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Nujignua'tegeg

Chief's Message



"Now that summer is winding down, I hope that everyone's summer was the best one possible," said Chief Scott Martin.

"I was happy to see that both the Wellness Fair and the Pow Wow were huge successes, and I would like to congratulate both organizing committees."

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Lawsuit over terminal

A lawsuit filed by the Mig'mawei Maw-ioni Secretariat (MMS) is simple – the crown did not consult First Nation's people before developing on their land.

Executive Director of the MMS, Troy Jerome, refers often to several legal precedents when explaining the grounds for the lawsuit. The key is a ruling that the crown must consult First Nation people when developing on their land.

"Chaleur Terminals" in Belledune is moving forward, and the Mi'gmaq have not been consulted.

The company did hold an information session.

"The crown cannot delegate its duty to consult," Jerome said. "How does Chaleur Terminal, or any of its parent companies know how to deal with an

aboriginal right?"

Another source of contention is the New Brunswick Government's insistence that the matter is for the federal government, according to Jerome.

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Troy Jerome, the Executive Director of the MMS, gives an overview of the recent lawsuit. (PHOTO: Adam Hodnett)

PROFILE

20 Years of Service: Lyle Wysote

Being a police officer for 20 years in the community you were born and raised has its share of unique challenges.

Lyle Wysote was just honored for 20 years of service as a police officer in Listuguj.

"Sometimes you have to deal with family members. Sometimes you have to deal with close friends," he said. "But the thing is, you have to try reason and let them know, explain – 'I'm not here because I want to be here. I'm here because I have to be.'"

While it may be tough in unique ways, Wysote thinks it's important to be working in his own community.

"The majority of us are from here," he said. "We police our own community. I think that makes a difference."

Even though emotional situations can arise when running in to longtime friends or family, Wysote is careful to keep in mind the many factors that could be at play.

"You can't take that to heart," Wysote said. "We're still friends."

With brief amounts of time spent working and training outside of the

community, Wysote has been settled here since 1996.

"From 2001 to now I've been in plain clothes, doing investigations – be it sex crimes, drugs, violent crimes."

He has been serving for 19 consecutive years, 20 in total.

"Policing has changed a lot since 1991, when I first started, to present day," Wysote said.



SCAN THIS

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Lyle Wysote outside the Listuguj Police Department on July 30. He has recently been honored for his 20 years of service. (PHOTO: Adam Hodnett)

EVENTS

Language workshop

The 3rd Mi'gmaq language workshop was held at the Bingo Hall on July 30.

The goal is to encourage people to learn Mi'gmaq, by sparking their interest.

"I personally think that we have plenty of resources needed to learn the language," said Madeliane Metallic, one of the organizers. "It's just to get people up and motivated and wanting to learn."

Stations were set up for one portion of the workshop. One station was designed to get people actually speaking the language in a "fun activities type of way."

"People who never spoke it before are speaking," said Metallic. "Mi'gmaq language is actually very complicated. Eight times tougher than the English language."

The workshops began through a collaboration with the Listuguj Education Directorate and McGill

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Lawsuit over terminal (cont'd)

“They should of engaged with the feds and made sure the feds engaged with us before they issued any permits. You cannot just say, ‘we’re issuing permits, you go talk to the feds,’” Jerome said. “You’re the crown ... It’s the crown that has a legal obligation. It’s the crown that has a fiduciary duty.”

Jerome said there is a misconception that Mi’gmaq people oppose all projects.

“[We’re] looking for where they can be involved in. Where we can benefit, but at the same time, not ruin our way of life.”

There are concerns over the actual project – 110-car trains moving along the Restigouche River twice a day, carrying product from the Alberta tar sands, to be stored and exported. Jerome – and many others – would like to know the various impacts such a project could have on the area.

But that is not the basis of the lawsuit.

“It is based directly on the authorization the provincial government gave to build that terminal.”

The court date is set for January 18th.

“We are going into a project management kind of scenario with our lawyers,” Jerome said. “We’re not going to wait until December to prepare ourselves. We’ll be ready way early.”

As of July 30th Jerome had not received a response from any of the parities

Bonnie Doyle Creber, a Communications Director with the NB Government said it would not be commenting on the matter while it is before the courts.



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Language Workshop (cont'd)

University. The workshop is funded by a grant from the University.

“McGill just had interest in Listuguj’s community,” said Metallic. “They’ve been collaborating with Listuguj for a couple years now.”

The workshop, programs, and the website are currently being transferred over to Listuguj community members.

“Eventually it will be solely in Listuguj’s hands,” Metallic said. “They can edit it, add to it,

whatever.”

Carol-Rose Little first came to Listuguj while at McGill University. She is now working on her PhD in Linguistics at Cornell University.

“It’s so gratifying,” she said. “The potential, the success of this project is so huge. Revitalizing and preserving a language. Not only is it extremely important, but it’s also a huge project ... I think people in the community really want to preserve the language.”

Chief’s Message (cont'd)

“I would also like to thank the participants, visitors, and sponsors for making this year’s Wellness Fair and Pow Wow a success, and we hope to see you all again next year.”

With September quickly approaching, it is time for everyone to get back into the routine for the upcoming school year.

Pow Wow Photos

(Photos by Mike Isaac)

Find more photos on the LMG’s Facebook page



Community Listings

End-of-Season

There will be an End-of-Season meeting for all Listuguj Salmon Harvesters.

Date: Aug. 13
10:00 a.m.

Natural Resource Building
44 Dundee Road

Pharmaceuticals

The LMG received a memo from the First Nation and Inuit Health Branch, Quebec Region detailing changes related to reimbursement structures for pharmacists. It is posted on the LMG Facebook page.

LMDC Jobs

The Listuguj Mi’gmaq Development Centre has posted a list of 24 jobs open in our area. Find the list on the LMG Facebook page. The LMDC also offers help with resumes and cover letters.

LMDC
(418) 788-1347

Jobs

Three jobs are now posted on the LMG’s website. They include: “Adult Education Center Director,” “Chipping Plant Operator,” and “Casual Teacher Assistant.”

listuguj.ca/jobs

EDITOR’S NOTE:

I think everyone can agree – July is a busy time of year. We hope everyone will be able to relax, and enjoy some nice weather at some point this August.

With the Pow Wow finished. The ground broken at the wind farm, the majority of the PCD money distributed. And still a month left before the school year brings back a steady routine – we hope every-

one gets the chance to do something enjoyable.

Some upcoming stories we’re hoping to do: an overview of the new community fund, a report on the condition of the salmon, and any progress on the community park.

Let us know if you’re curious about anything else.



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