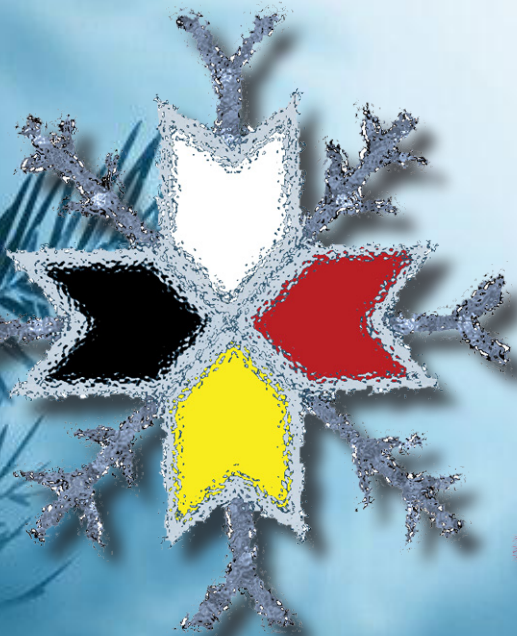




GESPISIQ

WINTER / GESIG / HIVER
DECEMBER 2018 DECEMBRE

Season's Greetings
Joyeuses Fêtes



Gesig - Winter - Hiver

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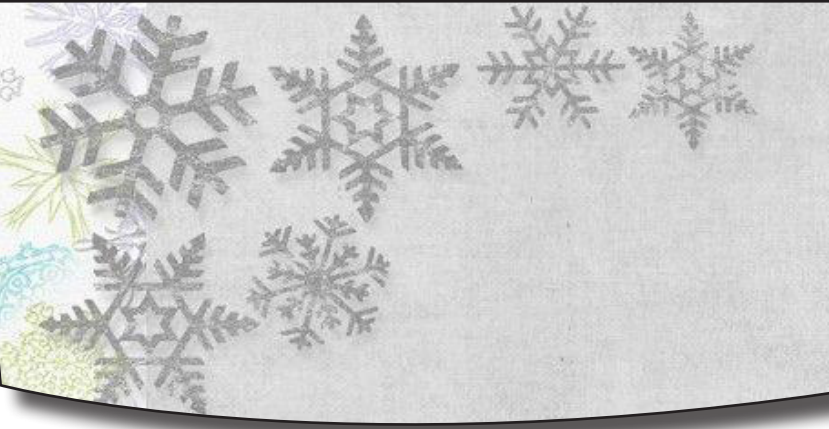
Season's Greetings
Joyeuses Fêtes

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A Message from **Tanya Barnaby, MMS Executive Director**

Citizens of Gespe'gewa'gi,

As the calendar year of 2018 comes to an end, we are reminded that it's also a time when we pause to reflect on the past year's events and share on the updates of our MMS files and mandates. We also take this opportunity to recognize all those who have contributed to a year full of accomplishments. We acknowledge your contributions in helping the Mi'gmawei Mawiomi & Secretariat meet its objectives and vision. It's been a very busy year for the Leadership and Staff of the Mi'gmawei Mawiomi.

Our focus this past year and still continues to be that of accountability to our citizens and leadership as well as ensuring that we are working on the files that will benefit our children and the territory of Gespe'gewa'gi.

I am honoured to work with such a dedicated group of Mi'gmaq who show such commitment to the files and want to see the betterment of their people.

We continue to work on improving our communications with the people while ensuring that the files the Leadership require us to work on progresses in a timely manner.

We look forward to a challenging and productive 2019, and also to moments that will draw us together even more closely and celebrate all that Gespe'gewa'gi is and all that it can be.

As you prepare yourselves to spend time with your loved ones over the holidays to share stories and family traditions, take time to think about our Ancestors and how they spent this time in Gespe'gewa'gi. Share those thoughts with your young ones and honour our past as we move forward.

On behalf of the entire staff, we wish you a safe holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

If you have any questions, please send them directly to me at tbarnaby@migmawei.ca.



Interviewing **Clement Bernard, Nutewistog**

Q1: *What is your role as Nutewistog?*

Clem: The Nutewistog is the Speaker and Lead Negotiator for negotiations set forth by the Mi'gmawei Mawiomi Leadership. It doesn't mean that I have to be the main speaker for all the files, it simply means that I'm aware of all that is going on in these files and I make sure that Leadership and the Mgnigng Team is fully informed and updated as negotiations and discussions happen around each file.

