



Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network
Wise Practices III HIV/AIDS Research Conference
Marriot Waterfront, Halifax, NS, 9-11 March 2011

Creativity + Research = Positive Action

Wise Practices III

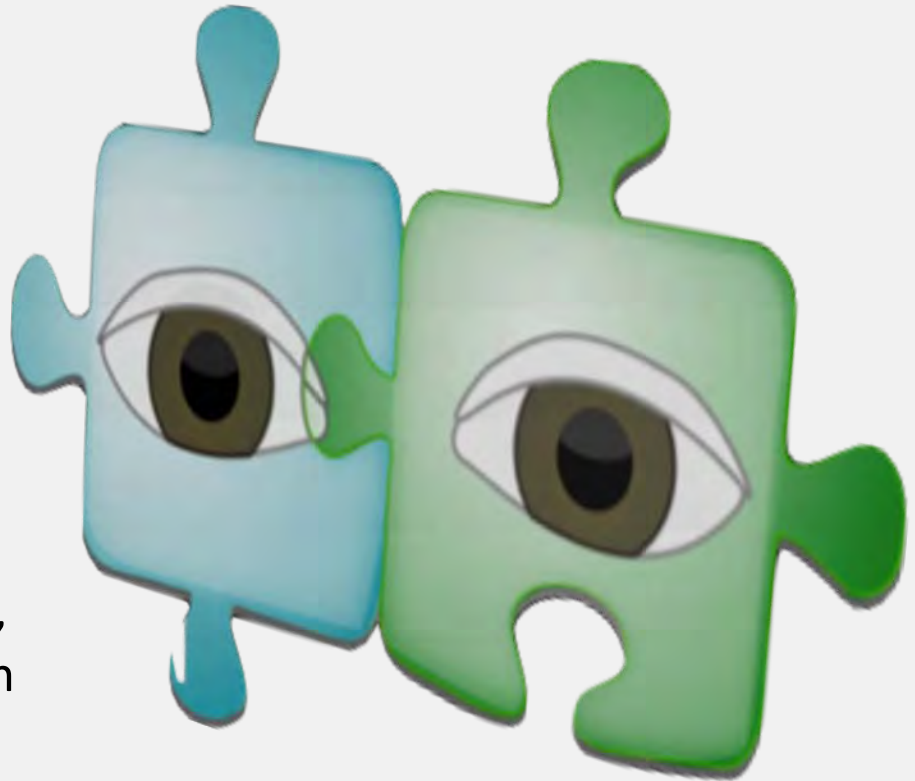
TWO-EYED SEEING

Albert Marshall

Elder and Honorary Doctor of Letters,
Eskasoni community, Mi'kmaw Nation

