GLOOSCAP
First Nation

Glooscap First Nation

WIKEWIKU'S OCTOBER

Newsletter

Chief's Message

Kwe' Glooscap community,

I hope you and your families are well. September was a busy month in our community. October gives us new chances to gather, share, and support one another.

Thank you to everyone who joined our Annual General Meeting in August. It was good to see Elders, families, and youth all sharing ideas and asking questions. Your voices guide us, and I am thankful for your support.

As the school year begins, I want to wish our students, teachers, and families the very best. To our students: work hard and be proud of who you are. To parents and caregivers: thank you for the love and care you give. You help our young people grow strong and confident.

In early September, I attended the Assembly of First Nations meeting in Winnipeg, held from September 2 to 5. Chiefs and leaders from across Canada met to talk about housing, health care, language, and jobs. These talks remind us that we are stronger when we share ideas and work together.

Here at home, we are preparing for housing sessions. Housing is something many of you speak about. These sessions will help us make a plan for today and for the future. I hope you will join us. Your input is important. Together, we can build a community where all members feel safe and supported.

This month, we also have programs and events for everyone, including health programs, cultural teachings, and activities for Elders, youth, and families. Each time we gather, we grow closer to one another and to our culture.

Wela'lin,

Chief Sidney Peters

Council Update

Amanda Francis
Councillor

Gail Tupper
Councillor

Charlotte Warrington
Councillor

Kwe' Glooscap community,

Council would like to thank everyone who continues to share their time, ideas and support. Whether at community events, in conversations with leadership or through the Annual General Meeting, your involvement helps guide the work we do together and shape our community.

Over the past several weeks, Council and Administration have also focused on financial management, community priorities and planning. Unlocking these resources is a top priority as we continue to strengthen housing and community infrastructure.

Each month, Chief and Council meet to make decisions on programs, services and planning for the future. Members are welcome to suggest topics for discussion. If you would like to add an item to the agenda, please contact admin@glooscapfirstnation.com. Hearing directly from you ensures Council's work reflects the needs of all members. Housing affects every part of community life, and Council encourages all members to take part.

Progress continues on two new two-bedroom housing units that are now under construction. Council has also authorized work to move forward on demolition planning for older community buildings, to improve safety and create space for future community gatherings. In addition, road assessment work is underway to help set priorities for repairs and maintenance in 2026.

Council Update

Looking ahead, Council will continue to strengthen programs and services that support youth, families and Elders, ensuring balance, wellbeing and respect across generations. Recent highlights include health planning for an October vaccine clinic and community health fair, new Mi'kmaw language and dance teachings, and fisheries development that will support long-term community food security.

Our commitment is to listen, plan and act in a way that reflects our values and responsibilities as Mi'kmaq. By working together, we will continue to build a stronger community for today and for generations to come.

Wela'lin,

Chief and Council Meetings

Chief and Council meetings are held monthly. If you would like to be added to the agenda, contact admin@glooscapfirstnation.com. Requests must be submitted one week before each meeting to allow time for planning.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

2025: Oct. 24; Dec 1–2

2026: Jan. 26–27; Feb. 23–24; Mar. 30–31; Apr. 27–28; May 25–26; Jun. 29–30; Jul. 27–28; Sep. 28–29; Oct. 26–27; Nov. 23–24

Cultural Teachings and Environmental Stewardship

Mi'kmaw Words

Welqatm (well-hah-dum) – I like it here

Mu welqatmu (moo well-hah-dum moo) – I don't like it here

Apija'sites (ah-be-jah-see-days) – I'm coming back soon

Talukwek net ula? (dall-loo-gweg net oolah) – What's this for?

Welsitm (well-see-dum) – Sounds good

Wetnu' kwalsi' l'nuisi (way dah new gwal see ul new ee see) I'm trying to speak Mi'kmaw

Fisheries Update

If all goes as planned, lobster will start coming in through FSC this fall fishing season. Work is ongoing to complete the new fish building with lobster holding tanks. If the tanks are not ready, lobster will still be distributed from the same location.

Please watch our Facebook page for posts with dates and times for lobster pick-up.

