



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Xat'sull First Nation to reclaim stewardship of land in a step forward for the future of the Nation and its members

Xat'sull envisions spaces that nurture connection, learning, and balance in ways that honour Xat'sull language, teachings, and community priorities

XAT'SULL FIRST NATION TERRITORY; 30 October 2025: Xat'sull First Nation is taking an exciting step forward for the future of the Nation and its members. As of April 1, 2026, Xat'sull will reclaim the lands where the Nenqayni Wellness Centre (Nenqayni) currently operates.

This decision was not made lightly and reflects many years of discussion, reflection, and community dialogue over the past decade. The decision is rooted in Xat'sull's long-term vision of meeting the needs of its members, especially in areas of healing, connection, and wellness. This is particularly important given the drug crisis that is impacting the broader community including Xat'sull members.

"As we move forward, we are reclaiming this space to continue that healing in our own way — for Xat'sullemc," said Kukpi7 (Chief) Rhonda Phillips. "Guided by our Secwépemc teachings, by the wisdom of our Elders, and the energy of our youth, we are shaping a future that reflects who we are as a people."

The land where the Nenqayni operates has always been part of Xat'sull's story. For generations, this place has carried memories of healing and the lives that were touched by that work. Xat'sull honours and celebrates that history and all who contributed to it. Nenqayni has made a significant and positive impact on the lives of many, and its work and legacy will not be forgotten.

"We deeply respect the healing work that's taken place on this land," said Kukpi7 Phillips. "And as caretakers of this place, our responsibility is to ensure that healing continues in ways that honour our language, our teachings, and our community priorities."

Xat'sull will continue to gather input from its members on how best to move forward in the next chapter of this place. At a recent community meeting, members shared excitement about this major step toward expanding healing, connection and wellness opportunities for Xat'sull's membership.

"Our vision is to build spaces that nurture connection, learning, and balance — places where generations can come together to heal, to grow, and to remember our identity as Secwépemc," said Kukpi7 Phillips.



Chief, Council and the administrative team will develop detailed plans for this space based on community feedback in the months ahead.

“This is about reclaiming stewardship — not removing healing,” said Kukpi7 Phillips. “It’s about standing once again in our role as protectors and teachers, restoring our relationship with the land and with one another. We see this as a beginning and a continuation of healing, not an ending.”

Starting next month, Nenqayni will transition to in-community services and outreach.

- 30 -

Xat'sull First Nation is a First Nations government and is part of the larger Secwepemc (Shuswap) Nation, located in the Cariboo region of British Columbia near Williams Lake. Learn more on Xat'sull First Nation's [website](#).

Media Contact

Please direct any media enquiries and interactions to:

Michaela Konken
Consultant, Public Relations
Coast Communications and Public Affairs
Email: michaela@coastcomms.ca
Phone: 250-320-0666