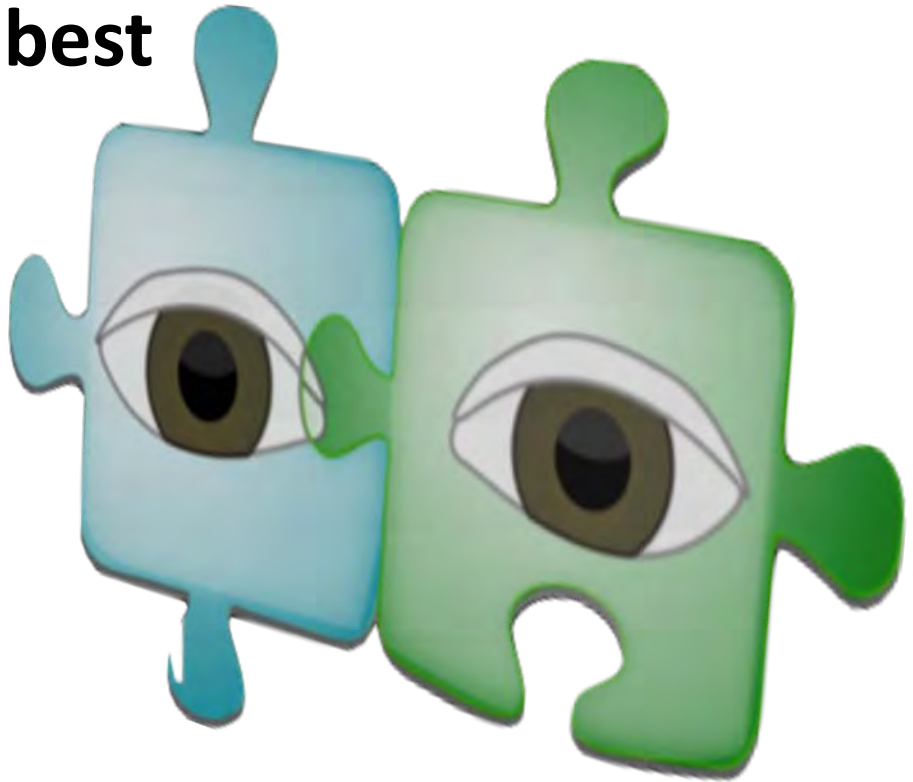
albertdmarsall@ns.sympatico.ca

www.integrativescience.ca



TWO-EYED SEEING - ETUAPTUMUK

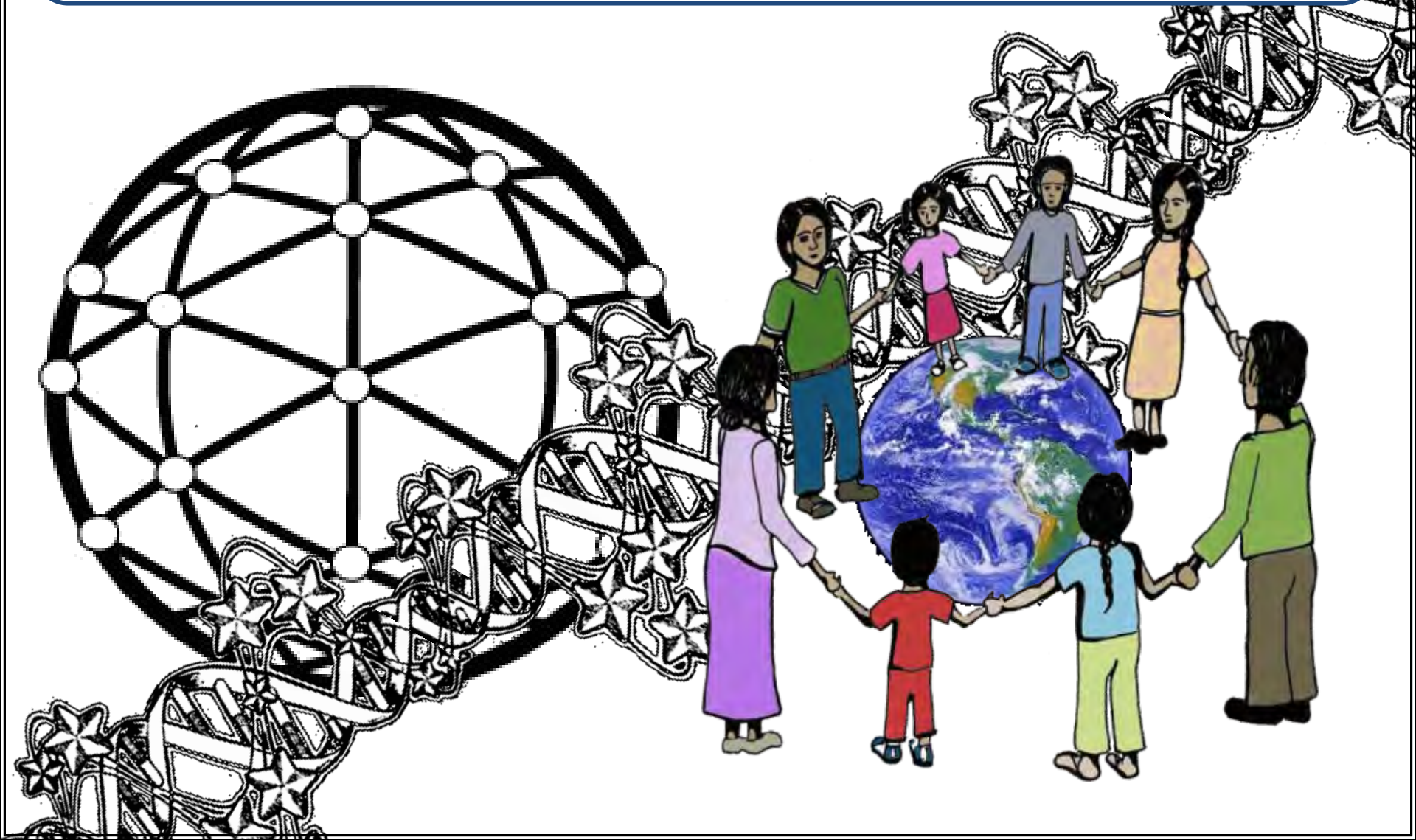
LEARN ... to see from one eye with the best in our Indigenous ways of knowing ... and from the other eye with the best in the Western (mainstream) ways of knowing ... and LEARN to use both these eyes together for the benefit of all.



