Okanagan Elders from across the Nation gathered together on Wednesday August 22nd, 2012 to discuss the South Okanagan National Park Reserve.

The elders gathered in Penticton, BC at Outma Squil’xw Cultural Immersion School for a couple hours to give their thoughts on the park.
Salmon Feast & Celebration

The Okanagan Nation Alliance will be hosting the annual Salmon Feast & Celebration to be held at Okanagan Falls Provincial Park September 14th-16th, 2012.

It will be kicked off with a Stick Game Tournament Friday night with prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Registration to take place until 5:30 pm Friday September 14th.

On Saturday, we will have a pancake breakfast prior to the canoe paddle which will start at Sen’klips Home to Okanagan Falls at 9 am. While those at camp will have the opportunity to take part in the Salmon Run which will include both a 2.5 km Run/Walk and a 5 km Run/Walk.

The evening entertainment will follow dinner with performances from local artists.

The Salmon Ceremony and feast will start Sunday September 16th with opening remarks from Chiefs and guests and prayer. Once the feast is done, the ceremony will take place. For the duration of the day, there will be information booths as well as activity booths for children to participate in.

For more information or to download a form, please visit: http://www.syilx.org/events/okanagan-nation-salmon-feast-2/
Or contact:
Dominique Alexis
Events Planner
P: (250) 707-0095
E: dalexis@syilx.org

Nsyilxcen

In the Syilx language the Letter “c” is pronounced like the English “ch” in the word “church” that is probably why some people spell it with a “c” and some people spell it with a “ch”. The Syilx word captikʷɬ is the word that is used when speaking about a captikʷɬ (Coyote Legend). The Syilx word captikʷɬ (with the letter l) is when someone is telling a captikʷɬ (Coyote Legend). It is properly spelled with only the letter “c” in front... and the last letter, either the “ɬ” (barred l) or the English letter “l” is used to show the difference between the two words and is pronounced accordingly.

Also, capital letters are never used, and when writing a sentence in the nsyilxcen language...at least 2 spaces are used between each word and depending on the font used...3 spaces is even better. I hope this helps.

Limlemt.
caylx
(Richard Armstrong)
The Okanagan Nation Alliance Wellness Department would like to welcome Jami Tonasket to the position of Truth and Reconciliation Commemorative Project Coordinator. Jami is a member of the Okanagan Indian Band and has worked 20+ years in Administrative and Senior Management. Over the course of her career Ms. Tonasket has gained extensive first-hand knowledge and experience in Quality Assurance, Project Management, Human Resources, Organizational development and Risk management relating to Accreditation development and management.

Jami has considerable experience developing organizational business plans, socio-economic research and analysis and strategy development and has worked with all segments and levels of government: Federal, Provincial, local and First Nations. The ONA Wellness Committee have committed to support and assist with the work of Jami Tonasket, TRC Project Coordinator to reach out to former Okanagan Nation Residential School students and families within their respective communities to discuss the Commemorative Project and seek their guidance and input.

For more information, please contact:
Jami Tonasket, TRC Project Coordinator
Phone: (250) 707-0095 Ext. 128
Email: jtonasket@syilx.org

Common Experience Payment (CEP)
The Common Experience Payment (CEP) is one element of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. The court-approved Settlement Agreement was implemented on September 19, 2007, and was negotiated by representatives from various Aboriginal organizations, church entities, legal representatives for former students, and the Government of Canada. The CEP is paid to eligible former students who resided at a listed Indian Residential School.

Eligible former students receive $10,000 for their first year (or part thereof) of their attendance at a listed Indian Residential School plus $3,000 for each additional year (or part thereof).

Applicants
The deadline for applying for the CEP is September 19, 2012. If you know someone who attended an Indian Residential School, but has not yet applied for the CEP, please let them know of the deadline.

