

CBU and Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey Sign Agreement to Expand Access to Education



Cape Breton University (CBU) and Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey (MK) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to increase access to post-secondary education for Mi'kmaw people. As part of this agreement, 17 bursaries, valued at \$3000 each, will be created for Mi'kmaw students, with some previous post-secondary education, who are interested in returning to university. The bursaries will be administered by MK and offered annually for the duration of the two-year pilot project. "Indigenous education has been a significant part of our history for decades and has helped us become

Atlantic Canada's leader in Indigenous post-secondary education.

This agreement with Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey (MK) that will provide financial support to mature Indigenous learners, is an important step to increase opportunities and make education more accessible to a greater number of students. Cape Breton University is very proud of the strong relationship we have with First Nation communities in Nova Scotia, and this agreement with MK will help to strengthen that bond," says David Dingwall, President & Dingwall, Vice-Chancellor, Cape Breton University.

# Signing of MOU (continued)



The intended outcome of the Post-Secondary Education Assistance Initiative is to make admission to post-secondary education easier and more accessible to a greater number of students. Through this program the hope is that there will be an increase in the number of Mi'kmaw people receiving post-secondary education, creating a bridge that

will allow disqualified registered band members to access funding for postsecondary education, that otherwise may not have the opportunity.

Currently, financial assistance to applicants is provided within the limits of the funds available to MK for distribution. The Post-Secondary Education Assistance Initiative will enhance the program already in place by MK and will allow MK to support a greater number of students going forward.

"Programs such as the one CBU will be offering allow our students to have a second chance to reach their goals. We have seen that students who are given access to second chance funding are our success stories and they come back stronger than ever. I am thrilled to hear that CBU is offering this program because I have benefited personally from a program like this and know the opportunities it can create," says Eskasoni Chief Leroy Denny and Board Chair of Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey.

This initiative will help realize CBU's strategic ambitions and aligns with goals within its academic plan. By working together with MK, CBU is responding to community needs and helping to fulfill its vision for Mi'kmaq students.

## Questions with a graduate

Each year, we ask our MK school principals to choose one or two of their high school graduates that would be interested in being featured in our newsletter. We love to honour our grads and are proud to feature some in both the May and June newsletters. Congrats!





What is your name, age, school, and what community are you from?

I am Shane Boyce, I'm 18 years of age. I attend Richmond Education Centre/Academy and I'm from Potlotek First Nation.

What clubs, teams, or groups are you involved in at school, and after-school?

After school I did cheerleading with Richmond cheer athletics.

What's your favourite subject in school?

My favourite subject in school definitely has to be law

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would it be, and why?

If I could go anywhere in the world I would go to Bali in Indonesia because it looks amazing and it would be great to

get to know the culture would be a life changing trip.

#### What do you like to do in your spare time?

In my spare time I like to surf, snowboard, ski and just hang with my family

What are your plans for when you graduate, and why? Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

My plans for when I graduate we're definitely not what they are now but I plan on making the best of the worst situation. I plan on having a barbecue with my family and celebrating my success. In ten years from now I see myself being a lawyer. But I honestly hate that question because it's so typical and something you ask when you have nothing to talk about I feel. In ten years I hope to have travelled to all my destinations I have written down, and just live my life to the fullest!

### Shane Boyce (continued)

#### Do you have a role model? If so, who? And why?

I Is there any question on who my role model would be? Of course not it's definitely Lady Gaga. She's the biggest influence for me because of her kindness, her love for other people and just the way she connects with people and her fans. Her compassion for what she does is amazing and outstanding. If I could be anything close to her and how she handles life would be great.

#### What is your best memory from your high school years?

The best memory is just having a great supports system that I can fall on anytime I need to! My best friends .

#### What is the best thing about your school?

The best thing about my school is the great teaching staff we have! They have tome for all questions and will show you another way of learning if you don't get it the first way.

#### Who has made an impact on you?

The impact I had was the student teacher we had in grade 11, Buffy MacNeil. She was amazing and great and easy to get along with and we just had a great connection and just felt like we were friends for a long time.

