

**APC Residential School Final Report
April 2005-March 2006**



Prepared by:
Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs
P.O. Box 26005
RPO Market
Dartmouth, N.S.
B2W 6P3

(877)667-4007
www.apcfn.ca

Table of Contents

Background.....	3
Outreach sessions	3
Chapel Island First Nation, N.S.	4
Mariah First Nation, QC	4
Woodstock First Nation, N.B.....	4
Lennox Island First Nation, P.E.I.....	5
Bouctouche First Nation, N.B.....	5
Halifax Native Friendship Center, N.S.....	5
Information kiosks.....	6
APC Residential School Website	6
Summary of APC Information Sessions	7
Appendix A	9
Appendix B.....	13

Executive Summary

This report is intended to highlight the activities undertaken by the Atlantic Policy Congress with the Indian Residential school issue for former students of the Shubenacadie Indian Residential School between April of 2005 to March of 2006.

The first section of this report is a briefing of community and public information sessions, which outlines questions, comments and concerns raised during the presentations.

The second section of this report summarizes session held with survivors and places where the information kiosk has been invited.

The final section of this report gives the minutes taken from sessions held which is located in appendix A and news articles that have appeared in the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet Nation News which is located in appendix B.

The APC has had a very productive quarter in giving information sessions to communities and at conferences totaling 41 sessions to approximately 567 survivors and the general public.

Background

In November of 2004, the 35 Mi'kmaq, Maliseet and Passamaquoddy Chiefs mandated the Atlantic Policy Congress to provide outreach and information to Atlantic survivors so that they would be aware of the latest issues and negotiations taking place. The goal of the APC is to organize, facilitate and encourage dialogue on options that are available for Indian Residential school survivors, one being the Alternative Dispute Resolution Process.

The APC is embarking on its second year in delivering information sessions to Mi'kmaq and Maliseet survivors and the general public on the Indian Residential school issue in Canada.

Outreach sessions

The objectives of the outreach sessions are:

- To organize, facilitate, and encourage dialogue on the issues facing residential school survivors.
- Present options available to survivors to achieve reconciliation.
- Provide updated information on progress to date, i.e. Agreement in Principle.

Below is a briefing of outreach sessions held in the Atlantic Region. The APC has invited elder Stephen Christmas of Membertou First Nation to these sessions to further help First Nation elders understand what is currently being negotiated in Canada with the Residential School. He is also fluent in the Mi'kmaq language which also helps elders better understand.

Chapel Island First Nation, N.S.

1:30 a.m. - Feb.17th, 2006

Violet Paul and Georgianna Barlow of the Atlantic Policy Congress, gave an overview of the current negotiation taking place with the Indian Residential school issue in Canada to approximately 10 survivors and their families from the Chapel Island community. Survivors were briefed on the history of the school, the Assembly of First Nations role in negotiations and the current ways to achieve compensation, such as the ADR process. Here are some questions and comments made during that session:

- How would survivors prove the abuse that they suffered in the Residential school?
- What are the timelines for when payments could go out to survivors?
- Where do you get your information to let the survivors know what is going on with this issue?

Mariah First Nation, QC

March 3rd, 2006

The APC contacted Mariah First Nation to schedule an information session in with survivors. There are, however, no survivors living in the community so the APC will be given names to these survivors so that information can be mailed directly to them.

Woodstock First Nation, N.B.

1:00 p.m. - March 13th, 2006

Georgianna Barlow and Violet Paul of the Atlantic Policy Congress presented on the Assembly of First Nation and the Federal Government's current negotiations to approximately 8 members of the Woodstock First Nation in New Brunswick. Survivors were informed of the Political Agreement signed on May 30th, 2005 and the Agreement in Principle, which was signed on November 20th, 2005. The Alternative Dispute Resolution process was also discussed with survivors. Here are some questions and comments made during that session:

- I think that the Federal Government is going to wait for us all to die before they'll compensate us for what happened to us.
- I don't agree with families of deceased survivors only getting a settlement if the deceased passed on after May 30th, 2005
- When will we know if the Agreement in Principle is accepted?

Fredericton Native Friendship Center, N.B.

10:00 a.m. – March 23rd, 2006

In efforts to reach off-reserve Residential school survivors, Georgianna Barlow of the Atlantic Policy Congress presented to 5 former Indian Residential school survivors at the Fredericton Native Friendship Center on the Federal Government's current offer of

compensation which is the Agreement in Principle, the role of the Assembly of First Nations and the ADR process. Here are some questions and comments made during that session:

- They took away our self worth in those schools.
- What will happen for Indians who went to boarding schools and suffered the same abuses as those who were in Indian Residential schools?
- My father has dementia now and we can't even talk to him, so what will happen in his case?

