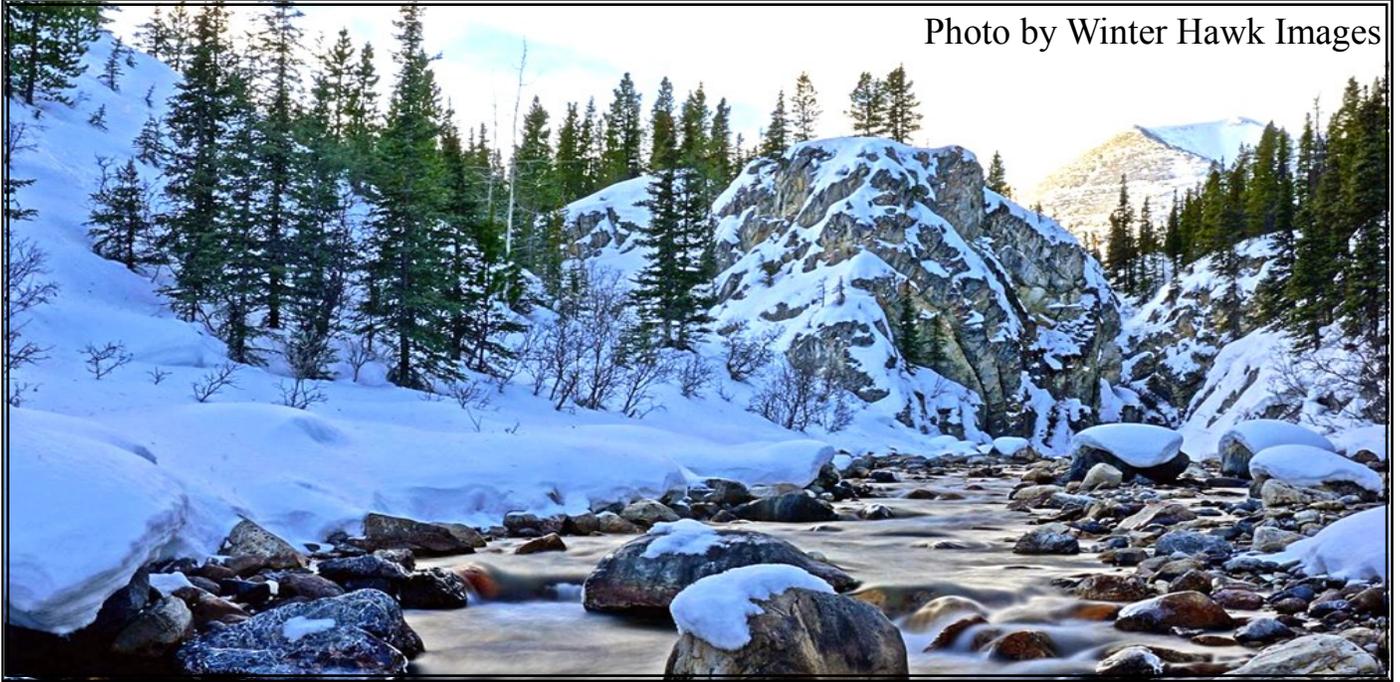


FORT NELSON FIRST NATION

Photo by Winter Hawk Images



Det'qcho (March) 2014 GO-STEHE-NEHEE | NEWSLETTER

Mark your calendars...

- ◆ Sober Start starting **Monday, March 3 from 8-9am at Meyosin**. Every Monday following. (Contact Suzanne for more info)
- ◆ Wellness Wednesdays **7-9pm at Justice, Every Wednesday evening**. Open to FNFN Community, 18+ years, Men and Women. Call Renee 250.774.2361 ext. 22 or Suzanne 250.774.7257 for more info.
- ◆ FNSS Student After School Transportation **Monday & Wednesday, 4:30-5pm**. Students are asked to call or text Renee at 250.500.3907 by 3:30pm. If no one calls or texts, I will not be coming to the school.

www.fortnelsonfirstnation.org

FNFN Community Updates & Info Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/FNFN-Community-Updates-Info/221342838009776>

Nurse Rhonda's March Health Update

Hello Hello! Happy March!! Hope everyone is staying healthy! We are always keeping busy here in the health department. I had a great day making Healthy Heart Pizzas with Teresa, I brought along some great information on keeping your heart healthy and did some health check-ins! Blood pressure and blood sugar checks. If you missed out on that, please stop in my office any time.

The Health Department would like to thank Florence Michel for making fresh Bannock for the Elders social, it was a hit. I also went down to Richmond to my annual Nursing Education Forum. It was a great conference; I learned lots and even met Dr. Art Hister!



This is going to be a great month as the snow melts away (I hope) and we can all start enjoying much needed outdoor time. As the days get longer and the weather gets warmer, it is great to get out for a nice brisk walk or play a game outside. Or how about put on your skates and enjoy an outside skate before the skating rink melts away!

To be active every day is a step towards better health and a healthy body weight. It is recommended that adults accumulate at least 2 1/2 hours of moderate to vigorous physical activity, each week and that children and youth accumulate at least 60 minutes per day. You don't have to do it all at once. Choose a variety of activities, spread throughout the week. Start slowly and build-up. Set a positive example by leading an active lifestyle yourself. Make physical activity part of your family's daily routine by taking family walks or playing active games together. You can even check out the great apps on your iPad to help you with your fitness goals. There is one called the Couch to 5k, where you learn how to run 5 kms! There is yoga app, strength and flexibility apps, and many many more. Hope you find this information helpful. Please call me or come in for a visit if you have any questions or concerns.

- Rhonda Mathison CHN

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Send by Canada Post or by email to:

Fort Nelson First Nation—Newsletter Editor | RR#1 Mile 295 Alaska Highway

Fort Nelson, BC, V0C 1R0 | **E-mail: moira.biddlecombe@fnnation.ca**

Please note that your submission may or may not be used, and is subject to editing and/or approval before submission may be completed.



SERVICE CANADA WILL BE HERE!!

