

TK'EMLÚPS TE SECWÉPEMC

Property Taxation Newsletter 2016

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The Legacy of Chief Clarence

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Property Tax payments received after the August 2, due date will be subject to penalty.

Mail lost or delayed by the post office will be assessed the penalty as the postmark will not be accepted as proof of payment by the due date.

Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc
Finance Dept.
#200-330 Chief Alex Thomas Way
Kamloops, BC V2H 1H1

HOURS OF OPERATION:

8:00 am
to
4:00 pm

Accounts Receivable office
open during lunch from
July 4th to Aug 2nd



The Legacy of Chief Clarence Jules Sr.

(January 6, 1926 – September 10, 2015)



Chief Clarence Jules Sr. was born in 1926 on the Kamloops Reserve and was raised on his father's farm. He attended the Indian Residential School until he reached the ninth grade. While

at the school he milked the cows and looked after the horses. When he was 14, he asked his father for a quarter to buy jeans. He was told to go get a job. He left school, worked haying for a rancher, milked cows by hand at a dairy, and spent seven years working at the Palmer Ranch.

In 1952, Chief Jules married Delores Casimir and continued to work on area ranches. They had nine children together. He worked as a range rider for the band, farmed hay and cattle and as stated in his induction to the BC Cowboy Hall of Fame in 2010 "always had a nice string of horses."

He worked hard for his family. As he said about working on the range "The hours were kind of rough on my wife, though, I often had to get up at two and three in the morning." Perhaps his most famous quote about working hard was "You can't fix a flat tire by yelling at it."

He was more, however, than a hardworking cowboy. As he said in 2010, "I think I was

more of a Chief and Councillor than a cowboy."

Chief Jules led the Kamloops Indian Band (now Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc) from 1962-1971. He improved the irrigation system and started a band farm, hosted the founding meeting of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs in 1969 and advocated for First Nation owning their lands.

Perhaps his greatest legacy goes back to 1962 when his council passed a by-law to establish the Mount Paul Industrial Park – the first industrial park on First Nation lands. Chief Jules made sure the necessary infrastructure was built, and he personally convinced a number of businesses to invest and lease land on the reserve. His powers of persuasion must have been impressive, because securing a property right on Indian land in the 1960s was difficult. Lessees faced uncertainty about tenure, lease registration, tax liability, and local service provision; moreover, they had plenty of options on non-Indian lands. It is a testament to his vision that the Mount Paul Industrial Park has grown from 11 original businesses in 1964 to over 150 today, with annual sales of over \$250 million. If there were a hall of fame for business deals, it would include Chief Clarence Jules, Sr.

Chief Clarence Jules Sr. recognized very early that First Nations needed business continued on page 3
Jules continued - on their lands and that

Assessment Cycle 2016

This year the TteS created and implemented the Annual Rate Law 2016 and the Annual Expenditure Law 2016.

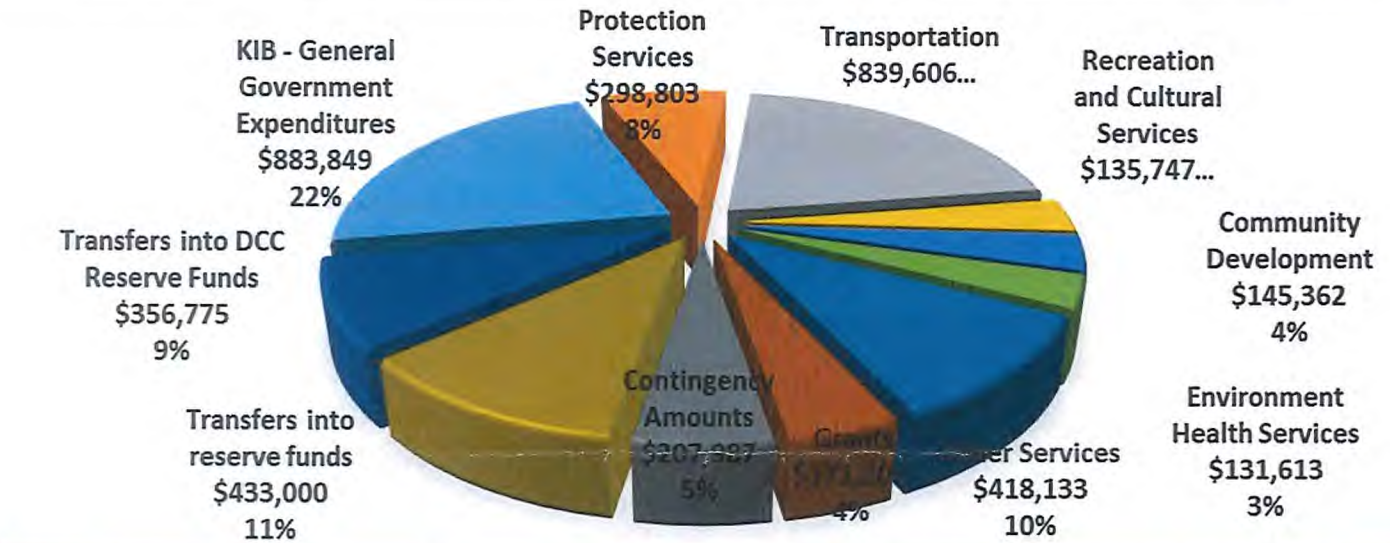
Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc (TteS) has a five year contract with the BC Assessment Authority (BCA) to do the assessments on Kamloops Indian Reserve #1 to 5. In November, the assessment is completed by the Assessor, with the building and/or improvements to the property considered as of October 31 of each year. In January, the Assessment notices are mailed out by BCA. Reconsideration of Assessments are accepted in February, and in March Assessments Appeals are filed for the Assessment Review Committee.

