



# Lheidli Whut'en Dustl'us

Issue 06 | May 2020



Hadih everyone. Thank-you for practicing self-isolation and social-distancing these past few weeks as we've all learned to accommodate the changes brought on by the Covid-19 epidemic. It is clear that these simple actions along with additional hand-washing and not meeting in groups have combined to help flatten the curve of Covid-19. Council wants to thank our Executive Director Joe Gosnell and all our staff for finding ways to continue providing services and support to our members during this unprecedented period.

Everyone has done a phenomenal job and we especially want to thank the Health Department Team for visiting with our Elders on a regular basis to make sure they are safe, along with taking on extra duties to support families and others. It appears that the lockdown measures will remain in place for at least another few weeks before governments feel confident that they can begin to be relaxed. We ask for your continued observance of social-distancing and self-isolation if you aren't feeling well and with any luck we'll begin to gather safely in groups and really get to enjoy Spring.

During the Covid lockdown period Council has been meeting on a weekly basis. One of the issues we've been advancing 'behind the scenes' is our priority to work more closely with government and industry to ensure more involvement by us in the management of resources in our territory along with a greater emphasis on environmental stewardship. While the focus of the media and most people over the past month has been on Covid-19, we are still dealing with impacts from climate change, the downturn in the BC forest industry and a host of other economic and environmental challenges.

Council met with the Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Hon. Doug Donaldson in late January. He has agreed to work with our nation towards a collaborative agreement on stewardship and sustainability. The agreement will focus on forest and stewardship management.

We continue to work as well with Canfor on initiatives aimed at improved stewardship of our forests, contract opportunities for LTN and new opportunities for our members. We've made it clear that we want a new relationship with Canfor that includes more than just buying our logs. Our logging company LTN is facing an uncertain future with the downturn in the BC forest industry but it has always found a way to get through the tough times and we're confident that will be the case this time.

So, as we all face more uncertainty as to when we can begin to regain our more normal lives, Council asks that you continue to look out for each other, be safe and be kind. If any member requires any Covid-related assistance please contact our fabulous Health Department and they will take care of it. Once again, Council thanks members and staff for stepping-up and working together during this unique time in our history.

Snachailya.



## Executive Director's Update

By Joe Gosnell Jr

With the ongoing concerns of the current Covid-19 pandemic, Band operations continue to work subject to standard Covid-19 protocol followed by the corporate, organizations and Government bodies worldwide.

We are in unprecedented times, affecting our daily routines relating to work, family, health and finances needed to sustain a livelihood.

Through the ongoing efforts of Chief and Council we continue to monitor the Provincial and Federal strategies week to week on returning to our normal day to day livelihoods.

Since the beginning of this worldwide pandemic, Band operations continue, our office staff work at home, as most employers in Canada, we have to minimize the risk of contracting the Covid-19 virus to all LTN employees by having most work from their homes.

### Indigenous Service Canada – Covid-19 support

Indigenous service Canada provided emergency support funding under the Indigenous Community Support Fund for fiscal years 2020-2021 to all First Nation communities.

The formula utilized to determine how much each community received was not disclosed, all we know it was calculated on a “per capita” basis.

We also see and hear what other First Nations are providing to their membership, it is very important to note, each First Nations resources differ, regarding financial resources available. The financial position of Lheidli T'enneh will improve over time with the addition of capacity development, whereby resources within your traditional territory will be better managed and compensated for, under corporate and Government accountabilities.

Band core operations continue relating to the following departments:

- 1) Finance - Indigenous Service Canada as a result of Covid-19 has delayed required annual Program and services reporting for the past fiscal year. Our Finance Department is working on finalizing the 2020 Fiscal year operations budget of which Covid-19 interrupted.
- 2) Housing – On-reserve housing is currently being managed in the same manner as the Provincial Government in terms of rental payments relating to Covid-19 impacts. Housing plans for next spring are being developed to continue the Band's efforts to providing new housing to your community.
- 3) Health – Our Health department are working tirelessly to maintain services to all sectors of your

community, mostly to ensure families, children and elders are cared for during this pandemic. Medications needed are being provided subject to availability through vendors.

