

(PUMÉKE7)

BOO



Williams Lake
FIRST NATION

MAGA

SUMMER 2022 | QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | #13

“It was a momentous day and I think it helped bring change.”

Page 10

The Prime Minister,
Justin Trudeau
visits.

Mount Polley
Signing Ceremony

Sugar Cane Cannabis
hosts their Grand Opening Event





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CHIEF'S MESSAGE



Weytk-p,

Once again I am sitting in my office writing this Boo Maga update and the weather is gorgeous outside. We have Spring colours with the sun shining bright through the office windows, my heart is full. With the season changing I'd like to remind everyone reading to take the time for a mental health and wellness check. Over the past month there has been so much going on in our lives, in the community and in the world around us. Checking in on ourselves and making sure we're finding the balance is a necessary step to our mental health and wellness and I want to encourage everyone to take that time. Get out for a walk, do your hobby, hang out with your family, read a book or just relax, all good ideas and all help with the balance.

WLFN recently hosted the Prime Minister of Canada in our community. We were given a week and a half to prepare

for this event and because the Powwow Arbour (weather and renovations) wasn't ready, we decided to host him at the new administration building. This caused some concerns because the venue wasn't suited to host a big event, an event like hosting the leader of this country. We were as inclusive as we could be but I wanted to apologize to anyone who wasn't able to get a moment while the Prime Minister was here. His visit was based around the St. Joseph's Mission announcement and the 93 reflections that were found onsite during the first phase of investigation. Our day started with ceremony which was led by Jean William, David Archie and Charlene Belleau. This was followed by an exchange of gifts and a meet and greet with survivors and Elders where Justin was able to hear stories, take pictures and honour those in attendance. After this, Chief and Council and the SJM

“Looking forward to the summer where we're going to be able to gather and enjoy the presence of each other's company.”

team met with Prime Minister Trudeau, Minister Miller and their staff to discuss next steps with the investigation and confirmation with future funding and a commitment to the ongoing works. A press conference ensued and a funding announcement was made for the investigations current phase, with a quick Q&A before heading to the SJM site. A ceremony at the SJM site closed out the day with the Prime Minister, Minister Miller and their staff.

The whole event was a whirlwind and we can hold our heads high knowing that we represented WLFN and Secwepemculucw in such a positive way. Love him or hate him we always welcome leadership and visitors into the territory to have honest and open discussions with WLFN. The Prime Minister showed up, had dialogue and made financial commitments for the next phase of investigative works at SJM, he also made commitments to continue to push the entities responsible for releasing records to aid us in the investigative works that will be critical to the ongoing work at SJM. There were pictures taken throughout the day and are available to sift through if you're interested.

We recently opened up WLFN's cannabis cultivation facility, Sugar Cane Cannabis. This is the first farm to gate or seed to sale facility on reserve lands, in Canada. The event is the culmination of years worth of work from our team in the cannabis space and is something we need to celebrate and be proud of. Our opening ceremonies started with a prayer by Virginia Gilbert, with a drum song to follow and featured former Olympic gold medalist, Ross Rebagliati making opening remarks. Once the ribbon cutting was done, the Cole Patenaude band played live music while hundreds of visitors flooded in and out of the show room, bought food from the local vendors and enjoyed the

atmosphere. This event solidifies the fact that the region is supporting what we're doing and people are starving for gatherings. Looking forward to the summer where we're going to be able to gather and enjoy the presence of each other's company. Laughter and good times are a massive part of the balance.

In closing, I wanted to mention that we're currently seeing a ton of success stories in our community and in our membership. Celebrating these success stories is something that we need to do more as a community. Buying a vehicle, buying a home, getting a job, graduating school, completing a course, practicing sobriety are just some of the great examples of those successes. The list is endless but one thing that's really been making me smile lately is thinking about all of you as you represent WLFN and Secwepemculucw in such an amazing way! Thank you for getting up everyday and thank you for the continued support.

Please, if you have any questions, concerns or are curious with something that I have failed to mention, feel free to email me, willie.sellars@wlfm.ca or phone me, 250.302.1883.

PS. Big congratulations to all of the graduates!

Kukstechemc,

Me7 Wiksten,
Chief Willie Sellars



WLFN VILLAGE CLAIM

This information is provided within the information package that was given to the registered members of WLFN to explain the Proposed Settlement Agreement and the draft Trust Agreement that are the subject of the referendum vote being held by WLFN on Wednesday, June 29, 2022 regarding our Village Claim.

