



Community Infrastructure Department

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly Report 2023-2024**

**Completed by:** \_\_\_\_\_

Reflecting the Strategic Plan

## LEADERSHIP

GOAL: SELF-GOVERNMENT BASED ON THE CULTURAL AND TRADITIONAL IDENTITY OF SIB.

- Land Use Plan – first revised draft of the LUP, Cemetery Plan, Parks Plan, Residential Plan, and Business Park Plan completed.
- RELAW cohort & SIB session – to learn how to integrate culture, stories, syuwa:lelh into modern-day law-making.
- Fiscal Management Act – repealing and revising SIB's Property Taxation & Property Assessment Laws and looking at additional fiscal powers to incorporate to sustain, maintain and enhance SIB's infrastructural services to third-party interest holders and beyond.
- Peacemaking Law – SIB is working with experts, cultural carriers, and neighbouring nations to develop a peacemaking process as an option to mitigate non-compliance.
- Proposed draft laws: Enforcement & Ticketing, Environmental Protection, Dog Licensing & Animal Management, and Emergency Measures for Infectious Diseases laws, going through community consultation process – 1<sup>st</sup> reading completed.
- Name change – Lands Department is NKA Mekw'xólhmet (Taxation & Land Governance) ~ take care of everything together.
- Housing Rental Policy – finalizing first draft of the Rental portion of the policy.
- Develop and foster relationships, with neighboring Nations, Municipalities, FN Government Organizations, Provincial and Federal Governments – networking with Nations in our area to share housing policies, strategies and assist each other with funding opportunities.

## MEMBERSHIP

GOAL: ENGAGED, EMPOWERED, AND SELF-SUFFICIENT SQ'EWQELO:MEXW

- Family Land – conducted additional research to understand the history of allotments and contracted a GIS technician to add these to the maps, in response to C&C's request.
- Individual Homeownership Program - assisted four SIB members and their families achieve homeownership. Two members moved into their newly built individual homes.
- Housing Rental Policy - review policies and procedures to ensure they are written to reflect a shared understanding of individual and community rights and responsibility.
- Inter-departmental Collaboration - to provide better services to all SIB members.

## ENVIRONMENT

PROTECT AND ENHANCE S'ÓLH TÉMÉXW, INCLUDING LAND, WATER, AND AIR CONSISTENT WITH TÓMIYEQW

- Environmental Management Plan – contracted a consultant to revise the proposed draft EMP from 2012 which will protect and enhance Sq'ewqel Temexw.
- Lands Team and Agriculture & Agri-Foods Canada's researchers studying SIB's Indigenous berries lifecycle, diseases, and pest-related impacts, at 2 sites on SIB. This is ground-breaking work as there is no research on Indigenous Berries.
  - A second project focusing on invasive species mitigation measures has spun off because of the Indigenous Berry research project.
- First Nations Community Watch continues with river patrols with no major concerns.
- SIB Lands team exploring Indigenous-led guardians' program, AKA Smá:ytemexw.
  - Trained 3-4 staff in the cultural foundation, and offered technical training on various topics to protect, conserve and report non-compliance to the appropriate body, to honour tómíyew.
- SIB Lands applied for grant funding to conduct further environmental site assessments for the Wahleach and Eco-Station sites and were able to offer technical training to staff.
- New Housing Building Plans - The CMHC Rapid Housing Initiative application requires energy efficiency standards be met, thus the SIB application committed to a minimum standard of build to Step Code 3. ISC 24 units project is designed to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and increase their climate resilience by building to a minimum standard of Step Code 3.
- CleanBC Rebate Program – working with and Energy Coach through CleanBC to take advantage of all new construction and renovation Energy Efficiency rebates.
- BC Hydro - Energy Conservation Assistance Program –6 families benefited from various upgrades to make the homes more energy efficient and reducing the hydro bills.
- Fortis BC – Applied for the Integrated Design financial contribution for new construction. This is for the hiring of an Energy advisor during the building design process for both the ISC and CMHC new housing projects.
- Fortis BC and SIB Housing Department have been meeting to explore Seabird becoming a - Climate Action Partner. The goal of this two-year project is to collaboratively address energy-related challenges and foster sustainable practices.
- Community Energy Plan update – working with 3EYOND Consulting Group to update the Community Energy Plan. In the process we have prepared a 10-year Housing Energy Plan.

## CULTURE, HEALING, HEALTH & WELLNESS

GOAL: ÁY:MEXW – HEALTHY PEOPLE, PHYSICALLY, MENTALLY, EMOTIONALLY AND SPIRITUALLY.

- Lands works with Health to address areas of non-compliance such as dogs at-large, also known as taking a OneHealth approach to mitigate issues.
- Estate planning is key to allowing people to write down their wishes to minimize potential conflict which promotes Ày:mexw.
- Lands applied for funding to offer a Spay and Neuter event for SIB members' pets.
- Housing working on a collaborative relationship Health and tenants to address the social and economic needs of the members in the social housing program.
- Lands Housing and Health are working together to address the ongoing issue of roaming dogs in the community.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

GOAL: AN ECONOMICALLY STABLE COMMUNITY THAT MEETS THE INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS FOR FUTURE GROWTH.

- Two Lands staff are training at Thompson Rivers University's TULO Centre for Indigenous Economics on the fiscal powers of the Fiscal Management Act
  - Lands Team will take on the Property Taxation role at SIB currently under Finance.
  - Lands Team will look at additional laws to enhance Community Infrastructure and ensure fair and rightful payments are received from third parties.
- Cemetery Infrastructure project work is continuing to proceed.
  - Ground Penetrating Radar has been completed within the cemetery boundaries.
  - Designs have been drafted for possible options to provide a space for cremated loved ones.
  - Project Team will apply for additional funding to continue to enhance this area.
  - BC Hydro will be working through the process with SIB to remove the powerlines from the front of the cemetery.
    - A draft right-of-way agreement is under review.
  - Cemetery Caretakers/Knowledge Keepers interviews, report, and transmission of knowledge from one generation to the next has started.
- Indigenous Service Canada –The housing department applied for and received funds to build 18 3-bedroom townhouse units and six fully accessible units for those who struggle with mobility challenges.
- CMHC – Rapid Housing Initiative application submitted for 9 new units.
- CMHC – Special Funding Contribution for Mortgaged rental home renovations. These renovations are underway and are incorporating as many energy efficiency rebate programs as possible to stretch the funding even more.
- Cultural Center Construction – Preload and engineered design are complete.
- Firehall expansion – Construction is in progress, estimated completion in August 2023
- Child and Youth Center – Currently in the bidding process
- Road upgrades - Pípehò:m Road & Chef Hali Road – in design stages
- Road maintenance – Signs have been installed; potholes are being repaired.
- Water reservoir cleaning is in planning stages.
- GIS System for the infrastructure department is in development.
- Asset & Maintenance management plans are in development.