



Ts'eman Za 2022

TNG NEWSLETTER

T̂SILHQOT'IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



Photo: Lauren Carruthers

A Summer of Events and Gatherings

This summer has been a summer of gatherings, ceremonies, rodeos and culture camps as our people come together again after a few years without large gatherings. In this summer issue of the TNG newsletter you will find photos from the many events, gatherings and fun held across the territory. Our people, our language, and our way of life is what unites us.

Dipnetting is in full swing right now. We wish everyone happy and safe fishing this season!

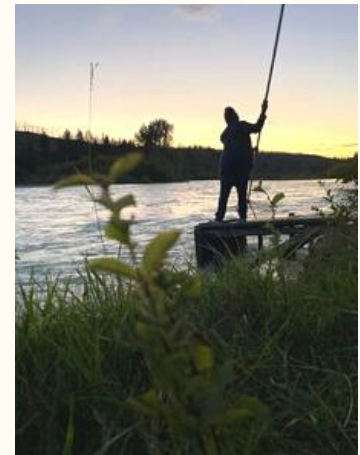


Photo: Robin Billyboy

**SNEAK PEEK OF
WHAT'S INSIDE:**

*National Indigenous
People's Day - 15
Fisheries - 23
Health - 47
And more!*



A message from TNG Tribal Chair, Nits'il?in Joe Alphonse

As TNG Tribal Chair there are always issues and concerns from a Nation point of view. We are still in a pandemic – it's nice to reduce restrictions but we still need to be vigilant and aware. COVID will always be a part of our life – but we can't let it be a deterrent from practicing traditional activities.

It is an exciting time of year right now. We get outdoors – berry picking, fishing, and hunting will be around the corner. I encourage everyone to camp and be outside with the younger generations. Its meaningful to be outside with children and pass on your knowledge of the land.

Our communities had successful journeys to town for stampede. We are anticipating a strong salmon run this year. Our salmon run is something we have always fought for – any threats to our waters was a fight we fought. You can't put a price on having salmon in our rivers – we will always fight for protection our waters (for a discussion on the draft water law go to page 43). Negotiations are ongoing with Canada and B.C. – I feel there is a lot of pressure to really get going on negotiations – the political landscape never stays the same. The Federal liberals and provincial NDP have been developing strong relationships with the Tsilhqot'in. We need to bring programs into our nation and organizations. We are looking at tribal police and more responsibility around children and families (see page 44-47). The creation of a Unity Chief is much needed in our Nation – this was a topic discussed at unity gathering (see page 44). We need someone like this to speak with government and move our issues forward.

Fall time is coming. We are anticipating issues around hunting regulations – we want to continue to push for reduced Limited Entry Hunts (LEH) so that moose populations can rebound to more historical numbers. With that, stay tuned.

Gweta?aghunt'i (good day)
-Nits'il?in Joe Alphonse



The Ts'eman are
running!



War Nits'il?in ?Ahan

We meant war, not murder

July 18th was the 157th anniversary since the wrongful hanging of our War Nits'il?in (Chief) ?Ahan from the Chilcotin War of 1864/65. We joined with our Sister City - New Westminster - to provide stories about the Chilcotin War on July 18th in New Westminster.

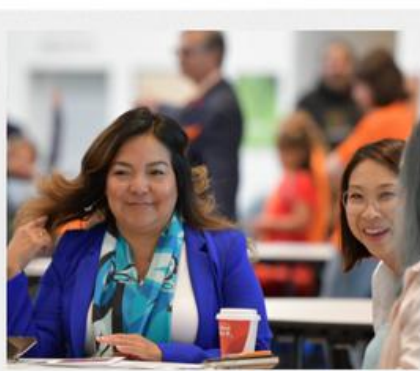
"Our history is a history to be known and shared throughout the school systems and households of B.C. and Canada."



Sechanalyagh to those that joined us – Stars of the North Drum Group, Minister Whiteside (BC Minister of Education and Child Care), Chief Rhonda Larabee, Chuck Puchmayr, Chief Ed Hall, Tom Swanky, City of New Westminster Council Members and School District #40 Maya Russell.



Photos By Nathan Woods





TNG's first on and off reserve world cafe held!

You spoke we listened

TNG held its first On and Off-Reserve World Café in June at the South Lakeside Office. The evening started with dinner, then members were able to play a TNG-style game of BINGO by visiting all of the TNG department stations. The stations consisted of fun games, and wonderful door prizes as well as keeping everyone updated on what project/s their departments are working on for the Nation.



Once a BINGO card was completed it was entered for the main draws. Prizes ranged from traditional handmade gifts to dipnets, Williams Lake Stampede tickets, and more. A huge Sechanalyagh (Thank you) to everyone who attended and made the event such a great success.

The next On and Off-Reserve World Café is to be held in March 2023. Hope to see you there!



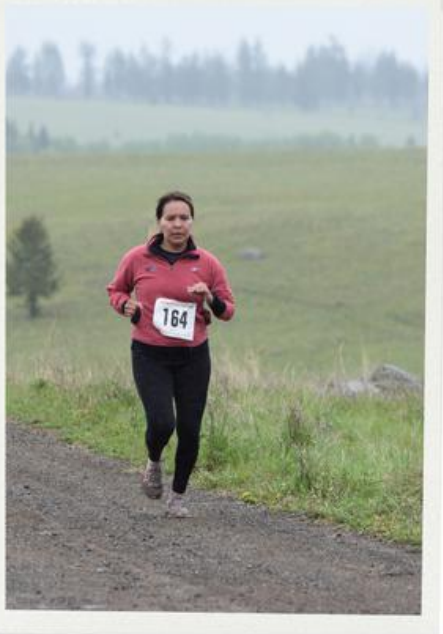
All Nations Spring Classic 2022

It was a perfect jump start to the summer

On June 2nd, community members gathered in T̓silhqot'in territory at the Riske Creek Forestry Complex for the All Nations Spring Classic. This event was held in collaboration with Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council (ISPARC), First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), T̓silhqot'in National Government, Yeqox Nilin Justice Society and Three Corners Health Services Society. All ages were welcome to participate in either a 5 or 10 km walk or run out on the land



Despite a little wind and rain, 38 walkers and runners conquered their goals with an abundance of volunteers and spectators cheering them on. The event was equipped with prizes for everyone, music, lunch and snacks. After months of quarantine, it felt so special to have people gathered once again all while promoting healthy living. We encourage everyone to challenge themselves and keep active!





Cultural Space Imagineering

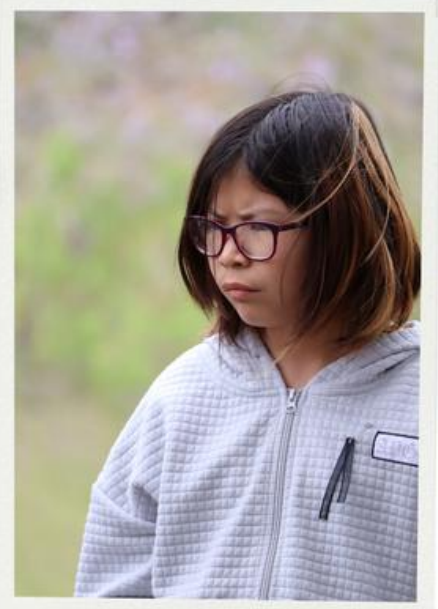
We had great day of coming together - of re-gathering - on the land at historic T̂siyi (Bull Canyon) to start our journey as a Nation to imagine what kind of a cultural space will best serve our people. We learned about T̂silhqot'in plant medicines, stories of transformation and strength, and feelings of deep care and connection to our nen and to our river T̂silhqox.

