



Tla'amin Nation Opens ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ (Our House) on National Indigenous Peoples Day



Elsie Paul cuts the cedar braid to officially mark the Grand Opening of ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ on June 21st with a little help from Executive Council member Brandon Louie while Callum Galligos and Brandon Peters express their appreciation for the historic moment in our nation's history in the background./

By Davis McKenzie

On June 21, 2025, more than 400 people gathered to witness the grand opening of ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ (“Our House”), Tla'amin Nation's new cultural centre and traditional food processing facility. The long-awaited celebration was hosted on National Indigenous Peoples Day and marked the culmination of years of planning, design, and construction. Attendees included Tla'amin citizens, neighbouring Nations, government partners, and residents from across the qathet region.

“Today we welcome our cultural treasures home, light the sacred fire, and open our house for generations to come,” said Hegus John Hackett. “ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ is not just a building—it is a living expression of our laws, language, and responsibility to one another.”

The event featured a cedar braid cutting, repatriation ceremony, and cultural protocol shared by neighbouring Nations.

The Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia jointly contributed \$4.2 million through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Rural and Northern Communities towards the completion of the cultural centre.

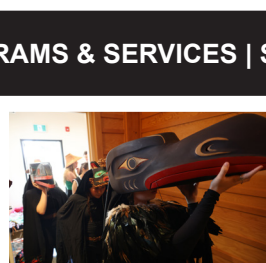
“The federal government is honoured to have supported the construction of a new cultural centre for the Tla'amin Nation,” said Wade Grant Member of Parliament, Vancouver Quadra, British Columbia. “We will continue to work in partnership with First Nations and all orders of government on projects that represent a meaningful step toward reconciliation and a stronger, more inclusive Canada.”

ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ is the first cultural house built in Tla'amin territory since the great fire of 1918. Designed in collaboration with Tla'amin Elders and knowledge keepers, the space honours Tla'amin's deep relationships with Klahoose, Homalco, and K'ómoks Nations, with house posts dedicated to each sister Nation.

The adjoining traditional foods facility supports food sovereignty and teaching and will be used to process salmon, deer, berries, and other traditional foods.

“People should be able to celebrate their culture and way of life,” said Ravi Kahlon, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs. “We are happy to support the construction of a new cultural centre, where people can gather and spend time with their family and community.”

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Tla'amin Governance House Updates

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SUMMER IS HERE

Now that school is out for summer break, please be extra mindful of children playing when driving.

PLEASE SLOW DOWN!

Message from hegus



John Hackett

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I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful weather this summer. With good weather brings risks as well. It is important to stay hydrated and not expose yourself to heat exhaustion.

There are more bears in our community, so it is important not to attract bears with garbage around your property. Please note that we are currently in a fire ban due to dry vegetation and soil.

I attended our listening event to capture testimony from Tla'amin citizens and members, and how Bill C-31's Second-Generation Cut-Off continues to impact Tla'amin families.

The Second-Generation Cut-Off started with changes to the Indian Act in 1985, through a law called Bill C-31.

The goal was to fix unfair rules that took away status from First Nations women who married non-status men. Bill C-31 gave status back to many women and their children. It also brought in new rules that still affect families today. One rule created two kinds of status: section 6(1) and section 6(2).

Tla'amin Nation is currently preparing a submission to Indigenous Services Canada on Bill C-31 and wants to ensure it reflects the experiences of our community. That day we had 9 testimonies, and all testimonies carried high frustration of the second-generation aspect of Bill-C31.

33% of Tla'amin people are currently impacted by the Second-Generation Cut-Off. If the current rules remain unchanged, our population of those eligible for registration

under the Indian Act will decline significantly in the coming decades.

This means fewer Tla'amin children will be recognized under federal law, and the Nation may not receive program and service funding to support them, even though they are deeply connected to our Nation, culture, and community.

I attended a Finance Committee meeting where we reviewed the March 2025 year end report. Our new auditors, Doane Grant Thornton, will be onsite to begin their field work. When the audit is complete the finance committee will review an updated version of this report incorporating any final adjustments.

The LCAC (land claims agreement collation) held a leadership meeting to discuss the post federal election.

There is a concern of cabinet shuffles within the federal government because the new ministers will have to get up to speed. The recommendation is that LCAC members continue to educate the Government of Canada on the distinct element of Modern Treaties and ensure the distinction-based approach, as recognized in the Implementation Policy, is not lost and fully implemented and followed by federal officials.

Another recommendation is for the LCAC members continue to engage with the Government of Canada on the 2025 Intergovernmental Leaders Forum.

I attended the Modern Treaty Alliance leadership meeting in preparation of the June 23 premier's forum hosted by the Nisga'a Nation. The three-overview focus will be on

- Our Treaties: Rights, Relationships, Implementation
- Community safety
- Economic Development

We selected our three speakers to bring the message forward. The goal is to leave time for discussion, follow up and commitment from Premier Eby and the provincial government.

Our team traveled to the Museum of Vancouver and the Museum of Anthropology to repatriate a variety of lost artifacts from Tla'amin. Day one we repatriated 7 items, four baskets and a carving that was dated as far back as 1865.

Day two at the Museum of Anthropology the repatriation ceremony included the two Tiskwat mortuary poles that was removed from our territory around 1915. An oar that was found on Savery island in the early 1900's and a mask that was discovered at Bliss Landing.

