



COMMUNITY PROFILE

ON THE FRONT PAGE

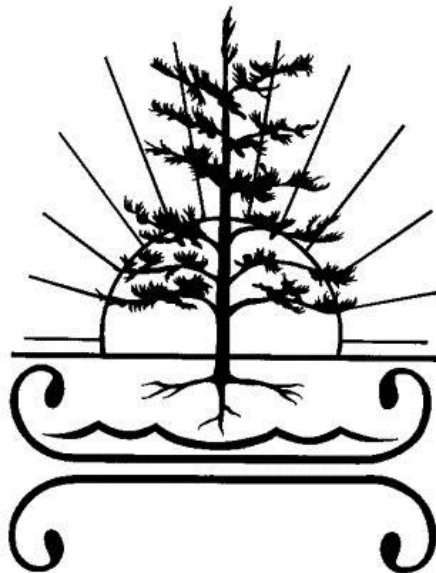
The Saint Kateri - Tekakwitha - Church has served as the heartbeat of Indian Island since it was first erected in the fall of 1994.

Its significance to the community members as a refuge and a place of sanctuary cannot be overstated. Here, the community gathers to celebrate, to mourn, and to reaffirm a sense of purpose and direction.

The Shrine is an integral part of not only the Church, but also of the community of Indian Island.

ON THE BACK PAGE

Here we see an aerial view of Indian Island that captures all of the on Reserve houses and community buildings – as well as showing our community's proximity to the mainland. This image was also used as a background on the front cover.



KWITN ENTERPRISES
ELSIPOGTOG, NB

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A Message from Chief Ken Barlow



"Eptjilaa'si Minigog" - Welcome to Indian Island First Nation.

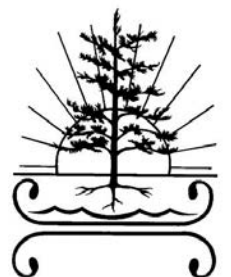
"It has been my honor and an extreme privilege to have served as Chief of this community for 10 years now. I invite you to read our Community Profile to give you a greater understanding of who we are as a Proud Mi'gmaq community."

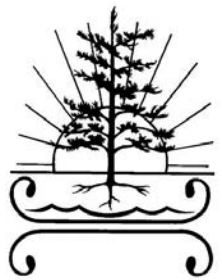
I invite you to visit Indian Island First Nation to see our community and meet our Community Members if you are ever out this way."

Wela'lin

Chief Barlow understands the history and culture of the Mi'kmaq people and the importance of keeping the traditions and language alive. Chief Barlow continues to build positive relationships with other indigenous communities, while also building cooperation between the Native and non-Native communities living in New Brunswick.

Kenneth Barlow is a recipient of the Order of New Brunswick for his progressive work in the economic development of Indian Island First Nation, and for his passion and commitment to keeping the Mi'kmaq language and traditions alive in his community.





All About Indian Island



Indian Island is a small Mi'gmaq community situated on 38 Hectares of land in southeast New Brunswick – part of Richibucto Parish, in Kent County. We have a current population of 194 residents.

Our proximity to the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Northumberland Strait has always influenced our way of life as fishers, but recent changes to our local climate have threatened our land, particularly due to the repeated occurrences of tidal surges, ice movements, and heavy snowfalls, which have eroded our shoreline and nearby sandbars drastically – prompting us to construct a seawall (berm) along our coastline.

We continue to fish and to work in the forestry sector and have established an oyster farm and processing plant that produces some of the finest oysters in the world.

Indian Island is proud of our heritage and we show this in the strides we have made by preserving and teaching our culture to our community youth as an integral part of our early education program.



OUR BAND COUNCIL

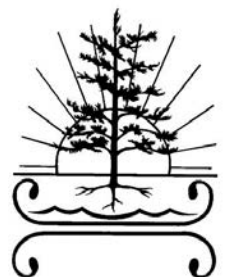
Councillor Ingrid Brooks

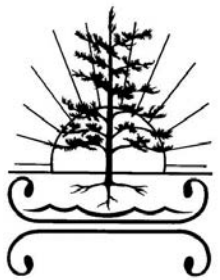


Ingrid Brooks, a single mother of 3 children, has served on Council at Indian Island for 11 years. Her passion lies with education, spiritual and cultural issues in First Nations communities.

Among Ingrid's accomplishments are the completion of Native Studies at the College of Art and Design, Fredericton, NB, Basket Weaving Program and the Mi'gmaq Porcupine Quill Art program.

Ingrid is a well known artist and dancer throughout the Maritimes, having taught many youth to Jingle Dance – and she helped form the Elsipogtog and Indian Island Dance Troupes. Ingrid holds the Social Development and Education portfolios for Indian Island.