Assessing Compensation

The loss of our Village Lands has had profound effects on WLFN, which continue today. These include damage to our sacred connection to our homelands, damage to our culture, desecration of grave sites, damage to our histories, traditions and identity connected to the Village Lands, and damage to our ability to live sustainably relying on the Village Lands.

Neither the Specific Claims Tribunal nor Canada's Specific Claims policy allow for the return of our Village Lands or for compensation for cultural or spiritual losses. In addition, by law, the Tribunal cannot order compensation above \$150 Million. Legally, WLFN could only obtain compensation for economic losses based on WLFN's loss of use and the current unimproved market value of the Village Lands. There is no formula for determining these losses. A number of factors are assessed, including the highest and best use of the lands over time, historical uncertainties, and what may have happened if some or all of the Village Lands had been reserved.



Information Sessions

Attend virtually or in person at the **WLFN Administration Building**, 2561 Quigli Drive. Email villageclaim@wfn.ca for the Zoom link to attend virtually.

THURSDAY

June 9, 2022
6:30PM - 8:30PM

How To Vote

All registered WLFN member voters will receive a copy of this information document and a mail-in ballot to be completed.

Voters can also choose to cast their ballot in person on June 29th.

WEDNESDAY

June 29, 2022
8:00AM - 8:00PM

Elizabeth Grouse Gymnasium

2674 Indian Drive, Williams Lake, BC V2G 5K9

Proposed Settlement

Through the mediation on compensation with Justice Slade, the parties reached an agreement in principle to resolve our Village Claim by Canada paying to WLFN \$135 Million for the past, current and future losses (the "Proposed Settlement"). This is an "all-in" settlement which, if approved by WLFN referendum, would resolve any claims WLFN and our Members may have against Canada, now or in the future, for the Village Claim.

The draft Settlement Agreement with Canada includes the following key terms and conditions:

- The claim being settled is all matters, issues and allegations regarding the failure of Canada to protect against pre-emptions of our Indian settlements (including villages, homes, fields, food gathering areas, fisheries or fishing stations, graveyards) and create a reserve for the WLFN in the Village Lands, being District Lots 71 and 72 and adjoining areas in what is now the City of Williams Lake;
- The payment of \$135 Million from Canada to WLFN, including the WLFN Community Trust (see below), as full and final settlement of our Village Claim;
- Canada's commitment to consider setting apart additions to our reserves up to a maximum of 1,400 acres, provided WLFN pays any and all costs related to acquiring the lands;

- WLFN releasing Canada from any and all future claims by WLFN and its Members regarding the Village Claim, including discontinuing our claim before the Specific Claims Tribunal; and

- Acceptance of the Settlement Agreement by referendum of the voters of WLFN, in which at least 25% plus one of the Voters vote in favour and the vote passes by a majority of those who vote.

Approved Agreement

Once the draft Settlement Agreement is approved through this referendum, WLFN will make or cause to be made the following payments from the Proposed Settlement:

- \$25,000 as a one time payment to each Elder (WLFN Member over 60 years of age).
- \$1,500 to each WLFN Member annually, including the Elders, with the payments to WLFN Members under 19 years placed in their Minor's Fund within the WLFN Community Trust.
- \$1 million to WLFN to repay the costs incurred to achieve justice in this matter, including legal, expert, ratification and administrative expenses.
- The remaining amount, being \$130 million, paid to the WLFN Community Trust.



ELDER'S TRIP

BY CARLA BERKELAAR

Welcome to Spring, everyone; I'm sure we've all been anticipating it. The WLFN Elders have been busy so far. Finally, we are back to having our face-to-face meetings again; so grateful for this, I missed this part more than anything during Covid. It's been great getting back to the table and seeing everyone's face again; I know most of our Elders couldn't join us during our ZOOM meetings.

With the upcoming completion of our computer lab in the basement of the Elders center, hopefully soon, we can get some classes up and running on how to use the tablets and possibly even some computer lessons. We are waiting on the furniture, and it will be ready to go. The next project is the elevator which is also in the works for the near future. There will be access from outside to the basement and up to the main floor.

