



# ʔAkisqnuq Community Newsletter

## November 29, 2024



By Mykola Perun

### In this issue...

- Notices.....p2
- Community Consultative Group.....p6
- Welcome Angela Jeske.....p8
- Upcoming Events & Program Information.....p9
- Lands and Resources.....p18
- Health & Wellness.....p21
- Employment Opportunities...p25
- Odds & Ends.....p26



## Notices

# NOTICE: WATER CONSERVATION NEEDED

**November 28, 2024**

Dear ?Akisqnuqnik,

We regret to inform you that the central Water Pumphouse has experienced a malfunction, and currently, only one pump is operational. (This affects those from Linda's home to Ally's.) Our maintenance team is working diligently to address and fix the issue.

In the meantime, we kindly ask all members to conserve water as much as possible to ensure that we can maintain an adequate supply for everyone.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.







# Notices

## Calling ?Akisqnuunik who are interested in mentorship

As the Chief and Council address national matters, we would like to reach the members who are interested in attending conferences, workshops, etc., to get a glimpse on matters we address that impact our community.

Some of the events encourage Knowledge Holders and Youth to attend. If this interests you, please reach out to Mykola Perun, Executive Assistant [mykola.perun@akisqnuq.org](mailto:mykola.perun@akisqnuq.org) Huyas!

?Akisqnuq First Nation  
Chief and Council



WE WILL BE  
**CLOSED**  
*For the holidays*

CLOSED

Dec. 23 2024 - Jan. 05 2025

REOPENING

January 6th 2025

Happy Holidays



## Help shape the Ktunaxa Nation Legacy Trust

### We're seeking:

- 4 appointments total
- 1 citizen-at-large
- 1 youth (ages 15-24)
- Alternates for each

### Qualifications

- Basic financial literacy and knowledge of trusts
- Previous board or committee experience
- Strong reasoning, critical thinking, and collaboration skills
- Ethics, integrity, & respect for confidentiality

The Ktunaxa Nation Council Society invites qualified Ktunaxanihtik to **join an ad hoc committee** to help develop the **Ktunaxa Nation Legacy Trust**.

The committee will **explore options and make recommendations** to the leadership of the four Ktunaxa First Nations.

### Details

The committee will remain active until its work is done, with **varying time commitments**. **Members will be compensated** at KNC committee rates.



### To APPLY

Find the form at: <https://shorturl.at/PgABi> or with the QR code on this page.

**Deadline: January 10, 2025.**

Or email [David.deschamps@ktunaxa.org](mailto:David.deschamps@ktunaxa.org)



**KTUNAXA  
NATION**

## HOW DO YOU WANT TO BE ENGAGED?

## GET INVOLVED WITH KNC LANDS

How can we support you in becoming more involved with the **Lands and Resources Sector at the Ktunaxa Nation Council?**



- Would you like to be part of our Information Distribution list? – Project & Event Information
- Would you like to be invited to our On the Land Engagements?
- Are there obstacles restricting your participation?
- Everyone is valued and we welcome all Ktunaxa ?aq?smaknik voices.

Contact us: [landcommunityengagement@ktunaxa.org](mailto:landcommunityengagement@ktunaxa.org)

**KTUNAXA  
NATION**



# Notices



## VACCINES

ʔAkisqnuq First Nation Health Team are now offering in-home flu and covid vaccines. Please call the health center to book.

**250-342-6379**

## FAIC Call Out **Passionate About Finances? We Need You!**



Do you have a knack for understanding finances and managing risks?

Join our Finance, Audit, and Investment Committee and make a difference! We're looking for dedicated individuals to serve a two-year term.

### Why Join?

**Impact:** Help shape the financial future of AFN.

**Growth:** Enhance your skills and knowledge.

**Community:** Collaborate with like-minded individuals.

Interested or have questions? Reach out to:

ʔAkisqnuq CEO David Bach ([david.bach@akisqnuq.org](mailto:david.bach@akisqnuq.org))

or send email to [info@akisqnuq.org](mailto:info@akisqnuq.org)

Your expertise can make a real difference.

Join us today!







# Notices



## AFN PROJECT MANAGER BOB COTTERALL UPDATE NO.5

# MULTIPURPOSE FACILITY

COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO DROP BY THE PROJECT MANAGERS OFFICE ANY TIME, TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THEY MAY HAVE. [bob.cotterall@akisqnuq.org](mailto:bob.cotterall@akisqnuq.org)

## DEAR ʔAKISQNUK COMMUNITY,

I am pleased to provide you with the current activity at the Multipurpose Facility. Since our last report in early November, winter has impacted the construction activity, thus slowing the construction work. We are not concerned with the winter as the builder, Scott Builders, has all the right equipment to keep construction on track. However, more effort is needed to keep the site materials warm.

Regarding the SARA Permit and the Environmental Permit, approval of each is expected within a few days. Badgers and bats have elected to go to warmer climates. In the coming weeks, backfilling of the foundation walls will start, and heating units to keep the material warm are in place. We have now started the preliminary design of the arbor with the help and guidance of Danny Burgoyne. More to come on this soon.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Feel free to drop by the ATCO trailer; we would be happy to answer any questions you may have.



COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO DROP BY THE PROJECT MANAGER'S OFFICE ANY TIME, TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.



250-342-6301



[bob.cotterall@akisqnuq.org](mailto:bob.cotterall@akisqnuq.org)



# ʔAkisq'nuq First Nation Community Consultative Group



## ʔakisq'nuq First Nation Community Consultative Group

The following message is posted on behalf of Cpl. Jarret Cottrell of the Cranbrook RCMP and BC Indigenous Policing Services.

The intention of the Community Consultative Group (CCG) is to get a wide range of community input so that the Police can come to better understand the needs of the community in regards to Policing. The Community Consultative Group (CCG) is a volunteer board that represents the community as a whole, ideally representation should include Elders, men, women, and youth so that the CCG is representative of the community's interests. Indigenous Policing Services are seeking volunteers who are interested in becoming a part of the CCG to provide the community we serve a voice to share concerns and ideas on how to work together to better the community. Generally, the minimum and maximum number of members for your Community Consultative Group (CCG) can include anywhere from three (3) to ten (10) members.

The group would meet ideally four times a year or when issues arise that require discussion. Indigenous Policing Services would be a participant through the involvement of Cpl. Jarret COTTRELL and Cst. Jeffrey NIELSEN from Indigenous Policing Services.

Some of the goals of the group are to:

- ☐ Identify desirable attributes for police officers who could be assigned to work in the community.
- ☐ Identify the issues, projects, or events that may be occurring in the community.



# ʔAkisqnuq First Nation Community Consultative Group

- ☐ Provide suggestions, ideas or information that will help address issues or that will support upcoming projects or events.
- ☐ Bring the community's policing priorities to the attention of the RCMP and work with them to resolve such concerns.
- ☐ Share issues raised by the RCMP with the CCG members.
- ☐ Assist in developing community policing objectives, priorities, and goals, and collaborating on special projects.
- ☐ Offer advice regarding gaps in policing services or identify specific policing requirements.
- ☐ Raise issues pertaining to other problems, complaints or priorities identified by the community.
- ☐ Enhance police officers' cultural sensitivity and awareness, thus fostering greater understanding between community members and police officers.

Community Consultative Group members will have, but are not limited to, the following responsibilities:

1. Represent a specific organization or segment of society, bringing forward their issues and concerns for discussion and resolution.
2. Liaise with people in the organization or segment of society that they represent to identify policing issues to be tabled at Community Consultative Group meetings.
3. Community Consultative Group members must keep the people they represent informed of the group's activities and goals, as appropriate.
4. Group members are expected to take an active role in finding solutions to problems and furthering the community policing partnership.

Should you or someone you know be interested in joining the CCG please contact Cpl. Jarret Cottrell for further information at [jarret.cottrell@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:jarret.cottrell@rcmp-grc.gc.ca)





# Welcome Angela Jeske

## LET ME SHARE A LITTLE



## ANGELA JESKE COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR



Hello! I'm Angela, the new Communications Coordinator.

I moved to the valley four years ago and have been loving getting to know the community and area so much since getting here. When I'm not at my desk you can usually find me hiking a new trail, biking with friends, skiing the slopes, or otherwise enjoying the great outdoors. I've learned a lot since moving to here – bear safety, fire safety, packing for through-hikes, how to ski, how to mountain bike, and lots of local lore and legends.

I am looking forward to learning even more in my new role as part of the team, and meeting and collaborating with all of you.

## Coordinator, Human Resources - Indigenous Employee Experience

**Submitted By:** Fellow ʔAkisqnuknik Melissa Parkin

**Opportunity:** Join the Sanya'kula team at Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) in an Indigenous-specific role focused on eradicating Indigenous-specific racism and creating a culturally safe space within PHSA.

### Key Details:

- **Remote Work:** Stay connected to your community while making a difference across BC.
- **Temporary Full-Time:** Strong possibility of becoming permanent.
- **Cultural Days:** 5 additional days per year for Indigenous employees.
- **Preferential Hiring:** Prioritizing First Nations, Métis, and

Inuit applicants under Section 42(3) of the Human Rights Code.

- **Salary Range:** \$62,239 - \$89,469/year, based on education and experience.

### Ideal Candidate:

- Experience supporting Indigenous employees.
- Organizing cultural programs and fostering inclusive environments.
- Building relationships with Indigenous communities.
- Handling HR tasks with a focus on cultural safety.

**Contact:** Reach out to Melissa Parkin

at [melissa.parkin@phsa.ca](mailto:melissa.parkin@phsa.ca) if interested or for more information. Feel free to share this opportunity with others who might be a good fit.

<https://jobs.phsa.ca/.../coordinator.../909/71725225456>



# Upcoming Events & Programs

STRENGTH IN UNITY

## Women's Circles



### EMPOWERMENT THROUGH CONNECTION

Join our Women's Circle group sessions. Connect, share, and grow with like-minded women in a safe and nurturing environment. Experience personal growth and healing through supportive discussions and activities tailored for every participant.

