



March 2022

# SEMÁ:TH

## SUMAS FIRST NATION

### COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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# NEWSLETTER NAME CHANGE!

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## COME BE A PART OF THE NEWSLETTER NAME CHANGE PROCESS!

This year we are planning to change the Newsletter name and would love your input in this process.

You can get as creative as you would like!

Please send any suggestions you have for the Newsletter name to [Communications@sumasfirstnation.com](mailto:Communications@sumasfirstnation.com) by **April 07, 2022.**



# 2022 SFN ELECTION UPDATES

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## SUMAS FIRST NATION

### Notice of Nomination Meeting

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the electors of the **Sumas First Nation will be held in the Sumas First Nation Health Building Board Room, located at 2788 Sumas Mountain Road, Abbotsford, B.C. on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022, beginning at 6:00 o'clock P.M. and lasting for at least two hours**, for the purpose of nominating a Chief and candidates for positions on the Band Council of the said Band for the next ensuing term. **Three (3) Councillor Positions** and **one(1) position for Chief** are available. **The election will be held at The Sumas First Nation Health Building Board Room at 2788 Sumas Mountain Road, Abbotsford, B.C. , on April 29, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.**

Please note that any Elector may nominate candidates by using a mail-in nomination form. **Electors residing off-reserve may nominate or run as a candidate for the position of Chief and Council.** You can either deliver, mail or Email written nomination forms and completed, signed and witnessed voter declaration forms to the electoral officer before the time set for the nomination meeting **OR** you may nominate candidates orally at the nomination meeting. Mailed nominations not received by the electoral officer before the time set for the nomination meeting are void. Also note that any voter may vote in person or by mail-in ballot.

**PLEASE NOTE: NOMINATED CANDIDATES MUST BE PRESENT AT THE NOMINATION MEETING TO ACCEPT THEIR NOMINATION.**

All Sumas First Nation Members, 18 years or older, are eligible to vote in the election.

Given under my hand at Delta, B.C. this 6<sup>h</sup> day of February, 2022

F.P.Schiffner  
Electoral Officer

5245 Augusta Place, Delta, B.C. V4M 4E1  
Phone number: 604-786-2512

Toll Free: 1-800-813-2173  
Email: [fschiffner90@gmail.com](mailto:fschiffner90@gmail.com)



# 2022 SFN ELECTION UPDATES

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## IMPORTANT DATES



**March 11 - Nomination Meeting**



**March 23 - Candidate Withdrawal  
Deadline**



**March 25 - Mail Out Ballots To Be  
Sent**



**April 29 - Election**

# 2022 SFN ELECTION UPDATES

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## SUMAS FIRST NATION FINAL LIST OF CANDIDATES AS OF MARCH 23, 2022

### CHIEF

1	SILVER, DALTON
2	SILVER, DENA

### COUNCIL

1	GANZEVELD, TROY
2	GETTY, BRENDAN
3	KELLY, JOSEPHINE
4	KELLY, SHANE
5	NED, PATRICIA
6	SILVER, CHRIS
7	TUTTLE, CLINT
8	WILLIAMS, CLARENCE
9	WILLIAMS, EILEEN

**NOTE: THE ABOVE LIST OF CANDIDATES ARE  
SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL UP TO APRIL 29,  
2022**

ELECTORAL OFFICER  
SUMAS FIRST NATION

# LOT 82 RATIFICATION VOTE DECISION

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Good Day Sumas Members,

The votes are in, and we have a decision for the Head and Sub-Lease of Lot 82!

With 67.9% of votes being in favor of the 99-Year Lease, the Head Lease of Lot 82 to SXDL and Sub-Lease to Hillcore Group will be moving forward.

Below is the video recording of the processing of the mail-in ballots and documenting the count results for the Electoral Officer to enter at the close of the polls and finalize the voting event results:

<https://youtu.be/tR2JREba8lA>

Below is the link for the recording of the final count and declaration of results for this vote:

<https://youtu.be/RYYr-fiDW3o>

**Ts'ithóme tsel** – Thank You. We would like to thank Sumas Members for participating in the Community Information Sessions and for their valuable input in this decision.

