
Lower Nicola Indian Band

FEBRUARY 2026

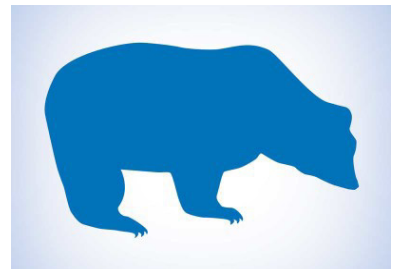
NEWSLETTER



LNIB Band General for February

February 23, 2026 – Shulus Hall at 5:00 pm

If you have a birthday wish or would like to do a submission please contact communications@lnib.net





**Chief & Council Meeting
January 2026
—Resolutions—**

Resolution #01-08-2026-01 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to adopt the January 8, 2026, Chief and Council meeting agenda.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-08-2026-02 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to adopt the December 16, 2025, Chief and Council meeting minutes with noted changes or as presented.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-08-2026-04 Reads:

The Chief and Council of the Lower Nicola Indian Band hereby:

1. Allocates existing and future Forest & Range Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement funds to Profit Center 703 – Title & Rights to support LNIB’s ongoing review and oversight of forestry development within LNIB’s Traditional Territory; and
2. Further authorizes the interim Executive Director, for and on behalf of Council, to do all such acts and things as may be necessary or desirable to give effect to this motion, or in connection with the performance by the Lower Nicola Indian Band of its obligations to this motion.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-08-2026-03 Reads:

RE: Appointment of LNIB Community Member to the Finance and Audit Committee

WHEREAS the Lower Nicola Indian Band (LNIB) Finance and Audit Committee is mandated to provide financial oversight, support accountability measures, and ensure transparent review of LNIB’s financial operations;

WHEREAS the Committee requires adequate membership to support its responsibilities and to ensure broad representation of LNIB community perspectives;

WHEREAS Chief and Council deem it necessary to appoint an additional LNIB community member to strengthen the Committee’s capacity and ensure continuity in its work;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Chief and Council approve the appointment of Connie Joe to the LNIB Finance and Audit Committee, effective immediately;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this appointment shall remain in effect for the current Committee term, or until otherwise rescinded by Chief and Council.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-08-2026-05 Reads:



**Chief & Council Meeting
January 2026
—Resolutions—**

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council hereby approve to grant permission to the enumerators from Statistics Canada to enter LNIB communities to conduct the 2026 Census, which is scheduled to begin in April 2026.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-08-2026-00 Reads:

WHEREAS the Lower Nicola Indian Band's Chief and Council Policy hasn't been reviewed since at least 2016 and no longer meets the needs of the Council and the community it serves, nor does it align with LNIB's modern governance documents including the Financial Administration Law;

AND WHEREAS Chief and Council approved the creation of a Special Committee on Chief & Council Policy and Procedures on October 15, 2024, then again on March 4, 2025, to review and make recommendations regarding a revised Chief & Council Policy and approved the Terms of Reference of this Special Committee.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Terms of Reference for the Special Committee on Chief and Council Policy and Procedures is revised to update the due date for which the recommendations will be presented and voted on at a duly convened Council meeting. Furthermore, this revision excludes the review of the Custom Election Laws, which was revised by the previous Special Committee struck in March 2025.

Motion Tabled

Resolution #01-08-2026-00 Reads:

The Chief and Council of the Lower Nicola Indian Band hereby move to adopt the Lower Nicola Indian Band Honorarium Policy with noted changes or as presented.

Motion Withdrawn

Resolution #01-08-2026-06 Reads:

The Chief and Council move to approval Chief Nicholas Peterson's travel to Vernon, British Columbia to attend the Nlaka'pamux Nation Health Planning Session for January 20-22, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-08-2026-07 Reads:

The Chief and Council move to approval Chief Nicholas Peterson's travel to Vancouver, British Columbia to attend the UBCIC Chief Council Meeting for February 11-12, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-08-2026-08 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to go IN Camera at 6:42pm, with the meeting being closed to the public to consider sensitive matters that may be in a preliminary stage, or deal with subject matter that is privileged in nature and that, in the view of the council, its disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the public.

- a. Privileged Materials

Motion Carried



**Chief & Council Meeting
January 2026
—Resolutions—**

Resolution #01-08-2026-09 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to end the in-camera session and return to the regular Council meeting at 9:33pm.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-08-2026-10 Reads:

WHEREAS the Lower Nicola Indian Band operates under the authority of Chief and Council.

WHEREAS LNIB successfully partnered with Capstone Power Corp. (“**Capstone**”) in the 2024 BC Hydro call for power, and LNIB and Capstone were awarded an Electricity Purchase Agreement with respect to the Mount Mabel Wind Project. LNIB and Capstone are currently developing the Mount Mabel Wind Project.

WHEREAS Capstone is investigating another potential wind project located north of Princeton BC, known as the Tulameen Wind Project. Capstone wishes to partner with LNIB in exploring and developing the Tulameen Wind Project, and wishes to submit a proposal in response to the 2025 BC Hydro call for power. If successful, Capstone and LNIB would construct and operate the Tulameen Wind Project to provide renewable energy to BC Hydro.

WHEREAS Capstone has offered to provide LNIB with equity ownership in the Tulameen Project, along with other benefits, which are substantially similar to the ownership terms of the Mount Mabel Project, all of which were outlined in a draft Term Sheet which was provided to Council.

WHEREAS Chief and Council recognize the importance of our relationship with our neighboring Nations Coldwater Indian Band and Upper Similkameen Indian Band.

WHEREAS Chief and Council reviewed the draft Term Sheet and other information regarding the Tulameen Wind Project, and by way of a Council Motion dated September 23, 2025 Council approved, in principle, of LNIB’s participation in the Tulameen Wind Project as outlined in the draft Term Sheet, and authorized LNIB Council Members, advisors and representatives to take such further steps as may be necessary to negotiate the final version of the Term Sheet with Capstone.

WHEREAS the September 23, 2025 Council Motion further provided that the final draft of the Term Sheet and any other commercial agreements with Capstone be brought back to Chief and Council for review and approval.

AND WHEREAS Chief and Council have reviewed the final version of the Tulameen Binding Term Sheet that has been prepared by Capstone and LNIB representatives (“**Final Term Sheet**”) along with a BHydro Form 4, which confirms LNIB’s agreement with Capstone regarding equity ownership of the Tulameen Project (“**Form 4**”) and are satisfied that:

- the terms of the Final Term Sheet will provide the Lower Nicola Indian Band with significant ongoing revenue, employment and contracting benefits, all on favourable financial and legal terms, and
- the execution of the Final Term Sheet is in the best interest of the Lower Nicola Indian Band.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:



**Chief & Council Meeting
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1. Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council confirm their support of LNIB’s participation in the Tulameen Wind Project;
2. Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council approves the terms of the Final Term Sheet and authorizes the execution of the Final Term Sheet on behalf of the Lower Nicola Indian Band;
3. Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council authorizes the execution of the Form 4; and
4. Any member of Council is hereby authorized and approved to do all such further acts, engage in all such communication, and prepare, deliver and execute all other documents as may be required in order to give effect to this Band Council Resolution.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-08-2026-11 Reads:

The Chief and Council of the Lower Nicola Indian Band hereby:

1. Approve obtaining legal assistance for a review of the Accommodation Agreement, which will inform their future decision on whether to endorse the signing of the agreement;
2. Authorize the interim Executive Director to seek legal support for the review of the Accommodation Agreement; and
3. Further authorize the interim Executive Director, on behalf of the Council, to take all necessary actions to implement this motion.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-08-2026-12 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to adjourn the January 8, 2026, meeting at 9:40pm.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-01 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to adopt the January 20, 2026, Chief and Council meeting agenda.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-02 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to adopt the January 8, 2026, Chief and Council meeting minutes with noted changes or as presented.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-03 Reads:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council authorized the Lands Manager to engage a qualified surveyor to extend the subdivision survey, previously authorized by Chief and Council on September 6, 2022, to include Lots 217, 218, 230-1, 232-1, 232-2, 231, 237, 248, and 249 Nicola Mameet IR No. 1.

Motion Carried



Chief & Council Meeting
January 2026
—Resolutions—

Resolution #01-20-2026-04 Reads:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chief and Council authorizes the following:

1. the allotment of Lot 255 Nicola Mameet Indian Reserve No. 1 RSBC BC Plan No. 2481 and civic address of 2844 Cougar Cres, Lower Nicola, BC to Leona Marguerite Dumont;
2. Executive Director to sign the Transfer of Interest in Allotment or Certificate of Possession Form; and
3. Chief Nicholas Peterson, Councilor Leona Antoine, and Lands Manager Delta Long to sign the Certificate of Possession for Lot 255 Nicola Mameet Indian Reserve No. 1 RSBC BC Plan No. 2481 in the name of Leona Marguerite Dumont following the registration of the Transfer of Interest in Allotment or Certificate of Possession Form in the First Nations Land Registry.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-05 Reads:

WHEREAS:

- A. The Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management was signed by Canada and thirteen First Nations in 1996 (the "Framework Agreement") and is given the force of law by the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management Act, S.C. 2022, c. 19, s. 121 (the "Act");
- B. The Lower Nicola Indian Band (the "LNIB") manages its lands pursuant to its inherent right of self-government, as well as pursuant to the Lower Nicola Indian Band Land Code (the "Land Code") passed pursuant to the Act.
- C. The Parties entered into an Individual Agreement on First Nation Land Management dated October 27, 2016 (the "Individual Agreement"), to provide for the specifics of the transfer of administration of LNIB Land, as defined in the Individual Agreement, to LNIB under the Framework Agreement and the Act;
- D. LNIB wishes to have its current and future capital moneys transferred to LNIB in accordance with clause 12.10 of the Framework Agreement which provides that Canada and a First Nation may agree to amend an Individual Agreement to provide for the transfer of the First Nation's capital moneys collected, received or held by Canada for the use and benefit of the First Nation, whether or not those moneys were collected, received or held before the date of the amendment, or are collected, received or held from time to time thereafter.
- E. In accordance with clause 12.11 of the Framework Agreement, on December 4, 2025, the Council informed the members of Lower Nicola Indian Band of the amount of capital moneys held for the LNIB and the intention of Council to amend the Individual Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band has on January 20, 2026, signed the Amendment to the Individual Agreement and requests that Canada also sign the Amendment without delay in order to provide for the transfer of its current and future capital moneys.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-06 Reads:

The Chief and Council of the Lower Nicola Indian Band hereby:

1. authorizes the Acting Director of Economic Development to undertake a Co-developed Indigenous Led Assessment (ILA) of the Mount Mabel Wind Project with Capstone Infrastructure for integration into project permitting;



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2. authorizes the Acting Director of Economic Development to co-develop with Capstone a workplan for the ILA of the Mount Mable Wind Project that upholds LNIB's Title and Rights while respecting proposed project timelines; and
3. further authorizes the Interim Executive Director, for and on behalf of Council, to do all such acts and things as may be necessary or desirable to give effect to this motion, or in connection with the performance by the Lower Nicola Indian Band of its obligations to this motion.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-07 Reads:

The Chief and Council of the Lower Nicola Indian Band hereby:

1. Approve Council Robin Humphrey's travel to Vancouver, British Columbia, to attend the AME Roundup Conference for January 26-29, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-08 Reads:

The Chief and Council of the Lower Nicola Indian Band hereby:

1. Authorizes the Interim Executive Director to sign the Funding Agreement between BC Parks Foundation and the Lower Nicola Indian Band, effective July 1, 2025, ending March 31, 2028; and
2. Further authorizes the Interim Executive Director, for and on behalf of Council, to do all such acts and things as may be necessary or desirable to give effect to this motion, or in connection with the performance by the Lower Nicola Indian Band of its obligations to this motion.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-09 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief & Council move to approve the Payment of Denton's Invoice 260010459 for the amount of \$66,952.58.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-10 Reads:

WHEREAS the Lower Nicola Indian Band's Chief and Council Policy has not been reviewed since at least 2016 and currently does not meet the needs of the Council and the community it serves, nor does it align with LNIB's modern governance documents, including the Financial Administration Law;

WHEREAS Chief and Council approved the establishment of a Special Committee on Chief & Council Policy and Procedures on November 5, 2024, and again on March 4, 2025, to review and make recommendations for a revised Chief & Council Policy, and approved the Terms of Reference for this Special Committee;

AND WHEREAS the Terms of Reference for the Special Committee on Chief and Council Policy and Procedures has been revised to update the due date for presenting recommendations, which will be voted on at a duly convened Council meeting. Furthermore, this revision excludes the review of the Custom Election Laws, which was addressed by the previous Special Committee established in March 2025.



Chief & Council Meeting
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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chief and Council move to accept the Terms of Reference for the Chief and Council Policy Review Committee as required under the Financial Governance Policy and Procedures, Section 5 – Committee Establishment and Dissolution and further appoint Chief Nicholas Peterson as the Chair of the committee, as well as William Bose, Robin Humphrey, Lesley Manuel, Leona Antoine, and Lucinda Seward.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-11 Reads:

The Chief and Council move to approval Chief Nicholas Peterson's travel to Vancouver, British Columbia to attend the Our Gathering 2026 event for February 17-20, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-12 Reads:

The Chief and Council move to approval Councilor Robin's travel to Vancouver, British Columbia to attend the Our Gathering 2026 event for February 17-20, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-13 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council hereby:

1. Recommend the appointment of Chief Nicholas Peterson as a member of the Stuwix Joint Venture Committee (the "NAIK Nominee") and as LNIB's director on the board of directors of Stuwix Resources Ltd. ("Stuwix");
2. Further recommend the appointment of Councilor Leona Antoine as the Joint Venture Committee Alternate (the "Committee Alternate"), replacing the current Committee Alternate, Alex Laforce, effective January 20, 2026;
3. Instruct LNIB, through the NAIK Development Corporation ("NAIK"), the wholly-owned subsidiary of LNIB and the registered shareholder of LNIB's equity ownership in Stuwix, to have its current director nominee, former kʷúkʷpi? Stuart Jackson, resign as a director of the Stuwix board and as a member of the Joint Venture Committee; and
4. Furthermore, former kʷúkʷpi? Stuart Jackson is to sign all necessary documents and take all actions required to effectuate this resolution.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-14 Reads:

RE: Nlaka'pamux Health Services Society Board of Director Appointment

WHEREAS:

- A. The purposes of Nlaka'pamux Health Services Society (NHSS) is to manage, administer, and monitor the holistic well-being of the members of the Nlaka'pamux Nation Bands (as that term is defined in the Bylaws of the Society); to encourage Nlaka'pamux Nation Bands to seek ways to better communicate



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and interact with all concerned, and to work together to establish an understanding of health issues with an emphasis on individual self-care. In Nlaka'pamux Nation tradition, health and well-being encompass a holistic lifestyle, taking into account the emotional, mental, physical, spiritual, environmental, and historical incidents affecting First Nations people.

- B. The Board of Directors will consist of one (1) Director appointed by the Chief and Council of each Participating Nlaka'pamux Nation Band. Each Band may make its appointments by Band council resolution or other method determined by each Band. Each Band will deliver written notice of its appointed Director.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Chief and Council of the Lower Nicola Indian Band, hereby authorizes, agrees and appoints Chief Nicholas Peterson and Lucinda Seward as the Alternate to the Nlaka'pamux Health Services Society Board of Directors.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-15 Reads:

The Chief and Council move to approval Chief Nicholas Peterson's travel to Vancouver, British Columbia to attend the Tribal and First Nations Caucus Pacific Salmon Treaty Celebration for February 8 - 10, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-16 Reads:

The Chief and Council move to approval Councillor Leona Antoine's travel to Vancouver, British Columbia to attend the Tribal and First Nations Caucus Pacific Salmon Treaty Celebration for February 8 - 10, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-17 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to go IN Camera at 7:29pm, with the meeting being closed to the public to consider sensitive matters that may be in a preliminary stage, or deal with subject matter that is privileged in nature and that, in the view of the council, its disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the public.

- b. Privileged Materials

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-18 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to end the in-camera session and return to the regular Council meeting at 10:10pm.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-19 Reads:

WHEREAS the Lower Nicola Indian Band is the sole shareholder of Lower Nicola Indian Band



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Development Corporation (the “Company”);

AND WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 12.2 of the Articles of the Company, Lower Nicola Indian Band shall nominate the individuals to be elected or appointed as directors of the Company;

AND WHEREAS Chief and Council of the Lower Nicola Indian Band (“Chief and Council”) approved, on July 22, 2025, appointment of a director selection committee pursuant to Resolution #07-15-2025-07, to provide recommendations regarding director nominations of the Company;

AND WHEREAS such committee has provided recommendations to Chief and Council regarding director nominations of the Company;

AND WHEREAS Chief and Council wish to approve the amendment of the Articles of the Company to permit consultants or contractors of Lower Nicola Indian Band to serve as directors of the Company (“Proposed Amendment to the Articles”), which would also facilitate nomination of one of the directors;

AND WHEREAS the Chief and Council wish to approve the director nominations and the related Proposed Amendment to the Articles;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

(1) the Chief and Council approve that the following individuals be nominated as directors of the Company:

- (a) Mark Ferrari;
- (b) Nate Kube;
- (c) Marshal Polykovskiy;
- (d) Ramona MacLeod;
- (e) Colin Doylend; and
- (f) Dan George, subject to Chief and Council approving the Proposed Amendment to the Articles by special resolution of the shareholder of the Company, as required under the Articles of the Company;

as well as:

- (g) Nicole McLaren, if any of the above nominees do not provide consent to act as directors of the Company; and

(2) the Chief and Council approve entering into a Proposed Amendment to the Articles that amends Section 12.1 of the Articles solely to remove the prohibition on contractors of Lower Nicola Indian Band being directors of the Company, subject to Chief and Council’s review and execution of a special resolution on behalf of the sole shareholder of the Company, approving this Proposed Amendment to the Articles of the Company.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-20 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band (LNIB) Chief and Council authorizes Chief Nicholas Peterson and Councilor Robin Humphrey to initiate specified steps to advance negotiations concerning the use or



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acquisition of District Lots 1923 and 183, each of which share a border with RR #1.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-21 Reads:

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia raised title in or about 1953 to land legally described as District Lot 1923, Kamloops Division Yale District, P.I.D.: 011-222-824 (“**District Lot 1923**”) and to land legally described as District Lot 183, Kamloops Division Yale District, P.I.D.:011 222 808 (“**District Lot 183**”);

AND WHEREAS District Lot 1923 and District Lot 183 each share a common border with LNIB Reserve #1;

AND WHEREAS the LNIB asserts aboriginal title to the area now known as District Lot 1923 and District Lot 183;

AND WHEREAS the legal title to District Lot 1923 and District Lot 183 is held by Nicola Valley Aggregates Ltd., which applied in December 2018 to the Province of British Columbia for a permit to operate an open pit gravel extraction mine on District Lot 1923;

AND WHEREAS the LNIB opposes the proposed mine, including by way of a comprehensive submission in opposition made to the Province of British Columbia in August 2021;

AND WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia, Nicola Valley Aggregates Ltd. and the LNIB are engaging in discussions with a view to resolving the use of District Lot 1923 and District Lot 183;

AND WHEREAS Chief and Council met *in camera* to discuss the issues in this Band Council Resolution;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Chief and Council of the Lower Nicola Indian Band hereby authorize Chief Nicholas Peterson and Councilor Robin Humphrey to:

OFFER TO PURCHASE AT APPRAISED VALUE

1. Alone or in combination with one or more of the government of the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada, consider and, if thought appropriate, cause (i) the LNIB or (ii) an entity controlled by the LNIB or (iii) the Province of British Columbia on behalf of the LNIB to offer to purchase District Lot 1923 and District Lot 183 from Nicola Valley Aggregates Ltd. for \$1,233,000, being the value assigned to the said parcels by Colliers in its March 2025 appraisal on such terms and conditions as the authorized person(s) may deem appropriate, and engage a real estate lawyer to prepare the said offer and to advise on its terms.

Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-22 Reads:

WHEREAS the mandate of the Special Committee, known as the Executive Recruitment Selection Committee (“*Special Committee*”), was established by Council Resolution on December 16, 2025;

WHEREAS the Special Committee was formed to assist Council in the selection of a new Executive



**Chief & Council Meeting
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Director OR an executive recruitment firm to aid in the search for an Executive Director;

WHEREAS Chief Nicholas Peterson was appointed as the Chair of the Committee, including Councillors Robin Humphrey, Sue Sterling-Bur and Leona Antoine;

WHEREAS the Executive Recruitment Special Committee recognizes the importance of an active and targeted recruitment process to identify the most qualified, skilled, and appropriate Executive Director for the Lower Nicola Indian Band and acknowledges its responsibility, as representatives of Chief and Council, to exercise due care, diligence, and appropriate timing to secure the most suitable and competitive candidates;

WHEREAS the Special Committee has met on three occasions to review the current pool of applicants and to discuss the most effective and responsible option to move forward in the Executive Director recruitment process;

WHEREAS following these discussions, the Special Committee recommends that Chief and Council engage the executive recruitment firm, Pathways Executive Search, based on their expertise and capacity to assist in the comprehensive executive-level recruitment process for the Executive Director;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Chief and Council hereby approve the hiring of the executive recruitment firm Pathways Executive Search to support the Executive Recruitment Selection Committee in the recruitment of the Executive Director of the Lower Nicola Indian Band.

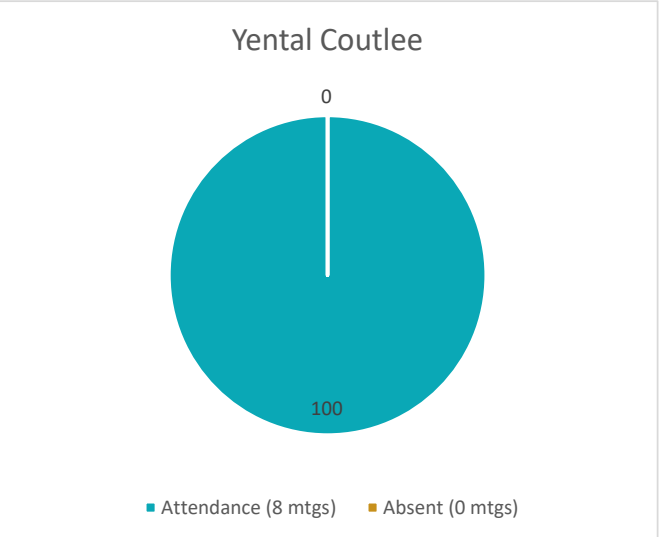
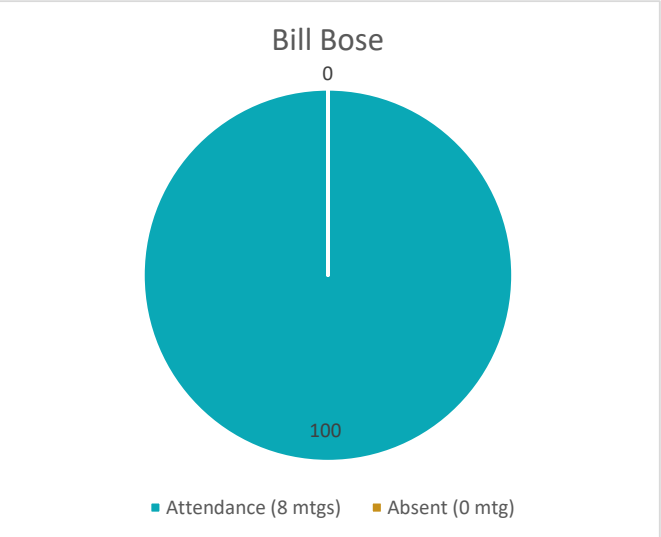
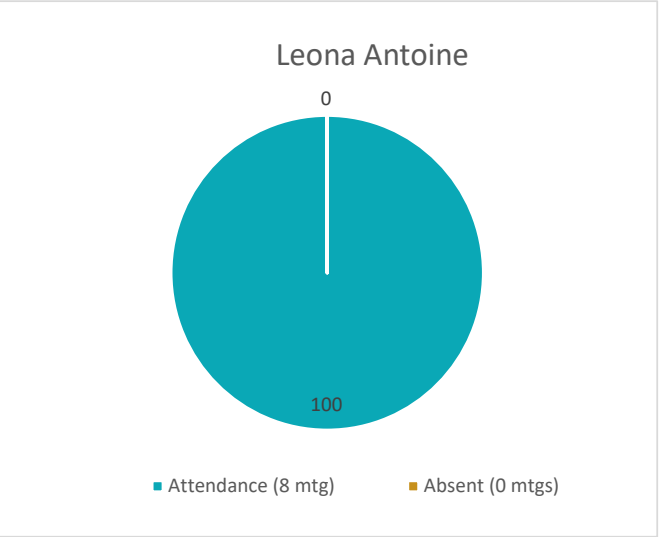
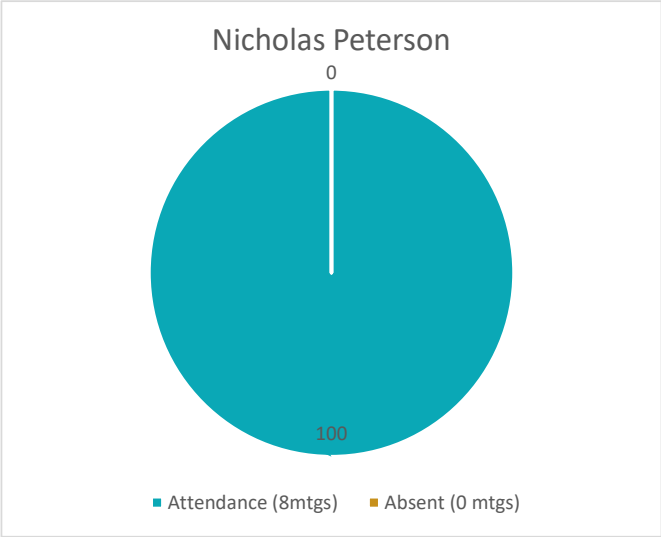
Motion Carried

Resolution #01-20-2026-23 Reads:

The Lower Nicola Indian Band Chief and Council move to adjourn the January 20, 2026, meeting at 10:27pm.

Motion Carried

Chief and Council Attendance
Term October 2025-September 2029



Chief and Council Attendance
Term October 2025-September 2029



LNIB Economic Development Plan

Lower Nicola Indian Band has begun work on a new Economic Development Plan to help guide future economic decisions and identify priority opportunities for the community. This work looks ahead and sets a clear economic direction that reflects LNIB values, stewardship of lands, and the goals of current and future generations.

Economic development plays an important role in supporting employment, business activity, and community wellbeing. This plan will serve as a practical guide to help clarify where LNIB intends to focus its economic efforts, how opportunities may be approached, and how economic activity can support community priorities over time.

What This Work Is Intended to Provide

Through this work, LNIB and the wider community can expect:

- **Clear direction**
A clear picture of where LNIB intends to focus its economic efforts in the coming years.
- **Identification of economic opportunities**
Identification of economic opportunities suited to LNIB lands, people, and capacity.
- **Consistency in decision-making**
A shared approach to guide economic decisions over time.
- **Connection to jobs, training, and business opportunities**
Clear links between economic priorities, employment, training, and business development.
- **Practical next steps**
A short list of actions that outline how ideas move forward in a realistic way

Lower Nicola Indian Band has engaged Lochaven Consulting to support this work. Lochaven is a BC-based firm with experience working alongside First Nations and rural communities on economic development planning. Lochaven will work with LNIB leadership and staff in a way that respects LNIB governance, culture, and local context.

Staying Connected and Involved

This planning effort benefits from the perspectives and experience of LNIB members, local businesses, service providers, partners, and neighbours. As the work moves forward, there will be opportunities to learn about the plan, share perspectives, and stay informed about how the work is progressing.

Information will be shared at key stages so members and community partners can follow the development of the plan, understand emerging priorities, and see how the work is moving toward practical outcomes. Participation from people with different experiences and viewpoints is welcomed, as it helps ensure the plan reflects both community priorities and regional context.



In Loving Memory

Randy "Moose" Coutlee

*December 14, 1959 -
January 22, 2026*

He was more than a firefighter, more than a first responder—he was the heart of our hall. Moose has been with us since the very beginning, from the day the hall opened, and he dedicated over 30 years of his life to serving others. His impact reaches far beyond calls responded to or years served. He shaped people. He showed up. He made everyone feel welcome, valued, and at home.

Moose was our brother, our mentor, our friend. He was the laughter in the hall, the steady presence when things were heavy, and the first to help in any area of life—no questions asked. If you needed him, he was there. Always.

There truly aren't words big enough to express how deeply he will be missed, or how much he meant to all of us. What we can promise is this: we will honor him. We will remember him. We will tell his stories, share his laughter, and carry his legacy forward in everything we do. Please keep Moose's family in your thoughts and surround them with as much love and support as possible during this incredibly difficult time.

You will be missed Moose, you will never be forgotten. Your legacy will live on.



*2007,
Kahnawake,
Quebec Lower
Nicola Fire
Department
Represented
BC and
competed in
the Annual
(Indigenous)
Fire Fighters
Competition.*



Photos Molly Toodlican's collection, 2001-2007



*LNIBFD: Group shot, and FNESS
Provincial Competitions 2024 & 2025*





LNIBFD: Group shot, Jasper Park, 2025 Remembrance Day.