Emily Herring Cooper, Citizen Service Specialist, Service Canada will be presenting at the following locations, invite to all if you are requiring more information:

Tuesday, March 4, 2014 - 1:30 pm

Disabilities information session

Location: Fort Nelson Family Development Society

Contact person: Cyndy, 250-774-2596 ext 26

Wednesday, March 5, 2014 - 8:30 am

Location: Fort Nelson Secondary School (Two Sessions)

Contact person: Denise, 250-774-6958

Wednesday, March 5, 2014 - 12:00 pm

Location: Fort Nelson Town Office – Bear Pit, Community Round Table

Contact person: Owen Law, 250-774-2541

Wednesday, March 5, 2014 - 2:00 pm

Location: Lamplighters – Seniors information session

Thursday, March 6, 2014 - 9:00 – 11:00 am

Location: FORT NELSON FIRST NATION – ADMINISTRATION BUILDING - COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Aboriginal and Youth Service Providers

Contact person: Denise Stager

Thursday, March 6, 2014- 1:30 pm

Location: Service BC - Social Insurance Number

(this is for first time SIN, legal name change, extension of work permit, status change...no transactions that require money).

Contact person: Joanne Marion, Service BC office 250-774-6945



Kulus Consulting and Development

◆ P: 604-657-5488 ◆ E: kulus@shaw.ca

CRIMINOGENIC RISK FACTORS – Based upon risk/needs research Andrews, Bontà, Gendreau and others have identified six major risk factors associated with criminal conduct:

1. antisocial/ pro-criminal attitudes, values, and beliefs
2. pro-criminal associates
3. temperament and personality factors
4. a history of antisocial behavior
5. family factors
6. low levels of educational, vocational or financial achievement.

If we look carefully at these areas we can see that some can be influenced or changed while others cannot. Those that cannot be changed are called “static.” Examples include prior record or family criminality. Early onset of criminal behavior is a very good predictor of future behavior, and it is a risk factor that cannot be changed: if you were first arrested at age ten you will always have been first arrested at age ten. Similarly, if your father is in prison it may help explain why you are in trouble (i.e. social learning), but the fact that your father is in prison cannot be changed. Those factors that can be changed are called “dynamic.” They include factors like who an offender hangs around with, offenders’ attitudes and values, their lack of problem solving skills, their substance use, and their employment status. All these are correlated with recidivism, and all can be targeted for change. These dynamic factors are also called criminogenic needs, crime producing factors that are strongly correlated with risk.

We can compare this to the risk factors associated with having a heart attack. Your risk can be heightened by your age (over 50), sex (males), family history of heart problems, high blood pressure, being overweight, lack of exercise, stress, smoking, and high cholesterol. Some of these factors are static and others are dynamic. To understand your risk you would factor in all of them; to affect- and lower -your risk you would focus on the dynamic ones. Applying the same logic to effective correctional intervention we come up with the need

principle as a way to choose the “what” to target for change in an offender -namely, dynamic factors or criminogenic needs that are highly correlated with criminal conduct. Programs should assess and target crime-producing needs, such as anti-social attitudes, anti-social peer associations, substance abuse, lack of empathy, lack of problem solving and self-control skills, and other factors that are highly correlated with criminal conduct. Furthermore, programs need to ensure that the vast majority of their interventions are focused on these factors. Such a focus produces results.

Programs that concentrate more on non-criminogenic areas have small to slightly negative effects (i.e. they may slightly increase recidivism!), while programs that target at least four to six criminogenic needs can reduce recidivism by 30 percent. It is important to note that most offenders are not high risk for recidivism because they have one risk or need factor, but rather are high risk because they have multiple risk and need factors. Programs that target only one such need may not produce the desired effects. For example, while unemployment is correlated with criminal conduct for many probationers and parolees, by itself it is not that strong of a risk factor. After all, if most of us were unemployed we would not start selling drugs or robbing people; we would simply start looking for another job. But if you think work is for someone else, if you have no problem letting someone else support you, or if you think you can make more in a day illegitimately than someone can make in a month legitimately then being unemployed does add considerably to your risk of offending. Successful programs must address clusters of criminogenic needs that work together.

It is also important to remember that non-criminogenic factors such as self-esteem, fear of punishment, physical conditioning, understanding one's culture or history, and creative abilities will not have much effect on recidivism rates. Unfortunately, there are a lot of programs out there that target non-criminogenic needs and as a result do not produce much effect on recidivism. Studies have shown that programs that target four to six more criminogenic risk factors than non-criminogenic risk factors can have a thirty percent or more effect on recidivism. On the other hand, programs that target more non-criminogenic risk factors have virtually no effect. Remember, “what” you target for change is important, as is the density of those targets around crime-producing needs.

Fort Nelson COURT DATES 2014

(Subject to change)

March 10 thru 14th

March 24 thru 28th

April 14 thru 18th

April 28 thru May 2nd

May 26 thru 30th

June 9 thru 13th

June 23 thru 27th



Fort Nelson Court Registry Schedule for Court Week:

(Subject to Change)

Monday AM- Criminal Remand- Justice of Peace court First Appearances

Monday PM- Family Court Remand

Tuesday- Criminal Remand with Judge

Wednesday & Thursday- Trials and hearings (Criminal, Family and Civil Matters will be set)

Friday AM- Family Case Conferences and Settlement Conferences in the morning only.

Important Justice System Telephone Numbers

Fort St. John Community Corrections

Probation/ Bail Reporting

Phone 1-800-667-6242

(If your regular supervisor is not available, please ask to speak to a duty officer to report)

Native Court Worker

Ben Cardinal

1-877-811-1190 Ext. 376

Cell: 250-263-8983

Duty Counsel

Stasiuk & Company Law Corporation

Glen Stasiuk

1-800-661-3374

Legal Aid – Northern Regional Centre

1-800-787-2511

Note: Need help with you legal aid application? If so, FNFN Justice Dept. has forms and can assist you with the process.

Fort Nelson Crown Counsel

250-774-5984

Fort Nelson Court Registry

250-774-5999

RCMP

250-774-2700 (non-emergency line)

250-774-2777 EMERGENCY

Fort Nelson First Nation Justice Department

250-774-6565

Fort Nelson First Nation - Policing Report

August 2013

During the month of August 2013, there were **66 calls** of service to the Fort Nelson First Nation.

Out of the **66 calls** to the RCMP:

- ◆ 32 were Liquor related offences
- ◆ 1 was a drug related offence

September 2013

During the month of August 2013, there were **47 calls** of service to the Fort Nelson First Nation.

Out of the **47 calls** to the RCMP:

- ◆ 27 were liquor related files
- ◆ 1 was a drug related file

October 2013

During the month of October 2013, there were **51 calls** of service to the Fort Nelson First Nation.