*"we must continue to listen
to each other and to the
land to guide us in our next
steps on this journey"*

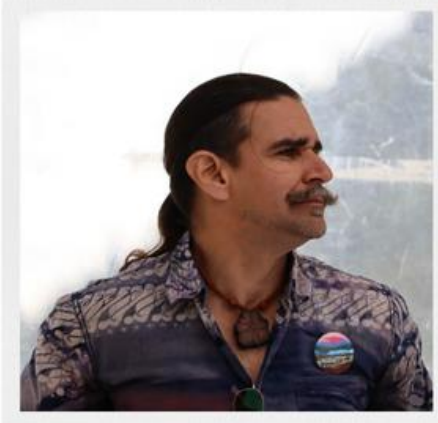


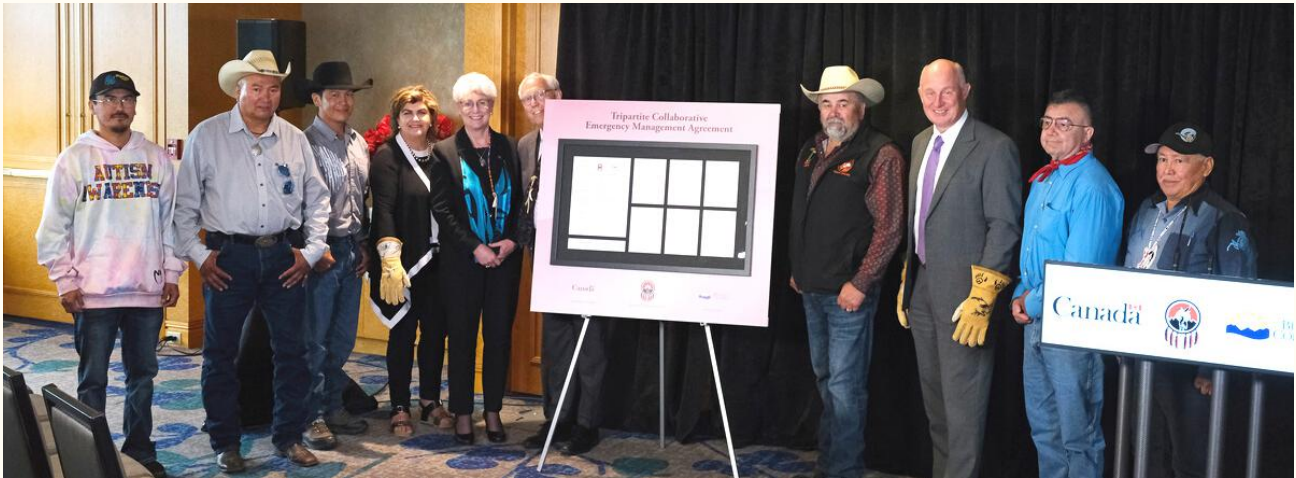
We learned that there is still much healing and learning to do. We hope to have many more of these events on the land.

Thanks to everyone who came to this first meeting and shared their knowledge, experience, and wisdom.



Photos by Tammy Haller





Emergency Management Agreement Extended

On July 6, 2022, the T̓silhqot̓in Nits̓'il̓in-Qi met with BC and Canada Ministers to extend the Collaborative Emergency Management Agreement. This agreement commits further funds towards an emergency centre in the territory, along with resources to be prepared for emergencies.

"This groundbreaking agreement allows us to build up our own capacity and resources to manage emergencies on the land and in the communities"
-Nits'il̓in Joe Alphonse



TNG Emergency Management Services has been currently working with communities to make sure members are safe and prepared for emergencies. They are also focusing on the Emergency Services Working Group, increasing funding, and Nation level emergency planning. The working group is made up of Emergency Coordinators from each of the communities in order to share knowledge and ideas.





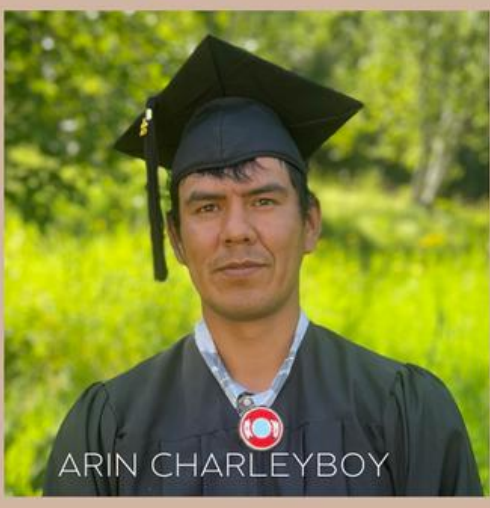
TNG Carpentry Graduation

inlhes guzun ?enjaw

It was a sweltering 34 degrees outside on July 29, 2022, when nine residential construction foundation students' outstanding achievements were celebrated at their graduation ceremony. The T̄silhqot'in National Government would like to congratulate Arin Charleyboy (Tl'etinqox), Jessica Haller (Canoe Creek), Tramayne Harry (Tl'etinqox), Cory Pigeon (Tl'etinqox), Lionel Stump (Tl'etinqox), Norman Stump (Tl'etinqox), Loriann Tenale (Tl'esqox) and Morgan Tenale (Tl'esqox).



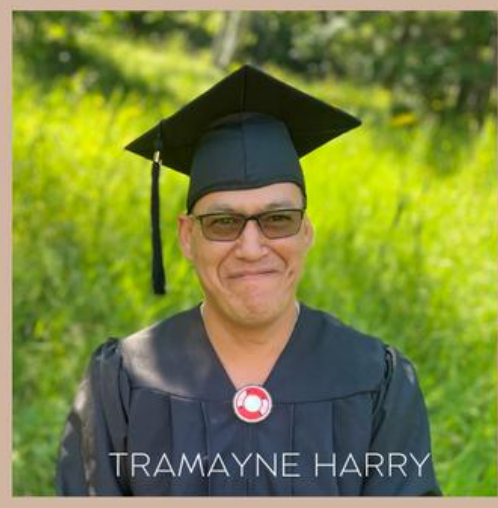
These students worked hard, were committed to their program, resilient, and stayed dedicated. The students' strength and perseverance through the last six months resulted in an accomplishment they will find immense satisfaction and pride in, along with their family, friends and the Nation! We hold our hands up to you and your efforts, *inlhes guzun ?enjaw* (you did a good job). More on page 41.



ARIN CHARLEYBOY



JESSICA HALLER



TRAMAYNE HARRY



SKEM'CIS PHILLIPS



CORY PIGEON



LIONEL STUMP



NORMAN STUMP



LORIANN TENALE



MORGAN TENALE

CARPENTRY FOUNDATIONS

GRADUATE

class of 2022





Photos by Tammy Haller





National Indigenous People's Day

Fun in the rain!

National Indigenous People's Day was a bit wet but it was great to see so many Tsilhqot'in members out and enjoying the day together. The TNG booth had Indian Tea set up, along with water. We also provided colouring for kids with Tsilhqot'in words on it.

The parade is always a fun time with so many smiles. We had

"A day to celebrate who we are and where we have come from"

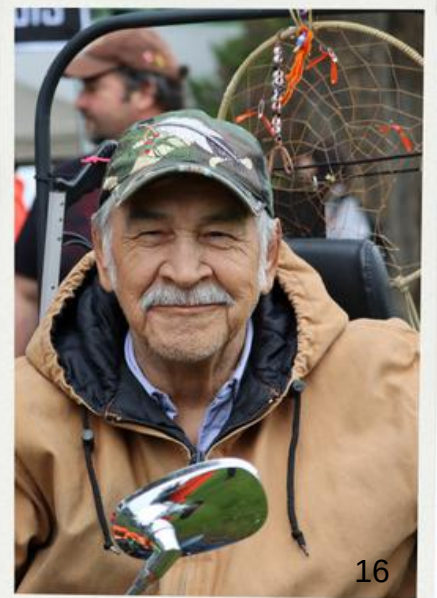


members from the Tsilhqot'in Ts'iqi Dechen Jedilhtan Advisory Council (Women's Council) drumming and walking in the parade along with TNG staff.





Photos by Tammy Haller





Lieutenant Governor of B.C. Janet Austin visits the Nation

Change is happening

In August, the Lieutenant Governor visited the Benchuny Culture camp hosted by Tl'etinqox. Here she met with the T̓silhqot'in Women's Council, Indigenous artists, and our youth. It was an honour to have her visit the Nation. We have come a long way since the first Lieutenant Governor denied the existence of Aboriginal title.

"We have come a long way since the first Lieutenant Governor denied the existence of Aboriginal title."



It is because of the title win in 2014 that these connections are being made between the T̓silhqot'in and other forms of government. The Lieutenant Governor is a representative of the Queen. The T̓silhqot'in Chiefs are still working to meet with the Queen to tell our story and have our voices heard on a global scale.



T̓silhqot̓in Delegation presents at UN in New York

To share the T̓silhqot̓in experience and hold Canada accountable.

In May, Nits̓il̓in Francis Laceese and Cultural Ambassador Peyal Laceese attended the UN Permanent Forum in New York. Here Nits̓il̓in Laceese gave a speech that highlighted the threat from the mining and logging industry – and their impacts on T̓silhqot̓in wildlife and culture. His speech was translated into multiple languages for the world to hear. The T̓silhqot̓in speech had supporters wait all day to hear the Chief's statement and stand behind him.