I attended TMS ops board & Holdings board meeting. The ops board reviewed and approved the April 2025 financial report of Tla'amin group of company's revenue and expenditures.

The holdings board met with the Auditors to review draft 2023 audited financial statement that included in more detail of consolidated statement of income. After reviewing the audit, the board approved the draft 2023 audited that will be presented to the community this fall as a TMS general assembly.



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TLA'AMIN NATION

TribalJourney 2025

Paddle to Elwha Washington

We ask that paddler's attend canoe practices to ensure our knowledge and safety on the water.

For more information contact:

drew.blaney@tn-bc.ca
or
d.marriott8422@gmail.com

Tla'amin Departure is the morning of July 22nd at our waterfront



qaməs ʔəms tala Settlement Trust Annual General Meeting

Since inception the Trust's investment revenue has grown by \$20.3 million.

By Davis McKenzie

On Saturday May 31, qaməs ʔəms tala Settlement Trust held their 8th Annual General Meeting at the Salish Centre. In attendance were Tla'amin trustees, independent auditors and the Trust's financial managers.

The Trust was established in 2017 and flows from the Tla'amin treaty. The name says it all - qaməs ʔəms tala means "to put our money away safely."

qaməs ʔəms Settlement Trust is fed by annual capital transfers. When Tla'amin signed its treaty in 2016 it came with a capital transfer of \$33.9 million over 10 years (the 10th installment is set for 2026). It is also fed by resource revenue sharing with BC, mostly forestry related.

Since inception the Trust's investment revenue has grown by \$20.3 million.

That means the just over \$50m placed in the trust through capital transfers and resource revenue sharing has earned \$20.3m in investment income for a total of \$70m.

If you missed the AGM this year here is the bottom line for 2024. This year the Trust total value increased by \$9.5m. Five Tla'amin businesses were awarded \$511,000 in small business funding.



Eugene Louie opened the meeting by reflecting on the links between self-government, decision-making and the Nation's financial position today.

The meeting on May 31 started with a delicious pancake breakfast followed by opening prayer and comments from Elder Eugene Louie.

"I've been reflecting a lot on the past, the present, and the future," said Eugene. "We are getting to the age where not many of us remember how things used to be with our money, the claw backs, the hard times, the fiscal uncertainty. With treaty we were worried if we went down the road to self-government we wouldn't look after our finances and take care of it. I remember there was not a lot of people who wanted to stick out their neck and say come on let's go for it, let's take it on. Now we see our tala put away safely we see the results of jumping on that canoe. The ancestors they gave us this vision, where they wanted us to be as a Nation and for our prosperity."

Following Mr. Louie's opening

comments, Tla'amin Trustee Guardian and Citizen Cyndi Egan shared that it is an honour to serve as the Trust guardian. As a certified general accountant, she recognized that numbers aren't everyone's cup of tea and thanked those in attendance for being there are urged citizens to ask lots of questions.

"We have another clean audit, and it went very smoothly," said Egan. "Our auditors complimented Ann Paul our Treasurer on her diligent bookkeeping. You are going to hear today how our investments are doing. Even in these uncertain times our two investor firms are working hard and getting us good returns."

Leslie France from audit firm Doan Grant Thornton presented financial results from fiscal year 2024. As of December 31, 2024, the trust had grown from 51 million to 65 million.

Next up Max Webber and Charles Manty from PBI presented an overview of the Trust funds

performance. PBI is Tla'amin's independent advisor overseeing the two investment firms Dixon and ABM who make investment decisions for Tla'amin trust money.

PBI in an employee-owned Canadian company with 100 employees overseeing the management of \$30 billion on behalf of their clients which include large university endowments and other non-profits.

Tla'amin hired PBI as an outside third party to make sure the Nation is getting the best from its investments and to prevent any conflict of interest by the two investment firms.

Webber and Manty explained that there are two funds in the trust. The Capital Transfer fund is \$61.9m and is the larger of the two. The capital transfer fund has a 7-generation horizon meaning it is invested conservatively on a 150-year timeframe.

The economic development fund is the smaller fund at \$6.6m and is managed on a 15-year horizon. The fund has been used to seed Tla'amin businesses through the bi-annual application process. Five Tla'amin companies received a total of \$511k in 2024, up from \$148 k funds distributed in fiscal year 2023. The fund is also open to Tla'amin owned businesses to apply into.

In the question-and-answer period citizens asked that the Trust start reporting on who is getting the grants so that citizens have greater awareness of all the Tla'amin companies out there. Trustees committed to including this in the annual report.

Trust applications are accepted every April and October.

Learn more here: <https://www.tlaamintrust.com/>



Max Webber from PBI, provides an overview of 10 years of Trust performance.

Tla'amin Trustees

- Ann Paul: *Treasurer*
- Kayla Peters: *Secretary*
- April Treakle
Economic Development
- Marina Gallagher
Member at large
- Jasmine Menedez
Member at large

It's your Place, your mox^waju (bellybutton) is here

Bill C-31 listening event captures testimony from seven Tla'amin citizens

By Davis Mckenzie

On May 29th Tla'amin hosted a listening event to hear from citizens about the impacts of Bill C-31 second generation cut off on Tla'amin families. The meeting opened with a prayer from John Louie who also provided spiritual, and wellness supports to the seven speakers.

