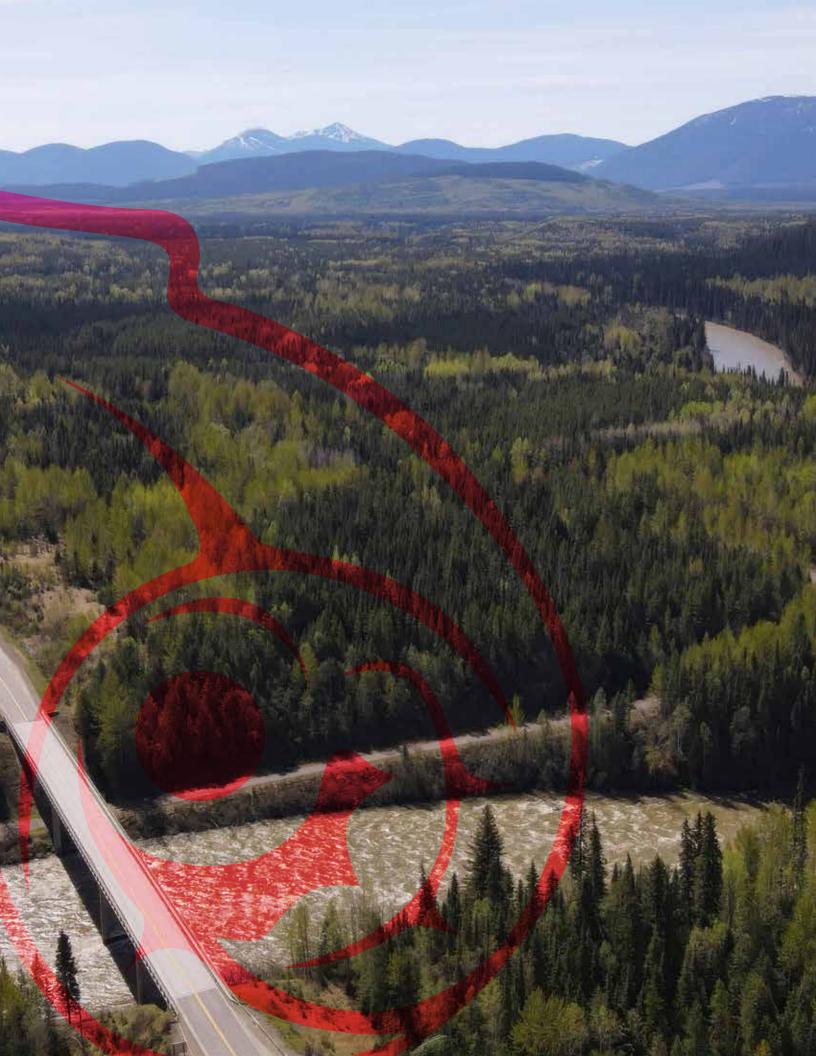




"Let's make 2024/25 a truly remarkable year."





## 2023 - 2024 Annual Report TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome		Health	
Message from Chief	7	Health Department	45
Meet the Council	10	Family Development	47
Letter from the Executive Director	13	Education	
Organizational Chart	16	Education	
		Education Department	51
Lands & Natural Resources		Capacity Development & Training	54
Lands, Natural Resources, Fisheries		<b>Engineering &amp; Operations</b>	
& Forestry	19		
Lands Management Report	23	Engineering & Operations Division	59
Forest Stewardship and Restoration	25	Economic Development	
Fisheries Training	31	Business Achievements	63
Sonar Sturgeon Stream Walk	33		
Fish Fence and Brooding for		Finance	
Chinook Fish	36	Finance Department	67
2023 Chilako Monitorina Report	38		

## Welcome

#### Welcome

## CHIEF DOLLEEN LOGAN WELCOME MESSAGE

Hadih members, associates, and partners. It is my pleasure to present the 2023/24 Lheidli T'enneh Annual Report on behalf of my Council colleagues and our Administrative team – delivering services and opportunities on behalf of our members.

As we continue to improve our processes, we are bringing forward an Annual Report that is more refined, placing a greater emphasis on the positive outcomes that we have all been working so hard to achieve on behalf of you.

While we continue to see increases in our membership numbers, we have also unfortunately lost members over the year.

To our new members, welcome to Lheidli T'enneh. We hope you find this information valuable and informative. To the families of those who left us this year, we are stand with you in mourning your loss and will continue to support you. You are not alone.

#### FIGHTING FOR OUR FUTURE

Our Nation is unique, given the location of our Reserve Lands, and being separated by the Fraser River. Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) will only fund one major project for a Reserve, meaning that the North Side and South Side cannot receive multiple sets up funding for water treatment, sewage treatment, and more.

We know that our community deserves a complete suite of services – and we also know the pathway to achieve.

Chief and Council have been advocating relentlessly to both the Federal and Provincial Governments. And those discussions are progressing in a positive manner. We look forward to the day when our community and members are connected completely.

As a Nation that is heavily involved in forestry, we have been actively fighting the bureaucratic delays in permit approval. The value of our work and ownership in this space creates significant opportunity to our members and partners.

Fish form a significant part of First Nations culture and heritage. We have been working closing with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to build a hatchery in our territory, allowing for the safe and culturally appropriate development of salmon species. We were pleased to see DFO follow through on their commitments and announce plans for a \$16 million hatchery project right here.'

#### **RELATIONSHIPS CREATE GROWTH**

Through the Nations 'Respectful Acknowledgement process, we have welcomed a broad number of community groups and organizations into the fold of understanding the history and lands in which they operate in and on. We are thrilled to see so many in our traditional territory seeking out this opportunity.

While we continue to cultivate new relationships, we have cultivated existing relationships with the City of Prince George and the Regional District of Fraser Fort George. This has

led to the process of seeking additions to our Reserve Lands, being the House of Ancestors "Uda Dune Baiyoh" and the Band Office located on Brunswick.

Our relationship with the BC Natural Resources Forum (BCNRF) has led to multiple relationships being built, and expanded upon, providing the Nation with the opportunity to source future opportunities within our Traditional Territory. We look forward to welcoming the largest resource conference back to Lheidli T'enneh territory in 2025.

Of course, one of incredibly successful relationships is with Arbios Biotech. While they continue to move their facility "Chunto Ghuna" forward, we look forward to seeing the operations fully running in 2025 – providing opportunities in our region and helping build an environmental conscious economy.

#### SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

The announcement may have come following the completion of our fiscal year, but we must mention the water and wastewater treatment plant being announced. This will significantly improve the lives of members living in community, and we are thankful to the administrative team for pursuing this project so diligently.

When discussing growth, this can mean a variety of things. However, growth can come from ensuring future generations are provided with opportunities to access services in the region. We are thrilled to see the Lheidli T'enneh Childcare Centre nearing completion. This will provide 75 new spaces to the community, building quality opportunities for children, parents, and families.

#### **GOVERNANCE MATTERS**

Protection around decisions is vital to the effective operation of our Nation, our partnerships, and Boards that we have seats on.

This year saw the introduction of policy around the roles and responsibilities of the Board of Directors for Tano T'enneh. This ensures proper protocol and procedures are followed, and Nation members can be assured that the Board is held to an incredibly high standard of accountability.

In conclusion, as we reflect on the year that was, and the year ahead, we are pleased with the opportunities being created and the future that Lheidli T'enneh has.

We know that we are a strong and resilient Nation that can achieve great things when we work together.

Let's make 2024/25 a truly remarkable year.





### Welcome

## MEET THE CHIEF & COUNCIL



DOLLEEN LOGAN
Chief



CRYSTAL GIBBS
Councillor



WENDY JAEL
Councillor



KYLE MCINTOSH
Councillor



JOSHUA SEYMOUR
Councillor



ROBERT GAGNON
Councillor





#### Welcome

## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Honourable Lheidli T'enneh members:

I am pleased to submit this report, as my first full year as the Executive Director for the Nation comes to a close.

It has been my distinct privilege to work with Chief, Council, all employees, and stakeholders of Lheidli T'enneh

As we highlight a number of major milestones and successes from the previous year, I am most excited for the incredible opportunities that continue to come forward.

#### **POLICY INITIATIVES**

Through a variety of policy initiatives, we have been able to ensure greater levels of transparency are present in the work we do daily. This includes policies such as a Procurement Policy, Band Member Support Policy, and significant development within our Human Resources sector.

Coupled with this, we have placed an emphasis on training and development opportunities for Lheidli T'enneh members and attract to work for Lheidli T'enneh Administration. which led to the development of the Post-Secondary Policy (A big thanks to Councillor Joshua Seymour for helping to develop the Post Secondary Education Policy) and the opportunity for members attending high school programming to participate in a program that has them shadow managers in the Nation to learn more about the work and determine their own career paths. This past year 6 students were engaged in the program, and we will continue in bigger scale in coming years.

