

?Akisq̓nuk First Nation Band Meeting Agenda

Date: March 20, 2023

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Location: **?Akisq̓nuk** First Nation Band Hall, Windermere, B.C.
#3050 Highway 93/95, Windermere, B.C.

Invited: All Membership
Chief Donald Sam
Councillor Allan Nicholas
Councillor Lillian Rose
Councillor Darcy Fisher
Councillor Janice Alpine

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- 1. Opening prayer**
- 2. Adoption of agenda**
- 3. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting**

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- 3.1 Minutes from December 5, 2022
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- 4. Council Reports**

- 4.1 Councillor Allan Nicholas
- 4.2 Councillor Darcy Fisher
- 15 - 19 4.3 Chief Donald Sam
[20230320 Chief Update Band Meeting](#)
- 20 4.4 Councillor Janice Alpine
[Councillor Report Feb-Mar 2023](#)
- 4.5 Councillor Lillian Rose

5. Department Report

- 21 5.1 Senior Administrative Officer Report
[SAO Report Band.Meeting March.20.2023](#)
- 22 - 43 5.2 Member Services
[Member services report March 20th - 2023](#)
[housing band meting report march 20th](#)
- 44 - 45 5.3 Fiscal and Economic Report
[Fiscal and Economic Update \(March 2023 Band Meeting\)](#)
- 46 - 47 5.4 Lands, Resources and Infrastructure Report
[Band meeting report March 20 2023 -LRID](#)

6. New Business

- 48 - 49 6.1 Firewood Policy
[AFN Firewood policy 4 2023](#)
- 50 - 53 6.2 Community Connectivity - Questions & Answers
[Community Connectivity_v2](#)
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7. Adjournment

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Band Meeting Minutes December 5th, 2022

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Meeting called to order at: 10: 26 AM.

Attendees:

Joseph Khan	Samantha Sam
David Bach	Alfred Joseph
Tracy Miller	Marie Nicholas
Stephanie Sam	Lola Nicholas
Bob Cotterall	Yvonne Stanley
Christy Baker	Lily Joseph
Hany Hafez	Beatrice Stevens
Karen Vargas	Patrick Nicholas
Danny Burgoyne	Rachelle Sebastian
David Burgoyne	Anna Hudson (Zoom)
Patsy Nicholas	Eldene Stanley (Zoom)

1) Opening Prayer

- Said by Beatrice Stevens.
- Quorum was stablished.
- No agenda additions.

2) Council Reports

- ❖ Councillor Allan Nicholas
Absent
- ❖ Councillor Darcy Fisher
 - Continuation of work on the membership code. The committee is going over the language piece. The committee wants to have a meeting with some of the knowledge holders so

ensure they have the right information and the language and to ensure the Ktunaxa is captured in the code. The membership is with the lawyers right now, it needs to meet the legal standards and also the standard of human rights.

- Has been at all the Council meetings, only missed one meeting in October to attend a meeting with KNC the Lands and Resources Sector.
- Holds the Traditional Knowledge and Language portfolio but this is the most understaffed sector at KNC, so there haven't been too many meetings yet. However, they have an internship program which they will want to talk to the community about in the near future.
- Anna Hudson: would like to get involved in the membership committee and would like to know how.
- The committee is currently parked, but they will be talking to the community and knowledge holders for input.
- Eldene Stanley asked for clarification on how KNC is involved in the membership code.
- Councillor Darcy Fisher explained that its in the definition part, trying to clarify and make sure it is clear what the meaning of membership is.
- Alfred Joseph: one of the things that we talked about was that we need to have our own community rules. To look as Ktunaxa and say "this is how we used to take care of ourselves before human rights and colonialism came in." We still don't know what happened with the last death in the community. In the past the Chief would go around notifying the community, the community standards need to start being written down.
We had a letter from Council that said that we don't tolerate illicit activities. And I knew that was not going o work, we need a judiciary Council, we need community policing. If we put in a rule, we need to back them up.
- Chief Donald Sam: Councillor Darcy Fisher and the Membership Code committee are working on a naturalization process or something similar to a "green card" system" for new members. How can Council do that work that you are talking about?
- Alfred Joseph: the work was started already years ago.
- Marie Nicholas: Council has to be here, we got to stop talking behind people and ask them what they need. The Council needs to know what the people want and need.
- Beatrice Stevens: we do need to sit down and talk about the work. Why is it that some of us don't have rides? We have big families, so why are we depending on the office? We got to go to our families and tell them to do things for us.
- Eldene Stanley: what is the status update on the apprenticeship program?
- Councillor Darcy Fisher They have funding for one person from the community to participate, there is funding out there for AFN to access, and we could get over \$100k in grants if we wanted to develop cultural programs within AFN.
- Alfred Joseph: it sounds like KNC continues to put their nose in money that the band should be getting. There is a power shift, some of the land staff can access money on behalf ?Akisq̓nuk name. we need to know when this happens, when they are using AFN name before they even apply. There needs to be clarification on the purpose of KNC.

- ❖ Chief Donald Sam:
 - Self Governance
 - Dependence on Tribal Council for social, language, health, and lands support. The work to decentralize this is being done.
 - Council is working on establishing a Justice Council or judiciary Council.
 - The Housing committee and housing department are working with a consultant on a housing strategy.
 - Looking at the certification through First Nations Financial Management Board. Who will be helping us update our policies and become certified by next Spring.
 - Opportunity to be part of a provincial justice Council.
 - Indigenous Recruitment strategy. Ties in with self-determination and self governing. We need to have a safe and inclusive working environment.
 - One of the big issues right now for the organization is staff shortage.
 - Return of investment to KEL
 - Alfred Joseph: request for the Council to meet up with the other nations Councils to discuss what it is that we want from KNC, what I, its purpose. The indigenous recruitment strategy might be putting the car before the horse, who are we planning this for? We don't have a list. Amortization is fake money, why are we keeping track of that? Why are we looking at old money and money that is old. Its a waist of time to look at the Audit and listen to the accountants talk about stuff that is way over our heads. This years Audit report was very poorly presented to us. Is there a report where we can see how many of our members have been helped by the investment to KEL? Some people don't even know where Nupku is. That's where the frustration is because we don't have a clue what's going on. Strategy sessions need to be done with the best interest of the community. It's gotten to the point where we don't know where anything is, the organizational chart changed, and did it go out to the community? We don't know what going on, we don't know what the jobs are.
 - Beatrice Stevens: Elder Abuse: we have to think about elders been abusers too, we have to remember that it can go both ways. The way we define elders, we have to start defining that. Have a clear definition.

- ❖ Councillor Rosemary Phillips
 - Attended varies meetings relating to her work with Council.
 - Working on a term of reference for the judiciary Council and hopefully that will go to a number of committees to make it a really good document.
 - Working on updating the committee honorarium which hasn't been updated for a while, hopefully e ready for approval soon and implemented.
 - Submitted her resignation due to family commitments. Apologies for not been able to complete the full term but will still be involved in the community through committees.
 - Social sectors: shelter opened about a month ago. Harm reduction. Streamline of funding.
 - Eldene Stanley: Expressed support and gratitude for the work that Rosemary has been doing.

- Alfred Joseph: Wondering if Council considered granting Rosemary a leave of absence to attend to her family for some time. Will you be willing to do contract work for ?Akisq̓nuk?
- Councillor Rosemary Phillips: Yes, to the contract work
- Anna Hudson: I took a course on setting up a judiciary so I would love to be included. Concerns about the social sector and something called “catch and release”. And taking advantage of opportunities. There seems to be a lot of special meeting. What were they about?
- Councillor Rosemary Phillips: sometimes we have to have meetings for things that can’t wait two weeks to be dealt with. Once we start looking at putting that judicial together the people will need to be trained.
- Anna Hudson: they are putting out 10 indigenous justice centres across the province and I don’t think we sent the right representation to have one of those centres here.
- Beatrice Stevens: sad to hear about Rosemary resigning. Proud of Rosemary to prioritize her family. Thank you for showing the people the importance of family.
- Alfred Joseph: Tells Anna to clearly express her interest in being part of things as opposed to beating around the bushes and saying that the wrong people were sent.
We have been hiding behind “confidentiality” for about 30 years, If I don’t know that a community member is in the hospital in Calgary then I can’t go and visit them. Outside rules and policies are not our way of thinking and our Ktunaxa culture to being straightforward.
- Lily Joseph: if there are people in this position who want to move forward, we also want them to be able to come back and speak at our level, with words that we understand. We want to be able to understand one another, we want to be able to know that they are working hard out there for us and that they come back and are able to speak with one another.
- Mary Jimmy: in terms of the judicial, I would like more information before appointing people. I would prefer to have more information. Because there are still things going on from two years ago. Maybe give me some information or let me know where I can do more research on this process.
- Elden Stanley: I understand that this is just in the early stages but in the spirit of trying to decolonize my suggestion is to hear from the community members who bring expertise. A lot of things seem to be decided for us, I hate to see the default, id like to see something happening here with the expertise that we already have.
- Mary Jimmy: sad to see that Rosemary is stepping down. But understand that family comes first.
- Eldene Stanley: do we have to go through an election? It was my request to put a driver’s abstract for Council Members. If you are running for Council your driver abstract better be clean, we need to hold the standards high.
- Chief Donald Sam: yes, there will be an election but we don’t have to revisit the election regulations yet.

