

# GESPI'SIG

ANGO'TMEQ NM'TGINEN

Fall Edition  
2019



Consultation & Accommodation

Vacation Lots consultation process

Cultural Site Protection Policy

Community Sessions & more



# IN THIS EDITION:

- 02. Welcoming Words
- 03. About the Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen Unit
- 04. Field Monitor & Communication Liaison
- 05. Vacation Lots / How the GMP is applied

- 05. Community Sessions
- 06. Fixed Cultural Site Protection Policy
- 07. Peigwaptmeq Project

---

## Welcoming Words

In the past year, there have been a significant number of changes in our unit. The first concerns leadership: Donald Jeannotte-Anglehart took over as Director after Terri-Lynn Morrison left last July. Our unit includes a consultation and accommodation component, and this area has been restructured: Amanda Barnaby has now become the Consultation and Accommodation Manager. These changes were necessary to increase the performance and effectiveness of our unit, which is responsible for the protection of Gespe'gewa'gi.



Next year we will be working very hard to enhance the Gespe'gewa'gi Management Plan (GMP). We will be adding sections about known cultural sites. This addition will enable us to ensure that the cultural sites on our territory are better documented, monitored, and protected by third party users. We are currently working on a policy that will be used as a guideline for our future actions. Assistant Director Mathieu Gray-Lehoux has the skills needed and extensive knowledge in this area. Do not hesitate to contact him if you have any questions.

Training the members of our unit is an important component of our work, because it is highly technical. Familiarity with the geographic information system (GIS) is critically important for all the work done by employees in the unit.

We ensure that staff members who are already qualified receive regular updates so they remain at the peak of their knowledge in this area. Our Executive Assistant, Lacriesa Wysote, is one of the staff members who makes sure we are aware of every new development in terms of training needs and methods.

Taking part in various sectoral tables and activities on our territory is vital if we are to stay connected with the community. Our Environmental Monitor, Scott Metallic, is actively involved in the various tables and can be described as our eyes and ears on the ground. He makes frequent checks to monitor locations across the territory.

We also help the Communication Unit by providing the necessary information for the Peigwaptmeq project.

We have a highly qualified and dynamic team, and the year to come looks very promising as well as challenging.

# ANGO'TMEQ NM'TGINEN TEAM

The Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen unit is responsible for receiving consultation requests from the Governments of Canada and Quebec, acting as a liaison between these governments and our communities. Our unit helps ensure that the Mi'gmaq have a role in the planning, development, and utilization of natural resources in Gespe'gewa'gi. The goal of consultation and accommodation is to protect Mi'gmaq rights and interests

in Gespe'gewa'gi, and to protect the territorial integrity for future generations.

In order to achieve this goal, we analyze potential impacts of proposed developments or projects on Mi'gmaq rights, title, territorial usage, and environment in Gespe'gewa'gi. In our analysis, we use several different tools such as:

- Gespe'gewa'gi Management Plan ("GMP"), which provides information regarding cultural usage, cultural sites, watercourses such as salmon rivers, and other such important data;
- Two-Eyed Seeing, this philosophy allows projects and development to be analyzed from both the Indigenous and Western perspectives and knowledge;
- Water First Approach, one of the main guiding principles in the GMP, this approach prioritizes water over financial interests and development.

In addition to these tools, from time to time, we may seek experts such as biologists, forestry engineers, etc. to provide additional analyses or opinions regarding specific files.

While the AN unit conducts the analysis and research regarding consultation files, it does not make decisions. Decisions are made through the Mi'gmawei Mawiomi leadership, which is comprised of Chief and Council from each community, and occasionally through community consultation sessions.

*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.*



**Donald Jeannotte-Anglehart**  
• Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen Director  
• FR Title



**Lacriesa Wysote**  
• A.N. Executive Assistant  
• FR Title



**Mathieu Gray-Lehoux**  
• A.N. Assistant Director  
• FR Title



## Field Monitor and Communication Liaison

The Field Monitor and Communication Liaison role has been a part of the Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen unit since 2017. This role entails monitoring construction activities in Gespe'gewa'gi and providing detailed reports supporting any environmental mitigation measures called for by the consultation.

It is our responsibility to work with local environmental firms to ensure that the work being done does not affect our water quality, destroy wildlife habitat, or restrict access to the territory.

Another aspect of the environmental monitor's role includes mapping out the various locations using ArcGIS software and applying aspects of the Gespe'gewa'gi Management Plan to the data to determine whether certain projects affect the quality, quantity and natural rhythm of water.

We produce maps and apply the appropriate buffers to any watercourse (i.e. lakes, rivers, and streams). These maps are then used to analyze the area and overlay any usage data in order to show the cultural footprint of the Mi'gmaq throughout Gespe'gewa'gi. The goal is to identify any usage gaps and replace it with cultural data that further supports our title claim on the territory.

