



Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat

Annual Report
2013-2014

Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat

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2013-2014**

Published by:

Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat / Executive Council Office
Government of New Brunswick
P. O. Box 6000
Fredericton, New Brunswick
E3B 5H1
Canada

Printed in New Brunswick

ISBN 978-1-4605-0362-1 (Print - Bilingual)
ISBN 978-1-4605-0363-8 (PDF: English edition)
ISBN 978-1-4605-0364-5 (PDF: French edition)

ISSN 1496-6220 (Print - Bilingual)
ISSN 1496-6239 (Online: English edition)
ISSN 1496-6247 (Online: French edition)

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Transmittal Letters

From Minister to the Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable Jocelyne Roy-Vienneau
Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick

May it please your Honour:

It is my privilege to submit the Annual Report of the Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat, Province of New Brunswick, for the fiscal year April 1, 2013, to March 31, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. E.J. Doherty
Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs

From Deputy Minister to Minister

Dr. E.J. Doherty

Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs

Sir:

I am pleased to be able to present the Annual Report describing operations of the Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat for the fiscal year 2013-2014.

Respectfully submitted,



Deputy Minister

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Minister's Message

The mission of the Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat is to lead New Brunswick in building strong relationships with First Nations through mutual understanding and respect, and to promote the rich cultural diversity of Aboriginals living in the province.

New Brunswick is in transition, new economies are emerging in the communications and information technology sector, but we still derive a great deal of economic force from tapping our vast natural resources. New Brunswick is facing challenges that must be addressed now to ensure continued success for the future. The government of New Brunswick is committed to the transformation of the economic, social and political role that First Nations play in the province.

By working in collaboration and with mutual respect, New Brunswick can ensure that we continue to be successful in all aspects of the province's development. Economically, socially and culturally as well. We have been working hard to strengthen partnerships with First Nations, and I am proud of the progress we have made. These efforts will continue to solidify our progress even further in New Brunswick. I am positive the coming year will provide even more success and stronger partnerships so that all New Brunswickers can equally take advantage of opportunities that will emerge in the future.

Dr. E.J. Doherty
Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs

Deputy Minister's Message

The Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat plays a vital role within the government of New Brunswick. The Secretariat acts as a gateway between the province and First Nations leadership in New Brunswick. Staff acts as advocates, while also working collaboratively with the leadership within the communities on education, social and economic development opportunities.

The government's vision for 2013-2014 is "A stronger economy and an enhanced quality of life, while living within our means." and the work of AAS touches on all three of these themes.

Stronger economy

First Nations communities in New Brunswick now operate commercial centers, fish-processing plants and large scale machine shops capable of participating in larger capital development projects such as the shipbuilding program. In many cases, these operations provide employment for everyone in the region, not just community members. Each First Nation community in New Brunswick contributes millions of dollars annually in the purchase of good and services provided by businesses operating in regions just outside the boundaries of the reserves. In some cases, the businesses operated by First Nations communities in the province are the economic engine for the region they serve. These are all activities that only serve to improve the provincial economy, making it stronger in the long run.

Enhanced quality of life

AAS has also been working collaboratively with First Nations leadership in the province to help enable social and education programs designed to prepare First Nations youth for the future while also enabling them to stay grounded within Aboriginal culture.

Recent projects have resulted in the establishment of the first Healing-to-wellness court in the community of Elsipogtog. This pilot project has been such a success that it has been extended for another year. The Enhanced Education agreements in place have also been a great success in reaching the goal of closing the graduation gap between Aboriginal and Non Aboriginal students in the province. The agreements have served as positive models for Aboriginal educators in North America as examples of best practices in Aboriginal education for the future.

Living within our means

A review of the Secretariat's financial statements within this annual report shows that AAS's annual budget has not increased from year to year, while the importance of the Aboriginal portfolio has grown exponentially in recent years. My staff and I have continued to provide quality, proactive service to First Nations and the people of New Brunswick, and it is a little known fact that it only costs New Brunswickers approximately \$1.80 per year of taxpayer money to operate the Secretariat at its current budget level.

Collaboration is the key to our success in helping fulfill the government of New Brunswick's vision for 2013-2014. Our Minister is firmly committed to working with First Nations leadership to continuously improve the quality of life for Aboriginal people in New Brunswick. Encouraging economic development and advocating for innovative social and education programs demonstrate how Aboriginal Affairs contributes to a stronger economy and an enhanced quality of life, while living within our means.

Patrick Francis
Deputy Minister

Highlights

The Secretariat was 7 percent under budget for department expenditures, for a savings of \$104,181, in 2013-2014.



The Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat (AAS) continued working in good faith, on a government-to-government basis, with the First Nation communities to resolve issues identified through the bilateral process. The 2007 Mi'kmaq and Maliseet – New Brunswick Relationship Building / Bilateral Agreement enabled the process of relationship building and cooperation between the Province and the First Nations to continue. During 2013-2014, there were a total of 16 active Bilateral Tables.



AAS continued working with DTI to explore a possible Public / Private Partnership (P3) project with the Federal Government in regard to First Nations roads. AAS, DTI and AANDC screened the project for possible P3 project development and now a market sounding is proceeding to gauge private sector interest in the project.



Following the 2012 spring flooding in the Perth-Andover/Tobique area of the province, a provincial review process that included participation by Tobique First Nation and the Village of Perth-Andover was completed. Three flood mitigation projects were identified and successfully completed in 2013-14 to prevent future flooding on Tobique First Nation and protect residences and infrastructure.



In August 2013, the Government of New Brunswick Additions to Reserve Process was approved. This is an internal guide for the Province on First Nation requests to transfer a parcel or parcels of land into reserve land by the Federal Government and was developed by AAS.



AAS worked in concert with the First Nation Taxation Commission with respect to developing a comprehensive understanding of the Implementation of a First Nation real property taxation system in New Brunswick.



The Secretariat continued to support First Nation communities, Aboriginal organizations, and First Nation individuals through the Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat's Grants Program, which provides funding for small-scale, non-profit projects/initiatives of a social, cultural and educational nature. In 2013-2014, 21 grants were approved out of a total of 28 applications. Grants ranged from \$250 to \$5,000 to fund social/cultural events such as Pow Wows and National Aboriginal Day celebrations; and Education events such as National Aboriginal Science Camp.



The Secretariat developed 5 Memoranda to Executive Council, and processed 6 requests made under the *Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Strategic Priorities

Strategy Management

The Government of New Brunswick (GNB) has implemented a formal management system built on leading business practices to develop, communicate and review strategy. This process provides the public service with a proven methodology in both public and private sectors to execute strategy.

The formal management system starts with a strategic vision. The government expresses its vision through the themes for a stronger economy and an enhanced quality of life while living within our means. This strategic vision is articulated through the strategy map, which is a tool to provide focus and overall direction for improvement.

The Perspectives of the Strategy Map

The strategy map focuses on what's important to citizens: stimulating job creation and getting more people working; access to necessary programs and services; and providing value for their tax dollars.

The financial perspective addresses the financial requirements needed to sustainably support the commitment to citizens, stretching across all three themes of the vision. The financial perspective focuses on supporting the private sector to stimulate growth, ensuring the government lives within its means by achieving a sustainable budget, and funding priority programs to contribute to an enhanced quality of life.