MONDAYS 4:30-6:30PM  
NOVEMBER 4TH - DECEMBER 16TH

- *7 Weeks of journeying together*
- *Shuswap Health Centre*
- *Dinner served*
- *Shuttles available*

QUESTIONS? CALL/TEXT: 250-961-0993



# Upcoming Events & Programs

## TRAUMA SUPPORTS *Circle*

WEDNESDAYS, 5-7PM  
NOVEMBER 6TH – DECEMBER 18TH, 2024  
ALPINE HOUSE

JOIN THIS SUPPORT CIRCLE TO CONNECT WITH A COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITY THAT HONORS YOUR STORY AND HEALING. TOGETHER, WE DRAW STRENGTH FROM OUR ANCESTORS AND EACH OTHER TO RECLAIM HOPE AND RESILIENCE.

Questions? Call or Text 250-961-0993



### SERENITY AFTER THE STORM

## Recovery Healing Circle

Thursdays, 6pm-7pm  
at the Alpine Cottage

A welcoming and supportive environment for community members and their family and friends who are struggling with substance use to share experiences, strengths, and hope to help each other on the road to wellness.



### Are you or someone you love struggling with addiction?

Hello everyone, my name is Shayne Bonenfant. I am a recovery mentor & liaison who works within communities as an independent contractor. I have 6 years of experience sponsoring & mentoring over 100 men & women battling addiction. I have guided them through various adversities related to addiction as a disease process. I build relationships with community members & give them the tools to help them create a new life. Ceremony has been a big part of my healing journey. In truth, I am also an addict in active recovery who has gained a lot of knowledge on the grips of substance use & alcoholism. My purpose in life is to help others & do Creator's work. If you would like to get in contact with me, please call or text 403-437-3097 or email me at [shayneb.billwardlife@gmail.com](mailto:shayneb.billwardlife@gmail.com).

I am on site at Akisqnuq every Thursday & Friday. But available to talk any day of the week.





YOU ARE INVITED TO

# DINNER & DANCING ✨

Friday | November 29, 2024 | At 5:30 PM

Join us for an evening of traditional foods,  
music, and time to honor our shared  
journey during National Addictions  
Awareness Week.

**Pick up your FREE tickets at the Shuswap  
OR Akisqnuq Health Centre.**

Columbia Lake Recreation Centre  
3050 Highway 93 / 95, Windermere





# Upcoming Events & Programs

## Ktunaxa Artist Market & Art Display Showcase

### Attention Ktunaxa Artists!

#### Are you interested in:

- Selling your products?
- Showcasing your portfolio?
- Creating future partnerships?

**December 4, 2024**  
**10:00am - 2:00pm**

Ktunaxa Nation Government Building  
220 Cranbrook St. North



For more information or to reserve your table contact:

Jared Basil: [JBasil@ktunaxa.org](mailto:JBasil@ktunaxa.org)  
Taylor Wilson: [Taylor.Wilson@Ktunaxa.org](mailto:Taylor.Wilson@Ktunaxa.org)  
Phone: (250)489-2464 ext. 4372

## Ktunaxa Artist Market & Art Display Showcase

**December 4, 2024**

**10:00am - 2:00pm**

Ktunaxa Nation Government Building  
220 Cranbrook St. North

Interested in purchasing Ktunaxa art, bead work, paintings, leather work, traditional and sewn items?

### This is a public event!

This is your opportunity to buy authentic products from Ktunaxa artists and to create or strengthen relationships with Ktunaxa artists.



For more information contact:

Jared Basil: [JBasil@ktunaxa.org](mailto:JBasil@ktunaxa.org) or Taylor Wilson: [Taylor.Wilson@Ktunaxa.org](mailto:Taylor.Wilson@Ktunaxa.org)  
Phone: (250)489-2464 ext. 4372



## AFN Enterprises Community Consultation Meeting

Dec. 4th 5-7 pm  
Health Centre Round room

Regarding the Windermere property. This is for ʔakisqnuK members only.







# Upcoming Events & Programs



## AKISQNUK ELDERS MEETING

DECEMBER 5 | 10AM TO 2PM

For more information contact  
Eldene Stanley  
?Akisqnuq Language,  
Culture Manager  
Office Phone: 250.342.6379  
extension: 3216  
Email:  
[eldene.stanley@akisqnuq.org](mailto:eldene.stanley@akisqnuq.org)



## BEADED CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT WORKSHOP



December 7th 3pm-  
7pm in the Health  
Centre Round Room

RSVP with Glynda  
Joseph or Trisha  
Clowers as space and  
supplies are limited.  
250 342 6301.

*All ?Akisqnuq community are invited to this event!*

## COMMUNITY SHOPPING TRIP TO CRANBROOK



DATES: DECEMBER 6 & DECEMBER 27

### Details:

- Seats Available: Up to 7 passengers
- Registration: Required for all participants. Elders will have priority.
- Need a Ride? Let the Health Centre know if you need transportation to the Health Centre.

Book Early! Seats may fill up fast.

