



First Nations'
Emergency Services Society

O F B R I T I S H C O L U M B I A

2019-2020
ANNUAL REPORT





OUR
VISION

Safe and Healthy
First Nations Communities

OUR
MISSION

FNESS serves First Nations in
developing and sustaining safer
and healthier communities through:

- Fire training, education, and prevention
- Emergency planning, training, response, and recovery
- Forest fuel and wildfire management
- Leadership and collaborative relationships

OUR
VALUES

Courage

Strength and curiosity while determining the most beneficial actions with communities.

Honesty

Open and transparent environments in all actions.

Passion

Acknowledging enthusiasm and initiative; rewarding success regularly.

Integrity

Consistent and accountable for all actions, assessing and adapting as needed.

Respect

Inclusiveness and teamwork that allows fairness, balance and harmony in all activities; appreciative of all cultural diversities.

Trustworthiness

Providing credible and state-of-the-art recognized services.



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FNESS BOARD OF DIRECTORS



HUNT, Sonny (Stephen)
President



MORIN, Barbara
Vice President



KELLY, Michael
Secretary/Treasurer



MOORE, Anthony
Board of Director



MCKENZIE, Heather
Board of Director



PAUL, Walter
Board of Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

Keeping safe! The FNESS Board of Directors confirms that its primary focus is to assist in all ways possible to stop the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus. The Board supports the staff working remotely and the halt to all non-essential travel for the safety of all employees. FNESS has facilitated work from home for all non-critical business. We also want to ensure that staff always exercise self-care and that they receive information about available mental health services to be used as required. The Board also offers our deepest respect and gratitude to all the frontline workers and healthcare providers. These are very turbulent times. Please stay healthy and be kind to one another.



Executive Director's Report

CHALLENGING AND SERIOUS END TO THE FISCAL 2019/2020

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic continues to evolve in BC, Canada, and internationally. In response to the continued pandemic in British Columbia and based on the guidance of public health officials, the First Nations Emergency Services Society (FNESS) has made a number of changes to our operations that will be in effect until further notice.

All FNESS events, including workshops, meetings, and conferences, are cancelled, postponed, or moved to a virtual format. In addition, all FNESS staff travel has been cancelled until further notice. Updates will continue to be sent from individual departments as this ever-changing situation develops.

Further, the FNESS field offices are closed, with staff working remotely until further notice. As a result, some services will be temporarily modified or unavailable and responses may be delayed. We apologize in advance for the inconvenience. We are doing our best to manage the situation as effectively as possible given the challenging circumstances and are planning how to deliver essential and needed services over the coming weeks and months.

Forest Fuel Management (FFM) initiatives are among the directions and projects that are ongoing but with understandable delays. An additional staff person is being resourced to provide more regional-based support. Fuel Management projects approved with communities are moving forward, albeit with some delays. These projects include both on-reserve and off-reserve treatment units, totalling over \$2.5M this year. In addition, FireSmart projects continue as noted above. Funding for the 2020-21 fiscal year has been approved for a total of \$2,609,606. Certainly, glimmers of FireSmart activity lie ahead.

Together with partners and communities, FFM continues to advance the Revitalizing Traditional Burning and Indigenous Knowledge & Prescribed Burning Engagements projects for the benefit of communities. Interagency wildland fire training, hiring and retention are being actively reviewed.

Within the Structural Fire Services Department (FS), continuity planning with fire departments continues along with new safety requirements as a result of COVID-19. While the tiered approach continues for training efficiency, the training itself does not. Communities continue to receive and install smoke alarm and kitchen fire extinguishers, but youth camps and school programs are currently suspended until further notice. Exterior Attack and Rural Team Leader training are becoming mainstays for several communities and will continue unabated as safety allows.

Policy-based background work includes FNESS, specifically around updates to the Emergency Program Act (BC Legislature). This work has taken on increased significance in recent months. The Emergency Program includes Nation-based membership (including FNESS) that make up this Emergency Management Tripartite Working Group. There will be significant work ahead for this group in 2020-2021. We continue to review and improve EM services for all communities. Great challenges lie ahead both as a result of the pandemic and from flood and fire probabilities in 2020-2021.

With highest regard and respect for the communities we serve, we trust you will stay as safe and healthy as possible in the days ahead.



Fire Services Department

The Fire Services department is proud to provide fire prevention programs and firefighter training to Indigenous communities throughout British Columbia. We offer training for various parts of the community including Youth engagement and school programs, Fire Departments, Chief/Council, community members, and band staff.

This year, Fire Services was proud to provide services to many Indigenous communities. The programs we provided included Exterior Firefighter Training, Team Lead Training, School Fire Prevention Programs, Smoke Alarm and Fire Extinguisher Initiative, Fire Prevention Week Poster Contest, Leadership and Governance Workshops, Community Fire Prevention Workshops, Home Inspection Workshops, Youth Fire Prevention Camps, Gathering our Voices Conference Workshops, and our Annual Safety Expo and Indigenous Firefighter Competition.

A tiered approach is used by Fire Services to deliver support and effective programming to communities. This process is outlined in *A Practical Guide to Fire Protection* (ISC). FNESS looks forward to using this framework in addition to the newly adopted DRIPA (Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act) to meet our mandate of assisting Nations in developing and sustaining safer and healthier Indigenous communities.

TIER	PROGRAM	# OF PROGRAMS DELIVERED
TIER 1 - FIRE Prevention and Education Programming	Leadership and Governance	8
	Community Fire Prevention Programs	8
	Fire Prevention Week Poster Contest	11
	School Fire Education	16
	Youth Engagement Initiative	4
TIER 2 - Capacity Development and Training	Provincial National Firefighter Competition	1
	National Firefighters Competition	1
	Firefighter Training	4
	Team Leader Training	6
TIER 3- Capital Investments	ISC Capital Project CONTINUOUS	

Fire Prevention and Education Programming

LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNITY FIRE PREVENTION WORKSHOPS

The purpose of the Leadership and Governance workshops is to educate and increase capacity of the Band Council, Chief and other leadership regarding community fire prevention. In addition to the education component, these workshops provide an opportunity for FNESS to meet with leadership officials and discuss questions concerning fire prevention and capacity building within their community. Each year regional sessions are offered as well as an annual province-wide session in North Vancouver.