Out of the **47 calls** to the RCMP:

- ◆ 19 were liquor related files
- ◆ 0 drug related files

Restorative Justice Program

Your Criminal charge may be diverted to Restorative Justice. If the charge against you is a minor one and you admit that you are guilty and feel sorry for what you have done, your case may be dealt with through Restorative Justice (Alternative Measures). If the prosecutor agrees to recommend you for alternative measures and the probation office accepts you for this option, you have to carry out the conditions made at the Restorative Justice circle. This could include community work service or counselling. In return you will not face criminal penalties or get a criminal record.

What cases qualify for Restorative Justice?

- The offender must take FULL responsibility for their actions, and be willing to participate.
- Victim involvement is essential to the process. If the victim does not want to attend in person, they may appoint a delegate or submit an impact statement.
- Referrals are accepted from the RCMP, Crown Counsel, Schools, and Community.
- Clients must have at least one support person to attend with them at the Restorative Justice Circle.

-The Offender must be committed to the outcome in order for the Restorative Justice Forum to be successful. Non-completion will result in the file being returned to the referring agency for further action.

What is a Restorative Justice Forum?

Restorative Justice Circle is a scripted, facilitated meeting designed to satisfy the needs of everyone involved. The Circle may include cultural or spiritual elements at the request of the participants, and will always involve a closing social with refreshments, to allow for less formal communication and additional conversation between participants. Pre-Circle interviews are conducted to give the facilitator a sense of the unique concerns or needs of the individuals involved. Sometimes it is enough for those involved to give or receive an apology and have property returned or repaired. Other agreements may include community service work, counselling, or treatment for the offender. The person harmed always is given the opportunity to explain how they have been affected by the harm and allows them to contribute to negotiations for reparation and resolution.

Recommitting to Peace & Safety

Many Canadians feel that the formal justice system misses some of the inherent responsibilities in finding true justice. The Justice system protects human rights, demographic values, and serves to punish for wrongdoing. Some have said that the criminal justice system even evokes feelings of alienation, for victims and offenders alike. Restorative justice offers an approach to justice that includes everyone affected by a crime, it costs less, reduces delays, provides the opportunity for contribution to the outcome, and serves to create and restore bonds. The main goal of the formal system is to determine the guilt of the accused. The main goal of Restorative Justice is to preserve the peace and strength of community, repair the harms done through the commission of an offense by engaging all parties to be part of the solution.

Restorative Justice Philosophy

The philosophy of Restorative Justice is based on community healing, with practices traced back to times in the ancestry of humanity, where survival depended on the success of the community as a whole.

The focus in Restorative Justice is on offender accountability, problem solving, and providing a venue for offenders and victims to have an equal voice.

Restorative Justice Program



4 KEY VALUES:

Community:

Create opportunities for person harmed, person who has done the harm, and community members who want to meet and discuss the crime and its aftermath.

Amends:

Expect person to restore the person harmed and harmer as whole contributing members of society.

Reintegration:

Seek to restore the person harmed and harmer as whole contributing members of society.

Inclusion:

Provide opportunity for all involved in a specific crime to participate in its resolution.

What YOU Need to Know

WHAT IS SEXTING?

Sexting is the act of sending sexually explicit messages, photos and/or videos electronically, primarily between cell phones.

Sexting can be done on any media-sharing device or technology including email and the Internet.

The act of sexting becomes illegal when it involves persons who are under the age of 18. Section 163.1 of the Canadian Criminal Code explains that to access child pornography or to personally possess child pornography are violations of the law.

STATISTICS

- 11% of girls (13-16) have texted nude or semi-nude pictures of themselves.
- 44% of teen boys say they have seen nude photos of a female classmate.
- 33% of teen boys and 25% of teen girls stated they have received nude photos that were originally intended to be private.

(The National Campaign - 2009)

A SEXTING SCENARIO

Your boyfriend/girlfriend asks you to take a quick, sexy picture and send it to him/her on your cell phone.

Question: What happens next?

- His/her parents find the picture on the cell phone and call your parents.
- He/she forwards the picture to his/her friends and they forward it.
- He/she posts the picture on Facebook for all to see—including potential employers, teachers, parents and strangers.
- A teacher finds the picture on his/her phone and the police must be called as it is now a legal issue.
- You have no idea what will happen to the picture because even though you sent it to someone you trust, you have no control over where it ends up.



The answer is any of the above.
ANSWER

DRAW YOUR LINE!

- Never take images of yourself you would not want everyone- your classmates, your teachers, your family, or your employers—to see.
- Before hitting send, remember that you cannot control where the image may travel.
- Do not give into the pressure of doing something that makes you uncomfortable. More than 40% of teens and young adults say "pressure from guys" is the reason girls and women send and post sexually suggestive messages and images.
- If you forward a sexual picture of someone underage, you are responsible for this image as you are the original sender. You could face child pornography charges.
- Report all nude pictures you receive on your phone to an adult you trust.

SEXTING: CONSIDERATIONS FOR CANADIAN YOUTH

Until a few years ago the word "sexting" did not exist. The word is a combination of sex and texting and refers to the sending of sexually related text or images from one mobile phone to another. In most instances, sexting refers to the sending of nude or semi-nude photos that the sender has taken of themselves. Based on media coverage of the issue, it is assumed that one prominent form of sexting is the exchange of nude photos between teenagers.

Until recently, most of the media coverage of teen sexting has taken place in the United States where a number of teenagers have been charged and convicted of distributing child pornography because of their sexting activities. Media in Canada have recently begun to also pay attention to the topic of teen sexting. Headlines in Canadian newspapers and magazines include "Sexting alarms educators, police" (O'Brien, Toronto Sun, March 24, 2011), "Sexting nude photos a teen concern" (Baute, Toronto Star, January 7, 2010) and "The sexting scare" (Kingston, Macleans, March 12, 2009).

HOW COMMON IS SEXTING AMONG TEENS?

To date, there have been no published studies examining how many Canadian teens have used their cell phones to send or receive nude photos. Three studies have examined sexting among teens in the United States. In an online survey of 653 teens aged 13-19 commissioned by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy (NCPTUP) and CosmoGirl.com (2008), 22% of teen girls and 18% of teen boys reported that they had electronically sent or posted online nude or semi-nude pictures or video of themselves. An Associated Press and MTV (2009) survey of 1,247 respondents aged 14-24 found that 13% of females and 9% of males had sent a naked photo or video of themselves. Finally, using a nationally representative sample of younger teens aged 12-17, and looking specifically at cell phone text messaging, the Pew Research Center (2009) found that 4% of teens who owned cell phones reported that they had sent sexually suggestive nude or nearly nude images to another person.