The internal processes are government's direct role in achieving the vision. They are the strategic improvements government needs to successfully implement to achieve the vision. Each department sets its own goals and priorities within the strategic themes to match its programs and specialized needs.

The enablers ensure that GNB is ready to execute the strategy through internal processes. Leaders and employees need to develop and demonstrate behaviours that engage others to ensure the success of strategic projects. Leaders need the right information at the right time to make strategic decisions, and the culture must align and recognize those who contribute to achievement of the strategy.

Departmental Strategy Map Context

The Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat took part of the third wave of participants in the performance excellence process. This process is part of a cultural change to increase efficiency and accountability, improve services to the public, and streamline administration. However, the Secretariat has yet to develop a strategy map of our own. At this time AAS is using the Government of New Brunswick's (GNB) Strategy Map. The strategy map on the following page is the Government of New Brunswick (GNB) Strategy Map, which is a blueprint for describing, measuring and aligning the Secretariat's focus.

Departmental Strategy Map

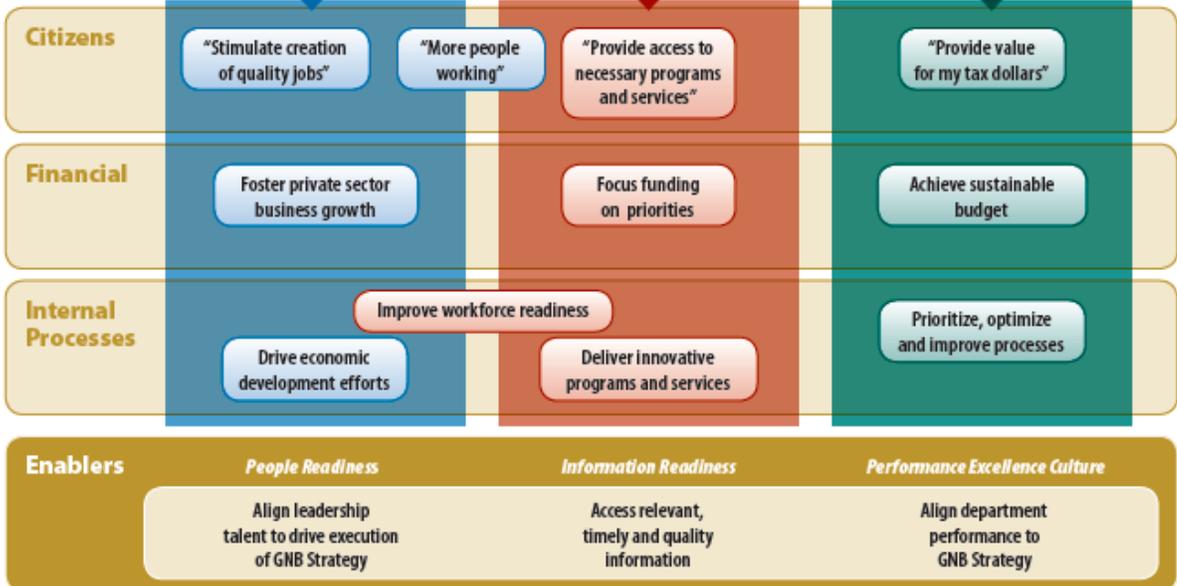


GNB Strategy Map | 2013 – 2014

Providing quality services to support a prosperous, fair and just society for New Brunswick.

**VISION
2015**

A stronger economy and an enhanced quality of life, while living within our means.



NB PUBLIC SERVICE VALUES: COMPETENCE – IMPARTIALITY – INTEGRITY – RESPECT – SERVICE

Performance Measures

Based on the strategy map, a framework that translates the organization’s strategy into a set of objectives and performance measures is developed. This allows the department to measure progress in meeting objectives. The performance measures do not reflect all of the day-to-day operation of the Secretariat, but rather the strategic areas where it needs to focus improvement efforts. The following table summarizes the performance measures for the Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat for 2013-2014.

| Strategic Theme: Enhanced Quality of Life | Measures: |
|--|---|
| Provide access to necessary programs and services | Consultation Advice |
| Focus funding on priorities | Dollars reinvested in First Nation Education |
| Strategic Theme: Living Within Our Means | Measures: |
| Achieve sustainable budget - Meet or underspend expense budget | Ratio of actual to Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat budgeted expenditures |

Enhanced Quality of Life

Provide access to necessary programs and services

Measure

Consultation advice

Description of measure

This measure reflects advice given, both internally and externally, to fulfill the Duty to Consult with First Nations and protect aboriginal rights guaranteed in the Constitution Act, 1982.

Overall performance

The Secretariat provides determinations on the Duty to Consult as part of the EIA review process, other government approval processes and to the private sector.

Baseline

N/A

Target

N/A

Actual

35 determinations

Why do we measure this?

Aboriginal Affairs issues determinations with respect to the Duty to Consult with First Nations that depend on an assessment of the degree of infringement on Aboriginal and Treaty Rights. These rights include fishing, hunting, gathering and ceremonial use.

What projects were undertaken in the reporting year to achieve the outcome?

Advice was provided as part of the planning, assessment and development process of projects affecting aboriginal and treaty rights.

Enhanced Quality of Life

Focus funding on priorities

Measure

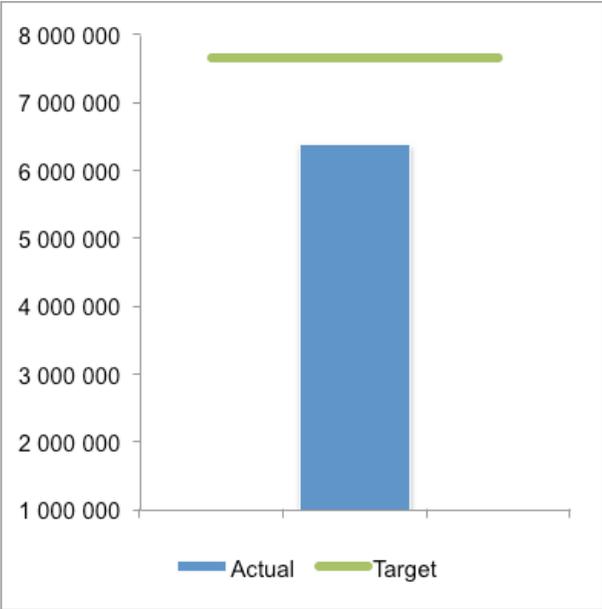
Dollars reinvested in First Nation Education

Description of measure

Tuition amount reinvested to support the provision of programs and services to enhance the educational experience of First Nation Students. This amount is calculated by the number of First Nation students in public schools times the cost of tuition per student divided by two. (1422 x \$10,775/ 2 = Tuition amount reinvested)

Overall performance

During 2013-2014, Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat in collaboration with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) negotiated several Enhanced First Nation Education Programs and Services Agreements Extensions. These extensions allowed for the continuation of funds to be reinvested in First Nation Education. (See Appendix A, Table 9 for additional information)



Baseline

\$7,668,918 reinvestment in 2012-2013

Target

\$7,661,025 reinvestment in 2013-2014

Actual

\$6,939,151 reinvestment in 2013-2014

Why do we measure this?

