGA some time is given to candidates to address the zone members
- Chair Bradley Cooper clarified to refer to annual zone meeting to be held before the AGA
- Richard Cooper (Zone 1) agrees the intention was the annual zone meeting prior to Assembly would be the meeting the candidates would be able to attend to talk to members, give platform and answer questions. Seven days prior leaves no time for campaigning. Intent is correct
- Mary Linda Mills (Zone 3) would like to see the list of candidates per zone before the AGA
- Chair Bradley Cooper confirmed can provide the list. Problem is up until now don't know the final candidates until seven days before AGA. If notice is back to 30 days, can do a candidate list, post online and make available at zone meetings as well
- Sarah Stewart Jackson (Zone 2) asked if someone running for President and Chief, they have to put name forward 30 days prior to AGA?
- Chair Bradley Cooper confirmed that would be the change. Currently, timeline is seven days before AGA. This would move it back to requiring 30 days before AGA
- Wanda Lyle (Zone 2) stated depending on where an individual works, if looking at running, may be issues for employment. Asking individuals to do that 30 days in advance may jeopardize employment when considering running. As states right now, if an individual is running they have seven days before. That doesn't say they can't declare 30 days before.
- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) clarified it says 30 days prior to AGA. Doesn't mean it has to be advertised. Allow candidates to attend zone meetings. We put letter out for all 3 zones asking if it was okay for candidates to go out and say I'm running. Only zone 1 said yes, zone 2 and 3 said no. This is why the Resolution is there. Allowing fairness and equality for all candidates. After zone meeting we can put the post up.

## **Resolution Carried (Constitutional change to be brought forward next year)**

## Resolution 2023-15

WHEREAS the Board of Director policy allows for Board of Director members to access ISET's funding while still remaining on the Board of Directors;

AND WHEREAS there may be opportunities for a Board of Director member to obtain short-term employment;

BE IT RESOLVED that a Board of Director can hold a short-term position without having to resign.

Moved by: Chris St. Onge (Zone 3)

Seconded by: Richard Cooper (Zone 1)

### Discussion:

- Chair Bradley Cooper clarified this would be Constitutional change. Constitution currently doesn't allow Board of Directors to hold salary position within By-laws. Intent behind this – there was a Board of Director had to resign temporarily in order to fill a short-term position to earn E.I. hours and had to be re-elected. Intent is to avoid that situation and allow Board of Directors to serve short-term positions while still being on the Board
- Dawne Knockwood (Zone 2) doesn't agree with this. When you sign up to be on the Board, you know that's the provisions. Don't feel comfortable with board member receiving pay from an organization where they have a say. Big conflict
- Sarah Stewart Jackson (Zone 2) agreed with Dawne.
- Lori Sanderson (Zone 3) also agreed with Dawne and Sarah. Question what is definition of short-term? Two-week stint or a year?
- Chair Bradley Cooper clarified short term would be at least under a year. Finer details would have to be looked at
- Wanda Lyle (Zone 2) understands purpose is to help out membership. Members/Board of Directors can access funding through ISETS to help in those situations. Second point – will come back on financial management letter as issue or concern for good operational processes. Knows NCPEI worked hard to clean up from auditing firm
- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) is in favour of this resolution. ISETS funding is streamlined through CAP. A Youth Board of Director had to resign to get ISETS funding, now you can be Youth Board of Director get ISETS funding. It's a form of education/training you bring back to the board. Heard more this year we don't have enough members running for zone directors. This could be a barrier. Conflict of Interest Board meets quarterly. If somebody getting temporary employment or short-term contract, they are bringing skills from employment back to the board.
- Dawne Knockwood (Zone 2) agrees with Chief Cooper but until a lawyer says there is no legal issue with this resolution she can't put her support behind it.
- Diane Burke (Zone 2) understands what Dawne is saying. If Board of Director takes position within organization, if it comes up with the Board that it's a conflict of interest, would hope that Board of Director would call a conflict of interest. If Board follows policy/procedures, shouldn't have any issues

- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) recommended friendly amendment: “to investigate the possibility of this and the effect it would have on financials, BDO, constitutional bylaws, policy” etc. Would be Constitutional change. Funding is funding, training is training, education is education. We’ve had fishermen on the Board paid for something – now not on the board. Have to be careful because limiting members from being actively involved
- Chair Bradley Cooper indicated no need for friendly amendment. Reason for one-year waiting purpose for Constitutional changes is for NCPEI to look at legal advice or other reasons why or why not implemented
- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) seeks clarification. If Board of Director has Gladue training, can’t contract them for Gladue
- Chair Bradley Cooper clarifies cannot be salaried position under NCPEI. Contract is not necessarily a salary

### **Resolution Defeated**

### **Resolution 2023-16 (written as amended)**

WHEREAS some zones allow “call-ins” to go toward their “attendance” and other zones do not for their delegate selection;

AND WHEREAS this process of “calling in” is not known by all members of that zone;

AND WHEREAS some members who attended in person got moved down the delegate list, causing animosity and confusion;

BE IT RESOLVED that at the first zone meeting after the AGA that each zone review and update the zone guidelines;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the guidelines include a clear process for delegate selection, tracking attendance and other areas of contention;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that once revised, the zone guidelines be an appendix to the Constitution and By-laws and not just a guide;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of the guidelines be available at every zone meeting for new and existing members, as well as on the NCPEI website.

Moved by: Diane Burke (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Loretta Ross (Zone 1)

### **Discussion:**

- Diane Burke (Zone 2) states when did zone selection, people called in and never darkened the door. Was original put in years ago for people who had to work, in hospital, off-island, not to replace attending a zone meeting. Would love to have call-in gone. Not fair to call in six times and be on top of list
- Chris St. Onge (Zone 3) thinks good idea to submit into By-laws. Should be more along lines Board comes together and Board does it together. Should be put in Constitution as one process

- Chair Bradley Cooper indicates would be an update to “the zone guidelines” rather than “their zone guidelines”. One shared guideline across all three zones
- Mover and seconder agree
- Sarah Stewart Jackson (Zone 2) thinks this is the best resolution of the night. Worried about somebody in the hospital and honestly cannot come. It’s been used and abused and has been encouraged to just call in
- Chris St. Onge (Zone 3) states seems to be a pattern. Seeking clarification that this is a Constitutional change adding to By-laws
- Chair Bradley Cooper confirmed Constitutional change. Process is zone guidelines brought to zones, zones have discussion, bring back to Board, Board approves zone guidelines, next year amendment to Constitution to make reference to zone guidelines as a group. Would be By-law Constitution
- Chair Bradley Cooper stated it’s already been amended. Will be brought out to zones. Board of Directors will resolve into one zone guideline
- Richard Cooper (Zone 1) seeking friendly amendment so it doesn’t go to zones but gets decided at assembly
- Chair Bradley Cooper doesn’t recommend that – too large of discussion and barely at quorum. Intent is in first Be it Resolved that it’s brought to next zone meetings. Intent clarified one zone guideline coming out of three zones and clarified by Board of Directors into one zone guideline. Board of Directors condense all opinions into one zone guideline

**Resolution Carried (By-law amendment for next year)**

**Resolution 2023-17**

WHEREAS the Constitution and By-laws is unclear, silent, and ambiguous on areas including but not limited to:

- Who contacts delegates/alternates once list is submitted to NCPEI head office to see if delegates/alternates are still wishing to attend;
- Whether an alternate/delegate who declines when contacted can then change their minds and to be re-added to the list; and or
- Cannot be reached or doesn’t respond back to phone calls, e-mails, etc;

AND WHEREAS the NCPEI head office requires these types of issues to be addressed for logistical purposes to book proper sized rooms, provide childcare, address dietary/health needs, etc;

BE IT RESOLVED that the process be clearly developed and designed to address these issues;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this process be more than a guide to follow to ensure no loopholes.

Moved by: Chris St. Onge (Zone 3)

Seconded by: Tim Ross (Zone 1)

**Discussion:**

- Deanna Walker (Zone 3) believes when making contact/phone call include a quick briefing on what AGA is.
- Chair Bradley Cooper noted this is not a By-law change, just internal policy. Would come into effect immediately

**Resolution Carried****Resolution 2023-18**

WHEREAS changes were made to the membership application process and were immediately brought into effect;

AND WHEREAS members were informed that they would be provided with a list of certified genealogists who would be recognized by NCPEI to help those applying for membership.

AND WHEREAS the list provided was archaic and defunct as most listed are either retired or not living;

AND WHEREAS applicants were left with only two genealogists, who are married to each other, are only available for half of the year and are not versed in native ancestry, only Irish;

BE IT RESOLVED that the certified Genealogist letter aspect be removed from the application process;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the NCPEI create a separate committee of their own members to navigate the application process on behalf of the NCPEI.

Moved by: Lori Sanderson (Zone 3)

Seconded by: Dana Wakelin (Zone 3)

**Discussion:**

- Chair Bradley Cooper added to clarify the By-laws is clear that it must be Board of Directors to make that change to what is accepted and not accepted. Wouldn't come into effect immediately but will be considered as strong direction to Board to make amendment
- Richard Cooper (Zone 1) is very against this. Was brought into place because Board acknowledged we are not genealogists. Staff is not. Other organizations have been called out on membership and asked to prove Indigenous ancestry and removed thousands of members. Need to keep the genealogist – it protects the organization
- Chris St. Onge (Zone 3) indicates the reason for the letter is because letter from certified genealogist would hold up in court. By-laws dictate have to have Aboriginal ancestry. Opening ourselves up to potential troubles in court. If we have members who are good at genealogy and vouch for members, will that hold up in court? My guess is no. Wouldn't want to handicap the board
- Lori Sanderson (Zone 3) understands the need for certified genealogist. Biggest issue is at same time we were told that we would be provided with a list of certified genealogists but received outdated list. Stuck with one person ultimately. He had no idea some of the

names. Didn't realize Aboriginal and Eskimo same thing. No issue with letter. Issue is have to get letter to state we are Aboriginal

- Lisa Cooper (Zone 2) is against this resolution. Building database. We will help generations to come. We're asking once this is done we are guaranteed that every member of NCPEI meets criteria to be of Aboriginal ancestry

## **Resolution Defeated**

### **Resolution 2023-19**

WHEREAS significant changes were made to the Constitution and By-laws regarding Article III, as seen in a before and after comparison, which directly impact membership;

AND WHEREAS these changes were made at the Board level and implemented immediately;

AND WHEREAS the process for changes at the Board level are made through Article III, which provides a loophole for changes being made;

BE IT RESOLVED that any proposed changes to the Constitution and By-laws made at the Board level not go into effect until approved at the AGA.

Moved by: Lori Sanderson (Zone 3)

Seconded by: Dana Wakelin (Zone 3)

#### **Discussion:**

- Chair Bradley Cooper indicates proposed By-law change
- Chris St. Onge (Zone 3) doesn't think this can legally happen
- Chair Bradley Cooper confirms it cannot. Under *PEI Companies Act*, Board of Directors must be able to make amendments to bylaws that come into effect immediately. That's a legal requirement for every company on PEI

## **Resolution is null and void as it is illegal**

### **Resolution 2023-20**

WHEREAS NCPEI advocates and provides programming for all off-reserve Indigenous individuals and communities;

AND WHEREAS there are an increasing amount of Inuit members seeking support and programming;

BE IT RESOLVED that the NCPEI commits to work towards increasing inclusive programming that can present all Indigenous cultures.

Moved by: Jolene Rolle (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Clara Jane Wood (Zone 1)

**Discussion:**

- Clara Jane Wood (Zone 1) states on Jolene’s behalf, not intended to just provide services for just Inuit. Written from Jolene’s heart and experience – that’s the reason why that specific culture was included

**Resolution Carried**

**Resolution 2023-21**

WHEREAS accessing natural areas to practice traditional harvesting, teachings, and ceremonies is fundamental to general Indigenous wellness;

AND WHEREAS NCPEI has environmental capacity;

BE IT RESOLVED that NCPEI continues to seek funding to continue providing environmental programming with a focus on land-based healing and cultural activities.

Moved by: Clara Jane Wood (Zone 1)

Seconded by: Emma Bulger (Zone 1)

**Resolution Carried**

**Resolution 2023-22**

WHEREAS NCPEI Management and staff have developed a working relationship with local politicians;

AND WHEREAS having access to land to practice traditional harvesting, teachings, and ceremonies is foundational to general Indigenous wellness;

BE IT RESOLVED NCPEI staff begin seeking out avenues to secure more natural areas for traditional land-based activities through collaboration with local government.

Moved by: Clara Jane Wood (Zone 1)

Seconded by: Jolene Rolle (Zone 2)

**Resolution Carried**

**Motion #21 – To Dissolve Resolution Committee**

Moved by: Sarah Jackson (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Ebony Larkin (Zone 2)

**Motion Carried**

**Motion #22 – To Accept Youth Director Report**

Moved by: Sarah Jackson (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Dawne Knockwood (Zone 2)

**Motion Carried**

**Motion #23 – To Adjourn the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly**

Moved by: Sarah Stewart Jackson (Zone 2)

(Motion to adjourn does not need seconder)

*48<sup>th</sup> NCPEI AGA adjourned at 5:50 p.m.*

DRAFT

**RESOLUTIONS**  
**48<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly**  
**Actions Taken**

**ALL RESOLUTIONS**

#2023-01	Universal Suffrage	Withdrawn
#2023-02	Freezing for Warmth	Carried
#2023-03	NCPEI Board of Directors draft a By-law amendment for zones to be allowed to hold elections to replace or fill a vacant Zone Director position.	Carried; Constitutional Change
#2023-04	Negotiation of long-term lease or ownership of Panmure	Carried
#2023-05	Fundraising in Zones for Powwow	Carried
#2023-06	Funding for Elder Navigator	Carried
#2023-07	Vice Chief position reinstated	Withdrawn
#2023-08	Elders phone tree	Carried
#2023-09	L'nu Fisheries allotted time at NCPEI AGA to answer questions regarding expenditures	Carried
#2023-10	Funding for deep sea fishing	Carried
#2023-11	Hire person specifically to assist new applicants with genealogy documents	Withdrawn
#2023-12	Three strike rule to ensure integrity of the Board of Directors	Carried; Bylaw Amendment and Constitutional Change
#2023-13	Documents be taken to Zone meetings	Carried
#2023-14	Elections for Chief – Zone Meetings held to enable candidates to introduce themselves	Carried; Constitutional Change
#2023-15	Board of Director can hold short-term position without resigning	defeated
#2023-16	Copies of Zone Guidelines available at Zone meetings and on NCPEI website	Carried; bylaw amendment
#2023-17	Process for confirmation of delegates for NCPEI AGA	Carried

**RESOLUTIONS**  
**48<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly**  
**Actions Taken**

#2023-18	Separate committee to assist in membership application process	Defeated
#2023-19	Proposed Constitution and Bylaw changes made at board level not go into effect until approved at AGA	Null and void (illegal)
#2023-20	Increase inclusive programming that can represent all Indigenous cultures	Carried
#2023-21	Seek funding to continue providing environmental programming with a focus on land-based healing and cultural activities.	Carried
#2023-22	Seek out avenues to secure more natural areas for traditional land-based activities through collaboration with local government.	Carried

**RESOLUTIONS**  
**48<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly**  
**Actions Taken**

**ACTIONABLE RESOLUTIONS**

**Resolution #2023-02**

WHEREAS the NCPEI used to hold a “Freezing for Warmth” fundraiser which involved sleeping outside overnight to raise awareness and funds for the old shelter;

AND WHEREAS the NCPEI is once again operating a men’s shelter in Summerside and plans to open more shelters in the future;

BE IT RESOLVED that the NCPEI resume holding an annual “Freezing for Warmth” fundraiser.

Moved by: Jordan Crane (Zone 2)  
Seconded by: Lisa Cooper (Zone 2)

**ACTION TAKEN:**

NCPEI leadership is in discussions about logistics planning for this fundraising event. Updated announcements will be made to NCPEI’s Facebook page.

**Resolution 2023-04**

WHEREAS Panmure Island is important to NCPEI and the off-reserve Indigenous community of PEI;

BE IT RESOLVED that the NCPEI negotiate a long-term lease or ownership of Panmure Island.

Moved by: Christopher Burke-St. Onge (Zone 3)  
Seconded by: Tim Ross (Zone 1)

**ACTION TAKEN:**

The Historical Researcher Phase II position conducted membership interviews and archival research for the past year to support NCPEI’s negotiating position on Panmure Island. The most recent 10-year lease finished in February 2024 and the Province has agreed to postpone renewal discussions until the Historical Research work is complete. NCPEI leadership has indicated to the Indigenous Relations Secretariat to prepare for a meeting with the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure once NCPEI has finalized its negotiating position.

**RESOLUTIONS**  
**48<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly**  
**Actions Taken**

**Resolution 2023-05 (written as amended)**

WHEREAS the NCPEI holds an annual Pow Wow in Panmure Island every year;

AND WHEREAS the cost associated with this event is large and should not be detrimental to L’nu Fisheries or NCPEI’s budgets;

BE IT RESOLVED that the NCPEI work with the Zones to create a fundraising committees comprised of volunteer staff and community members to start year-round fundraising, such as dinners, tickets, and goldrush, etc.

Moved by: Dawne Knockwood (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Lori Sanderson (Zone 3)

**ACTION TAKEN:**

A callout for volunteers was conducted in each Zone and on Facebook. Fundraising through ticket sales has been done throughout the year.

**Resolution 2023-06 (written as amended)**

WHEREAS the Elders often need assistance when dealing with health care and home care issues;

BE IT RESOLVED that the NCPEI seek funding to hire an Elder Navigator to assist in these areas.

Moved by: Mary Linda Mills (Zone 3)

Seconded by: Linda MacConnell (Zone 3)

**ACTION TAKEN:**

NCPEI has submitted a proposal in April 2024 to the Province of PEI outlining an “Elder Navigator Program” and continues to look for other funding opportunities that will give us the capacity to provide this service. Discussions to secure funding are ongoing. The in-progress action plan/strategy will be addressing Elder mental health.

**RESOLUTIONS**  
**48<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly**  
**Actions Taken**

**Resolution 2023-08 (written as amended)**

WHEREAS PEI weather and storms can be severe;

AND WHEREAS this weather can often cause extended power outages which may leave Elders vulnerable;

BE IT RESOLVED that the NCPEI establish a phone tree and an emergency preparedness plan to check on the well-being of our Elders during those times.

Moved by: Georgina Knockwood Crane (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Mike Viau (Zone 2)

**ACTION TAKEN:**

NCPEI did not have funding for a dedicated Elder support this past year. Part of this work was integrated into the Elder Navigator Program proposal submitted in April 2024.

**Resolution 2023-09**

WHEREAS NCPEI relies on L’nu Fisheries to cover any financial shortfalls that may be incurrent over the fiscal year;

AND WHEREAS members of L’nu Fisheries and NCPEI should be aware of where the financial shortfalls are and what profits are being used to cover non-fishery-related expenses;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that L’nu Fisheries be allotted time at the NCPEI AGA to answer questions from the NCPEI Assembly regarding the expenditures L’nu makes for NCPEI.

Moved by: Vanessa Clements (Zone 1)

Seconded by: Dawne Knockwood (Zone 2)

**ACTION TAKEN:**

This has been communicated to the Finance Director and auditing team so that a breakdown of expenses can be explained. A dedicated agenda item will be made for each AGA moving forward.

**RESOLUTIONS**  
**48<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly**  
**Actions Taken**

**Resolution 2023-10 (written as amended)**

WHEREAS some members are not able to access a boat to go fishing;

AND WHEREAS practicing in harvesting activities can be beneficial for cultural connectedness;

BE IT RESOLVED that NCPEI seek funding to have a boat available at least one day per fishing season for community members to have the opportunity to recreationally fish;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NCPEI seek funding to provide an opportunity for members to experience “deep sea fishing” on a lobster vessel for the experience and community connection.

Moved by: Melvin Hinks (Zone 3)

Seconded by: Jody Jesso (Zone 2)

**ACTION TAKEN:**

Discussions are ongoing with community members and private vessels to arrange for a deep sea fishing opportunity. Issues of safety, liability, and insurance are limiting these opportunities.

**Resolution 2023-13**

WHEREAS the President and Chief provide financial, President and Chief Report, and program reports quarterly to the Board of Directors;

AND WHEREAS there is no such requirement for Zone Directors to bring these documents to their zone meetings;

AND WHEREAS many members have requested these documents but are not receiving them to review;

AND WHEREAS this process is outlined in the Zone guidebook which is only a guide that doesn't need to be followed;

AND WHEREAS these documents are essential for zone members to review to stay updated on NCPEI's programs, services, financial status of NCPEI, and President and Chief's activities to provide feedback and direction to their Zone Directors;

BE IT RESOLVED that these documents be listed under the responsibility of Zone Directors to bring each quarterly zone meeting to review and discuss with members.

Moved by: Richard Cooper (Zone 1)

Seconded by: Diane Burke (Zone 2)

**RESOLUTIONS**  
**48<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly**  
**Actions Taken**

**ACTION TAKEN:**

Zone Meeting Guidelines are being revised to include documents required to be brought to Zone meetings such as Board of Directors Meeting minutes and other relevant documents.

**Resolution 2023-17**

WHEREAS the Constitution and By-laws is unclear, silent, and ambiguous on areas including but not limited to:

- Who contacts delegates/alternates once list is submitted to NCPEI head office to see if delegates/alternates are still wishing to attend;
- Whether an alternate/delegate who declines when contacted can then change their minds and to be re-added to the list; and or
- Cannot be reached or doesn't respond back to phone calls, e-mails, etc.

AND WHEREAS the NCPEI head office requires these types of issues to be addressed for logistical purposes to book proper sized rooms, provide childcare, address dietary/health needs, etc.;

BE IT RESOLVED that the process be clearly developed and designed to address these issues;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this process be more than a guide to follow to ensure no loopholes.

Moved by: Chris St. Onge (Zone 3)

Seconded by: Tim Ross (Zone 1)

**ACTION TAKEN:**

Zone Meeting Guidelines are being revised to include these processes.

**RESOLUTIONS**  
**48<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly**  
**Actions Taken**

**Resolution 2023-20**

WHEREAS NCPEI advocates and provides programming for all off-reserve Indigenous individuals and communities;

AND WHEREAS there are an increasing amount of Inuit members seeking support and programming;

BE IT RESOLVED that the NCPEI commits to work towards increasing inclusive programming that can represent all Indigenous cultures.

Moved by: Jolene Rolle (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Clara Jane Wood (Zone 1)

**ACTION TAKEN:**

Ongoing training opportunities are being provided to increase inclusive awareness for different cultures among program staff. Work plans and proposals are being reviewed for better inclusivity statements in the deliverables and outcomes.

**Resolution 2023-21**

WHEREAS accessing natural areas to practice traditional harvesting, teachings, and ceremonies is fundamental to general Indigenous wellness;

AND WHEREAS NCPEI has environmental capacity;

BE IT RESOLVED that NCPEI continues to seek funding to continue providing environmental programming with a focus on land-based healing and cultural activities.

Moved by: Clara Jane Wood (Zone 1)

Seconded by: Emma Bulger (Zone 1)

**ACTION TAKEN:**

Land-based healing and activities were included in various proposals, the Panmure Island lease negotiation strategy, and the Women's Shelter opening in 2025.

**RESOLUTIONS**  
**48<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly**  
**Actions Taken**

**Resolution 2023-22**

WHEREAS NCPEI Management and staff have developed a working relationship with local politicians;

AND WHEREAS having access to land to practice traditional harvesting, teachings, and ceremonies is foundational to general Indigenous wellness;

BE IT RESOLVED NCPEI staff begin seeking out avenues to secure more natural areas for traditional land-based activities through collaboration with local government.

Moved by: Clara Jane Wood (Zone 1)

Seconded by: Jolene Rolle (Zone 2)

**ACTION TAKEN:**

NCPEI is limited in acquiring new Crown land without interventions caused by the Duty to Consult. NCPEI is seeking funding to increase land-based opportunities at currently owned NCPEI offices, Panmure Island, and the 2025 Women's shelter.

## **President & Chief Summary Report**

### **Annual General Assembly**

**November 2024**

Much has happened since our last AGA. Firstly, I would like to say thank you to the staff at NCPEI for their dedication and hard work. I would also like to thank the Board of Directors and membership for their support during a difficult leg of my journey. A cancer diagnosis earlier this year was unexpected but with treatment, rest and support I am now in remission with a 97% success rate that the cancer will not return.

We have successfully operated the Winter Street Men's Shelter for over a year. We look forward to renovations on a bread and breakfast in Cornwall that will become a shelter to support women and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people facing Gender Based Violence.

Over the past number of months, we have been diligently working to upgrade and repair our Nanegkam Housing units through our capital replacement funding which had not been done prior to us taking back Nanegkam Housing. We have also been able to negotiate more repair funding for our Nanegkam Housing units to repair some of the bigger issues like new roofs, windows and decks. We will continue to push forward to repair and convert 26 Allen Street to create a men's transition house in Charlottetown and our Policy Analysts are working on a separate housing project that will add more affordable housing for our Indigenous community.

Fiona clean-up was finally completed in Panmure and the building levelled and refreshed with a new kitchen and Mother's room. We were able to hold our Powwow for the entire weekend this past August and it was great to get together with family, friends and visitors. Moving forward, the Native Council of PEI is planning a few family retreats for community members to enjoy a family weekend in Panmure.

The following is a summary of meetings and events attended over the past year on behalf of the members and I look forward to any comments or questions you may have for me.

## **President and Chief Report November 2023 – February 2024**

### **NCPEI Staff Meetings**

Participated in three monthly staff meetings promoting teamwork and providing staff with pertinent information that may affect them. Discuss upcoming events, activities, and programming that are being planned. November's staff meeting included an introductory and overview of the Management Team, what they do, and answer any questions staff may have about around the Management Team and their role within NCPEI.

### **Bi-Weekly Management Team Meetings**

Discussions include ensuring deliverables of program workplans are being met, staffing issues, including new hires and how they will be on-boarded, as well as updating and ensuring workplans meet funding requirements.

### **NCPEI Board of Director's Meetings**

Attended one BOD meeting upon request of BOD members.

### **L'nu Board of Directors Meetings**

Attended quarterly L'nu BOD meetings to review financial reports, President's report, fisherman's contracts, and other topics relevant to L'nu fisheries.

### **Nanegkam Board of Directors Meeting**

Participated in Nanegkam BOD yearly retreat. Provided financial management training through BDO, discussed updating and revising Nanegkam Policy documents, and review Manger's report, tenant issues, Capital Replace Plan activities, tenant selection, tenant issues, maintenance repairs, and other topics relevant to Nanegkam Housing Corporation.

We are still in discussions on how to proceed with taking 26 Allen Street off the Nanegkam Housing for NCPEI to bring back our Nitapk Men's Rooming House.

### **NCPEI Policy Analyst Meetings**

Attended six bi-weekly Policy Analyst meetings to discuss policy development and review, gaps in programming/services, funding opportunities, and strategies in moving NCPE forward politically.

### **NCPEI Town Halls**

Facilitated three Town Hall meetings in partnership with BDO toward developing NCPEI's Five Year Strategic Plan.

### **MAPC Board of Directors Meetings**

Attended two MAPC BOD meetings to discuss regional issues among the three Native Councils (NCPEI, NBAPC & NCNS) including environment and fisheries.

### **Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP) Board of Director Meetings**

Attended five BOD meetings for CAP with most being through Zoom/Teams and others in person to review National Chief's Report, Vice-Chief's Report, CEO's Report, and financial reports. November 2023 CAP BOD meeting included PTO representatives meeting with various Deputy Ministers' meeting to talk about who CAP is and who we represent. As BOD members, we attended a session on Parliament Hill and was formally acknowledged and introduced by the Conservative Party in the House and had a separate meeting with just the Conservative Party afterwards. In December's BOD meeting, I attended CAP's Open House event which is usually attended by various politicians.

### **CAP Justice Prep Meetings**

Attended three CAP Justice Prep meetings to review workplan, strategies, and upcoming agenda items that will be covered at our quarterly Justice Table Meetings.

### **CAP Justice Table Meetings**

Attended four Justice Table meetings to provide input and feedback on the Justice Table's Workplan. Meeting discussions are around gaps in programs, services, and policy development for CAP's Provincial/Territorial organizations and discuss ways we can collaborate toward effecting policies to reduce these gaps in justice programs and services.

### **CAP Co-Chair Meetings**

Attended one meeting to provide updates from the Justice Table and discuss updates from the other Tables around workplans, key priorities, and frequency of preparation meetings moving forward.

### **CAP Political Accord**

Attended one meeting with discussion focusing on the challenges of the six Priority Tables, update on CAP's meeting with Treaty & Governance, and potential funding agreements around Priority Tables that are ready to enter into agreement(s).

### **Other Meetings**

- Meeting with Charlottetown City Hall to discuss MHRT program.
- Presentation and discussion with Counselors at Charlottetown City Hall on MHRT program.
- Meeting with Kevin Lewis, RCMP on improving relationship moving forward.
- Meeting with Community Legal Information on providing representative to committee to ensure materials and pamphlets are culturally represented and accurate.
- Attended New Brunswick Aboriginal People's Annual General Assembly upon invite.
- Meeting with Canadian Mortgage & Housing to discuss Women's Shelter funding.
- Attended NCPEI's Christmas Open House.
- Attended Staff Christmas party.
- Meeting with Canadian Heritage on our Language Program funding.
- Meeting with BDO to discuss how to proceed with NCPEI's Five Year Strategic Plan.
- Viewed potential property for Women's Shelter.
- Senator Brian Francis to discuss Reconciliation Council Bill and improving his relationship with NCPEI.
- Attended CAP's Family Table with Brenda Dion, SAFE Coordinator, on what our SAFE program does, its challenges and barriers, and recommendations on how to improve the program.
- Presented alongside Bradley Cooper, Political Advisor, to City Hall on our MHRT program, answered questions, and Bradley followed up with media interview.
- Meeting with Kevin Lewis, Superintendent, RCMP L' Division to discuss our programs and services, including our MMIWG, Court Worker, Justice Committee, and MHRT.

Kevin indicated that there was a vacation position on their committee and looked forward to us submitting a name to him.

- Meeting with Community Legal Information (CLI) to discuss our partnership on ensuring material developed for Indigenous people are culturally relevant. Also discussed the services and referrals CLI does and have requested a referral for professional who can do Board Development for NCPEI's upcoming Board meeting.
- Meeting with Brenda Dion, representative from Youth Advocate, Lawyer and family members of an individual to discuss the rights of the child and family.
- Meeting with Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation & Indigenous Services Canada to discuss our Women's Shelter Application submitted a few months ago. We will be moving forward with developing a Women's Shelter.
- Meeting with Canadian Heritage to discuss our Language Program proposal which has been accepted for one fiscal year. Was told to submit our five-year proposal next year with edits to adjust for this year's funding.
- Completed Gladue Report and attended court with client in case there were questions from the judge, lawyer, or Crown.

### **March 2024 – July 2024**

As follow up to our Board of Director's meeting on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, I have been referred to the Cancer Treatment Centre where I will be receiving both radiation and hormonal therapy treatments. Neither of these treatments will require prolonged sick leave and my staff has been more than supportive through this journey I have been on and has attended meetings on my behalf when I was not able to do so.

I would also like to say thank you to the NCPEI Board of Directors who have so graciously provided me extra time to submit my President & Chief report and to also support me through my journey of recovery.

#### **NCPEI Staff Meetings**

Continue to hold and attend monthly Staff Meetings for staff to provide report on recently held workshops/activities, as well as to promote upcoming workshops/activities.

#### **Bi-Weekly Management Team Meetings**

Facilitated nine bi-weekly Management Team Meetings for the management team to discuss staffing issues/concerns, financial updates on programs/projects, HR policy and procedures, housing initiatives, and other topics that come up in between meetings.

#### **NCPEI Board of Director's Meetings**

Attended a minimum of seven quarterly, and requested Board of Directors' meetings, to provide an overview of programs/projects, financials, and reports, as well as, review previous Board minutes and discuss agenda topics added by Board of Directors.

### **L'nu Board of Directors Meetings**

Attended quarterly L'nu BOD meetings to review financial reports, President's report, fisherman's contracts, and other topics relevant to L'nu fisheries.

### **Nanegkam Board of Directors Meeting**

Participated and Chaired quarterly Nanegkam Board of Directors' meeting and Nanegkam BOD retreat to discuss Nanegkam financial statements, Nanegkam Policy documents, review Manger's report, tenant issues, Capital Replace Plan activities, tenant selection, tenant issues, maintenance repairs, and other topics relevant to Nanegkam Housing Corporation.

### **NCPEI Policy Analyst Meetings (PAT team meetings)**

Attended nine PAT Team meetings to discuss current proposals in progress, completed proposals, new funding opportunities, federal/provincial reports and policy documents, upcoming policy workshops and information to be provided to community members through Townhalls.

### **NCPEI Town Halls**

Facilitated quarterly Town Hall meetings. Meetings were to provide NCPEI program and project updates, discuss initiatives such as developing NCPEI's Five Year Strategic Plan in partnership with BDO, our auditing firm.

### **MAPC Board of Directors Meetings**

Attended six MAPC BOD meetings to discuss regional issues among the three Native Councils (NCPEI, NBAPC & NCNS) including environment and fisheries. As well as developing MAPC's HR Policy and Procedures Manual.

### **Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP) Board of Director Meetings**

Attended two BOD meetings for CAP with most being through Zoom/Teams and others in person to review National Chief's Report, Vice-Chief's Report, CEO's Report, and financial reports. Through CAP, I also participated in CAP's Water Agency Presentation and discussion held on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and CAP's Collaborative Process & Board Engagement on April 11, 2024.

### **CAP Justice Prep Meeting**

Attended eight CAP Justice Prep meetings to review workplan, strategies, and upcoming agenda items that will be covered at our quarterly Justice Table Meetings. Much of our discussion has been around Canada's new Justice Strategy initiative and the lack of CAP's feedback into the Strategy and commitment to include CAP in the funding of the Strategy moving forward. Much of the Strategy is focused on a distinction-based approach and very little is reflected on the rights, interests and needs of the off-reserve Indigenous community.

### **CAP Justice Table Meetings**

Attended four Justice Table meetings to provide input and feedback on the Justice Table's Workplan. Meeting discussions are around gaps in programs, services, and policy development for CAP's Provincial/Territorial organizations, lack of movement on policy and program development for CAP's PTOs, especially around the new Justice Strategy initiative.

## **Other Meetings**

- MMIWG Action Plan conference at Rodd Royal toward developing NCPEI's Action Plan.
- Multiple meetings with BDO toward developing NCPEI's Five Year Strategic Plan.
- Multiple meetings with BDO to review NCPEI, L'nu, and Nanegkam's financial audit.
- Facilitated three townhall meetings with Bradley, NCPEI's Political Advisor, to discuss upcoming initiatives, policy & program development, and obtain feedback from community members.
- Participated in Red Dress event and walk at Victoria Park.
- Meeting with Vicki Bryanton, Consultant, to assist with NCPEI Board development.
- Attended L'nu Annual General Assembly.
- Meeting with PEI's Auditor General upon request to educate them on who we are and what our challenges around funding is.
- Attended the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York.
- Attended our 2SLGTBQ workshop at North River office held for NCPEI staff.

## **August 2024 - October 2024**

### **NCPEI Staff Meetings**

Continue to hold and attend monthly Staff Meetings for staff to provide report on recently held workshops/activities, promote upcoming workshops/activities, and answer any questions around policy and procedures.

### **Bi-Weekly Management Team Meetings**

Facilitated eight bi-weekly Management Team Meetings for the management team to discuss staffing issues/concerns, financial updates on programs/projects, HR policy and procedures, housing initiatives, and other topics that come up in between meetings.

### **NCPEI Board of Director's Meetings**

Chaired three Board of Directors' meetings, to provide an overview of programs/projects, financials, and reports, as well as, review previous Board minutes and discuss agenda topics added by Board of Directors. Most conversations have centered around Membership criteria, identity, and process. The Board of Directors continues to work diligently to address membership concerns around these topics.

### **L'nu Board of Directors Meetings**

Attended quarterly L'nu BOD meetings to review financial reports, President's report, fisherman's contracts, and other topics relevant to L'nu fisheries.

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### **CAP Justice Table Meetings**

Attended one Justice Table meeting to provide input and feedback on the Justice Table's Workplan. Meeting discussions are around gaps in programs, services, and policy development for CAP's Provincial/Territorial organizations, lack of movement on policy and program development for CAP's PTOs, especially around the new Justice Strategy initiative.

### **Other Meetings**

- August - RCMP meeting with Commander Kevin Lewis and Superintendent Sarah Drummond to discuss partnership, updating our MOU after our MMIWG Provincial

Plan is created, as well as, to discuss how they can support our Women's Shelter initiative.

- Attended NCPEI's Annual Pow Wow
- September - attended Native Council of Nova Scotia's Annual General Assembly.
- September - CRTC meeting with Diane Mallet to discuss their mandate on social media, streaming, radio and TV to ensure Indigenous content. NCPEI will have a representative on this committee.
- September- attended Youth AGA.
- September - attended Elders' AGA to go over their TOR and activities Elders would like to see for the next New Horizons & Senior Secretariat funding proposals.
- October- attended NCPEI's Mawi'omi at Bloomfield Park.

**Zone 1  
Annual General Assembly Report  
November 2023 – October 2024**

**Loretta Ross, Board of Director**

- October 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> 2023 - Board Meeting Via Teams
- November 2023 - Attended NCPEI annual AGA at the Mill River Resort
- November 18<sup>th</sup> 2023 - Board Meeting in Charlottetown
- December 5<sup>th</sup> 2023 - Attended a Zone 1 Town Hall Christmas dinner at St. Anthony Legion
- January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024 - Attended Zone 1 Town hall at the Portage Office
- February 6<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Held a Zone 1 meeting at the Portage Office
- February 24-25<sup>th</sup> 2024 Attended NCPEI Board Retreat In Charlottetown
- March 6<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Board Meeting (Zoom)
- May 14<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Held a Zone 1 meeting at the Portage Office
- May 28<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Attended a Zone 1 Town Hall at the Portage Office
- June 13<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Did not attend BOD meeting
- June 24<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Attended Board Meeting (Zoom)
- July 13<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Held a Zone 1 meeting to pick CAP delegates
- October 6<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Attended the Mawi'omi - Bloomfield Park
- October 7<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Held a Zone one meeting at the Portage Office -Election for a Zone 1 Board of Director. Judy Dugay won the election.

**Zone 2 Board of Directors  
Annual General Assembly Report  
Robert Panchuck**

Since being elected as Interim Board of Director in February 2024 I have attended a number of Board of Director meetings and Zone meetings.

In March I took part in the L'nu Fisheries Annual General Assembly in Summerside. Was very informative and great presentations by our own Clara Jane Wood, Environmental Coordinator and Barry Marsman from Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council.

On June 21<sup>st</sup> NCPEI held a National Indigenous Peoples Day at Confederation Landing. It was well attended with great drumming and singing.

The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Panmure Powwow was held in August. The event took place over 2 days and though we saw a few less people this year it was a great time to get together and share cultures.

Attended the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples Annual General Assembly in September. I was able to sit on the Resolutions Committee, which was a great experience.

On October 8<sup>th</sup>, I was elected to the Board of Directors for a 3-year term, along with Sarah Jackson. Together we will work together and bring member concerns to the Board of Directors.

I look forward to continuing to learn and work with the Board of Directors and NCPEI.

**Zone 3 Board of Directors  
Annual General Assembly Report  
November 2023 – October 2024**

**Dsna Wakelin, Board of Director  
Kayla Larkin, Board of Director**

Dear Elders, Members, fellow Board of Directors and Guests,

We want to take this opportunity to thank you for having us as your Zone 3 Board of Directors.

We are more than happy to be working together again after Kayla's re-election on September 26, 2024. It has been a pleasure to represent Zone 3 and to have the opportunity to get to know each one of you individually at meetings and other events. We have gained friendships over the time spent together. Lots of laughs, learning and memories have been made this past year.

We have worked diligently to support the Zone 3 member. We had very successful Zone meeting's where we bring updates within the Council and questions to get input from our Zone. Our work also consists of attending in-person scheduled and emergency Board meetings, and Zoom Board Meetings, which have been more often this past year due to membership issues.

Some of the things we have done this year:

- Chaired Zone Meetings
- Attended the Sixties Scoop Healing Conference in Ottawa March 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> 2024
- Participated in a Community Kitchen/Language and Drumming class
- Worked one on one with members to organize bingo for the High School Graduates in the community which was a huge success
- Participated in the Medicine Doll Workshop
- Attended the Panmure Island Powwow
- Hosted a Resolutions Meeting to assist members for the upcoming AGA
- Held a very successful Children's Christmas Party last December

A major role we also play within our community is advocating for our Zone. We feel as though participation has risen since last year within our Zone and we helped ensure more programs have been fairly offered to us.

We continuously reach out through social media, and word of mouth, and making phone calls. We feel as though we are bridging the gap of attendance in our Zone as reflected on our sign in sheets. We try to keep our Facebook Page up to date and keep a steady stream of communication with our members and friends of the Zone. Letting every voice feel heard and giving them a safe place to speak their mind without ridicule, judgment or hostility. We all have different opinions and interpretations on different situations and in that comes growth.

We continue to:

- Help navigate members to the right supports and Programs
- Take ideas and concerns to the Board
- Assise with organizing meetings
- Contact members for transportation to and from meetings
- Make preparation for food and beverages at meetings
- Plan and setting up for zone meetings

Thank you so much for your time and your support.

Dana Wakelin and Kayla Larkin

**Elders Representative  
Annual General Assembly Report  
November 2023 to October 2024**

**Mekwe’k Wowkwis Kisikui’skw  
Red Fox Elder  
Georgina Knockwood Crane**

Another year has come and gone. It has been a great honor to hold the position of Elder Representative.

It was a very busy and rewarding year. Meetings were held twice per month, one at the programming office on North River Road and a second at the Portage Office. Elders in the Zone 1 and Western PEI requested the second location because of the time it takes to travel to Charlottetown. We were fortunate to be able to do this. The meetings included updates on programs, general updates and included guest speakers. We were also able to hold an Elders Annual General Assembly.

As an Elder, I went to many gatherings, Zone Meetings and Board of Director Meetings and provided opening prayer for most meetings.

Some events I provided opening prayers for and/or attended:

- Earth Day
- Elders AGA
- Town Hall and Zone Meetings
- Red Dress Walk
- National Indigenous Peoples Day
- Community events
- Two-Spirit Retreat
- Panmure Powwow
- Bloomfield Mawi’omi
- Crime Prevention Week
- Christmas Dinners
- Congress of Aboriginal Peoples Elder and Youth Meetings
- Congress of Aboriginal Peoples AGA
- Looking forward to attending the Elder and Youth Summit in Ottawa

Some activities at our Elder meetings:

- Traditional and Cultural teachings and food
- Made talking sticks, dressed Eagle feathers, seaglass art, birch bark canoes and teepees

Guest speakers included:

- Junior Peter Paul – spoke about sweats and how he got his Mi'kmaq animal and spirit name
- Theresa O'Connor – spoke on her Ojibway culture
- Doreen Jenkins Francis spoke on living on Lennox Island and the US and her cultural upbringing
- RCMP Officer Melissa Caswell presented on scamming and Elder abuse
- Elders shared their stories

At this time I would like to thank all of the Elders for their kindness and respect for me and one another.

Wela'lin (thank you)

Mekwe'k Wowkwis Kisikui'skw

Red Fox Elder

Georgina Knockwood Crane



# Youth Board of Directors Report 2024

“Stay positive, work hard, make it happen”



(National elder representative Diane Langley, with NYC at NYC & NEC 2024 summit)

Ebony Larkin

October 2024

## Introduction

Hello Everyone,

My name is Ebony Larkin, this is my 5th year sitting as the youth board of director. I am an Ojibway from Berens River First Nation, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. I've been a member of NCPEI since before I could remember. I have two amazing kids, Isabella and Elijah. I was a part of the youth program for many years now. If it wasn't for the youth program growing up I wouldn't have had the fun filled teen years that I did. My objective as the youth board of director is to give the youth an opportunity to have the kind of program and support from this program as it gave me.

