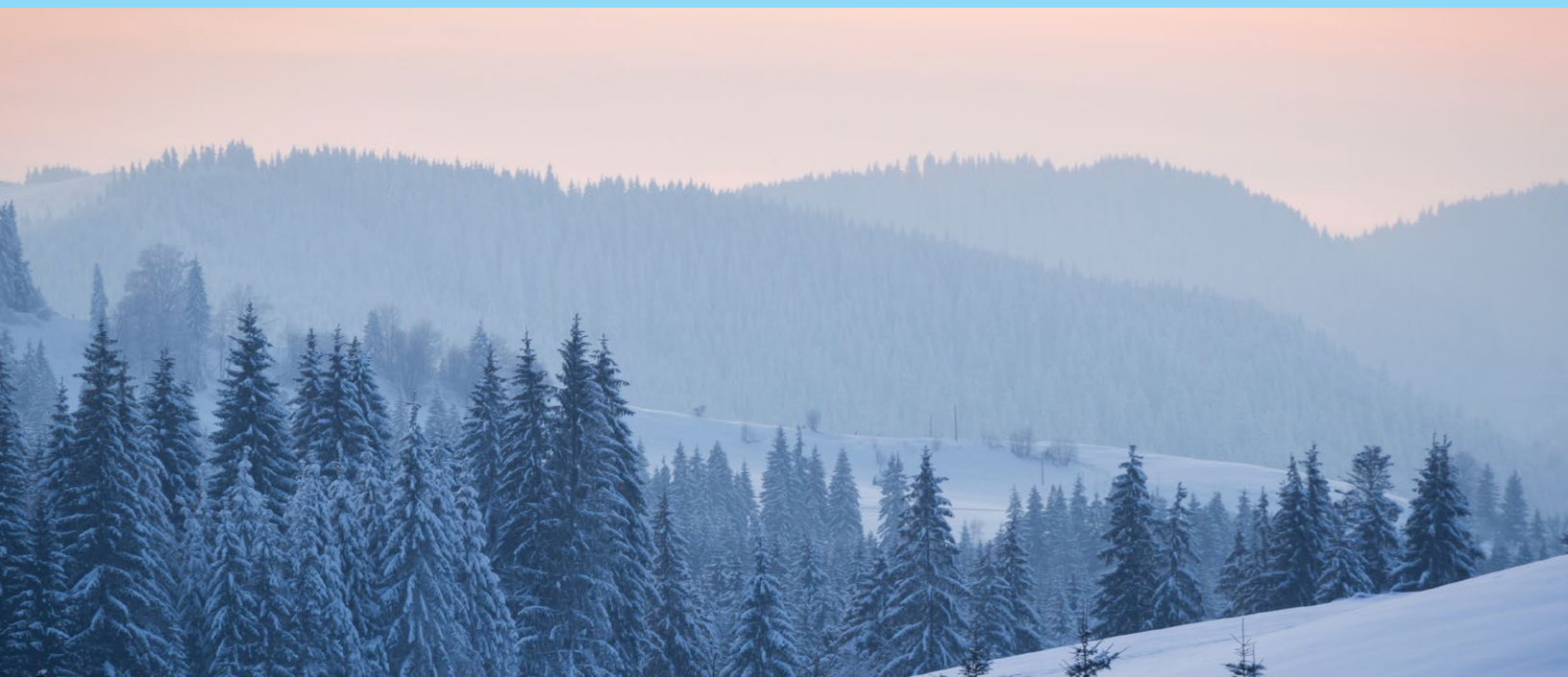


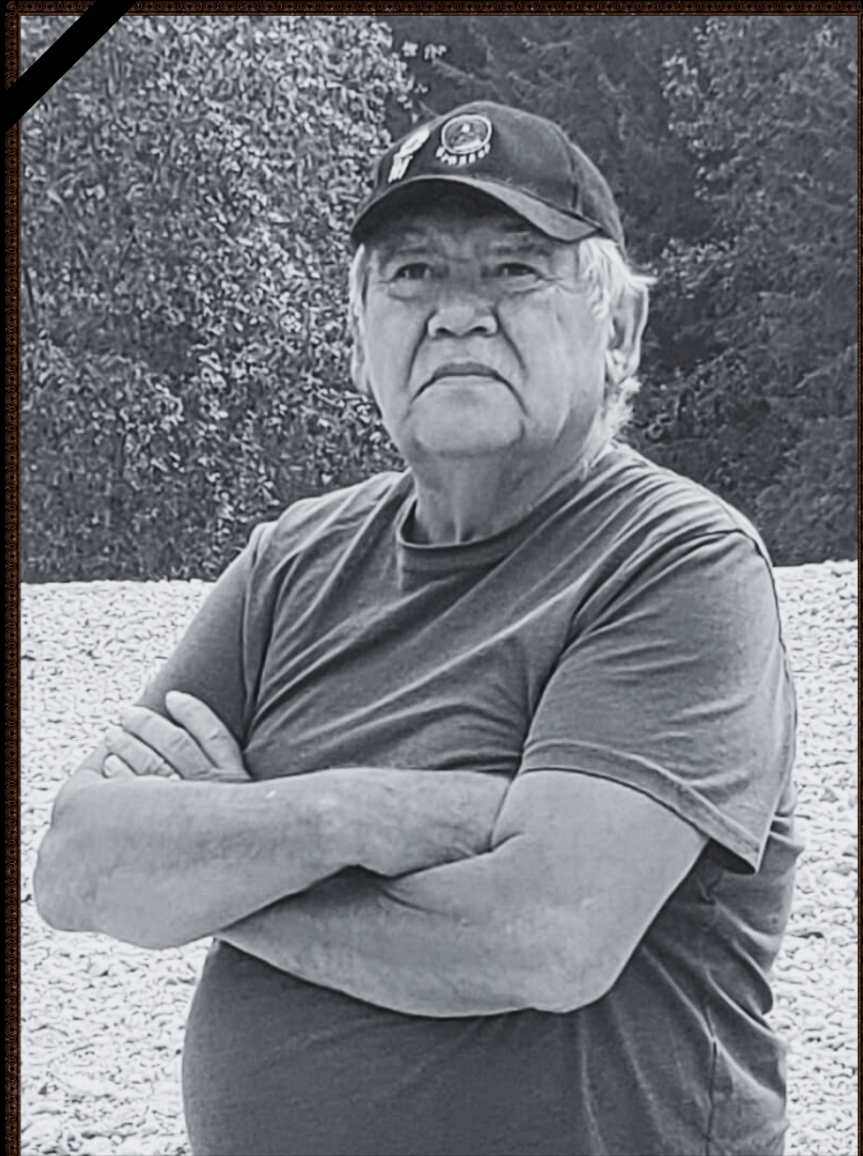


ʔakisq̓nuk Community Newsletter Jan. 24-Feb.13



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In loving memory of



Joseph Richard Nicholas

January 31, 1953 – January 23, 2025

In honour and memory of our Nation member and former Nasu?kin, Joseph Nicholas,

We will keep you updated on further wake and funeral service details.

We kindly ask all community to keep the family in your thoughts and prayers during this time of grief.

Notices

Coming Up Monday, January 27th:

ʔakisq̓nuk Members are invited to attend a presentation of AFN's 2024 Fiscal Year End (March 31, 2024) Audited Financial Statements.

Date: Monday, January 27th, 6:30 - 9pm.
Light snacks will be provided.

Location: The Lions Hall at the Columbia Valley
Chamber of Commerce: 651 Hwy 93/95
Invermere, BC

Zoom info for members to attend online:
Meeting ID: 895 0970 8777
Passcode: 025413

[Click here to join!](#)

**NOTICE: WATER
CONSERVATION STILL
NEEDED**

Thank you for your co-operation.

A construction crew will be on reserve January 28th for scheduled building demolition.
Contact wade.melnychyn@akisqnuk.org for more info.

UPCOMING *events*

**JAN 24 -
FEB 13** 2025

**JAN
27**

**2024 FYE Financial
Statements Presentation
to Members
6:30-9PM @ Lion's Hall**

**FEB
4**

**Health Centre Closed
12-3PM
Staff Meeting**

**FEB
4/5**

**AFN Group Health Benefits
Engagement Session
Feb 4 @ 5-7PM Round Room
Online Feb 5 @ 5:30-7PM**

**FEB
7**

**Cranbrook Shopping Trip
Leave from Health Centre
@ 10AM**

**FEB
8**

**Singing Back the Buffalo
Invermere Film Fest
Columbia Valley Centre
Doors 12PM, Film 1PM
Shuttle available!**

**FEB
17**

**BC Family Day
Offices Closed**

RECURRING *events*

2nd Tuesdays:

Acupuncture Clinic @ 11AM January 28

Every other Thursday:

Dr. Page @ 2-4PM Jan 30, Feb 6

3rd Tuesdays:

Massage Clinic @ 10AM January 21

**Thursdays: Serenity After the Storm
Recovery Healing Circle 6PM**

Tuesdays:

**Inter-generational Playgroup @ 1-3PM
Columbia Lake Rec Centre**

