



2019/2020 annual report

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Chief's Welcome

¬¬Ki?su?k Kyukyit qapiniski‡

What a year.

It seems like so long ago that we were hosting the Ktunaxa Nation AGA. Which I thought we did one heck of a job at, thank you to all that helped out last summer. One of my favorite memories from that gathering was seeing Dan Joe's brother Brandon Joe set up in the gym during the PowWow.

The construction of the new health facility was well underway. And some work was completed on our little road down to the other end of the Rez. We were able to finish some renovations to a few homes as well as the instillation of two point of entry water systems.

We said goodbye to some of our community members and a few new ones joined us.

The jump dance was good but at the same time we experienced many difficulties during those three nights, forewarning for the year to come.

As soon as January came it seemed as if the entire Nation started to experience loss. January and February were very difficult months as every community within the Nation had to say goodbye to loved ones.

We were starting to pay attention to something that had been in the news for a while but were we really believing that it could effect us here in the Kootenays. Of course what I am referring to is Covid, or the Coronavirus. I myself was in Vancouver in the early part of March when the **** hit the fan here in North America. I was attending a Provincial meeting of First Nation leaders talking about Shared Territories or Overlap issues, however you want to look at it, when the NBA player tested positive and everything started to shut down after that. I can say that once that started all I wanted to do was to get home. All I wanted was to be at home with Jen and Jude and the safety of our mountains.

It seems so long ago now. I have loved the way that our community came together and responded to this crisis. I know that it took a little while for people to believe that this was happening, that we needed to start to distance our selves from

our loved ones. But eventually everyone started to heed the words of Dr. Henry. And then, the Parades started. The supply parade that our staff at the school hosted was amazing. I loved being a part of that parade. My son loved being a part of that parade. And the Birthday Parade's, so much fun.

I want to say thank you to Jodi and the entire staff of our administration for the way that they have responded during these difficult times. And a huge shout out to Bonnie for the video recognizing all of our students at the end of the school year, so cool Bonnie.

I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the Black Lives Matter movement that came about during the past couple of months as well. I am very proud of our young people who have stood up to join that movement. I could not believe my ears back in June when I attended the first BIPOC rally here in Cranbrook. People in Cranbrook were yelling out as loud as they could, "Indigenous Lives Matter". That's right, people in Cranbrook were yelling out, "Indigenous Lives Matter". This movement matters and I want to encourage people to stand up with those people in Cranbrook and the rest of the world who are trying to change things for the future. The future. What does it hold? I am not sure. But I do know that we need to stay the course. This pandemic is still with us and will be for probably this next year to come. So, I will end my message by asking each and every one of you to continue to be vigilant. This too will come to an end and when it does I think the world will have changed but our mountains will still be the

Lastly, I want to acknowledge the young men who showed up at the grave yard on July 7th to help with the covering of the grave. Such a difficult final journey for our beloved Elder Mr. Herman. Thank you boys, I appreciate your strong backs and I know the family appreciates your help.

same and we will still be here.

Taxas



Administration Welcome

2019-2020

....and it ended in a worldwide pandemic. The year started out with strategizing how we would bring people together to engage on important projects such as the update to the Membership Law and ended with how we keep people apart but continue to engage membership. All and all, the year was full of accomplishments. The ?aq'am Administration and Government would like to share our appreciation to everyone who participated in another successful year. Our successes are a result of strong leadership, generous funders, hardworking staff, and a supportive community.

One of our grandest goals achieved this year was the completion of moving to a computerized document management system. Change is never easy, but our staff took it in stride – special thanks to our IT staff and their guidance in this process.

It is truly impressive to see the organizational achievements each year. We have continued to focus on capacity development and offer opportunities to all youth who show an interest in learning new skills. ?aq'am Administration continually strives to maximize the number of Ktunaxa employed with us and we recognize that in order to achieve continued success, we must focus on the next generations.

The ?aq'am Administration has earned a reputation with funders and government as a community that achieves goals and demonstrates transparency. Our efforts to ensure accountability have been recognized and I congratulate Council and staff for their efforts in earning this praise. We care for and celebrate our relationships with the Ktunaxa Nation, our family communities, our funders and partners. We are guided by the principle identified in ka kni‡wi·tiya‡a, "Unity and Co-operation" and we carry this principle forward in our internal and external efforts. Enormous thanks to our funders, Columbia Basin Trust, Teck, DISC, Emergency Management BC, The RDEK and countless others, because of you we exceeded in the project expectations that are now being reported on.

We hope the Community of ?aq'am shares in the pride we have for the accomplishments of 2019/2020.

Taxa Jodi Gravelle Chief Administrative Officer



Community Health and Wellness

Through 2019/2020, the team continued to focus on solidifying our approach to working within a collaborative care model. The collaborative care model focuses on providing supports and services to the community in a holistic whole model and it involves the provision of consultative support and holistic referrals. This model allows Social Workers, Counsellors, Nurse Practitioners, Registered Nurse's and the Health and Wellness Management to come together to bring a more comprehensive and complex case management as requested by the community members. The group gathered every second week to form care plans for the individuals and community programing.

Public Health

The health nurse ensured the provision of effective Public Health programs, such as immunizations for all ages and the "catch up program" so children are up to date with in their age group. Also provided was pre and postnatal visits and baby wellness checks. Outreach activities and health promotions were delivered to the schoolchildren and community such as a health fair's and Tuberculosis tests. We taught the grade six's about Tuberculosis and they in turn taught the grade one's. Flu clinic's were provided in November and the co- ordination and preparation for the start of the Pandemic in March.

The Home and Community Care Program

Care Plans for individuals were enhanced because of the collaborative care approach, it ensured personalized care for members as necessary. FNHA Medical Transportation benefits were available as usual but the administration of it became more stream lined. We continued to advocate helping members navigate the health care system.

Elders Program

The Elders receive a grant through NRT to complete a variety of social and recreational activities. These included a trip to Fairmont Hot Springs in February, Christmas Bingo and luncheon, swimming and soaking in the Kimberly pool is also a favorite activity of the group. The group attended the Honoring Ceremony at ?ag'amnik' School, the Annual Halloween Parade of school and daycare kids was so much fun as the Elders dressed up and handed out treats for all! Kootenai Falls trip is always enjoyed and they liked a little adventure to the senior's center in Cranbrook where they played Bingo and carpet bowling. A day trip was had to Marysville Falls and out to Jaffray to Rock creek to see the salmon spawn. These were just a few of the activities for the year.

