

Nation2Nation Forum Overview

Some of the Strategies North team were invited to visit/speak in Terrace BC recently for the 7th Annual Nation2Nation conference, hosted by the Kitsumkalum, Kitselas and Haisla Nations. The theme of the conference was “Building Economic Resilience”, particularly poignant for the Terrace/Kitimat/Prince Rupert region, which has historically suffered the effects of boom and bust commodity cycles. The annual conference seeks to bring together Indigenous communities and local industry to facilitate partnership and economic development. **Read some of our highlights from Day 2 below.**

In particular, we would like to pay homage to the legacy of [ardent social justice activist and past Chief-Councillor of Kitselas, Mel Bevan](#). His voice was regrettably missing from the proceedings, and many in attendance shared stories of his life’s work and ceaseless advocacy for Indigenous peoples.

[Read the N2N Blog](#)





Photography by Aaron Whitfield with [Red Bike Media](#).

Tips for remote work

LEFT BELOW: The Prince George crew got together for a coworking day! Melissa in front, Ben, and Jessica.

RIGHT BELOW: The Vancouver crew (right to left - Daniel, Leo and Katerina) also met for coworking- plus Melissa from PG and Harriet from Whitehorse.



In the pursuit of building strong, talented workforces, Indigenous communities certainly face some distinctive challenges. More communities are starting to explore the possibility of hybrid or remote options. As a fully remote company, here are a few pieces of advice from some of our staff on how to create a remote work environment where employees can thrive:

- **Daniel:** "Encourage employees to find a way to separate their work and personal life. Help them set up a dedicated workspace that they can step away from at the end of the day."
- **Harriet:** "Foster personal connections between staff beyond the professional realm, even if they're working remotely and geographically distanced. Encourage staff to get to know each other on a personal level, and create spaces that facilitate these connections."
- **Leo:** "Utilize communication and organizational tools effectively. In a remote workplace, ongoing conversations and project management that may have occurred spontaneously in an office setting require more intention. An easily accessible chat tool (such as G-Chat) is essential not only for work-related discussions but also for building camaraderie among team members."
- **Jessica:** "Remind staff to take breaks. When you never leave your computer it can lead to burn out. Consider taking moments before and after your workday to clear your mind, like going for a walk or taking a yoga break."

Spuzzum Community Visit



Harriet Stanford (SN Community Analyst), Crystal Macdonald (Spuzzum Administrator), and Katerina Cookson (SN Community Analyst). Photo taken by Anna Barley!

BY KATERINA COOKSON, COMMUNITY ANALYST: “I want to thank Crystal MacDonald and Spuzzum First Nation for welcoming us into community last month. I have worked virtually with Spuzzum for nearly two years now, so it was honestly pretty emotional for me to visit. It put into context everything I’ve learned about Spuzzum so far, and we had some great conversations with their team about direction and priorities. This will just make our funding work that much stronger. I even got to see the results of some of the funding proposals that I have had the privilege to be part of.”

While there, SN also enjoyed a tour of the Alexandria Bridge Provincial Park. Spuzzum is working with the New Pathways to Gold Society as well as a number of other partners to restore this beautiful historic 1926 bridge and revitalize it into world-class tourism attraction in the Fraser Canyon of BC!

SN in the News

Our lobbying services were recently featured in [a special Indigenous lobbying issue](#) of The Queen Street Analytics, which is a weekly publication delving into the government relations and public policy sphere. On a list of 15 lobbying firms representing Indigenous clients over the past 5 years, SN came out as the fourth most active firm, over some rather big players!

We firmly believe that lobbying is one of the most effective tools for change for Indigenous communities. If you would like to learn more about our approach to lobbying and government relations, [click here](#).

Upcoming: TNP Winter Relationship Builder

The Nelson Project is excited to announce they are looking for participants for their upcoming Winter Relationship Builder. This is a week long gathering for men to receive non-judgmental peer support and practice some hands-on skills out on the land.



The Nelson Project's WINTER RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

You are invited!

Dec 11-15, 2023

McClintock Bay, Marsh Lake

Meals & Accommodation Provided

Who:

Anyone who self-identifies as male (19+) and is interested in joining us

Why:

Activities:

- Making fish nets; making dry meat; building smokers; kick-sleds
- Skills in relationship building and peer support;
- Contribute to a plan for The Nelson Project's Future.

Thank You:

A stipend of \$500 will be provided at the end of the event in the form of gift cards

Safety:

Our goal is for everyone to feel safe, connected & respected. **Participants must arrive & remain sober.** A procedure is in place to remove anyone who appears to be under the influence of drugs and alcohol, keeping him & everyone safe

To participate, register soon by calling or e-mailing us

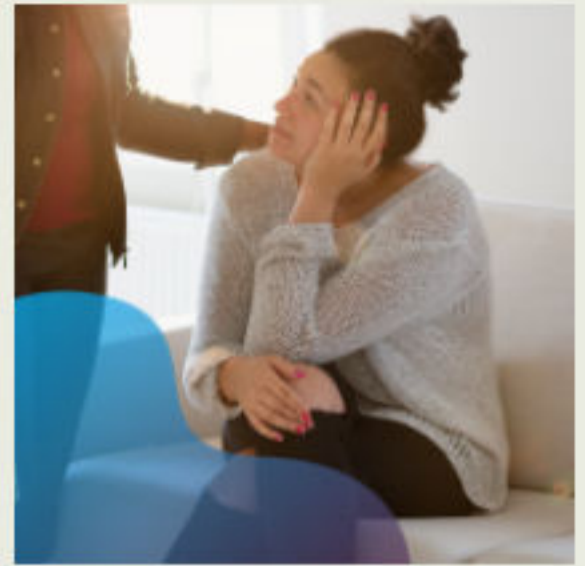
1 (867) 333-5483 or info@thenelsonproject.ca



If you know someone who would benefit from this free opportunity, please share this poster or have them reach out to **1 (867) 333 5483** or info@thenelsonproject.ca for more information.

What are Relationship Builders? What's it like joining one? Read this blog to learn more about

Funds On Our Radar



United Way Critical Food Infrastructure Grant: Addressing challenges such as lack of reliable and affordable access to food by supporting the development and implementation of community-led food infrastructure projects across the province. This grant supports initiatives to increase year-round access and availability of nourishing and culturally preferable foods, strengthening community resilience and emergency preparedness. **Due November 20, 2023.**

New Relationship Trust AED Indigenous Initiative: The Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Indigenous Initiative provides an AED kit to First Nations to enhance the well-being of their communities and to empower first aid leadership in First Nation communities across B.C. **While supplies last, easy apply!**

Health Canada's Substance Use and Addictions Program (SUAP): Two streams: Supporting and enhancing the role of People with Lived and Living Experience (PWLLE) within organizations that address substance use across the comprehensive continuum of care; and Services and programs that target post treatment aftercare and transition back into the community. This is an intensive application, **so please contact your Strategies North advisor early if you would like help applying.** Deadline November 22, 2:00 PM EST.

Thanks for reading! See you next month.