The communication liaison aspect of this role includes working on communications projects, such as the Piegwaptmeg Signage Project. This visibility project uses traditional Mi'gmaq toponymy points to educate the people as to the traditional names and cultural usages of the area by the Mi'gmaq people. Ten toponymy points have been selected for this year's project and we had the pleasure of scouting these locations and learning more about our territory in the process.



**Scott Metallic**

• Field Monitor/Communication Liaison  
• FR Title



**Amanda Barnaby**

• Consultation & Accomodation Manager  
• FR Title

*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.*



# HOW THE GMP IS APPLIED / VACATION LOTS

Every year, the Quebec government administers a 'vacation lot' program via an annual lottery. This lottery allocates leases to the recipient, which are renewable through a payment each year to the Government of Quebec. This lease typically provides an area of 60m x 80m for recreational use such as establishing hunting or fishing camps and are usually located by a river in a wooded area.

The Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen department receives consultations related to these vacation lots and we complete our analysis using a number of tools, one of the most helpful being the Gespe'gewa'gi Management Plan (GMP). The GMP is a valuable tool which allows us to filter consultation and development of the territory through a series of templates that represent the values and priorities of the Mi'gmaq and a sample of where our people are using the territory. Water is a vital priority to our people and that is reflected in the adoption of the Water First philosophy in the Gespe'gewa'gi Management Plan. Using this Water First philosophy, we developed a simple yet effective evaluation tool that estimates the likely impact a project

will have using four criteria that affect the health of water systems and dependent species: the quality of water, the quantity of water, the rhythm or movement of water, and the movement of dependent species. The GMP also created buffers to protect the water system and important cultural usage sites, and we use these components of the management plan to broadly determine what the likely impacts of a project will be upon the Mi'gmaq.

Consultations regarding vacation lots are passed through the GMP filters and we are able to determine if proposed lots will negatively impact Mi'gmaq rights or our ability to exercise those rights. Applying the Gespe'gewa'gi Management Plan to the vacation lots consultation process has allowed us to successfully have potential infringing lots moved or reduced in numbers. The Gespe'gewa'gi Management Plan has proven to be an effective tool to the consultation and accommodation process and we are continually working on improving it and expanding its scope.

## COMMUNITY SESSIONS



*The Ango'tmeq Nm'tginen team conducted a series of community sessions in 2017 to introduce citizens to the Gespe'gewa'gi Management Plan (GMP) and the first version of the conservation chapter.*

*Our team identified the need for a management plan and introduced the basic components of the GMP. The purpose was to start a dialogue with citizens to get a better sense of how they envision the territory and our relationship with it. Our team held several sessions in all three of our communities, as well as an out-of-community session in Montreal. These sessions yielded good, constructive, and informative conversations with those who attended.*

*We also presented the first version of the conservation chapter. This chapter identifies areas that are the most vital to continued Mi'gmaq usage in Gespe'gewa'gi. We presented our reasoning for site selection and the need to lessen or moderate the impact*

*of certain developments. This led to productive conversations with citizens as they provided us with insights and real-life examples of how such protections would apply to them. We discussed the benefits but also the shortcomings of the buffers and solutions to these limitations.*

*These community experiences were extremely useful, as we learned a lot from our citizens. One suggestion involved adding transitional buffers in order to increase the effectiveness of our proposed protections by limiting the impacts of natural events and developments like forestry operations on areas we wish to protect.*

*These community sessions also showed us that we had to return to the drawing board in order to better develop more substantial policies around fixed cultural site protections. As such, the MMS has recently begun the process of developing a Fixed Cultural Site Protection Policy, which is discussed on the next page.*



## Fixed Cultural Site Protection Policy

Gespe'gewa'gi is filled with cultural sites that are vital points of interaction between Mi'gmaq culture and the land we call home. These vital points, which we call fixed cultural sites, are of critical importance to keep Mi'gmaq culture thriving throughout Gespe'gewa'gi.

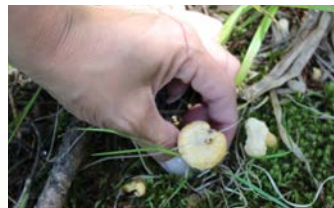
A fixed cultural site is a place or resource which our citizens have identified as important to Mi'gmaq identity and culture. These sites can include natural features such as mountains and lakes or man-made structures like cabins. As Mi'gmaq culture usage shifts and changes, so too will the number and distribution of our fixed cultural sites. New sites can be developed and added, and the location of more-historically attended sites may also shift as the resources that are harvested at these sites, such as medicinal and ceremonial plants, may move as the ecosystem changes. Tailored protections that can change over time will have to be developed and implemented at the local level.

