

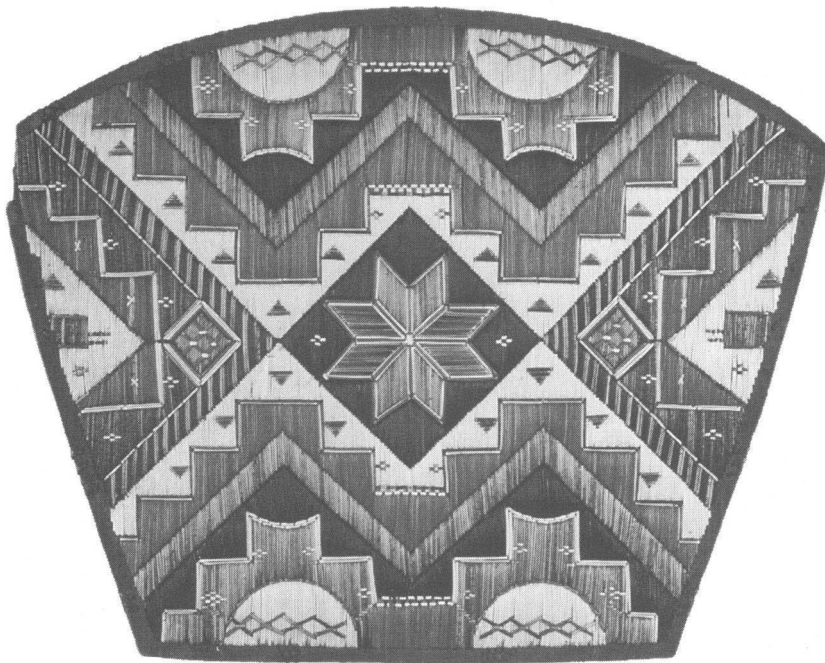
MICMAC DICTIONARY



Albert D. DeBlois

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Abstract

The *Micmac Dictionary* is derived from texts and anecdotes collected over the past thirty-five years from speakers of Micmac in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Quebec. The Micmac – English section consists of some 7,850 Micmac entries with their English equivalents. The comprehensive English – Micmac keyword index should render the dictionary more accessible to native speakers of Micmac as well as to students of the language.

Résumé

Ce dictionnaire micmac provient de textes et d'anecdotes recueillis au cours des trente-cinq dernières années auprès d'interlocuteurs de langue micmaque de Nouvelle-Ecosse, du Nouveau-Brunswick, de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard et du Québec. La section micmac-anglais comporte près de 7850 entrées en micmac accompagnées de leurs équivalents anglais. Constitué de mots clés, l'index anglais est exhaustif. Il se prête à une consultation facile, aussi bien pour les Autochtones qui parlent cette langue que pour toutes les personnes désireuses de l'apprendre.

Celles et ceux qui désirent recevoir en français de plus amples renseignements sur cette publication sont priés de s'adresser au :

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Finally, we wish to thank Michael Allsopp for his expertise and skill in formatting the Dictionary as it now stands, and for his meticulous attention to details in ensuring its successful completion

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INTRODUCTION

The **Micmac Dictionary** is a corrected, revised and expanded version of the Micmac Lexicon. A bilingual (Micmac - English, English - Micmac) dictionary, its primary purpose is to provide, as accurately as possible, one or more English equivalents for each Micmac entry. It is hoped that teachers, students, writers, and any others who may have occasion to utilize the Micmac language will find the dictionary useful. It should be of particular practical use to interpreters and translators.

SCOPE. The inclusion or the exclusion of a lexical entry has largely been a matter of circumstance, depending for the most part on the kind of source material available and, to a lesser extent, on the personal interests of the individuals involved in the compilation of the dictionary. Nonetheless, the source material for the dictionary does encompass a variety of topics, and includes texts and elicitations from such widely dispersed localities as Big Cove, Eel Ground and Red Bank in New Brunswick, Bear River, Indianbrook (Shubenacadie) and Eskasoni in Nova Scotia, and PEI, in addition to the tape recordings collected and transcribed in Restigouche.

DIALECT VARIATION. In general, vocabulary items obtained in other communities have much the same pronunciation and usage as in Restigouche. In many instances, however, either the pronunciation or the meaning, or both, have been found to differ noticeably from one region to the other. Whenever this has been observed, the alternate forms or meanings, together with their provenance, have been included in the dictionary.

