

# JULY 2023 NEWSLETTER

## N'Quatqua Band/Health Station

Jenn Levine/Reception ext.221

Email: [jennifer.levine@nquatqua.ca](mailto:jennifer.levine@nquatqua.ca)

Deadline for next newsletter will be:

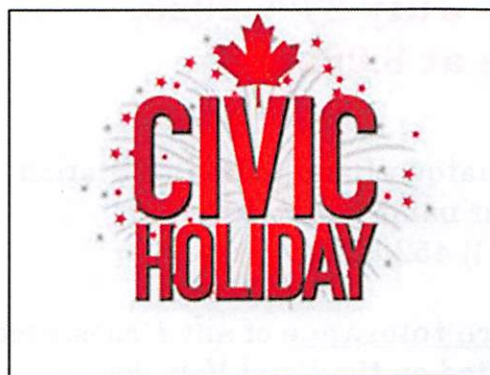
Wednesday- August 9, 2023

If you have any important information or suggestions for the newsletter you would like to share please contact the Band & Health Station at the front desk during office hours or email me before the deadline.

## N'Quatqua Band & Health Station

### OFFICE CLOSED

Monday- August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
(Civic Holiday)



### OFFICE RE-OPEN

Tuesday- August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

From N'Quatqua Band Staff.



Band Office Box 88  
Health Office Box 100  
D'Arcy, B.C. Canada  
V0N-1L0

120 Casper Charlie Place  
Toll free # 1-800-933-0323

#### Band Office Phone & Fax

(604) 452-3221 (P)

(604) 452-3295 (F)

#### Health Office Phone & Fax

(604) 452-3290 (P)

(604) 452-3280 (F)

#### Office Hours

Monday- Thursday  
9:00am-4:30pm

#### Lunch

12:30pm-1:00pm



## Social Development Worker- Sylvia Patrick

**\*\*Friendly Reminder to Social Assistance Clients\*\***

Renewals & Utility bills are due: **Monday- July 17, 2023**

(Renewal slips can be found at the Band/Health Station table)

Direct Deposit/Cheque: **Thursday- July 27, 2023**

If you have any questions, comments or concerns please give me a call. Thank-you,

Sylvia Patrick  
Social Development Worker  
(604) 452-3221 ext. 224  
sylvia.patrick@nquatqua.ca

### Squamish Community Shopping Day (BUS- limited seats)

**Thursday- July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**leave at 8:00am**

Please phone the N'Quatqua Band & Health Station  
to put your name on the list.  
(604) 452-3221

\*Friendly reminder there is **zero tolerance** of any Drugs, alcohol and marijuana permitted on the Band Vehicles\*

**\*\* Must wear a face mask on Band Vehicles\*\***



## Wellness Worker- Adele Fletcher



### **No More Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2 spirited.**

When: July 12 & 13<sup>th</sup>

Time: 6:00pm

Where: Health Station Boardroom

-July 12<sup>th</sup> is for the parents with youth- supper provided.

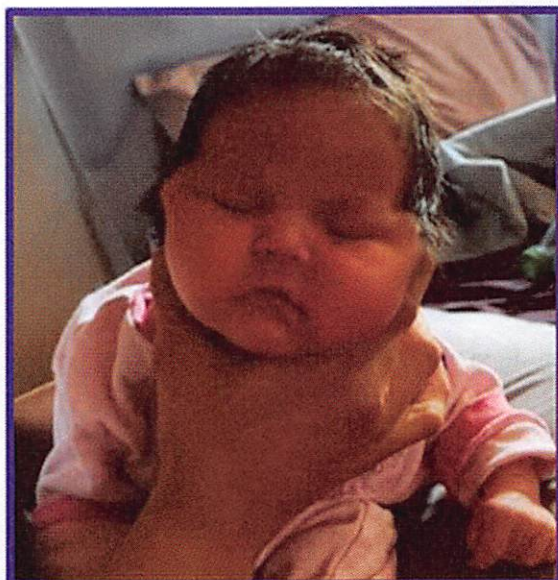
-July 13<sup>th</sup> is for the youth- supper provided.

Please sign-up with Front Desk/Jenn by July 10<sup>th</sup>

The guest speaker will be here for both days. From the MMIW in Vancouver.

There is limited seating so please let me know as soon as you can.

Let's welcome Mia Joe Born June 29, 7lbs 5oz.  
Congrats to the parents Patricia Peters & Kenneth Joe.



The UA  
**Piping Industry**  
College of BC

## TRADES AWARENESS PROGRAM

Learn about the different trades  
in the construction industry  
**PIPING, WELDING, SAFETY TRAINING, AND ESSENTIAL SKILLS**

Training allowance: steel toe boots, lunches & transportation provided.

Program requirements:

Reside in community, Indigenous ages 17 & up

Unemployed, or under employed

Seats 8-10

Time 9 am - 3pm Monday to Friday

Register with Julie Thevarge by June 28th, 2023 3 pm.

**July 24th - Aug 18th**

Location: N'quatqua Education building

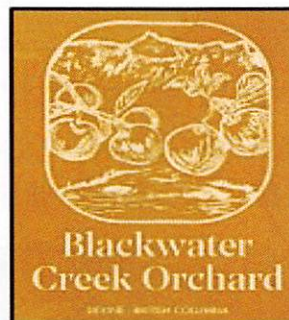


FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CONTACT

JULIE THEVARGE 604-452-3291  
JULIE.THEVARGE@NQUATQUA.CA



Fresh Produce Donation by  
Blackwater Creek Orchard



Fresh produce will be donated to the N'Quatqua Band  
and ready on Wednesday's, they will deliver weekly.

Different items each week.

Come on by the N'Quatqua Band/Health Station  
Boardroom to check it out.

Thank you Blackwater Creek Orchard 😊

# Physio appointments available in Community

## With Lindsay Skillicorn, B.Sc, M.Sc, PT



Registered Physiotherapist



**July 12th & 26th**

Sessions start at 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Please call the CHR to book an appointment

(604) 452 3221



## Massage Session with Cara Jenner



Please sign up with CHR

if you would like to have a treatment with Cara Jenner.

**\*\*\*Limited treatments available\*\*\***

(604) 452-3221/3290

With limited Treatments available, there will be a wait list for  
second treatment ( if available )

**Dates: Thursday's**

**. July 13th**

**. July 27th**



Brought to you by: Health Department





N'Quatqua Child & Family Development Centre

We gently remind parents to ensure your child have indoors, as we do **monthly Fire Drills** and the children and staff must always have footwear on.



**"Gift Box"**

 <p>Rory July 9th Leona July 11th Rylyn July 19th</p>	<p>Kate Wishart and Pippa Hodge visit on July 10th for our children &amp; families &amp; staff</p>  <p>Please continue to be COVID safe for everyone Handwashing is important</p>	<p>After school summer hours</p> <p><b>Monday to Thursday excluding Stat Holidays 9:00am-5:00pm</b></p> <p>Pickup no later than 4:45 please.</p> <p>Please keep your contact information up to date and Pick ups. We need phone numbers please if they have changed</p>
<p>Be patient with us this month as we celebrate our staff who are having vacation time, yahoo. Time to play, refresh, rest. We may have shortages but do our best to inform you through the FB ECD page.</p>	<p>With summer heat coming, we ask you to ensure water bottles, sunscreen, hats.</p> <p>Children in all programs need to have a lunch, we can warm up if needed.</p>	<p>Congratulations to Xwuzumalus for your Diploma in St'at'imc Fluency Program. It's so heartwarming to hear her and Unice teaching the language almost daily to our children.</p>



Sunscreen, Water Bottles, Extra Changings for Water Play please.

We may have a movie day at least once a month this summer, working on our summer program with the staff, watch for Bees please



## N'Quatqua Barkley Valley Camping trip

N'Quatqua Barkley Valley Community Camping  
Leave on the August 17th  
Return on August 20th, 2023

### Express of Interest

If you would like to participate,  
please sign up with CHR by August 3rd, 2023

Members are required to have all camping equipment  
and hike with gear.  
Basic food will be Provided.



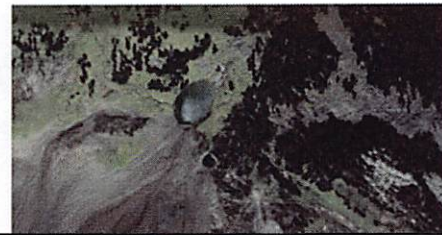
## N'Quatqua Lost Valley Camping trip

N'Quatqua Lost Valley Community Camping  
Leave on the July 27  
Return on July 30th, 2023

### Express of Interest

If you would like to participate,  
please sign up with CHR by July 6th, 2023

Members are required to have all camping equipment/  
gear for this trip.  
Basic food will be Provided.



## N'Quatqua Community Camping



*Covid-19: Restrictions, each campsite is responsible for cooking their own meals.  
\* please follow all provincial health guidelines.*

# September 7th to 10th, 2023

# Birkenhead Provincial Park



**Sign up by August 10, 2023 \*Limited sites available \***

**We would like to invite you to join the community camping at  
the Birkenhead Provincial Park.**

*Please note:*

Camping food will be provided for Friday/ Saturday/ Sunday

Department collaboration : Community Health, Lands & Resources, Social Development, Family support, Education, Children and family development center.



**QUIET TIME AT 10:00 PM**

**PLEASE RESPECT THE PROVINCIAL PARK RULES**

## **Emails for N'Quatqua Band Staff**

**Phone: (604) 452-3221 & (604) 452-3290**

**Fax: (604) 452-3295 & (604) 452-3280**

### **N'Quatqua Band/Health Station Staff emails**

Reception- Jenn Levine	ext.221	jennifer.levine@nquatqua.ca
Community Health Representative- Nicole Patrick	ext.222	nicole.patrick@nquatqua.ca
Elders Coordinator- Sharleen Patrick	ext.222	Sharleen.patrick@nquatqua.ca
Family Support-		
Social Development- Sylvia Patrick	ext.224	sylvia.patrick@nquatqua.ca
Lands & Resource Dept.- Dennis Silzer-Smith	ext.225	dennis.silzer-smith@nquatqua.ca
Accounting- Kristy Stowell	ext.226	kristy.stowell@nquatqua.ca
LSTC Projects & Accounting Specialist- Linda Brown		linda.brown@lstc.ca
Band Admin. Assistant - Chantel Thevarge	ext.227	chantel.thevarge@nquatqua.ca
LSTC Chief Administrative Officer- Sheldon Dowswell		Sheldon.dowswell@lstc.ca
Band Administrator- N/A		
Wellness Worker- Adele Fletcher		adele.fletcher@nquatqua.ca
Chief- Micah Thevarge		micah.thevarge@nquatqua.ca
Councillor-Doris Peters		doris.peters@nquatqua.ca (604) 862-0532
Councillor- Dennis Silzer-Smith		dennis.silzer-smith@nquatqua.ca
Councillor- Korie Stowell		korie.stowell@nquatqua.ca
Housing Coordinator- Jason Bob		jason.bob@nquatqua.ca

