

# WELCOME TO THE FIRST EDITION OF The Binche Bulletin!

We will be publishing this bulletin regularly over the coming months to keep members informed on the Nation's upcoming community projects and related events and activities.



## Hadih

We hope this first edition of the Binche Bulletin finds you and your loved ones in good health. As we move into the summer months, COVID-19 continues to disrupt our lives in many ways. Nevertheless, Binche Whut'en understands the importance of planning for the future and will soon be undertaking two community projects:

- 1. Binche Whut'en Community Plan**
- 2. Binche Whut'en Freshwater Stewardship Program**

Binche Whut'en has hired The Firelight Group, an Indigenous-owned consulting group, to support these projects. We would like to welcome Holly, Jessica, and Robbie from the Firelight team.



Holly Andrews



Jessica Holden



Robbie Knott



**BINCHE WHUT'EN**  
COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY PLAN

## 1. BINCHE WHUT'EN COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY PLAN (CCP)

### What is a Comprehensive Community Plan (CCP)?

A Comprehensive Community Plan (CCP) involves the entire community coming together to share their ideas for a better future and create a plan for how to get there. CCPs involve planning for all aspects of community wellbeing, including the environment, economy, land, culture, people, places, and programs. Binche's CCP will showcase community voices and strengths, creating a roadmap to a healthy, sustainable, and prosperous future.



photo: Province of BC

## Binche Whut'en's Community Plan will be developed in 3 Phases

PHASE	DESCRIPTION	TIMEFRAME	WHAT TO EXPECT
Phase 1: Scoping and Start Up	Phase 1 is all about understanding's Binche's current situation. What are our strengths as a community? What factors have shaped where we are today?	JUNE- SEPTEMBER 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Binche Bulletin #1</li> <li>• Interviews with community knowledge holders</li> <li>• Member survey (look for this in August!)</li> <li>• Draft Community Profile</li> <li>• Briefing to Chief and Council</li> </ul>
Phase 2: Visioning and Goal Setting	Phase 2 is about clarifying Binche's vision for the future, and identifying specific objectives that will help us make progress towards that vision. What do we want for our community? What do we hope to achieve in the next 5-10 years?	SEPTEMBER- OCTOBER 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Binche Bulletin #2</li> <li>• Community workbook</li> <li>• Community meeting (likely online)</li> <li>• Briefing to Chief and Council #2</li> </ul>
Phase 3: Action Ideas and Implementation Planning	Phase 3 starts to get into the specifics of action planning. How we will we achieve our objectives? What do we need to focus on first in order to make progress?	NOVEMBER- JANUARY 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Binche Bulletin #3</li> <li>• Staff and leadership workshop</li> <li>• Draft Community Plan</li> <li>• Binche Bulletin #4</li> <li>• Community dinner</li> <li>• Final Community Plan</li> </ul>



### How can I be involved?

In the coming weeks, we will be reaching out to community members, Elders, and knowledge holders to share their stories about Binche Whut'en community, culture, and history. If you would like to

participate in an interview, please contact Kelley at the Band Office or Robbie at the contact info provided below.

In August, we will also be sending out a short survey to all members (both on and off reserve). By filling out this survey, each member will have a chance to win some amazing prizes, while also contributing to an important part of the community planning process. Please check Facebook for upcoming details.

**A Note on COVID-19** To ensure the safety of all members, for the time being, all communication and

community engagement will be organized through Facebook, email, telephone, and other online platforms (e.g., Zoom). We hope to harness the power of technology and connect with you in the comfort of your own home until it is once again safe to gather as a community.



## We would love to hear from you!

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact either Kelley Williams or Robbie Knott directly at:

### Kelley Williams

E: [manager@binche.ca](mailto:manager@binche.ca)

P: 778-300-2497

### Robbie Knott

E: [robbie.knott@thefirelightgroup.com](mailto:robbie.knott@thefirelightgroup.com)

P: 403-431-3731



photo: irmiller



photo: Rod Brazier



photo: Rod Brazier

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## 2. FRESHWATER STEWARDSHIP PROJECT

Starting summer 2020, Binche Whut'en is kicking off a project to support freshwater monitoring and stewardship in our territory. Project goals include: 1) identifying high priority streams or watersheds for monitoring, protection, and restoration; 2) documenting community knowledge of local stream health and related values, including salmon; and 3) providing training opportunities for community members in freshwater monitoring methods.

As a part of this project, Binche Whut'en is excited to offer a freshwater monitoring course in our community. Up to six participants will be registered and certified in monitoring protocols used by the Canadian Aquatic Biomonitoring Network (CABIN). Course fees will be paid for by Binche Whut'en, with training support from Living Lakes Canada and the Firelight Group.

### What is CABIN monitoring?

The CABIN protocol is a nationally recognized method for monitoring the health of streams. CABIN uses information about the water and insect community to assess aquatic ecosystem condition. CABIN monitoring can help us track the health of our streams, and certification also makes a great addition to your resume!

### How can I be involved?

In the coming weeks, we will be reaching out to community members, Elders, and knowledge holders to share their knowledge and vision for the streams and watersheds in our territory. For those interested in contributing to both projects, a single interview for the CCP and Freshwater Stewardship Project can be done together!

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