

February 2012 Newsletter

Welcome to the Glooscap Heritage Centre

The Glooscap Heritage Centre opened to the public May 1st, 2006 and is located on the outskirts of Truro at Millbrook First Nation, Exit 13A at the Truro Power Centre. The Glooscap Heritage Centre is comprised of the Glooscap Statue, complete with interpretive panels; a number of mobile, climate and light controlled display cases to house Mi'kmaw artifacts; a series of wall displays; and a major multimedia display in the 75 seat theatre that will be the highlight of the visitor experience at the Centre.

February, at a glance....

Joe Sylliboy will be hosting a drum workshop on February 16 from 6:30-9:00. \$100 registration fee includes all supplies and the option to return on February 23 to paint your drum.

We are pleased to have Patsy Paul Martin back to instruct a 6 week introductory Mi'kmaw language course on Wednesday evenings starting February 1.

Please call 843-3493 to pre-register.



Glooscap Heritage Centre



<http://twitter.com/GlooscapCentre>

January Highlights

The staff were kept busy with outreach opportunities as Gordon presented at UPEI and also the South Shore Innovative Learning Centre and Garrett was invited to instruct a drum making workshop at New Ross.

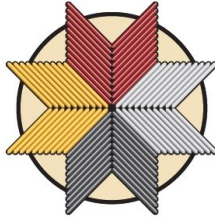
Dance classes instructed by Jennifer MacDonald resulted in a dance recital on January 13 featuring Shante Blackmore, Shayla Gloade and Trinity Stephens.

Congratulations ladies!



We'd like to remind everyone that our **Eagle On-Line** computer training is now at the Annex on Wednesdays, from 9am to 4pm. It's free, so come and take advantage of certification on many software applications. Contact Denice at 843-3493 or Dave at 843-3496 (david@eaglelearning.com)

And finally, just a reminder that we began our winter hours October 17
Monday to Friday, 8:30-4:30.



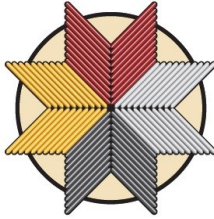
Kluskap Travels to UPEI

The Mi'kmaq have a rich and vibrant storytelling tradition. The Mi'kmaq oral tradition is more than a library of tales it is volumes of reference materials, of literature, of comedies, thrillers and children's bedtime stories. It is a collective memory of important places, ceremonies, history, and medicines. It is a manual for how to treat the world's creatures and other people. It is the way to connect with natural places and to our families.

The Mi'kmaq keepers of the stories, our Elders, know that the stories are not static, never were meant to be, they have evolved with each telling but the truth they impart remains. The world through L'nuk eyes is reflected in the oral tradition. For those from outside the Mi'kmaq culture the best way to get a better understanding of it is to begin to understand some of our stories. It was my pleasure to be invited as a guest speaker to UPEI's Indigenous Specialization students in the Faculty of Education January 12.th I came to encourage them to use legends and oral history in their classrooms as a powerful way to include Mi'kmaw perspective while at the same time cautioning them to be diligent in ensuring the authenticity of the stories they include and how those stories are interpreted.

I provided an overview of some of the Mi'kmaw characters and stories, some ideas for resources they could use in their classrooms, as well as some precautionary measures against misrepresenting or misinterpreting Mi'kmaw stories. In the past most of the published works of Mi'kmaw stories and a lot of what exists on the Internet was written by non-Mi'kmaw writers. Some of this body of work is very accurate and others are pure fiction or re-shaped to follow Eurocentric story forms so as to be more interesting to non-native audiences. It was only fairly recently that Mi'kmaw authors began publishing stories themselves or being involved in the production of collections of stories. I stressed to these new teachers how important it is to include authentic stories and guide their interpretation within a deeper contextual understanding of the culture. A great way to do this is to gain the involvement of First Nation communities near their schools to be a part of sharing stories with the learning community and discussing them. When this is not possible it is important to examine the acknowledgements to see how involved Mi'kmaw people were in the writing, editing, and production of a story – if you can't see any Mi'kmaw people being directly involved in the release of the story than don't use it.