### **Operation & Maintenance**

Fire Dept.- Duane Thevarge	duane.thevarge@nquatqua.ca
Water Works- James Gellatly	james.gellatly@nquatqua.ca

### **Education Trailer (604) 452-3291**

Education Coordinator & employment- Julie Thevarge	julie.thevarge@nquatqua.ca
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### **N'Quatqua Child & Family Development Centre emails (604) 452-3584**

Anita Patrick- Director	anita.patrick@nquatqua.ca
Sylvia Levine- ECE, Infant Toddler Educator, Special Needs Educator	sylvia.levine@nquatqua.ca
Ryan Peters- Early Childhood Educator Assistant	ryan.peters@nquatqua.ca
Rechelle Patrick	
Eunice Sam	
Rena Patrick	



# N'QUATQUA

120 Casper Charlie Place  
P.O. Box 88  
D'Arcy, BC V0N 1L0  
Phone (604) 452-3221  
Fax (604) 452-3295



## Band Meeting

Wednesday- July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023

6:00-9:00pm

Via Zoom

Agenda to follow, watch for posting

Topic: Band Meeting

Time: Jul 26, 2023 06:00 PM Vancouver

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85673860234?pwd=UTEwV2JMZUVJZnAvb0xpUmVoeUorUT09>

Meeting ID: 856 7386 0234

Passcode: 504077

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One tap mobile

+16694449171,,85673860234#,,, \*504077# US

+16694449171,,85673860234#,,, \*504077# US (San Jose)

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Tap by your location

• +1 609 444 9171 US

• +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

• +1 689 278 1000 US

• +1 719 359 4580 US

• +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

• +1 253 205 0468 US

• +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

• +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

• +1 305 224 1968 US

• +1 309 205 3325 US

• +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

• +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

• +1 360 209 5623 US

• +1 386 347 5053 US

• +1 507 473 4847 US

• +1 564 217 2000 US

• +1 646 931 3860 US

• +1 647 374 4685 Canada

• +1 647 558 0588 Canada

• +1 778 907 2071 Canada

• +1 780 666 0144 Canada

• +1 204 272 7920 Canada

• +1 438 809 7799 Canada

• +1 587 328 1099 Canada

Meeting ID: 856 7386 0234

Passcode: 504077



First Nations Health Authority  
Health through wellness

# N'Quatqua IWS (Independent well system) Testing on July 26th and 27th, 2023

FNHA has requested that all independent well systems be tested for a base level for Minerals. The FNHA - EHO

*Joanne Chang* and *Jody Newman* will be in Community on July 26th and 27th, 2023 to test the well systems, with James Gellatly and Duane Thevarge.

This test will take about 20 minutes for each house.

Please call the CHR to schedule a time that works best for you.

(604) 452-3221

As part of FNHA Drinking Water Safety Program, the N'Quatqua and Devine community water systems have been routinely sampled to support the community members in accessing safe and reliable drinking water. This year FNHA would also like to include the sampling of all the individual water systems to ensure health risk assessment can be provided to private well owners and N'Quatqua administration in a timely manner. The sampling parameters include total coliforms, *E.coli*, general chemistry and total metals. Aside from sampling, general information pertaining to the private well would also be collected such as the name of the registered owner, address, source type and the number of connections. The time frame for sampling would likely fall between July to October depending on the home residents' availability. Should you have any questions, please contact your Community Health Representative, Nicole Patrick, or FNHA Environmental Health Officer, Joanne Chang, at [joanne.chang@fnha.ca](mailto:joanne.chang@fnha.ca). Thank you."

K'ahwá7alap N'Quatqua,

The 2024 Stl'atl'imx Gathering is less than a year away!

There is lots to prepare for and to do before we welcome the Nation to N'Quatqua.

Community members continue to meet, volunteering time to share ideas and work on planning for hosting the multi day event, next May.

We understand not everyone can attend the meetings. A 'Stl'atl'imx Gathering Community Survey' is coming this month!

There will be online and printed versions available. The survey is an opportunity to share your ideas and inspirations how to make it a successful Gathering.

It will be presented at the July Band meeting. Stay tuned for more details.

The next Stl'atl'imx Gathering meeting is scheduled for **July 17th @ 7pm**. Watch for more info.

Kukwstumúlhkalap

Jolene Patrick





Tsilhqot'in  
National  
Government

20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY



# GRAVEYARD VALLEY PEACE CEREMONY



**JULY 22, 2023**

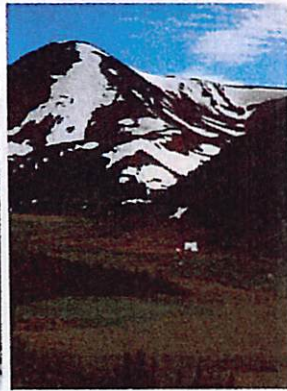


Calling St'át'imc and Tsilhqot'in Nation Citizens to come together July 22, 2023 at Graveyard Valley to witness the recommitment to peace between the two Sovereign Nations.

Graveyard Valley is the site where the last St'át'imc - Tsilhqot'in war took place, and is where many warriors from both Nations fell.

In 2003 the two Nations came together and officially buried the hatchet with ceremony.

July 2007, Tsilhqot'in and St'át'imc members worked together to construct a monument in Graveyard Valley to honour their fallen warriors. *(pictured top left)*



Graveyard Valley is in the Alpine and mountain weather conditions can change quickly and be extreme. Access to Graveyard Valley is by trail and can only be accessed by hiking in or horseback. If you plan on hiking in it is 8-10 hours with packs. Hikers should be experienced and prepared for all circumstances. Those who choose to come must provide for themselves or their group. Please protect and respect our shared sacred land by packing out what you pack in.

## **INFORMATION**

**Corry Williams**  
TNG Communications Advisor  
corrinwilliams@tsilhqotin.ca  
or call 250-302-3782

**Ida Mary Peter**  
Tsal'alh/St'át'imc  
idamary\_tsalalh@yahoo.ca  
or call 250-259-8227



# N'QUATQUA

120 Casper Charlie Place  
P.O. Box 88  
D'Arcy, BC V0N 1L0  
Phone (604) 452-3221  
Fax (604) 452-3295



Date: June 26th 2023

## **Statement of Intent regarding Indigenous Protected Areas in N'Quatqua Traditional Territory.**

Dear N'Quatqua Community,

We, N'Quatqua Leadership, intend to pursue the establishment of Indigenous Protected Areas in N'Quatqua Traditional Territory. With respect for the legacy of our elders, we are committed to protecting our lands, waters, wildlife, and resources for future generations to come. As N'Quatqua people of St'át'imc, we understand the importance of maintaining healthy and balanced ecosystems; that sustain the biodiversity of the environment, while protecting our traditional and cultural history.

*"The Territory is experiencing continued industrial development activities, resource extraction and recreation tourism. This affects N'Quatqua directly through increased pressure on the land base and expanding disturbance footprint, displacement of natural resources such as forest, fish and wildlife and can put drinking water sources at risk." [... ]"Future uses in these areas must consider the impacts on the animals that rely on these vital areas, especially the Grizzly bear." – N'Quatqua Traditional Territory Land Use Plan, 2018*

We believe that the protection of our traditional lands and resources is essential to the stewardship of the many species we share it with, the well-being of our community, and the continuity of Nxekeenlhkálha múta7 Nt'áqmenlhkálha (Our laws and Our way of life). We recognize that the creation of Indigenous Protected Areas in our Traditional Territory is one of the most effective ways to achieve these goals.

Our creation stories have taught us that stalhálam (grizzly bear) is an important species, one that plays a vital role in our cultural and spiritual practices, as well as maintaining the natural balance of the lands. It is known that stalhálam in St'át'imc are at risk and we recognize that the protection of their habitats and the natural corridors that connect them is essential to our collective survival. We will continue to uphold the 2011 St'át'imc Chiefs Council Grizzly Bear Resolution (attached) of which N'Quatqua is an original signatory and will work towards stalhálam recovery in N'Quatqua Traditional Territory.

The creation of Indigenous Protected Areas in our Traditional Territory is not only important for the protection of our cultural heritage and the environment, but also for the economic opportunities it provides. We believe that Indigenous-led conservation efforts have the potential to create jobs and support sustainable economic development for our communities.

We are at the exploration stage of developing Indigenous Protected Areas and intend to continue pursuing this initiative in N'Quatqua Traditional Territory. We are working towards the following:

- Community input and early involvement is essential for this to become a reality and we will share information as it progresses.
- We are committed to working with Indigenous and non-Indigenous Nations and communities, Governments, organizations, and experts.
- We will seek collaboration with shared Territory landowners and land users.
- We welcome assistance and support in the varying stages, including but not limited to: vision, research, planning, and establishment.

In conclusion, we would like to express our sincere intent to pursue the establishment of Indigenous Protected Areas in N'Quatqua Traditional Territory. We believe that this will benefit our Nation and all those who share our love and respect for the land.

Signed, N'Quatqua Leadership

N'Quatqua Chief



N'Quatqua Council



N'Quatqua Council



N'Quatqua Council

For more information, please contact the N'Quatqua Lands Department:

Dennis Silzer-Smith [dennis.silzer-smith@nquatqua.ca](mailto:dennis.silzer-smith@nquatqua.ca)  
604-452-3221 ext 225

Supporting Documents:

*N'Quatqua Traditional Territory Land Use Plan, 2018*

*St'át'imc Chiefs Council Resolution for Grizzly Bear, 2011*

*IPCAS Summary document\_April-2023*

# **Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAS)**

SUMMARY DOCUMENT SUBMITTED TO N'QUATQUA

Prepared by Coast to Cascades Grizzly Bear Initiative

Updated-April 2023

## ***What are IPCAS?***

Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAS), can be defined as, "lands and waters where Indigenous governments have the primary role in protecting and conserving ecosystems through Indigenous laws, governance and knowledge systems. Culture and language are the heart and soul of an IPCA." (ICE Report, 2018). There are different names eg. Tribal Parks; Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs); Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs).

IPCAs have three essential elements:

- 1. IPCAs are Indigenous-led.**
  - Indigenous governments have the main role in determining the objectives, boundaries, management plans, and governance structures of the park.
  - Other organizations (i.e., federal governments, provincial governments, ENGOs, etc.) may have a secondary role in support and management.
- 2. IPCAs represent a long-term commitment to conservation.**
  - Indigenous Peoples often govern with a multi-generational lens, stewarding lands for future generations. This is a framework that has kept ecosystems and communities thriving since time immemorial.
- 3. IPCAs elevate Indigenous rights and responsibilities.**
  - Some examples of rights and responsibilities include: the right to harvest, land-based practices, and the responsibility to care for and respect the lands and waters, in some cases through a formal co-management structure.
  - opportunities to reconnect to the land and heal both the land and Indigenous Peoples.
  - a foundation for local Indigenous economies.