Lennox Island First Nation, P.E.I.

1:00 p.m. – March 27th, 2006

Georgianna Barlow, with the assistance of Chief Darlene Bernard of the Lennox Island First Nation, presented to the survivors on the current issues and negotiations taking place with the Residential schools in Canada such as the Political Agreement and the Agreement in Principle. Survivors were made aware of the Alternative Dispute Resolution process and the future of court class actions. The following are some questions, comments and concerns raised during this presentation:

- Can direct descendants of survivors fight their claims in court?
- This needs to be resolved because I am not getting any younger.
- If I participate in the Independent Assessment process, I do not want the student who hurt me at the hearing.

Bouctouche First Nation, N.B.

March 23rd, 2006

Information packages and contact information has been sent to Bouctouche First Nation Administration office for any survivors who may live in that community.

Halifax Native Friendship Center, N.S.

10:00 a.m. – March 29th, 2006

In efforts to reach off reserve Residential School survivors, Violet Paul of the APC arranged for a session to take place on March 29th, however, no survivors attended so information packages were left at the Friendship Center and another session will have to be re-scheduled at a later date.

APC Atlantic Survivors Database System

Since the APC staff began conducting information sessions with communities, a database form has been handed out to survivors and former boarding school students. The database form requests their names, addresses and phone numbers. The reason for the database forms are to record the number of survivors living in the Atlantic and to also mail out the latest information to survivors. By having the information database, survivors could also be contacted for any upcoming meetings in communities and regionally. Since forms are coming into the APC office daily, here are the current numbers of survivors and former boarding school students on the database system:

Database forms Location Distribution	# of database forms received to date
Atlantic First Nation communities and U.S.	330

Information kiosks

An integral component of the public education campaign as well as reaching survivors who live off-reserve has involved setting up a Treaty information booth (kiosk) at various conferences and events. This is an excellent venue to distribute information on the Indian Residential School issue.

Location	Date
Richibouctou Scallop Festival, NB	July 8 th
Pabineau First Nation powwow, NB	July 9 th -10 th
Eel Ground First Nation powwow, NB	July 15 th -17 th
Perth Andover Information Center, NB	July 22 nd -24 th
Tobique First Nation powwow, NB	July 29 th -31 st
Listuguj First Nation powwow, QC	August 5 th -7 th
Millbrook First Nation powwow, N.S.	August 12 th -14 th
Treaty Day, N.S.	September 31 st
APC Health Conference, NB	January 31 st -February 1 st
Mawiw Youth Conference, NB	March 7 th

APC Residential School Website

Information on the Indian Residential School issue can also be found on the APC website at www.apcfn.ca. The information includes press releases on the issue as new developments arise, updates on negotiations between the AFN and the Federal Government such as the Political Agreement and the Agreement in Principle. Residential school articles written monthly in the Mi'kmaq Maliseet News can also be found on the website.

Summary of APC Information Sessions

April 2005 to March 2006

Location	Date	# of Survivors
Millbrook First Nation, NS	May 17 th , 2005	6
Membertou First Nation, NB	July 27 th , 2005	9
Chapel Island First Nation, NS	August 3 rd , 2005	10
Wagmatcook First Nation, NS	August 4 th , 2005	13
Whycomomagh First Nation, NS	August 5 th , 2005	15
Eskasoni First Nation, NS	August 12 th , 2005	50
Afton First Nation, NS	August 25 th , 2005	9
Pictou Landing First Nation, NS	August 25 th , 2005	12
Indian Brook First Nation, NS	August 26 th , 2005	25
Millbrook First Nation, NS	August 26 th , 2005	25
All Chiefs Meeting, NS	September 15 th , 2005	35
Elsipogtog First Nation, NB	September 16 th , 2005	10
Glooscap First Nation, NS	September 27 th , 2005	4
Burnt Church First Nation, NB	October 19 th , 2005	4
Abegweit First Nation, PEI	October 24 th , 2005	8
Oromocto First Nation, N.B.	November 4 th , 2005	1
Tobique First Nation, NB	November 10 th , 2005	5
Eskasoni First Nation, NS	November 24 th , 2005	40
Indian Brook First Nation, NS	November 29 th , 2005	35
Acadia First Nation, NS	December 3 rd , 2005	0
Membertou First Nation, NS	December 5 th , 2005	15
Annapolis First Nation, NS	December 7 th , 2005	3
Indian Island First Nation, NB	December 10 th , 2005	3
Glooscap First Nation, NS	December 12 th , 2005	4
Bear River First Nation, NS	December 13 th , 2005	2
Wagmatcook First Nation, NS	December 15 th , 2005	5
Whycomomagh First Nation, NS	December 15 th , 2005	20
Elsipogtog First Nation, NB	December 16 th , 2005	15
Tobique First Nation, NB	December 18 th , 2005	10
St. Mary's First Nation, NB	December 19 th , 2005	12
APC All Chiefs Meeting	January 11 th -12 th , 2006	50
Red Bank First Nation, NB	January 16 th , 2006	15
Eel Ground First Nation, NB	January 16 th , 2006	6
Eel River Bar First Nation, NB	January 20 th , 2006	5
Burnt Church First Nation, NB	January 24 th , 2006	10
APC Health Directors Meeting, NB	January 25 th , 2006	30
APC Health Conference, NB	January 31 st -February 1 st , 2006	15