We were so blessed to have been gifted the Acres contracting suite at the Sandman Centre in Kamloops to attend a Blazers game. All had fun, even those who weren't hockey fans. I'm pretty sure they are now. It was a great night, and we were all hoping to win half of the over \$16,000.00 50/50 draw. To our dismay, it wasn't meant to be for any of us. The Kamloops Blazers did not disappoint. They shut out the Kelowna Rockets 4-0. Thank you very much, Acres for contracting for the incredible gift; we all had a fantastic time and enjoyed being your guests.

Three corners health is coming out two times a month to put on a 4-hour workshop called Medicine for the soul. It is from 4-8 every other Wed; these look like they have been fun classes, teaching a different craft or activity every time.

The Knucwentwecw Society's Elder and Youth coordinator Kelly Louie has also started to come out to the community every second Monday of the month to host an activity night for the Elders and hopes of the youth attending. The first activity was a Chinese food dinner and Bingo for prizes. There was so much food that we could feed supper to all the kids in the playground and several families. So shout out to Cash Sellars, Keane Philbrick, and Travel LaRue for being our first youth to join us; next time, we'll keep you longer.

Another big win for the Elders is that our fundraising Bingos have begun again. They will be on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. A poster will go out; however, mark your calendars; this will be the regular date for this event. We have concession, a loonie auction, and a 50/50 draw. All funds after pay outs got to the T'exel Elders for upcoming trips and events.

We have also received funding for Jackets for ALL WLFN Elders on and off Reserve; please get in touch with me, Carla Berkelaar, Community Support Worker, at 250-296-3507 ext. 119 or Carla.berkelaar@wlfn.ca.





THE PRIME MINISTER, TRUDEAU'S VISIT

Supporting healing for those impacted by St. Joseph's Mission Residential School.

The finding of unmarked graves near former residential schools across the country is a tragic reminder of the painful and lasting impacts of colonialism, and the important work that remains to be done to advance reconciliation in Canada. The Government of Canada is supporting Survivors, their families, and their communities to address historical wrongs, as well as the physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual harms inflicted from residential schools.

On March 30th, The Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, and Chief Willie Sellars of Williams Lake First Nation announced \$2.9 million in additional funding to continue supporting healing for First Nations communities in British Columbia whose children were taken from their families and sent to St. Joseph's Mission Residential School. This funding builds on the \$1.4 million that Canada provided earlier this year to help uncover potential burial sites at the former residential school.

This new funding will help the community continue conducting research, including Survivor interviews, to further uncover the truth about what happened at the school and begin the process of healing.

Earlier this year, Williams Lake First Nation released preliminary findings believed to be unmarked graves at the

former St. Joseph's Mission Residential School. This latest announcement will also support plans for a temporary commemorative structure in the area which will provide a safe place for people to gather and pay their respects. This community-led initiative will help impacted communities continue on their healing journey.

The Government of Canada supports all communities in their efforts to work together to develop an engagement strategy with the more than 50 surrounding First Nations affected by the former residential school. The community-based initiative will incorporate appropriate cultural protocols that reflect the diversity of communities impacted, including cultural healing work and ceremonies for Survivors, families, and communities.

Addressing the harms suffered by residential school Survivors, their families, and their communities is essential to renewing and building Canada's relationship with Indigenous Peoples. We will continue to support this painful but necessary work across the country to locate unmarked graves, continue to tell the stories of what happened at residential schools, and ensure the appropriate supports are available for communities to heal and commemorate those who never made it home.



“For Survivors, their families, and their communities, the pain inflicted at St. Joseph's Mission Residential School is deep and lasting. We will continue to support Williams Lake First Nation and surrounding communities in uncovering the difficult truth of what happened to the children that were taken from their families, so they can begin the process of healing.”

– The Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada

“The first phase of our investigation has revealed more of the painful truth about St. Joseph's and Canada's residential school experience. There is a huge amount of work still to be done, and we're thankful that Canada continues to support our efforts. Williams Lake First Nation is committed to uncovering the truth with respect to St. Joseph's and to finding a path forward so that our members, and all of Canada, can heal.”

– Chief Willie Sellars, Williams Lake First Nation

“Williams Lake First Nation has already begun the difficult work of gathering information to uncover the truth of what happened to their children and those who were taken from surrounding communities to attend the former St. Joseph's Mission Residential School. The Government of Canada will continue to support the community's efforts as they address the needs of Survivors, their families, and the community at their own pace.”

