

LAKE BABINE NATION NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2011

Chief Wilf Adam

It was an interesting summer since we last reported. It didn't seem like we had any hot weather and all the hot weather was down south. There was still some snow in the mountains all summer long. Hope it's not going to be a cold one this winter.

Anyways, our fisheries program was a great success thanks to the great job done by Donna and others. We sold around 230,000 pieces of salmon to the fish buyers. We had 30,000 out of the Ft Babine Counting Fence and around 200,000 from Michell Bay in Tachet. It was tough going at first but managed to pull it through with lots of energetic workers in Babine and Tachet. I would like to thank John Bertacco for the three and half weeks straight in getting the fish out to market, even 80 year old Jonas West was out helping in Tachet. The reason most of it came from Tachet is because the Morrison Lake stock was very low. We always have to be mindful of our valuable renewable resource. Next year we will be more prepared of what's to come. We didn't expect this much as past years we hauled out less. Donna and I toured the fish plant in North Delta and some day we will do our own processing and selling of our products.

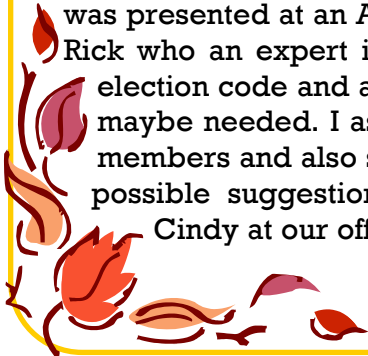
As you may have noticed in the social media sites there is an increase of concerned members and electioneering. Next summer will be our election of the Council and we have to be prepared. The Council asked Warner Adam and Emma Palmantier a couple years ago to head up and get our Election Code in place. Unfortunately both members are very busy with their jobs and cannot do this task at this time. I have asked Rick Krehbiel to do the update and changes to be done before our AGA. The last election Code was presented at an AGA in the past but was not voted on. I asked Rick who an expert in Indian politics and policies to look at the election code and also talk to members of possible changes that maybe needed. I asked Rick to talk to past and present Council members and also some members of our community and ask for possible suggestions. If anyone wants to talk to Rick contact Cindy at our office to get a hold of him. I have already being

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Special points of interest:

- **Chief Wilf Adam**
- **Deputy Chief Frank Michell**
- **Financial Summary — Vivian Pylatuik**
- **Employment and Training— Linda Johnnie**
- **Patient Travel Information**
- **Announcements**
- **LBN Health Van Schedule**



Chief Wilf Adam

given some suggestions like off reserve Council position and fair representation on Council. Also mail in ballots was suggested rather than opening off reserve site for voting. All changes of the election code will be presented to Council and also voted on at the AGA.

We will have an AGA slated for November 16th and 17th of 2011. Theme and budget is still being worked on. If you want to be part of the planning of this AGA please contact Cindy or MaryLynn. We are still trying to get Hon. Leona Aglukkaq the Minister of Health of the federal government. Also may have actor Adam Beach and Dr. Evan Adams to make presentations at this AGA. Also there will presentations from industries who want to do business with the Nation. I want it in a way that it is very informative and fun for the members and no grandstanding. It just take it away from the members who want to learn of what is happening in the Nation when someone hogs the mike and try to take over. I want lots of proper information to go out to the members as to be well informed. I have one elder come to see me and he told me to keep out these troublemakers as members loose out when someone try to take over. Let's all make this event fun and informative for our whole membership.

We have to get a better hold of our Health program as it's one of the toughest programs to handle in terms of patient travel. We have to abide by the rules and regulation of the Health Canada for the patient travel program. So please be patience with our workers as they have to follow rules of the government. If we don't Health Canada will not reimburse us for cost we paid out. Please make sure that the doctor you have to seen elsewhere are known to our workers. I hear sometimes patient travel or the band does not want to help us and it is because no doctor appointment is given to our workers. We cannot give out travel assistance by word of mouth as have been burnt in the past. We will do our best to assist and rates are very low. I wish we can raise the rates but we do not have extra funds to do this. We will continue to hammer at Health Canada or down the road, first Nations Health to better assist our ailing members.