Deliveries 2019–2020

- Binche Keyho (December)
- Campbell River (February)
- Chilliwack (January)
- Annual North Vancouver (January)
- Nanaimo (February)
- Penticton (January)
- Terrace (January)
- Lillooet (March)



Participants and trainers from Gitxsan Nation attending the Team Leader training in Old Hazelton

SCHOOL FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION

Throughout the year, FNESS works with schools in Indigenous communities to promote fire safety education in the following ways:

- Delivering fire safety presentations for schools
- Providing resource material for classroom learning
- Providing Fire Prevention Week School Kits
- Holding the Fire Prevention Week Poster/ Video Contest
- Working with fire departments to promote fire safety at their local schools



Students from the T'Sou-Ke Youth Fire Prevention Camp present fire safety topics to the elementary school in their community

School Presentations

Every year, FNESS delivers the in-school Fire Safety Education program. This year, we visited 16 schools and worked with 12 local fire departments to provide Fire Safety Education to over 1200 students across BC. We provided age-appropriate fire safety education for all students, from preschoolers to high school students. Fire safety topics included: preventing burns, lighters & matches, cooking safety, smoke alarms, reality of a house fire, home escape planning, and fire service career information. FNESS aims to make the presentations engaging for the students by providing opportunities to practice fire safety skills, ask questions, and tell their own personal fire safety stories.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK POSTER CONTEST

2019 Fire Prevention Week was a busy time for FNESS. In early October 2019, FNESS was pleased to join the Province of BC and other provincial fire prevention organizations in the official announcement of Fire Prevention Week 2019. Fire Prevention Week is a time for schools, fire departments and communities to work together on fire safety initiatives. The 2019 theme was “Not Every Hero Wears a Cape, Plan and Practice Your Escape!”.



Winning posters from Fire Prevention Week Poster Contest 2019



FNESS Fire Services staff and other judges at the BC Burn Fund Fire Prevention Week Poster Contest judging event

This year, our annual FNESS contest was joined with the expanded BC Burn Fund annual Poster & Video contest. We partnered with BCFA, FPOABC, BCFTOA, BC Burn Fund, OFC and FortisBC. This partnership promoted Fire Prevention Week to a larger audience, and we received over 130 posters from across the province. Entries from students at Indigenous Schools were entered into the following contests:

1. BC Burn Fund Fire Prevention Week Contest (all BC schools)
2. FNESS FPW Poster Contest (Indigenous BC schools)
3. AFAC National Fire Safety Poster Campaign (Winners of FNESS FPW Contest)

Eleven Schools Participated/Thanks to:

- Chalo School
- Gitsegukla Elementary Band School
- Hartley Bay Elementary
- Kispiox Community School
- N'kwala Elem/sec Band School
- Neqweyqwelsten School
- Outma Sqilx'w Cultural School
- Prophet River Dene Tsaa School
- Sn-c'c' a-mala?-tn Early Childhood Education Centre
- Yaqan Nukiy School
- Xetólacw Community School

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

The Youth Engagement Initiative focuses on educating Indigenous youth about community fire prevention and careers in the fire service. The goal of this initiative is to equip Indigenous youth with critical fire safety knowledge and to identify careers in emergency management. This year, FNESS worked with school departments, schools, fire departments, and Indigenous communities to provide three Youth Fire Prevention Camps in BC.



Participants and facilitators of the T'Sou-Ke Youth Fire Prevention Camp in February 2020.



Practicing the use of fire extinguishers at the T'Sou-Ke Youth Fire Prevention Camp in February 2020.

The Youth Fire Prevention Camps teach high school students in Indigenous communities about community fire prevention topics such as house fires, wildfires, and fire prevention. The students also participate in hands-on basic firefighter training including firefighter gear, firetrucks and firehalls, hoses and firefighting. At the end of the camp, the students are divided into small groups and tasked with creating a presentation about a safety topic. The students then present their safety topics to younger students at their school.

Gitxaala Youth Fire Prevention Camp

- **Location:** Kitkatla, BC
- November 2019
- **Our partners:** Lach Klan School, Kitkatla Fire Department, and Gitxaala Nation

Lax Kw'alaams Fire Prevention Camp

- **Location:** Lax Kw'alaams
- January 2020
- **Our Partners:** Lax Kw'alaams Fire Department, Coast Tsimshain Academy, the Lax Kw'alaams Band
- Special Thank You to Prince Rupert Fire Department for the storage of the Youth Fire Prevention Camp gear.

T'Sou-Ke Youth Fire Prevention Camp

- **Location:** Sooke, BC
- February 2020
- **Our partners:** T'Sou-Ke Nation, Sooke Fire and Rescue, School District 62, and the Capital Regional District

Gathering Our Voices: Indigenous Youth Conference

- March 2020
- Kamloops, BC (Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Traditional Territory)
- **Our Partners:** BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres, Kamloops Fire Rescue, BC Wildfire Service, BC Wildfire Service, Whispering Pines Cowboys Wildland Protection Services and Hummingbird Drones

GATHERING OUR VOICES (GOV)

Every March, GOV brings together up to 2,000 Indigenous youth delegates as well as Elders, speakers, guests, entertainment, and volunteers from across Canada. This four-day event is organized by the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres and hosted by a BC community.



Students participate in the Fire Prevention: Be a Firefighter Workshop at the Gathering Our Voices Conference

This year, FNESS was pleased to be involved in the GOV conference in Kamloops, BC. FNESS worked with Kamloops Fire Rescue at their training grounds to provide a day long workshop. New for 2020, FNESS organized the Call to Duty: Modern Wildfire workshop with the support of BC Wildfire Service, Whispering Pines Cowboys Wildland Protection Services and Hummingbird Drones. The workshops focused on fire safety, the reality of structural and wildland fires, and opportunities in the fire service. FNESS also staffed a booth at the two-day Career and Education Fair where information about FNESS services, fire safety and opportunities in the fire service was shared. For more information about Gathering Our Voices, see: gatheringourvoices.ca

In response to COVID-19, both the GOV and Expo were canceled, along with all other events and training activities in communities across British Columbia.

BRIGHT LIGHTS

The Bright Lights program is in partnership with Indigenous Services Canada. Bright Lights aims to recognize Indigenous Youth who are making a difference in their community. FNESS Bright Lights are focused on youth working in fire prevention/firefighting in their community. Each month, a youth is selected and interviewed by a Fire Services staff member who is visiting their community. So far, we have interviewed five Indigenous youth from Kamloops, Lax Kw'alaams, Heiltsuk, Westbank, and Saik'uz.

