FINANCE and **ADMINISTRATION**



Delphine Levi Financial Advisor

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nce again, CMM hosted two (2) Band Managers' workshops with participants from Nova Scotia, Conne River, Davis Inlet and Sheshatsui. Common concerns tabled by the Band Managers included the inconsistency in the processing of HST/GST rebates to communities and employment/ staffing issues.

In May, CMM expanded its operations to the newly constructed addition to its home office. With fifteen (15) new staff names added to CMM this year, the new space is filled to overflowing already.

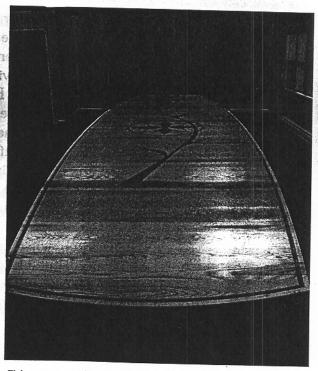
As part of the renovations to the building, CMM now has a Boardroom facility which can comfortably accommodate 20-25 people. To defray costs, CMM now offers this area for rental to various groups providing meeting space, a/v rental and catering onsite. Uptake for the few months in operation has been notable and provides some income to the organization as well as exposure and linkages to a variety of cusrionships between M remay and the

Federal Provincial Covernments Conference/Workshop Co-ordination services are now available from CMM on a fee-for-service basis. The initiative has had several customers this year - CMHC (Indoor Air Quality Seminar), Cross Cultural Training for a number of audiences, the Mi'kmaq

Language Initiative, Band Managers Workshops (2), and the Mi'kmawey Debert Conference – to name a few.

A Technology Unit was developed under administration to meet the growing technology needs of the organization. The Tech Unit is responsible for the CMM web site and provides maintenance for all computers and communication systems. This year, CMM purchased all base maps for the land holdings of the member communities and installed them into a new GIS system. This will provide the base from which various data bases can be created and displayed on a map fabric.

Once again, CMM was showing a healthy financial picture at year end.



This custom designed 20ft boardroom table was built for CMM's new boardroom which can accommodate meetings for up to twenty -four participants.

FIRST NATIONS FORESTRY



William McKay

Director of First Nations Forestry



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oughout the province.

First Nations Forestry continued to deliver a program of sustainable forest restoration on lands of First Nations interest throughout Nova Scotia. The program expanded this year into many new areas of interest:

Community trails were completed in Pictou Landing, Bear River and Millbrook for spiritual, educational and recreational use.

Following international certification through the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) in Pictou Landing, a Steering Committee was formed of representatives from the Pictou Landing First Nation, St. Francis Xavier University and First Nations Forestry to look into value-added and non-timber forest products as potential community development initiatives. The Steering Committee is also investigating linkages between healthy forests and healthy communities.

Research into the cause of the decline of Wisqoq (Black Ash) in Nova Scotia involved the sampling of over 80 trees, rating their health and completing soil and tissue sampling. This information will hopefully shed some

light into the cause of the decline of Wisqoq and lead to remedial measures to protect this culturally significant species.

Publications by FNF this year included a follow-up brochure for the Wisqoq identification program, a brochure for the Millbrook Medicine Trail, and support for "The Medicine Bundle" – a children's book on Mi'kmaq culture by Theresa Meuse.

As an outreach component of the program this year, FNF participated in the Boreal Conference in Moscow, Russia on forestry issues in relation to certification.

Considerable work was completed on Mi'kmawey Forestry – a process of forest certification based on the Mi'kmaw concept of Netukulimk. FNF gave numerous presentations and workshops to interested groups on this topic.

Discussion began with stakeholders regarding access to the Debert forest area for management through Mi'kmawey Forestry. This initiative would provide an opportunity for Mi'kmaq to show by example the practices of Netukulimk.

Several First Nations have voiced an interest in pursuing certification, with one new parcel scheduled for FSC certification in 2001.



Pictou Landing received international certification through the FSC.

HEALTH



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Director of Health Programs

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Health Transfer Initiatives and the devolution of First Nations & Inuit Health Board (FNIHB) services to the community level continue to raise questions and concerns. CMM's Health Director has participated in the numerous technical committees formed which are implementing these changes: Home and Community Care, Head Start, and the Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative – to name a few.

With the restructuring of the MMAHB, the CMM Health Director has been tasked to participate in all of the sub-committees to provide the technical expertise needed to address new programming and formulate recommendations for ratification by the MMAHB.

Home and Community Care has now completed year two with each community completing their needs assessment, community plan, service plan, and capital and training plans. All communities will be ready to begin service delivery in 2001. CMM offers advisory services as requested at all stages of planning and implementation.

CMM's Health Director is available to assist communities with the community evaluations for the Head Start Program scheduled for 2001.