Simply put, the Nutewistog is the hub of information for all that is going on in every file of negotiations.

Q2: *You've been in the position of the Nutewistog since October 2017. Can you share with our Gespisiq readers what's been happening over the past year.*

Clem: Since my time here in the position of Nutewistog, I've had the opportunity to negotiate agreements that will have positive impacts on the Mi'gmaq of Gespègewa'gi and on the generations to come. These negotiating mandates come from the Leadership of Gesgapegiag, Gespeg and Listuguj. These are:

1. A revised Framework Agreement with Canada and Quebec. This is the most important as it sets up all the other negotiations. It frames out the types of negotiating that we would explore;
2. We also got a mandate to negotiate Fisheries

through the Rights Recognition Agreement (RRA) in building a Mi'gmaq Governance model;

3. A Consultation and Accommodation Agreement on Hydrocarbons (Oil and Gas). The Lead on this file is Tanya, the MMS Executive Director;

4. Vacation Lots is also another mandate. The Lead on that file is Terri Lynn Morrison, Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen Director;

5. We also have National Parks, which is not an official mandate yet, but exploratory discussions have started in this area – and I'll share more on this file in the near future.



NUTEWISTOQ

Q3: *You mentioned some names – who else is on the Negotiating Team?*

Clem: I am the Lead Negotiator, but with many files coinciding, we have a team that helps in the research and discussions. Our team is called Mgnigng and is comprised of:

- Clement Bernard, Nutewistog
- Richard Jeannotte, Legal Counsel
- Tanya Barnaby-Williams, MMS Executive Director
- Terri Lynn Morrison, Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen Director
- Mathieu Gray-Lehoux, Assistant A/N Director
- Chastity Mitchell, Mgnigng Coordinator
- Donald Jeannotte-Anglehart, Communications & Engagement Officer

We all work to ensure information is shared and that Leadership is engaged, consulted and informed.

Q4. *Looking ahead for 2019, what are the main objectives for you as Nutewistog?*

Clem: For 2019, the revised Framework Agreement is nearing completion, some of the language is being reviewed and the next step is the approval from all parties, this being the Mi'gmaq, Quebec and Canada – so that will require some Leadership engagement. So in the upcoming months, there will be lots of Leadership engagement on the Framework Agreement.

Once the Leadership process is complete, we then will conduct Citizen engagement sessions, because we are not only negotiating for the Leadership, but we are also



negotiating for the Mi'gmaq citizens of Gespe'gewa'gi and they need to know what is being negotiated, what's included in the negotiation process and to hear from them.

2019 will also see us having many other Citizen engagement sessions on the other mandates of Fisheries, Parks, Vacation Lots and Hydrocarbons. I'm hoping that the interest and community attendance is high at these sessions, as the voices from our citizens are important.



Interview with **Terri Lynn Morrison, Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen Director**

Q1: What is the role of the Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen (AN) unit?

AN: The Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen, when translated means "Taking care of our Territory" – the role of our unit at the MMS is to look at all development taking place in Gespe'gewa'gi from a global approach – rather than just the one-offs from the consultations that come forward by the Federal and Provincial governments—we analyze consultations using the Gespe'gewa'gi Management Plan (GMP).

So far, in the GMP, we have created what is referred to as a Conservation Chapter, which essentially maps out the core primary usage areas that the Mi'gmaq have identified through Traditional Use Studies. These core primary usage areas cover three (3) primary watersheds that include the Restigouche, Cascapedia and York rivers. We use this information to filter through requests for development that we receive from both the Federal and Provincial governments and make recommendations based on the impact on the territory, and our rights to the Leadership. When there are impacts on Mi'gmaq rights, we include the Citizens in the consultation, to gather their preoccupations and hear from them about how the project will impact them on the territory.

Q2: What are some of the Mandates of the Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen unit?

