



# August 2022 Newsletter

## Summer Hires



**Braeden Napoleon** is from the community of T'it'q'et and recently finished his first year at Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT) for the Environmental Resource Technology Program. He is the newest member of the SGS Environment team as the Fisheries Summer Technician – Youth Hire position. He will be assisting the SGS Environment Manager and Technicians with collection and analysis of information and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) of aquatic species at risk and their habitats. Braeden is excited to learn a lot here this summer.





**Chanvre Oleman** is Tsal’alhmec and she is working as a Wildlife and Lands Summer Technician – Youth Hire for a Canada Summer Jobs contract with St’át’imc Government Services. She has spent much time growing up in the St’át’imc, Ts'kw'aylaxw, and Tsal'alh areas. She practices our traditional ways such as hunting, fish, and harvesting from the northern parts of the St’át’imc territory.

Chanvre worked in many different areas in the summer of 2021 at SGS as an Environment Project Summer Student. She completed ground-truthing for roads surveying, wildlife counts, attended various meetings about Natural Resources and Environmental Impacts, and catalogued hair samples and photos for the grizzly bear DNA project with the SGS Environment Manager, Ellen Reyes and Wildlife Lands Assistant, Darwyn John.

She completed high school at Lillooet Secondary School in 2020 and currently enrolled in Thompson Rivers University for a Bachelor of Science program. Chanvre finished first- and second-year university courses and has goals in gaining credits in the Natural Resources and biology/ecology fields.

---

## Connie Strayer Introduction– BC Hydro’s Southwest Regional Employment and Training Specialist

Connie Strayer started at the end of June, she is taking over Jay Gladish’s Indigenous Educational and Training role in the South West Region. Connie will be working on implementing BC Hydro’s education and training commitments with us.

Connie is Metis from her Father’s side and German from her Mother’s. She was raised on the unceded territory of the Stz’uminus peoples in Ladysmith - specifically, the shared territories of the Chemainus, Halalt, Lyackson and Penelakult First Nations.

Connie holds a master's degree in Educational Administration and Leadership from the University of British Columbia and an Undergraduate Degree in Education from the University of Victoria.

Connie has walked alongside Indigenous people for the last 15 years of her career and brings a strength-based approach and a passion for inclusion and equality to her work.

Prior to joining BC Hydro, Connie was a leader at the First Nations Technology Council, where she worked to ensure that Indigenous wise practices are at the center of curriculum production and delivery. She also spent 11 years at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, working to provide a consistently warm and safe environment for learners, grounded in Indigenous culture and knowledge.

In her role at BC Hydro, Connie expresses a desire to bring forward an understanding of Indigenous ways of being, based on her lived experiences within a colonial system, which she feels conceptualizes Indigenous people as deficits. She would like to alter the narrative to be inclusive of other ways of being and knowing, by creating a space that is safe, culturally responsive, and engaging for all.

She enjoys being out in nature and is happiest when surrounded by water or gardening. In her spare time, Connie enjoys spending time with her family going on hikes together or splashing in BC's beautiful lakes as soon as the sun is out. She also quite enjoys reading and can be found going to yoga classes whenever she has free time.

Connie currently lives and plays on the unceded territory of the Kwalikum peoples as a guest on their land.

**You can contact Connie at [connie.strayer@bchydro.com](mailto:connie.strayer@bchydro.com)**

---

## Healthy, Wealthy & Wise *By Vanessa Richards: On-Call Receptionist*

*“Health is the greatest gift, contentment the greatest wealth, faithfulness the best relationship.” – Buddha*

Nature never ceases to amaze me! There are so many lessons to be learned from the



natural world that are sometimes hidden from us... But in beautiful British Columbia, you don't have far to look. While working on the Grizzly Bear DNA project recently, I noticed how many of our wild neighbours seemed so healthy, and though they had no money, they were wealthy in contented happiness living in nature and faithfulness to their young.



Sometimes they were comically too close to the camera to see very well. But when they stepped back into full view, I couldn't help but appreciate their magnificence. Each is so unique and beautiful... Pictured in my entry into this month's newsletter are Momma Black Bear and her cub, Stealthy cougar at night, Stately Grizzley Bear and Beautiful Cow Moose with long eyelashes and fur so shiny and smooth that even Kim Kardashian would be jealous.

