



Special points of interest:

- A warm welcome to our new Chief and Council, and Thank you to our previous Chief and Council
- Wednesday May 2 we will be having a community dinner for our present and previous Chief and Council
- Everyone is invited to attend the Community Consultation Sessions being held at St. Andrew's Church May 2-4, 2007. Gas cards will be handed out to those that fully participate!

May 2007



Band Manager Update

By Robyn Cyr

I would like to congratulate the new council; Chief Lenny Sellars, Councilor Donna Dixon, Councilor Thomas Phillips, and Councilor Gilbert D. Sellars. The staff looks forward to working with you to continue the work that the previous council has completed.

I would also like to thank the previous council; Dorothy Phillips, Cheryl Chapman, Dave Pop, and Teena Sellars for their support for the staff and the community in the past few years. The staff wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors.

Wednesday, May 2, 2007 at 5:00 pm we will be having a community dinner to meet the new council and to say thank you to the previous council. I hope that everyone will be able to attend this community event.

The Finance Manager has been filled by Dawn Armes and she started working for the Band on March 21, 2007. She comes to us from the Cariboo Regional District

and we are happy to have her working with us.

The Library project that we have been working on with the Cariboo Regional District is moving along slowly. I will provide more information to the community as we go along.

It looks like spring is finally here and Rhonda Shackelly is working with some community members to get a community garden underway. This is a great opportunity for the community to get together and work on a project that will benefit the health of the community. Please call Rhonda or myself if you have any questions.

Our fiscal year end was March 31, 2007 so Dawn and I will be working to get the financial records ready for the auditor to do his work. I will be busy working on the annual audit, staff evaluations, INAC reporting for the next month.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Community Dinner on Wednesday, May 2, 2007!!

Robyn

Fraser River Run

SODA CREEK FIRST NATION



Community Fisheries

By Noella William

Hello All
I hope that spring is finally here no more snow please. We had a Natural Resource meeting on the 24 of April and I spoke about some fisheries issues. I will be putting out the catch monitoring posting soon so keep and eye out for that. I checked into the cost of quality rope that can be bought at Red Shreds on 1st Avenue the cost is \$1.50 a meter. So if you needed 15 or 20 meter it

would cost around \$15-\$20 which is not that bad. The usual yellow rope just does not do for safety. Yes, there will be a closure for the month of July to allow the Early Stuart to go by. If anyone has question please call me at the band office I will be in Tuesday till Thursday.

Bye Noella William
Community Fisheries Representative



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Farewell Report

By Dorothy Phillips

I would like to congratulate the new Chief and Council on the recent election and best wishes to all of you in the two year term. I am positive that all of you will work together as a team and the vision of the community will be fulfilled in your term. My wish for you is that your family members will continue to support you 2 years down the road regardless of the tough decisions you have to make.

I would like to thank the workers at the Soda Creek Band for their continuous dedication to the work they continue to do on our behalf. They have continued to stay faithfully with the organization regardless of the challenges they may face. Your dedication has been very much appreciated. Continue to keep your head up.

I would like to thank the members who continued to provide their support to me as the Chief for this community in the 6 years I have been here. Many of those members know who they are. I want to thank my greatest supporters who are my immediate family, my husband and our children and grandchildren. Without their continuous support, I would not know what to do.

As I sit back as a member, I find it interesting when elections come about: we just seem to go through a cycle: mistrust; gossip and negative thinking. In my term as Chief, there was no favoritism when the tough decisions needed to be made, I would definitely do it all again. The interesting thing is that I know I did not get support from some of my in-laws, but that is what happens when you run in an election: we weigh our options and the end result is never what you expect; but you take it as a sign that you were meant to do something else. I do want to thank the 28 members who voted for me, and I thank you for continuing to believe in my abilities in the 6 years I have been here.

I know that I have accomplished a lot in my 3 terms as Chief, and there definitely is no regret. There have been some exciting developments from our past leaders and there is a move for change, reviewing structures and moving on recommendations. If we are moving into a Self Government; we need to start practicing them now.

