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TSAWWASSEN FIRST NATION

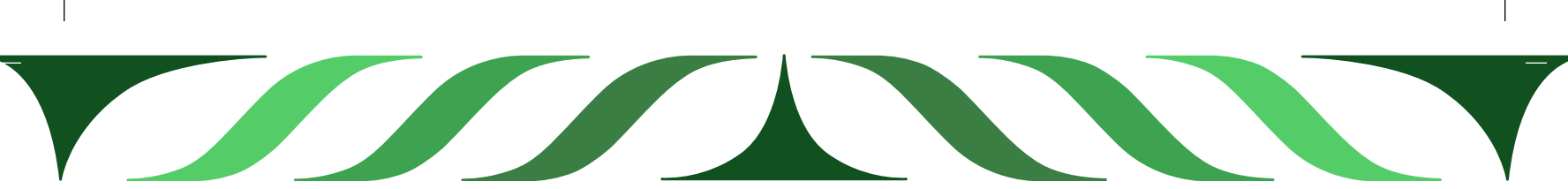
Land Facing the Sea



SPRING 2026



This edition of Land Facing
the Sea is a summary of
actions taken by the
Tsaywassen government from
January to March 2026



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A Message from Executive Council

Dear Tsawwassen Members,

We are pleased to share the Spring 2026 edition of *Land Facing the Sea*, covering the period from January to March. This newsletter provides an overview of the work underway across Tsawwassen First Nation and highlights the many ways our Nation continues to move forward together.

Over the past quarter, Executive Council and staff have been actively engaged in legislative sessions, intergovernmental discussions, and regional partnerships, while continuing to advance long-term priorities that support our community's wellbeing and self-determination. This issue includes updates on key governance and policy work, including the launch of TFN's Impact Assessment Framework, ongoing treaty implementation advocacy, and engagement on major regional projects that affect our lands and rights.

This edition also reflects the strength and vibrancy of community life on TFN Lands.

You'll find updates on language and culture programming, youth and Elders services, recreation and events, environmental stewardship, housing, and placemaking initiatives. These efforts are grounded in Member participation and reflect our shared commitment to caring for our lands, culture, and future generations.

We are grateful to the Elders, youth, Members, staff, and partners who continue to contribute their time, knowledge, and leadership to this work. Your involvement strengthens our Nation and ensures that progress is guided by Tsawwassen values.

We hope this edition on *Land Facing the Sea* provides a clear and meaningful picture of the work being done on your behalf, as well as the progress being made across our Territory. As always, we welcome your feedback and look forward to continuing this work together in the months ahead.


In strength and unity,

TFN Executive Council



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Meetings

 JANUARY 1 – MARCH 31, 2026





Chief Meetings



JANUARY 2026

- 6** | Attended a Legislative Policy Workshop Meeting
- 14** | Attended the TFN Finance and Audit Committee Meeting
- 15** | Attended the Standing Committee on Language and Culture Appointments Meeting
 - Provided opening remarks and attended the Executive Council Member Engagement Session in Bellingham
- 19** | Attended the TFN Periodic Review Update Meeting
- 21** | Provided opening remarks and attended the Delta Chamber of Commerce Growth Despite Everything: Empowering Women and Indigenous Entrepreneurs at the TFN Cultural Hub
- 22** | Attended the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 information session with the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority and TFN's Economic Development staff
- 24** | Provided opening remarks and attended the Princess Tsawwassa Book Launch event
- 28** | Attended the TFN Audit and Finance Committee Meeting
 - Attended the Fraser River Tunnel Replacement Project and Procurement Opportunities event
- 29** | Attended the TFN Legislature Rules and Procedures Workshop
- 30** | Attended a meeting with Member of Parliament for Delta Jill McKnight
- 31** | Attended Breakfast with Executive Council



FEBRUARY 2026

- 3** | Attended the Legislative Assembly Spring 2026 Pre-Session Workshop 1
- 5** | Attended a touch base meeting with the TFN Relationship Liaison with Vancouver Fraser Port Authority
 - Attended the Legislative Assembly Spring 2026 Pre-Session Workshop 2
- 6** | Attended the MetroVancouver Electoral Area Committee Meeting
- 9** | Provided an informal welcome to the SFU School of Medicine delegation having a meeting on TFN lands
- 10** | Attended Media training for Executive Council
 - Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 11** | Attended the MetroVancouver Water Committee
- 12** | Attended a tour of the TFN recovery home
 - Attended lunch with Central Walk
 - Attended Spring 2025 Session of TFN Legislative Assembly
- 13** | Attended the MetroVancouver Indigenous Relations Committee
- 17** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature



 **FEBRUARY 2025**

- 24** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 25** | Provided opening remarks and attended the TFN Anti-Bullying Workshop
- 26** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 27** | Attended a meeting with the B.C. Minister of Health and the tour of the Fraser Health Urgent Care Clinic
- 28** | Attended the TFN Family Day Event

 **MARCH 2025**

- 2** | Participated in an interview with Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council regarding their 3 Year Strategic Plan
- 2** | Participated in a phone call with the B.C. Minister of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation regarding the Cowichan decision
- 3** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 4** | Attended the TFN Emergency Program Executive Committee Kick-Off Meeting
- 5** | Meeting with the Minister of Transportation and Transit
- 10** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 11** | Attended the MetroVancouver Water Committee Meeting
- 12** | Attended the Dementia Lunch and Learn at the Elders' Centre
- 14** | Attended the TFN International Women's Day Event
- 16** | Provided opening remarks and attended the Canoe Blessing
- 19** | Meeting with a TFN Elder
- 20** | Provided opening remarks and attended the New Zealand Pilot Exchange Program Event
- 27** | Provided opening remarks and attended the Mural and House Post Unveiling at the Beedie Property

EC Meetings

COUNCILLOR TAYLOR BAKER

JANUARY 2026

- 7 | Attended the Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council Xyntax Meeting
- 14 | Attended the TFN Finance and Audit Committee Meeting
- 15 | Attended the Executive Council Member Engagement Session in Bellingham
- 24 | Attended the Princess Tsawwassa Book Launch Event
- 28 | Attended the TFN Audit and Finance Committee Meeting
- 29 | Attended the TFN Legislature Rules and Procedures Workshop
- 31 | Attended Breakfast with Executive Council