# LOT 82 RATIFICATION VOTE DECISION

## Sumas First Nation Official Count Declaration

Sumas First Nation  
Report Generated on:  
March 16, 2022  
08:08 PM PDT

Election dates: 12:00 PM PST, Feb 23, 2022 - 08:00 PM PDT, Mar 16, 2022

### TOTAL BALLOTS CAST

81

### PARTICIPATION OF REGISTERED VOTERS

29.35%

Signed and Declared,



Lawrence Lewis, Ratification Officer

(250) 384-8200

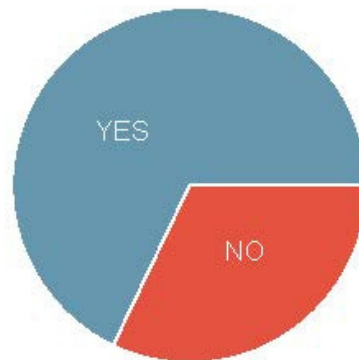
Phone Number

250 384-5416

Fax

Powered By  OneFeather

### VOTE BREAKDOWN



**YES 67.9%** 55 Votes

**NO 32.1%** 26 Votes

**Spoiled 0%** 0 Votes

### POLLING STATION COUNTS

	Mail In	Electronic	Total
YES	19	36	55
NO	4	22	26
Spoiled	0	0	0

# PINK SHIRT DAY

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A big thank-you from Chief and Council and the General Manager for all our Staff and Community Members who celebrated and recognized Anti-Bullying Day by wearing pink on February 23, 2022.

***Please remember to stay kind to one another.***



# SEMÁ:TH TRIP TO THE MUSEUM!

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## A TRIP TO THE MUSEUM!

Semá:th youth and community are invited to travel to the Museum of Anthropology at UBC to spend time “behind the scenes” with a number of belongings from the Semá:th area which are currently being cared for at the museum. Participants will also be given a tour of the museum.



SPACE FOR THIS EVENT IS LIMITED - PLEASE SIGN UP BY MARCH 17 BY CONTACTING:

BARB KELLY BY PHONE 604-852-4041 EXT-108  
CELL# 604-621-5399  
OR EMAIL [BARB.KELLY@SUMASFIRSTNATION.COM](mailto:BARB.KELLY@SUMASFIRSTNATION.COM)

TUESDAY MARCH 22, 2022

9:30 AM TO 4:30 PM



# SEMÁ:TH TRIP TO THE MUSEUM!

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# UPCOMING EVENT

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**Good Day Sumas Community,**

**I-SPARC and the BC Lions are pleased to partner to offer a Youth Flag Football Program to the Fraser and Vancouver Coastal Regions. This program will feature coaching by BC Lions Players, weekly practices, a fun tournament and BBQ, as well as a life skills workshop and VIP BC Lions Game Day Experience.**

**This program is open to all Indigenous youth (First Nations, Inuit, Métis) in the Fraser and Vancouver Coastal Regions between the ages of 13-16 years old. Please share with your community to any interested youth who are interested in trying the sport of flag football (non-contact).**

**\*Registration is limited, so please register ASAP. We will have four teams between the two different regions, so please register for the region that is closest to you. Dates/Times of Life Skills Workshop and BC Lions Games are subject to change\***

**Registration Link: <https://isparcbc.wufoo.com/forms/zg9c1a0hmaex5/>**

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# UPCOMING EVENT

## SCIENCE ROCKS! DAYS 2022

**Send your kid to university for the day!** Our program is designed especially for Grades 4-8. UFV Science Rocks! events are fun learning opportunities for your kids.

Kids get to learn something new, see real science labs, play outside, and experiment with fun activities that explore physics, biology, chemistry, mathematics, geography and computer science.

### ABBOTSFORD CAMPS

**CAMP 1:** Saturday, Saturday, April 2 (Ages 9-11)

#### Science in Space!

Explore all the fun and excitement space has to offer right here on Earth with our "Science in Space" camp. Learn all about gravity and why things fall, the possibility of life in space, create a replica of the phases of the Moon, and even make your own spectroscope! This camp is jam-packed with all things physics, chemistry, math, and biology; it's out of this world!

**CAMP 2:** Saturday, April 9 (Ages 12-13)

#### Super Spy!

Have you ever wanted to be an international super spy? This camp is for you! Learn spy secrets like fingerprinting, create a code to crack the system, encode and decode secret ciphers, and even learn how to isolate DNA! This camp is full of science activities that include chemistry, math, and biology!

### MASKS & VACCINE INFORMATION

At UFV, the health and safety of our community is paramount. The Provincial Health Office (PHO) has implemented orders that directly affect UFV. Masks must be worn in all public indoor areas which include classrooms, labs, lobbies and hallways, stairwells and elevators, so masks will be required for all campers. As this is a discretionary event, we unfortunately cannot accommodate children with a mask exemption.

