



Annual Report

2014-2015



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Stó:lō Service Agency (SSA)

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.

Honesty

We communicate internally and externally with clarity, honesty and openness.

Accountability

We accept responsibility for our decisions and actions and answer to our partners in an open and transparent way.

Pride

We feel and demonstrate pride in our actions and accomplishments.

Professionalism

We act professionally as an outward reflection of our internal values

Integrity

We do our best work, hold ourselves to the highest standards of conduct and act in the interest of our communities and partners.

Empathy

We work to understand and relate to the feelings, experiences and situations of others and are non-judgemental.

Respect

We respect others' ideas, experiences and ways of thinking and treat all people as equals.



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Message from the Stó:lō Service Agency (SSA) Board



The Stó:lō Service Agency (SSA) Board would like to take this opportunity to thank the Stó:lō Nation Chiefs Council (SNCC) for their continued support and trust. The 2014-15 fiscal year is the third year being entrusted by our political leaders and the communities. We continue to learn and develop for the benefit of those accessing SS services.

The SSA Board held monthly meetings to ensure the highest performance in the delivery of various programs and services. We would like to highlight that services continued with a seamless transition, reflecting the valuable work of the Stó:lō Chiefs.

SSA Board accomplishments this fiscal year include

- Continuation of Stó:lō community visits to meet with leadership and administration, and touring the land;
- Implementation of the 5-year Strategic Plan in collaboration with the SSA Management team;
- Received an unqualified audit that was finalized by our audit firm, Manning Elliott, by the end of June;
- Realigned programs which resulted in more efficiency and cost savings
- Adopted a new Stó:lō Service Agency logo;
- Assisted with obtaining donee status for the Agency;
- Supported the Health department in working towards accreditation;
- Passed resolutions for various proposals from programs/departments;
- Subcommittees continued to revise and recommend improvements to existing policies and procedures to ensure consistency with organizational values and regulations;
- Passed the Budgets and Work plans for the 2015-16 fiscal year
- Attended various events throughout the year such as the Annual Gathering, Annual Career Fair, Stó:lō Education Awards, Children's Festival and the Stó:lō Christmas party;
- Presented years of service recognition ribbons to staff at the Annual Christmas party.

Goals for the 2015-16 fiscal year

- Annual Strategic Planning; working towards a Communication Strategy and reviewing Terms of Reference;
- Continue updating the policies and procedures;
- Review ways to support and enhance programs and services;
- Explore best practices from other organizations and how we may implement them within the Stó:lō Service Agency;
- Continue building community relationships through ongoing visits with member First Nations;
- Board and staff training and development.

We would like to thank the management and staff for their professionalism and dedication. And again thank the Chiefs, for entrusting us to ensure that Stó:lō Nation continues to thrive on behalf of the membership.



Message from the Executive Director



"I aim to create an environment where everyone supports one another and enjoys working here, with services being professionally delivered in a culturally appropriate way."

This year we finalized our Vision and Mission statement along with implementation of our 5 year strategic plan. The Stó:lō Service Agency (SSA) Fiscal Year 2014-15 Annual Report briefly describes the major accomplishments of the organization in providing a broad range of programs and services which Stó:lō Service Agency continues to strive to implement. The report also includes a brief financial report on how the organization utilized the funds received for this fiscal year.

The continued support and assistance I receive from the Stó:lō Service Agency (SSA) Board, SSA staff, community members, and band staff is hugely appreciated.

Highlights of our Fiscal Year 2014-15 include:

- **Successful completion of the Annual Audit and Report;**
- **Completion of the Vision, Mission and Values for the SSA;**
- **Successful Income Assistance File review from Aboriginal Affairs Northern Development Canada;**
- **Implementation of the new SSA logo;**
- **Achieving Qualified Donee status; and**
- **Realignment of programs, which formerly fell under the Community Development Department, to more effectively and efficiently deliver services**

Stó:lō Service Agency is committed to explore various means to improve the quality of service delivery and strives to follow the Vision, Mission and Values which help contribute to the development of a healthy community.

Through this Annual Report, the highlights of your Stó:lō Service Agency team members - shows the dedication to our overall goal of assisting and supporting the health and well-being of all people. I personally, and on behalf of the SSA Board, want to thank each of you for a productive 2014-15 fiscal year. I look forward to helping with next year's accomplishments and working towards a prosperous 2015-16 FY.

Thank you.

**Willy Hall
Ts'qwelátse
Executive Director**



Experience Stó:lō

During the 2014-15 fiscal year, Stó:lō Service Agency participated in and hosted several events which promoted Stó:lō culture and philosophy, built community relations, helped celebrate the Stó:lō way of life and the spirit of our people, as well as raised money for the Stó:lō Christmas Hampers. Each of these events was successful due to the hard work of the Events Coordinator and staff from the various departments and programs who volunteered their time.

Aboriginal Day of Wellness

In partnership with Fraser Health, Soowahlie First Nation and Tzeachten First Nation, Stó:lō Service Agency participated in an Aboriginal Day of Wellness on June 21st, 2014 (National Aboriginal Day). The event was hosted at Tzeachten First Nation sports field, in conjunction with the First Salmon Ceremony.



A salmon BBQ, cultural activities, honoring our youth, archery, a Nordic walk and cedar weaving were just some of the activities enjoyed by those in attendance.



Annual Gathering

On July 26, 2014, Stó:lō Service Agency hosted the 4th Annual Gathering on the Coqualeetza grounds, welcoming over 400 visitors. Community members, leaders, friends and family all came out to enjoy the summer sun, delicious food (cooked and served by the Stó:lō Nation Chief's Council), and fun and games, while learning more about the programs and services offered at Stó:lō Service Agency and in the Communities.



The Annual Gathering's annual Chili and Bannock Cook-Off was once again a favorite as well as the Slahal tournament and SASET hosted BINGO games.

Many thanks to our MC, Helena Paul, members of our SSA Board, guest speakers and our Chiefs for their messages.

Stó:lō's Got Talent/Children's Festival

The 22nd Annual Children's Festival took place on Wednesday, August 13th, 2014 and drew in over 800 participants, community members, staff and volunteers! This year's theme was from the Lego Movie, "Everything is Awesome", and the event proved to be so, offering a fun-filled family day of festivities for clients and community members.

Once again, the event showcased the local youth in a 'Stó:lō's Got Talent' competition. This year attracted ten contestants who participated in vocal, musical, and dance genres. The three guest judges commended all contestants on their skills and willingness to get up and perform in front of such a large crowd.



Congratulations to the Stó:lō's Got Talent 1st place winners, 'The LaRock Girls'.

Thank you to the sponsors of the 2014 Children's Festival: Stó:lō Service Agency, Fraser Valley Aboriginal Child and Family Services Society, Stó:lō Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training, First Nations Health Authority, Ts'elxweyeqw, and Skawahlook First Nation.

Annual Golf Tournament

The weather was par for this year's 5th Annual Stó:lō Service Agency Summer Golf Tournament held on August 21st at the Cultus Lake Golf Club. Thirty-one teams came out to try their hand at a fun-filled golf tournament that included a putting contest, a delicious dinner, and 'fun holes' that required the golfers to play blind-folded and with opposite hand putts. Prizes were won and a great time was had by all.



A thank you to our sponsors who helped make this event a success: RBC, Eagle Bay Financial, Next Level Financial, Hub International, Kinder Morgan Canada/Trans Mountain, and Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre.

Comedy Night

A night to remember! On Saturday, October 18th, 2015, Stó:lō Service Agency hosted an eye-watering, and side-splitting evening of laughter featuring hilarious international comedian superstar, Claude Stuart along with a number of local comedians; Helena Paul, Jenz Malloway, Nikki Larock, Dionne McGrath and Chuck Cease, who all helped rock the stage! The shameless stories, unpredictable audience improvisation, and nonstop energy made all the comedians top notch and must-see. All proceeds of this fundraiser went towards the Stó:lō Christmas Hamper Fund.

Children's Halloween Party

The Children's Halloween party took place at the Squiala Community Centre on Saturday, October 25th, 2015. In partnership with Stó:lō Service Agency's Aboriginal Infant Development program and Aboriginal Supported Child Development program, kids had access to many fun games as well as cotton candy, popcorn, pizza, jello poppers, face-painting, karaoke fun, a costume contest, a magic show and great door prizes! Once again, all proceeds went towards the Stó:lō Christmas Hamper Fund.



Remembrance Day

The 21st annual Stó:lō Xa:yxwleq Haqweles Swayel, the Stó:lō Remembrance Day Ceremony, which honors Stó:lō veterans, was held on the Coqualeetza grounds on November 11th, 2014.

In 1993, the Stó:lō Tribal Council initiated the Stó:lō War Veterans Research project and hosted the first annual Stó:lō Remembrance Day Ceremony. A Stó:lō Veteran's Planning Committee was formed which commissioned Stan Greene to carve a memorial post in the traditional Coast Salish style. As



part of the first Annual Stó:lō Remembrance Day Ceremony on November



11, 1993, the Memorial post was erected at the southwest corner of the Coqualeetza grounds, amongst the trees near the bank of the Luckakuck Creek, facing Lhilheqey, Mount Cheam. This location was chosen so families can have a quiet place to remember their loved ones.

Christmas Party

The Stó:lō Service Agency Christmas party, held at Tzeachten Hall on December 5th, 2014, hosted over 250 people in attendance this year.

As always, the Christmas Party was a huge success with a delicious buffet, a wide variety of door prizes and entertainment and dancing throughout the evening.

At the party, SSA was pleased to recognize the contributions of Sam Archie who was honored as he prepared for retirement after his 20 plus years of service with the Nation. Sam, former Property and Capital Management Supervisor who oversaw maintenance staff and worked as a valued member of the Stó:lō Nation community, was presented with gifts reflecting his enjoyment of rooting for the Toronto Maple Leafs. We wish Sam all the best in his future endeavours.



Years of Service Recognition' for staff who have been with the Agency in five (5) year increments were also handed out. This year, Stó:lō Nation recognized the following staff;

5 Years of Service - Cara Brendzy (SRRMC), Lisa Davidson (SRRMC), Carol Raspberry (SASET), Charlene Point (FAD)

10 Years of Service - Joanne Jefferson (Qwiqwelstom,) Crystal Schmitz (FAD), Brandee Hall (SRRMC)

15 Years of Service - Gary Sankey (FAD), Dianne Kelly-Anderson (Health Services)

20 Years of Service - Sharlene Charlton (FAD)



Christmas Hampers



Various Stó:lō Service Agency staff donated their time and efforts towards the Christmas Hampers. A number of events and fundraising activities were organized throughout the year to raise money for such a worthy cause. A total of 134 hampers were distributed to families in need. Families were chosen based on needs identified through the process of the various SSA departments and programs working with and interacting with clients.

Career Fair – Building a Future

The 12th Annual Aboriginal Employment and Career Fair, held on March 17th, 2015 at Squiala First Nation, helped many youth see the opportunities available for their career and education plans.

The Career Fair brought in 47 different exhibitors - employers and future learning institutions - for the Aboriginal youth to explore. Six hundred students from grades 6-12, many post-secondary students and adults had an opportunity to ask all the enthusiastic exhibitors real life questions about jobs and school.



Spring and Fall Yeqwá:ls (Burnings)

The Cultural Committee organized the Spring and Fall Yeqwá:ls with the support by many Stó:lō Service Agency staff, Stó:lō community members and partner agencies within the Stó:lō territory. The Yeqwá:ls is a time to xolhmet et mekw'stam s'i:wes te selsila:lh chet: take care of everything our great grandparents taught (showed) us. The Spring Yeqwá:ls was held at the Veteran's Memorial on Coqualeetza grounds on April 25th, 2014. The Fall Yeqwá:ls was held at Pkw'xe:yles in Mission, BC on October 17th.

Office of the Executive Director

Stó:lō Service Agency (SSA) Board

The Office of the Executive Director (OED) continued monthly collaboration with the Stó:lō Service Agency (SSA) Board to ensure quality service delivery support and assistance to staff and members.

Over the course of the year, the OED worked closely with the Board to finalize a 5-year Strategic Plan that would serve as a benchmark to monitor progress and identify successes and challenges over the next 5 years and during future strategic planning processes.

Development of the plan began with establishing clear vision and mission statements, core values and building upon this foundation to identify achievable, high-priority goals and activities for the near term.

Four themes – Communication, Unity, Stability and Identity – emerged during strategic planning sessions which will underlie all our activities over the next 5 years.

As part of the implementation of their 5-year Strategic Plan, the SSA Board along with the Office of the Executive Director, began community visits to tour the land and learn more about member communities and their administration. Visits to Leq'á:mel, Matsqui and Sumas First Nation allowed for the communities to share their successes and progress as well as an opportunity to have open discussions with regards to SSA programs and services being delivered.



2014 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Monday July 22nd, 2014 at the Stó:lō Government House. The meeting was attended by representatives from the Stó:lō Nation member First Nations, the Stó:lō Service Agency Board and Stó:lō Service Agency staff.

Auditor for Stó:lō Service Agency, Jeff Hunt of Manning Elliot, presented the 2013-14 Financial Statements with an overview of the Financial Position, Operations, and Cash flows and reported that the timeline was met with a clean, unqualified report. Both the 2013-14 fiscal year Audited Financial Statements and Annual Report were presented and adopted.



Donee Status

This year we were granted Qualified Donee Status by the Canada Revenue Agency. With the assistance of Jeff Glasner of Boughton Law, we were able to meet all of the requirements to obtain this Donee Status. The designation was dated back to January 2014 and the registration process took just over 14 months to complete.

Stó:lō Nation is now listed on the Canada Revenue Agency website as a municipal body performing a function of government in Canada registered as a qualified donee. As of May 2015, there are only 171 organizations with Qualified Donee Status in Canada. This now allows Stó:lō Nation to issue tax deductible receipts to individuals and corporations, as well as apply for grants that are only accessible to registered charities.

Stó:lō Service Agency Logo

Under the direction of the Stó:lō Service Agency Board of Directors, we went through a Request for Proposal process to select a new Logo for the Stó:lō Service Agency (SSA). The process required artists to submit their design along with written background about their submitted artwork. There were three submissions and the Board decided on the design by Bonny Graham-Krulicki. Her design is now the logo that is now being used by the Service Agency.

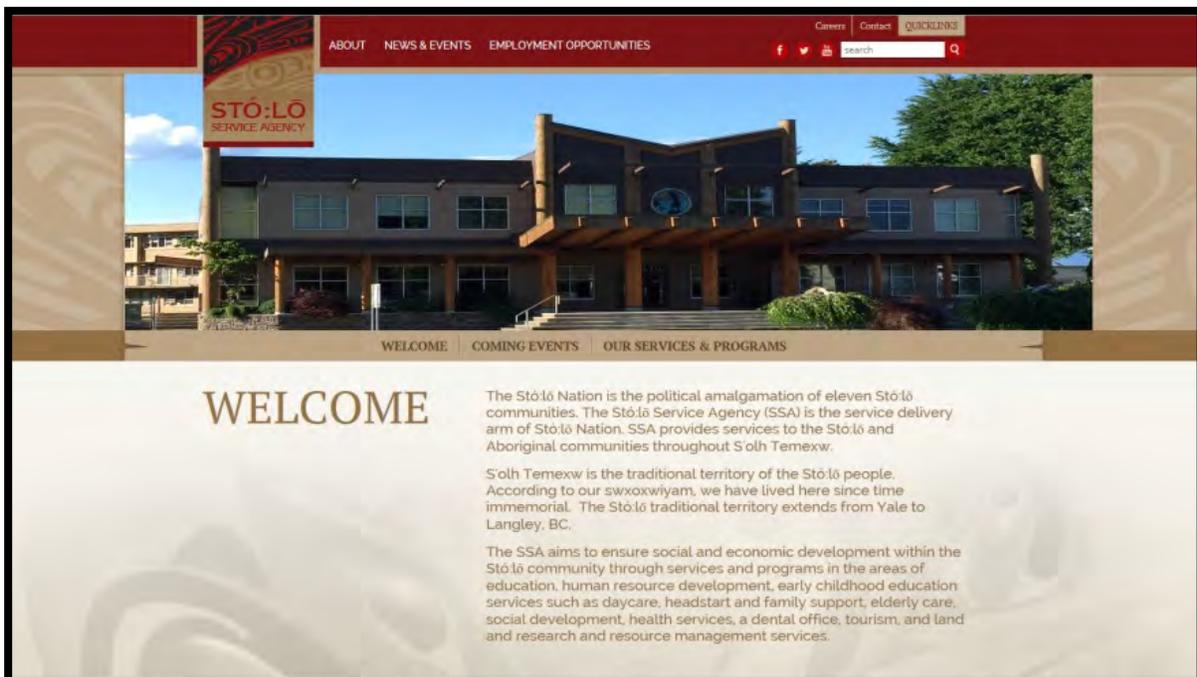
The background to Bonny's design: the sacred salmon, *xáxe sth'óqwi*, provider of life, represents determination, persistence and abundance. Significant in every way to our territories culture and families. The salmon represented here is alive, moving and giving life. The red circle in the center represents unity, working together, and gathering as one. The mountains represent our territory and the sun as it rises every morning from the east and reflects on our Fraser River, flowing through our lands bringing life and hope and for a new day.



