



# KTUNAXA NATION ANNUAL REPORT 2018





|   |    |
|---|----|
| From the Nation Chair                   | 2  |
| From the Chief Administrative Officer   | 4  |
| Economic & Investment Sector            | 8  |
| Education & Employment Sector           | 11 |
| Traditional Knowledge & Language Sector | 14 |
| Social Investment Sector                | 18 |
| Lands & Resources Fisheries             | 23 |
| Lands & Resources Sector                | 27 |
| Finance                                 | 32 |
| Nupqu Development Corporation           | 36 |
| FlexiNet                                | 40 |
| Treaty Negotiations                     | 41 |

The theme of the 2018 Annual General Assembly is ‘People, purpose, passion, the pathway to success’ as chosen by the host Ktunaxa Community, ʔakisq̓nuk First Nation.

Every year in July, Ktunaxa Citizens from the Territory and the world gather at one of our Ktunaxa communities for the Annual General Assembly. It is an opportunity to hear about the work the Ktunaxa Nation Council has been engaged in as well as an opportunity for all Ktunaxa to come together to celebrate our success and reflect on the year past.

Every year, Ktunaxa Citizens are invited to design an AGA logo that ties into the AGA theme. The winner’s design is featured on the meal button for each year’s AGA. This year’s winner is Rachel Bach.





## From the Nation Chair

It is once again time for reporting on activities and highlights of the past year. This report is provided on behalf of the Nation Chair and the Ktunaxa Nation Executive Council (KNEC).



The KNEC met as scheduled throughout the year. In addition to the regularly scheduled sessions members of the KNEC attended a variety of meetings and events within and outside of Ktunaxa territory. This included participation in Community to Community forums with our neighbours.

There were some changes to the KNEC as result of community elections and retirements. Darlene Trach, Councillor at Tobacco Plains has replaced Councillor Corey Letcher also from Tobacco Plains as the Chair of the Education and Employment Sector. Councillor Julie Birdstone from ʔaᑭam has replaced former Councillor Rosemary Phillips from ʔakisqnuᑭ as the Chair of the Traditional Knowledge and Language (TKL) sector. The remaining members of the KNEC are unchanged.

Some highlights from the past year include:

- The KNEC and Sector Council members were provided with the opportunity for ongoing professional development by way of sessions led by Dan George, Four Directions Management, Dr. Christopher Horsethief and coordinated by Karen Bailey-Romanko.
- On May 26, 2017 the fifth annual celebration of the KNGB acquisition was held. The celebration included the recognition of Nasukin Jim Whitehead for his years of service.
- In June 2017 the Ktunaxa Nation hosted another successful

charity golf tournament at the St. Eugene Golf Resort and Casino. The funds raised from the tournament are used to support the TKL initiatives. This year's annual event is scheduled for June 21 2018.

- Throughout the year members of the KNEC and other elected representatives continued to participate in a number of meetings regarding the upcoming Canada/US negotiations of the Columbia River Treaty (CRT). A key meeting was held in June 2017 with Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Global Affairs, General Andrew Leslie. KNC was also represented at a meeting with Fisheries Minister Dominic LeBlanc in September 2017 on the issue of salmon restoration. Earlier this year we were surprised and extremely disappointed with the announcement by Minister of Global Affairs Chrystia Freeland that the 3 Indigenous Nations from Canada would not be part of the negotiations even though we'd been in discussions on this issue since 2011. The first Canada/US session was held on May 29, 2018.

- KNC was represented at the September 2017 meetings between the Premier and Cabinet and FN leadership. This was the first opportunity to meet with the NDP led government. The discussions were of a high level nature as the Cabinet members had only been in their positions for approximately 6 weeks. In his comments Premier John Horgan noted that the issues of reconciliation and relationship were not a partisan issue. He also mentioned that the mandate letters he sent to his Cabinet ministers referenced the need to implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) Calls to Action.

- In October 2017 I provided a welcome to the Columbia Basin Symposium sponsored by the Columbia Basin Trust. A highlight of the event was the keynote address by Canadian Astronaut Chris Hadfield. He is a very interesting speaker as well as an accomplished musician. He concluded his







# From the Nation Chair

presentation with his version of Space Oddity.

• On November 2, 2017 the Supreme Court of Canada (SCC) decision regarding the challenge to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms on the issue of Ktunaxa spiritual beliefs was finally rendered. We were disappointed to learn that our appeal was not successful. In the debriefing session held in Vancouver it was concluded that we were not heard and that was evident that the legal system is flawed and stacked against Indigenous interests. This matter arose as a result of our opposition to the Jumbo Glacier Resort's planned development at Qat'muk. Following the rendering of the decision we participated in several media and information sharing events. Although we were not successful in the courts, this does not lessen our resolve to protect Qat'muk from any development that results in permanent habitation. We are continuing to look for alternative approaches for protection. We have continued to pressure the Provincial government to take action to reverse earlier approvals. There is currently no activity in the area.

In closing, I want to acknowledge the efforts of everyone involved in the advancement of our efforts to achieve our Vision. I also want to take the time to remember the contributions of those who came before us and to remind ourselves of our responsibilities to those yet unborn. As I have stated many times, we all have something to contribute toward making our world a better place for ourselves and our neighbours today and into the future.

Taxa,  
Kathryn Teneese, Nation Chair



## From the Chief Administrative Officer

I'd like to acknowledge and thank Akisqnuk for hosting this year's Ktunaxa Nation Council Annual General Assembly.

As Chief Administrative Officer for the Nation, my approach continues to be one of guiding and working collaborative with staff in stewarding our growth and change while always seeking to improve our efficiency and effectiveness.



Over the past year we have introduced some exciting new governance approaches to build unity and strength. We had our inaugural Leadership Summit (assisted by our friend Dan George) this past February to help re-affirm where we are headed, together. This session served to re-open our dialogue and set some pragmatic Nation priorities.

Most importantly, the summit provided direction in helping to reframe our strategic initiatives framework, all based on a Nation re-building approach.

Pragmatic steps or priorities of focus going forward include:

**Stronger Planning** – Continue to build our institutional strength through longer term planning, research and strategic advisory functions (more proactive vs. reactive)

**Values** – Review and affirm a common set of Ktunaxa values to help align and frame our work.

**Collaboration** – More focus amongst and within communities to build unity, supported by more cross-sectoral teams.

**Citizen Capacity Building**- Hire more Ktunaxa and train for key

positions, including bringing more traditional knowledge and language into our work places

**Health** – By mindful that there is a continuum of care associated with being a healthy Nation and all groups of Ktunaxa citizens need support

**Business & Wealth** – We need to better define what wealth means to us as Ktunaxa. At a minimum it should include language, and stronger families. We need to clearly answer, what does a KNC diverse investment portfolio look like? How much do we invest?

Moreover, business investments must align with our Ktunaxa values .

**Title & Rights** – We need to seek to remove uncertainty of what a post-treaty environment could look like. Critically assess current mandates and gain leadership consensus in the context of protecting citizens and our collective title and rights. To this end, the Nation has several active working groups in place:

- >> Constitution working group
- >> Citizenship code working group
- >> Governance Transition Team

**Communication & Engagement** – Leadership would like to have more “all leader” sessions to regularly provide a “check in” and advance Nation re-building, by exercising openness and transparency. This would include the development and dissemination of a more fulsome Communications Policy - more notice to citizens for meetings, engagement sessions, etc.

Prior to the summit, KNC Sector Directors and the CAO held a retreat at Ainsworth Hot Springs to co-develop a work plan that would help us collaborate on initiatives and hold one another accountable through the Inter-Sector Directors



## From the Chief Administrative Officer

Committee (ISDC) which meets the first Tuesday of every month. To support this, KNC Core managers meet regularly, as well as quarterly Band Administrator meetings, and recently formed Financial Officers and HR Network support groups.

This year's AGA theme is ...“People, purpose, passion, the pathway to success”.

This powerful theme embodies our daily practice at the KNC in always seeking to build capacity and good governance support systems, while unifying our voices, and strengthening our institutions.

Some other accomplishments this past year:

Full implementation of our HR performance management software Trakstar

Capacity development of our Human resource is one of our most important duties. We've established a “Learning Nation” work group to help develop more fulsome policy around Capacity & Career Development, Mentoring and Succession Planning.

Records Information Management and adherence to privacy laws continue to be a priority at the Nation ensuring the highest standards are met or surpassed.

The integrity, storage, access and security of our data and archives are vital. Information well managed is powerful and if mismanaged can be a liability.

You will read later in this year's report that the Lands & Resources sector has undergone an organizational review partly to integrate the function of the former CCRIFC as well as to better align sector functions and roles to best serve the Lands mandate. In adopting a contribution structural model

you will see this is also more aligned with our traditional ways of governing and living. This will become a useful model in re-assessing and re-aligning our core responsibilities as we continue to grow and mature.

Last summer, the KNC built a roof-top solar array on the gym along with an electric car charging station. This project was largely funded by outside sources and has served to showcase our Ktunaxa values of environmental stewardship and sustainability to our neighbours in Amakis Ktunaxa. We continue to look for opportunities in green and renewal energy.

The Occupational Health and Safety committee continues to help improve working conditions in all Nation work spaces. Committee representatives are more educated and capable to identify potential hazards and also to report and follow up on incidents. The KNC continues to support the OH&S committee through monthly meetings at the KNGB, and supporting/facilitating training for staff, bringing awareness to workplace safety, while developing policies and procedures.

The IT department remains diligent in ensuring our technology and related systems support our ability to connect, collaborate and communicate. Dedicated servers have provided us with greater capacity and security. Late in the fiscal, a CBT technology grant meant we were able to upgrade our phone system connecting all Ktunaxa communities with the KNGB.

In finance, the KNC once again has received a clean and unqualified audit opinion. With more funds flowing from the IMBA & ECDA, the Finance Committee (made up of community leaders supported by their technical staff) is looking into ways and means to sustain our healthy financial position.

As precursor exercises to moving to a Nation Treasury, we have active work groups in place to research and develop Investment Strategies & Policy; the implementation of a





## From the Chief Administrative Officer

3 year strategic planning/budget cycle to ensure better planning; a Ktunaxa Citizen Excellence Fund to recognize the many valued contributions of our citizens; and, a long term sustainability plan to ensure our future generations have the necessary financial resources to govern, to live healthily, and to prosper.

Sector mandates have been adopted in principle, as directed by leadership in 2017 and are now nested in Sector Charters with all sectors following consistent Standard Operating Procedures. This ultimately helps us to work more effectively together in a collaborative way at the KNC, with all of you, and with other governments and industries.

We have made significant progress with a focus on market preparedness in accessing those opportunities that flow from the KNC - Teck IMBA and other agreements. Agreements such as this help to establish better relationships and strategic partnerships, providing a platform for Nation building, employment and prosperity, just as we have always done - working cooperatively and thriving on Amakis Ktunaxa.

While building accountability within the organization, being responsive and strategically directed by our Vision statement, we are constantly mindful of the principles of fairness and equity. These values guide us in our daily work, our planning, our service delivery, our growth and our re-investment. As a collective, the opportunities are great. Integrity and professionalism are at the heart of advancing our Vision in making a better way forward for all Ktunaxa citizens.

Taxas

Darrin Jamieson  
CAO



*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.*







# Economic & Investment Sector

## Message from Director:

The Economic & Investment Sector continues to grow and evolve in order to best serve the interests of the Ktunaxa Nation. Over the past 12 months, we have experienced some significant changes and should begin by acknowledging the retirement of Matthew Ney from his role as Sector Director. Matt was instrumental in concluding several key projects and has laid the groundwork for significant increases in the capacity of the Sector. On behalf of the staff and Sector Council, we thank him for his efforts.

Throughout this transition, the guidance and support of our Economic Sector Council has provided a stable environment in which staff can continue the execution of the Sector Mandate and the necessary transition of day-to-day functions.

One of the largest endeavours has been the operationalization of Ktunaxa Holdings Limited (KHL) into a more active corporation which is then able to take advantage of the many opportunities made available through agreements like the IMBA. While still underway, this project will fundamentally change the way that the Nation does business and will significantly enhance the business capacity of the Nation. Many of the lessons learned from the St. Eugene Mission Resort & Casino acquisition and reorganization are being applied to the KHL project.

On that note, Economic & Investment Sector staff has continued to support St. Eugene and their ownership in the first year of operation post acquisition. In negotiating improved agreements with the Province of BC and the BC Lottery Corporation, we have helped create certainty for St. Eugene as that property strives to reach its full potential.

As the Nation continues to grow as a whole, increased opportunities for collaboration and cooperation with other sectors are being realized, with some particularly unique opportunities stemming from these. Haqaṭpaṭninam (Speaking

Earth), Dominion Coal Blocks, Nation Investment Strategy and the Ktunaxa Regional Branding Initiative are just a few examples of where the sectors are finding new and innovative ways of working together and we are proud to have contributed to these initiatives.

Engagement with Industry Partners continues to be a significant component of the sectors work. The Teck IMBA is now in Year 2, with significant strides being made towards the maximization of opportunities through that agreement. Successes from the IMBA work are also informing the nature and structure of our agreements with other industry partners as well. We anticipate considerably different relationships to exist with parties like BC Hydro, Canfor, Fortis BC, and CBBC owing to our own development and the changing political climate provincially and federally. We are cautiously optimistic about the benefits which might be derived from these new relationships.

In addition to major industry, we hold a select number of strategic agreements with business throughout the Territory in a number of different industries. These agreements are necessary tools to help us increase our own capacity and demonstrate benefits to the communities and Nation members.

A final area of focus is enhancing the profile and awareness of the Ktunaxa within the territory through various tourism initiatives. Pursued in collaboration with other sectors and outside entities (Kootenay Rockies Tourism, Building East Shore Tourism, Indigenous Tourism BC), our intent is to grow opportunities for business and entrepreneurial development within the Tourism industry.



## Economic & Investment Sector

While proud of the successes we've achieved, the Economic and Investment Sector is poised to take even greater strides over the next twelve months and we look forward to bringing those outcomes forward to the Nation.