– The Hon. Marc Miller, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations

MT. POLLEY SIGNING CEREMONY

Williams Lake First Nation and Imperial Metals renew participation agreement over Mount Polley Mine

Williams Lake First Nation has renewed a participation agreement with Imperial Metals as the company eyes reopening Mount Polley Mine, possibly in May or June of this year.

Former Chief Ann Louie was the leader of WLFN when the initial agreement was signed in 2011.

On Tuesday, April 12, WLFN Chief Willie Sellars and Imperial Metals president Brian Kynoch added their signatures to the renewed agreement during a short ceremony at WLFN's new administration building on Quigli Drive.

"Chief Ann pushed the envelope, and with the hard work of our staff and council, we were able to make sure that

the agreement was signed and benefits started flowing to the Williams Lake First Nation," Sellars said of the initial agreement.

The past and new agreement ensure WLFN has a seat at the table, was able to have a say and give input and audit environmental impacts and resource extraction that continues to happen within WLFN traditional territory, he added.

Kynoch said the mine has operated since 1997 and the company looks forward to working with WLFN for a long time to come.

"I remember well the day with Chief Louie signing the

agreement and at the time that was the first agreement between an operating mine and a First Nation in the province. It was a momentous day and I think it helped bring change."

He told Sellars he has been grateful for the agreement as it has helped overcome some very difficult times for him personally.

Kynoch thanked Aaron Higginbottom, WLFN senior manager of natural resources and economic development, for his help with the rehabilitation of Hazeltine Creek.

Environmental stewardship is forefront in the agreement, said Kirk Dressler, director of legal and corporate services at WLFN.

"It provides both parties the opportunity to collaborate on authorizations, permitting and other environmental matters. It guarantees that we have the opportunity to provide input on those things to ensure we shape operations at the mine to address potential impacts on Aboriginal rights and title."

"There is some scrutiny that people attach to this and ask "how do you feel being involved with the company that was responsible for one of the largest mining disasters in this country?" but the honest to goodness truth is that it's a more gut-wrenching situation to be sitting on the outside watching what is going on than to be engaged at the table," Dressler said, adding the agreement gives the nation some assurance.



"We can be vigilant and have the opportunity to give our input on what is happening. We are actually excited to roll up our sleeves and work on it again. The fact there are 350 jobs is significant too – hopefully they can find and fill those with people from our community."

The agreement remains in place for the life of the mine.



MAY 6, 2022

SUGAR CANE CANNABIS GRAND OPENING EVENT



Williams Lake First Nation announced on May 3, 2022, that it will be hosting a Grand Opening event for Sugar Cane Cannabis on Friday, May 6th. The product of the first government-to-government agreement between the Province of British Columbia and a First Nation pursuant to section 119 of the BC Cannabis Control and Licensing Act, Sugar Cane Cannabis is also the first farm-gate cannabis cultivation facility in BC.

“We’re incredibly excited to open Sugar Cane Cannabis to the public,” states WLFN Chief, and Sugar Cane Cannabis President, Willie Sellars. “It’s been years in the making, and it has taken a huge amount of effort to get to where we are now. We still have a few more weeks before we start harvesting our first crops, so for now we’ll just be inviting the public into our retail space to see what our grow rooms look like and hear more about how our cannabis is grown. In June, our farm-gate retail space will be populated with product.” “Sugar Cane Cannabis is all about craft. It’s about quality,” adds Sugar Cane Cannabis COO, Daniel Penny. “People in BC are crying out for fresh, quality product and we’ll be the ones to give them that. We’ll also be able to provide a cannabis tourism experience like no other in this province. Our visitors will have the opportunity to connect with the product they’re buying in the same way those visiting a winery might.”

Construction of the approximately 7000 square foot Sugar Cane Cannabis building commenced in Spring of 2020 and the facility received its Health Canada micro-cultivation license in January of 2022. Sugar Cane Cannabis currently employs seven people, and once harvesting and retail activities commence that workforce will double.

Chief Willie Sellars notes that Sugar Cane Cannabis is a key part of WLFN’s economic infrastructure. “We’ve invested hugely in this facility, and we also received support from the Northern Development Initiative Trust, the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada. We’re grateful to have these partners supporting the work at Sugar Cane Cannabis. We’ve created a roadmap for First Nations to participate in the cannabis industry safely and lawfully, and in concert with the governments of British Columbia and Canada. Now the obligation is on the Province and Canada to work with us to make sure this operation is a success. One of the keys will be for the Province and Canada to enforce their regulatory frameworks, to ensure that licensees like us aren’t wiped out by black market growers who are able to cut corners in relation to product quality, testing and public safety. We invested in this facility because the Province and Canada assured us that they were committed to the same principals that we are.”