Again, it has been noted that there are often considerable differences in the speech of older and younger speakers of Micmac. In fact, there is evidence for positing a three-level dialect distinction, depending upon the age of the speaker: elderly vs. middle aged vs. young. One might say that, as a general rule, the younger the speaker, the greater the possibility that the word has been shortened or has undergone assimilation (compare <ankaptm ~ ankatt^m ~ akkatt^m 'I look at it' >). Since the longer and less assimilated forms are still widely used and recognized, the decision has been taken to select these forms, where obtained, for inclusion in the dictionary.

ORTHOGRAPHY. The orthography used to transcribe the Micmac entries in this dictionary is, in several ways, different from that found in the **Micmac Lexicon** which,

itself, was a considerable modification of the traditional thirteen (13) letter alphabet used by elders literate in the Micmac language, and the subsequent changes introduced by Father Pacifique in his **Leçons Grammaticales**. Adjustments have been made for greater clarity and should cause no undue problems. Though there is still no universally agreed upon orthography and orthographic conventions for writing Micmac, there has been a considerable rapprochement between those used throughout the Atlantic provinces in recent years. For the most part, they are compatible, and easily convertible from the one to the other. The orthographies employed are based upon the distinctive sounds of Micmac which consist of eight obstruents / p, t, k, k^w, q, q^w, č, s /, three sonorants / l, m, n /, and two semi-vowels / w, y /. The vowels are / a, e, i, o, u /, which occur in both short and long varieties, and schwa / ə /.

The changes from the **Micmac Lexicon** are as follows: (1) **k** replaces **g**, (2) **q** replaces **ĝ**, (3) a colon after the vowel replaces the grave accent above to mark vowel length, (4) an additional symbol **y** is introduced, (5) an apostrophe replaces **ê** as the symbol for a mid to high back unrounded vowel ("schwa"), (6) the apostrophe is also used to mark intervocalic open juncture, which takes the form of an aspiration or an hiatus, (7) there are no vowel sequences.

Obstruents are voiceless in clusters but voiced between vowels. By convention, the vowel schwa, though always present and pronounced, is only written between an obstruent (**p, t, j, k, q, s**) and a sonorant (**l, m, n**) when internal open juncture (realized phonetically by a perceptible lengthening of the sonorant and voicing of an immediately following obstruent) occurs. In such cases, the schwa signals the upcoming open juncture, as well as marking the occurrence of the schwa vowel. It should be noted that in the *phonetic transcriptions*, which are enclosed within brackets, the apostrophe here represents preglottalization of the succeeding obstruent.

Thus, we write <**plamu** [pəlamu] 'salmon'>, <**tmi:kn** [təmi:gən] 'axe'>, <**Kluskap** [kəluskap] 'Glooscap'>, <**smt'k** [səm'tək] 'at once'>, <**temtm** [tem'təm] 'I bite it off'>, <**kwitn** [k^widən, k^widn] 'canoe'>, <**a:kwesn** [a:g^wezən] 'hat'>, <**mesn'k** [mezənək] 'I catch hold of it'>, <**etekl** [edegəl] 'they stand there'>, <**ejikla:tu** [ejigəla:du] 'I take it away'>, but <**pejit'ms'k** [pejidəm'zək], 'he cut it in two accidentally'>, <**k'lpisun** [kəl'bizun] 'anchor'>, <**k'nki:kuk** [kən'gi:guk] 'your (sg) parents'>.

Elsewhere, as well, the written sequence schwa plus sonorant signals the occurrence of open juncture before a following single obstruent. When there is a following geminate obstruent, however, there is no juncture. Thus, we write <**n'njan** [nən'jan] 'my

child'>, <**nkaqan** [ənˈgavan] 'measurement'>, <**m'ntu** [mənˈdu] 'devil'>, *but* <**l'nppok** [lənˈpok] '(spring) water'>

The occurrence of open juncture following a sonorant that is not preceded by schwa is signalled by gemination of the sonorant or, in order to avoid alternate spellings of a lexical item, the introduction of a hyphen: <**malltew** [malˈdeɔ̃] 'blood'>, <**wennju:su:n** [ɯenˈju:zu:n] 'apple'>, <**kunntew** [kunˈdeɔ̃] 'rock'>, <**palltaqan** [palˈdayan] 'gunwhale'>, and <**puwi:kn-ji:j** [puɯi:gənji:č] 'Puerto Rican'>, <**ejigəl-te:m** [ejigəlˈde:m] 'I knock it away'>. Between vowels, as noted above, the apostrophe marks intervocalic open juncture, which here takes the form of an aspiration or an hiatus: <**t'mte:'e:n** [təmˈde:he:n] 'chop it off!'>, <ke'itu [ke-idu] (compare the dialect variant <kejitu) 'I know (it)'>.