Kingsclear First Nation, NB	February 2 nd , 2006	7
Chapel Island First Nation, NS	February 17 th , 2006	10
Woodstock First Nation, NB	March 13 th , 2006	8
Fredericton Native Friendship Center, NB	March 23 rd , 2006	5
Lennox Island First Nation, PEI	March 27 th , 2006	22
Total # of sessions held 41		# of people in sessions 587

Appendix A

Fredericton Nation Friendship Center
Residential School Session
March 23rd, 2006
10:30 a.m.

Present:

Rosemary Paul

Dixie Paul

Anna Nash

Theresa LaBillois

Lorna Burgess

Minutes

My dad is 75 years old and he's punishing himself from being in the Indian Residential School.

They took away our self worth in those schools.

What about foster homes? My sisters were in foster homes and they all got abused really bad.

My father has dementia now so we can't even talk to him. He's in a home for War Veterans here in Fredericton.

The Government is really dragging their feet on this issue.

With all the abuses we suffered, you can't even spank your kids today or you'll get charged.

Just from my father being abused, we were all abused and my dad and uncles would not discuss it so we never knew and if we did, then we would have understood better, but we forgive him.

How can you prove your abuses in Residential school?

Lennox Island First Nation
Residential School session
March 27th, 2006
1:00 p.m.

Participants

Harvey Labobe
Leo Peters
Rita Francis Cyr
Bertha Francis
Shirley St. Onge
Marilyn Sark
Tarry Hewit
Edward Bernard
Hardy Labobe
Stewart R. Lewis
Kathy Archer
Geneve Philipe
Emily Bernard
Kate Arseneault
Mary Fry
Susan Bernard
Diane Burke
Drew Fry
Vincent Tuplin
Martina Tuplin
George Kenneth Thomas
Gilbert F. Sark

Minutes

What is going to happen with the families of deceased former students?

Not fair that families of those who died will not receive compensation.

What about direct descendants, can they sue in the courts?

I'm not getting any younger.

I went to 3 different convents because we weren't allowed in the public schools because they didn't want Indians in their schools.

Some students killed themselves in the Shubie school because they couldn't take the abuse anymore. One girl drowned herself in the nearby pond and 2 other kids tried but they were caught before they could.

My mother passed away and us kids don't want our stepfather to get the money. What can we do about that?

Appendix B

Compensation & The Agreement in Principle

by Georgianna Barlow
APC

Agreement in Principle (AIP) Common Experience Payment (CEP) Alternative Dispute Resolution Process (ADR) Independent Assessment Process (IAP)

In this month's issue of the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet News, we are going to address one aspect of the Agreement in Principle which is the proposed Assembly of First Nations compensation package and other ways to resolve claims of abuse in Indian Residential Schools. In the next articles to come, other issues of the AIP will be addressed. The Agreement in Principle is not the final word on compensation, truth and reconciliation, commemoration and changes to the Alternative Dispute Resolution Process. The AIP is not a done deal.

The Agreement in Principle was signed on November 20th, 2005 still needs to be made into a legal document and have the approval of the courts in 6 provinces and 1 territory. The AIP is also subject to approval by the former students of Residential schools in Canada. If 5000 former Residential school students in Canada reject the Agreement in Principle, it will no longer exist and where the discussions go from there, has not been made clear. The courts and the students are the deciding factors - if the AIP becomes a Final Settlement Agreement. Although a new Government has been sworn in on February 6th, Prime Minister Stephen Harper has stated the Federal Government will honor the settlement package if the AIP enters into a Final Settlement Agreement and if the Agreement in Principle is approved by the Courts. The courts will begin reviewing the AIP in the months to come and the opt-out period for survivors to reject the AIP will take place between June to December of this year. If the AIP is accepted by the courts and the former stu-

dents, the \$10,000 plus the \$3000 could begin in January of 2007 for all survivors in Canada.