Community Events: Important Dates and Announcements

Information Sessions for Elders and Seniors

Three free sessions will be held in October. Transportation will be provided from Glooscap and back. Sessions will be hosted in Wolfville, Kentville and Avonport.

Driving decisions – October 2
Estate planning – October 6
Frauds and scams – October 21

To register or learn more, contact Zoe Francis-Clare
zfrancisclare@glooscapfirstnation.com

Women's Self-Defence Class

Glooscap First Nation will host a self-defence workshop for women and girls ages 14 and up, led by Kaitlyn Keddy from the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq. The session will focus on building confidence, safety and strength.

Lunch provided. Yeti mug door prize. Space is limited to 15 participants. Deadline to register is October 3.

Date: Saturday, October 4
Time: 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Location: 157 Smith Road, Hantsport

To register or learn more, contact Kaitlyn Keddy
kkeddy@cmmns.com
or
Kellie Trefry
glooscaphealth@glooscapfirstnation.com
902-684-9788

Community Events: Important Dates and Announcements

Language Survey

The Mi'kmaw Language Survey deadline has been extended to October 15. There will be prizes for the community with the most completed surveys.

The Glooscap Health Fair

Join us to connect with health professionals about mental and physical wellness. Presenters include the RCMP, NIHB, Senior Lincs, Hep C, NSHA and more.

Date: October 21
Time: 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
Where: Glooscap First Nation Community Centre

There may also be an opportunity to receive a vaccine. Updates will be shared once confirmed.

Family Fun Day at Noggins Farm

Join us for a Family Fun Day at Noggins Farm! This is a great opportunity to enjoy the fall season together with your family and community. Noggins Farm has plenty of activities for all ages, from exploring the fields to enjoying seasonal treats.

Date: October 18

To register or learn more, contact Kellie
glooscaphealth@glooscapfirstnation.com

Don't miss out on a fun-filled day celebrating fall with your community!

Community Events: Important Dates and Announcements

Disability Supplement

The disability supplement is available to individuals who:

- Have a disability or chronic illness
- Are 18 years or older
- Live on reserve
- Receive social assistance

Application forms can be picked up at the band office, community case manager or health centre. Once completed with your physician, nurse practitioner or psychiatrist, return the signed form to the Social Development Department.

An information session will be held at the Glooscap Community Centre from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wills and Estates Education Session

The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq is launching a new Wills and Estates program to support community members with estate planning. This initiative will provide guidance on preparing a will, power of attorney, and medical directive, as well as understanding the role of an executor.

Date: October 27
Time: 1–3 p.m.
Location: Glooscap Community Centre, 159 Smith Rd., Hantsport

These sessions are designed to provide basic information, answer questions, and support community members in a respectful and confidential environment.

To learn more, contact Megan Macleod, Legal Administrator, CMM
megan.macleod@cmmns.com

Community Events: Important Dates and Announcements

Eagle Feather Ceremony in Millbrook

Members of the Assembly, provincial representatives and members of the judiciary came together in Millbrook for a ceremony where eagle feathers were blessed for use in Nova Scotia's courts.

Since 2018, Indigenous witnesses, accused individuals, victims and others appearing in court have had the option to take affirmations with an eagle feather. They may hold the feather or have it placed in front of them, and individuals can also bring their own.

During the ceremony, 25 eagle feathers blessed by Elder Patsy Paul-Martin were prepared for distribution to courthouses across the province. Speakers included Assembly Justice Leads Chief Sidney Peters and Chief John Bernard, Jacklyn Paul, Associate Deputy Minister Michelle Higgins and Chief Judge Perry Borden, who reflected on the cultural significance of eagle feathers and the importance of Mi'kmaw culture being reflected in court processes.

Community Events: Important Dates and Announcements

Trail expansion

Significant upgrades have been completed on the community trail system. Paths have been connected, gravel and drainage improvements made, and accessibility features added to make the trails safer and easier for everyone to enjoy.

Regional Elver Community Engagement

Join us for a community engagement session on elver harvesting and management.

Date: October 6
Time: 5 p.m – 7 p.m.
Location: Glooscap Community Centre (virtual option available)

Learn more, contact Jeff Coolen
jeff.coolen@cmmns.com

Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative (ADI)

Community health staff continue to provide services including diabetes education, nutrition support and workshops.