WHY DO TEENS SEXT?

In the Pew Research Center (2009) study, focus groups were held with teens asking them to express their views on sexting and to describe the situations in which teens are likely to sext. They found that most cases of teen sexting fell into the following three categories:

1. Exchange of photos solely between romantic partners in a relationship.
2. Exchange of photos between two people not in a relationship but where one of the people sends a sext in the hope that it will help to start a romantic relationship between the two.
3. Exchange of photos between romantic partners or the sending of photos from one person to another with the hope of starting a relationship but the photos are then sent to additional people (Pew Research Centre, 2009).

SEXTING AND CANADIAN LAW

For adults, exchanging nude photos electronically is, under most circumstances, a legal activity. However, the creation and sending of nude photos of people under the age of 18 does, technically speaking, break Canada's child pornography laws. The child pornography sections of the Criminal Code of Canada are intended to prevent the sexual exploitation of young people. Specifically, the Criminal Code Section 163.1 on child pornography makes clear that the creation and distribution of images depicting sexual activity or the depiction of a sexual organ of a person under the age of 18 is a criminal offense (for the actual wording of the law, see Department of Justice, 2011).

The primary objective of this law is to protect children and teens under age 18 from being exploited and harmed by adults through the creation and distribution of child pornography. In general, the intended purpose of the child pornography law does not include the prosecution of teens for the taking and sharing of nude photos as long as the photos are kept private between the original partners (Slane, 2009). Nevertheless, sending nude photos of teens under age 18 over an electronic device is, technically speaking, a criminal offense.



April 2011

WHAT'S THE TAKE HOME MESSAGE?

1. A person may feel comfortable that their privacy will be protected because they are sending a picture of themselves to a current relationship partner who they trust and feel comfortable with. But the reality, especially for teens and young adults, is that most relationships don't last forever. Will you feel the same level of trust and comfort with an ex-partner who still has the nude photos of you that you sent to him/her months or years before? It's clear that in many of the cases where nude photos have been sent to large numbers of people it was an ex-partner of the person in the photo who did the sending.
2. As the authors of the NCPTUP/Cosmogirl.com (2008) study note "There is no changing your mind in cyberspace – anything you send or post will never truly go away" (p. 2). In other words, if you send a nude photo of yourself to someone else, even a trusted partner, you lose control of it forever. There will be no way for you to delete it from cyberspace.
3. Whether it is the result of a current or ex-partner's breaking your trust or simply the result of an accident (e.g., a lost or stolen cell phone with your image on it, an intercepted e-mail etc.), sexting images that are eventually seen by family members, friends, people who don't like you, and even future employers may have unexpected consequences.
4. When it involves nude images of people under the age of 18, sexting may violate Canadian child pornography laws. This is an especially important consideration for anyone who is considering sending photos that they have received from a partner to other people.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Our thanks to Professor Andrea Slane, Legal Studies Program, University of Ontario Institute of Technology for her helpful comments and suggestions on a draft of this article.

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<http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/sextech/>



March 1, 2014

Employment Assistance

Jobs in Fort Nelson & Area

Company	Position	Description
First Choice Waterboy Fax resume/references to 250-774-5003	Office Administrator/Bookkeeper	Must be experienced in Office Admin/Bookkeeping/Simply Accounting.
First Choice Waterboy Fax resume/references to 250-774-5003	Truck Driver (2-4 required)	Class 1 or 3 Drivers License & Current abstract
First Choice Waterboy Fax resume/references to 250-774-5003	Heavy Duty Mechanic (2)	Ticketed or non-ticketed
Woodlands Inn Email: gm@woodlandsinn.ca Fax: 250-774-6657	Sales, Catering & E-Business Representative	Detailed job description available
Streeper & Sons Drop off : 4309 Nahanni Drive Phone: 250-500-4162	Labourer/Swamper (2)	Oilfield tickets an asset. Employer will also provide. Drug screening required
Streeper & Sons Drop off : 4309 Nahanni Drive Phone: 250-774-7425	Winch Tractor/Low Bed Driver (2)	Class 1 drivers license. Oilfield tickets required
Skinner Bros Email: tom.moore@skinnerbros.com Fax: 250-774-6696	Class 1 driver	Class 1 drivers License All relevant oilfield tickets
School District #81 Email: bdolan@bdolan@sd81.bc.ca	Educational / Personal Assistants	Grade 12 diploma Experience with children Clear criminal record check
A&W Fax: (250) 774-7325 Website: www.a&w.com	Cook – front end (2)	Some fast food experience Team Player
PE Ben Oilfield Fax: (250) 774-5610 Email: jmckay@peben.com	Class 1 tractor Driver	Class 1 Drivers License All oilfield tickets required Drug screening Required
Fort Nelson IGA Fax: (250) 774-2770 Email: fortnelsoniga@northwestel.net	Baker's Helper	Assist baker in making baked goods.
Jolie Butte Contracting Limited Email: joliebutte.contract@gmail.com	Pipefitters Gas Plant Operators	Class 5 Driver's license Pipefitter must have journeyman or 3 rd year
Gasfield Energy Services Email: gasfield@gasfield.ca	Journeyman electrician (2) Apprentice Electrician (2)	Tickets required Class 5 Drivers License

March 1, 2014

Employment Assistance

Company	Position	Description
NR Mac Fax: (250) 774-7668 Email: Noelle.strass@nrmac.net	Cleaner	Basic Cleaning, dusting, mopping, sweeping, kitchens & washrooms
Integrity Auto Fax: (250) 774-7682 In Person: 4804 55 th Street	Automotive Mechanic	Journeyman or Apprentice with experience Class 5 Drivers License

Fort Nelson First Nation

Job opportunities

Listed on www.fortnelsonfirstnation.org/careers.html

Facebook page – FNFN Community Updates page

Or come into the office and ask to see available job postings



If you require assistance with resumes, job applying or job searching, please contact

Employment & Income Assistance
Coordinator

@ 250-774-7257 ext. 285.



