



ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20

Negotiating with
Respect and
Acknowledgement
of the
Mi'gmaq Way





The Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi (MM) was founded upon the spirit and intent of the Political Accord of 2000 consented among the Gespe'gewa'gi Mi'gmaq governing councils of Gesgapegiag, Gespeg, and Listuguj.

The Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi is empowered and mandated as defined by the Governing Councils of Gesgapegiag, Gespeg and Listuguj to represent and to protect the Mi'gmaq nation within Gespe'gewa'gi on matters of Aboriginal, Treaty and Inherent rights.



The Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi Secretariat (MMS) is the administrative body that carries out the work set out by the Assembly of the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi (MM) which includes the Chiefs and Councillors of Gesgapegiag, Gespeg, and Listuguj.

The Priorities of the organization guide the work of our staff. If it's not a priority of the Leadership, it's not a priority of ours.

When searching for the theme for this year's Annual Report we decided to look at the "what we honor" as Mi'gmaq. There are seven honor words, Acknowledgement, Co-existence, Respect, Reconciliation, Sharing, Responsibility, and Mi'gmaq communal well-being. After reviewing the past year's annual reports the only honor words not used were Respect and Acknowledgement, so we decided to build the theme around these two honor words.

"Negotiating with Respect and Acknowledgement of the Mi'gmaq Way" is the Mi'gmaq way of negotiating with respect for everyone's way of thinking (two-eyed seeing) negotiating with the Mi'gmaq vision first, how the Mi'gmaq sees things, based on our honor, priorities, values, mission, and vision.

The Role of the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi Secretariat is to support the work mandated by the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi (the Chiefs and Councils). In 2017 the MM set out specific priorities, where upon starting the work we realized that these were very ambitious and that the timeframe that was allotted to each file was too short.

These files include, recognition of title and jurisdiction over Gespe'gewa'gi and control of its resource development, develop and implement a financial framework and structure to support the MM Government, the MM Constitution, and to get the Citizens fully informed and engaged in the development and implementation of their governance.

At the May 2019 MM meeting, the Steering and Technical Committee (STC) was re-established to better the communications between Leadership and the Mgnigng (negotiations team).

Through Order-In-Council/Band Council Resolutions, each community appointed 2 members of council, 1 Elder, and 1 Youth representative to sit on this committee.

The committee will act as a "go-between" with the Leadership, Mgnigng, and the Citizens of Gespe'gewa'gi.

Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi



Chief John Martin,
MM Co-Chair
Gesgapegiag



As Mi'gmag people, we are no strangers to difficult times and adversity. We have survived blankets infected with smallpox, tuberculosis, and health issues that continue to plague most of our communities. But we are still here. It has been a difficult year, COVID-19 has caused us to slow down. We will get through this too.

What remains more persistent than these illnesses are, the colonial policies and attitudes of provincial and federal governments, that continue to reinforce and support attitudes of racial superiority; of legal systems created and meant to protect colonial laws of dominance over Unceded territories.

Despite all of this, I believe that we will prevail. Our people are intelligent, resilient, and enduring. For the benefit of our future generations, we will not stop in the quest for the implementation and recognition of our rights.

We can achieve the implementation, the exercise, and continued protection of our constitutionally protected rights, and we can build strong and prosperous Mi'gmaw communities. This was demonstrated through the windmill project. The Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi was established for this specific purpose.

So our struggle continues against a big machine, but I believe that through the alliance of the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi, we have advanced in the recognition and development of our communities. In moving forward, just as the name Mi'gmaw suggests, we must establish alliances with people and organizations that support us and the advancement and recognition of our rightful place in Canada and Quebec.

We will continue to strengthen our ties with each other and build strategic alliances to our benefit. I would like to say a special thank you to the entire team at the MMS secretariate for keeping us connected and supporting us on so many important files. Good job everyone. Welaliog tan tesiog!

I wish all of our people the best in the future and for now, let's keep each other safe, protect yourselves and those you love.



Mi Chiefs' Words



Chief Terry Shaw,
MM Co-Chair
Gespe'g

Gespe'g's role through the 2019-2020 year was sporadic due to community elections but it did not stop the work of Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi Secretariat and the Mgnigng Negotiation Team. As the newly elected Chief and Council of the Micmacs of Gespeg we appreciate the Secretariat's support and continuance of the files.

The 2019-2020 fiscal year for the Secretariat has been an important one for the Citizens of Gespe'gewa'gi. Even with the looming threat that Covid-19 brings to our country the MMS has never swayed from their role of providing the security and protection of ongoing negotiations with the Federal and Provincial governments.

The importance of the Mi'gmaq Mawio'mi Secretariat and its role for the Citizens of Gespe'gewa'gi is definitely apparent in the advancement of files. The hard work and dedication of the management and staff of the Secretariat is truly appreciated.



