

LAND FACING THE SEA 2023



ʔəy' sweyal. This edition of *Land Facing the Sea* is a summary of actions taken by the Tsawwassen government from July to September 2023.

**Building a strong future.
Building a strong community.**

Events from Fall 2023
Published October 2023



scəw'athən məsteyəx^w
TSAWWASSEN FIRST NATION



“ *Naut’sa mawt – for current and future generations* ”

A MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Dear Members,

The Land Facing the Sea publication is an opportunity for Executive Council (EC) to report back to Members on the work we are doing across the government from the previous quarter. This edition will cover July to September 2023.

It has been a busy quarter and EC enjoyed the opportunity to engage in many wonderful cultural events. In July, the community came together for the First Fish Ceremony where we shared a meal, witnessed the Feeding of the River Ceremony and a Cultural Burning at the Longhouse. We would like to raise our hands and express our sincere thank you to the community for coming together to welcome and celebrate the Tribal Journey in July. We were delighted to have so many Members welcome the traditional canoes to Tsawwassen Lands. In September, EC attended Tsawwassen First Nation’s (TFN) Truth and Reconciliation Walk to honour the Indigenous children taken from their homes, those who never made it home, and those who grieve and experience intergenerational trauma. EC would like to thank all those who came out for this event.

During this quarter, EC attended several community governance events. This included a virtual

community meeting on the Roberts Bank Terminal II project, which provided Members the opportunity to learn what this project means for TFN and to ask Tsawwassen Government staff questions. Members of EC also attended the Strategic Roadmap workshop for TFN committees and legislators. In August, Councillor Ahlm and Councillor Cross visited the U.S. to engage with Members in Bellingham on Dual Membership related to amendments to the Membership Act and on proposed amendments to the Election Act.

EC also participated in intergovernmental meetings and events. In September, members of EC attended the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade Indigenous Opportunities Forum, where Chief sx^wamisaat (Laura Cassidy) presented with Manager of Economic Development, Ryan Daum. Later in September, Chief sx^wamisaat and Manager of Treaty Rights and Title, Sheila Williams attended meetings in Ottawa with staff from various federal departments and agencies, including the Prime Ministers Office, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Impact Assessment Agency

of Canada. These meetings were to share TFN's experiences with the impact assessment process for the Tilbury Marine Jetty Project and perspectives on the modern treaty implications of that proposed project.

In August, to support our commitment to promoting strong communication, we held a Breakfast with EC event. We appreciated the opportunity to share a meal with Members and for everyone's thoughtful questions and conversation during this event. In September, Members came together for the 2023 TFN Members Gathering held at the River Rock Casino in Richmond from September 22-24th. This year's gathering was a great success, and Members and EC enjoyed many wonderful events, including

a tour of Tsawwassen Lands, a community dinner at the Longhouse with the speaker of the BC Legislative Assembly, the Honorable Raj Chouhan, the Annual General Meeting, and consultation workshops on the Community Safety Strategy, the Sustainability Charter, the Strategic Plan and Land Use Planning. The first ever Youth Forum was also held during this event and EC is grateful to all youth who participated in this forum in a good way. Our hands go up to all of those who made this event such a success!

As we journey into fall, we hope that everyone takes care of themselves as we continue into the months ahead! ciḡamə cən.

Take care, and always feel free to reach out.

CHIEF CASSIDY

CALENDAR OF REGIONAL MEETINGS

July 2023

- 10 First Fish Ceremony
- 12 Metro Vancouver Water Committee
- 13 TFN Prayer Walk
- 13 TFN Housing Authority Interim Board of Directors meeting
- 21 Tribal Journey

August 2023

- 1 TFN Admin/Leg Steering Committee meeting
- 8 Strategic Roadmap Workshop for TFN Committees and legislators
- 14-17 Elders Gathering in Vancouver
- 19 Breakfast with EC
- 21 Standing Committee on Language and Culture meeting
- 21 Community Safety Strategy Housing workshop
- 28 Housing Authority Committee meeting
- 30 Delta Police Board meeting
- 30 Tilbury Marine Jetty Legislative workshop
- 31 TFN International Overdose Awareness day event

September 2023

- 6 TFN Admin/Leg Steering Committee meeting
- 6 Metro Vancouver Mayors Committee
- 8 Heron Hospice Golf Tournament and reception
- 8 Metro Vancouver Mayors Committee meeting
- 13 Metro Vancouver Water Committee
- 13 Translink Board and Mayors Council Joint Planning Committee meeting
- 15 GVBOT Indigenous Opportunities Forum
- 21-23 TFN Members Gathering
- 25 City of Delta, Every Child Matters Flag Raising Ceremony
- 26-28 Trip to Ottawa, attended meetings with Ministers with Sheila Williams, Manager of Treaty Rights and Title
 - Prime Ministers Office (PMO – Katherine Koostachin, Senior Policy Advisor
 - Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs (CIRNA) – Shaili Patel, Chief of Staff
 - Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) – Michael Brewster, Policy Director
 - Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) – Terrence Hubbard, President of IAAC, Ian Ketcheson, VP Indigenous Relations
- 29 Metro Vancouver Board of Directors meeting
- 30 TFN Truth and Reconciliation walk

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

CALENDAR OF REGIONAL MEETINGS

COUNCILLOR AHLM

July 2023

- 10 First Fish Ceremony
- 12 TransLink Visit at TFN
- 17 Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council Board of Directors Meeting
- 21 Welcomed Canoes for the Tribal Journey
- 24 Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council Board of Directors Meeting

August 2023

- 1 TFN Admin/Leg Steering Committee Meeting
- 10 RBT2 Community Virtual Meeting
- 14 Elders Gathering Dinner
- 15-16 Elders Gathering
- 19 Breakfast with EC
- 21 Tsawwassen Indigenous led assessment regarding the Tilbury Marine Jetty Project
- 26 Dual Membership info Session in Bellingham
- 30 Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council Committee Meeting
- 30 Tilbury Marine Jetty Legislature Workshop

