Seabird Mobile Diabetes Team: Clinic Notice



Cook's Ferry

When We're Coming:

July 16 - Siska Date: July 17 - Cook's Ferry

Who: People living with diabetes.

What: Your appointment includes: Testing for diabetic eye changes Testing to check your kidneys and blood sugar Diabetes education

Book Your Appointment With Corynn or Nadine Now!

SB ~ 250.455.6601 / 1.844.255.6601

CF~ 250.458.2212 / 1.866.458.2212



Heskw'en'scutxe Health Services Society

Dedicated to serving Cook's Ferry and Siska Communities

"Take Care Of Yourself"

Health & Wellness Newsletter

Men Wellness Day!

The men wellness day was held on June 18 in Cook's Ferry. It was a great turn out from both communities. There was a group session on Men Mental Wellness with Clinician Ricardo Pickering and Drug and Alcohol Counsellor Vincent Abbott. They also discussed the meaning of the medicinal wheel. Diana Lepine from the NLX Health Nation hosted a popular mask workshop.



There were also tables on regalia, adequate size food portions, blood pressure, sugar testing, quit smoking, chair massages, reflexology, hair cuts and the benefits of practicing Tai-Chi. We also invited a traditional healer and heard great feedback from the people that had a session with him. The Indian taco lunch was delicious and we enjoyed the drummers filling the gymnasium with beautiful sounds and positive vibrations all day. We will be meeting again in Siska with the ladies from both communities on September 18 for our Women Wellness day. Hope to see many of you

there!



www.seabirdmobilediabetes.ca

For information on any activities taking place this month or to make ride arrangements, please contact one of our offices.

