



# XWCHÍYÒ:M

## CHEAM FIRST NATION

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER: DECEMBER 1, 2023



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### XWECHİYOM XWEXWILMEXW SXWE EYELH

Kwetskwetsmet lis cha xwal letse sqwalewels ye xwe chiyom Xwexwilmexw;

Xw' eyehls cha ye mekw' wat ite xwech' l yom qesu texw eweta o kw'e tl' e met Te ewpi: I qaste qel sqoqe;

Temtames mami:yelhtel ya sq'eqotel qelu lam xwe xwe'eyelf iyolem kw'e o'hletem xwela Ye'mi cha

Temtames lis cha mekw yoyes ye alyem eweta Shxwlistexwes Te xwelitemelh Temtames chasu qexs a: li lalalem xwela kw'e mekw wates

Qas temtames cha xwe'eyems Te temexws qasu ey xwela ye xwechiyom

### CHEAM VISION STATEMENT

We the people of Cheam are committed to developing a united and harmonious community. We respect individual's diversity and promote a healthy, self-sufficient lifestyle. We need one another and value one another's views. In appreciation of our uniqueness, we foster mental, physical, emotional and spiritual wellbeing. In doing so, we strive to build pride, dignity and respect amongst our people.



# ADMINISTRATION NOTICES/UPDATES

## DATES TO NOTE:

December 1	Member Distribution 8:30am - 5:30pm
December 6	Cheam First Nation Election, Voting 9am - 8pm
December 3, 10, 17	<u>Trev's Market</u> @ Cheam
December 8	Band Office closed 12-4:30pm
December 9	<u>Cheam Community Christmas Dinner</u> 4-7pm
December 12	Cheam Regular Council Meeting
December 12	Cheam Elder's Meeting & Lunch
December 15	Last Cheam Newsletter for the Year
December 22-Jan 1	Band Office Winter Break Closure

As part of our Emergency Program coordination, we have secured 40 72-hour emergency kits for on-reserve Elders. These are the first of our plans to have one in each home in our community.

Your Emergency Planning Coordinator and Diane Garner EPS invite all on-reserve Elders for an informational luncheon on December 5th, 12pm – 1:30pm, where you will receive updates about being prepared and learn about the 72-hour kit and how to use its contents. For more information or to register please contact Debbie Douglas at 604-794-7927.



### **Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Forms**

Our goal is to slowly move all members on to electronic payments so that things like distribution, catering, and other benefits can be deposited right into your bank account. We know it will take time to get everyone switched over, so we are getting started now with the goal of having the majority switched over within one year. You can go into your bank and ask for the EFT form, or can download it from your online banking. If you need help figuring out how to download the form from your online banking please let us know and we will assist you. All forms go to [debbie.ormandy@cheamband.com](mailto:debbie.ormandy@cheamband.com) or can be dropped off at the Band Office attention: Debbie. *Rest assured that your EFT information will only be accessed by authorized personnel involved in the payment processing system.*

*We appreciate your assistance in helping us switch over to a much more efficient payment system.*





# INTERVIEWS

## Stolo Tribal Council

is responsible for

### Interviewing Residential School Survivors

#### For More Information

Jamie Commodore

[Jamie.Commodore@stolotribalcouncil.ca](mailto:Jamie.Commodore@stolotribalcouncil.ca)

604-316-3661

Roberta Malloway

[Roberta.Malloway@stolotribalcouncil.ca](mailto:Roberta.Malloway@stolotribalcouncil.ca)

604-819-9453





# PROJECT/PROGRAM UPDATES FROM COUNCIL



**2023 YOUTH HUNTING PROGRAM** - Cheam First Nation hosted a Youth Hunting program this past week. This program is designed to teach our youth proper firearms technique and safety, and to gain experience shooting a rifle. Following the training the youth were chaperoned and guided by highly experienced hunters and a first aid attendant on a hunting trip near Merrit.

## **The program activities included:**

- A 2-day PAL Firearms Course (all participants passed!)
- Firearms shooting practice at the local range.
- A 4-day hunting trip near Merrit (all travel, accommodations, and meals included)
- A ceremony for the youth to gift the meat to our Elders.

## **Cheam Youth Participants:**

- Zachary Bernard
- Cameron Birch Douglas
- Ashley Douglas
- Stade Douglas
- Ziyah Douglas-Nelson
- Johnathan Prest Jr

## **The hunting trip also included the following Elders/ Knowledge Keepers/Facilitators**

- Sydney Douglas
- Councillor Ray Douglas
- Councillor Luke Pike
- Fred Quipp
- Roseanna Williams





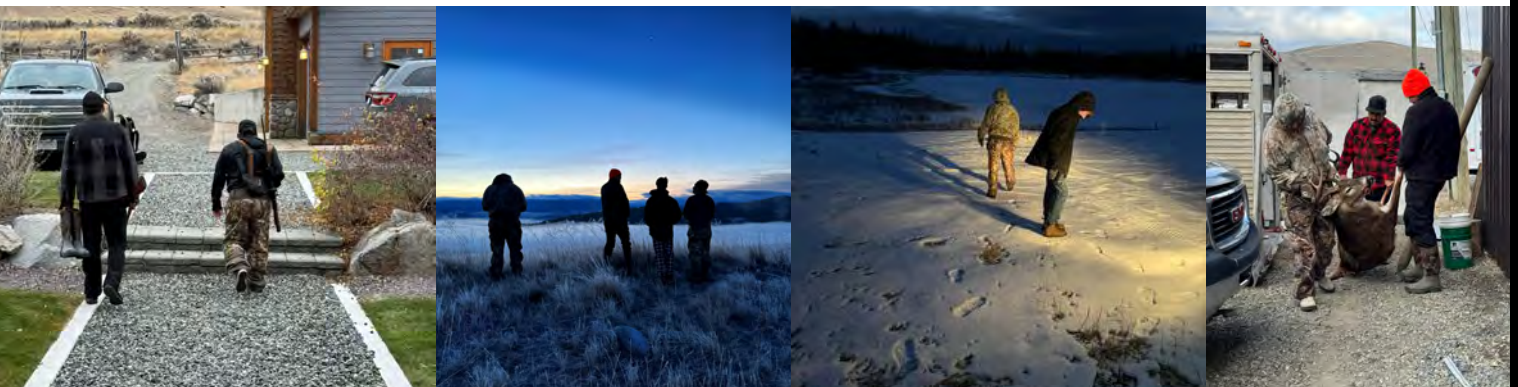


The trip was a huge success! The group ended up getting 5 deer which have been sent to the butcher. They will be hosting a traditional giveaway for the Elders in community (date to be come).

Programs like this are not possible without proper funding so we would like to give credit to The Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training for their support.

We also want to give a huge Cheam thank you to Rosie for organizing, attending and ensuring this important work got done!

**We will share all the pictures and videos on our Facebook page next week for easier viewing.**



### Quote From Youth Participant Ashley Douglas

*"Our recent youth hunting trip was an unforgettable experience, making a deep connection between the participants and the outdoors. The adventure aimed not only at creating hunting skills but also instilling a sense of responsibility and respect for nature among the youth. It took deep patience, but we all stayed positive throughout the three days. I look forward to future trips so more of our youth can experience what hunting is like. Very grateful to get our possession and acquisition license both non-restricted and restricted. I want to thank all that were involved in making this trip happen. Also want to thank the Elders that took their time to be with the youth. I would hope that the next trip be more organized and well planned so no one misses out."*







**Grand prize 400\$ gift card of  
your choice!!**

All Nation members and  
children of members.



# ART CONTEST!!

**DEADLINE IS JANUARY 31ST 2024**

WE WOULD LIKE TO CREATE A  
LOGO FOR OUR EMERGENCY  
SUPPORT SERVICES FIRST  
NATION TEAM



**PLEASE EMAIL ENTRIES TO:**

**Emergency.Department@SumasFirstNation.com**



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

# STOLO TRIBAL COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Shxw'ow'hamel First Nation**  
58700 A St. Elmo Road  
Hope, BC

### **member nations:**

Chawathil, Cheam,  
Kwantlen, Kwaw Kwaw  
Apilt, Seabird,  
Shxw'ow'hamel,  
Sq'ewlets and  
Soowahlie

Must be 18 to vote and be  
eligible for Door Prizes

DECEMBER 15

12:30 PM

***lunch provided***

### **Agenda**

Welcome/Opening Remarks  
TC Tyrone McNeil  
Adoption of Agenda  
Audit  
Annual Report  
STC Election

**door prizes**  
**winner take all**

**Vancouver Canucks Tix  
Gift Cards**

**Bring CASH  
NO Etransfer**

**MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN**

**Find out more with Lori Kelly:**

M: 604-798-2434 or  
email: [lori.kelly@stolotribalcouncil.ca](mailto:lori.kelly@stolotribalcouncil.ca)







# **CHEAM'S COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS**

**DECEMBER 9TH 4-7PM**

- **CRAFTS**
- **VISIT WITH SANTA**
- **PHOTO BOOTH**
- **DINNER @ 6PM**



**@ CHEAM FIRST NATION**





# CHEAM HEALTH & WELLNESS

## TRADITIONAL WELLNESS MENTOR WORKSHOP

# WINTER SOLSTICE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21 | 1:30 - 3:30PM



Shxw'éyelhawxt Sacred Space Room  
Primary Care Centre  
#104 - 7955 Evans Road, Chilliwack

Community members, join us for an afternoon of learning from Muriel Victor, Traditional Wellness Mentor. Muriel will present on celebrating the seasons while introducing a candle light vigil to help us walk through the Winter season honouring loved ones who are no longer with us.

This FREE workshop will include:

- a "how to" kit for an at home candlelight vigil
- door prizes
- tools and resources
- activities



Questions?

Contact Muriel Victor, Traditional Wellness Mentor:  
[mvictor@chilliwackdivision.ca](mailto:mvictor@chilliwackdivision.ca)

SCAN HERE  
TO REGISTER  
TODAY!



### Indigenous Healing Remedies Workshop

Muriel Victor, a Traditional Wellness Mentor working in Primary Health Care, has kindly agreed to do a workshop on **January 20th, 2024** from 10:30am - 1:00pm at Agassiz All Saints church hall, 6904 Lougheed Hwy, Agassiz. She will talk about her work and do a make and take using cottonwood and complimentary herbs. There will be 25 places and admission will be by donation of \$10-15 to include refreshments.

Please register by January 13th by email at [sjbarker0379@gmail.com](mailto:sjbarker0379@gmail.com), or calling 604-910-5155.

*Hope to see many of you there.*

Sheila Barker



Where: Cheam Classroom

When: December 6<sup>th</sup> 1PM



Contact: Makenzie\_\_\_\_\_

Number: 604-794-7171

Living • Well • Together

## Clinic Notice

### Who Is It For:

People Living with Diabetes  
People Who Are Curious About It

### What The Appointment Includes:

Testing Blood Sugar and Cholesterol Levels  
Checking Kidney Function  
Diabetes Education



Diabetes education with Dann, no appointment needed. Drop-in at the Cheam Classroom. December 6th starting at 10am



## Toxic Drug Response & Priority Populations Overdose Outreach Team

### What's Happening?

The Fraser Health (FH) Overdose Outreach Team (OOT) works in allyship with individuals accessing the unregulated toxic drug supply to reduce the risk of toxic drug poisoning. OOT works with individuals to enhance wellness, personal resilience, self-determination and build knowledge to support safer navigation of or separation from the increasingly toxic drug supply.

OOT acknowledges not everyone who uses substances or experiences a toxic drug-poisoning event has a substance use disorder that requires clinical substance use services.

### When Will This Happen?

OOT is currently taking referrals. Please see below for referral process.

