

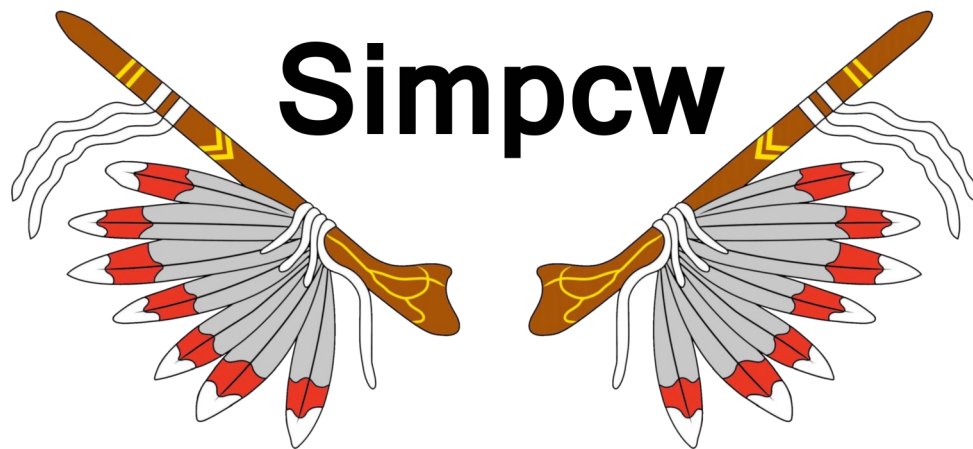
# *Annual Report 2020-2021*



## *SimpCW First Nation*

7555 Dunn Lake Road  
PO Box 220 Barriere BC V0E 1E0  
250-672-9995

**AdminAssist@simpCW.com**



# Simpcw

*People of the Rivers*

## Vision Statement

*The Simpcw Are a Culturally Proud Community  
Valuing Healthy, Holistic Lifestyles Based Upon  
Respect, Responsibility and Continuous  
Participation in Growth and Education*



## Message from Chief & Council



The Simpco Council would like to acknowledge each Simpco Band and Community member for their understanding and support during this very challenging year. Our priority was to ensure the health and safety of our members. Through collaboration with other departments, financial support was provided to our membership.

There have been some huge losses in our community and our heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to the Family members. The Simpco community came together, supported and lifted each other up and ensured each family was taken care of. These are the sacred teachings of our Ancestors.

*"The Best classroom in the World is at the feet of an Elderly person."*

The Administration employees have continued to work through this unprecedented time and provided essential services to the community. Our hands are raised to each one of these individuals that unselfishly have continued to put their own personal health at risk in providing the required essential service.

There have been many developments and agreements that Council has worked on over the course of the last year. After forty plus years we finalized the negotiations for the realignment of Dunn Lake Road. This has been the result of concerted efforts by past and present Council and Employees.

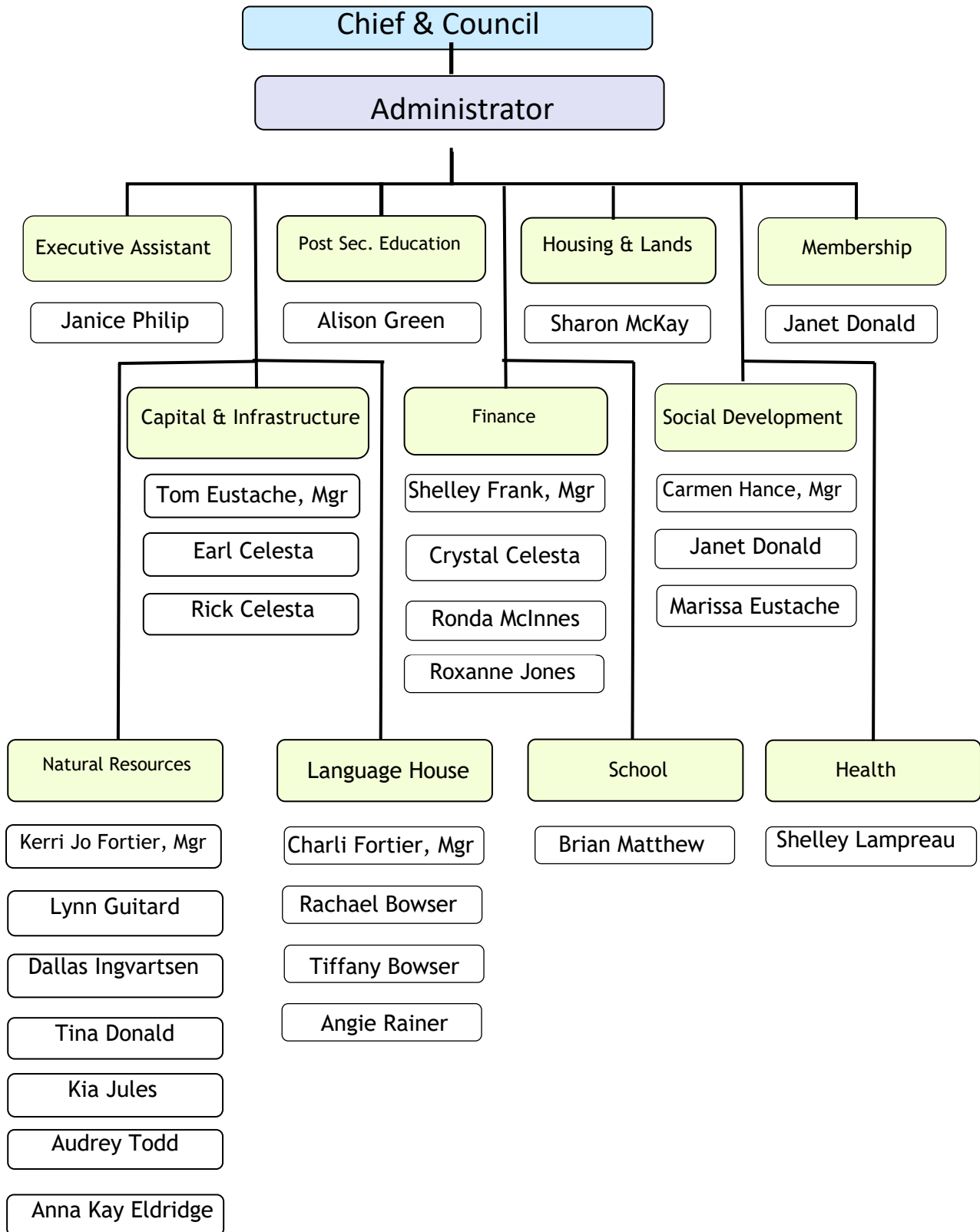
A dedicated committee has been working diligently on plans for a new Administration, Health, School and Multi-Use Centre. It is anticipated that construction will commence in 2022.

With Covid-19 we have had to adjust how business is done. Gatherings and meetings have gone almost entirely to virtual realms. Efforts have been made to assist membership in being able to have a voice at these various levels.

Council is dedicated to our People and welcome any questions or concerns with respect to Council member responsibilities and actions.

***Once again, our best wishes to each one of you and stay safe, stay healthy and stay connected***

# Simpew First Nation Organization Chart



# Community



ME7 KU'KWE'TEMCTEM RE STSMEMELT  
WE WILL WALK FOR THE CHILDREN

October 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021



## SPIRITUAL CONNECTION

A few months before the walk, community member Mike Loring was gifted an eagle. Following cultural protocol and spiritual guidance, an eagle staff was made by Mike and gifted to the community to carry along the walk. Twelve eagle feathers were attached with orange ribbon which were gifted to deserving Simpcwemc along the way. Another two feathers were attached to the staff and beaded by Leeann Eustache to represent the female and male aspect of life. Community members were approached, gifted tobacco, and asked to lead the way with the eagle staff. Each participant on the walk was also offered an orange tobacco tie to carry with them to hold their prayers as we walked back home to Chu Chua.

Participants on the walk included Survivors, Elders, youth, SFN / SRG staff, dignitaries, community members, and local townspeople. The walkers were kept safe by the Chu Chua Volunteer Fire Department and RCMP who drove a convoy in front of and behind the walkers.



## KUKWSTĒP-KUCW (THANKS TO...)

- SFN Administration (sponsor)
- Social Development (sponsor and took care of lunches and snacks each day)
- Natural Resources Department (t-shirt sponsor)
- Language and Culture Department
- Chu Chua Volunteer Fire Department
- Simpcw Resources Group (First Aid and snacks)
- Ray McDonald / Neqw. School (school bus)
- Stutt Family (horses and carriage)
- First Nations Health Authority (mental health support)
- Sharnelle Matthew (mental health support)
- SCFS (mental health support)
- RCMP
- Amanda Celesta (cultural support)
- Ryan Day (cultural support)
- Kúkwpi7 Shelly Loring (cultural support and planning)
- Missy Kjellstrom and Kiera Eustache - baking
- Kukwétemctem Planning Committee

# Community



ME7 KU'KWE'TEMCTEM RE STSMEMELT  
WE WILL WALK FOR THE CHILDREN

October 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021



# Community



November 26, 2021

## **Simpco Acquires Forest Tenure From Interfor**

Simpco and Interfor have been engaged in discussions since 2019, when Canfor announced its agreement to sell \$60 million in forestry assets in Simpcw Territory to Interfor. This followed Canfor's announcement of the permanent closure of its nearby sawmill in Vavenby. "We were heavily engaged with Canfor, Interfor and the Province throughout the Bill 22 approval process," explained Chief Loring. "We've worked extremely hard to reach common ground with Interfor and the result will see tenure in our hands, and long-term economic opportunities and benefits to our Community, People and to the North Thompson valley." As for the Province, Chief Loring said Simpcw recognizes the role it played in facilitating this transaction but noted that there is a long way to go to fulfill the Province's commitments to reconciliation.