Upcoming dates

- October 6 – Vacation Day
- October 8 – Tripartite Social Table (online)

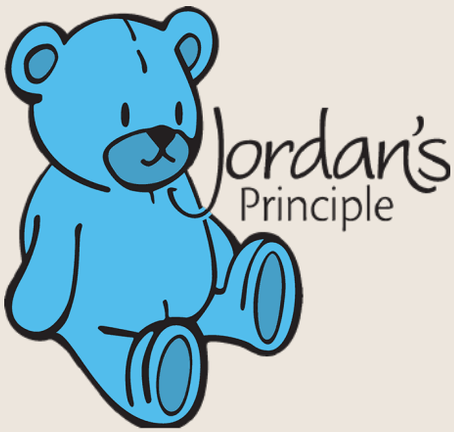
Community Events: Important Dates and Announcements

Jordan's Principle & First Nation Child and Family Services Settlement - Free Claims Help

Free, trauma-aware, culturally safe support is available from Claims Helpers.

They can assist with

- Filling out your Claim Form
- Understanding required ID/documents
- Sharing local cultural, community, and wellness supports



How to connect

1-833-852-0755 (Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–9 p.m. AT)
Generalinfo@Contact.FNChildClaims.ca

The settlement website includes eligibility information, claim guides, compensation planning tools and a searchable resource library. A community toolkit with posters, flyers and social media content is also available.

Engagement Session

Work is underway to schedule a community engagement session on the First Nations Child and Family Services and Jordan's Principle Settlement during the week of October 6–10.

Health & Healing Centre Expansion

Construction remains on schedule. Outdoor gym work is ongoing, with two pieces of outdoor gym equipment that will be installed before winter. The maintenance team has completed staining and painting, and the layout allows for a BBQ and recreation space.

Education

School Supply Assistance

This year, 92 students from 49 families received school supply funding to help them start the year ready to learn.

Waltes Support

On August 27, Lily-Beth hosted a Waltes event with community support. It was a wonderful chance to share traditions and spend time together.

Scholarship & Bursary Support

Students can reach out anytime for help with scholarships, bursaries, and post-secondary planning. Support is available for applications and resources.

Contact Lauren Smith Jodrey
ljodrey@glooscapfirstnation.com

Back-to-School Initiatives

We celebrated the first day of school with a photo display featuring 30 children from our community. The photos are proudly on display at the Band Office and were shared on Facebook.

We also supported Mindy with her Back-to-School BBQ and language hunt event on August 26, which brought families together for food, learning, and fun.

MK Trades Fair – Oct. 15–17

Students will have the chance to explore careers in the trades at the upcoming MK Trades Fair.

Education

Leo, grade primary

Alina, grade 12

Morgan, grade 10

Savannah, grade 5

Stevie, grade 11 & Ivy, grade 9

Emmett, grade 6

Aubrey, grade 3

Lily-Beth, grade 12

Jackson, grade 12

Carter, grade 12

Ryker, grade 3

Mattayis, grade 7, Cayden, grade 6 & Kielyn, grade 5

Education

Caleb and Jacob grade 1

Lydia, grade 7

Jackson, grade 9

James, grade 6

Giddeon, grade 2

Jakiah, grade 4 & Daisy, grade 1

Kalu, grade 8 and Soraya, grade 6

Mindy, grade 6, Mateo, pre-primary, Sariah, grade 8 & Candice, grade 10

Treaty Day - October 1

Treaty Day is recognized across Mi'kma'ki to honour the Peace and Friendship Treaties between the Mi'kmaq and the Crown. Signed in the 1700s, these treaties were about peace, respect, and shared responsibility — not the surrender of land.

Treaty Day is both a celebration and a reminder: a celebration of Mi'kmaq culture, language, and traditions, a recognition of the nation-to-nation relationship with the Crown, and a reminder of our duty to uphold the spirit and intent of the treaties today. In schools and communities, it is a time to learn, reflect, and celebrate together, strengthening understanding and honouring commitments for generations past, present, and future.

Education

Early Dismissal - October 8

All students will be dismissed two hours early on October 8. These shortened days still include meaningful lessons and help keep students on track. Every day of learning counts — even the shorter ones.