AFN proposed compensation

In the Political Agreement signed on May 30th, 2005, the proposed lump sum payment to survivors in Canada for loss of language and culture is in the amount of \$10,000 for the first year attended in the school and \$3000 for every year attended after.

The Agreement in Principle supported the lump sum payment but changed the name of the payment to the Common Experience Payment. The Common Experience Payment will go to every living survivor after May 30th, 2005, regardless of whether you settled a claim with the Federal Government or not. What I mean by this is, is that if you have already received compensation for abuses suffered in the Residential school, you will still be eligible for the Common Experience Payment. If survivors accept the CEP, they must then sign a waiver releasing Canada and the Churches of any further responsibility for abuses at an Indian Residential School and any claims for physical and sexual abuse will be settled under the Independent Assessment Process which is discussed in this article.

For the former students who have passed away before the May 30th, 2005 date, their families will not be receiving the Common Experience Payment. Families of deceased former students who passed away after May 30th, 2005 will receive the CEP and a \$5000 contribution towards funeral costs.

The Common Experience Payment will not affect your social assistance, your pension, or your old age. No money will be deducted from your Common Experience Payment. The CEP will be yours completely. The CEP is also protected from legal fees.

The early payment for survivors in the amount of

\$8000 in advance of the common experience payment has been approved by the Governor General Michaëlle Jean who has signed a warrant of release on January 21st, 2006. This payment will be made to survivors once the new Federal Government approves the release of the advance payment. While this payment was supposed to begin in January and February for survivors over the age of 65, it will take a little longer before the payment is sent out and the date for the early payment is unknown at this time.

Court Class Actions

Court Class Actions across Canada that have to do with groups of survivors fighting for compensation under the Residential School will no longer exist upon approval by the Courts and former students in Canada. Lawyers who represent survivors in Class Action suits will receive payments for work that they have done for survivors by the Federal Government. Lawyers who represents some survivors in the Baxter Class Action lawsuit, agreed to accept a payment from the Federal Government if the Agreement in Principle is approved, which means that they cannot touch the Common Experience Payment or ask you for payment out of your pocket. This also means that lawyers may no longer represent survivors in the Class Action suit should the AIP be approved. It is stated in the Agreement in Principle that any money that could go to survivors will be protected from legal fees.

If you do accept the Common Experience Payment, you must sign a waiver stating that you will not sue the Federal Government and the Churches in Canada for any further compensation with regards to abuses suffered in the Indian Residential School. If you wish to fight for claims of physical and sexual abuse, you will have to take your claim to the newly improved Alternative Dis-

pute Resolution process, which would be change to the Independent Assessment Process.

Alternative Dispute Resolution Process

The Assembly of First Nations, as stated in the Political Agreement wanted changes made to the Alternative Dispute Resolution process. This process has existed since 2003 as a way for survivors to fight for physical and sexual abuse and wrongful confinement, which means, for example, if you were locked in a dark space for a period of time. It is an out of court, closed hearing which takes 9-10 months to complete. You could go through the ADR alone or with a group of survivors and fight together. Like the courts, you may receive compensation or you may not, which depends on the ruling of the adjudicator. An adjudicator is not a judge. The adjudicator has been given information about Aboriginal culture, child abuse and the Residential school system and is fully trained to work in the ADR process. The adjudicator determines if you are entitled to compensation. In determining compensation, a point system is used. For example, you could receive between 45-60 points for repeated incidents of anal and vaginal intercourse. The survivor can also submit documents, such as medical history, school records and have witnesses testify on their behalf, such as another

student who attended the Residential school with them and the survivor's psychologist can also testify. Once the points are counted up for proven acts of abuse, the adjudicator will ask you if you will accept a compensation amount and it's up to the survivor whether they want to accept the settlement. A lawyer is recommended in this process so the survivor knows their rights and is aware that should they accept a settlement proposed to them under the ADR, they can no longer sue the Federal Government for further compensation. The fee for getting legal advice is \$600 which the Federal Government will pay so you don't have to. The Federal Government will also contribute 15% towards legal fees should the survivor win compensation under the ADR process. The ADR process is a current way of settling your claim.