September 2023

- 6 Admin/Leg Steering Committee Meeting
- 8 Heron Hospice Golf Tournament
- 15 GVBOT Indigenous Opportunities Forum
- 19 Truth and Reconciliation workshop at TFN Longhouse
- 22-24 2023 Members Gathering
- 25 City of Delta "Every Child Matters" Flag Raising
- 28 RBT2 Community Meeting
- 30 TFN Truth and Reconciliation Walk

COUNCILLOR BAKER

July 2023

- 10 First Fish Ceremony
- 12 TransLink Visit at TFN
- 24 Hosted the Gwichan Delegation
- 24 Community Safety and Harm Reduction Workshop
- 25 Natural Resources Committee Meeting

August 2023

- 1 TFN Admin/Leg Steering Committee Meeting
- 8 Strategic Roadmap Workshop for TFN Committees and legislators
- 10 RBT2 Community Virtual Meeting
- 19 Breakfast with EC
- 21 Community Safety Strategy Housing Workshop
- 28 Housing Advisory Committee meeting
- 30 Tilbury Marine Jetty Legislature workshop

September 2023

- 6 Admin/Leg Steering Committee Meeting
- 11 Reception hosted by the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority to wrap up Port Forward workshops
- 11 Admin/Leg Steering Committee Meeting
- 15 GVBOT Indigenous Opportunities Forum
- 19 Truth and Reconciliation workshop at TFN Longhouse
- 20 Reception for both the Vancouver Port Authority and the First Nations Fisheries Council as part of the Union of BC Municipalities Convention
- 22 Community dinner with Speaker of the BC Legislature
- 22-24 2023 Members Gathering
- 25 City of Delta "Every Child Matters" Flag Raising
- 28 RBT2 Habitat Offsetting Community Meeting
- 30 TFN Truth and Reconciliation Walk

COUNCILLOR CROSS

July 2023

- 21 Tribal Journey
- 28 Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations Executive Hiring Committee Meeting

August 2023

- 1 TFN Admin/Leg Steering Committee Meeting
- 8 Strategic Roadmap Workshop for TFN Committees and legislators
- 10 RBT2 Community Virtual Meeting
- 17 Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations Executive Hiring Committee Meeting
- 18 Clean Hydrogen Open House put on by HTEC
- 19 Breakfast with EC
- 26 Dual Membership info Session in Bellingham
- 30 Tilbury Marine Jetty Legislature workshop

September 2023

- 6 Admin/Leg Steering Committee Meeting
- 11 Admin/Leg Steering Committee Meeting
- 22-24 2023 Members Gathering
- 28 TransLink Mayors Council Meeting
- 29 Alliance of BC Modern Treaties CEO Hiring Committee Meeting
- 30 TFN Truth and Reconciliation Walk

COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS

July 2023

- 10 First Fish Ceremony
- 26 Translink Indigenous Relations Working Group
- 29 Translink Mayors Council

August 2023

- 19 Breakfast with EC

September 2023

- 12 Joint Finance Committee meeting
- 12 Enrolment Committee meeting
- 15 GVBOT Indigenous Opportunities Forum
- 15 Opened with Drum and song at Barnside Festival
- 19 Translink Reception @UBCM
- 21-23 TFN Members Gathering, opened with drum and song
- 25 City of Delta, Every Child Matters Flag Raising Ceremony

EDUCATION & SKILLS DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

High school

Our high school class, on TFN lands, started the school year by learning all about First Peoples poetry, place, and identity. Students learned about different kinds of poems and poetic devices, read, and examined works of local poets and reflected on their identities and places that are most important to them.

Students also settled into their electives, which range from Math to philosophy, social justice, and physical geography.

Our students also have the opportunity to expand their knowledge in our state-of-the-art music room at the youth center. They learn about recording hardware and how to optimize the studio space for tracking and listening to songs.

A major highlight this month were the local field trips to Tsawwassen Mills to participate in the unveiling of the Truth and reconciliation artwork. In addition, the class went to witness the unveiling of the welcome pole outside of the DPD in Ladner.

Students were privileged with a visit with Phylis Webstad, the creator of the orange shirt society. She shared her story with our students, and they found it moving and inspiring.

The school had a great start and is looking forward to more inspiring and important lessons.

Evans Lake

Our big summer send off to Evans Lake Camp is among the favorites for our youth and children. We spent the days in the water on canoes and paddle boards, swimming, and of course playing knuckleball. We would finish our nights sky-gazing and drumming. We tried new things this year by having a talent show and movie night. We value these memories dearly and look forward to the years to come.

Outdoor Skills and Adventures

The outdoor skills and adventures group took a trip to Sweltzer Creek campground where we enjoyed the sound of water flowing past our tents. We spent the day at Cultus Lake swimming, kayaking and paddleboarding. With clear skies at night, we watched for meteors and satellites, shared stories, and listened for any scary noises in the dark.





Training Workshop with Delta Fire Department

Our Youth were invited to do a training day with the Delta Fire & Emergency Services in August. They put out fires, simulated hose deployments, experienced using the jaws of life, and participated in a smokehouse simulation in full gear! We would like to thank Delta Fire & Emergency Services for putting on an amazing workshop for us!

Members Gathering Youth Forum

At this years Members Gathering, our Youth were given an amazing opportunity to participate in a Youth Forum. This included presentations from the Lands, Finance, Treaty Rights and Title, and Language and Culture departments. The Youth were all very appreciative to have had the chance to come together and learn about important topics in their community!

Youth Night Programming

The youth night program has featured many laughs and fun throughout September. We have made trips to thrift stores trying to find a good deals, endless video games battles, and many games of basketball, volleyball, and dodgeball, and challenged ourselves in our weight room to get some serious gains.

Adventure Therapy

As part of our Adventure Therapy Programs, we went horseback riding through the unseeded territory of the Lil'wat First Nation. This trip allows each participant to push past their limits, barriers, and fears to form a bond with their horse while journeying through dense forests and exhilarating cliffsides!



Summer Student Employment Program

Our Summer Student Employment Program provided 37 TFN Youth with summer jobs in different fields of work, allowing them to gain work experience and valuable skills both in the workplace and in life! Employment opportunities included Landscaping, Farming, Youth Work, Information Technology, Conservation Stewardship, Trail Development, and more!