FEBRUARY 2026

- 3 | Attended the Legislative Assembly Spring 2026 Pre-Session Workshop 1
- 5 | Attended a preparation with Policy Staff for upcoming LCAC Annual Leadership Meeting

- 5 | Attended the Legislative Assembly Spring 2026 Pre-Session Workshop 2
- 6 | Attended the Natural Resources Committee Meeting
- 9 | Attended the Housing Advisory Committee Meeting
- 10 | Virtually attended and provided opening remarks on behalf of TFN at the LCAC meeting in Ottawa
- 11 | Virtually attended the LCAC Meeting in Ottawa
- 17 | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 24 | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 26 | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 27 | Attended a meeting with the B.C. Minister of Health and the tour of the Fraser Health Urgent Care Clinic

MARCH 2026

- 3 | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 4 | Attended the Hələləm Collective Board Meeting
- 5 | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 10 | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 14 | Provided the welcome to the Territory & Opening Remarks at Child Care Options Resource & Referral Workshop
- 17 | Attended the Legislative-Administrative Building Steering Committee Workshop
- 23 | Attended the annual TFN Trust Fraud Inquiry Meeting with Deloitte
- 24 | Attended the Hələləm Collective Board Meeting



 **JANUARY 2026**

- 6** | Attended a Legislative Policy Workshop Meeting
- 15** | Attended the Executive Council Member Engagement Session in Bellingham
- 21** | Attended and provided the keynote speech at the Delta Chamber of Commerce Growth Despite Everything: Empowering Women and Indigenous Entrepreneurs at the TFN Cultural Hub
- 22** | Attended the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 information session with the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority and TFN's Economic Development staff
- 24** | Attended the Princess Tsawassa Book Launch Event
- 29** | Attended the TFN Legislature Rules and Procedures Workshop
- 31** | Attended Breakfast with Executive Council

 **FEBRUARY 2026**

- 3** | Attended the Legislative Assembly Spring 2026 Pre-Session Workshop 1
- 5** | Attended a preparation with Policy Staff for upcoming LCAC Annual Leadership Meeting

| Attended the Legislative Assembly Spring 2026 Pre-Session Workshop 2
- 6** | Attended the Natural Resources Committee Meeting
- 9** | Attended the Housing Advisory Committee Meeting

- 10** | Virtually attended and provided opening remarks on behalf of TFN at the LCAC meeting in Ottawa

| Attended Media training for Executive Council

| Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature

- 11** | Virtually attended the LCAC meeting in Ottawa

- 17** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature

- 24** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature

- 26** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature

- 27** | Attended a meeting with the B.C. Minister of Health and the tour of the Fraser Health Urgent Care Clinic

 **MARCH 2026**

- 3** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature

- 4** | Attended the Hələləm Collective Board Meeting

- 5** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature

- 10** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature

- 14** | Provided the Welcome to the Territory & Opening Remarks at Child Care Options Resource & Referral Workshop

- | Attended the TFN International Women's Day Event

- 17** | Attended the Legislative-Administrative Building Steering Committee Workshop

- 23** | Attended the annual TFN Trust Fraud inquiry Meeting with Deloitte

- 24** | Attended the Hələləm Collective Board Meeting

COUNCILLOR LOUISE AHLM

 **JANUARY 2026**

- 7** | Attended the Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council Xyntax meeting

- 14** | Attended the TFN Finance and Audit Committee meeting

- 15** | Attended the Executive Council Member Engagement Session in Bellingham

- 24** | Attended the Princess Tsawassa Book Launch event

- 28** | Attended the TFN Audit and Finance Committee Meeting

- | Attended the Fraser River Tunnel Replacement Project and Procurement Opportunities event

- 29** | Attended the TFN Legislature Rules and Procedures Workshop

- 31** | Attended Breakfast with Executive Council



 FEBRUARY 2026

- 3** | Attended the Legislative Assembly Spring 2026 Pre-Session Workshop 1
- 4** | Attended the Naut'sa mawt Resource Group Board of Directors Meeting
- 5** | Attended the Legislative Assembly Spring 2026 Pre-Session Workshop 2
- 10** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
| Attended Media training for Executive Council
- 12** | Attended a tour of the TFN recovery home
| Attended lunch with Central Walk
| Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 17** | Attended the Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council Board of Directors Meeting
| Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 24** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 25** | Attended the TFN Anti-Bullying Workshop
- 26** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 27** | Attended a meeting with the B.C. Minister of Health and the tour of the Fraser Health Urgent Care Clinic
| Attended the TFN Laws Revitalization Project Meeting
- 28** | Attended the TFN Family Day Event

 MARCH 2026

- 2** | Attended the Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council Strategic Planning Session
- 3** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 4** | Attended the TFN Emergency Program Executive Committee kick-off meeting
- 5** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 6** | Attended the Naut'sa mawt CEO performance review meeting
- 10** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 12** | Attended the Dementia Lunch and Learn at the Elders' Centre
- 13** | Attended the TFN Laws Revitalization Project Meeting
- 14** | Attended and provided remarks at the TFN International Women's Day Event
- 16** | Attended the Canoe Blessing
- 23** | Attended the Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council NRG CEO Board Meeting
- 24** | Attended the Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council NRG Board of Directors Meeting
- 27** | Attended the Mural and House Post Unveiling at the Beedie Property

 JANUARY 2026

- 14** | Attended the TFN Finance and Audit Committee meeting
- 24** | Attended the Princess Tsawwassa Book Launch event
- 31** | Attended breakfast with Executive Council

 FEBRUARY 2026

- 9** | Attended TFN Enrolment Committee Meeting
- 10** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 12** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 17** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 18** | Attended the ACC meeting
- 24** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 25** | Attended the TFN Anti-Bullying Workshop
- 26** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 27** | Attended the Mayor's Council meeting

 MARCH 2026

- 5** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 10** | Attended the 2026 Spring Session of the TFN Legislature
- 27** | Attended the Mural and House Post Unveiling at the Beedie Property



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Treaty Rights & Title



Tsawwassen First Nation Launches Impact Assessment Framework

Tsawwassen First Nation has launched its Impact Assessment Framework (IAF) - a TFN-designed, treaty-based approach to how major development projects are assessed within TFN Territory.

The framework sets out what TFN expects from project proponents and regulators and affirms TFN's jurisdiction under our modern treaty. Rather than relying only on Crown-led processes, the IAF reflects TFN laws, priorities, and decision-making responsibilities.