AN: In September 2018, the Mi'gmawei Mawiomi Leadership (MM) met and we discussed an on-going consultation file that we received from Quebec regarding Vacation Lots – in Quebec a lottery process is held annually, where they issue permits for the purpose of vacation lots (approximate size of 60 meters x 80 meters) for non-Mi'gmaq people on the territory to primarily use as a hunting camps. For the Leadership, this has been an increasing preoccupation because, over the years they have seen this as alienating the Mi'gmaq from the territory, to the point that in 2016 they passed at Resolution at the MM level to ban the issuance of all vacation lots leases throughout Gespe'gewa'gi. So we've been working on this file in that context, where the Leadership wants a process that will advance the interests of the Mi'gmaq on our territory.

We presented to the Leadership some of opportunities and interests that could exist for the Mi'gmaq for this process, these are:

1. Co-management over Gespe'gewa'gi based on the GMP. This means we need to go out and talk with the Citizens about the zones in 2019. It would be ideal if we could sit down to discuss and identify the levels of impact to the Mi'gmaq and the territory, map this out, and say what happens



ANGO'TMEQ NM'TGINEN

...and

Mathieu Gray-Lehoux, AN Asst. Director

in each of the zones. It's important to do this with the citizens, as it will help us in the area of Consultations, so that we'll know with certainty of what is acceptable or unacceptable development for particular areas on the territory.

2. The sensitization of non-Mi'gmaq people about the Mi'gmaq of the territory. In fact, we have been invited by Quebec to meet with those who will be accessing these Vacation Lot leases (8 have been attributed to Gespe'gewa'gi in 2018), and to present to them who the Mi'gmaq are, who's territory they are on and the relationship and respect that we have with the territory.

3. More Mi'gmaq visibility throughout Gespe'gewa'gi. An initiative has been started by the MMS Communications Unit over the last year to place signs with Mi'gmaq Names outside of our 3 communities – our goal is to put more up and be more present including some on ATV and ski-doo trails for example.

4. Another item we are exploring is capacity development and training to monitor the forests ourselves so that we have our own Mi'gmaq people out there in the territory making sure the rules are respected – while building a healthy relationship with non-Mi'gmaq people who use the forests.

5. We also have a mandate to put a process in place to mobilize our Mi'gmaq citizens beyond the reserve boundaries – but we first need to talk with our citizens to see what is currently stopping them from going out beyond these boundaries.

6. Another program we'd like to see is one of sharing Cultural Awareness to the younger hunters and gatherers that teach them how to go out onto the territory in a manner that's respectful and ensures that the resources are always there for the future generations.

Q3: Citizen Engagement will be a big focus in 2019. Why is it important for people to come out and be engaged in any of the discussions and info sessions?

AN: The AN Unit doesn't make decisions; we merely take information and make recommendations when it comes to governance over the territory using the GMP. What we would like to do is put the GMP back into the hands of the Mi'gmaq citizens because this is all of our territory as a collective, and the GMP has to belong to the people as it also has to come from them. It's extremely important that we get people engaged and involved, we need to hear from them – it's their territory – it's their self-governance – and we need to take into account what they are saying about it, including their hopes and fears. They will have many occasions throughout 2019 to come out and share their thoughts and concerns for our Gespe'gewa'gi territory.



Interview with **Donald Jeannotte-Anglehart, Communications & Engagement Officer**

Q1: Can you provide us with updates on what has been happening over the past year in the Communications unit?

The Communications team has had a very full year, both on the road with a number of activities and also online. Here's a list of what we've been doing:

1. Website: We are in the process of revamping our website and increased our use of social media to reach citizens of Gespe'gewa'gi more effectively and keep them better informed.
2. Citizen Engagement: We also coordinated a series of public engagement sessions, specifically for the purpose of discussing subjects such as hydrocarbon development on our traditional territory, and also to present our Gespe'gewa'gi Management Plan (GMP), just to name a few.
3. Peigwaptmeg project: Over the summer we installed three signs that showcase the respective Mi'gmaq place names associated with the area just outside of our communities. As you probably know, this project consists of restoring the traditional Mi'gmaq names of geographical locations on our territory. We also installed a metal Wigwam in the Tlagatigegj Citizens' Park for the 250th anniversary celebrations of Carleton.
4. Nta'tugwaqnminen, Our Story: One of the events that made us particularly proud was the availability of the French version of the book on our history in Gespe'gewa'gi. The sharing of our history is now available in English and French, and

we've been visiting and sharing this with as many people as we could.

Q2: What other support does the Communications unit provide?

