



Stó:lō Service Agency Performance Report

December 2022 - March 2023

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- Began revision and review of the SSA Operations Manual for SSA Board of Directors (BOD) approval of the final updated draft.
- Final draft of the Stó:lō Nation Chiefs Council Orientation (SNCC) Manual was emailed out to SNCC communities for review and editing. This will be an introductory document for new SNCC members to understand the background and current position of the Nation.
- Received all Band Council Resolutions (BCR's) for approval of the next steps to the Additions to Reserves process for the Coqualeetza property. Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) will be meeting with the Department of Justice and will be in contact with us on the next steps moving forward.
- Met with ISC for a follow up environmental screening site visit after the demolition of building #1, for the contaminated sites assessment at the Coqualeetza properties. We are awaiting the final environmental screening report. SSA continues to work with ISC for potential funding sources which we will use for additional projects on-site and at St. Mary's (Pekw'xe:yles).
- Mailed out Christmas cards to the post-secondary students to give them that little bit of encouragement and incentive to keep up the good work.
- Years of Service ribbons were presented from the BOD to staff at the All-Staff Christmas luncheon.
- Next fiscal year Budgets and Workplans were prepared by the departments and approved by the BOD.
- Remodelling of the Stó:lō Government House (SGH) was approved via SNCC resolution and renovations began in January. The building is close to its 25th anniversary (May 1999) and requires upgrades in computer/sound system and building updates.



Executive Director, Willy Hall and SSA BOD presenting long-term employee, Leona Sam (Indian Registry Administrator) with her 25+ years of service ribbon.



FINANCE

ADMINISTRATION

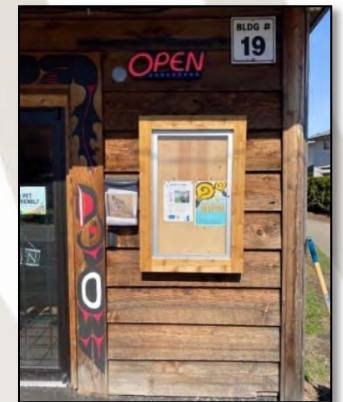
- Hired new Finance Clerk Ashley White-Fougere who brings 15 years of accounting, finance and administrative service to the team.
- Reviewed the first draft of the new Finance Policy.

GIFT SHOP

- Excited to add products from some new local artists:
 - Raven Wolden, from Sts'ailes Band,
 - Jen Carmen from Sq'ewa:lxw First Nation
 - George Price from Seabird Island Band
- The artists have added several beautiful hand-crafted items including beading, carvings and plaques. We have had the pleasure of working together with so many talented artists showcasing their work, the customers love the new additions.
- **New additions to our shop!** We are excited to have had two great new additions to our shop! Thanks to our maintenance crew, we now have an outside bulletin board and a door opener to assist our customers who need a hand to get in our shop, thank you!
- Added a new member, Rhonda Bouzovetsky, to our team. Having Rhonda with us as our main clerk has allowed us to make some significant changes to assisting company and community customers with quotes and the order processing. It has been a wonderful quarter and year. We look forward to seeing everyone throughout the next year.



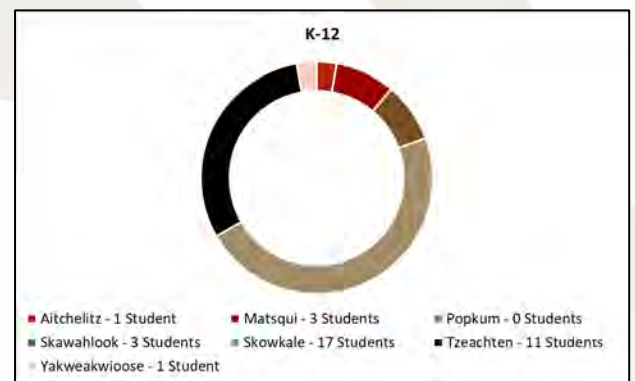
Some of the new artwork for sale in the Gift shop.



EDUCATION

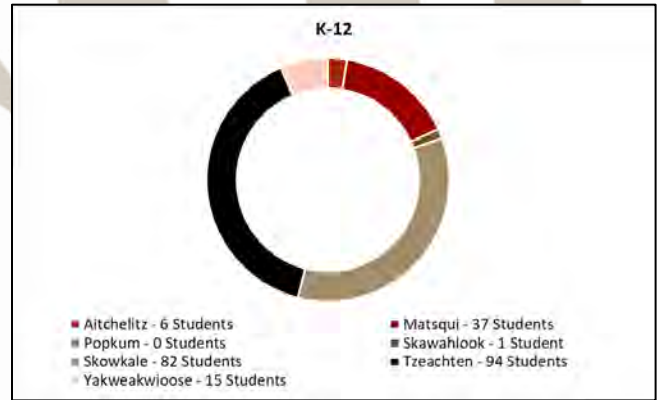
Post-Secondary – 36 Students

- UCEP: 6
- Certificates & Diplomas: 7
- Bachelor Programs: 16
- Master's Programs: 6
- PhD Program: 1