Why TFN Created the Framework

For many years, TFN Members have shared concerns about having to be reactive to major projects and repeatedly raising the same issues during consultations. The IAF responds directly to those concerns.

The framework was developed with direct input from Members, including feedback gathered at multiple Member Gatherings and through a Member survey. It is designed to:

- Identify TFN priorities for impact assessment upfront
- Reduce uncertainty and engagement fatigue
- Ensure Members are involved at the right times, when key decisions are being made
- Improve transparency for Members, proponents, and governments

What the Framework Does

The Impact Assessment Framework:

- Is TFN-designed and treaty-based, not reliant on Crown-led processes alone
- Sets clear expectations for how major projects must consider impacts to TFN
- Demonstrates TFN's commitment to responsible and sustainable development
- Provides clarity that can help prevent delays later in project review processes

The framework outlines what should be assessed. Additional guidance documents will be developed over time to explain how assessments will be carried out.

Leadership and Partnerships

The Impact Assessment Framework was approved by TFN Executive Council and developed with support from partners, including the Centre for Environmental Assessment Research at UBC Okanagan. TFN's work has already generated interest from other First Nations and at conferences focused on Indigenous-led impact assessment.

The IAF is an important step in ensuring development in TFN Territory is done the right way - respecting our lands, rights, and community, while providing clarity for everyone involved.

The Impact Assessment Framework is available on the TFN website.



Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs

On March 10, Cllr. Cross attended a meeting of the federal Standing Committee on Indigenous and Northern Affairs to speak as a witness in support of Bill C-10, An Act Respecting the Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation. Bill C-10 proposes the creation of a Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation (CMTI)—an independent body that would assess and report to Parliament on whether Canada is effectively meeting the obligations and objectives set out in Modern Treaties, including the Tsawwassen Treaty.



The creation of the CMTI has been a longstanding goal for TFN through its work as a member of the Land Claims Agreement Coalition. At the meeting, Cllr. Cross delivered an opening statement on behalf of TFN and responded to questions from Members of Parliament about the treaty implementation challenges TFN has faced, as well as how a Commissioner would support improved accountability and outcomes.

Bill C-10 completed the committee review process on March 23 and is now awaiting third reading in the House of Commons.



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Education



Early Years Language & Culture Update — January

During the month of January, Kayleigh and Raven spent time in both the preschool (3–5) and infant/toddler programs exploring “Time of the Child Moon,” *miḡḡḡ ḡelc*, the first month in our traditional seasonal calendar.

Traditionally, this time of year was marked by families gathering in the longhouses during the winter months to take part in ceremonies that strengthened family bonds and welcomed visiting guests. Spirit dancing, oral storytelling, feasting, and sharing were central to this time.

In the **preschool program (ages 3–5)**, children were introduced to the meaning of Child Moon through storytelling, discussion, movement, and hands-on activities. Weekly themes included:

- An introduction to Child Moon and the seasonal calendar
- Patterns and light
- Weaving and its gifts

Children explored these themes through circle time, songs, movement, felt storytelling, table activities, and outdoor learning, while being introduced to *həḡḡḡ* language in meaningful and playful ways.

In the **infant and toddler program**, Kayleigh and Raven focused on sensory-rich experiences rooted in the same themes. Learning took place through songs, gentle movement, oral storytelling, and repetition. Language was introduced slowly and intentionally, pairing words with actions, sounds, and routines to support early understanding and connection.

Throughout the month, the following *həḡḡḡ* words were woven into daily learning:

- *ḡḡḡ* – storytelling
- *təḡḡḡ* – winter
- *həḡḡḡ* – moonlight
- *sḡḡḡ* – feast
- *ḡḡḡ* – blanket

It was a meaningful month of learning, connection, and shared experience, grounding our youngest learners in language, story, and seasonal teachings.

As we move into the next month of our seasonal calendar, *pəḡḡ*, “Time of the Cedar Bark Torches”, we look forward to continuing this journey of learning through language, story, and shared experience with our youngest community members.



ḡḡḡ –
storytelling



sḡḡḡ –
feast



təḡḡḡ –
winter



həḡḡḡ –
moonlight



ḡḡḡ –
blanket



Early Years Language & Culture Update — February

February brought us into **pə́həq**, “**Time of the Cedar Bark Torches**”, the second moon in our traditional seasonal cycle. Throughout the month, Kayleigh and Raven spent time alongside children in both the preschool (3–5) and infant/toddler programs, grounding learning in the teachings of this important winter season.

pə́həq reminds us that winter is not a dormant time, it is a season of preparation, ceremony, and teaching. Historically, this was the height of Longhouse gatherings. Cedar bark torches lit the fires and brightened the dark winter nights. Families prepared fishing nets and materials for the coming seasons, twisted rope and twine, and strengthened community bonds through dance, story, and shared work. Children learned by watching, listening, and participating; knowledge carried through generations in the warmth of the firelight.

In the **preschool classroom**, learning centered on light, rhythm, and responsibility. Each week unfolded through themes such as time in the forest, the heartbeat of the drum, the torch as a carrier of sunlight, and the power of stories to guide us through winter. Children explored these ideas through circle conversations, drumming and movement, felt-board storytelling, creative table invitations, and outdoor experiences.

Language was woven naturally into play and practice, building understanding through repetition, rhythm, and relationship.

With our **infants and toddlers**, the focus remained on sensory connection and gentle introduction. The drumbeat was felt before it was named. The warmth of light was experienced before it was described. Through song, movement, listening games, and shared routines, **hə́hə́mihə́m** words were paired with touch, sound, and expression; nurturing familiarity and comfort with language from the earliest years.

The following **hə́hə́mihə́m** words were carried throughout our days:

- **tθéle?** — heart
- **qáwət** — drum
- **θə sílə** — grandmother
- **hétθəm** — heartbeat
- **xʷíne:m** — listen

This moon invited us to slow down, to gather close, and to remember that even in the darker season, there is light; carried in our stories, our songs, and our shared work.