Cooks Ferry Office Siska Office

Box 188, 3691 Deer Lane, Spence's Bridge, BC, V0K 2L0

163 Loop Road

Phone: (250) 458-2212

Phone: (250) 455-6601

Fax: (250) 458-2213

Fax: (250) 455-6608

Client Toll Free: 1-866-458-2212

Client Toll Free: 1-844-255-6601

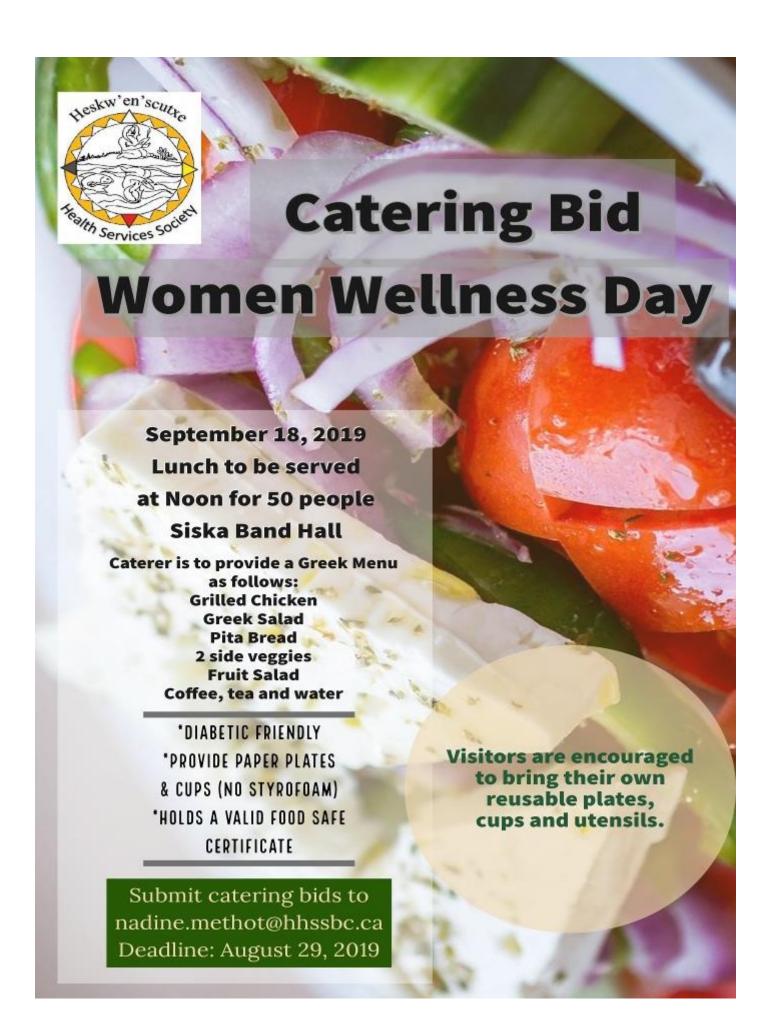
Email: nadine.methot@hhssbc.ca

Email: corynn.revely@hhssbc.ca

Visit our Facebook Page! https://www.facebook.com/groups/462213130612032/?ref=bookmarks

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HHSS BOARD	HHSS CHP	HHSS STAFF	HHSS OFFICES
Lorette Edzerza	Madelyn Albert	Andrea Elliott Health Manager	COOKS FERRY
Chairman	Youth Member Repre- sentative	· ·	Box 188
Director	Cooks Ferry Band	Tina Draney Finance	3691 Deer Lane
Cooks Ferry Band	Appointed		Spence's Bridge, BC
Appointed	Дроннос	Corynn Revely Siska Receptionist	VOK 2LO
	Jim Billy	Nadine Methot	Phone
Angela Phillips	Community	Cook's Ferry Administra-	
Director	Member Representa-	tive Assistant / Medical Transportation Clerk	(250) 458-2212
Siska Indian Band	tive	·	Fax
Appointed	Cooks Ferry Band	To be appointed Community Health	(250) 458-2213
	Appointed	Representative	Client Toll Free
Florine Walkem	Betsy Munro	Lisa Colwell, LPN, AFCN	1-866-458-2212
Director	Elders Member	Home & Community Care Nurse	Email
Cooks Ferry Band	Representative	Care Noise	
Appointed	Siska Indian Band	Jennifer Marinello, RN Home & Community	nadine.methot@hhssbc.ca
	Appointed	Care Nurse	<u>SISKA</u>
Sam Gush	Regina Pierre	Jennifer Fields	163 Loop Road
Director	Community	Community Home Care	Phone
Siska Indian Band	Member	Aid	(250)455-6601
Appointed	Representative	Ashley Loring Earl	Fax
	Siska Indian Band	Community Home Care Aid	
	Appointed	Fred Charlie	(250) 455-6608
	******	Transportation Support	Client Toll Free
	The Committee	Linda Peters	1-844-255-6601
	also includes all	Transportation Support	Email
	Board Directors	Hazel Billy Home Support Worker Housekeeping COHI Aide	corynn.revely@hhssbc.ca



HESKW'EN'SCUTXE HEALTH SERVICES SOCIETY

VALUE STATEMENT

Ten generations from now the members of our society will continue to be healthy spiritually, emotionally, mentally and physically through established awareness, education and prevention programs based on Nlaka'pamux traditions, culture and values complimented by modern medicines and methods.

Heskw'en'scutxe will consciously strive to realize its vision through communications, visibility in the communities, development of programs and continual improvement of the delivery of health services in these areas: home visits; home care for elders; youth companionship to elders; transportation; meals on wheels; community luncheons; and fitness center's

MISSION STATEMENT

Serving the Cook's Ferry and Siska Bands, Heskw'en'scutxe Health
Services will direct energies into the well-being of our people through the use of
traditional Nlaka'pamux and modern medicines/method;
we are working to end our people's dependencies and empowering
Nlaka'pamux towards rebuilding healthy families and communities.



COOKS FERRY & SISKA

Heskw'en'scutxe Health Services Society Home and Community Care Program

Nursing Services Available MONDAY—FRIDAY

Nursing Services:

- Immunization (all ages)
- TB Testing
- HIV/STD Counselling
- Birth Control Counselling
- Pregnancy Testing
- Prenatal Education Care
- Newborn Education/Care
- Breastfeeding Support
- Child Growth/Development Monitoring
- **Blood Pressure Monitoring**
- Diabetes Counselling
- Weight Loss Counselling
- **Wound Care**
- Home Care

Also Available:

- Infant Weight Scale
- Adult Weight Scale
- Prenatal Vitamins*
- Infant Vitamin D Drops*
- Breastfeeding Supplies* (breast pump, nursing pads, lanolin cream)
- Plug Protectors
- Children Toothbrushes
- Children's Vitamins*
- Head Lice Conditioner & Combs*
- Condoms

ONLY AVAILABLE FROM THE NURSE.

