

Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government Order-In-Council



Chronological no.: 3027	Subject: Listuguj Application for Funding for Listuguj Forest Stewardship Project ("Listuguj Nipugt") to Support Aboriginal-led Protected Area Project	Originated by: Aboriginal-led Protected Area Project
The Council of the Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government		District Gespe'gewa'gi
Date of duly convened meeting	D 0 6 M 0 2 Y 2 6	Province Gepeg

WHEREAS: the Listuguj Mi'gmaq First Nation is a Mi'gmaq community indigenous to Gespe'gewa'gi with a sacred, inherent responsibility for the stewardship of the land, waters, and living things of Gespe'gewa'gi;

WHEREAS: the Mi'gmaq of Gespe'gewa'gi, including the Listuguj Mi'gmaq First Nation, have existing Aboriginal title, Aboriginal rights, and treaty rights with respect to our lands and resources, and these rights have never been surrendered or extinguished;

WHEREAS: the Government of Québec's ("Québec") Natural Heritage Conservation Act, CQLR c C-61.01 provides for the designation of Aboriginal-led protected areas;

WHEREAS: in October 2024, the Natural Resources Directorate submitted an application requesting that Québec designate Residual Forest Unit 1066, an area of land in the immediate vicinity of Listuguj that is currently subject to a forest management delegation agreement between the Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government and Québec (see map in Appendix 1), as an Aboriginal-led protected area ("Protected Area Project");

WHEREAS: designating Residual Forest Unit 1066 as an Aboriginal-led protected area would provide the Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government with greater authority to manage the area in accordance with its traditional customs and values and return the area to a healthy and biodiverse natural forest;

WHEREAS: exercising greater control and authority over Residual Forest Unit 1066 would have positive social outcomes for Listuguj community members, providing space to exercise harvesting rights and cultural practices, and protect Listuguj's unique connection to and ways of living on the land;

WHEREAS: in November 2024, the Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government passed an Order-in-Council approving the Protected Area Project;

WHEREAS: the Natural Resources Directorate has prepared an application to the Indigenous Leadership Fund for Biodiversity Conservation, funded by Québec and administered by the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Sustainable Development Institute ("Funding Application"). The Funding Application, if approved, will support development and implementation of the Protected Area Project, through an expanded project titled the Listuguj Forest Stewardship Project ("Listuguj Nipugt Project") including engagement with Listuguj community members;

Moved: George Martin

Seconded: Wendell Metallic

Abstain: -

Opposed: -

Absent: Sky Metallic

Status: Passed Defeated Tabled

Quorum 7

Annette Barnaby
Councillor Annette Barnaby

Erwin Peter Molley
Councillor Erwin Peter Molley

Wendell Metallic
Councillor Wendell Metallic

Gordon Isaac Jr.
Councillor Gordon Isaac Jr.

Scott Martin
Chief Scott Martin

Sheila Swasson
Councillor Sheila Swasson

Dr. Cathy Martin
Councillor Dr. Cathy Martin

Macy Metallic
Councillor Macy Metallic

Tanner Isaac
Councillor Tanner Isaac

Sky Metallic
Councillor Sky Metallic

Christie Caplin
Councillor Christie Caplin

George Martin
Councillor George Martin

Chris Wysete
Councillor Chris Wysete

Mi'gmaq Nation

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WHEREAS: the Listuguj Nipugt Project will be rooted in Mi'gmaq philosophies and knowledge systems, and principles of Ango'tmu'q and Netugulimig. Mi'gmaq philosophies, woven with western science and technology, will support biodiversity conservation (Restoration, Protected areas (particular watercourses), Sustainable Use and Access to Nipugt, Governance, and Indigenous Leadership);

WHEREAS: the Listuguj Nipugt Project's long-term goals include developing a Nipugt Plan (for managing, protecting and using resources), Mi'gmaq-based Wildlife Code (sustainable wildlife harvesting, safety and enforcement through the Listuguj Mi'gmaq Rangers), and Annual Land Based Community Gatherings (increase access to Nipugt to support community wellbeing and mental health);

WHEREAS: the Listuguj Nipugt Project includes the establishment of an Advisory Circle composed of Knowledge Holders and Community Members for the duration of the project;

WHEREAS: if successful the Funding Application would provide the Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government up to \$ [REDACTED] over three years to support the Listuguj Nipugt Project;

NOW THEREFORE THE LISTUGUJ MI'GMAQ GOVERNMENT MAKES THE FOLLOWING ORDER-IN-COUNCIL:

1. The Funding Application is approved.
2. The Natural Resources Directorate is directed to take all action necessary to submit and implement the Funding Application.