As we prepare to welcome **wátxəs** — **Time of Singing Frogs**, we look forward to stepping into the next seasonal teaching together, continuing to root our youngest learners in language, land, and community.

pə́həq — cedar
bark torch



qáwət —
drum



θə sílə —
grandmother



hétθəm —
heartbeat



xʷíne:m —
listen



tθéle? —
heart





Early Years Language & Culture Update — March

March welcomed us into **wáłx̣əs** – Time to Hear Little Frogs, the third moon in our traditional seasonal cycle. Over the past month, Kayleigh and Raven spent time with children in both the preschool (3–5) and infant/toddler programs, exploring this seasonal shift as winter begins to soften and signs of spring return to the land.

wáłx̣əs marks a time of transition. As daylight slowly stretches longer, the voices of frogs begin to echo across the land, signaling that the earth is waking once again. This moon carries teachings of renewal, transformation, and awareness. Frogs, who move between water and land, remind us of our own ability to grow and change. Their songs have long signaled to our people that it is time to move forward from winter practices and prepare for the coming season. They are known as messengers, small but powerful teachers who help us listen more closely to the world around us.

In the preschool classroom, learning was guided through the story of **Princess Tsawwassa and Time to Hear Little Frogs**. Each week, children connected to different moments within the story, allowing their understanding to deepen over time. They followed Tsawwassa as she listened to Frog's teachings, explored the meaning of inner knowing through her dream with Octopus in the Salish Sea, and reflected on the presence of Heron as a watcher and protector of the land. As the story unfolded, children were invited to think about their own connections to land, spirit, and intuition.

These themes came to life through circle storytelling, movement, song, and imaginative play. Children engaged with felt stories, dramatic retellings, and outdoor exploration, building relationships not only with the story, but with the teachings carried within it. Language continued to be woven throughout these experiences, supporting both understanding and connection.

For our infants and toddlers, learning focused on gentle, sensory-based introductions to the same seasonal ideas. The sounds of frogs, the rhythm of water, and the feeling of movement between spaces were explored through song, repetition, and play. Simple words and phrases were paired with actions and experiences, creating early pathways for language learning rooted in comfort and familiarity.

The following hə́nqə́mihə́m words were carried throughout our days:

- smə́qʷaʔ — heron
- sqíməkʷ — octopus
- sqəlqələθən — dreaming
- wətʰəs — singing frogs
- táywətʔi yix — Salish Sea



This moon encouraged us to listen closely - to the land, to the water, and to ourselves. Through story and shared experience, children were invited to notice change, to ask questions, and to begin understanding the idea of inner knowing in their own way.

As we move forward into the next moon, we carry these teachings with us, continuing to nurture connection to language, land, and identity in our youngest learners.

smə́qʷaʔ —
heron



sqíməkʷ —
octopus



sqəlqələθən—
dreaming



wətʰəs —
singing frogs



táywətʔi yix —
Salish Sea





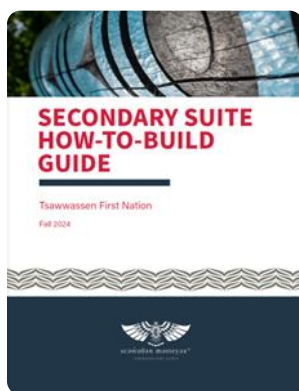
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Housing



Secondary Suite Grant Program

The program supports Members in building secondary suites on their lots within the TFN Community Area. TFN Housing received applications for the Secondary Suite Grant Program since the waitlist has been opened. Six Members have already qualified for the grant and are currently completing their projects.



Detached unit addition



Attached addition to principle home



Above garage addition



Interior conversion of principle home

If you are interested in applying or joining the waitlist, please contact housing@tsawwassenfirstnation.com.

Phase 2 – Turn-Key Member Duplex Project



Photo from Phase 1 Member Duplex Project

Construction has begun on eight two-storey, turn-key member duplex units on Falcon Way. Each unit includes a two-car garage and 1,478 sq. ft. of living area. All eight units have been assigned to Members.

If you are interested in applying for the future phases, please contact housing@tsawwassenfirstnation.com

Pre-Construction Grant Increase

On March 31, 2026, Executive Council approved increases to the Pre-Construction Grant to help offset rising construction costs. For Members building on private Member lots in the Community Area, the grant has increased from \$25,000 to \$50,000 (an increase of \$25,000).

As elevated costs are not experienced to the same extent on Falcon Way lots where legal, technical, and servicing requirements were largely addressed through subdivision, a targeted increase to \$30,000 was approved for Falcon Way lots (an increase of \$10,000 from the original amount) to account for inflation.

Please reach out to TFN Housing should you inquire about applying for these grants
housing@tsawwassenfirstnation.com



Off-Land Member Housing Renovation Program

TFN has been approved to receive \$1,650,553 in federal funding (2025 - 2027) under the Urban, Rural, and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy to support Members living off TFN Lands. The funding will support renovation grants of up to \$40,000 per unit for 13 units over the funding period. Policies and eligibility criteria have been approved, and some of the funding has already been provided to eligible applicants.

Members wishing to join the waitlist can email
housing@tsawwassenfirstnation.com



Planners Retreat 2026

In mid-March, TFN Planners travelled to Salt Spring Island for a two-day Planner’s Retreat focused on learning, team building, and professional development.

One of the highlights was a tour of “The Garden,” a creative and successful three-acre farm hosted by horticulturalist Jane Suire. Jane shared her experience developing a regenerative agriculture model, demonstrating how small-scale farming can be environmentally sustainable. Her approach draws on over 40 years of hands-on experience managing greenhouses and market gardens, and provided valuable insight into land stewardship practices that align with TFN values. The retreat also included a team-building session led by TFN Human Resources Manager David Desormeaux, offering planners the opportunity to strengthen collaboration, communication, and collective problem-solving.



In addition, planners participated in an infrastructure background session with former TFN Engineering Manager Keith Meldrum, alongside consultant Kirk McIntosh. This session provided helpful context on TFN’s infrastructure history, planning foundations, and lessons learned, supporting planners in their ongoing work.

Overall, the retreat offered a meaningful opportunity for learning, reflection, and relationship-building, supporting the growth and effectiveness of TFN’s planning team.



Falcon Way Road Improvements:

The Falcon Way Road Improvements envisions enhancing the character and streetscape within the neighbourhood and TFN Community Area; balancing pedestrian/vehicular traffic, including traffic calming measures; resolving parking concerns. The streetscape will introduce key street elements such as trees, benches, and signage for all ages of users, including culturally appropriate placemaking elements, street parking, new lighting, and traffic management measures. The detailed design was finalized in March 2026, and procurement for construction is currently underway, with work expected to begin this summer.



