



XWCHÍYÒ:M

CHEAM FIRST NATION



2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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Chief's Welcome

Éy swayel

On behalf of the Council, we are pleased to present this 2023 Annual Report. This report reflects the achievements of the year and plans for the next year.

The Council is very proud of the staff for their hard work and dedication. They have been creative and solution-oriented in utilizing the resources available for the benefit of the People. There was more that they wished to accomplish, but they have made significant progress.

This year was a significant year. During the challenges of Covid, we got behind in completing the audited financial statements. The Council and staff were able to complete the financial statements for 2021 and 2022. In addition to this, the team was able to start working on updating our financial policies to align with the Financial Administration Law standards. For the next steps, the Council will be standing up a committee, which will be supported by the First Nations Financial Management Board, to develop a Financial Administration Law for Cheam.

The Council and staff have worked diligently to advance priorities and solutions. The work is ongoing. We will continue to take positive steps together for Xwchíyò:m, for tómiyeqw.

Mekw' tel sq'eq'ó

Sexómestel

Chief Andrew Victor



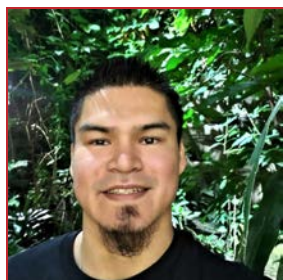
Cheam First Nation 2021 - 2023 Council



Chief Andrew Victor (2nd term & 2 terms Councillor prior)

Primary Portfolio: Intergovernmental & Administration

Alternate Portfolio: All Portfolios



Councillor Ray Douglas

Primary Portfolio: Elders & Health and Social

Alternate Portfolio: Land Use & Stewardship



Councillor Stephanie Fredette (2nd term)

Primary Portfolio: Education & Land Use

Alternate Portfolio: Culture and Education & Governance



Councillor Luke Pike

Primary Portfolio: Economic Development & Stewardship

Alternate Portfolio: Education & Justice



Councillor Annie Silver

Primary Portfolio: Governance & Justice

Alternate Portfolio: Fisheries & Health and Social



Councillor Melvin Wilson

Primary Portfolio: Culture and Recreation & Fisheries

Alternate Portfolio: Economic Development & Elders



Portfolio Reports

Inter-Governmental Affairs Portfolio

- Motion to approve BCR 2253 to support the ongoing work on the Additions to Reserve Application for the creation of Coqualeetza Indian Reserve for the joint use and benefit of 21 First Nations.
- Negotiating an Accommodation Agreement with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) for the Agassiz-Rosedale Bridge Project that avoids/mitigates impacts to Cheam and provides employment and contracting opportunities.
- Required MOTI to engage with Members on the Highway 9 Corridor Study to identify potential future improvements.
- Developing a traffic management plan with MOTI for accidents and highway closures to mitigate the surge of traffic being detoured and to avoid traffic from travelling through Cheam Reserve Lands.
- Collaborating with Stó:lō Leaders to have Stó:lō cultural infrastructure identified and protected within emergency management legislation. Chief Andrew Victor met with the Minister of Environment & Climate Change Strategy and Minister of Emergency Management & Climate Readiness to address the Province's failure to protect and rehabilitate Cheam's cultural infrastructure (i.e., fishing sites) after the 2021 Atmospheric River Event from woody debris, sediment and erosion.

Administration Portfolio

- Assessment of the Health and Administration organizational structure.
- Updating the finance policies and working towards implementing a Financial Administration Law.
- Directed staff to update the Housing Policy to address historical issues where the rental and ownership status is unknown.

Stewardship Portfolio

- Engagement on the FortisBC Tilbury Phase 2 LNG Expansion Project and potentially negotiating an impacts benefits agreement.
- Engagement on the potential Enbridge Sunrise Expansion Program, which could construct a third pipeline in Cheam territory and connect to the compressor station at Cheam IR1. Next steps, developing a plan for engaging Members on the proposed project.
- Engagement at the S'ólh Téméxw Stewardship Alliance (STSA) on the unavoidable impacts on Stó:lō Heritage Sites from the Trans Mountain construction to negotiate a Letter Agreement in accordance with the Stó:lō Heritage Policy Manual. Next steps, the STSA is developing a path forward for redress from Canada.



Portfolio Reports (continued)

Economic Development Portfolio

- Negotiating a Cannabis Section 119 Agreement with the Province. Councillor Luke Pike and CEI Director Dave Barrett appointed directors for the incorporated numbered company.
- Due diligence for the potential purchase of the Bridal Falls Golf Course property that could be the Cascade Skyline Gondola baselands. Motion to approve BCR 2262 to incorporate a numbered company for the potential purchase.
- Due diligence for the potential partnership with Western Indigenous Pipeline Group regarding Indigenous ownership of Trans Mountain.
- Due diligence for potential equity partnership opportunity with Enbridge.
- Due diligence for potential partnership with FortisBC in a proposed hydrogen-ready pipe system.

Justice Portfolio

- Motion to approve BCR 2236 to accept the Settlement Agreement for the First Nations Drinking Water Class Action regarding drinking water advisories that impacted individuals and First Nations.
- Motion to approve BCR 2308 to support Cheam to act as a plaintiff on the proposed Band Class Action Claim for collective damages suffered by First Nations from the discriminatory child welfare system and appointed Councillor Annie Silver as Cheam's delegate.
- Motion to approve joining the Gottfriedson et al v. Canada Indian Residential Schools Band Reparations Class Action regarding the collective harm suffered by Indigenous communities. Next steps, review the Settlement Agreement approved by the Federal Court in March 2023.
- Councillor Annie Silver attended as a First Nations Delegate to Vatican City in March/April 2022 with the National Assembly of First Nations for the Papal Apology.
- Councillor Annie Silver developed, presented, and moved UBCIC Resolution 2023-13 and BCAFN Resolution 10/2023 regarding Legal Action for the Opioid Overprescribing and the Overdose Crisis, which passed with unanimous support.
- Developing a Memorandum of Understanding with the RCMP regarding law enforcement services, disclosure of information, and addressing the safety concerns from the policing system.
- Developing a Protocol Agreement with Xyólheméylh regarding staff working with Cheam children and families, disclosure of information, prevention programming and funding, and leveled care homes.
- Engaged Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) on developing a Memorandum of Understanding for the safety of Cheam fishers, disclosure of information, and engagement in restorative justice practices.

Governance Portfolio

- Motion to approve the transfer of Indian Registry Administration from Stó:lō Nation to Cheam.
- Stood up the Custom Election Code Committee to develop a draft Code and engage Members for potential ratification.
- Continue working on the Seabird Island Specific Claim.
- Continue working on the Comprehensive Community Plan and engage Members during open house forums.
- Engaged Members at open house forums and received feedback on implementing restorative justice practices. Engaged the Culture, Traditions and Rights & Title Committee on the development of restorative justice practices.



Portfolio Reports (continued)

Lands Use Portfolio

- Submitted an Additions to Reserve Application to Indigenous Services Canada to add Lot 123 and Lot 124 to Cheam IR1, which were expropriated by the Province for highway purposes.
- Developing an application for an Additions to Reserve for the R. v. Douglas and Quipp et al (Rosedale Bar) Ruling lands to be added to Tseatah IR2.
- Motion to approve BCR 2235 to consent to Amendment #7 of the Framework Agreement on First Nations Land Management that the Lands Advisory Board negotiated with Canada.
- Motion to approve BCR 2242 to support BC First Nations Housing and Infrastructure Council in the creation of a new Indigenous-led First Nations Housing and Infrastructure organization to enhance First Nations Government.
- The Council, staff and Lands Committee worked on the legal framework for outstanding Certificate of Possessions that were authorized by Council before the Land Code came into effect but were never formalized under the Indian Act. Developing a Regulation for the Cheam CP and Allotment Law to address the outstanding CPs that Indigenous Services Canada never issued.

Education Portfolio

- Advocating for students with School Districts 33 and 78 so that there are wraparound supports available, and addressing Cheam's services gaps.
- Collaborating with Chiefs and Leaders at the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) to advocate for policy and funding changes that impact students in care.
- Collaborating at FNESC to enhance funding for on-reserve schools, which potentially allows Cheam to enhance our education services in the community.

Health & Social Portfolio

- Ceremony for signing the Memorandum of Understanding with Fraser Health and FNHA that will provide culturally safe overdose prevention services, culturally safe substance use monitoring, and referrals to other services as well as education and training to the OPS clients. This is the first witnessed consumption service to be driven by and located within a First Nations Community in BC.
- Received funding from FNHA to purchase a van for a Mobile Overdose Prevention site so that Cheam can provide regional services off-reserve as part of the on-reserve services.
- Voted in favour of the FNHC Resolution #2023-1 on the "Approval of a Ten-Year Strategy on the Social Determinants of Health: A Framework for the Future." Out of the 203 First Nations communities that are part of the five regional caucuses in BC, an unprecedented 196 communities were represented at Gathering Wisdom for a Shared Journey XII with 86% voting in favour – the highest level of support of any FNHC resolution presented for consideration to Chiefs and Leaders.



Portfolio Reports (continued)

Elders Portfolio

- Obtained feedback from the Elders on establishing a society for the Cheam Elders.
- BC Elders Gathering
- IRS Memorial Fund

Culture & Recreation Portfolio

- Developing plans for a multi-day Cheam Days in 2024.
- Motion to sponsor Cheam Members participating with the Pil'alt Warrior Canoe Family in the Paddle to Muckleshoot by allocating \$24,900 from grant funds.

