



## Neskonlith Indian Band

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### NIB General Band Information Sessions

#### Questions and Answers:

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Question: For off-reserve members, what are the barriers of moving home, and how do I? Is the housing application the same?

Answer: *The housing application is the same. The only barrier is Neskonlith doesn't currently have housing available. However, if an off-reserve member wishes to move back home by building their own home, placing a modular on reserve, or an RV, they can speak with our Tmicw department first to discuss which plot of land they would like. From there, they would speak with Housing to discuss mortgages, financing, etc.*

Question: Why are we looking to the RCMP to enforce Band bylaws?

Answer: *Neskonlith is currently working with a legal team to finalize the bylaws and put them in place. We have a tripartite agreement with the RCMP, who then, once the bylaws are finalized, will be able to enforce the bylaws on our behalf.*

Question: Are there plans for Elders housing/units in the future?

Answer: *The notion has been brought forward and is currently being discussed, however; there are no solidified plans at this time. If any plans come to fruition, we will ensure that the community and all Elders are notified.*

Question: Could you provide a breakdown of who is in school, and what are they studying?  
Additionally: What are the priorities of the school and its students, have any been established?

Answer: *We are currently in the progress of enrolling students for the fall and do not have the final numbers for September 2026. When it comes privacy laws we fall under the public-school act and do not publicly give out the names of students to the public for a variety of reasons but including safety and privacy of students who may be in-care and have no contact orders, etc.*

*The bands legal counsel can support this legislation from the province. Again, we can provide the total numbers of students enrolled in the NEC to C + C in the fall once enrolled is concluded.*

*Regarding the school priorities they are as the following and the schools three-year strategic plan will be submitted to C + C and to the parents of the children who will be attending the school in September 2026.*

*Here are the NEC priorities beginning September 2026:*

- *Numeracy*
- *Literacy*
- *Cultural and Language*
- *Mental Health & Emotional Wellness*

*The school team has begun mapping the school's academic plan that every child that enrolees and attends NEC from September 2026 onward and does not have a clinical diagnosis of a learning disability or other diagnosis that would hamper them from having a regular dogwood will graduate with 80+ credits and will receive a regular dogwood diploma (just like if they graduated from CSS) that means they would be able to enter university with the appropriate credentials. The previous school plan and team had students on schedule for an adult dogwood. Which means they may not qualify for direct entry into a post-secondary institution.*

Question: Concern/question about lack of support for a child with special needs transitioning in school.

Answer: *Confirmed with CSS that there are supports in place. Teacher working solely with alternative education program.*

Question: How will off-reserve members (Surrey, East Bend, etc.) be included and informed?

Answer:

- *Social media.*
- *Website.*
- *Currently updating membership list to send out mailouts.*

Question: Why is communication lacking for elders and members?

Answer:

- *We post as much and often as possible so everyone is informed.*
- *We have social media, website, newsletter.*
- *When deemed necessary, door-to-door delivery of notifications.*

Question: Environmental impacts (Wolf Ranch contamination concerns).

Answer:

- *Currently in referrals process.*
- *Council has met with Sylvis.*
- *Consultation currently underway.*

Question: How will homes without hydrants be protected from fire?

Answer:

- *Fire Protection Agreements with ALIB and VOC.*
- *Water would be shuttled where no hydrant exists.*

Question: What are the options for areas with fewer than 5 homes (funding barrier)?

Answer:

- *Funding limitations explained.*
- *Alternatives such as cisterns suggested.*

Question: Can additional areas (IR2, remote homes) be included in planning?

Answer:

- *Not in current scope.*
- *Could be raised in future phases.*

Question: Why is the housing policy causing financial issues (mortgage vs. rent conversion)?

Answer: *Current housing plan to revisit housing policy and address the gaps.*

Question: Is the housing committee "ad hoc" or formal?

Answer: *Ad hoc. The committee currently offers input and decisions solely on the Housing Policy (term of 1 year).*

Question: Are the Health and Wellness department being separated?

Answer: *No.*

Question: Is there an ED yet?

Answer: *We will have a new Band Manager starting July 6<sup>th</sup>.*

Question: Is the Band going to hire a CFO?

Answer: *Yes, a CFO has been hired and will be starting in July.*

**Comments (from in-person or written):**

“There are some really great things happening within the community.”

“If we relearn our culture, the language will come back.”

“The number one thing people want is safety.”

“There have been accidents. We need resolve around the highway.”

“I’d like to see a full financial report.”

“We need to work together.”

“It is our community. We should be involved in where money is being spent.”

“We need to have dialogue, and be consulted when big changes arise.”

“Council should be coming to our homes like they have before.”

“The forestry project is something to be proud of.”

“The community wants and has requested a GBA.”