I believe at times, we are our own worse enemies; because no matter what we do in our communities to make improvements; we literally do not have a positive thing to say about the leadership in this community until they are gone. How did we become so cynical? Negative comments, complaints come to us naturally. I had an opportunity to attend a community meeting and a comment was made by one of the members “now you can com-

plain.” I do not believe that I view being a member as a license to complain; I believe it as providing feedback or assisting in making improvement. It seems that we have become so used to meetings, where the only excitement we get is “I am going to make sure they hear my complaint.” This has become so our younger people are saying “oh they are going to a community meeting, so they can complain”. Is that how we want our youth to view our meetings? If we want to make an impact or leave a footprint, I believe that we need to start appreciating the sacrifices that are made from all our leaders in this community.

I do miss some of the elders who have passed on; Addie, Theresa Pop, Margaret, Sonny etc. I appreciate Addie Sellars when I first came to live in Soda Creek; she never regarded me as different in this community, she never had a mean thing to say. These elders in my mine are truly inspirational because they made an impact on my life; they showed what caring and sharing was; they showed it through their actions.

My hope to the membership is: Support the Leaders who are elected in; don't just support them just by voting; but support them in the tough decisions they have to make. I believe that it is time to put historical family feuds aside and work together, regardless of who is elected in. As members, I think we need to start thinking about the legacy we are leaving for our youth.

Soda Creek is unique as mentioned at the Forum by one of the candidates, because we have members who are Shuswap, Carrier and Chilcotin living in this community. Each one of us has family members who have Carrier blood and Chilcotin blood or white blood. We need to acknowledge those differences and accept them; so that our youth of tomorrow are proud of their history and identity. Anything we do should be about our younger generation.

Respectfully,

Dorothy Phillips



Thank you Band workers for your continuous dedication on our behalf.

Treaty Administrator

By Trina Phillips

Treaty Report

Hello all.....How has the beautiful spring weather been treating yeah? Have you had a chance to get any spring cleaning done? As for myself, I finally had some time this past weekend to get some spring cleaning done. The only downfall to having Aspen trees in the backyard is the leaves. GRRR. Just kidding. I am quite sore from all the raking that I have done over the weekend. Didn't know I had some muscles in my arms....lol.

Back to business. I will update you on what I have been doing over the past month and will inform you for next month's business of Treaty.

Spring break kept the staff on their toes I believe, and then right on into the month of April. I was able to have the **Moccasin Making Workshop**, which was quite the hit. We now have a few people who know how to make moccasins. I am glad to say I am one of them, and that we did have one of the men from the community participate and finished his before we did (Congratulations!) Some valuable tools to teach our young ones someday in the future. Although I was teased of making mine look like high heels....hmmmmph why some people....just kidding. So I took them apart and started them over again so they looked like moccasins. We also had a chance to bead them. I still have to practice on that one yet. The next project that I am thinking about putting together is the **Regalia Making Workshop**, for any of those interested in preparing for the upcoming **Pow Wow** in July. That is still in the preparation stage. The **Easter Egg Celebration** was a big hit for the children and teenagers as I can hardly believe how many little tikes we have around the community until you get them all in one spot. Mind you, not all of them are little tikes but you get the drift I hope....just kidding. We had approximately 60-70 children in the area during that particular day and they were all well behaved and excited to get their share of candy. Thanks to all the parents, uncles and aunts as well as grandparents who came and participated on that special day. Speaking on behalf of the children I would also like to say a BIG Thank You to *Knuwventwewc Society, Soda Creek Education Department and the Soda Creek PAC* for their donations to make this day happen. It was all very much appreciated, and I am sure the children can vouch for that.