Hegus John Hackett and Legislators Losa Luaifoa and Dillon Johnson were in attendance and heard first-hand the impacts to Tla'amin families. Hegus opened the session by thanking each of the speakers for sharing their stories.

"We are here to listen, to learn, and to honour the voices of those impacted by the gendered discrimination of the Indian Act, the implementation of Bill C-31, and the ongoing second-generation cut-off under the Indian Act, said Hackett in his opening remarks. "These policies have had real and lasting effects on our people, on our families, and on Tla'amin peoples' sense of belonging."

Hackett went on to say that "Today is about hearing those experiences in your own words – not as statistics, but as truths that need to be acknowledged and remembered."

Speakers at the event included Emerson Adams, Cyndi Egan, Shanna Kinch, Pat Luaifoa, Callum Galligos, Tracey Carrillo, and Ann Paul. Their testimony was emotional and covered a wide range of experiences and concerns for the future.



"I'm concerned about my kid's ability to harvest and exercise their Aboriginal rights. Just because you have a certain amount of blood in you, doesn't make you Tla'amin; It's not a certain amount of blood that dictates who you are - it's a teaching, it's where you come from." **Emerson Adams**

My generation, or my family, they didn't teach us the language, mostly I think they thought a different way of living would be better, or to protect us. I'm anxious for my grandkids, I want them to be raised with culture, to be part of the community. The second generation cut off makes that harder that it should be. **Cyndi Egan**

"I always knew that my status ended in a two, but I never really knew what it meant. I knew it was the same as my mom's, but with a two. It feels arbitrary, this legislation which defines our identity.

Having my kids really changes the course of your life and makes you reflect on your own childhood. Moving back here during the pandemic was the best decision we've ever made. For the future I worry about my kids, their sense of belonging, what they will or will not be able to access." **Shanna Kinch**



"I lost status when I got married and was told there was no place for me here on the reserve anymore. It was Sue Pielle who said 'this is your land this is your place. Your mox^waju is buried here, you belong here'. We moved back in '89." **Pat Luaifoa**



Hegus John Hackett and Legislator Losa Luaifoa listened to the impacts of Bill C-31 with respectful minds and heavy hearts.



"Although the community knows I belong here, and my children belong here, there are some that may say otherwise. Despite being born and raised in our community, according to the statutes of Canada, my children don't belong. How can a single generation separate my dad, a residential school survivor, and my son who has no status?"

The second generation cut off is a form of legislative extinction that could result in cultural genocide. We need federal laws to reflect our truth; our identity is not a formula. To Tla'amin parents, caregivers, leaders, I want you to know you are not alone." - **Callum Galligos**

"I was born in the early 70s in the US. Mom lost status through marriage, she got it back and could enroll her kids, but now the kids of her kids are cut off. Not feeling wanted or a place of belonging as a child as much as I should have, now my grandchildren are asking the same questions. This matters because knowing where you belong gives you a sense of identity...My culture isn't defined by blood quantum." - **Tracey Treakle**

"It was misleading of the government to frame enfranchisement as a path to "full citizenship" and not the separation from culture, family, and community. The great contradiction of c-31 is granting of status back to women in a way categorized by blood so our children would lose their status over time. Our level of status should come from within community and should be based on everyone's connection to who they are and their involvement in keeping our community and culture alive. It should be based on our ta ow." - **Ann Paul**

Bill C-31 (Continued on page 5)

Bill C-31 (Continued from page 4)

Tla'amin Nation, like many self-governing Nations, continues to work toward reclaiming its citizenship, and definitions of who we are.

But federal policy still affects our people. The Tla'amin population continues to grow, but the proportion of our citizenship that is eligible for Status is shrinking. That means less funding to meet our ever-growing needs.

The Bill C-31 event was video recorded and testimony will be shared with decision-makers in Ottawa.

Speakers were gifted blankets and shared a traditional foods lunch.

A second listening session is being planned for late 2025. Please write to Kylie.Paul@tn-bc.ca if you are impacted by the second generation cut off and would like to share your story.

Tla'amin Nation follows the provincial fire band and this is what is in effect.

Please be advised that the Coastal Fire Centre will be prohibiting Category 2 (back yard) and Category 3 (industrial) open fire use effective 12:00 noon Friday May 30, 2025.

In addition to these prohibitions, the Coastal Fire Centre will also be restricting the following activities:



ʔəms nəm

Prawn Pickling & Nettle Harvesting

Discover the art of sustainable foraging and preservation in Prawn Pickling & Nettle Harvesting, where you'll learn to identify, harvest, and cook with wild nettles and master the basics of pickling fresh prawns with bold, seasonal flavors. This immersive experience blends coastal tradition with hands-on culinary skills to help you reconnect with nature through food.



ʔəms nəm app

July 14, 2025

July's prize

View all of this month's teachings by July 31st for a chance to win a prize valued at \$250! More details will be shared soon.

