



the **BEATING  
HEART**

Sts'ailes Community Newsletter

• August 2023

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

# STS'AILES OPEN HOUSE

**Wednesday, Sept. 20th**

**@ Community School Gym**

**2:00 pm - 7:00 pm**

**DINNER PROVIDED**

**DOOR PRIZES!**





# 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](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)



**XWILÉXMET**  
we are the land

**HOW TO CONTACT STS'AILES SAFETY & SECURITY**

**Security Supervisors**

Alexander Paul  
604-845-2310 (work cell)  
Alexander.paul@stsailles.com

Wesley Francis  
604-845-2311 (work cell)  
Wesley.francis@stsailles.com

**SECURITY VALUES**

Respect, Communication, Integrity, Compassion /  
Empathy & Support, Accountability / Professionalism

**STS'AILES SECURITY MISSION STATEMENT**

To provide excellence in security services, giving peace of mind and assurance for the protection and safety for our community and visitors. To report any violations to the RCMP that may cause harm to any member including self harm, and to ensure all children, youth, elder's and vulnerable members are safe and protected.

**The primary responsibility of the security team is:**

- To detect and report any suspicious behaviour and to prevent any criminal behaviour.
- To help Sts'ailes remain a safe and secure community
- Patrol community and premises regularly to maintain order and establish presence within the community
- Monitor vehicles or people entering the community and document suspicious vehicles and people
- Contact RCMP if suspicious people, vehicles or activity happens in the community
- Respond to alarms by investigating and assessing the situation

- Liaison with local RCMP / Ambulance with community contact
- Attend Community Consultative Group meetings to report all Security Related activities in community for enhanced safety planning
- Wellness checks within community, report to RCMP if extra assistance is needed

**\*Note:** In an emergency serious criminal or violent events, Community members are expected to call 911 first, then inform Security who can assist emergency responders. Witnesses must call 911 to report serious criminal activities.

**STS'AILES SECURITY'S FUTURE**

For the last few months, the Justice Department has been working with justice partners in strategic planning to develop the Sts'ailes Security into Community Policing and Enforcement.

There will be small changes implemented into the practice and protocol of the Sts'ailes Security to prepare for the future policing, enforcement, and self governance. This work is ongoing.



# JOIN US IN CELEBRATING

**Sts'ailes NAIG athletes and all their achievements!**



**Thursday, August 10 @ 5 PM**  
**SCS Gym**  
**5:00 pm - Doors Open**  
**5:30 - Meal**  
**6:15 - Ceremony**



**Sto: lo Aboriginal Skills & Employment Training (SASET)**

are pleased to host:

**Canada Revenue Agency and Service Canada Mobile Clinics**

<b>September 6, 2023</b>	<b>Sts'ailes EAS Office Agassiz, BC</b>	<b>10:00am to 2:30pm</b>
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**Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)**

- Information on T4 slips and personal tax account overview
- Address changes
- Information and help with benefits and credits such as the Canada Child Benefit (CCB), GST/HST credit, Canada Workers Benefit, and Disability Tax credit
- The Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP)

**Service Canada**

- Employment Insurance, Canada Pension Plan & Old Age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement
- Social Insurance Numbers
- Other federal programs and services

**Please Note: Bring 1 photo ID and your Social Insurance Number to receive assistance.**

For more information please [info@saset.ca](mailto:info@saset.ca) or call 604-858-3691

**STS' AILES COMMUNITY SCHOOL REGISTRATION 2023-2024 REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL TERM. CLASSES COMMENCE SEPTEMBER 5 WITH:**

- BC Ministry of Ed Dogwood Diploma Accreditation/ Post Sec Prep
- Halq'emeylem language and cultural teachings
- KS-Grade 5 Levelled Literacy and Numeracy
- KS-12 Fine Arts
  - » Drama/traditional teachings/guitar/drumming/ carving/painting
- Technology supported learning
  - » Elementary iPads provided for all students
  - » Secondary laptops provided for all students
- Sports/Leadership opportunities - mentors
- Middle School opportunities (Gr 6-8)
  - » First Nations Art
  - » Introduction to Technology 3D Printing
  - » Film and Drama
  - » Indigenous medicines/foods
- Secondary opportunities
  - » First Nations Art
  - » Robotics - Programming and Digital Animation
  - » Film and Drama/Guitar
  - » Athletics Program - Fitness Training
  - » Leadership Program
  - » Outdoor Education/Job readiness
- Diploma Opportunities - Skills Training
  - » Drivers Training \* Foodsafe \* Job Readiness Certificate/OFA/EFA First Aide \* First Host \* Babysitting
  - » Cashier Training \* Power Pallet\* Forklift Training
- Breakfast and Lunch Program provided at no cost.
- Bus Transportation from Agassiz, Chilliwack, Mission
- NEW-Industrial Ed Facility for Electrical, Plumbing, Carpentry



Enrolment is open to ALL students. **Current students will be automatically enrolled.** All registrations will be reviewed prior to enrolment acceptance.

For registration info please email [trinab@chehalisschool.com](mailto:trinab@chehalisschool.com) or call **604-796-2146** during school office hours.

**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](mailto:info@seven-cedars.com)

**STS'AILES FOOD BANK SCHEDULE 2023**

June 16 & 30  
July 14 & 28  
August 11 & 25  
September 8 & 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