

LISTUGUJ MI'GMAQ COMMUNITY PLAN

September 1 2018 LMCP snapshot

Economic Development Unit

Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Cities and Environment Unit, Faculty of Architecture and Planning, Dalhousie University led the original Listuguj Mi'gmaq Community Plan (LMCP) produced in 2014 for the Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government (LMG). Through that exercise, we began to understand our challenges and opportunities. Since 2014, LMG's Economic Development Unit has been the lead in moving the LMCP forward.

This report—the March 2018 LMCP Snapshot—serves as an update to the original LMCP and incorporates new data, new developments and information gathered from engagement sessions.

The intent of the LMCP was always to ensure our growth and sustainability was borne out of commitment to our community, by our community. In 2014, many opportunities were identified and now, almost four years later, our dreams are bigger, our vision is more focused and our pathway to self-governance and self-determination is clearer than ever.

We thank Dalhousie University for the input and direction. This March 2018 LMCP Snapshot interprets and outlines our needs for community planning from 2014 to the present. We look forward to continued community development through our people's encouragement and support.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW – Executive Summary

Listuguj is an integral part of Gespe'gewa'gi and Mi'gma'gi. The Listuguj Mi'gmaq Community Plan (LMCP) supports self-reliance, cooperation and self-governance at all levels of involvement – local, regional and national. The Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government is the governing body (LMG).



The CCP was developed through extensive community consultation. This means:

- it is rooted in community;
- it is owned by the community; and
- inspires the community.

Our Vision surrounded by our values



The plan first looked at where the community is going—what is the vision that drives the community to pursue change? This stage involved extensive discussions and planned work groups to arrive at the Vision. Following the determination of a Vision, the plan then looked to form, structure and actions. This meant that not only was the physical form of Listuguj reviewed for future development, but also the plan looked at identifying community opportunities for growth and change.

The Approach to Change is Community-Based, Project Driven and Locally Focused. Monitoring is an ongoing process and will track each Action Area by indicators for success. There are four broad initiatives that have been identified for focus in this

LMCP. LMG needs to put their effort into protecting, preserving sensitive land, working with its people to improve the health and well-being of the population, developing housing plans, managing public works projects and fueling economic development through entrepreneurship and self-sustaining natural resource based enterprises. These four initiatives work in harmony. They offer a path to ensure community based decision making takes into account both the opportunities and challenges present.

By identifying the community's strengths and issues, there becomes a better understanding of what can be achieved and in what timeline that can occur. Listuguj's strong identity is rooted in Mi'gmaq language and traditions. However with this also comes an understanding of the cultural oppression that has stifled the community's connection to history, culture, traditions and language. The legacy of residential schools still moves through the community. Connection with the land and water, coupled with an action plan for both protection and development that is self-directed and self-governed is a way for the community to re-connect and come together to become an economic driver for the people of Listuguj.

The LMCP focuses on building a sense of pride and community through actions that empower Listuguj to be the leader in its own development. The land and water have provided the community with sustenance and a way of life since time immemorial. This opportunity however, is accompanied by an understanding that these natural resources need to be protected and respected. Environmental stewardship is a Mi'gmaq tradition. Past practices of poor resource development and waste management have caused harm to the ecosystem. Through the LMCP, there will be an emphasis on the need to properly manage the land and water. This will also include the identification for opportunities for economic development and landscape restoration.



While respecting certain natural habitats and ecosystems, the community must also be mindful of culturally important lands. Together these make up “sensitive areas” which must be respected when embarking upon land development and housing planning. Listuguj must focus on development of not only dwellings for families, but also communal spaces for community delivered services. Keeping all of this in mind, the Listugujewei Land Use Plan is being drafted, through community engagement sessions and is expected to be completed in 2019.

Employment and education concerns are addressed in the LMCP with a focus on ensuring that opportunities exist for the community. Programs that support entrepreneurs, improvements in local education opportunities and initiatives that drive new economic development to create meaningful employment opportunities, are all actions addressed in the LMCP.