To see a nurse contact the office to book a home or clinic appointment. Lisa Colwell, LPN, AFCN

Home & Community Care Program

What services are provided?

- Palliative care (specialized care aimed at providing relief from the symptoms and stress of serious illness)
- Home support (assistance with nutrition, hygiene, and bathing)
- Referral to dieticians, physiotherapists, and occupational therapists
- Transportation to medical appointments
- Medication administration
- Ostomy and catheter care
- Blood pressure monitoring
- Diabetes care
- Wound care
- Foot care
- Post-surgical care

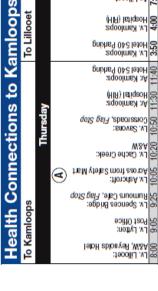




How can I access these services?

- 1. Call Heskw'en'scutxe Health Services Society to book a home visit.
- 2. At the first home visit, usually 1 to 2 hours, a nurse will develop a care plan specific to your individual needs.
- 3. HHSS staff will be scheduled to provide services based on this care plan.
- **4.** We are here to support you and you have the right to accept or refuse any of the care that we offer.

⊖ Ar. Kamloops: ⇔ Hotel 54 0 Parking PAr. Kamloops: Hospital (RIH) go Lv. Savona: Gross 당 Roads, Rag Stop S Lv. Cache Creek 은 Lv. Lillooet: S A& W, Reynolds Hotel



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Strom Safety Mart

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A Mall: 100 Mile House ⊖

At: Save-On Foods Mall: 100 Mile House

Pr. Public Facilities:

Pick up a Health Connections flyer at any health facility, onboard the bus or visit bctransit.com.

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Safety Mart

About Your Transit System

Holiday and Weekend Service Service is not available on weekends and the

following holidays:	 New Years Day

Need to go to Kamloops or Ashcroft on Thursdays?

Pick up in Lytton in front of the Post office at 9:05 am & Spences Bridge at 9:25 am at the old Rumors Café. Cost is \$5.00 per adult one way & exact cash only. Kids 4 and under ride for free. You will be dropped off at the hospital in Kamloops or on Victoria Street in front of the library.



This service is to help you get to medical appointments, work or recreational activities. Check the flyer for more information or call 1.855.359.3935.

REUSE YOUR RIDER'S GUIDE

Transit Info 1-855-359-3935 bctransit.com

The Board of Directors, Committee Health Planning Group and all of Heskw'en'scutxe Health Services Society Staff would like to bid farewell to Andrea Elliott and wish her the very best with her new career!

Kwukwscémxw from all of us!

Effective June 17, 2019 Andrea Elliott is no longer employed with Heskwen'scutxe Health Services Society. She accepted other employment and decided to move on in her career path in Health. The Heskwen'scutxe Health Services Society Board of Directors would like to thank her for her services as their employee as the Health Manager and wish her well in her future endeavors.

Respectfully,

Lorette Edzerza, Board Member Chair Heskwen'scutxe Health Services Society

Ph: 250 457-1426 Fax: 250 458-2213





Ashcroft-Clinton





RIDER'S GUIDE Effective April 2, 2019 **Fansit**

2.00 2.00 5.00 5.00

Heskw'en'scutxe Health Services has Three Medical Transportation Programs

NIHB Medical Travel

Provides a reimbursement towards the cost of medical travel through the NIHB Medical Transportation Policy Framework for services types that are medically necessary:

- Medical services defined as insured services by provincial/territorial health plans (e.g., appointments with physician, hospital care);
- Diagnostic tests and medical treatments ordered by a physician or other health professional within his or her scope of practice and which are covered by provincial/territorial health plans;
- Publically-funded alcohol, solvent, drug abuse and detox treatment;
- Traditional healers:
- Non-Insured Health Benefits (vision, dental, mental health, medical supplies and equipment); and
- Publically-funded preventative screening e.g. breast cancer screening (where coordination with other medical travel is not feasible).