We request that all campers be vaccinated. Campers aged 12+ will be required to show proof of vaccination.

### CHILLIWACK CAMPS

**CAMP 3:** Saturday, April 30 (Ages 9-11)

#### Mad Scientist!

Discover what makes a mad scientist with this jam packed STEAM day! Activities include creating a density tower, playing music using a water xylophone, and even coding your very own dance move! Get ready for all things science including physics, math, chemistry, biology, and computer programming!

**CAMP 4:** Saturday, May 7 (Ages 12-13)

#### Anato-Me!

Discover the inner workings of the human body in this day-long themed camp! Explore the function of digestive enzymes, play with a model of a human heart, and even build a robot replica of your own hand! During this camp you'll explore biology, chemistry, and physics within the human body!

### ABOUT THE CAMPS:

**Time:** 9 am – 4 pm

**Location:** UFV Abbotsford and Chilliwack Campuses

**Student/leader ratio:** We have a limit of 24 campers/week, with a camper to instructor ratio of 6:1. One or more UFV science faculty members will be on site at all times.

**Cost:** \$40 - includes camp t-shirt, lab book, and bag!

**Visit us online** at [ufv.ca/science-rocks](http://ufv.ca/science-rocks) for more details and registration information!

Questions? Contact Robin Endelman, Coordinator by phone at 1-888-504-7441 ext 4779 or email at [sciencerocks@ufv.ca](mailto:sciencerocks@ufv.ca)

Register online! [ufv.ca/science-rocks](http://ufv.ca/science-rocks)

Sponsored By:



ABBOTSFORD  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION



# UPCOMING EVENT

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**SAVE THE DATE**



June 3-5, 2022  
**CULTUS LAKE WATERSPORTS**

*Committee Contacts Cecilia Lockerby & Ashley Lockerby*

Ey swayel mekw wat,

We are excited to let each and everyone know that preparations are in order for Cultus Lake Water Sports 2022.

Please mark your calendars for June 3-5, 2022. We look forward to seeing you all! Xyólmethet.

# INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS DAY SCHOLARS CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT CLAIM FORM

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Dear Sumas Community,

The settlement is for the Gottfriedson Indian Residential Schools Day Scholars Class Action. A Day Scholar is a person who attended an Indian Residential School as a student during the day only, but did not sleep there at night. The Indian Residential Schools that had, or could have had Day Scholars, are listed in this form. This list is also online at [www.justicefordayscholars.com](http://www.justicefordayscholars.com) or [www.dayscholarsclaims.com](http://www.dayscholarsclaims.com).

If you are experiencing emotional distress and want to talk, free counselling and crisis intervention services are available. Emotional and mental health counselling and crisis support is available to those who need it 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, through the National Indian Residential Schools Crisis Line at **1-866-925-4419** or Hope for Wellness Hotline at **1-855-242-3310** or online at [www.hopeforwellness.ca](http://www.hopeforwellness.ca).

## **NOTE:**

Deadline to submit a Claim Form is October 04, 2022.

The Claim can be found online at  
[https://dayscholarsclaims-  
prod.powerappsportals.com/en/claim/](https://dayscholarsclaims-prod.powerappsportals.com/en/claim/)

# INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS DAY SCHOLARS CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT CLAIM FORM

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## DO YOU NEED HELP WITH THE INDIAN DAY SCHOOL CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT CLAIM PROCESS?

**DUE BY JULY 13, 2022**

THE INDIAN DAY SCHOOL CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT IS APPLICABLE TO ALL STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED & SUFFERED ABUSE OR HARM AT A FEDERAL INDIAN DAY SCHOOL OPERATED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA.

### **I.R.S.S.S. CAN PROVIDE:**

- EMOTIONAL SUPPORT TO I.D.S. SURVIVORS
- HELP WITH FORMS FOR I.D.S. SETTLEMENT
- ELDER & CULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES
- SAFE & CONFIDENTIAL ASSISTANCE
- SELF-CARE PLANNING & FOLLOW-UP
- EDUCATIONAL & WELLNESS WORKSHOPS
- CRISIS COUNSELLING FOR FAMILY MEMBERS

INDIAN DAY SCHOOL COORDINATORS ARE HERE TO HELP NAVIGATE APPLICATIONS AND REFER MENTAL HEALTH AND CULTURAL SUPPORT BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER SUBMITTING FOR SURVIVORS AND FAMILY

