

Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources

Annual Report

2009-2010

ten years of taking responsibility



Pjil



ten years of taking responsibility

Pjilá'si

For the past ten years, the staff and Board of Directors at Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources (UINR) have taken responsibility for the natural environment, for species that can't speak for themselves, ensuring that future generations will enjoy the beauty and bounty that have nourished our people emotionally and physically for thousands of years.

UINR is the unified Mi'kmaq voice on stewardship, management and research on natural resources and the environment.

Our Annual Report is a way to look back at the year to see just how much we accomplished and the progress we've made in reaching our goals.

As we look back on the past ten years and plan for the future, we take the opportunity to reflect on UINR's guiding principle—Netukulimk. Netukulimk is the use of the natural bounty provided by the Creator for the self-support and well-being of the individual and the community. Netukulimk is achieving adequate standards of community nutrition and economic well-being without jeopardizing the integrity, diversity or productivity of our environment.

As Mi'kmaq, we have an inherent right to access and use our resources and we understand that we also have a responsibility to use those resources in a sustainable way. The Mi'kmaq way of resource management includes a spiritual element that ties together people, plants, animals and the environment. UINR's strength is in our ability to integrate scientific research with Mi'kmaq knowledge.

Looking toward the next ten years, UINR reaffirms its dedication and responsibility to the natural resources and environment that make Unama'ki unique.

Lisa Young *Executive Director*

2009-2010

This year, UINR celebrates ten years of taking responsibility for natural resources and our environment. The result of our work over this time has led to the establishment and subsequent successes of our partners; Bras d'Or Lakes Collaborative Environmental Planning Initiative, Pitu'paq partnership, Moose Management Initiative and Collaborative Salmon Initiative. Our work on Species at Risk and a host of marine science, forestry and other environmental projects has also resulted in major accomplishments.

With long-term, core funding from Fisheries and Oceans Canada and through other project partnerships, our full-time staff give us the ability to continue to build capacity, expand existing programs, and get involved in other important projects with our partners. All the while, we keep a unique Mi'kmaq perspective on things. Mi'kmaq Ecological Knowledge and its integration with science is playing an increasing role in all our work.



ten years of taking responsibility

Our contributions to the understanding and protection of the environment of Unama'ki will continue as we develop new partnerships and watch our current initiatives grow. Our commitment is to the future generations of Unama'ki people.

2009/2010 was a busy time at UINR. One of the highlights was our contribution to the release of *Tia'muwe'l Netuklimkewe'l—Unama'ki Moose Harvesting According to Netukulimk*. This landmark publication, created by the Mi'kmaq people of Nova Scotia, was an important step for Mi'kmaq self-governance.

The American eel has been a focus of our research as we conducted habitat surveys, gathered biological data and landing estimates from the food, social and ceremonial eel fishery. Sampling was expanded to include freshwater rivers and lakes and barrachois ponds. We also began collecting information with our Mi'kmaq communities to develop best management practices for shoreline development.

This year, we participated in the Community Aquatic Monitoring Program—a project where communities monitor the health and marine productivity of their local aquatic ecosystem. We monitored six sites around the Bras d'Or Lakes.

2009-2010

Once again, we helped coordinate a waste and recycling project at the St. Anne's Mission in Chapel Island. Working with our partners at Pitu'paq, this successful project saw a dramatic improvement of environmental conditions during and after the Mission.

UINR's Forestry Division hosted a one-day workshop: *Tetapuo'tmnej Nipukt—Making the Most of Our Hardwood Resources* that looked at ways to blend traditional wood production with new uses to get maximum value from every tree. The workshop featured a wide range of speakers, from saw mill operators to basket and guitar makers.

Unama'KIDS had a very successful year involving Mi'kmaq youth around Unama'ki, expanding their knowledge of natural resource issues and the environment. The participants learned invaluable lessons that are integral to increasing their level of awareness of their roles and responsibilities for sustainable natural resources.