The Home and Community Care Program

Care Plans for individuals were enhanced due to the collaborative care model and approach; it ensured personalized care for members as necessary. FNHA Medical Transportation benefits were available as usual and the administration of it became more stream lined. We continued to advocate and assist members navigate the new benefits rolled out by First Nations Health Authority and Blue Cross as well as assisted members navigate through the health care system overall.



Counselling Support

We have a counsellor on site each week. He provides individual and family counselling to community.

Family Support Worker

We created a new position in partnership with the Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Child and Family Services Society. This position will work to support families within the community.

Key Partners

Our partnerships have enabled the sharing of there expertise, resources and power. Below are a few of the groups we work closely with:

- Ktunaxa Nation, for nursing and program support also Social workers support
- First Nations Health Authority for regional practice consultants, Immunization, Pandemic and disaster support.
- Interior Health Authority for Nurse Practitioner's, public health and home care
- Our grant partners include: NRT, Columbia Basin Trust, First Nations Health Authority

Department of Operations & Community Services

Directors' Message Ki? suk kyukyit,

It has been a busy year for the team. We are now 1.5 years into the newly created Department of Operations and we have been working hard to solidify our team and make necessary changes to roles and additions of more personnel to ensure that we have the resources to continue to grow our programs and services. The new department has found that collaboration and connection as a whole has improved our abilities to provide quality programs and services to the community. We are stronger when we work together. There have been much progress toward our collective vision of Ka kniŧwi·tiyaŧa and we celebrate progress and movement as a team.

Michelle Shortridge Director of Operations & Community Services

Capital and Infrastructure Projects



?aq'am Community Health and Wellness Centre

Project partners: First Nations Health Authority, David Nairne & Associates, Silverado Industries

The construction of the New Health and Wellness Facility reached substantial completion in March. We look forward to celebrating with a grand opening in the future.

Pag'am Solar Installation

Project partners: Columbia Basin Trust, KD Electric

St. Eugene Mission Church-Restoration Phase 3 Part 2



Project Partners: Teck, Heritage BC (Columbia Basin Trust) Contracting Partnerships: Andrew Todd Conservators Ltd.

Project Value: \$ 140,000



The interior of the stained glass windows and the Stations of the Cross underwent conservation treatment in the fall of 2019. The operations team rebuilt the picket fence surrounding the church.

The final phase of the conservation work will be completed in the summer of 2020 and will include conservation treatments on the exterior side of the windows, replacement of the protective covers and refurbishing of the doors.

In Partnership with the Columbia Basin Trust's Energy Sustainability Program, we were able to construct a 22kw Solar array that sits on the roof of the new health and wellness centre. This is the first application of Solar within the community and we look forward to testing the technology.

Community Water Projects



Pilot Projects-Water Quality Treatment Point of Entry Systems (POE) & Cluster System

Project partners: First Nation Health Authority, Indigenous Services Canada, WSP (formally Opus Daytonknight) and Res'eau WaterNet (UBC)

Upon completion of the design phase on the 2 residential point of entry (POE) water systems, all services and equipment were successfully installed over the summer/fall of 2019. The systems have been operational for several months now with water quality testing happening weekly. The data is being sent to Res'eau Waternet at UBC so that we can summarize and take away lessons learned for future projects.

The cluster system design phase will have wrapped up and will be ready for application in construction.



Back-Up Well Feasibility\ Potential Expansion of Community System

Project partners: Indigenous Services Canada, WSP

Feasibility work wrapped up for the expansion of the Community Water System that presently services the ?ag'am community buildings and the St. Eugene Mission Report. The next stage of the project is the design phase, which is continuing into the summer of 2020.

Water Quality Testing

Project partners: First Nation Health Authority Semi annual water quality testing of all homes was completed in the spring of 2019 and again in the fall of 2019 as a part of the FNHA Safe Drinking Water Program. We collect a water sample from all homes and then test for contaminants such as Coliform and E. coli. Weekly water quality testing and analysis was and continues to be completed on the Small Water System that presently services all of the community buildings and St. Eugene Mission Resort.

FNADAPT: Flood and Wildfire Mitigation Study

Project partners: Indigenous Services Canada, WSP, Columbia Basin Trust WSP was engaged by ?aq'am in June 2019 to deliver the Flood and Wildfire Mitigation Study. The purpose of the study is to understand, prepare for and manage risks that an ever-changing climate poses for the ?ag'am community. The study will be completed in three phases:

Phase 1 - Data gathering and review

Phase 2 - Flood risk and hazard assessment

Phase 3 - Flood mitigation plan

Phase 1 is now complete, as WSP reviewed the available information including climate change projections, stream gauge data, LiDAR and have together with the ?aq'am Project Team, participated in the community engagement event 8 where local knowledge of flood historic events was shared.



Fire and Emergency Services Mutual Aid Agreement-City of Cranbrook

Project partner: City of Cranbrook

To support purchasing fire suppression equipment more suitable for ?aq'am needs, the fire truck was sold to the College of the Rockies firefighting training program in 2019.

Bill Munro, Fire Prevention Coordinator for the City of Cranbrook completed his Fire Safety Inspections of all ?aq'am Community buildings to ensure standards are up to code.

Community Housing

Social Housing Program-Partnership with CMHC

The Band works in partnership with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) to administer the Social Housing Program. The program provides subsidies to assist with covering mortgage payments where the rental costs (which are geared to low end of market rent and based upon tenant income) the subsidy assist with monthly payments that are not sufficient to cover the full mortgage costs.

At the end of this year December 31st, 2020 the homes in Phase 11 will be transferred, provided all transfer requirements are met.

Total Social Housing Units: 8
Mortgage Maturity: December 2020

Energy Audits-Condition Assessments

Project Partners: Columbia Basin Trust & BC Hydro Contracting Partnership: Nate Sereda-Natural Resources Canada Project Value: \$60,000

The team partnered with Energy Advisor; Nate Sereda to perform blower door testing on 57 community homes. Cordell Birdstone and Logan Casimer were trained as energy champions and can perform basic air tightness repairs in community homes. Using an asset planner software (provided by BC Housing), we collected data on each home which has provided us with the full needs/scope of work for every home that had an assessment completed. The data collected from both the Energy Audits and Condition Assessments were used to develop scopes of work for each individual home. Will be used to source out funding for renovations on community homes.