### **CONTACT: STEPHANIE CHARLIE**

INDIAN DAY SCHOOL COORDINATOR  
FRASER SALISH REGION  
INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL SURVIVORS SOCIETY  
EMAIL: [STEPHANIECHARLIE@IRSSS.CA](mailto:STEPHANIECHARLIE@IRSSS.CA)  
T: 604-210-5745 C: 360-201-0816



# Busy Bear Preschool Update

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**March 2022**



**Éy Swáyel,**

**Reminder to parents, Daycare will be open for spring break from March 14th-March 25th, 2022. After School Club is cancelled over spring break.**

## **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Tuesday, October 5 - Preschool Start Date

Monday, October 11 - Thanksgiving Holiday

Thursday, October 14 - First Day of After School Club

## **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION:**

Friendly reminder to register for kindergarten next year. Kindergarten registration is now open at schools in your catchment area.

## **AFTER SCHOOL CLUB:**

After school club will **not** be running during spring break. We hope all our school aged students have a great spring break! We will see you back on Thursday, March 31st.

## **LANGUAGE:**

These are the Halq'emeylem words that we have been learning in preschool the last few weeks. Thank you Aiden for teaching us!

### **Halq'emeylem**

Léts'e

Isá:le

Lhí:xw

Xe'ó:thel

Schí:ya

Pelála

S'ó:ytheqw

Qwe'óp

### **English**

One

Two

Three

Four

Strawberry

Banana

Raspberry

Apple



# Busy Bear Preschool Update

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## WELCOME CHESKA

We would like to introduce our new Infant and Toddler teacher, Cheska. Cheska comes to us with a wealth of experience and enthusiasm in Early Childhood Education.



## WELCOME CHERYL

Welcome to Cheryl Kelly our new cook, filling in temporarily while Auntie Maureen is away. We are so happy to have you, Cheryl! We are now able to resume our breakfast and lunch programs. **Breakfast** is served at 9AM, **lunch** is served at 11:30AM, and **snack** is served at 2:00PM.

## ACTIVITY KITS

We are making activity kits for each family in the program. We will send out a message when they are ready.

## SPRING CLOTHES

As the weather changes please send a spare change of clothes for the spring or rainy weather. We will be packing up and sending home any winter clothing.

## REMINDER

We only serve water and milk at daycare. Please do not send juice or other drinks to daycare.

# Busy Bear Preschool Update

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## **EMERGENCY COMFORT KITS**

We hold a monthly fire drill and will be holding annual evacuation drill in the spring where we gather at our Muster point which is in the field beside our preschool on Kilgard road. The personalized kits can be a real comfort for your children in case of fire, earthquake, floods etc. Below is just a guideline to follow when compiling a comfort kit but feel free to add the snacks, etc. you prefer for your child.

### Emergency Comfort Kits

Dear Parents,

In case of an emergency (earthquake etc.), we have an emergency plan in place. Part of this emergency plan is that each child is required to have a comfort kit stored at our facility.

Please fill the attached Ziploc bag with the following items:

- ⊗ A family photo
- ⊗ A letter of comfort/reassurance
- ⊗ A small toy (toy car, small stuffed animal etc.)
- ⊗ Three non-perishable granola bars
- ⊗ Three non-perishable snack items (fruit to go's, applesauce, raisins, and fruit snacks)
- ⊗ Small package of candy

Please label the Ziploc bag with your child's name and return it to Busy Bear Club Preschool as soon as possible.

These comfort kits will be stored at our facility and returned at the end of the year in June.

# Busy Bear Preschool Update

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## **BIRTHDAYS**

We have three children with Birthdays this month.

Happy 3rd Birthday to Nevaeh and Koby. Happy 4th Birthday to Aliyah.



## **EXCITING OPPORTUNITES (Classes and Groups)**

Please see information attached to newsletter. There are cultural classes, infant massage classes, and other events you may enjoy attending.

## **IN CLOSING...**

Have a wonderful Spring Break. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us.

**Ts'ithóme tsel** - thank you,  
The staff at Busy Bear Club Preschool

# Busy Bear Preschool Update

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**Healing Hands  
Infant Massage**

**FREE 5 week in-person  
session!**

**March 9th-April 6th, 2022  
Wednesdays:11am-12pm**

- For parents/caregivers of Aboriginal babies in the pre-crawling stage.
- Learn gentle strokes to massage your baby while strengthening your relationship and bond.
- 1:1 sessions available by request.



