



Lheidli Whut'en Dustl'us

Fall 2023



Acting Exective Director Report

Towfiqul Islam

Hello Lheidli members. I began my role as Acting Executive Director on September 25, 2023 in addition to my current role as Head of Finance department. The Chief and Council asked me to assume the lead administrative role on an acting basis following the departure of the previous Executive Director (ED). Chief and Council engaged MNP for the recruitment of Lheidli T'enneh's next Executive Director. Lheidli T'enneh Managers will meet monthly to share the department updates and determine interdepartmental contribution in addition to self-department activity plan.

On Oct 27, our Lheidli T'enneh Managers met with those from the City of Prince George and the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George for the Staff-to-Staff (S2S) Gathering. I was honored to co-host the event along with City Manager Walter Babicz and RDFFG Chief Administrator Jim Martin.

This was the first S2S Gathering held since 2016 when the senior staff from all three governments met in Northside. This event allowed our managers to meet their counterparts from the City and RDFFG and learn more about how everyone can work more effectively together.

We had a Council meeting on Nov 16, 2023. We live streamed the council meeting and it was great that a few honorable memberships were present in person to observe the council meeting. We are in a process to explore feasible technology so that we can continue to live stream all of our future council meetings seamless. We have uploaded 2022-23 audited financial statements & Annual Report to the Lheidli website. I want to thank our hard-working staff for their commitment to delivery of programs and projects and services to members. We work as a 'team' in every way and everyday at LTFN. Have a safe and happy Holiday Season with family and friends.



From L to R: Jim Martin, Towfiqul Islam, Walter Babicz



Capital Projects & Asset Management Report

Zawad Abedin, EIT, ProfCertAM

1. Water System Upgrade Progresses with Design Consultant Selection

We're thrilled to announce a significant milestone in our water system upgrade: the completion of the design consultant selection process. This follows a rigorous evaluation of submissions from our recently issued Request for Proposals (RFP). With this crucial step completed, we have requested approximately \$1.1 million in design funding from the Infrastructure Services Committee (ISC). This marks a substantial leap forward in our commitment to enhancing our water infrastructure.

2. Community Wastewater System: Construction Funding Under Review

Our community wastewater system project is moving steadily forward. We are currently in the review stage for construction funding. Optimistically, we expect to secure the funding and commence work by Spring 2024. This development is a testament to our ongoing dedication to improving community sanitation and environmental health.

3. New Project Alert: Ancient Forest Enhancement

In a significant development, our department has taken over the Ancient Forest Enhancement Project this November. This additional project is an exciting challenge, and our team is dedicated to revitalizing and pushing this initiative forward. Our commitment to preserving and enhancing our natural environment remains a top priority.

4. Prioritizing Safety: Launch of Emergency Planning Process

Understanding the importance of preparedness, we have formally initiated the emergency planning process. This endeavor aims to prepare both the community and administration to effectively respond to any emergencies. Safety and readiness are crucial, and we're taking proactive steps to ensure our community is well-equipped to handle unforeseen situations.

5. Enhancing Community Engagement: Membership App Launched In an effort to foster better communication and engagement, we've launched a membership app. This digital platform ensures that community members have immediate access to information, news, and updates. It's a significant step towards ensuring transparency and connectivity within our community.

6. Coming Soon: Infrastructure Asset Management Portal

We're excited to announce that our infrastructure asset management portal is nearing completion. Subject to Council approval, we plan to launch a citizen portal in the new year. This portal will allow members to easily submit requests for services and maintenance, enhancing our service delivery and responsiveness in addressing infrastructure-related needs.

Stay tuned for more updates as we continue to enhance our community's infrastructure and services. Your support and involvement make these developments possible and impactful.



Capacity and Training Report

Barb Allan

FNSA Q1: April 1, 2023, to June 30, 2023

14 Participants served.

FNSA Q2: July 1, 2023, to September 30, 2023 (in progress).