K to 12 – 235 Students

- Aitchelitz – 6
- Matsqui – 37
- Popkum – 0
- Skawahlook – 1
- Skowkale – 82
- Tzeachten – 94
- Yakweakwoose – 15



OPERATIONS

HUMAN RESOURCES (HR)

	December	January	February	March	TOTAL
Job Postings	2	3	1	1	6
Interviews	1	5	9	6	21
New Hires	0	4	2	0	6
Staff Resignations/Releases	0	0	0	4	4
WCB/Short Term Disability Applications	1	0	3	0	4
HR consultations with Staff/Supervisor	2	9	12	8	31
Pension and Benefit Enrollment	3	4	0	4	11
Criminal Record Check Applications	7	0	15	4	26

- Zoom Pension and Benefits Education session was facilitated by Eagle Bay Financial in January 2023 with 12 people attending via Zoom.
- Hosted an all-staff Christmas luncheon where 36 employees were presented with their 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25+ years of service ribbons by the SSA Board of Directors. Over 80 staff packed into the Stó:lō Sto:lo Government House to enjoy a catered turkey lunch.
- Hosted a Christmas door decorating contest for all staff. The Dental clinic took the prize for their tradition Christmas decorating style.



SSA employee, Leona Sam (Indian Registry Administrator) receiving her 25+ years of service ribbon from the SSA BOD.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

- Assisted replacement of all Konica copiers with upgraded models.
- Planned and installed fiberoptic cabling for buildings 1A, 2D, 8A and 8B.
- Completed migration of all email mailboxes from Exchange Server to Microsoft 365.
- Upgraded Dental server and workstations.
- Replaced legacy Active Directory servers with Windows Server 2019

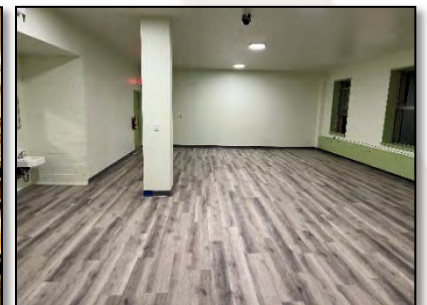
INDIAN REGISTRY

- Continued succession planning and training for backup Indian Registry administration.
- Attended a two-day online Certified Integrity Document (CIDO) training provided by ISC as well as a two-day training course on Secure Certificate of Indian Status (SCIS). Received certificates for both. These two courses were required as a prerequisite to taking the Digital Application Process training in Vancouver in early April 2023. These courses have been made available to select Indian Registry Administrators in a pilot project to advance the Indian Registry process.
- Indian Registry services over the months of December to March:

	Births	Deaths	Band Transfers	SCIS Applications	CIS Cards	FTR
Aitchelitz					1	
Cheam	2	2	1			
Kwaw'Kwaw'Apilt	2					
Matsqui					2	
Shxwhà:y Village	5			1	3	
Shxw'ow'hamel						2
Skawahlook				2		
Skowkale					5	
Soowahlie	1				4	
Sumas	1	1		4	6	
Tzeachten				3	9	
Yakweawkwoose	1				1	
TOTAL	12	3	1	10	31	2

PROPERTY & CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

- Rented the North Wing second floor to Little Willows Daycare who have now become our largest tenant at Pekw'xe:yles. They upgraded the second floor to add new colours and a fresh new look.



- Installed new cameras on the Coqualeetza property to provide increased security.
- Installed the new Health Meeting Room Portable and completed the decks, power and utility hook ups.



New Health meeting portable.

- Completed the work on the new storage portable in the vehicle compound.



Maintenance Requests December 2022 to March 2023

Description	Building									Grounds	St. Marys	Other Building	SEL
	10	19	26	5	7	8	9						
Electrical	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	
Hanging Large Items	3	0	0	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Heating and Cooling	4	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	1	1	3		
Painting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1		
Plumbing	0	1	0	0	3	0	5	0	6	0	0		
Windows and Doors	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	4	0	2		
Installation of Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Lights	3	0	0	1	5	2	3	0	6	2	9		
Other	16	0	0	5	5	5	15	3	7	4	5		
Total	27	2	1	9	21	9	26	3	27	8	21		
		Dec - Mar			Sept - Nov								
TOTAL MAINTENANCE REQUESTS		154			131								

RECORDS MANAGEMENT

- From December to March there were 874 files created, 737 files edited, 21 boxes were archived for various departments, and 24 boxes were edited in the records database.
- Continued with assisting Indian Registry. Completed two pre-requisite training courses through ISC for Indian Registry administration.

HEALTH SERVICES (HS)

ADMIN/OPERATIONS/PRIMARY CARE

- Partnership with the Primary Care Network to have Austen Renaud, the Mental Health & Substance Use Clinician for Indigenous Services, be located in building 7 five days per week.
- Mindful drumming workshops held Monday afternoons with Austen Renaud in partnership with Metis House who has provided the location.
- Building 7 panic buttons assessed and reallocated to support staff.
- First Aid Training held for 20+ staff.
- Budgets and workplans approved to support increasing staff wages and completing some necessary renovations and projects.
- Trauma Support funding approved from First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) for next fiscal year to allow for Somatic Therapy groups and other trauma awareness.
- Nurse Practitioner (NP), Liang Jing left the primary care clinic. Looking to bring in another NP.
- Charise Conkin, Healthy Living Coordinator is now a registered physio therapist and able to see clients in their homes or at the clinic.
- Wellness Wednesday luncheon was held on March 22 to gather staff and ask what they would like to see to support their mental wellness. Suggestions included luncheons, cultural teachings, crafts, Registered Massage Therapy (RMT), and team building fun.



