

ATTENTION: Elders Contact People Please Remember To Make Copies of The EV Each Month For Your Elders And If You Could Also Make Copies For Your Chiefs and Councils That Would Be A Great Help, And Much Appreciated!



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL ELDERS BORN IN MARCH!!**

**\*Any group who does not yet have a member on the BC Elders Council is encouraged to contact this elder's office at 1-877-738-7288 or email: bcelders@telus.net**

Dear All,

Support fees that allow this office to run for you are due and requested now. Please talk to your group leaders and Chief and Councils for support in paying this fee. I still need your help here after more than 11 years.

Thank you. Sincerely, Donna Stirling, BCECCS Coordinator

**ALL GROUPS ARE REMINDED THAT YOU SHOULD HAVE YOUR ROOMS BOOKED FOR THE GATHERING BY NOW. SO ELDERS SHOULD BE ACTIVE IN ASKING THEIR SUPPORT WORKER IF THEIR ROOMS HAVE BEEN RESERVED IN ABBOTSFORD OR THE SURROUNDING AREA.**

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## **Easy Bakers Corner – Carrot Cake with Hot Glaze - *Makes 16***

Cream 2 cups of granulated sugar and 1 and 1/2 salad oil. Add 4 eggs, one at a time. Add 2 cups of grated carrots, 2 cups of self-rising flour, 1 tsp. of cinnamon and a dash of salt and stir. Stir in 2 cups of pecan pieces and bake in 8 inch tube pan for 1 hour and 15 minutes at 350°F.

Hot Glaze: Heat juice of one orange and 1 cup of granulated sugar. Bring to a full boil. Turn baked cake upside down on serving plate. Slowly spoon filling over the top and sides of cake. Repeat until all glaze has soaked into the cake. Enjoy!

### *Trivia*

1. A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.
2. A snail can sleep for three years.
3. Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors.
4. The cruise liner, QE2, moved only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.

### *HANDY TIPS: Average Lifespan of Appliances*

Central Air Conditioner 15 years, Room Air Conditioner 12 years, Clothes Dryer 18 years, Washing Machine 13 years, Dishwasher 12 years, Refrigerator 20 years, Upright Freezer 20 years, Kitchen Stove 18 years, Water Heater 13 years

## **What Can you please share?**

The following is a short list of Elders suggestions of what might be shared: Your local Newsletters/Upcoming Local Events/Prayers/Poems/Quotes/Comments/Storytelling/Drawings/Articles of Interest/Native Songs Lyrics/Wellness Seminars/Obituaries, etc. Submissions are best forwarded to me via email by the 15th of the preceding month. If you are interested in providing articles, please do so, I look forward to hearing from anyone who wants to contribute to the content of your newsletter.

Gilakasla, Donna Stirling

### **‘PRESERVING THE PAST’**

**New Elder’s Website: [www.bcelders.com](http://www.bcelders.com)**

The *First Ever* Elder’s Website “Preserving the Past” is now online (as of Sept. 2002). Registration forms, booth forms, maps of the host territory, accommodation information, etc. concerning the Annual Elders Gatherings are available each year on the BC Elders Communication Center Society’s website [www.bcelders.com](http://www.bcelders.com) as soon as they are made available from each new host community.

Issues of your Elders Voice Newsletter are also posted on the website each month, though all issues still continue to be mailed out to your Elder’s Contact People throughout the province (to ensure that no one is left out because of a lack of access to the internet).

### **Disclaimer:**

Health articles, etc. are provided as a courtesy and neither the BC Elders Communication Center Society’s Board/Members or anyone working on its behalf mean this information to be used to replace your doctor’s and other professional’s advice. You should contact your family physician or health care worker for all health care matters. Information is provided in the Elders Voice for your reference only. And opinions contained in this publication are not those of Donna Stirling, Coordinator unless her name appears below the material.

# BCECCS 11th Year GRATITUDE LIST

Support Fee from Dec. 1st 2010 – Nov. 30th 2011

(In the past the fee has always been \$250 yearly, but in these economic times it has become necessary to ask groups to consider assisting more, if possible to make up for groups who cannot help.) Your support is much appreciated!

## LEVELS OF SUPPORT

\$1000 – Salmon

\$750 – Frog

\$500 – Sisiutl

\$250 - Hummingbird

### Sisiutl Level

1. Adams Lake Indian Band
2. Ts'kw'aylaxw Elders
3. Tseil-Waututh Nation
4. Cook's Ferry Indian Band
5. Lhoosk'uz Dene Nation

### Hummingbird Level

1. Nuxalk Ts'ikt Elders
2. Kla-How-Eya Circle of Elders
3. Shuswap Nation Tribal Council
4. Kluhx Kluhx Hu-Up
5. Indian Residential School Survivors Society
6. Laich-Kwil-Tach Treaty Society
7. Osoyoos Indian Band
8. Tansi Friendship Centre Society
9. Tobacco Plains Indian Band
10. Uchucklesaht Band Council
11. Douglas Band
12. Neskonlith Indian Band
13. Qualicum First Nation
14. Gitxaala Nation
15. Ka:'Yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' Nation
16. Heskw'en'scutxe Health Services
17. Ehattesah Tribe
18. UBCIC
19. Cowichan Elders
20. Wei Wai Kum First Nation
21. BCAAFC
22. Daylu Dene Council
23. Akisqnuq First Nation
24. Carnegie Community Centre
25. BC Assembly of First Nations
26. McLeod Lake Tse'khene Elders Society
27. Hailika'as Heiltsuk Heath Centre
28. Xaxli'p Band
29. We Wai Kai Nation
30. Doig River First Nation
31. Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society
32. Bridge River Indian Band
33. Tsawwassen First Nation
- 34.

## **Gender Equity in Indian Registration Act (Bill C-3) Comes Into Force on January 31, 2011**

**Ref. #2-3458**

**Ottawa, Ontario (January 31, 2011)** – The Honourable John Duncan, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians announced today that the *Gender Equity in Indian Registration Act* (Bill C-3) comes into force on January 31, 2011, and that applications for registration will be accepted and processed as of that date.

“By passing this legislation to amend the *Indian Act*, the government has eliminated specific barriers of discrimination for particular individuals,” said the Minister. “Bill C-3 ensures that eligible grandchildren of women who lost status as a result of marrying non-Indian men are entitled to registration.”

Individuals who want to register will have to submit an application on or after January 31, 2011 and must meet all three criteria:

- Their grandmother lost her Indian status as a result of marrying a non-Indian;
- One of their parents was registered, or were entitled to be registered, under sub-section 6(2) of the *Indian Act*;
- They or their siblings were born on or after September 4, 1951.