### Important Things To Know About OOT?

- Individuals are not required to alter their substance use to access OOT services.
- OOT is a multidisciplinary team comprised of peer support workers, outreach, and nurses working alongside social workers and consulting with harm reduction coordinators.
- **Target population:** Anyone  $\geq 19$  yrs., accessing the unregulated toxic drug supply and are at risk of toxic drug poisoning.
- **Referrals:** Anyone can refer to OOT and clients can self refer. Client consent for referral is required.

#### For Fraser Health sites that use PARIS:

Please refer by completing and submitting a referral through the 'Substance Use Referral Form' on PARIS. Select the OOT team for the region you are making the referral to, which is determined by the client's address (i.e. if you are making a referral for Fraser East, please select *PH Overdose Outreach Team East*).

#### Community and Fraser Health Programs that do not use PARIS:

Please refer by one of the methods listed below:

- **Email:** [oot@fraserhealth.ca](mailto:oot@fraserhealth.ca) please include your name, address, and best way to reach you when emailing a referral. ***Please do NOT send client identifying information via email due to privacy.***
- **Fax:** 604.930.5432 please include your name, address, and best way to reach you when faxing a referral.
- **Phone:** 236.332.4857 **Non-Emergency Intake Line Open 24 Hrs** please leave a **voicemail** or **text** message with your name and best way to reach you.

***\*Please note:*** referrals will be responded to within 24-48 hours (weekends/holidays may extend this time).

The OOT team is available for consultation for reducing toxic drug poisoning risk across the region.



#### For more information

Erin Gibson, Manager, Clinical Operations [erin.gibson@fraserhealth.ca](mailto:erin.gibson@fraserhealth.ca)

Pamela Carr, Manager, Clinical Operations [pamela.carr@fraserhealth.ca](mailto:pamela.carr@fraserhealth.ca)

Sherif Amara, Director, Toxic Drug Response & Priority Populations [sherif.amara@fraserhealth.ca](mailto:sherif.amara@fraserhealth.ca)



# HEALING TAKES TIME

## ASKING FOR HELP IS A COURAGEOUS STEP

If you're struggling to stay grounded, want support or just need someone to chat with, there are many First Nations resources and people ready to provide support that is easy to access, free, safe and secure.



### Indian Residential School Survivors Society (IRSSS)

IRSSS helps support youth throughout the province who are dealing with trauma and seeking support in their healing.

1-800-721-0066 | [reception@irsss.ca](mailto:reception@irsss.ca)



### Foundry BC

Provides young people with health and wellness resources, services and supports across BC.

1-800-668-6868 | [info@foundrybc.ca](mailto:info@foundrybc.ca)



### Tsow-Tun Le Lum

Provides confidential outreach services, such as counselling and cultural support.

1-888-403-3123 | [info@tsowtunlelum.org](mailto:info@tsowtunlelum.org)



First Nations Health Authority  
Health through wellness

### First Nations Virtual Doctor of the Day

Enables First Nations people in BC with limited or no access to their own doctors to make virtual appointments.

1-855-344-3800



### KUU-US Crisis Line Society

24/7 First Nations and Indigenous specific crisis line, toll-free from anywhere in BC, specifically for children and youth.

250-723-2040







First Nations Health Authority  
Health through wellness

# First Nations Health Benefit Program

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

## Eligibility

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

## Health Benefits Coverage

The FNHB Program covers six benefit areas:



### DENTAL

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



### MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

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



### MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION

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





## MENTAL HEALTH

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



## PHARMACY

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

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



## VISION CARE

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

## OTHER COVERAGE

### BC Medical Services Plan (MSP)

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

### Ambulance Bills

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

## View Your Plan Details

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

Please call Health Benefits at 1-855-550-5454, email [healthbenefits@fnha.ca](mailto:healthbenefits@fnha.ca) or visit [fnha.ca/benefits](http://fnha.ca/benefits) to learn more about the First Nations Health Benefits program and benefit coverages.







First Nations Health Authority  
Health through wellness

# Mental Health and Cultural Supports

## TELEPHONE AND ONLINE SUPPORT

**Virtual Substance Use and Psychiatry Service.** A free, referral-based service for First Nations people in BC and their family members. Health care providers, including the [Virtual Doctor of the Day](#) program, can refer you to this service. Available Monday to Friday. [FNHA.ca/VirtualHealth](https://fnha.ca/VirtualHealth)

**First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line and On-line Counselling Service** offers mental health counselling and crisis intervention to Indigenous people across Canada.  
Toll-Free: 1-855-242-3310  
[www.hopeforwellness.ca](http://www.hopeforwellness.ca)

**Kids Help Phone** is a 24/7 national support service offering professional counselling, information and referrals and volunteer-led, text-based support to youth.  
1-800-668-6868 or text the word "connect" to 686868 to access text support.

**KUU-US Crisis Services** is available 24/7 to support Indigenous people in BC.  
<https://www.kuu-uscrisisline.com/24-hour-crisis-line>  
Toll-Free: 1-800-KUU-US17 (1-800-588-8717)  
Adult/Elder: 1-250-723-4050  
Child/Youth: 1-250-723-2040

**National Indian Residential School Crisis Line** supports former Residential School students. The crisis line provides emotional and crisis services 24/7.  
Toll-Free: 1-866-925-4419

**Provincial Alcohol and Drug Information Referral Service** provides free referral services to support with any kind of substance use issue (alcohol or other drugs).  
Toll-free: 1-800-663-1441  
Lower Mainland: 604-660-9382

**Foundry:** health and wellness supports, services and resources for young people ages 12 – 24 and their caregivers. No referral or assessment required. In-person: <https://foundrybc.ca/find-a-centre/>  
Virtual: <https://foundrybc.ca/virtual/>

## FNHA MENTAL WELLNESS AND COUNSELLING SUPPORT THROUGH HEALTH BENEFITS

Health Benefits provides access to mental wellness and counselling services. All services require prior approval. A list of providers registered with Health Benefits can be found on the [Provider List](#) or by contacting:  
**1-855-550-5454.**

## INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL RESOLUTION HEALTH SUPPORT PROGRAM PROVIDERS (IRS RHSP)

**Adah Dene Cultural Healing Camp Society**  
Margo Sagalon: 250-996-3813  
[Admin.elders@telus.net](mailto:Admin.elders@telus.net)  
Tracey Charlebois: 250-996-1475  
[Nakazdlieelders@telus.net](mailto:Nakazdlieelders@telus.net)

**Carrier Sekani Family Services**  
For Vanderhoof: Catherine Lessard: 250-567-2900 or Toll-free: 1-800-889-6855  
For Prince George: Rhonda Hourie or Cheryl Thomas: 778-675-0419

**Gitanyow Human Services**  
Wanda Good: 250-849-5651  
[Wanda.e.good@gmail.com](mailto:Wanda.e.good@gmail.com)

**Gitxsan Health Society**  
Martha Wilson: 250-842-6876

**Nuu Chah Nulth Tribal Council**  
Vina Robinson: 1-250-724-3939  
[vina.robinson@nuuchahnulth.org](mailto:vina.robinson@nuuchahnulth.org)  
Daily Elliott: 250-720-1736

**Indian Residential School Survivors Society**  
Carol Stegman: 604-985-4464 or  
Toll-free: 1-800-721-0066

**Okanagan Nation Alliance**  
Toll-free: 1-866-662-9609

**Tsow-Tun-Le-Lum Society**  
Toll-free: 1-888-590-3123

## FNHA TREATMENT AND HEALING CENTRES

During the pandemic, Round Lake Treatment Centre and Gya'waa'Tlaab House of Purification are maintaining a live-in treatment program with additional precautions taken to abide by physical distancing and associated safety requirements. Most treatment centres have moved to providing virtual support to individuals and families.

**Carrier Sekani Family Services**  
Call: 250-567-2900 or  
Toll-free: 1-800-889-6855  
and ask for an ARP Team member  
Email: [rjohn@csfs.org](mailto:rjohn@csfs.org)

**Kackaamin Family Development Centre**  
Call: 250-723-7789 or  
Toll-free: 1-833-205-6946

**Namgis Treatment Centre**  
Call: 250-974-8015 or  
Toll-free: 1-888-962-6447 Ext. 2141

**Nenqayni Wellness Centre**  
Call: 250-989-0301 or  
Toll-free: 1-888-668-4245

**North Wind Wellness Centre**  
Call: 250-843-6977 or  
Toll-free: 1-888-698-4333

**Telmexw Awtextw (Sts'ailes First Nations)**  
Call: 604-796-9829

**Tsow Tun Le Lum**  
Call: 250-268-2463 or  
Toll-free: 1-888-590-3123

**Wilp Si'Satxw Healing Centre**  
Call: 778-202-0162, 778-202-1349 or  
Toll-free: 1-877-849-5211

*All information in this document is accurate as of September, 2022.*





# Chilliwack Public Health Drop-In Immunization Clinics

No Appointments Necessary. Ages <19 years old.



## Chilliwack Health Unit

45470 Menholm Rd, Chilliwack

Every Tuesday & Thursday

2:30 – 5:30 PM

## Gateway for Families – Central Elementary Community School

9435 Young Rd, Chilliwack – The Family Place door

The first Wednesday of every month

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Booked appointments also available Monday-Sunday at the Health Unit. Please call 604-702-4900.



## **East Region Family & Youth Drop-In Thursday, December 7 5 to 7 pm**

**Location: Cheam First Nations  
52161 W Victor Drive, Rosedale**

**For families residing in Chawathil, Skawahlook, Yale,  
Shxw'ow'hamel and Cheam**



**We will be sharing a meal together & watching a Christmas movie.  
For more info contact Chaundine Fisher at:  
[chaundine.fisher@xyolhemeylh.bc.ca](mailto:chaundine.fisher@xyolhemeylh.bc.ca)**

**Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children & Family Services Society  
[www.fvacfss.ca](http://www.fvacfss.ca)**







**FNIGC | CGIPN**

## 2023 FNIGC Student Bursary- Applications are Now Open!

Established in 2011, the FNIGC Student Bursary formerly known as the National Student Bursary, is awarded each year to exceptional First Nations students enrolled in college or university studying in fields related to the advancement of First Nations data sovereignty.

Since it was established, the FNIGC Student Bursary has awarded grants of up to \$2,500 and free registration to The Fundamentals of OCAP® course to numerous outstanding students. Our OCAP® course helps students, researchers, and others better understand the First Nations principles of ownership, control, access, and possession as they relate to data sovereignty, information governance, and ethical community-based research.

Applicants who meet the mandatory criteria will have their essay reviewed and rated by a committee established by the FNIGC Board of Directors.

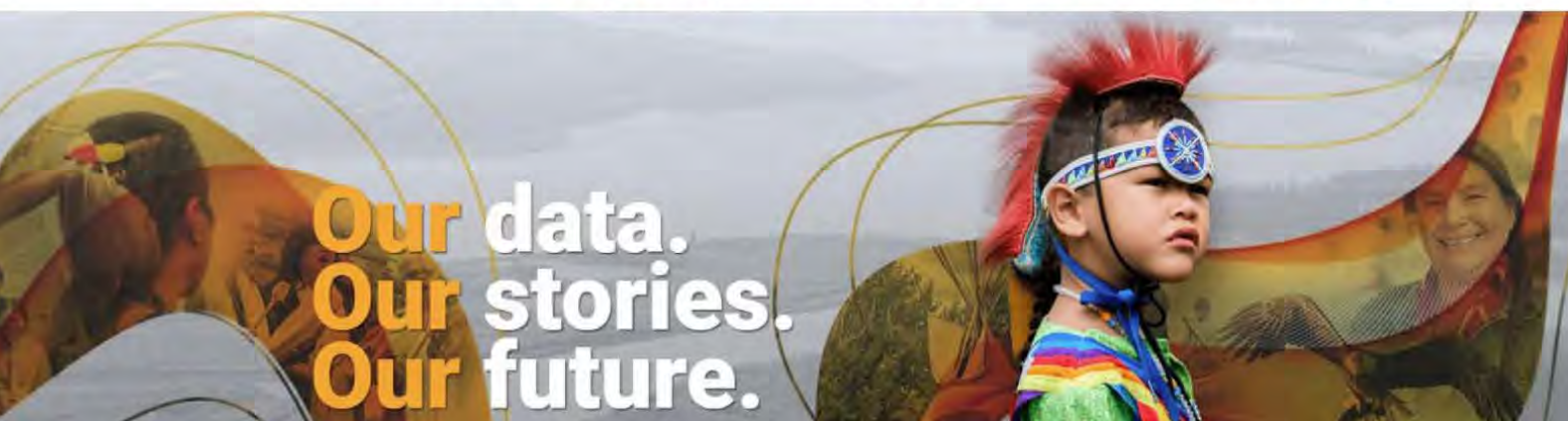


### What do we need from you?

- Evidence of First Nations status (such as a copy of a status card or membership affirmation),
- Evidence of student status (such as a letter of acceptance or a transcript of marks, etc.),
- Letter of reference (from an employer, professor, community member, etc.).
- As part of the application process, students must also complete an essay (minimum 500 words) that addresses a selected topic.