- 4) Education- Management of educational needs are underway, working in tandem with School District 57 covid-19 plans to sustain a level of teachings to occur within the home of students and distance learning opportunities available using modern technologies.
- 5) Land Referrals / Economic Development- Operations and processes continue, to manage the ongoing activities within your traditional territories. All corporate and Government activities have slowed tremendously since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic outbreak. The required workload is currently being documented through standard Covid-19 protocols implemented by all organizations.
- 6) Public Works Department – we would like to report / notify membership of a personnel change in this department. Duncan Seymour will now be supervising all required public works services beginning April 21, 2020. Duncan has ensured the community needs during this pandemic outbreak has been met, relating to water sampling, fire wood, road maintenance, garbage collection etc. We are confident Duncan will excel and grow into his new position under Band operations.

In closing, we ask for your continued patience as we work through this pandemic crisis, we understand the impacts relating to our daily lives in every sense. We continue to monitor weekly the health updates issued provincially and federally. We also continue to monitor the emergency financial assistance announcements / updates through the Province and Federal Government.

Please continue to follow the standard Covid-19 protocols, protect yourselves and stay healthy.

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## New Employee Public Works, Duncan Seymour



Duncan Seymour who resides in the Northside Neighbourhood. He lives with his wife Krystal and they have two rembuncious kids, Lakoda 6 and Dakotah 4.

Duncan will be working full time as the Public Works and taking over the water technician duties by attending classes to obtain his EOCP certification.

Welcome aboard Duncan!

# Elders Tea and Bingo February 2020



# More Bingo Pics February 2020



# COVID-19 Economic Response Plan

These resources are provided as a reference for those seeking information on the economic measures introduced by the Government of Canada to support Canadian workers and businesses during this challenging period. For more details, see **Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan**: [www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html)

## Helpful resources

### Support for individuals and families

Increasing the Canada child benefit (CCB)	<a href="http://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update/covid-19-benefits-credits-support-payments.html#changes">www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update/covid-19-benefits-credits-support-payments.html#changes</a>	CRA
Special Goods and Services Tax credit (GSTC) payment	<a href="http://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update/covid-19-benefits-credits-support-payments.html#changes">www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update/covid-19-benefits-credits-support-payments.html#changes</a>	CRA
Extra time to file income tax returns	<a href="http://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update/covid-19-benefits-credits-support-payments.html#file">www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update/covid-19-benefits-credits-support-payments.html#file</a>	CRA
Mortgage support	<a href="http://www.cba.ca/mortgage-deferral-to-help-canadians-experiencing-financial-hardship-due-to-covid-19">www.cba.ca/mortgage-deferral-to-help-canadians-experiencing-financial-hardship-due-to-covid-19</a>	CBA

### Facing unemployment?

The new Canada Emergency Response Benefit	<a href="http://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/benefits/apply-for-cerb-with-cra.html">www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/benefits/apply-for-cerb-with-cra.html</a>	CRA
Apply for Employment Insurance (EI)	<a href="http://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/ei-regular-benefit/apply.html">www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/ei-regular-benefit/apply.html</a>	ESDC

### Sick, quarantined, or in directed self-isolation?

The new Canada Emergency Response Benefit* (*also applies to people unable to work)	<a href="http://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/benefits/apply-for-cerb-with-cra.html">www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/benefits/apply-for-cerb-with-cra.html</a>	CRA
Improved access to Employment Insurance sickness benefits	<a href="https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/ei-sickness/apply.html">https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/ei-sickness/apply.html</a>	ESDC

### Senior?

Reduced minimum withdrawals for Registered Retirement Income Funds (RRIFs)	<a href="http://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update/covid-19-benefits-credits-support-payments.html#changes">www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update/covid-19-benefits-credits-support-payments.html#changes</a>	CRA
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### Students or recent graduate?

A moratorium on the repayment of Canada Student Loans	<a href="http://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/notices/coronavirus.html">www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/notices/coronavirus.html</a>	ESDC
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### Support for people who need it most

Enhancing the Reaching Home initiative	<a href="http://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan/covid19-individuals.html#enhancing_reaching_home_initiative">www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan/covid19-individuals.html#enhancing_reaching_home_initiative</a>	ESDC
Support for women's shelters and sexual assault centres	<a href="http://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan/covid19-individuals.html#support_women_shelters_and_sexual_assault_centers">www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan/covid19-individuals.html#support_women_shelters_and_sexual_assault_centers</a>	Department of Finance
A new Indigenous Community Support Fund	<a href="https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1585189335380/1585189357198">https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1585189335380/1585189357198</a>	Indigenous Services

## Receiving benefit and credit payments



We encourage you to file your income tax and benefit return electronically and as early as possible before June 1, 2020, to make sure your benefits and credits are not interrupted.