Along with the new logo came a new branding with new colors. Red, Light and Dark Brown were selected to represent the colours in a traditional Coast Salish Basket.

Stó:lō Service Agency Website

To tie together the new logo and new branding colours, Stó:lō Service Agency commissioned the design of a new website that would be more interactive, user friendly and contain a content management system that would allow easy updates. Circle Graphics and Design, of Abbotsford was selected as the company to design the new website and content management system. The new website can be found at www.stolonation.bc.ca.



Capacity Development

Capacity development around financial management and accountability was a predominant issue in ensuring that our member bands are self-sustaining and can reliably plan for their futures. Stó:lō Service Agency hosted a meeting with Harold Calla and Shayla Point from First Nations Financial Management Board (FNFMB) and with Band leadership (open to all Bands), to discuss the development of financial administration laws through FNFMB.

Various meetings were held with member bands to discuss a plan for long-term borrowing for infrastructure and the pros and cons of the development of First Nations Finance and Administration law.

Worked with member Bands and various auditors to ensure our smaller Bands were able to complete their audits as per the Financial Transparency Act (FTA). Advice was provided on audit processes and procedures on day-to-day operations to ensure unqualified audits each year. We provided templates and assisted with wording on financial policies.

A First Nations Audit Preparation Capacity Building Workshop was facilitated and hosted by SSA. The workshop reviewed audit procedures, helped with audit preparation which provided First Nation's with an overview of the reporting process/requirements and essentials of first nation financial management.

Policy Development

Updates of the Stó:lō Nation Operational Policy Manual (SNOPM) continued in conjunction with regular scheduled Management Team meetings, with input from all the department Managers. A major work in progress is the 'Respectful Workplace Policy', which we hope to finalize and have adopted by the SSA Board early in the 2015-16 year. This new addition will help us do our work in a good way.

Over the 2015-16 fiscal year, the SNOPM manual will be updated to reflect the new Vision and Mission statements and core values. The Finance Committee continued to work on updating the Finance and Administration Operations Manual (FAOM).

As part of the Stó:lō Health Services Accreditation, the SSA Occupational Health and Safety Committee was recreated to assess and develop a policy for possible health and safety concerns surrounding the agency. The committee consists of 8 management staff and 8 employee staff, who are required to meet 10 months of the year. Over the 2014-15 fiscal year, the committee completed their Terms of Reference which will be presented for adoption to the SSA Board.

Stó:lō Service Agency Management Team

The Executive Director and Senior Managers from each of the Stó:lō Service Agency's core departments worked together as the Senior Management Team, to provide high level oversight, coordination and support for carrying out services.

This year witnessed the successful transition in branding to the SSA. A logo and design template was developed to create a common look to the many forms of advertising, signage, stationary, cards and website of the SSA. Our website (www.stolonation.bc.ca) was remodeled to reflect our organizational make-over and to provide an updated point of contact for our communities and clients. These design changes cap off the work carried out in previous years reviewing and refining our organizational vision, purpose, mandate and policies.

Clearly understanding our organizational structure and relationship to the Stó:lō Nation political body, as a service delivery section of the Nation, was essential in working through the branding and other organizational transitions carried out this year. A clear vision offered our management team the ability to continue to refine the foundations of our operations and management.

We continued to work together between departments in collaborative and interconnected ways, being creative and innovative in working toward staffing and organizational strengths, building strong relationships that serve to benefit our organization, communities and clients. Proactive and healthy planning for staff is definitely a means of providing high quality services to the communities which is our ultimate goal.

Focusing on cultural resources to ensure our services can connect with our communities was a top priority. Cultural tourism and educational outreach staff worked to integrate their efforts to achieve a more holistic program of cultural education and tours, including our school districts, universities, corporations, staff, and public alike. Solid inter-departmental relations helped ease our adjustments to the renovation of Building 5, currently underway in our efforts to maintain a high standard of healthy work environment: physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

The Management Team continues to meet regularly, collaborating and working together to focus our efforts and provide high level, professional services to our communities and clients, while building community capacity, optimum health, and well-being in respect of Stó:lō culture and aboriginal peoples and the public more broadly.



Early Childhood Development (ECD)

A:Imèlhàwtxw Early Education Centre

Headstart Family Program

Over the year, the family program provided interactive activities for its participants which focused upon 6 key components. Through the use of developmental screening, Educators created activities to focus on the physical, spiritual, emotional, intellectual and social development needs of children which involved their families in supportive and respectful ways.

Educators facilitated parental education sessions with cultural early learning resources provided by the Fraser Regional Aboriginal Early Childhood Development (ECD) Network. Workshops such as Traditional Parenting, Honoring our Journey Through our Culture, and Seven Sacred Teachings, were facilitated to build upon their current foundations. These cultural resources allowed the family and/or caregiver to explore the fundamentals of parenting as well as build upon the importance of their current skills.

The Parent Advisory Circle (PAC) fundraised throughout the community to raise funds for the family program. This program allowed families to come together to share their knowledge and experience the community social networks to further support their parenting styles. Community engagement was quite successful and created more awareness in the importance of the early learning. Gardening projects and workshops on preservation, harvesting and food security conveyed awareness of nutrition and healthy eating and families experienced ways to access quality whole foods to provide a foundation for understanding healthy eating and nutrition.



Headstart Preschool

The curriculum and scheduled program activities focused on children's early learning development and positive social interactions, including opportunities for them to learn through their play. The program Elder and Educators shared and modelled the use of Hal'qemèylem throughout the sessions.

In offering opportunities to experience and explore the program, children developed awareness and the use of letters, pictures, symbols and sounds. These fundamental concepts further supported their literacy and cognitive development. The Educators supported the children's social development through the use of problem solving skills and positive guidance strategies. The children were encouraged to use and apply these skills in order to best support their individual needs.



This year we had twenty registered four year olds graduate from the Preschool. To prepare families and their children for the Kindergarten transition, we partnered with the School District to provide a Registration day and information session. To promote Kindergarten Readiness we held education sessions during the summer months for the families and their children. Aboriginal Parents as Literacy Support (APALS) sessions were funded by the 'Raise a Reader', Decoda Literacy.



Each year the families and/or employees work towards fundraising and hosting a family gathering which is offered to all of the Centre's programs participants. This year we hosted the event at Tzeachten hall and we had over 180 participants, as we provided early learning activities, a warm meal and entertainment. We would like to thank everyone whom attended and supported this event as it was a magical evening for all.

Daycare

This year we opened a new Infant program which created twelve new daycare spots. This transition was most exciting for the Centre as we were able to address the ongoing waitlist.



The programs focus was curriculum development and overall delivery upon children's individual needs and development. With the support of qualified Early Educators, children explored and experienced the early learning fundamentals throughout their activities. Educators modelled and reinforced the use of positive guidance strategies and problem solving techniques to encourage the children's development.

Ye Stitèqoye (Little Wolves) - had 12 children (0-18 months) registered and 5 children waitlisted

Smimeyàth (Butterflies) – had 12 children (18-36 months) registered

Spàth (Bear) – had 17 children (3-5 years) registered



Mission Aboriginal Family Place (MAFP)

In partnership with the Early Years Committee, MAFP had successfully received provincial funding for an Early Years Test Site. We were one of four sites in the province to establish an ECD multi-service innovative partnership and our Centre was the first Aboriginal ECD program to lead the province in its early education endeavors for our children.

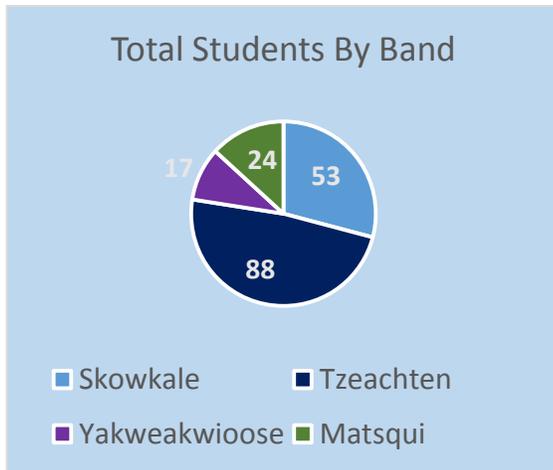
The committee worked with the School District to provide a central co-location for the early learning services which is now located in the Windebank Elementary School.



Education

Kindergarten to Grade 12 (K-12)

The K-12 Nominal Roll count of all Stó:lō on-reserve students throughout our territory was completed in October 2014 and reconciled with Aboriginal Affairs Northern Development Canada (AANDC). Staff provided student support in the form of Homework Clubs, tutoring and academic and Individual Education Plans (IEP).



Total Students By Band

Skowkale	53
Tzeachten	88
Yakwekwioose	17
Matsqui	24
Skawahlook	0
Popkum	0
Aitchelitz	0
Total	182

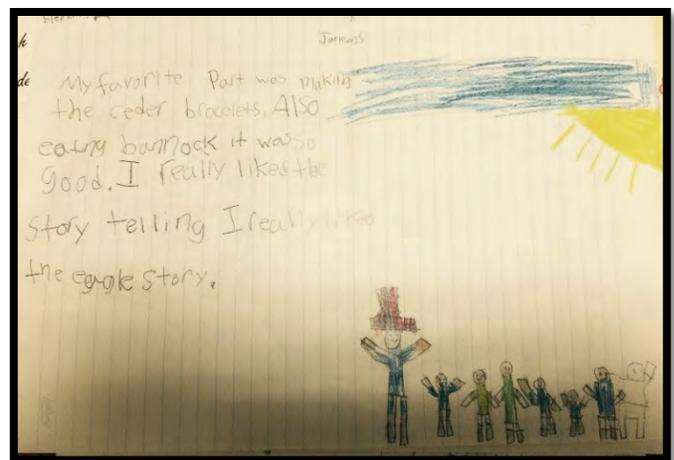
The Chilliwack School District Aboriginal Awards Ceremony was held on May 28nd, 2014 which honoured 470 awardees in total and of which 178 were Stó:lō students.

Post-Secondary

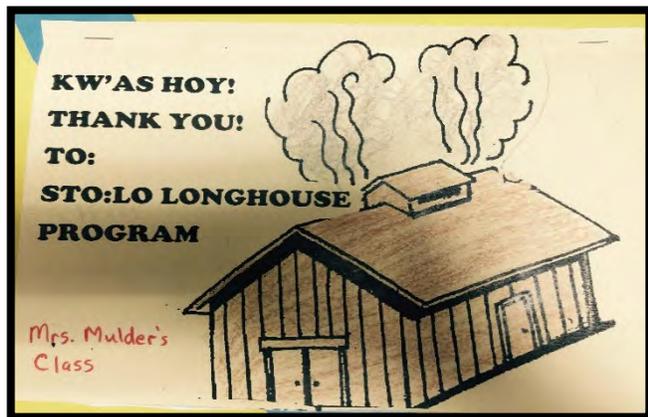
Applications were processed for 46 students from the 7 member Bands we administer Post-Secondary services on behalf of. Graduates this year included: Doctorate (1), Bachelor (3), Diploma (1), and Certificate (1). Congratulations to all the Graduates of 2014-2015.

Longhouse Extension Program

The Grade 4 Longhouse Extension Program (LEP) tours with the Chilliwack School District continued, providing culture and values to fill the Planned Learning Outcomes (PLO's) for the Grade 4 curriculum regarding Indigenous knowledge.



The LEP tours this year had been revamped to infuse more of the British Columbia Teacher Federation (BCTF) curriculum objectives known as Planned Learning Outcomes (PLOs). These PLO's which few have an indigenous theory, were not quite being met with our tours and Steqó:ye Programs. Therefore, we remolded the programs with an education foundation, bridged the curriculum with our values, and created a knowledge based hands-on holistic way of learning for the school district students.



The education programs are liable for the conduct, curriculum and deliverance with an accredited Educator allowing our program to be viable and to uphold the legality of the education system credentials. This opened up a more clear communication with our communities and School Districts in what was expected from our programs.

Strategies were discussed to see what would work for both parties so that both had a clear understanding of the goal which was

to provide an educational foundation cultural Planned Learning Outcome curriculum initiated by an accredited Educator using authentic teaching tools.

Sardis Elementary provided leadership students from grades 1 to grades 6. These dancers provided peer knowledge and grew as future leaders in our communities.

Steqó:ye

The Steqó:ye Program is an off-site program where Cultural Resource workers go to the thirty-two Chilliwack K-12 schools to provide cultural teachings and awareness.

The Cultural Resource workers utilized lessons, mini unit plans, unit plans and semester long projects (ie. welcome posts, canoes, masks). The mini lessons included this year: cedar weaving, Salish singing and dancing, beading, carving, directive drawing, traditional protocols for gatherings from start to finish (ie. assembly welcoming, main speakers, floor-managing), ethnobotany, s̓xwō̓xwiyám storytelling.

Along with doing Aboriginal Days in many of the schools, on-site tours, pertaining to the grade requesting the tour, were provided.



Aboriginal Mentorship Program

The Aboriginal Mentorship Program (in Partnership with School District #33), in its third year of implementation, provided support to youth from grades 7 to 12. Students in the program were attached to the middle and high schools within the district.



The supports offered to the families through the program were holistic, culturally based and diverse. The program addressed greater familial and social challenges that inhibited success in school and other areas. The program worked with the school district to identify gaps amongst Aboriginal learners, increase success, and decrease 'drop-out' and low graduation rates.

In addition to keeping youth connected to school, the program was successful in managing youth involvement with youth justice, mental health and addictions. The program continued to grow bigger and stronger, building on a community of school personnel, parents, and youth, all invested in the success of these young people. The community-based approach proved essential for this population of learners.

The partnership between the school district and Stó:lō Service Agency has been very respectful and informative and will change the way we provide learning for our Aboriginal students.



Finance and Administration

The Finance and Administration (FAD) staff performed centralized finance and administration functions and support to programs and services with integrity, efficiency and accountability.

Centralized finance and administration support to programs and services included: payroll administration; accounts payable and accounts receivables processing; analyzing/distribution of financial information; funding and service contract maintenance; human resources; mail sorting and delivery; vehicle bookings and maintenance; requests for moves and office rentals; landline and cellular phones; office equipment (fax and copier machines); keys and keyscan issuing; Human Resources; Communications; Records Management; Indian Registry; Property and Capital Management; Policy Development and Assistance; Information Technology administration; Stó:lō Service Agency events administration; Income Assistance, and other related services.



Through a funding contract from SASET, FAD was once again able to hire summer students for the months of June to August. While half of the summer students performed administrative duties in the office, the other half worked with Property and Capital Management maintaining the Stó:lō Service Agency grounds. All students displayed great work ethics and were a huge asset to the many events that took place over the summer months.



Finance

The team proudly continued to provide effective, transparent, accountable and efficient financial management services to the programs and departments.

Stó:lō Service Agency (SSA) ended the year in a solid financial position. The Agency's accumulated surplus was \$2.9 million (in comparison to \$2.3 million last year) not including the surplus related to our tangible capital assets. This surplus is fully supported by our cash position of \$4 million as receivables and payables are kept current.

Part of the increase in surplus was a result of the review and planning done during the year to forecast future expenditures for maintaining and adding to our capital assets. Reserve allocations were made to ensure renovations, replacements and maintenance costs in the future can be covered without having negative effects on the delivery of programs and services.

As well, the financial viability of programs was reviewed on an ongoing basis to identify any significant changes in revenue or expenses that needed to be planned for as a result. This financial stability allowed us to meet the needs of our members on a regular and consistent basis.

Moving forward for the 15/16 year, a main focus will be on reviewing our policies and procedures to ensure they are meeting the needs of our organization in an efficient manner while ensuring the continued financial stability that we have worked so hard to achieve.

The main revenue sources for Stó:lō Service Agency were Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC), Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) and the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA). Consolidated revenue from all sources was \$25.5 million while expenditures were \$24.6 million, plus \$757,000 in amortization on tangible capital assets.

Finance Officers Meetings

During the year, the Stó:lō Finance Officers Association, in partnership with Manning Elliott, held quarterly meetings on the Coqualeetza site with a light breakfast provided. All twenty-four (24) First Nations Bands in the territory were invited. Areas of discussion were solicited from membership on relevant topics and experts were recruited to provide information and facilitate discussion.