I should actually send my congratulations to our new Chief and Council. Chief Lenny Sellars, Councilors: Thomas Phillips, Donna Dixon, and Gilbert J. Sellars (if I had misspelled any names here, please don't take offence.) I would also like to say to Dorothy (past Chief) Thank you for everything and

teaching me so much, and the same goes for Cheryl Chapman, Teena Sellars and Dave Pop (past Councilors). It has been a pleasure. Best of wishes in your future endeavors and god bless.

On Tuesday, April 10, 2007 I had an opportunity to sit in on the planning meeting for the Unity Ride. Chief Mike Archie is organizing for the Unity Ride (and Aboriginal Day Celebration). At the moment the point of destination is **St. Joseph's Mission site**. I have yet to hear confirmation on that and I will inform you once I know more. Chief Fred Robbins had invited all of the chiefs and staff to participate in the planning process as well as he is working with Mike. So the Meeting was held in Esket, and I was the only member from Soda Creek there. It was good and I came back with a lot of information. I have requested a staff member from the Health department to be there on the evening of June 19th. This is the evening that they are planning on having the Healing Sessions. For some individuals this may be a place of (many things: anger, hurt, fear, mistrust and for some happiness) and we want to be prepared for any kind of situation. As it turns out there will be a couple of staff members from the Health Department who will be there on the evening of June 19th.

Everyone shall be arriving on the afternoon of June 19, 2007 and hopefully there will be quite the turn out. As for Aboriginal Day there was a draft agenda put together for the day's activities. As soon as I receive a hard copy, I will be distributing it to the Community. The Aboriginal Day shall be quite the event because a lot of communities will be participating in this as well, including the Tsilhqot'in Chiefs and major political leaders such as our local mayor (we are hoping as Chief Fred Robbins will be inviting Scott Nelson to participate) and for sure 100 Mile House Mayor: Donna Barnett. A lot of thought and preparation is going into this event. The next planning date for the Unity Ride and Aboriginal Day activities will be: Tuesday May 22, 2007 held in Dog Creek. If anyone is interested in coming and listening please give me a call.

I have also been assisting with the planning for the Aboriginal Day for the Elementary School students, and Wildwood will be hosting the events. Geraldine Bob has her hands full, and has been lucky to have the staff to lean on for support in a time of need. She is now able to have events happening and hopefully everything will run smoothly, with tons of help and support. If you are feeling the need to help you are more than welcome and volunteer your time on that day @ Wildwood Elementary School. A poster will be circulated once every-



I am looking to start a Regalia Making Workshop. For anyone interested please contact Trina.



Treaty Administrator Continued

By Trina Phillips

thing is confirmed by June's newsletter.

As for the High School students, I am hoping that they can come and participate at the **St. Josephs Mission site** for the Aboriginal Activities as there will be many interesting items on the agenda happening through-out the day.

I had an opportunity to participate in the "Aboriginal Business Forum", which was actually quite informational and gave me some insight (new learning tools) to use for future purposes. How very important business cards are, and how networking makes a very big difference.

Linnea Battel : *Director* for Xà:tem Site of a 9,000 year old Coast Salish village and Sacred transformer stone. www.xaytem.ca Location: Mission, of British Columbia/Canada

Dan George: *President* for Four Directions Management Services Limited "Building bridges of better understanding between Aboriginal Peoples, Industry, Local Communities and Governments"

Dan George: *Chief Executive Officer* for First Nations

Mission Statement: "Building effective working relationships with First Nations, Government, Industry Beetle Mountain Pine Initiative and the broader community through innovative, Evidence-based, and culturally relevant policy Development, strategic planning, facilitation, and Negotiating."

Chief Ervin Charleyboy of *Tsi Del Del*: also referred to as *Redstone Reserve*.

These are just 3 examples of people who had told their success stories for business that they help in the decision making and marketing of, as well as the great success they are part of.

The Human Resource Project is coming along quite nicely, and I have been asked to be a minute taker for the Consultations. I was able to participate in the training sessions for facilitation and note taking to help us prepare as a team for the Community Consultations. For this I am very grateful, because I feel confident that we will all be on the same page and know our duties at the meetings. There will be a few of us working together as Minute Takers so I feel quite confident that everything shall run quite smoothly. We have staff members from each of the four communities doing presentations in areas of their strength, background and job description. I am hoping for a good number of people to come out. By the time this reaches you, it will have already happened.

