



The Two-Eyed Seeing (Etuaptmumk) Program Leadership Newsletter

Kwe', Hello leadership team,

Below is our Spring/Summer newsletter. We have a lot of fun and impactful work coming up, and we are excited to tell you all about it.

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!

wela'lioq,

Cheyenne, Cathy, and Krista

Please contact us at tesprogram@msvu.ca

Update #1: Completed Events

New Moon, New You – Native Council

In 2024, we partnered with Native Council of NS for a 'New Moon, New You' event, diving into Cathy's book, *Mi'kmaw Moons*, and setting our goals. This year, we returned to reflect and envision our goals for 2025.

It was a joy reconnecting with familiar faces and meeting new ones! Cathy shared a story about the Spring Time Moon, and we utilized a SMART goal tool to articulate our dreams. Attendees trusted us to share their stories, making it a very impactful and uplifting event.



Nutrition as Medicine (Mijipjewey na Pisun)

On Friday, March 28, Tuma Young delivered an insightful keynote address at the Science Atlantic Nutrition & Foods Conference, exploring treaties, Mi'kmaw food traditions, and the ties between food, culture, and identity—a powerful reminder that we need to understand this before working with food. We are always grateful for the opportunity to work with and learn from Tuma Young.



Update #2: Upcoming Events

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, such as resume writing and job searching
- Learning about supportive community resources
- Collecting feedback 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.

New Moon, New You – Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre

Word of our event with the Native Council has spread, and now the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre is eager to partner with us! We're excited to share *Mi'kmaw Moons* and our SMART tools with them.



Update #3: Working with Jessica Jerome

Procedures and Protocols

In 2024, Doreen Bernard's teachings on the Seven Sacred Teachings helped shape our updated policies and inspired a community art project with Mi'kmaw artist [Jessica Jerome](#) at the MSVU Art Gallery.



Jessica's interactive piece, featured in the December show, invited visitors to reflect on the teachings by adding words to colour-coded leaves. She is now transforming it into a permanent digital installation for our website.

This artwork is guiding the development of a public-facing document that will reflect our updated procedures and the values at the heart of our work.

Mural and Mentorship

An exciting opportunity has emerged for us to collaborate with MSVU Facilities, the Library, and the Indigenous Student Centre. Our program is dedicated to helping Indigenous youth see themselves in the university setting. As part of this, Jessica will be mentoring both an Indigenous youth and an Indigenous MSVU student. Together, the trio will co-create a meaningful art installation that will be displayed in the MSVU Library.

Update #4: Upcoming Book Kit Project!

Based on community feedback, we are working with MK, and other community-based partners, 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 the buddy system.

We're seeking to identify gaps and ensure the boxes reach the schools and areas in community that need them most. We have currently identified 5 books that we are considering to use in the kits, all from authors who are from communities in Nova Scotia. We are so incredibly proud of that! We are open to suggestions, so if you have any, let us know!

Update #5: Keeping the Community Informed and Engaged

Upcoming Social Media Campaigns

Other than our regularly posted content showcasing our work, we also plan on doing a couple social media campaigns:

1. Local Artist Spotlight – Book Kit Launch

To celebrate the launch of our book kits, we'll be running a campaign highlighting local artists. We're proud of the authors involved and believe their work deserves to be in the spotlight! This will also be a great way to engage with our followers by asking what books they're reading with the children and youth in their lives.

2. Rename Our Procedures and Protocols – Contest

As mentioned, an art piece will be tied to our procedures and protocols. However, we feel that term doesn't fully reflect the spirit of the document. Once further developed, it will be shared with our leadership team. To help rename it, we'll launch a social media contest inviting followers to submit name ideas. The winner will receive a prize and a shoutout!

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!



Year in Review Booklet

We've been developing a 2024 Year in Review booklet that outlines the exciting projects we worked on over the past year. Once finalized, the booklet will be shared with our partners, leadership team, and other interested stakeholders.

Two-Eyed Seeing Program Video

In 2024, the Two-Eyed Seeing Program video was reviewed by the Working Group, and feedback was provided to the video editor, Matt Stones. Following suggestions from several members, we also interviewed Dr. Ramona Lumpkin, former university president, who shared the university's perspective on the program and spoke to its importance in academia. Matt is now finalizing the video, and we hope to circulate it very soon.



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