

2024-Q1

# SPLATSIN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

## QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



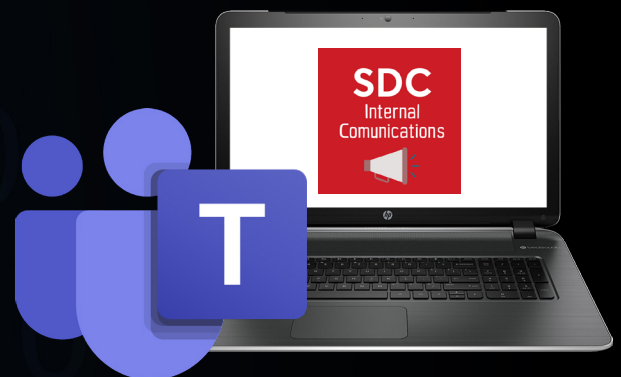
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### DISCOVER THE SDC INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS TEAMS CHANNEL!

This channel is dedicated to announcing internal SDC news and hosting related discussion.

Join the conversation, visit: [bit.ly/3QdgCVS](https://bit.ly/3QdgCVS)



## A MESSAGE FROM PAUL RASMUSSEN SDC INTERIM CEO

Hello Team SDC!

I've just read over the material in this edition of the quarterly newsletter, and I'm "all fired up!" There is so much work going on at SDC, so many good people working with us, and some fun things happening too!

2024 is already shaping up to be a busy and productive year, which is great! Personally, I'm enjoying my time with SDC, as Interim CEO, and I love being a part of the SDC Board, I'm learning a lot from them. We have a very engaged Board; they are super talented, and supportive of our staff.



In mid-February, the SDC Board will be spending a day to work on SDC's Strategy. Some of the topics we'll likely be working on:

- Review and discuss previous strategic direction, and how the company is performing, generally.
- Review/update/confirm SDC company Vision and Mission, as well as goals and priorities for 2024, and beyond.
- Discuss SDC organizational development. For example: building SDC's capacity to effectively complete our work and supporting our staff (including HR and Safety programs).
- Discuss specific policies, procedures or processes needed in 2024, to improve effectiveness/efficiency and profitability of SDC.
- Discuss SDC communications, including opportunities to improve engagement with the Splatsin community.

I'd like to finish this note, by thanking our staff and managers, for taking the time to provide thoughtful and interesting material for this newsletter. **It's clear: SDC does great work**, and we have awesome people working in the company!

I hope you'll enjoy (like I did) all the great submissions, photos and information contained in this quarter's newsletter!

Sincerely,



# A DAY WITH THE CULTURAL AND HERITAGE TEAM

Take a look at the dedicated efforts from the Yucwmenlúcwu Culture and Heritage Team on a recent winter season job site.



# FORESTRY UPDATE



A hook truck makes an afternoon firewood delivery to the Splatsin gravel pit. In the fall of 2023, two truckloads of firewood (the equivalent of about 25 cords) were donated by Yuc Forestry and the Monashee Community Forest to the Splatsin Community Firewood Program. Tolko and Interfor also donate annually to this program.



Joshua Williams gets innovative while pile burning in the Monashee Community Forest and uses his baby backpack carrier to carry his propane tank. Yucwmenlucwu Forestry burned 356 debris piles in October and November of 2023.

Harvesting equipment takes a break while Yucwmenlucwu Forestry staff inspect log quality in the Monashee Community Forest (MCF). Approximately 17,000m<sup>3</sup> of timber was harvested across three blocks in the MCF in 2023.



## FESBC Project

Yucwmenlucwu (Caretakers of the Land) LLP is happy to report that our application to the Forest Enhancement Society of British Columbia (FESBC) for full fibre utilization **was approved** on December 21, 2023.

This project will provide supplemental funding to produce biologs (processed into pellets for heating) for Pinnacle Renewable Energy Inc. from our Trinity Valley - Replaceable Forest License A98363 CP001 and CP002 blocks, consisting of approximately 4,000 cubic metres.