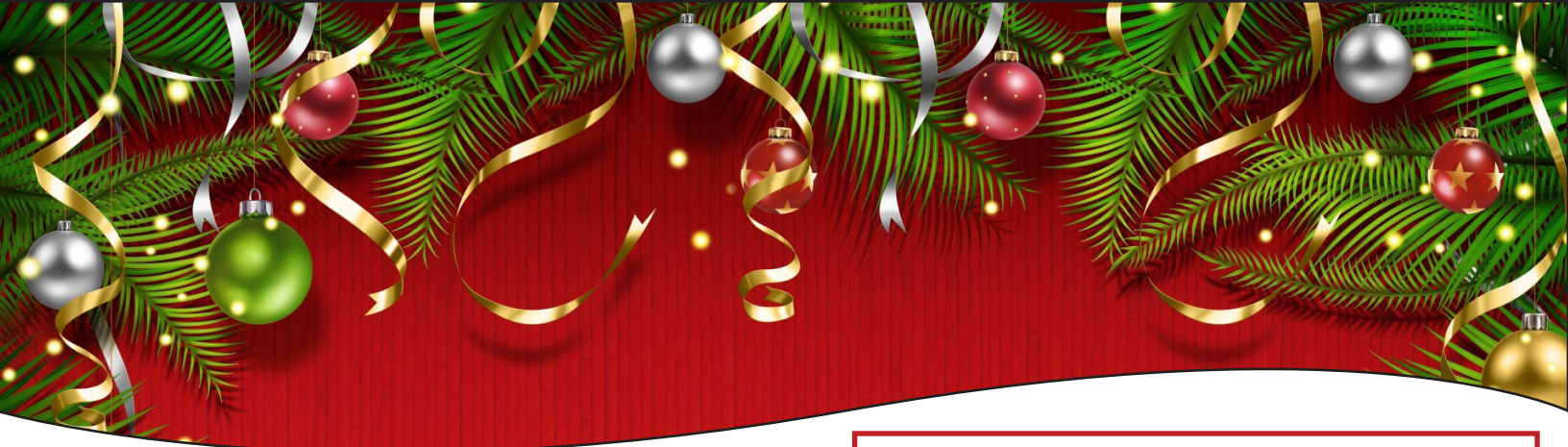
As you probably realize, the role of the MMS Communications team is not limited to managing the various communications tools we use. We are also involved and active at all levels. We also look after the technical and logistical support needs by other units of the MMS while carrying out their citizen engagement activities.

We also respond to the media requests on any of our newsworthy events and activities. And I regularly take part in the negotiating sessions with the Mgnigng team, where it is my responsibility to write internal memos and documents, so that the Leadership in our three communities are kept up to date on our progress.

Q3: What is planned for 2019?

It looks like the coming year will be just as busy, as we will once again coordinate the public engagement sessions with the citizens on many interesting subjects that will concern them on our future on the territory. Also, our revamped website will be completed.

Our goal is to continue to keep you engaged and informed about what we are planning and doing throughout the new year. We hope to see many of you out at our events.



Congratulating the **Mi'gmaq Writers Award 2018 Winners**

The winner of this year's 2018 Mi'gmaq Writers Award in the 17 and younger category goes to **Margaret Caplin** from Listuguj.

Her winning submission titled "*The Girl with the Long Black Hair*" impressed the judges. Margaret used her own long black hair as an expression of who she was as a young Mi'gmaq woman.

Congratulations Margaret.



The winner in the 18 and Older category goes to **Sarah Isaac** from Listuguj.

Her winning submission that was entitled "*Lightning Woman and Thunderbird*" wowed the judges with its creativity. The inspiration for her story was actually from a vision that she had of a young lady running through the woods in a storm.

Congratulations Sarah.