With gratitude,

Justin Paterson  
Interim Director – Economic & Investment Sector  
Ktunaxa Nation Council

Message from Chair:

As Chair of the Economic & Investment Council, I would first like to thank my colleagues on Sector Council, for their leadership and vision in helping our Nation to take the strides towards self-sufficiency that we all desire. Our Sector has grown, both in numbers and direction, over the past year and is positioned to start to realize the objectives of our mandate and mission. Much of this growth is due to the efforts of Matthew Ney, our outbound Director, and we thank him for his work.

Over the next twelve months, the Sector will continue the necessary work of extracting business operations from the function of Government, to allow for more timely responses to the opportunities presented to us. Staff have worked hard to create structures and processes which ensure the reflection of Ktunaxa values in the execution of our business ventures. This separation will also allow for increased and new opportunities around wealth management and revenue generation, rooted in the fiscal powers of Government. These shifts in function are necessary and timely, as we seek to continually support the growth and advancement of the Nation.

I would also like to thank our Sector staff, and partners in Government and Industry, for their efforts over the past year. Taxes

Bob Luke  
Chair – Economic & Investment Sector  
Ktunaxa Nation Council

Economic & Investment Sector Council Members:

- Bob Luke (Chair) – ʔa·kinkumŁasnuqŁiʔit
- Donald Sam – ʔakisq̓nuk
- Josie Fullerton – Yaqa·n Nuʔkiy
- Corrie Walkley – ʔaq̓am

Economic & Investment Sector Staff:

- Justin Paterson – Interim Director
- Tanis Shedden – Administrator
- Michelle Evans – Administrative Assistant
- Mirella Trozzo Baillie – Accountant Analysis (Term Position)
- Hennie Tait – Procurement & Business Development Officer (IMBA)
- Janice Alpine – Business Development Officer: Tourism Relations
- Heather Burrows – Project & Administration Coordinator
- Jared Basil – Business Development Officer Trainee
- Marion Eunson – Industry Engagement Officer

*Sector Mandate: The mandate of the Ktunaxa Economic & Investment Sector is to create a sustainable and diverse government fiscal environment and opportunities for own-source, self-sufficient revenue for the entire Ktunaxa Nation through strong organizational business capacity.*



# Economic & Investment Sector

## Summary of Strategic Goals & Actions:

### 1) Autonomous Revenue Base for Ktunaxa Government

- Developing Nation Investment Policy
  - i. Identify and understand funding/revenue sources
  - ii. Align policy with Ktunaxa values
  - iii. Balance risk/growth
- Developing Nation Fiscal Powers
  - i. Situational analysis
  - ii. Taxation or similar mechanisms
- Sustainable Business Revenue Generation
  - i. KHL & subsidiaries (Flexinet, Nupqu)
  - ii. Revenue sharing opportunities (BCLC, GPEB, etc.)
- Understand & Maximize Funding Structures & Industry Agreements

### 2) Secure Economic Access

- Improve Economic & Business Development Capacity
  - i. Employee professional development
  - ii. Community/individual support (risk management, access to capital, etc.)
- Identification of Underutilized Opportunities (Support from LRC)
  - i. Economic Resource Map (detail inventory of assets and opportunities)

### 3) Build Sustainable Economy

- Support Individual Entrepreneurs
  - i. KABDA support services
  - ii. Microlending and options for accessing capital
  - iii. KHL integration to secure opportunities (subcontracting)
- Inter-Sectoral Collaboration
  - i. Replicate successful projects to date
  - ii. Workforce Development / Assessment (creating the “right” opportunities)

### 4) Expand Economic Activity

- Attract Investment
  - i. Nation Business Directory
  - ii. Procurement Development
  - iii. Securitize Capital
- Marketing / Tourism
  - i. Expanded Increase Ktunaxa Presence (Ktunaxa Regional Initiative)
  - ii. Communication Strategy

### 5) Equitable Distribution of Opportunities and Resources

- Increase Ktunaxa Citizen Representation in Sector
  - i. Create mentorship and employment opportunities
  - ii. Support summer student and intern positions
- Leverage Economic Data (Improved Decision Making)
  - i. Define “market ready” individuals/businesses/opportunities
  - ii. Align with political appetite from BC & Federally
- Equitable Distribution of Wealth
  - i. Development of Proper Governmental Policy
  - ii. Support growth / capacity building



## Education & Employment Sector

This year has been an exciting year for the Education and Employment Sector! It is an honour to work with such a dedicated and professional team working diligently to achieve our goals and objectives each year. I would like to thank our whole team and sector council representatives for their contribution over the past year. Since the inception of the sector we have been working on the development of a 10 year Strategic Plan through leadership and community engagement to guide the work of this sector. This year we have worked diligently to have the Strategic Plan approved that will guide us in the work we are doing moving forward over the next 10 years. Staff and Sector Council worked together to develop our mission statement:

“We are Ktunaxa Citizen Centered, working creatively and strategically with ʔaqʔsmaknik, in Ktunaxa ʔamakʔis to support and empower Indigenous people in reaching their full potential, achieving self-sufficiency and overall desired quality of life.”

In the spirit of cooperation and collaboration, we have completed many initiatives cross-sectoral to build on the great work we are doing in our Sector but also of the great work being completed in all of the Sectors. This included working with the TKL Sector to develop and offer the Tipi Camp Training: Speaking Earth that successfully trained the workers to be able to support the roll out to offer to guests at St. Eugene Resort and Campground. We also were able to continue to support the development and progress of ʔAknusti with the Lands and Resources Sector as we move towards finalizing the concepts of the programming in order for the Education and Employment Sector to look to secure funding to develop and bring the Guardian Program to fruition. We continue to work closely with both the Social and Economic Sectors on common areas such as the Social Enterprise development.

The Education and Employment Sector, along with the College of the Rockies were able to secure funding through the Ministry of Advanced Education under the Aboriginal Community Based Partnership Program to co-facilitate an Enhanced Human Service Worker (HSW) Program that will

run for 16 months consecutively, beginning in June 2018 to 12 Indigenous students. The program is very different from the standard HSW program by beginning with a week of orientation and a two week boot camp that will prepare students to be successful, followed by nine-6 week blocks with one week off between each block. The cost of tuition, books and supplies have all been covered by the successful proposal. I would like to thank Robert Williams for his work in the design of the program and continued guidance in ensuring that Ktunaxa Traditional Wellness principles are fully incorporated into the program, as well as connecting us with appropriate citizens who will be contracted for various teachings throughout the 16 months.

We have also been working closely with the College of the Rockies over the past year in the development of a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and I would like to thank Stan Chung and Heather Hepworth for both of their work throughout this process. The new MOU shows the strong partnership and close working relationship that we have, demonstrates the commitment to be allies and works to create a joint work plan to achieve common goals. It is expected to have a new MOU in place in the fall of 2018.

The Education Ambassador Position has proven to be very beneficial position to advance the Education goals of our Sector, we have been fortunate to have Bonnie Harvey in this role. Bonnie brings such a breadth of knowledge and passion that makes this position come to life! We continue to develop this work plan to meet the needs of the Nation and the Communities as identified in our strategic plan. Bonnie dedicated many volunteer hours over the past decade to Education and we are excited to have her with us to help prioritize the work ahead. We are pleased to have a dedicated Education position to help us begin to advance the Education goals of the Sector!

In March 2018, we hosted the Ktunaxa Youth Summit “Ahead of the Game” in Cranbrook, BC. The Youth Summit was attended by 65 Ktunaxa Youth, 15-25 years of age, who provided information to support the development and the



## Education & Employment Sector

mandate of a future youth council. The information gathered also provided Education and Employment with information regarding how we can best serve the youth in a way that will ensure they are able to reach their desired goals. This was an opportunity for both youth in community and youth residing outside Ktunaxa ?amak?is, who otherwise would not have the chance, to come home, to share their insight and knowledge around the development of this youth governance initiative. The Ahead of the Game Youth Summit empowered youth to use their voice to make positive change in the way services are offered to youth and ensure that their voice is heard.

In March of 2018 I was appointed to the British Columbia Mining Task Force by Minister, Michelle Mungall of Energy, Mine and Petroleum Resources. The Task Force was established in order to better engage with First Nations groups, industry members and communities and gain more insight to assist the Government in the development of new actions designed to keep our Province more competitive and sustainable. As a group, all aspects of mineral exploration and mining in BC are reviewed and the suggestions we provide are brought forward in the hopes it will bring more certainty to the mining sector and create better job security. The Task Force will submit a final report detailing our recommendations to the Minister by November of this year.

We continue to work with industry and businesses to create employment and training opportunities for Ktunaxa Citizens. We currently have four formal employment partnerships under the Letter of Understanding (LOU) that are focused on occupations in the trades as well as relationships with businesses and organizations in the industry, hospitality and tourism, retail services, agriculture, forestry, and Ktunaxa businesses. I want to acknowledge and thank Jacey Reay for all of her dedication and support to fulfill our business, industry and employer goals over the past year. Jacey demonstrates drive and passion in working to create meaningful opportunities for Ktunaxa Citizens! Together Jacey and I have covered off at the various industry level tables for Jacquie Dust, who is currently on secondment with ?aqam, including IMBA, Canfor, BC Hydro, Grievances/

Reconciliation, etc. We all miss Jacquie dearly and are excited for her return!

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication that Jason Andrew, Manager of Contracts and Client Services has shown over the past year. With Jacquie away on secondment, Jason has stepped up to fulfill our management needs and ensure that each and every one of our contracts is meeting the deliverables, we are on track with our contracts, and achieving our work plan! Jason has grown over the past year into a strong leader and mentor for our work family to flourish in each of their positions.

I look forward to the upcoming year, working with all sectors within the KNC, communities, educational institutions, as well as business and industry to benefit our Citizens and Indigenous people. I would also like to send my thanks and gratitude to the Sector Council as well as the staff of the Education and Employment Sector for their hard work and dedication that they continue to provide. Together we are Team AWESOME!

Texas,  
Codie Morigeau

### Sector Chair's Message

The Education and Employment Sector continues to deliver on its mandate to deliver Nation and Community based programming and services in its contribution towards the overall Ktunaxa Nation Vision. I would like to take this opportunity as the new Sector Council Chair to thank the E&E staff for all the hard work that they do. I am proud to be a member of a team that makes a daily impact in the lives of Ktunaxa Citizens. Keep up the good work!

### Employment & Education Sector Council

1. Darlene Trach, Sector Chair, Tobacco Plains
2. Vickie Thomas, ?aqam
3. Darcy Fisher, ?akisq̓nuk
4. Sandra Luke, Lower Kootenay Band





# Education & Employment Sector

## Education & Employment Team

- Codie Morigeau, Director
- Jackie Dust, Manager, Education and Industry Relations
- Jason Andrew, Manager, Contracts and Client Services  
Manager
- Bertha Andrew, Executive Assistant
- Jacey Reay, Employment Development Officer
- Shelby Aquila, Youth Coordinator
- Kirsty Diotte, Employment Skills Worker
- Kristi Strobbe, Employment Coach
- Kari Gjertsen, Aboriginal Client Case Worker
- Bonnie Harvey, Education Ambassador
- Savannah Peequaaut, Employment Officer
- Linden Meggison, Database Clerk



# Traditional Knowledge & Language Sector

*K'haqałpałni k'hakyaxamik k'haqałqanuxwat k'hawasxu?mik. Sił  
q'xantawasni ya-qat ?aqtsmaknikki q' ?aktukaqwum?is, q'api  
qapsins kinmu wunmanamus*

*As our ancestors have done for us, we ensure that the traditions,  
culture, knowledge and language of our people as passed on to  
those still to come.*

## Traditional Knowledge & Language Sector Council Members

|                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Juile Birdstone - Chair | ?Aqam                 |
| Theresa Kains           | ?Akiqnuk              |
| Mary Mahseelah          | ?A·kink'umłasnuqii?it |
| Jared Basil             | Yaqan Nukiy           |

## Traditional Knowledge & Language Advisory Council

As appointed by the communities of the Nation

Mary Mahseelah  
Mary Basil  
Elizabeth Ignatius  
Anne Jimmy  
Alfred Joseph  
Marie Nicholas  
Sophie Pierre  
Kay Shottnana

We have regular Advisory Committee meetings open to all KNC sectors to solicit direction and feedback for various activities. Quarterly meetings are open to all Knowledge Holders to contribute to the discussion and direction. In addition, various activities require a targeted working group depending on the scope and expertise required.

## Traditional Knowledge & Language Sector Staff

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Donald Sam        | Director                                   |
| Margaret Teneese  | Archives                                   |
| Michelle Barroca  | Archives - Contract                        |
| Eldon Stanley     | Digital Technician                         |
| Jared Teneese     | Business & Product Development Coordinator |
| Bradley Alexander | Cultural Assistant                         |
| Frankie Alexander | Cultural Assistant                         |
| Michele Sam       | Cultural Researcher (Teck IMBA)            |
| Cecilia Teneese   | Administrative Assistant                   |

## Director's Message

I am excited to report to you this past years activities as well as provide some insight into the direction that TKL is headed. We have been involved in a number of activities that do contribute or will contribute to the revitalization of Ktunaxa Culture, Language and Traditions. We are confident in our strategic structure and direction that allows Ktunaxa citizens not only to access cultural resource support, but to be empowered and active participants in Language and culture revitalization. TKL is a valued partner with other sectors to ensure that Nation governance operates in accordance with one heart connected to our pik'aknik' values and confident in Culture and Traditions. We are promoting pride in our language, history and culture to ensure they are carried forward by the next generation. TKL is growing in staff and we are holding on to the notion of "touching the hearts and minds of our ?akłsmak'nik".

Our evolving team is growing, from two, we are now up to twelve staff in TKL; we welcomed Michele Sam as our newest member- Cultural Research Specialist- This position is a great asset in developing the TKL sector to be better equipped to respond to cultural research while enabling KNC to fulfill requirements and maximize opportunities under the TECK IMBA. Bradley Alexander and Frankie Alexander have chosen to continue on this year as our guides for the Haqałpałni?nam. Eldon Stanley Joined TKL in September for a 1 year digitization project working with Archives in



## Traditional Knowledge & Language Sector

further developing the Audio/video digitization program. The Education and Outreach coordinator Leanna Gravelle facilitates cultural awareness and developing a Ktunaxa Language curriculum/program. Our Business and Product Development coordinator Jared Teneese continues growing the inventory selection and sales of the TKL Interpretive Center and Gift Store requiring the addition of another clerk. Margaret Teneese and Michelle Barroca are TKL Record Management superheros, bringing order and array to the documents of KNC and the Ktunaxa Nation in the Archives. All of this work is enabled by Cecilia Teneese our Administrative Assistant. I am fortunate to have the staff I have to do all the work some of which I am about to share with you.