FNESS Bright Lights:

- **Chris Frei**
 - Firefighter
 - Westbank First Nation
- **Gilbert Vickers Jr.**
 - Firefighter
 - Saik'uz First Nation
- **Brenden Mercer**
 - FNESS Forest Fuel Management Staff
 - Kamloops, BC
- **Sarah Humchitt**
 - Rehabilitation Assistant Student
 - Heiltsuk Tribal Council
- **Randal Johnson Jr.**
 - Emergency Medical Responder
 - Lax Kw'alaams First Nation

TIER 2

TEAM LEAD

This year, FNESS provided Team Leader Training in six communities – Heiltsuk Nation, Burns Lake First Nation, Metlakatla First Nation, Gitxsan Nation, Skidegate Band, and Chilliwack. The Team Leader Program is a two-day course that teaches Fire Officers how to safely monitor subordinates while focusing on safety. The course focuses on topics such as leadership, risk management, documentation, operational guidelines (DOG/SOP/SOG), training, accountability, strategies and tactics, and incident action plans (IAP). This course is a safety regulation of WorkSafe BC for fire departments.

EXTERIOR FIREFIGHTER TRAINING

The Exterior Firefighter Training program was provided to 27 firefighters in four different communities this year: Adams Lake FD, SIK-E-DAKH FD, Gitanyow FD, and Heiltsuk FD. The Exterior Operations program provides firefighters with the basic knowledge and practical skills to safely attack a structure fire and extinguish the fire while protecting exposure. The course is based on the British Columbia Structure Firefighter Competency and Training Playbook and is designed with safety as the number one priority. The Exterior Operations course through FNESS is recognized by the BC Fire Training Officers Association and the Fire Commissioner of British Columbia.



Exterior fire training

FIREFIGHTER COMPETITION AND SAFETY EXPO

This year, the 35th Annual FNESS Firefighter Competition was hosted by the Penticton Indian Band and included 59 Firefighters from nine Indigenous communities who formed 10 teams and participated in the competition. This year's first place winner was Saik'uz First Nation. The team went on to compete in the National Firefighter Competition held in Nova Scotia and hosted by the Eskasoni Mi'Kmaq Nation. Saik'uz First Nation tied with the Nunavut team for 4th place overall.

2019 Competition Results:



1st Saik'uz First Nation



2nd Penelakut First Nation



3rd Heiltsuk First Nation

Most-Sportsman-Like Team
Penticton Indian Band

TIER 2

SMOKE ALARMS AND FIRE EXTINGUISHER INITIATIVE

The Smoke/CO Alarm and Fire Extinguisher Initiative has now been operating for over seven years! Individuals living on Canadian Indigenous reserves are at a 10% higher risk of house-fire related deaths, which is why we are proud to provide essential fire safety equipment at no cost to Indigenous communities. FNESS works in partnership with ISC to provide Smoke/CO alarms (10-year battery) and B-C fire extinguishers for homes on BC reserves. To learn more about the program or to apply, please email our Fire Services department: fireservices@fnss.bc.ca

FIRE EXTINGUISHER RECALL REMINDER

FNESS is continuing to inform communities of the Kidde Fire Extinguisher recall issued in 2017. We are actively attempting to replace all recalled units (Models: E5, M5C, and BC5GD). Recalled units are replaced at no charge to the community. For more information about the replacement program, or to see if your community has outstanding recalls to replace, please contact our Fire Services department: fireservices@fnss.bc.ca

Thank you to all the communities who have worked with the Fire Services department this year to ensure their homes have working fire safety equipment. Fire safety equipment such as smoke alarms and fire extinguishers reduce the risks of house fires, and house fire-related deaths. Thank you for making your community a safer place to live!

TIER 3

FIRST NATIONS FIRE DEPARTMENT NETWORKING AND MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

The First Nations Fire Department Networking and Mentorship Program was created to support Fire Officers/Fire Chiefs with the administration and operation of their department. This program covers a range of fire department topics including human resources, fire services standards, equipment management, managing fire department budgets, report development, understanding funding of fire services, training program scheduling, tracking of training, operational guidelines, and after-action incident reporting.



Lytton Boot Camp

Using Bi-Annual surveys and Fire Officer Coaching, this program assists the fire department in developing and using “best practices” for their department. For more information about this program, please contact fireservices@fnss.bc.ca.



FIRE SERVICES
FOREST FUEL MANAGEMENT
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Forest Fuel Management Department



The Forest Fuel Management (FFM) Department works with First Nations communities, along with provincial and federal governments and other agencies, to assist with wildfire prevention activities. Many BC First Nations are impacted by the threat and risk of loss to community structures and assets because of wildfires. FFM supports access to funding to communities for planning, education and implementation of wildfire threat reduction activities.

STRATEGIC WILDFIRE PREVENTION INITIATIVE (SWPI) – *Applications are no longer being accepted for this program.*

The Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative is a suite of funding programs administered by the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and managed through the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Working Group; UBCM; First Nations' Emergency Services Society; the Forest Enhancement Society of BC; and the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development, represented by the BC Wildfire Service. Since 2004, the initiative has supported communities to mitigate risk from wildfire in the wildland urban interface.

The Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative has transitioned to the Community Resiliency Investment (CRI) program. Current and pending SWPI projects will be completed over the next one to two years and then the program will close.