You are encouraged to register for direct deposit on CRA's [My Account](#) self-service portal, as this is the quickest and most reliable way to get benefit and credit payments.





## EDUCATION REPORT

By Vincent Joseph

Post-secondary students are reminded to fill out applications for funding for the 20/21 school year. This includes both undergraduate and graduate students. Your nation will continue to support you as you work to achieve your educational goals. For those attending programs at UNBC, please don't forget about our special support program. UNBC covers your tuition while Lheidli covers your books, supplies and living expenses.

For more information about this unique partnership program, please contact:

Shannon Mackay

Indigenous Student Recruiter - UNBC.

T: 250.960.8325

C: 778.675.6679

Congratulations to our graduating High School students for achieving this educational milestone and receiving your diploma. We admire your hard-work and sacrifices and hope that you will consider moving on to obtain post-secondary education as a means to achieve your dreams. Whether you want to become a Carpenter, Electrician, Business owner, Professional Forester, Environmental Specialist, Lawyer, Teacher or Doctor, you'll need to attend College or University and we're here to help!

All Lheidli students should have received a telephone call from your SD57 teacher to assist with your online education and studies while the schools remain closed to slow the spread of Covid-19. If you haven't heard from your teacher, please contact me for assistance.

Shendah Benoit, Vice Principal Academics, Indigenous Education, School District No 57 will visit the Northside and Southside reserves twice a week. She will visit Southside on Tuesday and Thursday, Noon-1:00pm and Northside Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30-2:30pm. Shendah is available to support families with the 'Continuity of Learning Plan' given to each child from their teacher. The school district is working to find laptops to loan to students who require a laptop in order to do the work in their plan. Shendah has taught Kindergarten – Grade 12 and has been a School Principal and District Principal. She can be contacted at:

E: [sbenoit@sd57.bc.ca](mailto:sbenoit@sd57.bc.ca)

T: 250.498.9340

Lheidli students wishing more information please contact:

Vince Joseph

E: [vjoseph@lheidli.ca](mailto:vjoseph@lheidli.ca)

C: 250.960.9722



## Housing

By Leo Hebert

Housing has been a very busy office over the last few months. There have been changes to housing staff roles and responsibilities. Leo Hebert is no longer the Housing Manager but he is providing support, training, and assistance to Wendy on a part time basis. All inquiries regarding housing should be directed to Wendy.

The three new homes on the north side will be completed by the end of February, ready for move in. The Band was successful in acquiring funding from Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to upgrade some of the non CMHC funded homes. Housing Funding rules and regulations from ISC does not allow the Band to use this allocation for homes that are still under CMHC subsidy.

We are finalizing the details of the budget and a workplan and schedule is being developed.

Housing was also successful in securing capacity building and policy development funding to update housing policies and procedures. This initiative is created to provide opportunities for community members to provide input.

At the community housing meeting on November 16, 2019, where 47 members attended. 8 individuals put their names forward at this meeting. Patricia Seymour, Vanessa West, Diane Joseph, Tasheena Seymour, Violet Bozoki, Bernadine Paul, Josephine Paul, Veronica Seymour. Establishing the terms of reference and developing a workplan is the first step for the Advisory Committee for Housing. Updating housing policies is priority, and will be worked through over the coming year. Meetings have been scheduled for the first Wednesday of February, March, and April. Housing updates will be presented at upcoming community events.

We have been working on developing proposals to CMHC and other funding sources. This is a complex challenge as programs and program officers are constantly changing. Housing programs have different application forms, policies, deadlines, and eligibility requirements. CMHC, ISC, and BC Housing will be hosting a one-day workshop on all of their funding programs for on and off reserve in Prince George.

A typical housing development must consider all of the following;

1. Research on need (Elders, singles, families etc..), serviced lot availability, suitability of soil to build on, flood plain, zoning, prevailing construction costs, funding availability through funders and Band Own Source Revenues, loans or mortgages etc.
2. Then a preliminary estimate for the total cost of the project; planning, designing (Engineer, architect, builder, building codes and inspections), construction method and type of house (General contractor or Project Manager, public tender, design build), maintaining and operating the homes (annually and over the life of the homes), replacement reserves, insurance, fire protection, snow removal, garbage collection and removal.
3. The project must demonstrate that they are viable and feasible at this stage. It is at this time that the affordability factor for the home occupants is investigated as well. Any new design must be affordable and will meet the needs of the people who will be living in the homes. The cost of renting and paying for heating, hydro, groceries, entertainment, transportation, clothing, laundry, and other life events must be included in the overall costing model.
4. Housing concept designs, preliminary designs, layout of homes, accessibility, energy efficiency, indoor air quality, low maintenance materials, foundation designs based upon soil conditions, water and sewer connections, finishing materials, and landscaping will have to be determined.

