



Carrier Sekani
Family
Services

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CSFS Health e-News

SPECIAL REPORT

We Lez Du Neeh (Letting Go) Ceremony held on October 23, 2008

CSFS All Clans Bah'lats October 24th, 2008.

These events took place at the Prince George Civic Centre! Very momentous/major events for our communities! And to mark a milestone and legacy of our (one) of many goals and commitment to the healing and empowerment of community members of the Carrier Sekani Territory!

The keynote address at the opening by President CSFS Board – Nancy Williams and Executive Director Warner Adam, encouraging message to our nation of continuing the process of healing, healing of the spirit and how this a life-time journey. The events is part of the process including, embracing our culture and using it as a tool to help us release our pain and to move forward for the betterment of our children and grandchildren.

The first day we witnessed “Wiping of the Tears” through stories shared by our members who attended Lejac Residential School (reflected on their life’s challenges after their residential school experience and their healing journey). The Healing Circles was led by CSFS Christina Brazzoni’s Mental Health Team, ARP team with Marilyn Janzen and IRSSS Team from Vancouver, BC. Ending the day with the Letting Go event during the Burning Ceremony – with Jackie Thomas and fire keepers - Lincoln Heaney and Cheryle Thomas and Volunteers! (CSFS staff) during the burning ceremony (tissue used for tears, and paper with the Lejac Residential School picture, which individuals wrote on to let go) was burned during the ceremony.

All Clans Bah'lats - the following day marked the significant event, honoring the Residential School Survivors of the Carrier Sekani Nation and to mark the transfer of children in care from the province to Carrier Sekani Family Services – acknowledging those

children that are coming from the (Ministry of Children and Families) over to CSFS, and to sit them in a good place with our Clans (quote from the Prince George Citizen)

Events of this magnitude call on many awesome people to assist in bringing it all together to be a huge SUCCESS! I want to take this opportunity to tell you how proud we are of your contribution and to thank each and everyone personally. The Youth Drummers with Candice George – Candice you all were a Hit! Brought tears with joy and appreciation from the Survivors and participants. All the positive responses from the participants - tell us We Did It!

There is a follow up Request Form – for Residential School Survivors and families who attended the events and need counseling support- you can contact Christina Brazzoni & Associates (250 564 4079) and or Marilyn Janzen (250 567 2900) of Carrier Sekani Family Services

I want to take this opportunity to personally thank the CSFS Directors, Warner Adam, Mary Teegee and Travis Holyk and to the Managers - Joanna Burrows, Dave Richardson, Judy Richardson and Mabel Louie who contribute money to the Potlatch and all the CSFS staff who gave generously toward the contribution to the Potlatch and who gave their time with assisting/helping where we needed help and making it happen during both events!

To all the Hereditary Chiefs, Clan Leaders –Chiefs! Misyh!

Thank you for your ongoing support. Awit Zah