“Sugar Cane Cannabis is creating valuable economic opportunities for Williams Lake First Nation and surrounding communities in the region,” adds Canada’s Minister of Indigenous Services, Patty Hajdu. “Indigenous Services Canada is pleased to have supported this project, through its Community Opportunity Readiness Program, which supports communities in creating economic stability. The Government of Canada joins with the Williams Lake First Nation in celebrating the grand opening of their newly built cannabis cultivation facility.”

The opening ceremony for Sugar Cane Cannabis commenced at 5:30 on Friday, May 6th. It featured music by the Cole Patenaude band and was attended by a variety of dignitaries, including snowboarder and Olympic gold medalist, Ross Rebagliati.

“Sugar Cane Cannabis is all about craft. It’s about quality. People in BC are crying out for fresh, quality product and we’ll be the ones to give them that.”



2022 GRADUATE HIGHLIGHTS

LITTLE CHIEFS PRIMARY SCHOOL



KATERI LEE

Hello everyone, my name is Kateri Lee. I am currently going to school at Little Chiefs Primary School. I am from the community of the Ulkatcho First Nation. My Mother and Father is Paul Lee and Marrietta West. During the school year my favorite subject is PE because we get to play different games like rainbow tag, dodge ball, and sometimes get free time to chose what we get to play with. After graduation I will be going to Nieska Elementary School in September.



DAETONAH WEST

Hello everyone, my name is Daetonah West. I am currently going to school at Little Chiefs Primary School. My Mother's name is Valerie West. During the school year my favorite subject is PE and Art because we get to play different games like rainbow tag, dodge ball, I also like art because we are drawing different animals. After graduation I will be going to 150 Mile Elementary School in September.



KALE BOSTON

Hello everyone, my name is Kale Boston. I am currently going to school at Little Chiefs Primary School. I am from the community of the Dog Creek First Nation. My Mother and Father is Mikia and Dylan. During the school year my favorite subject is science because we got to do experiments and build projects to test. After graduation I will be going to 150 Mile Elementary School in September.



JALEN LARUE

Hello everyone, my name is Jalen Larue. I am currently going to school at Little Chiefs Primary School. I am from the community of the Williams Lake First Nation. My Mother and Father is Jennifer Sandy and Jules Larue. During the school year my favorite thing to do was go on field trips because we didn't have to do schoolwork. After graduation I will be going to 150 Mile Elementary School in September.



REGGIE SANDY

Hello everyone, my name is Reggie Sandy. I am currently going to school at Little Chiefs Primary School. I am from the community of the Williams Lake First Nation and Nuxalk First Nation. My Mother and Father are Alethea Andy and Joe Sandy. During the school year my favorite time during school was to being able to spend time with my friends and making different projects during science. After graduation I will be going to 150 Mile Elementary School in September.



UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 2022

Williams Lake
FIRST NATION

Neighborhood GARAGE SALE

June 4, 2022
9:00am-4:00pm

Williams Lake First Nation Community
Skating Rink

CASH ONLY • PLENTY OF PARKINGS • RAIN OR SHINE

How to reserve a table?
Call Kyleen Toyne, at
kyleen.toyne@wfn.ca or 250.293.3507 ext. 186

