



Neskonlith Indian Band

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Westbank First Nation

NESKIE MANUEL – NESKONLITH BAND COUNCILLOR MISSING REMAINS MISSING FOR A FORTH DAY SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAMS CONTINUE TO COMB THROUGH THE AREA AROUND NESKONLITH LAKE

(Neskonlith Indian Reserve May 11th, 2011) The search continues for Neskie Manuel, a 30 year old Neskonlith Indian Band Councillor who went missing Sunday May 8th, 2011 from family camping grounds near Neskonlith Lake by Chase BC. Search and rescue teams from Kamloops, Shuswap and Vernon are working with community volunteers to comb the rugged mountain terrain, the lakes and the Thompson River. Aerial coverage has also been conducted without any sign of the young man. Neskie has recently suffered a traumatic experience and has also been disoriented he has never left without notifying family members. The family is very grateful for the volunteers, donations and assistance everyone is providing at this time. Yesterday over 60 people came out to search the Neskonlith Lake areas.

Neskie Manuel is a Native male, 6'0 approximately, 180-190 lbs, he wears glasses but may not have them, and was wearing a grey sweater, dark jeans and orange ¾ top Nike running shoes with an orange swoosh logo. Anyone with information on his whereabouts is urged to contact the local RCMP detachment.

The family is very concerned no solid leads have been reported, and plead for people to come forward with new information about Neskie Manuel or if they have seen a person matching the description. Neskie is a very active community member for Neskonlith Indian Band and is a cycling enthusiast who cycled across Canada in 2007 on a single speed bike. He attended TRU and majored in physics and minored in mathematics. Neskie joined the United States Navy in 1998 and was deployed as a Aviation Machinist Mate at various locations in south East Asia until September of 2001. He is a board member on the Secwepemc Cultural Education Society, National Mining Watch, First Nations Technology Council (alternate for Chief Wilson) and is a strong advocate Secwepemctsin language. Neskie is currently the station manager and programmer for Secwepemc Radio 91.1 the local radio that has been serving the Lakes Division of the Secwepemc Nation for the past four years. He has a global network of friends and colleagues across Canada and worldwide. The family is very anxious for him to return home safely and is seeking the public's assistance in getting the word out about Neskie and receiving any information about his whereabouts.

The Neskonlith Band Council and band administration is working collaboratively with the Manuel family to provide assistance to locate Neskie. The Shuswap Search and Rescue, Rob Udi is coordinating the ground, aerial and waterways for the area and is working directly with the local Chase RCMP Detachment.

Contact any: Local RCMP Detachment if you have any information or sightings. And for family support, donations email the Neskonlith band at daniellemorin@neskonlithband.com or call the band office at 250-679-3295. The main communications centre/community gathering is at the Neskonlith band Hall.

FOR MEDIA INQUIRIES OR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Arthur Manuel, Father: cell: 250-319 0688

Beverly Manuel, Mother: 250-679-2823

Chief Judy Wilson: 250-320-7738

MISSING



His name is Neskie Manuel

He is a Native male, 6'0, approx. 180-190 lbs

He wears glasses but may not have them. This is the most recent pic taken the day he went missing. He was last seen wearing this grey sweater, dark jeans and orange $\frac{3}{4}$ Nike high tops with an orange swoosh. And was last seen Sunday May 8th at 1am in Chase at our family camping ground on Neskonlith Reserve.

If you have seen him or know his whereabouts
please contact:

Beverly Manuel (250) 679-2821

AND your local RCMP detachment.