Bob Rae, Canada's Ambassador to the United Nations, met Nits̓il̓in Laceese on the first day and there was a lot of respect shown to the Chief and the T̓silhqot̓in Nation. The delegation also met with The UN Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Issues. Throughout the visit, they were asked to do photo shoots, tv shows, and support others in their fight for human rights.



Nation continues building International Relationships

Sharing ways of life

In June, Nits'il?in Joe Alphonse, Healer Cecil Grinder, Chastity Davis-Alphonse and Advisor to Nen (JP Laplante), made a trip to Europe where they met with Canada's High Commissioner to the UK. Their next stop was in the Netherlands where Nits'il?in Joe Alphonse gave a lecture at the Hague University and met with Shell Global. Afterwards, the delegation went to northern Sweden to visit the Sami people.



The Sami people are the Indigenous people of Sweden. Chief Joe, Chastity and Cecil all shared their thoughts on how the T̂silhqot'in have dealt with industry on their own terms, and the importance of treating our Elders' knowledge and values as not just equal but more important than the dominant and often imposed value systems.





Career Fair!

Work for us!

The T̓silhqot'in National Government hosted a career fair at the TNG Lakeside Office gym on August 19, 2022.

After hosting two virtual TNG career fairs in 2020 during Covid, returning to face-to-face contact was a welcome change.

The fair included display booths with TNG staff from departments including Education, Administration, Health, Employment, Communications, Housing and Infrastructure, GIS, Stewardship, and T̓silhqot'in Nidlin.



In the spring of 2022, TNG also attended the Williams Lake Job Fair hosted by CATTEC – Cariboo Chilcotin Aboriginal Training Employment Centre. The in-person event included many other community organizations, and the response was very positive. Many people stopped by the TNG display, asked questions, and handed in their resumes. Three new staff were hired at TNG as a result of the event.



Upcoming Career Fair!

Everyone Welcome!

On October 14, TNG is hosting another full-day career fair in Williams Lake in collaboration with many other Williams Lake organizations, such as Thompson Rivers University, Denisiqi, Artimis Gold, Telus, Emergency Services, Telus, and the Fire Dept. TNG will be coordinating with T̓silhqot̓in communities to arrange for people to attend.

Attending a TNG career fair and talking with staff from TNG departments in person is a great way to learn about employment possibilities and opportunities, as well as a chance to win some wonderful door prizes!

For all current job postings visit the TNG website @ <https://www.tsilhqotin.ca/>

Careers

Open Positions

Communications

Communication Coordinator

Williams Lake, British Columbia

Housing & Infrastructure

Construction

Foreman/Forewoman

Williams Lake, British Columbia

Construction Project Manager

Williams Lake, British Columbia

IT

Data Manager

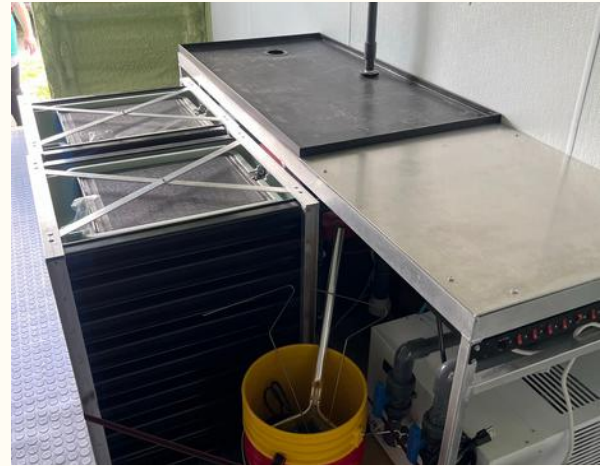
Williams Lake, British Columbia



TNG Steps us Conservation with Hatchery Project

Exciting News

A T̄silhqot̄'in-led conservation hatchery in T̄silhqot̄'in Territory was identified as a Nation-wide priority for rebuilding T̄silhqot̄'in fish and fisheries. After 3 years of feasibility work, planning, and preparation, the hatchery has been delivered to the TNG South Lakeside office!



It's currently undergoing plumbing and electrical finishing work prior to installation at the Hanceville site. Testing and training will begin soon, with plans for full operation (egg incubation and rearing) by August/September 2023.



TNG STAFF REPORTS

FISHERIES UPDATE

TNG FISHERIES TEAM:

Randy Billyboy, Fisheries Manager
Michelle Tung, Fisheries Strategy Lead
Pete Nicklin, Fisheries Biologist
Leonard English, Fisheries Field Coordinator
Winston Bambrick, Fisheries Technician
Gerald William, Fisheries Technician



Chilko Ts'eman (sockeye), the basis for the T̓silhqot'in Ts'eman fishery, have entered the Fraser River and are now showing up in T̓silhqot'in Territory. Current information shows a strong Chilko run to support a sustainable Ts'eman fishery. We will continue to monitor all data sources and provide updates through our weekly fisheries bulletins.

REMINDER – CURRENT PROTECTION MEASURES:

- Ja̓s (Chinook): For the full fishing season, the T̓silhqot'in Council of Chiefs requests this voluntary measure to protect extremely vulnerable early timed Ja̓s that spawn in the Little Chilcotin system: Please do not fish for Chinook in the Little Chilcotin System above the Chilko/Chilcotin junction.
- Tislagh (steelhead) and ʔElhdachugh (sturgeon): Please release any Tislagh due to continued conservation concerns for these endangered fish. DFO regulations also require the release of non-target species including steelhead and sturgeon.

END OF EARLY-SEASON VOLUNTARY PROTECTION MEASURES:

Earlier in the season, extremely high water on the Fraser River severely impacted passage and migration timing for at-risk early-timed Ts'eman (sockeye) and Ja̓s (Chinook). The T̓silhqot'in Council of Chiefs had requested limited voluntary measures to help protect these vulnerable stocks. These ended in the first week of August.

TNG STAFF REPORTS

FISHERIES UPDATE

IF YOU CATCH A TAGGED FISH:

- Researchers with DFO, in partnership with First Nations and the Province of BC, are tagging Chinook, sockeye, and coho salmon with radio tracking transmitters. These numbered tags are used to evaluate migration success associated with the Big Bar landslide.
- If you catch a tagged fish, please send the tag number, date and location of capture or recovery to BigBarTag@gmail.com, or turn in the tag in with the above information to catch monitors.



Photo: Carl Siwallace -
Upper Chilcotin Brood

TNG FISHERIES DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES:

We're now well into the salmon season (mid-July to late September), the busiest time of year for the TNG Fisheries Department. Technical information is flowing in from all along the salmon migration route, from the ocean to the spawning grounds TNG Fisheries gathers and analyzes information from various sources including TNG's own technical programs, DFO, and the Pacific Salmon Commission. Information directly supports T̓silhqot'in Leadership decision making and informs fisheries priority setting and planning. Our core activities and strategic initiatives have resulted in one of the richest, most comprehensive sets of salmon fisheries information in BC.

Catch Monitoring:

Twenty-four seasonal staff were hired to monitor Ja̓s (Chinook) and Ts'eman (sockeye) fisheries throughout the fishing season. Catch monitoring provides valuable information about fisheries, condition and usage of fishing sites, water levels, catch success, and overall fish health.

TNG STAFF REPORTS

FISHERIES UPDATE

Annual Stock Assessment Programs:

Our experienced crew runs several annual stock assessment programs throughout the field season, which runs from April to November. We collect critical information about the health of all T̓silhqot̓in stocks on the ground, by boat, and in the air. Key summer work includes:

- SONAR assessment at the junction of Chilcotin and Fraser, and in all three nursery areas (Chilcotin, Chilko, and Taseko) for sockeye, chinook, coho, and steelhead
- Aerial (helicopter flights) and ground surveys for Chinook, sockeye, coho, and steelhead
- Non-retention test fisheries



Strategic Initiatives:

Since the introduction of the TNG Fisheries Strategic Framework and Fisheries Action Plan in 2019, we've expanded the TNG Fisheries program to include several strategic initiatives:

- Territory-wide water quality and quantity monitoring program
- Coho recovery research (initial pilot study in March 2022; work is ongoing)
- Tislagh (steelhead) recovery research
- Emergency conservation enhancement for priority vulnerable and endangered stocks.

TNG STAFF REPORTS

FISHERIES UPDATE

FISHERIES COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT:

TNG Fisheries provides information on salmon populations and returns, fishing opportunities, and TNG Fisheries Department activities through various channels throughout the year. We also engage regularly throughout the year with T̓silhqot̓in Leadership to inform fisheries planning, priorities, and decision making.

