



Newsletter



Our Mission

The Yeqox Nilin Justice Society serves the Tsilhqot'in and Ulkatcho (Nuhalk, Dakelh, and Tsilhqot'in) Nations to strengthen traditional approaches to justice and peacemaking.

Contact
Phone | 778-412-9536 |
103-383 Oliver street
Williams Lake, BC
V2G 1M4



Executive Director

Hello Everyone,

I hope all of you are well, our staff have been working diligently to update our success program and to continue working with our clients. As you know COVID-19 has put a hold on a lot of services and outgoing programming, we are working within the guidelines to keep our staff and communities safe and healthy.

As you may know for the past 6 years YNJS has been the lead organization to bring Indigenous Court to Williams Lake, we have had countless meetings with our planning group which was made up of First Nations Reps from each Nation (Tsilhqot'in, Northern Secwepemc, Ulkatcho, and Metis), Crown Council, RCMP, Probation, Native Court Workers, Community Safety, and Duty Council. After 6 months of bi-weekly meetings we finally got the "ok" by the Chief Judge in December of 2019. We were told that

our first Indigenous Court sitting would start in June of 2020 and we would need to plan our Grand Opening. Originally we had a huge celebration planned with ceremonies, blanketing of the elders and entertainment from selected community schools of the surrounding communities. But as we all know due to COVID-19 our plans were put to a halt, we now have to put our celebration on hold and we are currently waiting to hear when our new start date will be. In the meantime, we are meeting with the Elders to finalize plans regarding Ceremonies at our Indigenous court proceeding and preparing our elders with knowledge of resources in Williams Lake and the communities to better assist the clients.

Our Indigenous Court Elders are made up of a wide variety of Elders throughout the area, we have; Karen Jim (Tl'etinqox), Joan Gentles (Tl'esqox), Charlotte Gilbert (Esket/T'exelc), Sandra Dickson (Spuzzum), Mary Alphonse (T'exelc), Doreen Harry (Stswecem'c Xgat'tem), Evan Johnson (Esket), Alex Norquay (Metis), Wayne Lucier (Metis), Phylis Rossette (Stswecem'c Xgat'tem), Carla Alphonse (Tl'etinqox). Our Elders have taken the NVIT Indigenous Court training, and met the requirements to be apart of Indigenous Court. In September of 2019 our Indigenous Court Planning table put out a call for Elders to apply, we delivered and emailed the Elders who took the training in the past and 11 Elders applied. Our Planning group then decided to say "yes" to the 11 elders who applied, these Elders will be blazing the way to ensure our Indigenous Court is molded to fit our traditional ways of justice.

Along with Indigenous Court being one of our main projects, our staff have continued to enhance their programs, keeping our traditional values and community needs as a focus to continue to do their jobs efficiently.

Meet our team:

Cecily Billyboy is from Yunest'in/Tl'etinqox, she is our Justice Coordinator and is the main lead for our Tsilhqot'in Restorative Justice Program. Cecily works with the Tsilhqot'in and Ulkatcho members who are on probation.

Faith Myers is from Yunest'in; she is one of the newest members of our team. Faith is the Indigenous Court Elders Coordinator, Executive Assistant, and recently assisting with the success program.

Ann Guichon is from Tsi Deldel, she is our Finance Officer and Proposal Writer.

Lane Spooner is from Tl'esqox; he is our Wellness worker. Lane's main responsibilities is to assist Cecily with Youth Probation Files and facilitate and deliver programming to the communities.

Hayley Guichon is from Tsi Deldel, she is our Programs Coordinator. Hayley creates program modules for the Success Program and ensures that our programs are up to date with the current struggles our youth and young adults are facing.

At this time during this pandemic our staff has been developing the success program, we would like our programs to be a continuation of not only educating but adding fun activities to keep our youth engaged and wanting to come back for the 2nd and 3rd modules. Our Success Program staff are working towards connecting with the community youth workers to see how we can support one another during this time, and to deliver programming.

Our Justice Department is continuing to assist clients and facilitate restorative justice circles. At this time Cecily is unable to attend court on Wednesdays as the courts had to close the court rooms to clients and their lawyers. Even though this pandemic has limited our services, we continue to have our office doors open and help anyone who requires our assistance.

We hope you all are staying safe and healthy



Finance Officer

Hi all, for those of who don't know me my name is Ann Guichon, I'm from TsiDeldel and Ulkatcho. I have been with Yeqox Nilin Justice Society going on 5 years now.

I am the Finance Officer and I take care of all the day to day finances, proposals and reports. I enjoy my job. It's good to back in the office, after working from home for almost three months. Yeqox Nilin has brought in dollars for gift cards, food boxes and we plan on bringing in more, for the families affected by the Covid-19 Epidemic. Yeqox employees worked for our nation throughout the Lock down.

A little fun news for you, Tony, Kyra and I welcomed a baby boy to our family during the Covid-19 lock down, he completes our tiny family and I hope everyone is able to meet him soon. Our little bundle of joy.

Take Care,

Ann Guichon



Justice Coordinator

My name is Cecily Billyboy my family is from Tl'etinqox (Anaham) now currently registered with Yunesitin Government. I have been employed by Yeqox Nilin Justice Society almost 2 years, my job title started as Aboriginal Case Aide Worker to Justice Coordinator. I was raised very spiritual and traditional grandparents, my great grandmother name is Ely Billyboy and Frank Joe (Esdilagh Hereditary Chief) my mother is Dorothy Billyboy I have 5 siblings, very big and close family dynamics.