(Guiding Principle in the words of Elder Albert Marshall, Mi'kmaw Nation)

Mi'kmaw Traditional Knowledge

- cosmology / worldview of interconnectiveness •



Mi'kmaw Traditional Knowledge

- cosmology / worldview of interconnectiveness •

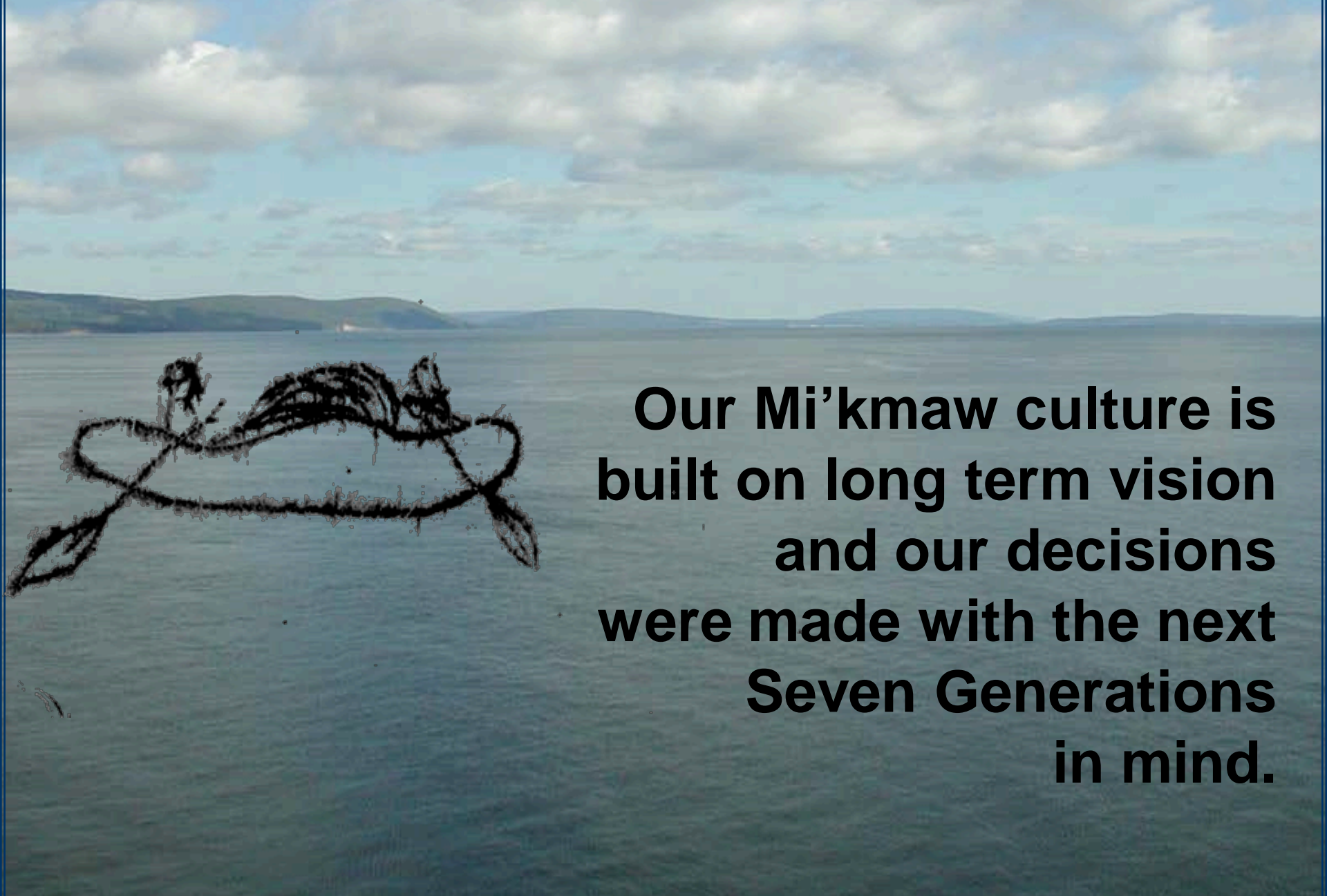
was never meant to be static and stay in the past.