Learn more



Download the app



OPEN FIRE REGULATIONS

40%
40% of B.C. wildfires are human-caused and therefore preventable

CAMPFIRES, CATEGORY 2 FIRES AND CATEGORY 3 FIRES: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

CAMPFIRE:	CATEGORY 2 FIRE:	CATEGORY 3 FIRE:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any fire smaller than 0.5 metres high by 0.5 metres wide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 to 2 concurrently burning piles no larger than 2 metres high by 3 metres wide Stubble or grass burning over an area less than 0.2 hectares 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any fire larger than 2 metres high by 3 metres wide 3 or more concurrently burning piles no larger than 2 metres high by 3 metres wide 1 or more burning windrows Stubble or grass burning over an area greater than 0.2 hectares
<p>REGULATIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You must have ready access to 8 litres of water or a shovel for the entire time your campfire is lit. Your campfire must be completely extinguished and the ashes must be cool to the touch before leaving the area for any length of time. (Hot coals can reignite the fire.) During campfire prohibitions, only a CSA- or ULC-approved portable campfire apparatus may be used, and the flame height must not exceed 15 centimetres. You must build a fire guard around your campfire. 	<p>REGULATIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A fuel break must be established around any Category 2 burn area. Fireworks are banned when a Category 2 fire prohibition is in effect. Burning barrels are banned when a Category 2 fire prohibition is in effect. At least one person equipped with a fire-fighting hand tool must monitor the fire at all times. 	<p>REGULATIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A fuel break must be established around any Category 3 burn area. Monitor your open burn to ensure that the fire doesn't spread beyond its intended size. You must have a burn registration number to light a Category 3 open fire. Call the burn registration line 1 888 797-1717 to obtain one.

GENERAL REGULATIONS:

- Never burn in strong wind conditions.
- Your fire must be extinguished before leaving the area.
- Always keep your fire a safe distance away from nearby branches, wood and other combustible materials.
- Do not conduct Category 2 or Category 3 burns when venting conditions are "Poor" or "Fair". Always check here first: www.bcalquality.ca/readings/ventilation-index.html

*Further bans and restrictions can be implemented at the BC Wildlife Service's discretion.

Anyone found in contravention of an open fire prohibition may be fined up to \$1,150. If your fire escapes and results in a wildfire, you may be fined anywhere from \$100,000 to \$1 million and be sentenced to one year in prison. Please check with local government authorities for any other restrictions before lighting any open fire.

Please report wildfires by calling ***5555 or 1 800 663-5555.**



ᑭᓄᓂᓂ ᑭᓄᓂᓂ Personal Bookings



Following a very successful soft opening of ᑭᓄᓂᓂ ᑭᓄᓂᓂ on June 21 Tla'amin Nation will continue to put the finishing touches on its beautiful new feast hall and cultural centre.

Citizens are invited to submit booking requests for ceremonial work planned for January 2026 and beyond. Until then, we have many details to work out to ensure everything is ready.

Over the next few months, the Tla'amin Cultural Committee will be finalizing the protocol and use policy to guide how the space is shared and respected. Leslie Louie has been recently hired as our new Cultural Facility Manager and will be putting in place standard operating procedures to support safe and respectful use.

ᑭᓄᓂᓂ and thank you for your patience.

Please send booking requests to

Leslie.louie@tn-bc.ca

Tla'amin Culture Committee

Building Inspector's Corner

ᑭᓄᓂᓂ ᑭᓄᓂᓂ.

My name is Sean McKinnon, and I am the newly appointed Building Inspector for the Nation. Many of you may know me from my work as one of the Project Managers for Public Works. I am now a Building Official in Training and qualified to work through the Building Officials Association of BC. (BOABC). I am a red seal journeyman Carpenter, and I have a certificate in Building Design and Architectural CAD. (Computer assisted drafting) from BCIT. With this certificate I can design wood frame houses (Part 9 of the BCBC) up to 6400 sqft and three stories. This education and experience is what leads me down the Building Official route so that I may help ensure the Nation has suitably safe and structurally sound homes.

Building Permits

Together with Tla'amin administration and the Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council, we are developing a permit process that will ensure that homes built, and renovations completed follow the minimum guidelines set out in the BC Building Code 2024 edition. There is

a building permit application guide in place to help citizens and contractors navigate the process and understand their role in that process. This is available at Gov. House or by emailing me at; permits@tn-bc.ca Feel free to reach out to me for any permit or construction related questions.

Comprehensive Nation Plan (CNP)

Ultimately, I work for the people of ᑭᓄᓂᓂ. I represent the people that occupy a house currently, are building a new home, and everyone that may step foot in those homes in the future. I ensure that a minimum set of standards and regulations are followed through a detailed review and inspection process.

I'll strive to keep the following CNP goals in mind as I do my work.

Community Services, **Goal 13-** Improve justice and safety for the community.

Lands & Resources, **Goal 17-** Improve clarity and transparency of decision making related to the use of Tla'amin lands and resources.

Public Works, **Goal 20-** Enhance the viability and sustainability of Tla'amin Housing stock.



Annual General Assembly

Questions from Citizens, from the floor and pre-submitted

Will there be a focus on Elder care in years to come, in particular the home care some need. Thank you

Tla'amin staff are in discussions with the BC government and Vancouver Coastal Health about the possibility of developing a long term care facility on Tla'amin Lands. We are exploring the idea now and hope to have a better sense of the feasibility of this type of project within the next year. We also currently run a Home and Community Care program consisting of nursing and home support workers supporting medical, physical, social and emotional needs.

Why is the nation making decisions whose land is who? Why are the families not included when you are talking about families property?

