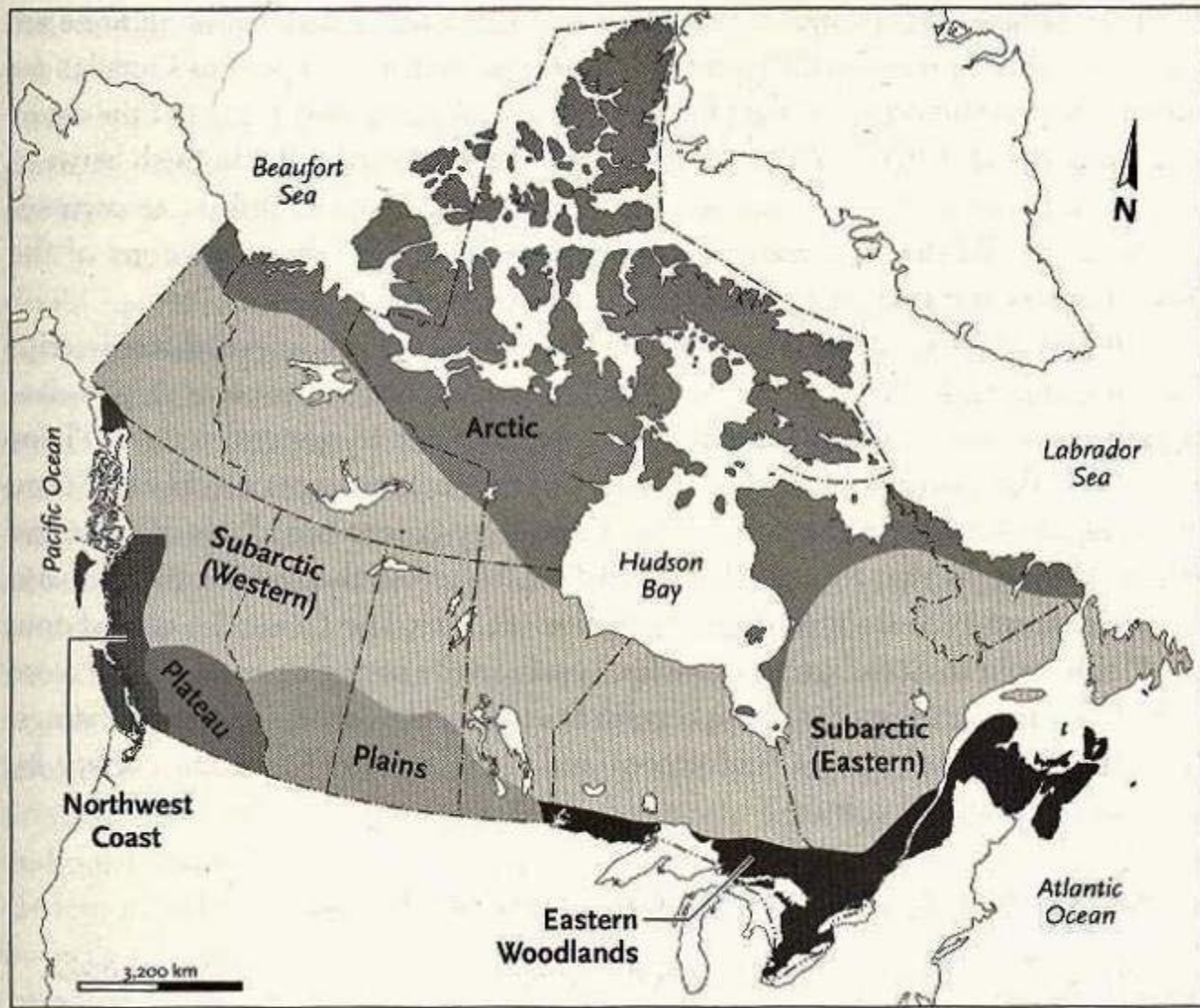


Michael William Francis (1923-1995)