Fisheries

- Continued work with the Pelólxw Tribe on the Pelólxw Ts'í:tem te Yewál Sth'óqwi (Thanking the First Salmon Ceremony), which is to be held the first weekend of April annually.
- Collaborating with the Pelólxw Tribe in standing up a Fishers Committee to develop Pelólxw Fishery Plans and a stewardship/guardian framework from Jones Hill to Chilliwack River to Harrison Lake.
- Collaborating with the Stó:lō Tribal Council on the DFO engagement to transition open-net pen salmon farming in coastal BC waters by 2025.



Executive Director Welcome

Dear Cheam First Nation Members,

Thank you for the learning from the dedicated staff and community members that have been willing to share their knowledge, goals, and passion for this community. The team has been through a lot of change and has worked steadily through a pandemic to continue to serve the community every day.

There had been tremendous progress in catching up on the financial accounting and reporting when I arrived in late April 2023, with the assistance of the accounting professionals from MNP LLP (Chilliwack). The financial statements for the year ended March 31st, 2021, were completed in June of 2022; and the year ended March 31st, 2022, was completed in October of 2022. The financial statements for the year ended March 31st, 2023 were completed and submitted to Indigenous Services Canada by the deadline of July 29, 2023.

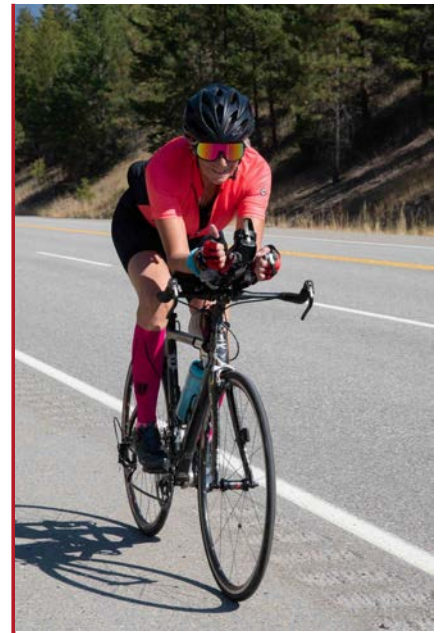
This Annual Report was prepared for citizens in accordance with the Financial Administration Law. Although there are many steps to pass the law, the Council and staff are taking the necessary steps to develop financial management policies with the assistance of Bev Bull, CPA, CGA, CAFM, CAPA, who specializes in assisting communities with financial accounting, law implementation and policy development. The work is being funded by a grant from the First Nations Market Housing Fund. The team aims to have the policy development completed and approved by Council in August. In the theme of sound governance and effective organizational development, I am guiding the modernizing of human resources policies, an occupational health and safety program and information technology policies in compliance with current legislation and best practices.

An Annual General Meeting will be held on September 9th to present the audited financial statements, and the annual report, and provide citizens with an opportunity to ask questions and provide input into future planning and objectives for their community.

Council, Staff and Auditors look forward to coming together with Cheam members to celebrate the progress, learn together, and plan for the future. Thank you to Council, staff and members; it is an honour to serve you every day and be a part of the progress and growth of the community's goals and aspirations.

Mekw' tel sq'eq'ó

Wendy Rockafellow
Executive Director



Cheam First Nation Committees 2022-2023

Committees and working groups are established by Council to serve as an advisory body only and make recommendations to Council on a specific mandate. Council must set the terms of reference, budget and reporting requirements. The following committees were active during the fiscal year of 2022-2023:

Custom Election Code Committee

Cheam received Professional & Institutional Development Funding (ISC) to develop and implement its Custom Election Code. Council selected six community members to serve on the committee, which is supported by one staff member and one member of Council. The Custom Election Code consultant, Fred Schiffner, meets with the committee twice per month to develop a draft report, engage with the community and support a ratification vote. The Custom Election Code Committee is made up of six members: Ray Douglas (Ex-Officio), Denise Douglas, Daphne Edwards, Denise Alexis, Trevor Victor, Jennifer Campbell, and Meric Douglas.

Elders' Committee

This is a special committee that meets once per month. The Elders provide a valuable contribution to the community by fundraising. The Elders took a vote to transition their mission to society status in order to achieve bigger goals and do more for their community and each other.

Housing, Public Works & Capital Projects Committee

This is a standing committee made up of five members that served a two-year term. The members that served from 2021-2023 are Ray Douglas (Ex-Officio), Isaac Alex, Daphne Edwards, Michael Victor III, Laurie Victor, and Sidney Douglas.

Lands Governance Advisory Committee

This is a statutory committee established by the Cheam Land Code made up of four members plus a Council member for a two-year term. The members that served from 2021-2023 are Stephanie Fredette (Ex-Officio), Jennifer Campbell, Daphne Edwards, Sidney Douglas, and Michael Victor III.

Culture, Tradition, and Rights & Title Committee

This is a standing committee to provide input and counsel on opportunities to preserve, promote and protect the culture and traditions of the Cheam people and Stó:lō Nation. The members that served from 2021-2023 are Luke Pike (Ex-Officio), Carrielynn Victor, Muriel Victor, Patricia Victor, Sidney Douglas, and Wayne Douglas.

LOOKING FORWARD

The Committees, Working Groups and Appointments Policy was passed by Council on May 9, 2023, which establishes an effective governance system that ensure that committees are consistently and purposefully structured to carry out specified functions assigned by Council. Each committee is supported by one staff member and one Councillor acting in an ex-officio capacity.

NEW COMMITTEES 2023-2024

Financial Administration Law Steering Committee

This committee will be formed with the technical, advisory and financial support of the First Nations Financial Management Board. Stay tuned for news about this committee in October 2023.

Financial and Audit Committee

The updated policy that guides the formation of this committee was approved by Council on August 8, 2023.

Special Events Committee

An ad hoc committee to support special events and community functions was struck in the summer of 2023.

Administration

Administration & Governance

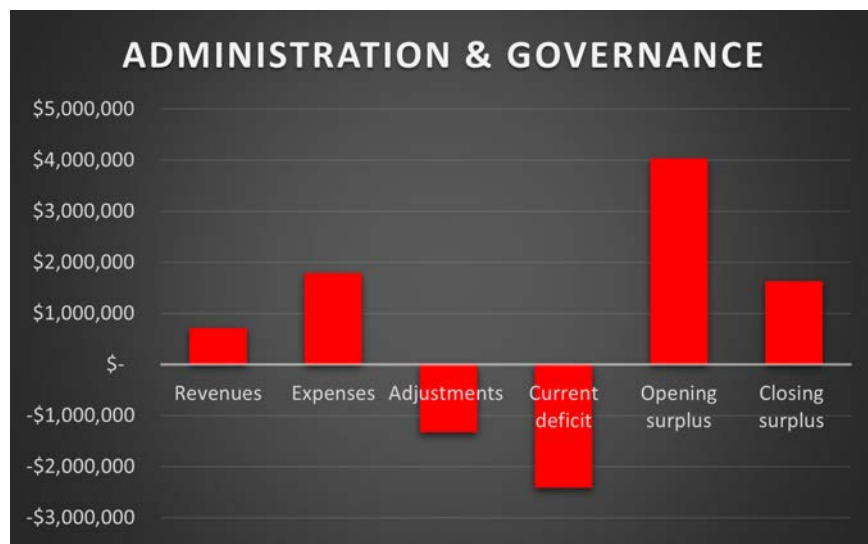
The Cheam First Nation administration department provides the core functions and oversees daily operations and business management of all departments, including support of the Chief and Council, in the following areas:

- Accounting/audit
- Contracts & project management
- Financial management & reporting
- Grant writing
- Governance support
- Information technology
- Human resources management
- Occupational health and safety program
- Office management/receptions
- Policy development
- Risk management/insurance program

A total of eight administration staff are employed on a permanent, full-time basis, with another two working on term contracts, with one being funded through the (Sto:lo Aboriginal Skills & Employment Training Program (SASET). The administration team members are Cheam's longest-serving employees.

In addition to ISC funds to support some salaried, full-time positions, the administration expenses are collected from the various funded programs in accordance with the specifics of each funding envelope to cover the costs of running the organization.

Cheam First Nation has an active, working council that supports staff, communications, strategic decision making and member support. Council members receive honoraria payments which are included in the expenses in this segment.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed and filed overdue audited financial statements for the years ended March 31st, 2021 and 2022
- Completed recruitment for new Executive Director
- Financial Administration Law financial policy development with support of First Nation Market Housing Fund began
- Produced 26 bi-weekly newsletters for distribution to all members
- Maintained social media & website communications
- Held 22 Council meetings
- Held monthly Council of the Whole meetings
- Hosted 3 Open Houses



LOOKING FORWARD

- Apply for Municipal GST status and apply for tax rebates for past 4 years
- Indian Registry Administration Office set up in 1st quarter of 2023-2024 fiscal year; transferred records to dedicated office
- Expend surplus program funds carried forward on April 1, 2023 as authorized by funders

Improve tracking of administration fees allowable to cover the cost of operations

Financial Planning & Management

Segments in the financial statements break out Cheam's financial data by functions for better reporting to readers and decision-making for the Council and management. The segments are:

- Administration – includes general operation, support and financial management of the First Nation; as well as activities related to the general governance, and leadership of the community.
- Education, Employment and Training – includes revenue and expenses related to primary, secondary and post-secondary education and the employment training courses of the members
- Social Development – includes social assistance, income assistance, child and family support, assisted living, and early childhood development.
- Health Services – includes health services for its members.
- Language, Culture and Community – include activities and programs related to cultural teaching, traditions, language, recreation and member distributions.
- Lands and Economic Development – includes activities related to land management and community safety on reserve lands.
- Housing Program – includes property management of homes owned by Cheam, the administration of social housing programs, and the construction and renovation activities of on-reserve assets.
- Rights & Title, Territorial Stewardship - Xwchíyò:m have never ceded or surrendered title to their lands, rights to their resources, or authority to make decisions within their territory by this group of initiatives and projects. Includes programs related to rights & titles and advocacy.
- Emergency Management and Climate Change Readiness – Supports emergency management planning and response to major incidents.
- Taxation, Own Source Revenue, IBAs and Investments – includes all the activities of property taxation, own source revenue and other investments.
- Capital & Infrastructure Planning – includes revenues and expenses to support the planning of major infrastructure and community planning.
- Tangible Capital Assets – includes community tangible capital assets and amortization expense.



