

Pakisqnuk Community Newsletter January 25, 2024



In this issue...

- Upcoming Events & Program Information
- Health Department Updates
- New Employee Profiles
- Little Badgers Updates

- Ktunaxa Language Learning
- Employment Opportunities
- Call for Ktunaxa Artists









sun	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
				Elk Day	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Dr. Page	4	10
II	12	13	Valentine's Day	15	16	17
18	Family 19 Day office closed	Band 20 meeting Spm	21	22 Dr. Page	23	24
25	26	27 Good Food Box	28	29	96	6
note:					-	9

- Groundhog's day
- 14th Valentine's Day Valentine's Luncheon Mural Room 12pm
- 18th Family Day Fun Day at the Rec Centre
- · 20th Coffee with the Cops in the Band Hall 2pm Spm
- 20th Band Meeting 5 pm
- · 27th Good Food Box
- 28th Anti Bullying Day, wear pink shirts.

From the Health Centre

- Ist Elk Day come help butcher an elk and take some meat home!
- · 8th Dr Page
- 14th Health Benefits info Session 10-11:30
- 20th Massage Clinic
- 21st Food Bank Trip
- 21st Community Meeting on the Toxic Drug Crisis, Lion's Hall (more details to follow
- 22nd Dr Page
- 29th Foot Clinic









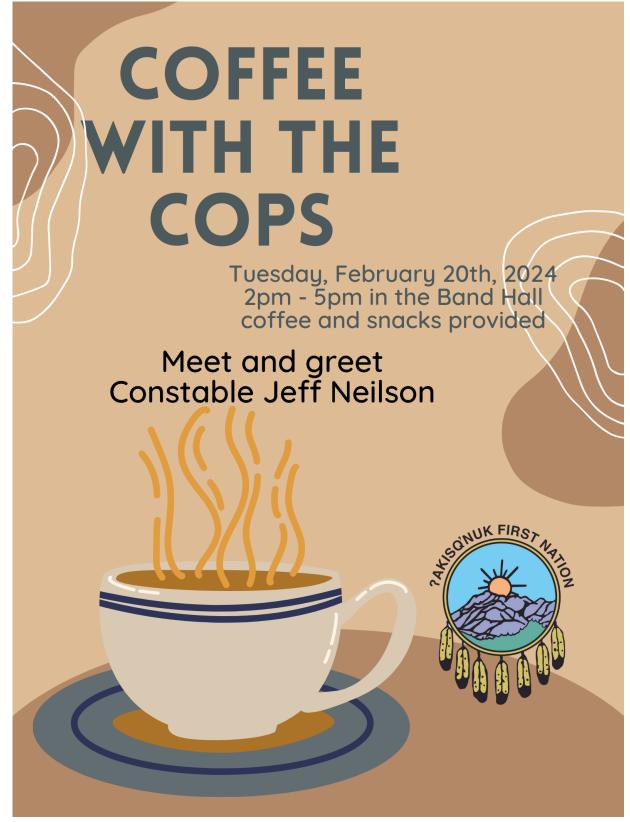
2024 Ski Program

- Panorama
- Fairmont
- Kimberley
- Fernie
- Kicking Horse

Equipment Rentals, Lessons, Lift Tickets and Meals

Please email trisha.clowers@akisqnuk.org with ski day requests









First Nations Health Benefit Program

The First Nations Health Benefit (FNHB) Program covers specific medically necessary items, services, and travel that support First Nations peoples' health and wellness needs. The program is administered through partnerships with Pacific Blue Cross and PharmaCare.

Eligibility

The FNHB Program is available to First Nations people with Indian status who live in BC and infants (up to 24 months) of an eligible parent. To access the benefits and coverage under the Health Benefits Program, First Nations people must first enroll in the program. Please call 1-855-550-5454 or visit fnha.ca/benefits/eligibility for more information on how to enroll.

Health Benefits Coverage

The FNHB Program covers six benefit areas:



DENTAL

The Dental benefit provides coverage for items and services to maintain good oral health, prevent cavities, gum disease, and restore damaged tooth function. Some items and services covered under the dental benefit are bridges, crowns, exams and x-rays, fillings, and preventive services.



MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

The Medical Supplies and Equipment (MS&E) benefit provides coverage for items and services needed in the short or long-term to support health and wellness. Some items and services covered under the MS&E benefit are bathing and toileting aids, hearing aids and repairs, limb and body orthotics, ostomy supplies, walking aids, and wheelchairs.



MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION

The Medical Transportation (MT) benefit assists with the cost of meals, accommodation, and transportation towards travel for a medical appointment outside your community of residence. The MT benefit may also cover travel escorts under certain conditions.





MENTAL HEALTH

The Mental Health benefit covers in-person and virtual counselling services from a qualified mental health provider registered with the FNHB. Coverage is available for Mental Health counselling from four programs. The Mental Wellness and Counselling program is for Status First Nations individuals, while the Indian Day Schools Health Support Program, Indian Residential School Resolution Health Support Program, and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Health Support Services are available to both status and non-status individuals. Talk to your Mental Health Provider to determine the appropriate program for you.



PHARMACY

The Pharmacy benefit, administered mainly through Plan Wellness (Plan W), provides coverage for medications and items that support First Nations people on their wellness journeys. The Pharmacy benefit covers specific prescription drugs, over-the-counter drugs, non-drug over-the-counter items, and Shingrix® vaccine. Please call 1-855-550-5454 to enroll in Plan W.

In addition to Plan W, the provincial agencies, including the BC Cancer Agency, BC Transplant, BC Renal Agency, and the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS, provide specialty pharmacy items to all BC residents living with specific illnesses or conditions.



VISION CARE

The Vision Care benefit provides coverage for items and services to ensure proper eye health and support access to preventative care. The benefit covers eye exams, sight tests, prescription eyewear and repairs.

OTHER COVERAGE

BC Medical Services Plan (MSP)

The FNHB manages MSP for First Nations people in BC. If you have status and need to register for MSP, call 1-855-550-5454.

Ambulance Bills

The FNHB covers the cost of ambulance transport to a hospital in an emergency situation and from a lower level care facility to a higher level care facility (e.g., long-term care home to a hospital).

View Your Plan Details

To check details about your coverage for dental, vision, medical supplies, and mental health, please create an online PBC Member Profile on www.pac.bluecross.ca or download the PBC app on your smartphone or tablet. The PBC Member Profile offers convenient and secure access to detailed information about your benefits coverage 24 hours a day.

Please call Health Benefits at 1-855-550-5454, email <u>healthbenefits@fnha.ca</u> or visit <u>fnha.ca/benefits</u> to learn more about the First Nations Health Benefits program and benefit coverages.

A representative FNHA will be joining us on **February 14, 2024 at 10:00 in the Band Hall** to talk about Health Benefits. Everyone is invited to attend and learn more about their benefits including: dental, medical supplies and equipment, medical transportation, pharmacy, vision care, and more! Come learn about what is covered, what is not, how to access coverage, and more. There will be food!



Important Dates At The Health Centre

- February 1 Elk Day come help butcher an elk and take some meat home!
- February 8 Dr. Page
- February 14 Health Benefits Information Session from 10:00 to 11:30
- February 14 Valentine's Luncheon from 12:00 to 1:00
- February 20 Massage Clinic
- February 21 Elder's Food Bank Trip
- February 21 Community Meeting on the Toxic Drug Crisis (more details to follow)
- February 22 Dr. Page
- February 29 Foot Clinic





My name is Colleen Simon, RN, employed at ?akisqnuk Health Center as Clinical Lead. While I am new to this role, I have been working mostly full time for over 30 years in the Healthcare sector. I am therefore able to apply my past knowledge and experience in providing high quality health services to First Nations members. My personal passion is spending time with family and friends mostly in the great outdoors.

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your community.

I would like to take this time to express my gratitude and give thanks to the Pakisqnuk **First Nation** Community for allowing me the opportunity to come back to work as a Registered Nurse, truly an honor to be here.