Chief Darcy Gray,
MM Chair
Listuguj

As 2020 nears its end, it is a great time to look back and appreciate all the lessons it has taught us as part of our humanity, and as Mi'gmaw people within Mi'gmagi. Although this year has presented many challenges, it has also pushed us to re-assess, re-align, and re-invent how and why we do the important work of Nation Building. We've seen our rights, and those of other Nations be challenged in this country in ways that showed the world how resilient we are. We've inspired each other to continue to challenge and ensure that treaty rights are respected and implemented. This remains a key piece of who we are as Mi'gmaw people. Despite the challenges ahead, our resolve and commitment to our nation remains and through collaboration, we will continue to move forward.

I would like to give recognition to the Staff of the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi Secretariat for their hard work and commitment throughout all the ups and downs

Executive Director

Welcome to the 2019-2020 Annual Report for the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi Secretariat.

The Role of the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi Secretariat is to support the work mandated by the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi (MM) (the Chiefs and Councils). In 2017 the MM set out specific priorities in which we continue to work on. The mandates and time frames that were given were very ambitious and we learned very quickly that a lot more time and resources were needed to complete the tasks.



Two member communities had elections during this fiscal year. The MMS organized orientations to refresh returning Chief and Council members and to orientate new members.

The Operations Directorate have individuals working in roles for Finance, Communication, Administration, and Information Systems Management. Health and Safety policy and procedures were developed for the eventual creation of the Health and Safety Committee. The Communication department have released, just to name a couple, the Gespi'siq and Gnu'a'taqan that provide updates on the work of the MMS.

“I encourage an open, transparent relationship with our Leadership and our citizens. We work for Gespe'gewa'gi. It will take all our efforts to make sure the Mi'gmaq values and principles are respected on our territory.”

Tanya Barnaby-Williams,
MMS Executive Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tanya Barnaby-Williams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Elders Tribute for 2019, Leadership honored Elder Betty Martin, from Gesgapegiag. The Mi'gmaq Writers Award also awarded two writers from Gespe'gewa'gi.

Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen worked on the Vacation Lots consultation process, Field Monitoring, and conducted Community consultations. As a part of the Gespe'gewa'gi Management Plan, the Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen team will add many sections which will include Fixed Cultural Site Protection and Policy ensure cultural sites in Gespe'gewa'gi are documented and monitored.



The Peigwaptmeg Project, was a mandate given to the MMS, by the MM to have Mi'gmaq Place names visible in our territory. This project will be ongoing until all Mi'gmaq place names are visible throughout Gespe'gewa'gi. The vision for the future is to create a web site to help Citizens visit and use the territory.

The Staff was provided with in-house Mi'gmaq Languages classes, which many participated.

Mgning Team worked on negotiations for the Framework Agreement, Fisheries Governance, Hydrocarbons, Parks, Right Recognition Agreements, and of course Citizen Engagement.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge the dedicated staff of the Mi'gmawei Mawiomis Secretariat. The 2019-2020 fiscal year ended with the Covid-19 pandemic being the big news. Although there were challenges the MMS team faced them with determination and continued to work hard for the Citizens of Gespe'gewa'gi. I always tell my team, "change is generational". Keep up the good work that is needed to help our citizens access more of the territory freely under their rights and title.



Erika Barnaby,
Executive Assistant

Besides providing administrative support to the Executive Director of the organization, I am responsible to coordinate the Chiefs Executive and Executive Finance Committee meetings. Along with the coordination of these meetings, I record and prepare the minutes and records of decisions, and ensure that whomever is responsible for follow up is aware.

Planning for the 20th Anniversary of the MMS was done in the 2019-2020

fiscal and I was part of the team that coordinated the event. Plans were set out to do many activities, but because of the pandemic, changes had been made. The 20th year's celebration was a celebration of the staffs commitment to the organization.

"The leadership and staff of the MMS are always working hard for the citizens of Gespe'gewa'gi; protection of the territory and a better future for the next generations."

Nutewistogq

The 2019-2020 fiscal year brought a renewed way of negotiating to the Mgnigng team and the way forward for negotiating with Canada and Quebec governments. The revision of the Niganiljoga'tagan (Framework Agreement) was a major part of our work. The way of negotiating has always been brought forward by the federal or provincial governments, this year that changed. We reviewed and re-wrote the document from the Mi'gmaq perspective. We want to educate the governments to negotiate from the Mi'gmaq perspective with the development of this renewed agreement. We are going to negotiate the way Leadership envision negotiations.

The other part of the fiscal work was the Memorandum of Understanding for Fisheries (MOU). The MOU serves to support the three Mi'gmaq communities under DFO's aggregate approach while respecting each their autonomy



and interests, per the MM Political Accord of 2001.

The end of the fiscal year introduced the Covid-19 pandemic. The security and safety of all MMS employees is priority, with that said, work continued from home. While face-to-face meetings with governments and staff are certainly necessary, working from home and not having to travel to Listuguj and to meetings out of town was a welcomed rest.

I would like to tell the citizens of Gespe'gewa'gi that our Peace and Friendship treaties are still in effect. The Supreme Court of Canada confirmed it with the Marshall decision of 1999. We need to educate our children about our treaties. They need to know what rights and responsibilities they have on the lands and waters of Gespe'gewa'gi.