Successful Grants—Partnerships for Housing Renovations & Retrofit project

Project Partner: Natural resources Canada- \$400,000.00 Project Partner: Columbia Basin Trust- \$400,000.00

Funding secured through these grants will be used to address the current needs in community housing with the goal of bringing homes up to a healthy and safe standard as well as achieving the goal of becoming a step 3 community, in compliance with 2020 building energy efficiency standards.

The first phase of this project has gone out for tender and will commence spring 2020

Memorandum of Understanding-BC Housing

Project Partner: BC Housing, Columbia Basin Trust, Indigenous Services Canada, Shuswap Indian Band, ?akisqnuk, Tobacco Plains Indian Band.

Through the efforts and commitment of the above listed parties and the support of The Columbia Basin Trust and Indigenous Services Canada there is shared commitment to realize the asset management and capacity building vision of each Community through the Ktunaxa Shuswap Asset Management Initiative.

This MOU outlines an agreement between Ktunaxa Band's and Shuswap Indian Band and BC Housing for developing and sharing best practices in residential asset management and collaborative efforts to achieve deliverables and outcomes intended to assist with improving the quality of the existing on-reserve housing.



Energy Efficient Design Pilot project-T'sou-ke and Ts'artlip

Project Partners: Clean Technology Community Gateways, T'sou-ke, Tsartlip Project funding: Approximately \$1,130,000.00 (for all three communities)

The team at CTCG reached out to ?aq'am in hopes that we would participate in the possibility of building a pilot "demonstration" home in community that would display todays most high tech energy efficiency building models designed for our regions climate. The project will involve three Indigenous communities ?aq'am, T'sou-ke and Tsartlip will all have pilots built in their unique microclimates. Over the course of the last year, we have worked to complete and successfully receive the Indigenous Housing Initiative grant. This grant provides the team with the seed funding to begin design, part two of the grant funding apply to actual building costs.

General Band Provided Housing Services

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

- Chimney cleaning;
- Assistance with Individually Owned homes that required Well Shocking;
- Solid Waste Services;
- Fire Extinguishers and Servicing;
- Personal Home Maintenance Accounts.

- Fire Smart Assessments;
- Elders spring cleanup;
- Snow Removal;
- Assistance with applying to the FNMHF programs;





Community Initiatives and Affected Area Program

Partner: Columbia Basin Trust

We worked to streamline the delivery model for the Community Initiative Program that we administer in partnership with the Columbia Basin Trust. This includes a new application and reporting process. The program supports local projects that provide additional value to Basin communities, and that benefit the broad community and public good.

Some projects that were supported under this program included:

- Community Christmas Dinner
- Community Halloween Party and Spooktacular at Fort Steele
- Operation Christmas Elf
- Community Bingo Luncheon
- Support for ?ag'amnik' school
- Support for ?aq'amnik' summer program
- Support for ?aq'amnik' Daycare playground and greenhouse project
- Community Wood Day
- Community Gym Nights
- Honoring Ceremony
- Awards Day
- All Natives Basketball trip to Prince Rupert for youth
- Archery support
- ?ag'am Community Garden



?aq'amnik School

SCHOOL VISION STATEMENT

Achieving Excellence through Learning, Based on Individual Strengths, Passions, and Potential

Overview

?ag'amnik' School is a fully accredited British Columbia Independent School. Instruction is offered to pre-Kindergarten 4 year olds to Grade 6 students. The principle mandate is to ensure students learn both the Ktunaxa Language and Culture. Our focus is to apply The First Nations Principles of Learning to all instruction. Experiential learning is used to make education relevant and to provide a rich program for our students. Land-based learning is at the forefront of programming. The school employs: a principal, a student services teacher, a language instructor, a language coordinator, four classroom teachers, five support workers, an administrative assistant, a bus driver and a bus monitor. Paraprofessionals from Ktunaxa Kinbasket Child and Family Services Society (KKCFSS) also work regularly in the school offering counselling services, art therapy and other wellness programming.

SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

All ?aq'amnik's have a right to access equal and balanced opportunity to learn about:

- Academics (with a focus on literacy and numeracy skills)
- First Nations cultures and languages
- Self Esteem building, problem solving, and leadership
- Life skills (such as nutrition, healthy living and good choices).

Education Objectives (Strategic Plan)

- Support learners to increase participation in and completion of all levels of educational programs.
- Teach using Ktunaxa methods.
- Develop and support Ktunaxa people as teachers and other educational professionals.
- Expand grades and programs offered in the community.
- Assert, reclaim and use jurisdiction in education.
- Develop excellence through learning, at all stages of life.



Partnerships

- First Nations Schools Association
- First Nations Education Steering Committee
- ?ag'am community members
- School District #5
- College of the Rockies
- Columbia Outdoor School
- Ktunaxa Kinbasket Child and Family Services Society
- Kimberley Aquatic Center
- Kimberley Nordic Center
- UVic faculty of Education
- Breakfast Club of Canada
- Wildsight
- East Kootenay Child Care Resources and Referral
- Interior Health Authority
- Cranbrook Fire Department
- RCMP- Cranbrook Detachment
- Ktunaxa Nation Council
- Yaqan Nukiy School
- Firehall Kitchen and Tap
- The Choice



Highlights

- Well attended 6 week summer program included themed weeks with frequent day trips to local lakes and a week of overnight camping at Premier Lake Provincial Campground for participants 8+ years old
- Initiation of an After School Club operating daily from 3:15-5:00
- Purchase and installation of new playground equipment
- Implementation of weekly drumming lessons for all students and staff
- Establishment of a school Caregiver Group committing to volunteer activities including playground supervision, 1-1 reading and breakfast program baking.
- Three members of the Caregiver's Group attended workshops and training in Vancouver hosted by the First Nations School Association Parents' Club
- Participation in sporting events with School District 5 schools including participation in the second basketball and volleyball season for ?aq'amnik students
- Increased land-based learning incorporated into all classroom curriculums
- Full staff participated in and became certified in Wilderness First Aid Training hosted by COTR
- Expanded school website now includes Ktunaxa Language and Culture Resource section for families to access
- Daily breakfast for all students and community funded weekly hot lunch program initiated
- Updated Local Education Enhancement Agreement formed with SD #5 with action plans to enhance student supports through increased collaboration
- Outstanding professional development opportunities for teachers and staff with opportunity to continue to be involved in professional learning communities with other First Nations Schools located in British Columbia
- The Grade 5/6 class fundraised to attend the All Native Basketball Tournament in Prince Rupert in February
- The total school population remains above 50 students. Total school populations for the past five years: 2015/16-47, 2016/17-55, 2017/18-52, 2018/2019-55, 2019/2020-66





