

**NANAIMO LADYSMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS COMMITTEE
PUBLIC MEETING
INFORMATION SHEET**

DATE: March 5, 2025
TO: Strategic Directions Committee
FROM: Mark Walsh, Secretary-Treasurer
SUBJECT: Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre Miniature Long House Project

Background

The Indigenous Daycare Program at the John Barsby site, operated by the Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre, is an initiative that provides culturally enriched early childhood education and care services to Indigenous children and their families. This program serves as a nurturing and inclusive space where children can develop and thrive while honoring their cultural Heritage.

The Facilities department supports the operator and oversees the licence for the building and site which the program operates within. The agreement called for improvements or renovations to have Facilities approval before being performed.

Discussion

The Facilities department was approached by the Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre to enter a joint effort to perform improvements to the daycare site. This included a “miniature longhouse” for gathering, expansion of the play space and erecting a new fence around the new structure.

This work was to be funded by the Friendship Centre utilising grants available to them and completing the construction through District based work force, specifically the Capital Implementation department.

This work has now been substantially completed and being used by the Friendship Centre for it’s intended purpose.

Pictures of the completed project below.

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