NOVEMBER
Community Newsletter

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CAREER FAIR 2026: BIGGER, BETTER, AND FULL OF OPPORTUNITIES!

Held on October 7 at the Galgoasiet Natural Resource Building in Gesgapegiag, our annual Career Fair continued to grow, and 2026 was another year to remember! With 26 event partners joining us, this year's event brought together opportunities, connections, and inspiration for our youth and community.

We were excited to welcome a new collaborator, CASA Employability Assisted Services, along with an incredible lineup of guest speakers and performers, including keynote speakers Wolf Castle and DJ Stephen Hero, as well as talented local singers from across the Gaspésie.

This year, we also expanded the event with an evening session featuring a Creative Writing Workshop, Education Hub, and live music performances by Tom Lymburner and Genevieve Blais. The evening was made even more exciting with plenty of door prizes awarded to lucky attendees!

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The whole event welcomed more than 150 attendees, including students from Wejgwapniag School, New Richmond High School (NRHS), Adult Education, WOTP of New Carlisle, and Gesgapegiag community members.

From exploring career paths and connecting with potential employers to participating in creative activities and enjoying live entertainment, Career Fair 2026 offered something for everyone.









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KEEPING THE BEAT ALIVE: GESGAPEGIAG YOUTH DRUM GROUP

The beat is growing in Gesgapegiag! Our Youth Drum Group officially kicked off on October 8, bringing young people together to learn, connect, and build their skills in traditional drumming.

Sessions take place every other Thursday, facilitated by Giz Burnsed and Tee Cloud, alongside fellow experienced drummers who share their knowledge and passion for the tradition.

Want to see our young drummers in action? Come visit us at the **Wejgwapniag School Gym on November 19 and December 3**! Still interested in joining? We welcome all youth ages 10 and up!

Come be part of the circle, learn traditional drumming, share the experience with others, and carry our culture and traditions forward.



A SEASON OF LEARNING: YOUTH MOOSE HUNTING

Our Grade 9–11 students continue to connect with their culture and take part in meaningful cultural activities. One of the seasonal opportunities we are proud to offer is our Moose Hunting Program! On October 20 and 22, our students headed out for another hunting experience, and the group successfully harvested a moose!

Beyond the hunt, this experience gives students the opportunity to learn traditional practices, gain hands-on knowledge, and strengthen their connection to the land and their culture. This initiative is made possible through our **collaboration with Public and Community Works**, helping us keep cultural learning alive for the next generation.



EXPLORING WHAT'S NEXT: POST-SECONDARY TOUR 2026

From November 1–6, 15 students from Grades 10–11 hit the road for an exciting Post-Secondary Tour, visiting colleges and universities across Nova Scotia, Sackville, Moncton, and Fredericton!







Throughout the six-day tour, students had the opportunity to explore 11 colleges and universities, discover different academic programs, learn about admission requirements, and get a closer look at campus life.

Beyond the campus visits, the tour gave students a chance to ask questions, explore future career possibilities, and picture themselves pursuing postsecondary education. It was also an opportunity to build friendships, gain confidence, and experience what life beyond high school could look like.

The goal was simple: help our youth explore their options, broaden their horizons, and feel more prepared to take their next steps after graduation.

The future is full of possibilities, and sometimes all it takes is seeing what's out there!

FALL LEARNING AT WEJGWAPNIAG ELEMENTARY

In October, Wejgwapniag Elementary marked Mi'gmaq History Month with activities that celebrated our Mi'gmaq heritage. Students learned about Mi'gmaq history from Jeanette Martin, took part in a black ash workshop, went fishing and gathered wild sage. These activities helped students connect traditional skills with what they learn in science, math and history.



For Remembrance Day, we pay tribute at the Cascapédia–Saint-Jules cenotaph to those who lost their lives in service. Land-based learning continues in November with activities planned by our coordinator, Patsy Jerome. Students in Grades 3 to 8 took part in moose hunting excursions early in the month, and younger students will have a chance to go partridge hunting. Follow Wejgwapniag Elementary on Facebook for photos of students taking part in school activities.

Important Dates from Education Services

NOV 16	**Don't miss out!** Application for the SOARING Indigenous Conference.
NOV 18-19	**Sweat Lodge Construction** Students in Grades 5 to 8 will build a new sweat lodge as part of the land-based curriculum.
NOV 23	**Report Card Day** Regular classes take place in the morning, with parent-teacher meetings in the afternoon.
NOV 23-24	**Traditional Cooking Workshop** with Grade 11 students of NRHS
NOV 23-27	**Scholastic Book Fair** The book fair runs all week in the culture room at Wejgwapniag Elementary.
DEC 14	**Gesgapegiag Christmas Parade**

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NEWS FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPLMENT

Celebrating Our 2026 Gesgapegiag Pow Wow Pitch Winners!

Source: Pow Wow Pitch, July 2026. Adapted for the Gesgapegiag Community Newsletter.

The 2026 Gesgapegiag Mawiomi PowWow welcomed Pow Wow Pitch on July 17 and 18, bringing together 14 Indigenous entrepreneurs to showcase their businesses, share their ideas, and compete for prizes to support their entrepreneurial journeys.

