



# Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs Secretariat Inc.

~ Nikanitaiek ~

ANNUAL REPORT 2003 - 2004

~ Peoples Moving Forward ~

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

In fiscal year 2003-2004 the APC Secretariat and Chiefs continued efforts to provide input and influence on policy decision of the federal government. The Chiefs held five (5) All Chiefs Forums where twenty five (25) resolutions were adopted for action and follow-up.

The antagonistic relationship between the Chiefs and DIAND in particular continued with the government pursuing its own agenda without adequate consultation or input from First Nation leaders. This situation began to change with the appointment in December of a new Prime Minister (Prime Minister Paul Martin) and new minister of Indian Affairs (Honourable Andy Mitchell). Based on the commitments detailed in various speeches, the government of the new Prime Minister was to develop and implement a new aboriginal agenda to improve the lives and living conditions of aboriginal people in Canada. Additionally, a key controversial act called the First Nation Governance Act died on the government Order Paper when parliament adjourned.

One key piece of legislation that was adopted was the Specific Claim Resolution Act. The final legislation was not changed to address all First Nation concerns but the new government

committed to work with First Nation leaders to make the legislation feasible for First Nations and to expedite resolution of claims.

The APC Secretariat conducted the first All Chiefs and Councilors forum on September 23rd and 24th, 2003 in Moncton, New Brunswick. The discussions focused on the role and mandate of the APC Secretariat and the identification of key priorities. The discussions also allowed the participants to identify the top ten (10) priorities. Based on the priorities identified, the work of the APC Secretariat focused on these ten areas and other issues raised through Chiefs resolutions. The ten priorities are listed as follows:

### ▶▶ APC PRIORITY AREAS

1. Health
2. Housing
3. Economic Development
4. First Nation Education
5. Social Reform
6. Land Claims
7. Fisheries
8. Additions to Reserves
9. Financial Management Debt
10. Treaty Education Initiative (TEI)

Based on a review completed of APC Secretariat and based on the input of First Nation Councils, the APC Secretariat developed a workplan to begin efforts to implement all of the various changes proposed.

### ▶▶ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

APC Secretariat staff continued work to advocate and support programs and actions identified in the Atlantic Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy. APC Secretariat staff organized and operated the RPRC (Regional Project Review Committee) and the AAEDN (Atlantic Aboriginal Economic



John G. Paul, Executive Director APC Sect.

Developers Network)) to support strategies and actions proposed and updated the Chiefs on progress at various meetings throughout the fiscal year. The APC Secretariat staff worked closely with Ulnooweg Development Group Inc. and the Tripartite Economic Development Working Group to ensure efforts were coordinated and all opportunities put forth to support the collaboration of key strategic actions.

The RIAED (Research Institute on Aboriginal Economic Development) is now transformed based on input of ACOA (Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency) as a research agenda with no core funding or structure. Federal and provincial agencies continue dialogue on the research agenda but have provided no positive, tangible support. The research needs of the First Nations of APC Secretariat are clearly viewed as secondary to federal economic priorities and research projects. The nature and

### Contents

1 ...	Executive Director's Report
4 ...	All Chiefs and Councils Forum
8 ...	Aboriginal Rights and Treaty Education Initiative Report
11 ...	Fisheries Report
13 ...	Economic Development Report
14 ...	Health Report
18 ...	Housing Report
18 ...	Progress Report on the Establishment of an Integrated Research Program
19 ...	Social Reform Report
19 ...	ICT Report
21 ...	Financial Statements



l - r Chief Second Peter Barlow, the late Chief Michael Augustine & Chief Lawrence Paul



Cheryl Knockwood & John G. Paul, APC Sect.

focus of the research is clearly supported by communities who need such critical data and strategic information to help create sustainable economies and long term employment opportunities.

#### ▶ SOCIAL REFORM

In spite of Chiefs resolutions and twenty seven (27) First Nation Council resolutions to support and maintain capacity at APC Secretariat to support First Nations, DIAND regionally and nationally rejected the idea of social reform and refused to provide any funding. APC Secretariat continued to work with reduced staff to support social reform implementation but due to the lack of funding was forced to discontinue the efforts of the social reform workplan in the fall of 2003. APC Secretariat staff also detailed the long term implications of a policy and authority renewal of social for DIAND. This policy renewal is seen as a cost control exercise to limit costs, narrow eligible services, and manage service population growth for First Nation communities. Implications of this cost control framework will limit First Nations ability to achieve the social vision articulated by the Chiefs as follows:

"To provide the Mi'kmaq and Maliseet First Nations with the necessary authority to provide an inclusive, holistic, client – centered and culturally based social development service system that promotes independence, self-reliance and community well being."

Financial costs for the provision of basic social services reasonably comparable to provincial governments must also be achieved within the current limited DIAND budget. Improvements or implementation of social reform is not a DIAND priority and is expected to be carried out at the First Nation level using existing capacity and existing financial resources of the First Nations

within the limits of the First Nation FTA's (Flexible Transfer Agreements).

#### ▶ FISHERIES

The APC Secretariat continues to advocate the interests and concerns of individual First Nation communities to the DFO (Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada). The issues were raised and documented to the former Minister Robert Thibault at the All Chiefs Forum in August 2003. APC Secretariat continued to raise issues of actions beyond existing Marshall Agreements and the future growing needs of First Nation communities to Minister Reagan. DFO agreed to work on implementing agreements as negotiated and to provide access on an ongoing basis through the Marshall Response initiative beyond March 2004.

Two (2) significant workshops were jointly conducted with DFO to highlight efforts and improvements in At Sea Mentoring, First Nation governance, management training and the need for development of a business strategy. All documentation and information was shared and provided to the growing network of First Nation Fisheries Coordinators.

#### ▶ HEALTH

##### *Annual Mi'kmaq Maliseet Atlantic Health Conference*

The annual Mi'kmaq and Maliseet Health Conference were held in January 2004. The conference was a very successful with over 200 participants attending from all sectors of the health spectrum. The theme at the health conference was "Circles of Health, Client Centered Care" and the reason this theme was chosen was to promote the ideal of holistic health care.

##### *Honouring Our People Banquet*

Each year the health conference has a banquet to honour individuals for their dedication and hard work in the field of health. This year we honoured health workers with "Appreciation Awards" and also introduced the "Chief Michael Augustine Award" in memory of the late Chief Michael Augustine of Metepenagiag who died in a tragic accident in November 2003.

##### *NIHB Client Consent Form Initiative*

Health Canada has established the NIHB Client Consent Initiative in response to the Justice Departments information that certain activities conducted through the NIHB program

violate the privacy of First Nation clients. The NIHB client consent initiative would obtain the signed consent of eligible First Nation clients that would allow for collecting, sharing and disclosure of their personal health information and processing of payments to providers.

National Chief Phil Fontaine and the new Health Minister Pierre Pettigrew resolved the Client Consent Initiative issue and . Health Canada announced a new approach in February 2004, to the Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Programs Consent Initiative. Health Canada agreed to a new strategy that includes the removal of the March 2004 deadline and an approach based upon expressed consent.

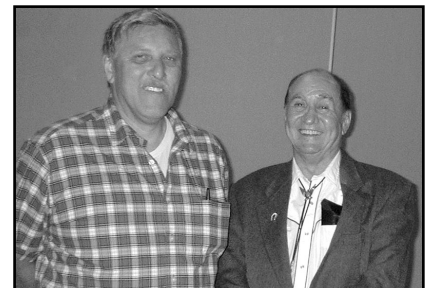
Under this new approach, the NIHB Program will not require a signed consent form for day to day processing activities and program administration. NIHB clients will therefore continue to receive benefits for which they are eligible even if they have not signed a consent form.

##### *Health Committee Restructuring*

Health Canada and MMAHB (Mi'kmaq Maliseet Atlantic Health Board) has been dealing with the issue of an escalating number of health committees and advisory groups as well as the issue of meeting frequency and associated costs. A meeting was held in June 2002 and at this time participants from FNIHB and First Nation organizations developed recommendations to implement a different committee structure which would be more efficient and cost effective.

At the MMAHB meeting in March 2004 the committee passed a motion to accept the following recommendation on the restructuring of the health committees. The existing health committees will amalgamate into three health committee bundles.

1. Child & Youth Committee



Co-chairs, APC Sect. - Chief Second Peter Barlow, Indian Island & Chief Lawrence Paul, Millbrook





- 2. Wellness Committee
- 3. Primary Health Care & Public Health Committee.

**Next Steps:**

- Develop detailed transition workplan
- Inform the existing committees of upcoming changes
- Develop terms of reference and committee memberships.

The new committee structure will be evaluated at the end of the fiscal year for effectiveness.

***FNIHIS / E-Health***

The First Nations and Inuit Health Information System (FNIHIS) were initially developed to be a case management tool for community health planning activities. The system was designed to address gaps in health data for decision-making and case management, build capacity in First Nation & Inuit communities and strengthen relations between First Nations and various government and health organizations.

***Indian Residential School Health Support Worker (ADR) Process:***

The Government of Canada has developed a strategic approach to residential school abuse claims. "Canada has a specific mandate to develop a variety of models for achieving out of court resolutions that will promote healing and reconciliation. In this context a new National Resolution Framework was announced in December 2002 by Ralph Goodale, Minister responsible at the time for IRSRC (Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada). This Resolution Framework was designed to expedite the number of claims being settled by the Crown in a more timely and sensitive manner."

***The Role of Residential School Health Support Worker***

In this process Health Canada and the

Indian Residential School (IRS) are working together in collaboration to ensure that IRS claimants who are actively resolving their claims in the National Resolution Framework through either the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Process or the courts have access to mental health support services through the residential school health support worker .

The APC Secretariat provided the services of the Residential School Health Support Worker between November 2003 and March 2004.

**▶▶ ABORIGINAL AND TREATY RIGHTS EDUCATION INITIATIVE (ATREI)**

ATREI continues to raise awareness and understanding of the Covenant Chain of Treaties and to facilitate discussions on issues related to the Mi'kmaq and Maliseet and Passamaquoddy Treaties. These issues include discussions on the treaty relationship and the significance in today's context.

ATREI has met a challenging year in terms of raising awareness and understanding of the negotiations and exploratory discussions on Aboriginal and treaty rights that are being conducted in the Atlantic. The challenge is due in part of various initiatives and processes taking place in the Atlantic. Furthermore, it is very important that accurate information is presented to the communities and the need to have access to proper information on these processes is crucial.

ATREI had a successful year in delivering information sessions on treaties. The majority of these sessions have focused on students at junior and

senior high school and at the post secondary level.

ATREI held three in-service sessions with teachers in both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. These in-services sessions provide an excellent opportunity for teachers to find out what ATREI is all about. As a result of these in-service for teachers, ATREI has been invited to conduct sessions on treaties at various schools in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

ATREI has had a successful year in delivering 25 information sessions, 15 information kiosks and 5 intercultural forums. In terms of the public

information sessions, it is estimated that 721 people attended the public information sessions and 270 participated in the Intercultural forums. Approximately 1815 information kits and 1672 posters have been distributed through the ATREI information kiosk.

The Treaty Resource Kit Curriculum project

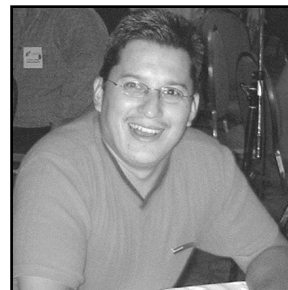
developed a resource kit on the Mi'kmaq and Maliseet and Passamaquoddy Covenant chain of Treaties. The resource kit is designed for classroom teaching and is intended to complement the existing core curriculum. The resource kit can be helpful tool for teaching a full range of humanities courses including History, Native Studies, Social Studies and Law for grades 10, 11 and 12.

A Treaty Resource Kit (TRK) committee was formalized to oversee and give input into the development of the TRK. The committee met on December 5th, 2003 and again on March 17th, 2004. INAC staff, Stephanie Caron attended the March curriculum meeting and received the draft TRK. The TRK committee consists of professionals working within the education system in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

**▶▶ INTERCULTURAL FORUMS**

***The Importance of Oral History***

ATREI held its fourth Intercultural forum at Mount Allison University. The purpose of the forum was to build bridges between First Nation and non-First Nation people and work toward creating better understanding between the two cultures. This forum focused on the importance of oral history giving the



Chief Wilburt Marshall, Chapel Island



All Chiefs and Councils Assembly - September 2003



audience an appreciation of Mi'kmaq cultural tradition of story telling. Approximately 150 people attended this session from students at the university, Parks Canada staff, and the Canadian Wildlife Service.

**Passamaquoddy Intercultural Forum**

The fifth Intercultural Forum was held in St. Andrews, New Brunswick. The forum was focused on Passamaquoddy history and current issues facing the Passamaquoddy. This forum was well attended with approximately 45 participants.

The presenters were Passamaquoddy Chief Melvin Francis, Pleasant Point, Maine, Donald Soctomah, Historic Preservation Officer and Elder, Blanch Socobasin both from Indian Township, Maine.

Chief Hugh Akagi, St. Croix Scoudic and Deputy Mayor Esma Taylor of St. Andrews did the welcoming for the Passamaquoddy Intercultural Forum.

The Passamaquoddy Chief, Melvin Francis commented that this was his

first opportunity to speak to a group of non-Aboriginal people about the struggles with the Passamaquoddy on both sides of the border and how it is important for communities to work together and to understand each other.

▶▶ **ICT (INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY)**

There were several meetings held by teleconference during the 2003-2004 fiscal year. During these bimonthly meetings, there was a great deal of discussion on what could be done to help establish high-speed connectivity to the First Nations of Atlantic Canada.