In addition to the above, we have redeveloped our housing policy and are currently in the process of enhancing our health policies to best serve members.

These opportunities develop strong futures for the next generation; while staying focused on the Elders and the supports they need to lead vibrant lives.

#### HOW WE SERVE MEMBERS

When I assumed the role of Executive Director, a main priority area for me was to review our organizational chart and determine if this structure was providing the highest level of service to our members, while ensuring our internal team was positioned to learn, grow, and develop within the Nation.

Following this internal review, we have begun implementation of our new organizational structure, which includes several new positions to best serve the growing membership and ensures a higher level of accountability on behalf of you.

"We have placed an emphasis on training and development opportunities for Lheidli T'enneh members, attracting them to work for Lheidli T'enneh Administration."

#### **GOVERNANCE MATTERS**

As members are aware, elections will occur in April 2025. Part of the election process requires the Nation to secure an Electoral Officer. In a transparent and very fair process Lheidli T'enneh hired the electoral office for 2025 General Election which will be held on April 09, 2025. A code of conduct will be implemented for the Administrative Staff for the General Election to ensure transparency in administration level.

Most notably, changes to the Lheidli T'enneh Custom Election Code have been under development through the year, and engagement events with members have started already. We have been providing our optimum support from Administration to Sonya Pighin to develop this code.

Information on the proposed changes, including videos and dates for inperson and virtual sessions are available on our website and at the Band Office.

Finally, Tano T'enneh Governance handbook and Terms of Reference have been completed. I have been working as Acting CEO simultaneously. But, for the need of growing capacity and since the Economic Development and business corporation activities need to keep arm length from the Band's Government Activity, we are in a final process to hire the First full time CEO of Tano T'enneh. Lance Aclan



has been appointed as Corporate
Finance Manager for Tano T'enneh and
we are in a process to hire Corporate
Human Resources Manager as well.
IN addition to that, The Economic
Development department has been
moved to Tano T'enneh as well and the
Economic Development Manager will
report to Tano T'enneh CEO

#### SAFETY FIRST

As we continue to see aggressive fires, floods, and challenging weather- or weather-related events, we have taken steps to focus on the safety and well-being of members, particularly those living on Reserve.

Adding an Emergency Manager was the first step in this process, providing a single source of contact and information. In addition, new protocols and processes have been implemented, and we will look to develop learning and training opportunities to better understand operations during an emergency.

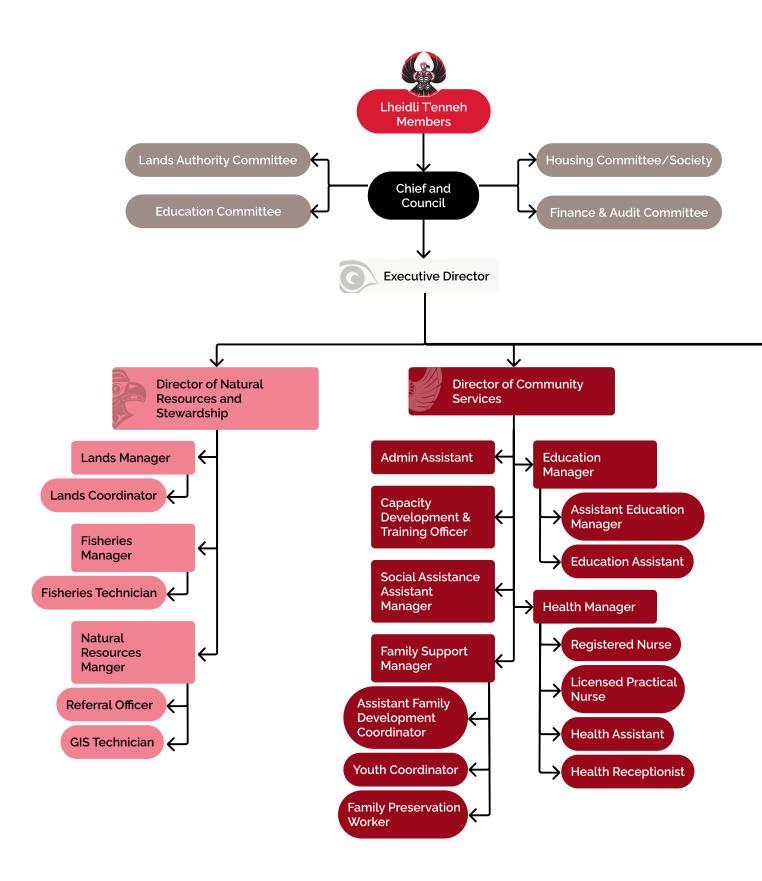
#### LHEIDLI T'ENNEH STAFF RETREAT AND MEETING

We have conducted a staff retreat for all staff of Lheidli T'enneh at Sun peak resorts and conference centre on October 26, 2024. The main purpose of this FUNDED EVENT was to initiate the development of the strategic plan in light of membership input during AGM and the CCP. In the agenda, we have included Lheidli T'enneh history

which was presented by Councillor Joshua Seymour and presentation on Lheidli T'enneh Cultural training which was presented by Elder Phyllis Seymour and Family Development Manager Tasheena Seymour. This training was amazingly effective for the non member staff of Lheidli T'enneh to get themselves familiar with Lheidli T'enneh culture and practices. The session ended up in an emotional and vibrant way.

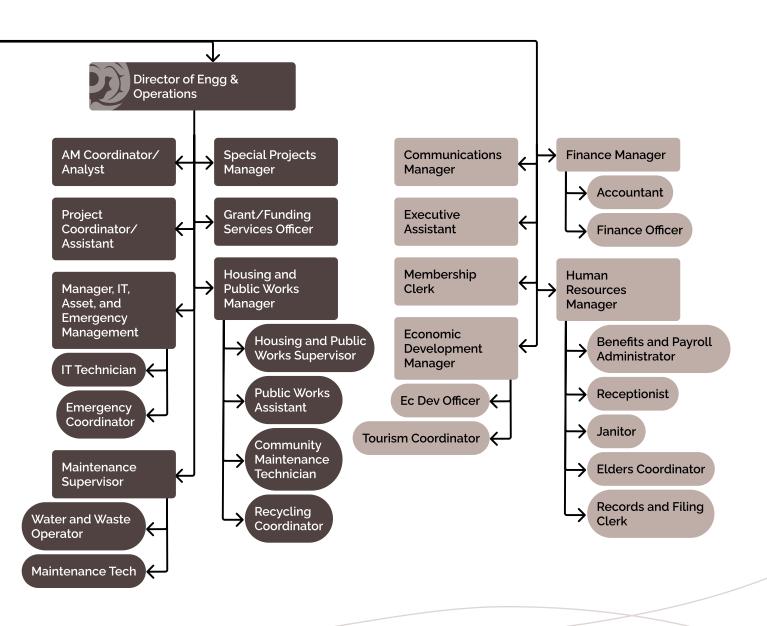
#### **CONCLUSION**

In closing, we look forward to continuously improving our operations in a very fair and transparent way to best serve the members, both current and future.



#### Welcome

## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



## Lands & Natural Resources

Chelton VanGeloven & Dominic Frederick

### **Lands & Natural Resources**

## LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCES, FISHERIES, & FORESTRY

The Lands, Natural Resources, Fisheries and Forest departments often have over-lapping duties and all work closely together. We have captured opportunities to maximize employment for members, extend the work season as long as possible and to fill in gaps with learning opportunities. Lheidli T'enneh continues to provide leadership on the land in all aspects of our business. The following collection of department reports offer some insight into the department's workings.

#### NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT

Hadih Community Members.

Let me begin by lending my voice in sincere condolences to the Lheidli T'enneh community and family of our dearly beloved Matriarchs Elders Josie Paul and Edith Frederick who passed on in September 2024. Their passing was indeed a huge loss to the community. Our thoughts and prayers remain with the family.

In fulfillment of our core mandate in Resource Stewardship, we have diligently worked tirelessly within the human and capital resources available to us to ensure that resources are stewarded sustainably. We have worked towards accountability by introducing new systems while we equally improve our existing systems to ensure our operations are effective and efficient.

In this report, we outlined some of our new and existing initiatives. We also provided an update on several ongoing projects and activities by the department through the Chief and Council's direction

### DRONE (RPAS) TRAINING & RADIO CERTIFICATE (ROC-A)

As announced during the last AGM, the department organized Drone (RPAS) training for staff and community members.

The online application for the 22 slots was open until July 15 when successful applicants were notified.

