



September 15, 2011

Dear IKANAWTIKET youth:

Do you want to have fun exploring habitats for endangered species? Would you like to talk with scientists and Elders in small groups about biology and habitats? Could you identify threats to a species or habitat? Would you like others to do something about those threats?

Are you interested in nature or biology and want to prepare for school, careers, or to be an IKANAWTIKET advocate for species at risk?

IKANAWTIKET is launching a new project this summer about species at risk. **Biodiversity Experience Excursion (BEE)** will provide Aboriginal youth, affiliated with the Native Council of Nova Scotia, the New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council, or the Native Council of Prince Edward Island, the opportunity to have a voice and also give you the tools to use your voice for species at risk.

IKANAWTIKET is putting together a few small teams of youth in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and PEI who are passionate about biodiversity. Each team will be paired with a species expert and Elder to learn about a species and habitat first hand through research and field activities. Over the next two years, each team will document important knowledge about habitats, species, and threats – information which could be very valuable for recovery of the species. Youth teams will also be given opportunities to present their findings to recovery teams and governments.

For energetic and productive BEE participants, IKANAWTIKET is also planning a Montreal Expedition in 2013 to visit the Montreal biodome, biosphere, botanical gardens, insectarium, the Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat, and museum of culture and biodiversity. The Montreal Expedition is free for BEE participants.

BEE is a very flexible project to accommodate the school year, jobs, and other activities. Most activity dates are set by the individual teams as your schedule allows. A few additional meeting dates (to be determined) are also required throughout the year to bring together all the teams.

I strongly encourage you to apply. To apply you must fill out the three forms enclosed: the BEE Application Form Parts 1 & 2 and the Parental Consent form (for youth 18 years old and under).

This fall, IKANAWTIKET will select 36 youth from the applications received. So, fill out the forms today and take special care on the Application Form Part 2 to describe why you want to be involved in BEE.

Applications can be mailed to:

172 Truro Heights Road
Truro Heights, NS B6L 1X1

or they can be faxed to (902)895-3844.

If you have any questions or need help filling out the application deadline, please contact me at (902)895-2982 or by e-mail at jmcneely@ikanawtiket.ca.

Respect for the environment leads to
Knowledgeable and caring decisions,

Joshua McNeely
Regional Facilitator

Enclosures