First Nation Education is a key priority of government. A shared priority of all partners is closing the gap in educational outcomes between First Nation students and their non-First Nation peers in public schools. Our goals are to ensure a quality education creating greater opportunity for all First Nation learners and to ensure that the federal government continues to provide adequate tuition funding/resources to support innovations and initiatives in education

What projects were undertaken in the reporting year to achieve the outcome?

Enhanced First Nations Education Programs and Services Agreements extensions were negotiated to close the achievement gap between First Nation and non-First Nation students with 15 out of 16 First Nation communities.

Living Within Our Means

Meet or underspend expense budget

Measure

Ratio of actual to Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat budgeted expenditures

Description of measure

The ratio measures whether the department is over or under budget. The ratio will exceed 100 percent when spending is over-budget and be less than 100 percent when spending is under-budget.

Overall performance

The Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat's 2013-2014 budget was set at \$1,395,000. After close monitoring of expenditures, the secretariat closed out the fiscal year 7%, or \$104,181 under budget.

Baseline

92% on budget for 2012-2013

Target

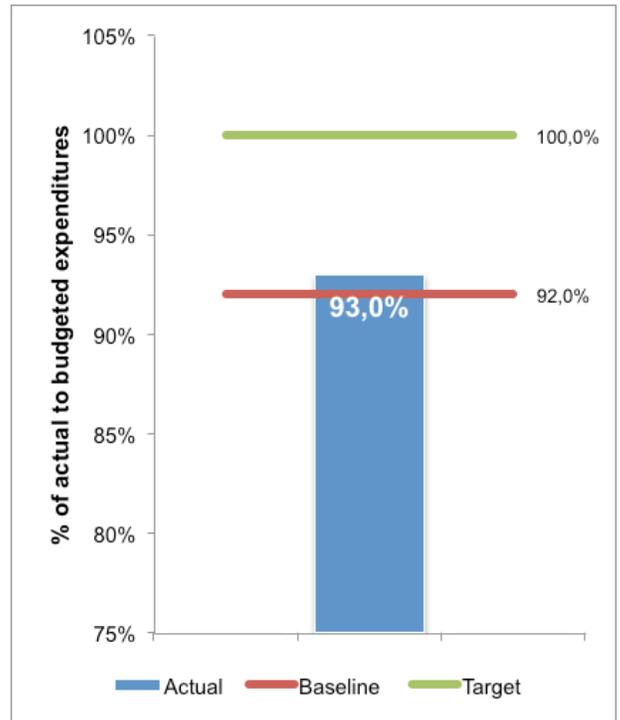
100% on budget for 2013-2014

Actual

93% on budget for 2013-2014

Why do we measure this?

This indicator measures the ability of the secretariat to manage its overall expenses as compared to budget. AAS must ensure that expenses are managed in accordance with the budget and be prepared to take corrective action if expenses are projected to be over-budget during the year.

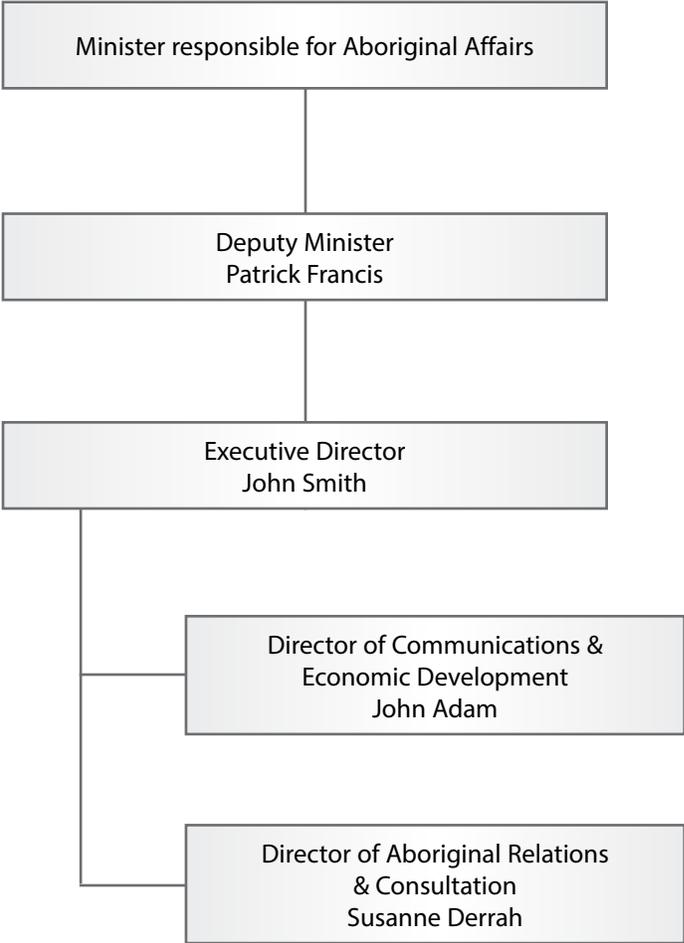


Overview of Departmental Operations

The Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat is a division of the Executive Council Office. The Secretariat’s mission is to lead New Brunswick in building strong relationships with First Nations through mutual understanding and respect.

High-Level Organizational Chart

In 2013-2014, the Secretariat employed up to 16 individuals on a full time, casual or contract basis. The Secretariat also went through an internal structural reorganization designed to streamline administration, improve performance and better align existing resources.



Division Overview and Highlights

Communications and Economic Development

The Communication and Economic Development branch provides guidance, advice and direction in relation to projects and initiatives in the key results areas for Education, Economic Development and Social Development.

Communications and Economic Development is responsible for:

- developing communications strategies;
- monitoring and analyzing media coverage;
- managing media relations;
- negotiating and managing agreements and projects;
- facilitating the bilateral and tripartite process;
- fostering working relationships and partnerships with Aboriginal communities and organizations;
- promoting social and economic development to increase self-reliance of First Nations communities

Highlights

- Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat organized a full day information session "Policy Day on Strengthening Partnership between Government of New Brunswick (GNB) and First Nations" in September 2013 as an information session to senior management staff in various provincial departments in order to raise awareness among provincial policy and decision makers.
- AAS continues to be part of the Aboriginal Affairs Working Group Committee and plays a lead role as co-chair of the Economic Development subcommittee with the Métis National Council (MNC) and is co-chair on the Housing subcommittee with the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP). Provincial and territorial ministries of Aboriginal Affairs continued to work together to improve the overall well-being of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people across Canada.
- The National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy (NSPS) was announced in 2011 with the bulk of the contract being awarded to Irving Shipbuilding in Halifax. Recognizing the opportunities for Aboriginal trades people and businesses to participate in this strategy, AAS was instrumental in obtaining approximately \$225,000 in federal funding through the Special Projects Initiative to prepare an action plan to maximize the benefits this project will bring once construction begins in 2015. The project is designed to identify Aboriginal businesses that are ready to participate in the supply chain needed to build the vessels, while also identifying which trades will be in the greatest demand throughout the 20 year life of the NSPS.

Aboriginal Relations and Consultation

The Aboriginal Relations and Consultation branch provides expertise in the areas of Consultation and Strategic Negotiations.