The training was conducted in August 2024 by Flytbox Aerial Services with participants drawn from across the community. The training received by the participants was the standardized training offered by flight schools. The full-month training culminated in hands-on practical sessions and the Drone Pilot Certificate exam by Transport Canada followed

by a flight

review. I am happy to share that ALL the participants wrote and passed either the Basic Certificate exam or the more difficult Advanced Certificate exam with a participant with the highest score of 92%. This is a testament to the quality of training the participants received. Aside from the Flight training and Review (a licensing requirement for conducting advanced RPAS operations), Flytbox also conducted a Restricted Operator Certificate (ROC-A) exam for attendees. At the end of the training, all participants had access to a drone.

### LONGWORTH LOOKOUT IMPROVEMENT

In conjunction with the Recreation Site and Trail BC, we visited the Longworth Lookout near the Longworth community. The lookout which was in bad shape and in need of improvements, is of known historical and heritage value. The proposal is to designate an existing trail, parking area, and the fire lookout tower as recreational sites. The site would be managed in partnership with the PG Backcountry Recreation Society. A Heritage Conservation Plan would be made for the lookout and the cabin would be rented out to the public to provide funds for upkeep. We will keep the community updated as progress is made on this project.

#### LAND GUARDIAN PROGRAM

We have announced a call for Land Guardians to be drawn from the community. For now, we will be starting with two members. We hope we will be able to increase the number over time.

### HUNTING PERMIT APPLICATION SYSTEM

We now have a Lheidli Hunting Permit Application system in place. From now on, any Indigenous BC resident with a valid Indian Status Card seeking permission to hunt from the band through the Chief and Council can apply for the permit on our website. This will allow us to streamline things. To apply, they should log into our website at Lheidli.ca and then locate Departments. Under Natural Resources and Stewardship, the hunting application form can be seen on the Natural Resources page. Since the application opened in September 2024, several application responses have been received and processed.

Furthermore, we want the Lheidli community to be informed and aware that verbal approval for non-band members to hunt within the territory does not constitute approval. We have had a series of meetings with the BC Conservation Office (Omineca region) and they are aware of our processes in this matter. Kindly direct anyone asking questions or seeking permission to apply on our website.

#### **MEMBERSHIP CABIN**

There are opportunities for you as a Lheidli T'enneh band member in line with Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 to build a hunting and fishing cabin on Crown land within the territory. We have heard a lot of misconceptions about this within the community. We hope this report will clarify some confusion in certain quarters about this subject.

The procedure is that you will identify a place where you would like to have a cabin and then send the coordinates to us if you have it or inform us of the approximate area. Amongst several other things we will do, we will check to be sure it is Crown land (and not private land) and do some additional due diligence before proceeding with the application for you. It is important to emphasize that community members are not being given land to build residential houses/structures. The sole purpose of the cabin land (usually 50m x 50m) is to build a cabin.

Similarly, this is a call to all members who own a cabin(s), either new or old, but are yet to register the location with our office or inform us, to do so immediately. Informing us will help us to notify you of any proposed project that may potentially impact your cabin or its location. We will be able to direct proponents rightly and inform them of Lheidli's interest within their project location. In case of fire emergencies,

we will be able to notify firefighters so that the structure can be protected. Please reach out to our office if you own a cabin that we are not aware of.

#### **ON-GOING PROJECTS**

As you are well aware, we have been involved in several projects for the past few months. Notable among these projects are

- The BC Hydro Prince George to Glenannan Transmission (PGGT)
  Line. We have continued to engage with BC Hydro and the Province of BC on this initiative at different tables. As you may recall, we had a community scoping session led by the Firelight Group on Wednesday, May 1. This was followed by the Traditional Use Study (TUS) and Socio-Economic study in July 2024. The verification session is planned to be held Thursday, October 31, 2024 at the House of Ancestor from 5-8pm.
- Riparian Restoration on the Lower
  Willow River. This work aimed at
  restoring a large eroding bank on
  the lower Willow River is set to
  be completed in January 2025.
  Using bioengineering streambank
  protection techniques, the stability
  of the streambank will be improved
  and restored in the known Chinook
  Salmon spawning and rearing
  habitat

- Angus Project, a Vitreo Mineral Ltd project which would mine quartz arenite rocks in a pit/quarry and then crush and transport those rocks to a Raw Sand Plant. The plant is located in the North of the territory and will liberate highpurity silica sand grains to Raw Sand which will be transported to a finishing plant for drying and temporary storage. Since the project entered the Environmental Assessment process, together with some dedicated Lheidli Elders, we continue to engage with the company and the BC Environmental Assessment Office. The Chief and Council have also scheduled a site visit to the project site near Summit Lake
- JX LNG Summit Lake Project:
   The project is being proposed to increase the production of LNG for export to offshore markets to meet the growing demand for clean energy across the globe.

# Lands & Natural Resources LANDS MANAGEMENT REPORT

#### ADDITION TO RESERVE (ATR)

We're in the final stages of completing our Addition to Reserve (ATR) lands.

- 150 Brunswick Street
- 355 Vancouver Street House of Ancestors – Café/Hall
- 1664 4th Avenue Parking Lot for the House of Ancestors

The City of Prince George has given its' support for this Urban Reserve initiative

Once finalized, our Nation will have reserve lands in the City of Prince George that we had historically occupied.

#### BENEFITS OF URBAN RESERVES

Many First Nations in Canada are located in rural areas, far from the cities and towns where most wealth and jobs are created. This geographic remoteness can sometimes pose challenges for First Nations trying

to increase their economic selfsufficiency. As a result, urban reserves are one of the most successful ways to address the problem of geographic remoteness of First Nations.

Urban reserves offer residents economic opportunities that are generally unavailable in more remote areas. They give First Nation businesses the chance to establish themselves and provide employment and training opportunities. At the same time urban reserves can create jobs for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people and contribute to the revitalization of the host municipality.

They reduce operating costs and provide better access to capital markets and transportation routes, enabling First Nations to diversify their economic base.

#### PROPOSED ADDITION TO RESERVE



## ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

We received funding from the
First Nation Land Management
Resource Centre (FNLMRC) to
begin an Environment Management
Plan (EMP) for our reserve lands.
Working with Triton Environmental
Consultants, our Lands Advisory
Committee - Chairperson Crystal
Gibbs, Phyllis Seymour, Melody
Buzas, Wendy Jael, Elissa Gagnon,
Elaine Gagnon and Rena Zatorski,
the FNLMRC, and receiving input

from members attending the Lands Community Meetings, we have a draft of our Lheidli T'enneh Environmental Management Plan 2024.

#### **SURVEYING**

McElhanney is currently in the process of surveying the lots on North side and South side, and will have these completed in the next few months.

#### **Lands & Natural Resources**

## FOREST STEWARDSHIP & RESTORATION

#### **FOREST TENURE**

Lheidli T'enneh has secured 2 separate forest Tenures, N2E, a First Nations Woodland Licence, is an Area Based Forest tenure with 191,400 ha of land and an Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) of 380.570m3 coniferous volume. This license is cooperatively managed with Canadian Forest Products Ltd. K1N, a Community Forest Licence, is a separate Area Based Forest tenure with 13,000ha of land and both a coniferous AAC of 17,560 m<sub>3</sub> and a deciduous AAC of 6,200 m3. We are diversifying our partnerships and exploring a new management relationship with K1N that will be announced in the coming months.

## FURTHERING INDIGENOUS VALUES ON THE LANDSCAPE

Old Growth Management Areas (OGMA) have been mapped throughout the Licence Area. The combination of OGMA, Parks, Ungulate Winter Range, In-Block Wildlife Tree Patches, Recreational Reserves, and proposed Wildlife Habitat Areas provide corridors of connectivity across the landscape.

Logging Practices are customized to Foster Wildlife Habitat (focus on Moose). Strategies include:

- 1. Improved retention of Understory (pole and sapling layer),
- 2. Increased retention near wetlands and seasonal drainages,
- 3. Reclamation of in-block roads,
- 4. Retention of deciduous trees for cover and for cavity nesters,
- 5. Cut-block designs with less than 150m distance to Forest Edge (dash distance).

Much of the forestland in Lheidli T'enneh territory is 40–60-year-old Plantation Forest. These forests often lack abundant forage for moose and diversity of vegetation that benefit all wildlife. We are actively working on methods to thin these stands that



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

allow more sunlight to the ground so willow, dogwood, and other forage (food) species will grow, but moose will still have shade from the conifer trees. As these thinned stands become our future old growth, creating irregular patterns and gaps in the canopy where deciduous and forage grow abundantly will help to ensure these plantation forests mature with many of the qualities that exist in natural old growth.

