

Lower Nicola Indian Band

December 2024

N?e?iyk Spíłəm

*Wishing you a Merry Christmas with many blessings
to your home fires.*



Have a safe and happy holidays for 2024





LOWER NICOLA INDIAN BAND

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heñe? and members and community members.

I hope all is well with all of you. Another month has passed, and it is hard to believe that we are getting closer and closer to Christmas! Although we have been hit with the winter season, thankfully we haven't been hit very hard with extreme cold temperatures. I hope I didn't jinx all of us by stating that we haven't seen freezing temperatures, but I took a chance, I suppose. November had been a busy month. I sit as Chairperson for our Highland Valley Copper Mine Negotiations Committee. Our committee has been meeting very regularly over the past two or three months to negotiate an IBA (Impacts Benefits Agreement). We have had many meetings at our Band office and the Teck Resources Corporate office in Vancouver to discuss and negotiate an agreement with LNIB. We are nearing the end of this process, and our committee is extremely proud of the hard work and commitment we have endured and undertaken over this period. Chief and Council gave our committee the mandate and direction to pursue a new IBA with Highland Valley Copper and we hope to provide a presentation to the membership in the very near future if LNIB will consent to the Teck / Highland Valley Copper Mine, Mine Life Extension (MLE) proposal.



This IBA is a very significant opportunity for LNIB. Teck / Highland Valley Copper has also been negotiating an IBA with other indigenous entities such as Citxw Nlaka'pamux Assembly (CNA) and Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council (NNTC).

There are other groups Teck/ HVC is working with as well to solidify agreements. I want to thank members of the negotiating committee for their time and their efforts. I want to thank Councilor's Connie Joe and Arthur Dick. I want to thank our Executive Director, Kari Reilander, and our Economic Development Sector Director, Leesa Mike. I also want to thank our legal counsel from Denton's Law Group in Vancouver, BC, Joe Sebestyen. Great work team!

LNIB hosted the annual Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 11th. I want to thank Carol Holmes for initiating this important day and I want to thank Glenn Stirling for MCing the event. It started out as a rather wet and cold ceremony, but it turned out to be a very beautiful day to honor our veterans that had served to protect all of us. It is equally important to mention that we currently have members from LNIB that are serving our country through the Canadian Army. One member that I do know who is serving for Canada is Atorian Shuter. Atorian, who is Olivia Shuter – Mills' son recently received his Badge in Armed Forces! I am so very proud of you Atorian! Keep up the good work and please be safe on your journey.

LNIB lost a band member on November 13, 2024. Nina Mayann Jackson passed away at 7:25pm Wednesday evening of November 13th. Nina is survived by her father, Richard Jackson Jr., her sister Lizette Jackson and her children Silas and Estrella Alvear. Nina is also survived by numerous family members. Nina will be missed by many. Rest easy cousin. LNIB lost another band member on November 24, 2024, when Robert 'Ford' Muir passed away. Ford was a well-known wrench puller for many people in the community. Ford knew his vehicles and he was very handy fixing and mechanizing for those who needed help with their vehicles. Ford will be missed by many. Have a safe journey my friend.



The Chief and Council continue to regularly meet each month. The Chief and Council usually meet the first and third Tuesday of every month. We encourage the membership to participate in our Council meetings. There is an online option to participate, however, we also encourage membership to attend in-person as well. The council usually hosts our community meetings as well. This meeting is usually held on the last Monday of every month. There have been times when this meeting is cancelled or rescheduled due to circumstances that occur in our community. If you have questions or concerns about our community meetings, please don't hesitate to contact me. I would be happy to speak with you.

We are moving into the Christmas season! Please be safe as we get closer and closer to ole St. Nic's big night. Be mindful of the cold temperatures as the winter season progresses. Keep your pets hydrated and warm. Plug your vehicles in so your engines will start. Be sure to clean your chimneys if you're burning firewood, replace your furnace filters as needed. Don't walk with your hands in your pockets if you're walking on icy surfaces. Be sure to dress appropriately for the colder weather. Let's enjoy December by taking care of one another. Much love and respect to all of you, humx'el knee.

kʷukʷscémxʷ

kʷúkʷpiʔ Stu Jackson



"Chief Stuart Jackson and Jody Wilson-Raybould connect at the First Nations Management Board, 'Leading the Way' event in Edmonton, sharing insights and strengthening partnerships for Indigenous communities. A powerful moment of collaboration and leadership."



Dear LNIB Members,
I am pleased to present our monthly report for November 2024. LNIB continued to be busy on several initiatives. Here are some of the things we have been working on:

Human Resources: While visiting or receiving services at other buildings, please feel free to ask the staff member you are visiting to use a mask and to adhere to safety protocols if you are concerned. We are committed to keeping the community and employees safe during this pandemic.

The Lower Nicola Indian Band welcomes the new members to the team Tina Stirling, Home Care Nurse, Melissa Krause, LPN Home Care Nurse, Darcie DeBruyne, Training Coordinator, and Alyssa Ledene, Social Development Manager.

Current job postings with Lower Nicola Indian Band are Receptionist, Policy Analyst, Bus Driver, School Counsellor, Teacher K-7, Youth Program Coordinator, Maintenance Technician, and Early Child Educator Program Coordinator.

For job postings visit <https://www.lnib.net/jobs/> or <https://secure.collage.co/jobs/lnib> for further details.

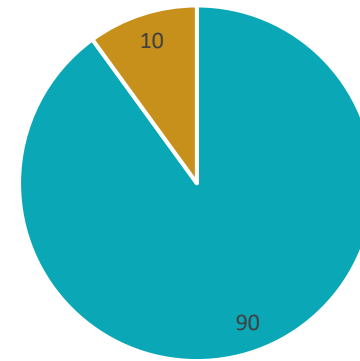
Committees and Liaisons: Chief and Council: The Lands Management Advisory Committee did not meet in November. The Finance and Audit Committee did not meet in November. The Housing Policy Review Committee met November 6 and 19th, 2024.

Community Meetings and Workshops: The next Band General meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2025.

Support to Chief and Council: Chief and Council met November 5th, 12th and 19th. Should you require anything on the Chief and Council agenda scheduled for December please contact Sondra Tom and I. Finally, members remember that the Chief and Council meetings are open to membership to join via online or telephone. Please contact Sondra Tom so you can be added to the email invitation for the scheduled Chief and Council meetings.

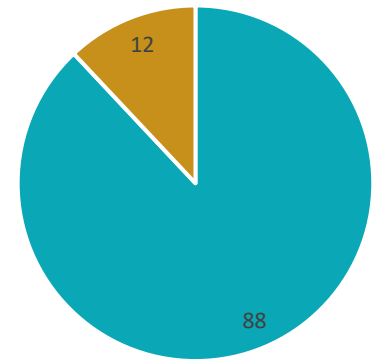
*Kari Reilander,
LNIB Executive Director*

Stuart Jackson



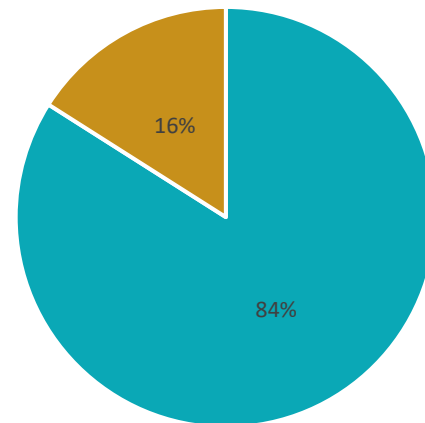
■ Attendance (48 mtgs) ■ Absent (5 mtgs)

Bill Bose



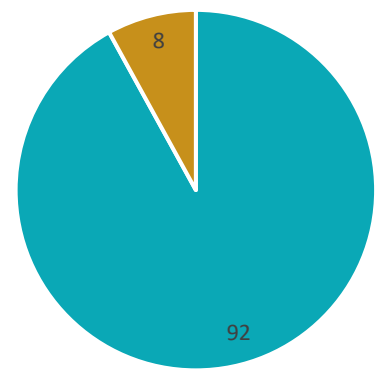
■ Attendance (47 mtg) ■ Absent (6 mtgs)

Arthur Dick



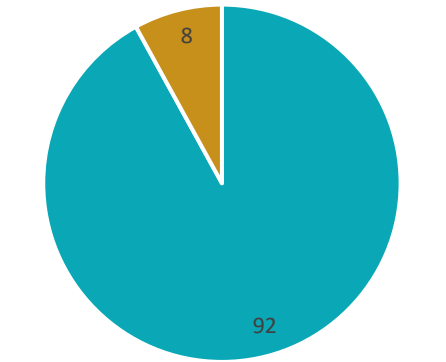
■ Attendance (45 mtgs) ■ Absent (8 mtg)

Robin Humphrey



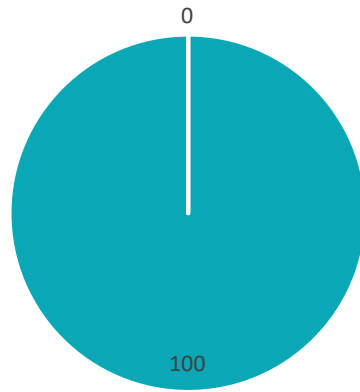
■ Attendance (49 mtgs) ■ Absent (4 mtgs)

