

Where The Rivers Meet Community News Letter

Provided by Tk'emlúps Indigenous Policing Services



Servicing the Indigenous communities of
Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc, Skeetchestn Indian Band and
Whispering Pines Clinton Indian Band

March 2024

Tk'emlúps IPS RCMP Mission Statement: The Tk'emlúps Indigenous Policing Service members purpose is to lead and bring proactive, culturally sensitive policing to Indigenous people and the communities in which they live, and to improve relations between Indigenous people, the RCMP and the Criminal Justice System through the strong and effective Indigenous policing compliment.

Your Indigenous Policing Unit

The unit is comprised of four members:

Constable David Bigcharles, Constable Mark Janus, Constable David Dixon and Corporal Jim Toye.

Please remember to invite us to your community events.

Role of Indigenous Policing Unit:

The IPS members mandate is to provide service programs for your communities. If you have a need in your community, please reach out to us to arrange a talk / presentation / etc. We have access to many different resources to share with your community / group.

What's New?

Don't forget about: "Coffee With A Cop" We host in each community. Events scheduled as follows:

TteS: 1st Wednesday of each month at Moccasin Square Gardens at 10 am (NOTE THE VENUE CHANGE BACK TO MSG, IT WILL REMAIN HERE MOVING FORWARD).

WPCIB: 3rd Wednesday of each month at band office annex building at 10 am

Skeetchestn: last Wednesday month at Band office gym at 10 am

Please come out to Coffee With A Cop and visit with us, ask policing questions, share stories while we share some refreshments! This is your opportunity to come and ask us your policing questions in an informal environment! We look forward to seeing you.

Policing Stats:

For the month of February, the breakdown for calls for service within each Indigenous community is as follows:

Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc - 134

Skeetchestn Indian Band – 12

Whispering Pines Clinton Indian Band – 3

Upcoming Events:

For those planning for the summer already, please check out the attached poster for the Okanagan RCMP Recruiting Youth Canoe Journey that will be hosted by the West Kelowna IPS members and Westbank First Nations.

The Indigenous Snowboard team continues at Sun Peaks each Saturday. Cst. Bigcharles assists in coaching.

Cst. Dixon will be partnering with Skeetchestn Community School to deliver an Introduction To Law course for the remainder of the school year for the high school students, this will commence mid March.

Cpl. Toye will be running the “Top Cop Reader” program at the Skeetchestn Community School for the month of April. Parents and guardians of students please verify any “at home reading” done by your young ones. They are competing for prizes and a pizza party for the top class!

March – Family Night at WPCIB community Hall **CANCELLED** as community is busy

March 23rd – RCMP Youth Gym night at Skeetchestn Band Gymnasium at 7 pm open to ages 13 and up. Families are encouraged to participate.

February 24th – RCMP Youth Gym night at MSG – 7 pm **CANCELLED** as the venue already booked.

Please remember to reach out to our office should you have a need with your community / group / class to have a presentation.

How to Call The Police:

The Tk'emlúps office has office staff Monday to Friday from 8 am to 4 pm. Please call the [250-314-1800](tel:250-314-1800) number during these times

In an emergency call 911.

After hours, please still utilize 250-314-1800, however it is very important that you listen to the prompts. **PRESS 1 TO BE TRANSFERRED TO NON EMERGENCY DISPATCH .**

If you require police assistance, please ensure you **DON'T LEAVE A MESSAGE ON THIS NUMBER** as it won't be checked until the next morning or until after the weekend. Again, if it is an emergency, please call 911.

CRIMESTOPPERS – can report crime **anonymously with Crime Stoppers**. To make a report you can go online to their site (www.bccrimestoppers.com) where you complete a secure and encrypted “online tip form” or you can call

[1-800-222-TIPS](tel:1-800-222-TIPS) (8477).



OKANAGAN RCMP RECRUITING YOUTH CANOE JOURNEY 2024

The West Kelowna RCMP Indigenous Policing Unit is conducting an Okanagan RCMP Recruiting Youth Canoe Journey on Okanagan Lake August 26 to 30, 2024. Our goal is to help build better community relationships with the RCMP and aboriginal communities, to further enhance recruiting of indigenous people in the RCMP, and to bring education to Indigenous youths regarding the importance of water safety.

The journey will start at Penticton and will end in Vernon. Centralized camp will be set up in Westbank First Nation Traditional Land.

If you have any questions or wish to help, please contact Cst. Rolly Williams 250 718-7717, Cst. Wes Sundstrom 250 575-2745, or School Liaison Officer Cst. Sherrie Lund 250 488-9442.



Please save this date in your calendar. August 26 to 30, 2024. We are looking for drummers, elders, IPS members, and adult volunteers to help assist in this event.