Simpco holds numerous tenures in its Territory through its economic development corporation, Simpcw Resources LLP (SRLLP). "We continue to grow and demonstrate successful and sustainable timber harvesting," said George Lampreau, Councillor of Simpcw. "We manage our forest resources differently – it's not just about making money but ensuring our tmicw (land) and resources are preserved for our future generations".

# Community

**BC First Nation to work with BC Wildfire Service  
as part of “Initial attack fire crew”**



## Indigenous wildfire attack crews in action

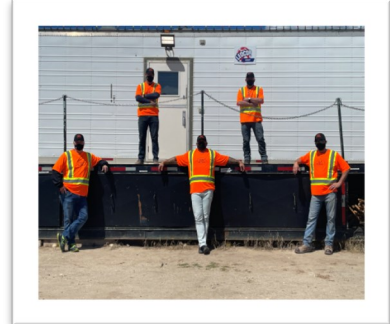
A crew consisting of members from the Simpcw First Nation have been on the front line of the fire fight against the Sparks Lake wildfire. John Hua reports.



# *Community*

## Stakeholder Engagement National Indigenous Peoples Day

Simpw Security crew Location—Jasper



Simpw security crew—location - Valemount



# Neqweyqwelsten

## Philosophy of Neqweyqwelsten School (as established by the founding families)

*We believe that education is the process of becoming knowledgeable about oneself and the world. Education is a holistic, life-long endeavor, which supports students' intellectual, social, emotional, spiritual and physical development. We believe that every individual is unique and capable. We believe that learning comes most easily to children who have pride in themselves, their culture & their community. We support our children in becoming self-aware and independently able.*

*We believe that this education will develop positive attitudes and well grounded understandings which will enable our children to act in ways that strengthen their relationships with themselves, their families, and the world. We believe that this education will enable them to contribute to the preservation of the natural environment and well-being of all people.*

## Historical Mission/Purpose and Vision Statements

*We, at Neqweyqwelsten School, will support fostering independent students by setting high expectations for continuous mastery of learning by providing quality instruction in a positive, safe environment and home support that is healthy, consistent and celebrates success.*

*Maintain high expectations for continuous learning through quality instruction, supportive home environments and celebrations of success.*



**Staff Mission/Purpose Statement**  
**Me7 Xexe7 es Ctswentém re Ck'ulten-kt**  
**Culturally Strong Learning**

# *Neqweyqwelsten*

The **Neqweyqwelsten School Management Team** is be made up of five (5) members of the Neqweyqwelsten School Authority, that are, parent(s) or guardian(s) of children attending Neqweyqwelsten School.

## **Members of the Neqweyqwelsten Management Team include:**

- Tina Donald
- Alison Green
- Alyssa Lampreau
- Mel Stutt
- Angie Rainer

## **Neqweyqwelsten School Staff:**

- Brian Matthew - Principal/Community Resource Teacher
- Travis Hall - Intermediate Teacher
- Judy Matthew - Primary Teacher/Head Start Program Supervisor
- Shelley Ewashina - Grade 2/3 Teacher, Learning Assistance Resource Teacher (Part-time)
- Helen Fraser - Grade 2/3 Teacher/School Librarian (Part-time)
- Marlene Lampreau - Certified Education Assistant, Administrative Assistant
- Tracey Narcisse - Certified Education Assistant
- Asia Ball - Education Assistant
- Lyric McLeish - Education Assistant
- Jordan Froste - IT Trainee
- Iris Nelson - Speech Language Pathologist
- Ray McDonald - Bus Driver
- Karl Rainer - Relief Bus Driver
- Arlene Mitchell - Head Start Teacher/Manager
- Afton Wittner - Early Learning Assistant
- Jen Jules - Early Learning Assistant
- Fred Fortier - Gardening, Composting
- Angie Olsen - Nutrition and Health Living
- Pam Nevdoff - Counsellor

# Neqweyqwelsten

We have spent this school year working under the influence of the COVID-19 pandemic. We started the school year working a hybrid program with 2 groups of students. One worked remotely while the other was in session in the school. We returned to whole class instruction in February 2021.

We have well established and strong instruction and resources in Literacy, Numeracy, Science/ Social Studies content areas, Fine Arts, and Physical and Health Education. This is led by a powerful, collaborative group of educators and support staff. . Secwepemctsin Language and Simpcw Culture are core components of daily instruction and learning design led by the Language Team. We are richly resourced in technology.

Neqweyqwelsten School has a number of unusual offerings. We have an outdoor classroom where we start our week with an outdoor meeting up on the mountain. We use this as a base for outdoor education. As much as possible we value learning that involves and incorporates the natural world that surrounds us. Fred Fortier has worked with the school for years. He provides information sessions on gardening and composting. We often take field trips to his garden and he supplies the school with fresh vegetables. With the help of Ian Cameron, we have an aquaponics set up where we grow Tilapia fish and fresh vegetables. Angie Olsen has been invaluable with her Healthy Living and Nutrition sessions with the students.

The attendance record at Neqweyqwelsten is exemplary. We have had students with perfect attendance for their whole time at Neqweyqwelsten School.

We have an amazing Alumni network with our past students putting good into the world in diverse, dynamic and powerful ways.

## COVID-19 virus

This year we are underwent our fourth School Assessment Certification process with the *First Nations Schools Association*. This has been conducted every five years since 2005. We have renewed our accredited status that gives us access to Provincial funding for reciprocal students. The COVID-19 pandemic has interrupted this and we did complete the process remotely. Neqweyqwelsten School is a highly regarded First Nations school

# Neqweyqwelsten

## DRUM MAKING

With Don Bowser

Don is primarily working with Travis' class, sometimes Helen and Shelley's class will join. The unit started before spring break, so far, they have stretched the hides for the drums. After spring break they will be cutting the hide and stretching it onto the drum frames. Each unit takes 4-5 weeks

By the end of the units each student will own a drum and they will have learned the math and science behind making and caring for their drum and the protocols that come with owning a drum



### SONGS

Don is singing a variety of songs with the students from prayer songs to stick game songs. It is his hope that everyone is comfortable enough to take the lead in different songs.

### HIDES

Students have learned About the different animal hides; elk, deer, and moose these hides are used to make drums and rattles. the students are also learning to soak and stretch the hides to prepare them for use.

### STORIES

Don is teaching the students about different legends and stories. He is teaching them how to tell their own stories using different techniques.

# Neqweyqwelsten

The **Neqweyqwelsten School Authority** is a designated authority of Simpcw First Nation. It is made up of all parent(s) and guardian(s) of students attending Neqweyqwelsten School. The Neqweyqwelsten School Authority has authority over and is accountable to the parent(s)/guardian(s) of students in Neqweyqwelsten School for the overseeing the operations of the School.

Our annual year-end planning session in June will be held via video conferencing. The topics will include: what the return to school will look like, date of return, prepping for the return and any other concerns that parents may have.

## The Language Team

- Charli Fortier is back as the Manager of the Simpcw Language House.
- Angie Rainer is the Language Teacher at Neqweyqwelsten School.
- Tiffany Bowser is the Technical Resource person.
- Rachel Bowser is the Community Cultural Coordinator.

Neqweyqwelsten School is a thriving place of powerful learning. We are a proud, dynamic, innovative community of learners. All students have *Personal Learning Plans* in place and are steadily succeeding with their learning in ways that are meaningful and relevant. Quality instruction is delivered / designed in strong alignment following the *BC Ministry of Education Curriculum* and the *Secwepemc Beliefs for Good Living*.



## *Secwepemc Beliefs for Good Living*

**Me7 tsqwelstéc re tqelt kükwpi7.**

*Be close to the spirit.*

**Me7 xyemstwécw-kp.**

*Respect one another.*

**Me7 knucwentwécw-kp.**

*Help one another.*

**Me7 nucwnucwtsîn-k.**

*Be honest.*

**Lé7es k swe7éc-emp.**

*Do what is right.*

**Me7 yegwyüwt-k éll me7 yegwyüwt ke7 p'üsmen.**

*Keep healthy and strong in body and mind.*

**Me7 xyemstéc xwexéyt re stem ne7élye ne tmicw**

**éll xwexwéyt stem ne7élye ne timicw te w7éc.**

*Have reverence for the earth and all of life.*

**Me7 tsexemstéc te7 syecwmenstsüt,**

**éll ta7 me7 stsünc k swet re syecwmintst.**

*Know how to take care of yourself,  
and do not depend on anybody else.*

**Me7 élkstmenc re7 s7élkst re sle7s xwexwéyt re swet.**

*Do your share of work for the good of all.*

**Me7 yecwmentwéc-kt; ta7 ke swet mes t'îcwells.**

*Care for the good of all; cooperate.*



# Maintenance

## 2020-2021 Report

### April 2020

Started off with COVID 19, Office was closed. The maintenance crew had a modified work plan:

- Earl made sure the water system and internet was working
- Rick continued picking up garbage he added Tuesday as another garbage pick up day, because people were cleaning more and at home more.
- Clark continued at the transfer station Sundays and Wednesdays.
- We start installing safety shields on desks.
- Janitors started doing more deep cleaning for COVID.
- Ordered porta potties for NRD so they could work in pods.
- Ordered more hand sanitizer for every desk.
- Started moving to the old firehall so there would be less people in that pod.