Application forms or information can be found by contacting 1-866-879-4913 or on Service Canada’s website.
For more information or to download applications please visit any of the websites listed below:

Indian Residential School Survivors Society
Main Office: 911 - 100 Park Royal South, West Vancouver, BC V7T 1A2
Toll Free: 1.800.721.0066
Main Office: 604.925.4464
Email: reception@irsss.ca
Website: www.irsss.ca

Kamloops Office: 125 Palm Street, Kamloops, BC V2B 8J7
Toll Free: 1.877.778.5356
Office: 250.376.1252

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

Service Canada
http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca/eng/goc/cep/index.shtm

Accessing Health Support
For more information please contact the Regional Office: British Columbia
5th Floor, Sinclair Centre Federal Tower
757 Hastings Street West
Vancouver, BC V6C 3E6
Aboriginal Early Childhood Development

In an effort to raise awareness surrounding the safety of our children, please read the following recall notice. Millions of the popular Bumbo Baby Seats are being recalled in North America on reports of babies suffering skull fractures and other injuries after wriggling out of the pint-sized chair. The recall applies to seats sold from August 2003 to August 2012 at children’s stores and online retailers. The recall affects more than 4.3 million chairs in the United States, and more than 340,000 in Canada. “Infants can arch their backs and flip or maneuver out of the Bumbo seat, posing a risk of serious injuries or fall.” The CPA and the company say that they are also aware of an additional 31 incidents in which babies managed to get out of the seats that were being used on a floor or at an unknown elevation, which resulted in bumps, bruises and other injuries. Two of those incidents resulted in skull fracture. Consumers are being told to immediately stop using the seat and register for a repair kit.

Canadian consumers can call 1-866-477-5144 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. MT Monday to Friday in order to register for the kit, or visit the Bumbo Canada website at www.bumbocanada.com.

The kit includes a restraint belt with a warning label, a new warning sticker for the seat itself and safe-use instructions. Consumers do not need to return the seats. “The restraint belt will help prevent children from getting out of or falling from the seat when it is used as intended: on the floor with adult supervision and never on raised surfaces,” said the statement. “The health and safety of children using the Bumbo Baby Seat are our top priorities.”

To Read more, please visit: http://www.ctvnews.ca/health/more-than-340k-bumbo-baby-seats-recalled-in-canada-1.914935#ixzz23qUpgn8t

For more information on the program, please contact: Nadine Gagne, AECD Coordinator P: (250) 707-0095 ext 111 E: ngagne@syilx.org

Community Development

Just a short update date to the team regarding the work that is ongoing with Community Development.

Community Engagement - The purpose of the community engagement sessions is: 1. Update on Child and Family services. 2. Provide power point presentation on Framework for Change Model and 3. Have focus group discussion on custom care. On Aug 8, 2012 we had booked a meeting with Westbank First Nation (WFN) for 6pm to 9 pm. Unfortunately, we had a last moment cancellation for this engagement with staff of WFN. Meetings have been re-scheduled for Sept 10 and Sept 21, 2012.

On Aug. 9, 2012 had very productive session with Penticton Indian Band Social, Health and Education staff (four people attended). Cricket Testawich the ONA’s Aboriginal Family Group Conferencing (AFGC) coordinator attended and assisted this meeting. I will be following up with Donna Goodwater – interim manager to present to PIB community in near future.

Had another wonderful and productive two day session on August 14-15, 2012 at the Upper Nicola Band. On August 14th we had five people join us and one staff member participate. For August 15, we had a total of eight people participate in the all day information and discussion session. Jolene Michel (ONA summer student) joined me on this day at the Upper Nicola Community Health Services facility and assisted with the meeting.

Future engagement sessions have been booked for the OKIB. The meetings will take place at the Head of the Lake Hall on August 28-29, 2012.

For more information, please contact: Fabian Alexis Community Development Coordinator P: (250) 707-0095 ext. 115 E: falexis@syilx.org
Aboriginal legal rights — Gladue
If you self-identify as Aboriginal (if you think of yourself as Aboriginal), you have special legal rights under the Criminal Code. These rights are often called Gladue rights. Gladue rights encourage judges to take a restorative justice approach. (Restorative justice focuses on giving you, your community, and any victims of your crime the opportunity to heal.)

