

The Blue Paper



Mawio'miktuk kinu Kaqmulti'kw + Naskwieykw kinu Nisietesnu

<https://www.obama.org/updates/president-obama-roundtable-ottawa>



MINDY DENNY MEETS 44TH PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

Mindy, Director of First Nations Information Governance & Data Projects, was one of nine (9) inspirational leaders chosen for a conversation with President Barack Obama on May 31 in Ottawa. She discussed the importance of data to good governance and how their work helps shape Mi'kmaq communities. Photo provided by the Obama Foundation.

Social Media

Facebook.com/TheUNSI

Visit the above link and like our page! You will find useful information on upcoming programs and services, events, and when our teams will be in your community!

Coming soon

New logo and website

UNSM will soon relaunch its website with a modern look! Stay tuned for updates by visiting www.unsi.ns.ca and our social media page.

Office Closures

Summer Vacation

All UNSM offices close for annual vacation on Thursday, July 25, at 12:00 pm noon until Thursday, August 15, 2019. Summer hours continue until end of August.



Terri-Ann Johnson, Jordan's Principle, and Richard 'Buddy' Young, Mental Wellness, received the CEO Award of Excellence from Parks Canada for inspirational contribution to the Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site *Mi'kmaq Learn to Camp* project.

KARLEE JOHNSON INDIGENIZES THE SENATE

Karlee joined seven influential, young peers for the fourth *Youth Indigenize the Senate* in Ottawa on June 4-5. She is the Capacity Development Lead for the Cancer Prevention & Care Strategy, and was previously a service coordinator assistant with Jordan's Principle. Prior to joining UNSM in 2018, Karlee majored in Medical Sciences at Dalhousie University. Photo provided by the Senate of Canada.



<https://sencanada.ca/en/sencaplus/new/s/senators-hear-stories-of-resilience-from-indigenous-youth-leaders>

CONGRATS TO RECENT GRADUATES!

AARON PROSPER AND KIRSTIN WARD

Kirstin Ward, Capacity Development Coordinator, recently graduated from the University of New Brunswick's Human Resources Management Program. She has been with UNSM since 2017 and also holds a BBA. Aaron Prosper, Cancer Prevention Strategy team lead, graduated with his Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience from Dalhousie University. He also served as the first Mi'kmaq student union president and joined our team in early 2019, before finishing his final semester. (Pictured right: Kirstin Ward)



Executive Director's message

FROM DOUGLAS BROWN, LLB

Kwé aq p'jila'si to *The Blue Paper*, the newsletter of the **Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq**. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Union, and our offices are excited! The UNSM team is delighted to host a memorial grand opening on July 11 – the very same date that our founders held the first UNSM meeting back in 1969. Unfortunately, this year we lost the Acadia First Nation as a member band, so our five member bands are now all of Unama'ki. Acadia was with us for 49 of our 50 years and we will certainly miss the leadership, heart and style of Chief Deborah Robinson.

Since our 2017 renovations, our staff has doubled! We had 15 employees then, and now we have 32! Capacity Development and FNIGDP units hired summer students Richard Cabot and Bertram Bernard. Our Health department formed the Cancer Prevention & Care Strategy in January, hiring Aaron Prosper, Karlee Johnson, Chelsea Googoo and Dylan LeTendre. Storm Gould recently joined the Jordan's Principle team as a Coordinator Assistant in Eskasoni. I'd like to welcome our new staff and thank and congratulate our longtime teammates for their dedication, hard work and professionalism all of which reflects admirably upon the Union and streamlines the process of fulfilling our mission to serve our Unama'ki communities.