The promise of home and land ownership was a key part of why many people supported Treaty, and we hear clearly that families are eager to move forward. We are developing a fair, transparent, and safe process so that when we do transfer homes and land, we do it properly—protecting both the Nation's interests and the individual citizen's rights.

Here's why and how we're doing that:

Some properties were transferred to the Nation at Treaty, and others were not. That means we have to go case by case, with care and due diligence. In the past, there was no formal process in place to assess things like health and safety risks, repairs needed, or legal clarity. That



put people and the Nation at risk. That's why a moratorium was put in place on home and land transfers—until we could build a better system.

In January 2025, the Nation created a Housing Regulation and Policy Development Committee, chaired by the Director of Housing, to develop policies that reflect our values and responsibilities. The top priority is the Home & Land Transfer Policy.

The new policy will...

- Define what properties are eligible for transfer (for example, single-family homes built before Treaty—not apartment units).
- Define who is eligible to receive a property (must be a Tla'amin citizen, in good standing, and have a meaningful connection to the home).
- Ensure proper inspections and health/safety reviews are completed.
- Clearly document who is responsible for repairs—before and after transfer.

- Create good records and a fair process for all families.

Once we have a clear draft policy, we will reach out directly to affected families and walk them through the process step by step. We expect to have a draft policy ready for approval in the fall, and to begin meeting with families shortly after that to begin processing their transfers.

Why is it taking long for dealing with drug dealers in the community?

We are working on improving accountability for enforcement in our letter of expectations with the RCMP. We are also reviewing improving ticketing and enforcement options under our own laws and regulations.

When will ʔəms ʔayɛ be open for community members to book family cultural events?

We expect ʔəms ʔayɛ to be ready to support Nation programming later this summer. Personal family bookings will not be available until after January 2026, while our Cultural Committee & Policy team develop SOPs & Protocol Procedures.

What is protocol?

Protocol is the practice of following our 1. Tah ow (Our Teachings) 2. Ohtaqken (The way we conduct ourselves within our family, community, standings etc.). Some examples:

Protocol is asking permission to come ashore in someone else's territory. It is taking your shoes off at the door (or keeping them on – based on culture)

Protocol is being quiet when someone passes away, allowing our elders and guests to eat first at a feast.

It is something our people have engaged in for thousands of years. Canoe protocol means



The Salish Centre was full of nation members anticipating the latest developments on our budget and business presentations on June 20th.

QUESTIONS (Continued on page 8)

Grace Adams addresses the assembly



Can we look into a community store-opportunity for business vendors?

There is a Land Use Plan update that has begun – this will be complete within 2-3 years & should include Land selections for business & industrial purposes for TMSLP & Citizens to use. There will be community engagement as part of the Land Use Plan update and the Nation welcomes your input.

TMS has also recently started some strategic planning and the development of an economic development strategy which will help inform economic development and business opportunities.

Currently there is no funding dedicated to clear, develop, and service these parcels for Economic Development purposes. They would be Zoned properly to allow for this use but the investment into the lots would be the responsibility of the business owners or Tla’amin business entity.

In the meantime until the Land Use Plan is updated, there is a Land Application form that can be submitted to L&R Department (Form A of the Development Permit package). This could be the first step a Citizen can take to begin discussions with Lands on proposed uses

Can we look into getting a second soccer field or properly setting the waterfront field to be a proper soccer field Can we look into fixing our hockey courts? Fixing the fencing properly, getting hockey boards to surround the court, fixing the crack/re-paving

We are aware of these issues at nisheyok (our Waterfront Park) and we have a multi-year plan of priorities to address them. We did not have funding this year to address the hockey courts or soccer field, but we hope to be able to work on this in Spring 2026. We have started on some improvements to the park this year, such as fencing in the playground area, replaced the roof on the gazebo, and constructed public washrooms. Our next plans will include upgrading the hockey court, improving the soccer field conditions, and improving the gravel parking lot.

QUESTIONS (Continued from page 7)

showing up in a way that shows you aren’t raiding; protecting a baby by placing a blanket over the mother’s belly; these are all cultural traditions.

When opening up ʔəms ʔayə, there are lots of protocols to figure out for the first time, like what direction to walk when you enter, what happens with kids who cross the floor during a song, etc.

What is happening with the legal, lands and culture library that Treaty had a full inventory of cultural?

The catalogue of materials that was developed during treaty negotiations still exists at the Tla’amin Government offices. All the hard copy files are archived in storage at gov house and many of the files have been digitized for staff to reference in day-to-day work. For example, the Lands and Resources department continues to reference the Traditional Use Study and the housing and public works departments continue to reference Land Interest reports to research home and property ownership.

How is the Nation prioritizing the revitalization of our Culture & Language?

Culture and language maintenance and revitalization are top priorities for our government. We are promoting the use of ʔayʔaʔuθəm in everything that we do - in meetings, in public spaces. We have built an immersion program for our youngest students in Kindergarten and Grade 1 that will continue to grow and support čičuy; this requires more teachers/instructors of the language. We are working to increase the no. of adults able and confident in the language and able teach.

One exciting new opportunity is the UVIC ʔayʔaʔuθəm Proficiency Certificate Program next fall. We have over 55 people registered, with 42 of them being Tla’amin citizens (the others are from our Sister Nations) This program represents a big investment from TN government, and we are confident and

excited to see all these people learning the language together. It will have a great impact on revitalization of our language.

