Kuku S’qumu (July) 2016
ʔat nukuni s’qumu
July, the month when Saskatoon berries ripen

Captured above is a mother fawn on hole 8, which surprisingly hole 8 is named Spring Fawn.

2016 Ktunaxa Nation Charity Golf Tournament

Ktunaxa Lands Staff volunteered and participated in the 2016 Ktunaxa Nation Charity Golf Tournament this June at the St. Eugene Mission. Contributions directly support Ktunaxa Nation language and cultural initiatives. The Tournament next year will take place on June 15th, this gives you plenty of time to sharpen your skills before then, or just come out for some fun in the sun, wind or rain!

Lands and Resources Sector Council:
- Chair - Sandra Luke
  Lower Kootenay
- Jim Whitehead
 ʔaʔam
- Jason Gravelle
  Tobacco Plains
- Lorne Shovar
ʔakisʔnuk

Photo’s from the Land

Above is a stunning photo of the Columbia Lake

Above is a great shot of the surrounding area of the Rock Quarry near Moyie
Columbia Lake Eastside and Rock Quarry Site Visit

A story and rocks, fish and rocks, a pit and rocks, and an afternoon’s work and rocks. These might seem entirely unrelated – but rocks linked a day with four stops of interest for the Lands Department staff on their archeology field trip at the end of May. Led by Robert Williams (the newest KNC employee kept calling him ‘Stumpy’ - sorry Stubby!) and Nicole Kapell, the day included stops at the south and north ends of Columbia Lake, Canal Flats Discovery Center, and a tourmalinite quarry site near Moyie.

Our first stop was the pictographs at the south end of Columbia Lake. Found at the base of a rocky outcrop facing the lake – it is one of many rocky outcrops in the area. Sheltered by overhanging rocks, the ochre figures were painted on a west-facing surface. We learned from Robert Williams of the importance of this area as part of the Ktunaxa creation story. It also occurs along an important route to the prairies, where the Ktunaxa would regularly travel to. Some images were clear - beautifully outlined with the dark rust-red colored pigment. Other images have faded from view, slowly worn away by the effects of water, wind and time. What was most striking was the vibrancy of the color on some images; the ochre appeared so freshly applied. Nothing in the surrounding landscape was quite like the deep rich colour of the pigment used by the images’ creators on the rock surfaces.

The Canal Flats Village Office, our next stop, also hosts the Canal Flats Discovery Center, which was a joint effort by the Village and the KNC to create displays informing visitors about Ktunaxa history in the area. Colorful panels depicting the Ktunaxa creation story decorate the sloping roof inside the beautiful new building. Inside play two different videos, one of Joe Pierre Jr. telling the Ktunaxa creation story, and the other, narrated and produced by Don Sam, showing historic photos, maps and images of culturally important plants and animals while Don shares a brief history of the Ktunaxa. These videos are exactly what someone visiting an area would look for – a brief, well done, and informative snapshot of local history and the Ktunaxa people.

Traveling to the south end of Columbia Lake, we stopped at a rest stop overlooking Columbia Lake. Here expert ‘finds’ spotters Nicole and Robert quickly pointed out lithic flakes along the terraces overlooking the lake. It was easy to imagine a person on a warm spring day, sitting at the very spot we stood – sharpening tools, or repairing clothing or accessories, and enjoying the view as they worked. Approaching the south end of Columbia Lake as we traveled upriver, Robert pointed out a fish weir – large rocks strategically placed in the river, and used for generations to entice resting fish as they traveled upstream. (picture here of the wier). Our visit to Columbia Lake Provincial Park included inspection of several obvious and archeologically significant depressions – likely used as cache pits to store fish and other food gathered by people camped on the lake. Near the shore lay large rocks, filled with shells and fossils from a long-ago buried sea bed –
another rock with a story.

Our final stop was an important Tourmalinite quarry south of Lumberton near Moyie.

