



ʔəms ʔayε : Our House Dedicated to Elders and Ancestors Sacrifices

Located in the heart of the ʔišosəm community it will play a vital role in the promotion of Tla'amin language, culture, food security, and well-being.

By Davis McKenzie

One hundred and twenty guests braved the rain on February 20, 2024 to bless and break ground for ʔəms ʔayε (uhms aya) Cultural Centre and Traditional Foods Processing facility.



Figure 1 Elder John Louie led the ground blessing ceremony which began with an offering of food to the ancestors. Photo Manu Luiafoa

The new Cultural Centre is decades in the making and will be located on highway 101, the site of the old drive-in.

With its centerpiece bighouse style cultural centre, ʔəms ʔayε will also have a commercial kitchen for preparing foods for cultural gatherings and community feasts and will include a covered outdoor area for processing and cooking traditional foods. Onsite office space will house the growing Cultural & Heritage team who work passionately to revive Tla'amin culture.

ʔəms ʔayε (Continued on page 4)



Cultural Coordinator Drew Blaney leads the Blessing of the Floor song during the ʔəms ʔayε ground breaking ceremony on February 20th next to the Cousins House. hegus John Hackett and our guest Federal Minister Gary Anandasangaree (background) soak in the ceremonies. Many youth were in attendance with their drums and regalia to witness this historic moment and learn our strong Tla'amin culture.

Re-Burial of Ancestral Remains at New Cemetery

The Tla'amin community is invited to witness the repatriation and re-burial of ancestral remains.

Over the last couple of years, ancestral remains have been disturbed throughout Tla'amin territory.

Whereas our mission is to have these remains re-buried within their original resting places.

We understand that there is a huge risk to leave some of these remains in high traffic sites, such as public trails and along roadways. We invite you to come and witness the re-burial of our ancestors on this day.



Repatriation of Ancestral Remains

New Cemetery
Tuesday, March 26th,
10:00am

Traditional Burning Ceremony to follow.



Open Letter to the Tla'amin Nation

(February 20, 2024)

Statement of Clarification to the Westminster Times blog post

Ahjiswhet, I'm writing to our community to address and clarify statements attributed to me in a recent blog post by the New Westminster Times regarding the Powell River naming issue. I want to be clear that I made these statements on my own and they in no way reflect the opinions or beliefs of Tla'amin Nation elected leadership.

Prior to the article's publication, I spent 90 minutes speaking with the reporter responsible for writing the story, meticulously articulating my viewpoint on the City of Powell River naming issue. In the end, I found the article, poorly written and misleading to spirit and intent of my remarks.

I speak to you as a Tla'amin Nation community member. First off, I would like to say I do regret talking to this reporter and apologize to our Tla'amin community for any harm that you may have experienced as a result of this interview.

The issues surrounding the name change are complex. Every First Nation family across Canada has been inhumanely impacted by Canada's colonization, assimilation policies. Many of our families are flourishing yet some will never recover.

My family and I have experienced a lifetime of harm from the forces of colonization. When I employed the term 'subhuman' in this interview it was in the context lived experiences within in my family, community, culture and direct exposure as a decision-maker under Canada's Indian Act, a status Indian in the Indian Reserve System and of a family directly impacted by Canada's Indian Residential School System.

My use of the term 'subhuman' was aimed specifically at individuals in positions of power (i.e., Prime Minister, premiers, MLAs, MPs, chambers of commerce business leaders, mayors/councils, Indian Act-elected chiefs/councils, RCMP, all Christian Churches) who were and are in positions to effect positive change, yet consciously choose to ignore, remain silent and do nothing.

These statements were not aimed at the average non-Indigenous Canadian (those not in positions of authority). I know many white settlers who are critical thinkers, capable of empathizing with the experiences of the Tla'amin Nation and have demonstrated that 'white privilege' can be seen and understood in a way that minimizes its harm.

I take immense pride in being a member of the Tla'amin Nation. I will stand firm and hold those accountable who attack our culture, our language, our people. I do believe that all that we are asking of the people of Powell River is simply do their research, become informed about what their laws, policies and persons in authority has done to our Nation over the course of a mere ten generations.

