

S T U X W T É W S E M C

# BAND OFFICE NEWSLETTER



August/September 2021

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## Mark your Calendars!

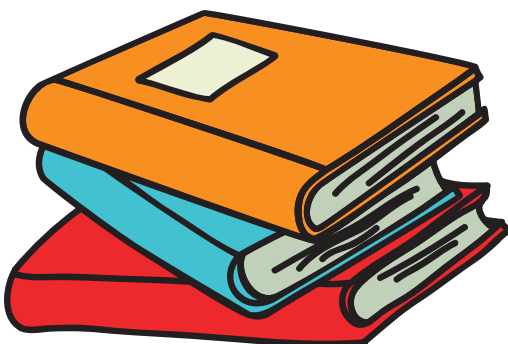
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# Meet the New Team Member!

## Krista Billy - Education Coordinator

Simgiigyet Sigidimhanak ganhl guubawilswit, my name is Wapa'nasak, (Morning Star) my English name is Krista Marie Billy and I come from the Gitksan/Cree Nations. My mother-Wanda Villanueva is one out of 11 and my father is Chris Sinclair Jr-only child. I belong to the house of Gutginuuxs, Wilnahtahl Anda Up of the Gisghaast clan. I have resided on the St'uxwtews territorial lands for the past 11 years. I am married to my amazing husband Kristopher Billy and have four beautiful children: Rocket, River, Remmington & Ryder. Next month we will celebrate 19 years of being together.

I am very humbled and honored to take part in the wisdom, support, and hard work that many have contributed to create the Education Department. My zeets and yeeh'ea (grandparents) have taught me since a young girl what it is to be a hard worker, the ethics of being a good visitor, and most of all to always respect myself and stand up for what I believe in. My education background: I graduated with a Diploma of Academic Studies from Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, transferred to Simon Fraser University, completed my 3rd year of Criminology, applied to UBC Law School, completed the LSAT testing got scared and believed that I wasn't smart enough to attend Law School, I applied for the Aboriginal Youth Internship with the Province of BC, was chosen, completed a year internship and have had amazing job opportunities since. I plan on attending Law School once our son Ryder hits school age, in the meantime I have applied for the Masters Program with SFU/NVIT and if accepted I will attend class 2 weekends a month for the next 3 years.



**Himyaa (thank you) to the St'uxwtews community. I am committed to Bonaparte First Nations and will do everything in my power to do the best job I can. I will always try my best to answer any of your questions and if I do not have the answer, I will find one for you.**

# Administration

P:250-457-9624



## Samantha Minnabarriet - Finance Manager

Mid-year meetings are scheduled for September to review each department's Financial statements to keep our annual budgets on track.

We have been working with BDO GST specialists to get caught up with GST Rebates and Filings. Our GST filings are now caught up from 2015 and we will be making installment payments to become current with CRA. We have also received confirmation from CRA that we have been approved as a Municipality Status for GST purposes; meaning BFN is now able to receive 100% GST rebates as opposed to the 50% GST rebates we were receiving in prior years.

Lastly, I am delighted to report to community that Chief and Council have signed off on the Audit for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2021 and will be submitted to all of the required organizations ahead of schedule. A copy of this current audit (or any other prior years) can be viewed at the office by appointment or accessed on our website. Our Funding Services Officer at Indigenous Services Canada is currently finalizing our Audit Review for the fiscal year ending March 2020; when this is complete I will be working closely with our Audit Team to ensure that any Recoveries due from the fiscal years 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20 are as minimal as possible.

Kukwstémc,  
Samantha Minnabarriet  
Finance Manager

**Mark your Calendars!**  
**Status Cards available for**  
**Bonaparte band members**  
**Date: September 25**  
**Time: 9AM-3PM**  
**Location: Bonaparte Band**  
**Office**

## What's happening with the Membership?

Administration was fortunate enough to acquire band member, Nina Minnabarriet, to maintain the Membership Department obligations as Bonaparte's newly appointed interim Indian Registry Administrator (IRA); this position is deemed under Indigenous Services Canada's (ISC) funding policy and position terms. The long-term plan for this position will be that the job obligations and requirements are phased into a permanent full-time employee whose schedule would allow it; this was decided when it was evident that the annual core-budget received from ISC could not support a full-time or part-time Membership Clerk. Until this employee is appointed, Nina's availability will be restricted; however, we are grateful for the extra time that Nina has dedicated to assist the Administration and membership.

Should you require assistance related to status cards, life events, or Indian Registry, please email [membership@bonaparte.band](mailto:membership@bonaparte.band), or leave a message for Nina with the Reception at 250-457-9624.

### Need a Status Card?

On September 25th, Nina Minnabarriet will host a day to renew Certification of Indian Status (laminated) cards, and submit applications for the Secured Certification of Indian Status (new) cards for the Bonaparte members (only) that require so. Please bring the following pieces to acquire a card:

- COVID personal protection equipment (PPE); masks, hand sanitizer.
- 2 Passport Photos (available at pharmacies)
- Your current status card
- Your **original** Birth Document (birth certificate) with parental information
- Government ID's (Driver's License, Provincial Health Card, Passport, etc.)
- Name-linking documents (If you've changed your name (i.e: Marriage Certificate))

This workshop will be held at the Band Office, on a first-come-first-serve schedule; therefore, be prepared to wait in your vehicle, as COVID regulations will be followed accordingly. The team will sign each individual in with a screening questionnaire.



# Administration

P:250-457-9624



## Elders Meetings

Rayne Porter - Executive Assistant

Elders Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month at 10AM, located at the Band Hall on IR3. These meetings were initialized on May 19th, 2021, when Council and Administration called upon the Elders to seek direction for a dispute regarding the discovery and disturbance of precolonial ancestral remains located on the Ashcroft Terminal's site (read more about the reburial on pp 546). From this, came the resolution of Administration and Leadership tasked to place more pressure on the terminal to lay the ancestors where they were originally laid to rest; when the correspondence from the Terminal did not satisfy the Elders' decision, Marilyn Porter offset a peaceful dispute by holding a pipe ceremony at the burial (Ashcroft Terminal) site on June 2nd and 3rd. From this monumental event, it was clear that the request for the Elders to meet regularly, had provided a space where Administration and Council could directly discuss issues that majorly impact all of St'uxwtéws, and therefore find resolutions which best suit the community. made The continuance of the Elders Meeting series was a part of Council's decision to provide the Elders and community an opportunity to bring forth items of discussion with CEO, Sean Bennett and Council.



## Elders Meeting Dates

At the last Elders Meeting dated August 18th, 2021, there was discussion around the structure of these meetings; such as meeting procedures, and agenda items. The structure was indicated to be a work in progress, as the agendas were currently compiled by Administration, but are essentially open to all items which the Elders see fit.

This month's Elders Meeting has been conjoined with the Specific Claims Meeting located at the Cache Creek Community Hall.

The following Elders Meeting will be dated on October 20th, 2021, located at the Band Hall.

## Mark your Calendars!

**Specific Claims Meeting**

**Date: Wednesday,**

**September 15th**

**Time: 10AM-4PM**

**Location: Cache Creek**

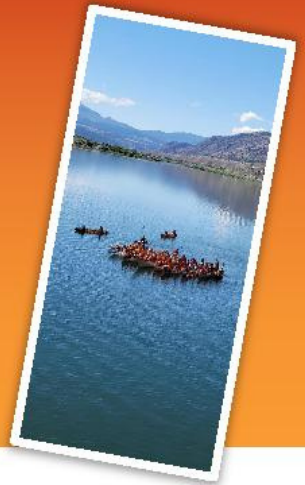
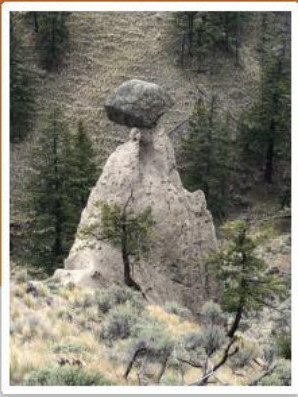
**Community**

**Hall**

**Garbage Pickup every  
Wednesday**



# Chief & Council



## Contribution for August Newsletter

*Weyt-kp - xwexwéytep - "Hello Everyone"*

We have been busy reading documents and are being brought up to date on past, present, and upcoming band business. Information is being shared and regular conversations are being held on pending Specific Claims. Review of pending Bylaws for Cannabis and Tobacco are ongoing with council & community (please go to Bonaparte Website to review and provide input). We also just recently approved our first Audit as a Chief & Council (2020/21 Audit). Look for the updated Audit on our Website. These are only a few of the items being addressed along with ongoing BCR requests, during our regular council meetings.

We have also had several delegates attending our bi-weekly meetings. It has been great to see Membership at our meetings and to have an elder open our meetings with a prayer and good words of encouragement!



*"Elder" Gerald Etienne Sr. - Sequoia Antoine*



*Welcome from the Elders – "Yukon Warrior Walkers"*

## Mark your Calendars!

**September Council Dates:**

**Friday, September 10, 2021**

**Wednesday, September 29, 2021**

### Ashcroft Terminal:

Community Elders & membership engaged in direct action with the Ashcroft Terminal to deal with the ancestral remains found on site. Community membership drove this grassroots movement and it was through their voice that this concern was resolved in a timely fashion. We look forward to meeting and building our relationship & partnership with the Senior Administrative Team.



*Ashcroft Unity Ride – “Marilyn Porter”*



### Representation of Bonaparte First Nation:

We are starting to identify external committees/meetings that require Bonaparte First Nation representation. These needs will be addressed by all Chief & Council to ensure our Bonaparte Community is represented at tables where critical discussions are being held.

Chief & Council are eager to continue to collaboratively serve & represent our membership by building relationships & harnessing the strength that comes from the rooted cultural traditions of the Stuctwesecm.  
*“People of St’uxwtéws.*







*Juniper Beach – “Swearing in Ceremony”*

## C&C Strategic Planning Session

During our Two-Day Strategic Planning Session, we had the opportunity to focus on establishing our Leadership Mission/Vision/Goals. Having this time together enabled us to be together as a team to collaboratively discuss what we see our priorities being while we sit together for our term as Chief and Council. We look forward to sharing the outcomes of these sessions with the Membership of St’uxwtéws in the near future!

### 2021 AGM:

We hosted our first AGM as Chief and Council where several updates and conversations were had which focused on upcoming bylaws, information about Specific Claims 33 & 34, and housing updates.



*Unity Ride – Cache Creek to St’uxwtéws*



### St’uxwtéws Strong:

We supported our Elders affected by the confirmation of the Children’s graves found at the Tk’emlúps Residential School. We participated in the Canoe Journey that started at Lafarge and concluded at Pioneer Park, with a stop at the banks of the Residential School. A difficult journey for all involved, but a demonstration of deep and rich unity by all who were there.



British Columbia

## Ancestral remains reburied in ceremony with St'uxwtews First Nation and Ashcroft Terminal

Railway distribution centre had stored remains in a trailer since they were unearthed

CBC News · Posted: Jun 03, 2021 2:19 PM PT | Last Updated: June 4



Ashcroft Terminal entrance near Ashcroft, in B.C.'s southern Interior. The St'uxwtews First Nation says the area contains an ancient village site. (Doug Herbert/CBC)

**WARNING: This story contains distressing details.**

Ancestral remains which are estimated to be more than 3,000 years old were reburied Thursday night after a site was agreed upon by the St'uxwtews First Nation and Ashcroft Terminal in B.C.'s southern Interior.