SCHOOL WEBSITE

www.aqamnikschool.com

?aq'amnik Daycare

Programs Philosophy:

Our programs strive to provide a rich experiential based program that enhances children's growth and self-awareness in all areas of development including mental, physical, emotional and spiritual. We encourage children to be aware of their strengths and share them with others while also learning to develop new skills. We focus on fun, hands on activities that encourage communication, leadership, problem-solving, social skills and life skills. We believe that children deserve to be treated with respect and dignity, and encourage them to participate in planning activities and programming. We believe in teaching children to respect themselves, others and all living things. We believe that connections to culture and family are instrumental in child development and strive to make Ktunaxa language and culture a central component of programming. Our programs maintain high standards for health and safety that meet or exceed those developed by relevant regulatory bodies.





The children enjoying some of the newer playground equipment. As well as taking in the neighbouring construction excitement!!

Pag'am Vision

A vibrant, healthy community, speaking our language, governing effectively and maximizing our lands and resources for the benefit of all living things and future generations, in a manner consistent with qanikit¢i (our values and principles).



Enjoying the benefits from growing their own garden.



The Gym has offered a fun new way to enjoy recreation time for the children. In addition, it has also doubled as a space for learning. The children have had the pleasure to learn about jingle dancing.



Enjoying the new language and culture centre on Friday mornings. The children are able to learn Ktunaxa & indigenous culture thru the different types of venues such as the smart board, fun movement games, circle time activities, and dancing.



The children enjoying a walk and the littles too with their new ride!

Partnerships:

Paq'amnik' Daycare continues to be licensed by the Licensing Direct of British Columbia, we work diligently to maintain licensing expectations and undergo routine inspections by the local licensing officer. We strive to exceed the expectations of the Licensing Direct rules and guidelines. As of March 10th, 2020, there was an update to the Child Care Licensing Regulations, and the staff is working diligently to read over the newest Community Care and Assisted Living Act document, to ensure that their knowledge is current with the new documentation.

The Daycare is also partnered with Child Care Resource and Referral and s use of their toy lending library and craft store at the Supported Child Development building in Cranbrook BC; Currently enrolled in the daycare is one child that receives daily support through their services, and a few other children whom have open files that receive family support at this time. During the year, we take advantage of borrowing tools from Supported Child Development that help the children during transition times in the day, and provide more visual aids; Things such as large visual timers and flip cards.

The Aboriginal Supported Child Development Centre continue to be readily available to help with any questions and/or concerns that the Daycare staff and/or families have. Currently they have open files with a couple daycare families that reached out to them for support, and we work alongside the children, families and the centre to provide as much assistance and support as we can.

We stay in touch with the local speech pathologists, who are readily available to assist us if any concerns come up. They have also extended their services to us in the form of workshops, information sheets, and phone calls to touch base with any questions and/or concerns. When and if they start working with a daycare family outside of the daycare, they give us a call or e-mail to keep us informed, and provide us with techniques in which can further help the child and family.

Another active partnership is the Dental program through interior health, where a Dental Hygienist comes into the Daycare and examines children's teeth and puts a protective sealant on them; parents sign



Always 100% turnout for participation in reflecting & learning upon the past; then looking positively toward the future.

permission form for this service ahead of time. She talks to the children about the importance of dental care in a fun and interactive way; the daycare children look forward to her visits. By providing this service, the children get comfortable with dental checkups at a very young age and start learning about dental hygiene and the importance of it.

Our Ktunaxa community partners include K4 at the ?aq'amnik' School, Head Start, Pakminuyuk services and Ktunaxa Child and Family services. We also partner with Speech Pathology and Dental Hygiene through Interior Health, and Ktunaxa Child and Family services.

East Kootenay Childcare Resource and Referral and East Kootenay Supported Child Development are also available in the community, and provide us with workshops, helpful tools and information all year round!

We stay in contact with the College of the Rockies as well, and ensure that the ECE professors know that we are always willing to support a practicum student. We also keep the professors informed of any employment opportunities that we have at our daycare.

Financial Highlights:

This year we received a couple of grants from Columbia Basin Trust. With one of those grants, we were able to purchase a new resin crawl on/through log for our outdoor ages 3-5 play space. The log was chipped upon arrival, so they sent us a second log, which arrived with a crack in it. Upon returning to daycare, after this pandemic, we will be scheduling for the company's repair man to come in a repair both logs; the company is giving us both logs, for the price of the one. Another CBT grant we received is going to help pay for the renovation of the exterior of the daycare building! We are very excited to be able to get rid of the stucco, and replace it with a more durable material for the exterior of the building.

With community initiative funding, we were able to purchase a large hexagon green house for the daycare, along with all kinds of garden tools, seeds, tables and potting supplies! With that same funding stream, we were able to purchase a new sensory table, bluetooth speakers, blue therapy lights for inside the center, new books, and some dramatic play items!

The daycare was approved through the government for the opt in program, which has helped the families with the monthly cost for a daycare space. The staff were also approved for the wage enhancement program through the government as well!

We continue to work with the daycare families and the affordable childcare benefit plan. We always suggest that every family applies, because you do not know if you are approved until you apply and find out!

There is also ASETS funding available for working and/or going to school indigenous families at the daycare.



The first day of K4, the children are very excited to be a part of the "big school." Just another year of successful beginnings and partnerships between the daycare and the school for the children.



New and exciting murals around the daycare! All of which have new and fun ways to learn and see Ktunaxa site words.

Enrollment:

Currently the daycare is at full capacity for enrollment on both the Infant side and the three to five side.

Our wait list is very lengthily and continues to grow; as infants graduate to the three to five side, we welcome new infants into the center.

Out of the sixteen enrolled children, seven of them are indigenous.

There is currently five children enrolled in the k4 program that will be graduating out of the daycare in August 2020.

