

PRESS RELEASE

Launch of NStQ Human Resource Survey

The Northern Shuswap Tribal Council has launched a survey aimed at establishing an inventory of the human resource capacity of the Northern Secwepemc te Qelmuw (NStQ) members. The Human Resources Survey will collect and develop an inventory of all the education levels, work experience, skills and abilities in the four communities of Canim Lake, Canoe Creek, Soda Creek and Williams Lake Band. This will allow each community to fully understand the resources they currently have, facilitate contact with community members for employment when it is available, and assist with planning for future training needs.

The Northern Shuswap Tribal Council Human Resources Project is in the process of developing a custom database to record the information from the survey. While personal information of individuals will be confidential and protected, the database will have the capacity to produce reports regarding demographics, human resource capacity and statistical projections that will assist with planning for the future well being and success of the NStQ communities.

The NStQ are currently in treaty negotiations and once a Treaty is signed, there will be increased authority and responsibility for the essential programs and services to be delivered by the NStQ government. There is a vision to fill as many of those new jobs as possible with NStQ citizens. Being prepared will be critical to making that vision a reality. "As the NStQ move toward a treaty, the NStQ government will need to have a clear picture of the level of human resource capacity of their members. The survey will help create a strategy for maximizing employment of NStQ members within the new government structure", says Anne Burrill, the Project Manager for the Human Resources Project.

NSTC survey staff are working in each of the four communities to distribute, complete and collect the Human Resource Survey from at least 75% of NStQ members between ages 15 and 65. Chantil Frank (Canim Lake Band), Elsie Murphy (Canoe Creek Band), Carmen Sellars (Soda Creek Band), and Cheyene Thomas (Williams Lake Band) are going house to house to make sure everyone has an opportunity to participate. Surveys are being mailed to all NStQ members who live outside their communities. "We are really encouraging people to complete the survey, as it will provide important information for the communities as they plan for the future" says Burrill. Survey participants are also entered into a prize draw when they return a survey.

NStQ members who have not received a survey can contact the survey staff from their community or the project staff at the Northern Shuswap Tribal Council offices by phone, email, or in person.

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