Is there something you'd like to see in your school or community that isn't there now?

I'd like to see more school spirit, there wasn't very much but I hope that changes!!

#### Do you have any words of advice, a personal favorite quote, or a thank-you?

"Don't allow people to dim your shine because they are blinded. Tell them to put on some sunglasses" -Lady Gaga

## Questions with a graduate

### **Destiny Meuse**



What is your name, age, school, and what community are you from?

I am Destiny Meuse and I'm 20 years old. I attended L'nu Sipuk Kina'muokuom also known as LSK, from Sipeknekatik.

What clubs, teams, or groups are you involved in at school, and after-school?

I wasn't involved in much but I did go to the LOVE program which happened after school

What's your favourite subject in school?

My favourite subject would have to be math.

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would it be, and why?

If I could go anywhere I I would choose nowhere because the world a scary place right now but I know my community is a safe place while the world resolves it issues.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

In my spare time I tend to clean. Being a new mom is exciting I have so many things to do on my free time

#### What are your plans for when you graduate, and why?

My plan after I graduate is to take a break from school to watch my daughter grow and possibly go back to school when she's in school.

### **Destiny Meuse** (Continued)

#### Do you have a role model? If so, who? And why?

I have so many role models and people I look up to, because what they do mesmerizes and amazes me to watch someone be so determined.

#### What is your best memory from your high school years?

I don't have one favourite memory but I know graduating will be something I will always remember, and the teachers too.

#### What is the best thing about your school?

The best thing about my school is that we have people to encourage us and help us through school, especially our principal Kelly.

#### Who has made an impact on you?

My teacher Craig from HERH helped me and pushed me through rough times and encouraged me to believe that I could complete school, I just have to put my mind to it.

#### Do you have any words of advice, a personal favorite quote, or a thank-you?

A quote that I love is "Live life to the fullest and reach for you goals."

I'd like to thank every who helped me through high school and pushed me to go and helped me when I didn't think I could do it and doubted myself.

## Questions with a graduate





What is your name, age, school, and what community are you from?

My name is Kendra Phillips. I am 18 years old, attending We'koqma'q Mi'kmaw School, and I am from We'koqma'q First Nation.

What clubs, teams, or groups are you involved in at school, and after-school?

Throughout high school, I have played volleyball, was part of the WE committee and the Youth Eagle Program.

What's your favourite subject in school?

My favourite subject was Food Tech.

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would it be, and why?

Bora Bora is my dream vacation - but I'm pora pora.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

What are your plans for when you graduate, and why? What do you see yourself doing ten years from now?

When I graduate, I am going to take my Bachelor of Science. I'd like to become a nurse or Paramedic in the future.

Do you have a role model? If so, who? And why?

My role model is my mother.

### Kendra Phillips (Continued)

#### What is your best memory from your high school years?

My best memories are always in Pam's class. The good, the bad and everything in between

#### What is the best thing about your school?

The best thing about my school is the sense of community because of how small it is. Everyone is close with each other, teachers and all.

#### Who has made an impact on you?

Someone who has made an impact on me are my teachers. They've pushed me to keep in going through school. Especially now with this pandemic going on.

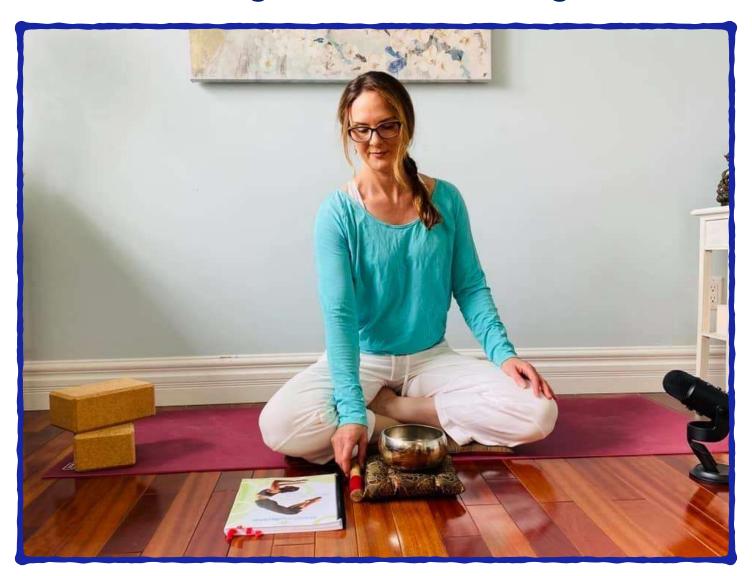
#### Is there something you'd like to see in your school or community that isn't there now?