Individuals may seek legal advice on their own situation.

Once registered, applicants will have access to federal benefits and services for registered Indians.

Information on the registration process as well as general information on the [\*Gender Equity in Indian Registration Act\*](#) can be found on INAC's website.

This legislation amends provisions of the *Indian Act* that the Court of Appeal for British Columbia found to be unconstitutional in the case of *McIvor v. Canada*.

### **For more information, please contact:**

#### **Minister's Office**

Michele-Jamali Paquette

Press Secretary

Office of the Honourable John Duncan

819-997-0002

#### **Media Relations**

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

819-953-1160



## 35<sup>th</sup> Annual B.C. Elders Gathering

Hosted by:

**Stó:lō and Coast Salish Elders**

c/o Clarence Pennier

P.O. Box 76, 12892 Moses Drive

Lake Errock, BC V0M 1N0

Phone: 604-826-5813 cell: 604-798-2432

Email: [kat.pennier@stolotribalcouncil.ca](mailto:kat.pennier@stolotribalcouncil.ca)

### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Participant Name:	Group / Nation / Tribe
Are you an: Elder <input type="checkbox"/> (55 & over)	On Site Contact Information:
Caregiver <input type="checkbox"/>	
Bus Driver <input type="checkbox"/>	
Caregiver @ Gathering:	Cell Number:
Hotel/Lodging Name & #	Emergency Contact: (if different from above)
Any Health Concerns/Issues (This will be on your badge for emergency purposes):	

This registration form and \$50.00 per person fee is due by May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – (note that after May 11<sup>th</sup>, the registration fee will be \$75.00).

Your registration fee includes meals, plus “*Bag of Swag*” (goodies), plus some tours.

Please make cheque payable to “35<sup>th</sup> Annual Elders Gathering” and send to:

**Wendy Ritchie, Registration Coordinator**

Box 2370, Sardis Main Station

Chilliwack, BC V2R 1A7

The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering Planning Group is not responsible for lost or stolen items, nor injuries or illnesses during the gathering.



35<sup>th</sup> Annual BC Elders Gathering  
Qepóthet Ye Mestiyexw – “Bringing People Together”

**INFORMATION BOOTH REGISTRATION**

Name:	Address in Full:
Phone & Cell:	Fax:
Booth Information & Description:	
<p><b>Payment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Booth registration fee in the amount of \$200.00 is payable with the registration.</li><li>• Method of payment acceptable – <i>certified cheque</i> or <i>money order</i> made payable to 35<sup>th</sup> Elders Gathering, attn: Clarence Pennier, c/o P.O. Box 76, 12892 Moses Dr., Lake Errock, BC V0M 1N0</li><li>• Upon receipt of registration with payment, you will receive “confirmation of payment” and assignment of floor space. There will be no changing spaces once assigned booth/table space.</li></ul> <p><b>Booth Set-Up</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Set up can begin at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011.</li><li>• Each booth will consist of one table and two chairs – and must remain in location assigned.</li></ul> <p><b>Guidelines:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The 2011 Elders Gathering Planning Committee, workers and volunteers are not responsible for lost or stolen items or injury.</li><li>• Booths may not sell food, drinks or raffle tickets.</li><li>• No burning will be allowed in the booth areas as some Elders may have respiratory ailments or other issues regarding this.</li><li>• Electrical outlets may be available for a fee of approximately \$70.00 (payable to <i>Abbotsford Tradex</i>).</li><li>• If a booth is not set-up by 9:00 a.m. on Day 1 of the Gathering, the booth will be re-rented with no refund to the original registrant.</li><li>• If you do not receive back a confirmation within 10-days of submitting your registration, please call or email to <a href="mailto:kellyparks@shaw.ca">kellyparks@shaw.ca</a></li><li>• Notice of cancellation must be provided by June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Any cancellation after that date will not be eligible for refund.</li></ul>	
I, _____, have read and agree to all of the above regarding the Booth Registration for the 35 <sup>th</sup> Annual Elders Gathering at the Abbotsford Tradex Centre.	
_____	_____
Booth Registrant Signature	Date

For Office Use Only:	
Registration Fee Paid <input type="checkbox"/>	Coordinator Rec'd & Processing <input type="checkbox"/>



**ARTS & CRAFTS BOOTH REGISTRATION**

Name:	Address in Full:
Phone & Cell:	Fax:
Booth Information & Description: <i>(i.e., what will be sold...)</i>	
<p><b>Payment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Booth registration fee in the amount of \$250.00 is payable with the registration.</li> <li>• Method of payment acceptable – certified cheque or money order made payable to 35<sup>th</sup> Elders Gathering, attn: Clarence Pennier, P.O. Box 76, 12892 Moses Dr., Lake Errock, BC V0M 1N0</li> <li>• Upon receipt of registration with payment, you will receive “confirmation of payment” and assignment of floor space. There will be no changing spaces once assigned booth/table space.</li> <li>• A donation from your booth would be appreciated – that will become “prizes” drawn throughout the event.</li> </ul> <p><b>Booth Set-Up</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up can begin at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011.</li> <li>• Each booth will consist of one table and two chairs – and must remain in location assigned.</li> </ul> <p><b>Guidelines:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2011 Elders Gathering Planning Committee, workers and volunteers are not responsible for lost or stolen items or injury.</li> <li>• Booths may not sell food, drinks or raffle tickets.</li> <li>• No burning will be allowed in the booth areas as some Elders may have respiratory ailments or other issues regarding this.</li> <li>• Electrical outlets may be available for a fee of approximately \$70.00 (payable to <i>Abbotsford Tradex</i>).</li> <li>• If a booth is not set-up by 9:00 a.m. on Day 1 of the Gathering, the booth will be re-rented with no refund to the original registrant.</li> <li>• If you do not receive back a confirmation within 10-days of submitting your registration, please call or email to <a href="mailto:julie.malloway@stolonation.bc.ca">julie.malloway@stolonation.bc.ca</a></li> <li>• Notice of cancellation must be provided by June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Any cancellation after that date will not be eligible for refund.</li> </ul>	
<p>I, _____, have read and agree to all of the above regarding the Booth Registration for the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Elders Gathering at the Abbotsford Tradex Centre.</p> <p>_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Booth Registrant Signature <span style="float: right;">Date</span></p>	

For Office Use Only:	
Registration Fee Paid <input type="checkbox"/>	Coordinator Rec'd & Processing <input type="checkbox"/>



# VOLUNTEERS

## 35<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BC ELDERS GATHERING JULY 12<sup>TH</sup>, 13<sup>TH</sup>, 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2011 – ABBOTSFORD TRADEX CENTRE

