

Mi'gmaq Organics



Community Sustainable Development through Organic Farming

Improving the economical, social and environmental situation for Gesgapegiag families has been among the main objectives of the Gesgapegiag Band Council. This present situation, along with the interest of becoming a self-sufficient community has created a strong will to move past the dependant relationship between community and government.

In this context, the Band has decided to create a business called Mi'gmaq Organics, a farm producing fruits, vegetables and medicinal plants certified organic. Our products are distributed through natural food stores, groceries, public markets and social organizations of Gesgapegiag. Fruit & Vegetable baskets are also distributed to families of La-Baie-des-Chaleurs during the summer season. Research & Development in medicinal plants will be further explored for future products.

The farm also has a Sacred Garden where native healing plants are grown and placed in the harmony of the Mi'gmaq Star. Mi'gmaq Organics had had its implantation year as well as the first vegetable production on 2006. This year 2007, vegetable production and clients have increased, allowing us to offer a great variety of fresh organic fruits, vegetables, and spices to families and business (48 types).

This sustainable development project has created 12 jobs and is reinforcing social ties. It strengthens Gesgapegiag children and community health and it empowers community members by becoming more self-reliant through training and capacity building. The project also reinforces the link between land & people and people between themselves. Additionally, Mi'gmaq Organics is participating concretely in the development of the organic agriculture and medicinal herbs industry in the Gaspé region, and is bringing new installations, services and experience for the Gaspé community.

Mi'gmaq Organics provides the chance for communities to come together for the common benefits and necessities provided by Mother Earth. This initiative, with the collaboration between natives and non-natives and the products offered by the Mi'gmaq community to the general population of the Chaleur Bay, is a link and an open hand for the cooperation between Nations in something as essential as a commodity such as healthy food.

For more information:

Ana Mattos
Mi'gmaq Organics Director
101 Perron Blvd
Gesgapegiag, QC, G0C 1Y0
Tel: (418) 759 1303 ; email: anamattos@globetrotter.net