### May 2020

- still working on plans for back to office work.
- Grass cutting under way by Clark.
- Started on application for Feasibility study on chinook cove water system with Urban System.
- Started implementing recycle plan with Nolan Boate from Environmental EIT.
- Received money new trails.
- Purchased new F250 Plow truck.



*Tom Eustache O &M Manager*



# Maintenance

## 2020-2021 Report

### JUNE 2020

- Trail work has begun on new trail from main reserve to SRG.
- New phones installed by TELUS.
- New housing started.
- Sent report to New Relationship trust for trail update.
- Installed waterlines to new houses.

### JULY 2020

- Main road north to main reserve flooded from rain event.
- Meetings with MOTI for clearing for new road.
- Picked up 2 new NRD trucks.
- Hiring new transfer station attendant.
- Worked on trail video with Ted Morton from Canadian Enduro.
- Had all band vehicles cleaned.
- Had all propane tanks inspected.

### AUGUST 2020

- Repairs were done on triplex.
- Melanie Stutt started as emergency coordinator.
- Meeting with Darrell Mounsey new street lighting project.
- Built second washroom upstairs at the school.

### September 2020

- Had staff wellness day at Dunn Lake.
- Locks on youth room and Council board room changed to keypads.
- Sent off water Operator Wage enhancement Application.
- Continue to work on Dunn Lake Road project.

### October 2020

- Started getting sand for winter.
- Started booking vehicles for tire change.
- Working with UNISON providing info for new building.
- Wrapping up trail work.
- Chinook Cove water upgrades feasibility Study Just complete.

*Tom Eustache O & M Manager*



# Maintenance

## 2020-2021 Report

### NOV 2020

- Started QUONSIT HUT.
- Started PO invoice training with rest of the office.
- New LED sign arrived.
- New lock on NRD Front door.
- Snow removal has started.

### DEC 2020

- Final report for RURAL DIVDEND For trail was sent out.
- More Snow removal.
- Invited to do an online interview with trails BC. MOTI set up for hydro vac truck to expose line by Coal creek.
- Urban Systems will be working on creek waterline crossing for MOTI and SIMPCW.
- Picked up recycle trailer.
- Submitted FNIP report.

### Jan 2021

- The new year started with COVID office closure till January 18, 2021.
- My staff came in to maintain roads, water, and buildings.
- Housing meeting.
- Earl took a online water main repair and disinfection course with MTS.
- Shower repair at tri-plex.
- Participated as a panelist on outdoor recreation council of BC webinar
- Received water main relocation
- Received a Design work plan from Urban Systems.
- Received draft water main relocation from URBAN SYSTEMS.

### FEB 2021

- Everyone is back to work at office.
- Working on final budget.
- Installed new LED sign at reserve entrance.
- Talked with Falko Kadenbach from ABC about updating are back up internet agreement.
- Interview with outdoor Recreation council of BC about SIMPCW Trail system.

### MAR 2021

- Started vehicle inspection for insurance renewal.
- Hired a new janitor for school.
- Tire changeover has started.
- Received quote from ABC COMMUNICATION for internet backup.
- Urban systems water line crossing plan approved.
- Received updated civil plan for new building.
- Presented updated trail plan to chief and council.

*Tom Eustache O & M Manager*

# Finance

## Accomplishments

- Third year of the 10 Year Grant
- Approved Annual Budgets
- Interim Audit there was one suggestion of improvements noted
- Assisting the Emergency Operation Centre
- Sage APA web-based program for online access for purchase orders and invoice entry for employees
- Chief Financial Officer was hired to act as finance controller and help guide the Finance Committee, support the Finance Department and Program Managers
- Accounts Receivable began use of invoice logs and credit logs
- Continuing with electronic versions of forms for payroll
- Finance Department had adapted to COVID-19 by working from home and when COVID-19 levels decreased resumed working from the office

## Plans for Next Year

- Main Sage program upgrades
- Cross training in the Finance Department
- Increase knowledge in accounting with online courses and workshops
- Planning a new Finance staff position to provide help to Finance Manager and Controller and further support Finance Department

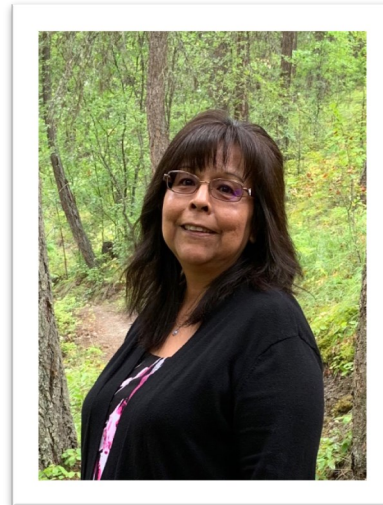


# Finance

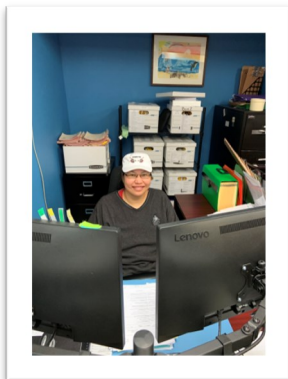
Piyush Barad  
Chief Finance Officer



Shelley Frank  
Finance Manager



Crystal Celesta  
Accounts Payable Clerk



Roxanne Jones  
Accounts Receivable Clerk



Ronda McInnes  
Payroll Clerk



# Financial Statement

EXHIBIT A

## MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The financial statements of SIMPCW FIRST NATION have been prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. When alternative accounting methods exist, management has chosen those it deems most appropriate in the circumstances. These statements include certain amounts based on management's estimates and judgements. Management has determined such amounts based on a reasonable basis in order to ensure that the financial statements are presented fairly in all material respects.

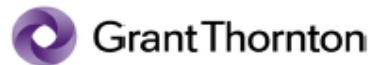
The integrity and reliability of SIMPCW FIRST NATION's reporting systems are achieved through the use of formal policies and procedures, the careful selection of employees and an appropriate division of responsibilities. These systems are designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial information is reliable and accurate.

The Band Council is responsible for ensuring that management fulfils its responsibility for financial reporting and is ultimately responsible for reviewing and approving the financial statements. The Council carries out this responsibility periodically through its Finance Committee. The Finance Committee is appointed by the Council and meets periodically with management and the members' auditors to review significant accounting, reporting and internal control matters. Following its review of the financial statements and discussions with the auditors, the Finance Committee reports to Council prior to its approval of the financial statements. The Committee also considers, for review by the Council and approval by the members, the engagement or re-appointment of the external auditors.

The financial statements have been audited on behalf of the members by Grant Thornton LLP in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Administrator

# Financial Statement



Grant Thornton LLP  
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206 Seymour Street  
Kamloops, BC  
V2C 6P5  
T +1 250 374 5577  
F +1 250 374 5573

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of SIMPCW FIRST NATION

EXHIBIT A1

### *Opinion*

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of SIMPCW FIRST NATION (the First Nation), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at March 31, 2021, and the consolidated statement of accumulated surplus, consolidated statement of operations, consolidated statement of change in net financial assets and consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the First Nation as at March 31, 2021, and the results of its operations and its cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

### *Basis for Opinion*

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the First Nation in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with those requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### *Other Matters*

We draw attention to the fact the supplementary information included in Exhibits B1 to B3, C1 to C2, D1 to D2, and Schedules 1 to 37 do not form part of the financial statements. We have not audited or reviewed this supplementary information and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion, a review conclusion or any other form of assurance on this supplementary information.

The consolidated financial statements of the First Nation for the year ended March 31, 2020, were audited by Daley & Company CPA LLP who expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements on August 26, 2020. The partners and staff of Daley & Company CPA LLP joined Grant Thornton LLP on January 4, 2021.

### *Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the First Nation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the First Nation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the First Nation's financial reporting process.