This year, UINR began a project with Parks Canada and NewPage, Port Hawkesbury, to improve our understanding of plants of cultural significance to the Mi'kmaq people. The project identified sites and habitats on industry-leased, provincial crown land and on land within Unama'ki communities. We interviewed knowledgeable Elders about species of importance, and where and in what habitats they are found. We worked with Membertou Geomatics Inc. and NewPage to develop a spatial model to predict the occurrence of select, culturally significant plant species.



ten years of taking responsibility

Cooperation and support by Unama'ki community members was key to UINR's efforts to address an erosion problem in Malagawatch that is jointly owned by our five communities. Community members pitched in to help stabilize a bank that is extensively eroding, threatening a culturally significant landmark and near-shore habitat. A research project we initiated examined the historical and cultural importance of the site of the area and we discovered some fascinating information on Malagawatch history.

UINR's work in community drinking water quality monitoring continued this year, receiving excellent feedback from Health Canada on our outstanding organization, data entry and dedicated sampling efforts.

UINR's communications efforts continued to expand with the launch of our new website and a series of informative videos highlighting our staff and their activities. Our website, uinr.ca, features an extensive library that includes all of publications and reports and archives of all of our published news and feature stories. UINR also launched a Facebook page for our main activities and a special Unama'KIDS page to serve our youth outreach. UINR set up a Twitter feed, bringing up-to-date information to our followers.

A chronology of the past ten years at UINR brought together information and photos of the many projects and initiatives that we have been involved with since our beginning in July 1999. It shows the range of activities that we have undertaken with, the partnerships we made and some of the many people that have been involved. It hints at where we are going in the upcoming years.

funding partners
funding



ten years of taking responsibility

Funding Partners

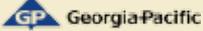


First Nations Forestry Program
 Fisheries & Oceans Canada
 Health Canada
 Indian & Northern Affairs
 Natural Resources Canada
 Parks Canada
 Transport Canada
 Environment Canada-Canadian Wildlife Service

Partnerships



Department of Energy
 Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture
 Department of Natural Resources
 Office of Aboriginal Affairs



The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq



Membertou
 First Nation



Eskasoni Fish & Wildlife
 Commission



Atlantic Canada's
 First Nation Help Desk



Kwilmuk Maw-klusuaq
Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative
 Our Rights. Our Future.