Aboriginal Relations and Consultation is responsible for:

- developing and implementing policies and procedures;
- maintaining an ongoing and productive dialogue between government and First Nations;
- fostering relationships based on good faith, equity, transparency, openness, trust and respect;
- leading a coordinated government approach to a wide range of Aboriginal issues;
- ensuring that consultation occurs on behalf of the Crown;
- providing technical support and direction to government;
- work with government, First Nations, Aboriginal organizations, business and other decision-makers to develop a pan-government approach for Aboriginal and treaty rights.

Highlights

- AAS staff provide information and advice on the degree of infringement on Aboriginal and treaty rights in regard to each EIA, as well as for proposals that do not require EIA review. Consultation branch are members of the Technical Review Committee (TRC) under the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. A total of 21 new EIA registrations were received in 2013-2014. AAS provided input on a total of 15 projects some of which were registered in previous years.
- Consultation Branch organized an information session for various provincial departments: *"Interpreting the Maritime Peace and Friendship Treaties"* presented by Canadian Historian Bill Wicken to raise awareness among provincial regulatory authorities about Aboriginal and treaty rights.
- Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat provided a financial contribution of \$110,270 to Saint Mary's First Nation, Woodstock First Nation and the Assembly of First Nations Chiefs in New Brunswick Inc. as a collective to assist them with their technical review of the Sisson Brooks Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as part of the consultation process.

Financial Information

The Secretariat has two sources of funding:

- A. Ordinary Budget – The Ordinary Budget expenditures cover the day-to-day operations of the Secretariat.
- B. Regional Development Corporation – Aboriginal Affairs Initiatives Fund – The RDC Fund include additional funds above the Secretariat’s budget, accessed for developmental initiatives and processed through the Secretariat’s accounting system

**Table 1: Departmental Expenditure
Status Report by Program / Primary**

Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2013

| | Budget (\$) | Actual (\$) |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|
| Personal Services | 969,100 | 867,694 |
| Other Services | 148,800 | 114,177 |
| Material and Supplies | 11,600 | 2,703 |
| Property and Equipment | 15,500 | 2,738 |
| Contributions, Grants and Subsidies | 250,000 | 303,507 |
| TOTAL | <u>1,395,000</u> | <u>1,290,819</u> |

The Secretariat was under budget by \$ 104,181 as a result of savings in the wagebill and a reduction in operating costs.

**Table 2: Regional Development Corporation - Aboriginal Affairs Initiatives
Status Report by Program / Primary**

Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2013

| | Budget (\$) | Actual (\$) |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|
| Contributions, Grants and Subsidies | 1,995,253 | 1,874,975 |
| TOTAL | <u>1,995,253</u> | <u>1,874,975</u> |

Summary of Official Languages Activities

The Secretariat is committed to actively offer and provide quality services to the public in the public's official language of choice. As a result of the development of an official languages plan, the secretariat has several initiatives in place which service to promote official languages in the work place such as encouraging its staff to work in their official language of choice and providing opportunities for employees to develop and maintain their second language capabilities, as well as ensure that the secretariat's clients receive service in on the other official languages of their choice.

In 2013-2014, two employees participated in second-language training and the secretariat continued to provide tools to improve second-language capabilities for those employees who had already participated in second language training to be able to preserve their second language skills.

Summary of Staffing Activity

Pursuant to section 4 of the *Civil Service Act*, the Deputy Minister of the Department of Human Resources delegates staffing to each Deputy Head for their respective departments. Please find below a summary of the staffing activity for 2013-2014 for the Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat.

The department advertised 0 competitions, including 0 open (public) competitions and 0 closed (internal) competitions.

Pursuant to section 15 and 16 of the *Civil Service Act*, the department made the following appointments using other processes to establish merit than the competitive process:

| Appointment type | Appointment description | Section of the <i>Civil Service Act</i> | Number |
|---|---|---|--------|
| Specialized Professional, Scientific or Technical | An appointment may be made without competition when a position requires: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a high degree of expertise and training • a high degree of technical skill • recognized experts in their field | 15(1) | 0 |
| Equal Employment Opportunity Program | Provides Aboriginals, persons with disabilities and members of a visible minority group with equal access to employment, training and advancement opportunities. | 16(1)(a) | 0 |
| Department Talent Management Program | Permanent employees identified in corporate and departmental talent pools, who meet the four-point criteria for assessing talent, namely performance, readiness, willingness and criticalness. | 16(1)(b) | 0 |
| Lateral transfer | The GNB transfer process facilitates the transfer of employees from within Part I, II (School Boards) and III (Hospital Corporations) of the Public Service. | 16(1) or 16(1)(c) | 0 |
| Regular appointment of casual/temporary | An individual hired on a casual or temporary basis under section 17 may be appointed without competition to a regular properly classified position within the Civil Service. | 16(1)(d)(i) | 0 |
| Regular appointment of students/apprentices | Summer students, university or community college co-op students or apprentices may be appointed without competition to an entry level position within the Civil Service. | 16(1)(d)(ii) | 0 |

Summary of Recommendations from the Office of the Auditor General

Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat has received one recommendation from the Office of the Auditor General in the 2013 Auditor General's Report – Volume 2.

| Collection of Accounts Receivable http://www.gnb.ca/oag-bvg/2013v2/2013v2-E.ASP | Recommendations | |
|--|-----------------|---------|
| | Total | Adopted |
| Accounts receivable – First Nations Tuition | 1 | 1 |

Appendix A

First Nations in New Brunswick

In New Brunswick, there are 15 First Nations communities, six Maliseet (or *Wolastoqiyik*) communities along the Saint John River and nine Mi'kmaq communities along the eastern and northern coasts.

According to Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada's (AANDC) Indian Registry System, as of December 31, 2013, there are approximately 14,978 First Nations people living in New Brunswick, both on and off reserve. (See Table 2 below) However, based on the 2011 Census, it is estimated that there are 22,620¹ Aboriginals (Aboriginal identity) living in New Brunswick. 'Aboriginal identity' includes persons who reported being an Aboriginal person, that is, First Nations (North American Indian), Métis or Inuk (Inuit) and/or those who reported Registered or Treaty Indian status, that is registered under the *Indian Act of Canada*, and/or those who reported membership in a First Nation or Indian band. Aboriginal peoples of Canada are defined in the *Constitution Act, 1982*, section 35 (2) as including the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada.

In 2013, New Brunswick population is approximately 756,100², which means that 2% of the total population is First Nations. Even though this seems like a small percentage, the First Nations population does have a much higher population growth of 10.55% compared to the 2.9% for New Brunswick. (See Table 4 below)

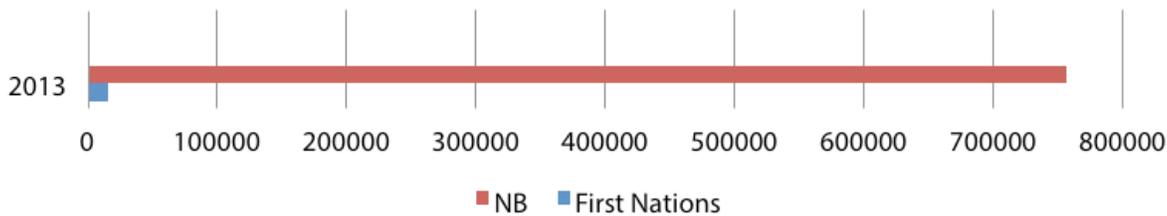
Over the past two decades, issues around Aboriginal rights and title have been the subject of a number of decisions rendered by the Supreme Court such that Aboriginal considerations have emerged as central to public policy development. In recognition of Aboriginal rights, the Government of New Brunswick has committed to ensure that First Nation people have a true partner in government by having the Premier take on responsibility for Aboriginal Affairs as well as a commitment to actively engage with First Nation people of New Brunswick to enhance the inclusiveness of government decision-making authorities.