IPCAs are different than typical protected areas because they prioritize Indigenous leadership and are centered around Indigenous cultural values like language, Traditional Knowledge, Indigenous laws, customary laws, and other knowledge systems. IPCAs acknowledge that many of Canada's natural spaces are not 'untouched,' but are cultural landscapes providing opportunities for connection to the land and land-based learning. (CPAWS web)

## ***Why IPCAS?***

“With IPCAs, Indigenous Nations hold the pen when lines are drawn on the map, sit at the table when decisions are made, and are on the ground caring for lands and waters through Indigenous Guardians programs.” “Canada has already pledged to protect 30% of lands by 2030. Indigenous-led conservation offers the most effective way to achieve that goal. It also provides a global model for how to sustain lands, respect human rights, and restore biodiversity.” (Indigenous Leadership Initiative)

In 2021, Canada announced an investment of \$2.3 billion over five years in nature conservation.

- \$173 million will fund new and existing Indigenous Guardians initiatives.
- Over \$166 million will support Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs), which are lands, waters, and ice where Indigenous leadership is a defining attribute in the decisions and actions that protect and conserve an area. (Government of Canada)

IPCAs are first and foremost designed to benefit Indigenous communities. When protected and conserved areas increase, more lands and waters are relieved of the stresses of unsustainable human and industrial development. The result is biodiversity conservation and healthier ecosystems that can expect to provide generations to come.

## ***How are IPCAS developed?***

IPCAs should be developed as part of broader land use plans to provide interconnected networks of protected and conserved areas, and to conserve biodiversity and keystone species across entire landscapes. (ICE Report, 2018)

IPCAs may employ a zoning approach and include:

- areas where uses and access are restricted (e.g., certain sacred sites),
- areas where Indigenous hunting and gathering are allowed (e.g., subsistence food harvesting),
- shared-use areas where non-Indigenous use is allowed (e.g., through permitting), and
- buffer areas around sensitive zones where light-touch development—such as micro-hydro, artisanal mining, or selective logging—are allowed.

Community engagement is an essential component in the process of planning, negotiating and managing tribal parks. When community members have developed the vision and foundational Indigenous laws or principles for their IPCA, managers have a directive that can be brought to bear in negotiation forums. (David Suzuki report, 2018)



## Examples of IPCAS

*Dasiqox Tribal Park (DTP, known as Nexwagwežʔan, which means “it is there for us”) is an Indigenous-led protected area located in traditional Tsilhqot’in territory in the south-central interior of British Columbia. It covers approximately 300,000 hectares of wilderness, wildlife habitat and waters. Protection of the area through Indigenous governance was initiated in 2014 by the Xení Gwet’in and Yunesit’in governments who represent the Tsilhqot’in. DTP connects a number of existing parks and protected areas across a large area at the heart of Xení Gwet’in and Yunesit’in caretaker areas, including the Dasiqox headwaters - an essential water source for the area’s waters, fish and wildlife.*

*Thaidene Néné is an Indigenous protected area that was designated by the Łutsël K’é Dene First Nation using Dene Law in 2019. In partnership with Parks Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories, portions of the Thaidene Néné Indigenous Protected Area have been designated a national park reserve (NPR), a territorial protected area (TPA), and a wildlife conservation area (WCA).*

## Resources:

**St’át’imc Preliminary Draft LUP, Part 1.** March 2004

<https://lillooet.bc.libraries.coop/files/2019/08/Nxekmenlhkalha-2004.pdf>

**We Rise Together: The Indigenous Circle of Experts (ICE report, March 2018):**

[https://static1.squarespace.com/static/57e007452e69cf9a7af0a033/t/5ab94aca6d2a7338ecb1d05e/1522092766605/PA234-ICE\\_Report\\_2018\\_Mar\\_22\\_web.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/57e007452e69cf9a7af0a033/t/5ab94aca6d2a7338ecb1d05e/1522092766605/PA234-ICE_Report_2018_Mar_22_web.pdf)

Achieving Pathway to Canada Target 1 through the creation of Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas in the spirit and practice of reconciliation

**Conservation through Reconciliation Partnership:**

<https://conservation-reconciliation.ca/about-ipc-as>.

“The Conservation Through Reconciliation Partnership (CRP) represents a seven-year program of work hosted by the [IISAAK OLAM Foundation](#), the [Indigenous Leadership Initiative](#), and the [University of Guelph](#) that weaves together a wide range of partners including Indigenous thought leaders, organizations, youth and Elders; emerging and established scholars; prominent conservation agencies and organizations; Indigenous Peoples and Nations; and knowledge mobilization specialists, united in the goal of supporting Indigenous-led conservation in Canada.”

- **Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas: FAQ video:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RD6GFdwdeCg&t=49s>

- **Partnership form for any First Nations/ conservation agencies or organizations:**

<https://conservation-reconciliation.ca/contact>.

**The Indigenous Leadership Initiative:**

<https://www.ilinationhood.ca/indigenous-protected-and-conserved-areas>

“The Indigenous Leadership Initiative is proud to partner with Indigenous Nations in the creation of IPCAs. We have helped support Nations’ land use plans and negotiations with Crown governments.

**IPCA Knowledge Basket**

<https://ipcaknowledgebasket.ca/>

A digital space created to honour, celebrate, and catalyze Indigenous-led conservation pathways in Canada, including Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs).

**David Suzuki report: TRIBAL PARKS AND INDIGENOUS PROTECTED AND CONSERVED AREAS: LESSONS FROM B.C.** August 2018 Project lead: Rachel Plotkin, David Suzuki Foundation

<https://davidsuzuki.wpenginepowered.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/tribal-parks-indigenous-protected-conserved-areas-lessons-b-c-examples.pdf>

**Government of Canada announces \$340 million to support Indigenous-led conservation:**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-announces-340-million-to-support-indigenous-led-conservation.html>

**Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society Alberta Chapter:** <https://cpawsnab.org/ipcas/>

## St'át'imc Chiefs Council Resolution

Duly passed at a St'át'imc Chiefs Council meeting, March 3, 2011 at Lillooet

### WHEREAS:

- A. We, the St'át'imc, hold title, jurisdiction, and responsibility throughout our territory, "we claim that we are the rightful owners of our tribal territory and everything pertaining thereto"... (Declaration of the Lillooet Tribe, May 10, 1911).
- B. We, the St'át'imc, intend to continue our practice of living in harmony with nature and of protecting for future generations the fish, wildlife, plants, water, air, lands and other resources of our territory.
- C. We, the St'át'imc, recognize Grizzly bears as an important umbrella species that needs protection, which in turn will assist us in protecting our cultural heritage on the landscape.
- D. We, The St'át'imc, are aware that the Grizzly bear populations within our territory are at risk and that immediate action is needed for the survival of this species.

### THEREFORE:

1. The undersigned St'át'imc Chiefs stand in solidarity to declare that Grizzly bears will be protected throughout their traditional range.
2. The undersigned St'át'imc Chiefs declare that Grizzly Bear Population Recovery will be a primary focus such that in seven generations Grizzly bear populations will be healthy and will occupy their traditional range for time immemorial.
3. The undersigned St'át'imc Chiefs mandate that recovery will proceed according to the best available information and will include actions for:
  - a. Access management,
  - b. Human-bear conflict mitigation,
  - c. Livestock-bear interaction mitigation,
  - d. Critical habitat protection (e.g. avalanche chutes, herbaceous meadows, wetlands), and
  - e. Landscape level forage supply management (e.g. berry management, meadow restoration, fish management, etc.).
4. We the undersigned St'át'imc Chiefs call for the Province of British Columbia to also recognize the Grizzly bears in the Clear Range east of the Fraser River by establishing a Clear Range Grizzly Bear Population Unit under the Provincial management system to enable cooperative approaches for Grizzly bear protection and management.

Chief Leonard Andrew

Lil'wat

Chief Ralph Thevarge

N'Quatqua

Chief Brenda Lester

Samahquam

Chief Perry Redan

Sekw'elwas

Chief Patrick Williams

Skatin

Chief Shelley Leech

T'it'q'et

Chief Garry John

Tsal'ah

Chief Clifford Alec

Ts'kw'aylaxw

Chief Art Adolph

Xaxli'p

Chief Don Harris

Xa'xsta7

Chief Bradley Jack

Xwisten



# N'QUATQUA

120 Casper Charlie Place  
P.O. Box 88  
D'Arcy, BC V0N 1L0  
Phone (604) 452-3221  
Fax (604) 452-3295



## Job Posting Receptionist

N'Quatqua is looking for a dedicated individual to fill this position.

### **DUTIES**

- Answering phones
- Taking and relaying messages
- Checking emails
- Utilizing copy / fax machine
- 2 way radio communication
- Filing and organizing
- Sanitizing work area(s)

### **SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS**

- Exceptional communication skills (oral and written)
- Ability to work independently as well as in a supervisory role
- Excellent time management skills

Please forward resume, cover letter to:

Chantel Thevarg [Chantel.Thevarg@nquatqua.ca](mailto:Chantel.Thevarg@nquatqua.ca)

Or drop off at N'Quatqua office before August 24, 2023

# N'QUATQUA

120 Casper Charlie Place

P.O. Box 88

D'Arcy, BC V0N 1L0

Phone (604) 452-3221

Fax (604) 452-3295



## Job Posting Custodian

N'Quatqua is looking for a dedicated individual to fill this position.

### **DUTIES**

- Cleaning windows and ledges
- Sweeping and mopping floors
- dusting
- cleaning offices
- cleaning washrooms and changerooms
- cleaning kitchen
- cleaning gymnasium

### **SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS**

- Ability to work independently
- Knowledge of cleaning chemicals and supplies
- Excellent time management skills

Please forward resume, cover letter to:

Chantel Thevarg [Chantel.Thevarg@nquatqua.ca](mailto:Chantel.Thevarg@nquatqua.ca)

Or drop off at N'Quatqua office before August 24, 2023



Southern St'at'imx Health Society

# s7átšxem

Serving N'Quatqua, Samahquam, Skatin and Xa'xtsa

Summer 2023



## Mark Your Calendars

### COMMUNITY HEALTH VISITS THIS JULY

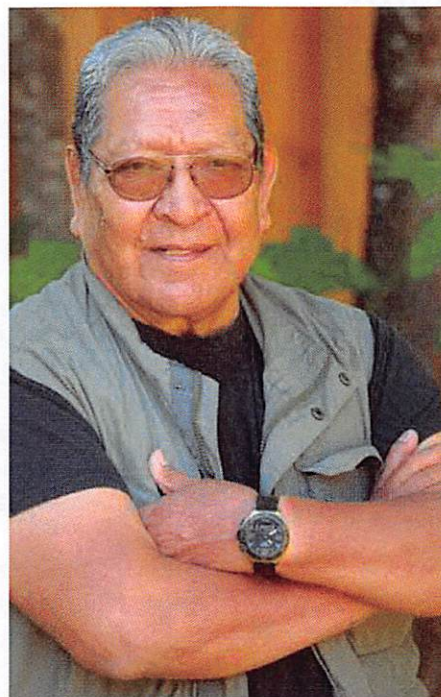
SSHS communities will be visited by FNHA nurses for kindergarten and COVID-19 boosters. The visits will take place between July 17 - July 20. SSHS's Physiotherapist and Home Care Nurse will also be visiting the communities on July 17 and July 18. For more details see page 10.

