

Senk'lip News

Okanagan Indian Band



"Ensuring the Future through Cultural, Social and Economic Development."

Territorial Stewardship Division Update

Submitted by Rob Hutton, Interim Manager

The past month has been very busy, despite the Christmas break. Since November of 2005, there have been several developments in the Territorial Stewardship Division, which I've outlined in this report.

Commonage IR#1 Specific Claim

A video of the Claim was developed as an information and educational tool for provincial and federal politicians and the general public. A number of copies of the video have been distributed to provincial, federal and aboriginal leaders and the video was shown at the First Ministers Conference in Kelowna in December. The final video is now available and the Council will be determining how the content can be made available to Band members and others. Additional videos may also be developed, as there was a considerable amount of footage and archival material assembled during the production process.

Browns Creek Logging Case (the Wilson Case)

The case management judge for the Jules and Wilson litigation actions involving the community harvesting that occurred in 1999 directed the Bands involved to determine which case should proceed to trial. This was based on the provincial government's successful request to the judge to seek ways to reduce costs of litigation. Research has been proceeding slowly as the recommendation on which case should proceed took until early January to develop. The recommendation is

now for the Wilson case to proceed to trial. A community meeting is planned to discuss the rationale for this recommendation.

Silver Star Connector Road and Community Forest Project

Chief and Council and the Mayor and Council of Lumby have recently signed an historic Protocol Agreement. Two of the issues which the Band and Lumby have agreed to pursue under this agreement are the proposed alternative travel route from Lumby to Silver Star Ski Resort and the development of a Community Forest licence in the Lumby area. A preliminary feasibility study has now been completed for the road project and meetings have been held with the Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, Silver Star Ski Resort, and Tolko Industries. A map has been provided to Tolko, outlining the potential areas to be converted into a Community Forest.

Future plans are to meet with the Ministry of Forests and Tolko to follow up with more detailed discussions on possible operating areas and a preferred route for the Lumby to Silver Star Connector Road.

Silver Star Ski Resort Discounts

An assessment has been conducted which looked at ski discounts from local ski areas, including Sun Peaks, Big White, Apex Alpine and Mount Baldy. Certain Resorts, such as Apex Alpine and Mount Baldy have good programs in place with local Bands. In particular, Osoyoos Indian Band and Mount Baldy have

a program that is hopefully a model that Silver Star Ski Resort would be willing to look at with the Okanagan Indian Band. Discounts on day and season passes, lessons, rentals and day care are all provided. In addition, Osoyoos has a part-interest in the resort and will be directly involved in future expansion of the Ski Area and residential developments.

The Okanagan Indian Band will be meeting soon with Silver Star to follow up on the results of the assessment.

Land and Resource Development Referrals Service Agreements

The Territorial Stewardship Division has completed a template Service Agreement, service charge rates, an invoicing system and a reporting process for dealing more effectively with land and resource referrals. To date, only Tolko has agreed to work under the new Service Agreement; however, all other forestry companies, as well as other government agencies, are being provided with this information in the hope that all referrals can be responded to on a cost-recovery basis.

Interim Forestry Accommodation Agreements - 4 Band Political Accord

The 4 Bands who have been involved in the two logging cases - Adams Lake, Neskonlith, Spallumcheen and Okanagan - have agreed to co-sign a political Accord letter, along with the Chairs of the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council and

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Okanagan Indian Band
12420 Westside Road, Vernon BC, V1T 7Z3

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the Okanagan Nation Alliance. This letter lays out the objectives and commitments of the parties in regard to the possibility of any party developing an interim accommodation agreement with the Ministry of Forests.

As the recent decisions by the Ministry of Forests to substantially increase the timber harvest levels in the Okanagan Shuswap Timber Supply Area carry recommendations to local Ministry staff to negotiate economic 'accommodation' agreements with the local Bands, there is considerable pressure for Bands to move forward on negotiations (see the next point). The Political Accord is aimed at presenting a united front to the provincial government and at the same time establishing criteria for entering into any negotiations.

Allowable Annual Cut Increases

Three separate decisions have recently been made by the provincial government concerning the level of timber harvesting in the Okanagan Shuswap Timber Supply Area or TSA, which includes the area from Shuswap Lake in the north to Osoyoos in the south.

All three decisions attempt to address the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic which is occurring throughout south and central BC in stands of mature lodgepole pine.

The first decision was made for the TSA as a whole and involves an increase of approximately 554,000 cubic metres per year for five years. The second decision involves the Okanagan Innovative Forest Practices Agreement, which is a proposal by all the major forest companies holding replaceable (renewable) licences in the TSA. This is for 166,000 cubic metres per year over five years, which will go to

the major forest companies and an additional 166,000 cubic metres per year that may be negotiated between the Ministry of Forests and the 11 Bands residing in the TSA. The third decision was to provide an increase to Tolko of 200,000 cubic metres per year for Tree Farm Licence 49, which lies between the Upper Nicola and Okanagan Indian Bands.

As these decisions impact the Browns Creek logging case, we are working with our legal council to determine how best to address the decision to protect the litigation.

Tour of Revelstoke Community Forest Corporation Operating Area

As a part of the Referral Consultation Pilot Project with the Revelstoke Community Forest Corporation (RCFC), the Chief, members of the Band Council and staff toured a portion of RCFC's operating area (Tree Farm Licence 56) north of Revelstoke and also held a meeting in their Revelstoke office. TFL 56 is in a very rugged area approximately 60 kilometres northeast of the City of Revelstoke. Rainfall and snowfall in this area is heavy and the vegetation is more coastal than interior BC. Much of the Landbase is non-operable, meaning that it is too steep or otherwise unsuitable for timber harvesting. The only access road through the area is the Mica Dam highway.