1 Source: Statistics Canada. 2013. New Brunswick (Code 13) (table). National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 99-004-XWE. Ottawa. Released September 11, 2013.]

2 Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM, [table 051-0001](#). Last modified: 2013-11-25.

Table 1

| New Brunswick and First Nations Population | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Year | New Brunswick Population | First Nations Population |
| 2013 | 756100 | 14978 |

Chart 1**Table 2**

| First Nations Total Population in New Brunswick - 2013 | | | |
|--|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Total | On Reserve | Off Reserve |
| New Brunswick | 14978 | 9233 | 5740 |
| Buctouche | 118 | 75 | 43 |
| Eel Ground | 996 | 561 | 435 |
| Eel River Bar | 697 | 345 | 352 |
| Elsipogtog | 3167 | 2478 | 689 |
| Esgenoopetitj | 1799 | 1305 | 494 |
| Fort Folly | 126 | 35 | 90 |
| Indian Island | 182 | 104 | 78 |
| Kingsclear | 981 | 692 | 288 |
| Madawaska | 347 | 155 | 192 |
| Metepenagiag | 659 | 451 | 208 |
| Oromocto | 651 | 308 | 343 |
| Pabineau | 288 | 101 | 187 |
| Saint Mary's | 1779 | 852 | 925 |
| Tobique | 2218 | 1479 | 738 |
| Woodstock | 970 | 292 | 678 |

[Source: AANDC's Indian Registry System as of December 31, 2013]

NOTE: On reserve numbers for each First Nation should not be taken to represent the true population for the following reasons:

- 1) They contain no information on any Non-Registered individuals who may be living on reserve, and
- 2) Similarly, they contain no information on any members registered to other bands who may be living on reserve

Chart 2

First Nations Total Population in New Brunswick - 2013

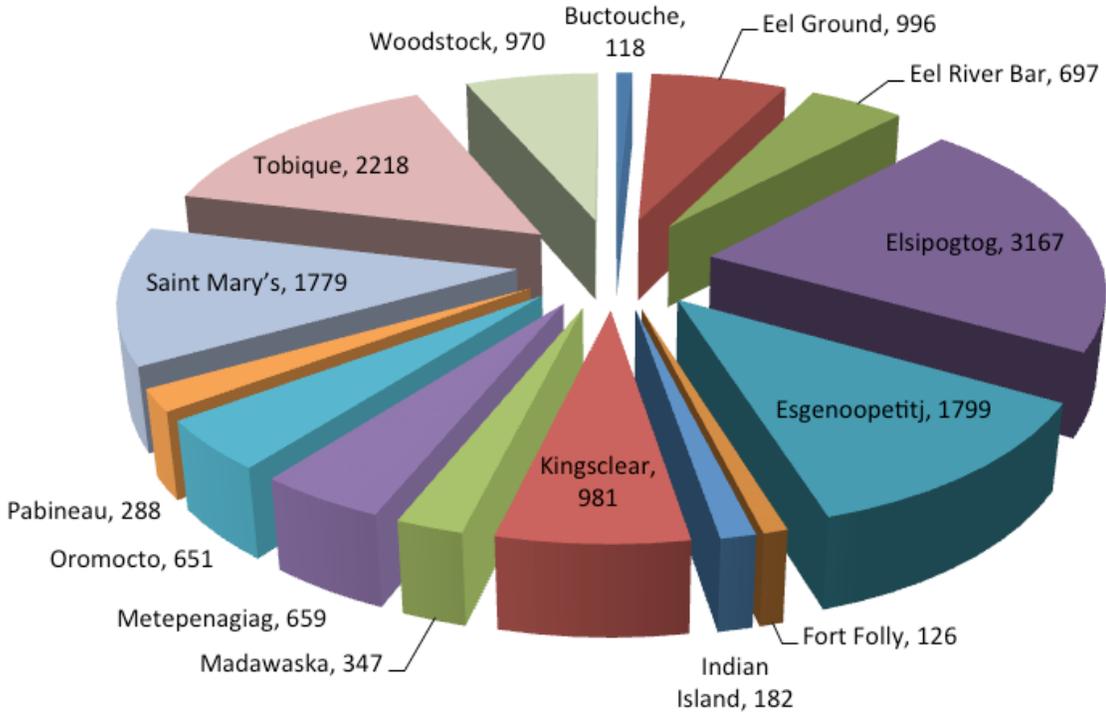


Table 3

| First Nations Population in New Brunswick | | | |
|---|-------|------------|-------------|
| Year | Total | On reserve | Off Reserve |
| 2004 | 12247 | 8058 | 4189 |
| 2005 | 12434 | 8087 | 4347 |
| 2006 | 12616 | 8138 | 4478 |
| 2007 | 12868 | 8325 | 4543 |
| 2008 | 13175 | 8527 | 4648 |
| 2009 | 13366 | 8632 | 4734 |
| 2010 | 13626 | 8795 | 4831 |
| 2011 | 13948 | 8931 | 5017 |
| 2012 | 14649 | 9113 | 5536 |
| 2013 | 14978 | 9233 | 5740 |

[Source: AANDC's Indian Registry System as of December 31, 2013]

