



MI'GMAQ
CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES
OF NEW BRUNSWICK



2021-2022

ANNUAL REPORT







Seven Sacred Teachings

1. **LOVE** - Love is the gift carried by the Eagle. Love is a force that is undeniable. With love all things are possible
2. **WISDOM** - Wisdom is the gift carried by the Beaver. Wisdom is not to be confused with knowledge. To cherish knowledge is to know wisdom
3. **COURAGE** - Courage is the gift carried by the Bear. We seek the strength and courage to face out greatest enemy oneself. It takes courage to do what is right.
4. **RESPECT** - Respect is the gift carried by the Buffalo. In all life respect is the first and foremost. Respect oneself and respect will be bestowed. To honor all creating is to have respect.
5. **HONESTY** - Honesty is the gift carried by the Sabe (Sasquatch). Be honest with yourself and others. Speak from the heart and be true to your world.
6. **HUMILITY** - Humility is the gift carried by the Wolf. Think of others before yourself. Humble yourself to the Great Spirit by being thankful.
7. **TRUTH** - Truth is the gift carried by the Turtle. Always seek truth. Living the truth is living the Seven Sacred Teachings.



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Samantha Paul

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as the Executive Director of Mi'gmaq Child and Family Services of New Brunswick Inc. [MCFSNB]

I am so very fortunate to be surrounded by a dedicated team of professionals as well as our Board of Directors comprised of the Chiefs of our six-member communities.

The success of our prevention program is a testament to our dedicated personnel, and to the incredible staff that we have added to our teams. We continue to strive to work towards a model of Indigenous child welfare excellence, exceeding existing standards of keeping families intact whenever possible by putting services in place and working collaboratively with other service providers to ensure the best interests of the child are met.

In the upcoming year, many activities will be undertaken by our wonderful team to ensure our key priorities are met. Our organization will also continue to promote and grow excellent culturally strong prevention programs for all children, youth, and families.

I want to thank all the staff of MCFSNB for giving me the opportunity to lead and work with them as we continue to grow the programs that strengthen their communities. Also, I want to thank our Board of Directors for all their support and for trusting and empowering our excellent team to work in their communities.

We are committed to growing a strong organization that supports and enhances service delivery in each of your communities.

Sincerely,

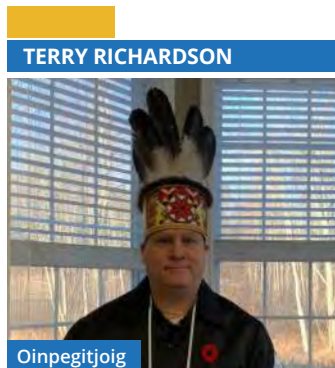


- Samantha Paul

Executive Director

Mi'gmaq Child and Family Services of NB Inc

MEET OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



MEET OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM



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OUR FOUNDATION

WHAT ARE OUR CORE BELIEFS?

We are guided by the Touchstone Principles of First Nations child welfare: self-determination, non-discrimination, holistic and structural interventions, and respect, for culture and language. These principles were developed by the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society under the leadership of Cindy Blackstock.



EARLY CHILD
DEVELOPMENT
CENTERS



Natoaganeg Class of 2021

- Children get to enjoy the experience of graduating each level of programming.

Metepenagiag Class of 2021

- The future Indigenous leaders of the world. Let the fun begin.





PREVENTION-BASED PROGRAMS

Mi'gmaq Child & Family Services of New Brunswick continues to create and grow prevention programs in our communities. Our prevention programs aim to be holistic, culturally appropriate, trauma-informed, and are dedicated to working in the best interests of the child.

The immediate goal of prevention work is to stop children from coming into care by providing services in the home that maintain and enhance family functioning. The long-term goal is to support families through a traditional or cultural path, and to help our communities grow capacity and promote lasting resilience. Early prevention programs have received positive feedback from the families involved and we have seen more community members, and entire family groups come, to us for assistance before they reach a critical point in their situations. We look forward to continuing to bolster these programs in the coming years.



Culture will always be the number one factor when it comes to teaching our children. The Mi'gmaq Cultural Coordinators continue to practice, teach and learn their culture. Each of the MCC's work hard to make sure their communities keep the culture and language alive through Mi'gmaq language and songs, how to make/use hand drums, sewing, beading, harvesting and preserving food, building a sweat lodge, and the importance of traditional ceremonies.

