



**KTUNAXA
NATION**

Lands & Resources
NEWSLETTER AND UPDATES

Kak'kmi 2020 April 2020 cracked land

Ki?su?k Kyukyit

The Ktunaxa Nation Council, after careful deliberation, has decided to take steps to help protect our families and all of our communities from potential exposure to the COVID-19 virus. As you are most likely aware, the KNC building will be CLOSED for an initial period of two weeks, (Monday, March 23 to Friday, April 3.) As such all community engagement activities have ceased. Our goal is to align ourselves with current best practices around public health emergency and pandemic preparedness, in order to protect ourselves and each other. KNC Lands and Resources Sector will take guidance from KNC's COVID-19 Response Committee as to when it is safe to start re-engaging citizens face to face. Take care of yourself and please remember to call the elders in your community to make sure they have what they need during this time of social distancing and self-isolating.

Lands and Resources Sector Council:

Sandra Luke (Chair)
Lower Kootenay

Avery Gravelle
Tobacco Plains

Jason Andrew
?aqam

Alfred Joseph
?akisqnuuk

New Staff at Ktunaxa Nation Lands and Resources Sector



Ian Adams is a professional wildlife biologist with over 20 years of experience throughout ?amak?is Ktunaxa. For most of this time, he has worked as a consulting biologist, either independently or with Interior Reforestation / Vast Resource Solutions between 2008 and 2016. He has also taught biology courses at College of the Rockies and worked briefly for Ministry of Environment as a furbearer biologist. He lived at Blue Lake camp for 3 years in the late 1990's as camp custodian, enjoying both the quiet peace of the area when alone and the raucous joy of a full camp. Ian has worked on a wide range of projects, with an affinity for conserving species at risk. He led the provincial Badger Recovery Team for many years, co-led an environmental DNA project that found Rocky Mountain Tailed Frog in many new locations throughout the region and recently was the project lead for the East Kootenay Urban Deer Translocation Trial that moved urban deer from communities back to the wild. This past summer, he conducted species at risk surveys at ?aqam ahead of planned ecosystem restoration treatments.

Ian and his wife Kari have been married for 25 years and live just outside Cranbrook. They have two children Erin (16) and James (14). When not being a biologist, Ian has a musical side. He is President of the Symphony of Kootenays on the organizational side, not as a musician, and sings with a local choral group, Sun Valley Song. He also enjoys photography, writing, birding, travel and several sports, especially hockey.

Ian is proud to work for the Ktunaxa, helping to advance the Nation's interests to ensure ?aknumu?ti# is prioritized throughout ?amak?is Ktunaxa.



James Smithson

Hello everyone! My name is James (Jamie) Smithson and I am the new Lands Project Officer for the KNC. I am originally from Northwestern Ontario and moved to Cranbrook seven years ago. I have worked as an Aquatic Biologist in Quikin ?amak?is, and I am very excited for this opportunity and to work with so many great people.

Collaborative Stewardship Initiative (CSI)



The Lands Sector has been working on an exciting initiative with the Province of BC about exploring new arrangements for collaborative stewardship of the natural environment. It's about making changes to the typical approach to decision making.

The Collaborative Stewardship Initiative is being designed and implemented between BC and the KNC, and is intended to demonstrate and test a collaborative stewardship relationship.

What are we aiming to achieve through the Collaborative Stewardship Initiative?

The objectives of the Ktunaxa-BC Collaborative Stewardship Initiative include:

- Co-designing and implementing an effective and enduring model of true partnership and shared decision-making respecting stewardship within ʔamaʔkis Ktunaxa; and
- Reflecting the values and interests of both parties, supporting long-term care of land and water and ecosystem health, and being consistent with Ktunaxa's vision and Nation rebuilding aspirations.

What motivates us to be involved in this opportunity?

The Collaborative Stewardship Initiative is a unique opportunity to jointly explore a new approach to shared stewardship of natural values. It is an opportunity to advance projects of mutual interest by building shared understandings and principles that may form the foundation of future management relationships. The Initiative aligns well with Ktunaxa's internal work on self-governance and supports steps towards sovereignty.

What excites us about the Collaborative Stewardship Initiative?

The Collaborative Stewardship Initiative offers the opportunity, time, and space to be creative about what shared stewardship of the land means. This will include incorporation of Ktunaxa values and laws into natural resource decision making.

On a practical level, the Collaborative Stewardship Initiative is a mechanism to help with long-term capacity building to strengthen institutional governance arrangements – both within BC and KNC. Expanding Ktunaxa jurisdiction and institutional capacity will help with Nation re-building, and moving to self-governance and to sovereignty.

There is also an opportunity for BC to participate meaningfully in collaboration and reconciliation.

What have we done so far?

