

2024



# LAND FACING THE SEA

ʔəy̓ sweyal. This edition of *Land Facing the Sea* is a summary of actions taken by the Tsawwassen government from July to September 2024.



scəwáθən məsteyəx<sup>w</sup>  
TSAWWASSEN FIRST NATION

nə́caʔmat –  
for current and future generations

Events from Fall 2024  
Published November 2024



## A Message from EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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Valerie Cross  
*Chemkwaat*

### *Hello Members,*

The summer season was a busy and exciting time for Tsawwassen First Nation, filled with meaningful events and progress across various projects. We had the privilege of hosting our largest National Indigenous Peoples Day celebration to date, alongside other significant gatherings such as the First Fish Ceremony, the canoe journey, and the Delta Hospital fundraiser on the boardwalk. Each of these events brought our community together in powerful ways.

We're also excited to welcome Andrew Bak back to TFN as the new Director of Territory Management. His leadership brings an important alignment with both Territory Resource Management (TRM) and Natural Resources (NR) now reporting to the same director, strengthening our operations and ensuring we continue to prioritize TFN's goals.

In housing, members have begun moving into the new duplexes, marking an important step forward. Additionally, a new grant for adding secondary suites in the community housing area was announced, reflecting our ongoing efforts to address the housing challenges that so many families across the country face.

Progress continues on the Elders Center and Cultural Hub, with construction well underway and both expected to open this fall/winter. These spaces will create exciting new opportunities for members to connect and engage in cultural activities.

Strategic planning with senior staff and legislators has also been a key focus this summer, as we look ahead to aligning our priorities for the coming year.

We hope everyone had the chance to enjoy the wonderful summer weather and spend time outdoors.

We look forward to the exciting developments ahead as we continue to work together for the betterment of our community.



*Sincerely,*

*The Executive Council of  
Tsawwassen First Nation*

### *Visit with Esquimalt Nation - July 19 2024*

Executive Council was pleased to welcome the elected leaders of Esquimalt Nation to Tsawwassen Lands. The leaders shared a meal, and TFN leaders and staff shared information about our journey to Treaty and self-governance, as well as some of our priorities and initiatives. We also provided a tour of Tsawwassen Lands and visited some of our facilities, including the Youth Center. As a leader in self-government, TFN continues to share our learnings with other Indigenous peoples, and to learn from them in return. The Esquimalt leaders were gifted a print by artist and Executive Councillor Bryce Williams.



### *Saying Farewell to Jeff Miller - Sept 2 2024*

With sadness, members of Executive Council and elders said farewell to Constable Jeff Miller at the elders lunch on Sept 2. Constable Miller worked with TFN for 6 years on the Tsawwassen First Nation Service Team ("TFNST"), and undertook various community and leadership roles, including Acting Sergeant of the TFNST and Acting Delta Police Liaison Officer. Constable Miller showed deep care and commitment to TFN. During his time with us he became part of the TFN family.

We look forward to keeping in touch as he takes the next steps in his journey, continuing as a Delta Police Officer.



### *Oomiiqsu Celebration & Huu-ay-aht Nation Visit - Sept 5-6 2024*

Chief Cassidy, Councillor Cross, Interim CAO Kim Baird, and Staff traveled to Port Alberni to share in the celebration of the new Oomiiqsu Mother's Center and meet with Huu-ay-aht Nation leadership.

Oomiiqsu is a unique and innovative center designed to keep families together and provide culturally appropriate supports for children and families. The project took many years of dedication and championship and offers a pilot approach that other First Nations may learn from in the future.

The next day, leaders and staff met with the Chief Councillor and Executive Council of Huu-ay-aht Nation, exchanging information and learnings about governance, economic development, and child and family services. As a treaty nation, TFN and Huu-ay-aht have much in common and much to gain from working together.

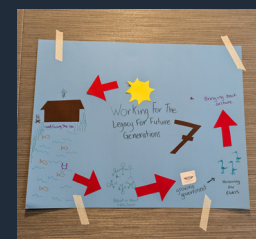


# Executive Council and Legislature Strategic Priorities Retreat - Sep 17-18 2024

Executive Council, Legislators, and senior staff came together this September to kick off the annual planning and budget cycle and participate in some governance-related workshops. This is a new session this year added to the schedule so that we can hear priorities from the elected leaders before the budget development process begins.

On Day 1, Executive Council and staff did a fun team building exercise to work on our communication and working together. We reviewed progress on priorities over the last year and brainstormed our priorities for the coming year. We also talked about our accountability to Members and had a lot of discussion about how we can connect better with Members through ongoing communications and regular engagement sessions. We know that we need to balance meaningful opportunities to hear from you, without providing too much information that it's overwhelming and hard to know what's important.

On Day 2, Legislators joined and we heard more about priorities for the coming year. We also workshoped some topics for leadership and governance training so that staff can build an education program to support our elected leaders and the community to get the skills and capacity we need for our self-government.



## CHIEF CASSIDY

### CALENDAR OF REGIONAL MEETINGS

#### July 2024

- 9 Attended First Fish Ceremony
- 12 Metro Vancouver Flood Resiliency Committee meeting
- 13 Attended the Boundary Bay airshow
- 15 Administrative Building Steering Committee meeting
- 16 Chief Dubord Honouring Ceremony at TFN Longhouse
- 17 TFN Health Fair
- 18 Meeting with Elders and Standing Committee on Language and Culture
- 19 Delegation from Esquimalt Nation
- 24 Strategic Plan Engagement for Legislature, Advisory Council, and Committees
- 26 Metro Vancouver Board meeting

#### August 2024

- 15 TFN Culture Jam
- 19-21 Attended Elders Whistler Trip
- 22 Supper at Sunset on TFN Boardwalk fundraiser benefitting Delta Hospital and Community Health Foundation
- 22 TFN Paddle Days
- 29 Attended TFN Employee Appreciation BBQ

#### September 2024

- 4 Mall Tours with Central Walk
- 4-6 Met with Huu-ay First Nations
- 12 Metro Vancouver Mayors Committee meetings
- 12 TFN Community Clean-Up and Block Party
- 13 Metro Vancouver George Massey Crossing Task Force
- 14 Metro Vancouver Council of Councils meeting
- 16-18 Strategic Planning Session with EC and Legislature in Whistler
- 19 Truth and Reconciliation Workshop at TFN Longhouse with staff
- 20 Delta Fire Training Center with TFN Youth
- 23 Commemorative Cairn unveiling at the George C. Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary
- 25 Delta Police Governance Committee meeting
- 27 Metro Vancouver Board meeting
- 27 Natural Resources Stewardship Gathering at TFN Rec Centre
- 30 TFN Truth and Reconciliation Awareness Walk and lunch at TFN Longhouse



# EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

## CALENDAR OF REGIONAL MEETINGS

### COUNCILLOR BAKER

#### July 2024

- 3 Met with TFN Finance staff and Deloitte for the annual inspection meeting
- 5 Interview with Eckler Consultants regarding the compensation review
- 15 Administration Building Steering Committee Meeting
- 17 TFN Health Fair

#### August 2024

- 1 Met with LCAC on presenting at Youth Forum in February
- 2 Met with Forward Summit West Coast on presenting on a roundtable in October
- 8 Meeting with the Federal Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations
- 19-21 TFN Elders Retreat
- 22 Supper at Sunset Event
- 23 TFN Youth Information Session on Treaty literacy
- 27 TFN Project Information Session regarding Tilbury Marine Jetty Project

#### September 2024

- 3 Farewell lunch for Constable Jeff Miller
- 4 Attended Mall Tour with Central Walk
- 5 Annual Fraser River Mayors' Committee meeting
- 9 Met with Delta Fire Chief Guy McKintuck
- 9 Met with Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada visit to Community Farm
- 14 Metro Vancouver Council of Councils meeting
- 16-18 EC/Legislature Strategic Planning Session
- 24 CIRNAC Prep meeting with LCAC
- 24 Meeting with Indigenous Modern Treaty Leaders & Minister Gary Anandasangaree
- 27 TFN Natural Resources Stewardship Gathering
- 30 TFN Truth and Reconciliation Awareness Walk