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- 10 FNPPCI Progressing
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## Rebuilding Is My Focus

INTRODUCING EPPA AS THE INTERIM HEALTH DIRECTOR



Eppa Gerard Peters has been contracted as the interim Health Director for SSHS until March 31, 2024.

Of course, I've known of SSHS for years, but never paid much attention to it until early 2022, when Chief Don (Harris) told me that Xa'xtsa had begun a process of disengagement, preparing to withdraw. I knew little about the organization except that it was generally involved in delivering health-related services to our communities. I knew that it was funded mainly by the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), and I was to learn that its programs were also supported by contributions from Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)

and the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD), among others.

I didn't know much else, but I was concerned enough to attend the annual general meeting in January 2023 (on Zoom) to learn more about disengagement because I was afraid that if SSHS were to break up, then our communities would lose access to vital health services.

At the end of March, Chief Brock (Peters) resigned from the SSHS Board, and the Samahquam council named me as his replacement. By this time, both Xa'xtsa and Skatin had removed their representatives from the board, and Samahquam and N'Quatqua had both confirmed their continued membership.

Around this same time, Health Director Allison Asapace took a medical leave. In response to the management need, a transition committee made up of Doris Peters, SSHS Board Chair, supported by Clear Course Consulting Ltd., Fran Hopkins, Humanities Financial Management Inc., and a financial controller, took over the day-to-day management of the organization.

When it appeared that only two of the original four communities were staying with SSHS, I agreed to be part of the transition team, so both N'Quatqua and Samahquam were represented.

(Continued on page 3)



## Southern Stl'atl'imx Health Society

### OUR VISION

**Stl'atl'imx enhanced  
holistic health  
services.**

### OUR MISSION

**Weaving traditional  
wellness into our  
health services.**

### OUR VALUES

**Community**

**Ucwalmicw**

**Respect, language  
and culture**

**All Stl'atl'imx people  
are loved and cared for**

[www.sshs.ca](http://www.sshs.ca)

## About the SSHS newsletter

**s7átsxem**, the SSHS newsletter, is published quarterly to reflect the seasons. **s7átsxem**, which means caring, lets members know about SSHS programs, services, plans, projects, and events. It also provides valuable physical, emotional and spiritual health information.

Members can learn what every department is doing to help fulfill SSHS's Mission and Vision through regular department reports.

## Southern Stl'atl'imx Health Society

### Mailing Address:

Southern Stl'atl'imx Health Society  
Box 363  
Mount Currie, BC  
V0N 2K0

### Phone:

604-894-0151

### Email:

[info@sshs.ca](mailto:info@sshs.ca)



(Rebuilding Is My Focus, continued from page 1)

A committee is not the ideal way to manage an organization, and so I gave serious consideration when offered the position of health director.

I agreed, but only if it was understood to be an *interim* appointment and that I would troubleshoot, with my priorities being to safeguard existing programs, and renew the organization's governance, management, and administration.

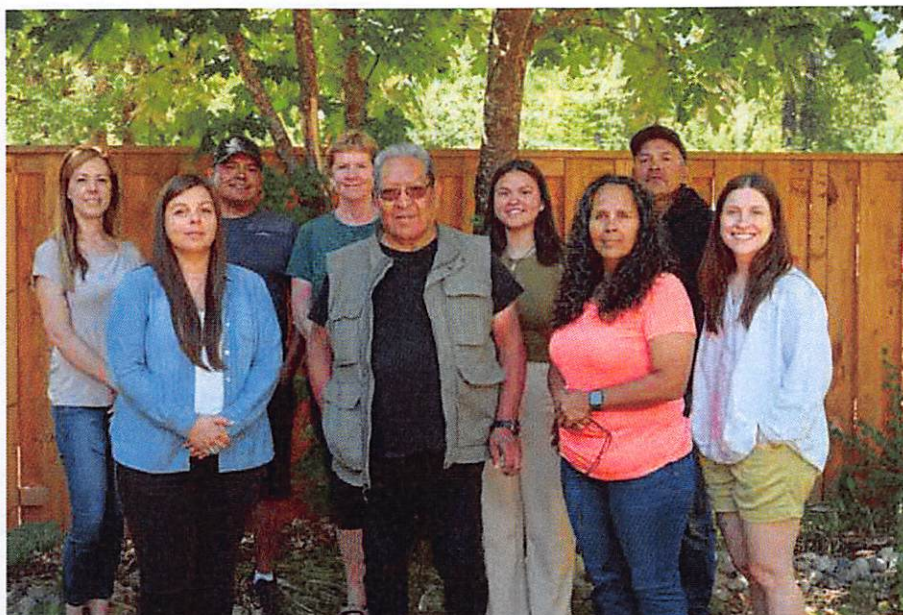
This raised immediate questions: 1) Could I be both a board member and serve as health director; and 2) As the quorum under the constitution was set at four, and if I was required to abstain from a decision affecting me, could the three other directors legally appoint me as health director?

The legal advice was that a board member could also be health director, as long as precautions were taken to prevent conflict of interest. And, further legal advice was to amend the constitution, so that quorum would be three, with at least one director present from each of the two remaining communities. Remember, it was generally assumed that both Xa'xtsa and Skatin, having removed their directors, were therefore no longer part of SSHS.

And so, following the rules as set out in the constitution and bylaws, a proposed resolution was drafted, and a special general meeting was called for May 6 to consider it. Notification went to the members, being the members of the four original communities.

As it happened, both Xa'xtsa and Skatin formally (re)appointed their directors to the board, which was confirmed at the special general meeting on May 6, and so the resolution was tabled as unnecessary.

The SSHS Board of Directors met immediately following the special general meeting, and confirmed me as interim health director, with a contract extending to March 31, 2024. I was not present at this meeting.



Eppa Gerard Peters has begun rebuilding SSHS with a smaller, dedicated staff. Back row, left to right: Alana Desorcy, Micah Thevarge, Anita Samuels, Julia Schneider, and Justin Thevarge. Front row, left to right: Amanda Munnings, Eppa, Sally Peters and Nikki Paul. (Missing from photo is Brett Peterson.)

Of note, both Xa'xtsa and Skatin continue within their disengagement processes, and I anticipate that they will either decide to withdraw by fiscal year end on March 31, 2024, or they will decide to continue as part of SSHS. That's nine months away.

Their decisions depend entirely on how SSHS responds to the very real concerns that led them to choose disengagement in the first place.

And so, I will meet with the communities and their leadership to discuss their concerns. I have met with the Xa'xtsa and N'Quatqua councils and administrators. I have been invited to the Skatin council, and as a member of Samahquam, I will reach out to them, as well.

The staff has shrunk in size from two dozen a year ago, to fewer than 10 now. The program leads have provided department updates in this issue. You'll see that services are continuing.

The Food Security Program will continue, but under new management. Its marked success in cultivating gardens in the communities continues under Xa'xtsa management with support where necessary, from SSHS. James

Moch, formerly with SSHS, continues to lead this initiative. You can read his report in this issue. (Page 6.)

At this writing, I've been interim health director for six weeks. In that time, I've met with the staff, become familiar with their work, reviewed their job descriptions, and completed their annual reviews—some of which had never been done.

Staff are aware now that critical to our success is the need to file timely reports as required by our funders. These were generally late or non-existent. This task of catching up was made difficult because some staff had moved on, but nonetheless reporting is very nearly up to date.

I intend to bring in a human resources specialist under contract to help me update job descriptions and to review wage scales.

The role of the transition team is reducing as my own capacity as health director grows. That said, I'm grateful for the support from Clear Course Consulting. Dawn Johnson and Christine Weber are helping

(Continued on page 4)

(*Rebuilding Is My Focus*, continued from page 3)

enormously in our rebuild. And Doris Peters is always available when I have governance questions.

The renewed board is made up of seasoned individuals representing their communities. Their support will be key in renewing SSSH governance.

In most organizations, the end, and start, of a fiscal year is difficult because of expiring funding agreements needing renewal. This generally impacts cash flow. It's not a good time to be hiring. That said, we are preparing to hire a program and contracts manager and an in-house bookkeeper.

The program and contracts manager is a new position, which will be responsible for managing, as the name implies, the programs. Program leads will report to, and take direction from, the program and contracts manager. I hope to find a health professional this summer.

With a program manager in place, I will turn the board, and the communities', attention to rebuilding the society's governance.

When I was named to the SSSH board at the end of March, I reviewed the constitution and bylaws and sought out all available public information about SSSH and the FNHA.

Key to effective delivery of health programs is the community health plans. It makes sense that these plans provide for a degree of autonomy, if the communities wish, and for a more centralized SSSH Health Plan. These health plans must complement each other. I'm not so sure this was the case in the past, and that may have been a trigger for disengagement. We should take the opportunity of updating the health plans to ensure that they "mesh" well.

As I said above, disengagement continues for Xa'xtsa and Skatin. I'm not convinced that FNHA, SSSH, or the bands understand disengagement in the same way. I think the term has



Executive Assistant and Patient Travel Coordinator Julia Schneider is one of the people committed to a renewed and rebuilt SSSH.

negative connotations and would be better described as "relationship rebuilding." After all, we're not disappearing into our own, separate worlds.

I feel that the constitution renewal is critical. It is the foundation of our relationships. It should therefore respect our individual communities' autonomy. The present constitution was conceived and built by our councils. It has served its time. Renewal will put it in the hands of the membership.

I found that some of this work had been done already under previous boards and health directors. I have reviewed the most recent draft constitution and it proposes a more autonomous SSSH where board appointments are made by the members, and not by their councils.

It prevents a sitting council member from also serving as a board member or as health director.

(Continued on page 5)

(*Rebuilding Is My Focus*, continued from page 4)

The renewed SSHS Board of Directors will be made up of individuals with qualifications and experience in the supportive areas of law, finance, health services, governance, management, administration, and the like.

And SSHS will be a community-based organization, with direct accountability to its members.

But first things first. The office staff and contractors are very nearly reorganized. We'll recruit a program and contracts manager over the summer to take charge of the service delivery side. And then, we'll review and amend the constitution and bylaws with membership involvement and support.

I look forward to discussing these developments with you in the coming weeks. Staff will tell you that my door is always open. And, once the office is reorganized, I intend to visit the communities.

I offer my heartfelt thanks to our staff for keeping the faith.

Big shout out to Julia Schneider for her work in renewing the SSHS website—due to launch August 1—and for producing this newsletter.

Best regards,

Eppa  
Health Director (Interim)



Anita Samuels (left) celebrating Marie Louise Williams' 90th birthday in October 2022. Sharon provided her with a lovely lunch.

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# Department and Program Reports

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## Administration

### Who We Are

Fleet Manager Justin Thevarge, Administrative Assistant Sally Peters, and Executive Assistant Julia Schneider, form the Administration Department.