### Itinerary:

#### Morning:

Superstore and Walmart (with an optional stop at the second-hand store)

#### Afternoon:

Casino (2:00 PM - 4:00 PM)

#### Return:

Depart from the Casino at 4:00 PM

TO REGISTER 250-342-6379





ʔakisq̓nuk First Nation presents:

# Addressing Grief + Loss

Please join Alfred Joseph, Eldene Stanley,  
Danny Burgoyne, Barb & Arlene Basil  
and others TBD

Onsite supports: ʔAFN Clinical team, Annie Tabachnik (*LPC*),  
Andrea Sakamoto (*RCT*), and more TBD

December 10th, 2024  
10:00am - 7:00pm  
Wiyu Lodge | 2410 Alpine Rd.

Open to all ʔakisq̓nuknik  
Lunch and Dinner will be provided  
Rides available locally - please call the Health Centre to arrange  
Gas cards available for those travelling  
Full agenda to follow



# Upcoming Events & Programs



## Chronic Wasting Disease & Forestry meeting



**Dec. 11th, 5:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**651 Hwy 93/95 Lions Hall,**  
**Invermere Chamber of**  
**Commerce**  
***Dinner will be provided***

### RSVP Information

Please let us know if you plan to attend by  
contacting Tyra:

Email: [tyra.joe@akisqnuq.org](mailto:tyra.joe@akisqnuq.org)

Phone: 647-854-5598

We need to confirm attendance numbers  
to ensure we have enough food for  
everyone.

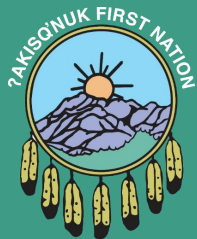
## CWD

The AFN Lands Department is excited to welcome Dr. Amélie Mathieu to speak about chronic wasting disease (CWD). Dr. Mathieu is a wildlife veterinarian based out of Cranbrook who has been highly involved in the provincial response to CWD. During the presentation, we will be given an overview of CWD, an update on the prevalence of CWD in the Territory and a summary of how the Province has responded. This will be followed by a sampling demonstration and a question-and-answer period.

## Forestry

This meeting will introduce Indigenous Forestry Referrals and information sharing from forest licensees. This will give Akisqnuknik and Ktunaxanintik a full picture of past, present, and potential future forest developments in amakis Ktunaxa. It will provide a space for comment and expressing concerns on proposed developments and building modernized forestry legislation. This information is for Ktunaxanintik only as First Nations must be consulted prior to public consultation according to Canadian Federal Laws and UNDRIP.





## Upcoming Events & Programs



# Swaqmu

Salmon Canning with  
Yvonne Stanley

December 14 & 15,  
10am -4pm  
Recreation Centre







# Upcoming Events & Programs



## PAKISQ'NUK COMMUNITY DINNER & GATHERING

**December 21st 2024, 11 AM - 3 PM**

Come together for a day of community strengthening and fun! Let's celebrate the holidays with good food, great company, and joyful activities.



Skinkuꞗ and Natanik



# Lands & Resources

## Request for participants on ʔakisq̓nuk Lands Committee

Do you want to have a voice and contribute your ideas and advice about how to steward ʔakisq̓nuk Lands both on and off reserve?

**This is your chance!**

Send us an email at [lorne.shovar@akisq̓nuk.org](mailto:lorne.shovar@akisq̓nuk.org) to share the experience you have and why you want to participate on this committee.

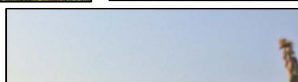
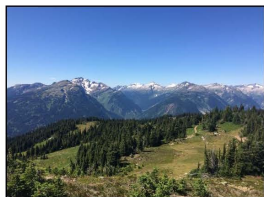
**3 Spots Available!**

For more info ie. the Terms of Reference or other, email Lorne or come into the Office and talk to any Lands staff.



Do you have:

- Traditional and modern on the land knowledge;
- Knowledge of Ktunaxa Perspective and Values including ʔaknumuʔitilil;
- Desire to improve ʔakisq̓nuk reserve lands and ʔamakʔis Ktunaxa;
- Interest in Land Stewardship and management;
- Willingness to work with other Ktunaxanintik in a positive and supportive environment;
- Willingness to learn new knowledge, skills and perspectives



## ATTENTION HUNTERS: COMPLETE THESE STEPS

### STEP 1.

Prepare to submit tissues for CWD in one of three ways:

#### > Submit a head:

Cut head off animal and remove antlers (nose can be removed for elk/moose).

#### > Keep upper skull for Euro mount:

Cut out lower jaw with the tongue and all tissues at back of throat. Only need lower jaw for deer. Also need the obex for elk/moose.

#### > Submit your own samples:

Remove lymph nodes and tonsils (for deer), or lymph nodes and obex (brainstem - for elk and moose).

### STEP 2.

Fill out CWD Ear Card provided at freezer.

### STEP 3.

Remove and retain perforated portion of Ear Card to look up results online.

### STEP 4.

Attach CWD Ear Card to head or jaw with zip-tie, or put in ziplock with samples.