### COUNCILLOR AHLM

#### July 2024

- 15 Administration Building Steering Committee meeting
- 16 Ceremony to honor Delta Policy Chief Neil Dubord at TFN Longhouse
- 17 TFN Health Fair
- 21 Provided the welcome to the canoes participating in the Tribal Journeys
- 24 Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council Audit Review Board meeting
- 24 Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council Resources Group Board meeting
- 24 Strategic Plan Engagement for Legislature, Advisory Council and Committees
- 30 Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council Board of Directors meeting

#### August 2024

- 8 Meeting with the Federal Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations Meeting
- 13 Naut's mawt Tribal Council Xyntax meeting
- 13 Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council Board of Directors meeting
- 14 Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council Board of Directors meeting
- 15 Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council Xyntax meeting
- 15 TFN Cultural Jam Event
- 19-21 TFN Elders Retreat
- 21 Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council Finance and Audit Committee meeting
- 22 Supper at Sunset Event
- 23 TFN Youth Information Session on Treaty literacy
- 27 TFN Project Information Session regarding Tilbury Marine Jetty Project
- 29 TFN Staff BBQ

#### September 2024

- 3 Farewell lunch for Constable Jeff Miller
- 4 Attended Mall Tour with Central Walk
- 5 Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council Board meeting
- 11 Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council Xyntax Board meeting
- 12 TFN Falcon Way Clean-Up/Block Party
- 14 Metro Vancouver Council of Councils meeting
- 16-18 EC/Legislature Strategic Planning Session
- 24 Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council Board meeting
- 27 Natural Resources Stewardship gathering
- 30 TFN Truth and Reconciliation Awareness Walk

### COUNCILLOR CROSS

#### July 2024

- 1 Canada Together celebration put on by the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority
- 9 Speaker for the First Fish Ceremony
- 15 Administration Building Steering Committee meeting
- 16 Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations meeting
- 16 Speaker for the Ceremony to honor Delta Policy Chief Neil Dubord at TFN Longhouse
- 19 Hosted a delegation from the Esquimalt Nation at TFN
- 19 Boundary Bay Airshow
- 21 Speaker at the Longhouse for the Tribal Journeys event
- 24 Attended and emceed the Strategic Plan Engagement for Legislature, Advisory Council and Committees

#### August 2024

- 19-21 TFN Elders Retreat
- 27 Chaired TFN Enrolment Committee meeting
- 27 TFN Project Information Session regarding Tilbury Marine Jetty Project
- 29 TFN Staff BBQ

#### September 2024

- 3 Farewell lunch for Constable Jeff Miller
- 4 Attended Mall Tours with Central Walk
- 4-6 Huu-ay-aht First Nations Mother Centre Celebration and Tour
- 9 Met with Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada visit to Community Farm
- 10 Gave a presentation to Kitselas First Nation regarding TFN's Treaty
- 12 TFN Falcon Way Clean-Up/Block Party
- 16-18 EC/Legislature Strategic Planning Session
- 19 Truth and Reconciliation Workshop at TFN Longhouse
- 20 Gave a presentation to teachers from the Delta School District at the Longhouse Experience
- 21 Provided opening remarks at the Rotary Club Tsawwassen's International Peace Day Event
- 23 Commemorative Cairn unveiling at the Migratory Bird Sanctuary
- 23 2nd Annual Flag Raising Ceremony for Truth and Reconciliation at Delta City Hall

### Continued...

- 24 Attended Coast Salish Statement of Solidarity re Metis- in-person announcement in Musqueam
- 25 Emceed the University of Ottawa Leadership Group event at the TFN Rec Centre
- 26 GVBOT: Indigenous Forum Advancing Indigenous Prosperity (Port event)
- 27 Greater Vancouver Board of Trade Indigenous Forum Advancing Indigenous Prosperity with the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority
- 27 Speaking at Delta School District Every Child Matters Walk
- 30 Emcee/Speaker TFN Truth and Reconciliation Awareness Walk and Longhouse Lunch

### COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS

#### July 2024

- 4 TransLink Joint Planning meeting
- 9 Provided a welcome song and the song on the water at the First Fish Ceremony
- 12 TransLink Joint Finance Committee meeting
- 16 Ceremony to honor Delta Policy Chief Neil Dubord at TFN Longhouse
- 17 TFN Health Fair
- 24 Strategic Plan Engagement for Legislature, Advisory Council and Committees
- 25 TransLink Mayors' Council Meeting

#### August 2024

##### Carving/Vacation

#### September 2024

- 6 TransLink Mayors' Council Joint Finance Committee meeting
- 16-18 EC/Legislature Strategic Planning Session
- 19 Provided an opening song for the Truth and Reconciliation Workshop at the TFN Longhouse
- 23 2nd Annual Flag Raising Ceremony for Truth and Reconciliation at Delta City Hall
- 26 Mayors' Council meeting
- 30 TFN Truth and Reconciliation Awareness Walk



# EDUCATION & SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

The Education and Skills Department continues to support all TFN members pursuing their post-secondary education. We are currently funding fourteen post-secondary students, with three more preparing to begin their studies in January 2025.

Our focus for the upcoming school year is to continue engaging, supporting, and encouraging TFN members to pursue post-secondary education. In August, we hosted our first post-secondary luncheon, which was well attended by seven students—both high school graduates and mature students. As a result, we successfully registered three of these students in programs for the upcoming winter term. Due to the success of this event, we plan to host another luncheon in the winter at a post-secondary college, where we can also arrange a campus tour.

This summer, we participated in two campus tours with students who are now attending those institutions. These tours proved highly beneficial for prospective students, especially those attending post-secondary for the first time.

We also recently attended a hiring job fair hosted by Delta Work BC at Tsawwassen Mills. Five members joined us and had the opportunity to participate in interviews and explore potential job opportunities. We plan to attend more job fairs in the future.

Additionally, we continue to support all TFN students by providing grants for school supplies and extracurricular activities.

## MUSIC PROGRAM

The Music Department has experienced rapid growth over the past few months! We now offer a wide range of group lessons, including drums, record production, singing, songwriting, guitar, and piano. To support these expanding programs, we've welcomed four talented new teachers to the team. With these new offerings, youth, teens, and adults alike can dive deeper into their musical passions, no matter their area of interest.

One of our proudest moments this year was the debut performance of the Tsawwassen Songbirds on Indigenous Peoples Day. The young performers beamed with pride after conquering their stage fright and delivering five incredible songs. It was a powerful experience, and we're already looking forward to our next big event—the winter concert in December. This upcoming performance will showcase a mix of traditional Indigenous songs and winter classics, giving us a chance to highlight all the hard work and progress we've made.

In addition to performances, we've launched a fun and interactive jam night for teens and adults. Participants can experience the thrill of playing in a band, choosing from a variety of instruments and creating music together in a supportive, relaxed environment.

As we continue to grow, the future of music at TFN looks brighter than ever. We can't wait to see where this journey takes us—stay tuned for more exciting developments!



## YOUTH PROGRAMS

This summer marked an exciting expansion of our youth program, as we introduced evening sessions for the first time—a resounding success. A key highlight was our collaboration with the Lifesaving Society, which offered Bronze Cross certification classes to nine dedicated youth every Monday, paving the way for them to explore lifeguarding as a potential career.

Much of the season was spent outdoors, enjoying the sunshine with activities like sports, beach outings, kayaking, and swimming. A standout for many was the bi-weekly trampoline gymnastics lessons in New Westminster, which quickly became a favorite. For those interested in creative industries, exclusive tours of the Vancouver Film School and Beyond Capture Studios provided a behind-the-scenes look into careers in film and media, sparking new passions.