Since I have been away, I have been working for First Nation Healthy Authority (FNHA) as a Registered Nurse, and will be continuing to do so moving forward. I work in remote First Nation communities in Northern BC for FNHA on a rotation of one month away from home working for FNHA, and then I am home for one month.

During this time off, I have discussed with the health team that I will be available two-to-three-part days a week, to assist with health needs in the community. When I am in the community, please feel free to stop by for a visit, or if you have any questions, please call the office, and myself or one of the other health team staff will be happy to assist you.



Thank you,







NOT JUST NALOXONE WORKSHOP

Talking about substance use in Indigenous communities

January 29 & 30 | 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Lunch & Snacks Provided

Not Just Naloxone (NJN) is a workshop hosted by the First Nations Health Authority and is delivered in partnership by the Four Directions Team, Regional Team and community harm reduction champions. This training was developed in response to the toxic drug crisis in BC, which continues to disproportionately impact Indigenous people.

While Naloxone is an effective life-saving medicine to reverse an overdose, it is not our only response. The NJN workshops teach participants to facilitate community-based discussions about:

- Racism and prohibition in Canada
- Decolonizing substance use
- Indigenous harm reduction practices
- Trauma-and resiliency-informed practice
 Anti-stigma work
- Naloxone training (nasal/injection)



To Register Please Contact the Shuswap Health Centre 778-526-8323



?akisq'nuk First Nation is happy to announce that **Andrea Sakamoto** is offering her counselling services (individual or group) to ?akisq'nuknik. These services are at no cost to members. You may contact her at 250-961-0993 for more information or to book with her.

Please see her bio below:



My name is Andrea Sakamoto and I am located in the East Kootenays. I thank the Ktunaxa Nation for having me and my family to live, learn, and play on your stolen and unceded traditional territory. You have lived and cared for the lands since time immemorial. Thank you for your timeless and continued efforts as the stewards and guardians of these lands, waters, air and animals.

The first three decades of my life, I believed that my limited self-worth was found only in my actions and accomplishments; that I needed to be 'doing' to be worth something. I believed that people-pleasing was necessary to ensure a safe and consistent relationship with others. This resulted in over-achieving, scrambling to do everything while missing out on what was important for me, so not finding satisfaction or fulfillment and then eventual burnout and resentment.

A period of several years in the last decade of my life has been marked by struggle: hardship and trauma around my closest loved ones experiencing serious injury, terminal illness, death, and my creating new life in this vulnerable place all the while building and operating businesses that I thought filled my self-worth emptiness. I lived in overwhelm. The balance to these struggles, and my biggest learning in this lifetime, is the beauty and simplicity in the ebb and flows of life. 'Life is suffering' as the Buddha said – when we can come to living in acceptance and understanding with this, everything else can become magic. Attached to our suffering is our greatest strengths and wisdom, we are not meant to avoid suffering. There is a higher level of support, on an interdimensional level (for me,



this comes from my ancestors and from Mother Nature) that is accessible to each of us when we practice the tools to quiet our racing minds and to come home to a place of fulfillment as the architects of our lives.

As a Transpersonal counsellor, I am effective in a practical, logical sense and we can meet at this level; my passion is in supporting you to experience a deeper level of connection, pondering and relating as we journey, gently, to a universal consideration. For every person, this is a unique path based on your individual life experiences and perspective.

I believe in unconditional love, compassion and generosity. My life purpose is to support others to find a place of trust and surrender through our biggest transitions to ultimately find peace while connecting to the strengths and wisdom that these challenges can eventually offer us.

It is an honour to be able to take this journey with you.



General News and Updates

Chief and Council Meetings

Chief and Council

Deadline to submit items to Chief and Council Agenda is always the Friday before.

The next meetings will be January 31, 2024.

Pakisqnuk Nation is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Chief and Council Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/ j/89758249947?

<u>pwd=dlYvNm9CSFdFVm4xa1dtM1lrdnBvQT09</u> Meeting ID: 897 5824 9947 Passcode: 054045

Contact Executive Assistant Karen Vargas karen.vargas@akisqnuk.org to request to be on the agenda or if you have any questions. The next Elders Meeting will be January 30.