Education, Employment & Training

Cheam First Nation is dedicated to fostering an environment of learning for members and staff. The Education department provides support and programming for students in Elementary, Secondary and Post-Secondary education. The Education Manager works closely with School District No. 78 Fraser-Cascade and School District No. 33 Chilliwack, and the Indigenous Support Workers in the schools, to ensure wrap-around services are available.

Cheam student educational achievements in 2022-2023 included:

- Cheam member high school graduates = 10
- Post-secondary students returning to university studies = 11
- Post-secondary students received additional funding to assist with living costs = 26

Funding from the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society supported the Early Years Programs for children from ages 3-12 years. The program was operated from Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the portable building. Some of the highlights of the programming were:

- Dancing taught by Johnny Williams
- Learning to bead earrings, necklaces and bracelets
- Learning to drum and make drums
- Traditional plant teachings by Muriel Victor: identification, harvesting, use of plants for everyday and natural remedies
- Regalia making: paddle skirts (for the girls) and paddle vests (for the boys)
- Halq'eméylem language lessons from Johnny Williams
- Pow Wow in Mission, BC
- Canoeing at Seabird: safety, entering a canoe, canoe pulling

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Two Cheam members completed a Tree Falling Certificate course through funding provided by Ministry of Advanced Education & Skills Training.

Nine Cheam members attended the Diabetes training in Vancouver.



Ministry of
Advanced Education
and Skills Training

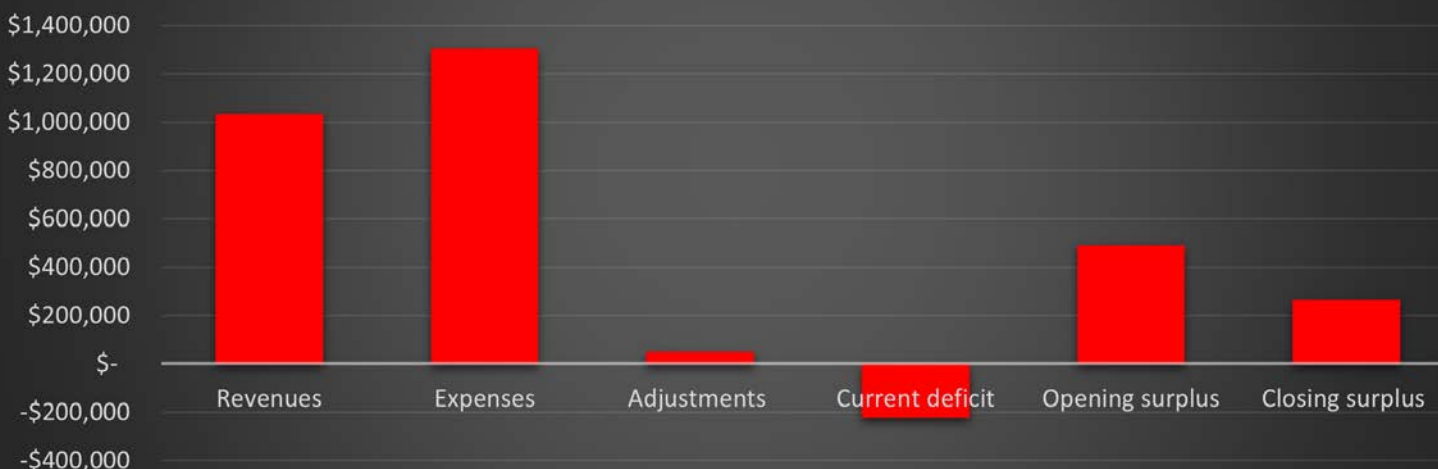
LOOKING FORWARD

Review and updates to the Education Policy that includes increases to student living & travel expenses.

Leadership and support of Cheam Days in July 2023.

Hiring of four high-school students in the summer of 2023 through funding provided by ISC / FNEC Summer Works program.

EDUCATION and EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING



Social Development

The key programs and supports to Cheam members through the Social Development department are funded almost exclusively based on client needs by Indigenous Services Canada (ISC).

Top-up funds were provided to clients through post-pandemic and inflation increase funds, some of which are surplus as of March 31st, 2023 and will be distributed by the end of the next fiscal period. Funds that are surplus due to a lack of client need are returned to ISC.

Social Development serves a client base of 43 individuals. Highlights of expenditures for clients in 2022-2023 are:

- Inflation funding = clients received two sets of gift cards to assist with food and clothing costs.
- Hampers in 2022 = clients received hampers with household items, toiletries, cleaning supplies and non-perishable items.

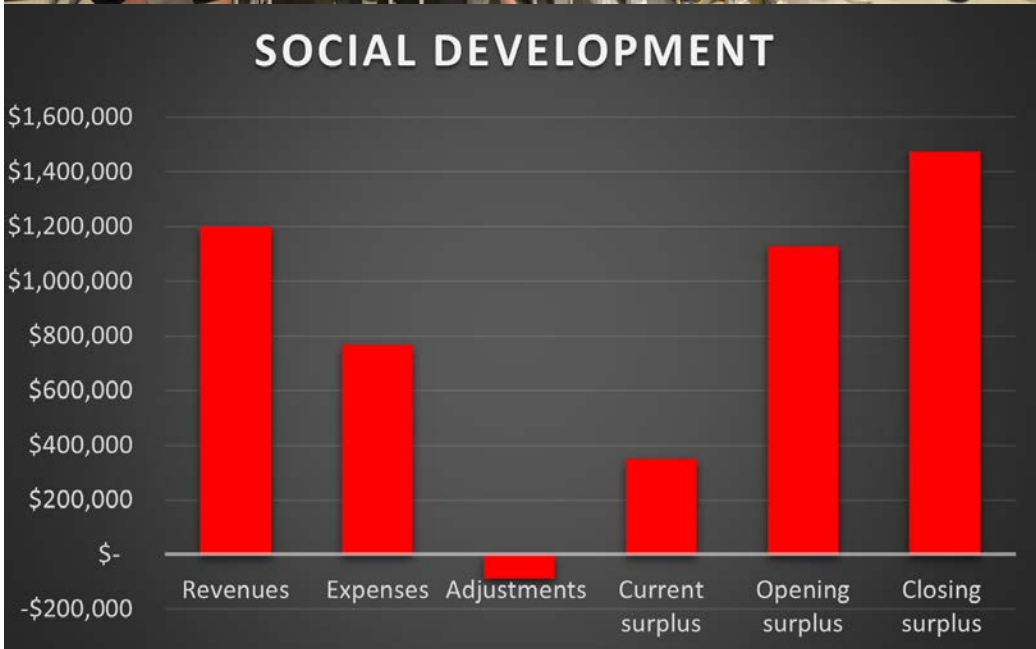
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

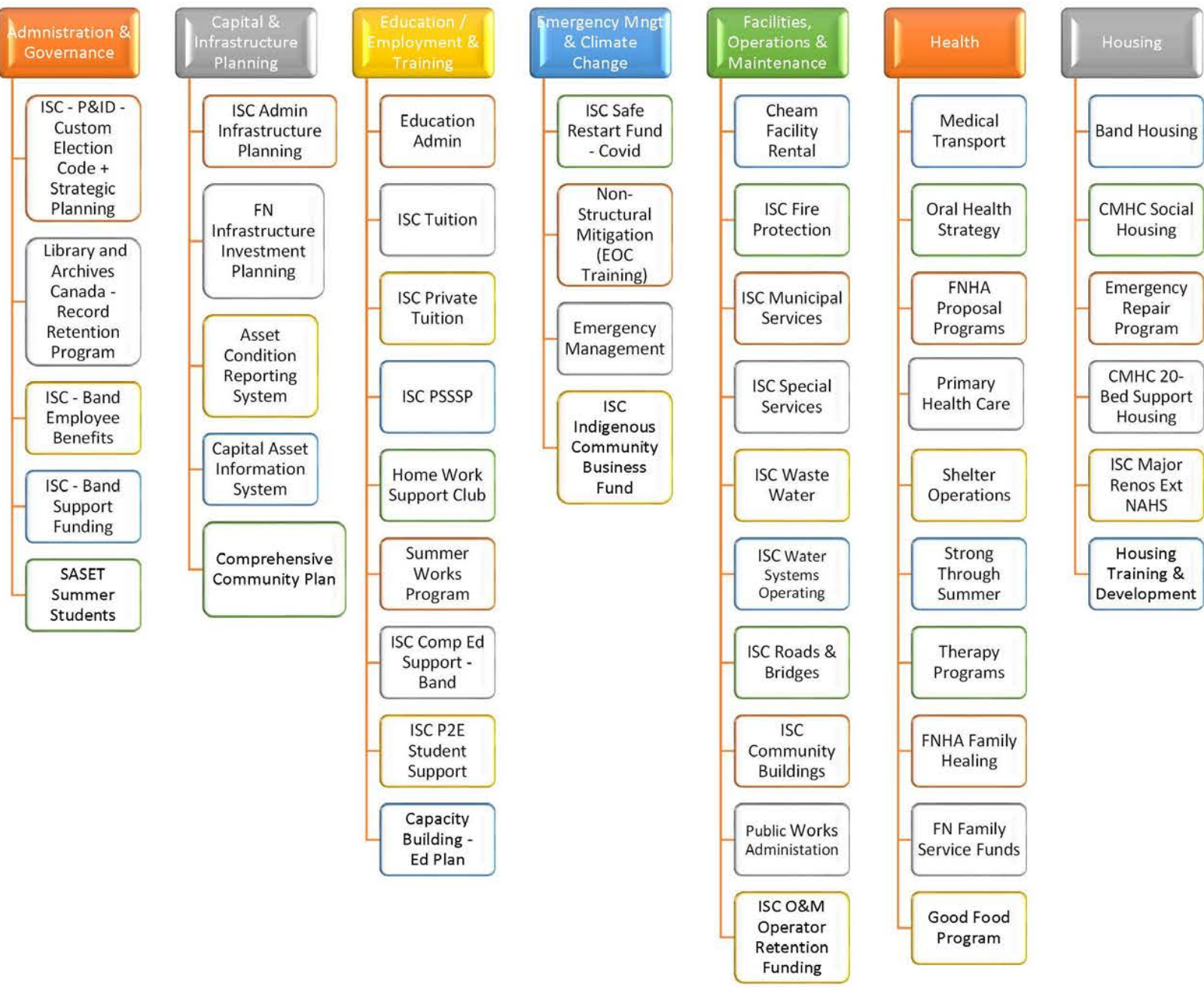
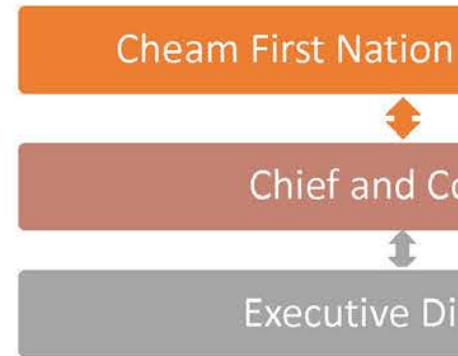
A Social Development Clerk was hired in January 2023 and has been a tremendous support to the department and our Cheam clients.