One of the most unforgettable moments was a day trip to Whistler, where the group had front-row seats to the adrenaline-packed Crankworx slopestyle competitions. To cap off the season, the youth braved chilly weather on a thrilling surf trip to Tofino at the end of September. Despite the cold, the waves were perfect, and we couldn't be prouder of their determination to step outside their comfort zones.

As we look ahead to the coming months, we're excited to build on this momentum and create more unforgettable memories.



## SUMMER CAMP

This summer, our camp program thrived as we embraced new experiences and stepped outside our comfort zones! Participants explored a variety of exciting activities, from channeling their inner performers with Carousel Theatre to discovering circus skills with Vancouver Circus School, and unleashing their creativity in a Claymation Movie Production with Byte Camp. As budding scientists, they also dove into hands-on experiments during a week with UBC Gearing Up.

Beyond these enriching programs, our campers enjoyed numerous day trips, visiting parks across the Lower Mainland, splashing around at Centennial Beach, and having a blast at Big Splash Water Park. Back at the Youth Centre, we balanced the adventure with cozy days filled with baking, movie-watching, and plenty of free gym play.

We wrapped up the summer on a high note with an unforgettable five days at Evans Lake, where our youth canoed, paddle-boarded, swam, and gathered around the campfire—sharing laughs and stories that will last a lifetime.





# POLICY & INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

## *Summer Student Youth Center Engagement Project*

In July and August, two TFN Summer students, Sophia Lachance and Isabella Corbet, created and facilitated an engagement plan with Youth who attend the Tsawwassen Youth Center. This engagement's purpose was to identify and understand what TFN youth need to feel safe in the Youth Centre while welcoming leasehold resident youth into the environment. The results will be used to inform Executive Council of the needs of all the youth involved and support their decision on how to best approach the situation.

Sophia stated that “working on this project was an amazing opportunity to learn about some of the policies and values within my community. I loved working with my team and hearing the voices of our youth.” Isabella also agreed that “this engagement was one of the most valuable experiences in my 3 summers with PIGA. I enjoyed working hands on with Tsawwassen youth to show them how their voice is important for shaping government decisions.”

The engagement showed that the Youth Center is a very important safe space for Tsawwassen youth and that sharing some of the space and programming with non-Member youth has both positive and negatives that need to be considered.



## *TFN Fleet Management and Operations Policy*

PIGA worked with staff from the Municipal Infrastructure and Lands Departments to develop the TFN Fleet Management and Operations Policy, taking an interdepartmental approach. This policy aims to ensure safe vehicle operation, protect TFN assets, and manage fleet vehicles to ensure they are kept in good working condition throughout their service life.

## *Four Pillars Funding*

TFN was a Class member of the Band Reparations Class Action lawsuit against the Government of Canada regarding the collective harm suffered by Indigenous communities as a result of Indian Residential Schools. To manage the settlement funds, the Four Pillars Society (FPS), a non-profit organization, was created for the exclusive purpose of investing and distributing the settlement funds to the 325 Class members. Distributions will be made over a period of 20 years to go toward initiatives under the Four Pillars:

1. Revival and protection of Indigenous languages
2. Revival and protection of Indigenous cultures
3. Protection and promotion of heritage
4. Wellness for Indigenous communities and their members

To receive settlement funding, Class members must develop and submit a comprehensive 5–10-year plan demonstrating how the funds will be spent to support these initiatives. This plan is being developed collaboratively by PIGA and Language and Culture.

## *15-Year Treaty Review*

In accordance with Chapter 23 of the Tsawwassen First Nation Final Agreement (the “Treaty”) the Periodic Review commenced with representatives from TFN, the Government of Canada, and the Province of British Columbia (the “Parties”) on April 8, 2024. To advance this work, the Parties established a working group that meets twice a month to discuss changes and updates to the Treaty and the relationship among the Parties based on engagement with Members and staff in early 2024. The working group will continue meeting until April 2025, unless the Parties agree to an extension. Over the fall, PIGA will continue to provide Members updates, including the opportunity for comments, at the Members Gathering and fall Legislative Session.

## NEW COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH INITIATIVES

In response to requests from Members during the 15-year Periodic Review, the Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs Department (“PIGA”) is leading a significant, community-driven and directed project that covers the areas of social, economic, cultural, health, and governance since the implementation of the Tsawwassen Treaty. This initiative is rooted in Tsawwassen Knowledge and Indigenous research methods and will consist of three separate components:

1. Tsawwassen Community-based Research Project:
2. Tsawwassen Member Census
3. Youth Photovoice & Multimedia Project

### *1 & 2: Tsawwassen Community-based Qualitative Research Project & Tsawwassen Member Census:*

Planned to start in early 2025, TFN is partnering with Dr. Brian Thom and his research colleagues at the University of Victoria for both the Tsawwassen Community-based Research Project and the Tsawwassen Member Census. The community-based component will consist of individual, group, or family meetings in which Members will have the opportunity to share knowledge, stories, and thoughts on priorities that support Member well-being. Examples of such priorities could include health and wellness, food systems, economic and business opportunities, cultural learning, and more. The Tsawwassen Member Census will provide additional important demographic information that can be used to develop programs and services.

## *Incorporation of Brunswick Point Lands*

Effective August 30, 2024, Tsawwassen Lands has been expanded to include 11 parcels in Brunswick Point. TFN is one of the first modern treaty nations, negotiated under the BC Treaty Commission, to expand its lands post-Treaty. These lands, which were already owned by TFN, are contiguous with Tsawwassen Lands and represent approximately one-third of the area known as “Specified Lands” under the Treaty. This incorporation covers approximately 173 acres or 70 hectares. The integration of these lands into Tsawwassen Lands marks a significant milestone in the implementation of the Tsawwassen Treaty.

### *3: Youth Photovoice and Multi-Media Project:*

Partnering with Dr. Onyx Sloan Morgan from the University of British Columbia Okanagan, TFN is launching a Youth Photovoice & Multimedia Project which supports TFN youth in using photography and film-making to amplify their voices on matters important to them.

Photovoice is a participant driven research method that provides Youth with the ability to share their thoughts and feelings on topics in ways that are meaningful to them through photography, film, and sound recording. The Youth Photovoice Project will also provide TFN youth with:

- Opportunities for skills development and training,
- Volunteer credits to go towards high school graduation,
- Reference letters to support employment,
- Opportunities to create and connect, and more.



### *CIRNAC Consultation and Engagement Process on the Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation*

At the May 2024 Indigenous Leaders Forum, Canada's Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, announced Canada's intention to proceed with the establishment of a Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation ("CMTI"). A founding issue of the Land Claims Agreement Coalition ("LCAC") and long-standing priority for over 20 years, the CMTI as proposed would serve as an independent modern treaty implementation oversight body in Canada's federal system, which once implemented, would mark a major milestone and transformative shift in the Crown-Indigenous Modern Treaty relationship.

In Summer 2024, CIRNAC launched consultation on the initial draft legislation proposal. PIGA staff engaged on the draft legislation, which wrapped up with a virtual CIRNAC Ministerial Roundtable meeting for Leadership on September 24, 2024. The meeting, hosted by CIRNAC Minister, Gary Anandasangaree was attended by PIGA and Executive Councilor, Taylor Baker. The purpose of the roundtable meeting was to collectively reflect on the process and discuss strategies for successfully getting the legislation approved in Canadian Parliament.

### *TFN Repository Project*

PIGA staff is working with Territory Rights and Title on the Repository Project to develop TFN's application for provincial designation of TFN's new repository in the TFN Cultural Hub. During summer 2024, phase one of the project wrapped up, which focused on ensuring the repository's structural design and building elements aligned with provincial requirements. PIGA staff worked extensively, on a weekly bases, with staff of TRT and Lands, and the Cultural Hub's external architect contractor, to ensure requirements were in place for the construction's substantial completion date. Ongoing work is needed over the coming months to complete policies and the repository application.



