



ST MARY'S INDIAN BAND

Paqam Annual Report 2014/2015



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Message from our Nasukin

Ki?suk Kyukyit hu sukt?ukni kin wamitkit ?aqam ?amak?is

Along with my fellow Council members, I am proud to have led and to have been witness to another successful year.

We will continue to listen to our people; we will continue to make every effort to achieve the goals they have set within Ka Kni?witiyata.

It is critical that we leave behind a legacy to be proud of; failure to do this will be failure in its entirety. When the opportunity to look back presents itself and if any ?aqamnik were left behind, we will have failed. We must move forward together.



On behalf of ?aqam Chief and Council, I would like to thank the administration office, Community, and funders for their continued hard work. Together we are unbeatable.

Message from Chief Operation Officer



Ki?suk Kyukyit

Over the years the administration at ?aqam has strived to achieve the priorities given to us by our Community.

?aqamnik' are strong and focused; the bar has been, and will continue to be, set high. The administration will forever be grateful for having this guidance and we will continue to work hard in an attempt to make our Community proud.

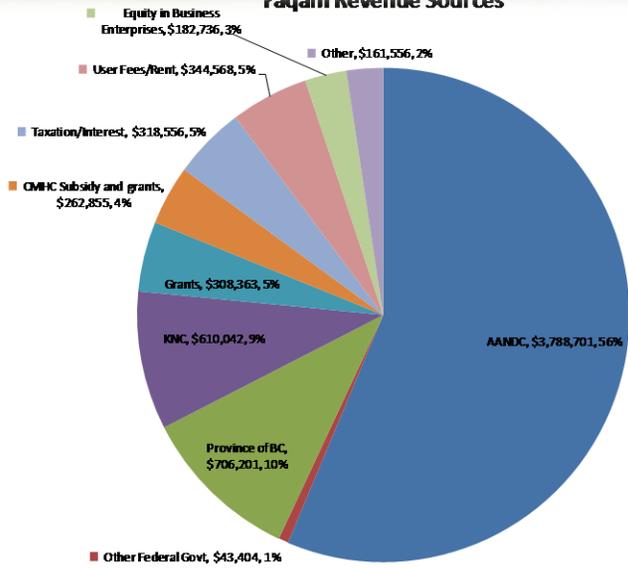
A time has come for us to revisit and update our Strategic Plan, Ka Kni?witiyata, and this year, I am excited to see old and new goals presented and for the opportunity for us to achieve these goals. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to achieve this successful year, thank you to our funders for your support and thank you to our Council for your guidance.

A Year at a Glance

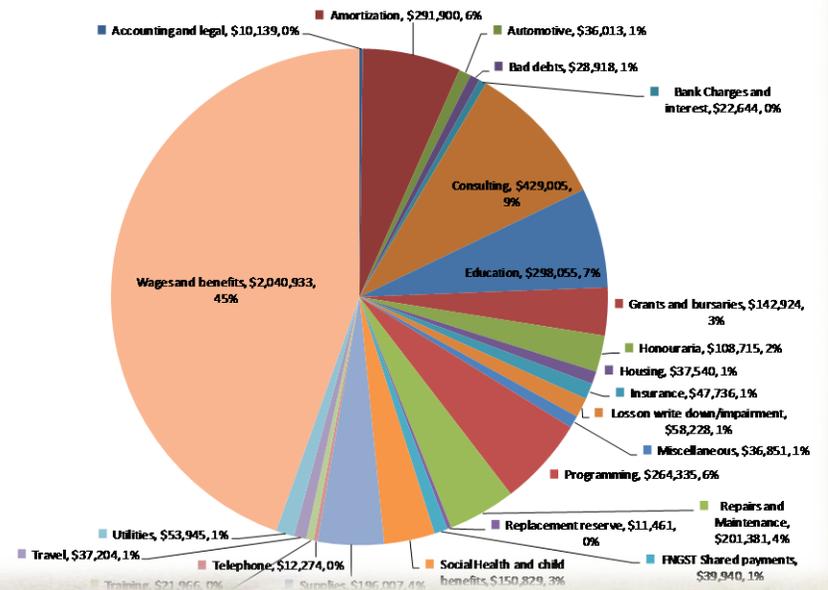
- *Land Code Implementation*
- *St. Mary's IRIA transfer complete*
- *District Heating building phase complete*
- *Reservoir Replacement Project Complete*
- *Chlorination of Community Water System*
- *Joint Management Advisory Committee - Canfor*
- *?aqam Trading Convenience Store Open*
- *Elder Abuse Awareness Luncheon and Rally*
- *School drum group, ADRUMNIK, perform publically for the children Pow Wow in Creston*

Funding at a Glance

ᑦᐱᓄᓄ Revenue Sources

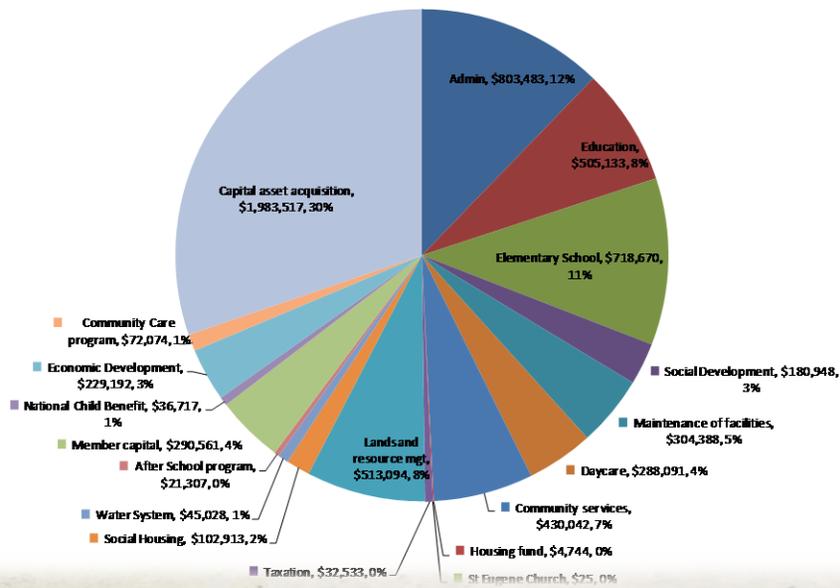


ᑦᐱᓄᓄ Expenses by Object



ᑦᐱᓄᓄ expenses by dept

(Excludes internal transfers and transfers to reserves)