IMPORTANT: if you’ve been charged with a crime, call legal aid immediately to find out if you qualify for a free lawyer.

Gladue rights apply to all Aboriginal people
- status or non-status Indians,
- First Nations,
- Métis,
- Inuit, and
- Whether you live on or off reserve.

How can Gladue help you?
Gladue rights are a way that judges can try to make sure that you are treated fairly. Gladue rights also encourage judges to come up with a sentence that will help you and your community to heal.

When sentencing you or setting bail, the judge:
- must consider all options other than jail. This is often called a community sentence;
- must consider a community sentence that will help you to address the issues that got you into trouble with the law in the first place. For example, you may get a community sentence that involves getting counseling or completing a drug program; and
- must still apply Gladue when deciding how long your jail sentence will be, if you have to go to jail.

Gladue reports
When you ask to have Gladue applied to your case, the judge will need:
- to understand your personal history, and
- to know what kinds of community sentences are available.

The best way to do this is to work with your lawyer or advocate to prepare what is called a Gladue report.

A Gladue report gives as much information as possible about you to:
- the judge,
- the Crown counsel (government lawyer), and
- your lawyer

Ideally, a trained Gladue report writer should prepare your report. See the LSS fact sheet Are You Aboriginal? and the LSS booklet Gladue Primer for more information on Gladue reports.

Gladue report writing training — For lawyers and advocates
The Justice Institute of BC (JIBC) will be providing Gladue report writing training starting in the fall of 2012. For more information, email Tami Pierce, Coordinator, Centre of Aboriginal Programs & Services, or phone 604-528-5608 (Greater Vancouver).

Gladue report disbursement pilot — For lawyers
LSS is now funding the writing of Gladue reports as part of a pilot project. LSS will assign a writer from a roster of LSS-certified writers. (For more information, see the Gladue Report Writer Roster policy.)

First Nations Court
In addition to having your Gladue rights applied to your case, you may be able to have your bail or sentencing hearing (and any related family matters) transferred to the First Nations Court of BC in New Westminster.

Note: It’s your choice whether you have Gladue applied to your case, or apply to have your matter heard in First Nations Court.

Information Source:
Legal Services Society Website
http://www.lss.bc.ca/aboriginal/legalRights.php
The ONA has received funding to work with ONA communities to develop a Syilx Water Strategy. Over the next 1 year this funding will allow community meetings, focus groups, workshops and one-on-one interviews to take place so Syilx knowledge holders, youth and community members can present their views on water. Some themes expected to emerge from this work will be the Syilx perspective on the importance and value of water, how it should be used and not used, issues with how water is currently used and strategies to conserve, respect and protect water in Syilx territory. ONA Natural Resource Department staff will put the words, thoughts, visions and perspectives which evolve from these meetings into a clearly articulated Syilx Water Strategy document. This document will be reviewed by Syilx knowledge holders and Syilx leadership to ensure that it accurately reflects the words, thoughts and feelings expressed by the Syilx community.

The next step is to turn the vision into a reality. The Syilx Water Strategy will be presented broadly to those who currently utilize water throughout the Territory. These groups include: municipalities, regional districts, the province of BC and numerous watershed Management groups such as the Okanagan Basin Water Board. The ONA is excited to move forward with this initiative. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions or if you would like to be a part of the process please contact:

James Pepper
Natural Resource Manager
P: (250) 707-0095
E: jpepper@syilx.org.

Aboriginal eMentoring BC

eMentoring is an online mentoring program for Aboriginal youth. Using the internet, we will be matching Aboriginal youth with mentors who are 100% dedicated to helping them figure out what they want and how to get there. Did you know an Aboriginal youth from Grade 7-12 who would benefit from a university mentor?

Benefits of being a mentee:

- Explore different career options
- Connect with mentors to learn more about university life and experiences
- Get guidance from a supportive team

APPLY ONLINE: http://fluidsurveys.com/s/mentee-application/

Want more information?