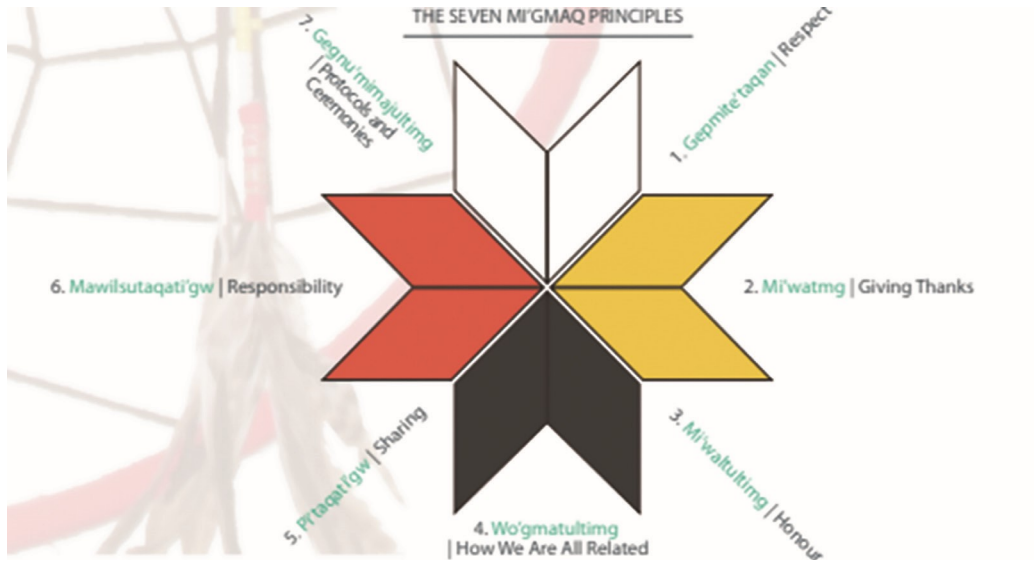
Through all of the action plans, projects and initiatives, Listuguj must remain mindful that self-governance is the only way to ensure sustainability for this community. The community must remain vigilant in their plans to assert land and treaty rights. This includes an action plan that challenges those impositions of the Indian Act that run contrary self-determination and self-governance. Trust is paramount in this community and the LMCP examines how to move forward as a more cohesive community to pursue the common goal of good governance. This involves greater transparency, engagement and accountability from the community, the Chief and Council.

In 2014 a community engagement session was conducted to assist in information gathering. In August 2017, the LMG Economic Development Unit commissioned another community engagement strategy for the LMCP to ensure that the information collected in 2014 was still valid and important. This validation process conducted from August 2017 to November 2017 reinforces the LMCP findings. As part of this document, the results from those sessions will be discussed below.

The LMCP is a document that guides growth and community involvement which means over time, flexibility and change must be incorporated. It is future looking and measurable but must always reflect the values of our community. The following is a brief synopsis of the pathway to initiate change and an outline of priorities identified by the community as of March 2018

Our community development plan and direction is rooted in the Seven Mi’gmaq Principles

BACKGROUND AND INITIATIVES PER CATEGORY



Land - Background

Listuguj reserve land is 4,016 hectares.

Peace and Friendship Treaties affirm the right to access, use and manage natural resources as a means for livelihood and way of life. (Supported by United Nations' Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.)

At the time the LMCP was written, Listuguj was pursuing five long-standing land disputes with the Canadian federal government. Listuguj agreed, by referendum, to accept Canada's proposal for compensation for the past loss of use of those five parcels of land on December 2014.

An Integrated Resource Management Plan has identified five wildlife habitats to be protected and outlines the need to maintain adequate natural habitats.

The plan has identified "Sensitive Areas" which should be exempt from development. These include both naturally occurring uniqueness and culturally significant sites.

Land - Initiatives

- Community Garden Project
- Salmon Management Program (the "Salmon Law")
- Gespe'gewaq Mi'gmaq Resource Council's approach to resource and land management
- Ango'tmnej - a group formed to protect traditional lands and waters of Listuguj and the Mi'gmaq nation



People – Background

Listuguj's total population is approximately 4058 as of January 2018. Approximately 52% of the population lives on the Reserve with the remaining 1950 population living off the reserve. Total membership grows on average of 2% per year.

Mi'gmaq is the official language of Listuguj. 27% of the population know Mi'gmaq and speak it regularly. (Census 2011) Compared with 38% of the members of all other communities in Gespe'gewa'gi. There is a focus on ensuring that the Mi'gmaq language and culture are incorporated into all aspects of the students' education. Presently, Alaqsite'w Gitpu School (AGS) offers Mi'gmaq Immersion from Nursery to Grade 4. Additionally, since 2016, Minuignewa'tu'g 'Gtli'sutiminu, an Adult Mi'gmaq Immersion program has been offered in Listuguj. During the 2017-2018 year, the program was expanded to include two levels: a beginner's level, as well as an advance beginner/immediate level. This student-centered program offers students the opportunity to engage with fluent speakers and elders through the Tlisultinej (Language Focus Group) as they learn our Mi'gmaq language.



