



# Annual Report 2020-2021



Stó:lō Service Agency, 7201 Vedder Road, Chilliwack, BC V2R 4G5



604-858-3366 • [www.stolonation.bc.ca](http://www.stolonation.bc.ca)

# STÓ:LŌ SERVICE AGENCY

## VISION

A healthier, stronger, brighter future for all communities.

## MISSION

We empower, support and contribute to the health and well-being of all people by providing leadership and delivering a broad range of quality services.

## VALUES

We strive to act in accordance with our seven core values at all times.

<b>Honesty</b>	We communicate internally and externally with clarity, honesty and openness.
<b>Accountability</b>	We accept responsibility for our decisions and actions and answer to our partners in an open and transparent way.
<b>Pride</b>	We feel and demonstrate pride in our actions and accomplishments.
<b>Professionalism</b>	We act professionally as an outward reflection of our internal values.
<b>Integrity</b>	We do our best work, hold ourselves to the highest standards of conduct and act in the interest of our communities and partners.
<b>Empathy</b>	We work to understand and relate to the feelings, experiences and situations of others and are non-judgemental.
<b>Respect</b>	We respect others' ideas, experiences and ways of thinking and treat all people as equals.



A:Imélhawtxw Early Education Centre



Shxwt'am:etsel  
Aboriginal Supported  
Child Development



Stó:lō Health  
Services



Qwí:qwelstóm



Mémiyelhtel  
Aboriginal Mentorship



Stó:lō Aboriginal Skills &  
Employment Training



People of the River  
Referrals Office



Stó:lō Research and Resource  
Management Centre



Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty  
Association

- 160 Employees
- 50 Programs
- Serving Langley to Boston Bar
- Average Clients Served: 5, 000 per year
- Federal Revenue
- Provincial Revenue

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE STÓ:LŌ SERVICE AGENCY (SSA) BOARD .....	1
MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.....	3
<b>FINANCE.....</b>	<b>4</b>
Gift Shop .....	4
Income Assistance .....	5
Post Secondary.....	6
<b>OPERATIONS .....</b>	<b>6</b>
Events .....	7
Human Resources (HR) .....	7
Indian Registry (IR) .....	8
Information Technology (IT).....	8
Property and Capital Management .....	9
Records Management .....	10
<b>STÓ:LŌ HEALTH SERVICES (SHS) .....</b>	<b>11</b>
Administration/Operations/Health and Safety.....	11
Service Navigation.....	12
Planning Team.....	12
Special Projects .....	12
Community Health and Home Care .....	12
A:Imélhawtxw Early Education Centre .....	13
Family Empowerment Team (FET).....	15
Youth Services - Mémiyelhtel.....	15
Qwí:qwelstóm Wellness Services .....	18
Family Services .....	18
Stó:lō Elder's Lodge .....	20
<b>STÓ:LŌ ABORIGINAL SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT TRAINING (SASET).....</b>	<b>21</b>
Vocational Training Supports .....	22
SASET Sponsored Training Programs .....	23
Bladerunner Provincial Employment Program.....	25
Community Based Employment Programs .....	26
Daycare Agreements .....	26
SASET Foundational Culinary Arts Program .....	26
<b>STÓ:LŌ RESOURCE AND RESEARCH MANAGEMENT CENTRE (SRRMC).....</b>	<b>27</b>
Heritage Stewardship and Archaeology.....	27
S'ólh Temexw Stewardship Alliance (STSA) Support Services.....	29
Land Stewardship .....	30
Geographical Information Systems (GIS) .....	34
Language, Archives, Cultural Education and Tours (LACET) .....	35
Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association (SXTA) .....	39
Fisheries .....	40

# MESSAGE FROM THE STÓ:LŌ SERVICE AGENCY BOARD



**Top left to right: SSA Board member Jessie Ramsay, Vice Chair, Rhianna Millman  
Bottom left to right: SSA Board Chair, Sharron Young, SSA Board member Angie Kermer**

The SSA Board is a non-political, SNCC appointed leadership body consisting of business professionals with a diverse range of backgrounds and experience. The Board ensures that the SSA adheres to excellent standards of service delivery through the support and continual evaluation of existing programs. The Board takes pride in the important work of supporting, protecting, and enhancing the lives of our citizens.

The 2020-21 fiscal year is the ninth year the SNCC and communities have entrusted the SSA Board to do work on their behalf. The SSA Board held monthly meetings to support the Office of the Executive Director (OED) to ensure programs and services were being delivered in a way that promotes the Vision, Mission and Core Values of the organization.

The accomplishments as outlined in the annual report have indisputably supported our “Vision” of a healthier, stronger, brighter future for all our communities.

SSA Board accomplishments this fiscal year include:

- COVID-19 support, safety plans and policy development;
- Providing support to OED and encouraging continual COVID messaging and updates to all staff;
- Recording and sending messages to all staff as a way to connect and express gratitude for their commitment to service delivery during pandemic;
- Holding monthly meetings via Zoom to ensure program delivery and operations were continued with COVID safety practices and protocols in place;
- Sending personalized letters to staff for years of service awards in place of in person meetings;
- Supporting staff with Renewal of Health Transfer Agreement;

- Onboarding of new Board Member, Jessie Ramsay;
- Completing Psychological Safety Training with Leadership teams and Board of Directors;
- Completing Building 8 and 10 renovations; and
- Reviewing our strategic plan, heading into the last couple years of current plan and identifying where we need to shift as an agency going forward.

SSA Board goals for the 2021-22 fiscal year include:

- Providing support and guidance as we transition out of COVID-19 and back to regular onsite operations;
- Passing the Budgets and Work Plans for the 2021-22 fiscal year;
- Continuing to update policies and procedures;
- Continuing to review and implement the strategic plan and timelines set;
- Supporting various events throughout the year as they arise;
- Continuing Board and staff training and development;
- Establishing Board member liaisons with band administrators;
- Working with individual member Nations and support their relationships with SSA; and
- Working in conjunction with the SNCC for political advocacy.

As we reflect over the past year, we can't help but feel a large sense of gratitude to all the staff who have shifted the way in which they work to continue providing essential services during these unprecedented times. Working with the ever-evolving COVID-19 Pandemic restrictions as a constant consideration in the workplace has been taxing both personally and professionally. We raise our hands up to all the staff for their adaptability and diligence in continuing to safely serve our clients and communities under these difficult circumstances. We also want to thank the SNCC for entrusting us to ensure that Stó:lō Service Agency continues to provide the best services to the membership.

For information about the Board's strategic plan, please contact Kelly Willmets at the following email: [Kelly.Willmets@stolonation.bc.ca](mailto:Kelly.Willmets@stolonation.bc.ca)

# MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**Executive Director, Willy Hall.**

This year the world was dealing with a crisis of unprecedented nature, which had profound effects on everyone whether it was mentally, emotionally, or spiritually. Each phase introduced new scenarios that suddenly overwhelmed our health care systems and pushed each of us further apart (social distancing).

However, Stó:lō Service Agency (SSA) united into a common culture of discipline, flexibility, and cooperation that made us successful despite the uncertainty we faced. SSA will overcome the difficulties faced and we will do so, as always, by helping our communities to do the same. We continue to operate, working responsibly and in solidarity with the Public Health orders set in place. SSA will keep providing the necessary resources for maximum protection possible to all our colleagues and their families, as well as to our citizens and partners. Our senior management team continues to monitor the evolution and restrictions of COVID-19.

The SSA has been providing community-based services from publicly funded resources for over 27 years now. The work we do requires sustained efforts over the long term from all our stakeholders to achieve desired results. I would like to express my appreciation for the support we receive from each and every one of you and encourage continued feedback and recommendations. It is undeniable that the delivery mechanism administered by our team of professionals correspond to the needs of a large portion of our fellow citizens as you will read in this Annual Report.

We need to continue to search for new service delivery approaches to get the desired outcomes while balancing our limited resources. I am very pleased with the progress our team(s) have made and am very excited about their enthusiasm to learn and appreciate the innovative approaches that have been used to keep in touch with communities and each other, especially over this past year, so that community members across the Stó:lō territory are better served and supported.

“I would like to personally thank the Stó:lō Nation Chiefs Council (SNCC), Stó:lō Service Agency (SSA) Board and staff for their assistance and support given to make this another successful year.”

# FINANCE

- SSA and SASET 2019-20 audits were completed in July 2020 with unqualified (clean) opinions.
- Through Targeted Wage Subsidy funding from SASET, hired a full-time finance worker, Darwin Biamonte.
- Audit Services Request for Proposals was sent out. Submissions were evaluated and recommended to the SSA Board, who approved staying with our current auditor, Manning Elliott, for a 5-year term.
- Hired a new Finance Clerk, Christina Price, who started beginning of March 2021.

## GIFT SHOP

- Due to the pandemic, the Gift Shop was closed between April and early May when it reopened with reduced hours. It opened in August with regular hours and has significantly increased its online presence, which has been well received and a significant source of orders.
- Increased the selection of products and created a new website that connected to the in-store inventory.
- Made some minor renovations to the Gift Shop expanding the space by over 300 sq. ft. This was accompanied by fresh new colors and a retail display overhaul.
- Developed marketing strategies for upcoming fiscal year and set goals for both Online and in-store sales.
- Booked first "Pop up shop" to highlight local Artist.
- Expanded cultural book section & handcrafted item inventory.
- Many new community relationships were formed bringing in business from, School districts, Government offices, community organizations, and First Nations bands.
- Total overall gross sales for 2020-21 fiscal year were \$326,067.
- Online sales made up \$49,893 of total revenue thanks to the NEW e-commerce website and online marketing.



## INCOME ASSISTANCE

- The Income Assistance Department was able to deliver services to clients this year working within the new COVID-19 restrictions which meant working in a different way. For most of the year, staff were not able to meet clients in person and made contact through telephone and using technology to send messages.
- COVID-19 brought additional money to Income Assistance Clients which helped clients through the difficult year.

### Income Assistance Breakdown

As of March 2021

	<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>SINGLE</u>		<u>COUPLE</u>		<u>SINGLE PARENT</u>		<u>FAMILY</u>	
EMPLOYABLE	29	47%	20	41%	1	100%	8	73%	0	0%
PPMB	8	13%	5	10%	0	0%	2	18%	1	100%
PWD	25	40%	24	49%	0	0%	1	9%	0	0%
	<b>62</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100%</b>
			79%		2%		18%		2%	

### Client Type Comparison 2021-03 to 2020-03

Client Type	Employable		PWD		PPMB		GFA		TOTAL	
	2021-03	2020-03	2021-03	2020-03	2021-03	2020-03	2021-03	2020-03	2021-03	2020-03
Aitchelitz	3	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	4
Matsqui	2	4	2	2	3	1	0	0	7	7
Skawahlook	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Skowkale	4	4	1	1	2	2	0	0	7	7
Skway	1	3	6	7	0	0	0	0	7	10
Tzeachten	16	15	11	11	2	4	3	3	32	33
Yakweakwoose	3	6	3	3	1	1	0	0	7	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>72</b>

Employable - Employable

PWD - Persons With Disability

PPMB - Persons With Persistent Multiple Barriers

GFA - Guardians Financial Assistance

### Family Type Comparison 2021-03 to 2020-03

Family Type	Single		1 Parent Family		Childless Couple		Family		TOTAL	
Band	2021-03	2020-03	2021-03	2020-03	2021-03	2020-03	2021-03	2020-03	2021-03	2020-03
Aitchelitz	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	4	4
Matsqui	5	5	2	2	0	0	0	0	7	7
Skawahlook	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Skowkale	7	4	0	3	0	0	0	0	7	7
Skway	7	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	10
Tzeachten	24	24	3	4	1	1	1	1	29	30
Yakweakwoose	3	5	4	5	0	0	0	0	7	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>69</b>

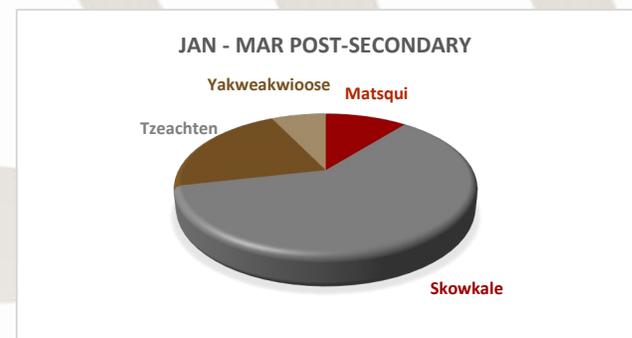
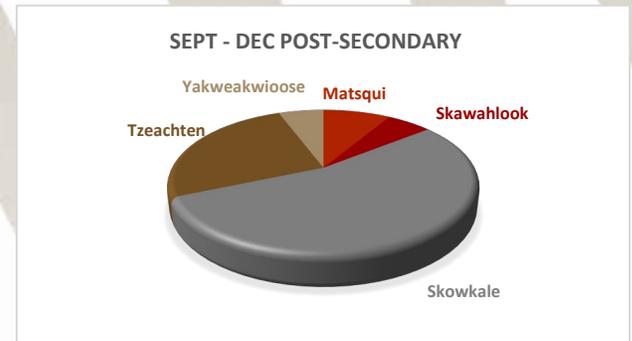
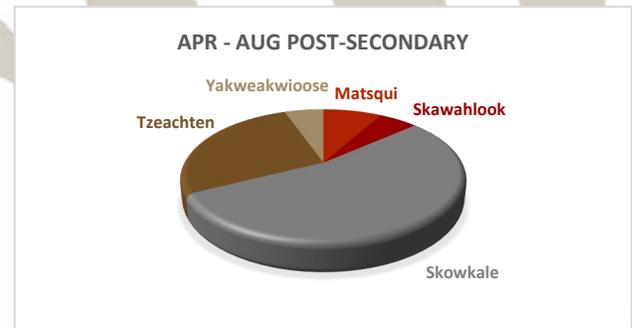
## POST-SECONDARY

- Post-Secondary for the 2020/21 fiscal year.

