



# 2017 - 2018 Seabird Island Annual Report



GREENABLE



## **SEABIRD ISLAND BAND Council MISSION STATEMENT**

Seabird Island Band exists to promote a Healthier, self-sufficient, self-governing, unified and educated community. We believe that a Healthy community is one that has achieved physical, emotional, mental, spiritual and cultural balance.

We work towards building a community where communal pride and respect are based on family values and respect for other people's values, views and ideas. We want to co-exist with other communities and governments while exerting our right to be a self-governing nation.

Seabird Island Band promotes full employment, the development of our local economy and improved housing conditions. We want our community to be a safe and prosperous place for our people. We aim at achieving a good standard of living for all our Band Members.

Seabird Island Band will accomplish this mission with the energy of our Youth, the wisdom of our Elders, the strength of our families, the vision, determination of our political leaders, the guidance of our spiritual and cultural leaders and the contributions of our staff Members.

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## The Flower

The flower is an inclusive, greenable organizational chart. The message is that we are all working together, “all one”. Each petal is each department, the lines are the life lines of the department all coming together for the center “community”. This is a symbiotic relationship. The community holds us together, we wouldn’t be here without the community and they need the Seabird organization to continue to grow. The green petals protect the flower, much like our Chief and Council works to protect us all.



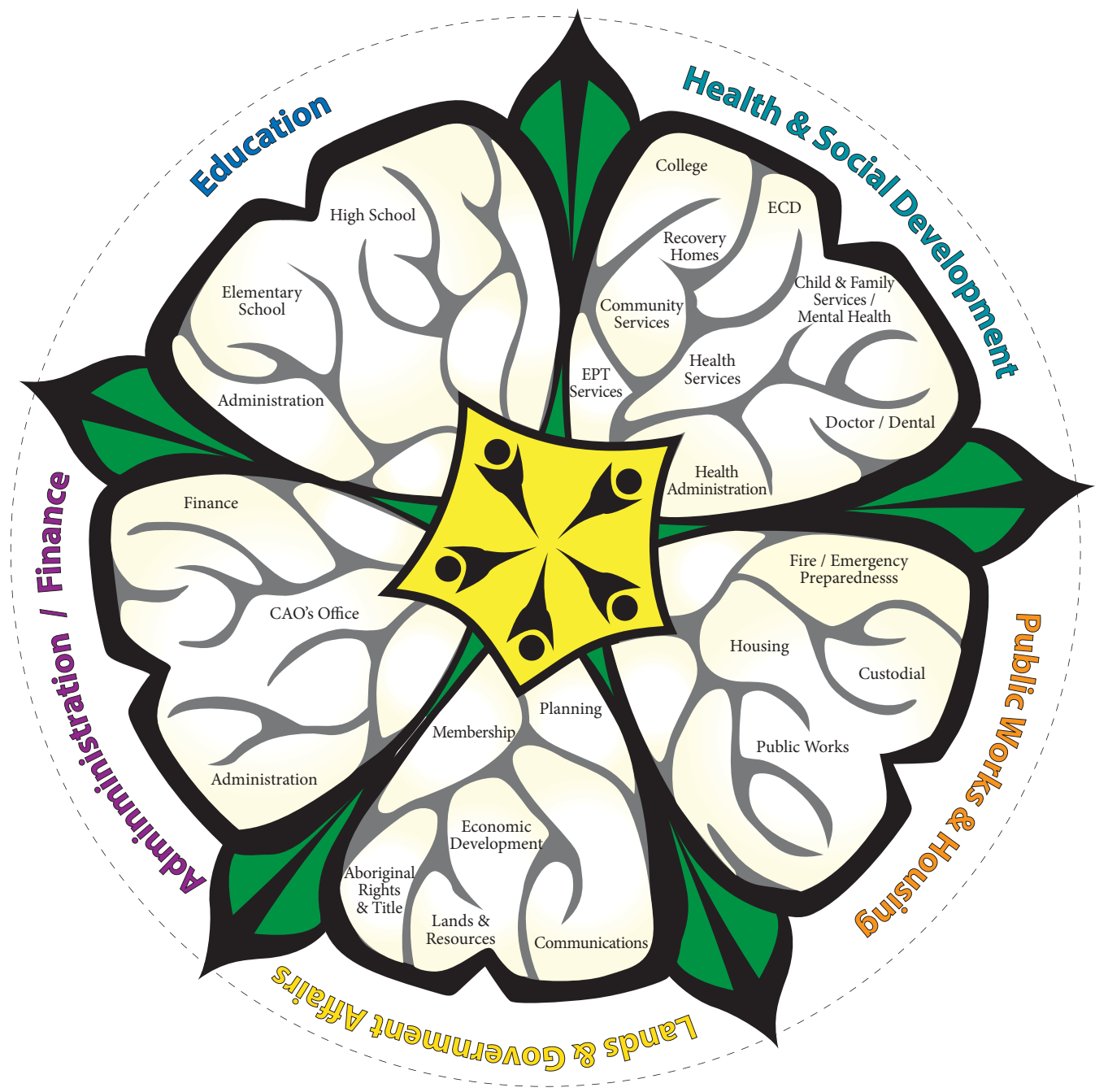
2017-2018 Theme

“Greenable”

“Capable of being green.”

“Save the future, go green.”

“We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors,  
we borrow it from our children.”



**ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS:**

ECD	Early Childhood Development	CMHC	Canada Mortgage & Housing Corporation
RIM	Records Information Management	FNMHF	First Nations Market Housing Fund
SD78	School District 78	SqDC	Sqéwqel Development Corporation
DFO	Department of Fisheries & Oceans	MCFD	Ministry of Child & Family Development
AR&T	Aboriginal Rights & Title	SICS	Seabird Island Community School
SoC	Strength of Claim	TIFA	Tripartite Education Framework Agreement
HASI	Home Adaptations for Seniors Independence	CAO	Chief Administrative Officer
		SI	Seabird Island



Alexis Grace, Marice Peters, Stacy McNeil, Linda Kay, Janice Parsy, Zack Joe, Paul Andrew, Rod Peters, Clem Seymour

## ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS 2017 - 2020

Chief	Portfolio
<b>Clem Seymour</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chair</b> - Council Executive Committee</li> <li>• <b>Chair</b> - Office of the CAO</li> </ul>
Councillors	Portfolio
<b>Ronald (Zack) Joe</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chair</b> - Culture, Language &amp; Heritage</li> <li>• <b>Co-Chair</b> - Aboriginal Rights &amp; Title and Fisheries</li> <li>• <b>Co-Chair</b> - Health: ECD, Child &amp; Family Services</li> </ul>
<b>Alexis Grace</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chair</b> - Justice</li> <li>• <b>Co-Chair</b> - Education: College</li> <li>• <b>Co-Chair</b> - Health &amp; Early Childhood Development</li> <li>• <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> - Development Corporation</li> </ul>
<b>Marcia (Marcie) Peters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chair</b> - Health: ECD, Child &amp; Family Services</li> <li>• <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> - Council Executive Committee</li> <li>• <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> - Office of the CAO</li> <li>• <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> - Administration</li> <li>• <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> - Public Works, Housing &amp; Custodial</li> </ul>
<b>Janice Parsey (Harris)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chair</b> - Lands &amp; Government Affairs</li> <li>• <b>Co-Chair</b> - Council Executive Committee</li> <li>• <b>Co-Chair</b> - Office of the CAO</li> <li>• <b>Co-Chair</b> - Administration (Excluding IT)</li> <li>• <b>Co-Chair</b> - Sqéwqel Development Corporation</li> <li>• <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> - Aboriginal Rights &amp; Title and Fisheries</li> <li>• <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> - Education: K-12, Post Secondary</li> </ul>
<b>Rodney (Rod) Peters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chair</b> - Education: College</li> <li>• <b>Co-Chair</b> - Public Works, Housing &amp; Custodial</li> </ul>
<b>Stacy McNeil</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chair</b> - Education: K-12, Post Secondary</li> <li>• <b>Chair</b> - Public Works, Housing &amp; Custodial</li> <li>• <b>Co-Chair</b> - Justice</li> <li>• <b>Co-Chair</b> - Lands &amp; Government Affairs</li> </ul>
<b>Paul Andrew</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chair</b> - Administration</li> <li>• <b>Chair</b> - Sqéwqel Development Corporation</li> <li>• <b>Chair</b> - Aboriginal Rights &amp; Title and Fisheries</li> </ul>
<b>Linda Kay-Peters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chair</b> - Culture, Language &amp; Heritage</li> <li>• <b>Chair</b> - Health &amp; Early Childhood Development</li> <li>• <b>Co-Chair</b> - Education: K-12, Post Secondary</li> </ul>

**Clem Seymour,**  
Siyemya  
Chief



Seabird Island is looking to go 'Greenable' using long term clean energy, while making sure it is sustainable for our community. We had meetings with outside companies to come and talk to us about going green.

I work with the portfolios and also chair for Chief & Council and fill in for the portfolios when needed. I oversee some of the forestry communications and track the fishery discussions but we do have a lot of good people that look after these areas, so I don't get too involved.

I work with different governments and there is a lot of change coming. My highlight is a commitment to recognition and reconciliation, working with the governments to find out what is talked about and bring it back to our people so they can find out what it means to them. To me, recognition and reconciliation starts on the ground with us, not them. Another highlight I never really discussed with anyone is, the Indian School Day here on Seabird Island. The Indian School Day is going to court with all the Indian Schools across Canada.

The Chief & Council Executive Committee with myself as Chair, Janice Parsey as Co-Chair and Marcie Peters as the alternate, meet monthly. Our business is to review the agenda items for the Chief & Council meetings with the office of the CAO.

The message I bring to the community is around the environment. Starting with what is recycling and to make sure we stay with the course. We have to adapt to the natural changes in our environment, as we slowly watch the natural cycle of life.

Respectfully,

*Clem Seymour, Chief*

## Ronald (Zack) Joe, Councillor



It is really important that we look after our environment as best as we can and it's really good that we have our own Community Recycling program. We continue to look after our environment and do our part to reduce what we put into the landfills.

**Culture, Language and Heritage:** I have been working with Linda Kay-Peters this past year trying to re-establish the Sqép Committee (Culture Committee) to what it once was. We have managed to gather some of the past community Members and will continue to build this committee moving forward. The Sqép Committee met once a month and have a lot of ideas we want to move forward with while trying to promote culture and language to the Seabird Island community. I have learned some cultural background while visiting my family up in Sts'áiles during the winter months. I was taught Halq'eméylem by my grandparents Archie and Tina Charles. Culture to me is very important in how we live day-to-day.

**Aboriginal Rights & Title (AR&T):** We have been moving ahead with the early time Chinook Judicial Review with Kwantlen and Katzie. This has been a lengthy process. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) have been mismanaging the Spring Salmon and they are not honouring our AR&T. This has been one of the major highlights in the portfolio for the last few years. It is important that Seabird Island continues with this case so that DFO honours our AR&T. These things can take a while so we have to be patient and keep fighting.

Just this past year we contracted James Leon from Sts'áiles who has been working steadily on Seabird's traditional boundary line (hunting grounds, trapping, berry picking, etc). He has also been working on our Strength of Claim (SoC). Once the SoC is finalized it should open up a lot of doors for Seabird Island. We also contracted Matt Wealick to work with us on forestry. He has been doing a lot of background work with Western Canadian Timber Products.

I have recently taken on the ECE portfolio becoming Co-Chair and will be working with the current Chair, Marcie Peters. Next year I will have a report on the work we have done in this area.

This past year has been quite an honour and a privilege to be elected to Chief & Council. It has been a huge learning curve for me. I am a young person and, a welder by trade. This is a whole different ball park for me, learning the lingo and the work that goes along with it. I look forward to this upcoming year.

Thank you,

*Ronald Archie Joe (Zack)*



**Alexis Grace,**  
Councillor



*“Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow.”*

- Melody Beattie

I would like to utilize this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the Seabird Island Community, staff and organization for another year of growth, development and outstanding accomplishment.

It is always an honour to be a small piece of a leadership dedicated to the service of Membership and the community that is *home*.

The desire to express my appreciation is inspired directly by the countless stories of achievement and incredibly positive work transpiring throughout the community and organization.

It is such a privilege to share in the journey as an individual and experience life victories: completing college training programing, becoming involved, contributing to our community, following a passion, taking a risk, strengthening family, transitioning to recovery, finding wellness, achieving independence, revitalizing traditional birth practices and enrichment of culture throughout. All of which defines Seabird Island, striving for excellence, doing more and reaching further in the transformation and empowerment of all our people and our communities.

When afforded the opportunity to discuss the work and vision of Seabird Island, particularly in the areas in which I share as portfolio - Health programming,

safety and justice, college and employment training and visioning a future of economic prosperity. I am filled with an overwhelming sense of pride, hope and humility for the community we share and again, I am grateful.

My sincerest thanks to Membership, families, Elders and individuals! We commit and work for you, pursue greater prosperity and triumph, utilizing what we have and share with others.

My sincerest appreciation to the ever-growing teams of staff for the dedication and effort provided to Seabird Island.

We nourish where we come from, honour those past, work for today, cherish each moment and strive to grow for our future.

In Kindness and Gratitude.

Thank you,  
*Alexis Grace*

## Marcia (Marcie) Peters, Siyolwelh Councillor



I am pleased to present a number of milestones reached. We continue to build strong partnerships with funders and have completed key program reviews. We are inspired and encouraged by the dedication resourcefulness and hard work of our staff.

**Housing:** Completion of 6 social housing units on Strawberry Island. HASI projects completed. CMHC renovations completed. One individual home constructed with Ministerial Guarantee. Eleven families applied to build through the FNMHF in 2018.

**Finance:** Successful and ongoing transition of Sqéwqel finance. Continue to improve and provide financial services to SqDC. Upgraded i-City to RIM and Desktop 2.5

**IT:** Programming the new HelpDesk software for IT, Human Resources, Housing and Public Works Programs. Adding detail to budgets within i-City. Designed many automatic monthly reports from i-City for Council and Directors.

**Child and Family Services:** We now have dedicated Social Workers. One is a Band Member working on reserve and one working between Agassiz and Seabird. This means that they get to know us, understand the importance of community and culture, support and care for the child and the family.

The new, second of its kind in BC, 4-unit family home has been completed in six months with funding from CMHC. This means that children and families in

need will no longer be separated. Keeping families together and providing support and services to the whole family. The new Family Home is a partnership between Seabird and the MCFD. This option is available to families for up to one year.