Connie Joe



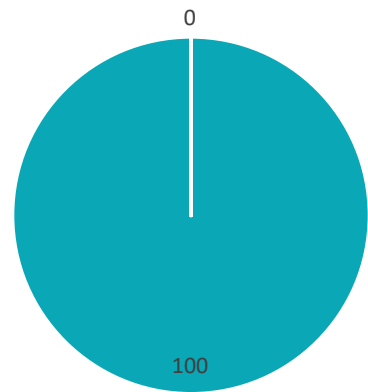
■ Attendance (49 mtgs) ■ Absent (4 mtgs)

Lesley Manuel



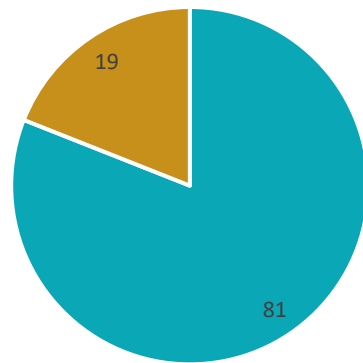
■ Attendance (53 mtgs) ■ Absent (0 mtgs)

William Sandy



■ Attendance (53 mtgs) ■ Absent (0 mtgs)

Lucinda Seward



■ Attendance (43 mtgs) ■ Absent (10 mtgs)

Resolutions from Chief and Council November 5, 2024 meeting

Resolution #11-5-2024-01 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to adopt the November 5, 2024 Chief and Council meeting agenda.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-5-2024-02 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to adopt the October 15, 2024 Chief and Council meeting minutes as presented.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-5-2024-03 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to adopt the October 29, 2024 Chief and Council meeting minutes as presented.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-5-2024-04 Reads:

The Chief and Council of the Lower Nicola Indian Band (“LNIB Chief and Council”) hereby move to appoint technical resource staff Nicholas Peterson as Alex LaForce’s alternate at the NWGP Nicola Water Planning and Nk’e?xép Management Committee (Drought Response) tables.

Motion Carried

Resolution #10-15-2024-05 Reads:

That the Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to

1. approve the amendment of the Letter of Agreement between The Bank of Montreal (BMO) and the Lower Nicola Indian Band regarding on-reserve lending for Lower Nicola Indian Band members for Housing construction, renovation, refinance, or purchase; and
2. authorizes LNIB Chief, and Executive Director to sign the necessary documentation.

Motion Carried

Resolution #10-15-2024-06 Reads:

That the Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to approve the funding application to Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) as follows:

1. the Lower Nicola Indian Band is seeking funding approval from Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) as part of the Housing Support Program for new home construction subsidy for (1) home, being built by an individual member for a total project cost of \$349,500.00;
2. the Lower Nicola Indian Band is requesting \$84,500.00 in ISC funding;
3. the Lower Nicola Indian Band confirms any cost overruns that exceed the approved ISC funding are the responsibility of the Band Member Gail Denise Joe;
4. Lower Nicola Indian Band commits to complete the project by 30/09/2026, and
5. the Lower Nicola Indian Band certifies that all housing units constructed or renovated will be inspected by qualified inspectors who must confirm that all work meets or exceeds the BC Building Code standards and other applicable code standards. Inspections will be performed at all stages of the project pursuant to BC Building Code. The First Nation agrees that all inspections will be kept on file by the First Nation.

Motion Carried

Resolution #10-15-2024-07 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council moves to:

1. approve the request of Member Gail Denise Joe to guarantee payment of her loan in the amount of \$250,000.00 from the Bank of Montreal and authorizes the signing of all documents required to make that loan guarantee; and

- 2. authorizes LNIB Chief, Executive Director and, Director of Finance to sign all necessary documents, including the following:
 - a. Lower Nicola Indian Band Security Agreement;
 - b. Bank of Montreal First Nation Guarantee for Indebtedness of an Individual;
 - c. Lower Nicola Indian Band Transfer of Interest Form.

Motion Carried

Resolution #10-15-2024-08 Reads:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Chief and Council:

- 1. Approves the Shulus Forestry Enterprises LP Card-Lock Lease Modification Agreement, in substantially the form presented with any modifications, amendments or changes thereto that may be approved by the Executive Director in his/her discretion, such approval to be conclusively evidenced by his/her execution thereof; and
- 2. Authorizes the Executive Director, for and on behalf of the Council, to do all such acts and things as may be necessary or desirable to give effect to these resolutions, or in connection with the performance by LNIB of its obligations pursuant to these resolutions or the Shulus Forestry Enterprises LP Card-Lock Lease Modification Agreement.

Motion Carried

Resolution #10-15-2024-09 Reads:

The Chief and Council hereby authorize kwúkʷipi? Stuart Jackson, Councilor William Bose, and Lands Manager Delta Long to sign the Certificate of Possession document for Lot 388 CLSR No. 112277 Nicola Mameet IR No. 1 in the name of Darren Geoffroy Joe.

Motion Tabled

Resolution #10-15-2024-10 Reads:

The Chief and Council hereby authorize kwúkʷipi? Stuart Jackson, Councilor William Bose, and Lands Manager Delta Long to sign the Certificate of Possession document for Lot 245-1 RSBC No. 3762R Nicola Mameet IR No. 1 in the name of Joshua James Dick.

Motion Carried

Resolution #10-15-2024-11 Reads:

The Chief and Council move to approval kwúkʷipi? Stuart Jackson’s travel or his proxy to Vancouver to attend the All Chiefs meeting on Children and Families 2024 from November 18-19, 2024 as Lower Nicola Indian Band Political Representative in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Motion Carried

Resolution #10-15-2024-12 Reads:

The Chief and Council move to approval kwúkʷipi? Stuart Jackson’s travel to Vancouver to attend the First Nations Energy Summit meeting from December 2-3, 2024 as Lower Nicola Indian Band Political Representative in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Motion Carried

Resolution #10-15-2024-13 Reads:

Chief and Council move to accept the Terms of Reference for the Chief and Council Policy Review Committee as required under the Financial Governance Policy and Procedures, Section 5 – Committee Establishment and Dissolution and further appoints Stuart Jackson as the Chair of the committee, as well as Councilor Arthur Dick, Councilor Connie Joe, Councilor Lucinda Seward, Councilor Lesley Manuel and Councilor William Sandy.

Motion Carried

Resolution #10-15-2024-14 Reads:

Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council approves the payment of Dentons Canada LLP invoices 3884760 and 3884763 for the Highland Valley Copper Mine Life Extension, in the amounts \$137,894.40 and \$25,585.88 respectively.

Motion Carried

Resolution #10-15-2024-15 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council hereby approves an expenditure of up to three hundred and ten thousand dollars and zero cents (\$310,000) to provide a one-thousand-dollar (\$1,000) deposit to each household where an Elder resides. This is to assist with heat expenses through the winter months for the year ended March 31, 2025.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-5-2024-16 Reads

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to move to go IN Camera at 8:04 pm. and the meeting be closed to the public to consider matters of that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests if they were held in public.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-5-2024-17 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band (LNIB) Chief and Council move to reconvene the meeting at 9:47 pm.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-5-2024-18 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band (LNIB) Chief and Council authorizes the letter to Hun Kim, Development Director, Recurrent Energy and further authorizes kwúkʷipi? Stuart Jackson to sign the letter.

Motion Carried/Not Carried/ Tabled

Resolution #11-5-2024-19 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to adjourn the November 5, 2024 meeting at 7:04 pm.

Motion Carried

Action Item #1: The Executive Director will look into the firewood invoices mentioned through the Human Services Sector.

Resolutions from Chief and Council November 12, 2024 meeting

Resolution #11-12-2024-01 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to adopt the November 12, 2024 Chief and Council Special meeting agenda.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-12-2024-02 Reads

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to move to go IN Camera at 5:30 pm. and the meeting be closed to the public to consider matters of that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests if they were held in public.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-12-2024-02 Reads

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to move to reconvene at 6:22 pm.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-12-2024-03 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to adjourn the November 12, 2024 meeting at 6:23 pm.

Motion Carried

Resolutions from Chief and Council November 19, 2024 meeting

Resolution #11-19-2024-01 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to adopt the November 19, 2024 Chief and Council meeting agenda.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-19-2024-02 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to adopt the November 5, 2024 Chief and Council meeting minutes with noted changes.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-19-2024-03 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to adopt the November 12, 2024 Chief and Council meeting minutes as presented.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-19-2024-04 Reads:

The Chief and Council of the Lower Nicola Indian Band ("LNIB Chief and Council") hereby move to appoint Councilor Lesley Manuel to the Board of Director of the Nicola Valley Community Justice Services Society and further appoint Councilor William Sandy as LNIB's alternate representative.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-19-2024-05 Reads:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Chief and Council approve the Plan of Survey of Right of Way Over Lot 152 and Nicola Mameet Indian Reserve No. 1 Province of British Columbia that was executed during the period of May 11, 2023, and August 9th, 2024, and digitally signed on October 3, 2024 by Chadwick Johnson, C.L.S., A.L.S., S.L.D. with GeoVerra Inc.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-19-2024-06 Reads:

The Chief and Council of the Lower Nicola Indian Band hereby:

1. Accepts the conclusions of the Legal Review of the Wildfire Salvage Opportunity Agreement conducted by Tyson Lamarsh of Miller Titerle;
2. Authorizes Chief and Council to sign the attached Wildfire Salvage Opportunity Agreement; and
3. Further authorizes the Executive Director, for and on behalf of Council, to do all such acts and things as may be necessary or desirable to give effect to this motion, or in connection with the performance by the Lower Nicola Indian Band of its obligations to this motion or the Wildfire Salvage Opportunity Agreement.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-19-2024-07 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to give direction to both the Executive Director and the Director of Education to begin the renegotiation process by creating a new 5-year Local Education Agreement between LNIB and Nicola Similkameen-School District 58 with a final draft presented to Chief and Council once complete for review where next steps will then be discussed.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-19-2024-08 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to designate Director of Education Shane Coutlee and Education Manager Sharon Parsons to represent Lower Nicola Indian Band on the Indigenous Education Council at Nicola-Similkameen School District and to act accordingly as per the Ministerial Order 217/24 (M217/24) of the Minister of Education and Child Care.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-19-2024-09 Reads:

Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to approve a one-time payment in the amount of \$500.00 to LNIB band members eighteen years of age and over on and off reserve as of December 31, 2024 for the 2024 Christmas assistance.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-19-2024-10 Reads:

The Chief and Council move to approval Councilor William Sandy travel to Penticton, British Columbia to attend the First Nations Health Authority Interior Region 2024 Fall Caucus Session from November 19-21, 2024 as Lower Nicola Indian Band Political Representative in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-19-2024-11 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to move to go IN Camera at 7:48 pm. and the meeting be closed to the public to consider matters of that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests if they were held in public.