Travel claims can be process through Heskw'en'scutxe Health Services for those who have status and live on reserve in our service communities. Community members who live off reserve are entitled to travel reimbursements processed directly through the First Nations Health Authority.

Off-Reserve Medical Travel Reimbursement forms are available up at both Heskw'en'scutxe Health offices. For more information about Off-Reserve Medical Travel Reimbursement call: 1-888-299-9222 https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/services/first-nations-inuit-health/reports-publications/non-insured-health-benefits/non-insuredhealth-benefits-nihb-medical-transportation-policy-framework-july-2005-first-nations-inuit-health.html

Home and Community Care Medical Travel

As a supplement to the NIHB Travel program, Heskw'en'scutxe Health Services provides medical travel assistance as described above and are Home Care Clients:

- Home Care Clients are community members who have been assessed by nursing and admitted to the program to provide on-going support for acute and chronic disease management.
- Transportation support does not take the place of family responsibility and is available only when family members are not able to provide medical transportation support.

Local Shuttle for Medical Travel

In addition Heskw'en'scutxe Health Services started a medical transportation shuttle one day a week from each community providing access physician and dental appointments in Lytton, serving those who would normally not have access due to the lack of transportation.

Cooks Ferry – Tuesday, medical travel shuttle to Lytton Siska - Wednesday, medical travel shuttle to Lytton

- Shuttle will support scheduled appointments between 9:00 am and no later than 3:00 pm to assure serves within our operating hours of 8:30 am and return by 4:30 pm
- Please provide at least 24 hour notice to assure space if available



FOOT CARE NURSING

Lisa is providing advanced foot care.

Please call to book appointments.

Cooks Ferry - Phone: 250-458-2212 Toll Free: 1-866-458-2212 Siska Office - Phone: 250-455-6601 Toll Free: 1-844-255-6601



Movie nights will return in the fall at Siska & Cook's Ferry

We will be taking a summer break to enjoy the beautiful sunshine, soak in some vitamin D, spend quality time with family in the outdoors. Happy Summer everyone!

Food Bags will return in the fall.

This service is offered to members living on reserve at this time. If you have a garden and would like to share pictures, please email them to us and our post them on Facebook and tag us!

Need to talk?

Contact Ricardo Pickering, Mental Wellness Outreach Clinician

Ricardo comes to Cook's Ferry every Wednesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. by appointment only. Call Ricardo or Cook's Ferry or Siska to book a session.

Transportation is available from Siska to Cook's Ferry / return

250 256-7530 cell 250 842-8552 (Ricardo)



Reflexology with Heidi McCall



July 2 & 23 July 3 & 24 **Cooks Ferry** Siska

1. Helps Control Blood Pressure

5.Helps Promote Sleep

10. Useful For Depression

2. Improves Nerve Sensi-

4.Improves Blood Circu-

lation

6.Improves Liver Function 11. Chronic Sinusitis

tivity

7.Treatment For Mi-

12.Helps Reduce Swollen

3.Improves Energy Levels

graines And Headaches Feet

8. Speeds Up The Heal-

13.Reduces Symptoms

ing Of Wounds

Of PMS

9.Treatment Of Arthritis



Therapeutic Massage with Kathryn Young

Cooks Ferry July 9 / Siska July 10

Note: If you cannot make it to your appointment, please do not send a replacement. Contact the office and we will call the next person on our waiting list. We thank you for your understanding.

NOTE: We are asking everyone, not to book a massage if they have already received one in the previous month, This way everyone gets an opportunity to get a massage. Please note that no shows to appointments will be put at the bottom of the call back list.

Women's Wellness Day! Wednesday **September 18, 2019** 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. Siska Band Hall



Bring your questions about Menopause to Nurse Practitioner Linda Yearwood.

- Hair Cuts
- Reflexology
- Chair Massages
- Health & Cultural Booths
- Lunch & Snacks
- Amazing Door Prizes!

And much more!

Heskw'en'scute Health Services Society

For more information or to make ride arrangements to the event please contact our offices

Cook's Ferry 250-458-2212 Toll free 1-866-448-2212

Open to all women from Siska & Cook's Ferry

Heskw'en'scutxe Health Services Society

Invitation to

Siska and Cooks Ferry Community members:

Pool Passes available to both on and off reserve registered band members and their families.