With the topic of discussion and better information sharing I would like to see two of our pressing programs (Health patient travel and Housing) be presented at a forum of a community meeting setting. We need to explain the rules and regulation that we have to follow. I would set up a whole day discussing these very important topics and proposed October 26th at MPMH

This concludes my report for this time and let's all work together and make better outcomes for all the members.



"We have to abide by the rules and regulation of the Health Canada for the patient travel program"



Deputy Chief Frank Michell

Hi Everyone! I hope everyone had a good summer. Even though there were summer meetings still happening without side interests.

On June 13, I attended BLNDC board meeting. It doesn't look good when we were told that our Vancouver account for BLNDC was only \$460,000, when in the past I remember it was over \$9 million. The interest from this account was suppose to keep the office going, however bad management decisions over the years brought it down. Also, BLNDC is suppose to get dividends from Babine Forest Products but hasn't been coming in since Hampton bought out Babine Forest Products.

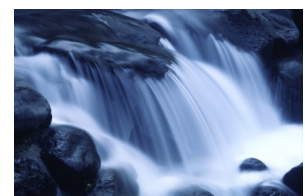
June 23 & 24, I was in Vancouver at AAND offices, meeting about how government is changing policies to deal with First Nations. There are new intervention clauses, clause in funding agreements and new financial reporting policy in draft not approved yet, National shelter policy.

We bought a warehouse to store our files. We are currently paying over \$60,000 a year for storage units from here to Houston. This is how much we pay just for renting them. The warehouse we bought is around \$30,000, so we will save on further storage costs. Also, it will save lots in other areas as our Fisheries crew telling us we used to have five boats and now we are down to three. We have equip-

ment all over the place and we have to take inventory of them.

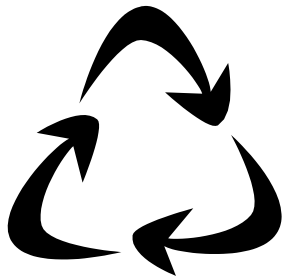
On June 27, 28 & 29, we went to Mining and Energy Conference to learn more about mining. We have to work on a lot of different agreements with mines and government for mines to go ahead. One of the key issues is resource sharing. We have to learn more about impact benefit agreement. We have to create jobs for our members and a few are interested in working in mines. Some bands have signed road building agreements or hauling agreements, camp catering, fuel contract, line cutting, drilling. However, this doesn't mean that we have to sell the farm.

I have concerns about Pacific Booker Minerals who are proposing to build a mine close to Morrison Lake. They are going to use water in mines and it will reduce the water in the creek by 5%. It is a concern to us because Morrison River is one of our wild salmon bearing rivers. Our Fisheries crew tell us that 5% is still too much as it leaves the salmon as easy pickings for the eagles and bears. I also have a concern when they pit, they will dig lower than Morrison Lake. I watched a documentary on TV where a disaster happened in the states. They had a salt mine which was much lower than a nearby lake, water started seeping into the



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Deputy Chief Frank Michell



mine and pretty soon the mine started filling with gravel from the lake. It created a whirlpool in the lake that sucked barges on the lake, trees on shoreline into this big whirlpool. One of the persons interviewed years later stated that it changed the ecology around that area for years.

On July 5, we had a meeting with the Environment Assessment Team from both BC and Canadian Government. Pacific Booker was also present, we expressed our concerns about the proposed mine.



As I have stated earlier that we want to create jobs for our people. Our people have to realize that they have to be trained nowadays in order to hold down jobs. Thanks to Justa, we managed to negotiate the line cutting contract with Babine Forest Products. This contract was held by a firm out of Prince George. We also got a brushing agreement contract but only a few of our Lake Babine members worked because they needed a tree falling certificate in order to work. Thanks to Verna, a drilling course was set up in Smithers. They reserved five seats for Lake Babine Nation; however one of the pre-requisites was that they have a driver's license. Driver License is one of the pre-requisites of many jobs so I hope our young people will go out and get them. Other bands in the south are already getting their



members into mining courses to get their members ready.