Rather, we must bring it into the present so that everything becomes meaningful in our lives and in our communities.

(words of Mi'kmaw Elder Murdena Marshall)

artist Basma Kavanagh





**Our Mi'kmaw culture is
built on long term vision
and our decisions
were made with the next
Seven Generations
in mind.**



As Elders in Our Time

We seek to be a conduit for wisdom of our Ancestors.

We seek to see with “Two-Eyes” ... to take the accomplishments of the white man’s ways further by blending it with the wisdom of our Ancestors.



**It is not enough
to go through
life with one
perspective; we
must embrace
all the tools we
have ...**

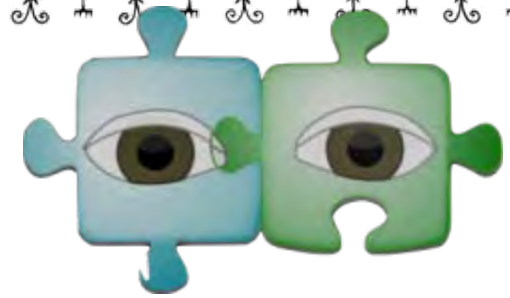


artist Basma Kavanagh

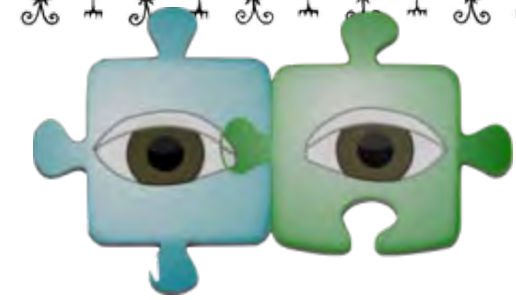
**Knowledge is not a tool but
rather it is a spirit.**

**It transforms the
holder. It also
reminds us that we have
responsibilities
to the spirit of that
knowledge.**

We must pass it on.