Due to the cultural importance of fixed cultural sites, it is important for us to protect them. The existing protections provided by the provincial and federal governments are not enough – these policies have to developed locally in

order to ensure that each community gets a say in the appropriate protection mechanisms and management tools required to safeguard these important and culturally relevant areas.

Protecting Fixed Cultural sites will require that the MMS and our communities work together to develop a Fixed Cultural Sites Protection Policy. This policy will define what fixed cultural sites are, and the process of collecting and storing Fixed Cultural Data points. Ground-truthing – the process by which we verify the site's location in person – is one of the most important aspects of this policy, as it will inform us on the appropriate level of protections needed. Interim protections will be implemented until the ground-truthing step can be completed. Finally, a monitoring and enforcement strategy will be necessary to ensure that the policy is implemented and maintained.

The development of this policy is the first step in a long and important process. Through its development and implementation, we will be able to protect the areas that are important and vital to our ancestors, our Mi'gmaq culture, and our future generations.





# PEIGWAPTMEG PROJECT

Gespe'gewa'gi overflows with place names that come from a multitude of origins. There was a time when the toponyms used were in the Mi'gmaq language. The Peigwaptmeg project consists of restoring their original Mi'gmaq names to places on our territory, which, over history, have been replaced by names originating in French, English, and Basque. The word "Peigwaptmeg" means "seeing the names of places which have always existed around us."

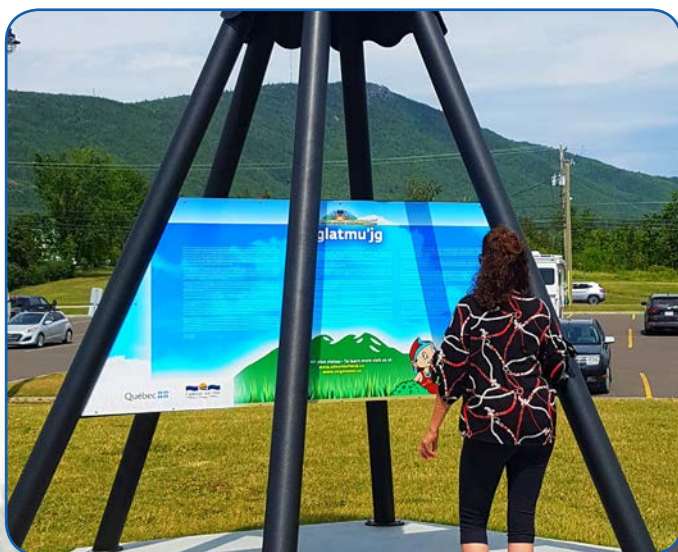
The Mi'gmawei Mawiomi has made this project a priority item and began the process in the summer of 2018. So far, three sites near the communities of Gespegegiag, Gespeg, and Listuguj have received their Mi'gmaq names. In order to celebrate the launch of the project, we organized a media event on June 21, National Indigenous Peoples' Day. The fourth panel was unveiled during the 250th Anniversary Celebration of the Town of Carleton-sur-Mer. In co-operation with the Town, we erected a metal structure representing a wigwam on which we installed a panel with the location's original place name, Tl'agatigej. The story of

the Puglatamujg can be read on the back of the panel. This is a Mi'gmaq story about the mischievous Little People who live at the top of Mont-St-Joseph.

Following the success of this program and others organized as part of UNESCO's International Year of Indigenous Languages, the Percé Global Geopark worked with the Mi'gmaq to display Mi'gmaq place names along the trails in the Geopark site.

This year, we will add ten more panels with Mi'gmaq names on our territory. We will promote these sites as soon as this phase of the project has been completed. We have also started discussions with the management of Forillon National Park about the possibility of creating a structure, similar to the one in Tlagatigej, inside the park. The launch is planned for the summer of 2020.

To find out more about this initiative, please visit our web site, [www.migmawei.ca](http://www.migmawei.ca)



# GESPI'SIG

**Mi'gmawei Mawio'mi Secretariat**

**Office Address / Adresse du bureau**

**2 Riverside West • P.O. Box 135**

**Listuguj, (Qc) • Gespe'gewa'gi, Canada**

**G0C 2R0**

**TEL/TÉL: (418) 788-1760**

**TOLL FREE: SANS FRAIS: (800) 370-1760**

**FAX/TÉLECOPIEUR: (418) 788-1315**

**E-MAIL/COURRIEL: STAYCONNECTED@MIGMAWEI.CA**

**PRODUCED AT MMS**

**BY ANDREW LAVIGNE**

**© 2019 MI'GMawei**

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS:**

**DONALD JEANNOTTE-ANGLEHART**

**LACRIESA WYSOTE**

**MATHIEU GRAY-LEHOX**

**AMANDA BARNABY**

**SCOTT METALLIC**



[migmawei.ca](http://migmawei.ca)



**GESGAPEGIAG**



**GESPEG**



**LISTUGUJ**