3) Lunch Break 12:15 PM to 12: 34 pm

❖ Continuation of Council reports

- Chief Donald Sam: there are a lot of difficult conversations that need to be had. The following information is a sensitive matter which is why it has not been shared, and the Council believed that the Band meeting was the best places to share it. Reads out loud the letter regarding the suspension of Councillor Lillian Rose.
- Alfred Joseph: At the swearing-in ceremony, you are given the responsibility to start working together. There has to be some conversations on how to help each other and to work together. What benefit does having a suspended Council member have to the community? What is the Ktunaxa way of dealing with issues? we need to understand how we can work together because this is getting tiring. I would like to see a hard copy of all the policies, and there are more policies coming, is that our way? Why do we have so many policies. The Council should be working and making decisions for the betterment of AFN people. If you are having in-fight, you need to start looking at the community for guidance.
- Chief Donald Sam: Council does not take this lightly, and we do need direction from policies for fairness and consistency.
- Eldene Stanley: “a perceived conflict of interest” was there an official complaint written to the Chief and Council? and has that person been notified of the Council decision? If it is a perceived conflict of interest then we can see anything and start a process. I assume that an official letter was received and an official process was started?
- Councillor Rosemary Phillips: we did go through the whole process and did an investigation. This is the reason why we need some type of judicial body so that the Council is not responsible for this level of things, and it can become a community thing. Until we get to a point where we are culturally true, we need policies to have a way to hold people accountable, because if we don't have a check and balance then people can get away with things. We need to be fair and if we want people to be making judgements those people need to be trained and have the proper training. Every Council and group has to have debates. We are doing the best that we can, and we are trying to hold true to the policy and we are trying to do the best that we can.
- Elden Stanley: at one of the meetings, I asked for an appeals committee and id like an update on that. What process is here for that, because it falls back to the Chief and Council, so there should be an extra measure because the Chief and Council can't be the judges when they are in the conflict itself. It is not fair to the Council either so do we have an appeals committee or where is it at?
- Councillor Rosemary Phillips: that's where we started with the judiciary, an appeals committee would look at things that already happen, and maybe we need something to deal with things as they are happening.
- Alfred Joseph: Wat was the conflict about? How is it a conflict of interest?
- Mary Jimmy: We need a third party to take care of issues such as this one.

- Beatrice Stevens: perhaps we need a third-party chair because there might be some questions where Donald might want to answer but then hr can't. Just something to think about.

4) Directors Reports + Updates

❖ Administration (Joseph Khan)

- Introductions of team
- Receives direction from the Chief and Council and then delegates to the department.
- Has been getting ready for the strategy planning, and budgeting session.
- Working with HR on updating position descriptions.

❖ Member Services (Christy Baker)

Health department update:

- Over the past week there have been 21 encounters with 11 members of the community who accessed nursing support.
- Beatrice Stevens: does not like the word encounter and requests that a new word is used.
- Alfred Joseph: the health team should consider having information about the different infections and health issues, such as shingles. Information such as how it starts, what it looks like and what you can expect. Additionally have information on the services you can get.

Recreation:

- Ski program is up a running.
- Alfred Joseph: any follow-up on the archery, as they were looking for a facility where they can practice in the wintertime.
- Christy Baker: The Recreation team is already in touch with them. The Rec Centre is being opened to the community first and then it will be opened to the larger community.

Education Report:

- Working on the Local Education Agreement with the School District.
- Increase interest regarding assessments.
- Planning an afterschool program but still trying to determine what the program would look like.
- Working with the College of the Rockies to set up Adult Upgrading courses for members.
- working to purchase laptops for community/client use.
- Stephanie will submit the parents group form so we can access funding to support the incentive program for parents participating in their child's school.
- Alfred Joseph: on school district transportation, a few years back we had meetings with them on transportation. Has anything changed much since then?
- Stephanie Sam: they made adjustments to the bus route, but we did not get funding for a bus.

- Alfred Joseph: Every staff member should have a cycle of what they do every year, such as the budgeting cycle. The Ktunaxa way is to have a cycle that goes with the seasons. This way members know what is going on and they can keep track. We should not give the College of the Rockies the opportunity to use us to check a box, they have been here in the past. Alfred offers Ktunaxa language lessons and believes ?Akisq̓nuk can provide this type of language support.

❖ Lands Resources and Infrastructure

- Working on the acquisition of two electric vehicles as well to provide 2 public use charging stations through a Columbia Basin Trust grant.
- Upgrades for the north community water system.
- working with Canada on a long-term plan for what is called the Lake Windermere Groyne project.
- Hired on a contract a Professional Forester who is doing work on fuel reduction.
- Working with various forestry companies to protect cultural values and trying to implement the KNC Forest Stewardship Document.
- Working on Terms of Reference for a Lands Committee
- Various work with the province including accessing the Madias Tatley and Windermere Creek water rights.

❖ Fiscal & Economic Development

His department has two areas, Fiscal or Finance and Economic.

Finance:

- After the resignation of the senior accountant, we received support from KNC's Director of Finance on the day-to-day operations while recruiting for a new accountant. We have been successful in hiring a new accountant/ comptroller. His name is Vijay Akkapeddi and he started in November. He has lots of expertise and will be a great addition to the organization.
- We are continuing with trying to recruit for two other positions in the fiscal and economic departments. Both jobs are posted online on our website. The first is a Records, Reporting and Grants Specialist to assist with all the grants that we receive and the reporting that comes with that. And the other one is an Economic Development Specialist, to assist with the business that we have such as the Rec Centre and the Campground and all future business that we will acquire.
- Excited to have a Comptroller that joined the team as he will be able to help with the financial reporting that is mandated under the Financial Administration Law (FAL).
- The annual budgeting planning for 2023/2024 will be kickstarted soon as per the FAL. And that information will go out to the community once ready.

- We are working with FMB to get certified and as part of that work we have to get all our policies up to date and up to standard. Becoming certified has many benefits but a couple of them is that it permits us to borrow from the First Nations Finance Authority if we were to ever want to do that. The other piece of it is legitimacy and the “gold star” type thing where are we having an outside body, to confirm that we are doing everything correctly.
- Elkhorn Ranch Settlement: 75% of the total proceeds were approved to be sent out as a per capital distribution. The adult distributions started at the end of September with the first payment being done on the National Day of Reconciliation and payment going out by-weekly from then, depending on when people filed their documents. We’ve had a good response and feedback on the PCD. There is also the Minors Trusts which need to be set up. We are receiving proposals and the Finance, Audit and Investment Committee will have to pick a trusted company, and once set up we can update the guardians.
- The most efficient way to run a business is not to have a political body operating it so I've been working to set up a business structure using the limited partnership to house all the different ventures that Akisq̓nuk has. This idea has been used by other communities and I've been in contact with them to see and learn how they set it up and how they run these economic structures. Akisq̓nuk is currently in a very healthy financial state, and we need to take advantage of this opportunity, perhaps in the past due to staff turnover we missed out on opportunities but by building the organization up we can shape the economic growth to be aligned with our values.
- Anna Hudson: AFN used to have the natural resources corporation, is it still operating?
- David Bach: yes, it still exists but it doesn't do a lot.
- Anna Hudson: We do a lot where we don't look at the stuff from the past. What is going on with the guide outfitting training.?
- David Bach: there are all these operations to be reviewed and those are available for sure. But we need to use business standards that the rest of the world uses to do things properly, we are not active in the economy at the moment, and that needs to change.
- Alfred Joseph: one of the things about the campground, have you talked to any of our members about when the campground was run properly?
- David Bach: I don't know that I've ever heard it been run properly. My approach to it is that it is a business. Once you set up the economic structure and get the right board then you can look at how it's been run in the past.
- Alfred Joseph: we have resources and resourceful people in the community and you guys are going outside for resources. We are not investing in our own people, why are we sending non-community for training, community members need to be getting the knowledge that you guys are getting so we don't lose it. Once the trained staff leave, we lose the knowledge and then we have to start retraining people. If we were able to retain them that would be fine but we are losing really good workers who leave because of the atmosphere. I'm getting sick and tired of this and I will overthrow the Council legally to go back to traditional methods. We need to start looking at the internal economy. We have trained people to be Tax Administrators before and they all leave.