Visit our [WEBSITE](#) for more information!

All submissions are due by Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00PM EST! [APPLY HERE!](#)



# EVERY CHILD MATTERS

Orange Shirt Day • September 30th



## CALLING ALL K-12 ARTISTS FOR A CONTEST!

In partnership with Tolko Industries Ltd. , we're thrilled to announce our T-Shirt Design Contest, and we want YOU to create next year's design for #OrangeShirtDay!

### HOW TO ENTER

Download the contest packet and read the rules at: <https://tinyurl.com/3dvek9f8>

Create your masterpiece!

Send your design as a .jpeg to [info@orangeshirtday.org](mailto:info@orangeshirtday.org)

Contest ends January 31, 2024

**The winner will receive \$200 and a trip to meet with Phyllis Webstad on Orange Shirt Day - September 30, 2024**



## Seabird Island Youth Program

**Ey Swayel youth from Seabird and surrounding communities!**

Are you interested in learning more about your Stó:lo language?

Bibiana Norris is a Halq'eméylem speaker and will be mentoring a group of youth in the language. This will be an opportunity to learn from Bibiana in a small group environment and receive in depth knowledge from her.

**Who:** 5-6 youth ages 15-20.

**Where:** In and around Seabird Island

**When:** First session Thursday, November 30. The group will meet monthly until April.

\*Transportation available if needed!

Message us on FB or text 604 819 2781 (Robert Dunning) to register!

This Halq'eméylem group is part of a larger program that we are kicking off in spring. We are creating intimate small group mentorship and learning opportunities with Elders and Knowledge Keepers. More information to come!



# CULTURAL NIGHTS



**Come out & learn:  
Powwow Dancing  
Singing  
Regalia Making  
& More!**

**Every Thursday  
Starting September 14  
6:00 - 8:00 pm  
Small gym**

**46363 Yale Road, Chilliwack, BC**

**CHILLIWACK SECONDARY SCHOOL  
INDIGENOUS DEPARTMENT**



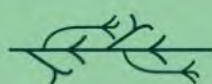




## ARE YOU A **FIRST NATION, METIS, OR INUIT** YOUTH (AGES 18 TO 29) LIVING IN CANADA? WE WANT TO HEAR FROM **YOU!**

Canadian Roots Exchange (CRE) is launching a coast-to-coast-to-coast survey that seeks to better understand how Indigenous youth envision their own **empowerment** and **futures**.

To learn more about this research project visit [www.canadianroots.ca](http://www.canadianroots.ca)



### Take the survey!

**\$50 honorarium** will be given to the first **1000 Indigenous youth** who fill out the survey!

[canadianroots.ca/indigenous-youth-reconciliation-barometer-2-0/](http://canadianroots.ca/indigenous-youth-reconciliation-barometer-2-0/)

Survey closes **December 31, 2023**



**INDIGENOUS YOUTH RECONCILIATION BAROMETER 2.0 SURVEY**







Chilliwack  
Community  
Services

SHARE • GROW • BELONG

# Winter Wonderland

A FREE YOUTH DANCE FOR AGES 11 TO 17

Friday, Dec 15  
6 to 9 PM

Evergreen Hall  
9391 Corbould St.

Entertainment	Door Prizes
DJ * Snacks	Quiet Space
Accessible Venue	Everyone Welcome





# A:Imelhawtxw Head Start Program



**Play**



**Explore**



**Learn**

We offer programming for Indigenous Families and their children ages 0-5 years old. Caregivers and expectant parents are always welcome. We provide early learning services such as: Preschool, family program, circle time, storytelling, arts and crafts, social networking, guest speakers, parent workshops, outdoor and gym time.



**PLEASE CALL  
FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
604-824-6505**

**Every Tuesday & Thursday  
9am-12:00am  
When: Programming Starting  
October 3/2023  
Where: Stó:lō Service Agency  
Building #9 - 7201 Vedder Rd**





# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

## WorkBC

**Work BC - Aggasiz/Kent 64**  
7086 Pioneer Avenue  
Agassiz, BC, V0M 1A0  
604-796-0266  
centre-agassiz@workbc.ca  
<http://workbccentre-agassiz.c>

**Work BC - Hope 162**  
895 3rd Avenue  
Hope, BC, V0X 1L0  
604-869-2279  
[centre-hope@workbc.ca](mailto:centre-hope@workbc.ca)  
<http://workbccentre-hope.ca>

**Work BC - Chilliwack 668**  
200 - 45905 Yale Road  
Chilliwack, BC, V2P 2M6  
778-860-5452  
[centre-chilliwack@workbc.ca](mailto:centre-chilliwack@workbc.ca)  
<http://workbccentre-chilliwack.ca>



The graphic features a woman with glasses and a headband, smiling and sitting at a desk with her hands clasped. To her right is a blue vertical banner with white text. At the top of the banner are the logos for 'BRITISH COLUMBIA' and 'WorkBC'. The text on the banner reads: 'WorkBC Skills Enhancement', 'People in part-time, seasonal, or casual work and people without employment can access WorkBC skills training programs and the financial help needed while in training.', and 'Apply today!'. At the bottom of the banner are the 'Canada' and 'BRITISH COLUMBIA' logos, with a small note: 'This program is funded by the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.'

## JOIN OUR TEAM

### Multiple Positions Available

- Childcare Worker
- Philanthropy Services Assistant
- Supervisor, Seniors Services
- Registered Nurse
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Delish Program Coordinator
- SVAP Support Worker
- Manager of Philanthropy-Fund Development/Donor Engagement



APPLY AT **ARCHWAY.CA/CAREERS**

**Archway**  
Community Services



# STO:LO ABORIGINAL SKILLS & EMPLOYMENT TRAINING

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Targeted Wage Subsidy & Student Employment Placement

April 1, 2024—March 31, 2025

FOR Targeted Wage Subsidy (TWS)

Proposals can start April 1, 2024

for a term of up to 52 weeks, ending March 31, 2025

SASET will accept proposals on a continual basis through the 2024-2025 year

Please have them clearly marked as follows:

Sto:lo Aboriginal Skills & Employment Training  
Bldg 5A – 7201 Vedder Road  
Chilliwack, BC V2R 4G5

RE: 2024—2025 PROPOSAL

Targeted Wage Subsidy (TWS) application deadline is January 19, 2024

Student Employment Placement (SEP) application deadline is January 26, 2024

Proposals will be accepted via mail, e-mail, courier or hand delivered.

Application forms attached.

Be sure to include name and contact information of person responsible for proposal.

If you have any questions please contact a SASET Program Officer:

By phone at 604-858-3691 or toll free 1-888-845-4455 or Email: [info@saset.ca](mailto:info@saset.ca)

All program information and forms are available on SASET website

Visit our website at: [www.saset.ca](http://www.saset.ca)





## INTERNAL & EXTERNAL JOB POSTING

**Position title:** Secretary

**Department:** Te Lalem

Te Lalem is currently looking for an organized and knowledgeable self-starter to fill the role of Secretary. The position will provide administrative and confidential secretariat services to Te Lalem Director. We are looking for an individual who possesses excellent organization and administrative skills and enjoys working independently and within a team environment. The Secretary will work under the direction of the Te Lalem Director.

### QUALIFICATIONS/REQUIREMENTS:

1. Demonstrated knowledge of Sts'ailes culture or willingness to learn.
2. Demonstrated knowledge of Sts'ailes family systems or willingness to learn.
3. Minimum of 2 years work related or a combination of equivalent training and experience from a recognized institute.
4. Typing speed is at least 40 words per minute.
5. Advanced computer skills, knowledge of MS Word, MS Excel, Publisher and Xyntax.
6. The ability to prepare financial reports would be an asset.
7. Ability to adhere to confidentiality guidelines of all records, materials and communications concerning the operations of the Snowoyelh Department.
8. Experience in manual and electronic filing would be an asset.
9. Excellent written and verbal communications skills.
10. Ability to compose correspondence letters/memorandums/reports, community notices and prepare packages for meetings/events.
11. Ability to coordinate meetings and travel arrangements.
12. Experience in preparing agendas and recording/transcribing minutes would be an asset.
13. Must possess excellent interpersonal, project coordination experience, and the ability to work well with all levels of internal management and staff, as well as outside clientele.
14. Must have superior organizational and time management skills.
15. Demonstrated ability to juggle multiple competing tasks and demands in a busy work schedule while maintaining the highest level of confidentiality and meeting deadlines in an environment dealing with numerous issues and projects.
16. Must have experience with basic office equipment.
17. Must possess strong data entry and administrative skills.
18. Self-motivated, resourceful, and punctual.
19. Ability to be both a team player, yet work well independently with little or no supervision.
20. Knowledge of Sts'ailes culture, traditions and history would be an asset.
21. A valid Class 5 driver license.

**Wage Range:** Negotiable based on the Sts'ailes Salary Grid, education, qualifications, and experience.

**Type of Position:** **Fixed Term Agreement** - this position is subject to a 3-month probationary period and performance evaluation.

walk in the Snowoyelh way

**Application Deadline:** 4:00 PM – Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Candidates will be screened according to the qualification/requirements and are required to submit a resume, two letters of reference and a cover letter. Please fax, mail or hand deliver your application to:

Sts'ailes  
Attention: Human Resource Department  
4690 Salish Way, Agassiz, BC V0M 1A1  
Fax # 604-796-3946

*We appreciate the applicant's interest however we will only contact those shortlisted for an interview.*





## Stó:lō Aboriginal Skills & Employment Training

Bldg #5A – 7201 Vedder Road, Chilliwack, B.C. Canada V2R 4G5  
Tel: (604) 858-3691 or toll-free 1-888-845-4455 Fax: (604) 858-3528  
E-mail: [info@saset.ca](mailto:info@saset.ca)

Nov. 21, 2023

### EMPLOYMENT RESOURCE ROOM/RECEPTIONIST

#### (EXTERNAL)

#### MEDICAL LEAVE COVERAGE

**Stó:lō Service Agency (SSA)** requires the services of a qualified administrative **Resource Room/Receptionist** to fill a vacancy with the **Stó:lō Aboriginal Skills & Employment Training (SASET) Department**. Pursuant to section 41 of the BC Human Rights Code, preference may be given to applicants of Aboriginal ancestry. Please self-identify on your cover letter or resume.

The Resource Room/Receptionist will: a) provide professional, courteous reception and resource room greetings referring clients to the employment services as required; b) promote programs and initiatives supported by the Indigenous Skills & Employment Training (ISET) funding agreement; c) provide administrative support to the Outreach Supervisor; d) maintain resource room, classrooms information boards in the Employment Resource Centre and e) provide maintenance and archival of the Employment Resource Centre filing systems.

The successful candidate will work out of the Central (Chilliwack) office.