Social Assistance News

MARCH 2013

Employment & Income Assistance Coordinator / BSDW
Telephone: 250-774-7257 ext. 285

BASIC INCOME ASSISTANCE

Income assistance are temporary funds to assist with basic needs of food and shelter until one is able to regain financial independence. The program is income tested. When calling to make an appointment please keep in mind it takes 3-4 business days to process a complete application. If forms or information is missing from the file, it will delay processing.

Eligibility for Basic Income Assistance:

- Must be between the ages of 19 and 64
- Must provide proof of financial need
- Live on-reserve. Must have proof of residence
- Applicant can be status or non-status, and does not need to be a band member

How to Apply For Basic Income Assistance

- Call and make an appointment 250-774-7257 ext 285
- Do check the "For Your Information" list and bring required items.
- Find the "For Your Information" list in the next few pages.

Keeping Your File Open

- Hand in a signed Renewal slip (if you have a partner—They need to sign form too)
- Hand in a copy of your completed monthly active Work Search form
- If you get a notice from worker about missing information, ensure the information is into worker ASAP so as not to delay monthly IA cheque
- Update worker of any changes to your situation or income

Effective June 2013

The Training and Employment Support Initiative (**TESI**) was a regional program designed to support IA recipients to attain greater independence by using "Active measures" to develop individual skills to enter vocational training, educational programs or employment.

(Safety tickets, training, educational programs or employment)

As a result of Income Assistance Reform, the regional funding for TESI has been discontinued.

If you require assistance with acquiring safety tickets or programs to ensure employment, Please go to the NENAS office located in town or the Education Coordinator located at Chalo School for any options available.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

February 28

March Cheques Issued

March 24:

Monthly Renewal & Work Search Forms Due

***Incomplete forms may result in a delay of your monthly cheque**

April 1, 2014

April Cheques Issued

NOTE:

Cheques are written days before issue date. If you miss the cheque run day by not handing in your completed forms on the listed due date, There is a 2-4 day wait.

Reaching For Our Vision

1. To prevent and address the abuse of drugs and alcohol
2. To increase the quality and quantity of the community's housing stock
3. To address environmental health concerns
4. To improve the communication between FNFN and its members
5. To revitalize the Nation's traditional languages and cultures
6. To provide increased supports for Elders
7. To provide additional supports to youth, particularly high school students
8. To promote "meaningful employment" opportunities
9. To address community safety concerns
10. To promote community support networks and volunteerism
11. To improve the community's physical infrastructure
12. To include members living off-reserve in the FNFN community

Social Assistance

Requirement to Seek Work while on Income Assistance

Employable applicants and spouses must be available for, and actively seeking work at all times. This does not apply to:

- family members where one member is a Person with Disabilities (PWD)
- an adult dependant who does not meet the residency requirements
- an applicant who is a single parent with at least one dependent child who:
 - is under three years of age, or
 - has a physical or mental condition precluding the single parent for leaving home for the purpose of employment.

Persons who fail to demonstrate participation in employment-related activities, including employment search, **may be found ineligible for social assistance.**

Seasonal Employment

Self-employed persons whose employment or business activities are seasonal are required to seek and accept other employment during off-seasons.

Children out of Parental Home

AS OF MARCH 31, 2012, THE COPH PROGRAM STOPPED ACCEPTING NEW APPLICATIONS.

Persons who applied for COPH on or before March 31, 2012 were assessed and grand-parented upon acceptance based on policy existing as of that date. The Band Social De-velopment Workers (BSDW) shall continue to administer the COPH program for these grand-parented clients.

The Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) expanded its out-of-care (not in foster care) options for families (and their relatives) when children are temporarily unable to live with their parents. For more information, see the Extended Family Program (EFP) on MCFD's website [see Re-sources for Clients] or call 1-877-387-7027.

There are supports for families other than COPH and the Ex-tended Family Program. Rela-tives looking after dependent children may be eligible for the Child Tax Benefit, B.C. Family Bonus, Universal Child Care Benefit or the Child Disability Benefit.

Social Assistance

Clients Rights & Responsibilities

Applicants and recipients have the following **rights**:

- _ to make application when they believe they are in need
- _ to be given the information and assistance needed for them to make proper application for the program
- _ to have all personal information treated as private and confidential
- _ to be free of any consideration of race, gender, colour, creed, or political affiliation in the administration of this program
- _ to receive prompt, courteous, efficient, and fair treatment
- _ to have their eligibility determined on the basis of objective evidence as required by program policy
- _ to receive all assistance and benefits for which they qualify under the policy and procedures established in this manual
- _ to be informed of eligibility entitlement in writing if they so request
- _ to appeal decisions concerning an application for, or provision of a benefit
- _ to be informed of their responsibilities regarding initial and continuing eligibility

The **responsibilities** of applicants and recipients are:

- _ to disclose any information that is required under the policy and procedures established in this manual
- _ to complete all required eligibility forms in a proper manner
- _ to take maximum personal responsibility for achieving increased or complete independence
- _ to, if required by policy, seek work at all times, and to be available for all work for which they are qualified
- _ to, if employable, participate in employability programs that may be available
- _ to use all available resources and income to support themselves as the preferred alternative to social assistance
- _ to inform the administering authority promptly of changes in their circumstances that may affect eligibility

UTILITY BILLS:

If your utilities are paid directly through the SA program, PLEASE SUBMIT your bills AS SOON as you receive them in the mail.

SHARED SHELTER

In situations where 2 or more people (neither a spouse or dependent), or 2 or more families share a common dwelling, the administering authority will divide the documented allowable shelter costs by the number of people occupying the dwelling.

NOTE:

If you have someone living with you on Social Assistance, they are entitled to pay a portion of your utility, phone, rent/mortgage or house insurance bills. Please send in copies of your actual utility bills.

“It makes a big difference in your life when you stay positive!”
— Ellen DeGeneres

Social Assistance

Please call me if you require an appointment. Do not show up expecting to be seen.

Appointments for Social Assistance can be booked **Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday afternoons.**

Employment & Income Assistance Coordinator / BSDW

Telephone: 250-774-7257 ext. 285

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

IF THERE ARE TWO ADULTS IN THE FAMILY UNIT, BOTH ADULTS NEED TO ATTEND THE INTERVIEW.
FOR FASTER PROCESSING OF YOUR APPLICATION, WE ARE PROVIDING A LIST OF DOCUMENTS THAT YOU SHOULD BRING TO YOUR APPOINTMENT:

01. IDENTIFICATION: 2 FOR ADULTS AND 1 PER CHILD

The following are acceptable for social assistance purposes – ONE MUST HAVE PICTURE:

- Native Status Card
- Birth Certificate
- Social Insurance Card
- Drivers License
- B.C.I.D.
- PLEASE BRING I.D. FOR ALL FAMILY MEMBERS.