A family honouring was held in May, with 31 families applauded for their commitment to new beginnings, healing trauma and growing into supportive families. Judges, social workers, MCFD managers, MCHC administrators, Elders, extended family, drummers/singers and Seabird staff were present to share.

**Early Childhood Development (ECD):** The K - 4 class was established and ran in partnership between the ECD and the SICS. BEAR Bus started to go onto reserves to offer services last year for the first time. Ministry of Child and Family Services Programs had a large increase in the number of children.

In closing, we look forward to continuing those relationships, forging new ones and expressing our commitments and values in an ever stronger collective voice. We must have the courage to change the way we do things and invest in strategies that work.

Respectfully,  
*Marcie Peters, Council*



## Janice Parsey (Harris), Councillor

“Greenable” is the theme of this year. To me, this can be associated with what is most precious to us; our land, our surroundings, the trees, the earth, the air and the water. Lands, AR&T, Fisheries and the Sqéwqel Development Corporation are my portfolios. These are the main areas I have concentrated on and which are all inter-connected and depend on each other.

**Lands:** Focuses on the regulation and protection of the lands within the reserve and the surrounding areas. In the formation of regulations and laws we seek to protect the land base we have and ensuring what happens outside of our boundaries does not harm our land, water and air.

**Aboriginal Rights and Title:** We are establishing our Strength of Claim to the lands that have been taken from us and the development of proof to establish a case that will stand up in the courts to reclaim what is rightfully ours. We have also been working to re-establish this strength with the redevelopment of a working relationship to address the common interests and challenges of the Tiyt Tribes; *Chowathel* (Chawathil), *Skw’atets* (Peters), *Sq’éwqel* (Seabird Island), *Shxw’whámél*, *Sqewá:lxw*, *Iwowes* (Union Bar), *Popkw’em* (Popkum) and *Xwoxweha:lhp* (Yale) First Nations.

Fishing has been very challenging. Seabird along with Katzie and Kwantlen have been involved in an Early Time Chinook Judicial Review of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) as over the years they have failed to uphold the priorities (in order; conservation, First Nations, sports and commercial) in the management of the Fisheries. DFO has not been

recognizing the rights of First Nations to have a higher priority over sports or commercial fisheries. This has now been moved into the Courts and the pleadings are in the process of being prepared. A win in this case will follow all fisheries of all species, not only the chinook. This is receiving the support of many of the First Nations in BC, both politically and financially.

**The Sqéwqel Development Corporation:** Balances the preservation of our land with the economic resources it offers. Overcoming the setbacks we have encountered. We are moving forward with the Business Park in smaller phases. The Business Park will provide opportunities, including careers for our Members. We have been able to secure over two million in funding towards development and are also entertaining partnership opportunities to populate the Business Park.

*Greenable, the preservation and protection of our lands, water, air and balancing it with the resources it offers to create economic stability for Seabird Island and its Members.*

Thank you for the opportunity to be on Council. When making decisions I look at what benefits Seabird Island the most and how to preserve our resources for the future generations, the wisdom of those who have gone before us and ensure I make decisions with all the facts.

Respectfully,  
*Janice Parsey, Council*

## Rodney (Rod) Peters, Councillor



Greetings, upon completion of the “Aspiring Aboriginal Leaders Program” hosted by the British Columbia School Superintendents Association in Vancouver. I joined a cohort of ten participants, with Kathy Sawchuk and Shelly Niemi being the instructors.

The main purpose was to provide an opportunity and venue for school and district level Aboriginal Leaders to explore the challenges and rewards of becoming a Senior Leader in the K - 12 education system. The group analyzed the following items: leadership, district culture, values, ethics in education administration, five core capacities of effective leaders, dimensions of practice, building a learning community and the culture and climate of schools. Most importantly the group sent a proposal (3-year plan) to the BC Superintendent Association Executive Board to incorporate a Provincial Chapter Council Indigenous Leader’s Special Interest Group.

At the Seabird Island Governance level, I’ve committed and attended all regular and mandatory meetings, missing one due to illness. I refer back to the Governance Manual. The Council’s Mandate is: “To promote and support the physical, mental and social well-being of our Community.” The job of Council is to ensure that SI Laws, by-laws, plans, policies and procedures are followed.

**Housing and Public Works:** Monthly meetings include: renovations, appliance replacement, new window installations, phases of the homes, budget summaries, maintenance, custodial staff, fleet

operation, recycling program, community core buildings, roofs and seasonal work plans. I am glad to witness and assist Community Members with the review of the current Housing Policy. In regards to the Annual Strategic Plan, we identify a goal set out and ensure the work plan gets accomplished with Membership involvement.

**Seabird College:** Promoting and recruitment of students towards the 2018 - 2019 programs. The Seabird College Board has had regular meetings to discuss current needs and assess what lies towards the future in programs and services. What has been beneficial is the revival of local continuing education such as Salish weaving and cedar bark crafts.

The other benefit for students getting to Seabird Island daily is riding on the BC Transit Bus from Hope, Agassiz and Chilliwack. This means of transportation benefits and enhances all people whether they are employed, to attend adult up-grading, college program and courses throughout the Fraser Valley.

In closing, I thank all the Seabird Island Community Members towards their involvement, questions and input towards the future for ALL!

Respectfully,  
*Rod Peters, Council*



**Stacy McNeil,**  
Councillor



**Education:** Seabird applied for and was awarded the Martin Family Initiative project. We now receive extra supports for literacy in Junior Kindergarten to grade 3.

The schools' Attendance Policy, and the Social Media Policies for Teachers and Students are now completed.

We saw literacy focused programming with Teddy Bear Picnics. We also started a pilot project with full day Junior Kindergarten, formally known as Preschool.

The Local Education Agreement with SD78 edits were recently approved by the Seabird Education Committee and SD78 School Board.

We are working towards having Education Jurisdiction transferred over in 2018. The CAO and the Education Director have been involved in the TIFA negotiations.

**Public Works:** The Security Program costs were reduced by almost 50%, allowing us to have that 24/7 response.

The Directors have been working hard to get a projected 5 year budget for Public Works, as well as asset management and property management. This will assist with items needing to be replaced, like buildings, roads and things that are mapped out.

The Band finished a feasibility study for the type of energy that is found in the ground. It was way more costly to go that route than to stay with the current system.

The school roof was replaced with the same cedar shingle style. There was a strong architectural reason

behind this. It was designed from the sky: when you look down you see a salmon, from the side you see a dry rack. It was to stay in line with the original design which obviously has a connection to our river, our food and our fishery.

**Housing:** Subsidy and government funding programs were wrapped up and new houses were completed, including 3 duplexes on Strawberry Island. In the coming year we plan to review the Housing Policies with the community.

**Fire Fighting:** The Seabird Island Volunteer Fire Department is still actively recruiting. They updated their First Responders. EOC training for Emergency Preparedness CP Rail, Fortis Gas and BC Hydro was completed with multiple staff.

**Custodial:** They have been working on a new service delivery program. They will look at the differences each building requires, as they all need different levels of service.

**Lands and Government Affairs:** The Lands team has been actively working on the Zoning Law. It is a learning curve for everybody and we appreciate your patience. It is all for the protection of the Band lands, assets and the safety of our Members.

**Post-Secondary:** We had an overwhelming number of applicants last year that exceeded our application from Indigenous Services. Our council and staff worked diligently to find ways outside of the box to be able to support our students. We are excited for our new graduates. Respectfully, *Stacy McNeil, Council*

**Paul Andrew,**  
Councillor



- **Chair** - Administration
- **Chair** - Sqéwqel Development Corporation
- **Chair** - Aboriginal Rights & Title and Fisheries

**Linda Kay-Peters,**  
Councillor



- **Chair** - Culture, Language & Heritage
- **Chair** - Health & Early Childhood Development
- **Co-Chair** - Education: K-12, Post Secondary

# CAO's Office

Consists of the following programs and services:

- Human Resources
- Proposal Writing
- Policy Advisor
- Health and Safety
- Payroll
- Benefits



## ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS:

MOTI Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
 CAO Chief Administrative Officer

SI Seabird Island  
 IT Information Technology

## Daryl (Chuck) McNeil, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)



I am very pleased to summarize our achievements in this year's 2017 / 2018 Annual Report. For Council and Administration alike, the needs of the community are always the central focus and guiding impetus. This year "Greenable" has been our theme, so sustainability has been a consideration in projects that are carried out. Last year BC Transit buses started servicing Seabird Island, which helps Seabird Members get to town and is also a more "green" method of transportation.

The Seabird Island Chief and Council has completed their first year of service. There have been steps made toward creating a stronger working connection between Council and the Administrative departments. This is important work as the Council, representing the community, provides guidance and direction to the administration. As CAO, one of my key roles is to assist in facilitating this connection between Council and Administration.

**Health Department** has, once again, provided reliable services and events to the community and beyond. The Health Department offers so many services and still works to expand on their services. Providing a Recovery Home was a major accomplishment this last year for Seabird.

**Education Department** has worked hard to make some notable accomplishments for the Seabird Island Community School (SCIS). The SCIS was one of six schools chosen on a national basis for the Martin Family Project Initiative. The school was also chosen for a provincial pilot project for full day junior kindergarten for four year olds.

**Lands & Government Affairs Department** was fortunate to have our new Director come on board earlier this year. The Director hit the ground running and took on the many tasks, large and small, with grace. An old pipeline matter has been resolved, outstanding land issues with MOTI have been addressed, and agreement for reclamation of the Maria Slough are amongst the many accomplishments that Lands have completed.

**Public Works, Housing & Custodial Department** has just started to wind down the flood management strategy for this year's high freshet. This was done in addition to the usual busy schedule the department keeps. There have definitely been highlights, such as taking on four housing renovations, upgrading the gym, new school roof and the great news that Seabird Island now has a brand new fire truck.



*Zoning Law* Bus Service  
 4 Unit Family Home New Fire Truck  
 6 Social Housing Units New School Roof  
 Dog & Animal Licencing Mens Recovery Home  
 Anti Littering & Dumping Law Millennium Building Upgrade  
 1 Individual Home Constructed Sqép Committee Re-established

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MCFD/SIB Honouring 31 Families Newsletter Distribution Boxes  
 K4 Junior Kindergarten Classes Womens Recovery Home  
 School Attendance Policy Five Year Strategic Plan  
 Health Accreditation Housing Renovations  
 Development Law Gym Upgrades  
 Little Church Hall Upgrade  
 MOTI Settlement of Land Issues  
 Emergency Preparedness Training  
 Reclamation of Maria Slough Agreement  
 Accumulation of Storage & Odourous Materials Law  
 SICS Chosen for National Martin Family Initiative

**Finance Department** continues to maintain the important work of keeping the finances of Seabird Island on track. Once again, the audit was completed on time. Continual improvements in Information Technology (IT), such as a new electronic directory and HelpDesk, are in the works.

Another success has been the creation of a five year strategic plan. This required feedback from all levels, from the community, Directors and Council. Feedback from the community was pivotal in the creation of this document. The strategic plan is in the final stages of preparation and will be a guiding tool for the next five years. Many thanks to those community Members who participated in the creation of the strategic plan.

These are just the highlights that indicate that much growth has taken place on Seabird Island over the last year. With growth such as this, there will be some challenges. However, overall, these accomplishments will bring positive change. We look forward to this positive growth and change continuing into this next upcoming year.

*Daryl (Chuck) McNeil*



LIZZY LAKE, SEABIRD ISLAND

# Finance & Administration

Consists of the following programs and services:

- Accounts Payable
- Accounts Receivable
- Finance Analysts
- Reception
- Purchasing
- Receiving
- Records
- Mail
- IT Enterprise
- IT Support Services



## ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS:

CAO Chief Administrative Officer  
SI Seabird Island

RFP Request For Proposal  
LED Light Emitting Diode

**Lisa Douglas,**  
Finance Director



## FINANCE DEPARTMENT

### Financial Highlights

Seabird Island has experienced a steady climb in revenue since 2007. This growth has resulted in financial success for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Health and Education remain the largest sources of revenue for Seabird Island. There were several new programs as well as several expanded programs, and we continue to grow in personnel and services.

### Accomplishments

Approved policy changes this year include updates to the Human Resources (HR) and Finance Policies and approval of the new Information Technology Policy.

Our annual audit was a success this year. Meyers Norris Penny was recently awarded a three-year term based on our RFP process.

Software changes included a version upgrade to our financial software package, a new on-line timesheet module, new HR recruiting software and new HelpDesk software.

New technology additions include a community LED sign and a new video surveillance system.

### OVERALL

Cross-departmental cooperation and communication has increased in many positive ways throughout the organization over the years. We appreciate the effort and input from staff and managers in all departments.