“What I would like to accomplish as a negotiator is that we have agreements for a prosperous livelihood for all the members and that we start seeing ourselves as having the responsibility to govern and manage our resources.”

**Clement Bernard,
MMS Nutewistogq**

Mgnigng

What is the Mgnigng?

The Mgnigng formally engages with the federal and provincial Crown on issues related to the recognition, protection, and implementation of Indigenous and Treaty rights and title through bilateral and trilateral negotiations processes, and conducts the procedural aspects of the duty to consult and accommodate on behalf of its three member communities, based on the s. 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.

The Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi appointed a Nutewistog and Mgnigng to facilitate discussions and negotiations with various governments on behalf of the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi, based on mandates (instruction) and direction given to them by the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi, as represented by the Chiefs and Councils of Gesgapegiag, Gespeg and Listuguj. The Mgnigng is our negotiations team and the Mgnigng Executive is the advisory arm to the negotiations team.

Who is the official Mgnigng Executive team?

- Clement Bernard, Nutewistog and Lead Negotiator
- Chastity Mitchell, Mgnigng Manager
- Richard Jeannotte, Intergovernmental Affairs Advisor
- Alica Moffat, Mgnigng Coordinator

Who is the official Mgnigng team?

- Clement Bernard, Nutewistog
- Tanya Barnaby, Executive Director
- Richard Jeannotte, Intergovernmental Affairs Advisor
- Chastity Mitchell, Mgnigng Manager
- Mathieux Gray-Lehoux, Director of Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen
- Representatives for Canada and Québec

What does the Mgnigng do?

The Mgnigng will identify common issues and interests. They will assist in negotiations and help provide a variety of different views. The team meets prior to any negotiations. They follow directions and mandates given by the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi (MM). The Mgnigng does not decide what to negotiate, only the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi can.

It's important to note that the Nutewistog is not authorized to undertake any negotiations on behalf of the MM without an approved MM Mandate for that project. It is the sole responsibility of the Nutewistog to develop and recommend a negotiating mandate to the Chief's Executive Committee (CEC) for approval, for any projected negotiation session.

The Nutewistog chairs and coordinates the Mgnigng.



Mgnigng Team



Chastity Mitchell
Mgnigng Manager

It's been a productive year for the Mgnigng. First is the on-going negotiations with the Federal and Provincial governments which included the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This MOU serves to support the three Mi'gmaq

communities approach while respecting their autonomy and interests, as agreed in MM Political Accord of 2001.

The team worked on developing a Negotiations Protocol and Mandating Procedure. A revised version that reflects our present way in preparing for a mandate from the start to finish, based on Mi'gmaq principles.

Another mandate is Fisheries Governance for Gesgapegiag and Gespeg. Listuguj has its own negotiations community table for Fisheries. Following the mandate, a Fish

Advisory Table was created to support the interests of Gesgapegiag and Gespeg. The role of the committee is to advise and make recommendations to the Mgnigng for the negotiation purposes.

The Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi decided to bring back the Steering and Technical Committee (STC). The team was tasked with updating the terms of reference and the Framework Agreement which are both on-going.

We also hosted a Governance Conference (Apajimawagnutma'ting) in November of 2019 that involved gathering of leadership across Mi'gma'gi, to share in the vision of self-government.

"The importance of community involvement and staying engaged is important to our work. By developing good relationships, we're able to make the most of our actions and your voices."



Alicia Moffat
Mgnigng Coordinator

In July 2019, I began working with the MMS Negotiations team as the Mgnigng Coordinator. It was educational; learning to grow within a new team and observing negotiation meetings with Canada and Quebec. Seeing Mi'gmaq at the front table - pushing the Mi'gmaq vision and principals.

During the 2019-2020 fiscal year, Gespe'gewa'gi elected two new councils and I now understand the hard work it takes to update new leaders about the work of the MMS.

Our team successfully re-established the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi Steering and Technical Committee where important discussions around the Niganiljoga'taqan (Framework Agreement) took place.

"The Mgnigng team of the MMS is working hard to ensure that the next 7 generations are prioritized. Negotiations are often long and complicated - I'm continuously learning that you don't see daily progress but my daughter and future generations will. I encourage citizens to ask questions on what exactly leadership has mandated the MMS to do. I'm excited to continue to grow in my position."



Richard Jeannotte

Intergovernmental Affairs Advisor

I have worked in close collaboration with the Nutewistoq and the Mgnigng Executive to advance the bilateral and tripartite negotiations.

As part of the Mgnigng Team; work has been done on the following files. The development of a Fisheries Rights Recognition Agreement (RRA) proposal on behalf of our member communities Gesgapegiag and Gespeg. Review of the Niganiljoqa'taqan (Framework Agreement) to continue the tripartite negotiations with Canada and Québec. A negotiations protocol applicable to the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi negotiation work, internal and external, and the drafting of a document that will facilitate the negotiation mandates.