Biologs will be produced by harvesting contractors Balcaen and DR Moore under our existing log purchase contracts for A98363 CP001 and CP002 with Tolko. The biologs will be hauled by the logging contractors to Drax - Lumby where they will be scaled.

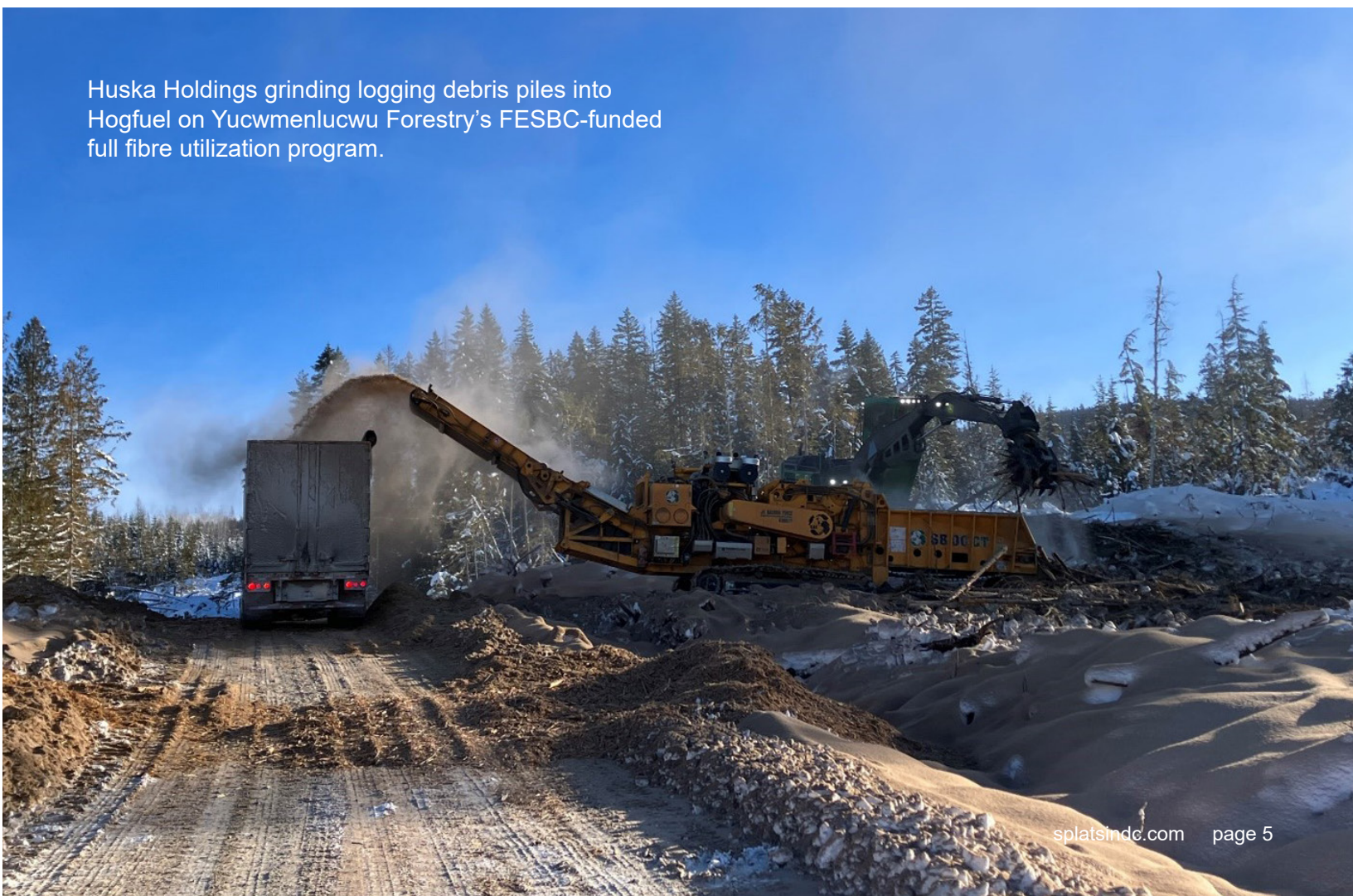
This grant will also provide supplemental funding to grind the remaining logging debris from our A98363 CP001 and CP002 blocks as well as Tolko Forest Licence Blocks in the Trinity Valley area. Grinding will be completed by Huska Holdings and supervised by Jesse Grigg, Senior Forestry Technician with Yucwmenlucwu and with support from Tolko.