# Financial Statement

## *Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of SIMPCW FIRST NATION (continued)*

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the First Nation's internal control.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the First Nation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the First Nation to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the First Nation (which is the group entity) to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with Chief and Council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

*Grant Thornton LLP*

Chartered Professional Accountants

Kamloops, Canada  
December 13, 2021

# Financial Statement


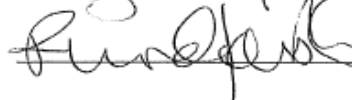
SIMPCW FIRST NATION  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
March 31, 2021

EXHIBIT A2

FINANCIAL ASSETS	2021	2020
Cash	\$ 13,577,124	\$ 7,780,033
Term deposits	6,028,775	2,022,886
Restricted cash (Note A4)	366,163	196,742
Investments held in trust (Note A5)	3,896,409	3,504,832
Marketable securities (Note A6)	7,827,764	7,591,787
Grants and accounts receivable (Note A7)	1,053,958	1,007,575
Loan receivable (Note A8)	-	5,384
Investment in partnership (Note A9)	42,037,839	14,895,499
Investments and advances (Note A10)	(259,880)	57,201
Investments in controlled entities (Note A11)	2	2
	<u>74,528,354</u>	<u>37,061,941</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable and accruals	1,428,008	1,067,200
Prepaid rents	2,627	1,172
Term loans (Note A13)	-	13,154
Mortgages payable (Note A14)	981,181	157,378
Deferred revenue (Note A15)	4,748,460	2,914,671
	<u>7,160,276</u>	<u>4,153,575</u>
<b>NET FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>	<u>67,368,078</u>	<u>32,908,366</u>
<b>NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>		
Tangible capital assets (Note A16)	9,300,679	7,309,441
Prepaid expenses	65,798	66,273
	<u>9,366,477</u>	<u>7,375,714</u>
<b>ACCUMULATED SURPLUS (Note A17)</b>	<u>\$ 76,734,555</u>	<u>\$ 40,284,080</u>

COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (Note A18)

APPROVED BY THE BAND:

 Chief  
 Administrator

See accompanying notes to financial statements

# Financial Statement

EXHIBIT A4

**SIMPCW FIRST NATION  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS  
Year ended March 31, 2021**

	Budget	2021	2020
<b>REVENUE:</b>			
Government transfers:			
Indigenous Services Canada	\$ 2,280,833	\$ 4,727,097	\$ 2,997,071
First Nations Health Authority	1,456,433	1,648,212	1,506,436
Canada Mortgage & Housing Corporation	54,093	23,443	33,279
Province of B.C.	4,763,054	5,388,162	3,688,673
Fisheries & Oceans Canada	133,000	175,000	133,000
Other revenues:			
Rental	85,178	83,566	105,361
Impact Benefit Agreements	125,000	129,671	166,277
Investment income	300,500	980,854	435,283
Income - Ottawa Trust Funds	-	18,394	2,963
Income (loss) from investment in government business enterprise	-	27,822,340	5,266,097
BC First Nations Gaming Revenue Sharing Limited Partnership	414,000	125,986	427,924
Other	5,698,061	4,385,861	3,083,037
	<u>15,310,152</u>	<u>45,508,586</u>	<u>17,845,401</u>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>			
Band Revenue	192,776	543,947	55,336
Local Revenue	-	500	732
Band Government	1,656,544	2,131,802	2,433,107
Social Services	375,049	682,340	494,778
Education	1,707,043	1,660,395	1,555,985
Community Development	641,800	780,299	807,909
Natural Resources	2,177,560	2,065,977	2,252,611
Health	1,286,082	1,112,522	1,245,088
Housing	251,579	80,329	331,813
	<u>8,288,433</u>	<u>9,058,111</u>	<u>9,177,359</u>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 7,021,719</b>	<b>\$ 36,450,475</b>	<b>\$ 8,668,042</b>

# Housing

## Annual Report 2020-2021

- 1) Completion of 6 homes for Simpcw Families ( 3 Homes for families that have been renting in Chu Chua and 3 are families from away from home).
- 2) Several Health and Safety inspections put in for funding
- 3) Working with TRU students building Quonset hut for the cultural department
- 4) 1 Individual built their own home on their land.
- 5) 3 more individuals are going through the process of getting their own bank Mortgage to build their family home in the next year.
- 6) Copy of Possessions have been submitted on 5 Simpcw members
- 7) Simpcw First Nation has had their fire rating done to help individuals reduce their House Insurance
- 8) As a Manager I am 1 month away from completing my First Nation Housing Management Diploma through Vancouver Island University. Start the First Nations Land Management in May through same university.
- 9) Been working with Housing Resource Services to put a Website together to help other housing managers with information pertaining to their jobs.



Manager: Sharon McKay

# Housing

On February 20th 2020 we hosted a Community Meeting which we seen 60 Members attend. We had it setup to have round table discussions. We found this to be very successful and gave individuals opportunity to voice their own concerns and ask questions in a safe environment.

- Opening Prayer
- Dinner
- Housing Manager & Committee Introduction
- Housing Development
  - A. 6 homes (2) 1 bedroom, (2) 2 bedroom, (3) 2 bedroom
  - B. Individual land owners
- Housing Applications Rent & Rent to Own
  - A. Criteria
- Housing Manager Report
  - A. Inspection FNHA
  - B. Chimney clean
  - C. Duct and gutter clean
  - D. Housing workshop-Home Maintenance, Wills, Insurance
- Financial Report
  - A. Elders fund policy update
  - B. ISC-funding health & safety, repairs & renos, inspection
- Wills
  - A. Contact me for appointment & information contact
- Certificate of Possession
  - A. Setup an appointment to start the process, can take up to a year
- Insurance
  - A. Reinstating insurance deadlines and rates
  - B. Contents
- Q & A Period (Round Table)
- Adjournment
- Closing Prayer



# Housing

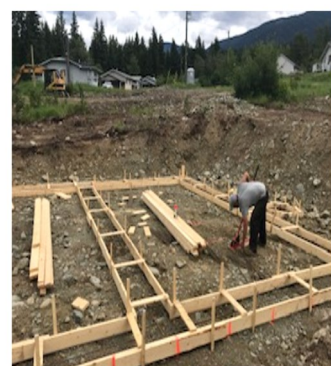
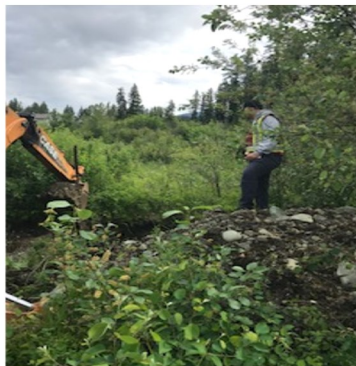
## Women & Trades with TRU

*A new group of Women & Trades will be in our community finishing up the Quonset hut. They did a project in Barriere Agriplex making a frame structure with a tin roof.*



# Housing

From ground breaking to finished house



# *Social Development*

## April 2020–March 2021 Annual Report

The Social Development program strives to assist community members in improving their well-being, so they can reach their full potential. All the programming and services are aimed at achieving that goal. The Social Development Team continues to provide prevention programming and services to families to decrease the need for intervention for families.

### S.12 (1) Indigenous Governing Body (IGB)

- Simpcw is 1 of 4 Indigenous Nations recognized in BC confirmed on June 1, 2020
- In services to an Indigenous child...before taking significant measures in relations to the child, the service provider must provide notice of the measure to the child's parent and the care providers, as well as to the Indigenous governing body
- IGB status applies across Canada as per Federal Act

The Social Development department's purpose is to assist the Simpcw membership in creating a community based approach to Child Welfare and Prevention Programming that is rooted in culture and language. We appreciate the input we have received in achieving this approach.



# *Social Development*

**Social Development  
Team includes the  
following staff:**

**Allen  
Cummings**

Simpcw Jurisdiction  
Contractor

**Janet  
Donald**

Income Assistance Clerk

**Marissa  
Eustache**

Family Support  
Worker

**Alison  
Green**

Alternate for Child  
Protection & Council  
Representative

**Carmen  
Hance**

Social Development  
Manager & Simpcw  
Jurisdiction Lead

**George  
Lampreau**

Alternate Council  
Representative for Simpcw  
Jurisdiction

**Lisa  
Wortelboer**

Simpcw Designated Social  
Worker

**Lyle  
Paul**

Newly Hired:  
Events/Logistics  
Coordinator  
for SCFSA & SFN

# *Social Development*

## Child Welfare

**22**

incidents for child welfare, investigation, support or family development response

**2**

children in a Temporary Custody Order off reserve

**7**

children in a Continuing Custody Order on reserve

**1**

child -transferring custody & guardianship to their caregiver



# *Social Development*



## **Secwepemc Children and Family Service Agency (SCFSA)**

**Simpchw First Nation received \$550,480 from SCFSA for Prevention. SCFSA submitted a proposal to ISC for the initiatives that were identified as priority by SFN members.**

### **The Key priorities of the Simpcw prevention services initiative include the following:**

- Direct individual and group family support
- Early intervention family support when child protection concerns arise within a family
- Traditional decision-making process when child protection concerns arise within a family
- Poverty Reduction Initiative
- Individual and group Child and Youth Support
- Relationship Wellness Activities
- Accountability and Outcome measures related to preventing children from entering the foster care system
- Family Wellness Activities

### **Service delivery outcomes:**

# *Social Development*

- **Children and youth who are healthy and remain healthy**
- **Families have knowledge resource, and the support they need to help their children develop to their full potential**
- **Children and youth experience & understand healthy relationships family and community connection**
- **Children, youth and their families have an enhanced sense of cultural belonging connectedness**
- **Families have access to a range of community and social supports and healthy activities**
- **Children, youth and their families are socially engaged and are connected to the community of Simpcw.**
- **Intimate partners experience and role model healthy relationships**
- **Traditional decision making process has been developed and being delivered**

## **Simpcw prevention services are specifically targeted to achieve the following results:**

- **Connecting children and youth in care with culture, community, and family**
- **Increasing the accessibility of healthy family activities in the community**
- **Increasing culture and language for children and youth connected to Simpcw**
- **Increase life skills for children and youth**
- **Reduce the likelihood of intimate partner violence**
- **Increase the use of traditional decision-making when child protection concerns arise**

# *Social Development*



Allen Cummings & Marissa Eustache at Prince George Engagement



Tristen Schneider (SCFSA) assisting with the 2020 Family Wellness baskets



2020 Family Wellness Baskets

# *Social Development*

## Ministry for Children and Family Development (MCFD)

---



Nutritional Activities

Men & Women's Wellness

Child in Care & Family Support/Activities

MCFD provides funding to support prevention and family support services, which are community-based services focused on supporting and strengthening families. The programs and services outlined in the funding have been identified as priority by Simpcw members.