The ICT (Information and Communication Technology) committee met in March 2004 to discuss various progresses in the field of Information Technology for the Atlantic First Nations. Discussions on the formation of strategic partnerships with industry and government were discussed at length as well as some of the initiatives and experiences that ICT members were

involved in directly.

Specific members were identified and asked to participate in the First Nation partnership board. Members identified provided insight and advice to APC Secretariat staff and members of the First Nation ICT committee on issues related to broadband and internet access. Due to the retreat in federal policy and significant reductions in available programs and funding, dialogue with federal and provincial agencies was very limited. Dialogue focused on the potential to act and not on real actions to achieve elements of the MMICT strategy.

APC Secretariat staff and the First Nation ICT committee members continued to highlight the need for First Nation capacity and ICT expertise. Various First Nation communities had established training programs and a number of trained personnel have received appropriate certification and eligibility to secure employment opportunities. ¶



**ALL CHIEFS AND COUNCILS FORUM**

The following report will attempt to highlight the issues and discussion shared at the All Chiefs and Councils Assembly held on September 23-24, 2003 at the Hotel Beausejour in Moncton, NB. In total 130 people participated from First Nations. Additionally, the session was open to other First Nation members who were interested and wanted to participate in the discussions.



*the late Chief Michael Augustine, Metepenagiag*

▶▶ **BACKGROUND**

The process and dialogue about the APC Sect. started a year ago at the All Chiefs Forum held on September 18-19, 2002 in Dartmouth, NS. At this session, a number of Chiefs expressed serious concerns about the focus, mandate, political representation, and roles of the APC Sect. Other issues raised related to mandate overlaps with various provincial and tribal council organizations across the region. Additionally, concerns were expressed about the effectiveness of the All Chiefs

resolution process, communications, and APC Sect. mandates on policy issues/positions. From a legal perspective, Chiefs raised concerns about the use of APC Sect. by the federal government as endorsement of consultation on a wide range of issues.

Based on the extensive discussion a terms of reference -- approved by the APC Sect. Executive -- for a review approach was developed and a request for proposals was issued in December 2002 and a successful firm -- Grant Thornton -- was selected in January 2003. The work on this review continued to the end of April 2003 and a final report was tabled at the All Chiefs Forum in May 2003. At that session most Chiefs accepted and supported the 16 recommendations, however, some Chiefs remained concerned about the outcome of the process

and dialogue continued.

Based on the May All Chiefs Forum, copies of the report were sent to all organizations and all First Nation Council members of APC Sect. In June, work was to begin on a strategic planning process as recommended in the review; however, due to the continued concerns expressed by Chiefs, more time was set aside to ensure sufficient input of all First Nations Councils.

A proposal was tabled with the Chiefs to hold a two-day All Chiefs and Councils Assembly in September 2003 to further address the concerns of the Chiefs and Councils. The session agenda was distributed to all participants to provide input and direction to APC Sect.

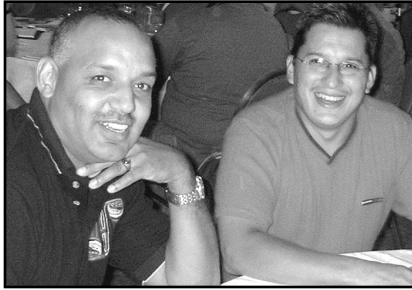
▶▶ **OVERVIEW OF APC SECT.**

The Executive Director provided a detailed presentation of the origin and history of the APC Sect., an overview of how issues get to the All Chiefs Forums, and how follow-up action is taken by Chiefs, Committees, and APC Sect. staff.

An overview was



*Chief Blair Francis, Eskasoni*



Chief Gerard Julian Paq'tnekek & Chief Wilbur Marshall, Chapel Island

provided on the resolution process and how items lead to agreement or disagreement between the Chiefs and how to proceed and what is the position or perspective of the Chiefs on a particular issue. Resolutions and action items or strategies developed and approved by the All Chiefs are the basis in most cases for action and follow-up by staff, Co-Chairs, APC Sect., Executive Chiefs, and individual Chiefs. Positions or views put forth may or may not reflect full agreement by all Chiefs but provides a basis to articulate a view to government and/or the general public and Mi'kmaq and Maliseet and Passamaquoddy people. From the First Nation level – provincially or nationally – the perspectives and positions differ and actions may or may not be consistent.

A connected issue relates to funding and the need for financial resources to pursue an issue. Many times government provides funding for federal priorities which may or may not be consistent with issues of concern to a Chief or Chiefs collectively.

The APC Sect. Executive Director provided an overview of the changing environment which impacts policy and actions locally and nationally. He further went on to highlight all the issues the APC Sect. had worked on for the fiscal year 2002/2003. A copy of the report was presented to all participants. Detailed copies of the notes and the presentations will be posted on the APC Sect. website ([www.apcfnc.ca](http://www.apcfnc.ca)).

▶▶ **GRANT THORNTON OVERVIEW OF ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS**

Wade Taylor of Grant Thornton provided an overview of the report done and the key recommendations. Mr. Taylor detailed the breakout group process and the participants broke into six assigned groups. A facilitator was present in each group and documented notes of the discussions which were collected and published in a summary document that will be posted on the APC Sect. website ([www.apcfnc.ca](http://www.apcfnc.ca)).

▶▶ **WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS**

**Breakout Sessions: Mandate/Role**

More participants agreed, than disagreed the mandate “The Atlantic Policy Congress is the unified voice of the Mi'kmaq and Maliseet Chiefs and represents a strategic, collective approach to developing policies to support the principles of self-government by self-determining peoples and First Nation governments. We are working for the people, with the people, through existing First Nation governments.” The APC Sect. should be

the unified voice of the Mi'kmaq and Maliseet and Passamaquoddy Chiefs and represent a strategic, collaborative approach to developing policies. Participants raised the issue of how difficult it is to get all Mi'kmaq and Maliseet and Passamaquoddy peoples to speak as a unified voice. Communities and people have diverse views and perspectives on issues and concerns that impact all Mi'kmaq and Maliseet and Passamaquoddy people.

The participants agreed the Chiefs and our people must strive toward unity in both words and actions. Actions to support all Mi'kmaq and Maliseet and Passamaquoddy must be a goal and if full agreement is not achievable with consensus views, conditions need to be clearly stated and documented.



Chief Terry Paul, Membertou & Joan Paul, Membertou

Communications of what APC Sect. does is very important to ensure all information is distributed to all grass roots people.

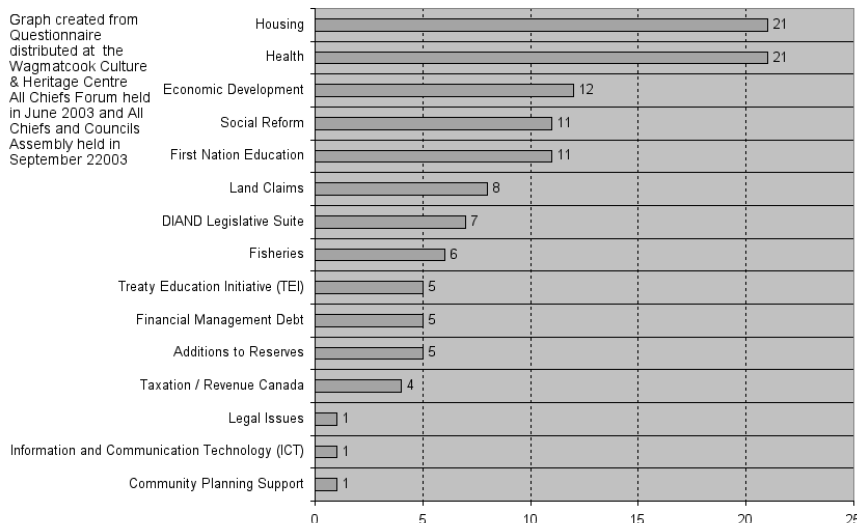
Participants noted the pursuit of a totally unified voice must be presented as the ultimate goal and clear alternatives stated if unity is not achieved.

To ensure all Mi'kmaq and Maliseet and Passamaquoddy people know the mandate of APC Sect., meetings/sessions should be scheduled and conducted in communities. Chiefs, Co-Chairs, Executive, and staff of the APC Sect. must be seen and be known by all First Nation community members.

Participants noted an APC Sect. presence must be sustained in each First Nation community. The staff/Chiefs of APC Sect. should be seen and known in all First Nation communities. Effort needs to be made to visit or to get involved in events/activities to clearly show what APC Sect. is and why it exists.

In clarifying the mandate, participants noted the ongoing overlap of mandates

**APC File Priorities**







and roles of all Tribal Organizations in the region. Whether political, potential service providers or advisory services, there is a need to sort out roles of all organizations in the region. More focus is needed to clarify roles, cooperation, and common objectives in order to achieve benefits for all Mi'kmaq and Maliseet and Passamaquoddy people.

The participants noted the strategies and roles of all APC Sect. activities must clearly lend to and support the mandate. Activities which are beyond the scope of the APC Sect. should be transferred to other groups and organizations where they can be managed more effectively. All First Nation people should be aware of individual responsibilities of APC Sect. staff, what, when, and why.

**Issues of Concern**

Some participants noted there are times when APC Sect. is the only voice to the government and expressed that the general public must be informed and allow others in the region and First Nations to have different perspectives when Chiefs are not in agreement on an issue, either provincially, locally, or regionally.

The perception of political voice was raised by members and it was noted the nature of the position of the Chiefs makes many of the issues politically connected. The links between politics and policy of government represent a challenge for the APC Sect. to express a policy view with or without the political perspective to federal politicians and the bureaucracy.

Regarding policy issues, APC Sect. must strive to reach a unified position. More support from people who have a comprehensive, fully developed thought out position will enhance the credibility of positions put forth.

On the range of priorities and files/areas handled by APC Sect., there needs to be an assessment of whether or not an issue is better placed with another organization. One issue raised related to economic development and the RPRC process (a DIAND committee) that the process would be better managed with Ulnoweg Development Group, the regional Aboriginal Capital Corporation which provides loans and

business support services to all First Nations in Atlantic Canada.

In terms of the mandate, one underlying theme raised was the protection of Aboriginal and Treaty Rights. Participants expressed this as a necessary, common goal that should be part of all efforts and directions pursued by all organizations that work for Mi'kmaq and Maliseet and Passamaquoddy people.

A proposal was put forth for the APC Sect. staff and Co-Chairs to visit all First Nation Councils at least once per year. At such a session the APC Sect. could provide orientations to new Chiefs and Councils on the roles, mandates, and policy issues facing all Mi'kmaq and Maliseet and Passamaquoddy people.

The support or advocacy role must also support the development of negotiation processes. Protocols and specific rules must be created and followed by all organizations, staff, and Chiefs. Ongoing efforts must be made to ensure Tribal visibility by all Mi'kmaq and Maliseet and Passamaquoddy people and First Nations.

**Members, Co-Chairs, Executive Committee**

Participants noted the APC Sect.

Executive should represent all three nations (Mi'kmaq and Maliseet and Passamaquoddy) to ensure all perspectives are provided. This concept was balanced with an idea for a free and open vote for all members of the APC Sect. Executive including Co-Chairs. This would ensure the potential of any Chief becoming the Co-Chair of

APC Sect., not solely restricted to Co-Chairs from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Participants discussed the process and felt the need for an open, fair, and equitable process so the diversities across all Mi'kmaq and Maliseet and Passamaquoddy territories are considered.

Members noted the size of the APC Sect. Executive needs to be significantly reduced. Also, the focus of the Executive should be the operations of APC Sect. This would include financial, audit, and personnel functions. Specific details of the role and responsibilities of each Executive member need to be articulated and documented. Such detail would ensure members can be



Chief Phil Fontaine & Matthew Coon Come

accountable for actions and would be directed based on the unified will of the Chiefs. The actual by-laws need to be translated into plain language so all Mi'kmaq and Maliseet and Passamaquoddy people know what the APC Sect. is responsible for as it relates to APC Sect. No expanded role of the Executive was proposed by participants.

Participants noted Chiefs and the Executive should only serve defined terms (i.e. two year terms only). All Chiefs should be given the privilege to serve on the Executive.

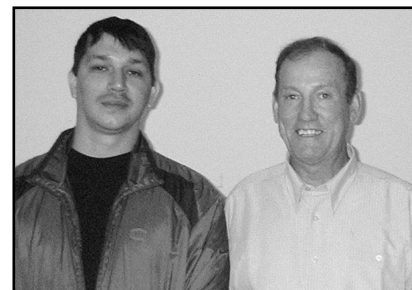
Meetings or discussions between the Co-Chairs and government must be documented and made available to all First Nation communities. The information presented and a detailed briefing should be provided before and after each meeting with senior government officials or the Minister. All topics, issues, and necessary follow-up should be available to all First Nations.

Participants proposed the concept of one (1) person being the liaison or ambassador to the government. The individual would be duly elected and supported to speak on behalf of all the First Nations. The individual must also be knowledgeable on a wide range of issues.

Decisions of the Executive and Chiefs need to be based more on consensus, and only on certain issues. Participants noted Chiefs need to be on the same page on issues and at the same time. Time needs to be set aside to fully



Donna Gauvin, APC Sect.



Chief Lester Peck, Wagmatcook & Chief Terry Paul, Membertou



discuss an issue so all views are heard.

**Committee Mandate/Composition**

Participants noted there are too many committees with too many people. The mandate, roles, and responsibilities of all APC Sect. committees must be clearly documented. A perception exists that some committees have voting power when in fact, they do not. The ultimate authority must remain with the All Chiefs.

