



**FIRST NATIONS OF QUEBEC AND LABRADOR ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**FNQBN  
QUARTERLY ACTIVITY REPORT**

**SEPTEMBER 2012**

# QUARTERLY ACTIVITY REPORT

## **MEETING WITH QUEBEC ABORIGINAL TOURISM (JULY 24 2012)**

On July 24 2012, the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Economic Development Commission (FNQLEDC) met with the head of the development department for Quebec Aboriginal Tourism (QAT) to validate their intent of entering into partnership with us and to see what form it could take.

QAT is an organization that supports growth in tourism businesses, by service offerings for the ethno-cultural, economic and sustainable development of the eleven Aboriginal nations of Quebec. It contributes to the strengthening, preservation and promotion of culture and traditions that are unique to each First Nation and Inuit communities. It has a membership of 100 persons, including 30 Aboriginal businesses.

Since FNQLEDC works with all Aboriginal nations, QAT is inquiring about the possibilities of joining our group, so that together we tour communities to promote their organization and offer their services. At the moment, QAT organizes two regional tours per year, on a basis of seven days each. Their point of contact for the planning of meetings is the tourist information office for communities that have one.

QAT would also like to combine their training with ours in order to improve the efficiency of their various training activities they plan for their members. On average, the FNQLEDC provides its members with three training sessions per year, and QAT would be ready to invest with the FNQLEDC to provide these training sessions.

QAT is interested in being part of our « Community Development Profile » project. They would like to add a section specifically dedicated to tourism. This way, they wouldn't have to duplicate the work already undertaken by the FNQLEDC.

## **Minutes from the Meeting with CESO (August 20 2012)**

On August 20 2012, the FNQLEDC met with the Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO), with the aim of promoting its services and to see about the possibilities of working with the FNQLEDC. CESO is an organization that works with the goal of strengthening economic and social well-being in Canada and abroad through the engagement of skilled and experienced Canadian volunteers. The organization provides services to many communities across Canada and to many other countries.

Services provided are in the areas of:

- Strategic planning;
- Business development;
- Accounting and finance;
- Organizational development;
- Community development;
- Governance;
- Production and operations.

CESO serves clients in Canada and around the world. They include:

- First Nations;
- Inuit;
- Métis;
- Small and medium-sized businesses;
- Institutions (finance, educational, research, and health care);
- Chambers of Commerce;
- Governments at all levels;
- Civil society organizations;
- Municipalities;
- Trade associations;
- Youth entrepreneurs;
- Women's organizations.

This organization currently manages more than 50 Aboriginal projects, five of which are long term. They work a lot with the Crees and they would like to expand their scope of work by using the FNQLEDC network. The FNQLEDC is open to this partnership, which would in turn allow for the FNQBN members to benefit from preferred rates for the different services offered by CESO.

### **MEETING WITH A FUTURE ENTREPRENEUR FROM MASHTEUIATSH**

On August 21 2012, a lady from Mashteuiatsh met with the FNOBN to see what services the network could offer her. She wants to start a bakery and would like to get help for developing her business plan and for seeking funding. Mr. Bastien, Director General for the FNOLEDC, recommended taking a few basic courses (management, accounting, marketing) before starting her business, since she does not have much experience in business management. Support will be given to guide her in her efforts and to encourage her desire to start her pastry business.

### **MEETING IN LISTUGUJ (SEPTEMBER 27 2012)**

19 entrepreneurs were visited during our recent visit to Listuguj. We gave a brief presentation to each entrepreneur about the Network and the services it offers. We had a tour of the shop, asked questions about problems their organization has encountered.

Some entrepreneurs have shown interest, especially regarding the assistance that we could provide in their search for funding and for meeting other entrepreneurs.