



# the **BEATING HEART**

Sts' ailes Community Newsletter

December 2023

[stsailles.com](http://stsailles.com)

# MALI KLESME

**We hope everyone has a safe & joyous holidays and see you all in the new year!**

**Also, please remember that the Sts' ailes organization is CLOSED from Dec 22 - Jan 2 for the Christmas Holidays.**



# STS'AILES REFERENDUM VOTE INFO

VOTING DAY HAS BEEN SET:  
**March 20th, 2024**

As we move forward, in the coming months we will be doing our best to prepare you for this important referendum. In our worldview, we live and breathe sustainability and resilience, which encompasses the teachings of seven generations. This teaching conveys the need to consider the impacts on one another, our environment, and for those who are yet to come - the four legged, the plant and root people, the ones that swim in the rivers and oceans, the ones that fly, and the weakest beings, the human.

A milestone of Sts'ailes is to have our Snowoyelh (traditional laws) recognized and threaded into our governing practices. The Constitution & Citizenship Code are two big pieces of becoming self-governed, stepping out of the Indian Act, and working towards our CCP goal!

*Sts'ailes CCP Exerpt:*

“WHAT WE ENVISION: Sts'ailes governance, constitution, authority, and responsibility are established by membership (Citizenship) and recognized by other First Nations and other governments at the national, provincial, and local levels. Sts'ailes has its own system of laws and enforcement along with a restorative justice system. With self government, Sts'ailes has a full suite of policies to guide each sector of each department.”

## WHAT IS A CONSTITUTION?

The Constitution describes how we wish to live and how we want to govern ourselves. It is the over-arching document for our laws.

## WHAT IS A CITIZENSHIP CODE?

The Citizenship Code determines who Sts'ailes government will respond to, advocate for, and govern.

## WHAT IS A SELF-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT?

A Self-Government Agreement (SGA) is a nation-to-nation agreement with Canada that *recognizes* Sts'ailes rights for self-government. It will outline key elements of our self-government practices and future scope of work we wish to engage in for self-government.

### Decision-Making

Essentially, the SGA recognizes decision-making power of indigenous governments - in this case, for Sts'ailes.

## INDIAN ACT & SELF-GOVERNMENT

### Under the Indian Act

- Governed by the Indian Act
- Band Council has delegated authorities
- Band Council reports to the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Minister of Indigenous Services
- Programs and services provided through Department of Indigenous Services

- Land that is provided (Indian Reserves) for the use and benefit of the Band cannot be owned by the Band or individual members.
- Funding is determined by the federal government and there is no guarantee in funding

### Under Self-Governance

- The Indian Act no longer applies to the First Nation or it's Citizens where the First Nation have made their own laws.
  - » Sts'ailes is an independent government
  - » Sts'ailes is no longer accountable to the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Indigenous Services
- Governed by Sts'ailes Constitution
  - » Sts'ailes Government makes laws and is accountable to the people
- Same level of existing services plus ability to expand services to meet the needs of its citizens
- Consistent governance funding through the Collaborative Fiscal Framework

## WHAT WE ARE DOING

- Listening to oral stories
- Engaging Knowledge Keepers
- Utilizing Sts'ailes Snowoyelh (Laws) and Sts'ailes Si:wes (Teachings)
- Compiling existing documents to build on the work of our predecessors
- Engaging our legal counsel and cross comparing with others
- Consulting with Sts'ailes Xwelmexw, Chief and Council, and employees
- Preparing for implementation

## WHAT TO EXPECT

- Open House Activities
- Family Meetings
- Focus Groups
- Mail-Out Packages
- Video Clips
- Online & In-Person Activities
- Also prepare for ratification, also known as Community Voting
- News Releases
- Celebration & Ceremony

## WHAT ELSE TO EXPECT

When the Constitution and Citizenship Code are ratified and when the Self-Government Agreement (SGA) is signed, we can expect to follow the standards and practices outlined in these governing documents. We will have a better idea of what the detailed changes will be when we begin implementation planning. These plans will also be shared with Sts'ailes Xwelmexw.

## QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!

 604.796.2116

 [stephanie.adams@stsailles.com](mailto:stephanie.adams@stsailles.com)  
[michaela.james@stsailles.com](mailto:michaela.james@stsailles.com)

To update mailing address / contact information  
please talk to **Carla Charlie:**

 604.796.2116

 [carla.charlie@stsailles.com](mailto:carla.charlie@stsailles.com)



**STS'AILES EDUCATION DEPT. UPDATE**

**SCS DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Trades Classroom** - the new huge classroom is complete and will house electrical, plumbing and carpentry teaching areas. This will start in January 2023.

**SWEATER DAY**  
December 15

**Cooperative Education** - we are into this FNEC sponsored program that provides job preparation and work place experiences coincides with our Career Week.

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT**  
December 20  
@ 1:00 PM

**Financial Literacy** - planning to offer during Career Week to provide valuable skills in money management and budget planing.

**Food Safe** - one staff and eleven students completed food safe

**SCS CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS**  
December 21 to  
January 9

**Driver Training** - sponsored by the Construction Foundation of BC - we had 14 students with their L from last year who had in-car lessons this year. There were 17 students taking their theory course. We have 8 new L students - CONGRATS TO EVERYONE WHO COMPLETED THIS COURSE.

**First Aide Training** - December 4/5

**WHMIS Training** - December 13

**Fall/Ladder Training** - December 14

**Sts'ailes Education Department Naming Ceremony** - The department is planning a celebration to recognize the many people who were committed to building the Sts'ailes Education Department. To honor those who gave so much the school will be naming the stand alone classrooms and IE shops as well as christening the buses. A date for the ceremony will be coming soon.



*Our new electric buses!*



**WARNING!!!!**

There is a **ZERO TOLERANCE FOR ILLICIT DRUG USE AND ILLICIT DRUG SELLING** in the Sts'ailes community.

**ANY** individuals seen, heard of/reported, or observed, using, selling, or supporting the use of **ILLICIT DRUGS** in the community could be:

1. Asked to leave the Community and stand before council before returning.
2. Be evicted or lose rights to future tenancy or ownership of a home.
3. Lose employment or lose consideration for employment.
4. Be **BANISHED** from Sts'ailes.
5. Put family members at risk of any of the above noted.

The Justice department has received several reports of community members who are either using, selling, or enabling the use and selling of illicit drugs in the community.

These complaints are brought to Chief and Council and the Security Team as well as, in more serious events, the Indigenous Policing Service and RCMP.

It is the goal of leadership to inform community members **Illicit Drugs are NOT supported**. Extra measures will be taken to prevent theft, overdose and destruction of homes and property.

By doing this, the community is being held accountable to assist with the overall health, safety and wellbeing of fellow community members including our children, elders, and vulnerable members.

Council calls on you to report **ANY ILLICIT DRUG USE OR SELLING** so we can put an end to illicit drug related violence, harm, and overdoses in your community.

Council also calls on you to reach out to the Justice, Addiction and Mental Health services that are offered in community, free of charge and non-judgemental, to assist yourself or family members who need addiction support.

Thank you for your contribution to ensuring communal living is a safe and healthy experience for everyone, from the youngest to the oldest.