Participants recommended a complete review all APC Sect. committees and set a standard terms of reference. These mandates must be adopted by the All Chiefs and must include - but not limited to- the voting process, agenda, chairs, mandate, authority, selection of members, and reporting structure and all must be approved yearly at the All Chiefs Forum. All First Nation/Councils should be provided a copy of all APC Sect. committee information.

A key issue related to committees raised was communication. Each committee must have a communications plan and procedures to ensure information is provided to the right contact at all First Nations. A complete database of all contacts must be compiled and maintained by APC Sect.

Participants noted a yearly All Chiefs and Councils Assembly is an effective way to ensure all First Nations have a real opportunity to give input on the work of APC Sect. and the Chiefs. All activity reports can be presented to ensure clear accountability purposes and determine progress achieved.

**▶▶ ALL CHIEFS FORUM/RESOLUTIONS**

Participants saw the need for clear directions on detailed resolutions but stressed the importance of implementing a formal process that would be strictly followed. First, all resolutions must be circulated in advance of the All Chiefs Forums to all First Nations and Tribal Organizations. This is intended to allow input and make sure overlapping or conflicting resolutions are not adopted. A two stage process for final approval is detailed in the Grant Thornton overview that allows for First Nation Council to have input and the ability to confirm Chiefs decisions.

Members noted that if resolutions have financial implications they must be clear to ensure First Nations are aware the resolutions are implemented and their

potential impact on a First Nation community.

Participants noted resolutions are only one of a number of ways to communicate decisions to the All Chiefs. Other tools such as letters and follow-up meetings should be used as well.

Participants noted there is a great need to spend the time to develop and discuss specific strategies related to resolutions. More proactive work needs to be taken to promote informed predetermined responses to issues on decisions of courts and governments. More focus is needed on how to address and anticipate issues before a reaction is created by the Chiefs.

Specific Chiefs and/or persons most knowledgeable of a situation or issue need to be identified as part of a resolution to follow-up on actions directed by Chiefs. Local First Nation contacts also need to be identified with the specific resolutions that impact First Nations.

**Effective Communication**

Participants were asked to offer specific ideas on how to make improvements. Firstly, APC Sect. needs a communication plan that is followed to ensure correct messages are communicated and a routine process implemented on actions of follow-up detailed in specific resolutions. Any resolution mandate or directions must be specific and detailed to ensure clarity. For each All Chiefs resolution, a backgrounder needs to be developed that identifies the reasons for the resolution and is provided to all First Nation Councils.

On resolution actions, reports should be provided at every All Chiefs Forum as specific agenda items. For resolutions, those who advocate a sponsor, that sponsor must be present at the meeting

to provide background information, address questions and/or issues.

Resolutions should be circulated in draft form on day one (1) of the meeting. Discussions arising from the resolution should occur at the same time the issues are addressed on the agenda, not at the end of the meeting including identifying key messages to First Nation members, government, general public, and businesses. Any issues or concerns should be clear and documented.

Participants proposed the identification of one (1) First Nation community liaison to help the flow of the information from APC Sect. to each First Nation Council and community. Additionally, a Chiefs and Councils Assembly be a yearly event to discuss common issues of all First Nations.

People identified that APC Sect. staff and Co-Chairs conduct orientation sessions to each new First Nation Council member to address communication issues and determine if specific items need to be included on the agenda for the next All Chiefs Forum.

To assist in the development and approaches to communication, critical input from Elders locally and regionally must be organized to articulate the correct messages based on their cultural values, traditions, and languages.

**Priorities**

In June Chiefs and Elders were asked to identify key priorities. At this conference all participants were asked to rank and identify key priorities. These priorities are detailed below.

**Review – Next Steps**

It was proposed that the APC Sec. Chiefs and staff would implement all suggestions detailed by participants. Additionally, copies of the information and implementation plan be sent to all



Individual Workshop Session, All Chiefs and Councils Assembly, September 2003



Assembly participants and all First Nation Councils.

It was noted the Chiefs have indicated support of all recommendations made in the Grant Thornton report. These recommendations and actions detailed in this Assembly should be implemented before April 2004.

►► **PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF FIRST NATIONS**

In September 2003 the APC Sect. commissioned a survey done by Corporate Research Associates Inc. as part of a quarterly omnibus survey of the general public in Atlantic Canada. Specifically, to ask a question about the public's perceptions towards First Nation priorities.

**The survey found that a majority of people (57%) connected the meaning of First Nations or Native Canadian with Aboriginal people.**

The tops five issues identified through the survey were:

1. Economic issues / employment / poverty
2. Education
3. Social issues
4. Access to resources
5. Discrimination.

**DIAND Atlantic Strategic Plan**

Steven Joudry of DIAND provided an overview of the key elements of the regions strategic plan. He indicated that DIAND is moving toward a results based planning process versus a solely

reporting based focus.

Priority areas identified were improved quality of life for First Nations people. The DIAND business plan focused on related strategies on:

- Housing
- Sustainable Development
- Financial Management
- Governance
- Internal Coherent Operations
- Innu Healing

These strategies were to create an integrated strategic approach by DIAND to improve the lives of First Nations people. Participants noted that DIAND should measure its progress based on the UN (United Nations) Development index. ☼

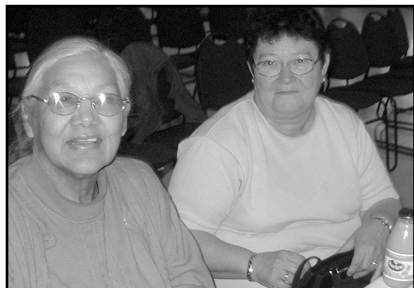
**ABORIGINAL AND TREATY RIGHTS EDUCATION INITIATIVE REPORT**

►► **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Education Initiative (ATREI) is to raise awareness and understanding of the Covenant Chain of Treaties and to facilitate discussions on issues related to the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet and Passamaquoddy Treaties. These issues include discussions on the treaty relationship and the significance in today's context.

This report is intended to present the activities of this initiative for the period of February to March 2004 and also to review the ATREI activities for 2003 to 2004.

The ATREI has met a challenging year in terms of raising awareness and understanding of the negotiations and exploratory discussions on Aboriginal and treaty rights that are being conducted in the Atlantic. The challenge is due in part of various initiatives and processes taking place in



Elder Margaret LaBilliois, Eel River Bar & Proxy  
Rita Fraser, Passamaquoddy - Scoudic

the Atlantic. Furthermore, it is very important that accurate information is presented to the communities and the need to have access to proper information on these processes is crucial.

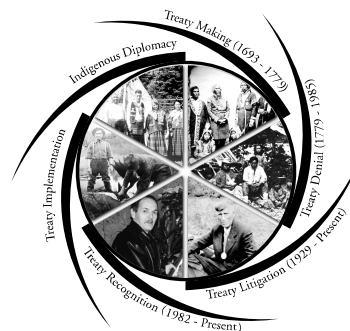
►► **REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES**

The ATREI has another successful year in delivering information sessions on treaties. The majority of these sessions have focused on either students at junior high school, high school or university level.

During this fiscal year, the ATREI held three in-service sessions with teachers in both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

These in-services sessions provide an excellent opportunity for teachers to find out what the ATREI is all about. As a result of these in-service for teachers, the ATREI has been invited to conduct sessions on treaties at various schools in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

As mentioned, the ATREI has had a successful year in delivering 25 information sessions, 15 information kiosk and 5 Intercultural forums. In terms of the public information sessions, it is estimated that 721 people attended the public information sessions and 270 participated in the Intercultural forums. Finally, approximately 1815 information kits and 1672 posters have been distributed at the ATREI information kiosk. Please see summary of activities of page 10.



To broaden the scope of raising awareness on Aboriginal and treaty rights, the APC staff sends letters of invitations to various governments informing them of the education initiative. Please find responses in appendix C.

**Treaty Resource Kit Curriculum**

The purpose of this project is to develop a resource kit on the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet & Passamaquoddy Covenant chain of Treaties. The resource kit is designed for classroom teaching and is intended to complement the existing core curriculum. The resource kit can be helpful tool for teaching a full range of humanities courses including History, Native Studies, Social Studies and Law for grades 10, 11 and 12.

A Treaty Resource Kit (TRK) committee was formalized to oversee and give input into the development of the TRK. The committee met on December 5th, 2003 and again on March 17th, 2004. INAC staff, Stephanie Caron attended the March curriculum meeting and received the draft TRK. The TRK committee consists of professionals





working within the education system in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

#### ► PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSIONS

##### *Island View School*

*St. John, NB - February 16, 2004*

The Island View School invited the ATREI staff to participate during their Heritage Assembly and to present to approximately 95 students in grades three, four and five. Norah Ward, APC, read the Mi'kmaq children's colouring book, produced by the ATREI, to the students first in the Mi'kmaq language and then to English. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience of not only hearing a different language but also to have an opportunity to speak it.

The Mi'kmaq colouring book is an excellent teaching tool geared towards a younger audience as it provides fundamental concepts of working together for the betterment of the whole as well as sharing. These concepts are the foundation of the treaty relationship established during the treaty-making period.



*Cheryl Copage, APC Sect.*

##### *National Parole Board*

*Moncton, NB - February 23, 2004*

ATREI staff was invited to present to the National Parole Board members. There were a total of 15 participants in this session. The Board seemed to be very interested in the historical content of the presentation and expressed the need to deliver this session to the rest of their colleagues. Please see appendix A for questionnaire responses.

##### *Questions:*

- Do Mi'kmaq still reside on St. Pierre and Miquelon?
- What are the fundamental differences with the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet and Passamaquoddy (Wabanki Confederacy) with regards to language?
- Do First Nations see themselves moving forward on issues of Aboriginal and Treaty Rights?

##### *Elsipogtog Adult Education Centre*

*Elsipogtog, NB - February 26, 2004*

Norah Ward gave a presentation on treaties to 8 part-time students at the Elsipogtog Adult Education centre. The students were interested in

contemporary issues facing First Nations people. These issues include the recent Josh Bernard logging decision and how the province of New Brunswick will implement the decision after the year is over.

The discussions focused on the community of Elsipogtog and the hardships the community has seen over the years. And how waves of diseases have almost wiped out the community in the past. One of the comments in terms of these struggles is that it is amazing that Mi'kmaq people and language is still intact especially since the Mi'kmaq have been colonized the longest compared to the First Nations out west.

In terms of fishing, there was discussion about early struggles in Elsipogtog. Particularly with late Martin Francis who was charged for fishing salmon with a net without a license in the sixties. During this era, reminiscent of the Burnt Church fishing crisis, the community had near violent clashes with the department of fisheries.

##### *Indian Island First Nation*

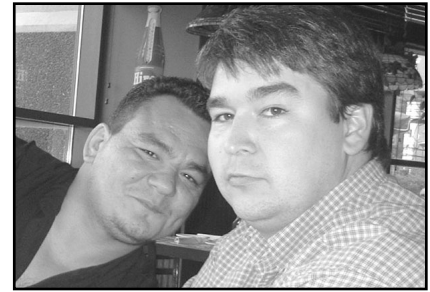
*Indian Island, NB - March 15, 2004*

Norah Ward and Simon Osmond, APC staff, presented to 10 community members on the history of treaties and also the current cases before the courts. Some of the concerns expressed during the presentation were the media's presentation of First Nations issues. The media tends to portray First Nations as criminals.

There was also discussion on the legal process and how each case sets precedence to future cases. Finally, there was discussion on how the province of New Brunswick is unwilling to move forward on the issues of treaties.

##### *Questions & Comments:*

- Presentations should be made to the media to ensure they get their facts straight before they report the news. Even with historical information they still get it wrong.
- If there were more people like you going around the Atlantic presenting on treaties, people would have a better understanding on what the issues are facing First Nations. You



*Simon Osmond & Adam Augustine, APC Sect.*

guys are doing an excellent job.

- Where is the Ganong line? I asked DNR many times and no one could pinpoint the location to me.

##### *Red Bank First Nation*

*Outdoor Adventure Lodge*

*March 16, 2004*

Norah Ward, APC staff, gave a presentation to 6 community members from Metepenagiag. Some of the discussions generated from this session focused mainly with the Metepenagiag specific claims dealing with the removal of squatters on the reserve. Furthermore, there was confusion with regard to the differences between specific claims and the comprehensive claims processes.

The challenge with this session was time allotted for the presentation as well as the number of participants. It is hoped that a session can be held in the future with the community.

##### *Mount Allison University*

*Sackville, NB - March 18, 2004*

Norah Ward, APC staff, gave a presentation to students in the Native People of Canada: Contemporary Issues class. There were approximately 35 students in the class.

There were questions asked regarding Bill C31 and whether the disenfranchised women regained their status after 1985. The students were very interested in the creation of reserves and what the intention was in creating them. In terms of the Indian Act, the students wanted to know about the pass system; whereby First Nations needed permission to leave their reserves, and what happened to those that did not obey it. Basically, what was the penalty?

The discussions regarding treaties focused mainly on the text of treaties. The students wanted to know if the First Nations signatories truly understood the content of these treaties due to language barriers. The students



were also interested in the actual treaty documents and what the oral understandings of these documents are to First Nations.

**University of New Brunswick  
Fredericton, NB – March 23, 2004**

Simon Osmond, APC staff, presented to approximately 25 students. The presentation consisted of both historical and legal perspectives on treaties. The majority of questions and comments focused on the current court cases regarding logging and hunting. The participants were really interested in the presentation stating that it gave them an insight into the current issues facing First Nations in the Atlantic.

**Questions and Comments:**

- How does the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) determine what charges are to be laid for hunting within Maliseet or Mi'kmaq territories?
- Why is the province laying charges against First Nations? Would it be better to negotiate an agreement with First Nations?
- Why is the media portraying a different image of First Nation, like they are doing something wrong? The media never seems to find out the truth; rather they start conflicts between First Nations and surrounding communities.