Last week, I was approached by CityNews to offer a clarification. I declined as the only people with any right to judge me are my wife (who is white), daughter, family, people, and my community. That's why I have chosen to provide my clarification via our community Neh'motl newspaper.

i:mote,

KWAST-en-ayu (L. Maynard Harry)
Former Chief Councillor, Councillor, Tla'amin Nation

Tla'amin Nation not eligible for Drinking Water Claim

February 26, 2024

Tla'amin Nation issues this statement to confirm that a Federal Drinking Water Class Action Lawsuit does not apply to Tla'amin Nation.

The Class Action Lawsuit is being widely advertised on television and radio and creating some confusion in the community.

The lawsuit only applies to First Nations who experienced yearlong drinking water advisory between 1995 and 2021. The list of eligible First Nations who meet this criteria can be found here: <https://firstnationsdrinkingwater.ca/index.php/who-can-submit/#eligibilitylists>

Tla'amin is not on the list of eligible Nations and has not experienced a drinking water advisory of this duration.

"We are thankful we enjoy access to clean drinking water in our territory," said Hegus John Hackett. "Our own Tla'amin water treatment plant has been doing a great job to deliver us safe and clean drinking water for the last 26 years. Our hands are raised to the dedicated staff who monitor and care for the water coming from our taps."

For questions about our water please write to water@tn-bc.ca.

Meal Provided

Monthly Door Prizes

COMMUNITY LANGUAGE CLASS



Do you want to learn how to write in the orthography writing system, and learn our language while doing so? Come join our Wednesday night language classes with Alisha Paint!

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
5:00pm-7:00pm

At Cultural Portable (Beside Ahms Tah Ow)

ᑭᓄᓄᓄ ᑭᓄᓄᓄ (Continued from page 1)

Speaker and Emcee Kespaul, Drew Blaney opened the event by calling up the drum family who shared the welcome song and dance.

After the song, the event opened with a prayer from Elder Elsie Paul who offered “They say that rain is good for the soul, it washes away anything negative - so I think that’s the reason why it’s raining, this is a new beginning for us, for our community.”

Construction on ᑭᓄᓄᓄ ᑭᓄᓄᓄ (Our House) Cultural Centre will begin this Spring and will be completed in the summer of 2025. The new cultural hub for Tla’amin Nation will include a 2000 square foot feast hall and cultural gathering space which will accommodate up to 350 guests and be used for sharing songs, dances, ceremony, and feasting.

Federal Minister of Crown Indigenous Relations Gary Anandasangaree came all the way from Ottawa for the ground blessing.



Dignitaries Lori Wilson, Losa Luaifoa, Gloria Francis, Erik Blaney, Elsie Paul, Dillon Johnson, Federal Minister of Crown and Indigenous Relations Gary Anandasangaree, and Hegus John Hackett break ground on the new Tla’amin Cultural Centre February 20, 2024. Photo Manu Luaifoa.

She continued “Everyone is looking forward to the big house, ᑭᓄᓄᓄ ᑭᓄᓄᓄ - our house, the children are looking forward to it, so we pray everything goes according to plan and thank those that are doing the work.”

Hegus John Hackett spoke next, he recognized his fellow councilors and the project team their hard work in making the new cultural centre a reality. Hegus went on to say that “ ᑭᓄᓄᓄ ᑭᓄᓄᓄ is going to be our training ground, a place where Elders and youth will come together to share teachings. A place our whole community can work to revitalize our language culture and teachings, to honour our Elders who fought so hard to protect this for our next generations.”

Federal Minister of Crown and Indigenous Relations Gary Anandasangaree, Homalco Chief Darren Blaney, Member of Parliament North Island, Powell River, Rachel Blaney and Hegus John Hackett share a moment during the ground blessing ceremony. [photo Manu Luaifoa]

He said “We know that the legacy of residential schools and other policies of the federal government have worked towards dismantling language and cultural rights. Today’s groundbreaking is a reflection of the perseverance of this community for decades to make this happen. To overcome everything that has happened as a result of the colonial experience over the last 100 years that is Canada.”

ᑭᓄᓄᓄ ᑭᓄᓄᓄ will feature a small museum to house Tla’amin cultural treasures and climate-controlled repository to store and archive Tla’amin material culture. A state-of-the-art language lab and recording studio for the transmission of Ayaajuthum from one generation of Tla’amin Citizens to the next.