02. VERIFICATION OF INCOME

- Up to date bank statement
- Pension statement showing monthly payments
- WCB statement showing monthly payments
- EI statement showing weekly payments, and start date and end date
- Wages/ earnings for full month
- Any income such as honorariums, gambling winnings, etc.

03. C.M.H.C./SHELTER DOCUMENTS:

- Mortgage agreement (see your band housing officer)
- Rent and occupancy must be completed with all required information
- Rental agreement with a start date and end date
- Renting will require a receipt of payment from previous month
- Confirmation of residence form completed – signed by head of household
- Rental or CMHC receipt from previous month
- Up to date house bills – hydro, gas, phone, water bill, etc.
- House insurance
- Other _____

04. IF YOU OWN YOUR HOME:

• The worker will need a copy of your mortgage documents (showing the monthly payment), insurance papers.

- Copy of certificate of possession or other proof of ownership

05. PLEASE BRING FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:

- Family bonus statement

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE ABOVE REQUESTS,
PLEASE FEEL FREE TO DISCUSS THEM WITH YOUR FINANCIAL AIDE WORKER.
PLEASE BE ON TIME FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT.

YOUTH PROGRAMS FOR MARCH



DUCT TAPE BAGS



SNOWSHOEING



BANNOCK MAKING

For More Information please

call me

250-774-7320

250-500-1078

Shawna Badline

Youth Outreach Coordinator

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		JR Youth *Aprons 4:00-6:00	FLOOR HOCKEY 6:00-8:00	Men's Night 6:00-8:00	TRAPPER	RENDEZVOUS
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		JR Youth *Aprons 4:00-6:00	FLOOR HOCKEY 6:00-8:00	Parent Circle 6:30-8:30		Youth & Adult Snowshoeing 1pm
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Dinner & Movie 5pm	JR Youth *Baking Pie's 4:00-6:00	Soaring:	Men's Night 6:00-8:00 Youth Carter	Conference	Winnipeg
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	Sliding @ Rec Hill 2pm	JR Youth *All Nighter 8-8pm		Parent Circle 6:30-8:30 Training0	Training	Youth Night 7-11
30	31					
Community 01 Fort Picnic 12-4pm						



STARTING WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH!

Need to stay after school to catch up on school work? Need to stay to get your teacher's help? Need a ride after extra-curricular activities?

**FNFN Students now have
transportation from
FNSS to FNFN!**

Monday & Wednesday

Between 4:30-5PM

TEXT OR CALL

Renee at 250.500.3907

by 3:30pm!



Transportation will be provided on an as-needed basis so call or text! ***If no
one texts or calls, there will be NO TRANSPORTATION.***

WARNING!

<https://www.facebook.com/Pjxmnews>

Wednesday, February 19, 2014

By: PJXM News #yxi

Fort St. John, BC: Youth male to face Distribution of Child Pornography charge...

The Fort St. John RCMP is issuing a warning to everyone, especially teens, after a 13 year-old male youth is set to face a charge of **Distribution of Child Pornography** following an incident from December 2013...

RCMP say in late December, members learned that a photo of a 13 year-old female, showing partial nudity, was posted on the internet. The female had sent the photo to the suspect who was an acquaintance to her. The youth male then posted the photo on Facebook.

"This is a serious issue that needs to be addressed with all youth," states Cpl. Jodi Shelkie with the Crime Prevention Unit in Fort St. John. "Young people take and then send intimate pictures of themselves without thinking of the consequences. First, the youth who is in the picture must face the consequence of knowing that many people...friends, family and strangers are viewing their body and the potential bullying that may result. Second, the **person who posts the picture faces the consequence of arrest, criminal charges and dealing with the possibility of a criminal record.**"

Shelkie adds, "Young people think it is all fun and don't consider the long-lasting consequences including the fact that **once an image goes on the internet it is accessible around the world and be there forever.**"

The male youth, a resident of Fort St. John, will make his first court appearance in March.

Pipeline Replacement on the Muskwa River in March!

What you should know

Fortis BC will soon be replacing a pipeline crossing on the Muskwa River a short distance away from the Muskwa Bridge. This work will be visible from the highway and include tree removal, drilling, and other construction activities on both sides of the River. Fortis has advised that the boat launch road will not be disturbed, but some of the other small access roads near the river may be temporarily unavailable while they move their equipment to the work site. Fortis will be stacking the timber cleared during this project along the highway and it may be picked up by anyone wishing to use it for firewood or other activities.

Fortis is unsure of the exact start date for this work, but is hoping to begin in early March

Some more details

Fortis BC is planning to replace the crossing on the Muskwa River for the pipeline that supplies natural gas to the town of Fort Nelson. The original pipeline crossing under the river's surface has been exposed by erosion, leaving it vulnerable to damage and potential failure if it is not replaced. The lands department has been working with Fortis for over a year regarding this project including participating in activities such as the archeological assessment, evaluation of different options for crossings, reclamation planning and others. The new crossing will utilize Horizontal Directional drilling. This effectively means that a small tunnel will be drilled underneath the river that the new pipeline section will be run through.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this project, please contact Alexis Jorgensen at the Lands department at (250) 774-6313

March 2014 - Recreation Department

Laureen Harrold (250) 500-1086 or laureen.harrold@fnation.ca
 Janelle Badine (250) 500-1076 or janelle.badine@fnation.ca

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

We encourage all FNEN community members and families to participate in any programs being offered. With that said, "All Age" programs required children under 4 years of age to be accompanied by an adult (16+).

During Spring Break programs there will be limited spaces so it will be first come first serve basis. Please call in advance to ensure your child is registered to each program.

We have set age limits for different programs due to the age appropriate activities along with the safety of all participants.