Chart 3

First Nations Population in New Brunswick

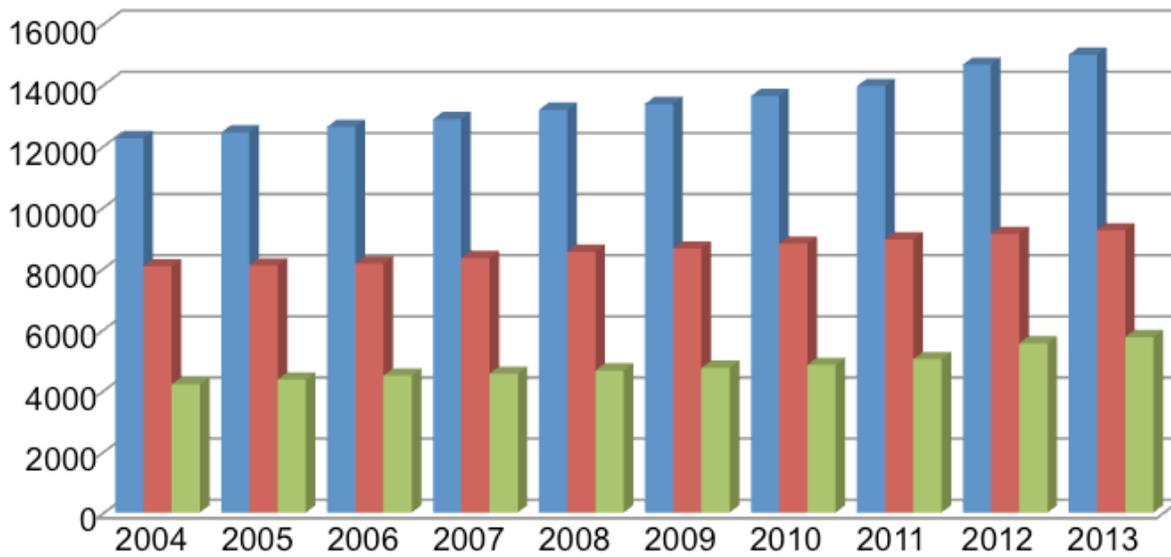


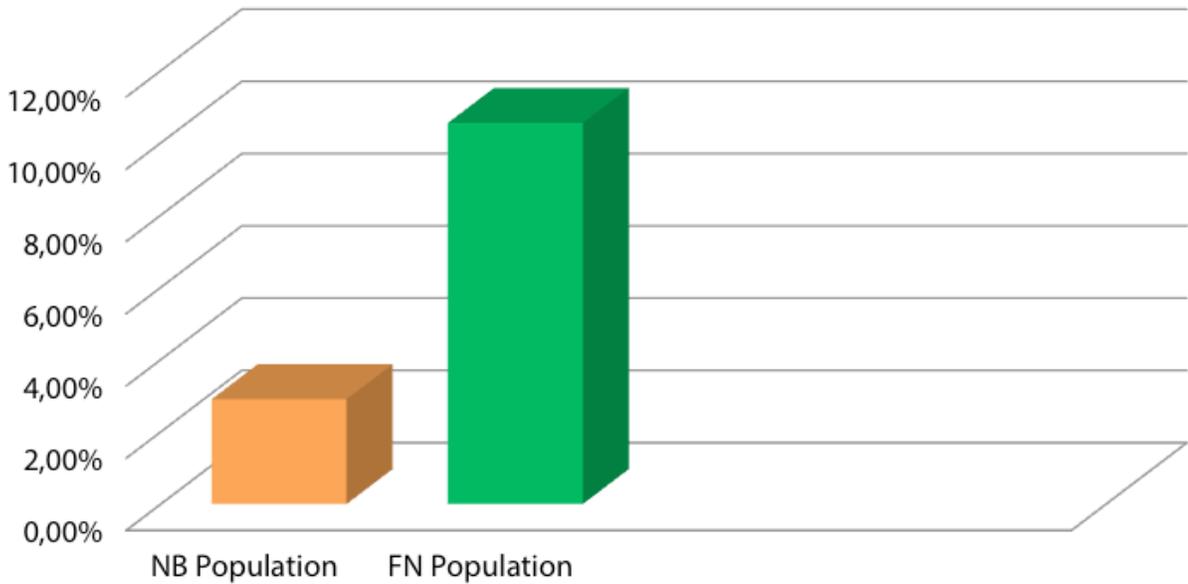
Table 4

| Population Growth 2006-2011 | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Year | New Brunswick Population | First Nations Population |
| 2006 | 729,997 | 12,616 |
| 2011 | 751,171 | 13,948 |
| Population Growth Rate | 2.9% | 10.55% |

[Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 2006 and 2011]

Chart 4

POPULATION GROWTH RATE (in percentage) 2006-2011



First Nation Funding

Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI Inc.)

AAS continues to support the Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI Inc.), established in 1995 as a tripartite agreement to coordinate the economic development opportunities for the aboriginal communities in New Brunswick. JEDI Inc. has evolved over the years and today is an independent incorporated entity and is administered by a Board of Directors.

The Province’s financial commitment toward this initiative is \$105,000 annually.

The focus of JEDI Inc. is on practical, results-oriented undertakings using existing and future programs and services. This includes initiatives in the areas of entrepreneurship funding and business development in various industry sectors. JEDI Inc. is working to increase employment and income for both on-and-off-reserve Aboriginals in New Brunswick.

Assembly of First Nations Chiefs in New Brunswick Inc (AFNCNB)

AAS continues to support the Assembly of First Nations Chiefs in New Brunswick Inc, which is a political organization that was incorporated in 2008 that promotes all Chiefs having an equal voice. The Assembly is not a service delivery organization. Its goal is to promote a strong unified voice for the 15 First Nations in New Brunswick and have respectful and meaningful negotiations with the Crown, industry and any other relevant parties. The Assembly is the representative body for negotiations on the Tripartite and Bilateral processes in New Brunswick.

The Assembly continues to function as a representative body for those communities that are participating in the model and currently represents a majority of the First Nation communities in New Brunswick. Saint Mary's First Nation has never been part of the AFNCNB model and Madawaska, Woodstock and Elsipogtog First Nations have withdrawn from the model.

In 2013-2014, the Province's financial commitment towards the Assembly under the bilateral agreement was \$200,000.

First Nation Agreements

The Province of New Brunswick provides First Nations with several program and services through its various departments.

Under the Department of Finance, there are several revenue sharing agreements between the province and the First Nations communities. Under section 11.1 of the Revenue Administration Act and section 24 of the Gaming Control Act, the Minister of Finance is authorized to enter into agreements with First Nations respecting the sharing of on-reserve tax and gaming revenues. These revenue sharing agreements return vital funding to the communities and are designed to foster economic development and provide the means for Bands to provide important social programs for community members. In some cases the funding provided through the revenue sharing agreements make some basic social services possible because of budgetary shortfalls experienced through recent federal budget cuts. There are two types of revenue sharing agreements in New Brunswick.

Joint Tax/Gaming Agreements

Between 1994 and 2001, the Province signed seven agreements with First Nations respecting the sharing of tax and gaming revenue collected on reserves. These agreements have no expiration date but may be terminated with 90 days written notice by either party.

Under these agreements, 95% of provincial HST, tobacco, and gasoline and motive fuel tax revenues collected by retailers from on-reserve sales to non-natives, are returned to the band. In addition, where a First Nation Gaming Commission has been established by the band, 95% of the net profit from VLTs located on reserve and 100% of the breakopen ticket sales profits on tickets sold by the band are returned to the band.

Stand-Alone Tax Agreements

Beginning in September 2007, First Nations that did not have a joint tax/gaming sharing agreement were offered the opportunity to enter into a stand-alone tax sharing agreement if they were interested. The Province has since signed agreements with those First Nations. These agreements are the same as the tax portion of the joint tax/gaming agreements with the exception of an additional clause which specifically excludes International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) tax revenue collected but not retained by the province from the sharing provisions of the agreement.

