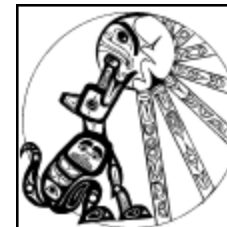


NIL/TU,O Child and Family Services  
1-24-75 Mt. Newton X Rd.  
Saanichton, BC V8M 2B7  
Ph: (250) 544-1400  
Fax: (250) 544-1402  
Toll Free: 1-888-744-1422



NIL/TU,O Child & Family Services  
Child and Family Services  
1-2475 Mt. Newton X Rd.  
Saanichton, BC. V8M 2B7

NIL/TU,O Child and Family Services

February 2006

**Acting Executive Director  
Report 2006**

Hello. My name is Dawn Frank, I've been appointed acting Executive Director in Mavis Henry's absence. I am honoured to be working with all the collective nations and community members in this capacity. I look forward to ongoing working relations with all communities. We have many exciting activities happening in the coming months including Coast Salish Winter Games; Powr2Be with youth; and the development of Community prevention strategies toolkit for problematic substance and mental health issues.

**Level 13 guardianship transfer**

As we move towards the transfer of guardianship files from the ministry, it is important for NIL/TU,O to inform community members of the transfer. We are currently scheduling times to host community information sessions within each of our communities. Check in with NIL/TU,O reception to confirm dates for your respective communities.

**Problematic Substance use and Mental Health Toolkit Project**

NIL/TU,O family support worker Lee Smith will be working on developing a toolkit over the next few months. She will be contacting band health representatives and NDAP workers for this project. We look forward to working closely with our communities to identify best practices in the areas of mental health and substance abuse.

We will put together resources for community members through focus groups; meetings with community members who have worked through these issues or continue to do so.

**Roots Project:**

Nick Claxton and Kelly Lucas will be working part time on Roots this year. This year the Roots Project will be taking a different approach. They will be assisting and assessing connection to the community as soon as a child comes into care, at the temporary custody stage.



**What is Family Violence**  
Family Violence takes many forms:

**Physical abuse** is any physical act intended to harm, injure or inflict pain on another person, including slapping, punching, burning, kicking, biting, pushing, hair-pulling, choking, shoving hitting, with ail object, threatening with an object such as a knife or gun, and any action that causes physical harm to another person.

**Psychological violence** involves the abuse of power and control over another person. It includes inducing fear by intimidating, terrorizing or threatening, humiliating, insulting, degrading, destroying property, isolating a son from friends and family and withholding emotions of love, or caring.

**Sexual abuse** includes all acts of, unwanted Sexual attention or exploitation, including inappropriate touching or molesting, exposing a victim to pornographic materials, Sexual assault with an object, forced bondage, date rape, gang rape, rape within an intimate relationship and sexual harassment.

**Child sexual abuse** is any sexual contact inflicted on a child and includes all acts described above tinder Sexual Abuse.

**Incest** is any form of sexual contact or attempted sexual contact between relatives, no matter how distant the relationship.

**Financial abuse** is any act which involves the deceitful or immoral use of another person's money or belongings (for example, the misappropriation of resources, using another person's money or resources to exert power and control over them, taking pension money or other forms of family support, forcing parents to provide free child care, denying one's family of money for food or shelter).

**Spiritual abuse** entails the erosion or breaking down of one's cultural or religious belief system.

An individual can be subjected to various types of abuse by the same abuser.

*"Everyone has a responsibility for eliminating family violence in Aboriginal communities. The first step in the process, whether for an individual, family or Community, is to break the silence and acknowledge that there is a problem."*

[http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/ncfv-cnivf/familyviolence/html/fvabor\\_e.html](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/ncfv-cnivf/familyviolence/html/fvabor_e.html)

### NIL/TU,O Child & Family services Information Update of Services

Nil/tu,o Child and Family Services is moving forward with providing services to aboriginal children and families of the member communities. The services that Nil/tu,o Child and Family Services provide are:

#### Level 12 – Delegated Voluntary Services

- ◆ Recruitment of Residential Resources – Foster Parent recruitment
- ◆ Voluntary Care Agreements, Special Needs Agreements
- ◆ Voluntary Family Services: support services and prevention services