LANDS AND RESOURCES

Director's message

Ki?asuk kyukyit ?aqamnik,



What a year it has been for the Lands department! The first and most notable development was the Community ratification of the *St. Mary's Indian Band Land Code* on April 14-16th, 2014. A total of 141 members voted, with 103 ballots cast in favour of adopting *Land Code*. The *Land Code*, established the community-based procedures for the development of laws pertaining to land management, replacing 34 provisions in the *Indian Act* and allowing ?aqam to self-govern on-reserve lands and natural resources. The implementation of *Land Code* has been the primary focus of the Lands department over the past year and will continue to be over the 2015/16 fiscal year. Your continued involvement and input will inform our actions as we move towards self-governance.

It is our goal as staff, working on behalf of all ?aqamnik, to ground our work in ?aknumu?tihi? (natural law) and qanikit?i (the values and principles) set out in ka kni?witiya?a (?aqam Community Strategic Plan).

Texas,
Julie Couse

2014/15 Highlights

St. Mary's 1A The erroneous designation of IR 1A as jointly held Indian Reserve Land by the 5 Bands has been a long-outstanding issue for St. Mary's that has caused many administrative challenges. St. Mary's administration has been working on correcting this issue since the 1950s. This year we are pleased to (finally) report that it has been resolved! The Order in Council from the Government of Canada has been received. We can now officially call St. Mary's IR 1A Lot 1 and 2 (the lots where the Church, School, Administration buildings and ?aqam Trading are located) ?aqam lands.

The next step will be to amend our Individual Agreement with Canada to include these parcels and ensure that jurisdiction over these lands is with the Band.

Phase II Environmental Site Assessment ?aqam completed the Phase II Environmental Site Assessment project between September-March. This project revisited sites on reserve that were identified in the Phase I ESA as having the potential for contamination in the soil and/or water. The purpose of the Phase II ESA was to collect soil and/or water samples from each of the sites to detect the presence or absence of contaminants as well as the type. Further, where applicable, it makes recommendation for further investigations or remediation work. Funding was provided by AANDC.

Heritage Management Plan Through funding provided by Columbia Basin Trust, our Culture and Language Committee member Robert Williams, was able to complete a Heritage Management Plan for the Kootenay No. 1 and St. Mary's 1A reserve lands. The report documents the location, site type, and GIS locations of the boundaries and features of archaeological sites. Further, the Heritage Management Plan contains management recommendations and rankings. Lastly, a digital database was created for mapping reference.

The Heritage Management Plan will protect our heritage sites and will be used to educate all members and land developers on where our Archaeological sites are and what procedures need to be followed to ensure the sites' ongoing protection.

Housing and Land Use Planning Survey The Lands department, in collaboration with the Operations and the Community and Economic Development departments designed and completed a Housing survey to help inform upcoming land use planning. The survey was designed to help us answer questions such as 1) What are the current demands for on reserve housing? 2) What types of homes are people interested in building on reserve, if at all? 3) What are common barriers to home ownership? The survey was designed and implemented by Michele A Sam, Community Research Coordinator, with input from Staff and community. Results of the survey were presented at a Band Meeting and will be further shared through the Land Use Planning work. Summary analysis is available at any time upon request.

Specific Claims The Specific Claim filed in 2011 seeking compensation for the Federal government's failure to purchase the lands known as the Pighin Ranch for the benefit of ?aqam was accepted for negotiation last year. This year, ?aqam has worked with legal counsel to prepare our case and submit relevant documents, prepare an expert report and interview Community members who attended the residential school and have knowledge of the Pighin Lands historic use.

It is anticipated that the Hearing will commence in the Fall of 2015 or Spring of 2016.

Wildfire Management This year, ?aqam completed wildfire urban interface fuel treatments on 12.9 hectares in the Eager Hills area adjacent to St. Mary's 1A reserve. Prior to treatments, these forests had become overgrown due to active wildfire protection, resulting in a high wildfire threat rating. Through a combination of spacing, thinning, pruning and burning of waste piles the post-treatment wildfire threat was reduced to moderate. This work was completed by Nupqu Development Corporation and funded by the Union of British Columbia municipalities.

Land Code Implementation

Lands Officer- Leeanna Rhodes was hired for this new position in the Lands Department; she began working in this capacity at the end of September. Her responsibilities in this role are wide-ranging including maintaining information on reserve lands, advising and assisting community members on land transaction applications, mapping, and administrative functions.

Lands Management Manual- This project is a huge undertaking but is essential to establishing the policies and procedures of the Lands department as it now operates under Land Code. You have maybe even used some of our new forms or have an official Certificate of Possession document issued directly by ʔaąam! This is the result of the Lands Management Manual. Much progress had been made but this project will continue into the 2015-2016 fiscal.



Lands Committee- Chief and Council appointed the following members to the Lands Committee in September: Victor Clement, Gloria Hunter, Max Andrew, Robert Williams and Corrie Walkley. The Committee meets monthly and advises on the implementation of Land Code. They are a knowledgeable and energetic group!

Matrimonial Real Property Law- The Lands Committee began developing our Matrimonial Real Property Law with legal counsel in January. The purpose of this law is to protect the matrimonial real property interests and rights of both spouses in the event of a breakdown of marriage or common-law relationship or on the death of a spouse or common-law partner. All ʔaąam eligible voters will have the opportunity to vote on the law via mail-in ballots, phone-in ballots or at a meeting of members as outlined in our Land Code. Two community information sessions have been held to date: January 29th and April 23rd. The vote date for the law is tentatively set for June 30th, 2015.



