

Resources

This is FAR from a comprehensive list of local resources, but will hopefully provide a starting place for learning. Use critical thinking when viewing these resources, and seek verification of facts from a variety of sources. There is a wealth of information out there, make google your friend and refrain from asking Indigenous folks to clarify or explain that which is unclear.

Online

<http://www.trc.ca/>

View the full Truth & Reconciliation Report, as well as the 94 Calls To Action.

<https://nctr.ca/records/reports/>

Website for the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation

<https://mikmaqrights.com/>

Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn also known as Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative. Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn means 'we are seeking consensus'. The Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative is seeking consensus on the best ways to implement our Aboriginal and treaty rights... for now, and for seven generations to come.

<https://archives.novascotia.ca/mikmaq/>

Nova Scotia Archives: Links to many historical documents, including many treaties.

<https://livelihoodfishery.com/>

Created by the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs to share information regarding Livelihood Fishing in Nova Scotia.

<https://www.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/local-and-family-history/mikmaw-history-culture/>

The Halifax Public Libraries have compiled a series of resources, including reading lists - articles, multimedia resources and more.

<https://www.unsm.org/about-us>

The Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq (UNSM) is a tribal organization that has been established for 50 years. UNSM came into existence to provide a unified political voice for the Mi'kmaq people of the province in the face of a proposed federal government policy to assimilate Canada's First Nations people into mainstream society.

<https://mikmaqhistorymonth.ca/>

Learn more about Mi'kmaw culture and heritage. Discover the history of Treaty Day and Mi'kmaq History Month. Treaty Day is October 1, and Mi'kmaw History Month is October annually.

<https://www.mikmaqonline.org/>

The talking dictionary project is developing an Internet resource for the Mi'gmaq/Mi'kmaq language. Each headword is recorded by a minimum of three speakers.

<https://www.millbrookband.com/>

The official website for the Millbrook Nation in Truro, NS

<http://sipeknekatik.ca/>

Sipekne'katik First Nation is a community rooted in the traditions and history of our ancestors and we take pride in our Mi'kmaq culture, language and way of life. Sipekne'katik First Nation is one of 13 First Nations located in Nova Scotia and is the second largest Mi'kmaq band in Nova Scotia.

<https://heritageday.novascotia.ca/content/mi%E2%80%99kmaq-library-resource-list>

List of Mi'kmaq and Indigenous reading suggestions compiled by the Government of NS for Heritage Day (2017), see also: <https://novascotia.ca/abor/aboriginal-people/> for more information.

Books

Mi'kmaq Anthology by Lesley Choyce & Rita Joe

A varied and spiritual collection of work by the Mi'kmaq writers of Atlantic Canada. Both young and old stories and storytellers combine talents to produce short stories, poetry, and personal essays.

The Mi'kmaq Anthology V.2 by Lesley Choyce & Theresa Meuse is also available.

Out of The Depths by Isabelle Knockwood

A look at the Shubenacadie Residential School - Knockwood speaks to twenty-one survivors of the Shubenacadie Indian Residential School about their reaction to the apology by the Canadian government in 2008.

L'Nu'k: The People :Mi'kmaw History, Culture and Heritage by Theresa Meuse

The Mi'kmaq lived in Canada long before the country even got its name. Before Europeans arrived, they lived in homes called wigwams and hunted and fished throughout the Maritime provinces, living off and giving back to the land. They enjoyed storytelling, drumming, and dancing within their tightknit communities.

Niniskamijinaqik / Ancestral Images: The Mi'kmaq in Art and Photography by Ruth Holmes Whitehead

The Mi'kmaq of Atlantic Canada were here for thousands of years before the arrival of European peoples. *Niniskamijinaqik / Ancestral Images: The Mi'kmaq in Art and Photography* presents their unique culture and way of life through the remarkable and sometimes complex lives of individuals, as depicted in artwork or photography.

Truth and Conviction: Donald Marshall Jr and the Mi'kmaw Fight for Justice by Jane McMillan

The name "Donald Marshall Jr." is synonymous with "wrongful conviction" and the fight for Indigenous rights in Canada. In *Truth and Conviction*, Jane McMillan – Marshall's former partner, an acclaimed anthropologist, and an original defendant in the Supreme Court's Marshall decision – tells the story of how Marshall's life-long battle against injustice permeated Canadian legal consciousness and revitalized Indigenous law.

