



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 5, 2022

Tsilhqot'in Nation Stands with Williams Lake

Williams Lake, B.C.: The Tsilhqot'in National Government is standing with the Williams Lake public, Tsilhqot'in members, and all that have been affected by the shooting over the weekend. The TNG would like to thank the Williams Lake Stampede organizers and staff, the RCMP and all first responders for effectively handling this tragic situation.

Williams Lake has a history of violent shootings but never has there been this level of violence in such a populated area. The Williams Lake Stampede is an iconic annual event for the area with many Tsilhqot'in members riding in by horse and wagon, bikes and other modes of transportation to celebrate it. Many Tsilhqot'in members also compete at the Stampede.

Quotes:

Nits'il?in (Chief) Joe Alphonse, O.B.C, Tsilhqot'in National Government

"We encourage everyone to talk to their friends, family, or the supports that we have in place. Nobody should feel unsafe in their community. This event has left many of our people traumatized and thinking about what could have happened. We are calling on anyone with information to speak with the RCMP. I would like to thank the stampede association and the rcmp for their quick response."

Nits'il?in Otis Guichon, Sr., Tsideldel First Nation, TNG Tribal Vice-Chair

"The Williams Lake Stampede is enjoyed by thousands of people every year. A shooting can be very triggering for anyone. Please, reach out to your family and friends. We need to feel safe to be safe."

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