Meetings held;

- Sept. 4/14 meeting - Wendy Jung and Ann Barnes from CMHC “*On Reserve Non-Profit Housing Program (Section 95)*” and Aboriginal Capacity Development and Training from the CMHC
- Dec. 2/14 meeting – Dr. Andre Le Dressay presented an overview of First Nations GST (FNGST). Canada Revenue Agency administers the FNGST on behalf of the First Nations.
- March 19/15 meeting – Ken Scopick and Rick Bennett from First Nations Tax Commission - *Dispute Resolution in Property Taxation on First Nations Lands.*

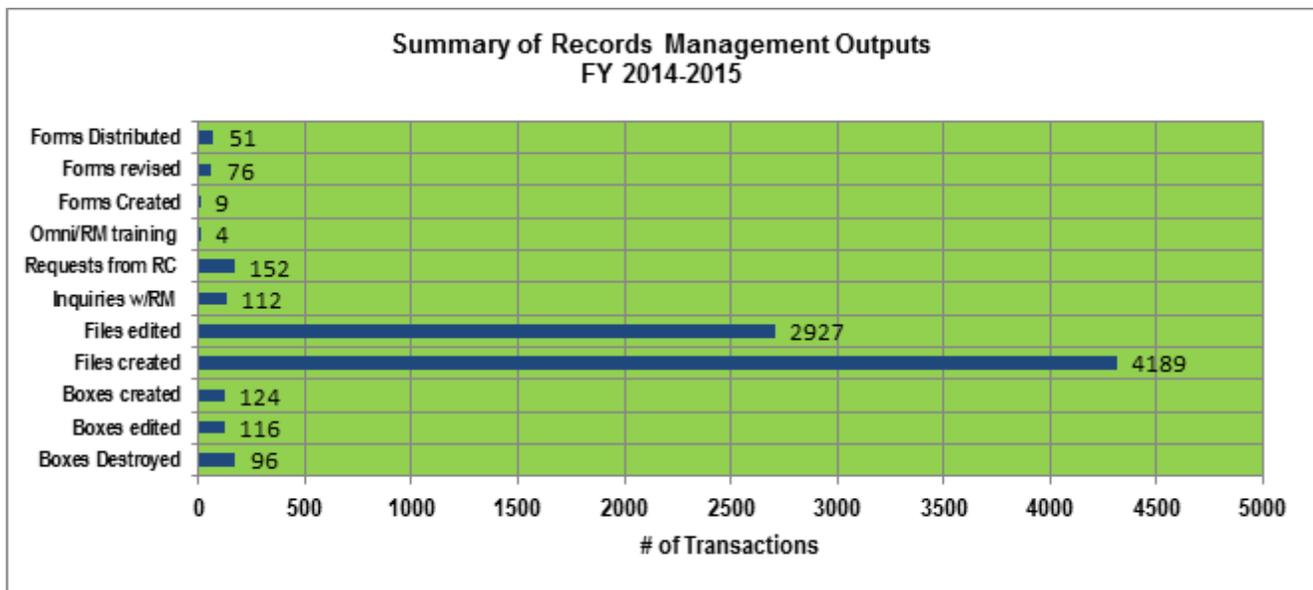
A website for Finance Officers with advice, FAQs, document sharing and an online community forum, is currently in the works.

Central Support Services

Centralized support services such as mail sorting and delivery; vehicle bookings and maintenance; requests for and maintenance of landline and cellular phones; maintenance and requests for office equipment (fax and copier machines); keys and keyscan issuing and maintenance; and records management, were provided to programs and services to assist them in doing their work on a daily basis.

Records Management

The maintenance of the Records Classification System (RCS), Records Retention Schedule (RRS) and the Management of the Records Centre (RC’s) remain a priority. The following chart shows the routine Records Coordinator’s accomplishments this fiscal year. There are currently 67,000 files and 2500 boxes entered in the database. An upgrade to the RM software (OmniRIM) is proposed for the 2015/16 fiscal year.



Property and Capital Management

Building maintenance and grounds keeping on the Coqualeetza and Pkw'xe:yles sites continued to be a top priority for the team with many upgrades and improvements happening throughout the year. Over the year the maintenance department received over 360 requests.

A few major upgrades to the buildings included the reroofing of building 1, renovations to the kitchen and a much needed cooling system was put in the basement server room to keep up with their growing network of servers. A last attempt at repairing the geothermal system in building 7 proved unsuccessful as temperatures soared into the high 30s, thus a decision was made to move away from costly geothermal and use a more conventional heating and cooling system.

This fiscal year the summer students took on a major task and cleared the pond located at the entrance of Wells Road, of over grown thistles and unwanted trees before it was taken over by Stó:lō Fisheries for a waterway rehabilitation project.

The orchard at the Storey Road entrance was cleaned up. We removed falling fruit trees, construction debris from the longhouse, and relocated 2 steel shipping containers and some cement highway blocks. Since this is the first impression to visitors and staff as they arrive on the Coqualeetza site, this area will constantly receive improvement. Our new neighborhood walking path was also constantly maintained and this past winter, there were 11 trees that fell during an ice storm which were chain sawed and removed from the path and creek areas.



During Christmas break, we exposed a major water leak 10 feet underground which required us to call in professionals to repair. A recommendation for a new water main was made. Evacuation and assessment regarding the safety and 'function' of building 5 was decided upon and put into action. New paint, flooring, and lighting along with renovations to the kitchen and bathroom areas began in March 2015.



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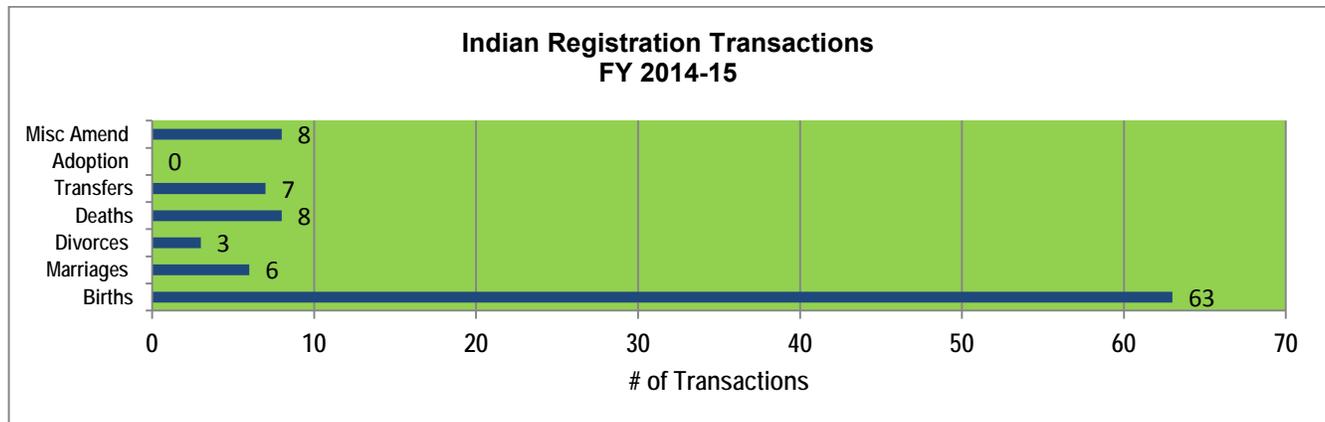
Facility Support Workers continued to provide after hour maintenance to the buildings and grounds by providing janitorial services, security, outdoor and indoor maintenance.



Indian Registration Administration (IRA)

The Indian Registry (IR) Administrator continued duties and responsibilities for Indian Registration three days a week. With the new Secure Certificate of Indian Status (SCIS) cards up for renewal in 2015, the IR Administrator assisted over twenty band members with the new renewal applications, and emailed a number of other Bands the application process.

The below chart shows statistical information generated regularly. For fiscal year 2014-15, a total of 362 status cards were issued.



Human Resources

Personnel services and recruitment and selection continued to be provided by the Human Resource Coordinator. Throughout the fiscal year there were: 31 job postings for various positions throughout the Stó:lō Service Agency and associated bands; 142 employees enrolled in the Great West Life Pension, Health and Dental plans; 15 applications for short-term disability submitted to Great West Life and 5 employees on long-term disability; 5 WCB applications were submitted and 1 applicant on LTD.

During the 2014-15 fiscal year, SSA welcomed 98 new employees hired in various departments/programs, including 39 summer students. Over the course of the year, the average total of employees per pay run was 188.

Job posting services as well as assistance in posting, shortlisting, interview and selection of positions was provided to member bands as requested.

Stó:lō Service Agency Pension and Benefits Committee

Pension and Benefit Committee meetings were held quarterly and updates on: rates of return; benefits and pension plan performance; benefit claims experience; potential changes to the plan; advice from the service provider, Eagle Bay Financial Services; and other information related to pension and benefit administration, were discussed. The sessions were open to all First Nations bands in the area.

The SSA Benefits plan included divisions representing several member bands. For the 2014-15 fiscal year, there were eight (8) Divisions who participated in the Pension Plan which fully complied with all Federal and Provincial Pension Regulations. The Pension Divisions were: Stó:lō Service Agency; Sumas First Nation; Squiala First Nation; Shxwhá:y Village; Tzeachten First Nation; Stó:lō Community Futures; Seven Generations Environmental Services Ltd; and Ts'elxwéyew Tribe Management Ltd.

As at March 31, 2015 the Pension Plan had a total of \$10,869,394 in assets which increased in value from March 31, 2014 by \$1,063,246. There were 335 current and past employees in the plan at year-end. The average account balance at March 31, 2015 was \$32,446 and that increased 11% from the previous year.

Age Band	Assets	% of Total	Mbrs	% of Mbrs	Avg. Acct. Balance
Age 25 & Under	\$ 61,763	0.57%	12	3.58%	\$ 5,147
Age 26 - 35	\$ 1,349,533	12.42%	86	25.67%	\$ 15,692
Age 36 - 45	\$ 2,838,806	26.12%	95	28.36%	\$ 29,882
Age 46 - 55	\$ 4,035,989	37.13%	93	27.76%	\$ 43,398
Age 56 - 69	\$ 2,583,302	23.77%	49	14.63%	\$ 52,720
Age 70+	\$ -	0.00%	0	0.00%	\$ -
TOTAL	\$ 10,869,394	100.01%	335	100.00%	\$ 32,446

Information Technology (IT)



This year we upgraded our Exchange email and shared calendaring system from the 2007 to 2013 version and integrated it with our highly available virtualized clustering system to improve reliability. Many of our newer desktop systems came with Microsoft Office 2013 and this gave us better compatibility with the new Exchange version.

Our fibreoptic Internet connection was upgraded to 100 Megabits/second which represents a fivefold increase in speed to allow for improved video-conferencing, multimedia applications and video streaming. Access speeds also doubled at our two satellite offices – Stó:lō Elders Lodge and Pekw'xe:yales site in Mission with faster ADSL and Shaw Cable lines.



The Coqualeetza campus now has much improved wireless access to all the buildings that are supported by the Information Technology Department. We moved from the old 802.11g (54 Megabits per second Mb/s) standard to the new 802.11n (300 Mb/s) and more than doubled our coverage area to all buildings. Guest Wi-Fi access is now easier to use and better controlled with a dedicated firewall in place. Staff also benefit from secure roaming access in many offices that previously had no coverage.

IT assisted the setup of the newly re-opened Gift Shop with a new point of sale system for tracking store inventory. In 2014-15 we replaced/added 28 desktop systems, eight laptops and eleven printers. We temporarily relocated IT's office to Building 7 and look forward to moving back to Building 5 after renovation work completes in the summer of 2015.

Income Assistance Delivery

The Social Assistance caseload for the 2014-15 Fiscal Year-end was 107. Income Assistance was provided to 9 of the member bands, with Squiala taking over their own service delivery partway through the year. Squiala's case load, 28 families, represented 21% of the Income Assistance caseload in 2013-2014. This past year, SSA paid out a total \$866,017 in assistance, a reduction of \$234,396 (21%) of last year's expenditures, which were \$1,110,413.

Total Cases	COPH	Emp	PPMB	PWD	Total	%
Aitchelitz First Nation- 558				1	1	1%
Matsqui First Nation- 565		6	5		11	10%
Popkum First Nation- 585					0	0%
Skawahlook First Nation- 582		1		1	2	2%
Skowkale First Nation- 571	3	15	4	4	26	24%
Skway First Nations- 570		29	4	5	38	36%
Tzeachten First Nation- 575	5	16			21	20%
Yakwekwioose First Nation- 576	0	1	2	2	5	7%
	8	68	15	13	104	
Total	8%	65%	14%	13%		

In February 2015, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) conducted a compliance review of the Income Assistance program files. During the course of the review it was determined that Stó:lō Service Agency had overpaid Income Assistance Recipients a total \$11,186.02 which AANDC would need to claw back. Even so, SSA Income Assistance had a successful review with a compliance rate of 95%.

Events and Communications

Stó:lō Service Agency continued to improve its engagement strategies with the member First Nations with a wide array of exciting events (listed under 'Experience Sto:lo') and cultural education sessions, to keeping an updated website (www.stolonation.bc.ca) and strong online presence through popular social networks such as Facebook and Twitter.

Along with a daily bulletin that was emailed out to staff, SSA Board members and communities, various information materials, brochures, and flyers were distributed regularly. A monthly Nation-wide newsletter (Sqwelqwels Ye Stó:lō) was also emailed out.

Health Services

Health Management

Stó:lō Service Agency Health Services (HS) continued to work with federal, provincial and municipal partners, to provide health & wellness-based programs and services to Aboriginal people and communities within the Stó:lō traditional territory.

Health Services employed approximately 67 full-time, part-time and contract staff over the 2014-15 fiscal year. We continued to operate the Stó:lō Dental Clinic and the Stó:lō Elders' Lodge, as well as a vast array of public health programs including community-based health promotion and disease prevention, home care nursing services, and environmental health.

Health Services also provided Aboriginal Supported Child and Infant Development Programs, Community Wellness (mental health and addictions services), a variety of child and youth-based services, and suicide prevention. HS also worked with the First Nations Health Benefits (FNHB) Program to provide medical transportation funds to our citizens.

The program continued to engage in all levels of the Regional Caucus and Regional Planning table throughout the year. The Fraser Salish Regional Caucus (FSRC) helped strengthen and formalize the relationship between Fraser Health (FH) and the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), and set out how we work together to improve Aboriginal health services delivered within the Fraser Region. More recently, the region has been in the process of developing a Fraser Salish Regional Health and Wellness Plan that establishes a common voice in the region to develop work priorities in the Fraser Salish Region.

Health Transfer Agreement (HTA) - First Nation Health Authority (FNHA)

Stó:lō Service Agency Health Services began its third year for the implementation review of the community health plan beginning in January. We completed the implementation reviews process by going out to communities where we were able to gain community input. We were able to reach more community members through setting the table either in their communities or at a restaurant of their choice. In the past when we held the review process here on the grounds, there would be a handful of community members that would show up to provide input. With this new outreach process even the smaller bands showed up, with numbers in the teens.

That being said, the outcome of the review hadn't changed from the year before and the community recommended that we continue to focus our services in the following areas: mental health; addictions; trauma; suicide; diabetes; and transportation. The implementation review process will now take place every year in November.

First Nation Health Authority (FNHA) and Regional Caucus Process

In October 2013, FNHA took over the administration of Health Canada's role and responsibility to First Nations in BC. March 31st, 2015, marked the 18th month since transfer from Health Canada to the FNHA, and we are well underway in the transition process.

There were three working groups formed from the caucus to move the Regional Wellness plan forward; Policy and Programing, chaired by Maureen Chapman; Transfer and Transformation, chaired by Willie Charlie; and the Collaboration and Partnerships, chaired by Doug Kelly.

A new Regional Director for the Fraser Salish Region was selected. A member of Squiala First Nation, Trish Osterberg, provided a FNHA corporate presence in the Fraser Salish Region as well as built relationships with the communities and Fraser Health.

The Community Engagement HUB team moved over to the FNHA office and is no longer hosted under Stó:lō Service Agency HS.

Community Flow-Through Agreements

The following table shows what each community had in their flow-through agreements:

COMMUNITY	FLOW-THROUGH AGREEMENTS
1. Aitchelitz	Brighter Futures
2. Leq'á:mel	Brighter Futures, Drinking Water Safety Program (DWSP), Health Governance, Building Healthy Communities, Community Economic Development Program (CEDO), NNADAP
3. Matsqui	Brighter Futures, DWSP, Health Governance, Building Healthy Communities, CEDO, NNADAP, Canadian Prenatal Nutrition Program (CPNP)
4. Skawahlook	Brighter Futures
5. Skowkale	Brighter Futures
6. Sumas	Brighter Futures, DWSP, Health Governance, Building Healthy Communities, NNADAP, CPNP, CHR, Leeway, HCC, YSAP, O&M, 2nd, 3rd level (MOH)
7. Tzeachten	Brighter Futures
8. Yakweakwoose	Brighter Futures

Other Activities and Accomplishments

In September 2014, Health Services Manager, Kelowa Edel was voted in as a Fraser Regional Representative for the First Nation Health Directors Association (FNHDA) Board which holds a two year term. The FNHDA is a pillar in the First Nations health governance arrangement and acts as technical advisor to its partners, the Federal and Provincial governments, Region Authorities, the First Nations Health Council and the First Nations Health Authority. Through their unique vantage point as Health Leads responsible for delivering front-line health services for First Nations community members, Health Directors see, feel and hear the health needs of community every day which informs their responsibility to plan, coordinate and manage services aimed at meeting those needs.