I'd like to see a youth space where the youth can go and hang out after school or on weekends. A place to study with tutors or just to hang out with friends.

#### Do you have any words of advice, a personal favourite quote, or a thank-you?

Stay on top Thank you to all the staff and students, as well as everyone in the community for supporting the grads of 2020 in our fundraising efforts. Although this is definitely the ending no one saw coming, it's still a great feeling knowing you have the support of an entire community!

# Yoga Teacher Training





This fall,17 participants from MK schools signed up for the Yoga Teacher Training program. They were supposed to meet one weekend a month in order to get their 200 hours required for the completion of the program. The group got together virtually in June and there are plans to get together again in August and hopefully graduate in September. Huge thank to Breathing Space founders Jenny Keirstead and Blair Abbass for supporting this program again this year, especially through all of the challenges we faced.

### New Eskasoni Office

The number of staff members at Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey has been growing. We have grown so much that we have outgrown our space in the Membertou main office. Because of that, the Mi'kmaw Language team has moved to a new office space in Eskasoni. They are really enjoying their new space and Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey is very appreciative that Eskasoni was able to find a space to help accommodate the team. (Missing from photo - Michael R Denny)



### Sipekne'katik

LSK in Sipe'knekatik honoured their students with a drive by celebration this year. The teachers were excited to see all their students!









#### Membertou

The staff at Maupeltuewey Kina'matno'kuom got together for a drive by grading day celebration for their students this year. They wanted to show their appreciation for all of the hard work the students and their families put into this challenging school year.









#### Eskasoni

ESK and EEMS celebrated their K4 graduations by having their students and their families drive by the school in turns to pick up their gifts and certificates. They also received a treat of cotton candy and a snow cone.

All of the teachers were on hand to help with the ceremony which was also live-streamed through their Eskasoni Facebook page.













#### Eskasoni

We love to celebrate all of our students. Jersey Marshall, a student who is graduating from EEMS and moving on to ABMHS in the fall created this writing piece, which will be used as an example for the grade 8 students next year. Great work Jersey and keep that positive attitude!.

#### Positive attitudes

Did you know having a positive attitude can change your whole life? In my opinion, we should all be positive everyday! Especially around our family. This persuasive writing piece will discuss why I believe it is important to have a positive attitude and outlook on life.

I searched on Google, and having a positive attitude is great because it helps with stress management. When you search "stress management", it displays a few questions, one asking "what are the 5 stress management techniques?". When you click on that question, one of the techniques is "smile and laugh". Which are two great ways of showing a positive attitude.

It is also very important because it improves your health and brings optimism into your life. I read on Google that positive thinking provides an increased lifespan and lower rates of depression. Those are two very good things that can come out of being a positive person.

Another reason we should all have positive attitudes is because being positive can change the way we see things in life and according to Google, "a positive attitude is the key to life". Things like that are absolutely amazing to hear, and I hope more people will begin to be more positive.

In conclusion, these reasons give very great examples on why people should be more positive on a daily basis. You can even be positive once a week! All positivity can change the world, we just need to help it change by using it more.

#### Eskasoni

(Story submitted by Clifton Cremo)

At the 49<sup>th</sup> JUNO Awards ceremony held on June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020, you may have spotted a familiar face or two or more on the livestream broadcast. Allison Bernard Memorial High Schools' Music and Technology teacher, Carter Chiasson, was the recipient of the MusiCounts Teacher of the Year award.

