

# Tl'etinqox-t'in Government Office

# Newsletter



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February 2012

## Joe Alphonse Chief

Reporting from Tl'etinqox or as some might know it as Anaham, hoping all in the community are doing well. From the leadership table it has been a busy winter and we are definitely eagerly awaiting for spring to arrive. We are proud to say as a community we can finally breathe a little lighter as we are finally in a position to say we have accurate financial statements. Knowing where we are financially enables us too finally put a financial management plan together to put us in a better financial situation. It has been a struggle to get accurate financial statements, but it is absolutely critical to the band. Chief and Council will be meeting to develop a budget for next year. The bands fiscal year ends March 31<sup>st</sup>, so the timing couldn't be better. Chief and Councils ultimate responsibility is it's finances, as everything stems from your ability to cash cheques.



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Having forensic auditors complete their audit and present to the community was a huge step in the right direction. It was the first time in our community to have the Regional Director from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada ever visit our community. We wish it was for a better purpose; however it was still a chance to showcase our community. The delegation was able to visit the Health building and the church. It was important for them to see firsthand the direction the community is currently heading to instill confidence to direct new projects our way.

We will be looking forward to a couple of major projects this summer. The dam project at Anaham Meadows is scheduled to be completed this summer. We are looking at having the dams upgraded and functioning properly as well as ditching to be improved to assist in the draining process of the meadow. We look forward to get the hay fields back to productivity. Finally we think we have solved the water problem on the main reserve. Without clean water we don't have good health so determining what was causing our water issues was important. To correct the problem it looks like we have to fluoride our water system.

At the nation level we have a major fight on our hands again with Taseko Mine pushing to get their mine approved once again. This will require a tremendous amount of time and resources however it's absolutely important to continue our position for the protection of our waters, fish, wildlife and most important our cultural way of life. We can and will continue to put the best argument forward but the most important thing to protect Fish Lake as individuals and as a nation is to continue to hold gatherings in the area. As individuals on our own time we should utilize the area as much as we can.

Entering the summer season we are in the planning stages of developing programs for our youth and elders, including the Stampede Ride, Cultural Camps and are also trying to bring in as much activities to get our members more active in the outdoors. So stay tuned and check in at the band office from time to time or you might miss out. Thanks.

### Inside this issue:

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### Special points of interest:

- Audit came back with NO Recoveries!
- Employment Connections Fort St. John
- Changes in Finance
- Tsilhqot'in Prayers & Songs on Mondays at 11am.



## Angela Alphonse, Band Administrator

It is with great pleasure that I advise the Community that this is the first year ever that the Audit came back with no recoveries from AANDC (formerly known as INAC). This means the Band is starting to do things right. Like filling out the Reports correctly and getting them in on time and following the AANDC policies. By doing this we are more likely to receive more funding in the future when there are extra funds available. For example just this month we were advised that there were some extra funds so we were invited to do a proposal for those funds for the purpose of procuring training and a staff person for central filing. The more professional, accountable and transparent we become as a Government, the better for the Community as a whole.

I have been looking at the 'big picture' for the Community, which is also known as Comprehensive Community Planning. This involves a great deal of 'Strategic Planning'. Part of this will involve Economic Development which I am also working on for the

future of the Community. First and foremost we have to get several old Capital Projects that were 'put on hold' by AANDC (formerly known as INAC). These projects were put on hold due to the issues of former leadership and administration and one project is as old as 2003. Right now I am working with AANDC on the Dam Project and the School Renovation Projects. We are looking to push ahead with three (3) more Capital Projects on the go as soon as possible. Most if not all Capital Project are 3 to 5 year processes. I am also looking towards starting feasibility and marketing studies for Economic Development plans on a Tl'etinqox-t'in Business Centre (strip mall) for the future.

In March we need to also keep in mind the preparation of Emergency planning in case of Forest Fires this upcoming season. This year one of our Council Members would be able to be a part of the Incident Command Centre and able to be a part of the decision making processes.