As the tour was conducted in winter, the main purpose was to view the types of harvesting systems being practiced and the layout of the log sort yard. Another trip will occur in the early summer of this year to look at the types of plant communities and wildlife that are found in the TFL.

Protocol Agreement Discussions with City of

Revelstoke

The Chief and Council members met with the Mayor and new council for the City of Revelstoke in December. A draft Protocol Agreement was provided by the Okanagan Indian Band and discussed by the group. The City had not had sufficient time to study the agreement prior to the meeting and so the Mayor asked that they be given more time to conduct a legal review as well as a staff review.

The City and Band discussed a range of possible mutual objectives, including the Mount Mackenzie Resort development, the Revelstoke Community Forest and community forestry in general. A follow up meeting will be scheduled soon.

Lake Country Protocol Action Strategy

The Okanagan Indian Band and the District of Lake Country signed a Protocol Agreement in December, similar to the one signed in October of 2005 with Lumby. This agreement outlines a process for maintaining communication on matters of mutual interest. Issues that have been identified for attention include developing an inventory and action plan of cultural sites within the municipality, and conducting assessments for fisheries and aquatic resources and sensitive habitats for plants and wildlife of importance to the Okanagan Indian Band.

These plans and assessments will be utilized to guide development within Lake Country and could serve as a model for future relationships between the Okanagan Indian Band and other municipalities within the Band's territorial Area of Responsibility.

Property User Fee Initiative

Submitted by Bob Osbourne

Every year 2 to 3 million dollars are collected from non first nation people living on developments on Okanagan Indian Band reserves.

People living on developments such as Parkers Cove, Lawrence Heights, Country Estates, Desert Cove and Turtle Lodges pay property tax which is collected by Kelowna, Vernon and the Regional District. The amount estimated is between 2 and 3 Million dollars per year which could and should be going to the Okanagan Indian Band. Over the past ten years the band has essentially given away almost \$30 million, by allowing other jurisdictions to collect the property tax.

In 2004 approximately 50 BC First Nations adopted their own Property Taxation By-Law in order to take advantage of the millions of dollars going off reserves in BC.

Property taxation does not and would not apply to Members of the Okanagan Indian Band.

Just think what OKIB could do with that kind of revenue. The Band has begun a project which would have property taxation which is collected from non-native occupiers on reserve go to the Band rather than other jurisdictions. The revenues could support many of the suggestions that came

from members at the recent Community Comprehensive Planning meetings such as:

- ~ Recreational Facilities
- ~ Assisted Living Facilities for Elders
- ~ New Health and Administration Building
- ~ Improved Fire Protection
- ~ Upgraded Parks and Beaches
- ~ The list goes on

Stay tuned for more information as this project gets underway with meetings which are being held with Assessment Authorities in Victoria and then with meetings held in the Community to discuss taking advantage of this great opportunity.

If you have any questions or require further information, contact:

Bob Osbourne, Community Development Manager

(250) 542-3444 or

Sherry Louis

(250) 542-4328

Metis Declaration of Victory Premature

Okanagan Nation Granted Status on Hunting Rights Appeal

Westbank BC - In a December 14, 2005 ruling, BC Supreme Court Justice Paul Williamson granted the Okanagan Nation the right to participate in an appeal of a Provincial Court order deciding that Gregory Willison possesses an aboriginal right to hunt in Okanagan Nation territory by virtue of his status as a Metis person. The Provincial Court trial, which took place without any notice to the Okanagan Nation, involved charges laid against Mr. Willison under the BC Wildlife Act for hunting that occurred outside the town of Falkland in November 2000. In a March 22, 2005 decision, the Provincial Court found that an historic Metis community associated with the fur trade had existed in the Okanagan region in the early 1800's, and that as a Metis person Mr. Willison held an aboriginal right to hunt that is protected by s. 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982. The Provincial Crown has appealed the decision.

"We are very deeply concerned that this case has gone ahead without any notice to the Okanagan Nation or consideration of our interest," said Chief Stewart Phillip, Chairman of the ONA. "This case involves inserting constitution-

ally protected Metis rights into lands our people have inhabited and hunted since time immemorial. We are elated that Justice Williamson agreed that our views on this question are important, and granted us leave to participate in the appeal."

The Okanagan Nation maintains that they were entitled to notice when the Provincial Court trial considered whether a constitutionally protected Metis hunting right existed in Okanagan territory. Justice Williamson noted, however, that this was a new question that would expand and delay the appeal, and therefore limited the Okanagan Nation's participation to the issues that were already raised on the appeal.

"The press reported Justice Williamson's decision as a victory for the Metis, but it's the Okanagan Nation that won the day," said Chief Fabian Alexis. "We now have a right to participate, and we will be arguing that there are no Metis rights in Okanagan Nation territory because, unlike in Saskatchewan and Ontario, there was simply no Metis community here in the early 1800's."

The Provincial Court judge's decision focused on Metis participation in the fur trade during the time period of 1812-1864. But the evidence showed that, at the height of the fur trade, there were only a few transient Metis present in the Okanagan region for short periods of time. While respecting the existence of Metis historic rights elsewhere in Canada, the Okanagan Nation maintains that the mere transient presence of Metis was simply not enough to create constitutionally protected rights in Okanagan territory.

For further information contact:

- Chief Stewart Phillip: (250) 490-5314
- Chief Fabian Alexis: (250) 306-2838
- Chief Clarence Louie: (250) 498-9132
- Chief Robert Louie: (250) 769-4999

Okanagan Nation Alliance
 3255 Shannon Lake Road
 Westbank, BC
 V4T 1V4
 Phone: (250) 707-0095
 Fax: (250) 707-0166
 ONA Website: www.sylx.org

CALLING ALL MINOR HOCKEY AGED PLAYERS



Each year we take several teams to

The Annual Merritt Warrior's Tournament

If you are interested in participating
 Please contact Jenny Louis at:
Jenny_louis@hotmail.com

The tournament takes place during Spring Break (March)

We also have some fundraising events coming up soon - so stay tuned.

