



ASSOCIATION OF ATLANTIC UNIVERSITIES
ASSOCIATION DES UNIVERSITÉS DE L'ATLANTIQUE

Award for Excellence in Teaching
2013

Anne Marie MacKinnon
Educational Leadership Award

DR. STEPHANIE INGLIS

Dr. Stephanie Inglis is an Associate Professor of Mi'kmaq Studies at Cape Breton University and, in the words of Sister Dorothy Moore, "a visionary, a teacher, a writer, a researcher and a preserver of the Mi'kmaq language, culture and history." A very modest woman, Dr. Inglis would be the first to say that she is not solely responsible for any of the achievements for which she is noted. From her perspective, she worked alongside many in the academic and Mi'kmaw communities on various projects throughout her career and that collectively they made things happen. However, those who know her would say that Stephanie Inglis has worked tirelessly for the past 30 years to enhance the quality of education for Mi'kmaw students at Cape Breton University and beyond. Her peers would say that her persistence and attention to detail often made the difference in whether projects in which she was involved were successful or not.

Early in her career, Stephanie played a key role in the development of an innovative Mi'kmaq Studies course known as Mi'kmaq/English Structural Comparisons, which recognized the linguistic differences between the Mi'kmaq and English languages and gave it authenticity as an academic course. Stephanie's drive and determination have resulted in major improvements to programs and curriculum at Cape Breton University. She was a leader in the establishment of the Mi'kmaq Studies program and has worked diligently, since its inception, to improve that program. As a result of her efforts, the Mi'kmaq Studies program at Cape Breton University now serves as a model for other institutions. Stephanie has collaborated with educators, elders, and researchers throughout the region to develop innovative teaching strategies and resources to promote language learning. The availability of these resources has enabled Cape Breton University to offer a certificate in Teaching Mi'kmaq as a Second language. This program now serves as the basis for a multi-stage program proposal designed to meet international standards for teaching second languages.

In 2012, her colleagues recognized Dr. Inglis' sustained and pervasive commitment to the improvement of university teaching and learning at Cape Breton University and beyond. It is fitting that the Association of Atlantic Universities has followed suit in awarding Dr. Stephanie Inglis the 2013 Anne Marie MacKinnon Educational Leadership Award.