Health services, in partnership with Chilliwack's Division of Family Practice, charted a number of new additions to the existing clinics held at the Building 7 Site. New clinics included: a Youth Clinic that provides services to youth every Tuesday from 2-5pm; and a Maternal Child Health Clinic that is held one Wednesday a month in conjunction with our baby time clinic on the same day.

Plans are underway for the Primary Health Care Clinic to open in June 2015. This clinic will run in partnership with FHA-Aboriginal Health and is funded through the FNHA's joint project board. The clinic will be open to all on and off reserve aboriginal people and will be based on the Alaska's South Central Foundation's Nuka Model of Care.

Health Services continued to be a partner and voice with the Chilliwack Healthier Community - a dedicated group of service providers collectively working to improve the overall wellness of our citizens as well as improve public education and awareness, collaborating and networking.

The 'Better at Home' Program, a yearly grant of \$100,000, which is guaranteed for 2 consecutive years from The United Way, was in partnership with Seabird Island Health. The program was a success in supporting Elders with yard work, friendly visits, light housekeeping, and elders socials: Summer get together at the Coqualeetza Longhouse in July; Stó:lō Spring Fling Tea and a Valentine's Dance at Tzeachten. The majority of the support for the first year of operations went to the east region elders. The 2015-16 fiscal year will focus on supporting the elders in the Stó:lō Nation communities.

The program also provided non-medical services to support elders to stay in their own homes. This service was available to all Elders (55 and over) in all 24 Stó:lō communities. Seabird Island Health was host agency, administering the services through a coordinator, who was co-managed with Stó:lō Service Agency HS.

Health Services began its journey towards accreditation by researching the available accrediting bodies before choosing to work with the Canadian Accreditation Council. The accreditation process is expected to take approximately 18 months and will involve consultations and collaboration with both staff and community members who use Stó:lō Service Agency HS. The process will involve assuring Stó:lō policies support the valuable work being done in communities and that staff and those accessing services are connecting in ways that are safe, confidential and meet a high standard of care for our citizen's needs.

Over the 2014-15 fiscal year, Stó:lō Service Agency HS engaged the support and vision of the Chiefs to develop HS Vision, Mission, and Values statements.

Vision: Best care for all today to achieve optimal health and wellness tomorrow.

Mission: To improve the physical and emotional wellbeing of all those we serve by providing high quality, innovative and sustainable health services.

Values: Respect, Accountability, Innovation, Spirituality, Excellence

Community Health Nurses (CHN's)

The Community Health Nurses (CHN's) served the communities of Aitchelitz, Popkum, Skawahlook, Skowkale, Shxwhà:y Village, Tzeachten, Yakwekwioose and non-Affiliated persons who requested to receive services at Stó:lō Service Agency HS. The role of the CHN's was to deliver comprehensive health promotion, public health and disease prevention programming for the above noted First Nation's communities. Mandated programs included Communicable Disease Control (CDC), Canadian Prenatal Nutrition Program (CPNP), Maternal-Child Health and Injury Prevention.

Major challenges for the Community Health Program in the 2014-15 fiscal year included changes in structure and staffing. The team had worked without a team lead/nursing supervisor for the majority of the year and one Community Health Worker (CHW) resigned. The other CHN resigned which led to hiring a contract Nursing Supervisor and a new staff CHN. Orientation of new staff and restructuring of programming is ongoing.

Communicable Disease Control

The latter part of the year saw continued promotion of measles immunization due to the outbreak in the previous year. Thus far, we have not seen a huge impact of this outbreak in our affiliated communities.

Flu season went smoothly with all communities engaging to book local clinics. Flu clinics were held at least once in all of our communities with some communities requesting a second clinic. The uptake of flu vaccine was not high compared to previous years where media coverage and awareness was higher (eg.H1N1, etc.).

Due to many social determinants of health, First Nations people continue to have higher risks of developing communicable diseases such as, Tuberculosis (TB), sexually transmitted and blood borne infections (STBBI), influenza and other highly infectious respiratory illnesses. While providing educational workshops, the Community Health Team also relied on education awareness through posters and newsletters.

Immunization Program

Due to the staffing challenges, many clinics were not held on a weekly basis. Clinics are now up and running on a weekly basis. Staff are being oriented and trained to continue clinics to ensure the routine immunization schedule is offered to all those living in the affiliated communities. So far, we have had great attendance at these clinics.

Canada Parental Nutrition Program (CPNP)

New moms (prenatal/postnatal) were offered gift cards of \$25 from large chain grocery stores in Chilliwack, Abbotsford, Mission and Langley. The incentive was to support the moms in making healthy food choices and maintaining a well-balanced diet, prenatally and up to 1 year postnatal. The cards were given out on a monthly basis during their visit with the CHN or CHW.

Community Health Workers (CHW's)

The Community Health Workers (CHW's) assisted with health promotion, immunization and prevention, assisted and lead workshops, provided individual consultations, referrals, newsletters articles, health fairs and on-reserve community visits. Community members dropped by when they needed assistance with Medical Services Plan, Non-Insured Health Benefits, and CPNP.

Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative (ADI)

In conjunction with the "Seabird Mobile Diabetes Team", we held two, 2-day clinics that took place in each community. These were information sessions in which a meal was provided one day and the next day the Diabetes screening clinic was held. The clinics took place in Tzeachten, Leq'á:mel, Sumas, Matsqui and Shxwhá:y Village during January and February 2015.



At the clinics we:

- Identified clients that were newly diagnosed with Diabetes and were in need of support and education;
- Processed lab work at the clinic. As well, blood pressure, medication checks, foot care assessments and eye examinations were provided;
- Made available RN's to provide follow-up support and education;
- Had a nutritionist available at all clinics and who worked one-on-one with clients to identify their specific needs.

The ADI team hosted numerous workshops pertaining to Prevention and Management of Diabetes. This helped entire families to understand the dynamics and implication of Diabetes. These workshops were open to everyone with the aim of offering this service to all community members.

Home and Community Care (HCC)

The Home & Community Care (HCC) program promoted community members to live independently in their home for as long as possible. The community members, their families, and communities were supported by HCC through teaching, counseling and nursing care in their home or at the Stó:lō Health Centre.

Through a team work approach, HCC workers supported community members to reach their optimal level of independence and quality of life.



HCC nursing services included case management, medication administration and management, wound care and management, foot care, therapeutic care, diabetes management, neuropathy testing, one-on-one teaching, blood sugar and blood pressure monitoring, post-op follow ups and supportive care, referrals to other health care professionals as needed, hospital discharge planning and meetings with family/community members to resolve issues when requested.

These HCC nursing services were offered through the Stó:lō Service Agency Health Services to anyone who had their status and lived on one of the ten reserves that the Agency is partnered with.



HCC had three Registered Nurses (RN's) on staff who were all licensed by the College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia (CRNBC). All RN's are required to maintain an annual CRNBC practicing license, which involves meeting the required practicing hours, staying up-to-date in their practice, as well as completing a criminal record check. All nursing procedures and treatments were delivered in accordance with the professional standards set out by CRNBC and First Nation Health Authority.



The HCC program had a Home Care Aide (HCA) who was qualified and experienced in personal care services and assisted community members with their activities of daily living. These activities included: bathing (via community members home or at the Stó:lō Service Agency Health Services Apollo Bath), grooming, feeding, foot and nail care, support with

home physiotherapy ordered by the Physician and set up by Fraser Health's Physiotherapist, and designated care as directed by the RN.

The HCC program made steps forward with continued partnership with the ten communities to provide increased home visits, increased visibility in the communities, and increased frequency of foot care clinics. This was done by scheduled visits to community member's homes and to the band office's at least once a month or however much the community member's needs were.

The HCC staff delivered foot care clinics once a week at the Sumas Health Centre, Leq'á:mel Community House, Tzeachten Band Office, and Stó:lō Elder's Lodge to a number of SSA clients. HCC also provided in-home foot care for community members who had difficulty moving around. The foot care clinics were an opportunity for the community members of Stó:lō Service Agency who were diabetic, frail elderly, or had physical limitations doing their foot care, to get it done by trained HCC staff at no charge.

This year HCC began the Bread Program. The goal of the Bread Program was to deliver high quality bread to community members. Bread runs were made once a week to all of the affiliated communities. During the delivery of bread, buns, or pastries, the HCC staff assessed or followed up on concerns the community member may have had. The Bread Program received great feedback and appreciation from the community members and their families such that HCC at times would get double the amount of baked goods to deliver.

Children's Oral Health Initiative (COHI)

COHI, a dental initiative under the Oral Health Strategy, was designed to prevent and control tooth decay among young First Nations children and to set the stage for a lifetime of healthy teeth. The goal of COHI, to reduce early childhood tooth decay and set the stage for a lifetime of good oral health, was achieved by the following activities:

- Enrolled children in COHI on an ongoing basis;
- Provided support to the dental therapists when they were delivering COHI services (screening, sealants, temporary fillings);
- Applied fluoride varnish according to COHI protocol;
- Provided one-on-one oral health instruction for children aged 0-7, their parents/ caregivers, and pregnant women; and
- Provided oral health information at community and school events.

2014-2015	Eligible Children	Children Participating	Children Screened	Fluoride Varnishes	Children Requiring Restorative Treatments	Parent/ Group Presentations	Community Events & Promotion	Scheduled Clinics	Appointments Made	Appointment No-Shows	Telephone Calls	Travel Time (Hours)
Aitchelitz	3	3	0	3	0	0	1/12	0	3	0	18	0
Leq'a:mel	50	43	22	33	9	11	4/12	17	25	22	430	23.2
Matsqui	15	8	0	2	0	6	1/12	5	10	7	40	5.4
Shxwhá:y	20	14	4	6	2	5	2/12	5	23	16	70	2.4
Skowkale	37	33	15	3	2	4	2/12	10	11	12	330	0.4
Squiala	40	37	31	72	1	5	1/12	8	18	14	296	3
Sumas	44	24	14	25	1	16	1/12	13	18	12	312	16.5
Tzeachten	94	83	74	113	4	8	5/12	16	38	26	800	3.5
Yakweawkwoose	9	3	2	2	0	3	2/12	6	2	0	18	0

Community Statistics for COHI, FY 2014-2015

Aboriginal Mental Health Liaison Program (AMHLP)

The Aboriginal Mental Health Liaison Program (AMHLP) assisted clients in accessing mental health services from Mission to Boston Bar through the following: connecting families, communities and individuals with chronic and persistent mental health to mental health services; providing education and training to community members regarding mental health issues; developing a resource base with the mental health teams within Fraser Health utilizing cultural practices; and conducting workshops, support groups, training programs and public awareness activities to service providers, families, communities and individuals. On request, other Aboriginal cultural awareness and resources workshops, education and training sessions and support groups were designed to reflect the community's specific need.

This year the AMHLP directly helped over a 185 clients get the mental health services they required. This number increased from 100 clients last year. It was encouraging to find that our community members became more aware of the program and felt comfortable in taking the step to access it.

The liaison worker collaborated with various service providers such as Chilliwack Mental Health, Aboriginal Child and Youth Mental Health, Salvation Army, FVACFSS, Xohlemet and Fraser Health to ensure clients had adequate and holistic care. Instruction in various topics such as stress management, anger management and positive changes for a happier life (depression), was given throughout the year.

The liaison worker helped co-ordinate an event that took place at Stó:lō Service Agency to mark World Suicide Day on September 10th, 2014. This event highlighted instilling hope for suicide prevention across the globe. The event included guest speakers, workshops, an art project, dinner and the screening of a movie at Cottonwood Cinema in collaboration with Chilliwack Hospice Society.

Another event that took place this year was National Aboriginal Addictions Awareness on November 19th, 2014. It began with a twilight walk around the track on Coqualeetza property, a dinner recognizing those who have avoided or overcome addictions (alcohol, drugs, tobacco, sugar, gambling etc.) and ended with a screening of a movie at Cottonwood Cinema.

Aboriginal Support and Crisis Intervention Response Team (ASCIRT)

The Aboriginal Suicide & Crisis Intervention Response Team continued to offer workshops in Suicide Awareness, Prevention, and Intervention to a variety of age groups. Last summer, SafeTALK was delivered to 23 members of Valley Youth Partnership for Engagement & Respect (VYPER) and 17 participants of the Stó:lō ACTT X (Aboriginal Career Training Team). There were 30 more participants throughout the year who gathered at Tzeachten Hall, Skowkale Hall, and Soowahlie Health Center to become certified in suicide alertness.



Participants were introduced to the value of simple art therapy techniques in order to manage their own stress and self-care. Throughout these sessions, the trainers identified youth who may be at risk, and also noted those who could be nurtured as peer supports. Combined with shorter awareness sessions called SuicideTALK, Stó:lō area youth were able to better identify safe and supportive adults in their own communities, and access appropriate mental health services.

The 2-day intervention program known as Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), was delivered to small personal groups at Skowkale, Chawathil and Cheam. The ASCIRT welcomed four new trainers this year to help the original two keep up with a steady demand throughout the Fraser Valley east. Through our partnership with Aboriginal Fraser Health, we are able to deliver training to communities and agencies without limiting participation to only a select number of bands and band members. This summer, the team will be training the Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children and Family Services Society (FVACFSS) staff and the Sts'ailes Snowoyelh staff.



Some annual events that highlighted the valuable partnerships we maintained with other agencies included: World Suicide Prevention Day on September 10th led by the Aboriginal Child & Youth Mental Health Team; National Aboriginal Addictions Awareness Week (NAAAW) & Winter Wellness sponsored by the FNHA and hosted by Health Services; and the Tragic Death Forum led by the Chilliwack Hospice Society. Each event drew more participants than in past years. The Tragic Death Forum called 'Journey Forward' this year, was capped at 120 participants but we had many hopefuls inquiring right up to the date of the event.

There was a need for bereavement support throughout our territory and in response we sponsored three people to attend the BC Council for Families Suicide Bereavement training for trainers. They will host the 2 day workshop soon and then it will be available for communities to host. We would like to continue to offer support groups of all types in order to help us keep up with the demand for cultural and community oriented support and informed referrals to our professional partners.

One-on-one support of young adults and youth increased greatly this year. The FVACFSS and the School Districts have been very satisfied with the quick response the Coordinator and volunteers have been able to provide.

We continued to build the volunteer numbers by providing ongoing community training and making note of participants who work in this field and are consistently involved with community service and who may be available to be on call during the day to meet the increasing requests. We also planned support groups and gatherings to create awareness of the many resource people available and increased the probability of members accessing appropriate supports.

Non-insured Health Benefits (NIHB): Medical Transportation Program

This program provided medical travel assistance to any status First Nation's living within the Stó:lō member First Nations territory, and allowed clients to access medically required health services that could not be obtained within their home community. The Medical Transportation Program is a supplementary program, not intended to cover all of the costs associated with travel, but rather to assist with expenses relating to transportation, meals and accommodation.

The program was delivered at Stó:lō Service Agency by the Medical Transportation Clerk, with the assistance of the Community Health staff. Claim submissions were received and processed so that the clients would generally receive their benefits payment prior to their appointment.

Overall, the program was well utilized by the members of the communities. In the past few months there have been new requests from new users who recently learned of the Medical Transportation Program. The effectiveness of this program was that it assisted First Nations people to receive the quality of care they are entitled to.

Medical Transportation: Claims, FY 2014-15

INDICATOR	1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	4 th Quarter
# of claims Processed	210	219	237	252

Medical Transportation: Usage by Community, FY 2014-15

FIRST NATION	# of Claims	Average Value per Claim Processed	Total Value of Claims Processed
Aitchelitz (558)	2	\$183.18	\$366.34
Leq'á:mel (579)	759	\$26.59	\$20,183.00
Matsqui (565)	31	\$66.12	\$2050.00
Popkum (585)	0	\$0	\$0
Skawahlook (582)	2	\$133.48	\$266.95
Skowkale (571)	31	\$100.15	\$3104.68
Shxwhà:y Village (570)	1	\$95.00	\$95.00
Squiala (574)	0	\$0	\$0
Sumas (578)	31	\$31.64	\$980.92
Tzeachten (575)	60	\$70.38	\$4223.00
Yakwekwioose (576)	5	\$127.00	\$635.00

Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB): Short-term Crisis Intervention Mental Health Contract Counselling

The Crisis Counselling Program covered short-term crisis intervention mental health counselling as a benefit when no other such service was available to the client. Eligible benefits included the initial assessment, development of a treatment plan, and fees. Mental health benefits were provided by contracted therapists who were registered with a regulatory body from the disciplines of clinical psychology or clinical social work within the province of BC.