Kiran Tatla, Accounting Manager at Simpcw

2019 – 2020 SUMMARY OF STRATEGIC WILDFIRE PREVENTION INITIATIVE (SWPI)

1st Quarter (April 1 to June 30, 2019)		2nd Quarter (July 1 to Sept. 30, 2019)		3rd Quarter (Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, 2019)		4th Quarter (Jan. 1 to Mar. 31, 2020)		TOTAL \$ New Applications	TOTAL \$ Completed SWPI
COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN (CWPP)									
New Applications	CWPP Completed	New Applications	CWPP Completed	New Applications	CWPP Completed	New Applications	CWPP Completed		
0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$29,800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$29,800.00
FOREST FUEL PRESCRIPTIONS									
New Applications	Prescriptions Completed	New Applications	Prescriptions Completed	New Applications	Prescriptions Completed	New Applications	Prescriptions Completed		
0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	6.0
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,875.00	\$0.00	\$43,361.00	\$0.00	\$21,108.38	\$0.00	\$73,344.38
OPERATIONAL FUEL TREATMENTS									
New Applications	Treatments Completed	New Applications	Treatments Completed	New Applications	Treatments Completed	New Applications	Treatments Completed		
0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	2.0
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$142,953.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$303,538.82	\$0.00	\$446,491.82
								TOTAL FUNDS APPROVED	TOTAL FUNDS DISPERSED
								\$0.00	\$549,636.20
Total Projects:								0.0	9.0
HECTARES (HA) TREATED									
0.0		46.0		66.7		64.9		Total Ha Treated: 177.6	

COMMUNITY RESILIENCY INVESTMENT (CRI) PROGRAM

CRI is a new provincial program intended to reduce the risk and impact of wildfire to communities in BC through community funding, supports and priority fuel management activities on Municipal, First Nations and Provincial Crown land.

The Community Resiliency Investment Program includes two funding categories:

1. FireSmart Community Funding and Supports provides dedicated funding for First Nations and local authorities to participate in wildfire prevention activities, including those on public land and private land.
2. High Value Assets and Critical Infrastructure Protection funds fuel treatments on Crown land and focuses on critical infrastructure that may affect life, property and economic recovery if impacted by wildfire.

For the first October 2018 intake period, all local authorities were encouraged to apply for eligible grants up to \$25,000 or up to \$100,000, depending on the level of wildfire risk. Funding amounts increased to \$150,000 for the October 2019 intake for higher risk communities.

The Union of BC Municipalities, First Nations' Emergency Services Society and the Forest Enhancement Society of BC are working with the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development, represented by the BC Wildfire Service, to administer the FireSmart Community Funding & Supports portion of the program for local government and First Nation applicants. The second intake for CRI for the 2020 October intake included 125 applications as follows:

- **Approved FN Applications: 38**
(including Approved and Approved in Part, AIP)
- **Approved Local Government Applications: 76**
(including municipalities, regional districts & other, i.e. improvement district)
- **Total Approved Applications: 88,**
Staff Review/Pending: 35, Closed/Withdrawn: 2

NATIONAL FIRESMART CANADA COMMUNITY RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Communication and planning are underway to assist First Nations and local governments to engage in the FireSmart Community Recognition Program. The objective for this fiscal year is to progress both the First Nations and local governments into the recognition program. The BC Wildfire Service recently created and hired a Communications/Engagement Specialist – Prevention to assist with wildfire prevention activities in BC. This position will also assume responsibility for the FireSmart Community Recognition Program. The BC Territorial Representative/Liaison position was previously held by a FNESS representative and is now shared between FNESS and the BCWS. The inclusion of this position in BC FireSmart has added much-needed support for program activities.



Simpcw FCCRP Presentation

The following First Nations communities received community recognition in 2019:

- Spuzzum First Nation
- Kanaka Bar First Nation

The following First Nation community received a community recognition sticker in 2019:

- Xwisten (Bridge River) First Nation

The BC FireSmart Committee is hosting a series of Local FireSmart Representative workshops. FNESS staff are now supporting delivery of these workshops along with the Train the Trainer sessions.

Currently the Workshops are postponed because of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

The FireSmart Partners in Protection Board of Directors has undergone a significant change in directors and staff. Jeff Eustache, RFT, is the board member for FNESS for another year. Ray Ault is the new Executive Director and Jeff Irwin is the new board president. Check the website for the complete list of board members.

2019-20 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – Indigenous Service Canada (ISC) On Reserve Fuel Treatment Project

The ISC On-Reserve Operational Fuel Treatment Program is managed by First Nations Emergency Services Society (FNESS). FNESS administers the grant with funding provided by ISC. The initiative supports First Nations communities to mitigate risk from wildfire in the wildland urban interface. The program has been expanded this year to include areas that were previously excluded from consideration. The 2018 general requirement that fuel management projects of up to \$57,690 with a 10% community contribution be restricted to areas with High-to-Extreme fuel hazard remains in effect. In addition, FireSmart activity projects of up to \$50,000 with a 10% community contribution will be considered in areas of Moderate fuel hazard, including but not limited to community and CP lands (with landowner authorization).

Twenty-eight First Nations have been approved for funding this year, with four of those receiving up to \$50,000 for FireSmart activities and the rest up to \$57,690.00 for full fuel treatment projects.

We also have delivered a series of wildland fire fighting and basic prescribed burn courses to help communities gain the necessary training and certifications to assist with meeting BCWS standing offer contracting and employment opportunities. See the list below and some stats on crews.

We have had five sessions and 59 trainees from 14 bands and are continuing with additional sessions throughout the province over the next few months.



Forest Fuel Management Staff at Lightship Training



Fort Nelson First Nation site inspection

FNESS FIRST NATION ADAPT PROGRAM SUBMISSION – *Revitalizing Traditional Burning*

Revitalizing Traditional Burning: Integrating Indigenous Cultural Values into Wildfire Management and Climate Change Adaptation Planning: FNESS was successful in accessing multi-year funding (2019 – 2022) through ISC to complete the above titled project. Communities involved include Xwisten, Shackan Indian Band and Nlaka’pamux Nation communities.

The primary objective of the project will be to (i) co-develop a regional cultural burn plan based on the braiding of Indigenous and non-Indigenous ways of knowing and (ii) co-develop a culturally relevant climate change adaptation evaluation framework to assess the effectiveness of cultural burn planning. Utilizing Indigenous research methodologies and related practices, the project team will work alongside select First Nations communities in BC to support Indigenous-informed guidelines in wildfire risk reduction to ensure that cultural burns meet both socio-cultural and risk reduction objectives in relation to extreme weather conditions such as wildfire and drought impacts on regional landscapes and First Nations communities in BC. The project is undergoing some work plan and community changes. Most of the activity is scheduled for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

2019-2020 – FNESS – BCWS INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND PRESCRIBED BURN ENGAGEMENT PROJECT

In 2017 and 2018, unprecedented floods and wildfires wreaked havoc in the province and resulted in severe consequences for many affected British Columbians. Today, the difficult work of recovery remains underway and continues to be a focus for the provincial government, local and First Nations governments, and all those living in affected areas.