Other files include working on the Mi'gmaq Title research project. More specifically, discussing with Ph.D. Historians to identify the proper research and developing and presenting Rights 101 material for the education of all Citizens of Gespe'gewa'gi.

"The Mi'gmaq Citizens from Gespe'gewa'gi are our priority and they are who we think about when it comes to developing our work plan or our recommendations to leadership."

The Mi'gmaq citizens are the reason why we exist as an organization because Mi'gmaq Title in Gespe'gewa'gi is a collective right that belongs to all Mi'gmaq citizens."



Donald Jeannotte

Former Director of Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen / Communications Strategist

In the beginning of the 2019-2020 fiscal year, I was in the position of Director of Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen. The Gespe'gewa'gi Management plan was an ongoing file. I attended negotiation meetings and of course all the administrative aspects of the directorate. I was

also responsible for the translation of French/English documents for the MMS.

Later in 2019, I changed positions and became the Communication Strategist. The duties of this position were to develop a new approach to better reach Citizens of Gespe'gewa'gi and to update social media accounts for the MMS. I also assisted the Mgnigng

in the negotiations for the Gespeg Parks Rights Reconciliation Agreement (Parks RRA), I prepared the summary report for Parks.

Being part of the Peigwaptmeg team to put place name signage within the territory of Gespe'gewa'gi was a success; 10 Mi'gmaw place name signs were put in the territory.

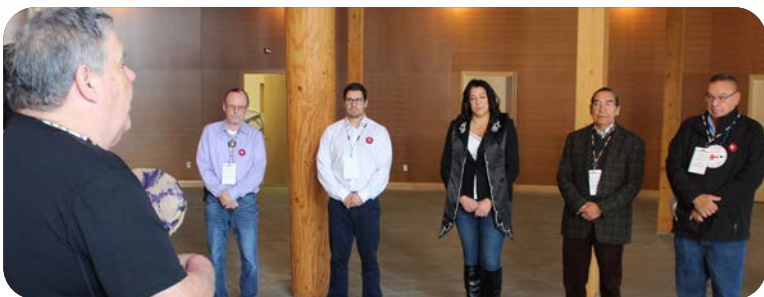
"On many occasions, the MMS has met with the communities to explain their important role. Negotiation will eventually lead us to a better future for our Citizens."

The importance of education and communication for all Mi'gmaw is important to better understand our very delicate situation."

Apajimawagnutma'timng

Apajimawagnutma'timng: E'tasiw 'Nnue'gati Gespe'gewa'gig


Facilitated by Candace Metallic, B.A., LL.B, IPC of Listuguj, from November 4th to 6th 2019, the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi held a Governance Conference which was entitled "Apajimawagnutma'timng: E'tasiw 'Nnue'gati Gespe'gewa'gig" in Ugpi'ganjig (Eel River Bar) to discuss Mi'gmaw Governance. The conference was to bring leadership together from Gespe'g and Gesgapegiag, and Listuguj to discuss what Mi'gmawei Governance looks like within Gespe'gewa'gi.



E'tasiw 'Nnue'gati Gespe'gewa'gig

Leadership from all 7th districts were invited to attend, with guest speakers Keptin Stephen Augustine, 'Kji-Saqamaw Norman Sylliboy, and Satsan Herb George – all world-renown experts on Indigenous Governance.

The goal of the Governance conference was to educate leadership on the historical, modern, and future goals of Governance in Gespe'gewa'gi. Below are some thoughts and words shared during the conference.



*“I had alot of questions before this conference, but they got answered during the presenations. These two days were very educational. I learned so much from [Satsan] and appreciate the knowledge he transferred onto us, including the direction that we need to take for a strong and structured Government.” -- **John Isaac, Listuguj Elder***

*“I don't think we have anything to lose, we can only win. Coming together, working together, sharing wiht one another will only strengthen us. That's a win-win.” -- **Gaetan Jeannotte, Gespeg Elder***

*“As a Council member, I feel we need to start talking with our community members and share information with them to reduce the knowledge gap. We need to close the gap of information, so everyone is well-informed as we had traditionally lived and engaged in as a Mi'gmaq society. A well-informed community will move forward together.” -- **Christianne Bernard, Gesgapegiag Councillor***

*“This conference encourages me to advocate for and acknowledge our Elders, our true knowledge holders and language keepers. These gifts they have should always be valued. They remind us of who we are and where we come from.” -- **Rosalee Labillois, Listuguj Youth***

*“I'm glad to have had discussions about our Treaties. I used to live thinking that I didn't have any rights to hunt, fish or gather on our territory - and I remember my Dad saying to me “Ginuewei..this is all our Land”, but overtime I went out to fish or cut wood and I was sent away and told that I had no business or rights there.” -- **Lyman Laroque, Gesgapegiag Elder***

*“Self-Governance is the only thing for us to do. We need to start doing it soon if only to protect and strengthen our future generations.” -- **Jean Claude English, Gespeg Elder***

*“This conference has been a refresher for me. Most of us don't know how much of the Indian Act controls our lives. We need to start understanding the impact it has had on us and how it continues today. We can start in the schools.” -- **Amy Martin, Gesgapegiag Councillor***

*“One of things that stuck out was how to take care of the well-being of our citizens. We need to continue talking about this and take action once we leave the discussions. There's not alot of trust within our communities, and that's not healthy. Sharing information and understanding our past will help us in our future goals.” -- **Dolly Barnaby, Listuguj Councillor***



Ango'tmeq Nm'tgin

The long-term goal of the Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen (AN) is for the Mi'gmaq to guide the usage and development of Gespe'gewa'gi.