**University of Arizona  
Tucson Arizona - March 24, 2003**

Cheryl Knockwood, APC staff, gave a presentation to 13 students at the University of Arizona on the history of the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet and Passamaquoddy treaties. The students had an opportunity to also view the "Is the crown at war with us?" a NFB film directed by Alanis Obomsawin.

The students were generally very interested in the treaty-making history and could not understand why it took so long for treaties to be recognized. Furthermore, the students stated that there was an issue of not only racism but also unfairness when it came to issuing of lobster licenses, especially since licenses were not offered to Mi'kmaq fishers before the Marshall decision. The students were shocked by the racism that was displayed by non-

Aboriginal people after the Marshall decision and the ramming of Mi'kmaq boats by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

**Sackville Heights Junior High School  
- Respect Conference**

**Sackville, NS - March  
29, 2004**

The ATREI staff was invited to a one-day conference on respect and youth against racism. The goal for this conference was to expose students to broad social justice issues, to encourage dialogue and to raise awareness on how to foster inclusive,

respectful environment.

Simon Osmond, APC staff, gave two presentations to group of 62 students. The students commented that it is interesting to hear about First Nations issues from a First Nation's perspective. The questions generated from this session are listed below:

**Questions:**

- Why is history so important for First Nations?
- Why do First Nations have special rights? (Tax free, free education, fishing)
- Who is benefiting from the Marshall decision? And what are the relationship like between First Nations and their neighboring communities?
- Are there still treaties that exist today? How do Treaties work today?

►► **INTERCULTURAL FORUM**

**The Importance of Oral History  
Mount Allison University, Sackville, NB  
February 9, 2004**

The ATREI held its fourth Intercultural forum at Mount Allison University. The purpose of these forums is to build bridges with First Nations and non-First Nations and to create a better understanding between the two cultures. This forum focused on the importance of oral history giving the audience an appreciation of Mi'kmaq cultural tradition of story telling. Approximately 150 people attended this session from students at the university, Parks Canada staff and the Canadian Wildlife Service.

The line up of presenters for this forum was Dr. Bernie Francis, Mi'kmaq

linguist, Georgina Larocque, traditional medicines and Miigam'agam, Esgenoopeitij. The presentations given during this forum ranged from various aspects in regards to the transmission, content and the importance of oral history. Please see appendix A for questionnaire responses.

The Importance of Oral History was published in the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet Nation News front page of the March 2004 issue. And was aired on CBC radio on Maritime noon 97.9 FM on February 11th. The copy of this show was hand delivered to Stephanie Caron. Please see appendix B for news article.

**Passamaquoddy Intercultural Forum  
St. Andrews, NB - March 25, 2004**

The fifth Intercultural Forum was held in St. Andrews, New Brunswick. The forum was focused on Passamaquoddy history and current issues facing the Passamaquoddy. This forum was well attended with approximately 45 participants.

The presenters were Passamaquoddy Chief, Melvin Francis, Pleasant Point, Maine, Donald Soctomah, Historic Preservation Officer and Elder, Blanche Socabasin both from Indian Township, Maine.

Chief Hugh Akagi, St. Croix Scoudic and Deputy Mayor Esma Taylor of St. Andrews did the welcoming for the Passamaquoddy Intercultural Forum.

The Passamaquoddy Chief, Melvin Francis commented that this was his first opportunity to speak to a group of non-Aboriginal people about the struggles with the Passamaquoddy on both sides of the border. Chief Melvin Francis stated how it is important for communities to work together and to understand each other.

Donald Soctomah, Historic Preservation Officer, Indian Township, spoke on the history of the Passamaquoddy, beginning with the Glooscap legends and how Glooscap has changed the landscape in the St. Andrews area. In these legends it is a testament on how important the relationship between First Nations and the land is central, in this case, the Passamaquoddy and its traditional territory.

The forum ended with a snake dance lead by Passamaquoddy elder, Blanche Socabasin. The participants thoroughly enjoyed the day. ☸



Georgianna Barlow, APC Sect.



## FISHERIES REPORT

### ▶▶ FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Atlantic Policy Congress (APC) has provided ongoing support and assistance to all Mi'kmaq, Maliseet and Passamaquoddy member communities. The secretariat has continued to play a pivotal role in supporting First Nations by providing strategic and timely advice to communities while maintaining a good working relationship with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO).

Community follow-up by phone calls or visits have taken place with almost all of the communities to discuss their fisheries issues. Valuable information was frequently sent to Fisheries coordinators so that they would be aware of

upcoming meetings, information from those meetings and any other relevant items of importance. Fisheries coordinators in turn have provided APC with valuable information that has helped bring their concerns to the attention of DFO.

There have been obstacles for the First Nations fisheries in the past year on issues related to the snow crab fishery, consultation, and the implementation of fisheries agreements, because it is the final year of many of the Marshall agreements. Listed below is a more detailed overview of the work undertaken and the results achieved.

### ▶▶ A CONTINUANCE OF BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH NON-FIRST NATION USER GROUPS

In April, a dispute arose in Shippagan when non-Native fisherman, in a protest against the DFO, set fire to 4 fishing boats and buildings in their community fishery plant in the wharf area of their community. The fishermen were protesting a drop in the percentage of their snow crab quota issued by DFO. The dispute set back the snow crab fishery in the surrounding Native and non-Native communities.

APC, Chiefs and the Maritime Fisheries Union (MFU) met to discuss the implications of the incident and what

actions should be taken. After a month of talks, the incident was settled and the snow crab season resumed.

In an attempt to ensure another dispute did not happen for the 2004 snow crab season, APC scheduled a meeting in March with non-Native snow crabbers, the Association of Acadian Crabbers, Atlantic Chiefs and Fisheries coordinators. Unfortunately, the Association of Acadian Crabbers was unable to meet. However, APC will continue to offer support in working closely with non-Native fisheries groups for a safe and cooperative snow crab season.



Joshua Bernard

### ▶▶ FISHERIES PROFILES

In August of 2003, profile articles were compiled of fishermen and women.

The purpose of this is to show the impact of the winning Marshall case of 1999 and how it has impacted their families and their community. To date, fishermen and women, young and old, have been profiled from New Brunswick communities and the profiles will continue into the rest of the Atlantic communities so the general public will have a good idea of how First Nations people are doing with the fisheries.

The profiles express different views on the fishery itself, both positive and negative, and suggest changes to the Native fishery that can be made. Profiles and future profiles can be found on the website at [www.apcfn.ca](http://www.apcfn.ca) and in the Mi'kmaq Maliseet Nation news.

### ▶▶ ALL CHIEFS FORUM

The Chiefs met with Minister Thibeau in August to discuss a variety of concerns that they had with the fisheries. APC made it clear that the meeting was not to be construed as consultation as it is a delicate and sensitive issue to the Chiefs with very serious legal implications to Mi'kmaq, Maliseet and Passamaquoddy Aboriginal and Treaty rights. Chiefs had the option of attending or not attending the meeting. The Chiefs in attendance expressed concerns about their fisheries agreements and specifically, that they have not been fully implemented. There



APC staff - Rhonda Flewelling & Charity Barlow

was a definite concern over the future of the fisheries after March of 2004 relating to the agreements, licenses, training, capacity, access, and funding.

The Chiefs were told that after Marshall ended in 2004 there would be no new monies available, although communities would still have their agreements with DFO. The terms of the agreements will be until March 31, 2006. DFO stated that they'll continue to manage the fishery and aboriginal participation after March 31st, 2004.

### ▶▶ FISHERIES WORKSHOP (NOVEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup> & 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2003)

APC, in conjunction with the DFO, hosted a fisheries workshop entitled, Development of a framework Performance Indicator Model of the Fisheries. The workshop took place on November 18th and 19th at the Howard Johnson hotel in Moncton, NB.

*The goal of the workshop was to identify strategies and next steps to:*

- Improve fishing skills and knowledge;
- Improve fisheries management operations;
- Improve existing reporting mechanisms; and,
- Provide methods for reporting success of First Nations in the commercial fishery.

Fisheries coordinators from communities across the Atlantic Region were invited to participate in the workshop and share their community's progress in fisheries. Fifteen First Nations participated and gave very valuable information and ideas on how to improve First Nations fisheries and direction forward.

DFO officials presented the Savoie Report, Governance in First Nation communities and the Approach to evaluating success. APC presented the Rawson Report, a First Nation Fishery Needs Study Overview and Highlights. Fort Folly First Nation and Eel River Bar





First Nation also spoke about the fisheries in their communities and discussed the measure of success, the overview of their operations and the success, challenges, and future directions. First Nation coordinators also took part in a breakout discussion to talk about what was needed for the Native fishery for it to be successful as well as identify issues of concern.

▶▶ **AGREEMENTS AND THE END OF MARSHALL**

In an effort to support communities in their agreements with DFO before the end of Marshall agreements, Chiefs and First Nations fishery coordinators were contacted to discuss what they have not received in their agreements with DFO. This included to licenses, training, vessels and gear. Communities who did not sign agreements were also contacted. There was significant cooperation as most of the fishery coordinators outlined what things have not been provided for their communities. The issues were to be raised with the new Minister of Fisheries, Geoff Regan to follow up with each First Nation Chief

After compiling all of the information, APC sent a list of issues to Minister Regan for review so he would be aware of the situation of each community. Minister Regan informed APC that he appreciated receiving the list which he has reviewed and stated that all the matters will be addressed.

▶▶ **FISHERIES WORKSHOP (MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup> & 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2004)**

APC hosted a second workshop with DFO to discuss the future of the Native fishery after 2004. All of the fisheries coordinators attended the workshop that was held on March 25th and 26th at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

The workshop discussions included:

- The Aboriginal Aquatic Resources & Management Program Overview
- Training and Mentoring Program Overview
- Preparing a First Nation business plan and what needs to be included
- Training Plan Development



Norah Ward, APC Sect.

Data/Process

- First Nation Implementation Plan- Overview and Options
- Next steps for Development/Coordination

Representatives from Ulnooweg Development Group Inc., Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI, and Pictou Landing First Nation were on hand to present to the fisheries coordinators on key areas of importance.

Among the presentations were two new programs introduced by DFO on resource conservation and training and mentoring:

▶▶ **NEW FISHERY INITIATIVES FOR 2004 AND BEYOND**

Kevin Stringer, Director General with the DFO, presented a new program designed specifically for First Nations people in Canada. In October of 2003, The Aboriginal Aquatic Resource and Oceans Management Program, or AAROM, was announced to assist Aboriginal groups to obtain the capacity to participate effectively in the decision-making processes used for aquatic resources and oceans management.

*The objectives of the five year program are:*

- To support the involvement of Aboriginal groups in integrated watershed/ecosystem planning and management processes;
- Build capacity in areas including but beyond fisheries management; and,
- Support the creation of new management bodies that represent a number of communities and the enhancement of existing bodies, where appropriate.

Six million dollars will be available yearly to all First Nations groups in Canada to apply for funding

*The necessary criteria to receive funding includes:*

- A commitment to the core principles of conservation and sustainable development;
- Located in areas where DFO manages the fishery (and where such programming has not been addressed through land claims settlement);
- Aboriginal communities coming together to create one body around

watershed/ecosystems to achieve needed scale;

- Management/administrative functions operate day-to-day independent of political influence;
- Open and transparent reporting mechanisms to community members; and,
- Contribute some funding toward the operation of their AAROM body.

It is important to keep in mind that the number of AAROM bodies created under the program and the scope of their activities will be constrained by the overall amount of funding. As well, it is anticipated that the program will support only a limited number of



Ike Paul & Lawrence Paul

groups in the first few years of the program.

▶▶ **MENTORING / TRAINING**

Since 2000, the Coady Institute in conjunction with DFO via St. Francis Xavier University had undertaken the role of designating mentors and training to Mi'kmaq, Maliseet and Passamaquoddy First Nations. Mentors, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, were sent to communities to help them become safe and experienced fishermen/women. There was mixed views by First Nations on how the Institute ran the Initiative. Some First Nations did not like the mentor/training program, some were satisfied with it and some communities did not have the opportunity to experience the program.

DFO has since developed a new mentor/training program known as the At Sea Mentoring Initiative that will help the Mi'kmaq and Maliseet First Nations in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and the Gespeg (Gaspé) region of Quebec further develop skills to fish safely and effectively in various fisheries.

DFO will contribute a total of \$6.0 million over four years, from April 2004 until March 31, 2008, in a graduated



cost-sharing arrangement with First Nations. Beginning April 2008, First Nations will cover the full cost of mentoring in their communities.

A key requirement for participation in the mentoring initiative is that each First Nation will be asked to come up with a detailed multi-year training plan that identifies strategies to maximize participation of First Nation fishers in specific fisheries, improve harvesting

efficiency and maximizing benefits to each Marshall affected First Nation.

As well, a Fisheries Operations Management Initiative in which DFO will contribute \$1 million over the next four years, was announced to support First Nations in learning more advanced skills to manage their communal fisheries assets with the objective of fully reaching benefits for First Nations and their communities.

►► CONCLUSION

APC staff will continue to follow up and inform First Nations of any new Initiatives by DFO as well as giving support to communities on issues regarding their fisheries. APC will continue this valuable work dealing with First Nations and helping them to adjust to the ever sweeping changes to the fishery and to look forward to the future. ¶

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

►► UPDATE ON THE STRATEGY/ACTION PLAN ON REBUILDING THE ATLANTIC ABORIGINAL ECONOMY

The APC developed a strategy document based on the conference held in April 2000, the Atlantic Aboriginal Economy Building Workshop. Sponsored by APC, the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Dalhousie University, the conference brought together Aboriginal leaders, economic development officers, private sector, government and academics from the Atlantic region. Following the conference, the Atlantic Band economic development officers (EDOs) continued to meet and, at the request of the Atlantic Chiefs, prepared a strategy document and action plan.