Chris Alexander
eMentoring Community Lead-Okanagan
ementoringokanagan@gmail.com

Katherine Wisener
Project Manager, eMentoring
Katherine.w@ubc.ca

eMentoringBC
Aboriginal eMentoring BC-UBC Faculty of Medicine, eHealth Strategy Office
Hello to British Columbia Tribal Councils and Chiefs,

The BC SPCA has a community cat spay/neuter grant currently available to help B.C. communities cope with cat overpopulation. We know that many First Nations communities struggle with cat overpopulation and we hope to work with some communities to remedy this. We ask that you send out the following short news brief in newsletters and e-mail bulletins to your communities. Please do not hesitate to ask me any further questions. We sincerely hope that some First Nation’s tribal councils and individual communities will apply. Please forward this on to the right contact who can share this information.

“The BC SPCA is launching a new spay/neuter grant competition that will help communities across British Columbia address cat overpopulation. Successful applicants will receive up to $7,500 of funding for spay/neuter initiatives. The grants are available to registered animal charities, municipalities, veterinarians, First Nation’s governments and tribal councils and BC SPCA branches. To find out more information and to fill out an application, visit spca.bc.ca/catgrant or call Geoff Urton, animal welfare manager, BC SPCA at 604-647-6404.”

You can also use the full press release, accessible here: http://www.spca.bc.ca/news-and-events/news/spay-neuter-grant-competition-2012.html

For more Information, please contact:
Amy Morris
Policy Researcher, BCSPCA
P: (604) 681-7272
Toll Free: 1(800) 665-1868

Lheidli T’enneh First Nation Awarded the 37th Annual BC Elders Gathering

Lheidli T’enneh Territory (Prince George, BC) are pleased to announce the upcoming Annual B.C. Elder’s Gathering to be held on July 8-11, 2013 at the University of Northern British Columbia Campus and the Charles Jago Northern Sports Centre.

The Annual BC Elders Gathering is the premier social and cultural gatherings for indigenous peoples. The Lheidli T’enneh will host 3,000 – 4,000 Elders from all regions of British Columbia. The theme for the gathering is “Honor Your Journey”. The event will focus on holistic activities that support healthy living.

It will be a tremendous honor for the Lheidli T’enneh to welcome everyone to our traditional territory to share knowledge, cultural, songs and dance. This event provides a great opportunity to socialize and learn from one another.

“The Lheidli T’enneh Elders are eager to participate in the development of this prestigious event. We will be reaching out to the community to assist in making this the best event possible” says Elder Clifford Quaw.

Lheidli T’enneh is in the process of establishing the organizing committee and will be seeking sponsors, partnerships and volunteers to make this event a success.

For more information, please contact:
Ms. Dolleen Logan
(250) 963-8451
dlogan@lheidli.ca
August 21, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NRT embarks on 2012 Regional Engagement Sessions

Vancouver - The New Relationship Trust (NRT) will visit 11 regions in BC this fall from September 24th to November 2nd, 2012 to meet with First Nation leaders and members. The purpose of the 2012 Regional Engagement Sessions is to inform First Nations about the work NRT has done over the past three years to help communities build capacity, and to gather feedback regarding NRT’s overall strategic direction and funding priorities for the next three years.

This round of Engagement Sessions will be NRT's third series of regional meetings to go along with sessions in 2009, and in 2006 when NRT was founded. The feedback received during the 2009 and 2006 sessions contributed to NRT’s strategic direction and helped to focus its efforts on five key areas: governance capacity, language & culture, education, economic development and Elders & youth.

“It’s once again time for NRT to revisit communities to discuss our priorities and direction,” stated Kathryn Teneese, Chair of the NRT Board of Directors. “NRT is driven by the goals of First Nations, and our mandate is to support First Nations communities and individuals in BC with their unique capacity building needs. Through the 2012 Regional Engagement sessions we will ensure that we hear the priorities of BC First Nations, and that we continue to work towards addressing those priorities.”