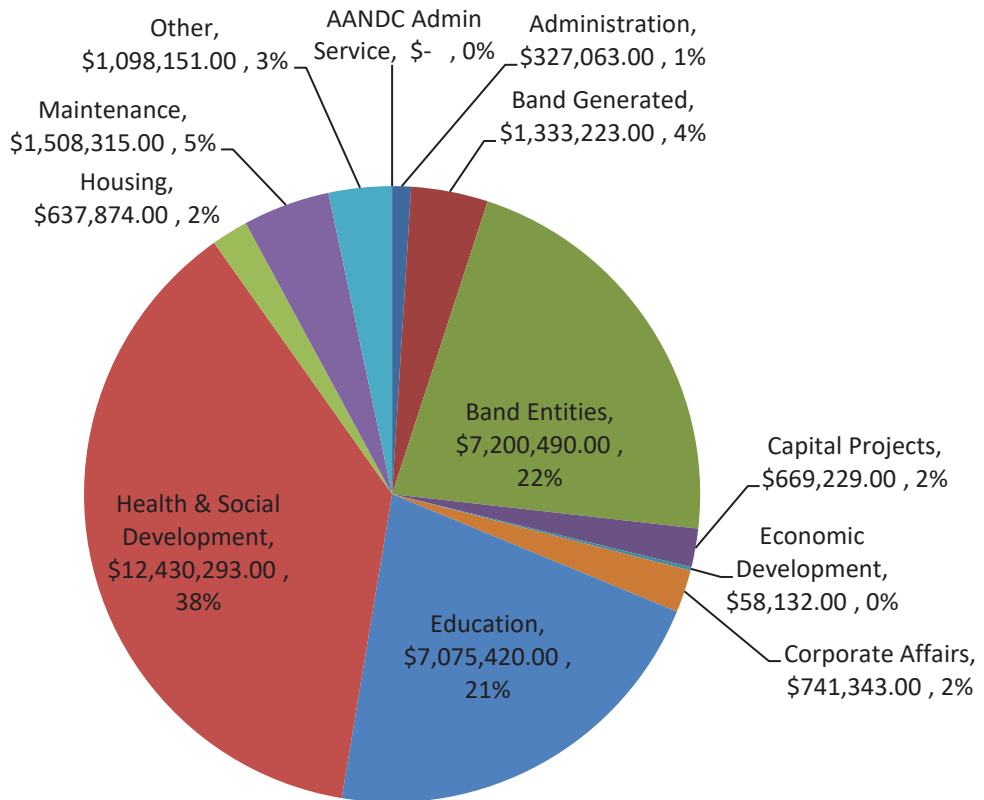
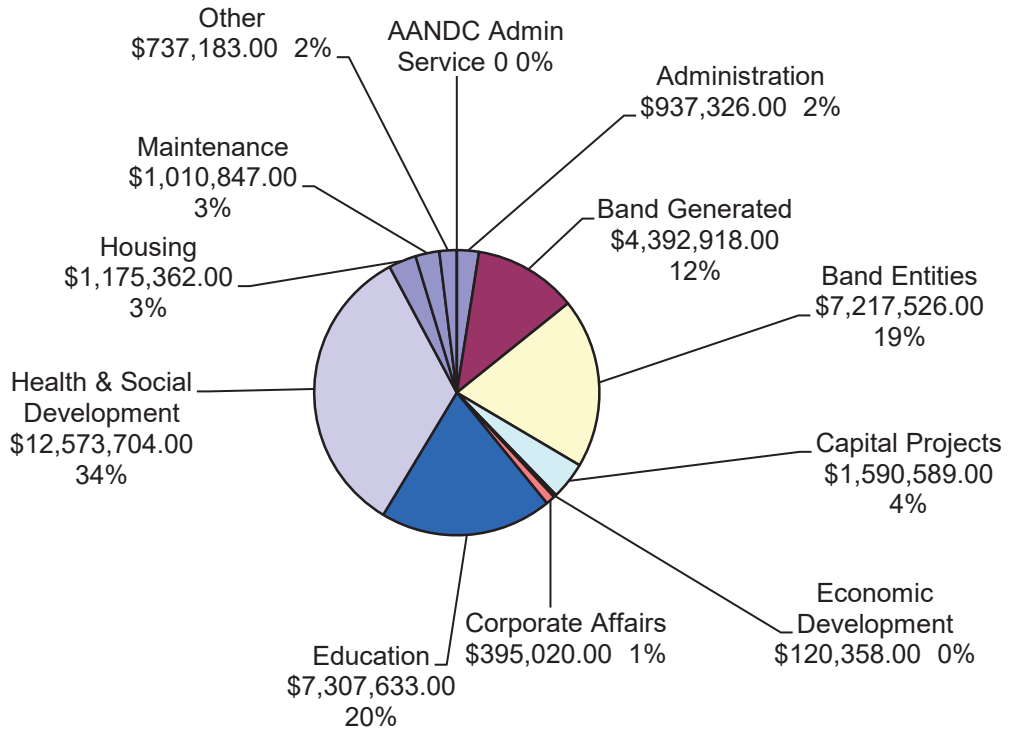
The Administration department staff have been working very hard to continue improvements in systems in order to serve the staff and Community Members better. HelpDesk changes and purchase orders are the newest systems and procedures added this year. They have proven to be valuable tools for assisting staff in the various departments.

Streamlining, reporting and compliance have been a big focus. We do our best to assist in a fair and equitable manner. We would like to thank everyone for their support and understanding.

Working relationships and communication with Council and Portfolio holders have improved throughout the year. This has enhanced transparency and mutual support.

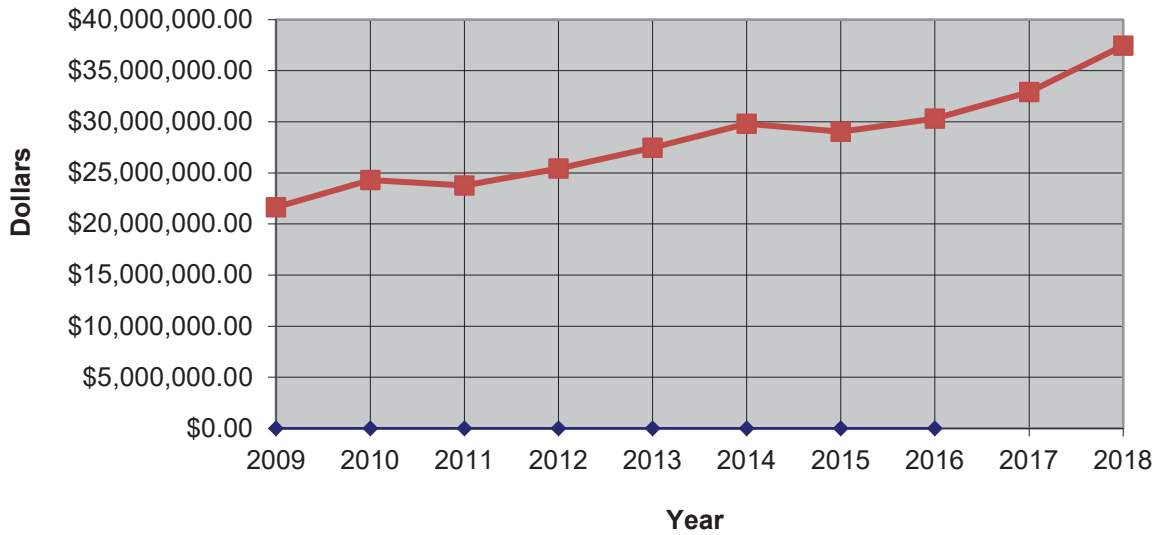
We look forward to serving you in the coming year and hope to offer further enhancement to services.

**Seabird Island Revenue by Department**  
**Fiscal Year 2017-18**

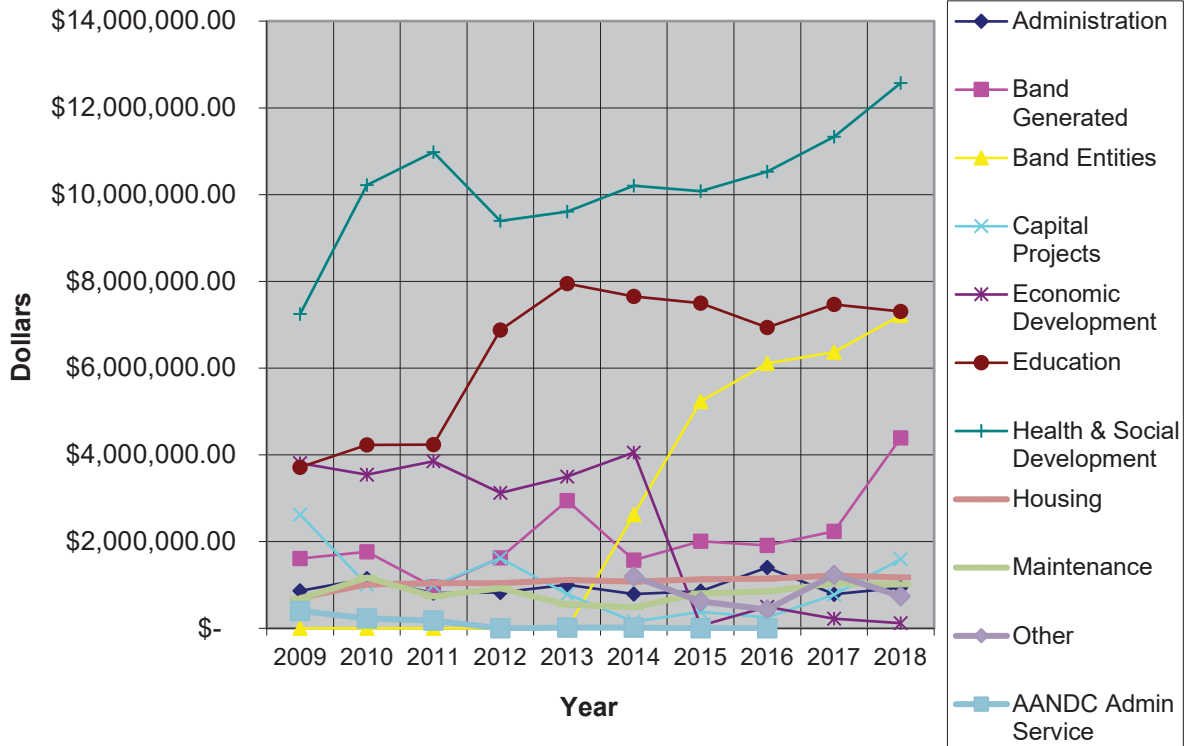


**Seabird Island Expense by Department**  
**Fiscal Year 2017-2018**

**Seabird Island Total Revenue Growth  
Fiscal Years 2009 to 2018**

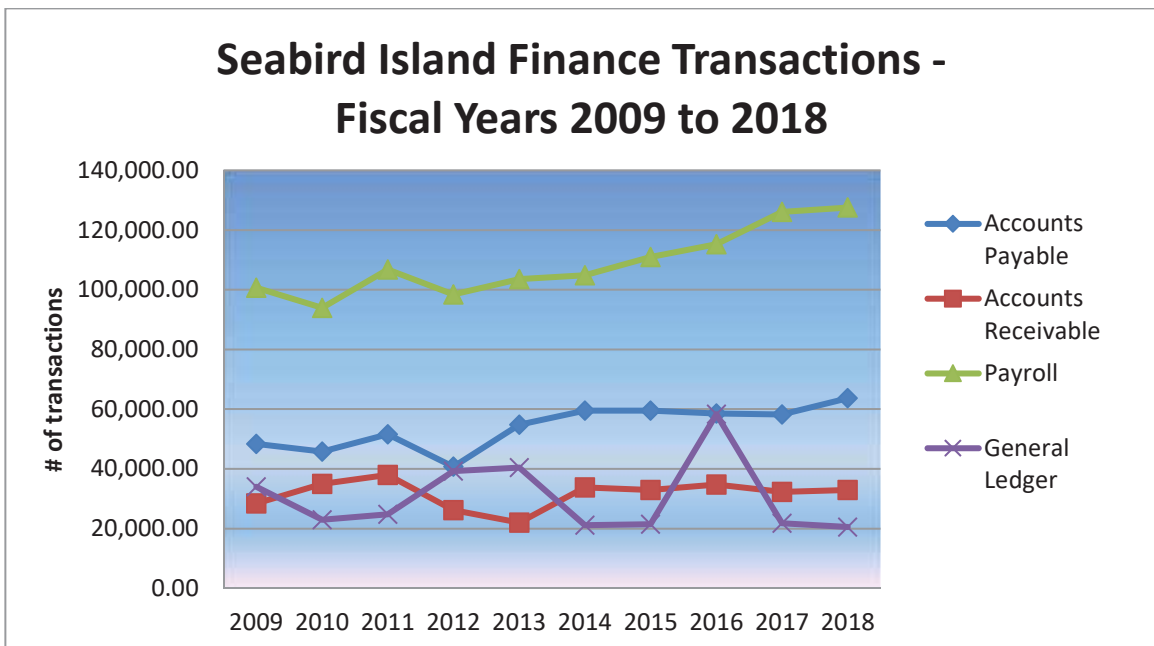
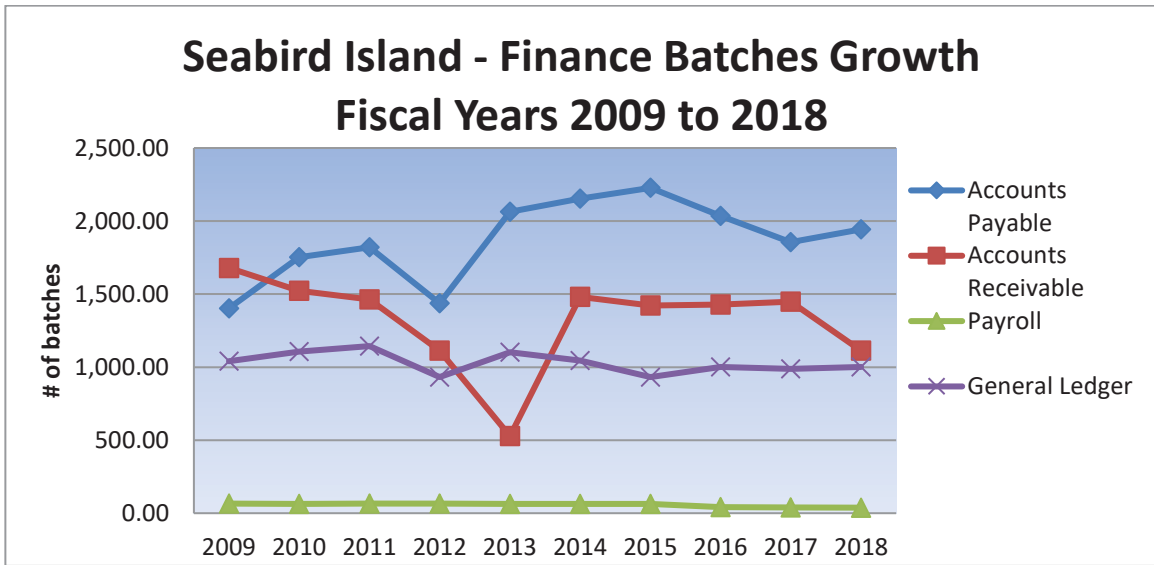


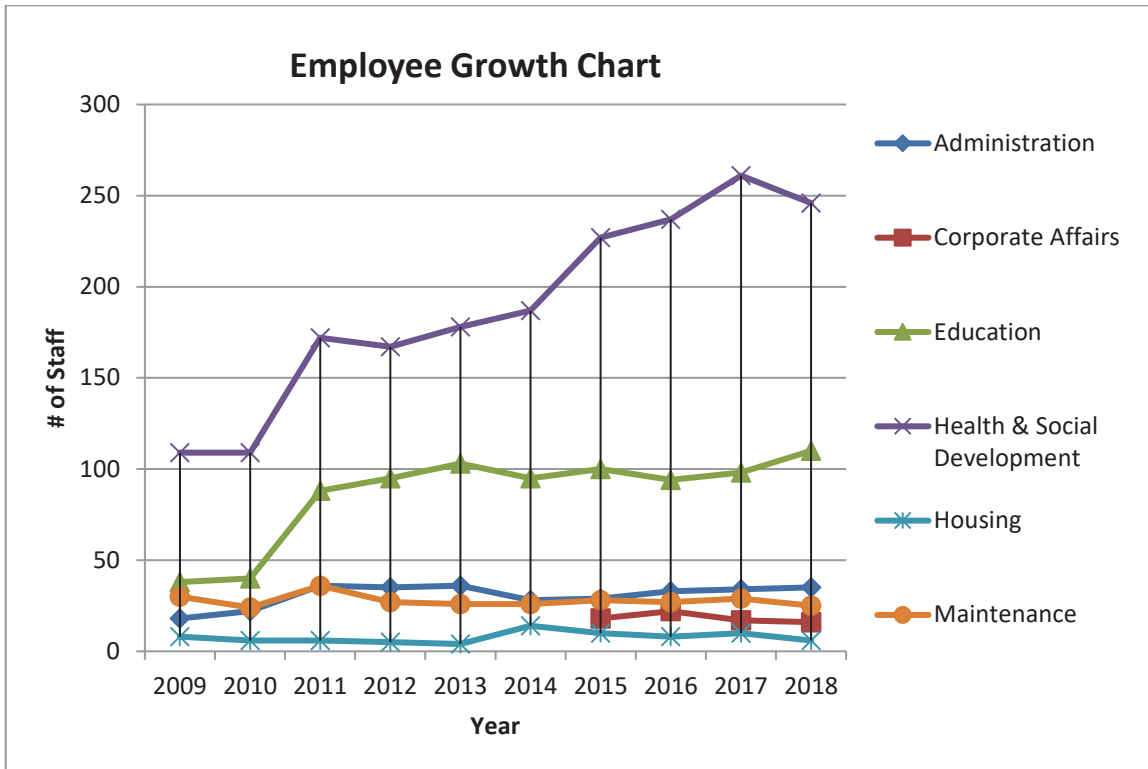
**Seabird Island Revenue Growth by Department  
Fiscal Years 2009 to 2018**



**ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS**

While some functions in Administration have experienced steady growth, volumes are leveling out.





