

Who Are We Really?



The Lnum (also spelled L'nu, L'nuk) are the indigenous-Blacks of Nova Scotia. We are Black people who have been in Nova Scotia since before the conception of Canada. Before our lands were called Nova Scotia, we were the stewards of the lands, which we called **L'num'tgi**. Though displaced like in the well known situation of Africville, we remain in our lands even today in places like Preston NS, and other Black Scotian counties.

The defeat of **Kji-Puktuk** by Edward Cornwallis in 1749 ended our dominance in **L'num'tgi**. This marked the founding of what became known as Halifax, which was built precisely atop of our legendary mound-metropolis, that the vast majority of us once called home.

With the conquest of Kji-Puktuk and the massive loss of life, the Lnum became a splintered people, with everyone asking each other the same 3 questions.

- How should we have responded to this defeat?
- Who had the authority to respond now?
- What were we to do next?

Many fled to nearby regions like Preston, Bedford, & Sackville poised for a counter offensive that has yet to come. Others refused to leave their sacred homeland, remaining on both banks of Kji-Puktuk's once great harbour. They clung to the Northeastern coast until the 6th of December 1917 when the Halifax Explosion finally released the land to the invaders who coveted it so badly.

The original strategies of the invaders seemed to be threefold:

1. Breed us Lnum out of existence.
2. Control or kill our children through Catholic Mission schools.
3. Over run us with European emigrants.

Shortly after arrival in 1610, Lnum leader Kji-Saqmaw Maupeltuk ordered the forced Catholic conversion of all Lnum, effectively dividing the Lnum into those loyal to their ancestral-heritage & those loyal to the new French alliance. Those loyal to the French were called Mi'kmaq. Immediately after conversion, the French men began mixing and marrying Lnum women. This is how the modern Mi'kmaq (Meaning Ally) & Métis (mix-heritage) were born.

With Kji-Saqmaw Maupeltuk's death the following year as a result of disease contracted from his new allies, the Nation was split both in their loyalties and over who should secede Kji-Saqmaw Maupeltuk. Then starting the 1st of Jan 1620. What is most famously known as the Residential-school program started supplying yet another divide among our people.

Finally the hordes of European refuse relentlessly began washing ashore after the suppression of Kji-Puktuk. This would be the final stage of their attempt to deal with their **"Indian problem"**. However they would prove unable to crush Lnum resilience. The siege of Kji-Puktuk broke a 24 yearlong peace, which had been ratified by the signing of the treaty of **"Peace & Friendship"** proving that the Europeans were not capable of neither peace nor friendship. Thus we Lnum learned to isolate ourselves on reserves. However this too proved not enough. Reading the writing on the wall the Europeans would not be inclined to respect any agreement made with those they determined to be savages. They preferred their Negros "foreign". This was a fact Richard Preston, (himself most likely a Powhatan mulatto) was all too familiar with.

On the 14th of April 1832 Preston established the African United Baptist Association as a "Parish" (or

legal county) with 5 churches under his political jurisdiction: **Halifax, Preston, Beechville, Hammonds Plains, Africville** and **Dartmouth**.

Preston had ingeniously worked a loophole in the legal framework of the Nova Scotian government. He had successfully changed the presumed identity of everyone on the reserve to a race lacking a literal bounty for their scalps. By designating the Lnum population as Africans Preston had preserved our right to self-governance, parenthood, and to life itself.

Ever the opportunists the Europeans leaned into this new designation knowing its coerced nature. If the Lnum population were going to identify as African Negros they'd have opted out of the inherent rights their indigenous-ancestors had fought for. By the time of Laurier this misclassification was being manipulated to force "Blacks" into conscription, have us relinquish our lands and divorce us from our heritage. We were being written out of the history books and our accomplishments being afforded to foreigners and we allowed it in order to stop the kidnapping of our children. Lnum children went to school and were indoctrinated into thinking their ancestors were "basic savages" as if they were foreigners rather than family, and as a result we today no longer know our Lnuismk Language, or Lnum customs.

The Preliminary Lnum National Council (PLNC)

Exist to restore sovereign power to Lnum hereditary nationals by:

1. Having a Lnum population of 2000 self-Identified & registered Lnum citizens. We refer to this state as **"Internal National Recognition"**.
2. The Secondary goal is to hold an election for the restored Lnum National Government, establishing all 7 official seats. To learn more visit Lnum.ca

Lnug-Mi'kmaq Women 1940



Kji-Puktuk (Halifax) Explosion 1917



Lnug Woman 1859