Wellness Wednesday Luncheon

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND HOMECARE

- Currently 77 clients receiving Homecare services: housekeeping, wound care, clinical assessment and personal care, diabetes and other chronic disease monitoring, palliative support, accompaniment to clinical appointments, friendly visits, and shopping.
- Currently 64 clients receiving regular footcare in their home or at SSA Health Services.
- Requests for COVID-19 vaccines decreased. In December and January there were less than 10 requests and zero requests in February and March. SSA no longer storing the vaccine at building 7 as it outdates quickly, but able to pick up from Public Health if there is a need.
- Support requests continued for COVID/cold/influenza and included some minimal grocery shopping and pharmaceutical pickup and delivery.

- Staff attended Health and Wellness events in both Sumas and Shxwhá:y Village in March.

DENTAL

- Monthly Productions continued to increase:
 - December 2022 - \$61,058.46 (closed 2 weeks)
 - January 2023 - \$107,623.29
 - February 2023 - \$119,793.75 (office record)
- Staff attended the Pacific Dental Conference at the beginning of March. Completed updated dental courses on inclusion, mental health, and office updates with intraoral scanners.
- Purchased an intraoral scanner, eliminating dental impressions.
- December and January hosted two, “Community Cares Clinics” open for the community to offer emergent dental treatment.
- Summer holidays for Dental office closure planned for August 14- 18, 2023.



Shxwhá:y Village Wellness Event



Sumas Health Event



Dental Staff Team Building



Dental Staff Dinner

Á:LMÉLHÁWTXW EARLY EDUCATION CENTRE

- Head Start staff continued to offer one to one outreach sessions for our families.
- Family program drop-in was up and running from 9:00-11:00am and offered a light breakfast and bus transportation. The children and families participated in fun learning activities and enjoyed meaningful conversation.
- Currently have four families attending our head start family program: three are Indigenous and one is Metis.
- All staff were able to spend an evening of learning with Bibiana Norris-Halq’emeylem Nursery Rhymes with Stó:lō Shxwélí language program.
- Our head start family program and 4's Preschool program attended the Chilliwack gymnastics club for a February outing.
- Spirit week was a success for our preschool classes.



Language Group

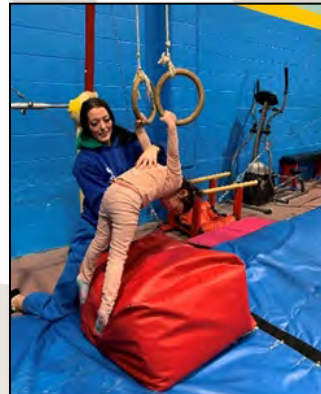
- 20 children enrolled in preschool: 8 band affiliated children with the rest of the enrollment being children of Indigenous ancestry, self-identified or Metis.
- Approved for the Health and Safety Grant for 2022 from the Government of B.C. to be spent by March 31, 2023, to help with additional costs associated with adhering to the BC Centre for Disease Control and Ministry of Health, due to the pandemic.
- Received COVID-19 2023 funds from BC Aboriginal Child Care Society (BCACCS) to support the ongoing needs of communities as they provide early learning childcare services while ensuring staff and families stay safe and healthy.
- Approved through the Government of B.C. for the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative (CCFRI) and Early Childhood Educator Wage Enhancement (ECE-WE). This brings lower childcare fees directly to our families who access our programs and supports our ECEs.
- The Certified Oral Health Initiative (COHI) came to visit our childcare programs for fluoride and varnish screening.
- Received funding (minor capital) from BCACCS to repair our roof and get a small new playground for our Butterfly program. Our roof is complete and looks great.
- West Bow Construction - Give Back Program built us a nap room over Christmas break. We needed a space for the children napping and our centre was selected as part of the program.
- January 9, 2023 our Centre, Childcare Supervisor Monique Belanger and ECD Manager Jenn Carman were featured in an article online with Chatelaine. "Could A Staffing Crisis Jeopardize \$10-A-Day Child Care?".
- CBC News interviewed our ECD Manager, Jenn Carman in March regarding staffing retention and the promise of \$10 a day childcare from the Province of BC. Jenn was also interviewed by CBC for an online article that came out March 13, 2023.



Printing our Name!