Call Lisa or Nadine to be added to the list.

Transportation not included



Heskw'en'scutxe
Health Services Society

Cooks Ferry

Phone: (250) 458-2212

Fax: (250) 458-2213







λϊ?ksm (tl-ee-k-shim)

(1st Fish Ceremony)



JULY 19TH/ 2019

10:00 AM (FISHERMEN MEET AT 7:30 AM)

JACKASS/ TILTON MOUNTAIN

FISHING AREA (LEFT SIDE)

POTLUCK STYLE

Bring: Plates, Utensils, Cups, Bug spray & Chairs RAIN OR SHINE

Contact: Rejeana 250-280-9178 for any questions or to be added on the polluck list





When the user draws on the mouthpiece, the battery powers the vaporizer and heats the e-liquid in the inhaler cartridge. The e-liquid is turned into a vapor and then is inhaled and exhaled like a regular cigarette. This is referred to as "vaping" and is officially recognized as a new verb in some dictionaries.

E-cigarettes: A danger to children and youth

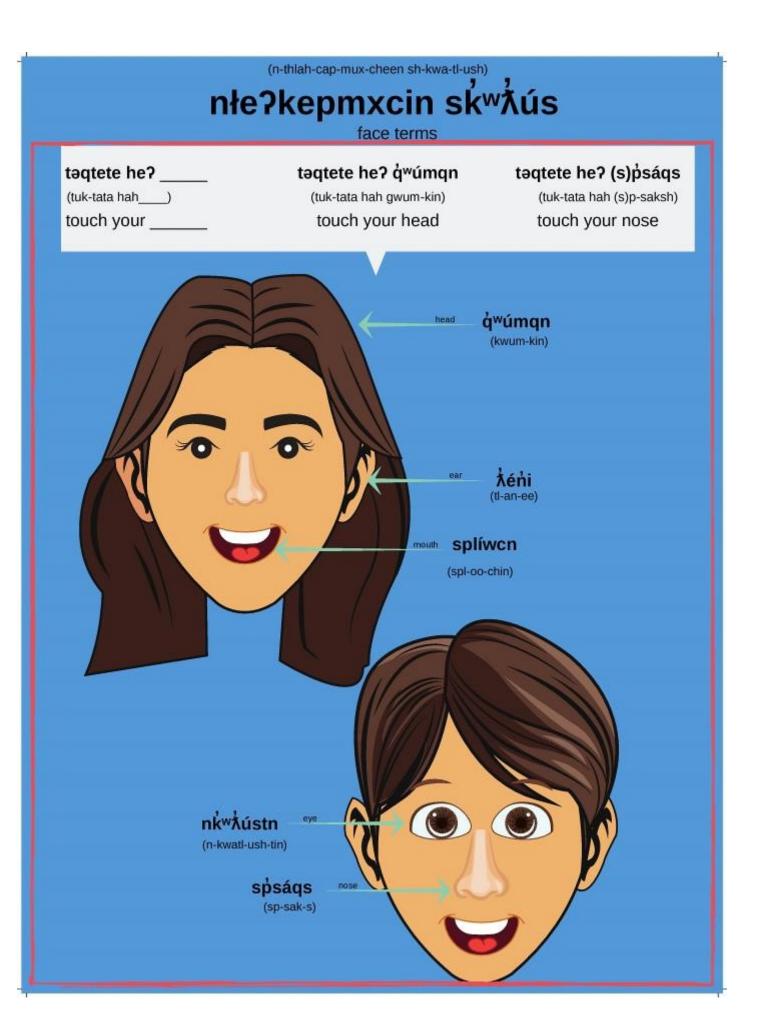
An electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) is a small battery-operated device that can look like a real cigarette. Some look like small flashlights or fountain pens, often with a large clear chamber for storing liquid. Instead of burning tobacco, the e-cigarettes vaporize a so-called e-liquid, which is then inhaled.