Director of Public Works, Carmen Galligos spoke at the event about the role the new centre will have in promoting Tla’amin, language, culture and teachings.

She said, as a community we owe the very existence of ᑭᓄᓄᓄ ᑭᓄᓄᓄ to Tla’amin Elders.

“I especially want to raise my hands to our elders. We could not be here today without you. You protected that ember (our culture and language) until we were ready, and you did it through some of the worst times imaginable.

When people look back, and see those black and white pictures, people think residential schools were long ago. For our families it’s only one generation ago that our culture was actively and intentionally being taken away from us.

Today I want to make this about uplifting those elders that brought us here today. It’s because of you that we still have a language to learn and record. It’s because of you that I can make a loose basket and learn from those mistakes. We’re taught how to be better for tomorrow. It’s because of you that we really understand our history and what it means to be Tla’amin. You are the reason our stories live on.

I want to raise my hands and thank you for your determination to protect us, for working so hard to stop the harmful cycles and to lessen the impact of intergenerational traumas coming home from residential schools.

ᑭᓄᓄᓄ ᑭᓄᓄᓄ will be a beautiful place. Our culture, language and teachings can only flourish. This will be the home for our kids and future generations to honour and recognize our elders and ancestors for all you have done as our knowledge keepers. We designed the building with the comfort of our elders in mind, and we wanted to create a place worthy of your sacrifice.”



Following speeches, Elder John Louie, Randolph (Hoss) Timothy, Leonard Harry, Denise Smith, Lynn Galligos carried out the ground brushing ceremony. They brushed the construction crew to keep them safe while the work was being carried out.

A new Traditional Food Processing Facility will be located adjacent to ᑭᓄᓄᓄ ᑭᓄᓄᓄ providing a home base for Elders, knowledge keepers and harvesters, to share wisdom about procuring and preparing foods from Tla’amin lands and waterways. Ample teaching space, large game and seafood processing areas, and large commercial freezers and coolers are among the facility’s prominent features.

Both buildings will be community and wheelchair accessible. Gardens for medicinal plants, a smokehouse, and a carving shed on site will serve as a cultural hub for the Nation.

Funding for the project was announced in 2022 and the Government of Canada has contributed \$3,159,508 through the Community, Culture, and Recreation Infrastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program, while the Province of BC added \$1,053,169.

Cross Cultural Event Closes the Reconciliation Gap with Outside Agencies

By Steve Gallagher, Editor

Tla'amin Justice Department held a two-day cross-cultural event at the Salish Centre for approximately 50 participants from various outside agencies to share the historic tragedies imposed upon our First Nations peoples.

On February 14th, our guests participated in a two-hour blanket exercise at the Salish Centre to gain a better understanding and help deal with past injustices. The blankets represent our peoples and territories that have been here since time immemorial, prior to the European invasion. Our guests took a walk in our moccasins venturing through a time capsule of intense and actual events.

Verna Francis has been deeply involved since the inception of our blanket exercises and cross cultural workshops. **"The purpose of the workshop is to bring everyone together in an open and welcoming atmosphere for building better relations responsibly,"** explained Verna.

The entrance of the blanket exercise welcomes you as care takers of the land. Harmonizing and being one with the traditional land that looks after you and provides for your families. Finding a resolution with neighboring communities and settling disputes with a high level of discipline has been our rights and responsibilities for thousands of years.

Through the course of the blanket exercise a barrage of on-going cultural genocide is on the uprise threatening our future generations. Our traditional economies were destabilized by foreign economies encouraging biological warfare on our families. Dwindling down our populations by thousands. These cowardly acts were part of Canada's strategy to settling the land question in BC.

As you exit the time capsule, you come to realize the unimaginable magnitude and endless effort taken to reduce our land base to the tiny reservations. Welcome to life under the Indian Act. Now try to carve out your future and reclaim your past.

The next morning elder I&spit (Doreen Point) opened up the workshop with a prayer and Cultural Coordinator Drew Blaney drummed a welcoming song for the participants.

Facilitator Randy Timothy Sr. who is a residential school survivor shared his story with the outside agencies. "Everyone has their own story about the way we were mistreated" informed Randy. "It's so important to listen to really understand why we are here today. All our responsibilities were taken away."

