



Anku’kamkewey between
Paqtnkek Mi’kmaw First Nation
and the Municipality of the County of Antigonish

WITH RESPECT THAT:	The Chief and council of the Paqtnkek Mi’kmaw First Nation and the Warden and the council of the Municipality of the County of Antigonish (“the Communities”) recognize and accept that we share a territory and common interests, living on traditional Mi’kmaw territory. The Communities desire to work together in a cooperative manner for the benefit of all residents and to recognize and celebrate one another’s accomplishments. The Communities wish to acknowledge and strengthen the social, spiritual, physical, and economic ties/opportunities that exist between the two and enhance their relationship based upon mutual respect, recognition, and safety because this is beneficial to both communities.						
PURPOSE of this Agreement:	The Paqtnkek Mi’kmaw First Nation and the Municipality of the County of Antigonish Relationship Accord provides the framework upon which the Communities, including their respective governments, residents and members, will collaborate with one another; and We feel the need to develop mutual protocols and activities that engage First Nations and Municipal leaders or their representatives on issues of initiatives of community economic and social development, and other matters that respect the heritage, the provision of services tailored to the culture and inclusive social participation. This may include a range of sectors, including: <table><tr><td>Environmental and Land Stewardship</td><td>Economic and Social Development</td><td>Tourism</td></tr><tr><td>Recreation and Wellness</td><td>Business</td><td></td></tr></table>	Environmental and Land Stewardship	Economic and Social Development	Tourism	Recreation and Wellness	Business	
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VISION to guide our work together:	We share our wisdom to build a better future for our children and generation to follow; two communities committed to trusting, celebrating and respecting one another, our ancestors and our environment.						
PRINCIPLES AND VALUES to guide our relationship:	We, The Communities: ◊ Acknowledge our past and histories but are not restricted by them; ◊ Recognize the diversity and uniqueness of our respective communities, and commit to work together as one unified partnership; ◊ Commit to honesty, mutual sharing and to building and maintaining strong mutual trust and respect; ◊ Respect each other’s customs, traditions, and beliefs; share values and culture in spirit and practice; ◊ Do no harm to self, others, community or earth and carry this good forward; ◊ Practice compassion understanding, and sharing with the goal of being considerate partners ◊ Will enhance communication and information sharing by committing to open, frank, honest and straightforward interaction; ◊ Will invest in the youth by providing accessible cultural, recreational, educational and professional opportunities; ◊ Respect the skills, governance authorities and respective community governance practice of the other community; ◊ Strengthen the cooperative and supportive bond between governing bodies to promote the well-being of all for future generations; ◊ Will serve our common interests in accordance with the guidelines on accountability, transparency, inclusiveness, responsiveness and joint management.						
PROCESS to sustain our relationship:	We, The Communities: Will establish regular joint council meetings, in consultation on issues of joint interest of both communities. The council meetings will occur at least twice annually, at times determined to promote an open and constructive dialogue in order to define common priorities. Will establish concrete and effective procedures for cooperation on common issues, concerns, implementation and initiatives based on favorable current opportunities to an open community and meetings in person; Will establish protocols to establish open and improved lines of communication; Agree that this Relationship Accord will be regarded as a “living document” intended to evolve as The Communities’ relationship evolves; Agree that the Council of either of The Communities can initiate a change process to this Relationship Accord at any time, with the understanding that amendments must be mutually agreed by the Councils of each of The Communities.						
COMMITMENT of each signatory community:	We, The Communities: Commit to maintaining our relationship as outlined in this Relationship Accord; Commit to building and maintaining strong mutual trust and respect with one another.						
LIMITATION of the agreement:	Nothing in this Relationship Accord will be construed: To Abrogate or derogate from any Aboriginal, constitutional, legal or Treaty rights and title of Paqtnkek Mi’kmaw Nation and the Municipality of the County of Antigonish; To prejudice or affect any statutory power of decision or discretion of any of Paqtnkek Mi’kmaw Nation and the Municipality of the County of Antigonish						

Municipality of the County of Antigonish

Paqtnkek Mi’kmaw First Nation

Warden Owen McCarron

Chief Paul James Prosper

Date

Date