Drinking Water Safety Program (DWSP) – Environmental Health

The Drink Water Safety Program (DWSP) was delivered in partnership with the Environmental Health Services, the Water Monitor(s) of the Stó:lō Service Agency, and First Nation Communities. The objective of the Drinking Water Safety Program (DWSP) was to “...reduce the incidence of waterborne illnesses and outbreaks by increasing and improving the monitoring of and reporting on community drinking water supplies...”.

The program implemented the guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality by: ensuring a timely response to problems with water quality; sampling and water quality analysis; recommending drinking water advisories if required; investigating unsatisfactory results; and recommending corrective actions.

For FY 2014-15, SSA’s DWSP Monitor carried out the Drinking Water Safety Program deliverables on behalf of four communities with the following results:

First Nation Communities	Samples Taken	# of Positive Results (E.coli)	# of Positive Results (Total Coliforms)	# of cases reported to the Environmental Health Officer	# of Boil Water Advisories
Aitchelitz** (558)	2	0	0	0	0
Skowkale (571)	96	0	1	1	0
Tzeachten (575)	96	0	0	0	0
Yakweakwioose (576)	96	0	1	1	0
TOTAL	290	0	2	2	0

***Note that Aitchelitz’s samples are handled by the Environmental Health Officer of FNHA*

The remaining Stó:lō communities (Leq’á:mel, Matsqui, Popkum, Shxwhá:y, Skawahlook, Squiala and Sumas) received the DWSP funding through flow-through arrangements to deliver community-based monitoring programs.

	Apr-14	May-14	Jun-14	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14	Oct-14	Nov-14	Dec-14	Jan-15	Feb-15	Mar-15	
#clients	19	14	13	16	17	17	18	14	13	20	16	24	201
ON	7	6	5	8	9	7	10	10	6	6	8	9	91
OFF	12	8	8	8	8	10	8	4	7	14	8	15	110
Grief	0	0	0	2	2	0	3	2	3	1	2	3	18
Loss	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	7
Depression	3	3	4	5	3	5	5	3	5	5	5	9	55
Trauma	5	3	3	5	7	7	3	1	1	2	2	6	45
Anxiety	6	3	3	5	2	3	4	5	7	6	6	5	55
Stress	3	2	4	6	4	6	7	5	2	4	2	5	50
Panic	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	7
Anger	2	2	1	1	1	1	4	1	0	1	2	3	19
Family crisis	3	3	2	2	3	3	0	3	0	3	3	2	27
Other	3	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	12

Community Wellness Workers (CWW's)

Holistic Wellness, Addictions Prevention

The Community Wellness Workers (CWW's) remained on track in delivering holistic wellness support, and engagement tools, to community members that were self-referred or who were referred to the program. CWWs viewed wellness through four directions of the Medicine Wheel (Spiritual, Emotional, Physical, and Mental or Intellectual learning) and sometimes found it useful to include, social, financial, or occupational components.

During the past fiscal year, intake for one-on-one wellness support continued to be the central activity of CWW's as in the past year. Referrals came from adult urban Aboriginal community members and from on-reserve members, specifically those member Bands that maintained their NNADAP Dollars with SSA HS: Skawahlook, Shxwhà:y Village, Skowkale, Tzeachten, Popkum, Yakweakwoose, and Aitchelitz First Nations.



Families gather for presentation at Tzeachten FN

The CWW team provided: one-to-one counselling to adults and Elders; support for children and youth within a family context or group; presentations and facilitation; specifically designed workshops requested by community members; referrals to residential treatment centers; pre- and post-treatment center support; crisis counselling; and referrals to appropriate services.

Examples of group facilitation and presentations included:

- Strengthening Our Families
- Health Fairs
- Kids Kindness
- Riverstone Daytox Wellness Wheel
- Mom to Mom
- Sparkle on Your Own Terms, Body Image
- Lateral Violence
- Sacred Energy
- Pet Wellness Clinics Surviving Cancer
- Juicing Drinks for Diabetics



Dog gets examined at Pet Wellness Clinic, Sumas FN

CWW's took part in extensive training such as:

- Core Addictions Practice
- Elder Abuse
- A Journey Forward After Tragic Death
- Traditional Family Parenting
- National Mental Wellness Forum
- Lateral Violence



Families gather for presentation at Shxwhà:y Village

Statistics

While CWW's provided service for approximately 120 community members last fiscal year, 69 of them were Stó:lō Service Agency community members and 48 people of other ancestry. CWW's supported 38 on-reserve community members and 74 urban Aboriginal community members; 88 people were status and 23 were non-status. There were 13 people referred to mental health services, 12 were referred to NNADAP treatment centres, 12 people were referred to Riverstone Daytox, and 30 people had other types of referrals.

Shxwt'am:etsel

Shxwt'am:etsel Family Programs include Aboriginal Supported Child Development, Aboriginal Infant Development and Family Support who all work together as one team.

On March 20th 2014, a very significant event happened here in the long house at the Stó:lō Service Agency. Our Department, including the above mentioned teams, was honored to receive a traditional Halq'eméylem name that encompassed all of our programs. This was done in consultation with our staff, co-workers, families and some of our community members. Family Support Worker, Wendy Ritchie, was the key person in helping the teams to make this happen. Our programs wanted to honor the Aboriginal culture and unify our teams in a positive way.

The name that was chosen was 'Shxwt'am:etsel' meaning "Young Cedar Tree." The Cedar tree is the tree of life; our teams strive to give our children and their families a better quality of life by nurturing them and helping them with whatever is needed in hopes that they grow into strong and healthy people.



Aboriginal Supported Child Development Program (ASCDP)

The Aboriginal Supported Child Development Program (ASCDP) assisted children in the 2 – 12 age range who had a developmental disability or perhaps some challenging behaviour that prevented them from attending preschool or daycare. There were three full time ASCDP consultants and three full-time and one part-time support workers. The ASCD consultants met first with the family and discovered what the child's needs were and what would need to be done to assist them in finding childcare or supporting the childcare situation that they were attending.

The ASCD program provided services to 160 families this year. Currently there are 110 children receiving services and there have been 50 discharged. The top three reasons for referral to the program were communication, social emotional and behavioural. ASCD is a center based program where most of the consultants time is in the daycare program providing strategies and support to the child and the caregivers so that the child can participate in the program successfully.

The ASCD staff established successful relationships within the community through building partnerships with the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Health Unit, Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH), FVACFSS and the School districts. We held 16 training and education sessions for parents in the Mission Area including: Lil Bears; Parent and Child Play group; Family Wellness Group; The Information Network – Engaging Aboriginal families; a speech group for children who are non-verbal; Kindergarten Information Evening; and, a workshop on fine motor development. In Abbotsford, we held a music group along with participating in the play group in Mission and their Holiday Pancake Breakfasts. In Chilliwack, the Family Wellness group ran twice and the Holiday Pancake Breakfast and Halloween Party were also big hits.



Along with the consultation and support given to centers and parents, the consultants also provided funding and support to children who otherwise wouldn't have been able to attend a community program or daycare. This year, the ASCD support workers worked with 55 children and provided funding for 56 children to receive one-on-one support in a daycare or a preschool setting.

The staff updated their skills and knowledge by attending various training. One of our support workers completed her Behaviour Intervention Diploma through Douglas College. Some of the other training that staff have taken are: DAYC2, ASQ, Mandt – Relational Training, Trust Based Parenting, CALM curriculum, Anxiety in Preschoolers, FASD Training and Enhancing Inclusive Environments.

We have had many successes this year including the successful application to the Aboriginal Service Innovations – Early Years (ASI-EY) Committee for the funding that enabled us to hire 2 full time support workers to enhance our services to our families and eliminate our waitlist. Also, due to the hard work of our Chilliwack staff, one family in our community received a brand new car from a radio station contest.

Family Support Workers

Through a successful proposal to the ASI-EY committee, we were very fortunate to hire 2 full time staff to work with our families. Families were referred to the program either through a community service provider, social worker, or self-referral.

The purpose of the family support worker program is to reach out to families with children ages 0-6 that may not meet the criteria for our other programs but still need assistance. The main tasks of a family support worker are: to assess the family's needs, screen the child and provide appropriate referrals, take families to appointments when needed, provide overall support and be there to answer questions about development or parenting, and provide one-on-one mentoring of parents and Traditional Parenting groups.

This year we served 36 children with 12 living on reserve. The program served Abbotsford, Mission and Chilliwack and provided 18 group sessions this year in the three communities. The Family support workers transported children, along with their parents, to their speech therapy appointments and doctors' appointments as well as did home visits to provide support and guidance to parents struggling with parenting issues.

Family Support Workers have also assisted with applications for housing, kindergarten, and grants for funding when a child with a disability needed something that they could not afford. For example, one child received funding from the Variety Club of Canada Children's Charity for orthotics and shoes. This would not have been possible in this family's situation without the assistance of the Family Support Workers.

Our two full time Family Support Workers are both local community members who have a wealth of Stó:lō culture knowledge that they weave into the program and the work we do with our families. We have confirmed funding for our Family Support Workers to March 31st, 2016. We are taking new referrals in Mission, Abbotsford and Chilliwack and as long as the parent consents to the referral, we are happy to work with the family.

Aboriginal Infant Development Program (AIDP)



The Aboriginal Infant Development Program (AIDP) is a home based program that works with caregivers and their infants, age 0 – 3, who may have a developmental delay or be at risk for a developmental delay due to environment, genetics or other factors.

The AIDP program provided developmental screening and linkage to other community services thus improving the chances for optimal development of the child. The Infant Development Program (IDP) consultant would visit the family's home to determine the needs of the child and family and provide them with

the strategies and tools to help their child develop and succeed. They also supported parents by helping them access outside resources for their children and coached them along the way by providing a friendly and supportive mentor.

AIDP has had a very busy year and an exciting one. We served 93 families over the year which is 30 more than the previous year. Out of those families, 38 of them were in foster care. Most of the participants were urban aboriginal families with only about 10% living on reserve. We strive to reach out to our on-reserve communities so that more families can take advantage of this service.

The AIDP program worked within the Chilliwack community to build partnerships with other organizations that provided services to our families. These partners took part in planning of events within Stó:lō Service Agency, as well as sat in on the Early Family Literacy meeting. They were part of the joint planning with the Fraser Valley Child Development Center, Health Unit, and Child and Youth Mental Health to ensure that families were accessing the services needed in a culturally sensitive manner.

AIDP consultants spent 735.5 hours in home visits, 518.25 hours in therapy appointments with families, 149.5 doing assessments and screenings, and 350 hours doing telephone visits with families. Apart from this time, they hosted 2 Family Wellness Groups which focused on topics related to healthy development, Traditional Parenting, Healthy Relationships and Nutrition. In Mission the staff hosted two sessions of Little Bears Parent and Child Play group. All staff were involved in planning holiday events for families including a Halloween Party and two Pancake Breakfasts at Christmas time.

The AIDP staff have kept their skills up to date by attending many training sessions and conferences. This year they all completed the DAYC2 Assessment Tool Training, ASQ training, Trust Based Parenting, Mandt Training and additional workshops on FASD and working with at Risk Mothers. AIDP works closely with ASCDP and the Family Support Workers to ensure that when a child reaches 3, that they are still monitored and receive services that they need.

Parent Child Assistance Program (PCAP) Xyóhmettsel Syémym "I am taking care of my pregnancy"

The Parent Child Assistance Program (PCAP) received the new name of Family Empowerment Team. The name better reflected the goals and work achieved by the PCAP team. The Family Empowerment Team was committed to helping families reclaim their power over their own well-being. Primary funding is provided by FNHA for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) prevention work.

The Family Empowerment Program offered a confidential evidence-based home visitation model (based on the PCAP model) for mothers who abuse alcohol or drugs during pregnancy or young women who are at risk of becoming pregnant while actively drinking or using drugs. Our program goal is to help mothers build healthy families and prevent future births of children prenatally exposed to alcohol and drugs.

How we have supported our families this year:

The Family Empowerment Team supported mothers to have healthy drug and alcohol free pregnancies by helping them complete substance abuse treatment; stay in recovery and by motivating them to choose effective family planning methods. The Family Empowerment Workers helped participants identify and work towards goals to improve quality of life. These activities helped to build healthier, stronger, families and communities.

The Family Empowerment Team provided trained and supervised workers who carried a caseload of approximately 8-15 women and their families for 3 years. The workers offered regular home visitation and linked women and their families with a comprehensive array of existing community resources to address health care, housing, child welfare, and other social determinants of health. Family Empowerment Workers helped mothers identify personal goals and the steps necessary to achieve them. The Family Empowerment Team; monitored progress; facilitated case conferencing; integrated service delivery among providers; transported clients and children to important appointments; and, worked actively with extended family to support our families.

The Family Empowerment team co-facilitated a two hour long Baby Time session every Wednesday throughout the year at the SSA HS Building 7 with the Community Health Team. It was a great way for new or expecting women to connect/engage while they received healthy snacks and short health educational sessions. A clothing swap containing clothes for children aged 0-5 and maternity was also available during this time.

The Family Empowerment Team partnered with the Canada Parental Nutrition Program (CPNP) program to offer eight healthy eating events during Baby Time. Participants worked together as a team to prepare freezer bags of healthy crockpot meals and in the summer, easy salads and dressings. Participants were provided with a comparison of cost and nutrition of a crockpot meal and a McDonald's meal for a family of four. Those who completed the first four session consecutively were gifted a crockpot. Many participants reported back that they have made good use of both the crockpots and the recipes provided.

In partnership with the Aboriginal Children and Families Chiefs' Coalition (ACFCC), the Family Empowerment Team organized/facilitated a 6 week Mentorship program. Each week a meal was shared and a new topic discussed. The topics included: Confidence building and Time Management, Budgeting, Do's and don'ts in the workplace, Office administration, Peer to Peer Mentoring, Healthy Relationships and boundaries, and Interview skills. The group finished off the series with role playing and dressing for success. Professional attire was purchased and given away on the final day.

The Family Empowerment Team held a summer workshop series for the Matsqui Youth Group at the request of the Matsqui Care Committee. This series was held one evening per week. Dinner was shared and information was discussed in an open circle format. Topics covered included: bullying prevention, violence prevention, online safety, healthy sexuality, and personal hygiene.

Other Family Empowerment Activities

The Family Empowerment Program hosted a pancake breakfast on International FASD Awareness Day, September 9th, 2014 in Leq'á:mel with over 60 community members in attendance. Support from related service providers included Asante Centre, FNHA, Aboriginal Healthy Living, Stó:lō CPNP, FVACCS and Fraser Health to help raise awareness and educate community members of the consequences of drinking during pregnancy.

The Family Empowerment Team Coordinator represented SSA Health Services as part of the FASD Working Group and actively worked on the FASD Toolkit, a resource that will be provided to Aboriginal Service Providers throughout the Fraser Region.

The Family Empowerment Team has taken on initiation and provision of SSA Health Services Traditional Parenting Program. The aim of this program is to combine traditional teachings and modern social science evidence based parenting practices and showcase how the two complement each other. The Family Empowerment team offered six Traditional Parenting workshops this past year.



The Family Empowerment Team offered five Healthy Sexuality workshops, offering young adults the opportunity to learn about Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI's), the risks of unprotected sex, and contraceptive options. This related to our FASD prevention directive by providing contraceptive education to those young adults engaging in sexual activity and alcohol consumption without knowledge of pregnancy and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) rates, causes, and consequences.

The average lifetime cost for an individual with FASD is \$1.5 million (medical costs, foster care, corrections, judicial system, support services, and social assistance). The Family Empowerment Program costs about \$15,000/client for a 3 year stay with the program. One FASD birth prevented is equivalent to the cost of enrollment and service of 100 Family Empowerment Program participants.

PCAP Participant Accomplishments (by activity /17 participants this FY)

Have started on birth control to prevent affected births through PCAP	3
Have been through COHI and dentist through PCAP	6
Have attended a parenting program this year	5
Have obtained ID for themselves or children with PCAP assistance	3
Have applied for Social Assistance and HST tax credits	4
Have accessed emergency resources	11
Have accessed the Nurse Practitioner via PCAP	4

PCAP Current Caseload (12 participants)

Clients with driver's license	1
Currently using drugs/alcohol	4
Currently with father of the target child	5
Clients with stable housing (resided at current location longer than 6 months)	8
Currently attending school	2
Currently on income assistance	12
Child and family services involvement	8
Current caseload	17

Goals for the coming year for the Family Empowerment Team include: growing our capacity to offer Traditional Parenting teachings to community members, continuing our work advocating for improved FASD related services, and better supporting our male community members by offering a male Family Empowerment Worker.