Meet our cultural coordinators:



METEPENAGIAG (RED BANK)

Nin teloisi Victoria Augustine. I am a Spiritual Healer and Elder of Metepenagiag. My Spiritual Native name is Nukumi Samqwan (Grandmother Waters). I speak the Mi'gmaq language and offer cultural teachings like drumming. These cultural teachings help the community be proud of who they are as Indigenous people and learn the history and values of our Traditional ways. I integrate my knowledge and wisdom by living my life of the Seven Sacred Grandfather teachings. We are here to survive and be resilient in our way.



AMLAMGOG (FORT FOLLY FIRST NATION)

Kwe' Nin teloisi Nicole Porter, niin Oigi Amlamgog. I am the Mi'gmaq Cultural Coordinator for Amlamgog First Nation. I had the desire to get reconnected to my culture so my kids could have that connection as well. I will continue my cultural journey by building relationships with other Knowledge Keepers and Elders Then, bring these teachings back to my community thru ceremonies and other cultural events. Nmultes





TJPOGTOTJG (BUCTOCHE FIRST NATION)

Niin teloisi Manuella Caravantes, I am the Mi'gmaq Cultural Coordinator in Tjipogtog First Nation. Being an MCC through Migmaw Child and Family Services is one of the most rewarding positions I've had. Watching our youth take an interest in making their regalia and dancing at powwows always amazes me. Helping our children to become proud of, and interested in our ceremonies like, smudging, singing, and dancing is an honor. My mom always taught me the importance of language, culture, and being proud of who you are. I want to be a part of bringing that back to our people



UPDATES FROM OUR COMMUNITIES

NATOAGANEG (EEL GROUND)

This year has been busy and exciting with all the anticipated changes and infrastructure coming to Natoaganeg. The new building, in this community, will house the Child and Family social workers, family support workers, and youth coordinators. We are eager to move into our new offices sometime in the summer months.

The community will see construction continue with a large solar field going up next to the building . This will reduce carbon emissions, and offer a renewable energy source for the building. We are also looking forward to using this as a teaching tool for the youth in our programs.



METEPENAGIAG (RED BANK)

This year has been filled with activity due to the construction taking place in Metepenagiag. We are looking forward to having our team in one building (Social Workers, Youth Coordinators, and Family Support Workers) and coming together to support the families in our community

The Nukumi House, together with the Mi'gmaq Cultural Coordinator, has been actively providing programs and services focused on youth and family wellness within the community. Some of the notable activities from the past year involved engaging our teenagers in crafting hand drums and beaded chokers. We also organized sessions for children to create medicine pouches. Additionally, we enjoyed spending time together fishing, kayaking, and swimming in the picturesque Miramichi River.



AMLAMGOG (FORT FOLLY)

Over the past year, Mi'gmaq Child and Family Services in Fort Folly has seen growth in the programs we were able to offer the community, these included, but were not limited to, homework sessions, movies, game/painting nights, cooking classes, petting zoos, and workshops to advance the mental, emotional and developmental well being of the child.

Nukumi House offered cultural programs like language, and beading classes, sharing circles, drumming/ singing circles, regalia-making workshops, and organizing sweat lodges and full moon ceremonies for all in the community to attend. We have also seen the creation of programming to enhance the wellness and mental health of the community through physical fitness.

We can only imagine what Mi'gmaq Child and Family Services has in store for our community in the future. One thing for sure is that when we all come together for the benefit of the children the sky is the limit for us.



OINPEGITJOIG (PABINEAU)

During the past year, we were lucky to have our Mi'gmaq Child and Family Services team grow significantly. With the new additions, we have come together to ensure that the children in our community have the best lives possible with the support they need to thrive.

Some of the most successful activities this year were the trip to the Aquarium in Shippagan, the Aqua Park in Tracadie, tubing with the graduates on the Miramichi River, and many more adventures.

We had drum and rattle-making sessions, medicine walks, and berry-picking outings. We offered a program based on the 7 Sacred Teachings and we were able to prepare meals for the community and host a fall photo shoot.

I want to share my gratitude to all community members for their participation over the last year. We always have a great turnout at all our activities and it is very much appreciated. It's by working together that we will ensure that our community has a bright and promising future



LNO MINIGO (INDIAN ISLAND)

We are excited about the new staff that has joined Mi'gmaq Child and Family Services over the past year, along with the construction of our Child and Family Development Centre, will provide us with more space for the community and allow us to organize even more activities.

Over this last year, we were able to host many exciting opportunities and outings in the community for our children and youth. This past summer we had a great turnout for our summer program and the kids had lots of fun.