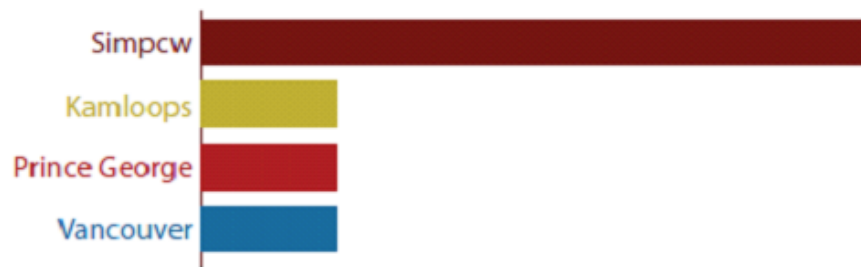
# *Social Development*

## **Yecwemintem re 'Kwseltkten-kt ("looking after our relations/people")**

- Simpcw is developing inherent Jurisdiction of Child and Family Services resume decision-making authority for its members across Canada
- Jurisdiction will replace BC's Child Family and Community Service Act and apply across Canada
- Simpcw is 1 of 10 Indigenous Nation Jurisdiction Tables across BC
- This will be developed through a comprehensive community members-driven process to create the best child and family services jurisdiction that is reflective of member's interests, values, and principles
- Jurisdiction means the power and authority to make laws, make legal decisions and enforce those laws and legal decisions
- Child & Family Services means Early Intervention, Prevention, Reunification, Cultural Continuity & Child Protection Services
- Simpcw's jurisdiction is building on legal traditions (Oral Stories), language, culture & values
- A Letter of Intent is completed with Canada and Simpcw is in negotiations with BC MCFD
- Simpcw language-experts identified 4 potential names that members voted-on, resulting in "Yecwemintem re kwseltkten-kt "Looking After Our Relations/People"
- Simpcw submitted a Work Plan & Budget to Canada and BC MCFD, securing funding of \$600,000

# Social Development

## Engagements Held

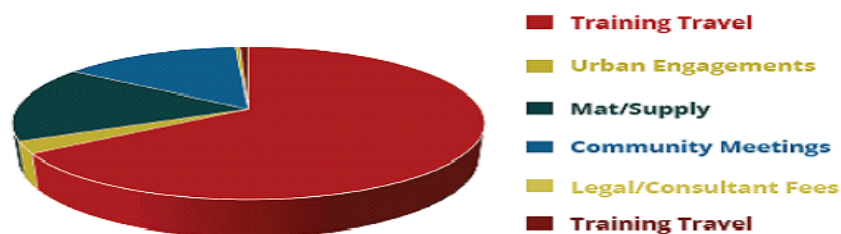


## What We Heard from the Engagements

- Strong frustration and distrust with the BC Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) surrounding the ways their services continue to fail the community
- The current Child Family Community Services Act is inadequate and does not align with the needs and wants of the community
- Concerns about the lack of accountability of the BC MCFD and government
- Members expressed the need to protect our children from MCFD and the fear that surrounds having an external colonial body managing the care of the children
- Strong dissent about the lack of self-determination that comes from BC government having control over our children
- Connections to Family and Community
- Connections to Culture, Land and Language
- Members feel that Simpcw First Nation is in the position to exercise jurisdiction over child and family services

Edmonton has been post-poned due to COVID-19 until we can have an in-person meeting. Please see the document "What We've Heard" document for a more detailed written account on our engagements.

## Yecwemintem re 'Kwseltkten-kt ("looking after our relations/people")



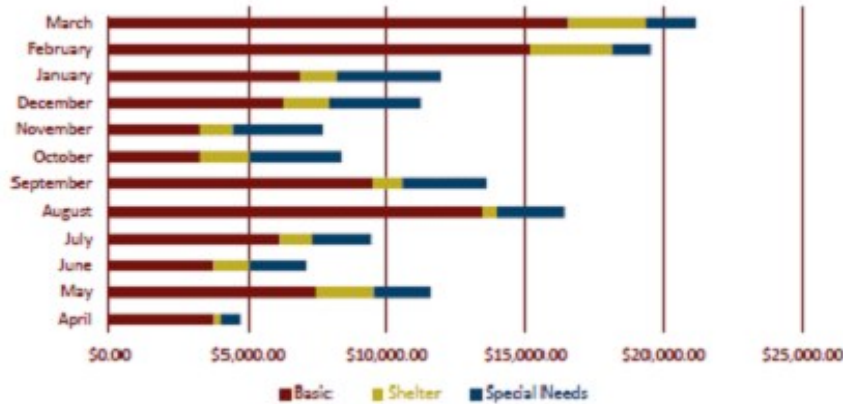
# Social Development

## Plans for 2021/2022 Fiscal Year



- Virtual & In-Person Engagements for Jurisdiction
- Draft Yecwemintem rekwseltkten-kt Jurisdiction
- Strategic Planning for the SCFSA Prevention
- Programming Allocations
- Prevention Activities (Virtual and In person) For example, Return Home Ceremony
- Hire an Urban Family Preservation Intervention Worker to support all Simpcw members in BC
- Advocate for Income Assistance Reform

### 2020-2021 Expenditures



\*Shelter includes Utilities/Rent. Special Needs includes \$300/adult COVID-19 supplement

# Education Department

*Simpcw* is a self-governing, inclusive community of confident, culturally skilled, lifelong learners. Quality learning, in excellent education environments, will be guided by accomplished educators and supported by family and community to ensure that all learners possess strong communication and numeracy skills and are able to identify a clear life path.

Post-Secondary funding is an assistant program to limited assist with the cost of tuition, books, supplies and living expenses for academic and technical training.

## **Simpcw Sponsored 19 Post-Secondary Students**

- 6 New Students
- 9 Returning Full-Time
- 2 Returning Part-Time
- 2 Masters or PhD



The Education Coordinator is a liaison to the School District for student success.

Participates in the Aboriginal Education Council of School District #57 & #73 to ensure students receive services needed within the schools.

Ensures the LEA (Local Education Agreement) is carried out by School District #73.

Coordinates secondary and post-secondary education applications.

Oversees the management of the Education Department.

**Simpcw Celebrated 3 graduates from Secondary school.**

**In the 2019/2020 Simpcw First Nation Nominal Roll included:**

- 7 Barriere Elementary Students
- 26 Barriere Secondary Students



# Education Department

**Simpcw and the School District #73 have complete the negotiations and have signed an LEA (Local Education Agreement). Some points of that were stressed and included were:**

- ◆ Language and Culture
- ◆ The Truth and Reconciliation Commission
- ◆ The BC Auditor Generals Report on Aboriginal Education
- ◆ Professional Development
- ◆ Transportation
- ◆ First Nations achievement data
- ◆ Nominal Roll

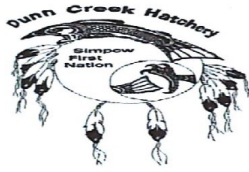


This past year has had many challenges for all students adapting to COVID-19 restrictions and safety measures. With the cooperation of District staff and students, we have been able to keep everyone safe and healthy, continuing with the School District #73 protocol and policy. This year the school is divided from separate grades to ensure safety for all staff and students.

All Post-Secondary students were moved to online classes.



**Me7 xexé7 es ctswentém re ck'últén-kt**  
**Culturally Strong Learning**



# Dunn Creek Hatchery

Yucwminte re Tmicw

**Hatchery Staff:**

Don Guitard      Tyler Bowie      Tina Donald  
Ralph McDougal      Mike McCook      Kyle Egan



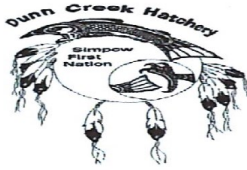
Hatchery staff by Dunn Creek Fence site



Dunn Lake Road flooded in two different spots



DCH captrough area flooded



# Dunn Creek Hatchery

## Covid-19 Challenge

It has been a challenging year with Pandemic starting in March 2020.

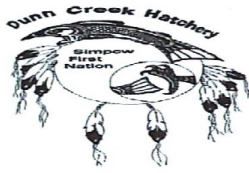
I was asked to self isolate right at beginning of Covid-19. Soon after all Simpcw Staff were asked to work from home, which in the beginning proved to challenging. I had asked our Hatchery Manager to self isolate, due his age and health. During the whole pandemic Simpcw Offices never shut down, we continued to work from home or shifted into staggered shifts between home and office.

Throughout the Spring into Fall 2020, we were able to have small gatherings and functions as part of work. Winter 2020 into the New Year, we were not allowed any interactive functions. All meetings went virtual and the number of meetings increased.

