

# Miramichi Regional Multicultural Association



We acknowledge that MRMA operates on the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Mi'kmaq People first signed with the British crown in 1725. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.



## Elm Park Night Market

Join us every Thursday until September 28th for the Elm Park Night Market! Experience a vibrant and diverse market showcasing local vendors, delicious food, unique crafts, and live entertainment. Don't miss out on this fantastic community event!

## 6th Annual Mayor's Welcome BBQ

In a past event, Miramichi hosted its 6th Annual Mayor's Welcome BBQ. It was a fantastic chance to meet and engage with fellow community members, including representatives from diverse cultural backgrounds.



## Learn to Canoe

The "Learn to Canoe" program for newcomer beginners was a wonderful past event that took place every Saturday of July from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Led by the expert instructor Paul Mackinnon, participants had the opportunity to build their skills in a supportive and friendly environment. We extend our gratitude to all the participants who made this event a success.



## COMMUNITY FEATURE



### Warren - Happy Rice

Discover more about "Happy Rice," a local Thai food vendor Warren, in our Community Feature Interview on pages 3 and 4.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Language exchange club

Join the Miramichi Language Exchange Club every first Thursday of the month at MRMA, 1808 Water St., Miramichi, starting at 4:45 pm. Enjoy language classes, potluck, and discussions led by passionate volunteers! Last time, we explored Miramichi slang and Tagalog.

### Free Fun Soccer Camp

Join our free soccer camp for kids aged 8 to 12! Practice skills, footwork, teamwork, and enjoy fun games and matches. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity!

## WELCOME, INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS!

International students will be joining us for a boat ride on the Max Aitken on the Miramichi River!



Image from <https://miramichiriverboattours.com/>



### French Conversation Circle

Join our French Conversation Circle every Tuesday from noon to 1 PM. Come to 1808 Water street, Miramichi. Whether you're just starting to learn French or looking to enhance your conversational abilities, the circle is a welcoming space for all. Join us to build your confidence and connect with fellow learners. We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming sessions!

**Embrace diversity!**  
**Become a member today!**



## COMMUNITY FEATURE



### Warren - Happy Rice

#### Where were you born?

I was born in a city called Phitsanulok, Thailand.

#### Where have you lived (besides Miramichi)?

Besides Miramichi, I've lived in Michigan, USA as an exchange student, and worked in Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Indonesia, and Vancouver, Canada for study and work opportunities. Each place has enriched my life with diverse experiences and cultures.

#### When did you move to Miramichi?

I came to Miramichi on September 2nd, 2022, last year.

#### What is your favorite thing about Miramichi?

My favorite thing about Miramichi is the people. People here are incredibly kind and friendly. The support and warmth I have received from the community have been invaluable on my journey with HappyRice. When I first arrived here without knowing anyone, I faced many challenges, but the people of Miramichi stepped in to help me find a place to stay, and help me settle. Their generosity and kindness have meant a lot to me.

As I started my business, the people from the local market were there for me, offering help by giving me rides, purchasing my food, and even lending me some kitchen tools. The sense of community and the genuine care that the people of Miramichi show to newcomers and small businesses like mine are truly heartwarming and inspiring.

It's the people of Miramichi who have made me feel at home and supported my dream of sharing Thai cuisine with the community. Their friendliness and generosity have made Miramichi a special place for me and an integral part of the success of HappyRice.

#### When and why did you start your HappyRice?

I started HappyRice in February 2023 as a hobby. The idea behind starting was born out of my passion for cooking and my love for Thai food. Cooking has always been a significant part of my family, and I have cherished memories of cooking together with my parents and grandparents when I was a kid.

My parents' hard work, who had three jobs to put food on the table, was a tremendous inspiration to me. They taught during weekdays, tutored during weekends, and sold food in the evenings. Witnessing their dedication and the love customers had for their food left a lasting impression on me.

Even though I pursued engineering in university, my passion for cooking never faded. I continued exploring and learning about Thai cuisine by trying different dishes and observing local street food vendors. Eventually, I decided that I wanted to share the authentic taste of Thai food with others and introduce them to dishes like Pad Thai, Fried Rice, Tom Kha Kai, and more. It's not just a business for me; it's a way to share my culture and passion with the community.

## Warren - Happy Rice



HappyRice is not just selling food; it's a realization of my childhood dream and a place where people can savor the flavors of Thailand. When people think of Thai food, I want them to think of HappyRice.

After I finish college, I hope to continue growing HappyRice in the future, possibly expanding into catering, offering personal chef services, home cook classes or even opening a full-fledged restaurant in Miramichi. My journey with HappyRice has been an incredible adventure, and I'm grateful for the support of the community that has made it all possible.

When I arrived in Miramichi, I faced challenges in finding a job, and that's when I realized that creating my own opportunity was the best way to follow my dreams. I started HappyRice as a hobby, experimenting and perfecting my own recipes, driven by the desire to fulfill my childhood dream of owning a restaurant.

So, I started HappyRice not just as a business venture but as a way to express myself through the dishes I make and to spread the joy of Thai food to others. The name 'HappyRice' represents the happiness and satisfaction I feel when I cook and when my customers enjoy the food I serve.

I believe that food brings people together and creates wonderful memories, and I wanted to be a part of that experience. Seeing my friends and housemates enjoy my food and receiving positive feedback from customers who come back for more has reaffirmed that I am on the right track.

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**Become a member today!**  
**MIRAMICHI**  
 Regional Multicultural Association  
 Association Régionale Multiculturelle  
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