



Employment Opportunity:

Mentorship in traditional Mi'kmaq birch bark wigwam building & Mi'kmaq heritage presenter

Background and Application form

Throughout the summer of 2017, the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI (Confederacy) and Parks Canada will be partnering to offer an exciting program based on a mentorship with well-known Mi'kmaq Elder and master canoe and wigwam builder Todd Labrador (Bear River, NS).

The Confederacy is searching for two interested people who will learn hands-on with Todd Labrador as you build a Mi'kmaq birch bark wigwam at Port-la-Joye - Fort Amherst National Historic Site (near Rocky Point, PEI).

The mentorship with Todd Labrador will last from one to two weeks as the birch bark, spruce root and alder is harvested and the wigwam is constructed. The two participants will then host visitors at the wigwam encampment and lead interactive activities for the public at the wigwam; offering visitors a Mi'kmaq cultural experience. The program will run for approximately 12 weeks.

If you would like more information, or if you might be interested in this opportunity, please complete the short form below and return it to the address below, **no later than May 12, 2017.**

Jesse Francis
Manager of Joint Projects, MCPEI – Parks Canada
200 Read Drive, Summerside, PE
Telephone: 902-438-2105 Email: jfrancis@mcpei.ca

Applicant Name: _____

Are you a member of a Mi'kmaq First Nation, and/or do you self-identify as Mi'kmaq?
(On or Off-reserve)

1. Do you have experience in Mi'kmaq cultural activities, especially ones which you might like to share with visitors? (For example, these could include basket-making, storytelling, Mi'kmaq language, quillwork, traditional singing or drumming, traditions on the land such as hunting, fishing and harvesting, traditional Mi'kmaq plant use, knowledge of *waltes*, community history, ...etc) Please describe your interest in various aspects of Mi'kmaq culture and why you would enjoy sharing these with visitors:

(For each answer, please feel free to add lines or attach additional pages to respond in as long a format as you like.)

2. What interests you about building a birch bark wigwam with Elder Todd Labrador? Why? Please explain:

3. What do you feel are some important points to consider when working with the public in a program such as this?

Please note the following conditions necessary to work in this position:

- The harvesting of birch bark, spruce root, alder and the construction of a wigwam are physically demanding activities requiring at least a moderate degree of physical fitness.
- The applicant must have reliable transportation. Ideally, he/she would possess a valid driver's license and own (or have the use of) a car. The principal location for work will be at Port-la-Joye – Fort Amherst, near Rocky Point.
- The work may involve variable schedules. Participants should be willing to work evenings and weekends if necessary, though most of the work will take place during regular business hours.
- Employment will last approximately 12 weeks. Wages are \$20/hour.

Please include your résumé with the application. Please include references.

Selection of successful candidates will be based on:

- Ability to work with the public, experience working with the public
- Interest and experience in Mi'kmaq cultural activities and willingness to share that interest, (as culturally appropriate, participants will not be asked to share cultural information or traditions which they are not comfortable with)
- Personal suitability
- As this project aims to provide a learning experience for visitors based on local Mi'kmaq traditions, preference may be given to members of the Lennox Island or Abegweit First Nations, or to those who self-identify as Mi'kmaq. Anyone interested is invited to submit an application. All applications will be reviewed.

For more information, please contact Jesse Francis at 902 438-2105 or at jfrancis@mcpei.ca

Some work in birch bark by Todd Labrador:

