

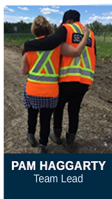


**NEWSLETTER**  
OCTOBER 2020

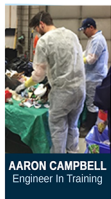
# Sustainable Communities: Meet the Team!



**AMANDA DOYLE**  
Director of Lands  
and Environment



**PAM HAGGARTY**  
Team Lead



**AARON CAMPBELL**  
Engineer In Training



**TOM KINDERWATER**  
Engineering Support



**ALEX LAFORCE**  
Youth Outreach  
Coordinator

## SERVICE AREAS

TSAG's Sustainable Communities team supports First Nations as they work towards improved solid waste management in their community. Our staff work with solid waste site operators and managers to understand current needs and will help to address those needs through training, planning, technical advisory services, and/or community education and outreach.

We have two technical service area streams as outlined below:

### SOLID WASTE TECHNICAL SERVICES

#### INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

##### CAPITAL PROJECT SUPPORT

- Request for Proposal
- Project Coordination
- Design & Operations Review
- Progress & Completion

##### OTHER TECHNICAL SERVICES SUPPORT

- Dumpsite Clean-Up Planning & Project Coordination
- Waste Collections
- Site Operations Review & Planning

#### FACILITATION & ENGAGEMENT SYSTEM REVIEW

- Service Agreements
- Data Collection - Survey

#### COMMUNITY BASED DECISION MAKING

- Interdepartmental Working Group
- Solid Waste Management Plan

#### DIVERSION & RECYCLING SUPPORT

#### MEASURING & MONITORING

- Waste Characterization and Auditing

#### COMMUNICATIONS

- Print Material & Workshops

#### OPERATOR TRAINING

If you are interested in requesting or learning more about available supports or training please contact: Pam Haggarty at 780-935-4042 or [phaggarty@tsag.net](mailto:phaggarty@tsag.net) or Aaron Campbell at 403-350-5399 or [acampbell@tsag.net](mailto:acampbell@tsag.net)



## Operator Training

Despite the COVID-19 outbreak essential services have not slowed down in the Nations. In fact the waste transfer stations have been busier than ever. Samson Operator Kole Buffalo believes, "with more people staying at home they are cleaning up inside and outside the home, we have seen a big increase in old appliances and mattresses." Appliances like fridges, freezers, water coolers and air conditioners all contain refrigerant that if released into the air can be harmful to the environment.

Over an intensive two-day course, Samson Operators will be trained in refrigerant recovery and ozone depleting substances. Leave it to the professionals and recycle that old fridge by taking it to your local transfer station.

To date, operators from the following communities have participated in this training: Atikameg, Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, Louis Bull Tribe, Montana First Nation, O'Chiese First Nation, Siksika Nation, Tsuut'ina Nation, Stoney Nakoda Nation, Whitefish Lake First Nation #128.

## Alberta Recycling Management Authority (ARMA) and Recycling Program

On October 15, Dave Souch, Field Inspector for ARMA, provided Transfer Station Basics course participants from Enoch Cree Nation and Alexander First Nation with a workshop on recycling collections best practices and the new expanded electronics recycling program. ARMA acts on behalf of the province to oversee all aspects of end-of-life processing of electronics, paint, tires, and used oil materials.



<http://www.albertarecycling.ca>

## Community Liaison—Capital Projects UN Green Corps



Left to right: Bobby Paul Collections Operator, JJ Arcand Site Operator, Lyndsay Yellowdirt Community Liaison

Alexander First Nation has hired a community liaison to support two environmental capital projects to improve solid waste management and water quality. The liaison will work with the project management teams as well as the solid waste management staff, administrative departments and community members to improve waste diversion and stewardship practices through a holistic and cultural approach. The United Nations Green Corps program is part of the STEM, (science, technology, engineering and math) Intern Program funded by Environment and Climate Change Canada, which provides employment opportunities for youth aged 18—30. Learn more about the program:

<http://www.unac.org/green-corps>

## Youth and School Programming

Our Youth Outreach Coordinator facilitates and supports environmental stewardship teaching and hands-on experiential learning for First Nation classrooms in Alberta. Presentations and activities revolve around addressing waste diversion (finding better solutions for 'garbage' than landfills, like recycling and composting). We offer classroom presentations as well as more in depth-learning exercises.



**IN-CLASSROOM PRESENTATIONS** (for grades K – 12) to bring attention to the current global waste crisis, some of the local challenges we all face, and how we can address them by being better "Earth Keepers"; a new generation of Indigenous youth caring for the land that has been theirs to protect and steward since time immemorial.