Glooscap's Loon Messenger Came Flying to Him, 1972

Acrylic wall mural/Murale à l'acrylique 182.8
cm x 137.1 cm

Photo/Photographie : John Joe Sark



ABOVE *Aboriginal culture areas of Canada*

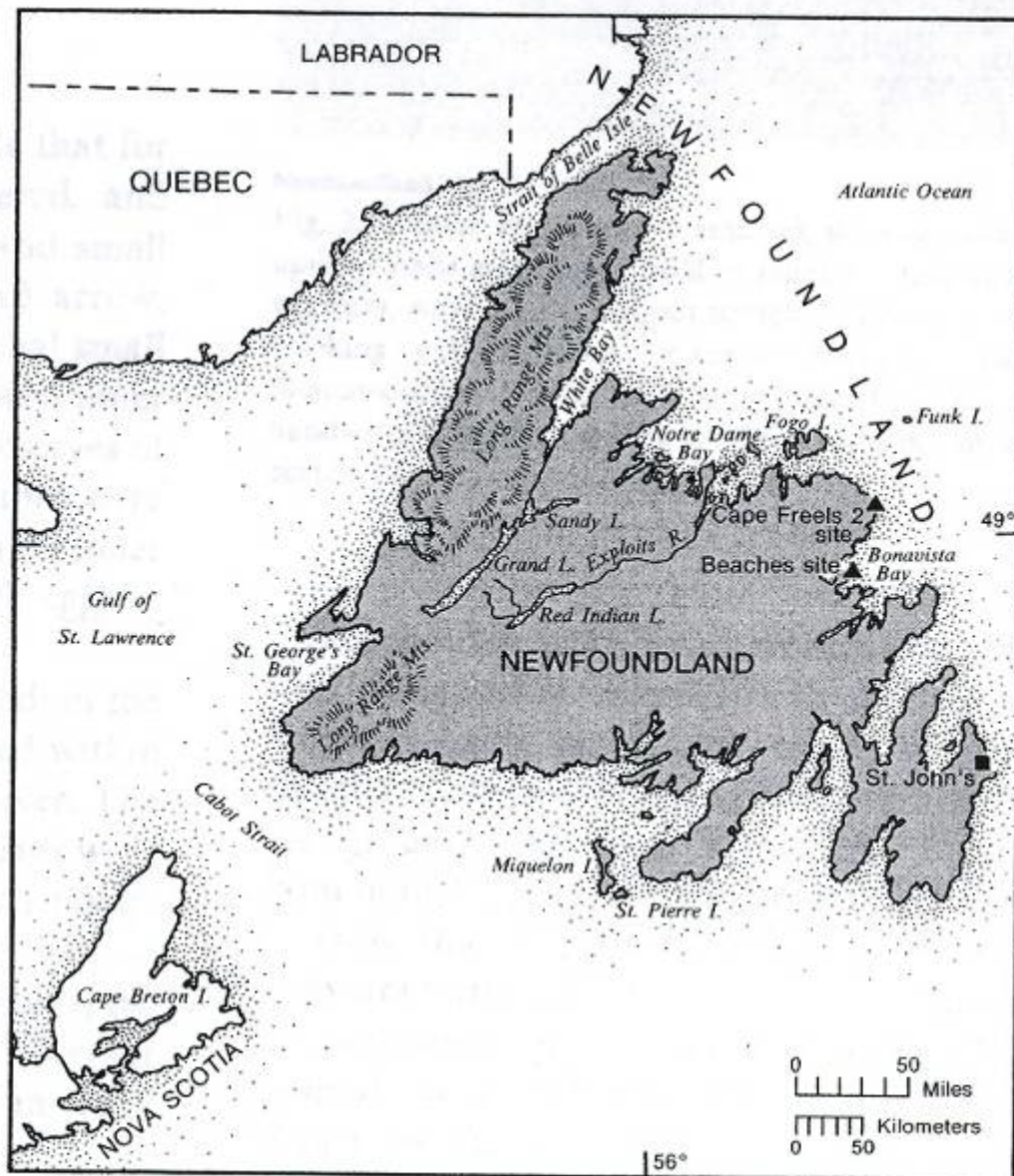


Fig. 1. Tribal area.

