

Sacred Eagle Feather Affirmation

Do you affirm that this Eagle Feather symbolizes your direct connection to the Creator for your people and you hold it in the spirit of honour and truth and the evidence you shall give in this matter shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth? Msit No'kmaq (All my relations) [Staff may state in English, Mi'kmaq or both.]

Answer: I do. Msit No'kmaq (All my relations)

Msit No'kmaq (All my relations) – Pronounced: Mm-sih Noh-goh-mah

Sources: www.muiniskw.org

Audio: <http://www.mikmaweydebert.ca/home/sharing-our-stories/education-and-outreach/school-curriculum/mikmaw-translations-for-teaching-about-the-mikmaq/>

Sacred Eagle Feather Information

This initiative is to guide and expand the use of the Eagle Feather within Indigenous Communities of Nova Scotia.

The Eagle Feather

The eagle is the only creature that is said to have touched the face of the Great Spirit. Because of this, the eagle is highly respected and honored. It represents the way through which First Nations people can feel the Great Spirit's presence among them. It is used as a powerful symbol in many cultural activities and ceremonies.

The spirituality of the Eagle Feather also reflects the Seven Sacred Gifts of Life: love, honesty, humility, respect, truth, patience and wisdom.

Sources: http://macs.hellodaylight.ca/mikmaq_history_culture/songs
<http://www.integrativescience.ca/uploads/activities/Murdena-Seven-Sacred-Gifts.pdf>

Each main courthouse will have one eagle feather for courtroom use and a second for the front counter. The feather will be available for taking an affirmation in the same way that a Bible is available to swear an oath. Those testifying may hold the eagle feather, or have it placed in front of them, while affirming to tell the truth or when providing an affidavit, sworn statement or statutory declaration.

Beadwork

The outer narrows bands of beading on either side of the wide red band begin with the four colours: red, yellow, black and white. These represent the four quadrants of the sacred Medicine Wheel. The blue and green bands added to these four colours combine to represent the Nova Scotia Coat of Arms. The dominant, center band of beading is red, representing spirituality and the Indigenous peoples. The colours also reflect the Mi'kmaq National flag, the Canadian flag and the Nova Scotia flag.

Eagle Feather Case

- The black Case with red lining symbolizes spirituality, wisdom and respect.
- Each Case holds:
 - a beaded Eagle Feather, shell button and medicine pouch that contains traditional medicines and a match - these represent the four elements of air, water, earth and fire
 - Nova Scotia Coat of Arms emblem
 - a copy of the following: affirmation wording and meaning
background information
Department of Natural Resources permit