Following two rounds of presentations, with mentorship and guidance from business development partners, four entrepreneurs were recognized for their creativity, determination, and commitment to making a difference.

First Place – Sherry Condo | 5,000$
Sherry Condo of Listuguj First Nation, owner of Wild Flower Honey, received the 5,000$ first-place prize. A beekeeper with six years of experience, Sherry plans to rebuild her hives and expand honey production following significant bee losses. She also earned a place in the 2026 Pow Wow Pitch Grand Finale, where she will compete for the 25,000$ grand prize.

Second Place & Fan Favorite – Sky Jerome | 3,000$
Gesgapegiag entrepreneur Sky Jerome, founder of Sky Sculpted Brows, earned 2,500$ for second place and an additional 500$ as the Fan Favorite. Inspired by her great-grandmother, Elsa Jerome, recognized as Gesgapegiag's first female entrepreneur, Sky plans to expand her selection of pigments to better serve her growing clientele.





Third Place – Trinity Martin | 1,000$
Trinity Martin of Gesgapegiag received 1,000$ for her initiative, Companion Care Collective, a planned non-profit dedicated to supporting stray, abandoned, and vulnerable animals. Her vision includes temporary shelters, access to veterinary care, and assistance for families facing financial challenges.

Youth Prize – Rysun Jerome | 500$
At just 14 years old, Gesgapegiag's Rysun Jerome received the 500$ Youth Prize for his clothing brand focused on confidence, comfort, and Indigenous identity. His goal is to grow a brand that encourages people to express themselves and feel proud of who they are.

Supporting Indigenous Entrepreneurship
Beyond the cash prizes, all 14 participants gained access to Pow Wow Pitch's Indigenous Startup Program, mentorship opportunities, and additional entrepreneurial resources.

Congratulations to all participants and winners, with special recognition to all participating Gesgapegiag entrepreneurs for representing our community with pride!

Interesting Entrepreneurship Workshops Coming in January 2027!

Starting in January 2027, Gesgapegiag Economic Development will be hosting a series of informative workshops designed to help local entrepreneurs build their knowledge, explore new opportunities, and grow their businesses!

Upcoming sessions will include:

- **January: Indigenous Personal & Business Taxation** – Presented by the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Economic Development Commission (FNQLEDC), helping entrepreneurs and the general public to better understand Indigenous taxation and how it applies to individuals and businesses.
- **February: Doing Business with the Federal Government** – Presented by Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC), introducing small businesses to federal contracting opportunities, sole-source procurement, and how to bid on smaller government contracts.

Dates and details for these workshops, along with additional sessions to be announced, are coming soon!

Stay connected and discover what's coming next in entrepreneurship by following our **Gesgapegiag Economic Development Facebook page**!



Don't miss out on our Community Market!



NEWS FROM HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

From Monday November 16th to Friday November 20th will be National Addictions Awareness Week (NAAW).

Join us for a full week of activities!

See the full schedule here:

NAAW CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 16–20, 2026

Raising **awareness**, reducing stigma, and supporting **healthier** communities.

MONDAY

Land and Legacy
NAAW KICK OFF
Location Pow Wow Grounds
Time 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Target Audience All ages

Youth Sweat
Location Walgwan
Time 6:00 PM
Target Audience Youth up to 17 years old

Co-Ed Sweat
Location Mawiomi
Time 6:00 PM
Target Audience Adults 18+

TUESDAY

Naloxone and Good Samaritan Training
Location Mawiomi
Time 11:00 AM
Target Audience Adults 18+

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) Meeting – Virtual
Location Mawiomi
Time 12:00 PM
Target Audience Adults 18+
Find link on the poster

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) Meeting
Location Mawiomi
Time 7:00 PM
Target Audience Adults 18+

WEDNESDAY

Life is Sacred Training
Location Walgwan Yurt
Time 8 AM - 4 PM
Target Audience All Community Members

Prizes to be won & lunch provided!

***Contact Walgwan to sign up.**

Hepatitis Screening / Medication Drop off

with a presentation of the oral side effects of substance use
Location Healing Lodge
Time 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

THURSDAY

RISE Day Program
Location Healing Lodge
Time 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Target Audience Adults 18+

Caring for a Loved One Suffering from Addiction
Understanding addiction, supporting recovery, and protecting your own wellbeing
Location Healing Lodge
Time 1:30 PM
Target Audience Adults 18+

Wellbriety Meeting – Virtual
Location Mawiomi
Time 12:00 PM
Target Audience Adults 18+
Find link on the poster

Wellbriety Meeting
Location Mawiomi
Time 7:00 PM
Target Audience Adults 18+

FRIDAY

Cup of Love
Location Mobile throughout the community
Time 10:00 AM
Target Audience All ages

2nd Annual Anchoring Hope Gala
Location Galgoasiet
Time 5:30 PM
Target Audience All ages