Summer at the Youth Centre for elementary age children can only be described as exhilarating. With every week having a theme we can guarantee you will not be doing the same activity twice.

In July we created and participated in our own TFN youth Olympic game. We dedicated time to practice our culture and traditions through drumming/singing as well as coast Salish arts and crafts. We got close with our animal friends through field trips like the Bloedel conservatory, the greater Vancouver Zoo and the bird sanctuary. We ended the month of July with a week of survival where the youth had the opportunity to learn to fish, collect indigenous medicines, and practice some shelter building on the beach.

We kicked off August with some bike safety training implemented by our very own delta police and then got cozy with the plant world around us by visiting the VanDusen Botanical gardens, and the beautiful Chinese garden in Vancouver. The youth

really put their swimming skills to the test with a week full of water, we all had a blast visiting the cultus lake waterslides, centennial beach, the otter co-op water adventure park, white pine lake and of course Big Splash. The youth got to spend some time in the kitchen for our baking week where they made cookies, personal pizzas and even got to run their own restaurant for a day. We broke up the baking fun with trip to Crash Crawley's to blow off some steam. We finished baking week with a field trip to the old spaghetti factory and a movie. We finished up the youth center summer fun with some interactive learning through the Geering Up science program where the youth got to build robots, submarines, and DIY easy bake ovens.

September was filled with laughter, the telling of summer tales and of course learning. We spent the month of September getting back into a well-rounded routine which includes an aspect of learning our indigenous language and culture, outdoor adventure, art, physical activity, and imagination stations. The youth are continuing to hone their skills in drumming and singing and Tae Kwon Do. The youth got to spend the weekend with some of our staff during the members gathering where we enjoyed some time at Kidtropolis, ate a meal together at the Old Spaghetti Factory, jumped for hours at the extreme air park and spent some much-needed time in the pool. It is always a pleasure to watch the youth connect with one another, learn, and play together.

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT

Craft Night

Cultural craft night is held every Wednesday. TFN Members are invited to work on or finish a craft. Craft supplies, dinner and babysitting are provided.

łeḡeñt tə snexʷəl ł̓ scewáθən məsteyexʷ (*Canoe Blessing Ceremony*)

On June 28th, 2023, TFN Members & families were invited to come out and witness the canoe blessing at the Beach Front Park. The Language & Culture team assisted by hiring our Drummers/Singers: Wopecoh (Frank Campbell), Angeline Splockton, sləqsit (Steven Stark), Nicol Watson for the prayer, Taylor Baker as our speaker, and the four ladies Maddie Jacobs-Mayall, Makayla Morgan, Kal anumu tia (Tia McGarvie) & Violet Splockton who brushed off our canoe ʷəxʷələ? šxʷəli. We are happy to finally wake up the canoe after many years and are excited to finally see it back out in the water.

Berry Picking

On July 6th, 2023, Language and Culture invited members and their families to Emma Lee Farms to join us in picking blueberries. We also delivered raspberries to all elders on Tsawwassen First Nation Land.

Prayer Walk

On July 13th, 2023, Language and Culture invited members to join us on the Prayer Walk encouraging members to bring their drum, rattles, and clappers to uplift and pray for the community. We started off with a prayer from Desiree Gurniak, after the prayer we shuttled to each house post on the land and thanking each one with a song and offering. This then ended us at the last house post along the shores, which started the prayer walk from the beach to the end of Falcon Way. During the walk we asked if anyone feels the need to pray or sing that they can stop and do so at any point. The walk ended with light lunch at the rec center.



Tribal Journey Hosting

On Friday, July 21st, Members of Tsawwassen First Nation & staff welcomed canoes at the Tsawwassen Beach house post as part of the 2023 Tribal Journey “Paddle to Muckleshoot 2023 – Honouring Warriors Past and Present”. (<https://muckleshootcanoejourney.com/>). This year’s journey, which is the first Tribal Journey since 2019, includes canoes from across the Pacific Northwest who will be travelling various routes to converge at the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe in Washington State on July 30th, 2023.

Truth & Reconciliation Workshop for Staff and Members

On September 19th, Language and Culture organized a workshop on Truth & Reconciliation in the TFN Longhouse, that was open to Staff and TFN Members. Xalek, Chief Ian Campbell, was hired to teach the workshop, it was followed by lunch at the Longhouse.

Members Gathering at River Rock

Language and Culture provided cultural workshops at the Members Gathering with the Youth and Membership. Workshops included, beading with devils club beads, beading orange shirts/red dresses, as well as helping to facilitate a weaving workshop with Elder and master weaver ah.sul.ten.aht, Loretta Williams, to make cedar headbands.

Central Walk – Tsawwassen Mills Cross Walk unveiling

On September 29th Tsawwassen First Nation with Tsawwassen Mills organized a brushing and unveiling event for a Every Child Matters Crosswalk for Truth & Reconciliation Day at the Tsawwassen Mills Mall. This crosswalk was supported by the Orange Shirt Society and the artist was Ovila Malhot.

Truth & Reconciliation Walk

Language and Culture participated and hosted a 5K walk for Truth & Reconciliation Day on September 30th. The goal of contributing to truth, healing, and reconciliation. The day honors the children who never returned home and survivors of residential school as well as their families and communities, public. We started off with a Welcome Song and Prayer as well as opening remarks from Chief Cassidy and Acting CAO Kim Baird. At the corner of Hwy 17 & 56th street, we shared a song. We ended the walk at our Longhouse where we opened our doors and shared a meal prepared and supplied by our Delta Police Service Team and Central Walk.





HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

The HSS team expanded their team by hiring Andrew Lawrence (Substance Use Support Coordinator), Vicky Rojas (Outreach Worker) and Natascha Viaje (Registered Care Aide) in the summer. In addition, the HSS team increased staff development and capacity with several trainings, including: Safe Talk, Skillfully Responding to Distress Training, and Non-Violence Crisis Intervention Instructor training.