Sundays:

Kimberley / Panorama Ski Program

ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

The ?AFN Health Team has proposed the development of a Group Health Benefits Plan for ?AFN Members to Council.

Council has approved us to move ahead but we need to hear from you!

DISCUSS PRIORITIES & PROVIDE FEEDBACK

Come hear the preliminary group health benefit plan proposal. Let us know how it sounds and if it would meet your needs.



VIRTUAL SESSION 02

WED | FEB 06 | 5:30-7pm (MST)
MS Teams

 <https://shorturl.at/y8oUB>

HELP SHAPE GROUP HEALTH BENEFITS PLAN FOR ?AFN MEMBERS



SESSION 01



IN-PERSON

TUE | FEB 05 | 5- 7pm (MST)
Health Centre Round Room
Dinner at 5pm
Presentation at 5:30pm





Presents:

SINGING BACK THE BUFFALO

A Film by Tasha Hubbard

Award-winning Cree filmmaker Tasha Hubbard's feature length film, *Singing Back the Buffalo*, follows Indigenous visionaries, scientists and communities who are rematriating the buffalo to the heart of the North American plains they once defined, signaling a turning point for Indigenous nations, the ecosystem, and all of our collective survival.

Saturday, February 8 @ 1PM
Columbia Valley Centre

Introduction by Glenda Abbott

Q&A Hosted by Glenda Abbott

Glenda Abbott is a nehiyaw-Plains Cree from Pelican Lake First Nation, Saskatchewan in Treaty 6 Territory, Canada. Glenda works with the International Buffalo Relations Institute on the SAGE- ē kânātahk askiy Project. Glenda is a grandmother and mother who has dedicated much of her time learning from knowledge keepers to revitalize and reclaim Indigenous knowledge systems.

Taste of Ktunaxa:

A sampling selection of three unique Bison appetizers.

Complimentary tickets can be picked up at the Health Center or by
e-mailing val.stackhouse@akisqnuuk.org

Doors open at 12PM. Shuttle service from the Health Center available.



AFN PROJECT MANAGER BOB COTTERALL UPDATE NO.8

MULTIPURPOSE FACILITY

COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO DROP BY THE PROJECT MANAGERS OFFICE ANY TIME TO DISCUSS ANY QUESTIONS THEY MAY HAVE.