Motion Carried

Resolution #11-19-2024-12 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move reconvene the meeting at 9:40 pm.

Motion Carried/Not Carried/ Tabled

Resolution #11-19-2024-13 Reads:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Chief and Council:

1. Approve the Independent Contractor Agreement with Bear Environmental Limited regarding the confirmation of remediation required at Lot 118 Nicola Mameet Indian Reserve No. 1 following the onsite remediation complete by Frazer Excavation and Fraser Ventures, in substantially the form presented with any modifications, amendments or changes thereto that may be approved by the Executive Director in his/her discretion, such approval to be conclusively evidenced by his/her execution thereof; and
2. Authorize the Executive Director, for and on behalf of Council, to do all such acts and things as may be necessary or desirable to give effect to these resolutions, or in connection with the performance by LNIB of its obligations pursuant to these resolutions or the Independent Contractor Agreement with Bear Environmental Limited.

Motion Carried/Not Carried/ Tabled

Resolution #11-19-2024-00 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move

Motion Carried/Not Carried/ Tabled

Resolution #11-19-2024-14 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to adjourn the November 19, 2024 meeting at 7:04 pm.

Motion Carried/Not Carried/ Tabled

Action Item #1: Executive Director will ensure that Chief and Council receive a quarterly update on LNIB demographics and verify LNIB database matches Indigenous Service Canada registration members.

The next Band General meeting is scheduled for
January 27, 2025

LNIB EDUCATION SECTOR

LNIB School/K-12/PSE/Head-Start/Career-Development

Shane's Submission

Well, can you believe it is almost the end of 2024? The snow has started to fall, the light of day has decreased, craft fairs are abundant, and the Christmas Break is only days away...every season has it's ups and downs but winter months tend to be the ones where personal connections are rejuvenated. We hope your holiday with both family and friends will be great on all levels...we look forward to connecting with you all in 2025!!

A few of the news related items to share this month are:

- Our Head-Start Manager, Tamika Bob, resigned from her position last month. Tamika was with us for 6 years serving our youngest members at Head-Start. Tamika's shared with me that her experience at LNIB was both positive and rewarding...all of which will carry forward on her new journey working with her own community members...we all wish Tamika great success! Please note that while we look to fill a new lead position there will be no disruption to current programs/services as there has been no change to our schedule.
- Chief and Council has given formal direction to begin the renegotiation process on our Location Education Agreement with Nicola-Similkameen School District. As I shared with membership last month we do have one of the strongest agreements in the province and the goal with our new agreement is to both maintain momentum and increase quality deliverables. We will be reaching out to members in the new year to gather information, specifically education priorities members want to see from SD58 in their schools.
- I want to thank all the LNIB Members who have shared their ideas with me throughout the year...contests, summer program activities, extracurricular activities, and social/emotional supports to name a few...ideas from both our on and off reserve members is how we make our programs/services stronger. As we are now preparing for the 2025-2026 fiscal budget this is the opportune time to bring your ideas forward so we can include them in our budgeting process. Call/Text/Email anytime at 236.575.2135 or email me at Shane.Coutlee@lnib.net

Sector Leadership

Director of Education
Shane Coutlee

LNIB School Principal
Leroy Slanzi

Education Manager
Sharon Parsons



Lower Nicola Indian Band

December 2024



Membership will see more engagement opportunities in 2025 for parents/guardians who have school aged children in their care. While most of these meetings will take place at LNIB we do plan to arrange regional meetings throughout the province to ensure our off-reserve members have the opportunity to engage with us in person...specific locations are not yet confirmed but Lower-Mainland, Vancouver Island, Okanagan, and Cariboo regions will be areas we plan to host engagement gatherings. If there is a specific location you wish for us to consider please let me know so this can be considered in our planning processes...members can contact me directly at Shane.Coutlee@lnib.net or 236-575-2135.

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LNIB Education 2024-2025

LNIB EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

SHARON PARSONS
EDUCATION PROGRAMS MANAGER



sharon.parsons@lnib.net



(250) 378 – 5157

OR

(236) 575 - 2105

183 NAWISHASKIN LANE
HWY 8



Hello everyone,

The snow has arrived, and many are looking forward to the activities that the winter season brings. I've seen snowmobiles packed onto vehicles and trailers, and of course the tire shops are so busy.

All LNIB students are looking forward to the winter break.

LNIB post-secondary students are studying for those finals coming up before winter break. I must mention that LNIB has some very intelligent and hard-working students enrolled in some very challenging post-secondary programs. They will welcome the chance to relax and refresh before starting their next semester in January.

On November 4th & 5th, Gail and I attended an Education Coordinators Regional Session hosted in Kamloops by the First Nations Education Steering Committee. FNEESC staff gave updates on provincial and federal funding and legislation that will support First Nations students in both public-school districts and those attending band run schools.

LNIB is preparing to negotiate a new Local Education Agreement with the school district. If you are interested in hearing more about the LEA, feel free to contact Shane Coutlee or Sharon Parsons at 250 378 5157.

Gail attended the TRU Indigenous Educators Gathering in Kamloops on November 21st. Gail met the TRU Indigenous Services team who gave information on the supports they provide to Indigenous students at TRU.

On November 28th, MSS Vice Principal Dave Andersen provided me with an update on LNIB grade 12 students' graduation credits. Contact me if your student could use extra support.

Feel free to contact the Education office for more information on post-secondary, trades, employment training & certification.

Until next time, Humelth

LNIB EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



angie.nikkel@lnib.net



(250) 315 – 7927

183 NAWISHASKIN LANE



ANGIE NIKKEL, EDUCATION ASSISTANT
HELLO, AND HAPPY DECEMBER TO EVERYONE!



Upcoming Events:

- Friday, December 20: Last day of school before Winter Break
- December 23-January 3: Winter Break

Happy December!

It is so hard to believe that we are nearing the end of 2024. As the year comes to a close, many parents, teachers, and students are looking forward to a new year filled with new possibilities. For many, December can be a difficult month as many of us are overwhelmed with all the holiday madness, the shopping, the baking, the parties etc. We need to remember that the kids are feeling this as well, as burnout is very common for students this time of year. With the cold weather here, many students would just choose to curl up on a couch rather than getting exercise as the weather can be very daunting. Exercise is an essential part of educational success, but it is also very important for mental health, so try to set aside time each day for your child (and even for yourself) to get moving every day. Whether it's chores, playing outside, or joining some sort of recreational activity, all are great ways to keep your child's mind and body healthy.

If you have noticed that your child (or children) is struggling in one or more areas, a tutor is available for those of you with a student or students in need of one-on-one tutoring or would benefit with extra help with their schoolwork. Please reach out to myself at angie.nikkel@lnib.net (250-315-7927) or Sharon Parsons at sharon.parsons@lnib.net (250-378-5157) to fill out an application and get onto the schedule. We have computers available if needed.

LNIB Education Department – Gail La Rochelle – PSE/Trades/Training Coordinator



Hello everyone. Wow it's December already!

I hope everyone is enjoying the weather we have been having. Bundle up good before you go out and enjoy the outside activities with your family and friends. Go sledding, make a few snowmen, go skating, have a bonfire to stay warm or just go for a walk in the snow.

I hope all the Elementary and High School students have a lot of fun with family and friends during the Christmas Holidays.

PSE students will be finishing the fall semester and looking forward to the winter break. Hopefully, you will be joining your family and friends for all the Christmas Holiday festivities and of course, some well-deserved rest.

Remember to stay in touch with the Education Department and let us know of any course changes for the spring semester.

With the flu season upon us, remember to get your flu and covid shots.

I attended two workshops in November with both offering a different range of information.

Check your eligibility for the following Bursaries:

<https://www.interiorsavings.com/about-us/community/bursary-programs> Closes: Feb. 28/25

[Scholarship for Indigenous Youth | RBC Future Launch](#) Opens: Nov. 22, 2024 - Closes Feb. 5, 2025

<https://bcaafc.com/education/first-citizen-funds/> Closes: Jan. 15, 2025, for the Fall 2024 semester.