We have a beautiful, rich history and culture, a formidable present and a promising future that we promote in unison. We are committed to reducing racism and intolerance by teaching the public about the Ktunaxa –Past, present and future... “we are still here” is strong in our messaging to government, industry and public. TKL continues to facilitate or participate in cultural awareness workshops, and what is new this year is the development of Cultural awareness training modules. This multi-sector collaboration will facilitate KNC to tailor Cultural Awareness offerings to various audiences to be delivered by various people and sectors confidently ensuring that the core messaging is aligned with the Nation aspirations.

We also continue being involved in activities like the Sam Steele Days (Chief Isadore) weekend, Salmon Festival, culture camps and workshops, promoting our history and presence. Our tours of the SEM (which continues our messaging of Past, Present and Future) have been a great hit, schools come from all over the East and West Kootenays to learn Indigenous history. These activities with general public help promote Ktunaxa values by propagating knowledge of our history, present and future. We hope to inspire science, researchers, tourists, travelers, and locals to learn about their regional First Nations wherever they may be. The biggest cure for intolerance and racism is education.

### Language Priority

Our language program is premised in the development of a language strategy that engages Nation citizens and empowers individuals while providing access to content and development of collaborative curriculum that builds on existing resources. We are fully supportive of the community teachers and activities currently underway. Our work over the past years is towards developing a language program that will utilize existing recordings as teaching tools to teach listening comprehension, speaking and reading and writing skills. Developing language resources and tools for measuring progress as well as articulating the mechanics of Ktunaxa language- Predicates, verbs, affixes prefixes (yes they exist in Ktunaxa as well as English). This year we are planning a language summit as well as professional development that will bring together language teachers and support with various tools and each other. Language revitalization is not a one person endeavor, but rests with everyone.

As our other facets of TKL progress, specifically our Digitization program, we need to develop the skills and programming to process and catalog our collections that can be used in language teaching. We have a number of ongoing language promotion activities including the KNC parking signs that incorporate Ktunaxa language; The Elders Gathering is another activity that we promote Ktunaxa language and we have been getting support from other sectors to continue this endeavor; finally, we are preparing to start language classes at KNC; we have incorporated language into the All living Things calendars, as well as transcribed stories that can be used for language instruction. Further in this report I will describe the digitization program that when fully implemented will have cataloged all our language resources in English and Ktunaxa... a multi-year goal. We have submitted funding proposals and are awaiting funding which will enable further progress on our language strategy.



# Traditional Knowledge & Language Sector

## Archives and Records Information Management

The Records and Information System is yet another way to use available technology to enhance our own knowledge of ourselves as a Michelle and Margaret were selected to present at a National Archives conference in Vancouver, their presentation was on “Defending Traditional Rights in the Digital Age”. Attending this conference gave them both great networking opportunities that furthers the work of TKL. Specifically, they learned about various digital archive database pros and cons, as well as met with individuals that share in the understanding of interfacing cultural continuity and sensitivity along with governance needs of an Archives. With modern technology available that enhances our “access and retrieval system” development, we simultaneously need to build confidence in our archives through sound policies and clear procedures which we are refining.

The Records and Information System is yet another way to use available technology to enhance our own knowledge of ourselves as a Nation. The Records and Information Management software is going through some revisions and updates. We are assessing our needs to replace Contentverse with a robust Electronic Document & Records Management System EDRMS to suit our long-term needs.

Understanding this is a multi-year endeavor, at our strategy session we set a target of digitizing 1000 records this year. So far, we believe we will surpass this number. TKL has purchased our own physical server to allow us to continue the EDRMS project and will provide 20 Terabytes of storage for audio and video resources.

The Digitization Program has identified a number of physical audio / video resources on a number of various formats including reel-to-reel, Umatic, BetaCam, VHS. The plan, now that we have a physical inventory, is to methodically ingest them into a database with all ancillary metadata. This will be followed by a transcription and translation, and finally into language curriculum development.

Partnerships with universities and other institutions supported us in acquiring an audio collection from the RBCM. We also

have had two private photo collections donated to us by the families or descendants of the original individuals who took the photos.

## Interpretive Centre

We do a number of guided tours through the SEM which include a video, creation story and cultural history, and complemented by a tour of the building. Most of KNC participated in a tour this past year increasing the understanding by all the staff. This will be an ongoing annual event. We also provided tours to many of the schools in the East and west Kootenays, students are getting more and more informed and asking challenging (respectful) questions. If this were an indicator of the future racial relations in ?amak?is Ktunaxa, I would say it looks bright.

We have opened the Gift store at the KNC building and both gift stores will increase TKL revenues, increase Nation citizens opportunities to sell product, and increase the Indigenous Education materials. Not to mention there is some amazing product now available to show your Native Pride including; dvd and cds, stuffed animals, fashion wear, mukluks, jewelry, kits, purses, blankets etc all merchandised properly and the gift stores looks great. Our goal is to increase the number of items made by locals, if you are a jeweler, or entrepreneur and interested in selling your wares, be sure to stop by and visit with Jared.

Now that the Nation has acquired ownership of the SEM, the relationship between us is great. The interpretive center presents a great business potential as well as partner with the SEM. We are looking into the possibilities of modernizing the displays around the SEM; again to show Past present and future. We were involved in the ?kamni?tik statue and placement at the SEM.



# Traditional Knowledge & Language Sector

## Haqatpaṭniṭnam

The SEM has always had plans for a tipi village that visitors could be exposed to Indigenous culture and history. TKL has developed a program that is mutually beneficial in that it builds our own ṭaqṭsmakniṭ competency in a range of cultural activities, we can present activities that are important to us, and we can guide the informational content provided to guests. We are so excited this program has finally gotten traction.

We have started slow- manufacturing tipis, learning about various tipi styles and purpose, visiting museums to see cultural materials housed there and increasing our knowledge of cultural materials, Ktunaxa Legends and storytelling. This knowledge will provide foundations for engaging with tourists. Our programming will incorporate SEM tours, overnight accommodation in a tipi, storytelling, native games, and demonstrations of hide tanning and drying meat, we may even teach tipi creeping at some later time. Our focus in this has been in rejuvenation of cultural pride.

## Research

Our new research specialist will move this area forward. Over the past year, it has been a struggle trying to develop our Cultural Management Plan but we finally have developed a draft that should be completing the citizen engagement process as we are at the AGA. This cultural management plan will help focus and develop our research methodology. In tandem, we have been digitizing audio and video resources making them easier to access for research purposes. We have a lot of work to do in terms of transcribing and translating these resources, but they are a resource we are working on that supports other areas of TKL.

Our former cultural liaison moved away to go to school however she is working with Firelight group and they are conducting research with the Nation. Together the Firelight group along with TKL staff and the Cultural Assistants went to Glenbow Museum to research and see what materials they have.

Information gathered through research will contribute to cultural camps and celebrate who we are, and our history in our ancestral homelands. We want to teach our youth the cultural importance and connections to the land; Ktunaxa place names, activities, important landmarks in Ktunaxa Territory. Traditional Use Studies and other KNC research will enhance our knowledge of places to gather; have celebrations; and meet with other tribes to trade, share, play games, celebrate and tell stories.

## World Class Museum

This is another idea that has been in the works for a number of years. Last years I reported how we are forming relationships to assist in this endeavor, this year we have set a goal to research the viability and develop a Ktunaxa Cultural Center. Included in this will be a regional repository that can hold materials from areas affected by natural disasters. We have already visited potential sites and identified funding sources.

Along with our own museum, we are exploring the possibilities of borrowing materials from museums to display here in ṭamakṭis Ktunaxa. This is a creative cost effective way of getting around our HVAC dilemma and in line with promotion of cultural identity. We hope to this year have relationships established and equipment necessary to put displays together at the SEM.

Nurture, in our people, a sense of belonging.  
ṭuṭmiṭ, ka papa, ka titi, grandma, grampa, auntie, uncle,  
neice, nephew... Cuzn  
Take time to visit- offer a cup of coffee or a snack.  
Allow yourself confidence to smile

Taxas,  
Donald Sam







# Social Investment Sector

## Social Investment Sector Council

Codie Morigeau - Chair

Carol Louie

Jason Nicholas

Corey Letcher

?Aqam

Yaqaan Nukiy

?Akisqnuq First Nation

?A-kinkumtasnuqit

### Message from the Chair

Kisuk Kyukityit As Chair of the Social Sector Council, another year gone by very quickly I am proud of the Council's commitment to developing strategies that facilitate meeting our objectives and realizing our goals. I am still very impressed with the magnitude of work that is being done on the ground. Debbie's steadfast dedication continues to benefit our Nation, our Communities, our Citizens and all Aboriginal People living in communities and within the Ktunaxa ?amak?is.

We have seen urban services grow which have resulted in many positive health outcomes for Ktunaxa and aboriginal people. Social Sector Council is proud to see our dream for 'integrated' services evolve at a very fast pace. We are committed to work with all Sectors to realize the Nation's vision and with our partners to ensure that all initiatives and programs are focused holistically on the health and wellbeing of all Aboriginal people. We continue to work towards self-government and ensuring that we are providing services to Ktunaxa citizens and other aboriginal peoples living in the territory

Debbie, her staff, and her managers continue to ensure that Social Sector programs are preventative, responsive and relevant to the Nation's vision. In the past year, many of these programs reflect direct linkage to Community and Nation Health Plans.

### Director's Message

Kisuk Kyukiyit This past year has been stimulating with the development of new programming in communities and within urban services to promote the health and wellbeing of our citizens and Aboriginal people residing in the ?Amak?is.

These programs support health promotion and prevention to positively influence the health behavior of individuals and communities as well as the living and working conditions that influence their health. Under the leadership of Social Sector Chair, Codie Morigeau, and her Council the support and direction has led to many successful initiatives that contribute to improved health outcomes for Ktunaxa people. The wellbeing our citizens is grounded in all that we do. The Social Sector Council's guidance has been vital to expanding our reach, closing gaps and reducing barriers for Aboriginal People.

Our dedicated staff surpass expectations. Their commitment to a strengths based, solution focused model demonstrates compassion and humanity in all that they do. Equally important to the Sector's achievements is the support from the Chiefs and Councils, the Nation Executive Council, my fellow Directors, and our Managers. All of these relationships are paramount to achieving improved health outcomes of Aboriginal People living in the Ktunaxa ?Amak?is.

Finally, yet equally central to 'strong, healthy citizens', is the esteemed work of Gwen Phillips at the Regional, Provincial and Federal levels. Her participation in this high level activity has directly resulted in a new era for BC First Nations health governance that is focused on improving health outcomes and eliminating disparities and inequalities in the health status of our people

Debbie Whitehead

Operations, Programs and Services

### BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Social Investment Sector Business Management involves oversight of all KNC financial policies, procedures, practices, and standards to ensure compliance by the Social Investment Sector. Additionally it involves overseeing the development and submission of relevant budgets for applications/ proposals for funding, monitoring the administration of funding agreements and submission of financial reports to funding organizations. Appropriate business control systems to



## Social Investment Sector

accommodate unique functions are in place and are both managed and evaluated regularly.

### PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Note: Programs are overseen by a Mental Health Clinician.

#### Operation Street Angel

Street Angel is a safe place for vulnerable populations providing a multitude of services including but not limited to: Linking vulnerable clients to services and providers, advocating on client's behalf whether it be for social services/ assistance, housing, mental health services, primary health care, Mental Health Services, Nurse Practitioner Services, Justice Services and Cultural and Reconnection Services.

Street Angel Staff walk the 'Streets' at nighttime ensuring safety for the homeless population and other vulnerable individuals. Street Angels offers hot meals for a dollar; no one goes hungry because individuals can choose chores in lieu of the dollar. Snacks are also available for free at 8pm. Streets offers free hot showers and laundry services. Every day, clients have computer and phone access, coffee, juice and of course, friendly staff. When available, Staff arrange small jobs for their clients including yard cleanup and shoveling snow.

In addition to a partnership with Interior Health, in an effort to keep Street Angel's doors open, Social Sector Staff regularly submit funding applications, accept donations (monetary and physical items like clothes) and fundraise alongside clients: BBQ's, yard sales, car washes and of course the annual Home Depot Orange Door project!

#### Community Living BC (CLBC) Inclusion Program

The CLBC program provides both group and 1:1 services to Ktunaxa community citizens, Indigenous and non-aboriginal persons with developmental disabilities. The Program is housed at Street Angels and funded by CLBC to provide on-going supports and programs to CLBC eligible individuals with developmental disabilities. The program is designed to provide support in the following areas: employment, supported living, skill development, community based inclusion, Personal Specialized Initiative. Support Workers have been working

at full capacity to enrich individual's lives through supportive community inclusions.

Community Based Services provide provides on-going support to individuals to participate in the community in a meaningful way. Home Based Inclusion assists individuals requiring in home support in the home and community. 1:1 services provide support to seek housing, independent living, healthy choices, assist with doctor appointments, address and seek support in Mental Health & Substance Abuse and obtain stability for a holistic independent life.

#### Scotty's House

Scotty's House is a home share for isolated and vulnerable Elders and Young Adults aging out of care. This model facilitates connection with culture for these young people while at the same time supporting Elders to live somewhat independently and with purpose. Young residents feel connected both to culture and community. They receive support to learn new skills and participate in the labour market. There are also opportunities to reconnect to their own kinship systems. Scotty's House is an Assisted Living Facility. Some of the highlights throughout the year:

- Scotty's has evolved into a home where we have residents continuing their aftercare after they have graduated from the Mary Basil Recovery House. Since this shift, Scotty's has become a drug and alcohol free home.
- Scotty's has had some renovations during the year. New up to code stairwells, new patio stones/deck and cover in the back courtyard, front entrance repairs with new sidewalk installed. The Social Sector Business Manager continues to work with KNC Facilities for capital needs to maintain the integrity of Scotty's House.
- Over the course of the year Scotty's House have had 13 residents. Some of these residents were successful in attending school, training through our Employment and Education department, other various training to attain certificates. Some have acquired employment. Former residents have transitioned into new housing and/or have moved back to their home communities.
- There are currently 12 residents living at Scotty's House. Two of the residents are those who have graduated from the





## Social Investment Sector

Recovery House program. One has had a video done of her journey to her sobriety.