When I was in a conference back east, I ran into one of the people who helped Lake Babine Nation in the past. Bill Montour was the Regional Director back in the 90's when he helped us get funding for the Fort Babine School. We did a tour of one of the six nation's reserve. We had a little chat, he was the Regional Director of Atlantic Region and he told me he retired and his people have him as Chief of their big reserve of Oshwegan. It's a huge reserve, anyway he gave the welcoming remarks at a dinner they had for us. During his welcome speech he mentioned my name as one of the people he had contacts with before.

On July 18, Wilf and I had a meeting with the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs of BC and her Deputy Minister, Steve Munro regarding Yee-kotchee Overlap issue.

August 4, I met with Bob Hall Sr. from Seven Drums Consulting. He told me a top notch drill foreman can make anywhere up to \$30,000 a MONTH! They are willing to give us line cutting contract.

August 9, Justa and I met with John Rustad MLA of BC, representing our region. We told him that the new FRO is too restrictive, we asked for an extension under the old contract. We also talked to him about the overlap.

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Deputy Chief Frank Michell

On September 7, Chief and Council had a meeting with staff. Staff brought up a lot of their concerns to Council. We all have common concerns about how to meet the demands of our membership.

September 14 & 15, a few of us went to Osoyoos for Economic Development Conference. Jim Prentice the past Minister of Indian Affairs was also there. I reminded him that I met him when I was negotiating the Burns Lake Band Water Agreement back in 2001; he remembered and reminded me that was a mess. Burns Lake Band paid for my way at the time to

help them negotiate.

I had a chat with Clarence Louie after the conference was over, he told me that all of the development that they are involved in is over \$30 million dollars. If you ever go to Osoyoos stay at the Spirit Ridge Lodge, you will be impressed with their facilities.

This concludes my report. Hope to see you at our AGA. Financially we are doing better than other years. Hope everyone had a good year. See you again. Thank you for reading our newsletter.

"We all have common concerns about how we meet the demands of our membership"

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.

—John Fitzgerald Kennedy



God Bless You!

*From the Chief & Council and
Lake Babine Nation Staff!*

Financial Summary—Vivian Pylatuik

LAKE BABINE NATION

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY
AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED
MARCH 31, 2011**

DEPARTMENT NAME	OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) MAR. 31, 2010	ACTUAL REVENUE RECEIVED	ACTUAL EXPENDITURES	ACTUAL SURPLUS (DEFICIT) MARCH 31, 2011
HOUSING OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT				
(50) -200-214 CMHC-SOCIAL HOUSING OPERATION	\$ 1,250,704	\$ 1,172,946	\$ 2,428,318	(4,668)
REGULAR HOUSING	(978,898)	846,880	839,555	(971,373)
(10) 550-560 VILLAGE O & M	(1,233,585)	788,224	1,291,951	(1,757,312)
TOTAL HOUSING & O & M	(961,579)	2,788,050	4,559,824	(2,733,353)
EQUITY IN FIRST NATION INVESTMENTS	9,549,695	(3,315,487)	-	6,234,208
OTTAWA TRUST	1,185,080	27,464	-	1,212,544
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	2,740,592	2,374,026	1,947,859	3,166,759
TOTAL HEALTH SERVICES	954,742	2,835,648	3,056,464	733,926
TOTAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	(155,840)	684,309	618,232	(89,763)
TOTAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	2,050,114	2,498,495	1,797,044	2,751,565
TOTAL EDUCATION	1,528,225	5,842,096	5,968,429	1,401,892
TOTAL SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	(29,262)	2,777,307	2,403,952	347,429
TOTAL TREATY	(6,556,891)	940,500	951,669	(7,320,460)
TOTAL CAPITAL	6,051,391	670,854	699,992	5,875,793
TOTAL ALL SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ 16,356,267	\$ 18,123,262	\$ 22,003,464	\$ 11,580,540

Housing continues to cause problems in the overall financial stability of the nation.

The rent non-payment is a very large problem as we are unable to provide adequate repair and upgrades as there is not enough rent to cover these costs. The non-payment of rent also downgrades our banking status which affects our interest rate on loans and the banks willingness to lend money to the nation in time of need or economic growth.