Even as recovery continues, governments and individuals need to actively plan in order to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from future events. To support this goal and ensure continuous improvement in emergency management, the Province commissioned a comprehensive, independent review of the 2017 wildfire and flood seasons. Led by Chief Maureen Chapman and George Abbott, the review resulted in the May 2018 report *Addressing the New Normal: 21st Century Disaster Management in British Columbia* (the Abbott/Chapman Report). This report serves as a call to action for making positive changes in our emergency management system and provides 108 specific recommendations.

Based on the Abbott/Chapman Report and the associated Government of BC action plan, FNESS has engaged with the Ministry of Forest Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development through the BC Wildfire Service to assist with engagement and support of Indigenous involvement with prescribed burn planning.

FNESS has signed an agreement with the Province and the following are key objectives and deliverables to assist in meeting the recommendations identified in the Abbott/Chapman report:

- **Task A:** Conduct research and community engagement into traditional knowledge of prescribed fire.
- **Task B:** Develop an engagement plan to support the inclusion of traditional knowledge in the Ministry’s prescribed fire processes.
- **Task C:** Engage with the Ministry and First Nations to incorporate values and objectives in prescribed burn planning.
- **Task D:** Develop a training and education plan regarding traditional burning practices that support organizations, skills and capacity.

To assist in meeting these tasks, we have initiated the following activities:

- Conduct a gap analysis through direct contact with First Nations communities through emails, a set of questions, phone calls, and the development of a survey questionnaire to all First Nations in BC.
 - The survey has been completed and the report is currently under review and will be available for review shortly.
- Engagement and discussion with the BCWS on current process, requirements and options for prescribed burn planning and implementation.
 - Actively working with BCWS through the provincial working group, regional fire centres and zone staff.
- Identification of burn planning resource requirements, prescription, burn plan template, review of criteria and information needed to complete documentation.
- Participation with the BCWS in terms of education, training and skills development, courses, workshops and certification requirements.
 - Active participation on a provincial working group for training, certification and curriculum development to support FN capacity building.
- Discussions with First Nations communities with relation to current status, partnerships, arrangements with government agencies and organizations to identify planning and implementation for prescribed burns in process.



National Chief AFN Perry Bellegarde, ISC & FNESS

2019-2020 FIRST NATIONS WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER TRAINING & BC WILDFIRE SERVICE (BCWS) INTERAGENCY SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE

Overall, the proposed FNESS-led wildland firefighter training and skills development initiative is intended to contribute to capacity building of wildland firefighting personnel in BC. The training, skills development, and the interagency wildfire suppression contract arrangement process required to have First Nations crews recognized and acknowledged will be identified, discussed with provincial and federal government agencies, and presented to First Nations communities in advance of the 2019-20 wildfire season. From September to December, 2019, FNESS has been actively engaged with 20 Bands to promote and develop Wildland Fire Crews in six BC Wildfire Zones. Fourteen First Nations Communities currently hold Standing Offer contracts with the BC Wildfire Service.

Wildland Fire Crew training:

September to January 2019/20

We have had five sessions and 59 trainees from 14 bands and are continuing to offer additional sessions throughout the province over the next few months.



Local FireSmart Representative Workshop – Cranbrook

- Development of regional engagement sessions to assist in supporting the above activities.
 - An agenda and workshop have been developed in coordination with BCWS. One regional engagement session has been completed to date with five more planned throughout the province. The first session included 73 participants.





Emergency Management Department

In April 2019, the Tripartite Emergency Management Services Memorandum of Understanding (the 'Tripartite MOU') was signed by the Honorable Seamus O'Regan, Minister of Indigenous Services, the Honorable Mike Farnworth, British Columbia Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Grand Chief Stewart Phillip (Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs), Regional Chief Terry Teegee (British Columbia Assembly of First Nations), as well as Cheryl Casimer and Robert Phillips (both of the First Nations Summit). This MOU leads the way to enhanced partnerships and emergency capacity that will benefit First Nations peoples and all British Columbians.

The MOU commits all parties to establish a formal relationship to hold collaborative, constructive and regular dialogue on emergency management issues. All parties will work in partnership to better support First Nations' capacity and ensure that their role in both the governance and operations of emergency management is acknowledged.

The MOU shows progress in commitments made by Canada and BC to address gaps in services identified during unprecedented natural disasters in 2017 and 2018 that adversely affected First Nations communities.

TRIPARTITE EM WORKING GROUP

As a result of the Tripartite MOU, The Tripartite Emergency Management Working Group, was developed and is tasked with identifying options to close the gaps in jurisdictional and practical matters associated with how the four pillars of emergency management operate and can better serve First Nations in BC. FNESS is funded by ISC to support and develop recommendations and options through the Tripartite Emergency Management Working Group, and to discuss emerging concerns, considerations, policy and process issues to advance meaningful recognition and enhanced capacity of First Nations. The current working group composition of 25 members includes 18 First Nation representatives, 4 EMBC representatives, 1 BC Wildfire representative, and 2 ISC representatives in addition to 1 chairperson – FNESS. This group has been meeting regularly and has created a draft, terms of reference and workplan to guide that work, as well as support engagement for the Emergency Program Act (EPA) Modernization. Seabird Island graciously hosted the Fraser Region to provide an overview of the MOU Tripartite agreement and updates.

THE INDIGENOUS ADVISORY AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committee (IAMC) forms and oversees subcommittees to work on specific issues or regional concerns. The subcommittees, including the Indigenous Monitoring Committee, undertake work that requires more expertise or focus on specific issues. FNESS engaged in monthly meetings and two full-scale exercises in Valemount and Kamloops.

BIG BAR LAND SLIDE:

In June 2019, there was a landslide in a remote, rugged canyon along the Fraser River north of Lillooet, BC, on the traditional territory of the Secwepemc Nation. Huge pieces of rock and significant debris had sheared off a 125-meter cliff and crashed into the river, narrowing the river and creating a five-meter high waterfall. Based on the magnitude of the obstruction, salmon migrating upstream were impeded from proceeding beyond the landslide.



Big Bar FN Leadership Council visit

A government-to-government-to-government (3G) Unified Command was established in Lillooet to respond to this emergency. The Command included experts and specialists from the Government of Canada, the Province of British Columbia, and First Nation communities. FNESS was on scene to provide guidance and support to First Nations Leadership and First Nations crew at the site from many different nations in BC.



