



NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2020



TSAG Fire Training

Delivering hands-on fire training to First Nation fire services members has been a challenge as so much of firefighting depends on teamwork. Even with COVID-19 in our thoughts over the past nine months, we have still completed some great training by going above and beyond the directives of both Provincial and Federal Health agencies. Some examples are incorporating daily health checks into training drills, including temperature checks and, in some cases, pulse oxygenation and heart rate.

To date, 53 students have attended six courses, including the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) courses for the certification of 1001 firefighters. The 1001 is the base qualification that all professional firefighters hold, whether working for a city or for a First Nation. The students that attended the 1001 dedicated six weeks to the training program. TSAG also offered the NFPA 1051 Wildland. In this one week course the students are taught the basics of wildland firefighting with a focus on the wildland urban interface in order to protect homes and infrastructure from an encroaching wildfire. When completed, the 1051 the students will receive a certificate for their accomplishments that is recognized worldwide. Congratulations to all of the students for their hard work and dedication!

NEW Fire Training Course!



TSAG's newly-developed Basic Pump Course instructs the students on how to operate the fire truck that is in their local fire hall. Operating the fire truck in a safe and effective manner is an important component of training we had not yet addressed. Ensuring effective delivery of water through to the fire through

the hose increases the chances of a successful outcome. The course was delivered over four days, covering topics such as: Pump Anatomy, Pump Discharge Calculations and Pump Operation. The course was piloted in October with the Nakoda Fire Department in Morley. The students mastered the content and we are proud

to report that the class average was 80% with a third of the students achieving over 90%.

Overall the course is a great success and has been added to the schedule for next year's delivery of training courses. Thank you to the Nakoda Fire Department for their participation!

TSAG's Cumulative Environmental Effects Management Program



In 2019, TSAG received funds from CIRNAC to launch a pilot project to use unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), more commonly known as drones, to collect imagery to inform cumulative environmental effects management in First Nation communities in Alberta. The project came from recognizing that many communities have invested a lot of time and effort into developing various land use/environmental management plans, but need better spatial data to effectively assess environmental risks identified in some of these community plans.

What is Cumulative Environmental Effects Management?

Environmental effects are often looked at individually: a single pipeline, an individual forestry cut block, etc. But this ignores the combined effects of all of these projects and development on the environment, as well as the way they can interact with one another. Cumulative environmental effects management takes a holistic approach and looks at the cumulative impact of past, existing, and future development on environmental systems. As you can imagine, it gets a lot more complicated than looking at individual projects, which is why it takes a lot of good data to do it!

Stay Tuned!

Over the coming months, we're going to feature a community project each month in our Drone Project Community Spotlight Series to highlight some of the interesting work done through this project, and hopefully get some wheels turning about how this project could support work happening in your community!





ALBERTA INDIGENOUS VIRTUAL CARE CLINIC

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We are excited to announce on Wednesday, October 28, 2020, we opened our virtual doors to our care clinic! We will be providing our best effort for same day care to rural and urban First Nations, Métis, and Inuit individuals via secure video or phone service. Alberta based physicians experienced in Indigenous health and cultural safety staff AIVCC. Virtual care is an opportunity to bridge gaps in rural areas as well as opening doors for the chronically under serviced urban Indigenous populations.

- Patients, families, or their caregivers/allied health professionals may call our toll free number to speak with a Medical Office Assistant (MOA) and request an appointment with our physicians.
- Patient's scheduled appointment with the doctor will take place using secure protocols for virtual care. If the patient has access to the internet, the appointment will be a video call from the patient's location.
- Patients who do not have internet access can request a phone appointment.
- Nurses or Community Health Centre staff can request appointments with or on behalf of their patients and the appointments can be at the Health Centre using the telehealth equipment.
- All patients will be connected with appropriate local clinical resources including family doctors if available.
- All participating physicians have committed to the principles and practices of cultural safety and humility and have established positive working relationships with Indigenous communities.
- Initially open 5 days a week but planning to extend hours, days and staff to meet the need.



For More Information Please Contact info@aivcc.ca
or visit our website at www.aivcc.ca

Joint Primary Care Initiative

This is a joint primary care initiative between Indigenous Services Canada (First Nations and Inuit Health Branch), First Nations Technical Advisory Group Inc. (TSAG), and Alberta Health Services Indigenous Wellness Program Clinical ARP (IWPcARP).

Disclaimer

This clinic is not an emergency service. The clinic cannot prescribe any narcotics, benzodiazepines, or other medications with the potential for misuse or diversion



MISTIKWASTOTIN RD

KASKAMAN ROAD

Local addressing systems for First Nations

TSAG's lead GIS technician, Gregg Muller, has been busy working with First Nations in Alberta to establish local addressing information that Nations can have available for everything from improved emergency management accessibility to better food and parcel delivery options. TSAG works closely with key stakeholders in each community that can liaise with local leadership and choose to select names for roads in the nation or apply a grid system (or a combination of both).

Following leadership approval the new addressing information is uploaded into the Alberta Municipal Data Sharing Partnership (AMDSP) as well as Google Maps. The AMDSP is a non-profit entity that supplies addressing information to emergency management agencies across Alberta. Our goal is having easy-to-use house addresses and road names for all Nations.



Google Maps

For more information on the program, click here:
https://tsag.net/documents/TSAG_Addressing_Overview.pdf.

If you are interested in getting your community into the project please contact Gregg Muller at gmuller@tsag.net.



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 if you no longer want to receive updates from us.

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