Program:

On Monday mornings, we start the week with a drumming circle with Mr. Trevor and every morning we gather for Morning song as well!

Our daily routine consists of a morning circle time; on Mondays, Mr. Trevor leads them, and on Wednesdays and Fridays, Miss Kristen leads them, (Language lessons). The daycare teachers incorporate language and culture into their circle times as well, on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The daycare supplies a healthy and nutritious snack every morning and every afternoon, while the families provide the children with their lunches from home.

The daycare enjoys plenty of outdoor time every day, all year through, and love learning and exploring in the great outdoors! Every year we add to our garden area, with more fruits, vegetable and flowers and plants. We enjoy watching our baby bees hatch from their homes, and love learning about the importance of bees, while ensuring we provide them with food to continue to thrive and pollinate. We have blue mason bees and leaf cutter bees in our play yard, and we educate the children about their importance in our ability to grow and eat fruits and vegetables. We enjoy teaching the children about different sports, and ensure we have plenty of physical activities at the daycare daily.

We also enjoy many different art mediums, sensory activities, science activities and cooking with the children at the daycare!
The daycare is very child led; the teachers pay attention to what is interesting and intriguing to the children, and then find way to expand and educate on those things.

Throughout the last couple of years, the focus at the daycare has been to create a very natural play based space, with less plastics and overwhelming objects/colours, to more natural tools and toys and a space that feels and looks more like an extension of home and the outdoors! We have replaced Ikea furnishings with more natural fabric, wood and wicker furnishings and storage. We have also started replacing and purchasing natural and recycled material toys and supplies. We work diligently to have a very welcoming and inclusive daycare setting.









Drumming has been a wonderful experience and asset to the children's learning this year! It has been so inspiring that the children have found ways to do this on their own time in addition to instruction.

Staff:

There is currently five staff working at the Daycare, and a sixth on Maternity leave:

Ashley: (28 hours per week) Daycare Manager office and on floor coverage/help.

Rossini: (30 hours per week) Infant and Toddler

worker on the Infant side

Taylor: (40 hours per week) Infant and Toddler worker on the Infant side.

Kelli: (40 hours per week) Assistant Manager and Early Childhood Educator on the three to five side. Dusty: (40 hours per week) Maternity leave coverage,

Early Childhood Educator on the three to five side. Audrey: on maternity leave and returning January 2021

Taylor is currently pregnant and starting Maternity leave as of the end of July 2020.

The daycare is currently seeking and Early Childhood Educator to fill a term position from July to December 2020.

Upon Audrey's return to work in January 2021, Dusty will be taking over the maternity leave coverage for Taylor until her return in September 2021.

It is a highlight for the daycare, along with the children and families, that the ?aq'amnik daycare has maintained consistency in teachers/staff and also maintained high levels of certification! The ?aq'amnik daycare teachers strive to stay current by attending many workshops, as well as enrolling in higher education through the college. The higher the education level is of the teachers at the daycare, the more secure the daycare is!

We maintain an open invite for all practicum students to come and complete their practicum at our center.

Last summer we had a high school student complete some work/volunteer hours at the daycare, as she was wanting to experience a daycare setting, to see if she was interested pursuing a career in the field post-secondary; we welcome students with interest to do this in the future as well!

Challenges:

The challenges are fairly consistent in the Early years field: Operation costs, finding available funding specific to our needs, maintaining staff's certification (40 workshop hours every 5 years). Living in a small town can make workshop hours inconsistent, so at times, the staff must reach out and take online courses to ensure they are able to be recertified every five years; With less funding every year, the face to face workshops seem to be less and less.

The daycare currently does not have an employee on site with their bus license either, but Kelli is currently studying for hers, so hopefully soon enough that will change!

Conclusion:

Taxa

The ?aq'amnik' Daycare has maintained high quality care, that exceeds the expectations of the licensing officer, and has gone above and beyond to provide a welcoming, comfortable, and healthy space to the children and families served.

The daycare will continue to build bridges and maintain relationships with other child and family services within the community and surrounding areas. We will strive to seek out relevant funding streams and continue to pull in all relevant and useful information to our center to best support the children, families and staff.

We look forward to returning to the daycare and picking up where we left off.

May this time be mad useful by allowing us to learn new and better ways to practice in our roles upon our return!

We are grateful for the past year together, and look forward to the physical return of togetherness. In the mean time, we will stay connected, wile practicing social distancing. Grateful for video chats, e-mail, facebook, and telephones keeping us connected! Wishing everyone health!



Youth and Recreation Projects

Survey Project

Partnerships: ?aq'am community members, ?aq'amnik' School

Project Purpose: To obtain the feedback from the community in regards to the Recreation Activities for the next year.

The purpose of this projects was to conduct a Survey as a valid method for capturing the feedback from the ?aq'am Community for the development of a Comprehensive and Achievable Recreation Program Plan.

Leisure and Recreation Questionnaire Results Summary Completed and it has been incorporated into the next year recreation events and activities.

Workplan - Youth Basin

Project Partners: Columbia Basin Trust

The Band works in partnership with the Columbia Basis Trust in regards of the youth programing and recreation.

Total Social Housing Units: 8 Mortgage Maturity: December 2020

OPP Certifications

- Hiking Terrain 1
- Wilderness First Aid

Recreation Program Plan – May 2020 – December 2020

A realistic recreation plan is a key tool for broadening participation and validating the input received from our youth and other stakeholders as well(employees, parents etc). Also, the recreation plan provides the most flexibility for our youth and community members as it is a technically sound Recreation Plan, rooted in the needs of the community and implementable in the short term.

?a·k‡uqakwum ¢ ?akiki‡haqwum Language and Culture

Language and Culture goal: Fluent Ktunaxa language speakers, with strong cultural skills and knowledge.

