



Special points of interest:

- Nominations are March 1, 2007, 5PM-8PM, Elections are April 12, 2007, 9AM-8PM at the Hall
- Craft Night at Health, January 22, 2007, starting at 5PM since it is a school night
- The After School Program will be having a Shuswap Word of the Day and weekly themes starting in February
- See the Community Events page for all the things happening in the next couple months!

January 2007



Chief's Report

By Dorothy Phillips

I would like to wish everyone the best in the New Year 2007. Christmas Holidays was pretty quiet around here, I am glad to see that everyone got through the holidays safely.

It has been sometime since the Justice Committee has been in effect; we need to get this on the road soon. I want to thank the staff for their hard work over the past year, and we continue to work toward improving the services at this level. I was just reviewing the website; it looks great, now that the newsletters are on line once again. Thank you Rhonda Shackelly for the work you have done on the site.

NSTC/NSTS

We are operating under a Board Governance Policy. We recently did our elections for the Board. Hank Adam is the Chair, Chris Wycotte is the Co –Chair, I am the Treasurer and Mike Archie is the Secretary. We recently had an internal review of the Structure of both organizations, once it is reviewed by the Board of Directors the information will be provided to the communities. I would like to state that we are working to ensure that the structures are in good standing, and we are working on improving the services at these levels. I would like to thank the Executive Director for the work that she is doing here. We have had several training programs on Chief and Council roles and responsibilities, and we want to ensure that this is ongoing when new elections take place in the communities. The Housing Committee, Band Manager's Network meetings continue to take place at this level. They will also be working on Employee Policies and Procedures at each community level. The Band Manager's have been involved in this process.

CHIEF'S HEALTH COMMITTEE

I have continued to maintain contact with the Chief's Health Committee, but was unable to attend the last meeting due to health reasons. This committee will not be going non-profit. If there is anything

that needs to be addressed at the political level, please do not hesitate to contact me.

APPOINTMENT TO THE ABORIGINAL FAMILY ACCORD

I was recently appointed as the Political representative at the NSTC level for the Northern Shuswap, and have yet to receive my letter of acknowledgment and orientation to the Board. We did receive a late notice to a meeting that is being held at the 108 next week, to which a letter of concern has been sent out expressing my disappointment. This meeting is taking place the same week as the Environmental Assessment Hearing at the Overlander. I will keep you informed on this process.

EAB HEARING

The hearing for the Environmental Appeal Board for the Gibraltar Mines took place for two weeks, after numerous cancellations due to weather conditions. It is going well, and we apologize to the membership if they were not able to attend due to the cancellations. The Hearing will commence on December 15, 2007 at the Overlander Hotel.

BAND LEVEL

Well to be honest, we have not had full Council meetings due to two of our Council members being out of the community for Educational purposes. We did manage to have one conference call before Christmas break. We have several Council meetings scheduled for January 11, 2007 from 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM, and January 25, 2007 same time, meetings to take place every two weeks and is held

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SODA CREEK FIRST NATION

Fraser River Run



on a Thursday evening.

Chief and Council roles and responsibility will be going to the community, with my recommended changes according to the training we took in 2006.

We operate same as a Board of Directors, and have one employee, which is the Band Manager. We also have an organizational structure that will be presented to the Band which was done by Gord Keener, Treaty Coordinator. We need to ensure that Band Councils understand their legal obligations, ensuring that we do not get tangled up in supervising, which is the Band Manager Job.

There have been some cases in other communities where this has been challenged, and the employee has won. We need to ensure that we don't become one of these statistics.

The Band Manager and I have met with other Banking organizations to look at the interest rates,

reviewing the best options for the band. We will be providing recommendations to the Council on the possibility of changing Banks.

We are also looking for someone who is interested in the election process, as the Deputy Electoral Officer.

The Nomination meeting will be on **March 1, 2007 at the Deep Creek Hall from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm.**

The elections will be on **April 12, 2007 at the Deep Creek Hall from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM.**

In looking at the following dates, we should be having the Candidates forum in the middle of March.

Sincerely,

Chief Dorothy Phillips



Circle of Life Update

By Storme Sandy

The Nomination Meeting will be March 1, 2007 5PM-8PM, and Elections April 12, 2007 9AM-8PM at the Deep Creek Hall.

Greetings! It has been 8 months now since the implementation of the Circle of Life Program (CoLP) and much has been happening! We currently have 12 participants and are allowed up to 30 – so we still have room to grow!

Monique Goward joined our program in mid October and became a mentor, along with Storme Sandy, and they have been kept crazy busy. Monique replaced Connie Jasper as Connie resumed her full-time Advocacy position. Thankfully however, Connie remains accessible and connected to the CoLP in many helpful ways so although we miss her we're also excited for her!