Email to Laura Kelly - - [siteala@yahoo.ca](mailto:siteala@yahoo.ca) or fax to 604-826-6222

Contact Information	
Name:	Phone / Cell:
Address:	Email:

*Volunteers are required to sign up for a minimum of one 3-hour Time Slot:*

July 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2011	July 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2011	July 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2011
<input type="checkbox"/> 8:30 am – 11:30 am	<input type="checkbox"/> 8:30 am – 11:30 am	<input type="checkbox"/> 8:30 am – 11:30 am
<input type="checkbox"/> 11:30 am – 2:30 pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:30 am – 2:30 pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:30 am – 2:30 pm
<input type="checkbox"/> 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm	
<input type="checkbox"/> 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm	
<input type="checkbox"/> All Day	<input type="checkbox"/> All Day	

*Where would you like to Help:*

<input type="checkbox"/> Registration	<input type="checkbox"/> Security & First Aide	<input type="checkbox"/> Cook Helper
<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising	<input type="checkbox"/> Information & Workshops	<input type="checkbox"/> Food Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Billeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Elders' Rest Area	<input type="checkbox"/> Souvenirs
<input type="checkbox"/> Tours	<input type="checkbox"/> Self Care/Respite	<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> Grand Entry	<input type="checkbox"/> Driver	<input type="checkbox"/> Clean Up
<input type="checkbox"/> Host/Hostess	<input type="checkbox"/> Information Booth	<input type="checkbox"/> Set-up/Take Down
<input type="checkbox"/> Greeter	<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteers Booth	On Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>
<input type="checkbox"/> Elder Seating	<input type="checkbox"/> Arts & Crafts Support	On Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>
<input type="checkbox"/> Elder Escort	<input type="checkbox"/> Give Aways	

*Do You Have:*

Valid Drivers' License	Yes	No	Class: _____
First Aide Ticket	Yes	No	Level: _____
Food Safe	Yes	No	year: _____
First Host	Yes	No	year: _____

I will adhere to all rules and regulations as shared by Coordinator(s) while volunteering for the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Elders Gathering.



## **B.C. failing its aboriginal children** [GARY MASON](#)

From Tuesday's Globe and Mail Published Monday, Jan. 31, 2011 10:37PM EST

Last updated Tuesday, Feb. 01, 2011 2:36AM EST

The child was just 11 months old when taken from the family home along with two siblings – for a second time.

When separating aboriginal children from their parents, B.C. government policy directs social workers to place them with extended family or within their native community whenever possible. So the baby and its siblings were moved into the home of a relative.

### **More related to this story**

- [B.C. child poverty at play in 21 child deaths: children's advocate](#)
- [A case study on first nations poverty](#)
- ['New path' for B.C. native youth needed: report](#)

There were 11 others already living there. With no crib in the home, the baby was put in a bed with an older sibling.

A notation made by a case worker in the ministry of children and family development indicated concerns for the children's safety due to one of the relatives in the house. Pretty soon that would be the least of the ministry's worries.

Four days after arriving, the baby was discovered dead in bed from undetermined causes.

The heartbreaking details of this tragedy are contained in a report released last week by Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, B.C. Representative for Children and Youth. The representative refused to give the sex of the baby in an effort to shield the identity of the family.

Ms. Turpel-Lafond examined the cases of 21 children who died in B.C. before the age of two between 2007 and 2009. Fifteen of the 21 children were aboriginal, which has raised fresh questions about the government's current apprehension and placement policies for members of this community.

About five years ago, the province, under pressure from aboriginal leaders, decided that, all things being equal, it was best to put aboriginal children taken from their parents into the care of relatives or someone else in their community.

While Ms. Turpel-Lafond supports the idea in theory, she concedes that in practice it can often do more harm than good. In some cases, the policy is proving deadly.

“There's no question that the lives of children are being compromised by leaving them in conditions of abject squalor, where they are not supported by any kind of prevention plan and are not safe,” Ms. Turpel-Lafond said in an interview.

Which is a braver statement than you know. It's impolitic, you see, to suggest that the current policy might not always be in the best interests of aboriginal children. And that, in fact, they are often being moved to situations as bad, or worse, than the ones from which they've been rescued.

While Ms. Turpel-Lafond examined the cases of 15 aboriginal children who died in B.C. over two years, she doesn't know for certain how many aboriginal infants die year to year because quality data for this group do not exist. However, we know that about eight of every 1,000 status Indian infants die in their first year compared with a rate of about four per 1,000 non-aboriginal British Columbians.

We also know that when aboriginal children are harmed at home, there is a strong chance it will happen again. The official recurrence rate in the province is 20 per cent. Ms. Turpel-Lafond and others believe it's actually much higher. The audit program that monitors such things for the provincial government has been cut back so far that the statistics it gathers are almost meaningless.

A history of abuse was documented in 10 of the 15 aboriginal families. Previous generations of 12 of the families had a history of substance abuse. Episodes of domestic violence were documented in five.

Aboriginal leaders in B.C. have mostly gone unscathed when it comes to scrutiny of the uncertain, sometimes tragic, fate awaiting at-risk aboriginal children. It's time they took ownership of the situation.

Ms. Turpel-Lafond said the government effectively blew \$30-million over several years trying to establish "aboriginal authorities" to address issues associated with children being raised in dangerous and unhealthy circumstances.

"There were lots of high-level meetings and governance discussions and there were lots of consultants involved, but it went nowhere," she said. "And yet I see these situations of such desperation in aboriginal communities."

The representative said a "false nostalgia" surrounds the notion that aboriginal families love their children so therefore will always give them a better standard of care than a non-aboriginal family.

"I'm sorry," she said. "The hardscrabble circumstances of these [aboriginal] families, the 16-year-old mom living in a home with 16 other people, herself suffering from drug and alcohol issues, is just terrible. This romantic notion that somehow everything will be fine if we just leave the child there is a complete falsehood."

Unless, that is, you have a plan to make the parent's life better, and the lives of their children too. Right now in B.C., there's evidence of no such thing.

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**NOTICE: Emails in to pass on in the EV**

**REMEMBER: Cell Phone Numbers Go Public this month.**

**REMINDER ..... all cell phone numbers are being released to telemarketing companies and you will start to receive sales calls.**

**.... YOU WILL B E CHA RG E D FO R TH E S E CALLS**

**To prevent this, go to the following web-site for Canadian Telephone Numbers:**

**This is the CRTC official website.**

**[www.innate-dncl.gc.ca](http://www.innate-dncl.gc.ca)**

**It is the National DO NOT CALL list It will only take a minute of your time.. It blocks your number for five (5) years.**

# UBCIC Supports Turpel-Lafond's Call on Government to Protect Vulnerable Children

**NEWS RELEASE February 4, 2011**

(Coast Salish Territory/Vancouver, BC - February 4, 2011) Between June 2007 and May 2009, 21 infants tragically died in BC; 15 out of the 21 were Aboriginal. The Representative for Children and Youth, Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, released a sobering report detailing these cases titled *Fragile Lives, Fragmented Systems: Strengthening Supports for Vulnerable Infants* and suggests a comprehensive plan to move forward.