We are also asking for parent volunteers to assist with the fundraising.

To volunteer please contact Jenny Louis via email or Leave a message at (250) 558-1093

CAP Centre Hours

6 Mile Training Centre Hours:

- Monday - Thursday
1:00PM - 7:00PM
- Friday
2:00PM - 8:00PM

Head of the Lake Hall Hours:

- Monday - Friday
9:00AM - 9:00PM

The hours posted are subject to change without notice due to the Training Centre Usage (eg. Scheduled Worksops)
 Visit www.okib.ca/events/cap_centre.php for more info.



Chief & Council would like to thank the following for donating their time to represent the Okanagan Indian Band at the Sovereign Lake FIS Viessmann World Cup in December of 2005.

- ~ Yvonne Oppenheimer for singing the Okanagan Song at the Opening Ceremonies on December 3rd
- ~ Sam Lewis for bearing the Okanagan Indian Band flag for the Opening Ceremony Parade on December 3rd
- ~ The dance group that performed as part of the entertainment venue during the races at Sovereign Lakes on December 10th, which included: Joan Zabetel, Sarah Alexis, Monica Alexis, Ashley Gregoire, Furious Vedan

Way' Community Members:

My name is Kim Montgomery-Waardenburg, a member of the Lower Similkameen Indian Band. My grandparents are Elizabeth (Betty) and Paul Terbasket from Blind Creek, Cawston.

The Okanagan Nation Alliance has contracted me as part of the first stage of pre-planning to give the community an opportunity to provide their input on whether or not the Okanagan people want to take control of our own Child Welfare instead of the Ministry having control and jurisdiction over our children.

This process is part of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Program Directive 20-1, which is:

"This program authorizes the negotiation, outside the treaty process, of agreements for the provision of child welfare and family services by First Nation agencies. Department of Indian and Northern Affairs will fund pre-approved First Nation Child and Family Service programs for pre-planning, planning and start-up."

There are two specific goals that need to be accomplished:

1. To hold a focus group for each of the seven bands where we will discuss the process of taking control of our children.
2. To complete survey's on each reserve regarding the process of taking control of our children.

At this point, I am currently going into the seven Okanagan communities and hosting community focus groups in hopes that those interested and who have concerns regarding our children's future will come out participate and be heard.

If you have any questions regarding this process please do not hesitate to contact me at (250) 707-1338 or (250) 215-2169.

In Spirit,
Kim Montgomery-Waardenburg, MSW



Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Program Directive 20-1

Program Directive 20-1

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Developmental Activities

The department will fund the development of new First Nation Child and Family Service organizations as follows:

- a) **Pre-planning:** This activity is intended to support community consultation, data collection and information gathering sufficient for the preparation of an initial community proposal and preliminary discussions with the province/territory and DIAND. It should produce a detailed plan (direction and services wanted and how they intend to achieve this), and band council resolutions indicating community support for the development of First Nation Child & Family Services.
- b) **Planning:** The activity is intended to support all the work leading up to and including a formal agreement between parties (province/territory, DIAND and Indian groups) for the start-up of a new organization. It will include a needs assessment, identification of respective roles and responsibilities, description of services and delivery mode, elaboration of personal policies (i.e. organizational chart, job descriptions, etc.) and financial policies (accounting system, etc.), description of an implementation plan, funding arrangements, etc.
- c) **Start-up:** This phase will see the hiring of staff, the establishment of the office(s), purchase of equipment and furniture, the set up, orientation and training of local committees and board of directors as well as the initial training of staff.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM to be offered in SPALLUMCHEEN

Are you interested in working with young children to help them build their skills?

Classes will take place from Monday to Friday from 9 am to 4 pm beginning September 2006. You must have successfully completed Grade 12.

Students who have completed the 10.5 month program can begin working in a daycare centre. Upon completion of 500 hours or work, they can then apply for an ECE License.

Download our full calendar or application forms from the Native Education Centre website (see right) and apply or register directly online or contact:

Deanna Leon-Cook, ECE Program Director
SPALLUMCHEEN INDIAN BAND
Splatsin Child Care Society
splatsin@telus.net
(250) 838-6404 ext. 1



NATIVE EDUCATION CENTRE

Certificates & Diplomas:

- Adult Basic Education
- Applied Business Technology
- Digital Filmmaking
- Elder Care
- Family Counselling
- Early Childhood Education
- Justice Studies
- Land Stewardship
- Tourism Management

For further information visit
www.necvancouver.org
or call Admissions at
604-873-3761 ext. 328

Influence 2006



Influence 2006 isn't just another performance group. This group of Maori Youth, who formed in New Zealand, has been together for over 12 months. They have been traveling throughout North America visiting different Bands and schools addressing social issues that young people face with a variety of skits and showcasing their talents through traditional and modern dance.

The group, consisting of Chanelle Casey (24), Raymond Tuhaka (20), Joshua Lewis (17), Charity Paul (20), Crystal Paul (18) and Kenzie Moke (12) stayed in Vernon for a 4 day visit that included presentations at several schools, a tour of the Okanagan Indian Band area, skiing, traditional stick games and more. The group will continue their travels throughout North America until March when they will return to New Zealand.

We thank them for their presentations in our schools and wish them the best through their travels across the country. We hope their messages get through to all the young people they will encounter throughout their trip.