The 2019-2020 fiscal year was an eventful one. AN participated in the negotiation and approval of the *QUÉBEC-MI'GMAQ AGREEMENT ON THE PROCESS GOVERNING CONSULTATION AND ACCOMMODATION IN RESPECT OF HYDROCARBON ACTIVITIES*. The AN organized and held many community consultations and meetings to ensure that the Citizens and Leadership were aware of the details of the negotiation and drafting of the document. Any issues that were brought forward at these sessions were addressed. To be clear this agreement is a process agreement. It simply details how the Mi'gmaq will be consulted by the Government

of Quebec regarding hydrocarbon consultations. It does not support or oppose hydrocarbon development in any way.

The end of 2019-2020 marked the start of a restructuring process within Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen. The goal of this restructure is to change the directorate so it can better act upon needs of our communities and develop our capacity to advance Mi'gmaq preoccupation and priorities. This restructure is going to take time.

The work and focus of AN are on long term goals. There is a lot of work that must be done to further develop Mi'gmaq positions and concerns. The work we do will benefit all the Citizens of Gespe'gewa'gi and the generations to come.



“We live in a beautiful and bountiful part of the world and we need to focus on our responsibility towards it. To this end, I would like to encourage the Citizens of Gespe'gewa'gi to get involved, use the territory, hunt, fish, gather, and bring your concerns to Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen and the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi Secretariat so we can voice those concerns for you.”

Mathieu Gray-Lehoux,
Director of Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen

The role of the Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen is to focus on “taking care of our territory”, which means ensuring safe and sustainable natural resource development in Gespe'gewa'gi.

The Mi'gmaq of Gespe'gewa'gi have a special relationship with the territory, and a responsibility for the protection, conservation, and restoration of the natural environment.

The Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen provides the resources and support for Mi'gmaq people to protect, and access the territory through various initiatives.



Amanda Barnaby,
Consultation and Accommodation
Manager

During the summer of 2019, I began my role as the Consultation & Accommodation Manager. A lot has changed since the MMS originally began processing consultations, and it was my view that the process used to process consultations needed

updating to better meet our current needs and address current issues. Shortly after taking on the role my office set out to modify the existing process used to consult and engage with community members. My office began researching different tools and models used by other First Nations across the country.

During 2019, I was involved with the process of negotiating the Québec-Mi'gmaq Agreement on the Process Governing Consultation and Accommodation in Respect of Hydrocarbon Activities (the “Agreement”). To be clear, this Agreement only applies to the consultation process between Québec and the MMS. I worked with the Director of Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen in order to begin researching a proponent guide, a document that we hope will help the Mi'gmaq better govern their territory by outlining our values, policies, and the way we want proponents operating on our territory to contact our Leadership. Throughout 2019, my office processed consultations and hosted community sessions.

“We are working to help develop & adapt our governance structures in order to meet modern requirements. We are also taking the necessary steps and planning to help preserve and secure our Rights for the seven generations to come.”



Scott Metallic,
A.N. Field Monitor &
Communications Liaison

During the 2019-2020 fiscal year, my position was to monitor resource development activities in the territory and provide reports to any environmental concerns the Mi'gmaq may have. Any resource development must not affect our water quality, destroy wildlife habitats, or restrict Mi'gmaq Access to the territory. I also prepare maps to identify Mi'gmaq cultural data in areas within Gespe'gewa'gi.

When MMS was deciding on which place names we were going to use for the Peigwaptmeq project, I went to each location to make sure that all respects to the land and water were respected.

“Move forward and respect all environmental concerns of the communities.”

Operations

The role of Operations is to support the work that the organization was created to:

- Strengthen Mi'gmaq relationships through unity;
- Be aware of the use and occupancy on our territory;
- Move towards strengthening our Governance for all citizens.

The 2019-2020 fiscal year was a busy year for the Operations Directorate. Operations is responsible for the administration and financial management of the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi Secretariat office.

While overseeing the daily business of the office, Operations is also responsible for assisting the Directors in managing their funding agreements, developing and implementing budgets, and ensuring that procedures are carried out. They also assist in developing proposals for funding, contracts, capacity building, human resources, health & safety, Office maintenance and updating and implementing policies and procedures. Operations also handles the Corporate filing to keep the organization in good standing and the coordinating of the IT needs.

The Communications Agent and Information Systems officer are also under the Operations directorate.