The investment into our new Cultural Center & TFP; gives us a home to expand our programming.

How can an urban member better connect?

These general assemblies are a start. Bringing urban members home twice a year to reconnect with the land and one another.

Our recent urban drop in for status cards and census was a good way to connect too.

We are revamping our website this year with more information and resources to reinforce connections with Tla’amin people no matter where they live.

Has the idea to delegate legislators with some role and accountability been explored? 4 EC members are observed to carry a heavy responsibility, while 4 legislators are observed to have little to no role. Can they be delegated some responsibility and be held accountable?

This governance system was voted in by Tla’amin people when we ratified the constitution.



Jonathon Fraser-Monroe poses his concerns to the the Executive Council

Life is a day at the beach when there is ʔənəm (barbeque fish)



Bringing hɛhɛwʃin to the water for the canoe pulling demonstration.



ʔənəm (barbeque fish) masters left to right are Mattias Gallagher, Joan Williams and Clint Williams



ošil Betty Wilson teaching how to weave cedar roots



Alisha Point wins a second bingo
ʔimot ʔətmeʔem!



-serving delicious ʔən (barbequed fish)



Community members prepare for some canoe paddling and other fun activities held at the waterfront.

Shellfish Tour at Okeover Provides Close Up of Marine Life



Leann Ennis holding bull kelp grown from seed

What this Tour Provided

Urban j̄s̄es had the opportunity to tour paʔaje Shell Fish out at Cannery Bay on June 20th, 2025.

The tour was hosted by employees Leann Ennis and Ivan. This was a first time visit and though the red tide kept us from sampling, knowledge and laughs were shared at the plant.

Leann Ennis is passionate about her work and revitalizing bull kelp in our territory, some of the challenges faced are warming waters and overgrazing məseqw (sea urchins)

The decline in sea stars has also attributed to the loss of bull kelp as sea stars eat sea urchins!

There was talk of food security and sovereignty which is on many minds in our current economy.

Bull kelp is a type of seaweed that can be eaten in various ways including raw, pickled, or dried.

paʔaje Shell Fish has innovative tools to harvest seeds and grow them right here!

Leann is putting a call out for interested youth to visit them on July 14th to 16th for those interested in training or learning more.



Michaela Page and 11 month old Takaya Page



Michael Page and Takaya Page holding a kelp rattle



Yvonne Trott and Shaniah Hillis returning from the boat tour



Ivan, Grace Adams and Leann Ennis



Donald Trott



Bull Kelp Close Up



Feed net for oysters (This provides 24/7 feed, the net is flipped to keep oysters growing equally to grow as much meat as possible) Beach oysters are flatter and more frilly, net oysters are more cuppy which is why they provide more meat!



Ivan explaining how the nets work for growth of the oysters

ʔaʔgayqsən is the place to be this summer

Passengers from the General Assembly get a taste of the great outdoors

By Steve Gallagher

We all know that travelling with your family can get very expensive before you even arrive at your destination. A few days on the road can certainly punch your travel budget through the roof with hotel rates, restaurants, and the children who want that extra something on the ferry.

The solution to handing out some of your savings account is only a few nautical miles away, and has postcard sunsets to be captured on your phone to save those special moments with your loved ones.

The ʔaʔgayqsən Cabin may be the solution for you if your looking for an overnight get-a-way with all the wonderful resources to make you a serious contender on Survivor.

Slap on your Hawaii shirt and sunscreen, and bask in the sand and throw your fishing line off the spit with a basket of seasonal fruit harvested a short distance away.

When it's time to wind down for the evening, you can put your feet up in your own personal cabin equipped with a wood stove, outdoor fire pit, and take in the spectacular ocean view right in the middle of your traditional hunting grounds.

Pack up some hot dogs, load up your cooler, and enjoy the weekend while spending some quality time with your family versus spending your savings account.

Enjoy your ʔaʔgayqsən Cabin Staycation.



Looking for a peaceful getaway?
 The ʔaʔgayqsən cabin is now available for bookings!
 If you're interested, please contact Charl Meyer at charl.meyer@tn-bc.ca for availability and details.



Evie Tom, Debbie Louie and Alice Louie enjoy the ocean air



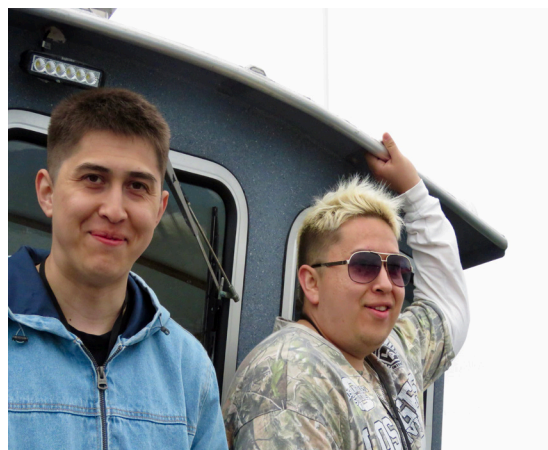
Gail Louie expresses her pleasure to be onboard



Lee George and Roy Francis pull into the waterfront



Mathew and Deanna Laity take five after exploring ʔaʔgayqsən



Silas and Joseph Bruce on board the Nexnohom landing craft



Group takes a moment to replenish their appetites



Walks on the beach were in order on this short excursion

Tla'amin Recreation

For the latest updates and posts about our programs, be sure to visit our Facebook page, "Tla'amin Community Recreation."