Snc'c'amala?tn Early Childhood Education Centre

Phone: (250) 545-3800 Fax: (250) 545-4553

Snc'c'amala?tn News

From Lorraine Ladan, Manager

Staff Changes

Maria Volansky has recently joined us on staff in the 3 to 5 year old daycare room. She will be with us until summer. Maria has just graduated from the Early Childhood Education program. Congratulations on your success, Maria, and welcome to Snc'c'amala?tn!

Special Thanks

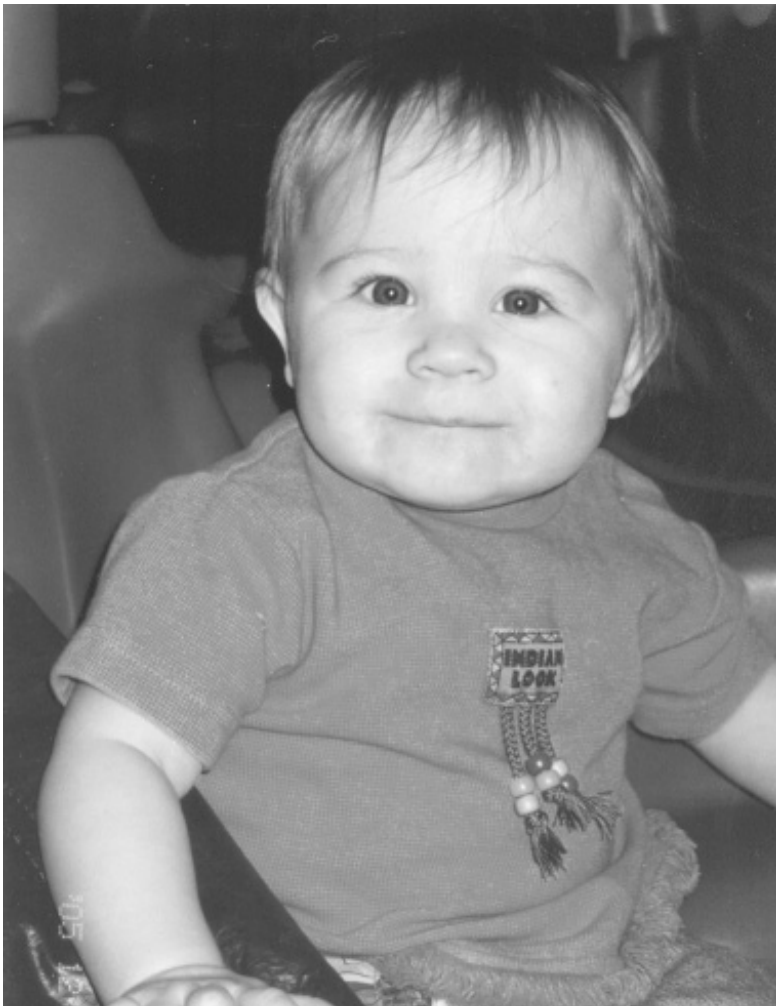
Thank you goes out to our special helpers who made Christmas at Snc'c'amala?tn memorable for the children:

Jennifer Parker and Pam Morpaw for assisting Walline in the kitchen in cooking a delicious Christmas feast that was enjoyed by our children and families, Donna and Brian Lewis who were kind enough to provide us with Christmas trees for the classrooms and the lobby, Trish Johnson for donating the TV that she won and raffling it off for one of our families and Wesley Bonneau for being the most wonderful Santa.

To all of the Snc'c'amala?tn staff and parents who helped by providing food, goodies or assistance at Christmas, a huge hug and thanks to everyone. Happy New Year!

Dental Health Day

Our next dental health day and fluoride



Hydaya gives a smile for the camera in the I/T room

varnish program will be on Wednesday, February 15. Please contact Sharon Cullen at the OKIB Health Department if you have any questions or if you would like your child to have a dental check.

Snc'c'amala?tn PD Day Closures

Our last two staff Professional Development days for this year are:

Friday, February 17
Monday, February 20

Snc'c'amala?tn will be completely closed on the above days.

skimxist Room - Infant/Toddler

Ramona Wilson - Infant/Toddler Room Supervisor

Barb Marchand - Infant/Toddler Room Assistant

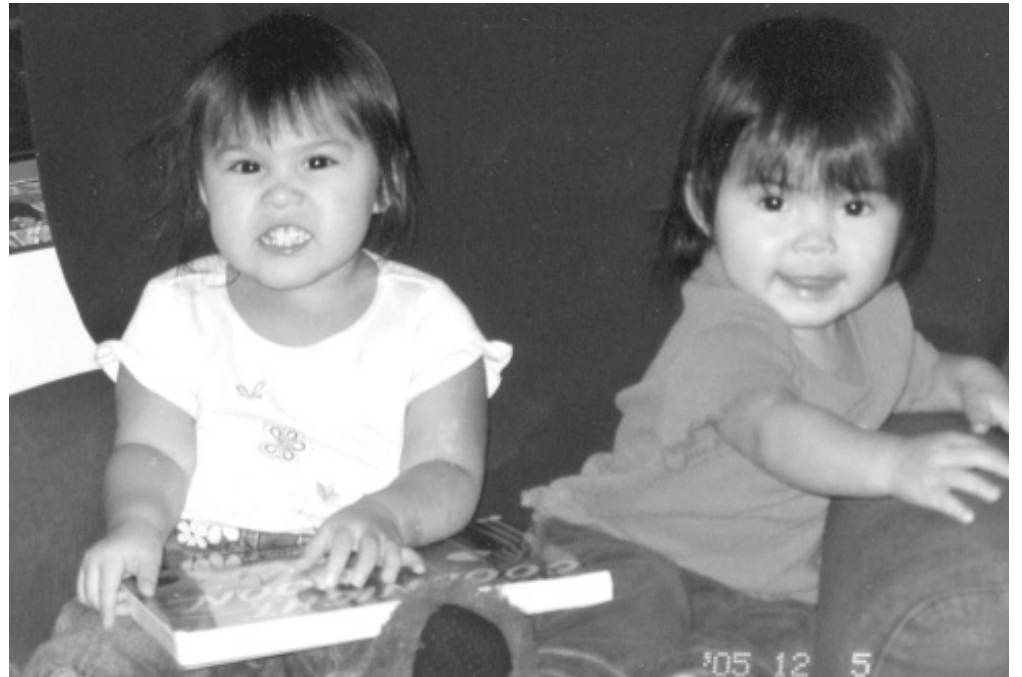
Rae Cohen - Infant/Toddler Room Assistant

