Upper Miramichi Community Forest Partnership



Nestled along the picturesque Miramichi River, famous for its Atlantic salmon, logging history and folklore, Upper Miramichi provides the ideal site for

the development of a community forest partnership rooted in respect for our forest and the rights and wellbeing of our people who dwell here.

Our area once thrived from our forest resources but like many other forest dependent communities, we were hit hard by the forestry crisis that swept the country a few years ago. Upper Miramichi residents are currently exploring options for a community forestry in our area upon learning of thriving community forests in British Columbia and elsewhere.



building sustainable communities

What is Community Forestry?

Community forestry is a model wherein community members have access to forest resources in their area and make decisions on how forests within or adjacent to community boundaries are managed. Because communities and forests are diverse and complex, many models of community forests exist to reflect local values and principles.

Community forests keep the wealth derived from local forest resources in the community. Working community forests in Canada and around the world demonstrate that community forests have the potential to diversify local economies, restore and protect forest ecosystems and provide a more equitable distribution of wealth from forest resources.



growing local economies

Creating a Community Forest

The Rural Community of Upper Miramichi contacted the Conservation Council of New Brunswick (CCNB) as a resource on community forestry in 2009. Since then, CCNB has publicly supported the aspirations of Upper Miramichi to create a community forest within its municipal boundaries. We produced digital maps that revealed important details of the natural wealth found in Upper Miramichi's forest, which is essential for responsible forest management.

The maps show the area of public and private lands, the age and kind of trees in their forest, and the locations of lakes, rivers, wetlands and protected areas. You can view these maps at the Upper Miramichi office or online at

www.uppermiramichicommunityforest.org



protecting forest ecosystems

A Survey on Our Woods

We are now coordinating a survey of Upper Miramichi residents to get your input on special areas that you value for protection and what you feel are current and potential economic opportunities found in our mixed wood forest.



Upper Miramichi is interested in assessing the economic opportunities of our non-timber forest products and services, including fiddleheads, mushrooms, chaga, balsam fir tips, maple and birch syrup, berries, nuts,

eco-tourism and recreational opportunities.



reflecting local values & principles

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Thank you for your input.

The Rural Community of Upper Miramichi would like to thank you for your input on special areas that you value for protection, and what you feel are current and potential economic opportunities found in our mixed wood forest.

Please drop your completed survey in the mail before April 30, 2012, no postage required. Results of the survey will be published in a future edition of *Over North News*.

Upper Miramichi

Upper Miramichi is located within the watershed of the Southwest Miramichi River. Sub-basins include the watersheds of Taxis, Cains, Dungarvon, Bartholomew and Renous Rivers.

The total area of Upper Miramichi is 1840 square kilometres (184,000 ha).

The Upper Miramichi is made up of 95% forest, 57% public land, 16% private land, 22% freehold controlled by J.D. Irving, 3% wetlands and 2% rivers, roads, lawns, buildings.

We need your input and involvement.

If you are interested in getting involved or staying informed about the community forest initiative in Upper Miramichi, contact us at:

506 369-9810 or

Email: uppermiramichiclerk@nb.aibn.com www.uppermiramichicommunityforest.org

Upper Miramichi Community Forest Partnership

Creating Better Places to Live and Work



involving local community members



developing recreational opportunities