April - August 2020		%
Matsqui	3	8 %
Skawahlook	2	5.5 %
Skowkale	20	54 %
Tzeachten	10	27 %
Yakweakwioose	2	5.5 %
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>100%</b>

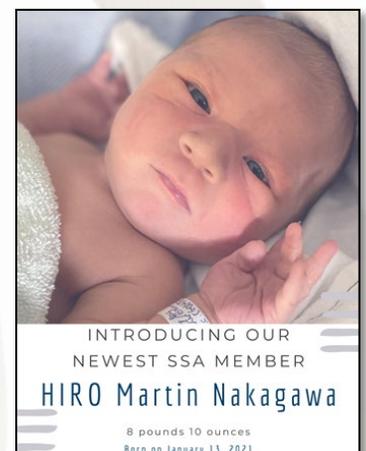
September - December 2020		%
Matsqui	3	8 %
Skawahlook	2	6 %
Skowkale	19	54 %
Tzeachten	9	26 %
Yakweakwioose	2	6 %
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>100 %</b>

January - March 2021		%
Matsqui	3	11 %
Skowkale	17	61 %
Tzeachten	6	21 %
Yakweakwioose	2	7 %
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>100 %</b>



## OPERATIONS

- Although SSA was closed to walk in traffic once the COVID-19 Pandemic hit, the Operations department continued to work in the office daily providing centralized services.
- Prepared a Finance and Operations restart plan explaining what safety measures, protocols and procedures the department put in place for COVID-19. This was shared with all staff and the SSA Board.
- Through SASET Summer Employment Program funding, hired 2 summer students. One to assist with administrative office duties and one to assist the property and capital management team.
- Finance and Operations team member, Brianna Nakagawa and her husband, welcomed their first baby, Hiro Martin who was born on January 13, 2021. Congratulations to Brianna and Arie!



**Hiro Nakagawa, born to Brianna and Arie Nakagawa.**

## EVENTS

- Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 all major events (Annual Children’s Festival, SSA Annual Golf Tournament, Remembrance Day ceremony) were cancelled.
- For Remembrance Day, a commemorative video was produced by Bear Imaging Productions which included speakers, Steven Point and Sonny McHalsie. The video was uploaded to the Stó:lō Nation website for November 11 at 11:11am.
- Held an employee Halloween costume contest. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, staff were asked to email pictures of themselves in costume.
- 19 staff were given years of service ribbons for reaching 5, 10, 25 and 35 years of service with SSA. SRRMC staff member, Sonny McHalsie was presented with his 35-year service recognition award while Finance staff, Jewel Francis and Don Peters were both presented with their 25-year service awards. Congratulations to all staff!



Best costume - June Jimmie.



Education Clerk, Jewel Francis and Finance Clerk, Don Peters receive their 25-year service recognition awards.

## HUMAN RESOURCES (HR)

	2020-21 Total
Job Postings	29
Interviews	92
New Hires	30
Summer Students	10
Maternity Leaves	8
HR consultations with Staff/Supervisor	107
Pension and Benefit Enrollment	24
WCB/Short Term Disability Applications	2
Criminal Record Check Applications	92
Community Postings/Consultations	10
Job Description Development/Registration	19

- Using a template shared from Tzeachten FN, and an 'Interim Remote Work from Home Policy' template shared by the City of Chilliwack, drafted a 'COVID-19 Office Worker Policy' as well as a COVID-19 Related Leave Policy. Both were passed by the SSA Board and emailed out to all staff.
- Eagle Bay Financial hosted 8 zoom Pension and Benefits Education sessions throughout the year.
- Conducted a Personnel File Audit to ensure mandatory HR paperwork was in each employee's file.
- Human Resource Coordinator, Crystal Schmitz made the decision to move back and take a position in her hometown of Lytton after 15 years of employment in the HR department with SSA. She will be greatly missed!
- In October, welcomed new employee, Jennifer Love to the Operations team as the new HR Officer, responsible for HR questions/queries/concerns, Unification, personnel files, and Letters of Employment (LOE's).
- Employee Jennifer Kemp moved from the Finance department into HR as Administrative Assistant overseeing Pension and Benefits and Recruitment and Selection.
- HR staff attended an online Labour Relations Workshop hosted by Infonex to learn about upcoming changes to the Canada Labour Code.
- Started an onboarding system for new staff to meet with HR Officer to fill out all necessary paperwork prior to them beginning work.
- Assisted the Health department in the Accreditation process by ensuring the personnel files were up to date with all required paperwork.



**Farewell luncheon for long term HR Coordinator, Crystal Schmitz.**

### **INDIAN REGISTRY (IR)**

- Assisted clients through email, telephone, social media and text on any Indian Registry concerns and forwarded registration applications forms and instructions on the registration process and the Secure Certificate of Indian Status Card. Clients were directed to call 1-800-567-9604 for a Temporary letter of Confirmation which is valid for one year and has all the client's personal information that is available on a Certificate of Indian Status card.
- Due to the increasing amounts of COVID-19 cases, Indian Registry services remained closed to the public. Continued to assist clients through email, telephone, social media and text.

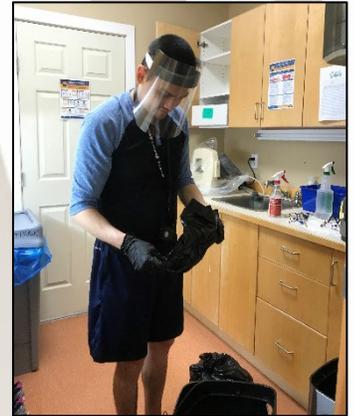
### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)**

- The start of 2020-21 was quite busy setting up extra staff on Remote Desktop and new laptops for staff, having to increase memory and performance capacity of our Remote Desktop server due to the increase in offsite users.
- Assisted with setting up and testing Zoom and Gotomeeting teleconferencing for staff which has become the new norm.
- Began testing of Microsoft Teams collaboration and communication software.
- Upgraded Exan software for Dental department and the building 10 HVAC system for maintenance.

- Assisted transition of Nations Creations domain and systems to Seabird Island.
- Attained non-profit qualification for access to Techsoup Canada which will result in significant savings on Microsoft software purchases.
- Installed new Dell server and storage system in server room and built new cluster.
- Moved all existing virtual servers onto new Windows Server 2019 cluster.
- Upgraded remaining staff from Office Home/Business to Microsoft 365.
- Assisted with migration of landline phones from old NEC system to Telus Business Connect.

## PROPERTY AND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

- Instituted enhanced cleaning procedures for all buildings. The after-hours janitorial continued to keep the buildings and common areas clean and sanitized. Supplied all department staff with sanitizing spray and cloths to wipe down their individual workspaces.
- Upgraded the heating and cooling of building 10.
- Maintained the grounds: added gravel to parking areas surrounding building 10; removed some dangerous trees on the property; rebuilt the walking path around the property; removed the blackberries on the west side of the property along the path; leveled the area behind the longhouse and gift shop to plant grass; and updated the grounds at the entrances to buildings 5A and 8B.
- Completed Fire and Safety Inspections on all buildings and resolved all Fire and Safety issues identified in the building inspections.
- Dental Clinic Modifications: added a window to new reception office and added two doors for staff entering and exiting; constructed a kiosk outside of dental for a receptionist to meet clients.
- Installed plexiglass in reception desks of building 7 and 5B, employee desks in building 5B and in the Gift shop.
- Added glass to doors on both sides of the elevator in B7 to assist in safe building access.
- Created QR codes for each building on the Coqualeetza site to provide easy check-in for staff for contact tracing purposes.
- Began some minor renovations to buildings 5A and 8A.
- Finished the final Environmental study for the Additions to Reserve process. Negotiated with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to demolish building 1 as part of the ATR.
- Installed a new external door into the Community Health Room in building 7.



FSW, Jordan Sepass following enhanced cleaning measures.



Plexiglass put in building 7 reception.



Window put in for Dental clinic.

- In preparation for the demolition of building 1, projected for September 2021, started evaluating the sewer lines which run through the Coqualeetza property and start at Building 1. Building 1 shares Natural Gas with building 7 which needs to be separated. Working with FortisBC Gas, we added a new gas meter to building 7 and upgraded the gas meter on building 8A which was undersized and near its end of life.
- Completed upgrading the septic system in building 19.

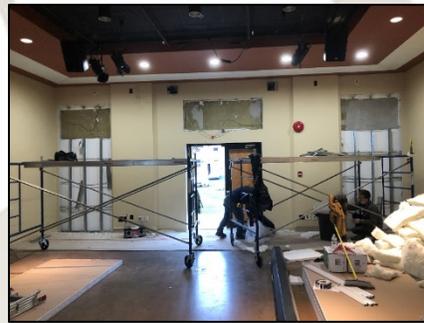


Upgraded the sewer system for Gift shop (building 19).



New covered smoking structure.

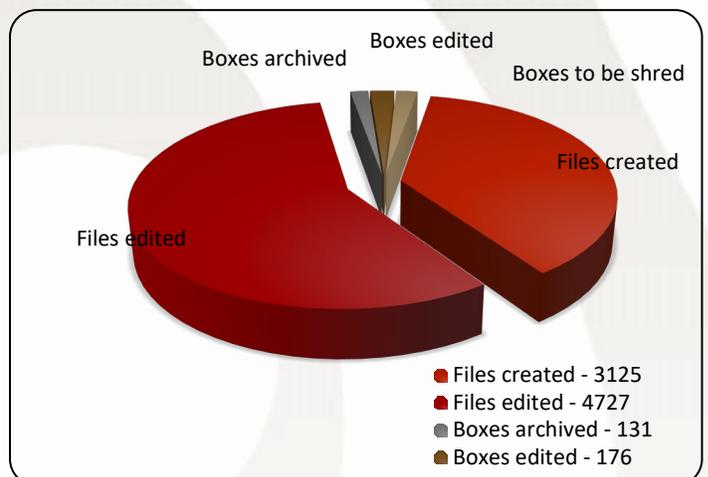
- Constructed a new covered smoking structure at Pekw'xe:yles in Mission.
- Finished a refresh of the bathrooms and kitchen in the ASCD offices at St. Mary's in Mission.
- Began the renovation to building 10 to divide the main meeting room into a separate meeting hall space.



Renovations at building 10, Stó:lō Resource Centre (SRC), creating a closed in meeting space on the main floor. Put in windows for natural lightening as well as ductless splits for control of heating/cooling in that space.

## RECORDS MANAGEMENT

- Once the 2019-20 Audit was completed, the 2018/19 fiscal year files were closed and archived. Several boxes were also created and/or closed for the HR, Dental, and SASET departments. Created new fiscal year files for 2020/21.
- Boxes in the Records Centre were removed from the shelves to be shredded this coming July, while many were archived for other departments.