This department works closely with the health director and accounting team to ensure "the tent is held down." Administration also provides hands-on support to SSHS's programs, including maintaining fleet vehicles and buildings. (Administration is currently securing a cabin/suite to be used as part of the Patient Travel program.) Additionally, the department maintains a safe location for SSHS assets, maintains and upgrades all documents, and tends to incoming communications from our community members and other stakeholders.

### Services Relocate to Xa'xtsa

The Aboriginal Head Start On-Reserve program (AHSOR) is no longer under SSHS's jurisdiction. The preschool program, located in Tipella, is now operated by Xa'xtsa Nation.

James Moch has moved to Xa'xtsa Nation to continue his work in the Food Security program. (See Food Security, this page.)

— Julia Schneider

## Child and Family Services

As the Family Preservation and Reunification worker, I provide intensive outreach services to families that are referred to me through the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

I aim to provide culturally safe and goal-oriented home-based services to prevent out of home placements and reduce risks. The ultimate priority is the safety and wellbeing of the children while helping keep the family unit together.

Outside of family preservation and reunification, I can also provide confidential and basic family support that is dependent on the specific needs of each individual. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you feel that you could benefit from some assistance or would like to chat more about what I can offer.

I would love to hear more about what you would like to see in your community for families, children, and youth in the upcoming year!

### Contact Nikki at:

Email: [nikki.paul@sshs.ca](mailto:nikki.paul@sshs.ca)  
Phone or text: 604-938-3813  
Facebook: Nicki SSHS Paul

— Nikki Paul

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**SSHS will continue  
to provide health  
and wellness  
services as we  
rebuild.**

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## Food Security

Hello all SSHS Communities!

I would like to start by announcing my program is now called the South Stl'Atl'imx Food Security program. My name is James Moch and I am the coordinator. I would like to sincerely thank SSHS, the organization that I have proudly worked for since 2015 as the Mental Health Wellness Liaison.

I also want to thank SSHS (especially new management) for support and assistance in transitioning this program to Xa'xtsa's administration. I continue to be a friend and ally to SSHS moving forward. I also want to thank Xa'xtsa's administration for supporting the continuation and growth of this program. I want to stress this program remains equally dedicated to all four communities: N'Quatqua, Samahquam, Skatin, and Xa'xtsa.

The goal of this program is to strengthen agricultural food systems by supporting garden champions, community food planning, school involvement, and engaging youth to participate in garden-related activities. We hope that growing and eating healthy food continues to grow and be a common part of wellness in the communities. Never has it been more important to rethink our food systems and strengthen them in the face of climate change (floods, fires, COVID-19, rising world costs of food).

The communities have a rich history of growing and gathering food from the land. This program hopes to support that history.

Over the years, we have built many garden boxes and greenhouses, and supported agriculture in the communities by growing a variety of food. Currently, this program is working with all four communities to expand community gardens, and to fence additional areas to include new dwarf fruit trees, berries and possibly nut trees to diversify readily accessible food.

Garden workshops on themes such as composting, canning, and planting, will be offered throughout the year. In the fall, after harvest, we plan to celebrate by offering some fun and tasty cooking nights, so people can experience different ways of eating such good, locally grown food.

(Continued on page 7)



Children, youth, and garden champions worked very hard this past spring to expand and improve the gardens that result in such tasty treats as kale chips.

*(Food Security, continued from page 6)*

We look forward to seeing the greater community on these nights!

I also feel blessed to witness and guide children and youth in the art of getting their hands dirty and their thumbs "green," as these young gardeners and carpenters built the garden structures.

It's also awesome to see them become garden chefs. For example, we recently made homegrown kale chips in two communities as part of school programming. They were quickly gobbled up!

I also want to thank each community garden champion (Theresa, Ken, Shauna, and R'sson) for the great work they have done this spring!

If you have any questions, ideas or suggestions, please reach me through Xa'tsa front desk or Facebook.

**Contact James at:**

Phone: 604-894-0020  
james.moch@xaxtsa.ca

—James Moch

## Health

Currently, the nursing positions are vacant, but SSHS hopes to start nursing recruitment soon, including filling the position of a Clinical Nurse Manager.

Currently, Registered Physiotherapist Anita Samuels is available to provide services to all community members 19 years and older.

Anita can set up a home exercise program for clients that are recovering from an illness or injury. She can assess what type of medical equipment a person may require, and organize the ordering and delivery of the equipment.

Anita does home safety assessments to reduce the risk of falling within the home. She also works with Elders on Advanced Care planning.

Please note that Anita, and Home Care Nurse Michelle Carriere, will also be visiting communities on July 17 and July 18. Times and places will be posted on the SSHS Facebook page when they are confirmed.

### Contact Anita at:

Phone or text: 604-698-5074  
Email: anita.samuels@sshs.ca

— Anita Samuels

## Jordan's Principle

**Note:** the Jordan's Principle program makes sure all First Nations children living in Canada can access the products, services and supports they need, when they need them.

I'm Amanda Munnings, the Jordan's Principle Service Coordinator in the region. My office is located on the unceded territory of the Lilwat Nation. I honour the language, culture, and history of the Lilwat7úl.

In the next few months, I'll be visiting



Wiley Smith (left front) and Skully Peters (right front) are two children who received an approved application from Jordan's Principle. Mother Larah Peters (left) and Service Coordinator Amanda Munnings (right) hold up the Jordan's Principle banner.

schools, band offices, and health-related organizations in the Southern St'at'imx territory to introduce myself and how Jordan's Principle can benefit the children and youth.

Jordan's Principle is for children and youth ages 0-19. If this is you, or someone you know, please get in touch with me today. I'm available to help Indigenous families and guardians to navigate the whole range of federal and provincial services and supports (education, health, and social), including submitting Jordan's Principle requests on their behalf.

Support can be offered virtually, over the phone, and when possible, in person.

### Contact Amanda at:

Phone: 604-894-0151  
Email: amanda.munnings@sshs.ca

— Amanda Munnings

## Mental Wellness

It's been more than a year now since I last drove down the Lake Road. I miss seeing community members I have grown close to over the years.

But COVID-19 wasn't good to me, and I still struggle with lingering symptoms that keep me from functioning fully. Consequently, I have had to meet with clients remotely, providing 1:1 counselling to anyone from the communities who requests it. Unfortunately, there are some folks who just aren't comfortable with Zoom or telephone, so I am unable to reach as many people as I could if face-to-face meetings were still possible.

Community members need, and deserve, a therapist who can meet with them personally, and thankfully Eppa is currently seeking one.

Because of all this, and the fact that I have been working in the counselling field for a very long time, I have decided I will continue to provide remote counselling for SSHS until March 31, 2024, at which time I will retire. I will have worked for SSHS for over nine years. It has been an honour.

### Contact Brett at:

Phone: 604-894-0151  
Email: brandnewtrail@gmail.com

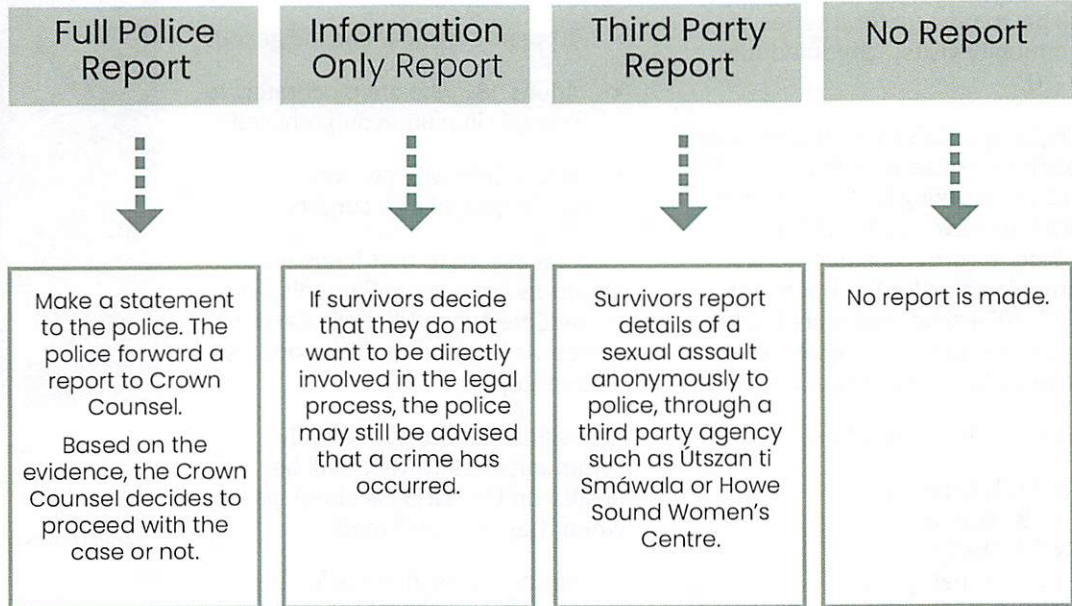
— Brett Peterson



Útszan ti Smáwala

Sexual Assault Response Program

# Reporting Options



## Contact:

Contact **Útszan ti Smáwala** coordinator **Alana Desorcy** for any further information or assistance you require at 604-894-0151 or:

**Alana Desorcy**  
Cell: 604-905-9629  
Text: 604-905-9629  
FB: Alana Desorcy Sshs  
E: [alana.desorcy@sshs.ca](mailto:alana.desorcy@sshs.ca)

Alana can support you through all of Reporting Options. Reach out anytime.

There is no statute of limitations for reporting sexual assault in Canada. Even if an incident occurred years or decades ago, it can still be reported.

**Útszan ti Smáwala: To straighten or repair the Soul or Life Spirit**

The Reporting Options chart above is one of the many tools that the Útszan ti Smáwala uses to assist and support the survivors of sexual assault.

## Útszan ti Smáwala: Sexual Assault Response Program

Útszan ti Smáwala Sexual Assault Response Program continues to provide support, training, education, and resources to N'Quatqua, Sámahquam, Skatin, Xa'xtsa and Lílwat Nations.

Established in the spring of 2021, Útszan ti Smáwala's services are available to people of all ages and all genders. The program's primary focuses are supporting survivors of sexual assault and the prevention of sexual assault through education about issues such as consent.

Útszan ti Smáwala provides survivors with medical and legal support, help accessing traditional healing options, and support connecting to other services available in the Sea to Sky Corridor. The chart above illustrates the various Reporting Options open to survivors. Útszan ti Smáwala coordinator Alana Desorcy guides survivors through these various options.