- The staff continue to make positive change in the resident's lives with helping them with daily living skills.
- Staff receive relevant training to assist with the day to day operations of Scotty's House

### Mary Basil Recovery House

Since opening the Mary Basil Recovery House, there have been 13 successful program graduates who have either worked towards Independent Living or have successfully completed a Treatment program. We currently have four more individuals attending the program and four more on the waitlist. A number of these individuals are now employed or are volunteering on various committees like HIV and Hep-C awareness, Crisis response, and overdose prevention. Individuals in the programs have also taken part in beading, sweats, powwows and other cultural activities. Because many of our recovery graduates cannot access safe housing, they have been transitioning to Scotty's House for After Care. It therefore made sense to move Recovery to one wing of Scotty's House allowing Mary Basil House to provide Aboriginal Detox services. The move also facilitated ease of transition to After Care at Scotty's.

### Community Health Nursing

The Ktunaxa Nation Community Health Nursing covers Public Health Services, School Health Services/Immunization, Harm Reduction, Tuberculosis screening, and Communicable Disease Control.

The Ktunaxa Nation Health Manager provides support and guidance to each of the 3 Nurses in the communities of ʔaąam, ʔakisq̓nuk First Nation and ʔakinkumʔasnuq̓iʔit. Yaqaan Nukiy holds a vacant nursing position. Health outreach services include: Nurse Practitioner and Dietician/ Diabetes Educator, and Interior Health Outreach nursing services. The Nurse Manager also travels to communities every week and works closely with nurses and health staff to oversee care plans and assessments. Ongoing appointments and clinic days are made available for vaccinations of all ages, in clinic, community and school settings. Client advocacy continues to be a focus of attention, with members requesting support

of an advocate when seeking emergency services and at doctor's appointments.

The Nurse Practitioners provide outreach to ʔaąam (community, school and daycare), Yaqaan Nukiy and ʔakinkumʔasnuq̓iʔit. They also see patients at the Ktunaxa Health Clinic in Cranbrook who either with scheduled appointments or drop-in services. In addition to mandated services, the nurses/nurse practitioner's provide support to: The Mary Basil Recovery House, Street Angel and Scotty's House and to the social workers - making tests available for their clients on short-term notice. Dr. Page continues to provide a community clinic to ʔakisq̓nuk members 2 times a month. With more doctors' leaving Cranbrook, we have an NP will see Ktunaxa members without doctors.

Ktunaxa Health Services offers instant HIV testing available at the Ktunaxa clinic, we continue to offer harm reduction supplies (Examples: Naloxone kits, needle exchange, clean needles, condoms, Plan B, pregnancy testing). Naloxone training has been completed in all 4 bands and many staff have been trained in the communities. Naloxone kits are available at each community.

"Nutrition Kitchen" is held in each community monthly, where members are invited to come for lunch and learn on different topics around diet, diabetes, blood pressure and healthy lifestyle. The Dietitian provides one-to-one appointments for clients who require enhanced support with chronic disease.

Health Centres in Communities –The Social Sector is working with the First Nations Health Authority to support each community's health centre goals. All communities have participated in feasibility studies and are pending project implementation. ʔakinkumʔasnuq̓iʔit Health Centre will be opening in late summer.

### PROGRAMS AND SERVICES - COMING SOON

#### Treatment Centre

The Healing Center program model is moving into its second phase of development. 2016-2018 was focused on developing a strong foundation with clear, cultural, traditional, indigenous



## Social Investment Sector

healing framework. The framework outlines the healing center principles and practices that align with ceremony. Each day and week are activities that serve as strands that weave together to complete a cultural braid of holistic healing. The program makes a critical shift from focusing on addressing problems, such as addictions, to focusing on connection, empowerment, and the development of purpose, and a meaningful vision through cultural reclamation and revitalization. Each day follows holistic processes and practices. Acting as a catalyst for individuals to walk a lifelong journey of wellness, it will offer an orientation to a life of wellness that will ignite a spark of vitality in individuals, build their capacity, and offers the opportunity for transformation. It will support participants to become the Elders they are meant to be and, in the process, to become agents of change in their communities. In 2018/19 the program model development is moving forward with detailed curriculum that outlines weekly and daily agendas that will support activities and guide the ceremonial process.

### Detox and After Care

FNHA is preparing a contract for the Ktunaxa Nation to provide 4 Aboriginal Detox Beds. With the extensive IHA wait list for only 2 Detox Beds, this program is a welcomed addition to the pending treatment and current recovery services. At this point in time, Detox funding is provided for demonstration purposes and will conclude at March 31, 2019. We hope that with proven outcome data, FNHA will provide ongoing funding.

Regarding After Care, this model is not sustainable due to funding shortfalls. However, an After Care Proposal has been tabled with the Regional Director of the Interior FNHA Region as requested by the CEO/President of FNHA. We, again, are hopeful and optimistic.

This is a prime example of a true continuum of care: Detox, Treatment, Recovery, and After Care supporting Ktunaxa and other Aboriginal People as they navigate their healing journey.

### Divisions of Family Practice and Ktunaxa Nation Health Shared Services

The Social Sector has been collaborating with the Divisions of Family Practice and the Interior Health Authority through

the Collaborative Services Committee. As a result a transformative partnership has evolved. The first relationship is a Social Worker initiative whereby the Divisions and the Nation will be funding positions to support community members and physicians in our communities. The First Nations Health Authority, through Jordan's Principle funding has approved funding for the Nation to support positions to match the positions funded by the Divisions facilitating a greater reach and a service continuum for our communities.

### Aboriginal Community Based Justice:

The Social Sector has received funding (Crime Prevention and Columbia Basin Trust) to complete a Justice Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan and move into demonstration Projects over the next 16 months. Programs will be trauma informed and utilize a combination of behaviour modification and reality therapy. One Project: Restoring Spirit will facilitate Camps that offer Indigenous based programming including a range of cultural experiences from sweats, cultural crafting, medicines and collecting, hunting, harvesting, ceremony, and any requested cultural component we can arrange that is provided in a safe and nurturing environment. Programing will include a culturally specific mental health and addictions component. This land-based – return to earth wilderness experience will be safe, yet very challenging and utilize experienced, trained Indigenous leaders with support from mental health and/or addictions counsellors. The wilderness experience will be seasonally dependent and include canoe trips, basic survival skills, hunting and animal processing (meat, hides), plant gathering, etc. Products will be returned to the community – food, wood, hide products (drums, moccasins) to sustain those in need. Standards for our wilderness activities will conform to the manual of Standards and Policies for Outdoor and Wilderness Activities utilizing certified outdoor instructors-hunters. The orientation and operation of the Camp program will focus on addressing and improving life skills:

- Learning to work and take pride in quality performance.
- Learning to accept responsibility.
- Learning to care for one's physical and emotional self.
- Developing physical fitness and personal hygiene.
- Learning cooking skills and nutritional information.
- Seeing and participating in socially acceptable and enjoyable



## Social Investment Sector

- activities; sports, hobbies.
- Developing a repertoire of leisure activities.

Culture and Tradition will encircle all activities and programming. Ktunaxa Leaders and Elders will guide and inform all activities.

### Adult Probation

We have been working in partnership with Adult probation to ensure there is an Aboriginal Justice worker available to support any Aboriginal or Metis clients who have a probation order, been given alternative measures or community work service hours. Our goal moving forward is to continue to strengthen our partnerships with our local judges, Crown Counsel, defense lawyers, probation, and RCMP to ensure any Aboriginal or Metis person involved in the justice system receives culturally appropriate support services to work to reduce rates of crime, victimization and incarceration of Aboriginal people within the Ktunaxa Traditional Territory.

### SOCIAL GOVERNANCE

Through the Vulnerable Adults Charter and meetings with relevant BC Ministers, we continue to work towards a Ktunaxa integrated social investment service delivery and governance model. We are exploring an interim authority agreement that will give us authority over various vulnerable adult services including CLBC services for vulnerable Ktunaxa and other Aboriginal adults. We participate on the Historical Grievances Working Group, collectively working towards producing and implementing a Reconciliation MOU with the Province of British Columbia. We are developing a Practice Framework which will provide guiding practice approaches when providing supports and services to Ktunaxa, other Indigenous and Metis people residing Ktunaxa ʔamakʔis. This framework is intended to create the necessary context to develop practice policies and procedures that are informed by ʔa·knumuʔtiit, provide direction to staff regarding approaches in working with persons receiving supports and services, and inform Ktunaxa partners on the approach to the delivery of services. This framework supports and honours Indigenous cultural systems and resiliency. Key considerations of this framework include: (a) Incorporating traditional approaches (b) Incorporating Indigenous worldviews, (c) Ensuring culturally safe

approaches (d) Focussing on building upon strengths. We are continuously developing both overarching and specific policies as our programming and services grow.

Through the health system transformation process, the seven Nations of the Interior Region established a health and wellness services governance structure to address service transformation (without prejudice), while as Nations, we advance our individual governance interests through various processes, such as treaty. Gwen Phillips sits on the Interior Region Nation Executive table (IRNE) with social governance leads from the other 6 Interior Nations to interface with the Interior Health Authority Board and Senior Executive. This model was developed when the Health Council was being formed (no other Region in BC has a Community-driven, Nation-based structure but they are evolving in this direction) and it has been in operation for about 7 years now and working quite well. Each of the 7 Nations selects someone to sit at the IRNE table and an election is held at the Interior Region Caucus, where the 54 Communities of the Interior Region vote for their 3 Health Council reps, from amongst the 7 Nation reps. Gwen has consistently been re-elected since the beginning of the Health Services Governance transformation. Through this process we are advancing our objectives as per the Health Transformation Agreement, to address the social determinants of health.

The Ktunaxa Nation, through the Social Investment Sector, holds agreements with: Interior Health (LOU), Metis Nation BC (LOU) and Cranbrook Restorative Justice (MOU).

### HEALTH PLANS

2018/2019 Health Plans for both Communities and the Nation were a result of working with the 4 Communities including visits to each community to hear about their current Health and Wellbeing priorities and what's working well and what needs improvement. Past priorities that have been successful achieved were recognized. The updated lists of priorities inform both the Community and Nation Health Plans. The Social Investment Sector Staff helps communities address their priorities continuously through both advocacy and funding proposals.





## Lands and Resources Fisheries (Formerly CCRIFC)

CCRIFC was formed in the early 1990's by leaders from the Ktunaxa, Okanagan and Secwepemc Nations. CCRIFC's mandate was to conserve and restore fish and aquatic (water) ecosystems. Key founding principles included:

1. To protect, conserve, manage, harvest and enhance the water, fisheries and aquatic resources of the Canadian Columbia River Basin according to traditional law and custom, and the laws of Canada as they evolve from aboriginal rights court decisions; and,
2. To cooperate in the development of a long-term and comprehensive water, fisheries and aquatic resource restoration strategy for the Columbia River Basin in cooperation with partner organizations in Canada and the United States.

CCRIFC worked closely with the Ktunaxa Lands and Resources Agency and reported to the Ktunaxa Lands and Resources Council.

The year 2017 was a year of great change for CCRIFC. Secwepemc partner communities declined to continue their relationship with CCRIFC. Thus, CCRIFC ceased to be 'inter-tribal' and continued as a part of the Ktunaxa Nation Council Land and Resources Fisheries division. Important organizational work was concurrently underway with the KNC Lands sector; one of the outcomes from this work was a plan about how CCRIFC's former functions was to be fully integrated within the lands sector.

Another change in fall of 2017 was that CCRIFC's operational director (Bill Green) stepped away, after more than 22 years, from his leadership role in November of that year and commenced working part-time on specific projects and strategic initiatives (like the Columbia River Treaty, Qat'muk and salmon restoration). Misun Kang and Will Warnock were appointed as interim managers to fulfill the operational director roles under the Lands and Resources Director, Ray Warden, until the Lands sector organizational work is complete.

### Goals and strategies

In February, 2017, the Ktunaxa Lands and Resources Council approved some changes to CCRIFC's long-term (more than 5 year) goals. The Lands and Resources Fisheries division operated under these same goals though the last year. These goals were to:

1. Promote salmon restoration and required transboundary cooperation
2. Develop CCRIFC and First Nations technical capacity through WUP monitoring and other means.
3. Protect aquatic ecosystems through project (referral) and policy advice to First Nations.
4. Reduce the impacts of hydro dam operations on fisheries and aquatic ecosystems and support efforts to secure redress for the historic and ongoing impacts of hydro dams and facilities on First Nations.
5. Promote the conservation of biodiversity and particularly the conservation of indigenous fish
6. Strengthen Upper Columbia Aquatic Management Partnership (Ktunaxa – Okanagan –Secwepemc).
7. Support aquatic ecosystem guardianship and compliance with the Fisheries Act and the Species at Risk Act.
8. Improve and strengthen administration and project management processes and systems.
9. Support strategic KNC initiatives.
10. Determine the organizational future for the Fisheries division, strengthen it as a professional indigenous organization and transition to new leadership (i.e., interim managers)
11. Support the efforts of the Ktunaxa Nation to protect water, fish and aquatic ecosystems within qu'kin ?amakis

In February 2018, this important work was integrated into the Lands and Resources annual workplan, and will continue to be fully integrated until the organizational work is complete.



# Lands and Resources Fisheries (Formerly CCRIFC)

## Highlights

### Salmon restoration

Working towards restoring swaqmu (chinook) and kanusqupak (sockeye) salmon and steelhead throughout their historic ranges (to Columbia Lake, in the case of chinook salmon) within Ktunaxa ?amak is a key part of our work. There are many challenges, technical, economic and political. A question that many people often ask is “Is there still suitable habitat for salmon in the Columbia River system upstream of the dams which not only block salmon but also change habitat conditions.” Work led by Aquatic Biologist, Dr. Will Warnock, over the last several years is beginning to answer that question. Several studies conducted to date by our staff and research partners have identified suitable spawning habitat for swaqmu within the Columbia and Kootenay Rivers just in the section downstream of the Hugh Keenleyside and Brilliant Dams. This information is currently being used to collaboratively explore restoration scenarios, with colleagues from other First Nations, the Federal government, and US Tribes.