Since the discovery by staff at the Ashcroft Terminal during redevelopment work at the railway transfer site, the remains have been stored onsite in a locked trailer.

Last week, elders of the St'uxwtews First Nation met in their community hall near Cache Creek, B.C., to discuss their growing concerns about the nearby terminal. They fear continued expansion could damage other possible burial sites. The St'uxwtews originally wanted the terminal operators to rebury the remains where they were found, but the company said that was impossible due to the changes made during the expansion.

The traditional ceremony Thursday layed the remains to rest in a wooden box, with St'uxwtews members covering them with dirt by hand.

Future meetings are planned between the First Nation and the terminal operators to discuss more oversight of archeological finds and future economic opportunities.







St'uxwtews First Nation Chief Frank Antoine, centre, attends the reburial ceremony with band members and Ashcroft Terminal executives. (Submitted by Karen Warren)

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Ashcroft Terminal has previously found other remains during work on the site, and reburied them at the same location.

These remains were not reburied because the site was in use by terminal staff, the company said.

The terminal operators have been going back and forth with the First Nation to decide on where the remains should be placed. But talks broke down in late January after the First Nation was asked to provide a location.

- **[B.C. village wants access to wetland restored](#)**

The Ashcroft Terminal is a major inland transloading and container storage distribution centre that serves the main lines of the Canadian National and Canadian Pacific railways.

The terminal sits on 670 acres of land on the Thompson River near Ashcroft within the traditional territory of the St'uxwtews First Nation.

The current expansion project involves laying more track and making room for more trains and trucks to load and unload cargo.



The First Nation believes this area was the site of a historic village and more artifacts remain to be uncovered.



A box containing ancestral remains that may be more than 3,000 years old was reburied in a ceremony Thursday. (Submitted by Karen Warren)

"That's an unacceptable development in that area," Elder Gerald Etienne told CBC's Doug Herbert. "It's a grave injustice by a colonial system."

Newly elected St'uxwtews Chief Frank Antoine said he wants the Ashcroft Terminal to hire an independent archeologist reporting solely to the First Nation in the interest of transparency.



Currently an in-house archeologist employed by the terminal is expected to report any discoveries of artifacts or human remains to the band, the company and the province.



St'uxwtews First Nation Elder Gerald Etienne, right, and Coun. Keith Zabolot said they initially wanted the remains put them back in the locations where they were discovered. (Doug Herbert/CBC)

"Anything to do with our ancestors is dealing with our family," Antoine said. "They are disturbing our whole community when they do that [put remains in a trailer], and they need to understand."

- **Canadian museums asked to return First Nation ancestral remains and burial items**

Ashcroft Terminal spokesperson Kleo Landucci said her company has been trying to work with the St'uxwtews and other First Nations in the region.

"The important thing is to really keep the cultural and historic and scientific significance and make sure that that is respected ... there are other alternatives that we're looking at, making