I was recently at a session in Vancouver that was a meeting with First Nations Governments in BC and AANDC. We met to discuss how AANDC could better meet and serve our needs. I believe this was a successful meeting. On the last day it was good to hear people stand up and say that the Tsilhqot'in Nation should be an inspiration to all of the First Nations in BC and to have them publicly acknowledge and thank our Chief Joe Alphonse. Chief Joe Alphonse wasn't there to hear it but I was sure proud to be there that day and very proud to be representing the Tl'etinqox-t'in Community. It wasn't that long ago, I remember when I travelled that people didn't really know where Tl'etinqox-t'in was but now even the last few days in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, people knew where I was from and knew who our Chief is. That feels pretty good.

If you have any questions about what I am doing I will try to answer you just phone my office, email me or drop by. (250) 394 – 4212 ext. 209

akaanj@tletincoxin.ca

## Barry Hink Forestry Operations

Employment Connections is a community based employment agency. Their services and programs are free of charge and available to all individuals seeking employment. Employment Connections, Job Search Centre 101 9907-99 Avenue Fort St. John, BC. Tel:(250) 787-0024

For 12 pages of companies & their contact numbers you can pick up a copy at the Front Desk or go see Barry or you can go online to:  
[www.employmentconnections.bc.ca](http://www.employmentconnections.bc.ca)

Fort Nelson Contractors, Pipeline Companies, Drilling & Service Rigs, Construction/Building Contractors, Oilfield Hauling, First Aid/Safety Services, Camp Catering Companies, Northeast BC Coal Mines/Haulers or Oilfield Construction Companies.

## Harold Olson, Finance Manager

There have been a lot of changes in the Finance Department of late. Firstly, I have contracted with the Chief and Council to continue on as Finance Manager for at least another 16 months. The Finance Department has lost two long term employees, as Dona Cooper and Dallas Alphonse have both left Tl'etinqox-T'in Government Office. Finance has moved Geraldine Solomon from downstairs where she was responsible for the bookkeeping of Klatassine Resources to upstairs where she is now responsible for the bookkeeping of

Klatassine Resources Ltd, Tl'etinqox Trading, and all of the payroll. Faye Chelsea has been retained on contract to assist in the accounting functions of Klatassine Resources Ltd, Tl'etinqox Trading, and Tl'etinqox-T'in Government Office operations. Finance is implementing new or improved processes as we come across needed processes that have not either worked or been in place prior to these changes. All these processes take getting used to and of course create change that some employees

and constituents stress but we believe will benefit the Finances of Tl'etinqox-T'in Government and the community as a whole. It is the Finance Departments hope that these changes will allow us to access more funding in the future which in turn assists the different departments in applying for new or other programs.

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# Trudi Frost

## Indian Registry Administrator & Executive Assistant

For those that haven't come in to see me yet, My Father is Lawrence Frost: half Ojibway (Ontario) half Tsihqot'in, Grandmother Ellen Meldrum, Great-Grandmother Emily Long-Johnny. My Mother is Connie Woods, Grandfather Gordon Woods. I have been five days a week since November 2011 offering IRA services at "no charge" to our members, now except every 2nd Friday as I will be working from home. I have been seeing band members in town who can't make it out to Anaham. I have my order for Commissioner for Taking Affidavits for BC, only in the course of my duties as Indian Registry Administrator also for "no charge" to our members.

New INAC Policy Directives for Birth Registrations: Original long form birth certificates (showing the parents names) must be provided for all registrations of birth. They are unable to accept certified true photocopies. All birth registrations will be returned if they are not accompanied by an original long form birth certificate. This new requirement will bring the registration process in line with the new Secure Certificate of Indian Status Card application process and will ensure the integrity and security of the information contained within the Indian Registry System.

Reminder of the Identification Requirements: An applicant 16 years of age and over must provide at least two (2) acceptable pieces of ID one must be photo\*. An applicant 15 yrs and younger must provide one (1) piece of ID AND need to have a parent/guardian show two (2) pieces of ID (one must be photo\*).