The first consonant of a word initial cluster consisting of any combination of nasals (m, n) or liquid (l) is syllabic and is followed by open juncture: <**llutaqan** [lˈludayan] 'fence'>, <**nnu** [n̥nu] 'person'>, <**nmi** [n̥mi] 'granny!'>, <**lmuj** [l̥mu:č] 'dog'>. If a word initial cluster consists of a liquid (l) plus obstruent, the liquid is also syllabic and is followed by open juncture: <**lpa:tuj** [l̥pa:duč] 'boy'>, <**lketu** [l̥gedu] 'mushroom'>, <**lsipuktuk** [l̥zibu'ktuk] 'Big Cove'>.

On the other hand, if the word initial cluster consists of a nasal (m, n) followed by an obstruent, the nasal is voiceless and semi-syllabic, and there is no open juncture: <**mpo:qon** [m̥po:ɣon] 'bed'>, <**mkikn** [m̥kigən] 'hook'>, <**mqwan** [m̥xwan] 'spoon'>, <**mtl'n** [m̥tələn] 'ten'>, <**npuwinu** [n̥puɯinu] 'hearse'>, <**ntlutew** [n̥təlu:deɔ̃] 'smoke'>, <**nsisqon** [n̥siˈsɣon] 'my nose'>, <**ntuksuwinu** [n̥tuˈksuɯinu] 'provider'>, <**nkutuko:pj** [n̥kudugo:pč] 'recluse'>.

When there is no open juncture within the word, the consonants and vowels are said to be in close transition: <**temte:m** [temˈte:m] 'I chop it off'>, <**winpasit** [ɯinˈpasit] 'he hustles'>, <**puktew** [puˈkteɔ̃] 'fire'>, <**kitpu** [kiˈtpu] 'eagle'>, <**maltejjuwey** [malˈteˈčçuɛj] 'hammer'>, <**wiyus** [ɯijus] 'meat'>.

The first consonant of word initial obstruent clusters is sometimes pronounced with a slight, preceding, non-distinctive vocalic: <**k̥ti** [ʔ̥kti] 'your (sg) dog'>, <**p̥sew** [ʔ̥pseɔ̃] 'gunpowder'>, <**sk̥wew** [ʔ̥sk̥wew] 'female fowl'>, <**tk̥u** [ʔ̥tku] 'wave'>.

In hopes of rendering the dictionary more pertinent, an additional symbol (the "bullet") has been introduced in the Micmac - English section to mark off meaningful

units of compound or complex forms that have undergone modification in the process. If an open juncture has resulted from the modification, a hyphen is used in place of the bullet. In either case, the unmodified form, which is listed elsewhere in the dictionary, is then provided within parentheses: <**ali-sqotm ti (soqtm)** 'I chew it about'>, <**nikani-ksuma:tu ti (kesma:tu)** 'I push it ahead'>, <**wel-p'sk ii (eps'k)** 'it heats up properly'>, <**nutkul-pa:sit ai (epa:sit)** 'he kneels down'>

The modified list of symbols used to transcribe Micmac forms is as follows:

Symbols	Examples
a	atkitemit, tami, m'ta
a:	a:pi, wa:w, ala:
e	epit, nepat, je mu
e:	e:pit, ne:pat. nike:
i	ika:q, wituwit, nipi
i:	i:k, wi:k, nmi:
j	ji:nm, keji:k, nujjaj, kikjiw, nmu:j
k	kopit, teke:k, m'ntuwa:ki
l	lusknikn, piley, witapal
m	meski:k, tmi:kn, temte:m
n	nepk, mena:tu, kunntew, wen
o	oqwa:t, soqtm, ketloqo
o:	o:platu, ko:pikn
p	patliya:s, nusapun, tepkik, put'p
q	qopisun, apt'sqe:k, na:qi, soqqwat
s	sipu, wastew, pusit, wapus
t	tiya:m, amatpat, matuwes, mijjit
u	utan, kelusit, kulkwis, sisku
u:	u:n, kelu:sit, nemitu:n, nuku:
w	wow, kewte:m, kawiksaw, kwitn, nkwis, sikkw, moqwa
y	wayopskw, eykik, tewiyey
'	p'tewey, nt'p, temtm'n, m'ntu, tmte:'e:n
-	ejikl-te:m, awan-kijjet, aji-winjit, weli-kisk'k

