

Community Enhancement Development

Community Enhancement Development has ongoing programs, which are delivered throughout the year.

Community Based Water Monitoring Program- Annual training and conference takes place in Dartmouth at the NSCC Waterfront Campus. Duties of the Community Based Water Monitor entail that sample collections be collected from four locations on the Yarmouth Reserve and these are tested by the water monitor for coliforms and E Coli. The chlorine is measured using the HACH Pocket Colorimeter, this information is recorded weekly in the Water Monitor Logbook and results entered into Watertrax. Water Trax is a Web based data system and funding for this program is delivered through Health Canada- FNIHB- Atlantic Region. A Water Audit had been performed in Yarmouth at the Acadia First Nation Health Centre.

Community Diabetes Prevention Worker Program Diabetes Prevention and Healthy Living

Working with the Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative Team, Ann Gottschell(UNSI), Angela MacDonald, Dietician (UNSI) and the Community Diabetes Prevention Worker, Melanie Purdy, had organized informative workshops over the past year in Yarmouth, Gold River, Wildcat and Hammonds Plains. These workshops will continue and they specialize in lowering blood pressure and cholesterol, healthy eating, preparing meals on a budget, diabetes, heart and stroke awareness, physical activity and many other topics that are geared toward the improvement of the quality of life for our First Nation people and their families.

Community Diabetes Prevention Worker Program continuing training and education was held in Moncton for workers in March.

Community Enhancement Development

Mi'kmaq Legal Support Network Meetings are held in Acadia First Nation, as well as Justice Circles, sentencing circles and healing circles, if there are any Elders who wish to sit on these Justice Circles and/or Sentencing Circles please contact Melanie.

Yarmouth has been given the opportunity to host one of four Early Years Centres that the Provincial Department of Education and Early Childhood Development are rolling out across the Province, the Community Enhancement Development Officer will be the Acadia First Nation representation to begin the planning stages of the development of this site.

The Community Enhancement Development Officer is a committee member to the National Aboriginal Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy (NAYSPS) which is administered through UNSI. Through this Prevention Strategy we were able to plan a Cultural Camp to provide rich Mi'kmaw Cultural experiences that focus on knowledge transfer and skill development and revitalization of traditional skills, focus on enhancing protective factors related to cultural identity, connect with elders, traditional ceremonies and traditional teachings.

The Annual Mi'kmaw Valley Youth Gathering was a huge success this year, being held in the Wildcat Community. The event was grand and the deep rooted history of our Mi'kmaw community members and neighbors came forth through teachings and demonstrations. In 2014, the Mi'kmaw Valley Youth Gathering will be hosted by Bear River First Nation.

Yarmouth Christmas Community Dinner will be held on December 6th and the Acadia First Nation Elder Yearly Elder Trip will take place on December 18th, our Elders will have the opportunity to travel to Halifax and attend the Johnny Reid Christmas Concert at the Metro Centre. Next year the Elder Trip will be booked earlier in the year when the weather is warmer.

Highlighted Events for 2013

Acadia First Nation March Break Youth Excursion
Summer Family Excursion for Yarmouth to Upper Clements
Community Volunteer Trail Clean UP Days
Earth Day Event
Relay for LIFE
Acadia First Nation Annual Mi'kmaq Student Awards
High Five Training delivered through Recreation Nova Scotia
EmCee of the **Ancient Mi'kmaq Culture Re-Emerges Gathering**
ANNUAL Youth Moose Hunt- September 22-28

This summer Dave Falls; Yarmouth Mi'kmaq Student; had secured the opportunity to work with the Rural Detachment of the Yarmouth RCMP as the Summer Student RCMP Aboriginal Liason Officer, he organized many events within our Mi'kmaq Community and it was with great pride that the Community Enhancement Development Officer was able to assist and work with Dave, some of the events:

- Community Bike Rodeo
- Culture Presentations
- Vandalism Workshops
- Elders Tea Social

Community Based Food Security Project Funding 2012/1013 has been secured through Health Canada- FNIHB
Aboriginal Sport and Physical Activity Funding has been secured for 2012/2013

NOTE* It is very important that the information for youth events and opportunities reach the people, and if you have youth in your home and want the information emailed or mailed to you directly, please email your contact information:

mrobinson@acadiaband.com