- Chief Donald Sam: membership is frustrated, and I am frustrated, when I talk about an indigenous hiring strategy is not to be racist. Council is frustrated and that's why we have to get the outside expertise to create opportunity for community.
- Councillor Darcy Fisher: when looking at economic development there is always one or two people who don't see fairness and how do we get to the point where we are supportive of community initiatives without thinking there is something else happening behind the scene. Chief and Council are all pro ?Akisq̄nuk when trying to move forward. We get hit so much with trying to be racist and discriminatory but an Indigenous recruitment allows us to create opportunities in the community. We are moving into the strategic planning for next year and we should have a strategy session in the community to discuss how to move forward.
- Councillor Rosemary Phillips: how fortunate we are to have David, who is a band member and has the knowledge to be working in the community. It would be much more productive if Alfred shared with David his traditional knowledge so that he can start implementing that into what we are doing, instead of standing on the sidelines and criticizing. Stop looking at ways to bring people down but look at ways to raise them.
- David Bach: The nation has always supported me through my school, and I share the frustrations. I think it is early for me in the process and I don't want to diminish the work that has been done. I want the economic success to be aligned with our values, I want there to be proper land use, and I want to make sure we are meeting the needs of the community. And it is going to take time to do that, I want to build something strong. And look forward to continuing working with the staff.
- Pete Sanchez: offered a definition of decolonization and cognitive dissonance and fear of change. I hope to see, and I want to hear the word "Napika" they have to be "Napika" driven decisions.
- Chief Donald Sam: appreciate all the discussions, and appreciate everyone who has been comfortable bringing their perspectives into the conversation in a lovely way. It is important that we separate the Council level from the operations of the staff. Hopefully, we can always come with such excitement to the Band meetings and come to share ideas.

5) Discussion

6) Door Prizes

1. Barbara Fisher - \$100
2. Gina Clarricotes - \$100
3. Leona Daniels - \$100

7) Adjournment

Wrap up prayer offered by Alfred Joseph

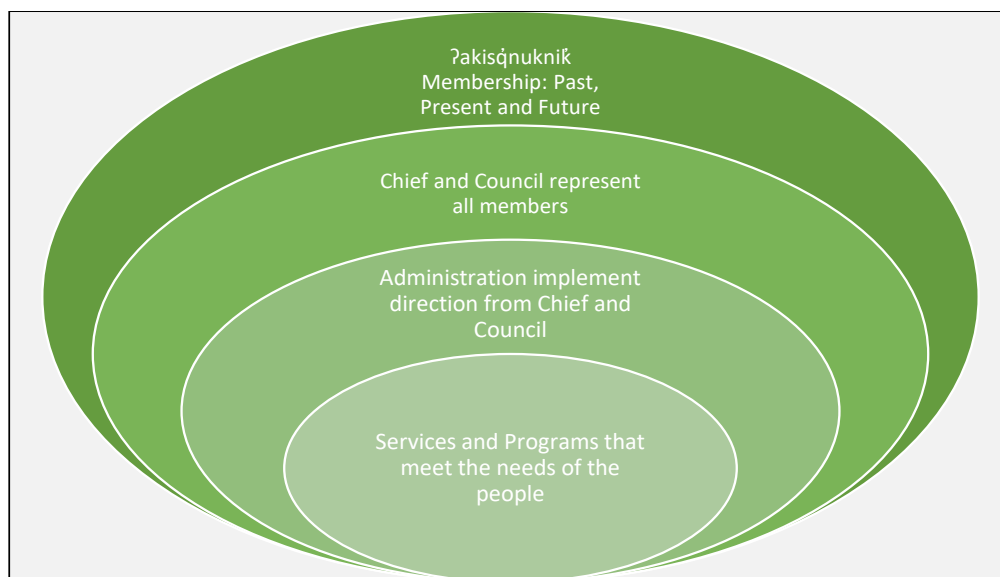
Meeting adjourned at 2: 45 PM.

Chief Donald Sam

March 20, 2023

Ki?su?k kyukyit qapi niski#

Nawsanmiyitki, ?at hun ?aqatwi “ ?itqawxawizkimik ” *Today, I think of ?itqawxawizkimik. It means for a group to be as one, for all to be linked together. For all to hang onto one thing. To belong to one company, or corporation. ?Akisqnuknik we are all linked together through Land, Genealogy, Language, Culture. Yet, our passion for what we believe in, and confidence in the beliefs of each other causes us to pull off in different directions. Through all of this, let’s not forget, Huñata?ni Ktunaxa, hu qaqiqaxi ?akisqnuk- we are all related.*



April will mark the one year anniversary for me being here representing you... all of you. I wont report on the specific activities going on at the office, although there are many great things happening (housing, Rec Center, Membership, Budgets...). My report will focus on things that are going on in the background, at the governance level where Chief and Council create a positive environment for the great things that you will hear about from all the staff reports. I will also give some perspective of looking back and moving forward.

It was and is my hope that my term on council will address 1) Staff- both professional Development, as well as appreciating good staff, providing security and empowerment. 2) Governance- Chief and council following fair transparent policies and processes for the betterment of our people past present and future. 3) Membership- Safe and Engaged membership informing our Health and wellness plan, CCP, Housing, etc. 4) Economic Development- able to confidently grow our own economy and take on opportunities that will provide for membership while limiting risk to AFN.

Transformational leadership is when you empower and motivate people to achieve objectives. The opposite results in micromanagement with rewards and punishments as the motivators. Our office has 4 divisions, each with a director and each director oversees staff that most likely deal with each and everyone of you at some point or another. All staff should be implementing the Quality of Service Standards for you the membership. As our organization grows, we can not micro-manage everyone to get things done, rather, if we were to hire competent staff, give proper direction, and empower staff to do what needs to be done, you would notice the difference. I have been here a year, and I continue to promote this strategy.

The staffing levels of AFN continue to be below what Chief and Council approved in the last budget and workplan. This is a crisis situation- Imagine playing a tournament where you should have at least 2 strings, instead you have only 6 players or imagine a pow wow with 1 drum- you can do it, but you can only perform at mediocre levels. To be great, you need that great team. AFN has about ½ the number of people that is required to deliver services and implement the strategies. HR is a problem everywhere, not just with ʔakisq̓nuk, it seems after covid, people decided they rather do things they like instead of work.

Although HR has still not finalized our Indigenous Recruitment Strategy we have had a couple community members join our staff. Hiring from within ʔAkisq̓nuk supports our people in a number of ways: Familiar faces, people familiar with the issues we face, long term commitment not to mention economic benefits. I am happy to say that the last number of new staff have included community members. So, as we wait for a proper strategy, I am happy that staff are aware mindful of this desire. I do not say this to be discriminatory, but that our people are qualified, often passionate and familiar.

Our governance table recently had a new member voted in by membership. Janice Alpine was elected in the bi-election to fill the vacancy made by Rosemary Phillips` stepping down to tend to family. We are planning a team building event to take place in the near future to get us all on the same page and working as a team.

Chief and Council has had more meetings than normal in the last couple months. Last week we met with FNHA regarding Funding agreements, Housing committee about Housing committee Terms of Reference, and Council also had to meet to discuss matters that were not addressed at the council meeting. The Week before that we had to meet to discuss the information that was presented in regards to the Columbia River Treaty. Issues are always presenting themselves, however when council can only make decisions at a duly convened meeting every two weeks, it slows us down. Council is looking at ways to have a full-time Chief and Council. Their duties would be like the portfolio system. We have not determined how to implement this idea as we must follow the Governance Policy and Financial Administrative Law that are in place. In the meantime, we are proposing that Council members be eligible for honoraria for additional meetings that they participate in such as extraordinary meetings, as well as committee meetings such as Housing, FAIC, and membership.

Committees are important governance tools. They give Council confidence in their decision making because committees allow for ʔakisq̓nuknik to provide input when the committee is

involved and active. We recognize some committees have more demands and expectations of participants than others. Council has been considering the rates of honoraria that we provide to members that contribute on Committees. Our rates are very low compared to other communities and organizations.

At the Nation Level, we are still trying to come to some understanding of how we work together. The problem is not only that one community wants to leave, there are some underlying issues that have not been addressed, and expectations that are not being met. On the other hand, there are issues that might be best addressed at a collective Ktunaxa Nation level ie) Treaty, Constitution, Traditional Territory Overlaps, Rights Recognition and Reconciliation legislation to name a few.

