

STAFF LETTER - ALLAURA LOVELL

Our staff letter this month is from Allaura, Community Analyst here at Strategies North.



During the summer of 2018 I was certain that I was attending UVIC to become a secondary school teacher. I had worked as a TOC and an Educational Assistant for two years prior to attending university and thought that I had found what I was meant to do. That summer I met Anna and Grant, who had just started Strategies North and were looking to hire more part time proposal writers. At that time SN had two employees in Ottawa and one in Fort St. John. We worked from the dining room table at Anna and Grant's house and had only a small handful of clients. Our offerings to clients did not extend past the realm of proposal writing and advisory services were only a distant idea.

Fast forward two and half years and we now have a team of 20, with clients from all across Canada and a diverse list of services we offer. I personally have also evolved as the company has. I now know that despite my love of teaching and working with youth, this is the type of work that I am meant to be doing and I intend to continue working with Indigenous communities throughout the duration of my life. I feel incredibly privileged to have been able to watch Strategies North grow and evolve as a company and to watch our team grow with it. The people we have working for and advocating for our clients come from many different backgrounds, regions and cultures. They are a motivated group of individuals who truly care about the work that we do and want to have an active role in making change.

Something I have learned after working with Strategies North for two and a half years is that the more you learn about Indigenous communities the less you truly know. I look forward to the continuous pursuit of endless learning.

Allaura Lovell



Allaura at Good Hope Lake in 2019

Welcome Cara and Nikole!

Cara Lenoir is a descendant of the Dene Nation and is a proud member of the Liidlii Kue First Nation, located in Fort Simpson, Northwest Territories. Her northern roots stems from her Grandfather navigating the Mackenzie River and raised by her Father who trapped, fished, and hunted in the Traditional Territory of the K'atl'Odeeché First Nation, north of the 60th parallel. From her extensive experience in fostering relationship building between government, industry and First Nations, she offers strategic advice on developing capacity in community that creates a lasting legacy for future generations. Cara is passionate about creating cutting-edge solutions used as a catalyst to help Indigenous Peoples participate in the economy. Her collaborative approach through her cultural heritage and experience supports Metis, Inuit, and First Nations toward achieving self-determination in social, education, and economic sovereignty. Cara volunteers her time advocating for Indigenous Peoples and looks forward to empowering the future Indigenous generations to bridge the gap across Turtle Island.

Mahsi Cho



Nikole is a Community Analyst with a passion for sustainable community development. Her education includes a major in Geography with a focus in Urban, Health and Development Studies, as well as a minor in Business from the University of Victoria. Before joining Strategies North, Nikole lived and worked abroad in Denmark. Nikole is originally from Mexico and her interests include learning about new cultures and languages, as well as staying active in the beautiful outdoors.

We're looking forward to bringing your expertise to future projects!

INDIGENOUS VETERANS DAY - NOVEMBER 8TH

Indigenous Veterans day marks the important contributions made by First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Veterans in service to Canada.

From 1812 to Afghanistan, Indigenous peoples have served in war and peace for more than 200 years. Today, more than 2,700 Indigenous members currently serving in the Canadian Armed Forces

Indigenous Veterans Day was first recognized in Winnipeg in 1994. Since then, the day has been marked to honour the service of Indigenous Veterans in the Canadian Armed Forces throughout Canada's history.

We honour the important contributions made by First Nations, Inuit and Metis Veterans in service to Canada and express our gratitude for the contributions they have made.



*Indigenous Veterans Memorial in Ottawa.
Photo courtesy of veterans.gc.ca*

WILLIAMS LAKE FIRST NATION

Anna Barley, Grant Barley, Allaura Lovell , and Emma Conlon had the amazing opportunity to visit Williams Lake First Nation this month. They were excited to meet with WLFN and discuss some of the projects that they are currently working on together. The team was also able to visit the new Unity Cannabis facility, now open to the public, and Sugar Cane Cannabis, set to open in late 2021. The team also got to visit the construction site of the new WLFN administration building. The team at Strategies North is excited to continue working with WLFN on their new developments!



The new Sugar Cane Cannabis Facility, currently under construction.



The interior of the new WLFN administration building.



WLFN Chief Administration Officer Aaron Mannella, Grant, and Chief Willie Sellers in the new Administration Building.

SN Staff in Kamloops

SN Staff from Northern BC, Vancouver, and Victoria traveled to Kamloops in October to work in our office and meet some of our new staff in person.



From left: Katie Robertson, Anna Barley, Cara Lenoir, and Grant Barley



From left: Anna Barley, Grant Barley, Miranda Russell, Christopher Starr, Nick Hayden

Dease River Development Corporation

Allaura Lovell and JJ Fellers traveled up to Good Hope Lake, BC in October to check out all of the exciting new projects underway for Dease River Development Corporation, including the new bridge under construction and Gazebo at Rapid River, and upgrades to Boya Provincial Park. To learn more about DRDC's current and upcoming projects, visit their website at <http://deaseriverdc.ca/>

Allaura's view of Good Hope Lake during an afternoon canoe. Our team is very grateful to have the opportunity to visit the communities and organizations we work with.



DRDC Executive Director Elvis Fjellner and JJ checking out the new bridge at Rapid River.

CEO's Recipe Corner: Bacon Wrapped Asparagus

Ingredients:

- 1 package/bundle of fresh asparagus
- 1 package of thick cut apple/maple bacon (I use Kirkland brand from Costco)
- ½ cup of your favorite BBQ sauce (preferably chicken and rib style; it's sweeter)
- 2 tbsp of avocado oil (can sub olive oil if preferred)
- 2 tbsp of balsamic reduction or glaze
- Montreal steak spice to taste
- Sea Salt and Black Pepper to taste



Directions:

1. Wash asparagus and toss in a bowl with oil and balsamic glaze
2. Salt and pepper coated asparagus to taste.
3. Wrap bacon around seasoned asparagus ribbon style leaving the tops and ends exposed (if the asparagus is very small/thin you can put 2 or 3 stalks together with one slice of bacon)
4. Brush the bacon wrapped asparagus liberally with your favourite BBQ sauce.
5. Sprinkle with as much Montreal steak spice as you like.
6. Put on grill, smoker or in the oven (at 375 degrees) until bacon is fully cooked (a little crispy is preferable, the sauce will reduced to a sticky consistency)

"I didn't know vegetables could be like that!"

- Satisfied consumer (Frank Busch)

NATION GOVERNANCE INITIATIVE

The New Relationship Trust (NRT) **Nation Governance Initiative** supports First Nations in BC to complete Nation-building and self-determination projects that involve research, exploration, and assertion of First Nations rights and title and their authority and jurisdiction to decide over their lands, waters, resources, citizens, and services in a modern era context.

NRT will provide up to \$25,000 per project where one First Nation is involved, and up to \$50,000 per project where two First Nations are involved.

First Nations that have not been funded by NRT previously will be given priority.

The deadline to apply is **December 11, 2020.**

For more information, visit <https://www.newrelationshiptrust.ca>

For more information about this funding opportunity or others, please contact us!

KEY DATES

November 12th: Indigenous Cultural Heritage Infrastructure Grant - BC FPCC

Deadline to apply

November 16th: Prevention of Violence Against Aboriginal Women Fund - Yukon Government

Deadline to apply

November 30th: BC Agri-Food and Seafood Market Development Program - IAF BC

Deadline to apply

December 7th: Pathways to Language Vitality Program - BC FPCC

Deadline to apply