Stó:lō Dental Clinic

The dental clinic will be celebrating 10 years of operation in July 2015. It was on July 11th, 2005 that the first patient walked through the door.

The ensuing years have proved to be both challenging and rewarding. The qualified dental staff have persevered and have been committed to providing exceptional dental care for aboriginal and non-aboriginal patients. The dental clinic received referrals from local dental offices, Chilliwack Hospital, Fraser Health, Community services, and of course from the front line workers of the SSA Health Services. We are proud that we have accepted a number of practicum students from the UFV Dental Assisting Program over the years.

The dental staff consisted of four dentists, one registered dental hygienist, two certified dental assistants, 1 certified dental receptionist, and one office supervisor who is also a certified dental assistant. All staff, with the exception of the receptionist, are members in good standing with their respective provincial governing boards. Most are loyal long term employees who need to accumulate a certain number of continuing education credits over a three year span in order to maintain a valid practicing license.

The clinic operated from Monday to Thursday 8 am to 4 pm. We also had a walk-in clinic on Tuesday afternoons from 1 pm to 4 pm. The walk in proved to be very helpful for patients who were unable to make or keep regular office hours appointments.

In March of 2014, we began a pilot project in which we booked two dentists on the same day in order to shorten the waiting time for patients needing to book an appointment. This was a good move for the clinic and we started booking this way two times a month. We continued this trend and booked as necessary when waiting times were too long.

A chart audit is currently underway. This is a monumental task but a necessary one so that we are able to track current, active patients. We average approximately 22 new patients a month so it's important to keep our records up to date.

Preventive dentistry is a very important aspect of this clinic. This means that we teach the importance of proper, regular tooth brushing and flossing along with healthy choices when it comes to eating and drinking. Regular dental check-ups are important as well. The sugar display housed in our reception area is a stark reminder about how we can consume sugar without realizing how much.

We supported the FNHA funded, Children's Oral Health Initiative (COHI) program. This excellent program targeted expectant mothers, caregivers and children from birth to age 7. They provided excellent oral health information, as well as fluoride varnish for the children, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and dental floss. This program is a must for all families.

Through the generosity of the SSA Health Services, the clinic recently acquired a Velscope, which is a device that can detect oral cancer. The test only takes 2 minutes and could be crucial in saving a life through early detection.

The dental clinic will continue to provide the finest dental care to all who need it, with the same compassion and understanding as we have been doing for the last 10 years.

Stó:lō Elders Lodge (SEL)

Elders Lodge entered its 7th year of operations, with fifteen tenants and one vacant suite. A few of the lodge tenants have been here since the lodge opened its doors.

The Elders Lodge was fully staffed, supervised with an (off-site) full-time Health Manager, on-site Office Manager, full-time Licensed Practical Nurses on a four on four off rotation, seven hours a day, seven days a week.

The Elders Lodge continued to operate on a 24/7 continuous care, with twelve hour shifts four on four off rotation, covered by qualified Registered Care Aids, two Cooks (one full-time and one part-time) who worked seven hours a day, seven days a week, and cooked two meals a day (lunch and supper). One Activity Worker who worked three days a week and ensured that the Elders had continuous mental, physical, social and recreation activities.



The Elders Lodge has restructured shift rotations amongst care staff to model health and wellness, as well as healthy work environment. Staff were educated by Justice Institute (JIBC) on personal safety.

Amongst one of the highlights was the continued generation gardening between the daycare and the Elders. The Elders truly enjoyed this time with the children and their families. Elders did some canning, which includes wild game, which is now part of our approved menu. Cooks shop weekly for fresh produce. Our garden is getting bigger and more established every year.

Community Engagement HUB (CeH)

The Community Engagement HUB ran for the fiscal year 2014-15 with one Community Engagement Liaison Worker and One Community Engagement Coordinator. Throughout the year HUB had several events that reached out to the various Stó:lō communities.

The HUB's main purpose was to be community driven and nation based. HUB spent time in the communities discussing needs of the individual nations. These included: health priorities, gaps in service delivery, the importance of maintaining collaborative relationships with agencies, staff and consumers, and celebrating and honoring successes.

This year the HUB continued to collaborate with other HUB's in the area: Canyon, South West and Seabird and have been very successful in providing Health Fairs, Youth Events and Emergency preparedness conferences annually. In August 2014, in partnership with CeC HUB's, ACFCC, FVACFSS, VYPER, and FHA. A three day youth camp took place on the Fraser River at the Cheam Camp Ground, for youth aged 14-18 years old.

Food Focus Forums and Strategic Sessions also took place. Food security has been an on-going concern for indigenous peoples. The coordinator attended various committees such as Aboriginal Integrated Health Team meetings (AHIT), SSA HS team meetings, where food insecurity issues were identified.

The HUB started a community garden project in 2013-2014 and is working on extending the garden. HUB also began the Food Strategy Planning in March 2015. The three streams include; Food Security, Food Production, Green space protection.

Qwí:qwelstóm (Justice)

In 2014-15 Stó:lō Service Agency entered into a two year agreement with the Department of Justice with a mandate to address the over-representation of Aboriginal people in the Canadian Judicial System. This year we had several staff changes where we saw 2 Justice Workers move on. We were fortunate to hire 2 Stó:lō community members.

The core of the work stemmed from criminal files referred by the RCMP, Crown Counsel and community members. Qwí:qwelstóm opened 200 new cases with the last quarter of the year particularly busy with clients and circles.

The work with clients and expertise in arranging and hosting circles continued to evolve. Qwí:qwelstóm had 100 circles, 35 meetings including ceremonial and 1000 hours correction meetings/teachings and crafts this year. Elders were utilized in all the circles and also attended meetings to help the program. The process continued to grow with the help of the community and Elders. Stó:lō Service Agency has mentored many communities throughout Canada as they work on setting up their own process.



Respectful Relationships Program

This last year a number of men graduated from the Respectful Relationship group - a ten week course co-facilitated by Justice Worker, Francis Charlie, Pete Austin and a member of the Chilliwack Community Corrections office. The course provided a variety of methods to communicate when encountering conflict. We were fortunate to have both new employees receive certification from the Justice Institute of BC to deliver Respectful Relations in the upcoming year.

Community Gatherings

Qwí:qwelstóm held 3 community information sessions, as well as an Elder Gatherings. The theme of the gathering was 'Returning to our Teachings' and was held at the Squiala First Nation Community hall. The Gathering had over 50 participants from all over our traditional territory. All Elders were thanked and honored for their wonderful work throughout the year. It was well attended and the Elders were blessed by Stó:lō Drummers.

Stó:lō Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training (SASET)



SASET continued to provide employment and training services to First Nations individuals who were: status/non status, on/off reserve and Inuit regardless of their place of origin in Canada, that are residing within our catchment area which extends from Surrey to Boston Bar (both sides of the Fraser River) and the three communities of Samaquam, Skatin, and Douglas.

Over the year, SASET strived to fulfill the following objectives: provide quality intake; assessment and referral of services to assist each client in the development of a realistic action plan towards employment; and, provide access to quality programming that ensured client movement along the employability continuum to eventually reach their employment goals.

The Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training (ASET) model is built on the three pillars: 1-Demand Driven, 2-Partnerships, and 3-Accountability. SASET has successfully developed effective partnerships and relationships with multiple stakeholders in Aboriginal employment and training.

SASET provided employment counseling services throughout the catchment area with the following services offered: trained employment counselors who were able to assist with job search and labour market information, photocopying and faxing, job posting board, resource library, education and training information, assessments and development of essential skills for specified trades development and through application and meeting criteria, access funding for skills training and development.



The Employment counselors were accessible through various communities: Boston Bar, Chawathil, Cheam, Sts'ailes, Free Reign Associates in Hope, Triangle Employment Services in Abbotsford, Katzie, Leq'á:mel, Lower St'atl'Imx Tribal Council (communities of Douglas, Samaquam & Skatin), Matsqui, Mission Work BC, Mission Friendship Centre, Scowlitz, Seabird Island, Shxwhà:y Village, Shxw'ow'hamel, Skwah, Soowahlie, Spuzzum, Squiala, Tzeachten, Stó:lō Outreach and Surrey Aboriginal Training & Employment Cooperative. Clients were welcomed at any of the employment services offices in the catchment area.

SASET served 2337 clients this fiscal year and of those clients, SASET is proud to report that 844 received employment and 332 returned to school.

Through the Service Canada Agreement, SASET administered the “Skills Development/Vocational Funding” which provided support to participants who qualified under the funding criteria for the program: Transition to Work; Short Term Certificate Training such as First Aid Level 1, Serving it Right, Food Safe, Traffic Control Training, Short Term Training such as Forklift, Construction, First Aid Level 3, Class 1 Air, etc., Long Term such as Automotive, Construction, Welding, Plumbing, Healthcare Aid, Early Childhood Education, Culinary Arts, Heavy Equipment Operator, Bridge Watchman, Electrical, Environmental Resources Technology, Forestry Technician, Fitness Training, Plumbing, Administrative Assistant, Skin & Body Treatment, Social Work and Medical Lab Assistant. Each category had capped funding with very strict criteria.

SASET assisted in 114 participants with Transition to Work supports, 77 individuals with Short Term Training, and 42 individuals with Long Term Training. A total of 233 clients received assistance in their move forward to employment as opposed to 217 last year. Of this number, 209 individuals were employed and 12 were in school.

SASET funded 26 communities/organizations for Summer Career Placements providing 192 secondary and post-secondary students with summer employment opportunities. SASET also funded 56 community employment training contracts ranging from Targeted Wage Subsidies, Direct Course Purchases, Employment Assistant Services, Labour Market Information Studies, Work Base Placed Training and Youth Projects.

Health Care Assistant Certification

September 2013 commenced the second intake of Health Care Assistant Diploma Program sponsored by the Ministry of Advanced Education, Aboriginal Employment Training Program. June 2014, 9 individuals graduated with their Health Care Assistant Certification diploma and added to their skill set by earning through Vancouver Community College, their Medication Administration Certification. Congratulations!



Youth in Trades

July 2014 was our 3rd annual Youth in Trades work experience. Funding was received from Stó:lō Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training to host this “boot camp” style work program for youth that are returning to the School District in September. There was an overwhelming response of applicants for this program and via resume submission and interview, 14 participants were selected for the Summer Career Placement.

The Program was 6 weeks in duration and commenced with the group completing a week of employability/life skills training. Certificates achieved were Food Safe, Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) and First Aid leading to a hands-on work experience and certification in: fork lift operating, skid steer, Culinary, Automobile Mechanics, scissor lift and exploring the range of careers for in each sector.

The group was introduced to the concept of employment policies through an agreement in terms of employment that the coordinator introduced in a participant handbook, along with job descriptions.



Discussions of professional behavior, punctuality, attendance and workplace respectful behavior was a paramount focus during their work experience.

At the end of the program most of the participants had a better idea of the trade they wanted to pursue. With a visit to the workplace by the school counselor, SASET was able to assist the participants to ensure

they were in the correct courses they would need as pre-requisites to pursue their chosen trade. Hours accrued during the program were credited to their apprentice/work hours they could collect from the School District.

Thank you for the support from the fabulous instructors and staff at the University of the Fraser Valley who worked with SASET to create this opportunity for the Youth in Trades program. Thank you to our Red Seal Chefs at SASET Culinary Arts! All participants are pursuing the “trade” of their choice. The first Youth in Trades of 10 participants has seen all participants graduate and enter into various trades: apprenticing as an electrician, three into the high demand field of welding, one to Vancouver Community College Culinary Arts Program Professional Cooks Level 1 and another who graduated last year, enrolled in Vancouver Community College Culinary/Baking Program.



SASET Culinary Program

The SASET Culinary Arts Pre-trades program, which is funded in partnership with the Ministry of Advanced Education: Aboriginal Training Employment Program and AANDC West Coast Energy Investment, was designed to provide our clients an introspective look into the culinary arts as a viable means of employment.

The 16 week employment skills based culinary program explored the fundamentals of culinary theory with solid practical application for skills and techniques training. More importantly, it established good employment skills that are required to enter the arena of trades training. Since April 1st, 2014 SASET had 39 clients enrolled in this program through three 16 week programs. The program has an 82% employment rate from its graduates and exceeds the provincial employment expectations.



SASET would like to acknowledge the business support of the following restaurants who took to their business, three week practicum work placements, many who hired our students after the first week: Bozzini's Restaurant, Swiss Chalet, Jolly Miller Pub, White Spot, Jacksons Bar and Grill, Frankie's Italian Kitchen, Ears, Milestones, Fresgo's, Major League Pub, Triple Play Pub, Compass Point Hotel, Bravos, Boston Pizza, Central City Brew Pub, Garrison Bistro, Sasquatch Inn, River's Edge at Sandpiper Golf Course and Original Joe's.



Forestry Skills Program

A 2 week Forestry Skills certificate program was provided in the communities of Cheam, Sts'ailes, Boston Bar and Stó:lō Nation. There were 38 participants who completed the program receiving their First Aid Level 1, First Aid Transport, WHIMIS, Bear Aware, S100, Chainsaw Safety and Dangerous Tree Assessment Certification. These certificates are transferable to many types of work, in our territory, 83% employment rate after completion of program.

BC Centre for Employment Excellence

SASET is proud to have been chosen by the BC Centre for Employment Excellence to be recognized as an example of employment and training "excellence". SASET was showcased in two videos on the Centre's website: one for employment counseling in small communities and the other feature is the Pre-trades Culinary Program. Permission to copy these videos have been granted and will soon be posted on the SASET website (www.saset.ca).

BladeRunners Program

The BladeRunners program is a provincial government agreement that trains at-risk youth aged 15-30 (predominantly 17-24) for jobs in BC. BladeRunners has enjoyed a high success rate and is one component of the Province's strategy to address labour shortages and increase the active participation of Aboriginal people in BC's economy.

Our BladeRunners program operated with funding from the Province, the Canadian federal government, community-based Delivery Agents and industry. The objective of BladeRunners was to train/place at-risk youth in permanent employment in construction or other industries, and to provide additional support to enhance their career potential. Services for BladeRunners was provided through the Foundation Program followed up with the Enhancement Program.



The Foundation Program provided unemployed, at-risk-youth with ongoing support, job readiness skills, and work-place training so they could overcome their barriers to employment and achieve long-term attachment to the workforce.

The Program included: a screening process that helped ensure participants met employer expectations and identified their Employment Insurance/Non-Employment Insurance status; Lifeskills; Health and Safety certificate training; employability skills; and Job coaching (including out of office hours) that supported participant transition through the pre-employment phase. Especially within their first 3 months of employment, participants were provided advice and encouragement to manage their adjustment into long term employment and those barriers which previously held them back.

There were a total of 107 Aboriginal Youth between the ages of 18 and 30 that participated in the BladeRunners Program in the Chilliwack and Surrey locations. As of April 1st, 2015 there were 77 of these participants working, 23 participants were conducting active job search or awaiting start dates for new employment and 7 participants returned to school for further upgrading.

In addition to the core foundations training that was offered in these BladeRunners Programs, there were 3 participants who completed their knowledge test to receive their learner's license, 10 participants who completed their "N" road test and obtained their Class 7 licenses. There were an additional 2 participants who completed their Class 5 road test and obtained their full Class 5 license.

The success of this program is due in-part from the funding that is provided by the Canada – British Columbia Labour Market Agreement and Aboriginal Community Career Employment Services Society (ACCESS).

The various programs that BladeRunners in each location offered during the period of April 1st, 2014 to February 28th, 2015 were as follows:

- Firefighting (18 participants completed)
- Construction/general labour (34 participants completed)
- Warehousing training (22 participants completed)
- Customer Service (14 youth completed)
- Health Care Assistant Certification (8 participants completed)
- Business Administration (11 participants completed)

Of the 107 participants who completed training this fiscal year, 77 are employed creating a successful 72% employment rate. Congratulations to these BladeRunner participants!



First Nations Jobs Fund

AANDC and Service Canada introduced 3 pilot projects in BC to provide Enhanced Service Delivery to Income Assistance clients between the ages of 19 and 24. Seabird Island Band was contracted by AANDC to deliver the Enhanced Service Delivery (ESD) portion of the program to the communities of Union Bar, Seabird Island, Chawathil, Cheam, Squiala and Shxw'ow'hamel First Nations.