#### QUALIFICATIONS/REQUIREMENTS:

- Post-Secondary education and/or equivalent 2 years of training and experience in administrative support and reception/resource room duties.
- Familiarity with the Indigenous Skills & Employment Training Contribution Agreement (ISET CA), SASET catchment area, First Nation Community's culture, and working knowledge of First Nations economic, social, and political issues.
- Strong professional written and verbal communications skills.
- Willingness to expand skillset if required by SASET funded professional development.
- Strong computer skills: MS Word, MS Excel, database, and organizational and multi-tasking abilities.
- Ability to maintain: a healthy courteous working relationship with staff, community staff, members, and representatives of other organizations; adhere to the confidentiality guidelines of all records, materials and communications concerning clients, staff, SASET and SSA.
- SSA has implemented a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy, requiring all staff to be vaccinated.

**Successful candidates will be required to provide the following if screened in for an interview:**

- Must possess and maintain a valid Class 5 BC Drivers' License
- Must successfully pass the required pre-employment RCMP Criminal records Check.

#### SALARY RANGE:

**\$20.00-\$22.00 per hour depending on qualifications.**

#### TYPE OF POSITION:

Full-Time position

#### **APPLICATIONS DEADLINE:**

**4:00 pm December 1, 2023**

Candidates will be screened according to the qualifications/requirements. **Interested candidates are required to submit a resume and covering letter.** Please include position title on subject line. Send to:

**Stó:lō Aboriginal Skills & Employment Training**  
**Attention: Manager Carol Raspberry**  
**Bldg. #5A 7201 Vedder Road**  
**Chilliwack, BC V2R 4G5**  
**Email: [carol.raspberry@saset.ca](mailto:carol.raspberry@saset.ca)**

For more information about this and other employment opportunities, visit [www.stolonation.bc.ca](http://www.stolonation.bc.ca) or [www.saset.ca](http://www.saset.ca)

We regret that we will only respond to those applicants chosen for an interview. We thank all applicants for their interest.





# **SASET Outreach Services**

## **on-site at Cheam First Nation**

### **Every Friday from 9:30am to 3:00pm**

#### **Who are we?**

---

We provide Indigenous Employment and Training Services to First Nation working age population in the Fraser Valley Catchment area.

#### **Who do we serve?**

---

If you are an Indigenous person and are either the following:

- Is un-under employed
- Student
- Employed but unable to meeting basic living requirements
- Resides in SASET's catchment area (Langley to Boston Bar and throughout the Fraser Valley; or with 3 communities in the Head of the Lakes)

#### **Outreach Employment Services:**

---

Employment and Career Counselling  
Resumes and Cover Letters  
Education and training information  
Computer with internet access  
Job postings  
Employment Readiness  
Career Planning/Decision Making  
Labour Market Information

Scholarships, Grants and Bursary information  
Job Search assistance  
Applying online  
Employability workshops  
Basic Computer Skills Workshops  
And much more

**Lucinda Louie, Employment Counsellor**

**Phone or text: 778-684-1464 or email: [Lucinda.Louie@saset.ca](mailto:Lucinda.Louie@saset.ca)**

**Or email: [info@saset.ca](mailto:info@saset.ca)**

See our website for more information at [www.saset.ca](http://www.saset.ca)



# WE ARE HIRING

We are seeking a  
**COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER**

## DO YOU HAVE THE FOLLOWING:

- Post-secondary education in Communications, PR, Marketing or other related field.
- 2+ years experience in Communications, Marketing, or another relevant role.
- Experience in editing & professional writing.
- Experience working with First Nation communities

**APPLY BY DECEMBER 1, 2023**



**FIRST NATIONS  
LAND MANAGEMENT  
RESOURCE CENTRE**

For full details, please visit [www.labrc.com/careers/](http://www.labrc.com/careers/).

# We're hiring!

EXPERIENCED SERVICE TECHNICIANS

# Neels

Heating & Cooling

If you are an experienced HVAC service technician with certifications. Please send resume to [katherine@neelsheating.com](mailto:katherine@neelsheating.com)

STRONG  
WAGES  
AND  
BENEFITS  
PACKAGE.

Bonus

ANNUAL  
FISHING  
TRIP

COMPANY  
VEHICLE





# MEDICAL DEVICE REPROCESSING PROGRAM INFORMATION



## TRAINING SCHEDULE

Expression of Interest letter	December 1
Conduct Interviews	December 6, 2023
Complete Tour of Site	December 6, 2023
Finalize Selection Process	December 8, 2023
Employment & Criminal Reference Check Completed	December 11-14, 2023
Complete Enrollment Logistics	December 11-14, 2023
Training Program Starts	January 8, 2024

### Important information during your training:

- Stipend Pay: starts at \$800/week
- This program is fully paid in partnership with Fraser Health & SASET
- Training is a 16-week commitment
- Vancouver Community College hosts the program that will be located at:
  - Training online
  - 1-week City Central location
  - Other training on Fraser Health site
- Pre-requisites: Grade 12 and medical terminology (this can be taken as part of the 16-week program)
- Fraser Health has a mandatory vaccination requirement as part of the terms of employment



Better health.  
Best in health care.



# MEDICAL DEVICE REPROCESSING EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION



## What to expect

Potential Start date	April 29, 2024
Wages starting at	\$27.82 per hour
Location	Fraser Health East
Return of Service	2 years
Indigenous Employee Cultural Leave	5 paid days
This role is a full or part-time permanent position	
Unionized position under Hospital Employees Union	



# British Columbia Assembly of First Nations

## Opportunities

### BC First Nations Centre of Excellence for Economic Development

#### 1. Chief Finance Officer

The BCAFN has an exciting opportunity for a full-time Chief Finance Officer (CFO) to join our team at the British Columbia First Nations Centre of Excellence for Economic Development (CoE), based in Vancouver, BC (Hybrid work model available). Reporting to the Board of Directors, you will be primarily responsible for providing financial and accounting advice, direction, and leadership. This position will be open until filled. More details and apply: [Chief Finance Officer](#)

#### 2. Economic Development Policy Analyst (Senior and Junior)

The BCAFN has an exciting opportunity for 2 full-time Economic Development Policy Analysts (Senior and Junior) to join our team at the British Columbia Assembly of First Nations, based in Vancouver or Prince George, BC (remote work model may be available for the right candidate). You will be responsible for assisting the Regional Chief, and the Chief of Staff and working with BCAFN Economic Development Department staff and contractors in carrying out the BCAFN sustainable economic development and fiscal relations strategies. This work will be undertaken in accordance with BCAFN's mission and vision statements and with direction provided by BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly and the BCAFN Board of Directors. This position will be open until filled. More details and apply: [Policy Analyst](#)

### BC Assembly of First Nations

#### 1. Policy Analyst

The BCAFN has an exciting opportunity for a full-time Policy Analyst to join our team at the British Columbia First Nations Centre Of Excellence For Economic Development (CoE), based in Vancouver, BC (Hybrid work model available). Reporting to the Senior Policy Analyst and the CEO, you will be primarily responsible for providing sustainable economic development and fiscal relations strategies. This position will be open until filled. More details and apply: [Economic Development Policy Analyst \(Senior and Junior\)](#)

Employment opportunities at the BCAFN - Join the team!

<https://www.bcafn.ca/about-bcafn/opportunities>







Looking to  
start a *Career*  
in security &  
public safety?

Contact Us Today for  
Training Opportunities!

To work as a Security Guard in the provinces of British Columbia and Alberta, all applicants are required by law to complete the Basic Security Training certification course.

Explore diverse opportunities in security and public safety throughout Canada, spanning various sectors. Whether you aspire to secure one of these roles or require training to qualify for them, don't hesitate to contact us today!

To learn more about some of the positions we have, please take a look at our careers page: <https://securiguard.prevueaps.com/jobs/>

*Apply Today!*

Contact Taylor Walters at:  
[Taylor.Walters@securiguard.com](mailto:Taylor.Walters@securiguard.com)  
778-870-1490

**Sto:lo Aboriginal Skills & Employment Training**  
**Is pleased to offer:**

# **Advance Security Training**



This program is open to Indigenous individuals who reside within our catchment area with an interest in Security employment opportunities.

- **Must have Basic Security Certificate before enrolling in this program**

There are a limited number of seats so don't delay in scheduling an appointment with a SASET employment counsellor today!

**November 27 to 29, 2023**

**Class Time: 8:30AM—4:30PM**

**Program will take place at: 5B—7201 Vedder Road, Chilliwack**

## **SASET FULLTIME EAS OFFICES:**

**SASET—Chilliwack Office**  
 5B-7201 Vedder Road  
 Chilliwack, BC  
 Phone: 604-858-3691

**SASET— Sts'ailes Office**  
 4690 Salish Way  
 Agassiz, BC  
 Phone: 604-796-5536

**SASET—Seabird Office**  
 2895 Chowat Road  
 Agassiz, BC  
 Phone: 604-796-6865





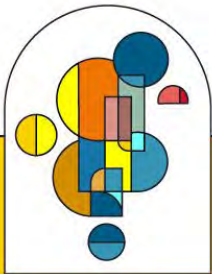
We are hiring new recruits. Please share with anyone who may be interested.

Application form =>

<https://goo.gl/pXGnbe>



**We Are Hiring. Apply today!**



THE NWAC NATIONAL  
APPRENTICESHIPS PROGRAM



Native Women's  
Association of Canada  
L'Association des  
femmes autochtones  
du Canada

Funded by the Government of  
Canada's Apprenticeship Service

**Canada**

Get ready to start a new career with our National Apprenticeships Program! Through the program, you'll have the opportunity to launch a career in select Red Seal trades in manufacturing and construction.

Get started today:

Call us now to speak to one of our advisors: 1-888-223-7089 or visit our website at

<https://bit.ly/3QJbGWZ>

**GET  
PAID TO  
LEARN**



**BUILDING SKILLS & CREATING OPPORTUNITIES**



# Get Trained **GET PAID!**

Complete the no-cost online driver training program to earn your digital completion certificate **PLUS** an attractive Thank You honorarium!



**ASK US HOW!**

Contact [info@saset.ca](mailto:info@saset.ca)





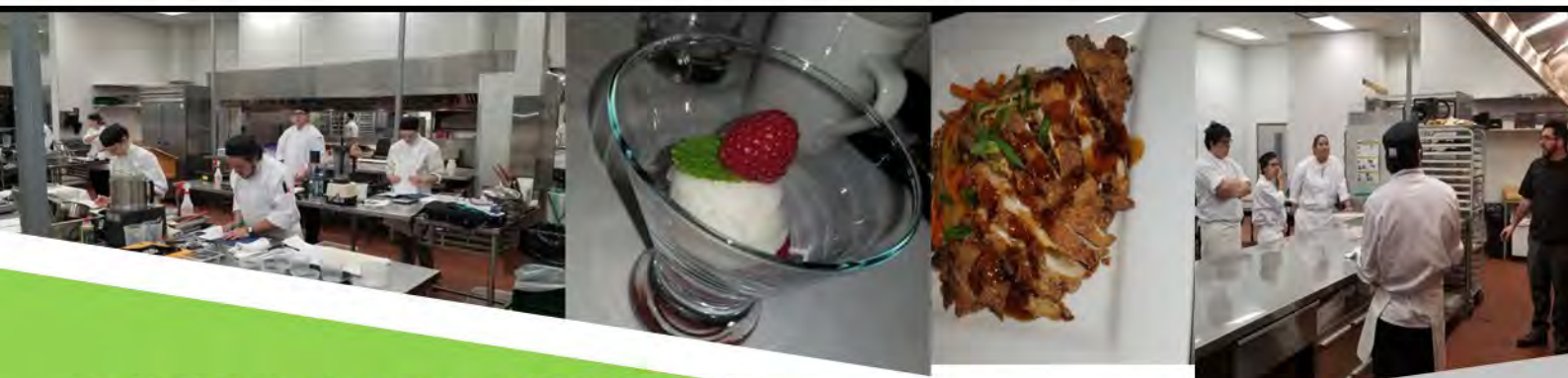


Sto:lo Aboriginal Skills & Employment Training  
is pleased to offer the:

# Culinary Arts

## Pre-Trade Program

Starts January 8th, 2024



Are you an Indigenous individual  
residing in the SASET catchment  
area who has an interest in the  
cooking profession?