To register contact: AIDP Consultant Kasey Sum

E: [k.sum@sotcs.ca](mailto:k.sum@sotcs.ca) T:604-524-9113

Registration can also be completed online at [www.sotcs.ca](http://www.sotcs.ca)

Location: 201-768 Columbia Street, New Westminster V3M 1B4



# Busy Bear Preschool Update

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**LITTLE VOICES  
PLAYGROUP**

**STARTING FEB 17TH - JUN 23RD 2022  
THURSDAYS ONLINE FROM 11 - 11:30AM  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

Learn about Culture and the Upper  
Sto:lo Halq'eméylem language  
with Elder and Language Keeper  
Aunty Barb Stewart.  
Guided by Selena Prost  
Speech Language Pathologist.

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Join us Online for  
games, songs and stories.  
Selena Prost will be available  
after the playgroup to answer any  
questions regarding your child's  
communication.

To register, please respond to  
hollyj@LFVAS.org  
with the name of your child  
and your phone number, we will send  
a link to the online Zoom Class.  
\*\*There will be no classes on  
March 17th and 24th\*\*



*Presented by the Lower Fraser Valley Aboriginal Society  
-Lifting Indigenous Families Together -  
Funded by the Province of British Columbia  
Honoured to work on the Traditional Unceded Territory of the  
Katzie, Kwantlen, Matsqui and Semiahmoo First Nations*



# Busy Bear Preschool Update

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Lower Fraser Valley Aboriginal Society

-Lifting Indigenous Families Together for 20 years-

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## Hey Siyá:ye

Virtual Early Years Group

*Siyá:ye is the Halq'eméylem (Upriver Stó:lō dialect) word for "friend"*



Families with Indigenous children aged 0-8 years old in Langley and Aldergrove are invited to join Melissa, special guests, and your siyá:ye on Thursday mornings for songs, rhymes, and stories.

Sessions start **February 8th** and run every Tuesday until the end of **March**. Sessions will be held via Zoom from **10:15am – 11am**.



To **register** and for technical support/requests, please contact Heather  
by email at [heather@lfvas.org](mailto:heather@lfvas.org)

We look forward to seeing you!

Mailing: 47 - 20821 Fraser Hwy, Suite 320, Langley BC V3A 0B6 [info@LFVAS.org](mailto:info@LFVAS.org)  
Early Years Office: 104 - 20644 Eastleigh Crescent, Langley BC V3A 4C4 tel 778-278-2006 [facebook.com/LFVAS](https://www.facebook.com/LFVAS)

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# PUBLIC HOUSING & CAPITAL WORKS UPDATE

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## **Approval of 12 Rental Homes on Sumas First Nation**

It gives us immense pleasure to let you all know that CHMC has approved Sumas First Nation's application for Rapid Housing Initiative with approved funding of \$2.3 million. This funding is to be used over the next 6 months to construct 15 rental homes on Lot 19 Kilgard Road West.

The project is a big boost to our rental housing and when complete would add 6 one bed and 6 two bed fully furnished rental suites. The houses built will be fully accessible, high energy homes, complete with furniture - ready to move in.

Construction started in February 2022 and the project is expected to be completed by July 2022.



# PUBLIC HOUSING & CAPITAL WORKS UPDATE

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## Rental Homes

Sumas First Nation is pleased to announce that we have been approved for 15 rental units which are presently under construction on Kilgard Road and Lakeview Drive. The units comprise of 8 two-bedroom and 7 one-bedroom units. These 15 units are part of CHMC's Rapid Housing and City of Abbotsford's Reaching Home Initiative. These units are in addition to the 6 duplex units which are near completion on Lakeview Drive.

## CMHC Rapid Housing Project

The Rapid Housing project to construct 12 units on Kilgard Road started in mid January 2022 and is expected to be completed by mid Aug 2022. These units are in three buildings and when completed will be fully furnished units.

## Reaching Homes Project

Sumas First Nation also started work on the 3 rental units approved as part of Reaching Home Initiative sponsored by the City of Abbotsford. Of the 3 units approved two are modular homes on Lakeview Drive and one unit is part of the project on Kilgard Road. The two units on Lakeview Drive are expected to be completed by May 2022.

## CMHC Section 95 Project

CMHC approved the 6 rental units as part of three duplexes on Lakeview Drive. They are now close to completion and have been allocated to housing applicants from the Housing List.

## Housing Applications

You may submit in your housing rental application to be added to the Housing List or resubmit to keep our file up to date. With the application you are required to read the Sema:th Rental Housing Policies & Procedures document and initial every page. The tenant selection Point System is in the policy, please review the procedure.

