

THIS! IS CANADA



VOILA! LE CANADA

# Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq First Nations

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# Mi'kmaq First Nations



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- The Mi'kmaq are among the first inhabitants in Atlantic Canada
- Now live predominantly in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick
  - Also have a presence in Quebec, Newfoundland, Boston and Maine
- Oral and archeological evidence suggests they have lived on their traditional territory for more than 10 000 years
- Between 1725 and 1779, Britain signed a series of treaties with the Mi'kmaq, commonly known as the Peace and Friendship Treaties
  - Made to prevent war and facilitate trade
- In Pictou County, we have a strong Mi'kmaq community that resides in Pictou Landing
  - Chief Andrea Paul

# Mi'kmaq First Nations



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# Spiritual Beliefs



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- Closely connected to the natural world
- Traditional religion is based on legendary figures
  - Glooscap- believed to have formed the Annapolis Valley by sleeping and using PEI as his pillow
  - Great Spirit- creator of the world
- Have many different origin stories all involving the natural world



# Language



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- As of 2016, 8,870 people were listed as speaking Mi'kmaq
- Has 17 different dialects
- Written alphabetically
- Uses five long and short vowels
- Has single and double-letter consonants

Hello: Gwe'

My name is: Taluisi

Good morning: Weli-eksitpu'k

Goodbye: Nmultis

I love you: Kesalul

# Boat Harbour



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- Boat Harbour was formerly used by the First Nations
- Was taken over by the province to use as a settling pond for effluent from the pulp mill
- For 50+ years, pulp mill waste has been contaminating Pictou Landing First Nation's land
- Has significantly impacted their way of life (cannot fish there, can no longer swim there, etc)
- Finally closed in 2020



Sources:

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/micmac-mikmaq>

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# THANK YOU

