
Summer 2018

HELLOS, FAREWELLS, AND SUMMER PROGRAMS



WELCOME TREVER BROADHEAD

After months of searching for the perfect fit, VNHS is proud to warmly welcome Trever Broadhead, our new COO as of June 4th, 2018.

Coming by way of Lethbridge, Alberta, Trever brings experience in creating community services, family support services, and meaningful relationship building with clients and staff. Most notably, in his last position as the Family Support Manager at the Family Centre Society of Southern Alberta, Trever spearheaded partnerships between Opokaa'sin Early Intervention Society and Kainai Children's Services Corporation to support Blackfoot Communities. We are excited for the positive changes and new projects Trever will bring to VNHS.

We thank Jody Puff, our preceding COO, for the meaningful changes, leadership, and positivity that she brought during her time at VNHS.

Welcome to the family, Trever!



TREVER'S WORDS TO LIVE

BY:
"Be somebody who makes
everybody feel like a
somebody"



FAREWELL, FLORA!



After almost 30 years, we are sad to say goodbye to our long time employee and friend, Flora, but we are happy to see her transition into retirement!

For staff, tenants, and community members alike, we all know Flora as the backbone of VNHS, and a fantastic member of our community. Flora holds priceless years of experience and knowledge with VNHS, and has been a constant caring, warm, and supportive face to see around the office, at her church, and in the Commercial-Broadway area. Flora has left us with a loving legacy, and big shoes to fill!

We'll miss you, Flora!

STUDENT PROFILE - KIRSTIE WEST

As a society, we are always looking for new ways to uplift and incorporate the voices and experiences of young Indigenous (and non-Indigenous) peoples. That being said, for the past few years we have been happy to offer a select number of students summer-time, and ongoing, employment.

This Summer, we would like to honour and showcase Kirstie West, a fourth year Psychology student at Simon Fraser University. Kirstie comes from the Saik'uz First Nation, and has been with us for just over two years now. Over the past few years, we have seen Kirstie grow as a mother, dedicated student, and a meaningful member of our team. Not only does she bring advanced experience and knowledge in health and safety protocols, but she has been an integral part of ensuring our staff have ongoing training and development opportunities. When not at work, or in school, Kirstie enjoys visiting her community and family in Vanderhoof, BC, playing baseball, and spending time with her daughter.

We look forward to supporting Kirstie after she graduates by transitioning her into a tenant support/services role within the society, so we can all utilize her passion for Psychology.



“My favourite thing about working at VNHS is the strong sense of community and amount of support I get from my supervisors and coworkers in my role as a student, mother, and employee”

- KIRSTIE WEST

Skwxwú7mesh CHIEF IAN CAMPBELL RUNS FOR MAYOR

On Monday, May 12th, shortly after Chief Ian Campbell announced his run for Vancouver Mayor,



Skwachays Lodge (A VNHS Social Enterprise) hosted a dinner event in honour of his supporters and volunteers. Catered by Big Heart Bannock, Attendees and volunteers alike enjoyed a night of appreciation, mingling, cultural entertainment, and delicious food inspired by traditional Indigenous dishes.

Vancouver Native Housing Society is proud to support Chief Ian Campbell for Mayor!

We look forward to having the opportunity to work with an Indigenous mayor, while continuing to strengthen our relationship with the City of Vancouver. We raise our hands up!

2018 NATIONAL ABORIGINAL DAY BBQ

Every year at Wilpiblah (our Supportive Senior's Building), VNHS staff throws a barbecue in celebration of National Aboriginal Day for our Wilpiblah tenants, and community members who are involved in supporting our Senior's program.

This year on June 19th, we enjoyed fantastic music from Sister Says, and food from the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society catering services. Sister Says is a Vancouver-based, Haida-Tsimshian brother-sister pop/acoustic duo. VNHS is lucky enough to host Lead Singer Gillian Thompson as one of our Artists In Residence at Skwachays Lodge. Between salmon and bison burgers with bannock buns, jazz and acoustic music, and the warm weather, we all enjoyed getting together to celebrate our shared experiences, histories, and stories as Indigenous Peoples and allies.

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CEDAR WEAVING AND GARDENING SUMMER PROGRAMS

Throughout the year in our supportive housing buildings we run various programs for our tenants. From meal plans to financial literacy, our programming staff are always busy coming up with new ways to both support our tenants, and also have some fun while doing it!

This summer, we'd like to highlight our cedar weaving and gardening programs. We are strong believers in healing and community building through culture and traditional medicines, so we were more than happy when we got the opportunity to team up with Todd and the Britannia Community Services Centre to provide our tenants with free, accessible and fun, cedar weaving classes! In the gardens at many of our buildings, we are growing medicines, flowers, fruits, and vegetables. One of our favourite (and easiest!) things to grow throughout the summer is traditional tobacco, often used for smudging, gift giving, and prayer.

FLOWERING THYME



**THYME, OREGANO,
ROSEMARY, MINT, & CHIVES**

JUVENILE TOBACCO