## Meetings/events

- Cooked for Zone 3 zone meetings
- Attended CAP AGA
- Attended NYC AGA
- Multiple NCPEI board meetings
- Zone meetings in Zone 2 and a couple in Zone 3
- Attended a couple environment events held by Clara Jane
- Attended 2 spirited program events with Kailyn

Thank you, Ebony Larkin



**Addictions and Mental Health Navigator  
Annual General Assembly Report  
October 2023 – July 2024**

**Colleen Couturier, Program Coordinator**

**Introduction:**

The Addictions and Mental Health Navigator (AMHN) was responsible for providing culturally sensitive addictions and mental health support to individuals, families, and the community. The coordinator of this program held a strong working knowledge of harm reduction strategies, a trauma informed approach to care, and a comprehensive knowledge of services offered to individuals and their families on Prince Edward Island.

**Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

The primary role of the AMHN was to advocate on behalf of clients to ensure that they received the maximum amount of access to programs and services. Part of this process involved informing clients of all options available, then guiding the client through the process of accessing those options. Alongside facilitating access to organizational supports, the AMHN also connected clients with traditional Elders for spiritual guidance, support, ceremonies, and healing. Clients were also encouraged to develop their own peer support networks, when possible. In order to accomplish the above, the AMHN worked closely with other NCPEI programs, such as the SAFE, ISET, and Reaching Home programs, with the aim of providing wrap-around supports for clients and improving the likelihood of positive outcomes.

The AMHN was also responsible for identifying barriers and challenges in accessing governmental, non-governmental, and community programs and services. When possible, they helped develop strategies aimed at reducing those barriers.

**Activities and Deliverables:**

- Ongoing support of clients struggling with mental health and/or addictions issues. Provided, on a case-by-case basis, systems navigation to ensure access to all services and programs the client is eligible for.
- Worked with clients who were actively experiencing incarceration, or who were at risk of becoming incarcerated, to ensure access to services cultural supports.
- Organized cultural workshops for clients and encouraged clients to access other NCPEI cultural programming opportunities.
- Provided wrap-around client supports through referrals to other NCPEI programs, such as Reaching Home, Safe, and ISET.
- Close and frequent collaboration with the Winter Street shelter in Summerside to ensure clients needs are met while they are residing at the shelter.

### **Promotion and Outreach:**

The AMHN, alongside the Reaching Home coordinator, attended regular meetings of the Community Outreach Centre Case Management Group. Other participating organizations include the Canadian Mental Health Association, John Howard Society, Health PEI, Social Development & Housing, Blooming House, Salvation Army, and PEERS Alliance (among others). The AMHN also represented NCPEI on the RCMP L Division Indigenous Advisory Board. Positive relations were fostered and maintained with various shelters and treatment facilities within the province, as well as with individual professionals within the mental healthcare sector.

### **Future Activities:**

Unfortunately, in July 2024 the program coordinator was unable to continue with the program due to moving out of the province. Given the short remaining length of the program itself, NCPEI has been unable to retain a sufficiently qualified individual to fill the role. Funding for the AMHN program was only provided with the intent of it being a temporary stopgap and the program will no longer have available funding after October 2024. As such, NCPEI continues to work diligently to secure critically needed long-term funding for a mental health and addictions program.

### **Conclusion:**

The AMHN program provided crucial supports to clients who were struggling with addictions and/or mental health issues. Access to services and programs is often difficult at the best of times and is made exponentially so for an individual in crisis. The AMHN ensured clients were able to receive supports that they may otherwise have been unaware existed, much less have been able to access. The steady increase in client numbers seen by this program over its existence provides further evidence of the dire need for ongoing mental health and addictions related services and the necessity of NCPEI's ongoing fight to implement those services.

**Digital Archives/Information Technology  
Annual General Assembly Report  
October 2023 to October 2024**

**Paul Martin, Program Coordinator**

**Introduction:**

The Digital Archives Program main function is to sort, scan and catalogue all documents within NCPEI. We meticulously go through all documents by hand to sort the materials and get them ready for scanning. Once scanned we upload to the Archives, where we then add meta data to make the documents easily searchable. All documents are recorded on either a scanned (keep/disposal) log or added to a disposed log for further review. Once given the “okay” we will then shred documents not being kept. Any kept documents are being stored in a climate-controlled storage unit. This will help preserve the documents going forward. Since last year though I have also taken on the IT position. Here we try and keep an eye on phishing scams, keep programs running, trying to help trouble shoot anything from bounce back emails to why internet drops on some computers, password resets and more.

**Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

Archives -We are trying to preserve as much of the Council’s documents and history as we can. We are close to 300 gigabytes of archived data. This collection ranges from old Gigmanags, VHS and DVD video, paper documents and cassettes. We will be continuing to grow the archive going forward.

IT- The IT role is trying to assess the direction the council should be going in the ever-changing tech landscape, as well as trying to stay on top of typical issues, such as trouble shooting different programs, computers, emails, etc.

**Activities and Deliverables:**

Archives - We have successfully recorded all of the VHS tapes (81) the council had. We have also successfully recorded all of the audio cassettes (274). Both series of tapes concerned cultural and organizational information. We have also backed up all the materials recorded and have all these materials added to the archive for downloading. We have added almost 200 gigabytes of data to the archive. We will be continuing to add more material to the archive going forward.

IT – We successfully researched teleconference software/hardware to build a more comprehensive meeting space at the McAulay Court office. I also spent time doing general IT related tasks such as account passwords changes, setting up email forwarders, trouble shooting dropped internet connections etc. I also shared the duties of setting up computers and licenses when we have new staff join.

**Future Activities:**

Archives – Concerning the Archives we will be working through more of the materials to be recorded. The goal is to keep expanding and growing the Archive. The next Materials to be worked through will be the micro cassette meeting note tapes. We still must work through the 16mm film reels as well, and some more paper documents.

IT- We will be looking into organizational upgrading. We will also be looking to sort out some of our accounts and licenses. This will allow us to archive specific account data as well as either doing away with the license or freeing it up for another program or employee to take on. I will also be looking to work through some of our other program accounts to remove the license and archive the completed work as well as free up the license or account for further use.

**Conclusion:**

Once finished we will have a comprehensive archive with functional search. This will become a strong resource for NCPEI going forward. As for the IT role I will be doing my best to help steer the council through different technology as well as trying to clean up equipment and data as well as continuing to trouble shoot and trying to help.

**Gender Based Violence Prevention  
Annual General Assembly Report  
October 2024**

**Anthonia Mbareri  
Program Coordinator**

**Introduction:**

The Gender Based Violence Prevention (GBVP) Coordinator of the Native Council of PEI will work to advocate for the families directly affected by MMIWG (Missing Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls), MMIMB (Missing and Murdered Indigenous Men and Boys), and Gender Based Violence. The GBV Prevention Coordinator will provide an engagement session to the community and collect input for NCPEI's Action Plan. The GBVP Coordinator will provide educational sessions to community partners, educational institutions, and government officials to push and advocate for the MMIWG Calls for Justice and the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action.

**Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

- Participate in online cultural awareness training (FASD and Trauma Informed Care).
- Act as the voice of NCPEI through participation in media interviews, speaking at events, schools, community organizations, and government tables.
- Present educational sessions to each zone on Gender Based Violence (MMIWG, MMIMB, and 2Spirit), and the Calls to Justice, Residential Schools, and Intergenerational Trauma.
- Make **referrals** to other programs and partnering community agencies for at risk off-reserve Indigenous women.
- Develop educational presentations for various levels – from elementary school to government agencies – on:
  - Gender Based Violence (MMIWG, MMIMB, and 2Spirit) and the Calls to Justice
  - Residential Schools
  - Intergenerational Trauma
- Maintain familiarity with the Calls to Justice and steps taken/to be taken to promote justice and reconciliation.
- Assist in the development of an action plan in coordination with the Policy Analyst Team, and gain feedback from NCPEI membership and community partners.
- Continue reaching out to the wider community to develop relationships for the promotion of the project and opportunities to present information.
- Ensure all requests for information are responded to in a timely and appropriate manner.
- Collaborate with other programs, when appropriate and approved, to promote the GBV Prevention program.

- Develop promotional material to raise awareness in communities to gain interest in the program and recruit participation.
- Prepare material for distribution to ensure longevity of the project's goals beyond its end date.

**Activities and Deliverables:**

- Collaborate with other program leaders on GBV events and workshops

**Promotion and Outreach:**

- Create posters and educational materials.

**Future Activities:**

- To prepare teaching and craft sessions.
- To invite elders and knowledge keepers to participate in planned events.
- To interact with government agencies on behalf of MMIWG and MMIMB.
- Carry out surveys with the aim to get feed backs on activities and sessions.

This program aims largely to give the indigenous people a voice and representation within PEI by acting as a bridge between the service users and the policy makers.

We look forward to seeing policy reforms with the adequate needs of the clients prioritised, we hope to see greater engagement with the indigenous population, where considerations of their historical and cultural backgrounds drive changes.

## **Historical Researcher – Phase II**

Annual General Assembly Report

October 2023 – October 2024

Dawne Knockwood

### **Introduction:**

Historical Researcher position aims to uncover membership stories, archival records, and other evidentiary findings pertaining to Panmure Island. The intent of this position was to support NCPEI's negotiation position for a renewal of the Panmure Island lease.

### **Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

- Continue to elaborate on the work from Phase I
- Collect and organize historical information relating to the Panmure Island
- Collect and organize personal stories related to Panmure Island
- Develop a final report that will be used to support Panmure Island negotiations

### **Activities and Deliverables:**

- Community members were interviewed for their personal stories
- A letter-writing petition template was developed and signed by Zone members
- Economic development and ecotourism funding opportunities were researched
- PEI archives and land documents were reviewed for historical references

### **Future Activities:**

- Panmure Island negotiations are still underway
- Final report to be developed that summarizes and presents all information collected

### **Conclusion:**

Panmure Island continues to be a historical location for NCPEI's annual powwows and community activities. Member stories and archival records have shown to be a great source of information to support the rich, historical use of Panmure Island by the off-reserve community of PEI. Phase II of the historical research project is intended to be the last phase as the Panmure Island negotiations are expected to be settled in the near future.

**Human Resources Administrator  
Annual General Assembly Report  
November 2023 to September 2024**

**Mary-Lynn Blanchard, Human Resources Administrator**

**Introduction:**

The Human Resources Administrator (HRA) is responsible for gathering, organizing, and executing all HR related functions for the Native Council of PEI. This position ensures the policies and procedures put in place by NCPEI are followed. The Human Resource Administrator also ensures there is an active Health and Safety program in place.

**Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

- Administer human resources policies, procedures, and programs for the organization.
- Lead the process for recruitment, onboarding, and exit strategy.
- Plan and execute annual performance evaluations in conjunction with Office Manager, Management Team and President & Chief.
- Coordinate staff education, learning opportunities, and cultural competency training.
- Assist in the coordination of safety programs, workers compensation claims management, and employee accommodation plans.
- Compile, maintain, and update personnel files.
- Provide guidance and oversee mediation processes for managers/supervisors, and employees.
- Research and recommend new human resources policies to the benefit of the organization and the employees.
- Staying informed on any changes for legal compliance.
- Perform other related duties as required.

**Activities and Deliverables:**

Since stating in the position of Human Resources Administrator in March of 2021, there have been significant changes and growth for the position and the duties of the role. I have seen how funding impacts the growth and the programs and services the Native Council offers the community. There seems to always be a new program, initiative, or position to recruit for. I am proud to say that in my position I have been key to some of the positive changes in policies and practices in our operations to ensure there is fairness and that these processes are free from bias. I have seen and assisted with difficult situations and assisted with mediating to bring common ground to both sides of conflicts.

I have also created opportunities to support staff by bringing planning learning opportunities. I have created several social situations for staff. The employees at the Native Council are dedicated to the community and have seen and experienced some traumatic experiences. Bringing the staff together and allowing different avenues is key to supporting the staff and

fostering a healthier working environment. I was fortunate enough to run a project called BIRCH (Building Indigenous Resilience through Cultural Healing). I focused this project on the medicine wheel, working to offer staff activities to support them in each of the four quadrants. I was able to create a resource manual for staff to support their mental, physical, spiritual and emotional health. This project was even nominated for the Faces of Fusion, which is a nonprofit group that recognizes the work of community advocates. Although I did not win, it was an honor to be nominated for the work I did to support staff.

In this position I have assisted with opening the men's shelter in Summerside and assisted with ensuring that it meets the needs of the community. The shelter is now operating smoothly and the success stories that come out of the shelter are amazing. I am so proud of the work and support the staff at winter street offer the community.

**Conclusion:**

The position of HR is never easy, especially in an Indigenous grass roots organization. It is a hard road to walk seeing things from both sides of the fence. The position of HR needs to see things from all angles and work to protect the Native Council as an organization.

The council is currently going through some changes. Over the past three years I have built and created a stable position and processes to support the staff and management at the Native Council. I have sadly, accepted another role with the Province as HR Coordinator for Health PEI. The opportunities and development that the Native Council has provided me, have built me to this changing point of my career. I am grateful for this organization as a staff member and a community member.

I feel confident in knowing that whoever my replacement will has a strong foundation to build from and will continue to support staff and the future growth of the Native Council of PEI.

**Women's Ignite Program  
Annual General Assembly Report  
April 2024 – October 2024**

**Danielle Moore-Rayner, Program Coordinator**

**Introduction:**

The Ignite Coordinator will work in collaboration with other NCPEI programs to build a stronger community of Indigenous Women and Girls across PEI. Workshops will be based off community feedback and demand and a focus around violence prevention. The coordinator will work out of the Portage office to engage the community and encourage participation in NCPEI programs and offer referrals to services.

**Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

- Hold 12 workshops (4 in each zone), one workshop each month rotating each zone.
- Engage women and girls and encourage participation of NCPEI programs and events.
- Assist with and support MMIWG, SAFE, and Two-Spirit projects throughout the year.
- Offer referrals to NCPEI programs and services.
- Collect feedback from participants on workshops provided.
- Encourage collaboration among NCPEI programs to support Indigenous Women and Girls.
- Document activities and discussions from all events; prepare reports as required, including
  - monthly
- Planning a calendar of workshops that will require appropriate facilitation. Workshops can be in collaboration with NCPEI's MMWIG, SAFE, and Two-Spirit programs and their coordinators; though collaboration will be encouraged, the proposed position will focus on building a
  - stronger community of Indigenous women and girls across PEI, with a focus on youth and violence prevention as well.
- Workshops and session topics will be community-informed (initially based on the most recent Community Mapping) and then based on demand and feedback. Topics can include but are not limited to:
  - Empowerment workshops
  - Self-esteem building
  - Goal setting and planning for the future
  - Assertiveness training
  - Stress management and coping strategies
  - Indigenous identity
  - Goal setting and planning for the future
  - Financial literacy workshops
  - Budgeting and planning
  - Understanding credit and debt
  - Money-saving tips; retirement planning
  - Building financial independence
  - Career Development Workshops
  - Resume writing and job search strategies

- Interview skills and mock interviews
  - Skill-building sessions (computer skills, software basics, email, communication, etc.)
  - Exploring career options and vocational training programs
  - Online job searching
  - Health and Well-being Workshops
  - Nutrition and healthy cooking classes
  - Fitness and wellness activities
  - Mental health awareness and coping mechanisms
  - Indigenous health practices
  - Elder wisdom
  - Parenting
  - Parenting skills and workshops
  - Family communication and conflict resolution
  - Healthy relationships with family members
- The coordinator will also be available to assist with and support MMIWG, SAFE, and Two-Spirit projects throughout the year. Activities will be offered in all three zones. Activities can either be the same in all zones or can vary based on the demand of the local members.
  - The coordinator must keep a monthly log (monthly report) of all activities and communication.

### **Activities and Deliverables:**

The first set of workshops were on Financial Literacy with Joey Richards coming in to talk about Budgeting, long-term and short-term saving, retirement planning, and student debt. The zone one and three workshops had a sizable number of attendance but there was no one at the zone two workshop. These workshops were held during the months of April, May, and June.

The second set of workshops were on Health and Wellness with Helena Perry coming in to discuss Traditional Medicines for the zone one workshop. The zone two workshop had only one person in attendance, but Helena was not able to continue to do the workshops due to personal health issues. The zone three workshop I was able to make up a presentation on the plants Helena discussed at the first workshop and I made Cedar tea as an activity with the group. These workshops were held during the months of July, August, and September.

The third set of will be a Basket making workshop with Ashley Moore and there has been a lot of interest in all three zones, with many members just wanting to attend so they can see how Baskets are made. Due to my funding budget, I am only able to provide and pay for a maximum of eight people to make a basket but have other members scheduled to come in and watch the others make their baskets. These workshops will be held in the months of October, November, and December.

### **Promotion and Outreach:**

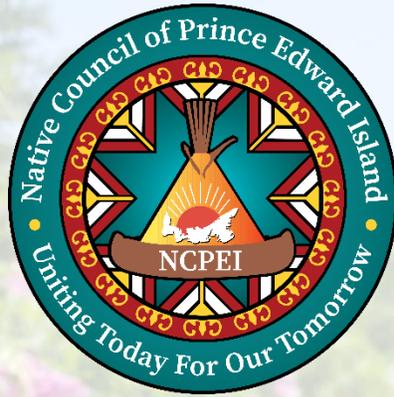
I have been making flyers for each of my workshops and sharing them on the NCPEI Facebook page, along with the Friends and Members Zone 1, Friends and Members Zone 2, and the Friends and Members Zone 3 Facebook pages. The monthly mailout the calendar provides my workshop dates, and a copy of my flyer goes out to members when they go out each month.

**Future Activities:**

At the time of drafting this report (October 18, 2024) I am scheduled to start my Basket making workshops in zone one next week and continue to proceed with zone two in November and zone three in December. I am currently trying to find a way to provide a Quillwork workshop for each zone in the new year of 2025, but am still waiting for information from my funding agreement and remaining budget to move forward with that theme. If I am not able to provide that workshop, I will focus on a community kitchen type workshop with education on healthy eating and budgeting.

**Conclusion:**

I conclude my report in saying that I am looking and open to providing a theme and/or topic of interest to the membership that will fall within my budget if it stays within my funding agreement. I would like to provide as many topics as I can but due to the constraints of the above-mentioned agreement and budget I currently have I can only do so much.



**AGA Report**  
**ENVIRONMENT**

**Clara Jane Wood**  
**Program Coordinator**  
**October 2023 – September 2024**  
**Annual General Assembly Report**

To the 2024 NCPEI AGA Delegation,

The following reports highlight the significant fieldwork, community outreach, monitoring efforts, and collaborations conducted to advance environmental stewardship, species conservation, and climate change resilience. The ongoing goals of the environmental program are to gather ecological data on NCPEI-managed properties, support members with natural resource harvesting, provide educational opportunities, and advocate for our environment on behalf of our community. Below is a summary of the key initiatives and outcomes from the past year:

### **Fieldwork and Monitoring**

A large part of our work involved surveys and inventories across different regions, particularly focusing on species like Myotis (bats), Piping Plovers (PIPL), and Bank Swallows (BANS). Key efforts included:

- **Bat and bird monitoring**, including acoustic bat surveys and bank swallow assessments, which contributed to regional conservation data. Collected data from the NCPEI Cultural Park and St. Chrysostome Wildlife Management Area (WMA) will be archived for future use.
- **Water quality monitoring** in the WMA, along with monthly water chemistry and eDNA tests targeting Striped Bass, Atlantic Salmon, and American Eel. Our goal is to improve aquatic habitats for these culturally significant species.

### **Indigenous Knowledge and Community Engagement**

The integration of Indigenous Knowledge (IK) in environmental practices was a central theme. Our ongoing outreach, including volunteer tree planting and educational programs, engaged local communities. Key initiatives included:

- **Workshops like Growing Foods and Medicine** under the Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) that educated communities on climate change adaptation and indigenous sustainable practices, with input captured through discussions and surveys.
- The "**Bats, Birds, and Beading**" workshops provided members with information on terrestrial Species at Risk (SAR) while also gathering IK from participants.
- The **Climate Impact Session** in Charlottetown allowed participants to share their IK, contributing valuable insights to the city's Climate Action Plan.
- All workshops maintain anonymous notetaking, ensuring that participants' feedback helps shape future programming while preserving Indigenous knowledge.

## Conservation and Restoration Projects

Several species and habitat restoration projects were implemented:

- **Japanese Knotweed removal**, funded by the Wildlife Conservation Fund (WCF), addressed the removal of this invasive species from all NCPEI-managed properties.
- **Replanting 500+ native trees and shrubs** along shorelines and wetlands helped restore ecosystems damaged by hurricanes Fiona and Dorian.
- **Brush mat installations** in the St. Chrysostome WMA improved stream conditions by capturing sediment and benefiting water quality.

## Climate Challenge Fund and Emergency Preparedness

In response to growing climate risks, a series of **Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) workshops** covered topics such as extreme heat, post-tropical storms, snow and ice storms, and individual climate adaptation actions. These workshops were well-received by the community, with positive feedback. Future workshops will include discussions on **gender-based violence prevention** in the context of emergency preparedness, highlighting our holistic approach to community resilience.

## Strategic Partnerships and Networking

Clara Jane's participation in working groups and partnerships expanded the scope of our environmental initiatives. Notable collaborations included:

- Partnerships with the **PEI Forestry Commission**, the **City of Charlottetown**, and the **PEI Invasive Species Council** to address issues like forest conservation and invasive species management.
- Ongoing participation in the **Basin Head Advisory Committee** to protect Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).
- Collaboration with the **Wild Child Young Ecologists camp** and the **Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative** to engage youth in bat monitoring.

## Office and Field Enhancements

Ongoing infrastructure upgrades focused on sustainability, including the installation of **generators, sump pumps, and a greenhouse** for food and medicine production. **Wildlife cameras** and water quality monitoring equipment were also acquired to track local species. Accessibility improvements are planned for the Portage Satellite NCPEI office.

The St. Chrysostome WMA will soon feature a **walking/running/biking trail** to provide access to the beach and natural resources, while also enhancing accessibility for environmental monitoring. We believe reconnecting with nature benefits personal well-being, and this project will help foster that connection within our community.

### **Successes and Future Plans**

Increased community engagement and recognition of NCPEI's environmental programs were consistent themes throughout the year. Moving forward, we plan to complete ongoing projects, expand educational workshops, and continue fieldwork. Securing multi-year capacity funding remains critical to ensure the sustainability and growth of environmental programming.

Thank you, **Wela'liog**, for taking the time to read this report. It is an honor to work within the NCPEI community, and I am continually inspired by your resilience and participation in our programming.

Warm regards,

**Clara Jane Wood**

NCPEI Environmental Coordinator

Enviro1@ncpei.com

## Environment Monthly Report

Employee Name:	<b>Clara Jane Wood</b>	Position:	<b>Environmental Coordinator</b>	Month/Year:	<b>October 2023</b>
<b>DFO-AFSAR 23-24 Activities</b>					
<b>Program Planning and Development</b>	Fieldwork schedule and timeline	April 1 <sup>st</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<b>Surveys, Inventories, &amp; Monitoring; Eggs and Larvae</b>	Plankton Net Survey (4 Locations x2 )	May 1 <sup>st</sup> – June 30 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<b>Surveys, Inventories, &amp; Monitoring; Juvenile/YOY</b>	Seine Net Survey (4 Locations x2)	May 1 <sup>st</sup> – September 30 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<b>Communications</b>	Footage and images from field work to create promotional materials	May 1 <sup>st</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Planned		
<b>Surveys, Inventories, &amp; Monitoring; Environmental DNA</b>	eDNA samples (5 replicates x4 locations x2 sample dates)	May 1 <sup>st</sup> – September 30 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<b>IK Documentation, Management &amp; Use</b>	Educational information, volunteer opportunities, summer fishing and ice fishing	April 1 <sup>st</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Ongoing		
<b>ECCC-AFSAR 23-24 Activities</b>					
<b>Surveys, Inventories and Monitoring</b>	Myotis monitoring / surveys	May 1 <sup>st</sup> – September 29 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<b>Species and Habitat Threat Abatement</b>	PIPL / BANS monitoring / surveys	May 1 <sup>st</sup> – September 29 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<b>Document and Use of Indigenous Knowledge</b>	Community engagement / Knowledge Sharing	April 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Ongoing		
<b>Outreach and Education</b>	Community Outreach; participation in surveys, citizen science	April 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Planned		
<b>Project Evaluation</b>	Compile, analyze, and report on collected data in community-accessible report	October 1 <sup>st</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Planned		
<b>WCF 2023-2024 Activities</b> (No agreement but approved)					
<b>Documentation</b>	Creation of an Invasive Species Removal policy document	1 Oct 2023 – 31 March 2024	Planned		
<b>Japanese Knotweed Removal</b>	Removal of the knotweed stands	1 Oct 2023 – 31 March 2024	Planned		
<b>Outreach and Education</b>	During volunteer removal sessions, education and refreshments provided	1 Oct 2023 – 31 March 2024	Planned		
<b>Project Evaluation</b>	Compile photos and statistics from programming into a final document	1 Oct 2023 – 31 March 2024	Planned		
<b>Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) 2023-2025</b>					
<b>Contractor Quotes</b>	Generator, Electrification, Contractor for pad for	2 Oct 2023 – 29 March 2024	In progress		

	<i>greenhouse(?); contractor for accessibility additions</i>		
<b>Climate Action/Preparedness Workshops</b>	<i>Growing Foods and Medicine, Extreme Heat, Post-Tropical and Storm Surge Events, Snow and Ice Storms, Climate Change Adaption Actions for Individuals</i>	<i>1 Oct 2023 – 30 September 2024</i>	<i>To be planned</i>
<b>Office Greenhouse</b>	<i>Purchase and install; Planting Produce and Medicine; Harvesting and Preservation</i>	<i>2 Oct 2023 – 30 March 2024</i>	<i>To be planned</i>
<b>Office Retrofits</b>	<i>Generators; sump pump; greenhouse; walkway railings, UV water filter system; etc</i>	<i>2 Oct 2023 – 29 March 2025</i>	<i>To be planned</i>

**Events/Activities/Meetings completed:**

- Slower month for funded deliverables; spending more time trying to secure funding for future env programming and networking
- 5 Oct: Meeting with Indigenous Youth Roots (formerly Canadian Roots Exchange) with Cynthia to discuss funding opportunities through IYR for env and other programs
- 12 Oct: Meeting with Caroline Canning (ECCC-AFSAR) re: ECCCAF SAR 2224 project update and introduction to new ECCC-AFSAR Coordinator; Teams
- 18 Oct: Networking session in St. Peter’s (Climate Lab) with other Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) recipients
- 20 Oct: Meeting with Sara Outram of PEI Coalition for Women in Government to talk about their CCF funding. Sarah also invited Clara Jane to sit on their steering committee for the project – waiting to hear back on more information.
- 26 Oct: Atlantic Canada Bank Swallow Working Group Meeting – sharing results and how to better advocate for the species in the Atlantic Canadian Region
- 30 Oct: NABat Community Session – Was a results sharing opportunity but also a bat call refresher
- All month Clara Jane had been working on a project application for the Environment and Climate Change Canada – Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk 2024-2027 call for proposals. The application for this project got submitted in GCEMS. Awaiting word on it. This project would help pay the wages for a coordinator, and technician for 3 years.

**Upcoming Events/Activities Planned**

- ECCC-AFSAR 2224 Engagement Sessions (time and date TBD)
- DFO-AFSAR 2324 Engagement Sessions (time and date TBD)
- PEI-WCF 2324 Volunteer Invasive Species Events (time and date TBD)
- Climate Challenge Fund Emergency Preparedness Workshops
- Answering programming questions at the 2023 NCPEI AGA
- Clara Jane will present to the YESS Class on Dec 4<sup>th</sup> to speak about environmental career opportunities.
- Clara Jane will speak to the Holland College Transition programs in the way of a talking circle on Dec 4<sup>th</sup> as well
- There are upcoming project proposal deadlines for the following projects: DFO-AFSAR, DFO-HSP (Habitat Stewardship Program) that Clara Jane intends to submit project proposals for. The deadlines for both of these are December 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Clara Jane intends to look into the grants that are being offered by IYR (Indigenous Youth Roots) to cover some capacity funding and/or programming
- Clara Jane is going to re-work the env report template to better represent program objectives per project.
- Preparing for the NCPEI Open House in December

**Successes**

- Everyday Clara Jane is receiving more invitations to attend workshops, engagement sessions, and meetings with other stakeholders, organizations and committees now than 6 months ago. Whether it's a seasonal affect or due to increase in perception of EnvNCPEI, it's a good thing! Perception is everything.

**Concerns / Suggestions**

-

**External Contacts: Partnerships Developed; Board/Committee Membership (add lines as needed)**

Contact or Meeting Type	Name / Department or Company	Number and type of meetings (e.g., 3 emails; 2 phone calls, etc.)	Supporting Documents (e.g., email, letter, meeting notes, etc.)
Federal Government	Caroline Canning ECCC	1 email, 1 teams meeting	
Provincial Government			
Municipal Government			
Management Boards			
NGO	Sarah Outram – PEI Coalition for Women in Government; Indigenous Youth Roots CWHC	1 email, 1 in-person meeting; 1 email, 1 meeting; 1 zoom meeting.	
Institutions			
Consultants			
Committees	Atlantic Bank Swallow Working Group	1 zoom meeting	
Other			

## Environment Monthly Report

Employee Name:	<b>Clara Jane Wood</b>	Position:	<b>Environmental Coordinator</b>	Month/Year:	<b>Nov/Dec 2023</b>
<b>DFO-AFSAR 23-24 Activities</b>					
<b>Program Planning and Development</b>	Fieldwork schedule and timeline	April 1 <sup>st</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
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<b>Surveys, Inventories and Monitoring</b>	Myotis monitoring / surveys	May 1 <sup>st</sup> – September 29 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<b>Species and Habitat Threat Abatement</b>	PIPL / BANS monitoring / surveys	May 1 <sup>st</sup> – September 29 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<b>Document and Use of Indigenous Knowledge</b>	Community engagement / Knowledge Sharing	April 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Ongoing		
<b>Outreach and Education</b>	Community Outreach; participation in surveys, citizen science	April 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Planned		
<b>Project Evaluation</b>	Compile, analyze, and report on collected data in community-accessible report	October 1 <sup>st</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Planned		
<b>WCF 2023-2024 Activities</b> (No agreement but approved)					
<b>Documentation</b>	Creation of an Invasive Species Removal policy document	1 Oct 2023 – 31 March 2024	Planned		
<b>Japanese Knotweed Removal</b>	Removal of the knotweed stands	1 Oct 2023 – 31 March 2024	Planned		
<b>Outreach and Education</b>	During volunteer removal sessions, education and refreshments provided	1 Oct 2023 – 31 March 2024	Planned		
<b>Project Evaluation</b>	Compile photos and statistics from programming into a final document	1 Oct 2023 – 31 March 2024	Planned		
<b>Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) 2023-2025</b>					
<b>Contractor Quotes</b>	Generator, Electrification, Contractor for pad for	2 Oct 2023 – 29 March 2024	In progress		

	<i>greenhouse(?); contractor for accessibility additions</i>		
<b>Climate Action/Preparedness Workshops</b>	<i>Growing Foods and Medicine, Extreme Heat, Post-Tropical and Storm Surge Events, Snow and Ice Storms, Climate Change Adaption Actions for Individuals</i>	<i>1 Oct 2023 – 30 September 2024</i>	<i>Planned</i>
<b>Office Greenhouse</b>	<i>Purchase and install; Planting Produce and Medicine; Harvesting and Preservation</i>	<i>2 Oct 2023 – 30 March 2024</i>	<i>To be planned</i>
<b>Office Retrofits</b>	<i>Generators; sump pump; greenhouse; walkway railings, UV water filter system; etc</i>	<i>2 Oct 2023 – 29 March 2025</i>	<i>To be planned</i>

**Events/Activities/Meetings completed:**

- 9 November: Meeting with Daniel McRae of MacPhail Woods to talk about our upcoming Active Transportation Fund application for a trail system in the St. Chrysostome WMA, and seek support / endorsement. The meeting went really well – we ended up receiving a beaming letter of support from Daniel.
- 10 November: Meeting with Kristina Cristall, Climate Adaptation Officer for the City of Charlottetown, she was interested in seeing if I would participate in the Climate Adaptation Working Group representing NCPEI and the off-reserve indigenous community. After receiving information on the goals, duration, and effort required to be on the working group, I accepted! First working group meeting is on Dec 12 in Charlottetown.
- 16 November: Island Waste Management Corporation (IWMC) stakeholder meeting to help initiate the new framework they are developing. This was a well facilitated meeting with clear goals and I appreciated the invite that NCPEI received.
- 22 November: NABat Community Session with Darrian Washinger and Jordi Segers of Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative to provide acoustic identification practice, guidance, and connect the bat monitoring community in the Atlantic region together.
- 22 November: NCPEI Mailout was distributed with ALL the Emergency Preparedness workshop dates for 2024 (Climate Challenge Fund; CCF) on one poster.
- 29 November: Attended the 2023 Basin Head Advisory Committee for the first time. Stakeholders from across the island gathered to discuss the current scientific projects that are ongoing in the Marine Protected Area (MPA), as well as all peripheral topics on activities that, in some way, affect the ecosystem or

resiliency of the ecosystem. Additionally, we provided input in how the “20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Basin Head MPA” celebration would look like (if it even should be a celebration) as one of 2 MPAs in Canada that is relatively accessible.

- 29 November: Attended the “Let’s Talk Waterfowl” session at the Linkletter Community Centre hosted by the Canadian Wildlife Federation (??) discussing the proposed changes to the waterfowl regulations on PEI and other Atlantic Provinces. Most of the attendees were active or historical hunters – it was interesting to hear the hunters perspectives, considering I don’t hunt and was only there for the presented information, but I got to see the attitudes towards issues in the hunting realm that I normally would never see, but are still relevant because of our harvesting community. I believe Chris St. Onge also attended the Charlottetown session but cannot confirm.
- 4 December: Presentation for the YESS class regarding the environment programs, my role as coordinator, and how programs like IHPP, AFSAR, HSP, etc are attained in the first place through applications/EOIs. There were two participants but both were engaged and asked great questions.
- 4 December: In the afternoon I participated in Alicia’s Holland College transitions program talking circle. It was an opportunity again, like for the YESS class, to talk about my personal journey on how I got to the career that I’m currently in, how I am enjoying it, and perhaps inspire the students to seek a career in environmental advocacy, field work, education, etc.
- 12 December: Attending the City of Charlottetown’s Climate Adaptation Working Group meeting to gauge how our communities are being impacted by Climate Change in Charlottetown (with the conversations largely applicable to anywhere, not just Charlottetown). This is one of 4-5 working group meetings over the next year. The goal of this working group is to identify impacts of Climate Change and find solutions to these impacts, where the City of Charlottetown adaptation staff will then compile these impacts into a new Climate Adaptation Document for the city. A coined term during the breakout sessions were the need for “BRAVE and BOLD” action items if need be; basically, not continuing with the status quo for political or other pressures
- 13 December: NABat Community Working Group meeting. This is identical to the previously mentioned session.
- 14 December: Clara Jane will be attending the NCPEI open house in Charlottetown at the North River Road programming office to speak with stakeholders and representatives from various organizations to present on our past, current, and future funding opportunities while also seeing if any of the participants can fill in gaps that our program desperately needs; i.e. capacity funding, funded youth programs, etc.

#### **Upcoming Events/Activities Planned**

- ECCC-AFSAR 2224 Engagement Sessions (time and date TBD)
- DFO-AFSAR 2324 Engagement Sessions (time and date TBD)
- PEI-WCF 2324 Volunteer Invasive Species Events (time and date TBD), need to use advance to purchase materials for Japanese Knotweed Removal.
- Climate Challenge Fund Emergency Preparedness Workshops (beginning Jan 2024)
- Tour with Patience from Upcycle. This is another CCF recipient that transforms wasted gas vehicles at the end of their life into brand new electric vehicles. NCPEI was invited to tour their production facility and to discuss opportunities for ride sharing options for our community that is also environmentally sustainable (x2; powered by electricity AND refurbished an old vehicle). Very excited about this, feel free to reach out if you’d like to join me. The plant is in Stratford and we are meeting January 4<sup>th</sup>.

- Clara Jane is going to re-work the env report template to better represent program objectives per project.
- Going to reach out to Sarah Outram of the PEI Coalition for Women in Government to see if they would still like NCPEI to be on the Steering Committee for their recently funded Climate Challenge Fund project.

**Successes**

**Looking forward to the new year of programming, hearing back on the results of the applications submitted, and department growth 😊**

**Concerns / Suggestions**

**External Contacts: Partnerships Developed; Board/Committee Membership (add lines as needed)**

Contact or Meeting Type	Name / Department or Company	Number and type of meetings (e.g., 3 emails; 2 phone calls, etc.)	Supporting Documents (e.g., email, letter, meeting notes, etc.)
Federal Government	Presenters from DFO at the Basin Head Committee meeting		
Provincial Government			
Municipal Government	Katrina Cristall; Climate Adaptation Officer		
Management Boards			
NGO	Souris and Area Wildlife Group Daniel McRae		
Institutions	Pelin Kinay, Postdoc Research Associate, Canadian Centre for Climate Change Adaptation (CCCCA)		
Consultants			
Committees	Basin Head Advisory Committee City of Charlottetown Adaptation Plan Working Group		
Other			

**Contact Sheet – Outreach (complete only if no contact tracking sheet)**

Contact, Event or Outreach Type (Name, Organization, etc.)	Number and type of contacts (e.g., 3 emails; 2 phone calls, etc.)	Response/ Follow-up

Total number of people reached: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach contact tracking sheet and all other supporting documents which may include:**

## Environment Monthly Report

Employee Name:	<i>Clara Jane Wood</i>	Position:	<i>Environmental Coordinator</i>	Month/Year:	<i>Jan 2024</i>
<b>DFO-AFSAR 23-24 Activities</b>					
<b>Program Planning and Development</b>	Fieldwork schedule and timeline	April 1 <sup>st</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<b>Surveys, Inventories, &amp; Monitoring; Eggs and Larvae</b>	Plankton Net Survey (4 Locations x2 )	May 1 <sup>st</sup> – June 30 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<b>Surveys, Inventories, &amp; Monitoring; Juvenile/YOY</b>	Seine Net Survey (4 Locations x2)	May 1 <sup>st</sup> – September 30 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<b>Communications</b>	Footage and images from field work to create promotional materials	May 1 <sup>st</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Planned		
<b>Surveys, Inventories, &amp; Monitoring; Environmental DNA</b>	eDNA samples (5 replicates x4 locations x2 sample dates)	May 1 <sup>st</sup> – September 30 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<b>IK Documentation, Management &amp; Use</b>	Educational information, volunteer opportunities, summer fishing and ice fishing	April 1 <sup>st</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Ongoing		
<b>ECCC-AFSAR 23-24 Activities</b>					
<b>Surveys, Inventories and Monitoring</b>	Myotis monitoring / surveys	May 1 <sup>st</sup> – September 29 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<b>Species and Habitat Threat Abatement</b>	PIPL / BANS monitoring / surveys	May 1 <sup>st</sup> – September 29 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<b>Document and Use of Indigenous Knowledge</b>	Community engagement / Knowledge Sharing	April 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Ongoing		
<b>Outreach and Education</b>	Community Outreach; participation in surveys, citizen science	April 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Planned		
<b>Project Evaluation</b>	Compile, analyze, and report on collected data in community-accessible report	October 1 <sup>st</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Planned		
<b>WCF 2023-2024 Activities</b>					
	<i>(No agreement but approved)</i>				
<b>Documentation</b>	<i>Creation of an Invasive Species Removal policy document</i>	<i>1 Oct 2023 – 31 March 2024</i>	<i>Planned</i>		
<b>Japanese Knotweed Removal</b>	<i>Removal of the knotweed stands</i>	<i>1 Oct 2023 – 31 March 2024</i>	<i>Planned</i>		
<b>Outreach and Education</b>	<i>During volunteer removal sessions, education and refreshments provided</i>	<i>1 Oct 2023 – 31 March 2024</i>	<i>Planned</i>		
<b>Project Evaluation</b>	<i>Compile photos and statistics from programming into a final document</i>	<i>1 Oct 2023 – 31 March 2024</i>	<i>Planned</i>		
<b>Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) 2023-2025</b>					
<b>Contractor Quotes</b>	<b>Generator, Electrician, Contractor for pad for greenhouse(?); contractor for accessibility additions</b>	<i>2 Oct 2023 – 29 March 2024</i>	<i>In progress</i>		

<b>Climate Action/Preparedness Workshops</b>	<i>Growing Foods and Medicine, Extreme Heat, Post-Tropical and Storm Surge Events, <b>Snow and Ice Storms</b>, Climate Change Adaption Actions for Individuals</i>	<i>1 Oct 2023 – 30 September 2024</i>	<i>Planned</i>
<b>Office Greenhouse</b>	<i>Purchase and install; Planting Produce and Medicine; Harvesting and Preservation</i>	<i>2 Oct 2023 – 30 March 2024</i>	<i>Planned</i>
<b>Office Retrofits</b>	<i>Generators; sump pump; greenhouse; walkway railings, UV water filter system; etc</i>	<i>2 Oct 2023 – 29 March 2025</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>

### Events/Activities/Meetings completed:

- Wildlife Cams for the upcoming field season were purchased and have been installed around the Portage office to monitor for local species but also to test the functionality of the cams. James was a big help with this.
- Completed office maintenance as required; clogged toilet a few times in Portage from the increased number of people per day (YESS Class). Looking into getting the septic pumped.
- Continuing to seek funding to support environmental programming and capacity, in addition to networking and collaborative opportunities.
- Jordan and I have set up check-in meetings to discuss the comings and goings of the program on Mondays and Fridays to reduce the communication barrier between offices.
- 15 January: Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) Extreme Weather Event – Snow and Ice, Zone 1. Great turnout (at capacity) and great feedback. Participants were overall satisfied with the event. See excel file with participant feedback.
- 16 January: CCF Extreme Weather Event – Snow and Ice, Zone 2. Great turnout despite the weather, 6 Participants. The feedback was overall great.
- 17 January: CCF Extreme Weather Event – Snow and Ice Zone 3. Good turnout, many no-shows but the weather was poor that day. The feedback for this event was overall good. Moving forward I am going to purchase a projector set up to facilitate presentations better.
- Materials have been purchased for the Japanese knotweed removal project (Wildlife Conservation Fund) – waiting for better weather/no snow to plan the volunteer events. Need to still purchase outreach materials and plan the volunteer effort with guest speakers. Considering adding a Japanese knotweed pickling session depending on available funding (for those who read my reports, apparently JK shoots are a lot like rhubarb when pickled and is great in strawberry knotweed pie...)
- 24 Jan: Heather Laiskonis of the PEI Watershed Alliance invited EnvNCPEI (Clara Jane, Jordan) to attend a meeting with other environmental groups on PEI to discuss activities relating to Salmon conservation. Clara Jane was on bereavement leave so Jordan represented at this time. Clara Jane will follow up with Heather to speak about NCPEI capacity to help with Salmon conservation efforts moving forward.
- 25 Jan: April W. connected me and Jordan with Todd Lafrance to had funding from ACOA for Fiona cleanup efforts. Will follow up with him to get a better idea of what they are offering. Will definitely seek it out to clear Seaweed road in the WMA.