ORDER OF ENTRIES. Dependent nouns (noun stems that may only occur in possessed form) are listed separately at the beginning of the dictionary. They are usually entered using the first person singular prefix (**n-**, **nt-** 'my'): <**nkij** *an* [my] 'mother'>, <**ntus** *an* [my] 'daughter'>. Occasionally, the third person prefix (**w-**) is more suitable: <**wilqi** [his] 'penis' [animal]>.

Otherwise, both here and in the main section that follows, the arrangement is alphabetical, *with no distinction being made between long and short vowels*.

FORM OF ENTRIES. Micmac nouns are either *animate* (*an*) or *inanimate* (*in*) in grammatical gender. With the exception of homonyms of different genders, however, *only* animate nouns are marked as such in the dictionary.

The form of the majority of noun plurals is predictable from that of the singular: animate nouns form their plurals in **-k**, inanimate noun in **-(')l**: <**wow** *an* 'pot'>, <**wowk** (pl) *an* 'pots'>; <**jujij** *an* 'serpent'>, <**jujijk** (pl) *an* 'serpents'>; <**wa:w** 'egg'>, <**wa:w'l** (pl) 'eggs'>; <**wisse:j** 'nest'>, <**wisse:jl** 'nests'>.

There are exceptions, however. In such cases, the unpredictable plural forms are provided in parentheses: <**muwin** (**muwinaq**) *an* 'bear'>, <**ji:nm** (**ji:nmuk**) *an* 'man'>, <**ksu:skw** (**ksu:skuk**) *an* 'hemlock'>, <**lpa:tu** (**lpa:tu:k**) *an* 'young man'>, <**e:pit** (**e:pijik**) *an* 'woman'>, <**wisnaw** (**wisnaq**) *an* 'perch'>; <**kunntew** (**kunntal**) 'rock'>, <**nitu** (**nitu:l**) '(my) whisker'>, <**tulkowey** (**tulkowe:l**) 'cannon'>. A special case is the now almost universal replacement of the inanimate plural marker **-(')l** by **-n** when the singular form ends in **n**. Example: <**kwitn** (**kwitnn**)>, rather than the infrequently heard (**kwitn'l**) 'canoe'>.

Micmac verb forms are always entered as whole, fully inflected (sentence) words. English verbs, on the other hand, whether they appear as glosses or as main entries in the index, are given in their *infinitive* forms only. Thus, while the Micmac expressions <**nepk**> and <**nemi:k**> may be literally translated as 'he is dead' and 'I see her', respectively, they are glossed in the dictionary simply as <'dead'> and <'see'>.

Micmac verbs are categorized as being either *intransitive* or *transitive*. They are listed in the dictionary in the independent order form for *third person singular actor* if

intransitive, and for *first person singular actor with third person singular object* if transitive.

The intransitive verb may be inflected for *animate actor* (*ai*), or *inanimate actor* (*ii*), or both. Where both forms occur, and are not homonyms, they are given separate entries. Examples, with full translations provided here and throughout the rest of the introduction, are as follows: <**nepat** *ai* 'he / she is sleeping'>, <**pekisink** *ai* 'he / she arrives'>, <**meskilk** *ai* 'he / she / it is big'>, <**epsit** *ai* 'he / she / it is hot'>, but <**pekisk** *ii* 'it arrives'>, <**meski:k** *ii* 'it is big'>, <**eptek** *ii* 'it is hot'>, <**kikpesaq** *ii* 'it is raining'>, and <**musike:k** *ai, ii* 'it is empty'>.

Intransitive verbs that occur only in the plural are given in the form for third person 'dual' actor or, where appropriate, in that for third person 'plural' actor: <**aknutmajik** (pl) *ai* 'they negotiate'>, <**kittoqopultijik** (pl) *ai* 'they sit around in a circle'>.