## GOVERNMENT SERVICES

### *Tsawwassen Legislature*

There were no formal sittings of the Legislative Assembly during this quarter. However, Executive Council and Legislators participated in a Strategic Priorities retreat in Whistler on September 17th and 18th. This two-day retreat provided an opportunity to continue developing the strategic roadmap that began with Executive Council's retreat in January 2024.

### *Visiting Delegations*

Executive Council and staff were pleased to welcome a delegation from Esquimalt First Nation on Friday, July 19th, at the TFN Elders Centre. Chief Jerome Thomas and Councillors Alicia Thomas, Anastasia Thomas, Edward Thomas Jr., and Sherry Thomas met with TFN Councillor Chemkwaat (Valerie Cross), Interim CAO Kwuntiltunaat (Kim Baird), and several staff members. The gathering included lunch at the Elders Centre followed by a discussion about TFN's Treaty journey. The delegation was later given a tour of Tsawwassen Lands, including stops at the Longhouse and the Youth Centre.

On Friday, September 27th, a group of senior staff from Wei Wai Kum First Nation met with TFN's Interim CAO and other staff to discuss the operational side of treaty implementation. This meeting provided an excellent opportunity for TFN staff to share their knowledge and experience with the TFN Treaty since its Effective Date.

### *Communications and Outreach*

We are pleased to welcome our new Communications and Engagement Manager, Callum Robinson, who joined Tsawwassen First Nation in September. Callum brings a wealth of experience in developing strategic communication initiatives, and his role marks an exciting new chapter for how we connect with our community and stakeholders.

As this new Communications Department takes shape, our primary focus will be to strengthen and streamline communication across TFN. This includes launching regular updates on key activities, implementing new digital tools, and revamping existing communication channels like our website, newsletters, and social media. We are committed to creating a more accessible, transparent, and engaging flow of information for our members.

Expect to see regular updates on our projects and events, such as the fall sitting of the Legislature, community gatherings, and important service updates. We're also working to bridge communication gaps by fostering greater collaboration with subject matter experts and ensuring that information is shared proactively.

As we move forward, we invite you to stay tuned for new developments and opportunities to engage with TFN's work and vision for the future.

### *Advisory Council*

The Advisory Council's role is to provide feedback from Members to the Executive Council and Legislature on policy and legislative initiatives. These meetings are open to all Members, with options to attend in person or join online via Teams. During the third quarter of 2024, three Advisory Council meetings were held, with an average of seven attendees per meeting. Some of the items reviewed by the Advisory Council include:

- Review of requirements for bids for site servicing
- Workshop on TFN's proposed Impact Assessment Framework
- Review of draft Temporary Use Permit Regulation



# NATURAL RESOURCES

## 2nd Annual 2024 šx<sup>w</sup>k<sup>w</sup>ecxənəm (Stewardship) Gathering

On September 27th, the Natural Resources Department hosted its 2nd Annual 2024 šx<sup>w</sup>k<sup>w</sup>ecxənəm (Stewardship) Gathering at the Rec Hall. The event featured information booths from project partners, including Ducks Unlimited, UVIC, the First Nations Fisheries Council, and Raincoast, as well as a table for Treaty Rights and Title to gather information on an upcoming project in TFN territory.

In addition to these valued partners, we were treated to a special visit from OWL Rehab in Tsawwassen, who brought along one of their rehabilitated eagles, Sonsie. Sonsie was a huge hit with the children and had a chance to interact with members.

The department also distributed a case of canned sockeye to each member who attended the event and shared an entire Chinook with Sonsie, who appreciated the meal.

Alongside the info sessions and the live eagle, the Natural Resources Department brought back their popular version of BINGO, called FISHO, which was a big hit with the members. Many door prizes and FISHO prizes were handed out, and everyone left with a smile on their face, a deeper appreciation for stewardship, and excitement for next year's event.

The casual environment provided an excellent opportunity to engage with members and gather their priorities on both ongoing and future projects, with a particular focus on salmon habitat changes over time.



## PAL (Firearm Possession Acquisition License Courses for Members

The Natural Resources Department, in partnership with Silvercore Outdoors, has facilitated two PAL courses for Non-Restricted Firearms Licenses at the TFN Rec Hall on September 21st-22nd and September 28th-29th, with a third course planned for October 26th-27th. Each course offers up to 12 members the opportunity to learn about gun safety and demonstrate, through hands-on training, how to safely utilize a non-restricted rifle for hunting consumable resources.

Members who pass the course and a records check will be eligible to purchase a rifle in Canada and receive a federally recognized license.

There are plans for a fourth course, as well as follow-up courses through Silvercore, which will provide members with specific hunting training through the CORE program. The Outdoor Recreation Education (CORE) course is a provincial requirement for obtaining a Fish & Wildlife ID (FWID), which is necessary to purchase hunting licenses and tags or to apply for Limited Entry Hunting in BC.

Designed with the novice outdoor enthusiast in mind, our BC Wildlife Federation (BCWF) approved CORE course covers everything from hunting regulations and animal identification to the safe handling of non-restricted firearms (long guns).

## 2024 Chinook Salmon Fishing Season

Tsawwassen First Nation members were allowed four weekend openings to catch our Food Ceremonial and Social Allocation for Chinook this past August (from the weekend of August 11th to September 1st). Through the strong negotiations of the Natural Resources Department in support of Executive Council, DFO also permitted an increase in the catch limit for this season from 625 pieces to 2,000 pieces.

Eighteen totes were sent to the processor for processing into sides for both member distribution and programs, such as the Elders and Youth programs. Adult members who wanted fresh Chinook each received three fish, while each child received one. Members and Elders who requested processed fish each received one 50 lb. box of frozen, portioned filets.

The Natural Resources Department wishes to thank all staff and member volunteers who assisted with this year's distribution; without their help, this work would not be possible.

With the activation of the new freezer container at the TFN farm school, the department now has a streamlined location to store all fish for the Nation in an easily accessible, climate-controlled environment. We look forward to seeing how this aid will continue to support the Nation's food security in the future.





# LANDS, ENGINEERING, & PLANNING SERVICES

## *syáθas leləm (TFN Cultural Hub)*

This “tradition/teaching house” or cultural hub at Tsawwassen Commons, planned for completion in Winter 2024, will serve as the office for the Language and Culture Department and act as an interpretive center. It will provide education and classroom space for language and culture revitalization, facilitate networking for Indigenous artists, share TFN values and culture, and promote learning traditional crafts. Additionally, it will include a dedicated repository space for repatriated artifacts and assist TFN archaeology staff in restoring objects.

*Please use the QR code to the right for the hənqəmiñəm pronunciation which means “tradition/teaching house”.*



## *si?em siyałax?e?ewtx? (TFN Elders Centre)*

This landmark building is nearing completion, with an anticipated opening in Winter 2024. Staff have been diligently working with consultants and TFN artists to implement all the TFN art that will be featured in the building.

Staff engaged Elders to discuss the preferred name for the building, with naming options reviewed and recommended by the Language and Culture staff. “Respected Elders Centre” was ultimately chosen and adopted by the Executive Council.

*Please use the QR code to the left for the hənqəmiñəm pronunciation which means “Respected Elders Centre”.*

## *Housing Authority Implementation Update*

TFN is implementing our own housing authority called Hələləm Collective, which will help manage TFN’s rental housing units and oversee new home construction projects. Hələləm Collective will serve as a central body responsible for addressing gaps in housing services and providing an integrated approach to meet individual member housing needs, as well as operating the affordable rental assets owned by the TFN Government.

The development of Hələləm Collective is timely, responding to new federal and provincial funding opportunities for First Nation housing, while also supporting TFN's expansion of our affordable housing portfolio.