## PLEASE JOIN OUR NEW FACEBOOK PAGE

# STS'AILES QÉP SÍ:TEL

"Sts'ailes Gathering Basket"

## TO ENTER THE BONUS PRIZE DRAW



**Firman 5-Gallon Gas  
3550W-4450W  
Generator**



**Jackery Portable Power  
Station**



**All American  
25 - Quart Pressure  
Canner with 3 Canner  
racks**



**\$500 Kent Outdoor Gift  
Card**

To enter this draw you must enter in the four draws listed below on the Sts'ailes Qép Sí:tel Facebook Page (scan the QR code to join the new page);

1. Photo Draw
2. Master Plan and Land Use Plan Video and Survey
3. Citizenship and Constitution 10-second Video Submission
4. Land Laws Quiz

### Rules

1. Open to all ages
2. Open to registered Sts'ailes members
3. All submissions must be made by Monday, December 18th, 2023 by 11:59pm

**The winners will be drawn and posted on Wednesday, December 20th, 2023**



Contact us for any  
questions or help



604-799-2398



secretariat@stsailles.com

A collaborative approach: A great deal of this work requires a collaborative effort. We wish to harness the energy of our youth and the wisdom of our Elders and knowledge-keepers. We have faith in the strengths of our ancestors, and we embrace new and innovative ways of "leveling up" on the goodwork that has been done here for generations, and we hope to leave a clear pathway for generations to come!

### Here is some more information regarding the draws!!!

1. Picture draw enter for a chance to win a \$200 Sts'ailes Store Gift Card.
2. Watch the Masterplan & Land Use Plan Video on the Sts'ailes Qép Sí:tel Facebook page and complete the survey questions. Enter for a chance to win a \$150 Cascades Gift Card.
3. Make a 10-second video submission to Citizenship/Constitution draw on the Sts'ailes Qép Sí:tel Facebook page post in the comments or email secretariat@stsailles.com. Enter for a chance to win a \$150 MasterCard.
4. Complete the Land Laws quiz! Enter for a chance to win a \$150 Five Star Gift Card.
5. Complete all "four" submissions for each draw 1 to 4 you will automatically be entered in the "bonus draw" (one entry per person)

### Additional Notes:

1. All draws will open on December 6th on the Sts'ailes Qép Sí:tel Facebook page.
2. Those that need help can receive help to make a submission by reaching out via email (secretariat@stsailles.com) or call 604-799-2398 to make an appointment with our support staff after December 5th.
3. If you have any questions feel free to reach out via email (secretariat@stsailles.com), on the Sts'ailes Qép Sí:tel Facebook Page, or call 604-799-2398.

### Rules

1. All ages can make submissions.
2. Only Sts'ailes registered members and community members can be submitted in any of the draws.
3. All submissions must be made December 18th 2023, 11:59pm. DECEMBER 18TH DEADLINE.
4. The winners will be drawn on December 20th and posted to the Sts'ailes Qép Sí:tel Facebook page.
5. All submissions
6. Any winners with proof of residence outside of the Fraser Valley can arrange for the prize to be exchanged for cash.

### Photo and Video Release and Consent

By submitting your entry to the Sts'ailes Qép Sí:tel "Gathering Basket" Door Prize Draw, you agree to the following terms and conditions:

1. You grant the Sts'ailes and Sts'ailes Development Corporation the right to use your photos and videos of you, and your likeness in any photos, videos, or other digital media, in any of their publications, including web-based ones, without any payment or other consideration.
2. You authorize the Organization to edit, alter, copy, exhibit, publish, or distribute your photos and videos for any lawful purpose.
3. You waive any right to inspect or approve the finished product where your likeness appears, and any right to royalties or other compensation related to the use of your photos and videos.
4. You release and discharge the Organization from any claims, demands, or causes of action that you or your heirs, representatives, executors, administrators, or any other persons acting on your behalf or on behalf of your estate may have by reason of this agreement.
5. You certify that you have read and fully understand this consent, and that all questions pertaining to this consent have been answered to your satisfaction.