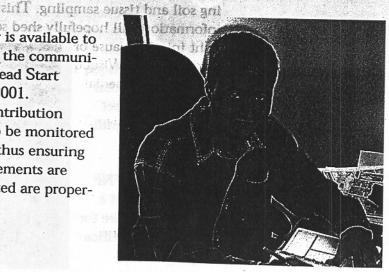
Community Health Contribution Agreements continue to be monitored by the Health Director thus ensuring that all reporting requirements are met, that monies allocated are proper-

ly documented and relevant information is circulated in a timely manner. CMM advocates a simplified reporting system and challenges the cumbersome detail requested. Assistance is available to help with the reporting requirements upon request.

An agreement was negotiated with FNIHB to house an Aboriginal Diabetes Community Consultant inhouse to focus on improving Diabetic Care for member bands. The position was staffed at year end; the program will be up and running early in the new fiscal year.

The Hospital Liaison Program sponsored by CMM provides direct interpretive services between Mi'kmaq clients, their families and the respective health professionals in the Halifax/Dartmouth area. During the 2000-2001 fiscal year, the program provided 1,213 services to 364 clients.

CMM continued to administer the Adult Institutionalized Care Program for 26 clients living in homes for Special Care throughout the province.



James McGrath, Diabetes Community Consultant

HOUSING



Albert Julian
Housing Advisor

Providing inspection services to Afton, Acadia, Annapolis Valley, Bear River, Glooscap, Millbrook, Pictou Landing, and Shubenacadie, CMM has completed inspections for several purposes:

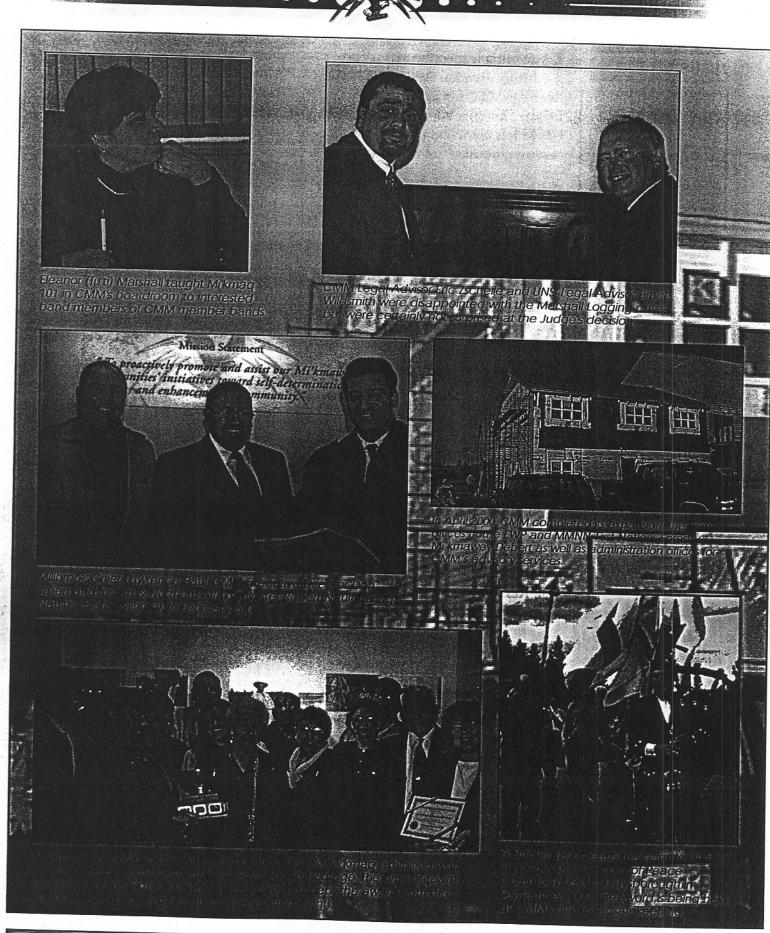
- All required inspections for CMHC Section 95 housing construction (new units).
- Cyclical Portfolio inspections for existing Section 95 units to ensure the units are being properly maintained according to Operating Agreements with CMHC.
- Health and safety inspections in the Millbrook Trailor Court (circa 30) to ensure the units met standards suitable to support rental through the Millbrook Social Department.
- Progress inspections for units constructed under Section 10 of the Housing Act (unsubsidized).

The CMM Housing Unit delivered the Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP) to all First Nation communities in mainland Nova Scotia. This work included progress inspections to ensure the specifications were followed and the work complete to standard.

CMM organized and participated in a four day IAQ (Indoor Air Quality) Investigator course for First Nations Housing Personnel. This was a four day event with participants from all over Atlantic Canada. Day one was a general information session, followed by an intensive three day course leading to certification as an IAQ Investigator.

Indoor air quality has been an outstanding problem in First Nations Housing. Numerous IAQ investigations were carried out in response to homeowner complaints of mould and mildew in their homes. CMM will continue to assess and cost remedial action.

The CMM Housing Inspector continued participation in the APC Housing Liaison Committee assuming the position of Co-Chair.



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