



Fourth Annual Wikipaltimk Gathering a Success



(Above) Wikipaltimk Spring Gathering Drummers and Dancers.

On April 25, 2015, the Governance Committee hosted the Fourth Annual Wikipaltimk "Honouring Each Other" community gathering at the Maupeltuey Kina'matno'kuom. The day began with a fundraiser breakfast for the Membertou 55+ Society at the Seniors' Centre. Next, the Red Road Project hosted a Teepee Ceremony which was conducted by elder Lawrence Wells at the school. The host drum was Stoney Bear and the head male and female dancers were Oonig Paul-Ward, Nina Kent, and youth dancers were Jada Paul and John Denny-Francis. Bill McCue, former Chief of Georgina Island in Ontario and currently employed with the First Nations Land Advisory Board, was the guest speaker. He shared information on his community's experience with the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management and Land Code. Georgina Island voted 'yes' on the land code over 15 years ago because community members wanted control over their reserve lands. When he was asked if his community regretted removing itself from the Indian Act, his response was, "No!"

Teepee Ceremony by Elder L'lun Wells



Dr (Above) Lawrence Wells sharing teepee teachings.

About a dozen people participated in the teepee ceremony with Elder Lawrence Wells. The Governance Committee made a commitment to organize events, not only to share information on land management and citizenship, but also to facilitate events that build cultural memories for our youth. The Red Road project hosted the teepee ceremony.

Family sessions on Code Sought

The Governance Committee would like to schedule sessions with your family at Kiju's Restaurant to share what's been happening with Land and Citizenship code. Please contact Cheryl Knockwood at (902) 564-6444 (ext. 2520) to schedule a session.



Community Engagement on Membertou Membership Code

On May 25-26, 2015, the Governance committee held a series of engagement sessions with community elders, women and youth on the Membertou Membership Code. Dr. Pam Palmater has been working with Membertou and the governance committee to help develop a draft Membertou Membership Code. The Governance Committee and Dr. Pam Palmater developed a survey aimed at receiving key input on the development of a Membertou membership code. At these sessions, the preliminary results of the survey were shared with attendees. The Governance Committee will review the input received from both the survey and the community engagement sessions to start drafting the membership code which they hope to share in the fall and get further input in. A schedule of the fall session with Dr. Pam Palmater will be advertised in the community newsletter and social media.

Membertou Developing Environmental Management Plan

Community sessions were held in March on the development of the Membertou Environmental Management Plan (EMP). Preliminary results on the EMP will be ready in fall 2015. Chief and Council need your input on the development of the membership and land code as well as the EMP.

For more information on this and other Governance Committee initiatives, please visit our website at www.maupeltutantsutekek.webs.com or contact Cheryl Knockwood, Governance Coordinator at cherylknockwood@membertou.ca or at 902-564-6466 (ext. 2520). Her office is now located the Membertou Entrepreneurship Centre.



Upcoming Events

July 23, 2015

Governance Committee

Membertou Entrepreneur Centre
Boardroom
10:00 – 1:00 p.m.

September 17, 2015

Governance Committee

Membertou Entrepreneur Centre
Boardroom
10:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Please note above dates are subject to change, confirm details with Governance Coordinator prior to event.

“Kisitutesnu piley kelu’lk nstuita’suaqn ta’n knijannaq ksite’ttaqq”

Video recorded training sessions available at: www.maupeltutantsutekek.webs.com

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