Mid-July to September 2022: Weekly In-Season Fisheries Communications
During the fishing season, TNG Fisheries hosts weekly update Zoom calls for T̓silhqot̓in Leadership and staff. We also provide weekly Fisheries Bulletins, which are publicly available on the TNG website and on the TNG Facebook page.

Wednesday, October 19, 2022: TNG Annual Fisheries Forum: (Location TBD)
The Fisheries Forum is intended for community Leadership and interested staff. This is a key opportunity to meet and discuss key fisheries topics and priorities.

For questions please contact TNG Fisheries Manager Randy Billyboy
Email: rbillyboy@tsilhqotin.ca / Tel: 250-392-3918

Sechanalyagh!
The TNG Fisheries Team



TNG STAFF REPORTS

Nen Update

Written by Jp Laplante

Hi folks,

I hope this finds you well. It's been a nice return this summer to seeing the T̓silhqot'in Nation's gatherings return to normal. There have been changes to our team this summer which I will explain here:



First, we regret to announce that Breanna Charleyboy has left her position as the Nen Planning Coordinator at TNG. She will be missed and we wish her all the best in her next adventure. We are posting for this position so please let your family, friends and colleagues know. The job advertisement was posted to TNG's website and elsewhere, and this position is responsible for leading and working with the 6 communities in their nen (land, resource, water, air) planning process.

Second, I was honoured to receive a promotion to Director of Negotiations, which is a new position. We have now posted for the opening of "Nen Manager" to backfill my position. There will be a transition period during which Jay will continue to carry the heavy-load for the range of negotiations topics, until the Nen Manager position is filled.

We have been working on several projects, including community engagement with the Governance Team in June, the Unity Gathering in July, and supporting other Nation- and community-events through the summer. I also had the honour of supporting Chief Joe and Cecil Grinder on a trip to visit Europe - see page ??.

The Nen Coordinators from the communities were busy in May and June, attending a Nen Planning retreat in Kamloops, and forests strategy meetings in Williams Lake. Most are now focused on their community gatherings this summer but we look forward to picking up the nen planning again starting in September, with the support of our contractor, Beringia Community Planning.

TNG STAFF REPORTS

Climate Modeling to Inform Changes to Food Security

Written by Cynthia Fell

We were in communities in May and June to share the information that we gathered through our research and modeling work with ESSA Technology for TNGs project on climate modeling to inform changes to food security. We shared maps looking at how temperature and precipitation are predicted to change across the territory, and how plant communities are predicted to shift over time. Then, we discussed implications for plants, fish and wildlife. Sechanalyagh to everyone who attended our community engagement session.



Photo: Evening community engagement event in Yunešit'in – dinner, slideshow and bingo!

Since we've been in communities we have now completed modelling for a number of plants that are both culturally important and important for wildlife. The modeling predicts where plants will likely to grow under current climate conditions and in future climate conditions (2050s and 2080s). The plants that we have conducted modelling for are saskatoon (dīgichen), mountain potato (súnt'iny), Labrador tea (bedzish yedeyan), trapper's tea, soopallalie (nughwish) and choke cherry (nelguns).

Made in T̓silhqot'in Impact Assessment Framework

Written by Cynthia Fell

At the end of May, I attended the annual conference for the International Association of Impact Assessment with Xeni Gwet'in Councillor James Lulua Jr., and our UBC colleagues from the Centre for Environmental Assessment Research, Kevin Hanna, Lauren Arnold, and Jeff Nishima-Miller. This year's conference topic was Confidence in Impact Assessment: Policies, Partnerships and Public Involvement. Lauren Arnold presented on the issue of social cumulative impacts, its relevance to Indigenous peoples, and the challenges and opportunities for management in the Canadian context. In June, our Nen team joined up with the Governance Sub-table and we were in communities discussing decision-making for major projects, community-level and Nation-level concerns, and water management. We have been gathering feedback on our first draft of the Nation's Impact Assessment Framework. The framework outlines guiding principles for an Impact Assessment (IA) process, characteristics of an IA process including triggering an IA, early review and communication and evaluating impacts, and decision-making criteria. We have set-up a questionnaire on TNGs webpage to gather additional feedback. The "What We Heard" document is now available on the members only webpage. For more information on this project and material from our previous workshops, visit the webpage (www.tsilhqotin.ca/impactassessment). In July our Nen-UBC CEAR team and Blaine Grinder, Governance Committee member from Tl'etinqox, met with our external advisors at the Peter A. Allard School of Law at UBC. The advisors have provided valuable insight and expert knowledge on Impact Assessment. We have been continuing to develop the Nations IA Framework with the direction from the Nation and our advisory committee. In the fall, we will again be seeking feedback from communities. I hope you all have a successful salmon fishing season!

Cynthia Fell
cynthiafell@tsilhqotin.ca

TNG STAFF REPORTS

Wildlife

*Written by Mitch Warne
Wildlife Biologist*



Bear lunging at a
cow moose

The TNG bighorn sheep collaring project was partially funded by the Wild Sheep Society of BC which helped us reach our project deployment goals. This project has had three natural mortalities since the end of March, all of which have been ewes.

One was apparent starvation, one was killed by a cougar and the third may have been a cougar kill since when the crew was trying to find the location they saw a cougar running away nearby but the cliffs were too steep for them to land to find the sheep. We are waiting to see how the rest of the collared rams and ewes behave this fall but so far they have been showing some distinct areas that are their favorites.

The TNG grizzly bear collaring project was initiated last fall along the Chilko River with the grizzly bears collared there showing two distinct foraging behaviours but not a potential third general type. We captured bears that are staying in the alpine/subalpine throughout spring and summer and we captured bears that came down from their dens and spent the majority of spring and summer in the lower elevation with only occasional short-term movements into the alpine areas. The third behavior people have noticed, but we did not capture bears exhibiting that behaviour, are ones that come down into low elevation areas in the spring/early summer and then depart those areas around mid-summer (unclear if they go into the alpine or just less populated low elevation areas). One of the bears that we collared spent his spring and summer in the Toba-Bute Grizzly Bear Population Unit but so far none of the collared bears have either moved back to the Chilko River or have stayed more than a couple of hours. We plan to collar more grizzly bears as part of this project in the Chilko and Tsuniah areas this fall so if you see signs about active trapping please use caution and follow any directions on the signs.

TNG STAFF REPORTS

Wildlife

*Written by Mitch Warne
Wildlife Biologist*



TNG now has the Chilko Grizzly Bear DNA Hair Transect project underway so that we can get population estimates for grizzly bears going again. This is being assisted by Xeni and Tl'esqox's wildlife crew is completing the groundwork going.

cow moose with
bear hiding

TNG is also moving forward with the feral horse, cow moose, bull moose, and elk collaring projects this fall and winter assuming we can get the permits in time this winter. We did not get the permits last winter so those projects were delayed but we are hopeful we can get those going this winter to learn lots and move into habitat and population enhancement focused projects. We also have a crew completing linear features inventory work in the caribou habitat zone so we can prioritize which roads to reclaim and which are already well on their way.

We are also assisting with the Xeni-SpayVac horse vaccination project starting as early as this fall through the winter to test out a contraceptive as a method to reduce the feral horse population growth. Starting next summer we would like any sightings of these horses and the number of foals they have with them observed by community members to be shared with us.

Gracie and the Tl'esqox wildlife crew were busy joining together on a number of wildlife projects with lamb monitoring of the Fraser River bighorn sheep herds being one of the priorities. This herd is known to have been infected by *Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae* (M.Ovi.) which can cause significant or near complete lamb die offs each summer. While this project isn't yet completed this summer there are not too many positive signs.

TNG STAFF REPORTS

Wildlife

Written by Mitch Warne

Wildlife Biologist

The Gang Ranch band is too small to effectively locate (up to three ewes left), the crew could not locate the McEwan band (also up to three ewes remaining), the lamb ratios have been declining in the Junction herd through the summer but worst of all they observed a lamb exhibiting classic signs of M.Ovi. infection which is usually fatal and transferable to the other lambs. This lamb was coughing and walking with a gaping mouth and since then the number of lambs observed has declined significantly. “Wild & Wool” is a really good 23 minute video that described this disease and its impacts on bighorn sheep, which you could watch on YouTube for free.

Lastly we do have a number of trail cameras out. They are marked on the top to identify they are for TNG projects. We do not keep photos of people or vehicles since we want to see what the critters are up to. Gracie has started reviewing some of the cameras and some of the highlights so far are caribou, fishers, a boar grizzly bear following a sow grizzly bear, and a black bear chasing a moose calf.