LOOKING FORWARD

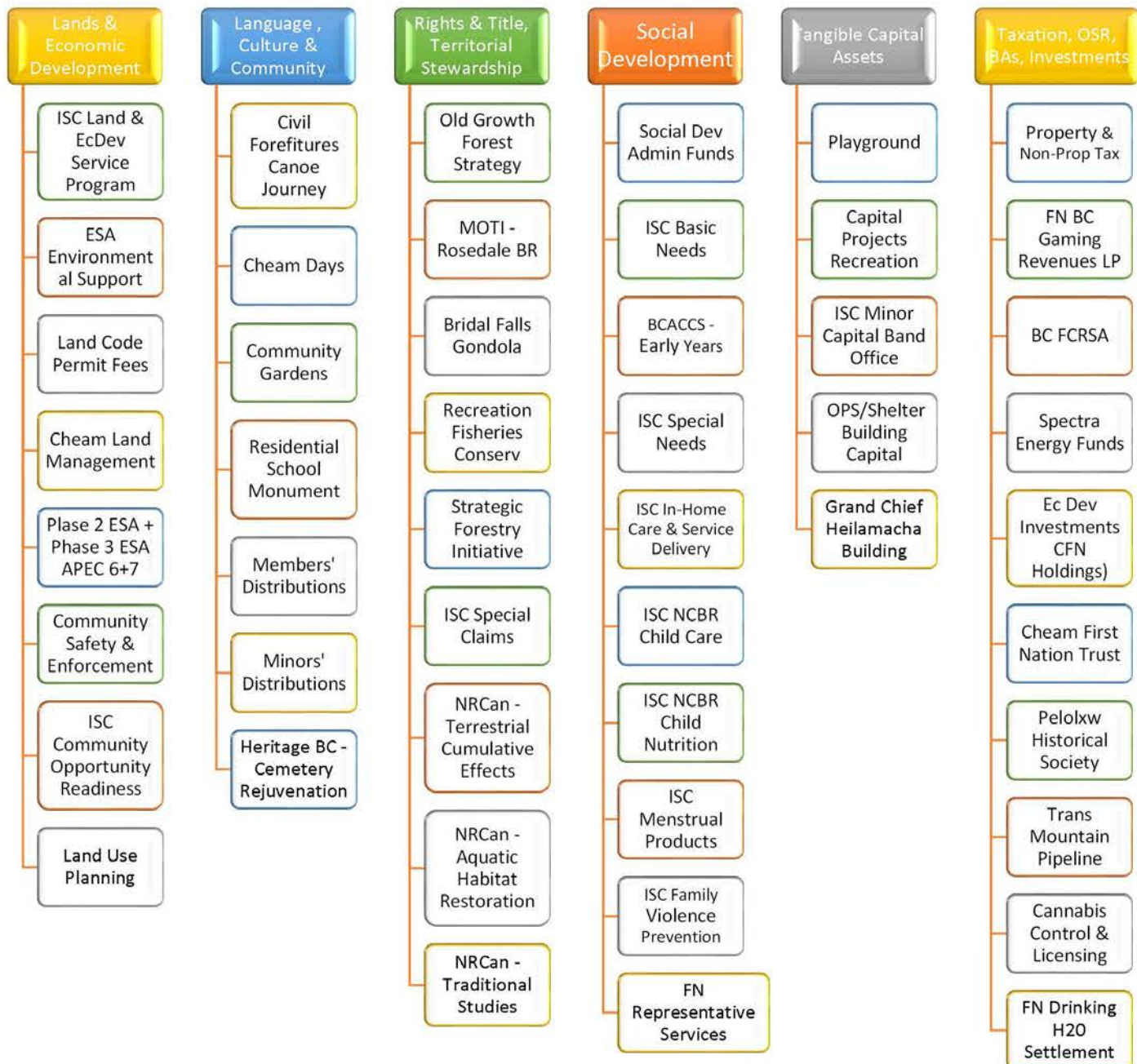
Income assistance clients will receive a total of 22 beds and 8 new appliances to improve quality of basic needs in 2023.

Capacity will be added to the In-Home Care program in the fall of 2023.





Organizational Segments



Facilities, Operations & Maintenance

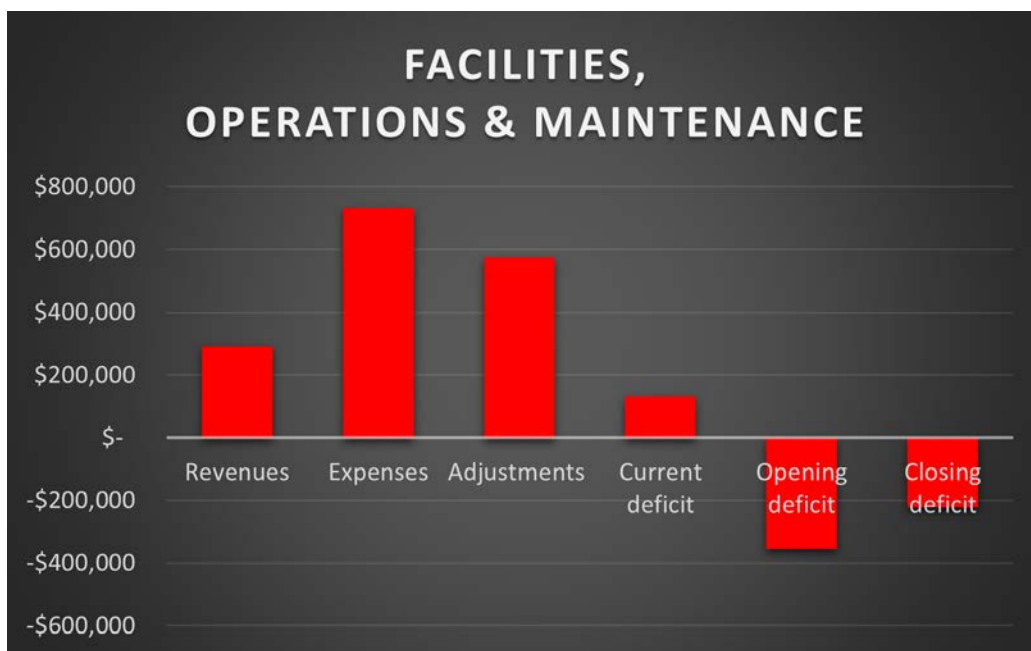
Indigenous Services Canada’s (ISC) Capital Facilities and Maintenance Program (CFMP) invests in planning, design, construction, renovation, acquisition and operations and maintenance of community infrastructure that supports First Nations to build healthy, safe and prosperous communities.

This segment of the financial statements has been created to highlight the importance of measuring the costs of operating, maintaining, and continued investments in physical assets to:

- Maximize the life cycle of the asset
- Mitigate health and safety risks
- Ensure assets meet applicable codes and standards
- Ensure assets are managed in a cost-effective/efficient manner
- Address the community’s needs

Cheam’s capital assets that are included in the CFMP program are listed here including the percentage of funding covered by ISC. Cheam must contribute its own source revenues to the operations of infrastructure, advance planning and construction. This is an area of focus for administration in 2023-2024.

- Fire Protection – 90%
- Roads/Bridges – 90%
- Water/Wastewater – 100%
- Solid Waste – 80%
- Community Buildings – 45%
- Municipal Type Services (Water supply, fire suppression, garbage collection, recycling, street lighting, 9-1-1 dispatch) – 70%



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ISC completed the Asset Condition Reporting System (ACRS) for Cheam assets, general and specific asset conditions, the identification of asset deficiencies and an assessment of criticality with recommendations to address these deficiencies. Cheam has a responsibility to act on recommendations to address asset deficiencies. The most critical will be budgeted for the fiscal year 2023-2024.



