

February 2018 quarterly WFN business e-newsletter.

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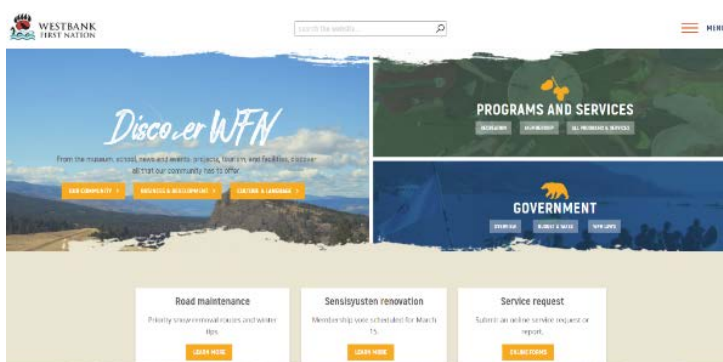


New WFN EDC Commissioners



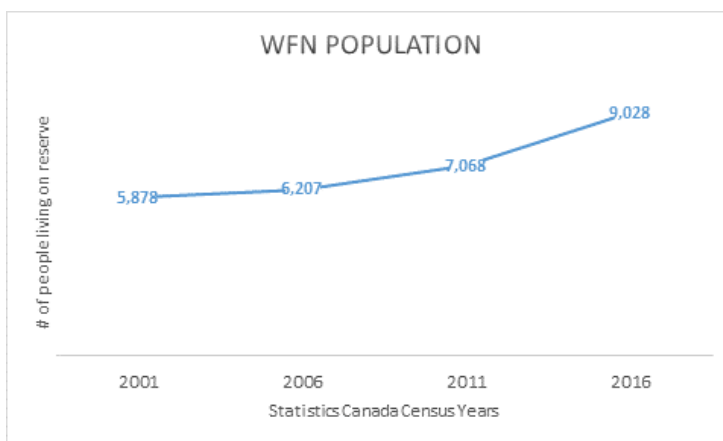
Lori Ann Swite

Lori Ann Swite, a WFN Member as well as WFN's Superintendent of Property Management since 2007, is knowledgeable in commercial and residential lease management including non-profit housing programs and construction. Lori Ann takes pride in delivering modern high-quality products and watching the community transform into a flourishing, independent and sustainable leader among First Nations.



WFN Launches New Website

Check out WFN's new website, www.wfn.ca, which includes business and development friendly resources and features, such as bidding opportunities; online business license and service request forms, such as for sidewalk, roadway, water or sewer maintenance; and economy overviews, including links to the popular **COEDC** economic indicator reports and their 'Okanagan on a National Level' infographic brochure.



WFN's Building Growth Numbers Up

Check out the latest stats on **WFN's building growth**; numbers are up from past years across the board! 2017 building permit numbers show 169 permits processed with a total construction value of \$45 million. This is a 23%



James Carmichael

James Carmichael lives on WFN lands, is a realtor with Royal LePage, and has a passion to assist economic growth and social well-being, including through mentoring and the fostering of new technologies. James has over 20 years of experience in real estate investments, construction, residential and commercial renovations, restoration rebuilds, property management and general contracting in both Canada and the USA.

Also limlæmt, thanks to James Coble who has successfully been on the EDC for nearly a decade, as well as Deanna Hamilton and Andrea East who both served with passion and purpose this past term and continue to be committed and caring towards the community. Their time on the EDC was valued and appreciated.



**Change-up:
Innovating for Social
Change**

Okanagan Young Professionals (OYP) collective is hosting **"Change-up: Innovating for Social Change"** event, Feb 28, 7-9pm, Okanagan Centre for Innovation, 460 Doyle Ave. Featured social enterprises will share their

increase in the number of building permits approved, and a 96% increase in total construction value compared to 2016. Residential accounted for \$38 million, \$6 million for commercial, and \$1 million institutional. Since achieving self-governing status in 2005, WFN has processed 2,203 building permits valued at over \$500 million. 2017 was the fourth busiest year for WFN in terms of building permit approval since 2005, with the highest number of annual building permit approvals occurring in 2007. Building and business growth aligns with continued population growth of WFN residents, which increased 28% from 2011 to 2016 according to Statistics Canada. The increase in building and population growth also accompanies an increase in approved business licenses. WFN approved 69 new business licenses in 2017, increasing the total number of businesses operating on WFN lands to 457.



WFN Night at the Warriors, January 16th.

[More photos](#)

Employment Opportunities at WFN

WFN's Ntityix Development Corp is hiring a new CEO to guide strategies in residential, commercial, and institutional development. Ntityix is a leading Indigenous land development and investment holding company contributing to the economic success of the WFN community while striving to increase the overall quality of life for its members. www.ntityix.com

WFN's WIBCO Construction is hiring a General Manager of Construction. The company has a diverse history in building on and off the Westbank First Nation reserve including the WFN community core, office buildings, custom homes, and commercial projects. As a division of Ntityix Development Corp., WIBCO works alongside a growing and diverse portfolio including Ntityix Resources LP (forestry), and Lakeridge Park Residential Corp. Ntityix and WFN are progressive employers with excellent working environments and benefits. www.wibco.ca

stories and solutions for some of the toughest community, social, and environmental challenges. Selected social enterprises will have the opportunity to win one of two spots in Purppl's six-month acceleration program. Don't miss your chance to be inspired, make connections, and learn how local social enterprises are making an impact in the community. Tickets: \$25-\$45.



