

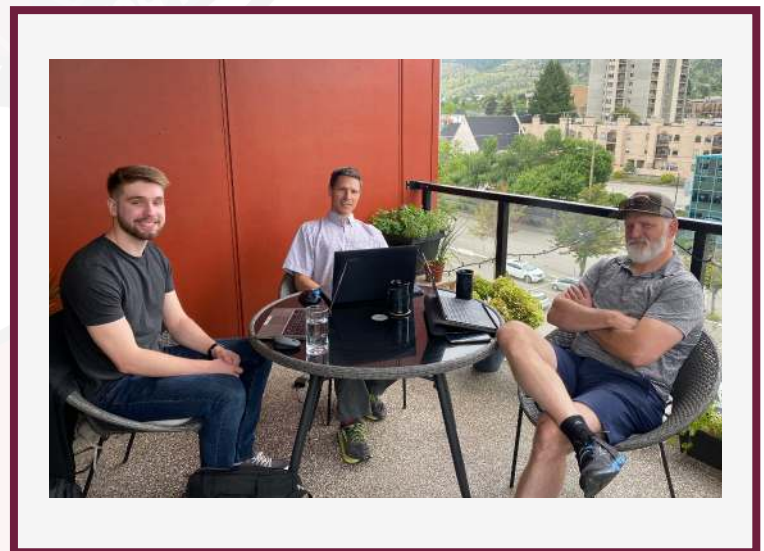
STAFF LETTER - NICK HAYDEN

Our Staff Letter this month is from Economic Analyst, Nick Hayden

As I finish my first year with Strategies North, I can look fondly at the relationships I've made with the communities I've been privileged to work with so far. I am grateful to be working with a team and company that is committed to what we do, and to be working with such great clients. At Strategies North, we always try to think about how we can add value to the communities we work with.

Throughout my time here, I've found that the best way for us to do this is to get to know the people in the communities and hear your stories. This has been more true than ever lately due to the ongoing pandemic, and as we move further into the new year I look forward to getting to know you all more. To all of our clients, I hope this year brings you good health, happiness, and prosperity. If there is ever a way that we can make your lives easier, please never hesitate to let us know.

Nick Hayden



Nick, JJ, and Grant in Kamloops - July 2020

BCNWA COVID-19 Virtual Wellness

The circumstances surrounding COVID-19 have increased the demand for culturally relevant wellness services for Indigenous women and girls across BC, as they have suffered the difficulties of increased social isolation due to social distancing measures.

Our team was grateful to have the opportunity to support the British Columbia Native Women's Association (BCNWA) in successfully developing a proposal to fund a series of virtual wellness sessions to deliver culturally relevant support to Indigenous women in their studies. Along with the virtual sessions, participants were sent wellness kits with supplies related to each session. For example, one of the sessions focused on beading, so participants were sent beautiful beading kits in advance of the sessions.

The inclusive virtual workshops received such positive feedback, that BCNWA created a second series of workshops for the New Year, with four additional sessions running until the beginning of February.

Congratulations to BCNWA for their recent success!

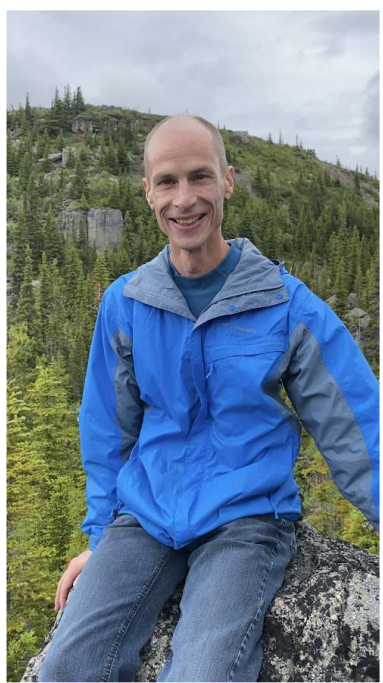


BCNWA

British Columbia
Native Women's
Association

Darren's Education Corner

Do you have an education project that needs support? Strategies North is here to help!



In this part of our newsletter, Director of Education and Agriculture Services Darren Shankel shares his approach to education, and why he is so passionate about education-based initiatives.

Even though most of us are no longer in "school", we learn something new every day. The fact is, education is a *natural* process that occurs when we interact with the people and things in our environment. We learn from events that we *experience*.

It is not possible for all experiences that involve learning to be enjoyable, but we do have the opportunity to create conditions that will be more positive for our students in the school environment. Although negative experiences can be very memorable, those that are enjoyed are far more likely to be applicable to our daily lives in the future.

I look forward to taking the journey with you to work toward *creating* the conditions that will ensure our students make the most of the *joy* that is education.

Darren Shankel

Semiahmoo First Nation: Boil-Water Advisory to be Lifted

On January 17th, the Vancouver Sun published an article outlining Semiahmoo's pursuit of lifting the boil-water advisory on-reserve which had been in place since 2005, and on and off since 1996. For nearly 25 years, residents on-reserve have not had reliable access to clean water despite being located between White Rock and the Peach Arch border crossing, just 50 km from downtown Vancouver.