\*We have been advised by the Office of the Indian Registrar that CIS cards that have been expired for more than six (6) months cannot be accepted as valid photo ID. Therefore you will have to apply for some other form of photo ID in order for me to issue you a replacement status card. Please come see me as soon as your card expires if not sooner!

One Piece of Primary ID

OR

Two pieces of Secondary ID  
(One w/ digitized photo)

CATEGORY 1  
Primary ID

CATEGORY 2  
Secondary ID

Valid Canadian Passport  
New plastic CIS issued after April 2002

Certificate of Birth  
Certificate of Marriage/Divorce  
Certificate of Legal Name Change  
Provincial Health Card  
Provincial Identification Card  
Driver's License  
Employee ID w/ digitized photo  
Student ID w/ digitized photo  
Firearms License  
CIS card (cannot be expired by  
more than 6mth)

~ **Reminder** ~ the first time you apply for a Secure CIS you will need to produce your Original Birth Certificate & 2 current valid original ID's (one must have a picture). No temporary altered or photocopied documents will be accepted.

I understand the frustration with all the new changes in policy. I will continue to keep you informed as I receive updated information. [tfrost@tletincoxtin.ca](mailto:tfrost@tletincoxtin.ca)



## Angie Stump Cultural & Language Coordinator

**Mondays:** We practice our T̓silhqot̓in prayers and songs on Monday morning at 11:00 am. So come on in and have a cup of coffee. Sister Eva comes in to preach about the spiritual beliefs. And we pray for the sick people, and the people in the hospital. There are lots of T̓silhqot̓in prayers and songs that we should try to learn. I am here to help. So, come on in and have a cup of coffee. At the same time, I am working on the Elder's self esteem. I am encouraging the Elders to pray in the ceremonies, forums, and gatherings. So far, I have two Elders that are able to say "O Madi and Oh Gudi-nits'il'in", and I have the 3rd one on the way. Congratulations Elders!! Be proud of who you are. Our next song is Amazing Grace in T̓silhqot̓in.

**Tuesdays:** We have drop ins. Some people just want to come and visit. Other people like to come in and pick up supplies. Other than that, I am busy with the prayers, and the legends. I am trying my hardest to rewrite the prayers and legends to how the people would understand them. I hoping to have 15 T̓silhqot̓in booklets in our church. And I want our booklets to be used, and not collecting dust.

**Wednesdays:** This passed Wednesday, we had Tiny Tots Cultural Day. We went Ice Fishing at Ross Ranch on Chezucut Road. We had 35 people altogether. We had nine Elders, including a Leadership from Tl'etinqox-t'in. Tiny Tots had fun on the ice along with wieners and marshmallow roast. The Elders caught 12 fishes, and they were huge.

**Thursdays:** We had Sacred Water Book Meeting. We will be publishing a book on Sacred Water/Salmon Boy. This project is going awesome. Blaine Grinder, and Stanley Stump Sr. and Russell will be working closely together to finalize the book. Again, the attendance was great. Twenty two people came to see how the project was going.

The Salmon Boy is the eye opener for our Elders, and Youth. It's time for us "T̓silhqot̓in" to focus in on our legends. Our Legends is the most powerful legends that will support us in the Traditional Use Study, in the Fish Lake Mine Case, and to protect our scared land.

Next week, I will be attending the 12 Annual Language Conference in Kamloops on Feb. 23rd to 26th. I am excited to go. It sounds like I will be busy with "The Thunder of T̓silhqot̓in". It's up to you to find out what is this all about.

Dzin Guzun! T̓silhqot̓in Deni

Good Day! Chilcotin River People

See you later!

At the moment I would like to say I enjoy working with Tl'etinqox-t'in Government staff as custodian part-time sub for Kim J. every now and then being a receptionist for Tl'etinqox-t'in Government Office. Working full time five days a week, finally getting the hang of my job. Slowly but surely I will be starting spring cleaning in the band office, besides everyday chores. Until next time, there's always a hello to everyone and see you later Have yourselves a Happy Valentines Day 2012! Susan Rae Alphonse.