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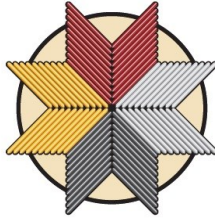
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I also stressed the importance of taking the time to check the meaning behind a story with someone in a position to know before running with your own. Where it is true that commonly authors who write fiction often refuse to interpret their own works; sometimes alluding to the fact that it doesn't matter what they think it means, it matters what it means to individual read-

ers, this is not the case behind First Nation oral tradition. Mi'kmaw stories are not works of fiction in the same sense that one might label fairy tales. I would argue that the Mi'kmaw oral tradition is more closely related to biblical writings in that it serves as the main mode for remembrance of important historical events, spiritual connections or explanations, a reference guide for the how to do or why to do something, and a vehicle for powerful transmission of cultural information which is often directed to another in a way as to create an awareness about how they are living their life. Over the past centuries Mi'kmaw culture, including their stories, have been interpreted, analyzed and written about (often quite incorrectly) for an intended audience that did not include the FN themselves. Today it is important to be mindful of this pattern and for our teachers/school boards to go that extra-mile to be inclusive and respectful of the Mi'kmaw communities that own the stories and provide their students the full benefit to understand more fully the actual connections that the story is making. A tall order to be sure but one that makes a world of difference.

..... UPEI's Faculty of Education offers a specialization program in Indigenous Education where Pre-service teachers in the last year of their Bachelor of Education Degree can choose to take a number of specialized courses intended to provide a deeper awareness of the complex issues involved in curriculum and teaching related to First Nations, Inuit, and Metis in Canada. The teachers who choose this specialization will choose to do their 6 week practicum within a First Nation community in Canada or in some instances abroad. It is a program unique to UPEI and has attracted students from all over the world and Canada including 3 First Nation students out of the 12 in the program this year. Anyone thinking about taking their Bachelor of Education can find more information about the program by going to the UPEI website. I have had the pleasure of meeting the last two groups of classes and must say that from the conversations that I have had with them this course has been life changing for many of them! For all this year's students I would like to wish them well in the upcoming job fair and their practicum placements in various First Nation communities from Lennox Island to New Zealand! Have a great time.



Mi'kmaw 10 Students Connect their Learning to First Nation Communities



Candy Palmater, Gordon Pictou, Maxine Knockwood and Halifax West students displaying the works to be donated.

The weather outside was dark and full of rain but the Halifax West library was full of bright students waiting to donate the artwork they had made to members of the Mi'kmaw community. Ms. Webb wanted to find a way for her students to be able to work through some of the difficult issues they were learning about in class and at the same time connect their learning to the communities they were learning about. Her students created pieces of visual art that interpreted

their learning and on the morning of January 24 in a special gathering donated the 12 pieces of artwork to Candy Palmater (Department of Education and host of the Candy Show), Elder Maxine Knockwood and Gordon Pictou (Glooscap Heritage Centre).

Maxine sang the Honour Song and provided a beautiful opening prayer. Student Heidi Zinck then recited a Rita Joe poem from memory and each of the art recipients was given a chance to speak. Maxine told the students how important to her it was that schools wanted to learn about Mi'kmaq culture and history "we have a rich history and culture and we aren't going anywhere, Mi'kmaq people are going to be here for a long time... hopefully this course will be the start of your learning." Ms. Knockwood then presented Ms. Webb with an eagle feather for her many years of great work as an educator.

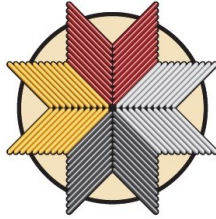


Teacher Marcia Webb accepts eagle feather from Maxine Knockwood.