Tourmalinite, a dark, very fine-grained type of Tourmaline, was an important material used for tool making. The unexperienced members of the group watched as expert eyes easily picked out tiny stones and rocks – which seemed no different from nearly every other rock surrounding them. With years of experience searching for human-modified stones, Robert and Nicole quickly identified those that had been part of making the essential tools of their time. We learned to identify a natural vs. man-made flake, heard of methods used at the quarry to extract the rock, and held the smooth flakes or flawed and discarded stones once held by Ktunaxa ancestors. Again, on a small and mossy ledge, it was easy to imagine a tool-maker working their materials in the cool shade with a beautiful view before them of rock formations, wetlands, and a small lake. (picture here of the circle of flakes found at the quarry)

Thanks to KNC for the opportunity to see first-hand some important historical locations, learn about traditional activities, the archeological process, the importance of tradition and stories for Ktunaxa elders and knowledge holders. A very special thanks to Robert, for sharing his knowledge of Ktunaxa heritage, the health properties and names for important plants used by generations of Ktunaxa, and for telling his own stories from his childhood spent in Ktunaxa ?amak?is.

The Lands and Resources Department Welcomes Vickie Thomas - Agreements Coordinator

Vickie Thomas has been hired as the Agreements Coordinator; the primary focus is on implementing the Teck/KNC Impact Management and Benefits Agreement (IMBA) by supporting the working groups established under the IMBA. Vickie Thomas is a member of the ?a?am Band and she also resides on the ?a?am Reserve.

The IMBA includes:
- Land stewardship, now and into the future
- How decisions will be made about future proposed mine expansions
- Training, employment and business pathways
- Ways that Ktunaxa culture and presence will be protected and enhanced
- Ktunaxa citizen access to land currently managed by Teck

Vickie will be visiting each of the communities in the Fall to provide an update on IMBA Implementation.

If you would like to discuss the IMBA further Vickie can be reached at: vthomas@ktunaxa.org or 250-489-2464 ext. 4034
What’s New With The IMBA?

Teck/Ktunaxa Impact Management and Benefits Agreement (IMBA) was officially signed at a signing ceremony in May 2016 held at SEM. On June 14-15th a joint Teck-KNC workshop was held for all those who are involved in IMBA Implementation. The objectives of this workshop were to create a shared sense of values and principles between Teck and the KNC regarding IMBA Implementation and to begin to identify what success looks like. The working groups began identifying success measures which will later be used in the work planning. Outputs from this Workshop include:

- Vision statement for IMBA Implementation
- Values that will guide our collective work
- Draft success statements/goals for each Working Group
- Graphic Recording by Colleen Stevenson, capturing the Workshop outcomes

Those involved with IMBA Implementation includes representation from Teck and the Ktunaxa Nation within working groups established under the IMBA. The working groups are as follows: the Cultural working group, the Environmental working group and the Procurement and Employment Operational working group.

Did you know?

Did you know that the recent changes to the Forest and Range Practices Act includes better invasive plant management? This change to the Range Use Plans now requires Range Tenure Holders to lay out actions they will take to prevent and control invasive plants, these measures will now be legally binding.

Ktunaxa Jeopardy Question

Before the Grand Coulee Dam was built in the 1940's, about how many kilometres did salmon have to swim from the mouth of the Columbia River at Astoria, Oregon to reach the headwaters of the Columbia River at Canal Flats?

To submit your answer: go to our Ktunaxa Lands and Resources Facebook Page and private message us your answer or submit your answer by emailing nnicholas@ktunaxa.org. The Deadline to submit your answer is: July 29th, 2016.

Congratulations to Priscilla Nicholas for winning our last months Ktunaxa Jeopardy Question. Her correct answer, Yaqan Nuʔkiy (Lower Kootenay) won her a $25.00 gift card.
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- **11th**: Elders Gathering at Williams Lake
- **12th**: Elders Gathering at Williams Lake
- **13th**: Elders Gathering at Williams Lake
- **14th**: Elders Gathering at Williams Lake
- **15th**: Elders Gathering at Williams Lake
- **18th**: Child and Family AGA
- **20th**: Ktunaxa Nation AGA
- **21st**: Ktunaxa Nation AGA

*Kuku Squmu*
The Mandate of the Ktunaxa Lands and Resources Agency is to ensure that the lands and resources within the Ktunaxa Territory are effectively managed and protected for the benefits of the citizens, communities and government of the Ktunaxa Nation.

- Lands Sector Mandate