



# July 2022 Newsletter

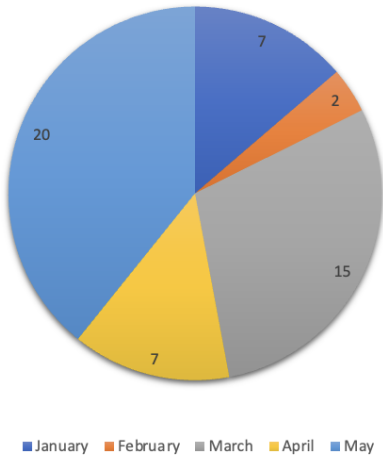
## Culture and Heritage

Chester Alec, Sam Copeland and Nadine Gray are working on the SGS Culture and Heritage Team. Talicia Kane, GIS Technician also supports the Culture and Heritage Team on all projects.

Alysha Edwards will be re-joining the team in July after she completes excavations with the University of Montana at the Bridge River Archaeology Project.

### Current Projects for SGS Heritage

Pole Replacement Project Completed



A total of 51 Pole Replacement Projects have been completed by Chester Alec, Sam Copeland and Nadine Gray in 2022.





Picture Caption: View of La Joie Dam during the Drawdown in May

**Reservoir Archaeology Program (RAP)**

4 days of fieldwork were completed at Downton Reservoir in May. During the field survey, 5 archaeology sites were recorded. Helicopter travel to the survey areas was planned this year because we had not been able to reach some areas by vehicle and boat travel during previous surveys. The survey work occurred during the



scheduled draw down and low water levels for work being completed at La Joie Dam.

3 days of fieldwork were also completed on the Carpenter Reservoir in May with one archaeology site recorded. We planned these survey dates to coincide with seasonal low water levels in an effort to survey exposed lands. Additional field days for shovel testing in higher elevations lands are planned for later this summer. Survey work on Seton Lake for RAP will likely take place in late August/early September.

Overall, the RAP survey work which began in 2018 has resulted in the recording of 54 as well as completing updated mapping and testing at 43 sites.



Picture: Chester Alec and field dog Sadie doing survey work on the RAP Carpenter Project.

**Seton Lake Erosion Mitigation Project (SLEMP)**

In March, SGS Heritage and BC Hydro completed a Recommendations Report for submission to the Provincial Water Comptroller. Prior to the submission of the report, virtual meetings were held with Tsal’alh and P’egp’ig’lha to review the work completed and discuss the next steps. The report provides recommendations for erosion sites on Seton Lake, including prioritization of sites to develop erosion protection plans as well as identifying medium to low-risk erosion locations to develop monitoring plans. Erosion protection plans will involve site visits to erosion locations to record geological and geomorphological data which will be used to develop engineering design for slope stabilization. This work is being planned for mid-July.

The next steps in the SLEMP work are to identify additional sites of cultural importance at the shoreline that could be impacted by the lake levels. For this work, SGS Heritage is working with Tsal’alh and P’egp’ig’lha to coordinate site visits in mid-July.



**Bridge River Transmission Project (B RTP)**

SGS Heritage is working with Wood E&I Solutions on the archaeology survey for this project. Wood E&I Solutions has a subcontract with Szumin’ts, a Tsal’alh company, for the archaeology impact assessment work. In May, a total of 7 days of reconnaissance field surveys were completed by SGS crew Chester Alec and Samuel Copeland with archaeologists Chris Verral (Wood) and Matt Begg (TRA).

As the project design continues to be developed by BC Hydro, there will be future fieldwork opportunities for the heritage crew.

**Active Job Posting**

A job posting for heritage field technicians is available on the [SGS webpage](#) and is also available on the [St’at’imc Facebook page](#). We encourage qualified people to apply for this position to work on various BC Hydro projects throughout the summer. Anyone interested in heritage work with SGS can contact us via email [heritage@statimcgs.org](mailto:heritage@statimcgs.org) or at 250-256-0425 extension 224



**GIS**

Talicia is a member from Ts’kw’aylaxw and the GIS technician for St’at’imc Government Services. She works closely with the Culture and Heritage and the Environment departments. Talicia’s work with the Heritage department includes mapping, setting up tablets for fieldwork, participating in conference calls, and tracking projects. The projects she works on include RAP, SLEMP, As-When, and the Lajoie TWG. She has also been participating in the McKay Rehab Planning Group with the Environment department, which includes technical meetings and field visits. Talicia has started doing Administrator training with Lightship to implement the mapping software for SGS. Along with her work with the two departments, Talicia has been working with the Ecora GIS team to develop a GIS department at SGS.





Finance

Hello everyone. I hope this newsletter finds you all in good health. My name is Raquel Kane, I am a member of Ts’kw’aylaxw First Nation. My parents are Karen Aleck (Ts’kw’aylaxw) and the late Tommy Kane (Xwisten). I joined the St’at’imc Government Services team in March of 2020. I work in the Finance department of SGS. The finance department processes accounts payable, accounts receivable and payroll for all departments within SGS, as well as other financial duties. I enjoy spending time with my husband and our three children. We enjoy being out on the land exploring the beautiful scenery our nation has to offer.

Environment

We’ll be doing Swiftwater training, forest and range evaluation monitoring at Bralorne, and 2 new summer hires. The Swiftwater training and FREP monitoring will be in July. The two new summer hires are Chanvre Oleman and Braeden Napoleon – they will be with SGS until the beginning of September.

Website Update

Over the summer and fall, SGS staff will be working to provide a much-needed refresh to our website. Our aim is to improve how we share information and easier to find what you are interested in learning more about. Stay tuned for updates in the newsletter about progress and our potential launch date for the new site.