**OUR EARTH KEEPERS COLOURING AND ACTIVITY BOOKS** (available here as a .pdf, or by delivery in-person hardcopy) provides lower grade levels (K - 3rd) with fun, educational activities that focus on environmental stewardship. For something more, please enquire directly with our Outreach Coordinator for extended hands-on learning opportunities for grades 3 and under.

**GET RECYCLING HAPPENING AT YOUR SCHOOL** (waste diversion opportunity exploration, grades 4 - 12) - Would your class(es) like to discover the recycling opportunities that can take place on your school campus? Our Outreach Coordinator will lead a mini-waste audit with students; to 'discover' the best options for diverting waste from the landfill to recycling. See the KTCEA schools in action on the next page.



**UNAUTHORIZED DUMPSITE MAPPING** (Grade 8 and up) - utilizing cutting edge spatial data technology; students will participate in a crash course in digital mapping and solid waste management, download the App to their phones and then we'll head out to locate, geotag, photograph and gather data on any dumpsite we can find. Once all the data has been collected a final interactive presentation will show students different analysis that can now be done to inform remediation and prevention planning.

**ELECTRONICS ROUND-UP FUNDRAISER** - have your school host an event to collect used, old and broken electronics from around the community, save them from going into the landfill and get the school some cash while doing it! Our Outreach Coordinator can assist students with planning, organization, and implementing a round up. We can also add to the learning experience with a presentation tailored to why and how we recycle electronics globally. This event can also be partnered with a larger community event

If you are interested in booking or learning more about the youth program options contact Alex La Force at 778- 899-5713 or [alaforce@tsag.net](mailto:alaforce@tsag.net)

# KTCEA—ABCRC – TSAG Program Partnership

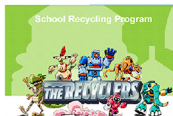


*ka na chitatan  
kitaskeenan  
"Caring for  
Mother Earth"*

First Nations schools are eager to participate in diversion programs available to them. There are already great initiatives underway in the Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council Education Authority (KTCEA) schools. For example, Atikameg School has made some great strides toward waste diversion and has implemented diversion programming for refundable beverage containers, paper and cardboard in the classrooms as well as plastics and metal from the school's kitchen.

## **"Engage students in learning about sustainable waste management practices, build capacity through education and training"**

To this end, Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation (ABCRC) and TSAG have engaged in a collaborative pilot project to support the development of a waste diversion program that will become part of the school community in both theory and practice.



The ABCRC Community Champions Program provided funding for indoor and outdoor collection bins. Learn more about the ABCRC school <https://albertadepot.ca/programs/school-recycling-program/>

and community programs  
<https://albertadepot.ca/programs/ccp/>

A special shout out to our Youth Coordinator, Alex La Force, who coordinated the ABCRC community champions grant, ordering and delivering over 13,000 lbs of bins! Congratulations to all six school campuses for taking a leadership role for waste diversion in your community!

### **KTCEA SCHOOL COMMUNITIES:**

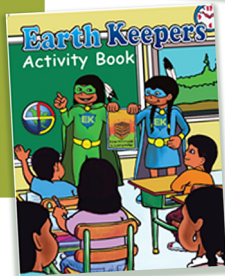
Atikameg School  
Cadotte Lake School  
Clarence Jaycox School  
Little Buffalo School  
Kateri School  
Elizabethtown Quintal School

## Earth Keepers Volume 2

We are excited to share our newest edition of Earth Keepers. As Earth Keepers we are all responsible for protecting our Mother Earth. TSAG created this activity book to teach students and their parents the 6 Rs of Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Recover.

Earth Keepers is a program that educates youth about waste diversion, safe management of hazardous waste, the environmental impact of unauthorized dumping and the dangers of burning waste. This activity book will be available soon on the <http://www.tsag.net> website. You can download a pdf of Volume One at: <http://www.tsag.net/earthkeepers.html>

Or try some online colouring at: [http://scrapcoloring.com/convert-images-to-coloring-pages?image=EK\\_Medicinal\\_Plan](http://scrapcoloring.com/convert-images-to-coloring-pages?image=EK_Medicinal_Plan) ts.1602873419



Thanks for reading! You have received this because you have asked to receive notifications from TSAG through our website, through one of our staff, or at an event you attended.

Please email [comm@tsag.net](mailto:comm@tsag.net) if you no longer want to receive updates from us.

First Nations Technical Services Advisory Group  
18232 102 ave, Edmonton, T5S1S7, 780-483-8601