Over the summer, the development of a youth support home took place. From the health side of the department, numerous health, mental health and wellness workshops and clinics took place. In the month of July the Seabirds Nation provided

diabetic testing and an health educational lunch at the elders centre and the fourth installment of the harm reduction workshop took place. In August an on lands dental clinic was provided and rounding out the month was an International Overdose Awareness dinner for community members.

Next, in the first week of September a well attended vaccine clinic in collaboration with FNHA and Fraser Health was implemented and the second series of the Grief and Loss workshops facilitated by Raina and Maura (both clinical counselors for TFN). Next, HSS provided support at the members gathering and completed the month of September with an all day eye clinic on lands.

NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

New Resource Manager Officer Addition

In June, we welcomed Jisman Singh as our new Resource Management Officer. Prior to joining TFN, Jisman obtained valuable experience in the field of Emergency Management during his two-year tenure with the Canadian Red Cross. In his role as a Site Manager, he also volunteered as a Duty Officer, further strengthening his skills in crisis response and community support. With a strong educational background in Criminology and Indigenous Community Justice, Jisman actively pursued various Indigenous study courses during his post-secondary education. These courses provided him with extensive knowledge about the history of Indigenous peoples and their complex relationship with the state, both in the past and present.



Canned Salmon Distribution

The Natural Resources Department assisted with distributing 1 case per member of canned sockeye salmon to off-lands Members during the members gathering. To mark and celebrate the 2023 fall equinox and our lands based Member distribution of canned salmon, the Natural Resources Department will host a community event on Friday, October 6th, 2023 called the šxʷkʷecxənəm šxʷq̄əq̄aʔxən scełtən gathering. This all ages event will include distribution of canned salmon to Membership on Lands, scełtən(salmon)-related games and experiential learning workshops tied to the seasonal cycle (e.g. filleting and canning scełtən). Additionally, a Member-survey on the topic of NR's scełtən-related stewardship priorities will be available, with input to inform the Department's immediate and larger stewardship priorities with our developing framework/strategy work.

Community Meetings with Natural Resources Dept

During the months of June and July, the Natural Resources Department held four meetings in the community that ranged in topics from a special working group focused on plants and plant initiatives, the TFN/Ducks Unlimited Habitat Restoration Partnership at Sturgeon Bank, the TFN Fish Trap Project, and the regular Pre fishing season meeting of the Natural Resources Committee.

FSC Catch Monitoring and Food Fish Distribution

For this past August Chinook openings, the Natural Resources Department assisted with Food Fish Distribution on lands to ensure all adult members interested in obtaining Salmon received 3 Chinook per adult and 1 per child. Additional fish was sent to the processor and preserved for community programs, as well as for distribution to Elders and interested off-lands Members.

During the month of August, there were 3 FSC Chinook openings for TFN Members which were monitored and documented by our current Resource Management Officer, Jisman Singh.



POLICY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

NEW AND UPDATED REGULATIONS & POLICIES

Good Neighbour Regulation

PIGA worked with the Lands Department to amend the Good Neighbour Regulation to improve the landscaping of boulevards and other spaces on leasehold property by requiring that grass be maintained at a length of 10 centimetres or 4 inches. Previously, the requirement had been 30 centimetres or 12 inches, which was leading to some messy looking properties. This requirement is not in place within the TFN Community Area.

Amend the Advisory Council Regulation and EC Order to increase Committee Honoraria

PIGA worked with many departments to review and recommend increases to the honoraria for Advisory Council and other TFN Committees such as the Housing Advisory Committee and the Agricultural Advisory Committee. Work is ongoing to develop a Committees Regulation that will streamline requirements for creating and operating committees. All of this work is to encourage and support the Tsawwassen Members who spend their valuable time providing input to TFN Government.

Advisory Council Code of Conduct

Worked with Advisory Council to complete the development of a new Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct is intended to provide both internal guidance and an external statement of values, guided by Tsawwassen culture to support Advisory Council's operation. This follows the creation of a Code of Conduct for the Legislature in fall 2022. A Code of Conduct is also under development for Executive Council.

COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY

The Community Safety Strategy Panel held three community engagements over the summer months. In late July, addictions nurse Lee Gangbar and University of Victoria Law Professor Dr. Sarah Morales held a workshop for Tsawwassen Members that addressed the myths and realities of harm reduction. Members were informed about the impact of trauma in addictions and how programs aiming to provide community and compassion see more success compared to punitive measures. Through the workshop, the Panel heard that Tsawwassen people care about each other's wellbeing and are eager to take measures to help address addictions and trauma in the community.

In late August, the Panel held a housing workshop with housing expert Janice Abbott and Director of Lands Komal Shaikh. They led a discussion on the current developments on Tsawwassen Lands as well as the different types of housing available. The community identified the importance of second stage housing and housing supports pre- and post-treatment.

Most recently, the Panel attended the Members Gathering in September and presented the house posts that will support the work of the strategy: physical safety, safe housing, and health and wellness. Through an interactive exercise, Tsawwassen Members gave feedback on each of the house posts as well as aided in identifying items the Panel may have missed in order to make the strategy successful. Member input from this workshop is currently being processed and the Panel will begin writing the strategy recommendations in the coming months.

GOVERNMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Advisory Council

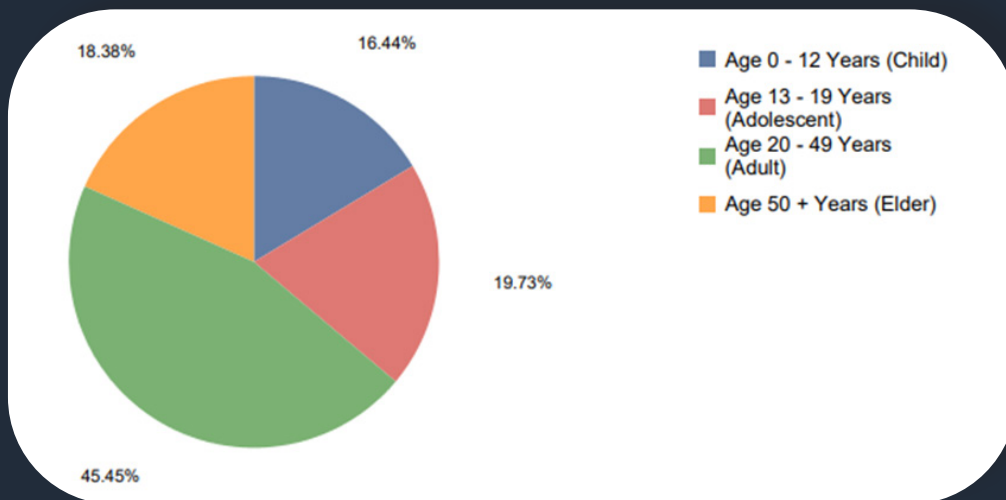
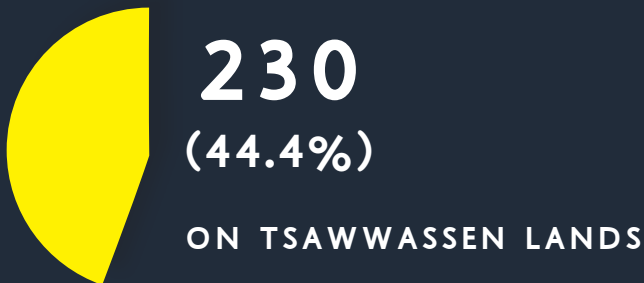
The role of the Advisory Council is to provide feedback from Members to the Executive Council and Legislature on policy and legislative initiatives. These meetings are now “hybrid” format, with some Members attending in person and others joining online via Teams. During the third quarter of 2023 there were three Advisory Council meetings, with an average of six attendees per meeting. Some of the items reviewed by the Advisory Council include:

- Review of draft policies – Indemnity Policy, Environmental Assessments Opportunity Policy, TFN Government Fund Investment Policy, Security Camera Policy
- Review of proposed policy/regulation amendments – Advisory Council Regulation, Offsite Levies Regulation)

Communications and Outreach

Government Services staff continue to work with consultants from Castlemain Group on the TFN Communications Strategy project, with the launch of a Member survey on communications at the 2023 Members Gathering in September. This survey will be closing in mid-October.

On August 26, Councillors Valerie Cross and Louise Ahlm joined staff for an engagement session with TFN Members in the Bellingham, WA area. It was a great opportunity to meet in person with members living in the USA and hear about their priorities and perspectives on TFN programs and services. Executive Council is looking forward to having more meetings like this in future to connect in-person with Members who live in areas outside the BC Lower Mainland.



ENROLMENT QUARTERLY REPORT

As of September 30, 2023, the total population of Tsawwassen First Nation is *518 Members*. More than half of Tsawwassen Members live off Tsawwassen Lands.

Tsawwassen Legislature

There were no formal sittings of the Legislative Assembly during this quarter, however Legislators did participate in two workshops during the month of August. The first was a Strategic Roadmap Workshop, where Interim CAO Kim Baird led a discussion with Legislators and members of the Advisory Council and other committees on strategic priorities for Tsawwassen Government over the next 4 years. The other workshop was on the Tilbury Marine Jetty Project led by Sheila Williams, Manager of Treaty Rights and Title. Legislators were provided an overview of the project and asked to provide their input, to help inform Executive Council as they make decisions going forward.

Visiting Delegations

On Saturday August 22nd, Interim CAO Kim Baird along with the Manager of Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs Twyla Smith and the Manager of Government Service Jen Jansen welcomed visitors from Australia National University to Tsawwassen Lands. Professor Peter Yu (Vice President, First Nations, ANU) and Tom Snowdon (Senior Policy and Research Advisor, First Nations Portfolio, ANU) were visiting British Columbia as part of a research trip and requested a meeting with TFN to discuss recent developments in Australia and to hear about lessons from the Tsawwassen experience of treaty negotiation, settlement, and of self-government and advancing self-determination. After an informative discussion with staff, the visitors were treated to a tour of Tsawwassen Lands followed by lunch at Tsawwassen Mills.

Executive Council and staff were very pleased to welcome a visiting delegation from the Gwich'in Tribal Council on Monday August 24th at the TFN Rec Centre. Grand Chief Ken Kyikavichik was accompanied by a group of elected officials, Elders, youth representatives and staff from the Tribal Council. The meeting opened with a Welcome Song from TFN's Language and Culture team, followed by an opening prayer from Robin Buss. After a presentation from on Tsawwassen's Treaty experience and a Q&A session, our visitors enjoyed a table song from W'opeeoh (Frank Campbell) and Angeline Splockton, lunch prepared by Yums Catering, and a tour of Tsawwassen Lands led by Director of Member Services Chrystalynn Gurniak. Grand Chief Kyikavichik was also presented with a cedar feather carved by TFN artist W'opeeoh (Frank Campbell) and the members of the delegation were gifted with blankets and candied salmon. It was a very enjoyable day for everyone!



LANDS, ENGINEERING, AND PLANNING SERVICES DEPARTMENT



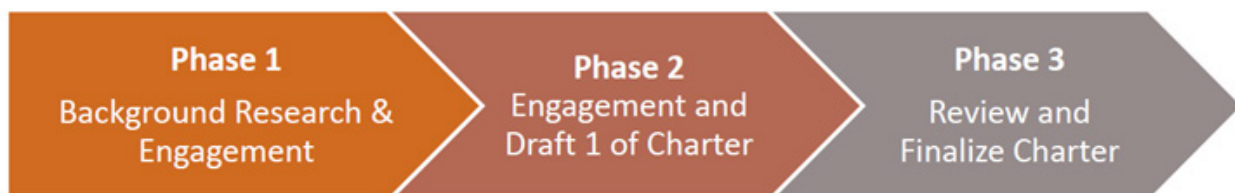
Land Use Plan Update Workshop at Members Gathering 2023