The Language and Culture department has gone through some changes in the past year. In April 2019, Chief and Council designated the Band Hall as the new Language and Culture Centre. The team has been working on the creation of a long term Community Language and culture workplan and strategy as well as working together to collaborate more with the Language staff at ?ag'amnik' school. Our Language Consultant, Dorothy Alpine, has been on leave, taking time to care for herself but is still consulted in regards to her seat on the Language and Culture Working group as well the Language Speakers and Knowledge Holders Advisory. The Language & Culture Coordinator delivers language lessons to the infant/toddlers and children aged 3-5 at the ?ag'amnik' Daycare Centre; Kristen has taken on this role and has brought fun, new and exciting Ktunaxa resources to learn. The ?ag'am Language Consultant provided Ktunaxa Language Classes during the lunch hour on Tuesdays for Pag'am Staff and Community. She also worked closely with the Language Authority to translate the Pag'am Vision Statement, which we want visible in all ?aq'am Buildings in the future but for now, we have it in the Administration Building lobby, large boardroom, and the Pag'am Language & Culture Centre. Having the language visible in all the buildings follows objective three, which is, "immersing ourselves in Ktunaxa language and culture."

Chrystal with the guidance of Sophie Pierre applied to Ktunaxa Kinbasket Child and Family Social Sector Grandparents Grant. The goal of the grant was to deliver twelve community sessions and eight sessions in the ?aq'amnik' Elementary as well as the high school and middle schools. The overall outcome was to showcase the final product at the Annual General Assembly. The Language & Culture Coordinator and Governance Manager also held Genealogy Sessions with the Genealogy Group. Genealogy Experts like Gloria Hunter and Gina Clarricoates brought their suitcases full of documents and information used to continue work on the scrolls of family trees that the ?aq'am Membership Clerk holds. Some attendees came to gather information for their own family lineage. It was great to gather and continue this work, they were also able to prepare for the Annual General Assembly 2019 at ?aq'am where they displayed their work and assisted more people.







?a·ktuqakwum ¢ ?akikithaqwum Language and Culture

Throughout the year, the Language & Culture Staff held many events. In August, the department hosted a Harvest Camp at Noke Creek Campground up Lumberton where they harvested huckleberries, wild raspberries and the children enjoyed the natural rock water slide. June the Nations Team Lead, Community Engagement brought Inupait visitors from Alaska where the elders from both communities shared food and knowledge of each others culture. In September, ?ag'am partnered with the Education & Employment Sector and hosted students from Sparwood School, where they took part in a variety of activities lead by Knowledge Holders from the Community. In October, the elders of ?aq'am were visited by the Qw'oqw'elitha Elders Society, where they toured the community and enjoyed visiting and played BINGO. In December, the department hosted a Hide Harvest Workshop with Ktunaxa Knowledge Holders like Alfred Joseph and Julia McCrory, they shared their expertise in hide scraping, hide tanning, harvesting brains from an elk and the students from ?aq'amnik Elementary School attended and enjoyed every minute of it! Their favorite part was getting to remove the brains from the elk with their bare hands. Other events held were moccasin making, ribbon shirt/dress making, Zumba Night and beading/craft night. After being successful within our funding application to the Giving Voice Project, the ?aq'amnik' pałkiy – women's retreat project was created. The Language & Culture Staff held events over a three-month period and the women that attended the sessions were able to go to Ainsworth Hot Springs. It was such a fun and relaxing getaway for those that attended and many would like to do it again in the future.

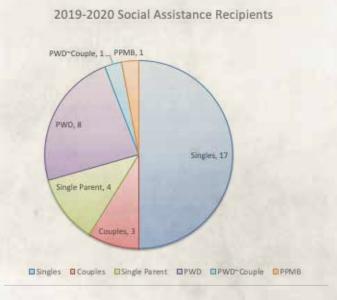




Income Assistance

This year ?aq'am's Social Assistance (SA) Program provided support to 34 Clients. Throughout the year, ?aq'am supported an average of 23 clients per month with the highest month at 28 clients and the lowest month at 20 clients.

Unfortunately, ?aq'am has mourned one too many times this year with the passing of our community members. While the loss of a loved one is still heartbreaking for families, friends, and our community, death is a natural process of life and is never easy to deal with. We assisted in four burials this year helping the deceased's family with funeral arrangements.





Burials

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Occupational Skills & Training Program

OST assists community members the opportunity to access education and training that may not be funded through other programs. This year the Fund was able to assist nine individuals. Two clients received their Traffic Control Certification, held in Creston, two received certificates for Wildfire Safety, we funded an individual that was successful in the Drone Operator course offered at the COTR Cranbrook, another recipient received funding for her licensing fees to assist in job procurement, and the possibilities are endless. The Occupation Skills & Training fund is there to assist individuals in accessing many opportunities/programs that assist with employability.

Post-Secondary Education

In 2019-2020, ?aq'am sponsored 14 students either beginning, continuing or in their final year of Post-Secondary Studies. Congratulations to all of them! Of the 14 sponsored, six students were at the certificate/diploma level; three of which achieved their academic goal; four students at the Bachelor Level; and four at the Masters Level. One of our Masters students received their degree in the early part of the year and is gainfully employed in their chosen field.

Recreation Programming





Community Wood Day

September 27, 2019 was set aside for Wood Day. With the assistance of staff, Band & Community members, volunteers, and our ?ag'amnik' Students, we cut, split, loaded and delivered over 40 loads of wood to our residents of the Reserve. The wood was donated by Canfor, Nupqu Development Corporation donated their time for the day and Silverado Industries loaned us their large dump trailer. As a community, we assisted our elders and low-income families with the firewood required to heat their homes with the onset of the colder months that were to follow.

Youth Recreational Fund

In 2019 – 2020 the ?aq'am Youth Recreational Fund assisted 16 youth so they could participate in an assortment of leisure activities, which included Skiing, Swimming, Hockey, Dance, Gymnastics and Horseback Riding.

The fund allows access to ?aq'am youth members to participate in organized sporting and recreational activities that may not be financially attainable. Our youth to the age eighteen (18) have an opportunity to participate in sport and recreational activities to promote health and physical fitness. Each Registered ?aq'am Band member or Child of a registered ?aq'am Band Member has access up to \$500.00 per fiscal year. Our Fiscal Year is April 1 to March 31 therefore multiple applications for a variety of activities may be submitted throughout the period until the maximum dollar is attained.



Community Gym Nights:

There were a number of community gym nights and activities held throughout this year.

Lands & Resource Department

St. Eugene Mission Farm Lands Specific Claim

?aq'am continues our negotiations with Canada regarding the potential settlement of the Mission Farm Lands Specific Claim. This Claim concerns Canada's failure to reserve lands for ?ag'am that ?ag'am historically used and occupied prior to and during the establishment and operation of the St. Eugene Mission (the "Mission Farmlands") run by the Oblates. ?aq'am asserts that Canada had a fiduciary duty to set aside the Mission Farmlands as reserve lands for the use and benefit of ?ag'am at the time of reserve creation in 1884.