5. The layout of the community where the housing units will be located, roads, water and sewer services, hydro, telecommunication, snow removal, garbage collection, fire protection, and all other infrastructure will have to be designed and considered as part of the overall costing.
6. Any new housing developments proposed for on reserve lands must meet the Land Authority by-laws, zoning, and should be subject to a development procedure application and approval process. This includes legal surveys, environmental impact, matrimonial laws, bylaws and responsibilities of home occupants, and the Band to operate and maintain the homes.
7. Housing Policies, tenant support, and property management, rental collection, annual servicing of heating systems, fire safety, chimneys, etc.... to be developed and managed. The cost for this position in the Band office is not funded by any Federal government program. BC Housing projects allow for tenant support costs, rental supplements, but the cost of operating housing must come out of rent collection only.
8. Once a project is completed, then an evaluation of the overall project should take place to improve and make adjustments for future projects.

We look forward to working with everyone as we work towards developing our collective vision, identify need, prioritize projects, build a five-year plan, and build capacity to make it happen.



## Natural Resources

By Chus Sam

Hadi everyone,

I hope you and your families are doing well during this difficult time during the covid-19 world pandemic.

Activity within the territory for resource development is still occurring, but at a slower pace than usual. Certainly, I could imagine many members are eager to get out and go hunting, fishing, and establishing cabins now that winter is over. I would like to remind the membership that your section 35 rights (hunt, fish, and trap) is not restricted by the provincial government, but of course, we must use caution in terms of social distancing. For instance, BC parks are closed to the public on April 8, 2020, but remains open for members to practice rights.

We are continuing to build relationships with the provincial government and industries such as Canfor during this time, although, communication is difficult at times.

The provincial fire ban is was activated on April 16, 2020 for category 2 and category 3 fires. For more information on category definitions please see website and view poster link: [http://bcfireinfo.for.gov.bc.ca/hprScripts/WildfireNews/DisplayArticle.asp?ID=3183&fbclid=IwAR1wxjSK\\_80bkIX56A\\_DbzLefxiYawHL7DIeex14OHFb2wk0vh-v-PflrSY](http://bcfireinfo.for.gov.bc.ca/hprScripts/WildfireNews/DisplayArticle.asp?ID=3183&fbclid=IwAR1wxjSK_80bkIX56A_DbzLefxiYawHL7DIeex14OHFb2wk0vh-v-PflrSY).

If any members have any concerns with resource extraction activity or concerns related to your rights, please don't hesitate to contact me at [csam@lheidli.ca](mailto:csam@lheidli.ca) to communicate or schedule a call.

Awet-za,



## The Specific Claim

By: Malcom Macpherson

Clark Wilson has been making steady progress on the Specific Claim file. A five stage approach is presently underway including:

1. Phase 1: Claim Development – This is the phase where the claim is formulated by counsel on behalf of the Lheidli T'enneh.
2. Phase 2: Minimum Standard – The claim is submitted to the Minister. Within six months of receipt of the claim, the Minister must assess it for the purpose of determining whether it meets the minimum standard.
3. Phase 3: Minister Decides to Negotiate or Not – Once the Minister accepts that the claim meets the minimum standard, the claim is considered “filed” with the Minister. The Minister then considers and assesses the claim for the purpose of determining whether Canada will enter into formal negotiations with the Lheidli T'enneh or not. The Minister must consider the claim within 3 years of acceptance.
4. Phase 4: Negotiation – If the Minister accepts the claim for negotiation, the Minister has three years from the date it communicates such acceptance to the Lheidli T'enneh to negotiate the claim. If negotiations do not succeed within 3 years from the commencement date, a Specific Claims Tribunal proceeding may be commenced. If the Minister does not accept the claim for negotiation, Phase 4 is skipped.
5. Phase 5: Specific Claims Tribunal – If negotiations do not resolve the claim, or if the Minister refuses to enter into negotiations with the Lheidli T'enneh, the next step is to commence a proceeding before the Specific Claims Tribunal. There are no prescribed timelines within which a claim before the Specific Claims Tribunal must be resolved. However, a proceeding will take several years to be resolved. Generally, a First Nation must file a Declaration of Claim with the Tribunal. Canada will then file a Response to Declaration of Claim. After these initial documents are exchanged, the proceeding may go in any number of directions and applications to the Tribunal concerning document disclosure, evidence, experts and other matters may occur. A proceeding before the Tribunal is resolved either by settlement or a trial before a single member of the Tribunal. The parties have the right to have the member's decision subjected to judicial review, which is a limited form of appeal.

