



**KTUNAXA
NATION**

Ktunaxa Nation Council
7468 Mission Road
Cranbrook, BC V1C 7E5
tel: 250-489-2464
fax: 250-489-2438

visit us at:
www.ktunaxa.org

**For Immediate Release
November 12, 2008**

*** This release is being issued in consultation with Anthony's family and community.**

Ktunaxa Implement Health Service Liaisons

Kootenays / Ktunaxa Traditional Territory – The Ktunaxa Kinbasket Child and Family Services Society (KKCFSS) announce with great sadness, that a youth in care has died from yet undetermined causes. The youth who has been identified as Anthony Jacobs from the Lower Kootenay community, was found deceased on Monday November 10th in Cranbrook.

"We are beside ourselves with grief and sympathy," said Cheryl Casimer, President of the KKCFSS. "Our deepest condolences go out to Tony's family, friends, as well as the staff who supported him. We cannot express enough how saddened we are by this tragic loss."

The KKCFSS will be fully cooperating with all review bodies as well as the RCMP. KKCFSS will provide an official statement upon the conclusion of all internal and external reviews.

The KKCFSS will be working with communities, and both the Federal and Provincial governments to ensure that adequate and relevant resources are available to support Aboriginal youth in our communities.

"We request that privacy be provided to the family and community in their time of grieving," continued Casimer. "It is important for us to support one another and come together during these difficult times."

There will be many supports put in place for the family and friends of Tony, and KKCFSS encourage anybody that requires our support to contact them at 250-489-4563 or after hours, the Ministry Help Line at 310-1234.

KKCFSS is a non-profit society that has delegated authority for Child and Family Services for Aboriginals within the Ktunaxa Traditional Territory. KKCFSS is governed by the Ktunaxa Kinbasket Social Sector Board, which is made up of representatives from the communities of Akisqnuq, Lower Kootenay, Shuswap, St. Mary's, Tobacco Plains and Métis.

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For Further Information Contact:

Garry Slonowski
Communications Manager
Ktunaxa Nation Council
(250) 420-2733
gslonowski@ktunaxa.org
www.ktunaxa.org

“Strong, healthy citizens and communities speaking our languages and celebrating who we are and our history in our ancestral homelands, working together, managing our lands and resources, as a self-sufficient, self-governing Nation.”

- Ktunaxa Nation Vision Statement

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Lower Kootenay

St. Mary's

Tobacco Plains