WILLIAMS LAKE FIRST NATION CONTINUES MASSIVE COMMUNICATIONS PUSH; RELEASES NEW MOBILE APPLICATION FOR THEIR MEMBERS

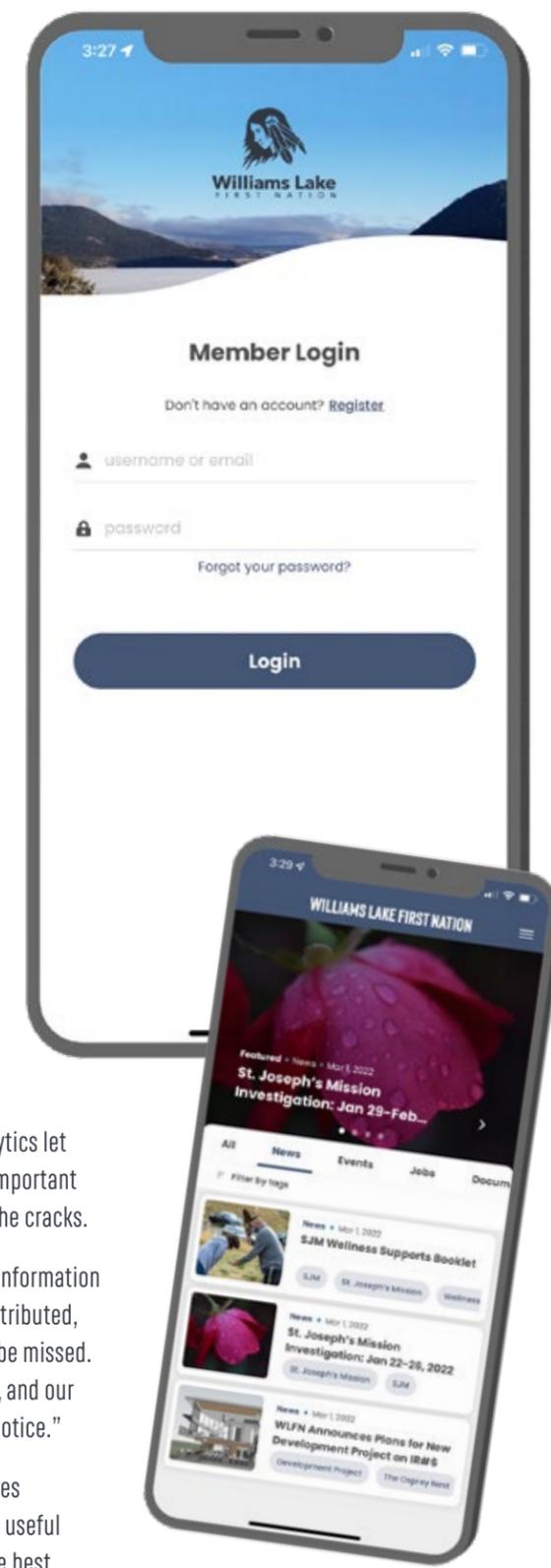
Williams Lake First Nation's leadership takes pride in being culturally-centred and future-focused when determining policy, projects, and how to best support their community—to this end, leadership is pleased to announce the launch of the Williams Lake First Nation Official Mobile App.

Created in partnership with Canadian software company Aivia Inc., the app is open to band member registration on iOS and Android and will enable leadership to directly reach out to members about events, news, elections, resources, and even contact individual members via push notification. Built-in analytics let leadership know what messages are most effective and allows them to verify that important messages have been seen, meaning fewer chances for information to slip through the cracks.

CAO Aaron Mannella has embraced the app as a method of quickly distributing vital information to band members explaining, "When there's urgent information that needs to be distributed, having to rely on Facebook, phone calls, and printed notices means that things can be missed. An official app means our members can trust where the information is coming from, and our communications staff can send messages to our members' devices at a moment's notice."

When asked for his thoughts on the app, Chief Willie Sellars said, "Leadership requires constantly looking forward; making sure we are adopting new technologies that are useful for our members is a priority for WLFN to ensure we are providing our community the best resources possible."

Download the Williams Lake First Nation mobile app on iOS (Apple) or Android (Google Play) for free and be kept up to date with Nation news, activities, and alerts.



Williams Lake
FIRST NATION

JOIN US FOR OUR

FATHER'S DAY BBQ

CELEBRATE FATHER'S
DAY WITH US

JUNE 19, 11AM-3PM

INVITATION OPEN TO WLFN
MEMBERS & STAFF!

COME HUNGRY AND READY TO PARTY

LOCATION: WLFN BALL FIELD DIAMOND,
SUGAR CANE

GOT QUESTIONS? CONTACT JANET SMITH AT
250.296.3507 EXT.142 OR
JANET.SMITH@WLFN.CA

Williams Lake
FIRST NATION

PROUDLY PRESENTS:

WLFN STUDENT RECOGNITION CEREMONY

QUIGLI ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
BACK COURTYARD
JUNE 23RD, 2022
TIME: 3:00 PM

For information Please Contact:
Alyssa Alphonse, Education
Assistant- alyssa.alphonse@wfn.ca



EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHT WENONA GORDON

Q1 Your Name & Job Title
Wenona Gordon - WLFN Lands Manager

Q2 What motivates you to wake up and go to work?
Coffee! And of course a desire to work and improve things for my community at Sugar Cane. I enjoy working for my home community.