We have successfully completed the Growing Up Ok Program in Canoe Creek and Dog Creek and are about midway through the curriculum in Sugar Cane. The mentors have been working diligently with Soda Creek's After School Program and have attempted to implement a Women's Drop-In in each of the communities. Some of the bigger events hosted by the Circle of Life Program include Beauty Days in each community and Spa Day at TCHSS for all communities.

The biggest of all events however, was Rez Idols, which was such a huge success that we are already planning Rez Idols II for 2007! We also hosted the "So You Hate Christmas" workshops on December 12th in Dog Creek, December 13th in Soda Creek and December 14th in Sugar Cane.

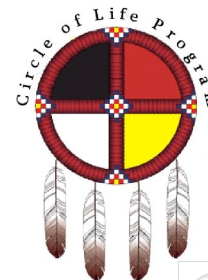
For those of you wondering, "What the heck is the Circle of Life Program?" – it is a 3-year intensive,

case management process in which mentors will assist participants to meet their goals and needs. Mentors work with the individuals, their families, and all service providers involved in that person's life.

The program is based on the Life Cycle and uses both traditional and contemporary approaches to assist women in their childbearing years to recognize their power as life givers and teachers of all children.

The program is open to those in need of support; in childbearing years; having a baby or planning a family; or those who have family who may be affected by FASD. Participants can be self-referred, referred by concerned family members or by front-line workers by calling Lynn at Three Corners Health Services Society. Following an assessment and intake process, the participant is matched with a mentor who will work to them connected with much needed, and the best resources available.

On behalf of the staff of Circle of Life, we hope you all had a safe, holistically happy and healthy holiday season.



Natural Resources

By Ken Michel

Tolko:

- The Traditional Use workshop was held on January 9 2007. This workshop was with Soda Creek, Tolko and University of Royal Roads and Ministry of Forest. There was a very good turn out for the workshop; I want to thank everyone that came to the workshop and for participating. When I get the information back from Royal Roads I will put that information out to the community. I want thank Agnes William for the fine Traditional food for the workshop. Thanks to Jess Mitchell for driving the Van to pick up community members.
- I am hoping to get the Tolko Protocol signed this month with Chief and Council.

West Fraser:

- The Protocol with West Fraser is going along very well for the communication between Soda Creek and West Fraser.
- The Fee for Service for the referrals has slowed down for the winter, so that gives us more time to work on an agreement with West Fraser for the community.

Likely/Xatsull Community Forest:

- There is going to be an Annual General Meeting at **Likely** and the community members are

invited to the **AGM, which will be held on January 25 2007**. If any one anyone is interested in going contact myself or leave a message here at the office.

Other:

- There is going to be a **Natural Resource Meeting on January 16, 2007**, at Deep Creek Hall. Rides and Supper provided.
- The reviewing of the Woodlot referrals is still going.
- Forest Stewardship Plans are still coming in.
- The Xatsull Land Use Plan is going to be on the agenda for the Natural Resource Meeting.
- The Forest Fuel Removal has started around the CMHC houses. The Crew that is working on that is Lenny Sellars, Larry Woods, Alfred Chelsea, and Glen Russell. I want thank the crew for helping out on the project. If you have any questions please cal me at the office.
- I will be taking Mediations skills training at the Justice Institute of B.C. this month.



Natural Resource Meeting January 16 5PM-9PM at the Hall.

Craft Night at Health, January 22 at 5PM.



Family Support

By Edie Woods

Hi everyone

I hope this finds you in good spirits for the new year 2007. **The craft night is a go for January 22, 2007 @ 5:00 PM** and I thank you all for your patience, but this project has a lot more planning involved, so you may notice the time change, the reason is because it is a school night.

Update: Residential School Settlement

Eight of the nine Courts have issued their judgements. The judgements are posted on the website at www.residentialschoolsettlement.ca. The Supreme

Court in the Northwest Territories has not yet issued its judgement, it will be posted on this website. The claims cannot begin until all nine courts issue

full and final approval of the settlement.

Next update will be available on Wednesday January 10th 2007 on this website or by calling 1-866-879-4914 for a telephone recorded message.

I would like to congratulate Glenn Russell and Laurie Woods and their children for their recent family accomplishment. Furthermore, a big hand for these individuals who so generously donated their time to make their homecoming a memorable occasion... we love you and are very proud of you all. Thank you Mary Jane, Mrs H., Alice Vogler, Renegade, William, Debbie and Larry.

So until next time!