## Housing Governance Project

Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) approved the Housing Governance Project. This will include the housing policy update, the housing plan development and the Housing and Lot Needs Assessment update.

Thank you,

Nancy Murphy, Housing Administrator 604 997 9500 [nancy.murphy@sumasfirstnation.com](mailto:nancy.murphy@sumasfirstnation.com)

Paula Olmstead, Housing Assistant 604 852 4041 [paula.olmstead@sumasfirstnation.com](mailto:paula.olmstead@sumasfirstnation.com)

Harmeet Rai, Capital, Housing and Public Works Manager 604 852 4041 [harmeet.raai@sumasfirstnation.com](mailto:harmeet.raai@sumasfirstnation.com)



# PUBLIC HOUSING & CAPITAL WORKS UPDATE

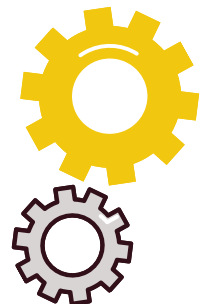
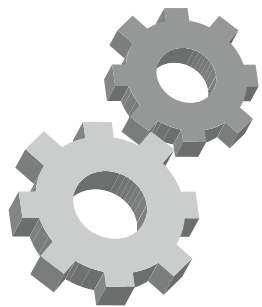
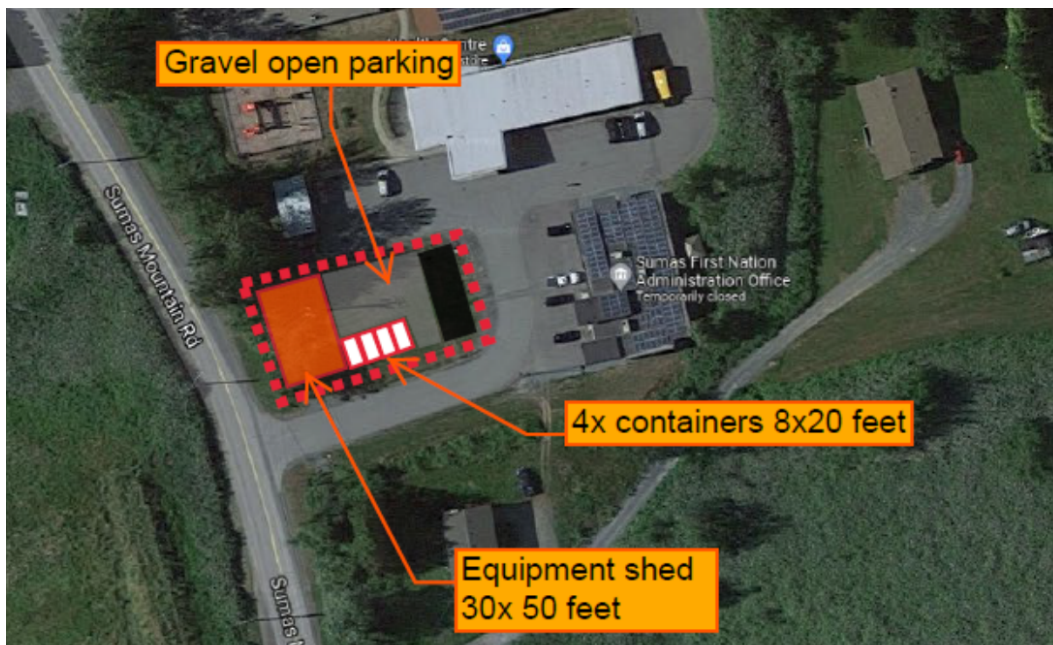
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## Equipment Storage

During the recent floods, a need was felt to procure a number of equipment's which would help the Nation during such emergencies.

Sumas First Nation received \$80,000 as funding from Vancouver Foundation and other sources. It is proposed that a joint compound be constructed for equipment's and machinery's being procured by SFN and LFFA.

The proposed compound will be temporary chain-link structure with a metal shed to park equipment's such as forklift, boats and other emergency equipment. Location of the compound is the open land across our administrative office building. A sketch showing the layout and location is attached below.



# PUBLIC HOUSING & CAPITAL WORKS UPDATE

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**Sumas First Nation**  
2788 Sumas Mountain Rd.  
Abbotsford, BC V3G 2J2

## NOTICE TO RESIDENTS

### Sumas First Nation

Please be advised that Sumas First Nation is beginning work on the Inflow & Infiltration Sewer Repairs project. The repair works will take place over the year.