When we do our part to help keep nature beautiful, it is shown in those who live in it. Seeing these animals thriving and so content makes me very happy and teaches me valuable lessons to pass on to the next generation. I will be wrapping up this project with the environment team to send off to the lab shortly. And then I will be awaiting the arrival of my own little cub (baby) in October.

So let's take a look at what we value in our life. And if we learn the lessons of nature, and go back to those things that really matter, we will find ourselves better. We too will be amazed by our own magnificence and we will as our wildlife neighbours be truly healthy, wealthy and wise.







## Canadian Navigable Waters Act Notice: Bridge River Chinook Broodstock Program

BC Hydro hereby gives notice that a submission has been added to the Navigable Waters Registry pursuant to the *Canadian Navigable Waters Act* for public comment described herein and its site and plans.

Pursuant to paragraph 10(1)(b) of the said *Act*, BC Hydro has deposited with the Minister of Transport, on the on-line Navigable Waters Registry (<http://cps.canada.ca/>) and under registry number 6115, a description of the following work, its site and plans:

The St'át'imc – BC Hydro Joint Planning Forum will be conducting broodstock retrieval as part of the Chinook Salmon recovery project on the Lower Bridge River. The project involves the installation of a temporary fish fence (picket-style weir) that will stretch across the Lower Bridge River from August 15 through September 30, 2022. The river will not be passable at this location throughout this period.

The location of the fish fence is at 50°51'40.04"N, 122°10'56.52"W, on the Lower Bridge River upstream of the confluence with the Yalakom River. The area is located on unsurveyed Crown Land adjacent to district lot 3107, together with all that unsurveyed Crown foreshore being part of the bed of Bridge River.

Comments regarding the effect of this work on marine navigation can be sent through the Common Project Search site mentioned above under the Comment section (search by the above-noted registry #) or, by sending your comments directly to BC Hydro at 333 Dunsmuir St. Vancouver, BC, V6B 5R3, or by calling tel 604-786-5189 if you do not have access to the internet.

Note that comments will be considered only if they are received not later than 30 days after the publication of this notice.

Signed at Vancouver, BC this 18th day of July 2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Whitney Deane".

Whitney Deane  
Community Relations - Lower Mainland  
BC Hydro

---

## Capital Planning

Both the Bridge River Transmission [Project](#) (BRTP) and the [LaJoie Dam Improvement Project](#) are still years away from construction, however, the way the work opportunities will be made available to St'át'imc businesses is determined now, in the early planning stages. St'át'imc businesses, business leaders and staff are working with BC Hydro to optimize the opportunities for existing businesses and for potential partnership opportunities. If you have an interest in the details or, as a businessperson, want to be kept informed, please reach out to Al Boldt the St'át'imc Government Services Capital Planning Manager



([cpm@statimcgs.org](mailto:cpm@statimcgs.org)).

Another way to get up to speed at your own pace is to access information on SharePoint.

Here is a small sample of what you can find on the [St'át'imc SharePoint Information Portal](#):

- Reports on the [Reservoir Archaeology Program](#) and the [Seton Lake Environmental Mitigation Project](#)
- [List of the BC Hydro projects](#) in St'át'imc Territory
- Copies of the [BC Hydro project opportunities](#) that have been provided to St'át'imc businesses
- Materials and notes on the [Quarterly Capital Planning Meetings](#)
- A [glossary of the commonly used project and system terms](#)

The St'át'imc SharePoint Information Portal access now requires Multi-Factor Authentication – an instruction sheet has been sent out on how to set this up. The instructions also provide a way to contact tech support should you have a problem. If you did not receive the instructions, please call Sherry Kane at SGS (778.771.5903)



**The 2022 St'at'imc Scholarship FUNdraiser Golf Tournament is FULL!!!**

**Sorry to those that missed entering a team this year.**

**We are still seeking prize donations and direct cash donations to the Scholarship Fund!**

**Stay tuned for other opportunities to support St'at'imc Lifelong Learners!**

**For more information** on packages including prizes, sponsors, and registration forms please contact:

**Courteney Adolph-Jones**  
[set@statimcgs.org](mailto:set@statimcgs.org)



*Copyright © 2022 St'át'imc Government Services, All rights reserved.*

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