## *xʷəliwənstəxʷ kʷθə syáwəñəl ct (TFN Sustainability Charter)*

We are very excited to announce that the “Honouring Our Ancestors” Sustainability Charter, the xʷəliwənstəxʷ kʷθə syáwəñəl ct, was adopted by the Executive Council in July 2024.

The Tsawwassen First Nation xʷəliwənstəxʷ kʷθə syáwəñəl ct (Honouring Our Ancestors) Charter is a post-treaty visionary framework designed under the umbrella of the treaty document Declaration of Tsawwassen Identity and Nationhood. It aims to guide the Tsawwassen First Nation towards a more prosperous, sustainable, and culturally vibrant future.

This Charter takes a seven-generation approach, focusing not just on sustaining, but also on restoring, regenerating, reciprocating, being resilient, and exhibiting stewardship. It is rooted in the principles of honouring our ancestors, preserving cultural and linguistic heritage, and ensuring the well-being of future generations. It embodies the collective aspirations and commitments of the Tsawwassen community, providing a comprehensive roadmap for sustainable development and stewardship of Tsawwassen lands.



*Please use the QR code to the left for the hənqəmiñəm pronunciation which means “Honoring our Ancestors” Charter.*



## *čəlisələm (TFN Community Farm)*

TFN hosted Liz Foster, the Assistant Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, at čəlisələm (TFN Community Farm) to great success. The visit aimed to review the impact of the Local Food Infrastructure Grant (\$412,000) secured by TFN in 2022. Liz met with Councillor Cross and Councillor Baker, along with staff, and shared a meal catered by a TFN member company using farm produce.

Over the last three months, the farm has produced 6,000 lbs. of produce worth \$24,000, supplying over 35 families, the daycare, the Youth Centre, and the Elders Centre.

Farm staff created a private Facebook group for Members and their spouses to update members on produce availability and upcoming events. We showcase the farm by adding pictures and share recipes for what you can do with your produce.

*Take a picture of the QR code (top left) and join us in the group! A video created by the BC Ministry of Agriculture can be found by scanning the QR code (bottom left).*







**Turnkey Duplex Project**

With the support of the Executive Council, construction of the 12 turn-key duplex units on Lots A and B was completed, and 12 members moved into these new units in July and August. Many of these new homeowners were youth, realizing their dream of homeownership with the help of the housing team! Stay tuned to the newsletter for announcements about future turn-key development opportunities at TFN.

**TFN Housing Video:**

*“Love grows here ~ ʔi čisəm nəśłi”*

Staff recently released a short video at Members Gathering showcasing many of TFN’s housing achievements. The video can be viewed at the following QR Code:



**TFN Community Clean-up & Block Party**

In September, the Housing Advisory Committee hosted a successful community clean-up and block party event, with approximately 50 participants in attendance. The event provided an opportunity for members to give back to the community by cleaning up our shared lands and to celebrate the new housing added to the Community Area.

**TFN Rental Housing**

The 36-plex is currently at 100% occupancy for TFN member families, with two units reserved for contingency emergency rentals.

Extensive renovations and a beautification project, led by TFN Engineering, are ongoing at the 2375 to 2385 Raven Lane 6-plex, with three units also undergoing major interior renovations. This complex is expected to reach full occupancy by November 2024.

For inquiries about TFN’s Rental Housing Waitlist, please contact TFN Property Management at [propertymanagement@tsawwassenfirstnation.com](mailto:propertymanagement@tsawwassenfirstnation.com).



**Canadian Institute of Planners Conference**

We are proud to share that two presentations from the TFN Lands Department were selected for the Annual Canadian Institute of Planners Conference, "Connection," held in Edmonton.

On July 9th, staff delivered a presentation about TFN’s 15-year post-treaty development journey at the 2024 CIP conference. The session provided essential information regarding Indigenous peoples and modern treaties, sharing insights from TFN’s experiences, as well as the opportunities and challenges we face moving forward. The presentation received positive feedback from the 70 in-person attendees.

**A video summary of our land development can be found here: <https://tsawwassenfirstnation.com/videos>**

On July 10th, staff presented the engagement themes of the TFN Sustainability Charter—Honouring Our Ancestors—with great success to over 100 attendees.

**New Legislature and Administration Building**

On July 15th, staff met with members from the Standing Committee on Language and Culture, the Long House Committee, the Steering Committee, and the Executive Council to receive input on the design of the legislative chambers. Guidance from Elder Joe Norris was also discussed.

Staff and the architect attended the Elders' lunch, where they presented the current status of the project and sought input on the Legislature area and its elements to ensure that the design is progressing in a positive direction.

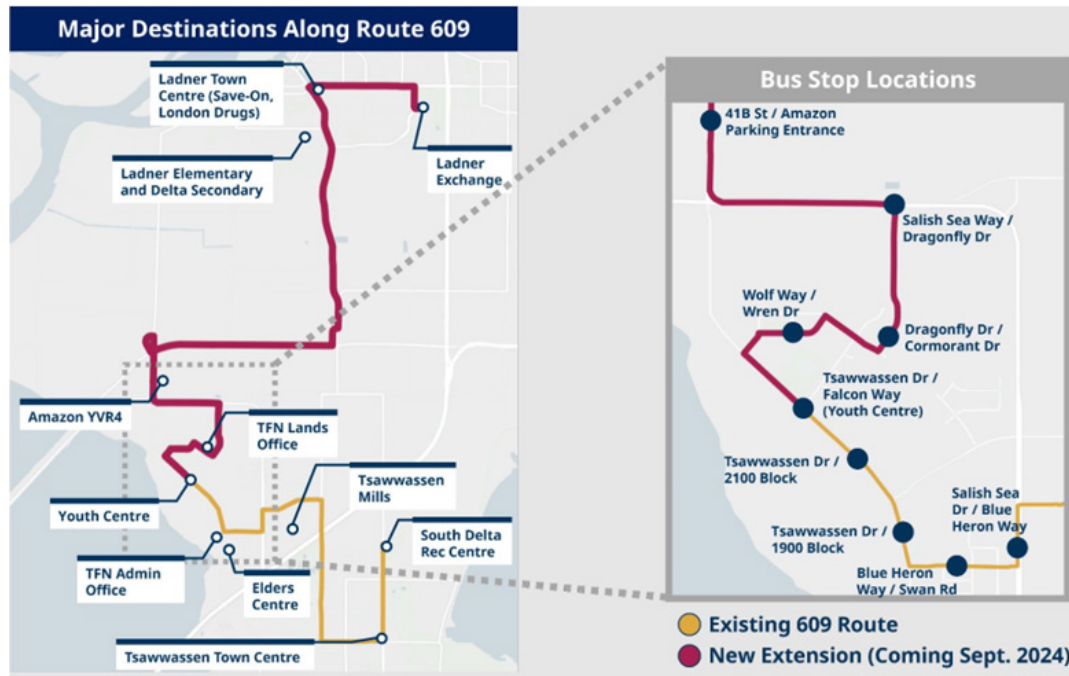
Since then, significant progress has been made on the schematic design, and the project will soon move into the detailed design phase.

**Metro Vancouver Delegation Visit**

A team of 20 staff from the Metro Vancouver Regional Planning team, visited Tsawwassen Lands to learn about Tsawwassen lands and visit different projects to see land development and housing progress in recent years.







### 609 Local Shuttle Route Extension to TFN Industrial Area and Ladner Exchange

TFN staff have been working with TransLink to improve transit service for the community. On September 2nd, the “609 South Delta Exchange/Tsawwassen First Nation” bus route was extended to Ladner Exchange, providing more convenient connections to Richmond, Surrey, and SkyTrain. Four new stops were added, including one in the TFN industrial area, and service was extended to existing stops in the Ladner area, including Ladner Elementary, Delta Secondary, and Ladner Town Centre. Additionally, the service frequency has been improved to every 30 minutes during peak hours and mid-day on weekends.