LMG has one Chief and twelve Councillors that are elected by band members

Listuguj Community Health Services Directorate is the community-based health care provider. At the time of the completion of the LMCP was operating in accordance with a 5-year Community Health Plan that was completed in 2012. A new ten-year Community Health plan will be adopted in April 2018 that will carry our community through to March of 2028.

People – Initiatives

- Inter Community Harmony Project – youth-based project which aims to address racism, discrimination and cultural reconciliation.
- Mi'gma'ji'jg Nipgewei Wiguomuow – Summer youth camp aimed at promoting a healthy lifestyle
- Restorative Justice Program – focuses on resolving conflict through Mi'gmaq cultural practices that seek to address the good the community as a whole. This endeavour is run by a volunteer committee.



Recent Historic Timeline

Early 1900s

1912 - Québec Boundaries Extension Act

1922 - Québec given regulatory power over fisheries in a federal/provincial agreement

1938 - First children taken to Shubenacadie and other residential schools for 6-9 years of their lives

1940 - First election of Chief and Council

1941 - Community not allowed to fish salmon or speak Mi'gmaq in school

1960s

1960 - Mi'gmaq people are allowed to vote in federal and provincial elections

- Jack Wysote first elected

- First woman elected to council

1961 - J.C. Van Horne Bridge opens bringing Listuguj community closer to Campbellton

1966 - Community Hall built

1968 - Log Booms close

1969 - Listuguj youth start going to school in Campbellton



Late 1800s

1842 - Ste. Anne de Restigouche becomes a parrish, having been a mission since 1742. Restigouche School opens shortly afterwards

1853 - British colonial government establishes reserve for Restigouche (now known as Listuguj)

1876 - Canada passes the Indian Act

1950s

1950 - Community not allowed to purchase alcohol or gamble

1950 - Indian Day School

1950 - Indian agent

1950 - Ferry boat

1957 - First nursing station

Electricity is provided to the community in the late '50s

1970s

1972 - Frasier Mill on NB side closes

1972 - Commercial Fishing Banned in Chaleur Bay

1974 - First march of MLCP

Listuguj had a community garden and greenhouse

Sewing industry at old bingo hall made clothing

Indian Day School Teachers college burns down

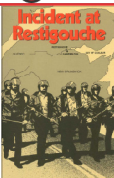
Recent Historic Timeline

1980s

- 1981** - Migwite'tm or Incident at Restigouche over fishing rights
- 1981/82** - Fishing Ban in Chaleur Bay Lifted
- 1982** - Co-management agreement between province and Mi'gmaq
- 1984** - Incident at Restigouche film released by National Film Board
- 1985** - Bill C-31 Amendments to the Indian Act
 - First Nations Education Council (FNEC) established
- 1986** - Haven House built
- 1987** - Second Band Office built

2000s

- 2000**
 - MMS formed
 - LMG Chipping production
- 2002**
 - Harmony Project created
 - Mi'gmaq fishing harvesting law
 - Natural resources building built
- 2005**
 - Restorative justice introduced
 - Mi'gmaq Proclamation (Gespe'gigewei)
- 2008** - Youth and family centre created
- 2009**
 - Listuguj Policing Service
 - Busted Estate land returned
 - Mi'gmaq made official language
- 2010** - Mi'gmaq fishing law amended
- 2011** - LMG initiates Comprehensive Community Plan
 - Bill C3 - Gender Equity in Indian Registration Act
- 2012** - Additions to Listuguj Mi'gmaq Youth Recreation and Sports Park
 - Idle No More (ongoing)
- 2014** - Listuguj Community Plan Completed



1990s

- 1990** - First Pow Wow
- 1992** - First woman elected chief
- 1993**
 - Listuguj Child Care Centre opens
 - Fire Department established
 - Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government took over management of the salmon fisheries in the Restigouche River-Fisheries Management Plan
- 1994**
 - Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government brings schooling under its control
 - Community changed its name from Restigouche to Mi'gmaq spelling Listuguj
 - Listuguj Ranger program initiated
- 1995** - Atlantic Salmon Federation awards the best-managed river in the province to Listuguj
- 1996** - Listuguj Mi'gmaq Development Centre established - providing employment and training needs
- 1997**
 - Alaqsite'w Gitpu School opens operating from nursery to Grade 8 teaching in Mi'gmaq, French, and English
 - Busted/Listuguj land claim issue
 - Federal government purchases and returns land to Listuguj
- 1998**
 - Listuguj loggers assert right to land by establishing roadblocks
 - Union formed, band fires everyone
- 1999** - Marshall Decision recognized the Mi'gmaq's traditional and treaty right to fish

BACKGROUND AND INITIATIVES PER CATEGORY (part2)

People – Skills

A strong identity rooted in Mii'gmaq language and traditions is shared by community members. Listuguj's many large families and shared cultural history are a source of confidence and pride for many members of the community.