We are looking forward to a busy fall and winter getting lots of wildlife projects started to provide the Nation with lots of wildlife related information to incorporate into their management.



Wildlife photo by
Lisa Boyd

TNG STAFF REPORTS

Nen Summer Student

Written by Jeremiah Wade



Hi! I'm Jeremiah Wade.

My mother is half Cree, a Métis from the Peace River, in Northern Alberta. I grew up and graduated high school in Williams Lake, and will be heading back to school in Kelowna in September to finish a Human Services Diploma. I have been working with TNG for the summer as a Research Assistant for the Nen Department supporting on development of the Impact Assessment Framework. This summer has been an amazing experience, and I am so thankful I got to be a small part of this organization. Over the summer, I have been transcribing interview that were conducted with community members, leaders, former leaders, and TNG staff who had experience and knowledge in impact assessment and cumulative effects. The Impact Assessment project is foundational for building a new framework that will aid in giving the Nation more control over their territory and give a stronger voice to the T̓silhqot'in Nation. In June, joined the Nen-Governance community engagement sessions in Xení Gwet'in and Tl'etinqox. The team presented, shared, and received information from communities. I also participated and helped out at the Unity Gathering in Anah Lake, and will be helping out and attending the Nation Gathering at Siwash as well.

Thanks everyone for having me on this summer! I am truly grateful.

TNG STAFF REPORTS

Housing and Infrastructure

Written by Shawn Wiebe

It is hard to believe that we are already nearing the end of August! But it is great to hear that the salmon are running in decent numbers and so many deny out dip netting. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Dan Green to the TNG family. Dan has been hired as the Housing & Infrastructure Manager.



Dan's addition to the team will allow me to take on the new Director of Housing & Infrastructure role where I can focus on the bigger vision for Housing & Infrastructure which will include the gathering of information and working with each of the T̓silhqot'in Communities to develop the next funding request from Canada for Housing & Infrastructure. As the Chiefs have also suggested to build off of the success of our previous tripartite agreements and looking at the opportunities to develop a tripartite agreement around Housing & Infrastructure and continue to develop opportunities that stem from Housing & Infrastructure. Dan will be able to focus on providing more consistent and ongoing support for Housing teams and project in communities.

Most of this year has been spent providing assistance/guidance for the construction projects happening in communities and the Carpentry Foundation Training and graduation which Angela has provided a great write up about. In July the last 4 of the 6 CMHC Rapid Houses were delivered into Xeni Gwet'in which was a very long day as they have to travel through Farwell Canyon due to the Hanseville being too narrow. Despite being busy supporting the delivery, I was able to get some drone footage of the delivery which has been posted on the TNG Facebook page so if you haven't see it yet it may be worth a look.

I spent a week in Prince George taking Energy Advisor training as the next step in becoming a Natural Resources Canada certified Energy Advisor which will allow me to do the energy assessments on the new homes that



Housing & Infrastructure continued...

are built in community as is required by the Building Code starting at the end of this year. This will ensure that homes in our communities meet the energy efficiency rating on the Energy Step Code which will mean less cost to the occupant to heat and or cool the home. A little more studying and I just have to write the Energy Advisor Exam.

In early July, I was in Vancouver with the rest of the Collaborative Emergency Management (CEMA) team to support the Chiefs in the signing of the new agreement. The event was well attended by TNG as well as our partners at BC and Canada. The Chiefs and Ministers engages in a lunch meeting followed by a press conference and mood was positive during both events.

"In July the last 4 of the 6 CMHC Rapid Houses were delivered into Xenigwet'in"

TNG STAFF REPORTS

Housing & Infrastructure

Written by Sherry Wiebe

The construction department continued to be busy this spring with construction work and renovations. The five RRAP renovations at Tl'etinqox have now been completed. Roofing projects at Tl'etinqox really slowed down with such a wet spring and summer but are getting back into gear now.



The 6 Xeni Gwet'in Rapid Housing Initiative ("RHI") Ready to Move houses have all been delivered to the community. Our crews have been out at Xeni since weather permitted in May, putting in the final footings and foundations, backfilling, installing super insulated concreteless basement floors, drywalling the basements, building decks, and building stairs into the basements (stair treads and landings were provided by Yunesit'in Leading Edge mill). There have been many challenges with such a remote project and work on these houses has taken longer than anticipated, but rather than bringing in outside help we are proud to have employed almost exclusively Tsilhqot'in Nation members on this project. There has been much learning and growth by our community construction team members and there is a huge amount of pride within them for the work that they have done. With road restrictions limiting their schedule, our crews worked very hard to meet the delivery date for the final four houses. We know that the community of Xeni Gwet'in and the members that will live in these houses for decades to come will greatly appreciate the amazing work and effort that our crews have put forward.

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A huge sechanalyagh to the following regarding the XG RHI project:

- Xení Gwet'in Enterprise for putting in the lagoon systems and fencing for the RHI houses.
- Calvin Lulua - his help with his skid steer to do site work this spring/summer and to put the material into the basements and pack it was amazing!
- T̄silhqot'in Rangers (Corbett, Jason, Jimmy and Shawn) - on the day in July that we moved the four houses from Williams Lake to Xení Gwet'in, they helped us control traffic and adjust bridges etc. so that we could move the houses though to where they needed to be.

We are currently putting together pricing and our schedules for work this fall and winter which includes crawl space and full basement foundations for 5 more Ready to Move houses that are being delivered this fall to the T̄silhqot'in Nation (into Yunesit'in (2), ?Esdilagh, Tl'etincox and Tsideldel), lifting a house at Tsideldel and replacing a failing foundation, window replacements, kitchen and bathroom renovations and exterior cladding work etc.

This summer Leo Quilt started working with us as an apprentice carpenter as well. A big welcome to Leo!

Congratulations to the graduates of the second Carpentry Foundation program held by TNG. We are currently interviewing all of the graduates and have already put Tramayne Harry and Norman Stump to work at Xení for the past few weeks. They are doing great! As we are able to add more Construction Foremen to our team, we look forward to being able to employ more and more community members so that they can continue with their apprenticeships and one day become Red Seals and run crews for us!

TNG STAFF REPORTS

If you or someone you know is interested in working with the TNG construction management department to create and improve housing in the Tsilhqot'in communities, please send a resume to Brittany at bspooner@tsilhqotin.ca. We are looking for Construction Foremen and Forewomen, Carpenters, as well as General Labourers that are interested in learning on the job.

It has been an absolute honour to work with TNG and the 6 Tsilhqot'in communities over the past two years to implement the vision of the Chiefs to have a Construction department/company at the Nation level. There have been lots of challenges and so many rewards. I am retiring shortly and am please to announce that Jeff Brown will be taking on the role of Construction General Manager. Jeff's bio is included in this newsletter so that you can learn a bit about him. I will ensure that all projects are handed off in a manner that will allow them to continue moving forward in a good way.



Replacing Sherry
Wiebe as the
Construction Manager

*Jeff
Brown*

Jeff Brown began his tenure as the new Construction General Manager with TNG on July 25th.

He was raised in the Lower Mainland in BC and has a passion for baseball and soccer and continues coaching when available. He graduated from University in Business but preferred working in the Construction Industry and began his career as a framer in residential home construction. Successfully running his own company.

TNG STAFF REPORTS

Progressing his trade, he achieved journeyman status with the Carpentry Union, he then obtained his carpentry qualification. Working in high-rise construction and commercial buildings his experience and knowledge building construction grew

Jeff then began working in Advanced Education he supported a Trades and Technologies Division of KPU.

His responsibilities included: shop support, purchasing and substitute instructing in Carpentry and was one of the first Carpentry instructors to teach at the Squamish Trades Centre. The program accepted apprentices from Squamish, Tsawwassen, Kwantlen and the Chilliwack communities.



Housing &
Construction Manager

*Dan
Green*

My name is Dan Green. I am honored and humbled to have been selected as TNG's new Housing & Infrastructure Manager. My first day started with TNG was August 15, 2022. I will be working under the direction of Shawn Wiebe (TNG Director of Housing & Infrastructure).

I have a strong background in Construction Management. Managing projects in a safe and timely manner is what guides me through the construction process. From Cost Controlling, Project Planning to Quality Control. I know the complexity of the project processes and all that's included to handover the final product to the client.

