

NNTC NEWSLETTER



Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council (NNTC)'s quarterly news, announcements, and cultural and historical pieces



Pictured above is NNTC members and Upper Skagit representatives

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CONTACT US!

Heavy Equipment Operator Training 2023



In partnership, Thompson Rivers University (TRU), the Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council (NNTC), and Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS West) offered a free fully accredited Skilled Trades BC (ITA) Road Builder and Heavy Construction Foundation Program, and TRU Certified Equipment Operator Certification.

Recruitment commenced in March 2023 where 15 amazing community members were selected into the program.

The programming started on April 17th, 2023, and consisted of 5 weeks of Skilled Trades BC's Roadbuilder and Heavy Construction Foundation Program followed by another 6 weeks of Thompson Rivers University Heavy Equipment Operator.

All 15 students maintained strong attendance and exceeded expectations. Funding leveraged from NNTC allowed to extend the Heavy Equipment Operator duration to include all 15 students with longer days and a split cohort of 7 morning learners and 8 afternoon learners. ASETS was also able to extend student support funding!

The course included work-site safety tickets, and all the students experienced practical learning on excavators, dozers, loaders, rock trucks, and compactor. They gained the knowledge needed to pass the Skilled Trades BC (ITA) HEO Exam and all they all received their certification. They also felt the reward of the accomplished project at the Oregon Jack Creek Pit site.

There was a completion ceremony after the exam on June 30th to celebrate their success with friends and family.

Congratulations to the newly certified Heavy Equipment Operators on your dedication and hard work!

Introducing Our New Accounts Payable Administrator, Loretta McDonald

Thank you for welcoming me to the team as your new Accounts Payable Administrator. It is an honor to be part of this team and the work we do.

I reside in Pender Harbour on the Sunshine Coast. My heritage has roots in the Alberta prairies and I have much to learn about my own Metis culture.

Much of my career growth and development was in the financial services industry, primarily retail and commercial lending, leadership roles both within branch operations and special projects. After 25 years, I chose a few different new challenges and embraced that I could learn new things. I had always had an easy relationship with numbers and details and enjoyed the experience, so determined that an accounting role would be a perfect fit for me.

My greatest accomplishment has been raising three amazing children and taking care of those in my life that I love. So, here I am. My role is to support the great work this organization does by paying attention to the details and paying the bills with accuracy and efficiency. I look forward to what the future brings.

Trip to Skagit Headwaters

On July 24, 2023 staff and a youth member from NNTC went to Allison Pass near Manning Park to locate and record the headwaters of the Skagit River. The Skagit River runs south into the Ross Reservoir within the Nlaka'pamux homeland. The reservoir, referred to as Ross Lake, was created as part of the Skagit River Hydro Electric Project. This Project consists of three power generating facilities on the Skagit River—Gorge, Ross and Diablo dams. The Project was first licensed in 1927. The Project is currently in a re-licensing process which includes studies on environmental impacts including cultural resources. The current license expires in 2025. The Project provides power for the city of Seattle. NNTC is actively involved in the relicensing process to protect and advance Nlaka'pamux title and rights. Through this process, NNTC has done cultural survey work in the Upper Skagit valley. The knowledge gained is critical for protection of Nlaka'pamux cultural resources.



John Haugen, Karen Dunstan, Kevin and Aaron Duncan (Deb McIntyre taking the photo)
exploring the headwaters of the Skagit River.

Upper Skagit Tribe Members Visit the Nlaka'pamux

On August 2nd, representative of the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe met with NNTC leadership and representatives. The gathering was hosted at Khamoose by the Boothroyd community. We are very appreciative of all Boothroyd did to make the meeting a success especially, as at the same time, the community was housing and feeding firefighters battling the fires in the Nahatlatch.

The meeting with the Upper Skagit Tribe was positive and everyone agreed, continuing to meet and to build our relationship is important. The Upper Skagit are a neighbouring Nation to the Nlaka'pamux in what is now known as the Upper Skagit Valley in Washington State. We all share a concern with the fishery, water quality, cultural resources, impacts of recreation and the protection of our homelands.



