



Tsilhqot'in Nidlin

Community Newsletter Vol. 07

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*For those not
yet born...*



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“What would your ancestors do, that's where the answers are.”

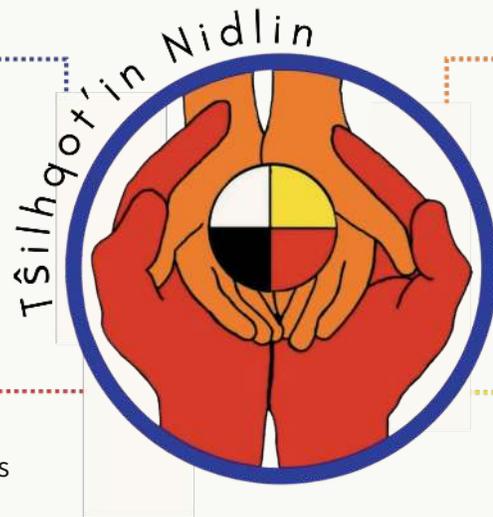
Role of T̂silhqot'in Nidlin

Breathe Life

into T̂silhqot'in ?Esqax Sutsel Jeniyax (T̂silhqot'in Law for Children & Families)

Guide

family services through Nation-wide standards, policies, indicators, and goals



Support

communities to build and train their teams, expand resources, plan services, and share successes

Collaborate

with communities and Denisiqi to ensure high-quality T̂silhqot'in services are provided through contracts

T̂silhqot'in Nidlin translates to “We are T̂silhqot'in” and is the name given to the new organization that will look after and assist with implementing our child and family Jurisdiction.



*‘We need to share responsibilities
back and forth’*

The big puzzle of T̂silhqot'in Nidlin

As of April 1st 2025, the T̂silhqot'in Nation has reclaimed partial Jurisdiction of our children and families. Jurisdiction means our own people are taking care of our own families. We are phasing in Jurisdiction gradually to allow us to build skills and confidence while ensuring there are no gaps in services for our ʔEsqax (children). For now, our authority is focused on providing prevention services under T̂silhqot'in law.

Each community is continuing to provide these services, and creating new ways to support you, your children and family. These programs are already happening in your community and look like family support workers, culture camps, family circles, traditional teachings, youth programs, and much more.

To support communities with this work, a new organization named 'T̂silhqot'in Nidlin' is being established. The role of T̂silhqot'in Nidlin is to guide implementation of our Jurisdiction according to *T̂silhqot'in ʔEsqax Sutsel Jeniyax* – our law for children and families.

This newsletter is an update on the various puzzle pieces that the team is currently working on to get the T̂silhqot'in Nidlin organization up and running, including developing T̂silhqot'in-led policy, strategy, and governance, and hiring new positions to pull it all together. So without further ado, let's introduce the new Executive Director of Nidlin, Chylane Diablo.



T̂silhqot̂in Nidlin



Chylane Diablo

I am honoured

My name is Chylane Diablo, and I am honoured to join T̂silhqot̂in Nidlin as the Nexwech'ed YetiẑIn (Executive Director). I am T̂silhqot̂in from Tl'esqox and Secwépemc from Xatŝúll First Nation, and I am grateful to carry both Nations with me in the work I do.

My background has been in Finance, Human Resources, and Nation administration, with much of my work focused on supporting communities and strengthening Nation systems. I have also spent many years working in child and family services, where I learned the importance of walking alongside children, youth, and families in a respectful and culturally grounded way.

In this role, I am guided by our teachings, our connection to the land, and the strength of those

who came before us — reminding me to listen with humility, to walk in a good way, and to carry responsibility for our children, our families, and those yet to come.

As we continue building T̂silhqot̂in Nidlin, our work remains grounded in relationship and community. We are continuing engagement with our communities, and meeting regularly with the Implementation Committee, whose knowledge and dedication have been instrumental in helping us reach where we are today. Together, we are developing a Strategic Plan that will guide Nidlin's priorities over the next five years as we continue to prepare for full jurisdiction.