There were several short term priorities that were identified to be implemented over the last year that will make an important contribution to the building of the Aboriginal economy in the region. There were other items in the Action Plan that are also very important, such as the settlement of land claims or the reform of the welfare system, but in many cases there are existing processes underway to address these areas. By establishing certain priorities, APC certainly does not wish to signal that other initiatives should not be vigorously pursued.

It was a result of these meetings that the Atlantic Band Economic Development Officers decided to develop an informal network, now called the 'Atlantic Aboriginal Economic Developers Network' (or AAEDN).

►► AAEDN'S OBJECTIVES, BEYOND

IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN, ARE:

- (1) To serve as a permanent network of First Nation, Inuit economic developers who are involved in Aboriginal economic development;
(2) To gather, analyze and disseminate information and knowledge intended to promote the sharing of expertise and best practices;
(3) To represent and defend the interests of the First Nation and Inuit economic developers;
(4) To be the one of the lead agencies in promoting Aboriginal economic development in the Atlantic Region;
(5) To be one of the consulting groups regarding Aboriginal economic development issues at a regional and national level;
(6) To prioritize, plan and deliver training sessions that will enhance the capacity of First Nation and Inuit economic developers;
(7) To promote/facilitate Pan-Atlantic economic development projects;
(8) To create economies of scale; and
(9) To be a communications vehicle for First Nations communities in the area of economic development.

►► SOME OF THE ACTION ITEMS ACHIEVED BY AAEDN THIS YEAR:

- With regard to the objective of building Aboriginal human resource capacity, AAEDN was able to secure funding for the next three years from ACOA to support their professional development via the CANDO certification process;
• AAEDN was able to secure funding for the next two years from DIAND to

support the administrative costs of the AAEDN and the AAEDN Implementation Committee Meetings;

- With regard to the objectives of seeking to provide Aboriginal people with more access to capital and supporting entrepreneurship, AAEDN was able to secure \$130,000 in funding from DIAND and ACOA to support the creation of a one year pilot program called "QUICKSTART" which contributes grant funding up to a maximum of \$5,000 to support the costs associated with small business start ups (ie., arts & crafts) or expansions in the region (administered by Ulnooweg Development Group);
• With regard to the objective of seeking to have at least one full time, fully funded Band Economic Development Officer employed in each of the Atlantic First Nation communities, AAEDN members developed an Atlantic regional strategy with recommendations relating to the review of DIAND's Community Economic Development Program (CEDP); and
• With regard to the objective of building Aboriginal human resource capacity, the AAEDN Implementation Committee hired a consultant to conduct a Human Resource Study which examined each of the Atlantic First Nation communities' future human resource requirements.



Councillor Emerson Francis, Elder John Knockwood & Elder Raymond Tremblay



▶▶ **OTHER AAEDN HIGHLIGHTS :**

- AAEDN Annual General Meeting held in Elsipogtog (Big Cove), NB in September 2003;
- AAEDN volunteered on the national working committees regarding the review of both DIAND's National & Community Economic Development Programs;
- AAEDN participated in a regional workshop held in February of this year on the review of DIAND's Community Economic Development Program; and

- AAEDN to co-sponsor with St. Mary's First Nation/JEDI and participate in the planning committee for the upcoming National Annual CANDO conference to be held in Fredericton/St. Mary's First Nation, NB on October 5-8th, 2004.



Noreen Copage, APC Sect.

The Action Plan, and its priorities, will be updated on an annual basis. The Chiefs have mandated the Atlantic Aboriginal Economic

Developers Network (AAEDN) and the Implementation Committee members to continue working on implementing the Action Plan. The Strategy Document and Action Plan are located on our website at: [www.apcfnc.ca](http://www.apcfnc.ca), under "Economic Development."

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Krista Brookes at APC. ☞

## HEALTH REPORT

### 2004 ANNUAL MI'KMAQ MALISEET ATLANTIC HEALTH CONFERENCE

The 2004 Annual Mi'kmaq/ Maliseet Health Conference were just held on January 27th-28th, 2004. This year's conference was a huge success with over 200 participants attending this event. Participants came from all sectors of the health spectrum to attend this event. This year's theme was "Circles of Health, Client Centered Care. The reason this year's theme was chosen, was to promote the ideal of holistic health care.

*The Annual Atlantic Health Conference has two key goals:*

- 1) To educate and inform community members and health workers about emerging health issues that affects Atlantic First Nations.
- 2) To honor individuals for their dedication and hard work in the health field.

Each year the Mi'kmaq/ Maliseet Atlantic Health Board appoint a conference committee to organize this event. The conference committee took



Chief Deborah Robinson, Acadia & AFN Vice-Chief Rick Simon

all the suggested topics and recommendations from past health conferences to design workshops that reflect our unique first nation health models. The committee wanted this year's conference to show that all health programs are connected and there is a need to work together to provide health services that are client centered. The design for this year's conference reflects the various circles of health and how the clients' involvement is key to a healthy lifestyle.

This year's conference occurred over a two-day span and was broken down into 12 small concurrent workshops and two full group sessions.

*The following workshops were held during the conference:*

- Gambling Addictions
- Aboriginal Diabetes
- Patient Navigation & Community Liaison a Response to Cancer Care
- First Nations Drinking Water Management Strategy
- Atlantic Aboriginal Health Research Program
- First Nation Inuit Tobacco Control Strategy
- Developing Circles of Support for Children and Youth with Special Needs
- Client Consent (Privacy Codes)
- Integrated Health Models, Eskasoni & Elsipogotog First Nations
- Stress Management
- Current eHealth Applications
- Healing Our Nations AIDS & Harm Reduction
- Home and Community Care
- Solvent Abuse

### ▶▶ HONORING OUR PEOPLE BANQUET

Each year the health conference organizes a banquet that honors individuals for their dedication and hard work in the field of health. This year we honored health workers with "Appreciation Awards". This year's conference also introduced the "Chief Michael Augustine Award" in memory of the late Chief Augustine of Metapenageg who died in a tragic accident in November.



Colleen Briere and Voilet Paul

*This year's recipients of the Chief Michael Augustine Award were:*

- Sharon Rudderham
- Claudia Simon
- Chief Shirley Clark

*Appreciation Award Recipients*

- Peter Gloade, NADACA
- Tammy Arsenault, Lennox Island
- Christine Potter, Bear River
- Shirley Ward, Eel Ground
- Cindy Ginnish, Eel Ground
- Margaret Levi, Eel Ground
- Debbie Maurry, Pictou
- Chief Shirley Clark, CMM
- Rita Dedam, Burnt Church
- Eldon Dedam, Burnt Church
- Charlotte Bartibogue, Burnt Church

### ▶▶ NIHB CLIENT CONSENT FORM INITIATIVE





Health Canada has established the NIHB Client Consent Initiative in response to the Justice Departments information that certain activities conducted through the NIHB program violate the privacy of First Nation clients. The NIHB client consent initiative would obtain the signed consent of eligible First Nation clients that would allow for collecting, sharing and disclosure of their personal health information and processing of payments to providers.



Anita Boyle, Economic Development Officer, Metepenagias

New federal legislation known as the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA) will become effective in January 1st, 2004. Health Canada has indicated that clients of the NIHB program need to be informed that their personal health information will be used through electronic means by H.C.

The National Chief Phil Fontaine and the new Health Minister Pierre Pettigrew, have pledge that resolving the Client Consent Initiative issue would be a top priority. Health Canada announced yesterday, February 4th, 2004, a new approach to the Non-Insured Benefits (NIHB) Program's Consent Initiative. Health Canada has agreed to a new strategy that includes the removal of the March 1st, 2004 deadline and an approach based upon expressed consent.

Under this new approach, the NIHB Program will not require a signed consent form for day to day processing activities and program administration. NIHB clients will therefore continue to receive benefits from which they are eligible even if they have not signed a consent form.

- The NIHB program will focus on obtaining expressed consent for those clients where the program has identified potential risks to recipients which necessitates the disclosure of personal medical information to a third party
- First Nations clients will only be asked for expressed consent through either verbal consent or written consent for those people who have been identified as being risk, especially from misuse/abuse of prescription drugs or potential fatal reactions to drugs.
- Individual identified as being risk will

be a very small number-they will also have a choice of providing written or verbal consent.

- First Nations and Inuit Health Branch will continue working with First Nations who want to develop a written consent form for those clients who fit the criteria for being at risk and who chose a written consent. If they

need to sign a consent form please request the new Atlantic Consent Form.

- About 13,000 NIHB Atlantic First Nation Clients-out of a potential 36,000 have signed a consent forms.
- Those individuals can let their consent forms stand or they can withdraw their written consent. If you or any of your membership has already signed a consent form for Health Canada and wish to revoke your consent, a letter must be submitted to Health Canada.

▶▶ REGIONAL TOBACCO CONTROL STRATEGY

The First Nation and Inuit Tobacco Control strategy was created to reduce the tobacco use among first nations and Inuit communities, therefore decreasing illness and death that results from smoking.

Kevin Ryan has been hired as the FNITCS Coordinator for the next year. MAWIW have accepted the position of First Nation regional Tobacco facilitator and Nick Paul will be filling this position. In the year 2003-2004 fifteen (15) community based projects were approved totaling \$166,355.00. Eskasoni First Nation was approved for the tobacco demo project from Health Canada headquarters. This fiscal year also had several tobacco use reduction workshop in partnership with First Nation communities and organizations. A significant portion of the workshops concentrated on proposal development specifically geared to the FNITCS. Proposals for community based projects will be accepted until April 30th, 2004. Applications after that date will be accessed if resources are still available.

▶▶ REGIONAL TOBACCO CONTROL STRATEGY ENVIRONMENTAL

SCAN

The regional First Nations and Inuit Tobacco Control Strategy Committee hired Dr. Fred Wien of Dalhousie University to carry out an environmental scan (summary report) on tobacco use in First Nations and Inuit in this region. Dr. Wien focused the review on a summary of existing data on smoking, smokeless tobacco and exposure to "second-hand" tobacco smoke. He provided a summary of information about available resources that are being or could be applied to a tobacco control strategy. He also provided an assessment of accessibility issues that communities face in undertaking an effective tobacco control strategy. The environmental scan was conducted as a requirement of all regions under the First Nations and Inuit Tobacco Reduction Strategy. The final report was completed March 2003. It has been shared with First Nation and Inuit communities, leadership, and interested parties.

The research told us that in the Atlantic Aboriginal communities we have high levels of smoking during pregnancy. For the health of women and children, it makes sense to identify women who are (or who are likely to become) pregnant as a priority for tobacco reductions

strategies. Another finding of the research suggests that smoking levels among youth and adults double provincial averages. The incidence of smoking begins to increase sharply among youth who are as young as 11 years. A strategy to prevent smoking from starting up should target youth at or before this age. The research also suggests that two-thirds

of homes have at least one person smoking and people concerned about second hand smoke. A campaign to reduce smoking in the home and in other buildings is supported by the research data, which also shows that controls on smoking such as declaring an area smoke free, have some effect.

*Finding from the Environmental Scan determined that for a comprehensive tobacco strategy the following main elements should be included:*

- 1) Prevention
  - a. Pricing and taxation



Chief Mi'sel Joe, Miaupukek



Heather Tubman, Pam Ward  
& Krista Brookes APC Sect.

- b. Public education
- c. Media controls

**2) Protection/ Control**

- a. Smoke free policy
- b. Restricting access
- c. Reducing pregnancy smoking

**3) Treatment/ Cessation**

- a. Individual and group counseling
- b. "quit" medication available
- c. support groups

**4) Research/ Evaluation**

▶▶ **ATLANTIC ABORIGINAL HEALTH RESEARCH PROGRAM**

The Atlantic Health Research Program was officially launched February 14th, 2003 and since then the governing board has been selected and staff hired. Dr. Fred Wein is the Director of AHRP and Carla Moore is the Coordinator.

AHRP objective is to provide a supportive environment and resources to encourage Aboriginal students to pursue careers in health research. Financial support is available for summer internships for undergraduate students, scholarships for masters and PhD level study and for post-doctoral and junior faculty appointments. AHRP is also working with Atlantic Aboriginal communities to strengthen their capacity to collaborate in research projects and to use research results in their work. AHRP also provides small research grants to support health research of interest to aboriginal communities.

▶▶ **Mi'kmaq Maliseet Atlantic Health Board**

The Mi'kmaq/ Maliseet Atlantic Health Board (MMAHB) were created to ensure that all First Nations people in the Atlantic region have a health status that is comparable to all Canadians. MMAHB was designed to improve the health status of Atlantic First Nations through co-management of federal health programs and services. Co-management is defined here as an open, fair and respectful discussion,

collaborative planning and decision-making related to Atlantic First Nations health programs and services. This will require the identification of shared priorities and overall strategic objectives for the effective delivery of regional health services.

▶▶ **HEALTH COMMITTEE RESTRUCTURING**

Health Canada and MMAHB have been dealing with the issue of an escalating number of health committees and advisory groups as well as the issue of meeting frequency and associated costs. A contribution agreement meeting was held in June 2002, at this time participants from FNIHB and First Nation organizations developed recommendations to implement a different committee structure which would be more efficient and cost effective.

At the last MMAHB meeting on March 24th, 2004 the committee passed a motion to accept the following recommendation on the restructuring of the health committees.

