

# Decolonization Learning Journey

A four-part Learning Journey with Mi'kmaw Elders and knowledge sharers.

## Community Sector Council of Nova Scotia

Decolonization Learning Journey – Resource document  
Webinar #1- June 2, 2020

### Hosting team:

- Elder Jane Meader, Elder, BACS & MEd
- Mary Beth Doucette, Assistant Professor and Purdy Crawford Chair in CBU's Shannon School of Business
- Nicole Cammaert, Associate Executive Director, CSCNS

### Guest speaker:

Stephen Augustine, Hereditary Chief on the Mi'kmaw Grand Council; Associate Vice President, Indigenous Affairs and Unama'ki College at Cape Breton University

### Topic:

The Mi'kmaw Creation Story and pre-contact way of life

## Questions & Responses

### What was the name of the children's book series' that Jane and Stephen mentioned?

The books are available in Mi'kmaw, English, and French and the set consists of six titles:

1. Antle Learns to Skate
2. Pikto'l Goes to Treaty Day
3. Kalolin Learns About Baskets
4. Aliet Learns to Make Lu'sknikn
5. Pikto'l Learns the Kojua
6. Kalolin Goes to Potlotek

Contact **Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey** for information to purchase:

- Phone: 902-567-0336
- Email: [mkeducation@kinu.ca](mailto:mkeducation@kinu.ca)

### Can you provide more information in the many uses of the number 7?

Creation story that really focuses on #7:

[https://www.historymuseum.ca/history-hall/origins/\\_media/Mikmaq-Creation-Story-EN.pdf](https://www.historymuseum.ca/history-hall/origins/_media/Mikmaq-Creation-Story-EN.pdf)

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Additionally:

<http://www.integrativescience.ca/uploads/activities/Murdena-Seven-Sacred-Gifts.pdf>

**Has Stephen ever put the entire Story of Mi'kmaq creation into a book? If so where would I be able to find it?**

We've included a link to a written version of the Creation Story and a video of Stephen in the other resource document ([find that here](#)).

**Is Silas Rand's book available in libraries or bookstores?**

Silas Tertius Rand's book is titled *Legends of the Micmacs*

Volume 1: <https://web.archive.org/web/20151105224905/http://www.invisiblebooks.com/Rand.pdf>

Volume 2: <https://web.archive.org/web/20110930083633/http://www.invisiblebooks.com/Rand2.pdf>

**Wondering if there's a way to see some of the pieces Stephen was telling us about directions, and the characters in the story?**

The answer to part of this are included in the Webinar #1 resource document ([find that here](#)).

**Where can we find out more about the 7 clans and which groups are in which areas?**

The Mi'kmaq historically occupied a large area of northeastern North America. The Mi'kmaq's original territory covers most of what today comprises Canada's Maritime Provinces, a good part of eastern Quebec, and northern Maine.

The territory was divided into seven distinct "Districts" or "clans." Their names were:

1. Kespukwitk,
2. Sipekne'katik,
3. Eskikewa'kik,
4. Unama'kik,
5. Epekwitk Aqq Piktuk,
6. Siknikt, and
7. Kespek

A map can be found here: <http://www.danielnpaul.com/Map-Mi'kmaqTerritory.html>

Further reading here: <https://www.cbu.ca/indigenous-affairs/mikmaq-resource-centre/mikmaq-resource-guide/historical-overview/>

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**Is there a special significance given to the heart organ in this creation story? Especially the human heart? Does the heart stand apart from other organs? If so, how?**

The heart represents the spirit; the soul of humanity. It's the blood that flows through us. Also, the blood in our feet is connected to Mother Earth, where all of our ancestors have gone back into the ground and back to Mother Earth, and so their blood is in the water of Mother Earth.

**Does Stephen Deliver Online Courses?**

Stephen does give Cross-Cultural Awareness Training sessions. These are fee-based sessions available to any group interested in Mi'kmaw cultural learning. If anyone would like more information on that, email [alyce\\_maclean@cbu.ca](mailto:alyce_maclean@cbu.ca).



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