No School – Oct. 24

Student Spotlight – Breea

Meet Breea, one of our Grade 1 students who brings joy and laughter wherever she goes. At just five years old, she has tried dance and soccer, and is now getting ready to start basketball. Breea loves being outdoors and has a big soft spot for animals. Her teachers describe her as a natural leader, and she has been named Student of the Month for her school, along with receiving several classroom awards. Her wit and humour keep everyone smiling, and we look forward to seeing what she does next!

Housing

Capital and facilities

Construction is progressing on two new two-bedroom homes, while work continues to secure the release of $990,000 in confirmed housing funds. Dylan Peters has joined as Housing Manager, strengthening housing services and support for members.

In addition, construction and maintenance will take place this fall in and around the Band Office, Health and Healing Centre and Community Centre. Please use caution when travelling in these areas, as additional personnel, vehicles and heavy equipment will be in operation.

To learn more, contact Housing@glooscapfirstnation.com

Employment, Training and Volunteer Opportunities

ISC-100 Training

Congratulations to Glooscap staff who completed their ISC-100 training this September. Thank you for your commitment to keeping our community safe.

Staffing Update

Glooscap First Nation now employs 86 staff across Band, Health, Ventures, Corner Store, Gaming Centre, Sweetgrass and Fisheries. Thirty employees are Indigenous, including 25 GFN members, representing 34.9% of the workforce.

Open Positions

- HR Generalist
- Housing Intern (Maintenance)

Emergency Management

Emergency Kits

Fall is a good time to check your 72-hour emergency kit. Hurricane season is still here, and winter is coming. Replace items once a year or after each use. Make sure food is not expired, bottled water is available, batteries are charged and not leaking, pet food is stocked, medications are current, and fire extinguishers are ready.

Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week is October 5–11. This year's theme is Charge into Fire Safety: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home. Most of the electronics we use every day — smartphones, tablets, laptops, power tools, e-cigarettes, headphones, and toys, are powered by lithium-ion batteries. If damaged or misused, these batteries can overheat, start a fire, or even explode. Stay safe by charging devices with the correct cords on hard surfaces and unplugging them when fully charged. Remember to recycle old batteries at proper drop-off locations such as call2recycle.org.

To learn more, visit: https://www.nfpa.org/events/fire-prevention-week, https://sparky.org/, and https://sparkyschoolhouse.org

Fire and safety notice

On October 6, Fire and Safety will be visiting homes to replace household fire extinguishers. Please place your old extinguisher near your front door that morning.

Important Dates

Council meetings

- October 24, 2025
- December 1-2, 2025

Holidays (office closures)

- October 1 – Treaty Day
- October 13 – Thanksgiving Day
- November 11 – Remembrance Day
- December 25 – Christmas Day
- December 26 – Boxing Day

GFN events

- October (TBD) – Fall Family Day
- November 11 – Remembrance Day
- December 5 – Breakfast with Santa
- December (TBD) – Community Christmas Supper
- Spring & Fall – Community clean-ups (incl. CMM clean-up)

Calendar - October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 **Treaty Day** **Dr. Matthews** 9 am - 3 pm	2	3	4 **Women's Self-Defence Class** 11 am - 12:30 pm
5	6 **Acupuncture** 10 am - 12 pm **Estate Planning Session** **Regional Elver Community Engagement** 5 - 6 pm	7 **Driving Decisions Session**	8 **Dr. Matthews** 9 am - 3 pm **Food Bank** 1 pm - 3 pm **Early Dismissal**	9	10	11
12	13 **Acupucture** 10 am - 12 pm **Thanksgiving Day**	14	15 **Shawna Boudreau** 9 am - 3 pm **MK Trades Fair**	16 **MK Trades Fair**	17 **MK Trades Fair**	18 **Family Fun Day at Noggins Farm**
19	20 **Acupuncture** 10 am - 12 pm	21 **Frauds and Scams Session** **Health Fair** 10 am - 3 pm	22	23 **Diabetic Foot Care** 9 am - 3 pm	24 **No School** **Chief and Council Meeting**	25
26	27 **Acupuncture** 10 am - 12 pm **Wills and Estates Education Session** 1 - 3 pm	28	29	30	31	