SASET was contracted to deliver the First Nations Jobs Fund (FNJF) portion of this partnership. FNJF provides skills training when a client has been referred from the ESD that the last support a client needs to achieve employment, is training. Clients who access this program are expected to be meaningfully employed and exited from Income Assistance within an agreed to timeframe or they will lose their Income Assistance Benefits.

Twelve clients were referred to FNJF in 2014-15. At the end of the fiscal year, all were still enrolled in training: 7 clients enrolled in Residential Building Maintenance Worker certification; 1 client enrolled to UFV Hospitality & Event Programming Certificate Program; 1 client enrolled in UFV Certified Dental Assistance Program; 1 client enrolled in Veterinary Administrative Certificate Program; and 2 completed their Construction Certification Program.

ACTT Youth Summer Employment Program

In the summer of 2014, SASET ran the ACTT Program with 16 youth. The positions in the program are obtained through resume/cover letter submission, interview and acceptance to program. The participants earn an hourly rate which is based on punctuality, attendance and participation.

The first week of the program was the orientation week, which consisted of a session with the Human Resources Department assisting with filling out standard employment forms. Participants learned how and why all the information in the forms are required by a Human Resources Department in an organization and what information can be shared with an employer and how this information is later used by the department.

Participants had a briefing on their “rights” and “obligations” as an employee and were introduced to the programs’ set of personnel policies through a Participant Handbook that outlined terms of employment behaviors and standards. The participants completed the “True Colors” program, participated in a “Communications and Teamwork Skills” training program, and learned “How to be an Amazing Employee”, along with budgeting, presenting yourself professionally, and public speaking. The week ended with presentations on ‘Employment Standards’ and maintaining a ‘Healthy Work Lifestyle’.

Week two consisted of certification training including: WHIMIS/Young Workers, Emergency First Aid Level 1, Food Safe Level 1 and WorldHost. All of these certifications are incredibly useful in helping youth obtain employment. The following weeks presented career opportunities in various fields.

Week three was a Culinary week, which all participants enjoyed immensely. They all participated in a “Black Box” Culinary competition replicating tv food shows; a model of being given five basic ingredients, having all spices/condiments available for their use and creating a dish for presentation.

Week four was “Service Plus”: a week of intensive training showing participants how to provide exceptional customer service.

Week five was an introduction to careers in the health field. Presenters engaged the participants in various health activities, speakers from the various fields in health services gave presentations, and questions were asked regarding the employment and how to “get there from here”.

Week six focused on opportunities in Hospitality and Tourism industry. Participants were grouped and tasked with developing a hospitality/tourism related business, how to market their business plan and steps to “make it happen”. Participants also worked at the Stó:lō Children’s Festival for the day. On the last day of the ACTT Program, a graduation ceremony was held for the ACTT and Youth in Trades participants. Participants invited guests to the celebration where group presentations were made, showcasing their activities for the summer and thanking guest speakers and the funders for making this opportunity possible.

Construction Craft Worker (CCW) Level 1

10 participants successfully completed the Construction Craft Worker Level 1 in Sts'ailes through partnered funding from the ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Programming with Thompson River University. The CCW program introduced participants to the skills, training, and knowledge needed to gain employment as construction craft workers in any heavy construction and resource industry. The program had a strong focus on safety and enabled participants to gain the confidence needed and technical skills required for this trade. This course included training and certification Construction Safety Training System, Pipeline Construction Safety Training, Occupational First Aid Level 1, Transportation Endorsement, Traffic Control Certification Skid Steer Certification, Ground disturbance Level 1, H2S Alive, and Fall Protection Awareness.



Construction Certification Program

Three Construction Certification Programs facilitated by Douglas College this fiscal year, one in Surrey and two in Chilliwack/Stó:lō Nation Training classroom. AANDC sponsored one of the Chilliwack programs through their West Coast Energy funds. A total of 34 participants enrolled to this training with 32 successfully completing 29 employed after training. The Program included Industry specific Essential Skills for introduction to the Construction workplace. Actual industry materials and scenarios were utilized in all components. Topics covered included: Industry overview, Essential Skills requirements in shipyards and construction sites, basic industry terminology, BC Construction Regulatory Framework, Your worksite and the law, personal protective equipment, workplace hazards, WHIMIS, emergency response, ladders and scaffolding, mobile equipment, excavating and trenching, defensive driving, fall protection, fork lift training, aerial boom/scissor lift, first aid and transportation endorsement, skid steer and traffic control certification.

Fallers Training

SASET had the rare opportunity to acquire additional funding supports to assist Tamara Campbell to complete Fallers Certification. Tamara's family has been in the logging industry for over thirty years and she wants to carry on the tradition. Tamara is completing her 180 days of training under the supervision of an experienced faller, once she successfully completes the exam, she will receive her certification. Tamara's long term goal is to start her own company. Congratulations Tamara for being the first woman in BC and the first First Nations woman in BC to complete the Fallers Training Program!



Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC)

Cultural Heritage & Archaeology

In 2014-15 the archaeology/cultural heritage team completed over 30 heritage overview and impact assessments, mitigations, and cultural monitoring projects. Their work as stewards helped protect and preserve Stó:lō heritage. They continued to 'occupy the field' of heritage resource management within the framework of the Stó:lō Heritage Policy, in the service of the Stó:lō community.

2014/2015 Projects:

P2010-10 DiRi-66 65997 Kawkawa Lake Road Alterations
H2013-21 Fortis Huntingdon Reinforcement AIA
H2014-03 Lafarge Gravel Pit AOA
H2014-04 RISC Training
H2014-10 DiRi-1 Monitoring Part II
H2014-14 Blocks B2 and B4 AIA
H2014-15 Clayburn Creek AOA
H2014-17 455 Coquihalla St. Hope AIA
H2014-20 CFLP Blocks SB10 and SB11 AIA
H2014-22 Susie Lewis pits
H2014-24 Hope-Nicola Mounds
H2014-25 SHXW5 & SHXW6 AIA
H2014-26 2014 Forestry Final Report
H2014-27 Hope-Nicola Trail AOA
H2014-28 Tolko CF17 Monitoring
H2014-30 Rick Biller Blocks 23, 24, 26 CHOA
H2014-35 Allan Road Culvert AOA
H2014-38 Rogers Tower
H2014-40 TERA TMEP Training
H2014-42 Winona Road Slesse Park Mounds Chilliwack River Valley
H2014-43 10789 Deroche Road CHIA
H2014-45 Restmore Caves 4559850 Hunter Creek Road Caves
H2014-46 CFLP Blocks AIA
H2014-50 BC Hydro Poles Skowkale, Squiala, Aitchelitz referral 601392
H2014-51 Jan 2015 RISC Course
H2014-52 CFLP Block B11 AIA
H2014-54 CHOIA Peters Shxw'ow'hamel
H2015-01 Cheam Lots 1-4 AIA
H2015-03 Coqualeetza Building 5 Nurse Residence
H2015-04 Frost Creek Flood Protection Upgrade AIA
H2015-06 66546 Kawkawa Lake Road AIA
H2015-07 DiRi-1 Monitoring Part III
H2015-08 Poignant Dam CHOA
H2015-09 Cheam Water Line CHOA

Additional Archaeology Pod activities

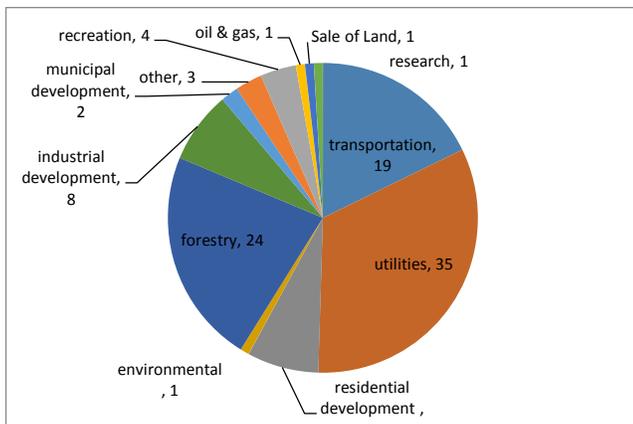
- Archaeological/cultural monitoring and investigations by Stó:lō archaeological assistants with outside consultants
- First Aid certification
- RISC Training
- Ground penetrating radar Burial Mounds in Chilliwack River Valley

Stó:lō Heritage Policy - Stó:lō Heritage Investigation Permitting (SHIP)

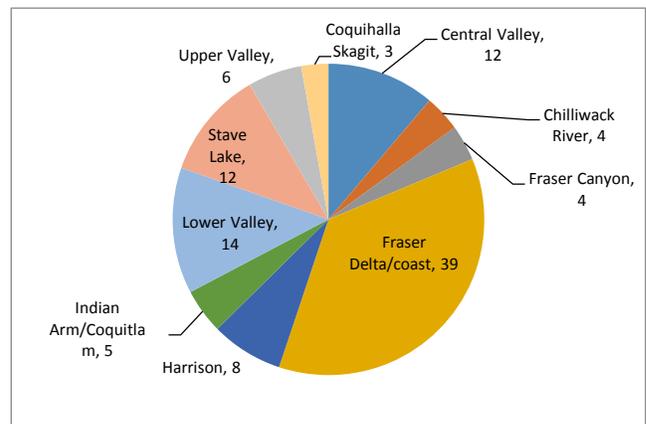
Stó:lō Heritage Investigation Permit Summary March 31st, 2014 to March 31st, 2015

- 107 Stó:lō Heritage Investigation Permit issued

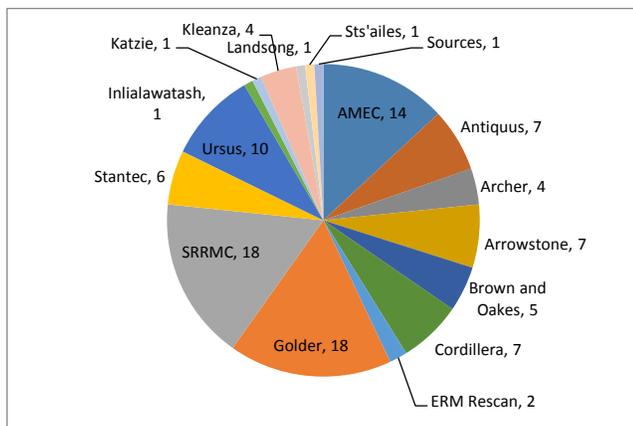
Nature of Investigation



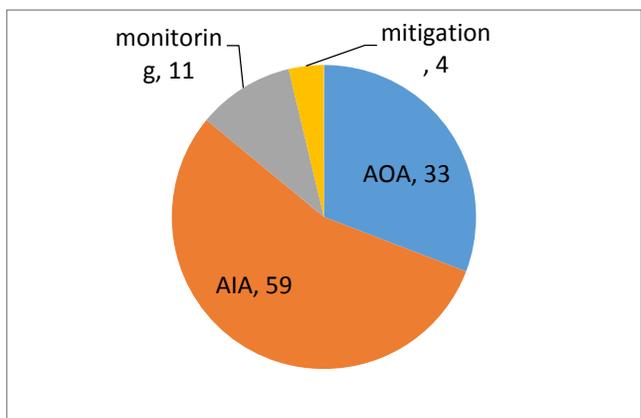
SHIP by Location



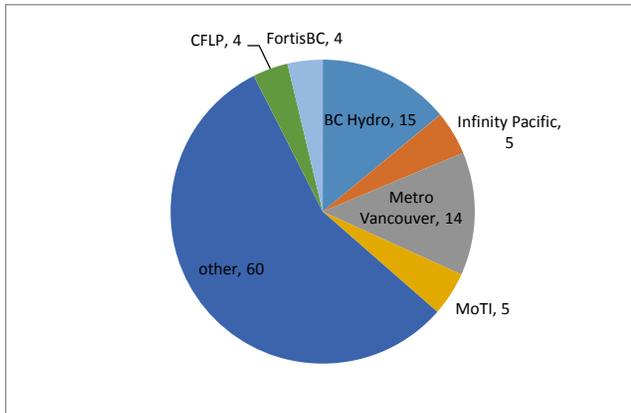
SHIP by Company



SHIP by Investigation Type



SHIP by Proponent



The Stó:lō Service Agency was represented at North American ‘Society for Applied Anthropology’ conference this year, the SFU Archaeological Seminar (<http://www.sfu.ca/ipinch/resources/podcasts/ipinch-speaker-series-dave-schaepe-archaeology-and-heritage-landscape-management->) and international Intellectual Property Issues in Cultural Heritage (IPinCH); in which Stó:lō and community-based heritage management/archaeological practices and relationships to health and well-being were brought to attention. SRRMC was involved in drafting the **Declaration on the Safeguarding of Indigenous Ancestral Burial Grounds as Sacred Sites and Cultural Landscapes** (<http://www.sfu.ca/ipinch/resources/declarations/ancestral-burial-ground>).

Stó:lō Material Culture Repository

SRRMC heritage and library staff continued to take care of the material culture repository and objects curated there on behalf of the Stó:lō community, past and present. Over 9,500 of the material objects were accessible on-line by way of the Reciprocal Research Network (RRN) in which the Stó:lō Nation-Tribal Council/SRRMC were founding developers and members.

There were 23 affiliated museums/institutions in Canada, the United States and England accounting for over 480,000 Northwest coast cultural objects and dozens of project spaces accessible on-line.

The RRN won the American Museum Association Gold Medal in the Digital Community Award category. Numerous new objects were accessioned into the Stó:lō repository by way of donation and our cultural heritage project activities. Notably, 3 ancient cedar baskets and 1 basket fragment recovered from the water-logged site of Liyomxetel (along Sumas Mountain) in 2002, are now undergoing conservation/curation processes at UBC Museum of Anthropology for the purpose of drying and ‘fixing’ them so they can be taken out of our water-based/refrigeration system and proudly displayed as fine pieces of Stó:lō basket making from nearly 2,000 years ago.

Stó:lō Archives and Library

The Stó:lō Library and Archives welcomes everyone who would like to learn more about Stó:lō culture and history. It is a reference collection and space is available for researchers to look at library and archival materials, to plug in their laptops or other devices or to use the public access computer.

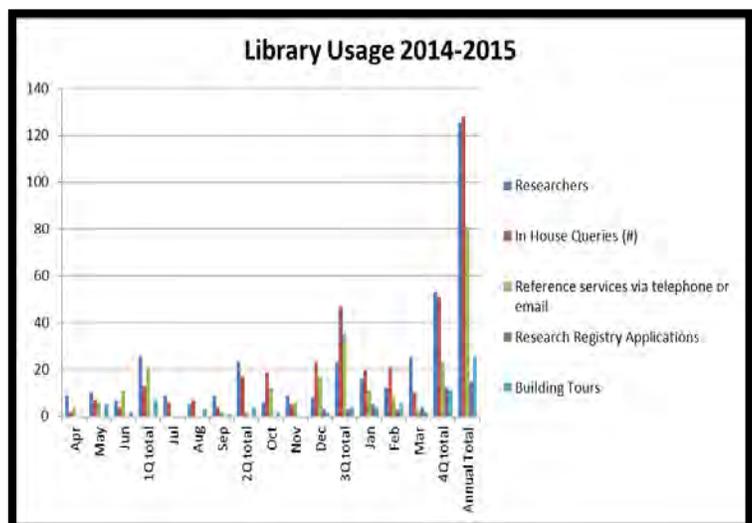
Last fiscal year we launched our online catalogue allowing anyone with an Internet connection to discover what is in our collection. In 2014-15 we continued to provide increased access to materials in our collection by uploading many reports and documents. These can be viewed by searching the online database and clicking on the link to the full-text document. Copyright law governs which documents we are able to upload.

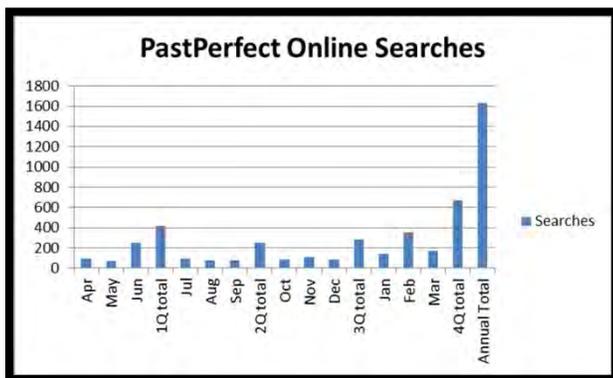
Other initiatives to improve access to our materials include an edit and update to the very useful “Summary of Sxwōxwiyám” which is an annotated bibliography of Stó:lō stories and the ongoing digitization of the oral history collection. Almost 500 cassette tapes were transferred to digital files and burned to CD’s or DVD’s, ensuring that they will be available for use in the future. The digitization project will continue into the next fiscal year.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-SFWBrko3emZRGvxlw5ylw> is the location of our new YouTube channel. In conjunction with the Stó:lō Shxweli Language Program, we uploaded several illustrated Halq’eméylem stories in addition to a video about the construction of Building 10 and the T’xwelátse story. Look for new videos in the future!

