



the **BEATING HEART**

Sts' Ailes Community Newsletter

November 2023

stsailles.com

UPCOMING OFFICE CLOSURES

- **Friday, November 24**
(All Staff Retreat)
- **December 22 - January 2**
(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
michaela.james@stsailles.com

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

 604.796.2116

 carla.charlie@stsailles.com



IN-HOUSE OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, November 29, 2023
@ the Sts'ailes Administration Building

Snacks & Drinks Provided! **Sign In to Enter Door Prize Draw!**

Agenda

1:00 pm Elders Hour
 2:00 Open to everyone
 6:00pm Door Prize Draw

STS' AILES COMMUNITY SCHOOL DATES

Drivers Ed - Secondary training November 14 to November 30.

Elementary Reports - Term I ends November 24.

School closed November 24th.

Addictions Assembly - November 20 for Grades 6-12.

Pancake Breakfast - November 29

Grade 3 - Purdy's Fundraiser during the month of November.

Contact lesliec@chehalisschool.com

Watch for our new electric buses that are scheduled to be on the road in December.

DECEMBER EVENTS

- MON 11** Household Gift Card Distribution
- TUES 12** Cookies & Cocoa with Santa
Please see the gift list at the front desk
- WED 13** Household Door Prize Draw
Virtual link will be provided
- THURS 14** Christmas Parade
Same route as last year

Vancity Community Futures

Small Business Startup

WANTING TO START A SMALL BUSINESS?
HERE IS A WORKSHOP PERFECT FOR YOU!

HERE ARE THE TOPICS THAT WILL BE COVERED:

- Are you ready to start a business
- Building a better business plan
- Make the most of your money
- Plan a cash flow
- 10 things a lender looks for
- Key to market research
- Connecting with customers
- Maintain work life balance

DATE: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH, 2023
TIME: 9:00AM - 3:00PM
LOCATION: SKWAH FIRST NATION COMMUNITY CENTRE

TO REGISTER
 CALL 604-858-0009 OR
 EMAIL BHILL@STOLOCF.CA

FREE WORKSHOP! **FREE DOOR PRIZES!**
SNACK & LUNCH!

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
 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
 604.997.2849



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

FLU, COVID, PNEUMONIA VACCINE CLINICS

WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS
1pm-5pm

WALK-IN OR BOOK @ 604-796-9601
Yeqwethet Health Clinic

COMMUNITY WELLNESS CALENDAR NOVEMBER 2023

SUN DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4690 Salish Way Agassiz, B.C V0M 1A1 PHONE: 604-491-0021 EMAIL: annette.francis@stsailles.com jeremy.dool@stsailles.com dawn.charlie@stsailles.com troy.charlie@stsailles.com Facebook- Sts'ailes Yeqwethet & Snowoyelh Services			1 Boys Group Gym 3-4:30 Girls Group House 3-4:30 Gym Outing 4:30-8	2 <i>Elders Lunch</i> Meal Prep 4:30-5:30	3 MEAT PRESERVATION	4
5	6 Open gym 6-8 Homework Club	7 Someone So Small 11-1 <i>Seu Exciting</i> 5:00 - 8:00	8 CLOSED FOR TRAINING	9 CLOSED FOR TRAINING	10 Sts'ailes Pro D Day in House Crafts 11-4	11 Remembrance Day
12 Crafters Corner 9:00-2:00	13 <i>Closed for Remembrance Day</i>	14 Open Gym	15 Boys Group House 3-4:30 Girls Group Gym 3-4:30 Gym Outing 4:30-8 Meal Prep 4:30-5:30	16 <i>J-O-Y Brunch 10:30-12</i> <i>Holistic Living 5:30-8:00</i>	17 Teen Outing	18
19 Sunday Funday Hike 10:30 Depart	20 NAWW PARADE Homework Club	21 Someone So Small Swimming Outing 11-1 Young Adult Night 5:00 - 7:30	22 NAWW CEREMONY Gym Outing 4:30-8	23 Staff Day No Programs	24	25
26 Crafters Corner 9:00 - 2:00	27 Yeqwethet Planning	28 Yeqwethet Planning	29 Family Night	30 <i>J-O-Y Swimming Outing</i> <i>Meal Prep 4:30</i> <i>Holistic Living 5:30-8:00</i>		

STS'AILES FOOD BANK SCHEDULE 2023

November 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