



Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn
Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative

Our Rights. Our Future.

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About the Community Champion Initiative

Increased communication was a key issue discussed at the 2013 Community Engagement Sessions. The Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs (the Assembly) and the Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn Negotiation Office (KMKNO) understand and recognize these concerns and are actively trying to address the problem. This Initiative is being administered by KMKNO as a means to increase communication, community participation and awareness; it is a response to those concerns communicated in winter 2013.

A Champion is responsible to their community first and foremost. Community Champions are meant to be liaisons between their communities and demographics, and KMKNO and the Assembly; Community Champions are intended to support and increase relationships and unity. Community Champions are not KMKNO staff members. Community Champions have a duty to provide information to community members and are the means of communication between their community and/or their specific demographic and KMKNO. The overarching goal of the community champion concept, as the point people between the community and the Assembly, is to rebuild trust and confidence with communities and to ensure that communication is flowing in all directions.

Desirable characteristics include:

- Trustworthy and reputable;
- Strong communicators; And
- Well-respected.

More than one champion will be selected from each of the twelve Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq communities that KMKNO represents. Selected individuals should represent different demographics within the community (for example, Elders, youth, women, caretakers).