artist Basma Kavanagh

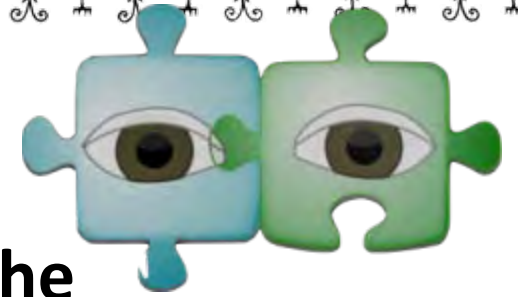


**Everything
that we do
to our natural
world ... we
also do to
ourselves.**

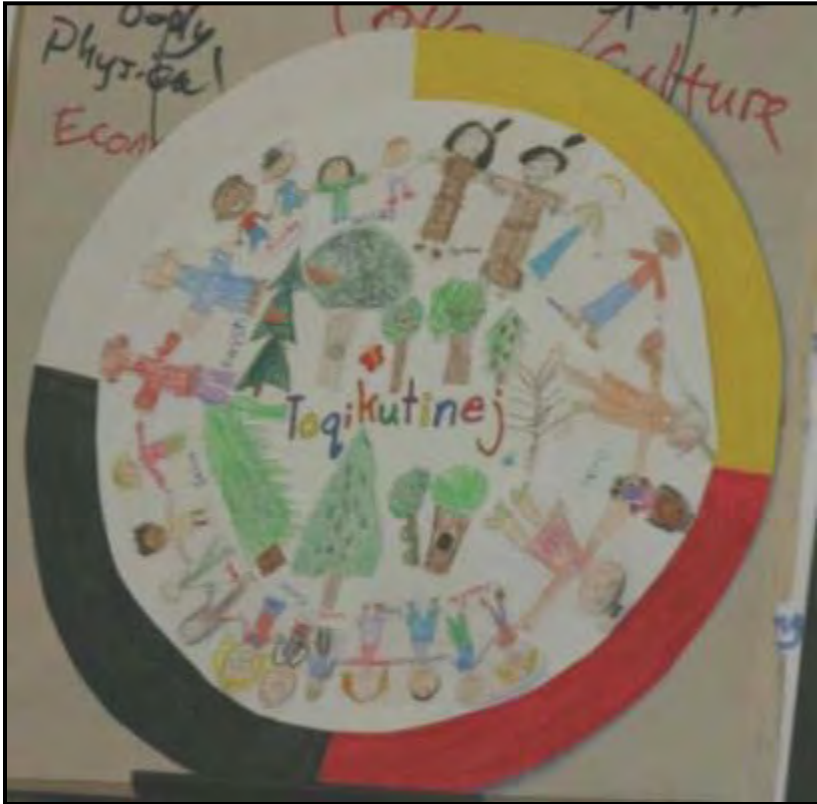
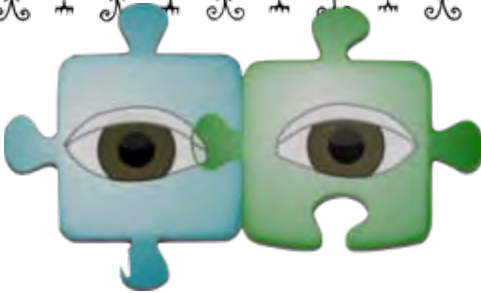


image: www.blackfootcrossing.ca

We have to
dissociate
ourselves from the
“Myth of False Security”
that the industrial
revolution has
instilled in our minds.



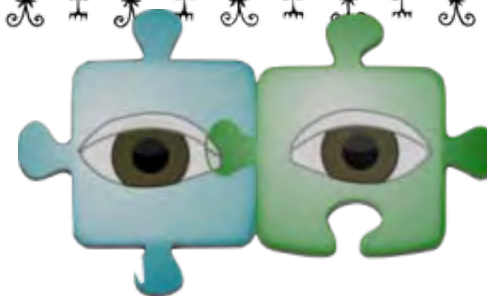
**Education to our young
has to be reflective of how to
maintain balance and harmony
with our natural world.**



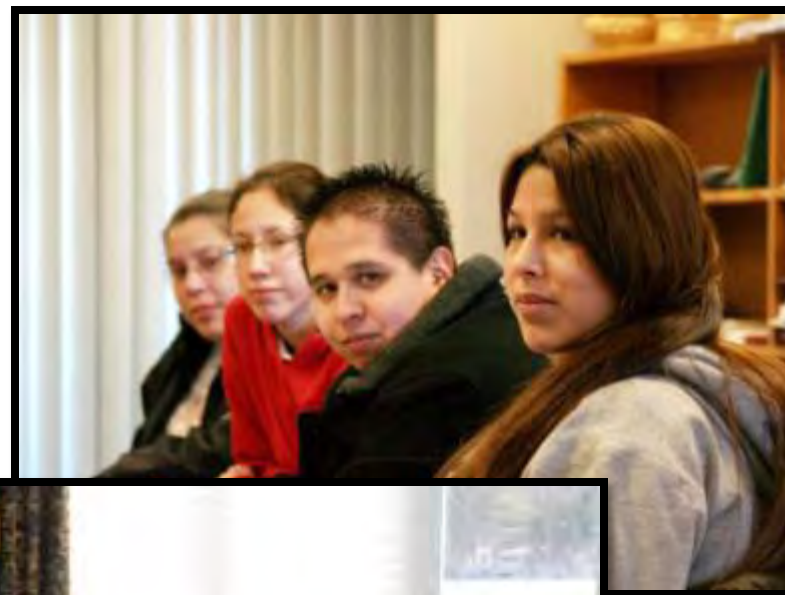
artwork: Eskasoni Elementary School Children