Bill Green and Dr. Warnock have been working to create collaborative working relationships with partner agencies and other First Nations within Canada, to guide restoration in the coming years. There have been several important meetings held in the last year, which have gained momentum for salmon restoration and initiated plans for involvement of groups in future salmon restoration efforts.

### Columbia River Treaty

Columbia River Treaty negotiations have been announced by the federal governments of the US and Canada. KNC Lands and Fisheries staff have been deeply involved in CRT consultation for over 5 years. While the Federal government recently announced that the KNC would not be directly at the negotiating table, the KNC and governments of neighboring First Nations are working together to develop the most effective approach for representation at the upcoming negotiations.

We feel the best opportunity to achieve cross-border (US – Canada) agreement on salmon restoration is through renewal

of the Columbia River Treaty (CRT). Both the US and BC have indicated their interest in renewing the 50 year old treaty. The US has indicated that they’re interested in addressing salmon restoration as part of treaty renewal. As a result of our efforts and those of other First Nations, it appears likely that the government of Canada will agree to address salmon restoration through the treaty renewal process.

KNC is also spearheading work to make protecting ecosystem function (including cultural heritage) a key purpose of the treaty, along with hydro power and flood control.

### Elk Valley fish and water quality.

A huge part of our work continues to be on protecting fish populations and water quality in the Elk River valley and the Koocanusa reservoir. As a result of Teck’s efforts, in collaboration with the Elk Valley Fish and Fish Habitat Committee and the contributions of Senior Elk Valley Biologist, Jon Bisset, significant progress is being made on restoring fish habitat in areas affected by Teck’s coal mines. Achievements during 2017-18 included effectiveness monitoring of habitat restoration works completed in 2017, major fish habitat restoration projects, and refinements in fish handling protocols. Restoration works were completed as habitat offsetting requirements of approved Environmental Assessments. Monitoring work included assessments of Westslope Cutthroat Trout populations and fish movement/ population trends in the upper Fording River and Grave-Harmer creeks. Major fish habitat restoration projects were completed on lower Line Creek (approximately 4 km section), Fish Pond Creek (approximately 500 m) and Henretta Creek (approximately 500 m), two important spawning, rearing, and overwintering tributaries of the upper Fording River. An improved fish salvage/sampling protocol was developed that ensures a higher standard of care and respect for animals for projects that require fish handling/sampling that also minimizes the amount of sampling in the Elk Valley and Koocanusa reservoir. For all projects, opportunities to employ and mentor Ktunaxa citizens and KNC staff were identified and partnerships developed where possible and opportunities will continue to be identified. Additional rehabilitation, offsetting and monitoring projects are planned for 2018.



## Lands and Resources Fisheries (Formerly CCRIFC)

Heather McMahon is our Elk Valley water quality biologist, whose position is focused on protecting and restoring water quality and aquatic ecosystem health in the Elk valley through the implementation of the Elk Valley Water Quality Plan (EVWQP) and EMA Permit 107517. In her role, Heather has a technical seat at a committee responsible for reviewing work and submissions of environmental monitoring programs in accordance with the Plan and the permit. This committee is called the Environmental Monitoring Committee (EMC), and the water quality biologist participates in all meetings, reviews all submissions, and coordinates with external subcontractors for technical expertise. Heather has been coordinating the input of staff members, as well as external consultants, over the last year into the Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA), the Adaptive Management Plan (AMP), and the Tributary Management Plan (TMP). Staff and consultants have taken lead roles in work to ensure that Ktunaxa aboriginal title and rights are protected through these and other programs, including calcite deposition, toxicity evaluations and both local and regional aquatic monitoring programs. In addition to EMC work, Heather has been participating in all water quality and aquatic health related discussions as technical support for issues brought to the Environmental Working Group (EWG). The EWG works on direct engagement between KNC and Teck when issues of concern arise. Issues currently being discussed at the EWG include: several components of the Adaptive Management Plan (AMP), the setting of the BRE-Harmer water quality objective, and the Line Creek structured decision making process. Heather has also been active in advocating and collaborating with other Ktunaxa tribes (CSKT and KTOI) for the protection of Koocanusa Reservoir and participating in an independent monitoring and research working group. Due to the limited scope of the EMC's involvement in Groundwater in the Elk River valley, Heather is also part of a Groundwater Working Group, a KNC-MOE-Teck group that is focused on understanding groundwater on a local and regional scale as well the potential effects it may have on human health.

### Fishery Guardians

KNC staff continue to build Ktunaxa capacity in monitoring/ compliance and enforcement related activities that might

harm fish habitat for endangered species like wiyaᑭ (White Sturgeon). The leaders of this work are Kenton Andreashuk and Jim Clarricoates, but they have recently been joined by Dominique Nicholas in a part-time, capacity building role. Their monitoring and compliance work, through an agreement with Fisheries and Oceans Canada, has been focused on the Columbia River between the Hugh Keenleyside Dam and the Canada-US border, Kootenay and Slocan Lakes, and smaller lakes in the East Kootenays. Fishery Guardians will be expanding their monitoring and compliance work to the Revelstoke and Arrow Lakes this field season. They are also starting work with provincial agencies to inspect watercraft for invasive zebra and quagga mussels before they are launched into water bodies within Ktunaxa ?amakis. The Fishery Guardians have also developed a working relationship with provincial Natural Resource Officers to help further protect lake and river shorelines from unauthorized development and unauthorized alterations.

### Native Mussel Research

Fisheries staff worked with the Okanagan Nation and Secwepemc Nation to conduct a native freshwater mussel inventory. The project was led by Kenton Andreashuk with input from Jon Bisset and Mark Thomas of Shuswap Indian Band. Until the project started very little was known about impacts to qaᑭky (mussels) or their locations and most traditional knowledge of mussels has been lost. Fisheries staff have surveyed many lakes and larger rivers in Ktunaxa ?amakis including lower Slocan River, Kootenay River (between Nelson and Castlegar), the west arm of Kootenay Lake, Windermere, Columbia, Wasa, Tie, and Rosen lakes, as well as Koocanusa Reservoir. The purpose of the project is to identify the species of mussels present, where they are found, and how to protect their habitats from future impacts. Shoreline development and hydro operation fluctuations are the largest contributors of impacts to native freshwater mussels. The project was recently expanded to include sampling for toxins (human health effects) and to include the main body and south arm of Kootenay Lake, St. Mary Lake, lower Bull River, Columbia River downstream of Invermere and lower Kinbasket Lake. Results should be available in the coming year.



## Lands and Resources Fisheries (Formerly CCRIFC)

### Kinbasket reservoir fisheries research

Fisheries staff (Dr. Misun Kang, Katrina Caley and Dr. Will Warnock) are spearheading ʔaḡuḡam (burbot – ling), rainbow trout and tuhuḡ (bull trout) research on the Kinbasket reservoir north of Golden and Revelstoke. Fisheries technicians Jim Clarricoates and Dominique Nicholas are a vital part of this work. The overall purpose of these projects is to find out if the operation of this reservoir by BC Hydro causes impacts to fish populations, which constitute part of the foundation of Ktunaxa aboriginal fishing rights.

The ʔaḡuḡam (burbot - ling) study started in 2014. Ninety-eight ʔaḡuḡam were surgically implanted with combined acoustic (sound) and radio tags (CART) from 2014 to 2015. Crews also deployed a total of 30 acoustic receivers in the reservoir. Sound signals from tagged fish in the vicinity are picked up and recorded by the receivers. Each tagged fish has a unique code so that the movements of individual fish can be tracked. Fisheries staff download and analyze these data. Results to date indicate that: (i) ʔaḡuḡam are moderately abundant in the reservoir; (ii) that average size of ʔaḡuḡam varies in different locations in the reservoir (0.84 – 4.60 kg); (iii) mobility of ʔaḡuḡam varies considerably – some individuals travel long distances throughout the reservoir while others are quite sedentary, and (iv) that ʔaḡuḡam use shallower areas (less than 25 m) during their winter-spring spawning season and deeper areas (greater than 25 m) during the fall and early winter. The purpose of this research is to determine if some ʔaḡuḡam spawn in shallower parts of the reservoir where their eggs could become dried out (and die) as reservoir levels drop through late winter and spring.

The tuhuḡ (bull trout) study started in 2015 and included capturing and tagging 105 juvenile and 4 adult tuhuḡ in Packsaddle Creek (near Valemont) and implanting them with tiny 'PIT' (Passive Integrated Transponder) tags. Upstream and downstream movements of these fish were tracked using a PIT antenna array across the bottom of the creek. To date, 36 tagged juvenile and 3 tagged adult movements were tracked using the antenna. The purpose of this study is to learn about tuhuḡ movements in stream reaches near the reservoir and in nearshore parts of the reservoir.

The qustiḡ (rainbow trout) study started in 2014 and follows a similar approach to the ʔaḡuḡam (burbot - ling) study of using tags and receivers to monitor individual fish movement in Kinbasket Reservoir (see above). Over 3 years, 27 qustiḡ were tagged and 11 qustiḡ have been detected by receivers so far. The study also includes surveys of tributaries to identify those that provide suitable spawning habitat (i.e., proper spawning gravel, suitable water velocity, suitable temperature during spawning and egg incubation windows). One tributary that has been identified to provide appropriate habitat for qustiḡ spawning is Succour Creek, near Golden. Multiple surveys have been conducted on Succour Creek to characterize low pool conditions, during which time it is most difficult for qustiḡ to access to the tributary due to reservoir operations. This stream has also been surveyed extensively through snorkel surveys during the spawning period over the past several years, but despite the habitat being suitable, we have not found spawning qustiḡ or their redds ("nests") in the lower section. This may be due to the fluctuating water levels caused by the way the Mica Dam is operated. Large numbers of largescale sucker do use the habitat for spawning.

### Wiyat conservation

Wiyat (White Sturgeon) are endangered in Ktuanxa ʔamakis. Fisheries staff have been involved in recovery efforts for wiyat for many years, and Ktunaxa have voluntarily withheld harvest of these fish for over a generation.

Last year, we learned that some of the fish that had been stocked over the last 20 years were a conservation threat to the population. The population is still endangered, but KNC was given a permit to possess some of the fish that needed to be removed from the river for conservation purposes. Staff are currently conducting a contaminant analysis of the fish that were harvested to determine if they are safe to eat, then will be able to provide these fish for ceremonies and events. After more than a generation, there will be an opportunity to eat wiyat once again, while we continue to also work on restoring the population so that sustainable harvest will be an option in the future.



# Lands and Resources

Hu yaqaniknatimaᑭnaᑭa'ki ᑭamak  
“Our relationship with the Land”

## Director's Message

Kisuk Kiyukiyit, Ktunaxa ᑭakᑭsmakᑭnik

The operations of the Ktunaxa Lands Sector strive for meaningful engagement and collaboration with all KNC sectors and most importantly - Ktunaxa people. Highlights of last year include the participation and input from Ktunaxa Citizens in the visioning of what the 'Ktunaxa Guardian Program' and 'All Living Things' mean to you and the implementation of the Impact Management and Benefit Agreement with Teck Resources.

I extend my appreciation to all staff for the hard work you do, and on a special note – after several years working as CCRIFC's Director of Operations - Bill Green has been reassigned to the Lands Sector as our Strategic Initiatives Advisor. One key change moving forward is the Lands Sector Re-Org, which includes the integration of former CCRIFC staff into our operations. Finally, I want to recognize our ongoing partners and contributors from the provincial and federal government as well as industry in supporting our goals.

Huyas, taxa!

Ray Warden  
Nasuᑭkinᑭis ᑭamak ᑭᑭ ᑭaquaxniyam  
Director, Lands and Resources  
Ktunaxa Nation Council

## Sector Chair's Message

Kisuk Kyukiyit,

A lot has been going on with the staff of the Lands and Resources, I can't stress how thankful the Lands and Resources (LRC) Sector are of them. I don't only see co-workers but I see a special relationship that has developed amongst them. When the going gets tough they come together and support each other...way to go team and keep up the good work!

To the Director of the Lands and Resource, we will keep working together to support Ray Warden in any way we can. I want to thank Ray for all the work you do for Lands and Resources whether it's for his staff or for LRC Sector. It may get stressful sometimes but it is good that you can handle it and take on any task that comes your way.

Finally, the LRC has been making a lot of decisions and have been attending various meetings when it comes to lands issues or wildlife. We are looking for answers on how we can make the Provincial Government to listen plus the Federal Gov't side of it. I want to let you all know that Alfred Joseph has replaced Lorne Shovar for Akisᑭnuk and Dan Gravelle has returned replacing Jason Gravelle at the table for Tobacco Plains.

I will leave you with that and hope you all enjoy the AGA in Akisᑭnuk. For those that may not know we are still paperless at our meeting which is different but hopefully be more effective for the future.

Taxas,

Sandra Luke

## Lands & Resources Sector Council Members

Sandra Luke - Chair  
Dan Gravelle  
Alfred Joseph  
Joe Pierre

Yaqan Nukiy  
ᑭa-kinkumᑭasnuᑭiᑭit  
ᑭAkisᑭnuk First Nation  
ᑭAᑭam

## Lands & Resources Sector Staff

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Ray Warden      | Director                                  |
| Kerri Garner    | Lands Stewardship Manager                 |
| Craig Paskin    | Policy and Planning Manager               |
| Nicole Kapell   | Arch and Environmental Assessment Manager |
| Jaime Cristales | Business Coordinator                      |
| Jose Galdamez   | GIS Analyst                               |
| Alison Burton   | Environmental Working Group Coordinator   |
| Vickie Thomas   | IMBA Coordinator                          |
| Cathy Conroy    | Terrestrial Biologist                     |







## Lands and Resources

|                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Nathalie Allard        | Archeological Technician   |
| Erin Robertson         | Lands Project Officer      |
| Aleitha Harvey         | Administrative Assistant   |
| Michelle Dunn          | Referrals                  |
| Sancira Williams-Jimmy | Indigenous Law Coordinator |
| Brent Basil            | IMBA Administraive Support |
| Chad Luke              | Stewardship Assistant      |

### Our Responsibility

The Ktunaxa Nation Lands and Resources Sector is responsible for stewarding the land for the portion of Ktunaxa ʔamakʼis in British Columbia; covering an area of approximately 70,000 square kilometres. Ktunaxa Lands staff is directed by the Ktunaxa Nation Lands and Resources Council, which is comprised of an elected member from each of the four Ktunaxa Communities.