Learning and Exploring



Fun at Gymnastics



Enjoying the Sunset

SHXWT'AM:ETSEL FAMILY SERVICES

Aboriginal Family Place (AFP), Aboriginal Supported Child Development (ASCD), Aboriginal Infant Development Program (AIDP)

	December	January	February	March
ASCD	133	147	149	152
AIDP	101	110	123	119
AFP	89	59	93	94
Family Night (pkgs)	10	5	5	5

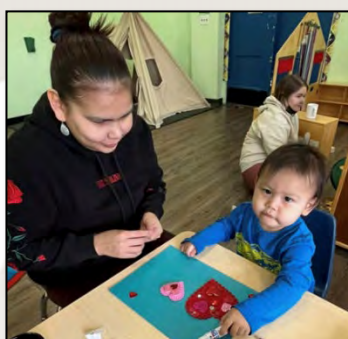
- Christmas resource packages were delivered to ASCD and AIDP families which including lots of activities and treats.
- Christmas Dinner was attended by eight families at the Aboriginal Family Place.
- Hired two new ASCD consultants.
- Planning began for the “Play and Connect” groups which offered families a connection to therapists from the Fraser Valley Child Development Center to engage in needed services in a comfortable setting.
- Kindergarten transition meetings began in all regions to ensure that children entering the school system have a smooth transition.



Drumming Together



Big Drum!



Crafting Time



QWÍ:QWELSTÓM (WELLNESS SERVICES)

- Honoring Our Elder's Christmas Dinner was held on January 13 with 16 elders/staff in attendance.
- Cedar brushing ceremony at SAY building: 12 people supported after funeral.
- Ending Violence Training on January 25-26 at SAY building.
- Sit With an Elder on February 9 with 16 participants.

- February 7-9, 2023: Indigenous Justice Program (IJP) conference at which Qwí:qwelstóm presented.
- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) Rally March held February 14 in Vancouver.
- Stop Sexual Violence Event in Sts’ailes on February 23 hosted by Sue Ann Phillips.
- Family Game Night (Qwí:qwelstóm) held at Soowahlie First Nation March 7, 2023 (5-8pm).
- Staff attended Language classes - Halq’eméylem Introductions with Elder Amy Victor.
- Restoring Our Voices in Cultus Lake from March 13-16 with 16 participants. Guest speakers were Theo Fleury, Elaine Alec, and Carrielynn Victor.
- Respectful Relations program ran for 10 weeks from January 10 to March 21 with 6 graduates.
- Staff provided the following to community:

- Justice Circles
- 1 -1 Wellness Supports
- Gladue Support
- Family Mediation
- Cultural Support for Families
- Cedar brushing
- Funeral Support
- Healing circles
- Mindful drumming
- Elder connection
- Elders Panel meetings



Language Class with Amy Victor



Restoring Our Voices 2023

YOUTH SERVICES

Mémiyelhtel

- 42 youth currently on the caseload with 31 on the waitlist.
- First Aid training for staff that needed to renew.
- Some staff attended the “Restoring our Voices” conference.
- Assisted City of Chilliwack with their homelessness point in time count.
- Spring Break activities with the youth in our program included crafting day, paintballing, and 2-days of trail building and biking.
- Continued partnership with the City of Chilliwack to increase outreach for youth experiencing a risk of homelessness and doing walks in the downtown area with they Cyrus Center.



Youth Outreach on Wednesdays

- Communities Building Youth Futures (CBYF) – Chilliwack – Leadership Table. 5-year strategic plan with the Tamarack Institute.
- Adopt-A-Road – ‘Mémihel’ stewardship, road clean-up (Knight Road, Shaw Avenue, Gaetz Street).
- Monthly dinner service at the Cyrus Centre – Youth Homeless Shelter.
- Partnership with Chilliwack Parks and Trails Advisory Committee.

Aboriginal Support and Critical Incident Response Team (ASCIRT)

- Participated in the Fraser Regional Crisis Line training series as a refresher and update of support skills and resources.
- Supported community members through Wednesday Drop-In group with a focus on anxiety, depression, and grief & loss.

STÓ:LŌ ELDER’S LODGE

- Infection Prevention Control twice daily.
- Quarterly infection prevention audits included hand washing, environmental, and PPE donning & doffing.
- Staff and tenants daily screening continued once per day.
- All visitors screened prior to entering building/fully vaccinated.
- New Spa tub installed.
- Continued updating Tenants Handbook & SEL Operations Manual.
- Began to prepare for Quality Assurance Review with Fraser Health.
- Elders Support with Frank Charlie.
- Finalist in A-list Chilliwack for best In-Home Care & facility.
- Activities included:
 - Monthly Tenants Meeting.
 - SAIL program twice per week (group & individual).
 - In-house hairdresser and monthly foot care - 7 clients.
 - Celebrated Chinese New Year and St. Patrick’s Day.
 - Mammogram clinic held – 3 clients and 2 staff.
 - Various days of live music, scenic drives, and games.
- Hired a casual Registered Care Aid, part-time cook, and 2 part-time RCA night-shift positions.
- Six staff completed all 4 modules of Positive Behavior Support.
- Five staff took First Aid & CPR Level C training.
- Enrolled in Xwelítem Siyáya: Allyship and Reconciliation Building.
- Staff Team Building: Art therapy & Healing touch facilitated by Hospice.



Bingo!