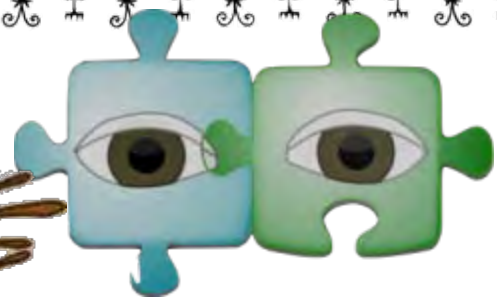
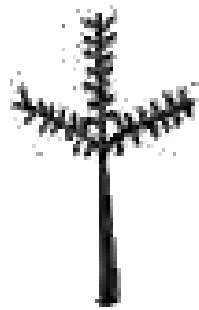
artist Basma Kavanagh



We must, through example, inspire our students to be critical in their thinking.



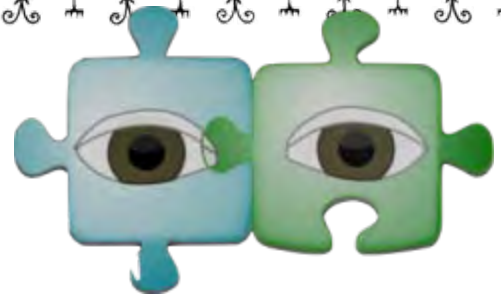
**Seeds
germinate
when the
environment
is appropriate.**



**The
Greatest
Challenge**

What is “SUCCESS”?

**Our language teaches us
that everything alive is
both physical and spiritual.**



artist Basma Kavanagh

The onus is on the person
to look at our natural
world with two
perspectives.

**Modern science
sees objects,
but our language
teaches us to see
subjects.**



Mi'kmaw Traditional Knowledge

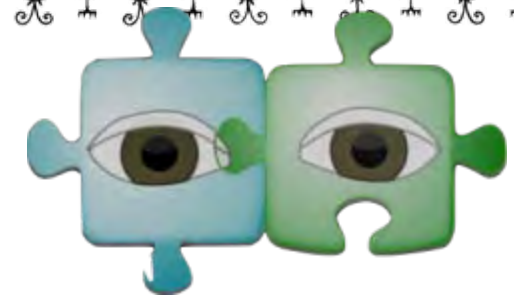


Mi'kmaw Elder Murdena Marshall, Eskasoni community



Mi'kmaw
Seven
Sacred
Gifts of Life

Our language is the key to how our actions will unfold. Each word is much deeper than only taking care of an object. Animacy brings personal connection ... such that actions fit actions (everything is in the picture) and we are always mindful of the First Sacred Gift of Life:



EXAMPLES

- 1) pekajo'tmnej = consider all aspects
... *action is harmonious*
- 2) wulo'tmnej = love some one
... *action is care*
- 3) sespite'tmnej = worry about what you do
... *action is guided*

LOVE



Netukulimk

“sustaining ourselves”

yes ... but really is a
much richer concept;
it is holistic.



All Our Relations



<http://myanimalblog.files.wordpress.com/2008/03/g-bull-moose.jpg>



<http://blog.silive.com/weather/2007/09/red-maple-tree.jpg>



http://images.enature.com/fishes/fishes_1/fi0016_11.jpg



http://www.krisweb.com/krisshoopscot/krisdb/html/krisweb/aqualife/atlanctic_salmon_as_beland.jpg

Netukulimk

Co-existence

Interrelativeness

Interconnectiveness

Community Spirit



All Our Relations



<http://blog.silive.com/weather/2007/09/red-maple-tree.jpg>



http://images.enature.com/fishes/fishes_1/fi0016_11.jpg



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Netukulimk

Co-existence

“When we look at Creator, if it was meant for me to know everything that I needed to get along, then I would only be one person in the world. Instead, each person is given a skill and develops those skills.”