Laura Miller - Infant/Toddler Room Part-Time

Wi, from the skimxist room.

We have many Happy Birthday wishes for February: Hydaya will be 1-year on Feb. 6, Courtney (Feb. 8) and Mackenzie M (Feb. 26) will be 2 years old and Rave (Feb. 11) and Waterbird (Feb. 24) will be 3 years old. Happy Birthday to everybody!

It's exciting to see the ECE program offered in Enderby this Fall/2006 since we really need more qualified workers. Working in the Infant and Toddler program is very rewarding and fun, even though it takes quite a bit of stamina to keep up with our busy babies. The "baby room" is an exciting place to watch children grow from tiny, sleeping infants to crawling, exploring infants, and then to busy, energetic toddlers. By the time our children move on to the next room they may double in size, grow long hair, get most of their baby teeth, learn how to speak in sentences, go from diapers to underwear, learn how to feed themselves and drink from a cup. The greatest amount of growth happens right here and it's wonderful. We share these



Courtney and Kenzie share a book in the I/T room

experiences with their parents with daily notes and conversations and many photos.

We have 20 children registered in our program with a maximum of 12 children per day. Sixteen out of 20 are from OKIB and one other child is from another reserve. Only 3 are non-native, and two attend on a drop in basis, and the other comes twice a week. We do our best to accommodate OKIB registrations and it depends on our space availability in this room and the 3/5 year old room. Call us if you want more information or to register a child for our waiting list.

From all us cubs

mhuya Room - 3/5 Year Old Daycare

Josie Ferguson - 3/5 Room Supervisor

Wi, the mhuya room has some exciting news. We have successfully hired another ECE for our room. We would like to welcome Maria to the program. Our room is now fully staffed.

January saw us busy with a bird theme and we had 2 trips to the library and a trip to the cheese factory in Armstrong. We have been practicing a friendship dance with Mona. Our first family day of 2006 was a wiener roast at Komasket Park. Jenny brought in a great dragon costume for us to use for Chinese New Year. With the weather teasing us the way it is please continue sending your child everyday with snow pants, a warm coat, gloves and a hat. Even if there is no snow on the ground, it is very wet out there.

We are looking forward to a fun filled February as well.

Josie Ferguson, Vanessa Antoine, Maria Volansky, Luda Chirkoff, Monica Louis

Spəpl'ina? Room - Preschool

Susan Nelson - Preschool Supervisor

Donna Lewis - Preschool Assistant

Nancy Eustache - Special Needs Worker

Wi! from spəpl'ina? room.

Happy New Year to everyone! Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday and are enjoying the pleasant weather we are experiencing. It has been challenging working on snowmen and snowflakes when the weather is balmy and there is no snow around!!

Welcome to our new friend Jacob Taylor-Williams and his family from Salmon River Road.

The birthdays for January are Colton Craig on Jan. 7, Breanna Gibbs on Jan. 18, Sundance Zabol on Jan. 31 and Nancy Eustache and Virginia Gregoire on Jan. 16.

We are learning numbers 6, 7, 8 and 9 this month as well as the colours purple and the shape oval. The children are receiving lots of cutting and name printing practice and I encourage parents to assist them with these skills at home. Our theme for January has been snow, snowmen, snowflakes and dinosaurs.

We are planning our annual Valentines Party on February 14 so please watch for the

classroom student list coming out the beginning of February.

We appreciate the parents and students participating in the book sharing program. The children are enjoying reading books and of course the quality time with you.

Please ensure your child is bringing a backpack and Velcro running shoes. Children love the independence of doing up their own shoes and the backpacks are needed daily as we send home important notices or your child's artwork.

Susan, Donna and Nancy

Pqəl'qin Room - Kindergarten

*Tanya Saddleman-Joe - Kindergarten Teacher
Trish Johnson - Kindergarten Assistant*

Happy New Year from the Pqəl'qin Room.

The children were ready to get back into their routines after our nice long, relaxing break. January's focus is on discussing the New Year (resolutions/goals) and the winter season and what it means (clothing needs, activities we can do, science experiments with snow/ice, animals

such as penguins). We will also read books by Canadian author Robert Munch, discuss a few fairy tales and celebrate Chinese New Year.

We have started back on track with our Animated Alphabet program learning the letters/sounds C, CK, F, B, G, L and E. We have also wrapped up our rhyming unit and have begun to focus on initial consonant sounds. In math, we've wrapped up discussing patterns and have started exploring measurement and matching numerals to numbers of objects.

On January 13th, the centre had a 'Winter Fun Day!' Despite the lack of snow, our class still had a lot of fun having a snake dance and friendship dance with the rooms. Our class then went down to Komasket to play at the playground, had a nature walk and then we played games and had races at the arbor.

On January 25th and 26th the parents are invited to come and observe their child in the classroom for an hour first thing in the morning.