◀ Scan to view rendering of the Falcon Way Road Improvements



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Youth Services



Youth Services (13+)

Camp Trip

Our youth group had a successful cold-camping trip to **Sts'ailes Campground**, filled with outdoor activities, good food, and a strong sense of community. The Youth Centre put its new large hot tent to good use, making the cold days warm and comfortable. Youth spent their time exploring the land, sharing stories around the fire, and building stronger connections with one another. Overall, it was a memorable experience that strengthened relationships and left the group excited for future adventures together.

Freediving

The Freediving Program offered another excellent experience that combined ocean education, personal growth, and recreation. Youth left the program with new skills, increased confidence, and a deeper appreciation for the marine environment. The positive feedback and strong participation demonstrate strong interest in continuing and expanding ocean-based programming in the future.

Drop-In Teen Program

This season of drop-in programming was highly successful, with strong youth participation and a wide variety of engaging activities. Youth had opportunities to connect and stay active through outings such as bowling, bouldering, thrifting, skating, and basketball. Creative and social activities, including board games and art classes, helped build friendships and create a welcoming space for everyone. Overall, the program fostered positive relationships, healthy recreation, and a consistent sense of community at the Youth Centre.

Youth Services (Ages 5-12)

January

Following winter break, regular programming resumed with a full weekly schedule. Activities included culture and drumming to start the week, free gym play on Tuesdays, musical theatre with our music teacher Luis on Wednesdays, baking on Thursdays, and gymnastics lessons on Fridays with coach Taphy from Delta Gymnastics. January's Pro-D Day was spent at Cypress Mountain, where youth enjoyed sledding.

February

With gymnastics lessons concluding in January, some adjustments were made to the weekly schedule. Culture and drumming continued to start the week, while Tuesdays focused on imagination stations, allowing youth to enjoy open play and optional activities such as slime making, junior engineering, and kinetic sand. Musical theatre continued on Wednesdays. On Thursdays, the baking program transitioned into "Food for Thought," which teaches basic kitchen skills while exploring nutrition and how food supports our bodies. Fridays remained dedicated to free gym play. February's Pro-D Day included lunch at the Old Spaghetti Factory followed by bowling.

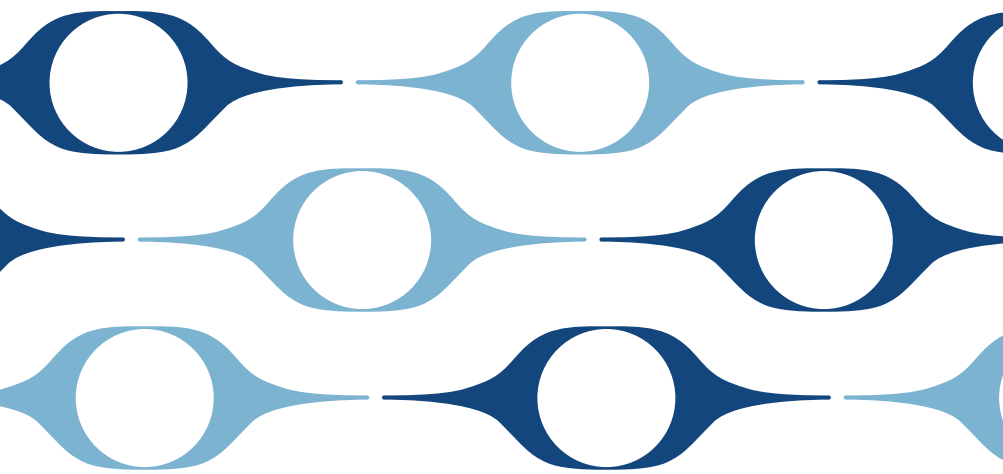
March

Spring break was action-packed and full of meaningful experiences. The first week began with a cultural event, as the Culture Team planned a canoe blessing ceremony in the front yard of the Youth Centre. Youth who wished to participate had the opportunity to brush the canoe, making it a powerful and memorable ceremony that fostered pride and connection within the community. Additional activities included decorating fairy houses, swimming at Ladner Leisure Centre, and visiting Redwood Park's fairy forest after preparing the houses with peanut butter and birdseed.

Music

This quarter, the Music Program delivered consistent and engaging programming across drumming, guitar, piano, singing, and music production. Youth demonstrated strong commitment to skill development, with many showing noticeable growth in both technical ability and confidence. Music production sessions were particularly impactful, offering hands-on experience with recording, beat-making, and creative expression in a digital space.

A major highlight was the continued success of jam nights, which created a welcoming and collaborative environment for youth to share their skills and perform for peers. These sessions fostered creativity, confidence, and connection, with growing participation and enthusiasm each week. Jam nights also encouraged collaboration across instruments and helped build a strong sense of community within the program.





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Natural Resources



Natural Resources and Cultural Stewardship Update

TFN's Natural Resources and Treaty, Rights and Title teams continue to advance important work that not only protects our lands and waters but also upholds our cultural traditions and identity.

TFN Foreshore/Community Cleanup

TFN in partnership with Coastal Restoration Society worked on a shoreline and community cleanup project during the month of March that resulted in the employment of three young TFN Members who also received important hands-on skills training. Member staff were involved in collecting garbage, metal and waste from Elders homes as well as removing debris that had washed up in the foreshore and marsh of TFN.

In total it is estimated that the work was able to recover; 1 full 40-yard dumpster bin of metal, 2 full 40-yard dumpster bins of garbage, 50-60 tires, 1 dumpster bin of plastic that is recyclable through our partnership with Ocean Legacy and several fishing nets.

We are grateful for the hard work of our members and staff who helped with this project and our hands go up to you!



TFN Secures Transport Canada Marine Safety Equipment Grant

The Marine Safety Equipment and Training Initiative is part of the Government of Canada's commitment to improve safety for Indigenous vessels that are active along the Trans Mountain Expansion Project (TMX) marine shipping route. The initiative will provide funding for equipment and training to eligible Indigenous communities to improve vessel safety and build an understanding of safety on the water.