After the meeting and visiting over a great lunch, NNTC members accompanied the Upper Skagit representatives to Hozomeen. Special arrangements had to be made as the road was still closed due to the damage from the earlier flooding. Stops were made along the way to point out important features of the landscape. Arriving at the reservoir, due to low water levels, the group was able to see the stumps that are usually covered.



Conservation and Culture: Understanding Rattlesnakes at nkshAytkn

On August 4, 2023 the NkshAytkn Gathering was held at the Shakan Community Hall. There was a presentation on rattlesnakes given by Francis Iredale.

The Shakan Hall was packed full, and much knowledge of rattlesnakes was shared in relation to their behavior and habitat.

Rattlesnakes are an endangered species.



Welcome Nhowlatch: Jimmy Brown Joins as Archivist for NNTC

We're excited to welcome Jimmy Brown, known as Nhowlatch (meaning 'leader'), as the Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council's new Archivist. Hailing from Lytton, Jimmy is deeply connected to our traditions, having grown up learning Nlaka'pamux words and participating in seasonal fishing and foraging. In his role, he'll manage our cultural archives and library, ensuring our heritage remains preserved and accessible.

Apart from his archivist duties, Jimmy is an avid gamer and tech enthusiast, skills that enhance his archival work. He is also passionate about weight training. Jimmy's self-taught expertise in technology and commitment to a healthy lifestyle reflect his dedication to both personal growth and cultural preservation.

As he joins the NNTC, Jimmy brings a unique combination of cultural knowledge and technical savvy. We're thrilled to have him on board and look forward to his contributions in maintaining and honoring our rich heritage. Welcome aboard, Jimmy!



11th Annual Fishing Camp

NNTC held it's Annual Fish Camp for Elders and Kids in August 2023 at the Lytton Parish Hall

The weather was extremely hot but everyone managed to stay safe.

Approx 100 or so participants over the 4 days.

Although a chinook driven fishery, we managed to cann about 50 dozen jars of chinook

With a few jars of sockeye , by catch from the 8 inch mesh. In lean years we must adapt and change gear type as not too impact other salmon stocks of concern . Keep the teachings going.



Introducing Nathaniel Brown: The Welcoming Face of NNTC

Hello everyone! I am thrilled to introduce myself as the Receptionist for the Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council. I strive to make everyone feel welcome. I'm here to assist with patient travel coordination, general inquiries, and ensuring smooth communication. I also have the pleasure of keeping our staff connected right here on our Facebook site. Here's to great conversations and support!

My main interest lies in my work and in being of help to others. I find immense satisfaction in my role at NNTC, where every day presents an opportunity to assist and make a positive impact. Outside of work, I devote my time to learning the trades either being an Electrician/Plumber Apprentice. As I also love just being able to be of assistance to any individual in which ever role I'm doing.

A fun fact about me is that I love learning about our different communities, and of all its teachings and just listening about our culture in general.

Professionally, my hope is to continue growing in my role at NNTC and contribute to its mission of community service and development. Personally, I aspire to broaden my understanding of the Nlaka'pamux Nation.

Randy James: NNTC's New Research Assistant Embarking on a Journey



Hello, I'm Randy James, the new Research Assistant at NNTC. I'm grateful to Shannon and Serena for this opportunity to work on significant projects, including the Inkluckcheen EDR, and to immerse myself in Nlaka'pamux land use and occupancy research. Big thanks to my incredible coworkers as I navigate through this learning journey, armed with the inspiration from Pele: "Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do." Here's to growth and learning!

Elders Trip to the Skagit Valley

On September 25/23 a group of 10 Nlaka'pamux speaking elders went to Diablo USA to see the Skagit Valley – what's now the Ross Reservoir



Introducing Michelle Isaac: Guiding Light for Jordan's Principle Services

Nlaka'pamux Services Society

Jordan's Principle Coordinator
PO Box 430, Lytton BC, V0K 1Z0
Cell: 250-256-1988 Email: jordans@nntc.ca



Hello my name is Michelle Isaac and I am the Jordan's Principle Service Coordinator. This program is here to assist children and cover the costs in certain areas including health, social and educational. It is a principle that was put in place so that funding is there to support Aboriginal Children when they need it.