### Contact Alana at:

Phone: 604-905-9629  
Text: 604-905-9629  
FB: Alana Desorcy Sshs  
Email: [alana.desorcy@sshs.ca](mailto:alana.desorcy@sshs.ca)

### Other Resources

**Howe Sound Women's Centre and Pearl's Safe House**  
Phone: 1-877-890-5711  
Website: [www.hswc.ca](http://www.hswc.ca)

**KUU-US Crisis Line 24/7**  
First Nations specific crisis line  
Phone: 1-800-588-8717 (toll free)  
Website: [www.kuu-uscrisisline.com](http://www.kuu-uscrisisline.com)

**WAWAW\* Rape Crisis Centre 24/7**  
Phone: 1-877-392-7583  
Website: [www.wawaw.ca](http://www.wawaw.ca)

\*Women Against Violence Against Women

— Alana Desorcy

# Community Health Visits

Crystal Point and Lana Bickell, nurse practice consultants from FNHA, will be coming up for a series of community visits, scheduled July 17-20.

In light of SSHS's current community health nurse vacancy, Crystal and Lana are working in collaboration with Vancouver Coastal Health in order to provide kindergarten immunizations for the upcoming 2023/2024 school year and COVID-19 vaccine boosters for people that are eligible for the spring boosters.

The visits are planned as follows:

July 17: N'Quatqua  
July 18: Xa'xtsa  
July 19: Skatin  
July 20: Samahquam

## Kindergarten immunization eligibility:

Children ages 4 and up, born in January 2019 or before.

## Spring COVID-19 booster eligibility:

- 70 years and older and Indigenous
- Adults 18+ who are moderately to severely immuno-compromised
- Adults 50+ with certain underlying health conditions

Also, please note that Registered Physiotherapist Anita Samuels, and Home Care Nurse Michelle Carriere, will be visiting communities on July 17 and July 18.

Times and locations for all July community health visits will be posted on the SSHS Facebook page when they are confirmed.

Please share this information with any friend or family members that could benefit from these services.



Mobi, the therapy dog, is a familiar face to those who have had counselling with Mental Wellness Counsellor Brett Petersen. Brett has announced that he will be retiring from his work with SSHS in March 2024. In the meantime, he is available to support your mental health and wellness.

# FNPPCI Moving Forward

The Ministry of Health and FNHA have been working on a First Nation Primary Care Initiative (FNPCI) that would service the five Nations in the Southern Stl'atl'imx subregion: N'Quatqua, Samahquam, Skatin, Xa'xtsa and Lílwat Nation.

On June 27, a meeting took place so that SSHS could obtain updates on the status of the FNPCI, known as the es zúmin Primary Care Centre. In attendance were FNHA Primary Care Manager Tatiana Ticona, Lisa Anderson, ICG consultant acting project manager, and SSHS's Julia Schneider and Anita Samuels.

The plan is for a meeting to be held in the near future with SSHS Health

Director Eppa, Lílwat Health Director Jessica Frank, and the four appointed community representatives Geneva Quipp, Chief Brock Peters, Doris Peters, and Loretta Stager in attendance. Julia Schneider and Anita Samuels will also participate in this upcoming meeting.



**es zúmin**  
Primary Care Clinic

"It's exciting that progress on this Initiative has been refreshed as part of the SSHS rebuild," said Julia Schneider. "Community members will be kept up to date on new developments as this project moves forward."

## New SSHS Website Coming

Administration has taken down all but the essential information on the SSHS website. The current information on [www.sshs.ca](http://www.sshs.ca) includes staff and board contacts, emergency and non-emergency medical contacts, and a link to the SSHS Kindness Project page.

This work was done in preparation for building a new, more user-friendly website that will reflect branding SSHS developed in 2020 that has yet to be fully implemented.

The new website, due to be launched August 1, will allow for departments to have their information and program news updated easily. The website will also contain a newsletter sign-up that will link to a more automated newsletter that will reduce costs due to decreased design and layout time. If you require information not on the current version of the website, please contact SSHS at 604-894-0151.



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# SSHS Job Postings

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## PROGRAM AND CONTRACTS MANAGER

Location: Mount Currie, BC (Hybrid negotiable)  
Type: Full-time, Permanent  
Salary: \$65,000 to \$75,000 (Based on experience)  
Benefits: SSHS offers a competitive benefits and employment package for full-time staff

### About Us

SSHS is a non-profit Indigenous Health Organization dedicated to improving the health and well-being of Indigenous communities. Our organization provides culturally appropriate healthcare services, programs, and initiatives to support the holistic health of Indigenous individuals and families.

### Position Overview

Southern Stl'atl'imx Health Society (SSHS) is seeking a highly motivated and skilled full-time **PROGRAM AND CONTRACTS MANAGER** to join our Indigenous non-profit health organization. The **PROGRAM AND CONTRACTS MANAGER** will play a pivotal role in overseeing and managing various programs and contracts and agreements aimed at improving the health and well-being of the four communities that SSHS serves: N'Quatqua, Samahquam, Skatin, and Xa'xtsa First Nations. This position requires exceptional organizational skills, strong leadership abilities, and an in-depth understanding of Indigenous culture and health issues.

The successful candidate will be responsible for ensuring the effective delivery of programs, managing contracts, agreements, and partnerships, and supporting the organization's mission "to honour the health of The People by working together to deliver holistic health services."

### Key Responsibilities

#### Program Management

- Develop, implement, and monitor programs and initiatives focused on improving health outcomes for Indigenous communities.
- Collaborate with internal teams, community partners, and stakeholders and Rightsholders to ensure programs align with community health plans, community needs, and organizational goals.

- Establish and track program goals, objectives, and performance metrics to evaluate program effectiveness.
- Oversee project and program work plans, program budgets, resource allocation, and ensure compliance with funding requirements, including quantitative and qualitative reporting.

#### Contract Management

- Develop, implement, and monitor programs and initiatives focused on improving health outcomes for Indigenous communities.
- Lead the development, negotiation, and management of contracts with funders, government agencies, and other partners.
- Ensure compliance with contract terms, deliverables, and reporting requirements.
- Monitor contract performance, including budget management and tracking of key milestones.
- Collaborate with finance and legal teams to ensure contractual obligations and documentation are in place.
- Collaborate with team leads across the various programs to complete required reporting (financial and narrative).
- Maintain a reporting tracker that can be shared with the Health Director and board of directors as required.

### Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in a related field (e.g., public health, Indigenous studies, business administration, social work) is preferred but not mandatory. Master's degree is an asset.
- Demonstrated experience in program/project management, contract management, or a related field (2+ years), preferably within the Indigenous health sector. Project Management Professional (PMP) certificate is an asset but not mandatory.
- In-depth understanding of Indigenous health issues, cultural sensitivity, and experience working with Indigenous communities.
- Strong project management skills, including the ability to develop and manage budgets, timelines, and deliverables.
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal, with the ability to effectively engage with diverse stakeholders.
- Strong leadership and team management abilities, with a collaborative and inclusive approach.
- Proven ability to build and maintain partnerships with Indigenous organizations, community leaders, and funders.

(Continued on page 12)

(Program and Contract Manager Job Posting, continued from page 4)

- Ability to work independently, prioritize tasks, and meet deadlines in a fast-paced environment. Proficiency in relevant computer applications and software.

For a list of all **PROGRAM AND CONTRACT MANAGER** position responsibilities, qualifications, and any other special requirements, please refer to [www.sshs.ca](http://www.sshs.ca) for an exhaustive job description.

## To Apply

Please submit resume and cover letter by email to Julia

Schneider, Executive Assistant to the Interim Health Director, at: [julia.schneider@sshs.ca](mailto:julia.schneider@sshs.ca).

Please include in the subject line your name and the position for which you are applying.

Thank you for your interest.

## BOOKKEEPER

Location: Mount Currie, BC (Hybrid or virtual negotiable)  
Type: Full-time, Permanent  
Salary: \$48,000 to \$52,000 (Based on experience)  
Benefits: SSHS offers a competitive benefits and employment package for full-time staff

Closing Date: July 31, 2023

### About Us

SSHS is a non-profit Indigenous Health Organization dedicated to improving the health and well-being of Indigenous communities. Our organization provides culturally appropriate healthcare services, programs, and initiatives to support the holistic health of Indigenous individuals and families.

### Position Overview

We are seeking a detail-oriented and experienced Bookkeeper to join our team. As the **BOOKKEEPER**, you will be responsible for helping manage the financial records and transactions of our organization, ensuring accuracy, compliance, and financial stability.

### Key Responsibilities

- Maintain accurate and up-to-date financial records, including accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, and general ledger.
- Process invoices, receipts, payments, and other financial transactions in a timely manner.
- Assist in preparing and reconciling financial statements, conducting audits, and generating financial reports.

## Qualifications

- A degree, diploma or certificate in Accounting, Finance, or a related field is an asset but not required.
- Previous experience as a **BOOKKEEPER** or in a similar financial role, preferably in a non-profit organization or healthcare sector.
- Strong knowledge of accounting principles and financial regulations.
- Proficiency in accounting software (Sage50 an asset) and MS Office Suite, particularly Excel.
- Excellent attention to detail, organizational skills, and time management.
- Satisfy requirements for a criminal record check.

For a list of all **BOOKKEEPER** position responsibilities, qualifications and any other special requirements, please refer to [www.sshs.ca](http://www.sshs.ca) for an exhaustive job description.

## To Apply

Please submit resume and cover letter by email to Julia Schneider, Executive Assistant to the Interim Health Director, at: [julia.schneider@sshs.ca](mailto:julia.schneider@sshs.ca).

Please include in the subject line your name and the position for which you are applying.

Thank you for your interest.



Southern St'at'imx  
Health Society

# Staff Contacts

Health Director Eppa and SSHS staff can be reached by email or by contacting reception at 604-894-0151.

The team pictured here will be assisting Eppa in rebuilding SSHS. Feel free to get in touch with any of them to answer your questions or concerns at anytime.



**Men's Health Lead**

**Micah Thevarge**

E: micah.thevarge@sshs.ca



**Health Lead (interim) & Physiotherapist**

**Anita Samuels**

E: anita.samuels@sshs.ca



**Health Director (Interim)**

**Gerard (Eppa) Peters**

E: gerard.peters@sshs.ca



**Fleet Manager/Carpenter**

**Justin Thevarge**

E: justin.thevarge@sshs.ca



**Front Desk, Admin Assistant & Patient Travel Coordinator**

**Sally Peters**

E: sally.peters@sshs.ca



**Jordan's Principle Service Coordinator**

**Amanda Munnings**

E: amanda.munnings@sshs.ca



**Executive Assistant to the HD & Patient Travel Coordinator**

**Julia Schneider**

E: julia.schneider@sshs.ca



**Útszan ti Smáwala Sexual Assault Response Program Coordinator**

**Alana Desorcy**

E: alana.desorcy@sshs.ca



**Family Preservation & Reunification Worker**

**Nicki (Nichelle) Paul**

E: nicki.paul@sshs.ca

## Talked to Your Elders Lately?

A few minutes on the phone, or a visit, can make a world of difference in their lives and yours.

**Reach out today!**

**You'll be glad that you did.**

# Board Contacts

SSHS is governed by an eight-member board of directors that works closely with the health director to ensure the organization meets the goals of its strategic plan. Each community appoints two members to the board.