TFN applied for and was successful in obtaining funding under this grant to provide safety equipment for interested TFN members. Safety needs were determined via a survey that went out to marine vessel operators in the community. Eligible equipment that will be distributed to members in the community include survival suits, vhf radios, spotlights, flare guns, fire extinguishers, life vests, transponders, and first aid kits. In addition, there will be vessel safety training offered to interested members in the coming months.

Knowledge Gathering Trip TFN Guardian Program to T'lamin First Nation

TFN staff in March participated in a weeklong knowledge gathering trip to T'lamin Nation to learn about their Guardian Program and GIS Mapping capabilities. Staff participated in land-based learning activities and gained valuable insight into efficient development and execution of a Guardian program.

The trip also included tours of key sites within T'lamin territory, opportunities to taste some amazing local cuisine and the ability to coordinate future work and exchanges of knowledge.

TFN staff are grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with another Modern Treaty Nation in the pursuit of effective and holistic stewardship of our lands.





TFN Archeology and Repository Work

The TFN Archeology field crew have been busy working on projects such as the Surrey Langley SkyTrain expansion, the Fraser River Tunnel Project and various projects in Beach Grove and Tsawwassen First Nation. Currently three TFN members are actively participating in fieldwork at these associated projects and TFN staff hope to expand and connect more Members with more training and important culturally sensitive work in this field in the coming months.

TFN Repository staff have been working with an external consultant to learn and implement proper techniques for the preservation of ancestral belongings within the TFN Repository. During this time belongings from the Beach Grove, Jackson Way, and Boundary Bay collections continued conservation treatment in a polyethylene glycol (PEG) solution, with gradual increases in solution concentration and ongoing monitoring.

Approximately three-quarters of the belongings completed impregnation on March 17 and were subsequently prepared for freeze drying.

These belongings were removed from the solution, carefully wrapped in a soft, absorbent textile, and placed on lightweight rigid supports. They were then transferred to a freezer set at -25°C , where they continue to be monitored on a weekly basis. This work ensures ancestral belongings will remain safe for future generations of TFN Membership to continue to protect and educate others regarding.





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Language & Culture



Culture & Craft

Culture & Craft Nights were held every other Monday from January to February and transitioned to weekly gatherings beginning in March. These sessions provided a welcoming space for TFN Members to come together, learn new skills, and connect with one another.

Activities included healing salve-making using natural ingredients, Valentine's pipe-cleaner flower crafts, and the creation of peyote-beaded lady designs in recognition of International Women's Day. These evenings supported creativity, cultural sharing, and community wellness.

scəw'əθən tʰelə – Tsawwassen Heart Drum Group

The Tsawwassen Heart Drum Group gathered every Wednesday evening at the sɪp'em siy'aləx'w'eɹewtx'w (Respected Elders Centre) and syəθəs leləm (Culture Hub). Community members shared a meal while practicing songs and strengthening cultural connections through drumming.

Drum group sessions were also combined with Culture & Craft Nights every other Monday to encourage participation, learning, and cultural connection across programs.

Community Language

Community language sessions supported the revitalization of hənqəmiñəm by creating opportunities for Members to practice speaking and learning together. These gatherings encouraged learners of all levels to engage with key words, phrases, and cultural teachings while strengthening community connections through language.

Anti-Bullying Day

The Language & Culture Department hosted an Anti-Bullying Evening on February 28 for TFN community members. The event included a shared meal and a keynote presentation by JR LaRose, who spoke about anti-bullying, mental health, and resilience while sharing his personal experiences.

Community members had the opportunity to engage with the speaker, take photos together, and receive signed photographs, creating a positive and supportive space for conversation and awareness around bullying and mental health.



Felt Hat Making Workshop

The Felt Hat Making Workshop was facilitated by Dorothy Grant, an internationally recognized Haida fashion designer and artist. Participants learned about the process of shaping and creating felt hats, as well as the cultural significance of this art form.

Additional support was provided through Coast Salish designs created for the workshop, allowing participants to personalize their hats while learning about traditional design elements.

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A Canoe Blessing Ceremony was held to spiritually prepare and honour the canoe before it entered the water. The ceremony included cultural teachings, cedar brushing for cleansing, prayers, and songs.

Elders, community members, leadership, staff, and youth gathered to witness and participate in this important cultural practice.



Drum group sessions were also combined with Culture & Craft Nights every other Monday to encourage participation, learning, and cultural connection across programs.

Feather Beading Workshop

A Feather Beading Workshop provided community members with the opportunity to bead feathers for newly elected Legislators, the Chief, and Executive Council. This workshop supported the preparation of meaningful, culturally significant gifts to honour leadership.



Participants also learned about the cultural protocols and teachings associated with feather beading, including respect, intention, and the significance of this work. The workshop created space for knowledge sharing, cultural practice, and community contribution.





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Community Planning



Placemaking Project Updates

The TFN Placemaking project continues to enhance community spaces through public art and recognition initiatives. Following are some updates from the first quarter of 2026:

- The design for indoor and outdoor artist recognition plaques has been finalized. To date, nine plaques have been installed across TFN Lands, with eight more ready for installation now or within the next month.
- Designs for large storyboard panels (single and double) have been finalized and approved in collaboration with TFN artist Karl Morgan.
- TFN has secured \$70,000 in funding from the First Peoples' Cultural Council – Braided Infrastructure Program to support the development and installation of storyboards on Lands.
- The Veterans Memorial brass plaque has been approved and is now in production.



Legislature & Administration Building – Project Update



TFN continues to work with Iredale Architecture on the detailed design for the new Legislative and Administration Building, which will house TFN's Governance, Legislative, and Administration functions.

The project is planned and designed on a 3.2-acre site and includes approximately 60,000 square feet of building space. A Steering Committee made up of TFN leadership, Executive Council and Legislature representatives, Directors, and a Member Artist/Art Advisor has been guiding design decisions and key architectural features.

Groundbreaking and construction are anticipated to begin in Fall 2026. Recent visuals include site images, building footprint, exterior and interior renderings, and a rendering of the Legislative Assembly room.



