



Membertou hosts historic Treaty Healing gathering



(Above) Elders offer their wisdom in furthering Treaty Education. Photo by Adam E. Gould.

On November 3, 2016, an Elders' Gathering was held in Membertou, hosted collaboratively by Treaty Education and supported by Nova Scotia Office of Aboriginal Affairs, Mi'kmaw Kinamatnewey, Membertou Governance Committee, and Membertou Seniors 55+ Club.

Forty-two Elders met to share wisdom, knowledge and stories that will shape, inform and guide Treaty Education in the province. In October 2015, the Province signed an MOU with Mi'kmaw leadership that created a mandate for Treaty Education in Nova Scotia. Elder engagement was part of the work plan.

The morning featured an opening prayer and smudge, remarks from Membertou Councilor Graham Marshall, and a Treaty Education presentation by Jaime Battiste. The afternoon session was held in a world café style. Elders selected one-of-four groups to discuss an assigned question.

Elders identified eight (8) important themes for discussion: Mi'kmaw ways of knowing; connection to nature; importance of Mi'kmaq language; games and sports; arts, crafts and culture; laws and rights; cultural contributors; and spirituality. This traditional knowledge and wisdom will be used to

help with our work and the resources we create as we progress in developing Treaty Education.

Overall, the session was received very positively. Many Elders expressed how meaningful the day was and how much they enjoyed sharing their stories with us and with each other.

Article shared by Jaime Battiste.

You are Invited to the Membertou Family Homes Law community information dinner!

On April 30th, 2016, the *Membertou Family Homes Law "Law"* was enacted with 97% of voters supporting it.

Community members who would like to learn more about the Law should attend our next information dinner on Thursday, March 23, at the Membertou Trade and Convention Centre. Session starts at 6:00 pm with supper being served. Door prizes will be awarded.

For more information on session please contact Andrea Moore at 902-564-6466 (ext. 3323).



Montana Marshall elected Membertou Youth Chief!

Article and photos by Adam E. Gould.

(Left) Youth Chief Montana Marshall, Membertou's first female youth chief.

Meet your newly elected Youth Chief, Montana Marshall! She was recently elected by her peers during an election held at Sydney Academy on September 30, and is in her second year of Membertou Youth Chief & Council (MYCC), as a grade 11 student.

Returning members including: Salena Sylvester, Keegan Christmas, Blake Christmas, Ethan Paul,

Dana Joe, Faith Francis, and Reannah LaPorte.

Following the election, returning Youth Council members then reviewed the applications from new candidates, and selected the top six (6) applicants who they felt would best represent Membertou's younger generation.

New members include: Noah Matthews-Cremo, Anne Dreah Dennis, Cassidy LaPorte, and Connor Sabbatis. This is the first time in community history that a female was elected as Youth Chief. Montana is also the youngest candidate ever elected.



(Left) Youth Chief and Council Members Salena, Cassidy, Montana and Reannah (with Shayla Christmas, background) post for a photo at the Membertou Sport & Wellness Centre grand opening.

Upcoming Events

Governance Committee Meetings

- Thursday, February 16, 2017
- Thursday, March 23, 2017*
- Thursday, April 27, 2017
- Thursday, May 25, 2017
- Thursday, June 29, 2017

All meetings are at **Wallace Bernard Seniors' Centre (113-B Membertou St.)** from **10:00 am - 1:00 pm** except those marked with * which will be held at MTCC starting at noon.

Membertou Family Homes Law Information Dinner & Session

- Thursday, March 23, 2017, from 6:00 - 9:00 pm at the Membertou Trade & Convention Centre

Wi'kipaltimk: 6th Annual Spring Gathering

- Saturday, March 25, 2017, at Membertou Trade & Convention Centre

**Please note above dates are subject to change. Confirm details with Cheryl prior to event.*

Video recorded training sessions available at:
<http://www.membertou-governance.com>

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