- 26 Jan: Thomas Edison installed the Generac Generator funded by the CCF. This is incomplete as it needs a propane tank, and another contractor handles that. They also mapped out a line running from the main building to the Portage barn to provide a quote to ensure the food freezers stay on in case of emergency. Further work will be done with this in the spring with the ground thaw.
- 30 Jan: Meeting with Kaelyn Mercer of the 2Spirit program to schedule an environment activity for her retreat in Mill River March 1-3<sup>rd</sup>. My time slot is 9-12 on Sunday March third; we planned to observe the Mill River property to see if an environmental scavenger hunt for local species, foraging items, and/or medicines would be appropriate, and other activities if that is not. The idea for this activity would be for participants to be more familiar with what's available in the coldest months of the year and to encourage an attitude of environmental responsibility.
- 30 Jan: Sent 29 eDNA samples from the field season of the DFO-AFSAR 23-24 project (plankton net sampling season; May-June; properly desiccated and refrigerated) to Geneva York at the University of Maine for sample analysis with a target species of Striped Bass.
- 30 Jan: Meeting with representatives from the Department of Environment, Energy, and Climate Action (Erin Kielly, Kathleen Brennan, Emily Vaniderstine). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the ongoing progress for the CCF Emergency Preparedness project, as well as see if NCPEI would be interested in providing programming for women and gender diverse individuals in the context of Gender Diverse Violence Prevention in the realm of emergency preparedness. This project would have a separate contribution agreement and can be whatever we want for programming given it falls within the aforementioned context, but it could supplement the ongoing emergency preparedness workshops if that is what we see works best. Great meeting and more information was forwarded via email to management on this same day.

#### Upcoming Events/Activities Planned

- Volunteer opportunities for the WCF Japanese knotweed removal project; when the snow clears.
- YESS Class (Portage) Presentation on the Environmental Program and my role as the environmental coordinator.
- Processing DFO-AFSAR 23-24 results and submitting results to DFO as per the experimental license requirements. Additionally, data will be submitting to the Atlantic Canada Conservation Data centre and will be a part of the final report for the project.
- Processing and culminating results from the acoustic bat monitors set up in Panmure to put into the final report and submit to the NABat database.
- ECCC-AFSAR Education / results workshops
- DFO-AFSAR Education / results / ice fishing workshops
- Discussions with finance to ensure all funding is being used up before end of fiscal

#### Successes

- **I've gone through the feedback for the Emergency Preparedness workshops and some of the notes were heartwarming – messages such as “the winters are long and cold. It was really nice to get out with others”, and, “the workshop reminded me that I'm part of a community”. See excel file for all comments and feedback.**

<b>Concerns / Suggestions</b>			
<b>External Contacts: Partnerships Developed; Board/Committee Membership (add lines as needed)</b>			
<b>Contact or Meeting Type</b>	<b>Name / Department or Company</b>	<b>Number and type of meetings (e.g., 3 emails; 2 phone calls, etc.)</b>	<b>Supporting Documents (e.g., email, letter, meeting notes, etc.)</b>
Federal Government			
Provincial Government	Department of Environment, Energy, and Climate Action: Erin Kielly; ekielly@gov.pe.ca, Kathleen Brennan, Emily Vaniderstine	Correspondence emails, 1 meeting in Portage	Email thread
Municipal Government			
Management Boards			
NGO	PEI Watershed Alliance; Heather Laiskonis allianceexecutivedirector@gmail.com	Correspondence emails, 1 meeting (Jordan)	NCPEI document detailing environmental capacity
Institutions			
Consultants			
Committees			
Other			

<b>Contact Sheet – Outreach (complete only if no contact tracking sheet)</b>		
<b>Contact, Event or Outreach Type (Name, Organization, etc.)</b>	<b>Number and type of contacts (e.g., 3 emails; 2 phone calls, etc.)</b>	<b>Response/ Follow-up</b>
Climate Challenge Fund Extreme Snow and Ice – Zone 1	16 participants	Participants will receive emergency preparedness documentation and roadside emergency kit
Climate Challenge Fund Extreme Snow and Ice – Zone 2	5 participants	Participants will receive emergency preparedness documentation and roadside emergency kit
Climate Challenge Fund Extreme Snow and Ice – Zone 3	5 participants	Participants will receive emergency preparedness documentation and roadside emergency kit

Total number of people reached: 26 \_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach contact tracking sheet and all other supporting documents which may include:  
posters, meeting briefs, agendas, sign in sheets, etc.**

## Environment Monthly Report

Employee Name:	<b>Clara Jane Wood</b>	Position:	<b>Environmental Coordinator</b>	Month/Year:	<b>Feb/Mar 2024</b>
<b>DFO-AFSAR 23-24 Activities</b>	<b>Activity Description</b>	<b>Start/End Date</b>	<b>Status</b>		
<i>Program Planning and Development</i>	Fieldwork schedule and timeline	April 1 <sup>st</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<i>Surveys, Inventories, &amp; Monitoring; Eggs and Larvae</i>	Plankton Net Survey (4 Locations x2)	May 1 <sup>st</sup> – June 30 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<i>Surveys, Inventories, &amp; Monitoring; Juvenile/YOY</i>	Seine Net Survey (4 Locations x2)	May 1 <sup>st</sup> – September 30 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<b>Communications</b>	Footage and images from field work to create promotional materials	May 1 <sup>st</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Complete		
<b>Surveys, Inventories, &amp; Monitoring; Environmental DNA</b>	eDNA samples (5 replicates x4 locations x2 sample dates)	May 1 <sup>st</sup> – September 30 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<b>IK Documentation, Management &amp; Use</b>	Educational information, volunteer opportunities, summer fishing and ice fishing	April 1 <sup>st</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Ongoing/Complete		
<b>ECCC-AFSAR 23-24 Activities</b>					
<i>Surveys, Inventories and Monitoring</i>	Myotis monitoring / surveys	May 1 <sup>st</sup> – September 29 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<i>Species and Habitat Threat Abatement</i>	PIPL / BANS monitoring / surveys	May 1 <sup>st</sup> – September 29 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Complete		
<b>Document and Use of Indigenous Knowledge</b>	Community engagement / Knowledge Sharing	April 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Complete		
<b>Outreach and Education</b>	Community Outreach; participation in surveys, citizen science	April 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Complete		
<b>Project Evaluation</b>	Compile, analyze, and report on collected data in community-accessible report	October 1 <sup>st</sup> 2023 – March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Planned		
<b>WCF 2023-2024 Activities</b>	<i>(No agreement but approved)</i>				
<b>Documentation</b>	<i>Creation of an Invasive Species Removal policy document</i>	1 Oct 2023 – 31 March 2024	Planned		
<b>Japanese Knotweed Removal</b>	<i>Removal of the knotweed stands Procuring Equipment</i>	1 Oct 2023 – 31 March 2024	Partially Completed		
<b>Outreach and Education</b>	<i>During volunteer removal sessions, education and refreshments provided</i>	1 Oct 2023 – 31 March 2024	Planned		
<b>Project Evaluation</b>	<i>Compile photos and statistics from programming into a final document</i>	1 Oct 2023 – 31 March 2024	Completed (Report Submitted)		
<b>Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) 2023-2025</b>					
<b>Contractor Quotes</b>	<i>Generator, Electrician, Contractor for pad for greenhouse(?); contractor for accessibility additions</i>	2 Oct 2023 – 29 March 2024	In progress		
<b>Climate Action/Preparedness Workshops</b>	<i>Growing Foods and Medicine, Extreme Heat, Post-Tropical and Storm Surge</i>	1 Oct 2023 – 30	Planned		

	<i>Events, Snow and Ice Storms, Climate Change Adaption Actions for Individuals</i>	September 2024	
<b>Office Greenhouse</b>	<i>Purchase and install; Planting Produce and Medicine; Harvesting and Preservation</i>	2 Oct 2023 – 30 March 2024	Partially Complete
<b>Office Retrofits</b>	<i>Generators; sump pump; greenhouse; walkway railings, UV water filter system; etc</i>	2 Oct 2023 – 29 March 2025	Ongoing
<b>ECCC-EDF 2024-2025</b>			
<b>Training</b>	<i>TUPCC Stream Enhancement Training: Result: Agenda, Photos from training / showing opportunity</i>		
<b>Procurement</b>	<i>Procure tree-planting equipment for 2-3 people (invoices); Procure Turbidity Meter for NCPEI's YSI-ProDSS water quality multimeter for long-term monitoring</i>		
<b>Outreach and Education</b>	<i>Promote and organize volunteer events (tree planting, WMA brush collection) Result: Social media/newsletter post</i>		
<b>Field Work</b>	<i>Plant 500 native trees and shrubs along WMA shoreline bank and within fish habitat wetland; Install 5 brush mats along fish habitat to mitigate sedimentation and cool water temperatures</i>		
<b>Project Evaluation</b>	<i>Culminate report on trees planted, brush mats installed, methodology, volunteer effort, and environmental group collaboration</i>		
<b>IWS Prevention GBV (Emergency Preparedness) 2024-2025</b>			
<b>Program Planning and Development</b>	<i>Plan the execution of 3 different workshops at all 3 zones (9 total); 2S+ Community Focus Group re: Emergency Preparedness; 2S+ Education and Focus Group Dissemination; Tackling Climate Anxiety Through Expression of Self</i>		
<b>Outreach and Education</b>	<i>Execution of 3 different workshops at all 3 zones (9 total); 2S+ Community Focus Group re: Emergency Preparedness; 2S+ Education and Focus Group Dissemination; Tackling Climate Anxiety Through Expression of Self</i>		
<b>Contracting Out</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contract out "Tackling Climate Anxiety Through Expression of Self" workshop facilitator (Julie Bull), potentially Art Therapy with Louise Lamonthe</li> <li>- Contract out 2S+ artist to design a mural/art installation for North River Road and Portage</li> </ul>		

<b><i>ECCC-AFSAR 2024-2027 (approved, no agreement)</i></b>			
<b><i>Program Planning</i></b>	<i>Hiring Technician, training</i>		<i>To be planned</i>
<b><i>Surveys, Inventories and Monitoring</i></b>	<i>Myotis (bats) monitoring</i>		<i>To be planned</i>
<b><i>Species and Habitat Threat Abatement</i></b>	<i>Bank Swallow / Monarch monitoring</i>		<i>To be planned</i>
<b><i>Document and Use of Indigenous Knowledge</i></b>	<i>Community engagement / Knowledge Sharing</i>		<i>To be planned</i>
<b><i>Outreach and Education</i></b>	<i>Community Outreach; participation in surveys, citizen science</i>		<i>To be planned</i>
<b><i>Project Evaluation</i></b>	<i>Compile photos and statistics from programming into a final document</i>		<i>To be planned</i>
<i>Please note: this is a guess from our application as I haven't seen the actual CA yet.</i>			

#### **Events/Activities/Meetings completed:**

- February was pretty slow for env activities. Clara Jane took vacation from the 15<sup>th</sup> of February until the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February.
- 26 Feb: Env check in meeting with Jordan C.
- 26 Feb: Meeting with Chad Quigley of the Province to provide more information on why we needed an ATV permit (EDF and ECCC activities). Clara Jane presented briefly on the history and current status of the St. Chrysostome WMA to justify why this permit was needed, as he was new to the file. It was a positive meeting.
- 27 Feb: Began discussions surrounding “Bats Birds and Beading” workshops for ECCC-AFSAR 23-24 outreach programming with Kaelyn M., Jaimie-Lee A., and Alicia M.
- 27 Feb: Received agreement from Department of Energy, Environment, and Climate Action (through Interministerial Women’s Secretariat funding) to provide member programming for the prevention of gender based violence (GBV) in the context of emergency preparedness. This was sent to management to sign.
- 2 Mar: Clara Jane presented on the DFO-AFSAR 23-24 Striped Bass Life Stages Survey project to the 2024 L’nu AGA delegation. Perception was positive and the audience was engaged with the topics. This makes me eager to look into future Striped Bass projects to provide for the NCPEI community. At the end of the survey there was a QR code for presentation and general env. Questions. Participants of this survey were entered to win a 50\$ Canadian Tire gift card. Dawne Knockwood was the recipient of the gift card through a random online wheel spin.
- 3 Mar: Kaelyn M. invited Clara Jane to her 2S+ retreat in Mill River. We intended to make environmental weavings, taking organic and inorganic (recycled plastic waste) and weaving these materials to create an art piece – the weather was poor so Clara Jane did an overview of the env program and also gauged the interest of the group for the upcoming IWS-GBV (as mentioned above) programming. It was great to meet these folks and hear their beginning thoughts on what climate change means to them. This was also an opportunity for Clara Jane to network with Julie Bull themselves as they attended Kaelyn’s retreat. Very convenient and productive!
- 5 Mar: Meeting with Cynthia C., Martin Leger (DFO), and Josee Dion (DFO) re: DFO-AFSAR 23-24 agreement (the signing of this agreement was nearly a year late, being done within the same month the

project was supposed to end...). This was a positive meeting and we eventually received an agreement to be signed.

- 7 Mar: Cynthia C. was able to send of our S52 Experimental License (for DFO-AFSAR 23-24; surveys) that Clara Jane had filled out to the contact for that license. This was submitted late but so far we haven't heard any negatives to come from submitting late.
- 7 Mar: Meeting with Joshua McNeely (CAP) to go over what NCPEI's env program has been up to. This meeting was quite long but it was really great to bring Joshua up to speed re: NCPEI env as at CAP, his role is environmental on a national scale. Clara Jane discussed her general concerns about funding continuity in the environmental sector (or lack there of) and the need for higher wages. Hopefully CAP can provide some support with this in the future.
- 7 Mar: Online "Extreme Snow and Ice" emergency preparedness workshop. This was Clara Jane's first foray into online delivery and it went fairly well. It stormed this day so many people were without power to be able to tune in. I had around 20 people signed up and only 4 were at the meeting.
- 13 Mar: Sent David Rewniak an updated "Guardianship Across Generations" document for his research work that he was finishing up soon.
- 13 Mar: Received IWS-GBV agreement from Erin Keilly (Province).
- 14 Mar: Attended the City of Charlottetown's Facilitation Workshop for the Climate Change Adaptation Group's engagement collaborators at the Charlottetown Library Learning Centre from 1-4PM.
- 15 Mar: Clara Jane attended the BIRCH "Your Life Design" session at NRR.
- 15-16 Mar: Clara Jane attended the "Canadian Firearms Safety Course" hosted by Women's Shooters of PEI. She successfully completed the written and practical handling exam and is able to apply for PAL. Kelewatl Comission may look into firearms safety for members in the future, along with trapping and harvesting training opportunities...
- 19 Mar: Clara Jane attended the PEIISC (PEI Invasive Species Council) workshop / seminar of the HWA (Hemlock Woolly Adelidge), with information on a few other species at the end. This was a great session to meeting the folks of PEIISC, Chase G. and Clay C., and how NCPEI and PEIISC can continue to collaborate. We may have hemlock at the WMA in St. Chrysostome so we may be able to partner for an invasive species monitoring project in the future.
- 19 Mar: Cynthia C. sent off CCF interim report and it was accepted.
- 20 Mar: Clara Jane attended the City of Charlottetown Adaptation working group meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to categorize impacts of climate change by factors of "risk" and "adaptive capacity".
- 21 Mar: Scheduled a meeting with Julie Bull for April 18<sup>th</sup>. May have to reschedule to get Kaelyn involved.
- 22 Mar: Clara Jane attended OHS meeting virtually.
- 22 Mar: Clara Jane was invited to be a part of the Coalition for Women in Government's Empowering Women Advocates for Climate Resiliency (EWACR) project steering committee. She accepted and will be receiving honorarium for this.
- 25 Mar: Bats, Birds, and Beading (BBB) Workshop #1 @ Portage, 5-7 PM. Got refreshments from Foodland and Tim's coffee. This event went really well – Clara Jane and the beading facilitators (Jaimie-Lee, Kaelyn, and Alicia) learned from this session about facilitating the next two sessions. Overall perception was great and we had a full house. See scanned sign in sheets for event numbers.
- 26 Mar: BBB Workshop #2 @ NRR, 5-7 PM. Picked up refreshments from Sobeys and Tim's. This event went smoother as Clara Jane and the beading facilitators learned a better way for format the agenda for presentation engagement. This was really well perceived – see sign in sheets for event numbers.

- 27 Mar: BBB Workshop #3 @ St. Peters, 5-7 PM. Picked up refreshments from Sobeys and Tim's. Again this event went smoother regarding presenting our information on SAR (species at risk), but we only had 2 facilitators for a larger group. We will keep this in mind moving forward with this sort of workshop to limit the seats per facilitator that can attend. It still was a great turnout with lots of happy faces – see sign in sheets for numbers.
- 28 Mar: Received DFO-AFSAR 23-24 agreement from Josee Dion (DFO) for signing.
- 31 Mar: Submitted the WCF Japanese Knotweed final report on the Community Foundations of PEI online portal around 6PM.

### Upcoming Events/Activities Planned

- CCF Growing Food and Medicine Workshops: April 9, 10, and 12 (NRR, St. Peters, Portage respectfully)
- Todd Lafrance meeting and forestry work through ACOA funding (on their end, no cost or agreement for us). This is in the context of clearing Seaweed road (I'm writing this after seaweed road has been cleared – will include that in April report).
- Meeting with Ron Howse re: potential partnership in science project re: Striped Bass commercial fishery
- 15 April: NABat community session (CWHC)
- Monarch Butterfly training for env staff
- Meeting with new funding relations officer Morgan S.
- Meeting with new Housing Development Officer Chinedu U.
- Staff event at CCCCA (Canadian Centre for Climate Change and Adaptation) to view Mi'kmaw art installation and tour facility in St. Peters.
- Beginning outdoor field work / planning
- 22 April: EARTH DAY. Clara Jane may partner with BIRCH to have BOTH staff and member earth day activities.

### Successes

- **Workshops have been well perceived.**
- **Clara Jane is being asked from nearly every direction for collaboration, networking, presenting, sitting on panels, etc. I find this job to be extremely rewarding and I am gaining an immense level of professional experience through delegating staff, organizing my calendar, and practicing my networking and communication skills. Love my job!!**

### Concerns / Suggestions

- **Clara Jane is starting to feel busy so looking forward to possible hiring a summer technician through ECCC-AFSAR 24-27 and ECCC-EDF funding as well as 2 summer student technician positions through Canada Summer Jobs.**
- **Constantly thinking how non-profits, especially indigenous non-profits, should have access to multi-year capacity funding for environmental programming for improved continuity with increasingly liveable wages. Effective and quality environmental work cannot be done on 1-year contracts alone – must be at least 3 year projects in many cases.**
- **Need the opportunity for a staff / management evaluation session.**

**External Contacts: Partnerships Developed; Board/Committee Membership (add lines as needed)**

Contact or Meeting Type	Name / Department or Company	Number and type of meetings (e.g., 3 emails; 2 phone calls, etc.)	Supporting Documents (e.g., email, letter, meeting notes, etc.)
Federal Government			
Provincial Government			
Municipal Government			
Management Boards			
NGO			
Institutions			
Consultants			
Committees			
Other			

Contact Sheet – Outreach (complete only if no contact tracking sheet)		
Contact, Event or Outreach Type (Name, Organization, etc.)	Number and type of contacts (e.g., 3 emails; 2 phone calls, etc.)	Response/ Follow-up
*Please note: I am not filling out these charts for the sake of getting my report sent out in a timely manner. They will continue to be filled out moving forward. I am personally keeping track of contacts – if there’s any particular contact anyone is interested in just get in touch with me please.		

Total number of people reached: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach contact tracking sheet and all other supporting documents which may include:  
posters, meeting briefs, agendas, sign in sheets, etc.**

## Environment Monthly Report

Employee Name:	<b>Clara Jane Wood</b>	Position:	<b>Environmental Coordinator</b>	Month/Year:	<b>Apr-June 2024</b>																																																																																		
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<b>Contractor Quotes</b>	Generator, Electrician, Contractor for pad for greenhouse(?); contractor for accessibility additions	2 Oct 2023 – 29 March 2024	In progress
<b>Climate Action/Preparedness Workshops</b>	Growing Foods and Medicine, Extreme Heat, Post-Tropical and Storm Surge Events, Snow and Ice Storms, Climate Change Adaption Actions for Individuals	1 Oct 2023 – 30 September 2024	Ongoing
<b>Office Greenhouse</b>	Purchase and install; Planting Produce and Medicine; Harvesting and Preservation	2 Oct 2023 – 30 March 2024	Partially Complete
<b>Office Retrofits</b>	Generators; sump pump; greenhouse; walkway railings, UV water filter system; etc	2 Oct 2023 – 29 March 2025	Ongoing
<b>ECCC-EDF 2024-2025</b>			
<b>Training</b>	TUPCC Stream Enhancement Training: Result: Agenda, Photos from training / showing opportunity		
<b>Procurement</b>	Procure tree-planting equipment for 2-3 people (invoices); Procure Turbidity Meter for NCPET's YSI-ProDSS water quality multimeter for long-term monitoring		
<b>Outreach and Education</b>	Promote and organize volunteer events (tree planting, WMA brush collection) Result: Social media/newsletter post		
<b>Field Work</b>	Plant 500 native trees and shrubs along WMA shoreline bank and within fish habitat wetland; Install 5 brush mats along fish habitat to mitigate sedimentation and cool water temperatures		
<b>Project Evaluation</b>	Culminate report on trees planted, brush mats installed, methodology, volunteer effort, and environmental group collaboration		
<b>IWS Prevention GBV (Emergency Preparedness) 2024-2025</b>			
<b>Program Planning and Development</b>	<b>Plan</b> the execution of 3 different workshops at all 3 zones (9 total); 2S+ Community Focus Group re: Emergency Preparedness; 2S+ Education and Focus Group Dissemination; Tackling Climate Anxiety Through Expression of Self		Ongoing
<b>Outreach and Education</b>	<b>Execution</b> of 3 different workshops at all 3 zones (9 total); 2S+ Community Focus Group re: Emergency Preparedness; 2S+ Education and Focus Group Dissemination; Tackling Climate Anxiety Through Expression of Self		Planning
<b>Contracting Out</b>	- Contract out "Tackling Climate Anxiety Through Expression of		Ongoing

	<i>Self' workshop facilitator (Julie Bull), potentially Art Therapy with Louise Lamothe</i> - <i>Contract out 2S+ artist to design a mural/art installation for North River Road and Portage</i>		
<b>ECCC-AFSAR 2024-2027 (approved, no agreement)</b>	<i>(agreement in negotiations)</i>		
<b>Program Planning</b>	<i>Hiring Technician, training</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
<b>Surveys, Inventories and Monitoring</b>	<i>Myotis (bats) monitoring</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>To be planned</i>
<b>Species and Habitat Threat Abatement</b>	<i>Bank Swallow Monitoring</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>To be planned</i>
<b>Document and Use of Indigenous Knowledge</b>	<i>Community engagement / Knowledge Sharing</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>To be planned</i>
<b>Outreach and Education</b>	<i>Community Outreach; participation in surveys, citizen science</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>To be planned</i>
<b>Project Evaluation</b>	<i>Compile photos and statistics from programming into a final document</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>To be planned</i>
<i>Please note: this is a guess from our application as I haven't seen the actual CA yet.</i>			
<b>DFO-AFSAR 24-25</b>	<i>(agreement in negotiations)</i>		
<b>Activity 1: Outreach &amp; Education</b>	<i>Environmental Staff Hiring and Training</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
<b>Activity 2: Program Planning and Development</b>	<i>Late Spring / Early Summer Team Field Schedule and Protocol Development/Revisions</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
<b>Activity 3: Surveys, Inventories, and Monitoring</b>	<i>Aquatic Monitoring within NCPEI's St. Chrysostome WMA</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>To be planned</i>
<b>Activity 4: Program Planning and Development</b>	<i>Aquatic Management and Habitat Improvement Plan Draft</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>To be planned</i>
<b>Activity 5: Outreach &amp; Education / Indigenous Knowledge (IK)</b>	<i>NCPEI Membership Multi-SAR Information Sessions</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>To be planned</i>
<b>Activity 6: Project and Program Evaluation</b>	<i>Final Report</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>To be planned</i>

- Notes on program overview:
  - DFO-AFSAR 22-23 is complete and the schedule 7 has been sent off and signed by Chief. Waiting on Josee to hear confirmation of finalizing that project file.
  - DFO-AFSAR 23-24 is complete with only the final report to be written and submitted.
  - ECCC-AFSAR 22-24 is now complete. Report has been submitted, may be some adjustments and final documents to be sent to funding contact but following up with this.
  - WCF 23-24 is now complete with report and financials submitted. All completed projects will be removed from this report.
  - NEW ECCC-AFSAR has been approved for 3 years (2024-2027). Multi-SAR monitoring continuation.
  - NEW DFO-AFSAR has been approved for 1 year (2024-2025) with a strong recommendation from funder to reapply.
  - Active Transportation Fund has approved our trail system project for the St. Chrysostome WMA.

- Between the meetings and activities listed below, Clara Jane has been working on the numerous projects that are within the environmental portfolio. Examples include contacting contractors, speaking with members, acquiring equipment, writing final reports, negotiating agreements, and more.

**Events/Activities/Meetings completed:**

**APRIL**

- 2 Apr: Met Todd LaFrance at WMA to check out ACOA work (Seaweed Road Clearing)
- 3 Apr: Phone call with Todd LaFrance re: ACOA work. Meeting with Morgan Sandiford (new funding relations officer) to go over environmental programming. “Mission Monarch” training and habitat stewardship overview. Working with Morgan S. to resolve WCF funding report issues (solved and file completed).
- 4 Apr: Continued communication with Jordan C., Todd L. et al. re: Seaweed Road and funding.
- 5 Apr: Meeting with Ron H. via Teams with Jordan C. to discuss possible Striped Bass partnership.
- 9 Apr: Meeting with EDF funder contact Erin Luz to go over contribution agreement w/ Morgan S. CCF Workshop (Growing Food and Medicine) in Zone 2.
- 10 Apr: Delivered CCF Growing Food and Medicine Workshop in Zone 3 at St. Peter’s. Spent most of the day commuting from West Prince and gathering refreshments and materials for the workshop.
- 11 Apr: Meeting with Todd L. and Jordan C. re: signing funding / invoices documentation re: Seaweed Road ACOA activities. Also went over what Todd recommends for forest management efforts.
- 12 Apr: Delivered CCF Growing Food and Medicine Workshop in Zone 1. Spent part of the day picking up refreshments.
- 15 Apr: Attended NABat Community Meeting at 1:30PM. Learned about ongoing bat monitoring in Atlantic Canada and news and updates.
- 16 Apr: Earth Day programming meeting with Mary-Lynn B. and Helena P. Discussed activities and topic, and responsibilities. Approx.. 35 mins.
- 17 Apr: City of Charlottetown “Engagement Collaborator” check in from 11-12PM with Katrina K. and Sydney G. from the City of Charlottetown’s Climate Department.
- 18 Apr: 10AM – Meeting with Julie Bull to go over workshop facilitation in fall 2024 for IWS GBV Emergency Preparedness Project. 2PM – Meeting with Wild Child Coordinator to discuss collaboration opportunities during their summer camps in August. 3PM – Meeting with Kaelyn re: their 3-Sisters Planting session in Portage PE.
- 19 Apr: Met with Garry Gregory at the St. Chrysostome WMA to talk recommendations for beaver management within the aquatic area / around seaweed road. In the afternoon, spent the time doing a check in with Jordan C.
- 22 Apr: EARTH DAY! Spent the morning commuting, afternoon gathering supplies, and from 1-5 delivered Earth Day programming to approximately 10 participants.
- 24 Apr: Meeting with Connie K. from ECCC-AFSAR re: ECCC-AFSAR final reporting from 2022-2024 project and speak about 2024-2027 agreement.
- 25 Apr: Attended HOB0 Data Logger webinar discussing newest data logging Bluetooth technologies for 24/7 water quality monitoring and remote data collection.
- 26 Apr: Attended the NCPEI 2sLGBTQQIA+ staff workshop remotely on Teams.

- 29 Apr: Teams meeting with Josee D. from DFO-AFSAR re: our 2024-2025 agreement.
  - 30 Apr: Finished the ECCC-AFSAR 2022-2024 report.
- MAY**
- 1 May: PEI Coalition for Women in Government CCF Steering Committee Meeting. 4-5 PM in Charlottetown (attended via Teams)
  - 2 May: Meeting with Ron H., Jordan C., and Richard C. regarding possible Striped Bass project participation. Ultimately we mentioned that we could help with the occasional science efforts / monitoring but we couldn't commit to more than that at the moment.
  - 6 May: Delivered the CCF Extreme Heat Workshop in Zone 1. 5-7 PM.
  - 7 May: Delivered the CCF Extreme Heat Workshop in Zone 2. 5-7 PM.
  - 8 May: Attended CAP / Water Agency Meeting with Jordan at NRR. Delivered CCF Extreme Heat Workshop in Zone 3. 5-7 PM.
  - 15 May: Meeting with Josee D. and Martin L. to further go over 2024-2025 DFO-AFSAR agreement.
  - 16 May: 11AM – Meeting with Jordan C. and Richard C. to go over this summer's environmental programming in regard to sharing help, vehicles, etc. 1PM – Meeting with Emily / finance to go over all ENV projects, budgets, and programming.
  - 17 May: PEI Coalition for Women in Government Steering Committee meeting in Charlottetown with chosen workshop facilitators.
  - 23 May: 10AM – DFO-AFSAR meeting with Josee D. to finalize DFO-AFSAR 24-25 agreement. 2PM – Congress of Aboriginal Peoples' Environment Summit in Ottawa panel speaker prep and introductions.
  - 24 May: "Your Life Design" with Mary-Lynn's HR programming for staff. Learning "Navigating Generational Differences in the Workplace" workshop. Very nice.
  - 28 May: EWGDEA (PEI Co. for Women in Gov.) Steering Committee Meeting in Charlottetown from 2:30 -4 PM.
  - 29 May: Kaelyn M., 2Spirit Coordinator, hosted a 3-Sisters Gardening session in Portage, partnering both with the environmental crew and the Therapeutic Horticulture group from the Charlottetown Farm Centre.
- JUNE**
- 2-5 June: Clara Jane, Richard C., Helena P., and Louise L. attended CAP's second Environment and Climate Change Summit in Ottawa at the Native Women's Association Canada building. The topic was "Transformative Change...". The group spent two days in conference hearing from PTO's across so-called Canada. Clara Jane presented on the journey and challenges of building environmental capacity from the ground up, and why CORE-funding is imperative for meaningful, impactful, engaging, and continuous programming and environmental monitoring. Trip was a success and all participants gained a lot from the experience. Great group, great session. Looking forward to the next one. All group members were able to do a ton of networking with like-minded individuals from PTO's, federal departments, and other organizations.
  - 6 June: Clara Jane had her annual performance review with Mary-Lynn and Jordan. Thanks for the kind words and motivations, guys!
  - 8 June: World Ocean Day. Clara Jane provided the opportunity for members to attend a beach clean up on the coast of the Wildlife Management Area. Richard C. helped out and provided the opportunity for members to help clean the coast off the Panmure Cultural Park. We had no participation in Zone 1 (strange but hoping to improve on marketing of events like this) but had 2-5 participants in Zone 3.
  - 11 June: Meeting with Josee D. re: DFO-AFSAR 24-25 agreement.

- 24 June: Prepared environmental injustice presentation for Fedeke A.’s “Shadows to Light” events that were held in all three zones.

Upcoming Events/Activities Planned			
Successes			
Concerns / Suggestions			
External Contacts: Partnerships Developed; Board/Committee Membership (add lines as needed)			
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Management Boards			
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Committees			
Other			

Contact Sheet – Outreach (complete only if no contact tracking sheet)		
Contact, Event or Outreach Type (Name, Organization, etc.)	Number and type of contacts (e.g., 3 emails; 2 phone calls, etc.)	Response/ Follow-up

Total number of people reached: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach contact tracking sheet and all other supporting documents which may include:  
posters, meeting briefs, agendas, sign in sheets, etc.**

## Environment Monthly Report

Employee Name:	<b>Clara Jane Wood</b>	Position:	<b>Environmental Coordinator</b>	Month/Year:	<b>July-Sept 2024</b>
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Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) 2023-2025	Deliverable Descriptions	Timeline	Status
<b>Contractor Quotes</b>	Generator, Electrician, Contractor for pad for greenhouse(?); contractor for accessibility additions	2 Oct 2023 – 29 March 2024	In progress
<b>Climate Action/Preparedness Workshops</b>	Growing Foods and Medicine, Extreme Heat, Post-Tropical and Storm Surge Events, Snow and Ice Storms, Climate Change Adaption Actions for Individuals	1 Oct 2023 – 30 October 2024	Ongoing
<b>Office Greenhouse</b>	Purchase and install; Planting Produce and Medicine; Harvesting and Preservation	2 Oct 2023 – 30 March 2024	Complete
<b>Office Retrofits</b>	Generators; sump pump; greenhouse; walkway railings, UV water filter system; etc	2 Oct 2023 – 29 March 2025	Ongoing
<b>ECCC-EDF 2024-2025</b>			
<b>Training</b>	TUPCC Stream Enhancement Training: Result: Agenda, Photos from training / showing opportunity	2024/06/30	Planned
<b>Procurement</b>	Procure tree-planting equipment for 2-3 people (invoices); Procure Turbidity Meter for NCEP's YSI-ProDSS water quality multimeter for long-term monitoring	2024/06/30	Partially Complete
<b>Outreach and Education</b>	Promote and organize volunteer events (tree planting, WMA brush collection) Result: Social media/newsletter post	2024/09/30	Partially Complete
<b>Field Work</b>	Plant 500 native trees and shrubs along WMA shoreline bank and within fish habitat wetland; Install 5 brush mats along fish habitat to mitigate sedimentation and cool water temperatures	2024/09/30	Ongoing
<b>Project Evaluation</b>	Culminate report on trees planted, brush mats installed, methodology, volunteer effort, and environmental group collaboration	2024/12/31	Not started
<b>IWS Prevention GBV (Emergency Preparedness) 2024-2025</b>			
<b>Program Planning and Development</b>	<b>Plan</b> the execution of 3 different workshops at all 3 zones (9 total); 2S+ Community Focus Group re: Emergency Preparedness; 2S+ Education and Focus Group Dissemination; Tackling Climate Anxiety Through Expression of Self	March – May 2024	Ongoing
<b>Outreach and Education</b>	<b>Execution</b> of 3 different workshops at all 3 zones (9 total); 2S+ Community Focus Group re: Emergency Preparedness; 2S+ Education and Focus Group Dissemination; Tackling Climate Anxiety Through Expression of Self	June 2024- March 2025	Planned
<b>Contracting Out</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contract out "Tackling Climate Anxiety Through Expression of Self" workshop facilitator (Julie Bull), potentially Art Therapy with Louise Lamothe</li> <li>- Contract out 2S+ artist to design a mural/art installation for North River Road and Portage</li> </ul>	June 2024- March 2025	Partially Completed
<b>ECCC-AFSAR 2024-2027 (approved, no agreement)</b>	(agreement sent to NHQ for approval)	End Date	

<b>Program Planning</b>	Hiring Technician, training	2024-08-30	Completed
<b>Surveys, Inventories and Monitoring</b>	Myotis (bats) monitoring	2025-03-31	Ongoing
<b>Species and Habitat Threat Abatement</b>	Bank Swallow Monitoring	2025-03-31	Ongoing
<b>Document and Use of Indigenous Knowledge</b>	Community engagement / Knowledge Sharing	2025-03-31	To be planned
<b>Outreach and Education</b>	Community Outreach; participation in surveys, citizen science	2025-03-31	To be planned
<b>Project Evaluation</b>	Compile photos and statistics from programming into a final document	2025-03-31	To be planned
<i>Please note: this is a guess from our application as I haven't seen the actual CA yet.</i>			
<b>DFO-AFSAR 24-25 (approved, no agreement)</b>	<i>(agreement sent to NHQ for final approval)</i>		
<b>Activity 1: Outreach &amp; Education</b>	Environmental Staff Hiring and Training	1 April 2024 – 30 Nov 2024	Complete
<b>Activity 2: Program Planning and Development</b>	Late Spring / Early Summer Team Field Schedule and Protocol Development/Revisions	1 April 2024 – Sept 2024	Ongoing
<b>Activity 3: Surveys, Inventories, and Monitoring</b>	Aquatic Monitoring within NCPEI's St. Chrysostome WMA	1 June 2024 – 30 Nov 2024	Ongoing
<b>Activity 4: Program Planning and Development</b>	Aquatic Management and Habitat Improvement Plan Draft	1 Nov 2024 – 30 March 2025	To be planned
<b>Activity 5: Outreach &amp; Education / Indigenous Knowledge (IK)</b>	NCPEI Membership Multi-SAR Information Sessions	1 June 2024 – 30 March 2025	To be planned
<b>Activity 6: Project and Program Evaluation</b>	Final Report	1 Nov 2024 – 30 June 2025	To be planned
<b>ATF (Trail System) 24-25</b>	Agreement Signed		
<b>Recreational Trail System in St. Chrysostome, WMA</b>	160k for trail creation - Labour - Management - Signage - Professional Fees	Until March 31, 2025	To be planned
	Inquiring about more activity / deliverable details in agreement		

- **Highlights:**

- Final draft of the 2024-2025 DFO AFSAR agreement has been sent to NHQ for final approval. Once approved by NHQ we can sign for a one-year contract with an emphasis to apply again.
- Final draft of negotiations for 2024-2027 ECCC AFSAR project has been looked over and sent to NHQ for final approval. Once approved by NHQ, we can do a final look-over and sign.
- Active Transportation Fund project to begin soon (October and early spring)
- New technician was hired this summer: Bronté Handrahan. Program now has a full-time coordinator and full-time technician. Summer student in the summer.

- Getting to the point where we are exiting field work season and getting into project proposal season. Potential proposals will be submitted to ECCC-IPSAR (formerly AFSAR), DFO-AFSAR, WCF, and whatever else seems worthwhile / feasible!

#### Events/Activities/Meetings completed:

##### July

- 4 July: Greenhouse growing session. We had one participant who planted some veggies with us in the greenhouse and got to take some home. We planted extra as we had lots to go around, and members would take some sprouts home to take care of.
- 8-9 July: Standard First Aid and CPR at North River Road, Clara Jane and Brooke D.
- 12 July: Climate Change Impact Session at North River Road. City of Charlottetown Climate Impact Engagement Collaborator
- 16 July: Meeting with Dion Josée of DFO AFSAR to discuss current negotiations for the contribution agreement and an outstanding file from 2022-2023.
- 18 July: Environmental Technician interview (Bronté H.)
- 22 July: Onboarding and first day of Environmental Technician, Bronté H.
- 23 July: Took Brooke and Bronté to the St. Chrysostome Wildlife Management Area to tour the area before we get into field work.
- 24 July: BH and BD completed field work within the WMA and took water quality measurements and samples. Additionally, they set up our acoustic bat monitors (2).
- 25 July: CJW, BD, and BH took to the road and completed field work in the Panmure management area. Firstly, the group installed bat monitors (2), one along the driveway and one within the camping area. After bat monitor installation, the group completed bank swallow monitoring on the cliffs that are adjacent to the Panmure building.
- 27 July: Clara Jane attended the NCPEI MMIWG Community Engagement Conference
- 31 July: St. Chrysostome field work; BH and BD. The field techs replaced the SD cards in the bat monitors, installed two brush mats along the stream near the beaver dam, and completed water quality measurements and samples.

##### August

- Aug 1: The group went to Panmure to complete field work. This included replacing the SD cards in the acoustic bat monitors and completing a bank swallow survey adjacent to the Panmure building.
- 6 Aug: BH and BD completed field work in the St. Chrysostome WMA. Work completed included replacing SD cards and batteries within the acoustic bat monitors and taking water quality samples and measurements.
- 6-8 Aug: CCF Workshops “Community Adaptation Measures” where Clara Jane discussed methods to increase resiliency to climate change for our membership. We had good participation across all zones.
- 9 Aug: Clara Jane and BD attended the Wild Child Ecology Camp (girls and gender diverse youth ages 11-14) to guest speak about the work we have been doing monitoring for different bat species, speak about our careers, and share some brief Mi’kmaq translations of the project’s target species.

- 12 Aug: WMA Field day for BH and BD. Work completed included brush mat installation, wildlife cam installation, eDNA sampling, water quality samples and measurements, and bank swallow monitoring in the WMA and in another location in Victoria West.
- 13 Aug: WMA Field day for BH and BD. They continued to install brush mats.
- 13 Aug: Meeting with Josée Dion (DFO-AFSAR) and Emily Bernard to discuss underpayment from 2022-2023 and ongoing negotiations for the 2024-2025 project.
- 14 Aug: BH and BD did bank swallow survey in Victoria West (not WMA); adopted Nature Counts (Birds Canada) route. When the girls got back, Clara Jane did an introduction to eDNA water sample processing for BD and BH. The group also prepared the water samples collected to be dropped off at the PEI Analytical Lab in Charlottetown. Acoustic bat monitoring files were offloaded onto the environment external hard drive.
- 15 Aug: BD and BH attempted to monitor for Bank Swallow in a St. Peter's location (Birds Canada Nature Counts) but were unable to due to the access road being a private driveway. Dropped off water quality samples to PEI Analytical Lab in the morning.
- 15 Aug: Meeting with Connie Korchoski (ECCC-AFSAR) to discuss negotiation template for the 2024-2027 project we were approved for.
- 16-18 Aug: CJW, BD, BH attended the Panmure Powwow.
- 22 Aug: Clara Jane in Charlottetown for meetings. Clara Jane and Richard C. picked up trees from Doiron's landscaping to plant in WMA and Panmure. Bronté H. attended an NABat meeting.
- 22 Aug: Meeting with Josée Dion, Jordan Crane, Lisa Cooper, April Whynot, and Richard Cooper at North River Road. Opportunity to meet our DFO-AFSAR funding relations officer in person. This was a great relationship building meeting that lasted well beyond the allotted one hour.
- 26 Aug: Clay Cutting from the PEI Invasive Species Council, alongside BH and BD, completed an invasive species survey within the St. Chrysostome WMA. This survey wasn't exhaustive as the entirety of the property isn't accessible by foot, but the majority of the property was accounted for. We received a report afterwards!
- 27 Aug: Clara Jane had a meeting with Josée Dion to further discuss contribution agreement (2024-2025).
- 27 Aug: BD and BH completed a bank swallow survey at Lakeside beach (Nature Counts Birds Canada route).
- 28 Aug: In the morning BD and BH completed field work that included water chemistry and measurements, eDNA samples, and general observations. She is now off to college for vet tech. We hosted a small get-together of Portage office employees and had cake and snacks in the afternoon.
- 29 Aug: Brooke's last day. In the morning, BD and BH completed field work, which included water chemistry samples and water quality measurements.
- 30 Aug: CJW and BH dropped off samples to the PEI Analytical Lab in the morning.
- 30 Aug: ECCC-EDF Tree Planting volunteer event #1 in Panmure from 5-7. We had two participants. Got approx. 187 trees planted in the cleared area by the sweat lodge.

## **September**

- 4 Sept: Thomas Edison installed line to the barn in Portage. The barn is now hooked up and will retain power when the Generac generator is running.
- 4 Sept: Meeting with Josée Dion to discuss 2024-2025 DFO AFSAR project.
- 6 Sept: Canada's Draft Ocean Noise Strategy online action plan. "Join this national information session to learn more about the draft Ocean Noise Strategy and how you can contribute to the development of the

final Strategy and a Federal Action Plan”. Feedback on the strategy can be given until October sometime and it can be provided via mail or email. Clara Jane will send along a letter for approval at that time.

- 10 Sept: CJW and BH completed water quality measurements within the St. Chrysostome WMA.
- 10 Sept: ECCC-EDF Tree planting event #2 in St. Chrysostome WMA from 5-7. We had two participants.
- 11 Sept: Climate Advocacy Workshop 1 with the PEI Coalition for Women in Government. Clara Jane attended as project ambassador. Clara Jane attended from 10-2:30, providing input and support when needed. Great first workshop with 40 participants.
- 13 Sept: Meeting with Connie Korchoski (ECCC-AFSAR) to go over our final edits to the negotiation template. Connie was forthcoming with answers to questions. Connie let me know that late September she would be moving to another position with the federal government (DFO Science).
- 16-18 September: NCPEI Climate Challenge Fund Emergency Preparedness Workshops for Post-Tropical Storm systems. These workshops provided some baseline information on what a post-tropical storm is and how we can best prepare and overcome these types of storm systems. We had good participation, although our session at NRR had one participant.
- 24 Sept: Meeting with Julie Bull to discuss expectations for them to facilitate Climate Anxiety workshops for women and gender diverse members. We nailed down dates and times for October workshops. Very excited for these ones.
- 25 Sept: CJW and BH completed water quality measurements within the St. Chrysostome WMA.
- 25 Sept: CJW and BH facilitated our third and final tree planting session of the summer at the St. Chrysostome WMA. We had two participants (same two from previous event).