Thank you for taking the time to read my newsletter insert, and have a great day.

I look forward to seeing you soon in the nearby future.

Kukstemic,

Trina Phillips

We have hired a new worker at the Heritage Village. Welcome new Chief and Council, and Thank You to our old Chief and Council!



Community Economic Development

By Rhonda Shackelly

Already May! Wow, how time flies! I am keeping busy. We hired a new worker at the Heritage Village. So you will see Kristen K. Sellars down there this year. At the end of May we will have APTN down at the Heritage Village. They are going to be doing a ½ hour documentary called Fish Out of Water. I am very excited about it. Wow, I can't believe its newsletter time again...I want to congratulate the new Chief and Council. Welcome to the

office. J Thanks to the old Chief and council, best of luck in your future endeavors. I don't have much for this month. Have a great MAY!

Kukstemic (Thank-you),
Keep the Spirit ALIVE!

Rhonda Shackelly, BGS
Community Ec. Dev. Coordinator

Community Programs

By Marion Chelsea

Good day all. I hope this missive finds everyone in fine health. Things are busy as ever here in Education.

The first week of April found me in the second half of the Education Coordinator Training sponsored by FNECS and held at Thompson Rivers University in town. This was an incredibly intense course, and very useful upon completion.

The course had clear guidelines regarding file maintenance, policy, procedures, and post secondary funding eligibility. I did well in this course, and can now face the filing cabinet here in Education with a more knowledgeable hand.

Jeannette and Stephanie Tweedy held the fort during After School Program hours and did an amazing job. The ASP Room looks very homey now, and Jeannette got her window! Stephanie collaborated with the youth to make Jeannette a window complete with flowers and sunshine.

After the course I put together the newsletter, and I do apologize for its lateness. Hopefully the newsletter will not be that late again. I took in a day of the Facilitation Training held at the Williams Lake Library on April 20, and then the Note Taking course the following day. The Facilitation Training was

about teaching us how to facilitate a workshop, and I was one of the ones to get up and speak in front of the class. Boy it was hard on my nerves.

The Note Taking Workshop was incredibly useful. I put it right to use in the Community Consultation Sessions held April 26 and 27. April 26's Lands and Natural Resources Session, and April 27's Economic Development Session were in depth, interesting, and a little intense. I hope we have more participants for the sessions the rest of this week. It's very much worth it, and they are going to be handing out gas cards for those that fully participate in the sessions.

On the Employment side of things, I have had many clients this month. Most of which made it into the trainings currently being sponsored by CCATEC.

My goal for this month is organizing the office. Cici and I have been so busy lately that our filing has been a little neglected. ☺ Old files need to be cleared out to make room for the coming year. The school visits will happen next week for those parents that are wondering. Any questions or concerns, please come on by.

So until next time!



Please see attached flyer for the Community Consultation Sessions being held at St. Andrew's Church May 2-4

Community Health Report

By Brigette Peel

Hello Community Members. I hope all is healthy and happy for everyone. The month of April has flown by so quickly. I want to thank the former chief and council for all their efforts to promote health in Soda Creek. I suppose the biggest accomplishment from a health perspective was the construction of the new Health Clinic and Education & HeadStart building. As the CHR, I have seen the positive impact the building is having in promoting health and know the intense dedication it took from Chief and Council to get the building in place. I also know that Dorothy sat on the Chief's Health Committee and represented our community well, bringing local health concerns to the political table in hopes of improving health in our community. She also took the time to find out what the needs were and always supported health initiatives in the community. Our former council was also very dedicated and supportive and all will be missed. With that being said, I would also like to welcome our new Chief and Council and look forward to working with them to improve the health of individual community members and the community as a whole.