Clark Wilson is now well-into revising the liability submissions portion of Lheidli T'enneh's claim. Clark Wilson has now also reviewed and catalogued all materials researched by previous lawyers on the file for use in the liability submission, with the exception of certain secondary sources (such as books and longer academic works) which will be reviewed and considered in due course. With respect to the anticipated timeline provided to Chief and Council for preparation of Lheidli T'enneh's submission, Clark Wilson is on track.

With regard to the compensation element of Lheidli T'enneh's submission, Clark Wilson is ahead of schedule. There has been a review and cataloguing of all materials researched by previous lawyers, and memoranda regarding same, for use in the compensation submission, with the exception of certain secondary sources. Drafting of the actual compensation submission has started and there has been solid progress on many sections.

If you have any questions relating to the Specific Claim, please feel free to contact Sean Tessarolo at Clark Wilson. He can be reached at: (778)-789-3067.

## The Enbridge Lawsuit

A meeting had been set up between Chief and Council and Enbridge on March 18th in Vancouver. Unfortunately, Enbridge's office advised the Lheidli T'enneh on the morning of March 18th that its President Al Monaco had come down with a cough, which breached Clark Wilson's office meeting safety protocol rules in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic. For safety reasons, the meeting was cancelled. A future meeting with Enbridge and Al Monaco present is scheduled for late May in Prince George.

The Enbridge lawsuit remains active. Clark Wilson is now in receipt of Enbridge's documents, which are voluminous. Document review is now fully underway. Importantly, Chief and Council will have the opportunity to see the unvarnished evidence provided by Enbridge, which should answer a number of the questions Lheidli T'enneh has had about the context and facts surrounding the explosion.

If you have any questions relating to the Enbridge litigation, please feel free to contact Malcolm Macpherson at Clark Wilson. He can be reached at: (604)-928-4202.



## Health Update

By: Tamara Seymour

The last month has been very difficult and strange as we try to live our lives and navigate through COVID-19. As you are aware the Lheidli T'enneh administration including the Health department continue to work, supporting and providing essential services. Any up to date information is posted onto the social media pages, we strive to keep information flowing to ensure our community is up to date. We hope you are all doing well and safe during this difficult time. As we continue to follow the COVID-19 protocols, we as the Health and Family Development team are still available to answer questions and support where it is appropriate.

Some of you may be aware that there have been some changes in the Family Development Department, in February, Brenda had departed Lheidli T'enneh moving onto her next chapter in life. I just want to say a great thank you for all of the work that she has done in all the years she worked for the Lheidli T'enneh community. There will be a new Family Development Coordinator hired in the near future. If supports are needed during the pandemic period, please contact Tasheena (tseymour@lheidli.ca), she will be able to assist and answer questions.

The Health department is continuing to grow and expand, especially as we move towards breaking ground on the new Health Center this year. Once dates are provided, we will be sure to inform the community when ground breaking will be done. There have been recent job postings that are on the Lheidli T'enneh social media pages and online for viewing. Throughout this new fiscal, we would like to bring new initiatives and workshops of information to the community, to support health and wellness. We are always open to suggestions or interests of what the community would like to see. Once programming is allowed to start again, there will be an updated calendar and newsletter provided to the community.

We look forward to seeing all of you once this pandemic has settled and it is safe to come together as a community again. We wish good health and well-being to all Lheidli T'enneh, and pray for safety against this virus.

# COVID-19 MEASURES TO HELP CANADIANS



You may be eligible to receive some of these credits and benefits the Government of Canada has introduced to help Canadians during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## CANADA EMERGENCY RESPONSE BENEFIT (CERB)

The CERB provides temporary income support to workers who have stopped working and are without employment or self-employment income for reasons related to COVID-19. The benefit amount of \$2,000 will be paid in blocks of four weeks (up to a maximum of 16 weeks).

