

MEDIA RELEASE

City of Williams Lake



For Immediate Release

July 28, 2023

450 Mart Street
Williams Lake, BC
V2G 1N3

City of Williams Lake Hires Indigenous Relations and Climate Action/Active Transportation Coordinator

The City of Williams Lake is pleased to announce it has hired Natalie Swift as its new Indigenous Relations and Climate Action/Active Transportation Coordinator (IRCAATC). The newly formed IRCAATC position focuses on active transportation, climate change and Indigenous relations.

The position was created at the direction of Council, who identified all three components of the position in its 2022-2026 Strategic Plan as part of the City's ongoing reconciliation efforts and commitment to climate action and active transportation initiatives.

"This Council has made a firm commitment to building strong, collaborative partnerships with Indigenous neighbours as we continue to focus on meaningful reconciliation," said Mayor Surinderpal Rathor. "In addition, mitigating the impacts of climate change through education and best practices, including reducing our carbon footprint through active transportation initiatives are extremely important now and in the future."

Swift, who has been working as the City's Recovery Coordinator addressing the River Valley flood recovery efforts for the past two years, will begin her new role on August 8th. Swift has a background in environmental management, experience working with Indigenous communities and a dedication to climate action.

As the IRCAATC Coordinator, Swift will work to advance and maintain the City's relationships with local Indigenous communities, as well as implement initiatives to increase the City's capacity to reduce its climate impact and to provide opportunities for the community to adapt to climate change, as well as support and promote active transportation initiatives in Williams Lake.

"We are looking forward to seeing this position in action," continued Mayor Rathor. "Our community will be well served having someone with Natalie's background and dedication in this important role."

-30-

Media Contact:

Gary Muraca, Chief Administrative Officer

gmuraca@williamslake.ca

Phone: 250.392.1775

City Hall: 250.392.2311