# STÓ:LŌ HEALTH SERVICES (SHS)

## ADMINISTRATION/OPERATIONS/HEALTH AND SAFETY

- COVID-19 had us lock the main doors starting in March 2020 with most staff working from home.
- SSA Health Restart Plan and WorkSafeBC plans were completed and communicated to staff to ensure understanding and compliance. Safety protocols, policies and plans were put in place for staff and client safety.
- Primary Care, Home Care, and Community Health essential services remained in person by appointment only.
- Stó:lō Dental Clinic, Registered Massage Therapy (RMT) and Acupuncture were closed from mid-March until early June.
- Client entry for Public Health (immunizations and Flu Clinics), Dental, Primary Care, RMT, Acupuncture, and face to face meetings were available by appointment only and with the appropriate safety protocols, and personal protection equipment (PPE) in place.
- Mask wearing was made mandatory throughout the building.
- Most services continued remotely (Service Navigation, Qwí:qwelstóm, Family Empowerment, Youth Services, and Family Services).
- SSA Community Health Central Meetings were held:
  - October 1 at the Coast Hotel in Chilliwack - Health Leads from Aitchelitz, Sumas, Yakwekwioose, Skowkale, Skawahlook, and Tzeachten attended with a priority focus on Safety Measures in place for all those in attendance.
  - March 2 meeting, via zoom, to update SSA Communities on Health updates, which included the 10-year plan.
- October 15 was the annual Earthquake drill "Shakeout" with many of our SSA staff participating in the drill at Coqualeetza, in the field, at the Elder's Lodge and at home.
- Due to COVID-19, for this years Christmas hampers, gift cards and some swag PPE were given out.
- Began a Health program review with the Executive Director.
- 10-year Health and Wellness Plan was completed, which included a process of engaging with the Stó:lō Nation Chiefs Council and community Chief and Council.



Health Leads meeting at Coast Hotel.



Daycare children and staff participating in Shakeout BC.

## SERVICE NAVIGATION

- Steady during COVID with calls, research, and follow up for clients and referrals. 80% phone calls, 10% texts, 10% emails.
- On Reserve - 20%: Off Reserve and Service Providers, Urban & Away - 80%.
  - 30% calls for Counselling
  - 15% calls for Housing
  - 20% Food Security
  - 15% Sixties Scoop
  - 20% Other

## PLANNING TEAM

- Weekly and monthly Facebook Live broadcasts for COVID-19 information updates and service updates were held.
- Facilitated reopening strategy and development of operational tools, training and supports for staff.
- Provided COVID-19 pandemic supports to community – pandemic planning, 2nd wave public health strategy.



## SPECIAL PROJECTS

- Partnership with Xyólheméylh on internal changes and on family files which included support in care plans, family group conferences, navigating child and family processes.
- Raised close to \$250,000 and supported more than 400 individuals and families a month, providing food cards to more than 100 individual addresses for more than a year.
- Completed and distributed a 10-minute video on social media in October: “Calling of the Heart”, addressing the need to have honest conversations about substance use and stigma reduction in light of the huge increase in opioid overdoses in BC.
- Offered a weekly women’s conversation and support group with the assistance of the Qwí:qwelstóm team.
- Provided cultural training to Xyólheméylh staff and other service providers when COVID restrictions allowed.

## COMMUNITY HEALTH AND HOME CARE

- Following guidelines from First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) and the province, continued to provide direct care and consultation to clients.
- Weekly immunization clinics were held at Stó:lō Health building 7: provided 458 adult and childhood immunizations.
- Foot care clinics were held in home and outdoors when weather permitted.



Client receiving foot care from SSA Health staff.

- Food security program was set up with Second Harvest. Frozen food arrived weekly beginning mid-September for redistribution to anyone in need. Communities later took this over directly.
- The discharge from hospital process was reviewed. The Fraser Health Authority (FHA), FNHA, Seabird and Stó:lō collaborated to create an algorithm to correct identified gaps.
- FHA provided funding for an Elders' Day Program that began roll out in February 2021. Engagement included virtual and face to face connections with elders in community and at SEL.
- Supported students in several areas – RN 4-month preceptorship, with two in 2020 and two more in 2021. Also supported practicums for LPN students and shared small amounts of time for high school (grade 12) students who were interested in medicine, nursing, or biosciences. Two have become casual employees.
- Participated in COVID-19 vaccine clinics to support members from Tzeachten, Skowkale, Aitchelitz, Yakwekwioose, Popkum, Matsqui, Sumas and Shxwhá:y Village.
- COVID Outreach Team was created in mid-December funded by FNHA. It supported community members with education, supplies (food, PPE's etc.), connection to mental health resources, and simply lending an ear during difficult times.
- Supported 71 clients with homecare needs (wound care, chronic disease management, homemaking, and footcare).
- Provided service to 24 pre and postnatal clients (education, connection to other resources, monthly gift card, home visits and liaison with midwife).
- Began monthly zoom meetings with each community Health Lead to review client lists and department programs, as well as receive feedback on services.



#### **Á:LMÉLHÁWTXW EARLY EDUCATION CENTRE**

- The Centre closed from March 23 to July 6. Centre staff provided the following to the families during this time:
  - Social media pages posts created with staff singing songs children could learn and follow along with.
  - Articles were posted related to parenting through our Early Learning Facebook Page.
  - Weekly zoom check-ins for Preschool and Family Program to connect with parents and children.
  - Parent phone connections.
  - Activity bags were delivered to all children in the programs. They contained paper, markers, paint, playdoh and tools, craft supplies, water beads, stickers, books, and a story from Tami Quinn about the Pandemic.
- Opened the childcare on July 6 to Stó:lō staff children and gradually added more children.
- July to August the Head start staff offered one to one outreach sessions on and offsite, as well as zoom meetings with families who did not feel comfortable being physically around other people.

- In August, held the age 4 Preschool celebration, following the social distancing requirements. Program certificates, balloons and a frozen treat were given out for children headed to kindergarten.
- In September, opened the morning and afternoon preschool programs, with limited numbers of enrollment due to COVID-19.
- The pumpkin patch was brought to the centre and the children were able to pick a pumpkin and participate in some fall festivities in the playground.
- Make and takes were provided during scheduled outreach times. In November, our families made 'no bake' energy balls, and in December they created hot chocolate tote bags.
- Prepared customized Christmas hampers for family program participants that included cookie kits, soup kits, pies and Christmas books.



The many activities held at Á:Iméhwátxw Early Education Centre.



- Every Friday offered preschool zoom to registered children who wanted an extra class or were not attending regular program due to COVID-19.
- In February, the Gearing up for kindergarten was open to everyone. Information was shared through zoom to Chilliwack families who had children entering kindergarten. This was in collaboration with School District 33 Aboriginal Education department and SSA ASCD program.
- Offered family night deliveries to registered head start participants each month. Families enjoyed a meal prepared for them and an activity to share with their family.
- The Centre had a COVID audit, as per Fraser health Licensing, and were at low risk.
- Collaborated with Pivot Point from the community, to help support intensive behavioural learning strategies with one of our Head Start Families.
- Our childcare programs were full with 31 children.

### **FAMILY EMPOWERMENT TEAM (FET)**

- Hired 2 Growing Great Kids (GGK) Mentors and completed the GGK training with 5 team members.
- GGK was serving 20 clients before the end of the fiscal year.
- Traditional Parenting successfully completed its first full training session with 6 community members.
- Purchased tablets for clients to use for virtual meetings during COVID-19.
- Hired a new Family Empowerment Team Advocate, Peggy Napope.
- Staff connected with clients via zoom, facetime, and text/phone regularly.
- 34 FET clients on caseload.

### **YOUTH SERVICES**

#### *Mémiyelhtel*

- Started a community partnership with Best Buy Chilliwack. Delivered by the Store Managers and one of their Indigenous employees, Best Buy donated three 'Galaxy Tab A' tablets with protective cases. The partnership will be ongoing.
- Modified year-end celebration, including community partner recognition and honouring. Graduate from Chilliwack Senior Secondary (CSS); Community Honouree – Lauralee Campbell (SSA).
- Adopt-A-Road – 'Mémiyelhtel' stewardship, road clean-up (Knight Road, Shaw Avenue, Gaetz Street).
- Monthly dinner service at the Cyrus Centre – Youth Homeless Shelter.
- Participated in Orange shirt day and were proceed recipients from 'Section35 and The Truth' in the amount of \$4,497.58.



**Mémiyelhtel community partnership recognition and honouring ceremony. Honouree – Health Executive Assistant Lauralee Campbell.**

- Poster campaign with Mémiyelhtel youth, alumni, and Elders, encouraging fellow (young) community members to stay home. Feature about campaign in the local newspaper. #StayHome #ProtectOurElders Campaign
- Partnership with United Way Lower Mainland (UWLM) and Chilliwack Park Society. Set trail building days with Dr. Marc Greidanus (Chilliwack ER), trail crew youth mentors, followed by a mountain bike clinic (led by Dr. Marc). Enhancement to the mountain bikes purchased last year. After hearing the stories on CBC, Micheline from Langley, was so inspired by the initiative she contacted our program. Micheline asked to donate her 'top-of-the-line' mountain bike to our Mémiyelhtel program to help give more youth the opportunity to experience this sport.



Indigenous youth in Stó:lō territory prove there's more to building trails than moving rocks and dirt



**'It's really fun': Stó:lō teens learn to build trails – and then shred them on mountain bikes**

The program includes a five-person paid summer crew and several volunteer trail days for youth

Rafferty Baker - CBC News

Posted: August 14, 2020  
Last Updated: August 14, 2020



Joseph Sepass, 17, rides a trail in the Chilliwack Community Forest after spending some time building a trail at the park. (Rafferty Baker/CBC)



Dr. Marc and trail-builder Lloyd clear a stump from the summer's first build.

From repairing trails to biking them, Indigenous youth are combating the effects of social isolation due to COVID-19.

Thanks to peer mentors, including other Indigenous young people, youth will be taking part in a trail-building day Wednesday, August 12, in the Chilliwack Community Forest. It is the third of five builds this summer.

Lloyd Malloway, youth and member

- \$500 donation from the Chilliwack Vancity community branch for mental health and resiliency programming.
- Christmas Hampers provided to families in the program; some hampers provided from Mainstreet Church. Christmas dinners also delivered to program families with the support of Younie's Restaurant.



AA thebanner.org

**BANNER**

**B.C. Church Builds Relationships on Mountain Bike Trails**

Young people enjoy mountain biking in the Chilliwack Community Forest, described by Breanna Miller as a "healthy risk" that connects them to the community and to the land.

Marc Greidanus

NOVEMBER 19, 2020 | NEWS | JENNY DEGROOT

Five years after **Heartland Fellowship Christian Reformed Church** in Chilliwack, B.C., partnered with the local community to create a trail in the forests on the edge of its growing community (**Building Community While Building Trails**), the number of trails

Good Medicine: Wellness Champion Breanna Miller Helps Stó:lō Youth Connect with their Strengths

Jul 14, 2020

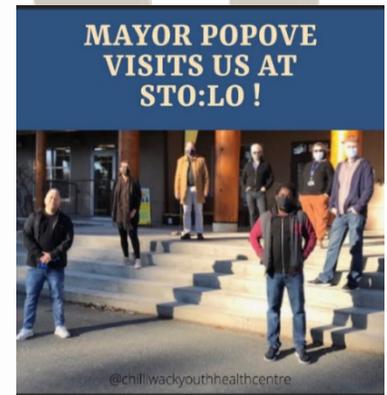
**Good Medicine**

Breanna Miller is a mom, an auntie, and a Wellness Champion from Chiyom First Nation. She's giving back to her community through her work with youth across Stó:lō territory.

Breanna has worked with youth from "day one" of her career, over 15 years ago, starting when she was in her second year of undergraduate studies. Breanna went on to work with Aboriginal Child & Mental Health at the Ministry of Children and Family Development, and then as director of a residential healing centre in Stó:lō territory. After a Master's Degree in Counselling Psychology, she began her current role managing youth services at Stó:lō Services Agency.

Part of what inspires Breanna is her own experience as a youth. She explains, "I grew up disconnected from my Stó:lō culture, but I became reconnected as a youth and these teachings at [redacted] impacted my

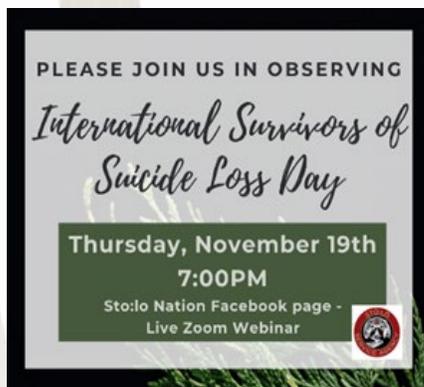
- Technology Access Grant: funds for 19 youth from the Mémíyelhtel program received laptops, headphones, and office applications to assist in decreasing isolation and increase access to school and other supports. Equipment purchased in partnership (discount pricing) with Best Buy Chilliwack.