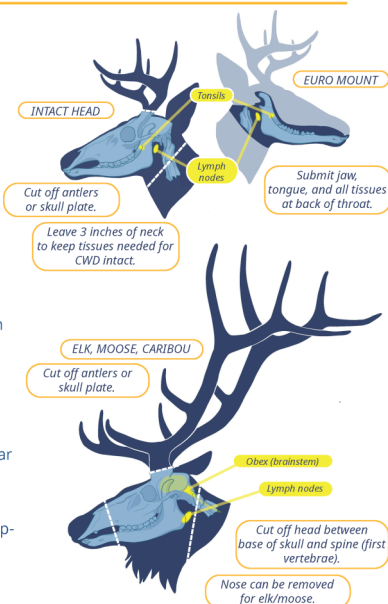
### STEP 5.

Place sample in drop-off freezer.

**Place Ear Card inside of the bag.**

**If submitting your own samples, fill out sample info portion on back of Ear Card.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO CWD RESPONSE!**  
Visit [gov.bc.ca/chronicwastingdisease](http://gov.bc.ca/chronicwastingdisease) for more information



**Learn how to submit samples** for the testing requirement in the CWD Management Zone (MUs 4-1 to 4-8 and 4-20 to 4-25) on our website.

Hunter samples from deer, elk, and moose are **critical for science-based** Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) management.

**Be part of the solution and help stop the spread of CWD.**  
Learn more at [gov.bc.ca/chronicwastingdisease](http://gov.bc.ca/chronicwastingdisease)





## LET ME SHARE A LITTLE



## CHRIS JOSEPH

### FORESTRY LEAD / TECHNOLOGIST



**Ki?su?k kyu?kyit Akisqnuᓃᓃ! Hu qakᓄik Wiᓄu!  
Hu kaki qaxi 7aqam! Hu qawsaka?ni, Qatmuk!**

Good day people of Akisqnuᓃᓃ! My name is Chris Joseph. I am 7aqamnik and I am excited to work as the Forestry Lead/Technologist at Akisqnuᓃᓃ. I also sit on the 7aqam Lands Committee and am a Natural Resource Technology Graduate at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology in Merritt, BC. I was named after my Great grandfather Wiᓄu at Standing Arrow Powwow. I am a proud father, uncle, son, cousin, brother, and friend.

Before coming to 7Akisᓄᓃᓃ I was the Forestry Authorizations Coordinator at Ktunaxa Nation Council. There I got a good view of the overall forestry picture from a Ktunaxa lens. I participated in many discussions with forest licensees, Parks staff, and government representatives from BC and First Nations on how to ensure that Ktunaxa are able to continue their way of life in their homelands. We were able to preserve some sites, enhance others, and change provincial legislation around logging. Prior to that I was a seasonal Forest Tech. for a series of natural resource consultants. I have worked in the forests of the southern coast of BC, the Okanagan Lakes to the Columbia River Rockies, and the Rockies of North Montana. I also worked for the Kutenai Tribe of Idaho as a Wildlife Tech. and in 2006 I worked for 7Akisᓄᓃᓃ as a Senior Guide at the 7Akisᓄᓃᓃ Rediscovery Camp at Qa7intuk akuᓃᓃᓃ (Whiteswan Lake). I hope to revive that camp and bring a lot more teachings from the land. I think the teepee camp is what turned me to work outdoors.

I kind of made it a goal to work in all areas of amakis Ktunaxa and got a bit of luck to do so. Assessing, measuring, and monitoring fish, wildlife, and all sorts of natural resource developments are a few of the jobs that I've taken on. Throughout my work I learned about the land and my rights on the land which we call Ktunaxa. With this knowledge I was able to work with the bands of Ktunaxa and KNC staff to develop a Forestry Standards Document. This was a monumental project for me as it aims to set a more Ktunaxa culture friendly approach to forestry in amakis Ktunaxa which is a big goal of mine. Building this document provides industry with a set of Ktunaxa made guidelines and ensures that Ktunaxa are always active on the landscape both at the operational and governing levels. Learning Ktunaxa culture has helped me to see the flaws in our current landscape planning and find my place in the global community. It has connected me to these lands and preserved my identity. I hope to inform the Akisqnuᓃᓃ and Ktunaxanintik of all things forestry when called upon.

Hu su?kni and hu sukiᓄᓃᓃ for this opportunity.





# Lands & Resources

## New case of chronic wasting disease confirmed in B.C.

The Province has confirmed an additional case of chronic wasting disease in British Columbia, found in a white-tailed deer in the Kootenay region.

Chronic wasting disease is an infectious and fatal disease affecting species in the cervid family, including deer, elk, moose and caribou. It causes serious harm to the animals' health.

To date, three cases of the disease have been identified in deer populations in the Kootenay region. The first two cases in B.C. were confirmed by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in February 2024. One was a male mule deer harvested by a hunter, and the other was a female white-tailed deer killed in a road accident. Both were collected in Cranbrook as part of B.C.'s ongoing chronic wasting disease surveillance efforts.

