

# Consultation Newsletter Wolastoqey Nation

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Issue 5



## WNNB Update

The Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick (WNNB) consists of:

- Consultation Director: Shyla O'Donnell (Shyla.Odonnell@wtci-nb.ca)
- Administrative Assistant: Brett Collins (admin@wtci-nb.ca)
- Ethnohistorian: Dr. Jason Hall (Jason.Hall@wtci-nb.ca)
- GIS Technician: Thomas Herbreteau (Thomas.Herbreteau@wtci-nb.ca)
- Forestry Advisor: Angie Paul (Angie.Paul@wtci-nb.ca)
- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Coordinator: Deana Sappier (Deana.Sappier@wtci-nb.ca)
- HR/Finance: Sandra Polchies (Sandra.Polchies@wtci-nb.ca)
- Fisheries Biologist: Dr. Colin Curry (Colin.Curry@wtci-nb.ca)
- Atlantic Link Liaison: Stone Bear (Stone.Bear@wtci-nb.ca)

WNNB now has a facebook page called: Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/676375235894529/>

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## Strategic Rights Plan Study - Update

The Strategic Rights Plan (SRP) is now entering the Community Engagement portion of the study which aims to:

*Document where things are today with regards to how and to what extent the Wolastoqey are currently engaged in Traditional Uses and what barriers we currently face in pursuing harvesting, etc.*

Community engagement will include:

- Community Working Groups (up to 5 community members the plus Resource Development Consultation Coordinator) who will help shape the outcome of the study by identifying gaps and verifying the information collected by the Wolastoqey project team (see June 2017 newsletter for more information on project team).
- Community input from door to door surveys and an online survey
- Community interviews

### Survey

The intent of the survey is to help determine:

- How many members are currently engaged in Traditional Use;
- The extent of harvest and consumption (or other use) of items gathered through Traditional Use;
- The extent to which individuals and families are no longer able to engage or benefit from Traditional Use.

An example question: on average, over the past two years, how often have you had a meal of any of the following traditional foods? (list of foods will include: moose, deer, hare/rabbit, duck, bear, etc.).

## Strategic Rights Plan (continued)

Door to door surveys will be selected randomly, aiming to reach 20% of the community. The surveyor will have a token of appreciation (\$50) for completing the survey for the household (only one survey per household).

Surveyors include:

- Diane Richard – Madawaska
- Rosha Sappier – Tobique
- Trudi Cummings – Woodstock
- Gordon Grey – Kingsclear
- Raven Polches - St. Mary's
- Zeke Crofton-MacDonald – Oromocto

Additionally, off reserve members may participate in an online survey for a chance to win a \$100 dollar gift card. The online survey can be found at:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SRP\\_Plan](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SRP_Plan)

For more information regarding the Strategic Rights Plan, there is a video located on WNNB's facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/676375235894529/>

The information from the survey is confidential (names and house addresses will not be linked to your information). Information from your survey will only be used to develop, analyze and report on summarized information from the survey.

## First Nation Border Crossing Issues

On July 11, 2017, there was an engagement session held in Fredericton, NB regarding First Nations' border crossing issues. This was in response to a recommendation from the Standing Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples in which the federal government wanted to understand the issues of First Nations in border communities and to explore possible solutions to their challenges.

Issues identified included:

- Lack of recognition of inherent rights
  - Potential solutions included:
    - ratification by Canada of the Jay Treaty
    - legislative or other framework for recognition of rights
- Adverse impact on family and cultural connections
  - Potential solutions included:
    - relax restrictions on entry for Native Americans having a criminal offence on record
    - review import restrictions related to traditional medicines, etc.
- Acceptability of identity documents at ports of entry
- Issues with treatment by Canadian Border Service officers
  - Potential solutions included:
    - cultural awareness training for officers
    - increased hiring of First Nations people as officers
- Restrictions on trade and personal goods
  - Potential solutions included:
    - Relaxation of import duty rules for communities close to the US border
- Location of ports of entry