## Administration Team

### Human Resources/Payroll

Puneet Vanniar  
Chase Reed  
Fallon McNeil

### Payables/Purchasing

Lisa Mason  
Cheri Klotz  
Paula Woodruff

### Administration

Linda McNeil-Bobb  
Danica Giroux  
Suzanne Ellis  
On-Call Pool

### Financial Staff

Nigel Selvadurai  
Kathy Leslie  
Crystal Johnson  
Jason Ellis  
Mike Mitchell

### Information Management

Teresa Harper  
Mitchell April  
Hans Wegener  
Richard Parsey  
Jonathan Wegener  
Gavin Peters

### Accounts Receivable

Diane Angus  
Coral Leigh Peters

## Seabird Island Band – Employees All Departments

Staffing growth leveled out in 2017-2018. Health employees continue to make up half of the Seabird Island employees, then Education is the second largest group.



# Lands & Government Affairs

Consists of the following programs and services:

- Lands
- Membership
- Aboriginal Rights & Title
- Fisheries & Forestry
- Communications
- Elections
- Laws & Bylaws
- Economic Development



## ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS:

Ec Dev.	Economic Development	LFFA	Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance
LUP	Land Use Plan	RPF	Registered Professional Forester
LAC	Lands Advisory Committee	CAO	Chief Administrative Officer
LGA	Lands & Government Affairs	SI	Seabird Island

**Marie Vander Heiden,**  
Lands & Government Affairs  
Director



## **LANDS & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT (LGA)**

What a year! All good...mostly. Certainly, some far out leaps and bounds but that is where we find our strength, our endurance and plenty of soul. We have successfully climbed onward, with our Spirits uplifted and our heads and hearts following suit. We are the Lands & Government Affairs (LGA) Team, only as strong as each of our parts. Together, I see that we will take Seabird to the highest and LEAD the way, so other Nations may follow. We always give our best but we are also human. Always learning and truly understanding the value of REAL growth; only through the lessons learned when we make mistakes, hit the ground or find ourselves stranded with no paddle. Together, I believe we are action geared, and certainly change-makers.

This year, the LGA team have put a great deal of time and energy into several areas, specifically, learning, adaption & renewal. We are re-aligning and in some cases; rebuilding our processes for ease of implementation and tapping into each of our best strengths to ensure the most successful outcomes and personal growth.

We have had many successes and I would like to speak to a few of them. When I began my role as Director of LGA in late September 2017, I felt there was a lot of untapped potential, within my own staff and also within our department. There were many objectives which had been initiated. Some were flying ahead but several were stagnant and awaiting direction. That is when I looked at the people who were working with me and really began to see how we could pick things up. As a woman who believes that education is power, I will always proclaim, "I will be your career champion and push you as high as you can go!"



## Lands Program

First, I begin with our own Danielle Gabriel, who received a bursary to the program 'Tulo Indigenous Economics, First Nations Lands Management' which is based around Land Code. With completion of the course, Danielle will be heading along and on her way to earning a Lands Manager status. There is no doubt in my mind that this lady will see things through.

Donna Andrews, a wealth of history and knowledge, to which I often seek advice and of course, her insight. There is a great spirit, heart and passion in this intelligent woman and I am amazed time and time again when her Rights and Title research unearth a mountain of gold. Within her shared AR&T and Lands work, she takes her administration role with the Lands Advisory Committee (LAC) very seriously and does not let me miss a beat. Donna flies along with all work-related tasks, but often, I am fortunate enough to see her other commitments flourish as well, like when she immerses herself into her 'community service' activities. Heart-warming!

We wish Pearl Penner all our best in her future endeavours. Welcome Gina Peters, the new Lands Coordinator, who will be out and about often on Seabird lands, taking data, drafting permits, reviewing lands abstracts and registering lands holdings. If you need to get rolling with a

development, trim down or top some trees, pave your driveway or build a deck, Gina is your first stop. Come and see us in Lands, we will help you find what you need.

To conclude Lands, we will finish up with the Lands Advisory Committee (LAC). The LAC meets once per month, sometimes more often. All laws and lands related issues are brought to the table and discussed. The LAC provides advice to our Council Portfolios, as well as our Lands staff. Their value-added insight is invaluable and is focused around the community's lands, protection and best fit within the Lands Use Plan (LUP). LAC has helped to see all the following laws come to fruition through their dedication and advisory duties. They are:

- Business Permit Law
- Dog Licensing & Animal Management Law
- Development Law
- Land Use Plan (LUP)
- Spousal Property Law
- Anti-Littering & Dumping Law
- A law to prevent the accumulation or storage of discarded and odorous materials
- Zoning Law



## Membership Program

One major arm in our LGA team is Membership. This is under the care of our own lovely Carol Hope, a long-time employee and member of Seabird. Carol is now available two days a week for Membership and status cards. Please ensure to make an appointment in advance so you are certain to catch her. We will be looking to begin, once again, a Membership committee...so stay tuned for that. As with everyone in LGA, Carol comes with some great strengths and skill-set, which we are utilizing.

## Aboriginal Rights and Title Program (AR&T)

Carol is taking on a shared responsibility within AR&T, Fisheries and Membership. We had Taylor Starr for a short time, but that young woman is highly sought after, so her time was stretched thin.

### REFERRALS

We now have a great Referrals Clerk, Effie Ned, also a member who comes to us with a BA degree and an amazing ability to grasp the role of referrals and dive right in. Effie's very talented at her research, data collection, methodology and is very focused on achieving her goals. She takes every challenge with ease and ploughs forward. With her work ethics, I have no doubt that we will see our referrals process fly ahead. I always smile when I think about the first time I met Effie and her soft, quiet little voice. Today, she speaks with conviction and has really found her spirit voice...I am so proud of her! We are moving our Strength of Claim forward with a few key folks (contractors – James Leon and Matt Wealick), that are helping us piece together all the veins within Seabird's Aboriginal Rights & Titles. The outlook for our Strength of Claim completion is sometime this winter 2018/2019.



## FISHERIES & FORESTRY

Fisheries is moving along steadily and Seabird Island is maintaining our foothold, but it has not been an easy go. Unfortunately, we lost Sally Hope the past year in the summer of 2017. We have had to refocus and plan our next steps. As you all are aware, we are facing a few winds and stretches down the river with fisheries. It was tough to see and hear, just after I arrived, that there was not a dry rack in 2017. With the commercial and sport fishery taking the first crack at the openings, Seabird Island was not left with a quota last season. There have been many meetings with Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Lower Fraser Fisheries Association (LFFA) and the numerous fisheries organizations who have a stake in the outcomes. Seabird has put forward several options for DFO to consider and within that scope, we should see that food fish for First Nations takes priority.

Happy to report, we managed to get a quota this summer 2018 and many folks got a small share of fish. The sustainability of all our salmon species, as well as our sturgeon, are most important and they need to be a priority for all. If the collective parties do this right, then we should see our fish stocks climb. With the right foundation, we can rebuild,

recuperate and see fish numbers move up, while ensuring our people are provided with the food nutrition that sustains our mind, body and spirit.

Forestry at Seabird has been constant and long running. Today we are working on a new agreement: planning for a better, stronger level of transparency and trusting relations. I am happy to report that we have brought on Matt Wealick as a Forestry Contractor. Matt is a Registered Professional Forester (RPF), First Nation and a great business negotiator within the entire forestry scope. With Matt on our side, we are 100% moving ahead and will see a solid Forestry Agreement, partnership and silviculture plan in place.



## Communications Program

I am very proud of our Communications Team, which has been a team of three since Phaine went on her maternity leave, in October 2017. We have Sandra Bobb (Sandy), Kristy Johnson and Zorana Edwards, all doing what they can to ensure the community's voices are heard and that Seabird news is passed around, throughout the many social and communication-based networks.

Communications has also undergone some changes and is continuing to find better, more efficient and cost-saving ways to communicate to the masses. With some administration changes, today we are happy to report that most of our issues have been ironed out and we expect that all, up-to-date information will be available to the community and on time. We are now building several new websites that are very user friendly and far more efficient. So, finding what you need will be a breeze.

Zorana just went through a minute taking course and has been assisting Administration to improve her skill-set. She has been working with Denise Alexis and Laura Houghton (A BIG thank you ladies!).

Zorana has now begun to immerse herself into some shared Chief and Council minute taking, so this is quite exciting! Having faith in ourselves, when we are a little scared, is the best way to see just how brave we really are and recognize how much drive we hold within!

Our lovely communications team is always available and you will continue to see them popping up around town, within the community and at events that may catch you in the spotlight. Oh, last but not least, as this new man, a community member, has brought a new light to our communications team... we WELCOME Jason Forseth. Stay tuned to see what Jason will do for Seabird as we move along into the fall season.



Heidi Trautman, she is an endless book of wisdom, insight and vast information a-plenty. Heidi is really the golden nugget we want to keep and never lose. She was brought into Seabird to be the Proposal Writer, which every department utilizes. We are so thankful that Heidi came to Seabird as she seems to make a great deal of our efforts bloom to fruition with her keen knowledge and outreach network. She has a vast source of immense information and I truly can say that I have never met a woman so kind, smart and helpful, with boundless energy and dedication to her job and the community of Seabird.

On the financial side, I want to express my great appreciation to Jason Ellis who is always on target, available to help me settle any budget concerns and constantly in good spirits. Luckily for all of us, when we get Jason, we get warmth, high level expertise, and a big smile. Jason is invaluable and I am so thankful that he is on our Seabird team.

Finally, I have my Executive Assistant, Lori Burns. She is a gem and a woman in whom I not only find a great deal of expertise, but she has an amazing ability to disseminate a report and quickly find the main keys. Most always happy and ready to help out, Lori is one-of-a-kind and I am so happy to know the lovely woman that brings us years of experience, conscious value in the power of listening and continuous dedication.

## **Economic Development Program**

As LGA grows, we evolve and adapt, like we have done with the addition of Economic Development (Ec Dev). We know that with Ec Dev in our LGA collective, we can ensure to always consider the community at large when looking at potential opportunities and those ways in which we can see growth and capacity for Seabird Island Band. With the Land Use Plan, new policies, processes and laws will help to support and manage the community's vision, while succeeding with our goals set forth. There are a few great things on the horizon and I intend on doing everything I can to bring them to fruition. So, keep your head up high and know that the sun is shining brightly on Seabird, bringing with it a pathway of stepping stones, showing us a sustainable, long and prosperous future.

### **To our Community:**

Lands & Government Affairs is here to provide you with a solid foundation and bring you peace of mind. Our resources, lands, traditional territory, water-way ecosystems and habitats are always our priority. We are all stewards of Mother Earth first. 'COMMUNITY-WE-LIVE'

With great respect,  
*Marie Vander Heiden,*  
*Director of Lands & Government Affairs*



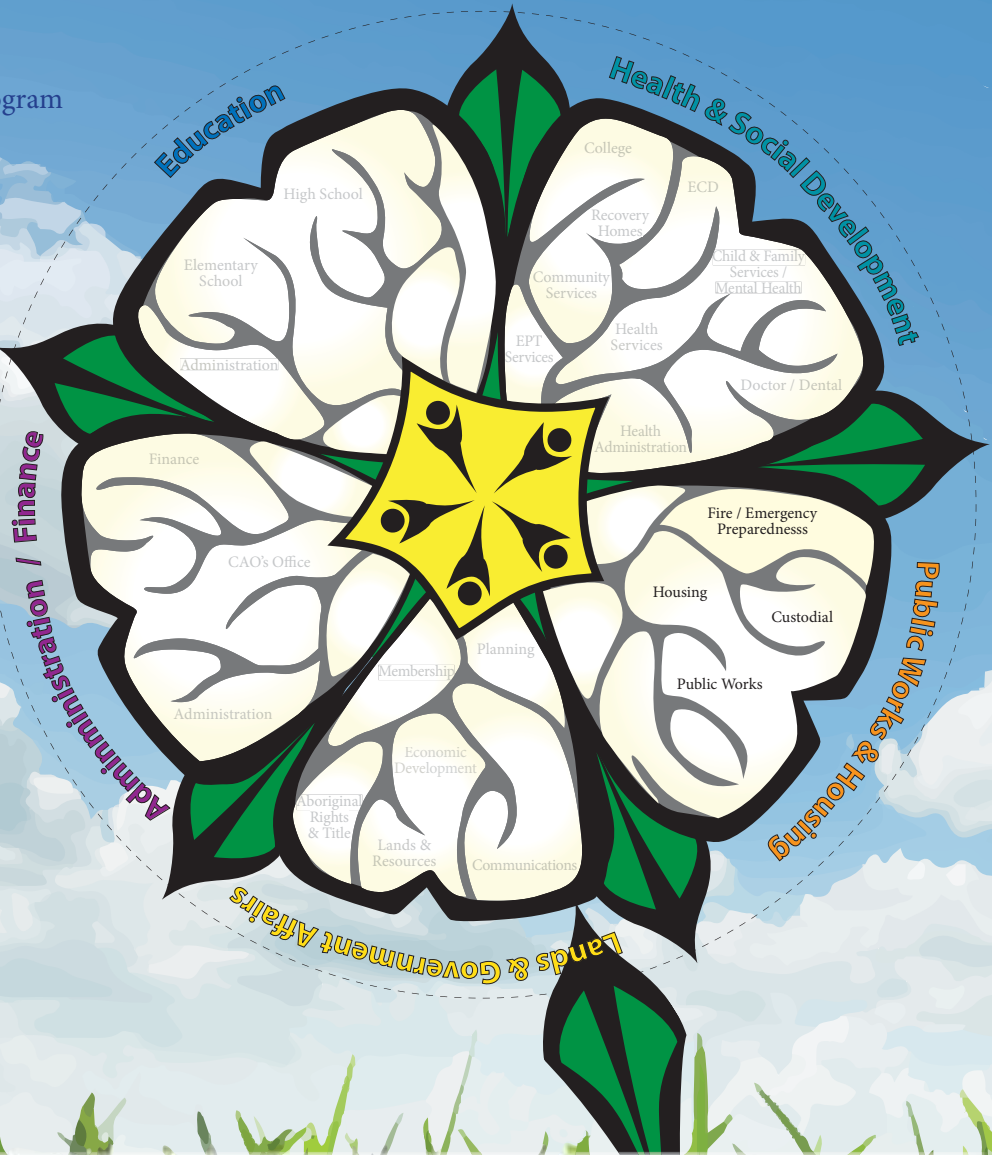
LIZZY LAKE, SEABIRD ISLAND



# Public Works, Housing & Custodial Services

Consists of the following programs and services:

- Housing
- Public Works
- Capital Projects
- Operations Program
- Custodial
- Emergency Services Program



## ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS:

CMHC	Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation	SIFD	Seabird Island Fire Department
INAC	Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada	SPCA	Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
ISC	Incident Command System	CAO	Chief Administrative Officer
WHMIS	Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System	SI	Seabird Island

**Greg Cross,**  
Public Works, Housing &  
Custodial Director



## **PUBLIC WORKS, HOUSING & CUSTODIAL DEPARTMENT**

### **Public Works, Housing & Custodial Department Encompasses:**

1. Housing
2. Operations (Infrastructure Maintenance)
3. Custodial
4. Capital Projects
5. Emergency Services

### **Our 2017 / 2018 goals achieved:**

1. Review and revise Seabird's custodial practices and Housing Policy to ensure our buildings are safe and healthy for all visitors, clients and staff.
2. Continue to advance the training of Seabird's Fire Fighters to build upon their knowledge and skills.
3. Construction of three duplexes on Strawberry Island.
4. Implement Maintenance Management Plan.

### **INAC & CMHC Applications**

#### **INAC Applications**

- Mold: 11
- Renovations: 19
- Lot Servicing: 10
- Multi-Unit Project: One application for three duplexes
- Subsidy Applications for individual mortgages: 3

#### **CMHC Applications**

- One application for three duplexes
- Regular Renovations
- Disability Renovation



## Housing Program

Housing is an essential component of the community. The housing team manages all aspects of Seabird's on-reserve rental housing program and individual home ownership as well as, working with Band Members on housing needs. These needs range from applying for various renovation funding from Canada Mortgage and Housing (CMHC) and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) to assisting in applying for rental housing off-reserve with BC Housing and other low income programs, while the Members are on our wait list.

We aim to provide affordable and healthy housing for Members on-reserve, as well as to promote and support home ownership among the Membership. All activity within Housing is guided and framed around our Community Housing Policy which was implemented in 2013.

Daily, the team receives tenant correspondence regarding anything from policy to maintenance concerns. The Maintenance team has worked hard to keep up with all the work order requests that have come in for all of our rental units, while office staff receive process requests, and work on expanding and maintaining rental housing. We also aim to capitalize on any or all opportunities to access funding for the community, whether it be for renovations, policy development or education.

The Housing department has also been tasked with upholding and enforcing the Seabird Island Dog Licensing and Animal Management Law which was enacted in 2015. The purpose of the law is to regulate pets and potentially dangerous domestic animals; to protect citizens and property; to ensure Members and residents can enjoy their pets without causing danger or disruption to other Members and residents; to promote responsible pet ownership; and to prevent cruelty to animals.

The greatest challenges for the housing team this year were:

- Not enough funding from CMHC and INAC to meet all the renovations needed
- Not enough funding from our rental income, due to the large amount of outstanding rental arrears to adequately maintain the rental homes
- Access to rental homes during scheduled appointments
- Three team Members on leave throughout the year
- Consistent Dog Law enforcement



## Public Works Program

Through our Public Works program, we have renovated or replaced floors, kitchen cabinets, windows, and appliances, painted, and completed mold treatments.

In partnership with Custodial Services, we strive to maintain our 21 facilities, keeping them safe and clean by looking after utilities, security and alarms, heating and cooling, water, as well as securing or opening facilities. Public Works also oversees community infrastructure, garbage, compost, recycling, water and waste water systems (including lift stations), fleet vehicles, road maintenance and signage. Some of these services are offered in partnership with the District of Kent, Recycle BC, Valley Transfer and Recycle, Fraser Valley Fire Protection, ESC Automation, BC Hydro, Fraser Valley Regional District, Westchem and Norich Electric, to name a few.

We assist the community with monthly major garbage pick-up and weekly bin drop-off (by appointment) and septic work as needed. We continue to keep the community up-to-date on our services using the bi-monthly newsletter.

## Renovations/Replacements

- Kitchen and bathroom cabinets, tubs and toilets
- Kitchen and bathroom sink repairs/replacements
- Septic tank repairs; well pump repairs
- Window, door repairs and replacements
- New appliances repairs and replacements
- Furnace repairs
- Hot water tank replacements

## Dog Law Enforcement

Housing has been working with the SPCA and the Fraser Valley Regional District to provide the services listed below to the community and their pets:

- Loose dog calls
- Dangerous dog calls
- Animal cruelty calls
- Pet surrenders: cats/kittens, dogs/puppies
- Spay /Neuter program: cats and dogs
- Pet registration and licensing



## Capital Projects Program

### Projects

- Rebuilt a complete home due to a structure fire
- Four major home renovations that qualified for CMHC Retro Fit program
- Renovations of roofs
- 3 new duplexes built in 2017
- 3 new duplexes to be built in 2019

## Operations (Infrastructure Maintenance) Program

Lalme' Iwesawtexw (SICS) was built 26 years ago and it finally received a new roof in an \$800,000 project. For the last two years, leaky areas of SCIS's roof were covered with tarps, providing a short-term fix to a long-term problem.

The cedar aesthetics will be maintained as part of the design. The cultural significance of cedar to the community led Seabird to commit to replacing the shingles with new cedar ones. This project received funding from Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC/ISC) to replace the 37,600 square foot cedar shingled roof.

Stqó:ya Construction was tasked to partially manage the project along with crews from Fraser Valley Roofing. Stqó:ya will be providing project management, as well as ensuring that Band Members are working on the project. The project started September 2017 and will be completed by possibly end of September 2018.



## Custodial Program

The Custodial team works together to provide and maintain essential services to approximately 99,357 square feet for 21 facilities, consisting of Administration, Health, Schools and College buildings. Scheduling of our team continues to vary depending on programs and facilities.

On a daily basis, the Custodial team strives to provide services at a standard that supports our Health & Social Development and Education programs. Seabird Island completed the Health Accreditation review with excellence in January 2018. Our next review will be in 4 years. Congratulations to the Custodial staff for their hard work. Our hands go up to all Seabird Island Health Staff on their accomplishment with the Health Accreditation Review.

The Custodial team also works alongside the Events team to support events throughout the year which consists of 37+ events this year.

Custodial has received 125+ Public Works HelpDesk tickets from April 2017 to April 2018. Thank you to all that submitted HelpDesk tickets, as this is a great tool for our departments to communicate and

prioritize tickets and schedule services. We are also developing and evolving to a new HelpDesk ticket system that should be rolling out in 2018.

In January, alongside with Home Care & Support Workers, Custodians attended an on-line course to update their WHMIS. The labeling of products will be changing from the WHMIS 1988 model to WHMIS 2015 model. Custodians that attended got their WHMIS 2015 Certificate. Congratulations! Moving forward, we have a few Custodial staff who will be attending a course at Seabird Island College to obtain their certification in Building Service Workers in 2018.

All year round the Custodial staff are dedicated and hard at work to make sure buildings open up in a healthy and safe environment. A big Thank You to the Custodial staff.



## Emergency Services Program

Seabird Island Fire Department (SIFD) provides services to our local area, providing firefighting, rescue and fire safety education to the Seabird Island Community. In addition to this, the Fire Department has mutual aid agreements with the surrounding municipalities to share resources, in case of fire or rescue emergency. The SIFD are dispatched through the Fraser Valley Regional District Dispatch Center for emergencies on Seabird Island and in certain cases, in neighboring communities.

Call-outs included:

- Assist BC Ambulance medical call
- Structure fires
- Motor vehicle accidents
- Natural gas leak / hazardous materials
- Commercial alarms
- Vehicle fires
- Brush / grass fires
- Complaints of burning
- Assist RCMP
- Assist public works
- Mutual aid calls

Training for the firefighters continued throughout the year, with regular practice sessions on Tuesday evenings and the occasional extra session with the Agassiz Fire Department for specialized training. Training topics included self-contained breathing apparatus, ladders, fire extinguishers and exterior fire attack. The training is provided free of charge to fire departments. Tuesday evening sessions continue to focus on the Exterior Firefighter Program.

The SIFD continues to promote recruitment to bolster the number of firefighters. Currently there are 16 active firefighters on the roster.

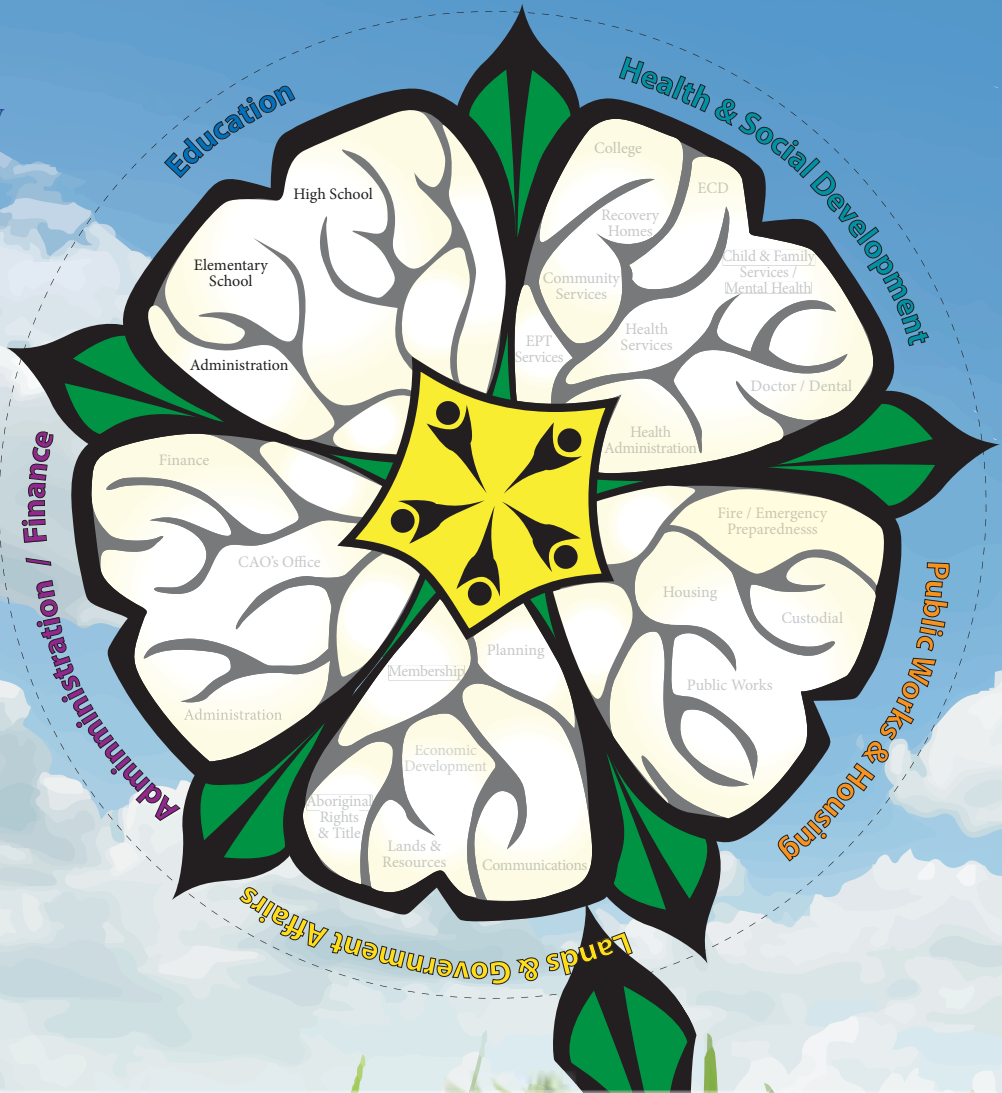




# Education

Consists of the following programs and services:

- Academics
- Culture and Language
- Extracurricular
- Literacy and Numeracy
- Parent Engagement
- Attendance



## ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS:

PAC	Parent Advisory Committee	FNESC	First Nations Education Steering Committee
AANDC	Aboriginal and Northern Development Canada	UBC	University of British Columbia
AADNC	Affaires Autochtones et Développement du Nord Canada	UFV	University of the Fraser Valley
K - 4	Kindergarten 4 Class	BCIT	British Columbia Institute of Technology
COOP	Co-operative Education Grant	CAO	Chief Administrative Officer
		SI	Seabird Island

## Laurie Bizero, Education Director



### EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Éy swayel,

The Education Department worked joyfully to recognize its strategic plan this fiscal year. We focused anew on our excellence plan built on: culture and language, literacy, numeracy, attendance and parent engagement. In school, post-secondary, tutoring, innovation club, cooperative education learning experiences and cultural evening programs were pillars of the delivery model and focal points for celebration.

The Education Department embraces lifelong learning and continuous improvement. The Education Committee met diligently each month as a full committee and in sub-committees to revise, initiate and celebrate strengths, challenges, policies, governance, our local education agreement and education jurisdiction. Strategies were reviewed using current research and cultural sensitivity for enhancing learner success from Junior Kindergarten through Post-Secondary.