FNSA Q3: October 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023

Agreements

1. First Nation Service Agreement (FNSA) (PGNAETA), quarterly reporting requirements 2023/2024
2. Indigenous Skills Training and Education Program (ISTEP) (in progress), 2023/2024
3. Indigenous Skills and Employment Training (ISET)- 90% complete, 2022/2023
4. TCE, 2022/2023. 95% complete
5. Pre-Employment Supports (PES), with PGNAETA. 100% complete

Projects

- a. Lheidli T'enneh PES Fish/Culture camp
- b. Job Fair in May 2023
- c. A & B Rail – Lheidli T'enneh recruitment fair
- d. Job Fair in October 2023, in partnership with PGNAETA, Work BC and PGNFC
- e. Cultural Diversity Tool – recommendations to start a video, then showcase at Community

Engagement sessions.

- f. Schedule B-Cash Flow Forecast, Schedule C – Annual Operation Plan, ISETs 10 Year Budget Plan, FNSA Budget Amendment
- g. FNEESC/FNSA – First Nations Steering Committee & First Nations Schools Association provided a Summer Work Experience Program for Lheidli T'enneh
- h. FNESS – Fire Extinguisher Capacity training, provided by First Nations' Emergency Services

Society

- i. Provide Employment & Training services for 93 members, funded, non-funded initiatives. Due to an increase in the Membership, there is a need to increase funding dollars to meet the employment and training initiatives.



Education Report

Chelsy Hardy

October 5th 2023 First day on the job.

October 9th to the 19th familiarizing myself with the office co-workers and post-secondary student's files.

October 20th Grant to address covid related impacts on students learning and wellbeing.

October 23-27 Attended Local Education Agreements (LEA) meetings familiarizing myself with current high school students.

Saturday Oct 28th Attended the community Halloween party hosted a craft with education assist Beverly

Oct 30-31 Continual relationship building and getting to know membership

Nov 1st Training via zoom

Nov 2 UNBC Engagement forum

Nov 3-10 Continual familiarizing myself with policy and procedures and local education agreements

Nov 14th Supporting Capacity Development k-12 Education Governance submitted

Nov 15 emails and touching base with post-secondary students Rep

Nov 16th Nominal Roll handed in

Nov 21st FNESC PSPP zoom training

Nov 22 Indigenous healing grant submitted

*Note Beverly our education assistant has support and guided my training thus far. It will take some time to build meaningful relationships with students and their families from k-12. As I continue in my role my goal is to build these relationships with all students and Elders of the community.



Special Projects Report Kyle McIntosh

Hadih members. I am currently away assisting my partner after the arrival of our 1st child. Now this is my kind of 'Special Project'. However, I spent most of the Fall working with our partners the City of Prince George, Province of BC, IDL Projects and others to start construction of the LTFN Childcare Centre near The Exploration Place in Lheidli T'enneh Memorial Park. As you can see from the photos below, we achieved substantial progress before the Christmas Break. Work will resume in the new year and we are currently on track to complete the project before the end of 2024. We are discussing various options for 'hours of operation' and programming at the new facility. We will share more information with members once Chief and Council have made decisions in this regard. In the meantime, enjoy a safe and happy holiday and all the best for 2024!





Health Report

Tamara Seymour

Hadih Lheidli T'enneh membership,

As we are approaching the end of another busy and successful year, the health team has been very fortunate to have spent time with the members during our activities, programs and services. We look forward to another year of providing medical services and cultural programming that is strengthening the health and wellness for our Nation.

Over the summer and fall we held many events and programs that gathered our membership together for medical clinics, elder events and programs, community programming and educational workshops. Our health team works towards providing excellent services and programming to community members, trying innovative ways to bring us all together to learn about our health, wellness and culture.