The Lands, Leasing & Tax Department meets with representatives of the Tenant Associations and the Locatee Landlords in

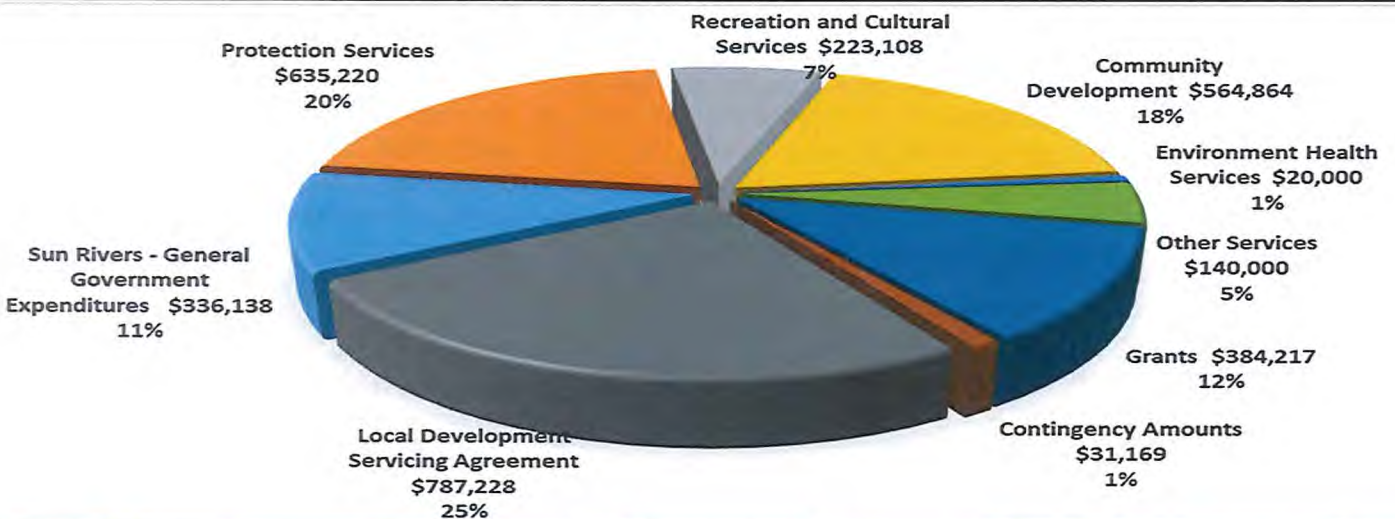
May. Property tax rates and budgets are developed and presented to Chief and Council. The Property Tax Rates & Expenditures Law (Laws) go through three readings with Chief and Council and are reviewed by the First Nations Tax Commission (FNTC). Once Chief and Council approves the Laws, they are forwarded to FNTC for final review and approval. The Laws are then registered with the FNTC Law Registry, with a certified copy sent to TteS. Tax Notices may then be issued. For assessment questions please phone BC Assessment at 250-376-6281 or <http://www.bcasessment.bc.ca>

In the last two years there has been less than 1% of formal Assessment Appeals. Most taxpayers are using the Reconsideration as there is no cost.