Tour of the Stó:lō- CYHC clinic site with Mayor Ken Popove.

### National Aboriginal Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy (NAYSPS)

- Continued provincial planning and consultation on local wellness and mental health initiatives.
- Crisis & Trauma Resource Institute – Live Virtual Crisis Response Planning training with ASCIRT Team members.
- First Nations Health Authority – International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day – provincial Zoom webinar.
- Online offering of suicide prevention skills training (ongoing since Sept 2020) – START.
  - 98 people have registered for the course.
  - 84 have completed the course.
  - 9 are in progress.



### Youth Elders' Advisory Committee

- Participation in the #StayHome #ProtectOurElders poster campaign.
- Elder participation in recent initiatives (i.e., trail building days; mural painting).
- 'Elder-A-Day' – for the month of August, one Elder each day was available, by phone/text/video/some in-person, to support or consult with any Mémíyelhtel staff or youth, as well as youth probation officers.
- Elder presence, support, and planning for new group initiative.

## **QWÍ:QWELSTÓM WELLNESS SERVICES**

- Changes to programming during the COVID-19 epidemic included:
  - Creating a Social Media page.
  - Sharing resources on social media and via email on:
    - Self-harm
    - Safety-planning
    - Domestic and sexualized violence resources
    - Reporting sexual harassment, child sexual abuse and sexual violence
    - Transition homes, crisis lines and counselling resources
  - Hosting the weekly delivery of a women's support group.
  - Working with service providers on responses to domestic and sexual violence in Indigenous communities.
  - Conducting Elders' Panel meetings on Zoom or in-person, while following social distancing protocols.
    - Developing & streaming videos addressing: Addictions, Mental Health, Self-Care, Grief and Loss, and Healing Anger and Conflict Resolution.
- Harvested traditional plants for the Elders.
- Zoom Day Treatments were held with a total of 15 people participating.
- Virtual Coastal Hand Drum Special contest was held for Youth under 17, Adults and Elders. 34 people participated.
- Participated in cultural activities (ceremonies) for the Stó:lō Elder's Lodge.
- Partnership with First Nation RCMP, Constables Chris Gosselin and Constable Jaden Courtney for community and cultural supports.
- There was an increase in referrals to Contract Counselling, cultural and spiritual support, and staff support (culturally).
- Continued Intake / referrals to Contract Counselling. Case Conferencing with Counsellors (files).

### *Sexual Violence Response Team Project: Restoring Our Voice*

- Held Sexual Violence First Responders Training on Dec 2-4, 2020, Jan 13-15, Jan 27-29, Feb 23-25, March 23-25 on Zoom.
- In total, 24 trainees set to be First responders to Sexual Violence incidents.

## **FAMILY SERVICES**

### *Aboriginal Family Place (AFP)*

- Through the initial part of the Pandemic, AFP stayed in contact with families via telephone. A number of families consistently relied on this service.
- Provided contactless outreach by picking up and dropping off items for families that did not have access to transportation. (i.e. – dropping off applications, rent cheques, grocery items, etc.).
- Posted daily activities on their Facebook (FB) page providing service updates, quotes of encouragement, recipes, children's activities, etc.

- Posted daily activities on their Facebook (FB) page providing service updates, quotes of encouragement, recipes, children’s activities, etc.
- Delivered resource packages and food hampers to families through the months of April, May, and June.
- The garden was planted and maintained and distributed amongst families.
- AFP opened the doors to families in July for play sessions by appointment only.
- In July and August, families returned slowly. Approximately 19 families were served through social distanced play dates and a trip to the water park.
- 21 Participants participated in the “Social Distanced Pumpkin Patch Field Trip”.
- Fall care packages were dropped off to 8 families. All regularly attending families received a resource package for Christmas with crafts, food items and small gifts to brighten their holiday.
- Aboriginal Family Place (AFP) had 48 participants in the program from January to March of which 7 of them were new to the program.

#### *Aboriginal Supported Child Development (ASCD)*

- Provided virtual services through telephone visits, Zoom, Skype, etc... through April, May, and June.
- Resource packages were available and delivered monthly during this time.
- Socially distanced visits began to happen early in July: mainly outdoors for families that were interested.
- Approximately 20 families continued to receive funded support to attend childcare.
- Approximately 400 copies of the story, “Posie and the Pandemic” were delivered to families, and other service providers to assist parents in helping their children understand this trying time.
- Prepared and delivered Kindergarten back packs full of goodies for kindergarten age children.
- ASCD Chilliwack started their Play and Connect group again in August by sign up. Therapists from the Child Development Centre came and connected with families or potential families with children who have or are suspected of having a developmental delay.
- Supported 27 centres that received funding for children who need to attend childcare but cannot without support.
- Had 17 new referrals in the final quarter of the fiscal year.



#### *Aboriginal Infant Development (AIDP)*

- Started doing socially distanced visits in July if the families were comfortable.
- More than 40 new referrals in the final quarter.
- Continued to provide the ‘Play and Connect’ group for families whose child needed to see a Speech, Occupational or Physical Therapist from our Fraser Valley Child Development Centre.
- Centre visits increased as Childcare Centres became comfortable with safety COVID processes.
- AIDP continued to do virtual visits or visits outside or in another location but not inside client’s homes.

## STÓLŌ ELDER'S LODGE

- Ministry of Health (MHO) Single Site Order was executed in March. Wage Lift for all frontline workers due to Single Site Order.
- Infection control cleaning twice daily.
- Social distance dining was implemented, and visitor Safety Plan completed.
- Various activities throughout the year included: virtual floral arrangement workshop through United Way, letters and pictures from community children for tenants arranged by United Way, tenant virtual visits with family & friends, community members drumming outdoors, building cleanse, garden activity, chair fit twice weekly, Bingo, mini-Olympics, social & share, celebrating Grandparents Day, Mexican Night, Pumpkin Patch visit, pumpkin decorating, Halloween party, Remembrance Day ceremony, crafter noon, movie matinee, winter scenic tour, celebrating Chinese New Year, and adopt an Elder program.



Various activities held at SEL.



- New Hires included: Full Time Cook – Mirelle Gerding, Temporary Admin/Screeners - Charise Conkin, Emergency LPN - Peggy Napope, RCA/LPN - Theresa Richards.
- Fraser Health COVID-19 Audit was held at 6-12-week intervals to ensure compliance with Fraser Health COVID-19 regulations.
- LPN, Jacqui Madill was given the Community Hero Award. Congratulations to our LPN!
- Samsung Tablet Donation for Virtual Family Visits from the Greyhound Masters Track and Field Club.
- Held a celebration of life for 2 SEL Elders who passed away.



SEL LPN, Jacqui Madill - Hero Award

## STÓ:LŌ ABORIGINAL SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT TRAINING (SASET)

- During the first quarter of this fiscal year SASET staff worked from home and quickly adjusted working with outreach communities and Indigenous clients remotely. Employment counseling was conducted via phone, email, zoom, Facebook private messaging, Skype, and Facetime.
- SASET was also able to provide COVID benefit updates from the Federal and Provincial Governments to clients and communities assisting individuals on how to access added benefits during the initial outbreak and awareness throughout the fiscal year.
- Continued to provide employment and training services through a renewed 10-year funding agreement with Service Canada under the name of the Indigenous Skills & Employment Training (ISET) program.
- This fiscal year SASET no longer provided employment services in Surrey, BC. Services were provided by ACCESS, an urban ISET agreement.
- Employment workshops were conducted via Zoom and Skype.
- SASET employment counselors, had regularly scheduled hours in the communities of Boston Bar, Spuzzum, Yale, Chawathil, Cheam, Scowlitz, Katzie, Kwantlen, Leq'á:mel (by appointment with outreach worker), Tzeachten, Soowahlie, Shxwhà:y Village, Shxw'ow'hamel, Squiala, Skwah, Matsqui, Sumas, Mission Friendship Centre, Free Reign Associates in Hope, WorkBC offices in Chilliwack, Mission, Abbotsford, Langley and Maple Ridge and the employment resource centre in Mt. Currie/Lil'wat.
- SASET provided professional development to all employment counselors who received further certification in:
  - Introduction to Vocational Rehabilitation.
  - Facilitated Learning.
  - Trauma Informed Practice.
  - “Why Do They Do That?” course to explore the collaboration of Mental Health and Behavioural perspectives for supporting individuals who display more difficult behaviours and complex mental health issues. This training has proven to be helpful due to the effects many clients were finding from COVID isolation.

- Over the fiscal year, SASET employment counselors virtually served 1,192 clients.
  - 646 male, 538 female and 8 unspecified.
  - 8246 “interventions”, which averages approximately 7.07 virtual appointments per client.
  - 522 individuals found employment.
  - 218 returned to school or took further training.
  - 9 became self-employed.
  - 40 individuals completed training and are actively seeking employment.
  - Age breakdown: 1 client was under the age of 15, 406 clients were between the ages of 15 and 24, 424 clients were between the ages of 25 and 39, 239 clients were between the ages of 40 and 54, and 122 clients were over the age of 55.
- Extended funding to individual training/online course and skills development, working with SASET employment counselors to submit client applications for funding, and reaching out to First Nation Post-Secondary staffing to provide additional funding where applications fit the funding criteria.

### VOCATIONAL TRAINING SUPPORTS

- Vocational Training Supports were received by client application and the employment counselor assisted clients with the forms and criteria process for funding:
  - Short Term Training Supports (2 to 30 days of training).
  - Long Term Training Supports.
  - Transition to Work supports.

**VOCATIONAL TRAINING Clients April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021**

Community	TTW	STT	LTT	In School	At Work	TOTAL
Aldergrove/Langley	1	2	0	3	3	9
Boston Bar	1	2	1	1	3	8
Chawathil/Shxw'ow'hamel/Hope	13	3	6	7	20	49
Cheam	11	2	1	3	12	29
Chehalis	20	0	0	1	20	41
Katzie	3	0	0	0	3	6
Kwantlen	6	1	1	2	8	18
Leq'á:mel	0	1	2	2	1	6
LSTC	0	0	1	1	1	3
Matsqui	1	0	0	0	1	2
Mission/Abbotsford	5	1	7	14	8	35
SASET	20	7	12	11	12	62
Seabird Island	8	0	4	4	7	23
Shxwhá:y Village	0	2	0	2	2	6
Skowkale	4	1	6	7	13	31
Spuzzum/Yale	1	2	0	2	2	7
Squiala	3	0	1	1	4	9
Sumas	9	0	0	6	6	21
Tzeachten	4	1	2	7	3	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>382</b>

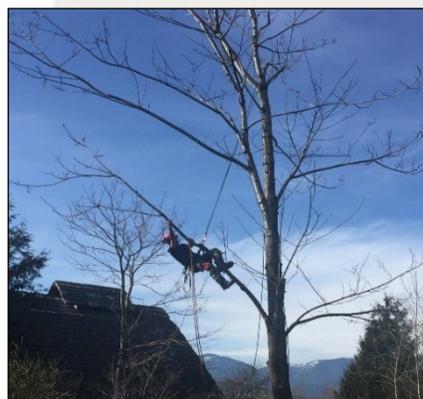
Transition to Work (TTW) Short-term Training (STT); Long-term Training (LTT)

## SASET SPONSORED TRAINING PROGRAMS

- In late August, had commenced in classroom training with strict COVID protocols, plexiglass barriers between study tables that were safely distanced apart. Participants had to agree to strict following the protocols to be accepted into training. Each study area had its own cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer and strict wear masks rules along with social distancing.
- Training programs that normally held up to 15 participants had been cut down to 8 individuals. This continued until November when another set of Provincial lockdown rules were applied in BC. Training resumed late January on a restrictive basis following Provincial trades post-secondary practices.
- Training Certifications Classes offered throughout the catchment area:
  - **Spring break Online training July 6 - 13, 2020** - 9 youth completed the training, Certificates included: WCB Awareness, WHMIS, SuperHost , Heat Stress, Back Talk.
  - **Shxw'ow'hamel Occupational First Aid Level 3 June 29 - July 10, 2020** - 10 clients attended and completed the certification.
  - **Cheam Chainsaw July 16 - July 17, 2020** - 13 clients attended and completed the certification.
  - **Online Employment Prep July 27 - August 5, 2020** - 13 clients attended and completed the program which included: Customer Service (5-6 hrs), Back Awareness (3 hrs), Preventing Heat Stress (3 hrs), WCB—Young workers (3 hrs), WHMIS (3 hrs), First Aid (3 hrs).
  - **Traffic Control August 19 – 20, 2020** - 6 clients attended and completed their certification.
  - **Shxw'ow'hamel Chainsaw August 24 - August 25, 2020** - 5 clients attended and completed the certification.
  - **Equipment Training 1 September 14 – 18, 2020** - 6 clients attended and completed the certification which included: Fall Protection & WHMIS, OFA Level 1, Forklift and Power Pallet Jack, Aerial Lifts, Skid Stee.
  - **Spuzzum First Aid Level 1 Training September 17, 2020** - 6 clients attended and completed the certification.
  - **Traffic Control September 23 – 24, 2020** - 8 attended and completed receiving their certification.
  - **Equipment 1 September 28 - October 2, 2020** - 6 attended and completed receiving certification in: Fall Protection & WHMIS, OFA Level 1, Forklift & Power Pallet Jack, Aerial Lifts, Skid Steer operations certification.
  - **Customer Service October 5 – 9, 2020** - 7 attended and completed the program receiving certification in: Food Safe, Occupational First Aid, Serving It Right, Super Host, WHMIS & BACK TALK.
  - **Landscaping October 13 – 23, 2020** - 4 attended and completed receiving certification in: First Aid Level 1, WHMIS, Fall Protection, Confined Space, Respiratory Protection, Skid Steer and basic landscaping skills.