## N'Quatqua Representatives

**Doris Peters**

Chair

E: doris.peters@nquatqua.ca

**Nicole Patrick**

Board Member

E: nicole.patrick@nquatqua.ca

## Samahquam Representatives

**Dustin French**

Vice-Chair

E: dustin.french@samahquam.ca

**Gerard (Eppa) Peters**

Board Member

E: gerard.peters@sshs.ca

## Skatin Representatives

**Rex Grant**

Board Member

E: rex@tyheefinancial.ca

**Xavier Williams**

Treasurer

E: xaviersrdw@gmail.com

## Xa'xtsa Representatives

**Colin Linger**

Board Member

E: colin.linger@xaxtsa.ca

**Andrianna Peters**

Secretary

E: andrianna.peters@xaxtsa.ca

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# Emergency Health Contact Information

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Please save and post this information in an easily accessible place, such as the side of your refrigerator, on the inside a cupboard door, by your landline, or where you charge your cell phone.

Ensuring that you have this information close at hand can save valuable time in the face of a health emergency.

## Fire, Police or Ambulance

911 is now available in all SSHS communities

## Mental Health Crisis

**Pemberton Health Centre**  
(Emergency/Urgent Care)  
604-894-6633

**Pemberton Mental Health Intake**  
604-698-5861

**KUU-US Crisis Response Services**  
24-hour, culturally safe help for First Nations and Aboriginal Peoples

**Child/Youth line:**  
1-250-723-2040  
1-800-588-8717 (toll free)

**Adult/Elder line:**  
1-250-723-4050  
1-800-588-8717 (toll free)

**24 Hour Crisis Support**  
Crisis support and Suicide Prevention  
1-800-784-2433 (toll free)

**24 Hour Crisis Line**  
Crisis Support and Suicide Prevention  
310-6789 (toll free)

## Drug and Poison Information

**British Columbia Drug and Poison Information Centre**  
Information available 24 hours a day  
1-604-682-5050  
1-800-567-8911 (toll free)

## Domestic Violence

**National Domestic Violence Hotline**  
Open to everyone  
1-800-799-7233 (toll free)

**Howe Sound Women's Centre**  
Crisis line: 1-877-890-5711 (toll free)

**VICTIMLINK BC**  
1-800-563-0808 (toll free)

**Seniors Abuse and Information Line**  
Toll free: 1-866-437-1940

**Crisis Line Telephone**  
604-872-3311

**Mental Health After Hours Line**  
604-874-7307

## Family Services

**Ministry of Children and Families Development Services**  
Emergency After Hours Line:  
1-800-663-9122 (toll free)

**National Indian Residential School Crisis Line**  
Toll free: 1-866-925-4419

## Children's Services

**Kids Help Phone**  
1-800-668-6868 (toll free)

**Helpline for Children (MCFD) Howe Sound & Sunshine Coast**  
1-866-661-3311 (toll free)

## Sexual Assault Services

**Útszan ti Smáwala Sexual Assault Response Program**  
Program contact:  
Alana Desorcy  
Cell: 604-905-9629  
Text: 604-905-9629  
FB: Alana Desorcy Sshs

**Rape Crisis Centre**  
Crisis line: 1-877-392-7583 (toll free)

## Community Services

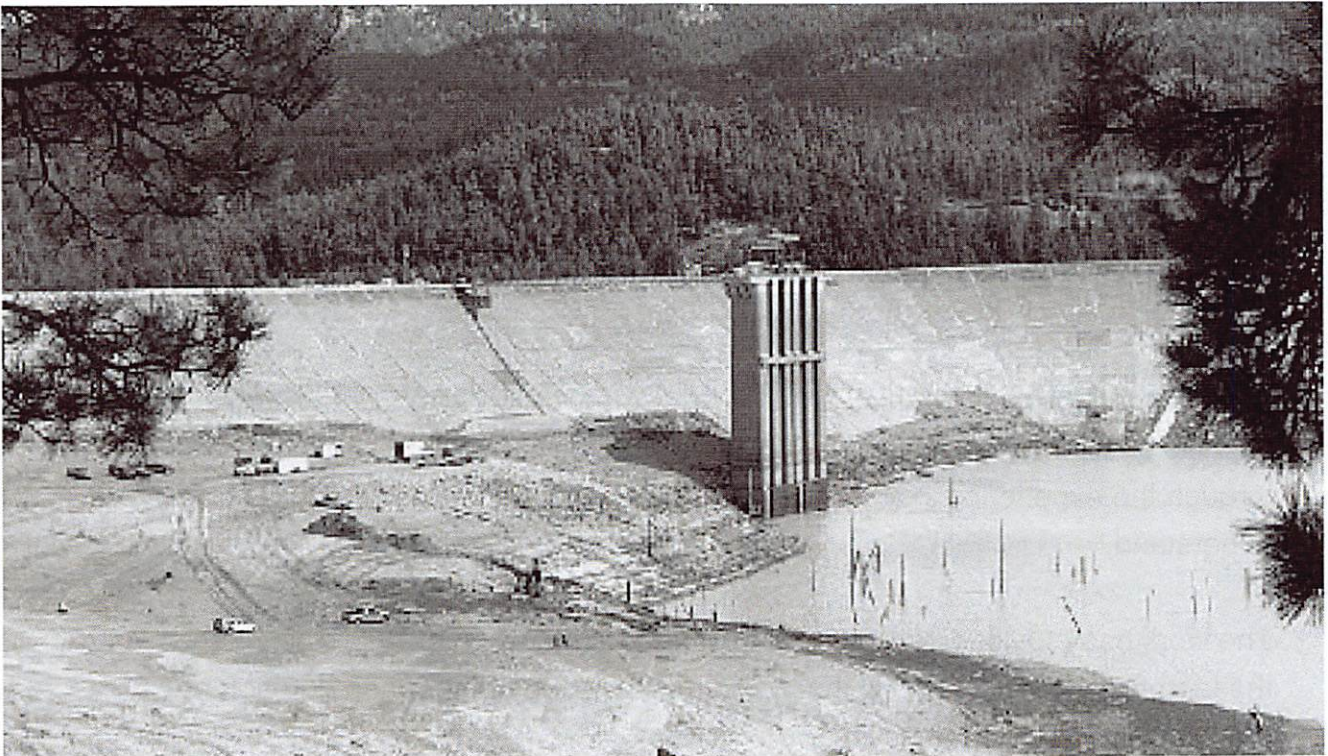
**Douglas First Nation Office**  
1-778-770-1646



[View this email in your browser](#)



## July 2023 Newsletter



*View looking at the upstream face of LaJoie Dam during Downton Reservoir drawdown (April 28, 2022)*

## Lessons learned from Downton drawdown

*Excerpted from BC Hydro Bridge River Newsletter -Winter 2023*

The last time there was a drawdown at the Downton Reservoir with an elevation as low as 699 meters was in the 1990's. Flash forward to this year, and after months of

careful planning and consultation, the LaJoie Dam Improvement project team completed their drawdown this spring.

Many team members were on site to get a first hand view including project manager Zeljko Cecic.

“Because it had never been done like this before, the delivery of the plan had some level of uncertainty. We didn’t know what access was going to be like for monitoring, and what flows would be like. Now that uncertainty has filled itself in.”

A key challenge for Cecic and the project team was establishing safe access within the drawdown area to perform environmental monitoring. While access was not possible to much of the reservoir, St’at’imc consultants identified safe and feasible access options and carried out environmental monitoring and managed impacts. This information will now be used for future drawdowns.

“We had an environmental management plan developed in collaboration with St’at’imc Nation and the Water Comptroller, to monitor and mitigate environmental effects of the drawdown. But even to conduct the monitoring we had to come up with creative solutions such as boats, 4x4 vehicles, helicopters and hiking to collect the information we needed.”

“It’s changed the way we think about how we drawdown, when we drawdown and the impacts of drawdowns at LaJoie. We talk about the impacts, but until you see it, go through the experience in a very real, physical, tangible way, you don’t really understand.”

The work has provided valuable information for the design level of the project, where the team is looking at options that could minimize the number and duration of drawdowns during construction.

As a result, there is a better understanding about priorities when it comes to environmental monitoring, where and how they can get access, and managing flows when the reservoir operates at lower levels.

The drawdown lasted 10 days with the reservoir reaching its lowest level in April. Three weeks later it was back at typical seasonal levels. Drawdowns during construction are expected to last longer.

Design work and studies for the project continue into 2023 and 2024, with the recent drawdown informing the work ahead.

Looking back, Cecic knows it was hard, but worth it. “It was successful in that we learned a lot. None of it was easy. But I am so glad we did it, because it has shone a different light on the project, potential drawdowns, and where to deploy our efforts.”

For more information visit [www.bchydro.com](http://www.bchydro.com)

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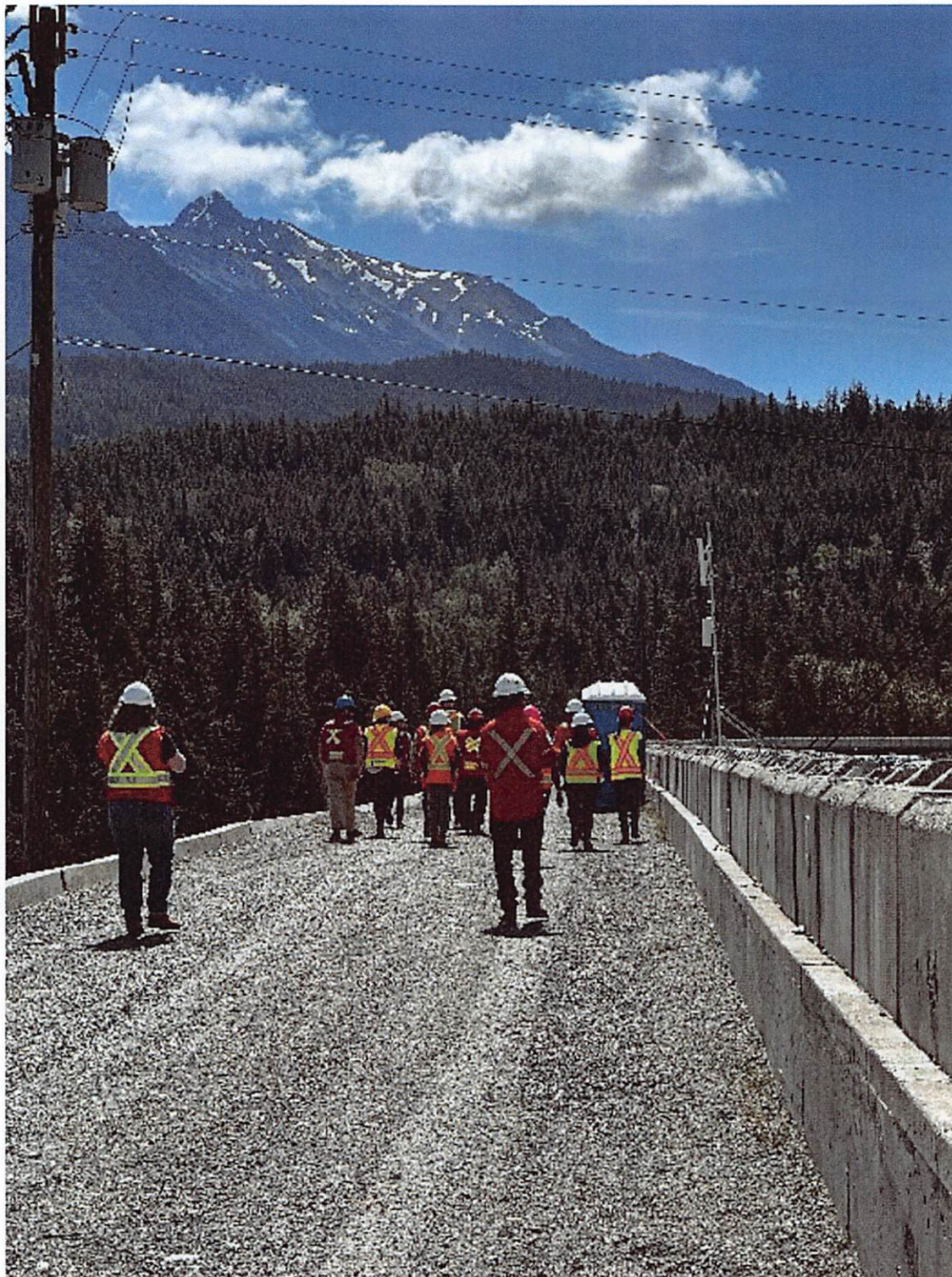