LOOKING AHEAD

First Nation Infrastructure Investment Plan (FNIIP) is a proposal-based program to assist with funding for major infrastructure – like a wastewater system – but the reporting must be updated regularly in order to be prioritized by ISC for funding.

CAIS – Capital Asset Inventory System is designed to accept, aggregate and report on-reserve assets to calculate O&M gross and net funding.

Health Services

The Health department provides 42 different health programs and services to Cheam members and community residents, through multiple partnerships, a diverse team of practitioners, and our own dedicated Cheam team. Funding and in-kind financial support for the health department programs and services are provided by:

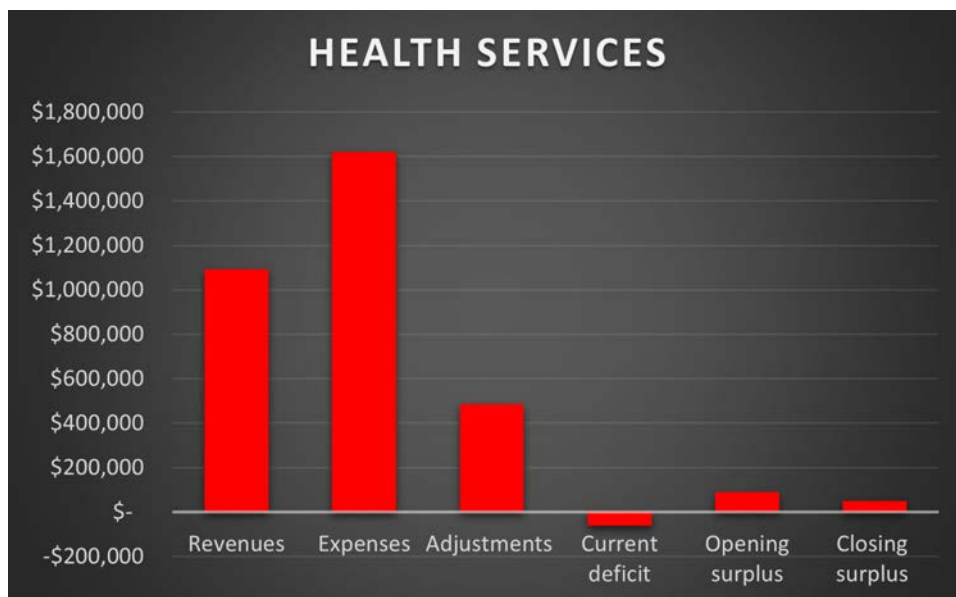
- Fraser Health Authority
- First Nations Health Authority
- Seabird Island First Nation Health Centre
- Ministry of Child and Family Department
 - Child and Youth Mental Health Division
- BC First Nations Gaming Revenue Sharing L.P.
- Cheam First Nation’s property tax revenues

Seabird Island First Nation Health Centre produces an annual report, available by request, that details the services provided to Cheam First Nation in five areas of health care delivery and services:

1. Maternal Child Health Program
2. Healthy Living
3. Communicable Disease Control
4. Workshops and Community Events
5. Mental Health & Addiction

Cheam health department staff lead services in the community:

- Medical and recreation expense reimbursements
- Insured and non-Insured medical travel
- Children’s oral health initiative
- Wellness/recreation programs
- Shelter program
- Health management and delivery evaluations
- Addictions and harm reduction, referrals to recovery services
- Grief and loss support and referrals



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Harm reduction/naloxone administration training for 13 staff in February 2023.
- Trauma Informed Care and Therapeutic Process – 2-day training for 12 staff.
- Seven shelter clients were referred to treatment programs.
- The wellness advocate program worked with 100 clients; six went into recovery programs.
- A ceremony was held at Cheam on April 21, 2022 for the 3 overdose prevention site partners to sign an MOU.

LOOKING AHEAD

The mobile overdose prevention site (OPS) is a partnership between Cheam, First Nations Health Authority and Fraser Health. Once operational in 2023, it will be the first mobile OPS located in a BC First Nation community. This new service includes a customized van and adjacent tent where individuals can safely use substances knowing their consumption is monitored by trained staff.

A 20-bed supportive housing unit will open in 2023 and provide 10 men’s and 10 women’s sleeping units. Meeting space for group therapy and employment support will house the homeless first, and then provide support for reintegration into community.

Language, Culture & Community

Cheam First Nation organized community events and cultural celebrations to offer something for all members from young to our distinguished elders. The goal of this department is to be inclusive, to bring in knowledge keepers to teach our future generations, and to have fun!

Community Events:

- Christmas
- Easter Celebration
- Education Awards
- Indigenous Peoples' Day
- Cheam Days
- Back to School
- Movie Nights
- Coastal Jam

Cultural Nights:

- Dream catchers
- Beading
- Weaving
- Ribbon skirts
- Slehá:l
- Drumming & singing
- Ladies fitness
- Kids Can Cook
- Water safety
- Canoeing
- Jam making
- Canning cherries
- Tye dye shirts
- Paint night

Spring Break:

- Food preservation (fish canning)
- Drum making
- Reptile Guy
- Cedar headband making
- Gathering Our Voices Conference

Youth Outings:

- Science World
- Aquarium
- Capilano Suspension Bridge
- Sasquatch Mountain Tubing
- Waterslides
- Pacific National Exhibition

Mental Health Programs:

- Self-regulation
- Mental health awareness (anxiety, depression, self-worth)
- Therapy-based play
- Arts & crafts

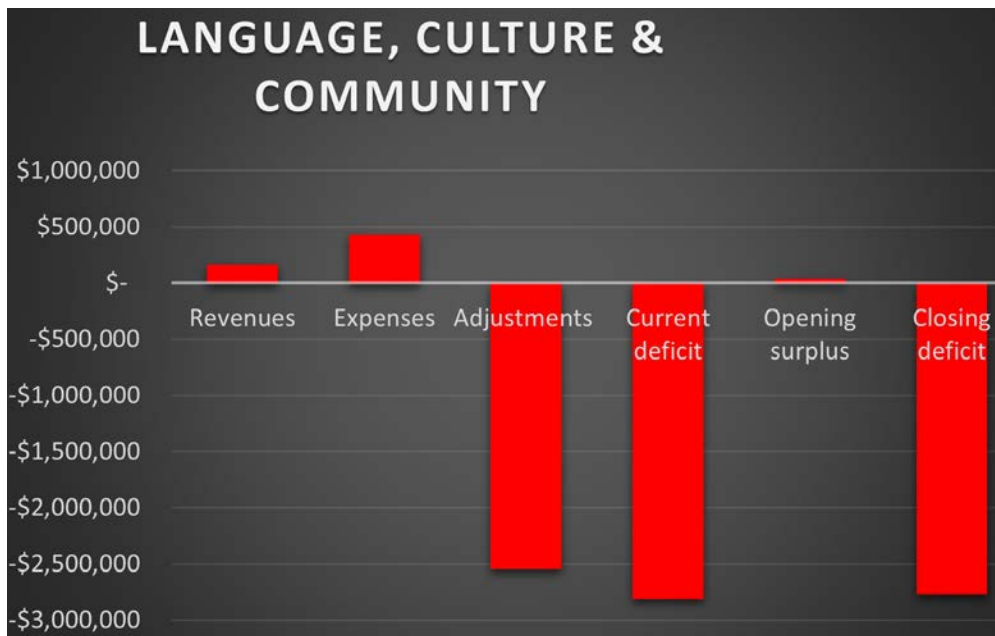
LOOKING FORWARD

2023 BC Elders Gathering in Vancouver: After a three-year hiatus, the Cheam Elders will participate in the annual gathering in August 2023. Approximately 20 Elders plan to travel to Vancouver by bus, with staff to assist them during the event.



PARTNERSHIPS:

- Ministry of Child and Family Development
- Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity & Recreation Council
- Seabird Island Health Centre
- Xyólheméylh
- Village Youth Programs
- Sardis Community Church
- Smiles In Van Dental Hygiene Care



Lands and Economic Development

Lands and natural resources are among the most valuable assets held by Cheam First Nation, and their effective and sustainable use is critical for the community’s economic development. The Lands departments is responsible for developing and implementing reserve land management policies and processes within Cheam (IR 1 – 332.6 hectares) and Tseatah (IR2 – 93.4 hectares) reserve lands.

Cheam First Nation laws currently in effect:

1. Spousal Real Property Law (2017)
2. Certificate of Possession and Allotment Law (2017)
3. Subdivision, Development & Servicing Law (2017)
4. Survey Standards Policy (2017)
5. Cannabis Control Law (2020)
6. Application for Cannabis Business Permit (2020)
7. Vacant and Dangerous Buildings Law (2020)
8. Community Protection Law (2020)
9. Enforcement Office Law (2020)
10. Soil Deposit, Removal and Transport Law (2022)
11. Soil Deposit Removal Transport Permit Application (2023)
12. Cheam Soil Permitting Checklist (2023)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Active Lands Governance Advisory Committee 2021-2023 members: Sidney Douglas, Jennifer Campbell, Daphne Edwards and Michael Victor III.

The appraiser carried out three land appraisals and fair market rent reviews (2023).

Engineering review of road safety Victor Drive and Old Yale Road access issues

LOOKING FORWARD

EOI for 2023-2025 committee term will be issued in August.