### Upcoming Events/Activities Planned

#### Oct

- “Eco Art for Eco Woes: Managing Climate Anxieties with Julie Bull”
  - o 1-3 PM
  - o Oct 21: Portage
  - o Oct 23: NRR
  - o Oct 24: St. Peter’s Complex
- CCF Greenhouse Preservation Workshop
  - o Oct 25: Preserving Foods and Medicine 5-7 PM Portage
  - o Looking into feasibility of adding session to Zone 3
- ECCC AFSAR: Engagement Activities TBD
- DFO AFSAR: Engagement Activities TBD
- IWS GBV Emergency Preparedness: Engagement Activities (other than climate anxieties ^) TBD

**Clara Jane and Bronté will be receiving different training based on project requirements.**

#### Successes

- Had a successful summer completing field work and catching up with programming of the various projects we have ongoing.
- Most of the outreach work for the Climate Challenge Fund has concluded. In total, we have completed 17-18 workshops from this fund alone in the context of emergency preparedness.
- Hired a field technician: Bronté Handrahan. Increasing capacity makes a world of difference.

- Climate Impact Session (July 12) was a great opportunity for Clara Jane and her participants to inform the City of Charlottetown on what impacts our communities will see with a changing climate, and what should be considered in Charlottetown’s Climate Action Plan. The contact for this was Katrina Cristall.
- With her experience in this position, Clara Jane has began developing her professional skills by being on a Steering Committee and project ambassador for another Climate Challenge Fund project managed by the PEI Coalition for Women in Government. The workshop topics relate to Climate Advocacy for women and gender diverse people.
- Consistent group of participants at events – would like to see more.

**Concerns / Suggestions**

- Beginning in the spring we’ve had a Portage community (non-member) member stop by the office to use the internet. The first time it was to call her utility company but has been using the internet to loiter on the property. We may have to install no loitering signs.
- I’ve heard on one occasion that the “drama” going on behind the scenes at NCPEI has impeded a member from participating in my tree planting events. Quite disheartening.
- Need another vehicle to conduct field work as the environmental truck is stationed more central than previous years.

**External Contacts: Partnerships Developed; Board/Committee Membership (add lines as needed)**

Contact or Meeting Type	Name / Department or Company	Number and type of meetings (e.g., 3 emails; 2 phone calls, etc.)	Supporting Documents (e.g., email, letter, meeting notes, etc.)
Federal Government			
Provincial Government			
Municipal Government			
Management Boards			
NGO			
Institutions			
Consultants			
Committees			
Other			

**Contact Sheet – Outreach (complete only if no contact tracking sheet)**

Contact, Event or Outreach Type (Name, Organization, etc.)	Number and type of contacts (e.g., 3 emails; 2 phone calls, etc.)	Response/ Follow-up

Total number of people reached: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach contact tracking sheet and all other supporting documents which may include:  
posters, meeting briefs, agendas, sign in sheets, etc.**

**Indigenous Skills & Employment Training (ISET)  
&  
“The Way Forward” Youth Employment & Skills Strategy (YESS)  
Annual General Assembly Report  
October 2023 – October 2024**

**Nancy K. MacLean, Employment & Training**

**Brief overview of the ISET Program:**

The ISET Program provides assistance and funding for training and skills development to Indigenous Peoples living off-reserve in PEI.

**Career Exploration:** Assistance to individuals with career planning, labour market information, job searches, interview strategies, resume development and more.

**Outreach:** Assistance to individuals to connect with local employers or training opportunities

**Education/Skills Training:** Assistance to individuals with education/skills development by providing funding for post-secondary, university and/or industry recognized training.

**Wage Subsidies:** Assistance to individuals by gaining work experience by providing 14-weeks of wage subsidies to employers.

**Activities/Outputs:**

- Prepared information and financials for monthly ISET Committee meetings/updates
- Prepared of quarterly/annual reports to funding agency
- Ongoing client recruitment and support for students while in class then 3- and 6-month follow-up after training completion
- Ongoing maintenance of Accountability & Resource Management System (ARMS) reporting has been reviewed and additional information has been added to the database including action plan, skills/employment and documents which increases the reporting capabilities of the ARMS system as well as ensuring continuity of client support.
- Partnership with BIPOC Business & Professionals Network (BPN) and Futurpreneur has enabled the ISET to be able to participate in an Entrepreneurship Information Session and following this a series of Financial Literacy online workshops.
- Meetings/Activities:
  - BIPOC Business & Professionals Network monthly meetings
  - Futurpreneur entrepreneur programs and supports
  - PEI Literacy Alliance AGM
  - Supported Employment Network (SEN) monthly meetings
  - UPEI Project Advisory Committee for consultation on an Indigenous proposal
  - Parks Canada summer student recruitment
  - Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) diversity recruitment
  - Career Development Association (CDA) Conference

- Livewell PEI – Health PEI consultation on new website and website access
- Meetings with potential ISET clients at the Provincial Correctional Centre
- ISET Presentation at Portage Office to Zone 1
- ISET Presentation in St. Peters to Zone 3
- Canada’s Career Development Landscape Webinar
- Engage: Dynamic Ways of Connecting – Course Completion
- Using Labour Market Information in Career Services – Course Completion
- May 14 and 15 Automated Resource Management System (ARMS) training
- ISET presentation to Men’s Shelter staff
- Resume Workshop in partnership with BIPOC USHR
- Planning for Entrepreneurship Information Session and Financial Literacy Series
- Agriculture and Agrifoods meeting to discuss new indigenous recruitment initiatives

**Attached:**

- **ARMS Client Report** (October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2024)

**Brief overview of the YESS Program:**

The “Way Forward” Program is a thirty-hour weekly training program for Indigenous off-reserve youth ages **15 to 30** that is tailored to the needs of youth who are facing barriers to employment.

**Learning Center (Classroom)** Supports for individuals to attend 12 week individual and group activities during which time the individuals will develop the skills necessary to move forward with their career plans.

**Wage Subsidy (Work Experience)** Supports for individuals with gaining 12-weeks of work experience by providing wage subsidies.

**Activities/Outputs:**

- Attended classroom activities twice weekly for employment skills aspect of student training
- Worked closely with classroom instructor to assist with case planning/customization of training that will best benefit the strengths of the individuals who are taking the training.
- Collaborated with Nishka Smith regarding program and student evaluation
- Prepared of quarterly/annual reports to funding agency
- Collaborated on preparation of quarterly/annual reports to funding agency as well as Participant Information Templates (PIT) student reports.
- After successful completion of the YESS program (March 2024), another proposal was written to be able to continue to offer this employment training to the community youth.
- Negotiations continue to move forward to be able to offer a similar but smaller program due to budget limitations from the funder.

### **Promotion and Outreach for ISET and YESS Programs:**

- Promoted ISET and other programs of the NCPEI by hosting an information table at the Powwow and National Indigenous Peoples Day
- Promotion of the program on Facebook and in NCPEI mailouts
- Promoted program through sharing photos and information the “*Gigmanag*” and NCPEI mailouts.

### **Future Activities:**

- ISET partnership activity of offering Financial Literacy Series
- Hosting another YESS employment program for youth

### **Conclusion:**

Employment continues to be a challenge on PEI most especially for the youth of the community. According to the Statistics Canada survey, in August 2024, the overall unemployment rate was **6.6%** but for youth this number was **14.5%**. This demonstrates the importance of the ISET and the YESS program to support the employment goals of our community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the NCPEI staff and community for supporting the ISET and YESS programs. **AND** a special “**Thank You**” to the **ISET Committee** and **Senior Staff**. Without their help and support neither of these programs would be able to operate with the successes that have been demonstrated in the past and I look forward to continuing to work with these important programs for our community.



**Client Report**  
**10/1/2023 - 9/30/2024**

**7492003: ASETS - CAP - Prince Edward Island**

	New Starts	In Progress	Incomplete	Complete	Total
Career Research and Exploration	42	15	0	30	45
Employment Counseling	0	2	0	0	2
Employment Retention Supports	7	2	0	5	7
Followup (Employment)	11	0	11	0	11
Followup (Unemployed/Unspecified)	7	0	3	4	7
Intake/Client Assessment	43	0	0	43	43
Job Starts Supports	6	0	1	5	6
Occupational Skills Training - Certificate	9	10	1	8	19
Occupational Skills Training - Degree	1	1	1	2	4
Occupational Skills Training - Diploma	5	7	2	2	11
Occupational Skills Training - Vocational / Industry Recog	8	2	0	8	10
Outcome (Employment)	30	0	30	0	30
Outcome (Unemployed/Unspecified)	18	0	0	15	18
Skills Development-Academic Upgrading	1	2	0	0	2
Work Experience - Wage Subsidy	9	2	0	7	9

**Client Report**  
**10/1/2023 - 9/30/2024**

Indicator	# Served
<b>Gender</b>	
Male	<a href="#">37</a>
Female	<a href="#">44</a>
Other	0
Unspecified	<a href="#">2</a>
<b>Disability</b>	<a href="#">14</a>
<b>Visible Minority</b>	0
<b>AGE (as of start of reporting period)</b>	
Under 15	0
15-24	<a href="#">33</a>
25-39	<a href="#">37</a>
40-54	<a href="#">11</a>
55 and over	<a href="#">2</a>
Unspecified	0
<b>Aboriginal Group</b>	
First Nations	<a href="#">18</a>
Metis	<a href="#">4</a>
Inuit	0
Non-Status Indian	<a href="#">61</a>
Not Aboriginal	0
No Response	0
<b>Highest Level of Secondary Education Received</b>	
Less than grade 9	0
Some highschool	<a href="#">17</a>
Highschool graduation	<a href="#">66</a>
Unspecified Secondary Education	0
<b>Highest Level of Post-Secondary Education Received</b>	
1 Year Diploma/Certificate	<a href="#">3</a>
2 Year Diploma/Certificate	<a href="#">5</a>
3 Year Diploma/Certificate	0
1 Year No Diploma/Certificate	<a href="#">2</a>
2 Year No Diploma/Certificate	<a href="#">4</a>
3 Year No Diploma/Certificate	0
Bachelors Degree	<a href="#">2</a>
Masters Degree	0
Doctorate	0
No Post Secondary	<a href="#">2</a>
Unspecified Post Secondary	<a href="#">65</a>
<b>Clients receiving funded interventions</b>	0
<b>Clients receiving only non-funded interventions</b>	<a href="#">83</a>

# Kelewatl Commission

## NCPEI Annual General Assembly Report

October 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 – September 30<sup>th</sup> 2024

Jordan Crane, Kelewatl Commissioner

### October 1st, 2023, to September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024:

Good morning/afternoon, Elders, Youth, Members and Observers,

I am pleased to present you with an overview of my work activities and achievements as the Commissioner of the Kelewatl Natural Life Harvesting Commission. We have had a busy year dealing with the individual Food, Social and Ceremonial Harvest, the Pow Wow fishery, environmental issues, as well as the work that went into our Communal Commercial Fishing Entity, L'nu Fisheries Limited. The follow is a brief description of the activities that took place pertaining to the Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy (AFS) Agreement Work plan and the Northern integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative (NICFI) Agreement Work plan. Any information pertaining to L'nu Fisheries Limited will be shared during the L'nu Fisheries Limited report.

### Program Overview:

Under the guidance of NCPEI leadership the Commissioner will lead and manage program development, annual work plans, consultations, and negotiations of the AFS and NICFI Arrangement between the Council and DFO.

The Commissioner will manage the overall day to day activities listed under this AFS and NICFI Arrangements including but not limited to:

- Prepare and execute “one on one” pre-fishery information session with individual members on the Kelewatl Commission FSC Fishery guidelines as per the AFS Arrangement.
- Operate a telephone-based information line which member can call if they have questions when they are exercising their Aboriginal rights.
- The Commissioner will report weekly on catch rates by NCPEI fisheries of various species to DFO and the Council.
- The Commissioner and staff will participate in various fisheries related resource management meetings on PEI and within the Gulf Area to and including, the L'nu and Native Council Boards, commercial fisheries advisory committees, recreational fishery user groups, etc.
- Staff will prepare financial reports and narrative reports focused on Arrangement results for the Council and DFO.
- The Commissioner will develop the Annual NCPEI Food Fishery Management Plan.

- The Commissioner will update and print the annual Community Harvesters Guide and distribute to community members who will participate in the fishery. Also, the Harvest Effort Report will be updated as required.
- The Commissioner will do monthly monitoring of the FSC Fishery.
- The Commissioner will do weekly monitoring of Communal Commercial Fisheries.
- The Commissioner will write a minimum of One (1) report for the Council/DFO.
- A post-season review session will be held with DFO personnel (C & P, Area Aboriginal Coordinator, etc.) to address any issues that may have occurred during the fishing season.

### **Events and Deliverables:**

#### **2023**

**October 12<sup>th</sup> – Engagement on Marine Spatial Planning** –MAPC/MAARS/DFO - MAPC was working on a Marine Spatial Planning project in the previous fiscal year. A final report was submitted to DFO. This meeting was to discuss the social impacts of Marine Spatial Planning and how they effect each Council and their fisheries. DFO presented on Marine Spatial Planning, and we had the opportunity to give feedback on how this would look for each of our communities.

**October 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> – NCPEI Board of directors meeting** – I attended this meeting as an advisor to the Board. Agenda items for this meeting included, program reports, president report, AGA prep and presentation to the Board from BDO on the audited financial statements.

**November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> – NCPEI AGA** – attended the Native Council Annual General Assembly as a delegate, Kelewatl Commissioner and President of L’nu Fisheries Limited. Report was provided in the program kit for the Kelewatl Commission. Brief report was giving to the assembly on the 2023 commercial fishery activities as the President of L’nu Fisheries. I was also available through out the assembly to talk with members, discuss issues or concerns and answer any questions related to both the Kelewatl Commission and L’nu Fisheries activities.

**November 14<sup>th</sup> – PEI MSC Client Group meeting** – me with the PEI MSC client group to discuss the moderate livelihood fishery and the requirements that would need to be met by the MLF. We also discussed whether we would join the Association of Sustainable fisheries, the pros and cons. More information and time required before decision will be made.

**November 18<sup>th</sup> – NCPEI Board of Directors Meeting** - I attended this meeting as an advisor to the Board.

**November 20<sup>th</sup> to November 23<sup>rd</sup> – Fisheries Enterprise Management Training** - The Fisheries Enterprise Management Training Program was implemented in 2011 and involves the development and delivery of a series of six 4-day training sessions for the Managers and Fisheries Coordinators of the Communal Commercial Fisheries Enterprises (CFEs) to provide the skills and knowledge needed in the day-to-day and long-term enterprise management of a fishing operation. During this time Jody Jesso attended Module 2, Introduction to Financial Management. This course focuses on the basic fundamentals of financial management as they pertain to analyzing financial statements and budgeting in CFEs. The course content includes financial language, financial statements, financial decision making,

capital and operational budgeting, and peer group discussions. There are 6 modules in total, additional training will take place in November 2024.

**November 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Met with the NCPEI environment team to discuss possible project ideas for the DFO Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk and the Habitat Stewardship Program.

**December 6<sup>th</sup> - UInooweg(NICFI)/NCPEI** – Met with Barry Eisenhauer to discuss training on the Fisheries Management System (FMS) with the new L’nu Fisheries Assistant, Jody Jesso. Our Capacity agreement with NICFI for Jody’s position. Also discussed the Infrastructure and Diversification application and the purchase of the “shelling It Out” a lobster vessel for LFA 26a. We also discussed the acquisition of another Tuna license.

**December 12<sup>th</sup> – MAPC/DFO/CCFE’s – Maritime Provinces Fishery Regulations (MRFR)/proposed amendments – Eric Leblanc, Regional Senior Fisheries Management Officer DFO.** This was an engagement session regarding the proposed amendments to the Maritime Provinces Fishery Regulations. Backgrounder on the MPFR was presented as well as the differences between the MPFR and the Aboriginal Communal Fishery Regulations. Discussion then took place on proposed Amendments to the MPFR’s. Information email requested on all proposed amendments.

**December 14<sup>th</sup> – NCPEI XMAS Open house** – Attended open house to meet with community partners, government officials and funders.

## **2024**

**January 3<sup>rd</sup> - UInooweg (NICFI)/NCPEI** – Met with Barry Eisenhauer to discuss our Infrastructure and Diversification application and the purchase of the additional Tuna license. Bryan Martin with MAPC was also in attendance. Discussed the likelihood of the application being approved as the seller has other interested parties in the license and the possibility of being reimbursed if the NCPEI purchased the license on its own.

**January 9<sup>th</sup> - UInooweg(NICFI)/NCPEI** – Met with Barry Eisenhauer, Bryan Martin and Brian Deveau to discuss our Infrastructure and Diversification application and the purchase of the additional Tuna license. Brian Deveau is the third-party evaluator for NICFI. He makes recommendation to the approval committee on whether the acquisition meets their requirements, ie fair market value for the acquisition.

**January 16<sup>th</sup> - PEI DFO Tuna Working Group zoom meeting-** this meeting is chaired by DFO, normally Ben Moore from resource management. It’s made up of members from the PEIFA, PEI charter Fishery, Mikmaq Confederacy, Native Council and the Province. This meeting was to review the 2023 tuna fishery, receive updates or issues from C&P and to hear from industry.

**January 16<sup>th</sup> – PEI Recreational Fisheries Advisory Committee Meeting** – This meeting was chaired by Lori Cuddy, Area Director for PEI. Agenda items discussed included:

Updates on Striped Bass, Groundfish, Atlantic Salmon, Smelts, Recreational Mackerel, Brook Trout, Rainbow Trout, and Winter Perch. Glen Gillespie (Conservation and Protection) gave an update on Violations and checks from DFO, and Erin Perry gave a Provincial enforcement update.

**January 17<sup>th</sup> – Lnu Fisheries Board meeting** – Agenda included:

- Approval of Agenda
- Review & Approval of minutes from Jan 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, meeting
- Financial update
- Audited Financial Statements Review (BDO) Lauren Vail
- Fall Lobster fishery update (comparison documents to be presented)
- Tuna Fishery update (verbal)
- NICFI update (verbal)
- Spring Lobster Fishery (Verbal)
- Lnu Annual Meeting (Verbal)

**January 23<sup>rd</sup> - DFO – Carter Russel – Check in/update Meeting with DFO - Carter Russel** – Met with Carter Russel at the Office to discuss updates within the different fisheries, discussed Lobster fisheries, plans for the LFA 24 season, up coming L’nu AGA. Also discussed food fishery and Harvest Guideline for 2024.

**January 23<sup>rd</sup> – Townhall Meeting in Zone 1**- Attended this meeting with the membership from Zone 1, was there to address any concerns or to answer any question around the communal commercial or FSC fishery.

**January 24<sup>th</sup> – PEI Watershed Alliance** - the Alliance hosted a meeting at the Royalty Center for groups that are working on salmon projects across the island to connect, talk about their projects, and overall give everyone a better sense of what may be happening across the island and in their own areas. Summaries shared with the group of the work each organization is doing to support salmon conservation.

**January 24<sup>th</sup> & January 25<sup>th</sup> – PEI Bait Forum** - Attended online this 2-day forum. Agenda items discussed included:

- Presentation on intergovernmental Steering Committee on bait for the commercial fisheries in Atlantic Canada
- Overview of bait supply and demand in Atlantic Canada
- Process on improving import bait species
- Stock Status updates and trends
- Mackerel US landings
- Fishers Panel on Bait Challenges, Outlook and solutions for the Future
- Bait Suppliers Panel on price, selection and availability over time
- Presentations on Forage Species, New Emerging Fisheries Policy, Use of Aquatic Invasive Species as Bait, Alternative Baits and Manufactured Baits.

**January 24<sup>th</sup> - Townhall Meeting in Zone 3-** Attended this meeting with the membership from Zone 3, was there to address any concerns or to answer any question around the communal commercial or FSC fishery.

**January 25<sup>th</sup> - Townhall Meeting in Zone 2-** Attended this meeting with the membership from Zone 2, was there to address any concerns or to answer any question around the communal commercial or FSC fishery.

**February 8<sup>th</sup> – PEI Mechanical / Bar Clam Advisory Committee Meeting** – Meeting is chaired by DFO and includes representatives from the commercial fishing industry, PEIFA, MCPEI, NCPEI, and then Province. Agenda items discussed included an update from science, no new science to report for 2023. A Review of the 2023 fisheries for both mechanical bar clams and regular bar clam fisheries. Overall season was good, sales were good, and product had high meat yield. Bar Clam management measures will remain the same as in 2022. Conservation and Protection gave a short update on the fishery with no issues to report.

**February 9<sup>th</sup> – Whalesafe Gear Engagement Session** – Purpose of this session was to engage Indigenous communities and Fishing associations on the DFO implementation strategy for whalesafe gear following the notice to fisher that was distributed on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Presentation was given on: The Species at Risk Act; Low Breaking Strength Gear Implementation for 2024 and beyond, which included gear trials which the NCPEI through L’nu Fisheries took part in; Potential changes in condition of licenses for 2024; and a round table conversation.

**February 13<sup>th</sup> – PEI Estuarial (Smelts, Gasperau) Advisory Committee Meeting** – This meeting was chaired by DFO resource Management (Ben Moore). Agenda items included Review of the 2023 Gasperau fishery, Management measures for 2024, Review of the 2023 smelt fishery, Management measures for 2024, Update from Conservation and Protection, Amendment link for proposed Aquaculture Lease Movements and Striped Bass. Overall fishery for Gasperau had a huge uptake in 2023 but there was also a huge increase in Striped Bass which is becoming a huge issue. Striped Bass in the Smelt fishery caused some fishers to stop fishing as there was no smelts to catch and nets were filling with Striped Bass.

**February 14<sup>th</sup> – Eastern Canada Communal Commercial Licensing Policy Review** – Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council/NCPEI/NCNS/NBAPC/DFO – This meeting was to meet both the Maritime and gulf region DFO reps who work on Policy as well as discuss the two main policy documents that were implemented without any consultation with the Native Councils. First document discussed was the Replacement Policy that was introduced in 2006, a policy respecting request by Aboriginal Organizations for the issuance of Replacement licenses for Communal Commercial Licenses. Second policy discuss was the Flow of Benefits Policy which was introduced in 2022. This Policy was a policy respecting requests to relinquish an inshore Commercial Licence and issue a Communal Commercial License in Eastern Canada. A lot of discussion took place around how we can streamline some of these processes to ensure limited delays for Indigenous groups when acquiring new access.

**February 15<sup>th</sup> - PEI EEL Advisory Committee Meeting** – This meeting was chaired by DFO resource Management (Ben Moore). Agenda items included Review of the 2023 Eel fishery, Management measures for 2024, Management measures for 2024, Update from Conservation and Protection, Amendment link for proposed Aquaculture Lease Movements and Striped Bass. Overall fishery for Eel on par for the previous season. In 2023 but there was also a huge increase in Striped Bass which is becoming a huge issue. Striped Bass in the Eel fishery caused some fishers to stop fishing.

**February 15<sup>th</sup> – PEI Oyster Advisory Committee Meeting** – This meeting was chaired by Steve Maud from DFO. Agenda items included approval of previous meeting minutes, review of the 2023 relay fishery, fall fishery and processors update. Update from Conservation and protection, Science update. Industry round table. Overall spring and fall fisheries went well, more C&P work is needed on recreational fishers and fishers would like to have helpers again which would help with future recruitment.

**February 24/25<sup>th</sup> – NCPEI Board of directors meeting** – Attended this meeting in an advisory role, agenda included: Board appointment, 5-year strategy, financial training and board governance. Day 2 included reports from executive and staff, Zone guidelines and constitution and Bylaws discussion.

**February 27<sup>th</sup> – Gulf Large Pelagics Advisory Committee (GLPAC)** – Meeting took place in Moncton and was chaired by Carol Leblanc from DFO. This is the Gulfs premeeting before the Atlantic Large Pelagics Advisory Committee meeting in Halifax later this year. Agenda items included:

- Adoption of the GLPAC terms of reference
- Review of the 2023 action items
- 2023 ICCAT outcomes
- Review of the 2023 bluefin tuna fisheries:
  - Commercial fishery, Catch and release fishery, catch and retain pilot project
  - Industry round table
  - C&P update
- Bluefin tuna fisheries management:
  - Logbook
  - New license conditions for 2024
  - New hail out option
  - Collaborative agreement
  - Release of scientific tagged tuna
  - Alternative bait trail results
- Other updates included:
  - Fishery Monitoring Policy
  - New camera pilot project
  - Swordfish harpoon fishery
  - Shark recreational fishery
  - Shark interactions

**March 9<sup>th</sup> – L’nu Fisheries Limited – Annual Meeting** – Loyalist Inn Summerside. I attended and presented the annual Lnu fisheries limited report to the members of the Native Council of PEI. Agenda Items included:

- Review of the 2023 minutes
- L’nu Fisheries Audited Financial Statements
- Presidents Report
- DFO Conservation and Protection review of the 2023 season Q&A
- Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council – Whale safe gear presentation
- Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council – Maritime awareness information System presentation (MAIS)
- NCPEI Striped Bass Project – presentation from Clara Jane Wood

**March 13<sup>th</sup> – Gulf Groundfish Advisory Committee Meeting** – Virtual meeting, agenda items discussed included:

- DFO updates
  - GGAC 2023
  - Precautionary Approach- Atlantic Halibut 4RST
  - IFMP and rebuilding plans
- Science summary of stock status
  - Atlantic cod 4T-Vn, Greenland Halibut, Northern Cod 4RS, 3Pn
- Atlantic Halibut Longline survey
- Science advice to support the rebuilding plan for Atlantic Cod 4T-Vn
- Bycatch rebuilding plan stocks - for Atlantic Halibut 4RST
- Atlantic Halibut 4 RST mobile gear fleet quota transfer
- TAC and Management measures, Atlantic cod 4T-Vn, Greenland Halibut, Northern Cod 4RS, 3Pn
- Fishery Monitoring Policy

**March 15<sup>th</sup> – PEI Conservaton and Protection Enforcement Round Table** – Meeting was chaired by Glen Gillespie C&P DFO. Agenda topics discussed included: Detachment overview discussing the Charlottetown and Alberton detachment, their assets, vessels and regional tools. Discussing took place around what C&P does within the commercial fishery, Recreational fishery and the Food, social and ceremonial fishery. C&P provided an enforcement presentation breaking down hrs of effort versus each fishery and a summary of offences. Discussions took place around challenges within C&P as well as open discussions on commercial fishery, bait, recreational fishery, striped bass, and logbooks.

**April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Resource Management Officer Technician (RMOT)** – Held interviews for this new position. The Native Council received funding for a RMOT position through the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. This position we titled “Food social and ceremonial fishery monitor” will allow for better reporting and education around our FSC fishery.

**April 5<sup>th</sup> – meeting with Ron Howse and Clara Jane Wood on a potential Striped Bass project.** Details of the project were kept in confidence but basically a project looking at the potential of lowering bass numbers through recreational fishing.

**April 11<sup>th</sup> – L’nu Fisheries Annual employee meeting** – Met with the employees for Lnu fisheries. Went over employment contracts and the vessel safety program. Handed out new copies of the Vessel Safety Manual and discussed any concerns or issues with fishers from each vessel.

**April 11<sup>th</sup> – Lnu Fisheries trainee meeting** – met with interested fishers who want training in the commercial lobster fishery. This training is funded through a partnership with Lnu fisheries and the NCPEI islets Program. Five trainees were hired for the LFA 24 and 26a lobster fisheries. Contracts were signed and an introduction was given to our vessel safety manual.

**April 11<sup>th</sup> – Meeting with Todd Lefrance and Clara Jane Wood regarding our Wildlife Management Area in Victoria West** – Todd works for forestry and has been working with us on the cleaning up Seaweed Road. Seaweed road was an access point to the shore that runs along side of the Wildlife Management Area in Victoria West. It hasn't been maintained for many years and Todd had access to funding to help with tree removal from the road and ditches on either side.

**April 11<sup>th</sup> – Food, Social and Ceremonial Fishery information session- Zone 1.** Portage Satellite Office. Held a session in Portage to meet with members, go over the FSC Community Harvest Guidelines, discuss new measures around the North Atlantic Right Whales like lost gear reporting, no floating rope, and marine mammal reporting. Also issued designation and handed out tags and copies of the guidelines.

**April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> – DFO weather calls for the opening of LFA 24 and 26a Lobster fisheries.**

**May 1<sup>st</sup> – DFO weather call for the opening of LFA24 Lobster fishery**

**May 2<sup>nd</sup> - meeting with Ron Howse and Clara Jane Wood on a potential Striped Bass project.** Details of the project were kept in confidence but basically a project looking at the potential of lowering bass numbers through recreational fishing.

**May 3<sup>rd</sup> – DFO/MAPC/NCPEI – Moderate Livelihood Fisheries meeting** – This meeting was with Gorazd Ruseski (Director General Indigenous Affairs National), Steven Purvis (a/Director of Indigenous Collaborative Programs) , Tracei Issac Mann Crosby (a/ Director of Indigenous Affairs Gulf Region), Lorraine Augustine NCNS, Lisa Cooper NCPEI, Brendan Moore NBAPC, Roger Hunka MAPC, Vanessa Mitchell MAPC, Doug Mcleod NCNS, and myself. The three Chiefs had reached out to DFO to have a meeting with the DFO's Indigenous Affairs Directorate to discuss Moderate Livelihood fisheries and why the three Councils have not been in those discussions. The conversation around Moderate Livelihood was short as DFO has no mandate from the CIRNAC to negotiate Moderate Livelihood Fisheries with the Native Councils. CIRNAC is where they take their direction from when it comes to rights-based fisheries. Instead, the conversation switched over to programs that do apply to the Native Councils, the AFS program, NICFI Programs and the AAROM program.

**May 8<sup>th</sup> – Canada Water Agency, Environment and Climate Change Canada** – Presentation prepared for the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples – Presented by Veronique Hiriart-Baer, Director General Freshwater Management. The Canada Water Agency mandate is to improve freshwater management in CANADA by providing leadership, effective collaborative federally. To improve coordination and collaboration with provinces, territories, and indigenous Peoples to proactively address national, and regional transboundary, freshwater challenges and opportunities. The presentation addressed an overview on

the key elements of the Canada Water Agency. Their Freshwater Action Plan and Freshwater Ecosystem Initiatives. Highlights of projects and partnerships and Funding opportunities.

**May 15<sup>th</sup> – NCPEI 2024 AFSAR** – Met with Clara Jane Wood and Josee Dion (Regional Senior Officer indigenous Affairs Fisheries and Oceans Gulf Region) to discuss the Native Councils 2024 Aboriginal Funding for Species At Risk agreement. Update on the workplan and budget to make sure everything is going forward as planned.

**May 28<sup>th</sup> , 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> – Native Council Town Halls** - Attended these meetings with the membership from Zone 1, 2, and 3, was there to address any concerns or to answer any question around the communal commercial or FSC fishery.

**June 3<sup>rd</sup> – PEI Mussel Farms – Met with Russell Dockendorf from PEI Mussel Farms.** They are interested in working with us on our Mussel Spat lease in St. Peters Bay. Previous partners for this lease were Getson Brothers out of Tracadie Bay, but they haven't been involved with us since, due to tunicate issues around transporting product.

**June 11<sup>th</sup> - NCPEI 2024 AFSAR – follow up meeting from our May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting** - Met with Clara Jane Wood and Josee Dion (Regional Senior Officer indigenous Affairs Fisheries and Oceans Gulf Region) to discuss the Native Councils 2024 Aboriginal Funding for Species At Risk agreement. Update on the workplan and budget to make sure everything is going forward as planned.

**June 12<sup>th</sup> – DFO C&P/NCPEI - Resource Management Officer Technician (RMOT)** –The Native Council received funding for a RMOT position through the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. This position we titled “Food social and ceremonial fishery monitor” will allow for better reporting and education around our FSC fishery. This was the introduction meeting between DFO conservation and Protection and NCPEI to explain what the program is and where we would be able to partner with C&P. We met with Matt MacEwen and Glen Gillespie from DFO. Introductions were made between then and Richard Cooper who is our new FSC fishery monitor. Discussions took place around the FSC fishery and where we would be able to partner with C&P and how communication between the NCPEI and C&P should take place. Joint patrols were also discussed, and C&P seemed very interested and excited about this new position within the organization. Richard will act as a liaison between C&P and the NCPEI when it comes to issues around the FSC fishery and will also be participating with C&P on joint patrols.

**June 12<sup>th</sup> – PEI Tuna Working Group Meeting** – Attended this meeting chaired by Ben Moore resource management PEI Area office. This working group meeting is an annual meeting where representatives meet from the province, DFO, MCPEI, NCPEI and the PEIFA to discuss the tuna fishery. Agenda includes a review of the previous year's fishery in this meeting the 2023 fishery which included Commercial, catch and release and catch and retain fisheries. Discussion took place around projected quotas for 2024, management changes for 2024 and recommendations and discussions around the 2024 conservation harvesting plan.

**June 13<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> – NCPEI Board Meeting**

**June 27<sup>th</sup> – NICFI Training Discussion** – Met with Stacey McGuire to discuss training opportunities for our commercial fishers. We also discussed the creation of an annual training plan for Lnu Fisheries.

Fishing Master 4 training is being offered through Stacey's program and we discussed those within our fishery that would qualify. We also discussed the Marine Safety Coordinator funding we were approved for through Transport Canada and how this will fit into L'nu's safety training plan and oversight of our vessel safety program.

**August 3<sup>rd</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> – NCPEI Board Meeting**

**August 5<sup>th</sup> – DFO weather call for LFA 25 lobster fishery.**

**August 7<sup>th</sup> – L'nu Fisheries Board of Directors Meeting** – Held a Lnu Board meeting to discuss the following Agenda items: Review of previous minutes, financial statements, update on the Spring Lobster fisheries for LFA 24 and LFA 26a, review of the Audited Financial Statements by Lauren Vail (BDO)

**August 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> – NCPEI Panmure Island Powwow** – Attended, setup and take down of the Annual Powwow. Provided lobster and Halibut for the feast.

**August 22<sup>nd</sup> – NCPEI/DFO** – Introduction meeting with Josee Dion in her new role as Regional Senior Officer Indigenous Affairs, Fisheries and Harbour Management. Josee met with me and Chief Cooper to discuss her new role and to talk about our fishery. Previously we worked with Josee on our AFSAR agreements but now we will be working with her on our AFSAR, RMOT, and AFS agreements. We gave Josee an overview of the fishery both Communal commercial and FSC. We also discussed the importance of program funding versus project funding.

**August 28<sup>th</sup> – Marine Safety Coordinator interviews** – The NCPEI through the Transport Canada Indigenous and Local Communities Engagement and Partnership Program received funding to hire a Marine Safety Coordinator. This position will work with both our communal commercial fishery and or FSC fishery to ensure all fishers are knowledgeable and have access to training around safety fishing in a marine environment as well as coordinate the Lnu Fisheries Vessel Safety Program.

**September 10<sup>th</sup> – MAPC/NCPEI – Marine Safety Coordinator introduction to EMSA** – Met with Barry Marsman through teams to introduce Ryan Knockwood, our new Marine Safety Coordinator to Barry. Barry works with the Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council on then Transport Canada file and the Emergency Maritime Safety Awareness system. A huge part of the Lnu fisheries vessel safety program is focused around the EMSA system. The EMSA system allows us to track the daily usage of our vessel trips as they leave and enter harbours, it also generates reports on based on vessel trips. This initial meeting was just for introductions and to give Barry an update on what this new position is and what it will entail.

**September 12<sup>th</sup> – TPC/NCPEI/Indigenous and Local Communities Engagement and Partnership Program** – Initial meeting with Transport Canada to discuss our approved proposal and workplan for the Marine Safety Coordinator position we applied for. We received 4 yrs funding for this position through the (ILCEPP) to hire a community member to work with our commercial and FSC fishery on Safety. This meeting was to go over the work plan and budget and to insure we were all on the same page moving forward.

**September 19<sup>th</sup> – MAPC/NCPEI/Marine Safety Coordinator** - Met with Barry Marsman and Ryan Knock at our office, to go over the ILCEPP agreement and work plan. Barry works with the Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council on their Transport Canada file and the Emergency Maritime Safety Awareness system. A huge part of the Lnu fisheries vessel safety program is focused around the EMSA system. The EMSA system allows us to track the daily usage of our vessel trips as they leave and enter harbours, it also generates reports on based on vessel trips. This meeting was to introduce Ryan to what Barry does and where he can help Ryan in moving this position forward. To get Ryan set up to use the EMSA system, and to go over the Lnu Fisheries Vessel Safety Program. We also discussed Ryan taking part in some upcoming training that will be taking place in Nova Scotia with their communal commercial fishing entity.

**September 27<sup>th</sup> – NICFI/NCPEI – Capacity Program and Expansion and Diversification Program –** Met with Barry Eisenhauer who works with NCPEI on the NICFI file. We went over the year end reports for both programs and discussed application for the 2024 fiscal year for both programs. We also discussed the training for the Fishery Management System and other training needs for any of our fishers.

#### **In Summary:**

- Had numerous DFO/industry meetings dealing with the commercial fishery, ie - rock crab, lobster, tuna advisory committee meetings.
- Had numerous DFO meetings dealing with the Food, Social and Ceremonial fishery, ie – Striped Bass, Halibut, Pow wow fishery.
- Met with buyer in Alberton to discuss this year's fishing season (Maritime Select Lobster)
- Also met with B & C Fisheries, Arsenault's Fish Mart, and TnT Tuna
- Met with L'nu Employees to finish off the signing of employee contracts.
- Met with conservation officers for the province.
- Numerous meetings were held with DFO on the AFS agreement, ATP and the FSC fishery
- Held numerous L'nu Fisheries Board Meetings
- Staff Meetings
- Attended a LFA 26a Lobster Advisory Committee meetings
- NCPEI Town Hall/BBQ's Meetings
- Met with PEI Aquaculture Alliance
- Numerous Meetings with the Maritime Aboriginal Aquatics Resource Secretariat on different issues, including: DFO policy changes; Species at Risk Consultations; Transport Canada; Canadian Wildlife Service and DFO Habitat Branch
- Attended the DFO PEI Tuna Working Group meetings.
- Annual Hunting and Trapping User Group Breakfast meeting with the Minister

#### **Client Contacts**

Day to day contact with clients took place either by email, cell phone, office phone or in person, in and out of the office on the following issues throughout the year:

- FSC fishery
- Covid 19
- The commercial mussel lease fishery
- The communal commercial fishery (i.e., lobster, rock crab, tuna, gaspereau, eel, shellfish, ground fish, mackerel/herring ...)
- Membership
- Firearms safety
- The commercial oyster lease's
- The pleasure craft operator's card
- Lobster trap building
- Hunting & Trapping
- Transport Canada personnel requirements
- Employment
- L'nu Fisheries Limited

#### **Upcoming Session:**

- In our next sessions of Town Hall Meetings, I will be asking the members to put forth any changes they would like to see to the existing Community Harvest Booklet. (For example, new information, other fish species, changes to harvest methods) This collected information would then be used in negotiating next year's AFS agreement and developing next year's Community Harvest Booklet.
- Also, any members interested in receiving Firearms Safety Training should put their name forward as soon as possible.
- Starting in January members should be submitting names to the NCPEI/L'nu Fisheries Limited for interest in the Commercial shellfish fishery (Clam, Spring and/or Fall Oyster). These Licenses are becoming very popular and get spoken for very quickly. Members of NCPEI have first opportunity to receive these license designations so the sooner we confirm the membership need the easier it is to prepare.
- We are also collecting names of Members interested in receiving commercial fishing training through the Holland College Marine Centre.

#### **Conclusion:**

##### **AFS Agreement**

Each year since the early 1990's the Native Council of PEI has signed an Agreement with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). The Agreement is called the Aboriginal Fishing Strategy (AFS) Agreement. These AFS agreements came about as a response by DFO to the Supreme Court of Canada's Sparrow Decision. The Sparrow Decision recognized that Aboriginal People had the Aboriginal Right to fish for Food, Social and Ceremonial needs. The AFS agreement gave the NCPEI the means to provide

access to a Food, Social and Ceremonial harvest for aquatic species to the NCPEI membership. This access is regulated and monitored within the AFS agreement. The Agreement also gives the monetary assistance needed to facilitate the management of this fishery from year to year. In 2011 DFO did an evaluation and assessment on the NCPEI pertaining to its annual AFS agreement. NCPEI scored extremely high on the evaluation. This put us in a situation where we became eligible to sign a multi-year AFS agreement with DFO. In June 2011 NCPEI signed a five-year AFS agreement with DFO. The last time DFO signed a multi-year agreement with NCPEI was in the mid 1990's. In the Spring of 2016 DFO assessed the NCPEI again in moving forward in signing another five-year agreement. The NCPEI again scored at a level which makes a multiyear agreement possible. March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021, was the end of this Five year agreement with DFO. We have signed and are now presently engaged in another five-year agreement which would end March 31<sup>st</sup> 2026.

### **Food, Social and Ceremonial Harvest**

The main part of the annual AFS Agreements is the section on food, social and ceremonial harvest. This section of the agreement is issued to the NCPEI in the form of a license. There are conditions attached to each license that determines species fished, quantity, gear used, season dates and times. All these conditions are part of the yearly negotiation process each year between the NCPEI and DFO. All decisions are based on best practices to ensure conservation of the species. The Kelewatl Commission has taken this FSC license and developed a Community Harvest Booklet. The booklet itself is an educational tool for members to use as a guide when harvesting.

Some of the sections covered in the booklet include:

- Rights
- Duties and Responsibilities
- Responsible Harvest Methods and Equipment
- Methods of Live Release
- Species Conditions
- Fishing and Water Safety
- Operator Competency Requirements

Whenever a member comes in for a FSC designation he/she receives a designation card ( ID Card), a copy of the Harvest Booklet and 12 report cards to record their monthly catches which they have to submit once a month to the Kelewatl Commission.

To date our AFS FSC license covers the following species:

- Trout
- Salmon
- Striped Bass
- Eel
- Smelt
- Oysters/Clams/Mussels

- Lobster
- Flounder/Cod/Halibut
- Gasperaux/Herring/Mackerel
- Grey Seal

In 2023 there were 148 clients that received designation cards from the Kelewatl Commission to take part in the NCPEI Food, Social and Ceremonial Fishery. 148 harvesters, (111 harvesters from Zone 1), (12 harvesters from Zone 2) and (25 harvesters from Zone 3). 110 members took part in the FSC lobster fishery, 36 members received salmon tags, and 15 members received pelagic tags. Report cards were sent in by mail or verbally reported over the phone by Members taking part in the FSC harvest. These figures are on lower than the previous year. Membership participation in the lobster fishery is growing. With the increase in Membership participation, we will be limiting the amount of lobster tags being issued out to each harvester. We have made numerous requests to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to increase our FSC lobster tag allocation but to date we have not received any word on the request. We will be discussing this further with DFO over the winter. There was no Annual pow wow fishery for Halibut this year.