Akisqnuk Nation is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Elders Steering Committee

Time: Jan 30, 2024 10:00 AM Mountain Time (US

and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86516769993? pwd=aEIzdHdRVzRSRDRxYkpUWDVCa2s1Zz09

Meeting ID: 865 1676 9993

Passcode: 695649





Employment Opportunities

?akisqnuk First Nation Employment Opportunities

If you are a community member who is re-entering the workforce, going through a career change, or a new graduate, ?akisqnuk First Nation (AFN) is committed to your success. We provide training, coaching, mentorship, and professional development opportunities to support your success. We ask that you have an eagerness to learn and a willingness to be a part of our team. Having all the qualifications listed in the posting is not always necessary; the first step is to apply for an opportunity that is available and of interest.

Check out full postings at https://akisqnuk.org/employment-opportunities

You may submit your application by submitting your interest directly to Human Resources at hr@akisqnuk.org



Employment Opportunities

Community Wellness Coordinator

Full-time Set schedule \$55,000-\$65,000 per annum

Open until filled

?akisqnuk First Nation is looking for a full-time Community Wellness Coordinator to join our team. Reporting to the Associate Director of Health, this position is responsible for advocating, initiating, coordinating, and evaluating community wellness initiatives at ?AFN. This position is often a first point of contact for clients to access support services.

Are you?

- · Kind, compassionate, and genuinely care about people
- Safe and reliable
- Passionate about wellness and harm reduction
- · Looking to be part of a growing interprofessional community-based health team

Why work at ?Akisgnuk First Nation?

- · We care about your wellness
- · We are committed to building the best team possible
- · We value staff and believe in reasonable workloads and fair compensation
- · We offer excellent employee benefits
- · We are deeply committed to our work and to the wellbeing and sovereignty of our community
- · We are located in the most beautiful place on earth!

What you will be doing:

- Connecting individuals to resources to assist with mental wellness and healthy lifestyle promotion
- Develop information and programming on individual, family, and community wellness for various age groups; including but not limited to harm reduction, substance use, family or intimate partner violence, mental health and wellness, and more including literature, resource materials, workshops, presentations, videos, internet sources, etc.
- Collaborate with Elders, knowledge keepers, subject matter experts, and other ?AFN departments
- And more!

What we are looking for:

- · 2-year diploma in Social Services or other health or social-related field (or additional relevant experience).
- 2 4 years of previous relevant experience
- · Demonstrated ability to work with Indigenous communities



?AKISÓNUK FIRST NATION

3050 Hwy 93/95 Windermere, B.C. V0B 2L2 Office: 250.342.6301 Fax: 250.342.9693 www.akisqnuk.org

INTERESTED?

To apply for this job, email your resume to hr@akisqnuk.org Further details available at: https://akisqnuk.org/employmentopportunities



Employment Opportunities

Medical Office Assistant

Open until filled

Full-time Set schedule \$40,000-\$50,000 per annum

We are looking for a full-time **Medical Office Assistant** to join our team. Reporting to the Clinical Lead (RN), this position supports the Health Center team, as well as other ?AFN care professionals by performing a wide variety of clerical and administrative tasks.

Are you?

- · Friendly and able to get along with most people
- An excellent communicator with strong organizational and multi-tasking skills
- Tech-Savvy and Detail-Oriented
- Kind and genuinely care about people
- Looking to be part of a growing team

Why work at ?Akisqnuk First Nation?

- · We care about your wellness
- · We are committed to building the best team possible
- We value staff and believe in reasonable workloads and fair compensation
- We are deeply committed to our work and to the wellbeing and sovereignty of our community
- We are located in the most beautiful place on earth!

What you will be doing:

- · Greet patients and visitors to the clinic
- Assist patients in completing health history and intake forms
- · Prepare examination rooms
- Schedule, coordinate, and confirm office appointments, check-ups and physician referrals
- · Maintain and organize patient medical records
- · Perform office administration duties
- Patient travel clerical duties
- · Other duties as required.