Balloon Badminton



Team Building at SEL

FAMILY EMPOWERMENT TEAM (FET)

- Current caseload of 24 clients and no waitlist.
- Foot clinic was held at Ann Davis outreach on February 7 where 11 clients were served. Supported by SSA Community Health and a Fraser Health ER Doctor.
- Harm reduction pop-up event was hosted in conjunction with FNHA on for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women at Salish Park on February 14. Harm reduction supplies, food, toques/gloves, blankets, and hygiene backpacks were provided. Additional harm reduction pop-up events were held on December 20, 2022, January 17, and March 21, 2023.
- Traditional Parenting workshop hosted February 7-9 for three communities; Katzie, Seabird and Sts'ailes.
- Participated in the 'Point in Time Count' (PIT count) with the City of Chilliwack and other service providers in Chilliwack on March 8, 2023. The purpose of the count is to gain knowledge of the homeless population within Chilliwack.
- Hosted the annual FET Christmas brunch for the participants in the program. Hampers and gifts were provided, Santa was in attendance and a delicious catered brunch was provided.



FET Christmas Brunch

STÓ:LŌ ABORIGINAL SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT TRAINING (SASET)

SASET EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE SERVICES

- On-site services resumed at 14 outreach employment sites: Boston Bar, Cheam, Chawathil, Leq'á:mel, Katzie, Mission Friendship Center, Shxw'ōwhámél, Skwah, Spuzzum, Soowahlie, Squiala, Sumas, Tzeachten, Chilliwack WorkBC and Abbotsford WorkBC one day a week on a regular schedule.
- Participated in the Mission Secondary School Career Fair, Mission Youth Transition Fair, Abbotsford WorkBC Career Fair, Hope WorkBC Career Fair, Chilliwack WorkBC Career Fair, Kw'iyqel Secondary School Career Fair, Seabird Island Band Career Fair, and Little Pebbles Daycare Open House.
- Hosted a Fraser Health Staffing Clerk hiring and training Information Session with Shannon Hanson, the Fraser Health Indigenous Recruiter, on February 15, and March 1, 2023.
- Excited to host the return of the annual SASET Career and Hiring Fair on February 22, 2023 at Tzeachten Hall with 54 exhibitors featuring employers, trainers, unions, community services, and Service Canada Mobile Services. There were 470 people who attended the event.
- All SASET staff completed a two-day workshop called Mental Health Strategies for Employment Counselors with Douglas College. The workshop covered selfcare, strategies to support mental health, appropriate referrals and how to handle mental health conversations.

- Employability Workshops facilitated by SASET at the SASET Chilliwack Employment Resource Centre:
 - Getting your “L” preparing for securing your Driver’s License: 21 individuals participated
 - Basic Computer Training every Tuesdays’ and Thursdays’: 15 individuals participated
 - True Colors Workop: 9 individuals participated
 - Money and Budgeting: 9 individuals participated
 - Resume and Cover letter: 5 individuals participated
 - Dress for Success: 8 individuals participated
 - Communication for Success in a Workplace: 7 participated
 - Interview Skills: 15 participated
- SASET statistics from December to March 2023:
 - Served 811 clients (with 2970 interventions) averaging approximately 3.66 appointments per client. There were 416 male and 395 female clients.
 - 2 clients were under 15 years of age; 246 clients were between the ages of 15 and 24; 299 were between the ages of 25 and 39; 178 were between the ages of 40 and 54; and 86 clients were over the age of 55.
 - Of the 811 clients: 212 individuals found employment, and 86 individuals returned to school or further training.

Community	VOCATIONAL TRAINING SUMMARY					
	TTW	STT	LTT	In School	at work	Total
Leq’á:mel	1	0	0	0	1	2
Matsqui	0	0	1	1	0	2
Sumas	1	0	2	2	4	9
Shxwhá:y Village	2	0	1	0	2	5
Skowkale	3	0	0	0	3	6
Squiala	1	0	0	0	1	2
Tzeachten	2	1	1	3	4	11
SASET	21	3	5	9	23	61
LSTC	1	0	0	0	1	2
Aldergrove/Langley	0	1	0	1	0	2
Seabird	4	0	1	2	3	10
Sts’ailes	3	0	1	0	3	7
Boston Bar	11	0	0	0	11	22
Spuzzum/Yale	8	0	0	0	8	16
Cheam	1	0	0	0	1	2
Mission/Abbotsford	3	0	2	2	4	11
Katzie / Maple Ridge	1	0	0	0	1	2
Chawathil/Shxw'ow'hamel/Hope	3	3	1	1	6	14
Total	66	8	15	21	76	186

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

- SASET partnered with SSA Health Department for the Christmas Hampers. In total, there were 150 Christmas hampers delivered. From SASET, there were 60 Christmas Hampers delivered to the following members: 7-Skowkale, 9-Shxwhà:y Village, 29-Tzeachten, 7-Yakweakwioose, 1-Skawahlook, 1-Aitchelitz, 2-Chawathil, 2-Cheam, and 2-other.