Elder Doreen Point delivered a very emotional speech about her nightmares at residential school combined with the tragedies at home as a result. "The conditions we were forced to live in was intolerable. We were always cold, no birthdays or presents, and the bulk of our diet was porridge, potatoes and vegetables. If you refused to eat they would pick up a table knife and hit the back of our hands. We would hide our food in our handkerchief and flush it down the toilet"

The workshop participants were very grateful for our facilitators stories that were also shared by Cyndi Pallen on the history of reconciliation. Eugene Louie for the time before and after treaty. Cultural Advisor John Louie for the lessons on his traditional and cultural wellness practices.



Participants receive a two hour blanket exercise as part of their orientation into the workshop led by Tla'amin facilitators. Here they discover some very disturbing details about European contact.

Participant Feedback from the February 14th Cross Cultural Workshop

I have read many books and attended many learning sessions but to learn the truth from the real people in front of you and to then hear of the amazing things they have done and are doing, in spite of the unthinkable experiences they had, demonstrating in 'real time' for all of us in attendance their resilience, courage, fortitude and kindness, is inspiring and humbling.

Stephanie Hall (she/her)
PIE Principal
Partners in Education (qathet School District)

I was so grateful to hear the stories and learn the journey in a powerful way. I heart was heavy but full.

As the manager of qathet home health I would like to ensure all of my home health and home support staff participate in this great learning, it is so important.

Nova Cleghorn. RN. BSN
Home Health Manager
qathet Regional District
Vancouver Coastal Health

The strength and courage to tell the truth that must be heard. The cost of telling these truths and the necessary care for each other in doing so was profoundly impactful and humbling and overwhelming. And all of this while expressing concern that the participants wouldn't feel hurt was telling and saddening and a reminder of the injustice of the ongoing harm being experienced.

Bronwen Vivienne



Tla'amin Cross Cultural Facilitators

The intensity and the depth of emotion speaks to the power of story. You did a brilliant job weaving personal narratives with the nation's history, the residential school experience and understanding reconciliation through the human experience. The practices that define you as a people give us a window into what is possible when we speak from the heart and are thoughtful in our actions.

The pebble you dropped will certainly ripple and ripple and ripple.

Maureen Mason (she/her)
SD47 Trustee
qathet School District

First Voices Celebrates 20 years of Language Recordings



The Tla'amin First Nation has been working with FirstVoices since its inception and uses the platform to store recordings from community members to pass on for future generations. Betty Wilson shares, "We are thankful to have been able to archive fluent speakers who are now gone. The recordings are treasures for our community members and their families. Our Sliammon FirstVoices team has grown in terms of technical expertise, clarifying our words and phrases and realizing how much more work we have to do to keep our language. Our FirstVoices App is used by not only our community members but also the wider community."

Explore some of the new features below.

Website platform:

- Complete redesign of the platform with consultation from over 250 First Nations people in B.C.
- Fully customizable language site homepage for users
- New content management dashboard for the language team
- Option to embed YouTube/Vimeo videos

FirstVoices Mobile Apps:

- The new mobile apps include offline access to take on the go and for users without internet access
- Progressive Web Apps (PWAs) so that users can download the apps through the website and not third party app stores
- New option for the inclusion of mobile apps for any language site that is interested

New Films Coming Soon

"The Culture and Language department has been working hard on a few films for our Nation. This team includes Brianne Louie, Rhys Poole and Jeremy Williams. One of the first films we anticipate to release is The Braves film, release date TBA. Other films we have on the go include Language and Culture, Territory, and one that includes our Creation Story with the Flood Story. We will also be working on a film that shows the progression of our new Culture Building from beginning to end. With all these films, we hope to one day also create a podcast and/or series with all the footage we have been collecting. čęęhaθęę to everyone who has participated thus far, and we hope to see more!"



Welcome to the wonder of whimsical birdhouses!

THE SILENT AUCTION IS HERE!

19 Creative Builders

28 Talented Artists

41 Beautiful Birdhouses

1 Great Auction

1 Fabulous Cause



MARCH 5 – 9 from 2 PM to 6PM
qathet ART Centre #215 – 6975 Alberni

Funds for the Sanctuary Gardens at Hospice House



Basket Weaving their first basket with Ochele over Family Day Weekend



Shaniah Hillis



Three generations spend quality time with Ochele's basket weaving class over the family day weekend.