Inflow & infiltration (I&I) occurs when water from the environment (such as rainwater) enters the sanitary sewer system. The increased flow from I&I puts excess strain on the sewer system, preventing future development. In addition, increased flow can also result in sewer backups that may impacting the community and surrounding environment.

As it stands, the community's sewer system experiences significant I&I due to aging infrastructure. This project aims to repair identified issues in the system that are causing increased loading. By solving this issue, the community and environment will be protected from potential contamination, and future expansion of the community will become possible.

Construction is expected to begin in **early May, and will last for 3 months.** The contractor will be required to provide 3 weeks notice for any works within Certificate of Possession lots. A construction crew and moving equipment will be on site. Most of the works will occur in roadways or outside of residential lots, however multiple homes will be briefly affected. Excavation, trench backfilling, temporary sewer bypassing, and surface reinstatement works will occur. Any disturbance or damages caused by the contractor will be repaired to previous condition or better.

We appreciate your patience during construction. Please drive slowly and keep a safe distance from construction equipment.

**For more information regarding the works and homes affected, please contact the Band Office.**

*Harmeet Rai*  
Housing and Public Works Manager  
[Harmeet.Rai@SumasFirstNation.com](mailto:Harmeet.Rai@SumasFirstNation.com)



# GOVERNANCE & NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

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## Semá:th Sumas First Nation

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2788 Sumas Mountain Road, Abbotsford, BC V3G 2J2  
Telephone: (604) 852-4041 · Fax: (604) 852-4048

*Dear Sumas Community,*

Greetings from the Governance and Natural Resources Department at Sumas First Nation!

As you might know, we have expanded quite a bit over the last couple of months. We are in the process of moving to a new office space at Kilgard Business Park and would be delighted to involve Community Artists in making the space Semá:th's very own. In this regard, we request your confirmation if you would be interested in customizing an art piece(s) based on your artistic expertise. We have nine offices along with a boardroom and reception to showcase the Semá:th culture.

Please reach out to the contact details below if you are interested in taking on this work. Your contributions are greatly appreciated. Looking forward to hearing from you!

**Respectfully,**

*Richard Hall*

**J. Richard W. Hall**

**Governance and Natural Resources Director**

CC: Ida Dutt, Communications Officer

**604-996-8523**

**[communications@sumasfirstnation.com](mailto:communications@sumasfirstnation.com)**

# WELCOME TO THE TEAM

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## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH WORKER, LORI STROMQUIST**

My name is Lori Stromquist, and I have joined the Sumas First Nation Health and Wellness Team as the Community Outreach Worker.

I am from Spuzzum First Nation and I strongly value community connection. I have resided in the Abbotsford area for the last 25 years. For the past eight years, I have been working with and supporting at-risk youth. This line of work has made me familiar with a variety of services and resources for those needing help handling issues in their day-to-day lives. While working, I have also been upgrading my education at the University of the Fraser Valley focusing on First Nation and Human Services skills. I have a deep appreciation for learning indigenous culture and traditions through family and community. I have spent many years helping connect people with available resources, whether that is mental, physical or spiritual. I will do my best to find the support best suited for life's obstacles whatever they may be. I believe in treating everyone with kindness and respect. I am here to listen free of judgement and help those in need navigate and access resources to become more independent and self-assured. In these trying times with the pandemic that has left so many of us in isolation as well as the devastation of the recent floods, it seems it has been one thing after another playing on both our mental and physical health the past couple of years have been difficult times. If you think I may be able to connect you with any available resources, please reach out to me to introduce yourself or say hello.

# WELCOME TO THE TEAM

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## COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER, IDA DUTT

Hello Semá:th Community, my name is Ida Dutt. I started my journey with Sumas First Nation in August of 2021 as the Executive Assistant to the Director of the Governance & Natural Resources Department. During the flood events which took place in 2021, I had the honor of serving the Nation as the interim Communications Officer and saw firsthand the strength and determination that the Semá:th Community has in overcoming challenges together. I am honored to serve the Community as the full-time Communications Officer now.

Having been brought up in both Pakistan and Canada, I have always been passionate about embracing the community, culture, and roots to which we belong. This passion led me to complete my degree in Health Sciences from Simon Fraser University with extensive experience in administration, GIS, Public Health and Community Engagement. In my pursuit of knowledge to not only identify but visually represent tradition and culture, I began delving into the world of GIS, writing, and marketing. Most recently, I published a chapter in the book "Critical Research Techniques in Animal and Habitat Ecology: International Examples". Within this chapter, I explored how GIS and remote sensing technologies can be used to bring unity between the Land and its people. I am honoured to have the opportunity to work for Sumas First Nation as the Communications Officer and will wholeheartedly uphold the Nation's Mission, Values, and Vision in all that I do. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me or say hi! I look forward to working for and with you.