On April 25 we held a meeting with Adrian Gibbon (an independent evaluator on behalf of Health Can-

ada) and approximately 25 community members. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss present health concerns, looking at present programs, what is working, what is not and where the gaps exist. The participants were great and provided a lot of information which will be compiled and made into a report for Three Corners Health Services Society and Health Canada. This report will be used to create a health plan for the community for the coming years. I need to take this time to give a big thank you to all the participants for your input. I hope to see you all at the next Health Committee Meeting so that we can continually evaluate the services we provide and ensure that we are meeting the needs of the community in pushing health to a higher level. Noella William is the chair of the Soda Creek Health Committee and she will set the next meeting for June sometime.

The month of May looks to be a busy one. With spring in the air, I hope you all will come out and join us with any of the calendar activities that interest you. Wishing you all good health with beautiful spring weather, I will sign off until next time.

Brigette Peel,
Community Health Rep.



Education Department

By Cici Sterritt

Hello! Things are happening fast and we're already into May, we are still busy in the Education Department with post-secondary interviews coming up and planning for the summer. It sure is nice to have the warm weather – the kids in our after-school program are enjoying outdoor activities.

We are also busy with the Community Consultations with NSTC and the Human Resource Project. I have gotten together with the other 3 Education workers to put together a power point presentation for May 2, 2006; this is to explain the services we provide. Marion is a note taker for all sessions and I will be presenting / co-facilitating for the last 3 sessions. If you need to see us, please leave messages or emails and we'll get back to you.

It was surprising to return home and find out that Poplar Glade Elementary School has burned down. Arrangements have been made by the District; whole classes will be going to Marie Sharpe and Cataline; it's nice that the arrangements allowed for students to stay with their classes for the rest of the year. Families also received \$50 per child to assist with costs of items lost in the fire. Anyone requiring additional assistance please contact myself or Marion.

MEETING/WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Human Resource Project Advisory Committee - NSTC

Facilitation Training, April 13 & 20, 2007

- The committee received this training as we are to co-facilitate the community consultations that are taking place on April 26, 27 & May 2,3 and 4
- Marion has received additional training as she will be a Note Taker during this process
- Definitely learned a lot and hope to see everyone there; your input is important to this process as it will guide the recommendations for the structure of future programs and services.

FNEC – SD27

April 11, 2007

- Reviewed budget to be submitted to the Board for approval
- Classroom Support Workers and Youth Liaison Workers will work until the end of June 2008
- Robert Matthews has been selected to conduct the Language Review; currently underway and we will have a draft report by June/July
- \$20,000 has been set aside for the Language Review
- Changes made to Classroom Support Worker in

Anahim Lake; decreased by 1 hour/week as worker cannot work this hour

- Secretary increased from .5 to .6

FNESC - Quarterly Board Meeting

April 27, 2007

- New Paths (the funds we receive and use towards the after-school program) to receive less this year; decrease will be off-set by contribution made by the New Relationship Trust and communities should expect to receive same amount as in 2006/08
- Announcement (included in the newsletter) about the Province's 'Strategy to Improve Aboriginal Access, Achievement' – TRU is arranging for 1 worker, 1 political and 1 student to attend a consultation meeting in Kamloops; this is tentative and should be confirmed soon. Tentative date is June 10, 11 & 12.
- The revised Terms of Reference of the Post-Secondary Sub-Committee (PSSC) were passed
- The PSSC has been tasked with reviewing the computer data bases that are available for education
- English 12: First Peoples is equivalent (if not better than) to the provincial English 12; modules of this course will be tested in various school districts; course will be officially offered in September 2008

FNESC Jurisdiction

- Scheduled meeting for May 7 & 8, 2007 has been cancelled; next schedule meeting I will be attending is June 5 & 6

If anyone would like to discuss the meeting information further, please come by the office or give me a call; especially if you have some additional information you'd like to contribute.



Soda Creek First Nation

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Education is the key to success

For copies of the notes taken during the Consultation Sessions, please come to the Education Department.