#### FOREST CUT BLOCK

Figure 1 shows a 3D image of a Forest Cut block Logged by LTN Contracting on the K1N Community Forest Licence. Particular attention is given to preserving the deciduous overstory and as the coniferous understory. The strategy improves biodiversity on the harvested areas, improves conditions for migratory birds and provides cover for ungulates that use the harvested area for habitat.

#### **ROAD RECLAMATION**

Figure 2 shows an image of road reclamation completed with LTN Contracting and LTN Environmental. The work was competed near the Bowron River and Hwy 16. The site was planted with live willow and cottonwood. Lheidli T'enneh restoration technicians provided the skilled labour to make this project a success.

### EXAMPLE OF COMMERCIAL THINNING

Figure 3 shows an example of commercial thinning of 40-60 year old stands within the N2E FNWL. Lheidli T'enneh is partnering with academic and provincial researchers to develop the most effective designs and considerations to make thinning an effective technique in forest ecosystem restoration.

#### SOIL HEALTH

No Herbicides will be used on Lheidli T'enneh forest tenure. Similarly, substantial progress is being made to eliminate the use of forest herbicide throughout the territory. Lheidli T'enneh is providing leadership throughout the territory (and in neighbouring territories) that encourage broadleaf species mixed with conifer seedlings to improve wildlife diversity, the health of forest soil, and fire resilience.

Fish habitat and Watershed
Management is part of managing
forestland. Disturbance Calculations
have been completed on all
watersheds in Lheidli's tenure area
to help understand how streams
and rivers will respond to forest
management. Stream and river
corridors are being studied to
understand where fish habitat has
been impacted by prior land use
and to identify where restoration
opportunities might exist.



#### **BEAVERS**

Figure 4 shows a section of the Chilako River where several restoration techniques have been applied. Of particular note is the Beavers moving in to take over the maintenance of the area.

Beaver managed wetlands are one of natures best defences against climate change. They provide refuge to wildlife in the event of fire. They store water above ground in ponds and below ground in the floodplain. Stored Floodplain water seeps back into the stream as cold, clean water that maintains stream flow during times of drought. Initiatives are underway to co-exist and partner with Beavers to store more water on the landscape and keep stream corridors wet during periods of drought.

#### **CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES**

Cultural Heritage resources are actively managed anywhere forest activities are planned. When areas of archaeological potential and/or culturally modified trees are discovered on the landscape, innovative methods are being tried to create wildlife tree patches in a fashion the minimize the potential for blowdown.

In Figure 5, Lheidli T'enneh partnered with Ministry of Transportation to add a soil bioengineering component to what would have been a standard rip-rap bank protection. While Lheidli T'enneh Restoration technicians completed this work in 2023, it instantly created habitat for fish and benefits for wildlife in the area while accomplishing the goal of protecting infrastructure from stream bank erosion.

#### **CULTURALLY MODIFIED TREES**

The images in Figure 6 are examples of potential Culturally Modified Trees located near the southern extents of Lheidli T'enneh Traditional territory. BC Timber Sales notified LTFN of these potential CMT's and LTFN Staff accompanied by LTFN technicians visited the site.

#### MAP OF K<sub>1</sub>N

In Figure 7, this map of K1N (Lheidli T'enneh Community Forest) shows the:

- Location of the tenure (3 separate areas: Salmon, Fyfe, Ft. George Canyon)
- The balance of older forests and younger forests 10 years from now.
- Note the really old forest near the river and wet areas.







Figure 4

Figure 6



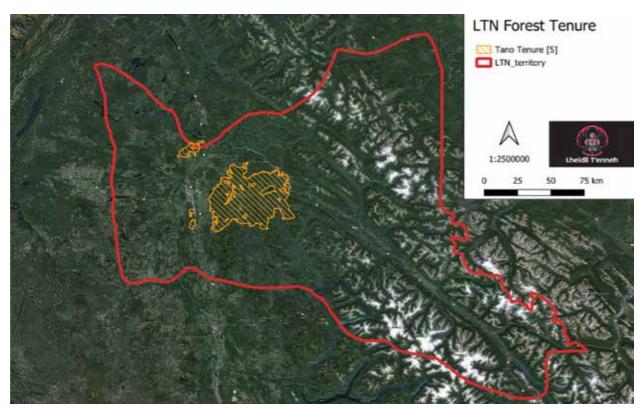


Figure 5

Figure 7

#### FORESTLAND MANAGEMENT

The image below shows Lheidli T'enneh forest tenure ~5% of the traditional territory.



#### Initial management goals

- No Herbicide on Tenure
- Improve Moose Habitat
- Improve Fish Habitat
- Improve biodiversity
- Conserve Traditional Values

## Information from membership survey will:

- Guide engagement with membership
- Continuously improve management practices
- Improve methods of communication

#### LHEIDLI T'ENNEH ENGAGEMENT AND VISION STATEMENT FOR FOREST MANAGEMENT

The membership survey identified the following key values for the Lheidli T'enneh Forestry Vision Statement:

- Water/Fish
- Protected Areas/Old Growth
- Hunting and Wildlife
- Heritage and Cultural Resources

These key values will be central to the vision statement.

Respectfully, Chelton vanGeloven. RPF Forest Resource Manager, Tano T'enneh LP

## Lands & Natural Resources FISHERIES TRAINING

As the Fisheries Manager, I am presenting the activities involved in the 2024 Fisheries season. I manage all fisheries occupations in Lheidli Territory including AFS-DFO project funds.

#### **SONAR PROJECT**

- Chilako Restoration Project
- Brood-Stock/ Chinook UFFCA Project
- Hatchery DFO/Lheidli T'enneh

#### TRAINING PROGRAMS

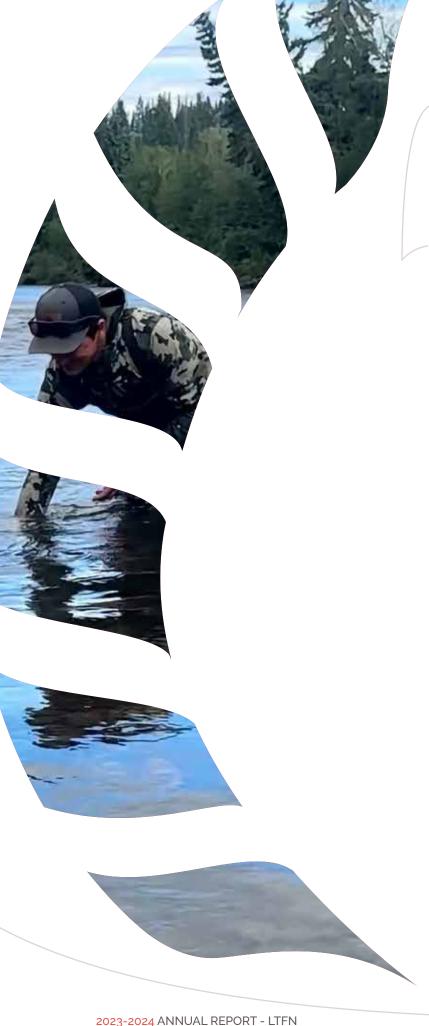
- 2-week training in Okanagan Hatchery
- 1-day hatchery training Quesnel, BC
- Sturgeon studies

#### FISHERIES TRAINING

- Part One.
   Introduction to field technician opportunities
- Part Two.
   Introduction to hatchery operations
- Part Three.
   Introduction to freshwater fisheries.
- Part Four.
   Introduction to on lands stream survey IE/ electro shocking/ sampling

Building relationships with local, provincial and federal Governments including but not excluded to:

- DFO
- MOE
- UFFCA



"Utilizing as many Lheidli members and fisheries technicians as possible, which is beneficial to Lheidli."

Overseeing all fisheries projects and operations in Lheidli territory that is streamlined through the Lheidli fisheries program, utilizing as many Lheidli members as fisheries technicians as possible, which is beneficial to Lheidli. We currently employ at least 24 Lheidli members and have in-training 16 technicians who are members.

We are encouraging our member employees to take college or university courses to become certified fisheries technicians, and to be ready to move into my position or other managing positions when the Lheidli T'enneh fisheries hatchery comes to fruition, which could be in the near future.

Dominic Frederick

# Lands & Natural Resources SONAR STURGEON STREAM WALK

The Adult Sturgeon Monitoring program started a number of years ago, possibly back in 2000. A request from the Department of Fisheries & Oceans (DFO), this is an initiative where we work to tag, manage and protect sturgeon throughout the Fraser River from Prince George to McBride. Throughout the years Lheidli has invested into this program by purchasing our own monitoring equipment, a boat and more.

Funded by DFO, led by LTFN, and employing some LTFN members, this is an ongoing initiative with no defined end date. Each year we report to DFO our findings but throughout the lifespan of this program it has grown from a single person to now being a good handful of people that include consultants and LTFN members.