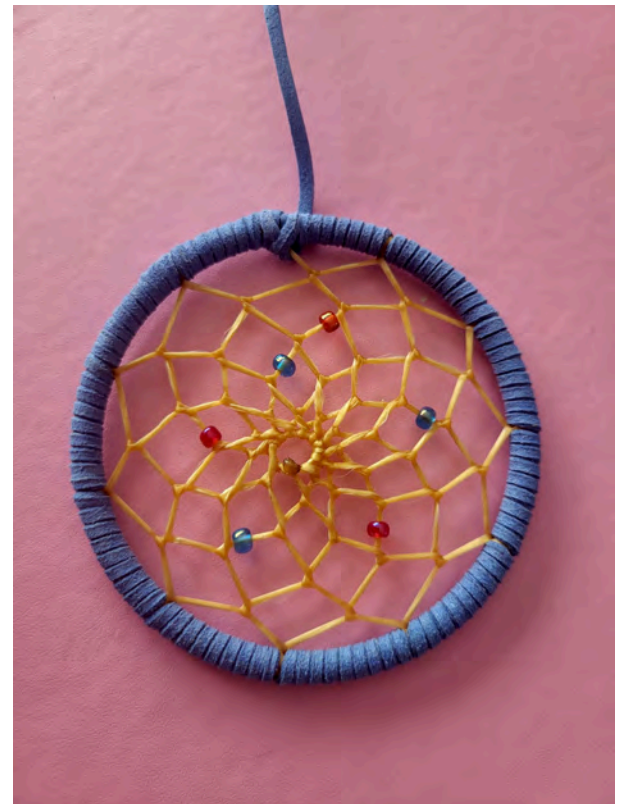
TJIPOGTOTJG (BUCTOUCHE)

Our Mi'gmaq Child & Family Development Center has been growing and due to the space requirements we have been temporarily using a re-purposed space, provided by the band, and are processing the application with ISC for a new building. This safe space provides the youth with a place to express themselves and participate in many activities.

Some of the outings we were able to go on include going to the Sports Dome, bowling, as well as participating in a paint-ball tournament with youth from other First Nation Communities.

Our Mi'gmaq Cultural Coordinator was able to offer many cultural activities and ceremonies to the community.

We look forward to continuing to offer ongoing teachings to the community to keep the culture strong.



OUR STRATEGIC PLAN 2023- 2027

We are working with Kensington Associates to develop our new Strategic Plan for the next 5-years. Our new plan will have a primary focus on Prevention Based Programming and continuing to develop our Cultural Programming. We look forward to sharing this in the upcoming fiscal annual report.

OUR VISION

Indigenous communities where all children, youth, and families are healthy, safe, and can reach their full potential; where each child and youth are heard and where their best interests are affirmed and protected.



OUR MISSION

The Mi'gmaq Child and Family Services of New Brunswick Inc. is an incorporated not-for-profit organization that champions the fundamental rights of Indigenous children, youth, and their families and delivers services that result in better lives for vulnerable children, youth, their families, and their communities.

OUR VALUES

- Healthy children, youth and families
- Seven Sacred Teachings:
 - WISDOM
 - LOVE
 - RESPECT
 - BRAVERY
 - HONESTY
 - HUMILITY
 - TRUTH
- Indigenous rights
- Cultural safety
- Accountability
- Fairness



HUMAN RESOURCES



2021 - 2022 year we had 63% of our staff who were Indigenous. 55% of our management team was also comprised of Indigenous staff. We continue to strive to hire, train, and maintain our staff with many competitive benefits and compensations.



EAP (EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM) SAGE:

We are very proud to offer the EAP to all our employees and their immediate family members 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If you are in distress or need some mental health support, we strongly encourage you to call SAGE: 1-506-857-3258 or 1-800-390-3258

They can assist with many concerns, like

- ❖ couple and family relationships
- ❖ work-life balance
- ❖ psychological health (stress management, anxiety)
- ❖ work difficulties (conflict, dealing with change)
- ❖ crisis counseling and suicide intervention