2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	
	Snow Shoeing (8+ yrs)	Craft Night 4-6pm (5-9yrs) Jr Youth (10-14yr)	Floor Hockey (5-12yr) 3:30-5pm Youth Floor Hockey 6-8pm (13+)	Gym Drop-In 6-8pm (All ages)	Zumba Kids (5-14yrs) 3:30-4:30pm		Women's Weekend Childcare	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
	Admin Day	Craft Night 4-6pm (5-9yrs)	Floor Hockey (5-12yr) 3:30-5pm Youth Floor Hockey 6-8pm (13+)	Gym Drop-In 6-8pm (All ages)	Zumba Kids (5-14yrs) 3:30-4:30pm Swimming (7+) 6-8pm			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
	1-4 Indoor/Outdoor Sports	1-4 Drop In	Movie & Snack (5-12yr) 12-2pm Floor Hockey (5-12yr) 3:30-5:30pm	Yoga (5-12yr) 10-12pm Sock Monkey's (5-12yr) 3-5pm	Breakfast & crafts (5-8yrs) 10-12pm Make a Pizza (9-14 yrs) 2:30-4:30pm			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
	Admin Day	Drop In (5-9yr) 1-4pm Jr Youth All Nighter 8-8pm (10-14 yrs)	Drop In (5-12yr) 1-4pm	Staff In Training	Staff In Training			
30	31	SPRING BREAK						
Community Old Fort Picnic 12-4pm	Basketball (8-13yrs) 6-8pm	Deh-Zona Day care, Sunshine Room 250-774-2361 ex 27						

BC First Nations Shale Gas - LNG Summit

April 14-16, 2014 | Fort Nelson, BC



"Striking the Balance"

Hosted by Fort Nelson First Nation
Northern Rockies Recreation Centre 5319-50th Avenue South

Rena Zatorski, Project Event Manager | 250-613-7337 | zatorski@hotmail.com
www.fortnelsonfirstnation.org/lng



Fort Nelson First Nation Housing Department News Update

Wednesday, February-26-14

Hello FNFN Members,

My name is Richard Resener. I have been working as the Fort Nelson First Nation Housing Coordinator for six months. The Housing Department program is very challenging. I have been learning about the various relationships and responsibilities in this department and I have focused my attention on the following tasks: tenant relations, new tenant rental allocations, necessary rental renovations and repairs, new home construction coordination, tenant inquiries, concerns and services, reporting, and ongoing research. I have experienced challenges with the extensive and various needs of the Housing Department; however, the nation is currently working to identify opportunities to develop improved support and collaboration.

I have recently advertised to hire a temporary Housing Department Assistant, in an effort to secure some much needed and immediate administrative support. I will be working toward eventually hiring a full time support person, who can multi-task, be flexible, work cooperatively and problem solve solutions to meet the needs and requirements of coordinating a successful housing program for FNFN.

Please be informed and aware that the Housing Department has been operating without a community based Housing Committee for a long time now. This committee is needed to support and assist with implementing the FNFN Housing Policy, as well as, help communicate and administer housing issues in the community.

In closing, it is important that I share an update of a very unfortunate circumstance and – a necessary requirement of the Housing Department. I am currently responsible for implementing a foreclosure and forced eviction of a FNFN owned home. This means that a FNFN member has been unable to meet the payment obligations of their Band Held Mortgage Agreement. The Housing Department has worked with and supported the member over the past year, to remain in the home. Unfortunately, the member was unable to meet the obligations of the repayment arrangement plan and had chosen to minimize communication, and in some occurrences had refused to communicate completely with the Housing Department. I have been instructed to proceed with the necessary implementation of the FNFN Housing Policy. I have attached information from the FNFN Housing Policy and an article for your review. Please feel welcome to contact me at richard.resener@fnnation.ca if you have any question and if you would like more information or support from the Housing Department. Sincerely, Richard

FNFN HOUSING POLICY

2.21 NON-PAYMENT OF RENT / MORTGAGE

Non-payment of rent / mortgage is not acceptable. If tenant(s) / mortgagor(s) fail to pay rent, the Nation will go into arrears. If the Nation defaults in mortgage payments, DIAND, who guarantees the mortgage, will have to make any payments which the Nation fails to make and will have the right to use other Nation funds as reimbursement for the money paid out against the defaulted mortgage. Tenants / Mortgagors have a responsibility to make their payments when due and the Housing Coordinator has an obligation to follow the policy directive for defaulting in rent / mortgage payments. If a tenant / mortgagor runs into a situation where they are not able to cover their rent / mortgage payment on, or before, the first of the month they must complete the late payment request form and forward to the Housing Department to explain the situation and ask for an extension.

A tenant / mortgagor is considered to be in arrears for the following reasons:

- a) Rent / mortgage payment is not received before the close of business hours on the first business day of the month(or as stated in their respective agreement);
- b) If a cheque is returned from their financial agency for any reason; and /or
- c) If an invoice has been mailed to the tenant / mortgagor for repairs or miscellaneous charges and these charges are not paid within thirty (30) days.

Fort Nelson First Nation will not renovate or repair any rental units of a member in arrears unless the renovation / repair is required for safety, health or handicap reasons. If extenuating economic or social circumstances provide the tenant / mortgagor with a reasonable excuse for their arrears, the FNFN may allow the tenant / mortgagor to enter into an Arrears Repayment Agreement that provides for an extended time period to repay the arrears.

FORMS

1. Late Payment Request (See Appendix 18)
2. Arrears Repayment Agreement (See Appendix 24)

2.22 DEFAULT

All FNFN Tenants / Mortgagors are responsible for notifying the Housing Department if a rent / mortgage payment will be paid later than the respective due date.

A Nation Member is in default when:

- a) Covenants are not observed; and / or
- b) The Nation Member fails to maintain regular payments, as outlined in the Rental Agreement or Mortgage Agreement:
 - i. After two (2) months arrears, the Nation Member in question is considered to be in default.
 - ii. Failure to address their default Eviction / Foreclosure Notice will result in eviction [See Housing Policy Chapter 2.28 (b)].
 - iii. The Housing Department will then reallocate the living unit to the next Nation Member on the Priority List that is capable of maintaining the rental payments or an approved lender loan under the same conditions.

FORMS

1. Mortgage Agreement (See Appendix 8)
2. Rental Agreement (See Appendix 9)
3. Ministerial Loan Guarantee (See Appendix 11)
4. Band Held Mortgage Agreement(See Appendix 12)
5. Eviction Policy (See Appendix 19)
6. Foreclosure Policy (See Appendix 20)

2.23 EVICTIONS / FORECLOSURES PROCESS

- a) Eviction / Foreclosure proceedings may be initiated against any tenant(s) / mortgagor(s) in breach of his / her obligations under the Housing Policy and / or Rental Agreement / Mortgage Agreement.
- b) The Housing Coordinator will first contact the tenant(s) / mortgagor(s) to warn him / her of the situation and to discuss a suitable correction to the problem.
- c) If the tenant(s) / mortgagor(s) in question fail to meet the Housing Policy requirements, the tenant(s) / mortgagor(s) will be asked to appear before the Housing Committee. This meeting will allow the tenant(s) / mortgagor(s) an opportunity to explain his / her situation.