### Compliance Corner

The Bylaw Compliance and Enforcement team handles a variety of community safety and regulatory violation issues. We currently have four officers working in the team:

- San: Has a variable schedule and can be available with each officer as needed.
- Abu: Works Mondays to Thursdays from 08:00 to 18:00.
- Sham: Works Tuesdays to Fridays from 08:00 to 18:00.
- Nicole: Works Fridays to Mondays from 08:00 to 18:00.

This schedule allows for 7-day coverage and ensures that we can cover for anyone off on holidays.

In the last quarter, we handled 440 files and issued 86 tickets.



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### 1. Strategic Framework Implementation

Our Economic Development department continues to operate under the guidance of the Interim Economic Development Strategic Plan, which is designed to steer our community initiatives effectively. To enhance communication, we have developed and distributed a brochure summarizing the strategic points of interest. These brochures were shared with our members during various workshops and consultation activities, fostering a deeper understanding and engagement within the community.

### 2. Employ to Empower Ideation Workshop

On June 27, we partnered with Employ to Empower for an ideation workshop focused on nurturing new business ideas. Aimed at individuals without a concrete business plan, as well as those looking to expand existing concepts, the workshop provided tools and insights on developing viable business ideas. Participants left equipped with the knowledge and inspiration to advance their entrepreneurial endeavors.

### 3. Community Engagement: Picnic in the Park

Our team hosted a vibrant community engagement session at Falcon Way Park on August 20. This event, designed to connect with families and youth in our community, featured games, snacks, and interactive discussions about the Economic Development Strategic Plan. The event was a success, with several members expressing interest in further business support services.

This quarter has seen substantial progress across several fronts, from strategic planning to direct community engagement and infrastructure development. Each initiative is a step toward enhancing the economic and cultural prosperity of the Tsawwassen First Nation.

### 4. Greenhouse Development Initiative

On August 28, the Agricultural Advisory Committee met at əlīsələm (TFN Community Farm) to discuss potential collaboration on TFN agricultural lands. This pre-consultation session aimed to assess the feasibility and community interest in a new greenhouse project, reflecting our commitment to sustainable development and community involvement.

### 5. Surrey Langley SkyTrain Community Initiatives

During a session on July 11, we discussed the impacts and opportunities of the Surrey Langley SkyTrain project, including the potential reuse of cedar trees affected by construction. Our teams from Economic Development and Language and Culture coordinated effectively to ensure the responsible relocation of these trees, showcasing our commitment to environmental stewardship.

### 6. Major Projects Information Session

A pivotal meeting was held on July 11 to outline future opportunities linked to the Surrey Langley SkyTrain and other major projects. The session provided our member-owned businesses and joint venture partners with detailed projections and contact information for key projects, ensuring they are well-positioned to compete and succeed in upcoming bids.



# LANGUAGE & CULTURE

## PROGRAMS

### *Women's Chat & Craft Night*

A cultural craft night is held every Monday, where TFN Members are invited to work on or complete a craft. Craft supplies, dinner, and babysitting are provided.

### *scəwəθən θələ - Tsawwassen Heart Drum Group*

Drum group sessions are held every Wednesday evening at the TFN Longhouse, with dinner provided from 4:30–6:30 p.m. TFN Members are encouraged to come practice and learn new songs. Stay tuned for sign-up details for an upcoming drum-making workshop!

### *Coast Salish Art & Design*

Language & Culture and the Youth Centre host a Coast Salish Art & Design class every Thursday from 6:00–8:00 p.m. at Karl's carving shed. The class focuses on the significance of Coast Salish Art & Design elements in contemporary Salish art.



## EVENTS

### *First Fish Ceremony*

The Natural Resource and Language & Culture departments hosted a burning for the First Fish Ceremony on July 4th, followed by the main ceremony on July 9th at the Longhouse. It was well-attended by TFN Members and youth.

### *Community Prayer Walk*

On July 11th, Language & Culture invited Members to join a Prayer Walk along Tsawwassen Drive. Members were encouraged to bring drums, rattles, and clappers to uplift and pray for the community. We began with a prayer, then shuttled to each boundary marker housepost, offering thanks with a song and a blessing led by one of the TFN youth. The walk concluded with a light lunch at the Youth Centre, after visiting the last house post along the shore. Participants continued from TFN Beachfront Park to Falcon Way, stopping to pray or sing along the way.

### *Honouring Ceremony for Delta Police Chief Dubord*

A small ceremony was held at the TFN Longhouse to honor the retirement of Delta Police Chief Dubord. He was blanketed by Chief sx<sup>w</sup>amisaat with a replica of the Chief's Chieftain blanket, followed by a dinner.

### *Tribal Journey Hosting*

On July 21st, TFN hosted one of the stops on the Power Paddle to Puyallup Youth Canoe Journey. This year's theme, "Our Sacred Youth," emphasized the importance of elders imparting knowledge, adults providing guidance, and youth stepping into leadership roles. TFN welcomed the Puyallup Tribe and their youth at TFN Beachfront Park, working with BC Ferries to temporarily close the causeway for a safe landing. The canoes continued their journey the next day to Birch Bay, reaching Puyallup on July 31st. Protocol activities followed from August 1st to 5th.

### *Culture Jam 2024*

On August 15th, Language & Culture hosted a Culture Jam at the Youth Centre to celebrate the continuation and renewal of TFN culture. Members of all ages were invited to explore cultural activities in a fun environment. The event began with dinner, followed by booths showcasing living traditions and providing an opportunity for input into the renewal of "Our Living Traditions Strategy" for 2024–2034.

### *TFN Paddle Days 2024*

Language & Culture held the first annual "Paddle Days" on August 22nd at TFN Beachfront Park and Deas Island. This event aims to reconnect neighboring Nations and revitalize traditional modes of transportation, with hopes of hosting canoe races in the future. The day began with a canoe blessing at the Beachfront Park, followed by lunch and a two-hour paddle at Deas Island.

### *Truth & Reconciliation Workshop for Staff and Members – September 19th*

On September 19th, Language & Culture organized a Truth & Reconciliation workshop at the TFN Longhouse for Staff and Members. The workshop was facilitated by Len Pierre from Len Pierre Consulting and was followed by lunch at the Longhouse.

### *Pro-D Day – Longhouse Experience*

In collaboration with the Youth Centre staff, Language & Culture hosted Delta district teachers for their professional development day on September 20th, focusing on Truth & Reconciliation.

### *Truth & Reconciliation Walk – September 30th, 2024*

On September 30th, Language & Culture hosted a 5K walk in honor of Truth & Reconciliation Day. The event began with a Welcome Song, Prayer, and opening remarks from Acting CAO Kim Baird. Along the route, a song was shared at the corner of Highway 17 & 56th Street. The walk concluded at the Longhouse, where a meal was provided by the Delta Police Service and TFN staff.





## RECREATION, EVENTS & ELDERS

The summer of 2024 was filled with community, celebration, and support for local causes as Tsawwassen First Nation (TFN) hosted several key events, strengthening ties both within the Nation and with the broader community.

### *Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration*

This year's Indigenous Peoples Day celebration was a major success, held at the TFN sports field and attracting an impressive 700 attendees. The day was a vibrant showcase of Indigenous culture and traditions, featuring arts and crafts, unique handmade goods from vendors, and sports activities such as lacrosse and ball hockey, which encouraged friendly competition among participants. Food stalls provided delicious offerings, while live performances from TFN youth and Indigenous artists like Murray Porter and Westley Hardisty added to the lively atmosphere.

The event highlighted the rich cultural heritage of the Tsawwassen people and underscored the importance of community and collaboration. The enthusiasm and participation from both TFN Members and visitors made this year's celebration truly unforgettable.

### *Supper at Sunset*

On a perfect summer evening, the TFN boardwalk hosted the Supper at Sunset event, drawing 230 guests and raising an incredible \$75,000 in support of the Delta Hospital Foundation's 'Coming Home' project. The funds raised will directly contribute to enhancing facilities and services for Elders in the local community, ensuring they receive the care and support they deserve as they age.

