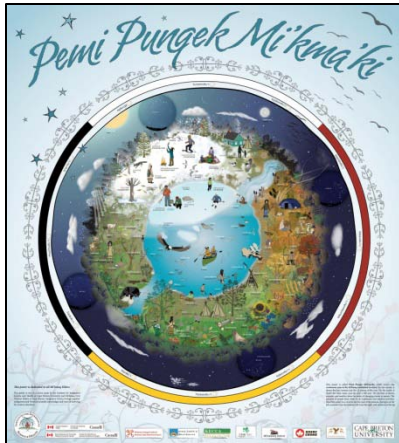


ONE FULL YEAR IN MI'KMA'KI - PEMI PUNQEK MI'KMA'KI – eco-calendar

- project 2004-2008
 - educational and community outreach plus language revitalization; community-based, participatory action research - pattern research
-



**see next page for larger
image of eco-calendar**

In 2004, SSHRC awarded research funding to Cheryl Bartlett for a project entitled “Pattern recognition: enriching the ‘common ground’ of bringing Aboriginal and Western scientific knowledges together”. Some of the research within this project sought to help Mi'kmaw Elders elucidate their understandings of relational and seasonal patterns in the ecosystem and the interconnectivity of these natural patterns with Mi'kmaw traditional activities.

Towards the above goal for knowledge revitalization and transmission, Integrative Science Research Assistants Nadine Lefort and Sana Kavanagh and Graphic Designer Kristy Read worked closely with many Mi'kmaw Elders, especially Lillian Marshall, Murdena Marshall, Diana Denny, and Albert Marshall, as well as the Elders' Advisory Committee for the Mi'kmawey Debert Cultural Centre (a project of the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq; see <http://www.cmmns.com/Debert.php>). The team discussed and then created images to illustrate relationships and patterns as played out over the course of one full year in Mi'kma'ki, the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaw people. During this work, it was also decided to include the seasonal pattern of the night sky and various modern-day activities. The diverse images were then assembled into a large (90 cm X 120 cm) tapestry-like poster, in which many of the understandings depicted are labeled in both Mi'kmaq and English.

The poster, which is actually a very detailed eco-calendar, was completed in Spring 2008 and almost 5000 copies have been distributed (free of charge), locally to internationally. The pages that follow provide visual explanations of some of the structuring eco-pattern knowledge represented in the poster. Additional information can be found with the activity entitled "Mi'kmaw calendar". Also, the eco-calendar is featured in many of our presentations from 2008 onward.

The full size poster is available upon request (contact us). In addition, the poster has served as a key foundational knowledge product in enabling new Integrative Science creative research with Elders associated with International Year of Astronomy 2009.

Pemi Pungek Mi'kma'ki



This poster is dedicated to all Mi'kmaq Elders. This poster is one in a series made by the Institute for Integrative Science and Health at Cape Breton University and Mi'kmaq First Nations' Elders of Cape Breton. Integrative Science brings together Indigenous and Western scientific knowledge and ways of knowing for science education.

This poster is called Pemi Pungek Mi'kma'ki, which means one continuous year in the Mi'kmaq traditional territory. On the outside, it shows the four seasons and the 12 months of the year. On the inside, it shows the land, water and sky over a full year. The pictures of plants, animals, and weather show the order of changing events in nature. The pictures of people show when to do traditional and modern activities. Read this poster in a circle to see the cycle of the seasons. Spring is on the left, summer is on the bottom, fall is on the right, and winter is at the top.





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This poster is called **Pemi Punqet Mi'kma'ki**, which means *one continuous year in the Mi'kmaq traditional territory*. On the outside, it shows the four seasons and the 12 moons of the year. On the inside, it shows the land, water, and sky over a full year. The pictures of plants, animals, and weather show the order of changing events in nature. The pictures of people show when to do traditional and modern activities. Read this poster in a circle to see the cycle of the seasons. Spring is on the left, summer is on the bottom, fall is on the right, and winter is at the top.

The direction of **seasonal pattern change** in this poster follows the **Mi'kmaq Night Sky Story of Muin** as she is chased, over one full year, by Seven Bird Hunters. Thus, the direction follows the movement of the stars around Tatapn (the North Star) ... this direction is counter-clockwise.



Muin and the Seven Bird Hunters: a Mi'kmaw Night Sky Story