Intransitive verbs whose stems end in **-m** drop the **-m** in inflections with a third person actor. In order to exhibit the full form of the stem, the inflection with a first person singular actor is provided in parentheses: <**alaqami:k** (**alaqami:m**) *ai* 'he/she snowshoes' ('I snowshoe')>, <**na:kwekewa:q** (**na:kwekewa:m**) *ai* 'he/she is paid by the day' ('I am paid by the day')>

Intransitive verbs may have a *participle* use: the verb behaves syntactically like a noun. Many entries that have been listed as nouns seem clearly to have an underlying verbal base, and many entries that have been recorded as intransitive verbs are also used nominally. Where this situation has been noted, the entry is marked for both uses: <**nutnawet** *ai* (*an*) 'he assists at mass' ('alter boy'), <**tepkise:k** *ai* (*an*) 'he/she's a loner', <**nuji wsuwa:teket** *ai* (*an*) 'he's the one who hauls in' ('policeman'). <**e:pit** *an* 'woman' (the one who sits?). Compare <**epit** *ai* 'he/she sits'>.

A transitive verb may be inflected for an *animate object* (*ta*) or for an *inanimate object* (*ti*). They are given separate listings in the dictionary: <**kesalk** *ta* 'I like him or her'>, <**kesatm** *ti* 'I like it'>; <**nemi:k** *ta* 'I see him or her'>, <**nemitu** *ti* 'I see it'>; <**wettelaq** *ta* 'I purchase him, her or it from there'>, <**wettel'm** *ti* 'I purchase it from there'>; <**paqa:l'k** *ta* 'I bite him, her or it'>, <**paqa:tu** *ti* 'I bite it'>; <**anko:tm** *ti* 'I take care of or preserve it'>, <**ankweyaq** *ta* 'I take care of or preserve him, her or it'>. If transitive verbs have a participle use, this has not been noted.

Forms that are neither nouns or verbs are referred to as *particles*. Particles have no inflection and, like the inanimate nouns, are left unmarked: <**miyamuj** 'for sure!>, <**me: pa** 'anyhow'>, <**awisiw** 'seldom'>, <**tam pas'k tami** 'anywhere'>

ABBREVIATIONS

<i>ai</i>	animate intransitive verb
<i>an</i>	inanimate intransitive
BC	Big Cove, New Brunswick
CB	Cape Breton, Nova Scotia
<i>do</i>	direct object
EG	Éel Ground, New Brunswick
ESK	Eksasoni (Cape Breton), Nova Scotia
Fr	French
<i>ii</i>	inanimate verb
<i>in</i>	inanimate noun
loc	local form of noun
MARIA	Maria, Québec
MEM	Membertou (Cape Breton), Quebec
PEI	Prince Edward Island
pl	plural
RB	Red Bank, Nova Scotia
SH	Indianbrook (Shubenacadie), Nova Scotia
<i>ta</i>	transitive animate verb
<i>ti</i>	transitive inanimate verb
voc	vocative form of noun

POSSESSED NOUNS

na:qi

n'lis

na:qi (my) flesh
nijan an (my) child
nijapo:ti (my) purse [SH]
nijimij (my) buttocks; (my) anus
nijinij (nijinjik) an (my) meat (of a nut or seed); (my) fish roe
nijink (pl) an (my) children [BR]
nijinuwan (my) cheek
nijjus an (my) stepchild
nijkikm (my) wart
ni:k (my) house; (my) dwelling
nikma:j an (my) spouse
nikmaj an (my) neighbour; (my) housemate [SH]
nikmaq an (my) immediate family; (my) relative; (my) chum [SH]
ni:kmatut (voc) an (my) people
nili (my) navel; (my) belly button
niliksi (my) gut
nilisqi an (my) wing
nilmus an (my) sister-in-law (male speaker) [BC, PEI]; (my) brother-in-law (female speaker) [BC, PEI]
nilnu (my) tongue [BR]
nilqi (my) penis [SH]
nilu an (my) game [ESK]
ni:naji:j (dim) an (my) little one [SH]
ninnu (my) tongue
ninoqwey (my) rump
ninu (my) food; (my) provisions; (my) larder; (my) game [BR]
ni:p (my) penis
nipit (my) tooth
nipitokom (my) gum
niskamij an (my) grandfather [SH]; (my) stepfather [BC]
niskamiji:skw an (my) grandmother; (my) stepmother [BC]
nitap (nitapaq) an (my) male friend
nitape:skw (nitape:skwaq) an (my) female friend
nitku an (my) eyelash
nitr (my) nostril
nitu (my) whisker
njijaqamij an (my) spirit; (my) soul; (my) shadow
njijaqamiju:wey (my) shadow
njijaqamiju:wiwey (my) shadow [SH]
njiknam an (my) younger brother