Pink Fishery

BIG BAR PINK FISHERIES

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans approved the Food, Social and Ceremonial Fishing license with Sts'ailes and fishing began on September 24th at the traditional territory of Sq'ewlets First Nation. A total number of 9760 pink salmon were requested by the Northern Shuswap Tribal Council, Carrier Sekani Tribal Council, and Tsilhqot'in National Government, representing a total of 15 First Nation communities.

Victoria Foundation was instrumental in providing a grant to FNESS to fund the Pink Salmon Fishery. FNESS partnered with River Select to provide assistance in the coordination of the fishery. The harvesting of the salmon at the mouth of the Harrison River was organized by the Sts'ailes fisherman launching from the traditional territory of Sq'ewlets in Agassiz, BC.

A total of 8828 Pink salmon were shipped fresh to Williams Lake at the Upper Fraser Indigenous Sustainable Harvester's warehouse at Sugarcane (Williams Lake Indian Band).

Rudi Wallace from the Victoria Foundation, representatives from Leadership from the First Nation communities and Dianne Garner (FNESS) receiving the salmon also attended Williams Lake Harvesting plant to help support these communities.



CTL Partnership Table

BC LAPTOP PROJECT

In partnership with Indigenous Services Canada, the 203 BC First Nations were gifted a laptop to support their Emergency Planning; track evacuation routes; and access maps, HRVA, community lists, and other important information for their communities. Nation Emergency Program Coordinators are also gifted laptops when they come into this new position.

Gifting the laptops at the Partnership Tables and delivering the laptops to their community, FNESS, along with the community EPC and leadership, will be able to provide support and track the community EPC contacts and to confirm Emergency Plans and training needs.



BC Laptop Project

PARTNERSHIP TABLES

The First Nation Emergency Management Partnership Tables provide information about relationships with each other, with communities, and with the land. While each table had its own goals, realities, and opportunities, emergency management practitioners in every community visited were committed to serving their communities and each other.

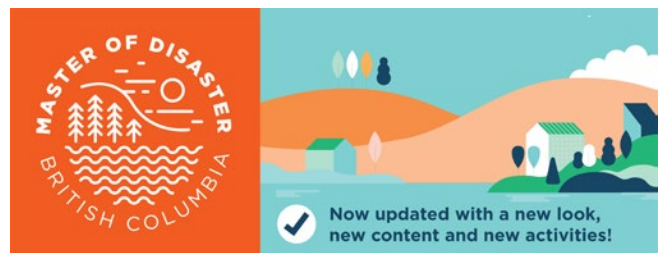
Following are the partnership tables held in Fall 2019:

- **October 8-9** | Northwest Partnership Table: Witset First Nation
- **October 16-17** | Northeast Partnership Table: Nuxalk First Nation
- **October 29-30** | Northeast Partnership Table: Saulteau First Nation
- **November 13-14** | Vancouver Island Partnership Table: Tla'o'qui'aht First Nation
- **November 19-20** | Central/Southeast Partnership Table: Osoyoos Indian Band
- **November 26** | South West Partnership Table: Surrey

MASTER OF DISASTER: FALL 2019

Master of Disaster is a PreparedBC publication created by Emergency Management BC in partnership with the BC Ministry of Education and FNESS.

Master of Disaster is a free classroom program designed to help young people learn about emergency preparedness. The program teaches youth in Grades 4 to 8 about hazards in BC such as floods, wildfires, earthquakes, and tsunamis, and shows them how to get prepared, both personally and at home. The program also includes an introduction to Indigenous traditional knowledge about natural hazards in BC from "The Story of the Great Tsunami" Robb Johnson, Huu-ay-aht First Nation; "Cultural Burning" Joe Gilchrist, Skeetchestn Indian Band; and "The Story of the Great Flood" Clyde Tallio, Nuxalk Nation-Nuximlayc (Noel Pootlass), Head Stataitmc, Nuxalk.





- Big Bar

INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE GATHERING

First Nations Emergency Services Society (FNESS) held its first Indigenous Knowledge and Emergency Management Gathering on Lheidli T'enneh Territory in Prince George, BC.

The purpose of the two-day gathering was to bring together First Nations from across BC and to facilitate a dialogue focused on the 'braiding' of Indigenous and non-Indigenous ways of knowing in relation to the four pillars of emergency management: preparedness, mitigation, recovery, and response. Eventually, FNESS aims to develop a framework that will put the braided approach into action. We anticipate that the FNESS Indigenous Knowledge and Emergency Management Gathering will become an annual event.

Stephanie Papik (Emergency Management BC) and Brent Langlois (FNESS) facilitated the two-day gathering which was attended by various First Nations delegates from across the province in addition to representatives from Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), Emergency Management BC (EMBC), Prepared BC, BC Wildfire Service, and Red Cross Canada.

IAMC – EMWG PILOT PROJECT – STÓ:LO SPILLS PREPAREDNESS & PLANNING INITIATIVE

A grant from the Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committee (IAMC), funded the multi-agency workshop that was held at the Seabird Island Band Office for the purpose of empowering communities and other participating agencies with knowledge regarding the Trans Mountain Pipeline, which transits the Stó:lō traditional territory.

The objectives and goals of the workshop included: ensure a common understanding of response plans and protocols, availability and deployment of resources; identify stakeholder roles and responsibilities; incorporate the knowledge and interests of the Stó:lō people into mitigation, planning and preparedness; identify response and recovery strategies for pipeline incidents and other hazards impacting or threatening Stó:lō territory; and introduce concepts of strategic emergency management.

Financial Statements

FIRST NATIONS' EMERGENCY SERVICES SOCIETY OF BC

A FINANCIAL OVERVIEW FOR 2019/2020

Sources and Uses of Funds

FUNDING BY SOURCE	Dollars (\$ 000)	%
ISC*– BC Region	4,489,645	68.19%
BC Forestry** (UBCM***)	510,299	7.75%
BC Forestry** (CRI****)	1,320,730	20.06%
Natural Resources of Canada	50,000	0.76%
First Nations Health Authority	86,399	1.31%
FNESS Own Source/Miscellaneous	114,377	1.74%
Donations	11,600	0.18%
Memberships	1,235	0.02%
	6,584,284	100.0%

FUNDING BY USE/PROGRAMS	Dollars (\$ 000)	%
Fire Services	884,865	21.96%
Emergency Management	1,365,529	33.89%
Forest Fuel Management	1,252,273	31.08%
Administration/Board/AGM	526,911	13.08%
	4,029,578	100.0%

* Indigenous Services Canada

** BC Ministry of Forest, Lands, and Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development

*** Union of BC Municipalities

**** Community Resiliency Investment Program

Not shown above are Provincial SWPI (Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative) funds that were committed to First Nations communities for approved applications. Funds approved for projects completed for 2019/2020 totaled \$549,636.20. FNESS plays a significant role in assisting First Nations to receive this funding.