The Regional Engagement Sessions will begin on September 24th and conclude in early November. Full-day sessions begin at 8:30 am and are open to all First Nation leaders and members. A full list of the session dates and locations is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Victoria</th>
<th>September 24, 2012</th>
<th>Delta Victoria Ocean Pointe Resort and Spa</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Campbell River</td>
<td>September 25, 2012</td>
<td>Coast Discovery Inn &amp; Marina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort St. John</td>
<td>October 1, 2012</td>
<td>Quality Inn Northern Grand</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prince George</td>
<td>October 3, 2012</td>
<td>Ramada Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williams Lake</td>
<td>October 4, 2012</td>
<td>The Overlander Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Terrace</td>
<td>October 10, 2012</td>
<td>Best Western – Terrace Inn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prince Rupert</td>
<td>October 11, 2012</td>
<td>The Highbiner Plaza</td>
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<tr>
<td>Penticton</td>
<td>October 15, 2012</td>
<td>Penticton Lakeside Resort</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merritt</td>
<td>October 16, 2012</td>
<td>Nicola Valley Institute of Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vancouver</td>
<td>October 30, 2012</td>
<td>Renaissance Habourside Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cranbrook</td>
<td>November 2, 2012</td>
<td>St. Eugene Golf Resort</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NRT is a not-for-profit organization that supports First Nation communities in British Columbia in their efforts to build capacity in order to become healthy, prosperous and self-sufficient.

For more information:

Chanze Gamble
General Manager, New Relationship Trust
Tel: 604-925-3338 or 1-800-922-3338
Email: c gamble@nrt.ca
Website: www.newrelationshiptrust.ca
WHAT’S HAPPENING

Okanagan Hunting Camp
August 26th – September 8th, 2012
Old Scott Camp, Lower Arrow Lakes Needles Crossing

Look for RED handkerchiefs flagging

Open to all Syilx People and Indigenous Neighbors
For more information, contact:
Arnie Baptiste: (250) 488-5872
Fred Kruger: (250) 487-9867
Billy Kruger: (250) 462-9867

Interim Harvesting Schedule
Okanagan Nation Open Fishing
July 24 – September 10, 2012

snxa/l’iwlem
Okanagan Nation Salmon Feast & Celebration

September 14-16, 2012
Okanagan Falls Provincial Park
http://www.syilx.org/events/okanagan-nation-salmon-feast-2/

For more information, please contact:
Dominique Alexis
dalexis@syilx.org
P: (250) 707-0095

First Nation’s Summit Meeting
September 19-20, 2012
Vancouver, BC

NDN Festival of the Arts
September 21-22, 2012
Ashnola Powwow Grounds & Campsite
All Squilx are invited to attend to showcase your artwork, trade, sell, barter, network and participate
Artists (Photographers, Painters, Sculptors and more)
Musicians (hand drummers, flutist, hip hop, blues and more)

For more information, please contact:
Lillian Gottfriedson (250) 499-5741
Deb Crow (250) 499-2067

ONA Employment Opportunities
• Biologist 3
• On-Call Fisheries Technician
To view in more detail and see Band Member Opportunities, please visit:
http://www.syilx.org/careers/

ONA October 2012 E-News

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS
September 20, 2012
If you have a story or event that you would like included in our E-bulletin please email:
tmontgomery@syilx.org

4th Annual Okanagan College Powwow
September 20, 2012
Okanagan College, Kelowna, BC
1000 KLO Rd

MC: Richard Jackson
Whip Man: Noel Ferguson
Drum Group: Iron Mountain & Little Hawk
Invited Drum Groups only

For more information, please contact:
James Coble
Okanagan College
(877) 755-2266 ext 4322

Okanagan Nation Alliance is now on Facebook.
To go to the page, please click on the link provided.
http://www.facebook.com/pages/Okanagan-Nation-Alliance/397039723675419

ONA E-News