We recently met at Lower Kootenay to discuss the elephants in the room around Ktunaxa Nation Council. Nation Leadership is meeting monthly to address KNC Operational Frustration and challenges ie: KNCS society Constitution and Bylaws, Yaqit ʔa·knuqʔit intent to withdraw from KNC, Ktunaxa ʔamakʔis, and ʔa·kanuxunik ʔamakʔis. KNC Leadership set aside 2 days to meet every month, but there have been some scheduling issues, and we were only able to meet one day last month. This is important because we have learned to depend on KNC, now we are going through growing pains as we build up our staff and organization to be self-reliant for matters for ʔakisq̓nuk.

Sector Council meetings have been reduced to 2 hours every other month, reducing Leadership involvement in our Nation government as opposed to increasing our involvement as I understand has been the request. A good thing about this new schedule is that all council is able to attend all sector council meetings and be informed of what is going on in the various sectors.

We will be meeting with Tobacco Plains leadership this week to discuss the relationship after they leave KNC as well as how to best protect our interests in ʔamakʔis Ktunaxa. Strategic Engagement Agreement with the Province, Economic and Community Development Agreement, Internal Revenue Sharing Agreement, Ktunaxa Enterprise Limited, etc, are some of the topics that will need to be figured out with Tobacco Plains Leaving the KNCS.

At the recent Gathering of Wisdom in Vancouver, the Ktunaxa Nation came together determined to ensure that the 10-year strategy that had been developed would be something that we could support. The result was a resolution that passed the 10 year strategy, recognized the need for Community-Driven Nation-based delivery, and expressed the need for governance of FNHC be transparent and accountable.

For 2 years, ʔakisq̓nuk along with the other Ktunaxa First Nations, has desired to have a funding agreement directly with FNHA instead of going through KNC. In November and again in January, KNC assisted in setting up meetings with FNHA to move this forward. We are just about there, and I believe we will have this new funding relationship in place by the new fiscal year. The KNC Social Sector will still offer services to Ktunaxa including: Complex Care- which consists of Street Angels, Scotties House, Mary basil House; Nation Shared Services; Regional

Health Clinics. Moving forward, ʔakisq̄nuk will be responsible for health services directly to membership. Again, this speaks for the need to have qualified dependable staff in place.

I was not able to attend the Indigenous Justice Council Forum at the beginning of the month. We are looking for ways to make progress on developing a “Justice Council” or ʔiʔi-qanuqkañxu committee. This would include: Selection, Training and Terms of Reference. This committee would be relied upon as “peace-keepers” they would hear complaints, and determine if investigations are necessary, and provide Chief and Council with information before decisions are made.

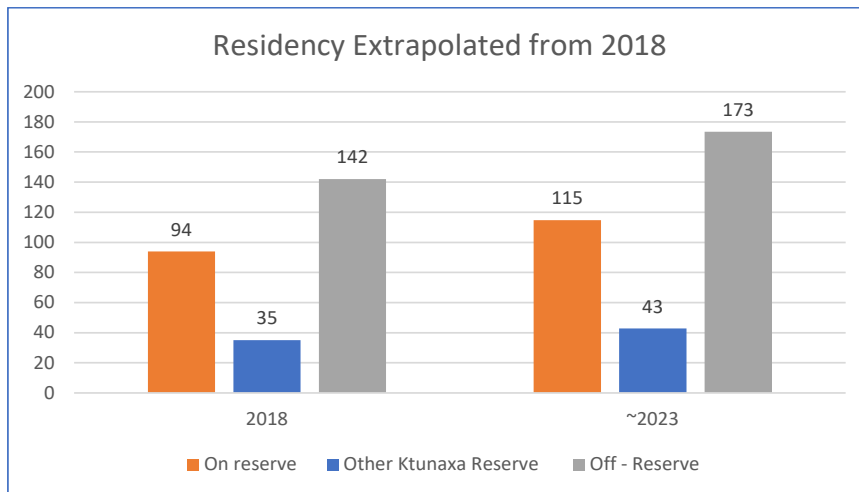
Locally, a recent video released on social media by our Neighboring Band, spoke of our Traditional Territory as if it belonged to another Nation. I was disheartened and disrespected to say the least, as many of you may have been. At the same time, I was inspired to see our people, that know enough about our history, to question and challenge what was being said in that video. These struggles are not just at political levels, there is opportunity at all levels to ensure that ʔamakʔis Ktunaxa is protected. Chief and Council met with the funders of this video and let them know how dismayed we were with what was happening and are holding them responsible.

A parcel of land beside the Reserve was recently purchased and logged. A number of community members raised concerns with the way this happened. Akisq̄nuk staff worked with the land owner to take care of some of the concerns that we had with the plans.

I was approached by a local entrepreneur enquiring about leasing some of the commercial lot north of the Band Office. I have a lot of confidence in the way our Fiscal and Economic Department is growing. We will have knowledgeable people that are able to receive these questions and have a process that any business developments or proposals can follow. Before any decisions are made, we have staff that will do our due-diligence and present a business proposal to Chief and council for a collective decision.

Our Elders have regular meetings on the last Tuesday of the Month. Recently, we had a presentation from Margaret Teneese about a dress that ʔAkisq̄nuk loaned to the Railway Museum. Margaret was able to share some of the family history connected with the dress. We will do a write up for the display of this buckskin dress.

The Membership Code Committee has not met for a while. We have a draft, however we need to make sure our membership code reflective Akisq̄nuk needs. This may include custom adoption, our understanding of Ktunaxa, and even a “naturalization” process that would provide expectations of understandings of core ʔakisq̄nuk values. Who are we? Qaʔa kiʔin Ktunaxa? All of the work we do should be grounded in ensuring that we survive thrive well into the future understanding ʔa-knumuztiʔi and being Ktunaxa. Holding on to our Ktunaxa values, language, teachings, stories etc is most important, they teach us who we are.



Estimation of ?Akisq̓nuknik location based on 2018 figures.

The Housing department has a contractor working on our Committee Terms of Reference and will be developing an updated Housing strategy. The committee has voiced concerns over the work of this consultant. He has not been engaging with the committee, and so we question how the results can be AFN led, rather than some template from somewhere else that does not work for us. Since I've started, I have witnessed tensions between the committee, the staff and the housing program. I was really expecting the work of this consultant to bring us together and I am disappointed that it has not. The work still needs to be done. In developing the Terms of Reference for our committee as well as the strategy that will drive us forward.

Building Steering Committee has met a couple of times, and we look forward to having a meeting of Community members to see the draft plans. They propose an addition to the Offices to the west between the office and the Highway. On the other side of the office will be a round atrium which would be the main entrance. On the other side of the Atrium would be the new Health Center with offices and clinics. Please come out and see the new design and progressions.

I know I am not covering everything that I have been part of over the last 3 months and the last year. Know that there is always something going on and feel free to reach out to me for a visit or coffee. My door is always open.

Councillor Report

Janice Alpine

Mar 20 2021

Ki?su?k kyukyit Óapi niski#

Since my tenure as Councillor for ʔakisqnuq First Nation I have attended 3 regular Chief & Council meetings; Feb 15, Mar 1 and 8, 2023.

A Special Chief and Council meeting focused on Human Resource matters, Feb 17th, 2023. I'm pretty confident we have come up with a plan that will be beneficial to the Band and its members. It has been a tough go for a while but we will get through this.

I attended a Ktunaxa Nation Council Executive meeting also referred to as 20 member Leadership meetings held in Lower Kootenay at the Round House. The focus was how KNC can better service the Communities.

My portfolio for the Ktunaxa Nation Council is Social Sector and alternate for Lands. I attended a Social Sector meeting on Mar 9th and we reviewed the sectors Budget and Work plan. First Nation Health Authority has agreed to enter into contribution agreements with each Ktunaxa community as opposed to flowing through KNC. We are on the verge of finalizing that agreement.

I attended the Ktunaxa Kinbasket Child & Family Services Bill C92 meeting on Mar 10th the group was taken though the process of addressing what the Declaration needs to address based on Ktunaxa values and family structures.

There are so many things on the cue that still need to be addressed such as our relationship with the Shuswap Indian Band only to mention one item of a laundry list of items. I am happy to say we do have a plan and it's a matter of hearing from our relatives and the Shuswap Band.

We are addressing the Housing matter. We have Home Owner Grants in review at our table, unfortunately, we need to consider how they are beginning presented on behalf of the applicant but will get there.

I'm not sure what else I can offer at this point other than, if you have any concerns or matters I can assist with, please bring them forward. I can be reached at janice.alpine@akisqnuq.org or 250 417 7895.