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, President of Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs, said "It is absolutely unacceptable that we continue to have children and families falling through the cracks. I wholeheartedly agree with Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond that we cannot become desensitized to home environments that are unsafe for our children. We need to fully acknowledge and actively address, on an urgent basis, the root causes of the deep, debilitating, intergenerational poverty that characterizes the daily lives of the vast majority of Aboriginal families in BC."

Turpel-Lafond noted that the common denominator in these cases was crushing poverty and BC's fractured support system for vulnerable families. Further, the Report highlights the multiple and overlapping challenges that the children faced, including inadequate housing, domestic violence, substance abuse and mental health issues. It details that in these cases, public health, medical and child welfare issues failed to effectively assist.

"The disproportionately high number of deaths that our people face is a crisis that desperately needs a plan of action. Our people form a grossly high percentage of the missing and murdered women, youth suicides, child deaths and victims of violence; all are related to the absolute poverty that many of our communities face. The failing treaty process and the provincial approach to resource revenue-sharing are not effectively improving all of our Nation's economies," said Grand Chief Phillip. "Dr. Cindy Blackstock, Executive Director of the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada, stated it best 'with no economy there is no possible means of establishing an effective child welfare service.'"

Grand Chief Phillip concluded "I applaud Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond for setting out solid and feasible next steps for the Government of BC to help vulnerable children. We now call on Minister Polak to immediately implement these vital recommendations. If the Government of BC can create a task force overnight to investigate the deaths of sled dogs, surely they can put together a task force to address the unnecessary suffering and preventable deaths of vulnerable children."

The Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs wishes to express our deep sympathy to the families and friends of the 21 children described in the report who lost their lives so early in life.

Media inquiries:

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, Union of BC Indian Chiefs

Phone: (250) 490-5314

Follow UBCIC on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/UBCIC](http://www.twitter.com/UBCIC)

The UBCIC is a NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

## **THE SITUATION**

In Washington DC, at a Metro Station, on a cold January morning in 2007, this man with a violin played six Bach pieces for about 45 minutes. During that time, approximately 2,000 people went through the station, most of them on their way to work. After about 3 minutes, a middle-aged man noticed that there was a musician playing. He slowed his pace and stopped for a few seconds, and then he hurried on to meet his schedule.

### **About 4 minutes later:**

The violinist received his first dollar. A woman threw money in the hat and, without stopping, continued to walk.

### **At 6 minutes:**

A young man leaned against the wall to listen to him, then looked at his watch and started to walk again.

### **At 10 minutes:**

A 3-year old boy stopped, but his mother tugged him along hurriedly. The kid stopped to look at the violinist again, but the mother pushed hard and the child continued to walk, turning his head the whole time. This action was repeated by several other children, but every parent - without exception - forced their children to move on quickly.

### **At 45 minutes:**

The musician played continuously. Only 6 people stopped and listened for a short while. About 20 gave money but continued to walk at their normal pace. The man collected a total of \$32.

### **After 1 hour:**

He finished playing and silence took over. No one noticed and no one applauded. There was no recognition at all.

No one knew this, but the violinist was **Joshua Bell**, one of the greatest musicians in the world. He played one of the most intricate pieces ever written, with a violin worth \$3.5 million dollars. Two days before, Joshua Bell sold-out a theatre in Boston where the seats averaged \$100 each to sit and listen to him play the same music.

This is a true story. Joshua Bell, playing incognito in the DC Metro Station, was organized by the Washington Post as part of a social experiment about **perception, taste and people's priorities**.

### **This experiment raised several questions:**

\*In a common-place environment, at an inappropriate hour, do we perceive beauty?

\*If so, do we stop to appreciate it?

\*Do we recognize talent in an unexpected context?

### **One possible conclusion reached from this experiment could be this:**

**If we do not have a moment to stop and listen to one of the best musicians in the world, playing some of the finest music ever written, with one of the most beautiful instruments ever made . . .**

**How many other things are we missing as we rush through life?**

(Emailed in to pass on in the EV)

**For:** First Nations Leadership Council  
**Contact:** See Below Primary Phone: 250-490-5314

**Date issued:** February 8, 2011, 18:36 e

**Attention:** Assignment Editor, Environment Editor, Energy Editor, News Editor, Government/Political Affairs Editor

**First Nations Leaders Ask Leadership Candidates "What Will You Do?"**

Vancouver, BC, NEWS RELEASE, Feb.08 /CCNMatthews/ - The BC Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Summit and Union of BC Indian Chiefs is publicly releasing a joint letter to the leadership candidates of the BC Liberal Party and the BC New Democratic Party.

A copy of the letter is attached and it is anticipated that the candidates will formally reply with their written response.

=====

February 8, 2011

[Leadership Candidate]

Dear [Leadership Candidate]

In 2005, the Government of British Columbia and the First Nations of British Columbia as represented by the First Nations Summit, the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, and the BC Assembly of First Nations working together as the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC), achieved significant and historic milestones in First Nations-Crown relations in British Columbia in agreeing to the New Relationship vision and action items, and to bringing about the tripartite Transformative Change Accord with Prime Minister Martin. In these political accords we committed to close the socio-economic gap between First Nations and other British Columbians, reconcile Aboriginal Title and Rights and establish a new relationship based on mutual respect and recognition.

Negotiating the New Relationship and Transformative Change Accord was the easy part of our joint work. The hard part is fulfilling the mutual commitments we made and truly changing the course of First Nation-Crown relations in BC in a way that empowers our Nations and results in real, concrete change to our children, families and communities.

We acknowledge that the Province has completed several agreements with First Nations on the basis of the New Relationship and the Transformative Change Accord however significant progress with all First Nations has not been achieved. Direct negotiation with First Nations is necessary and consistent with the commitment to "recognition of the need to preserve each First Nations' decision-making authority." The FNLC supports First Nations in their negotiation of agreements with the Province as autonomous Nations and this work needs to be accelerated.

In this regard, we ask you as a leadership candidate for your party, what will you do to revitalize the government's work to implement the commitments made in the New Relationship document?

Specifically, we ask you the following:

\* Please provide your perspective on how First Nations can meaningfully provide input into provincial

legislative initiatives and provincial program and policy development that begins to reconcile their respective Aboriginal Title and Rights?

