

Williams Lake, Chilcotin, and West

Project Evaluation

August 2022

Overview:

InterAct has had ministry involvement over many of the last fifty years in the First Nations communities that lie to the west of Williams Lake. While at one time most of these communities were isolated and took many hours of travel over rough roads, now there is a ribbon of paved highway that connects most of these communities together. InterAct has placed numerous missionaries in the communities of Anahim Lake, Redstone, Stone, Dog River, Nemaiah Valley and Williams Lake. At one time this area formed the heart of InterAct in BC.

The past ten years has seen significant shifts in InterAct's involvement in these communities. Charlie and Judy Cook were involved itinerantly in the community of Anahim Lake. This eventually brought the recruitment of Andy and Jesi Chinn who served in Anahim Lake for five years. Steve and Jill Horsman and Don and Kim Gillaspie were a team in Redstone with the eventual transfer of Steve and Jill to Alaska. Jesse Tanis had retired to Williams Lake until he was transferred to his heavenly home in 2017. While not on staff with InterAct, Jim and Sue Carlson, James and Jamie Tanis, and Jon and Tracey Tanis are all imbedded in community.

This summer Don and Kim Gillaspie resigned after fifteen years of ministry taking a full-time position with the local First Nations band as the director of housing. This brings an end of InterAct staff in communities around Williams Lake.

There are Christ followers who live scattered in all the communities. Churches in Williams Lake have ministry that is linked to honoring First Nations peoples. Cariboo Community Church has shaped ministry that is focused on outreach to the communities west of Williams Lake. Paul Lomavatu is tasked with this ministry.

Goals:

Vision: To see disciples making disciples that gather in the communities of Williams Lake and to the west.

Mission: To continue to build partnerships with local Christ followers and like-minded churches that can encourage the growth and discipleship of First Nations Christians.

Objectives:

- 1) Promote InterAct as a partner organization among local church partners and local imbedded believers
- 2) Develop resources that encourage discipleship in First Nation worldview understanding and application
- 3) Invite local First Nations believers to events that encourage spiritual growth and vitality

Activities:

- 1) Plan a visit with local church leaders and imbedded community members
- 2) Be an advocate for the development of First Nations focused discipleship materials. NBC, Tetelistai, Chronological teaching, etc.
- 3) Networking of relationships through BC Native Christian Conference; NEFC; UIM; NAIM; Family Life (First Nations Marriage weekend)

Outcomes:

- 1) Itinerant ministry continues through relational connection of InterAct missionaries. Through social media, visits back to the community, or other relational connections.
- 2) Imbedded community members continue to be a needed witness of reconciliation with Christ. This ongoing witness and testimony continue to bear fruit. Though not connected to InterAct there are strong roots of InterAct's earlier work in these communities.
- 3) Worldview, biblical counseling, relational discipleship have all been key ministry tools that have influenced and been used to varying degrees in communities.