Spring 2020 to end of June throughout Simpcw territory we experienced flooding, throughout Simpcw Territory including Dunn Creek Hatchery (DCH) from Joseph Creek; culverts being plugged from high volume run off along Dunn Lake Rd. We fortunate not to have any homes flooded. At DCH we experienced major damage to our brood tubs and captroughs. Working with our DFO Community Advisor and Restoration Engineer, we were able to secure emergency funds from Pacific Salmon Foundation to repair majority of the damage.

Through the hatchery we run stewardship and education program for our students from Neqweyqwelsten, Barriere, Raft, Vavenby, Blue River, Valemount & McBride elementary schools. Our Coho fry from all schools, including Kamloops, had to be picked up due to unknown factor of school spring closures and teachers capacity to look after Coho fry during pandemic. We were able to get Coho eggs back out to our schools at end October and early November. We, myself and DCH, continue to support our school programs.

End of March T Bowie along with a DFO staff member travelled around to all the School District 73 schools to pick up Coho fry from their tanks. There was uncertainty whether if there would be any teachers allowed into schools to care for



# Dunn Creek Hatchery

*"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success."  
- Henry Ford*



Kamloops DFO officers & Clearwater Conservation Officer help move Coho fry from flooded captroughs to raceways.

June 2020  
DCH

## 25th Annual Coho Day

One of our highlights of 2020, we were able to have a small celebration for our 25th Anniversary of Coho Day at DCH. A small group of 25 people were invited. It was a cold day but everyone was warmed by hot soup and bannock. Great job to DCH staff.

Our school was not able to travel to the hatchery, so I took a modified Coho Day Program to Neqweyqwelsten School.



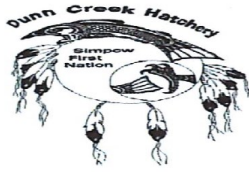
Simpco community safety is overseen by Simpco Health Dept.

## Health & Safety

D. Guitard, Hatchery Manager, works alone between July-September each year. He follows Simpco NRD working alone procedures, which means he calls in and/or checks in with the "Fisheries S.P.O.T." device every two hours from the time arriving at the hatchery in the morning. January to March 2020 the Natural Resource Manager requested for T Bowie to

kept on full time. One of the main rationale for this change, for him to learn the winter maintenance of Hatchery.

T Donald represents the hatchery at all monthly NRD Safety meetings. Our Natural Resource Department is BC Safe Certified. All documents are kept on site for annual audit.

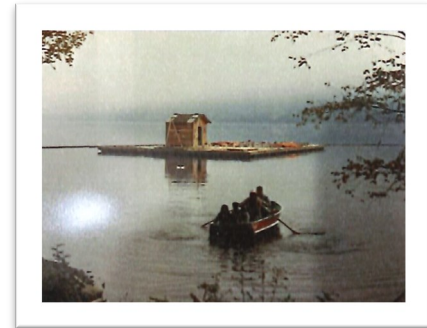


# Dunn Creek Hatchery

## Mission Statement

**Natural Resources Department  
In partnership with Simpcwemc  
Is committed to the protection  
Conservation & sustainable  
Management in Simpcwu'ecw  
In a holistic manner  
~ October 23, 2009 ~**

Yucwminte re Tmicw

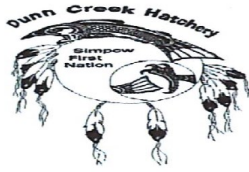


*Blast from the past—1989 south end of Dunn Lake  
Rowing 3 students out to Dunn Lake fish hatchery  
platform.*

Apr. 2—SFC/DFO 2020 preseason review  
Apr. 14—Pulling Together Journey (PTJ) mtg  
Apr. 23—Natural Resource Dept (NRD) Advisory mtg  
Apr. 24—SFN Managers mtg  
Apr. 28—Dunn Creek Hatchery (DCH) & Ministry of Transportation slough site visit at hatchery  
Apr. 30—NRD Safety mtg  
May 11—DFO proposed research E.Hodgson  
**May 14—DCH fry/smolt release**  
May 15—help Spius truck  
May 25—Big Bar landslide  
May 29—TMC Swift Cr fisheries authorization  
**May 29—Orenda Films at DCH & Simpcw**  
June 5&8 —Orenda Films—Simpcw educational video  
June 10—SFC Steering Cmt Mtg  
June 14—check on DCH flooding  
June 15—move fry at DCH; cap-trough to raceway  
June 24—CA CEDP DCH  
July 2—DFO site visit DCH flooding  
July 3—NRD Advisory mtg  
July 13—PTJ mtg

July 15—Valemount Camp inspection with CER  
July 17—pick up coho from Turtle Valley bison  
July 20—DFO DCH call  
July 24—SFC Chinook Orientation  
July 29—Pacific Salmon Appl to DFO  
July 30—NRD Advisory  
Aug 6—final location for Simpcw Video  
Aug 13—PTJ mtg  
Aug 19—fill in at DCH  
Sept 2—pick up salmon at SFC  
Sept 8—NRD Advisory  
Sept 9—DCH PSF funds  
**Sept 17—pick up chinook from Skeetchestn**  
**Sept 18—fish cleaning party**  
Sept 22—PSF personnel visit DCH  
July 30—NRD Advisory  
Aug 13—PTJ mtg  
Aug 19—fill in at DCH  
Sept 2—pick up salmon at SFC  
Sept 8—NRD Advisory  
Sept 9—DCH PSF funds  
Sept 17—pick up chinook from Skeetchestn  
Sept 18—fish cleaning party  
Sept 24—SAR wksp

Sept 29—bear aware  
Oct 13—NRD Advisory  
Oct 28—SFC Steering Cmt mtg  
Oct 30—set up Vavenby & Raft River elem sc Coho tank  
Nov 3—UBC culvert remediation  
**Nov 3—Coho Day for 1st Cohort Neqweyqwelsten Sc**  
Nov 5—Coho egg delivery for Vavenby Elem  
Nov 6—Coho egg delivery to Valemount & McBride elem sch  
Nov 9—Coho egg delivery to Barriere, Raft and Blue River elementary schools  
Nov 10—Research on Coho Habitat (DFO lead)  
Nov 12—PTJ mtg  
Nov 16-19—TD holiday  
Nov 26—AHRF mtg with DFO  
Dec 17—PTJ mtg  
Dec 18—NRD Advisory mtg  
Dec 21-14—holiday  
Dec 28-Jan 1—office closed  
**Jan 4-29, 2021—office closed due to Covid-19—work from home**  
Jan 4—NRD staff mtg.  
Jan 18—NRD Advisory  
Jan 19—Fish & fish habitat Protection Program mtg  
Jan 21—Fish & fish Habitat Simpcw  
Jan 26—NRD safety mtg



# Dunn Creek Hatchery

## FISH PRODUCTION BROOD YEAR 2020

As per the Scope of Work, the fish production contract deliverables will be carried out primarily at the Dunn Creek Hatchery and portions of the Skeetchestn Band Deadman River Hatchery. Salmon production is as follows:

### DUNN CREEK

Produce 20,000 smolts at target release of 13gr.

Produce 10,000 un-fed fry, this includes the school program numbers

38 Coho females and 32 Coho males were taken for Dunn Creek brood. Between October 13<sup>th</sup> and October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 ; brood stock taken from Dunn fence.

9 pairs School District 73 Salmonid in Classroom program  
6 pairs Yucwminre tmicw – Barriere, Raft, Vavenby, Blue River, McBride & Valemount Elementary school tanks  
21 pairs DCH brood; approximately 32,500 eggs

BKD results sent back from vet. See *Dunn Creek Hatchery 2019 Brood - Vet results*  
After first pick was completed at total of 32,547 eggs remained for Dunn Brood 2019.

Egg picks from incubation room started January 2021.

### DEADMAN CREEK

Produce 20,000 smolts at target release of 13gr.

Produce 10,000 un-fed fry released back into Deadman Creek

Skeetchestn dropped off 21 Coho females and 21 Coho males Deadman Creek brood from Skeetchestn Hatchery.

21 pairs Deadman brood; approximately 44,000 eggs  
No BKD results sent back from vet for Deadman stock

### ADULT FENCE OPERATIONS

On Sept 25 was the last day of Chinook Enumeration program for Louis Cr., Lemieux Cr., Raft R. and Finn Cr.

Dunn Coho fence operation: September 23, 2020 to November 30, 2020.

Sept 28 – first Coho arrive at DCH

Oct 3 – first brood collected (5 F, 5 M)

Number of Coho counted through the fence:

Male:	Female:	M-brood:	F-brood:
1494	1572	32	38

Brood Number for school Coho tanks:

Male:	Female:
15	15

# *Natural Resources Department*

## **2020/2021 NRD Has been involved in the following projects :**

### Forestry Development Activities/ Applications

- Canfor/Interfor Transaction – negotiation of Purchase Agreement for 40,000m<sup>3</sup>.
- Forestry Field Assessments = 79 blocks for BCTS, Carrier Lumber, Gilbert Smith Forest Products, SRLLP, Tolko Industries and West Fraser.
- Simpcw Forestry Endorsement Policy was approved by Simpcw Council – The forestry development activities in areas of Simpcw that require additional consultation and/or stewardship agreements; which include full assessments for Cultural Heritage.

### Oil and Gas

- Taseko Mines Limited – purchased the mineral claims for the Yellowhead Mine, located near Vavenby.
- From this process, Simpcw is developing a Simpcw Independent Environmental Assessment process. This process is described below.
- New Gold Inc. – are in initial exploration phase; this is in the asserted overlap area of Simpcw and Canim Lake.
- Trans Mountain (TM) – NRD Field Technicians provide cultural heritage monitoring services for reactivation, integrity/maintenance, expansion and IAMC.