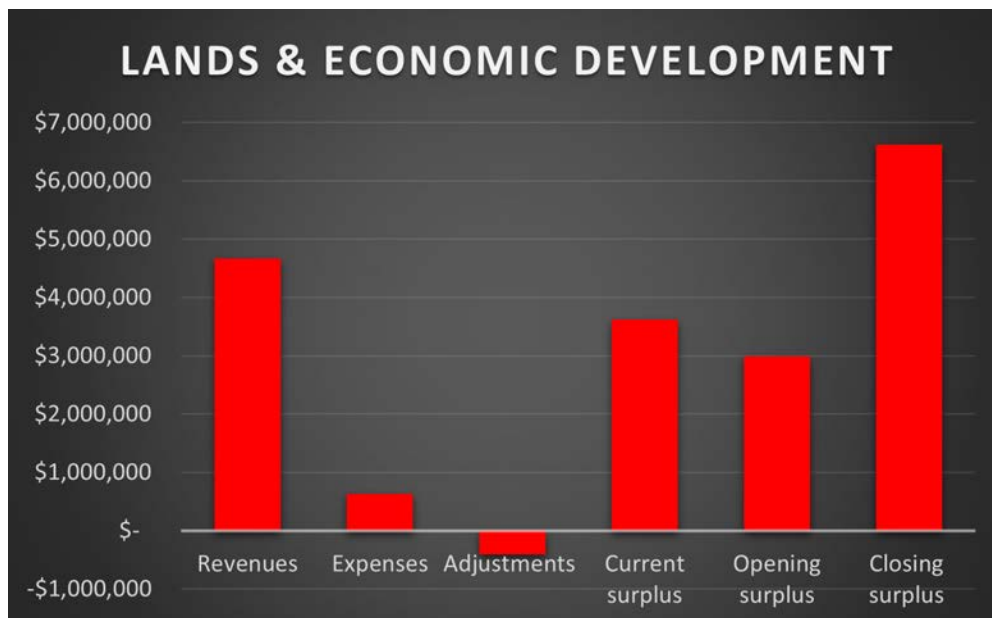
Additions to Reserve (ATR) work: (1) Rosedale Bar, (2) Lots 123 & 124 currently held by Province of BC (MOTI).

Development of Animal Control and Protection Law – community consultation in July 2023.

Meeting with Fraser Valley Regional District for proposed Animal Control Service Agreement (August 2023).

Land Use Plan – Moving from final draft to ratification vote.

Policy and procedure development to ensure housing and infrastructure development compliant with Land Code and Laws.



Lands and Economic Development (continued)

The Lands Department, with the support of Chief and Council, our Executive Director, and First Nation Land Advisory Board's (LAB) Land Management Resource Centre (LABrc) are advancing solutions on a number of historic issues in the current year:

1. Certificates of Possession & Land Interests –
 - With support from the First Nation Market Housing Fund developing regulations that apply to the Certificates of Possession inherited from Indigenous Services Canada
 - Assisting inherited Certificate of Possession holders to obtain insurance
 - Settling historic family land disputes
 - Surveys and mapping of legacy issues of interior boundaries (funding from LABrc)
2. Leases and Permits – renewing and establishing leases with Trans Mountain, Cheam Fishing Village LP, Shadow Produce and All Nation Cannabis
3. Environmental liabilities and assessments –
 - Phase 2 Environmental Supplementary Assessment of areas of environmental concerns (AEC) 6 & 7 – need to develop accurate scope of work for remediation
 - Environment liability assessments of Certificate of Possession inherited from ISC to address data gaps

PS 3280 Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO) is an accounting policy set out in the Certified Public Accounting (CPA) Public Sector Accounting Handbook. This accounting standard relates to the obligations related to both the landfill and the gravel pit. In order to inform the ARO estimates for the financial statements that ended March 31, 2023, management obtained the environmental assessment services of the Arcadis IBI Group to conduct a gap analysis.

The gap analysis identified potential environmental liabilities on or immediately adjacent to Cheam lands. The report recognizes both areas of potential environmental concerns (AEC – where contamination is suspected based on current and historic land uses) and areas of AEC (areas of environmental concern – where contaminants are known to be present based on sample analyses).

The estimated assessment costs of 12 out of 21 AEC's total \$7,580,000 and for five out of 12 AEC's the rehabilitation costs are estimated at \$980,000, with more research required to assess the others. The contaminants are found at landfill sites, the gravel pit, wire burning/waste sites, vehicle waste sites and community dump sites, as well as third-party sites.

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Asset Retirement

Obligations:

- Landfill remediation site assessment costs of \$6.5M
- Gravel pit site assessment costs of \$450,000

Contaminated Sites:

- Wire burning/waste sites estimated remediation costs of \$775,000
- Vehicle waste site estimated costs of \$100,000
- Community dump site and other less significant areas of concern include assessment costs of \$350,000



On-Reserve Housing Program

Cheam First Nation’s mandate is to provide safe, affordable and sustainable housing for Cheam members. The on-reserve housing program follows the vision of the 2019 Comprehensive Community Plan and Housing Strategic Plan.

Housing Stock Updates:

- 22 social housing units
- 19 rent-to-own units
- 10 band-owned units
- 4 condemned units
- 30 private units
- 61 building & health inspections completed

Financial contributions highlights:

- 2022-2023: ISC New Approach for Housing Support Top Up (NAHS) 13 units / \$195,000
- 2021-2022: ISC New Approach for Housing Support (NAHS) 13 units / \$240,500
- 2022: CMHC Emergency Repair Program – 6 units/\$55,984
- 2021: CMHC Emergency Repair Program - 4 units/\$34,147
- 2020: CMHC Social Housing Unit – 4-plex/\$439,148
- 2022-2023: Administration Funds (ISC) \$49,000
- 2022-2023: Energy Conservation Program – new furnaces and fridges for 6 units
- 2022: CMHC Workshops – Maintenance & Needs Assessment \$5,000
- 2022: First Nation Market Housing Funds – Capacity Development \$10,000
- BMO - On-Reserve Housing Loan Program – to create financing solutions for members with two members currently approved

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

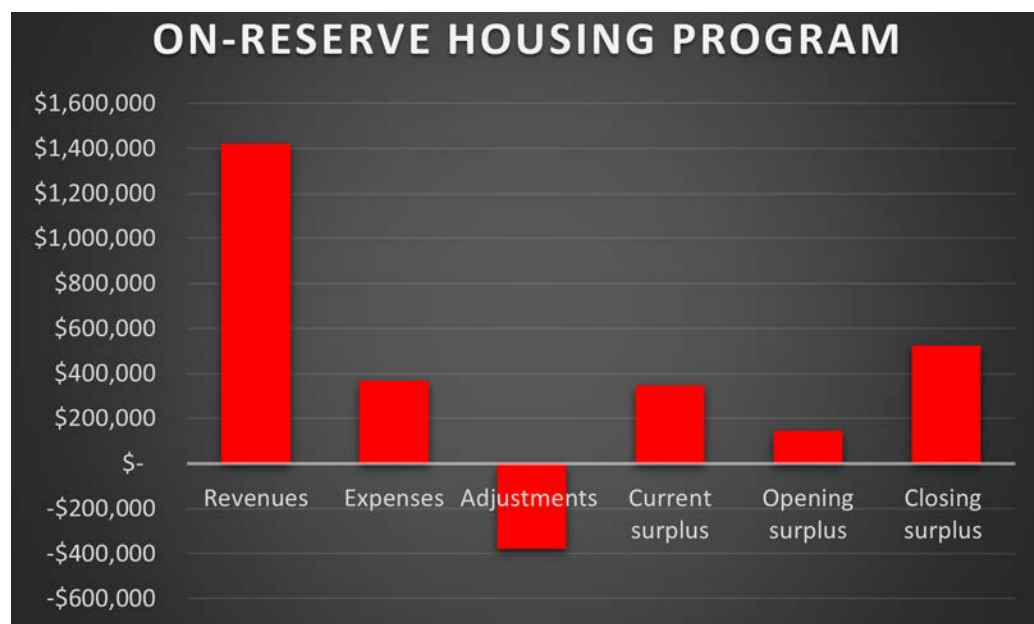
CMHC Needs Assessment survey was sent out in the spring of 2023 in order to determine the current and future housing needs of Cheam members. This included many types of housing: family, affordable rental, supportive, accessible, seniors’, shelters and tiny homes. Thanks to all that completed the survey!

CONSTRAINTS

- Limited serviced lots
- Growing unmet housing needs (waiting list)
- Housing supply stagnated over past 15+ years, with several uninhabitable or condemned
- Housing rental arrears negatively impact future financing opportunities
- Old septic systems pose health risks and many have reached end of design life

OPPORTUNITIES

- Rehabilitate or renovate boarded-up homes; if paid off or band homes this can be done under Section 95
- Enforce housing policy using a new default management section to prevent tenants from accruing rental arrears into next fiscal year
- Modern wastewater system is required for the new subdivision, and should be designed to replace aging septic systems for all housing stock



Rights, Title, & Territorial Stewardship

Xwchíyò:m have never ceded or surrendered title to their lands, rights to their resources, or authority to make decisions within their territory by this group of initiatives and projects.

Previous years' initiatives account clean-up

The DFO Recreation Fisheries Conservation and Strategy Forestry Initiatives were projects completed in 2018. The final accounting of these projects appears at the year-end of 2023, however, there were no project activities.

Agassiz-Rosedale Bridge Consultations (Prior to 2021)

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure project involved the consultation regarding the construction of the Rosedale Bridge. This was supported by funds from the province of BC and the balance of unspent funds is reported in this year-end financial statement.