As a result of coordination between the Vancouver offices of ISC and the City of Surrey, Semiahmoo is finally on track to securing reliable and safe water for their Members, and everyone living on-reserve.

Chief Chappell expressed that this is a crucial step towards the renewal of the community, and to welcome Members returning home.

We are delighted to see progress being made by Semiahmoo in this important area.

News / Local News

Clean water finally brings hope of renewal to Semiahmoo reserve

Water means hope for renewal for B.C.'s tiny Semiahmoo nation says Chief Harley Chappell

Denise Ryan

Jan 17, 2021 • January 17, 2021 • 3 minute read



For some of us, it's been a lifetime,' said Harley Chappell, chief of the Semiahmoo First Nation.
PHOTO BY NICK PROCAYLO /PNG

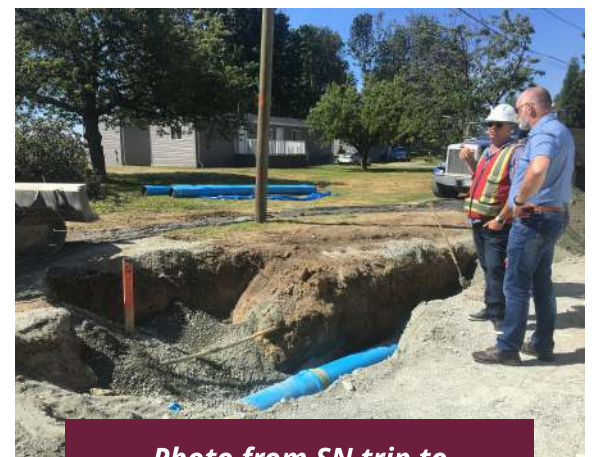


Photo from SN trip to Semiahmoo, in August 2019

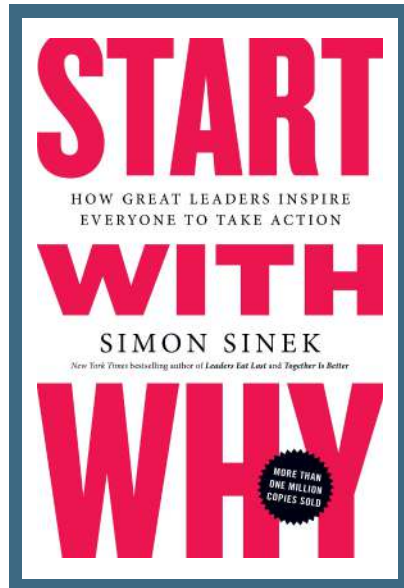
"It's time to bring our community back, develop a community core, housing, community centre, a longhouse, a canoe shed, to rebuild a community and a nation"

- Chief Harley Chappell (via the Vancouver Sun)

You can read the full article on the Vancouver Sun's website here:
<https://vancouversun.com/news/local-news/semiahmoo-water-hooked-up>

Grant's Book Review: *Start with Why* by Simon Sinek

I don't recall ever having a single book create a "Eureka" moment for me as much as "Start With Why" by Simon Sinek. Anna and I first listened to this book while on a trip around the province visiting clients. I have re-listened to it at least a half dozen times since that 2018 trip. The reason it was so influential for us was because it put into words what we felt Strategies North had to be. We were committed to building a company based on deep relationships with our clients and being committed to assisting them in ways that would provide meaningful and long lasting positive change in their communities. Our company has become obsessed with the WHY of our clients and finding ones that match our WHY. It extended to how we built up our team, finding those that wanted to be part of the Strategies North WHY has allowed us to grow and offer increasing value to our clients. We do things that matter has become our mantra. This book is critical reading for anyone wanting to make a positive impact on their organization and community.



ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGES FUND (EDF)

The purpose of the EDF is to restore the environment and conserve wildlife and habitats in a scientifically sound, cost-effective, and technically feasible way. Eligible activities include:

- Environmental quality improvement initiatives
- Research and development on environmental restoration and improvement
- Education and awareness on issues affecting the health of the natural environment.

The EDF is a specified purpose account administered by Environmental and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) to direct funds received from fines, court orders, and voluntary payments to priority project that will benefit Canada's natural environment.

Eligibility Requirements:

Indigenous organizations are eligible.

Amount:

Variable - No set maximum,

Deadline:

February 24th, 2021

KEY DATES

February 15: Family Day (BC, Alberta, Ontario, New Brunswick, and Saskatchewan)

Statutory Holiday - Strategies North Office Closed

February 22: Indigenous Languages Component - Dept. of Canadian Heritage

Deadline to Apply

February 26: Community Preparedness Fund - UBCM

Deadline to Apply

February 28: Virtual Care for Seniors/Elders Support Grant - FNHA

Deadline to Apply