#### **ADULT STURGEON MONITORING**

- Sampling Upper Fraser River using mark-recapture (angling, setlines)
- Tagging using PIT tags and radio telemetry tags
- Tracking using mobile telemetry surveys and seasonally installed radio stations (Hixon, Stoner, Nechako confluence, Bowron confluence, McGregor confluence)

#### JUVENILE STURGEON MONITORING

- Sampling Upper Fraser River using mark-recapture (angling, setlines)
- Tagging using PIT tags, fin-rays samples to understand life history
- Helping monitor both wild juvenile sturgeon and hatchery juvenile sturgeon from Nechako River
- Important for understanding population dynamics and sturgeon population recovery in the Upper Fraser River population

### UPPER FRASER CHINOOK MONITORING

#### Penny Sonar Enumeration

- Two-bank ARIS installment from mid July to mid September
- Two-member team maintains the weir and sonar units, records data and transfers data to band office

 One team member observes recorded data and generates nearreal time count of migrating Chinook salmon in Upper Fraser

"Important for understanding population dynamics and sturgeon population recovery in the Upper Fraser River population"

#### Robson Valley Creek Walks

- Three rounds of counting surveys in August, timed with peak returns of Chinook salmon to Robson Valley (Upper Fraser River)
- Collect biosamples for aging and DNA analyses
- Two-four member crew surveys 7 creeks in Robson Valley
- Each survey approximately 1.5 5 km hiking along creek banks and creek bed







#### **Lands & Natural Resources**

## FISH FENCE AND BROODING FOR CHINOOK FISH JULY /AUG 2024



#### **CHILAKO**

When we started the fish fence we caught majority females; they appeared to be ready to spawn, and silver top tier brooding fish. Our goal was 6 females and 6 males, we achieved our goal in less then 2 weeks after the fence was put up. We also released about 6 female fish to continue naturally up the river while we were waiting for the males.

The window timing for catching our stock was earlier this year than last year. Starting July 9th the fence was fish tight and assembled. We had two crew members at a time monitoring the fence,10 hour shifts, a 5pm-1am shift and 5am to 1pm shifts. The fish truck arrived in the early morning to take the live fish to Quesnel River Hatchery in Likely where they were kept live, until they were ready for the eggs and mit to be collected. July 12th was the 1st fish caught. The timing seemed to be perfect.

#### WILLOW FISH FENCE

Fence was fish tight by July 16th when the fish had arrived. Our goal was 30 females and 30 males for the brute stock. Most of the females arrived in the beginning of our time at the Willow Fence. We finished our quota before August 1, 2024. Fish were looking healthy and silver, with very little color so they were transported live to the fish hatchery.

#### **SLIM CREEK**

Our goal was to collect 20 males and 20 females from the slim creek. We worked on the slim from August 19th to 21st. This was a collaboration between UFFCA, DFO and Lheidli T'enneh, two crew and a supervisor from Lheidli T'enneh participated in the long days.

#### WALKER CREEK

The Walker was hard and long hikes, on foot, trail access. This was a collaboration between UFFCA, DFO and Lheidli T'enneh, two crew and supervisor from Lheidli T'enneh, the goal was 9 females and 9 males. They were carried by hand in a brood tube out to the fish truck. The walker was a challenging system. Fish were sparsely spread throughout the spawning system. Daily routine was to split into two teams, searching for fish, this was August 13th to the 25th 2024 until the quota was reached.







# Lands & Natural Resources 2023 CHILAKO MONITORING REPORT

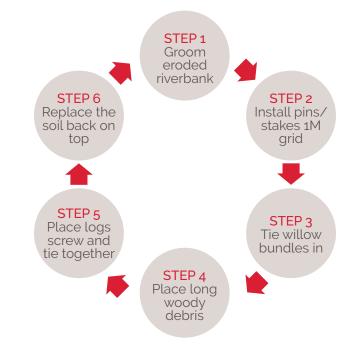
The Chilako River Corridor Restoration Demonstration, initiated in 2015, is a collaborative effort between local Indigenous communities and environmental organizations to revitalize the river's ecosystem. Led by a dedicated team of 10 Lheidli T'enneh Fish Technicians, the project employs innovative bioengineering techniques to restore eroded riverbanks, create critical fish habitat, and promote overall ecological health. By utilizing organic materials such as willow bundles and logs, the project aims to mimic natural processes and accelerate the recovery of the river corridor. This ambitious undertaking has resulted in significant achievements, including the restoration of over 11 kilometers of river corridor, the creation of diverse fish habitats, and the re-establishment of riparian vegetation. The project's success underscores the power of nature-based solutions and the importance of Indigenous knowledge in environmental restoration.



#### OUR PROCESS TO RESTORE THE RIVERBANK WITH ORGANIC BIO ENGINEERED MATERIAL AND TO CREATE FISH HABITAT

- Identify an at risk area.
- Prep the site.
- Groom the soil/slope back to maximize stability.
- Install organic pins/stakes with potential to biodegrade and or grow roots.
- Tie important base of willow bundles to trap sediment and to grow new rooting systems.
- Place long woody debris along the rows to extend into the river for fish habitat and growth.
- Lock the project together with logs for water flow direction, strength and habitat support.
- Replace the soil back for moisture retention and a growth medium for the rooting systems.

"32,500 hrs -Lheidli T'enneh Fish Technicians"







## PROJECT STATISTICS: DEC 2020-MARCH 31, 2023

- 11.4 Km of River Corridor reestablished
- Project Funders: Watersheds BC, Nature Legacy Fund of Canada, Indigenous Watershed Initiative, MOTI, BC Salmon Restoration Innovation Fund
- 32,500 hrs Lheidli T'enneh Fish Technicians4.3 and 31,600 m squared of eroding band treated with organic bank protection and soil bioengineering
- 50,400 m squared of stinger planting
- 5600 m squared live gravel bar staking
- 24,00 m of fencing & 10 sites irrigated
- 4.2 km of side-channel rearing habitat re-activated
- Demonstration projects completed with 12 different landowners
- Post project monitoring in partnership with First Nation Fish Technicians using drone technology and ground methods

#### PROTECTION FROM BANK EROSION

Figure 9, 10 and 11 show the initial Rock Work on the toe below the house, an image of the finished install over the rock work and one season later below.

#### CHILAKO RIVER RESTORATION

Figure 12 and 13 show images from December and August at the same location.



Figure 9



Figure 10



Figure 11



Figure 12



Figure 13



Gravel Bar planting Six Months Later



Winter Install



Making Bundles by hand



Figure 14



Figure 15



Figure 16



Figure 17

## WILLOW AND ROCK WORK INSTALLATION

Figure 14 shows the organic biodegradable material used. Growth about 3 feet high after 1 flood, YRB Collaborated Project. The Rock was integrated in some areas of this project. The Photo of the toe of the Organic Biodegradable Restoration shown here October 2023, ONE SEASON LATER.

## THE POWER OF NATURE AND OUR RIPARIAN HELP

Figures 16, and 17 shows the river three seasons later. Some 12 Feet High and it is like a jungle.

- Successful Erosion control
- Growth of the willows, Alder, Cottonwood and other Trees otherwise unable to grow along the bank
- Supporting Fish Habitat by Creating Fish Habitat, cooler water, spawning and rearing area and food for them
- Cluster and single stinger planting on the gravel bar or other areas are pulling sediment from the water and building th bank up
- Flora and Fauna returning, signs of the ecosystem are there
- Harvest area regrowth is prolific and created Ungulate habitat as well as food for them
- Healing and helping the water, land and ourselves



# Health

Tamara Seymour

#### Health

## HEALTH DEPARTMENT

#### FISCAL 2023-2024

It is with great respect and recognition of the land and its people that we present the Annual Health Report for the Lheidli T'enneh Nation. This report reflects our ongoing commitment to improving the health and well-being of our community, guided by our traditional values, knowledge systems, and the wisdom of our Elders.

Over the past year, our health programs have focused on providing holistic care that addresses the physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual aspects of well-being. Grounded in a deep connection to our culture and ancestral practices, we continue to foster a health system that not only responds to the needs of today but also safeguards the health of future generations.

This report provides an overview of the progress made in various health initiatives, programs, and services. It highlights key accomplishments, identifies challenges, and presents strategies for addressing the health barriers for members of the community and building stronger relationships with outside resources within the health system in Prince George.

Throughout the year we continued to provide health and wellness services to the community with a weekly medical clinic with Doctor Todd, Community Nurse Jennifer and Medical Office Assistant Kyle. Through the medical team we host various clinics such as flu and COVID-19 vaccines, shingles vaccines, diabetes clinic and foot clinic. Nurse Jennifer provides on-reserve prescription support and delivery. We provide support to members with medical travel for appointments that us outside their local area. Our team continues each year to expand services and gain funding for additional support

staff such as a mental health clinician, social navigator, LPN and land-based coordinator. Strengthening relationships between other health agencies, communities and medical resources will continue to be a priority to support the enhancement of health care for our membership.