Table 5 – First Nations Revenue Sharing Agreements

| First Nations | 2012-2013 | 2013-2014 |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Buctouche | \$ 123,378 | \$ 196,995 |
| Eel Ground | \$ 255,192 | \$ 323,490 |
| Eel River Bar | \$ 1,590,278 | \$ 2,007,143 |
| Elsipogtog | \$ 1,247,478 | \$ 1,118,215 |
| Esgenoopetitj | \$ 450,773 | \$ 714,880 |
| Fort Folly | \$ 0 | \$ 30,053 |
| Indian Island | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |
| Kingsclear | \$ 1,412,514 | \$ 1,327,167 |
| Madawaska | \$ 5,134,221 | \$ 8,388,229 |
| Metepenagiag | \$ 201,611 | \$ 203,318 |
| Oromocto | \$ 3,070,973 | \$ 2,942,619 |
| Pabineau | \$ 269,237 | \$ 575,494 |
| Saint Mary's | \$ 11,828,010 | \$ 13,538,989 |
| Tobique | \$ 60,367 | \$ 48,052 |
| Woodstock | \$ 3,381,609 | \$ 3,835,209 |
| TOTAL | \$ 29,025,642 | \$35,276,853 |

[Source: Department of Finance]

Under the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), there are First Nations harvesting agreements. DNR is responsible for managing these agreements; they receive royalties collected on behalf of each First Nation from the mill purchasing the wood and return these monies to each First Nation, usually on a monthly basis.

Table 6 – First Nations Timber Royalties

| First Nations | 2012-2013 | 2013-2014 |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Buctouche | \$ 24,727 | \$ 13,552 |
| Eel Ground | \$ 121,624 | \$ 192,690 |
| Eel River Bar | \$ 77,742 | \$ 93,966 |
| Elsipogtog | \$ 423,736 | \$ 431,096 |
| Esgenoopetitj | \$ 187,305 | \$ 249,969 |
| Fort Folly | \$ 16,747 | \$ 30,387 |
| Indian Island | \$ 26,825 | \$ 25,073 |
| Kingsclear | \$ 134,563 | \$ 160,826 |
| Madawaska | \$ 46,218 | \$ 54,462 |
| Metepenagiag | \$ 95,054 | \$ 132,381 |
| Oromocto | \$ 77,257 | \$ 96,561 |
| Pabineau | \$ 40,169 | \$ 52,538 |
| Saint Mary's | \$ 165,966 | \$255,387 |
| Tobique | \$ 325,539 | \$ 391,833 |
| Woodstock | \$ 109,797 | \$ 165,483 |
| TOTAL | \$ 1,873,269 | \$ 2,346,204 |

Note: Royalties paid to First Nations less associated harvest penalties

[Source: Department of Natural Resources]

Under the Department of Public Safety (DPS), there is a Framework Agreement between the Province and Canada to provide policing services to all First Nations. There are also separate First Nations policing agreements between the Province, Canada, and First Nation communities for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police First Nations Community policing service as well as an agreement between the Province, Canada, Saint Mary's First Nation and the City of Fredericton for the Fredericton City Police Force for policing service.

Table 7 – First Nations Policing Service

| Fiscal Year | RCMP | RCMP FN Community | City of Fredericton | TOTAL |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 2012-2013 | \$ 3,391,000 | \$ 1,581,000 | \$ 296,448 | \$ 5,268,448 |
| 2013-2014 | \$ 3,522,106 | \$ 1,550,000 | \$ 228,848 | \$ 5,300,954 |

[Source: Department Public Safety]

Under the Department of Justice and the Office of the Attorney General, there is a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of New Brunswick and the Elsipogtog First Nation for the establishment of the Elsipogtog Healing to Wellness Court, which is a pilot project that incorporates First Nations practices and culture and deals not only with crime but its underlying causes. The Healing to Wellness Court has two streams: (1) a wellness stream; and (2) a conventional court stream.

In 2013-2014, the Government of New Brunswick approved the extension of the Elsipogtog Healing to Wellness Court pilot project to 2015-2016 in order to provide additional time for a more thorough assessment of the project.

Table 8 – Budget Allotment for the Healing to Wellness Court

| Fiscal Year | Attorney General | Court Services | TOTAL |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| 2010-2011 | \$ 36,700 | \$ 102,200 | \$ 138,900 |
| 2011-2012 | \$ 74,000 | \$ 269,000 | \$ 343,000 |
| 2012-2013 | \$ 74,000 | \$ 269,000 | \$ 343,000 |
| 2013-2014 | \$ 74,000 | \$ 269,000 | \$ 343,000 |
| 2014-2015 | \$ 74,000 | \$ 269,000 | \$ 343,000 |
| 2015-2016 | \$ 51,000 | \$ 292,000 | \$ 343,000 |

[Source: Department of Justice and the Office of the Attorney General]

Under the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD), there are Enhanced First Nations Education Programs and Services Agreements with all 15 First Nations in New Brunswick. These five-year agreements eliminate the tuition gap between federally funded tuition amounts and provincial tuition rates. Under the Enhanced Agreements, once a First Nation remits a tuition payment to the province, 50% of the total received is reinvested in First Nation students' education. A District First Nation Education Committee with representatives from First Nation officials and school districts considers investment proposals for personnel, programs and services ranging from Aboriginal Language learning opportunities, transition projects and much more.

Table 9 – First Nations Enhanced Reinvestment Funds

| First Nations | 2012-2013 | 2013-2014 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Buctouche | \$ 109,648 | \$ 164,049 |
| Eel Ground | \$ 66,680 | \$ 365,545 |
| Eel River Bar | \$ 378,822 | \$ 915,178 |
| Elsipogtog | \$ 1,243,251 | \$ 1,252,432 |
| Esgenoopetitj | \$ 1,172,157 | \$ 0 * |
| Fort Folly | \$ 8,298 | \$ 41,492 |
| Indian Island | \$ 130,461 | \$ 108,445 |
| Kingsclear | \$ 436,321 | \$ 531,510 |
| Madawaska | \$ 229,515 | \$ 300,545 |
| Metepenagiag | \$ 197,625 | \$ 289,536 |
| Oromocto | \$ 717,353 | \$ 259,880 |
| Pabineau | \$ 76,617 | \$ 190,040 |
| Saint Mary's | \$ 673,568 | \$ 727,791 |
| Tobique | \$ 1,589,216 | \$ 829,350 |
| Woodstock | \$ 218,000 | \$ 263,725 |
| <i>Listuguj Mi'gmaq First Nation (PQ)</i> | \$ 421,343 | \$ 699,661 |
| TOTAL | \$ 7,668,918 | \$ 6,939,151 |

[Source: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development]

Notes: * No funds were re-invested as band had not yet signed Enhanced Agreement extension

In New Brunswick as of September 2013, there were approximately 99,921³ students in public school in which 1,422⁴ were First Nation students living on reserve. Tuition for First Nation students is paid by the federal government under the Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. For 2013, cost of tuition for each First Nation student in the public school system is \$10,775 per year. Tuition is paid to the Province in two ways. Tuition is paid directly by the department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada on behalf of the band to the Province. Secondly, tuition is paid by the band to the Province.

There are several federally funded band operated schools in New Brunswick; these schools are from Kindergarten to Grade 8. "See Table 10 below". There are approximately 715⁵ students in band operated schools as of September 2013.

3 Source: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

4 Source: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

5 Source: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

Table 10 – First Nations Operated Schools

| First Nations | Grades |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Eel Ground | K - 8 |
| Elsipogtog | K - 8 |
| Esgenoopetitj | K - 8 |
| Kingsclear | K - 5 |
| Metepenagiag | K - 6 |
| Saint Mary's | K - 5 |
| Tobique | K - 6 |

[Source: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development]

Special Projects

Memorandum of Understanding between the Province of New Brunswick and Tobique First Nation

The Secretariat continues to participate on the Tobique Riverbank Stabilization Project Steering and Financial Committee formed through the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed in December 2009 between the Province of New Brunswick and Tobique First Nation. The MOU ensures maximum economic development opportunities and benefits for the Tobique First Nation community.