On a side note, the Ktunaxa Nation Council has a Micro Loan program and a Business Grant available to its Citizens. For more information please contact janice.alpine@ktunaxa.org 250 420 2762.



janice.alpine@akisqnuq.org

?akisq̄nuk First Nation Band Meeting

March 20, 2023

SAO Report

Ki?su?k kyukyit everyone,

These have been exciting few months since the last Band Meeting.

Strategic Planning Session: In December 2022, along with other Directors I participated with Council in a two-day strategic planning session. It was a great opportunity for administration to work with Council in identifying strategic priorities for the next three years 2023-26.

By-Election: Due to Rosemary Phillips resignation from the Council, when Council called a by-election for February 13th, 2023, for the vacant seat on the Council, the administration provided support where needed, to the Electoral Officer. On February 15th, 2023, Janice Alpine was sworn in as the new Councillor.

Budgeting Process: In November 2021, Council approved a new organizational structure with four divisions/departments; Members' Services, Lands/Resources/Infrastructure, Fiscal and Economic, and Core Services.

Therefore, working with Fiscal and Economic and other departments, we developed a budget that is based on the four department/divisions organization structure. This will give the Nation a clear picture of how much it invests in each division.

Then based on the strategic goals and action items identified in the strategic plan from December 2022, we also developed strategic workplans.

Along with Fiscal and Economic Director and Comptroller, we had four meetings with FAIC (Finance, Audit, and Investment Committee) to review the budgets and workplans. It was a very rewarding experience to go through process. With valuable feedback from FAIC, we improved the draft budget from Draft one to Draft four. On March 9th, 2023, during its fourth meeting, FAIC recommended the draft budgets and workplans to the Council for approval.

Once the Council meeting date is confirmed to review the budgets, a notice will be posted to inform members in case anyone wishes to participate in that meeting.

Certification by FNFMB: Since 2015, it has been the goal of ?akisq̄nuk First Nation to secure certification from First Nation Financial Management Board. With support from the Council, we are working hard to meet all the requirements and achieve this certification this year.

Hopefully, this will help in gaining the trust of AFN members as well as entities that we do business with, assuring that in our governance and operations we meeting the highest standards established for this certification.

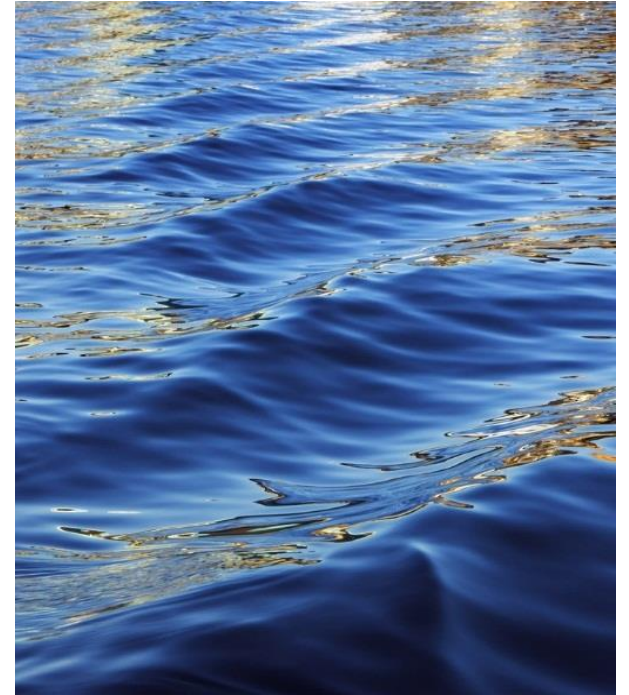
In addition, administration has been working hard on serving you, the members to the best of our abilities.

I am very grateful for the ongoing support of Council, all staff and you the members. I welcome your feedback in improving our services to you.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Member services report

March 20th 2023



Education update

- **Band Meeting report**
- **Education**
- Working with SD6 on updated LEA. This is still being worked on, and hope to be completed soon. It will go to Council with Recommended agreement for approval.
- We have been working with SD6, as well as Shuswap Band, and Metis community, to build an Indigenous Education Council within the District. This will give a voice regarding Indigenous student success, but also for inclusion of Indigenous materials and learning across the curriculum. We have recently completed a draft of the terms of reference for this and will be continuing to work on having this group up and going very soon.
- We have 16 students in K-12 locally. We have had 3 students recently relocate into community, and we wish them continued success in their Education.
- Working to confirm Transportation funding for Nominal Roll families through the school year.
- We are continuing collecting information in order to provide supports to families who do not reside within community; however, we need parents to submit the information to assist us in determining what this support may look like, and what amount may be adequate. The survey is posted on Website, Facebook, as well as in the Newsletters. If you need a form sent to you, please let me know.
- Thank you to those who have taken the time to provide the information, as it will be useful in our planning to best support our families.

More from Education

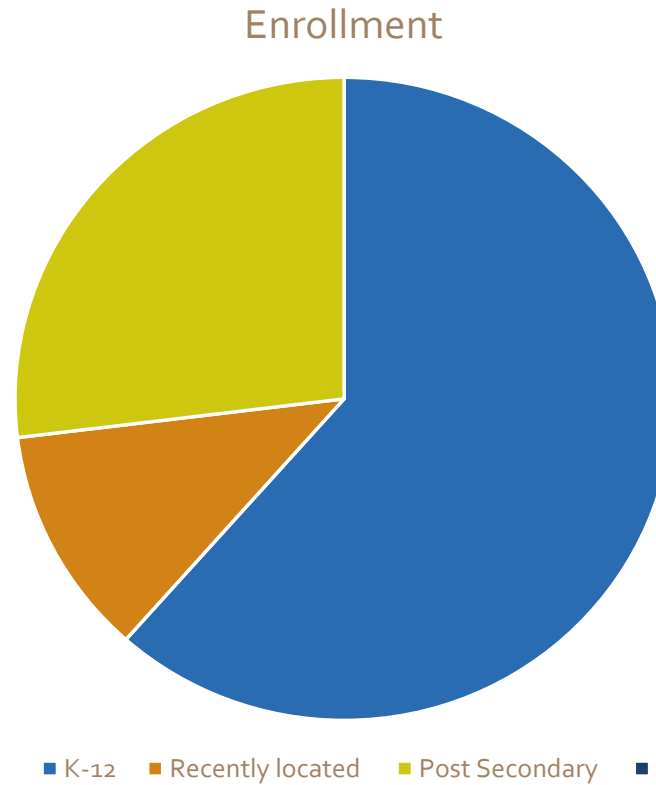
- We have been seeing more requests for specialized supports for students and continue our task of finding funding to support these requests.
- We are planning a Supports and Services Fair in May. This will be a great opportunity for students, parents, and community to learn about just what supports and services may be available for one's educational success. We will send out information when it is available.
- March 27th will see a visit to our community by SUPAMAN. This will be an entertaining performance, utilizing flute playing, fancy dancing, video, comedy, and hip-hop music.
- The performance is open to all, and entry is by donation, with proceeds going back into community opportunities.
- We have received some funding to do a Role Model initiative. The hope is that we will have up to 12 ?akisq̄nukniĳ who have pursued Post Secondary Education and are working in a Heath and Science related career. We have several questions for participants to answer and ask them to also provide a picture. All this information will be used to make posters of our Role Models, which will be distributed in community, as well as in schools, etc, in order to continue to encourage our young ones to Dream big! We have some individuals set up so far, but if you are also interested in participating, please contact Stephanie.
- We are working to get the Resource Room set up. We have confirmed the space as being office #11 in the Rec Centre. This will be a space where community can have access to Computer use, Language Materials, novels if they wish something to read, and many other materials. If you have suggestions or requests on what you would like to see here, please let us know.
- We have 7 post secondary students currently completing various parts of their programs. Some are Full time students; however, we also have a few Part time students.

Education

- KNC is still looking to fill spots for Class 1 drivers training. For those who are not able to commit to the full schedule as proposed, please reach out, as there are individual options also to complete the training.
- We are still able to set members up with Career Cruising account, for those wishing to explore interests, or various careers and options. If interested, please contact Stephanie to get this set up, or if you would like to learn more about it.
- We are seeking a Parent Rep for the Committee that works with the School District regarding our Local Education Agreement. If you are interested, please contact Stephanie. We hope to have a parent of a K-12 student to fill this role.
- Circus camp for kids at Akisqnuq Band hall and Recreation Centre is set for March 20th – 24th, - During Spring break
- Thank you to Stella Magalhaes for arranging this for the kiddos – they will enjoy the experience



Enrollment for on reserve children



Programs offered this quarter

- Career cruising
- Role Model Initiative
- SUPAMAN
- Support Services
- LEA
- Education council
- Transportation
- Survey
- Funding
- Resource Centers

Grouping		
K-12	7	
Post Secondary	5	
All membership	4	

DEPARTMENT: Health
DATE: MM/DD/YY: Mar.-16-23

PROGRESS MADE WITHIN DEPARTMENT FOR THIS REPORTING PERIOD

Health Manager Resumed role in Health Department as part time in January 2023. Will be back to full time in April 2023

FNHA will be deploying nursing supports once this can be arranged.