# UPCOMING SASET PROGRAMS



Sto:lo Aboriginal Skills & Employment Training is pleased to offer the following program:

## Landscaping Training Program

If you are an Indigenous individual who:

- Is un or under employed
- Is willing to commit to a 2-week full-time program
- Has an interest in the Landscaping Industry
- Has an interest in working outdoors

If so... we are presently accepting applications for this training opportunity!

There are a limited number of seats, so don't delay in scheduling an appointment with a SASET Employment Counsellor today!

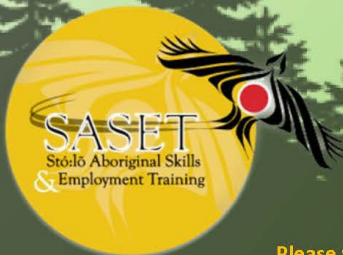
BOOK AN APPOINTMENT WITH AN EMPLOYMENT COUNSELLOR TODAY BY CONTACTING US AT [604-858-3691](tel:604-858-3691) OR BY EMAIL [INFO@SASET.CA](mailto:INFO@SASET.CA)

PROGRAM START DATE: April 19, 2022  
PROGRAM END DATE: April 29, 2022  
CLASS TIME: 9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM Monday to Friday  
Program will take place on-site at:  
Building 2D 7201 Vedder Road, Chilliwack, BC

### Program Includes:

- Landscaping Training
- Employability Skills
- First Aid Level 1
- WHMIS
- Fall Protection
- Respiratory Protection
- Skid Steer
- And more!

LUNCH, TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY GEAR PROVIDED!



Please visit [www.SASET.ca](http://www.SASET.ca) for our Employment Assistance Service hours at other locations

# UPCOMING SASET PROGRAMS



Stó:lō Aboriginal Skills & Employment Training  
is Pleased to Offer:



## TRAFFIC CONTROL PERSON TRAINING

- Are you interested in pursuing a career as a flagger or traffic control person?
- Are you an Indigenous person residing in the SASET catchment area?
- Are you unemployed or underemployed?
- Are you willing to commit to two days of training?



If so... we are presently accepting applications for this training opportunity.  
There are a limited number of seats so don't delay in scheduling an appointment with an employment counsellor today!



**PROGRAM START DATE:**

Monday, May 16, 2022

**PROGRAM END DATE:**

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

**CLASS TIME:**

8:00 am to 4:00 pm

**TRAINING WILL TAKE PLACE**

**ON-SITE AT:**

2D—7201 Vedder Rd, Chilliwack BC V2R 4G5

SASET - Chilliwack Office  
5B-7201 Vedder Road  
Chilliwack, B.C.  
Phone: 604-858-3691

Sts'ailes Employment Centre  
4690 Salish Way  
Agassiz, B.C.  
Phone: 604-796-5536

Seabird Employment Centre  
2895 Chowat Road  
Agassiz, B.C.  
Phone: 604-796-6865

For more information, contact us:



604-858-3691



[www.saset.ca](http://www.saset.ca)



[info@saset.ca](mailto:info@saset.ca)



[www.facebook.com/SASET.EAS](https://www.facebook.com/SASET.EAS)

# GREEN THUMB TIPS!

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*DEAR SUMAS COMMUNITY,*

*It's officially Spring Season!*

*To help kick start this beautiful season, here are some tips for growing plants in your home:*



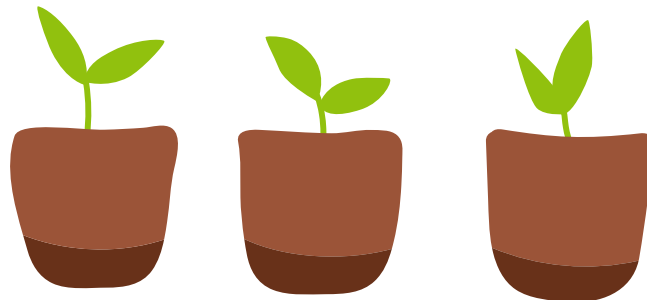
*Buy plants for the lighting conditions where they'll be planted.*



*Save money (and weight) by adding a filler at the bottom of the planters.*



*Water wisely.*



*If you have advice for gardening, reach out to Communications for a feature in the next Newsletter!*

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