E-cigarettes are made of three parts:

- An inhaler cartridge that holds an e-liquid (with or without nicotine, which is the addictive and toxic ingredient found in traditional cigarettes).
- The **vaporizer**, which heats and turns the liquid into a vapor that is meant to resemble and be inhaled like smoke.
- A **battery** of varying voltage that powers the e-cigarette. The number of children and teens using e-cigarettes is on the rise. E-cigarettes feature "cool" designs and the e-liquids are offered in a variety of candy and fruit flavours. Both are readily available. E-cigarettes are also used and promoted by many celebrities in magazines, movies and music videos.

Some parents may choose e-cigarettes as a cessation method, but there is no evidence this is an effective therapy to quit smoking tobacco. E-cigarettes are often advertised as a 'safer alternative' to cigarettes since they don't fill the lungs with toxic tobacco smoke. But e-cigarettes haven't been scientifically tested or proven to help quit smoking. Because of this, no positive health claims for e-cigarettes can legally be made. On the other hand, e-cigarettes can be dangerous to a person's health in many ways:

- On their own, the flavorings and propylene glycol (a chemical) in the e-liquid can irritate the lungs and worsen breathing problems like bronchitis and asthma. When heated, these ingredients change form and create toxins. Formaldehyde (a colorless gas) can be produced at levels higher than seen with regular cigarettes.
- The heating process also releases heavy metals from the materials used in the manufacturing of the e-cigarettes, at levels higher than regular cigarettes.
- The vapor can be harmful to the user and to people exposed to the second hand e-cigarette smoke.
- There is currently no legislation requiring warning labels, child-proof packaging, or labelling for the percentage of nicotine in the e-liquid. So users can't rely on labelling to know whether nicotine is present in the e-liquid. And if there is nicotine, the concentration can vary.
- Like regular cigarettes, e-cigarettes with nicotine are linked to a many harmful effects on children and youth—from addiction to disruptive effects on the developing brain.
- E-cigarettes may lead to tobacco use in teens.
- The liquid nicotine used to refill e-cigarettes, even in small amounts, can be poisonous to a young child if ingested and also can be toxic if spilled on the skin.







WHISTLER SPARTAN RACE SEPTEMBER 14, 2019

JOIN TEAM
CHOWACHOOT
NLAKA'PAMUX
NATION TEAM

Open to all members of the Nlaka'pamux Nation. 10 week training programs will begin the second week of July in Lytton, Merritt and Kamloops.

TO REGISTER

Limited Space Available, Training priority given to Spartan Race Participants. Send Completed Registration Forms to Buzz Manuel T: 250-378-1864 E: bmanuel@cna-trust.ca

Citxw Nlaka'pamux Assembly

What are signs of liquid nicotine poisoning?

Liquid nicotine poisoning can happen in three ways:

- swallowing,
- inhaling,
- absorbing it through the skin or eyes.
 Symptoms of liquid nicotine poisoning can include:
- Nausea or vomiting
- A fast heartbeat
- Being jittery and shaky
- Difficulty breathing
- Seizures

If you suspect that your child has nicotine poisoning, immediately call your local poison control center.

Are e-cigarettes legal and, if so, where can they be used in Canada?

E-cigarettes can be sold *without* nicotine. The sale of e-cigarettes *with nicotine* is illegal in Canada, yet they are still being sold online and in many convenience stores, gas stations and mall kiosks.

Because e-cigarettes are not regulated, there are currently no binding rules about accurate labelling or manufacturing.

Smoke-free bylaws have not included e-cigarettes. However, some municipalities and schools have banned their use in public places where smoking is not allowed. Some provinces are considering legislation.

What can parents do?

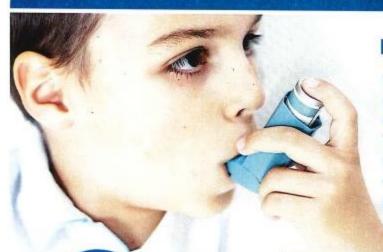
- Educate children and teens on the dangers and risks of using e-cigarettes and being exposed to second-hand e-cigarette vapour. You may want to use this opportunity to also discuss traditional tobacco use.
- Keep e-cigarettes, including their nicotine refills and empty cartridges, out of the reach of children and pets. Dispose of batteries in a safe and environmentally sound manner.
- Never use e-cigarettes around a child. Ideally, limit use of e-cigarettes to places where smoking is permitted.
- Pregnant or nursing mothers should not use e-cigarettes or be exposed to their secondhand vapors.