The 2009 Land Use Plan provides a long-term vision for TFN lands and certainty for the development of community. During the past decade TFN has seen substantial land development growth and population increase and change of development context on Tsawwassen Lands. To maintain the relevance of the Plan, staff have initiated the Land Use Plan Review process. Staff engaged with Members and received insightful feedback on Land Use Plan visioning, preferred uses for Canoe Pass (Brunswick Point) Lands and the 13-acre Parcel. More consultation will be conducted as the project moves forward.

xʷəliwənstəxʷ ct kʷə syaləxʷectʷ (Honouring our ancestors) or *TFN Sustainability Charter*

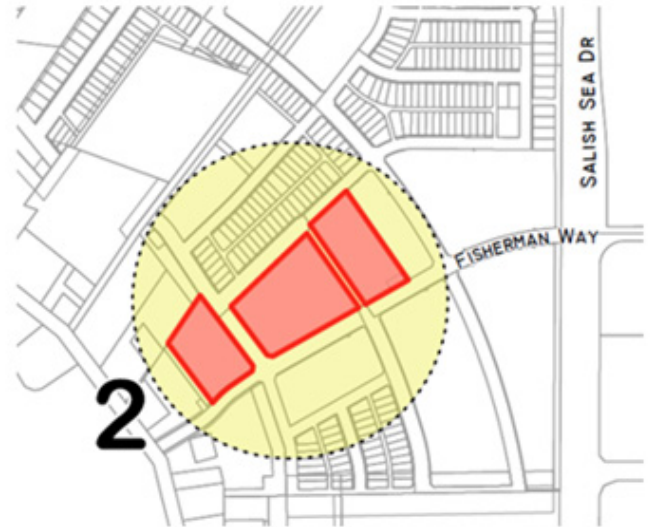
Executive Council is happy to share that at the 2023 Members Gathering, Member attendees voted on a hənqəmihəm name “xʷəliwənstəxʷ ct kʷə syaləxʷectʷ” (meaning honouring our ancestors) for the Sustainability Charter. Members also received an update through a workshop:

Phase 1 (Background Research and Member Engagement) is now completed, fully funded by two external grants, \$50,000 from Real Estate Foundation BC (REFBC) and \$50,000 from New Relationship Trust (NRT). Phase 2 work which includes more engagement with decision-makers, community, as well as drafting the charter document, will begin in October 2023 and will be fully funded by a \$100,000 grant from the First Nation Adaptation Program (FNAP).



TFN Facilities Planning – Land Inventory

1. Site 1 (198,600 sq. ft)
2. Site 2 (347,400 sq. ft)
3. Site 3 (40,400 sq. ft)
4. Site 4 (436,000 sq. ft)
5. Site 5 (143,000 sq. ft)
6. Site 6 (97,800 sq. ft)
7. Site 7 (130,680 sq. ft)
8. Site 8 (87,120 sq. ft)



New Building for TFN Administration and Legislature

Executive Council has prioritized the construction of a new building that will house TFN’s administration offices and a space to hold the Legislative Assembly.

According to the Facilities Plan, the map above shows various sites for TFN facilities and the Administration – Legislature facility will be within Site 2.

Tsawwassen Drive Streetscape Design

Preliminary technical work has begun to identify the constraints and do inventory analysis for the Tsawwassen Drive Road right-of-way. A survey of the road has been completed and synergies/dependencies of other current projects along Tsawwassen Drive have been identified. The scoping work for this project has been completed. Lands staff have secured a \$50,000 grant from the BC Active Transportation Program to develop some concepts for community input.

TFN Elders Centre

As prioritized by EC, this facility is under construction and contracts with the resident artists for the Coast Salish artwork have been finalized. The site will have two vehicular access points (from Tsawwassen Drive and from Blue Heron Way); outdoor gathering place (civic plaza) with cedar hat gazebo in an outdoor linear park also showing future TFN Community Hall. This facility is anticipated to be completed end of summer 2024.

Mixed-use Area Development Strategy

TFN’s application for a grant of \$150,000 provided by the Ministry of Housing under the 2023 Complete Communities Program has been approved, for the Mixed-use Area Development Strategy project. SvN Architects + Planners Inc. has been retained and started working on this project since May 2023. Consultation with Executive Council and Members will be conducted in further stages of the project.

A *Project Steering Committee* has been appointed by the Chief and met four times so far, conducted a site visit and met the project architect (Urban Arts Architecture Inc.). The Steering Committee will provide strategic oversight to the project. Tours with the Steering Committee, Legislators and staff are being planned in October and November, to study design elements and identify constraints of existing similar projects within indigenous and non-indigenous communities. The Functional Program is completed by Resource Planning Group (RPG). Phase 1 (Schematic Design) work has begun and will continue until March 2024 and will include community engagement. The building is likely to be approximately 40,000 sq.ft. in size which includes the Legislature (approx. 11,000 sq.ft.).

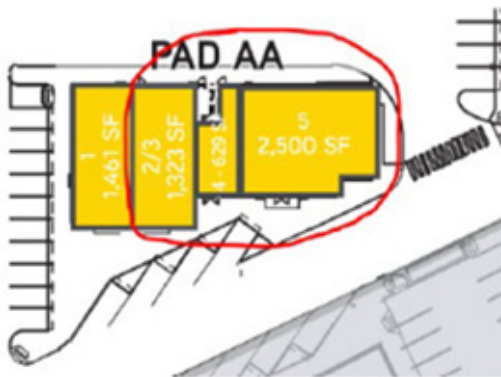


TFN Cultural Hub

TFN has been making efforts to streamline its approach to Nation Building, including Cultural and Language revitalization. The Language and Culture Department is dedicated to educate, mentor and guide TFN youth in learning the hən̓qəmin̓əm language and TFN cultural practices and develop a sense of pride in TFN's cultural heritage.

There is a need for a "Cultural Hub Space" that is an all-inclusive learning place for all residents of TFN. Recognizing this need, Executive Council has recommended a new facility be developed, which would function as a cultural space until the planned TFN Cultural Centre is established within the next 10 years.

