

Mental Wellness | Guardianship | Intake | Prevention Services | Indigenous Family Enhancement Program Services Early Years | Cultural Connections | Aboriginal Support | Family Support | Kinship Care | Child Protection

> ‡ikuq March

kakkmi

April







3048 Koot. Hwy 93/95 - Windermere, BC 250-342-6379

Rec Centre

# ki?su?k kyukyit

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May

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The Ktunaxa Kinbasket Child & Family Service Society is committed to working collaboratively with Aboriginal families and communities of the Ktunaxa Traditional Territory to increase their ability to fulfill their responsibilities for caring for their children in a culturally relevant and holistic manner.

### Content

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### **2023 Annual General Meeting**

Our AGM this year is taking place at Yaq́it ?a·knuqŧi 'it (Tobacco Plains) on July 25th, 10 AM. A virtual option will be also available.

For more information or to register, contact us by email at chelsea.hollingshead@ktunaxa.org or call (250)489-4563 ext.4012.







#### Celebration

The National Indigenous Peoples Day is on June 21st. KKCFSS celebrated at Rotary Park in Cranbrook a day before on the 20th. The Chief Joseph Centre Team did an amazing job organizing the event.



We had a welcoming by Nasu?kin (Chief) Joe Pierre, Julie Birdstone (KKCFSS Director of Child and Youth Services), Jeff Crozier (Rocky Mountain Métis Association President), Tom Shypitka (MLA), and Lynnette Wray (Cranbrook City Council).





#### Activities

The event occurred from 1 pm to 6 pm. We had mainstage performances and booths providing different activities, information and food:



- STEPS program with Métis Nation BC
- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
- Ktunaxa Nation Health
- KKCFSS voluntary services Information and colouring
- Face painting provided by KKCFSS staff and youth volunteers
- Rocky Mountain Métis Association
- Cultural facilitator booths



- Aqamnik School Youth CULTURE video
- Justus Cree showcased traditional drumming and dancing
- Métis Jigging and Fiddling by Amy Cross and Duncan McGilvary
- Bonnie Harvey Ktunaxa Storytelling
- Shuswap Hoop Dancers with drumming by Justus Cree
- Gathering our Voices Drum Group and Ktunaxa youth dancers





#### Interviews

Nasu?kin (Chief) Joe Pierre and Julie Birdstone (Child & Youth Services Director), were interviewed by Corey Bullock, a video journalist for CBC News in Cranbrook.



The interviews should be aired on CBC News - Vancouver on the 21st. Unfortunately, it seems they ended up not using it.



Radio West with Sarah Penton



However, you can find the interview online at the Radio West show on CBC Radio. It was aired on Tuesday (20th) afternoon — about 4 minutes into the show. You can listen to it by accessing the like below:

https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-96radio-west/clip/15992600-an-american-hikercredits-kindness-strangers-helping-west







### Mental Wellness - CJC

#### Our Team

Mental Wellness Team would like to welcome the Clinical Counsellor Annie Tabachnick to the Team in the Akisqnuk area! Annie brings a wealth of knowledge and experience with her, along with a specialization in art therapy.





We would also like to welcome Shelby Aquila to our Chief Joseph Centre (CJC) team as she completes her practicum for a Master of Arts in Counselling Psychology!

Continuing to grow our team

and mentor new clinicians allows us to provide greater access to counselling services for youth, their families and community members.



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# Paģmi Nuģyuk - Early Years

#### Kitaktikin - Friday Parent's drop-in group

Paqmi Nuqyuk Early Years re-named Friday Parent's drop-in group to Kitakłikin. Early Years Worker Mackenzie Lacoursiere worked collaboratively with the Paqmi Nuqyuk Early Years Team, Elders Advisory, and Julie Birdstone to ensure the new name-change is inclusive and culturally relevant.



This Spring the Paqmi Nuqyuk team has made several efforts to improve the Kitakikin group by creating formal planning guides, rebranding, collaborating with community support services, and collecting feedback from group attendees. Since these changes, the team has noticed great feedback and more attendees! This group is currently running Fridays from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm.