The health team plans, provides various services and hosts community programming which involves cultural and educational events. We promote our initiatives with a monthly newsletter collaborated with the family development department that is delivered on-reserve and posted onto social media to invite all members able to participate. Programs and events that were held

throughout the year consisted of monthly community kitchens, elder bingos and teas, vaccine clinics, loss and grief workshops (series of 3), cultural camps, beading, women's sacred circle, men's group dinners, Annual Moccasin Walk, harm reduction workshop, soup and Bannock, earth day community clean up, fire awareness, elder meetings, drum making, language open house, culture days with traditional healers and walking group.

Through this work, we honor our ancestors, protect our children, and build a stronger, healthier future for all members of our Nation. Our collective efforts aim to ensure that every individual has access to equitable, culturally safe healthcare, and that the wisdom of our people continues to be reflected in the policy that is currently being developed and practices that shape our health services.

We are proud of the achievements of the past year and remain committed to advancing the health and wellness of our Nation in a way that respects our traditions, our environment, and our community's unique needs. Together, we will continue to walk the path toward a healthier, more empowered future.

Tamara Seymour Health Manager

#### Health

## FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

The Family Support Manager, Family Development Assistant and Family Support worker work towards empowering and supporting the Lheidli T'enneh community by supporting families regarding child safety, but also providing programming that supports the overall growth for the community in a culturally appropriate manner. Monthly programs are set up for families and children to participate in, to come together learn and grow together. Both staff members grew up in community as band members and have a passion for helping our Lheidli families

We are looking forward to planning more events in the future and bringing families in the community together once again.

The Family Development program recently hired a Family Support worker. This person will assist with supports for our families who are dealing with MCFD files. They will work in

conjunction with the social workers to provide preventative resources and supports for children and their families. We are excited to welcome Ashley Raskob to the AFDP team!

The Family Development department is in the final stages of hiring a Youth Coordinator who will be planning youth groups and providing support to our young people.

#### **FAMILY NIGHTS**

Since last year the AFDP has held many programs for families, such as our Family Night Events. During the last AGA we had an idea board at our booth, where we asked community members for their feedback on what kind of programs and events that they would like to see the family development department run. Many members said that they wanted an event to reconnect with each other, an event that was focused on reconnection, fun and not about band

business. The Family Night events have grown and now we host about 130 members at the events. During this event we provide dinner, games and activities for our families. We are currently planning our annual community Halloween party, assisting in the planning of our Wellness week with the Health department, child minding for the upcoming Custom code election engagement meetings, monthly community kitchen. In the upcoming months we will be starting an anger management support group and other educational/prevention workshops.

"Empowering and supporting the Lheidli T'enneh community."

In partnership with the Health department we develop and deliver a monthly program Calendar with posters for our upcoming events. This Calendar and the posters are posted at the Band Office, the Brunswick Street office, and the Health office at the beginning of every month. As well as posted on our Facebook pages and website. This is to ensure our members have easy access to information on what is going on in our departments.

If you have any questions or suggestions on future programming, please contact our staff.

#### **CONTACT US**

If you have any ideas for programming, please email them to:

- FamDev@lheidli.ca or call (250) 962-9730.
- Family Support Manager, Tasheena Seymour: tseymour@lheidli.ca
- Family Dev Assistant,
   Samantha Seymour:
   famdevassistant@lheidl.ca
- Family Support Worker, Ashley Raskob: fdfamsupport@lheidli.ca

Mussi Cho, Your Family Development Team



## Education

Chelsey Hardy & Barbara Allan

#### **Education**

## EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Hadih Lheidli T'enneh community,

We are pleased to share our annual update on the Education Department and the initiatives completed throughout the year. For those who haven't met me yet, I am Chelsey Hardy, your Education Manager. I've been in this role for a year, with a brief three-month absence in the spring, but I am excited to be back and eager to continue building relationships within the community. Our Education Assistant, Beverly Tiljoe, joined LTFN in May 2023 and is thrilled to meet many members of the Lheidli community. She works closely with K-12 students and supports the management of post-secondary student services. Beverly is looking forward to the exciting initiatives we have planned for 2024/25.

Currently, we have 23 post-secondary students and 100 elementary students attending schools across BC and

Canada. Since June 20, 2024, we have implemented a new policy and procedures for post-secondary students. Additionally, there is now an online post-secondary application available on the nation's website under the Education Department. Once you complete the application process, I will be notified via email.

## POST-SECONDARY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (PSPP)

In collaboration with the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC), the Education Department has secured funding to adapt three Early Childhood Education (ECE) courses at CNC. This initiative aims to incorporate LTFN teachings and help build local capacity for early childhood educators.

#### SYLVAN LEARNING

We continue to partner with Sylvan Learning to provide tutoring support. If you or your child needs extra assistance, this resource is available to you. Simply bring proof of LTFN membership to Sylvan, and we will be billed directly for the service. We are also in the process of hiring a tutor to visit the village on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and we will notify members once this service becomes available.

"We are committed to supporting their academic journey."

## LOCAL EDUCATION AGREEMENT (LEA)

LEAs are crucial for strengthening accountability and fostering effective partnerships between First Nations and local school boards, enabling us to collaborate in support of First Nation students. By signing the release form, you empower your education team to advocate for your student.

#### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

We are excited to announce that we are working towards establishing an Education Committee, which we hope to have in place by early 2025. Once the members are selected, we will introduce them to the community.

#### **UNBC PARTNERSHIP**

The renewal of our partnership agreement with UNBC is underway as we continue to improve and enhance our relationship. We currently have four students attending UNBC, and we are committed to supporting their academic journey.

#### **BOOK CLUB**

This spring, the community had the opportunity to participate in the nation's book club, where we read two books by Indigenous author Helen Knott: In My Own Moccasins and Becoming a Matriarch. Helen visited the community in April, and we're curious to know—would you like to see the book club return?

Family Nights – Your Education team will continue to support planned family nights. These events are a great opportunity to ask questions and connect with us.

We look forward to an exciting year ahead!



#### Education

# CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING

#### 1. SKILLS TRAINING AND EDUCATION SERVICES: PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Funding grant: \$283,900 -Training, Work Related Supplies, Capacity Building, Staff Retreat

The Lheidli T'enneh Workforce Connector project required funding to reduce education and employment gaps, and to increase Lheidli T'enneh members qualification levels through transferable skills training and development to maximize sustainable employment with several Industry partners and Project Agreements that involve reducing and eliminating barriers to employment and training. Training courses include ACES Employment Program, the Capacity Development and Employment Assisted Services and Capacity Building in Management skills and teamwork.

#### **ACES Employment Program**

A training project, in partnership with CONNECTIVE. Included the Chainsaw Safety Training for twenty-five members. Safety certificates -S100, S185, WHMIS 2015, Emergency First Aid, Chainsaw Safety. All certificates gained through this program are recognized and transferable to different employers in the community and Industry.

#### Other Training Initiatives:

- AFOA Canada
- Project Management Institute PMP
- Asset Management Canadian Network of Asset Managers (CNAM)
- Engineers and Geoscientists BC -Professional Engineer
- Employment Assisted Services -Pre-employment assessments.
- Participant Financial Supports Le.
   Work-Related Supplies
- Lheidli T'enneh Cultural Sensitivity Video/Workshop - Draft Copy available for review

## The training on Public Administration and Governance

Online studies through the McGill University, will shape the staff to be a strong individual with transferable skills such as leadership, managing projects, employee management, team building and understanding ethical responsibilities and financial reporting within the band administration office.

#### Canadian Firearms Safety Training, PAL

Non-restricted. Twelve (12) participants registered for the program.

#### **Trades**

#### **Welding Foundation Program**

Apprenticeship Welder was offered through College of New Caledonia. Careers - as a graduate of the Welding Foundation program, you'll be qualified for a variety of jobs in the construction and metal working industries. Possible job titles include Production Welder, Maintenance welder, General Welder, Flash Welder, Torch Blazer, Selfemployed welder, Pressure Welder.

#### Fundamental Transport Training Ltd.

Participant registered and completed the Class 3 Driver Training

#### Fisheries -Aboriginal Skills Development

In partnership with the Aboriginal Gateway Training Centre, Samantha Moise, Customer Care Team Lead (PGNAETA), the Customer Care Program provided Life skills and Financial Literacy, for fifteen (15) members.

Participant Outcome for the Skills Training and Education Services: 64 participants registered and completed the program.