# Randy Billyboy

## February 2012 Fisheries Update

**Feb. 1** Sent off Community Fisheries Representative for the 5 Tsilhqot'in Communities to the UFFCA. Usually I add what is informed to me by all the Chiefs regarding their concerns and what they would like to see for each month from the UFFCA's support. Had a few people coming in regarding Firearms Licence Renewals, Firearms Registrations and Request for me to host a Firearm Training Course. I inform the communities to host these firearms courses. If I do the courses, I hardly see anyone attending. Toosey gets each person to pay \$30.00 x 12 = \$360 only other thing the band covers is my mileage to do the course. **Feb. 6** 2012 Fisheris Forum Agenda 9 am coffee & tea 9:15 opening comments 9:30 FSC fishery monitoring (Randy) Catch Monitoring Summary Update and discussion of issues that arose this past year. Informed the leaders the concerns I had with Shuswaps using their permits to fish at Farewell Bridge. Williams Lake Indian Band were saying that area belonged to them. They even had the RCMP backing them up even though it was a DFO issue. We basically told them, you are on Tsilhqot'in Territory. Out of respect and privilege, you must fish under TNG permits or your under violation set by DFO. This will be brought up at the next Chiefs meeting with the Shuswaps. 10:00 Adult Sockeye Enumeration and Deadpitch Program (Paul Grinder, Dennis Klassen and Kari Benner) Update and discussion of any issues that arose this past year. Just over 900,000 Sockeye for escapement passed the Didson. Overall Chilko was the highest for that year while Quesnel barely had over 45,000. 10:30 PICFI (Chris Nowotny / Brian Toth / Dale Michie) 2011 Accomplishments (Chris Nowotny) General overview of PICFI (Dale Michie)

The UFFCA's engagement in PICFI (Brian Toth) Business planning and structuring (Brian Toth) Business establishment (Brian Toth) Post-PICFI-PICFI 2 (Dale Michie and Brian Toth) What's Next - Planning for next year's fishery (Dale Michie, Brian Toth, Chris Nowotny) Just have to wait and see if PICFI gets extended after March 31. Based on new Political Parties and Funding Issues) 1:00 Chinook Project (Richard Bailey (DFO)/ Paul Grinder) Update and discussion of any issues that arose this past year Future direction. This year they did a split testing with Beach Seining and Rod & Reel catches. Numbers weren't has high, but results were better with using Rod & Reel regarding less bi-catch or recaptures. This year will be the 3rd year for this studies called Sentinel Stocks Project. 2:00 UFFCA Roles and Support to TNG (Brian Toth and Marcel Shephert) How can the UFFCA support TNG's opposition to Taseko Mine's latest proposal? Chief Joe informed them to help in any way possible. Regarding concerns with Mining issue. 2:45 Taseko Salmon Stocks (Rick Holmes and/or Pete Nicklin) Background - What do we know? Why don't we know more? (Pete Nicklin) Proposal to Conduct Monitoring with Didson (Pete Nicklin) Partial funds with be taken from the Rod & Reel funds for the Chinook Fishery at the Chilcotin/Chilko River Junction. Other sources with come from the UFFCA and DFO if need be. 3:15 Sturgeon (Kym Keogh and Lee Williston, MOE) General Biology/ Life History and Recent Telemetry Research (Kym Keogh - Lee Williston) Presentation of Recent Tissue Analysis and Results. Hasn't been done regarding Mill refuse into the Fraser River. But the Mercury Levels were pretty high when seeing what was being presented. What puzzled everyone was, MOE declared the area between Quesnel to Soda Creek as a Dead Zone. Our guess was, they were bought off by Gibraltar Mines to do minimal test near the tailing pipe drainage into the Fraser River. 3:45 Aquaculture (Open Discussion) – Didn't make the table. Drivers - Food Security, Commercial Opportunities Small scale trout farms and how they might develop in the Tsilhqot'in 4:00 Community Fisheries Profile (Chris Nowotny) – Didn't make the table. Update and Discussion

**Feb. 9** Helped Leonard English Jr with applying to attend the DFO Guardian Training that's coming up Feb 20th to Mar 9th down in Victoria at the Travel Lodge. DFO just covered the rooms for the 20 days. I submitted meals, mileage and ferry cost for him to attend.