# COMMUNITY WELLNESS CALENDAR DECEMBER 2023

SUN DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4690 Salish Way Agassiz, B.C V0M 1A1 PHONE: 604-491-0021 EMAIL: <a href="mailto:annette.francis@stsailles.com">annette.francis@stsailles.com</a> <a href="mailto:jeremy.dool@stsailles.com">jeremy.dool@stsailles.com</a> <a href="mailto:dawn.charlie@stsailles.com">dawn.charlie@stsailles.com</a> <a href="mailto:troy.charlie@stsailles.com">troy.charlie@stsailles.com</a> Facebook- Sts'ailes Yeqwethet & Snowoyelh Services					1	2
3 Crafters Corner 11:00-4:00 Young Adult Night 4:30-7pm	4 <b>ELDERS LUNCHEON</b> <b>Homework Club</b>	5 Someone So Small 11-1 Holistic Living 5:30-8:00 <a href="#">Futsal 6-8</a>	6 <a href="#">Boys Group Gym 3-4:30</a> <a href="#">Girls Group House 3-4:30</a> <a href="#">Meal Prep 4:30-6:00</a>	7 <b>J.O.Y OUTING</b> Sew Exciting 5:00-8:00	8 <b>Teen Outing</b>	9
10 Holistic living 12:00-4:00	11 <b>COMMUNITY PARADE</b>	12 Teen Craft Night 4:00-7:00 <a href="#">Futsal 6-8</a>	13 <b>DOOR PRIZE DELIVERY</b>	14 <b>J.O.Y BRUNCH</b> Sew Exciting 5:00-8:00	15	16
17 Crafters Corner 11:00-4:00	18 <b>Canoe Journey Meeting 5-7</b>	19 Someone So Small 11-1 Holistic Living 5:30-8:00 <a href="#">Futsal 6-8</a>	20 <a href="#">Boys Group Gym 3-4:30</a> <a href="#">Girls Group House 3-4:30</a> <a href="#">Meal Prep 4:30-6:00</a>	21 <i>Family Night</i>	22 OFFICE CLOSED SEE YOU IN THE NEW YEAR	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<b>Christmas Holidays</b>						

## CHEHALIS STORE HOLIDAY Opening Hours

CHRISTMAS EVE	7.00 AM- 6:00PM
CHRISTMAS DAY	CLOSED
BOXING DAY	10:00AM - 6:00PM
NEW YEARS EVE	7:00AM - 6:00PM
NEW YEARS DAY	CLOSED
JANUARY 2ND	CLOSED FOR INVENTORY

## STS'AILES FOOD BANK SCHEDULE 2023

### December 15 & 29

#### Start Times:

*Elders ONLY at 12:30 pm* Everyone else at 1:00 pm

If you need food between Food Bank dates, you can contact any of the following people for access:

Deacon Jamie:	604-615-5677	Cyril Paul:	604-796-9275
Connie Meskas:	778-982-3053	Kateri Charlie:	778-201-6442
Harvey Paul:	604-796-3456		

## SWEATLODGE CEREMONIES

Honoring the Feminine Energy  
w/ Darla Rasmussen

Honoring the Masculine Energy  
w/ David Peters

Please bring a change of clothes, towel or blanket. Light snacks and beverages will be provided.

For more info or to RSVP:  
E-[telmexwawtexw@stsailles.com](mailto:telmexwawtexw@stsailles.com)  
T-778.838.9932

## FAMILY SUPPORT CIRCLE

Every Tuesday  
Time: 4:00PM - 6:00PM

Support for those with family or friends  
with substance use habits.

The Circle will be supported by Telmexw  
Awtexw Counsellor and an Elder.

For More Info Contact  
[telmexwawtexw@stsailles.com](mailto:telmexwawtexw@stsailles.com)  
604.997.2849

# STS'AILES STRONG MINI-PITCH

## COMING IN SPRING 2024

The Sts'ailes Strong Mini-Pitch site preparation is underway and the Mini-Pitch will be installed and ready to play on in the spring of 2024.

We recognize the incredible core partner contributions from Vancouver Whitecaps and Scotiabank to make this Mini-Pitch possible.

We recognize Sts'ailes Nation for your trust and partnership and in offering a home for this Mini-Pitch.

