

About Scw'exmx Community Health Services Society



VISION

Our vision in Scw'exmx territory is one of healthy citizen's, and Healthy communities.

MISSION

WE are all going to help each other.
So that we will always go on the right path.
In everything.

If we all prepare ourselves we will all be strong



GOALS

- To preserve, foster and enhance client health through clearly communicated programs that incorporate fundamental concepts of prevention; intervention; support; and integration
- To incorporate holistic and cultural language, competencies, traditional ways, care for land values into the development and delivery of SCHSS programs through consultation with SCHSS clientele, program staff and external health care agencies
- To increase access to health services and programs
- To create healthy, healing communities

Accreditation:

March 23, 2015 was a momentous day for Scw'exmx Community Health. This was the day we were granted our Accreditation Status.

Accreditation is a process of establishing and measuring standards for an organization. This process is being overseen by Accreditation Canada; a not-for-profit, independent organization accredited by the International Society for Quality in Health Care (ISQHC). They provide national and international health care organizations with an external peer review process to assess and improve the services the particular organization provides to their patients and clients based on standards of excellence. Accreditation Canada's programs and guidance have helped organizations promote quality health care for over 50 years. This was year 3 of the process that has cumulated in the documentation of our policies and procedures, review of our client care models and upgrading of our governance standards.



Scw'exmx definition: means "People of the creeks"

SCHSS provides health service to the three rural bands of Coldwater, Nooaitch and Shackan:



- **Coldwater band** is the largest of the three bands with a population of 740 members and located 14 kilometers from Merritt.
- **Nooaitch band** is the second largest of the three bands with a population of 197 members and located 23 kilometers from Merritt
- **Shackan band** is the smallest of the three bands with a population of 114 members and located 48 kilometers from Merritt

The closet major urban centres are:

City of Kamloops 85 kms N. from Merritt

City of Kelowna 110 kms E. from Merritt

City of Vancouver 300 kms S. from Merritt

Transportation:

Most transportation to and from each community is by private vehicle. SCHSS operates a community van service one day a week per community. There is a taxi company in Merritt, however, it is very expensive to travel to the communities. Merritt also has a bus service but this does not extend to the Villages. There are two private air strips, which are located in Douglas Lake and Quilchena Ranch properties. In addition, there is a small public air strip for the town of Merritt. All commercial flights are routed through Kelowna or Kamloops. Greyhound Canada operates a bus depot in Merritt.

Although all three communities are located outside of the city centre (minimum of 20 minutes in good weather), the road conditions are considered good, weather permitting. Some of the roads through the reserves are paved and some are gravelled but maintained regularly. Accessibility to some areas in the winter and spring months may require four-wheel drive.

Travel distance to health care providers can have serious implications for the provision of health care services and in some circumstances are considered a barrier.

Our People Our Culture & Language:

The three communities are of the Nlha'7kapmx Nation and linguistic group (Thompson). These Bands are all members of the Nicola Tribal Association and share some programs under this entity. The Nlaka'pamuxcin language is still spoken by a few Elders within the three communities.

Governance & Administration



Pictured left to right, Yvonne, Shelley, Joan, Ko'waintco, Olivia, Mike and Jim

Scw'exmx Community Health Services Society is currently governed by Board of Directors as listed below:

Jim Adams, Executive Director

Olivia Buck: Nooaitch Band Representative

Ko'waintco Michel: Nooaitch Band Representative

Mike Smithers: Coldwater Band Representative

Shelley Oppenheim- Lacert: Coldwater Band Representative

Joan Seymour: Shackan Band Representative

Yvonne Joe: Shackan Band Representative

SCHSS Phone #: 250 378 9745

Governance/ Staff Chart

SCHSS ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