To all Membership on and off Reserve or away from the valley, you can sign up for courses or short-term programs throughout the year. If you find a program or course that piques your interest, such as first aid, a post-secondary course, skills training for employment, or an online course, we are here to assist you with the process. Contact our office by phone or email and we will get you started on a new educational adventure.

Please call or email our office to ensure we have your current and up-to-date contact information.

Until next month, stay safe, and be good to one another.

Gail La Rochelle

Education Coordinator

Phone: 250-378-5157

Email: gail.larochelle@lnib.net



From my family to yours, we wish you all a Very Merry Christmas, a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!



Lenessa Seward

LOWER NICOLA INDIAN BAND EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

DECEMBER 2024

ADDRESS

183 Nawishaskin Lane

PHONE

LNIB:
250-378-5157
Direct:
236-575-2100

EMAIL

Reception.education@lnib.net

WEBSITE

www.lnib.net

HELLO EVERYONE

Hope everyone is enjoying the snow as much as I am!
Happy holidays to the students, hope you enjoy the well-deserved holiday break.
Merry Christmas Everyone!

UP COMING TRAINING

- o Adult Grad upgrading courses.
If interested, please contact the education department for more information and next steps

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

Students in need of a technological equipment for school can apply at Indigenous Disability Canada for a laptop, mouse, or headphones.

Note that those without a disability are still eligible to apply

LNIB EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SCHOOL SUPPORT

If you haven't applied for the following school support, please do so at the LNIB Education Department

- School Start Up
- Extra-Curricular Activities
- K-12 Tutoring
- International Field Trip Support

We can email fillable forms, or we have printed copies in the office
Reminder that we have moved office buildings, New Address: 183 Nawishaskin Lane

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

LOWER NICOLA BAND SCHOOL NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I want to extend a heartfelt *thank you* to all of you who joined us for our Parent Literacy Night! Your presence and enthusiasm made a significant impact, not just on the evening itself but on our students' attitudes toward reading. It's incredible to see how much our children are inspired when their parents take an active role in celebrating literacy.

Since the event, we've noticed a spark in many of our students. They're showing greater interest in exploring new books, discussing stories with their peers, and even recommending books to each other. When parents show excitement about reading, it truly becomes contagious, and the kids can't help but catch that enthusiasm!

I also want to share some positive news about our school attendance so far this year. Attendance is noticeably better compared to last year, and the difference it's making in our students' progress is remarkable. Being present in school every day allows students to build on their learning consistently, and we're seeing the results. This progress wouldn't be possible without your dedication to getting your children here regularly. Thank you for prioritizing their education and doing your part—it's making a world of difference!

Finally, I'm thrilled to announce that our **Christmas Concert** is scheduled for **THURSDAY, December 19th**. This is always a wonderful time for us to come together as a school community to celebrate the season and our students' talents. As a special thank-you, we'll also be providing a lunch for parents following the concert. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Thank you for your continued support, commitment, and involvement in our school community. Together, we're creating a nurturing and inspiring environment for our children to thrive.

Cheers,

Leroy



Principal

Leroy Slanzi
Leroy.slanzi@lnib.net
Executive Assistant
Sioux.Swakum@lnib.net

Teachers:

Derek Hanna-Gr.K/1
Iuliiia Gulakova-Gr.1/2
Rhonda Sheena-Gr.2/3
Donelda Haller-Gr.4/5
Brenda Ens- Gr. 5/6
Randi Gardypie-Gr.6/7

Office & Support

Barb Basil
Joe Collins
Nikki Flottorp
Alexandria Girardi
Bill Heard
Cody Jones
Shelley LeBlanc
April Morel
Kriss Morel
Devan Nagata
Reese Paterson
Brandy Pinyon
Annie Rabbitt
Marnee Shipclark
Garry Stefiuk
Penny Toodlican

Phone: 250.378.5527
School cell: 250-315-8546

Grade 5/6 Class

The time and seasons are flying by. First summer is over and now we are almost to the end of Autumn. Some wonderful fall learning is taking place. Yes, it has involved a lot of fun, including a visit to Desert Hills in Ashcroft to run through the corn maze, ride behind a tractor, pick out a pumpkin, and enjoy a beautiful day outdoors. Check out the smiles to see how much fun these students had.



Dimitri and Joe



October and Harmony



Garrison
Abraham

Zander
Mikala



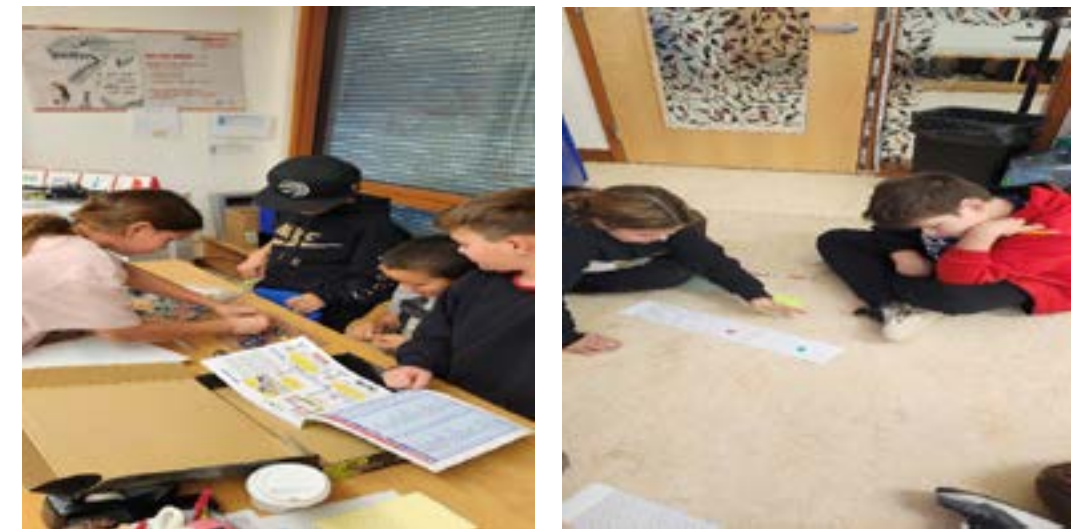
Fall also brought Halloween. Halloween fun included learning about the skeleton, measurement and making witches finger, and of

course imagination, laughter, and a little bit of fear!



Ghoulish fun and outlandish laughter.

Drawing, science exploration, math, reading, writing, laughter and building friendships ... All part of our daily learning.



Mr. Hanna's class participated in the Remembrance Day ceremony.



The LANDS DEPARTMENT

Discuss land activities with the Lands team and exchange stories.
Reach out to the Lands Department for any inquiries regarding LMAC, community meetings, and general land matters.

Stephen Jimmie
Director of Lands & Housing
stephen.jimmie@lnib.net

Reach out to Stephen for questions regarding Land Code, Individual Agreements, Law and Policy Development, Special Land Projects, and Land Use Planning.

Monica Pettinger
Lands Agent
monica.p@lnib.net

For inquiries related to lease and permit applications, land access requests, as well as easement and right-of-way applications, please reach out to Monica.

Kris Por
Lands Researcher
kris.por@lnib.net

Please reach out to Kris for assistance with Family/Traditional Research, support with Allotment Applications, coordination of Will Development, and Estate Administration support.

Alex Bukkos
Survey Coordinator
alex.bukkos@lnib.net

For inquiries regarding ongoing and historical land projects, including surveys and mapping efforts, please contact Alex.

Delta Long
Lands Manager
delta.long@lnib.net

Connect with Delta for discussions on general inquiries, land allotments, transfers, and CPs, as well as matters of law and policy enforcement.

Sayge Fisher
Environmental Protection Coordinator
sayge.fisher@lnib.net

Reach out to Sayge for information on Environmental Management and Protection, Invasive Weed Management, Illegal Dumping, and Special Environmental Projects.

Justice Cisco
Administrative Assistant
justice.cisco@lnib.net

Reach out to Justice for general inquiries, questions related to LMAC meetings, and information about community events.

Vacant
Survey Assistant

Lands Portal
LNIBLANDS.NET

If you have any questions regarding land or current projects, visit the lands portal online or contact the Lands Department.

Updates are posted regularly, and printed copies can be made for pick up at the land's office.

NOTICE ABOUT RECREATIONAL VEICHLES

The Lower Nicola Indian Band prohibits RV's to be utilized as long-term primary dwellings, residences, or cabins on LNIB Lands including CP Lands and Custom Family Lands (also known as Family Lands) unless they receive prior written authorization from the Lands Manager.

NOTICE TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS ON WILDLIFE SAFETY

Please refrain from leaving hunting remains, animals' entrails or trimmings up Mamit Lake Branch Road or anywhere near the community / residential areas.

Animal remains attract predators, leaving remains from a hunting trip too close to the community habituates the predators to keep returning for more food. Predators such as coyotes, bears and wolves will keep returning where there is food available to them. Attracting additional predators into the community will create an unsafe environment for children, pets, and all members of the community. Please relocate hunting remains or animal innards outside of the community by leaving them far away from residences or known industry. An alternative to Mamit Lake Branch Road could be up highway 97C, past the industrial park.

LANDS MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**UPCOMING MEETING
THURSDAY
December 12, 2024
4:30 PM**

Lands Management Advisory Committee (LMAC) meetings are open to all LNIB Members to attend virtually starting at 4:30 PM. Listen in to learn about Lands activities and developments. Check the Members Only portal for LMAC meeting links or contact Stephen, Lands Director, for more details.