\* What will you do to maximize First Nations involvement in the economy and building governance capacity?

\* What is your view on how the provincial government can better assist First Nations in engaging industry, investors and other third parties to support the New Relationship vision to close the socio-economic gap based on mutual respect and recognition?

\* What will you do as Premier to strengthen BC Consultation Policies in a manner that fully respects our Aboriginal Title & Rights in order to prevent resource development conflicts such as the Prosperity Mine issue?

We look forward to your written response via fax (604) 684-5726.

Sincerely,

On behalf of the BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS:

[Original Signed]

Regional Chief Jody Wilson-Raybould

On behalf of the FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT:

[Original Signed]

Grand Chief Edward John  
Chief Douglas White III Kwulasultun  
Dan Smith

On behalf of the UNION OF BC INDIAN CHIEFS

[Original Signed]

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip  
Chief Robert Chamberlin  
Chief Marilyn Baptiste

For further information:

Regional Chief Jody Wilson-Raybould, BC Assembly of First Nations (778) 772-8681; Grand Chief Ed John, First Nations Summit (778) 772-8218 or (604) 926-9903; Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, Union of BC Indian Chiefs (250) 490-5314

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***QUOTE: by Ella Wheeler Wilcox***

“‘Tis easy enough to be pleasant, When life flows along like a song;

But the man worthwhile is the man who will smile, When everything goes dead wrong.”

**For:** Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council & Okanagan Nation Alliance

**Contact:** See below, Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council & Okanagan Nation Alliance

Primary Phone: 250-371-0775 **Date issued:** February 4, 2011, 19:23 e

**Attention:** Assignment Editor, Business/Financial Editor, Environment Editor, News Editor, Government/Political Affairs Editor

## **Major BC Hydro Transmission Project Dealt Another Blow**

*British Columbia Utilities Commission Rules that First Nations Not Consulted*

Vancouver, BC, NEWS RELEASE, Feb.04 /CCNMatthews/ - BC Hydro's most significant transmission project in 30 years, the proposed \$700 million dollar transmission line from Merritt to the Lower Mainland, was dealt another setback yesterday when the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) ruled that First Nations had not been sufficiently consulted. After a year long review of BC Hydro's engagement of First Nations, the BCUC ruled that BC Hydro had failed to meet the high level of consultation owed to several First Nations who will be seriously affected by the proposed new transmission line. As a result, the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity required for the project-which was suspended by the B.C. Court of Appeal in 2009 when it ordered the BCUC to reconsider the matter-remains suspended. At this time, the project, which was originally slated to receive all major approvals by Fall 2009, remains in limbo and cannot proceed.

"This is a major victory for our Nation, and other First Nations" said Chief Tim Manuel of the Upper Nicola Indian Band who, along with the Okanagan Nation Alliance and the Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council, have been calling for the Province and BC Hydro to meet constitutional requirements with respect to this project for several years. "BC Hydro and the Province have been resisting meaningful engagement every step of the way. When the Court of Appeal sided with us and other First Nations in 2009 we thought they would change their behaviour - but they haven't. We have been clear-let's sit down and work this out. But this hasn't happened yet. Hopefully this is a turning point."

The BCUC decision is only one aspect of the litigation that has embroiled the transmission project in costly delays due to BC Hydro's reluctance to seriously address First Nation concerns. Next week, the B.C. Supreme Court will begin hearing a case brought by Upper Nicola, the Okanagan Nation Alliance and the Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council challenging the environmental assessment certificate issued for the project. The First Nations say that BC Hydro failed to properly consult prior to the issuance of this certificate. They also say that the Province failed to fulfill a promise to address their concerns regarding existing transmission lines and the proposed new line.

"Our communities have been impacted for years from these transmission works-yet, even when Ministers promise to address these issues, the Province continues to stall and avoid reaching a resolution", said Chief Bob Pasco, Chair of the Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council. "To give one example, the substation at Spuzzum is built on top of our village site, where our ancestors have lived for thousands of years. This should have been addressed long ago, yet here we are again having to go to court to get promises made by the Ministers fulfilled", he added.

In its ruling, the BCUC ordered BC Hydro, amongst other things, to consult with First Nations about revenue sharing. "This is very significant, and indicates, yet again, the continuing failure of the Province and BC Hydro to take seriously their responsibilities to meaningfully include First Nations in development through economic accommodation", said Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, Chair of the Okanagan Nation Alliance and President of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs.

"For four years BC Hydro and the Provincial officials have been saying they have no mandates from politicians

to negotiate revenue sharing for energy projects. I think with this ruling that game is up. Either we get serious and negotiate about how First Nations will share fairly and justly in resource use, or projects will continue to be delayed, and may even have to be cancelled, as the Crown fails to get serious."

Copy of the decision:

[http://www.bcuc.com/Documents/Decisions/2011/DOC\\_26902\\_G-15-11\\_BCTC\\_ILM\\_Reconsideration-Decision-WEB.pdf](http://www.bcuc.com/Documents/Decisions/2011/DOC_26902_G-15-11_BCTC_ILM_Reconsideration-Decision-WEB.pdf)

For further information:

For further comment: Chief Bob Pasco, Chairman NNTC: (cell) (250) 371-0775; Chief Tim Manuel, Upper Nicola Band: (cell) (250) 378-1986; Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, Okanagan Nation Alliance: (250) 490-5314

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Media Release | Feb. 11, 2010

## **UBC study shows increased risk of infectious disease in children of residential school survivors**

For the first time ever, research has revealed a statistical connection between residential schools and infectious disease rates. New findings from a University of British Columbia study on at-risk Aboriginal young people in British Columbia point to alarming patterns of historical trauma, injection drug use and Hepatitis C (HCV) infection.

The findings were released by the Cedar Project—a Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)-funded longitudinal study that monitors HIV and HCV among Aboriginal young people who use drugs in British Columbia.

The paper, published in the medical journal *Open Medicine*, reveals that young at-risk Aboriginal people in two BC cities who use injection drugs, especially females, are extremely vulnerable to HCV infection. The study looked at a group of 512 young Aboriginal people in Vancouver and Prince George. Two hundred eighty-six participants reported injection drug use when they enrolled in the study. Of those reporting using injection drug use, 59 per cent were infected with HCV.

According to the findings, major risk factors for HCV infection include daily injection drug use (2.7 times more likely to be HCV positive), having at least one parent who attended residential school (1.9 times more likely), being a young woman (1.9 times more likely) and reusing syringes (2.4 times more likely).

Previous research identified a relationship between having a parent who attended residential school and was involved in the child welfare system with sexual abuse among Aboriginal young people who use drugs in British Columbia. This is the first study that reveals a statistical connection between residential schooling of parents and the rates of HCV in their children.