Community and Economic Development

Ki?suk kyukyit,



As the new Director, I am very excited to help implement the visions of Ka Kni#witiya#a (our thinking), the ?aqam community strategic plan and the mandate of ?aqam community enterprises (ACE). Becky Pelkonen, our past Director, was on leave for some of this fiscal year limiting the capacity of the department. Even though I was involved for only two months of this

past fiscal year I very much look forward to creating our future successes together.

We are working toward a profitable, sustainable, and self-sufficient community economy that optimizes our diverse skills. Our efforts focus on five objectives:

- Create local, responsible enterprises.
- Grow food and expand agriculture.
- Build employment and entrepreneurial skills and opportunities through training, mentorship, and partnerships.
- Develop our community government's capital assets.
- Create and sustain a revenue base for our community government



2014/15 Highlights

District Heating

- The out building that will house the new district heating system was completed. We now await installation of the actual heating system technology within the building. We are anticipating installation in the late Fall 2015 or early Winter 2016.

Joint Management Advisory Committee - Canfor

- Targets are being set in both employment and procurement in the form of specific numbers. Currently, the Strategic Plan showcases the procurement increase. These quantitative targets mean that result tracking and annual reviews will result in a clear "achieved" or "deficient" results.

Procurement and Employment Working Group – Teck

- This working group continues to identify procurement, employment and training opportunities for the community and Ktunaxa Nation as a whole.

Gas Station Project

- The designation of IR 1A as jointly held Indian Reserve Land by the 5 Bands has been a long-outstanding issue for St. Mary's. This year we are pleased to (finally) report that it has been resolved! The Order in Council from the Government of Canada has been received. We can now officially call St. Mary's IR 1A Lot 1 and 2 (the lots where the Church, School, Administration buildings and Aqam Trading are located) ?aqam lands. This allows our gas station complex project to continue to the next steps which will be creating the RFP to have contractors now bid on the project.

Successful Grants

\$49,300 secured through the Enabling Accessibility Grant through Employment & Social Development Canada. These funds were used to support;

- Smart board in the daycare
- Repair of the wheelchair elevator

Professional Development

- Aboriginal Business Match
- Residential Economic Summit
- Women in Leadership (Banff Centre)

ACE – ?aqam Community Enterprises

MANDATE:

- Create economic success for the Corporation and Community
- Forge relationships and alliances for *?aq'am*
- Analyze, incubate, innovate and activate business opportunities that are profitable
- Develop effective communication practices and services

Golf Tournament

- An economic and community development golf tournament and social networking evening was successfully held in September
- Rebuild and addition to wheelchair ramp for the Band hall
- Asphalt paths connecting all of the buildings

\$40,000 was secured through Columbia Basin Trust to continue to fund capacity building within our department to secure the Business Development Coordinator for another year.



- Develop, manage, and advocate training, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities
- Collaborate to advance community priorities

Partnerships

Strategic partnerships of different levels had been created and maintained with these three corporations to bring in revenue into the corporation.

- MDG – Limited Partnership
- All North - MOU
- Arctic Arrow Powerline Group - MOU

Convenience Store Opening

- The new community store opened in November of 2014
- Addition of 2 new employees and implementing extended daily hours in March of 2015

Branding & Communications

- Implementing the corporation branding strategy

Forest Licenses

- ʔaq'am limited resources holds two forest licenses that we continue to manage to bring revenue into the corporation.



Member Services

Rachelle Sebastian Director's Message



Another successful year has passed us here within the Department of Member Services. As the Director of Member Services, I am responsible for the overall management, implementation, and administration, of the entire program inclusive from all affiliated departments within this department and ensure that we are in line with our Strategic plan. The Member Services Department is comprised of the following programs and service operated under St. Mary's Band Administration: Social Development, (Johanne Allard, Social Development Worker), Registered Nurse/Community Health Representative (Cindy Wales), Home Support Workers (Debbie Patrick and Hilda Bohnet), Daycare Manager (Wendy Haley), Youth Worker (Nakita Sebastian) and Membership Clerk (Shelley Collinson).

This past year we have undergone a small reorganization process. There was a need to address how the organization could reconfigure to better serve and support community. We have moved the daycare program under the department of Member Services, and we have also moved the Education Coordinator role under the direction of the School department. This change happened to better align services in July 2014. It is with great pleasure that we continue to work towards our strategic plan and how this plan is connected with all of our program activities that are delivered throughout the year. Following will be a detailed report of the program and services under the Member Services Department.

2014/15 Highlights

Community Consultative Group (CCG)

This past year, St. Mary's band had formed its own "Community Consultative Group (CCG)".

The St. Mary's Band Community Consultative Group (CCG), will meet with the First Nations Community Policing members and delegates on a regular basis, as needed or required, to identify policing issues and concerns regarding day to day policing in the St. Mary's Band Community, and seek solutions collaboratively to address policing concerns. The St. Mary's Band Community Consultative Group (CCG), derives its authority from the St Mary's Band Council and shall have no authority other than that vested in it by the Chief and Council. This group meets quarterly.

Letter of Expectation (LOE)

Once again, a letter of Expectation (LOE), between the RCMP and St. Mary's Band had been reviewed and sign off by both parties. A LOE is intended to define and promote positive and cooperative working relations and aids in the clarification of the policing relationship. This goal is to ensure that St. Mary's Indian Band receives dedicated and responsive First Nations Community Policing over and above existing core policing provided by the RCMP. This LOE is reviewed and updated annually by both parties.



We have a dynamic and HEALTH dedicated team that works together towards our goal of Optimal, holistic health for all community members. Our Health team has maintained an excellent collaboration with other major partners such as Member Services Team, Interior Health, Ktunaxa Nation Council Health, Ktunaxa Kinbasket Child and Family and First Nations Health Authority. We continue to receive the support services of a Nurse Practitioner, Dietitian, and included this year, a kinesiologist.