The legacy of heroes is the memory of a great name and the inheritance of a great example



Lower Nicola Indian Band

February 2026

LNIB EDUCATION SECTOR

LNIB School/Language&Culture/K-12/PSE/Head-Start

Shane's Submission

Hello LNIB Membership...I hope everyone has settled into 2026 as great as it can be...the weather for the most part has been mild but as we know February can bring one last hit of cold weather so fingers crossed it does not get too bad :-)

One of the initiatives I launched this past month is a community referral incentive campaign to help locate LNIB children and families who may be living outside the Nicola Valley and not yet connected to our K–12 file list. Community members who refer a family — and the referred family themselves — are eligible to receive a gift package that includes grocery, gas, and movie night certificates. This initiative helps ensure we can extend education supports, advocacy, and communication to all LNIB learners, regardless of where they are currently residing. Info has already been shared via Facebook, but for those who may have missed it I included it below.

Here are a few other initiatives I was involved in this month:

- Development of the 2026–2027 Education Sector Budget and Work-Plan, ensuring alignment with community priorities and long-term goals.
- Creating a new infant support package to be distributed next month, which will include cultural resources, food supports, and early-years resources for families with infants.
- Multiple meetings with school districts outside the Nicola Valley to support LNIB Parents with children attending schools in other regions of the province.
- Participation in a meeting with the Chief Nick and School District 58 Board Trustees to discuss LEA's and other education-related matters.

Please see all the other great things going on within LNIB Education Below...
If you wish to discuss anything with me please **call/text 236.575.2135**

Sector Leadership

Director of Education
Shane Coutlee

LNIB School Principal
Leroy Slanzi

Education Manager
Sharon Parsons

Language & Culture Manager
William Sandy

Head-Start Coordinator
Hinal Thacker

LNIB Education 2025-2026



HELP LNIB EDUCATION LOCATE MEMBERS LIVING OUTSIDE NICOLA VALLEY!

Seeking LNIB Families
Not Already On Our K-12 File List...
DO YOU KNOW THEIR WHEREABOUTS?

\$100
save on foods
GIFT CARD

PETRO CANADA

CINEPLEX
MOVIE PACKAGE FOR 2

REFER A FAMILY & THEY GET:

- \$100 Save-On-Foods Gift Certificate
- \$100 Petro-Canada Gas Certificate
- + **MOVIE NIGHT PACKAGE for 2**

YOU ALSO GET THE SAME GREAT GIFTS!

HOW IT WORKS: The family you refer must contact **Sharon Parsons** at Sharon.Parsons@lnib.net and let her know you referred them. After confirmation of **new addition**, both you and the new family will receive the gift package. This referral incentive will end **February 27, 2026**. If there are any questions, please contact **LNIB Education**.

LNIB EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

SHARON PARSONS

EDUCATION PROGRAMS MANAGER



sharon.parsons@lnib.net



(250) 378 - 5157

OR

(236) 575 - 2105

183 NAWISHASKIN LANE HWY 8



Hello LNIB,

High school students will be moving into the next school term. Soon I will be meeting with MSS staff to get updates on the graduation status for grade 12 students. Grade 10 students will be thinking about the grade 11 courses that will give them graduation credits. Contact this office to discuss how we can support your child.

It's not too soon for the grade 10, 11 & 12 students to explore post-secondary programs. Don't miss those application due dates. Contact this office for more information about band funding for post-secondary programs.

On January 22 & 23 I was in Kamloops attending the FNEESC Regional session. The agenda included a presentation from Indigenous Services, the Ministry of Education and Child Care, as well as discussions on student data, anti-racism, BCTEA, post-secondary, recruitment and retention of FN teacher, and the FN Languages Action Plan, to name a few.

Nicola Similkameen School District staff were in the community on January 28th, to consult with parents about the potential school closure. Let me know if you would like more information on any of the topics listed above.

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology has employment readiness courses scheduled throughout the next 2 to 4 months. If you need one of the 3 First Aid courses offered, or Food Safe check the dates on the flyer included in this newsletter or contact NVIT to get more information.



Just a friendly reminder to LNIB membership to contact Education staff if you or your child could use help navigating a challenge. Education department staff may be able to find resources to suit your needs.

Wishing you good health, and good fortune!
Until next time, Humelth

Gail's 10 Year Anniversary!



We would like to acknowledge our

Post Secondary Education Coordinator Gail LaRochelle

Who has been working for the Lower Nicola Indian Band for 10 Years!

We celebrated at the LNIB School where Gail was brushed by Richard Jackson, blanketed by her fellow coworkers in the education department, and enjoyed hand drum songs performed by the students of LNIB School.

We would like to thank the students and staff at the LNIB School for helping celebrate Gail!

Congratulations Gail! Your dedication and contributions to LNIB have been invaluable

Thank you for your commitment and hard work!

- The Education Department

LNIB EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT

ANGIE NIKKEL, EDUCATION ASSISTANT



angie.nikkel@lnib.net



(250) 315 – 7927

183 NAWISHASKIN LANE



HELLO EVERYONE! AND HAPPY FEBRUARY!



Upcoming Events:

- Friday, February 13: Non-Instructional Day**
- Monday, February 16: Family Day**

I hope everyone is having a good start to the new year.

February is a time to celebrate family and connections. Schools will be closed on Family Day, Monday, February 16. I hope everyone enjoys this extra time to be together.

Regular school attendance continues to be very important for student success. We appreciate families for supporting their children in attending school consistently and on time. If your child is experiencing challenges with attendance or schoolwork, please don't hesitate to reach out!

If your child requires additional academic or learning support, early communication helps us respond more effectively.

Everyone here in the Education Department is committed to supporting our students and families at every stage of their learning journey.

Whether you have questions, concerns, or need assistance, please feel free to reach out to myself (Angie) angie.nikkel@lnib.net (250-315-7927) or Sharon Parsons at sharon.parsons@lnib.net (250-378-5157).



CONTINUING STUDIES COURSES

January - June 2026

Basic First Aid

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM | Merritt Campus
Wednesday, January 21, 2026
Wednesday, February 18, 2026
Friday, March 20, 2026
Wednesday, April 15, 2026
Friday, May 15, 2026
Friday, June 19, 2026

FOODSAFE Level 1

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM | Merritt Campus
Thursday, March 26, 2026

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

nvit.ca/continuingstudies

Red Cross Emergency First Aid with CPR 'C'

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM | Merritt Campus
Friday, February 6, 2026

Advanced First Aid

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM | Merritt Campus
March 2 - March 13, 2026
(2 weeks, Monday - Friday)

**Registration Deadline:
February 17, 2026**



Download the
registration
form now!

ALL COURSES WILL BE DELIVERED IN-PERSON AT THE NVIT MERRITT CAMPUS.



**NICOLA VALLEY
INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY**

Website: nvit.ca
Email: info@nvit.ca
Toll free: 1.877.682.3300

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



HEAD START NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2026



TEACHER NOTES

This month we will be talking about Valentines Day . Our shape for the month is heart and the color is pink. The perfect Combination for Valentine’s Day!

Transportation and Dinosaurs will be the theme of the month.

We will be focusing on the number 6 and 7 and the letter P,Q,R,S.

A class list for Valentines will be sent home on Feb 6th.

WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb 2nd Groundhog Day
- Feb 4th Visit to Post Office
- Feb 11th HS class valentines party
- Feb 12th NO SCHOOL(Staff PD day)
- Feb 13th NO SCHOOL (Staff PD Day)
- Feb 16th NO SCHOOL (Family Day)
- Feb 27th Pink shirt Day
- Feb 27th Library Day

REMINDERS

**Please continue to send your child to school in appropriate clothing for weather .
Valentine goodies are welcome if you want !!**

Contact Info

Hinal Thaker
 Head Start Coordinator
 #587-888-2454
 hinal.thaker@lnib.net

Justice Forman
 604-860-3028
 justice.forman@lnib.net

Lunch Menu

FEBRUARY 2026

2 SMOOTHIE BOWLS + GRANOLA BARS	3 SCRAMBLED EGGS BACON & TOAST	4 KRAFT DINNER. + HOTDOGS	5 ENGLISH MUFFINS AND YOGURT	6 MEAT/ CHEESE AND CRACKERS
9 PANCAKES + FRUIT	10 GRILLED CHEESE AND VEGE	11 Snacks plater	12 NO SCHOOL	13 NO SCHOOL
16 NO SCHOOL	17 NACHOS + VEG	18 CHICKEN NUGGETS + FRIES	19 QUESADILLA + VEG	20 YOGURT/ FRUIT + MUFFINS
23 CHICKEN BURGER + FRIES	24 HAM AND CHEESE PINWHEELS	25 CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP + CRACKERS	26 WAFFLES + FRUIT	27 PIZZA + VEG

FEBRUARY 2026

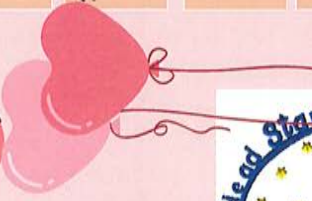
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 LUNCH AT A&W 11:30 TO 12:30	3	4 SWIMMING 9:00 TO 11:00	5 OPEN DAY FOR OUTREACH	6
9	10 COFFEE AT TIMS 9:00 TO 10:30	11 OPEN FOR OUTREACH	12	13
16	17	18 SWIMMING 9:00 TO 11:00	19	20 OPEN FOR OUTREACH
23	24 LUNCH AT SUBWAY 11:30 TO 12:30	25	26 OPEN DAY FOR OUTREACH PROGRAM	27 MERRITT LIBRARY 10:00 TO 11:30

HEAD START 0-2YEARS PROGRAM

CONTACT INFO:
 HINAL THAKER
 HINAL.THAKER@LNIB.NET
 #587-888-2454

SYDNEY JOE
 SYDNEY.JOE@LNIB.NET
 #250-378-7120

NOTE :
THIS PROGRAM FOR
HEAD START
REGISTERED MEMBERS
ONLY



LOWER NICOLA BAND SCHOOL

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year Everyone!