I was born and raised in the North Peace area of BC. Currently my family lives in Kelowna BC. I am a Full Status Cree Indian. My band (Duncan's) is in Northwestern Alberta. I am familiar with the Chilcotin area. My Grandparents used to live in Williams Lake and 100 Mile House area. I have family (cousins) residing in the Riske Creek area. I have always loved being in the Williams Lake area.

A special sechanalyagh to T̄silhqot'in hip-hop recording artists Rich n Beka who performed live in the high heat of the day following the graduation ceremony. The set was fantastic and fun! A huge sechanalyagh to everyone who helped make this event so successful, including special guests, speakers, partnerships, the TNG staff, many volunteers, and the local businesses that donated items like bags of ice from South Broadway Liquor Store, tent window panels from Arcada Rentals and portables from Norwest Vac Environmental. You sincerely all made it possible to celebrate and honour the carpentry graduates!

Graduates will be interviewing with the TNG Construction Company and other community construction companies looking to apprentice under a Red Seal Journey person.

Upcoming Training

Level **2** Carpentry Training
OCTOBER 2022

Level **1** Carpentry Training
EARLY 2023

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact your community education coordinator and/or the TNG Housing and Infrastructure Training Coordinator at:

250-267-8164 1729 South Lakeside Drive
Williams Lake, BC V2G 3A9

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Housing & Infrastructure Training Coordinator

Angela Duren

At TNG, we want to continue to create training that directly connects to employment opportunities in housing and infrastructure. It is the T̄silhqot'in Housing, Infrastructure and Training department's primary objective to help support, empower, and assist in overcoming barriers and develop construction trades training opportunities for local indigenous peoples. As the need for tradespeople in the T̄silhqot'in territory is ever increasing, we bring exciting news that more carpentry training opportunities are again coming to the Nation. A Carpentry Level 2- late fall of 2022 and Carpentry Level 1 - early 2023. If you or someone you know are interested in carpentry training, don't hesitate to contact your community education coordinator or the TNG Training Coordinator at 778-799-2145.



AI attended TNG's staff update on May 16th and the off-reserve Community Engagement at TNG South Lakeside office on June 7th both were done a café style which was very cool. We had a couple games at our table for both events, one was a "tower building" competition and the other was "guess how many". The building supplies for the tower were large & small marshmallows, balloons & raw spaghetti, the goal was to build the highest tower in the time given. The guessing game was to come the closest to the number of screws in a jar. At the Community Engagement the winner of the tower building was Nathalie Lulua with a height of 18" and won a laser distance measurer and Waylon Lulua won the guessing game and was only one off and won a Training hoodie & cap. The carpentry graduation planning kept me busy and I'm thankful of the awesome planning committee we had. The day of the graduation was extremely hot, but everyone pushed through the heat and the grad was a success. I planned an appreciation lunch a few days later because the Housing & Infrastructure department wanted to show their appreciation to the planning committee and everyone who made the day special for the graduates.

With events back in full swing I have been able to attend some barrel racing events again and am really looking forward to seeing everyone out at the Nation Gathering.

Have a great summer and stay safe!

Bridget Rosette
Administration Assistant

Housing & Infrastructure

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Governance

Written by Shawnee Palmantier

Hunilht'ah deni gats'in.

Yedanx Ts'eman Za. I hope everyone is able to do their fishing and to enjoy their time at the river.



The Governance Team has been able to get out into our communities to discuss and get feedback and recommendations on some of our work over the past couple months. We teamed up with Cynthia Fell from the Nen Sub-table in June and were able to get out to five of the communities. The topics the Governance Sub-table discussed were the Water Law, Unity Chief and Decision-making for the T̓silhqot'in Constitution. It was awesome to get out to see everyone, share laughter, get caught up and do work at the same time.

We followed up the June sessions with T̓silhqot'in Chejaghetadelh (Unity Gathering) on July 26 & 27th at Benchuny (Anah Lake). At this gathering we were able to provide a report out on what we have been working on at the Governance Sub-table. We had four main topics over the two days that were important for us to discuss with everyone. They are as follows:

T̓silhqot'in Nation Water Law

Over the years, we have been told we need a Water Law. Often the Nation, communities and individuals experience conflict with third parties who wish to do activities in our territory. We hope that by writing the law as best we can, it will assist in educating other governments, developers and industry and non-T̓silhqot'in. We also want to write it down for our future generations. One of the questions we ask is what stories teach us about the water, our relationship with water and how water is used so we can include pieces of those stories in the law. At T̓silhqot'in Chejaghetadelh, we were told about some of the stories that could assist us. We also want to clearly put our values about water into the law.

TNG STAFF REPORTS

Governance

Written by Shawnee Palmantier

T̓silhqot̓in Nidlin (Child and Family jurisdiction)

Elders Angelina Stump and Joan Palmantier Gentles are helping our team by meeting with communities and individuals to share information about this project and to gather feedback and recommendations moving forward. We know we have always had laws about taking care of each other, especially children.

Joan and Angie led a session at T̓silhqot̓in Chejaghetadelh where participants were asked about T̓silhqot̓in teachings, protocols and stories around of children. Participants were also asked about what a healthy T̓silhqot̓in family looks like. We understand that there are also materials completed that our people have worked on. These materials will also assist the team with valuable information for teaching and law drafting.

Unity Chief

At T̓silhqot̓in Chejaghetadelh we asked participants about having a Unity Chief as part of T̓silhqot̓in governance. Some of you will remember this discussion from a few years ago. We asked what people thought about the proposed roles and responsibilities of this individual(s) if the position came to be. We also asked about an appropriate selection process, term, who they are responsible to amongst other things. We received great feedback as well as questions and some scenarios for us to think about.

Dechen Ts'edilhtan (T̓silhqot̓in Constitution)

One of the pieces of the Constitution we are working on is decision-making.



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We want to follow and keep government decision making processes that are used now but clarify how we can continue to work together as we move forward. Questions we asked participants at T̄silhqot̄'in Chejaghetadelh included clarifying which government (Community or National) is responsible for which area and when.



We also asked which areas make sense that may hybrid or shared between the governments. We want this to be truly T̄silhqot̄'in and not something imposed on us (ie. The Indian Act). We hope that this piece of the work will help clarify decision and lawmaking for us, future generations and for our nenqay.

As the Governance Team continues to work on these different projects, we continue to seek feedback from communities and individuals. If you cannot attend a meeting or would like to speak with us one on one, please feel free to do so.

I am also grateful I was able to spend some time at the Wellness and Culture Camps this summer and the rivers. It's always good to be on the land.

Sechanalhyagh,
Shawnee Palmantier
Governance Sub-table Manager

Email: SPalmantier@tsilhqotin.ca
Ph: 778-799-2145

TNG STAFF REPORTS

T̓ilhqot'in Nidlin Project

Written by TanisLeigh Evans

The T̓ilhqot'in Nidlin Project are excited to share about the work they have been doing. The T̓ilhqot'in Nidlin team sent a large delegate to Cowessess First Nation's gathering on Child and Family. Cowessess First Nation has been a leader in reclaiming their child and family jurisdiction. Miyo Pimatisowin Act, has been a law since April 1, 2021.



This law enables them to exercise their jurisdiction in relation to child and family services and gives them the ability to decide what is best for their children, families and community. They are actively implementing their new laws. They have a very different approach with the Chief Red Bear Lodge and Eagle Women's Tribunal. These are different and new approaches to helping support their children and families. The T̓ilhqot'in delegation travelled to Saskatchewan and participated in an intense two-day conference. The Team learned a lot and came back with much greater knowledge.

The T̓ilhqot'in Nidlin Team also participated in a ceremony at Nagwentled. This ceremony was intended to support the team in a holistic way that integrates culture into our work. It is important we always have these teachings and are incorporating culture as a critical component of building legislation that is truly T̓ilhqot'in.

The T̓ilhqot'in Nidlin Team have been actively pursuing engagement. We are also hiring to ensure greater community engagement and participation. Our team members, Angelina Stump and Joan Gentles have been meeting with community members in hopes people may share their direction on how to move forward. Our Team also presented at the Unity Gathering and were able to get some important and valuable direction. Thank you to everyone who participated and shared!

TNG STAFF REPORTS

Health Update

*Written by Connie Jasper
Health Director*

For the past three months we have been able to focus more on planning and moving forward. In June I attended a two day planning session with the Partnership Accord Leadership Table between Interior Health and FNHA.



We were able to reconfirm the commitment to work together and how all the tables will feed information in. The next PALT meeting will be held in Xeni on September 14th. This will be the first time these meetings have been held outside of Kelowna or Kamloops. Excited to showcase our area.