After initial discussions with BC, we have established a Collaborative Stewardship Working Group to explore and develop what collaborative stewardship means and what that could look like in practice. To that end, five projects have been selected to help investigate and implement and test models for shared decision making. These projects include:

- Huckleberry Stewardship Plan
- Elk Stewardship Plan
- East Side Columbia Lake Cultural Landscape Stewardship Plan
- Land Stewardship Planning Framework
- ʔa-knusti Guardian Program

These projects are under development, and some like the Huckleberry Stewardship Plan and Elk Stewardship Plan have hosted focus groups. There is still more work to be done and further engagement is planned for Community Councils and communities and citizens. Stay tuned for more details on further engagement.

For more information, please contact

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KTUNAXA DIET STUDY by Jim Clarricoates

The diet study was initiated in 2012/13, with follow up in 2015. It was initiated to fulfill Teck Resources obligation to permitting conditions established through the Environmental Assessment certificate to develop mine sites in the Elk Valley. The study was to assess pathways of contamination (through wild foods), and the consumptive rates of these foods, to determine the risk to human health (Human Health Risk Assessment). The study focused mainly on historic and current consumption rates, but did not factor in the ideal consumption rates that Ktunaxa people want to re-establish in the future.

As some of you know, our team (Vickie T., Melissa T., Jim C., and Chad L.), along with support, guidance, and mentoring from Michele Sam, MAS Consulting, and Karen Fediuk, Firelight Group, conducted the 2019 Focus Group sessions in 5 communities (Cranbrook, ʔaqam, ʔakisqnuk, yaqit ʔaknuqłiʔit, and yakan nukiy), to determine the preferred consumption of the Ktunaxa people, and to re-assess the risk of that consumptive rate.

We held a total of 10 focus groups, that had participation from over 90 citizens, as follows:

- 2 focus groups in ʔaqam
- 2 focus groups in ʔakisqnuk
- 2 focus groups in yaqit ʔaknuqłiʔit
- 1 focus group in yakan nukiy
- 2 focus groups in Cranbrook
- 1 with KNC staff

Some of the learnings that I take away from this work is: Everyone, old and young contributed with knowledge, even if they believed they could not contribute to the project (A testament to how stories and family outings can build essential knowledge), that different communities prioritized different food resources, and how gathering together for conversation strengthens our relationships.

We are currently verifying the data (weights and measurements of the wild foods) and transforming the amounts into serving sizes, then, compiling it into the report for the Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA). We are also looking towards how we can make the information cross into other aspects of the work we do at the Nation Council, such as the Wild Foods program, ʔaknusti, as well as others.

A huge thank you goes out to the participants of the focus group. Not only for the invaluable information you provided, but also for welcoming our team into your communities and sharing an evening of fun and laughter.

Our team looks forward to bringing the results of the project to communities in the near Future.

Texas



Columbia River Treaty Ecosystem Function: 2019 Update

The current negotiations between Canada and the U.S. on modernizing the Columbia River Treaty provide a unique opportunity to consider ways to improve ecosystem function within the Columbia River Basin in Canada.

Columbia Basin Indigenous Nations are currently leading work that will inform the Canadian negotiating team's discussions on how to address ecosystems in a modernized Treaty. This involves developing goals and objectives for what a healthy ecosystem would look like, and ways to measure whether these goals and objectives are met.

This work focuses on four broad ecological themes: ecosystem productivity, floodplain/riparian/wetlands, river and reservoir ecosystems, and anadromous (ocean-going) fish species. Guiding this work is the Columbia River Treaty Ecosystem Function Sub-committee, composed of representatives of the Syilx/Okanagan, Ktunaxa and Secwepemc Indigenous Nations, provincial government, consultants, and environmental non-government organizations.

The goals and objectives consider various aspects of river and reservoir ecology, such as: habitat for wildlife around the river and reservoirs, access for fish to tributaries, productivity of river and reservoir habitats, and flow requirements for possible future salmon restoration. To ensure that these things are considered in the context of a changing climate, Indigenous Nations are consolidating climate-change information about the Columbia Basin, which will inform all studies.

There are 12 studies in the ecosystem function workplan over 2 years, funded by the B.C. Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources. A more general compilation project is also underway to develop a database of relevant reports and information associated with ecosystem studies that have been completed in the Columbia River Basin. The database will draw from sources including Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program, BC Hydro Water Licence Requirements (including Water Use Plans), Columbia Basin Trust, and Columbia Power Corp projects and associated data.

The other studies focus on the development of specific goals, objectives, and performance measures of ecosystem function. The overarching purpose of many of these studies is to identify ways to improve ecosystem function by modifying changes in flows and reservoir levels in the Canadian portion of the Columbia River basin. These scenarios can then be considered alongside current operations and future scenarios for power production and flood risk management.