The latest case was confirmed by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency on Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2024. The sample was collected from a white-tailed deer harvested in October 2024. This case is within two kilometres of the other case found in a white-tailed deer near Cranbrook.

There is no direct evidence that the disease can be transmitted to humans and there have been no reports of cases of disease in humans. However, to prevent potential risk of illness, Health Canada recommends that people do not eat meat of an infected animal. Cooking temperatures cannot destroy the abnormal protein that causes chronic wasting disease if an animal is infected.

The Province is working in close partnership with First Nations, stakeholders, experts and other partners on tracking and mitigating the disease.

All cases to date have been found within a chronic wasting disease management zone that includes 14 wildlife management units in the Kootenay region. Measures are in place within this zone to continue to collect data to help mitigate the risk of disease spread.

Ongoing vigilance, preventative measures and enhanced surveillance are critical to managing chronic wasting disease and protecting cervid populations and the communities that rely on them. People are encouraged to keep submitting their deer samples. Information gathered during the ongoing response is helping inform longer-term chronic wasting disease management, in collaboration with First Nations and other partners.

Most infected animals will not show any symptoms of the disease. However, if anyone sees any deer, elk, moose or caribou exhibiting symptoms such as weight loss, drooling, poor co-ordination, stumbling, or generally sick with no obvious reason, report it to the 24/7 Report All Poachers and Polluters Line at 1 877 952-7277 or the B.C. Wildlife Health Program.

### Learn More:

For more information, visit the B.C. chronic wasting disease website: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/plants-animals-ecosystems/wildlife/wildlife-conservation/wildlife-health/chronic-wasting-disease>

For more information on chronic wasting disease regulation and restrictions, visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/plants-animals-ecosystems/wildlife/wildlife-conservation/wildlife-health/chronic-wasting-disease/cwd-bc#hunting-regulations-restrictions>



# Health & Wellness

NOVEMBER 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

JANUARY 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## DECEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Acupuncture Clinic	4 Trauma Support Circle	5 Recovery Healing Circle	6	7
8	9	10 Grief and Loss Workshop	11 Trauma Support Circle	12 Dr. Page Recovery Healing Circle	13	14 Salmon Canning
15 Salmon Canning	16	17 Massage Clinic	18 Trauma Support Circle	19 Recovery Healing Circle	20	21 Community Winter Solstice Party
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Health Centre Closed					
				Recovery Healing Circle		
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
	Health Centre Closed					
				Recovery Healing Circle		

Please contact the ʔakisqnuq Health+ Wellness Center at [healthcentre@akisqnuq.org](mailto:healthcentre@akisqnuq.org) or 250-342-6379 for more information or to book or cancel an appointment

### ʔAkisqnuq Health and Wellness Programs

Scan QR code for more details on Website.

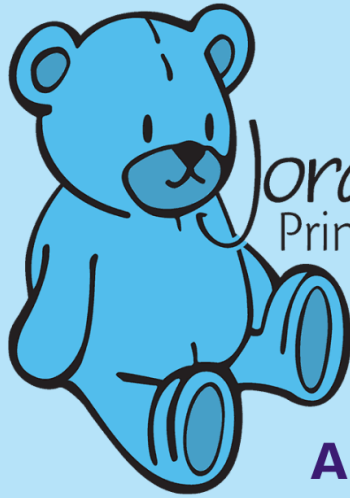
- Mental Wellness and Trauma Recovery
- One-on-One Recovery Mentorship
- Serenity after the Storm - Recovery Healing Circle
- Chiropractor
- Acupuncture
- Massage: Rising Sun massage therapy
- Nutritionist Coach

- Influenza vaccines
- Non Coverage Medical
- Medical Appointment Transportation





# Health & Wellness



Jordan's  
Principle



Come meet  
Ashley Killin  
Healthy Child  
Development

**Are you looking for  
information on  
Jordan's Principle?**

Did you know that your child 0-18 years old may be eligible for support? Funding can help with a wide range of health, social and educational needs, including the unique needs that First Nations children and youth and those with disabilities may have. Funding from Jordan's Principle can also provide social and cultural support that promote traditional practices and ways of life.

To learn more about how Jordan's Principle can benefit your child(ren) please contact Ashley Killin, Healthy Child Development Coordinator at [Ashley.killin@akisqnuq.org](mailto:Ashley.killin@akisqnuq.org). OR stop by Ashley's office at the health centre. Ashley can help identify services your child is eligible for and guide you through the application process.

---

[ashley.killin@akisqnuq.org](mailto:ashley.killin@akisqnuq.org)





# Health & Wellness

---

## HEALTH PLAN EVALUATION

---



### ʔAKISQNUK HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Jennica Nichols and Maya Lefkowich are evaluation consultants based in Vancouver. They met Health Director Rachel Bach several years ago while working on an evaluation project with the National Council of Indigenous Midwives (NCIM).

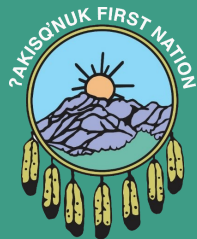
Passionate about community-led and arts-based approaches to evaluation, they are excited to work with ʔakisqnuq over the next few years to support the Health Plan!