2009-2010

staff & board

staff &



ten years of taking responsibility

Board of Directors

Chief Terry Paul *President*

Membertou First Nation

Chief Charlie Dennis

Eskasoni First Nation

Chief Morley Googoo

Waycobah First Nation

Chief Kenny Basque

Potlotek First Nation

Chief Lester Peck

Wagmatcook First Nation

Staff

Lisa Young

Executive Director

Blair Bernard

NRO Coordinator

Weldon Bona

Director of Communications

Mary Collier

Director of Administration

Shelley Denny

Biologist & Research Coordinator

Allysia Jeddore

Research Assistant

Annie Johnson

Director of Administration

Mark MacPhail

Director of Forestry

Albert Marshall

Elder Advisor

Lorraine Marshall

*Community Drinking Water &
Sanitary Shoreline Survey Technician*

Allison MacIsaac

Research Coordinator

Jason MacLean

Forest Manager Assistant

Angela Morris

Research Assistant

Hubert Nicholas

Commercial Fisheries Liaison Coordinator

Clifford Paul

Moose Management Coordinator

Tyson Paul

Research Assistant

Gwen Poulette

Finance Officer

Serena Paul

Administrative Assistant

Shelley Porter

CEPI Coordinator

Laurie Sutor

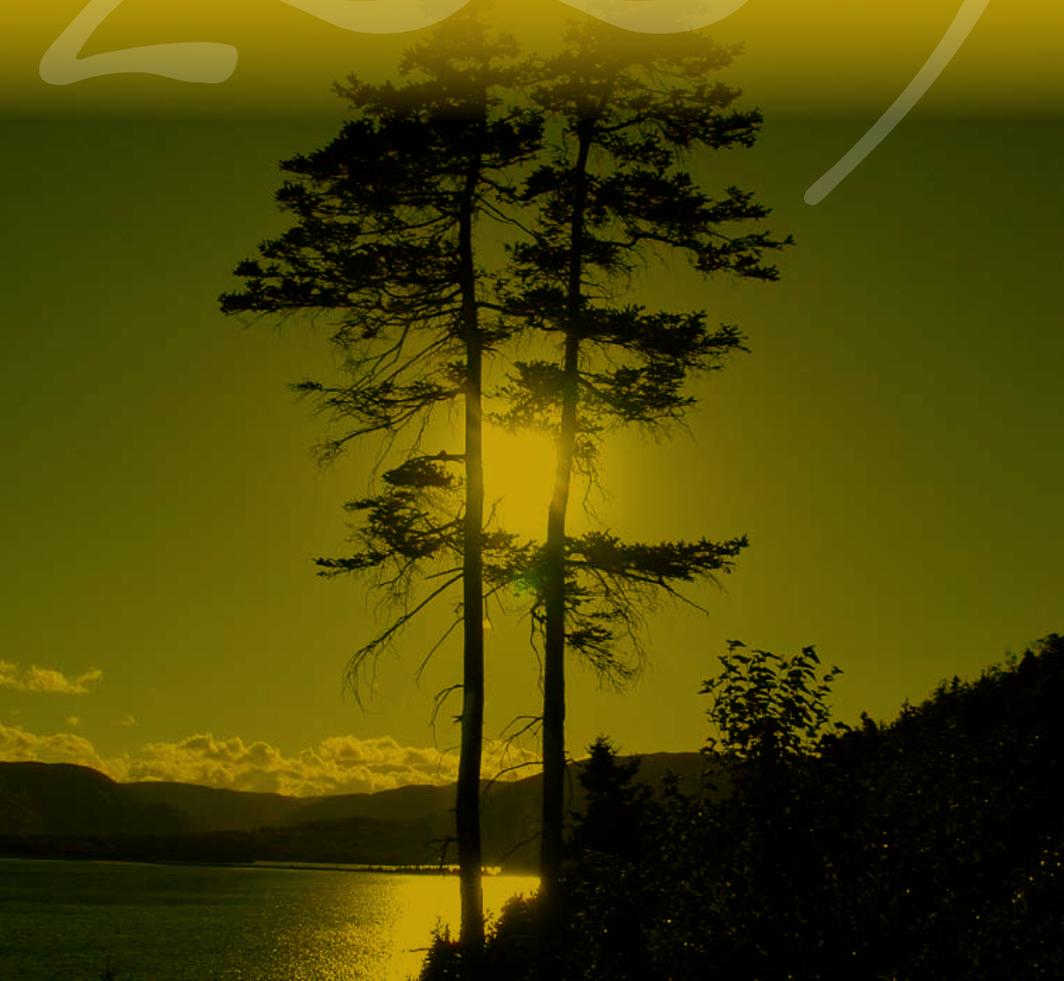
*Intergovernmental Relations &
Partnership Advisor*

Tonia Sylliboy

Species-At-Risk Coordinator

Financial statements

2009



Balance Sheet

March 31

2010

2009

Assets

Current

Cash	\$ 82,686	204,001
Receivables	<u>624,797</u>	<u>561,611</u>
	707,483	765,612

Property and equipment	<u>75,790</u>	<u>49,164</u>
	<u>\$ 783,273</u>	<u>\$ 814,776</u>

Liabilities

Current

Payables and accruals	\$ 246,606	\$ 260,411
Deferred revenue	<u>30,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
	276,606	270,411
Deferred contributions	<u>32,877</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>309,483</u>	<u>270,411</u>

Equity

Surplus	<u>473,790</u>	<u>544,365</u>
	<u>\$ 783,273</u>	<u>\$ 814,776</u>

On behalf of the Board



Director

Financial statements

2009



Statements of Operations and Surplus

Year ended March 31

2010

2009

Revenues

Government contributions	\$ 1,190,204	\$ 1,323,064
Forestry	790,271	1,118,115
Mining royalties	7,592	51,459
Other contributions	116,481	150,535
	<u>2,104,548</u>	<u>2,643,173</u>

Expenses (Page 7)

2,158,872 2,533,301

Excess of (expenses over revenue)
revenue over expenses
before gain on sale of property
and equipment and amortization

(54,324) 109,872

Gain on sale of property
and equipment

— 9,180

Amortization of deferred
contributions related to
capital assets

5,802 —

Amortization of capital assets

22,053 12,106

(16,251) 2,926

Excess of (expenses over revenue)
revenue over expenses

\$ (70,575) \$ 106,946

Surplus, beginning of year

As previously reported \$ 634,365 \$ 437,419

Adjustment of prior year (90,000)

Surplus, beginning of year, restated 544,365 437,419

Excess of (expenses over revenue)
revenue over expenses

(70,575) 106,946

Surplus, end of year

\$ 473,790 \$ 544,365

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