The TFN Cultural Hub Project aims to design and develop a 4,452 sq. ft. space in the TFN Commons to create a Cultural Hub, intended to serve multiple purposes, including hosting artwork and cultural displays, functioning as an interpretive center, providing education, office, storage of artifacts, mentoring for TFN youth, classroom for language and culture revitalization, providing a networking space for Indigenous artists, and offering a place to learn traditional crafts like carving, weaving, beading, and language lessons. Community Planning staff secured a \$250,000 grant from First Peoples' Cultural Council's (FPCC) Heritage Infrastructure Program (HIP) to support its implementation



Falcon Way Streetscape Design

Following a walkthrough engagement session with Falcon Way residents as well as Executive Council, staff worked on a revised streetscape design concept plan that was endorsed by EC. The project will now move to the next phase which is detailed design and construction and be managed by the engineering staff within Lands.

FWSD - EC endorsed Concept Plan and proposed design highlights:

- **Road Elevation:** An interim solution to avoid full raising of Falcon Way included, i.e. Falcon Way roadway to be raised four (4) inches at the centerline with minimal impact to lots.
- **Road width and turning radius:** Radii on corner curbs for boat access route increased, FW Drive lanes widened to 3.5 metres (11.5 feet) each lane and overall road width to seven (7) metres (23 feet).
- **Street Parking:** parking bays along FW widened to 2.8 metres wide (9.2 feet) to accommodate boats, trucks, vans, oversized vehicle parking. More than 70 parking spaces proposed (Raven Lane competed).
- **Pedestrian Connectivity and Safety:** A simple sidewalk of 1.5 metres (4.9 feet) is proposed, and a 5 metres (16.4 feet) walkway through Lot 15 (TFN owned property, currently rented) is proposed to allow 1.5m pedestrian walkway linking the Sports Field. "Local Traffic Only" signs are proposed.
- **Placemaking (banners, signage), Street Trees, and other streetscape elements are proposed.**

TFN Agricultural Business Planning and c̓alis̓l̓əm (TFN Community Farm)

Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) would like to thank all members who contributed towards making the 2023 growing season a big success. Under EC's guidance, this pilot project is supported by the work of the AAC and fits well with the key initiatives identified in the TFN's Agricultural Business Plan. The project team and AAC met regularly (AAC meetings in July and Aug 2023 were at the farm site) to plan the expansion of this project in 2024. Four youth worked on the farm and had the opportunity to learn hands-on, this summer through the TFN Summer Program. A regular storage, cold storage, produce cleaning/distribution space have already been installed. A green house (40 X 90 feet) will be added soon. Lands staff secured several grants to support this implementation. Planning for phase 3 has begun and includes teaching composting area and teaching medicinal garden and 28th Ave barn space planning needs. Staff secured some grants for doing Educational Farm tours (one was done in April 2023 and next one is likely to be in Oct. 2023) for the AAC and Youth, which are part of capacity building initiatives as identified within the TFN Agricultural Business Plan.

TransLink Tour

A TFN lands tour was organized by Lands staff on July 12, 2023, attended by TransLink leaders, including Chief Operating Officer (COO) Gigi Chen-Khuo. Following this tour, TFN Lands staff presented a proposed routing map for the 601 and 609 routes, representing TFN's preferred long-term routing and service priorities. Staff supported TFN EC member at the Sept. 28th Mayors' Council meeting which resulted in support for TransLink's funding approval for the First Nations Transportation Program. TransLink, in line with its Transport 2050 regional transportation strategy, has committed to enhancing transportation options within First Nation reserve and treaty lands within the Metro Vancouver area.



Lot A & B Duplex Units Development

To meet the needs of our young families, Executive Council endorsed the construction of ready-built, turnkey duplex units. We are happy to share that work on Lot A and B is progressing well. Site servicing construction was completed in July 2023. The home construction has commenced in August 2023 with concrete foundations and slab poured completed.

Framing work is currently underway with anticipated projection completion by the end of Summer 2024. **Should you be interested in obtaining more information about the duplexes or to get on the waitlist for one of the 3-bedroom units, please contact Rajan Sandhu, Housing Planner, at**

rsandhu@tsawwassenfirstnation.com or at 604-329-1552.



Rapid Housing Initiative – Supportive Housing Project

Under EC's direction Lands staff applied for Rapid Housing Initiative funding administered by CMHC for more supportive housing for TFN Members which resulted in securing \$1.28 million funding. Given the short window for construction as per the funding terms, TFN has secured a contract with Converge Construction to complete a 7-bedroom, 7-bath supportive housing structure. This project will support TFN Members in need of supportive housing. Currently the project is in the pre-construction and design phase.

RENT-TO-OWN: Light Blue House (2440 Falcon Way)

The house at 2440 Falcon Way is moving forward with the help of Jason Mitchell from Wesgrove Construction. The project is likely to be completed by December 20, 2023.

3320 River Road West House Renovation

Exterior and interior renovation that included installing a new sewage septic system were completed in August 2023 and the facility now houses the TFN youth respite program.

Housing Advisory Committee – TFN Lands Clean-up Day Event

The Housing Advisory Committee hosted a TFN Lands Clean-up Day on 23rd. The event had over 40 participants, consisting of Leaseholders, Members and Staff. Event organizers would like to thank Tsawwassen Shuttles and Onni Development Group for their generous donations, which covered the entire cost of the event. The farm staff also set up a table to distribute information and fresh produce from the TFN Community Farm (čəlisələm). EC is pleased that many TFN Members and leasehold residents participated in this successful event. Please continue the clean-up of our lands, visiting the "Pick-up-3" initiative online at <https://pickup3.org/>. This online platform allows members of the community to track garbage pick-up off of our streets and parks virtually.



36 Unit Townhome Development

Construction of the 36-unit Townhome Development is continuing as planned. Building blocks A, B, C & D have received occupancy permits, with over 70% of the units already being occupied by TFN Members. Building blocks E, F, G & H are projected for completion end of November.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

GVBOT Indigenous Forum Participation

On September 15, the TFN Economic Development Department (“TFN EDD”) proudly supported the Chief’s impactful presentation at the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade’s Indigenous Opportunities Forum 2023.