Burns Lake Native Development Corporation is also becoming a major concern for the leadership. Lake Babine Nation has reported a loss of over 3 million dollars in the year to reduce their investment in BLNDC to just over 6 million dollars. Over the past 4 years the investment in BLNDC has been reduced by 5.2 million dollars.

The operations and maintenance of the villages cost \$523,727 more than was received from Indian Affairs and user fees. Stricter controls need to be placed on the spending in this area to assure that there is enough funding to adequately maintain the villages.

The other program areas seem to be holding their own and delivering their services in an effective and efficient manner.

You have increased your treaty loan by \$ 752,400 to just over 7 million dollars. Your agreement indicates this will be recovered from any settlement you make in the future.

This is a very large and powerful nation with a massive amount of potential. We need to learn how to work together for the good of the nation as a whole. I feel privileged to work as your financial controller and enjoy each day and thank all the people who have helped me feel so welcome in your territory.

"Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit, wisdom is knowing not to put it in a fruit salad."

Vivian L. Pylatuik, C.A.
Chartered Accountant
Financial Controller
Lake Babine Nation

Employment and Training Linda Johnnie

Employment & Training slowed down during the summer months. Once again...“The Aboriginal Skills & Training Strategy (ASETS) is an integrated approach to Aboriginal Labour Market programming linking training to labour market demands and ensures that Canada’s Aboriginal people can fully participate in economic opportunities...” In other words, ASETS design to assist clients best suited to the needs of Industry (the jobs that are available and how we can make **‘YOU’** job ready). Courses such as Fire arms acquisition, Boat safety etc. **are no longer courses that will be sponsored.** Those courses are considered courses of interest and are not eligible. Please feel free to call me at the Lake Babine Nation office to discuss any training initiatives that will help you become employed full time. Please be aware that Lake Babine Nation

Employment & Training services/ initiatives are for MEMBERS THAT RESIDE ON RESERVE; are unemployment, under employment or on Social Assistance. Off reserve members must see Deanna Brown at the Burns Lake Native Development Corporation.

Mining Training Program

The first intake of the Mining Training program has been completed. I had 8 students successfully complete the program. This program was very difficult to start as it was over the summer months, but it was complete. The next intake starts September 22 and runs through to September 30th. The certificate courses are as follows: Chainsaw safety, Transportation of Dangerous goods, WHMIS, Occupational First Aid Level I, Transportation Endorsement and H2S Alive. We will also be hosting a one day Career day event for

the students that enrolled in the program. We still want to get the Lake Babine Nation members some of the certificates required for some of the mines close to town and possibly the Babine Forest Products.

ITA Heavy Equipment Operator Foundation

John Patrick Jr. participated in the 6 week Heavy Equipment operator course which has given him valuable hands on experience working in construction setting. This course was offered in Kamloops at the Thompson River University. The seat was made available through PTP ASEP Training Society and BCAMTA. John successfully completed the course and is now seeking employment as heavy equipment operator.

Welding C

I had five Lake Babine Nation members enroll in the Welding C

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Employment and Training Linda Johnnie



program; Byron Alec, Martin Abraham, Tyrone Abraham, Ranning Charlie and Sunny Dennis. The only one that didn't successfully complete the program was Martin Abraham.

Welding B

Keith West was the only participant that successfully completed Welding B.

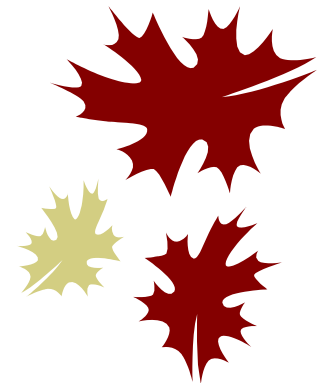
ABT-Administrative Assistants Program

I had three students enroll in the Administrative Assistants course; Wilf Plasway Jr, Cindy West and Lori West. Lori West successfully completed the program.

Please feel free to stop by my office to discuss any training needs that you may

have. I can also be reached at (250) 692-4700.

