



# Miawpukek Aknutmaq

INFORMATION IS NO GOOD IF YOU KEEPS IT TO YOURSELF!

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## MIAWPUKEK PRIDE

Phil Jeddore, April 24, 2001

"I come down to see The Pride!" said a young Mi'kmaw as he passed by Saqamaw Mise'l, Aunt Mali, this writer and some others.

Indeed that's what she is. The Miawpukek Pride, aptly named and aptly crewed by proud Mi'kmaq.

As mentioned in a previous issue, Miawpukek Pride is 44'11" Jumbo Vessel. with a crew of five, with three of these from MFN. She was recently purchased



from Robert Applby and will fish out of Burin. Incidentally, Robert has ancestral connections to Miawpukek.

She was brought in on her first visit to the Ktaqamkuk Mi'kmaw Nation for the occasion on April 21. On board were Saqamaw Mise'l and the Mi'kmaq drumming/singing group, Sipuji'j, who drummed and sang as The Pride was tied up at the Partridge Point Marina. Around fifty people



showed up for the occasion. **Miawpukek Pride** was christened by Saqamaw Mise'l with sacred waters from the brook at the Baie du Nord Cross. After the



ceremony, people went aboard to look her over. Everyone was impressed and bursting with pride to say the least.

Miawpukek Pride is now hard at work on the crabbing grounds. On board are Brian Hoskins, Ken John and Dean McDonald from Miawpukek.



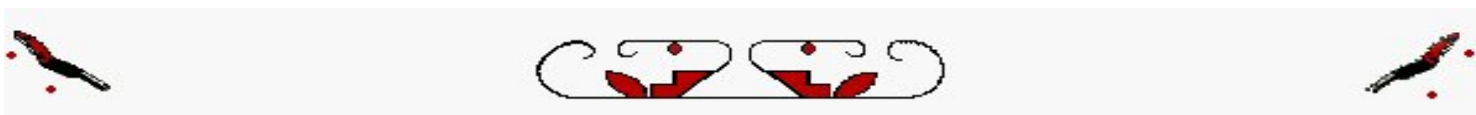
## REMEMBER THE HUNGER STRIKE

Fifty or more Mi'kmaq showed up at the recent feast, commemorating the FAST by the nine Traditionalists back on April 22 - 30, 1983.

Saqamaw Mise'l (in the picture just above, left) spoke to the gathered, telling them about that time.

Not many people know, some don't care

to remember, but at that time, in 1983, if it wasn't for the heroic efforts of our First Nation, the heroic efforts of **100 supporters** who traveled to St. Johns, **30 Occupiers** who "sat-in" Joe Goudie's offices and **9 Fasters** who went on the hunger strike, our Nation as we now know it, would not exist. The Newfoundland government's Brian Peckford had begun an all out effort to finish stamping out our existence, begun by Joey Smallwood in 1949. There were a lot of dirty dealings, and Peckford and cronies, just couldn't understand that what they were (Cont. over.)



**MISSION STATEMENT of MIAWPUKEK AKNUTMAQN: TO PRESERVE, PROMOTE AND ADVANCE THE MIAWPUKEK MI'KMAQ NATION BY PROVIDING, NEWS AND INFORMATION, A FORUM FOR EXPRESSION OF VIEWS AND CONCERNS AND A RECORD OUR WAY OF LIFE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.**

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## **MI'KMAQ NOT WELCOME HERE !**

Philip Jeddore, March 24, 2001

For the community of Garnish, no Mi'kmaq better show up there. Miawpukek First Nation's re-entry into the open ocean fishing is not welcomed by at least two communities on the Burin Peninsula.

The community of Fortune made national headlines last year with their handling of the arrival of some Mainland Mi'kmaq fishers.

This year, the community of Garnish made it clear they feel the same way about our people. Word is that over seventy people gathered at their community wharf a couple of weeks ago to demonstrate against the arrival, or so they thought, of our fishers. There hadn't been any plans for our people to be there, so they must have been misinformed.

There is also word that someone, supposedly from that community, also threatened aggravated and extreme bodily injury to a certain individual and his family, who had been on contract to skipper and train some of our people on another fishing vessel, which we have purchased.

Many Mi'kmaq believes that such opposition can only be attributed to misunderstanding and poor knowledge of our people and our history. Many Newfoundlanders still refuse to believe there are any "Indians" in Nfld. and only see Indians on tv.

Little do the understand that we are following in the footsteps of our ancestors who plied the oceans to trade, travel and explore. Harald E. L. Prins, in his book, *The Mi'kmaq, Resistance, Accommodation and Cultural Survival* mentions this. Also if you looked at the old directories for Newfoundland, all the Mi'kmaq mentioned, The Benois, the Joes, the Pauls, are all listed as fishermen.

In Millias' book, *Newfoundland and its Unthrodde Ways*, Joe Jeddore says "The Coast is the Whiteman's, but the interior is the Mi'kmaq's" or something similar. Whatever way one looks it at it, our people has the right to survive and, if you accept Canada's Supreme Court decision, to make a moderate income.

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(Remember the Hunger Strike. Cont.) doing was akin to genocide.

It took eight days for them to understand that a small tribe of Aboriginal peoples could actually sacrifice their lives for a cause.

They finally came to their senses and we won that war. We dragged the Newfoundland government people and government kicking and screaming into the 20th century as far as understanding, that there was indeed Indians in Ktaqamkuk. They could no longer pretend we did not exist.

Today our Nation exists and our people thrive. However we continue to have a few skirmishes with the extreme elements

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...SO WHAT ELSE IS GOIN' ON IN MIAWPUKEK? War has been declared on the alders (Tupsi) along the main road in Miawpukek. Work crews are at work, clearing and thinning out both sides of the road. This work, will make our Nation community much cleaner looking and give visitors an opportunity to see parts of our community along the road that has been hidden for so long by the overgrown alder beds.

On Friday, April 27, Miawpukek First Nation will be holding our Quarterly Tribal Meeting. We will bring you news on items discussed, in our next issue.

Check out <http://communities.msn.ca/philjeddore> for more pics of Miawpukek Pride.

Did I mention I got that elusive goose. Skinned it instead of plucking. Boiled with some taties, pork and some flour to make gravy. Good thing I boiled it too. Some other people roasted theirs and "It came out looking like a mummy".

Lots of people are at end of their EI benefits., so all agencies are working hard to make sure everyone has work to re-qualify.

No brooks riftered out this year. Most of the ice had melted and we didn't have the big rains.

Roberta Drew, (Bill and Annette) got married. I forget her husband's name, he works out to Melvin McDoanld's.

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