Congratulations to Lilah Goodwater-Jack for completing her 1st home reading sheet and having read a total of 30 books, way to go, keep reading!



Left to Right: Deagan, Laura and Pwalxken



Left to Right: Jayce, Courtney, Nancy, Hydaya, Raven and Nahko



Santa visits the Snc'c'amala?tn Centre



Left to Right: Brady, Shanny, Owen, Renee and Faith

OKIB Family Skating

Submitted by Gwen Louis Torres/Ruby Alexis

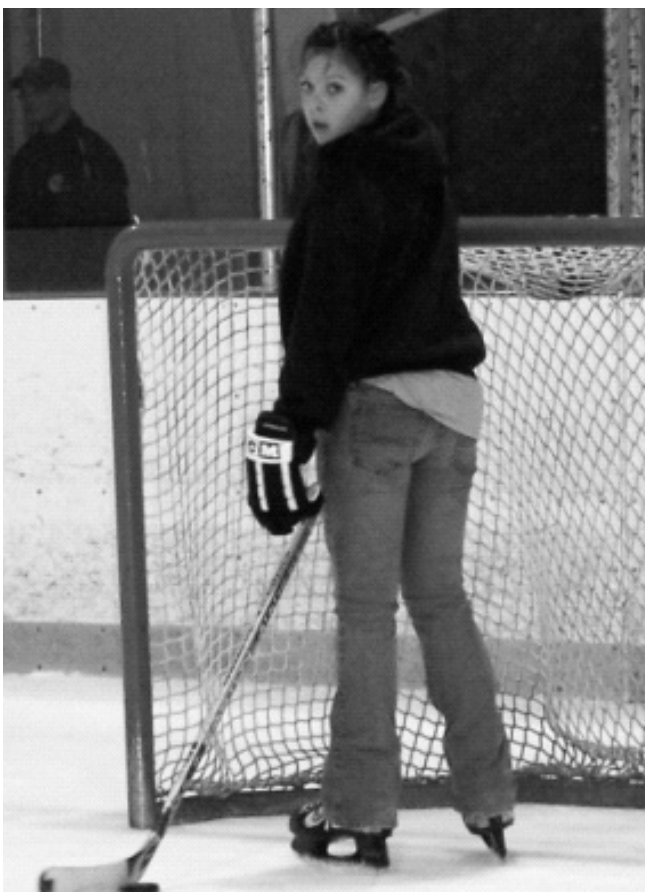
Here are some pictures of our children/youth enjoying the free family skating that takes place every Saturday evenings from 5:00 - 6:00 pm. The hockey players take over from 6:00 - 7:00 pm.



(L-R) cousins Sophia Torres & Kalli Van Stone



Big brother Kane Alexis helping little sister Maria



Tianna Wilson standing in front of net



Darcy Good Water and daughter Lila



Big sister Sarina Torres helping little sister Giselle



Justin Joe and son Sapien practicing their moves



(L-R) Maria Alexis, Nicki Eustache holding little brother James's hand, Raymond Alexis and Daniel Eustache



"QI GONG" for INNER GROWTH

By: MARC S.U. TEY
Introduction Class

Place: New Horizons Building
Date: February 11th, 2006
Time: 9:00am to 4:00pm
Fee: \$25.00

The only limit to your personal growth is YOURSELF

What is PERSONAL GROWTH?

Personal Growth is the process by which you learn to be master of yourself.

It is about releasing the negative aspects of yourself from your etheric body, and learning to be master of your mind, your emotion, your senses and your environment.

This program will give you greater understanding of your life and purpose of our beautiful planet. You don't have to suffer while you go through the learning process.

I wish through these sessions, you will have a better understanding about yourself, your relation toward your family, to the people who surround you and hopefully about your purpose in life.

Lasting positive changes come from deep within. We can create our desires consciously. One way is through meditation.

Meditation is a vehicle that allows us to reach deeper levels within. We can consciously release that old to reprogram with the new. If old patterns are not released, we feel stuck despite our efforts. We are personally self-responsible. We can create our desires: health, business, relationships, etc. They all lead to spiritual growth.

Through comfortable, guided meditation and creative visualization, we can communicate with our unconscious.

We feel our other dimensions by using the mind power that we were born with. We use this ability in a positive, practical way to achieve the changes in our lives that we desire.... Marc Tey

Contact: Molly Brewer at 542-4328

Registration Required

Please wear comfy clothing and bring both a pillow and blanket.

LUNCH IS PROVIDED

Name: _____

Age: _____ Male [] or Female []

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Fee Paid: _____

Medical/Allergies, other information: _____



"QI GONG" for KIDS

By: Marc S.U. Tey, Qi Gong Master

When: Every Wednesday Starting Feb 8/06
Time: 4:00pm - 5:30pm
Where: Head of the Lake Hall
Who: Okanagan Indian Band Youth

The Qi Gong movement is one of the traditions within Xulian, an Ancient Chinese method to cultivate mind and body as a method for fitness and healing oneself.

Qi Gong appears to have pre-historic roots that may date back many millennia. The word Qi Gong is a combination of two ideas; Qi, the vital energy of the body, and Gong the skill of working with the Qi.

Qi means universal life force.

Gong means cultivation of life force.

What is "Qi Gong"?

"Qi Gong" is a Traditional Martial Art (Kung Fu), promoting mastery of the mental, physical and spiritual aspect of our life through systematic practice. It is designed to train and enhance our "Qi" energy, which is the life energy in our body. This is a unique Chinese fitness method where the student will also learn the Art of Self Defence.

Qi Gong, through a set of comfortable guided meditations and creative visualisation, will allow you to communicate directly with your unconscious mind. Having released negativity from our physical, mental, emotional and spiritual body, we can replace it with positive energies in the directions we want.