I hope you all had a restful and joyful Christmas Break. It's been great welcoming students back this week with full hearts and lots of energy.

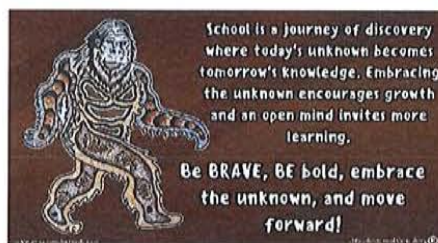
Before the break, we wrapped up a very busy and exciting December. Our Christmas Concert was standing room only, and it was wonderful to see so many families, caregivers, and community members in attendance. A special thank-you as well to members of Chief and Council for joining us, your presence and support mean a great deal to our students and staff. The pride on our students' faces said it all.

As we settle back into routines, there's lots to look forward to in January:

- After-School Program will be starting again on Wednesdays and Thursdays.
- Basketball season is well underway, with home and away games every Wednesday after school for the next four weeks. We love seeing our students active, committed, and cheering each other on.
- Our ice fishing trip had to be postponed due to warmer temperatures and unsafe ice conditions. Safety always comes first. The good news is that a cold snap looks promising, and we're hoping to get students out ice fishing in early February.

One small but meaningful bright spot this time of year, each day we're gaining about two more minutes of daylight, and that extra light makes a difference for all of us.

As always, I want to encourage families to limit screen time where possible and support kids in getting outside to play, explore, and move. Organic curiosity, creativity, and resilience are built through real-world experiences, not just technology.



Thank you for your continued support, partnership, and trust. We're looking forward to a great start to the new year together.

Cheers,

Leroy

Big Buddy Support 🧡 📖 🎨

We would like to say a huge thank you to our intermediate classes, Grade 5/6 and Grade 7, for the wonderful time, care, and support they have been sharing with our Grade 1/2 students.

During skating, our big buddies helped the little ones get ready by putting on helmets, skates, and winter gear, and anyone who has helped a primary student knows that this is not an easy job! Their patience, kindness, and teamwork made a big difference and helped everyone feel confident and safe.

After lunch, we are also enjoying Reading Groups with our Big Buddies. The older students are helping our Grade 1/2 learners stay focused, ask questions, and make good choices.



One of the biggest advantages of our school is that our older students are such positive role models for our younger learners. We truly appreciate their leadership and caring hearts. Thank you for being amazing helpers!



Hi Everyone,

I can't believe we are halfway through the month of January already!

My grade 4 / 5 class have been busy making culinary masterpieces. They fired up the oven, put on their latex gloves, ponytailed their hair, rolled up their sleeves, and created some spectacular cornbread, cheese and bacon muffins, and Apple Fritter Bread.

They are becoming amazing bakers! Most of them can now read a recipe and understand that measurements in baking are called volume, cups, (c) Tablespoons, (tbsp), teaspoons, (tsp). They also understand that in baking, the fractions used to measure ingredients are referred to simply as fractional measurements, which represent portions of a whole unit such as $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{2}$ of a cup or $\frac{1}{8}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$, of a teaspoon or tablespoon. They have also learned that there are usually dry ingredients and wet ingredients that are mixed to make the batter.

I certainly enjoy watching them measure their ingredients precisely. Everyone loves cracking eggs and they have now learned to crack them over the bowl.

Sometimes measurements are confusing! Such as a $\frac{1}{2}$ a teaspoon of baking powder mistaken for a $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of baking powder! Whew! Gotta keep my eyes peeled.

Their baked goods are **"BAKERY WORTHY"**, with exceptional taste and appearance!





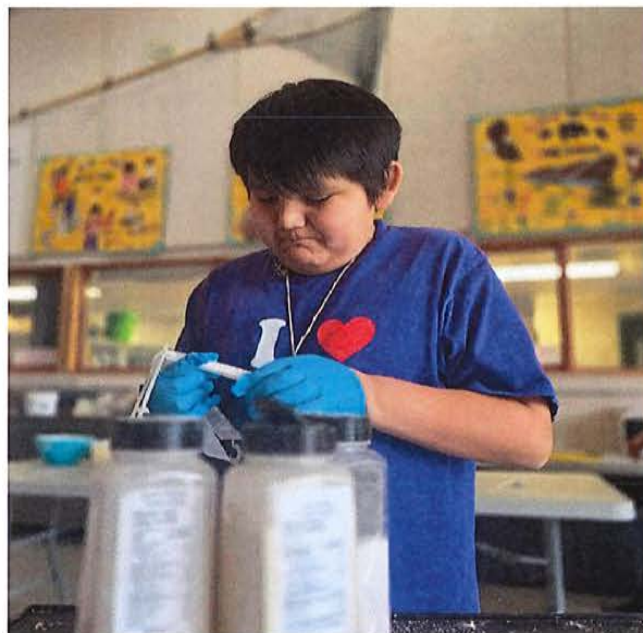
Our cornbread. Penny rated it 10 out of 10!



Apple Fritter Bread. Although our Apple Fritter Bread was scrumptious, Penny rated it 5 out of 10 because the pans were filled too full and overflowed.



Parents- You are all so fortunate to have children who enjoy cooking and baking. The best part of all of this, is that I get to, "Sample their wares".



As you can see my students are very serious about cooking and baking. We plan to make our incredible corn bread for our next Elder's Luncheon. If you are an elder, you won't want to miss **the pleasure of tasting this lip-smackin, mouthwatering treat.**

See you later alligator- Mrs. Haller

Mr. Robinson's Gr. 5/6 Class

What Mr. Robinson's Class Has Been Up To!

The weeks leading up to winter break have been full of movement, teamwork, and memorable experiences in Mr. Robinson's class. One of the highlights has been our time at the ice rink, where students have been learning to ice skate, play hockey, and making up creative games like chair speed races. Whether students were confidently skating laps or cheering each other on from the ice, everyone demonstrated perseverance, cooperation, and a willingness to try something new. These sessions were not only great for physical activity, but also for building confidence and supporting classmates.

Before heading into the holiday break, our classroom was also treated to a very special visit from Santa. Students enjoyed spending time together, dressing comfortably, and celebrating the season as a class. It was a fun and cozy way to wrap up a busy term and reflect on all the learning we've done so far.

Looking ahead, Mr. Robinson's class is getting ready to start an exciting hands-on gardening project. Students will be working together to build outdoor garden boxes and set up a greenhouse right inside the classroom. This project will give students the opportunity to learn about plants, responsibility, and sustainability while caring for something they grow themselves. We're excited to dig in and watch this project grow over the coming months!



Our Grade 7s have truly hit the ground running! In just a short time, we've been snowshoeing, skating, almost skiing, making moccasins, and learning how to create our very own sourdough starter. These hands-on experiences are helping students build confidence, curiosity, and real-world skills—while having a lot of fun along the way.

As we move into the next 5½ months, we're excited to keep the momentum going with Chemistry, new novel studies, and diving deeper into ancient civilizations.

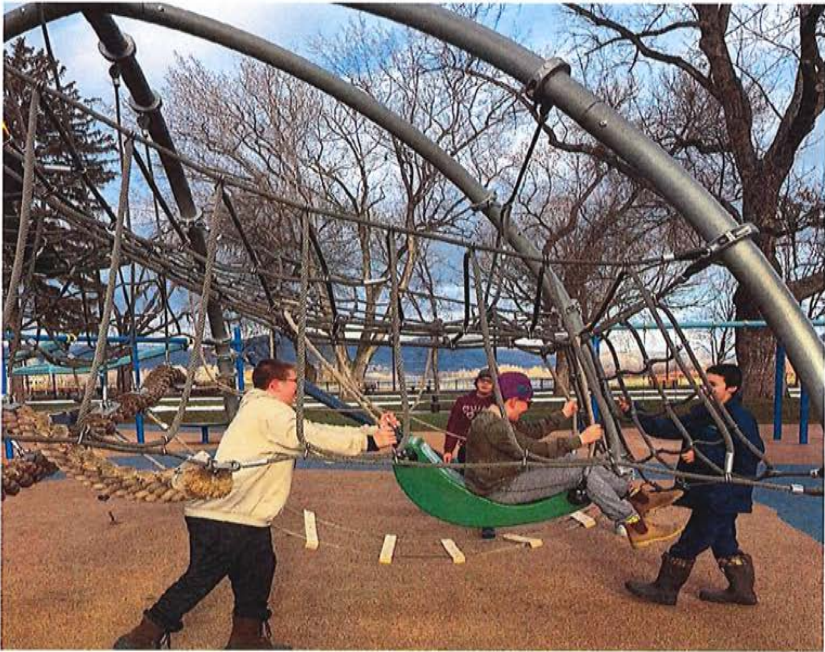
A quick reminder for students and families: practicing multiplication and reading whenever there's spare time makes a huge difference. These skills don't replace what we're learning in class, they strengthen it. A few minutes a day of multiplication practice and getting lost in a good book helps students feel more confident and ready for deeper learning.

We're also very grateful to Brenda Ens, Shannon Killroy, and Mike Kempf, CST. Denning, CST. Olney for sharing their skills and supporting our learning. Your time and generosity mean so much to our students, thank you!