Boat Yard Development Progress

Our team, in coordination with the Gwaii Engineering, is finalizing construction plans for Bass Pros new boat yard. We are poised to enable the TFN Construction/Matcon Civil Joint Venture to commence the project in the upcoming weeks. A request for proposal was issued to award of the contract. It followed TFN’s Procurement Policy which provides preferential benefits for Tsawwassen companies.

TFN Preferential Bidding for Beedie Industrial Development

Beedie is offering preferential contracting for Tsawwassen businesses for the upcoming civil works. TFN has several outstanding businesses bidding on the works. Beedie, in collaboration with the TFN EDD, issued a request for proposals for these works:

- Interior earthworks
- Structural reinforcements
- Sanitary pump station development
- Comprehensive onsite and offsite civil works.



FINANCE

Financial Planning at the Member's Gathering Youth Forum

The Department of Finance was proud to host its first Youth Financial Planning Workshop at the Member's Gathering Youth Forum. This workshop was held in response to Member requests for TFN to play a more active role in helping youth develop their financial literacy. The workshop was well attended and introduced youth to topics including financial planning and the responsible management of the Minor's Trust. Additional workshops on topics such as responsible investing, retirement planning, and debt management are being planned for the future.

The Department of Finance would like to thank Members for highlighting the importance of youth financial planning and suggesting the workshops. We would also like to thank the youth who attended for their participation. We look forward to seeing you at the next workshop!

2022/2023 Audit

Each year, TFN produces consolidated financial settlements that include the revenue, expenses, assets, and liabilities of the TFN Government and its subsidiaries. These statements are reviewed by an independent auditor, who confirms that the financial statements follow generally accepted accounting principles. In July, Deloitte completed an audit of TFN's financial statements and was able to express an unmodified opinion that TFN's financial statements were presented fairly in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Some of the highlights of the 2022/23 fiscal year include:

- Revenues of \$64.9 million, which is about \$19.5 million higher than what was budgeted. Reasons for the higher revenues include development levies, new federal funding, higher than expected revenue sharing from GST and gaming revenues, and higher than expected interest rates.
- Expenditures \$5.3 million lower than expected due to unfilled staffing positions and an unexpected decrease in the number of servicing and housing grants for Members.
- Growth in TFN's Capital Assets due to the completion of the 36 unit housing project
- The payment of \$19 million of debt from early infrastructure projects. This means the only significant debt still outstanding is the loan used to acquire the Brunswick Point Lands.

A GROWING GOVERNMENT

Scott Weerson

Position: Gardener

Team: Public Works

Department: Engineering Services

Rowan Harris

Position: Junior Policy Analyst

Department:

Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs

TRUTH &
RECONCILIATION
WALK
September 2023



MEMBERS
GATHERING
September 2023



AGM
September 2023



ORDERS OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

THE FOLLOWING ORDERS WERE PASSED BY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
DURING JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2023 PERIOD:

- O.045-2023 Order to award contract to Wesgrove Homes Inc. for renovation services at 2440 Falcon Way
- O.046-2023 Order to approve grant application to UBCM for the TFN Community Housing Area Drainage Project
- O.047-2023 Order to award contract to R.F. Binnie & Associates for consulting services for 28th Avenue Rehabilitation Project
- O.048-2023 Order to amend the Good Neighbour Regulation
- O.049-2023 Order to amend the Ticket Regulation
- O.050-2023 Order to award contract to WSP Global Inc for archaeological services
- O.051-2023 Order to approve the services agreement between TFN and Dr. Jennifer Mervin
- O.052-2023 Order to approve the service agreement between TFN and Daniel Roitberg
- O.053-2023 Order to authorize the CAO to sign Annual Shareholder Consent Resolutions 2021-2023
- O.054-2023 Order to award contract to BW Global for the supply and installation of a greenhouse
- O.055-2023 Order to adopt the Advisory Council Code of Conduct
- O.056-2023 Order to approve the Indemnity Policy
- O.057-2023 Order to approve the Environmental Assessments Opportunities Policy
- O.058-2023 Order to amend the Advisory Council Regulation
- O.059-2023 Order to appoint members to the Leasehold Residents Advisory Committee
- O.060-2023 Order to adopt the Leasehold Residents Advisory Committee Terms of Reference
- O.061-2023 Order to approve payment of invoice from Gall Legge Grant Zwack LLP
- O.062-2023 Order to award architectural design contract for the TFN Administration Building to Urban Art Architecture Inc.
- O.063-2023 Order to award contract for electrical upgrades at the TFN Community Farm to Fitz Electrical Ltd.

ORDERS OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

THE FOLLOWING ORDERS WERE PASSED BY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
DURING JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2023 PERIOD:

- O.064-2023 Order to issue Multi-Family Residential Use Development Permit DP000102
- O.065-2023 Order to award Boat Yard Relocation contract to TFN Construction/Matcon Civil Joint Venture
- O.066-2023 Order to approve the Real Property Tax Coordination Agreement Amending Agreement No. 3
- O.067-2023 Order to approve the submission of an application for membership to Indigenous Coastal Waters Stewardship Society
- O.068-2023 Order to award contract for RFQ No. 2023-008 - 41B Street/27B Avenue Ditch Maintenance Works and Outfall
- O.069-2023 Order to approve sole source contract for demolition work at 5120 28 Ave to Converge Construction
- O.070-2023 Order to set rate for 2023 Chinook FSC buying program
- O.071-2023 Order to amend the Offsite Levies Regulation (2023)
- O.073-2023 Order to award design contract for the TFN Cultural Hub to Iredale Architecture
- O.073-2023 Order to call the Fall 2023 Session of the Tsawwassen Legislature
- O.074-2023 Order to concur with negotiation proposal re: New Westminster Specific Claim
- O.075-2023 Order to approve a fully-funded budget amendment to Schedule 2 of the 2023-2024 Appropriations Act
- O.077-2023 Order to approve Indigenous Services Canada Feasibility Application request
- O.078-2023 Order to approve BCSRIF Agreement re: Fish Trap funding
- O.079-2023 Order to approve capacity funding agreement with BC MOTI for Fraser River Tunnel Project
- O.080-2023 Order to grant crane swing license to Executive TFN Development GP Ltd

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