If so, contact a SASET employment  
counsellor to book an appointment  
and complete the application package.

### CONTACT US TODAY!

604-858-3691 Fax: 604-858-3528

Toll Free (BC): 1-888-845-4455



[www.saset.ca](http://www.saset.ca)



<https://www.facebook.com/SASET.EAS>



5579 Tyson Rd, Chilliwack,  
BC V2R 0H9

### Program Includes:

- ◇ Certificates: FoodSafe, First Aid level 1, WHMIS, WCB Awareness
- ◇ Occupational Skills
- ◇ Stocks, soups and sauces
- ◇ Vegetables and fruits
- ◇ Starches
- ◇ Meats
- ◇ Poultry
- ◇ Seafood
- ◇ Garde-mange
- ◇ Eggs, breakfast cookery and dairy
- ◇ Baked good, desserts and beverages
- ◇ Basic kitchen management
- ◇ Two week practicum placement



Canada







Sto:lo Aboriginal Skills & Employment Training is pleased to offer:

# TRAFFIC CONTROL PERSON TRAINING

**Are you interested in pursuing a career as a flagger or traffic control person?**

**Are you an Indigenous person residing in the SASET catchment area?**

**Are you unemployed or underemployed?**

**Are you willing to commit to two days of training?**

**If so... We are presently accepting applications for this training opportunity. There are a limited number of seats so don't delay in scheduling an appointment with an employment counsellor today!**



**January 11 & 12, 2024**

**8:30 am to 4:00 pm**

**Training will take place at:**

**Cheam First Nation**

**52161 Victor Dr**

**Rosedale, BC**

**SASET - Chilliwack Office**

5B-7201 Vedder Road

Chilliwack, BC

Phone: 604-858-3691

**Sts'ailes Employment Centre**

4690 Salish Way

Agassiz, BC

Phone: 604-796-5536

**Seabird Employment Centre**

2895 Chowat Road

Agassiz, BC

Phone: 604-796-6865

**For more information, contact us:**



**604-858-3691**



**www.saset.ca**



**info@saset.ca**



**www.facebook.com/SASET.EAS**





# EMPOWERING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES THROUGH DIGITAL SKILLS

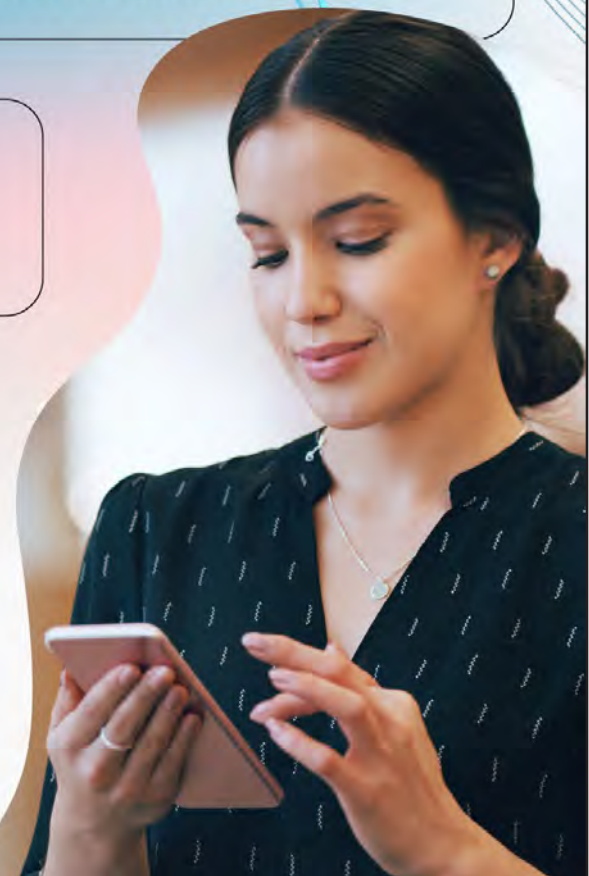
Are you an Indigenous woman or gender-diverse person 16 years of age or above with an interest in the digital field? If so, **NWAC invites you to participate in POETA project- a specialized digital skills training tailored strategically to meet the unique needs of Indigenous communities.**

The project will provide an online digital skills training at no cost with the first cohort starting in November 2023.

**For registration, please  
email [poeta@nwac.ca](mailto:poeta@nwac.ca)**

Participants who successfully complete the training will receive a certificate jointly issued by NWAC, Microsoft, and The Trust.

They need to complete a minimum of 10 hours of training.



## APPLY TODAY!



**AVAILABLE POSITIONS:**

- HR COORDINATOR



# WE'RE HIRING!

VISIT [FIRELIGHT.CA/CAREERS/](https://www.firelight.ca/careers/)







# INDIGENOUS PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING (IPH) PROGRAM

**Accepting applications Nov 1st!**

**February 2024 in person at UBC**

The courses for the IPH winter Institute are:

- Mental Health in Indigenous Communities (SPPH 587 1.5 credits / non-credit)
- Introduction to Quantitative and Qualitative Research in Indigenous Health (SPPH 588 1.5 credits/non-credit)

- Application deadline: Nov 30th
- Scholarships are available
- Got questions? Email: [olivia.baptiste@ubc.ca](mailto:olivia.baptiste@ubc.ca)

**Apply online: [health.indigenous.ubc.ca](https://health.indigenous.ubc.ca)**



## Upcoming ACCESS Program

Start your journey to a new career.

### Piping Foundations Program

- 8 Week Essential Skills
  - 20 Week Technical Training
  - Work Placement Available
  - For Indigenous Peoples - Status, Non-Status, Métis and Inuit
- WHEN: January 8th - July 26th, 2024

**Enroll by January 3rd, 2024**

**Call Today!**  
**604-251-7955**





Start your career  
with a talented, diverse  
and inclusive team!

ACCESSFUTURES.COM

## Become an ICBC Claims Contact Representative

- 8 weeks of Essential Skills
- Fully Funded Program
- Transit and meals provided
- For Indigenous Peoples - Status, Non-Status, Métis and Inuit

DATES: January 8th - March 1, 2024  
Monday - Friday 9am - 3:30pm

LOCATION: #201 - 681 Columbia St.,  
New Westminster.

Enroll by January 3rd, 2024

Call Today!

**604-251-7955**



Canada



CREATE YOUR PASSION  
& YOUR FUTURE.

## FULLY-FUNDED ONLINE PROGRAM FOR INDIGENOUS ENTREPRENEURS



# APPLY NOW

For more  
information visit  
[icedar.ca](http://icedar.ca)

### ELIGIBILITY

INDIGENOUS  
BC RESIDENTS

PROGRAM LENGTH  
SEPT - DEC 2023

PROGRAM DELIVERY  
ONLINE - 3 DAYS

FEES  
NO FEES - FULLY  
FUNDED



## Social Assistance Cheque Schedule 2023

Cheque	Renewals Due By:	Ck. Release Date	Mid-Month 2
January 2023	December 15, 2022	December 21, 2022	January 14, 2023
February 2023	January 14, 2023	February 1, 2023	February 15, 2023
March 2023	February 15, 2023	March 1, 2023	March 15, 2023
April 2023	March 15, 2023	March 31, 2023	April 14, 2023
May 2023	April 14, 2023	May 1, 2023	May 15, 2023
June 2023	May 13, 2023	June 1, 2023	June 15, 2023
July 2023	June 15, 2023	June 30, 2023	July 14, 2023
August 2023	July 15, 2023	August 1, 2023	August 15, 2023
September 2023	August 15, 2023	September 1, 2023	September 15, 2023
October 2023	September 15, 2023	September 28, 2023	October 13, 2023
November 2023	October 14, 2023	November 1, 2023	November 15, 2023
December 2023	November 14, 2023	December 1, 2023	December 15, 2023





# Election Package

## Polling Notice For the Cheam First Nation General Election

Notice is hereby given to the electors of the Cheam First Nation that a poll will be held to elect one (1) Chief and FIVE (5) Councillors to the Council of the Cheam First Nation and will be held at the Cheam First Nation Administration Building located at 52161 Victor Drive, Rosedale, B.C. V0X 1X1, on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023 from 9:00 AM until 8:00 PM (local time).

And that I will count the votes at the Cheam First Nation Administration Building located at 52161 Victor Drive, Rosedale, B.C. on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of December 2023, immediately after the close of the poll and declare the results of the election.

Given under my hand at Rosedale, British Columbia, on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023.



F.P. Schiffner  
Electoral Officer  
Cheam First Nation  
Cell: 604-786-2512  
Toll Free: 1-800-813-2173  
Email: fschiffner90@gmail.com

We will live stream the ballot count at the close of voting. A link will be posted on our facebook page Monday and again on voting day.

### CHEAM FIRST NATION LIST OF CANDIDATES AS OF OCTOBER 24, 2023

#### CHIEF

1	Douglas, Darwin
2	Victor, Andrew

#### COUNCIL

1	Douglas, Lincoln
2	Douglas, Lisa
3	Douglas, Raymond
4	Edwards, Daniel
5	Fredette, Stephanie
6	Giroux, Danica
7	Giroux, Diana
8	Giroux, Tyrone
9	Pike, Luke
10	Quipp, Dale
11	Quipp, Rick
12	Victor, Michael
13	Victor, Muriel
14	Williams, Russell
15	Williams, Vivian

NOTE: THE ABOVE LIST OF CANDIDATES ARE  
SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL UP TO OCTOBER 27,  
2023



ELECTORAL OFFICER  
CHEAM FIRST NATION

## Siyameqwot Vivian Williams



My roots go back about four generations to "Old Man Sol" or census called him "Saul", father of Andrew Shaw. Andrew, married to Marion Cashmere, is the father of Patrick and Gene. Patrick is the father to Siyamiyateliyot Elizabeth. Elizabeth is the mother of Vivian (father Alphonse Harry from Seabird).

I grew up on Seabird Island within a Halq'emeyem speaking home. I raised 9 children. When they were all grown, I began my formal education. I obtained a Bachelor's degree with a Teacher Certificate. I would like to thank late Sandra and Chiyom for sponsoring my education.

I would like to be party to a progressive team. My education and ancestral language would be an asset to the team. Bringing Halq'emeyem to the Council table would be a positive move.





## VOTE MURIEL VICTOR for COUNCIL

I would first like to thank those who nominated me and all those who believe in me.

I would like to begin by stating that when I started the Social Service program (1984) my vision was to return to use my education to assist our community in the Social Service field. My vision has only expanded over the years, and I'd like to see more for Cheam members and community. I am looking for your vote to help me work alongside a team to work toward a healthy, thriving community again.

I was on Council for two terms from 2015 to 2019. I've also worked in various departments within the Cheam administration and Health offices. I am currently working for the Chilliwack Division of Family Practice as a Traditional Wellness Mentor for the Indigenous population between Chilliwack and Boothroyd.

I am very fortunate to have a supportive team and supportive Manager and Board who are allowing me to "flex" my time around a Council schedule should I be a successful candidate.

I attended a Gathering in September where an Indigenous Doctor was speaking on Health Innovation and Transformation. During this presentation arose a lot of feelings regarding this upcoming election and is one of the reasons why I decided to stay as a candidate for Council. She spoke about whether "if we are existing, surviving, or thriving", "if we are merely existing then we lost our way". I see this in our community and there has been so much division amongst one another and even broken down family systems.