njikun an (my) knee
njikwi:ji:j an (my) mother-in-law [SH]
njikwi:jij an (my) mother-in-law [SH]
njilj an (my) father-in-law
nji:n'mum an (my) man; (my) husband
nji:n'mumt'p an (my) ex-husband
nji:taqan (my) neck
njoqj'te:kn (my) palate
njoqolqote:kn'm (my) palate
njukwi:ji:j an (my) mother-in-law
nkajikn (my) foreleg
nkamlamun (my) heart
nkamlamuti(m) (my) breath [SH]
nkat (my) foot
nkata:law (nkata:laq) an (my) calf (of the leg) [SH]
nkekkuni an (my) godparent [NB]
nkekkusk an (my) godparent; (my) godmother [BC]
nkekunit an (my) godparent [CB]
nke:kwatpan (my) pate (top of the head)
nkij an (my) mother
nkijewijik (pl) an (my) parents (mother dominant)
nkiju:wem an (my) mother (term of endearment)
nkisikum an (my) dear old man (term of affection, wife to husband)
nkisikuwi:skum an (my) dear old woman (term of affection for a wife)
nk'jinuwan (my) cheek [BR]
nk'jinuwan (my) cheek [SH]
nkلامuksis an (my) uncle (also, a term of respect for an older man) [SH]
nklitam (my) birthmark
nklnikn an (my) godchild [CB, BC]
nknnikn an (my) godchild
nkoji:j an (my) nephew or niece; (my) stepdaughter; (my) granddaughter [BR]
nk'site:taqan (my) valuable [BR, SH]
nk'tlams'tmaqan (my) belief [BC]
nkujinuwan (my) cheek [SH]
nkwe:ji:j an (my) younger sister
nkwis an (my) son
nkwiŋji:j (dim) an (my) little son
n'likxi (my) gut
n'lis an (my) aunt; (my) grandmother [BR]; (my) aunt (mother's sister) [BC]

n'luk an (my) gland; (my) swelling
nluskunikn'm an (my) elbow
n'magtam an (my) brother-in-law (male speaker) [BC]; (my) sister-in-law (female speaker) [BC]
n'makkatem (my) dress [BC]
nmakkupe:l'm an (my) partner (the godparent of my child) [SH]
n'malltem (my) blood
nmaposm (my) pocket (Fr *(ma) poche*)
nmaqajikeweym (my) big toe
n'maqjikewe: m (my) toe
n'maqtam an (my) brother or sister-in-law
n'matletm (my) blouse [PEI]
nma:tletm (my) gown
nmi (voc) (my) old woman (term of affection and respect)
n'mi:jan an (my) feces
n'mijkamij an (my) grandfather
n'mis an (my) older sister
n'mi:sikwan an (my) eyebrow
nm'lakejm an (my) mammary [SH]
nm'litam (my) birthmark [BC]
n'msekun an (my) eyelash [SH]
n'mtesan an (my) last-born
n'muksn an (my) shoe
n'muksnapi (my) shoelace
n'munntek (my) sack
n'munnti (my) scrotum
n'musti (my) belly; (my) pouch; (my) abdomen
n'naqapem an (my) chum; (my) partner; (my) housekeeper; (my) servant; (my) adoptee [BC]
n'nijan an (my) child [SH]
nnijkikm (my) wart
n'nikamij'skw an (my) mother-in-law [SH]
n'niskamij an (my) grandfather [NB, EG]
n'niskamiji:skw an (my) grandmother; (my) mother-in-law [SH]
n'njan an (my) child
n'nki:kw (n'nki:kuk) an (my) parent
nn'snaqan'm an (my) foster (adopted) child [SH]
n'nuji (my) head [SH]
no:kuma:j(i:i) an (my) distant cousin (elder to youth)
no:kumaw (no:kumaq) an (my) cousin; (my) relative [SH]