Consult the <u>Canadian Paediatric's Society's recommendations</u> on protecting children and youth from the dangers of e-cigarettes.

Article taken from www.caringforkids.cps.ca

Batteries inside the e-devices have exploded on occasion.

WILDFIRE SMOKE AND YOUR HEALTH



Health Effects of Wildfire Smoke

Wildfire smoke is a complex mixture of fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) and gases, such as carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, and volatile organic compounds. The mixture can change depending on the fuels, the weather, and distance from the fire. Wildfire smoke causes episodes of the worst air quality that most people will ever experience in British Columbia.



- Smoky air makes it harder for your lungs to get oxygen into your blood.
- Wildfire smoke can irritate your respiratory system and cause an immune response, which may lead to inflammation that affects other parts of your body.
- Common symptoms include eye irritation, runny nose, sore throat, mild cough, phlegm production, wheezy breathing, or headaches. Such symptoms can usually be managed without medical attention.
- Some people may have more severe symptoms, such as shortness of breath, severe cough, dizziness, chest pain, or heart palpitations. You should seek prompt medical attention if you experience any of these symptoms.
- Smoky air may increase risk of some infections, such as pneumonia in older people and ear infections in children.

Reducing exposure to wildfire smoke is the best way to protect your health.

- Portable air cleaners that use HEPA filtration can effectively remove smoke particles from the indoor air. Do your research to find something suitable for your needs.
- If you have forced air heating, you can use different filters and settings to minimize the amount of wildfire smoke that comes into your home. Talk to your service provider about what will work best for your system.
- Libraries, community centres, and shopping malls often have cooler, filtered air that can provide a break from outdoor smoke.
- When driving, keep the windows up, the air conditioner on, and use the recirculate setting to limit intake of the outdoor air.
- The harder you breathe, the more smoke you inhale. Take it easy during smoky periods, consider exercising indoors, and drink lots of water to help your body cope with the smoke.
- If you have an outdoor occupation, refer to resources from WorkSafe BC. https://u.nu/4vl8





FOR MORE INFORMATION

bccdc.ca/health-info/health-your-environment/air-quality

Preventing Insect Stings

You can reduce your or your child's chances of being stung and having a subsequent <u>allergic reaction</u> by preventing or avoiding exposure to the stinging insects.

Ways to avoid stinging insects

- Be cautious when you are outdoors, especially in areas where stinging insects may be present, such as woods, orchards, flower gardens, picnic areas, or near trash containers or old buildings.
- When working around your home, be careful around eaves, attics, window frames, crawl spaces, and vents, where insects may nest.
- When eating outdoors, don't put your picnic out until you are ready to eat, and repack food as soon as you are finished serving. If you attend an outdoor event, keep away from the food serving areas and trash containers.
- Avoid scented cosmetics, deodorants, hair sprays, lotions, aftershave, and floral perfumes, which may attract stinging insects.
- Avoid brightly colored clothing or fabrics with floral prints when you will be outdoors. Some stinging insects may be attracted to them. Clothing in a single neutral light colour such as white, beige, or khaki is less attractive to stinging insects.
- Avoid going barefoot or wearing sandals or open-toed shoes when you are outdoors. Wear closed shoes, socks, and clothes that fully cover your body. Button long sleeves, tuck long pants inside boots, and wear gloves when you are gardening. Avoid loose clothes that might entangle a biting or stinging insect. If you are at increased risk of a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis), have someone else do yard work.
- Carefully unfold and inspect any clothing that has been left outdoors before putting it on or taking it indoors.
- Keep car windows closed.
- If a stinging insect appears, avoid sudden or rapid movements, and don't swat or flail your arms.
 Move away slowly unless you are being pursued.
- Consider carrying a spray insecticide that works specifically on the types of insects that you or your child is allergic to. Read labels carefully—many general-purpose insecticides for home and garden use are not effective against common stinging insects.

Preventive measures

- Inspect your home and yard for insect nests or places where insects may build nests. Keep in mind that stinging insects are valuable in the environment, and it is generally not effective or desirable to control them over a wide area.
- Keep trash containers closed, and clean them frequently.
- If you have trees or shrubs with fruit, keep the area around them cleaned up. Do not allow decaying fruit to accumulate, because it may attract bees and wasps.