The ground material (hog fuel) will be hauled by a subcontractor, Nata Farms to Tolko Armstrong Cogen where it will be scaled. The Yuc Forestry team is in the process of finalizing the fibre purchase and payment contracts associated for biologs with Pinnacle Renewable Energy and hog fuel to Tolko Industries Ltd.

The total estimated volumes recovered for this project equal 18,000m<sup>3</sup> of grinding and 4,000m<sup>3</sup> of biologs.

Promisingly, Forest Enhancement Society of BC has requested that Yuc Forestry should apply this quarter for 2024/2025 funding and indicated that they look forward to working with us further in the future.

Huska Holdings grinding logging debris piles into Hogfuel on Yucwmenlucwu Forestry's FESBC-funded full fibre utilization program.





## RESIDENTIAL & LIGHT CONSTRUCTION

The Yucwmenlúcwu Residential & Light Construction team continues to work hard on the St. Mary's Church Renovation Project. The renovation is moving along nicely and is on schedule and recent progress includes the installation of a new heat pump. The featured photos show Patrick Shandrowsky and Clint Felix working on insulation installation, which is now complete.

In other news, Clint Felix is attending his Level One Carpentry course at TRU and we have brought back Steve Antoine to assist with project work while Clint is attending training.





## QUILAKWA CANCO CLOTHING LINE

Quilakwa Canco has recently launched a new Quilakwa clothing apparel line. We're excited to unveil three graphic designs: "The Valley", "The Cliffs", and "The Eagle".





## CIVIL CONSTRUCTION

**Featured in these photos:** The Civ Team working at Blake Pit for the Yuc Archeology department! Our guys are actively moving dirt and creating space for the upcoming work.







## X-MAS OPEN HOUSE



On the afternoon of Friday, December 8, 2023 SDC and Yuc hosted an X-mas Open House in the SDC Boardroom for all team members. This fun event featured an assortment of food, snacks, beverages, and games!





Team Building with Nik Vishschraper, Xanthia Gonzales, Annette Christian, Ashley Tarves, and Bryce Tarves: "Quilakwa Skillakwa" successfully escaped from the Wizard's Academy escape room!



## QUILAKWA INVESTMENTS

More improvements are underway at Quilakwa Centre!  
Featured: photos of construction taking place inside.





# ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT


Construction of the crane pad for instream pile driving on the North bank of the Shuswap River (January 2024)

## Baxter Bridge Replacement Project

The old wooden, single-lane Baxter Bridge across Shuswap River at Ashton Creek on Trinity Valley Road will soon be replaced. The BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) awarded the contract to Formula Contractors Ltd. to construct a new steel and concrete span that is expected to be completed in the spring of 2026. Yucwmenlúcwu (Caretakers of the Land) LLP has been involved in the assessment and identification of archaeological values and potential environmental impacts related to the project during pre-construction phases of the project over the past six years.

Yucwmenlúcwu is supporting the construction phase of the project with field technicians and cultural monitors on site throughout the duration of the project, which also includes decommissioning of the old bridge and creation of new wetland habitat adjacent to the Shuswap River.

Yucwmenlúcwu Environment and Archaeological Departments have been contracted by Formula and MoTI respectively to ensure protection of the environment and conservation of the cultural and archaeological history and values that exists instream and adjacent to the Shuswap. Yucwmenlúcwu technicians are working collaboratively with Sage Environmental Consulting Ltd. to complete daily environmental monitoring and reporting and to ensure that Formula adheres to all applicable environmental legislation, permits, and mitigation that is aimed at protecting the biophysical, cultural and archaeological values within the project area.