DEAR ʔAKISQNUK COMMUNITY,

I am pleased to provide you with the current construction of the Multipurpose Center and the latest Housing unit under construction.

The Multipurpose Center is currently installing the foundations for the Administrative, Atrium and Health Components of the Center. Progress on the site has been slow due to Christmas Holidays and colder winter conditions. However, demolition of the existing Administration Building is scheduled for January 28/25. A Bat Specialist will be onsite during demolition, should any Bats be encountered. It is assumed the Building is Bat Free as there is no heat in the Building. A SARA Permit has been issued allowing demolition to proceed. During the remaining months of January and into February Framing will start on the new Administrative component. More information will follow on the progress of the Administrative Component in the next newsletter.

The Housing Department under the direction of the new Housing Manager, Gayle Michel, is proceeding with the new Housing 4Plex now under Construction.

The housing unit was started in September 2024. The Housing Unit is scheduled to be completed in September 2025. To date the exterior framework is completed with interior work underway.

As mentioned in the previous Newsletter, preliminary design review is proceeding for the new Arbor. Should you have any questions regarding the Arbor please contact Danny Burgoyne.

As always, you are welcome to drop by the ATCO trailer with any questions you may have.



250-342-6301



bob.cotterall@akisqnuq.org

AKISQNUK MEMBERS

WINTER *Ski Program*

**PANORAMA & KIMBERLEY SKI DAY
EVERY SUNDAY STARTING
JANUARY 12**

**E-mail trisha.clowers@akisqnuk.org
to register on or before each Tuesday!**



LITTLE HANDS, WISE HEARTS
ABORIGINAL HEAD START ON RESERVE

INTER-GENERATIONAL PLAYGROUP

JOIN US EVERY TUESDAY FROM 1-3PM AT
THE COLUMBIA REC CENTRE FOR AN INTER-
GENERATIONAL PLAYGROUP!

RUNNING FROM JANUARY 21ST UNTIL
MARCH 11TH, 2025.

This unique program brings children (0-6 years) and elders together for fun activities, storytelling, and connection, fostering learning and relationships across generations. Come be a part of this experience that embraces community and togetherness!

**A parent or guardian must remain to attend to their children*

Free for all ʔakisq̓nuk members and by donation for non-members

IF YOU NEED A RIDE, PLEASE CONTACT THE
HEALTH CENTRE: 250-341-6301

e-mail ashley.killin@akisqnuk.org for more info

WINDERMERE BYLAWS PROCEED TO PUBLIC HEARING

The Board authorized a public hearing for two bylaws for properties in the Bench Road area of Windermere. The Board considered the proposed density, water and sewer servicing and potential traffic impacts of the proposed land use proposal for limited new commercial and mixed density residential development. The public hearing to allow for public comment on the proposed Bylaws will be held on January 29 via Zoom and requires pre-registration for all attendees.

Contact: Karen MacLeod, Planning Supervisor
250-489-2791 | kmacleod@rdek.bc.ca



SAVE the DATE

February 11, 5-7pm OR
February 14, 11am-2pm

FINANCIAL LITERACY

Come learn with us! Details to follow
Contact trisha.clowers@akisqnuk.org to
sign up or for more information

COMMUNITY SHOPPING TRIP TO CRANBROOK



DATES: FEBRUARY 7,
MARCH 7, APRIL 4, MAY 2, JUNE 6

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.

Depart from Health Centre at 10AM

Morning stops:

Superstore, Walmart (with optional stops
at the second-hand store and dollarama)

Afternoon:

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

Return:

Depart from the Casino at 4:00 PM

TO REGISTER CALL ROBERTA @ 250-342-6379



SERENITY AFTER THE STORM

Recovery Healing Circle

Thursdays, 6pm-7pm
Wiyu Lodge

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 over 6 years of experience sponsoring & mentoring more than 100 men & women battling addiction. I build relationships with community members and 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.

I am on site at the Akisqnuq Health Centre every Thursday & Friday, and available to talk any time.

If you would like to reach me, please call or text 403-437-3097 or email me at shayneb@billward.life



BILLWARDLIFE
Mentor • Change Maker • Recovery Activist



YOGA TEACHER TRAINING

SPECIALIZED
TRAINING FOR
INDIGENOUS
COMMUNITIES

200 hr Yoga Teacher Certification

OR choose from the following certifications

100 hr Foundations of Indigenous Yoga
Teacher Certification

50 hr Accessible Yoga Teacher Certification

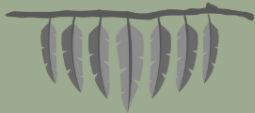
50 hr Advanced Community Yoga
Teacher Certification

*Prerequisite for the 50 hr training is the 100 hr foundations
or previous yoga certification*



RI?SU?K ?AWUMU

good medicine wellness training centre



Why Choose Our Training?

Special emphasis will be placed on generating the presence of yoga within Indigenous community settings and creating yoga classes that are accessible to able bodied people, youth, seniors, and those with chronic conditions. Students will learn and experience in depth: asanas (postures), breathing, meditation; teaching methodology including trauma informed yoga, anatomy and physiology including yoga for chronic conditions; chair yoga; yoga for youth; philosophy and ethics including both Indian and Indigenous world view; the subtle (energy) body; the business of yoga, and practice teaching.