Bridal Falls/Cascade Skyline Gondola

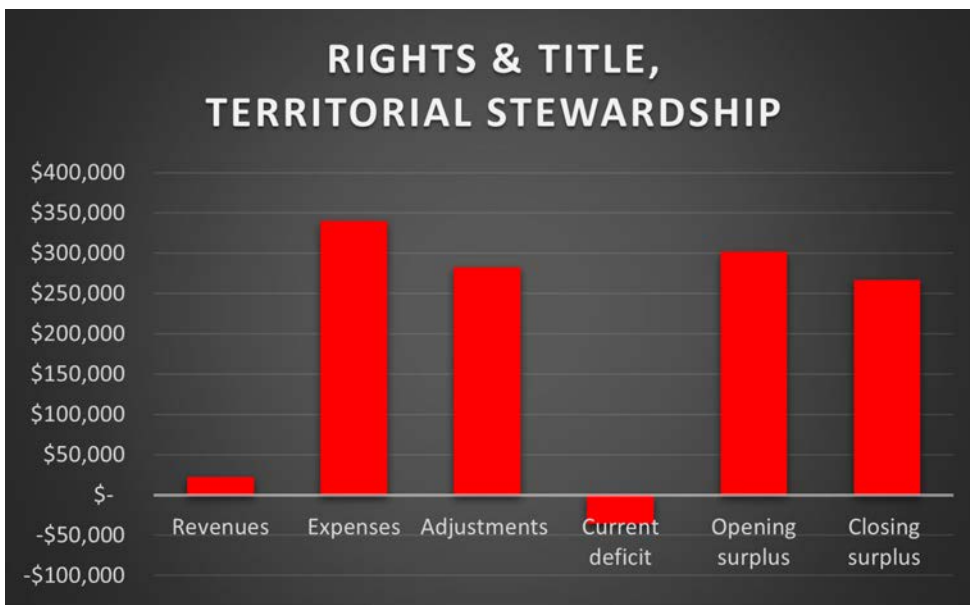
The Bridal Falls Gondola negotiations were undertaken to perform the due diligence for a potential base land purchase, develop equity partnership with Stó:lō relatives, and develop plans for a Stó:lō Cultural Interpretive Centre.

Specific and Special Claims Submissions

Cheam First Nation is pursuing a special claim for New Westminster lands collectively with 17 Stó:lō First Nations.

Old Growth Strategic Review and BC Declaration on Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity (BC Ministry of Forestry)

Cheam First Nation has received funding to support consultation and engagement on forest management and ecosystem health.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Restoring the damage caused by the 2021 Atmospheric River is underway as a result of the efforts of staff and council and will be completed in this fiscal:

- Cheam beach bank stabilization and road rehabilitation
- Cheam Beach boat launch
- Cheam Fishing Village bank erosion and sediment removal
- Grand Chief Hielamacha structure restoration

A number of habitat restoration projects are underway and being project managed by CEI:

- Aquatic Habitat Restoration Capacity Fund. Funder: Natural Resources Canada - \$313,625
- Terrestrial Cumulative Effects Initiative. Funder: Natural Resources Canada - \$100,000
- Traditional Use Study. Funder: Natural Resources Canada - \$250,000

PARTNERSHIPS:

- Ministry of Environment (BC)
- Ministry of Forests (BC)
- Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure (MOTI)
- Natural Resources Canada
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans

Emergency Management & Climate Change Readiness

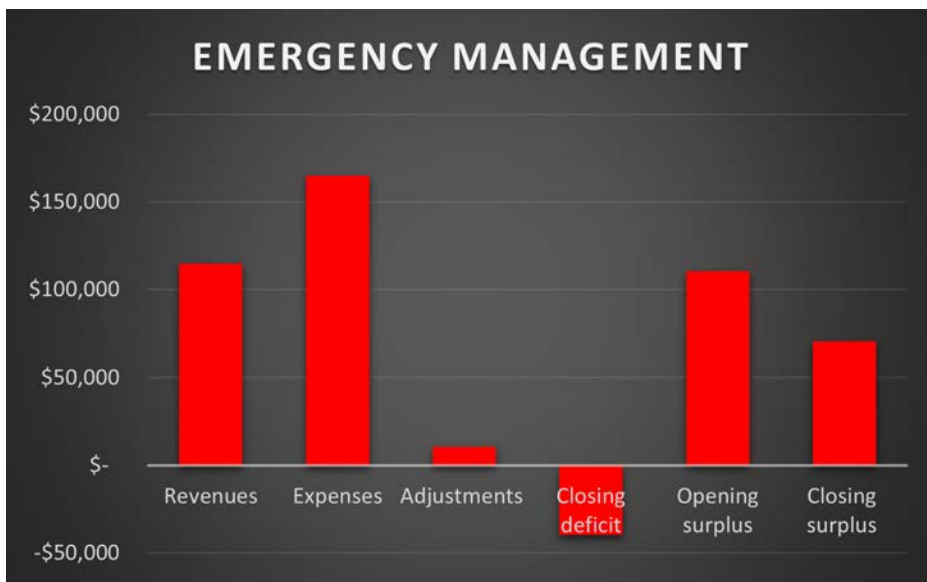
In 2019, a 10-year Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed by the federal and provincial government (Emergency Management and Climate Readiness) and the First Nations Leadership Council to establish a formal relationship to enhance the delivery of emergency management support services to on-reserve First Nations communities comparable to other local authorities. This agreement permits the B.C. Wildfire Service to come onto reserve lands to fight forest fires. In addition, the First Nations Emergency Services Society (FNESS) plays a role in supporting training, networking of communities and building capacity.

Recognition of the four pillars of emergency management to help our community before, during, and after a disaster or major weather event is the focus of this new department. The four pillars are:

1. Mitigation – e.g. forest fuel mitigation, cultural burning
2. Preparedness – e.g. risk assessments, Fire Smart, Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) training
3. Response – with support from committed experts
4. Recovery – logistical recovery, funding access, wellness and support services

Cheam has been resilient and responsive to the challenges of the global pandemic, 2022 heat dome/wildfire season, 2021 atmospheric river event, and extended periods of cold weather and power outages. Some of the supports provided to members included:

- Distribution of 40 air conditioners and 30 air purifiers
- Opening of a cooling and heating centre
- Emergency shelter and meals allowances for displaced families
- Replacement of freezer and fridge food (\$400 to each household)



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Councillor Ray Douglas was appointed to the First Nations Emergency Planning Secretariat.



First Nations' Emergency Services Society
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

LOOKING AHEAD

A hazard risk and vulnerability analysis has been completed and it informed the 2019 Emergency Management Plan. This plan provides the framework for the 2023-2024 review and updates in order to be prepared and responsive to future major incidents.

Cheam has received funding from the First Nations Emergency Services Society (FNESS) to hire a full-time Emergency Program Coordinator (EPC) until December 31, 2024. The EPC is tasked with:

- Updating the Emergency Management Plan
- Opening the warming and cooling centre
- Coordinating Emergency Operations Center training for council, staff and volunteers
- Supporting Fire Smart initiatives
- Develop workshops for community members
- Develop working relationships with neighbours and external agencies

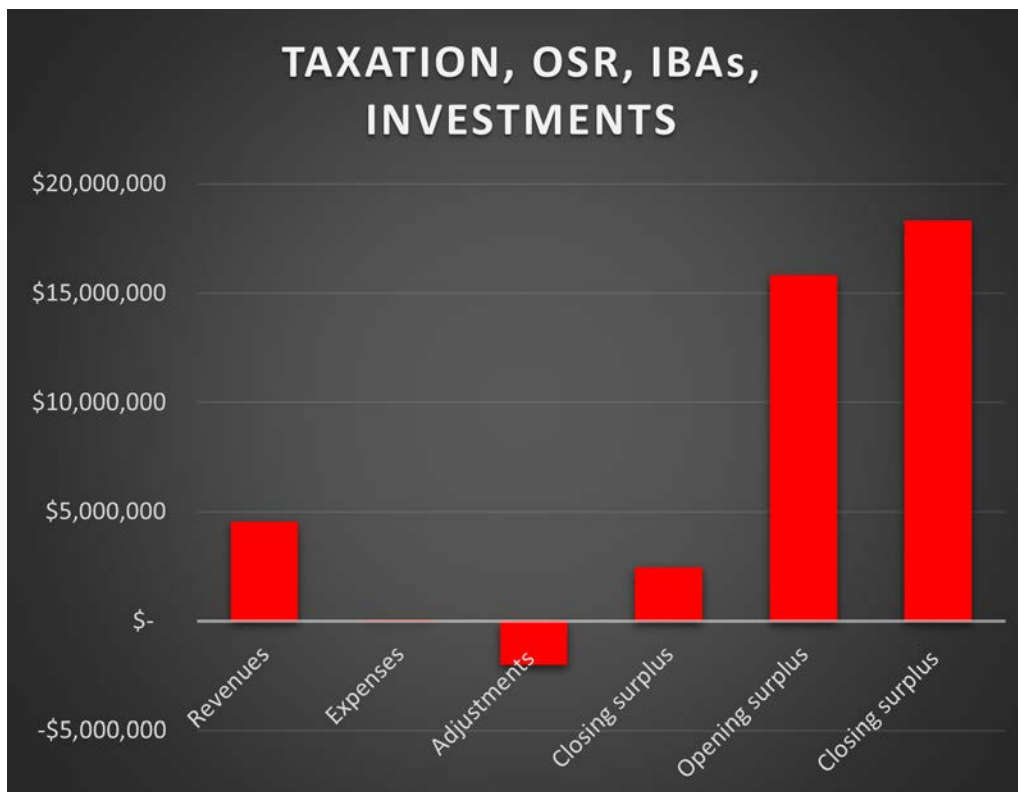
Taxation, Own Source Revenue, Impact Benefit Agreements, Investments

These revenues and corporate holdings' return-on-investments are presented in this financial reporting segment to provide greater accountability and transparency to Cheam members and partners.