I had the opportunity to witness a small part of what some of the rebuilding/restructuring could look like at a couple of dinner meetings where there was some good dialogue happening with some pretty good feelings where there was numerous accounts of "the old ways". I think we have to look back to some of these "old ways" in order to move forward in a good way.

Furthermore, Dr. Sheri-Ann Daniels further spoke about "Are you community driven, or self-driven?", "if not you, who? If not now, when?", and "step up, or step out, make a choice!". These very forward statements got me answering that I am community driven to a point that it may take away from my own self-care if it wasn't for my current job—it also helps me take care of my own wellness while helping others.

I also answered that I am the one to step up, I won't step out. I step up again and again and I won't turn my back on anyone. I'm about fairness and equality. My eyes have been opened even wider at the realization of what our off-reserve population has to deal with through the work that I do through the Chilliwack Division. Though many of these clients don't have a community connection, they still enlighten me on what some of the challenges are. I would like to see how we can lessen the burden on our "away from home members".

There was a proposed housing project, I was once involved in planning, and it must've gone sideways along the way. It was a tiny homes and alternative housing project that I'd still like to see go forward.

*Best Regards!*

## **Muriel Victor, Council candidate**

### **Why am I running for Council?**

I am running for Council because it has always been a vision of mine to contribute towards a healthier thriving community, in whichever capacity. In this case, I am humbly seeking election for a Council seat.

### **How much time can you commit to Chief and Council meetings and duties?**

I commit the time needs to Council meetings and duties. I do work full time, but I have spoken to my Manager, should I be a successful candidate, to inform that I may need to flex time to work around a Council schedule. There may be a little scheduling challenges to begin with because of bookings I already have in place, but I would know not to book further during necessary Council meetings/Portfolio responsibilities.

### **What would you recommend changing or implementing to avoid Staff turnover?**

I would recommend ALL Staff and Leadership complete the WorkSafe BC "Workplace bullying and harassment Training and Legal Duties", at the minimum. I believe there is still nepotism, lateral violence evident and some of this should have ramifications to protect the Employee and the Band from any legal proceedings.

Furthermore, I don't think anyone should feel "less than" or unworthy of a "Cost of Living Adjustment" (COLA) than another Employee. I've worked just under two years for my current Employer, and I've already had two COLA payouts. If an Employee made it past their probation period, then this should prove they are worthy of an adjustment. Some funders add this to their funding arrangement.

I also believe that Employee/Member interaction can be encouraged so that each actually get to know each other and who is actually working on our behalf and what they do for us.

### **What industries would you recommend creating to promote member commerce, employment, business opportunities and how would these opportunities affect Band owned land?**

I really think we should be looking into our tourism industry as well as all the gifted ones who could share some culture and traditions with visitors. Some other communities are developing varying levels of cultural centers where they can share some of their identity, teach some small craft/skill for them to take away. This honors our past while creating strength and opportunities for our future.

I also think we should develop areas unsuitable for much else into storage/storage containers. I see people looking for a place for RV, and similar, storage. I don't think there would be much impact because it's basically, I believe, contaminated are anyway. Either it's contaminated or the water system needs to be extended/upgraded.

I think all hired contractors, on fair size projects, should have to utilize Band member employment (not Staff). Some other Bands do this quite successfully. We should see who their contractors are.

I further would like to see us accessing BC Bid and have Band members trained and ready to fulfill some of those successful bids. This may include getting a couple of food trucks to serve coffee, muffins, etc. to workers. There's missed opportunities going by us with so many skill levels in our community.



### **What are your priorities for Rights and Title?**

I think we should look at protection from further encroachment and contamination of our traditional territory. Some of this could include claiming our rightful place in the broader Sto:lo community, and where we become a louder voice at some of the Municipal tables.

There has been a large number of other complaints of other parties regarding off-roading and partying which endanger various fish habitats. I can't really say if our current Leadership has been involved in some of these conversations and ensuring the protection, but we definitely need a voice there. There is a lot more around our forestry, fish, wildlife, etc. that should always be a priority and should never be tabled for big business. I did spend a lot of years fighting for our right to fish, spending quite a number of years in court. Our current non-fishery is pretty sad. I think we deserve better especially when I see the multitude of other fishers out there.

There is a statement showing throughout via email, newsletters, etc. that I think we really need to take to heart. "We have never ceded or surrendered title to our lands, rights to our resources, or authority to make decisions within our territory". I think we need more Leadership with a good mind and heart to uphold this. We've purchased Land that has been severely degrading over the years; we are partner in a BC Park that has been further degraded. I think before any further similar venture takes place then some serious planning has to be put in place.

I also see the current Leadership has, again, are working with consultants towards yet another Land use plan. This has been done a few times, if not more, over the years. I don't like to see incoming Leadership recreating and wiping out what's been done by prior Leadership. Some restructuring may be necessary but a total redoing the work shouldn't be called for. If the documents aren't located then we need to figure out ways of creating living, protected documents. I've seen some Leadership pack documents out with them, and I've witnessed some outgoing Staff and outgoing Leadership shredding documents. Let's get a system to protect OUR documents. We should have a Cheam and a Pilalt library for current and future generations.

### **Regarding Community Health and Wellness, what are your priorities and what changes, if any, would you like to see implemented?**

I think overall Health and Safety is a must and needs attention. We have a so called "Mobile" Overdose prevention clinic which actually isn't mobile. It remains stationary parked outside a building some members prefer not to visit. It should at least go to where people need them and meet the population "where they are at". It was also broadcast on Global news that this mobile clinic would be available "all the time" when in fact this isn't true.

I think we need an alternative housing project with full, quality wrap around services. There's been members trying to make changes and completed a year or two in a treatment center only to return home and relapse. There's been others coming home after incarceration with the same outcome and only a limited access shelter to go to.

I think we need a Council of the Elders or some other alternative justice system so that we aren't sending our members away without any care and attention to their wellbeing while we continue to feed and house non-members who have BCR's banning them.

I think all children, Elders, babies, recreational programs, etc. all need their own attention and space for them. I don't think any member should have to fight for a wellness outlet from our administration. We should have our Strategic plans, Comprehensive community plans, Statistics, and needs assessments done so that we can readily respond to call outs for expressions of interest and proposal calls. There's also Jordan's Principle for Infrastructure that would probably help fund a hockey/basketball court and a youth center, and an Early learning center if we have all the documents in place. I am not exactly certain that they would but there's funders out there that would help. Some of these funders require a 50% investment and we can show this as well.

I think it's necessary to have age appropriate sessions strictly for that age group. I've attended something advertised as an Elders session and didn't get the chance to visit any Elders. I like to go to something as advertised when I need that time as my leisure time. I'm sure I'm not alone in that.

I think everyone should have full access to explore their culture and traditions and not be on someone's schedule or age range also. These full access programs can be a drop in type similar to a crafting/gym group that Soowahlie has. All ages can come in and work on a project and learn and engage with each other.

I think Education needs to be brought closer to home and have peer tutors, peer athletes to help others succeed. I know I had those who I looked up to and chose as my role models.

I am really just fast typing and trying to get some quick thoughts on paper. These may not be all encompassing but they're probably top on the list since they came out right away. If you want further clarification, or would like to talk, please don't hesitate to contact me.





## Start with a Community Plan!

Vote **Michael Victor**

## For Council

We are all good people with good intentions for our community. Rather than focusing on short-term power politics by focusing on who is to blame or whose values are better, we ought to concentrate on

the wants and needs of Cheam members and how we can fulfill them. With community support, the Council will be better able to achieve positive results and build trust from Cheam members. I look forward to hearing the ideas of all members on how we as a community should move forward.

To ensure a sustainable future I would like to promote the development of legal, fiscal, and communications strategies. Legal strategies to protect our community from risk; fiscal strategies to increase our revenue; and communications strategies to support trust. While developing these strategies we can't overlook opportunities that approach us. We must continue to build on work that has already been done and when we achieve success, let's celebrate.

To create solutions that are more permanent input should be valued from all directions. We must keep strong relationships and base support on local issues and help and support as requested. This is important for me because I know that I need support in some of the topics such as language (I've only had limited opportunities to learn), and health and wellness; a topic that I've heard a couple of recommendations and witnessed some people do well.

It is important for me that the community succeeds because I want to see a healthy future for my friends and family in Cheam because I grew up in Cheam where both of my parents are from. I attend most community functions and see how members who are involved enjoy themselves while connecting with each other. I believe that I can play a role in the growth of our community because I have experienced and witnessed what happens in the community while on the Lands Advisory Committee, Housing Committee, and the Board of Trustees. I've been working towards educating myself on how Cheam can be more sustainable by establishing jurisdiction and building a great economy. I've taken courses (my mom Sandra Victor always influenced me to get an education) that teach about gaining fiscal power and building and infrastructure financing; I also have a Bachelor of Business Administration degree.

Thank you, good people of Cheam, for hearing me out. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to have further discussion.

**Michael Victor- 704-798-5572**

# VOTE

STEPHANIE  
FREDETTE  
COUNCIL MEMBER



**LET'S CONTINUE THE JOURNEY TOGETHER! AS I SEEK RE-ELECTION AFTER OVERSEEING EDUCATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT PORTFOLIO. I'M GRATEFUL FOR THE COMMUNITY'S SUPPORT. OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS, WE'VE GROWN TOGETHER. I HAVE GAINED INVALUABLE EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE I AM THANKFUL FOR THE LEADERS THAT ARE PRESENT AND ACTIVELY INVOLVED WITH COMMUNITY. I STRIVE TO CONTINUOUSLY REFLECT AND LEARN FROM MANY TEACHINGS ESPECIALLY TÓMIYEQW. I HAVE LEARNED TO HOLD IN DEEP CONSIDERATION THE IMPACT OF DECISIONS ON THE SEVEN GENERATIONS THAT CAME BEFORE US AND THE SEVEN GENERATIONS THAT WILL FOLLOW.**

**I'M DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR THE TRUST THE COMMUNITY HAS SHOWN ME. I DO PROMISE THAT I WILL CONTINUE TO ASSIST WITH INDIVIDUAL NEEDS, COMMUNITY GATHERINGS, TAKING THE TIME TO REFLECT OR SIMPLY LEND A COMPASSIONATE EAR. I WILL BE THERE AND SUPPORT IN ANY MANNER I AM ABLE TO. I WILL CONTINUE TO ADVOCATE FOR COMMUNITY. MY GREATEST JOY LIES IN WITNESSING OUR COMMUNITY GROW STRONGER AND HEALTHIER. AS LONG AS I SEE OUR MEMBERS THRIVING, MY HAPPINESS KNOWS NO BOUNDS.**



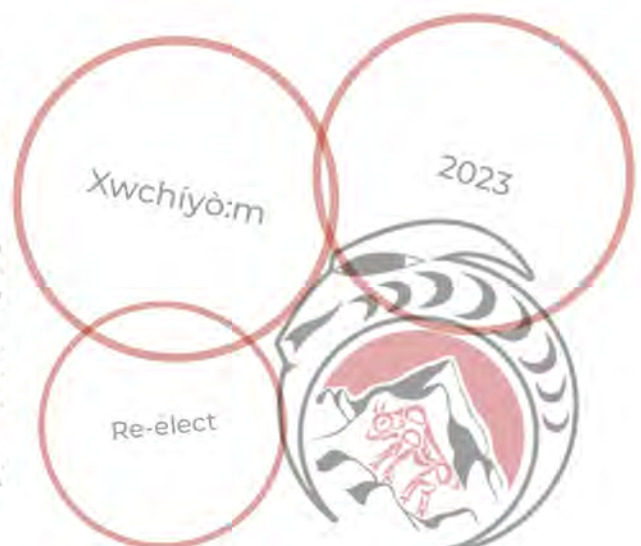
**OUR COUNCIL IS DEEPLY INVOLVED IN DISCUSSIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS, WORKING TO PROTECT OUR ANCESTRAL RIGHTS AND PRESERVE OUR CULTURAL TITLES. MEETINGS WITH THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION, ONGOING ENGAGEMENT WITH BC HYDRO, AND COLLABORATION WITH CN RAIL OUR COMMITMENT TO ENSURE OUR RIGHTS AND TITLES OVER OUR LANDS. DESPITE CHALLENGES, OUR COUNCIL STANDS FIRM, WORKING TIRELESSLY. WHILE PROGRESS MAY BE GRADUAL, THE WHEELS OF CHANGE ARE SLOWLY TURNING.**