I found my passion to help my people in assisting and supporting them going through the criminal legal system. I work with the 6 Tle'tinqox nation, Ulkatcho and urban areas of Williams Lake.

-Cecily Billyboy



Men's Youth and Health Worker

My name is Lane Spooner, I work for Yeqox Nilin as A men's and youth health worker I am currently taking counselling training, and working on becoming apart of the Resort of Justice society that we do here. I am currently working on a few new youth programs it is to early to say what they are, and looking to better our current annual programs that we do every year for the kids. I look forward to working with more of the youth in the upcoming year.

- Lane Spooner



Executive Assistant/Elders Coordinator

Hello, my name Faith Myers and I am Tsilhqot'in from the Yunesit'in Community. I joined the Yeqox Nilin Justice Society team in February 2020. I work as an Executive Assistant and Elders Coordinator.

I am very honoured that I get the chance to be apart of the Indigenous Court and work with the Elders that are apart of it. I really enjoy my job and we have a really great team here, so I'm happy to be back in the office through the Covid-19 pandemic. I love helping our Nations and I feel like I'm learning so much along the way!

-Faith Myers

Yeqox Nilin Presents:

BACK 2 SCHOOL CONTEST

To enter please have your youth answer the following questions and submit the answers to lspooner@yeqoxnilin.com for a chance to win prizes!!!

1. Where did you go this summer?
2. What are some activities that made your summer fun?
3. What is one thing you look forward too being back in school/or in your first year of school?

Please include your Child's name & age and your name & contact information! **Open to Tsilhqotin youth and Ulkatcho Nuxalk Dakelh Nations ages 5-19**

Please submit your entries by September 16th, 2020

For more information please call Lane at Yeqox Nilin 250-412-9536



BACK 2 SCHOOL CONTEST



Yeqox Nilin is calling all youth to participate in our back to school contest!

All you have to do is answer a few questions and submit your answers to Lane Spooner at lspooner@yeqoxnilin.com

This contest is open to the Tsilhqotin and Ulkatcho youth ages 5-19 until September 16th, 2020. So, get your entries in soon!!

Clothes Giveaway


Yeqox Nilin is doing a clothes giveaway on September 12th, 2020 from 2:00pm-4:00pm. Go check it out!!! Yeqox Nilin's Faith Myers and Lane Spooner will be there for the giveaway. So, if you have any questions or concerns please contact them☺

**Yeqox Nilin Clothes Giveaway!!! (USED)**

September 12th, 2020
2:00pm-4:00pm

Yeqox Nilin Justice Society is giving away free used clothes to the Tsilhqot'in & Ulkatcho Nations. **If you are feeling sick or have traveled out of Williams lake in the last 2 weeks, please refrain from coming!**

Location
1165 MacKenzie Avenue,
Williams Lake, BC, V2G 4P3



Chicken stew

INGREDIENTS

2 tbsp. butter
2 large carrots, peeled and sliced into coins
1 stalk celery, chopped
Kosher salt
Freshly ground black pepper
3 cloves garlic, minced
1 tbsp. all-purpose flour
1 1/2 lb. boneless skinless chicken breasts
3 sprigs fresh thyme
1 bay leaf
3/4 lb. baby potatoes, quartered
3 c. low-sodium chicken broth
Freshly chopped parsley, for garnish

DIRECTIONS

1. In a large pot over medium heat, melt butter. Add carrots and celery and season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring often, until vegetables are tender, about 5 minutes. Add garlic and cook until fragrant, about 30 seconds.
2. Add flour and stir until vegetables are coated, then add chicken, thyme, bay leaf, potatoes, and broth. Season with salt and pepper. Bring mixture to a simmer and cook until the chicken is no longer pink and potatoes are tender, 15 minutes.
3. Remove from heat and transfer chicken to a medium bowl. Using two forks, shred chicken into small pieces and return to pot.
4. Garnish with parsley before serving.



Bacon & Spinach Stuffed Chicken

INGREDIENTS

4 boneless skinless chicken breasts

Kosher salt

Freshly ground black pepper

4 oz. cream cheese, softened

1/2 c. frozen spinach, defrosted and drained

1/3 c. chopped artichoke hearts

1 c. shredded mozzarella, divided

Pinch crushed red pepper flakes

4 strips bacon, cut into 4 strips

2 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 400°. Line a large baking sheet with foil. Make slits widthwise in chicken, being careful not to cut all the way through chicken. Season with salt and pepper. Place on prepared baking sheet.
2. In a medium bowl, combine cream cheese, spinach, artichokes, and ½ cup of mozzarella. Season with salt, pepper, and a pinch of red pepper flakes. Fill every other slit with cream cheese mixture and fill remaining slits with a piece of bacon. Sprinkle remaining ½ cup mozzarella on top and drizzle with oil.
3. Bake until chicken is cooked through and bacon is crispy, 35 minutes.





Remember to stay safe and to keep social distancing through the Covid-19 pandemic. Yeqox Nilin Justice society is always here to help when you need us.

We look forward to staying connected. If you would like to stay up-to-date with any of our events checkout our facebookpage @yeqoxnilin or visit our website www.yeqoxnilinjusticesociety.com