SASET SPONSORED TRAINING PROGRAMS

- Training Certifications classes offered included SASET facilitated workshops that covered: employer/employee expectations, resume/cover letter, interview skills, and job search workshops:
 - **First Aid Training December 15, 2022:** 19 individuals successfully completed the training at Tzeachten First Nation.
 - **Foodsafe Training January 5, 2023:** 14 individuals successfully completed the training at Sts’ailes First Nation.
 - **Culinary Arts Pre-Trades Program January 9-March 17, 2023:** 9 individuals completed the 12-week training at the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV).
 - **Snow Removal Training January 9-20, 2023:** 15 participants completed the 2-week training program which included WHMIS, WCB Awareness, First Aid, Fall Protection, Skid Steer, Bobcat Operations, proper salting and brining techniques, and proper snow removal skills at SSA.
 - **Forestry/Construction Certification Program January 16-27, 2023:** 13 participants completed the 2-week training program that included First Aid, WHMIS, Confined Space, Ground Disturbance Level 1 and level 2, Chainsaw Safety training, Mini Excavator and Skid Steer at SSA.
 - **Health Care Assistant Program at Sprott Shaw College (Abbotsford and Chilliwack Location) January 23-August 18, 2023:** 11 participants started the program.
 - **Heavy Equipment Operators Training:** 7 participants completed the 12-week training program at the Operating Training school in Maple Ridge. The machinery covered in the program was the Hydraulic Excavator Operator Course, and Loader Backhoe Course.



Snow removal group at SSA.



Squiala member Brayden J.



Lance G in HEO.



Boston Bar member Adrian A.

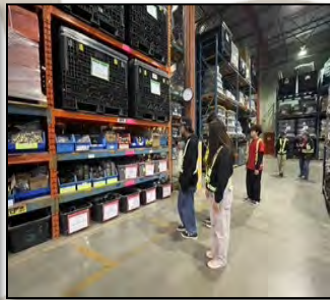
- **Reaching Independence Through Employment (RITE) January 16-February 3, 2023:** 7 individuals completed the 4-week employment readiness workshops that included True Colors, Value and beliefs, Communication Skills, boundaries, Self-Esteem, Learning Styles, and accountability in a workplace.
- **Warehouse Training January 16-27, 2023:** 12 individuals completed the training, receiving their certifications in Foodsafe, WHMIS, WCB Awareness, First Aid, Fall Protection, Scaffold & Ladder Safety, Confined Space, Respiratory Protection, Forklift, Aerial Boom Lift, Scissor Lift, and Skid Steer at Katzie First Nation.
- **Basic Security Training February 6-13, 2023:** 7 participants completed the program at Shxw'ow'hamel First Nation.
- **Traffic control Training February 9-10, 2023:** 9 participants completed the training at SSA.
- **Self-Care 4-day Workshop February and March 2023 at Chilliwack (2 Groups at SSA), Tzeachten, and Sts'ailes:** 32 individuals successfully completed the 4-day workshop that was delivered by Douglas College. These workshops assisted individuals in gaining a better understanding of self-care, identifying support networks, resources available, and how to manage your mental health.
- **Employment Preparation Certification Program February 27-March 10, 2023:** 11 participants completed the 2-week training program that included First Aid, WHMIS, Fall Protection, Foodsafe, Conflict Resolution, Fall Protection, Superhost, Respiratory Protection, and Forklift.
- **Building Service Worker Certification March 7-April 5, 2023:** 9 individuals started the program at UFV.
- **Employment Preparation Certificate Program March 7-10, 2023:** 19 individuals completed the 4-day training program that included Psychological First Aid, Occupational First Aid Level 1 and Foodsafe at Seabird Island Band.
- **Student Spring Break Program March 20-31, 2023, at Chilliwack and Sts'ailes:** 34 students completed the program which included Resume and Cover letter workshop, Interview Skills, local business presentations of employment opportunities, Superhost, Customer Service, Heat Stress, Back talk awareness, and Young Worker WCB.



Kwantlen member Tristan D enjoying the RITE Program.



Skowkale member Jermaine D in Employment Prep.



Student Spring break program visiting local business. Thank you to the Home Depot, Cedar Contracting, Kosmetae, Wibly Wobble Childcare Centre, Innu shuck, Westbow Contracting, and Ministry of Forest for tours and presentations on employment opportunities.

COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS

- In the 2022/23 fiscal year SASET delivered funding for:
 - Student Employment Program (SEP): a total of 36 contracts were funded for community student hiring. In total 136 youth experienced employment through the SEP this year.
 - Targeted Wage Subsidy Program (TWS): 41 programs were funded in our catchment area which provided employment for 87 individuals.
- The SASET Advisory Committee met February 27, 2023, and approved:
 - 22 SEP proposals for community student hiring. In total 100 youth will experience employment through the SEP this year.
 - 29 TWS proposals in our catchment area which provided employment for 56 individuals whose last barrier to employment may be work related experience.

DAYCARE AGREEMENTS

- SASET continued to administer three-day care agreements: SSA, Seabird Island and Sts'ailes, where "grandfathered" funding provided seat allocated supports.
- Budget 2021 announced 264 million dollars over 4 years, starting 2022-2023, and \$24 million ongoing, to repair and renovate existing federally funded IELCC centres. SASET worked with the three childcare centres through the application process, submitted to Service Canada and is happy to report that all three centres received funding for much needed improvements to their centres.