Moe the Mouse

Paqmi Nuqyuk Early Years team attended Moe the Mouse training on May 5th. Moe the Mouse is an Indigenous-based speech program designed by Speech and Language Pathologists here in British Columbia. The initiative focuses on different speech sounds for every animal and fun ways to practice these sounds with kids. The program follows Moe the Mouse and his friends as they do crafts, go on adventures, play together and learn more about Indigenous culture and language. Our Early Years Team has been implementing Moe the Mouse into one on one support and at Kitak<del>i</del>kin group.





# Paģmi Nuģyuk - Early Years



Nobody's Perfect Parenting Program

Paqmi Nuqyuk Early Year's Workers Katelyn and Mackenzie, based out of the Cranbrook

Chief Joseph Centre, recently completed the Nobody's Perfect Parenting Facilitator Training Spring of 2023 and are excited to offer Nobody's Perfect Parenting to families in the fall!

Nobody's Perfect Parenting gives parents a safe place to meet others with children of the same age and with whom they share interests and concerns. It's based on what parents want to learn about, not step-bystep from a book. Additionally, sessions are free, interactive and fun.

Children's Festival May 11th

The Paqmi Nuqyuk Early Years team had so much fun alongside the Indigenous Family Enhancement Program hosting an information booth and planting flowers in the Teepee at the 2023 East Kootenay Children's Festival in Cranbrook BC.



Big thank you to all the families and children that visited our booth, the staff that volunteered their time, and the community for putting on such an awesome event!

Circle of Security Parenting program -

was developed to enhance secure attachment in caregiving relationships. We are proud to announce Early Years Worker Carla Smith's completion of her COSP facilitation certification. Carla and the rest of the Paqmi Nuqyuk Early Years team continue to work together, coordinating a variety of group programming for indigenous families in the Ktunaxa region.





# Paģmi Nuģyuk - Early Years



Ready Set Learn

Paqmi Nuqyuk Early Years continues to attend Ready Set Learn events around the Kootenays. Ready Set Learn is for preschool aged families to learn about services and supports in their community.

Paqmi Nuqyuk participated in RSL at Invermere's Pothole Park on May 6th, Akisqnuk Paqmi Nuqyuk Early Years Worker Jennifer Hilder said it was incredibly well attended with more than 130 children and adults in attendance! One of the families in attendance said, "It is great to be able to connect with services, but also with other families that we didn't know."

We also attended Kimberley's RSL on June 7th. Early Years workers enjoyed promoting our services, discussing upcoming events and meeting families!

Spring Interior Early Years Conference

Paqmi Nuqyuk Early Years team attended the Interior IDP/SCD/AIDP/ASCD Early Years Conference in Kelowna BC (on the traditional and ancestral territory of the Syilx people) on April 11-14th.



A few of the seminars we attended shared information on: Pre and post-natal support, behaviour support, polyvagal theory, FASD, what inclusion truly means, attachment - building healthy connections and so much more. The Early Years team is dedicated to continuing their education and expanding their resources to provide the best possible service delivery.



# Lower Kootenay (Yaqan Nukiy)

#### First Friday

On the First Friday of every month (except January), we have a community dinner for the Lower Kootenay community and indigenous families in our territory.

There is no agenda. Just come and eat good food, share each other's company and have a good evening. We usually get anywhere between 50-100 people, depending on the month.







Regalia Making

Ran from March to May on Saturday afternoons. We had a number of people come out to work on their regalia, make regalia, new make moccasins and do some beading! A big thank you to Trina Williams and Jordan Louie for being there to support and help us with this program!



# Lower Kootenay (Yaqan Nukiy)

#### Powwow Dancing

From March to May, Tuesdays and Thursdays. We had Cherie Luke and Riley Loftus helping Fancy dance, teach Trina Williams and Taely Williams-Ram teaching Jingle dance and Jared Basil teaching Mens Grass Dance! It was really amazing to see everyone come together to learn. We had a range of kids from as young as 3 to 17 practicing, learning and preparing for The Lower Kootenay band Powwow that was held on May long weekend!