LNIB SECURITY

250-215-5048



LNIB Members,

Our Securiguard is on duty 40 hours each week and responds to calls and messages while on shift.

The securiguard is here to assist as needed and monitor any issues reported by residents, such as noise, nuisances, illegal dumping and general safety concerns.

If you or anyone else is in immediate danger or emergency situation, please CALL 911 FIRST.

PROJECTS UPDATE: SECURITY CAMERAS & GATES

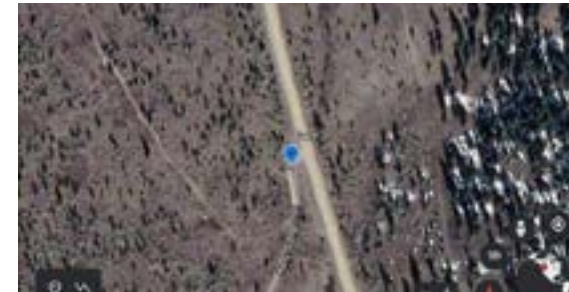
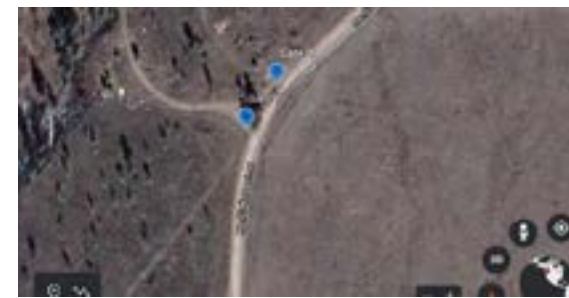
The lands department is responsible for the management and protection of all LNIB reserve lands. To prevent unlawful activity including dumping of hazardous materials and waste, as well as improper use of LNIB, four gates were installed across Nicola Mameet IR1 in September of 2021.

CAMERAS:

Security cameras were recently installed near important areas on reserve. Cameras are intended for security purposes only and will not interfere with the privacy of neighboring homes, businesses, and communities. The use of trail cameras is the best strategy for sites where it would not be appropriate to restrict access by installing gates.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT:

After Hours of hard work was done to clean up various environmentally contaminated areas on LNIB Land, multiple gates were put in place to protect reserve lands



MEMBERS' ACCESS TO RESERVE LANDS WILL NOT BE RESTRICTED BY THE GATES, THOUGH SOME AREAS MAY REQUIRE GATE CODES.

ALL GATES ARE NOW CLOSED AND LOCKED AS OF OCTOBER 26, 2023

CALL 250-280-7270 FOR ACCESS OUTSIDE OF REGULAR OFFICE HOURS OR CONTACT LNIB SECURITY AT (250)215-5048



BUYERS NOTICE BOARD

If you are interested in purchasing land or property from a landowner, Contact the Lands Department to have your contact information listed here in the monthly LNIB Newsletter.

Hello, my name is Jennie Blankenship, I am looking to purchase enough property for two homes and a hobby farm at Zoght, Sunshine Valley or Nicola Mameet (HWY 97C). If you have property for sale, Contact me, Jennie, Jamie, Robbyn Blankenship.

CONTACT | 604-928-2985 | scwexmx@gmail.com

Hello, my name is Mindy Garcia, I am interested in purchasing land to build a home, summer home and a sweat lodge on or land with a home even if it's a fixer upper, I am interested. If you or someone you know may be interested in selling, please let me know. Thank you.

CONTACT | 250-280-5684.

Hello, my name is Lorne Dunn, I am interested in purchasing around an acre parcel of land at Nicola Mameet IR1 to place a home.

CONTACT | 250-315-7501 | lorne.dunn@yahoo.com

SELLER'S NOTICE BOARD

If you are interested in selling land or property as a landowner, contact the Lands Department to have your information listed here in the monthly LNIB newsletter.

Potential Business Hwy Frontage Available Located on Hwy 8.

Contact | Donelda Haller | 250-315-5315

Potential CP Residential Lots FOR SALE

Contact | Donelda Haller | 250-315-5315



SIGN UP!

ALLOTMENT & CUSTOM FAMILY LANDS LAW - FAMILY MEETINGS

THIS ENGAGEMENT SESSION WILL HAPPEN THROUGH NOVEMBER - JANUARY

Every Wednesday	1:30 Pm - 3:30 pm or 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Snacks/Dinner will be provided
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Join us for a family meeting exploring the intricacies of the Allotment and Custom Family Lands Law. This informative session is an opportunity for you and your family to gain a deeper understanding, ask questions and give feed back.

THE ALLOTMENT & CUSTOM FAMILY LANDS LAW DRAFT IS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE (LANDS PORTAL LINK) OR PICK UP A HARD COPY AT THE LANDS OFFICE

For more information or to set up a family meeting contact Justice Cisco at justice.cisco@lnib.net or call 250-378-5157.





The Housing Team

FIND INFORMATION ABOUT LNIB HOUSING ONLINE ON THE LNIB WEBSITE

The Housing department is responsible for managing the housing program, including property management functions, planning and construction of New Houses, Maintenance and upkeep of the housing stock, the relationship with Canada Mortgage Housing Fund, and Indigenous Service Canada (ISC)

REMINDER TO ALL TENANTS

We kindly request that residents take responsibility for the conduct of their guests in both the unit and community. this responsibility includes being mindful of noise levels, driving with care, and ensuring that all activities are lawful and respectful of others.

Any failure to meet these expectations may be viewed as a violation of the rental agreement, potentially leading to the issuance of breach notice or eviction. Your understanding and cooperation in upholding these standards are greatly appreciated.

If you wish to report any disturbances or illegal activity, please contact our security service (250) 215-5048, or the RCMP.

If you have any questions of concerns please feel free to contact us at (250) 378-5157

JORDANA McIVOR- GRISMER HOUSING ADMINISTRATOR

jordana.mcg@lnib.net

Contact Jordana about the First Nations Market Housing Program, external renovation and building funding options, needs and requirements

ASHLEY DEGRAY TENANT RELATIONS COORDINATOR

ashley.degray@lnib.net

Contact Ashley for details regarding rent collection, housing maintenance, LNIB Rental Housing policy and general housing questions

SARA FRAZIER-SHUTER HOUSING ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

sara.fraziershuter@lnib.net

MEL BLANKINSHIP HOUSING MAINTENANCE

JON MOORE HOUSING MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT

LUKE FLOWER HOUSING CARPENTER



Housing Announcement



Septic System Maintenance

DO NOT USE KIRKLAND BRAND TOILET PAPER, as it does not break down and clogs the toilet.

Your septic system is a living ecosystem, and you need to do your part to ensure it is healthy and working as it should.

Never put anything down the drain or toilet that will not biodegrade, including but not limited to, wipes (Lysol, baby, etc.), clothes, bottles, feminism products, paper towel, plastic, etc.

Don't use chemicals like bleach as it kills the good bacteria that breakdown the solid waste.

Space out your water consumption so the tank and drain field are not overwhelmed. By this we mean don't do excessive loads of laundry in a day, have extended showers, leave your tap running unnecessarily, etc.

The drain field (or leach field) is the area on your property where wastewater from your septic system is dispersed into the soil. To avoid damaging the drain field and overall functioning of the septic system; - Never park a vehicle, build a structure, have large livestock animals, have fires, or plant trees or a garden over your septic system's drain field - You should also prevent excess water from flowing over your drain field by making sure your downspouts are pointing away from it because a saturated field cannot drain and process wastewater.

These are some of the simple steps that can save time and money and extend the life of your septic system.

VEHICLE REMOVAL

We are excited to be partnered with Kamloops Auto Recycling and Mario's Towing for scrap vehicle removal in all our LNIB communities. Keeping our communities clean of old vehicles assists with potential environmental concerns that could arise from batteries, tires, old paint decaying and releasing hazardous substances into the environment. Things like coolant, old oil and other liquids can leak over time, seep into the ground, and contaminate the ground water. We would love to get these old vehicles cleaned up to keep our community healthy for generations to come!

If you have multiple vehicles, you would like to be picked up you can call Kamloops Auto Recycling 250-574-4679.

If you have single vehicles, you would like to be picked up you can call Mario's Towing 250-378-9241.



VACANT UNIT UPDATES

We currently have three vacant units. We are just wrapping up some much-needed renovations, decisions are being made about the next steps for one of these units for when this work is complete. We have been working on some much-needed updates and some structural changes to the other two permanent rentals. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we get this unit ready for the next family that will call it home.



Fall Home Maintenance Tips

As we come into the beautiful fall season, the housing department would like to share some fall maintenance tips that can assist in making sure your home is working as efficiently and safely as possible. Here are some tips we think maybe helpful!

- Check your thermostat and ensure that your furnace turns on and is in good working condition
- Check your furnace filters to see if they need replacement
- Check your windows and doors for any types of cracks that may cause your home to lose heat
- Check your vents and air intakes and make sure they are clear of any blockages and are blowing air efficiently
- Change the batteries in smoke/carbon monoxide detectors and insure they are working
- Disconnect garden hoses and drain water that is still in faucets and if it is already installed, turn the shut off valve to the "OFF" position inside your home

If you require any assistance, please contact the housing department @ 250-378-5157

REMINDER

With temperatures starting to drop and colder days, and nights, ahead we would like to take this opportunity to remind you that it is time to detach your garden hose from your outside tap.

If you haven't already done so, please, think about doing it in the next few weeks. As overnight temperatures have started to dip close to freezing.



