



## MESSAGE FROM CHIEF CARMEN MCPHEE

**In November 2020, my Council and I were elected as your new Chief and Council after a delayed election due to COVID-19.**

I want to take this opportunity to thank Rick McLean and the previous Council for all their hard work and contributions to our Band and Nation.

Being elected in the middle of an international pandemic, with our remote communities extremely vulnerable, has presented us many challenges that, I believe, we have faced united and strong. Last December, we were one of ten communities in BC to receive the first doses of COVID-19 vaccinations, which was available to all three of our communities. We distributed these vaccinations to those on reserve and off reserve.

I cannot thank our Emergency Management Team, spanning all three communities, the local EMC's, industry and our local governments enough. It is an honour working with each one of you. Your dedication to keeping our people and our communities safe is second to none.

If COVID-19 wasn't enough, last December due to unseasonably heavy snow, we were worried about drainage and flooding; as a result, we had

three gravel trucks hauling snow out of Telegraph Creek. On April 14, the road washed out on top of Tahltan hill and those same trucks switched from hauling snow to hauling rip rap to fill in our road that washed out.

Again, I would like to thank everyone who participated, including TNDC, in ensuring our people continued to receive food, fuel, and medical supplies, while our road was out of service.

I would like to thank the numerous Tahltan members who worked for us as well as all the local businesses who aided us at this time. Just to name a few, T&M Contracting, Frocklage Contracting, JD trucking, Etzerza Contracting, Sharko Contracting, 37 Contracting, LDM, KICA Contracting, Bandstra, NW Fuels, Telegraph Creek Contracting, Chucky's Towing, and all other companies who helped us during this time.

I would also like to thank Newcrest Mining Ltd. and Klee Cho Aviation Inc., Skeena Resources and Silver King Helicopters Inc., and Newmont Corporation and Alkan Air, Yellowhead helicopters, Northcoast Helicopters; all who contributed to moving things, including Tahltans, in and out of Telegraph Creek.

I am happy to report that the road is noticeably more stable, we have larger culverts, a new rest area on the burn and the road is a lot better than it was this past spring. Next year, the Ministry

of Transportation and infrastructure will be doing 70km of strengthening and widening. I want to thank all our local people for their patience during this time as the closers could be frustrating, but we had to keep our people safe too during all the construction.

Before I became Chief, I wanted to see more communications coming from our band as we have a huge membership and wanted to reach those who were off reserve and our Elders. I heard the same from a lot of members during my campaign, who said they wanted to know what was going on and wanted more transparency. My fellow Council Members had and heard similar concerns, including Elders who didn't have Facebook and as a result were receiving no information.

My Council and I have heard your concerns and we are doing something about it. We have obtained funding from the Professional and Institutional Development Program from Indigenous Services Canada to improve our Communications. Providing bulletins, such as this, and quarterly newsletters is part of our plan moving forward. We are excited about getting more info into the hands of our Band Members and getting you all more informed and engaged with all the exciting work being done by all hard-working employees. Our next steps will be to have a zoom linked public council meeting.

**BAND MANAGER**

**SHANA DENNIS**

With all that we have faced as a Band Council and Nation, regarding our COVID-19 response and the road being washed out, it is important to be remember all the important work the Tahltan Band Council (TBC) has accomplished.

In April 2021, TBC completed a comprehensive Governance Training course to build our capacity. Areas included: An introduction to, and overview of, the roles and responsibilities of Chief & Council as a whole; The roles and responsibilities of the Chief; The roles and responsibilities of Council Members; The roles, responsibilities, and desirable qualifications of the organization’s Top Manager; Working towards a respectful workplace; How to create and manage effective committees; Running effective meetings; and The Planning Process.

**In September 2021, the Tahltan Band Strategic Plan was updated, and the Tahltan Band is also submitting funding an application to develop a “Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan”.**

The Tahltan Band has had employees retire from the TBC Richard Jackson (Rocky) Social Development Manager and the Tahltan Centre Store, Effie Reid. I would like to wish all of you well and thank you all for your service.

**CAPITAL PROJECTS**

**FEDDIE LOUIE**

**The Tahltan Band Council is excited about the possibility of constructing a year-round commercial greenhouse in Telegraph Creek.**

In 2019, TBC completed a series of pre-feasibility studies that explored various economic development opportunities to enhance community resilience after the 2018 wildfire season. As part of that program, TBC identified the construction of a new year-round greenhouse at Telegraph Creek as a priority for the community that could serve both as an economic development engine and a local food source.

The COVID-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented economic downturn which has stressed local communities and food systems and highlighted the need for fresh, affordable produce in the community.

The feasibility study is completed, and the project is seeking funding for construction; more specifically, the project has been presented to Tahltan industry partners for support.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**OCTOBER**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

31 Halloween

**NOVEMBER**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

6-8 Hinterland Health Chiropractic and Massage Therapy  
7 Daylight Savings Time Change  
11 Remembrance Day Offices Closed

**DECEMBER**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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20-31 Christmas Break Offices Closed Reopen January 3rd, 2022