Facebook Page and staying up to date
As our programs begin, please be aware that changes can happen unexpectedly. While we do send emails to participants, we encourage you to follow our "Tla'amin Community Recreation" Facebook Page for the latest updates. We regularly post reminders and important information about program changes to keep everyone informed.



NEW First Tee Golf
Ages 5 – 14 years
Location: Salish Centre Gym

This program provides basic information on learning the game of golf as a lifelong health and fitness activity while each lesson emphasizes skills, concepts, and one of the First Tee Nine Core Values: honesty, integrity, sportsmanship, respect, confidence, responsibility, perseverance, courtesy, and judgment. Be sure to check it out and start planning your summer activities.

JR AGES 5–9 YEARS:
Tue 5:15pm–6:00pm Aug 05–Aug 26
FREE 4 Sessions

SR AGES 10–15 YEARS:
Tue 6:15pm–7:00pm Aug 05–Aug 26
FREE 4 Sessions



Tla'amin X Indigenous Athletics Academy (IAA) Soccer Camp Join Indigenous Athletics Academy for a fun and inspiring two-day soccer camp designed to motivate and empower youth who want to develop all aspects of their game. Our camp is open to players of all skill levels, in a supportive, high-energy environment. We work on technical drills to improve ball control, dribbling, passing, and shooting. Game based drills to sharpen decision making and positioning, and scrimmages to put the skills into action.

JR – 5–10 YEARS Sun–Mon
10:00am–12:00pm Jul 27–Jul 28 FREE
2 Sessions

SR – 11–19 YEARS Sun–Mon
1:00am–3:00pm Jul 27–Jul 28
FREE 2 Sessions

Location: tišosem Sports Field

ADVANCED SKILLS SESSION WITH COACH MATEO Sun–Mon 3:30am–4:30pm Jul 27
FREE 1 Session



NEW Elders Strengthening Program
This program is specific to Tla'amin First Nation Elders wishing to improve their fitness & mobility. Led by a Physiotherapist & Kinesiologist from On Track Physiotherapy & Rehabilitation participants will build strength, improve balance, and move with confidence! This low-impact class is designed for older adults and guided by rehab professionals to support safe, functional movement. All fitness levels welcome.

Wednesday 10:30 – 11:30 am
Jun 18 – July 3 FREE classes
Location: Salish Centre



Youth Nights – Summer Hours!
Ages 13–18 years Youth Nights – A Space for Indigenous Youth to Connect, Create & Celebrate.

Calling all Indigenous youth (ages 13–18) and your invited friends! Whether you're into painting, gaming, shooting hoops, nature, or just hanging out, Youth Nights are your space to be yourself, explore your passions, and build community. Every week, we offer activities that nourish the mind, body, and spirit—from expressive art

RECREATION (Continued from page 12)

projects and interactive games to cultural teachings with Knowledge Keepers. Bring your own projects or jump into something new—we've got space, supplies, and support. Enjoy snacks and refreshments (and yes, you can help choose what we stock!), meet new friends, go on awesome field trips, and share your ideas to help shape the program. This is your time, your place—come chill, create, and connect. Check our Facebook page for updated program schedules posted bi-weekly.

Instructor: Adriana Zastre

Thu 5:00pm-9:00pm

Fri 1:00pm-9:00pm

Jul 10–Aug 28 FREE | Excluding: Aug 14 & 15

Location: ʔayıštən ʔaye – Cousin's House qayk (Eagle) Room

Youth Nights Beach Trips

Ages 13-18 years

Mahoods Beach Day

Relax and explore the beach. Skimboards, floaties and snorkeling included. Picnics packed the evening before. **Registration required.**

Instructor: Adriana Zastre

Fri 1:00pm-9:00pm Jul 11 FREE

Savary Beach Day

Relax and explore the beach or bike around the island with many stops along the way. Picnics packed the evening before. **Registration required.**

Instructor: Adriana Zastre

Fri 9:00am-5:00pm Aug 29 FREE

Summer Camp Week 7 – Paddle to ʔagayqsen

Ages 5-12



WEEK 7 – COASTAL QUEST: LEARNING FROM THE LAND & SEA

To end the summer on a high note, our final week will be a meaningful adventure as we explore the traditional lands of the Tla'amin Nation. We'll paddle together to ʔagayqsen on **Wednesday August 20th**, spending the day immersed in the beauty and stories of this special place.

Wed Aug 20th – All Day

**** Registration required for this day ****

You can register online at tlaamin.perfectmind.com. Should you require any assistance, please email rec@tn-bc.ca, call 1-877-505-5139 or stop by Cousin's House between 10:00am–2:30pm Monday to Friday.



“Congratulations Cora Sutcliffe for being selected to compete in the Windsor Open Karate Championship in Windsor, Ontario. Cora travelled with the Powell River Dojo team with Sensei Frank Clayton and brought home the gold medal for kata, gold medal for weapons, and a silver medal in sparring in her division!”



GORGEOUS MOVE: Flying high without even jumping is Executive Council member Dillon Johnson who took down two opponents while tippy toeing on one foot.