In person

April 23- April 28th & May 22nd - June 1



Akisqnuq First Nations - Invermere BC

FOR MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER GO TO :
[HTTPS://WWW.GOODMEDICINETRAINING.CA/](https://www.goodmedicinetraining.ca/)

Health & Wellness

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	

FEBRUARY 2025

MARCH 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					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4 Health Centre Closed for Staff Meeting In Afternoon	5 Foot Clinic	6 Dr. Page Clinic Recovery Healing Circle at Wiyu Lodge	7	8
9	10	11 Acupuncture Clinic	12	13 Recovery Healing Circle at Wiyu Lodge	14	15
16 BC Family Day - Health Centre Closed	17	18 Massage Clinic	19	20 Recovery Healing Circle at Wiyu Lodge	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Recovery Healing Circle at Wiyu Lodge	28	1



VACCINES

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

250-342-6379

?Akisqnuq 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



Don't forget to schedule your appointments for physician, massage, accupuncture, and foot clinics by calling the Health Centre at (250) 342-6379, or in-person at the Health Centre!

Lands & Resources

Request for participants on ʔakisq'nuk Lands Committee

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

This is your chance!

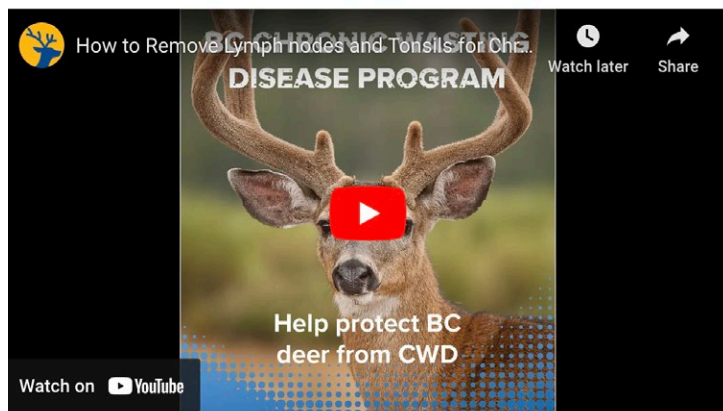
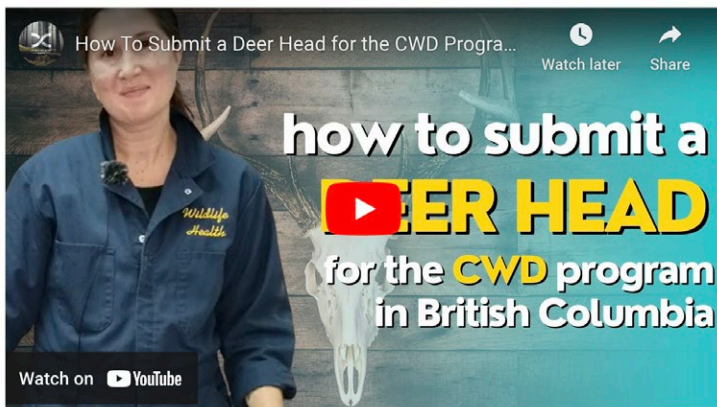


Do you have:

- Traditional and modern on the land knowledge;
- Knowledge of Ktunaxa Perspective and Values including ʔaknumuᑭᑭᑭ;
- Desire to improve ʔakisq'nuk 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

Submit a resume and cover letter to lorne.shovar@akisq'nuk.org if you are interested in joining the ʔakisq'nuk Lands Committee. 4 positions available!

Chronic Wasting Disease is in our region. Watch the videos linked below for how to submit samples.



ATTENTION HUNTERS: COMPLETE THESE STEPS

STEP 1.

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

> Submit a head:

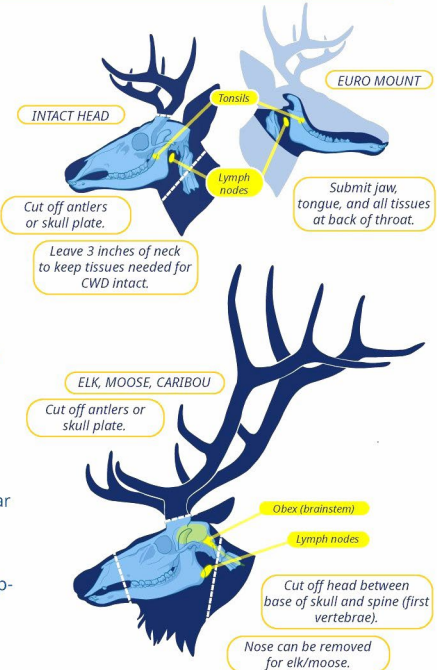
Cut head off animal and remove antlers (nose can be removed for elk/moose).

> 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.

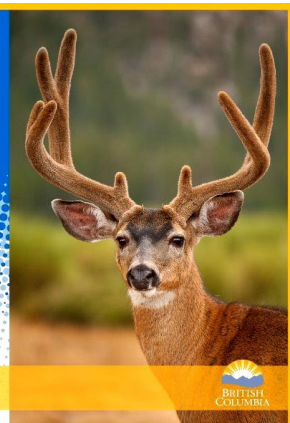
If submitting your own samples, fill out sample info portion on back of Ear Card.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO CWD RESPONSE!
Visit gov.bc.ca/chronicwastingdisease 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



CLICK [HERE](#) for the BC Government's website on Surveillance and Testing for CWD.

Hunters, gatherers, harvesters: What you need to know about bird flu in BC

What is avian influenza (bird flu)?

Avian influenza is a virus that spreads quickly among birds. Since 2022, cases have increased globally, affecting wild birds, poultry, and some mammals like skunks and foxes.

Humans can also get sick from handling infected birds or animals because the virus can survive on feathers and surfaces for weeks.

How long the virus can survive at different temperatures:



Signs of a sick bird

Do not touch sick or dead birds.