Councillor Catherine Sanipass



Catherine Sanipass has served on Council for 20 years. Her passion is Community Health – with an emphasis on:

- Youth Retreats
- Wellness Circles
- Fall Preventions
- Diabetes Awareness
- Community Health Liaison

Catherine is looking forward to serving her community for our first Four Year Term.



DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS



Peter Levi – Director of Operations

As Director of Operations for Indian Island, Peter is tasked with overseeing all Band operations as well as all of Indian Island's economic ventures.

Peter is a lifelong member of Elsipogtog First Nation and has been working for Indian Island for 6 years now and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience with him.

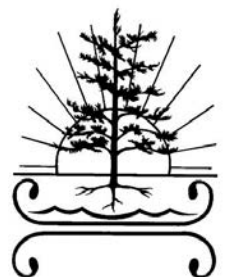
"Being the Director of Operations for Indian Island, especially given its wide diversity of programs and initiatives, can be challenging – but also extremely rewarding.

To be effective, I must ensure that I am constantly aware of the ever-changing policies of federal and provincial governments. I must also keep pace with the current financial pictures of our respective individual programs and services.

I am at somewhat of an advantage, given my previous tenures with INAC and DFO for a corporate total of 17 years prior to my experience with Indian Island.

Penultimate to Indian Island First Nation is the preservation of our culture and our First Nations identity as a Mi'gmaq community.

I look forward with excitement to continuing to develop throughout our first 4 year term for Chief and Council."

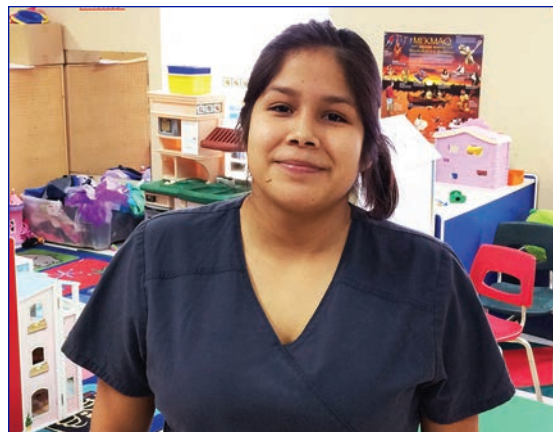




OUR STAFF



Natasha Francis
Director – Head Start Program



Paige Francis
Assistant Director Head Start



Georgina Barlow
Director Health Services



Gabrielle Ouellet
IIFN Health Nurse



Lise Gallant
Finance/Bookkeeper



Brittney Paul
Membership Clerk

OUR STAFF



Dakota Brooks
Housing Intern



Megan Augustine
Receptionist



Grace Brooks
Head Custodian

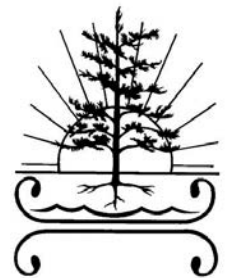


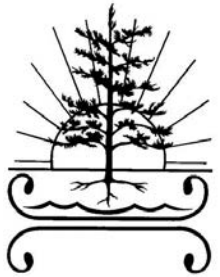
Alex Brooks
Assistant Custodian

The low turnover of staff at IIFN is a testimony to each staff member's dedication, respective capabilities and suitability to meet the needs of our growing Mi'gmaq community membership.

Individually and as a group, their knowledge of the community and their participation on behalf of our members effectively makes them the heartbeat of Indian Island.

As a result, our community members know where they need to go to seek information or assistance with regard to any of the programs or services delivered on their behalf by Indian Island First Nation.





ADMINISTRATION BUILDING



The Administration Building is the centre of activity for programs and services delivered by IIFN to our community members. But, more than that, it is a gathering place where staff and band members can work out in our gym, bring the kids to our early education/day care facility, or just enjoy a cup of tea and get caught up on what's going on.



The Administration Building is situated along the shore of the Northumberland Strait – with a great view of our oyster bed operation. It also lies proximate to our sea wall that offers a great opportunity for community members and visitors to stroll along this arm of the Atlantic Ocean.

Indian Island Oysters



Indian Island First Nation has launched an oyster farming and processing initiative that provides employment opportunities for our communities while it generates much needed revenues. We believe (and testimonials support) that our oysters are among the best on planet earth!

Other Economic and Community Initiatives

Indian Island is constantly pursuing sustainable partnerships and opportunities that can stimulate our local economy while providing meaningful full and part time training and employment opportunities - especially for our youth – our future leaders.

We believe that only through this approach, with a strong emphasis on preserving our culture and traditions, can we address and remedy the occurrences of dependencies on social programs and other societal ills that are present in our First Nations' communities.

Indian Island believes that a community can only be truly healthy when it is economically, spiritually, culturally, mentally and physically healthy.