Entrepreneurs and Tech Companies to Benefit from Enhanced Acceleration Programs

Clean technology companies, Indigenous entrepreneurs and communities in rural British Columbia will get help turning business ideas into reality thanks to an investment by the Government of Canada.

Stephen Fuhr, Member of Parliament for Kelowna-Lake Country, announced \$473,000 in funding to support Accelerate Okanagan to scale up their programming while expanding their services to target new communities.

"Innovation and technology have the potential to drive our economy and create well-paying jobs for all Canadians," says *Stephen Fuhr, Member of Parliament for Kelowna-Lake Country on behalf of the Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development.* "By expanding their services across British Columbia, Accelerate Okanagan is helping more people – especially those who live in rural and Indigenous communities – to turn their entrepreneurial ideas into economic success stories." [Full Story](#)

WFN is also currently hiring a **Water and Wastewater Operator Level II**, as well as a **Harm Reduction Outreach Worker**, an **After School Program Assistant** and much more. Visit www.wfn.ca and click on Employment.

WFN Freedom of Information and Protection Law

At a Special Membership Meeting held in relation to the proposed WFN Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Law (the "Law"), Members in attendance raised some questions about what impact, if any, the Law would have on their ability to access government-held information and what protections would be in place for the personal information of Members. In response to some of the questions raised, the Legal Services Department has put together an informational handout. Should you have any questions that are not addressed in the FAQ, or should you like to request a copy of the draft Law to review, please do not hesitate to contact Julia Buck at the Legal Services Department (jbuck@wfn.ca or 250-769-4999)

WFN Freedom of Information and Protection Law FAQ



n̄q̄w̄ic̄stx̄ an p̄ina? Celebrating Artists Exhibit

Sncewips Heritage Museum invites the community to their n̄q̄w̄ic̄stx̄ an p̄ina? "Fill Your Basket" Celebrating Artists Exhibit, February 23, 1-7pm, at the WFN Gymnasium, 1920 Quail Lane showcasing local art, language and culture. The event, showcasing local art, language, and culture, includes a series of artist presentations, live music, ns̄yilxc̄en engagement, vendors, prizes, 50/50, raffle, food trucks, appetizers, a hypnotic comedy show from 5:30-7pm, and much more. For more information call 778-755-2787 (ARTS) or [click here](#).



Business After Hours

March 8 @ The Cove; in partnership with West Cabs.

WFN Business After Hours will be held in June.



Time is Now! For Sustainable Development

"There's no plan B, because there's no planet B". Let's talk about sustainable development at Time is Now, February 21, by Global Citizen Kelowna. Westbank First Nation Chief Lindley, four Okanagan mayors, and the RDCO will take to the stage for a Mayoral forum on cities and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Agenda & Tickets

WFN Directory

Main Reception
250 769 4999

Employment Coordinator
250 768 8281

Health & Wellness
250 768 0227

Youth & Education
250 768 4838

Recreation
250 768 7337

Utilities

GLOBAL DIPLOMATIC FORUM



Chief Lindley appointed to Advisory Board

As a result of participating in December's London Forum, WFN's Chief Roxanne Lindley has been accepted to join the Advisory Board for the **Global Diplomatic Forum**. Members of this international Advisory Board help review and shape programming and strategic direction to create effective solutions to some of the world's most challenging issues, both current and emerging, such as technologies and transformative diplomacy.



Tourism Conference and Funding

For over 20 years, the B.C. Tourism Industry Conference (TIC) has been providing a forum for tourism businesses and stakeholders to come together and learn from experts and each other about key issues, challenges and best practices in the industry. This year, TIC's **Annual Conference** will be held at the Delta Hotel in Kelowna, March 7-9, and WFN looks forward to attending.

If you're a tourism business looking for funding, there are a number of different sources available to support B.C.'s tourism sector. Visit Government of B.C.'s **Tourism Funding & Programs** for a list of sources, grants and programming.

Last month, the Government of Canada **announced** an investment of \$2,250,000 towards the Aboriginal Tourism Association of British Columbia (AtBC), who in turn will support over 400 Indigenous cultural tourism businesses in B.C. through products, services and marketing. In 2017, the Indigenous tourism sector in B.C. generated \$705 million in gross direct output for the province; and since 2002, the Indigenous tourism sector has grown by more than 66 percent.



250 707 3332

Public Works
250 707 0493

Law Enforcement
250 717 6147

Museum
778 755 2787

[Full Directory](#)

Okanagan College (OC) is hosting a Women in Trades information session, February 21 @ 5pm. As well, an Indigenous Carving course starts March 2 and runs Friday evenings and weekends.

Congratulations to OC for the recent BC Government funding announcement for increased apprenticeship opportunities at KF Aerospace through OC's Aircraft Maintenance Engineering Structures program. Good paying aircraft-technician jobs are being created as a result! To learn more on any of these courses or initiatives, visit www.okanagan.bc.ca

WFN Councillor Elected as Chair to Okanagan College's Board of Governors

WFN Councillor Chris Derickson was recently elected as Chair to Okanagan College's Board of Governors. "Education has been and will be a key determinant for our region's social and economic health, and I'm honoured to have the opportunity to contribute in this role," said Derickson.

Also, Gloria Morgan, a former chief of the Splitsin Indian Band and Enderby resident, was elected as vice chair. Congratulations to both!

WFN Economic Development Commission (EDC)

Nelson Derickson, Chairperson
Sharon Peterson
Steve Fosbery
Lori Ann Swite
James Carmichael
Brianna Wilson

[View Commissioner profiles >](#)

WFN EDC Mission: Assist & facilitate Chief & Council, and the WFN business community, to create a healthy, environmentally sustainable & dynamic economy based on values of self-reliance.



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