**We need your help!** As part of the new website, we will also be looking to showcase St’at’imc culture and the territory through images from across the territories. We will be launching a photo contest for prizes and taking submissions – take a look on our Facebook page in the next few weeks for details and submit your best photos for a chance to win a prize and also have your image featured on the new website.





## Living Life Curiously

By Vanessa Richards: On-Call SGS Receptionist

*“Human curiosity, the urge to know, is a powerful force and is perhaps the best secret weapon of all in the struggle to unravel the workings of the natural world.”*

– Aaron Klug (British biophysicist and chemist. Winner of the 1982 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.)



Ever wish you could be a fly on the wall or a bird in a tree watching and listening? And maybe even at different historical events, meetings or out in the woods observing wildlife as they live on a daily basis? I have been working at SGS now since November. Some may describe my job as tedious and some may say boring. But I have found it to be incredibly interesting!



The first project I started was ASK, which stands for Accessing St’at’imc Knowledge. I have been creating a digital library of all the documents, books and reports pertaining to the St’at’imc Territory on topics of history, heritage, culture, socio-



economics, archaeological, environmental and wildlife. It was eye-opening to see how much knowledge there was to learn and having a digital library for SGS staff to access has made their search for specific information easier to find.

The second and third projects has been MTNT, Main Table Negotiating Team Meeting Minutes and organizing files into BC Hydro project folders. Notes and documents from past meetings between BC Hydro and the St’at’imc nation are being scanned and put into a digital library for easy access. And information about specific projects in the territory is organized into folders.



But the most exciting project to me has been working on the Grizzly Bear DNA project with the Environment team. I have been cataloguing pictures and hair samples from different locations around the territory to be sent to a lab for

further examination. The cameras at the different sites have shown so many different kinds of wildlife! Grizzly & Black Bear, Wolves, Wolverines, Martens, owl, deer and squirrels. Below are just a few of the many pictures captured of these animals as they go about their lives in the wild. The wolverine pictures are my favourite! This curious wolverine was caught red-handed pulling the sign off the tree and rolling around playing with it! What wonderful creatures we get to share these mountains with!



Capital Planning

The Quarterly Capital Planning Meeting (QCPM) being held on June 16 was attended by 35 people, 16 from businesses or communities, 10 from SGS and 9 from BC Hydro. The notes along with the presentation materials are posted on [SharePoint](#).

The Bridge River Transmission Project (BRTP) will be the focus of an upcoming Business Opportunity Working Group (LBOG) – a group of St'at'imc business



leaders. Discussions will include the supply chain strategy and contract opportunities for the BRTP project as well as on St'át'imc businesses continue through this year. BRTP construction begins with access and clearing work in 2024 followed by line construction work in 2025.

The LaJoie Dam Improvement project supply chain strategy and contracting strategy will also be the focus for the LBOG, the community and business meetings and other forums. If you have an interest in this information and participating in some way, please contact Al Boldt, SGS Capital Planning Manager at [cpm@statimcgs.org](mailto:cpm@statimcgs.org).

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)

## Relations Manager

Kalhwá7alap, my name is Sherry Kane, and I am from Ts'kw'aylaxw. I started working at St'at'imc Government Services (SGS) in 2020 and for the past 11 months, I have been the Interim-Relations Manager and recently transitioned to the position permanently.

The Relations Manager has several specific functions identified in the St'át'imc – BC Hydro Settlement Agreements. Some of those include sharing information related to the Annual Operations Update, BC Hydro capital plans, new authorizations, new facilities, emergencies, contracting opportunities, St'át'imc cultural heritage, operations and maintenance activities, maintaining community points of contact list, and more.

In addition to being St'at'imc point of contact, the Relations Manager also leads or assists in coordinating meetings where information is shared with St'át'imc points of contact or when decisions are made. The Relations Manager receives, tracks, and shares information in a timely and organized manner. I look forward to continuing building on the mutual Relations Agreement goal of a respectful, effective, and evolving relationship. I am always eager to hear from St'at'imc and share information, I can be reached at 250-256-0425 ext. 260 or via email at [relationsmgr@statimcgs.org](mailto:relationsmgr@statimcgs.org)

## BR2 Fire Safety – Staying Safe Around Overhead Lines

Stay three metres back, stay safe Whether you're working on your home, trimming trees, or getting outside to play, remember to stay at least three metres (10 feet) away from power lines. That means above, below, and beside.

This photo is from a recent fire behind the BR2 facility which appeared to be from an electrical short circuit on the overhead powerline.



**Why three metres?** A tree or an object can still be a hazard even if they aren't touching an energized power line. Electricity can arc or jump between an energized line and a tree, a tool and even a person if they get too close. By staying back three metres, you'll be safe.

**How far is three metres?** Not sure if you're too close? Three metres is equivalent to the distance of two bikes, three baseball bats, or the height of a basketball hoop. Wait for help, do not attempt to put a fire out caused by or near electricity.

Please check out the BCHydro website for more information:  
Staying safe around overhead lines [bchydro.com](https://www.bchydro.com)



**September 15, 2022 | 10am**  
**Sunstone Golf Club**  
**in Pemberton, BC**  
\$800 per team of 4 or \$225 per player  
18 Holes

- Gold Package**     **\$2750**
- Silver Package**   **\$2250**
- Bronze Package**   **\$1750**

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

Courteney Adolph-Jones  
set@statimcgs.org

Form and payment are due by  
Friday, August 12, 2022

Golf FUNdraiser Signup

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