- Weakness or lack of movement
- Sudden death



- Swelling around the head, neck, or eyes
- Diarrhea



- Coughing
- Sneezing
- Difficulty breathing

For more information: [BCCDC Avian Influenza: How can I protect myself?](#)

For general questions: Contact the FNHA Environmental Health Team
Email: environmental.health@fnha.ca



First Nations Health Authority
Health through wellness

Elk Monitoring at CBT block



Update on CWD response in our area:

From Caeley Thacker, Wildlife Veterinarian:

Targeted removal of deer around Cranbrook will be conducted with the goal of decreasing deer density, risk of spread, and environmental contamination. Maps of the targeted removal area are being developed and will be shared as soon as possible.

Planned activities include permitted special hunt – permits will be issued to local licensed hunters. We will be working with East Kootenay Wildlife Association to get these permits issued. Initially, 50 permits will be supplied to local hunters and additional permits may be issued. More information on this process to come.

Contractors may be utilized to remove additional deer if required. This will depend on the success of local hunters.

Community members may be issued a permit to participate in the hunt or they can exercise their right to hunt without a permit. The lead wildlife biologist with the province has indicated that there are many areas surrounding Cranbrook that have high deer populations that could use some additional hunting pressure. Hunters may go out now to have the first opportunity to hunt in this area before the permitted hunters. The hunt will be in areas surrounding the detected positive cases in Cranbrook – a map will be released shortly.

This work should occur at the end of the month, depending on when permits are granted. If anyone has questions, they can email Tyra at tyra.joe@akisqnuk.org or call (250)-342-6301 ext. 3824 and she will relay to the provincial staff in charge of this effort.

Welcome to New Staff Members



DARRYL HARSCH

DIRECTOR OF MEMBER SERVICES

My name is Darryl Harsch, and my traditional name is Nang Kisklay of the Sangath Staastas Eagle clan. I am a proud member of the Haida Nation. I grew up on Vancouver Island in Nuu-Chah-Nulth territory. At 17, I began a career in forest management until I decided to work more closely with my First Nation culture.

I graduated from the University of Victoria with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and worked in First Nation community health as a Registered Nurse. My career has included operations management in remote First Nation communities across British Columbia and Manitoba. In 2020, I relocated to my traditional territory of Haida Gwaii. In the spring of 2024, I completed my Master of Business Administration in Indigenous Business Leadership.

Throughout my career, I have gained valuable experience in leadership, community engagement, and the importance of being grounded in cultural values and connection to the land. These experiences have prepared me to effectively support and serve Indigenous communities in various capacities.

My wife, Melissa, and I are excited about relocating to Ktunaxa traditional territory, where I look forward to contributing to the ʔAkisq̓nuk First Nation community as the Director of Member Services. I am committed to serving the ʔAkisq̓nuk First Nation community with the intent to foster strong relationships with its members. It will be an honor to connect and engage with the community, whether in the office or through home visits when that is more convenient. I am deeply moved and respectful of this opportunity. My first objective is to build meaningful connections within the community. Please feel free to reach out for a visit via my office or your home. Direct contact at Darryl.Harsch@akisqnuk.org or Cell: 250-342-1583. I look forward to meeting you.

The Director of Member Services, reporting to the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), provides overall leadership, direction and support for the planning, development, delivery, and administration of Member Services programs. The Member Services Department focuses on the overall well-being of ʔAkisq̓nuk members.



EARL MAGNUSON

DIRECTOR OF GOVERNANCE

“Tansi” and hello! My name is Earl Magnuson I hail from the Kawacatoose First Nation (Cree) in southern Saskatchewan. I am married with 7 children. My wife, Lori, and I are currently raising our 8 year old grandson. I am excited to share my lived and experiential life and career with Akisqnik First Nation through a lens of First Nation governance.

For the past 30 plus years I have been working closely with First Nation communities in a management or leadership capacity. I have served as Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations’ Legislative Assembly for fourteen years. I have been educated in the ways of my Cree ancestors and take seriously those beliefs, traditions and protocols.

I am an avid hunter, fisher, golfer and plan to partake in skiing again, as it was a constant when younger. I believe I am a good listener and eager to learn of the ways of the Ktunaxa Nation and particularly the ways of ʔakisq̓nuk First Nation. I look forward to meeting each and every one of you!

The Director of Governance, reporting to the Chief and Council, will lead governance initiatives, support policy and legislative processes, and oversee the Governance Department's development. This role focuses on advancing governance objectives in response to new legislation and evolving economic and social conditions impacting the ʔakisq̓nuk Nation.



GAYLE MICHEL

HOUSING MANAGER

Kisuk kyukyit

I am pleased to announce that I have agreed to take on the position of Housing Manager.

I have worked in AFN’s finance group for over 15 years, as Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable clerk.

I grew up in the community, raised my family here. I have seen many changes, good and bad.

I am excited to see what experience this new role has to offer. I offer my loyalty, integrity and dedication to the position and community.

I look forward to meeting everyone. Keep the lines of communication open.

Thank you.

Gayle Michel
250-342-6301 ext. 3822



THERESA KAINS

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ADMINISTRATOR

I'm excited to share that I've accepted the role of Community Engagement Administrator within our community.

This role is deeply meaningful to me as my roots run deep in the ʔakisᑦnuk community. My great-great-grandparents, Anne Pete and Alban Joseph Gusta'nana, laid the foundation for my family's connection to this land. Their daughter, my great-grandmother Sabine Josephine Alpine, married Louie John Kaius and moved to Alberta, where they raised their family. My grandmother, Marguerite Cooper née Kains, reclaimed her status in the 1980s while raising six children in Whitehorse.

My mother, Shauna Kains, brought us back to ʔakisᑦnuk in 1994/95, where I was raised. I graduated from David Thompson Secondary School and earned a Graphic Design diploma from the Art Institute of Vancouver. I returned to ʔakisᑦnuk to support my family and community, serving on council from 2018–2022. Since joining the ʔakisᑦnuk First Nation organization in 2022, I've grown both personally and professionally, starting my family and expanding my skills.