L-R: Emily White, Cindy Mitchell and Gerri Lassard completed these baskets



L-R: Gerri Lassard and Makaela Gallagher



Sally Dominic

**Tla'amin
Community
Craft Night**

*Bring your own projects or start something new!
Beading, regalia making,
sewing and weaving!*

Some materials and supplies available for use by community members.

**Tuesdays
4pm-6:30pm**

At the Culture Portable
January 9th - March 12th, 2024

For more information:
Sosan.blaney@tn-bc.ca

Hockey and Judo Take Centre Stage



Cora Sutcliffe: 1st place (gold) in Sparring in her division at the Western Canada Gojuryu Karate Championship January 20th 2024

(Dojos represented Powell River, Sunshine Coast, Maple Ridge, West River, Chilliwack)



The U11 Queens won Gold at Wickfest in Surrey in early February and then again won gold at the Queens Cup here in town. They also won gold at the Burnaby Remembrance day Tournament in November. They have gone undefeated the whole season and have their last regular season game this weekend before heading into playoffs. She plays defense so she's more likely to be shutting down goals than scoring them. She's gotten 5 for the season which for a defender her age is awesome. This is her 6th year in hockey. She's been playing since she was 4! Her team won their division banner as well.



Number 11 in your program is Mattias Gallagher closing in for a rebound at the Brooks Hockey Academy



PR Queens Cup Tournament, Queens Battle for Silver Medal Feb 18th 2024

Photo L-R : Jordana Gravelle, Tia Francis, Marlina Hanson, Stacey Francis and Trinidad Hackett



Kohen Louie and Tobin LeBlanc win Silver Medals with the U11A rep team.

The tournament took place in Coquitlam. They played teams from Chilliwack, Salmon Arm, The Okanagan, Abbotsford, and Cowichan. They came home with Silver medals! Kohen scored his 97th goal in 36 games of the season during this tournament!



Future hockey stars are quickly finding their skates during practise

The Second Annual Tla'amin Łasəm Hockey

By Alexandra Souch

Core values are to offer youth a greater sense of belonging; to be proud of who we are and where we come from, and build connections to other youth in the community through the power of sport. Łasəm Hockey believes in the positive impact's organized sports has on social, emotional, and physical health. In building lifelong friendships with teammates and mentors, and the hockey community.

We are excited for the growing number of youth youth registered from ages 6-18, from beginning levels to advanced. Łasəm Hockey offers amazing head coaches Adam Culos and Craig Galligos, Brandon Louie, Mathew Kinch, and Fernando Menendez. Five U18 Kings youth coaches returning from last year Evan, Trentyn, Jaxon, Eugene, Tyler, and Tia. Also, The Powell River Kings join a few sessions when their schedule permits it.



New Recreation Coordinator

Hi there, I am Sydney Stonehouse, and it is both an honour and a source of excitement for me to serve as the Recreation Coordinator in the Tla'amin Nation. I was born and raised locally in the qathet region, so I have a first-hand knowledge of all the things our community has to offer. My academic journey in

recreation management began in 2020, where I completed a certificate and diploma through online studies at College of the Rockies.

I am currently pursuing a Recreation Management degree, at Langara College with only two courses remaining for completion. As a Recreation Coordinator I excitedly anticipate the opportunity to work closely with the diverse age groups within the Tla'amin Nation. I

strive to create a positive and inclusive atmosphere where learning, engagement, collaboration and support thrive. Moreover, I am committed to respecting and embracing the rich cultural practices and traditions of the Tla'amin people, as well as their sacred land, as integral aspects of our shared communal experiences.

IGNITING THE SPIRIT

YOUTH GATHERING

Workshops:

- Mental Health
- Safe Pathways
- Healthy Relationships
- Residential School Awareness

TLA'AMIN SALISH CENTER

MARCH 7TH

AGES- 13 - 20

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
 DANCE DJ TALA MIKE
 6:30 PM- 9:00 PM

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
ASHLEY CALLINGBULL FORMER
MRS. UNIVERSE

ARRON PAQUETTE

TO REGISTER: EMAIL REGISTER@TN-BC.CA OR
 CALL ALEXANREA SOUCH (604) 414-3211
 REGISTRATION CLOSES: MARCH 1ST

ʔAYIŁTƏN ʔAYE / COUSIN'S HOUSE

PRESENTS

YOUTH NIGHTS!