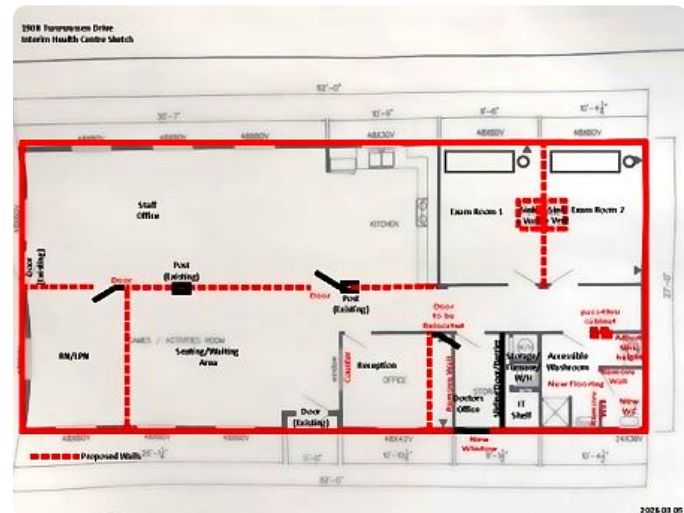
Interim Health Centre – Construction Underway

The former Elder/Youth Centre at 1908 Tsawwassen Drive is being repurposed into an Interim Health Centre to serve TFN Members for the next three to five years, while planning for a permanent Healing Centre continues.

Renovation began in early March and is scheduled to be completed by the end of May 2026. The project is led by TFN Facilities with contractors, with a total budget of approximately \$150,000. Renovations include new walls, roofing, flooring, paint, electrical and plumbing upgrades, and an accessible washroom.

The renovated facility will be fully year-round temperature controlled and soundproofed, and will include:

- Reception and seated waiting area
- Two medical exam rooms
- One accessible washroom
- Doctor's office
- Registered Nurse office
- Staff office



ćalışələm (TFN Community Farm) Updates

Work continues at ćalışələm, with a focus on preparation, learning, and long-term planning.

- Staff have been developing a barn design that reflects community feedback.
- Phase 1 of the Traditional Medicine Plan is now complete, and a community survey has been distributed to inform Phase 2, with continued engagement planned into 2026.
- Seasonal preparations are underway, including crop planning, seed selection, and equipment purchases.
- Winter season is a great time for learning and resting our bodies for the next season. Training for staff included project management training, seed saving, computer training, tree pruning, irrigation, soil health and medicinal plant training.

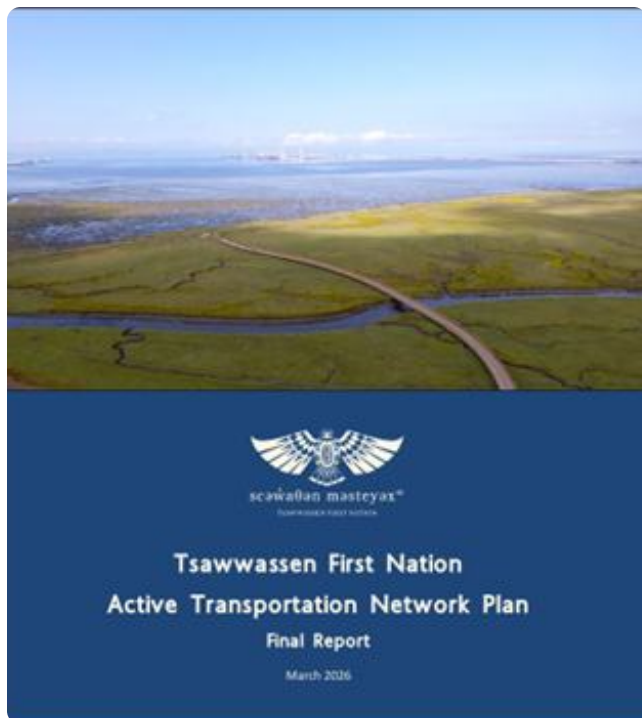
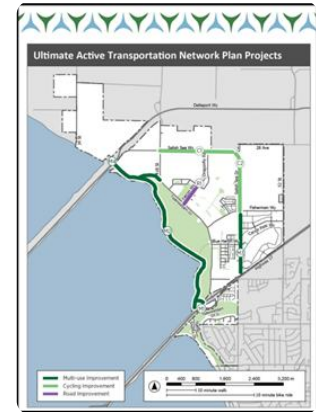


Active Transportation Network Plan (ATNP) - Project Complete

Tsawwassen First Nation has completed its Active Transportation Network Plan (ATNP), which was approved by the Executive Council in early 2026 and is now published on TFN website.

The ATNP provides a long-term roadmap for improving walking, cycling, and transit connections across TFN Lands. The plan focuses on increasing safety, improving connections between key destinations, and supporting healthier, more accessible transportation options for Members, leaseholders and visitors.

Development of the ATNP was supported by a \$50,000 grant from the Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MOTT). The plan will also strengthen the future funding applications and will help align TFN transportation priorities with regional partners such as TransLink and the City of Delta.



Industrial Area Secondary Plan (IASP) – Project Complete

Tsawwassen First Nation has completed the Industrial Area Secondary Plan (IASP), which was approved by Executive Council in January 2026.

The IASP provides a long-term planning framework to guide future development and land use in the Tsawwassen Industrial Area. It sets out land use principles and development policies, along with implementation steps and creates the foundation for development and redevelopment on Phase 1 and Phase 2 lands within the Industrial Area, helping to support economic opportunities while ensuring efficient servicing and land use.

With the plan now complete, TFN staff are moving into the implementation phase, which includes work on rezoning and subdivision approvals to support Phase 2 development.



Great Blue Heron Way (GBHW) - Advancing Elder Ruth Adams' Vision

Work is continuing to bring Elder Ruth Adams' vision for the **Great Blue Heron Way (GBHW)** to life - a culturally grounded, low-carbon transportation corridor that connects people, land, and culture.

Planning is underway for the 2026 GBHW Summer Student Program, including development of a high-level work plan and project scope. The program will support youth engagement, cultural learning, and environmental stewardship along the GBHW corridor.

In March, TFN staff supported Elder Ruth Adams at the First Nations Climate Summit, where she participated in a panel discussion titled **Advancing Self-Determined Low-Carbon Transportation in First Nations Communities**. Staff are also supporting Elder Ruth Adams in hosting BC Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN) staff during a boardwalk tour in early April, where she will share her vision for GBHW firsthand.



This work builds on a \$65,000 BCAFN grant that supports TFN's Low Carbon Transportation Plan and Gaps and Opportunities Analysis, and contributes to broader advocacy for safe, equitable, and connected transportation for First Nations communities across British Columbia.