Thank you J



Patient Travel

Introduction:

The national NIHB Medical Transportation Policy Framework (MTPF) defines the policies and benefits under which the **NIHB Program will fund eligible registered First Nations** and recognized Inuit clients **to access medically required health services not provided on the reserve or in the community of residence.** The NIHB Medical Transportation Policy Framework sets out a clear definition as to the eligibility of clients, the types of benefits to be provided and criteria under which they will be funded.

The NIHB MTPF applies to the funding of medical transportation benefits by the NIHB Regional Offices or by First Nations or Inuit Health Authorities or organizations who, under a contribution agreement, have assumed responsibility for the administration and funding of medical transportation benefits to eligible clients.

General Principles:

The **Medical Transportation Program provides supplementary benefits** intended to ensure that eligible clients have access to medically-required services. **It is not intended to cover all costs** that may be associated with a client's medical condition and travel requirements.

“The Medical Transportation Program provides supplementary benefits intended to ensure that eligible clients have access to medically-required services”

Halloween Safety

"Trick or treat!" That's the phrase shouted with glee by many a youngster across the country every Halloween night. But before your ghosts and goblins trick or treat this year, parents should keep in mind these trick or treating safety tips to make sure the only howls are those of fun.

Children should:

- Go only to well-lit houses and remain on porches rather than entering houses.
- Travel in small groups and be accompanied by an adult.
- Have their full names and phone number attached to their costumes somewhere if they are too young to remember them.
- Bring treats home before eating them so parents can inspect them. Although the risk that your child's Halloween candy has been tampered with is extremely low, there is also the chance that his candy is unwrapped or spoiled.
- Use costume knives and swords that are flexible, not rigid or sharp.

Parents and adults should:

- Supervise the outing for children under age 12.
- Establish a curfew (a return time) for older children.
- Prepare homes for trick-or-treaters by clearing porches, lawns, and sidewalks and by placing jack-o-lanterns away from doorways and landings.
- Avoid giving choking hazards such as gum, peanuts, hard candies, or small toys as treats to young children.
- Inspect all candy for safety before children eat it.



Color Me!

Patient Travel

FNIH or First Nations Health Authority or organization representatives determine if the client is eligible for benefits and that access to medically required health services cannot be obtained on the reserve or in the community of residence as per the MTPF. **The most economical and efficient mode of transportation must be used, taking into consideration the client's medical condition and the urgency of the situation.**

In order to determine eligibility for medical transportation benefits for a specialist appointment, **the client must provide the following documentation: a referral from a GP, family physician or other health professional, and confirmation of appointment from the health provider/health facility.**

Clients must be referred to a specialist; they cannot "self-refer". A referral from a GP to a specialist is considered valid for six months, after which the client is required to get a new referral note.

After the appropriate medical travel arrangement has been made and the client has attended their appointment, **the client must provide confirmation of attendance from the health provider/health facility.**

Travel expenses will not be reimbursed without written confirmation of attendance. The time frame for client reimbursement requests through NIHB is a maximum of 12 months from date of service.

No reimbursement will be provided when scheduled transportation could reasonably have been used (e.g., medical transportation vans).

Travel expenses will only be considered for a service that are eligible through the BC Medical Services Plan or covered by NIHB and is to the closest appropriate medical professional and/or facility.

Clients who are travelling to access **medically required services are to schedule their travel arrangements appropriately so that they attend their appointments and return home on earliest available means.** Clients should not extend their travel beyond what is medically required, nor are they entitled to "stopovers" en route. **Clients who choose to stay longer will be responsible for any additional costs and may be required to pay for their return trip back to their community.**

Exceptions may be considered for medical transportation and should be submitted on the Medical Benefits Exception form.

Patient Travel

Coordinated Travel:

Whenever possible, clients are to coordinate appointments for optimum cost-effectiveness. As an example:

- Clients who have to travel for medical appointments should schedule dental or vision care appointments as well.
- When more than one medically necessary service is required in the same week for one or more family member(s), where practical and economical, appointments and travel arrangements will be scheduled for the same day to ensure optimum cost-effectiveness.
- Clients, who are required to have non urgent laboratory work or other non urgent testing, are to coordinate with other upcoming medical appointments.