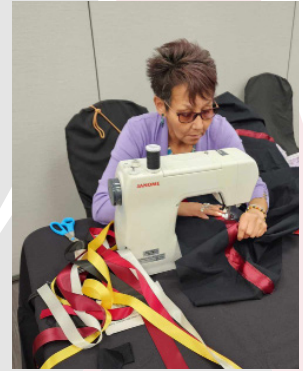
Listed below are some programs, services and events that we have planned with great outcomes of community participation that supports a healthy community and building resiliency in harnessing Lheidli T'enneh culture, traditions and overall health and wellness.

- Moccasin Walk Event
- Orange Shirt Day: Ribbon skirt making
- Elder Healing Fire for Truth and Reconciliation Day
- Youth Bingo
- Harm Reduction Workshop
- Fish camp: 3-day cultural camp around processing fish, canning and smoking taught by Lheidli T'enneh Elders
- Chun T'oh Whudujut Ancient Forest Trip
- Sacred Circle: Woman and Gender inclusive monthly group
- Men's Group dinner
- Weekly Medical Clinics and Vaccine Days for COVID-19 Booster shots and Flu Shot
- Diabetic Clinics
- Physiotherapy monthly outreach
- Mobile Support and Counselling connection resources
- 3-day Healing Days with bringing in healer practitioners, healing fire, and mini health fair
- Dip Net Teachings Project led by Elder Carl Frederick
- Helped the Elder Society in the Food Preservation Workshop in the teachings behind canning
- Moose camp: 2 days of cultural teachings around processing wild meat

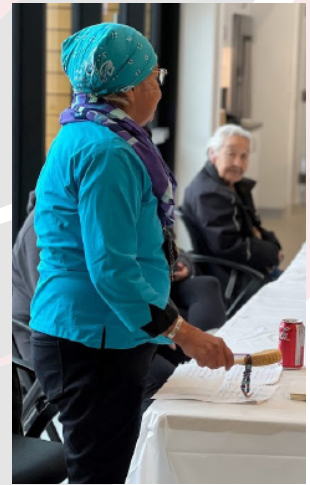
We appreciate the Lheidli T'enneh membership and look forward to more programming to come!
Mussi Cho,

Tamara Seymour, Health Manager

Ribbon Skirt Making



Wellness Days





Family Development Report

Tasheena Seymour

The Family Development Program has been busy over the Summer and Fall months of 2023 with the planning of community events and attending to supports for Community members.

At the beginning of this year, we had our first of many 'Family Night' Events. This program was developed in response to our suggestion board at the AGA/AGM. Many suggested that they wanted an event where community members could reconnect and visit in a fun and safe space, where there was no business agenda. At our Family Nights we provide a delicious dinner with fun games to play and crafts for families to enjoy with one another. Based on this same suggestion we planned some land-based healing events with trips to the Ancient Forest for community members, where we've had facilitators and Elder's providing teachings.

The AFDP has participated in the planning of our Annual MocWalk and AGA community events. We started a Youth Group and have planned some fun activities that have been well attended, we have also assisted the Elders Society in the planning of their fish & moose processing camps, and their produce canning event.

In conjunction with the Health Department, we have planned a week-long Culture Days event where we had traditional medicine presentations with drum making, beading and ribbon skirt making. Also, a Healing days event, where we brought in traditional healers from all over BC for community members to book appointments with. We have continued Ribbon Skirt making programs as there was a lot of interest generated by the Culture Days event.

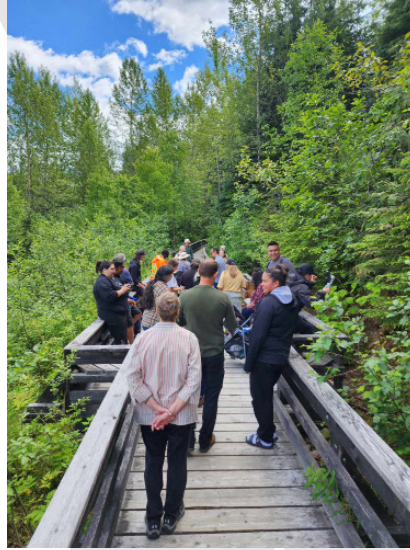
The Family Development Program has also planned many other events, we like to take any opportunity we can to celebrate families. Here is a list of some of the other events/programs that have been planned: Mother/Father Day Events, Community Kitchens (In town and On reserve), Earth Day community clean up, PAL course, Beading nights, Orange shirt day events and our Annual Halloween Party.