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Economic Development



The first quarter of 2026 was an active and productive period for the TFN Economic Development Department (EDD). During this time, work focused on supporting Members, strengthening Member-owned businesses, advancing plans for TFN industrial lands, and creating pathways for Members to benefit from major regional economic and infrastructure projects.

EDD delivered and supported a wide range of in-community workshops, training programs, and information sessions designed to help Members better understand upcoming opportunities and build skills that support long-term success. These included sessions focused on major projects such as the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project and the Fraser River Tunnel Replacement Project, as well as practical workshops on taxation, entrepreneurship, and project planning. Together, these initiatives helped Members and businesses feel better prepared to pursue contracts, partnerships, and new business ideas.

The Indigenous Entrepreneurship Course continued to be an important opportunity for Members interested in starting or growing a business. Delivered in partnership with the Martin Family Initiative and Kwantlen Polytechnic University, the course provides hands-on learning, peer support, and culturally grounded content. Early feedback from participants shows strong engagement, meaningful learning, and growing confidence as Members develop business ideas connected to their skills, interests, and lived experience.

Progress was also made on the Employment and Industrial Lands Strategy, which guides how TFN plans, develops, and leases its industrial lands over time. Input from TFN advisory bodies, committees, and the development community confirmed strong support for the overall direction, including phased development, sustainability, and opportunities for partnership that reflect Tsawwassen values. Market engagement also confirmed interest in upcoming industrial land opportunities.

Work continued to advance the first long-term industrial land lease opportunity on a 25-acre parcel. Activities included environmental and engineering planning, traffic analysis, and preparation of leasing and marketing materials. Placemaking and branding work is helping ensure that future industrial development reflects TFN identity and respect for culture while creating long-term economic benefits for the Nation. This parcel is going to market the week of April 13th, 2026.

EDD also continued to advocate for meaningful economic participation for TFN and Member-owned businesses in major infrastructure projects, including the Fraser River Tunnel Replacement and Roberts Bank Terminal 2. Engagement with project partners and government agencies focused on improving access to opportunities and ensuring TFN businesses are aware of and positioned to compete for work.

Overall, the work completed in Q1 2026 supported Member readiness, advanced community priorities, and strengthened TFN's position to benefit from future economic opportunities in ways that align with Tsawwassen values and long-term goals.



Employment and Industrial Lands Strategy (EILS)

EDD continued implementation and engagement related to the Employment and Industrial Lands Strategy throughout Q1 2026.

- Advisory Council feedback (January 19, 2026) was largely positive, with strong support for Tsawwassen identity, lot-by-lot disposition, co-ownership participation, and sustainability elements. Feedback on the 99-year lease concept was neutral.
- Presentations and updates were provided to the Natural Resources Committee and the Agricultural Advisory Committee in February, ensuring alignment and transparency with standing committees.

Market sounding meetings were held with six development industry representatives. Feedback confirmed strong market interest and alignment with the overall approach, with minor suggestions provided to refine the offering.

Economic Development Events and Workshops

Growth Despite Everything – January 21, 2026

The Delta Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the Business Development Bank of Canada, hosted a workshop and networking event at the TFN Cultural Hub. The event focused on female community leaders, women business experts, and Indigenous entrepreneurs, providing an engaging and thought-provoking forum for discussion and networking.

Roberts Bank Terminal 2 (RBT2) Workshop – January 22, 2026

This evening workshop provided an opportunity for Vancouver Fraser Port Authority (VFPA) staff to present on economic opportunities associated with the RBT2 project. The session was intentionally scheduled following Territory Management’s community engagement and prior to VFPA’s business-to-business meetings with shortlisted proponents. This sequencing ensured Members and businesses were informed and prepared ahead of meetings with proponents scheduled for late February.

Cross Fraser Partnership (CFP) Workshop – January 28, 2026

CFP delivered an early overview of contracting and economic opportunities arising from the Fraser River Tunnel Replacement Project during an evening workshop held at TFN.

Taxation Workshop – February 19, 2026

EDD hosted a workshop on personal and business taxation for Indigenous businesses. Facilitated by Derek Lamb, CPA, CA, the session provided clear guidance on taxation considerations on and off First Nation lands and strategies to minimize tax impacts.

Major Infrastructure and Economic Participation

Fraser River Tunnel Replacement Project

EDD engaged with TI Corp and the Cross Fraser Partnership to address procurement issues and advocate for TFN government and Member business participation. Early works contracts, including environmental clearing, were noted, with positive feedback regarding the professionalism of project partners.

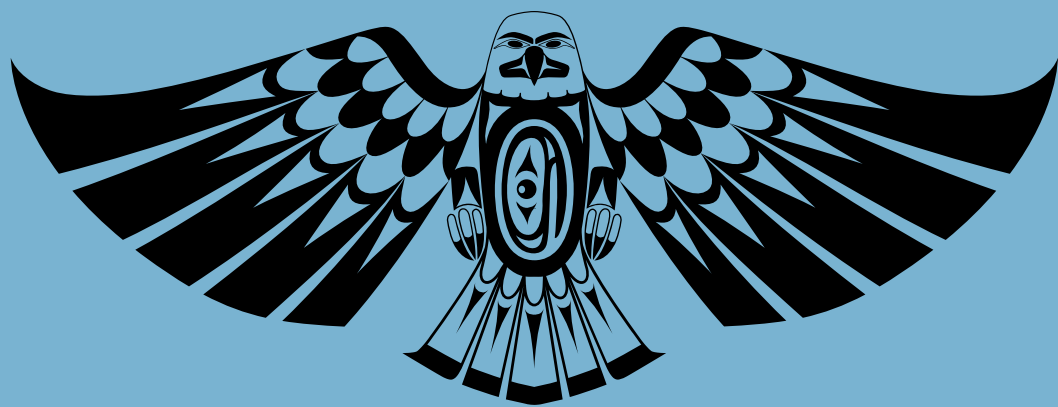
Roberts Bank Terminal 2 (RBT2)

Planning for RBT2 business-to-business meetings was postponed to ensure all shortlisted proponents received consistent information and were evaluated equitably. TFN staff will debrief with VFPA and have rescheduled a virtual event for April 22nd.

Offsetting and Environmental Projects

Advocacy efforts confirmed TFN's primary position for economic participation in RBT2-related offsetting projects, including the South Causeway eelgrass initiative.





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