*The accepted option has the existing health committees amalgamate into three health committee bundles:*

1. Child & Youth Committee
2. Wellness Committee
3. Primary Health Care & Public Health Committee.

*Next Steps:*

- a) Develop detailed transition workplan
- b) Inform the existing committees of upcoming changes
- c) Develop terms of reference, committee memberships etc.

The new committee structure will be evaluated at the end of the fiscal year for effectiveness.

▶▶ **ATLANTIC REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

Debra Keays-White, FNIHB Regional Director (RD) left the Atlantic region to go on a year's French training. The new acting Atlantic region RD is Sarah Archer.

▶▶ **ATLANTIC PROTECTION OF PRIVACY FORM**

The Atlantic Chiefs passed a resolution in February of this year rejecting the current Health Canada NIHB client

consent form and mandating regional health technicians to develop a new form that meets the needs and concerns of Atlantic First Nations. The technicians will meet mid-April to develop the new form. The form will be reviewed by the Atlantic Chiefs and then forwarded to Health Canada for approval. A process of communication and dissemination of the new form will be determined during the meeting of the technicians.

First Nations in Atlantic Canada no longer need to sign the NIHB Client Consent Form to receive benefits for which they are eligible. Under Health Canada's new approach to Client Consent, clients may be asked by Health Canada for either verbal or written consent from individuals who have been identified as being at risk, especially for misuse and abuse of prescription drugs.

If at a later date a client decides or need to provide consent, they can request the new Atlantic Consent form to be filled in. This form was developed by Health Canada and the Atlantic Health Technicians with the support of legal and ethical advice. The Atlantic Protection of Privacy/ Authorization form has been created as a result of a resolution passed by the Atlantic Chiefs in February 2003. A working group

comprised of First Nations and Health Canada representatives was asked to develop a mutually acceptable Privacy/ Authorization Form that would respect the concerns and needs of Atlantic First Nation clients.

*There are five (5) differences between the National Client Consent Form and the Atlantic NIHB Protection of Privacy/Authorization Form:*

- 1) The name of the form has been changed from NIHB Client Consent Form to Atlantic NIHB Protection of Privacy/ Authorization Form, reflecting the client's role in authorizing the use of his/her personal information.
- 2) The format of the form has been modified to provide First Nation Clients with a better understanding of what personal information is collected by the NIHB Program, how it is used, who it may be shared with and for what purposes.



Chief Shirley Clarke, Glooscap



3) A clause has been added to the form indicating that providing consent will not affect fiduciary responsibilities.

4) The form includes a table explaining what personal information is not used for.

5) An explanation has been included detailing the options available should a client decide not to authorize the use of his/her personal information by NIHB.

#### ► FNIHIS/ E-HEALTH

The First Nations and Inuit Health Information System (FNIHIS) were initially developed to be a case management tool for community health planning activities. The system was designed to address gaps in health data for decision-making and case management, build capacity in First Nation & Inuit communities, strengthening relations between First Nations and various government and health organizations. The FNIHIS was deployed to over 400 communities. On October 30, 2002, the FNIHB Branch Executive Committee approved the development of a strategic plan and policy framework for eHealth under the guidance of the BEC/ IM/IT subcommittee.

#### More specifically to:

- Develop and define the eHealth strategic vision and policy framework for the branch
- Realign FNIHIS and other projects with FNIHB within the context of the new e-Health strategy.



Wanda Paul, APC Sect.

#### Developments:

Agatha Hopkins has been hired as the Manager for Health Information Analysis & E-Health Solutions. Jennifer Dobbles has been employed as the Regional Education Manager out of MAWIW. This position has been repatriated back to Health Canada Atlantic Region Office.

#### ► INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL HEALTH SUPPORT WORKER (ADR PROCESS):

Canada has developed a strategic approach to residential school abuse claims. "Canada has a specific mandate to develop a variety of models for achieving out of court resolutions that will promote healing and reconciliation. In this context, a new National Resolution Framework was announced in December 2002 by Ralph Goodale,

Minister responsible at the time for IRSRC. This Resolution Framework was designed to expedite the number of claims being settled by the Crown in a more timely and sensitive manner.

The objective of the ARD process in November 2003 was to provide a fast and sensitive option for survivors, to resolving claims of sexual and physical abuse suffered at residential schools. To enter the process the claimant will need to complete and submit a detailed application form to IRSRC. It is hoped that many claimants will engage council in the process but it is not necessary.

**Role of RHSW in this process**  
Health Canada and the Indian Residential School are working together in collaboration to ensure that IRS claimants who are actively resolving their claims in the National Resolution Framework through either the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Process or the courts have access to mental health support services.

The goal of this program is to provide IRS claimants, who are actively resolving their claim against Canada and their immediate family members.

To ensure that claimants can safely address emotional support issues related to the disclosure of childhood abuses at the hands of the residential

schools, in a culturally sensitive, appropriate, effective and efficient manner.

#### **The Recipient Organization shall ensure that the RHSW:**

- Has/have experience working with Aboriginal Mental Health Issues.
- Has/have the capacity and flexibility to meet the emotional health support needs of potentially large numbers of IRS claimants in a variety of locations spread out across considerable geographic areas.
- Provide information as set out the reporting requirement, which include, a financial report of funding received, program activity report from January 19-March 31, 2004, number of claimants and family members



Chief Reg Maloney, Health Conference, January 2003

provided with emotional support, statistics on age, gender, status, residential school attended, are they involved in court or ADR process, purpose of interaction between RHSW and claimant, number and types of referrals, number of trips to hearings, court or other events attended, such as educational awareness.

- Have security clearance
- Coordinate services to meet emotional supports of claimants
- Work in collaboration with various organizations and communities at the local, regional, and provincial levels.
- Assess the effectiveness of the IRS mental health program
- Liaise with regional HC office, IRSRC to identify eligible claimants resolving their claim in the ADR process.
- Refer claimants to HC regional office staff to determine their eligibility for therapeutic or recognized traditional healing.
- Provide emotional support, while paying close attention to those individuals in crisis.
- Ensure claimants are aware of their ADR hearings or court events, and assist them in accessing financial support for themselves and family members to attend these hearings.
- Build relationships with other RHSW workers nationally
- Liaise with IRSRC to determine a schedule of all hearings etc..
- Attend where possible ADR or court events.

The Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs was awarded the position of Indian Residential School Health Support Worker at the November 24th, 2003 meeting held in Dartmouth till March 31st, 2004. The APC will no longer hold the contract for this position, since it is have a service delivery mandate and this fall outside the scope of APC. On the March 24th, 2004 MMAHB meeting it was decided that the Indian Residential School Health Support Worker position will be awarded through a call for proposals format. APC will take the lead on developing the call and a committee will be created to evaluate the proposals and recommendations will be brought back to MMAHB in June 2004. ☼





## HOUSING REPORT

There are two committees which deal with On Reserve housing activity in the Atlantic region. APC chairs and administers the work of both committees.

The **Mi'kmaq Maliseet Senior Housing Committee (MMSHC)** is the senior group which provides vision, leadership and direction in the operation of the On- Reserve Housing Programs in the Atlantic Region. It is made up of six Chiefs from the Atlantic as well as the Atlantic Regional Director General of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and the General Manager of Canada Mortgage & Housing Corporation's (CMHC) Atlantic Business Centre. The MMSHC is a high level decision making body. The committee met in July and in February. During the February meeting, a strategic planning session was held resulting in three key priority objectives being chosen for 2004-2005.

The second Committee is the On Reserve Liaison Housing Committee, which is the working group that implements the delivery, administration and capacity building programs. It consists of housing representatives from the Atlantic Region's First Nation communities through the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs as well as participants from INAC, Health Canada and CMHC. This Committee met in June (Eel Ground First Nation, NB), October (Lennox Island First Nation, PEI) and February (Moncton, NB) of this fiscal year.

### ►► UPDATES ON SUBCOMMITTEES

#### 1) TERMS OF REFERENCE

Terms of Reference for the ORLHC were developed by the subcommittee and approved by both the ORLHC members

and the Atlantic Chiefs. The terms of reference take a more strategic approach to housing. Terms of Reference for the Senior Committee were developed by the same subcommittee but not yet approved by the Senior Committee. The terms of reference can be found on APC's website at: [www.apcfn.ca](http://www.apcfn.ca), click on housing, ORLHC.

#### 2) AIR QUALITY

##### Training

- Four inspectors now have Indoor Air Quality Investigators diplomas
- Fifteen inspectors, builders, housing and band managers participate in Mould Remediation and in Heat Recovery Ventilation maintenance workshops

##### Education

- Indoor Air Quality information kits for residents and band technical staff distributed to all First Nation communities

#### 3) TECHNICAL TRAINING

- Eleven housing personnel participated in the Environmental Site Assessment program at Dalhousie University
- Ten housing technicians attended an HRAI accredited Heat Recovery Ventilation course to become certified installers

#### 4) COMMUNICATIONS

The goals of this subcommittee were to:

- Revitalize the existing committee
- Make presentations/information sharing
- Ensure the APC website is up to date

#### 5) YOUTH

The goal of this subcommittee is to support work of the apprenticeship

trades committee.

#### 6) HOUSING DATA ANALYSIS

This subcommittee accomplished the following:

- Prepared a proposal for consideration by Chiefs
- Developed a template for data collection
- Gathered available statistics from government departments

#### ►► PROPOSED PLAN FOR 2004-2005

- Develop database for housing condition data collection and maintenance
- Further develop First Nation housing capacity
- Develop more innovative housing approaches

#### (A) Housing Conditions Database - Next Steps:

- Collection of specific data elements from First Nations
- Analysis of data
- Preparation of report
- Decision on best approach to maintain and update housing data

#### (B) Housing Capacity

- Continue focus on indoor air quality workshops for technical, residents, Chief and Council
- Home maintenance workshops
- Housing management training

#### (C) Innovative Housing Approaches

- Examine previous Aboriginal research completed
- Solicit ideas from ORLHC
- Senior committee to select one or two promising initiatives to pursue

If you have any questions or require further information about the work of the housing committees, please contact Krista Brookes, APC at 1-877-667-4007 or via email: [krista.brookes@apcfn.ca](mailto:krista.brookes@apcfn.ca) ☎

## PROGRESS REPORT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTEGRATED RESEARCH PROGRAM

During the 2003-2004 fiscal year, progress on the achievement of this integrated research program was made both with respect to the participating universities and with potential funders.

Prior to April 2003, the following universities had agreed in principle to participate in the proposal to lend their

expertise and other resources to support Aboriginal economic development in the Atlantic region. They were Dalhousie, Memorial, Mount Allison, St. Thomas, the University of New Brunswick, Université de Moncton, St. Francis Xavier, the University of Prince Edward Island, and Saint Mary's. Staff

at the University College of Cape Breton had declined to participate despite the fact that the university has made a substantial commitment to Mi'kmaq Studies and has several hundred Mi'kmaq students enrolled. In early 2003, however, a meeting was held with the Acting President of UCCB followed by a second meeting in July of 2003 that included the Vice-President Academic and several other key persons. The end result of these meetings is that now



UCCB is one of the participating universities, and indeed is one of the five core institutions backing this proposal.

In addition, throughout fiscal 2003-2004, meetings took place with potential funding agencies, including Indian and Northern Affairs and, especially, the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency. We see ACOA as the lead agency for funding this proposal, hence it is vitally important to address any issues that ACOA might have with the proposal. In November 2003, we received a detailed list of questions about the proposal from ACOA, and subsequent meetings established the need to make certain revisions.

*The most important of these are as*

**follows:**

- To strengthen the capacity building aspect of the program, so that it would make a clear and substantial contribution to the development of a cadre of Aboriginal research personnel
- To shift the focus away from the establishment of a research institute, toward the idea of an integrated research program. Participating departments would commit to a series of research projects and related activities over a 3 to 5 year period. Overhead funds would be used to engage any staff that are required.
- To outline in a concrete fashion the first group of research projects that would be funded

- To revise the composition of the Steering Committee for the integrated research program so that it includes equal representation from the universities, the funding agencies, and Aboriginal communities/organizations
- Clarification about how individual communities and the Aboriginal private sector would benefit from the proposed research program.

Finally, we were active in keeping our constituencies up to date about the proposal. This included updates to the Board of the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs, and to the Implementation Committee for Building and Atlantic Aboriginal economy.

*Fred Wein, Dalhousie University* ☼

## SOCIAL REFORM REPORT

- Completed Social Policy Manuals for Bear River and Tobique First Nations and prepared the communities for implementation if funding was available. This would have included training and a partnership relationship with the Provinces.
- Completed Mi'kmaq and Maliseet Youth Strategy - no implementation as no money
- Intergovernmental Work with Province of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia on case management and partnership work to support cooperative efforts.

Continued work with FN communities who self-identified interests in social implementation pilots and did presentations to Shubenacadie, Acadia, Madawaska, St. Mary's. - (Pre-Planning Stage)

- Social Development Policy and Management Initiative work
- Met with Jack McDonald and Valerie Levi relating to disabled initiative and completed research into the development of a Mi'kmaq and Maliseet Disabled Strategy.
- Participated on the Assembly of First Nations National First Nation Policy Advisory Group Working Group dealing with new authorities and anomalies.
- Conducted a Social Development Administrators Workshop in Moncton on policy anomalies and new Dept of Indian Affairs manuals and implications on First Nations who were in third party management.
- Sent out call letters for communities who were interested in being part of

Social policy manual implementation pilot communities.