Attendees enjoyed a delicious meal with spectacular water views, while the sunset over the Salish Sea created an atmosphere of serenity and togetherness. The event not only celebrated the Nation's partnership with the broader Delta community but also reinforced the shared responsibility to support the most vulnerable members of society, particularly Elders.

### *Elders Program*

On Monday, August 19th, TFN hosted its first annual Elders Retreat, taking 32 Elders to the stunning Four Seasons Resort in Whistler for a 3-day, 2-night getaway filled with unforgettable experiences. The retreat was a tremendous success, full of laughter, adventure, and treasured memories shared by all.

The trip began with a scenic drive, where a small group of Elders enjoyed lunch at White Spot in Squamish, while others embarked on the breathtaking Sea to Sky Gondola ride, taking in incredible views while dining at the summit. Upon arrival at the resort, the Elders gathered for a warm dinner, followed by a fun-filled evening of BINGO, complete with exciting prizes and led by our favorite, beloved Bingo caller.

The adventure continued with a visit to the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre, where the Elders immersed themselves in the rich history and traditions of the local Indigenous Peoples. Some Elders enjoyed a relaxing nature walk, connecting with the beautiful Whistler landscape, while others opted for a scenic golf outing. A group also indulged in a shopping tour, exploring the unique boutiques in Whistler Village. Each morning, some Elders participated in early exercise classes led by Paul.

Every moment of the retreat was filled with joy, relaxation, and a deep sense of community, making it an incredible success cherished by all who attended.

### *Elders Outings*

Our monthly Elders' outings were a true highlight of the summer, taking us to memorable destinations like a Vancouver Canadians baseball game, the vibrant Granville Island, and the charming Steveston Village. These trips were filled with fun, connection, and unforgettable experiences for all.

### *Recreation*

This quarter, we launched many new programs for TFN Members of all ages to engage in fun physical activities!

- **Adult Boxing Classes:** Focused on improving cardiovascular endurance, strength, coordination, and self-defense techniques. The classes catered to both beginners and more advanced participants.
- **Adult Bootcamps:** Launched in July, these comprehensive workouts targeted all major muscle groups in a fun and challenging environment, combining aerobic exercises, strength training, and interval drills.
- **Yoga Classes:** Began in August, focusing on mindfulness, flexibility, and strength, attracting participants interested in both physical and mental wellness.
- **Weekly Golf Night:** Also launched in August, this event catered to both beginners and intermediate players, fostering a sense of community among Members.

This summer, the Recreation and Events Department purchased season passes to Big Splash Waterpark for all TFN Youth, providing a fun way to cool down and enjoy the sun!

### *Expanding Opportunities for TFN*

This summer saw a notable increase in TFN-hosted events, workshops, and engagements, both within the community and beyond. The growing interest from outside organizations in hosting events at TFN reflects the increasing recognition of TFN's cultural and strategic importance. However, as more requests come in, the Nation remains focused on ensuring that TFN Members and their priorities always come first.

These collaborations present opportunities for economic development, cultural exchange, and increased visibility for TFN's unique identity. At the same time, the Nation is committed to maintaining its values and ensuring that any external partnerships align with the long-term interests of its Members.

With all the new active programs and opportunities, the department's Recreation Reimbursement Policy continues to be highly utilized, showcasing the community's desire for exercise and wellness!

## HEALTH & FAMILY SERVICES

### DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- **DCAT Meeting:** Andrew Lawrence, our Substance Use Supervisor, attended the Delta Division meeting in July. He attends monthly meetings and will attend additional ones as needed. Andrew also participates in the bimonthly Fraser Health Authority Harm Reduction community meetings.
- **Policy Development:** Collaborated on renewing and updating departmental policies and SOPs, including incident reporting, medication errors, client notice of rights, and consent forms.
- **Health Fair:** Over 65 members attended, with more than 25 vendors and healers present. This event was well-received, showcasing a variety of community resources available to members.
- **Clinics:** Hosted two hearing clinics with 6-7 attendees each and one eye clinic with about 15 attendees.
- **International Overdose Awareness Day:** Received a grant from FNHA and organized an event attended by 10-12 members.
- **Oral Health Clinics:** Conducted two sessions, with 8 attendees at the first and 4 at the second.



## Family Services

The Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) has focused over the last four months on providing rent support, access to utilities, and basic household needs for those transitioning into housing. Home setup is an important step for the underhoused to achieve stability. These supports help members begin their housing journey positively, providing essentials such as groceries, beds, dishes, and cookware. Additionally, HPP, in collaboration with HFS outreach and other staff, has connected many members to community services, including food banks, employment opportunities, Income Assistance, and other support programs, such as emergency housing and food during power outages. Prevention services have proven effective in helping TFN members maintain their housing through utility support, ensuring power remains on, and offering basic groceries during emergencies.

Our Family Outreach Worker, Stefanie Leonard, has returned from maternity leave and is excited to be back! She will be facilitating the Circle of Matriarchs every Tuesday from 12-2 pm. This group provides a safe space for women to empower each other, with weekly topics including sleep, parenting, self-care, and preparing healthy meals for their families. Stefanie has been reconnecting with members and catching up on everything she missed while away.

The respite house has been busy, with Rebel scheduling families for respite support. It has been a pleasure to assist both new and existing families moving to the lands, helping them enhance their well-being. With ever-changing family needs, Rebel juggles support times to better suit each situation. While she produces a monthly schedule, it often changes due to unexpected appointments, activities, illness, or the need for a break. This flexibility extends to staff as well, with accommodations for unforeseen circumstances, vacation, or sick leave. We are grateful to provide a safe space where children can play, learn, and feel at home, giving parents much-deserved time for themselves.

As we enter the fall quarter, we want to highlight the progress and initiatives we've undertaken over the past four months to enhance our community outreach and support services. This quarter, Vicky has had significant engagement with our members, addressing their diverse and complex needs. Our efforts have included:

- 1. Community Connections:** We've connected individuals with essential resources, including healthcare providers, specialists, government programs, transportation services, and food assistance. This comprehensive support has been crucial for those facing immediate challenges.
- 2. Complex Case Management:** We've worked closely with clients facing various issues, such as court proceedings, substance use, and resource mismanagement. This involved developing tailored action plans to address their unique circumstances.
- 3. Holistic Support:** In addition to providing guidance on life planning and financial management, we've proactively supported clients dealing with homelessness and addiction, ensuring they receive ongoing follow-ups and assistance.
- 4. Strengthening Community Networks:** Our outreach efforts have fostered stronger relationships within the community, improving collaboration among service providers and enhancing overall access to support.

## Collaboration

- Continued partnership with Fraser Health, holding monthly meetings to enhance support for community members. Ongoing collaboration to support members within the community.
- Serena and Carmen serve on the steering committee for the Delta Division of Family Practice.

## New Staff

- Welcoming Jady, our new care aide, who started on September 24th.
- Hired Michael as the new Substance Use Support Coordinator.
- Hired Cosette, Kendal, Kirstan, and Sue as new support house workers for women and youth.

## SA Program Progress:

- 6 people moved from SA into employment or post-secondary studies.
- 5 people were assisted in filing their income tax, resulting in refunds or GST benefits.
- 5 families were connected to the Food Bank Program to address food insecurity.
- 4 people were supported in applying for PWD (disability assistance), as they required more support than regular assistance could provide.
- 4 SA recipients enrolled in the TFN Adult Education program to complete their Grade 12 education.
- 3 individuals secured Employment Contracts through the SA program, designed to help them develop skills and become more employable.
- 2 people were supported in applying for off-lands SA.

