

June 2022 Newsletter



Taanishi kiiyawow? (How are you?),

June Events



On Sunday, June 12th, NIMA is hosting a Sashing Ceremony for 2022 Métis graduates. The event will take place in Campbell River. Please RSVP as soon as you receive your invitation by mail to let us know the number of guests who will be attending. Each grad will receive a sash, a photo of the sashing (email required), information about the ceremony and an additional gift for NIMA member grads. There is also a chance to win a prize worth \$100. Masks are not required but are requested to be worn.

Join us at Spirit Square in Campbell River for National Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations on June 21st. Come and get some bannock at our table (sweet and regular will be available). We will also have our tipi set up, as well as NIMA merchandise for sale and free temporary tattoos with NIMA exclusive designs.

MIKI'SIW Métis in Courtenay are hosting a free event to teach traditional hide tanning. Participants will be doing all the hide and tanning work. There is space for 10 more people, and they have offered spots for NIMA members. The event will take place June 24-26 at the Scout's Camp in the Comox Valley. They require a three-day commitment from participants; these spots are not for drop-in attendees. There are free basic accommodations for the two-night stay (dorm style cabins, BYO sleeping bag). If you are interested, please contact them at 250-871-7353 or comoxvalleymetisoffice@gmail.com.



Housing and Child Care

Last week, Charlotte (Vice President) and Jackie (Executive Director) met with MNBC's Director of Housing, Ken Bourdeau, and Director of Education, Sharlene Wedel, for our monthly meeting to discuss the housing and childcare development to be built at 834 Isl Hwy S. We talked about how we can continue to move forward with the build. Through supports provided by MNBC and with the New Spaces funding, NIMA (with the assistance of M'akola Development) is beginning this exciting work. The land is cleared already, so our next step is to get a topographic survey completed along with a number of other tasks, such as a geotechnical report. Once those are completed, we can move on to the next step of procuring an architect so we can start to make some planning decisions. It is a slow but interesting process, and we are so pleased to be working with our partners on this amazing project. We will keep the community informed about the process through our monthly newsletters.

To stay up-to-date on resources and future events by visiting our website and following our social media.

Website: www.nimetis.com
Facebook: @Northislandmetisassociation
Instagram: @Northislandmetis @youthnima

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Future Events

On Canada Day, NIMA will be downtown Campbell River with our tipi. We will be located across from the Legion in the kid's area. Free temporary tattoos will be available, as will NIMA merchandise to purchase.

NIMA will host a tipi set up session on Saturday, July 9th at the Robron Centre. This is a great opportunity to practice the technique of tipi set up. We would love to have community members who are interested in helping us every time with tipi set up so we can get the tipi up at every event we host.



Mamawi (the name of NIMA's new women's group) will meet on Sunday, July 10th at 1:00pm in the Robron Centre Conference Room. Mamawi is pronounced ma-ma-weyh, with emphasis on the last syllable. It is a Michif word that means 'together'. All Métis women and 2SLGBTQIAA+ individuals are welcome. The group will meet monthly on the second Sunday. We will be hosting activities at each event. July's event will be loom beading. Everyone who attends will receive a loom to use if they do not have one. This will be a working session, and if you have questions or need next steps help, we can assist. If you wish to attend but need childcare, let us know asap and we can arrange for childcare for this time.

Filomi Days are happening in Port Hardy on July 15-17. NIMA will be at the event Saturday, July 16th. We will be sharing a booth with Gina Coutts, MNBC's Family Connections Navigator for Vancouver Island. Come by, say hi, and get some NIMA merchandise such as hats, sashes and t-shirts. Come and get a free temporary tattoo with NIMA exclusive designs.



As part of the Try-A-Sport program, NIMA will be hosting a number of events throughout the summer and into next year. One of the first events is river fishing on Sunday, July 17th in Campbell River. Then on July 30th, NIMA will offer a kayaking adventure in the Campbell River area. Other events include multiple hiking outings (various locations, different skill levels), archery and camping. Events will be held in Campbell River, Port Hardy or Port McNeill depending on the event. Details to follow soon.

Orcafest 2022 is happening in Port McNeill on Saturday, August 20th. NIMA will be there with Gina Coutts, MNBC's Family Connections Navigator for Vancouver Island. Come by, say hi, and get some NIMA merchandise such as hats, sashes and t-shirts. Come and get a free temporary tattoo with NIMA exclusive designs.

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