no:kwin (my) backbone; (my) spinal cord
nowikn (my) backbone [SH]
npaqam (my) back
npaqamiptn (my) back of the hand
npijo:qati(m) (my) quiver
npikaqan (my) rib
npi:nem (my) opinion [SH]
npitn (my) hand
np'kikw (my) eye [BR, BC, SH]
nplaqan (my) lap; (my) groin
np'lkoqom an (my) steady (girl or boyfriend); (my) fiancée
np'n an (my) lung
npoqomatim (my) weapon [CB]
npo:qon (my) bed
np'siktiyem (my) anal track; (my) anus
np'skun (my) chest; (my) breast [BR, SH]
np'ssan (my) sleeve; (my) forearm; (my) forelimb [SH]
np'ssanikat (my) foreleg [SH]
np'tn (my) hand
np'tnokom (my) arm [SH]
npukukw (my) eye
npukukwe:l (my) glasses
npukumaqan (my) weapon [BC]
npu:kw (my) eye
npu:kwe:l (pl) (my) glasses; (my) specs
npuskun (my) chest; (my) breast
npuskuney (my) brassiere; (my) chest protector (in baseball)
nqon an (my) eel
nqosi an (my)f ingemail; (my) hoof
nqotaqan (my) throat
nsaqatp (my) skull [BR]
nsaqtaqan an (my) testicle
nsaski (my) crotch
nsi an (my) hoof [SH]
nsi (my) lip
nsis an (my) older brother
nsiskw (my) face
nsisqon (my) nose
nsit an (my) fetlock [SH]
nsitun (my) voice; (my) voice box; (my) windpipe
nsitunapi:l (pl) (my) vocal cords
ns'kun (my) hip; (my) rump
ns'kuti (my) urine

nsm an (my) niece
nsmji:j an (my) niece
nsmu an (my) (animal) horn
ns'tuwaqan (my) ear
nsukun (my) hip; (my) rump [SH]; (my) tailbone
nsukuni (my) tail
nsukuti (my) urine
nsukwis an (my) aunt
nsukwis an (my) sister-in-law (woman speaking) [PEI]; (my) brother-in-law (man speaking) [PEI]
nsukwisewijk (pl) **an** (my) aunt and uncle (aunt dominant)
ntalasutmaqan'm (my) religion [PEI]
ntalikam (my) belonging; (my) possession
ntalikem (my) possession [SH]
ntalsutaqan (my) possession
ntalsuwikn (my) indigestion; (my) liver [NB]
ntalsuwikn (my) ulcer [BC]; (my) digestive tract
nta:pim an (my) net
ntapostm (my) pocket
ntaptu:n (my) cane; (my) crutch
ntaqam an (my) snowshoe
nta:qan (my) paddle
ntaqan (my) paddle; (my) oar [SH]
nta:sutmaqan'm (my) religion
ntatqa:lam an (my) calf (of the leg)
nte:j an (my) puppy [BR]
ntelkw (my) inner fat (around the kidneys)
nte:pitem an (my) wife
nte:pitem'tp an (my) ex-wife
nte:pite:sm an (my) girlfriend; (my) fiancée
ntettuwoqon'm (my) bill; (my) debt
nti an (my) dog
ntijin (my) thumb
ntijinikat (my) big toe [BR]
ntinin (my) flesh
ntisikn (my) stocking
nt'ksite:taqan (my) treasure; (my) valuable
n'tku an (my) eyelash
ntlamilu (my) stomach; (my) innards
ntlaw (ntlaq) an (my) shoulder blade
ntlmaqan (my) shoulder
ntlmaqanatkw (my) shoulder blade
nt'lpa:tum an (my) boyfriend [SH]
nt'lpa:tu:sm an (my) boyfriend [PEI]
ntlu:suk an (my) son-in-law
ntlu:suwe:skum an (my) daughter-in-law