Originally scheduled to be held in Saskatoon in March of this year, the JUNO Awards were canceled due to safety concerns regarding Covid-19. Instead, the awards were announced during an online event this June. The MusiCounts Teacher of the Year award presentation occurred during the livestream broadcast between presentations for "Group of the Year" and "World Music Album of the Year".

MusiCounts were in town in our community of Eskasoni this past February working with Carter and his students to produce a video package to accompany the presentation of the award, which can be seen here: 2020 MusiCounts Teacher of the Year - Carter Chiasson

It is so incredible to see our staff and students being recognized for their hard work and talent on a national stage.

Congratulations once again to Carter Chiasson, and all the students and staff at



# Chief Noel Doucette and Mi'kmaw Language Awards

Each year, Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey recognizes students in each community for two awards. Last year, we made an effort to present the award in each community at graduations or grading day ceremonies. Due to the restrictions this year, we weren't able to be present in the communities but thanks to the help of Education Directors, Principals and Chiefs, the awards have been or will be delivered to students across the province.

Some communities choose to honour 1 student for each award. Others feel that there is more than one student who met the criteria to earn the award and they choose to split the award prize between 2 or more students. Whatever the case may be, we are so proud of all of these students for their work!

#### Chief Noel Doucette Award

The Chief Noel Doucette award is an award created by the Board of Directors in memory of Chief Noel Doucette, the first Chairperson of Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey and a strong advocate for Mi'kmaw education and the preservation of the Mi'kmaw language and culture. This award goes to a student who does their best to promote and celebrate Mi'kmaw language and culture.

#### Mi'kmaw Language Award

The Mi'kmaw Language Award goes to a student who has the highest mark in their Mi'kmaw language class OR to a student who uses and promotes the use of Mi'kmaw both inside and outside of their classroom.













# Chief Noel Doucette and Mi'kmaw Language Awards

#### **Chief Noel Doucette Award**

Cameron Denny
Destiny Meuse
Lorelei Joe Pierro
Rodney Martin-Googoo
Gavin Michael
Shane Boyce
Presley Isadore
Calvin Blades
Cayden MacEachern
Debra MacEachern
Jansen Beadle
Malaika Joudry Martel

Milidow Joudry Martel

#### Mi'kmaw Language Award

Dale Stevens Jeddore
Brody Knockwood
Kennedy Syliboy
Lorne Denny
Oliver Bernard
Dante Isadore
Faith Battiste
Brittany Knockwood
Lacey Pennell
Hannah MacEachern
Sophie Mills-Deal
Bruin Mudge
Coralee Comeau
Brock Meuse
Shyla Morrison











# Graduations

Although graduations looked a little different this year, they were just as special and definitely memorable! Congrats to all the grads of 2020!























### **Pre-university Writing Workshop**



# Are you interested in improving your academic writing skills before you head off to university or college?

If so, you have an opportunity to attend a four-day workshop to do just that. The workshop will be a timely review of how to write term/research papers. This review will be done online using the *Google Meet* platform. Liam Walker and Chris Gallant, both ELA teachers at Allison Bernard Memorial High School, will co-facilitate the workshop. During the four-day workshop, Liam and Chris will provide explicit instruction as you engage in writing a research paper on a topic of your choice. As well, they will provide individual support and valuable feedback to help your writing improve. As a result, you will be better prepared for your first year at university or community college. So, sharpen those pencils and sign up for this awesome opportunity.

#### <u>Details:</u>

Where: Google Classroom/Google Meet

When: August 17, 18, 19, 20 (Monday – Thursday)

Time: 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

#### How do you register?

If you are interested in attending this four-day workshop, please email Brenda MacIsaac, Literacy Consultant at Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey brenda@kinu.ca

#### In your email, include the following information:

- 1. The high school you graduated from
- 2. The year you graduated
- 3. The program you are enrolled in so instruction can be planned to suit your needs (Arts, Business, Science, or something other than these)
- 4. The university, college, or post-graduation institution you will be attending
- \*\* We want to be able to provide one on one support, so we have an enrollment cap of 20 students. Register early to make sure you reserve one of the available spots!!