**Below is the 2023 Food Social and Ceremonial Harvesters Report:**

		AQUATIC SPECIES REPORT									
		Speckled Trout		Rainbow Trout		Striped Bass		Smelts		Eels	
<b>River ( Body of Water)</b>		Kept	Released	Kept	Released	Kept	Released	Kept	Released	Kept	Released
Hebron		38	19	4							
Whites Cove						17	16				
St. Peters Bay		8				9					
Granville		3	2								
Dunk River		24	4	27	14						
Howards Cove						12					
Tyne Valley		20	31								
Stanley Bridge		10									
Northumberland Straight						24	66				
Montague			5								
Trout River		58	38								
Mill River		217	96	66	7	3	2	8			
Roseville		23	82								
Foxley River		54	28	11	3						
Corran Ban		2									
Lindens Pond		1	3								
Duvar		6	3								
Scales Pond		3	3								
St. Marys			4								
March Banks Pond		2	4								
Ellerslie		10	17								
Seal River		5	3								
West Shore						4	2				
Hillsborough						3					
Miminegash						11	14				
Lower Rollo bay						3	1				
Summerside Harbor						6	17				
Sheeps Pond						7	2				
Tryon River						8	4				
Alaska						13	4				
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

		<b>GROUND FISH REPORT</b>					
		Cod		Halibut		Flounder	
<b>River ( Body of Water)</b>		Kept	Released	Kept	Released	Kept	Released
	Miminegash						13
	Mill River					42	
	Grand River	5					
	Tyne Valley						15
	Summerside Harbor	24	37				
	Cape Wolfe	15	12				
	Cardigan River	15	30				
	Alberton					25	6
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>34</b>
		<b>PELAGICS REPORT</b>					
		Mackerel		Herring		Gaspeaux	
<b>River ( Body of Water)</b>		Kept	Released	Kept	Released	Kept	Released
	Summerside Harbor	24	37				
	Cape Wolfe	15	12				
	Cardigan River	15	30				
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
		<b>SHELL FISH REPORT</b>					
		Oysters	SS Clam	Bar Clam	Quahog	Razor Clam	
<b>River ( Body of Water)</b>		Kept	Kept	Kept	Kept	Kept	
	The Brae				212		
	West Point			127			
	Mill River	25	400				
	Fortune Bay			928			
	Hebron				250		
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>1055</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

		<b>SALMON REPORT</b>					
		Male			Female		
		Kept	Released	Released	Released	Released	Released
		Grilse	MSW	slink	Grilse	MSW	Slink
<b>River ( Body of Water)</b>							
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

		<b>LOBSTER REPORT</b>		
		Kept	Released	Released
			Berried	Under Carapace
<b>River ( Body of Water)</b>				
LFA 26a	Brudenell River	224		
LFA 24	Egmont Bay	615	5	51
LFA 25	Campbelton	25	2	6
LFA 25	Summerside	546	11	46
LFA 25	Howards Cove	200		
LFA 24	Malpeque Bay	279	55	69
LFA 24	Grand River	192	52	62
LFA 25	Whites Cove	300	360	172
LFA 25	Foxely River	25		
LFA 25	Alaska	724	123	359
LFA 25	Norththumberland Strait	360		
LFA 25	Ives Point	269	42	55
LFA 25	Roseville	434	75	118
LFA 25	West Point	1065	120	
LFA 25	MacDonalds Shore	208		
LFA 26a	Cardigan Bay	100	49	54
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5566</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>992</b>

**Estimated Lobster LBS**  
**5,288**

		<b>GREY SEAL REPORT</b>		
		Date	Approx Weight	Male/Female
<b>River ( Body of Water)</b>				

**Kelewatl Commission Fisheries Monitor  
Annual General Assembly Report  
October 2024**

**Richard Cooper, Fisheries Monitor**

**Introduction:**

The Kelewatl Commission Fisheries Monitor's responsibilities include but are not limited to attending community meetings, travel to areas in the province where the Native Councils FSC Fisheries take place, educate and assist where necessary about harvesting safety, proper trap/usage and promoting an awareness of the aquatic environment including species at risk that might appear in a trap, and convey to members how important catch report cards are and ensure that they are being filled out properly as deemed necessary by the Community Harvest Plan.

**Deliverables/Activities:**

In this first year, the focus was on creating a framework of what the program looks like moving forward. This included getting the groundwork in place such as a reporting system, what geographical areas to focus on for each specific fishery, reaching out and connecting with members in each zone, answering questions and sharing information, etc. This was a very exciting and educational experience.

The first half of this position involved attending zone meetings in all 3 zones, providing information on the role, and the importance of filling out and sending in report cards as well as determining a reporting system for report cards and lost gear reports.

I took part in different training opportunities and certificates such as the Marine Basic First Aid, Pleasure Craft Operator Certificate, Trauma Informed Care Certificate, Domestic Vessel Safety training, and a Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Certificate.

I was able to participate in some events that affect the FSC fisheries for the Native Council of Prince Edward Island which includes a meeting with Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada on the Duty to Consult and the Guiding Principles, and meetings with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans around our FSC fisheries and guidelines.

I had the privilege of attending community events such as the Red Dress Walk at Victoria Park, 2SLGBTQQIA+ Safety and Inclusion Workshop, Congress of Aboriginal Peoples Environmental meeting, Worlds Ocean Day clean up, Language Program, Environmental Programs, Native Councils Annual Pow Wow, Mawi'omi, Town Halls, and Zone meetings.

I reached out and contacted members throughout the year to assist and collect monthly report cards and lost gear forms. I was able to retrieve some lost traps this year and had them transported back to the Native Council.

The second half of the year consisted of continued monitoring of the FSC fisheries and further development of partnership building with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. I contacted Acting Field Supervisor Fisheries Officer Simon to discuss the inability to report online for the FSC when it comes to the lost gear section. We were able to establish a way of reporting lost gear forms for members via email instead of using the website.

I participated in a meeting with Carter Russel the Aboriginal Area Program Coordinator for Prince Edward Island on my position and the partnership moving forward with DFO as it pertains to DFO and the Native Council of Prince Edward Island working together on the monitoring of the FSC fisheries.

I met with Glen Gillespie PEI Area Chief Conservation and Protection and Matt MacEwen fisheries officer to start a working partnership between the Native Council of Prince Edward Island and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. This created the opportunity for involvement in compliance checks in different species under our FSC, invite to participate in training opportunities held for fishery officers, team building with fisheries officer in each zone, and an avenue of communication back and forth for when they contact a Native Council FSC member.

I was involved in a weekend joint operation with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans for a compliance check on Striped Bass with Fisheries Officers Donnie Sheidow, Matt MacEwen, and Anthony Cheverie which ended up being a great experience and very educational for both parties. I was able to answer questions they had around the FSC fisheries and handed them our FSC guideline booklet for a reference. This opportunity allowed for the observation from Fishery Officers to monitor how I approach Native Council FSC members, ask for a harvesting card, and explain the important of not having the harvesting card on their person if asked by myself or a Fisheries Officer, and what could happen if they don't have it on them, measuring different species of fish, and reminding them to mark it on their report cards and have them sent in each month.

I was involved in a joint patrol and compliance check with Fisheries Officer Peter Boudreau on the Fall Lobster Fisheries Setting Day, we observed different areas of Zone 1 where FSC Members set their traps and plan on doing compliance checks in the future on those specific areas of interest. I also got to assist in zoning different areas for contaminated shellfish, I was reached out to and contacted by Lindsay Waddell Detachment Supervisor for Alberton Detachment regarding some lost gear belonging to one of our members and was able to assist in the process. I got to learn some information about the MSX parasite which I was able to pass onto some members that it had affected.

As part of the Environmental team I was able to assist and support Clara Jane in some activities throughout the year such as Beach Clean up in Panmure Island, Helped set up a green house at the Portage Office, transported the side by side to the Wildlife Management Resource area for monitoring projects, and assisted in transporting and delivering tree saplings to each zone for a tree planting project.

**Language & Drumming  
Annual General Assembly Report  
November 2023 – October 2024**

**Introduction:**

The Language and Drumming program works to support and revitalize Indigenous languages and culture through weekly classes offered to non-status and off-reserve Indigenous people within the province. Classes are run by community Elders and knowledge-keepers and primarily focus on the Mi'kmaq language, though efforts are made to also include to share the traditions and languages of other tribal nations as well. Along with language lessons, classes include traditional drumming and singing, cultural teachings, stories, and crafts. The program employs a coordinator to oversee development and operations, and a second staff member to facilitate the weekly classes.

**Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

The core objective of the program is the reclamation of language, which will help to create a stronger, more cohesive off-reserve Indigenous community on Epekwitk and encourage proud acceptance of all Indigenous people. Investing in this revitalization of Indigenous languages is an important step towards promoting cultural preservation, reconciliation, education, and economic development in Canada.

As it works towards these overall goals, the weekly language and drumming classes form the foundation of the program. However, the program also works to increase availability of language resources, create teaching guides and materials, develop adult learning resources, and share cultural practices and activities.

**Activities and Deliverables:**

- Regular instruction and sharing of language and traditional activities at both beginner and intermediate levels, primarily in the form of weekly classes.
  - Classes are offered in all three Zones, with an additional online class offered for those who might otherwise be unable to attend in person.
  - The program has also begun offering closed weekly classes for Indigenous staff and clients of NCPEI's Winter Street shelter in Summerside.
- Teaching and facilitating the performance of traditional hand-drum songs, along with Elder guidance on any relevant cultural teachings.
- Creating a 'Word of the Week' video to be shared online through social media accounts.
- Developing and maintaining educational resources. These can include flashcards, posters, word games (such as bingo, crosswords, and wordsearches), worksheets, and reference handouts.
- Maintaining and updating the Language Resource Manual developed by the program in prior years.
- Planning and executing cultural language and/or hand-drum crafting workshops for the community.
- Facilitating the addition of traditional crafting and teachings to weekly classes.

- Encouraging the inclusion of Indigenous guest speakers from different tribal nations to attend classes and share non-Mi'kmaq traditions, skills, and languages.

### **Promotion and Outreach:**

The program staff regularly, through social media, share details relating to the weekly classes. Of note, the 'Word of the Week' videos are posted weekly. Phone calls and emails are made to membership to promote the classes and encourage attendance.

On occasion, the program also performs educational outreach to secondary and post secondary students within the province.

### **Future Activities:**

Weekly classes will continue on an ongoing basis. An effort will be made to provide additional intermediate language instruction to support program participants in the further development of their language skills. Learning and educational resources will continue to be maintained and updated. If sufficient funding is secured for the program, an employee will be hired to create a professional long-term curriculum framework to be used by the program.

### **Conclusion:**

The Language & Drumming program continues to provide crucial core services to the non-status and off-reserve Indigenous community within the province. The language programs delivered by NCPFI since 2017 have created a core group of language and drumming instructors as well as learners. This core group provides a strong base to develop the program further in the important goal of revitalizing and strengthening Indigenous languages and culture.

**Language and Drumming Program  
Annual General Assembly Report  
October 2024**

**Stephenson Joe, Program Facilitator**

**Introduction:**

My name is Stephenson Joe, and I am the facilitator of the Mi'kmaq Language and Drumming program. The Mi'kmaq Language and Drumming program is one of the strongest and longest lasting programs here at NCPEI, and I am fortunate to have been a part of It, in some capacity for the past 5 years; as a fluent language teacher and as a contributor to the various language and drumming materials that we have created over the years. The program was created to pass on the Mi'kmaq language and reclaim the language as part of reclaiming indigenous identity. By garnering interest in learning the language, we are reclaiming that part of our culture and are also preserving this ancient and beautiful language for generations to come.

**Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

To teach the Mi'kmaq language and to ensure that it lives on through our students/participants. The main objective is to make sure that the people can not only learn the language from the basics to the conversational level but to also do our part to keep the language alive for future generations.

To create and preserve the Mi'kmaq language in written form and save it for future generations. To bring in language and knowledge keepers to share and teach our participants.

**Activities and Deliverables:**

- Weekly classes in all 3 zones.
- Work on language manuals and other materials to further grow our program
- Encourage language/knowledge keepers to come and teach
- Reclaim cultural identity

**Promotion and Outreach:**

Email threads, social media, word of mouth, posters, phone lines and face to face interaction.

**Future Activities:**

Weekly classes in all 3 zones and in the men's shelter, as well as an online class. Working towards having an online live streamed event. Possible language and drumming retreat. Regular indigenous craft activities. To bring in other knowledge keepers and language keepers to come and share teachings. To bring in a coordinator to assist in planning and bringing in new ideas along with the facilitator and the elders/language/knowledge keepers to continue to grow the program in a beneficial way that will help the community. To create more materials for the program. Adding more songs to the program and to include more traditional teachings to the curriculum.

**Conclusion:**

I look forward to seeing the Mi'kmaq language and Drumming program continue to grow, with more materials and more class participation and to see new students take interest in learning the Mi'kmaq language and learn the songs and drumming for their own benefit, be it in ceremony or just to have it as part of their lives as reclaimed culture. We have gone from a simple 16 page Mi'kmaq language manual to a 120 plus page book and a flash drive as well as many other booklets and hand outs, exercises and recordings and we have seen our language preserved in regular YouTube videos and also on social media and in many language and drumming educational retreats, as well as seeing our participants take their craft lessons to an entrepreneurial level in many types of craft fairs and Mawi'omis as vendors and teachers.

Welaliok,  
Stephenson Joe  
Language and Drumming Facilitator

**Membership Clerk  
Annual General Assembly Report  
October 2024**

Jody Jesso, Coordinator

**Introduction:**

I have stepped back into the role of Membership Clerk as of October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024. There is a new database, GRAMPS, as the previous database was at capacity. This new database will take some time to ensure all the information entered is correct and that we can create reports as needed based on Zone, ages, etc. I have gotten a good start on this process and am confident this database will suit the needs of NCPEI.

**Events and Deliverables:**

Have been busy entering data into the new database and familiarizing myself with the GRAMPS program.

Will be ensuring membership files are accurate and provide necessary information to the President and Chief and Board of Directors.

Continue to answer member questions around membership.

**Conclusion:**

Membership has been put on hold since February 2024. NCPEI President and Chief and Board of Directors will be working towards a solution for the membership process.

## **Consultation & Policy Development - Political Advisor**

Annual General Assembly Report

October 2023 – October 2024

Bradley Cooper

### **Introduction:**

The Political Advisor position supports the President & Chief and enhances the political advocacy efforts of NCPEI. The focus of the Political Advisor's policy development is to analyze commitments made by the Federal Government towards Indigenous peoples, including TRC, MMIWG, UNDRIP, court cases, and more. The Political Advisor also leads the Policy Analyst Team (PAT) to coordinate policy efforts.

### **Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

- Improve the political advocacy of NCPEI and develop policy positions on various topics
- Research and understand Federal commitments made towards Indigenous peoples and ensure that their implementation is consistent with the rights, interests, and needs of NCPEI's constituency
- Lead the NCPEI Policy Analyst Team to develop policies and proposals that will benefit the off-reserve Indigenous community

### **Activities and Deliverables:**

- Understand documents of political significance including MMIWG, TRC, UNDRIP, RCAP, CAP-Canada Political Accord, CAP-Daniels Decision, Federal Budget, and more
- Researching and recommending political stances for NCPEI on various topics
- Attend meetings in place of or alongside the President & Chief
- Drafting political letters, media press releases, and internal documents
- Developing proposals for program funding
- Supporting the work of the Board of Directors and management of NCPEI
- Sitting on committees and taking ownership of initiatives as directed by the President & Chief

### **Future Activities:**

- Continued support and advocacy on emerging topics yet unknown
- Representing NCPEI interests on UPEI Indigenous Verification Committee
- Participating in federal reviews of UPIP, BOC, FICP, and CPD programs
- Developing Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) with RCMP and Child Services
- Preparing for and supporting outcomes of upcoming federal election for NCPEI interests
- Community education and engagement sessions relating to Indigenous commitments

### **Conclusion:**

Political advocacy is at the forefront of NCPEI's Aims & Objectives. Having a coordinated Policy Analyst Team, including the Political Advisor, to support the President & Chief politically has already shown great benefits with NCPEI being discussed more frequently at all levels of government. Change is slowly coming and you can expect great changes in the next year to come.

## **Consultation & Policy Development – CAP-Canada Policy Analyst**

Annual General Assembly Report

October 2023 – October 2024

Jill Chapman

### **Introduction:**

The Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP) and Canada signed a 2018 CAP-Canada Political Accord. As a result of the political accord, CAP and Canada agreed to form six priority area working groups: Family Programming, Indigenous Languages, Justice, Post-Secondary Education, Housing, and MMIWG. This position supports our national organization in presenting a PEI-informed perspective on the first four working area group topics (as Housing and MMIWG are covered by other policy analysts).

### **Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

- Research working area group topics from a PEI perspective
- Develop policy positions relating to working area group topics
- Prepare information to support talking points for President & Chief
- Present policy positions to federal partners in CAP and Canada

### **Activities and Deliverables:**

- Researched and represented a case of an Indigenous child in foster care, including having the President & Chief appear in the Supreme Court of PEI
- Review and provide feedback on changes to the Child, Youth, and Family Services Act
- Attended Conversation Circle meetings with Child and Family Services to inform cultural representation for Indigenous children in care
- Began development on a policy position for the impacts of e-gambling on Indigenous peoples, especially youth
- Supporting work on the continued drafting of an Indigenous Justice Strategy for Canada

### **Future Activities:**

- Continued meetings with Child and Family Services, eventually leading to an MOU
- Working with UPEI and the new IKERAS faculty on issues facing Indigenous students
- Supporting the work of the five-year language funding secured by NCPEI
- Working with other policy analysts to continue reviewing and providing feedback on the Indigenous Justice Strategy

### **Conclusion:**

The CAP-Canada Political Accord continues to be an area of immense depth and interest for NCPEI. Recent activities at the federal level have suspended one of the working group areas (Post-Secondary Education) pending a lawsuit filed by CAP advocating for the rights of non-Status Indians to access post-secondary education supports. Indigenous Languages is a priority area currently addressed with a five-year language funding secured for NCPEI. Justice is a far-reaching topic with many avenues that multiple policy analysts are coordinating different approaches. Family Programming is the largest component of this position as the future of our Indigenous youth is facing a crisis that requiring immediate redress.

**Policy Analyst - MMIWG, Gender, Diversity and Inclusion, Indigenous Justice Strategy  
Annual General Assembly Report  
November 2023 to October 2024**

**Kristine Greenlaw, Policy Analyst**

**Introduction:**

The Policy Analyst assigned to the Diversity and Inclusion portfolio, works to research issues surrounding inclusion in government initiatives. Areas of focus include distinctions-based analysis regarding gender, age, and diversity. The Analyst works collaboratively with other NCPEI Policy Analysts as well as the President and Chief, sharing information through regular meetings.

Initiatives focus on: Gender, age, and diversity in order to identify gaps, barriers, or opportunities and subsequently develops initial policy positions aligned to support federal mandates. The MMIWG portfolio is part of the Diversity and Inclusion work plan, and helps to identify which 'Calls to Action' NCPEI can and/ or should respond to.

This position participates in discussions related to the Calls to Action that encompass Indigenous women, girls, 2SLGTBQIA+ persons, which fall within the Indigenous Justice Strategy.

**Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

- Be familiar with NCPEI policy and objectives
- Research and understand Federal policy that NCPEI lobbies for/against in terms of its membership and organizational mandate(s).
- Support the NCPEI Policy Team with its aims and objectives when working with the Provincial government and/ or other community partners.

**Activities and Deliverables:**

Internal activities completed:

1. Compiled NCPEI annual summary of MMIWG efforts/ events, including photos and media releases for CAP, which were featured in their annual summary.
2. Compiled a summary analysis of the Federal Government's forthcoming budget for Chief Cooper, Bradley and Jordan to forecast potential funding opportunities. Anticipated funding for Women, LGTBQIA Rights, Gender Equality initiatives in future Federal programs is predicted.
3. Review of GBV statistics from national and international sources completed to support future reports/ funding applications (Government of Canada, World Bank, Canada

Women's Foundation, World Vision, UN Women, Canadian Museum of Human Rights, Government of B.C).

4. Review of Indigenous Justice Strategy- 'What we heard', summary of Wave 2 Justice Canada Led Discussions. Summary noted a specific focus on a lack of translation for the term 'justice' but the focus for Indigenous People centers around community balance, wellness and restoration. This should inform themes of future proposals for the FVPP.
5. Participation in meetings with NCPEI MMIWG/GBV and CAP MMIWG working groups to discuss/share the NCPEI MMIWG Action Plan (Provincial Strategy) at the end of July 2024 with associated stakeholders.
6. Review of Federal Anti-Racism Strategy.
7. Review of Provincial Digital Health Strategy 2024-29.
8. Finalized the MMIWG Conference presentation and questionnaire with Brad Cooper.
9. Updated the MMIWG Action Plan with feedback from the summer/ July conference and submitted NCPEI Communications Team for formal presentation layout for subsequent publication to NCPEI community.
10. Standardized questionnaire created for NCPEI 2S program coordinator for use at her activities to help capture demographic data that might be helpful for future proposal writing and to support her activity reporting.
11. Compiled continuity binder of all proposal work and materials for the policy 2 position.

External activities completed:

Proposals:

1. Federal, FVPP Funding stream: *Wele'g- Living Well*- Focus is on 1:1 Relationship Education, violence prevention and an understanding of how social media and digital devices contribute to violence in relationships.
2. Provincial, GEDI (PEI) Community Enhancement Program- completed: *Enn Fil (Girl's) Club*- proposal, focussed on GBV prevention towards girls and teens, especially through technology facilitated violence and technology facilitated grooming.

**Successes:**

There are two new proposals awaiting approval that focus on systemic causes of family and gender based violence and (if approved) should be impactful to the NCPEI membership.

The MMIWG conference held in July 2024 was small but very productive and returned feedback that will inform future funding proposals and wrap around services.

**Future Activities:**

I will continue to attend the CAP MMIWG monthly meetings (when invited) to support a new Gender Based Violence (GBV) Coordinator and step in where necessary to help with the Indigenous Justice Strategy and educational initiatives. CAP is releasing a tool kit to support statistics gathering and analysis that will be beneficial to this position. The NCPEI Action Plan will require connection with the PEI RCMP and this will support further cooperation between law enforcement and NCPEI members to ensure collaborative action in a future Indigenous missing persons case.

**Conclusion:**

Proposals to support program services for Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQIA+ persons within the NCPEI membership continue to be worked on with the goal of providing a broad base of support to these stakeholders.

Conference feedback has been shared with the CAP MMIWG group, ensuring that NCPEI interests are shared for wider, national advocacy.

**Tripartite Policy Analyst  
Annual General Assembly Report  
October 2023 to October 2024**

**Jane Affleck, Policy Analyst**

**Introduction:**

The Tripartite program involves maintaining and growing NCPEI's relationships with the federal and provincial governments, toward ensuring that the needs of NCPEI's membership are addressed and specifically in priority areas identified for a given fiscal year or other designated periods. These priority areas are identified by the membership in the Community Mapping Surveys and at the AGA in resolutions. The Tripartite contribution agreements have provided opportunities for enhancement and expansion of research, collaboration, and partnership with governments, non-profit/community service organizations, and the private sector toward benefiting and meeting the unique needs of Indigenous people residing off-reserve in Epekwitk/Prince Edward Island. In recent years, Tripartite initiatives have included data collection, research, advocacy, and collaboration toward enriching meaningful partnerships in matters concerning health and wellbeing (with a focus on mental health), housing (including shelters), education, governance, human rights, economic development, and justice, among other key areas. The current focus of the Tripartite Coordinator/Policy Analyst is on the three priority areas identified in the most recent Community Mapping Survey (conducted at the end of 2022 and into 2023, with a draft report sent to NCPEI by the external data analyst/consultant in April 2023): 1) housing; 2) health & wellness, with an emphasis on mental health and wellness; and 3) economic development, with an emphasis on education.

**Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

As noted above, the current focus of the Tripartite Coordinator/Policy Analyst is on the three areas identified in the 2022–2023 Community Mapping Survey: housing; health & wellness, with an emphasis on mental health and wellness; and economic development, with an emphasis on education.

**Goals & Objectives:**

Actions that advocate for the rights and needs of NCPEI's off-reserve and non-status Indigenous members and constituents, and that work toward addressing/eliminating gaps in policy and other legislative or regulatory documents, are aimed at furthering the wellbeing and economic self-sufficiency of the organization and its members and constituents. These actions include but are not limited to:

- Promoting and increasing access to culturally sensitive healthcare, including traditional medicines, supports, and programming through collaboration and partnership, and by

seeking out funding opportunities to help support this programming, in collaboration with the Funding Relations/Reporting Manager and other policy analysts;

- Seeking out opportunities for research and funding partnerships and the development of further health and wellness initiatives with various stakeholders, including government jurisdictions and other community service organizations;
- Establishing housing supports available through the National Housing Strategy, PEI Housing Action Plan, and municipal housing supports in collaboration with the housing development officer, including seeking out funding opportunities, as noted above;
- Assessing opportunities and the capacity for NCPEI to develop an Economic Development branch, toward greater self-sufficiency and self-determination, including any initiatives that increase economic development capacities through education (from primary through to post-secondary).

### **Key Responsibilities:**

- Attending committee meetings in areas of health & wellness and housing at the local and provincial levels to advocate for NCPEI members and constituents, i.e., the rights and needs of off-reserve and non-status Indigenous peoples, in relation to the three main areas identified above;
- Attending meetings with representatives from federal and provincial government departments, divisions, and agencies, to advocate for the rights and needs of off-reserve and non-status Indigenous peoples;
- Analyzing federal and provincial policy and legislation, as well as amendments to/ revisions of existing policy/legislation, in relation to the three main priority areas as identified above, toward ensuring they are equitable and address the needs of off-reserve and non-status Indigenous peoples, and then writing responses and recommendations as appropriate;
- Identifying funding opportunities relevant to the three key areas (housing, health and wellness, economic development/education) and drafting funding proposals to ensure that current programming will continue and additional programming may be provided, according to membership needs and organizational capacity.

### **Other Responsibilities:**

- Assisting in onboarding new policy analysts and other relevant staff, i.e., the “Housing Development Officer,” by reviewing written documents produced, overseeing some aspects of their tasks, and offering advice/guidance;
- Following up on meetings and initiatives undertaken on policy development, writing briefs, letters, and other forms of feedback (e.g., surveys) as needed;
- Summarizing meetings in detailed notes and passing them along to senior management, as relevant to their given positions (Chief Cooper, Jordan Crane, etc.);
- Assessing funding opportunities and advising senior management of the feasibility and/or benefits of these opportunities;
- Participating in focus groups and other types of engagement/consultation to provide federal, provincial, and municipal leaders with information about the needs of NCPEI’s off-reserve and non-status Indigenous members and constituents, and also organizing

focus groups or other types of engagement with staff and membership, sometimes with external organizations (e.g., Live Well PEI), as required/prioritized;

- Attending high-level meetings and conducting networking and collaboration activities with all levels of government and with other community service and/or non-governmental organizations (NGOs), working closely with the President and Chief and with the other members of the Policy Analyst Team;
- Using data provided in the 2022–2023 Community Mapping Survey Report to inform various funding proposals and other initiatives;
- Drafting surveys and assessing data gathered via the first off-reserve Indigenous community mental health survey, conducted in January–February 2024, and incorporating the data into a comprehensive mental health action plan (still in progress) and in funding proposals targeted at addressing mental health gaps and needs;
- Attending various Native Council public-facing advocacy events, including National Indigenous Peoples Day, the annual pow wow, etc.

## **Activities and Deliverables:**

### **Housing**

- Attended webinars hosted by the Expert Community on Housing (ECOH), a working group of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), to learn more about innovations in the housing sector that might help address the overall housing crisis and in particular be of benefit to off-reserve Indigenous peoples; also briefly participated in ECOH’s Atlantic region “Community of Practice” on housing policy, but declined to participate further when it seemed CMCH was simply looking to place an additional burden of work on community organizations rather than taking the lead on initiatives themselves.
- Continued attending the quarterly meetings of the John Howard Society’s Community Advisory Board, toward ensuring that any actions the JHS takes in its role as “community entity” for the Reaching Home program re: housing and homelessness prevention are inclusive and carried out as stated/intended/promised and in line with Infrastructure Canada’s mandate re: “designated communities”; also participated in an “interview” with MSRB re: participation on the CAB and issues that had come up, toward informing a better way forward for JHS and the CAB.
- Liaised with various CMHC representatives to learn about new funding programs and to ensure that eligibility and other requirements were met in any funding proposals submitted. This has been especially important re: the shelter for women and 2S+ people leaving gender-based violence, as the lists of required documents have been complicated.
- Regarding the shelter for women and 2S+ people leaving GBV, worked in collaboration with other NCPEI staff to do several things: 1) revise the initial proposal; 2) meet with a real estate agent numerous times to discuss options and view appropriate housing; 3) meet with staff and mayor of the Town of Cornwall to ensure bylaws were adhered to and permits submitted; 4) meet with engineering and architectural firm numerous times to discuss renovation needs and call for tenders, and with environmental consulting firm to discuss hazmat & environmental assessment reports, 5) meet with NCPEI’s lawyers to discuss any possible issues/liabilities, etc.

- Continued attending the biweekly Coordinated Access System (CAS) Governance Committee, as a “non-voting” member officially, but with the ability to raise points and influence decisions regarding issues such as the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS), as well as funding allocation/distribution through the Reaching Home program (funded by Infrastructure Canada) and the Prevention & Diversion pilot program (funded equally by federal and provincial governments).
- Attended ongoing events organized by the City of Charlottetown aimed at addressing housing-related issues around “islanders with complex needs,” and subsequently requested a meeting with Carlene Donnelly, the special advisor to the premier, which then led to being invited to participate on the Community Action Committee and the Task Force for Enhancing the System of Care for Islanders Experiencing Complex Issues. (The CAC will make recommendations to the Task Force, who will provide resources to ensure the recommended actions can take place in a timely manner.)
- Drafted a proposal for the National Indigenous Community Housing Inc.’s (NICHI’s) call for proposals; at first it was rejected, but later we received an email indicating we were approved for more than \$3.6 million in grant funding to go towards 8 units of affordable housing specifically for off-reserve Indigenous peoples (as well as cost of managing it for one year). Subsequently, we revised the budget and reached out to the real estate agent to view some multi-unit housing that might be suitable for the project.
- Provided feedback on drafts proposals for an Expression of Interest (EOI) and then Request for Proposals (RFP) re: the provincial government’s “Community Housing Expansion Partners” pilot program. Currently, we are waiting to hear whether the RFP was approved and if NCPEI will be offered an agreement (if approved, funding will go towards the purchase of a minimum of 9 units of housing this year, and with a total of up to 40 units over the next 3–4 years, with a certain percentage of the total units reserved as “deeply affordable” but not solely for Indigenous peoples).
- Met, along with other NCPEI staff, with representatives from BDO regarding doing a feasibility study to determine if the NICHI and provincial housing projects described above will be beneficial or result in NCPEI going into debt. The information is helping us to make decisions re: which housing project to pursue.
- Met with CMHC representatives, along with NCPEI staff (Nanegkam Housing Manager, Executive Assistant, Finance Director) to discuss repair/renovation needs for Nanegkam Housing and to discuss the terms of the EI-560 program, which will provide \$2.5 million in funding to address outstanding repairs needed on Nanegkam Housing units.

## **Health and Wellness**

- Continued attending the Atlantic Summer Institute (ASI) Advisory Committee, including special workshops aimed at furthering the work in support of implementing mental health in all policy (MHiAP) in PEI; participated on the “communications working group” to guide messaging and formats to promote “upstream investment in mental health for infants, children, and youth.”
- Until the relevant policy role was filled, continued attending the Structured Decision Making (SDM) Steering Committee intermittently, toward ensuring that off-reserve Indigenous peoples would be considered in policy and other documents associated with the new SDM system, and in new provincial child, youth, and family legislation; also attended the informal “conversation circles” with representatives from Child and Family

Services and the Native Council, to keep track of work being done by the provincial division and to follow up as needed. Of note: coordinated an engagement session for NCPEI staff facilitated/led by members of CFS's residential services team; they were looking for recommendations / feedback re: culturally appropriate housing options for kids taken into care or adopted. Recently, had a quick meeting with the new policy analyst responsible for CFS to provide some background information and tips re: continuing to participate in the Conversation Circles.

- Attended the second annual Provincial Alcohol Policy Forum, again organized by Live Well PEI and the Chief Public Health Office and again held virtually, to continue learning about gaps in existing provincial and federal legislation around the sale and distribution of alcohol, advertising, etc.; the impacts of alcohol on health, including mental health; and the costs to the healthcare system.
- Attended in March 2024 another engagement session with the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples in Ottawa, along with other NCPEI delegates; this year the focus was on medical assistance in dying (MAiD) (and to some extent also palliative and end-of-life care (PEOLC), and Gender-Based Violence. Information from the GBV session helped inform work being done on the shelter for Indigenous women and 2S+ peoples (see above); also, information about "iHEAL," an app for women leaving GBV was circulated at both NCPEI Charlottetown locations (cards, stickers, etc.).
- Submitted two proposals to Live Well PEI for their Community Wellness Grant programs (both last year in fall 2023 and this year, late summer 2024). Both were successful. The first helped fund the community mental health survey; the second will provide the Native Council's members opportunities to provide feedback (via focus groups and surveys) on a draft Mental Health action Plan, aimed at addressing needs and gaps re: mental health and addictions in the off-reserve community.
- Began researching and drafting a "mental health action plan," based on results from the survey noted above (conducted internally in January and February 2024 via funding from Live Well PEI), to address existing needs and gaps re: mental health in the off-reserve Indigenous community.
- Participated in various engagement sessions with government agencies and departments, including Health PEI, Live Well PEI, Health Canada, Public Health Agency of Canada, etc. on various policy initiatives, programs, website content, etc., providing advice and recommendations regarding how these can be more inclusive and culturally appropriate to the needs of Indigenous peoples, and in particular those living off-reserve or without status.
- Revised the "Policy and Procedures" document for the Winter Street Low-Barrier Men's Shelter, with feedback / assistance from the Shelter Manager and NCPEI Human Resources Manager, as well as from other members of the Ad Hoc Shelter Committee. A completed revision was circulated to the Shelter Committee in the middle of October 2024, with several key additions, including clarity re: beds reserved for Indigenous peoples; the shelter manager's role and responsibilities; the HR manager's role; and the case management approach to be taken with shelter guests.

## **Economic Development and Education**

- Attended various “webinar” information sessions for funding opportunities offered by the federal and provincial governments.
- Attended meetings with the CMHC to discuss needs and potentially identify CMCH funding programs that would fit our housing needs.
- Provided feedback to the Funding Reporting Officer re: a draft skills assessment survey, to better understand the training, education, and skills that community members have, toward coordinating skills sharing and potentially helping members boost their self-employed income.
- Passed on information to a couple of staff members about a free “upskills” training course being offered at Holland College in February (solar installation training, provided by Relay, a non-profit organization focused on green transition jobs for marginalized community members).
- Reached out to a couple of staff members who make arts/crafts to let them know that Beaconsfield, one of the PEI Museum and Heritage Foundation’s sites, is refurbishing its gift shop and looking for diverse locally made items.
- Reached out to the PEI Public Schools Branch to ask for more information about culturally appropriate aspects of the new Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) pilot program.

## **Promotion and Outreach:**

- In SDM-related Conversation Circles, brought up the issue of culturally appropriate foster care and housing, and as a result, the Native Council was included in an engagement session about how CFS residential services can be improved and better serve Indigenous children and youth (as detailed above).
- Participated in a panel discussion in a psychology PhD class taught by Susan Hartley, UPEI instructor and ASI Advisory Committee Chair; co-panelists were Amanda Trainer (then the MHRT Coordinator) and Josh Constantinou (Coordinated Access Coordinator, John Howard Society); topics discussed were the connection between policy and health care, specifically mental health, and how psychologists can best advocate to address the needs of people experiencing homelessness and addictions. After the panel, Susan sent a PDF with short written responses from all students on what they learned from/though about the presentations/panel discussion.
- Participated in a panel discussion in a class taught by Trish Altass (former Green Party MLA), along with Kaelyn Mercer, to discuss social inequities in NCPEI’s Indigenous community, as well as the colonial and policy roots of these inequities.
- Reached out to Cheryl Paynter, CEO of the PEI Housing Corporation, and see if there were any potential opportunities for collaboration; subsequently met with her and with Jason Doyle, director of housing operations with the province, to discuss NCPEI’s housing needs and potential collaboration.

- Attended a celebration dinner hosted by Live Well PEI for all grant recipients, to describe the mental health survey project and raise awareness of the existence and purpose of the Native Council.
- Advocated to the John Howard Society re: proportional funding for the Native Council's Reaching Home program, which would address the fact that off-reserve Indigenous peoples are disproportionately represented in the number of people experiencing homelessness. Unfortunately, the executive director did not listen to any advice or suggestions made by the CAB and opted to carry on with his own solution to a reduction in funding from Infrastructure Canada for the Reaching Home program.
- Advocated with various staff with the provincial government that NCPEI be included as a member of the newly formed Community Action Committee (CAC) and Task Force; in recent CAC and Task Force meetings, stated the importance of govt and NGO collaboration with off-reserve Indigenous organizations but also to enable capacity building and self-determination vis-à-vis health, mental health, housing, etc. so NCPEI can address the needs of the off-reserve community in a culturally appropriate and sustainable way.
- Met briefly with the policy coordinator at PRIDE PEI to discuss possible mentorship opportunities.
- Provided information about various opportunities (such as information sessions, provincial initiatives in health care, etc.) with the marketing and promotions coordinator, so she could share them with the membership on social media.
- Reached out to the communications person with the Public Schools Branch to inquire about how the PBIS pilot program is offering culturally appropriate elements (if at all), cc'ing the new-ish policy analyst, Jill Chapman.

### **Future Activities:**

1. To continue assisting with funding applications, including the next round of the PEI Alliance for Mental Wellbeing's Wellness grant program, which if approved will reinstate the Indigenous mental health and addictions coordinator and also provide various culturally appropriate workshops targeting the specific needs of the off-reserve Indigenous community, as indicated in the mental health survey conducted in early 2024.
2. To incorporate the results of the next Community Mapping Survey and AGA resolutions into the Tripartite Workplan to ensure the rights and needs of NCPEI's members and constituents are addressed in all activities and outreach, particularly regarding the crossover between education and economic development.
3. To continue developing relationships with key stakeholders in the provincial government, particularly through work on the Task Force (described above), and to ensure that these relationships continue to improve for the benefit of NCPEI members and constituents.
4. To continue advocating for the needs of NCPEI's members via other committees (ASI, CAS, CAB, and CAC).
5. To continue collaborating with NCPEI staff, not just those on the Policy Analyst Team but any others, toward meeting the organization's programming and other needs.
6. To continue seeking out other opportunities to codevelop and collaborate with all levels of government and with other community service organizations and non-governmental

organizations, locally and nationally, particularly to resource housing and health needs and gaps.

7. To continue to seek housing solutions that address the needs of off-reserve Indigenous peoples experiencing core housing need (i.e., housing that is affordable or even deeply affordable, adequate, and suitable), and to ensure housing projects can be completed in as timely a manner as possible.
8. Other activities as they arise, based on needs identified by the community and opportunities to collaborate and/or receive funding from various jurisdictions.

**Conclusion:**

Key objectives of the Tripartite agreement will continue to be the focus of the Tripartite Policy Analyst position with the goal of providing maximum benefit to the membership. All objectives will be as identified by membership in Community Mapping Surveys and Annual General Assembly resolutions. The Tripartite Policy Analyst will continue to work closely with the President and Chief and the Political Advisor, along with other members of the Policy team and the Funding Reporting Manager, in order to realize these objectives and improve the lives of NCPEI's off-reserve Indigenous membership.

**Annual General Assembly Report**  
**April 18, 2024 – October 31, 2024**  
**Chinedu Ubah, Housing Development Officer**

**Introduction:**

The Housing Development Officer will collaborate with the Policy Analysts to conduct research, develop proposals, and assess current housing stock in order to expand housing options for the off-reserve Indigenous community in PEI.

Under the Housing Development Program, responsible for the following:

- Conduct research and develop best practices for subsidized housing development, including business planning and financial feasibility for both new and existing housing stock.
- Identify and monitor opportunities for housing development and support through national, regional, provincial, and municipal funding programs.
- Draft proposals to increase housing supply and support, incorporating feedback from the community.
- Prepare professional correspondences and report on activities.
- As required, attend meetings along with Policy Analyst to develop relationships with key stakeholders to strengthen housing partnerships.

**Activities and Deliverables:**

- Reviewed and updated the Nanegkam Housing policy and developed tenancy guidelines, to enhance the organization's efficiency and better align it with its mandate.
- Applied for \$10 million through the Provincial Community Housing Expansion Partner Program. Additionally, submitted a request for \$3.3 million to acquire 40 housing units, 12 of which will be deeply affordable, with the remainder rented at market rates.
- Collaborated with a property agent to identify suitable properties for the \$3.8 million in approved NICHI affordable housing funds.
- Attended several Community Housing workshops organized by CMHC.
- Collaborated with the Policy Analysts to coordinate the purchase and renovation of the \$860K women's shelter in Cornwall, funded by CMHC.
- Successfully secured \$337,000 through the Green and Inclusive Community Building Program to expand the Portage office and retrofit the property for improved energy efficiency.
- To initiate a province-wide off-reserve Indigenous housing advocacy and in the course of that reach the following:
  - The City of Charlottetown Affordable Housing Advisory Committee.
  - The City of Charlottetown Planning Committee

- The Chairperson Legislative Assembly Committee on Health and Social Development and Social Housing Development of the Government of PEI.
- Secured a meeting with the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee and Planning Committee.
- In collaboration with the Policy Analysts, initiated a feasibility study with BDO to assess the viability of the NICHI housing project, alongside the anticipated Provincial Housing Fund, either as standalone options or combined
- Sit on the Community Shelter planning committee.
- Participated in the 2024 Pow-Wow.

**Future Activities:**

- Going forward the Housing Development Officer will work with Policy Analyst, in engaging partnerships to develop more affordable housing for the community.
- Continue to seek out funding initiatives for supportive housing through federal programs, Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation and other sources.
- Continue to review and update housing policies to reflect the needs of the community and the applicable laws.

**Conclusion:**

- The Cornwall women's shelter will serve the immediate needs of the indigenous women, with or without children.
- Will continue to develop relationships with stakeholders in the province and outside with the aim of developing more affordable housing for their community.

**Reaching Home  
Annual General Assembly Report  
October 2023 – October 2024**

**Chris Clay  
Program Coordinator**

**Introduction:**

- The Reaching Home Program supports off-reserve Indigenous People that are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness. Reaching Home offers front line support, referral, housing placements, along with access to culturally relevant activities to promote self- sufficiency and involvement in the NCPEI community.
- The Reaching home program also works towards the implementation of a homeless tracking tool called HIFIS (Homeless individual and family identification system) and are the indigenous entry point to the provinces coordinated access to housing program.

**Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

- Find affordable long-term housing for homeless clients.
- Aid clients who are struggling to maintain housing.
- Provide outreach services to clients who are living rough.
- Attend the Weekly Bilateral Names List Case Management Meetings (BNL) as Part of the Provincial Coordinated Access to Housing Working Group.
- Help grow and develop the H.I.F.I.S. program (Homeless Individual and Families Information System) as well as train the shelter staff on the use of S.P.D.A.T. assessment tool (Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool)

**Activities and Outreach:**

**October 2023:**

- Attended 3 B.N.L. Case management meetings. We are working towards filling units at New Roots as well as the provinces new Supportive Housing Program at 230 Richmond Street as well we are cleaning up the Bi-Names List and working as a group to remove clients who are either housed or have left the province.
- Update housing history for clients in H.I.F.I.S.,
- Worked with different organizations to house clients.
- Helped 8 clients with rental assistance.
- Helped 1 client get to and from appointments by providing a monthly bus pass.

**November 2023:**

- Attended 1 Case management meeting at for the Community Outreach Center working group.
- Attended 1 Shape Stratford housing supply challenge meeting.
- Attended a meeting for the fight for affordable housing group.

