

# Where The Rivers Meet Community News Letter

Provided by Tk'emlúps Indigenous Policing Services

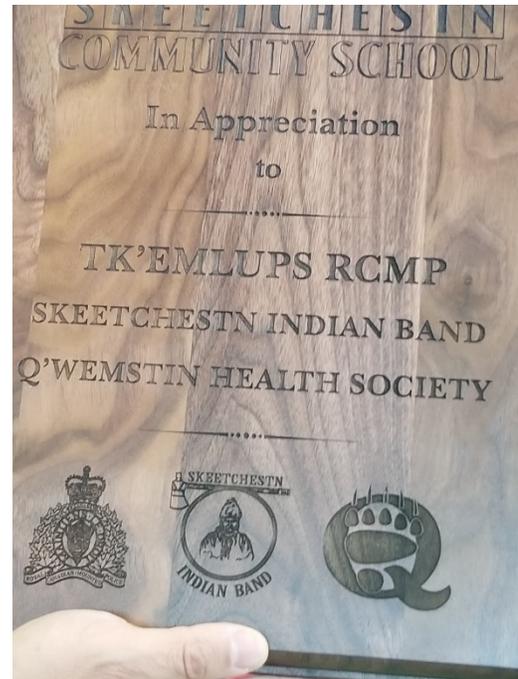


Servicing the Indigenous communities of  
Tk'emlúps te Secwepmc, Skeetchestn Indian Band and  
Whispering Pines Clinton Indian Band

Volume 4

## What's New?

The Tk'emlúps RCMP IPS, Q'wemstin Health Society and Skeetchestn Indian Band were able to assist Skeetchestn School with the purchase of a rock wall. The wall finally arrived after months of planning and waiting. Great job by the installation crew and Principal Ross for setting up the courses on the wall.



## 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 where we can attend, of course taking the necessary Covid-19 safety protocols.**

**Tk'emlúps RCMP Mission Statement:** The Tk'emlúps detachment members are dedicated to providing a culturally sensitive policing services in a timely manner to all residents and businesses within the Tk'emlúps Detachment area.

## **Role of Indigenous Policing Unit:**

The IPS members are mandated to provide service programs for your communities. In the past the majority of the programs have been run through the school, but with Covid-19 protocols in place this has been very difficult.

Cst. Bigcharles is still running "The Minnie Mountie" program going which provides safety information to school aged children. This past month Cst. Bigcharles concentrated on Earth Day which was on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Cst. Bigcharles also organized dog houses to be built by the kids at Skeetchestn School. This took place on April 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. The kids worked very hard and were able to complete 15 out of a planned 20 dog houses.

Cst. Janus has continued visiting the day cares and has extended this to TteS.

Cst. Dixon conducted a drug awareness talk at the request of Skeetchestn Community School. This was well received with good information provided. Cst. Dixon has also been dropping in during recess and lunch at Skelep School of Excellence to spend time with the youth, of course taking Covid-19 precautions.



The IPS unit was invited to Skeetchestn School for a big unveiling of a rock climbing wall. This wall will assist the youth in getting / staying healthy and active as well as assist with their over all development.

The IPS unit along with provincial members have conducted regular speed enforcement on the Halston Connector Road, which receives many complaints of speeding and dangerous driving. Several violation tickets have been issued including one Excessive Speed ticket and vehicle impoundment.

## Policing Stats:

For the month of March the breakdown is as follows:

Tk'emlúps te Secwepmc - 144 calls for service.

Skeetchestn Indian Band – 17 calls for service.

Whispering Pines Clinton Indian Band – 4 calls for service.

## Upcoming Events:

Cst. Dixon is going to be starting a running program in Skeetchestn in early May. Hopefully this will spread to our other communities also.

A hiking program is still being planned, more to come on this!

A bike rodeo is being planned in partnership with the Skeetchestn Indian Band social development department. This will likely be the first week of June so check your community news letter!

## Fraud Alert:

Unfortunately Covid-19 hasn't deterred those attempting to defraud people. An old scheme is rearing its ugly head again.

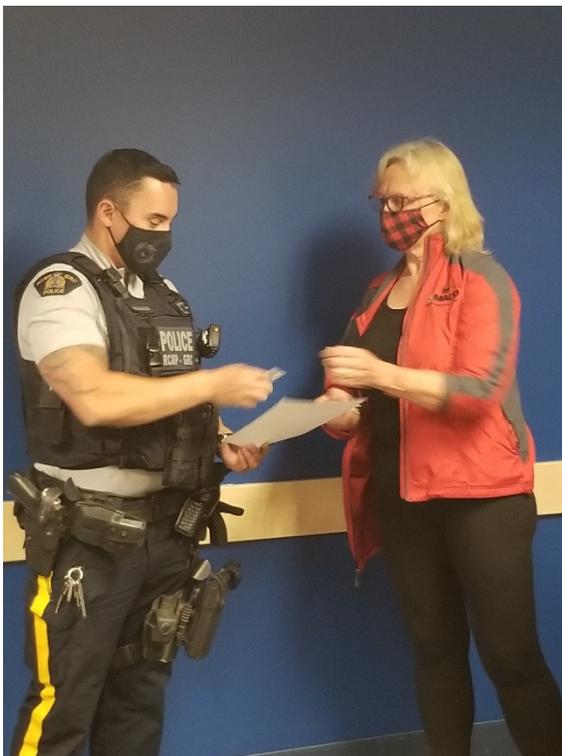
**Suspects approach their victims in higher traffic areas (gas stations, grocery store parking lots, etc). The suspects then claim to have lost their wallets and need money for hospital bills or war escaping domestic abuse. There are two versions recently:**

1. Suspect approaches an individual and offers to sell them gold jewelry. A transaction is completed for the gold and later on the victim determines that the gold jewellery is fake.
2. Suspect approaches an individual and asks for money for the same type of reasons as above. The suspect offers gold jewelry to the victim as collateral. Later on, the victim determines the jewelry to be fake and doesn't hear back from the suspect.

Suspects in these type of frauds have generally been foreign nationals, but please be aware of anyone trying this scam when you are out for shopping.

## KUDOS:

Two members of the IPS were recognized this month for their work with getting impaired driver's off the road. This recognition was done by the local group of MADD (Mother's Against Drunk Drivers). Cst. Patrick Ellis, recently retired, and Cst. David Bigcharles both were recognized for getting impaired drivers off the streets which saves so many lives. Great work Patrick and David!



## NATIONAL IMPAIRED DRIVING ENFORCEMENT DAY – MAY 22, 2021

Please take note that May 22 will be a day of enforcement for impaired drivers. The RCMP will be out in full force trying to ensure people think before driving while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Penalties can be criminal charges resulting in court and driving prohibitions. This would include an immediate 24 hour driving prohibition, then a 90 day driving prohibition and court appearances.

Or you can be dealt with under the Motor Vehicle Act via Immediate Roadside Driving Prohibition, which gives you an immediate 90 day driving prohibition and a 30 day vehicle impound. The motor vehicle branch and / or ICBC could take further action against you as well.

Don't forget that even though cannabis marijuana is legal in the province, it is still illegal to operate a motor vehicle. This too can be dealt with by criminal charges or the motor vehicle act.

Please help keep your community roads safe and plan a safe ride home before you partake in alcohol or marijuana consumption.