



the **BEATING HEART**

Sts'ailes Community Newsletter

September 2023

stsailles.com

OFFICE CLOSURE



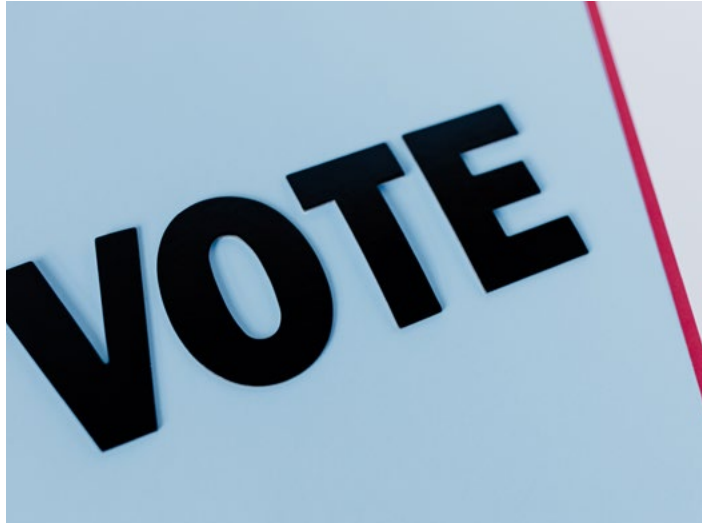
Sts'ailes



**Monday, October 2nd, 2023 in lieu
of NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND
RECONCILIATION. Regular business
hours will resume on Tuesday,
October 3rd, 2023.**



STS'AILES REFERENDUM VOTE INFO



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
michaela.james@stsailles.com

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

 604.796.2116

 carla.charlie@stsailles.com



CHEHALIS INDIAN DAY SCHOOL DEMOLITION

"On August 3rd, 2023 the demolition of Federal Indian Day School located in Sts'ales took place. The Roman Catholic Church operated the school for 63 years. Originally opened in 1916 at the end of Chehalis Road, it was relocated to Phillip Road in 1950 until 1979. Even though the demolition cannot take away over six decades of horrid abuse, it is a step towards healing as individuals and as a community. Leadership shared some moving words with those who attended, and Yeqwethet arranged to have members from the Indian Residential School Survivors Society (IRSSS) and FNHA on hand to provide counselling services and to be there in support of everyone attending."



WEAVER CREEK RENAMING CEREMONY

On August 24th, 2023, a special ceremony was held to commemorate the renaming of the Weaver Creek Spawning Channel in honour of the late Wayne "Bun" Charlie. Wayne was a proud lifelong Sts'ales fisherman, advocated for salmon, and was a long standing employee with Weaver Creek. In observance of his dedication to the salmon the Spawning Channel was renamed after him. The Spawning Channel now carries the name "St'axwemel Stotelo". "St'axwemel" was Wayne's traditional name and "Stotelo" means stream, waterway, or small river, and in this case, creek. The ceremony was well-attended by family, friends, and Government dignitaries.





happy harvest

Sts'ailes Open House

Wednesday, September 20th, 2023

Sts'ailes Community School Gym

AGENDA

1:30PM ELDERS HOUR

2:30PM INFORMATION TABLES OPEN TO EVERYONE

5:00PM DINNER

6:00PM DOOR PRIZE DRAW

Sts'ailes



EYE CLINIC

OCTOBER 16 & 17

Contact Domanic to book an appointment:

Tel: 604.796.9601

Email: Domanic.Charliefrancis@stsailles.com

* REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR ID

ON-SITE DENTAL HYGIENE CARE SERVICES

OCTOBER 3
(TUESDAY)

Contact Rica Paul to book an appointment:

Tel: 604.796.9601 Ext. 406

Email: Rica.Paul@stsailles.com



EXPERIENCED CARPENTER WANTED. Work will primarily be within Sts'ailes community.

We are looking for someone who has:

- Leadership skills
- Craftsmanship skills
- Can work independently
- Good work ethic
- Enjoys working as part a team.

Vehicle or transportation is an asset. Salary determined on experience and skills.

Please call:
Martin at Seven Cedars
Construction @ 204-781-7711

Or email resume to:
info@seven-cedars.com

STS'AILES FOOD BANK SCHEDULE 2023

September 22
October 6 & 20

November 3 & 17
December 1 & 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
Connie Meskas:	778-982-3053
Harvey Paul:	604-796-3456
Cyril Paul:	604-796-9275
Kateri Charlie:	778-201-6442