Elders Events

Due to the success of proposal writing the Health team was awarded 2 major grants this year, these were put to use by taking the Elders out for day trips around the Traditional Territories. Some of the trips included

Head Smashed in Buffalo Jump, Fairmont, Elders Picnic, Kootenay Falls, Fort Steele, Creston Wildlife Sanctuary, Kimberley Mine Tour, Sparwood mine tour, The pictographs located in Canal Flats. Elders Christmas Dinner

Mental Health

Each month we host different mental health workshops. These are held in the evenings where dinner is served. Some of the topics covered include Over Indulgence, Social Media Safety, Lateral Violence, Traditional Parenting, life lines, and Family Trees. This year we hosted our second annual Family Celebration on Sept 27, 2014. Events included a scavenger hunt that lead through the village site and down to the river side area.

New this year was an Elder Abuse Awareness Luncheon and Rally. This was held on June 15, 2014. This included a BBQ and a march to the SEM to raise awareness to the issues surrounding Elder Abuse.

Diabetes, Healthy Nutrition Events

Our team is still committed to hosting the Elder/Diabetic foot clinics 6 times a year.

We continue to host a Free Social Luncheon each month lead by the Dietitian. Each month a new topic is discussed around the table while enjoying a healthy lunch prepared by the Health Team. Some of the topics discussed have included diabetes, high blood pressure, nutrition, healthy lifestyle choices, and a variety of other topics based off of questions asked by community members that were in attendance.

Also hosted, was a Budget Momma's workshop for low income moms. This workshop taught these moms how to prepare ahead and freeze recipes that are

cooked in the
crock pot.
Each mom at
the workshop
was shown 8
different
recipes and
they were
able to take
these home.



Each team were given a series of challenges to complete at different stations set up along the route. There were kid's games and activities. The day finished off with a cook off and BBQ.

The St. Mary's Health Department was very busy and successful year with all our events and are looking forward to the new challenges and successes in the coming year.

Water Testing

Community Health program are responsible for taking water sample of each of our homes in the community, we test the homes twice a year for biological contaminants and we do not do tests for Chemicals in the water these are done by the Environmental Health Officer. The last time we tested was March 2015, 55 homes were tested and only 1 came back positive for Total Coli form no E.Coli to report this testing time. All

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One of the main duties of the Band Social Development Worker is to provide support to Social Assistance (SA) recipients. This year the program provided basic needs to 40 SA recipients; which is an increase of 9% from last fiscal year. Out of those, 22 clients have been taken off SA due to employment, education/training or relocation and are succeeding in their endeavors.

Employment Workshops

Social Development also has funding to engage community members in workshops to increase skills and motivation to seek and/or maintain employment. We were able to take interested community members on a tour of Revelstoke Dam, thanks to the partnership with Ktunaxa Nation Council (KNC). We partnered again with Kootenay Aboriginal Business Development Agency in order to provide work related seminars on Anger Management and Presenting Yourself; which were open to the community as a whole. With this fund we are also able to support SA clients in short term contacts in order to build self esteem and employability skills. This year we engaged clients within our Community Christmas Dinner; KNC Employment's cultural immersion day; Family Ski Day; and File Maintenance.

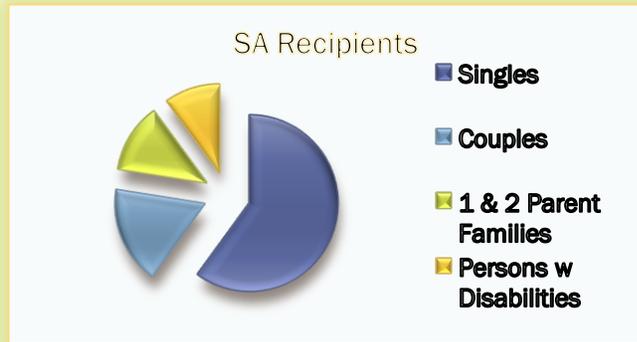
Community Engagement

National Child Benefit Reinvestment

Social Development had a great year while engaging the community in a variety of events. The objectives of the National Child Benefit Reinvestment (NCBR) are to reduce the depth of child poverty; to provide incentives to work by ensuring that low-income families with children will always be better off as a result of working; and to reduce overlap and duplication through simplifying the administration of benefits for children. This fund is determined by the number of families with children receiving Social Assistance.

Family Violence Prevention Program

The Family Violence Prevention Program provides funding for community-based projects aimed at addressing social and health problems related to family violence. These culturally appropriate projects must demonstrate that they promote a reduction in family violence and promote safe environments. The Social Development program has allocated the Family Violence budget to the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day; our Cultural Day in Nov 2014; and remaining funds to the proposed Spring Break activities. We will be partnering with the SMB Health Team and KNC Traditional Knowledge & Language Department to deliver the upcoming Cultural Day which is set for Monday, March 23, 2015 in the SM Band Hall.



The SMB Social Development program has allocated NCBR funds for the following activities:

- Supplies – Summer Program, Elementary School, Preschool, After School, & Community Health
- Contribution to Administration (Shared Service)
- Youth Initiatives Activities – Campout 2014, Youth Events (Rafting, Day Trips, Bowling, Video Game Nights, Movie Nights) and Mentorship
- Gift Certificates – for low income families during times of crisis
- 5 Family Swim Nights – 73 community members swam.
- Family Bowling – 54 community members had fun.
- Community Wood Day - 31 loads of wood were delivered to 20 homes (decrease from last year, volunteers are needed)
- Community Bingo – 41 people had fun.
- Halloween Party – 75 people joined in on the fun.
- Cultural Day – 39 people learned cultural crafts & Ktunaxa Place Names
- Community Christmas Dinner – 142 people were in attendance.
- Family Ski Day Feb 27 – 36 people enjoyed the snowy day
- Spring Break Activities – TBA (bowling, swimming, cultural day)



Operations and Maintenance

Director's Message

Ki?uk kyukyit



2014/2015 was a very successful year for the Department of Operations. We continued to work hard and see many of our long standing projects come to fruition. Our primary focus continued to be construction of a number of capital projects.