### BC Hydro (BCH)

- NRD Field Technicians are utilized during the installation of new poles or transmission lines within Simpcw.
- Simpcw is negotiating a Simpcw – BC Hydro Protocol Agreement with a potential signing ceremony during Summer 2021.
- BCH has provided \$15K to the Language House, as a contribution to the outdoor learning space/workshop.

### Transportation

- CN Rail (CNR) – Simpcw Council has requested a meeting with the Director of Indigenous Relations to discuss the impacts of CNR in Simpcw Territory and how we can work together.
- MOTI – Dunn Lake Road Project, Barriere Hwy 5 Passing Lane, Hwy 16 Red Pass Passing Lane, Hwy 5 Blackman Road Passing Lane.

# *Natural Resources Department*

## **Municipalities, Villages, and Regional Districts:**

- District of Barriere (DOB) – boundary expansion, subdivision development and the existing MOU is being redrafted and discussed with the newly hired Administrator.
- Thompson Nicola Regional District (TNRD) – begin discussions on an MOU, with a meeting to take place between the Council and Board by the end of May 2021.
- Regional District of Fraser-Fort George (RDFFG) – they have provided their support to Simpcw for the Additional to Reserve (ATR) at Tête Jaune Cache.

## **Asserted Overlap Area:**

- Canim Lake – Annual Meeting to occur between the Councils in May 2021.
- Shuswap Indian Band - Me7 knucwentwécw-kt (“We will work with one another”) is the title of the agreement we will be executing in the next month.

## **Parks:**

- Wells Gray Cave – planning for further investigative work for late Summer 2021.
- Mt. Robson Provincial Park – new signage to be installed Summer 2021.
- Tête Jaune Cache – Simpcw will begin negotiations with the Crown on the submission of this claim. Financial compensation or accommodation will be negotiated.
- Dunn Lake Road, Chinook Cove Ferry Road, Windpass Road – claims to be submitted for negotiation.

## **Tourism:**

- Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing (MWHS) – updating the MOU and Joint Working Agreement; pit house may be constructed on MWHS property.
- Valemount Ski Society (VSS) has requested support to install a handle-bar tow (donated by Jumbo Glacier) within a portion of the footprint of Valemount Glacier Destinations Ltd. (VGDL).

## **Operations planned for install in 2021 for potential opening for 2021 Christmas Break:**

- 280m service length handle tow lift with no towers,
- 70Kv Diesel generator,
- Sea Can,
- Yurt for shelter and food service,
- Portable outhouses -Shed on skids for admin, and
- Small shed on skids for staff

# *Natural Resources Department*

## **Policy Procedures:**

- Cultural Heritage Law – in development stage; community engagement will occur late Spring 2021.
- Simpcw Independent Environmental Assessment – in development stage. Is a Review Process coordinated by Simpcw to ensure Community members interests, concerns and perspectives are appropriately considered and addressed in the review and assessment of proposed Projects in Simpcúlecw. Is a 6-step process (see attached). In step 3, there will be an Advisory Committee required (Letter of Interest to be submitted by Simpcwemc), consisting of five (5) Simpcwemc; whom will actively participate in field trips, proponent and community meetings, provide input and advice to NRD, Simpcw Council, Simpcw advisors/consultants, Regulators and the Proponent, including identifying information gaps and facilitate the provision of Indigenous knowledge to the Review Process. Community engagement to occur in May 2021.
- Community Knowledge Keeper (CKK) - purchased in 2019 for the Simpcw Natural Resource Department (NRD); development started in 2020. The CKK will be the host for the Simpcw Referral Response System and archives.
- GeoKeeper – an app that has surveys for archaeology, water quality/quantity, winter conditions, wildlife monitoring, and more. Use your phone or tablet's GPS to grab your location when creating records and use the device's camera to record photos of what you see. All records collected using GeoKeeper become one succinct multi-media bundle that is then pushed to the GeoKeeper Server when you are back online. This data can then be easily imported to the Community Knowledge Keeper (CKK), allowing CKK users to review, analyze, & assess data coming from field researchers. In this way, the Simpcw CKK can be kept up-to-date with current and ongoing research.

# *Natural Resources Department*

## G2G

The G2G is encompassed with the Natural Resource Department. The coordinator is Rhonda Ker-shaw, with Nathan Matthew acting as an advisor. Council members are assigned to the various working tables to ensure the commitments undertaken with the Letter of Commitment are met.

In March of 2019 Simpcw joined with six Secwépemc communities in signing a Government to Government Letter of Commitment with representatives from the Province of British Columbia. This formed the Qwelminté Secwépemc, a collective of leadership from the 7 communities of Simpcw, Adams Lake Indian Band, Little Shuswap Lake Indian Band, Shuswap Indian Band, Skeetchestn, Splat-sin, and Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc, along with their technical staff. Qwelminté Secwépemc have been working with the B.C. Government through various ministries to move forward via the Qwelminté Secwépemc Government to Government table.

The G2G has been very busy in the past year. The Qwelminté Secwépemc (QS) Skú7pecen's Journey was supported at the G2G Senior Council Meeting of March 11, 2021 and is awaiting execution by the QS and BC. This document will form the path forward for the next three years and includes important milestones for signatories and the BC Government. Skú7pecen's Journey is the amended and restated Letter of Commitment that will guide the process for 2021 through 2024. The parties have agreed to continue the G2G relationships and commitments established in the original LOC and collaboratively developed amendments to it.

### **These important amendments include:**

- The Interim Engagement Process - An agreement by the parties to develop a collaborative engagement process to guide decision making.
- The Story of Porcupine (Re Skú7pecen re Stseptékwlls), Memorial to Sir Wilfrid Laurier - Stories provide context for title and rights within Simpcwúl'ecw.
- The Enhancement Approach - Describes how the QS Signatories and BC will work together to collaboratively enhance the Interim Engagement Process (IEP).

### **The Enhancement Approach defines 4 Engagement Principles:**

- "Walking on Two Legs"
- A Governance Approach: Respectful Recognition of Governance and "Being Like Brothers"
- Helping One Another to be Great and Good – Knucwentwécw
- Transformative Change

The Joint Intentions Paper (JIP) - The purpose of the JIP is to describe the proposed framework of the shared path of QS Signatories and BC based on the mutual goal to

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- The Enhancement Approach - Describes how the QS Signatories and BC will work together to collaboratively enhance the Interim Engagement Process (IEP).
- The Enhancement Approach defines 4 Engagement Principles: "Walking on Two Legs"

continued

# *Natural Resources Department*

## G2G

These important amendments include:

- A Governance Approach: Respectful Recognition of Governance and “Being Like Brothers”
- recognize and reconcile the respective jurisdictions, governance, laws, interests, and responsibilities. The JIP is a foundational step in understanding how to recognize and reconcile the respective jurisdictions.

Skú7pecen’s Journey provides the framework to develop many transformative agreements with BC to work towards a true co-governance model within Simpcúl’ecw. The focus over the past two years and moving forward into 2021 has been forestry transformation. The QS will be looking to take actions to support the transition from Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreements (FCRSA) to a Collective Forestry Agreement focusing on both revenue sharing and increased stewardship and management of the Tmicw.

For further information check [www.qwelminte.ca](http://www.qwelminte.ca)

or email [G2G.Coordinator@simpcw.com](mailto:G2G.Coordinator@simpcw.com)

Attachments: Qwelmínte Secwépemc & BC Letter of Commitment Report for 2019 - 2021

# Natural Resources Department

## Archives

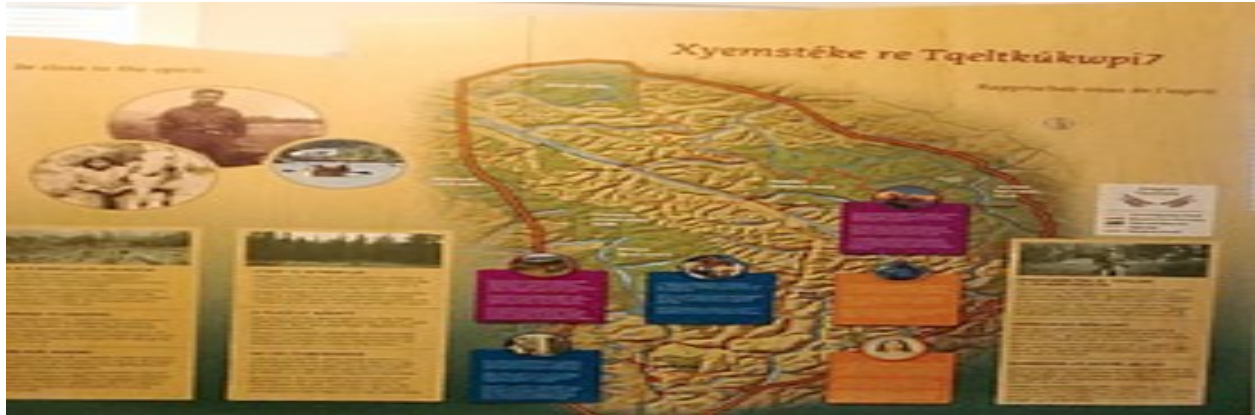


### Archives Activities in 2020 for NRD Annual Report

2020 has been a unique year for Simpcw Archives. The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted regular activities for our department, as we have been unable to travel, be in the office full time, experienced staggered in-office hours or been unable to be in regular contact with the records we take care of. Nonetheless, we have achieved goals and begun or completed several major projects.