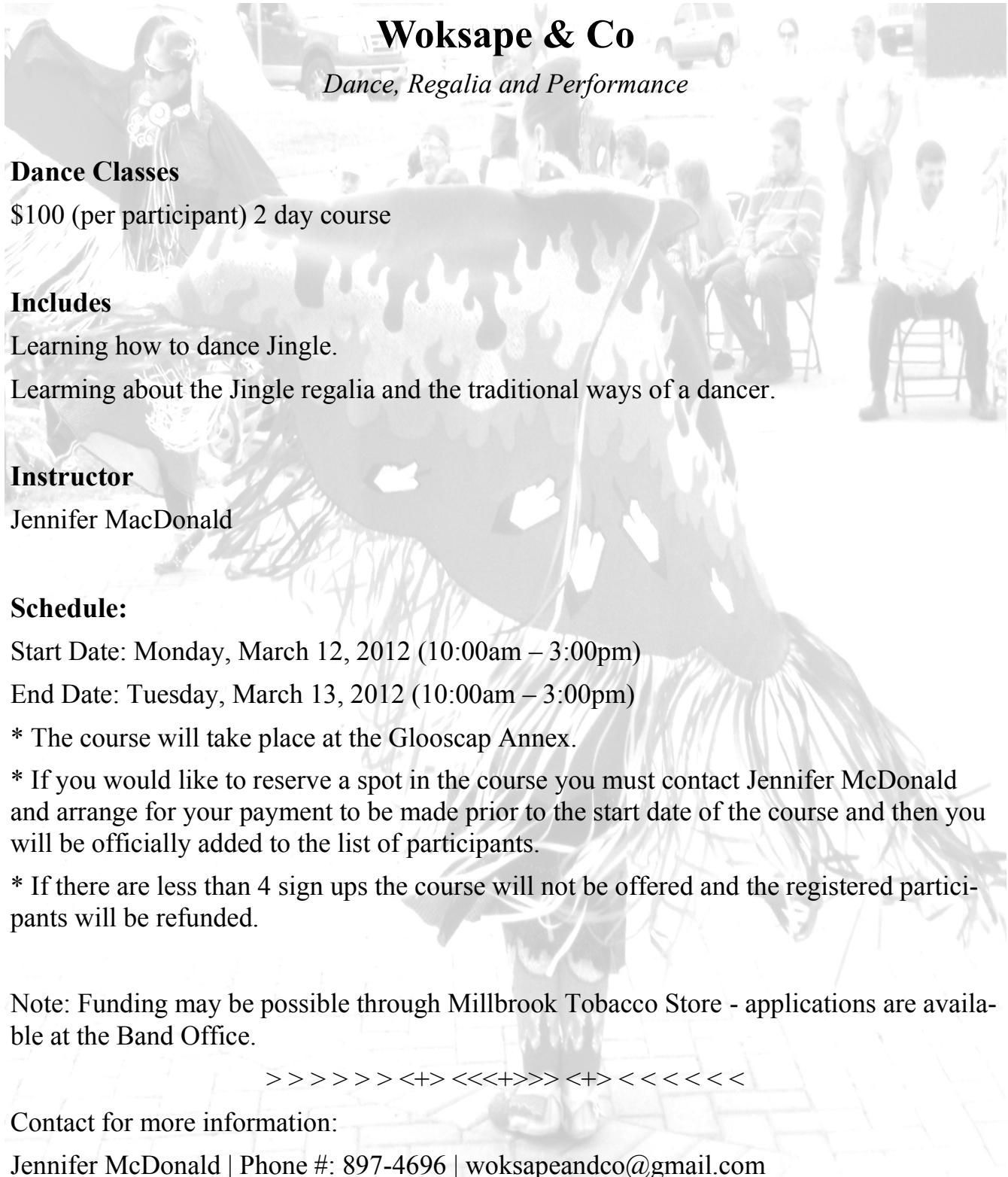
Gordon Pictou thanked Ms. Webb for going the extra mile to get the students involved emotionally with the content of the course. He added "Mi'kmaw 10 didn't exist when I was in high school. Still in too many ways learning about Mi'kmaw perspective is not prevalent in other courses but on days like today it gives me hope that we are moving in the right direction." Candy Palmater in her speech cautioned students to not limit their understanding of Mi'kmaw people to the past because the culture is not static and it is important to understand contemporary issues.

Candy, Maxine and Gord were each presented with four artworks. Candy Palmater told the students that the artwork she received will be proudly displayed on the set of the third season of the Candy Show and in the Department of Education building, Maxine will be displaying the works she received in the Halifax Friendship Centre and the Mi'kmaw Development Centre, and Gord will be exhibiting the pieces he received on the GHC's South Gallery Wall in February.