Water quality and safety lead the focus of the department this year with the installation of a chlorination system on our Lot 10 Water System and the construction of our new 1.5 million litres Reservoir for the system. Our Certified Operators (Jesse and Richard) worked closely with our engineering team to ensure that these new systems were complementary to our existing systems and were both fully trained on all new components.

The primary department team for the year was comprised of Jesse Bisset, Facility Maintenance Coordinator, Richard Grimm, Facility Maintenance Labourer, Candice Hall, Housing and Operations Coordinator.

A special thank you to Kay Shottanana and Brian DePaoli for providing temporary support to the department to fulfill my maternity/parental leave. In the upcoming year, we look forward to pushing the Aqamnik Education Centre Gymnasium Expansion through design phase and continuing to strive towards fulfilling the goals and objectives of ka knitwityala.



Taxa,
Michelle Shortridge
Director of Operations

2014/15 Highlights

Community Water System- Reservoir Replacement Project- Construction Phase

Project Funder: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC)

Total Project Value: \$1,795,177

Completion Date: The project was substantially completed in February 2015. During the year the Band worked with AANDC and AllNorth Engineering to complete the Construction Phase of the new Potable Water Reservoir for the Lot 10 Water System.

Chlorination of Community Water System

Project partner: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC)

Completion date: September 2014

The water small water system operated by the Band was outfitted with a chlorination system. This project will assist with the small water meeting disinfection requirements and level of service standards.

Social Housing Program-Partnership with CMHC

The Band works in partnership with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and CMHC provides assistance on-reserve through two programs. The Social Housing Program and the Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP).

The CMHC Social Housing Program assists the Band with administering on-reserve rental housing. The program provides subsidies to assist with covering mortgage payments where the rental costs (which are based upon tenant income) are not sufficient to cover the full mortgage costs.

Total Social Housing Units: 9 Mortgage Maturity: 2020 CMHC Portfolio Manager: Wendy Jung

Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP)

Project Value: \$42,652.20

Key Participants: CMHC

The Band completed 3 RRAP Projects. The projects included work to address housing safety, and the replacement of major building components.

General Band Provided Housing Services

The following services were provided this year to homes located on reserve. Chimney sweeping;

Partnership Regional District of East Kootenay-Building Inspection Services

The Band and the regional district of East Kootenay have partnered for building inspection services. The RDEK inspectors work in conjunction with the Department of Operations to develop permits, inspection schedules and the completion of compliance inspections.

District Heating-Partnership with Department of Economic Development \$304,323.00 Building Only

This project faced some challenges throughout the year, including the lack of available contractors due to the 2013 flooding. The Department of Operations in conjunction with the Department of Economic Development will continue to work together to build a solid plan for implementation, including addressing some of the unique challenges of the project.

Once completed this project will be the first of its kind in the East Kootenay Region of BC.

St. Eugene Mission Church-Restoration

Since the completion of the foundation repairs and the re-opening of the church in December 2012, the Band and the St. Eugene Church Restoration Society continue to seek funding to continue to the exterior restoration required to complete the project.

Miscellaneous Projects

The Operations department also worked to oversee the completion of the following projects;

- Demolition of Old School Facilities;
- Installation of playground at new school facilities;
- Renovations of the Log Building for use as an interim convenience store.



Water conditioning salt for water conditioning systems;
Assist with Individually Owned homes that required Well Shocking;
The following services are provided on an ongoing basis to all homes located on reserve.

Solid Waste Services;

Snow removal and sanding;

Application submittal and assistance in applying for CMHC's RRAP;

Assistance with applying to the FNMHF programs;

Personal Home Maintenance Accounts

Number of Accounts: 8

Individual homeowners have the opportunity to set up a maintenance account with the Band to be utilized for renovation, repair or other house maintenance costs.

First Nations Market Fund-Capacity Development Partnership

Project Partner: First Nation's Market Housing Fund (FNMHF)

The Capacity Development partnership strives to assist the Band to continue to manage existing and future housing on-reserve. Some capacity development

projects and professional development that were supported included the following:

Housing Management Professional Development Training Programs and Courses;

Post Secondary Business Courses;

Human Resource Training Courses;

Human Resource Assessment;

Ktunaxa Law Workshop;

Governance and Financial Management Professional Development Training Courses.



Education

ʔaqamnik School provides a high quality education for both community and non-community members.



Our students gain Ktunaxa Language and Culture skills by using experiential learning.

Our school is fully accredited and is a certified British Columbia Independent School.

We strive to give our students a strong and enriched academic start using provincially approved curriculum.

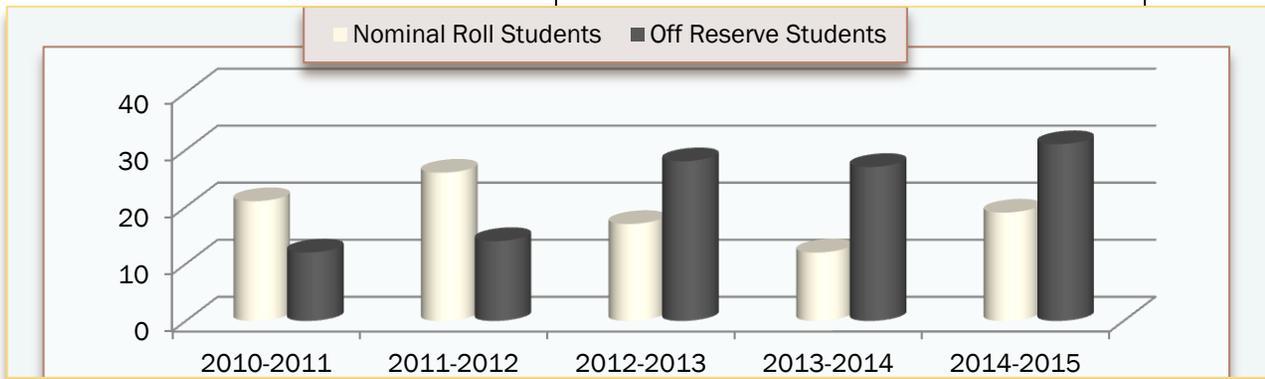
The school employs: a principal, an elder in residence, a language instructor, a language instructor mentor, Head Start Coordinator, four classroom teachers, two support workers, a janitor and a bus driver.