Interdependence

“If some person is struggling, apply your skills to compensate for that person. Some days I’m down and out ... the community will not let me go hungry.”

Community Spirit

“The sense of community is constantly triggered ... [you’re] fine tuning your skills to live in balance and harmony with others. It’s a sense of community enmeshed in total being.”



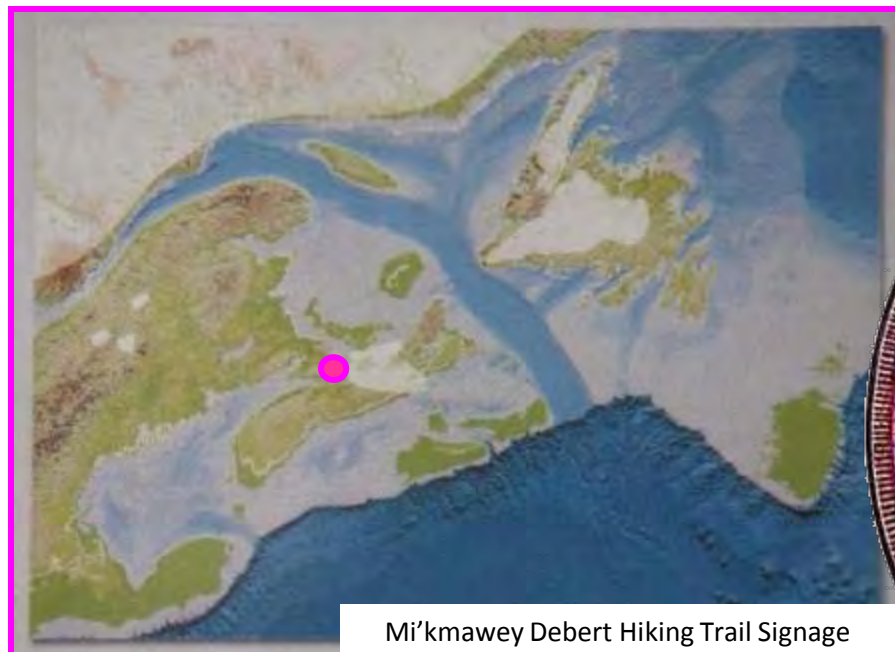
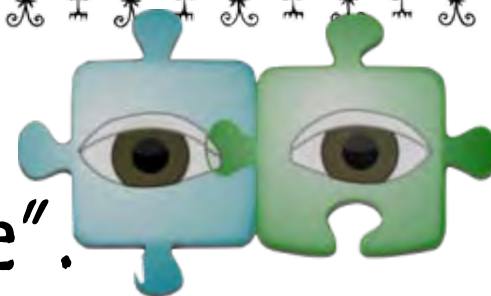
Albert Marshall
Mi’kmaw Elder

Netukulimk teaches you.

from: Master’s thesis research “Mi’kmaw traditional knowledge of eels” by Sana Kavanagh

Netukulimk

This is "Lnu'k Living Knowledge".
Its "Principle for Humility" is based on knowledge
that has been evolving for the past 10,000 years.



Mi'kmawey Debert Hiking Trail Signage

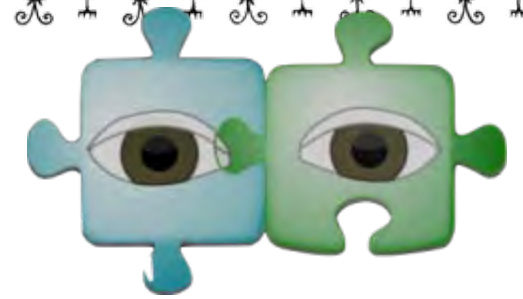
**Extend of ice 11,000 years ago. People lived
at the Debert site sometime
between 11,000 and 10,000 years ago.**



artist
Basma
Kavanagh



artist Basma Kavanagh



CONSCIOUSNESS OF KNOWING

**All people must learn
“Two-Eyed Seeing”
so that knowledge of
the physical is
not separated from
wisdom of the spiritual.**



Wela'lioq / Thank you