In the end, this will be re-imbursed back to our Fisheries Department.

**Feb.13-17** Paul will be on Holidays, he is getting knee surgery done in Kamloops. He should be back in office on Monday, February 20th.

**Feb.16** I will be attending a meeting, talks regarding Killer Whale concerns.

Last month, we were informed that there are 3 pods of Killer Whales. Each pod consists of 250 to 500 species. Per day, these Killer Whales consume 250 to 500 chinook salmon that are 52 year olds. If you calculated, 15 days they have access to feeding. 750 to 1500 x 15 = totaled at 11,250 or 22,500 large 52 Chinooks consumed each year. These Chinook are the ones that go to North Taseko Lake mouth, Upper Chilcotin Lake and Elkins Creek. DFO will be making changes to allocations to accommodate these Killer Whales since they are all under the Species At Risk Act. Pretty soon all Chinook Salmon will fall under the SARA listings if there's still openings for 1st Nations fishing along the Fraser River and Pacific Coast.



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**Sidney Harry, Education Coordinator**

Dr. Martin Brokenleg will be at TRU 1250 Western Avenue Gymnasium March 2, 2012 9am—3pm and it is free to all students and band members.

The School district is willing to pay for the band van's mileage to bring people in for this event.

Dr. Brokenleg's topics will include:  
Creating a Positive Youth Culture/Growing Your Own Kids  
Mobilizing the Community  
Community Talking Circle

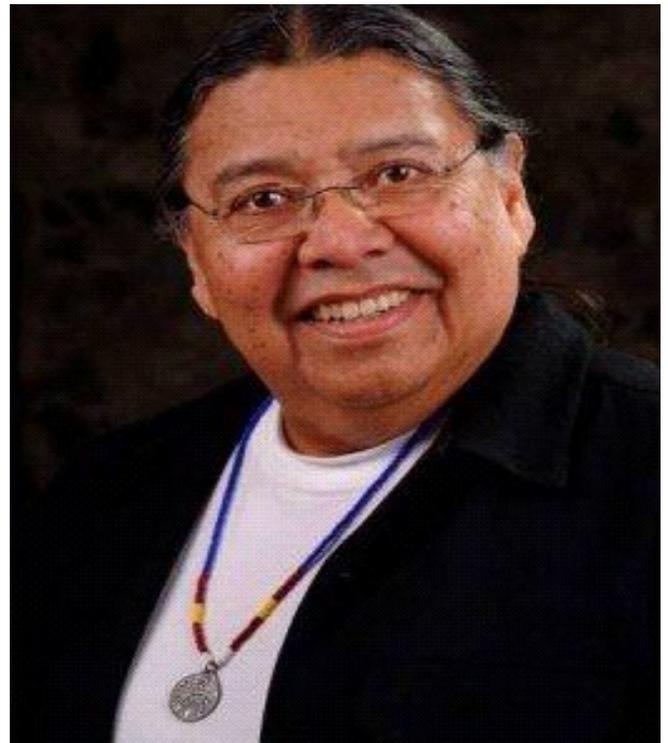
To register email  
eventswl@tru.ca or fax  
250-392-4984.

Registration Forms available at band office or [www.tru.ca/williamslake/](http://www.tru.ca/williamslake/)

Lunch provided for registered youth and students - RSVP Required. Child-minding for children ages 4 and up will be provided for registered participants - RSVP Required

Recommended for all who work with and care for youth.

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**Dr. Martin Brokenleg**