"These findings emphasize the importance of acknowledging the role of historical trauma in the health outcomes among Aboriginal peoples, including HCV infection and drug use," says Chief Wayne Christian, one of the study's investigators. "To create meaningful strategies to help improve the health outcomes of our young people we need to better understand the relationship between having a parent who attended residential school and increased risk of HCV infection. I am particularly concerned about the safety and protection of our young women surviving on BC's streets."

The prevalence of HCV infection in the Aboriginal young people living in Prince George nearly mirrored the prevalence among young people using injection drugs in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, with Prince George having higher rates of prevalence and incidence.



“Given that Vancouver has consistently been described as an epicentre of the HIV and HCV epidemics in British Columbia and in Canada since the early 1980s, these findings indicate that the faces of these epidemics are changing,” says Patricia Spittal, principal investigator of the Cedar Project and an associate professor at UBC’s School of Population and Public Health. “The similar rate of Hepatitis C infections in Vancouver and Prince George is very concerning and may be a warning of a larger epidemic in the North in the future.”

The study also found that:

- Among participants who reported injection drug use, the incidence density estimate was 23 per cent: every year 23 people out of 100 will develop HCV;
- For every one-year increase in injection drug use, the likelihood of HCV positivity increased by 140 per cent;
- 62 per cent of young women who reported injecting drugs were HCV positive.

“This study confirms the devastating impact that the trauma experienced through residential schools continues to impact our young people today,” says Chief Wayne Christian of the Słłatsin Secwepemc Nation. “We honour our elders who endured this trauma, and their struggle to cope and survive. However, we know that concrete strategies and resources are needed to address the multigenerational trauma that has resulted from years of abuse in residential schools.”

Our young people who use injection drugs are often coping with unresolved historical and lifetime trauma, including the impact of the residential school system, and more effective community driven interventions are needed to help them heal, says Chief Christian, who points to the urgent need for action.

“Canada’s refusal to vote in favor of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (Sept. 13, 2007) is a clear sign that the residential school apology offered by Prime Minister Harper may be insincere. The time is now to take action, to do whatever it takes to create a healing environment founded on our culture and traditions. We can no longer wait for governments to do what we know to be right for our Children and Grandchildren. We must act. If we truly believe that the Children are our Future, then the Future is right now,” says Chief Christian.

The Cedar Project is a collaborative, community based research initiative that addresses HIV and hepatitis C vulnerabilities among young Aboriginal people who use illicit drugs in Vancouver, Prince George and Kamloops.

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From [www.pruneville.com](http://www.pruneville.com)

Two elderly women were out driving in a large car. Both could barely see over the dashboard. As they were cruising along, they came to an intersection. The stoplight was red, but they just went on through. The woman in the passenger seat thought to herself, "I must be losing it. I could have sworn we just went through a red light." After a few more minutes, they came to another intersection, and the light was red again. They went right through it. This time, the woman in the passenger seat was almost sure that the light had been red and was really concerned that she was losing it. She was getting nervous and decided to pay very close attention to the road and the next intersection to see what was going on.

At the next intersection, the light was definitely red, and sure enough, they went right through again. She turned to the other woman and said, "Mildred! Did you know we just ran through three red lights in a row? You could have killed us!" Mildred turned to her and said, "Oh my, am I driving?"

## Future Integrity of the RCMP Hangs in the Balance

News Release February 9, 2011

This morning the BC Civil Liberties Association released “Small Town Justice: A report on the RCMP in Northern and Rural British Columbia.” BCCLA travelled to 14 rural and northern B.C. communities.

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, President of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, commented "I am deeply disappointed at how prevalent and widespread the complaints are with respect to the consistent instances of poor judgement and abusive misconduct of certain members of the RCMP."

The BCCLA listened to more than 300 British Columbians who spoke of the good, like police officers walking the beat, and the bad, like allegations of systemic rights violations against aboriginal people, youth and the homeless. A common concern was police investigating police.

"Clearly it is time for the RCMP to 'get off their high horse' and be made to become more fully and completely accountable to the aboriginal and non-aboriginal citizens of the communities they serve," said Grand Chief Phillip. "In this regard, the practice of the RCMP investigating the misconduct of their own members must stop and be replaced by a truly independent 'arms-length' civilian-led process."

Grand Chief Phillip concluded "It is apparent that a number of incidents outlined in the report involved issues of substance abuse or homelessness. Police should not simply criminalize people for their substance abuse or circumstances of homelessness. It is too easy to dismiss someone battling their addictions by labeling them a 'chronic offender.' It is why, as part of the Inquiry into the Death of Frank Paul, Justice Davies recommended civilian-operated sobering centres, enhanced civilian-based detoxification programs and low-barrier housing. Enacting local bylaws, removing people from town parks and throwing them in jail is not a solution."

The full report is available at: [http://www.bccla.org/othercontent/Small\\_town\\_justice.pdf](http://www.bccla.org/othercontent/Small_town_justice.pdf)

Media inquiries:

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, Union of BC Indian Chiefs Phone: (250) 490-5314

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## UBCIC Deeply Concerned with Flawed Bill S-11

(Coast Salish Territory/Vancouver, BC - February 9, 2011) This afternoon, Chief Bob Chamberlin, Vice-President of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, will formally present the UBCIC's submission on Bill S-11, An Act Respecting the Safety of Drinking Water on First Nation Lands, to the Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples.

A solution to ensure safety of drinking water must be developed in a joint process driven by First Nation communities that respects our constitutionally protected Aboriginal Title, Rights, and Treaty Rights; be adequately funded for success; be based on recommendations from the Expert Panel on Safe Drinking Water; and adhere to principles in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The committee proceedings can be viewed via webcast at <http://senparlvu.parl.gc.ca/>. Chief Chamberlin will present from 3:45-4:45 pm (Pacific).

The UBCIC submission is available at

[http://www.ubcic.bc.ca/files/PDF/UBCICSubmissiontoSenate\\_S11\\_020911.pdf](http://www.ubcic.bc.ca/files/PDF/UBCICSubmissiontoSenate_S11_020911.pdf).

Media inquiries: Chief Bob Chamberlin, Union of BC Indian Chiefs Phone: (778) 988-9282

## **Canada: AFN Continues Call For Independent Inquiry Into Missing And Murdered Indigenous Women And Action To End Violence Against Indigenous Women**

As hundreds gathered in Vancouver for the 20th annual memorial march for missing and murdered women, Assembly of First Nations (AFN) National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo acknowledged the strength and resilience of the many families and friends directly affected by this tragic issue.