Mi'gmaq Writers Award 2019 CONTEST CLOSSES **APRIL 30, 2019**

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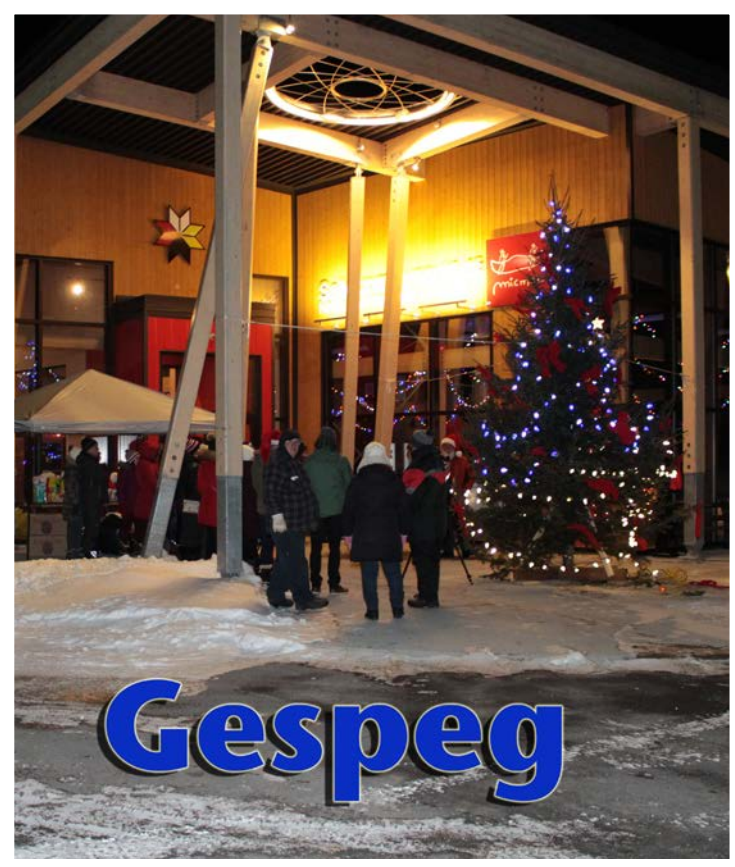
Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

The Mi'gmawei Mawiomi Secretariat recently held Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremonies in each of the communities of Gesgapegiag, Gespeg and Listuguj.

With the theme of 'Tis the Season to Share', people were invited to drop off clothing, toys and non-perishable food items – that went to community shelters for distribution. A random winner who donated an item received a turkey basket.

The events drew in those who were in the Christmas spirit where they enjoyed hot chocolate, treats and also sang Christmas carols. Well-known choir singer Simon Dedam of Listuguj was on hand at each event to get the crowds singing.

We'd like to thank all those who came with a donation or supported this community event of sharing.

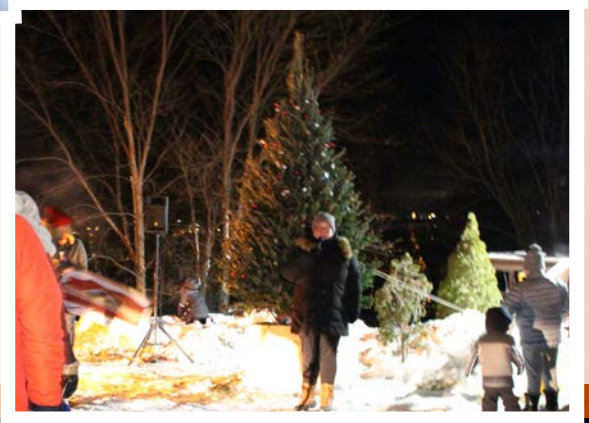




Gesgapegiag



Listuguj



Christmas

Joyeuses fêtes!



**Tanya Barnaby
 Juliette Barnaby
 Clement Bernard
 Crissy Burnsed
 Natalia Caplin
 Amanda Crozier
 Mathieu Gray-Lehoux
 Nikki Jacques
 Richard Jeannotte
 Andrew Lavigne**

**Terri Lynn Morrison
 Chastity Mitchell
 Donald Jeannotte-Anglehart
 Jeanntte Martin
 Lucie Mercier
 Scott Metallic
 Jill Metallic
 Alicia Moffat
 Tyler Morrison
 Laura Vicaire**



The Mi'gma'wei Maw'iom' and staff of the Secretariat would like to extend our warm wishes to you for a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

L'assemblé ainsi que les employés du secrétariat du Mi'gma'wei Maw'iom' tient à vous transmettre des voeux de joie, de paix, de bonheur et de prospérités. Joyeuses fêtes!

**Mi'gma'wei Maw'iom' aq Secretariat wesgowita'ieg etawa'tieg ms't wen
 Ulnuelewin aq Pusu'leg Puna'ne.**