STARTING MARCH 1ST

AGES 13-18

EVERY THURSDAY & FRIDAY

5:00PM - 9:00PM

At Cousin's House
5180 Hwy 101 V8A 0B3

Join us at the grand opening of the Youth Centre hosted at the Cousin's House! We're thrilled to invite you and your friends to be a part of this fantastic space dedicated to creativity, connection, and community.

GAMES, ACTIVITES, PIZZA

In partnership with Right to Play.

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL
rec@tn-bc.ca

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Health and Wellness

EH KWA'A'NUNS KYE'AMIEUX
"When the people in our community are well again, all around us will also be well."

Itstartswithme

Spring is just around the corner!



KIDS SPRING BREAK CAMP

ASSUMPTION
MAR. 11 - 22
JT
MAR. 18-29



FUN, CREATIVE & CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Mon - Fri, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm at ʔayłstən ʔaye | Cousin's House

Email rec@tn-bc.ca to register today!

Tla'amin Elders Corner

Coordinator: Doreen Hopkins

Tla'amin Health – 604-483-3009

Tla'amin Elders is 60 years of age and up.
(come join us)

Elders Lunch Dates are always on Tuesdays!

Location: Tla'amin Health
Time: 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Date: March 5th, 2024
Guest Speaker: April Treakle,
Culture and Heritage

Date: March 12th, 2024
Guest Speaker: Montana,
Video of "Checking In" App & discussion
about what to name our App

Date: March 19th, 2024
Guest Speaker: Eagle Waltz, Video of trails/
new cemetery

Working Quilt workshop
with Sally Louie, Family Support Group
March 7, 14th and 21st 2024 – **Thursdays**
Location: Tla'amin Health
Time: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Suggestion: How to contribute to the community in a positive way. Time to pick up/burn those branches that have fallen on the ground over the winter. Take all those recyclables to the recycle bin.

Suggestion: donate proceeds of sales of beer/pop cans to a young person travelling for sports this year.

Happy Birthday on March 28th

To the best chi chi, you are so loved and so appreciated!

Love Abigail, Theo, Lola, and Zoe!"



25 January 2024 čičyε Circle

Present: Chair: Ryan Pielle.
 Members: Elsie Paul, Rose Adams, Gladys Osawamick, Jerry Francis, Pauline Paul, Evie Tom, Lynn Galligos, Sherry Bullock, Alex Point, Doreen Point, John Louie.
 Support: Janet Newbury.



Opening prayer and check ins Yearly review:

- Reviewed child and family services reform accomplishments to date and items not yet completed.
- Discussion:
 - Let people know what CFS does and what to expect. Clear communications
 - Ongoing challenges with MCFD
 - Create regular opportunities to be with children and youth through schools and programming and meal-sharing to promote proactive relationship building and sharing teachings by being together.

Planning ahead:

- Reviewed structure and format of the čičyε Circle
- Some ideas for integrating Elder presence into existing programs and services were shared
- Still need to gather photos and bios from čičyε Circle members
- Begin building proactive and ongoing relationship-building

Action items:

- Create communications and promotional materials, to clarify for community members what to expect with Child and Family Services and to make it easier for people to seek or accept support
- Share this request for čičyε presence in programming with the Working Group
- Prepare for next month's čičyε teaching for neh motl

Next meeting: Thursday, February 22 at 11:30 am



There have been a few shifts for the Child & Family Services team recently.

Jasmin Menendez transitioned from the CFS Admin Assistant to the Youth & Family Advocate position. She is now working with our youth and families and already thriving in her new role while completing her Bachelor of Social Work. Jasmin helped the CFS team get off its feet in her time as Administrative Assistant, but it didn't take long to recognize her talents were needed working directly with community.

Lisa Williams has also transitioned from her role as Receptionist at Health and started as the CFS Admin Assistant. She will be integral to keeping us organized, on track, and in good communication with community. We're excited to have her and looking forward to everything she brings us and the families we work with.