We recognize Musco, the Mini-Pitch company for your support and belief in our vision and Binnie for your site preparation

The design of the pitch is inspired by the Orange Shirt Day movement - creating an inspiring and safe place to play, in memory of the children gone too soon through the residential schools genocide and to honour the survivors. The graphics are a repatterning of the Hope and Health logo created by Maynard Johnny Jr.

The posters around the Mini-Pitch will be created by Sts'ailes to honour the legacy and achievements of local athletes.

This initiative brings people together to "be the change" to co-create new pathways, on and off the pitch, based on mutual respect, love and equity moving together as one mind, one heart in the spirit of Nautsa'mawt.



Thank you to our sponsors:



Sto:lo Aboriginal Skills & Employment Training is pleased to offer:



# TRAFFIC CONTROL PERSON TRAINING

Are you interested in pursuing a career as a flagger or traffic control person?

Are you an Indigenous person residing in the SASET catchment area?

Are you unemployed or underemployed?

Are you willing to commit to two days of training?

**If so... We are presently accepting applications for this training opportunity. There are a limited number of seats so don't delay in scheduling an appointment with an employment counsellor today!**

## CHRISTMAS HOUSEHOLD Door Prize Draw

Wednesday, December 13th, 2023  
5:00pm

**Virtual link provided soon**  
Prizes will be dropped off to your door, if no one is home to claim your prize it will be brought back to the band office for you to claim.

## DECEMBER EVENTS

**MON 11** Household Gift Card Distribution and Christmas Parade  
Same route as last year

**MON 11** Cookies & Cocoa with Santa  
Please see the gift list at the front desk

**WED 13** Household Door Prize Draw  
Virtual link will be provided

**Date Changes**



**January 11 & 12, 2024**  
8:30 am to 4:00 pm  
Training will take place at:  
Cheam First Nation  
52161 Victor Dr  
Rosedale, BC

**SASET - Chilliwack Office**

5B-7201 Vedder Road  
Chilliwack, BC  
Phone: 604-858-3691

**Sts'ailes Employment Centre**

4690 Salish Way  
Agassiz, BC  
Phone: 604-796-5536

**Seabird Employment Centre**

2895 Chowat Road  
Agassiz, BC  
Phone: 604-796-6865

For more information, contact us:

604-858-3691 www.saset.ca info@saset.ca www.facebook.com/SASET.EAS



# First Aid Level 3 Training!

January 29 - February 9, 2024

Are you an Indigenous individual who:

- Is un- or under employed
- Resides in SASET's catchment area
- Is willing to commit to a 2 week full-time certificate training program

If so... we are presently accepting applications for this training opportunity. There are a limited number of seats, so don't delay in scheduling an appointment with your Employment Counsellor!

Training will take place on-site at Sto:lo Nation  
Building 5B, 7201 Vedder Rd  
Chilliwack, BC