"The Assembly of First Nations continues to urge the federal government to work collaboratively with Indigenous and women's organizations on an action plan focused on prevention and the safety and security of Indigenous women," said AFN National Chief Shawn Atleo. "Today we recognize the strength and resilience of the families, friends and support networks of the far too many girls and women lost to violence. At our Assembly last December, First Nation leaders from across the country called for an independent public commission of inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women in Canada. We emphasize again today the need for such an inquiry."

AFN has presented to the House of Commons Standing Committee on the Status of Women and has requested standing in the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry which will examine the conduct of police investigations of women reported missing from Vancouver's Downtown Eastside between January 23, 1997 and February 5, 2002.

"The AFN will continue to act and advocate for the protection and safety of First Nation women and children as a basic human right consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples," said National Chief Atleo. "Chiefs from across Canada have made ending violence against women a key priority and we continue to advocate for support for community-based initiatives that work for First Nations such as Sisters in Spirit, a research, education and policy initiative coordinated by the Native Women's Association of Canada and driven and led by Aboriginal women. Unfortunately, this initiative was dropped in the last federal budget. It must be re-invigorated."

The annual women's memorial march, organized by women in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, began in 1991 with the intent to "come together to grieve the loss of our beloved sisters, remember the women who are still missing and dedicate ourselves to justice." On its 20th anniversary, the Valentine's Day march expresses compassion and community support for all women in the downtown eastside of Vancouver and the Coast Salish territories and honours the lives of all missing and murdered women. Organizers of the march hosted a series of public awareness events earlier this month, including film screenings, art exhibits and educational, poetry and music activities.

The Assembly of First Nations is the national organization representing First Nation citizens in Canada.

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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
2011CFD0006-000081  
Feb. 1, 2011

Ministry of Children and Family Development

### **YOUNG PARENTS GET CHILD-CARE SUBSIDY BOOST**

VICTORIA – It’s not easy being a young parent – especially if you’re trying to complete your secondary school education. But thanks to a \$150 increase in the monthly subsidy rate to B.C.’s Young Parent Programs, these young adults will now have a greater opportunity to receive their high school diploma and create a better future for themselves and their children.

“Parenting is, quite literally, our most important and most challenging job – even more so for young people trying to balance raising a child with getting a high school education,” said Children and Family Development Minister Mary Polak. “By providing additional child-care funding to support young parents, we help give them an opportunity to finish high school and pursue their dreams.”

The enhanced monthly subsidy rate will increase from \$850 to \$1,000 per child, effective March 1, 2011.

Polak made the announcement at Options Child and Family Centre, a Young Parent Program that provides parents in the Victoria school district with self-paced learning programs to complete their high school education, while receiving quality child care and social and emotional support. The Ministry of Children and Family Development supports 44 such programs across B.C. for young parents who want to complete secondary school.

“I know these programs are having a huge impact on the success of young parents in my constituency and right across the province,” said Oak Bay-Gordon Head MLA Ida Chong. “This child-care subsidy increase will go a long way towards making education possible for these young families.”

Funding for the programs is estimated at more than \$1.7 million annually – \$400,000 in child-care operating funding and \$1.3 million for child-care subsidies. B.C.’s child-care providers operate 815 ministry-designated Young Parent Program spaces, which were occupied by 400 children in 2009-10. Remaining spaces are filled by other parents in the community.

“This increase will help Young Parent Programs provide the extra support these young adults need to be successful in school and make it affordable for young parents to continue their education,” said Options Child and Family Centre co-ordinator Heather Kay.

Along with the increased subsidy rate, the programs will also receive a one-time payment recognizing student participation for this year, enabling them to invest in additional resources to meet program demands.

“This support for Young Parent Programs is recognition of the real and positive impact these programs have on the lives of young families,” said Glenn Hope, executive director of the BC Council for Families.

For more information about child-care programs in B.C., visit the child-care website at: <http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/childcare/>

-30-

Media Contact: Christine Ash  
Media Relations Manager  
Ministry of Children and Family Development  
250 356-1639  
250 812-3616 (cell)

For more information on government services or to subscribe to the Province’s news feeds using RSS, visit the Province’s website at [www.gov.bc.ca](http://www.gov.bc.ca).

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**For:** Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council, Okanagan Nation Alliance & Upper Nicola Indian Band  
**Contact:** see contact info  
Primary Phone: 250-378-1986

**Date issued:** February 22, 2011, 16:46 e

**Attention:** Assignment Editor, Business/Financial Editor, Environment Editor, News Editor, Government/Political Affairs Editor

**First Nations argue legal challenge to BC Hydro's transmission line**

*First Nations argue legal challenge to BC Hydro's new \$600 million transmission line*

Vancouver, BC, NEWS RELEASE, Feb.22 /CCNMatthews/ - The fate of the environmental assessment certificate authorizing BC Hydro's proposed new high voltage transmission line from Merritt to the Lower Mainland is now in the hands of the B.C. Supreme Court. Legal arguments were heard in Vancouver February 8 - 15, 2011 in the Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council's, Okanagan Nation Alliance's and Upper Nicola Indian Band's challenge to the Province's approval of BC Hydro's proposed Interior to Lower Mainland transmission line project. Mr. Justice Savage is now considering the case and will issue a decision as soon as possible.

The ILM Project is BC Hydro's biggest transmission line project in over three decades. Slated to cost \$600 million, the project will add a third 500 kV line to parallel two existing 500 kV lines that run from the Nicola substation near Merritt to the Lower Mainland. Since its beginning, the Project has been set back by legal challenges by the NNTC, ONA and UNIB who have won two rulings on the issue of BC

Hydro's consultation regarding the Project. In February, 2009 the BC Court of Appeal ruled that the BC Utilities Commission had to consider whether the BC Hydro had met the Province's constitutional duty to consult NNTC, ONA and UNIB before issuing a permit for the Project, and in February, 2011 the BCUC ruled that BC Hydro had not adequately consulted with First Nations. The BCUC ordered BC Hydro to undertake further consultation, and in an unprecedented ruling required BC Hydro to address First Nations' interests in sharing revenues from the line. The BCUC authorization for the Project remains suspended and the Project cannot move ahead until consultations are completed.

The recently concluded BC Supreme Court hearing is a challenge to the Environmental Assessment Certificate issued in June, 2009 for the Project. Liberal Ministers Mike de Jong, George Abbott, Barry Penner and Richard Neufeld (now a Senator) had promised to consult with the NNTC, ONA and UNIB regarding the impacts to Nlaka'pamux and Okanagan Aboriginal title and rights from the full system - the existing substation and two 500 kV lines as well as the new line - but did not deliver on their promise before approving the Project. The NNTC, ONA and UNIB were forced to file law suits in September, 2009 challenging the EAC and seeking to hold the Province to its promise.