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Woksape & Co

Dance, Regalia and Performance

Dance Classes

\$100 (per participant) 2 day course

Includes

Learning how to dance Jingle.

Learning about the Jingle regalia and the traditional ways of a dancer.

Instructor

Jennifer MacDonald

Schedule:

Start Date: Monday, March 12, 2012 (10:00am – 3:00pm)

End Date: Tuesday, March 13, 2012 (10:00am – 3:00pm)

* The course will take place at the Glooscap Annex.

* If you would like to reserve a spot in the course you must contact Jennifer McDonald and arrange for your payment to be made prior to the start date of the course and then you will be officially added to the list of participants.

* If there are less than 4 sign ups the course will not be offered and the registered participants will be refunded.

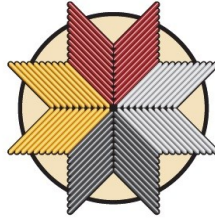
Note: Funding may be possible through Millbrook Tobacco Store - applications are available at the Band Office.

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Contact for more information:

Jennifer McDonald | Phone #: 897-4696 | woksapeandco@gmail.com

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“Through Children’s Eyes” Art Exhibit to Open at the Art Gallery of NS Feb. 9, 2012 at 6pm

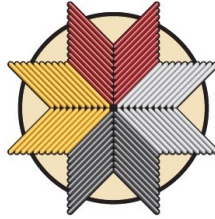


In March 2011 the “Through Children’s Eyes: An L’nu Resource for Exploring the Visual Arts” was published and distributed to On-Reserve Headstart programs throughout the Maritimes and to many other teachers in the elementary school system. This project was generously funded through Health Canada On-Reserve Head Start Atlantic and co-authored by the GHC and the Art Gallery of NS.

Over the course of the last two years On-Reserve Head Start Coordinators were serviced by Mi’kmaw artists Dozay Christmas and Marlene Joudrey and Art Gallery artists Catherine Ewer and Dale Sheppard to teach different ideas about how to make Mi’kmaw connections to history and culture through the creative arts. When the coordinators returned home they tried some of the activities they learned and sent samples of what their 3-5 year old students had produced. Our committee then had the difficult time to choose a representative portion of these works to include in the book and to frame for the exhibit that celebrates children’s unique expression and perception of their world. The “Through Children’s Eyes” exhibit is the culmination of the journey to completing this early educator’s resource.

All are welcomed and encouraged to attend the Grand Opening of the exhibit 6 pm Thursday, Feb 9, 2012 at the AGNS. Everyone is encouraged to celebrate with us the power of art to communicate across culture and age and provide an eloquent look through the eyes of Mi’kmaw children. Hope to see you there!

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Glooscap Theatre

Glooscap Heritage Centre is in the process of developing a new Aboriginal theatre attraction as a core activity at the Glooscap Annex. Theatre lighting, staging and sound have all been installed. Staff have participated in theatre training workshops and currently planning our very first production for invited guests in May, 2012.

Adding capacity to the GHC's current operations, the theatre attraction plans to operate a set number of theatrical events based on the stories of Glooscap aimed at both tour groups and the general public. The Theatre will be run under the auspices of the Heritage Centre and additional staff will be required to work with professionals to develop the stories and theatrical pieces, increasing the capacity of the centre, and the community, and increasing value to the brand of the Glooscap Heritage Centre, while increasing tourism traffic, employment, skills and knowledge in the local Mi'kmaq community.

If you are committed to sharing Mi'kmaq culture and talent through assisting the Glooscap Heritage Centre create and produce a series of aboriginal theatrical presentations the Glooscap Theatre encourages your expression of interest to become involved.

Please send an email to info@glooscapheritagecentre.ca indicating your commitment to the following dates of attending the following theatre training. Your involvement will help create the stories that will be presented. Also, indicate if you would be willing to volunteer in future productions. PLEASE NOTE: There is limited capacity for this opportunity. Not everyone will be accepted.