### Goals

Exercising jurisdiction and governance in Ktunaxa ʔAmakʼis

### Policy and Planning

Title and Rights – in support of Ktunaxa Nation Executive Council, we developed a Title and Rights Strategy in 2016- which is a coordinated group of activities that maximizes KNC's negotiation and litigation strength. We were successful in receiving BC Capacity funding for the 2018-19 fiscal year and hence posted for a land-use research coordinator.

Industry Engagement Policy – our policies and processes that articulate KNC rules to industry when it comes to proposed land and resources projects in Ktunaxa –amak—is under review and in the process of being updated to reflect the current environment. To support this, we have developed a KNC cross –sector negotiations working group.

### Monitoring and Compliance

Environment Assessment Certificate Monitoring – we monitored a number of projects that were approved by the BC Environmental Assessment Office (EAO). This includes on-site visits with EAO compliance officers and reviewing permits to ensure that conditions are being met on the following: James White Well Park, Kootenay West Gypsum Mine, Teck's

Elkview, Fording and Line Creek coal mines.

### Working Together on Ktunaxa Initiatives

KNC Sector Charters – staff person Craig Paskin assisted the KNC CAO and Sector Councils with the development of KNC Sector Charters.

Ktunaxa Constitution – staff person Craig Paskin provided technical expertise to the Ktunaxa Constitution Working Group.

Qat'muk – we commenced engagement with the federal government with the goal of developing an Indigenous Protected Area for Qat'muk.

Reconciliation – along with other KNC Sector staff, supported the engagement with the Province of BC on developing a Reconciliation Letter of Understanding. More work will continue before a decision is sought. BC Hydro is also a part of this engagement in order to begin addressing historic hydro grievances between Ktunaxa and BC.

Revenue Sharing – Ktunaxa and BC signed an Economic and Community Development Agreement (ECDA) in January 2013. In addition to forestry and Teck's Line Creek mine as being a part of the revenue sharing between Ktunaxa and the province, Fording Swift Mine has been added to the ECDA.

### Government to Government Engagement

Environmental Legislation Reviews – Lands Sector participated in the review of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act and the BC Environmental Act and in particular, how Indigenous Peoples rights and interests are to be reflected in these laws. Further, we also engaged extensively with Environment Canada Climate Change Ministry in reviewing the Federal Coal Effluent Regulations.

Ktunaxa Cultural Landscape at Columbia Lake - this year, working in collaboration with Traditional Knowledge and Language Sector, signage was installed at the Lake. We, along with the provincial staff, also met with Village of Canal Flats staff and council to share the Landscape initiative and get feedback.



## Lands and Resources

Ktunaxa-BC Mine Permitting Committee - KNC co-chairs a mine permitting committee with BC, which includes staff from the Ministry of Environment, Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Energy and Mines and the Environmental Assessment Office. Focus during this reporting period was on cumulative effects and water quality monitoring.

Kootenay Lake Partnership – the partnership was developed between KNC, Regional District Central Kootenay and Province of BC with the goal of proactively protecting the shoreline from uncontrolled development. The management document is known as the ‘Shoreline Guidance Document’; which is used by governments to screen land-use applications. Ktunaxa culturally important areas were mapped to ensure protection.

East Kootenay Integrated Lake Management Partnership – similar to the Kootenay Lake program, we are in partnership with the Regional District of East Kootenay and BC to develop a Shoreline Guidance Document for the Koocanusa Reservoir and Edwards Lake in order to protect sensitive ecological and cultural areas.

Cumulative Effects – we are part of a working group with Teck Coal and the Province with BC to develop a Cumulative Effect Management Framework for the Elk Valley. Several open house meetings were held in Fernie and Elkford along with meetings with Ktunaxa Citizens.

Environmental Assessments - the environmental assessment (EA) is a process to review large projects and assess impacts on the environment, economic, social, health and heritage values. Ktunaxa Nation were involved in the following EA's:

- BC Hydro's proposal to add a sixth turbine to its Revelstoke Dam facility.
- North Coal's proposal to develop a new coal mine in the Michel Creek area.
- NWP Crown Mountain Coal's concept for a new mine in the Alexander Creek area.
- Riverside Resources Grassy Mountain coal mine, 7 km's north of Blairmore, Alta.
- CertianTeed Gypsum Canada's proposal to access a new quarry north of Canal Flats.

- Parks Canada proposed twinning of the TransCanada Highway through Yoho Park.
- Bingay Coal mine proposal northwest of Elkford.

Mountain Caribou – Lands Sector engaged extensively in research and recovery concepts in collaboration with U.S. departments, BC and other First Nations to find sustainable solutions for the long-term viability of these herds. A population census in March indicated that there were only 3 caribou left in the Selkirk herd.

Koocanusa Recreational Management Strategy– with the huge amount of recreational pressure being exerted upon the foreshore and uplands of the Koocanusa Reservoir, we have been involved with BC and the Regional District of East Kootenay in developing a management plan to protect our ecological and cultural values in the surrounding area.

Archeology – worked with RDEK to develop an Archeological Overview Assessment model for private lands in the East Kootenay. We also engaged with BC Parks to develop a management plan for some of their infrastructure maintenance projects. Further, ensured a plan was developed in the aftermath of the 2017 forest fires so that mop-up and salvage activities did not impact our heritage sites.

### Industry Engagement

Canfor – we've held workshops with Ktunaxa Citizens over the last number of years in identifying Cultural and Conservation Value Forests (CCVF's) areas. The next step is developing an on-the-ground monitoring program. Training for monitoring is planned for the summer of 2018.

BC Hydro - staff and consultants continued to guide and participate in archaeological work within the Arrow Lakes, Watshan and Duncan Reservoirs. This work is in collaboration with Okanagan Nation, Shuswap Nation and BC's Natural Resource Officers. Individuals from the three Nations began fieldwork in April 2018.



## Lands and Resources

Ktunaxa-Teck Environmental Working Group (EWG) – The EWG is the venue to identify and resolve environmental concerns from Teck’s operations in Qukin ʔamak—is. Further, we engaged with Ktunaxa citizens to understand what the Ktunaxa vision is for the land after mining; incorporating Ktunaxa stewardship principles and knowledge to guide Teck’s reclamation plans.

Increase capacity and develop institutional strength of Ktunaxa Lands Sector

Revitalizing Indigenous Law (RELAW) – In partnership with West Coast Environmental Law and UVic’s Indigenous Law Research Unit, RELAW is an initiative that will help us write traditional Ktunaxa Laws into modern legal terms; and in turn will enable us to apply our laws to the land. Since September 2017, we have been searching for historical information, looking at all stories from Ktunaxa Creation, and holding interviews and workshops with Ktunaxa People.

ʔa’knusti (Ktunaxa Guardian Program Development) – In collaboration with Traditional Knowledge and Education and Employment Sector, we worked with youth, citizens and elders to guide the development of the ʔa’knusti training program, starting with the creation of an Species-at-Risk training module. Funding was provided by CBT, the Province of BC and Environment Canada.

Training & Professional Development – Lands staff attended 2 workshops pertaining to collaborative performance development and one staff person took a conflict resolution course with the Justice Institute of BC. Also, Archaeology Technician Nathalie Allard, as well as Archaeology Contractors Jesse Thomas and John Nicholas attended training in Kelowna for the BC Hydro Reservoir Archaeology Guardian Program and achieved certification in Conflict Resolution, Assertive Communication and Navigating Difficult Conversations.

Lands Sector Re-Org – Lands Sector staff has gone under tremendous growth over the last five years along with an increase in responsibilities. Also, CCRIFC dissolved in October 2017 in which fisheries staff are in the process of integrating into KNC Lands Sector. The Re-Org design will

ensure operations are fully aligned with the Nation’s Vision, Lands Sector mandate and Ktunaxa values and principles.

Connecting with Ktunaxa ʔAmakʔis

Staff participated in the June 21st National Indigenous Day activities, attended a field trip to St. Mary’s Lake in July and worked with a nation member to collect and document cultural plants around Yaqaan Nukiy for the Ktunaxa Wild Foods Program. We also supported and sought guidance from the Elder’s with respect to the reburial of human remains at Trout Lake.

We held a Ktunaxa citizen reclamation tour of Teck’s Line Creek mine in June of 2017, with more being planned for the summer of 2018. However, in latter July and throughout August, the fire danger was too high and therefore made the decision to cancel both the Qat’muk and Grave Prairie culture camps.

Sector accomplishments and activities

A day-long cultural workshop was held in October 2017 in Castlegar with approximately 80 BC staff from the natural resource sector. The purpose of the workshop was to increase their knowledge and understanding of our past, our worldview and our connection to Mi...qaqas –amak—is (Chickadee’s Land). One key area of dialogue was how we work towards reconciliation. Ktunaxa presenters included Kathryn Teneese, Sophie Pierre, Chris Horsethief, Chris Luke Sr., and Ray Warden.

Collaborative partnerships

Ktunaxa-BC Strategic Engagement Agreement (SEA) - This intergovernmental agreement lays out the relationship between Ktunaxa and the province respecting land matters within Ktunaxa –amak—is. We engage frequently regarding proposed land development activities, discuss policy issues, and participate in planning projects. Further, we have joint committees that focus on the following areas: shared decision making; resource revenue sharing; fish and wildlife; provincial parks; and archaeological stewardship.



## Lands and Resources

Ktunaxa-Teck Impact Management & Benefits Agreement  
In January 2016, Ktunaxa Nation Leadership ratified the  
Ktunaxa – Teck Impact Management and Benefit Agreement.  
Implementation includes participation of Education &  
Employment, TKL, Lands and Economic Sectors.

Please visit the Lands Sector Facebook page at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/ktunaxanationlandsandresources>  
or visit us on the web at <http://www.ktunaxa.org/four-pillars/lands-resource-agency>

# Finance

The KNC Finance Department provides leadership, professional expert advice, direction and support based on strong internal controls, best management practices, risk identification and assessment practices, timely reporting that all contribute to transparency and accountability that promotes quality information for good decision making by the Senior Management, Sector Councils and the Nation Executive.

## Finance Sector Staff Members

|                   |                            |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Lynn Armstrong    | Director                   |
| Debbie Wilson     | Payroll & Benefits         |
| Sonya Connah      | Accountant                 |
| Laurel Anderson   | Purchasing & Payables      |
| Dustin Gotaas     | Finance Department Manager |
| Glenda Montgomery | Admin Assisstant           |

## KNC Finance Department Profile

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Auditor                    | MNP  |
| KNC Nation Banker          | CIBC, Cranbrook  |
| External Financial Support | KPMG, Kelowna<br>MNP, Vancouver                                  |
| Legal                      | Morgan & Assocaites<br>Grant Huberman<br>Rella, Paolini & Rogers |
| Insurance                  | Western Financial Group  |
| Health & Benefits          | Great West Life  |

The KNC is the Plan Holder and Administrator of the Group Pension with Great West Life. The Pension is a defined contribution plan matched by the employers.

## Annual Work Plan

- The annual work plan consists of:
- A. Continuing education of the Staff of the KNC Finance Department to be able to provide professional expert advice.
  - B. Ongoing review of workload demands, work methodologies, growth and changes in the organizational development, risk identification and the impact on the internal control systems;
    - a. Necessitates timely planned action
    - b. Assessment of tools and ways and means to increase efficiencies and effectiveness; which includes upgrade of financial tools, budgeting , and seeking new software.
  - C. Ongoing review of standard operating procedures , financial policies , and development of financial law” code”
  - D. Performing day to day operational functions of billings, receivables, receipts, purchasing, payables, payroll and benefits, monthly and annual reporting, data collection and financial analysis, budgeting and long term financial planning, audits in a timely complete and accurate manner.
  - E. Support the work of the Finance Committee and its working groups. Work focused on development of an investment strategy and allocations from general revenue fund; and development of a Nation business arm.
  - F. Prepare, adjust and plan for substantive organizational change
    - a. The KNC Finance Department underwent a significant review of its operations , standard operating procedures, policies and code based on the MNP Report, the evolution of the Sector Council Charters and development towards self-government

- Specific accomplishments this past fiscal year have been:
- Review and restructuring of the Department to ensure a robust and sound service delivery
  - New Budget and Financial Planning software to enhance financial data collection, analysis, and projections
  - Training and orientation of Sector Staff that perform business functions
  - Access and upload of financial forms, procedures into SharePoint for organizational access.





# Finance

Accomplishments planned for 2019:

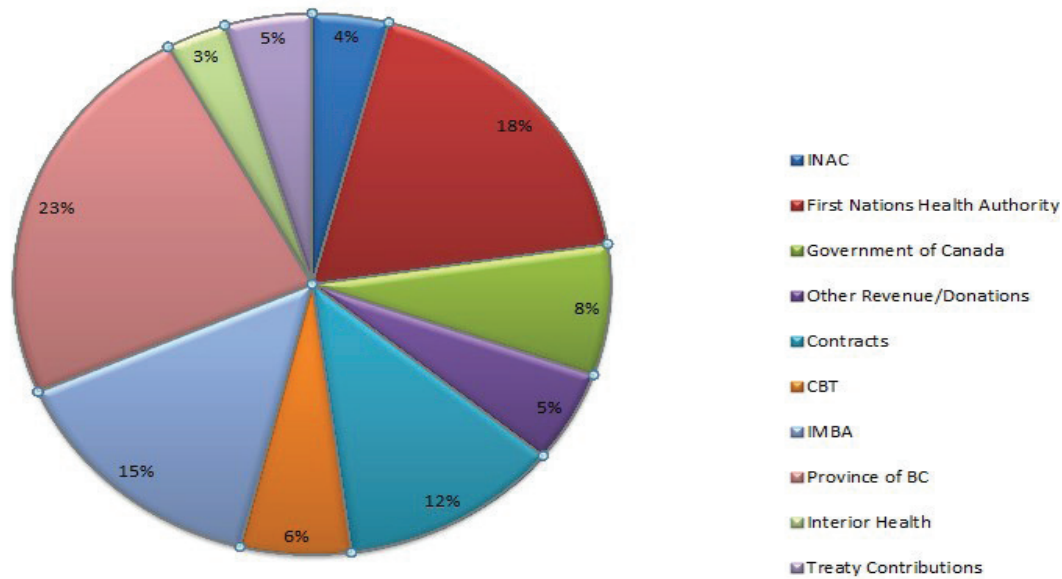
- Review and update of Financial Code
- Ongoing advisory support for Governance Transition Team
- Continuation to define and clarify separation of Nation Business from Nation Government
- Review of IRSA
- Support for defining and clarifying the long term Strategic Business Plan and a long term revenue base for the KNC and the Nation
- Software including project, and contract administration to provide efficiency to daily operations

The biggest thank you to my team of Staff for their daily dedication, humor and wisdom.