What we are looking for:

- Completion of a Medical Office Assistant Certificate or other health-related field (or additional relevant experience)
- 2 4 years of previous relevant experience
- Demonstrated ability to work with Indigenous communities
- · Excellent communication skills



?AKISÓNUK FIRST NATION

3050 Hwy 93/95 Windermere, B.C. V0B 2L2 Office: 250.342.6301 Fax: 250.342.9693 www.akisqnuk.org

INTERESTED?

To apply for this job, email your resume to hr@akisqnuk.org
Full job description available at:
https://akisqnuk.org/employment-opportunities



Ktunaxa Language Learning

Ka 'a :k‡ukaqwa‡a Our language, our time

Ktunaxa - Ksankanintik

Enjoy two hours of Ktunaxa Language sharing four times a month!

A safe place to explore learning our sounds and all the beautiful words they make.

Learn along with others while using beginner learning materials, word games and Kahoot!

Perhaps you have something you want to learn but don't know where to start or feel intimidated trying on your own? Four times a month we will come together for these and many more reasons.

Hun hu@paya?ti ku@ qapi‡ ?upxniski‡!

'a ktukqa'nam, n. speech, language (someone's). ka ktukqa (ka 'a ktukqa). my language. 'a ktukqa'nis. your language. 'a ktukqa'is. his, her, their language. ka ktukaqwata (ka 'a ktukaqwata). our language. 'a ktukaqwumniskit. your (pl.) language.

Starting June 7th, 2023
Every second Wednesday from 10:30am to
12:30pm MST
Starting June 10th, 2023
Two Saturday evenings per month from
7:00pm to 9:00pm MST

For link, please contact Mara Email: ktunaxalanguagelearner@gmail.com Call: (403) 392-6682



Traditional Knowledge and Language



Ktunaxa Language Learning

Ka 'aktukaqwata Our Language - Our Time



Ktaʻqakinukqnana Fairmont Kyaknuqil'it Invermere Elkford Kakaminnuqti'it Elkford Kakaminnuqti'it Elkford Froctor Top Of The Hill Kaqawakanmituk Sparwaod Siyat Seattle Bull River Missaula Praknusu'rki Bull River Missaula Brisco Radium Yaknusu'rki Brisco Radium Yaqan Nu'rkiyu Kaqan Ku'rkiyu'ki Banff Tobacco Plains

Ki?su?k kwa‡kwayit Hu qak‡ik_ Hu nini Ktunaxa Hu qaki qaxi_ Hu qawsaqa?ni_







Suppin kin, ekkilt Paganga? (What are you doing now?)
to qokin (say it again)
thu galipanik (I forgot)
thu skill Pakukini (I will try/) am trying)
Mair fall pan (don't tak so fast - say it slowly)
Öaka nikt? (What's happening?)
thu ga Puppin (I don't know)

Ktunaxanintik
Twice a month Wednesday mornings from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm, mst.
Twice a month Saturday evenings from

month Saturday evenings from 7:30 - 9:30 pm, mst.

Online Ktunaxa Language Sharing With

qata kin wurkat?

wusoq
savo
nukdan;Ht
nuqtukin

We work on a variety of Ktunaxa language. From sounds to sentence work, from games to place names and all of our curiosities between!

If you are interested in sharing space with other learners, contact Mara at

Mara.Nelson@Ktunaxa.org for your zoom link



Little Badgers Updates



Fishing Forever allows people of all abilities to experience a day of fishing. We welcome all who need support to enjoy the event. We provide all the fishing equipment, and participants and volunteers will be provided lunch. There will be opportunities to help set up and take down equipment and assist participants with baiting hooks and landing fish. If you would like to attend, please register via email. info@lwdrg.com

FEB 3, 2024 10AM -2PM LWDRG ICE SHACK
LAKE WINDERMERE. INVERMERE BC
BELOW BAYSHORE CONDOS.