2.24 EVICTION / FORECLOSURE CONSEQUENCES

Eviction / Foreclosure Procedures are expensive and time consuming for the Nation and its membership. Tenants / mortgagors must understand they are required to follow the Housing Policy if they wish to live in the Nation's housing.

A tenant / mortgagor that has been evicted for arrears will only be allowed to apply for Nation Housing after they fully repay the monies owed to the Nation or at the discretion of the Chief and Council.

A tenant / mortgagor that has been evicted from a Nation unit for breach of their Rental / Mortgage Agreement or the Housing Policy will not be allowed to apply for housing for a minimum of two years following the eviction / foreclosure or at the discretion of the Chief and Council.

The Nation Housing Coordinator will record the names of all people evicted from Nation owned properties for monies owed. These names shall remain on this list until the monies owed have been repaid. The FNFN Housing Coordinator will also keep a record of all tenants / mortgagors who have been evicted from the Nation's housing for breach of agreement or policy with these names remaining on the list for a minimum of two years.

PROCEDURE

The Housing Department will:

- a) Keep records.
- b) Inform the tenant with warning notifications.
- c) Implement consequences.

FORMS

1. Rental / Mortgage Arrears Notifications (See Appendix 21)
2. Eviction Process letter (See Appendix 22)
3. Foreclosure Letter (See Appendix 23)

Fixing Your Band's Housing Crisis

A Three-Part Series by Andrew Leach, MBA

Housing is the toughest government program that First Nations oversee. The reason is simple: First Nations are expected to collect monthly rents from their own relatives.

Worse, the Band is responsible for all rents that are not paid by delinquent tenants. This formula has spelled disaster for many First Nations. Some Bands have lost millions because of unpaid rent. For many Bands, there seems to be no end in sight to their losses.

A few First Nations have found a way out of this mess. They have pulled themselves out from massive debts and now operate decent housing programs. There is a common theme to their turnaround stories. Here are the five biggest housing mistakes that First Nations make—and the solutions to overcome these mistakes.

Mistake 1: Lack of Political Will to Evict

Some band members don't pay their rent and some abuse their neighbours. Worse, some members get involved in illegal activities that put other community members at risk. When First Nations let problem tenants get away with bad behaviour, they send a clear message: It's okay to behave irresponsibly.

When dealing with persistently bad tenants, the only option left to Councils is eviction. Yet many Councils fail to pull that trigger. Sometimes it's because of fear. Sometimes it's because the Council has too soft a heart. The result is the same: the Band incurs major losses.

Create political will by pressing Council to evict bad tenants and by not defending bad tenants—even if they are close friends or relatives. Ultimately, let everyone know the actual amount that the band loses every year from lost housing income. In effect, show that the benefit to solving this problem greatly outweighs the price.

Mistake 2: Poor Policy Development

First and foremost, housing policies are valuable only if they are used. So, don't waste money creating policies if you're not fully committed to using them. This may seem obvious. However, I have seen far too many communities get into a housing crisis because they didn't follow their policies.

Second, developing housing policies can get bogged down, sometimes for years. To prevent this from occurring, assign the right person the task of developing housing policy. A good housing policy development process shouldn't take more than a few months from start to finish.

Finally, make sure that your policies are clearly understood by all. This includes Council and community members, who often need several rounds of consultations and messaging. It is much better to over-communicate than under-communicate your pending housing policy changes.

Mistake 3: Poor Governance Structure

Role clarity is a critical part of governance structure. Make sure that the roles of Council and the housing committee are clear and distinct.

Poor governance structure exists when Council overrules its housing staff, even though the staff followed housing policies.

Poor governance structure exists when the housing committee has lots of meetings but gets little done.

Speaking of housing committees, they are a mixed bag. If they are set up properly and have decent committee members they can serve an excellent purpose. But I have seen far too many that were either poorly structured or had poorly trained committee members.

There is no cookie cutter governance model for First Nations housing. Just be sure that roles are clear and that good people are chosen for key positions.

Mistake 4: Hiring and Keeping the Wrong Staff

Housing officers must have a wide range of skill sets. They have to be organized, literate, good with numbers, good with people and good at problem solving.

That's a tall order to ask, especially when these positions don't typically command big salaries (especially with small bands, which have correspondingly small budgets to work with).

If I had to choose one quality for a housing manager it would be that the person be organized. A second quality is to have good people skills. The housing manager needs to be able to work with politicized Councils, problem tenants and cagy contractors. A reasonably mature, organized person is a necessity for any First Nations housing office.

Any hope of getting your housing mess turned around is virtually impossible without a strong housing manager.

Mistake 5: Poor Record Keeping

Filing systems and record keeping are fairly simple endeavours, if they are properly set up and maintained. Each file should contain the tenant's application, the rental agreement, the forms that confirm rental amount and a record of the tenant's payments.

The record of payment is the most important record to maintain. Not having it can lead to hefty arrears and huge losses for the Band.

Indeed, if you take a look at why most First Nations get into housing trouble, it often starts with poor record keeping.

For example, if a tenant fails to pay his rent and doesn't get any notice about it (because of poor record keeping), he soon learns that not paying rent is acceptable.

Staying on top of your rental income starts with good information. And that means keeping good, accurate records of your housing files.

Summary

Make any of these five mistakes and you are setting your Band up for housing failure. Alternatively, here are five steps to creating a successful First Nation housing operation:

1. Set Up an Effective Governance Structure
2. Set Up a Good Information System
3. Hire the Right Staff
4. Have Good Policies in Place; Use Them
5. Evict Bad Tenants.

Andrew Leach, MBA, is a successful First Nation management consultant, who specializes in turning messy situations into prosperous ones. Visit his website at www.andrewleach.com or drop him an email at andrew@andrewleach.com. This is the second in a three-part series on First Nations Housing.

Fixing Your Band's Housing Crisis

A Three-Part Series by Andrew Leach, MBA

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