People, places, programs and partnerships are the pillars of Seabird's Education Department. We continue to work collaboratively with: Seabird Island, SD #78, local independent schools, Ministry of Education, First Nations Education Steering Committee, First Nations School Association, Fraser River Discovery Centre, Agassiz Public Library,

AADNC/AANDC and numerous cultural partners. Our Parent Advisory Council and Student Council provided further guidance to create our emerging departmental delivery model.

We continue to focus on Kindergarten through post-secondary education, recognizing that grade level success at Grade 3 is a high indication of Dogwood completion, post-secondary success and lifelong learning. Our library, puppets, technology and cultural supply acquisitions have, and will continue, to assist us with actualizing this goal.

Seabird Island Education Department embraces your future dreams, based on the dreams we have been honoured to share, including: tutoring evenings for extra help, arts enrichment, innovation in multiple ways, cultural evening events, post-secondary authors, Junior Kindergarten students at school wide drumming, etc.

*On behalf of the Education Department,  
Ch'ithometset lam kw'e mekw'stam  
Dr. Laurie Bizero and staff*



## Academics

Lalme' Iwesawtexw (SCIS) is a provincially accredited school with approximately 220 students enrolled from Kindergarten to grade 12. We write BC Provincial exams in January and June.

This year we began a blended Junior Kindergarten (also referred to as K - 4) program with Health which utilized Education Health staff and buildings. Culture and Language, Learning Through Play and all social and academic programs were delivered to prepare the children for Senior Kindergarten at SICS. Junior Kindergarten allows an additional year for students to achieve grade level reading by grade 3. Grade 3 reading level ability is very connected to high school graduation and post-secondary success.

## Culture & Language

Each morning, all K - 7 classes meet in the gym and take part in a morning prayer. All are encouraged to take part in drumming and singing. Grades 8 - 12 meet in the foyer of the high school and do the same. At these morning assemblies, we also have a Halq'eméylem phrase of the week. All staff and students try to use Halq'eméylem words and phrases instead of English to communicate these phrases. This is well received and we believe this helps promote our Halq'eméylem language and helps to give breath to our language.

This year, the Halq'eméylem Translation Contest was held at Seabird. We had teams from Abbotsford to Agassiz register teams in the contest. There were teams entered from Kindergarten to adult. Our Kindergarten students won in their division last year.

We ended the year with a Pow-wow appreciation in which many of our students dressed in their regalia and danced.

Our drum making event was a success. More students are participating in morning drumming and singing, as well as drumming for special events. This is very encouraging to us all.



## Extracurricular

Elementary and high school students go on numerous field trips annually. Some examples are: trail hikes, Manning Park, Vancouver Zoo, Museum of Anthropology, Chilliwack Library, Science World, theatre performances, Agassiz Christmas Choral Festival, (university and college visits, to UBC, UFV, Capilano and BCIT).

The 2017 - 2018 Fraser Valley Basketball League ended well for both the junior boys' and girls' team. The girls' team made it to the Fraser Valley Playoffs. The boys' team competed hard and was able to gain a win in the last game of the season. The experience of playing in a league and representing their school has allowed each player to become more confident.

In textile classes, students are learning a useful life-skill. This year students made dresses, pajamas, purses, patchwork pillows, patchwork quilts and stuffed toys.

COOP Grant: We received a COOP grant this year and our high school students engaged in the following activities: puppet making, exploring careers in theatre, television and film, exploring careers in costume making for theatre and film, attending sessions with a working photojournalist and attending sessions with a working commercial photographer.

## Literacy & Numeracy

In both literacy and numeracy, students are placed in ability groups to master concepts at their individual levels. Students receive direct instruction in small groups and those needing extra support receive 1:1 interventions throughout the week to support their learning.

Homework club is offered after school until 3:45 p.m., as well as on Wednesday night from 4 - 7 p.m. Students are encouraged to foster the joy of reading through the Kiwanis "Super Reader" program that supports students reading at home and at school for enjoyment. We also continue to have an Annual Literacy Night. Grade 3 - 7 classes take part in Stop, Drop and Multiply three times a week to help students master their multiplication facts. First Nation Education Steering Committee (FNESC) coaches support our school literacy and numeracy programs by providing coaching in the school and via video to improve lesson instruction and delivery.



## **Parent Engagement**

We continue to improve parent involvement at the school. We have managed to successfully get our school PAC running and they have had four meetings since it was formed in April. We have had three parent engagement days in the classrooms. Parents and other family Members were invited into the classrooms to enjoy a story and other fun hands-on activities with their children. Teachers have shared that these events were successful and parents have been more willing to take their calls and to come in to see them.

## **Attendance**

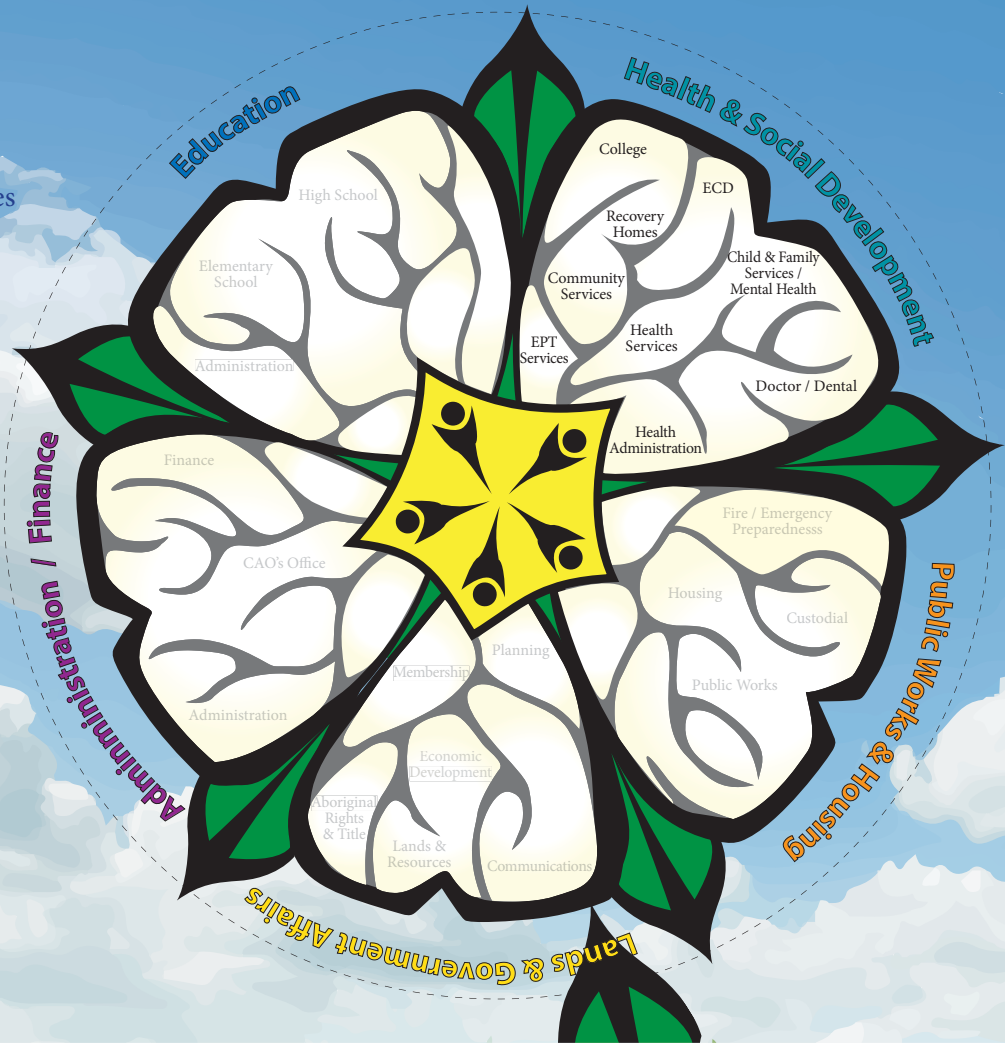
Attendance plays a big part in student success. Every week, students are recognized for perfect and most improved attendance in their homeroom classes. Students are also recognized monthly, individually, and as a group, for improved classroom attendance. We ended the year with two students with perfect attendance throughout the entire school year, and seven students with perfect attendance nine of ten months.



# Health & Social Development

Consists of the following programs and services:

- Health Administration
- Health Services
- Doctors Centre
- Dental Centre
- Employment & Social Development
- College
- Child & Family Services
- Recovery Centres
- Community Services
- Early Childhood Development



## ACRONYMS, ABBREVIATIONS & DEFENITION:

CHR	Community Home Registered Nurse	ASCDP	Aboriginal Supported Child Development Program
LPN	Licensed Practical Nurse	SCDP	Supported Child Development Program
PTIB	Private Training Institutions Branch	UBC	University of British Columbia
SD78	School District 78	COHI	Childrens Oral Health Initiative
AICs	Blood test, Average levels of glucose	FASD	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
PDSA	Plan Do Study Act	MCH	Maternal Child Health
AIDP	Aboriginal Infant Development Program	CDC	Centers for Disease Control
OOSC	Out of School Care	SI	Seabird Island

**Carolyne Neufeld,**  
Health & Social Development  
Director



## HEALTH & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

2017 provided us with many opportunities. Our recovery homes add a much needed service that provides a First Nations approach to health and healing, on reserve, with First Nations staff and culture. We are building a more permanent location for the recovery homes and appreciate all the feedback and input we received from the community in the process of selecting the new site. Our homes are mostly filled to capacity and we have had numerous completion ceremonies.

We were again accredited, for another 5 years, through Accreditation Canada for several of our Health services. It was a lengthy and detailed process, with much scrutiny of our programs, policies and practices. We welcomed the process: it helps us to ensure that we are providing the best possible service with high standards of performance and delivery. We have added Community Care to our accredited programs.

The Health Department also has some construction projects underway. The largest is of course the site of the two new Recovery Homes – it was little more than a rectangle cleared of scrub and blackberries, but is now showing some promise in the forms for the foundations. The new lane will be called À:yxàlh Lane. Fraser Health and First Nations Health

Authority are our partners in this service delivery and new buildings.

Two doors down, the temporary Men's Recovery Home is being transformed into a four unit Family Home. In partnership with the Ministry of Children and Family Development, Seabird Health is working to ensure that children do not get removed from their homes if there are concerns. We will work with the whole family, providing staffing and service support to grow healthy parenting and life skills that have everyone thriving. Four families at once can be accommodated – the home will be ready for families in need by the end of April. We are now recruiting staff and putting finishing touches to the house.

The College is pursuing a promising selection of vocational programs, with enough choices to fill almost everyone's career goals. Keep an eye on the College website and the Yoo Hoo to stay informed.

We thank everyone for their partnership in making so much growth and capacity building possible. It takes to the whole community. Thanks to our Chief and to Council Members – they work tirelessly with us to make things happen.

*Carolyne Neufeld, Director*





## Health Services Accreditation

Accreditation is a process to ensure that health services are of excellent quality, safe and continually improving. Over the several previous years we have worked with Accreditation Canada to review, enhance and evaluate the Seabird Health Programs. In January 2018, surveyors from Accreditation Canada visited Seabird Health to review our health programs and determine how well we are meeting national standards for aboriginal health services. We received an 'Accreditation with Commendation' award from Accreditation Canada; this means we have met and exceeded the standards for excellence in Health services.

Over the past year we have continued to improve our health services. One of our highlights was our Diabetes Program 'quality improvement project'. We partnered with researchers and First Nations communities across Canada to learn about how to implement quality improvement. We learned how to use the PDSA (Plan, Do, Study, Act) model to improve quality. Applying this model, we made small changes quickly and then evaluated how things went before spreading the changes more widely.

This model helped us review and improve our Meals on Wheels Program. We also developed a quick health assessment tool for men; they can be more reluctant to come see health workers and we want to make it as efficient as possible. This year we also reviewed and revised our Maternal and Child Health Program processes, resulting in better assessments and more structured care planning.



**ACCREDITATION**  
CANADA



## COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Community Services is grateful to the following staff: Elders Coordinator Margarett de Groot, Events Coordinator Chanea Gabriel, Events Assistant Tinita Chalifoux, Youth Worker Tara-Lynn Linton, and Recreation Assistants Darian Peters and Aleck Joseph.

- The Band and Community School combined hosted a total of 33 events in 2017
- 1,974 bookings, were completed for the year for the meeting rooms and Band gym
- Seven Band Members are on the fundraising list to hold fundraising activities in the Band office foyer
- 98 Band Members have been hired to assist with various events throughout the year
- The Sport Sponsorship Program sponsored a total of five teams in ten different tournaments/leagues and 112 children to take part in various leagues/tournaments
- Much work has been completed through applying for many avenues of funding for the various programs under this umbrella

## Elders Program

This year has involved some traveling for the Seabird Elders. Ten Elders traveled to the Elders Gathering in Victoria this year and 13 Elders traveled to Alaska. The Elders had a goal to have more independence this year; staff have been involved in empowering and supporting our Elders in this goal. They have been cooking for Seabird College and the Head Start Program. They have attended workshops throughout the year, on Medication Safety, Speaking Up, Wills and Estates, Pensions, and Learning To Say No. A total of 23 Elders are participating in our activities.

## Recreation Program

Recreation staff are responsible for the fitness center and evening recreation programs like hockey, soccer and fitness classes. A total of 12 development camps were run in 2017 as well. Coaching is offered for Community Members keen to work out in the fitness center with maximum benefit. Booking designated recreation time for the Elders and Youth to work out in the fitness center has also been successful. An average of 200+ clients access the fitness center on a monthly basis.



## Youth Program

The Youth Program has had a busy and exciting year! We had approximately 90 Youth attending our program and outings throughout the year. We had anywhere from 10 - 30 Youth attending each of our outings and special events throughout the year. Youth program staff have been actively visiting the schools, and going door to door in the community, to connect with Youth and offer support and program information.

Our goal is to connect with all Youth in the community and ensure that they know about our program. We encourage growth for Youth in all areas of their life. We work to teach language and culture, bring together our Youth and Elders, and connect our Youth to their community and others in the area. Youth have spent lots of time outdoors, learning skills related to medicine, survival and more. We hosted a Youth Conference in partnership with Leq'a:mel First Nation, at Coqualeetza Educational Longhouse, with approximately 20 Youth attending. Youth had the opportunity to engage in various discussions, cultural activities and were honored in ceremony. This year, Youth have also learned various skills and knowledge related to finances, nutrition, work readiness, fitness, bullying, identity, emotional regulation and more.