- Made regular stops at the Community Outreach Center to see clients.
- Made regular home visits to clients.
- Helped 8 clients by providing rent assistance.
- Helped a client with appointments by providing a bus pass.
- Helped 2 clients move by providing damage deposits.
- Attended a zoom seminar on Affordable Housing Finance.
- Attended a meeting hosted by the City of Summerside to discuss supportive and Transitional housing options within the city.
- Attended the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness Convention. At the conventions we attended 2 daily plenaries with guest speakers, as well I attended sessions on Ending Chronic Homelessness, finding a Better Way a Harm Reduction Approach, Homeless Response in Rural Areas, Preventing Chronic Homelessness, Evolving Approaches in The Point in Time Count, I was also a speaker at a session on Shelter Diversion & Eviction Prevention Strategies.
- I worked with 3 Landlords to settle issues they were having with clients.
- Attended a workshop hosted by the John Howard Society in Summerside with other community partners, to discuss upcoming housing and shelter strategies.
- Met regularly with MCPEI Staff to help 3 mutual clients.
- Helped the PEERS Alliance outreach team in searching for a missing client, we found the client after a 3-day search.
- Provided taxi transport to the food bank and the program office for a client.
- Attended 3 Bilateral Names List Case Management meetings.

**December 2023:**

- Attended 1 Case management meeting at for the Community Outreach Center working group.
- Attended 1 Shape Stratford housing supply challenge meeting.
- Coordinated with MCPEI to help a client get to the Winter St Shelter upon release from the Provincial Correctional Facility.
- Joined PEERS outreach team in providing support to clients living in tents around the city.
- Met with the Case management team for New Roots to discuss issues with our clients living there. Unfortunately, as of January 1 we went from 3 clients participating in the program to only 1.
- Continue to do regular client check-ins and home visits.
- Helped 2 clients with rent assistance.
- Made regular trips to the Community Outreach Center to see clients.
- Participated in a CBC interview on our Winter St. Shelter and the housing issues in the province.
- Attended a group discussion with the Holland College Transition class.
- Met with the MCPEI Employment Coordinator to come up with a case plan for a mutual client.

- Attended a Zone 3 Language & Drumming Classes to help support the coordinator.
- Attended a PEI Live Well focus group.
- Made regular weekly trips up to see the staff and clients at the Winter St Shelter.
- Helped coordinate a donation to the Winter St. Shelter to make sure all the clients had a gift under the tree for Christmas this year.
- Got bus passes for a client to get to and from appointments.
- Purchased boots for a client who was released from the QEH wearing slippers.
- Attended the NCPEI open house to help promote the programs offered by the council.
- Attended 1 Bilateral Names list meeting as part of the Coordinated access to housing working group.
- Worked with the provincial housing navigator to get 2 of our clients into the new supportive housing program at 230 Richmond. This housing program is supported by John Howard Society and each individual client's case managers. I am excited for these clients being in the program and getting back out of the shelter system. I am also interested to see how this new program will be run so the next couple of months will be very interesting to see how this program runs.

**January 2024:**

- Attended 2 Case management meetings at for the Community Outreach Center working group.
- Attended 1 Shape Stratford housing supply challenge meeting as well as a multi group in person meeting.
- Coordinated with case managers from MCPEI to work on case plans for shared clients.
- Met regularly with staff from PEERS to monitor the growing number of hidden campsites within the city limits.
- Made regular visits to the Winter Street Shelter.
- Continued to do regular check-ins and home visits with clients.
- Made regular stops at the Community Outreach Center to see clients.
- Met with the Case workers from C.M.H.A. to work on mutual clients.
- Worked with the housing navigator to provide wrap around service to clients in 230 Richmond.
- Worked with the Nanegkam Housing staff to reach out to tenants and provide supports.
- Attended a session on emergency preparedness hosted by the P.E.I. Association for community living.
- Listened to a presentation by Movemobility and eventually referred them to our Program coordinator.
- Met with several new clients.
- Provided a bus pass for a client to get to and form appointments.
- Met with members of John Howard Society and Infrastructure Canada to discuss funding going into the future.
- Helped 8 clients avoid eviction by providing rent assistance.

- Helped 2 clients move into new units by providing damage deposits.
- Finished working with the Fight for affordable housing committee. We finalized our guide to rental hearings, and we have submitted our list of tenant/landlord maintenance rights to the Cooper Institute for further study. With this month's support I am attaching the first draft of the tenant's guide.
- Attended 3 BNL Case Management Meetings as part of the Coordinated Access to Housing working group.

**February 2024:**

- Made 2 visits to the Winter Street Shelter
- Continued to make regular Client Check-ins and Home Visits.
- Made regular stops at the Community Outreach Center to see clients.
- Attended 1 O.S.H. meeting.
- Attended 1 Shape Stratford meeting, this committee will be wrapping up on our last meeting on March 26.
- Attended 1 Case Management meeting as part of the Community Outreach Center working group.
- Worked with the Nanegkam Housing team to provide supports for Nanegkam tenants.
- Coordinated with the M.C.P.E.I. Employment coordinator to provide support to mutual clients.
- Had an interview with C.B.C. to discuss our housing initiatives at N.C.P.E.I.
- Spent a day coordinating with the Community Outreach Center to find a client who was missing. Client was found safe.
- Attended a full day seminar on Enhancing the System of Care for Complex/Vulnerable Islanders.
- Did an interview with Volunteer Canada about the work we do within my program and what supports could be used by my program in the future.
- Met 6 new clients through the month of February.
- Helped 10 clients with rental assistance.
- Helped 2 clients by providing Damage Deposits.
- Helped 2 clients by providing Gas Cards
- Helped 3 clients by providing Bus Passes.
- Spoke to students from the Y.E.S.S. program about tenant rights and the current housing crisis.
- Attended 4 BNL Case Management Meetings as part of the Coordinated Access to Housing Working Group.
- Monitored and Updated Clients H.I.F.I.S. files.

**March 2024:**

- Made regular client check-ins and home visits.
- Made extra trips into zone 1 to see a couple of clients who are struggling.
- Coordinated with M.C.P.E.I.'s employment coordinator to provide support to several shared clients.
- Participated in a pod cast discussing my work within the Indigenous community as part of John Howard Society Week.
- Finished and turned in my annual RHDATA Collection Report.

- Met with staff from C.M.H.A.'s Housing first program to discuss mutual clients.
- Made 2 trips to the Winter Street Shelter.
- Began handing out coats that have been donated to the program.
- Met with the staff of New Roots about a potential new intake of a client.
- Coordinated with Corrections on setting up a spot in Winter Street for a client coming out of correction.
- Attended a seminar on Human Trafficking Facilitated by PEI Family Violence.
- Supported 21 clients with rental assistance.
- Supported 2 clients with mortgage assistance.
- Handed out 3 bus passes.
- Handed out 16 grocery cards.
- Attended 3 BNL Case Meetings including our first in person meeting in 4 years as a working group.

**April 2024:**

- Made regular client check-ins and home visits.
- Attended weekly case management meetings with the other NCPEI case managers.
- Went to Park Street Shelter to help deal with client issues.
- Met with Life House management to create a support plan for a common client.
- Helped the Canadian Observatory for Homelessness plan a Community in Practice Meeting that we will be holding in May.
- Met twice with the director of C.M.H.A.'s Housing First Program to try to find housing solutions for 2 mutual clients.
- Discussed the features of my program and how I found myself working for NCPEI at a recent in-house session with Holland Colleges Transitions Class.
- Performed a Kairos Blanket Exercise for the IKERAS 1040 class at UPEI
- Made regular visits to Winnter Street Shelter, as well I began supporting the New Shelter Manager as she gets comfortable with how our programs work and tie into case management with the shelter clients.
- Did the OHS inspection for North River Road Programming office unfortunately the monthly meeting was postponed due to scheduling issues.
- Began my annual work on mapping tent encampments throughout the city. This year I have added Summerside to my efforts as we have a stronger presence there than in previous years.
- Helped 6 clients with Grocery Cards
- Helped 1 client with a Buss Pass
- Helped transport a client to and from the food bank.
- Handed out 2 MHRT survival packs and 1 tent to clients who are sleeping rough.
- Attended the in house 2SLGBTQ Safety & Inclusion in the workplace session.
- Worked with MCPEI to support multiple common clients.

- Attended 3 Bilateral Names List Case Management Meetings as part of the Coordinated Access to Housing Working Group.
- Set up H.I.F.I.S. & S.P.D.A.T. training for the New Shelter Manager and Staff at the Winter Street Shelter.

**May 2024:**

- Made regular client check-ins and home visits.
- Attended weekly case management meetings with the other NCPEI case managers.
- Met with John Howard Society to discuss my program
- Made a trip to see clients at Winter Street
- Attended a workshop on Secondary Traumatic Stress and Empathetic Strain.
- Finished my quarterly board report.
- Performed a K.B.E. for Chances
- Went to the final Shape Stratford Committee meeting. I Also finished the continuity binder for this committee.
- Took a course through the Homeless Hub on Data Collection in Homeless Services. I highly recommend this course to anyone using H.I.F.I.S.
- Began to find tent encampments through the city, I have now found 12 locations throughout Charlottetown and 3 more locations in Stratford.
- Met with PEERS Alliance and the Provincial Housing navigator to case plan for mutual clients.
- Attended a seminar hosted by the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness called “It’s not just big cities anymore, the many faces of urban and rural displacement.” Usually, these sessions are very informative, but this one seems to have been more Ontario based than Canada wide.
- Had 4 new clients apply to my program for support.
- Attended the “Your Life Design” Workshop.
- Settled a financial issue for a client by providing rental assistance as well as a bit of mediation with the landlord.
- Helped another client who was struggling by providing rental assistance.
- Attended an advisory group meeting with Volunteer Canada.
- I attended 3 B.N.L. Case management Meetings including 1 in person meeting.
- Continued to monitor clients in H.I.F.I.S. and update where needed.
- Continue to work on \suitable dates to hold SPDAT training with the crew from Winter Street.

**June 2024:**

- I attended 1 B.N.L. Case management in person meeting.
- Continued to monitor clients in H.I.F.I.S. and update where needed.
- Made regular client check-ins and home visits.
- Attended weekly case management meetings with the other NCPEI case managers.
- Helped a client with transportation issues by providing a buss pass.

- Helped two clients with rental assistance.
- Made two visits to Winter Street to meet with clients. Began case plans for two clients staying in the house.
- Helped a client get his damage deposit back from a landlord during a dispute.
- Helped coordinate client needs with the PEERS Alliance, we also helped support their mobile harm reduction program by supplying them with clean kits remaining from our former M.H.R.T. program.
- Provided two M.H.R.T. survival bags to clients who are living rough.
- Attended the Summit on Complex Islanders Hosted by the Province, where we were updated by Darlene Connolly on the issues faced by the province with the current growth in Homelessness, we also discussed plans to grow support for homeless clients over the next couple of years, the province also discussed new upcoming plans to build new supportive and transitional housing projects across the Island.
- We had a day where the weather hit 36 – 38 degrees due to the humidity, I went downtown with a cooler and handed out 24 bottles of cold water as well as 12 Naloxone kits (6 Needle & 6 Nasal)
- We had a very successful N.I.P.D. day, during the event I had the chance to network with politicians and other service providers as well we got to see several clients throughout the day who attended the event.
- I was asked to speak at our Gender Based Violence Coordinators Provincial Crime week events held in Zones 1,2, and 3. I spoke on crime and violence in the homeless community, the events were well received in the zones and the discussions had at each event gave some new perspectives on growing issues.

**July 2024:**

- I attended 1 B.N.L. Case Management Meeting
- Attended the Point in Time Count training session.
- Worked with Winter Street to set up S.P.D.A.T. training.
- Continued to monitor clients in H.I.F.I.S. and update where needed.
- Made regular client check-ins and home visits.
- Helped a client with transportation issues by providing a buss pass.
- Helped Nine clients with rental assistance.
- Helped a client move into a new location by providing a damage deposit.
- Attended two case management meetings with the Community Outreach Center working group.
- Help provide bill assistance for a family in the community who are struggling with serious health issues.
- Provided a bus pass for a client with mobility issues.
- Attended a two-day First Aid & C.P.R. training session provided by NCPEI.
- Set up a food bank run for a client.
- Coordinated with PEERS outreach team to support clients who are living in tent encampments.
- Completed the OHS inspection for North River Road. OHS meeting was cancelled.

- Gained 6 new clients.
- Had a final visit with a client who is moving from the Island to be with family in N.B.
- Attended 3 meetings with Landlords to help with client issues.
- Gave out clothing donations to several clients.
- Gave 4 M.H.R.T. survival packs to clients who are sleeping rough.
- Attended a memorial at the Community Outreach Center for a client who committed suicide several months ago.
- In my outreach duties I gave out 6 Naloxone Kits and 4 Nasal Narcan kits while travelling the streets.
- Attended the M.M.I.W.G. Community Engagement Workshop, A very informative day full of amazing conversations.
- Had a client who has been sleeping rough and in and out of the shelter system enter into the Salvation Armies New Roots Supportive Housing Program. This will be a great step forward for this client.
- Provided a tent for a client who is sleeping rough this summer.
- Coordinated support for two female clients who are staying at Blooming House.

**August 2024:**

- Attended 3 Bi-Lateral Names list (BNL) meetings.
- Attended a training session for the upcoming Point in Time Count.
- Monitored and updated H.I.F.I.S. files when needed.
- Worked with the Winter Street Manager to certify 6 of the shelter staff in doing S.P.D.A.T. assessments.
- Made regular check-ins with clients sleeping rough on the streets. During these visits this month I handed out 8 Naloxone kits, 12 bottles of water, 3 sandwiches, 2 rain ponchos, 2 bottles of sunscreen, 3 bottles of bug spray, a sleeping bag, and an M.H.R.T. survival bag.
- Went up to the Winter Street Shelter to meet a new client.
- Attended 2 case management meetings as part of the Community Outreach Center working group.
- Provided a bus pass for a client.
- Helped house 2 clients by providing damage deposits.
- Supported 3 clients by providing rental assistance.
- Met with a client and their landlord to deal with several issues in the unit.
- Worked with Nanegkam Housing the S.A.F.E. Coordinator and MCPEI. to find and provide supports for a family displaced due to a fire.
- Worked with MCPEII., our S.A.F.E. Coordinator, and the Indigenous hospice case manager for the Halifax Regional Municipality to find and provide supports for a family who lost a child.
- Worked with PEERS Alliance outreach and the Community Outreach Center staff to provide supports to a client whose partner passed away from an overdose mid-month.
- Worked with PEERS street outreach and the Community Outreach Center Staff to help a client during a medical emergency.
- Met with our clients in transitional housing and their house manager to get an update on how they are doing.

- Attended a probation services meeting with a client.
- Helped with some of the Pow-Wow preparations.
- I made my first visit into the new Community Outreach Center, though I have been on the site before I usually see my clients outside and hadn't had the need to go in until recently.
- Attended the PEERS Alliance overdose awareness day events, I got to see their new offices as well as getting a lesson on how they test street drugs. I believe this location will be valuable while we wait for the province to open a safe access site.

**September 2024:**

- I Attended 3 BNL Case Management Meetings as part of the Coordinated Access working group.
- Worked with PEERS Alliance to set up for the upcoming Point in Time Homeless Count being held October 1 & 2
- Updated Clients H.I.F.I.S. files as needed.
- Spoke to the shelter manager from Winter Street to set up S.P.D.A.T. training for the remaining untrained staff members.
- I made regular check-ins and home visits with Clients.
- Attended 2 landlord/client meetings.
- Went to a parole meeting with a client.
- Worked to compile data for new report for my funder.
- Attended a prep meeting for the C.O.H. Community in Practice.
- Was a guest speaker at the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness Eviction Prevention & Shelter Diversion Community in Practice, we had over 50 service providers from across North America in Attendance.
- Updated shared client files with the S.A.F.E. Coordinator.
- Coordinated with PEERS Alliance and the C.O.C. staff to locate a missing client.
- Attended a funding announcement from PEERS Alliance announcing financial supports for clients escaping domestic violence.
- In my Travels I handed out 9 Nasal Naloxone Kits and over a case of water.
- Took 2 days this month to travel the trail system in Charlottetown looking for campsites in preparation for the Point in Time Count, what I found was a lot of my previously mapped sites have been torn down by either the police or the city.
- Attended a meeting hosted by CLIA called the Justice Avenues Project. I have been asked by management to join this community on a regular basis. I will update more as I gain more knowledge on the program.
- Did an interview with C.B.C. about the upcoming shelter in Summerside and how it will take the stress off Winter Street as we see more full capacity days.
- Met with management from the Equality Project to discuss the referral procedure for the new shelter in Summerside when it opens.
- Met with a new client this month, I made referrals to ISET & SAFE to begin the process of wrap around support.

- Participated in a research study on Characterizing Barriers and Opportunities for Achieving pro-climate behaviors. This was facilitated through a U.P.E.I. program.
- Coordinated with PEERS Alliance Street outreach team and John Howard Society to provide supports for shared clients.
- Attended a memorial service at the Community Outreach Center. The ceremony was held to memorialize 3 clients who have passed away in the past 6 months, I was very close to 2 of the 3 lost clients and found a lot of relief being able to mourn with my friends and co-workers.
- Attended 2 case management meetings as part of the Community Outreach Center working group.
- Helped a client move into a new unit by providing a damage deposit.
- Met with a landlord who owns two homes in the city with 13 rental units, we have 1 client already renting from this landlord and the purpose of this meeting was to see if we could start using these units again for more clients. When I started working with NCPEI we had an agreement in place with the landlord, but it fell through. I am hoping to get back in the landlords good standing as this could be a great opportunity to house clients.
- Provided a bus pass to a client with severe mobility issues.
- Provided rental assistance for two clients in need of support.
- Sent out 2 M.H.R.T. Survival back packs and one tent for clients in need.

**Future Activities:**

- Continue to provide support to community members in need.
- Continue my advocacy work on affordable housing and homeless supports.
- Continue to build and develop the HIFIS program with the Coordinated Access to housing working group.
- Continue to work with the committees I sit on.

**Conclusion:**

- With the vacancy rate staying below 1% We have seen an urgency to help clients avoid eviction at all costs. I have made Eviction Prevention and Client support into two of the largest components of this program, we work every month trying to maintain a working relationship with landlords and property managers across the province.
- The Shelters across the Island are all currently at capacity on more than 95% of nights with a large community of homeless people sleeping rough I fear that this year the Island will see a large group of our population sleeping outdoors due to lack of housing and shelter supports. I will continue advocating for housing and affordable rents.

**Digital & Political Communications  
Annual General Assembly Report  
November 2023 to October 2024**

**Janique Nomdarkhom, Coordinator**

**Introduction:**

My name is Janique Nomdarkhom, the Digital & Political Communications Coordinator for NCPEI. I oversee the NCPEI social media accounts (Facebook & Instagram) as well as the website. I do photography for our major events, graphic design, print production and distribution. I handle merch designs, NCPEI clothing, event planning and creating the Gigmanag.

**Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

- Website Management
- Social Media Management
- Event planning (Powwow, NIPD)
- Merchandise Designs and ordering (Pins, t-shirts, notebooks, pens, stickers)
- Seasonal Gigmanags
- Assisting with Mail Outs

**Activities and Deliverables:**

- National Indigenous Peoples Day
  - Organized and arranged facilities, grounds, food license
  - Reached out to dignitaries
- **30<sup>th</sup> Annual Panmure Island Powwow**
  - Worked alongside the Powwow committee to arrange for dancers, drummers, vendors
  - Graphic Design (Social Media Posts, Program and Organizational Brochures, event agendas, posters, promotional merchandise etc.)
  - Commercials (Radio Ads for Powwow & NIPD, Newspaper Ads, Online)
  - Website and Social Media Management (Facebook & Instagram)
  - Event photography
- **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Bloomfield Mawi'omi**
  - Arranged facilities and food license
  - Organized a Truth and Reconciliation display
  - Event photography

## **Promotion and Outreach:**

- Media Engagement
- Media Releases
- Job Postings on website and social media
- Job Fairs- Organizing Merch for Job Fairs as well as attending each (UPEI, SkillsPEI in Summerside and Charlottetown)
- Red Dress Day informational posts
- Truth & Reconciliation Day Informational posts
- Relaunched our Instagram profile and amassing a steady following.

## **Future Activities:**

- Continuing to update the Internal Resource Guides (Calendar of Events, Media Prep)
- Remembrance Day and Indigenous Veterans Day
- 2025 NIPD Prep
- 2025 Powwow Prep
- Gigmanag mail outs
- Christmas Events

## **Conclusion:**

In conclusion, this year has been a successful one for marketing.

### Social Media

Our social media accounts have been very active, Instagram was relaunched and we have over 300 followers. This allows for cross posting between both platforms. Notices are shared to provide members with updates and notice of zone meetings. Posters are uploaded as received from coordinators to promote events/workshops and are reposted as needed as a reminder for members.

### Website

NCPEI's website is updated on a regular basis, this includes the staff, employment, programs & services and the community notices tab.

### Programming

All program pamphlets were updated to reflect any changes, new ones were created for new programs. All the pamphlets follow a similar design to have consistent branding. A pamphlet was created for an overview of NCPEI, these are taken to events, job fairs to increase awareness of NCPEI and what we do and offer.

### Events

Events are advertised on the NCPEI social media accounts (Facebook and Instagram), Facebook Events pages are created for large events on Facebook for a wider reach. Planning and execution of NCPEI events. Photos are taken and uploaded to social media for events.

**Strengthening Aboriginal Families Effectively  
Annual General Assembly Report  
October 2023 – October 2024**

**Brenda Dion  
Program Coordinator**

**Introduction:**

The SAFE program works with families who become involved or at risk of becoming involved with Child Protective Services. Along with culturally appropriate programming to ensure that Indigenous families, their children and youth in care acquire the supports and services they need. The SAFE program also hosts programs such as Community Kitchen, that is held once a month in each zone and Handle with Care, that is offered in the fall and springtime.

**Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

The SAFE programs goals are to maintain cultural supports for families, children and youth in care who are or at risk of becoming involved with Child Protection Services. The coordinator supports them by being there with the families and advocating for them with the CPS workers and investigators. As the coordinator I have supported families by attending court with them and going over the paperwork with them and explain to them what the Judge has ordered. If they are not able to seek out a lawyer on their own, then I would support them with that as well.

**Activities and Deliverables:**

- Coordinated home visits with a youth and mother and assisted with rent through the Reaching Home program
- Assisted a youth aging out of care with housing supports
- Several new intakes for this month regarding families who require supports while working with CPS.
- Number of families I provide weekly check-ins with and support when needed
- Assisted a family with Child Tax Benefit
- Providing a grandmother who has her grandchildren with wrap around supports
- One of the families I work with was approved for funding through Jordan's Principle. They will be getting help for the cost of groceries due to their son's illness. They will continue to get this support until he is no longer eligible. Added note: Jordan's Principle funding has been back logged since the late spring of 2024 and the result of that is delay in services for families. There has been no news release or update as to when the applications will be processed and approved.
- Attend court to provide support for families dealing with their children being put in care
- Through a referral from a CPS worker began working with a young mom who aged out of care. I advocated for her and was able to get her housing.

- Got a referral for a baby in care since birth and was found that the mother was Indigenous. I spoke to the worker about duty to report since the child is Indigenous, connected the family with NCPEI and began meetings with the Policy Analyst Team. There is a pre-motion hearing set for the New Year for baby A to be put in permanent care of the province. I've been trying to set up a meeting with the worker's but have had no response from them. They have been looking for the mom and have been unsuccessful.
- Doing bi-weekly check ins with a father and child to establish and maintain a cultural connection for them.
- Two youth who have been in care were able to return home. With supports from their Family Support Workers and the SAFE program they are excited to be home with their families.
- Attended an intake meeting with an addicted youth to see a counsellor about her mental health and addiction. It was difficult for the youth to share their story. The intake counsellor and I spoke about a referral to Summerside when they move in April so that the healing journey can continue.
- One youth that lives in Montague with her grandmother is doing good and is learning a lot from an after school activity which is Muay Thai, as it teaches discipline and patience. They are also on the list for the Big Brother and Big Sister program. The youth is happy to be home with the grandmother and brother and also doing counselling at school as it has been hard to adjust to be back at their old school.
- I attended a Trauma Support training which had a lot of information that was presented. The presenter, Gerald, published a book regarding trauma in indigenous people and included work he has done with Residential School Survivors. His book has a lot of ceremonies included with it and he also talked a lot about breathing exercises and how that can release the emotions that come with trauma. It was very interesting because he connected a lot of his work to the brain and how the trauma is stored both in the body and brain. The content itself was very good but the stories he shared were heavy and he shared a singing bowl guided meditation with everyone which was a good experience to finish the training with.

### **Promotion and Outreach:**

Sharing Circle with policy staff from Department of Social Development and Seniors on October 24. It included Sita M, Sarah, William, Chris and two other staff of NCPEI including myself. We were given updates about programming regarding youth in care and assessments that their workers do with families.

### **Future Activities:**

I have been receiving more requests for Jordan's Principle funding, I am able to help families with filling out paper work and providing them with letters of support from my program. I'd say I receive at least one request a week from the community.

Continue to promote and facilitate Handle with Care, I'm hoping that with this program we will be able to offer it online as some of the families I work with don't have reliable transportation. I'm just waiting for Handle with Care's director to approve my request.

**Conclusion:**

It has been a difficult process dealing with courts and CPS workers connecting an Indigenous child to their maternal grandparents. The lack of follow through and due diligence on behalf of the workers has made the situation worse. The Native Council's Policy Analyst Team and Chief Cooper have written letter to minister's and other political offices but there has been little response. This is a very concerning situation because the workers are not doing their due diligence into researching Indigenous children in their care and not connecting them to indigenous organizations.

I continue to attempt to connect with the CPS worker involved with this case, but they refuse to respond or meet with me. I have sent an email to the director regarding this case worker's blatant ostracization of NCPEI's programs and cultural support for the infant, and that the coordinator of the SAFE program I like to meet the people I work with. This seems to be not sufficient nor appropriate enough for the director.

The SAFE program would run more effectively with more staff, one in each Zone would be a goal since the program has grown exponentially in the last several years. My role and obligations have grown as well supporting families in court, supporting and advocating for them with their support workers, referring them to Jordan's Principle and going into schools to work with children who are in care and require more cultural supports.

**Tapui'tjitja'amtj Program**  
**Annual General Assembly Report**  
**October 2023 – October 2024**

**Kaelyn Mercer**  
**Tapui'tjitja'amtj Program Coordinator**

**Introduction:**

The Tapui'tjitja'amtj Program at NCPEI provides programming and supports to the off-reserve Two Spirit and gender-diverse Indigenous community (Indigiqueer) on Epekwitk, through a series of workshops, cultural events and advocacy initiatives aimed to foster immunity building, promote mental well-being, and strengthen cultural ties.

From October 2023 to October 2024, the program focused on creating safe and inclusive spaces for Two Spirit (2S) and Indigenous gender-diverse peoples, as well as building community capacity through partnerships with various community organizations, including BIPOC USHR, PEI Transgender Network, Pride PEI, and PEI Rape and Sexual Assault Centre.

A key highlight of this year was Indigiqueer Winter Gathering, the 2-night, 3-day retreat for Two Spirit and Indigiqueer folks, which provided a space for healing, cultural engagement, and community growth. Additionally, our participation in the 2024 PEI Pride Festival allowed us to amplify Two Spirit voices within the larger 2SLGBTQIA+ community, celebrating identities and creating visibility for Indigenous queerness through events including the Two Spirit Drag Show, Two Spirit Dry Happy Hour Panel, and the PEI Pride Parade.

**Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

The goals for the Tapui'tjitja'amtj program are to strengthen the connection to, and inclusion of 2SLGBTQIA+ Indigenous peoples living off-reserve on Epekwitk through the development of community-based, culturally appropriate supports and outreach activities. The responsibilities are to create and distribute promotional material and a resource manual, public and community outreach, education sessions highlighting the historic role of Two Spirit+ peoples in Indigenous culture (as well as current issues), provide land-based teachings, host healing circles based on needs of participants, and prepare reports on the progress and delivery of the program.

## Activities and Deliverables:

### October 2023

1. Tapui'tjitja'amtj Program Presentation – YESS Class – Zone 2 (October 16, 2024)
  - Presented to the NCPEI YESS class about the Tapui'tjitja'amtj Program, discussing Two-Spirit history and its significance.
  - Education session highlighting historic roles of Two Spirit+ peoples.
2. Two Spirit Drop-In – Zone 3 (October 25, 2024)
  - Drop-in crafting event.
  - Provided resources and space for future engagement.
3. Concho Belt Workshop – Zone 2 (October 28, 2024)
  - Partnered with other NCPEI programs, including MMIWG2S, Re-Establishing Community and Engaging Men and Boys to host a concho belt workshop, promoting cultural revitalization and skill building.
  - Facilitated cultural skill development and community connection.
4. Newly Elected Position: Elected as Director-at-Large for the PEI Transgender Network Board, integrating more intersectionality and Indigenous perspectives into their work.

### November 2023

1. Two Spirit Drop-In Event – Zone 1 (November 9, 2024)
  - This drop-in session involved making medicine pillows, small pillows containing the 4 sacred medicines.
  - Cultural education and engagement.
2. Transgender Flag Raising for Transgender Day of Remembrance – Zones 1 and 2 (November 15 & 17, 2024)
  - Flags raised in Charlottetown and Summerside during Transgender Awareness Week (November 13<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>) to show solidarity and raise visibility for the transgender community.
  - Increased visibility and support for the transgender community during Awareness Week.
3. “Being Thunder” Documentary Viewing – Zone 2 (November 16, 2024)
  - A planned viewing of the documentary “Being Thunder”, a film about a Two Spirit youth's journey.
4. Transgender Day of Remembrance Ceremony – Zone 2 (November 19, 2024)
  - A partnered event with PEI Transgender Network and PEERS Alliance. The event featured an opening ceremony with an Elder's prayer, speeches, candle lightings, and an open mic for the community to reflect and mourn transgender folks who have lost their lives.
  - Created a culturally inclusive space to honour transgender individuals who lost their lives due to anti-trans violence.

## December 2023

1. AIDS Awareness Family Fun Day – Zone 1 (December 5, 2024)
2. Other Activities
  - a. Helped with the NCPEI Elder's Christmas party.
  - b. Attended the NCPEI Open House.

## January 2024

1. Canadian Centre for Substance Use and Abuse Roundtable: Atlantic Canada and Canada's Guidance on Alcohol and Health (January 17-18, 2024)
  - Multiple organizations gathered in St. John's, Newfoundland, to discuss and create tangible ways on how to reduce the use of alcohol and raise awareness on issues that it may cause.

## February 2024

1. Dreamcatcher Workshops – All 3 Zones (February 1, 8 and 16, 2024)
  - Cultural workshop including the making of dreamcatchers and teachings behind them, for Two Spirit folks and allies.
2. Tapui'tjitja'amtj Program Presentation – YESS Class – Zone 1 (February 12, 2024)
  - Presented to the NCPEI YESS class about the Tapui'tjitja'amtj Program, discussing Two-Spirit history and its significance.
  - Education session highlighting historic roles of Two Spirit+ peoples.
3. Art is Resistance Workshop – Zone 2 (February 18, 2024)
  - Partnered with BIPOC USHR for a candle making/crafting community event.
4. Youth Drum Making Workshop – Zone 2 (February 19, 2024)
  - Collaborated with NCPEI MMIWG program to host a drum making workshop for youth.
5. Elder's Two Spirit Talking Circle – Zone 2 (February 21, 2024)
  - Talking circle with Elders, in which Two Spirit teachings were shared between us, along with education about the importance of acceptance of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community within our Indigenous communities.

## March 2024

1. Indigiqueer Winter Gathering – Zone 1 (March 1-3, 2024)
  - 3-day, 2-night retreat for Two Spirit and Indigiqueer folks, held at Mill River Resort. The purpose of the retreat was to encourage community building within the Two Spirit community, and encourage healing and knowledge building.
  - Activities included art therapy teachings from Grandmother Louise Lamonthé, a caribou tufting workshop, a Two Spirit comedy and Drag Show, and a climate change anxiety talking circle with the NCPEI Environmental program.
  - A survey was completed by participants for evaluation of the retreat and program.
2. Vigil for Nex Benedict – Zone 2 (March 5, 2024)
  - In partnership with PEI Transgender Network and PEERS Alliance, we hosted a vigil for a Two Spirit youth that was murdered in the US, highlighting the current issues that Two Spirit people face.
3. Fierte Canada Pride Conference – Zone 2 (March 9-10, 2024)

- Participated in and contributed to a national Pride conference with a focus on diversity, advocating for inclusive spaces for 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals.
4. Wabanaki 2S Alliance Networking Event – Nova Scotia (March 13-14, 2024)
    - A networking event for organizations working to improve the lives of Two Spirit and Indigiqueer folks. Participants shared resources and strategies for creating inclusive, supportive environments.
  5. Social Inequity in Indigenous Peoples Presentation at UPEI – Zone 2 (March 25, 2024)
    - Education session in collaboration with NCPEI Policy Analyst, which consisted of social inequity that Indigenous peoples face, with a highlight on social equity within the Two Spirit community.

## **April 2024**

1. Crafternoon for Indigenous Women, Girls and Two Spirit Peoples – Zone 2 (April 6, 2024)
  - Organized a crafting event that encouraged community members to connect through cultural activities. This event provided a space for participants to engage in traditional crafting, fostering community-building among Indigenous women and gender-diverse folks.
2. 2SLGBTQIA+ Safety and Inclusion Staff Day – Zone 2 (April 26, 2024)
  - Knowledge sharing day with NCPEI staff to address safety and inclusion for 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals. The focus was on improving workplace culture and practices, ensuring the office remains a safe space for all.
3. BIPOC Women’s Retreat – Zone 1 (April 27, 2024)
  - Retreat hosted by BIPOC USHR, the Women’s Network and Black Cultural Society. Facilitated an activity centred on self-love and empowerment for BIPOC Women, honouring our pasts and sharing personal stories to encourage healing and community connection.

## **May 2024**

1. Red Dress Day – Zone 2 (May 5, 2024)
  - In partnership with Aboriginal Women’s Association PEI, hosted an event to raise awareness and honour Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2S+ peoples (MMIWG2S+). This event included storytelling, community engagement, and a ceremony to reflect on the issue.
2. Rally for Rainbow Equality – Zone 2 (May 15, 2024)
  - Rally advocating for justice and recognition of the historical oppression faced by 2SLGBTQIA+ peoples. Engaged community members and organizations to voice collective support for the cause.
3. Pride PEI Engagement Session – Zone 2 (May 22, 2024)
  - In collaboration with Pride PEI, hosted a community engagement session with Two Spirit members. The session focused on enhancing representation and inclusion for Two Spirit and Indigiqueer peoples in the upcoming Pride Festival and beyond.

4. 3 Sisters Garden Workshop- Zone 1 (May 28, 2024)
  - Land-based workshop in collaboration with PEI Farm Centre, involving traditional planting techniques and teachings behind the 3 Sisters, creating a space for Two Spirit and Indigenous Women to connect with the land.
5. PEIRSAC Anti-Racism Grant Committee: A committee including PEIRSAC, BIPOC USHR, Black Cultural Society, and PEITN to discuss and plan a training conference on Anti-Racism for front-line workers.

## **June 2024**

1. Two Spirit Medallion Workshop – Zone 1 (June 8-9, 2024)
  - A 2-day workshop for Two Spirit and Indigiqueer folks to learn beading techniques and begin their own beaded medallions, fostering community connection and cultural learning.
2. Queer Prom – Zone 2 (June 28, 2024)
  - In partnership with PEERS Alliance, hosted a prom for Queer youth to have fun and celebrate their authentic selves.
3. NCPEI Pride Committee: Formed a Pride Committee, consisting of NCPEI employees, to collaborate on the planning and execution of events hosted during the 2024 Pride PEI Festival.

## **July 2024**

1. QTBIPOC Beach Day – Zone 3 (July 3, 2024)
  - A relaxed day at the beach for QTBIPOC (Queer, Trans, Black, Indigenous, People of Colour) to connect and enjoy the outdoors.
2. Two Spiri Drag Show – Zone 2 (July 13, 2024)
  - PEI Pride Festival
  - A drag performance highlighting Two-Spirit performers, creating a space for celebration of Two Spirit identities.
3. Dry Happy Hour Series: Exploring Indigenous Gender Identities – Zone 2 (July 18, 2024)
  - PEI Pride Festival
  - A panel consisting of Two Spirit and Indigiqueer peoples, discussing their identities and experiences in a casual, open space.
4. Queer Bingo – Zone 2 (July 18, 2024)
  - PEI Pride Festival
  - In partnership with PEITN and Pride PEI, a social event during the Pride Festival.
5. “Let’s Kiki” BIPOC Dance – Zone 2 (July 19, 2024)
  - PEI Pride Festival
  - In partnership with Pride PEI, BIPOC USHR, Black Cultural Society, and PEITN, a dance event for BIPOC to celebrate and express their identities through music and dance.
6. 2024 PEI Pride Parade – Zone 2 (July 20, 2024)
  - PEI Pride Festival
  - Participation in the Pride Parade, showcasing Indigenous and Two Spirit Pride.
7. Healthy Masculinity Workshop – Zone 2 (July 25, 2024)

- In partnership with the White Ribbon Campaign, BIPOC USHR and Black Cultural Society, a workshop discussing healthy masculinity, teachings from an Elder as well as a BBQ social.

## August 2024

1. QTBIPOC Picnic and Crafting – Zone 2 (August 26, 2024)
  - In partnership with BIPOC USHR and PEITN, we provided an outdoor space for QTBIPOC to connect through shared activities and a casual picnic to promote community-building, creativity and cultural exchange.
2. Other Activities
  - Attended and helped out with NCPEI'S Annual Panmure Island Pow Wow.

## September 2024

1. 3 Sisters Soup Workshop – Zone 1 (September 18, 2024)
  - A cultural cooking workshop centred around making 3 Sisters Soup from the garden that was planted in May, focusing on Indigenous food traditions and their connection to community and mental health.
2. Take Back the Night – Zone 2 (September 19, 2024)
  - An event hosted by PEI Rape and Sexual Assault Centre (PEIRSAC), supporting survivors of gender-based violence, in which I opened the event with a Fire and Water ceremony, followed by “Love Letters to Survivors” to foster healing and solidarity.
3. Queering Consent – Zone 2 (September 24, 2024)
  - In collaboration with PEERS Alliance and PEIRSAC, a workshop focused on reimagining consent within queer contexts, emphasizing how consent intersects with identity, relationships, and community care.

## October 2024

1. QTBIPOC Apple Picking – Zone 2 (October 5, 2024)
  - A community apple-picking event for Queer, Trans, Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour, focusing on fostering connection through a relaxed outdoor activity.
2. No Face Medicine Doll Workshop – Zone 3 (October 9, 2024)
  - A traditional workshop teaching participants how to create No Face Medicine Dolls. The event centered around self-reflection, healing, and cultural activities.
3. Two Spirit Beading Circle – Zone 2 (October 15, 2024)
  - A beading circle for Two Spirit/Indigiqueer folks, providing a safe space to learn, practice traditional beading, and share experiences in a supportive environment.
4. Building Better Communities – Zone 2 (October 16 and 17, 2024)
  - A two-day workshop hosted by The Women's Network and Catalyst, focused on strategies for building inclusive, supportive, and resilient communities.
5. QTBIPOC Trip to Haunted Barn – Zone 3 (October 25, 2024)
  - A fun and community-building trip to a haunted barn for QTBIPOC, designed to strengthen bonds within the community in a playful setting.

## **Committees**

Throughout the year, the Tapui'tjitja'amtj program was represented on various committees and boards, including the Anti-Racism Table, the Board of PEITN, Indigenous Women's Circle, and the RCMP Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

## **Promotion and Outreach:**

All events were promoted through NCPEI social platforms including Facebook and Instagram, as well as email lists. Word of mouth was encouraged through community members, and events were shared throughout community organizations.

## **Media Engagement and Program Visibility:**

- CBC Interview with PEI Transgender Network about Transgender Awareness Week, its importance, and the events we have planned. (November 18, 2023)
- CBC Interview on Red Dress Day, furthering awareness about MMIWG2S+ issues. (May 5, 2024)
- CBC interview about the 3 Sisters Garden workshop, including promotion and the importance of land-based teachings. (May 24, 2024)

## **Public Engagement**

- Engagement with the Holland College Transitions Class about the Tapui'tjitja'amtj Program. (December 4, 2023)
- Information booth about NCPEI programs at AIDS Awareness Family Day in Lennox Island, hosted by Healing our Nation. (December 5, 2023)
- Tapui'tjitja'amtj Program Information booth at a Two Spirit Day Celebration at UPEI. Engaged with multiple students from UPEI. (March 20, 2024)

## **Networking**

- Fierce Canada Pride Conference (March 9-10, 2024)
  - Participation in national 2SLGBTQIA+ networks and promoting the programs contributions to the event, focusing on advocating for diversity and inclusion.
- Wabanaki Two Spirit Alliance Networking Event (March 13-14, 2024)
  - Furthered relationships with existing partner organizations including Wabanaki Two Spirit Alliance, PEI Transgender Network, and formed new relationships with regional organizations including Community Based Research Centre, The Youth Project, 2 Spirits in Motion Society, and more.
- Aboriginal Women's Network PEI Network Gathering (March 24, 2024)
  - Program promotion and relationship building with PEI organizations that work to reduce gender-based violence, including (but not limited to) AWAPEI, PEERS Alliance, Legal AID PEI, BIPOC USHR, and the Mary Bernard Women's Shelter.

**Future Activities:**

Within the next coming months, the Tapui'tjitja'amtj Program will be in the final stages. Because of this, the level of activities will decrease, and more time will be spent on creating the resource booklet in collaboration with Two Spirit and Indigiqueer community members.

Future activities include:

- Two Spirit Talking Circles
- A 1 Day Tapui'tjitja'amtj Program Celebration
- QTBIPOC Feast Gathering

**Conclusion:**

The Tapui'tjitja'amtj Program at NCPEI has made significant efforts in fostering connection, cultural engagement, and healing for Two Spirit and gender-diverse Indigenous peoples living off-reserve on Epekwitk. Through a wide array of workshops, cultural events, and advocacy initiatives from October 2023 to October 2024, the program successfully created safe and inclusive spaces, strengthened community ties, and amplified the visibility of Indigiqueer Identities. Partnerships with organizations like BIPOC USHR, PEI Transgender Network, Pride PEI, and PEI Rape and Sexual Assault Centre were vital to addressing the unique needs of 2SLGBTQIA+ Indigenous peoples.

Highlights such as the Indigiqueer Winter Gathering and participation in the 2024 PEI Pride Festival exemplified the programs commitment to cultural revitalization, mental well-being, and community solidarity. Looking ahead, the program will focus on wrapping up its activities and producing a resource booklet to continue supporting the Indigiqueer community beyond the programs timeline, ensuring a lasting impact for Two Spirit and Indigiqueer peoples on Epekwitk.

**AGA Report  
Winter Street Men's Emergency Shelter  
Annual General Assembly Report  
October 2023-October 2024**

**Andrea Schurman, Shelter Manager**

**Introduction:**

Winter Street shelter is a 10-bed low barrier shelter serving Indigenous and non-Indigenous male identifying adults aged 18 and older who are experiencing homelessness. The shelter is staffed 24/7. Guests are offered support with addictions, mental health, housing, referrals and needs assessments with a housing focus. Guest will work with staff to prepare for long term housing solutions.

**Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

Guest will be required to meet with staff daily to prepare for long-term housing solutions. Staff will meet clients where they are providing a trauma informed approach. Staff will ensure that guests are connected and stay connected with supports that will best help them to be successful moving forward.

**Activities and Deliverables:**

The shelter has offered activities such as language and drumming. MCPEI has been supportive in activities such as drum making as well as making medicine bags with staff and guests. Guest have participated in the Powwow that took place on Panmure Island. Staff have been finding that guests are opening up through playing Xbox. The community Outreach Center will be coming to the shelter beginning soon to start the GED program or and upgrading that guests would like. Rent Smart will start soon to help support guests to be successful in their housing opportunities. Elders have been coming in more regularly to meet with guests.

**Promotion and Outreach:**

The shelter has been sharing donations with the Life house Womens shelter as well as the Community Fridge. MCPEI, Connections to Employment, Social Development and Housing, Community Outreach Center, Peers Alliance, CHMA, St Elenors House, Nortre Dame place and more have all been supports to guests and staff of the Shelter. The shelter staff have been networking to ensure best possible wrap around supports to guests.