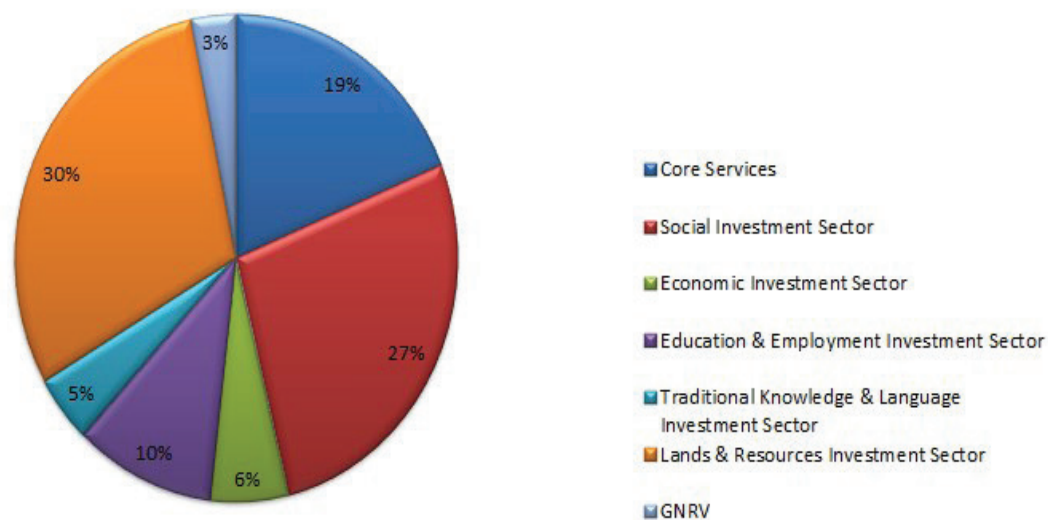
Lynn Armstrong, CPA,CGA,BCom  
Director of Finance



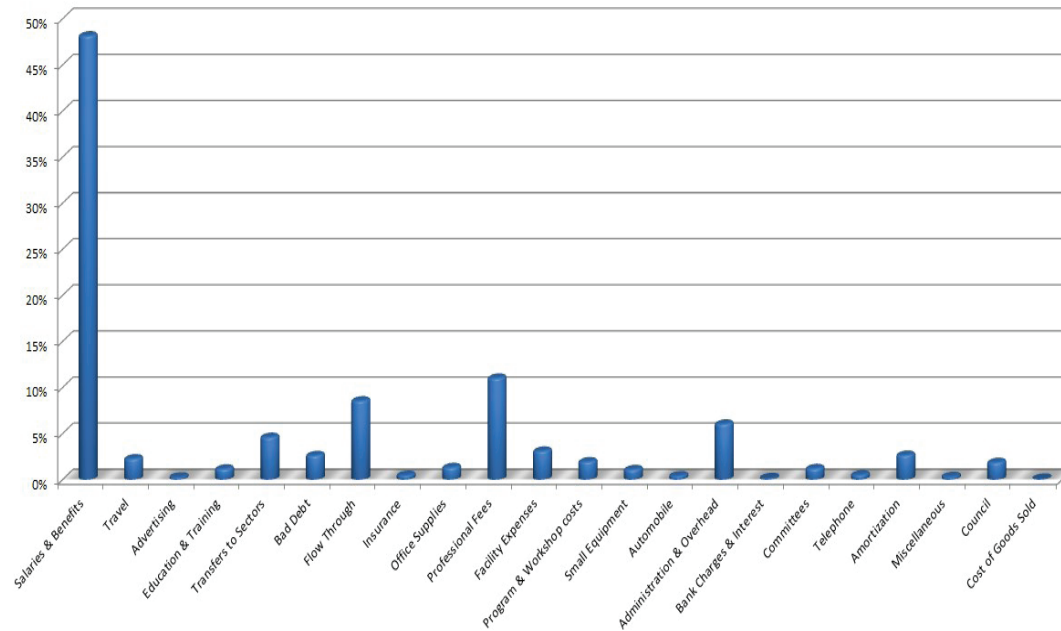
### 2018 Revenue Sources as a % of \$17 Million



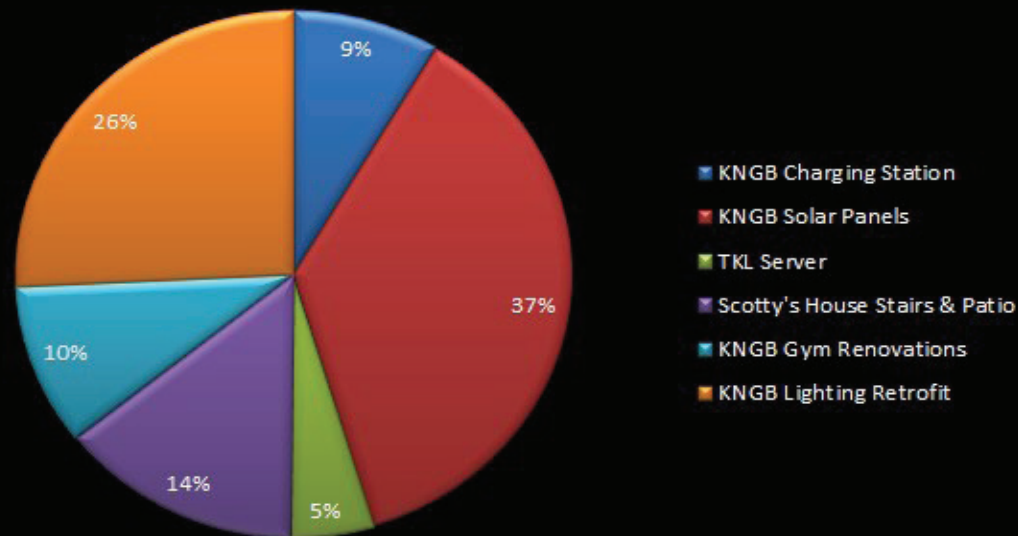
### 2018 Sector Investments (Expenditures) as a % of \$14 Million



Categorized Expenditures as a % of \$14 Million



2018 Capital Additions as a % of \$323,961





# Nupqu Development Corporation

## Personal Note from the General Manager

Entering my third year with the organization, I reflect on all the positive change that we have together embarked on as an organization over my time at Nupqu. Although the path forward contains obstacles and challenges, it is full of opportunities and positive outcomes. As we move forward, we continue to rely on the support, cooperation and collaboration of the Nation and Communities along with the commitment and resourcefulness of our employees to fulfill our mission and vision statements.

This past year the Nupqu team focused on adjusting to many new roles within the organization and operational challenges encountered as we work on maximizing opportunities. We continue to focus our energies and investment on efficiency and certainty in terms of administration and management processes, protocols and policies. There continues to be more work in the areas of business development, partnership development and marketing/external communications. We hired Kevin Wilson, our new Business Development Manager, in March and are excited to have him on board and move these objectives forward. Our new website is an example of one communication and engagement pathway that we will utilize going forward. I encourage everyone to go and check it out! [www.nupqu.com](http://www.nupqu.com)

Our success and growth remains centered on the following:

- Support from Nation citizens and Nation/Band governments;
- Strategic Partnerships with industry leaders, contractors and entrepreneurs;
- Strong business-focused corporate governance and policy;
- Skilled, motivated and committed employees.

There are many potential opportunities that remain underutilized. Nupqu continue to engage with Teck Coal through the IMBA process to grow our business at the five mine sites; there is still much more opportunity pathways that need to be capitalized within the IMBA. We encourage the Nation to seek strong relationships and Impact Management and Benefit agreements with other major industry players, including but not limited to: BC Hydro, TransCanada, CP Rail, Teck Resources, Fortis, Canfor, Certainteed Gypsum and North Coal. These agreements need to reflect the strength of the Nation and support capacity growth of Ktunaxa citizens

and businesses.

I continue to believe that it is through cooperation between the Nation Sectors and Band Corporations that we can best use our collective resources to leverage economic opportunity and ensure that we optimize financial benefits for the Nation as a whole. We are fully engaged in this goal with the work to get Ktunaxa Holdings Limited operational and continuous collaboration through the established Nation cooperative tables where we are included.

Key to our success is our employees – in providing consistent professional and quality services to our clients. I am continuously encouraged by the level of effort and commitment exemplified by our employees as they worked through the challenges over the last year. Nupqu continues to make professional development and training our staff a priority in terms of building capacity.

On behalf of all of our staff we would like to thank our Ktunaxa communities as well as our long standing clients for your ongoing support of Nupqu during the past year. We look forward to building a strong economic future within the Ktunaxa ?amakis together.

Aaron Higgs, BSc., P.Geo.  
General Manager  
Nupqu Development Corporation

## Personal note from Board of Directors Chair

The end of this fiscal year (March 31, 2018) marks the ninth year of operations for Nupqu Development Corporation as an independent business proudly owned by the Ktunaxa Nation Council and four Band communities. We have continued to implement a number of structural and procedural changes within the company over the past year with the goal of improving our administration and project management systems to support growth. We have seen much growth and optimistically envision even greater things for Nupqu moving forward.

We continue to strive towards fulfilling our Vision and Mission statement as follows:



# Nupqu Development Corporation

## Vision

“A responsible, profitable corporation that contributes to a thriving Ktunaxa Nation economy.”

## Mission

“As a leader in First Nation Business Development, Nupqu will achieve sustainable growth and profitability through ongoing capacity development and the provision of value-added professional services while adhering to a strong health and safety standard.”

Nupqu’s success is facilitated by the ongoing support and leadership of the Ktunaxa Nation Council, the four Band Communities, and their associated economic development corporations. Contract opportunities with Ktunaxa organizations are as important to Nupqu’s success as those with our other trusted clients in the industries we operate in. Over the next year, we are committed to strengthening the relationships with the Ktunaxa communities and organizations to better coordinate on direction and opportunities within the Ktunaxa Economy as a whole.

Nupqu continues to provide highly valued consulting services to our clients in the following areas:

- Professional/Technical Environmental Services;
- General Contracting Services;
- Professional/Technical Forestry Services;
- Construction Services;
- Forest Tenure Management.

While our foundational strength is in resource consulting and contracting, we continue to explore opportunities outside of this core to diversify our business and create new revenue streams throughout the Ktunaxa ʔamakis. We acknowledge that many of those opportunities will require forging strategic relationships with other successful businesses in the territory and beyond.

I would like to extend my thanks to the other Nupqu board members for their support in helping Nupqu grow and prosper. I look forward to working with all the board members and employees as we position Nupqu to capitalize on many new opportunities.

Bob Luke, Chair

Tobacco Plains Band Representative (and Chair)  
Nupqu Development Corporation

## Corporate Introduction

Operating throughout the Ktunaxa ʔamakis, Nupqu has a head office located outside the ʔaq’am community near Cranbrook and a second office in downtown Fernie. We provide an opportunity for Industry and Government to involve and work with the Ktunaxa Nation when operating in the Territory. Our vision and mission are focused on the goals of professionalism, responsibility, capacity building, profitability and health and safety.

## Accomplishments & Activities

### Governance and Policy

The governance of the company remains in a period of transition as the process of operationalizing Ktunaxa Holdings Limited continues. This will ultimately result in a re-establishment of the Nupqu board using the nomination process as directed by the Ktunaxa Holdings Limited board once it itself has been re-established. We continue to work through our policy development, transitioning from the Nation government policies that we have operated under since incorporation. The focus continues to be creating common sense business related policies and practices specific to Nupqu and our business.

### Nupqu Board of Directors

1. Bob Luke – ʔakinkumʔasnuqʔiʔit Band Representative (Chair)
2. Debbie Whitehead – ʔaq’am Band Representative
3. Jared Basil – yaqan nukiy Band Representative
4. Rosemary Phillips– ʔakisq’nuk Band Representative

## Management

With the complete re-organization of Nupqu’s management structure in 2017, there was a lot of adjusting to do over the last year. There have been challenges along the way but the new structure has allowed for significant growth in capacity, revenue, employment and contract opportunities. The addition





## Nupqu Development Corporation

of Kevin Wilson as Business Development Manager to the team will allow for more focused business development initiatives and greater outreach and engagement to all communities (both Ktunaxa and non-Ktunaxa), as well as the businesses, that operate within the Ktunaxa ʔamakis. The General Manager continues to oversee the overall operations of the company, including operational management, business development, financial management and human resources. There will be a increased focus this year on improving our organizations operational and financial management; tasks within these two key areas play a big part in this year's General Manager work plan.

### Project Examples

This year saw the completion of two major projects that Nupqu have been involved in since the fall of 2015. The Winsor and Fernie substation projects were completed under a partnership between Nupqu, acting on behalf of the Ktunaxa Nation, and BC Hydro construction services (BCH CS). These consisted of major infrastructure upgrades to the substations located in the Elko (Winsor) and Fernie communities. The Winsor project consisted of a \$7 million budget co-managed by Nupqu and BCH CS to build a new substation next to the existing site and was completed in the fall of 2017. The Fernie project consisted of a \$9 million budget under the same structure as Winsor to re-build the facility within the existing site and was completed in May of 2018. These two projects saw significant increases in Nupqu's capacity and provided employment and apprenticeship opportunities for Ktunaxa community members. This model of procurement is now described as the Winsor Model within BC Hydro and we look forward to future involvement under this model on BC Hydro capital projects.

