



Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations

Director's Name: Herb Ey

Department: Public Works

Title of Report: KCFN Public Works 2022 Annual Report

Date: 03 January, 2023

1. Strategic Overview

Public Works is a department within our community responsible for ALL Public Assets and Infrastructure including the operation and maintenance of them. Our community assets are aging, many were poorly constructed and in disrepair due to the same as well as lack of appropriate care and maintenance. Current Infrastructure issues are preventing us from adding new housing to the systems (water, sewer, power).

The mission of the department is to develop a strong competent team and implement appropriate maintenance plans to manage the Nations assets safely and effectively. Public Works is also a great stepping stone for our youth as we provide introductory a multitude of job placements throughout the community, helping students identify what jobs they enjoy, may be suited for and encourage specific education / training in respective fields.

2. (Financial Overview -N/A)

Highlights for 2022

- Created 14 additional jobs within Public Works for our residents – currently employ 20 people
- Equipment training completed for core Public Works staff
 - Tele-Handler / Excavator / Skid Steer / Hiab (Truck mounted crane)
- Core Public Works staff enrolled in WaterSafeBC Training through Thompson Rivers University
- Upcoming safety training scheduled for all workers
 - WHMIS, Hazard ID, Confined Space, Working at Heights
- Community Repairs and Upgrades:
 - Home safety Issues Addressed – Electrical, stairs and walkways repaired or replaced
 - Helicopter Landing Pad – improved visibility and safety awareness
 - Kindergarten – Structural beams replaced; termite damage irradiated; new windows installed; new floors, cupboards, new furnace
 - Commercial Dock – rotten boards replaced, painted, expansion planning in progress
 - Unit #70 – Chris Jules – Rapid response for mobility safety / access
 - Critical plumbing issues addressed in 20+ homes
 - Facelift for the Nation office

- Community - Environmental Clean up and Enhancements:
 - Old Propane Tanks Recycled
 - Waste Oil / Fuel Drums Collected for Disposal and Recycling
 - Abandoned Boats / Motors Cleaned up from the Foreshore
 - Old Growth Cedars Hauled off the Beach to the Carving Shed Site for Cultural use
- Housing Renovations and Maintenance Commenced:
 - Primary Construction Contractor Hired – Pacific Marine & Float
 - Unit 380 - First full renovation completed
 - Duplex ready but remains a single family dwelling
 - Open House held Nov 5th with positive comments from attendees
 - Tenant / Lenora Short is back in her home
 - Unit 440 - Renovation well underway - gutted, reframed, new electrical & plumbing as a duplex
 - Unit 210 – Tenants' Herbie, Matt & Liz Jack relocated for the renovation
 - Renovation underway - gutted, reframed as a duplex
 - Storage Yard fenced for safety and to limit access
 - Wood Stove / Pipes / HVAC Inspection and Replacements
 - Perimeter Drainage Systems ahead of / in conjunction with renovations
 - Landscaping / beautification – making properties safe and easy to maintain, tenant pride
 - On Site Inspectors – Island Building Inspectors (IBI)
 - Providing Ongoing Inspection Reports – Before / During / After for Nation Record
 - Liaising between Tenants and Work Crews
 - Assisting in Organizing Yard and Home Clean up Prior Equipment and/or Construction
- Program for Community Volunteers / Community Service Implemented:
 - Volunteer Process Established to Encourage Community Involvement
 - System Helps Residents Work off Arrears
 - Strengthening Family Relations
 - Enhancing the Sense of Community
 - Increasing Pride within the Nation
 - Developing Excitement for Forthcoming Upgrades to Homes and the Entire Village
 - Volunteers are Gaining the Desire for Employment
- **Houpsitas Village Infrastructure Renewal (HVIR) – Capital Projects**
 - Water & Sewer systems
 - Received \$8.65 million grant
 - Water system made safe until replacement
 - New reservoir and pump station to begin February 2023
 - In town water & sewer pipes – Spring 2023
 - Gravel supply on TSL past the school – for this project
 - Powerline Issues
 - Powerline repairs completed that were endangering life and community
 - Replaced 10+ poles within the village
 - Upgraded most of the transformers
 - Diesel Generator Station Installed - Commissioned
 - Solar Farms at Carving Shed and at Generator location Installed – Commissioned

- Wastewater System
 - 3 x 5100 Gallon Septic Tanks Installed
 - Ready to Connect when New System is Installed early 2023

3. Functional Overview

The Public Works Team embraces the traditional belief of **TSA-WAAK-NISH** *We Are All One*.

We have many responsibilities and must interact with the entire community to maintain the Nations assets which include:

- Building and Facility Operations & Maintenance
- Vehicles, Equipment and Boats
- Water and Sanitation Systems
- Power
- Docks
- Roads and Drainage
- Garbage and Recycling
- Telephones
- Internet and TV

Increased staffing and developing a strong competent team through training is closing the gap on the proper care and maintenance of our assets. This is also preparing the department to effectively manage the repairs and upgrades to our infrastructure and community homes.

Part of community upgrades is the Houpsitas Village Infrastructure Renewal (HVIR) – a Capital Project. Capital Projects are defined as New Construction, Expansion, Renovation, or Replacement. The Nation is Overhauling and/or Replacing ALL of our Infrastructure: Power, Water and Sewer. We began by making the community safe through water system repairs until the system is replaced. Island Health now holds our water operating permit. Regular monthly sampling being done per Island Health requirements. Our Powerline was also in dangerous need of repair. We have replaced many poles and upgraded almost all the transformers in the community.

4. Vision of the Department

What does the future vision of the department look like?

To ensure the community has safe and reliable infrastructure to support its economic growth and provide a competent team of KCFN citizens to operate and maintain all our public assets.