- **Warehousing DGS October 19 - 30, 2020** - 8 clients attended and completed receiving certification in: WHMIS, Construction Safety, Fall Protection, Forklift, Genie Boom lift, Order Picker, Scissor Lift, First Aid Level 1.
- **UFV Building Service Worker October 26 - November 6, 2020** - 7 clients attended and successfully completed the program. This 3-week program, in partnership with UFV, introduced custodial/housekeeping operations (both theory and practical applications) in cleaning procedures for all surfaces, including chemicals, waste handling, WHMIS, and other safety matters that included COVID cleaning awareness.
- **Traffic Control November 18 – 19, 2020** - 7 clients attended and successfully completed the program receiving certification.
- **Construction Program hosted at Seabird February 1 - 12, 2021** - 7 clients successfully completed the program.
- **UFV Construction Program February 1 - 19, 2021** - 6 clients completed the program that provided an Introduction to Construction in partnership with University of the Fraser Valley. This program included a 3-weeks “hands on” experience at the UFV campus learning: Construction Safety, Trade Knowledge, Carpentry Techniques, using hands and power tools, framing techniques, and reading drawings, learning foundations, framing, siding, and roofing.
- **Equipment Training February 22 - 26, 2021** - 6 clients completed this program receiving certification in: Fall Protection & WHMIS, OFA Level 1, Forklift & Power Pallet Jack, Aerial Lifts, Skid Steer equipment safety.
- **Pre-apprentice Utility Arborist Training March 1 - 19, 2021**- 6 clients completed this program, and two individuals were offered employment by the instructors to work in their company. Others were employed at their communities. The 3-week program included Hand and Small Power Tools; Tree Work Management; Falling and Bucking; Rigging; Climbing; Emergency Response; Job Planning Risk Assessment; Powerline Awareness.



Arborist Training.

- **Online Certificate Training March 15 - 19, 2021** - 15 students completed the program and received certificates in: WHMIS Basic First Aid, Customer Service, WCB Awareness and Preventing Heat Stress.
- **Basic Security Training March 22 - 26, 2021** - 6 clients completed the program. For the successful participants that completed the program, SASET sponsored the costs for each participant's criminal records check, and purchased a 2-year Basic Security Licencing for the individuals to commence employment.
- **Food Safe Certificate Training (Online)** - 11 Tzeachten Participants successfully completed their certification.
- **Stqoya Chainsaw Training March 25 - 26, 2021** - 7 clients successfully completed their certification.
- **Building Service Worker Program March 29 - April 15, 2021** - 10 enrolled and successfully completed the program.
- **Landscaping Training March 29 - April 12, 2021** - 6 clients enrolled and completed the program receiving certificates in: Introduction to Landscaping, Fall Protection & WHMIS, Occupational First Aid, Respiratory Safety & Confined Space and Skid Steer safety.
- **Wildfire Fighting Training with Safety Certification** - 3-week program included the following certificates: First Aid, Transportation Endorsement, Chainsaw Training, s-100 Basic Fire Suppression, s-232 Pump and Water Delivery, s-185 Fire Entrapment, s-230 Crew Leader, s-235 Burn off and Backfiring, and SPP-115 Structure Protection and Site Preparation.
- **Office Administration Certification** - in partnership with PrimeTuitive, 13 participants took part in this six-week online program.



### **BLADERUNNER PROVINCIAL EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM**

- Services for BladeRunners was provided through the Foundation Program followed up with the Enhancement Program geared to skill building in a specified field of work. The Foundation Program provided unemployed, at-risk-youth with ongoing support, job readiness skills, and work-place training certification so they could overcome barriers to employment and achieve long-term attachment to the workforce.
- Due to COVID constraints we were only able to assist 9 individuals through the program. This was the last year of the funding agreement, however SASET received substantial budget increases and were able to accommodate youth training within the ISET Agreement. ISET funding had to be partnered with BladeRunner dollars and we are able to integrate “Blades” clients into our ISET funding budget.

## COMMUNITY-BASED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

- SASET approved the following Targeted Wage Subsidies (TWS), and Student Employment Programs (SEP) for the 2020-21 fiscal year:
  - 32 separate First Nation Communities, Organizations and Businesses who applied for TWS funding which employed 41 individuals. TWS is provided to support individuals who may have a barrier to employment and need employment experience.
  - 100 youth received an employment experience through 25 First Nation community and organization/business contractors under the SEP funding through SASET. Unfortunately, due to COVID 6 additional communities cancelled their agreements due to shutdowns.
- COVID-19 restrictions affected the start date of many of the Community Projects that would have commenced in April of 2020. As SASET has a flexible agreement with Service Canada we were able to allow contracts that started late to carry forward into 2021-2022 ensuring that the clients received the maximum opportunity to strengthen their employability skills.

## DAYCARE AGREEMENTS

- SASET administered “grandfathered” funding that provided seat allocated supports to Stó:lō Service Agency, Seabird Island and Sts’ailes First Nation. Through Service Canada, SASET was able to provide additional funding to these daycares to offset some of the COVID costs.
- It is anticipated that 2021/22 will be the final year of the transfer of these dollars to ISET agreement holders. The BC Aboriginal Child Care Society has been designated by the Chiefs of BC, to secure BCACCS as the organization to deal with all funding transfers for daycares.

## SASET FOUNDATIONAL CULINARY ARTS PROGRAM

- A 12-week foundations program that has curriculum reflective of Professional Cooks Level 1 introduction to the culinary trade. Individuals who proceed to their Level 1 at The University of the Fraser Valley are granted credits for completing the SASET Foundational Culinary Arts Program when continuing studies.
- 20/21 year saw the SASET Culinary Arts Program complete 3 intakes at the new kitchen at University of the Fraser Valley Technical Trades Centre. The Provincial contract was for 2 intakes of 12 participants to each intake. However, due to COVID protocols, the space was capped at 10 people (8 students, 1 instructor, 1 assistant). With those mechanics in place, we added a third intake to complete the Provincially contracted participant numbers.



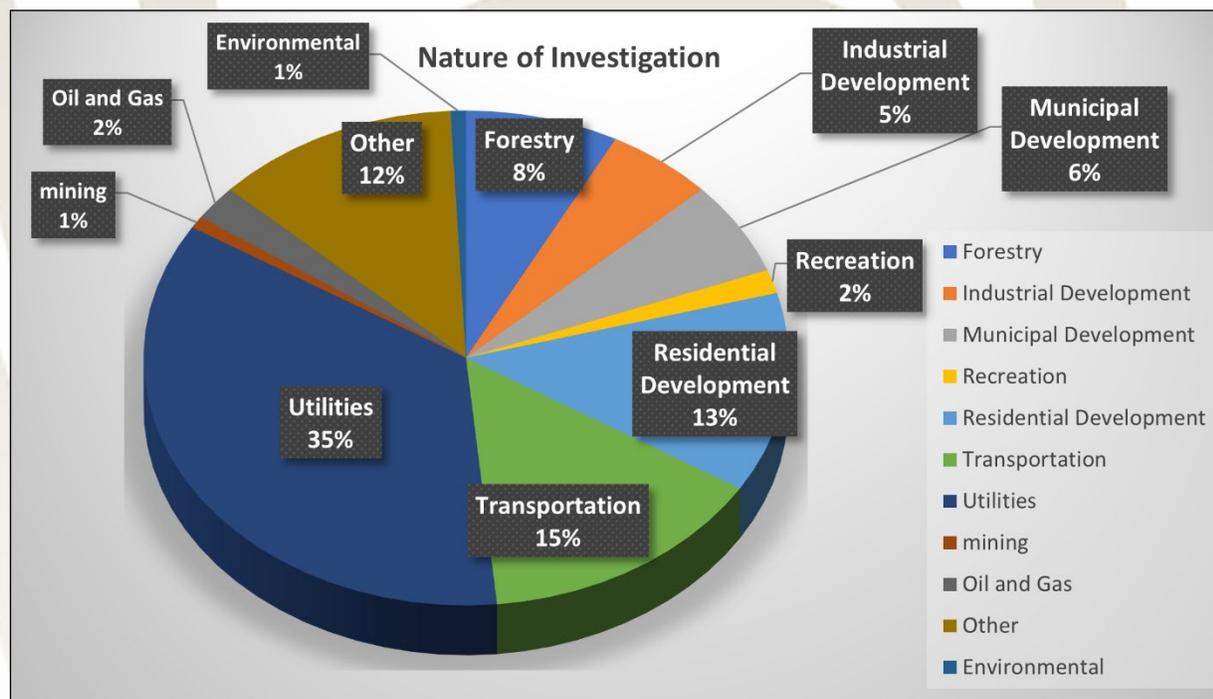
# STÓ:LŌ RESEARCH AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CENTRE (SSRMC)

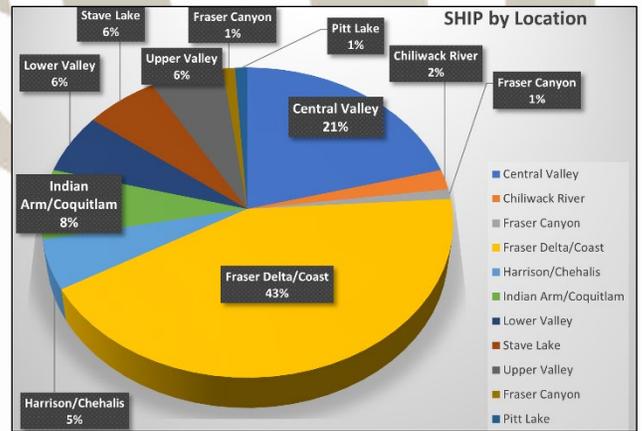
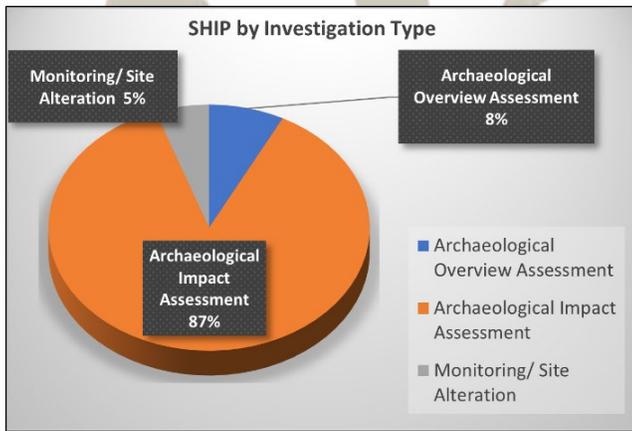
## HERITAGE STEWARDSHIP AND ARCHAEOLOGY

- In 2020-2021 the Heritage Stewardship and Archaeology Unit participated in over 103 projects related to culture and heritage. Their work as stewards helped protect and preserve Stó:lō heritage.
- Additional Archaeology Pod activities included:
  - Archaeological/cultural monitoring and investigations.
  - First Aid certification.
  - Hired three additional archaeologists and one additional field technician.
  - Brought on 3 contractors as full-time employees as field technicians.
  - Conducted safety audits and continued to improve our Occupational Health & Safety Program.
  - Participated in multiple training courses for the Trans Mountain Expansion Program and the Enbridge Pipeline.
  - Drone training for 2 staff members.
  - Repository- cataloging, accessioning, upload to RRN, donation and loans.