The Family Development program was able to assist community members during this hunting season by paying for the butchering of Elk and moose that were donated by some men in the community. Mussi Cho to them for their hard work and donations of the meat.

Aside from all the events we plan and participate in the AFDP staff provide a wide range of daily support to families in the community who are involved with MCFD.

Team Family Development, Tasheena and Samantha.

Ancient Forest Tour



Halloween Costume Winner- Pat Seymour

Drum Making



Salmon Processing Day



Moose Processing



Front row left to right: Melody Buzas, Phillys , Susan Bird, Janniis Bird. Edith Frederick,
Back row left to rightL Les Baker, Jan Baker, Robert Bird.



Natural Resources Report

Gbenga Ayansola

Hadih Community Members.

The Natural Resources Department had a busy Fall. Following the massive wildfire outbreaks across BC throughout the summer and into fall, which in some ways impeded our plans, our activities this fall have mostly been outdoors. Here is a very brief summary of our Fall activities
Enbridge Open House

Enbridge had a scheduled open house for the community on Sunday, October 22, 2023. The open house, which had the senior staff and representatives of Enbridge on ground was mostly attended by community members who reside on the Reserve. The meeting was an opportunity for band members to ask questions, obtain useful information regarding Enbridge's operations and obtain clarity on the improvements to their pipeline integrity program since 2018. We have communicated our desire to have Enbridge hold three additional open houses next year, two on the reserve and one in downtown Prince George. Information about these events will be duly communicated to you.

Land Stewardship

The Natural Resources department has continued to perform our land stewardship roles. This Fall, we visited both the CNC Research Forest and UNBC's Aleza Lake Research Forest for learning, information sharing and exchange of ideas.

It is exciting to report that our stewardship drive is yielding very good results. We facilitated the deactivation of some roads and decommissioning of some bridges to reduce access. We continue to raise awareness with relevant stakeholders of the need to use existing access roads rather than creating new ones.

CMT

We continue to take inventory of all Cultural Modified Trees (CMT) within the territory and develop good management practices for them. In early September, we visited a site close to Willow River Rec Site where we inspected over 40 CMTs, an indication that this area was a high-use one for Lheidli and it still remains so. Together with some Elders and Council members, we developed specific management practices of the site in view of the proposed work within the area

Moose Health Research

We have been actively part of a research by some UNBC professors which seek to assess the health of Moose in relation to the effects of tick. The initial fieldwork survey was done this Fall and other fieldworks are scheduled for winter. A band member is playing a very critical role on the project.



Inspecting a block for road deactivation and bridge decommissioning



Two of the numerous CMTs identified during field inspection.



Inspecting a weather station at the CNC Research Forest



Public Work's and Housing Report

Derek Bolen

Greetings Lheidli T'enneh Community

As the leaves begin their vibrant transformation, the Public Works team continues to work diligently to ensure our community thrives. We're excited to share some new developments with you:

Enhanced Road Maintenance:

We're thrilled to announce the latest addition to our fleet—a new-to-us Ford F350 plow truck! This truck will complement our existing fleet of the F550 and the T650 Bobcat, enhancing our capabilities to maintain the roads within our territory.

Waste Management Initiatives:

The new garbage bins for the community have been delivered, marking a significant step forward in our waste management efforts. We're gearing up to begin installing these bins at each home this spring, contributing to a more efficient and organized waste disposal system.