**I WANT TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TO CHIEF ANDREW VICTOR. HIS VALUES AND CONTINUOUS EFFORTS FOR THE BETTERMENT OF OUR COMMUNITY. I GENUINELY APPRECIATE CHIEF ANDREW VICTOR'S DEDICATION AS I WITNESS HIM WORK DAY AND NIGHT FOR OUR COMMUNITY. I'VE GROWN MUCH CONFIDENCE UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP, AND CHIEF VICTOR ENCOURAGES ME TO GROW.**

**I ALSO EXTEND MY THANKS TO RAY DOUGLAS. HIS PASSION TO CHANGE OUR COMMUNITY AND HIS ABILITY TO ASK CRITICAL QUESTIONS HAVE INSPIRED ME TO ASSERT AND VOICE OUR RIGHTS AND TITLES IN A GOOD WAY.**

**MEKW' TEL SQ'EQ'Ó**

**V O T E**  
**S T E P H A N I E**  
**F R E D E T T E**  
**C O U N C I L M E M B E R**





# If there was four things, you could change for Cheam, what would they be?

**I want to let you know I have heard you!**



**Your cause is our cause! Cheam needs your ideas, Energy, and passion! That is the only way we can turn our goals into real positive change for Cheam. We will work on it together, now let's get going and do it together!**

## **VOTE Lincoln Douglas to Council on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Transparency, communication, and participation are keys to success!**



Together we will lead our community back to safety, prosperity, peace and self-sustainability, making us stronger and more unified.

When you elect me to Council this term I will be committed to the position, and if you need to talk, contact me, we will meet and discuss your ideas, or whatever it is you want to discuss I am here to support our people in a good way.

I saw it when I was a young man our leadership working in a traditional way with family head leadership, we were very united back then, and respected the leadership well and supported them.

During my last term on Council in 2019-21 we dealt with Covid 19 most of our term, it wasn't easy, we went through wearing masks and having Zoom meetings where we didn't actually see each other in person as much. In that term we supported the people with food supplies, etc. so they would be safe, we made the decision to put 20% of the net income from CEI towards member dividends, which was a lot more than the annual distribution is today. Let's get back to supporting business, raising the prosperity of the community, and supporting members.

We need to strongly support our rights and title as we should be heavily engaged together in our rights to fishing and the access and control of the resources within our territories.

I am here to support you, listen to you and hopefully bring your concern or request to fruition.

I support members first, capacity building and to do it right so we don't have failures, we have several land and housing issues lets work together and get these resolved. We have a housing crisis going on and we need to work together to fix this problem so bring your ideas and let's get going.



I have a strong business background and I am confident if elected we can get our economics thriving, creating jobs, contracts, service agreements and new developments in our community for members.

## URGENT PRIORITIES

1. **Housing Crisis**- we have members who have been wanting to move back to Cheam with no approvals to build, I will work with you to solve this problem. Some of you members with no housing that need housing let's get you into homes.
2. **Lands** – We have laws, Policies and regulations that seem to be grid locking our progress on development, home building, community facilities, sports facilities, so let's work together on fixing those barriers to be more friendly so members can receive their CP's that are overdue and forth coming. Let's get building homes and improve our economics in the Community. Pre COVID-19 in 2020 our Land Use plan was close to going to membership for ratification, let's get going and finalize this so our Community has goals and guidelines set on land use.
3. **Membership support**- We need to work on off reserve member support, to many times I here we only have enough for on reserve, or we will start with on reserve first, or there is only so many seats to go on a trip, mostly due to budgets I hear a lot, so we need to work together on building our own source revenue so members are treated equally and all can receive services and go on trips. I strongly support member businesses and want to work with all our members who have businesses or are thinking of going into business as we need these services now and in the future, that means we need to work on supporting Education much more and post-secondary training. If you have a business let's start a discussion on building a business empire here. If you need employment I am sure if member businesses are supported they will hire you, this is something we will work on together. Our youth are our future, let's invest in them now it's our future. We have many members with health, addiction disability issues that need our support. Let's get them the help they need.
4. **Comprehensive Community Planning**- we need to know were where going and how to get there by using our teachings and working together, this document is to be developed by the whole community and will set our path going forward over at least the next 2-4 decades. We will set how our healthcare will look like, education, economics, land development and preservation, culture, traditions, youth development, and much , much more.
5. **Staff and administration** – having decades of business experience I have strong strengths in HR and keeping employees is very important, but also having resources in place in event some leave. Employees need to be qualified with academics, job experience, and knowledge to be the first start of success as someone under qualified will struggle to meet the needs and either become frustrated or produce low to no product. We need to stay competitive in compensation, proper evaluations including measurements of success.



6. **Title and rights**- We are at a place now where we need a leader that has strong cultural and traditional values to get the message to outside organizations that we mean business or we are not taken as serious about our rights, so I support Darwin Douglas in this role for Chief who carries a great lot of respect in our nation from the island to US to the interior, he will speak and represent us in our traditional way and get us the results we deserve if we stand behind him. **VOTE DARWIN DOUGLAS FOR CHIEF**

**In short: let's get it done! This is the time to deliver! And yes, there are still many obstacles. But it is up to us to overcome them. And it's doable. I promise you, as a Councilor, I will do my very best to listen and ensure transparency.**

**Please send me your answers (on FB messenger) to my opening question so that we can get going quickly. We need your ideas, participation, energy, and passion!**





## Vote for Lisa Douglas on December 6, 2023

### Ey Swayel Cheam

I am honoured to be nominated for this upcoming council term. I also give thanks to all of those who have given their dedication to our community in the past as leaders on council, on committees, as staff and volunteers.

We have had many champions, warriors, role models in our community's history. They have taught us so much. They always brought us along as a group to tackle whatever challenges were in our path. We have very big shoes to fill.

I am interested in helping the community in any way that I can. I care deeply about the preservation of the efforts of others before us, enhancing the current initiatives, planning for the future, well being and growth here at Cheam. In doing this, we all need to be involved. The council, the staff, the members and our neighbours.

All portfolios and departments are important and require attention and collaboration. Actions in one area will affect other areas. We all have different gifts. We need to ensure that we use and welcome the gifts of our people where they can be effective.

My schedule is fully flexible and will allow me to be available for all council meetings, portfolio requirements and community events. I have dedicated a great deal of time to staying informed in the past and current affairs of Cheam by viewing all Council meetings and minutes, policies, laws and financial statements and will continue to do so.

[lisalaxmom@gmail.com](mailto:lisalaxmom@gmail.com) or

Facebook messenger



My previous council term, and employment experience in Finance & Administration Management with 2 tribal councils and a large progressive First Nation, multiple First Nation committees and boards, will also reduce any learning curve and reduce orientation time needed.

### **Communication & Engagement**

Engagement needs to be constant to deal with issues that are facing Cheam each day. It can provide history, expertise, warnings, analysis, different perspectives, and help council determine the **Cheam position** on issues.

There is no such thing as too much information. Our website and in-person options can be enhanced to provide more:

- Detailed and summarized reporting
- Self-help and staff assisted services
- More Meetings/Forums
- No limits on committee participation

Let's find our balance together – **Letsemot**





## **Balance**

We all have different needs and finding balance is always a challenge.

On Reserve vs. Off reserve supports

Funding vs. Own Source Revenue

Bureaucracy vs. Autonomy

Liability vs. Flexibility

Rules vs. Tolerance

Progress vs. Tradition

One lifestyle vs. another lifestyle

And many more...

Let's Find our balance together - **Letsemot**

## **Housing Shortage**

Upgraded infrastructure is needed to build more homes. A community sewer system is urgently needed. Until we get community systems in place, we need to carry on building houses using septic fields in the interim. More types of housing are needed to meet the varying family sizes and lifestyles of our members.

We have a large proportion of off-reserve members. Most funding formulas are based on our on-reserve population. If we don't get housing each year, our on-reserve population will not increase. In turn our funding formulas will not increase.

## **Governance Tools**

The governance tools need to be in place for the staff to carry out their jobs, and for members to understand how to access services and assistance. Together the members, staff and council can develop the tools to be put in place. Involvement by all parties will foster pride and buy in.

Our plans will guide what we need to do in in all departments.

- Comprehensive Community Plan
- Strategic Plan

[lisalaxmom@gmail.com](mailto:lisalaxmom@gmail.com) or

Facebook messenger

- Land Use Plan

Laws, Bylaws, Policies are also governance tools that will guide us.

## **Staff Retention**

An effective and dedicated Executive Director that is the right fit for our vision and values will guide our operations team and meet our goals and ensure that we do not experience long term vacancies in key positions.

Our Human Resources Department will be instrumental in assisting the Executive Director with employee relations, training plans and implementing the tools to achieve long-term employment and lifetime succession planning for our members.

## **Lands Issues**

Land issues have enormous impacts. Members have indicated a need for a Lands Manager, Lands Inventory, CP Issues to be fixed and Lands Processes to be formalized and communicated.

## **Economy & Employment**

All industries are possible in our future. Long-term career planning will put our members in the industries that we are over time.

We need to plan for a growing economy to allow for members to be prospering in their own careers and Cheam to increase Own Source Revenues that are needed to support our member programs and services.

Procurement, contracts, employment and land lease policies & opportunities should give members priority.

Let's find our balance together – **Letsemot**





Decisions on land use for business should come from informed community engagements that include benefits analysis and multiple options.

Infrastructure is needed for business park, retail, and office space for members and other tenants. Who in turn will provide employment, training, and experience for members. these could be located on band land that is already disturbed, and according to our Land Use Plan.

### **Rights & Title**

Priorities should be member driven. There is a lot a lot of history and information related to our Rights & Title. We need to ensure that we are actively engaged with third parties in these areas. We need to continue our path of assertion in the manner of those before us and seek and engage all internal and external information, resources and allies to do so.

- Infringements & future agreements. (present/interim/future)
- Protection of our Rights, Resources and Authority
- Continue working with other governments

### **Health & Wellness**

Our Comprehensive Community Plan will set the priorities for our Health initiatives. Funding is always a challenge for supporting health and wellness.

Supports are needed in many areas and we have many initiatives in place that need to continue and be enhanced.

mental health, addictions, and recovery.

Recreation & Activities restore the Sports facilities we had in the past.

Community Transportation for teams, recreation, for elders, for employment and medical purposes

Food & Medicine Related Programs – including healthy eating, food supply, gathering, preserving

Education begins from birth and never ends for us. We could provide more career path counselling services and forecasting and training programs.