If you leave the hose on and it freezes it can cause the internal workings of the faucet to crack. This is what causes those leaking outside faucets come spring time.

Also if there is an independent shut off for your outside faucets we strongly recommend turning them off over the winter. This will further ensure no damage to the outside faucet and reduce any risk of it leaking inside your home.

K^wuk^wscemx^w



Lower Nicola Indian Band Housing Department

WOOD STOVE SAFETY TIPS

Ensure all wood is completely dry and seasoned before burning.

Wet wood is less efficient than dry wood. So much energy is spent turning the water into steam and causes a cooling effect.

Vaporizing 1lb of water wastes 1,200 BTU

Here's an example

1lb of wood with 0% moisture will produce 8,600 BTU

1lb of wood with 20% moisture will produce 7,000 BTU



Steps: Allow wood to dry properly, keep wood covered if stored outdoors (covered on top, open on the sides to allow air flow), have the chimney cleaned annually, invest in a moisture meter to check the moisture level in the wood,

A message from the Lower Nicola Indian Band Housing Department

Lower Nicola Indian Band Development Corp. Owns, Operates and Maintains the Kingsvale Electricity Transmission Line for 40 Years



WHO? The Lower Nicola Indian Band Development Corp. (LNIBDC) is pleased to announce that it has entered into an agreement with Trans Mountain Pipeline (Trans Mountain) and our partner EPCOR Commercial Services Inc. (EPCOR) for the Kingsvale Electricity Transmission Line. Note: EPCOR is the non-regulated arm of EPCOR Utilities Inc. with 3,600 employees and over \$13 billion of assets.

WHAT? LNIBDC holds a 55% majority interest in a partnership with EPCOR and has negotiated a contract with Trans Mountain to own, operate, maintain and finance the \$35 million Kingsvale Electricity Transmission Line.

WHEN? While the Kingsvale Electricity Transmission Line was constructed in 2020, it has taken until November 2024 to secure the permits in our name and negotiate the agreements with Trans Mountain that enable LNIBDC, and its partner EPCOR, to own, operate, maintain and finance the Kingsvale electricity transmission line for 40 years.

WHERE? The 138-kV transmission line runs through the Lower Nicola Indian Band's traditional territory, connects to BC Hydro's distribution line near Highway 97C (Aspen Grove), and provides electrical power to Trans Mountain's Kingsvale pump station 24 kilometers away, near Highway 5 (Coquihalla).

WHY? This is a long term, low risk, utility grade investment that will provide stable cashflows to LNIBDC. Over the 40-year term, LNIBDC's \$4.8 million investment will generate cumulative cashflows to LNIBDC that exceed \$30 million. The construction of the Kingsvale transmission line provided revenues to LNIBDC companies that totalled nearly \$6 million.

Precedent Setting Project: This is the first electric transmission line to be majority-owned, operated, maintained and financed by an Indigenous group in Canada (and we also believe in the United States).



Bear’s Den Round II – Recap

On November 6, 2024, LNIB Economic Development hosted the “Bear’s Den Round II”. Over 60 people came out to support the pitches and enjoy a night filled with laughter, courage and inspiration. This article looks at the people who made this possible, a recap of the pitches, the winners and some closing remarks.

Thank you

To make this night possible LNIB Economic Development would like to thank the following individuals and sponsors:

Individuals:

Don Gosso, General Manager, LNIB Development Corporation

Don has been instrumental in his support of the Bear’s Den concept since day one. He has been a judge for the competition for two years in a row and helped immensely with networking for sponsors.

Michael Jackson, LNIB Accounting Manager

Michael has been a judge for the second year running. His ability to assess a business and provide valuable insight from the perspective of a seasoned accountant is very important when assessing the pitches during the competition. He takes time out of his evening to make sure he’s there and it’s appreciated.

Leesa Mike, Director, LNIB Economic Development

Leesa has backed the Bear’s Den and has attended both rounds and has always brought out support from the community. Leesa helps actively recruit and develop LNIB Entrepreneurs and helps them flourish once they are established.

Mountain Chief Catering

Big thanks to Mountain Chief catering for providing delicious food at the event. They did a superb job as usual with an excellent snack tray to greet the guests and a delicious beef dinner that was well received.

Sponsors



Big thank you to our sponsors of the event and the people who made it possible, which included:

Platinum Sponsors:

- Don Gosso, LNIB Development Corporation
- Jacqui Schneider, Teck Resources
- Brock Roadhouse, Infracore
- Shankar Nandiwada, McCaw’s Drilling and Blasting

Gold Sponsor:

- Kyle Ruppel, Acres

Silver Sponsors:

- Michelle Dobson, McTavish Resources
- Norum Duck, Weyerhaeuser

LNIB Community

I want to express my gratitude to the Community Members who came out to support the event. It makes me happy knowing that the work we are doing at the department level inspires you to take the time out of your day to support your fellow community members who are striving to build something.

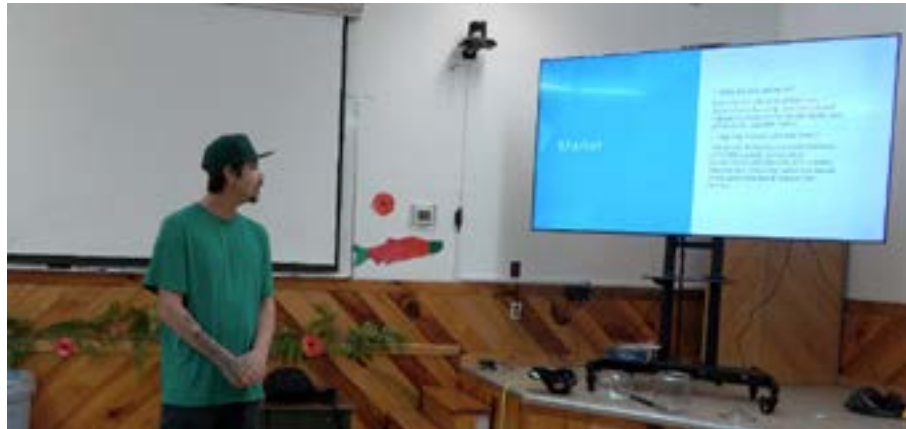


LNIB Entrepreneurs

Most importantly, we thank the entrepreneurs who participated. Presenting your business ideas in front of a group takes immense courage, and responding to questions on the spot demonstrates confidence and a deep understanding of your vision. Each of you brought something unique, making it a tough competition for both the judges and the audience. You should all be incredibly proud, and LNIB Economic Development is here to support you on your journey.

#1 Cody Hamm, Down the Drain Gutters

Cody presented "Down the Drain Gutters," a business specializing in gutter design, construction, repair, and maintenance for individuals, property management companies, and Indigenous governments. With years of experience in the field, Cody plans to launch in early 2025 and already has a business plan and cash flow forecast in place.



#2 Christie Hill and Marilynne Munro, 5 Cubs Quickstop

Christie and Marilynne were second and pitched their newly established business 5 Cubs Quick Stop. This is a partnership business between Christie and Marilynne that provides concessions and snacks with their mobile and rugged trailer to events in hard-to-reach places. They purchased the trailer in the fall of 2024 with the help of LNIB Economic Development. They also provide caterings services for local events in the community.



#3 Jonah Dick, First Aid Transportation

Jonah proposed a first aid transportation business. With over 15 years of experience as a first aid specialist, he aims to purchase a medical truck to serve industries requiring onsite first aid services. His business plan and cash flow forecast are expected to be completed in 2024.



#4 Derek Trosky and Eagle Casmir, Nekusem Security and Land Guardianship

Derek and Eagle pitched their business that was established this year through LNIB Economic Development. Nekusem came to LNIB Economic Development in March 2024 seeking help with respect to access to capital and establishing their business. Their origin story is in the LNIB July 2024 Newsletter and to be direct, it has been quite a wildly successful journey for them since. They recently inked a deal to provide security services for the red bridge construction in Kamloops and have been soaring since they started.



#5 Mahonri Peterson, My Buddy the Fungi

Mahonri, the first youth participant in Bear’s Den, pitched “My Buddy the Fungi,” a mushroom cultivation business targeting restaurants and farmers markets. He also plans to offer fungi-based interpretive hikes. His confidence and clear vision captivated the audience.



#6 Snukwe? Security Services

Snukwe? Security Services provides monitoring and patrols in the community and beyond. Snukwe? started their business in March 2024 and instantly gained a contract to help CNA with their fish distribution as well as monitoring the construction of the CNA office. Their pitch was filled with his passion for the role of keeping the community safe and featured stories about his biggest fan in the community.



#7 Kurt Oppenheim, Food Creations

Kurt pitched his business that aims to provide his own unique healthy food creations featuring gluten free Bannock, fresh and healthy creations and eventually a food truck that seeks to serve events all over the Nicola Valley and beyond. Kurt had the crowd laughing with his jokes and even brought some of his delicious creations for the crowd to try out. LNIB Economic Development is seeking to support Kurt on his entrepreneurial journey to see his dreams turn into reality.



#8 Tina Cross, Baxter’s Choice

Tina pitched her pet foot supply business called Baxter’s Choice, inspired by her own dog family service dog Baxter who was instrumental in helping her and her family through some tough times. Tina has established herself as a verified vendor for a premium dog food brand called “Inukshuk” based out of New Brunswick. She has started to develop a small community in the Okanagan that purchases from her regularly. In 2025, Tina aims to take her business online in 2025 and reach even more people!