Pat Kwa stretching and Twan Ta movement: Increase flexibility, strength, immunity and a sense of wellbeing.

Sensitivity exercises train the student to yield to forces directed at them, gathering, redirecting and releasing "Qi" power. The advantage is flowing with, rather than fighting against.

Contact: Molly Brewer at 542-4328

Registration Required

Please indicate if your child requires transportation

Name: _____

Age: _____ Male [] or Female []

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Fee Paid: _____

Medical/Allergies, other information: _____

Transportation required: Yes [] No []

Okanagan Child Welfare Agency

Submitted by Molly Brewer

Since the start of my position I have been an active member of the Okanagan Nation Social Development committee. This committee has been meeting over past years to problem solve and discuss social issues that are common to all Bands within the Nation. One very important agenda item is the establishment of our own Child Welfare agency. It is felt that Okanagan Nation Members would be better served by an Aboriginal Agency that has culturally appropriate services to better meet the needs of the children and families.

On October 30, 2003, the ONA's Chiefs Executive Committee recommended the Nation move on establishing a plan to develop a Child welfare agency and that the Okanagan Nation Alliance, under the direction of ONA members, start the serious planning with respect to a Child Welfare agency. It has been through many discussions that the Okanagan Indian Band has decided to sign a BCR agreeing that ONA start the planning under the direction of the Social Development Division.

It was agreed that the Okanagan Nation Alliance work with the committee in sending an application, informing DIAND that the Nation is interested in pursuing Delegated Authority. The Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Directive 20-1 provides financial support to fund three stages (Pre-Planning stage, Planning Stage, and Start-up) of the Nations Child and Family Services Program development.

The Planning stage has begun; since the signing of the BCR the Okanagan Nation Alliance has hired Kim Waardenburg (Montgomery). Kim will be in the community to seek input on the detailed plan, the proposed service delivery model and an action plan delineating how the model will be achieved. We hope to see her at New Horizons on February 8th at 12:00pm and the following week on February 15th, 2006. Please come out and voice your opinion on how you would like to see our families and communities supported.

Social Development Division

Submitted by Molly Brewer

Greetings, how time has passed by so quickly. It has been one year and six months since I have started my position as the Okanagan Indian Band Social Worker. It has been a great experience and I would not change it for anything, well..... maybe a million dollars. If you are wondering what I have been up to this past year and a half, here is a glance. As Band Social Worker/Acting Social Development Director:

- ~ Work collaboratively with the MCFD as outlined in the Protocol Agreement.
- ~ Work collaboratively with MCFD in the investigation of complaints of child abuse or neglect, and involving other Okanagan Band staff as necessary.
- ~ Coordinate services and supports for at risk children and families.
- ~ Monitor at risk children and families through personal contacts and ongoing communication with other Band departments and outside agencies.
- ~ Consult with other appropriate Okanagan Band staff regarding

planning, recommendations and decision making for both 'at risk' and 'in care' children and their families.

- ~ Represent the Band at court proceedings and meetings on child protection issues.
- ~ Assume an Acting role as Social Development Director.
- ~ Facilitate the child's and family's participation in planning and decision making.
- ~ Responsible for all applications for Guardian Financial Assistance.
- ~ Assist in community programming that will build personal and skill capacity with our membership.
- ~ Write and submit proposals to various funding agencies for community programs and activities.
- ~ Monitor, evaluate and submit final reporting on funding.
- ~ Supervise staff of social development department.
- ~ Responsible for the supervision of the Child and Youth Support Worker (presently we have reposted this position to the "Family Preservation Worker").

Aboriginal BEST

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Aboriginal BEST is a 12 session workshop designed to help participants identify viable business ideas and determine their feasibility. You will also learn how to do market research, write a business plan and how to get \$\$\$.

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VERNON DATES

Starting February 7th, 2006

ABORIGINAL BEST

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Employment Opportunity Okanagan Indian Band Family Preservation Worker

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants should be of First Nations Ancestry, with preference given to Okanagan Indian Band members. Applicant must be legally entitled to work with families and cannot have a criminal record. They should possess knowledge of drug and alcohol abuse and have good mediation skills as well as home support experience.

Purpose

To provide home support services to at-risk families, adolescents and children. The focus of this service has been on strengthening the family through planned intervention strategies, with emphasis placed on ensuring children's safety and enhance overall family capabilities.

Core Responsibilities

- ~ In-home services to families
- ~ Case management services
- ~ Provide reports and annual plan
- ~ Community education focusing on parenting, anger management for teens and adults

Essential Qualifications

- ~ BSW or minimum Human Services Certificate
- ~ Experience working one-on-one with families
- ~ Good Communication and organizational skills (written and Oral)
- ~ Standard First Aid helpful
- ~ Valid BC Drivers License
- ~ Ability to establish a good rapport with clients
- ~ Self motivated with the ability to work independently and take initiative
- ~ Computer literate
- ~ Neat legible hand writing
- ~ Knowledge of Ministry for Children and Family Development Aboriginal team

Desired

- ~ Interest in or willingness to work with families that are experiencing barriers and challenges
- ~ Good understanding of family dynamics and communication strategies
- ~ Ability to adhere to strong ethical principals and confidentiality

Closing date: February 10th, 2006 at 4:30pm

For a complete Job Description contact Sharmaine Gregoire

Interested candidates should forward a resume with cover letter to:

Sharmaine Gregoire
12420 Westside Road
Vernon BC, V1T 7Z3
Phone (250) 542-4328 Fax (250) 542-4990
Email: sharmaine.gregoire@okanagan.org

We thank all applicants; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Senk'lip Submissions

The deadline for submissions to the Senk'lip Newsletter will be the 15th of every month. Please submit all articles or other material you would like posted on or before this date. All material can be forwarded to me at the training center (next to the health building), at the Band Office, e-mailed to me at holly.brewer@okanagan.org or mailed to:

Okanagan Indian Band
12420 Westside Road
Vernon, BC V1T 7Z3



Family Group Conference Project

Funded By: Victoria Foundation, Law Foundation and Ministry for Children and Family Development.