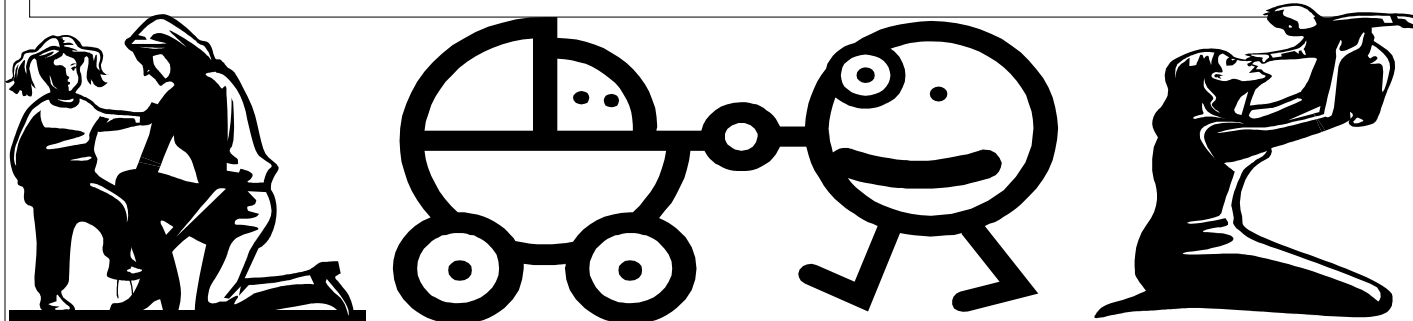
#### Level 13 – Guardianship Services

Providing Guardianship to child/ren or youth in continuing care  
Long term planning for child/ren or youth in continuing care  
Developing culturally appropriate plans of care

As NIL/TU,O Child & Family Services continues to move forward the agency is going to provide Guardianship services to the member communities. Over the past couple of years NIL/TU,O Child & Family Services has been meeting regularly with the Ministry of Child and Family Services to establish communication between agencies, and to liaise with the Ministry that have aboriginal children in care.

When children are removed under a protection order (temporary custody order) by the Ministry there is a time frame the children or youth can be under this order as per Child, Family and Community Service Act. When the time of temporary care is extinguished the Ministry offices has to plan for the child or youth:

- ◆ and this is exploring the return of the child or youth;
- ◆ and when this is not an option the Ministry then makes an application to the courts for a continuing custody order
- ◆ Continuing care is long term permanency planning for children or youth.



### NIL/TU,O Child and Family Services – Prevention Services

#### Prevention Services provides

#### One to One; Group – Programs ,Workshops

#### Current Programs:

NIL/TU,O Child and Family Services Partner with

NECITEL “paying attention to each other” – Boys and Girls Club Services. A program for First Nations youth in Saanichton.

NECITEL is an after school program created for First Nation children aged 8-12 to meet their social and recreational needs.

Each week Necitel has a different theme with a cultural perspective, including games, cooking, nature outings/field trips, and Arts and Crafts. After school on Wednesdays, Boys and Girls Club pick up the children from Tribal School. Thursdays, Boys and Girls Club pick up children at Keating, Saanichton and Brentwood Elementary schools.

Boys and Girls Club will be offering exciting full day programming during spring break.

NIL/TU,O has partnered with Power to B – after school program.

The purpose of the program is to integrate outdoor activities and experiential education, providing opportunities for discovery, change and connections.

Upcoming events: February 4, - visit Quw'utsun Cultural Centre in Duncan. February 11, Visit SPCA Wildlife ARC in Metchosin. March 3 – March 5, 2006 – Mt. Washington Snowshoeing, building snow caves, campfire cookout.

March 7 – Disc golf workshop. March 22 & 23 Drum making workshop. April 1 – 2 Spring camp

#### Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

Twenty Community Members will graduate with a certificate from Malaspina College with the designation – Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Community Practitioner Certificate Program on February 9, 2006.

The graduates from NIL/TU,O will form a Developmental Behavioral Intervention Program. If you or someone you know has trouble with Math, Memory Problems, depression, giving up, acting out, trouble with the law, early school drop out, alcohol and drug abuse problems. We have the staff to support your needs, through strategies.

NIL/TU,O is part of the Aboriginal Community Youth Justice .

As part of the specialized assessment and program pilot project for young offenders with FASD, (Youth Justice FASD Pilot Project) delivered by PLEA and the Asante Centre was developed to explore and address the specific needs of adolescents with FASD in the youth criminal justice system.

NIL/TU,O is part of the Aboriginal Community Youth Justice Forum, Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, -Bayside Inn Parksville.



Happy Valentine's Day  
From all the Staff At NIL/TU,O

#### Coast Salish Games update:

The games will be on March 13 & 14/06 (Mon/Tues) at the Panorama Recreation Center in Saanichton.

Age groups for the *competition* Indoor Soccer (All co-ed)

5-7 years

8-10 years

11-12 years

13-16 years

Other activities:

Skating (possible relay activities)

Swimming

**Volunteers needed!** Contact:

Gina Mae Elliott OR

Leonard Henry

(250)544-1400



#### Practicum Student:

I am a guest here on Coast Salish territory.

My name is Desiree Stevens; I am Gitxsan from Hazelton, BC, and I would like to take this opportunity to say I am grateful to have this practicum position here at NIL/TU,O. I am a 3rd. Year student in the school of social work-First Nations specialization @ UVic. I will be here Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from January—March, and I look forward to working with and getting to know all of you over the next few months.

In good spirits,  
Desiree