FNESS currently receives funding primarily from government sources and uses these funds according to the terms and conditions of their Agreements.

NOTICE TO READER: This financial presentation is unaudited and has been prepared by management for the sole purpose of this annual report. The information excludes capital amortization and deferred revenue adjustments, loss (gain) on sale of assets but includes purchases that are capital in nature.



Communities Engaged by FNESS 2019–2020



Forest Fuel Management

- CRI:** Community Resiliency Investment
- FNAP:** First Nation Adapt Program
- SWPI:** Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative

Band #	Band Name	FIRE	FIRESMART	WILDLAND FIRE FIGHTING	CRI	FNAP	SWPI	EM
604	Akisqnuq First Nation			✓			✓	✓
709	?Esdilagh First Nation	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
684	Adams Lake	✓						✓
659	Ahousaht	✓						✓
558	Aitchelitz							✓
710	Alexis Creek First Nation Tšideldel		✓					✓
602	?AQ'AM		✓				✓	✓
685	Ashcroft Indian Band		✓	✓				✓
640	Beecher Bay							✓
730	Binche Whut'en (independent from Tl'azt'en)	✓						✓
	Binche Keyho First Nations	✓						✓
547	Blueberry River First Nations							✓
686	Bonaparte Indian Band	✓	✓	✓				✓
700	Boothroyd Band		✓	✓			✓	✓
701	Boston Bar First Nation			✓			✓	✓
713	Canim Lake Band	✓	✓		✓			✓
583	Chawathil First Nation	✓	✓					✓

Band #	Band Name	FIRE	FIRESMART	WILDLAND FIRE FIGHTING	CRI	FNAP	SWPI	EM
584	Cheam	✓						✓
620	Cheslatta Carrier Nation	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
693	Coldwater Indian Band	✓	✓					✓
694	Cook's Ferry Indian Band		✓	✓				✓
642	Cowichan Tribes	✓	✓		✓			✓
635	Da'naxda'xw First Nation							✓
502	Daylu Dena Council		✓		✓		✓	✓
504	Dease River First Nation				✓			✓
662	Ditidaht							✓
548	Doig River							✓
451	Duncan's First Nation							✓
	Douglas First Nation	✓						✓
636	Dzawada'enuxw (formerly Tsawataineuk)	✓						✓
634	Ehattesaht							✓
711	Esk'etemc	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
644	Esquimalt	✓						✓
543	Fort Nelson First Nation	✓	✓		✓			✓
531	Gitanmaax Band			✓	✓			✓
537	Gitanyow Band	✓		✓	✓			✓
675	Gitga'at (Hartley Bay)	✓						✓
677	Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government (Nisga'a Village of New Aiyansh)	✓		✓	✓			✓
535	Gitsegukla	✓	✓	✓				✓
536	Gitwangak Band		✓	✓				✓
679	Gitwinksihlkw		✓		✓			✓
672	Gitxaala Nation	✓			✓			✓
	Gitxsan Nation	✓						✓
533	Glen Vowell Band	✓						✓
724	Gwa'Sala-Nakwaxda'xw							✓
627	Gwawaenuk Tribe							✓
534	Hagwilget Village Council	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
676	Haisla Nation	✓						✓
645	Halalt First Nation	✓	✓		✓			✓
546	Halfway River First Nation				✓			✓
538	Heiltsuk	✓						✓
661	Hesquiaht							✓
703	High Bar First Nations			✓				✓
552	Homalco First Nation		✓		✓			✓
664	Hupačasath First Nation	✓					✓	✓
663	Huu-ay-aht First Nations						✓	✓
	In-shuck-ch Nation							✓
683	Iskut Band Council				✓			✓
624	K'ómoks First Nation							✓

Band #	Band Name	FIRE	FIRESMART	WILDLAND FIRE FIGHTING	CRI	FNAP	SWPI	EM
638	Ka:'yu:'k't'h/Che:k:tes7et'h' First Nations							✓
704	Kanaka Bar Indian Band aka T'eqt'aqtn'mux		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
563	Katzie							✓
532	Kispiox Band Council (Gitksan)	✓		✓				✓
540	Kitasoo							✓
680	Kitselas First Nation		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
681	Kitsumkalum First Nation	✓		✓				✓
553	Klahoose First Nation	✓						✓
610	Kwadacha Nation (Tsek'ene)	✓	✓		✓			✓
626	Kwakiutl							✓
564	Kwantlen First Nation							✓
580	Kwaw-kwaw-Aplit							✓
628	Kwiakah							✓
625	Kwikwatsut'inuxw Haxwa'mis							✓
560	Kwikwetlem First Nation							✓
607	Lake Babine Nation	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
643	Lake Cowichan First Nation		✓		✓			✓
674	Lax-kw'alaams	✓						✓
579	Leq' a: mel First Nation	✓						✓
611	Lheidli T'enneh First Nation	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
721	Lhoosk'uz Dené Nation		✓					✓
715	Lhtako Dené Nation	✓	✓					✓
557	Lil'wat Nation	✓	✓					✓
689	Little Shuswap Lake Indian Band	✓	✓		✓			✓
606	Lower Kootney Band	✓					✓	✓
695	Lower Nicola Indian Band	✓	✓				✓	✓
598	Lower Similkameen Indian Band		✓					✓
646	Lyackson							✓
705	Lytton First Nation		✓	✓			✓	✓
647	Malahat							✓
629	Mamalilikulla-Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Em							✓
565	Matsqui							✓
618	McLeod Lake Indian Band	✓		✓			✓	✓
673	Metlakatla	✓						✓
630	Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation						✓	✓
550	Musqueam							✓
556	N'Quatqua		✓					✓
612	Nadleh Whut'en First Nation		✓	✓				✓
614	Nak'azdli Whut'en			✓	✓			✓
631	Namgis First Nation	✓	✓		✓			✓
649	Nanoose First Nation		✓		✓			✓
720	Nazko First Nation	✓	✓		✓			✓

