Mi’kmaw Kina’amatnewey Education in Mi’kmaw Language Development

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Mi’kmaw Kina’matnewey

Who We Are

We are a unified team of chiefs, staff, parents and educators who advocate on behalf of and represent the educational interests of our communities, and we protect the educational and Mi’kmaw language rights of the Mi’kmaq people.

Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey (MK) continues to work on improving the quality of education for our people, while remaining vigilant in maintaining and revitalizing our Mi'kmaq language.

Highlights and Successes

88% Graduation Rate
Mi’kmaw Kina’matnewey
Our Communities
Mi’kmaw Kina’matnewey

Vision

Our people have a common opportunity that provides the best possible educational experience such that our students achieve the highest standards in Canada in the broadest sense, and they are comprehensively prepared for their chosen next steps after high school. The education is provided in a way that our language, culture, and traditions are fostered in their lives thereafter and embedded in their character. We will achieve these goals in both our community as well as in provincial schools.

Our Organization & Departments

- Atlantic Canada’s First Nation Help Desk
- First Nation Student Success Program (FNSSP)
- Sports & Healthy Living
- Post Secondary
- Student Services
Language Advisory Committee

Who we are

- Representative(s) from each MK community sit on the Advisory Committee with a vested interest in Language and experience in teaching, developing, translating. We meet each month to review the strategic plan for Language (Ta’n teli L’nuimk).

Overview

- Review the Strategic Plan
- Special topics and interests
- Upcoming training and programming
- Translation requests
- A vetting model for all resources in the language to ensure quality
- Connectedness
Robert Munsch Project

- Successful translation of 7 Robert Munsch Books
  - Ksalultes Iapjiw (Love You Forever)
  - Ketu’ Pi’si! (I Have To Go!)
  - Tuma Kesikewey Wsiawekiaqeweym (Thomas’ Snowsuit)
  - Elui’tmasimk (A Promise is a Promise)
  - Antle Ewe’kitek Wipit (Andrew’s Loose Tooth)
  - Walqupaqték (Mud Puddle)
  - Antle Netake’k (I’m So Embarrassed)

- An overview of the project
  - Funded by Education Partnerships Program (EPP)
  - Requests, Rights & Permissions
  - Products (Teacher Guide, Audio)
Strong Nation Project

- Successful Translation of 80 Books (2 Series)
- Educators Resource Guide
- Purpose: To Support Guided Reading in Immersion
- Extended: for Oral Language Activities in non-Immersion classrooms.
- Overview of the Project
Strategic Plan

- **Objective 1** – Improve learning Mi’kmaw language opportunities for our students to promote bilingualism
  - Mentoring
  - Mi’kmaw Language Oral Proficiency Scale

- **Objective 2** – Improve resources and support for teachers
  - Curriculum Development (IMMERSION)
  - Lesson Plans for our Apps
Strategic Plan

Objective 3 – Provide our students programs and resource to revitalize the Mi’kmaw language by providing programs and creating learning opportunities
- App Development
- Professional Development
- Language Programming
- Curriculum Development (CORE)
- L’nuimk Oral Language Assessment
- Resource Development

Objective 4 – To implement the Treaty Education Nova Scotia Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and to coordinate activities associated with the MOU.
- Support MK & Provincial Schools
- Increase Treaty Education awareness in NS public service, public school
App Development

- Apps and iBooks (iOS & Android)
- Over 40 Apps Developed for iOS & Android
- Search: Mi’kmaw Kina’matnewey
- Purpose of the Apps we develop
- How we engage our communities and learners
iTunesU & iBook Projects

- iTunesU project overview
  - Overview & Team
  - Intention
  - Courses (Areas of General, Language, Literacy, Math)
- iBook project overview
  - Overview & Team
  - Intention
  - Books (Areas of Interest)
- Funded by EPP
L’nuimk Oral Language Assessment

Our Journey

- Phase 1: Planning & Design
- Phase 2: Design & Development
- Phase 3: Development & Implementation
L’nuimk Oral Language Assessment

Our Assessment
L’nuimk Oral Language Assessment

Our Assessment
L’nuimk Oral Language Assessment

Pilot
Curriculum

- Foundation for the Mi'kmaq Language document
  - Function
  - Accuracy
  - Culture
  - Novice – Basic – Intermediate levels of language

- Novice Level Curriculum*
  - ‘Prescribed’ Curriculum (creating consistency)
  - 75% Oral
  - 25% Other ways of representation (reading, writing, arts, etc)
Learning through Play & Inquiry

- Focusing on Oral Language Development in the Early Years
  - Primary Implementation
  - 15 Grade Primary classrooms (5 year olds) transformed their classrooms and teacher pedagogy that focuses the child’s learning through play.
  - Both English and Immersion programs
  - iTunesU course

- K4 & Grade One Implementation
  - Kindergarten (4 year olds) transforming their classrooms and teacher pedagogy in 2016-2017. Focused on Play
  - Grade One transforming their classrooms and teacher pedagogy in 2016-2017. Focused on Play and Inquiry Based Learning.
Conferences

- **L’nui’sultinej Conference**
  - Conference for Educators to share best practices and pedagogy.
  - Networking, sharing and planning hub for language.
  - May 17 – 19, 2017 (Eskasoni, NS)
  - www.lnuisultinej.ca

- **Siawi-L’nui’sultinej Conference**
  - September 2016
  - NIB & Tripartite Funded Initiative
  - 13 Communities in Nova Scotia
  - Keynotes
  - Planning
  - Logistics
Professional Development

History

MK has always invested in teacher development through professional development, training, professional learning networks/communities.

Some notable PD’s in Language have been: Metallic Approach, TPR, Networking Sessions, Development Sessions, Curriculum Sessions.

Our consultants are invested in providing the best training and development to our teachers in other areas such as Literacy, Numeracy, Student Services, PSE, Healthy Living. We work together in many training opportunities to ensure quality programming and training.

Upcoming for Language

Networking
Development
Novice Level Curriculum
Exciting Language Opportunities

Master Apprentice (10 Groups)
Wela’liek

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