Environmental Management Plan

Under our Land Code, ?ag'am is responsible for managing activities that have the potential to negatively impact the environment and health of the people on the land. ?ag'am's Environmental Management and Protection Plan is an operational manual used to manage risk and liabilities associated with activities that could harm the environment. The Plan reflects key environmental issues that were identified through community consultation and engagements, and it establishes guidelines and methods for environmental protection. This document was approved by Council in January 2020, following its co-development with the involvement of Lands Department staff, the Lands Committee, and leadership.

Timber Specific Claim

Paq'am continues negotiations with Canada for the 1942 Timber Surrender Specific Claim, in relation to Canada's failure to properly manage the timber on Kootenay Indian Reserve No. 1, resulting in a financial loss to Paq'am.

Ecosystem Enhancement

Year one of the five-year Ecosystem Enhancement project on the Airport Pasture Lands focused on the pre-treatment survey and inventory of values to determine treatment prescriptions. This year's Project Activities included surveys for Wildlife Species at Risk (SAR) and Habitat Values, Invasive Plant inventory, Wildlife Tree Inventory, an Archaeological Overview Assessment (AOA), Timber Recce and long-term Monitoring Plot installation. Results from these surveys informed a SAR permit application to conduct work, the draft stratification and mapping of treatment types (incl. mechanical harvest, hand brushing and no treatment). This map was made available to ?aq'am Community Members for comment by various methods.

To finalize these areas and the site plan for treatment, Block Boundary Confirmation, Road Layout and subsequent Prescription Development and will be completed in the Spring of 2020.

Community Garden

About three-quarters of the Community Garden space available was used to grow fresh veggies in the 2019 growing season. Fresh produce was available to all visitors, and potatoes were sent to the Community Pantry and ?ag'amnik' School Breakfast Club Programs. We hosted a Harvest Party for community members in September, where we all enjoyed a meal prepared from garden produce. At the event, representatives from the Kootenay Society Sustainable Living demonstrated the construction of simple in-ground, bio-intensive veggie beds. The tool shed received fresh cedar siding in the Fall. This coming season, the garden will continue to expand and diversify: beds of native cultural food plants will be planted in 2020.

Goat Grazing

Vahana Nature Rehabilitation returned to Long Prairie and Adrian Lake with 200 goats, for 21 total days of targeted grazing of invasive Sulphur Cinquefoil in the summer of 2019, marking the 5th year of this project. Pre- and post-treatment monitoring continued with encouraging results indicating that the goats effectively select for the target weeds, avoiding native grasses/herbaceous plants and suppressing the weed population long-term.

Surveys

Paq'am was able to complete 15 Canada Land Surveys this year with financial support from the Lands Advisory Board Resource Centre. These surveys were largely to facilitate Certificate of Possession transfers that have been in a state of land status error for decades.

Derelict Vehicles

36 vehicles were removed for disposal from ?aq'am lands based on voluntary citizen registration. This was our second year offering this program and we hope to continue to do so on an annual basis.

Membership Law

Community has initiated a Petition to develop a New Membership Law. Four Community Engagement Sessions have been held to date, and meetings will continue through 2020. Please participate as available and monitor the website (www.aqam.net), facebook, and your mailbox for meeting schedules.

Groundwater Study

Paq'am completed an analysis of nearly 20 years of water quality data, well and groundwater information in 2019 as part of an ongoing Aquifer Study of Kootenay IR 1. This study referenced water quality issues to their source aquifer in an effort to determine possible associations and solutions.

Wildfire Interface Projects

During the Fall/winter of 2019-2020, a number of on-reserve wildfire urban interface fuel treatments occurred within the residential area on Kootenay IR1 based on their high threat and susceptibility to wildfire. Sites were selected based on the priorities identified within the 2017 Community Wildfire Protection Plan and treatments will benefit the whole of community. Approximately 40.0 hectares were treated this year through funding provided by Community Resiliency Investment Program and the First Nations Emergency Services Society.

There were two crews employed in this project: Nupqu, and Akinmi Resources. Approximately 15 community members worked within these crews.



Wildfire Recovery Project

Paq'am completed timber salvage on the 2017 wildfire site to prevent future fuel loading and increased susceptibility to future wildfire. Ongoing site rehabilitation includes hand treatments of remaining hazards and native shrub/grass plantings.



Membership Loan details as at 31st March 2020

Name	Date of Loan	Purpose	Amount(inc interest)	Outstanding	In Arrears
Frankie Alexander	15 Feb 2019	Rent	1048.5	148.50*	No
Rod Birdstone	29 Mar 2019	Car payment	1573.13	1573.13	Yes
Isaac Birdstone	10 Jul 2019	Car tires	1171.07	866.07	Yes
Grace Joseph	19 Jul 2019	Car	1573.12	23.12*	No
Crystal Williams	19 Jul 2019	Cell phone	588.02	0	No
Pauline Arnold	19 Dec 2019	Winter Tires	1087.78	1087.78	No

^{*} zero balance just after year-end. Member loans that either were authorized in 2019/20 or were still active during that period.

2019-2020 Annual Report (Finance)

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

Name	Position	Months	Salary/ Remuneration	Other Remuneration (Note 1)	Travel (Notes 2)	Total
J Pierre	Chief	12	24,970	6,749	1,531	33,250
V Thomas	Councillor	12	18,727	4,681	2,218	25,806
C Morigeau	Councillor	12	18,727	2,861	1,204	22,792
J Birdstone	Councillor	12	18,727	3,886	988	23,601
J Andrew	Councillor	12	18,727	5,191	1,808	25,726
Total			99,878	23,548	7,749	131,175

Senior Management salaries, travel expenses and other remuneration paid

Position	Months	Salary	Other remuneration (Note 1)	Travel (Note 2)	Total
Chief Administrative Officer	12	107,000	17,951	416	125,367
Director of Finance	12	95,000	18,034	0	113,034
Total	APP.	202,000	35,985	416	238,401

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, employer CPP and EI contributions and remuneration from Paqam entities.

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. Some, or all of which may have been reimbursed by another organization.