Miss. Randi Gardypie







FEBRUARY 2026

*Absolutely NO NUTS
and NO
Peanut Butter* 



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2 Potato soup Groundhog Day	3 Pizza rolls	4 Lasagna soup	5 Beef & broccoli Chicken chow mein + rice	6 Supreme fries
9 Chicken veggie soup	10 Turkey slider & veggie sticks	11 Broccoli cheddar soup	12 Spaghetti pizza Wear red or pink day	13 PRO-D NO SCHOOL
16 FAMILY DAY NO SCHOOL	17 Pancakes & scrambled eggs	18 Shepards pie	19 Cabbage roll soup	20 Teriyaki meatballs & rice
23 Creamy corn chowder	24 Taco salad	25 Greek spaghetti Pink Shirt Day	26 Butter chicken	27 Easy chicken burrito
HAPPY GROUNDHOG DAY 	Happy Family Day 			happy Valentine's day 

LNIB HOUSING DEPARTMENT

The housing department is responsible for managing the housing program, including property management functions, planning and construction of New Houses, Maintenance and upkeep of the housing stock, the relationship with Canada Mortgage Housing Fund, and Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)

Team Members

Jordana McIvor - Grismer

Housing Administrator

jordana.mcg@lnib.net

Regarding renovations, or external funding options, or building your own home

Ashley DeGray

Tenant Relations Coordinator

ashley.degray@lnib.net

Regarding rentals, maintenance, rental applications, or general housing questions

Sara Frazier

Housing Admin Assistant

sara.fraziershuter@lnib.net

Regarding the emergency fund applications

Maintenance Crew

Mel Blankinship

Housing Maintenance

Luke Flower

Housing Carpenter

Lincoln Sterling

Maintenance Assistant

Alex Forsythe

Maintenance Assistant

Upcoming Positions

Housing

Red Seal Plumber

Housing

Reno Coordinator



Housing Announcements

Vacant Units

We currently have 10 vacant units we are just wrapping up with some much-needed renovations. We have been working on updates and structural changes to 6 of the units. Decisions are being made about next steps for when units are completed. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we get these units ready for the next family that will call it home.

Water Usage Assessment

At the beginning of December 2025, the LNIB Public Works Department completed a water usage assessment to determine if there were any active leaks within our water systems. When they went to review the data, they noted that there was an excessive amount of water being used within Nicola Mammeet.

The Housing Department would appreciate your assistance in ensuring that community members are being as environmentally friendly as possible and as a result, are asking the community if there have been any unreported water leaks, hose bibs leaking and/or toilets leaking or running water consistently within your homes.

If there is issues in your home where water is running constantly where it shouldn't be, please reach out to Ashley DeGray at 250-378-5157 or ashley.degray@lnib.net

Rental Agreement Update

Please be advised that all rental agreement need to be updated.

These are to be updated by March 31st every year.

So, if you have not made arrangements to update and sign a new rental agreement, please contact Ashley DeGray, Tenant Relations Coordinator at 250-378-5157 or ashley.degray@lnib.net



Housing Work Order Process

The Housing Department would like to clarify the levels of urgency on home maintenance and repairs and what type of time frame you will be looking at for our Maintenance Team to attend your residence. The Housing Department being notified will only be considered when you have called, texted or e-mailed the **Housing Department Administrative Staff**.

Emergency Repairs will be assessed and rectified within 24 - 48 hours of the Housing Department being notified. Examples of Emergency Repairs are listed below:

- major leaks in pipes or the roof
- damaged or blocked water or sewer pipes or plumbing fixtures
- the primary heating system
- the electrical system
- deficiencies to the integrity or the structure; and
- any other damage that poses an immediate and urgency jeopardy to the unit or to the health and safety of tenants

Mid-Level Repairs will be assessed within 1-2 weeks of the Housing Department being notified. Examples of mid-level repairs are listed below:

- running water (faucet dripping, leaking hose bib etc.)
- appliance repairs or replacement
- plug-ins not working
- bathroom fan not working

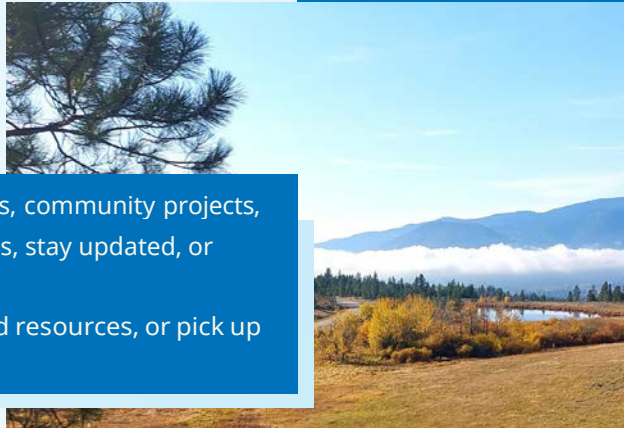
Low-Level Repairs will be assessed 30 days or more of the Housing Department being notified. Examples of low-level repairs are listed below:

- non-essential light fixtures not working
- furnace filter replacement
- replacement of interior doors/ doorknobs
- functional toilet repairs (toilet is functional to use but requires repairs)
- flooring repair
- non-essential major renovations
- drywall repairs

Please understand that these time frames are “**best case scenario**” and we may have issues with supply chain and/ or contractor availability that may cause delays. The housing department works hard to ensure all of our homes are healthy and safe but as more work orders are called into the office sometimes our priorities have to be modified.

As always, we appreciate your patience when these situations do arise and if you see our maintenance team out in the community be sure to give them your best smile and a wave. 😊

LANDS DEPARTMENT



We're here to help with land activities, community projects, and LMAC inquiries. Share your stories, stay updated, or learn about current initiatives.

Visit LNIBLANDS.NET for updates and resources, or pick up printed copies at the Lands Office.

STEPHEN JIMMIE
DIRECTOR OF LANDS & HOUSING
stephen.jimmie@lnib.net

Reach out to Stephen for questions regarding Land Code, Individual Agreements, Law and Policy Development, Special Land Projects, and Land Use Planning.

KRISPOR
LANDS RESEARCHER
kristopher.por@lnib.net

Please contact Kris for help with Family and Traditional Research, Allotment Applications and Estate Administration support.

ALEX BUKKOS
SURVEY COORDINATOR
alex.bukkoss@lnib.net

For inquiries regarding ongoing and historical land projects, including surveys and mapping efforts, please contact Alex.

VACANT
SURVEY ASSISTANT

DELTA LONG
LANDS MANAGER
delta.long@lnib.net

Connect with Delta for discussions on general inquiries, land allotments, transfers, and CPs, as well as matters of law and policy enforcement.

SAYGE FISHER
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COORDINATOR
sayge.fisher@lnib.net

Reach out to Sayge for information on Environmental Management and Protection, Invasive Weed Management, Illegal Dumping, and Special Environmental Projects.

JUSTICE CISCO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
justice.cisco@lnib.net

Reach out to Justice for general inquiries, LMAC meeting questions, community event information, land access requests, and Will development coordination.

VACANT
LANDS ADMINISTRATOR

SAFETY & SECURITY ON LNIB LANDS

The Lands Department supports efforts to protect and care for LNIB reserve lands. To address issues like land misuse and illegal dumping, measures have been implemented to help keep these areas safe and sustainable for the community.



SNUKWE? SECURITY

250-936-8722

Snukwe? Security is on duty 40 hours each week and responds to calls and messages while on shift.

Snukwe? Security is here to assist as needed and monitor any issues reported by residents, such as noise, nuisances, illegal dumping and general safety concerns.

If you or anyone else is in Immediate danger or emergency situation, please CALL 911 FIRST.

CAMERAS & GATES

Gates have been installed on Nicola Mameet IR1 to help prevent unauthorized activity while maintaining controlled access for permitted users. Two gates are located on Mamit Lake Branch Road near the speedway, one at the top of Mamit Lake Branch Road, and one at the 4 Mile Corrals. Additional gates have also been installed on the Quilchena and Lundbom access routes onto Hamilton.

Some areas may require a gate code. Trail and security cameras are in place to monitor gate use and deter illegal dumping. These cameras are positioned to avoid impacting the privacy of nearby homes or businesses.

Members' access to reserve lands is not restricted by the gates, though some areas may require a code. For access outside regular office hours, call 250-280-7270

LANDS MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

UPCOMING MEETING

February 12, 2026

Meeting ID: 104877542

Lands Management Advisory Committee (LMAC) meetings are open to all LNIB Members to attend virtually starting at 4:30 PM. Listen in to learn about Lands activities and developments. Check the Members Only portal for LMAC meeting links or contact Stephen, Lands Director, for more details.

NOTICE ABOUT RECREATIONAL VEICHLES

The Lower Nicola Indian Band prohibits RV's to be utilized as long-term primary dwellings, residences, or cabins on LNIB Lands including CP Lands and Custom Family Lands (also known as Family Lands) unless they receive prior written authorization from the Lands Manager.

SELLER'S NOTICE BOARD

Are you a landowner looking to sell?

Contact the Lands Department to have your property featured in the monthly LNIB newsletter.

Available Opportunities for Purchase:

- Potential Business Highway Frontage
• CP Residential Lots for Sale

For more information, please contact Donelda Haller at 250-315-5315.

NOTICE TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS ON WILDLIFE SAFETY

Please refrain from leaving hunting remains, animals' entrails or trimmings up Mamit Lake Branch Road or anywhere near the community / residential areas.

Leaving animal remains from hunting trips too close to the community attracts predators such as coyotes, bears, and wolves. When predators find easy food sources, they become habituated and will continue returning, increasing the risk to children, pets, and all community members. To help keep the community safe, please dispose of hunting remains or animal innards far from homes and industrial areas. A recommended alternative location is up Highway 97C, past the industrial park, rather than along Mamit Lake Branch Road.

BUYER'S NOTICE BOARD

If you're interested in buying land from a landowner, the Lands Department can help! Submit your contact information to be included in the monthly LNIB Newsletter.

Interested Buyer's:

Jennie Blankenship
CONTACT | 604-928-2985 | scwexmx@gmail.com

Mindy Garcia
CONTACT | 250-280-5684

Lorne Dunn
CONTACT | 250-315-7501 | lorne.dunn@yahoo.com

MONTHLY INVASIVE WEED SPOTLIGHT

Giant Hogweed

Giant hogweed plants produce a highly toxic sap that can cause burns, blisters and scarring if you touch it. Work Safe BC has issued a Toxic Plant Warning for Giant hogweed, requiring workers to wear heavy, water-resistant gloves and water-resistant coveralls that completely cover skin while handling the plants. Eye protection is also recommended.



Origin:

This invasive weed originates from Asia and Europe.



