

RUBY CREEK ART GALLERY OPEN HOUSE A SUCCESS



Mike Bellegarde, Skawahlook's Economic Developer and Gallery Manager, created an event so well received this year that it's been decided to host it annually! With the help of the Skawahlook administration team, all of the art was hung and displayed in the hall for a Gallery Gala/Open House. Git Hayetsk dancers performed, art by Mike Dangeli and Pascal Pelletier was featured, and NK'mip wine was served with delicious appetizers.

It was a great night of shopping and socializing, drawing a crowd all the way from Hope to Vancouver.

Keep your eyes open for next year's event. We promise it will be one you won't want to miss!

To make sure you don't miss it, sign up for Ruby Creek Art Gallery's eNewsletter by contacting Mike at mike@skawahlook.com or call 604-796-9129.

**Photo by TourismHOPE*

ELDER'S PHOTOS ON DISPLAY



It was requested by the membership at the gathering in April that Skawahlook display portraits of our Elders. At that time a professional photographer was hired to take headshots of the Elders. These photos have recently been framed and exhibited in the hall.

At the following community gathering in November, it was expressed that the Elders would like to see pictures of all parts of the family. Members are now encouraged to submit photos via email or post, and we would be happy to print and display these images. Please contact Emily at 604-796-9129 or emily@skawahlook.com.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS



Skawahlook boasts a beautiful hall and stunning gazebo, tucked in-between majestic mountains and the Fraser River. It's a destination that many are willing to travel to because of its beauty and peacefulness.

We have recently worked with consultant, Liv Kosub, to redo our holiday decorations, making the hall even more enchanting than before.

If you are interested in booking the hall for your upcoming events, please contact Mike at mike@skawahlook.com or call 604-796-9129.



A message from your Council, Debra Schneider

Well we are approaching my favourite time of year. This year, 2014, has been a busy year for the Lands Department!

With the help of the Lands Advisory Committee, we have worked on a Land and Environmental Policy, Development Permitting Guide, and various bylaws. This work is to help Skawahlook First Nation operate in a responsible way that helps to protect our land.

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) had a Section 50 sale on the late Edward Chapman Senior's estate and Skawahlook First Nation was successful in obtaining this parcel of land. In doing this, it helps the community to have access to more land for future development.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a blessed Christmas season, and a very prosperous New Year!



WINTER 2014

Sq'ewá:lwx First Nation Skawahlook



A message from the Chief: Maureen Chapman



Happy Holidays to you and your family!

As we wrap up 2014 and move into a brand new year, it is with new hope and encouragement we continue to build on the initiatives and projects started this year.

Every year, the importance of family becomes stronger in our hearts and minds. It is a time to reach out to those less fortunate and share what our good Creator has blessed us with.

We continue to face challenges in our work for the community but, it is the strength of family and our beliefs in each other, that sustain our efforts. A special note of appreciation to our staff for their continued commitment and dedication to the community vision.

Enjoy a safe and happy holiday season and we look forward to seeing you in 2015!

REMEMBRANCE DAY AT STO:LO NATION

Submitted by Julie Lungal

It was a very respectful ceremony and procession to the Cenotaph this year for Remembrance Day. All the Sto:lo warriors' names were read aloud. As the roll call was read, it was a time to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country as well as a time to honor those who came home and were not given the respect they deserved. I was proud to be there to hear the names of Skawahlook members called. A beautiful morning.



CONTACTS

Skawahlook First Nation
58611A Lougheed Highway
Agassiz, B.C. V0M 1A2
604-796-9129 ☎
www.skawahlook.com 📍
www.facebook.com/SkawahlookFN

Sto:lo Nation Health (Carmen Mclachlen)
604-858-3366

Skawahlook Member Services
Alyssa Conkin alysa@skawahlook.com

Skawahlook Education Inquiries
Debra Schneider debra@skawahlook.com

Administrator
Sharron Young sharron@skawahlook.com

Project Coordinator, Genealogy Lead
Emily Sayward emily@skawahlook.com

AANDC
Infopubs@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca
or 1-800-567-9604

Status Card Information
Leona Sam 604-824-3268

You've Been Framed (On-site Frame Shop)
604-796-0959

Ruby Creek Art Gallery
604-796-0740



STÓ:LŌ BUSINESS MATCH A SUCCESS

This year Debra Schneider, Sharron Young, and Mike Bellegarde attended the Stó:lō Business Match on behalf of Skawahlook First Nation. It was held over two days at the Ramada Inn in Abbotsford.