Who Can Apply for Jordan's Principle:

- First Nations children under 19 years -Status children living on-reserve
- All First Nations children with status on/off reserve
- Parents or guardians that care for a First Nations child
- A First Nations child 16 years and older can apply for themselves.
- A group request from multiple families, or parents can be applied for as well
- Your Jordan's Principle Service Coordinator can help assist with this process for both individuals and groups

Examples of what may be covered:

- Health- mobility aids, ramps, assessments, medical supplies, mental health
- Social- social workers, land-based activities, respite care, Personal support worker, cultural programs
- Education- school supplies, tutoring, teaching assists, assessments, technology
- And many other resources
- Sports

What is needed for the application:

- Child's name, date of birth, address, Status Card number
- Parent/Guardian name and contact info
- Description of what the child's UNMET needs are.
- History of the request, has it been previously submitted to another program or service?
- Letter of Support for unmet needs
- Any other supporting documents

What if You are Denied:

- You may appeal a decision within 1 year of the date of denial by:
- Sending a written request
- Your appeal will be reviewed, and decision should be made within 30 days

Any questions please contact Michelle Isaac @ jordans@nntc.ca

Jordan's Principle News

Nlaka'pamux Services Society
October 2023



Contact Info:
Michelle Isaac
PO Box 430, Lytton BC
V0K1Z0
250-256-1988
Jordans@nntc.ca

In Community Dates:
If you have a special event happening at your Agency or your community and would like Jordan's Principle to set up a table please let me know.

Special Notices:

The group request for Laptops and School clothing was approved. We are hoping to have everything figured out by the end of October 2023

Information on Letters of Support for applications:

- Need to come from a professional in the child's circle of care.
 - The letter of support needs to come from a professional in the area of need.
 - For example education a band education coordinator, a principle, or a teacher
- If your child needs any supports for unmet needs please contact me at the contact info above.

This Summer we attended the Nlha'7kpmx Child and Family Culture Camp. There were many children in attendance. Here is a picture of McKenzie Jones enjoying some beading and sun. I am thinking next year is going to be an even bigger event.



Please follow our new Facebook Page: Nlaka'pamux Services Society Jordan's Principle

NNTC Xmas 2023 Staff Meeting



NNTC, including all related entities, held a staff gathering on November 10th. The afternoon was spent in discussion about the work being done by NNTC and the impacts of colonialism on that work. It was an interesting and thought provoking afternoon. In the evening, the staff gathered again to share a meal and celebrate the year. We appreciate all the hard work done throughout the year to protect and advance Nlaka'pamux title and rights.

Nlaka'pamux Nation Explores the Future of Digitization at nkshAytkn



Embracing a Digital Future

On December 4th, the Nlaka'pamux nation gathered at Lytton's Battlefield Centre for an enlightening nkshAytkn event focusing on digitization. The intimate gathering of 18 participants, led by John Haugen and featuring speakers like Mandy Jimmie, explored the significance of digitizing cultural heritage.

A Showcase of Cultural Treasures

John Haugen presented a variety of books, among which "Where the Power Is: Indigenous Perspectives on Northwest Coast Art" was notably seen in photographs. This was one of several examples demonstrating the blend of physical and digital realms in preserving Indigenous art and culture. The event also highlighted services for converting old films to digital formats and showcased high-resolution images of indigenous artifacts.

Forward-Thinking Discussions

Attendees delved into the evolving role of technology, including AI, in heritage preservation. The need for skilled individuals in digitizing materials was emphasized, alongside ensuring secure access to digitized content for the Nlaka'pamux community.

Community, Culture, and Connection

The day also featured a communal lunch and door prizes, fostering a sense of community and shared purpose. This nkshAytkn event marked a significant step towards integrating tradition and technology for the Nlaka'pamux nation's cultural preservation in the digital era.