Health Manager and Director of Member services attended the Gathering wisdom together workshop.

Discussed 10-year strategy with FNHA – which was voted on as “yes”

Upcoming workshops will be Wills and Estate planning, Darien Thira – “Community is the Medicine” which will be a 5 day workshop and AFN will be offering an Honorarium for attendance – as 5 days is a big commitment of time. Please watch the newsletter for dates, times, and location.

Clinics are on track and utilized by community.

Workplan strategy sessions attended by member services department.

- Applied for Harm reduction grant.
- Applied for grant for domestic violence awareness.
- Applied for Canada post grant – early childhood services.
- Applied for several grants for the good food box.

The good food box program continues to be ongoing as does the ski program.

The Recreation Center now falls under Fiscal and Economic Director – David Bach. Should you have any questions, comments, or concerns – please feel free to contact David directly.

The staff at the Recreation Center continue to schedule regular use in the recreation center, and the walking club is still utilizing the track after Hilary Vance started up the walking club as a volunteer. Thank you, Hilary.

Health continued...

Children and Youth at Akisqnuq First Nation are invited to participate in this exciting Spring Break Camp opportunity! Local artist and certified teacher, Mr. Bondy is an experienced Circus Art instructor who is willing to share this unique art with Akisqnukniks.

What participants will learn:

- Solo and Collaborative performance techniques*
- Circus techniques including acrobatics and juggling*
- Using and Maintaining circus juggling equipment and materials*

Benefits:

- Social: Promotes self-esteem, collaboration*
- Physical: Promotes body awareness, balance, gross motor*
- Emotional: Promotes emotional control through body awareness*
- Spiritual: Circus arts promotes group thinking and community centred value.*

Location:

- Akisqnuq Recreational Center or Band Hall*

Schedule:

- March 20th, 24th, from 9am- 5 pm*

Capacity:

- 17 children*

The Circus comes to Akisqnuk

Posted by [Chadd Cawson](#) | Mar 16,
2023 | [Community](#), [Entertainment](#), [Indigenous](#) | [0](#)



Circus Instructor Jerrod Bondy will teach the wonders and skills of the circus to 17 lucky kids at Akisqnuq First Nation's first circus camp. This spring break camp will run the week of March 20 to 24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Akisqnuq First Nation. Photo submitted - **Circus camp with Jerrod Bondy from March 20 to 24**

By Chadd Cawson Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The circus may not be coming to town, but it's coming to Akisqnuq First Nation. Circus camp at Akisqnuq is being offered March 20 to 24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Circus arts instructor, Jerrod Bondy, will facilitate the camp, allowing Akisqnuq kids to be wowed by all the wonder that happens under the big top.

"I think having kids experience the magic of circus is a wonderful thing," said event organizer, Stella Sam. "Circus also brings body awareness, which can help in emotional regulation, improve fine and gross motor skills, promotes friendships and is an incredible self-esteem booster."

Bondy is certified from the Ecole Nationale de Cirque in Montreal and has been a circus arts instructor since 2017. He said training is quite involved, earning clowning, acting techniques, several acrobatic and juggling skills, creating performances, and more. It's like being a circus ringmaster, he said.

"You must manage a lot of different personalities and expectations amongst members of your team. Some want to take things too far and some don't take things far enough! You're always striving to find that middle ground. You also must study and practice a variety of different circus disciplines to demonstrate them to students." Bondy primarily teaches manipulation skills with the equipment for it carried in two large duffel bags.

Bondy loves teaching hand-to-hand acrobatics, and safety is paramount. Bondy and Sam work together at Amy Woodland Elementary where Sam is an Indigenous education support worker. When Sam, found out that Bondy was a circus instructor she knew this kind of camp would be great for the kids at Akisqnuq. After speaking to her husband and Akisqnuq Chief, Don Sam, and the Akisqnuq Band social director, Bondy was hired for this first-of-its-kind circus camp. The camp will take place in both the Columbia Lake Recreation Center and the band hall at Akisqnuq First Nation.

“I feel very honoured to be allowed to share my passion for the Circus Arts with the Akisqnuq First Nation,” said Bondy. “The circus arts is something that I find to be very transformative in that people of any age can use these skills to create something entirely new. I feel that there is something quite profound and uplifting about being able to share knowledge that is then transformed into something that kids can take personal ownership of. I very much look forward to seeing what the attendees will do when their imaginations take off as they come up with a performance routine.”

Bondy said the kids will learn skills including juggling, hand-to-hand acrobatics, hoop manipulation, clowning and more. He said circus arts teach persistence and humility; if an item one is juggling drops, or there’s a mishap in the routine, embrace it and keep going. A show will be performed on the last day at the Columbia Lake Recreation Center.

There is no clowning around to sign up as 12 of the 17 spots are already filled.

“We are hopeful that this will be a self-esteem booster, from spending quality time with other kids in their community to being ‘stars’ in their community by bringing the magic of circus,” said Sam. “The culture of circus is like Indigenous culture in that it focuses on community and gatherings. Sharing your skills with your community is very much an indigenous concept, and circus teaches that as well.”

Date	Clinic /Workshop	Total Attendance
Jan 11-2023	Foot Clinic	9
Feb 21-23	Foot Clinic .5day Cancelled	5
Feb 22/23	Foot Clinic Cancelled	0
Mar 8/2023	Foot Clinic	10
Jan 31/2023	Shingles \Flu Clinic	10
Jan 5/2023	Dr Page	8
Jan 19/2023	Dr Page	11
Feb 9/2023	Dr Page	9
Feb 16/2023	Dr Page	8
Mar 2/2023	Dr Page	11
March 16/23	Dr Page	
TOTAL		81
Jan foot and Dr Clinic 3		
Feb foot and Dr clinic 3		
March Foot and Dr clinic 3		
Shingles Flu clinic 1		



www.akisqnuk.org

NO ONE LEFT BEHIND

**A Community Strong and Alive meeting
11am – 3pm, Friday March 17 2023
?akisq̓nuk Band Hall**



Floor is open for all ideas

Calling All Community members, we are looking for ideas to help us continue providing Community SUPPORT GROUPS and PROGRAMS that are geared towards having a Safe, “No One Left Behind”, Strong and Alive Community!! We ask that you mark your calendar, come and share your ideas and help continue making 2023 ?Akisq̓nuk First Nations a community known for who and what we truly are (Kind, Caring and Healthy).

Looking forward to seeing and sharing with you at the Open Floor meeting.

Morning snacks, coffee and lunch will be provided. **Questions Phone**

250-342-6379 Email: patsy.nicholas@akisqnuk.org &

tracy.miller@akisqnuk.org

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88459311315?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88459311315?pwd=TG5VbGEyVzZ5MnNPWDh1VXZoWHQzZz09)

[pwd=TG5VbGEyVzZ5MnNPWDh1VXZoWHQzZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88459311315?pwd=TG5VbGEyVzZ5MnNPWDh1VXZoWHQzZz09)

Meeting ID: 884 5931 1315

Passcode: 526334

CURRENT INITIATIVES THAT STAFF IS WORKING ON

Health staff: Administrative Assistant, Home Care Aide, and Health Program Manager are the current staff. Share the workload, keeping the community needs on our radar.

Wildfire Agreement funding reporting: March 31, 2023, deadline. Funding ideas?

FUTURE INITIATIVES

Staff/Team development: health and administration.

Community Wellness Strategy

Community is the Medicine workshop with Darien Thira

Wills and Estate planning workshop

There are 6 spots left for the elders gathering in August.

Recruit health staff: promote health careers, encourage health and science in school curriculum.

Moccasin Making classes

Meeting discussions: Roles and Responsibilities of community-based activities. (Funerals, activities out of office hours, etc.)

Discussion about Firewood policy for review and consideration

Walking club still in place

Good food box still in place

AGA committee formed and first meeting scheduled before the end of March – Ideas are welcome

Buckskin workshop was held over 2 weeks and hosted at the recreation centre

Current postings in member services department:

Culture and Language Coordinator

Registrations

Workforce Development

Social Development worker

RN's

LPN

Please see Hany in HR at the band office if you are interested



ʔakisq̓nuk

Housing Report
March 20th 2023

3-Plex #2

East of Rink, all 2-bedroom units

Two suites are occupied. A decision will soon be made on the last suite. This is the last accessible suite under development and our preference is to have it occupied by a senior or someone with needs for an accessible unit.