SASET CULINARY ARTS FOUNDATION PROGRAM

- 9 individuals started the 12-week training at UFV. The program included Foodsafe, First Aid level 1, WHMIS, WCB Awareness, Occupational Skills, cooking and preparing foods and beverages, and basic kitchen management.



Congratulations to Madison Y, Brodey B, Brandon K, Daniella K, Jordan J, Andrea M, Chris H, Devon M, and Lacy M for completing the program.

INCOME ASSISTANCE (IA)

- Continued to deliver Income Assistance (IA) services and completed applications/renewals via: on site appointments, telephone, email, and Facebook Messenger.
- Eligible IA clients continued to receive an additional \$100 monthly food allowance for 2022-23.
- Indigenous Service Canada (ISC) provided a One-Time Hardship Inflation Relief Benefit to eligible IA clients which provided an additional \$300 per month over a 6-month period from October 2022 to end of March 2023.
- Continued to support Food Hamper program for the IA clients.
- Hosted Employability/Life Skills Workshops:
 - **Self-care Workshop in February and March at SSA Chilliwack (2 groups) and Tzeachten:** topics covered understanding of self-care, identifying support networks, resources available, and how to manage your mental health. In attendance were IA clients from the following communities: Tzeachten (6), Skowkale (3), Yakweakwioose (2) and Shxwhà:y Village (2).
 - **Customer Service Basics March 7, 2023:** at SSA with IA clients from Tzeachten (3) , Skowkale (2), Yakweakwioose (1) and Shxwhà:y Village (2).
 - **Basic Nutrition and Special Diet March 15, 2023:** at SSA with IA clients from Tzeachten (3), Skowkale (2), Yakweakwioose (1) and Shxwhà:y Village (2).
- Three clients exited IA due to finding employment or other reasons (moving, no contact, did not renew application).
- Average clients from December 2022 to March 2023:

Band	Employable	PWD	PPMB	Average Monthly Total: 68
Aitchelitz	1	0	0	1
Matsqui	3	2	2	7
Skawahlook	0	1	0	1
Skowkale	3	2	2	7
Shxwhà:y Village	3	9	0	12
Tzeachten	17	10	5	32
Yakweakwioose	4	3	1	8

- Employable – no barriers to attain employment, these individuals work with SASET employment counselors.
- PWD-Persons with Disability
- PPMD- Persons with Persistent Multiple Barriers

STÓ:LŌ RESEARCH AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CENTRE (SRRMC)

HERITAGE STEWARDSHIP AND ARCHAEOLOGY

- Worked on 6 heritage overview and impact assessments, mitigations, cultural monitoring projects, and traditional use studies. 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.
- Additional activities included:
 - Archaeological/cultural monitoring and investigations by Stó:lō archaeological assistants with outside consultants.
 - Trans Mountain Expansion Project and Enbridge orientation/training.
 - Repository- cataloging, accessioning, upload to RRN, donation and loans.

S’ÓLH TÉMÉXW STEWARDSHIP ALLIANCE (STSA) SUPPORT SERVICES

- Met with Vancouver Port Authority (VPA) representatives March 15, 2023, to discuss their on boarding with the STSA CCEP. Positive agreement to advance negotiations with monthly meetings established.
- Parks Canada, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Infrastructure Canada, Environment & Climate Change Canada and the Canada Energy Regulator are all in various stages of advancing relationships with STSA.
- PRRO and the BC Ministry of Indigenous Rights and Reconciliation (MIRR) currently engaged in the negotiation of STSA SEA Amendment to update our agreement prior to the conclusion of the current 2019-24 term. Major topics included:
 - Updating STSA Stó:lō Signatory Communities to include Seabird Island First Nation and Shxw’ōwhámél First Nation.
 - Adding BC Hydro to the agreement via an appendix; the first Crown Corporation to join the STSA SEA. In this way, BC Hydro will follow the STSA SEA process but not as a full Party to the agreement.
 - Adding BC Environmental Assessment Office (BCEAO) to STSA SEA as a new Provincial Agency.
 - Revisiting STSA SEA funding mechanisms and amounts in light of increased communities, agencies, and subsequent workloads.
 - Exploration of an ‘evergreen clause’ to extend the terms of our agreement.
 - Incorporation of DRIPA/UNDRIP language and mandates.
 - Updating language throughout agreement (Ministry names, etc.).

People of the River Referrals Office (PRRO) Project Updates

- PRRO added two new positions: a fifth Referral Officer and an Assistant Communications Officer.
- Grizzly Bear Recovery efforts continued. A new working group was formed to discuss public outreach and communications regarding grizzly bear recovery in the Skagit and Manning Park areas.
- BC Water Branch's mandate to license existing ground water wells has prioritized the need to develop STSA water and environmental policies to guide Stó:lō-worldview based decision making on these critical resources.
- 2022-23 STSA Direct Community Capacity Survey conducted in March to solicit feedback and needs from STSA communities for direct capacity funding from BC.
- FortisBC and Enbridge announced their intentions to expand their existing pipelines through S'ólh Téméxw. PRRO is implementing lessons learnt through our experiences with Trans Mountain to set a clear course for the necessary inclusion of Stó:lō perspective, decision making, and assertion of rights from the very beginning of these projects.