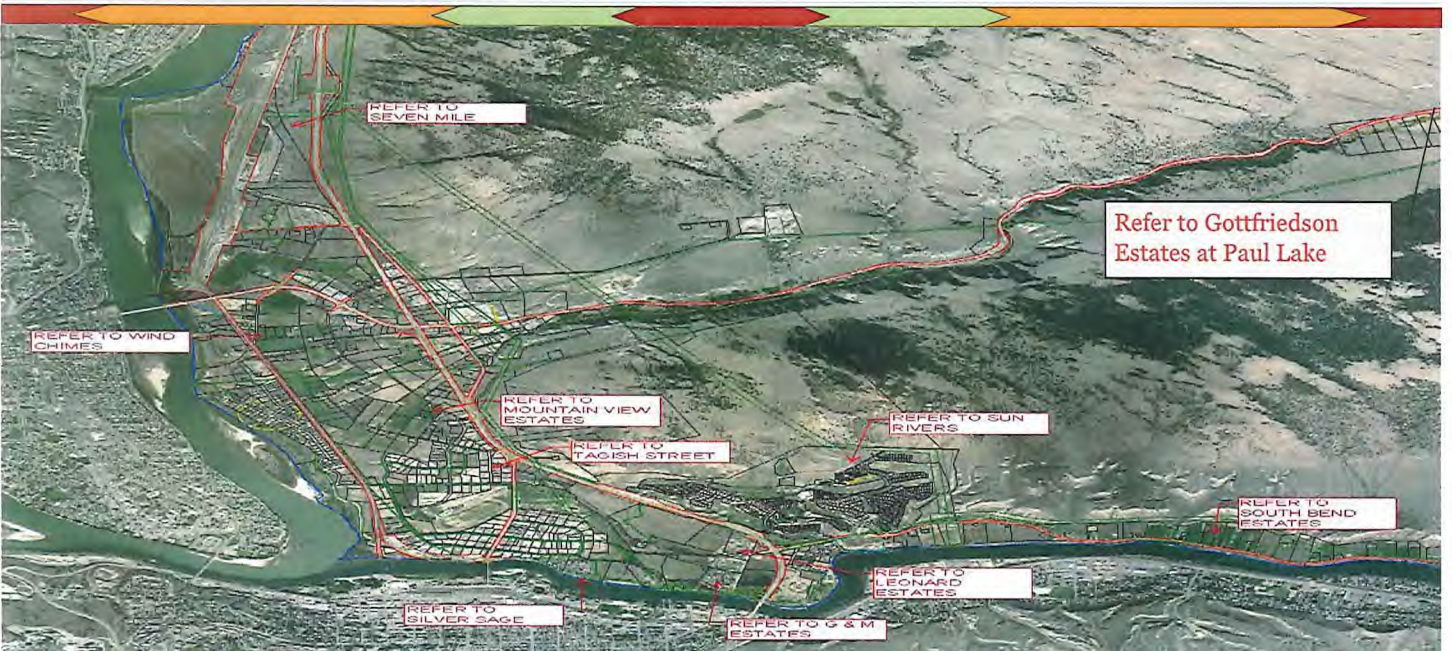
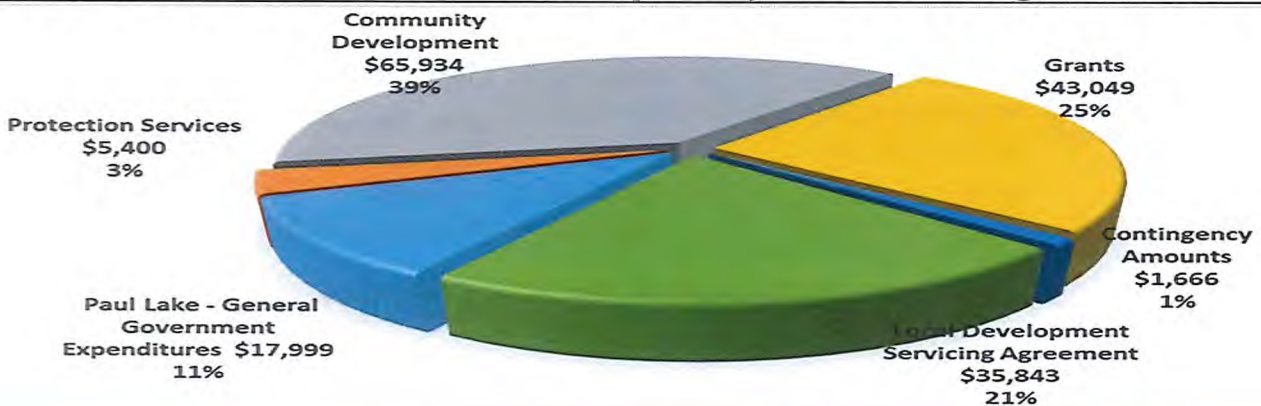
2016 Consolidated Property Tax Budget KIB General



