

Media Release

March 9, 2016

Public Talk and Book Launch March 15
“Stubborn Resistance:
New Brunswick Maliseet and Mi’kmaq in defence of their lands”
by Brian Cuthbertson

When New Brunswick became its own colony in 1784, the government concluded peace treaties with the Mi’kmaq and Maliseet in the territory that protected First Nations lands. But as settlers, loyalists, and disbanded soldiers moved into New Brunswick, they moved onto the reserves, often without official sanction. This squatter problem led the New Brunswick government to pass an act in 1844 that allowed them to sell reserve land.

In *Stubborn Resistance: New Brunswick Maliseet and Mi’kmaq in defense of their lands* author Brian Cuthbertson explores the history of the defence of reserve lands by the Maliseet and Mi’kmaq of New Brunswick, from eighteenth-century peace treaties to the present. With reference to the 1844 act, Cuthbertson examines the legality of the sale of reserve lands using specific cases from Bouctouche, Red Bank, Tobique, Burnt Church and Eel Ground.

Cuthbertson will give a public talk on the book on Tuesday, March 15 at 4 pm in the Brian Mulroney Hall Rotunda at St. Thomas University.

The Chair in Native Studies at St. Thomas University, the Hon. Graydon Nicholas, will introduce Cuthbertson.

A native of Sackville, New Brunswick, Cuthbertson received a PhD from King’s College, London. He was an archivist at the Nova Scotia Archives (1974–1982) and Head of Heritage in the Nova Scotia government (1983–1995).

He is the author of eight books, including *The Loyalist Governor*, which received the Evelyn Richardson Literary Award. His most recent book is *Melville Prison and Deadman’s Island: American and French Prisoners of War, 1794–1816*.

- 30 -

Media Contact – St. Thomas University - Jeffrey Carleton at (506) 452-0522 or carleton@stu.ca.