The Gift of Self Esteem Series has been presented in Vernon, Penticton, Westbank and Kelowna.

Understand how to increase success—we only use 10% of our potential.

Understand the keys to success—it's not just money!

Learn how to be happy and have peace of mind everyday.

Learn how to plan—80% of us live in the 'law of accident'.

Re-commit to healthy living, worthy goals and ideals.

Improve your relationships—85% of problems "talk back".

*No costs to participants
Dinner or Lunch provided
Children are welcome*

Members of the Okanagan Nation or those connected to members in the territory attend.

The Gift of Self-Esteem gives participants a chance to meet together & share food together in a warm supportive setting.

Very often Host Agency staff also attend to learn the tools presented in this series.

Comments and feedback from participants have been positive.

*Family group case conferencing involves
increasing the capacity of our communities.*

For further Information Contact: Elizabeth Bent at 707-0095

Senk'lip News

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Council
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Jenelle Brewer
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Jon Spotted Eagle

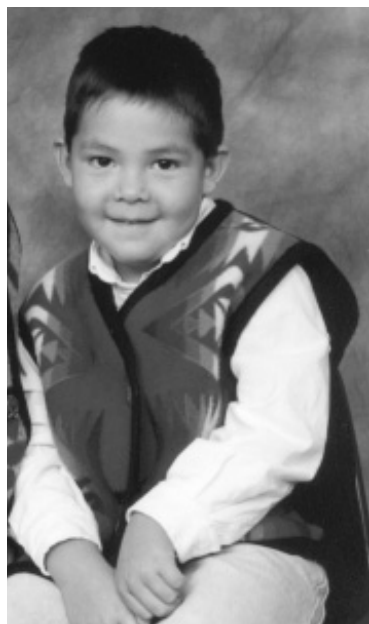
Community Bulletin



Happy Belated Birthday to

Grant, Mneota (4 years), Jay-Jay (3 years) and Ziconna (2 years)

Love from Mom, Cyprian, Tristin, Seth, Dwayne, Janna and the all the Marchand Clan



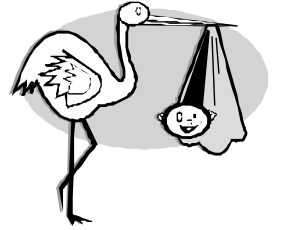
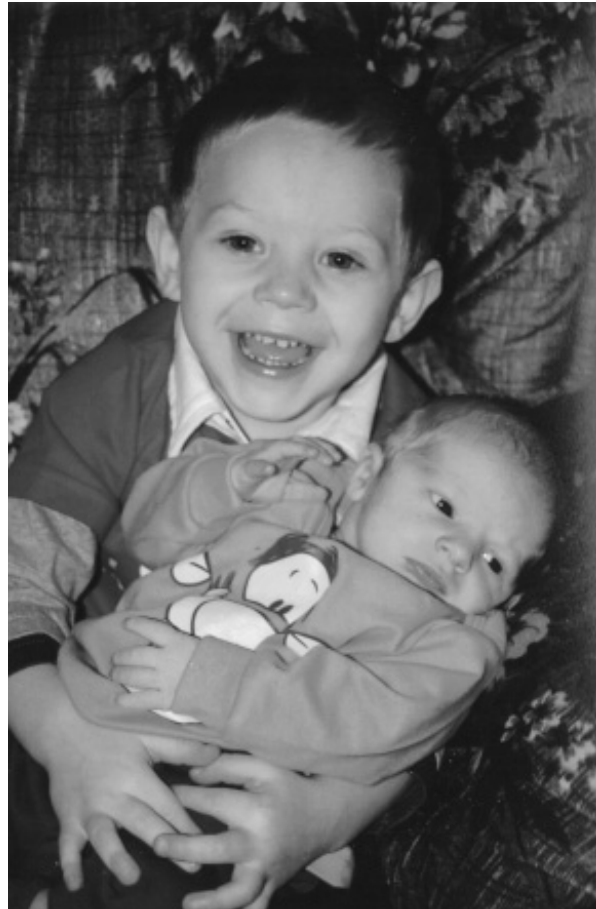
& Happy 11th Birthday to

Cyprian

Love Tristin, Mama Anna and the Marchand Clan



Proud big brother Cole is happy to let everyone know of the arrival of his little brother Luke Lawrence Cassidy. Born on December 22, 2005 at 22:44 weighing 7 lbs, 12 oz and standing 20 inches tall.



Parents: Shayla Lawrence and David Cassidy

Grandparents: Kathi Lawrence, Anthony and Donna Cassidy

Great Grandpa: William Lawrence

With many just as happy Uncles, Great Aunties, Great Uncles and Cousins.

Congratulations to the Proud Parents

Dakota Jack and Stephanie Wilson



On the birth of their son:
Phoenix Phillip

Born: December 3rd 2005
Weight: 9 lbs 9 ounces



Grandson for: The late Philip Wilson and May Wilson and Lilith Jack

Great Grandson for: William and the late Jean Wilson, Ralph and Rosie Marchand and Martina Jack and Stuart Charlie

Congratulations!!



Chelsea Oppenheimer

For Straight A's on your report card and making it on the "Principal's List" as well as "The Roll of Distinction List"

Love from Mom, Dad, Sister Yvonne, Marv, Brother Brandon and Sister Lindsay