2016 Consolidated Property Tax Budget Sun Rivers



2016 Consolidated Property Tax Budget Paul Lake



There is a Tenants' Associations Meeting held annually for one representative from each tenant association to hear any concerns regarding servicing provided by the band and provide the proposed budget rates & expenditures for the current tax year.

We also meet with the Locatee Landlords for the G&M/ Leonard Estates, Silver Sage, Sage Meadows, Tagish, Paul Lake/Gottfriedson Estates, Wind Chimes, Mountain View Estates, and South Bend Estates discussions included:

- Budget Rates & Expenditures
- Planning & Engineering
- Servicing Agreements
- Collections
- Recycling

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Hon. Michael de Jong
Minister of Finance and
House Leader

Minister's Office:
Room 153,
Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC
V8V 1X4

Hon. Terry Lake
Minister of Health

Minister's Office:
Room 337
Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC V8V 1X4

the *Indian Act* system was getting in the way. When leasing was just starting on the Mount Paul Industrial Park he said, "We provide the services and the province collects the taxes. We should collect the taxes to pay for better services and infrastructure. Otherwise we can't compete for business."

He was a very patient but determined man. It took twenty years for the federal government to catch up to him and pass the *Kamloops Amendment* of the *Indian Act* (Bill C-115) that gave Tk'emlúps the property tax authority, largely due to his hard work and that of his son Manny. This created the modern First Nation tax system.

During the White Paper consultations of 1968, he was asked about how the *Indian Act* should be changed. His answer is still relevant today:

"We feel that we are in a better position to judge the needs of our people than officials of the Department located in Ottawa. We point out that much of the dissatisfaction with the present Act arises from the lack of power and authority to Band Councils. To give just one illustration: We operate an Industrial Subdivision on part of our reserve and lease lots in the Sub-division to various individuals and companies. Before a lease can be granted not only must the Band Council pass its resolution but the lease is then routed through the Kamloops Indian Agency, then to the Vancouver office and finally to Ottawa. The same process is followed on the return trip.

We can document instances where months have gone by before a lease is finally issued. In many cases by the time the lease has been returned the lessee has gone elsewhere because people today require almost instantaneous decisions. These delays cost us money and we don't like it. There must be a change to grant more power and authority to Indian Band Councils. After all, our Indian people elect us to represent them; they do not elect officials of the Indian Department." (November 1968, Kelowna, BC)

His ability to build bridges between communities, people and governments created the foundation for over \$2 billion in investment in First Nations and over \$1 billion in taxes collected by First Nations across Canada. It has led to thousands of jobs and many agreements between First Nations and governments. As he said, "We are here, we should all live together."

In September 2009, he was honoured by the First Nations Tax Administrators Association for his contribution to First Nation taxation. This was a well-deserved honor. Many recognize that without his work, devotion to family and dedication to establishing First Nation jurisdiction there would be no First Nation tax system, no First Nations Tax Administrators Association and no First Nations Fiscal Management Act.

His work has made a difference in many people's lives. He loved people and they loved him because he was coming from a very special place. Nobody could ever forget the twinkle in his eye, and the relish in his chuckle, when he told a particularly good story. But they were never just stories. He treated everyone with honesty and respect and there was always a lesson or a helping hand.



Chief Clarence Jules Sr.
January 6, 1926 – September 10, 2015

Thank you Chief Clarence Jules Sr. You will be dearly missed and never forgotten. Your legacy will live on.

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Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc is working on new Taxation Laws

The Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Lands, Leasing & Tax Department are working to complete two proposed laws and consolidate the *KIB Property Taxation* and *KIB Property Assessment Laws*. The laws fall under the *Fiscal Management Act (FMA)*, its regulations, and the First Nations Tax Commissions standards by the fall of this year. The two proposed laws are: the *Taxpayer Represen-*

tation to Council Law and the *Property Transfer Tax Law*. The *Proposed Taxpayer Representation to Council Law* will provide a formal structure for taxpayer relations with the band. The *Proposed Property Transfer Tax Law* is another way to assert our jurisdiction regarding property tax and support economic growth from local revenues.