Medical Transportation Vans:

In those communities who are operating medical transportation van(s), **clients are to coordinate appointments with regularly scheduled van trips.**

If a client is able to access a medically necessary service using the van system and chooses not to do so, the client is responsible for their own transportation costs and will not be reimbursed.

Dental Travel:

Travel to access eligible dental benefits under the Non-Insured Health Benefits program is a medical transportation benefit.

Dental travel funding follows the same principles outlined in the Medical Transportation Framework; including that travel to the closest appropriate provider, by most economical means, etc.

Dental travel is **not provided when there is a provider in the local area** who is willing to work with the NIHB Dental Program.

Travel for dental services that are not within the local service area or are not to the closest provider require prior approval from the NIHB Regional Office and should be sent in as an exception.

Travel is not provided for dental services that are not an NIHB benefit.

Travel is not provided if the client has missed appointments with the local provider for which charges may be owing and the client chooses to go to another provider farther away. **(NOTE: NIHB does not fund missed appointments charges.)**

Orthodontic travel is approved as an exception through the NIHB Regional Office.

P.O. Box 879
Burns Lake, BC
V0J 1E0

Phone: 250-692-4700
Fax: 250-692-4791
Website: www.lakebabine.com



Lake Babine Nation VAN SCHEDULE

Lake Babine Nation Health [aka Nat’oot’en Health Services] is providing cost effective transportation; a 15 Passenger Van.

Burns Lake to Prince George	<u>One Way</u>	<u>Two Way</u>
Adult Fare	\$35.00	\$65.00
Students [30% Discount]	\$24.00	\$45.50
Child 6 Yr – 12 Yr [50 % Discount]	\$17.50	\$35.00
Child 5 Yrs & Under	FREE	FREE
Burns Lake to Vanderhoof	<u>One Way</u>	<u>Two Way</u>
Adult Fare	\$27.00	\$54.00
Students [30% Discount]	\$18.00	\$36.00
Child 6 Yr – 12 Yr [50 % Discount]	\$13.50	\$27.00
Child 5 Yrs & Under	FREE	FREE
Vanderhoof to Prince George	<u>One Way</u>	<u>Two Way</u>
Adult Fare	\$20.00	\$40.00
Students [30% Discount]	\$14.00	\$28.00
Child 6 Yr – 12 Yr [50 % Discount]	\$10.00	\$20.00
Child 5 Yrs & Under	FREE	FREE

Mondays	Wednesdays	Fridays
Depart: 7:00 AM Sne C'al Yegh Gas Store	Depart: 7:00 AM Sne C'al Yegh Gas Store	Depart: 7:00 AM Sne C'al Yegh Gas Store
Arrival: 8:30 AM Vanderhoof Hospital	Arrival: 8:30 AM Vanderhoof Hospital	Arrival: 8:30 AM Vanderhoof Hospital
Arrival: 10:00 AM PG Regional Hospital	Arrival: 10:00 AM PG Regional Hospital	Arrival: 10:00 AM PG Regional Hospital
Depart: 4:30 PM Days Inn, Pr George	Depart: 4:30 PM Days Inn, Pr George	Depart: 4:30 PM Days Inn, Pr George
Arrival: 7:00 PM Sne C'al Yegh Gas Store	Arrival: 7:00 PM Sne C'al Yegh Gas Store	Arrival: 7:00 PM Sne C'al Yegh Gas Store

Effective Bus Rules:

Absolutely **NO Drugs or Alcohol or Smoking Is Tolerated nor Permitted** on LBN Health Van.
Cash Payment or Bus Ticket must be presented to Bus Driver prior to Departing from Destination.
Van Driver must issue Receipt for Passenger(s) prior to Departure, **No foul language nor Violence is permitted.**
No Free Rides, Sorry!

For Booking Travel: LBN Health Tel: 250-692-4720 or 1-888-692-3214

Mr. Victor Burt, Driver Cell: 250-692-9753