



### **Membertou Youth Participate in Medicine Walk**

Janine Christmas, Governance Youth coordinator, organized a series of workshops for the Membertou youth during the summer 2013 program. The workshops were based on recommendations made by the Membertou Youth Council. The youth council wanted to see more elders/youth cultural exchange workshops.

During the summer Tuma Young, Mi'kmaw lawyer and CBU professor, conducted a series of medicine walk tours with the Governance Committee and youth of Membertou. On July 10<sup>th</sup>, Tuma took a group to Membertou's lands in Caribou Marsh to pick some Mi'kmaw medicines growing there. He taught participants how to find and use numerous Mi'kmaw medicines.

On another medicine walk tour, youth got to pick sweet grass in Fourchu. On July 18, youth and committee members also got to pick flagroot in Mala. Tuma and his family provided important teachings on the use and care of these medicines.

On July 17<sup>th</sup>, elders and youth went on a Kluscaps caves and canoe tour. The elders went by boat while the youth hiked.

On August 30<sup>th</sup>, Janine organized a Waltes workshop where our youth were given



**Medicine Walk Tour 2013: L-R Janine Christmas, Jody Paul, Cheryl Knockwood, Unknown, Ooning Paul-Ward, Tuma Young, Caroline Sylvester, Andrea Moore and Anne Dennis**

an opportunity to learn how to play waltes with the elders. She arranged for several elders from Wagmatcook to attend a friendly game and to help teach our youth. Dinner was provided and a tutorial game was set-up for youth who want to learn. The event took place at the Senior's Centre.

On Sept 6-8, Janine organized a how to set up and put away a teepee workshop. The event coincided with the Membertou Powwow and provided youth not only an opportunity to learn about teepee teachings but also gave them an opportunity to do community service in helping to set up the teepee that was being used during the Powwow.

Janine did a great job organizing the events as recommended by Membertou Youth. Next year, the Governance Committee hopes to host more of these workshops.



**Governance Committee Meeting, Membertou Seniors Centre with Meko Nicholas**

**Membertou Governance Committee drafting Membertou Land Code**

The Governance Committee is currently working with Meko Nicholas, associate director of the First Nations Lands Advisory Board Resource Centre on the development of Membertou land laws. He has worked with the Membertou Governance Committee for the last year to help develop a draft of the Membertou Land Code. The Membertou Land Code will include the following nine key sections: 1) Preliminary matters; 2) First Nation legislation; 3) Community Approvals; 4) Protection of Land; 5) Accountability; 6) Land Administration; 7) Interests and Licences in Land; 8) Dispute resolution and 9) Other matters.

The Governance committee has currently completed drafting the first seven sections. The Governance Committee hopes to complete a first draft of the land code to share with Membertou community members early in 2014. It is hoped that community members will give extensive input into further drafts of the code. Once a finalized draft is complete it will go to a community vote for community ratification. The goal is to have this community vote in the Fall of 2014.

A community meeting will be held to encourage input on draft soon. For more information on the Governance Committee and its work, please contact Cheryl Knockwood, Governance Coordinator at 564-6466 Ext. 2520.

**Schedule of Upcoming Events**

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 November 28, 2013  
 Governance Committee  
 Membertou Heritage Park  
 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

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 December 12, 2013  
 Governance Committee  
 Membertou Seniors Centre  
 Noon – 2:00 p.m.

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 January 16, 2013  
 Governance Committee  
 Membertou Entrepreneurship Centre  
 9:30- 2:30

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 January 20-24 Lands Management  
 Community Engagement  
 MTCC

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 \*Please note the above dates are subject to change. Please confirm meeting details with Governance Coordinator prior to event.

**“KISITUTESNU PILEY KELU’LK  
 NSTU’ITA’SUAQN TA’N KNIJANNAQ  
 KSITE’TTAQQ”**

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 If you are interested in viewing the land management training sessions, each was video recorded and posted on the Membertou Governance website at [www.maupelutantelsutekek.webs.com](http://www.maupelutantelsutekek.webs.com)

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