**Canadians can now apply for CERB through My Account or the automated phone line.**

## GOOD AND SERVICES TAX/HARMONIZED SALES TAX (GST/HST) CREDIT

The Government provided a one-time special payment on April 9, 2020. This payment doubles the maximum annual GST/HST credit payment amounts for the 2019-20 benefit year. The average boost for those eligible will be close to \$400 for single individuals and \$600 for couples.

**You will get the extra payment amount automatically if you normally receive the GST/HST credit and have filed a 2018 tax return.**

## CANADA CHILD BENEFIT (CCB)

The Government increased the maximum annual CCB payment amounts, for the 2019-20 benefit year, by up to \$300 per child. The overall increase for families will be on average \$550 (approximately).

You will get the extra payment amount automatically as part of your May payment if you normally receive the CCB, have filed a 2018 tax return, and have a child under the age of 18.

**The income tax deadline for individuals has been extended to June 1, 2020, and the deadline to pay amounts owed has been extended to September 1, 2020.**

### MY ACCOUNT

- ▶ [canada.ca/my-cra-account](https://canada.ca/my-cra-account)

### CRA COVID-19 INFORMATION

- ▶ [canada.ca/cra-coronavirus](https://canada.ca/cra-coronavirus)

### CHILD AND FAMILY BENEFITS

- ▶ [canada.ca/child-family-benefits](https://canada.ca/child-family-benefits)

### BENEFIT ENQUIRIES

- ▶ 1-800-387-1193

### TERRITORIAL TAX AND BENEFIT ENQUIRIES (ACCESSIBLE FROM 867 AREA CODE ONLY)

- ▶ 1-866-426-1527

### GENERAL TAX ENQUIRIES

- ▶ 1-800-959-8281

### CRA AUTOMATED PHONE SERVICE FOR CERB

- ▶ 1-800-959-2019 or  
1-800-959-2041

Canada



## Capacity Development & Training Officer/ Workforce Promoter

By: Barb Allan

### Budget Portfolios

Indigenous Skills Training Development Fund (ISTDF) Fiscal Period of April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020. These funds provided training initiatives with Prince George Driving For Life, Irwin's Safety and Industrial Labour Services Ltd., Roy Lemcke – Instructor for the Possession and Acquisition License (PAL), College of New Caledonia – Trades, John McGinnis, University of Northern British Columbia and the Guardian Aerospace Holdings Inc.

Indigenous Skills Employment Training Strategy (ISETS) Fiscal Period of April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020, these funds provides access to employment and training initiatives, individual course purchase, work related supplies, training travel, supplementary allowances and dues and fees leading to employment. Non-funded services are referrals to other department heads/ agencies, counselling, return-to-work action plans, resume development and casual/job placement with Industry. The Participant Information Form (PIF) and the Application checklist is provided to each community member, to start the funding process.

North Central Strategies Funding Initiative Fiscal Period of June 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020 – Extended to December, 2020. These funds provide community members access to employment and training initiatives – The Oil & Gas Preparation Training, work related supplies (WRS), nutritious and healthy lunches for the duration of the training.

### In Partnership

Province of British Columbia Prince George Nechako Aboriginal Employment & Training Association (PGNAETA)

Future Employment & Training Initiatives

Possession and Acquisition License (PAL), the Wildlife Monitor, and Industry Certificates

The Pathways to Prosperity Program – information provided by the Economic Development Manager

### Contact Information

Please provide the Capacity Development & Training Officer – Barbara Allan with the following:

1. Phone Number
2. Email Address
3. UPDATED Resume

You can submit your updated information to me via email: [ballan@lheidli.ca](mailto:ballan@lheidli.ca) or by leaving a detailed message at (250) 562-0847 extension 2012

## Pathways to Prosperity Program

Apply today to get the training you need to start a meaningful career in the construction industry.



Get training from construction experts, and local Indigenous leaders and entrepreneurs



Graduate with the foundational skills and certificates to launch a career in the construction industry



Take part in hands-on courses designed to match the realities of life on a construction site

Upon graduation you will be eligible for a wide variety of rewarding jobs in the fields of welding, equipment operation, driving, and many other trades.