### 2. TC ENERGY FUND - COASTAL GASLINK LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

In partnership with the Prince George Driving for Life (PGD4L), one participant successfully gained the Class 5 Drivers License, allowed the participant to better serve and be more flexible when needed by the Nation. Ten (10) members accessed the driver training program.

IAP Career College - Participant registered and completed the Genealogist certificate program.

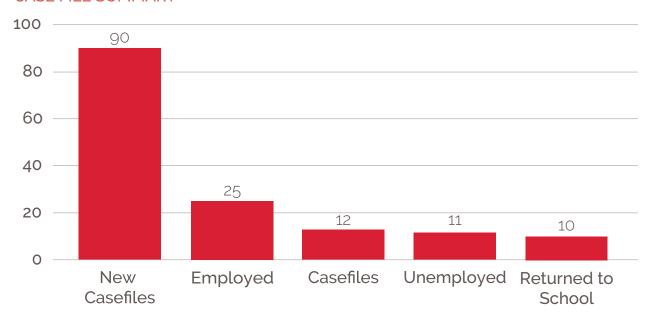
O'Brian Training Ltd.- Participant registered and completed her Class 1 Driver Training program.

SCRT/B ST -JIBC- Participant registered and completed her Basic Security Training License

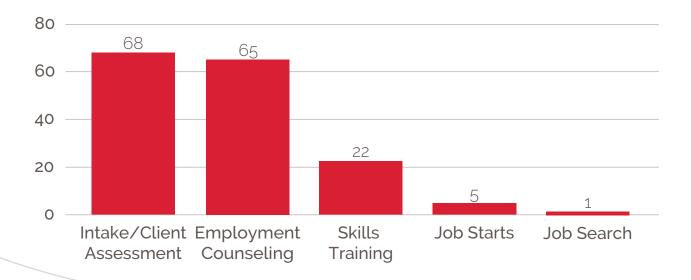
## 3. INDIGENOUS SKILLS EMPLOYMENT TRAINING PROGRAM (ISTEP) FUNDING AGREEMENT / FIRST NATION SERVICE AGREEMENT - PGNAETA. FISCAL PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 2023, TO MARCH 31, 2024.

As the Capacity Development & Training Officer, I provide Funded Services for Course Purchases, Work Supplies, Mobility, Wage Subsidy, Trades and Supplementary Allowances. Non-Funded Services include Employment Counseling, Resume Writing, Job Search Strategies, Labour Market Research, and Referrals as needed.

#### CASE FILE SUMMARY



#### **DETAILED INTERVENTION REPORT**



"Increase Lheidli
T'enneh members
qualification levels
through transferable
skills training and
development"

## 4. JOB PLACEMENT STRATEGIES WITH INDUSTRY

To meet the demands of Industry requirements, I match and place skilled workers with Industry partners and stakeholders, in projects that lead into a specialized skill force.

Barbara Allan Capacity Development & Training Officer Advocate for Lheidli T'enneh First Nation









# Engineering & Operations

**Zawad Abedin** 

# Engineering & Operations ENGINEERING & OPERATIONS DIVISION

#### **DIVISION OVERVIEW**

The Engineering and Operations
Division continues to support the
growth and development of the Lheidli
T'enneh Band by overseeing critical
infrastructure projects, maintaining the
nation's assets, and improving housing,
public works, IT, and emergency
management services.

#### **CAPITAL PROJECTS**

#### 1. Waste Water Treatment Facility

The construction of the new wastewater treatment facility is underway and is expected to be completed by spring 2025. This state-of-the-art facility will serve the North side community, with the capacity to expand services to the South side community once a connecting bridge is constructed. Designed to accommodate future population growth, the facility is expected to meet the community's needs for the next 40 years.

#### 2. Water Treatment System Design

Ongoing work continues on the design of a new water treatment system, which will primarily serve the North side with a future connection to the South side planned. In the interim, we are developing a temporary system to ensure safe and reliable water for the North side. A condition assessment of the water distribution system is also in progress to ensure that once the new system is online, the water remains potable and free of aesthetic or quality concerns. We continue to conduct monthly contaminant testing, alongside daily checks to ensure the safety of the water supply. Community members are encouraged to reach out with any water quality concerns.

## 3. Ancient Forest Enhancement Project

The Ancient Forest Enhancement Project is moving forward rapidly, with value engineering underway. We anticipate opening the tender for bids in late winter. This project promises to enhance the natural heritage of the area and contribute to the community's cultural and environmental sustainability.

#### 4. Fraser River Bridge Advocacy

The Fraser River Bridge project continues to receive strong advocacy from our leadership and senior administration. While there are no concrete updates to share at this time, we remain optimistic about securing funding for the design of the bridge in the near future.

#### 5. Family Center Project

We have secured funding for feasibility studies for the Family Center Project, marking an important milestone. This project, in response to community needs, will provide valuable services to families within the nation. We are now working with architectural and engineering teams to conduct these studies.

### 6. Aquifer Mapping and Ground Water Protection

In partnership with UNBC and with funding from the Ministry of Water and NSERC, we will begin aquifer mapping and the development of a ground water protection plan for the North and South Shelly reserves in October 2024. This project is critical for the sustainable management of water resources in these areas.

#### **ASSET MANAGEMENT**

We are nearing the implementation of a new asset management software system. This system will help track the maintenance of all assets, from housing to public infrastructure, and will include a community portal accessible via the website and membership app. This will allow members to request services and track responses to service requests. The software will also improve the efficiency of fund allocation for asset maintenance, ensuring that our resources are used to their fullest potential.

#### **HOUSING**

The Housing Department has been working diligently on several projects, including renovations and the setup of new tiny homes to bring more people onto the reserve. Additionally, applications for multiplex-style housing are under review. Despite being understaffed, the department has managed to push forward several important initiatives, including obtaining Council approval for a revised housing policy. This new policy has streamlined processes and resolved some ongoing housing challenges. The leadership's support has been instrumental in these successes.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS**

The Public Works department has kept busy with essential maintenance tasks, including road upkeep, garbage cleanups, and the processing and supply of firewood. With the integration of Public Works into the Engineering and Operations Division, along with Housing, we are exploring new ways to boost morale and provide better services to the community. Our

teams are dedicated to delivering results, even while managing limited resources.

#### IT AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Over the past year, significant progress has been made in both IT infrastructure and emergency management for Lheidli T'enneh First Nation.

#### IT INFRASTRUCTURE

We focused on improving network reliability and security by creating a centralized virtual environment at the Brunswick Office, enhancing data protection and operational efficiency. Site-to-site VPNs have been strengthened for secure communication between key office sites, and we upgraded outdated equipment across the Nation. New vendor partnerships have also been established to reduce future technology costs.

Cybersecurity remains a priority with stricter email security policies now in place. Looking ahead, we plan to complete a comprehensive phone system upgrade within six months to further improve communication efficiency.

#### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

We are nearing completion of the Emergency Management Plan, addressing key risks like wildfires and pipeline emergencies. Notably, we have made significant progress in securing fire protection for the north side of the reserve, which is expected

to be finalized by year's end. Plans are also underway to establish a community initial containment crew to manage incidents before they escalate.

Looking forward, work will begin on a disaster recovery and business continuity plan to ensure operational resilience during major disruptions. These efforts lay a strong foundation for a safer and more resilient future.

#### LOOKING FORWARD

As we move forward, the Engineering and Operations Division remains committed to delivering high-quality services, improving infrastructure, and addressing the evolving needs of the Lheidli T'enneh community. With strong partnerships, continued advocacy, and strategic project management, we are confident in the positive trajectory of our work.

We welcome all community members to engage with us, whether it's to ask questions, raise concerns, or provide input into the projects and services we manage. As Housing and Public Works departments are newly added into our division, we would seek time from the members to make the services better, from those departments.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Zawad Abedin, EIT, ProfCertAM

Director, Engineering and Operations 150 Brunswick St | Prince George, BC | V2L 2B3

Phone: (250) 562-0847 Ext 2019

# Economic Development

# Economic Development BUSINESS ACHIEVEMENTS

## BC HYDRO NORTH COAST TRANSMISSION LINE

The Lheidli T'enneh, Sai'kuz. Stella'ten. and Nadleh Whuten have formed the Nechako First Nations (NFN) who are working together to engage with BC Hydro and the Province of British Columbia on this project. The NFN group have been working with the First Nations Major Projects Coalition in negotiating the purchase a portion of the new transmission line running from Prince George to Terrace. The transmission line crosses approximately 170 kms across the combined four nations territory. By working as a four Nation group, we are able to secure better equity, employment, and procurement terms. Currently, the NFN have secured four revenue share agreements for earlystage work across the territories which are being split evenly.