- Fact gathering on social pilots that Chiefs were planning to implement this year.
- Data Management Work continued.
- Working with Department of Indian Northern Affairs Canada on Social Issues.
- Meetings and follow-up with Provinces of NS and Bear River and Shubenacadie to ensure Job shadowing process for Pilots
- Developed detailed Case Management Training Priorities and Manual, but no funding was provided.
- Authorities discussion and workshop with Child Family Service Agencies in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.
- Participated as Co-Chair in NS Tripartite Working group meetings and brought forward key issues. ☼

## ICT REPORT

There were several meetings held during the 2003-2004 fiscal year. During these meetings, there was much talk of what could be done to help establish high-speed connectivity to the First Nations of Atlantic Canada.

The ICT committee met recently in March to discuss various progressions in the field of Information Technology as it pertains to the Atlantic First

Nations. Discussions on the formation of partnerships with industry and government were had, as well as some of the initiatives that ICT members were directly involved in.

### ►► FIRSTNET

The FirstNet Initiative led by the Confederacy of Mainland Micmacs has become stale and doesn't seem to be progressing. Brian Smith, the former

manager of the FirstNet Initiative, stated that the FirstNet committee hasn't done anything to further the Initiative since he finished the final report. He expressed regret at the fact that the committee has not taken the initiative to the next level, and that the project is currently dormant.

### ►► FIRST NATIONS HELP DESK

The First Nations Help Desk has recently had some new developments in getting high-speed Internet access to First Nation schools in the Atlantic



region. Full T1 lines were approved for funding for First Nation schools as well as up-to-date equipment. Along with computer equipment, video conferencing units were approved as well. As of the date of this report, several installs have been completed and are up and running. First Nations Help Desk has also hired Heidi Simon as a training co-ordinator.

To celebrate their achievements, the First Nations Help Desk organized a celebration of technology in Eel Ground First Nation School, where the students participated by showing off some of their skills in multimedia creation and by video conferencing with other First Nation Schools across Canada. Details on the event can be found on their website

[http://www.firstnationshelp.com/eg\\_event/](http://www.firstnationshelp.com/eg_event/)

#### ▶▶ AIRNET.CA

Discussion concerning the creation of high speed wireless internet access in Woodstock, NB informed the ICT committee on the existence of Airnet.ca, a New Brunswick company that provides wireless Internet access to Woodstock and surrounding area.

ICT member David Rosenrauch led the discussion, describing both costs and connection speeds with Airnet.ca's network. David also informed the committee that Airnet was willing to export their model to other First Nations if someone was willing to take the initiative.

#### Partnership Discussions

##### ▶▶ FIRST NATION HELP DESK

The APCFNC has established a partnership with the MK First Nation Help Desk. Through this partnership the APCFNC has been able to assist the FN Help Desk with deploying high speed Internet to 8 First Nation schools in New Brunswick. Video Conferencing units have been installed with T1 Internet lines into schools in New Brunswick. Metepenagiag School was one of the first schools to have access the technical expertise of the ICT, with one of its members rebuilding the internal network, upgrading and deploying Windows 2000 computers inside the lab, and hooking those systems up to the High-speed internet made available by First Nations Help Desk and Aliant. It is also being planned to place wireless access points throughout the school to provide

Internet access in all classrooms. Systems are currently being upgrading in Metepenagiag School to place in all classrooms for this purpose..

Eel Ground First Nation school was one of the first schools in New Brunswick to receive the video conferencing equipment, and held a large event to celebrate the achievement. Various politicians and dignitaries from all over, including the National Chief Phil Fontaine were at hand for the meeting, as well as a taped message from the Right Honourable Prime Minister Paul Martin. He taped a personal message to the students of Eel Ground School congratulating them on their successful achievements and outstanding work.

##### ▶▶ FORT FOLLY FIRST NATION

APCFNC was asked by Fort Folly First Nation to assist in the creation of a website for the Fort Folly Habitat Recovery Program. APC advised the staff of the Habitat Recovery Program to find the right training and technology to create and deploy their website as well hosting their email services for a brief period of time. As a result, the Fort Folly Habitat Recovery Program was able to have once of its staff trained as a webmaster to manage their website.

##### ▶▶ RED BANK FIRST NATION

Setup and maintained wireless network with high speed connection to the web.

Red Bank First Nation connects to the Internet via a 256 Mbps fractional T1 connection provided by Aliant. The APC lent the expertise of its Chief Informatics Officer to Red Bank for the design and implementation of its wireless network.

##### ▶▶ ROGERS / ATT & GROUP TELECOM

Two members of the ICT committee held a meeting with Group Telecom rep Craig Astle on pricing and infrastructure for the Elsipogtog First Nation. Adam Augustine and Heidi Simon met with several program directors of Elsipogtog First Nation to assist the deployment of Rogers High-speed Internet cable. Group Telecom's role was to provide service to non-residential customers in Elsipogtog. As a result of this meeting, Rogers AT&T is currently in its final stages of deployment of its high speed cable in Elsipogtog.

##### ▶▶ PLEXUS

APC held discussion with Plexus, a cabling and wireless internet service provider on delivering wireless high speed internet to First Nations in the Miramichi/Rexton area.

There were discussions on how Plexus could provide high-speed Internet access to Elsipogtog First Nation and other First Nations in the immediate area. Plexus provided a network infrastructure that would allow high-speed access via a mesh topology. Although the wireless equipment needed to provide this infrastructure was expensive, several options were explored to reduce the amount of "up-front" money need by First Nation customers to receive the service. Work was done to try and come up with an exportable model that could be used with other First Nations in the Atlantic region.

Discussions were on-going until the announcement from Aliant and the province of New Brunswick with regards to Aliant rolling out high-speed Internet to rural New Brunswick.

##### ▶▶ ATLIS

Held discussions with Atlis principle David Stairs on providing critical infrastructure for wireless high speed internet access for First Nations in the Miramichi and surrounding areas. Several meetings with Atlis provided interesting alternatives to cabled solutions. The topic of smart communities and wireless devices for the Miramichi and surrounding areas (including the First Nations of Eel Ground, Red Bank, Burnt Church, Elsipogtog, and Indian Island) was discussed in detail, but the end cost for the consumer was still too high for the area.

##### ▶▶ SHADCOMM / C-COM

APC met with Shadcomm inquiring on the price of high-speed internet access via the satellite dish. Pricing structures are geared mostly for individual subscribers and not for community access. Upload speeds are much slower than download speeds, and the example set by the Industry Canada-led Schoolnet System has left many people weary of using any type satellite access.

⌘





## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BY GRANT THORNTON

### ▶ AUDITOR'S REPORT - JUNE 16, 2004

To the Members of the  
Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs Secretariat Inc.

We have audited the balance sheet of the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs Secretariat Inc. as at March 31, 2004 and the statements of operations, unrestricted surplus and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the congress' management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs Secretariat Inc. as at March 31, 2004 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Truro, Nova Scotia  
June 16, 2004

Grant Thornton LLP  
Chartered Accountants

### ▶ MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The accompanying financial statements of the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs Secretariat Inc. and all the information in this annual report are the responsibility of management and have been approved by the Executive Committee on behalf of the First Nations of Atlantic Canada.

The financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. Financial statements are not precise since they include certain amounts based on estimates and judgments. When alternative accounting methods exist, management has chosen those it deems most appropriate in the circumstances, in order to ensure that the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects.

The congress maintains systems of internal accounting and administrative controls of high quality, consistent with reasonable cost. Such systems are designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial information is relevant, reliable and accurate and the assets of the congress are appropriately accounted for and adequately safeguarded.

The congress is responsible for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibilities for financial reporting and is ultimately responsible for reviewing and approving the financial statements. The congress carries out this responsibility principally through its executive committee.

The executive committee, composed of First Nation members, reviews the congress' financial statements and recommends their approval to the First Nations. The executive committee meets periodically with management, as well as the external auditors, to discuss internal controls over the financial reporting process, auditing matters and financial reporting issues, to satisfy themselves that each party is properly discharging their responsibilities, and to review the annual report, the financial statements and the external auditor's report. The executive committee reports its findings to the First Nations for consideration when approving the financial statements for issuance to the members. The executive committee also considers, for review and approval by the First Nations, the engagement of the external auditors.

The financial statements have been audited by Grant Thornton LLP in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards on behalf of the members. Grant Thornton LLP has full and free access to the executive committee.

### ▶ STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Year Ended March 31	Page	2004	2003
<b>Revenues</b>			
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	\$	1,960,748	\$ 2,443,077
Department of Fisheries and Oceans		200,000	367,500
Health and Welfare Canada		357,287	581,354
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation		45,775	50,258
Environment Canada		1,001	27,000
HST recoverable (Note 2)		119,145	491,990
Dalhousie University		35,468	-
Assembly of First Nations		18,000	-
Miscellaneous		32,729	31,756
Interest		344	2,232
		<u>2,770,497</u>	<u>3,995,167</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Administration	11	\$ 654,089	\$ 836,669
All Chiefs Forums	12	195,000	215,004
Executive	13	99,955	140,326
C.M.H.C. Housing	14	46,918	56,971
Social	15	243,781	1,040,483
Treaty Education Initiative	16	274,841	283,330
Health	17	291,487	495,719
Fisheries	18	163,884	380,715
Economic	19	564,996	427,461
Environmental Health	20	77,036	30,558
Community Planning	21	336,732	46,750
		<u>2,948,719</u>	<u>3,953,986</u>
Excess of (expenditures over revenues) revenues over expenditures		\$ (178,222)	\$ 41,181

### ▶ STATEMENT OF UNRESTRICTED SURPLUS

Year Ended March 31	2004	2003
Unrestricted surplus, beginning of year	\$ 275,104	\$ 233,923
Excess of (expenditures over revenues) revenues over expenditures (Page 3)	(178,222)	41,181
Unrestricted surplus, end of year	\$ 96,882	\$ 275,104

### ▶ BALANCE SHEET

March 31	2004	2003
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 79,515	\$ 385,200
Restricted cash (Note 3)	2,827	12,514
Receivables (Note 4)	304,113	261,085
Prepays	1,328	-
	<u>387,783</u>	<u>658,799</u>
Furniture and equipment (net of accumulated amortization of \$83,190; 2003 - \$88,027)	117,340	142,207
	<u>\$ 505,123</u>	<u>\$ 801,006</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Payables and accruals	\$ 190,574	\$ 310,352
Deferred revenue (Note 6)	97,500	60,829
	<u>288,074</u>	<u>371,181</u>
<b>Surplus</b>		
Investment in capital assets (Note 7)	117,340	142,207
Legal Defence Fund reserve (Note 8)	2,827	12,514
Unrestricted (Page 4)	96,882	275,104
	<u>217,049</u>	<u>429,825</u>
	<u>\$ 505,123</u>	<u>\$ 801,006</u>

### ▶ STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Year Ended March 31	2004	2003
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		
<b>Cash flows from operating activities (Note 2)</b>		
Cash receipts from revenue	\$ 2,764,140	\$ 3,912,575
Cash paid for expenditures to employees	(3,069,825)	(4,060,980)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(305,685)	(148,405)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	385,200	533,605
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 79,515	\$ 385,200

*Grant Thornton LLP*

Grant Thornton LLP  
Chartered Accountants



## ▶ NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 1. Nature of operations

The Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs Secretariat Inc. is an incorporated non-profit organization and operates under funding agreements with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and other government agencies and acquires substantially all of its revenue from these sources. The objective of the congress is to create a forum to enable First Nation Chiefs to speak with one voice on policy matters affecting the First Nations of Atlantic Canada. The congress is exempt from tax under Section 149 of the *Canadian Income Tax Act*.

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies

#### Use of estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates that affect the amounts recorded in the financial statements. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

#### Revenue recognition

The congress follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions and investment income are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amounts to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

#### Capital assets

Capital assets acquired after March 31, 1997, are valued at cost. Capital assets financed out of operations are expensed in the accounts. An entry is subsequently made to record an increase in capital asset cost and increase in investment in capital assets.

#### Depreciation

Depreciation is recorded as a charge to the investment in capital assets account and not expensed in the statement of operations. Rates and bases of depreciation applied to write-off the cost of equipment over its estimated life is 20%, declining balance.

#### Statement of cash flows

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and balances with banks and financial institutions. Bank borrowings are considered to be financing activities.

Cash flows from operating activities on the statement of cash flows reconciles cash receipts from total revenues, changes in the accounts receivable and deferred revenue balances as well as cash paid for expenditures from total expenditures, changes in prepaids, and payables and accruals balances.

#### Financial instruments

The Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs Secretariat Inc.'s financial instruments consist of cash and cash equivalents, receivables, payables and accruals and deferred revenue. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs Secretariat Inc. is not exposed to significant interest, currency, or credit risk arising from financial instruments. The fair market values of these financial instruments approximate their carrying values.

#### Overhead allocations and project transfers

The congress allocates overhead costs incurred to the various projects undertaken during the year.

Transfers are made among various programs when in management's opinion, certain revenues or expenses incurred in one program relate to another program.

#### Harmonized Sales Tax (HST)

The congress includes with its expenses the recoverable portion of HST. A rebate is then filed for the recoverable HST and recorded as revenue in the administration statement of operations in the period it is receivable.

### 3. Restricted cash

Cash held in the Legal Defence Fund is subject to internal restrictions and is not available for unrestricted purposes without the approval of the executive committee.

### 4. Receivables

	2004	2003
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	\$ 118,939	\$ 77,650
Health and Welfare Canada	9,000	45,521
Department of Fisheries and Oceans	87,391	36,750
Dalhousie University	16,854	-
Sundry	278	6,936
HST recoverable	47,325	66,378
Staff advances	24,326	27,850
	<u>\$ 304,113</u>	<u>\$ 261,085</u>

### 5. Bank indebtedness

The congress has an operating line of credit of \$200,000, none of which was used at March 31, 2004. As security, the congress has pledged receivables.