In my new role, I'll focus on:

- **Community Storytelling:** Researching and sharing authentic stories that reflect our history and culture.
- **Engagement Initiatives:** Fostering collaboration by sharing community input with leadership.
- **Event Coordination:** Supporting the planning and execution of culturally significant events.
- **Communication Management:** Sharing members' stories and ensuring communication aligns with our values.
- **Partnership Building:** Establishing relationships with stakeholders and identifying strategic opportunities.
- **Content Creation:** Assisting with multimedia content and documenting community events.
- **Communications Strategy:** Supporting the Communications Plan, administering surveys, and recommending updates.
- **Digital Engagement:** Managing social media and maintaining the website.
- **Community Engagement:** Distributing event updates, promoting engagement strategies, and facilitating communication.

While these goals are ambitious, I'm eager to work closely with you all to enhance our community experience. Please don't hesitate to share your ideas, suggestions, or concerns—I look forward to collaborating to make ʔakisᑦnuk stronger together.

Thank you for your trust and support!

Odds & Ends

Feb 17th to 28th 2025:

BUILD CAPACITY IN... OFFICE ADMINISTRATION



Our **2-week OFFICE ADMINISTRATION** program is designed to build capacity through developing social skills, transferrable skills, soft skills, and employment skills. This program will guide participants through building a toolkit that will allow them to excel in their personal life and in their career.

During this **2-week extensive program** participants will learn:

Week 1

- Time Management
- Stress Management
- Financial Management
- Skills Inventory
- Effective Business Communication
- The Fundamentals of Public Relations
- Social Media in the Workplace
- Digital Literacy
- Records Management
- Office Administration

Week 2

- Computer Basics
 - MS Word
 - MS Excel
 - MS PowerPoint
 - MS Outlook
 - MS Teams/Zoom
- Keyboarding Skills
- Intro to Bookkeeping

THIS PROGRAM CAN BE DELIVERED VIRTUALLY AND IN-PERSON



NC CONSULTING SOLUTIONS
INSPIRING TODAY FOR TOMORROW'S SUCCESS

(807) 286 7001
www.ncconsultingsolutions.ca
info@ncconsultingsolutions.ca



?akisq'nuk First Nation Community
Consultative Group



Cpl. Jarret Cottrell of the Cranbrook RCMP and BC Indigenous Policing Services is looking for 3 - 10 member volunteers to meet 4 times a year or when issues arise to help provide suggestions, share community policing priorities, share issues from the RCMP, offer advice, and enhance police officers cultural sensitivity and awareness.

If you are interested contact jarret.cottrell@rcmp-grc.gc.ca



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.


**Encouraging *YOU* to
GET HEALTHY and STAY HEALTHY**

YOUTH EMPOWERED SPEAKERS

**Application Deadline
January 31, 2025**



**FIRST PEOPLES'
CULTURAL COUNCIL**



British Columbia Assembly of First Nations

YOUTH

VIRTUAL DIALOGUE SESSION

February 11, 2025

Win Prizes!

Save the Date!

Registration coming soon!

BC First Nations Youth ages 18 - 29 are eligible to register

events.bcafn.ca

CALL FOR ARTWORKS

Seeking First Nations, Métis, and Inuit artworks about preventing communicable diseases to feature in public health campaigns

Indigenous perspectives

The top three submissions will each receive a **\$4,000** grand prize

We will provide a \$100 honorarium for every individual submission that meets the criteria and \$250 for group submissions. Honoraria will be provided for qualifying submissions on a first-come, first-served basis until available funds have been fully distributed. Only one submission will be accepted per applicant.

JAN. 31 2025 The deadline for submissions is January 31, 2025.

For questions about this opportunity, please email:
✉ **Darian Stahl**
NCCIH Research Associate
darian.stahl@unbc.ca

Submissions should reflect Indigenous perspectives and experiences related to health and wellness. Submissions may be in any art form, including drawing, painting, textiles, sculpture, storytelling, poetry, dance, music, and more. Artists retain copyright over their work while granting ISC and NCCIH permission to use submissions.

submission process

Visit the NCCIH web site to view the guidelines, criteria, and submission process instructions.



nccih.ca/485/NCCIH_in_the_News.nccih?id=536

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:

?akisqnuq CAO David Bach (david.bach@akisqnuq.org)

or send an email to info@akisqnuq.org

Your expertise can make a real difference.

Join us today!





ʔakisqnuq challenge: Share Your Story with Us!

We want to hear from you! Share your life stories, experiences, and memories with the ʔakisqnuq community. Whether you're an elder, youth, or a reclaimed status member, your story matters.

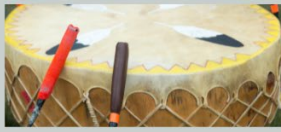
Why Share Your Story?

Sharing your stories helps us connect and understand each other better within the ʔakisqnuq community. By telling and listening to each other's experiences, we can heal together, witness each other's journeys, and educate ourselves about where we are as a people. Your story is a vital part of our collective history and future.

How to Participate:

- Submit your stories, and photos via email or set up an appointment with Theresa
- Include photos (old and new) if you have them.


Reach out now



CALLING ALL AKISQNUK ARTISTS!

We're building a contact list for Akisqnuq artists to keep you informed about opportunities and events. If you're an artist in our community, we want to hear from you!

How to Join:

- Email your name, contact details, and a brief description of your art.

Contact: communication@akisqnuq.org



CALLING ALL AKISQNUKNIK!

Calling All Akisqnuq Band Members!

Join our exclusive email list to stay connected and informed about community updates and events.

How to Join:

Email your name and contact details to communication@akisqnuq.org

and/or your preferred direct contact method: email, text, or call.

Our goal would be to have all members!