Band #	Band Name	FIRE	FIRESMART	WILDLAND FIRE FIGHTING	CRI	FNAP	SWPI	EM
726	Nee-Tahi-Buhn Band			✓			✓	✓
690	Neskonlith Indian Band	✓	✓		✓			✓
566	New Westminster							✓
696	Nicomen Indian Band		✓	✓			✓	✓
671	Nisga'a Village of Gingolx				✓			✓
677	Nisga'a Village of Gitlaxt'aamiks	✓						✓
679	Nisga'a Village of Gitwinksihlkw				✓			✓
678	Nisga'a Village of Laxgalt'sap				✓			✓
699	Nooaitch Indian Band		✓	✓				✓
639	Nuchatlaht							✓
539	Nuxalk Nation	✓			✓			✓
616	Okanagan Indian Band	✓	✓					✓
669	Old Massett Village Council	✓			✓			✓
692	Oregon Jack Creek Indian Band			✓				✓
596	Osoyoos							✓
541	Oweekeno/Wuikinuxv Nation							✓
658	Pacheedaht							✓
652	Pauquachin							✓
650	Penelakut	✓						✓
597	Penticton Indian Band	✓	✓				✓	✓
586	Peters							✓
585	Popkum							✓
544	Prophet River First Nation	✓						✓
651	Qualicum First Nation							✓
633	Quatsino							✓
193	Red Rock Indian Band							✓
615	Saik'uz First Nation	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
567	Samahquam	✓						✓
542	Saulteau First Nations							✓
568	Scowlitz							✓
581	Seabird Island Band	✓					✓	✓
551	Sechelt							✓
569	Semiahmoo	✓						✓
591	Sekw'elw'as Cayoose Creek Indian Band		✓	✓			✓	✓
698	Shackan Indian Band	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
605	Shuswap Indian Band		✓				✓	✓
587	Shxw'ow'hamel First Nation							✓
570	Shxwhá:y Village							✓
533	Sik-e-Dakh (Glen Vowell)			✓	✓			✓
691	Simpcw First Nation	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
706	Siska Indian-Band	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
562	Skatin Nation	✓						✓

Band #	Band Name	FIRE	FIRESMART	WILDLAND FIRE FIGHTING	CRI	FNAP	SWPI	EM
582	Skawahlook First Nation							✓
687	Skeetchestn Indian Band		✓	✓				✓
670	Skidegate	✓						✓
729	Skin Tye Nation		✓	✓	✓			✓
571	Skowkale							✓
707	Skuppah Indian Band			✓	✓		✓	✓
573	Skwah							✓
648	Snuneymuxw First Nation	✓						✓
656	Songhees							✓
572	Soowahlie	✓						✓
600	Splatsin		✓					✓
708	Spuzzum First Nation			✓	✓		✓	✓
555	Squamish							✓
574	Squiala First Nation	✓						✓
613	Stellat'en First Nation		✓	✓	✓			✓
559	Sts'ailes		✓	✓				✓
723	Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation		✓					✓
641	Stz'uminus First Nation	✓	✓		✓			✓
578	Sumas First Nation							✓
682	Tahltan Band				✓			✓
608	Takla Nation	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓
501	Taku River Tlinget							✓
593	T'it'q'et		✓	✓				✓
688	Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc				✓			✓
554	Tla'amin Nation	✓	✓					✓
660	Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations							✓
632	Tlatlasikwala							✓
617	Tl'azt'en Nation	✓		✓				✓
712	Tl'etinqox-t'in Government Office							✓
637	Tlowitsis Nation							✓
603	Tobacco Plains Indian Band						✓	✓
718	Tl'esqox of the Tsilhqot'in (Toosey)		✓					✓
666	Toquaht							✓
595	Tsal'alh			✓			✓	✓
653	Tsartlip							✓
654	Tsawout							✓
577	Tsawwassen First Nation							✓
609	Tsay Keh Dene							✓
665	Tseshah							✓
655	Tseycum							✓
619	Ts'il Kaz Koh First Nation Burns Lake Band	✓	✓	✓				✓
594	Ts'kw'aylaxw First Nation	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓

Band #	Band Name	FIRE	FIRESMART	WILDLAND FIRE FIGHTING	CRI	FNAP	SWPI	EM
549	Tsleil-Waututh Nation		✓					✓
657	T'Sou-ke First Nation	✓						✓
575	Tzeachten							✓
667	Uchucklesaht	✓						✓
668	Ucluelet							✓
722	Ulkatcho First Nation				✓			✓
588	Union Bar			✓				✓
697	Upper Nicola Band	✓	✓					✓
599	Upper Similkameen Indian Band		✓					✓
545	West Moberly First Nations							✓
601	Westbank First Nation	✓	✓				✓	✓
725	Wet'suwet'en Nation		✓	✓	✓			✓
623	We Wai Kai Nation		✓		✓			✓
622	We Wai Kum (Campbell River)							✓
702	Whispering Pines/Clinton Indian Band		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
719	Williams Lake Indian Band		✓					✓
530	Witset First Nation		✓	✓	✓			✓
561	Xa'xtsa (Douglas)							✓
716	Xatšüll First Nation (Soda Creek Indian Band)		✓					✓
592	Xaxli'p		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
714	Xeni Gwet'in First Nation		✓		✓			✓
590	Xwísten (Bridge River Indian Band)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
576	Yekweakwioose							✓
589	Yale First Nation	✓		✓				✓
728	Yekooche First Nation			✓				✓
717	Yunesit'in Government (Stone)		✓		✓	✓		✓
TC	Stl'atl'imx Nation							
TC	Nuu-chah-nulth							

*EPR: All communities were gifted with a Laptop for their Emergency Planning. This project was in partnership with Indigenous Services Canada.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

In response to the current COVID-19 pandemic and the physical distancing requirements, FNESS will be holding a Virtual AGM on
Saturday, July 18, 2020 | 10am – 1pm

CORPORATE DIRECTORY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sonny (Stephen) Hunt
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Heiltsuk First Nation

Barbara Morin
Vice President
Stswecem'c Xgat'tem
First Nation

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Director
Nisga'a Village of
Gitwinksihlkw

Heather McKenzie
Director
Williams Lake Indian Band

Walter Paul
Director
Tla'amin First Nation

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