July 2020 saw Archives Assistant Audrey Todd and Archives Coordinator Anna Kay Eldridge oversee the installation of the completed Simpcw Exhibit at the Valemount & Area Museum. We were unable to hold an opening celebration and ceremony for this exhibit, due to COVID gathering restrictions, but look forward to celebrating this achievement as soon as it safe for the community to participate. In the meantime, the exhibit was on display for small groups of visitors to the museum and has reportedly been well received by the Valemount community and guests

# Natural Resources Department Archives



We have continued to respond to research requests, both internal to the NRD and external from community and band members, despite the challenges of COVID-19 and working from home, as well as participate in the Urban Engagement Sessions which took place in Prince George and Kamloops in the fall of 2020. Archives Assistant organized the 2020 Remembrance Day event, purchasing new wreaths and stands, and arranging for pairs of eagle feathers collected by hatchery staff to be partially beaded and added to the display.

Work has continued with the Jasper Indigenous Forum through two projects in the Park – the Jasper Indigenous Exhibit, and the Pocahontas renaming project. Simpcw contributions to the Jasper Exhibit have been completed, including the panel text and images, as well as full translation into French (required) and Secwepemctsin (at our request). We are still in the process of approving design drafts for our panel. The Pocahontas renaming project is being undertaken in collaboration with the Language & Culture Department, with Simpcw pushing for language inclusivity for all Nations involved with the project, and our team has educated and advocated for Simpcw and Secwépemc cultural practices and ethics around naming to the working group. Next steps for these park projects will include approving our panel design, and developing consensus between forum members for the proposed new names for the 'Poca' sites.

The Archives also took on the task of rolling out the new Kwusen data management programs - Community Knowledge Keeper (CKK) and Geokeeper –for NRD. Following much hard work from both the NRD and the Kwusen teams we went live with the Consultation/Referrals component in early February 2021. Geokeeper currently being tailored for use by our Field Crews, and is being used by Language & Culture in their land-based activities. Next steps for this project will involve populating the program with archival materials to aid in the storage, research, and retrieval of documents in our repository.

# Natural Resources Department

## Language & Culture

The Language Department is a newly formed department. Previously it had been under the direction of the Natural Resources Department (NRD).

### The Language Department consists of five (5) staff members:

- Language Manager – Charli Fortier
- Cultural Coordinator – Rachael Bowser
- Language Teacher – Angie Rainer
- Language Assistant – Tiffany Bowser
- Language Technician – Jacob Sterling

The Language Department has been faced with many challenges in terms of community outreach during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the shift from in-person programming to virtual engagement has had its benefits. The main benefit being that we have been able to reach our away-from-home Simpcw members.

### Some of the events and initiatives during the 2020-2021 fiscal year included:

- Youth & Elders luncheon (March)
- Spring Equinox Celebration-Virtual (March)
- Medicine harvesting/making (March/April)
- Community Language Classes-Virtual (July/August)
- Supervision of two summer employment students (July/August)
- SMART Board training (September/October)
- Orange Shirt Day (September)
- Community Hunt (September)
- Fall Equinox (September)
- Women's Hunt (October)
- Participation on Jasper Park "Pocahontas" renaming working group (October)
- "Kúlem te Skéc" video, in conjunction with Tkemlúps te Secwépemc (November)
- Community Language Night (November)
- Christmas Caroling in Secwepemctsin (November/December)
- Adapting to at-home work plans (January)
- Participation in *Wumecwilc re Secwepemctsin* Elders group (January-present)
- Simpcw Language Strategic Planning Sessions (February)
- Participation in Nation-wide (SNTC) Secwepemctsin Strategic Plan (February-April)
- Harvesting of Birch water (March)
- In-House Elders program (research and documentation with fluent Elder) (November-present)



We look forward to another productive year Yiri7 re skukwstép-kucw (on behalf of us, we thank you all).

### For further information or feedback

Contact : Charli Fortier - [Language.Manager@simpcw.com](mailto:Language.Manager@simpcw.com)

# Natural Resources Department

## Language & Culture



Orange Shirt Day



Elder Day at  
Neqweyqwelsten



Collecting Chaga



Hide stretching



Collecting Birch water



Making Salve



Making Salve

# Fisheries

General Band Meeting – April 18, 2021

## **Fisheries:**

The 2020 salmon fishing season was dismal and 2021 doesn't look any better. I do have sockeye and chinook in community freezer for membership. please contact me to access some fish, keep in mind we want to share out as much as possible, the number of salmon will be limited per person/family.

In the past year North Thompson River chinook have been listed as "Endangered" by Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Watch for more strategies coming out for Chinook.

Through the Aquatic Habitat Restoration Fund, we will be looking at priority streams within Simpcw territory. Part of the review will be the NRD directives, salmon numbers and our uses.

Simpcw will be working with Secwepemc Fisheries Commission on salmon resources along with Fraser Salmon Management Council.

## **Dunn Creek Hatchery**

Since May 2020 I have worked with Department of Fisheries (DFO) to secure some funding for repair/replace damages that occurred during flooding 2020. We, hatchery & DFO staff, will be working over the last two weeks of April 2021 to repair cap trough area at hatchery. The plan is to pond our Coho fry in early May. We have contracted a company to build the hatchery some new brood tubs, which will be delivered and installed prior to fall brood season.

Also, looking to secure funds to do a test well at the hatchery. In order to do more stocks at the hatchery we need a secure source of cool water during the summer months. Watch for more details.

Yucminte re Tmicw school programs will continue, with Covid restrictions, to release school Coho fry. Since late October we have worked with the following schools: Neqweyqwelsten, Barriere, Raft, Vavenby, Blue River, Valemount & McBride Elementary schools

Big Bar Salmon Enhancement program will be releasing chinook fry into a number of streams in the Upper Fraser. I will be participating in the releases in Simpcw territory



*Tina Donald – Fisheries & Wildlife Manager*

# Fisheries

## **WILDLIFE:**

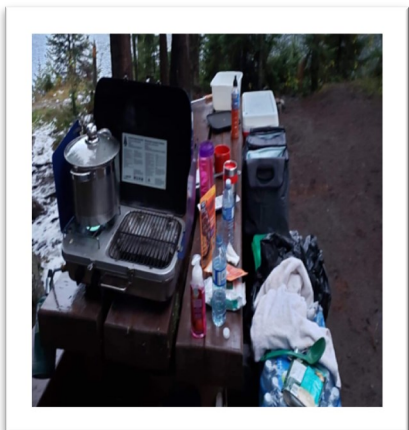
George, Rachael and Brian, have been planning On Land Camps for the community. Development of a program for Neqweyqwelsten School students for on the land learning during their first two weeks of school, in progress. Planning to incorporate language, culture and craft at camps, including stories and local teachings.

### **On the Land Camps**

Mens Camp – Oct 21-24, 2021 northern part of territory

Womens Camp – Oct 17-19, 2021 northern part of territory

Community Camp - August 25-29, 2021 northern part of territory



Watch for On The Lands meeting announcement to plan for activities leading up to camp .

### **ELK – No hunting in Simpcw Territory**

There have been reports of Elk in the territory. We want to protect these Elk to allow them to increase in numbers. Further discussion at next Hunting meeting, looking for input from community.

### **Wildlife Projects**

I have been working with Simpcw Resources staff on a number projects within Simpcw Territory, many related to Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion. We will be posting a page on Simpcw Face Book page to keep community up to date.

Confirmed funded: Cottonwood Study (owl observations), Grizzly funding: Finn Creek Chinook & Bull trout study

Waiting for approval: Canoe Wetlands

*Tina Donald – Fisheries & Wildlife Manager*



The Chu Chua Volunteer Fire Department & First Responders has been operating since 1985, and started with 8 active members. Currently, the Fire Department has 12 members, including the Fire Chief. The Fire Hall is located at #416 Dunn Lake Road, which was built in 2017.

The members of the Fire Department are currently enrolled in the Exterior Operations firefighting Training Program through the Justice Institute of British Columbia.

Provincial Fire and Safety are administering this program.

Several members of the Fire Department are also qualified Medical First Responders. We have 7 Medical First Responders in the community. First Responders have been trained in First Aid and will automatically be paged out to 911 calls within the community to provide support and assistance before the ambulance or other services arrive.

Chu Chua is located more than 20 minutes from the nearest emergency clinic or hospital, First Responders are important because they can provide immediate help to a patient that will sustain them while they travel to a medical facility for treatment





The Chu Chua Volunteer Fire Department (CCVFD) currently has 19 active members. The a major risk for the CCVFD is the availability of Fire Fighters in the community during the day. Majority of our members work out of the community during the day Monday to Friday. We now offer Fire practices during the day every two weeks. Both Simpcw First Nation and Simpcw Resources support their employees attending the day time fire practices. This initiative has provided our department with 7 additional members who can respond during day. In turn this strengthens our department a great deal.



**Fire Dept. Chief—Ron Lampreau Jr.**  
**Emergency Co-ordinator—Melanie Stutt**