**KTUNAXA
Microloan**

Business Development Office

Financial support for aspiring
Ktunaxa Entrepreneurs and
Small Ktunaxa Businesses

Own at least
51%
of business
or venture

Who can apply
for a MicroLoan?
**Ktunaxa
Citizens**

7%
MicroLoan
Interest
Rate



36 - 48
months to
repay microloan



**KTUNAXA
Microloan**

Single application
can be up to **\$10,000**

\$25,000 Maximum
lifetime amount.

Once you repay **80%** of your loan,
20% of your loan is forgivable!

Do YOU have a business idea?

We can help you
get started, or just
have a look at your
plan to help ensure
your next venture
is a success!



CONTACT US

(250) 489-2464
BDO@ktunaxa.org
220 Cranbrook Street
Cranbrook, B.C. V1C3R2



Ktunaxa Business Development Grant

Financial support for aspiring Ktunaxa entrepreneurs and small Ktunaxa businesses

Own at least
51%
of business
or venture

Who can apply
for a grant?
**Ktunaxa
Citizens**

Up to
\$5,000
Maximum
Funding

Support with business coaching,
finances, business planning,
budgeting and marketing.



Ktunaxa Business Development Grant

\$5,000 Maximum funding
per application

To be used for **tangible purchases**

Tools • Equipment
Computer • Software
Office • Supplies • Website

Items purchased are to be used within
the business operations and not for resale

Do YOU have a business idea?

We can help you get
started, or review
your business plan to
help ensure your next
venture is a success!



CONTACT US

(250) 489-2464
BDO@ktunaxa.org
KtunaxaReady.com
220 Cranbrook Street
Cranbrook, B.C. V1C3R2

SEVEN NATIONS SOARING EAGLE TREATMENT CENTRE

LOGO CONTEST

\$300 - 1st Prize
\$200 - 2nd Prize
\$100 - 3rd Prize

Logo should include:

- Clear Text
- Creative & Original
- Cultural Content

Maximum one entry per person.
Must be artist's original design.

*Ceremony-based
Indigenous
Transformation,
healing & wellness
program*

DÄKELH DENÉ | KTUNAXA | SECWEPENC | SYILX
| ST'ÁT'IMC | TSILHQOT'IN | NLAKA'PAMUX

SEND TO 

Deadline
January 26, 2025

Taylor Wilson
Administrative Support
Email: taylor.wilson@ktunaxa.org

Ktunaxa Nation Council





Open House

Tuesday, February 11, 2025
10-12 p.m. & 1-3 p.m.
220 Cranbrook St. N.
?a-kiskaq?i?it (Cranbrook)

- Open to all
- Building tours
- Refreshments provided

Learn about the
sectors of the KNC
and their roles.

Ktunaxa Kinbasket
Child & Family
Service Society

**KTUNAXA
NATION**

Win 2 tickets to SECHILE SEDARE

Key City Theatre • January 29

Sechile Sedare—meaning 'my younger brother, my older sister' in the Dene language—represents the powerful connection of family, culture, and storytelling. Key City Theatre has donated two tickets to this show and Ktunaxa Nation Council is running a contest for Ktunaxaniñtik to win them. Visit www.sechilesedare.com to learn about this musical duo.

How to Enter:
Email a Ktunaxa word for **SISTER**
or **BROTHER** to news@ktunaxa.org
by January 20, 2025 for the draw.
Contest is open to Ktunaxaniñtik.

 /keycitytheatre
/SechileSedare

Key City Theatre in Cranbrook
January 29, 2025 at 7:30 pm
Tix: www.keycitytheatre.com
or at the box office.

SAVE THE DATE

CULTURE CAMP

You're Invited!

All Ktunaxa ʔaq̓smakník

JUNE 12-15, 2025

at Grave Prairie



MORE DETAILS SOON!

LandsCommunityEngagement@ktunaxa.org





the YOUTH SUMMIT SERIES

K t u n a x a N a t i o n 2 0 2 5

Save the Dates

A CELEBRATION OF CULTURE, CREATIVITY AND CONNECTION

March 17-21 and April 12

Join us for the 7th annual Youth Summit Series organized by the Ktunaxa Nation! This year, we are excited to offer access to two exciting events: Gathering Our Voices in Kamloops, BC, and our local Ktunaxa Youth Summit in Cranbrook. These events are a celebration of youth voices, culture, mentorship and community, providing a safe and welcoming space connection and collaboration. Please note that all expenses are covered for participants of both events.

**More information
about Gathering Our
Voices**



The Events

Gathering Our Voices (GOV)- March 17-21 (Kamloops, BC)

An annual Indigenous youth leadership training event bringing together over 1,000 participants across Canada to engage in cultural workshops and community-building activities. Interested in joining us on a road trip and getaway? Make sure to submit your application by January 24th. Seats are limited.

**Applications
now open!**



Ktunaxa Youth Summit April 12 (Cranbrook, BC)

Welcome to the 7th annual Ktunaxa Youth Summit! Join us for a day of great food, workshops and activities focusing on interpersonal and community connectedness! This event is open to all Ktunaxa, Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth between ages 12 and 24.

**Registration now
open!**



CALLING ʔAKISQNUKNIK 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 into 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 kevin.morrall@akisqnuq.org.

ʔakisqnuq First Nation Chief and Council



FROM THE REC CENTRE:

Congratulations to Ryan Nicholas, Pam Capilo, Aaron Kennedy, and Bobby Morgan for completing 42 hours of Assisted Stretching Certification.



Stay tuned for upcoming **FREE** Assisted Stretching Sessions at the Columbia Rec Centre.

NEWSLETTER UPDATE:

Starting March 1, we will be publishing our newsletter **MONTHLY!** You can expect all the same great content in your inbox or on our website every month, instead of every other week. As we grow we hope to add in more helpful content and exciting events.