Winners

Judges Pick – Sponsored by McCaw’s Drilling & Blasting

Mahonri Peterson was selected as the Judges choice, although it was very close with Nekusem Security and Land Guardianship. Although Nekusem has had undeniable success that is propelling them into the upper echelons of entrepreneurship, something about a young person being focused and going after his dream was very compelling and proved to be the edge when judging the competition.



People’s Choice Award – Sponsored by Infracon Construction Inc.

The audience selected Snukwe? Security Inc. as the winner for the “People’s Choice” award. Snukwe?’s pitch was deeply authentic and the diligence and care they shows in keeping the community safe coupled with their natural ability to make connections with all types of people proved to be what the crowd thought was worthy of their votes. Nekusem and Mahonri were right behind them, but Snukwe?’s community connection propelled him to victory.

Special thank you to Geraldine Bingham and Clyde Sam for counting the votes!



Closing

Next Year

All in all, this event proved to be a great success, and it shined a light on some community members who are going after something. It takes considerable courage, determination and passion to be someone who wants to build, and this notion of building is what inspires others to take control of their destiny. It creates a snowball effect in a community and inspires individuals to believe they can take something from the concept to reality or Zero to One and beyond.

Video

The pitches were recorded and are available upon request for anyone interested in revisiting the event.

Statement from organizer

This event took four months to go from being announced in the newsletter to the writing of this article and closing out the project. I would personally like to congratulate the winners and participants of this year’s event. I’m very excited about your future and deeply believe in everyone.

I’m here to help you in whatever capacity I can, and I get a profound sense of personal satisfaction when you achieve results. There aren’t many jobs in the world that offer this kind of fulfillment, and I’m honored to serve Lower Nicola and contribute to Economic Development on all fronts.

Thank you,

Adam Ova, Economic Development Project Manager



LNIB December Recreation Calendar 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Snowboarding 6am-5pm	2 Swimming 2:30pm-4:45pm	3 Youth Center 2:30pm-4:45pm	4	5	6	7 Snowboarding 6am-5pm
8 Snowboarding 6am-5pm	9 Swimming 2:30pm-4:45pm	10 Youth Center 2:30pm-4:45pm	11	12	13	14 Snowboarding 6am-5pm
15 Snowboarding 6am-5pm	16 Swimming 2:30pm-4:45pm	17 Youth Center 2:30pm-4:45pm	18	19	20	21 Snowboarding 6am-5pm
22 Snowboarding 6am-5pm	23	24	25	26	27	28 Snowboarding 6am-5pm
29 Snowboarding 6am-5pm	30	31				

Notes: Recreation After School Program Application Forms Are Available At LNIB Main Office, And LNIB Health Center, LNIB School, Nicola Canford School.

For More Information Contact Jacint At: jacint.majlath@lnib.net or: 2502804487
Program Can Change Due To Weather.

Elders Events December 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 RP Centre Work on Unfinished Projects 2pm - 4pm	3	4 RP Centre DIY Christmas Decoration 10am - 12pm	5 RP Centre DIY Christmas Candy Holder 2pm - 4pm	6 RP Centre DIY Candle Making 12pm - 2pm	7
8	9	10 RP Centre DIY Christmas Wreaths 10am - 12pm	11	12 RP Centre Coffee with a Cop 10am - 12pm	13 RP Centre Gingerbread House Making 2pm - 4pm	14
15	16	17 Shulus Hall Christmas Party 12pm - 2pm	18 RP Centre Fleece Tied Blankets 2pm - 4pm	19 RP Centre Bingo 2pm - 4pm	20 (Courtney away)	21
22 Band School Community Christmas Party (Christie/Marilynne's event, not Courtney's)	23 Christmas Cookie Mix in a Jar 12pm - 2pm	24 Office Closure 1:00pm-4:30pm (Courtney Away)	25 Office Closure Christmas Day (Courtney Away)	26 Office Closure Boxing Day (Courtney Away)	27 Office Closure (Courtney Away)	28
29	30 Office Closure (Courtney Away)	31 Office Closure (Courtney Away)	1 Office Closure New Years Day (Courtney Away)	2 Regular Office Hours (Courtney Away)	3 Regular Office Hours (Courtney Away)	4

If you have any questions or require a ride to any of these events, please call or text Courtney at **236-575-2083**.

(RSVPs to the craft making events and out of town trips help me plan better)
I will be unavailable via phone/texting during the days I have marked that I am away, I apologize for the inconvenience. I will return calls/texts once I return to work on January 6th.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Welcoming Babies Shulus Hall 5:00 pm	4	5	6	7
8 Pictures with Santa 2:00 - 6:00 pm RP's Comm Centre	9 Christmas Movie 5:30 pm RP's Comm Centre	10	11 Soup Kitchen	12 Christmas Parade 5:00 pm Rocky Pines Community Centre	13	14
15	16 Parents & Babes Christmas Party 5:00 pm RP's Comm Centre	17 Elders Christmas Party, Shulus Hall 12:00 - 2:00 pm	18 Soup Kitchen	19	20	21
22 Community Christmas Party 1:00 pm Band School	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	Any questions please call Christie or Marilynne 250.378.5157			

December

Culture Programs with Joe Shuter
Any questions please contact call 250.315.7487



2024

UBC Museum group trip with Nkshaytkn

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Iron Mountain Fishing	10 Beaded Christmas Wreath 6:00 - 9:00 pm	11	12 Men's Group Nte7képmxcin language	13	14 Men's Group Outreach Walk Spirit Square	15
16 Spuzzum Territory Boundary marker site visit	17 Kane Valley Ice Fishing	18	19 Nte7képmxcin language	20	21	22 Set up for Community Christmas Dinner
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



LNSS Concrete Plant Achieves Record Production in October 2024

We are excited to share two significant updates from the LNSS Concrete Plant.

First, in October 2024, our team achieved a major milestone by producing over 1,000 cubic meters of concrete in just 30 days—a first for our concrete division! This accomplishment reflects the hard work and dedication of our entire team, supported by the crushing crew's consistent supply of aggregate and assistance with batching.



Second, we're thrilled to announce the arrival of our permanent concrete plant on-site. Construction is now underway, and the team is making excellent progress. This new facility will significantly enhance our production capabilities and ensure we continue to meet and exceed client expectations in the years ahead.

These milestones are a testament to the collaboration, innovation, and commitment of everyone involved. Thank you to all who have contributed to these successes, and we look forward to sharing more updates as we continue to grow.

Join Us at the LNIB Santa Parade!

LNSS and OMH are excited to participate in this year's LNIB Santa Parade on **Thursday, December 12, 2024!** Our Concrete Division will be decorating their concrete trucks in festive holiday style, and we can't wait to celebrate with the community.

Just like last year, there will be space on the float for community members to join us during the parade. Come out, ride the float, and help us spread some holiday cheer!

We look forward to seeing you there for an evening of festive fun and celebration.

Happy Holidays!



2975 Highway 97C

Merritt, BC V1K 1M8

www.LNSS.CA

Supporting LNIB Entrepreneurs

We are proud to support the growth of entrepreneurship in the LNIB community through the LNIB Bear's Den Business Pitch Competition. This inspiring event showcases the innovative ideas of local entrepreneurs, providing them with funding and resources to grow their businesses.

This year's competition highlighted the significant growth of the program, expanding from just 3 participants last year to an impressive 8 participants in 2024. The event also saw a fantastic show of community support, with LNIB members coming out in great numbers to attend the presentations and cheer on the participants. This enthusiastic participation truly reflects the strength and unity of the LNIB community.

We are excited to announce that we will be sponsoring, *Smukwe? Security Inc* as the **audience-selected winner** of the competition with a \$2,500 contribution to support the further development of the local business.



We also want to extend our heartfelt congratulations to **Mahonri Peterson**, the judge-selected winner with his business, *My Buddy the Fungi*, and to all the incredible participants who presented their innovative ideas. Your dedication and passion for entrepreneurship are truly inspiring, and we are excited to see your businesses flourish.

We are honored to contribute to fostering economic development and entrepreneurial success in the LNIB community and look forward to seeing these businesses thrive.

2975 Highway 97C

Merritt, BC V1K 1M8

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'Tis the season for community to celebrate with holiday traditions, from baking cookies and stringing lights to decorating their Christmas trees, both live and artificial. In the midst of these holiday traditions, it is essential that members also take a moment to consider and practice Christmas tree safety. Here are five easy ways to practice Christmas tree safety for both artificial and live trees this year:

1. Always place your tree a minimum of 3 feet from heat sources, including lamps, heating vents, radiators, fireplaces, and candles.
2. Never use lit candles to decorate your tree, artificial or live. Do not place lit candles underneath or near your Christmas tree, and never leave burning candles unattended.
3. Before stringing lights on your tree, check your lights for cracked or missing bulbs and frayed wires. If lights show signs of damage, dispose of the light strand. When replacing damaged lights, be sure to check for UL-certified lights, which are evaluated for consumer safety.
4. Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving the house or going to bed.
5. For live trees, be sure to water your tree regularly, keeping the water level well above the trunk base within the Christmas tree stand.

No matter what type of tree consumers celebrate with, it only takes a moment to practice these five easy tree safety habits to have a safe and healthy holiday season.



