



The Two-Eyed Seeing (Etuaptmumk) Program Leadership Newsletter

Kwe', Hello leadership team,

We hope this message finds you well! Based on your feedback, we're sharing our leadership team newsletter. Moving forward, we'll send you 3-4 newsletters a year to keep you up-to-date.

When reading, consider how you would like to engage with the program. This can be by providing feedback, leading a project/activity, joining meetings, or asking questions.

We want your feedback and for you to feel supported in providing it!

Special shout out to Shiela Francis, Pictou Landing, for catalysis of the newsletter 2.0.

wela'lioq,

Cheyenne, Cathy, Shannan, and Krista

Please contact us at tesprogram@msvu.ca

Update #1: Change in Leadership

We have a bittersweet update to share. **Shannan Grant** has accepted a position at Heart & Stroke Foundation to engage more closely with people living with and caring for people at risk of or living with cardiometabolic disease. This means she will be leaving her current role with the Two-Eyed Seeing Program. Shannan's contributions have been invaluable, and we are deeply grateful for the love, time, and dedication she has poured into the good work we do. Thankfully, Shannan will continue with us as part of the leadership team.

While Shannan transitions into her new role, we're thrilled to officially welcome **Dr. Krista Collier-Jarvis**, Mi'kmaw full time faculty at MSVU. She is a former student at MSVU and completed an MA and a PhD at Dalhousie. Krista will coordinate the program alongside staff, Cathy Leblanc and Cheyenne Hardy, ensuring our work involves key

members of the MSVU community. She will oversee our grants/funding from February 2025 until the end of the grant period in December. Can you believe it's our final year?



Krista Collier-Jarvis wearing a medallion made by local artist Crystin Edwards and gifted to Krista by Dr. Margaret Robinson on the day of her PhD defence. (Nick Pearce photos)

NSERC PromoScience has been an amazing support to our program and encourages us to propose to act on our plans (2022-2025) by moving the program into a community-based institution for the next funding cycle. We'll work closely with community and the leadership team to shape the program's potential future, as we have for the last three grant applications.

Update #2: Upcoming Events

Nutrition as Medicine (Mijipjewey na Pisun)

Thank you to the leadership team for your support of this talk, which will be sponsored by Two-Eyed Seeing Program and Science Atlantic, and delivered by Tuma Young, longtime mentor of and contributor to our program.

Guided by Etuaptmumk, this event will bring together scientists, community members, industry, healthcare providers, and more, to listen to Tuma Young's teachings on nutrition and food. This talk will set the stage for the conference and challenge delegates to think beyond their western perspectives, laboratories, and classrooms.



FREE Admission to this remote Keynote Speaker Event

Science Atlantic Nutrition and Foods Conference

Date: Friday, March 28, 7:00PM – 8:00PM AST

Speaker: Tuma Young (remote presentation)

Topic: Food, food security, and their connection to Indigenous rights and Two-Eyed Seeing

Tuma has been an invaluable mentor with the program. We encourage all of you, and your students, to support him by attending this presentation! Email tesprogram@msvu.ca for the link. Free!

Planting Seeds: Growing Together in Education and Employment

Planting Seeds is a new initiative that grew out of the feedback from education support staff, Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey (MK), community, and youth.

It is designed for youth in grades 7–9 and focuses on education and employment readiness, this activity series aims to empower young people navigating challenging systems and addresses inequities, particularly for Indigenous youth. Guided by Etuaptmumk, this event aims to support youth in growing together and influencing education and employment systems and structures.

We're hoping to collaborate with local leaders and partners, including MK, Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre, and Native Council of Nova Scotia, to create events that include:

- Self-discovery
- Identifying strengths, and areas for skill building
- Practical skills like resume writing and job searching
- Learning about supportive community resources
- Feedback collection from youth, on application and interview processes

As it has been traditionally, our goal is to create youth mentors who can bring these teachings back to their communities for future planting seeds events.

Update #3: Beyond the Seven Sacred Teachings



In 2024, **Doreen Bernard** shared her perspectives on the Seven Sacred Teachings. Her insights guided our update of our program policies, protocols, and procedures, and inspired an interactive community art activity, hosted at MSVU Art Gallery, in collaboration with Mi'kmaw artist [Jessica Jerome](#).

Jessica crafted a stunning piece that was featured in the MSVU Art Gallery's community art show in December. Visitors wrote words that represented each sacred teaching on designated leaves (one colour for each teaching). Jessica is transforming the community piece into a permanent digital installation for our [website](#).

Thank you to everyone who participated in this meaningful project! Look for the final document in our next newsletter!

Update #4: **Upcoming** Book Kit Project!

Based on community feedback, with MK, and other community-based partners, we are working to create **Two-Eyed Seeing Book Kits** for classrooms and youth grades 7-9, filled with books guided by Two-Eyed Seeing. These kits will help foster learning and mentorship, with youth encouraged to read to younger children using the books as part of buddy system.

We're collaborating with MK and the leadership team to identify gaps and ensure the boxes reach the schools and areas in community that need them most. If you have book recommendations, we'd love to hear them!

Update #5: Keeping the Community Informed and Engaged

Social Media Campaigns

We recently held two social media campaigns:



1. MK's new Nilu'nal app brings traditional recipes from community to your kitchen. We posted each recipe in Mi'kmaw and English and encouraged others to try to make it for themselves!
2. Jessica Jerome showcased her talent on our social media. People who engaged with the posts were entered to win a print of their choice from Jess. **Congratulations to Jennifer Chase**, who will be taking home this beautiful print!

Website

We continue to develop our website, adding bios of our leadership team and staff as well as links to resources created by our program and community over the years. Check it out [here](#)! Stay tuned for more updates!

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. Let us know how you'd like to stay involved, and feel free to share your thoughts on this newsletter format and content!

Take care,

The Two-Eyed Seeing Program Team