Highlights

- School drum group, **ADRUMNIK**, perform publically for the children Pow Wow in Creston.
- Grades 5-7 attended three cultural outdoor campouts
- Student participation in swimming and gymnastics lessons from accredited facilities
- **Daily breakfast for all students**
- Teacher and staff retention is 83 %
- Outstanding professional development opportunities for teachers and staff
- Increased instruction of language and culture
- **Smart boards in every classroom**
- Increased technology for students
- Total school population remained above 40 students. Total school populations for the past five years: 2010/11-35, 2011/2012-42, 2012/13 – 47, 2013/14-41, 2014/15-50.

Partnerships

- First Nations Schools Association
- First Nations Education Steering Committee
- School District 5
- College of the Rockies
- Ministry of Child and Family
- Kimberley Aquatic Center and Gymnastic Club
- Breakfast for Learning



ʔa·kuṭuqakwum Ꞇ ʔakikit haqkwum

Language and Culture

The Language and Culture tipi pole plan has one goal: Fluent Ktunaxa language speakers, with strong cultural skills and knowledge.

The ʔaṓam Ktunaxa Language Consultant has worked with the Ktunaxa Nation Councils Lands Department to deliver language classes to the lands staff. The Language Consultant has also regularly delivered open lessons to the ʔaṓam staff and community on Wednesday afternoons which will continue in the upcoming year. Ktunaxa Language is offered in the Aqamnik School, and each class receives two hours a week of in class instruction from the Ktunaxa Language and Culture Teacher. At the Aqamnik Daycare the Head Start Worker delivers language lessons to the infant/toddlers and the children ages 3-5. Family Ktunaxa Language Lessons have been offered bi-weekly with the help of a Ktunaxa Language Knowledge Keeper. These lessons have been offered to all community members, to comply with Ka Kniṭwitiyaḷa, Language and Culture Goals and Objectives: Make all language lessons and resources easily accessible to all learners.

One of ʔaṓam's identified principles is: We remember the knowledge from our ancestors and what they said. The ʔaṓam Language and Culture Committee has worked hard to finalize the ʔaṓam Burial procedures. Currently, funding options for publishing are being pursued. With the help of the Culture and Language Committee some Ktunaxa Language has been added to the Matrimonial Real Property Law to reflect the pride in our heritage, language and culture.

Objective 1: Celebrate our unique culture through arts, dancing, singing, drumming and other forms. This past year there have been many opportunities for the community to celebrate; Aboriginal Day, which brought people together to participate in activities that showcased the unique Ktunaxa traditions and practices. School District #5 Cross Cultural Day, where grade four classes were invited to partake in four presentations that the Aqamnik School Students offered instruction for. Kootenay Falls Ceremony hosted by ʔaṓam, and the community lead was the Lands and Resources Stewardship Assistant. Aqamnik School also attended the yearly annual Sturgeon Release held in Creston by the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho and the Kootenay Fish Hatchery. Along with numerous opportunities to attend regalia making, wing dress making, moccasin making, ribbon shirt making and other traditional craft sessions. And to fully support and honor fluent, speakers, learners and teachers, the acknowledgment of the Language and Culture Teacher achievement of receiving the First Nations Language Teachers Certificate must be noted.



Finance and Administration



The Finance team is lead by Ivan Winter, Director of Finance. Ivan and his team have been working diligently throughout the year to ensure processes created under the Financial Administrative Law were adhered to and improved. Additional laws and policies are in the works to compliment current practices and ensuring continued transparency and accountability to membership.

Membership Loan details as at 31st March 2015

Name	Date of Loan	Purpose	Amount(inc interest)	Outstanding	In Arrears
Cheryl Casimer*	30 th April 2013	Vehicle repairs	1,650	570	Yes
Frank Alexander	Dec 5 th , 2014	BC Hydro Bill	1,280.94	717.94	Yes
Terry White	Jan 9th, 2015	Truck Tires	1,575.00	787.50	No

*Loan made prior to official Membership loan policy.

Chief and Council salaries, honoraria, travel expenses and other remuneration

Name	Position	Months	Salary/ Remuneration	Other Remuneration (Note 1)	Travel (Notes 2)	Total
J Whitehead	Chief	12	24,000	1,268	998	26,266
J Pierre	Councillor	9	13,500	1,368	-	14,868
V Thomas	Councillor	3	4,500	1,502	-	6,002
C Walkley	Councillor	12	18,000	1,268	-	19,268
C Morigeau	Councillor	12	18,000	3,543	647	22,190
M Williams	Councillor	12	18,000	4,393	2,268	18,103
Total			96,000	13,342	3,914	113,255

Senior Management salaries, travel expenses and other remuneration paid

Position	Months	Salary	Other remuneration (Note 1)	Travel (Note 2)	Total
Chief Operating Officer	0.6	3,115	230	-	3,345
Chief Operating Officer	12	66,359	15,274	2,635	84,268
Director of Finance	11	68,045	12,501	753	81,298
Total		137,519	28,005	3,388	168,911

Note 1: Other remuneration includes all other forms of remuneration paid, including (but not limited to) pension contributions, bonuses, health benefits, disability benefits, vehicle allowance, cellular phones, and employer CPP and EI contributions.

Note 2: Travel expenses include reimbursements paid to elected officials for the use of their personal vehicles in addition to travel expenses paid directly by the Band to the individual to carry out his/her duties.

Chief and Council Declarations

As required by section 10 of the Finance and administrative law, below is a declaration by all Chief and Council for any business contracts received by Chief and Council or their member of family including Spouse, dependent children, or their spouses.

Furthermore, that Chief and Council declare that any member of their family, as described above, be an employee of the Band.