Upcoming Projects:

As we embrace the changing seasons, we're excited to announce an upcoming initiative aimed at sustainability: the rollout of the Community Recycling Program! Stay tuned for details on how you can participate and contribute to our community's environmental efforts. Together, we'll work towards a more eco-conscious and greener future.

Your Public Works team is dedicated to serving our community and ensuring safe and efficient travel for all. If you have any road-related concerns or suggestions, please reach out to us. Together, we can continue to make our community a better place!

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Housing Department Update

As the season changes and the air turns crisp, the Housing Department remains dedicated to providing comfortable and safe housing options for our community members. Here are the latest updates:

Multiplex Housing Project: Our proposal for new multiplex housing units is progressing well. We're working diligently to secure necessary permits and approvals to ensure these much-needed housing units become a reality.

Wood Processing Initiative:

We're excited about the potential investment in the HWP 150 Wood Processor. This equipment promises to revolutionize our firewood processing capabilities, providing efficient and safe wood processing for the upcoming winter months.

Tenant Support:

Our team continues to provide support and assistance to tenants. If you have any housing-related inquiries or require assistance, please don't hesitate to get in touch with our department.

This year, our community-focused efforts have been in full swing. We take pride in enhancing the living experience for all members. With a focus on improving infrastructure, we've successfully completed several vital projects. Upgrades and repairs to sidewalks have ensured safer and more accessible pathways for everyone. Moreover, several homes received much-needed new roofs, improving overall housing quality. On the north side, the progress of the 1026 triplex is well underway. Anticipated to be move-in ready before the winter's end. We're committed to fostering a community where everyone feels at home. Your feedback and participation are vital as we strive to improve housing options and services. Let's work together to create a comfortable living environment for all our community members.

Stay tuned for more updates and exciting developments!



Economic Development Report

Allan Stroet

- Fortescue and BC Environmental Assessment Office hosted an open house regarding the hydrogen project. Approximately 20 people attended including Chief and several councillors. Most questions revolved around emissions of which there is very few. Given the operation will be creating Green Hydrogen, no natural gas or other fossil fuels are used in the creation of hydrogen at this facility.
- LTN, Canfor, Arbios BioTech, and LTN Contracting were successful in securing over \$847,000 to go towards harvesting, collecting, transporting, and processing of forest residues traditionally used to slash piles with the plan to turn it into sustainable aviation fuel (SAF).
- The first revenue from our latest revenue stream partner that does commercial and institutional office cleaning, Integral Services Group, will be begin coming to the Nation in November. While currently servicing the Prince George Airport, ISG and the LTN are marketing around the city to help build a larger clientele and a larger revenue stream for the Nation.



Communication & Tourism Report

Deryl Seymour

Hello everyone! I hope you have enjoyed the FALL edition of our quarterly newsletter 'Dust'us'. I enjoyed working with our Department Managers to update you on what they and their staff have been working on during the Fall. Chief and Council have directed that we resume publishing our quarterly newsletter to help keep Elders and Members apprised of everything that is happening within our busy nation. I have a dual role on our Staff Team. Part of my work is focussed on publication of the Annual Report and now the quarterly newsletters. The other half of my role is to support our Economic Development team as tourism coordinator. Now that Covid has passed, we are revitalizing our work to implement the Ancient Forest Enhancement Project and implement our Tourism Strategy. Chun T'oh Whudujut has been called the 'Crown Jewel' of our vast unceded territory and as one of the only 'Inland Temperate Rainforest' on the planet, we anticipate many people will want to visit it in future years. I want wish all our members a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful 2024.

Have a safe and fun Christmas and look for our next Dust'us newsletter in March!

Contact us:

Administration
1041 Whenun Road,
Prince George, BC,
V2K 5X8
(250) 963-8451

Health Department
1005 Landooz Road,
Prince George,
V2K 5S3
(250) 962-9730

Brunswick Street Office,
150 Brunswick Steet,
Prince George,
V2L 2B3
(250) 562-0847