**An added bonus:** During your year at university or college, Liam and Chris will be available to provide ongoing support as you are assigned term and or research papers. They will provide you with their email addresses so you can contact them if/when needed.

# Donald Marshall Sr. Memorial Scholarship Fund

### **Terms and Conditions Application**

The terms and conditions listed below are based on an agreement between Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey, representing the Mi'kmaw post-secondary students of Nova Scotia First Nations, and Mrs. Caroline Marshall-Hobbs, wife of the late Grand Chief Donald Marshall, Mi'kmaw Grand Council.

- The objective of the Donald Marshall Sr. Memorial Scholarship Fund is to support Mi'kmaw post- secondary students at the diploma, certificate, bachelor and graduate level in their field of study sealed from institution.
- The Donald Marshall Sr. Memorial Scholarship Fund will contribute two annual scholarships for one thousand dollars (\$1,000) each on or before October 1 (Treaty Day) of each calendar year. One for undergraduate studies and one for graduate studies.
- Must be a registered Mi'kmaq from Nova Scotia First Nations or be on the Nova Scotia General Band Registry.
- Must be a PSE graduate or a postsecondary student continuing in their field of study.
- Must submit official transcripts from registrar's office.
- Please submit application and essay post marked no later than the deadline of Aug. 21, 2020 no later than 12:00 pm. To apply online visit: https://forms.gle/ yRQiv9U4Do1kCKB99

Type of award applied for:

(Please print clearly)

Undergraduate _	Graduate (Masters or higher)
Name:	
Address:	1 301
1000	11
Email:	
Phone:	
Degree Program:	16/636
Year of Study: Bai	nd Number:
Band Name:	

# Applicant must submit a two-page essay advising committee as to the following:

- Educational goals
- 2. Career plans
- 3. Volunteer work
- School activities
- Barriers student has had to overcome to do well in their field of study
- Cultural/community activities
- 7. Awards

Send to:

Donald Marshall Sr. Memorial Scholarship Fund Committee Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey 47 Maillard Street

Membertou, Nova Scotia B1S 2P5

Phone: (902) 567 0336 Fax: (902) 567 0337 Email: <u>claire@kinu.ca</u>

Late or incomplete applications will NOT be considered

# Sister Dorothy Moore Mi'kmaq Education Scholarships

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

\*\*Applicants must be a Mi'kmaw person and a registered Band Member of a NS First Nation community.

- 1. Please type or print clearly
- Submit a completed application form and all related documents as outlined in Application Requirements
- Deadline to submit application is August 21, 2020 by 12:00PM. To apply online go to: https://forms.gle/QGZyAJskr5SqdCYE9
- Incomplete or late applications will NOT be considered

#### **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:**

- A) Enrolled in a Bachelor of Education Program
- B) Completed Application Form
- C) Resume

Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey

- D) Personal Essay
- E) 2 Support Letters
- F) Official transcripts from registrar's office
- G) Provide proof of acceptance to a Post-Secondary Institution

#### PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Name:	Email:
	Phone #
	Band Number:
Band Name:	
PROGRAM ENROLLMENT	
Name of Academic Institution:	
Have you received confirmation of	acceptance? Yes No (please circle)
Expected Year of Completion:	
I certify that I have carefully read	he foregoing application form and that all information provided is accurate.
Signature:	Date:

## Deadline: Friday, Aug. 21 by 12:00 pm

Forward completed application package via email to claire@kinu.ca, or by mail to:
Sister Dorothy Moore Mi'kmaq Education Scholarship
Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey
47 Maillard Street
Sydney, NS B1S 2P5

# **Upcoming Events**

Have a safe and healthy summer!



Have an event or story idea you'd like to see in the September newsletter?

Contact Shara at shara@kinu.ca or 567-0336 ext.5603