



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

01/13/2023

ST. JOSEPH'S MISSION INVESTIGATION GEOPHYSICAL RESULTS

Chief and Council of the Williams Lake First Nation (WLFN) will be releasing the preliminary geophysical results from the second phase of the St. Joseph's Mission Residential School investigation on **Wednesday, January 25th, 2023**.

"As we conclude the second phase of the geophysical investigation at the St. Joseph's Mission, it has given WLFN greater clarity for what needs to happen next as we progress in our investigation. As many communities across the country start or continue their investigations into Indian Residential Schools, we must work together to support each other, uplift each other, and ultimately move forward in a positive direction for our people and our communities. We will continue to pursue the truth and we will continue to seek justice for those children and their families" states Chief Willie Sellars.

Prior to releasing the geophysical investigation results to the public, WLFN will be conducting a meeting with the Chiefs of the communities directly affected by the operations at the St. Joseph's Mission. This meeting will take place on the morning of January 25th and will provide Leadership with an opportunity to ask questions of the technical experts involved in the second phase of the investigation. This session is closed to the media and to the public, and attendance is by invitation only.

In the afternoon of January 25th, an announcement will be held releasing the preliminary results of the geophysical investigation. The anticipated start time for this session is 1:00 PM on January 25th, at 2561 Quilgi Drive. Any media outlets wishing to attend this session **must make arrangements in advance with the WLFN contact listed below**.



Williams Lake
FIRST NATION

PRESS RELEASE

Following the announcement, a Sacred Fire will take place at the Elizabeth Grouse gymnasium from the afternoon of January 25th to the evening of January 28th, ending with a feast, traditional dancing, and a demonstration of Lahal. Everyone is welcome and health and wellness supports will be on-site throughout the duration of the Sacred Fire.

MEDIA CONTACT

Brandon Hoffman, Marketing & Communications Coordinator

p. 250. 296.3507 ext. 185

e. Brandon.Hoffman@wfn.ca

TO SCHEDULE INTERVIEWS WITH CHIEF WILLIE SELLARS

Maggie Berns, Executive Assistant to the CAO & Chief

p. 250.296.3507 ext. 138

e. Maggie.Berns@wfn.ca

GENERAL INQUIRIES ABOUT THE SJM INVESTIGATION

Whitney Spearing, Lead Investigator

p. 778-417-0196

e. Whitney.Spearing@wfn.ca

Dominique Melanson, SJM Investigation Administrative Coordinator

p. 778.417.0198

e. Dominique.Melanson@wfn.ca