In friendship,

Edie Woods



Treaty Administrator

By Trina Phillips

Hello everyone, how was your holidays? Hope it was safe and full of good memories. As for myself, I just rested up because I sure wore myself out before the holidays. Glad it is all said and done.

Quite a bit of work to all that organizing and preparing for big events. And I couldn't have done it without all of the help that I received from fellow staff members and some of the community members. I have to send out a Big Thank You to all of yeh. I really appreciate it. Everyone went home with big smiles on their faces and full tummies the night of the Christmas Dinner.

There has been a lot of stuff happening other than that. The Northern Shuswap Tribal Council is under review at the moment and has been since around November. This is similar to what Knucwewec Society has just gone through recently. Which means that there may or may not be some changes. It might mean that the Treaty Department will be its own entity, and separate from other governing bodies such as the Tribal Council and the Band Level Offices. At the moment the governance structure is being revised or looked at. Or it might just remain the same with a bit of changes to the governance structure. Depending on the outcome, I have been told that we will still operate out of our same routine and offices, with the same number of staff.

Also I am aware that some of you may be curious as to what is happening with the Treaty Coordinator position and the Self Governance position. You also may be wondering why. Gord Keener is now our Treaty Coordinator, and because he has been here longer and knows the ropes this would be the better position for him. The Self Governance position will be contracted out for the time being, and is now filled by Terry Robertson. For the past year or two, Terry has been doing some contract work for the Treaty team through Northern Shuswap Tribal Council. He has done an excellent job on the Land Cash Valuation chapter, to put a name to one of his assignments. If you should

have any questions, please phone me at the office and I will answer your questions as best as I can. Although I might refer you to Gord as he knows more on the subject than I do at the moment.

Hope that this answers some of your questions. I do have one more thing to add before I go, and that is regarding the cheques after the Treaty Meetings. I would really appreciate if you were patient for at least four days after the meeting, before phoning for your cheques. Because what has been happening for the last couple of months the phones were busy with people asking for their cheques immediately after the meeting. I am very busy and not always in the office, but am always on task. I do have the cheque requisitions in as soon as I am in the office, but Marge our miracle worker in finance is also very busy. So to be polite it would be best not to phone and ask for your cheques right away. They have been very patient, but soon that eventually wears off and eventually the growling starts and then I get growled at (metaphorically speaking). So please don't put me in that position. Thank You.

Don't take it the wrong way, these things just need to be said. Anyhow, hope to see you at the upcoming meetings. As there is one coming up and around the corner real quick.

Wednesday January 17, 2007

Shared Territory Working Group Meeting

Where: Deep Creek (maybe) TBA.

Due to the high volume of numbers of interest (which is good), we might have to choose another venue. This one is very important, so I hope to see you there. Please call me.

Monday January 22-25, 2007 Strategy Session for Treaty Team in Williams Lake.

I will be out of the office these days, so please leave a message I will return as soon as I am back in the office.

Don't forget to call in advance if you need a ride to any of the Treaty or Working Group meetings.



Community Events

Tuesday January 16, 2007

Natural Resource Meeting

Deep Creek Hall. Dinner and Transportation provided. Door Prizes! 5:00PM—9:00PM

Monday January 22, 2007

Craft Night

Community Health Room. Starting at 5:00PM since it is a school night.

Friday, February 2, 2007

Snow Man Contest!

Since today is a Pro D Day, the After School Program will run from 8AM-4PM. Dependant on the weather, we will have a Snow Man Contest with prizes, and sliding. So dress warm! If there is not enough snow, we will rent some movies (youth's choice!) and have indoor games

Thursday March 1, 2007

Nomination Meeting

Deep Creek Hall 5PM-8PM

Thursday April 12, 2007

Elections

Deep Creek Hall 9AM-8PM

Wednesday January 17, 2007

Shared Territory Working Group Meeting

Where: Deep Creek (maybe) **TBA.**

Due to the high volume of numbers of interest (which is good), we might have to choose another venue. This one is very important, so I hope to see you there. Please call me.

Monday January 22-25, 2007

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I will be out of the office these days, so please leave a message.

Community Programs

By Marion Chelsea

What a way to kick off the new year! Last week we had a huge turnout for all our activities. Wednesday we went skating and swimming for those that didn't have skates.

Thursday we went to watch Eragon at the theatre, and as an impromptu decision we went skating and swimming after the movie. Apologies to those parents who did not know this, and could not send their children prepared! It was a last minute decision the day before. All the children were told, but we did not have the opportunity to call parents and let them know what was going on.

Friday we went tubing out 108 Mile Hills Ranch. This was a ton of fun. I especially enjoyed the fact that we didn't have to walk back to the top of the hill, and instead got towed back up to the top.

