

Milita'sit

By Sacha LaBillois, Director of Economic Development

This month's edition of our newsletter will be focusing on the future of our community - our youth. From recent events such as the #nationalwalkout and #MarchForOurLives to protest gun violence, our youth have proven more than ever that when they stand together, their numbers prove insurmountable. The voices of today's youth are capable of sharing enthusiasm and wisdom. We know that engaged and informed youth are borne out of encouragement and education. The basis for a positive feeling of community, a desire to initiate change and to give back begins early. The interviews in this month's issue focus on five little girls in our community who are all dedicated to family and bringing something back to help the area that raised them. Their vision for Eel River Bar is simple, clear and inspired.

Today's youth offer a fresh perspective. Their open-mindedness and creativity are great assets when

considering ways to help the economic development in our community. This edition is all about an optimistic path forward led by our youth with a focus on entrepreneurship, project advances and updates on the Addition to Reserve (ATR) process. Milita'sit is the Mi'gmaq word for "imagine many things". Imagine the potential we could offer our youth through economic development, imagine the ingenuity they could impart to help shape our growth, imagine a future where our youth are leaders for our people. The future is in their hands and we are inspired by their ingenuity and passion for change. Enjoy the read!



Update on Wigwam Panels Project

Eel River Bar First Nation's Wigwam Panels Inc. will specialize in the manufacturing of the Greenstone insulated composite envelope panel. Wigwam Panels will work toward addressing the demand for First Nation housing across Canada and the general increasing demand for modular or pre-fabricated housing.

In May of 2018 there was a site visit to the Greenstone manufacturing plant in Stevensville, Ontario. Following

this visit, Eel River Bar agreed to a pilot project where panels will be used for construction of a triplex in the community. Training will be given to the construction crew during the summer of 2018 and shortly thereafter assembly and construction will begin. With the demand continually on the rise for safer, less expensive housing, a new potential partnership is being negotiated and we hope to bring you more good news in the future.



Generational Paths

Economic Development can mean different things to different generations.

In an effort to understand what the future holds for Eel River Bar First Nation, we sat down and spoke with five wonderful young ladies enrolled in Ms. Priscilla's class.

When we interviewed these sweet girls, there were a number of themes that were so clear. They love home. They want to be around family and friends as much as possible. They all want to attend post-secondary school and then bring their skills back to Eel River Bar First Nation. Their honesty and sincerity in communicating their dreams for themselves, family and their community was uplifting. Things are looking pretty good for the future.

Aryana - I live in Canada. In Eel River Bar in Canada. I like it here because it's more funner. Some day I'm going to be a mom and I want to live here because it's close to my family and friends. I'm going to go to university in Fredericton but then when I'm done, I'm coming back home.

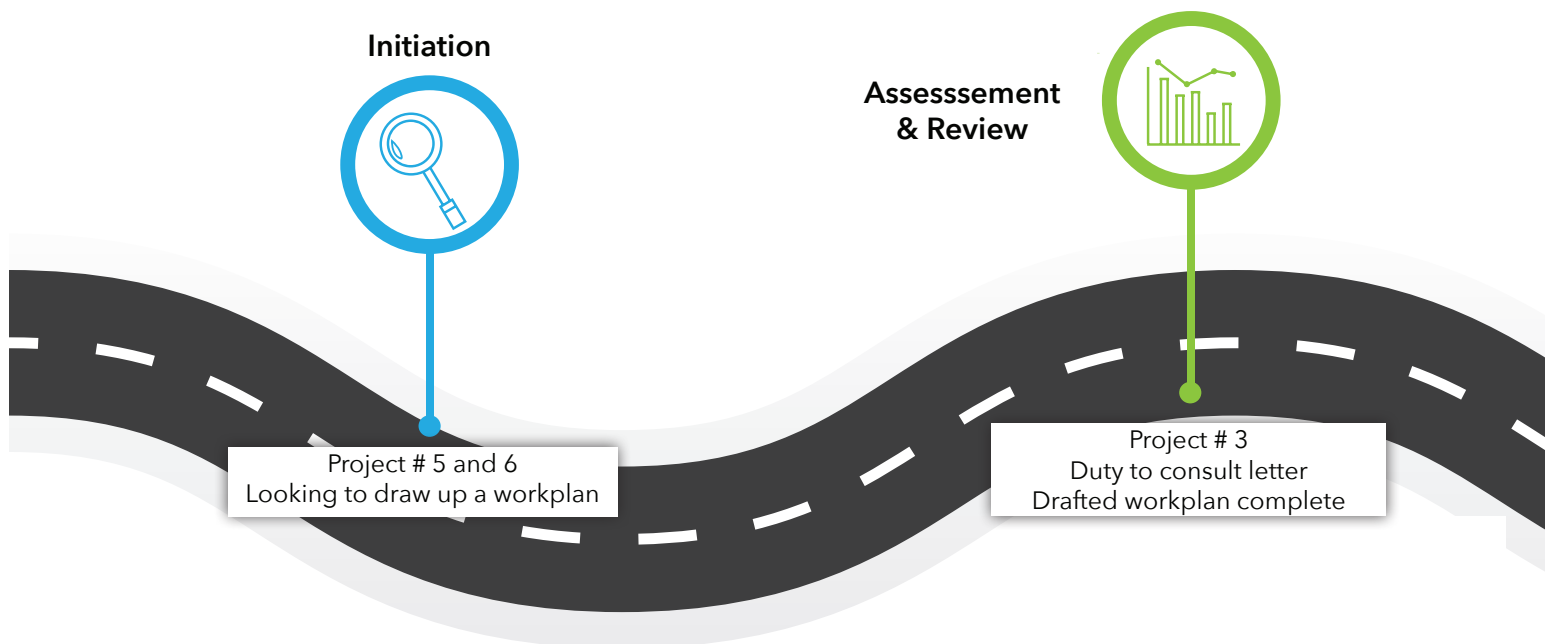
Ava - I live in Eel River Bar and when I grow up I'm going to be a baby doctor. I'm going to live up the road when I grow up. I love ice cream. Did you know that {here} we have the beach, ice cream and a playpark all in the same place. I love it here.