Jennica was born and raised in Southern Ontario with family roots in Poland and Italy. She believes in using evaluation to promote shared benefits and decision-making within health care systems. Use, reciprocity, and thoughtfulness are core values that guide her work.

Maya was born in Toronto Ontario. Her family is Jewish with roots in Germany, Russia, and Poland. She believes in using evaluation to tell meaningful stories with community to satisfy their curiosities and learning goals. Creativity, justice, and integrity are core values that guide her work.

Jennica and Maya will be at the Members Services Event all day on Saturday November 16 and are excited to meet everyone, say hello, and hear what you have to say about the new Health Plan. This will be your first – of many – opportunities to meet with the evaluators over the coming years.

You can learn more about Jennica and Maya at [www.andimplementation.ca](http://www.andimplementation.ca) and email Maya at [maya@andimplementation.ca](mailto:maya@andimplementation.ca) if you have any questions.



# Health & Wellness

## REGIONAL HEALTH SURVEY (RHS) 4 Akisqnuq

**In Person Opportunity**  
**November 18-20: 9am-3pm**  
 @ the Akisqnuq Health Centre 3050 BC-93, Windermere BC

**All Nations members residing in the community are invited to participate**

**Other ways to take the RHS4:**

**ONLINE**

**OVER THE PHONE**

**What is the RHS4?**

The RHS is a voluntary nation-wide survey for First Nations people living in their home community. The survey is important to gather data that will help in policy development and decision-making to improve the well-being of First Nations people. Your voice is important and we want to hear it!

**All participants who complete the survey will receive TWO \$25 gift cards AND:**

Child/Adults:

- Entry into a monthly draw for a \$100 Visa gift card

Youth:

- Entry into a draw for a Nintendo Switch (1st place) or Nintendo Switch Lite (2nd and 3rd) both with a sports or dance games package! (draw date to align with BC data collection completion)

If you are interested in participating, email us at [RHS4@fnha.ca](mailto:RHS4@fnha.ca) or call our toll-free line at 1-833-633-3642 (press 3-3 to get to our team) to schedule

## REGIONAL HEALTH SURVEY (RHS4) Youth

Share your experience with us and  
**You could win a Nintendo switch**

**What is the RHS4?**

Scan the QR code below with your phone to watch RHS 4 video on YouTube

**Your voice matters!**

You can fill out the survey on your own on your phone

All Youth participants who complete the survey in May will receive

- \$25 gift card
- Automatic entry into a grand prize draw, with a top prize of a Nintendo Switch and second or third prize of a Nintendo Switch Lite

*You will be contacted if you are selected to participate*

\*Grand Prize Winners will be announced at the end of data collection in the province

For more information, email [RHS4@fnha.ca](mailto:RHS4@fnha.ca) or call our toll-free line at 1-833-633-3642

## REGIONAL HEALTH SURVEY (RHS) 4 Akisqnuq

**Come join us at The Member forum and wellness gathering!**  
**November 16th 10am-4pm**  
**Columbia Valley Recreation Centre**  
 3050 BC-93 #95, Windermere, BC

**What is the RHS4?**

The RHS is a voluntary nation-wide survey for First Nations people living in their home community. It asks about wellness, access to health care, health conditions/behaviours, housing, food security, water quality, etc. The survey is important to gather data that will help in policy development and decision-making to improve the well-being of First Nations people. Your voice is important and we want to hear it!

**Receive TWO \$25 gift cards for participating in the Regional Health Survey!**

**More information**

[www.fnha.ca/health-surveys](http://www.fnha.ca/health-surveys)  
[rhs4@fnha.ca](mailto:rhs4@fnha.ca)  
 1(833) 633-3642

**Other options for taking the RHS4:**

**ONLINE**

**OVER THE PHONE**

## ?Akisqnuq Health and Wellness—FNHA Survey

These surveys are designed to gather important information about the health and well-being of our First Nation community.

### Why Your Participation Matters:

- **Your Voice, Your Health:** By sharing your experiences and insights, you help us understand the unique health needs of our community.
- **Better Programs and Services:** The data collected will directly inform the development of health programs and services tailored to our community's needs.
- **Confidential and Respectful:** Your responses are confidential and will be used respectfully to benefit our community.