Trista Tom-LeBlanc has transitioned from her role at Health to join us as the čεpθtεn House Coordinator. čεpθtεn in English means aunties/uncles. As the Coordinator, Trista will be bringing forward respite care to our Nation as well as programming to support parents/caregivers in the community.

A house of aunties/uncles is a safe place for all our children, and Trista is the right auntie to make this happen! Help us welcome her into her new role.

School Attendance A*

Matters!

Chronic absenteeism is generally defined as missing ten percent or more of a school year, including excused and unexcused absences – which results in approximately 18 days a year, or about two days every month.

FNESC Raising Attendance Rates of First Nation Students in BC. 2020
 Tla'amín Education Department

Online Shopping, Marketplace, and Online Advertising Scams

What are these types of scams?

These are a broad range of scams typically centered around online shopping that rely on social engineering and impersonation to trick you into sending money to a scammer.

What platforms are targeted by these scams?

These scams can be found on Facebook marketplace, or advertisements embedded within facebook, google, bing, yahoo, android/iphone apps etc.

What do these scams look like?

These scams come in a variety of ways. You might be browsing facebook marketplace and see an item of interest. You might see an advertisement pop up on facebook or google to an online store selling items that interest you. The idea behind this type of scam is that the store or sale is not real, and the scammer is just trying to obtain money from you.

How can I spot these scams?

On facebook marketplace be wary of anything that looks too good to be true, often it is. If a seller asks you to send a deposit to hold the item, you should be aware that it could be a scam. If you were buying a puppy from a seller far away for example, you should not send a deposit unless you have been able to verify that the seller actually exists which can be difficult to do short of meeting them in person and seeing the puppy with your own eyes. It's also a good idea to have someone accompany you if you go to a stranger's home to pick up an item, a better idea would be to meet in a public place.

Sometimes advertisements will appear in our feeds that can appear to be convincing as well. They may sell something targeted to your interests. Before purchasing anything from an online seller or store you need to research whether the store or seller is legitimate. Again this can be difficult for an individual seller, but stores are usually easier to research to see if they have legitimate contact information posted. You can contact them via other means if they have an official website, and check if they appear in google search results and on google maps. You can also look for customer reviews to help ease any concerns. If the names you are seeing in advertisements are different, or they cant be located chances are high that the company doesn't really exist, or its also possible you may be looking at an imitation store (a fake store that is a "copy" of a legitimate store but usually under a different domain name/web address). Beware of any contact email addresses that appear to be random/unrelated to the business or email addresses with multiple numbers included (e.g. ellh90044789@gmail.com). Try to stick with well-known online retailers such as amazon.ca, bestbuy.ca etc.

If you believe you have sent money to a scammer in error and paid with your credit card, you should contact your bank as soon as possible to replace your credit card and dispute the charges.

It's also possible if you sent money to a scam site that they may try to trick you into sending even more money when you contact them for customer support. Beware of any "support" people from fraudulent websites that are "trying to help you" and attempting to trick you into downloading remote access software onto your computer to allow them to connect. Maybe when you request a refund they may try to trick you into downloading remote access software then asking you to log into your online banking to help you process the refund when in fact they may be trying to scam more money off you. Never give anyone access to your computer, in person or remotely no matter who they may claim to be. Even those annoying popups that happen when you browse the internet that say your computer is infected, call this number now, maybe even claiming to be from Microsoft, are all scams and attempts to defraud you of money. Remember to be vigilant, do your research, and consult with tech savvy friends if you're not sure.

Remember to be vigilant, do your research, and consult with tech savvy friends if you're not sure.



**Happy Birthday Makaela Gallagher
March 5th**

Shine Brightly on your new year ahead

Hugs and Loves

Mom, Dad, Stacia, Jacob, Mattias, Andy Whiskers and Zeus

CUSTOMER SERVICE TRAINING
@AHMS TAH OW

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Support

Advice

Service

Information

Solution

Feedback

Thursday
March 28th,
9 am - 12 pm

Contact PJ at
patricia.paterson@tn-bc.ca
to register

FREE to all Indigenous participants

Put on by Tla'amin Education
in collaboration with NVIATS

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