https://lwdrodgun.com/

info@lwdrg.com

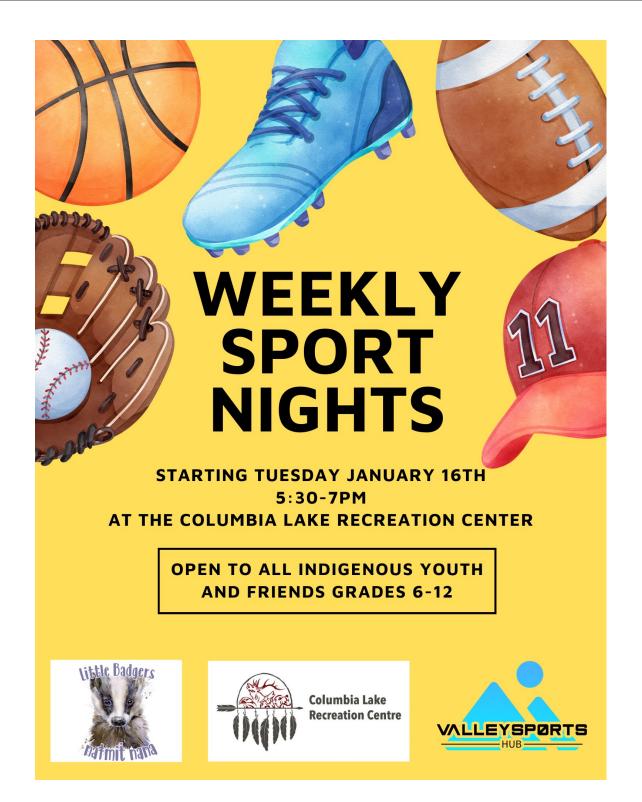


Little Badgers Updates





Little Badgers Updates





KNC and Ktunaxa **Communities News**

BLACK STAR FLEA **MARKET**









PRIZES HOT HOT CHOCOLATE



LOCATION

LKB GYMNASIUM 830 SIMON ROAD **CRESTON BC** VOB1G2

DATE & TIME

SATURDAY **FEBRUARY 10. 2024** 10AM - 10PM

INFORMATION

EVERYONE WELCOME. **FREE ENTRY**

VENDOR BOOKING INFORMATION

TO BOOK A VENDOR TABLE, PLEASE **CONTACT COLTON @** 250-254-2287

VENDOR FEES \$25 LKB MEMBERS SET UP **FOR FREE**



KNC and Ktunaxa Communities News



Call for Caterer

Ktunaxa Nation Council -

Education and Employment will be hosting a Youth Summit on March 22 & 23, 2024.

We are asking for catering bids for the event.

There is an expectation of approximately 65+ in attendance. Food Safe certificate is required.

The Youth Summit will be held at the Dan Joe Memorial Gymnasium located in <u>?aˈqam</u> <u>Community</u> near Cranbrook, B.C.

The caterer will be responsible for providing:

- Lunch (Friday March 22, 204)
- Supper (Friday March 22, 2024)
- Plates, bowls, & cutlery for the meals
- Please have options available for gluten free, dairy & other known allergies

Bid submissions must be received by 12:00 pm February 12, 2024.

Attn: Rachelle Sebastian Fax: 250-489-2438

Email: Rachellef.Sebastian@ktunaxa.org

Please make sure to include your complete contact information on your bid. Also include a general description of the meals you will be providing.



Calling All Artists



Calling All Ktunaxa Artists

Are you an expressive artist looking for a fun project?

Do you enjoy drawing, painting or digital arts?

If so, we are looking for Ktunaxanintik from 9-99 that would like to create art for a series of Ktunaxa Verb Booklets that will be published in this year.

For more information contact Mara Nelson at 403-392-6682 or by email at Mara.Nelson@Ktunaxa.Org

** KTUNAXA Traditional Knowledge and Language



Calling All Artists





Calling All Artists

Details

- Submit images by
 February 23, 2024
- Announcement of chosen images March 6, 2024
- \$1,000 for each piece selected
- Artwork provided in digital format or have ability to convert to digital
- Artwork will be used on an ongoing basis in promotional materials and resources.

To submit artwork email:

aboriginalmentalwellness@interiorhealth.ca