Real Justice: Convicted for Being Mi'kmaq: The Donald Marshall Jr Story by Bill Swan

When a black teen was murdered in a Sydney, Cape Breton park late one night, his young companion, Donald Marshall Jr., became a prime suspect. Sydney police coached two teens to testify against Donald which helped convict him of a murder he did not commit. He spent 11 years in prison until he finally got a lucky break. Not only was he eventually acquitted of the crime, but a royal commission inquiry into his wrongful conviction found that a non-aboriginal youth would not have been convicted in the first place. Donald became a First Nations activist and later won a landmark court case in favour of native fishing rights. He was often referred to as the "reluctant hero" of the Mi'kmaq community.

Living treaties: Narrating Mi'kmaw Treaty Relations Compiled by Marie Battiste

Living Treaties aims to reveal another side of the treaties and their histories, focusing on stories from contemporary perspectives, both Mi'kmaw and their non-Mi'kmaw allies, who have worked with, experienced and indeed lived with the treaties at various times over the last fifty years.

Kids Books

Wolverine & Little Thunder: An Eel Fishing Story by Alan Syliboy

At once a universal story of friendship and problem-solving, *Wolverine and Little Thunder* is a contemporary invocation of traditional Mi'kmaw knowledge, reinforcing the importance of the relationship between the Mi'kmaq and eel, a dependable year-round food source traditionally offered to Glooscap, the Creator, for a successful hunt.

Mi'kmaw Animals by Alan Syliboy

Board Book featuring illustrations and pronunciations of common animals.

The Thundermaker by Alan Syliboy

In the book, Big Thunder teaches his son, Little Thunder, about the important responsibility he has making thunder for his people. Little Thunder learns about his Mi'kmaw identity through his father's teachings and his mother's traditional stories.

Counting in Mi'kmaw by Loretta Gould

Board Book featuring numbers one to 10, pronunciations and thoughtful illustrations.

I Lost My Talk by Rita Joe

One of Rita Joe's most influential poems, "I Lost My Talk" tells the revered Mi'kmaw Elder's childhood story of losing her language while a resident of the residential school in Shubenacadie, Nova Scotia. An often quoted piece in this era of truth and reconciliation, Joe's powerful words explore and celebrate the survival of Mi'kmaw culture and language despite its attempted eradication.

I'm Finding My Talk by Rebecca Thomas

A response to Rita Joe's iconic poem "I Lost My Talk," and published simultaneously with the new children's book edition illustrated by Pauline Young, comes a companion picture book by award-winning spoken-word artist and Mi'kmaw activist Rebecca Thomas. A second-generation residential school survivor, this response poem is open and honest, reflecting on the process of working through the destructive effects of colonialism.

Apps & Media

L'nui'suti Mi'kmaw Language App

Available free in Apple & Google Play Stores

<https://apps.apple.com/ca/app/Inuisuti/id918629700>

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.mk.myapplication&hl=en_CA

There's Something In The Water Documentary by Elliot Page and Ian Daniel

Community activists embark on a crusade to protect the environment from landfills and pollutants in Nova Scotia. Community activists embark on a crusade to protect the environment from landfills and pollutants in Nova Scotia. An examination of environmental racism, the film explores the disproportionate effect of environmental damage on Black Canadian and First Nations communities in Nova Scotia. Inspired by a book by the same name, by Ingrid Waldron exploring environmental racism.

We Were Children by Tim Wolochatiuk

In this feature film, the profound impact of the Canadian government's residential school system is conveyed through the eyes of two children who were forced to face hardships beyond their years. As young children, Lyna and Glen were taken from their homes and placed in church-run boarding schools, where they suffered years of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, the effects of which persist in their adult lives. **We Were Children** gives voice to a national tragedy and demonstrates the incredible resilience of the human spirit.

<https://www.nfb.ca/subjects/indigenous-peoples-in-canada-first-nations-and-metis/residential-schools/>

Lots of shorter clips and mini-documentary footage on Residential Schools is available on the National Film Board website.

<https://www.instagram.com/tiplerteaches>

Megan Tipler is a Métis educator and shares many resources for children and adults - including comprehensive reading lists on Indigenous history in Canada. Follow along on instagram @tiplerteaches

Community Organizations

Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre

2158 Gottingen Street

The mission of the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre is to provide structured, social-based programming for urban Aboriginal People while serving as a focal point for the urban Aboriginal community to gather for a variety of community functions and events. Currently offers 9 core programs.

<http://mymnfc.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Mikmaw-Native-Friendship-Centre-121366117945828/>

Millbrook Cultural & Heritage Centre

65 Treaty Trail - Millbrook, Nova Scotia

Offers workshops, events, tours and more.

<https://www.millbrookheritagecentre.ca/>