

From: Standen, Jim ENV:EX (Jim.Standen@gov.bc.ca)
To: Salter, Shannon PREM:EX (Shannon.Salter@gov.bc.ca)
Cc: Jardine, Kevin ENV:EX (Kevin.Jardine@gov.bc.ca); McCarthy, Tom IRR:EX (Tom.McCarthy@gov.bc.ca); Prince, Jessica PREM:EX (Jessica.Prince@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: FW: Response re: Pipi7iyekw Harvest Celebration
Sent: 08/25/2023 06:14:28
Attachments: August 23rd 2023-Letter- Harvest Celebration for Pipi7iyekw.pdf, image001.png, Response re Pipi7iyekw Harvest Celebration.pdf
Message Body:

FYI.

From: Standen, Jim ENV:EX <Jim.Standen@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 11:12 PM

s.16

Cc: McCarthy, Tom IRR:EX <Tom.McCarthy@gov.bc.ca>; Standen, Jim ENV:EX <Jim.Standen@gov.bc.ca>; Brenchley, Charlie ENV:EX <Charlie.Brenchley@gov.bc.ca>; Kamper, Carolyn IRR:EX <Carolyn.Kamper@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Response re: Pipi7iyekw Harvest Celebration

s.13; s.16

Regards

Jim Standen (he/him)
Assistant Deputy Minister
Conservation and Recreation Division | Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
250-387-1288 | Jim.Standen@gov.bc.ca
I feel fortunate to live and work on the traditional territory of the Secwepemc peoples.

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.16



August 23, 2023

RE: Pipi7iyekw - Joffre Lakes Park – Harvest Celebration for Lilwat Nation and N'Quatqua First Nation

In this time of reconciliation, Lilwat Nation and N'Quatqua First Nation are asserting our Title and Rights to our shared unceded territory to take this time to harvest and gather our resources within our territories. Our goal is to ensure our well-being for our future. We are asking you to help in honoring us by providing us with sufficient time and space that we require to conduct our N'takmen within our lands.

With the development of the Visitor Use Management Strategy (2021), in support of Visitor Use Management Action Plan (2019), jointly undertaken by Lilwat Nation, N'Quatqua First Nation, BC Parks; with the support of Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development, and the Ministry of Transportation; listed under the goals and objectives of this document it states the following goals.

Goal one: Recognition of First Nations Territories & Increased Lilwat Nation and N'Quatqua First Nation Stewardship

Support Lilwat and N'Quatqua traditional use activities

1.3.3 – Support community access for berry picking, food sustenance, and other traditional use activities.

1.3.4 – Encourage Lilwat and N'Quatqua Nations to utilize park spaces and identify and explore ways to address potential barriers to access.

Goal two: Celebrate First Nations Culture throughout the Park.

Support Lilwat and N'Quatqua Nation's spiritual and ceremonial activities

2.2.1 – Ensure opportunities for Lilwat Nation and N'Quatqua First Nation ceremonial activities to take place within the park.

2.2.2 – Educate park users on respectful behavior when ceremonies are occurring.

Furthermore, Article 18 in the *United Nations Declaration of Rights for Indigenous Peoples* (2007), it states, Indigenous peoples have the right to participate in decision-making in matters which would affect their rights, through representatives chosen by themselves in accordance with their own procedures. The UN Declaration responds to the urgent necessity of respecting the right of Indigenous peoples, as peoples and nations, to make our own decisions about our lives and our futures, through our governments and representative institutions.



Pipi7iyekw - Joffre Lakes Park is located within the shared, overlapping unceded traditional territory of the Lil'wat Nation and N'Quatqua First Nation. These lands have been used and occupied by the Lil'wat and N'Quatqua since time immemorial.

The Lil'wat Nation asserts unextinguished title to its traditional territory, sovereignty over its traditional territory, and a right to self-determination. The Lil'wat Nation and N'Quatqua First Nation's aboriginal rights, including title, are protected under s. 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

Furthermore, the Supreme Court of Canada confirmed in the Tsilhqot'in decision that aboriginal title is real and meaningful, territorial in nature, and that First Nation consent is required for the use of its aboriginal title lands and resources. The decision also specifically states that aboriginal title confers:

... the right to decide how the land will be used; the right of the enjoyment and occupancy of the land; the right to possess the land; the right to economic benefits of the land; and the right to pro-actively use and manage the land. (at para. 73).

In keeping with the above stated, Lil'wat Nation and N'Quatqua First Nation are jointly shutting down the public access to Pipi7iyekw - Joffre Lakes Park until National Truth and Reconciliation Day, September 30th, 2023.

Kukwstumúlhklap, (*Thank you*)

Kukwpi Skalulmecw, Dean Nelson

Kukwpi, Micah Thevarge

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s.13 ; s.16

Day Use Pass Holders

Good evening BC Parks visitor,

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we are having to cancel all Day Use Passes for Joffre Lakes Parks for Friday August 25th and Saturday August 26th. As you currently hold passes for one of these two days, we are writing to inform you of the necessary cancellation of your passes. We sincerely apologize for the inconvenience and hope that you will look to visit Joffre Lakes Park in the future.

Best,

BC Parks Information Team

Reservations

Good evening BC Parks visitor,

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we are having to cancel all Backcountry camping reservations for Joffre Lakes Parks for Friday August 25th and Saturday August 26th. As you currently hold passes for one of these two days, we are writing to inform you of the necessary cancellation of your reservation. You will of course be fully refunded all of your camping and reservation fees.

We sincerely apologize for the inconvenience and hope that you will look to visit Joffre Lakes Park in the future.