### *Stó:lō Heritage Investigation Permitting (SHIP) Summary*

- 277 Stó:lō Heritage Investigation Permit issued.





SRRMC staff in the field.



### Stó:lō Material Culture Repository

- SRRMC heritage and library staff continued to take care of the material culture repository and belongings curated there on behalf of the Stó:lō community, past and present.
- The repository continued to house ancestral remains returned from numerous institutions, as an initial community-based facility overseen by the Stó:lō House of Respect Caretaking Committee. An external Grave House was built on the Coqualeetza Grounds as the final resting place for some ancestral remains as determined by individual communities. Signage is being developed to inform the public of the nature and purpose of this Grave House.

## S'ÓLH TÉMÉXW STEWARDSHIP ALLIANCE (STSA) SUPPORT SERVICES

### *People of the River Referrals Office (PRRO)*

- 2020 brought challenges to the S'ólh Téméxw Stewardship Alliance (STSA) and People of the River Referrals Office (PRRO) that abruptly affected us all. Most staff worked remotely which posed significant challenges, however, the Indigenous engagement web portal, StoloConnect, proved instrumental in the quick transition from collective to remote work.
- This second year of the S'ólh Téméxw Stewardship Alliance Strategic Engagement Agreement (STSA SEA) with the Province of British Columbia, yielded surprisingly positive results, despite hardships due to COVID-19. PRRO Caseload from April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021:

Measure	STSA SEA Referrals	Federal Referrals	Other Referrals (Industry, Regional, Civic, etc)	TMEP Permit Applications	Total Referrals
<b>Referrals Received</b>	588 (2.4 per working day)	89 (0.4 per working day)	51 (0.2 per working day)	380 (1.5 per working day)	1,108 (4.5 per working day)
<b>Final Response Timelines Met</b>	83% (exceeding our 80% target)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

<sup>1</sup>Does not equate summed individual totals as some referrals may be both STSA SEA and Federal.

### *Strategic Engagement Agreement*

- 2020-21 saw a slight reduction in referrals submitted under the S'ólh Téméxw Stewardship Alliance Strategic Engagement Agreement (STSA SEA). STSA and BC accounted for this as a reduced number of statutory decisions made by the Crown due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Annual STSA - BC Executive Government to Government meeting was successful with much praise received after the fact from our partners at BC. BC was represented by the Honourable Minister Scott Fraser, Minister Doug Donaldson, and Minister George Heyman.
- STSA successfully negotiated additional Community Capacity funding to support STSA SEA referrals engagement at the STSA Community Level. Funds were received and distributed to the communities (\$350,000 was received in 2020-21, with \$500,000 set for 2021-22).
- Cultural Sites Protection Working Group formed to address Cultural Sites protection issues. Linked to Heritage Conservation Act sec.4 Pilot Project with regards to land status analysis. Tied to Collaborative Stewardship Forum (CSF).
- An in-depth analysis and review of Heritage Conservation Act (HCA) referrals to-date and their handling in StoloConnect was undertaken by PRRO, Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC) Archaeology team, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR), and HCA staff to address the compatibility of HCA permits and the Stó:lō Heritage Investigation Permits (SHIPs).
- Ongoing work towards facilitating STSA engagement on Water Sustainability Act (WSA) Ground Water Licensing resulted in a pilot Cultural Heritage Overview Assessment (CHOA). This pilot is currently being initiated and is planned to analyze at least 200+ licenses.

- Interest on the part of other First Nations in STSA SEA and StoloConnect led to presentations throughout BC by PRRO staff.
- Continued to liaise with Joan Calderhead, our contact at Indigenous Services Canada, and push for implementation.
- Continued engagement on the Trans Mountain Expansion Pipeline (TMEP) under the umbrella of our tripartite engagement agreement between STSA, BC, and the Trans Mountain Corporation.
- 380 TMEP permit applications were received for Provincial consultation.
- 2020-21 engagement with Trans Mountain Corporation shifted to focus on mitigation of impacts to sites of cultural importance through the development of Field Plans which will provide mitigation guidance to those in the field (construction, monitors, etc.).
- Worked with Trans Mountain Corporation on specific procedures for notifying and engaging the STSA and SRRMC when new archaeological or other sites of cultural importance were found during construction.
- Hired Tannis Tommy as the STSA Communications Officer. STSA website, [www.theSTSA.com](http://www.theSTSA.com) continued to be updated and refined.
- The Lightning Rock Site sub-committee continued to address the situation and implement the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Semá:th First Nation and MIRR, following the submission of recommendations to the Minister of MIRR.
- Continued support for the 5Nation Grizzly Bear Restoration Forum (in addition to STSA, included Okanagan Nation Alliance, Sylix, Secwepemc, Stó:lō, and St'la'imc). Grizzly Bear Hazard Assessments were completed for Manning Park, Cathedral Park, and Skagit Valley Park. A presentation from the biologists to directly share findings with STSA is currently being scheduled with the goal to introduce a female grizzly bear in the most appropriate location within one of these three parks, to increase local genetic diversity and combat the current inbreeding that is occurring.



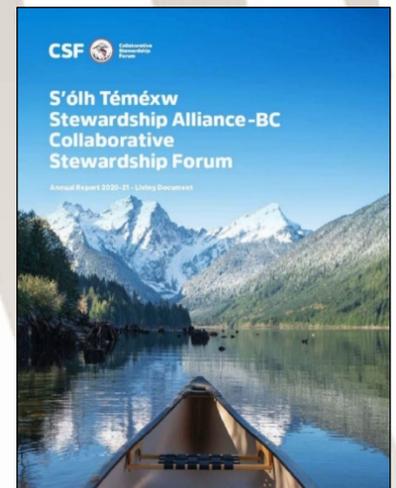
PRRO staff at one of the remote staff meetings.

## LAND STEWARDSHIP

### *STSA-BC Collaborative Stewardship Forum*

- Successfully completed the final year of the 3-year initial mandate for the S'ólh Téméxw Stewardship Alliance – British Columbia Collaborative Stewardship Forum (STSA-BC CSF).
- Secured bridging funding for the STSA-BC CSF to continue operations through fiscal year 2021-22.
- Worked extensively in the coordination of 24 projects within seven theme areas, with the goal of advancing Stó:lō-based stewardship and shared decision making, post-decision monitoring, and resource co-management between the STSA and BC, based on Stó:lō principles, knowledge and practices together with Western science. The seven theme areas:
  - Government to Government Organizational Structure and Relations.
  - S'ólh Téméxw Integrity Analysis.
  - Land Use Planning.

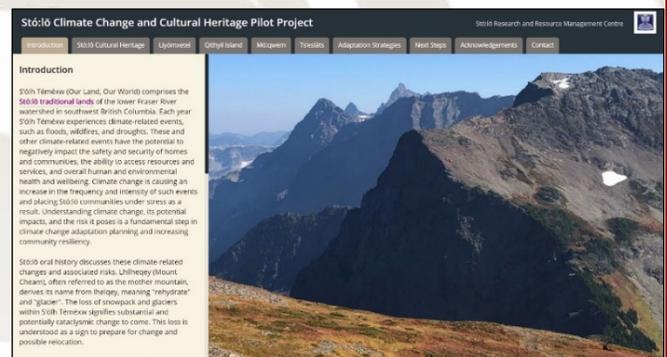
- Cultural Site Protection.
  - Monitoring and Enforcement.
  - Economic Development/Revenue Sharing.
  - Education and Training.
- The Lets'emó:t Committee provided oversight of high-level CSF work. Membership included staff from SRRMC, Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance (LFFA), Seven Generations Environmental Monitoring, Ayelstexw Consulting, Ts'elxwéyew Tribe Management Limited (TTML), Alongside Research and Consulting, BC Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, BC Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, and BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low-carbon Initiatives.
  - The Lets'emó:t Implementation Team provided project coordination and management for the STSA-BC CSF, ensuring successful implementation of projects and completion of the annual budget and report. An example of one such project was the explanatory video for Cultural Heritage Overview Assessments (CHOAs) and Cultural Heritage Investigation Assessments (CHIAs) led by the SRRMC Heritage Stewardship and Archaeology team.
  - The STSA-BC CSF Annual Report included project summaries and recommendations for change to current provincial law, policy, and operations to bring them into alignment with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). The report can be found here:



<https://thestsa.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/CSF-2020-2021-Year-End-Report.pdf>

### Climate Change

- Successfully secured \$25,000 in funding from the First Peoples' Cultural Council to carry out a pilot project examining the connection between Stó:lō cultural heritage and climate change.
- Designed and developed a web based Storymap that explores some examples of Stó:lō cultural heritage that have been impacted by climate change and outlines next steps for future work on this topic.



Web-based Storymap.

### Flood Risk Assessment

- Provided advice and support to the First Nations Emergency Planning Secretariat (EPS) on their flood management projects and community engagement process. Attended EPS Leadership meetings, the EPS Rising Waters Community Flood Mapping Technical Working Group meetings, the Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy Joint Program Committee meetings, the EPS Mainland Coast Salish Flood Risk Assessment workshop, and the EPS Strategic Planning Session.

- Completed flood depth and extent maps for Kwikwetlem, Katzie, Cheam, Chawathil, Shxw'ówhámél, Kwantlen and Matsqui.
- Successfully secured \$20,000 to provide technical consulting services on the Mainland Coast Salish Flood Risk Assessment project co-led by the EPS, Fraser Basin Council, and Kwantlen First Nation.

#### *BC-STSA Species at Risk Collaboration*

- Successfully secured \$50,000 in funding from BC and started the Conservation of Species, Ecosystems & Indigenous Values in S'ólh Téméxw collaborative project.

#### *S'ólh Téméxw Guardians*

- Received direction from the S'ólh Téméxw Stewardship Alliance in July to establish the S'ólh Téméxw Guardians. Hired Ray Douglas, the first S'ólh Téméxw Guardian, in September.
- Job shadowed with BC Parks for 3 months and gained valuable skills and experience.
- Job shadowed on fieldwork with Resilient Waters at Ferry Island, Cheam.
- Successfully completed the 16-week BC Parks Laws and Admin course and the H2S Alive training to recognize H2S (hydrogen sulfide) hazards.
- Worked with STSA member First Nations and Tribes to discuss their stewardship needs and identify environmental hot spots within S'ólh Téméxw that required attention (e.g., restoration / remediation).
- Started development of a S'ólh Téméxw Guardians curriculum and design of a data portal.
- Ongoing relationship building with external partners including BC's Recreation Sites and Trails team, Mines Monitoring and Compliance Branch, and Natural Resource Officers.
- Successfully secured \$150,000 in funding from the Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committee (IAMC) Emergency Preparedness Funding Stream. Started an Emergency Preparedness and Response project with partner First Nations of Yale, Scowlitz, and Skwah.



**Lindeman Lake – Boardwalk work.**



**Othello Tunnels – Patrol.**



Skagit Valley – Fire-impacted area and e-bikes for patrol access.



Green Drop Lake – Logs cut during trail maintenance and helipad work.



Fieldwork with Resilient Waters on the Backwash (Ferry Island) Slough Project.  
Build box culvert to reconnect through existing causeway (Rosedale Ferry Rd).  
Managed by: Cheam First Nation, BC Parks & City of Chilliwack.

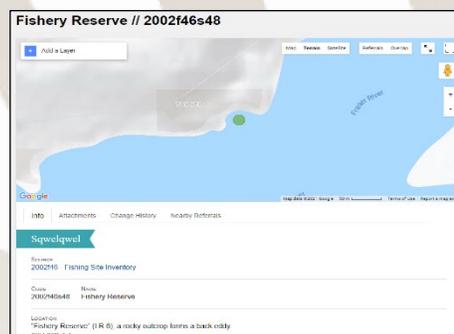
Sxótsaqel / Chilliwack Lake Park – Patrol

## GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS)

- Cultural sites work took place within the Stó:lō Heritage Database (SHeD). Maintenance on sites included reworking current sites, editing and harmonizing sites, creating layer files for the archaeology department, adding information from past projects, and creating new sites as needed. Requests for site work came from staff and researchers.
- A previous field school student completed a project on English placenames in 2011. The sites were recorded on hardcopy maps and information was gathered for each place in the report. The GIS department digitized these places and created StoloConnect entries for each, which added 81 sites to the SHeD and StoloConnect.
- In 2002, an inventory of fishing sites was compiled to address concerns of gravel reach in the Fraser River and how it impacted traditional fishing sites. The project focused on the Fraser River between Mission and slightly north of Hope. Photos were taken of each site at high and low water and 180 sites were recorded. GIS worked to create an entry in StoloConnect for each site using the research data. The spatial data was buffered from a point so that a small polygon would be created as a place holder for the fishing site. The high and low water pictures were uploaded to each site as well. This has been worked on over the past couple of years and the sqwelqwel site entry was completed this year.