Get in touch!

Let us know if you have questions, comments, or submissions for our newsletter by emailing us! communication@akisqnuk.org

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 ʔaqʔsmakniʔ voices.

Contact us: landcommunityengagement@ktunaxa.org

KTUNAXA
NATION

Stay in the know!



**ʔAkisqnuq
First Nation**



On LinkedIn & Facebook

Check out the ʔakisqnuq website

www.akisqnuk.org



Employment Opportunities

If you are a community member re-entering the workforce, navigating a career change, or a recent graduate, ʔakisq'nuk First Nation (ʔAFN) is dedicated to your success. We offer training, coaching, mentorship, and professional development opportunities to support you.

While having all the qualifications listed in the posting isn't always necessary, the first step is to apply for an opportunity that interests you.

You can submit your application directly to Human Resources at hr@akisqnuk.org. For more job postings, visit our [website](#).



We're hiring!

ʔakisq'nuk First Nation has exciting new employment opportunities available! Visit our website to see the full requirements and submit your application.

www.akisqnuk.org/employment-opportunities

Current Opportunities Available as of **Jan 24, 2025:**

- Guardians Coordinator, Lands and Resources
- Regulatory Engagement Communicator

Elections Canada Opportunities (Local)

Job Opportunities :

1. Poll Workers

If anyone from the community is interested in working at the polls, they are invited to apply already. [Apply to work as a poll worker – Elections Canada](#). In the section "How did you hear about our employment opportunities?", select "other" and mention it's from an AFN referral so they know to include them in the hiring process for your community.

2. Community Relations Officer :

You will find attached the information concerning the Community Relations Officer position we are looking to fill to serve Yaq'it ?a·knuq̓i 'it. Inquire with lisa.cannady@akisqnuk.org

3. Indigenous Elder and Youth Program:

Purpose

The IEYP is intended to make polling places more welcoming and to make voting easier for electors in First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities by:

- removing barriers to registration and voting on polling day
- creating a comfortable setting through a familiar presence (i.e., members of the community)
- offering translation services in the language of the community, if the elector is not comfortable in French or English

The role

To be appointed as an Elder or a youth in the program, the person is not required to reside in the electoral district, nor required to be eligible to vote in it. On polling day, their role is to:

- split their shifts during the 12 hours of voting (usually the Elder takes the first shift)
- offer translation services to electors, if needed
- help explain to electors the voting process, including registration procedures
- answer electors' questions
- act as a liaison between poll workers and electors
- help with voting procedures, such as reading the ballot before it is handed to an elector

Impartiality

The Elder and youth are not allowed to canvass for a political party or a candidate, or to try to influence electors. In addition, they must:

- take an oath before they begin work
- remain non-partisan throughout their duties
- agree to maintain the secrecy of the vote

Inquire with lisa.cannady@akisqnuk.org if you are interested.

KNC Opportunity (Cranbrook)



**KTUNAXA
NATION**

We invite you to apply for the position of...

QUALITY ASSURANCE ADMINISTRATOR

**Full-Time, Permanent
Cranbrook BC**

Ki?su?k wi?nam

The Ktunaxa Nation Council has an opportunity for a Quality Assurance Administrator in Cranbrook B.C.

This position would be reporting to the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO).

The Quality Assurance Administrator supports the Senior Management Team by providing leadership, mentorship and direction through implementation of quality standards across the KNC.

The Quality Assurance Administrator employs Ktunaxa-centered methodologies, role modeling and sets the directional course for operational initiatives, process development, enhancement, and innovation.

This position is guided by the Ktunaxa vision and values of building capacity across the KNC while contributing to positive outcomes for the Ktunaxanin'tik as a whole.

How to apply:

Please submit your application through our website.

<https://www.ktunaxa.org/careers/current-postings/>

*The closing date for this opportunity is **January 26, 2025***

PHSA Opportunities (Vancouver)

We're Hiring!

Grow With Us and Create Impact Across B.C.



Social Work Educator, Indigenous Health BC Children's Hospital at PHSA

This position requires a Master's Degree in Social Work from an accredited School of Social Work.

- **Job Type:** Regular Full Time
- **Wage:** \$43.87 - \$54.79 /hour.
- **Hours of work:** 08:30-16:30 (Monday to Friday)
- **Requisition #:** 177246E



SCAN ME

Social Worker, Indigenous Health Program BC Children's Hospital at PHSA

This position requires a Master's Degree in Social Work, a minimum of one year of relevant experience, and current full registration with the British Columbia College of Social Workers.

- **Job Type:** Regular Full Time
- **Wage:** \$42.27 - \$52.81 /hour.
- **Hours of work:** 08:30-16:30 (Monday to Friday)
- **Requisition #:** 177247E



SCAN ME

Director, Sanya'kula, Indigenous Recruitment and Employee Experience

- **Regular, Full-Time**
- **Salary Range:** \$116,591 - \$167,600 /year. The starting salary for this position would be determined with consideration of the successful candidate's relevant education and experience, and would be in alignment with the provincial compensation reference plan. Salary will be prorated accordingly for part time roles.



Scan QR Code to Learn More!

PHSA Opportunity (British Columbia)

Indigenous Health Promotion Specialist, Indigenous Cancer Control - BC Cancer Provincial

- **Salary Range:** \$67,861.00 - \$97,550.00/Year. The starting salary for this position would be determined with consideration of the successful candidate's relevant education and experience and would be in alignment with the provincial compensation reference plan. Salary will be prorated accordingly for part time roles.
- **Location:** Provincial Position – Candidate must be within the vicinity of any of the 6 regional cancer centres (bccancer.bc.ca/our-services/centres-clinics).



Scan QR Code to Learn More!