Water quality and hydroacoustic monitoring equipment being used to identify and report on environmental conditions during instream works.



Conducting aerial Kokanee spawner counts on Arrow Lakes Reservoir. Photo by Shanon Basil.

### Fish and wildlife stewardship work continues in the Columbia region.

2024 will be the 5th year Yucwmenlúcwu has been involved with the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program (FWCP). The FWCP is an organization funded by, but separate from, BC Hydro. It was created to compensate for the impacts experienced by fish and wildlife due to BC Hydro dams. There are 3 regions covered by the program, the Coastal, Columbia, and Peace. Along with the Ktunaxa and Syilx Okanagan, the Secwépemc Nation supports FWCP Annual Ongoing Projects in the Columbia region which includes the North Columbia and the East and West Kootenays. Yucwmenlúcwu has been involved in numerous projects over the years several of which will continue in 2024. These include monitoring the nesting success of Common Loon on Whatshan Lake, predator tracking surveys in the Selkirk Mountains, helicopter Kokanee spawner surveys and Angler Surveys on Upper Arrow Reservoir, Moose surveys in Revelstoke, Western Toad monitoring at Summit Lake, and Spawning Channel operations at Hill Creek. New to the program in 2024 will be limnology trawl monitoring on Upper and Lower Arrow Reservoir and possible Kokanee spawner ground counts.

Being involved on these initiatives allow Yucwmenlúcwu to build capacity, share expertise, and actively keep a finger on the pulse of fish and wildlife health in Arrow Reservoirs and surrounding areas. The FWCP also has a capacity development fund which has been used to provide technicians with boat safety and operator certification, first aid training, and snowmobile operator training. Yucwmenlúcwu as a representative of Secwépemc Nation, along with the Ktunaxa and Syilx Okanagan have recently advocated for a change of wording in the capacity development definition to include training using traditional methods from Indigenous Knowledge Keepers and will present this to the FWCP board in 2024. Yucwmenlúcwu preserves Splatsin te Secwépemc values by conducting annual grant reviews to ensure proposed projects in the Splatsin Area of Caretaker Responsibility have adequate communications, notification, and meet the Splatsin standards of stewardship. Although only reaching into the Eastern part of the Splatsin Area of Caretaker Responsibility, the FWCP has, and continues to provide diverse opportunity for Yucwmenlúcwu technicians to gain skills and influence fish and wildlife initiatives going forward in the name of stewardship and conservation.

## SAFETY UPDATE

We the New Year upon us, the Safety team is gearing up for another exciting season in the field for multiple departments and projects.

Safety is working to provide you with the tools and courses to make your job safer and give you the opportunity to increase your knowledge. In the upcoming weeks there will be training provided for Snowmobile Safety, ATV/UTV Safety along with in-house OFA Level 1 certification for those with certification expiring in the next few months. In addition, there will be other opportunities and courses presented as needs arise.



Safety has been busy making site visits and checking on our crews that are out in the field. Here, Adam Christian and Tony Antoine are at the Fauquier Boat launch inspecting the breakwaters on a BC Hydro project.

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW SPLATSIN CHIEF AND COUNCIL

The official results are now in for the Splitsin election for Kukpi7 and Tkwamipla7 (Chief and Council) held on January 22, 2024.

Michael (Mike) Christian has been elected as Splitsin Kukpi7 (Chief) and Vikki Tronson, Phyllis Jezewsky, Crystal Morris, Miranda Kimbasket, and Edna Felix have been elected to the position of Tkwamipla7 (Councilor).



*Left to right: Tkwamipla7 Phyllis Jezewsky, Tkwamipla7 Vikki Tronson, Kukpi7 Mike Christian, Tkwamipla7 Miranda Kimbasket, Tkwamipla7 Crystal Morris, and Tkwamipla7 Edna Felix.*

The swearing-in of the new Chief and Council took place on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. at the Splitsin Community Centre. The newly elected Council are now in office and working hard to advance the Splitsin community. SDC congratulates those elected and everyone involved in the election!