**The one-week program is being held as follows:**

**Session 1**

May 25 – 30, 2020

**Session 2**

June 1 – 6, 2020

**Session 3**

June 8 – 13, 2020

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The program is being sponsored by SA Energy and Coastal GasLink and there is no cost to apply. Transportation, meals, and accommodation will also be provided for the duration of the week-long program.

The program will be held in the Prince George area at Coastal GasLink's Parsnip workforce accommodation lodge.

**Apply today**

Submit a cover letter, resume, and a list of references to  
→ [P3@SAenergygroup.com](mailto:P3@SAenergygroup.com) by May 16, 2020.

For more information get in touch with your local training or employment office, or please email us at → [P3@SAenergygroup.com](mailto:P3@SAenergygroup.com).

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**Pathways to  
Prosperity  
Program**

Presented by:



**Coastal GasLink**  
Pipeline Project



## Economic Development

By Rena Zatorski

### **Lheidli T'enneh Nation & Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development (FLNRORD); Strategic Forestry Initiative (SPI) Agreement**

During May 2019, LTN Chief and Council requested a meeting with Honourable Doug Donaldson, Minister of FLNRORD for the purpose of discussing our interests and concerns in regards to forest and range activities occurring in our territory. LTN asserted that the Province's policy as provided in the Draft Principles that Guide the Province of British Columbia's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples; Principle 8 provides that:

“The Province of British Columbia recognizes that reconciliation and self-government require a renewed fiscal relationship, developed in collaboration with the federal government and Indigenous nations that promotes a mutually supportive climate for economic partnership and resource development.”

Furthermore,

“The renewed fiscal relationship will also enable Indigenous peoples to have fair and ongoing access to their lands, territories, and resources to support their traditional economies and to share in the wealth generated from those lands and resources as part of the broader provincial economy.” ([https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/careers/about-the-bc-public-service/diversity-inclusion-respect/draft\\_principles.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/careers/about-the-bc-public-service/diversity-inclusion-respect/draft_principles.pdf))

On September 19, 2019 LTN Chief and Council met with Minister Donaldson and outlined LTN's 'interests' as they relate to various forest and range activities, decision-making, stewardship, economic development, socio-economic and cultural issues. Minister Donaldson was positive in his response to LTN's forestry related 'interests' and committed to having on-going discussions.

On October 31, 2019 the British Columbia legislature unanimously passed Bill 41-2019: Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People Act (UNDRIP). Aptly named, Bill 41 speaks to the 41 Articles encompassed in UNDRIP and “solemnly proclaims the following United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a standard of achievement to be pursued in a spirit of partnership and mutual respect.” (<https://www.leg.bc.ca/parliamentary-business/legislation-debates-proceedings/41st-parliament/4th-session/bills/first-reading/gov41-1>).

The Province has committed to implementing the tenets of UNDRIP, and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls to Action which requires them to work in partnership with LTN in regards to resource development in our territory. LTN and FLNRORD are currently in the early stages of discussions concerning LTN 'interests' in forest and range activities/opportunities in our territory. To better support our discussions, a long-term harvest yield analysis for the Prince George and Robson Valley timber supply areas has been completed. As well, we accessed capacity funds via FLNRORD's Strategic Forestry Initiative (SPI) the purpose of which is to support economic development activities specific to forest and range activities.

## Lheidli T'enneh Nation & Canfor; Partnership Agreement

Concurrent to our discussions with FNLROD, LTN also initiated talks with Canfor regarding our 'relationship' and our ability to work together collaboratively. In September 2019, these initial discussions resulted in both parties signing a 'Commitment to Create a New Partnership' document and stipulates that both parties have committed to work together collaboratively and transition our relationship from one that is currently 'contractual transaction-based' to a long-term 'true partnership' that is reflective of, and incorporates LTN's principles and values as well as our economic and stewardship 'interests'.

LTN and Canfor recently committed having bi-weekly meetings to discuss and develop a term sheet, which will formulate the basis of a new forestry relationship agreement. Furthermore, holding concurrent discussions with FNLROD and Canfor enables LTN to strategically align and assert our economic and stewardship 'interests' with both industry and government and realize greater success.



### Lheidli T'enneh Carbon Offset Pilot Project

Michelle Connolly, Carbon Specialist

**Executive summary:** In the context of binding international agreements to address climate change and a ratcheting down of allowed greenhouse gas emissions globally, the sale of carbon offsets to companies or governments presents a potential sustainable revenue source for First Nations in BC. This assignment will assess both the challenges of developing land-based carbon offset projects ('offset projects'), and the possibilities offered by their development for Tsilhqot'in National Government and Lheidli T'enneh Nation – in exploring the possibility and feasibility of offset projects on their lands.