Upcoming 2024 nkshAytkn



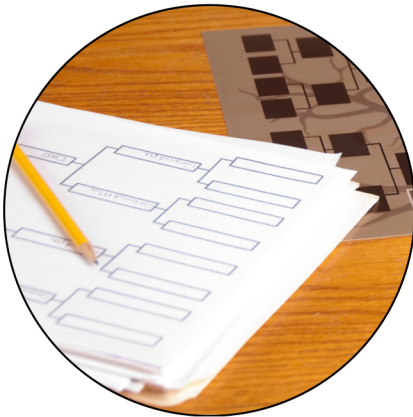
Stick Games

January 4th, 2024

Welcome to the New Year Chief Niakia Hanna, bone games, bring a team, practice your stick game song. Monetary donations accepted as prize money. Good way to honour a loved one who has passed on. Please bring your own plate, bowl and cutlery.

Battlefield Centre • Lytton, BC

10am - 5pm



Are You Connected to the Roberts family?

February 4th, 2024

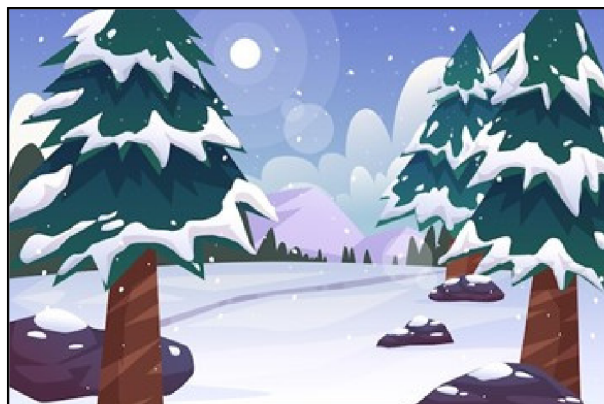
Exploring the connections to this family where are the descendants now Who is related from this settler family? Bring your photos, questions, family trees, old documents, baptisms, marriage and other records. Please bring your own plate, bowl and cutlery.

Battlefield Centre • Lytton, BC

10am - 2pm

Please call 250-455-2711 to let us know you are coming or if you would like to help or donate. If a ride is needed, please let us know.

**The leadership and staff of NNTC wish you and your family
a happy, healthy, and safe holiday season
and all the very best for 2024.**



NNTC Website and Newsletter Sign-up

Exciting News: Our New Website is Live!

Hello Wonderful Community,

We are thrilled to announce that our brand-new website is now live! After months of hard work and dedication, we have created a digital space that is intuitive, user-friendly, and filled with all the resources and information you've come to love from us.

To ensure you never miss an update, we have introduced a feature allowing you to have our newsletter delivered straight to your email inbox. Here's how you can set it up:

Visit Our New Website

Take a moment to explore our new website at nntc.ca

Newsletter Sign-Up

On our homepage, you'll find a 'Newsletter Sign-Up' section. Simply enter your email address to subscribe.

Stay Updated

Be the first to receive all our latest news, updates, and exclusive content, all conveniently in your email.

Connect With Us on Facebook

If you haven't already, follow us on Facebook to join in the conversation and to stay updated with all our latest posts and announcements. Share the news about our new website with your friends and family to help us grow our vibrant community.

We thank you for your continued support and are excited to welcome you to our new online home. We have many exciting things in store for you, and by signing up for our newsletter, you'll ensure you won't miss a thing.

Visit Our New Website & Sign-Up for the Newsletter <https://nntc.ca/news/>

Thank you for being a vital part of our community. We look forward to sharing this new chapter with you!

Warm regards,

The NNTC Team

NNTC leadership and staff are here to answer your questions, provide updates, and support our community in any way we can. We're always eager to share more of our heritage, including Nlaka'pamux cultural and historical pieces.

- Do you have any Nlaka'pamux stories that you'd like to have featured in our next quarterly newsletter?
- Are there any specific updates that you'd like us to highlight next quarter?

We want your feedback!

Send us an email at Nlakapamux@nntc.ca for any ideas or suggestions for next quarter's newsletter!



**Nlaka'pamux Nation
Tribal Council**