*A view down to the Bride River from the Quarry site.*

## Capital Planning

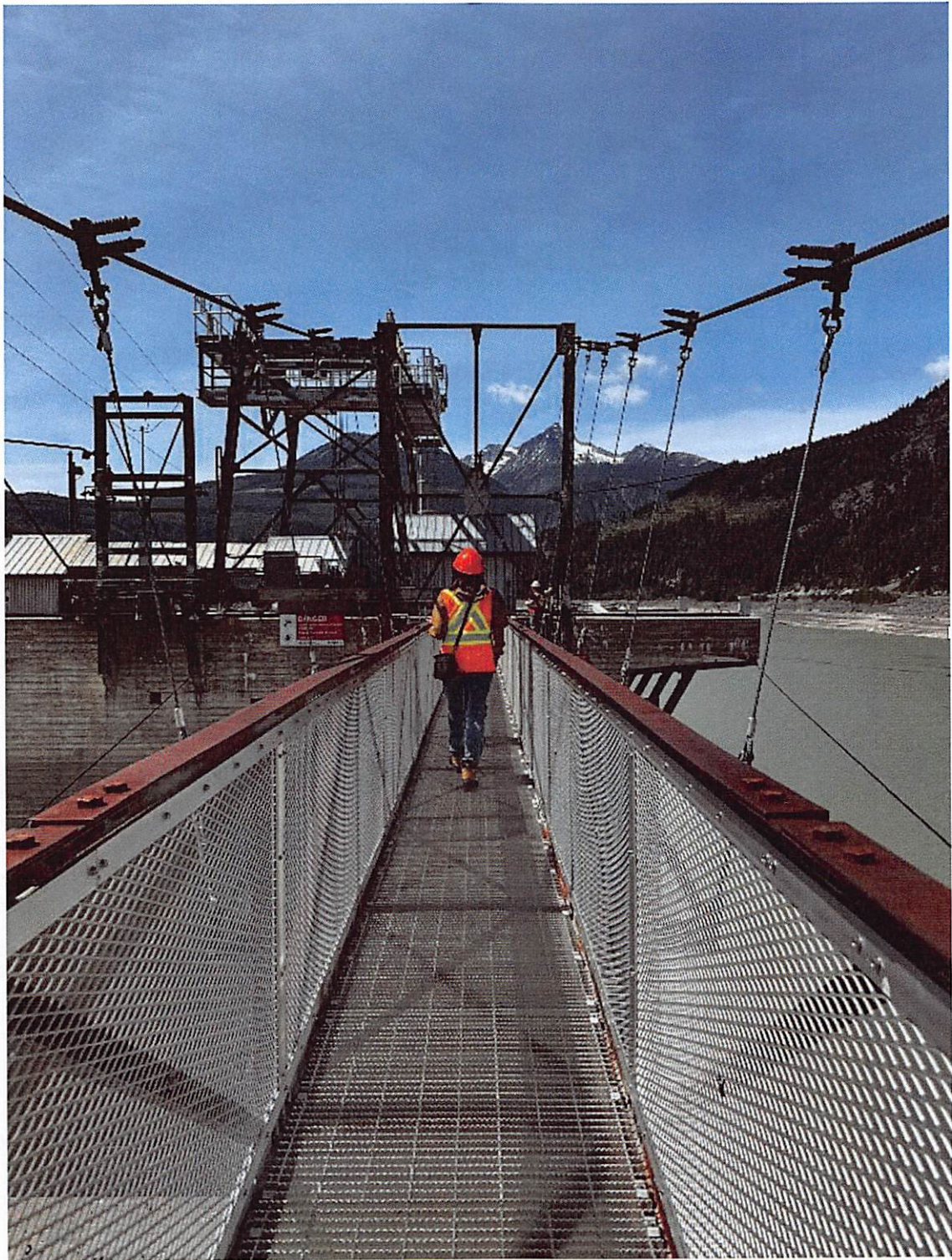
The Accommodations and Logistics Study being done by the KGS Group attended a meeting with the LaJoie Technical Working Group (LTWG) and the Community and Culture Forum (CCF) in June. They also held community open houses in Lillooet and Goldbridge to get firsthand feedback on what is important to St'át'imc and to communities. This information will be integrated into the study that is targeted to complete in early 2024.

The LTWG and CCF members, BC Hydro and KGS also visited the LaJoie site and the quarry. BC Hydro has already offered three main opportunities for the LaJoie Dam Improvement project, accommodations, quarry development and operation and access roads and laydown areas. The KGS study will provide critical information that informs the scope of the work on all three opportunities.



*LTWG on the crest of the LaJoie dam*





*Accessway to intake tower*



*Powerhouse and Bridge River from the crest of the LaJoie dam*

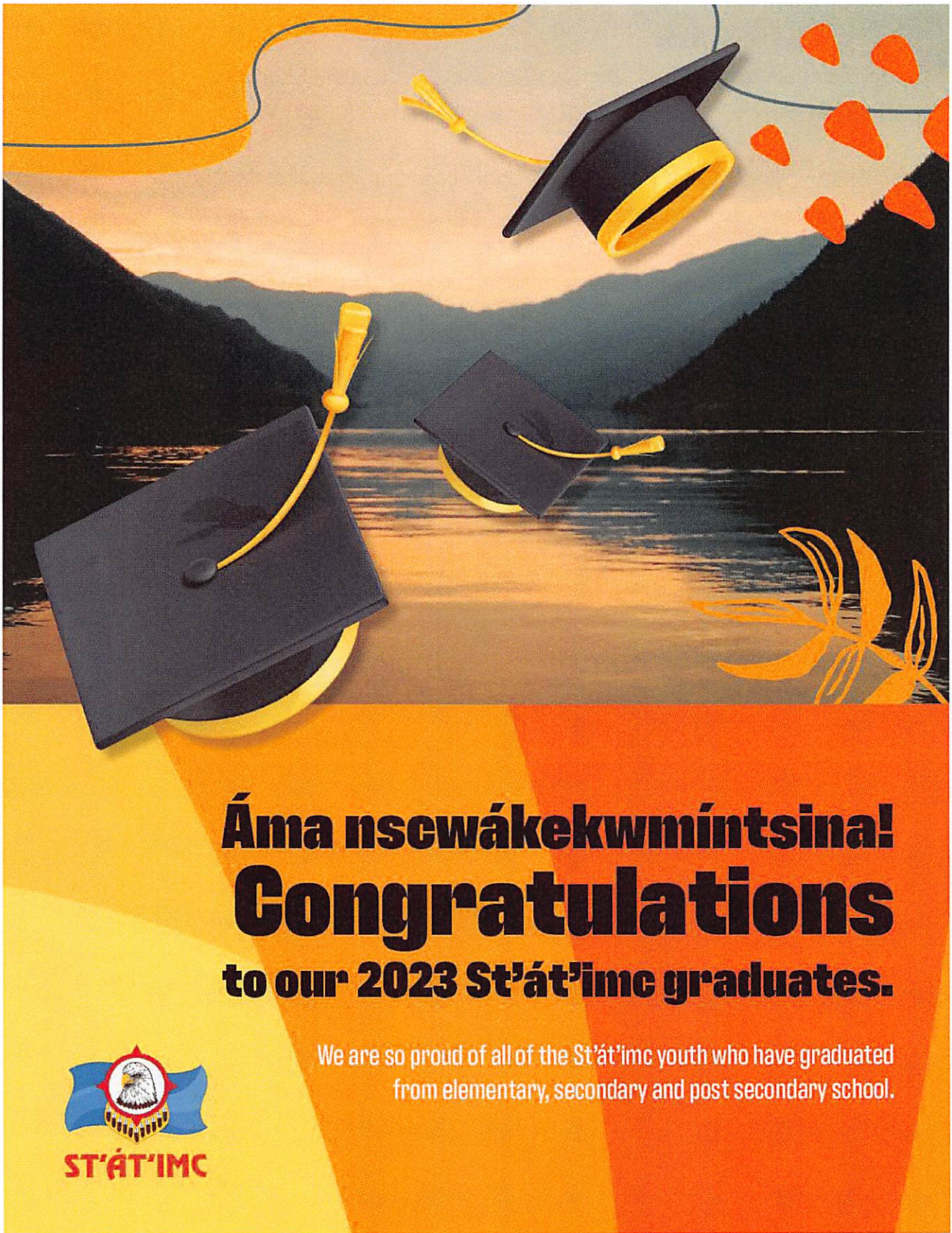
Explore project related information at your own pace by accessing information on SharePoint.

Here is a small sample of what you can find on the [St'át'imc SharePoint Information Portal](#):

- Reports on the [Reservoir Archaeology Program](#) and the [Seton Lake Environmental Mitigation Project](#)
- [List of the BC Hydro projects in St'át'imc Territory](#)

- Copies of the BC Hydro project opportunities that have been provided to St'át'imc businesses
- Materials and notes on the Quarterly Capital Planning Meetings
- A glossary of commonly used project and system terms

The St'át'imc SharePoint Information Portal access now requires Multi-Factor Authentication – an instruction sheet has been sent out on how to set this up. The instructions also provide a way to contact tech support should you have a problem. If you did not receive the instructions, please call Sherry Kane at SGS (778.771.5903)



**Áma nscwákekwmíntsina!**  
**Congratulations**  
**to our 2023 St'át'imc graduates.**

We are so proud of all of the St'át'imc youth who have graduated from elementary, secondary and post secondary school.



## Opportunities to work with us

Please visit our website where we keep updated information about work and training opportunities.