Over the summer (June to September) we will continue our first Fridays! They will be held July 7th, August 4th, and September 1st at the LKB Gym from 5-7 pm. We are also looking forward to partnering with Lower Kootenay Band to offer some youth programming over the summer.

On May 15, 2023 we also participated in the Lower Kootenay Band Community Clean picking up garbage in the community alongside the LKB staff, RCMP and Creston Fire Department.



# ?akisģnuk - Windermere

### Regalia Making

Multiple Regalia Making workshops were held at the ?akisq́nuk Health Centre in May, with light meals provided, protocols, and teachings shared for all to learn! Sewing machines and fabric were available, and some participants brought their own. Family Support Worker Richard Bryce organized the workshops and knowledge holders were Sandra / Rudy aka Moose Luke, Lily Joseph and Linda Hemlock.







Youth were working on their moccasins in the afternoons 2 days a week, after school. There was a lot of cultural language shared, as well as Ktunaxa language being used to explain the different stages. One of the biggest teachings of tanning hides is patience and to learn how to endure things that are difficult.



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# ?akisģnuk - Windermere

We take pride in the efforts invested in nurturing open and honest communication with clients. Although challenges arise and goals may shift, we remain confident as long as progress is made. Positive feedback is appreciated, yet we stay grounded, aware that circumstances can change unexpectedly. Trust and transparency are the keys to our approach, fostering mutual growth and success. We are grateful for the support of our clients and are committed to delivering exceptional service to maintain these valuable relationships.

## Trapping Camping and Feather Fan



## Barbecue. Suet + Seds and Fedeers



Visit our website kkcfss.org | Follow us on Social Media @kkcfss | Newsletter Spring Edition 2023 - 14



# Foundry East Kootenay

Update

In June 2020, KKCFSS was selected as the lead agency to create and operate a Foundry Centre for East Kootenay, based in Cranbrook.

We are pleased to announce that 2023 and 2024 are exciting years for the long-awaited Foundry East Kootenay. A walk-in wellness centre for youth ages 12-24 where culturally base services, including primary care, counselling, substance use and peer support, will be brought together under one roof. Foundry will provide a free, confidential, respectful environment grounded in Indigenous values to support East Kootenay youth in getting the help they need when they need it.

Foundry East Kootenay's design plans were finalized by the Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth on our Youth and Family Engagement Committees last summer. Preparation work on the site at 100/106 12th Avenue South in Cranbrook has occurred over the fall, including a Land Blessing Ceremony led by Lower Kootenay Nasu?kin (Chief) Jason Louie on October 12.

Construction on the centre began in January 2023. By the end of February, the foundation was built, the main floor was framed, and the floor sheathing was complete. The electrical and plumbing rough-in is nearing completion. New Dawn Development is moving forward, and attention will be directed to installing fire-rated drywall. Following, the focus will shift to the mechanical aspects of the project.





# Foundry East Kootenay

# Update

On the 29th of May, the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) visited the Foundry EK building and immersed themselves in designing the interior. They sparked their creativity with ideas and enthusiasm, exploring the furniture and colours, indicating a sense of accomplishment.





In February 2023, The East Kootenay Foundation for Health (EKFH) received \$250,000 for Foundry EK from Provincial Gaming Grants, mostly for furnishing and signage. For the following months, after the estimated budget is developed, Foundry EK will be looking into acquiring funding for a large mural reflecting the local landscape and scenery for the north wall of Foundry East Kootenay. The plan is to work with Darcy Luke and the Youth Advisory Council to paint it during the spring or summer of 2024.



### Learn more about Bill C-92

Questions about Bill C-92? Visit our website at kkcfss.org/about-bill-c-92



# About Bill C-92

#### AN ACT RESPECTING FIRST NATIONS, INUIT, METIS CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES



#### Feedback and comments

If you have any comments or questions or would like to host an information session in your community, please email or phone: Julie Birdstone at Jbirdstone@ktunaxa.org or Chelsea Hollingshead at Chelsea.Hollingshead@ktunaxa.org (250)489-4563













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## Crossword

#### Solve and learn from Ktunaxa Language



If you could solve the puzzle, share on social media and tag us!



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