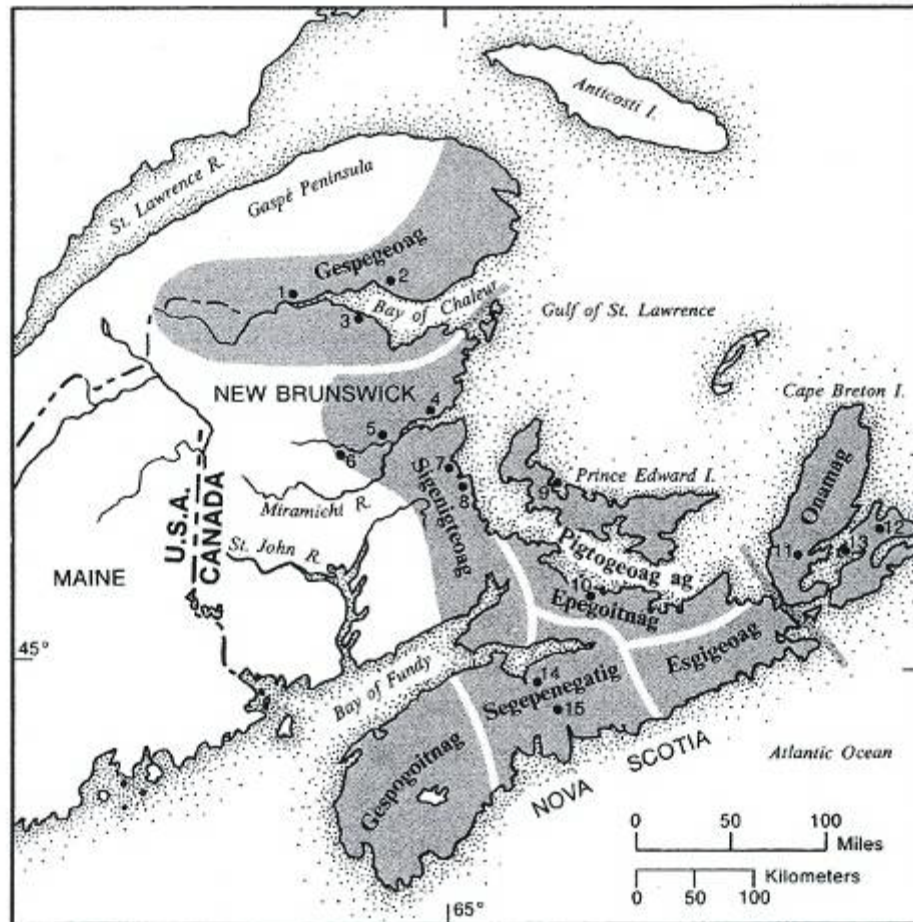


Fig. 1. Traditional tribal districts with the principal 1970 reserves: 1, Restigouche; 2, Maria; 3, Eel River, Dalhousie; 4, Burnt Church; 5, Eel Ground; 6, Red Bank; 7, Richibucto; 8, Big Cove; 9, Lennox Island; 10, Pictou Landing; 11, Whycocomagh, Nyanza; 12, Membertou (Sydney); 13, Eskasoni; 14, Truro; 15, Shubenacadie.

Three centuries later, the following names of months were recorded (Wallis and Wallis 1955:104):

January	Frost-fish or tomcod
February	Snow-blinding or sore eyes
March	Spring
April	Egg-laying
May	Young seals or get herring
June	Summer or leaf-opening
July	Sea-fowl shed feathers
August	Young birds are full-fledged
September	Moose-calling
October	Fat, tame animals
November	All Saints' Day moon
December	The chief moon (Christmas)



"The novice must keep his object a secret while camping alone in the woods with an outfit for two, the other, an invisible companion. A being will finally appear, it is thought, who will give him the gift of magic, the power to assume animal shapes, to walk through fire unharmed, through water without being drowned, to translate himself through the air with the quickness of thought, to control the elements, to walk on the water and the like."

(Johnson, Frederick. 1943. Micmac Shamanism. *Primitive Man* 16(3/4).)

Woman's story:

"I had been sick for four or five days after my second child was born. I was conscious but could not speak. I could see mother taking care of me and could understand all that was being said to me but it was impossible to move. On the fourth day I went to sleep and I dreamt that old _____ came and pulled all the clothes off the bed. I picked up a three-cornered file that was lying on the ledge near my bed and stabbed the old fellow in the heart. This was in the dream of course."

...

It seems that during the dream that the woman kicked and screamed but after she had stabbed the old fellow she had quieted down. As soon as the mother gave her a glass of water she came to her senses and could talk. The next day, according to this woman's mother, the son of the old man dropped in and asked about the woman's health. Her mother said that she was all right. In the course of the conversation, the boy, who knew nothing of the dream, told them that the night before his father had fallen off his chair as though he had been struck and that his chest had swollen up.

(Johnson, Frederick. 1943. Micmac Shamanism. *Primitive Man* 16(3/4):Notes: E-article.)