Monday to Friday  
8:30 AM TO 3:30 PM

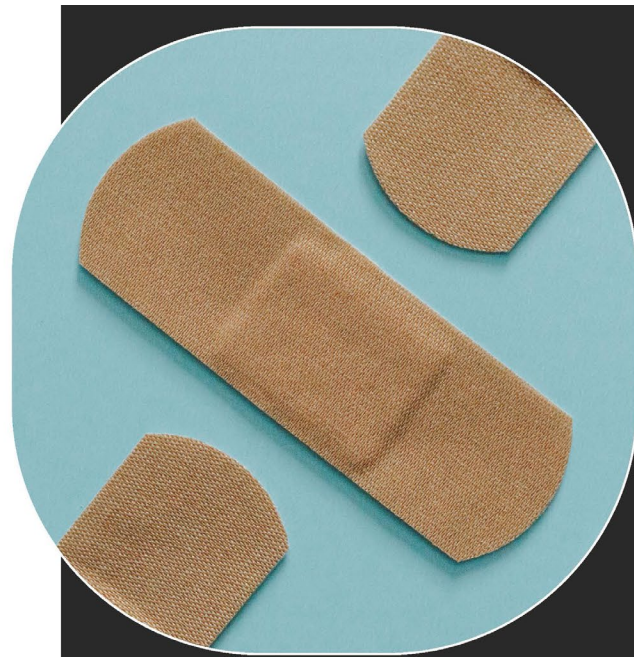


## TO APPLY PLEASE CONTACT SASET

**SASET—Chilliwack Office**  
5B-7201 Vedder Road  
Chilliwack, BC  
Phone: 604-858-3691

**SASET— Sts'ailes Office**  
4690 Salish Way  
Agassiz, BC  
Phone: 604-796-5536

**SASET—Seabird Office**  
2895 Chowat Road  
Agassiz, BC  
Phone: 604-796-6865



# Chainsaw Safety Training Program

March 5 & 6, 2024

Are you an Indigenous individual who:

- Is un- or under employed
- Resides in SASET's catchment area
- Is willing to commit to a 2-day training program

**If so... we are presently accepting applications for this training opportunity. There are a limited number of seats, so don't delay in scheduling an appointment with your Employment Counsellor!**



## TO APPLY PLEASE CONTACT SASET:

[www.saset.ca](http://www.saset.ca)

SASET - Chilliwack Office  
5B-7201 Vedder Road  
Chilliwack, BC  
Phone: 604-858-3691

Sts'ailes Employment Centre  
4690 Salish Way  
Agassiz, BC  
Phone: 604-796-5536

Seabird Employment Centre  
2895 Chowat Road  
Agassiz, BC  
Phone: 604-796-6865



Canada

January 22 - February 1, 2024

# EMPLOYMENT PREP TRAINING

We are presently accepting applications for this Indigenous training opportunity. There are a limited number of seats, so don't delay in scheduling an appointment with your Employment Counsellor!

### Certificates Offered:

- First Aid Level 1
- WHMIS
- Skid Steer
- Aerial Lifts
- Forklift
- Food Safe
- Fall Protection
- And more!



Training will take place at  
Sto:lo Nation  
Building 5B, 7201 Vedder  
Rd Chilliwack  
Monday to Friday  
8:30 AM TO 3:30 PM



Lunch,  
Transportation  
Supports and  
Safety Gear  
Provided!

SASET—Chilliwack Office  
5B-7201 Vedder Road  
Chilliwack, BC  
Phone: 604-858-3691

SASET— Sts'ailes Office  
4690 Salish Way  
Agassiz, BC  
Phone: 604-796-5536

SASET—Seabird Office  
2895 Chowat Road  
Agassiz, BC  
Phone: 604-796-6865



Sto:lo Aboriginal Skills & Employment Training  
is pleased to offer the:  
**Culinary Arts**

## Pre-Trade Program

Starts January 8th, 2024



Are you an Indigenous individual  
residing in the SASET catchment  
area who has an interest in the  
cooking profession?

If so, contact a SASET employment  
counsellor to book an appointment  
and complete the application package.

### CONTACT US TODAY!

- 604-858-3691 Fax: 604-858-3528
- Toll Free (BC): 1-888-845-4455
- [www.saset.ca](http://www.saset.ca)
- <https://www.facebook.com/SASET.EAS>
- 5579 Tyson Rd, Chilliwack,  
BC V2R 0H9

### Program Includes:

- ◊ Certificates: FoodSafe, First Aid level 1, WHMIS, WCB Awareness
- ◊ Occupational Skills
- ◊ Stocks, soups and sauces
- ◊ Vegetables and fruits
- ◊ Starches
- ◊ Meats
- ◊ Poultry
- ◊ Seafood
- ◊ Garde-mange
- ◊ Eggs, breakfast cookery and dairy
- ◊ Baked good, desserts and beverages
- ◊ Basic kitchen management
- ◊ Two week practicum placement



Canada