Debra attended the Penticton Business Match meeting last year but states that she preferred this one. "For the most part, it's local Stó:lō businesses represented, and that's great," she says.

The Ruby Creek Art Gallery set up a booth selling items with other vendors which did very well. Mike is excited about the contacts he made for future economic developments. All agree this was a very successful event, smoothly run and extremely beneficial.

HYDRO RUN MOVING FORWARD

HydroRun is developing technology that generates reliable, affordable, base-load electricity from the natural flow of rivers. No dams, no diversions, no harm to ecosystems and no interruption to existing businesses or recreational activities.

Two years ago, HydroRun approached Skawahlook and proposed a collaboration: HydroRun would install a prototype generator in the Fraser River in Skawahlook territory, and in turn, Skawahlook would benefit from the power it would produce.

The generator was scheduled to be installed this past summer, but unfortunately the province of B.C. is three months behind in issuing permits.

HydroRun is being proactive by briefing Skawahlook's neighbours so the process is



not halted when the government is ready to proceed. HydroRun is continuing to refine the machinery and the minute the permits are granted, they will be ready to go. Skawahlook is excited about this collaboration.



Work by local artist Pascal Pelletier



A GAZEBO FIT TO DRAW A CROWD

In May, 2014, it was requested by Chief Maureen Chapman and Councillor Deb Schneider that a gazebo be built on the Skawahlook property. As the hall rentals have increased, it was proposed that the gazebo would be a draw for outdoor weddings, as well as a fun place for tourists to stop for lunch and browse through the gallery.

Passionate, talented, local woodworker, Denis Janvier, was hired to build this custom designed 14' wide gazebo.

Pascal Pelletier, one of the Art Gallery's popular artists, was commissioned to carve

two 3D salmon.

Completed now and fitted with lights and power, this gazebo is better than was originally imagined.

Please stop by and take a look. For now, use your imagination to envision what it will be like next Spring once the grass is planted around it and it is completely landscaped. It will be spectacular!

Help us spread the word that this beautiful gazebo is now another reason you should consider hosting your next event here!

SKAWAHLOOK HOSTS MEMBERSHIP GATHERING



Many gathered on November 1st for a Community Meeting. It was a well attended event and was great to share a meal and see everyone.

A clip from the Elders' video, that Debra Schneider has been working on with Bear Images was shown. The full length movie is slated to be complete by Spring 2015 and will be available to our members at that time.

Other business such as naming the hall was discussed.

It was wonderful to see the lovely knit items by the talented Gladys Paul, and the pictures

and artifacts brought in by Margaret George.

Skawahlook's Project Coordinator, Emily Sayward, has been working on building the Chapman Family Tree. She was able to sit down with many people at the gathering and collect valuable information. With their help she was able to add an additional 60 people!

At this point, the genealogy has facts for nearly 500 people spread over 8 generations.

We would like to encourage at least one person per family to call the office and confirm details or fill in missing information with Emily over the next couple of months.

"Watching and listening to the Elders' video reminded me how important it is to preserve our shared history. Even though people's paths may have been very different, we still share the common thread of belonging to the same family."

- Julie Lungal



Your information is very valuable to us! Please call the office, or email Emily at emily@skawahlook.com.



A beautiful, foggy, fall day



New trash bins around the office



View of the area from Cheam Mountain

OFFICE UPDATES COMPLETE

The rebranding and updating of the Skawahlook Office and area is complete. The striking colours of the new logo are now seen around the building as well as a neutral grey in the common areas.

The logos have been updated and the replacement of the signage is on its way. New road signs will be going up shortly.

If you're in the area, stop by! The building is looking gorgeous!