## Raymond Douglas for Council Re-election December 6, 2023

[Ray.Cheam@gmail.com](mailto:Ray.Cheam@gmail.com)

Cell: 604-206-2244

### Answers to Candidate Questions:

- 1) I feel very honoured to be nominated to run for Council for a potential second 2 year term. There are many reasons that I am going to run for Council again. I would love to continue to support Community progress in all ways possible. I will continue being involved in implementing strategies that help us work toward overall health as a community. My wife and I are raising our 3 children who are 9yrs old, 5yrs old, and 21 months here at Cheam First Nation. It has been an amazing experience to be embraced by all of our friends and relatives of Cheam. Leadership needs to always make decisions with Tomiyeqw in our hearts and minds – 7 generations back and 7 generations forward. I carry the teachings of my elders and ancestors dear to my heart. I will always strive to lead with Xwelmxw Principles, Laws, Values and overall Worldview.
- 2) If I am Re-elected again I will commit all the time required of me as a member of the Council plus more. I believe achieving the minimum expectations is not enough that a Council member should feel satisfied in their work. We need leaders who are more than willing to go above the call of duty. A good Council Member must not only be willing to do the work but must be passionate about making lasting positive change for our ancestors as well as current and future generations.
- 3) I would recommend more thorough communication plans with detailed goals, schedules, and timelines. We would also put into practice a concerted effort to focus on positive initiatives/objectives. I would implement a strategy based on a holistic inclusion process to make sure we work through challenges with an effective process that considers varying perspectives. Secondly, I would support the work needed to make sure we are attentive to matching applicable competitive wages and benefits.
- 4) I would recommend leadership take a firm stance to assert our place in the economy of our Territory with partners and other companies that are working on our land of S'olh Temexw. We need to be included in procurement opportunities within Pilalxw Tribe Territory and also the broader Sto:lo Territory. We can make this happen by having strong negotiators represent us while engaging with various Industries. I would support the work needed to create more jobs for our members, business owners and various entrepreneurs. I would work with staff to strategically seek business opportunities that will help our people gain short- and long-term economic success. I would make sure that we are engaging in opportunities that allow us to participate in Land Stewardship initiatives at all levels. I would also make sure that we are involved in decision-making forums related to major capital projects/initiatives that are happening here on our Land.



5) My priorities for Rights and Title would be to firmly further establish our Pilalxw Jurisdiction on maps of Sto:lo Territory. As an example, I would encourage and support the gathering and archiving of our Pilalxw history of all types with an overall research plan to build a case that is undeniable to assert our tribal boundary markers and Traditional Use Areas (hunting, fishing, harvesting). I will passionately participate in the strategizing and implementing of plans to protect our Xwelmxw Spiritual Sites.

6) I would prioritize regular trauma-informed awareness training with a First Nations approach. I would support the work of bringing in Community Champions to be good role models for our people of all ages – the ones who have risen through the adversities that we’ve experienced in our Community. I would focus on the development of proactive strategies to encourage our youth to stay on a good path such as programs like the Hunting Trip that some Members, Youth and Elders attended recently. As a Council member, I supported staff, and even had the honour to participate, in this great initiative. This has been on my mind since before I was on Council as I prayed for more family connections in our Community. The hunting harvest will be distributed amongst Elders very soon. This Cheam Hunting Trip experience was very special as it encourages and supports the connecting of our Youth and Elders as well as brought us closer overall. It supports more unity amongst the families of Cheam and this is powerful for the health of our future generations.

I will also continue to support and encourage more sports involvement and healthy fun Community activities. I played a small part to support the efforts by members to bring back hockey practices to Cheam. I even participated the best I could when I could with the Cheam Chinooks. It’s an honor to have been accepted by fellow Cheam athletes and I appreciate the opportunity greatly.

To all of my friends and relatives who supported me in my first Council term I appreciate you dearly. I am humbled by the experience and honoured to receive continued love and kindness for my Family and I.

If you wish to share any of the questions, comments or concerns you may have on your hearts and minds please don’t hesitate to reach out. I will be happy to share my thoughts and have a discussion with you.

Y’alh Yexw Kw’as hoy,  
Ray Douglas





## ANDREW VICTOR FOR CHEAM CHIEF VOTE DECEMBER 6, 2023

It has been an honour to serve Cheam and the Members for eight years on the Council. I have continued to learn that together we have strength like the mountain goat. The journey has not been easy, but we continue to work for progress. The Council and staff have been working hard. Building on the gifts and strength we have together, we have broken barriers and shared important successes.

- Required the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to listen to Cheam's concerns with Highway 9 and the Agassiz-Rosedale Bridge to develop a plan for improvements, such as speed limit reduction, crosswalk with amber flashing lights, multi-use path for pedestrian/cyclist safety between Victor Dr and Yale Rd, and development of a traffic management plan during highway closures.
- Ceremony for signing the Memorandum of Understanding with Fraser Health and FNHA that provides culturally safe overdose prevention services, culturally safe substance use monitoring, and referrals to other services. This is the first witnessed consumption service to be driven by and located within a First Nations community in BC.
- Updated the finance policies and working towards implementing a Financial Administration Law.
- Council allocated own-source revenue to the Cheam Longhouse addition for the kitchen and bathrooms.

We have continued to address obstacles and worked to make progress.

- Address the Province's failure to protect and rehabilitate Cheam's cultural infrastructure (i.e., fishing sites) after the 2021 Atmospheric River Event and annual freshet from woody debris, sediment, and erosion. The Province is open to Cheam developing a plan for rehabilitating fishing sites, including gravel and sediment extraction.
- Engaged CN Rail to address the severe impacts to the Cheam Cemetery. CN Rail is committed to work with Cheam to implement solutions.
- Negotiating an Accommodation Agreement with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for the Agassiz-Rosedale Bridge that avoids/mitigates impacts to Cheam and provides employment and contracting opportunities.
- Received direction from Pelólxw Members to develop Pelólxw Fishing Plans and a stewardship framework from Jones Hill to Chilliwack River to Harrison Lake. Collaborating with the Pelólxw Tribe in standing up a Pelólxw Fishers Committee.

The work is ongoing. There is great potential for progress as we work together.

I appreciate that the All Candidates Forum was cancelled out of respect for our grieving families. The following are my brief responses to the questions provided by the Cheam Elders for the Forum.

*How much time can you commit to Chief and Council meetings and duties?*

The role of Chief is a full-time responsibility. As such I have committed 100% to the role and responsibility as Chief in a full-time capacity as I meet with Members, attend Council meetings, and fulfill the many related duties. My family has been understanding and supportive of me as they recognize the time commitments that are included in serving Cheam and the Members in this role.



# ANDREW VICTOR FOR CHEAM CHIEF

*What would you recommend changing or implementing to avoid staff turnover?*

There are a number of ways to review and address staff turnover. From a human resources perspective, employee retention focuses on hiring the right people, keeping compensation and benefits current, making opportunities for development and growth, and cultivating a respectful work environment.

From a Member's perspective, the human resources department must correctly implement cultural intelligence into its systems. Hiring and retaining the right people must prioritize the ability to understand and work within our cultural context (which is as important as qualifications). Qualifications without cultural intelligence turns the Band Office into the Department of Indian Affairs.

*What industries would you recommend creating to promote member commerce, employment, business opportunities and how would these opportunities affect Band-owned land?*

It is critical to Cheam's competitiveness and wellbeing to build relationships that will help our Members thrive economically. As such, we must open doors to provide diverse education, training, employment, and entrepreneurial opportunities wherever Cheam Members live, whether in community or away from home. We must have a robust and innovative plan to grow our economy that builds on the foundation of our entrepreneurial knowledge, promotes existing businesses and structures, and welcomes diverse pursuit of economic development. The Members must direct the development of Cheam's economic strategy for the current and future generations.

The Members must direct the development of a framework for economic reconciliation at the local, provincial, and national levels. Economic reconciliation must be done in a way that does not jeopardize our Rights and Title nor compromise our cultural teachings and values.

*What are your priorities for Rights and Title?*

Cheam has never ceded or surrendered title to our lands, rights to our resources, or authority to make decisions within our territory. Our way of life affirms our occupation and relationship to our territory. Cheam must work to protect and enhance our

strength of claim and jurisdiction with our relatives and neighbours at all levels.

In 2019, the Province passed the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*. The Province will align its laws to achieve the objectives of the UN Declaration and do this work in consultation and co-operation with First Nations in BC. To reduce barriers to fully participate, the Province has dedicated \$200M to provide four-year funding for First Nations in BC to cover costs directly related to the work. Cheam has applied for the multi-year funding, which will be \$260,000 per year. Cheam should utilize these funds to protect our Rights and Title while we engage in the implementation of the UN Declaration provincially and federally. One of the key questions we need to address through this process is how Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* relates to the UN Declaration.

*Regarding community health and wellness, what are your priorities and what changes, if any, would you like to see implemented?*

We must recognize our authority in our governance of health and wellness services in our community, and redesign health programs and services to bring them closer to home as much as possible. We must increase our influence through decision-making and control at all levels.

Given the rising housing costs, increasing inflation, and the ongoing opioid crisis, Cheam must take a multipronged strategy to support Members in community and away from home, and explore ways to identify adequate funding.

Thank you for taking the time to review some brief responses to the questions. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to talk further about governance and administration. It would be a privilege to talk about our heart and vision for Cheam.

It has been a privilege to serve on Council for the past eight years. I would be honoured to continue to serve as Chief. I am dedicated to acting responsibly to help lift up the condition of the People. Together we have strength like the mountain goat to become the strong, independent, prosperous Community that we envision. May we journey together in a good way for Xwchíyò:m, for Tómiyeq̓w.

**VOTE  
DARWIN  
DOUGLAS  
DECEMBER 6  
2023**

**EY SWAYEL SIIYAM NU SIIYEYE,**

Dear Friends and Relatives,

Fellow members of Cheam community, I stand before you to express my candidacy for the position of Chief. I am deeply committed to serving our community and working towards our healing, empowerment, growth, and prosperity. Together, we can embark on a journey towards a brighter future for all.

**Vision:** I share a vision for our community of unity, resilience, and self-determination. I believe in harnessing our collective strengths, preserving our cultural heritage, and empowering our people to thrive in all aspects of life. By focusing on education, economic development, building intergenerational wealth, health and wellness, and environmental sustainability, we can create a community that is strong, prosperous, and proud.

**Education:** Education is the key to unlocking opportunities and breaking the cycle of poverty. As Chief, I will prioritize the improvement of educational facilities, resources, and programs within our community. By collaborating with local educators, schools, colleges, and universities, we can ensure that our youth receive a quality education that prepares them for a successful future. Additionally, I advocate for the inclusion of our cultural teachings and languages in the curriculum, preserving our heritage for generations to come.



**Economic Development:** Economic development is crucial for the growth and self-sufficiency of our community. We can work together to build economic sovereignty. We need to support our entrepreneurs, small businesses and band owned enterprises for success. We can also define our perspectives on wealth to include environmental sustainability, cultural values, and collective wealth that benefits all Cheam people.

**Health and Wellness:** Access to quality healthcare is a fundamental right that should be available to all members of our community. I will advocate for improved healthcare services, including mental health support, addiction treatment, and preventative care. By collaborating with healthcare professionals and organizations, we can address the unique health challenges faced by our community and ensure that everyone receives the care they deserve.

**Environmental Sustainability:** Preserving our land, water, and natural resources is essential for the well-being of our community and future generations. By embracing traditional ecological knowledge and sustainable practices, we can protect our environment while creating a healthier community.



Over the last several weeks I have set the table in the community and gathered to hear from Cheam members on what positive changes they want to see for our community. This is what we have heard. We need regular monthly community meetings!

We have to improve our community infrastructure and services in the following areas:

- Housing
- Children and Families – Children in Care
- Youth Sports and Recreation
- Inherent Rights and Title
- Health and Wellness
- Leadership and Governance
- Elders
- Education
- Language and Culture
- Food Sovereignty





Our people need to be heard and included in the decision making that happens. I am committed to host community meetings and give our members opportunity to have their voices heard.

We can bring our community back together to be strong, proud people. We have been divided for too long. We need to support one another and build our community and people back up.

Friends and relatives, I humbly ask for your support as we embark on this journey for positive change. I ask for the opportunity to earn your trust. Together, we can build a community that is strong, resilient, healthy and prosperous. Let us work hand in hand to empower Cheam, preserve our cultural heritage, and create a brighter future for all.

Vote for me as your Chief, and together, we will make a lasting impact on our community.

Yalh ye kwas hoy,

*On December 6th Vote: **DARWIN DOUGLAS (EYTELEQ)***