BC Carbon Tax Reduction Measures and Impact on First Nation Property Tax

Taxpayers living on First Nations land may express their support for the First Nations Tax Commission and Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc working with the provincial government in continuing to seek a fair resolution to the BC Carbon Tax/Rural and Northern Home Owners Grant.

The contact information for the Minister of Finance, Honourable Michael De Jong and the Minister of Health, Honourable Terry Lake can be found in the left margin.

PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT OPTIONS



PLASTIQ

You can now make your tax payments to the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc (formerly Kamloops Indian Band) using your credit card of choice through Plastiq online

Earn the rewards of your credit card to spend on flights, hotel stays, and more

Ready to pay your bill? Visit:

www.plastiq.com/13439 or

<http://tkemlups.ca/property-tax/>

And follow the simple steps

Plastiq assesses a service fee per transaction

Online Banking

- Available at most major banks and credit unions
- Just log in to your online banking and under "Add Payees", search for "Kamloops Indian Band". Then select your option
- Check your invoice or statement for your customer/ account number or contact Accounts Receivable

Pre-Authorized Monthly Payments (P.A.P.)

- Monthly Payment Plans ("sign it and forget it")
- Can be modified or cancelled (as per terms of agreement)

Contact the Finance Dept., Accounts Receivable regarding payment options (250)-828-9861

Cheque or Money Orders

Please make cheques payable and submit to:

TK'EMLÚPS TE SECWÉPEMC

Accounts Receivable Office

#200-330 Chief Alex Thomas Way

Kamloops BC V2H 1H1

PLANNING & ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Sanitary Sewer

Phase 1&2 of the Waste Water Collection Project are complete.

The ability to connect to this new sanitary sewer system will have direct benefits to leaseholders. Completion of the Mt Paul Industrial Park sanitary sewer servicing is still in the TteS 5 year capital plan. As well, there is continued interest in extending sanitary sewer servicing along Tagish Road between Chilcotin and Cree Rd.

LAWS & BY-LAWS

Sanitary Sewer By-law

This by-law determines the Connection Fees and User fees for the sanitary sewer use.

Connections to the new sanitary sewer system in the Mt Paul Industrial Park are now required. Application for a TteS plumbing permit is made through the Planning & Engineering Department – Permits section, contact Darlean Paul, 250-828-9708.

Water By-law

The water by-law is being updated again this year and new rates will apply. Again, it should be noted that it is the leaseholder's responsibility to install and maintain the water meter in good order. Please contact Arnold John 250-828-9716 to arrange to have the meter installed or replaced.

Development Cost Charge (DCC) Law

TteS Development Cost Charge Law (DCC) for development on IR#1 was adopted by C&C for implementation as of January 31, 2014. DCC's are used to apportion costs to all development for the infrastructure upgrades required to accommodate increased development within the TteS community.

First Nations Gazette

A copy of the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Annual Expenditure and Annual Rates Law can be found at the First Nations Gazette website

<http://www.fng.ca/>.

Go to "Online Gazette", Part II, Search by First Nation, fill in required areas and year.

CLC Development

The utility upgrade for the CLC development has been completed for the first phase and a design for the roundabout at Sun Rivers Entrance has been completed. Phase 2 including the road realignment and roundabout is ready for construction and is in TteS 5 year capital plan.

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TK'EMLÚPS te SECWÉPEMC CONTINUES TO PROVIDE ITS OWN GRANT

Due to the continued incomplete nature of the Carbon Tax—Rural and Northern Benefit Program (the rebate not being applied fairly to taxpayers on First Nation lands) Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc (TteS) Chief & Council are not offering the amount equal to the BC "Home Owner Grant Act".

TteS continues to offer a First Nations Grant and a First Nations Over 65 or Handicapped Grant in the same amount as the Provincial "Home Owner Grant Act" without the Rural and Northern Benefit Program amount.

Would you like to receive the Rural and Northern Benefit? Contact the Provincial government and express your dissatisfaction with them not working with the First Nations Taxpayers Commission on a way to include taxpayers living on reserve land.

The contact information for the Minister of Finance, Honourable Michael De Jong and the Minister of Health, Honourable Terry Lake can be found in the left margin on page 3.