The report can be found at: <http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1506622719017/1506622893512>

# Lake Utopia: Unexploded Explosive Ordnance (UXO) Investigation

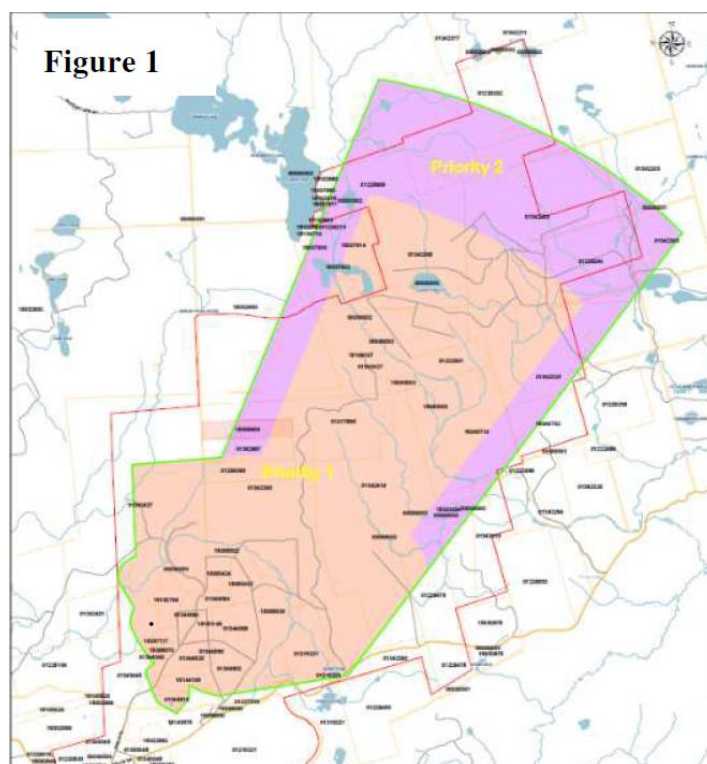
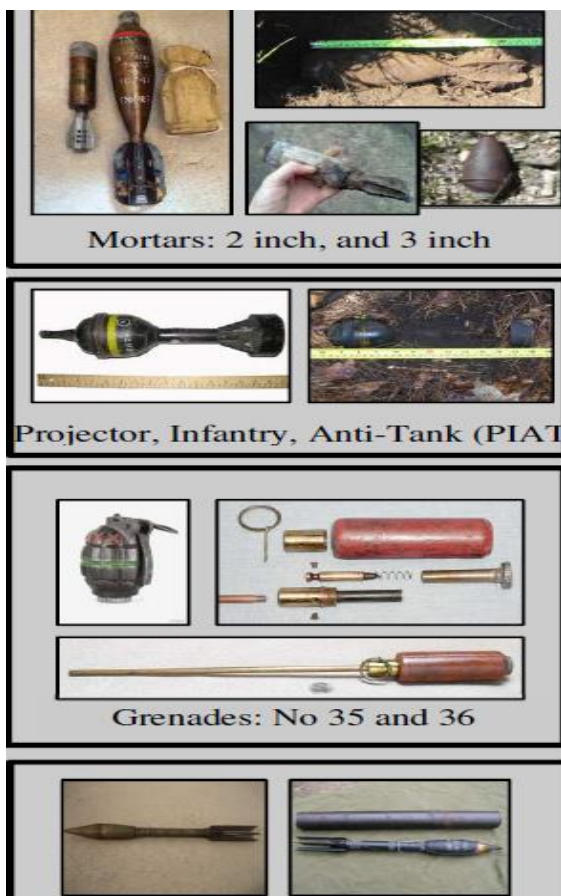
All land users who harvest in the Lake Utopia area should be aware that the Department of National Defence (DND) will be performing a UXO investigation of the former Utopia ranges area from October 10 – December 14, 2017.