February 2 is a Pro D Day, and I'm planning on having a Snow Man Contest (with prizes!) and sliding. If the snow decides to stay of course. If not, I will ask the youth what kinds of movies they would like me to rent, and we can do crafts and drumming, or some indoor activities with prizes.

Starting February, I will be starting a **Shuswap**

Word of the Day. I did this during the Not In Session Days in October, and the children enjoyed it. I will also be starting weekly themes that will direct our crafts and games during the After School Program.

The 5th Annual Aboriginal Youth, Violence & Changing Times Training Conference is to happen in Victoria, March 14-17, 2007. This conference will have workshops for youth, entertainment, Preventing Alcohol Related Trauma to Youth (PARTY), and cultural and sports activities. If anyone is interested, please let myself or Cici know, and we will cover the registration fee. You will find a few pages on this conference further on in this newsletter.

If you are interested in attending the TRU's *Intersection: A Community of Learners* February 2, let us know and we will cover the fee (see attached flyer).

I hope everyone had wonderful holidays, and here's looking at a Happy New Year!



I will be starting a Shuswap Word of the Day, and weekly themes to direct our games and crafts in February for the After School Program.

Education Department

By Cici Sterritt

Hi everyone, hope you had a wonderful holiday season! A BIG thank-you to Marion, Trina, Marnie, Noella, Jess and everyone else who helped with the Christmas dinner, hampers and holiday events this season – it turned out wonderful.

The contract with NSTC for Weekend U is over and JoAnne has returned to work, welcome back – to both of us! Thank-you to everyone for your patience; especially as I haven't been at the office for a while and work slowed down in certain areas – Marge in Finance would agree. Marion and Trina did a wonderful job helping out where they can – especially with the Christmas holiday events.

School District 27

The School Board has signed the joint LEA and it is now being signed by the other Bands; Williams Lake Indian Band, Canoe Creek and Esketemc. It was a learning experience for all of us and we have gained a better understanding of the work we each have to do.

On December 13, 2006, the Enhancement Agreement was signed at the School Board office. The document is now in Victoria for the Minister to sign and we should be receiving our copy in the near future. It was great to see the document completed and signed.

MEETING SUMMARY

FNESC Post-Secondary Sub-Committee (PSSC)

INAC – Allocation Methodology

January 8, 2007

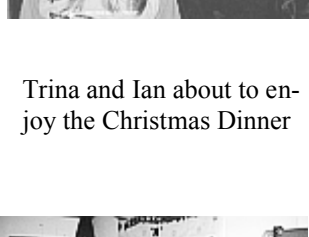
- Allocation Methodology selected by INAC to be as follows:
 - Bands will receive their per capita amount; initial amount received will be determined by 2005/06 Audit
 - The difference in amount, if any, will be 'protected' and accessed through a proposal process by the Band
 - The 'protected amounts' not accessed by Bands will be pooled and will be available by CFA Bands through the same proposal process
- How it affects Soda Creek:
 - We should be receiving our full allocation for the initial amount; our audit indicates a deficit
 - Application through the proposal process will depend on the number of Post-Secondary applications we receive by March 31st, 2007

- Worked with INAC on the communication strategy for this allocation

If anyone would like to discuss the meeting information further, please come by the office or give me a call; especially if you have some additional information you'd like to contribute.



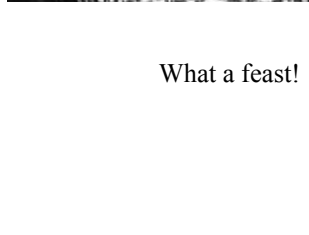
Two lovely little princesses



Trina and Ian about to enjoy the Christmas Dinner



Visiting with some we haven't seen in a while...



What a feast!



Almost not enough room for everyone!

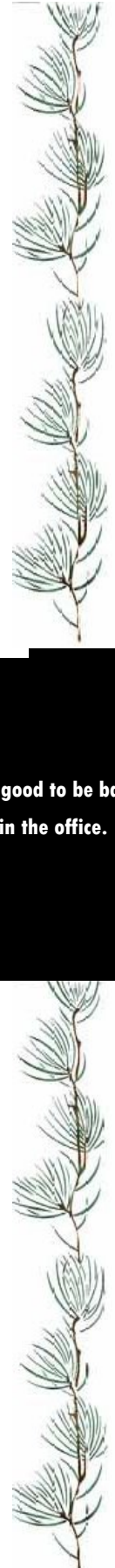


Soda Creek First Nation

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Education is the key to success



It's good to be back in the office.