Photos With SANTA

Sunday, December 8 | 2:00-6:00 PM |
Rocky Pines Community Centre

Any questions you can contact Christie Hill (250) 378-5157



*Keep an eye out
for Santa at the*

Santa Parade

Starting at the Rocky Pines Community Centre. Head down Aberdeen Road then go through the Lower Nicola Community and go to Shulus

Thursday
December 12th
5:00PM

Any questions contact Christie Hill
(250) 378-5157



You're invited to the Annual LNIB
Community Christmas

Party

1:00 pm - Doors Open
2:30 pm - Gifts

Dinner served after distribution of gifts
(You must be in attendance to receive your gift)

Lower Nicola Band School at 205 Horn Road
50/50, Loonie Auction & Raffle

DEC | 22 | 1:00 P.M.

Any questions contact Christie Hill (250) 378-5157



Beaded Christmas Ornaments

LNIB Women's Group

Tuesday, December 10th
Rocky Pines Community Centre
5:00 - 7:30 pm

Dinner will be provided

Any questions please contact Irene Howe (250) 378-5157

Darcie DeBruyne

LNIB Economic Development
Employment Coordinator (250) 378-5157
Email: darcie.debruyne@lnib.net



Hello, my name is Darcie DeBruyne, and I am honored to be taking over the position of Employment Coordinator at the Lower Nicola Indian Band (LNIB) following Steve Wilks retirement.

I'm excited to bring my experience and passion to this role, and I look forward to contributing to the ongoing growth and success of LNIB's employment initiatives.

I hold a Bachelours Degree in Indigenous Social Work and for the past 14 years, I've had the privilege of working in Aboriginal Adult Education with Dumont Technical Institute in Regina Saskatchewan, where I served as a Program Support Facilitator. In this role, I worked closely with adult learners, providing guidance and support as they navigated their educational journeys and transitioned to meaningful employment.

I helped to create an inclusive and supportive learning environment where students could thrive, and I'm proud to have played a part in helping many learners find success in both their studies and their careers.

I'm truly excited to build upon the incredible work Steve Wilks has done as Employment Coordinator over the years. One of my main goals is to connect with the community, hear from members and work collaboratively to expand employment opportunities, particularly with HVC and other local industries. I am also eager to explore and develop partnerships that can offer additional avenues for career growth. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to learn and experience the rich history, culture, and traditions of the Nlaka'pamux people. I recognize the importance of cultural understanding and I am committed to learning from the community and supporting initiatives that are rooted in the Salish values and ways of knowing.

Originally from North Central Saskatchewan, I grew up in a rural community where the importance of family and respect for the land were instilled in me from a young age. My husband and I have three grown children, all of whom are now finding their own paths in life, one grand baby and another on the way. The move to BC has brought us closer to our grand babies and we are looking forward to being able to see them more often. We have always dreamed of retiring in British Columbia one day, and with my husband's work opportunity in Kamloops, we made the decision to relocate to the beautiful town of Logan Lake. It's an exciting new chapter for us, and our two senior dogs.

Please stop by for a chat anytime! I look forward to connecting with LNIB members, hearing your stories, and working alongside the community. Thank you for welcoming me into this important role —I am excited for the opportunities ahead.

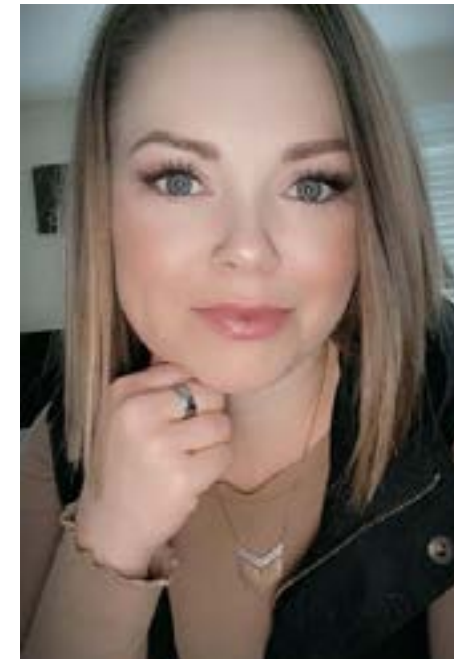


LNIB Social Development Manager
Aly Ledene

Aly Ledene, daughter of Brenda Eckert and Bob Ledene, and granddaughter of Sarah Pierre, is honored to serve as the Social Development Manager for LNIB. With a strong foundation in social work and a deep respect for family and community, Aly brings over ten years of experience supporting individuals and families through healing and empowerment.

As a proud member of LNIB, Aly is committed to integrating our culture, traditions, and values into social services, recognizing the vital role they play in fostering wellness and connection. Aly believes that through connection, collaboration and cultural respect, we can strengthen the bonds within our community and create pathways for healing for current and future generations.

If you would like to make an appointment or have any questions. Please contact Aly at (250) 378-5157 or email aly.ledene@lnib.net



LNIB Home Care Nurse/ Foot Care
Melissa Krause

yé tək síłqt! My name is Melissa Krause and I'm a member of the Skeetchestn Indian Band. I was born and raised in Merritt and I'm now happily raising my two children here as well.

I graduated from the NVIT Access to Practical Nursing program in 2018, following a decade of experience as a Health Care Aide working in long-term care and assisted living roles. Over the years, I've had the privilege of expanding my nursing practice and specializing in areas such as advanced foot care and education.

I'm excited to share that I've stepped into the role of Home Care/Foot Care Nurse for LNIB. My experience in nursing, combined with my specialized training, allows me to bring a wealth of knowledge to the community. Whether it's providing care for individuals, offering foot care treatments, or educating others on health and wellness, I am committed to enhancing the well-being of everyone I serve.

I'm truly grateful for the opportunity to be welcomed into your community and excited about the journey ahead. I look forward to connecting with many of you in the coming months.

K^wuk^wscémx^w, Melissa Krause



**LNIB
Home
Care Nurse**

**Tina
Stirling**

hente? My name is Tina Stirling, I am a Nlaka'pamux member from Siska Indian Band. I was born and raised here in the Nicola Valley. My husband JR, member of LNIB & I have been married for 22 years, we have 3 children and 3 grandchildren.

I enjoy the great outdoors, hunting, fishing, camping and baseball. Through the winter I like to get out on the trails for some snowshoeing. I have been in the health care field for 15 years, 10 years as a careaid and 5 years as an LPN.

Through that time I have worked in acute care, residential care and community care. I look forward to this great opportunity, working in your community and gain your trust as your Health Care Nurse. I look forward to the continuous learning opportunity LNIB will provide and the knowledge and wisdom passed on from our elders.

K^wuk^wscémx^w
Tina Stirling, Licenced Pratical Nurse



January 21, 2025

FOOD SAFE LEVEL 1

**Seats are filling up fast!
Get your spot today**

Contact: Darcy DeBruyne
Employment Coordinator, Ec Dev
(250) 378-5157





Safety for All – Training That Keeps Us Strong Together!

- 1st Aid Level 1 Chain Saw Safety
- RISC Training Food Safe
- Bear Awareness H2S Alive
- Fire Safety Confined Space
- ATV/UTV Traffic Control

Do you need to be certified? certifications can expire, are yours still valid?



Don't see what you are looking for or are interested in other training opportunities?
Pop in and see me! 😊

Darcie DeBruyne
Employment Coordinator
Economic Development
Darcie.debruyne@lnib.net
236-575-2119 ext. 157

Peppermint Meltaways

Ingredients

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon peppermint extract
- 1-1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup cornstarch

FROSTING:

- 2 tablespoons butter, softened
- 2 tablespoons 2% milk
- 1/4 teaspoon peppermint extract
- 2 to 3 drops red food coloring, optional
- 1-1/2 cups confectioners' sugar
- 1/2 cup crushed peppermint candies



Directions

In a small bowl, cream butter and confectioners' sugar until light and fluffy, 3-4 minutes. Beat in extract. In another bowl, whisk flour and cornstarch; gradually beat into creamed mixture. Refrigerate, covered, 30 minutes or until firm enough to handle.

Advertisement

Preheat oven to 350°. Shape dough into 1-in. balls; place 2 in. apart on ungreased baking sheets. Bake 9-11 minutes or until bottoms are light brown. Remove from pans to wire racks to cool completely. In a small bowl, beat butter until creamy. Beat in milk, extract and, if desired, food coloring. Gradually beat in confectioners' sugar until smooth. Spread over cookies; sprinkle with crushed candies. Store in an airtight container.

Wood for Sale

Truck load of dry split fir. You can contact Garrett Mike (778) 220-9988



Everyone welcome!

3rd Annual
WINTER SOLSTICE POWWOW

FEAST SATURDAY NIGHT
food donations requested!

DECEMBER 20, 21, 22, 2024
MERRITT CIVIC CENTER
1950 MAMETTE AVENUE

GRAND ENTRY
FRIDAY 7 PM
SATURDAY 1 PM & 7PM
SUNDAY 1 PM

DANCE SPECIALS

MENS GOLDEN AGE
WOMENS
ADDITIONAL SPECIALS
TBA

ISO VOLUNTEERS
DONATIONS ACCEPTED

WE WOULD LIKE TO
INVITE ALL HAND DRUMMERS
PLEASE COME SING

MC CHRIS WELLS
WHIP MAN CECIL SHEENA
AD 88
HOST DRUM
TBA

contact the comittee
wintersolsticepw@gmail.com
committee is not responsible
for any losses damages or breakups, please
be responsible

Come shop for gifts at the
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the best BC FN artists
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Open Friday at 6
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11 am