Collaboration with other knowledge institutions has been an important element of our work this year. The upswing in our statistics for the last quarter of the year reflects increased use of our collections by students from the University of the Fraser Valley.

One of the School District 33 Grade 4 teachers brought his class in to learn about Stó:lō using Augmented Reality using Aurasma (<https://studio.aurasma.com>). The students had a wonderful day with technology ancient and modern. We also collaborated with the Chilliwack Museum and Archives on their very successful exhibit of Coast Salish basketry running from February 21st to May 22nd. Shxwetetilthet (the Stó:lō Alternate School) students visited the library to learn how to conduct research and library staff worked with the students to create a time capsule.





House of Respect Caretaking Committee / Repatriation and Museum Advisory

SRRMC continued to facilitate the multi-community-based Stó:lō Xyolhmet S'olhetawtxw Sq'éq'ip (Stó:lō House of Respect Caretaking Committee). Joan Seidl (curator) and Bruce Miller (Board-member) from the Museum of Vancouver (MOV) contacted the SRRMC regarding the fragmentary remains of 5 Stó:lō ancestors which had been in the museum since the early 1930's. The MOV offered to repatriate these ancestral remains. The committee members contacted the communities from which the ancestors most likely came and, after a burning on May 13th, all 5 ancestors were returned on May 14th. The home communities continued to work with the Committee to take care of their ancestors in accordance with the home community's wishes.

Planning continued for the final step of returning the ancestral remains repatriated from UBC's Lab of Archaeology – the Journey Home Project. Staff continued to work on that portion of the Journey Home Project funded through the Intellectual Property Issues and Cultural Heritage (IPinCH) Project. This research project, in collaboration with and directed by Sue Rowley (UBC Dept. of Anthropology / Lab of Archaeology), focused on the ownership and use of information and knowledge gained from the study of ancestral remains; specifically, those recovered from UBC. All aspects of this project were carried out under the guidance of our House of Respect Care-taking Committee.

Stó:lō Tours and Tourism

Through Stó:lō Tourism, the numbers of new visitors to the Coqualeetza grounds continued to grow. There were many local tourists and a slow increase in the number of foreign visitors who walked through our doors.

Tours continued to be offered of the Shxwt'a:selhaxwxt Interpretive Centre, the Stó:lō Ethnobotanical Garden, the Coqualeetza Longhouse and the Stó:lō Resource Centre. There were weekly tours for people to drop in, group tours, school tours and customized tours for universities and corporations. The focus of the cultural tours was sharing who Stó:lō are, how we lived in the past and how we live today. Visitors walked away knowing the Stó:lō traditional territory and having an understanding of the importance of sxwōxwiyám and sqwelqwel, our ancient and new stories that create our laws, values and protocols. The feedback from our visitors is overwhelmingly positive.

Goals are to increase revenue from the tours, focus on branding and marketing Stó:lō Tourism through the new www.stolotourism.com and www.stologiftshop.com website that will be launched soon and to create stronger partnerships with Stó:lō Service Agency departments, school districts and other business and organizations in the Fraser Valley.

Stó:lō Gift Shop

The Stó:lō Gift Shop re-opened in November 2014 and sells local, authentic and Aboriginal hand-crafted items. The Stó:lō Gift Shop has a range of merchandise with local First Nation designs, silver-carved jewelry, local publications such as “I am Stó:lō” and “You are Asked to Witness”, jewelry, cedar weavings, Salish Weavings, and blankets. There is a strong focus on building relationships with local artists and increasing the number of their items in the shop. The gift shop is open Thursday to Saturday in the Fall and Winter, 7 days a week during the Christmas shopping season and 6 days a week during the Summer season.

Cultural Experience Series

The Cultural Experience Series, a free public welcome event that shares Stó:lō culture and history, was hosted once a month as an excellent way of building relationships and creating a community of Stó:lō and Stó:lō neighbors. Many of the Cultural Experience Series participants became volunteers and friends. It is becoming a place where Stó:lō cultural teachings and protocols are being practiced and revitalized.

Cultural Education Projects

SRRMC staff continued their involvement in cultural education, as a priority area of work. Linked to Tours and Tourism, our work in cultural education focused on collaborations with Stó:lō communities, local School Districts, and Universities. This year, we continued our work as the Lead Institution on the Virtual Museum of Canada Project – Sq'ewlets : A Stó:lō-Coast Salish Community in the Fraser River Valley.

Numerous SRRMC staff including Sxhweli, Library-Archives, and Cultural Advisory worked with individuals from Scowlitz FN, UBC, SFU, UVIC, U. Saskatoon and Ursus Heritage Consultants on this history of archaeology and community at Scowlitz. We completed our work with Chilliwack SD33 on the multi-year Indigenizing the Curriculum Project, developing a ‘teaching the teachers self-guided PowerPoint presentation’. Staff also organized the restoration of a portion of Luckackuck Creek, enhancing the fisheries habitat and developing capacity for on-site cultural education and interpretation. This year marked the second consecutive collaborative theatre production between the SRRMC and UFV Theatre Department. This year our team, including a number of Stó:lō community members as actors (Carrielynn Victor, Helena Paul, Shirley Hardman), staged a reading of indigenous playwright Drew Hayden Taylor’s comedy, The Berlin Blues. Our two performances were very well received and attended.

The SRRMC has also been retained by the Ts'elxweyeqw Tribe Management to assist with the creation of the Ts'elxweyeqw Tribal History book. This work will continue throughout the year.

SXTA Treaty-support Services

SRRMC staff, including the SXTA Treaty Outreach Team, continued to provide technical support to the Stó:lō Xwexwilmex Treaty Association (SXTA) and their on-going negotiations. Currently the SXTA is in Stage Four of the BC Treaty process. For further information regarding the SXTA and treaty-related operations please visit the SXTA website at sxta.bc.ca.

People of the River Referrals Office (PRRO) & Stó:lō Strategic Engagement Agreement (SSEA) Operations

On June 19th, 2014, a traditional Stó:lō Blanketing ceremony was held to mark the conclusion of the Stó:lō SEA Pilot, and the transition into a Stó:lō Strategic Engagement Agreement (SSEA) between 14 Stó:lō communities and the Province of British Columbia. The SSEA, negotiated by our General Manager with support from the Co-Managers, runs for 3 years from April 2014 to March 2017. Our ceremony was held at the Coqualeetza Longhouse with Stó:lō and Provincial leadership including the Minister of Aboriginal Rights & Reconciliation (MARR), John Rustad and three MLAs.

The Stó:lō SEA works to standardize and improve development referral processing, engagement and decision-making among the Stó:lō membership. The People of the River Referrals Office (PRRO) is the operational wing of the SSEA Board or 'S'ólh Téméxw Stewardship Alliance' (STSA). The STSA consists of leadership representation of 16 Stó:lō First Nations - all 14 signatory communities, plus two additional First Nations who joined post-implementation. Under the direction of the STSA, the PRRO are affecting the provincial engagement, development review and decision making processes in a positive way for the Stó:lō.

The PRRO operates with five permanent fulltime positions (two co-Managers and three Referral Officers) and six permanent part-time positions (General Manager, three PRRO Community Liaisons, a Referral Administrator, and a GIS Technician). The PRRO collaborates with other staff in the SRRMC including from Administration, Cultural Heritage and Archaeology, GIS Mapping, Land Use Planning, Fisheries, and Stó:lō Archives and Library.

A total of 241 SSEA referrals were published and processed through the Provincial agreement in first year of SSEA implementation. This equates to approximately one new referral every working day. An additional 154 non-SEA referrals, those not included in the terms of the Agreement, were also received and published from other levels of government (Federal), local government, crown corporations and private proponents. In total, the PRRO received and processed 395 development referrals in 2014-15 fiscal year. A number of these were major projects, including the Kinder Morgan Transmountain Pipeline Project.

Our uniquely designed and celebrated web portal, 'StoloConnect.com', has seen continued refinement and increased functionality, as we work in close collaboration with software developers Culture Code. Data housed by the SRRMC continued to be digitized, organized, and uploaded into the StoloConnect system for the PRRO Referral Officers and other registered users. The utmost security has been maintained on StoloConnect to safeguard culturally sensitive information, with levels of access limiting what external parties have access to. By minimizing repetitive, menial tasks on the portal, we've allowed our Referral Officers to concentrate on the greater responsibility of research, collaborations, and site visits in addressing potential impacts to Stó:lō interests and Rights and Title concerns within S'ólh Téméxw. To date, more than 1,400 users are listed in the portal database.

The first year of the SSEA's 3 year term saw more referrals reviewed in greater detail than ever possible previously; with meaningful, tangible and positive results within S'ólh Téméxw. The involvement of these entities was a primary factor in the denial of a mining tenure at Hills Bar, a project that threatened the Xexá:ls transformer sites of Tewit, Talh, Sqwema:y, and Q'oyits. Additionally, STSA and PRRO intervention saw the rejection of a proposed agricultural mall development on burial grounds at Sumas Mountain, and the eventual remission of the proposed hazardous waste treatment site on the banks of the Fraser River in Chilliwack. These achievements spook to the critical importance of a comprehensive and effective referral review and engagement process as part of talking care of S'ólh Téméxw, and Stó:lō rights and title.

To supplement the 'Stó:lō Heritage Policy' in our engagement process, SRRMC also completed and implemented the 'S'ólh Téméxw Use Plan Policy', as well as the newly developed 'Land and Resource Use Consultation and Decision-making Policy'.

In January 2015, the GM and Managers of the PRRO began engaging with Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada to negotiate a Federal Engagement Protocol Agreement. Once completed, this will be the first of its kind in western Canada.

Trans Mountain Expansion Project - Stó:lō Collective Intervenors

Thirteen Stó:lō First Nation bands joined as a collective to participate as intervenors in the National Energy Board hearing review of the Trans Mountain Expansion Project. The technical working group consistently reviewed the regulatory documents, including motions, information requests and responses from other intervenors, procedural directives, rulings, and information requests from the National Energy Board, and the application, information request responses, and supplemental information provided by the proponent, Trans Mountain/Kinder Morgan.

Ongoing communications with the Political Working Group and decisions regarding the Stó:lō Collective's submissions of letters, motions, and information requests continued and will continue through to the closing of the hearing in October 2015.

To date the Stó:lō Collective have been actively participating in the hearing process and continues to place Stó:lō interests in front of the National Energy Board and Trans Mountain as an integral factor in the decision making and conditions of approval that will be recommended to the Cabinet Minister at the close of the hearing review in 2016.

Stó:lō Service Agency Fisheries

The Stó:lō Service Agency Fisheries program changed its role slightly over this last year as the fisheries management leadership adjusted to a new era under Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance (LFFA). With LFFA producing much of the responses to Canada's Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) of which Stó:lō Nation supported directly and indirectly. Through the Fisheries Management Board, we identified a variety of salmon abundances for all stocks to inform our communities on a general fishery expectation. We utilized a number of information gathering places including, communication at the Fraser Forum on Harvest and Conservation, joint management processes, LFFA, Fraser Panel calls, and Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) lower Fraser calls.

The Fisheries Coordinator participated in LFFA Technical Working Group for salmon and non-salmon species, specifically working on Eulachon and Sturgeon and educational items, forum meetings as a technical support, a fisher's forum and an annual strategic planning session. The Coordinator provided the Fisheries Management Board with support, and provided an avenue for concerns/interests on scheduled fishery meetings on topics around governance and salmon resource management and issues.

The Coordinator participated in Executive Committee for the Fraser River Aboriginal Fisheries Secretariat (FRAFS EC) and is a member of the Forum Planning Committee for FRAFS, which continually brought information to Stó:lō Nation FMB, Chiefs, communities and members. This assisted in building a more solid understanding of resource management topics on Fraser River salmon especially focused on harvest and conservation issues.

Examples of communication topics included:

- Non-Salmon Collaboration works regarding sturgeon, Species at Risk....Eulachon,
- Salmon and watershed educational support,
- public presentations,
- fishery openings and closures,
- technical run size estimate information
- and other fishery related details



Genealogy

The genealogy staff entered the BC Vital Statistics data for our area. This included early baptisms, colonial marriages, marriages, and death records. The records were copied from the BC Vital Stats website and made into word documents and then transcribed into the database. Any record information that was not available would be retrieved from the Cloverdale Library. There are currently 46,381 names and 13,687 marriages entered into the database.

The Family Tree database is used to create family charts which are available to staff, community members, and non-community members. The charts are used for: family history research; personal knowledge; traditional names needed for the longhouse; obtaining membership; applying for jobs; ID; birth registrations; educational and business grants; assisting Social Workers with their work; and, providing information in legal cases. The Genealogist continued to volunteer with the British Columbia Genealogical Society (BCGS) and with the British Columbia Historical Federation.



Stó:lō Shxweli Halq'eméylem Language Program

The SSRMC Shxweli staff continued their long-term work of collecting and sharing the Shxweli Elders' Halq'eméylem language materials and knowledge. In the last 12 months, the work included:

StoloShxweli.org Halq'emeylem language Collection: 260 new pages of content (words, phrases, and sections of stories). Each page included Elders' audio, pronunciation guide, notes on word structure, origins, and related words. Available free to all Stó:lō community members for individual use. There were 77 community members and staff currently as site members.

First Voices: Created 23 language learning games to First Voices, each with 26 pages of content (including three styles of matching games, language lab). The latest games match the content introduced on StoloShxweli.org, available free to all Stolo community members for individual use (some items are not yet released).

Language support for SFU SSHRCC App Project: Developed language content, a part of a project SSHRCC project through SFU led by Marianne Ignace, to make an app linked to transformation sites and narratives of Cheam and Sumas Mountains. Shxweli work included translating two traditional narratives related to the places into Halq'emeylem, currently consulting with speakers to record these in audio.

Language support for MVC Sq'ewlets site: Ongoing project to consult on providing Halq'eméylem language terms for items on the site, including 57 place names analyzed to show roots and related words, with audio recordings of speakers. Currently consulting with speakers to record additional terms.

Translation Services: Our program responded to requests for an average of 5-10 Halq'emeylem/English or English/Halq'emeylem translations each week. About half of these were internal requests from other SSA staff, the other half were from local language teachers and community members.

In addition to the services listed above, the language program staff also provided custom materials for local Chilliwack SD 33, and consulted regularly with teachers from Abbotsford SD 34 and UFV. The Shxweli staff were also invited to serve as judges at the annual Halq'emeylem translation contest, this year held at Sumas. Staff have also been requested to consult in editing a final book on the Nooksack language, from the estate of the late Lawechten (Brent Galloway).

Board-Membership/Committee Involvement

The SRRMC staff participated on a number of Boards and Committees including Tia Halstad (Archivist / Librarian) who is a member of the **Chilliwack Museum and Historical Society** Board of Directors and facilitated communication and cooperation between the two organizations. The board met monthly to discuss upcoming events and display an ongoing development of the Chilliwack Museum and Archives.

The SRRMC Director is the current Board-member and current Chair of the Governance Committee for **Tourism Chilliwack** participating in quarterly meetings regarding opportunities to increase destination tourism in Chilliwack and the central Fraser Valley; Chair of the **Stó:lō Xolhmet S'olhetawtxw Sq'eq'ip (Stó:lō House of Respect Care Taking Committee)**, working on the repatriation projects with UBC and the Museum of Vancouver, a member of the **Joint Working Group on First Nations Heritage Conservation**, a joint FN Summit, UBCIC and BC group collaborating on activating sections of the Heritage Conservation Act to provide legal protection to First Nations sacred/spiritual sites throughout British Columbia; Co-Chair of the **Cultural Tourism Working Group** in the Intellectual Properties Issues in Cultural Heritage Project (IPinCH) – a multi-national, multi-institutional research project focusing on intellectual properties run through SFU (www.sfu.ca/ipinch/).

Lastly, the SRRMC Director was part of a successful Canadian Institute of Health-funding application and, now, the current committee developing the collaborative project on **Indigenous Youth Suicide Prevention, Land-based Resiliency & Preventative Programs**, led by Seabird Island and UFV.



Stó:lō Nation

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Derek Hansom | Vice Chair
Sharron Young | Secretary/Treasurer
Cameron Clark | Board Member
Rosemary Trehearne | Board Member

Stó:lō Service Agency (SSA) Management Team

Willy Hall | Executive Director
Tara McLaughlin | ECD Manager
Rose Greene | Education Manager
Sharlene Charlton | FAD Manager
Ernie Victor | Fisheries Manager
Kelowa Edel | Health Services Manager
Joanne Jefferson | Justice Manager
Anna Celesta | SASET Manager
Dave Schaepe | SRRMC Director
Brianna Hall | Recorder





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