October 2018

Regional Executive Director's Report

Rapport du Directeur Général Wi'katikn Petkitk Nikanus

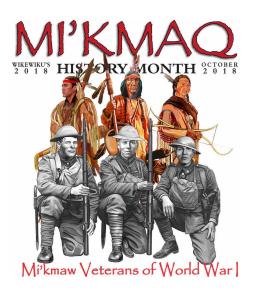
Hello, Bonjour and Kwe',

It has been a great start to the school year and it was a pleasure to welcome students back to the class on September 6. Prior to the return of students lots of work is done to ensure a smooth start to the school year, so I would like to extend appreciation and thanks to all staff including transportation, maintenance, administrative assistants, teachers, principals, custodians, regional office staff and others for all that you do to get us off to a successful start. We hope that everyone is back to their routines following the summer break and enjoying the school year so far.

September 13 marked the start of our Anti-Bullying and Don't Feed the Troll campaigns at every school, which educated students about bullying prevention and online safety. It is our belief that school communities must be safe, supportive and socially just, where everyone is treated with dignity and respect. It's important for us to educate students about bullying, its effects and also how to reach out for help. We had a launch event at Chester Area Middle School and other schools were able to tune in through Facebook live. A big thanks to MLA Hugh McKay and Jody Conrad from the Municipality of Chester for joining us at the launch event. To further promote campaign to stand up against bullying we had a call out for artwork from students and will be showcasing those submissions on our website, Facebook and Twitter pages soon.

New Ross Consolidated School is now know as New Ross Community School, as a new partnership now allows for the building to be used for school and for community events. A celebration was held on September 20 to recognize this important change and was well attended by staff and community members.

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Coming Up This Month

October 14 - 20 School Bus Safety Week

October 17 Embedded CLT (90 minute early dismissal)

October 26 NTSU and PSAANS Professional Association Conferences

October 31 Embedded CLT (90 minute early dismissal)

October 29 - November 2 Attendance Awareness Week Schools in the South Shore Region recognized Orange Shirt Day on Monday October 1 (the first school day after the official date of September 30). The annual Orange Shirt Day opens the door to global conversation on all aspects of Residential Schools. It is an opportunity to create meaningful discussion about the effects of Residential Schools and the legacy they have left behind. It is also a day for survivors to be reaffirmed that they matter. By wearing Orange, we are remembering those in Residential Schools who survived, and those who did not.

Looking forward to October we have many things coming up that our schools will be recognizing including Mi'kmaq History Month (which we will be celebrating regionally), Principal's Month, World Teacher Day, National School Bus Safety Week and Attendance Awareness.

Senior leadership and coordinators have also been working hard on a Regional Student Success Plan that will outline goals and objectives for this school year, including educational outcomes for both the region and each school. We are excited to be able to share that document with parents and community members soon.

We hope you enjoy the content of this report and look forward to sharing more stories from our schools in the upcoming months!

Thank you, Merci and Wela'lin,

Ombre

Scott Milner

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Building Futures

Liverpool Regional High School students Austin and Blake are celebrated at NS Construction Association's Building Futures for Youth for successfully completing co-op placements this summer. Missing participant - New Germany Regional High School student Jayden.





Gold River Pow Wow

Regional Executive Director Scott Milner, Coordinator of Mi'kmaq Services Rod Francis and Student Support Worker Sheila Porter joined SSRCE students in the kitchen at the Gold River Pow Wow to cook and serve breakfast on Sept. 9.





Drumming at New Germany Elementary School

Thank you to the Maritime Centre for African Dance for an amazing interactive dance, drumming and education experience at NGES!







A purple tag means a parent or guardian must be present to meet their child at the bus when they are dropped off. If no parent is present the parent will be contacted.

When your child brings their purple tag home please fill out their name and bus route number(s) on it and attach it to their backpack.



Purple Tag Means Parent

In the next few weeks all students in Primary to Grade 2 who ride the bus will receive a purple tag to put on their backpack.



Video Links

Anti-Bullying Day Launch

Pre-Primary Puddle Fun

Bayview Community School's Terry Fox Run

Bridgewater Elementary School
Orange Shirt Day

New Germany Regional High School Orange Shirt Day

In Pictures: Anti-Bully Day & Don't Feed the Troll Campaign





#bethechange









Petite Riviere Elementary Experiences Hollywood

Ahead of a visit from Natalie McMaster, Green Schools Nova Scotia and Efficiency Nova Scotia, a film crew stopped by Petite Riviere as part of showcasing their environmental sustainability efforts.





Bridgewater School & Community Playground Grand Opening

The Bridgewater School & Community Playground is open! Phase 1 was completed thanks to a donation from Hollyburn Properties. The \$200,000 donation from former Bridgewater teacher Stephen Sander of Hollyburn Properties was the final amount needed to complete the playground and due to that phase 2 of the project was able to be funded and is nearing completion! Sander's daughter Karen, along with members of her family, the media, SSRCE and Town of Bridgewater were at the official unveiling. Following the unveiling we moved to the Bridgewater Elementary gym for an assembly where Karen spoke and Hollyburn Properties received a thank you gift for their generosity.









A Plastic Bottle Greenhouse

Students at Petite Rivière Elementary School get to enjoy a greenhouse made from reused plastic bottles made by students at Bridgewater Junior High. Working together to reduce waste!



South Queens Middle School's Grade 8 Outdoor Exploration Trip





Parent or Guardian Concern Process

If at any time during the school year you have a concern or issue to raise, please reach out to discuss it in the following ways.

- 1. Please speak with your child's teacher.
- 2. If the teacher can't help, or if you are not satisfied with their response, you can talk to the principal of the school.
- 3. At that time if the complaint has not been resolved please call our office to be connected with the appropriate person to assist you.

Math Self-Portraits

Students used numbers to create some fun self-portraits at Bridgewater Junior High School.



In Pictures: The Terry Fox Walks & Runs Across the Region











In-Service Learning

Educators on the South Shore took in a full day of Teaching and Learning Above the Line: Access for All; learning about incorporating technology into the classroom and more. This day was held on Friday September 28 and staff heard from world renowned speakers and presenters. The Deputy Minister of Education Cathy Montreuil was also in attendance and sat on a panel taking questions and discussing ideas. The following day a one day conference, open to the public, was held and many of our educators also attended that, learning even more about technology integration.