The team in Operations is equipped with diverse strengths to support the mandates set in place by the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi.

Although our team is small in numbers, they certainly make a strong and dynamic team to work with. Each staff member has a specific role to keep the activities aligned with the goals and mandates of the Secretariat.

This year, the team engaged in special projects such as the Peigwaptmeg project, Mi'gmaq Writers Award, and the Elders Tribute to name a few.

The Peigwaptmeg project is a mandate from the Leadership to be more visible in the territory by putting Mi'gmaq place name signs.

The MMS awarded the 2019-2020 winners of the Mi'gmaq Writers Award contest at a Feast/Social on November 6, 2019. Amber Jerome of Gesgapegiag won with "Teaching Gopit a Lesson" in the 17 & younger category; Jennifer Gedeon of Gesgapegiag won in the 18 & older category with "The Little Cave".

Every year, the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi celebrates one of its Elders with a video tribute, Eagle Feather, and Tribute poster. Our Elders are such an important part of our communities and this year, it was our honor to pay tribute to Betty Martin of Gesgapegiag.



"I appreciate the hard work and dedication of the Operations team! Who would have thought that we would finish the fiscal year in a global pandemic! I am grateful that everyone pushed forward through very challenging obstacles."

Juliette Barnaby,
Director of Operations



Nikki Jacques
Office Assistant

As Office Assistant, the duties include general administrative and operational support to the MMS staff such as ordering supplies and maintaining timesheets and manuals, and also working closely with other Admin Assistants in the office. Another important task is to ensure constant contact with contractors for building maintenance and upkeep, along with overall safety and security.

Working with the Director of Operations, promoting and encouraging Citizens to participate in the Mi'gmaq Writers Award is also an enjoyable part of the job.

"My time here at MMS has been rewarding in many ways and I look forward to many more years."



Jill Metallic-Condo,
Finance Assistant

During the fiscal year 2019-2020 there were many changes to the finance directorate, under the direction of the Director of Operations, my duties consisted of processing, verifying, and balancing invoices, preparing invoice payments, processing payroll payments for staff, reconciling purchase orders with invoices and statements, maintaining safe processing of all finance-related records. Aside from the financial, the administrative part of my position included photocopying

and filing; distributing cheques for pickup, mailing, or depositing; ensuring the filing system is efficient and effective; assisting audit preparation for interim and year-end.

"I appreciate what the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi Secretariat does for those Mi'gmaq who exercise their right to the land and water and its resources, I would suggest that all Mi'gmaq get out into the territory and exercise their rights to earn a moderate livelihood."



Laura Vicaire,
Information Systems Officer / Writer

The organization of the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi Secretariats research, documents, letters, and information has always been a priority. A document management system is currently being developed, and each day documents are scanned and categorized, ensuring that all information received or sent by the MMS is safe, organized, and easily accessible. Policies

and procedures have also been drafted for this management system.

"The work of the MMS is very important, we work every day to make sure that if we have to go to court, we are ready and strong. The Citizens of Gespe'gewa'gi are well represented."