Business interest

Name	Business Name	Financial Interest		Nature of Interest	Interest %
		Family member	Own		
C Walkley	Walkley Contracting	Yes	100%	Owner/contractor	100%
J Pierre	Jennifer Pierre	Yes		Artist	100%

Family member employed

Name	Employee Name	Relationship
J Whitehead	J Bissett	Son-in-law
Codie Morigeau	S Morigeau	Sister-in-law
M Williams	S Morigeau	Daughter

Senior Management Declaration

Neither Chief Operating Officer nor the Director of Finance has any business interests or family members employed by the band (as described above)





MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The accompanying consolidated financial statements of St. Mary's Indian Band (the "Band") and all the information in this report are the responsibility of management and have been approved by the Chief and a Council member on behalf of the Band Council.

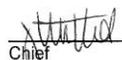
The consolidated financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. Financial statements are not precise since they include certain amounts based on estimates and judgments. When alternative accounting methods exist, management has chosen those it deems most appropriate in the circumstances, in order to ensure that the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, including the consolidated financial position of the Band and the results of its consolidated operations and its consolidated cash flows.

The Band maintains systems of internal accounting and administrative controls of high quality, consistent with reasonable cost. Such systems are designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial information is relevant, reliable and accurate and the Band's assets are appropriately accounted for and adequately safeguarded.

Chief and Council are responsible for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibilities for financial reporting and is ultimately responsible for reviewing and approving the financial statements. The elections for the positions of Chief and Council occur every two years. Individuals are elected for a term of four years, with elections staggered every two years.

Chief and Council review the Band's financial statements and recommend their approval. Chief and Council meet periodically with management, as well as the external auditors, to discuss internal controls over the financial reporting issues, to satisfy themselves that each party is properly discharging their responsibilities, and to review the annual report, the financial statements and the external auditors' report. Chief and Council takes this information into consideration when approving the financial statements for issuance to the Members. In addition, Chief and Council also consider the engagement of the Band's external auditors.

The consolidated financial statements have been audited by KPMG LLP in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards on behalf of the Members. KPMG LLP have full access to Chief and Council.



Chief



Council member

June 4th, 2015

KPMG LLP

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To Chief and Council and Members of St. Mary's Indian Band

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of St. Mary's Indian Band (the "Band"), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at March 31, 2015, the consolidated statements of operations and accumulated surplus, change in net financial assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Consolidated Financial Statements Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards.

Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risk of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Band's preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Band's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion. KPMG LLP, is a Canadian limited liability partnership and a member firm of the KPMG network of independent member firms affiliated with KPMG

Opinion

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of St. Mary's Indian Band as at March 31, 2015, and the results of its consolidated operations, its consolidated changes in net financial assets and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Chartered Accountants

Kelowna, Canada

June 4, 2015

ST. MARY'S INDIAN BAND

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2015, with comparative information for 2014

	2015	2014
Financial Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 2)	\$ 1,245,953	\$ 1,533,467
Restricted cash (note 2)	3,757,813	3,532,672
Accounts receivable (note 3)	374,829	659,774
Investments (note 4)	4	4
Investments in business enterprises (note 5)	219,517	35,790
	5,598,116	5,761,707
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	1,056,238	621,317
Deferred revenue (note 6)	359,712	1,258,340
Long-term debt (note 7)	511,192	605,299
Replacement reserves (note 8)	193,130	192,242
	2,120,272	2,677,198
Net financial assets	3,477,844	3,084,509
Non-Financial Assets		
Tangible capital assets (note 9)	7,250,314	5,616,925
Prepaid expenses and deposits	65,545	100,995
	7,315,859	5,717,920
Accumulated surplus (note 10)	\$ 10,793,703	\$ 8,802,429

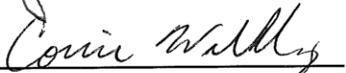
Commitments and contingencies (note 14)
Trust funds (note 15)

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

On behalf of the Chief and Council:



Chief



Council member

ST. MARY'S INDIAN BAND

Consolidated Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus

Year ended March 31, 2015, with comparative information for 2014

	2015 Budget (note 1(h))	2015	2014
Revenue:			
Transfers from other governments:			
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development			
Canada	\$ 3,808,617	\$ 3,788,701	\$ 2,073,495
Other federal government	51,165	43,404	76,966
Province of British Columbia	880,000	706,201	661,101
Ktunaxa Nation Council (note 16)	625,900	610,042	625,413
Grants	440,890	308,363	339,911
Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation subsidy	6,018	57,800	-
Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation grants	47,000	48,290	12,414
First Nations Goods and Service Tax	255,000	214,565	228,520
Property taxation, net of homeowners' grants	56,500	53,889	58,301
User fees	297,000	205,375	282,043
Social housing rent	57,000	58,769	54,534
Rent and lease	104,750	80,424	129,918
Interest and penalties	15,800	50,102	28,189
Other	145,000	161,556	64,879
Equity in earnings (loss) and investment impairment of business enterprises (note 5)	-	182,736	(22,075)
	6,790,640	6,570,217	4,613,609
Expenses (Schedule 1):			
Administration	803,456	803,483	757,704
Education	598,642	505,133	544,185
Elementary School	846,205	718,670	642,655
Social Development	195,088	180,948	199,805
Maintenance of Facilities	308,760	304,388	261,251
A'qamnik Daycare	285,500	288,091	262,482
Community Services	519,500	430,042	415,745
Rental Housing Fund	5,500	4,744	4,416
St. Eugene Church Restoration Society	100,700	25	17,548
Taxation	316,800	32,533	29,791
Lands and Resource Management	558,566	513,094	295,264
Social Housing Program	152,923	102,913	100,527
Water System	121,700	45,028	40,021
After School Program	39,100	21,307	20,508
Member Capital	227,800	290,561	459,052
National Child Benefit	41,233	36,717	39,071
Economic Development	378,485	229,192	169,053
A'qam Community Care Centre Program	79,900	72,074	85,972
	5,579,858	4,578,943	4,345,050
Surplus	1,210,782	1,991,274	268,559
Accumulated surplus, beginning of the year	8,802,429	8,802,429	8,533,870
Accumulated surplus, end of year	\$ 10,013,211	\$ 10,793,703	\$ 8,802,429