### Finance

Nupqu continues to improve our financial processes, looking for accounting administration efficiencies and the creation and tracking of financial analysis tools. There will be a greater focus in the coming year on financial management throughout the organization, from timesheet and expense tracking to budgeting and project cost accounting. We are still in the early stage of implementation of the timesheet, invoicing and project management software purchased in 2017; stronger efforts will be made during the coming year in terms of moving

this along so that we can access the large gains in invoicing efficiencies, cost tracking and allocation mechanisms and project and resource management.

### Employment and Training

Annual training in WHIMIS, Fire-fighting and First Aid was provided again this year, as well as additional opportunities such as: Mine Supervisors Certification, Avalanche Skills, ATV and snowmobile training, swift water rescue and electrofishing. We view these practical training opportunities as solid investments in our employees, and help ensure the overall health and safety of our employees.

A major accomplishment in training was the completion, in partnership with the Nation Education and Employment Sector, of a three-week Environmental Field Skills Course. This course was put on by Nupqu and improved on a course that was completed using consultants from Vancouver Island back in the fall of 2016. With consultants Westslope Fisheries and Natural Resources Training Group and in-kind contributions from Vast Resources and Nupqu, the course put seven community members through a variety of field based training modules including: water quality monitoring, navigation, plant/vegetation id, fish capture, aquatic invertebrate sampling, soil surveys, Ktuanxa traditional knowledge and electrofishing certification. This training will go a long way towards career opportunities in the environmental field for those that completed the course.

### Community

As a priority Nupqu continues to support and be supported by the Ktunaxa communities, and has worked with various KNC staff and Community Economic development corporations through the year. Additional efforts on developing and strengthening these partnerships will be a priority in the coming year, through better communication outreach strategies and direct engagement with Communities and their staff. Kevin, the new Business Development Manager will be integral to these efforts.

### Safety

Providing a safe workplace is our number one priority. The company continues to conduct Occupational Health and Safety meetings once a month at both the Cranbrook and



# Nupqu Development Corporation

Fernie offices. A corporate safety culture is instilled in all of our operations and includes rigorous safety checks and analysis along with consistent updates to policies and procedures. Having a safe working environment requires the commitment of all employees involved, no matter what position they are in. Congratulations to all of our employees for achieving such tremendous results regarding personal safety. We have crews consistently working in dangerous settings and a number of employees working in difficult working conditions, be it environment or weather. Below is a table representing the safety record for the calendar year, which we continue to use as a guide to strive towards an improved health and safety record. Of the average number of employees, 50-60% of them consist of Ktunaxa community members at any given point in time.

|                             | <u>2016-2017</u> |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Average Number of Employees | 35               |
| Total Hours Worked          | 58623            |
| Recordable Incidents        | 3                |
| Lost work days              | 2                |
| First Aid incidents         | 0                |
| Near Misses                 | 11               |
| Vehicle Accidents           | 0                |
| Kilometres Driven           | 288444           |

## Strategic Partnerships

Strategic partnerships continue to be a strong avenue for business and capacity growth. We are working on formalizing our MOU between Nupqu and Hemmera, a large environmental consulting firm with a wide variety of expertise. The intent of the relationship is to grow the capacity of Nupqu and have the capacity through the partnership to take on larger and more complex environmental contracts. Furthermore, we continue to create and strengthen partnerships with other key local consultants and experts in the industries that we operate. These partnerships allow Nupqu to leverage greater capacity to take on more contract opportunities.

## Contact Information

Aaron Higgs, B.Sc., P.Geo.  
General Manager  
ahiggs@nupqu.com

Kevin Wilson, BA, MPA  
Business Development Manager  
kwilson@nupqu.com

Office Phone: 250-489-5762  
Website: [www.nupqu.com](http://www.nupqu.com)



# FlexiNet

FlexiNET strives at being a profitable business contributing towards a thriving Ktunaxa Nation economy. FlexiNET Broadband Inc.'s duty is to operate and maintain the Ktunaxa Nation Council Society network to ensure the network viability, health, expansion, and profitability.

This year has seen continuing cost control measures contributing to FlexiNET's plus side of the ledger. An agreement with Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation to be our wholesale internet provider creates not only a substantial saving, but is a strategic alignment for common projects to build on, for the benefit of FlexiNET, KNC, the various nation communities, and the Columbia Basin region.

Additionally, FlexiNET is working closely with Ktunaxa communities and ANTCO (All Nations Trust Company) to secure equipment upgrade funding for Ktunaxa communities.

FlexiNET has over 40 km of fibre optic lines and 17 communications towers creating the potential reach to over 16,000 homes.

The demand for quality alternative rural Internet options is increasing due to high-cost alternatives. Cellular and Satellite companies widely campaign rural areas with cellular Internet sticks (air-cards) and other dishes. While monthly costs seem low (starting at \$35/month), usage overage costs are unpredictably high for users. Today's Internet content and streaming services quickly push the client over their subscribed usage threshold. Faced with high usage fees, subscribers are found re-entering the market looking for alternatives which include higher GB usage per month or even unlimited usage options.

It is estimated that 28% of the 16,000 households do not have or have limited access to reliable, affordable high speed internet. That equals 4,500+ households that FlexiNET continues to target as potential residential subscribers.

Out of the mentioned 4,500+ households, FlexiNET estimates that currently wireless coverage can reach 53%. It is estimated that out of these, 25% will subscribe to services with this potentially increasing to 45%.

The FlexiNET tiered price plans allows users to choose and possibly lower their price plan to have or retain connectivity when personal budgets are tight. In addition, FlexiNET's contracted customer base is not normally burdened with over usage charges, which is very attractive to budget conscious subscribers, not wanting unpleasantly surprising higher than expected bills due to usage.

In summary, FlexiNET is positioned as a major contributor, in the South East region of BC, for rural high speed internet access. This is due to significant infrastructure owned by KNC and maintained by FlexiNET and strategic alliances with groups such as Columbian Basin Broadband Corporation.

## Board Members

1. Kathryn Teneese – Board Chair
2. Bob Luke
3. Jesse Nicholas

## FlexiNet Staff

David Monson – General Manager  
Adam Wuthrich – Technology  
Marianne Kneller - Finance  
Patricia Monson – Sales and Marketing



## Treaty Negotiations

As in previous years I am writing to provide a brief overview of events from this past year related to the treaty negotiation process. I am reporting in my roles of the Director of Treaty and Chief Negotiator.

This year I will be reporting on the amended approach to treaty negotiations that has been shared with many of you at Community Information Sessions presented by the Treaty team (Garry Merkel, Rosemary Phillips and Janice Alpine).

The focus of the treaty department continues to be on negotiations and governance transition.

Governance Transition has continued with Professional Development sessions for the elected leadership and senior staff. The sessions are led by a team consisting of Dan George, Four Directions Management, and Dr. Christopher Horsethief and are coordinated by Karen Bailey-Romanko. In the coming years, this activity will be the responsibility of Core Services.

The Board of the Ktunaxa Kinbasket Treaty Financing Society (KKTFS) continues to execute its legal responsibility for the Negotiation Support Funding provided by the BC Treaty Commission (BCTC). As a result of years of pressure by BC First Nations who are negotiating treaties Canada has finally agreed to loan forgiveness. This announcement was made late in the last fiscal year and means that funding as of April 2018 is now all contribution funding. We are awaiting the details how the loan forgiveness will be recorded.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be signed by the parties (Ktunaxa, Canada and BC) that sets out an agreement to proceed to the next phase of negotiations. This is part of the amended approach referenced earlier. We are looking at finalizing a 'Core Treaty' that will focus on legislative recognition of the Ktunaxa Nation, our Constitutional relationship with other governments and will move away from the notion of 'full and final'. This approach is based on Rights Recognition. Operational details will be set out in Side Agreements. This will require the parties to seek formal mandates to move down this path and should be secured in the next few months. At the September 2017 meeting of the Premier and his Cabinet with FN leadership Premier Horgan committed to reinvigorating the Province's mandates based on recognition of Aboriginal Title and

Rights. He stated that "...there is no place for extinguishment" in treaty negotiations. In January 2018 we had a brief visit from Minister Carolyn Bennett and provided her with an overview of the Ktunaxa Nation and expressed our commitment to moving forward based on Rights Recognition.

Since last year's report, there has been a change in the Provincial government. Our path forward remains unchanged regardless of the party in power. We are still unsure of the Province's intentions with respect to the 'Commitments Document' and the First Nations Summit Executive are continuing to seek clarification.

The Wensley Bench transfer still has not taken place. The issue continues to be complicated by the civil suit brought forward by the Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) challenging the ITA.

I continue to attend meetings of the First Nations' Chief Negotiators to share and gather information from the other tables. I have also participated in Province wide sessions regarding Fiscal Matters including Negotiation Support Funding.

The Principals' group that has the high level responsibility for treaty negotiation process consists of the Federal Minister of Indigenous Crown Relations, Provincial Minister of MIRR and the Political Executive of the First Nations Summit. Reports from the FNS representatives indicate that it continues to be a challenge to schedule regular meetings of the group. This is disappointing as the Principals' agreements assist in the overall direction of treaty negotiations in BC.

In closing I want to once again express appreciation to all citizens for their patience as we continue with this complex and challenging work of trying to reach an agreement with Canada and BC. I want to remind you that we continue to be guided by the direction provided at the outset of the process and further refined at Nation gatherings. We've been very clear to the governments' negotiators that our instructions from the Nation's citizens have not changed.

I also want to express my thanks to the past and present staff and elected officials of the Ktunaxa Nation who have helped to advance our agenda. As I have stated so many times, "We need to do all the work we're doing whether we finalize



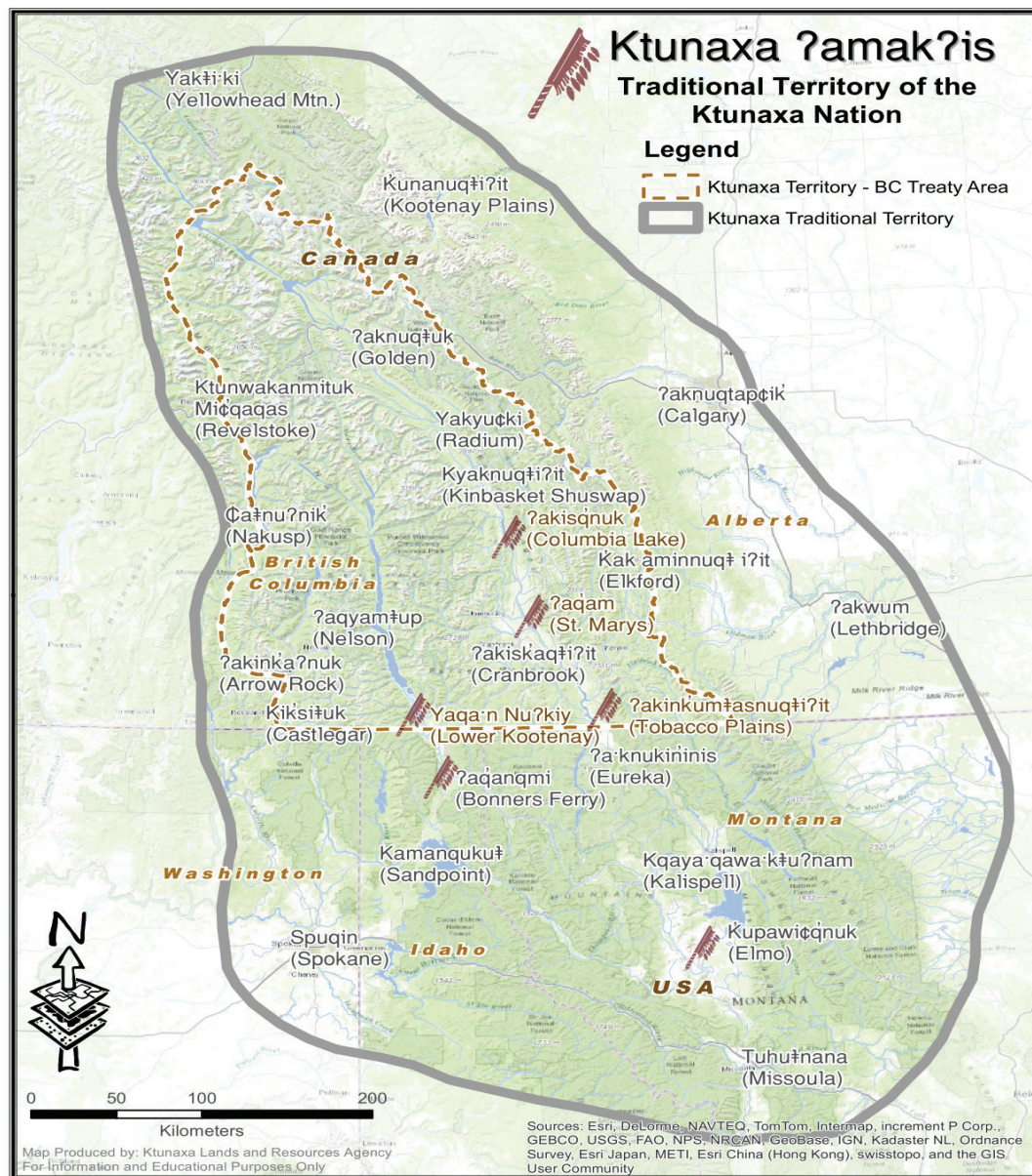
# Treaty Negotiations

a treaty or not.” There is much good work that is taking place throughout the Nation that is making a difference. There are also challenges that we have to work through together.

We must continue to focus on making our Nation Vision Statement a reality using all the tools available to us.

Kathryn Teneese  
Chief Negotiator





Ktunaxa Nation Council  
220 Cranbrook Street North  
Cranbrook, B.C.  
V1C 3R2

[www.ktunaxa.org](http://www.ktunaxa.org)