Description:

Giant Hogweed is an invasive plant from Asia and Europe, introduced as an ornamental species. It can grow up to 5 m tall, with a hollow green stem marked by purple blotches and stiff hairs. Its large white or pinkish flower clusters can reach 80 cm across. Although it prefers damp soil, it thrives in many habitats and is widespread across BC's lower mainland.

The plant is highly toxic: contact with its sap can cause severe skin burns, blisters, and long-lasting irritation. It spreads aggressively by seed, with each plant producing up to 20,000 seeds (and potentially far more), making prevention of seed formation essential.

Prevention Control:

- Reseed all areas where ground disturbance has occurred and minimize ground disturbance near invasive weeds.
- Remove seeds from gear and equipment or vehicles before leaving a site.
- Avoid parking or running equipment in or near infestations.





Chemical Control:

“Effective herbicides include glyphosate and triclopyr. Foliar herbicide applications are most effective in spring on actively growing plants, followed with a subsequent summer application for late sprouts. » Stem injections or “cut stem and inject” methods are effective after heavy sap flow in the spring but are currently not a registered application technique.”
 - [ISCBC Giant Hogweed Factsheet](#)

Mechanical Control:

- Digging up taproots, only effective for young plants as a mature Hogweed can have a taproot of over 1m in depth and unless removed entirely, the plant may regrow.
- Cut Flower heads to reduce seed production, but this puts individuals at risk for exposure to the plant, personal protective equipment is necessary.
- -Mowing may reduce seed production, must be repeated several times throughout the season, effectiveness improved by each cutting prior to seed formation. Plant should be mowed every 2 weeks for effective control.



Disclaimer - ANY & ALL herbicide applications must be applied as spot spraying; broadcast spraying may negatively impact other vegetation in the area & harm sensitive ecosystems.

Herbicide application within 5m of any body of water (seasonal or not) is prohibited.

LNIB is requesting that the application of herbicide to treat half an acre or more, is carried out by a person holding a valid BC Pesticide Applicator Certificate. Before selecting and applying herbicides, you must review and follow herbicide labels and application rates; municipal, regional, provincial, and federal laws and regulations; species-specific treatment recommendations, and site-specific goals and objectives.

Sources:

<https://www.tnrd.ca/services/invasive-plant-management/regional-invasive-plants/>

<https://bcinvasives.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Field-Guide-to-Noxious-Weeds-12th-WEB.pdf>



LNIB WILLS PROJECT PLAN FOR THE FUTURE



Ready to make or update your will?

The LNIB Lands Department is here to support you.

What we offer - Free for LNIB Members

- Create or update your legal will
- Estate planning and administration guidance
- Information on Matrimonial Real Property
- Safe storage for important documents
- Lawyer appointments covered by LNIB



How to book your appointment:

1. Contact the LNIB Lands Department
2. We will assist in arranging your appointment with the lawyer
3. Meet with the lawyer to complete your will and other estate planning documents

Why it matters:

- Protect your family and property
- Decide how your assets are handled
- Avoid delays and disputes
- Ensure your wishes are respected

Morelli Chertkow LLP Locations:

- Merritt Office: Thursdays
- Kamloops Office: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays

Please note: Morelli Chertkow LLP does not act for LNIB in any capacity. The lawyer acts for you and your personal information is not shared with LNIB

Contact Me:

Justice Cisco, Lands Administrative Assistant
Email: justice.cisco@lnib.net
Phone: 250-378-5157

Lower Nicola Indian Band

A Land Code Precedent

SCAN ME!



Scan the QR code to watch a short film documenting the Lower Nicola Indian Band's successful enforcement of its Trespass Law under the LNIB Land Code. This precedent-setting action marks a significant step forward for First Nation authority, demonstrating how Indigenous laws can be upheld and enforced on our lands.



**LOWER NICOLA
INDIAN BAND**



EVERYONE WELCOME

ICE FISHING

With the LNIB Land Guardians & Culture Department

Tunkwa Lake - Family Event

Feb 21

Lunch provided

Bring your own fishing rods - Bait
(suggest shrimp) Knives, Chairs

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Very Icy, bring winter cleats

Rides available: 9:00 am LNIB Culture Centre



Cabins will be available for warmth

No Drugs or Alcohol

For more information contact:
Colton Sterling-Moses or Joe Shuter
250-378-5157

Land Guardian Update***Mount Mable Wind Project – Environmental Survey Summary***

The Mount Mable Wind Project, a partnership between Capstone and the Lower Nicola Indian Band (LNIB), aims to develop approximately 35 wind turbines within Nlaka'pamux territory. Over the past year, the LNIB Land Guardian Program collaborated closely with ERM to conduct a series of environmental baseline surveys to support informed decision-making and ensure that project development aligns with ecological and cultural values.

In February 2025, the Land Guardians began participating in Stand Watch Surveys on Mount Mable. These surveys were designed to systematically observe and document the presence and movement of migratory birds, including species listed under the Species at Risk Act (SARA). Complementary Breeding Bird Surveys occurred during the spring and early summer months, with the objective of identifying breeding species across multiple habitat types. Particular attention was given to SARA-listed species such as the Evening Grosbeak, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Lewis's Woodpecker, and Williamson's Sapsucker.

The team also engaged in Rare Plant Surveys across wetlands, marshes, and upland mountain environments. These surveys focused on detecting and recording plant species and ecological communities of management concern, contributing to a broader understanding of the region's botanical diversity. Soil sampling and analysis were completed to provide baseline information on site conditions and historical vegetation patterns within the proposed development footprint.

Additionally, the Land Guardians supported the deployment and retrieval of Autonomous Recording Units (ARUs). These devices passively record acoustic data used to identify bird and bat activity in the area, providing an important dataset for assessing species presence and habitat use.

Throughout the year, numerous field studies were completed in partnership between ERM and the LNIB Land Guardian team. This collaboration has strengthened the Guardians' technical skills and environmental monitoring capacity, while ERM has consistently demonstrated sensitivity to cultural values and a commitment to working respectfully with the Lower Nicola Indian Band.

Looking ahead, the information gathered through these baseline studies will play a critical role in shaping future project planning, mitigation strategies, and long-term environmental monitoring. The LNIB Land Guardians will continue to work alongside Capstone and ERM

throughout 2026 and participate in additional environmental surveys as the project advances. This ongoing involvement ensures that Nlaka’pamux knowledge, stewardship principles, and on-the-ground observations remain central to decision-making.

The Land Guardian Program appreciates the opportunity to contribute to this work and remains committed to protecting the land, waters, and wildlife within our territory for future generations.



You Had Me at "Handmade."

CRAFT MARKET
&
BAKE SALE

SHULUS HALL
FEB 7, 10AM-5PM

RAFFLE & DOOR PRIZES
LOCAL ARTISANS
HANDMADE PRODUCTS
CONCESSION
>HOTDOGS
>BEVERAGES
>COFFEE

VENDORS WANTED EMAIL
COYOTECANDYCLOUDS378@GMAIL.COM



Logo & Project Naming Contest

**Mount
Mabel
Wind
Project**



**LNIB
Values
Identity &
Vision for
the future**

Deadline: March 6, 2026

Prize: \$2500 for the winner or split between two winners

Submit your ideas to MountMabel@capstoneinfra.com

Community Voices Shape the Future of LNIB's partnership in the Mount Mabel Wind Project

This article marks the beginning of a series of regular updates for the Lower Nicola Indian Band (LNIB) community about the ongoing partnership in the Mount Mabel Wind Project. Our goal is to keep all community members informed and engaged by sharing important developments, opportunities for involvement, and answers to your questions as the project progresses.

We are committed to transparency and open communication, ensuring that everyone has a voice in shaping the future of this renewable energy project.

Community engagement

The Lower Nicola Indian Band (LNIB) hosted two well-attended community info sessions to discuss the Mount Mabel Wind Project on May 8th and September 24th. These sessions brought LNIB leadership, Capstone Infrastructure Corporation (Capstone), ERM environmental consultants, and community members together for open dialogue and collaborative planning.

Both sessions featured presentations, Q&A, and opportunities for direct conversations with the project developer, Capstone Infrastructure. The Capstone team appreciated the welcoming atmosphere and valued the opportunity to answer questions and hear community member's perspectives on the wind power project. Community members expressed a desire for site tours and more details on the project's technical and financial aspects, underscoring the importance of transparency throughout the project's development.

Logo and Project Naming Contest

The Mount Mabel Wind project team is excited to announce a logo and project naming contest, inviting all community members to consider their ideas and participate. This is a unique opportunity for LNIB members to help shape the identity of the renewable energy project by submitting creative ideas for both the project's name and its logo.

Submissions will be reviewed by a selection committee comprised of Capstone members and LNIB leadership. The winning entry will be featured in project communications and materials. Your creativity and input are valued as we work together to build a project that reflects the spirit and vision of the LNIB community.

Contest Details:

Create a unique name and logo for the Mount Mabel Wind project that reflects Lower Nicola Indian Band values, identity and vision for the future.

- Simple – easy to remember and recognize
- Meaningful – represents who LNIB is and what you stand for
- Original – distinctive and authentic

Deadline for submissions: Friday March 6, 2026

How to enter: Submit your ideas to MountMabel@capstoneinfra.com

Prize: \$2,500 for the winner or split between two winners

Addressing Technical and Environmental Concerns

Community members raised important questions about wind feasibility, land requirements, and the protection of water and lands around the Mount Mable Wind project. Concerns about forestry losses, potential for wildlife impacts, and cumulative effects on Surrey Lake were discussed, with suggestions to engage more on these topics in future sessions. The project team responded to inquiries about environmental studies, species at risk, and typical mitigation measures for wind power projects.

Socio-Economic Opportunities and Challenges

The sessions highlighted the project's unique equity ownership, Indigenous employment, and opportunities for local contractors. LNIB leadership stated the potential of participating in the project through employment or contracting may require training, and long-term benefits such as scholarships and bursaries. Housing impacts and the need for the project to consider how it might impact community services in Merritt and Kamloops were also top of mind.

