



Mi'gmawel Tplu'taqnn



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October 15, 2018

### **MTI and Parks Canada work together to provide a workshop and tradeshow**

**L'no Minigog First Nation** - Mi'gmawel Tplu'taqnn Inc (MTI) and Parks Canada Agency are proud to have worked together to develop and host a "Doing Business with the Government of Canada Workshop and Tradeshow" at L'no Minigog First Nation on Friday, October 5. This free, full-day event brought together members of the New Brunswick Mi'gmaq business community with federal government buyers of goods and services as well as with organizations that support small business and Indigenous economic development in the province. The event was made possible thanks to the support of partners at Public Services and Procurement Canada-Office of Small and Medium Enterprises; Crown-Indigenous Relations & Northern Affairs Canada; Indigenous Services Canada; the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, and with funding from the Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI).

Through presentations, a seminar and a tradeshow, participants were able to learn more about how their businesses can supply goods and services to the federal government, how to access information on valuable programs and supports for Mi'gmaq businesses and meet face to face with decision makers, experts and resource people to get informed, network, and explore opportunities for community economic development.

"This event was a chance to learn more about potential opportunities for our businesses and people. We look forward to participating in more workshops like this with government departments at the federal and provincial level and seeing the impact this experience will have in the development of our communities and their members," said Chief Ken Barlow of L'no Minigog First Nation.

"As Canada's largest provider of natural and cultural tourism, Parks Canada's destinations form important cornerstones for Canada's local, regional, and national tourism industry. We are very pleased to co-host this event and create an opportunity for dialogue and collaboration between the Government of Canada and the Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick. This forum allows us to share information regarding procurement, contracting, employment as well as other economic development and business opportunities with Indigenous peoples in New Brunswick," added Géraldine Arsenault, Parks Canada's Field Unit Superintendent for the Northern New Brunswick Field Unit.

This event, which was open to all Mi'gmaq communities in New Brunswick, originated as an idea of the MTI and Parks Canada Advisory Committee created with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding in October 2016. The committee includes representatives from MTI and Parks Canada in New Brunswick and focuses on collaborations in areas of mutual interest such as economic development, cultural awareness and education, as well as natural and cultural resource conservation.

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