Professional

Biologists
Communications
Custodians
Early childhood educators
Facilitators
Fire fighters
Fundraisers
Game wardens
Hairdressers
Health care providers
Housekeepers homemakers
Interior decorators
Lawyers
Management skills
Marketing and
Nurses
Police officer
Rangers
Seamstresses
Social workers
Teachers educators
Bakers
Foresters Fishermen
Forestry harvester
Aquaculture
Boat captains
Deckhands

Traditional

Cabinet makers
Canoe makers tanners
Carpenters (Journeymen &
Chimney cleaners
Divers
Drum Groups
Electricians
Healers
Iron workers
Mechanics
Mi'gmaq speakers teachers
Millwrights
Plumbers
Red seal
Spiritual Leaders
Storey tellers
Trades
Wastewater management
Welders
Heavy equipment operators
Personal Trainers
Chefs cooks

Artistic

Artists
Authors
Basket weavers
Crafters
Kintters
Musicians and DJ's
Painters
Photographers
Quilters
Singers
Wood workers

Built Environment – Background

There are approximately 800 residential units in the community with 125 needing major renovations. The waiting list remains constant.

The Water system is in good condition and last had updates in the 1990's. Solid Waste Management is managed by Public Works. There is a recycling program and a composting program.

There are a number of community facilities and assets.

Built Environment – Initiatives

Determination of developable areas – removal of sensitive areas in order to protect culturally or environmentally impacted areas of Listuguj, development of housing plans and environmental impact assessments are required.

Economic Resources – Background

The community continues to focus on education and has seen increases in the number of college and university graduates in recent years.

AGS provides education from Nursery through Grade 8 to Listuguj students. Sugarloaf Senior High School (SSHS) is a secondary school located in Campbellton, New Brunswick. SSHS serves Listuguj students from grades 9 to 12. Currently, it is estimated that over 1/3 of the student population is from Listuguj. Through the Enhancement program, SSHS has 10 staff from Listuguj who make up approximately 1/5 of staff population (20%). Cultural services and activities are provided each day to SSHS students.

Post-secondary Student Support Program (PSSSP) assist Listuguj community members who are pursuing their post-secondary studies. The goal is to make sure that all eligible students who are attending educational institutions will have the support that they need to succeed at their studies.

Since 2016, Listuguj and McGill University signed an Angua'tmgewei to provide a Bachelor of Education in the community. The cohort of 15 (12 Listugujewaq) is expected to graduate in 2020

The Commercial fishery in the area employs many and the community has an independent management and regulation of its Salmon Fishery. Profits from fishing are put back into the community to fund endeavours such as post-secondary education, language programs, elder home repair, employment initiatives, investments and also assist with offsetting program deficits.

Forestry Operations – there exists 2 forestry management agreements with the Quebec Ministry of Natural Resources. LMG also holds contracts for 180 hectares of pre-commercial thinning for 2012-2013.

Economic Resources – Initiatives

- The Listuguj Mi'gmaq Development Centre (LMDC) offers career planning and training, including, support and guidance from counsellors, academic upgrading opportunities, employment mentoring and assistance for entrepreneurs.
- First Nations Regional Adult Education Centre – This offers standard academic upgrading programming in conjunction with programming in First Nation history, culture and language.
- Listuguj Fisheries Board – established to bring together those from different fishery backgrounds to share knowledge and support the goal of community – based management of the fisheries.
- Creation of Fishery Business Plan – to increase participation in fisheries, diversify operations, increase profits, ensure quotas are fished responsibly and sustainably, and to invest responsibly in equipment and new operations
- Mesgi'g Ugju's'm Wind Project – as a partnership between Listuguj, Gespeg and Gesgapegiag with the provincial and federal government, this project would create a wind farm generating new jobs and income for the next 20 years.



ACTION AREAS

Four Action Areas have been defined and those were used to help steward the creation of a plan for Land-Use Decisions. They are: Healthy Community, Environmental and Natural Resource Stewardship, Entrepreneurship and Employment and Mi'gmaq Laws and Governance.

Kick-Start Projects have begun in each of the four identified action areas and are as follows:

1. Health Community

The engagement session workshops were dominated by conversations centering on community wellness. In support of a healthier community, the focus was on wellness centres, an increase in mental health services, the promotion of in-community professional medical services, self identity and cultural identity development, understanding end of life preparation along with healing and forgiveness workshops. The community also wanted focus on broader social issues like racism, prejudice and social inequality, education on history and IGT education including discussions on the definition of who is a Listugujewaj.