- Property Tax & Non-Property Tax Revenue**
 Cheam First Nation Property Taxation Law (2015) revenues and expenses
- BC Forestry Revenue Sharing Agreement (2021)**
 Expended the remainder of the FRCSA 2021 funds; this agreement has not been renewed
- Spectra Energy Funds**
 Capacity funds for the Spectra Energy project on Cheam territory
- Cheam First Nation Trust**
 Funds held in trust for future generations.
- Trans Mountain Pipeline Impact Benefit Agreement**
 Funds were provided at the commencement and conclusion of the build
- First Nation Drinking Water Settlement**
 Cheam received approximately \$500,000 from the settlement action
- Cannabis Control & Licensing Act**
 The Provincial government provided support funding for cannabis business development at Cheam. This funding flowed through to the corporate entity
- Pelólxw Historical Society**
 The PHS holds a parcel of land and a house in Rosedale (BC)
- Economic Development Investments (CFN Holdings L.P.)**
 Cheam First Nation members are the shareholders who are accounted for using the modified-equity method in the statements

LOOKING FORWARD

The community will be engaged on strategic and community planning in the fall of 2023 and early winter of 2024 for short- and long-term community planning goals, and investment decisions.



Capital & Infrastructure Planning

Cost Centre: Cheam Administration Building

The Cheam administration offices, meeting rooms and gymnasium are important and valued assets at the heart of the community. The facility provides a state-of-the-art building for meetings, Council and staff offices, health services, banquets, community events and services, recreation and sports, and rentals.

It is important to measure/track the costs of this great facility in order to manage it. The change in the reporting structure at the year ended March 31, 2023, is to categorize the facility operations, maintenance and carrying costs (mortgage, interest payments, utilities, and insurance) and then to allocate revenues from programs and external users in order to more accurately recover costs. In addition, there is a requirement to establish operating and replacement reserves.

The costs outlined below were not highlighted in the financial statements. What gets measured, gets managed; the total costs for the year ended March 31, 2023, are estimated below:

- Operating expenses - \$191,675
- Mortgage + interest - \$335,316/yr (\$27,943/mo)
- Total = \$526,991
- **Total rental revenue = (\$14,135)**
- **Net cost = \$512,856/year**

As of March 31, 2023, the source of funds to cover the costs of the band administration was not specified in budgets or specific reserve funds. This work will be undertaken in the current fiscal year.

At the conclusion of the fiscal year, Cheam had unexpended funding from ISC to support the development of an updated First Nation Infrastructure Investment Plan. This plan will include cost estimates of priority capital projects. At the time of this report, a sewage system is the top priority.

Cheam has the opportunity to apply for another round of funding to finalize the Comprehensive Community Plan.

DEFINITIONS

CAPITAL ASSETS:

Cheam's assets include buildings, vehicles, playgrounds, houses, land, and infrastructure. All assets require operations and maintenance plans, and operating and replacement reserves.

OPERATING RESERVE:

This reserve is a cash account for unforeseen emergencies that exceed capital asset operating and maintenance budgets.

REPLACEMENT RESERVE:

A repairs or replacement reserve generally refers to an account funded by property owners to pay for large property expenses – like a roof. This account is cash that can be liquidated quickly in the event of an emergency.

CAPITAL AND INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING:

ISC allocates funds to communities based on an assessment of needs, for shovel-ready projects as determined by Indigenous partners and communities and assessed by regions based on national needs.



Forward Looking Capital & Major Projects

Residential School Memorial Project: Jan 2022-March 2024

Funder: Indigenous Services Canada

Total project value: \$113,397

Purpose: To create a memorial to honour those lost and/or affected by the impacts of the residential school system. The first step included basket invitations with contributions from various artists and knowledge keepers. The second step is to create a healing garden with a firepit, water feature and gazebo.

Cheam Longhouse Renovation

Total project value: \$1,169,619

Funder #1: Canada Community Revitalization: \$669,619

Funder #2: Cheam First Nation/TMX IBA: \$500,000

Purpose: To add a kitchen, washrooms and a septic system to the Cheam Longhouse.

Construction term: May 2023-Winter 2024

Cheam Beach Bank Stabilization, Restoration Project

Total project value: \$1,025,254

Source of funds: B.C. Ministry of Environment

This work is to stabilize the bank following the Atmospheric River event of 2021 and is a partnership between ISC, EMRC and the BC Ministry of Environment. The Cheam Beach East boat launch was included in the project design, however, 100% of the costs were covered by Cheam.

East Boat Launch Construction: \$171,117 (included in total)

Source of funds: Cheam Land Permit Fees

Construction Services: Associated Engineering

Cheam Beach Road Repair & Grand Chief Heilamacha Building Renovation

Total project value: \$275,000

Funder #1: First Peoples' Cultural Council: \$250,000

Funder #2: Cheam First Nation ~ \$25,000

Construction Services:

- Ayelstexw Consulting – Geotechnical and road design
- Sq'omet Contractors – Road construction
- Orsi Contracting – Grand Chief Hielamacha Building work

PROJECTS TO BE COMPLETED: April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024

- Cheam Cemetery Marker
Funding: \$15,000
Heritage BC Legacy Fund
- Healing Forest Project
Funding: \$2,000
David Suzuki Foundation
- Records Management Project
Funding: \$26,266
Library & Archives Canada



Tangible Capital Assets

The tangible capital assets purchased and built during the fiscal year will be recorded in this segment in order to bring full transparency to members of the monies expended on capital assets.

The goal of this work is to create robust systems and processes for managing and making decisions about infrastructure and to set aside funds to invest in the future.

The revenues and expenses in this fiscal year relate to past projects:

- New playground at the administration building
- Surplus funds from the capital projects recreation to be held for future developments
- ISC Minor Capital Band Office works completed
- OPS/Shelter Building Capital project in partnership with FNHA
- New capital building renovation – Grand Chief Heilamacha Building (to be completed in the next fiscal year)

LOOKING FORWARD

The administration is working towards an asset and maintenance management program:

1. Gather information about the community's assets

- Prepare a consolidated inventory
- Determine the replacement cost of the asset
- Calculate the remaining life of each asset
- Prepare a state of assets summary
- Adjust life expectancies based on the condition
- Data gap analysis

(continued next column)

2. Create systems & processes for managing and making decisions about infrastructure:

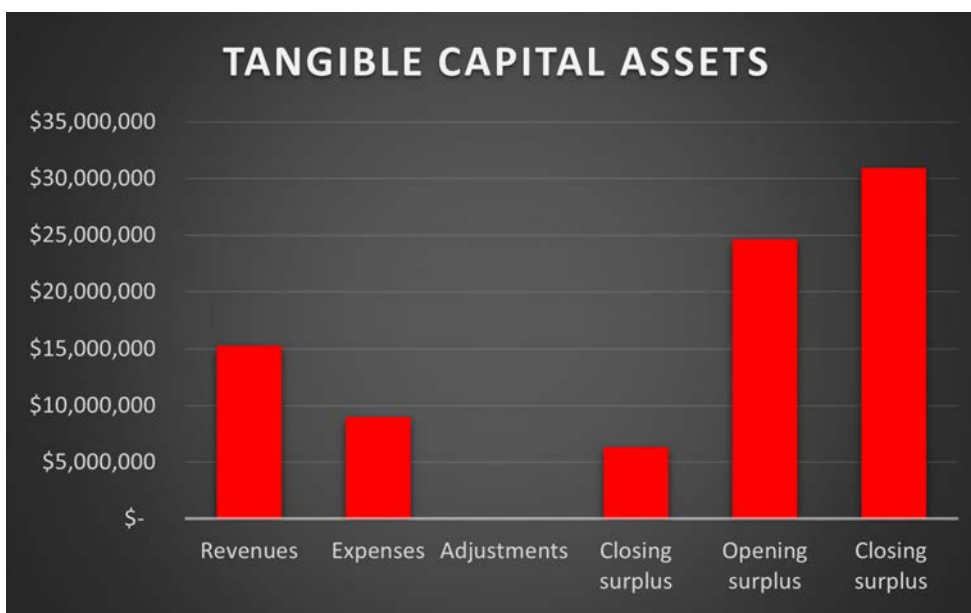
- Risk assessment
- Vision for services
- Asset management strategy
- Annual maintenance schedule
- Process gap analysis

3. Develop tools to help make the most efficient use of money:

- Prepare a renewal plan
- Calculate expenses
- Calculate available revenue
- Identify new sources of funding

4. Acknowledge roles of community members, staff, and Council towards the plans effectiveness:

- Establish asset management team
- Facilitate training and learning opportunities
- Develop an asset management policy
- Communications materials and community events





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CHEAM VISION STATEMENT

We the people of Cheam are committed to developing a united and harmonious community. We respect individual 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 well-being. In doing so, we strive to build pride, dignity and respect among our people.



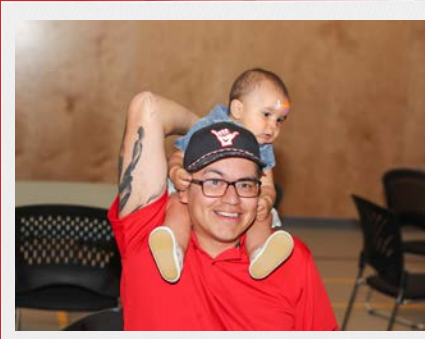
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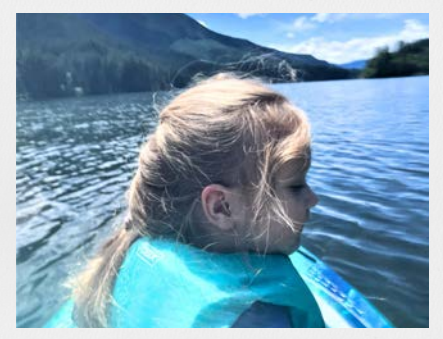
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