Funded by the Canadian Institute of Health Research, our Youth Resiliency Project continues to run every month. It is our goal to connect our Youth to their culture, land and the community. We have learned about beading, weaving, preparing fish, harvesting and making jam. We are currently working on a film project highlighting stories of resiliency amongst our Youth and sharing what we have learned.



## EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

### Aboriginal Infant Development Program (AIDP)

The AIDP has had a wonderful year serving families living on and off reserve. The communities we serve are from Boston Bar to St's'ailes. We have served approximately 50 families based on individual needs and requirements. We assist families with infants and toddlers, some with exceptional needs, to attend specialist and medical appointments, as we support them to receive the best possible care for their little ones. Our program has a long-standing relationship with BC Children's Hospital, Fraser Valley Child Development Center, Physical and Occupational Therapists and our own Speech and Language Pathologist.

This year we have provided many visits at home and during Someone So Small, which we run and facilitate in four communities. During home visits and program time we complete developmental screens, provide education/information on numerous topics including infant/toddler milestones, encouraging large and small motor movement, problem solving and social skills, language, literacy, singing, dental care, sleep, feeding, the importance of play, tummy time, and infant massage. We teach parenting skills in both family homes and in group settings.

### Bus for Education and Aboriginal Resources (BEAR) Program

BEAR has provided services to eight communities from Agassiz to Boston Bar. This past year, BEAR has been made available to a few more communities that have not had access to many programs in the past, due to funding changes. It has been a year of learning and development for children who visit BEAR, in part as a result of the learning through play as the children participate on BEAR. BEAR has provided the parents/caregivers/grandparents with added support to what they are already doing.

Parents who continue to come and play with their children on BEAR are given resources, contact with other parents, trust with staff who provide information on children's developmental stages, access to other programs offered by Seabird Island and most of all, some time to get out. BEAR will continue to provide what is needed within each community to help support the social, emotional and physical development of children as much as possible, in a safe, healthy and respectful environment.



## Daycare Program

We are a licensed childcare provider that offers a fun, safe, nurturing and educational space for children aged from birth to kindergarten.

We went through some renovations this past year, which gave us an updated look. Renovations included a new floor, new paint, new carpets and a small amount of reconstruction to the 3-5 area, which was needed after the construction of the new building the previous year.

The children ventured out into the world to visit a variety of places such as Greater Vancouver Zoo, Aquarium, Science World and a number of outdoor parks and water parks throughout the Lower Mainland. In doing these outings, the children gained a tremendous amount of language, knowledge, teamwork skills, listening skills, awareness of the outside world, and respect for others and their surroundings. These skills are reinforced while the children are at the daycare through activities such as circle, art, cooking, science, and daily play with their friends.

## Éy Qwal Speech and Language Program

The Éy Qwal Speech and Language Program had a fabulous year, with so many new children, tons of positive feedback and children discharged before kindergarten entry that were “Within Normal Limits”. Many children made great gains with their functional communication skills among their peers. We have been working hard on incorporating language goals into the preschool curriculum and activities. This makes for exciting times.

The Éy Qwal program hosted its first ever “Story Time in the Park” in partnership with Agassiz/ Harrison Community Services in the summer. This was a huge accomplishment! We successfully coordinated this cultural event on Seabird Island, with 63 families and a total of 167 children present. With all the accomplishments the Éy Qwal Speech and Language Department made this year, 2017 is going to be a hard year to beat! We can’t wait!



### **Kindergarten-4 (K4) Program**

The Seabird Island K4 Program strives to assist children in becoming kindergarten ready by providing a loving, nurturing and cooperative environment where the children can grow and build new skills and abilities based partly on the BC early Education Curriculum. Throughout the year the children learned counting, colours, shapes, letter recognition, pre-printing practice, name recognition and name printing. Based on the early learning objectives set forth by the Seabird Island Community School and the BC Department of Education for Independent Schools, the curriculum and activities were developed by a certified teacher and teacher's assistant, and a licensed early childhood educator and assistant.

The children built upon their cognitive abilities, social skills, emotional abilities, fine and gross motor skills, independence, cooperation, self-respect, self-care and respect for other people and properties. They were taught the fundamentals of their heritage by participating in daily Halq'eméylem language circles, as well as many other aspects of culture through music, art and storytelling.

### **Out of School Care (OOSC) Program**

Out of School Care has had a smooth year. The children have had fun and interacted very well with each other. They have engaged in games in the classroom and were active in the gym, including a sports camp where a special instructor came in once a week for two months and taught children different sports like volleyball, basketball, lacrosse and baseball.

OOSC ran all day on professional development days and other scheduled school breaks. On these days we went on field trips that got us out of the building having fun. OOSC went bowling, to The Great Escape, Get Air, and to the movies, where we combined with the 3 - 5 daycare.

All year we were well staffed and attendance was consistent. Overall the program provides a healthy and safe environment for children to learn and grow through play.

The Summer Program had 50+ children during the summer of 2017.



### **Preschool 3 Program and Preschool 3 & 4 Program**

The Seabird Island Preschool strives to assist children in becoming Kindergarten ready by providing a loving, nurturing and cooperative environment where the children can grow and build new skills and abilities. Throughout the year, the children learned counting, colours, shapes, letter recognition, some pre-printing practice, name recognition and name printing (based on the child's individual learning abilities). Teachers observed the children in their natural state of play, to help develop a curriculum and activities that assisted each child in building cognitive abilities, social and emotional abilities, fine and gross motor skills, independence, cooperation, self-respect, self-care, and respect for other people and property.

### **Aboriginal Supported Child Development Program/Supported Child Development Program (ASCDP/SCDP)**

Supported Child Development has had another successful year. We have been able to provide services to 84 children, ages 0 - 19 years old, who have developmental delays or struggle with social and emotional development and are attending daycare, preschool, summer camps and after school care programs. We have provided support and consulting services to both aboriginal and non-aboriginal children and families living within our catchment area of Boston Bar to Sts'ailes. ASCDP / SCDP has had the pleasure of working closely with SD #78 as well as Child and Youth Mental Health, BC Children's Hospital and Sunny Hill Diagnosis Center.

We need to make sure these families receive premium care in a wrap-around approach, keeping tradition, values and beliefs as a priority. The child and their family must remain as the main focus.



## Head Start Program

Over the past year, Seabird Island Head Start Program has seen consistent attendance of parents/caregivers and children. The program strives to set and accomplish goals that promote the wellbeing of the whole family. All of the goals are accomplished by remembering that the parents/caregivers are a child's first and foremost teacher, and that all of a child's goals are accomplished with the help, guidance and support of the parent/caregiver. It is this focus that makes the Head Start program fabulous.

Some of the activities that make the program flourish include drumming, singing in Halq'eméylem, learning how to speak Halq'eméylem. Helping to establish healthy dental habits for young families, encouraging healthy eating habits during snack / meal times and going on field trips around our communities, which promote educational development and family involvement.





## EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Employment Services of Seabird Island ran a number of programs in 2017, each geared to reach and benefit different groups.

The Youth Programs targeted two age groups:

### **The Youth Work Experience Program**

The Youth Work Experience Program provided employment preparedness training to 10 Youth between the ages of 16 and 18. The Youth Employment Program provided employment preparedness training to 10 Youth between the ages of 12 and 15.

They received training and certificates in WHMIS, Basic First Aid, World Host, Customer Service, Cashier Skills and FoodSafe. They participated in a nutrition class which incorporated FoodSafe skills. They earned a Babysitter Certificate which included First Aid. They also researched careers, created résumés, explored funding for post-secondary education, visited University of the Fraser Valley and created a final presentation on the career of their choice. Work experience placements included various jobs in departments around Seabird – Finance and Administration, Events, groundskeeping and Public Works, Custodial and Health Services.

### **The Pre-Employment Supports Program (PESP)**

PESP is for 19 - 24 year olds and offers certification workshops to build employability. It works to move people into career training programs as well. Services include career decision making, work readiness assessments, employment training, life skills training, interview preparation, work experience placements, job searches, job start and retention supports. 57 clients have moved into employment or further training. The training is mostly through Seabird College: Construction Craft Worker, Education Assistant, Early Childhood Education, Welding, and Indigenous Teacher Training (with UBC).



## Driver Education and Training Program

This includes one-on-one driving lessons, learner's test preparation and driver license testing supports. This past year the driving school delivered 231 practical driving lessons, and the results are as follows:

- 11 clients obtained their Class 7L
- 14 clients obtained their Class 7N
- 3 clients obtained their Class 5

## Employment Readiness Program

Employment counselling is available to anyone of First Nations descent or self-declaring as First Nations. When a person makes an appointment with one of our Career Development Practitioners. They help people access basic life skills training, essential skills (such as reading, writing, computer skills) and job finding skills. These three areas of skills are required for success in any job: construction, Health, education, hospitality, manufacturing, oil & gas, retail sales, trade, tourism, and more.

Employment Services staff work closely with both Seabird College and the Income Assistance Pre-Employment Support Program. Employment Services helps people decide on what training is available locally, and then works with College staff to ensure education and training success. We approach Employment Services in a holistic way – a means to get to work is as important as certification, work readiness and a good résumé.



## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

### **A:yelexw House (Recovery Homes)**

This past year has been a busy one for the mental health team. We launched our men's and women's Recovery Homes – A:yelexw Centre for Hope and Healing. They have been in operation for a year now. A:yelexw means “in good health”; the fully staffed homes support those that are struggling with addictions to build good health and healthy habits.

It's been a year of learning and team building. It has been a year of new beginnings for the men and women that have come into the homes. People have successfully completed their stays and moved back into their homes and family lives with a fresh perspective on life, culture and well-being. We use the holistic model of helping clients while the cultural component of the program is important for the healing journey for our clients. Culture is a big part of the daily activities in the homes, including river bathing, smudging and healing circles – the approach to health and healing is built on the medicine wheel.

The Recovery Homes are made possible through funding from Fraser Health and First Nations Health Authority. It has been a good partnership with Fraser Health and we look forward to the next two years of our current agreement and beyond.

### **Family Development Program**

We are very pleased to be opening a four-unit Family Home on Seabird in 2018. The end of 2017 has involved extensive renovations and an addition to what was the Wellness Center and then temporary Men's Recovery Home. We are pleased to have confirmation of operational funding from the Ministry of Children and Family Development.





## Counselling Programs

Our counselors are busy also, helping community Members to deal with life concerns and issues. We provide women's and men's group sessions weekly at our Stó:lō Tribal Council offices, in addictions, self-esteem, goal setting, etc. Our suicide intervention worker responds to suicide emergencies and builds safety plans with the family.

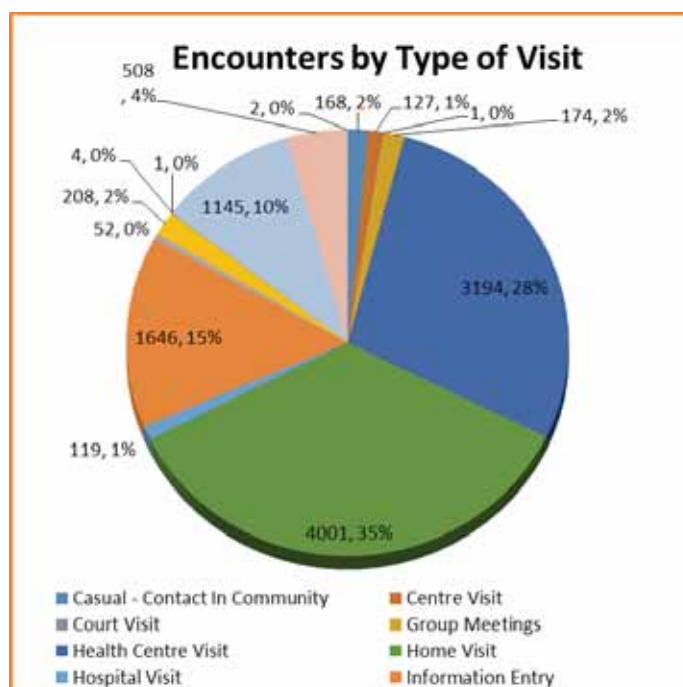
We provide cultural programs. 'Walks with Tilly', teaches about our traditional and medicinal plants. She also spends time on medicine pouches, crocheting blankets, picking sage and the importance of water cleansing.

We have provided professional development for some of our staff and college students in non-violent crisis intervention, trauma and self-care.

Members of the Mental Health team facilitated at the women's retreat that took place in Manning Park. The retreat provided an opportunity to escape from daily chores and pressures and to be inspired by the great outdoors. The women went swimming, took guided walks, made cedar hearts and attended an Elder's talk. It was a great few days of relaxation, camaraderie and learning.

During National Addictions Awareness Week in November, we organized a family dance. We held an alcohol and drug awareness workshop for the community. We hosted our annual community dinner, which was wonderful and included door prizes. The goal was to celebrate wellness in our community!

The Mental Health and larger Health Department worked together to host a mental wellness conference; it was well received. There were mental health presenters, a 'kitchen warrior lunch making', entertainment from Vancouver Theatre Sport and of course many door prizes.



## COMMUNITY NURSES

The Nursing Programs consist of Home and Community Care, Maternal Child Health, Pre/Post-Natal Care, Communicable Disease Control and Management, Diabetes/Nutrition, Community/School Health and the Children’s Oral Health Initiative (COHI). We provide nursing services to 14 communities: Seabird Island, Chawathil, Union Bar, Cheam, Shxw’ow’hamel, Scowlitz, Skwah, Squiala and Kwaw’kwaw’apilt, Fraser Thompson (Boothroyd, Boston Bar and Spuzzum), Lytton, and Skuppah.

The above graph shows a breakdown of services provided by Seabird Health nursing staff in 2017. The green 35% shows that the bulk of our work is done through home visits. The dark blue represents visits to the Health Clinic (28%) and the rest are group meetings and community contacts, other health center visits, hospital visits and information requests.

## Home and Community Care Program

This program provides home-based care for Elders with chronic health conditions and disabilities, acute illnesses or recent surgeries. Home care and home support services are implemented based on a mutually identified care plan. Services include: assessments, health teaching, monitoring, medication management, Meals on Wheels, wound care, foot care, case management, referrals to occupational or physiotherapists, medical equipment, record keeping and data collection. Services are not intended to replace family support, but to be a complimentary service.

Chronic disease and injury prevention are also part of the home and community care services. A part of each intake is fall prevention assessments in the home, completing a medication review and working with the staff nutrition team on diet.