**Future Activities:**

The shelter has been coordinating with an Elder from the community to beginning a drum making session with guests.

**Conclusion:**

The shelter has built the trust of the community and continues to hear positive feedback. Guest are working on their goals and continue to be successful. Currently we have two Indigenous guests on the wait list for The Rising Sun. Two guests at St Elenors House and two that have secured housing to begin in the next coming days. The shelter has all beds filled 6 Indigenous and 4 non-Indigenous, this has been the trend.



# **Nanegkam Housing Corporation**

**Annual General Assembly Report**

**November 2023 to October 2024**

**David Rooney**

**Housing Manager**

## **Introduction:**

Nanegkam Housing Corporation (NHC) exists to provide off reserve housing to indigenous peoples in urban areas of Prince Edward Island on a rent-geared-to-income basis. We currently own and manage fifty-six housing units made up of twenty-four (24) single dwellings, fourteen (14) duplexes, five (5) townhouses and thirteen (13) apartments. The composition is broken down as follows: three (3) one (1) bedroom units, twenty-five (25) two (2) bedroom units, twenty-seven (27) three (3) bedroom units and one (1) four-bedroom unit. Forty-eight (48) of these units are in Charlottetown, seven (7) are in Summerside and one (1) is in Murray Harbour.

Additionally, NHC has been tasked with the repairs of six (6) two (2) bedroom units on Turtle Lane consisting of two (2) one (1) bedroom units and four (4) three (3) bedroom units.

The NHC staff consists of two (2) people: David Rooney; Housing Manager and Merle Chappell, Maintenance Coordinator. We are supported by Emily Bernard, Finance Manager. From time to time we are also assisted by various program staff on an as required basis.

## **Program Goals/Objectives/Key Responsibilities:**

Effective April 1, 2022, the management of NHC was transferred to the Native Council of Prince Edward Island.

NHC manages two budgets: the Operations and Maintenance (O&M) and the Capital Replacement Reserve. The collection of rental payments is the responsibility of NHC. The function of acquiring the contractors, awarding the contract, monitoring of the work and approval of the invoice and payment is the responsibility of NHC.

NHC works closely with CMHC to ensure that the funding arrangements are in place to ensure the viability of the Corporation.

The occupancy of the units to ensure maximum rental income is achieved is also, the responsibility of NHC. There is a chronic issue with several tenants being chronically late in paying their rent and being in arrears. At present, there are Twenty-six (26) people on our waitlist.

Keeping the Board of Directors informed is achieved by regular quarterly meetings where the status reports are tabled.

## **Activities and Deliverables:**

The Capital Reserve Budget for FY 2023-2024. Actual expenditures amounted to \$536,555.36. The Capital Reserve Budget for FY 2023-2024 balance is at \$1,324,880.15.

this fiscal year. The increased spending is a result of lapsed projects and funding from previous years and the push by NHC management to “get these projects done” by the end of this fiscal year.

There is three (3) vacant unit at the time of writing. There is a plan in place for occupancy.

We are attempting to increase the level of tenant satisfaction by reducing the response time for both normal maintenance calls and by keeping the tenants better informed of when contractors are expected to be on site. The same applies for capital projects.

**Promotion and Outreach:**

The staff of NHC has put the needs of its tenants at the forefront of our operations and we strive to meet or exceed our tenants' expectations in all aspects of their tenancy while balancing that with our fiscal responsibilities.

I have been participating in regular monthly staff meetings. We participated in the annual Powwow and several other cultural events.

We have attended several meetings in the public forum relating to affordable housing to keep informed about the issues.

**Future Activities:**

We have currently requested and received approval for an additional 2.5 million dollars from CMHC for additional repairs to our units. In saying that we once again engaged the services of an engineering firm to produce a revised Capital Reserve Plan which will be implemented in FY 2024-2025. This will allow us to continue planned updates for the units for the next five (5) years.

We continue to reduce the amount of outstanding debt as it relates to the tenants paying their "rent on time". We will have to be more aggressive in managing this aspect of our program.

The CMHC funding model is moving from an "operating expense" model to a "rent subsidy" model. The full impact of this change is not yet fully understood but will be monitored by NHC.

**Conclusion:**

We are continuing to reach out to tenants to help find out what their wants and needs are to ensure a quality and safe environment for them to live. We have found more and more tenants reaching out for maintenance and repairs as many units have not been maintained properly prior to our arrival.

Resolution 2023-03: Zone Interim Elections

WHEREAS each zone should be empowered to elect their Zone Directors;

BE IT RESOLVED that the NCPEI Board of Directors draft a By-law amendment for zones to be allowed to hold elections to replace or fill a vacant Zone Director position.

Moved by: Diane Burke (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Tim Ross (Zone 1)

**Resolution Carried (Constitutional change to be brought forward next year)**

Resolution 2023-12: Alternative Board Accountability Process

WHEREAS there are not provisions in our Constitution and By-laws to hold board members accountable for actions or activities that go against their Code of Conduct, confidentiality, and Oath of Office other than removing them from Office;

AND WHEREAS the threshold for a removal vote is high and considered harsh and does not enable to put a board member “on notice” for not following their Code of Conduct, confidentiality, or Oath of Office;

AND WHEREAS breaching confidentiality can be damaging when it pertains to community member(s);

AND WHEREAS not upholding the Code of Conduct and or Oath of Office by pushing one’s personal agenda and not that of the community they represent can divide a community;

BE IT RESOLVED that a process other than a “removal” can be created such as a three-strike to enable a board member to correct their behavior to ensure the integrity of the NCPEI’s Board of Directors

Moved by: Diane Burke (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Loretta Ross (Zone 1)

**Resolution Carried (Constitutional change to be brought forward next year)**

Resolution 2023-14: Notice for President & Chief Candidates

WHEREAS seven days prior to the AGA for a candidate to submit their intent to run;

AND WHEREAS there are no opportunities for candidates to meet their delegates before the AGA;

BE IT RESOLVED that the requirements to run for Chief be 30 days prior to the AGA;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a zone meeting be held a week after to enable candidates to attend to introduce themselves if they so choose.

Moved by: Richard Cooper (Zone 1)

Seconded by: Diane Burke (Zone 2)

**Resolution Carried (Constitutional change to be brought forward next year)**

Resolution 2023-16 (written as amended): Zone Guidelines

WHEREAS some zones allow “call-ins” to go toward their “attendance” and other zones do not for their delegate selection;

AND WHEREAS this process of “calling in” is not known by all members of that zone;

AND WHEREAS some members who attended in person got moved down the delegate list, causing animosity and confusion;

BE IT RESOLVED that at the first zone meeting after the AGA that each zone review and update the zone guidelines;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the guidelines include a clear process for delegate selection, tracking attendance and other areas of contention;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that once revised, the zone guidelines be an appendix to the Constitution and By-laws and not just a guide;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of the guidelines be available at every zone meeting for new and existing members, as well as on the NCPEI website.

Moved by: Diane Burke (Zone 2)

Seconded by: Loretta Ross (Zone 1)

**Resolution Carried (By-law amendment for next year)**

## NCPEI Constitution and By-Laws

(Last Amended November 2023)

THE NAME OF THE SOCIETY SHALL BE: **THE NATIVE COUNCIL OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.**

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE NATIVE COUNCIL

	<b>SECTION 1.</b> To aid and assist all off-reserve people of Aboriginal ancestry in Prince Edward Island for the purpose of advancing their general living conditions and achieving a level of self-determination.
	<b>SECTION 2.</b> To work with all levels of government, public and private agencies, and private industry to improve social, educational and employment opportunities for off-reserve Aboriginal peoples of Prince Edward Island.
	<b>SECTION 3.</b> To foster and strengthen Aboriginal languages, cultural identity, traditional practices and pride among Aboriginal peoples of Prince Edward Island.
	<b>SECTION 4.</b> To inform the general public of the special needs of the off-reserve Aboriginal peoples of Prince Edward Island and of their efforts to achieve full participation in self-determination and in the economic, social and political life of the province.
	<b>SECTION 5.</b> To co-operate with all other Aboriginal organizations whose aims are similar to those of the Native Council of Prince Edward Island;
	<b>SECTION 6.</b> To foster and establish a relationship with the Mi'kmaq Grand Council and other Aboriginal groups in dealing with the treaty rights and land claim issues which affect the Mi'kmaq and other Aboriginal Members of the Native Council of Prince Edward Island.
	<b>SECTION 7.</b> To assist and give a collective voice to the Mi'kmaq and other Aboriginal persons living off reserve in Prince Edward Island;
	<b>SECTION 8.</b> To advocate and hold all levels of government accountable on behalf of the Mi'kmaq and all Aboriginals on Prince Edward Island for treaty rights and land claims.
	<b>SECTION 9.</b> To provide resources and a community setting for the Mi'kmaq and all Aboriginals on Prince Edward Island (off-reserve) in exercising traditional rights, customs and practices.
	<b>SECTION 10.</b> To advocate on behalf of and to give a collective voice to the Mi'kmaq and other Aboriginal persons living off reserve in Prince Edward Island, including bringing court proceedings on their behalf.
	<b>SECTION 11.</b> To consult and cooperate in good faith with all levels of government to obtain the free, prior, and informed consent of the Mi'kmaq and other Aboriginal persons living off-reserve in PEI.

**ARTICLE NO. I**  
**HEAD OFFICE**

<b>Head Office</b>	<b>SECTION 1.</b> The head office of the Native Council shall be in Charlottetown, in Queens County, Province of Prince Edward Island.
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**ARTICLE NO. II**  
**INTERPRETATION**

<b>General</b>	<p><b>SECTION 1.</b> In this Constitution and Bylaws, unless the context otherwise requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) “Aboriginal” means the Indigenous people of North America;</li> <li>b) “Act” means the <i>Companies Act</i>, RSPEI 1988, Cap. C-14, as amended, from time to time and at any time, and any other Act enacted in substitution or replaced of such Act;</li> <li>c) “Board” means the Board of Directors of the Native Council;</li> <li>d) “Council” or “Native Council” means the Native Council of Prince Edward Island; the body corporate originally constituted as the P.E.I. Association of Métis and Non -Status Indians by Letters Patent dated May 22, 1975, together with any Supplementary Letters Patent granted and issued subsequent to such date;</li> </ul> <p><b>SECTION 2.</b> All words used herein which import number shall be read and considered with such changes of number as the context may require. All words used herein which import gender shall be read and considered with such changes of gender as the context may require. Furthermore, such wording shall include reference to 2SLGBTQQA+ individuals.</p> <p><b>SECTION 3.</b> Article and section headings contained herein are included solely for convenience and are not intended to be full or accurate descriptions of the content of any article or section.</p>
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**ARTICLE NO. III**  
**MEMBERSHIP / CITIZENSHIP**

<b>Eligibility for Membership</b>	<b>SECTION 1.</b> Membership in the Native Council is open to anyone who is of Aboriginal ancestry, self-identifies as being of Aboriginal ancestry and acceptance in the Aboriginal community, and is a permanent resident of Prince Edward Island who does not reside on an Indian Reserve (within the meaning of the <i>Indian Act</i> of Canada). Further meaning is given below in subsections 1, 2, 3 and 4.
<b>Aboriginal Ancestry</b>	<b>Subsection 1.1</b> Aboriginal ancestry means proof that an individual had an ancestor who belonged to a historic Aboriginal community. The prospective member must provide satisfactory evidence to the Native Council of Aboriginal

	<p>ancestry by providing not less than three of the following four which are credible and acceptable:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) A birth, baptism, marriage or death record issued by a church or government;</li> <li>(2) An official government document such as a census record, a court record (including probated or filed wills) or a land registry document;</li> <li>(3) A written statement of a historian or a registered genealogist;</li> <li>(4) Such other evidence in written or verbal form provided that it is coupled with other documentation, which the Board of Directors deems credible and acceptable.</li> </ol>
<b>Self-Identification and participation</b>	<p><b>Subsection 1.2.</b> The prospective member must self-identify as a member of an Aboriginal community; the member must hold himself or herself out and believe or consider he or she is an Aboriginal. The prospective member should be proud of his or her Aboriginal ancestry and openly identify himself or herself as being of Aboriginal ancestry.</p> <p>The prospective member may also demonstrate past and ongoing participation in the shared culture and the customs and traditions that constitute the Aboriginal community and distinguish it. This may include participation in community activities and events and participation in and connection to the community and culture, knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of Aboriginal community.</p>
<b>Permanent Resident</b>	<p><b>Subsection 1.3.</b> Permanent resident of Prince Edward Island means an individual who has physically lived within the Province of Prince Edward Island for a continuous period of at least six months at the time of application.</p>
<b>Form and Information</b>	<p><b>SECTION 1.4.</b> The prospective member must complete any prescribed form and submit all required documentation to the Native Council. The majority (50% + 1) of the Board of Directors may prescribe any form and any required documentation from time to time, in furtherance of the eligibility criteria in this Article.</p>
<b>Classes of membership</b>	<p><b>SECTION 2.</b> There shall be the following membership classes in the Native Council: (1): Full Voting; (2) Youth; and (3) Honourary.</p>
<b>Full Voting</b>	<p><b>Subsection 2.1.</b> Full Voting membership shall be open to any adult (16 or over) who meets the requirements identified above in this article and has been accepted as a member of the Native Council by the Board of Directors. Each adult member shall have one vote.</p>
<b>Youth</b>	<p><b>Subsection 2.2.</b> Youth membership shall be open to any minor under the age of sixteen who meets the requirements identified above in this article and has been accepted as a member of the Native Council by the Board of Directors. This membership may be applied for by the parent or legal guardian of any minor. Youth members will become full voting members once they turn 16; they do not</p>

	need to apply. Youth members aged thirteen and older are entitled to vote for their youth director but are not otherwise entitled to vote until they are full-voting members of the Native Council.
<b>Honourary</b>	<b>Subsection 2.3.</b> Honourary membership shall be open to any individual or organization which the majority (50% + 1) of the Board of Directors desires to recognize as supporting the Native Council, being sympathetic to the aims and objections of the Native Council, or otherwise warranting recognition. Honourary Membership does not entitle the holder to any vote.
<b>Membership decision</b>	<b>SECTION 3.</b> The majority (50% + 1) decision of the Board of Directors shall determine whether or not a prospective member shall be accepted as a member of the Native Council.  The decision of the Board of Directors shall be communicated to the prospective member by letter, email, phone, or other means in a reasonable timely manner.
<b>Membership dispute: appeal</b>	<b>SECTION 4.</b> Any individual who is not accepted as a member of the Native Council may provide a letter or written submissions only of not more than five pages in totality indicating why he or she believe he or she should be accepted as a member. If youth membership is an issue the letter or submissions may be provided by the parent or guardian.  The Board of Directors <i>may</i> review the letter or documented submissions and have a further vote at a later meeting (within six months) but nothing shall require the Board to accept that individual as a member or hear from that individual in person. The decision of the majority (50% +1) of the Board of Directors shall be binding and final for that application. If circumstances change and new information can be provided, a new application can be submitted.
<b>Withdrawal</b>	<b>SECTION 5.</b> A member may withdraw membership by document or email indicating their desire to resign and mailing it or emailing it to the Native Council Head Office. The withdrawal shall be effective immediately upon being received by the Native Council Head Office. Acceptance of the withdrawal shall not be required.

**ARTICLE NO. IV**

**ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

<b>Annual General Assembly</b>	<b>SECTION 1.</b> The Native Council shall hold an annual meeting, to be known as the Annual General Assembly, once in every fiscal year at such time and at such place as shall be determined by the decision of the majority (50% +1) of the Board of Directors for the purpose of transacting all such business as may be properly dealt with at the meeting, including the review of the previous year's annual meeting minutes, review of the report from the President and Chief, review of the reports from the Board of Directors, review of any report from program managers and/or staff, review of the audited financial statements, discussing and adopting resolutions, and so forth.
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<b>Zone Meetings and Youth and Elder Meetings</b>	<b>SECTION 2.</b> Each zone along with the Youth Council and the Elder Council shall hold a meeting prior to the Annual General Assembly as set out in Article 6 Section 3 along with Article 7 Section 4.
<b>Notice of Annual General Assembly</b>	<b>SECTION 3.</b> Notice shall be given to all members of the time and place of the Annual General Assembly at the same time as the notice under Article 6 Section 5 and 6 along with Article 7 Section 6 and 7. For further clarity, the notice for the zones shall state the time and place of the zone meetings and the notice shall also state the time and place of the Annual General Assembly; separate notice shall not be necessary. The notice for the Elder and Youth Councils shall state the time and place of the elder and youth meeting and the notice shall also state the time and place of the Annual General Assembly; separate notice shall not be necessary.  The Native Council may also post a notice of the Annual General Assembly on its website and on its social media pages and do such other things to give notice of meetings.
<b>Members to Provide Contact Details</b>	<b>SECTION 4.</b> Each member shall be required to provide the Native Council with their current mailing and email address. It shall be the responsibility of each member to contact the Native Council in writing by letter or email to update his or her current mailing and email address; failure to do so shall not be an excuse or invalidate notice even if the Native Council receives notification by returned email or returned mail.
<b>Deemed Notice on Attendance Unless Protest</b>	<b>SECTION 5.</b> Notice of a meeting shall be deemed given to any person who attends the meeting without protesting before or at its commencement about the lack of adequate notice which, if given, shall be noted in the minutes.
<b>Quorum</b>	<b>SECTION 6.</b> A quorum for any Annual General Assembly of the Native Council shall be a simple majority (50% +1) of the voting delegates selected for such assembly and present at the start of the Annual General Assembly. The minimum quorum for any Annual General Assembly shall not be fewer than twenty full voting members. For further certainty and ease of reference, see Appendix A.
<b>Passing</b>	<b>SECTION 7.</b> No matter shall be carried without the affirmative vote of a simple majority (50% + 1) of those present and eligible to vote. Each voting delegate shall have only one vote. For further certainty and ease of reference, see Appendix A.
<b>Voting for President Position</b>	<b>SECTION 8.</b> If a vote is taken for the position of President and Chief (if the position is vacant), the voting shall be by secret ballot.
<b>Chairpersons</b>	<b>SECTION 9.</b> Chairperson(s) shall be nominated by the voting delegates from those individuals present at the Annual General Assembly; the individual(s) need not be a Member of the Native Council. The Chairperson(s) may be voting delegates of the Annual General Assembly. In such cases, the Chairperson(s) must step down from chairing for any motions in which they intend to speak or vote on. In addition, any Chairperson(s) entitled to vote shall always be eligible

	to vote in secret ballot votes, including for elections, but must still step down from chairing to speak on the motion. The majority (50% + 1) vote of the voting delegates present shall determine the Chairperson.
<b>No Proxy</b>	<b>SECTION 10.</b> The voting delegates shall not vote by proxy; no proxy or agent voting shall be permitted. Only those voting delegates (or alternative voting delegates if applicable) present and eligible to vote shall vote.
<b>Electronic Meeting</b>	<b>SECTION 11.</b> The Annual General Assembly may be held by video or electronic means in extenuating circumstances upon advance approval of the Board of Directors which shall not be carried without the affirmative vote of $\frac{3}{4}$ (75%). The exact means of the meeting shall be further specified by the Board of Directors as appropriate in the circumstances. The Board may specify that such electronic meeting may be one time only or continue for further meetings. Extenuating circumstances shall include but not be limited to: pandemic, health crisis, natural disaster such as flood or storm, or other unforeseen circumstances which are uncontrollable in operation.

**ARTICLE NO. V**  
**SPECIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

<b>Special General Assembly</b>	<b>SECTION 1.</b> Any three members of the Board of Directors may together (which may or may not include the President and Chief as one) call a special meeting of the members to be known as a Special General Assembly for the purpose of transacting special business such as the election of a new President and Chief (if the position has become vacant) and other special situations that may arise.
<b>President and Chief Vacancy</b>	<b>SECTION 2.</b> Upon a vacancy in the position of President and Chief, the Board of Directors shall immediately call a Special General Assembly so that a new President and Chief may be elected.
<b>Zone Meetings and Youth and Elder Meetings</b>	<b>SECTION 3.</b> Each zone along with the Youth Council and Elder Council shall hold a meeting prior to the Special General Assembly as set out in Article 6 Section 4 along with Article 7 Section 5.
<b>Notice of Special General Assembly</b>	<b>SECTION 4.</b> Notice shall be given to all members of the time and place of the Special General Assembly at the same time as the notice under Article 6 Section 5 and 6 along with Article 7 Section 6 and 7. For further clarity, the notice for the zones shall state the time and place of the zone meetings and the notice shall also state the time and place of the Special General Assembly; separate notice shall not be necessary. The notice for the Elder and Youth Councils shall state the time and place of the elder and youth meeting and the notice shall also state the time and place of the Special General Assembly; separate notice shall not be necessary.

	The Native Council may also post a notice of the Special General Assembly on its website and on its social media pages and do such other things to give notice of meetings.
<b>Same provisions as Annual General Assembly</b>	<b>SECTION 5.</b> The same provisions included in Article IV, Sections 4 to 11 inclusive, shall apply to a Special General Assembly as they would for an Annual General Assembly.

**ARTICLE NO. VI**

**ZONES, ZONE MEETINGS, ZONE DELEGATES**

<b>Three zones</b>	<b>SECTION 1.</b> There shall be three territories called “Zones” which shall be based on the Counties of Prince Edward Island: Zone 1 - Prince County; Zone 2 - Queens County, and Zone 3 - Kings County.
<b>Two Board members for each Zone</b>	<b>SECTION 2.</b> Each zone shall elect two Board members to serve on the Board of Directors of the Native Council. These Board members may be referred to as “zone directors” for the Zone which they are elected from.
<b>Annual Zone Meetings Prior to Annual General Assembly</b>	<b>SECTION 3.</b> The zone directors in each zone shall hold an Annual Zone Meeting at least twenty days prior to the date of the Annual General Assembly for the purpose of selecting voting delegates and alternative voting delegates who will represent the zone at the Annual General Assembly and for the purpose of electing zone Directors (if a vacancy exists) and also for the purpose of discussing issues and business that may arise at the Annual General Assembly. All voting members of the Native Council shall be eligible to vote in the zone in which they normally reside.
<b>Zone Meetings Prior to Special Assembly</b>	<b>SECTION 4.</b> The zone directors in each zone shall hold a meeting at least ten days prior to the date of the Special General Assembly for the purpose of selecting voting delegates and alternative voting delegates who will represent the zone at the Special General Assembly and also for the purpose of discussing issues and business that may arise at the Special General Assembly. All voting members of the Native Council shall be eligible to vote in the zone in which they normally reside.
<b>Notice of Meeting Method</b>	<b>SECTION 5.</b> Notice shall be given to each member eligible to vote at the meeting by one of the following methods: (a) by personal delivery; (b) by email; or (c) by regular postage paid mail.  In the case of personal delivery, the notice shall be delivered personally to each member at least twenty full days before the time set for the meeting. In the case of email, the notice shall be sent to each member’s email address at least twenty full days before the time set for the meeting. In the case of regular postage paid mail, notice shall be deposited into a Canada Post mail box at least twenty full days before the time set for the meeting. Confirmation of receipt shall not be necessary.

	The Native Council <i>may</i> also post a notice of the meeting on its website and on its social media pages and do such other things to give notice of the meeting, but this shall not constitute the required notice.
<b>Notice of Meeting Contents</b>	<b>SECTION 6.</b> The Notice shall state the time, place and requirements (as set out in Article 3 Section 8) of the meeting for the zone and be sent by personal delivery, email, or regular paid mail to the Members last known address or email address submitted by the Member. The notice shall state the time and place of the zone meeting and the notice shall also state the time and place of the Annual General Assembly or Special General Assembly; separate notice shall not be necessary.
<b>Member to Provide Contact Information and Keep up to Date</b>	<b>SECTION 7.</b> Each Member shall be required to provide the Native Council with their current mailing and email address. It shall be the Members responsibility to contact the Native Council in writing by email or mail to update his or her current mailing and email address; failure to do so shall not be an excuse or invalidate notice even if the Native Council receives notification by returned email or returned mail.
<b>Deemed Notice on Attendance Unless Protest</b>	<b>SECTION 8.</b> Notice of a meeting shall be deemed given to any person who attends the meeting without protesting before or at its commencement about the lack of adequate notice which, if given, shall be noted in the minutes.
<b>Voting for Board Members</b>	<b>SECTION 9.</b> At the Annual Zone Meeting held prior to the Annual General Assembly, the members of each zone shall cast votes by secret ballot for the two Directors who will represent them in that zone, if there is a vacancy.
<b>Vacancy on Board</b>	<b>SECTION 10.</b> If a vacancy occurs on the Board of Directors for a zone, the position shall remain vacant until the next annual zone meeting prior to the Annual General Assembly. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board of Directors, in accordance with Article 8 Section 23, may appoint an individual to serve until the annual zone meeting.
<b>No Proxy</b>	<b>SECTION 11.</b> Members shall not vote by proxy; no proxy or agent voting shall be permitted. Only those present and eligible to vote shall vote at any zone meeting.
<b>Director to Declare Intention to Run</b>	<b>SECTION 12.</b> An individual interested in running for a vacant director position or running for re-election shall submit a letter by mail or an email to the Native Council indicating their intention to run as a director and enclosing or attaching a biography which must be received within seven days of the upcoming meeting. Only individuals who have complied with this provision shall be eligible for the vote. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if no individuals whatsoever have submitted their intention as aforesaid, or if those who have submitted their names do not receive 50% + 1 of the vote of those in attendance at the Zone meeting, names may be taken from the floor at the meeting. At the meeting copies of the letter and the resume shall be posted or made available to all eligible to vote.

<b>Twenty Voting Delegates</b>	<b>SECTION 13.</b> At the zone meeting prior to the Annual General Assembly or the Special General Assembly, each zone shall choose twenty voting delegates (this count to include the board of directors for that Zone) in addition to five alternate voting delegates. All Board Directors shall be voting delegates at the Annual General Assembly or the Special General Assembly and be counted among the zone in which they normally reside in.
<b>Directors to Provide List</b>	<b>SECTION 14.</b> At least ten days prior to the Annual General Assembly, the zone Directors of each zone shall provide a written list to the head office of the Native Council of the names of the voting delegates and alternate voting delegates. In the case of a Special General Assembly, the above time period shall be five days.
<b>Shortfall of Delegates</b>	<p><b>SECTION 15.</b> If after a zone meeting there is a shortfall of delegates for a zone (i.e., less than twenty delegates and five alternate delegates), the zone director(s) may request that the Native Council place a notice of the shortfall on the Native Council’s website and on its Facebook page, calling for any eligible member in the Zone to serve as a voting delegate for the zone or as an alternative voting delegate. Any interested eligible member shall contact the Native Council by email or express mail asking to be a voting or alternative voting delegate. Names shall be added to the voting or alternative voting delegates list on a first received basis.</p> <p>This process shall only be open until 11:59pm on the eleventh day prior to the Annual General Assembly (the following day the list is provided in accordance with Section 15 above). In the case of a Special General Assembly, the above time period shall be 11:59pm on the sixth day.</p>
<b>Shortfall at Assembly</b>	<p><b>SECTION 16.</b> In the event any zone has a shortfall of delegates at the Annual General Assembly or at a Special General Assembly, the shortfall of delegates shall be made up by the alternative voting delegates from the other zones in equal proportion between the other zones, the alternative voting delegates from each other zone to be chosen randomly from the other zones.</p> <p>If a shortfall still exists, the voting shall proceed; no names shall be taken from the floor.</p>
<b>Directors to Hold Other Meetings</b>	<p><b>SECTION 17.</b> The zone directors in each zone shall call for, chair, and hold a minimum of four meetings in each fiscal year (the Annual General Assembly shall be considered one), for the purposes of discussing current issues and events and business of the Native Council.</p> <p>Notice for these meetings shall be given to each Member within the zone and minutes shall be kept and provided to the Native Council within 2 weeks of the zone meeting. Notice may be given as above in this article or the Board of Directors may by resolution of the majority (50% +1) chose to vary the notice requirements for these meetings from time to time including not providing email or mailed notice but instead posting a notice on the Native Council’s website or social media pages. However, at an absolute minimum, notice indicating the time and place of the meeting must be posted online at least seven days prior to the meeting (though the Board of Directors may choose to give further notice).</p>

	For further certainty, the notice requirements in this article above for the meetings prior to the Annual General Assembly and the Special General Assembly cannot be varied or modified.
<b>Congress of Aboriginal Peoples Delegates</b>	<p><b>SECTION 18.</b> The President &amp; Chief shall be responsible for selecting the delegates and alternates for the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples Annual General Assembly. The President &amp; Chief shall first select delegates and alternates from the Directors in office before selecting other names.</p> <p>Each Director shall gather the names of alternates at their respective meetings held prior to the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples Annual General Assembly and provide these names to the Native Council Head Office by the deadline specified during the callout. All names for delegates and alternates must be members of Aboriginal ancestry. The President &amp; Chief may also post on the Native Council website and social media pages to gather additional names.</p> <p>If a Director is unable to attend the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples Annual General Assembly, they shall be entitled to appoint an alternate of their choosing from their respective Zone or Council. Notwithstanding, the President &amp; Chief shall have authority to select other names to fill any vacancies as needed to ensure a full delegation is able to participate.</p>
<b>Electronic Meeting</b>	<p><b>SECTION 19.</b> A Zone meeting may be held by video or electronic means in extenuating circumstances upon advance approval of the Board of Directors which shall not be carried without the affirmative vote of <math>\frac{3}{4}</math> (75%). The exact means of the meeting shall be further specified by the Board of Directors as appropriate in the circumstances. The Board may specify that such electronic meeting may be one time only or continue for further meetings. Extenuating circumstances shall include but not be limited to: pandemic, health crisis, natural disaster such as flood or storm, or other unforeseen circumstances which are uncontrollable in operation.</p>

**ARTICLE NO. VII**

**Elders and Youth**

<b>Elder Council and Youth Council</b>	<p><b>SECTION 1.</b> In addition to the three zones, there shall be an Elder Council and a Youth Council. Each of these two groups shall elect one Board member, who may be referred to as “Youth director” and “Elder director,” respectively.</p>
<b>Youth Council</b>	<p><b>SECTION 2.</b> Any Aboriginal youth between the ages of ten and twenty-nine shall be automatically part of the Youth Council. Aboriginal youth aged thirteen to twenty-nine shall be eligible to vote for Youth Director. For further clarity, until they are full voting members of the Native Council, they shall have no other voting powers.</p>
<b>Elder Council</b>	<p><b>SECTION 3.</b> All members aged fifty-five years of age and over shall be automatically part of the Elder Council.</p>

<b>Meetings Prior to Annual General Assembly</b>	<b>SECTION 4.</b> Both the Youth and Elder Councils shall hold a meeting at least twenty days prior to the date of the Annual General Assembly for the purpose of electing a Board Member (if a vacancy exists) and also for the purpose of discussing issues and business that may arise at the Annual General Assembly.
<b>Meetings Prior to Special General Assembly</b>	<b>SECTION 5.</b> Both the Youth and Elder Councils shall hold a meeting at least ten days prior to the date of the Special General Assembly for the purpose of discussing issues and business that may arise at the Special General Assembly.
<b>Notice of Meeting - Method</b>	<p><b>SECTION 6.</b> Notice shall be given to each member eligible to vote at the meeting by one of the following methods: (a) by personal delivery; (b) by email; or (c) by regular postage paid mail.</p> <p>In the case of personal delivery, the notice shall be delivered personally to each member at least twenty full days before the time set for the meeting. In the case of email, the notice shall be sent to each member's email address at least twenty full days before the time set for the meeting. In the case of regular postage paid mail, notice shall be deposited into a Canada Post mail box at least twenty full days before the time set for the meeting. Confirmation of receipt shall not be necessary.</p> <p>The Native Council <i>may</i> also post a notice of the meeting on its website and on its social media pages and do such other things to give notice of the meeting, but this shall not constitute the required notice.</p>
<b>Notice of Meeting - Contents</b>	<b>SECTION 7.</b> The notice shall state the time and place of the meeting for the zone and be sent by personal delivery, email, or regular paid mail to the Members last known address or email address submitted by the Member. The notice shall state the time and place of the meeting and the notice shall also state the time and place of the Annual General Assembly or Special General Assembly; separate notice shall not be necessary.
<b>Member to Provide Contact Information and Keep up to Date</b>	<b>SECTION 8.</b> Each Member shall be required to provide the Native Council with their current mailing and email address. It shall be the Members responsibility to contact the Native Council in writing by email or mail to update his or her current mailing and email address; failure to do so shall not be an excuse or invalidate notice even if the Native Council receives notification by returned email or returned mail.
<b>Deemed Notice on Attendance Unless Protest</b>	<b>SECTION 9.</b> Notice of a meeting shall be deemed given to any Member who attends the meeting without protesting before or at its commencement about the lack of adequate notice which, if given, shall be noted in the minutes.
<b>Voting for Board Members</b>	<b>SECTION 10.</b> At the meeting of the Youth Council and of the Elder Council, the members shall cast votes by secret ballot for the Director who will represent them, if there is a vacancy.
<b>Vacancy on Board</b>	<b>SECTION 11.</b> If a vacancy occurs on the Board for the Youth or Elder Councils, the position shall remain vacant until the next annual Youth or Elder Council meeting prior to the Annual General Assembly. Notwithstanding the foregoing,

	the Board of Directors, in accordance with Article 8, Section 23 may appoint an individual to serve until the next annual meeting.
<b>No Proxy</b>	<b>SECTION 12.</b> Members shall not vote by proxy; no proxy or agent voting shall be permitted. Only those present and eligible to vote shall vote at any zone meeting.
<b>Director to Declare Intention to Run</b>	<b>SECTION 13.</b> An individual interested in running for a vacant director position or running for re-election shall submit a letter by mail or an email to the Native Council indicating their intention to run as a director and enclosing or attached their resume, which must be received within seven days of the upcoming meeting. Only individuals who have complied with this provision shall be eligible for the vote. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if no individuals whatsoever have submitted their intention as aforesaid, or if those who have submitted their names do not receive 50% + 1 of the vote of those in attendance at the Zone meeting, names may be taken from the floor at the meeting. At the meeting copies of the letter and the resume shall be posted or made available to all eligible to vote.
<b>Own Rules/By-laws; Cannot Conflict with these</b>	<b>SECTION 14.</b> The Youth and Elder Councils shall be entitled to adopt such by-laws and/or rules to govern their affairs provided however that such by-laws and/or rules shall not conflict with the Constitution and By-laws herein, with the Companies Act, and such other statutes and principles of law that may apply.
<b>Electronic Meeting</b>	<b>SECTION 15.</b> A Youth Council or Elder Council annual meeting may be held by video or electronic means in extenuating circumstances upon advance approval of the Board of Directors which shall not be carried without the affirmative vote of $\frac{3}{4}$ (75%). The exact means of the meeting shall be further specified by the Board of Directors as appropriate in the circumstances. The Board may specify that such electronic meeting may be one time only or continue for further meetings. Extenuating circumstances shall include but not be limited to: pandemic, health crisis, natural disaster such as flood or storm, or other unforeseen circumstances which are uncontrollable in operation.

**ARTICLE NO. VIII**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<b>Board of Directors</b>	<b>SECTION 1.</b> The overall business, affairs, and policy of the Native Council shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors which shall consist of nine Directors comprised as follows: The President and Chief; one youth Director, one Elder Director, and six Zone Directors.
<b>Eligibility</b>	<b>SECTION 2.</b> Any Member of the Native Council shall be eligible to be elected as a director so long as they are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) An individual who is eighteen years or age or older;</li> <li>(b) Not an individual who has been found mentally incompetent by any court in Canada;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(c) Not an individual who has the status of bankrupt (undischarged) as defined in the <i>Bankruptcy Act</i> of Canada as amended and successor statutes;</li> <li>(d) The individual has been a full voting member for at least one year prior to the date of their election;</li> <li>(e) The individual must be of Aboriginal ancestry; and</li> <li>(f) Otherwise eligible under the provisions herein in this Constitution and By-laws.</li> </ul> <p>Additional non-binding considerations: Members voting for a Director or the President and Chief should also consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Whether the proposed director is aware and is prepared to accept the fiduciary duty and responsibility of a corporate director of the Native Council;</li> <li>(2) Whether the proposed director has any education, such as university or college degrees or diplomas, or any valuable working experience;</li> <li>(3) Whether the proposed director is capable of understanding the important role they will have;</li> <li>(4) Whether the proposed director has any valuable skills or perspectives which may be of value to the Native Council;</li> <li>(5) Whether the proposed director is a team player and has interpersonal skills;</li> <li>(6) Whether the proposed director has a vision for the Native Council;</li> <li>(7) Whether the proposed director is dedicated and capable of thinking and acting in the best interests of the Native Council, as opposed to the best interests of perhaps only themselves or their family;</li> <li>(8) Whether the proposed director has strong ties to the community;</li> <li>(9) Whether the proposed director possesses a passion for the Native Council;</li> <li>(10) Whether the proposed director has the capacity to serve and attend meetings;</li> <li>(11) Whether the proposed director has any criminal convictions which may be relevant and which may impact on his or her ability to serve and act in the best interests of the Native Council;</li> <li>(12) Whether the proposed director has the willingness to abide by the Constitution and Bylaws, Code of Conduct, policies, procedures, and any other rules that may apply;</li> <li>(13) And such other factors as may be important.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Automatically Ceases to be Director</b></p>	<p><b>SECTION 3.</b> Any director automatically ceases to be a director if they are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) An individual who has been found mentally incompetent by any court in Canada or by two medical practitioners;</li> <li>(b) An individual who has the status of bankrupt (undischarged) as defined in the <i>Bankruptcy Act</i> of Canada as amended and successor statutes;</li> <li>(c) They die;</li> <li>(d) They resign as further set out below;</li> <li>(e) They are absent from four consecutive meetings of the Board;</li> </ul>

	<p>(f) They fail to obtain a criminal record and vulnerable sector check and provide it to the Native Council within Sixty (60) days of his or her appointment or election to the Board of Directors.</p> <p>For further clarity, nothing shall require the Board to remove the individual; the individual at law shall no longer be a Director. However, the Board may, for further certainty, remove the individual as provided below in this article.</p>
<b>Chief both Officer and Director</b>	<b>SECTION 4.</b> The President and Chief shall serve as both an Officer and Director of the Native Council.
<b>Board Meetings</b>	<b>SECTION 5.</b> The President and Chief may call Board meetings as he or she may determine but no fewer than four board meetings shall be held in each fiscal year.
<b>Notice and Methods and Times</b>	<p><b>SECTION 6.</b> Notice shall be given to each Director by one of the following methods: (a) by personal delivery; (b) by email; or (c) by regular postage paid mail.</p> <p>In the case of personal delivery, the notice shall be delivered personally to the director at least three full days before the time set for the meeting. In the case of email, the notice shall be sent to the director's email address at least three full days before the time set for the meeting. In the case of regular postage paid mail, notice shall be deposited into a Canada Post mail box at least three full days before the time set for the meeting. Confirmation of receipt shall not be necessary.</p>
<b>Notice of Meeting - Contents</b>	<b>SECTION 7.</b> The Notice shall state the time and place of the meeting and shall indicate in general terms what business will be transacted at the meeting.
<b>Director to Provide Contact Information</b>	<b>SECTION 8.</b> Each Director shall be required to provide the Native Council with their current email address and mailing address. It shall be the Directors responsibility to contact the Native Council in writing to update his or her email address and mailing address and to regularly monitor his or her email address and mail. The failure of a Director to update his or her email address or mailing address, or the failure of a Director to retrieve his or her email or mail, shall not invalidate notice even if the Native Council receives notification by returned email or mail that the address is invalid or was otherwise returned.
<b>Deemed Notice on Attendance Unless Protest</b>	<b>SECTION 9.</b> Notice of a meeting shall be deemed given to any Director who attends the meeting without protesting before or at its commencement about the lack of adequate notice which, if given, shall be noted in the minutes.
<b>Resolution Without Meeting</b>	<b>SECTION 10.</b> Any action which could be taken at a meeting of the Board may be taken without a meeting if a written resolution of the majority (50%+1) setting forth the action so taken is signed by the Directors along with a waiver of notice. For further clarity, a resolution by email and/or an email confirming a Director's intent to sign or approve the resolution shall be considered binding and the equivalent of a written and signed resolution. This provision shall not apply with regard to meetings for the removal or suspension of a director, the

	appointment or reinstatement of a director, or the amendment or change in any way of the Constitution and By-laws.
<b>Meeting by Conference Telephone and Other Methods</b>	<b>SECTION 11.</b> The Board may participate in a meeting by means of teleconference or videoconference equipment provided all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other and such participation shall constitute presence in person at the meeting.
<b>Quorum</b>	<b>SECTION 12.</b> A simple majority (50% +1) of the Directors then sitting in office shall form a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board of Directors, unless otherwise provided herein for certain decisions. For further certainty and ease of reference, see Appendix A.
<b>Passing</b>	<b>SECTION 13.</b> No matter shall be carried without the affirmative vote of a simple majority (50% + 1) of those present. For further certainty and ease of reference, see Appendix A.
<b>Presumed Assent</b>	<b>SECTION 14.</b> A Director present at a Board meeting at which action on any matter is taken shall be presumed to have assented to the action taken unless his or her dissent is entered in the minutes of the meeting, or unless he or she files his or her written dissent to such action with the person acting as the Secretary or Minute taker of the meeting before the adjournment thereof, or unless he or she forwards such dissent by mail to the Native Council and received within ten days after the adjournment or close of the meeting. A Director who voted in favor of such action may not dissent.
<b>No Proxy</b>	<b>SECTION 15:</b> A Director shall not vote or attend by proxy; Directors may not delegate their powers in accordance with law.
<b>Compensation</b>	<b>SECTION 16.</b> Other than the President and Chief, Directors shall not receive any stated salaries or payments for their services. Directors may if approved by the majority (50%+1) of the board from time to time, receive travel expenses, per diems, and other eligible reimbursements fixed at the same rates as set by the Treasury Board of Canada.
<b>No Loan</b>	<b>SECTION 17.</b> The Native Council shall not loan money to any Director or Member. This provision shall not apply to a Member who is also an employee and requesting an advance on their employee pay, subject to the Financial Polices of the Native Council.
<b>Not Eligible to Apply for Positions</b>	<b>SECTION 18.</b> No Director of the Native Council shall accept a paid or salaried position unless he or she first resigns from the Board. For clarity, nothing shall prevent a current Board member for running for the position of President and Chief.
<b>Resignation</b>	<b>SECTION 19.</b> A Director may resign by signed document or by email indicating their desire to resign and mailing it or emailing it to the Native Council or any Director of the Native Council. The resignation shall be effective immediately upon being received by any Director or the President and Chief or

	<p>at the Native Council Head Office. Acceptance of the resignation by the Board of Directors shall not be required.</p>
<p><b>Removal of Director</b></p>	<p><b>SECTION 20.</b> The Board may remove a Director (including the President and Chief) who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) ceases to qualify as a director due to mental incompetency or bankruptcy or death as further provided above in this Article;</li> <li>b) ceases to qualify as a director due to resignation as further provided above in this Article;</li> <li>c) has a previous criminal or summary conviction, or has been convicted since appointment or election of a criminal or summary conviction, which is relevant or related to the position of director and / or is not consistent with the best interests of the Native Council (a conviction for the purposes herein includes a guilty plea and includes an absolute or conditional discharge);</li> <li>d) suffers from an illness or disease rendering the Director incapable of exercising the duties of a Director;</li> <li>e) puts himself or herself in a conflict of interest or breaches the Native Council Constitution and By-laws, Policies, Code of Conduct, and any other rules that may apply in such a manner that is not consistent with the best interests of the Native Council;</li> <li>f) is incompetent in his or her duties (the Chief in particular);</li> <li>g) is negligent in his or her duties (the Chief in particular); or</li> <li>h) fails to render proper reports of workings such as the financial statements of the organization, project reports, and so forth when expected to do so or when requested by the majority of the Board of Directors (the Chief in particular).</li> </ul> <p>All of the relevant sections in this article for meetings above shall apply with the following changes or modifications:</p> <p>(1) Any three Directors may call the meeting (which may or may not include the President and Chief as one) and set the time and place of the meeting;</p> <p>(2) The notice shall be sent same as specified above in this article but the notice shall clearly state that the purpose (or one of the purposes) of the meeting is the consideration of the named director's future and whether that director should be removed as a director of the Native Council and the notice period shall be seven days;</p> <p>(3) The quorum requirement shall be a <math>\frac{3}{4}</math> (75%) of the sitting Directors (see Appendix A for ease of reference); and</p> <p>(4) The vote shall not pass or be carried without the affirmative vote of <math>\frac{3}{4}</math> (75%) of those present (see Appendix A for ease of reference).</p>
<p><b>Suspension of Director</b></p>	<p><b>SECTION 21.</b> The Board may suspend a Director (including the President and Chief) who meets any of the criteria listed in Section 20, or for extenuating and justifiable circumstances not included in Section 20. A Director who is suspended loses all rights and obligations as a Director until they are reinstated.</p>

	<p>All of the relevant sections in this article and in Section 20 for meetings shall apply for any meeting to suspend or reinstate a Director. A motion to suspend a director shall indicate the minimum duration of the suspension and/or any conditions for the Director to be considered for reinstatement. For further clarity, the Director is not automatically reinstated at the end of the duration or upon fulfilling the conditions of their suspension until a vote for reinstatement is passed by the other Directors.</p>
<b>Ineligible to Run</b>	<p><b>SECTION 22.</b> A Director who has been removed shall be precluded from running for the remainder of the term they would otherwise have served plus an additional term.</p>
<b>Vacancy on Board</b>	<p><b>SECTION 23.</b> In the event of any vacancy on the Board, the Directors then in office have the power to fill any vacancy by appointment. The Director so appointed shall hold office until the next applicable annual meeting just prior to the Annual General Assembly.</p> <p>All of the relevant sections in this article for meetings above shall apply with the following changes or modifications:</p> <p>(1) A director(s) cannot be removed and a new director(s) appointed at the same meeting;</p> <p>(2) The President and Chief or any two other directors may together call the meeting and set the time and place of the meeting;</p> <p>(3) The notice shall be sent same as specified above in this article but the notice shall clearly state that the purpose (or one of the purposes) of the meeting is the consideration of whether someone should be appointed as a director of the Native Council and the notice shall also set out the name(s) of proposed individual(s) who may be appointed and the notice period shall be seven days. Any Director may propose the name(s) of other individual(s) for consideration up to three days prior to the meeting. No other names shall be accepted after this, including at the meeting;</p> <p>(4) The quorum requirement shall be a <math>\frac{3}{4}</math> (75%) (see Appendix A for ease of reference) of the sitting Directors;</p> <p>(5) The vote shall not pass or be carried without the affirmative vote of <math>\frac{3}{4}</math> (75%) (see Appendix A for ease of reference) of those present; and</p> <p>(6) The office of President and Chief may not be filled by this process, but instead the Board of Directors shall call a Special General Assembly as set out in this Constitution and Bylaws.</p>
<b>General Conduct of Meetings</b>	<p><b>SECTION 24.</b> The President and Chief shall preside as Chairperson at all meetings of the Board and has full power to cast votes even as Chairperson. If the President and Chief is not in attendance the majority (50%+1) of the Board shall choose a different Chairperson. All members of the Board have the right to be heard and the right to vote. A director that is in a conflict of interest or may be perceived as such as per the Council's Conflict of Interest policy shall not</p>

	vote. All meetings shall be governed by Robert’s Rules of Order insofar as such rules are not inconsistent with or in conflict with the Constitution and By-laws or with the <i>Companies Act</i> (PEI) as amended and successor statutes and such other statutes and principles of law that may supercede Robert’s Rules of Order.
<b>Director Term</b>	<b>SECTION 25.</b> Each elected zone and elder director (except the President and Chief) shall hold office for a term of three years or until they are no longer a director in accordance with these bylaws. Each elected youth member shall hold office for a term of two years or until they are no longer a director in accordance with these bylaws.