A survivor would have a lawyer or form filler fill out a 35 page application discussing the abuse that took place at the Residential School. The Federal Government will let the survivor know if their application has or hasn't been accepted. If having to discuss your abuses is too hard to handle emotionally, survivors would have a counseling hotline to call which is located on the application form. Mental health support is also available to survivors, such as counseling. If a survivor does win compensation, they could

receive up to \$245,000. The only thing was that this high payment only applied to survivors who lived in specific provinces, such as British Columbia or Ontario and not to survivors who live in the Atlantic Provinces. The payments did not treat survivors fairly. The reason for this is the Federal Governments contribution agreements with the different religions that ran the Residential schools. The Government's arrangement with the churches is that they would pay 70% of the compensation and the churches would pay 30% of the compensation, making that 100%. Since the Roman Catholic churches took their contribution and gave it to the Aboriginal Healing Foundation, survivors who attended a Catholic school and received compensation would only get 70% of their compensation and not the remaining 30%. Now, the Federal Government is fully responsible for ensuring that all survivors who receive compensation are given 100% of their compensation regardless of what church ran the Residential school and this includes the Catholic Church. If survivors are interested in proceeding in the ADR as an individual or as a group, you can write a letter to your lawyer stating that you no longer require their services. The ADR is still in existence but if the AIP is accepted by the courts and the former students, it will change as I explain further.

Continued on page 26

**CAPE BRETON
UNIVERSITY**

Human Resources Department

Tel: (902) 903-1199 Fax: (902) 903-1459

E-mail: humanresources@cbu.ns.ca

P.O. Box 5900, 1250 Grand Lake Road, Sydney, NS, Canada B1P 0L2

Full posting available at www.capebreton.ns.ca

Director, Mi'kmaq College Institute

Reference #MCI0602

Closing Date: March 31, 2006

Cape Breton University (CBU) seeks a dynamic individual from within the Mi'kmaq community to assume the directorship of the Mi'kmaq College Institute (MCI). The Director will provide leadership in the development, expansion and implementation of Mi'kmaq programs and services at CBU. The successful candidate must have undertaken graduate studies in education, business, science or the social sciences. Experience in senior management within a First Nations and/or postsecondary environment is desirable, as is fluency in the Mi'kmaq language. A position profile is available upon request to all interested candidates.

Please visit our website to view the full job posting.

Compensation & The Agreement in Principle

Continued from page 3

As stated in the new Agreement in Principle, changes to the ADR process have been made. It is now called the Independent Assessment Process. It is still an out of court process, which will take 9-10 months and survivors may or may not receive compensation. But the application may be shortened to 14 pages and other harms have been added to this new process. Like the ADR process, the compensation is determined by a point system. The compensation amount has also been changed to ensure that all survivors are treated fairly. Survivors could receive up to \$275,000 for abuses suffered. As well, up to \$250,000 could also be awarded for loss of opportunity which means that if you were unable to hold down a job or even get a job due to your experiences at the Indian Residential school, you could fight for compensation. An amount of up to

\$15,000 could also be awarded to survivors for future care for medical treatment, counseling or psychiatric treatment. This new process addresses more harms than the current ADR process, such as severe psychological abuse, pregnancies that took place in the Residential school, abortions, physical and sexual abuse by other employees at the school such as a gardener or a janitor, abuses by other students and also having to witness abuses of other students by the Priests and the nuns. Survivors who participate in the Independent Assessment Process will have their legal fees paid. Any money that survivors could receive under this process will be theirs completely. Mental health supports are also available in this new process.

The APC is currently looking into First Nation lawyers and other lawyers who could help survivors who wish to participate in

this process. These lawyers could help by explaining the process to survivors and possibly represent them in the Independent Assessment Process, which is up to the survivor. These lawyers could also help survivors fill out will kits so that if the survivor passes away, they could leave any money that they receive from the Government under the Residential school to whoever they wish. If a survivor does not have a will in place, any money that they own could go back to the Federal Government. The APC wants to make sure that survivors and their rights are protected from those who wish to take advantage of them by having the proper legal supports in place. The IAP, as stated in the Agreement in Principle still needs the approval of the courts and the former students in Canada. The Agreement in Principle is not a done deal and therefore does not require a survivor to hire a

lawyer at this time. Hiring a lawyer is a choice of the survivor and the lawyer that a survivor chooses is their right, too. Please remember that when you hire a lawyer, that lawyer works for you and not the other way around. The lawyer's role is to ensure that you are fully aware of what is going on

and should always keep in close contact with you.