## Community Engagement

- In August, HFS supported the Elders Gathering held in Whistler.
- Brandi Dan is pursuing an OAT prescribing course to improve access for TFN members, addressing the lack of local support for OAT (Opioid Agonist Treatment).
- TFN is the first community in the Fraser Salish region to secure funding for OAT access and awareness initiatives.

## Upcoming Initiatives

- Planning to distribute chronic health literature at the Elders' lunch.
- Organizing more workshops to empower and educate the community.
- Planning surveys for community members to gather input on the future direction of TFN Health services.
- TFN will be featured in the FNHA nursing community newsletter as the first to receive the OAT grant, with a community workshop planned to raise awareness and provide education.

## Ongoing Programs

- Men's Group: Held every Wednesday, regularly attended by 3-5 people, led by Warren.
- Women's Craft and Chat Group: Continues successfully on TFN lands after hours, with an average of 10-15 participants each week.

## Community Impact

- Empowered more members in their healing journeys, leading to an increase in those seeking long-term recovery plans, including second-stage treatment.
- Connected members to cultural ceremonies and land-based healing practices.
- Collaborated with the Language and Culture department for TFN-specific programming at the Youth Support House.
- Hired and trained four female staff for the Youth Support House: Sue, Kendall, Cosette, and Kirsten. The YSH is set to reopen on October 16, offering 24/7 support for TFN females.
- Facilitated connections for members returning from treatment to local recovery resources.
- Partnered with the Delta Community Action Team to enhance publicly funded substance use resources in the region.
- Provided harm reduction education, including Naloxone training and drug-checking workshops, to combat stigma and improve overdose prevention and response.
- Providing wrap-around care with 7-day coverage.

## Process Improvement Update

AVA (EMR): The health team is excited to announce the implementation of an Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system. This system will help easily identify which patients are due for preventive screenings or checkups, track patient progress on parameters such as blood pressure or vaccinations, and improve the overall quality of care within TFN.



# A GROWING GOVERNMENT

## *Member Services*

Grace Cheng joined the Daycare team as an Early Childhood Infant Toddler Worker

Avreen Kaur joined the Daycare team as an Early Childhood Infant Toddler Worker

James Roppel joined the Youth Centre team as a Child and Youth Worker.

*He's Indigenous from Dene Nation from Tulita, Northwest Territories*

Kendall Boyd joined the Health team as a Community Support Worker

Cosette Teghtmeyer joined the Health team as a Community Support Worker

Sue Blom-Cadotte joined the Health team as a Community Support Worker

Renalyn Aquino joined the Health team as a Licensed Practical Nurse

Sophia Mannella joined the Youth Centre team as a Child and Youth Worker

Carmen McLachlan joined the Health team as a Manager of Health.

*She's Indigenous from Sayisi Dene Nation*

Maura Gowans joined the Family Services team as a Manager of Family Services.

*She's Indigenous from Dene from Tulita, Northwest Territories*

## *Municipal Infrastructure*

Arash Akbarnejad joined the Engineering and Capital Programs team as an Engineering Inspector

Justin St-John joined the Facilities team as a Facilities Worker. He is a TFN Member

William Tait joined the Facilities team as a Facilities Maintenance Worker.

*He's Indigenous from Gitksan First Nation*

Robyn Burgess joined the Public Works team as a Public Works Landscape and Parks Worker

Kayla Giles joined the STP team as a Utility Operator 1

Thomas McCauley joined the STP team as a Utility Operator 1.

*He is Indigenous from Cree Nation and a TFN Member spouse*

## *Territory Management*

Dionne Baker joined the Natural Resources team as a Natural Resources Enforcement Officer.

*She is Indigenous from Haida and Squamish Nations*

## *General Counsel*

Callum Robinson joined the Communications team as a Manager of Communications.

*He is Indigenous from Metis Nation from Red River Settlement and Turtle Mountain*

## *Lands*

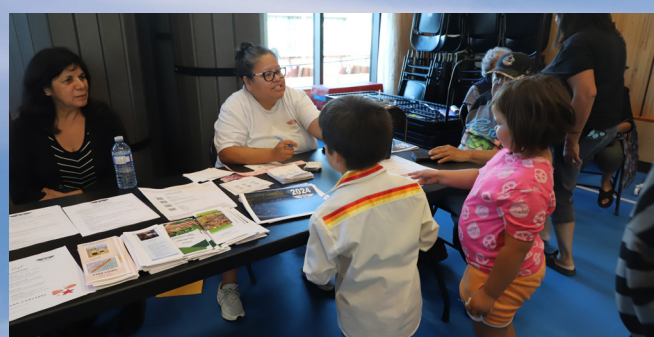
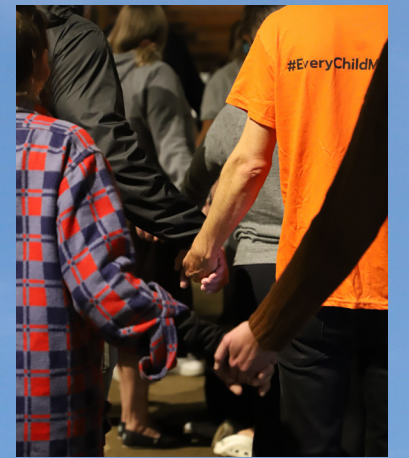
Kristie Schwitay joined the Lands team as a Lands Assistant

Anmol Anand joined the Planning team as a Planner II

# ORDERS OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- O.039-2024 Order to approve sole-source contract for Modern Wrokplace Phase 2 Project to Gravity Union Solutions Ltd
- O.040-2024 Order to amend O.062-2023 to approve increased funding for design of Administration-Legislature building
- O.041-2024 Order to approve the transfer of 12 duplex lots on Cormorant Way to TFN Members and transfer 3 Falcon Way lots back to TFN
- O.042-2024 Order to clarify purchase price of turnkey duplexes
- O.043-2024 Order to amend the Offsite Levies Regulation
- O.044-2024 Order to amend Exectuive Council Order O.025-2024
- O.045-2024 Order to approve and authroize transfer of 2481 Falcon Court to TFN
- O.046-2024 Order to amend the Chief and Executive Council Remuneration Regulation
- O.047-2024 Order to enact the Executive Council Workload Adjustment Policy
- O.48-2024 Order to approve sole source contract for septic system replacement at 4990 28th Ave
- O.049-2024 Order to approve grant application to the First Peoples Cultural Council Community Art Spaces Program
- O.0505-2024 Order to approve grant application to the FNPSS First Nations Well Being Fund Program
- O.052-2024 Order to approve direct award to Turning Point Technology Services Inc for hardware refresh
- O.05302924 Order to approve Multi-Family Residential Use DP000112
- O.054-2024 Order to adopt the Honouring Our Ancestors Charter
- O.055-2024 Order to approve the Third Amendment to the TFN Treaty Final Agreement
- O.056-2024 Order to approve direct award of construction services contract at the Sports Field to TFN Construction/Matcon Civil JV
- O.057-2024 Order to award ditch and pumpstation outfall maintenance contract to Tsawwassen Constructors Joint Venture
- O.058-2024 Order to award contract for the relocation of the TFN Alnds Office trailer to TFN Construction/Matcon Civil Joint Venture
- O.059-2024 Order to award contract for abatement and demolition of 3 houses to Indigenous Diggers Construction Ltd
- O.060-2024 Order to approve grant funding contribution agreement for HPP from Lu'uma Native BCH Housing Society
- O.061-2024 Order to enact the TFN Fleet Management and Operations Policy
- O.062-2024 Order to approve purchase of Telehandler from Leavitt Machinery
- O.063-2024 Order to call the Fall 2024 Session of the Tsawwassen Legislature
- O.064-2024 Order to approve coordination and information sharing agreements with Minister of Housing
- O.065-2024 Order to approve the Amendment Agreement for the Sixth Amendment to the Fiscal Financing Agreement









scəwáθən məsteyəx<sup>w</sup>  
TSAWWASSEN FIRST NATION

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