To prepare for conflicts, the military used training activities which involved the use of live ammunition, some of which did not explode. These old munitions are called UXO, which stands for unexploded ordnance. UXO is still present at some of these former and current training locations and continue to be dangerous.

The former military Camp Utopia were used for infantry training during and post WWII until closure in the late 1950s. Anyone entering the former ranges (see figure below) are advised to keep alert and digging should be avoided.

**STOP**

- **Don't touch it!**
- **Remember the location and leave the area.**
- **Call 911 (local police).**



**Above:** location of former Utopia camp

**Left:** potential munitions that were used

# Energy East Pipeline Update

On September 8, 2017, the National Energy Board (NEB) granted Energy East Pipeline 30 days to review the final List of Issues and Environmental Assessment Factors for the Decision and the implications for the project.

After completing a review of the factors, the existing and likely future delays resulting from the regulatory process, the associated cost implications and the issues facing the project, Energy East Pipeline Ltd., has decided not to go forward with their proposed Energy East Pipeline Project.

## Community Update

There was a community engagement meeting with Emera on Friday November 20<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of this open house was to inform the community on the new Atlantic Link Project. Atlantic Link is a new, approximately 375-mile subsea high-voltage direct current (HVDC) interconnection that will deliver new wind energy and hydropower from Atlantic Canada to Massachusetts.

On Monday November 6<sup>th</sup>, there will be a community engagement session at 5:00 pm in the Culture Room. Tommi Linnansaari Kurt Samway as well as Colin Curry will be here to discuss a Salmon Recovery Program. The open house will cover the current salmon situation on the Wolastoq, what a Smolt-to-Adult Supplementation program looks like, the success of similar programs elsewhere in NB, and what help the CRI can offer if the Wolastoqiyik decide to move forward on a project.

Jesse Sabattis has been working on a number of projects under the Environmental Trust Fund. Trail Enhancement, Community Events, a Recycling Project and Education Modules directed towards the grade 4/5 class of Wulastukw Elementary School. Jesse has completed one education module for WES which was an introduction to the Wolastoq watershed. The module covered basic science of a watershed and traditional knowledge of how our nation lived sustainably with the environment

Gordon Gray has been assigned as Project Coordinator for the AFSAR "Bridging the Gap", which aims to promote the conservation of Species at Risk (SAR) and their habitat through the development of a community stewardship plan. Gordon will be in contact with reps from DERD and DFO regarding these 5 species; Butternut, Furbish Lousewort, Shortnose Sturgeon, Wood Turtle, and Yellow Lamp mussel. Information packages will be distributed in the near future.

The Wolastoqey Nation is looking to create a database of potential environmental field monitors, archaeological field monitors and persons interested in working in either field.

If you would like your resume to be included in the database, please send a copy of your resume to your community RDCC (see below for names). Please indicate in a general cover letter your level of experience and if you are willing to work throughout New Brunswick (or if you would like to stay within a certain region).

### Contact Information:

If you have any questions about the content of this newsletter and would like more information, please contact your community RDCC.

- Madawaska – Russ Letica (506-735-1744) email: [leticaruss@yahoo.com](mailto:leticaruss@yahoo.com)
- Tobique – Jamie Gorman (506-273-5544) email: [matewas@gmail.com](mailto:matewas@gmail.com)
- Woodstock – Amanda McIntosh (506-325-3570) email: [amanda3mcintosh@gmail.com](mailto:amanda3mcintosh@gmail.com)
- Kingsclear – Natasha Sacobie (506-363-3028 ext. 143) email: [natashasacobie@kingsclear.ca](mailto:natashasacobie@kingsclear.ca)
- St. Mary's – Timothy Plant (506-459-2200 ext. 126) email: [timothyplant@smfn.ca](mailto:timothyplant@smfn.ca)
- Oromocto – Fred Sabattis (506-478-4929) email: [tamagun@rogers.com](mailto:tamagun@rogers.com)
- Oromocto (Assistant RDCC) email: [zcroftonmacdonald@gmail.com](mailto:zcroftonmacdonald@gmail.com)