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		
Jennifer Pierre		Yes	Contractor	100%

Family member employed

Name	Employee Name	Relationship	96
Codie Morigeau	S Morigeau	Sister-in-law	
Codie Morigeau	Andrew Fletcher	Son	
J Birdstone	C Birdstone	Son	
J Andrew	M Shortridge	Sister	

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)

?AQAM

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2020, with comparative information for 2019

		2020	2019
Financial Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents (note 2) Restricted cash and cash equivalents (note 2) Accounts receivable (note 3) Investments (note 4) Investment in business enterprises (note 5)	\$	1,755,395 12,203,870 570,640 500,115 3,212,766	\$ 390,177 8,604,091 1,218,995 5 2,408,000
		18,242,786	12,621,268
Liabilities			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Deferred revenue (note 6) Term debt (note 7) Replacement reserve (note 8)		1,092,112 1,567,398 32,575 33,523	553,145 1,165,847 75,630 30,150
		2,725,608	1,824,772
Net financial assets	***************************************	15,517,178	10,796,496
Non-Financial Assets			
Tangible capital assets (note 9)		13,572,851	10,350,803
Prepaid expenses and deposits		240,573	142,962
		13,813,424	10,493,765
Accumulated surplus (note 10)	\$	29,330,602	\$ 21,290,261

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

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

On behalf of the Chief and Council:

Chief

Chair of Finance and Audit Committee

Director of Finance

Consolidated Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus

Year ended March 31, 2020, with comparative information for 2019

		2020			
		Budget		2020	2019
		(note 1(h))	933		
Revenue:					
Transfers from other governments:					
Indigenous Services Canada	\$	3,404,047	\$	3,158,220	\$ 2,789,755
Province of British Columbia	•	1,010,424		1,136,915	1,219,448
First Nations Health Authority		3,680,366		3,617,420	874,768
Ktunaxa Nation Council		62,890		140,274	131,714
First Nations Goods and Service Tax		261,080		256,032	290,846
British Columbia First Nations Gaming		201,000		200,002	200,010
Limited Partnership				342,176	
Grants		2,010,478		1,286,053	991,981
Impact Management and Benefit Agreement		3,438,731		3,444,105	2,437,972
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation		20,580		18,407	41,417
		68,000		69,684	66,873
Property taxation, net of homeowners' grants User fees					243,288
		246,665		255,092	
Social housing rent		50,000		47,123	49,853
Rent and lease		106,915		239,113	112,700
Interest		203,922		246,693	157,470
Other		408,499		550,352	351,825
Equity in earnings (loss) of business					
enterprises (note 5)		11070 507		11,766	(64,373)
Expenses (Schedule 1):		14,972,597		14,819,425	9,695,537
Administration		953,187		1,013,242	820,337
		549,130		587,639	541,590
Education					
Elementary School		1,015,879		1,113,063	942,588
Social Development		245,953		296,315	209,519
Maintenance of Facilities		1,214,557		801,856	626,371
aqamnik Daycare		240,000		263,765	273,309
Community Services		641,040		465,745	504,078
St. Eugene Church Restoration Society		177,546		86,178	21,443
Taxation		53,000		1,882	21,931
Lands and Resource Management		1,678,338		1,298,210	1,230,862
Social Housing Program		85,548		81,028	108,650
Water System		31,836		22,785	37,333
Language, Culture and Community		221,525		182,320	140,138
Capital		513,545		552,284	421,242
National Child Benefit		33,803		12,772	26,330
		7,654,887		6,779,084	5,925,721
Surplus	\$	7,317,710		8,040,341	3,769,816
Accumulated surplus, beginning of the year				21,290,261	17,520,445
Accumulated surplus, end of year			\$	29,330,602	\$ 21,290,261

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

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Consolidated Statement of Changes in Net Financial Assets

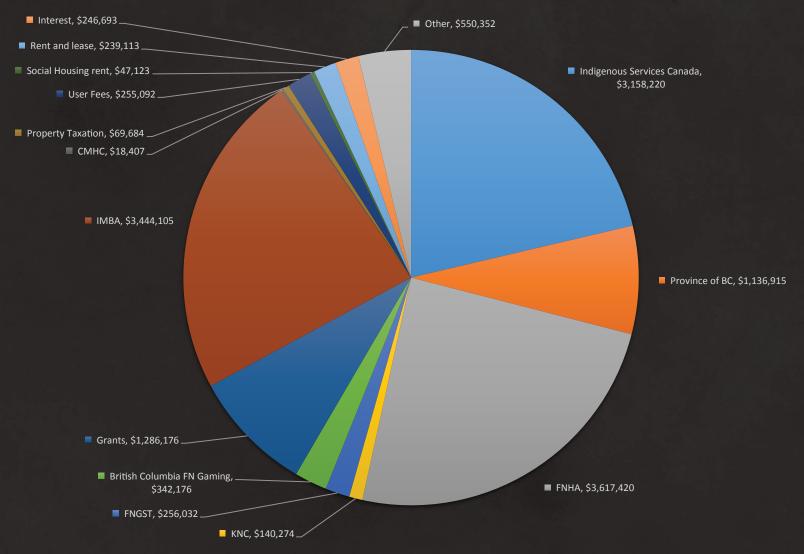
Year ended March 31, 2020, with comparative information for 2019

	2020 Budget		2020	2019
	(note 1(h))	Ī	2020	2019
Surplus	\$ 7,317,710	\$	8,040,341	\$ 3,769,816
Changes to non-financial assets: Acquisition of tangible capital assets Amortization of tangible capital assets Net book value of tangible capital assets	(4,849,346) 513,545		(3,775,889) 552,154	(1,063,982) 441,308
disposed or written down Tangible capital assets transferred to a business enterprise			1,687 -	16,839 1,210,660
	(4,335,801)		(3,222,048)	604,825
Acquisition of prepaid expenses and				
deposits Use of prepaid expenses and deposits			(240,573) 142,962	(142,962) 219,195
Water Control of the Control	-		(97,611)	76,233
Increase in net financial assets	\$ 2,981,909		4,720,682	4,450,874
Net financial assets, beginning of year	30		10,796,496	6,345,622
Net financial assets, end of year		\$	15,517,178	\$ 10,796,496

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

the full audited financial statements are available on ?aq'am.net or by request at ?aqam administration building.

?aqam Revenue Sources 2019-20



?aqam Expenditures 2019-20