**ARTICLE NO. IX**

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL**

<b>Officers</b>	<b>SECTION 1.</b> There shall be one executive officer of the Native Council: a President and Chief.
<b>Both Officer and Director</b>	<b>SECTION 2.</b> The President and Chief shall serve as both an Officer and Director and shall be elected by secret ballot at the Annual General Assembly or at the Special General Assembly by a simple majority (50% + 1) vote into both the position of Director and President and Chief.
<b>Term if Elected at Annual General Assembly</b>	<b>SECTION 3.</b> If the President and Chief is elected at an Annual General Assembly, the President and Chief shall serve until the Annual General Assembly of their fourth year in office following his or her election, or until he or she is no longer a Director in accordance with these bylaws. The President and Chief shall be eligible for re-election.
<b>Election at Special General Assembly</b>	<b>SECTION 4.</b> If the President and Chief is elected at a Special General Assembly, he or she shall serve the remaining term of the position, or until he or she is no longer a Director in accordance with these bylaws. The President and Chief shall be eligible for re-election.
<b>Overall Responsibility</b>	<b>SECTION 5.</b> The President and Chief of the Council shall be its chief executive officer and as such shall be responsible and shall control all day-to-day management and the business and affairs and operation of the Native Council. The President and Chief may appoint or remove any staff or consultants for the Native Council and establish the rate of compensation for any such staff person or consultant. In general, the President and Chief shall perform all duties incident to the office of President. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the President and Chief, just like all Board Members, shall follow the Constitution and Bylaws, Code of Conduct, and all policies and other rules that may be in place and is always subject to same.
<b>Removal from Office</b>	<b>SECTION 6.</b> The President and Chief may be removed from office (both as a Director and as an Officer) by the Board of Directors as specified in Article 8 Section 21.

<b>Congress of Aboriginal Peoples Director</b>	<b>SECTION 7.</b> The individual elected as President and Chief shall be elected on the floor of the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples AGA to be on the Board of Directors of the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples. In the event that the President and Chief cannot attend a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples, the President and Chief may select an alternate from the Board of Directors who shall attend such meeting in place and instead of the President and Chief and on behalf of the Council.
<b>Declare Intention</b>	<b>SECTION 8.</b> An individual interested in running for the position of President and Chief or running for re-election shall submit a letter by mail or an email to the Native Council indicating their intention to run and enclosing or attached his or her biography, which must be received within seven days of the upcoming Annual General Assembly or Special General Assembly. Only individuals who have complied with this provision shall be eligible for the vote. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if no individuals whatsoever have submitted their intention as aforesaid, names may be taken from the floor at the meeting. At the meeting copies of the letter and biography shall be posted or made available to all eligible to vote.

**ARTICLE X**  
Local Associations

<b>Formation and Recognition</b>	<b>SECTION 1.</b> Any fifteen or more individuals who are members of the Native Council may, subject to the majority (50% +1) approval of the Board, form a local association.
<b>Letter</b>	<b>SECTION 2.</b> A letter shall be submitted, signed by at least fifteen individuals, with reasons why they should be accepted as a local association and proposing a name for the local association. The reasons shall include reference to the purpose of the association.
<b>Own Rules</b>	<b>SECTION 3.</b> The local association set their own rules to govern their internal affairs, though such rules may not be inconsistent with or in conflict with the Constitution and By-laws or with the <i>Companies Act</i> (PEI) as amended and successor statutes and such other statutes and principles of law that may apply, and also subject always to approval of the Board of the Native Council in advance from time to time.
<b>Purpose</b>	<b>SECTION 4.</b> For further clarity, the purpose of a local association or club is not directly political. A local association may be formed for the purpose of discussing important matters, sharing Native traditions or practices and customs, for community development, and so forth.

**ARTICLE NO. XI**  
**GENERAL**

<b>Instruments and Binding Effect</b>	<b>SECTION 1.</b> All contracts, deeds, documents or other instruments, including cheques or other orders for payment of money will be signed on behalf of the Council by any two of the following three:  a) the President & Chief; b) two (2) board members selected by the majority (50% + 1) of the Board of Directors from time to time as signing authorities.
<b>Chief Remuneration</b>	<b>SECTION 2.</b> The President & Chief shall be entitled to receive such remuneration for services as the majority (50% + 1) of the Board may from time to time determine.
<b>Borrowing and Banking</b>	<b>SECTION 3.</b> The Board may from time to time without authorization from the membership borrow money upon the credit of the Council’s aims and objectives and, in connection therewith, may grant and give security for such borrowing; provided, however, that no such borrowing shall be authorized unless two-thirds or more of the directors have authorized the borrowing by resolution passed at a meeting of the Board specifically called for the purpose of considering such borrowing.
<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>SECTION 4.</b> The fiscal year of the Council shall end on the 31 <sup>st</sup> day of March in each and every year.
<b>Audit and Accountant</b>	<b>SECTION 5.</b> The accounts and financial affairs of the Council shall be audited annually or as often as may be necessary by an auditor recommended to the membership by the Board of Directors and appointed at the Annual General Assembly.
<b>Legal Counsel</b>	<b>SECTION 6.</b> The Board of Directors, from time to time, shall appoint legal counsel on behalf of the Council by a simple majority (50% +1) vote.

**ARTICLE NO. XII**  
**REPEAL AND AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS**

	<b>SECTION 1.</b> The Board of Directors may from time to time repeal, amend or re-enact all or any of the provisions hereof as further provided in this Article below; but no such change, unless in the meantime confirmed at a Special General Assembly of the members of the Native Council duly called for such purpose, shall have any force and effect beyond the time of the next Annual General Assembly of the Native Council which follows such change, and if such change is not confirmed at such Annual General Assembly it shall cease to have any force and effect whatsoever.
	<b>SECTION 2.</b> In the event the directors wish to repeal, amend or re-enact the bylaws, it shall be done at a Board of Directors meeting and all of the relevant

	<p>sections in Article 8 above for meeting shall apply with the following changes or modifications:</p> <p>(1) Any four Directors may together call the meeting (which may or may not include the President and Chief as one) and set the time and place of the meeting;</p> <p>(2) The notice shall be sent same as specified above in Article 7 but the notice shall clearly state that the purpose (or one of the purposes) of the meeting is the consideration of whether the bylaws should be modified and the notice period shall be seven days;</p> <p>(3) The quorum requirement shall be a <math>\frac{3}{4}</math> (75%) (see Appendix A for ease of reference) of the sitting Directors; and</p> <p>(4) The vote shall not pass or be carried without the affirmative vote of <math>\frac{3}{4}</math> (75%) (see Appendix A for ease of reference) of those present.</p>
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**ARTICLE NO. XIII**

**WINDING UP DISTRIBUTION**

<b>Winding up Distribution</b>	<p><b>SECTION 1:</b> In the event of the winding-up or other dissolution of the Council there shall not be distribution of any kind among the Membership of any funds or other assets of the Council, if any shall remain following payment of the debts and obligations of the Council, shall be distributed to one or more recognized charitable organizations in Canada with aims and objectives similar to those of the Council or to any other recognized charitable organization in Canada.</p>
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**APPENDIX “A”: EASE OF REFERENCE FOR ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER NUMBERS**

Sitting Directors / Directors Present	Number needed for meeting / To Pass by Simple Majority	Number needed for meeting / To Pass by 75% Majority
9	5	7
8	5	6
7	4	6
6	4	5

General Assembly Delegates	Number needed for Simple Majority (50% +1) Quorum / To Pass
60	31
59	30
58	30
57	29

# Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council



The Maritime Regional Aboriginal Leaders  
Intergovernmental Council of Aboriginal Peoples  
Continuing to Reside on Traditional Ancestral Homelands

## Forums

- Leaders Congress
- MAPC Commissions/Projects
- MAARS Secretariate
- IKANAWTIKET SARA
- MAPC Administration

MAPC Regional  
Administrative Office  
172 Truro Heights Road  
Truro Heights, Nova Scotia  
B6L 1X1

Tel: 902-895-2982  
Fax: 902-895-3844  
Toll Free: 1-855-858-7240  
Email: [frontdesk@mapcorg.ca](mailto:frontdesk@mapcorg.ca)

Governmental  
APRO Councils

Native Council of  
Nova Scotia  
P.O. Box 1320  
Truro, Nova Scotia  
B2N 5N2

Tel: 902-895-1523  
Fax: 902-895-0024  
Email: [chieflaugustine@ncns.ca](mailto:chieflaugustine@ncns.ca)

New Brunswick Aboriginal  
Peoples Council  
320 St. Mary's Street  
Fredericton, New Brunswick  
E3A 2S4

Tel: 506-458-8422  
Fax: 506-451-6130  
Email: [chief@nbapc.org](mailto:chief@nbapc.org)

Native Council of  
Prince Edward Island  
6 F.J. McAuley Court  
Charlottetown  
Prince Edward Island  
C1A 9M7

Tel: 902-892-5314  
Fax: 902-368-7464  
Email: [chief@ncpei.com](mailto:chief@ncpei.com)

November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

## Native Council of Prince Edward Island Annual General Assembly

### Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council Maritime Aboriginal Aquatic Resources Secretariate

#### Annual Report 2024-25

Dear members of the Native Council of PEI,

On behalf of all of us at the Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council & the Maritime Aboriginal Aquatic Resources Secretariate (MAPC-MAARS), I'd like to provide you with a copy of our annual report for this year.

Over the past few years, the MAPC-MAARS team has grown with a number of new initiatives and it can be challenging to ensure that you, as the community on whose behalf we work, receive an adequate update at the annual general assembly (AGA) in the short time for presentations. As such, we put together this written report to accompany our presentation. Please find details and contact information for each of the initiatives occurring at MAPC-MAARS.

As always, I'd like to take this opportunity to encourage you all to reach out to us if you have any questions or comments or to become involved directly. We would love the chance to interact more broadly with the community at large about existing or new initiatives at MAPC-MAARS.

Advancing, Promoting, and Advocating the Reality of the  
Maritime Off-Reserve Community of Aboriginal Peoples

  
Vanessa Mitchell  
Executive Director, MAARS & MAPC Projects

# MAARS

## Executive Director – Vanessa Mitchell

It has been a busy year for MAPC-MAARS since the last AGA. During this time, we have continued to support the NCNS for their gaspereau fishery at Hyde’s Bridge in Lantz, NS. You may recall that last year’s gaspereau stand was inoperable due to the bridge replacement – this year, it was realized that the fish stand may again be inoperable as a result of the change in landscape that now existed under the bridge. There was an increase in slop and height at the river’s edge which is where the stand is attached, as well as a steep incline and large armour rock blocking the typical pathway to the truck/trailer. We quickly got Public Works down to the site to demonstrate the problem and were able to secure a rapid turnaround to have the site levelled back out and the armour rock removed from the path which allowed the gaspereau stand to fish this year.

We have also continued to support the NCNS in discussions concerning their AFS agreement with DFO.

We’ve been working hard on building partnerships to help advance the profile of the Councils – including a new partnership with Canadian Whales Institute (CWI) who have joined us here at the AGA. You may be aware that there has been significant overlap between fishing activities, shipping corridors, and marine mammals. While MAPC-MAARS has been involved in some manner or other with initiatives revolving around this overlap, we have been providing reporting information to each of the three Councils’ communal commercial fisheries should they observe a free swimming or an injured or stranded marine mammal.

This year’s North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) meeting had a few key outcomes. One of which could have a major impact for Indigenous communities who have had to participate in NASCO with either a country’s delegation (e.g., Canada) where you are bound to your party’s positions or with the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) as an accredited observer. Now, Indigenous Peoples can be part of an Indigenous Peoples specific accredited observer group which would eliminate the need to stand behind the country’s positions. Atlantic salmon are still doing poorly throughout their range and a key part of this year’s meeting was working through a proposed Action Plan, in addition to ‘The Future of NASCO – a Ten-Year Strategy’. As you can imagine, this resulted in a great deal of discussion and ultimately, it was decided that the two documents would be merged into one which would also incorporate *high-level actions* (i.e., the priorities to move forward). A special session on Pink Salmon occurring in greater numbers in the North Atlantic was held – at this time, we have not experienced this within Canadian waters. Heads of the Canadian Delegation specifically sought us out to note their support and appreciation for our comments – they are appended to this report.

Although we have not been on the water this year, we are continuing to work with the Canadian Wildlife Federation (CWF) as a liaison between them and the Councils’ fisheries as it relates to the use of “whalesafe gear” (i.e., “ropeless”, “on-demand”, or “pop-up” gear). At the same time, we have loaned CWF our underwater ROV to observe and analyze the groundline relationship with the seafloor under different scenarios.

The MAPC-MAARS team has been collaborating on our involvement in the offshore wind assessments. We've mainly focused in on the known and potential impacts to the commercial fisheries through the Fisheries Advisory Committee of the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board (CNSOPB) – soon to be the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Energy Board – as well as with DFO through their marine spatial planning process, and have met with the Offshore Wind Regional Assessment Committee. After reviewing the locations of the sites selected for either floating or fixed wind turbines, we have further concerns regarding the impact to the NCNS communal commercial fishery, Mime'j Seafoods. We are working with Doug and Larry to ensure that the impacts are clearly captured and reflected to the regulators.

We've continued to work on the fish and fish habitat protection policies as they are released by DFO. This past year we provided comments on the offsetting and banking policy, averted loss, and the framework for species at risk conservation.

A new project has come on board – the Restoration through Overhead Refugia Exploration – aka, the ResTORE project - which is focused on habitat restoration for the endangered inner Bay of Fundy Atlantic salmon, more specifically on identifying and preserving and/or creating cold water refuge which is an important habitat component to Atlantic salmon. In light of climate change, this particular habitat element will be critically important to the hopeful recovery of the species. We've also spent significant time putting working with Transport Canada on a new agreement for the Enhanced Maritime Situational Awareness project (EMSA).

Another new project has come on board which focuses on the development of a marine National Wilderness Area within the inner Bay of Fundy. This is one where we are hoping to have significant involvement with community members, particularly those who live, work, and have some connection to the inner Bay of Fundy. MAPC-MAARS is at the table with ECCC-CWS, DFO, and others to ensure that the positions and perspectives of the off-Reserve community is equitably represented.

Most recently, we have been involved in a newly-implemented Transport Canada Oceans Protection Plan Regulatory Roundtable which is taking an Indigenous-first approach to regulatory development. There is a National Roundtable where we are drafting the Terms of Reference for moving this initiative forward, in addition to regional tables. This is a first for government which allow Indigenous Peoples to be involved directly in the drafting of new or amending policy or legislation as it relates to marine safety. It is one that we are pushing to be the leader for other government departments to undertake. While it certainly won't happen overnight, we are hopeful and optimistic that we are on a critically important path forward for meaningful reconciliation on this front.

As always, we would love to be more directly involved with you, the community members. We would be more than happy to come to your zone meetings to talk with you about the work we're doing and how you can be involved, if you'd like. On that, we have a few initiatives we really need your support on. Specifically, the inner Bay of Fundy project, social impact assessment for marine conservation areas, and the Indigenous Intellectual Property Rights workshop (see below).

## **Aquatic Resources Manager – Kathryn Townsend (currently on maternity leave)**

The primary role of the Aquatic Resources Manager (ARM) is to support the partner Councils' fisheries (communal commercial and AFS arrangements) by providing technical and science advice regarding species of interest to the three partner Councils (Native Council of PEI, Native Council of Nova Scotia, and the New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council). MAARS participates in as many species-specific advisory committee processes as possible, as well as participating in the science advisory processes, and working groups. We also stay on top of proposed legislative, policy, and/or management changes and coordinate meetings with Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to discuss any proposed changes and provide comments.

Most recently, Kathryn continues to participate in the Scotia-Fundy Herring Advisory Committee (SFHAC) meetings in regards to the Southwest Nova Scotia/Bay of Fundy (SWNS/BoF) Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) process. This process has been ongoing since before Kathryn took over the file (2020). In 2022, industry asked for a pause in the process as they did not agree with or trust DFO science that was projecting a Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 13,050t for the 2022 fishing season. Fishing continued with a TAC of 31,500t for the 2022 fishing season and MSE meetings resumed a year later. Since the meetings and work on the MSE has resumed, DFO maintained that the process is completed while many stakeholders maintain that a Management Procedure (MP) was never chosen and the Minister is not using an MP to make management decisions; therefore, the process is not completed and they would like to continue to work towards completion.

For clarity, and very briefly, MSE is a simulation tool used in fisheries to evaluate the “trade-offs” to achieve the selected objectives for a given fishery. It uses an “operating model” (or several) to simulate the fishery using existing data sets against which the “management procedures” are “tested” to identify if they meet the fishery objectives. Those which do not meet the objectives “fail” and are not acceptable management measures to be used. For those that “pass”, the fishing industry and fisheries management representatives can review and assess what trade-offs are acceptable moving forward. Of course, fisheries are dynamic and the process isn't actually that simple, but it does support collaborative fisheries management and can be particularly helpful when there is significant uncertainty in the fishery.

Two other particularly contentious advisory committee meetings Kathryn attended included the Redfish Advisory Committee (RAC) and the Atlantic Mackerel Advisory Committee (AMAC). The conversation at RAC largely focused on allocations of TAC for the various fleets including Indigenous Allocation, bycatch limits for several Gulf of St. Lawrence (GSL) groundfish stocks, seasonal closures, and fishing restrictions. The AMAC meeting largely revolved around the same conversation as previous meetings between DFO and industry. DFO Science indicates Atlantic mackerel stock is in the Critical Zone and continues to decline, whereas industry maintains they see plenty of mackerel on the water. At the time of the meeting the Minister had not made a decision on whether to maintain the mackerel moratorium for another year. Since the meeting, the Minister's decision was to open the bait fishery while maintaining the closure of the commercial fishery.

Last year, Kathryn had begun preliminary work on the Wild Atlantic Salmon Conservation Policy with the intent for further involvement during the next stage of the policy. MAPC had several meetings with DFO in regards to the Policy and Strategy over the course of the past year. MAPC is currently preparing a response to the most recent draft of the Wild Atlantic Salmon Conservation Strategy and plans to continue to meet with DFO about both the Policy and Strategy.

### **Habitat Impacts Advisor – Christina Davis**

The Habitat Impact Advisor (HIA) acts as the key point of contact on behalf of the three partner Native Councils regarding the review of projects submitted for provincial and federal Impact Assessments (IA). When an IA is submitted, it is the responsibility of the HIA to: participate in early engagement, inform leadership and communities regarding the IA, and providing a written respond on behalf of the respective Native Council. Christina initially joined the MAPC team in 2022 as the Fish and Fish Habitat Coordinator and has now moved into the Habitat Impact Advisor role as of April 2023.

Over the past year, Christina has reviewed a variety of IAs across the Maritime provinces. Projects of significance occurring in Nova Scotia include; early engagement on proposed quarry expansions throughout the province, and engagement on a variety of onshore wind turbines, and quarry expansions. MAARS has participated in engagement with Natural Forces and RMS Energy on the Clydesdale Wind Farm, which is being proposed in the Colchester/Pictou County area. MAARS also had the opportunity to participate in a site visit for the existing Dalhousie Wind Farm, which is run by RMS Energy. The Clydesdale Wind Farm will use the existing Dalhousie Wind corridors for transmission lines and the same footprint for the substation. We have also participated in engagement for the Fisheries Act authorization for the Signal Gold open pit mining project, proposed in Goldboro, Nova Scotia.

In Nova Scotia, Christina has also been participating in the Western Region Stakeholder Interaction Committee (WRSIC) at the request of community members. This allows the MAARS team to participate in early and ongoing engagement as it relates to forestry activities being undertaken in the Western Region of Nova Scotia.

At the National level Christina has also been participating in ongoing engagement with Environment and Climate Change Canada on the Pulp and Paper Effluent Regulation updates, the Department of Fisheries and Ocean's amendments to the Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations, and the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada's Regional Assessment for Offshore Wind.

### **Species at Risk & Environmental Policy Advisor – currently vacant**

This role is a new one to us at MAPC-MAARS. Previously, this role was focused on the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as species at risk; however, this proved exceptionally challenging to deliver on. In fairness, these are huge files with a long history that is not being well-represented in Canadian policy and/or legislation. As such, the Executive Director requested to amend the role so that we could have an environmental policy-focused position that would also

encompass the species at risk file which MAPC-MAARS has taken the lead on for the past 20-ish years.

Although this position is currently vacant, we have been pushing forward using a collaborative team approach for some of the species and/or documents relating to species at risk. This includes the Framework for Species at Risk Conservation (see appended correspondence), engaging with Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) – Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) on three migratory bat species: Hoary Bat, Eastern Red Bat, and Silver-haired Bat, and engaging with DFO on the Wild Atlantic Salmon Strategy (and Policy). MAPC-MAARS also remains involved for the North Atlantic right whale in multiple forums, including a partnership with the Canadian Wildlife Federation (CWF) for supporting on-demand fishing gear testing, Canadian Whale Institute (CWI), membership in both the North Atlantic Right Whale Consortium and Ropeless Consortium, membership at three Advisory Committees (Transport Canada/DFO – formerly the NARW roundtable; Transport Canada’s NARW Advisory Committee and Joint technical Sub-Committee for fisheries).. On this topic, MAPC-MAARS has also been working with the three communal commercial fisheries for the Councils to review and provide comments toward the Whalesafe Fishing Gear Strategy.

## **MAPC PROJECTS**

### **ResTORE – James Veres, Chris Smith, and Joshua Barucha**

The ResTORE project has completed all training deliverables for personnel in the 2024 field season. Fieldwork has been the top priority of 2024 in preparation and execution. The project is progressing on schedule and is forecasting a productive winter season to analyze results of collected data.

The project, managed by James Veres, involves the following team members: Christopher Smith, Lead Field Technician, and Josh Barucha, Field Technician. January to June was slated for desktop review of project needs, mandatory training, and field season preparation. July to December is scheduled for remaining fieldwork to be completed and then move into reporting starting in October. On-going in-stream monitoring will continue throughout the winter, when safe to do so and weather permitting.

The ResTORE project has completed tasks including Habitat Suitability Indexing (HSI) for Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*), Culvert Assessments for barriers to fish passage with the Nova Scotia Salmon Association (NSSA), and Environmental DNA (eDNA) water sampling within the study area watersheds of Debert, Folly, Great Village, and Portapique rivers. Ongoing tasks include electro-fishing for species abundance and presence/absence, submission of eDNA samples for analysis, and reporting on all data results from the field season (April to October 2024). Aerial drone surveys have been a priority throughout the field season and will conclude at the end of October, with intent to have Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data and thermal imagery of the study rivers’ morphology and cold water refugia identified.

Upcoming tasks are scheduled to include electro-fishing in the study area watersheds, preparing reports for submission to the NSSA for review of barriers to fish passage and remediation tactics,

aerial drone surveys, and on-going in-stream monitoring throughout the winter for places of refuge for native species.

### **Salmon Comparative Assessment – Gavin Scott & Gracie Rushton**

The Salmon Comparative Assessment Project is wrapping up its final field season of its 3-year project term. Over its duration, the team has incubated inner Bay of Fundy (iBoF) salmon eggs in several rivers in the Cobequid Bay, using the juvenile salmon that emerge from artificial incubators as a comparative baseline to salmon juveniles being put into rivers by DFO's Live Gene Bank.

Several years of observations have shown that the timing of DFO's salmon release is taking place about a month in advance of fry emerging naturally from the incubators, which has yielded vastly different ecological conditions (Water temperature, river discharge, flow regimes, pH, and food availability). These findings will be shared with DFO in hopes that further studies investigate potential mortalities, and if necessary, make changes to the salmon release to optimize juvenile survival.

In addition, the team conducted numerous fish capture surveys and found over 80 salmon in the Debert and Folly Rivers, a number expected to be a fraction of the true population. Water quality measured at project sites will be uploaded to Atlantic DataStream for public access. A time-series GIS map will be generated in the coming months to illustrate the quality of salmon rearing habitat across the watershed.

### **OMCP – MCT – Payton Truyens & Adam Dansie**

Payton: Up to this point, the Marine Social Science Coordinator (MSSC) has engaged in several Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and conservation training and learning opportunities including the Marine Spatial Planning Workshop at Dalhousie University, virtually attending Webinar Series on marine conservation, reading and engaging with the Marxan Learning Lessons on conservation planning, completing the UTS Measuring Social Impact online course, and attending the Essentials of Conservation Social Science virtual training led by Dr. Rebecca Jefferson. Most recently, the MSSC organized and hosted a SIA training session led by Conservation Social Scientist Dr. Brooke McWherter which was attended by MAPC staff, representatives from NBAPC and CAP, and two DFO employees. These events and courses provided insight, information, and understanding on marine conservation planning, how to respectfully engage with communities to determine and measure social impacts, and how to effectively communicate the findings from community engagement. In addition to this training, the MSSC has also been conducting an in-depth literature review to develop a library of the social impacts of marine conservation on the Off-Reserve Aboriginal Community, as well as to guide the development of the SIA framework.

The MSSC has developed connections through organizing various meetings, including setting up conversations with Biologist Tara Stephens, whose work transitioned from quantitative based research to qualitative research that relies on relationship building and engagement, and with Conservation Social Scientist Dr. Brooke McWherter whose work analyzes human behaviors in the context of natural resource and agricultural conservation and management. The MSSC has also met with DFO Policy Advisor Sondra Eger and DFO Sociologist Sarah Saunders to discuss SIA

and how it applies to the Marine Conservation Network Plan. These conversations have facilitated resource sharing, training opportunity sharing, and experience sharing which strengthen the MSSC's toolbox and exposes them to new perspectives and ideas that have and will continue to guide the way the MSSC conducts research and community engagement when completing this project.

Other meetings the MSSC has attended include the Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Nova Scotia meeting with the Nova Scotia Offshore Wind Regional Assessment Committee, the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board meeting, the Fisheries Advisory Council meeting, and the update on DFO's offshore wind Marxan Analysis. These meetings provided important information on relevant legislation surrounding offshore wind development, which level of government has jurisdiction depending on different contexts, why meaningful community engagement is crucial, and how to use software such as Marxan Analysis to plan for offshore wind development.

In the coming year, the MSSC plans to attend pre-identified training opportunities including the Qualitative Methods for Conservation Training course by Dr. Rebecca Jefferson, auditing Dr. Kate Sherren's Qualitative Data Analysis course at Dalhousie University and continuing to participate in the virtual IBoF Conservation Planning Workshops. This coming fall, the MSSC will attend NCNS, NCPEI, and NBAPC's AGA's, in addition to attending zone meetings, where they will discuss their project and receive any feedback and/or input from community members and distribute a survey for attendees to fill out on the social impacts of marine conservation efforts. Through engaging in these events, the MSSC will acquire further knowledge and understanding on how to develop a comprehensive SIA framework, in addition to forming connections and working relationships with experts in both conservation and SIA, as well as Rightsholders. By the end of the year the MSSC plans to finish the literature review, complete the library of social impacts, and have a rough draft/outline of the SIA framework.

Adam: The marine conservation targets initiative was developed in fall 2022 primarily to support capacity development of MAPC-MAARS and our partner Councils to be engaged in Canada's efforts towards the global marine conservation targets of preserving 30% of the ocean by 2030. These efforts include the Department of Fisheries, Parks Canada, along with Oceans, Environment and Climate Change Canada. This project ensures that the voices of the respective communal commercial fisheries are heard. This is the third year of the four-year project and Adam's first year working on the project.

There are two main aspects of this project that Adam is currently working on. The first is to create a map which will identify areas that are currently important to the communal commercial fisheries along with those of little significance. This information will be used to mark areas that would be considered "off-limits" due to their importance. This map will then inform the development of conservation/protected areas or projects like offshore wind so that they will have minimal impact on the communal commercial fisheries. The second aspect is that Adam has begun working on expanding MAPC-MAARS's ocean monitoring capacity. The purpose of this being to understand how ocean monitoring can be used to collect data that is relevant and accessible to the Partner Councils and their respective communal commercial fisheries. As part of this Adam is reconnecting with Ocean Network Canada on their community fishers' program through which

MAPC-MAARS has been provided a CTD – a marine monitoring instrument which measures for Conductivity, Temperature, and Depth (CTD), in addition to other parameters like salinity, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, and chlorophyll-a. This instrument is *cast* (i.e., dropped) of the side of a boat at a consistent rate to take those measurements at depth which can be examined further for a better understanding of an area. If you have comments or wish to know more about either the mapping or ocean monitoring, please contact Adam.

As part of this project Adam has also been engaging with DFO in discussion on specific conservation and renewable energy projects that are developed. This includes: the recently released Conservation Network Plan, the now finalized regulatory intent for the Fundian Channel- Browns Bank area of interest, and the ongoing work related to creating offshore wind farms in Nova Scotia. As each of these projects will impact the areas that are available to the fisheries, this engagement seeks to ensure that the needs and perspectives of the Councils' communal commercial fisheries are not overlooked. Adam is also engaging with DFO on their plans to implement on-demand fishing gear and other fishing gear modifications into the fisheries in an effort to protect the North Atlantic Right Whale.

### **ECCC-MCT – Tammy Proulx & Alec Hudder**

The Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has been working to identify the potential for the development of a marine National Wildlife Area (mNWA) within the inner Bay of Fundy. This process included the initialization of a planning team that has been meeting since March 2020. The objective of the planning team is to create the tools necessary for the Inner Bay of Fundy to become a “conservation mosaic” which will connect the natural ecosystem and the area’s culture for all future generations.

The Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation have been guiding the planning team in the creation of the mNWA as a tool to identify the most prominent threats to the Inner Bay of Fundy and what strategies will have the most positive effects on the area. The Open Standards splits the practice of conservation into five parts: targets, pressures, strategies, action plans, and implementation plans. The final stages of the strategy phase are underway and should be completed by the end of the year; this means action and implementation could start as soon as spring/summer of next year (2025). The planning team has identified the main threats to the area; however, they need more information on the threats within the ocean. Specifically, the team has almost no information on the benthic zone (bottom of the water body) and requires more data on the pelagic zone (essentially the water column between the water surface and bottom).

The Conservation Planning Facilitator's role is twofold: bring perspectives and feedback from the community to the planning team and vice-versa, as well as identifying the potential for boots-on-the-ground work to support the preservation or recovery of highly threatened species or habitats. Since May 2024, at least one MAPC-MAARS team member has participated at each of the meetings. Over the next few years, the Conservation Planning Facilitator will be meeting with the zones and locals for the NCNS and the NBAPC that surround the inner Bay of Fundy.

Currently, we are working on drafting an informational booklet on what a marine National Wildlife Area is and what it would mean for the Inner Bay of Fundy. This booklet will serve as an

introductory tool to what we are aiming to achieve through our participation and involvement in this project. A survey will be incorporated to help support our understanding of what is important to you, the Councils' community so that we can be the most effective in ensuring that what is important to you is protected and reflected accurately in the way **you** want it to be.

### **EMSA – Barry Marsman**

The previous project was concluded as of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 and MAPC has entered into a new three-year agreement with Transport Canada to begin on the next phase of the Enhanced Maritime Situational Awareness (EMSA) project.

This iteration will continue to support the three Councils' fisheries in their safety management oversight using the EMSA platform which allows for near-real-time monitoring of their vessels' activities. In addition, the EMSA Coordinator, Barry Marsman, will also be providing support during annual pre-season safety reviews for each of the fleets, quarterly assessment of marine safety needs for the fisheries, and annual skills upgrading for the use of the EMSA platform and the bathymetric modelling software TimeZero. Additionally, Barry will begin the process of developing a Fisheries Safety Program Auditing Instrument that can be used across all three of the Councils' fisheries to support the ongoing improvement of their safety programs. Similarly, Barry will also work with the three Councils to begin developing Post-Incident Response and Catastrophe Management Preparedness Planning for the fisheries to ensure that all parties are prepared in the face of an unfortunate event in the fisheries. Commercial fisheries remain one of the most dangerous professions in the world – it is imperative that everyone is aware of their responsibilities and duties when it is most critical.

### **Indigenous Intellectual Property Program (grant) – Vanessa Mitchell**

Indigenous rights are represented in the jurisprudence of “self-determination” as a bundle of open-ended rights, the details of which are articulated in the International Bill of Rights and their various renditions in variegated national levels. For Canada, those rights are ensured constitutionally in section 35 of the Constitution. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) affirms virtually all the components of the rights to self-determination. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC)'s Call to Action No. 43 is now translated in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (UNDA). Section 31 of the latter, which is the same as Article 31 of UNDRIP, focuses on the complex interface of intellectual property to the right to self-determination underscoring the urgency for an inclusive and Indigenous sensitive intellectual property system. Pursuant to section 31 of UNDA, protection of Indigenous intellectual property is unequivocally the law in Canada and in need of implementation. It provides:

*Indigenous Peoples have the right to maintain, control and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, as well as the manifestations of their sciences, technologies and cultures, including human genetic resources, seeds, medicines, knowledge of the properties of fauna and flora, oral traditions, literatures, designs, sports and traditional games and visual and performing arts. They also have the right to*

*maintain, control, protect and develop their intellectual property over such cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions.*

We have carefully studied the Department of Justice’s (DOJ) Action Plan for the implementation of UNDA; we are concerned that despite the increased importance of intellectual property and strides being made in Canada pursuant to the Intellectual Property Strategy, specifically the IIPP, the UNDA Action Plan has, mildly stated, marginalized Indigenous intellectual property. Put differently, it is clearly silent on intellectual property as it relates to Indigenous peoples. The Action Plan is premised on a ten thematic outlook on the UNDA - none of which directly focus on intellectual property. Reference to intellectual property is interred under Theme 9 on “cultural, religions and linguistic rights” and broader cultural heritage as associated with section 31. Intellectual property, for Indigenous peoples, includes and transcends cultural heritage.

Intellectual property animates virtually all aspects of the rights under UDRIP and, certainly, its Canadian adaptation in the UNDA’s ten themes. Marginalization of intellectual property in the UNDA implementation scheme portends missed opportunity and a roll back of the IIPP. Under this proposal, MAPC intends to leverage the fluidity of the UNDA Action Plan which the DOJ characterizes as a “living”, “evergreen” document and open to periodic review and continuing co-development with Indigenous peoples. Through the grant, we proposed to coordinate a MAPC-led forum devoid of the constraints of the short timelines that limited the meaningful participation of Indigenous peoples in the development of the UNDA Action plan. We will focus directly on how best to harmonize the implementation of UNDA within the Canadian Intellectual Property Strategy with special focus on IIPP. This forum will enable us to identify the degree to which a suite of Canadian intellectual property statutes (patents, trademarks and designs, copyrights, etc.) and administrative practices and protocols could adjust and reflect elements of the UNDA.

To give effect to section 31 of the UNDA, we want to open constructive and Indigenous-led conversation with our trusted partners on how our contemporary intellectual property systems can be adjusted. For example, although it is explored in other contexts (such as ABS), how can patent examination protocols be inclusive to deliberately integrate and facilitate as opposed to granting abusive patents based on Indigenous knowledge; how can it promote and recognize Indigenous knowledge as prior art? Is it possible that pursuant to the UNDA, that Canadian trademark and design law could be more proactive to incorporate special exception and protection against registration, use and expungement of sacred Indigenous names, insignias as trademarks by non-Indigenous peoples and interests as it is now the case with Canada’s traditional allies, such as New Zealand? Furthermore, how can our copyright laws protect oral renditions of Indigenous stories/histories and traditional cultural expressions in Indigenous and other languages as against the current practice of privileging non-Indigenous translators and authors who fix those in written and other forms? In related context, how can Chapter 9 of the Tri-Council Policy Statement, which focuses on ethical conduct of research involving Indigenous Peoples of Canada, be redesigned for UNDA-friendly intellectual property practices in research contexts? While these kinds of questions have long been pressure points at the intersection of Indigenous peoples and intellectual property rights, there is not a better boost or time than the ones presented by the UNDA and ongoing implementation of the Action Plan. The outcome of these inquiries will be resourceful policy tools for the UNDA Implementation Secretariat at the DOJ and all other stakeholders in the development

of the UNDA Action plan as a work in progress. Also, they will contribute to the DOJ process for the revitalization of Canadian laws in the wake of the UNDA.

### ***Our Methodology***

MAPC has a track record of success of working with reputable partners and experts within and outside Canada, as evident in our ongoing collaboration with some trusted partners, such as ABS Canada at the University of Ottawa. We also have a track record of producing resourceful knowledge mobilization materials arising out of our several initiatives. We have already leveraged that expertise, experience, and goodwill in preparing this proposal and will continue to do so through its implementation. We plan to hold a hybrid intensive workshop focused on mainstreaming intellectual property in the UNDA Action Plan to be hosted in Halifax, NS at earliest in the summer of 2024.

#### *Special Multi-Purpose Workshop*

The workshop will be designed to have multiple components: education, awareness-raising, capacity-building, connection-building and policy influence and research agenda-setting for members of our community on TRC's Call for Action No. 43 and the state of progress for its implementation through UNDA and UNDA's Action Plan. The forum will also provide education on the Canadian Intellectual Property Strategy with a focus on IIPP, exploring opportunities for the harmonization of the latter with the implementation of UNDA. This workshop will utilize a hybrid (in-person/virtual) approach to ensure that MAPC can engage broadly with the community and other partners during this workshop. A virtual option allows for additional freedoms to include subject matter experts, community members with mobility or health concerns, and other interested participants (e.g., Indigenous Peoples from other communities).

#### *Resource Persons*

Our resource persons will be drawn from the focal points in relevant departments of governments, including DOJ, ISED, ECCC, Indigenous and Northern Affairs, Tri-Council Ethics, CIPO, etc. Other resource persons will include Indigenous experts on UNDRIP, intellectual property, cultural heritage and non-Indigenous academics and credible NGOs including those who have been MAPC's trusted partners with a proven track record of previous successful collaborations. The hybridized approach will support the participation of those individuals unable to travel to the Halifax location.

#### *Participatory & Interactive (Chatham House Rule)*

The workshop will be participant-driven, encouraging attendees/members of our community to interact with resource persons through open discussions, Q&As and informal engagements on the sidelines. MAPC will work with its federating organizations in PEI, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia to recommend and draw a list of participants based on gender balance (women), generational inclusion (elders, knowledge holders, youths, students), expertise (cultural and heritage advisors), and geographical equity with special interest on nodal attendees and participants with capacity to scale their experiences through their communities. Beyond our region, we will extend invitation to Indigenous participants outside of our region. They will be selected based on the above referenced criteria. The participation of those outside of our region will foster the building of connections and goodwill with our counterparts outside the maritime region.

### *Intensive Agenda*

The first day of the workshop will provide backgrounders on Canada's Intellectual Property Strategy, with focus on IIPP, Reconciliation, TRC Call to Action 43, UNDA and the Plan of Action for its implementation and review of progress through UNDA Annual Reports. The second day will focus on the specifics of Canadian intellectual property law and practices: Patents, Trademarks and Designs, Copyright and how they can respond to UNDA with some insight to any national experiences.

### *Outcome Document & Knowledge Mobilization*

The last day will be dedicated to drawing an outcome from the experience as basis for recommendations and policy position for mainstreaming intellectual property in the Action Plan for UNDA as a work in progress. A comprehensive outcome of the workshop will be written in draft and circulated to all participants/attendees soliciting their confirmation of accuracy before a final document is published on our website and those of our partners and disseminated across all Indigenous organizations and relevant ministries and departments of governments. Those will be valuable in continuing Indigenous engagement with UNDA Action Plan and reconciliation in general.

### **IKANAWTIKET Environmental Inc.**

IKANAWTIKET is the registered charity administered under MAPC. Most recent previous projects included the Shubenacadie River Water Quality Monitoring project and the Wood Turtle Monitoring project. A new initiative is underway with IKANAWTIKET that we are extremely excited about! We applied for Climate Action and Awareness funding through Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) for a project that would use a traveling mini aquarium to talk to youth (Kindergarten through Grade 12) about the changing climate in relation to the oceans. This allows us to promote climate and ocean literacy in a memorable way – by holding sea creatures and making those connections. The aim is to bring the ocean to youth who may not have the same level of access that those living directly on the coast do. At this time, we are still finalizing the agreement with ECCC, but are excited to begin sharing the wonder of the ocean with everyone.