February 20th 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm

March 26th, 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm

April 10th, 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Three weeks of theatre training – April 23rd – May 11th 9:00 am – 4:00 pm – Monday to Friday

Please indicate if you wish an invitation to attend the live theatre production in May, 2012. Date to be announced.

Mission: Glooscap Theatre strives to educate, inspire, and entertain community members and visitors by celebrating the rich cultural traditions and contemporary relationships in Mi'kma'ki today by providing theatre of the highest quality.



Mi'kmaw words of the Month

Language is a key component to holding on to our history and culture. It's vital because most of our lessons and teachings are through oral traditions. We have many ways to learn through songs, stories, and legends!

We will be featuring a few Mi'kmaw words and phrases each month to help you get started.



1. February/The snow blinder — *Apuknajik*

2. Valentine – *Kesaltultimkewe'l*



3. My Boyfriend – *Ntlpa'tm*

4. Girlfriend – *Te'pite'sm*

5. Heart – *Kamulamun*



6. Candy – *Suitis*

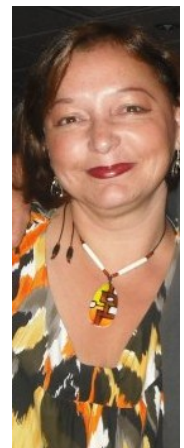
7. Flower — *Wasuek*



Mi'kmaw Language Course

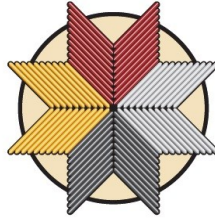
Join Patsy Paul-Martin for a six week introductory Mi'kmaw language course. Classes will be held at the Glooscap Heritage Centre on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 starting February 1st, 2012.

Cost is \$135—Register now to reserve your spot. (Some bursaries may be available for Millbrook Band Members please call for more information).



Patsy Paul-Martin

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Shop Talk

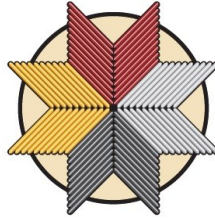
Monague Native Crafts Ltd. started with humble beginnings. Originally selling out in a van that housed the family, then developing a small cottage craft base, and progressing to creating hand-drawn catalogues. 25 years later Monague Native Crafts Ltd. is recognized as a leading supplier of Canadian Native Handicrafts all over the world. Monague Native Crafts Ltd. is proud of its loyal team that is dedicated to the company that they have grown with.



Awarded with the
“Commemorative Medal for the 125th Anniversary of the Confederation of Canada” by the Governor General of Canada, Monague Native Crafts Ltd. is “widely recognized for its significant contribution to compatriots, community and country.”

Monague Native Crafts Ltd. is 100% Native Owned. Each of our item has an enchanting story to tell - stories that help spread messages of our Native Culture around the world.

“The Spirit of Service is in our Family. “



February Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1 Boardroom Booked 10:00-2:00 Tour Cornwallis JHS Language Course 6:30-8:30	2 Annex booked 9-3:30	3 Annex Booked 10-4	4
5	6	7	8 Annex booked 10-12 Language Course 6:30-8:30	9	10 Boardroom 10:00	11
12	13	14	15 Language Course 6:30-8:30	16 Annex Booked 9-4 Tour Hants North Drum Workshop 6:30-9:00	17 Annex booked 8:30-4:30	18
19	20 Annex Theatre workshop	21	22 Language Course 6:30-8:30	23 Drum Workshop 6:30-9:00	24 Annex Booked 10-4	25
26	27 Annex booked 12:30-4:30 Theatre 10-3	28 Annex booked 8:30-4:30 Theatre 8:30-5:00	29 Annex booked 8:30-7:30 Language Course 6:30-8:30			

Please Contact the Glooscap Heritage Centre for more information

65 Treaty Trail, Millbrook, Nova Scotia B6L 1W3 Phone: (902) 843-3493 Fax: (902) 893-2269

info@glooscapheritagecentre.com Website www.glooscapheritagecentre.com

Want to have a meeting in a unique, central and affordable location? Glooscap Heritage Centre may be the ideal solution for your event needs. Call us or email for further details, or visit our website www.glooscapheritagecentre.com