ntluwikn (my) finger
ntluwiknikat (my) toe [BR]
ntnuwan an (my) vein; (my) tendon [SH]
nto:jm (my) toe
ntoqon (my) dress
ntoqwan (my) dress [BR]; (my) quilt [BC]
nt'p (my) brain
nt'pi (my) root (a fine root used for stitching quill basket covers)
nt'p'ssan (my) sleeve [PEI]
nt'pun (my) place; (my) seat
nt'sikn (my) stocking [PEI]
ntukwape:kn (my) jaw
ntukwejan (my) forehead
ntul (my) means of transportation (boat, car, etc.)
ntun (my) mouth
ntupun (my) bed; (my) seat [PEI]
ntus an (my) daughter
ntuskun'm (my) liver
ntu:taqan (my) paddle; (my) oar
ntutem an (my) gentleman friend [BC]
ntutji:j (dim) **an** (my) little daughter
ntuttem an (my) totem; (my) gentleman friend [SH]; (my) fellow clansman
ntuttemi:skw an (my) lady friend [SH]
ntuttemi:skwe:j an (my) young lady friend [SH]
ntuttemiji:j an (my) young gentleman friend [SH]
ntuwaqan (my) knife
ntuwe:m an (my) domestic animal (e.g. a horse, cat, etc.); (my) pet
ntuwowm an (my) pot
nuja:kaj (my) vein [BR]
nuja:lam an (my) nasal mucus
nuji:j an (my) grandchild
nujininuwan (my) cheek [BC]
nujipo:ti (my) purse [BC]
nujj an (my) father
nujjiji:j an (my) daddy [SH]
nujjiwejik (pl) an (my) parents (father dominant)
nukikm (my) wart [BR, SH]
nukim (my) sore; (my) scab [SH]
nukumij an (my) grandmother; (my) mother-in-law [SH]; (my) aunt [BR]
nullsu an (my) testicle
nuluks, nuluks'ji:j an (my) nephew [BR]
nulukun (my) thigh
nulukw an (my) abscess; (my) tonsil [SH]

numapposm

numapposm (my) pocket [PEI]
numis an (my) older sister [PEI]
nunnji (my) head
nusapun (my) head hair
nusaqatp (my) skull [SH]
nutapaqan (my) team (of horses) [SH]
nuta:pi an (my) net [ESK]
nutapsun (my) clothing; (my) belonging
nu:ta:qan (my) paddle [BC]
nutepaqan (my) sleigh; (my) car; (my) team (of horses)
nutmaqan an (my) pipe
nutmawey (my) tobacco
nutmi:kn (my) axe
nutumo:taqan'm (my) property
nwikew'm (my) fat (outer layer)
nwisawe:m (my) appendix [SH]
nwisawo:m (my) appendix
wilqi (his) penis (animal)
w'nisqi (his) wing [BR]
wpmepikaj (his) hip [SH]

Y

yard

yard lape:lis (a measurement, Fr. la verge)

yarn jijkluwewjiwapi

yawn ikte:k (ikte:m) *ai* [SH]; iktewsit *ai* [PEI];
ikto:sit *ai*

year five ~ -s nanipung'k *ii*; one hundred ~ -s
old kaskimtnaqanipuna:t [BR];

kask'ptnnaqanipuna:t *ai*; one ~ newtipunqek
ii; one ~ old nekwtipuna:t *ai* [BR]; so many
~ -s old te:sipuna:t *ai*; kaqi:siskekipuna:q *ii*,
kaqi:siskekipuna:t *ai*; ten ~ -s

metla:sipung'k; ten ~ -s old metla:sipuna:t
ai; three ~ -s nesipunqek *ii*; two ~ -s
tapuwipunqek; two ~ -s old tapuwipuna:t *ai*

yearn long or ~ for kiwajeyaq *ta*, kiwajo:tm *ti*

yeast so:kwistaqan

yellow wataptek *ii* [BR]; wisawe:k *ii*

yellowish wisaw-amuksit *ai*, wisaw-amu:k *ii*

yes amuj (in contradicting a negative
statement); e:; e:'e

yesterday w'laku; the day before ~ iktiki-
w'la:ku; peku:laks [BR]

yet ki:kaj [BR]; me:

you ki:l (sg); kilow (pl)

you are created! kisu:l (expression of
surprise) [BR]

you bet! jki:n je:k (an exclamation)

young maljewe:juwit *ai*; ~ -er me:
maljewe:juwit *ai*

youngster luks'ji: *an*; maljewe:j *an*

yours kilewewey (pl) *an*, *in*; ki:lewey (sg) *an*,
in; kilowewey (pl) *an*, *in*

MICMAC DICTIONARY

Albert D. DeBlois

The Micmac Dictionary is derived from texts and anecdotes collected over the past thirty-five years from speakers of Micmac in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Quebec. The Micmac – English section consists of some 7,850 Micmac entries with their English equivalents. The comprehensive English – Micmac keyword index should render the dictionary more accessible to native speakers of Micmac as well as to students of the language.

About the Author

Currently a research associate at the Canadian Museum of Civilization, Albert D. DeBlois, both as a student and teacher, has worked in close collaboration with speakers of Micmac during his tenure as Chief Ethnologist and Curator of Atlantic Provinces Ethnology. His most recent publication, *Micmac Texts*, provides a glimpse of Micmac lifestyles and beliefs.

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