Q3 What do you love about working with the Williams Lake First Nation?
I love being able to contribute to management of lands of my home community of Sugar Cane. I enjoy that there is a wide range of management from invasive plants, wildlife and ecosystem restoration after wildfires and flooding to assisting in finding survey posts and registering Lands documents through the Lands registry. I've assisted with environmental monitoring, environmental assessments to assisting in project management of a number of 2020 Flooding Restoration projects throughout 2020-2022. It's been interesting and it's great to have a good team of people that we work with as well at WLFN.

Q4 What are you most proud of?
I'm proud of the 2020 Flooding Mitigation/Restoration projects. They will protect our community throughout future flooding events. WLFN had a team that worked with Indigenous Services Canada, Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resources, Ministry of Transportation, Emergency Management BC,



Disaster Financial Assistance, DWB Consulting and Lake Excavating. WLFN has over 2 million worth of repair work/new infrastructure to help protect the community throughout future flooding events. One project brought together the Cariboo Regional District and Ministry of Forests, Lands & Resources and the Ministry of Forests covered just over \$300,000 to install a diversion channel which protects some Cariboo Regional District land owners as well as WLFN Lands. I participated along with Aaron Mannella & occasionally other WLFN staff in weekly calls since the 2020 flooding to help to organize over a dozen restoration projects mostly on WLFN IRI.

Q5 What is the best career lesson you've learned so far?
The best career lesson was probably all the different self help/professional development workshops that focussed on improving yourself and personality types such as Choices, Teams Negotiations, Conflict Resolution. Learning how differently people deal with things based on their personality types helps me remember that everyone's not going to react/deal with things the same way I would - it makes me appreciate that everyone will deal with situations differently. I think that as a First Nations, most of us have experienced effects from residential schools so I valued these kind of workshops for helping me to grow beyond just academically but also improving from traumas and improving my self care so that I keep well enough to take care of my kids and my family.

Q6 What do you like to do when you aren't working?
I like reading and learning new things. I love gardening. I love crafting and upcycling. I love most of all to spend time with my family (my husband & 3 kids) - I have such a big supportive extended family - so it will be great now that restrictions have lifted to get to spend some time with my aunties, uncles and cousins.

Q7 What's a fun fact about you many people may not know?
I would like to expand our little Animal Farm; we have heritage breed chickens, cats and dogs and into the future to include bees (apiary) and goats, pigs and turkeys and more berry plants. We also grow our own vegetables every year.

Q8 What is your message to the WLFN community?
Kukstec-kuc Tqelt Kukpi7 te skectec-kuc te tmicws (We thank you Creator for giving us this beautiful earth. Yucwminte xwexweyt te stem ne7elye ne tmicw (Take care of everything on this earth). Yucwminte re qelmucw, re tmesmescen, re spipy7y'e, re sewellkwe, re melamen, ell re stsilless-kuc (Take care of the people, the animals, the birds, the water, the medicine and our food). Knuwente-kuc es yegyegwt.s-kuc (Help us to be strong). Kukstec-kuc Tqelt Kukpi7 to skectec-kuc te xwexwet te stem (We thank you Creator for giving us everything that we need).

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

1. Council was overjoyed to hear an application that WLFN staff had submitted was successful and will receive a \$191,000 grant from the province to construct a community playground.

2. The Council and staff have been hard at work putting together an information session for the Village Site-Specific Claim Ratification vote on June 29th.

3. The WLFN Council is in support of the Staff submitting a bid for Poplar Glade School property.

4. Councillor Gilbert shared highlights of his trip to Rome to meet with Pope Francis with Council. He met with the head of the Oblates to discuss the future of the St Joseph's Mission property. During his trip, Councillor Gilbert gave interviews to the Williams Lake Tribune and GlobalBC via zoom.

5. Arbor renovations are progressing and are anticipated to be complete in July, according to a recent CAO report to Council on the project's status.

6. On April 23rd, the TteS Chief and Council visited WLFN to see our new WLFN Government building. WLFN Council greeted them and provided an informative tour of our government building and the Sugar Cane Cannabis facility.

7. The Council has approved the new employee compensation policy presented by staff. They were impressed by the amount of time and effort that went into the research of the information.



CULTURALLY CENTERED

FUTURE FOCUSED



Williams Lake
FIRST NATION

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