GESGAPEGIAG
MD TEAM

November Calendar

GHCS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 VOLLEYBALL (18+) 7-9PM	3 BASKETBALL (12+) 7-9PM	4 VOLLEYBALL (12-17) 6-8PM	5 FREE PLAY @ GYM 6-7PM; BASKETBALL (12+) 7-9PM	6 KIDS CLUB @ GYM 5-6PM; FREE PLAY @ GYM 7-9PM	7
8	9 VOLLEYBALL (18+) 7-9PM	10 BASKETBALL (12+) 7-9PM	11 VOLLEYBALL (12-17) 6-8PM	12 FREE PLAY @ GYM 6-7PM; BASKETBALL (12+) 7-9PM	13 KIDS CLUB @ GYM 5-6PM; FREE PLAY @ GYM 7-9PM	14
15	16 National Addictions Awareness (NAAW) Week; VOLLEYBALL (18+) 7-9PM	17 BASKETBALL (12+) 7-9PM	18 VOLLEYBALL (12-17) 6-8PM	19 FREE PLAY @ GYM 6-7PM; BASKETBALL (12-17) 7-9PM	20 KIDS CLUB @ GYM 5-6PM; FREE PLAY @ GYM 7-9PM	21
22	23 VOLLEYBALL (18+) 7-9PM	24 BASKETBALL (12+) 7-9PM	25 VOLLEYBALL (12-17) 6-8PM	26 FREE PLAY @ GYM 6-7PM; BASKETBALL (12-17) 7-9PM	27 KIDS CLUB @ GYM 5-6PM; FREE PLAY @ GYM 7-9PM	28
29	30 VOLLEYBALL (18+) 7-9PM					

- **Community Kitchen** 11AM-1PM — **Every Monday** at the Elders Lodge
- **Elders Breakfast** 7-9AM — **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday** at the Elders Lodge
- **After School Program** 3-5PM — **Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday** at the Youth Center
- **Elders Meal** 11:30AM-1PM — **Every Wednesday** at the Elders Lodge
- **Collective Kitchen** 9AM-12PM — **November 19** at the Elders Lodge

November Wordsearch

GEPTEGEWIGUS *NOVEMBER*

SMAGNIS *A SOLDIER*

GJIGAQAGUJ *A RAVEN*

PLAWESIS *A YOUNG PARTRIDGE*

APUGSIGN *A LYNX*

TIAMUEGN *MOOSEHIDE*

NGUTEI *ALSO / SAME*

PASGATALG *ATE TOO MUCH*

GISAPNIAG *DAYBREAK*

MAWATAJIG *CHIP IN / SHARE*

PISGIAG *NIGHT FALL / GETTING DARK*

ULTASUAQAN *HAPPINESS*

D	K	N	K	G	W	G	J	I	G	A	Q	A	G	U	J	O	V
U	W	G	T	J	E	O	U	N	A	D	F	I	O	D	K	U	F
L	U	U	P	I	S	P	U	G	I	S	A	P	N	I	A	G	K
T	M	T	A	P	A	M	T	G	A	P	U	G	S	I	G	N	F
A	O	E	S	B	L	M	A	E	D	H	L	U	G	C	P	A	S
S	U	I	G	R	C	A	U	G	G	Y	X	X	B	M	I	V	W
U	R	P	A	V	B	V	W	E	N	E	X	D	I	K	S	R	K
A	A	Y	T	Y	J	M	D	E	G	I	W	E	W	U	G	O	N
Q	X	R	A	W	X	Q	R	Q	S	N	S	I	W	C	I	T	D
A	U	S	L	C	S	U	T	R	A	I	Y	H	G	N	A	Z	E
N	C	R	G	E	Y	S	E	L	V	U	S	O	O	U	G	T	W
M	A	W	A	T	A	J	I	G	T	Q	I	K	T	T	S	R	K

MORE NEWS!

Approval of the 2026 Micmacs of Gesgapegiag Financial Administration Law

Earlier this month, the Micmacs of Gesgapegiag Financial Administration Law (FAL) went through the process of being updated to ensure it was meeting requirements of the First Nations Financial Management Board.

It is with pride we can announce today that the 2026 Micmacs of Gesgapegiag Financial Administration Law was approved, meaning the MOG remains in good standings with the FMB and is continuing the Financial Management System (FMS) Certification process.

Our updated FAL is available to view on our website at gesgapegiag.ca.

FMB First Nations FINANCIAL MANAGEMEN BOARD

Announcing a new Housing Partnership with BMO

Through this new partnership with BMO, the Micmacs of Gesgapegiag are now offering the On-Reserve Housing Loan Program with home financing for building or buying a new home, major and minor renovations, and more.

For more information, contact Public Works, Infrastructures and Housing : 418 759-3441.

BMO

SOMETHING TO ADVERTISE?

Contact us at **info@gesgapegiag.ca** to have something featured in an upcoming newsletter!



Winter Driving Safety Reminder!

Reminder:

- Winter tires are mandatory from December 1st to March 15th.
- Studded tires are permitted from October 15th - May 1st

A few tips for winter driving!

- Make sure your tires are certified to winter
- Check tire pressure regularly
- Drive according to road conditions

Snow, ice, and cold temperatures can reduce traction and increase stopping distances.

Working together to keep Gesgapegiag roads safe this winter!