### How to Participate:

**Support Available:** If you need assistance or have any questions, our team is here to help.



# Employment Opportunities

AKISQNUK

THE LAND OF THE TWO LAKES



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Community Engagement and Ratification of Custom Membership Code

November 25, 2024



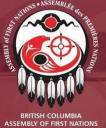
## JOB POSTINGS

[akisqnuk.org/employment-opportunities](https://akisqnuk.org/employment-opportunities)

### MEMBER SERVICES

- Housing Manager

APPLY NOW



#### Prince George Office

1004 Landooz Road  
Prince George, BC  
V2K 5S3  
Tel: 250-962-1603  
Fax: 250-962-9552  
Toll Free: 1-877-621-1603

#### Vancouver Office

Suite 1090-1200 W. 73rd Ave  
Vancouver, BC  
V6P 6G5  
Tel: 778-945-9911  
Fax: 778-945-9916  
Toll Free: 1-833-381-7622

## BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

### Call for Concepts: BCAFN 2SLGBTQIA+ FLAG

#### Call Out for Concepts NOTICE

**To:** All BC Chiefs and Councils **Date:** Friday, November 8, 2024  
**From:** BCAFN Office **Pages:** 4  
**RE:** Call for Concepts for BCAFN 2SLGBTQIA+ FLAG

#### About us

BC Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN) is a Provincial Territorial Organization that represents the 204 First Nations in BC. BCAFN's core mandate is to advance the Aboriginal Title, Rights Treaty Rights, and broader interests of First Nations people throughout BC. BCAFN efforts are centred on supporting nation-building and collective action focused on solutions and ensuring that First Nations' jurisdiction, laws, territories, and traditions are respected and that cultural identities, systems of government, and approaches to self-determination are the foundation of First Nations success.

#### Deliverable(s)

BCAFN is seeking an artist to design and co-develop a flag to represent First Nation 2SLGBTQIA+ people in BC that is rooted in the diverse First Nation cultures and traditional knowledge within First Nations in BC.

#### Purpose

The purpose of a flag is to represent First Nations 2SLGBTQIA+ people in BC and signify the inclusivity and diversity within the BCAFN as an organization and in the work BCAFN continues to do.

#### Expectations

BCAFN seeks a First Nations artist from BC to collaborate with the BCAFN to design and co-develop a flag representing BC First Nation 2SLGBTQIA+ people. The successful applicant will receive \$2000 for the final design.



#### First Nations Community-Based Teacher Education Guidelines and Call for Proposals (CFP)

##### Background

The Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills (the Ministry) is working with the Ministry of Education and Child Care, the First Nations Education Steering Committee, and the Indigenous Adult and Higher Learning Association to develop a plan to support First Nations community-based teacher education as part of a broader approach to address Action 4.2 from the Declaration and Action Plans: Develop and implement an effective recruitment and retention strategy to increase the number of Indigenous teachers in the K-12 public education system.

This Call for Proposals (CFP) is one step toward increasing the number of First Nations teachers in the B.C. K-12 school system and addressing Action 4.2. The funding provided will support First Nations learners to become certified teachers.

##### A. Purpose

First Nations teachers are significantly under-represented in the K-12 teacher workforce in B.C. Increasing the number of teachers who have the credentials needed to become a certified teacher addresses these inequities, helps build a workforce that is more representative of B.C.'s population, and promotes an understanding and awareness of First Nations histories, cultures, and knowledges.

Community-based teacher education supports learners to pursue this training without leaving their community and their cultural and family responsibilities. Community-based education removes barriers, increases positive outcomes for learners, and provides opportunities for education to be rooted in First Nations culture, language and values. Community members who train to become teachers are more likely to stay in their communities than teachers from another location.

##### B. Description

First Nations and public post-secondary institutions delivering BC Teachers' Council (BCTC)-approved Teacher Education Programs (TEP) may be at various stages of readiness to deliver a community-based TEP. The aim of this CFP is to provide provincial government funding to First Nations, for the purposes of either:

- Developing a partnership with a public post-secondary institution for the purposes of developing and delivering a BCTC approved community-based TEP, or,
- Delivering a BCTC approved community-based TEP in partnership with a public post-secondary institution.

This CFP includes two potential funding streams: 1) Partnership and Program Development and 2) Program Delivery. Interested First Nations must select one stream through which to apply.





# Odds & Ends



[news@ktunaxa.org](mailto:news@ktunaxa.org)  
**Learn More**  
[ktunaxahakqiyit.org/ktunaxanews](http://ktunaxahakqiyit.org/ktunaxanews)

SEEKING YOUTH ARTISTS

**POSTER  
CONTEST ALERT**

ENTER FOR YOUR  
CHANCE TO WIN A  
**\$150 GIFTCARD**

FOR YOUTH IN  
**GRADES 6 TO 12**  
IN THE INTERIOR  
HEALTH REGION

SUBMISSION  
DEADLINE  
**DEC 15**  
2024

SUBMIT YOUR ORIGINAL POSTER ARTWORK THAT SHARES A  
MESSAGE ABOUT THE IMPACTS OF  
**TOBACCO, CANNABIS, VAPING OR ALCOHOL**  
ON YOUTH

FIND MORE INFORMATION AT [INTERIORHEALTH.CA/BEYONDTHEBUZZ](http://interiorhealth.ca/beyondthebuzz)

**women's  
WALK & WEIGHTS  
2024**

*At the Columbia Lake  
Recreation Centre*

**TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS  
11 AM - 12 PM**

**DESIGNATED TIME FOR OUR  
WOMEN, ELDERS, AND  
SENIORS TO USE THE WEIGHT  
ROOM AND WALKING TRACK!**

Elders are welcome to walk the outer boards of the main gym floor.



**WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU  
VISITED KTUNAXAREADY.COM?**