



TSAIN-KO
GROUP OF COMPANIES

A tsain-ko Group Publication - April 2025

The Nation Builder



Leading with Transparency and Community Voice

For over 30 years, Chief Lenora Joe dedicated herself to working for the shishalh Nation, always striving to unite her team under a shared vision. However, with constant turnover, maintaining a consistent direction was often a challenge. When she stepped away from her role within the Nation, she had no intention of running for Chief and Council. It wasn't until fellow Nation members encouraged her—expressing that their voices were not being heard—that she decided to take on the challenge. Despite facing setbacks in her first two election attempts, she remained determined. Her greatest motivation? Ensuring that every member of the shishalh Nation had a voice.

A key initiative for Chief Lenora and her Council has been the development of policies and procedures designed specifically for leadership accountability. Their goal is to foster transparency, ensuring that the work of Chief and Council is clearly communicated to the community. This includes taking responsibility for difficult decisions, acknowledging mistakes, and outlining steps to prevent them from happening again. She envisions this system as a “report card” that will allow Nation members to review leadership achievements and challenges ahead of each election—offering a new level of accountability and openness.

Among the projects she is most excited about is the introduction of workshops for Nation members interested in running for Chief and Council. Currently, there is no structured way for candidates to gain insight into the role before stepping into office. By providing education and preparation, these workshops aim to reduce the learning curve and empower new leaders to be effective from day one. Another initiative close to her heart is the implementation of a Youth Council, modeled after Westbank First Nation's program. This initiative will give shishalh youth first hand exposure to governance, equipping them with the knowledge and experience to pursue leadership positions in the future.

When asked about the legacy she hopes to leave behind, Chief Lenora's response was clear: “You can't take on this role for personal gain—you are here to serve the shishalh people and do right by them. My hope is that every Nation member feels valued, that we stand together as one team, and that we create opportunities for everyone in our community to succeed in whatever path they choose to pursue.”

lhe hiwus / Chief, yalxwemult / Lenora Joe

Honoring Shishalh Artists:

Artwork by Charles Craigan, Manuela Salinas, and Margaret August Featured at Tsain-Ko Mall's Pad-5 Development



We would like to extend a huge congratulations to **Charles Craigan, Manuela Salinas, and Margaret August** for having their incredible artwork chosen to be displayed at the new Pad-5 Development at the Tsain-Ko Mall.

Manuela's stunning Light Pillar Totems and Margaret's captivating Spindle Whorl will be prominently displayed on the front of the building, creating a striking visual that will greet visitors. Charles' unique design will be featured on the back of the building, visible from the highway, ensuring his artwork will leave a lasting impression on everyone passing by.

This is a remarkable achievement, and we are proud to see these talented artists' work celebrated in such a meaningful way within our community. Their contributions bring beauty and cultural significance to the heart of Tsain-Ko, and we look forward to seeing their art inspire future generations.



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New Articulated Trucks Support Major Infrastructure Project

Tsain-Ko is proud to announce the acquisition of two A60, 60-ton articulated trucks, which will soon be in operation at Heidelberg Materials' pit. Their first phase of use will support the extraction of 450,000 cubic meters of material for our reservoir project, a key initiative in our ongoing infrastructure development.

Securing these trucks was a fortunate opportunity—not only did we acquire them at an excellent price, but the program also received a \$250,000 forgivable funding boost from Tale'awtxw Aboriginal Capital Corporation (TACC). This support strengthens our ability to invest in essential equipment while advancing economic opportunities for the Nation.

These additions mark another step forward in our commitment to growth, sustainability, and long-term success.

Announcing Serve Your Swiya : A Community Reconciliation Initiative

Tsain-Ko Development Corporation is excited to launch ***Serve Your Swiya***, a community-focused initiative aimed at fostering reconciliation, safety, and connection within the Shishalh Nation and beyond. This program combines philanthropy, team building, and public service to strengthen our community, enhance employee morale, and contribute to the well-being of the swiyas (lands).

The first act of kindness for ***Serve Your Swiya*** will take place on May 3, 2025, coinciding with National Wildfire Preparedness Day. The all-day FireSmart cleanup at the Shishalh Nation LongHouse will be an opportunity for businesses, homeowners, Tsain-Ko employees, and Shishalh Nation members to come together to make our community safer and more resilient to wildfires. This event is just the beginning of an ongoing effort to give back to the land and build long-lasting community ties.

To kick off the ***Serve Your Swiya*** initiative, we are excited to host a special screening of Incandescence, a powerful film produced by local Sunshine Coast filmmakers, which highlights the growing threat of wildfires in B.C. This event will take place on Saturday, April 19th, and will feature a keynote presentation by David McIlwraith, a renowned FireSmart leader. David will provide valuable insights on how individuals can take proactive steps to fire-smart their homes, offering practical advice and tips to help protect our community from the dangers of wildfires.

Why It Matters:

Serve Your Swiya is about building a **spirit of unity and collaboration** within the Shishalh Nation, Tsain-Ko staff, local fire departments, and community partners. The initiative aims to set an example for wildfire preparedness and reconciliation, encouraging everyone to take proactive steps in safeguarding our shared home. For local businesses, this is an opportunity to strengthen ties with Tsain-Ko and the Shishalh Nation by showcasing shared values of safety, community, and reconciliation.

Join Us! Let's work together to create lasting change, improve safety, and build stronger community connections for a brighter future.

SERVE YOUR SWIYA

ReconciliAction #1:
Free Film Screening: Incandescence
Location: **Raven's Cry Theatre**
Keynote by FireSmart Leader David McIlwraith;
Q & A session with the Filmmakers

ReconciliAction #2:
BRITISH COLUMBIA **FireSmart** Clean up
Location: **Shishalh Nation Longhouse**
-Volunteer to clear hazardous debris & protect our community for wildfire
-Volunteers welcome to support Community BBQ at Ted Dixon Park after the cleanup.

Welcome Farhadh Nizar to Tsain-Ko Group of Companies!

We are excited to welcome Farhadh Nizar as our new Senior Accountant for the Natural Resources sector, effective March 10, 2025. Farhadh brings over 18 years of experience in finance, investment banking, and accounting, with credentials including Chartered Management Accountant (ACMA, UK) and an MBA from University Canada West (UCW), Vancouver.

With a strong background in financial analysis, risk management, and process optimization, Farhadh has worked with leading institutions like HSBC and has also contributed to corporate training programs—including the Excel course many of our team members attended last summer. His expertise, analytical mindset, and commitment to excellence make him a valuable addition to our team.

Please join us in giving him a warm welcome!



welcome
TO THE TEAM

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