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

Preventing Falls in Older Adults: What You Need to Know

Each year, one-third of adults aged 65+ living in the community experience a fall. Falls are the leading cause of injury-related hospitalizations and deaths in older adults in B.C., often leading to serious outcomes like fractures, head injuries, and loss of independence.

The good news? Falls are not a normal part of aging - they are preventable.

Several factors can increase fall risk, including:

- Health issues such as muscle weakness, balance problems, chronic illness (like arthritis or stroke), and medication side effects.
- Environmental hazards like poor lighting, clutter, or unsafe stairs.
- Behavioral risks, including improper use of mobility aids or unsafe footwear.
- Social factors, such as lack of nearby support or access to safe housing.

What can you do to reduce your fall risk?

1. Stay active – Aim for 150 minutes of moderate exercise weekly, plus balance and strength activities.
2. Get your eyes checked annually – Vision issues double fall risk.
3. Make your home safer – Improve lighting, install handrails, remove tripping hazards, and use non-slip mats.
4. Review medications – Talk to your doctor or pharmacist, especially if you take multiple medications.

Already had a fall?

Talk to your health care provider to identify what contributed to it and how to prevent another. In some cases, hip protectors may be recommended.

For more information, visit www.HealthLinkBC.ca or call 8-1-1 to speak with a health professional.

Have a Health Question or Need Support?

Call Tla'amin Health at (604) 483-3009

Our nurses are available during clinic hours to support you and your family with health questions, chronic condition management, medication concerns, or general wellness.

We understand the importance of culturally safe care and are here to walk alongside you on your health journey.

1 in 3 Elders will **FALL** this year



What can you do to prevent falls?

Tips to Prevent Falls While Outdoors in Summer



Maintain your strength and balance

Staying active is key! Activities like gardening and dancing all help keep our bodies mobile. Be cautious if walking on rocky beaches, trails with roots, and getting on/off boats. Take your time, pay attention to your footing, and ask for help if needed.

Wear Proper Footwear

Wear supportive footwear with low, broad, and enclosed heels. Slip-ons can be nice in summer but may increase the risk of slips, trips, or falls.

Plan Ahead!

It is important to be prepared so you can enjoy your time out and stay safe!

- Are there places to sit and rest while going for a walk?
- Are there handrails to hold?
- Do you need to bring a walker, cane, or mobility aid?
- Should you wear a continence pad to prevent leakage or feeling the need to rush if you need to use the bathroom?
- Do you have snacks and water available so you stay hydrated and energized?

Vision



Wear sunglasses outdoors. Give time for your eyes to adjust to changes in the light

Hegus Message to Tla'amin Nation

I raise my hands to acknowledge the staff and volunteers that made our general assembly & grand opening of ʔəms ʔayə a success. It was a wonderful gathering with our elders, youth, community, and guests from our sister nations. Our traditional feast was amazing and certainly blessed.

Here are a few of my highlights.

- When Klahoose and Homalco canoes paddled in from the Southend of tishosum, that was my first protocol participating in welcoming our sister nation canoes ashore.
- One family mentioned that moving home would allow them to access a better range of programs and services
- Our grand opening of ʔəms ʔayə reflects how our culture and protocols are surviving and thriving.
- Witnessing the drumming, singing, and our historical stories demonstrates strength in our Tla'amin ta'aw is through our youth, elders and community.
- Sherman Pallen and Gordon Dick explaining the background and inspirational stories behind each of the poles and house posts. This symbolizes our connection with our sister nations Comox, Klahoose and Homalco.
- Repatriating the Tiskʷat mortuary poles and baskets into ʔəms ʔayə.

The background story of how Tuy-up-thot Erik's lifelong journey to find these poles from the age of 16, exploring the North Banks of tiskwat to the day of discovery at the Museum of anthropology.

The poles were located at UBC Museum of Anthropology labelled as Sto-Lo nation. Drew was viewing baskets that were from Tla'amin and randomly recognized the two Tiskʷat mortuary poles from an old picture from 1915.



A couple of our treasures are finally home in ʔəms ʔayə



“Congratulations to Assumption Grade 7 graduating class of 2025.

Bottom Left: Adam Louie, Alexander Sutcliffe, Adrian Tom and Cecil Hackett will be heading to Brooks next year.

Thank you to all the teachers who have played pivotal roles in guiding our youth!!”



This Indigenous Peoples Day, Assumption School proudly honours the strength, wisdom, and voices of our students and community. Together, we are building futures grounded in culture, respect, and pride.



Introducing Lizzy the Lizard



I would like to introduce you to my pal named, Lizzy. She has a message for all the kids this summer:

"Hey Kids - I am a lizard, and you might know, lizards need to lay out in the sun a lot. It doesn't hurt me. For you, though, you need to take care in the sun. Remember your sunscreen, drink lots of water, and look for shady spots to take a break when you are playing outside."

That is some good summer advice from Lizzy. Thanks once again for a chance to share my art.

Dustin Preiss
Tla'amin Member
Artist.

Dental Dates

July 2 & 3 - Dr. Gosnell

July 4 - Dr. Machin

July 8 & 9 - Dr. Gosnell

July 11 - Dr. Machin

July 22 & 23 - Dr. Gosnell

July 25 - Dr. Machin

Contact Cathy at 778-657-5924