# Updated Faculty Contacts for you!

Administration/Housing Department					
Sean Bennett		Chief Executive Officer/Housing		248	ceo@bonaparte.band
Rayne Porter		Executive Assistant		234	executiveasst@bonaparte.band
Education Department					
Krista Billy		Education Coordinator		247	education@bonaparte.band
Finance Department					
Darci-Lynn Edwards		Accounts Payables		244	payables@bonaparte.band
Patti LeFrancois		HR Consultant		225	payroll2@bonaparte.band
Samantha Minnabarriet		Finance Manager		235	financemanager@bonapartre.band
Sierra Loewen		Finance Asst./Acct.'s Receivable		221	reception@bonaparte.band
Kim Pierro		Payroll/HR Assistant		225	payroll@bonaparte.band
Cultural Enrichment Department					
Keith Zabol		Cultural Enrichment Manager		250-457-1253	kzabol@bonaparte.band
Merle Fletcher		Cultural E. Coordinator		250-457-1253	kzabol@bonaparte.band
Julie Zabol		Cultural E. Coordinator		250-457-1253	kzabol@bonaparte.band
Social Development Department					
Angie Thorne		Social Development Manager		239	socialdev@bonaparte.band
Marylou Morgan		Home Maker		239	socialdev@bonaparte.band
Matilda Morgan		Social Development Assistant		243	matilda@bonaparte.band
Karen Warren		Youth Worker		249	youth@bonaparte.band
Health Department					
Vanessa Thevarge		Health Director		246	healthdir@bonaparte.band
Carolyn Billy		Home Care Aid		245	hca@bonaparte.band
Heather Daniel		Head Start Coordinator		250-457-9747	headstart@bonaparte.band
Jeannie William		Patient Travel/Community Health Worker		229	chr2@bonaparte.band
Kala Morgan		Health Receptionist		242	healthreception@bonaparte.band
Angie Pigeon		Registered & Home & Community Care Nurse		228	hccn@bonaparte.band
Boysie Porter		Recovery & Wellness Worker		223	recovery-wellness@bonaparte.band
Savannah Pierro		Health Adminstrative Assistant		224	healthassist@bonaparte.band
Talleighla Gies		Community Health Nurse		236	talleighla.gies@fnha.ca
Lands Department					
Marilyn Porter		Lands Manager		237	landmanager@bonaparte.band
Natural Resources Department					
Amanda Murrell		Referrals Clerk		273	referralsclerk@bonaparte.band
Bert William		Senior Archeology Advisor		277	culturalheritage@bonaparte.band
Dario Antoine		Fisheries Technician		273	fishtech@bonaparte.band
Fawn Pierro-Zabol		Forestry Technician		275	forestry@bonaparte.band
Jason Haller		Contracts Negotiator		278	contracts@bonaparte.band
Kelsey Thorne		Contracts Administrator		276	nrcm@bonaparte.band
Melanie Minnabarriet		Natural Resources Technician		275	assistnr@bonaparte.band
Brenda Antoine		Interim Project Assistant		276	bantoine@bonaparte.band
Field Crew		Field Crew		276	fieldcrew@bonaparte.band
Water Operations Department					
Byron Porter		Water Manager		250-457-3635	byron@bonaparte.band
Mike Williams		Water Operator		250-457-3582	mike@bonaparte.band
Operations and Maintenance Department					
Kirby Russell		O&M Worker		234	maintenance@bonaparte.band
Chief and Council					
Frank Antoine		Chief	EXT. 231	250-318-0742	kukpi7@bonaparte.band
Neal Antoine		Councillor		250-457-3025	nealantoine2014@gmail.com
Keith Zabol		Councillor		250-457-9973	kzabol@bonaparte.band
Michelle Canaday		Councillor		250-318-2070	mcanaday@bonaparte.band
Dr. Verna Billy		Councillor		604-760-7264	vminnabarriet@bonaparte.band



# Bonaparte First Nation

2689A Sage Hill Rd., Hwy 97N, Box 669 Cache Creek, BC V0K 1H0  
Tel: (250) 457-9624 Fax: (250) 457-9550



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Chief and Council Meeting Request Form

"The requester" (the person(s) completing this form is referred as "the requester") is required to complete this Request Form to present at a duly convened Council Meeting. Please note that, this form is meant to initiate clear communication and collaboration amongst the Council, Administration, and "the requester", to successfully meet a resolution.

**\*IMPORTANT: Due to time constraints, a maximum of 20 minutes of the Council meeting may be designated for the item. \***

Please identify the following information:

1. The full name(s) of "the requester" and attendees:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Contact information of "the requester":

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Identify the date of the Council Meeting which "the requester" is requesting to attend. State "next available date" if the date is unknown.

4. Identify the topic:

5. Provide a short debrief and proposal:

6. How many supporting documents are attached (if applicable)?