Regulatory and Financial Transparency

Community members asked about the project's ownership structure, lease rights, and return on investment, which is forecast to be >\$85million to LNIB over the life of the project. Questions about regulatory approvals, the BC Hydro contract duration, energy pricing and infrastructure upgrades were addressed.

Focusing on Safety and Legacy

Safety protocols for workers, decommissioning costs, and long-term impacts on animals and habitat were key topics. The community expressed interest in what legacy the project will leave, emphasizing economic and environmental stewardship for future generations.

Next Steps

The Mount Mabel Wind project team and LNIB leadership are committed to addressing any outstanding questions and continuing community engagement through site tours, assessing training opportunities, and continuing transparent communication. A process for monitoring and reporting on environmental and socio-economic impacts will remain a priority as the project progresses.

For more information, please check out www.mountmabelwind.com. Your voice matters as we shape the future of clean energy in British Columbia.

FNLCL First Nations Leadership Council

Join the Youth Climate Leaders Group! Our Land. Our Future. Youth for Climate.

A leadership and learning opportunity for First Nations youth interested in climate action.



Who Can Apply

- First Nations youth (ages 18-30) living in BC and living in or from a BC First Nation
- All experience levels welcome

Honourarium

- Participants will receive an honorarium of \$100/day for the Youth Climate Gathering and First Nations Summit Climate Gathering and \$30 for each prep session.

What You'll Do

- Join **three virtual Climate Action Sessions** (March and April)
- Attend a **full day Youth Climate Gathering** (March 29th, 2025)
- Attend with possibility of presenting at the **BC First Nations Climate Gathering** (March 30-31st)
- Help **shape the Youth Climate Advocacy Workplan**

HOW TO APPLY:

Complete and submit online form by **Feb 17th**

<https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/FPCNB8F>

FOR QUESTIONS OR SUPPORT:

Please contact

Alyx Lezard
alezard@urbanmatters.ca

FNLCL First Nations Leadership Council

The First Nations Leadership Council is comprised of the political executives of the B.C. Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Summit, and the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs.





*LNIB Elders 60+
You're Invited to the*

Valentine's Luncheon

February 13, 2026

12:00 - 1:30 pm

Deadline to sign up: February 9, 2026

Bamboo Panda

*To register please contact
Irene Howe (250) 378-7340
or Kirsten (250) 378-5157*



Elders **Luncheon**

February 19, 2026

LNIB Activities Building
(Soup Kitchen)

12:00 pm



Any questions please call the Health Centre
(250) 378-5157

2026

February

CALL JOE SHUTER TO SIGN UP

FOR PROGRAMS

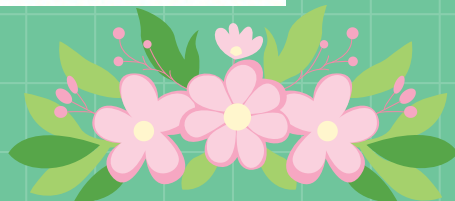
250-315-7487



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Staff Wellness Nle7kepmxcin Group 5-7 pm		Ice Fishing Courtney Lake	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		Ice Fishing Peter Hope	Staff Wellness Nle7kepmxcin Group 5-7 pm			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	BC Family Day Offices Closed	Bee Wax Candle Workshop 6-9 pm	Staff Wellness Nle7kepmxcin Group 5-7 pm			Men's Group LNIB
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
			Staff Wellness Nle7kepmxcin Group 5-7 pm			Men's Group Conference 2 days



**LOWER NICOLA
INDIAN BAND**



GAME NIGHT

LADIES ONLY

DROP IN

DINNER INCLUDED

FEBRUARY 18, 2026 | 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

ROCKY PINES COMMUNITY CENTRE

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT IRENE
HOWE (250)378-5157**





LOWER NICOLA
INDIAN BAND

Family
MOVIE
★ NIGHT ★

Tues! Feb 24 | 5:30PM

Everyone Welcome
Rocky Pines Community Centre

MORE INFORMATION

(250) 378-5157



Marilynne Munro



FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

FEBRUARY 18 | 5:30 - 7:00 PM

DOORS OPEN AT 5:00 PM

ROCKY PINES COMMUNITY CENTRE

IF YOUR CHILD WANTS TO PARTICIPATE A PARENT NEEDS TO BE IN ATTENDANCE

**ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT
MARILYNNE MUNRO 250-378-5157**



Paint Night

LIMITED SEATING

Explore your creativity and express your emotions through painting

February 9th
5:30 - 7:00 pm

Rocky Pines
Community Centre

Children **MUST** be accompanied by an adult

To register call
Marilynne Munro
(250) 378-5157





Pesticide Applicators COURSE

**SIGN UP
NOW!**

March 3 - 5, 2026

Merritt Best Western Plus

\$700 PER PERSON + GST | \$90 PER EXAM
INDUSTRIAL VEGETATION | NOXIOUS WEED - GENERAL

Register Here :

**Craig Shintah - craig.shintah@lnibdc.com
or call 250-315-3029**





St'at'imx Tribal Police Service

Constables

- **Competitive pay (same/similar to other BC Police Services)**
- **Excellent benefits, pension plan, and holiday time**
- **Meaningful work**
- **Office based in Mount Currie**

Basic Qualifications:

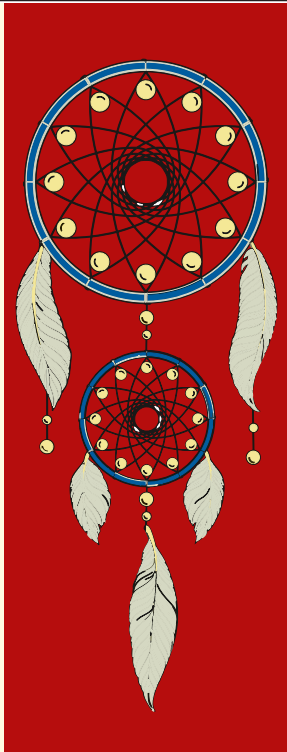
- Minimum age of 19 years
- No Criminal Record (for which a pardon has not been granted)
- Canadian Citizen or Permanent Resident
- Completion of POPAT in a time of less than 4 minutes and 15 seconds
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- High School graduate or equivalent
- Valid class 5 driver's license with good driving history
- Exceptional interpersonal skills
- Ability to undergo a significant background investigation involving all areas of your personal and professional life
- Shared values regarding Inclusivity and Diversity
- Hearing Standards: contact for details
- Vision Standards: contact for details

St'at'imx Tribal Police Service is an equal opportunity employer committed to establishing an inclusive, equitable, and accessible environment for all. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status or any other basis protected by applicable law.

Only candidates selected to proceed further in the process will be contacted. Thank you for your interest.

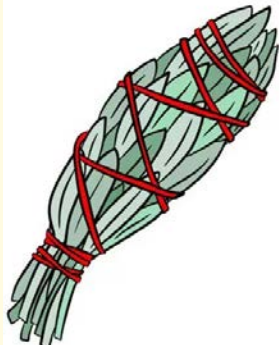
www.statlimxpolice.ca

Contact Staff Sergeant Dale Austinson (250) 256-7784



**LOWER NICOLA
INDIAN BAND**

MEDICINE WHEEL TEACHING BY DOREEN STERLING



Wednesday, February 25, 2026

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Location:

Rocky Pines Community Centre

Light Dinner will be provided

Registration is required

**To sign up and if you have any questions
please contact Irene Howe
(250)378-5157**





LOWER NICOLA
INDIAN BAND

“Let’s build your employment pathway together.”

LOWER NICOLA INDIAN BAND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

what I can help you with:

CAREER + JOB SEARCH SUPPORT

- Resume & cover letter support
- Job search assistance
- Interview preparation support
- Employment planning & career pathways

TRAINING + SKILL BUILDING

- Funding applications for training
- Work experience & skills development opportunities
- Community employment workshops
- Referral connections to training providers & employers

DOCUMENTS + APPLICATION SUPPORT

- Support with applications, forms & employment documents

SPECIALIZED SUPPORTS

- Driving licensing support
- HVC support person

Contact Information:

Darcie DeBruyne
BISW Employment Coordinator
Economic Development • LNIB Education Building
Monday - Friday • 8:30 am - 4:30 PM
Phone: 236-575-2119 ext. 157
Email: darcie.debruyne@lnib.net





CONTINUING STUDIES COURSES

January - June 2026

Basic First Aid

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM | Merritt Campus

- Wednesday, January 21, 2026
- Wednesday, February 18, 2026
- Friday, March 20, 2026
- Wednesday, April 15, 2026
- Friday, May 15, 2026
- Friday, June 19, 2026

FOODSAFE Level 1

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM | Merritt Campus

Thursday, March 26, 2026

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

nvit.ca/continuingstudies

Red Cross Emergency First Aid with CPR 'C'

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM | Merritt Campus

Friday, February 6, 2026

Advanced First Aid

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM | Merritt Campus

March 2 - March 13, 2026
(2 weeks, Monday - Friday)

**Registration Deadline:
February 17, 2026**



Download the registration form now!

ALL COURSES WILL BE DELIVERED IN-PERSON AT THE NVIT MERRITT CAMPUS.



**NICOLA VALLEY
INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY**

Website: nvit.ca
Email: info@nvit.ca
Toll free: 1.877.682.3300

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



**Mount Mabel Wind Inc.**

155 Wellington Street West
Suite 2930
Toronto, ON M5V 3H1
Canada

Telephone (416) 649-1300
Facsimile (416) 649-1335

www.capstoneinfrastructure.com

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**LNIB
Values
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**LOWER NICOLA
INDIAN BAND**

All LNIB Office Closure

**For Family Day
Monday, February 16, 2026**

**Offices will reopen
Tuesday, February 17, 2026
8:30 am - 4:30 pm**

**If you have an emergency, please call
911 for Medical, Fire or RCMP**

**Administration: (250) 315-9153
Health & Social: (250) 315-9158
Housing: (236) 575-2072
Public Works (On Call): (250) 315-8184**

Have a safe and happy holiday!