The NNTC represents Nlaka'pamux Nation Aboriginal title and rights, including the Nlaka'pamux community of Spuzzum which is located in the Fraser Canyon north of Yale. "BC Hydro has cut Nlaka'pamux territory into pieces with all its transmission lines, substations, access roads and facilities" said Chief Bob Pasco, Chair of the NNTC. "We need to have the impacts to our people from the existing ILM lines considered and addressed before the system is expanded with a new line. We thought we'd made progress with the Province when two Ministers gave us written promises to consult regarding the existing and new line in October 2008 and February 2009, but now we're forced to sue the Province to have that promise honoured."

The ONA represents seven member Bands of the Okanagan Nation, including Upper Nicola. "We have had to go to court three times to hold the Province to its legal duties" said Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, Chairperson of the ONA and President of the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs. "The Province committed through the New Relationship to pursue a relationship with Aboriginal peoples based on respect and recognition, but the Province's actions on the ILM Project fall far short of that promise.

UNIB reserves are located in close proximity to the large Nicola substation, which takes up lands used by the Okanagan Nation for hunting, fishing and other traditional uses. "Our people have been impacted by this system since it was built in the 1960s and '70s" said Chief Tim Manuel of Upper Nicola, "and there has never been any consultation or accommodation. We as Okanagan people are clear that this system cannot be expanded until the Province has honoured its promise to sit down with us and address the full impacts of the system - the Nicola substation, two existing lines and proposed third line - to our Aboriginal title and rights."

- END RELEASE - 22/02/2011

For further information:

Chief Tim Manuel, Upper Nicola Band (250) 378-1986; Chief Bob Pasco, Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council (250) 371-0775; Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, Chair, Okanagan Nation Alliance (250) 490-5314

**Release ID:** 201102220002



## **BOLD EAGLE – Are you up for the Challenge?**

The BOLD EAGLE program is a Canadian Forces (CF) and Aboriginal community partnership in western Canada and north-western Ontario that is designed specifically for Aboriginal youth. It involves an Aboriginal cultural component embedded within an Army Reserve Basic Military Qualification (BMQ) course held at Land Force Western Area Training Centre in Wainwright, Alberta each summer. The BOLD EAGLE youth development program helps instill attributes such as teamwork, self-confidence, self-discipline, leadership, time management and physical fitness.

BOLD EAGLE recruits are enrolled in the Primary Reserve and complete their BMQ from July to August. Not only do the participants gain valuable skills and training from the CF, they also experience working alongside other Aboriginal youth from across Canada. The Culture Camp component starts off the BOLD EAGLE program and is conducted by Aboriginal Elders and cultural staff. The Culture Camp focuses on common teachings and traditions, is designed to be beneficial for youth from all backgrounds, and helps ease the transition to a military lifestyle. Regular Elder hours are held during the BMQ and candidates will also attend a local powwow. The BMQ, taught by CF instructors, will include topics such as: military knowledge, weapons handling, navigation using map and compass, first aid, drill, field craft and rappelling. The program culminates with a graduation ceremony incorporating Aboriginal culture and military protocol.

The benefits of joining the BOLD EAGLE program are many - the opportunity to travel, meet new people, take on new challenges, and find out more about one's capabilities are just some examples. In addition, participants will earn over \$3,500 during the six weeks of training. Completion of the training can also be used towards earning high school work experience credits. Graduates are encouraged to continue to serve part-time in a Primary Reserve unit within their local area or, for those who have completed high school, to transfer to the Regular Force (full-time service). There is no obligation to carry on in the CF after finishing the program though.

The requirements to apply for BOLD EAGLE: Reside in western Canada or north-western Ontario, age 17 or older on enrolment (minimum age to apply is 16), grade 10 or higher education completed, Canadian citizen, and self-declare as Aboriginal (First Nation, Métis or Inuit). Those under 18 years of age will require parental or guardian consent to apply. Note: Can enroll at age 16 provided they are attending school full-time.

Anyone interested in attending the BOLD EAGLE program should contact the nearest Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre at 1-800-856-8488 or visit the website [www.army.forces.gc.ca/boldeagle](http://www.army.forces.gc.ca/boldeagle) to gain further information and the necessary application documents. Applications need to be submitted prior to April 30<sup>th</sup> each year for consideration - but the sooner they are submitted the better since it is a competitive selection process with limited vacancies.

Since the program start 21 years ago, just over 1,000 youth have successfully completed the challenge of BOLD EAGLE.

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For more information about BOLD EAGLE please contact the Bold Eagle Coordinator, Major Nolan Kemp at:  
(403) 410-2320 extension 3555    nolan.kemp@forces.gc.ca    www.army.forces.gc.ca/boldeagle

**BC ELDERS  
COMMUNICATION  
CENTER SOCIETY**

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Email:  
[bcelders@telus.net](mailto:bcelders@telus.net)

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If your area's copy is not received in a timely manner please call into the office.

*Quotes*

- "Confidence is the memory of past success." Unknown
- "Only a life served in the service of others is worth living." A. Einstein
- "Do something for somebody every day for which you do not get paid." Albert Schweitzer
- "There is no better exercise for the heart than reaching down and lifting people up." Unknown
- "If you fell down yesterday, stand up today." HG Wells
- "A problem well stated is a problem half solved." CF Kettering
- "None of us is responsible for the things that happen to us, but we are responsible for the way we react to them." Unknown
- "No one ever hurt their eyesight by looking at the bright side of life."
- "There is no substitute for hard work." Thomas A. Edison
- "I can live for 2 months on a good compliment" Mark Twain
- "Achieving starts with believing." Unknown
- "The time to repair the roof is when the sun is shining." JF Kennedy

**BIBLE QUOTES:**

"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might." Ecclesiastes

**PISCES** - The Dreamer (Feb 19 - Mar 20) Generous, kind, and thoughtful. Very creative and imaginative. May become secretive and vague. Sensitive. Don't like details. Dreamy and unrealistic. Sympathetic and loving. Kind. Unselfish. Good kisser. Beautiful.

**Annual Elders Gathering Grand Entry Photos are on:  
[www.bcelders.com](http://www.bcelders.com) each year!**

**ANNUAL BC ELDERS GATHERING INFORMATION CORNER**

**Hosts: Sto:lo and Coast Salish  
35th Annual BC Elders Gathering  
July 12, 13, 14, 2011  
LOCATION: The Fraser Valley Trade & Exhibition Centre or Tradex  
1190 Cornel Street, Abbotsford  
Coordinator: Clarence Pennier  
Ph: 604-826-5813 Email: [kat.pennier@stolotribalcouncil.ca](mailto:kat.pennier@stolotribalcouncil.ca)**