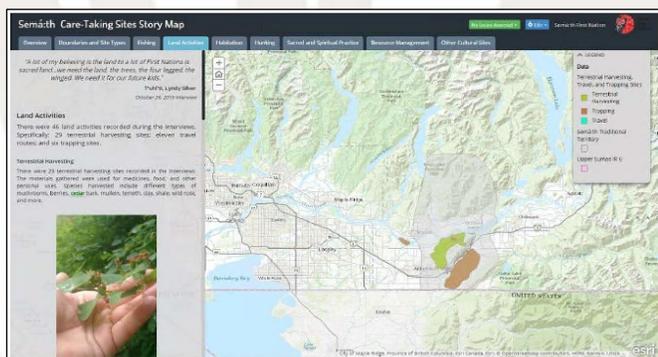


The Fishery Reserve (site 61) during high water in July 2002 during the initial data collection.

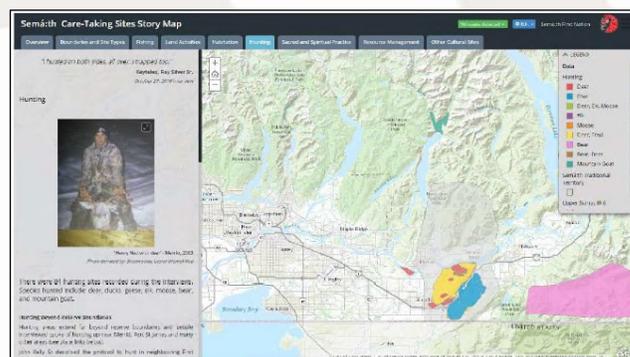


A partial screenshot of the StoloConnect information.

- Second Phase of the Semá:th Story Mapping Project was completed. This project's timeline was extended due to Covid. The story map contained the traditional use sites collected from interviews during the first three phases of the project. The mapped sites, along with specific site information, interview quotes, and pictures were used to create the different pages of the story map.



Land Activities Tab from the Semá:th Caretaking Sites Storymap.



Hunting tab from the Semá:th Caretaking Sites Storymap.

- Provided updated Coqualeetza site maps showing the latest improvements and new construction.
- Provided a Xá:ytem site map in support of a funding application by the Tourism and Education group.

## **LANGUAGE, ARCHIVES, CULTURAL EDUCATION & TOURS (LACET)**

### *Stó:lō Shxweli Halq'eméylem Language Program*

- Received funding from First Peoples' Cultural Council (FPCC) supporting our Halq'eméylem Teachers Network, and to upload additional content to our Stó:lō Shxweli website (stoloshxweli.org) and the Halq'eméylem section of FPCC's First Voices website.
- Assisted in the completion of Language Status Assessments for local First Nations and contributed local Halq'eméylem content for Chilliwack Museum and Archives' exhibit of the "Our Living Languages" traveling exhibit from the Royal BC Museum.

### *S'íwes ye Syewáleh Sq'ep (Teachings of our Ancestors Group) Halq'eméylem Teachers Network*

- Held 12 group meetings and 7 workshops with our 22 participants focusing on language/speaking practice, the root method, sentence building, and online teaching techniques.
- Twelve teachers participated in our Community Pilot Projects which were moved to online teaching /teaching within family bubble and included material development and partnered learning. These Halq'eméylem language projects reached 82 community members, including elders, adults, and youths, from 1 to 82 years old.
- Established an Accelerated Integrated Method (AIM) Working Group, holding two workshops with Wendy Maxwell (founder of AIM). The purpose of the AIM working group was to work on modifying story and gestures for Halq'eméylem Language. The group held 5 meetings to work on practicing the methodology and beginning to translate the 'Three Little Pigs Teaching Kit/Curriculum'.
- Developed the following new teaching materials:
  - Feelings Handout/Worksheet.
  - My Playhome App Handout/Worksheet.
  - Skw'ekw'qaq – The Robin Story teaching kit/materials.
  - Compared to your Brother Story – Teaching Materials.
  - Using Online Apps or tools to support Halq'eméylem language learning.
  - Root Method Handouts.

### *Stoloshxweli.org and First Voices Online Halq'eméylem Resources*

- Began the work of re-developing the stoloshxweli.org website to support the renewed language program and host online learning that will continue into 2021/2022. Added teaching materials and a searchable online dictionary with audio to the website that will be brought into the revamped website when it is launched in 2021/2022. We look forward to incorporating audio from the Stó:lō Shxweli cassette tapes which were digitized by the Stó:lō Library and Archives this year.
- The focus this year on FPCC's First Voices Halq'eméylem section was to:
  - "Clean-up" the site.
  - Add literal translations to the existing stories.

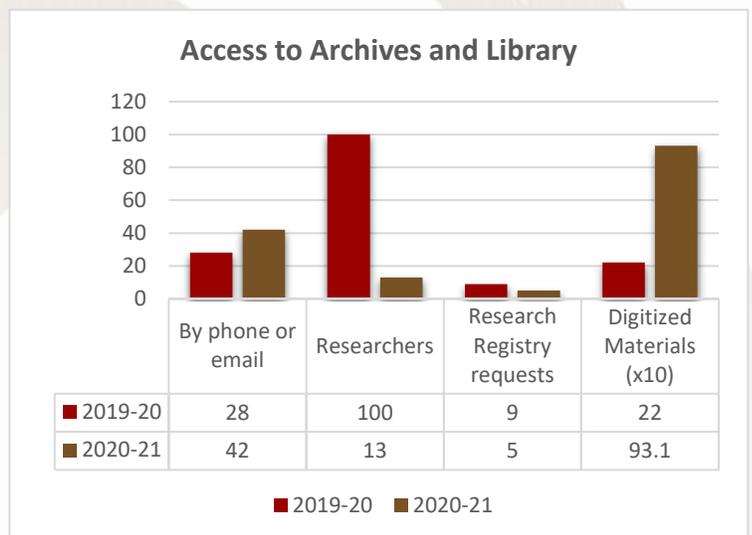
- Add the Chipmunk Story and the Skw'ekw'qaq Story, and expand what was previously existing for the Compared to your Brother story.
- FPCC selected us to work closely with them to provide feedback on their new site developments, as well as a test site for some new features they plan to roll out site wide.
- Assisted FPCC in completing Language Status Assessments for some of the First Nations. The payment for these went into a separate account that will be used for seed money to create an additional funding source for the Stó:lō Shxweli Language Program.
- Worked with the Chilliwack Museum to develop a display that represented the Stó:lō Shxweli Language Program for inclusion in the 'Our Living Languages' traveling exhibition by the Royal BC Museum and First Peoples Cultural Council. We provided three stories available for handouts for the exhibition, as well as the write up and materials for the display representing Stó:lō Shxweli Language Program's contribution to Halq'eméylem Language Revitalization.
- Online resources: <https://stoloshxweli.org/>  
<https://www.firstvoices.com/explore/FV/sections/Data/Salish/Halkomelem/Halq'em%C3%A9ylem>



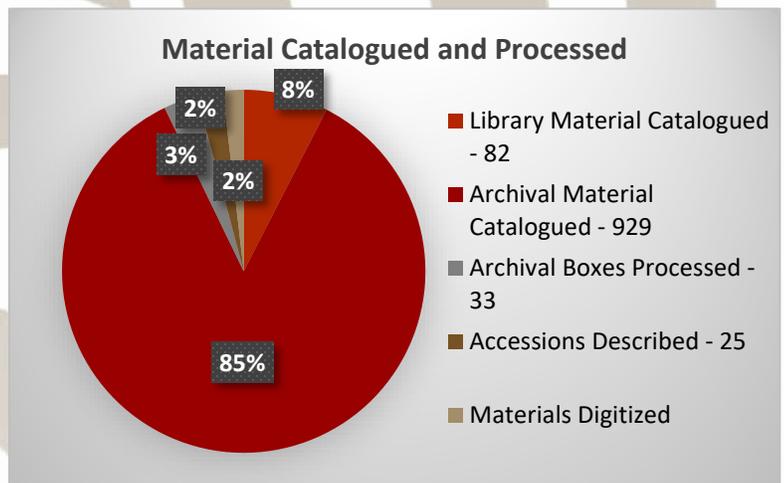
Stó:lō Shxweli exhibit 'Our Living Languages' at Chilliwack Museum.

#### Stó:lō Library and Archives

- Due to the pandemic, we were not able to welcome researchers into the Stó:lō Library and Archives. However, we did receive research requests from several sources digitally or over the phone. This led to an increase of digitized library materials for circulation in conjunction with a lowered number of circulated research material. The research requests we did receive via email or telephone were predominately from community members, teachers, or commercial interests – demonstrating a strong connection to these sectors. Furthermore, we digitized over four times the amount of records this year when compared to last year. This is due to the ongoing digitization project for the Stó:lō Shxweli materials as well as the changing way we connect with researchers.
  - Catalogued Library Materials: 82
  - Processed archival boxes: 38
  - Catalogued Archival Materials: 929
  - Circulated Library Materials: 65
  - Circulated Archival Material: 22
  - Circulated Oral Histories: 44
  - Researchers: 13
  - In House Queries: 5
  - Reference services via telephone / email: 22
  - Research Registry Applications: 5
  - Photo request: 3
  - Digitized (records): 931
  - Scanned photos: 1



- The material catalogued in PastPerfect showed an overwhelming emphasis on developing the archival content. This was due to the ongoing digitization project which saw several hundred tapes being digitized and accessioned into our catalogue. Digitized Stó:lō Shxwelí tapes were part of a single accession described but constituted hundreds of individual archival materials catalogued - which is why there was such a high percentage of growth in archival materials catalogued.



- Took part in several professional development programs:
  - 2020 Association of Canadian Archivists (ACA) Conference.
  - Special Interest Sessions to discuss the TRC-Task Force and the implementation of TRC Call to Action #70.
  - Special Interest Session on Privacy and Access.
  - AGM's for the ACA and the Archives Association of BC.
- Secured grants to obtain funding for archival materials.
- Assisted with the installation of the Project of Heart Canoe in our Shxwt'a:selhawtxw ("House of Long Ago and Today") Interpretive Centre and with the associated lightbox set up at the Chilliwack Museum.
- Began planning for interpretive panels for several locations: Xáytem Interpretive Longhouse, the Grave House at Coqualeetza, and the downtown Chilliwack development at Woolly Dog Alley.



Digitization Assistant, Chris Thomas, digitizing Stó:lō Shxwelí Halq'eméylem tapes - over 800 tapes!

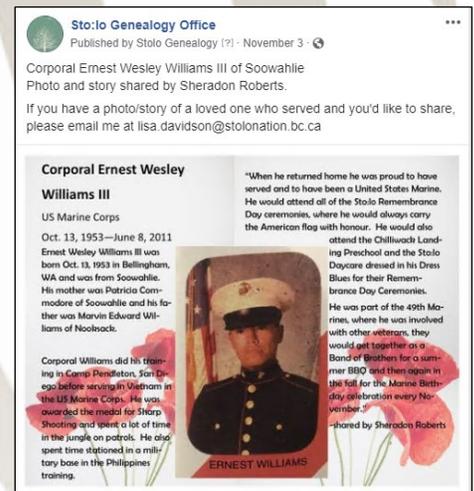
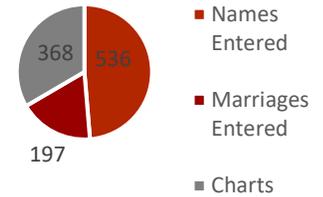
### Stó:lō Genealogy Office

- The Stó:lō Family Tree Database had 51,016 names and 15,208 marriages recorded. This year we hit the 51,000 mark for names entered.
- Completed numerous research requests from communities and community members, as well as assisted students with school projects about their family history.
- Provided research and charts to Xyólheméylh Child and Family Services to help connect children to their extended families. Research was also completed to try and help former foster care children reconnect with their birth families.
- Work was completed for the Phase 4 Semá:th Care-taking Sites and Family History Project. A story map for the care-taking sites was completed and family information forms and packages for members to update their information for the final family tree charts was provided. Descendant charts were completed for each of the families and held at their community office.