## Nutrition Program

Seabird Health provides nutrition and fitness services to eight local First Nations communities in the Fraser Valley regions, including Cheam, Kwaw'kwaw'apilt, Scowlitz, Seabird Island, Shxw'ow'hamel, Skwah, Squiala and Lytton.

The objectives are as follows:

1. To reduce the incidence of chronic diseases, specifically diabetes and heart disease.
2. To reduce the effects of and complications associated with diabetes, heart disease and other chronic illnesses.
3. To reduce the incidence of childhood obesity and related illness through nutrition, physical activity, education, and prevention strategies.

The Nutrition team hosts community kitchen events like home canning, soup making sessions and cooking lessons. The program provides a monthly diabetes support group, pre/post-natal education sessions, family cooking and one-to-one sessions as well. 375 people participated in the Community Nutrition Run/Walk and 22 people completed the 10 km Nutrition Walk.

The team hosted the Autoimmune Disorder Conference, with workshops in anti-inflammatory cooking, pain management, arthritis and mobility, physical therapy, traditional medicines, yoga and Tai Chi. There were approximately 85 participants.

## Maternal & Child Health (MCH) Program

Collectively the Health team works to encourage breast or formula feeding and proper feeding techniques and habits, to ensure healthy baby growth. Nurses provide education on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) through the MCH team and Prenatal Nutrition Program, as well as through displays/presentations and community events. MCH provided services to 92 parents and 82 babies and toddlers. Six to 15 families attend Prenatal Circle with babies up to 6 weeks old.



### **Pre/Post-Natal Program**

These sessions provide nutritional screening, education and counselling; maternal nourishment; breast-feeding education and support; exercise, transportation, childcare support; and access to medical support. In 2017, the program supported 40 families, including expectant moms and new parents with infants under one year of age. Monthly sessions include fetal and infant development & screen time, a baby welcoming ceremony, ‘fathers bonding with babies’, summer safety, a clothing swap and a Community Engagement Fair. Forty one babies were welcomed at the 2017 New Baby Ceremony hosted by Chawathil. Thirty plus babies were delivered by our registered midwife.

### **The Kwiyo:s – Respected Aunties Program**

Builds relationships with moms who may be at risk and to help to reduce the risk of having a baby with FASD. Kwiyo:s staff make home visits or host group sessions such as the prenatal circle, which connects families to help each other. Kwiyo:s staff are Doula trained (birthing coaches) and can help in trying to make pregnancy and childbirth a more positive experience. Kwiyo:s do about 90 - 100 home visits and Health Center visits and assist with pre/post-natal sessions.



## The Better at Home Program

Provides non-medical support to Elders to help them function well at home. They deliver services to 22 First Nation communities in the Lower Fraser Valley.

Number of communities serviced: 12	
Worker hours	2,947
Volunteer Hours	12
<b>Services Provided</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Friendly visiting	64
Housekeeping	825
Snow shoveling	95
Yard Work	1,890
Transportation	57
<b>Community List</b>	
<i>Chawathil, Cheam, Kwantlen, Leq̓a:mel, Scowlitz, Seabird Island, Shxw̓ow'hamel, Skowkale, Skwah, Soowahlie, Squiala, Sts'ailes, Sumas, Tzeachten</i>	

## Communicable Disease Control (CDC) and Management

Immunizations are 95% up to date for all babies and children, thanks to monthly immunization clinics and routine school health sessions. There is a more positive outlook on vaccines and thanks to all CHRs & LPNs for trying so hard to get the client to the health centers for their immunizations.

A SIB registered nurse who specializes in sexually transmitted disease is available to discuss sexual health and birth control, one to one or for Youth group discussions.

Information distribution on HIV/AIDS overlaps with a variety of other health programs, such as pre/post-natal workshops, alcohol and drug workshops and Youth/school health.

CDC nurse also provides services at the high school, elementary schools and college, such as education and immunizations.





## Children's Oral Health Initiative (COHI)

A dental screening and fluoride treatment program. The COHI program provides education and fluoride treatment to promote healthy teeth and screens to prevent tooth decay. Community health representatives and licensed practical nurses are trained by a dental therapist to act as COHI aides.

## Seabird Mobile Diabetes Program

Traveled to 57 communities. They provide A1Cs, urine tests and recommendations for diabetes and medication reviews and consults. The team saw 597 clients over 80 clinic days, in the following communities:

*Mount Currie, Lytton, Canim Lake, Seton Lake, Xaxli'p, Saint Mary's, T'it'q'et, Bridge River, N'Quatqua, Ts'kw'aylaxw, Sliammon, Lower Nicola, Upper Nicola, Columbia Lake, Lower Similkameen, Chehalis, Penticton, Lower Kootenay, Okanagan, Adams Lake, Boothroyd, North Thompson, Coldwater, Bonaparte, Sechelt, Osoyoos, Tobacco Plains, Shuswap, Skeetchestn, Seabird Island, Boston Bar FN, Cayoose Creek, Neskonlith, Little Shuswap Lake, Chawathil, Siska, Squamish, Skuppah, Kanaka Bar, Spallumcheen, Leq'a: mel FN (Nicomen), Cook's Ferry, Kamloops, Nooaitch, Shackan, Musqueam, Westbank FN, Ashcroft, Upper Similkameen, Cheam, Scowlitz, Lakahahmen, Yale FN, Tsawwassen FN, Spuzzum, Shxw'ow'hamel FN, Soowahlie, Katzie, Sumas FN, Burrard, Tzeachten, Whispering Pines/Clinton, Matsqui, Peters, Kwantlen FN, Oregon Jack Creek, Skowkale, Semiahmoo, Skwah, Skawahlook FN, Union Bar, Skway, Kwikwetlem FN, Squiala FN, Yakweakwioose, Aitchelitz, Kwaw-kwaw-Apilt, Popkum, High Bar, Heiltsuk, Nuxalk Nation, Kitasoo, Douglas, Skatin Nation, Samahquam*



## The 2017 Celebration of Life

Seabird Island had a small intimate gathering. The “Other Side of Grief” is where the tears don’t flow, when memories bring smiles not sadness, when life’s blessings are recognized, when joy and peace are present, when our loved ones are “remembered not just mourned.”

## The Aboriginal Breast Cancer Survivor Support Group

Hosted an evening of celebration and laughter for all of our women are in remission. Each member shared their struggles but also reflected back to the beginning of their journey and celebrated their success and the growth they had experienced. They also shared recent events: the loss of a mother, two women had lost sisters within the recent months and three of the four women are currently raising their young grandchildren.

Their partners listened very intently and seemed to soak up the ideas presented and it was evident they had a great desire to be included, educated and supported.

Medical information that had been requested by the group was: “Lymphedema, what is it? Why does it occur? How can it be dealt with?” Goals were set, nutritional guidelines reviewed, as well as tips shared for a healthy new year: healing sounds, swimming, yoga, stress reduction and nutrition.



## HEALTH CLINICS

### Seabird Island Health Clinic Primary Care Program

The Health Clinic had 9,045 clinical appointments in 2017. They saw a variety of medical practitioners: our family physicians, our psychiatrist, the respirologist, the naturopathic doctor and the massage therapist.

We completed a series of 'lunch and learn' sessions, many with Dr. Robert Fox as speaker and presenter. The sessions provided an opportunity to inform the community about the new recovery homes, to answer questions and inform the community.

Topics included;

- What is Recovery?
- How Do Addictive Drugs Affect Us? The Effects of Drugs and Alcohol on Sleep and Memory.

Seabird Health held 4 Hearing Clinics, monthly Optometry Clinics and the Mammogram Mobile Clinics Bus.



## Seabird Island Dental Program (Clinic)

Seabird Island Dental Clinic provides all your basic dental care including cancer screening and sedation services. The dental team had approximately 3,657 patients' appointments in 2017. We also continue to offer early morning hours:

Monday	8:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday	8:30 a.m. — 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday	8:30 a.m. — 5:30 p.m.
Thursday	8:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

We continue to offer walk-in hours on Tuesday afternoons from 1:00 p.m.

This year, the dental clinic purchased a new portable velscope cancer screening device. This state-of-the-art device allows us to use fluorescence visualization to identify any possible abnormalities.

The dental team attended a First Nations Cultural Sensitivity course at the Pacific Dental Conference. Each staff member took a pledge of commitment to cultural safety and humility. The dental team continues to strive to improve our communication, empathy and care to all of our patients.

We welcomed a new dentist to our team in 2017. Dr. Banmeet Kalra earned her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from the University of Alberta in June of 2016. Her energetic and outgoing personality makes her very personable and she takes great pride in her relationship with her patients.

The dental team set goals in 2017 to reach out to each and every child at the SICS, Lalme' Iwesawtexw. We sent out packages addressed to each student introducing the dental clinic and providing permission forms for parents to sign that allow the dental staff to go to the school and pick up the children.

The children were provided with basic dental care. We plan to continue this program into 2018 and we encourage all parents to sign and return the forms.

We are pleased to announce that the dental team received training on an innovative new product called Advantage Arrest. This new fluoride product is capable of stopping dental decay in its tracks and is a major breakthrough for pediatric dentistry.



## Seabird College

The College runs programs accredited by the Private Training Institutes Branch (PTIB), locally developed programs and programs in partnership with other post-secondary institutions such as Thompson Rivers University and Northern Lights College. Courses are offered off and onsite to ensure enhanced access to education for our students. Students from more than 40 communities came to the Seabird College to complete their high school diploma, upgrade high school courses or train for a vocation or trade.

Student support staff, a lunch program, employment assistance and transportation are a few of the ways the Seabird College assists students in meeting their educational goals. Student lunches prepared by Elders provides a link between students and community Elders. The College also works closely with Employment Services to ensure students receive necessary employment skills and strategies during their training to support employment success after graduation.

This year, our graduation ceremony took place in October and celebrated the granting of 51 certificates in the areas listed in the table below. The First Nations Speech and Language Assistant program was completed in the fall of 2017. Programs in Early Childhood Education and Health Care Assistant started in 2017 with a 2018 graduation date.

In 2017, the College launched an on-site hair salon offering services to the community, putting graduates to work locally and providing ongoing training and mentorship under a certified Red Seal Hair Stylist and a staff member. The addition of Shannon Chapman as marketing and outreach coordinator has increased registrations, offering greater access to programs while also fostering positive connections and relationships with area communities.

Program	# of graduates	Partner or PTIB
Adult Dogwood Diploma	8 graduates	Seabird Island Community School (SICS) Lalme' Iwesawtexw
Business Administration	2 graduates	Private Training Institute Branch (PTIB)
Construction Craft Worker	9 graduates	Thompson Rivers University
Education Assistant	14 graduates	Private Training Institute Branch (PTIB)
Heavy Equipment Operator	10 graduates	Thompson Rivers University
Welding level 1 certificate	8 graduates	Thompson Rivers University

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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by Lands & Government Affairs Communications Office:

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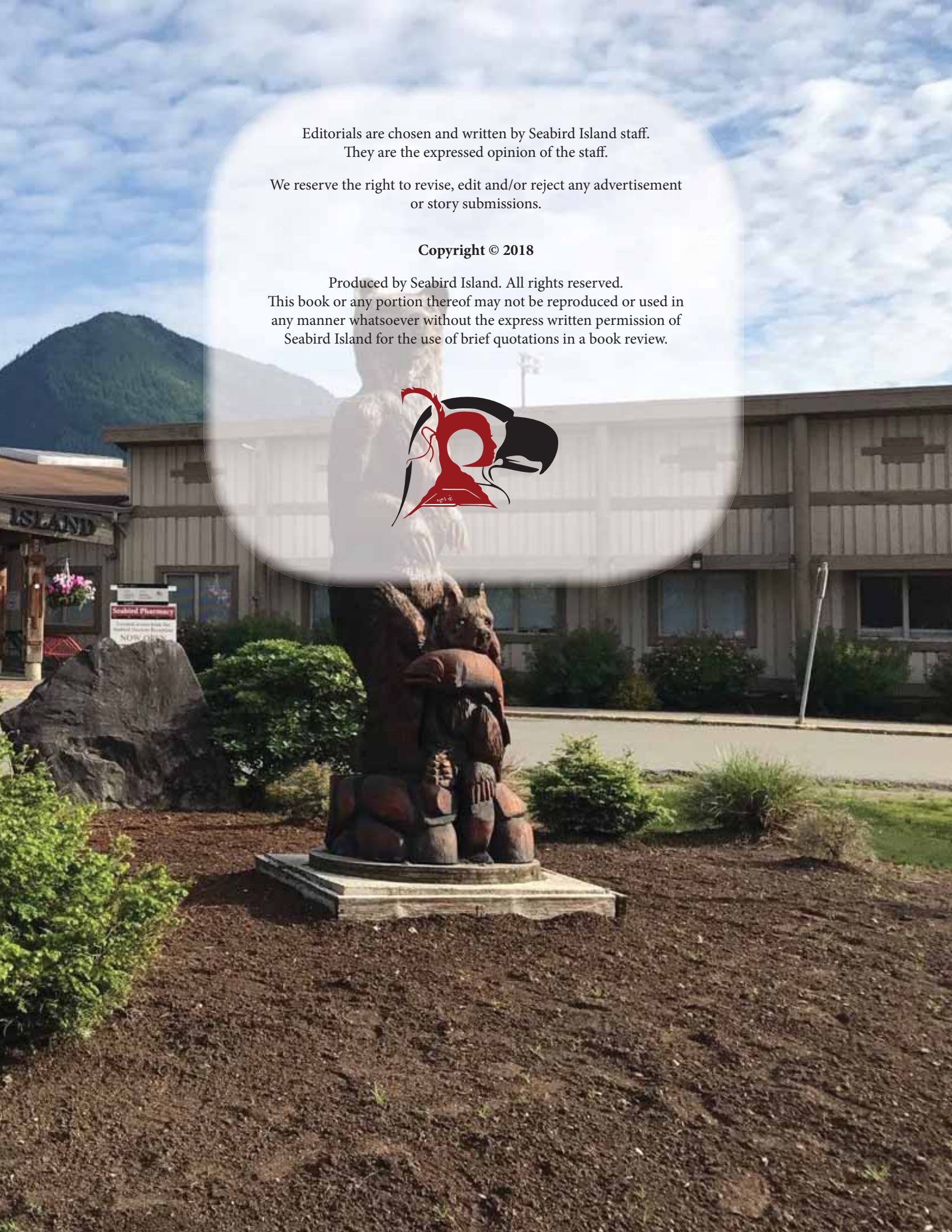
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Editorials are chosen and written by Seabird Island staff.  
They are the expressed opinion of the staff.

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# Yalh Yuxw Kwa s Hoy (Thank you)

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