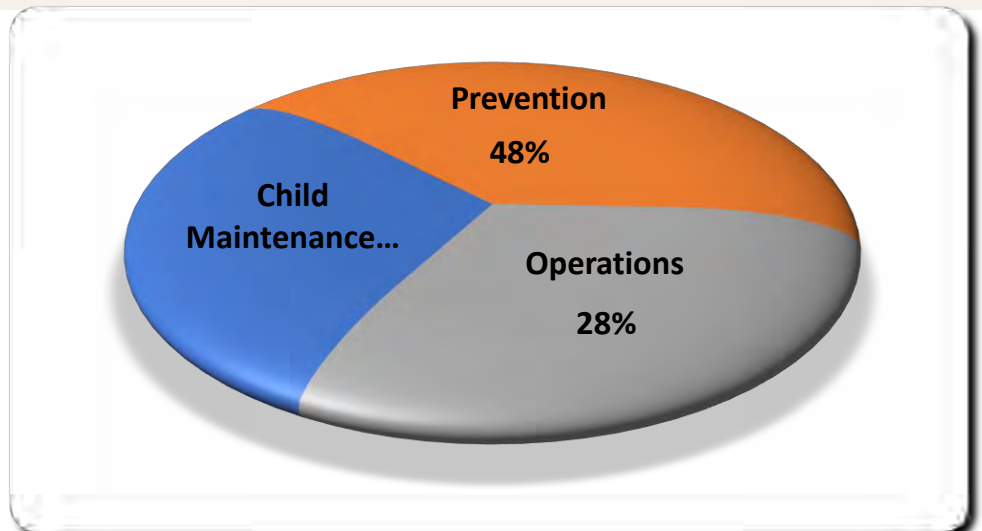
Calls answered by mental health professionals
100% Confidential Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year

PENSION & BENEFITS

Mi'gmaq Child and Family Services of NB Inc. Fiscal Summary 2021-04-01 to 2022-03-31

Deduction	Amount	No. Of Employees
Pension	\$200,092.65	92
Health & Dental	\$70,674.47	59
LTD	\$79,709.58	94
Total Pension & Benefits	\$350,476.70	

Department	Expenses
Child Maintenance	\$ 3,365,424.00
Prevention	\$ 6,603,587.00
Operations	\$ 3,789,127.00
Total Expenses	\$ 13,758,138.00



Child Maintenance

Direct costs of placing First Nation children into temporary care out of the parental home (such as foster care rates, group home rates, kinship services, adoption services, special needs services, independent living, post guardianship, etc.)

Prevention

Resources for enhanced prevention services (Mi'gmaq Family Development, Mi'gmaq Cultural Coordinators, Family Group Conferencing, Nukumi Houses, Youth Programs, Parental Support, etc.)

Operations

Core and operational funding for Child and family services (such as salaries and overhead)



HOW TO FIND US

MI'GMAQ CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

TIPOGTOGTJITJ (BUCTOUCHE)

FIRST NATION

123 Reserve Road
Buctouche, NB E4S 4G3
Tel: (506) 743-2524

AMLAMGOG (FORT FOLLY)

FIRST NATION

38B Bernard Trail
Dorchester, NB E4K 3V5
Tel: (506) 700-2591

LNO MINIGOG (INDIAN ISLAND)

FIRST NATION

54 Mi'Kmaq Lane
Indian Island, NB E4W 0H9
Tel: (506) 523-8899

NATOAGANEG (EEL GROUND)

FIRST NATION

50-A Church Road
Eel Ground, NB E1V 4E6
Tel: (506) 773-1137

OINPEGITJOIG (PABINEAU)

FIRST NATION

1276 Pabineau Falls Road Pabineau
First Nation, NB E2A 6T7
Tel: (506) 350-1055

METEPENAGIAG (RED BANK)

FIRST NATION

59 Indian Gardens Road
Red Bank Reserve, NB E9E 1T2
Tel: (506) 627-8902

MI'GMAQ CHILD AND FAMILY EARLY DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

TIPOGTOGTJITJ (BUCTOUCHE)

EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT

123 Reserve Road
Bouctouche, NB E4S 4G3
Tel: (506) 743-2173

AMLAMGOG (FORT FOLLY)

EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT

38C Bernard Trail
Dorchester, NB E4K 3V5
Tel: (506) 379-3409

LNO MINIGO (INDIAN ISLAND)

EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT

62 Mi'Kmaq Lane
Indian Island, NB E4W 0H9
Tel: (506) 523-4371

NATOAGANEG (EEL GROUND)

EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT

55 Church Road
Eel Ground, NB E1V 4E6
Tel: (506) 627-4612

OINPEGITJOIG (PABINEAU)

EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT

1280 Pabineau Falls Road Pabineau
First Nation, NB E2A 6T7
Tel: (506) 547-8005

METEPENAGIAG (RED BANK)

EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT

1924 Mic Mac Road
Red Bank, NB E9E 2P2
Tel: (506) 627-8902

EMERGENCY

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY SERVICES

(AHSS) 1-800-442-9799

GENERAL INFORMATION

1-800-543-8611

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www.mcfnsb.ca

INTAKE & INVESTIGATIONS REFERRALS

Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm

Jacob Norton - 506-232-6943

or

Mylene Morris - 506-251-3743





**CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES
OF NEW BRUNSWICK**



www.mcfsnb.ca