**Introduction:** As the climate changes in response to fossil fuel use and land conversion globally, governments and industries at all levels are increasingly looking for avenues to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. One-hundred and ninety-seven countries are compelled by international agreements to undertake economy-wide absolute emission reduction targets. Offset projects are a mechanism for supporting emissions reductions, and are in use by Indigenous communities worldwide for the purposes of generating revenue, achieving their land-use objectives, and developing resilience to climate change.

Offset projects, which generate revenue through the maintenance and enhancement of natural processes, hold promise for BC First Nations seeking to develop long-term sustainable revenue on their traditional lands.

However, there are barriers to land-based carbon offsets that need to be thoroughly examined and overcome.

This assignment will support the Tsilhqot'in National Government and the Lheidli T'enneh Nation by a) exploring the feasibility for offset projects on their respective lands, b) analyzing the structures that presently hinder implementation of carbon offsets in BC, and c) providing a possible path forward for overcoming any political and policy constraints.

All work will be carried out with the motivation to maximize tangible benefits to the Tsilhqot'in National Government and the Lheidli T'enneh Nation while ensuring that rights are respected, sovereignty is maintained, and self-determination is enhanced.

LTN's carbon off-set pilot project will produce;

- 1.) Discussion Paper - relaying key issues and analysis of the current landscape. It will explore what technical and policy conditions are needed to maximize the options available to LTN for revenue generation and resilience to climate change.
- 2.) A Guidance Document – will provide LTN options/feasibility with regard to potential carbon offset projects on their lands and will include general and technical guidance, and lessons learned from inside and outside BC.

## Lheidli T'enneh Nation Tourism Strategy

Lheidli T'enneh Nation released a Request for Proposal for the development of a Tourism Strategy. We received three submissions and held a panel interview with each of the applicants. Tourism Prince George (TPG) has committed to providing LTN funds to help support in covering costs associated with this work. TPG is a non-profit society and receives a vast majority of their working capital via the accommodations tax. Due to the covid-19 pandemic, TPG is facing budgetary restraints, and we have had to re-evaluate our approach to developing this strategy. LTN is currently looking at various options to off-set the costs associated with undertaking this work, and are confident that we will find solutions.

## Coastal GasLink Update



# Coastal GasLink Update

## Performance at a glance:



**98%**  
of route cleared



**100**  
workers at 5B Lodge  
(closed at the end of February)



## Construction progress:

- Nearing completion of clearing on right-of-way and Vanderhoof Lodge site
- Preparations for spring breakup and freshet with installation of erosion and sediment control mitigations
- Delivered 24 km of pipe to Section 4 storage areas

## Upcoming activities\*:

- Complete preparations for spring breakup and freshet
- Continue development of Vanderhoof Lodge workforce accommodations
- Continue hauling pipe to storage areas
- Burning of vegetative matter such as non-merchantable trees as required by right-of-way conditions

*\*All schedules are subject to change*

## Did you know?

Spring breakup refers to the time of year when field construction work is reduced due to soft ground conditions caused by melting snow and thawing ground conditions. Along with sensitive life stages for wildlife species during this time, in these conditions, it is not safe for equipment to work and there is potential for damage to the environment. Based on the timing of spring breakup and wildlife mitigations, clearing and construction crews will stand down during this time.



## Work With Me People!

Hello Folks I hope this newsletter reaches everyone healthy and safe. I have been busy participating in teleconferencing with Tourism PG along with Northern Tourism and countless others in a weekly roundtable to talk about what COVID-19 is doing to the Tourism Industry. Lheidli is still in the planning phase and will be working with a facilitator to discuss what is important to Lheidli members and where do they see us going. I would like to set up a closed group on Facebook to get some discussion going around Tourism as a whole.

I am also assisting with the development of the new website by providing corespondence with staff and also supplying photos and supporting documents. We have decided on the tabs and now we are deciding where things are going to be located.

I am learning new software for Creating Newsletters and things are going great, love using new applications for different tasks. Looking into new communication tools that I see others using to complete the same task.

If you have an article or photo you wish to see in Dustl'us... please send it to me at: [dseymour@lheidli.ca](mailto:dseymour@lheidli.ca)

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