– Tobique Riverbank Stabilization Project

Negotiation between the Province of New Brunswick, Tobique First Nation and NB Power took place in 2013 to extend the Riverbank Stabilization Project. Tobique First Nation identified 2556 meters of remaining riverbank work that needs to be done which has impacts to housing and a burial ground and other sacred places. An agreement was reached to extend the Riverbank Stabilization Project and restore a 1220 meter section of riverbank on the East Bank of the Saint John River. This project would be completed in two stages, Stage I would be the preparation of the Environmental Assessment and Archeological Study reports and Stage II would be the actual construction phase of the project.

In 2013-2014, funding in the amount of \$ 283,446 was provided to assist with the cost associated with preparing an Environmental Assessment Report as required by Environment Canada for any undertaking or activity on aboriginal land, as well as to determine the cost and method of stabilization that will be required for the remaining 1220 meters of riverbank in the Tobique First Nation. As well as the cost associated with preparing an Archeological study, this is required prior to any construction activity. These reports were finalized and the design and cost associated with the design were determined to assist with the next stage of the project, which is to be completed in 2014-2015.

Dumpsite Remediation Project

During 2013-2014, negotiation between the Province of New Brunswick, the Government of Canada, Tobique First Nation and NB Power took place in regards to the Dumpsite Remediation project. Funding in the amount of \$7,000 was provided to prepare a Dumpsite Investigation follow-up study, which supported an agreement being reached to cost share the Dumpsite Remediation project. In 2013-2014, funding in the amount of \$40,000 was provided for Phase I of the project, which was the Site Preparation Phase. Phase II of the project would be the actual remediation of the dumpsite which will be completed in 2014-2015.

New Brunswick Indian Summer Games – Tobique First Nation

The 2013 New Brunswick Indian Summer Games were awarded to Tobique First Nation through a bid process facilitated by the New Brunswick Aboriginal Sport and Recreation Authority (NBASRA). The communities of Saint Mary's, Elsipogtog, Metepenagiag, Esgeoopetitj, Tobique, Woodstock, Eel Ground and Eel River Bar participated. Some of the sports included were baseball, archery, soccer, track & field, canoeing and golf. Communities were equally well represented in both youth and adult sports as over 1000 athletes and coaches participated in the games.

The Secretariat supported the 2013 New Brunswick Indian Summer Games held in Tobique First Nation from July 24-28, 2013. In 2013-2014, funding in the amount of \$25,000 was provided to assist with the cost associated with hosting the event. This is the fourth year of the summer games following a 24 year absence.

2014 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) – New Brunswick Aboriginal Sport and Recreation Authority (NBASRA)

The North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) is a celebration of sport and culture for North American Indigenous people from across North America. There are twenty-six (26) regions represented, which include the 13 provinces and territories in Canada and 13 regions from the United States. Since its inception, NAIG has grown to become the largest multi-sport and cultural youth games hosted in Canada. NAIG is a fundamental component of the Aboriginal sport movement as it has effected positive change in the health and well-being of Aboriginal people across Canada.

The North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) took place in Regina, SK on July 20-27, 2014 and this event showcased unity, sport, culture, youth, volunteerism and team work between First Nations, Métis, and Non-Indigenous communities. The theme of the 2014 NAIG was "Raising the Bar"

The Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat supports the New Brunswick Aboriginal Sport and Recreation Authority (NBASRA), who is committed to guide, mobilize and promote a healthy, active lifestyle by developing sport and recreation opportunities for Aboriginal people in New Brunswick, in organizing the 2014 NAIG New Brunswick Team. In 2013-2014, funding in the amount of \$34,000 was provided to assist with the cost associated with preparations towards the 2014 North American Indigenous Games.

Disaster Mitigation Project – Tobique First Nation

Following the 2012 spring flooding in the Perth-Andover/Tobique area of the province, AAS supported the inclusion of the Tobique First Nation in the government's review and study of mitigations issues in the region. In the final report of the provincial review process, the Tobique First Nation was approved for three projects to help prevent future flooding on and around the First Nation. The first project was completed in 2012-2013, with the remaining two projects to be completed during 2013-2014.

In 2013-2014, Tobique First Nation and the province worked to stabilize the North West bank of the Tobique River and the East bank of the Saint John River. Using a Community First Approach, the Tobique First Nation was successful in completing the stabilization of 945 meters of riverbank. The Community First Approach focused on training and employing First Nations people to complete a substantial portion of the project in a sustainable manner. Where tasks requiring further expertise were encountered, the project proponents adapted a community first approach and used local resources. This augmented the socio-economic impact by supporting individuals and companies who support Tobique First Nation businesses and institutions. Funding in the amount of \$ 1,012,842 was provided to assist with the cost associated with completing this project.

River of Fire Commercial Centre – Development of a Business Plan – Elsipogtog FN

In 2013-2014, the Secretariat supported the Elsipogtog First Nation's concept of establishing a commercial centre and provided a financial contribution of \$13,750 to assist them in the development of a business plan.

Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI Inc.) – AAWG Website

JEDI Inc., in partnership with AAS and the Aboriginal Affairs Working Group (AAWG), successfully launched a website designed to help encourage economic growth in First Nation communities in New Brunswick. The website celebrates, promotes and shares the accomplishments and proven advancements in Aboriginal economic development. The website also provides useful information and issues affecting Aboriginal economic development. There are 39 bilingual success stories posted on the website.

During 2013-2014, funding in the amount of \$7,350 was provided to continue to monitor and populate the website based on the direction of the AAWG.

International STOP Cyberbullying Youth Summit NB

The Secretariat supported the Woodstock First Nation in hosting the International STOP Cyberbullying Youth Summit, which gathered youth and adults together to learn about cyberbullying issues and find solutions to take to the provincial government in hopes of creating measures and laws to stop cyberbullying. The event, the first of its kind in the province, assembled local youth and parents along with youths from Saint Mary's, Oromocto, Kingsclear, Woodstock and Tobique First Nations.

Funding in the amount of \$20,000 was provided to assist with the cost associated with hosting the International Stop Cyberbullying Youth Summit, which was held March 21 -22, 2014 in Woodstock, NB.

First Nations project specific consultation funding – Sisson Brook EIA (Assembly, St. Mary's and Woodstock FN)

Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat provided a financial contribution of \$110,270 to Saint Mary's First Nation, Woodstock First Nation and the Assembly of First Nations Chiefs in New Brunswick Inc. as a collective to assist them with their technical review of the Sisson Brooks Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as part of the consultation process.

Communications Coordinators in First Nation Communities – Assembly of First Nation Chiefs in New Brunswick (AFNCNB)

Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat supports the Assembly of First Nation Chiefs in New Brunswick in establishing communication coordinators for First Nation communities. These coordinators would assist in enabling the Assembly to engage in meaningful discussions with the federal and provincial government as well as in relating communications between the Assembly and First Nation communities. In 2013-2014, the province provided funding in the amount of \$112,320 to assist with the cost associated with employing these coordinators.

Map of Maliseet and Mi'kmaq First Nations in New Brunswick