These priorities include implementing T̂silhqot̂in Law; continuing and expanding community-based prevention services; strengthening training and community capacity; appointing Nidlin Board members and building our team; developing the policies and practice standards needed to carry out the law; and establishing a Tribunal to support its implementation. At the heart of this work is our shared commitment to strengthening supports for our children and families.

It is truly an honour to be part of this journey with you. Thank you for the warm welcome into this role — I look forward to meeting many of you and continuing this work together in support of our children, families, and Nation.

“I am grateful to carry both Nations with me in the work I do.”



Nature is Balance



The **Nature is Balance** artwork created by Micole Myers (Yunešit'in)

T̂silhqot'in ?Esqax Sutsel Jeniyax – “children growing up in a good way”– is the title of our T̂silhqot'in Children and Family Law. This Law is an expression of our inherent right to self-determination. It is focused on prevention and family preservation.

Our law uses T̂silhqot'in words and phrases: ?Esqi for child, ?Aba belh ?Inkwel for mother and father, and ?Etsu for grandmother. It highlights a traditional story at the start of each section, and incorporates T̂silhqot'in protocols and values throughout.

- DECHEN** Trees: Dechen Ts'edilhtan, Our Values
- T̂SILHQOX** River: Sutsel Ghidelh, Quality Improvement Office
- NISTS'I** Deer: Chi'ih Deni Naghitinlh, Programs to promote healthy and capable families and communities
- NUN** Wolf: Nexwelh ?Anant'in, Services for families who need additional support to be healthy and well
- SES** Bear: Nats'eghugheten, Services to look after children and keep them safe
- ŠEN** Stars: Process to reunite children with their family
- LHIZ QWEN YEX** Pithouse: Gubexizintan, Services to take care of children as their guardian



What has been going on?

The Engagement Team has been on the ground sharing traditional activities and teachings such as medicine bag making, online storytelling, drum making, rattle making, beading, medicine sprays and the odd hot chocolate throughout all of the communities, in Williams Lake, Kamloops and even online for all T̓silhqot'in members.

They have been sharing information on the T̓silhqot'in Children and Family Law, what T̓silhqot'in Nidlin is and collecting community feedback.



We would love to hear from you, please email:

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Our Partners



T̂silhqot̂'in Communities

T̂silhqot̂'in communities lead direct service delivery and locally driven programming. Each community has a child and family team built to meet their population's specific needs. Nidlin coordinates with these community teams to support them to deliver services according to T̂silhqot̂'in law.

Denisiqi Services Society



Denisiqi Services Society is an Indigenous Child and Family Services Agency responsible for providing delegated services to five of six T̂silhqot̂'in communities: ʔEsdilagh, Xeni Gwet̂'in, Tsideldel, Yunesit̂'in, Tl'esqox. They also deliver contracted prevention, wellness, and family support services across all communities, based on community direction and agreements.

Denisiqi has been an important partner throughout our journey towards Jurisdiction. Nidlin collaborates closely with Denisiqi as a key service provider. With its own distinct role, Nidlin is not intended to replace or duplicate the culturally-based services that Denisiqi already provides.

T̂silhqot̂'in National Government



The T̂silhqot̂'in National Government (TNG) is the Nation level government for the six T̂silhqot̂'in communities. It leads political, Rights and Title, and intergovernmental initiatives at the Nation level, and supports communities to achieve their vision and goals. TNG may provide technical support to Communities' child and family teams (such as finance and HR), as well as the establishment of Nidlin as a new organization.



Who is Guiding our Path?

Enter the Implementation Committee – The guiding voice for our transition to Jurisdiction.

The Committee is made up of matriarchs, Elders, knowledge keepers, T̓silhqot̓'in language speakers and frontline workers from each community that know and care for our families. Each community has appointed two representatives to the Committee who work alongside representatives from Denisiqi and TNG.

The Committee meets monthly to discuss and give guidance to T̓silhqot̓'in Nidlin on policies, strategies, key objectives and more as the new organization is being established. Recent work has been dedicated to the creation of the Strategic Implementation Plan for T̓silhqot̓'in Nidlin, which will steer the new organization with T̓silhqot̓'in language and values at the forefront.



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