Mental Health has been a topic of discussion at many meetings so we are bringing our Mental Health meetings on a Road show to get community feedback. We will start with the two communities of T̓sideldel and Yunesit'in and those meeting are set for Sept 13th and 14th. This will allow us to gather information on the gaps in Mental Health. We will continue to schedule the other communities when we have availability from Interior Health and FNHA

Wellness Centre in Williams Lake as started to hire staff. We are currently interviewing nurses. Staff will be starting work on September 26th with a soft opening planned for Oct 11, 2022. I will keep you updated on the opening and the hiring process.

BC Ambulance will be offering training for First Responders and Paramedics. We have put together an interest list and BC Ambulance will meet with all of the interested trainees in September

TNG STAFF REPORTS



A highlight for me this summer was being invited to the Homathko Camp to treat the hikers that hiked from Chilko Lake to the Bute Inlet. I was able to fly by helicopter with Elders from Xenj and spend three days there preparing for the hikers to arrive and welcoming when they arrived. What an amazing experience that was and I had a lot of fun spending time with the Elders.

We recently completed a Traditional Wellness Framework that can be found on the Website at tsilhqotin.ca/health.

As we move into fall we will do some other planning events with our staff and contractors.

Wishing everyone a great rest of your summer and I will see everyone at the Nation Gathering.

TNG STAFF REPORTS

Mental Health Update

*Written by Ellen Smith
Team Lead*



Summer 2022 was a lot different than Summer 2021! Community gatherings, in-person meetings and finally being able to enjoy meals together! Those are the things that keep us strong and it was really evident last year that the communities and our mental health team were missing out on that important time together. At the same time, many community members are enjoying the hybrid model of counselling where some days they can enjoy counselling through zoom or their cell phone.

We were able to successfully hire Ciaran McDonagh and Giselle Duquette from Vernon BC. They are in ʔEsdilagh, Xeni and T̓sideldel, respectively. As of now, all communities have some counselling coverage. There is always room for more support but happy to report that we are now able to provide mental health supports to all communities and we will continue to build on this.

We are looking forward to having Mental Health Planning meetings in Yune̓it'in and T̓sideldel in September, where we provide a forum for community partners to share their services. Most importantly this is a great opportunity for communities to offer feedback and generate discussion around gaps in services and what they would like to see in the future.

With a full team, we can address the mental health needs of the Nation in a more collaborative way and the TNG Mental Health Team is in a much better position to provide the services that are so readily needed.

TNG STAFF REPORTS

Mental Health Update

Written by Ciarán Mac Dhonnchadha
New Counsellor!



A hundred thousand welcomes
(Céad míle fáilte)

My name is Ciarán (little dark-haired one)"(pronounced Kieran), Mac Dhonnchadha (son of Donagh) Mc Donagh and I am a new father to Oscar. I grew up in Tallaght, Dublin, Ireland. I am well-travelled and experienced Canada for the first time in 2001. I spent a year in Toronto Canada where I gained work experience in supporting persons living on the street. Back in Ireland I graduated with a Master in Psychotherapy. I have spent the past 18 years in a wide variety of counselling settings and working in drug treatment. I immigrated to Vernon BC Canada in 2018 from Dublin, Ireland. I gained some very valuable skills and experiences working on reserve in the Okanagan for 2 years. I approach counselling in a way that involves community and family systems. Although I currently live in Lumby BC, I am working in community. I'm a registered clinical counsellor through FNHA. It is a great pleasure and honour to connect with you. I will be in the community ever two weeks for two days (Tuesday and Wednesday) at ?Esdilagh Health Center and two days per month (Mondys) at Xení Gwet'in . I offer in person support or tele-health (video or phone) counselling for community members in living in the community and/or living away.

My hobbies are anything to do with being on the land and on the water. I love to fish, hunt and scuba dive. My more recently learned how to trap and tan hides.

Please contact the your band office for more information so we can connect.

TNG STAFF REPORTS

Mental Health Update

Written by Giselle Duquette
New Counsellor!



Hello to everyone! I am currently living in Vernon, BC. Williams lake is my hometown and I'm looking forward to returning to the area to be closer to my parents. I'm of Metis and French-Canadian ancestry. I have a Master's degree in Clinical Social Work and I have been a Social Worker for over 20 years. Over the years, I have worked with children, youth, as well as adults in various professional roles and responsibilities. I have experience in providing: Self-Regulation Therapy (SRT); Aboriginal Focused Orientated therapy; Counselling; employment counselling; and case management for people with disabilities. I have also travelled widely, including a two-year adventure to the Middle East as a high school counsellor.

I will be in Tsideldel the first week of every month to work with children, youth, and adults and I'm available by zoom on other days through out the month.

I can help with a wide variety of concerns and symptoms including: concussions, Sleep/Insomnia, Anger Management, Tinnitus (ringing in the ears), Hyperacusis (sensitivity to sound) Photophobia (sensitivity to light), chronic pain, car accidents, falls, difficulty concentrating, relationships issues, grief and loss, stress, anxiety, depression and more. Please don't hesitate to book an appointment even to just say hi!

TNG STAFF REPORTS

Health Programs Coordinator

Written by Lorna Elkins

Hello everyone,

Hope you are all enjoying the beautiful weather that we are having!

I attended the Grand Opening for Nemiah Valley Lodge, the weather was great and the cooks did an amazing job with breakfast and lunch. We also toured the lodge and cabins that were renovated, awesome job to the carpenters. Such a beautiful place, nice and peaceful.

I spent the day at Fletcher Lake with Yunešit'in community and witness the naming ceremony that was held in the afternoon. It was awesome to see everyone enjoying themselves, the kids swimming and the youths out on the lake with canoe and kayaks. Listening to everyone laugh and having fun was great to see.

My co-worker and I attended Tl'etinqox culture camp for Health Day. We set up a table and we brought information on Mental Health, nutrition and Heart & Stroke. Brittany did blood pressure with anyone that wanted theirs done. We had a lot of people stop at our table, asked questions, got their blood pressure taken and took some pamphlets. It was a good day spent with community members.

It was awesome to attend community gatherings and seeing everyone enjoying themselves was the best medicine you can ask for. I enjoy spending time with elders and listen to their stories. After being on lock down (seems like it) for two and half years because of Covid, I'm glad communities are having their culture camps. I've enjoyed the ones that I've attended to and will definitely enjoy the ones to come.

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Lorna Elkins
Health Programs Coordinator



fun summer photos



TNG STAFF REPORTS

Registered Nurse

Written by Brittany Handel

We kicked off Spring time by celebrating Nurses week in the beginning of May. Like many others, we recognize that community health clinics are short staffed and are working their best with the resources that they have available to them. I want to raise my hands to the great work that is being done by the nurses and other health staff in order to provide services that are very needed by community members. We are always hopeful that this will improve in the future and are constantly working hard in the background to be able to provide extra supports to achieve this. One big update is that all 6 communities now have telehealth equipment installed and health staff have received their training. This means that community members have better access to supports available through virtual health options and can save them on time and travel where possible. We are excited to be able to see this service up and running- so be sure to ask your health care team if this is an option for you.

Summer has been busy for our team, as we have all been to varying community events and workshops. For myself, some of these have included women's health clinics that offered cancer screening, facilitating Not Just Naloxone Training in response to the ongoing opioid crisis, attending community culture camps and participating in healing ceremonies. I am continuing training to be a part of EOC from a health lens to help better support community and the health centers in case of emergency. As well, I am continuing training with Interior Health in supporting InterRAI assessments- which we are eager to be able to bring to community's this fall season. This assessment is a helpful tool in supporting homecare program workers by creating personalized plans of care to better support our elders in community.

TNG STAFF REPORTS

Education Manager, ECE & K-12 Programs

Written by Lisa Boyd

Current events in education; celebrating First Nations control of First Nations education and that BC Ministry of Education is implementing an Indigenous-focused graduation requirement.