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

ST. MARY'S INDIAN BAND

Consolidated Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets

Year ended March 31, 2015, with comparative information for 2014

	2015 Budget (note 1(h))	2015	2014
Surplus	\$ 1,210,782	\$ 1,991,274	\$ 268,563
Changes to non-financial assets:			
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(2,349,917)	(1,983,517)	(341,894)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	-	291,900	270,640
Writedown of or loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	-	58,228	275,769
	(2,349,917)	(1,633,389)	204,515
Acquisition of prepaid expenses and deposits	-	(65,545)	(100,995)
Use of prepaid expenses and deposits	-	100,995	41,025
	-	35,450	(59,970)
Increase (decrease) in net financial assets	(1,137,120)	393,335	413,108
Net financial assets, beginning of year	3,084,509	3,084,509	2,671,401
Net financial assets, end of year	\$ 1,947,389	\$ 3,477,844	\$ 3,084,509

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

ST. MARY'S INDIAN BAND

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended March 31, 2015, with comparative information for 2014

	2015	2014
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operating activities:		
Cash received from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada	\$ 3,180,548	\$ 2,894,086
Cash received from grants, property taxes, user fees, rent and other revenue	2,543,148	3,636,118
Cash paid to employees and suppliers	(3,745,996)	(4,114,384)
Interest received	50,102	28,189
Interest paid	(12,448)	(25,652)
	2,015,354	2,418,357
Financing activities:		
Repayment of long-term debt	(94,107)	(165,688)
Decrease in replacement reserves	888	(4,541)
	(93,219)	(170,229)
Capital activities:		
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(1,983,517)	(341,893)
	(1,983,517)	(341,893)
Investing activities:		
Increase in restricted cash	(225,141)	(622,459)
Net investment in business enterprises	(991)	-
	(226,132)	(622,459)
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(287,514)	1,283,776
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	1,533,467	249,691
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 1,245,953	\$ 1,533,467

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

ST. MARY'S INDIAN BAND

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2015

2. Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash:

The Band maintains its cash balances in several financial institutions in British Columbia. The Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation (CDIC) insures each of these accounts up to \$100,000. The aggregate funds held in each institution may exceed the CDIC insured limit from time to time and specific funds held by each institution may not be covered by CDIC insurance. Management does not anticipate any material effect on the consolidated financial position of the Band as a result of these concentrations.

Certain cash has been internally restricted by the Band or externally restricted by federal or provincial government authorities for the following specific purposes. These funds have been invested in separate investment funds and cash accounts with interest rates ranging from 1.0% to 1.8%.

	2015	2014
Internally restricted: (note 11)		
Church restoration reserve	\$ 41,559	\$ 39,764
Community Economic Investment reserve	241,794	238,732
Community development reserve	702,835	773,370
Community health reserve	140,857	69,885
Education general capital reserve	318,975	343,653
Future expansion of school (Ottawa Trust withdrawal)	64,694	64,629
Land development reserve	1,820,545	567,484
Water reserve	97,058	85,162
Housing Replacement Reserve	66,091	-
Member Loan Reserve	5,000	-
	<u>3,499,408</u>	<u>2,182,679</u>
Externally restricted:		
Trust Funds on deposit with Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (note 13)	65,275	1,157,601
Social Housing replacement reserve (note 8)	93,852	87,100
Community Care replacement reserve (note 8)	99,278	105,292
	<u>258,405</u>	<u>1,349,993</u>
	<u>\$ 3,757,813</u>	<u>\$ 3,532,672</u>

ST. MARY'S INDIAN BAND

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2015

3. Accounts receivable:

	2015	2014
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC)	\$ 2,303	\$ 52,628
Province of British Columbia	142,597	131,351
First Nation Education Steering Committee	-	9,831
Ktunaxa Nation Council	145,124	215,750
St. Eugene Mission Resort	21,356	49,795
Band members	41,646	40,363
Nupqu Development Limited Partnership	21,106	25,915
Aq'am Resources Limited Partnership	-	57,200
Aq'am Trading Limited Partnership	5,283	-
Property tax receivable	9,375	9,375
Other	50,448	103,056
	<u>439,238</u>	<u>695,264</u>
Less allowance for doubtful accounts	(64,409)	(35,490)
	<u>\$ 374,829</u>	<u>\$ 659,774</u>

The Band has performed an analysis of the age of financial assets that are past due as at March 31, 2015 and has recorded an allowance for doubtful accounts of \$64,409 (2014 - \$35,490). The Band's allowance for doubtful accounts is based on an assessment of the nature of the balance and the number days the account has been receivable.

ST. MARY'S INDIAN BAND

Schedule 1 - Consolidated Expenses by Object

Year ended March 31, 2015, with comparative information for 2014

	2015	2014
Accounting and legal	\$ 10,139	\$ 59,142
Amortization	291,900	270,640
Automotive	36,013	59,625
Bad debts	28,918	13,220
Bank charges and Interest	22,644	31,073
Consulting	429,005	91,679
Education	298,055	345,658
Grants and bursaries	142,924	128,550
Honouraria	108,715	59,231
Housing	37,540	1,278
Insurance	47,736	43,320
Loss on write-down or disposal of tangible capital assets	58,228	275,769
Miscellaneous	36,851	925
Programming	264,335	321,880
Repairs and maintenance	201,381	176,106
Replacement reserve	11,461	10,673
FNGST sharing payments	39,940	13,727
Social Health and child benefits	150,829	190,423
Supplies	196,007	164,053
Telephone	12,274	21,173
Training	21,966	24,545
Travel	37,204	40,641
Utilities	53,945	61,104
Wages and benefits	2,040,933	1,940,615
	<u>\$ 4,578,943</u>	<u>\$ 4,345,050</u>

***A full report of the financial statements is available upon request at the administration office or on the ANNDc website.*