Lexi - Playing with my family and friends is the best. We have a beach here and the snow in the winter. It's awesome. I want to be a baby doctor so I'll have to go to university but then I'm coming home to Eel River Bar. I love to dance and skate.



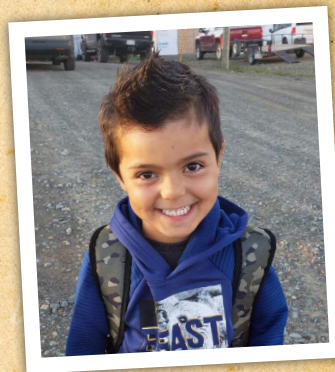
Addition to Reserve Process

As we announced in our first edition of this newsletter, Eel River Bar has been in the process of making an Addition to Reserve. This means that the Band is in negotiations to purchase land which would then be added to the existing reserve land. These negotiations are for the purposes of growing the reserve to add more housing, allow for land to be designated for economic development and to add more land for cultural activities. Although we can not disclose the details of the projects, we wanted to communicate to the community our progress on six different projects. It's an exciting time!



Hunter

I love Eel River Bar because I get to go do any kind of fishing, salmon, mackerel and lobsters. I love being on the water.



Beau

I love Eel River Bar because ahhhh, I love the spiders and Mommy & Daddy, the trees, skunks, having cereal for breakfast and doing Zoophonics in Miss. Priscilla's Class. I'm happy to be going to school this year on the bus with Gram and helping Mom, Dad, Harley, Fox & Blaze. I live in Dalhousie and when I grow up I want to live close to my mommy. The most fun I have is with family and friends. I don't want to be away from them ever. I'm going to university but then I'm coming back home.



Approval

Proposal Completion



Project # 4
Duty to consult complete
Project charter complete



Project # 2
Duty to consult complete
Letter of support phase

Designation



Project # 1
Close to "Order in Council" being drafted

MEET OUR ENTREPRENEURS

Entrepreneurs are the lifeline of economic development. They are inventive, courageous and work tirelessly to bring life to our economy. The following is our Entrepreneurial Spotlight on:

Katie Miller,
On Pointe with Pyper

What kind of services or products does your business provide?

This will be a retail store that is dedicated to dance, gymnastics, cheer and figure skating. Our grand opening will be in August before the beginning of the new season.

What's the most rewarding part about being an entrepreneur?

One of the most rewarding parts of being an entrepreneur is working for myself, being my own boss. Around here we are limited for these sports in way of retail. As a former dancer and now a mom of a dancer, I know what it's like to not find something in time, or to have to travel to Moncton or Fredericton to purchase anything related to these sports. What could be a simple pair of \$26 tights can turn into a \$300 trip for those \$26 tights. If I can help athletes and parents from having to travel for everything, then I'm achieving my goal.

How do you feel entrepreneurship shapes the economic climate of our community?

I feel entrepreneurship can be a huge factor in shaping the community. All these athletes and parents who would normally travel for these items would not be able to stay local, bringing their business to ERB. They will be coming here instead of going 3+ hours away to purchase their dancewear, shoes, etc. Staying local keeps our money local and our small northern area needs that. More traffic to our community mean more support.

KNH Powerhouse

Mitch Harquail and Amanda Hill Harquail

What kind of services or products does your business provide?

Our Mission We are a group of athletes dedicated to improving the lives of our family, friends and community.

What Makes Us Different?

KNH Powerhouse is more than a gym, it's a community of people dedicated to improving their lives, health, and physical ability. We offer small group sessions led by like-minded coaches who will motivate you, alongside of others, to perform your best. We utilize functional movements that make you stronger for your every day life inside AND outside of the gym, while creating different workouts every day to keep things exciting.

What's the most rewarding part about being an entrepreneur?

I believe for us the most rewarding part about being an entrepreneur would be what we can provide for the community. Although there are obvious financial risks, the pride in providing for yourself and then providing an amazing service/product to the community outweighs the risks.

How do you feel entrepreneurship shapes the economic climate of our community?

Well, the definition of economic climate is the general characterization of the overall mood of the economy, the perception of the economy by consumers and the availability of jobs and credit. Usually, business decisions such as hiring, borrowing, investing are influenced by the overall economic climate. So, economic climate can be said to be subjective. I think if more members created their own businesses, the "mood" of the economy would boost. The morale would lift, the pride for one's self would elevate, and the community would move forward. The leadership would recognize the motivation for a better climate and the outcomes would be favourable. Also, entrepreneurship shows the younger generation that anything is possible.

What do you see for the future of Eel River Bar?

In terms of economic climate, I've already seen a vast improvement. We need to keep that train moving forward and push our members to create their own destiny. Self pride can take you a long way.



If you are interested in contributing to upcoming newsletters or have questions or comments, please contact us

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