If you are interested but not yet in our prospective tenant database, please **immediately** complete an application (available on AFN website for download; <https://akisqnuuk.org/housing>) and forward to dshudra@akisqnuuk.org or call Dale at (250) 342-6301.

3-Plex

2 bedroom Accessible unit



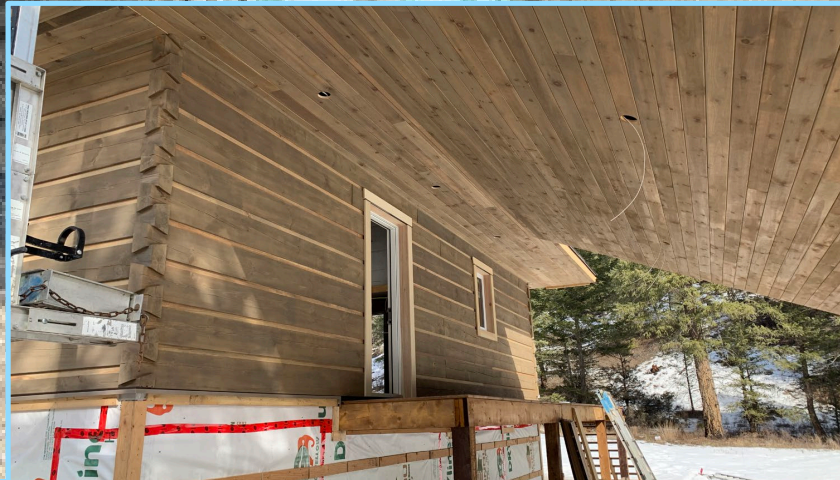
3-plex #3

(2430 Kootenay #3 [two - 3 bedroom, one 1 bedroom units])

We are at the drywall stage and plan occupancies this summer.

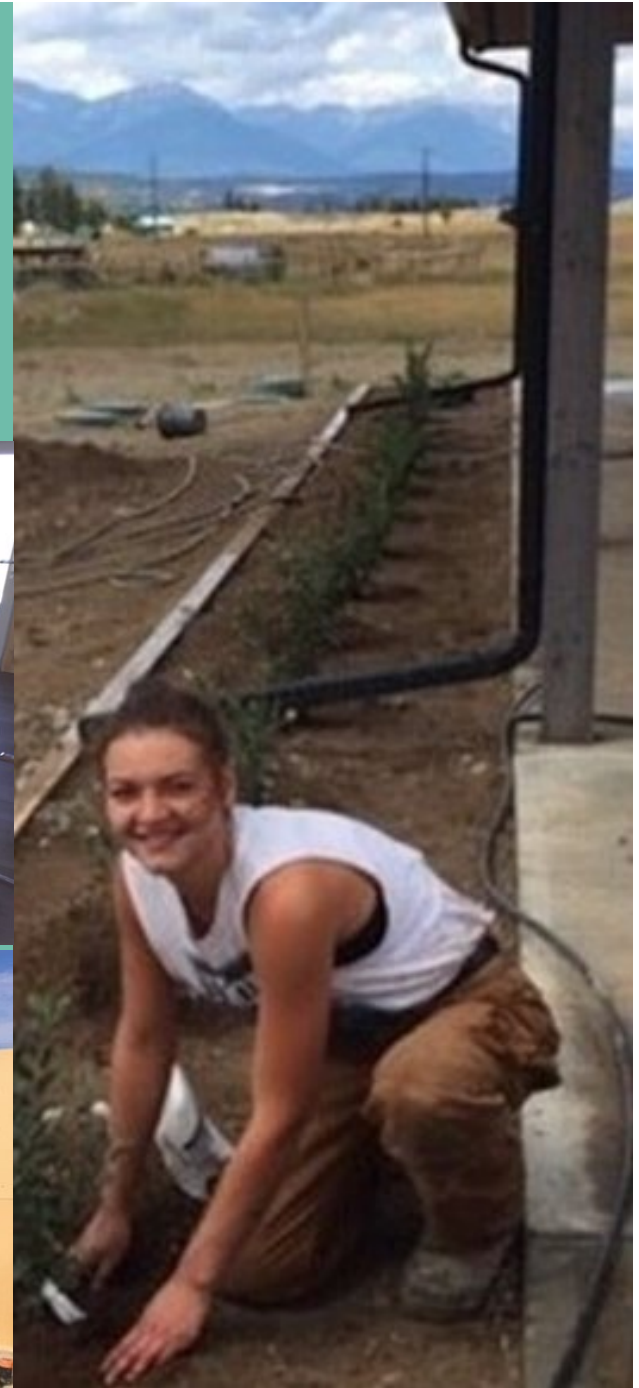
The last building (a 4-plex with all one-bedroom units) should be ready for fall occupancy.

Again, if you are interested but not yet in our prospective tenant database, please complete an application (available on AFN website for download: <https://akisqnuuk.org/housing>) and forward to dshudra@akisqnuuk.org or call Dale at (250) 342-6301.



OVERALL 4 BUILDINGS PROJECT UPDATE

1. Cost/funding - the Project began with a \$3,600,000 budget and a funding shortfall of over \$500,000. Due to some savings and further funding being obtained, the shortfall should be \$100,000 or less.
2. Workforce development - has been very successful with 3-6 Members working full-time. Additional funding is being finalized. If you have an interest in working on housing projects, please contact Dale.



EOIs Renew Housing or renovations

Wanting to Build or need
to do Renos on
Reservation?



Interested in building a new home or renovating your existing home on-reserve ?

The federal government recently announced that new homes/certain renovations being build on-Reserve may qualify for increased subsidies of up to \$106,416.

**Increased funding + Member funds
+(AFN Home grant?)
= the possibility of a new home
or = the possibility of major renovations**

If you are interested, please contact the Housing Manager (Dale Shudra) to discuss your situation further at dale.shudra@akisqnuk.org or 250 342 6301 ext.3808



Chimney Cleanings

Spring cleans are planned for April. Bobby Morgan will contact you regarding timing.

Chimney Cleanings



Takisq'uk
Housing Report
March 20th 2023

Fiscal and Economic Update

Kiᖅsuk Kyukyit Members,

It continues to be a year of renewal and change for the fiscal and economic department, with addition of our new accountant, Vijay Akkapeddi, in November, and Economic Development Specialist, Lisa Cannady, in February.

We are excited to do our part to build a strong, healthy ᖅAkisᖅnuk as responsible stewards of the nation's resources. We are honoured to hold these roles and will do our best to safeguard and grow our assets for our members today and tomorrow.

Our main priorities over the last couple months have been updating our financial reporting and preparing the budget and workplans for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. In the spirit of transparency, we look forward to the council reviewing the budget and workplans and encourage you to attend the meeting as well.

Below are some updates on some additional items which we have been working on.

David Bach, B.A., J.D.
Fiscal and Economic Director

Fiscal Update

David Bach, *Fiscal and Economic Director*

Vijay Akkapeddi, *Comptroller*

Gayle Michel, *Junior Accountant*

Cherrie Burke, *Accounts Payable Clerk*

Reporting

The finance team has been working to provide the Finance, Audit & Investment Committee ("FAIC") and Council with updated financial information regarding the nation's revenues and expenses.

Reconciliations are now up to date, and actuals have been provided up to December 31, 2022. Updated actuals will be provided to the FAIC and Council on an ongoing monthly basis. With the start of the new fiscal year (April 1), we will also be providing updated statements of accounts on a quarterly basis.

FMB Certification

We have refreshed our efforts to achieve FMB certification and are working to develop a workplan with the FMB to achieve the same this year.

Cash Management / Investment Policy

Once the budgeting cycle has concluded, the Fiscal team intends to prioritize working with the FAIC to develop and recommend a cash management / investment policy to Council. We presently have

substantial reserves which can be invested to significantly increase interest income, while still managing risk and maintaining stability.

Elkhorn Minors Trusts

Council has selected FNB Trust as trustee for the minors trusts. The fiscal team is working FNB Trust on setting up the trusts and we expect to announce information sessions for minors and their guardians in the near future. Once the trusts are established, the FAIC can consider specific requests to access funds from the trusts for particular purposes.

Economic Update

David Bach, *Fiscal and Economic Director*

Lisa Cannady, *Economic Development Specialist*

Community Economic Development Program

Our new Economic Development Specialist, Lisa Cannady, holds a certification in community economic development from Simon Fraser University and brings a wealth of experience and contacts in the economic development sector. She has worked with the economic development practitioners at Tobacco Plains and Lower Kootenay, and most recently worked for the Metis Nation.