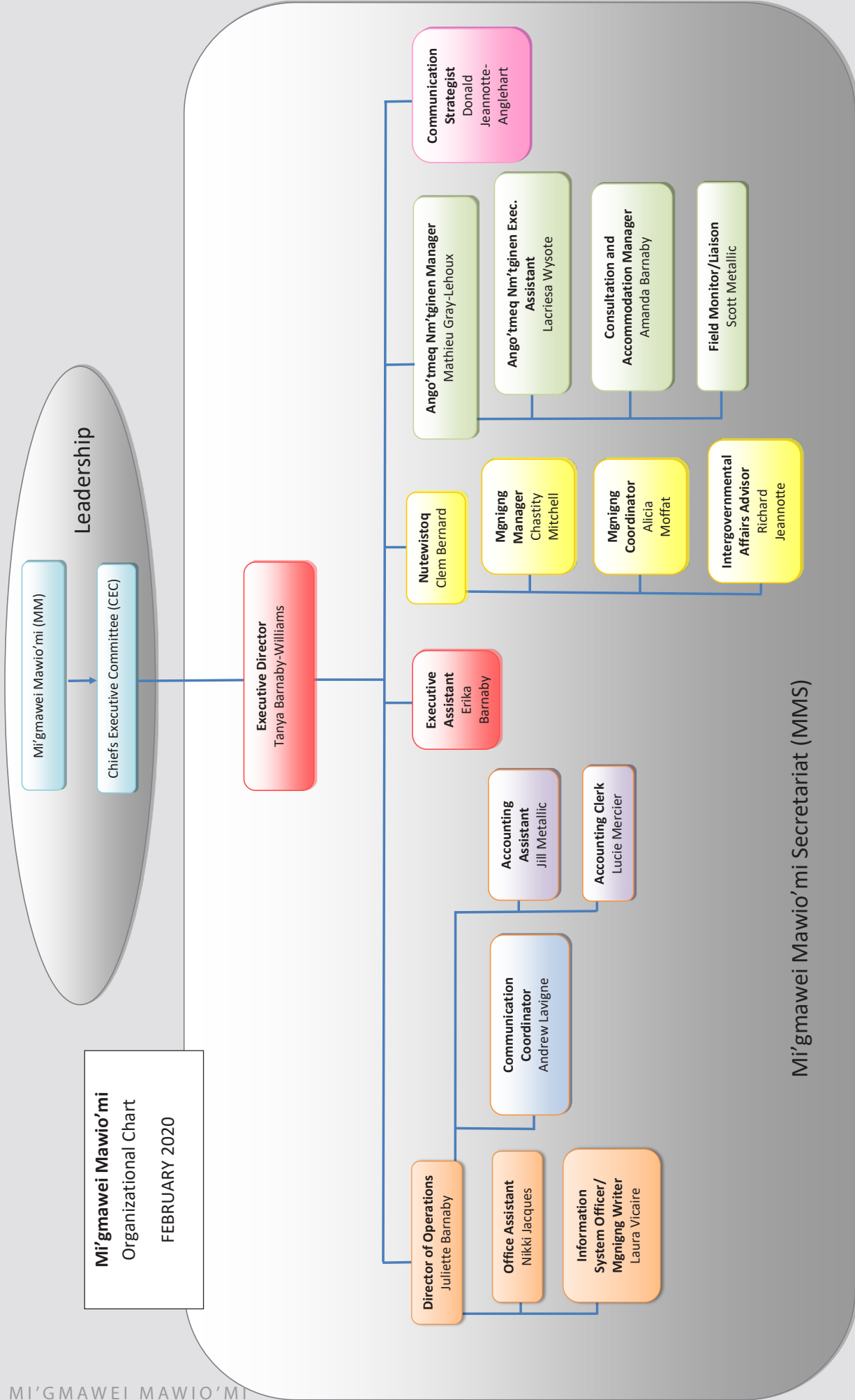


Andrew Lavigne,
Communications Agent / Production

The work of MMS is communicated with the usage and production of various multi-media tools and print material, along with community presentations, that shares the work and information of the MMS Office.

This includes issues of the Gespi'sig magazine, MMS videos on YouTube/Migmawei, Writers Award booklets, and updating the MMS website as needed at www.migmawei.ca along with other communication tools upon request.

"As Citizens of Gespe'gewa'gi, we need to take time to value and seek the knowledge of our Mi'gmaq elders and listen to their stories. Speaking and communicating with our elders should be the encouraged way to gather information on our history, our language, our culture and our way of life on the territory. Many of our elders living today have experienced it, are proud of it, fought for it and are willing to share it. Let's not forget the most valuable resource available to us, our Mi'gmaq Elders and their stories."



Mi'gmaWei Mawio'mi Secretariat (MMS)

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Updated: February 1st 2020

“Our standing is a true measure of our most valuable, et intangible, asset of all – people.”

Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi Secretariat

Staff Directory 2019-2020

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Financials

Included in this report is the audited financial statement, prepared by Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton, and was approved by the Executive Finance Committee, for the fiscal year 2019-2020 for the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi Secretariat (MMS).

The general mandate of the Executive Finance Committee (EFC) of the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi (MM) is to oversee and assure the integrity of all financial transactions, record keeping and reporting of the MM, consistent with approved financial policies and procedures, the funding obligations, and the approved budget of the MM, the MMS, and all components accountable to the MM.

Executive Finance Committee is made up of at least 1 Chief and 1 Councillor from each of the member communities of Gesgapegiag, Gespeg and Listuguj.

NOTES:

Distributions receivable from Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi Resources Limited Partnership (**MMRLP**) is a one-time payment that **has not yet been released**. The audit reflects the process of the transfer but **no actual dollars have been transferred to the MMS** and can only be transferred by resolution from each of the three Councils.

**POLITICAL ACCORD BETWEEN THE GOVERNING COUNCILS OF THE MI'GMAQ
OF LISTUGUJ, GESGAPEGIAG AND GESPE'G**

WHEREAS the Mi'gmaq of Listuguj, Gesgapegiag and Gespe'g are the descendants of the Mi'gmaq who have inhabited since time immemorial this northern territory of Gespe'gewa'gig, including the lands and surrounding waters of the area more commonly known today as the Gaspé Peninsula.

WHEREAS we have never ceded our lands and waters and have unextinguished Aboriginal rights and title and treaty rights which we exercise throughout our territory.

WHEREAS our leadership has always gathered to deal with matters of common concern, including the allocation of lands and resources and for the conduct of external relations.

WHEREAS the present Chiefs and the Chiefs prior to this day including their respective Councils have discussed and deemed it necessary to establish a formal accord regarding the relationship amongst the Mi'gmaq of Listuguj, Gesgapegiag and Gespe'g.

WHEREAS such a relationship would serve to foster Mi'gmaq economic and social development, enhance access to resources, improve services and build the capacity of our communities.

WHEREAS it would also permit common political action and joint ventures.