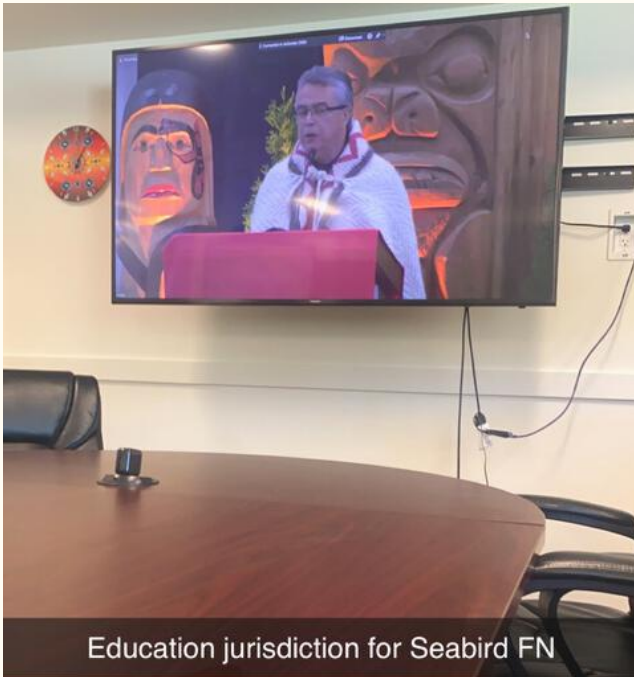


Education Jurisdiction

On July 11, 2022 Seabird Island and three other First Nations (Cowichan Tribes, Lil'wat Nation, and ʔaq'am) were recognized and celebrated for concluding self-government agreements regarding education on their lands. Through their signed education jurisdiction agreements with Canada, the four First Nations now have recognized law-making authority over their Kindergarten-Grade 12 education systems, including authority over teacher certification, school certification, graduation requirements, curriculum, and course approvals.

Indigenous Focused Graduation Requirement

The BC Ministry of Education is implementing an Indigenous-focused graduation requirement for all secondary students beginning in the 2023/2024 school year. This new requirement represents an important step towards reconciliation and will support BC students to graduate with a deeper understanding and knowledge of the experiences, cultures, histories, and perspectives of indigenous peoples



Education jurisdiction for Seabird FN



Education continued...

Community/school visits:

Yunesit'in School grade 5-8 class toured TNG departments that are related to sciences and technology. The departments that presented to the Grade 5-8 class were GIS Department, Fisheries Department, Economics: Clean Energy, Nen Department on Climate Change Project and Radio department. The students enjoyed the presentations particularly the hands-on activities. They ended their tour with a Boston Pizza lunch and tour of Lake City Secondary- Columneetza.

We hosted the Xeni Gwet'in Daycare and parents for a pizza dinner at Kiwanis park and play time for the children before they were off to the Circus.

Education department presented for the TNG Community Engagements for July and August to Tsideldel, Tlet'incox, Yunesit'in, Tl'esqox, and Xeni Gwet'in. Our presentation was world café style where members would go to table to table to ask questions about education and what we do for the nation. I plan to visit at community events and more welcome to share with you our nation education goals.

"This was a great educational tour as it gives the on reserve members an understanding of what TNG does for the nation and how they can access resources through their educational journey."

TNG STAFF REPORTS

Education!

Written by Randy Radney

K'andzin ?eguh gunižil gwežlin!
Ganexwenilhan jigwedil?anx. That is our latest focus—no matter what we are doing, we want to learn together with others all the time.

Language Programs

There are two important programs beginning this fall, both sponsored and supported by the First Peoples Cultural Council (FPCC).

The first of these programs involves adult language courses offered to twenty people who understand some T̄silhqot'in but don't speak it. The classes meet together each week, and students meet individually with a mentor in between class sessions. Both students and mentors are offered small honouraria for their attendance and participation in the program. We plan to have one class offered for residents of T̄sideldel and Tl'etinqox on week nights and a second class offered for residents of town and other communities on Saturday mornings at the TNG education office (1729 S. Lakeside Drive).

The second program offered by FPCC offers training and support to set up and run a language nest immersion program at a community daycare. T̄sideldel submitted an application to the program that was accepted, so TNG will be working with the ECE staff in T̄sideldel to begin an immersion program of daycare activities in the coming year. Training for the staff begins in mid-September.

Technology

Installations are underway that provide Internet access for Tl'esqox homes. Residents in and around Tl'esqox who were not able to access the Internet affordably will be able to see whether this new system will work better for them. The pilot program, funded by a CIRA grant, is planned to continue for the remainder of 2022. Sometime in the fall, a decision will be made whether and how to best offer ongoing service.

Nanexwenuw̄es?in!



TNG STAFF REPORTS

GIS (Mapping) Update

Written by Sarah Gash

Adam, Mark and I continue to complete all and any mapping requests that come our way while still managing to find time for the work that goes on in the background. Regarding mapping requests and data management, TNG GIS supports most departments. Here are a few projects we have recently been involved with:



Wildlife

GIS has supported Mitch, Gracie and the team of community wildlife crews with survey design for collecting important wildlife research including collaring, hair sampling, and linear features. This data will be used for assessing population status, provide mapping of habitat and will hopefully inform decision making around hunting, predator control, and habitat stewardship. We have been providing map location for mortality events in the collaring program so that field crews can retrieve collars. This process has been automated by Adam to allow for quick and accurate map and gps creation so crews can be deployed in a timely manner. Also of note is support GIS has provided for the wildhorse study conducted back in February as it is now reporting time.

Housing

Draft updated maps of house locations and addresses is still in the works, however house locations/addresses for 2 communities has been sent to CRD for verification and updates. Once this is completed maps will be next on the list. Still filling in gaps but data collection is mostly complete.



GIS (Mapping) Update



Nen

GIS has provided support for the Nen team. A large series of maps has been created by Mark and sent to Beringia to include with their community profile report. Included in this is an updated placenames/territory map with symbology for important land and water features highlighted. Sarah introduced the TNG Portal at the last Nen Retreat held at the South Thompson Inn in Kamloops in June.

Rangers – GIS continues to support the compliance and enforcement team with survey creation and administration as well as map composition. Of note and newly created surveys include a mining inspection form to be used when doing mine site inspections for compliance, as well as invasive plant information form for collecting roadside data on invasive plant infestations. Updates to the resource road report form have also been completed. We have also completed maps identifying any lakes and creeks of a certain size or length that may be monitored by the C&E team.

Forestry – The GIS team attended the Forestry Strategy session hosted at South Lakeside in June and then Sarah attended the followup session a few weeks later to discuss and plan for Nation/Community forestry planning. Sarah has also provided input to Jeremy Boyd regarding data support for the Tiimber Supply Review (TSR) for the region. Presumably there will be some analysis and mapping requests to follow.

Emergency Management

The whole GIS team attended two sessions of EOC training in preparation for being part of the Emergency Operations Planning section in case TNG needs to activate. Adam has fully automated the wildfire mapping process so maps are scheduled to be created several times a day to include up to date fire detection data, fire perimeter shapes and new fire locations. So no need for requesting this information! Added to the process is the production of analysis and map production for wildfires that occur near Tsiilhqot'in communities or IRs. These are finer scale maps specifically for emergency management purposes that are generated any time a wildfire is within 20 km of any of the communities.

TNG STAFF REPORTS

GIS (Mapping) Update



Governance

The whole GIS team attended the governance unity gathering at Anah Lake in late July. It was a good opportunity to connect and visit with community and better understand the connections between governance and the operational work Stewardship does.

Recently we have initiated piloting a file sharing system called NextCloud. This online software will help the Nen team collaborate and share information with each other and others working with them to forward nen planning. NextCloud will eventually be rolled out for use by the broader TNG staff. You may already have seen it if you are registered as a TNG Citizen for the Members Only page. In anticipation of greater use and a need for larger capacity, we have, at the same time, contracted our Portal developer to purchase and install new enhanced hardware to accommodate NextCloud and the ever-growing Portal database. Because it is important to the Nation to control and protect its data for the Nation and its communities, both these systems adhere to data sovereignty rules and the data lives on a server in our offices, and accessed via the internet. This is a strong way for TNG to assert its place in the digital world.

Bravo to our whole team for the continued hard work and commitment to TNG mapping!

Sechanalyagh,
Sarah, Mark and Adam





T̂SILHQOT'IN NATION LABOUR MARKET STUDY



WHAT WE ARE STUDYING

- ✓ Community Members Education and Employment Status
- ✓ Economic Development Initiatives and Needs
- ✓ Anticipated Jobs in the Future
- ✓ Employment Barriers
- ✓ Supports Necessary to Achieve Education and Career Goals.



WHY YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE

- ✓ Information collected will help determine future needs and trends in the economy;
- ✓ Identify gaps to assist in developing programs that meet our needs.

HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

- ✓ Surveyors will be contacting communities and members between September and March 31st
- ✓ Community Meetings
- ✓ One-on-One appointments by phone or in person

WE VALUE YOUR ASSISTANCE IN THIS PROJECT AND THE CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO A BRIGHTER ECONOMIC FUTURE FOR THE T̂SILHQOT'IN NATION.



Tsilhqot'in National Government (2022)



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