A computerized model for exploring the implications of different scenarios will be developed in parallel with the 12 projects. The goal is to have the initial model and preliminary results from the ecosystem function studies developed in early summer 2020.

A presentation on this work was delivered at the Province of B.C.'s fall 2019 community meetings. You can view that presentation here <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/columbiarivertreaty/2019-community-meetings/>



WORD SEARCH

k	a	k'	k	m	i	k	n	i	q	?	a	·	q	i	n	?
u	?	a	u	?	a	·	k	n	u	q'	y	u	k'	a	i	a
?	q	i	†	ø	x	t	?	i	l	t	ø	n	?	k'	n	·
k	ø	l	i	t	n	?	q'	ø	a	q	x	†	i	k'	u	q'
·	i	?	ø	u	ø	u	x	k	x	u	?	ø	n	l	x	u
a	x	?	x	n	m	†	u	·	ø	m	a	t	?	i	?	†
t	k	u	l	i	l	u	a	l	n	i	†	i	?	n	a	m
q	u	m	x	q'	x	m	a	i	x	m	i	m	a	l	·	a
k	ø	i	?	n	l	i	k	ø	†	u	x	t	·	ø	q	n
a	m	k	u	·	t	m	n	m	u	?	a	i	q'	m	u	a
k'	a	i	m	?	i	n	q'	u	m	n	q'	?	a	u	x	q'
a	ø	k	a	t	l	t	n	?	a	k'	n	x	n	·	m	a
q	a	·	n	·	k	q'	i	x	y	m	u	?	q	ø	a	u
u	q'	l	q	?	l	m	u	ø	i	k'	k	u	u	m	†	m
x	a	k	ø	x	k	t	l	m	t	l	m	x	q	l	i	?
m	?	m	t	ø	·	m	u	x	n	?	u	m	a	·	?	u
a	u	ø	q	l	ø	l	ø	ø	a	ø	m	n	t	t	i	l
q	k	a	x	?	i	n	q'	a	m	m	t	ø	m	x	t	ø
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Word	Definition
Kakkmi	April
øpuq'nukuxa	melt snow for water
†umayitnamu	Spring
Kut†ø	Baby Bird
ʔu†umi	May
ʔinq'am	crocus
øuøu	Chickadee or small bird
ʔa·q'um†mana	Worm
†ikuq'	March
ʔinq'um	Prairie Crocus
ni†iʔnam	Umbrella
øikku	Robin
ka'kaquxmaqa	Green
ʔa·knuq'yu'k	Flowers
ʔa·q'anquqat	Bird's nest in a tree
kulilu	butterfly
ʔa·quxma†iʔit	grass

KNC Lands and Resources Staff Directory

Name	Extension	Job Title
Bill Green	3131	Special Initiatives Advisor
Cathy Conroy	4033	Terrestrial Biologist (Mines)
Chad Luke	(250)428-1971	Ktunaxa Steward, Community Engagement
Craig Paskin	3124	Manager, Policy and Planning
Crystal Phillips	3210	Administrative Assistant
Erin Robertson	3137	Mining Oversight Team Lead
Gregg Huculak	3130	Business Administrator
Greg Johnson	3190	Guardian Team Co-Lead
Heather McMahon	3172	Project Biologist
Ian Adams		Terrestrial Ecologist
James (Jamie) Smithson	4026	Lands Project Officer
Jim Clarricoates	(250)464-0274	Ktunaxa Steward, Community Engagement
Johanne Allard		Agreements Coordinator
John Nicholas	4324	Archaeology Technician
Katherine Morris	4027	Environmental Assessments Coordinator
Katrina Caley	4062	Project Biologist
Kamila Baranowska	3134	Aquatic Biologist
Kenton Andreashuk	(250)421-0753	Fisheries Guardian
Kerri Garner	3115	Lands Stewardship Manager
Laine Twigg	3171	Environmental Technician
Melissa Teneese	4060	Administrative Assistant, CE
Michelle Dunn	4308	Guardian Referrals Administrator
Misun Kang	3106	Knowledge Team, Co-Lead
Nathalie Allard	4309	Archaeology Technician
Nicole Kapell	3123	Land Use Research Program Coordinator
Rick Neidig	3028	Operations Excellence Coordinator
Ray Warden	3121	Lands Sector Director
Richard (Marty) Williams	3123	Environmental Technician
Vickie Thomas	4034	Community Engagement, Team Lead

Kak'kmi

cracked land

April 2020

kukiz'inmiyit SUNDAY	k#a'ukinmiyit MONDAY	k#a'aymiyit TUESDAY	k#aqa#sanmiyit WEDNESDAY	k#axa#anmiyit THURSDAY	k#ayi-kunmiyit FRIDAY	k#a'inmisanmiyit SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9