We are committed to working with Council to develop and implement a best-in-class Community Economic Development Program that will empower members in their pursuit of entrepreneurship and employment.

Development Limited Partnership

The economic team, working with Council, has identified a need to develop and implement a "Development Corporation" for the Nation to carry on its business activities outside the political operations. We are presently doing foundational work on this and will be reaching out for community input and involvement as our work progresses.

Lands, Resources, and Infrastructure

Report for Band meeting.

March 20, 2023

I Submit this report for your review.

I am away this week on training so will not be in attendance.

Over the last several month there have been many items that we in the LRID have been working on. I will provide a brief overview on some of the main items.

We have been working with other departments to recruit staff for all the departments we have had little success in the lands department. We are still continue to look at some other options that may be available to us. We still have posting out there.

There have been many question coming up about certificate of possession lands on reserve. This has been a bit difficult to manage as there are many estates that have not been finalized and this creates some issues with the land holdings files. I am asking this if there is information that you or someone you know has that is relevant to lands on reserve that needs to be filed let us know we can assist with this and make sure the proper processes are followed and the land is transferred to the right places/people.

I have been working with out professional forester to complete some of the works on the fuel reduction in and around the community. There are several project that we are trying to get the on the ground work completed as soon as possible. We have prescriptions completed for several areas and are working on getting cutting permits.

There is work being done regarding the upgrades to the North Community water system we expect the have the application submitted to Indigenous Services in the next few week for funding the actual works to take place this year. I have also been in discussion with Indigenous Services about a feasibility study to have community water system for the south end of the community. This could be a new system or possible to have the central area expanded to service the south portion of the community.

Additions to Reserve, I have been working on the 2 that we have currently on going. The Pasture pit we have asked that some further remediation work be completed prior to us accepting the land back. This is the area around middle road that used to be an provincial gravel pit. This was taken by the province for the purpose of building highway 93/95. The other area is what is called the Island, this is a small property that is down by the Columbia river. This one there is some issues as the province have been difficult to work with on this property.

Columbia Valley Recreation Partnership Initiative, this is a project that has been started on making recommendations about recreation in the area. They are doing one landscape unit at a time. I came in very late on the first one as it was almost completed at that time. They are now just starting a new one and I will be reaching out to the community as we move forward about concerns with recreation in the area. I would also like to look at some of the other areas and we will be able to provide a more wholesome view on the various areas.

We are also working on some other agreements with external 3rd parties. This is a group effort with Fiscal and Economic. Some of the others are Teck Coal, Certainteed, among others.

Thank you if you have any question please feel free to contact me.

Lorne Shovar Director of Lands Resources and Infrastructure.

DRAFT COPY

Mission Statement

Through sound, reasonable leadership we will promote the well-being and economic self reliance of our people by encouraging and fostering education and sustainable employment.

1. Policy Statement:

The ʔakisq̓nuk First Nation (AFN) is a members Band of the Ktunaxa Nation. AFN community services all ʔakisq̓nuknik registered in accordance to the Indian Act. AFN services all registered ʔakisq̓nuknik off and on reserve.

2. Purpose:

This policy will implement procedures for AFN to provide firewood access and delivery to ʔakisq̓nuknik and community members. The policy will outline eligibility criteria to obtaining AFN firewood.

This policy is to ensure there is a process to address the community's needs.

3. Scope:

This policy addresses ʔakisq̓nuknik and community members' access to firewood. It will determine eligibility, timing and delivery.

4. Definitions:

ʔakisq̓nuknik – (As per Election regulations)

Community members – are those who live on the reserve and access services of AFN

5. Responsibility:

Procedures as follows:

- a) The Director of Member Services (Director) will accept and receive inquiries from ʔakisq̓nuknik and community members once the fire wood is delivered to the reserve – and wood will be delivered to eligible homes a month after the wood has arrived.
- b) The Director will use a form/checklist that includes name, house number, location at residence to drop off, how much, require firewood annually, need wood spit and stacked.
- c) The director then will develop a spreadsheet and submit to Public Works who will in turn execute delivery
- d) Communication on delivery date and to who will be communicated back to the Director from Public Works with a copy of the spreadsheet that will indicate completed
- e) The Director will connect with homeowner/resident to confirm receipt of firewood

6. Dispute:

If an individual is un satisfied or delivery was not to satisfactory the Director will inspect with a home visit if needed and if it needs to be rectified the Director will ensure Public Works is notified and attend to the situation within 2 days of inquiry.

Chimney sweeping will be completed annually by the band via the housing manager and documented accordingly.

7. Eligibility:

Is an ʔakisq̄nuknik and community member residing within ANF reserve boundary, burns wood, wood electric as a primary source of heat in the winter months.

8. Procedures:

The Director will submit notice through the Newsletter and website of firewood delivery and if there are any new residents or changes to heating system to connect with the Director.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY

FREE or SUBSIDIZED INTERNET FOR KTUNAXA

FREE

- Requires a fibre optic connection to your home.
- Your Internet provider is FlexiNet.
- 50mpbs download and 10mbps upload.

OR

SUBSIDIZED

- Keep your existing Internet provider.
- Receive \$55 per month to subsidize your existing plan.

- **All homes on Ktunaxa First Nations reserves are eligible.**
- Ktunaxa First Nations will receive applications forms by **March 1, 2023**.
- Applications reviewed as received.
- Expect a four to six (4-6) week processing time.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Contact Shane Stewart
(250) 489-2464 ext. 4373
Shane.Stewart@Ktunaxa.org



**KTUNAXA
NATION**

Economic
& Investment
Sector

Ktunaxa Nation Economic and Investment Sector Initiative
and **approved by the Economic Sector Council**



Q&A

What is Community Connectivity?

Community Connectivity is about ensuring that Ktunaxa First Nation Community residents have access to reliable, low- or no-cost Internet services in their homes.

The Economic and Investment Sector Council of Ktunaxa Nation Council endorses an initiative to achieve this through fiber optics to the household, or subsidies for those with existing internet who want to keep them.

These are the two options:

1) FREE FlexiNet internet
OR

2) \$55 per month subsidy (offered to households who opt to stay with their current internet service provider).

If our household chooses FREE internet, will it be reliable and fast?

Yes, as long as the house has fibre optics connected, FlexiNet is able to provide 50mbps(download) and 10mbps(upload). These speeds will be fast enough for the majority of households with 2 to 6 people on the Internet at once.

What if we want faster speeds than the FREE 50mbps download?

An affordable option will be offered for increased speeds, should you have multiple gamers in the house. This can be an addition to the FlexiNet package.



What if I already have Internet, phone and TV service through Shaw or Telus but want FREE internet?

You can choose the subsidized option (\$55 per month), which will help towards your current provider costs. Or you can cancel the internet with your current provider and choose FREE FlexiNet Internet.

When will either option be available?

We're finalizing the application form and logistics. The application form will be sent out to each First Nation Community Band office by March 1, 2023.

Application forms will be processed in order they are received.

Starting April, 2023, we will start to 'roll out' the free and subsidized Internet.

Yes I want this, what do I need do now?

When you receive the application form, complete the form and email it to the email address on the form. If you do not have convenient access to email, you can ask your community Band Office to email it in on your behalf.

People in good standing with FlexiNet are eligible for free internet.

Any questions in the meantime please contact your band office or:

Shane Stewart

Economic & Investment Sector

Manager / Business Development

250-489-2464 ext: 4373



Application Form

If you live in a home within a Ktunaxa First Nation Community, you can apply for **EITHER:**
FREE FlexiNet Internet to you home

OR

A **SUBSIDY of \$55**-per-month towards your current Internet bills.

This form covers either option.

The form must be filled out by the person in the household who is responsible for Internet services payments or decisions around Internet services. **(Only 1 application per household)**

Your name (First and Last)?			
Which Ktunaxa First Nation Community do you live?			
Home address (include house/unit number and Street)*	City:		
	Postcode:		
Your phone number?			
Your email address?			
Who is your current internet Provider?			
Are you in a contract with your current internet provider?			
When will your current term/contract end?	1-6 months	6-12 months	1-2 years Other
Which option would you like? Please select one option	1. Free FlexiNet	2. \$55 per month	
If you are NOT with FlexiNet, would you consider switching?	YES	NO	

*We need your address to verify that your home is on Reserve, and if you want Free Internet (not Subsidized), your home must be serviced by FlexiNet.

Please send this application form to sm@flexinet.ca **OR** drop the completed form off at your Band Office to send in on your behalf.

Happy surfing!

Ktunaxa Nation Council – Economic & Investment Sector

Pakisqnuuk

Paqam

Yaqaan Nukkiy

Yaqit Pa'knuqtiit