Best,

BC Parks Information Team

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.16

From: [Heyman, George ENV:EX](#)
To: [Brenchley, Charlie ENV:EX](#)
Subject: Re: Prep for 9 am call with **s.16**
Date: August 25, 2023 6:46:10 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

If we can get Tom McCarthy on at 8:30 (8:25 even better) that would be great

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From: Brenchley, Charlie ENV:EX <Charlie.Brenchley@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 11:00:24 PM
To: Heyman, George ENV:EX <George.Heyman@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Prep for 9 am call with **s.16**

Perfect. Will call you at 830 on the car phone.

C

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Heyman, George ENV:EX <George.Heyman@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 9:14:45 PM
To: Brenchley, Charlie ENV:EX <Charlie.Brenchley@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Prep for 9 am call with **s.16**

Talk while km driving downtown? Call me at 8:30 at 694 number?

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Brenchley, Charlie ENV:EX <Charlie.Brenchley@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 8:25:42 PM
To: Heyman, George ENV:EX <George.Heyman@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Prep for 9 am call with **s.16**

Minister,

We were not able to secure a room in the convention centre I'm afraid. Reamick is securing you a private room at VCO for the conversation. A quick phone conversation prior to the call tomorrow may be helpful to fill out approach further. Alternatively, I can send some further text updates in the AM.

s.13; s.16

For your background:

Sharing media response on the Joffre Lakes closure. The story on CTV has yet to be updated to include it: <https://bc.ctvnews.ca/first-nations-shutting-down-access-to-popular-b-c-park-until-sept-30-1.6534009>

Media Response

BC Parks was recently made aware of unanticipated circumstances at Joffre Lake Park. As a result, the park is currently not accessible to the public.

People with Day Passes will not be able to access the Park on Friday August 25 and Saturday August 26 at this time. Everyone who had a Day Pass for those days has been contacted directly to advise them that the park is not accessible on those days. We also will not be opening bookings for Day Passes for Sunday August 27th at this time.

We are also having to cancel all Backcountry camping reservations for Friday August 25th, Saturday August 26th and Sunday August 27th. People will be fully refunded automatically. If people's trip extends beyond these three days, please call the call centre for assistance in modifying your reservation: 1-800-689-9025. We are currently in the process of contacting everyone who had camping reservations on those dates.

If the situation changes and access to the Park re-opens, we will contact people who had Day Passes and Backcountry passes directly.

We recognize the impact that this has on people's plans on short-notice. We sincerely apologize for the inconvenience and appreciate people's understanding.

All the best,

Charlie



Charlie Brenchley (he/him)

Chief of Staff to the Honourable George Heyman
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
Mobile: (250) 208-0542

From: [Brenchley, Charlie ENV:EX](#)
To: [Heyman, George ENV:EX](#)
Subject: Draft Statement for approval - Joffre Lakes situation
Date: August 25, 2023 3:46:20 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi Minister,

s.13

Thank you,



Charlie Brenchley (he/him)

Chief of Staff to the Honourable George Heyman
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
Mobile: (250) 208-0542

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Day Use Pass Holders

Good evening BC Parks visitor,

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we are having to cancel all Day Use Passes for Joffre Lakes Parks for Friday August 25th and Saturday August 26th. As you currently hold passes for one of these two days, we are writing to inform you of the necessary cancellation of your passes. We sincerely apologize for the inconvenience and hope that you will look to visit Joffre Lakes Park in the future.

Best,

BC Parks Information Team

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We sincerely apologize for the inconvenience and hope that you will look to visit Joffre Lakes Park in the future.

Best,

BC Parks Information Team

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From: Brenchley, Charlie ENV:EX (Charlie.Brenchley@gov.bc.ca)
To: Standen, Jim ENV:EX (Jim.Standen@gov.bc.ca); Heyman, George ENV:EX (George.Heyman@gov.bc.ca)
Cc: Jardine, Kevin ENV:EX (Kevin.Jardine@gov.bc.ca); McCarthy, Tom IRR:EX (Tom.McCarthy@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Ltr to Lilwat Nquatqua v3 tm and js
Sent: 08/25/2023 02:37:12
Attachments: s.13; s.16
Message Body:

Hi Jim,

Phone conversation between MGH and ^{s.16} confirmed for 9 am. Have made modification in letter to reflect that.

Good to go out from our end.

Thank you,

Charlie

Charlie Brenchley (he/him)

Chief of Staff to the Honourable George Heyman

Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

Mobile: (250) 208-0542

From: Standen, Jim ENV:EX <Jim.Standen@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 6:53 PM
To: Heyman, George ENV:EX <George.Heyman@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Brenchley, Charlie ENV:EX <Charlie.Brenchley@gov.bc.ca>; Jardine, Kevin ENV:EX <Kevin.Jardine@gov.bc.ca>; McCarthy, Tom IRR:EX <Tom.McCarthy@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Ltr to Lilwat Nquatqua v3 tm and js

Thanks Minister. As we have yet to get confirmation from the chief to the 9am offer,

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From: Standen, Jim ENV:EX (Jim.Standen@gov.bc.ca)
To: Salter, Shannon PREM:EX (Shannon.Salter@gov.bc.ca)
Cc: Jardine, Kevin ENV:EX (Kevin.Jardine@gov.bc.ca); McCarthy, Tom IRR:EX (Tom.McCarthy@gov.bc.ca); Prince, Jessica PREM:EX (Jessica.Prince@gov.bc.ca)
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Regards

Jim Standen (he/him)

Assistant Deputy Minister

Conservation and Recreation Division | Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

250-387-1288 | Jim.Standen@gov.bc.ca

I feel fortunate to live and work on the traditional territory of the Secwepemc peoples.