	People:	51,016
	Marriages:	15,208
	File size:	78,196 KB

- This fiscal year there were 430 requests for family history. These came in the form of emails, phone calls, and Facebook messages.
- New information was received and entered into the Stó:lō Family Tree Database. There were 536 names added and 197 marriages entered this year. The total number of charts shared through email, contactless pick-up, or mail was 368.
- Due to COVID-19, increased the online presence through Facebook which kept the community informed that they could still virtually connect to receive family history information. A post at the beginning of each month communicated which days were set aside for family research and which days would be available for contactless pick-ups. Facebook posts increased more this year and included more pictures that were donated by family members. The Facebook account has 1070 friends. On average, popular family history posts received 1500 people reached with 500 engagement actions (people clicking on the post, sharing the post, 'liking' the post, commenting on the post, etc.)
- Created personal biographies for Veterans this year. A call was put out over Facebook for people to send in pictures and stories of family members who served. A lot of great feedback was received and created numerous posts over the month of November.

### Genealogy Office Request Outputs



### Cultural Education

- Due to COVID-19 pandemic, all cultural education programs were put on pause from April 2020 to the end of the school year. The Steqó:ye program delivered in-class cultural presentations to schools in the Chilliwack School District, which started in late-fall 2020 for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year, but the Longhouse Extension Program (LEP) did not resume operations in the 2020-21 school year for either the Chilliwack or Abbotsford School Districts.
- Began filming videos including segments of our regular LEP tours in order to provide additional resources to the Chilliwack School District in place of the LEP tours which were canceled. With news of the cancelation of the LEP tours and additional dates for Steqó:ye programming, we saw a big increase in Steqó:ye bookings for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year.
- From August 2020 until March 2021, we hosted the BC Teachers' Federation's Project of Heart Canoe and Speaking to Memory Exhibit in the Shxwt'a:selhawtxw ("House of Long Ago and Today") Interpretive Centre. Originally it was intended to remain here until at least August 2021; however, as we were unable to welcome classes and the public back to our Shxwt'a:selhawtxw Interpretive Centre, the BC Teachers' Federation decided to move the canoe directly into schools in Chilliwack and Mission so that classes could have access to it.

- Booked tours of Xá:ytem Interpretive Longhouse for all of the Grade 6 students in Mission School District for dates in May and June 2021. We look forward to working with Mission in the coming months to plan ahead to the 2021-22 school year when we will be able to run both the Grade 3 and Grade 6 programs at Xá:ytem. We also hope that on-site grade 3 and 6 programming at Coqualeetza and Xá:ytem will resume for next year for the Chilliwack and Abbotsford School Districts.
- Steqó:ye Statistics for 2020-21:
  - Number of schools: 21
  - Number of students: 3,590
  - Presentation topics: Canoes, cedar, drumming and singing, fishing, Stó:lō Governance, storytelling, waterways and landforms, weaving, and tours.
- Keeping in line with COVID-19 restrictions, tours were adjusted to offer outdoor only tours, and masks and social distancing were implemented. Naxaxalhts'i (Dr. Albert "Sonny" McHalsie) travelled in a separate vehicle and utilized the portable microphone system to ensure everyone's safety.
- Continued to receive interest in Bad Rock (to Yale), Chilliwack Lake and Sumas tours and delivered tours when possible. Communications with interested parties continued and outdoor Coqualeetza, Pkw'xe:yles' (St Mary's) and Xá:ytem guided grounds tours were delivered, mindful to numbers and health restrictions.
- Offered Zoom presentations to schools and interested organizations, which were well received.
- Received a \$25,000 COVID-19 relief grant from the Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada, which allowed us to continue working on documenting Naxaxalhts'i's place names knowledge in our tour manuals.

### **STÓ:LŌ XWEXWILMEXW TREATY ASSOCIATION (SXTA)**

- The Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association (SXTA) continued to move steadily towards the important goal of making self-governance a reality for our six member communities. Treaty Operations, Communications and Outreach staff worked under the direction of the SXTA Leadership to keep members of Áthelets, Leq'á:mel, Sq'ewá:lxw, Sq'ewqéyl, Ch'iyáqtel, and Yeqwyeqwí:ws informed about the activities of the Leadership and the Treaty Negotiating Team in the negotiation of our Treaty.
- Highlights for the past year include:
  - Shxwelméxwelh/Constitution Community Engagement and Vote.
  - General multimedia engagement.
  - First Nations Shared Territory Engagement with non-SXTA Stó:lō Nations.
  - Self-Government Agreement discussions and implementation readiness.
  - SXTA Leadership and Committee support.
  - Preparation for SXTA Independence from Stó:lō Service Agency (SSA).
  - Restructuring, human resources and professional development.
- Provided a wide range of technical support services linked to negotiations and communications /outreach. A plan was developed this year to develop SXTA capacity by shifting the Communications /Engagement Team and any other 100% SXTA-based staff under the SXTA umbrella directly effective April 1, 2021.

- Managed three Treaty Related Measure (TRM) Projects.

#### *Communications/Outreach*

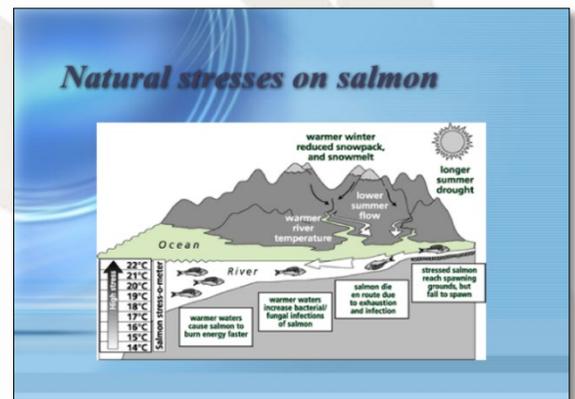
- Materials were prepared and distributed in print and electronically:
  - For General membership: Shxwelméxwel/Constitution Community Input Public Report (June 2020); Revised Constitution Booklet; What is Treaty? and What Self-Government Means to Me Brochures; News Bulletin on Changes to the Constitution; newsletters.
  - SXTA Annual Report.
  - For Youth: Kw'í:ts'téleq Issues 1-5 (this comic series tells the story of how the Shxwelméxwel/Constitution will help our communities work together).
- Videos made:
  - Constitution Announcement : 72 views on YouTube; 512 on Facebook.
  - Elders Learn about the Constitution: 65 views on YouTube; 1200 people reached on Facebook.
  - Three ways to vote: 67 views on YouTube; 374 people reached on Facebook.
- Podcast: Seven episodes = 192 listens
- Social Media: Facebook Private (9.6% increase in membership) and Public (169 % increase in page likes), Instagram and Twitter

#### *Shxwelméxwel/Constitution Community Engagement and Vote*

- There were 11 events in October and November with 145 participants.
- Email, telephone and Social Media campaign to connect with members: at least 658 Email, Facebook, phone contacts made between September and November 2020.
- 100 VOTE lawn signs, radio ads, media release to local and regional news outlets.
- Planned and implemented the voting process including hiring an electoral officer, communicating with First Nation administration, booking and manning three polling booths over two days in November.
- Continued membership list updating and voter incentive distribution.

#### **FISHERIES**

- Supported Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance with fishery plans, technical working groups, and non-salmon technical topics.
- Provided support to communities' communal needs for fresh eulachon.
- Provided support to SRRMC staff on fishery related topics (diking, river gravel removal, fishing site protection and side channel topics.
- Worked with consultants (fishery biologists, Ayelstexw Consulting, TTL, ) on salmonid habitats and life cycles.
- Developed plans to shift the AAROM/DFO program to the Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance in the new fiscal year 2021-22 as a means of re-situating this fisheries-focused work within a broader and stronger fisheries-focused organization.





## Stó:lō Service Agency Society

Building #8B – 7201 Vedder Road  
Chilliwack, BC V2R 45  
(604) 858-3366

**Stó:lō Nation Chiefs Council (SNCC)**  
Chief David Jimmie, President



### **ATHELETS (AITCHELITZ - 558)**

Chief Angie Bailey  
Councillor Gordon George  
Councillor John A. George  
Councillor Leona Sam

Administrator: Chief Angie Bailey

8170 Aitchen Road  
Chilliwack, BC V2R 1A5



### **PÓPKW'EM (POPKUM - 585)**

Chief James Murphy  
Councillor Cynthia Murphy

54951 Julseth Rd.  
Popkum, BC V0X 1X0



### **SQ'EWQÉYL (SKOWKALE - 571)**

Chief Mark Point  
Councillor Darcy Paul  
Councillor Teresa Galis  
Councillor Tiffany Silver  
Councillor Willy Hall

Band Manager: Stacy McNeil

#304 – Bldg. 10, 7201 Vedder Rd.  
Chilliwack, BC V2R 4G5



### **CH'YÁQTEL (TZEACHTEN - 575)**

Chief Derek Epp  
Councillor Sandra Bonner-Pederson  
Councillor Tony Malloway  
Councillor Loren Muth  
Councillor Melvin Williams Jr.

General Manager: James Atebe

Unit 29 – 6014 Vedder Rd.  
Chilliwack, BC V2R 5M4



### **SEMÁ:TH (SUMAS - 578)**

Chief Dalton Silver  
Councillor Chris Silver  
Councillor Clint Tuttle  
Councillor Murray Ned

Administrator: Forrest Funmaker

2788 Sumas Mtn Rd.  
Abbotsford, BC V3G 2J2



### **SXWOYEHÁ:LÁ (SQUIALA - 574)**

Chief David Jimmie  
Councillor Allen Jimmie  
Councillor Alvin Jimmie

Administrator: Lauren Wilde

45005 Squiala Rd.  
Chilliwack, BC V2P 7Z9



### **LEQ'Á:MEL (LAKAHAHMEN - 579)**

Chief Alice Thompson  
Councillor Barb Leggat  
Councillor Camielle Laslo  
Councillor Darrel McKamey  
Councillor Dawn Styran  
Councillor Phil Sherwood  
Councillor Sandy McDonald

Receptionist: Nadine Tereposky

43101 Leq'á:mel Way  
Deroche, BC V0M 1G0



### **SHXWHÁ:Y VILLAGE (SKWAY -570)**

Chief Robert Gladstone  
Councillor Tyrell Kenworthy

Receptionist: Shawna Williams

44680 Schweyey Rd.  
Chilliwack, BC V2R 5M5



### **YEQWYEQWÍ:WS (YAKWEAKWIOOSE - 576)**

Chief Terry Horne  
Hereditary Chief Elaine Malloway  
Youth Councillor Jazmine Horne  
Councillor Nicole LaRock

7176 Chilliwack River Rd.  
Chilliwack, BC V2R 4M1



### **MÁTHEXWI (MATSQUI - 565)**

Chief Alice McKay  
Councillor Brenda Morgan  
Councillor Ryan Bird

Family Reps – Cynthia Collins, Haley Julian, Gary Talbot, Garry Silver

Administrator: Chief Alice McKay

5720 Julian Drive, PO Box 10  
Matsqui, BC V4X 3R2



### **SQ'EWÁ:LXW (SKAWAHLLOOK - 582)**

Chief Maureen Chapman  
Councillor Debra Schneider  
Councillor Jenn Carman

Managing Director: Sharron Young

Office Manager: Michael Suedfeld

58611A Lougheed Hwy  
Agassiz, BC V0M 1A2

### **STÓ:LŌ SERVICE AGENCY BOARD**

Sharron Young	Chairperson
Rhianna Millman	Vice Chairperson
Angie Kermer	Board Member
Jessie Ramsay	Board Member

### **STÓ:LŌ SERVICE AGENCY MANAGEMENT TEAM**

Willy Hall	Executive Director
Kelly Willmets	Executive Assistant/SSA Board Support
Sharlene Charlton	Operations Director
Brianna Nakagawa	Recorder / Events Administrator
Eric Sather	Finance Director
Kelowa Edel	Health Services (HS) Director
Lauralee Campbell	HS Executive Assistant/Supervisor
Anna Celesta	SASET Director
Gloria Hobbs	SASET Support Services Supervisor
Dave Schaepe	SRRMC Director
Tracey Joe	SRRMC Managing Supervisor



# Annual Report

## 2020-2021



Stó:lō Service Agency  
7201 Vedder Road  
Chilliwack, BC  
V2R 4G5

604-858-3366 • [www.stolonation.bc.ca](http://www.stolonation.bc.ca)