WHEREAS these goals may be pursued by addressing issues of common concern unanimously agreed upon by each of the three Chiefs and Councils of Listuguj, Gesgapegiag and Gespe'g.

WHEREAS the Mi'gmaq enjoy and exercise the inherent right of self-government and the entering into of this accord will in no way, shape or form hinder the communities of Listuguj, Gesgapegiag and Gespe'g in being autonomously governed by their respective Chiefs and Councils.

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED THAT:

1. The parties gathered and duly represented in Assembly establish the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi comprised of the Chief and Councils of Listuguj, Gesgapegiag and Gespe'g.
2. The Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi shall have ultimate authority regarding the constitution, structure, policies and priorities of the Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi with a view to the carrying out of this Accord. Decisions shall be taken by unanimous consensus of Listuguj, Gesgapegiag and Gespe'g as represented by Chief and Council.
3. The Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi hereby mandate the respective Chiefs of Listuguj, Gesgapegiag and Gespe'g, together with two councillors from each respective councils, to implement the present Political Accord.
4. This Accord may be terminated by withdrawal of any of the parties, which shall take effect within 30 days following notice in writing to the other parties.

**AGNUTMAQAN UGJIT NUJINS'TMASSEWA'UTIJIG MI'GMAQ
WEITA'JIG LISTUGUJ, GESGAPEGIAG AQ GESPEG**

TOQO TUJIW Mi'gmewa'g Listuguj, Gesgapegiag aq Gespeg. Na Mi'gmaq wetepegultig ta'n wegla cimu'tipnig gis ta'neg tujiw ula oqoatnugewel maqamigew Gespe'gewa'gig. Wijel stige' maqamigal aq ta'n samuqan pemitig giwgtaw tel nenas'g gisgug stige Gespeg Gwesa'we Penunsila.

TOQO TUJIW Mnaq puna'tuegl maqamigeminal aq ta'n pemitig samuqan aq wela'suatmegi Inueie'l aq gisagnutmaqann ta'n me' nige' e'umegl ula telgi'g ntmmaqamin.

TOQO TUJIW Appjiw mawita'jigniganpugultijig ugjit usgu'tmnew ta'n giwnaqa wetmite'tas'g. ma'w iga'tmgewei maqamigeminal aq gina'masutiminen aq ta'n teliwgwa'tas'g se'g wejiaqal agnutmaqann.

TOQO TUJIW Ta'n nige'telo'ltimg, lugwetew ugjit apoqonmatmn Mi'gmawei, ugjit lita'nen, me' msnmen apoqonmati, unjig lita'nen ag lugowaqanigtug, munsutgm migigno'ti aq me' ewe'ga'tun ta'n etli mawo'ltieg.

TOQO TUJIW Glnaqaqajewel alsusimgewei liapt'ten aq wijei lugowaqann.

TOQO TUJIW Wegla pewetas'gl gisi majulgwatten pas'g usgu'tmn ta'n goqoe'l wetmite'tas'gl pas'g thulte'tmnew ms't wegla Lnu'saqamaq aq Nujins'tmassewa'utijig tle'g Listuguj, Gesgapegiag aq Gespeg.

TOQO TUJIW Mi'gmaq gesatmi'tij aq e'umi'tij ta'n teligtiamsutaltijig ugjit nujeiatultinew, aq pishuw'igugsinew uls gisagnutmamgewei; ta'n getu'tllaq, ma' a'jela's'gtmug ula cimu'tieg Listuguj, Gesgapegiag aq Gespeg ugjit Lnu'saqamaw aq Nujins'tmassewa'utijig newgti lisunsultinew.
NA GLAMAN ULTE'TAS'GT'

1. Tanig mawita'jig aq giasgiw nemu'jig ta'n etl Nutmam ugjit pgwatunew Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi epultijig Lnu'saqamaw aq Nujins'tmassewa'utijig tle'g Listuguj, Gesgapegiag aq Gespe'g.
2. Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi gu'guntew mujgajewei alsusuti ugjit ta'n goqwei weji gisistas'g, pittaqaqesigewei, ta'n telsutas'gl ag t'an goqwe'l piamite'tas'gl ugjit Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi. IIsutas'gt'tal ula welte'tas'gl Listuguj, Gesgapegiag aq Gespe'g stige t'an Lnu'saqamaw aq Nujins'tmassewa'utijig niganpugu'tmi'tij.
3. Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi iga'tu'tij tplutaqan ugjit Lnu'saqamaq tle'g Listuguj, Gesgapegiag aq Gespe'g, wijewgwi'tiji tapusijig Nujins'tmassewa'ytijig ta'n wet'pigultijig, ugjit lugwatmnew ula Saqamawei Gisagnutmaqann.
4. Ula Gisagnutmamgewei tma'tuten ta'n tujiw wen menwi'gusij wegla nuji mawagnutma'tijig ag lugwetew ge'smu nesisgegipuna'q ta'n telppige'g gegnuwa'tuj igtigig niganpugua'tijig.

Annual Report

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