LAND STEWARDSHIP UNIT

- STSA-BC Collaborative Stewardship Forum (CSF) Management included 41 projects.
- Joined species at risk biologist, Kym Welstead with the Coastal Painted Turtle Project as part of the SRRMC Research and Special Project Unit's ECCC Species at Risk Project. The S'ólh Téméxw Guardians participated in releasing 20 juvenile western painted turtles at Browne Creek Wetlands in Chilliwack.
- Continued work on the S'ólh Téméxw Guardians curriculum and web portal.
- Met with SAY Lands to discuss building in-community Guardian capacity.
- Met with Seabird Island Band to discuss building in-community Guardian capacity, curriculum training, and safety protocols. Started trial of the Guardians curriculum with staff and guardians from Seabird Island Band.
- Received the final report on 'The Case for Enhancing S'ólh Téméxw Guardians Enforcement Authority Under Canadian Law' produced as part of a research project with the University of Victoria's Environmental Law Centre.

RESEARCH AND SPECIAL PROJECTS UNIT

- **Species at Risk and culturally significant species research:** began launching a wolverine monitoring program within S'ólh Téméxw designed in collaboration with carnivore specialist Jocelyn Akins. The scope is to deploy up to 10 wildlife camera monitoring stations to learn more about wolverine populations, their breeding patterns, and areas that could be designated for conservation to protect wolverine in collaboration with Stó:lō communities, starting in June 2023. Also conducted a literature review on wolverine and archival research to learn about wolverine-related places that are important to Stó:lō.

- A preliminary report on **Coastal Giant Salamander** was developed, and initial fieldwork to support the development of an eDNA (environmental DNA) primer for the species has been conducted. This primer is currently being developed by the University of Victoria, and will be ready for fieldwork this fall. We will utilize the primer and field surveys to identify presence of Coastal Giant Salamander in S'ólh Téméxw, and to better understand the impacts of drought and climate change on this culturally significant species. We are currently conducting a literature review on Coastal Giant Salamander to support this work.



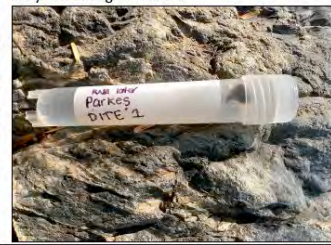
Parke Creek specimen capture site. Photo labelled with site coordinates and name.



Parke Creek paedogen coastal giant salamander in Pyrex holding container.



Sample (fin clip) collection kit showing restraint tubes, scissors, forceps, and thermometer.



Caudal fin clip in labelled cryogenic file immersed in RNA Later.

LIBRARY, ARCHIVE, CULTURAL EDUCATION AND TOURS (LACET)

Stó:lō Shxweli Halq'eméylem Language Program

- Winter 2022 we delivered our first Braided Knowledge Series, with funding from First Peoples Cultural Council (FPCC); these events were designed to intertwine language and culture through song, slahal, weaving, and art. There were 12 events with a total of 125 participants.
- Continued work on a draft Stó:lō Shxweli Halq'eméylem Language Program plan, a continuation of the work started last fiscal; again, funding for this work came from FPCC's Language Revitalization Planning Program. The draft plan is based on input from Halq'eméylem teachers and learners.

Genealogy

- The Genealogy Office operated two days per week for in-office appointments. The work included the digitization of family history records in the Genealogy Office filing cabinets. These records are scanned, renamed, and filed in their digitization folder. Any xwélmexw names, placenames, or other names are then researched to ensure they are in the Stó:lō Family Tree Database or other applicable databases. This project officially started at the end of October 2023 and has funding until the end of July 2023. To date 62 large charts have been scanned, 372 documents have been scanned, 1548 xwélmexw names and name variations have been researched or recorded, and 717 other names have been researched or recorded.

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND GEOMATICS

People of the River Referrals Office (PRRO)

- Ongoing, spatial data was digitized and uploaded to the PRRO web portal, StoloConnect. This kept the referrals up to date with any changes spatially or in contact information as well as published out all the referrals to the appropriate communities.

- Provided ongoing mapping support to the Archaeology department of the SRRMC. This included assisting individual archaeologists with GIS related questions/issues. Repairing templates and creating maps/figures as requested. As all archaeology staff are using ArcGIS software, this is a small but growing work item.
- Assisted in the planning of LiDAR collection for several areas, including field and office support. Following a training session, more support will be provided in the processing and analyzing of LiDAR and Photo data.
- The new Senior GIS Technician began leading a plan to incorporate the ArcGIS Field Mapping App into the Archaeology field operations. Working closely with Archaeology staff on a pilot project to demonstrate the application, and show how it can simplify the collection of field data.

Trans Mountain Expansion Project (TMEP)

- Received spatial information for TMEP Permits which was uploaded to the Major Projects Module after comparing it to the permit documentation to ensure it matched. This is an ongoing task, of high importance due to the impactful nature of the Project. There was a backlog of permits being entered into the TMEP online Module caused by some internal staffing changes. This was cleared in mid February through the work of the Junior GIS Technician and staff from Research and Special Projects.