For more information on the Agreement in Principle and other issues related to the Indian Residential School, or if survivors in communities would like more information on the Alternative Dispute Resolution process and how to

participate in it, you can contact Georgianna Barlow with the Atlantic Policy Congress toll free at (877)667-4007 or through email at georgianna.barlow@apcfn.ca. You can also visit our website at www.apcfn.ca.

Kmitkinu aq Maqmikewminu

Our Birthright & Our Land

Continued from page 8

The judges looked behind the treaty, not just at what was written on the face of it, but looked at the record of negotiations and the parties' intentions. The Court repeated the need for government and First Nations to negotiate acceptable solutions to detailed implementation of the constitutional Rights. Two months later, in November of 1999, the Supreme Court of Canada released the Marshall (No.2) decision which clarified that the governments had the authority to regulate for conservation or other grounds.

In the aftermath of Marshall, exploratory talks continued regarding a long-term Rights-based process. In January 2001, the 13 Nova Scotia Chiefs, Minister Michael Baker (Aboriginal Affairs) and Minister Robert Nault (Indian Affairs) met in

Truro and agreed to negotiate an Umbrella Agreement to begin the long-term Rights-based negotiation process to deal with outstanding Treaty, Title and Aboriginal Rights questions in Nova Scotia and protect the Mi'kmaq constitutional position in any discussions with government.

On June 7, 2002 the thirteen Nova Scotia Chiefs signed the Umbrella Agreement on behalf of their communities. The Umbrella Agreement is a political commitment by all 13 Mi'kmaq Chiefs, Nova Scotia, and Canada to enter into a negotiation process, and to develop a Terms of Reference for a proper Consultation Process. However, substantive negotiations concerning Treaty, Title and Aboriginal Rights will not begin until a Framework Agreement is accepted and signed by all three parties.

The Framework Agreement

is a document in which the parties agree about how and what they will negotiate. The Agreement does not deal with the actual Rights and Title of the Mi'kmaq in Nova Scotia or how those Rights are to be exercised. It does not commit the parties to agree, and certainly does not commit the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia to give anything up. It commits the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, Canada, and Nova Scotia to talk and negotiate in good faith about the definition, recognition and implementation of Mi'kmaq Rights and Title. We as Mi'kmaq can now participate in the definition and future implementation of Mi'kmaq Rights and Title.

For further information, contact Diana Campbell at the Kwikwuk Maw-klunawq Negotiation Office at 1-888-803-3880 or visit our website at www.mikmaqrights.com.

Fishery Plays Part in Membertou Progress

Continued from page 4

know the fishery and have been certified for training. "We've used non-Native mentors, but it's easier for our guys to work with Native ones," Lance Paul says. "They share the same culture, same language, same Mi'kmaq outlook on the resource and how everything ties together."

"The mentor goes aboard and he becomes like a shadow for the first mate. He shows him how to keep track of what everyone's doing on deck, how to operate behind the wheel, everything to do with fishing." Membertou belongs to several fishermen's organizations, and takes part in fishery management through DFO's many advisory committees. "You have to keep up with new developments all the time," Lance Paul says, "to plan what's best for the fishery and the Band."

On the business side, Membertou struck an early deal with Clearwater, a seafood giant. Membertou lands all its

snow crab at Clearwater's Glace Bay plant. Ten to twenty Band members work at the plant during the crab processing season. The packaged crab products bear Membertou's name as well as Clearwater's, and the Band gets a share of any profits.

Chief Terrance Paul and chief executive officer Bemd Christmas have both won wide recognition for promoting the Band's commercial growth. Business ventures include the Membertou Trade and Commerce Centre, a convention facility in the Band's commercial park. And the fishery, Canada's oldest industry, is playing its part in the new buildup.

"Fishing produces total revenues close to \$1.8 million," Lance Paul says. "Snow crab quotas and prices have gone down, but we're trying to do better with what we have, and we're always looking at expanding. Overall, we're pretty happy."

Overall, we're pretty happy. O



ULNOOWEG
DEVELOPMENT GROUP INC.

Is the proud host of the
2nd Annual
Atlantic Aboriginal Entrepreneur
Awards Show



September 12, 2006
Membertou Convention Center
Sydney, NS
2006 Aboriginal Entrepreneur Award

See website or call for more information on nomination process, booth space and partnership opportunities:
www.ulnooweg.ca - Toll Free: 1-888-766-2376