#### **ARBIOS BIOTECH**

The Arbios Biotech project has almost reached the commissioning phase and will begin producing a product to be turned into sustainable diesel and aviation fuel. Arbios, Canfor, LTN Contracting, and ourselves are continuing to test and develop methods to turn slash piles into sustainable products instead of simply burning it. Early findings on the research are promising. The research will continue through the winter and spring.

#### NILHTS'I ECOENER WIND PROJECT

The Nation has entered into a bid with Spanish company Ecoener to create a wind Project near Hixon. The Project is dependent on securing an Electricity Purchase Agreement through a competitive bid process through BC Hydro. Should we be successful in our bid, we will be 49% equity owners in the Project. LTN and Ecoener will find out in December if we are one of the chosen projects.









## ENBRIDGE LANDOOZ WALL CONSTRUCTION

Completed using member owned and affiliated companies. Art will be added to the wall next spring/summer.

#### **NEW REVENUE SHARE PARTNERS**

- Tyrod Industries
- All West Crane and Rigging
- Crest Insulation
- Canadian Dewatering
- All North Consultants

5 more potential revenue share companies upcoming.

#### **GRANTS**

- New Relationship Trust \$43,000 land use feasibility study
- New Relationship Trust \$260,000
   G2G negotiations, custom election
   code
- REDIP \$80,500 grants coordinator position
- Pipeworx \$5,000 community Christmas support
- CN \$5,000 Band administration mentorship program
- Coastal GasLink \$5,000 National Indigenous People's Day and Moccasin Walk
- Arbios \$6,000 National Indigenous People's Day and Moccasin Walk
- Fortescue Thank You Grant (through the PG Community Foundation) \$25,000

Total Grants secured: \$429,500



## Finance

#### Finance

## FINANCE DEPARTMENT

## COMPARISON OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE:

The comparative Financial Report has been prepared from the information of Audited Financial Statement for the year 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Full version of the audited financial statements can be viewed from Lheidli Website in the following link:

https://www.lheidli.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/2024-Auditors-Report-1.pdf

The Fiscal year for our organization is April to March. For the Fiscal Year 2023-2024, Lheidli T'enneh had an overall revenue \$25.58 Million.

In 2022-23 overall revenue was \$27.11 Million including an extra ordinary revenue received from Enbridge as explosion settlement. Operating revenue for that year was \$16.11 Million.

Overall Revenue got decreased by \$1.53 Million.

However, we have an increase in Operating Revenue \$9.47 Million (\$25.58M – \$16.11M) which is an increase of 59%.

Operating Expenditure during 2023-2024 was \$14.34 Million. Excluding Enbridge Settlement, operating Expenditure during 2022-2023 was \$11.44 Million (\$20.49 M - \$9.05M). We have an increase in operating expenses \$2.90 Million (\$14.34M - \$11.44M) which is an increase of 25%.

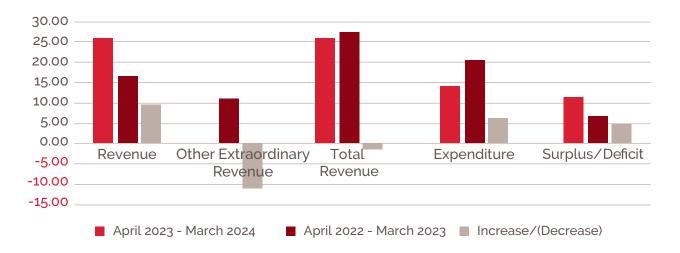
The Bottom line for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 represents a surplus of \$11.24 Million. Comparing with 2022-2023 overall increased surplus is \$4.62 Million which is 69.79% increment.

Accumulated Surplus has been reported \$67.92 Million on 31st Mar 2024, which was \$56.67 Million on 31st Mar 2023. Accumulated Surplus increased by 19%.

#### COMPARATIVE INCOME STATEMENT 2022-23 VS 2023-24

#### IN MILLION DOLLAR

		MILLION		
PARTICULARS	APR 2023 - MAR 2024	APR 2022 - MAR 2023	INCREASE/ DECREASE	% OF INCREASE/ GROWTH
Revenue	25.58	16.11	9.47	59%
Other Extraordinary Revenue	0.00	11.00	-11.00	-100.00%
Total Revenue	25.58	27.11	-1.53	-5.64%
Expenditure	14.34	20.49	6.15	30.01%
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	11.24	6.62	4.62	69.79%
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	67.92	56.67	10.77	19.00%



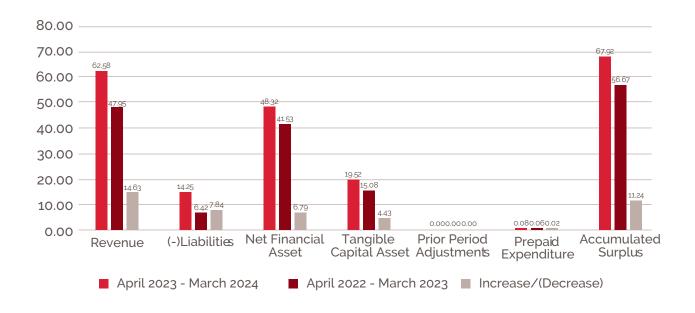
## COMPARISON OF FINANCIAL POSITION:

As of March 31,2024, The Band had a Net Financial Asset \$48.32 Million after subtracting the total liabilities from the Financial Asset. Comparing to fiscal year 2022-23, an overall increment of \$6.79 Million which is 16.38%.

The Accumulated Surplus has increased to \$67.92 Million during Fiscal Year 2023-24 by \$11.24 Million which is 19.84% increment from Fiscal Year 2022-23.

## COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF MARCH 31, 2023 VS MARCH 31, 2024

	IN MILLION DOLLAR			
PARTICULARS	APR 2023 - MAR 2024	APR 2022 - MAR 2023	INCREASE/ (DECREASE)	% OF INCREASE/ GROWTH
Financial Asset	62.58	47.95	14.63	30.514%
(-) Liabilities	14.26	6.42	7.84	122.03%
Net Financial Asset	48.32	41.53	6.79	16.36%
Tangible Capital Asset	19.52	15.08	4.43	29.37%
Prior Period Adjustments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Prepaid Expenditure	0.08	0.06	0.02	29.97%
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	67.92	56.67	11.24	19.84%



#### COMPARISON OF CURRENT / LIQUIDITY RATIO:

Current or Liquidity Ratio measures the capability of the organization to meet the short-term financial obligations that are due within a year. The ratio considers the weight of the total Current Asset versus the total Current Liabilities.

According to the following table, as of March 31, 2024 to meet the current liabilities of \$13.55 Million the Band has Current Asset of \$30.50 Million Dollar. The current ratio is 2.25% which means for every \$1 of current debt the Band had \$2.25 to pay against.

Due to large Deferred Revenue reported in FY 2023-24 current ratio has been reduced from 3.82% to 2.25%.

COMPONENTS	2023-34 AMOUNT	2022-23 AMOUNT
Current Asset:		
Cash in Bank	25,033,562.00	19,057,936.00
Restricted Cash	253,658.00	354,155.00
Accounts Receivable	4,242,128.00	1,120,003.00
Prepaid Expenses	79,725.00	61,339.00
Due from Government Agencies	315,4012.00	114,781.00
Advance Receivable	576,402.00	675,599.00
Federal Trust Funds	2,122.00	3,407.00
TOTAL CURRENT ASSET:	30,502,999.00	21,387,220.00
Current Debt:		
Bank Indebtedness	-	-
Accounts Payable	4,305,180.00	2,442,111.00
Deferred Revenue	8,999,806.00	2,804,979.00
Replacement Reserve	253,658.00	354,155.00
TOTAL CURRENT DEBT	67.92	56.67
CURRENT/LIQUIDITY RATIO	2.25%	3.82%

#### TREASURY REPORT AS OF AUGUST 31, 2024:

As of August 31, 2024 overall treasury balance has been increased by \$6.72 Million which represents the incremental investment in GIC.

#### TREASURY COMPARISON FY 202-23 VS FY 2023-24

NAME OF ITEM	CURRENT YEAR - AUG 31, 2024	LAST YEAR - AUG 31, 2023	(LY VS CY) INCREASED/ DECREASE
Band Bank Account	4,692,173.44	4,482,998.85	209,174.59
PIA - Lheidli T'enneh	1,391.40	130,984.35	-129,592.95
GIC Investment	19,884,049.09	13,235,000.00	6,649,049.09
TOTAL BANK BALANCE & INVESTMENT	24,577,613.93	17,848,983.20	6,728,630.73

### **Contact Us:**

#### Administration

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

#### **Health Department**

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

#### **Brunswick Street Office**

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