The community showed concern for long term care for elders, dog/animal control, gambling regulations, Mi'gmaq language revitalization and a need for increased policing.

The community also raised concern about food security. Finding sustainable and communal based practices for hunting and fishing. In response, the kick-starter project for a more healthy community was the Food Hub. This project would focus on growing, preparing and distributing food regionally which would be a step toward food security and self-reliance for Listuguj. The Food Hub would also be instrumental in supporting healthy living. It would serve as a component to other development projects like promotion of active living, the development of community spaces for exercise and the re-focus on Mi'gmaq practices and customs relating to preventative health care.

Brought together, the concerns and ideas purported by the community focused on a need to foster holistic health, happiness and well-being that is rooted in Mi'gmaq culture.

2. Environmental and Natural Resource Stewardship

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- 1 HEALTHY COMMUNITY
FOOD HUB
- 2 ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL
RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP
LANDS & WATERS
COMMISSION
- 3 ENTREPRENEURSHIP &
EMPLOYMENT
FISH PROCESSING
PLANT & MARKET
- 4 MI'GMAQ LAWS &
GOVERNANCE
GOVERNANCE
INSTITUTE

3. Fish Processing Plant and Market – Entrepreneurship and Employment

The workshops held through the August 2017 engagement sessions focused on visualization of an ideal community. Participants were particularly vocal about the desire for economic development and sustainability. The community showed interest in funding support and skills development for local entrepreneurs, trades and skills development programs, eco-tourism and cultural tourism projects along with a desire to put energy into communal wealth projects.

The LMCP focused on building economic relationships beyond Listuguj through community education and skills training. Many projects and policies were identified, including:

- Development of a community re-investment strategy;
- Creation of a Listuguj Economic Development Corporation;
- Creation of a local business institute;
- Locating a high school in Listuguj;
- Eco-tourism development and visitor information signs;
- French language training;
- Delivery of Education fund and entrepreneur grants;
- Development of HR training;
- Creation of a Forest Management Planning program; and
- Delivery of skills training and mentorship programs.

In an effort to motivate the community to see how entrepreneurship can drive self-sustaining economic growth, the LMCP highlighted the Fish Processing Plant and Market as a kick-starter project.

This Plant and Market would be a place for Listuguj Fisheries to clean, portion, package and ship fish. This project is the next step in economic development for the industry allowing Listuguj Fisheries to market their own brand of seafood. Complemented by a restaurant, this endeavour would build economic relationships beyond Listuguj, will invest back into the community, will focus on skills training and will cement Listuguj's right to fish.

4. Governance Institute – Mi'gmaq Laws and Governance

The engagement sessions identified four high level areas of need to attain better governance. The community voiced its need for better engagement and communication, greater community participation, more transparency and a more stable framework. Community members are looking for structural changes, but also improved governance practices. Not only would there be a focus on a new constitution, but also an election code, a housing authority, a membership code and a conflict of interest policy. The development of a "Governance Institute" is a potential project which would lead the development of a self-governance framework outside of the Indian Act. This would help establish community participation in governance, and transparency in decision-making, and through increased engagement and communication.

Governance would also delve into the issues of land occupation and land use planning. This process of determining what land is available, has already begun. The following is a synopsis of the LMCP's identification of future planning:

ACTION AREAS

Land-Use Decisions – Creating the Structure Map

Creation of the Community Structure Map includes protection of both culturally significant places and natural environments. It also focuses on improving local services in a cost-effective manner, creating gathering places for the community and maintaining and developing better ways to connect community through trails and roads. New development will be focused on existing infrastructure. Together this creates a Developable Areas Map which properly determines those areas which are deemed acceptable for new development, given the needs identified.



Community Structure Map

Land-Use Decisions – Creating the Future Development Map

Understanding the constraints identified in the Structure Map. The Future Development Map focuses on infrastructure development that promotes a healthy community, environmental and natural resource stewardship, entrepreneurship and employment, while respecting and understanding Mi'gmaq laws and governance. Many of the future development concepts were derived from community discussions and collaboration. The focus was on the centre of the community, the riverfront development which would be a mix of residential, recreational and commercial endeavours and the creation of new neighbourhoods and community green spaces.



Future Development Map

CONCLUSION



The Listuguj Economic Development Unit continues to monitor the needs of the community to foster progress in projects and policies. This snapshot in time is an update and a call to action. We need community involvement, community feedback and community energy to make the changes that will build a better Listuguj. Our LMCP is for the community, by the community and our future will only be successful through cooperation, engagement and hard work.

Thank you.
Welalioq



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MI'GMAQ**
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