### 6. Deferred revenue

	2004	2003
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	\$ 97,500	\$ 60,829

	2004	2003
Investment in capital assets, beginning of year	\$ 142,207	\$ 142,108
Purchase of office equipment	34,607	31,556
Disposal of office equipment	(34,462)	-
Amortization of capital assets	(25,012)	(31,457)
Investment in capital assets, end of year	<u>\$ 117,340</u>	<u>\$ 142,207</u>

	2004	2003
Beginning of year	\$ 12,514	\$ 2,848
Contributions	10,313	19,666
Expenditures	(20,000)	(10,000)
End of year	<u>\$ 2,827</u>	<u>\$ 12,514</u>

### 9. Commitments

Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs Secretariat Inc. has entered into agreements to lease its premises and office equipment for various periods until 2008. Minimum rent payable for premises and equipment in aggregate for each of the next four fiscal years are as follows:

2005	\$ 27,456
2006	\$ 26,515
2007	\$ 26,515
2008	\$ 1,356

### 10. Remuneration of senior staff

The executive committee of the congress has established the rates and levels of compensation of senior staff as follows:

Executive Director's salary	\$ 106,700
-----------------------------	------------

### 11. Contingent liability

The Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs Secretariat Inc. has entered into contribution agreements with various government departments on both the provincial and federal level. Funding received under these agreements are subject to repayment if the congress fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the agreements.

### 12. Pension plan

The congress has a defined contribution pension savings plan for its employees. The assets of the plan are held separately from those of the congress in independently administered funds.

Contributions paid and expensed by the congress in the current year amounted to \$41,484 (2003 - \$45,617).

## ▶ STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS - ADMINISTRATION

Year Ended March 31	2004	2003
Revenues		
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	\$ 600,296	\$ 686,869
Miscellaneous	23,183	19,387
Dalhousie University	35,468	-
Assembly of First Nations	18,000	-
HST recoverable	119,145	491,990
Interest	344	1,838
	<u>796,436</u>	<u>1,200,084</u>
Transfers to:		
Executive	(99,955)	(140,326)
	<u>696,481</u>	<u>1,059,758</u>
Expenditures		
Accommodations	28,010	38,691
Advertising and promotional materials	9,177	26,274
Catering	3,001	13,699
Communications	49,163	68,406
Contractors, researchers, technical support	62,113	66,591
Dues and fees	6,191	3,132
Equipment and room rentals	577	9,521
Equipment leases	32,252	37,816
Furniture and equipment	34,142	31,556
Incidentals	2,236	4,797
Insurance	1,974	903
Interest and bank charges	4,532	4,065
Library resources	513	1,240
Meals	24,338	27,991
Meeting coordinator, facilitator and administrative support	8,931	7,137
Office supplies and postage	39,730	69,291
Per diem	1,125	342
Professional fees	31,078	38,099
Rent and facilities	57,641	71,964
Salary and benefits	379,649	396,462
Staff training	5,315	21,212
Travel	37,848	84,871
	<u>819,536</u>	<u>1,024,060</u>
Overhead allocations from (to):		
All Chiefs Forum	19,169	46,607
CMHC Housing	(6,120)	(7,431)
Social	(23,134)	(94,589)
Treaty Education Initiative	(24,986)	(25,757)
Health	(26,499)	(25,723)
Fisheries	(14,899)	(34,610)
Economic	(51,363)	(38,860)
Environmental Health	(7,003)	(2,778)
Community Planning	(30,612)	(4,250)
	<u>654,089</u>	<u>836,669</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	<u>\$ 42,392</u>	<u>\$ 223,089</u>

**▶▶ STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS - ALL CHIEFS FORUMS**

Year Ended March 31	2004	2003
<b>Revenues</b>		
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	\$ 60,000	\$ 120,000
Department of Fisheries and Oceans	40,000	-
Health Canada	95,000	95,004
	<u>195,000</u>	<u>215,004</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Accommodations	65,380	99,899
Advertising and promotional materials	339	-
Catering	21,397	30,874
Communications	200	-
Equipment and room rental	16,184	16,952
Incidentals	19,812	30,970
Meals	35,882	56,070
Meeting coordinator, facilitator and administrative support	2,400	4,400
Office supplies and postage	1,744	4,609
Travel	50,831	70,159
	<u>214,169</u>	<u>313,933</u>
Transfer to:		
Administration	(19,169)	(46,607)
Fisheries	-	(52,322)
	<u>195,000</u>	<u>215,004</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	\$ -	\$ -

**▶▶ STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS - EXECUTIVE**

Year Ended March 31	2004	2003
<b>Revenues</b>		
Transfer from administration	\$ 99,955	\$ 140,326
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Accommodations	26,800	63,179
Catering	2,734	5,890
Dues and fees	120	-
Equipment and room rental	1,073	2,169
Incidentals	8,375	19,044
Meals	14,991	34,284
Office supplies and postage	101	432
Travel	45,761	48,174
	<u>99,955</u>	<u>173,172</u>
Transfer to:		
Fisheries	-	(32,846)
	<u>99,955</u>	<u>140,326</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	\$ -	\$ -

**▶▶ STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS - C.M.H.C. HOUSING**

Year Ended March 31	2004	2003
<b>Revenues</b>		
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation	\$ 45,775	\$ 50,258
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Accommodations	9,735	8,888
Catering	1,436	2,891
Communications	5,775	-
Contractors, researchers and technical support	-	9,550
Equipment and room rental	593	971
Incidentals	1,729	1,047
Meals	5,455	5,861
Meeting coordinator, facilitator and administrative support	-	159
Office supplies and postage	30	-
Overhead allocated from administration	6,120	7,431
Travel	16,045	20,173
	<u>46,918</u>	<u>56,971</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenues	\$ (1,143)	\$ (6,713)

**▶▶ STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS - COMMUNITY PLANNING**

Year Ended March 31	2004	2003
<b>Revenues</b>		
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	\$ 342,682	\$ 46,750
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Contractors, researchers, and technical support	306,120	42,500
Overhead allocated from administration	30,612	4,250
	<u>336,732</u>	<u>46,750</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	\$ 5,950	\$ -

**▶▶ STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS - SOCIAL**

Year Ended March 31	2004	2003
<b>Revenues</b>		
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	\$ 16,400	\$ 952,867
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Accommodations	16,097	99,824
Advertising and promotional materials	1,050	4,084
Catering	4,600	33,725
Communications	9,120	19,851
Contractors, researchers, and technical support	19,774	185,397
Dues and fees	20	2,690
Equipment and room rental	1,541	19,178
Furniture and equipment	465	-
Incidentals	2,164	22,104
Interest and bank charges	200	124
Meals	11,119	65,801
Meeting coordinator, facilitator and administrative support	-	11,238
Office supplies and postage	1,614	27,937
Overhead allocated from administration	23,134	94,589
Per diem	-	662
Rent and facilities	230	-
Salaries and benefits	119,216	291,519
Travel	33,437	161,760
	<u>243,781</u>	<u>1,040,483</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenues	\$ (227,381)	\$ (87,616)

**▶▶ STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS - TREATY EDUCATION INITIATIVE**

Year Ended March 31	2004	2003
<b>Revenues</b>		
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	\$ 267,870	\$ 225,309
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Accommodations	12,680	18,931
Advertising and promotional materials	8,136	18,017
Catering	2,870	1,690
Communications	5,785	13,354
Contractors, researchers, and technical support	30,500	-
Dues and fees	2,095	1,504
Equipment and room rental	1,231	375
Incidentals	1,762	3,001
Meals	12,746	17,300
Meeting coordinator, facilitator and administrative support	-	800
Office supplies and postage	-	833
Overhead allocated from administration	24,986	25,757
Per diem	3,100	2,486
Salaries and benefits	143,003	146,749
Travel	25,947	39,733
	<u>274,841</u>	<u>290,530</u>
Transfer to Environmental Health	-	(7,200)
	<u>274,841</u>	<u>283,330</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenues	\$ (6,971)	\$ (58,021)

**▶▶ STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS - HEALTH**

Year Ended March 31	2004	2003
<b>Revenues</b>		
Health Canada	\$ 262,287	\$ 486,350
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	15,000	-
Miscellaneous	9,546	9,369
	<u>286,833</u>	<u>495,719</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Accommodations	43,113	96,581
Advertising and promotional materials	593	3,052
Catering	21,238	31,696
Communications	1,948	3,778
Contractors, researchers, and technical support	300	42,539
Equipment and room rental	7,343	4,147
Incidentals	10,955	23,894
Library Resources	28	-
Meals	23,672	48,649
Meeting coordinator, facilitator and administrative support	1,040	30,669
Office supplies and postage	1,773	3,242
Overhead allocated from administration	26,499	25,723
Per diem	300	350
Salaries and benefits	96,545	86,982
Travel	56,140	94,417
	<u>291,487</u>	<u>495,719</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenues	\$ (4,654)	\$ -





## ▶▶ STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS - FISHERIES

Year Ended March 31	2004	2003
<b>Revenues</b>		
Department of Fisheries and Oceans	\$ 160,000	\$ 367,500
Interest income	-	394
	<u>160,000</u>	<u>367,894</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Accommodations	12,670	12,839
Catering	3,714	3,191
Communications	1,908	5,227
Contractors, researchers, and technical support	-	20,700
Dues and fees	-	350
Equipment and room rental	1,599	619
Incidentals	2,636	3,024
Meals	8,130	7,975
Meeting coordinator, facilitator and administrative support	6,575	-
Office supplies and postage	118	44
Overhead allocated from administration	14,899	34,610
Per diem	400	-
Professional fees	-	4,435
Salaries and benefits	93,422	178,498
Travel	17,813	24,035
	<u>163,884</u>	<u>295,547</u>
Transfers from:		
Executive	-	32,846
All Chiefs Forums	-	52,322
	<u>163,884</u>	<u>380,715</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenues	\$ (3,884)	\$ (12,821)

## ▶▶ STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS - ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Year Ended March 31	2004	2003
<b>Revenues</b>		
Environment Canada	\$ 1,001	\$ 27,000
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	75,764	-
	<u>76,765</u>	<u>27,000</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Accommodations	14,367	3,663
Catering	3,708	2,479
Contractors, researchers and technical support	-	1,200
Equipment and room rental	3,360	75
Incidentals	3,132	910
Meals	8,149	2,096
Meeting coordinator, facilitator and administrative support	-	200
Office supplies and postage	889	6
Overhead allocated from administration	7,003	2,778
Per diem	2,200	1,000
Salary and benefits	6,900	-
Travel	27,328	8,951
	<u>77,036</u>	<u>23,358</u>
Transfer from Treaty Education Initiative	-	7,200
	<u>77,036</u>	<u>30,558</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenues	\$ (271)	\$ (3,558)

## ▶▶ STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS - ECONOMIC

Year Ended March 31	2004	2003
<b>Revenues</b>		
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	\$ 582,736	\$ 411,282
Miscellaneous	-	3,000
	<u>582,736</u>	<u>414,282</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Advertising	221	-
Accommodations	21,950	35,294
Catering	5,424	10,614
Communications	1,955	171
Contractors, researchers, and technical support	322,729	185,742
Dues and fees	13,812	198
Equipment and room rental	1,722	3,895
Incidentals	4,685	5,973
Meals	14,774	20,336
Meeting coordinator, facilitator and administrative support	1,800	25,775
Office supplies and postage	-	318
Overhead allocated from administration	51,363	38,860
Professional fees	2,500	-
Salary and benefits	55,367	21,678
Travel	66,694	78,607
	<u>564,996</u>	<u>427,461</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures, (expenditures over revenues)	\$ 17,740	\$ (13,179)

### APC Sect. Current Staff Members:

- John G. Paul, Executive Director
- Adam Augustine, Chief Informatics Officer
- Cheryl Copage, Health Policy Analyst
- Cheryl Knockwood, Senior Policy Analyst
- Donna Gauvin, Coordinator Social Data Network
- Georgianna Barlow, Policy Analyst
- Heather Tubman, Executive Assistant
- Krista Brookes, Senior Policy Analyst/Legal Advisor
- Norah Ward, Policy Analyst
- Noreen Copage, Financial Officer
- Simon Osmond, Policy Analyst
- Violet Paul, Senior Policy Analyst
- Wanda Paul, Reception/Support

## The Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs Secretariat Inc.

### Head Office:

PO Box 26005,  
RPO Market  
Dartmouth, NS B2W 6P3

**Tel:** (902) 435-8021

**Fax:** (902) 435-8027

**Toll Free:** 1 (877) 667-4007

**Website:** www.apcfn.ca

### Co-Chairs:

- Chief Lawrence Paul, Millbrook, NS
- Chief Second Peter Barlow, Indian Island, NB

### Ex-Officio Members:

- Elder Raymond Tremblay, Tobique, NS
- Grand Chief Ben Sylliboy, Whycobah, NS
- Vice-Chief Len Tomah, NB/PE - AFN
- Vice-Chief Rick Simon, NS/NL - AFN

### 2003 - 2004 Executive Members:

- The Late Chief Michael Augustine, Metepenagiag
- Chief Blair Francis, Eskasoni, NS
- Chief Deborah Robinson, Acadia, NS
- Chief Francis Jadis, Abegweit, PE
- Chief Jean Guy Cimon, Madawaska, NB
- Chief Jeff Tomah, Woodstock, NB
- Chief Mi'sel Joe, Miawpukek, NF
- Chief Reg Maloney, Indian Brook, NS
- Chief Robert Levi, Elsipogtog, NB
- Chief Roger Atwin, Oromocto, NB
- Chief Terry Paul, Membertou, NS