Article taken from health linkbc.ca/health files

Ties to the Past

Art Camps

July 16th -17th at Pselko Family Camp

10 am to 3pm

And

July 23rd -24th Cooks Ferry Band Office

10am to 3pm (lunch provided

Please Preregister for rides and a bag lunch

Workshops will include

Traditional Hand loom weaving

Stitching rope bowls

Traditional face painting and mark

Sponsored by Heskw'en'scutxe Health Services
Please call 250 458 2212 for more information

Youth age 8-18 and Elders are invited, children age 5-6 accompanied by an adult also welcome

Different people respond differently to wildfire smoke, and some people are at higher risk of experiencing health effects.

THOSE MOST AFFECTED









Heath Sarté Canada Canada

northern health



YOUNG CHILDREN

It is especially important for the following groups to reduce their exposure.

- People whose health is compromised by an illness or chronic condition. Smoky air makes daily activities harder, both physically and mentally.
- People with respiratory conditions such as asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) are at highest risk of experiencing health effects caused by wildfire smoke. People with conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, cancer, or mental illness are also at increased risk.
- Unborn children and infants may be vulnerable.
 Pregnant women and people caring for infants should consider using portable air cleaners.
- Young children have sensitive lungs and may need to decrease their activities during smoky periods, especially when outdoors.
- Not everybody will experience noticeable effects from wildfire smoke. Even if you are not affected, remember to look out for others around you.

Most health effects of wildfire smoke are transient, meaning that they will disappear as the air quality improves.

There is very little research on whether there are longer-lasting health effects from seasonal wildfire smoke, and caution is recommended in the absence of scientific evidence.

- Remember that reducing exposure is the best way to protect against any health effects from wildfire smoke.
- Infants, unborn children, and those with obstructive lung conditions such as asthma and COPD are most likely to experience longer-term health effects.
- Wildfires are becoming more extreme and intense in British Columbia and elsewhere. Local and international scientists are working hard to understand how these changes affect health in populations exposed to wildfire smoke.





bccdc.ca/health-info/health-your-environment/air-quality

Interior Health Announcement: Fire Smoke Prevention

Use of face masks during wild fire events are not recommended for the following reasons:

- 1. N95 respirators can filter tiny particles out of inhaled air but they must be properly fitted to ensure protection and breathing is more challenging when wearing this type of mask.
- 2. They also are not fitted for children and stop working when saturated with water or sweat.
- 3. However outdoor workers would benefit from these masks provided they they have been properly fitted by a professional.
- 4. Paper dust masks found in retail stores do not provide protection from the particles found in smoke.

The bet protection for the public is to reduce overall exposure to smoke.

Actions to reduce smoke exposure:

- 1. When at home ensure that air conditioners are on recirculate and consider using a portable air cleaner equipped with a HEPA filter or an electrostatic precipitator.
- 2. Keep windows and doors closed when possible.
- 3. See out public spaces with cleaner air, such as a shopping malls or community centres.
- 4. Limit your time outside
- 5. Reduce activity in smoky environments: the harder you breathe, the more smoke you inhale.

Smoke can affect each person differently based on his or hers health, age and exposure. People who have underlying conditions such as asthma, COPD, heart disease or diabetes. It is also a concern for pregnant women, infants, young children, and the elderly. When smoke levels become very high, even healthy people can be affected.

Symptoms to monitor:

- ♦ Difficulty breathing
- ♦ Chest pain and discomfort
- ♦ Coughing
- ◊ Irritated eyes , nose and throat.

	XPOSURE
HEADACHES -	FATIGUE.
WATERY, DRY EYES	COUGHING OR WHEEZING
THROAT, LUNG, OR SINUS IBRITATION	SHORTNESS OF BEEATH OR ASTHMA ATTACKS
СВНА	IRREGULAR HEARTBEAT OR CHEST PAIN

Please seek professional help if you experience any of these symptoms.

Did you know that Nlaka'pamuxcin lessons are available 24/7 on the CNA YouTube Channel for viewing and sharing.

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