

Ktunaxa Holdings Limited Partnership

# Business Group Newsletter

January to June 2021



## Ktunaxa Enterprises Ltd.

### Business Successes

The KHLP business group concluded the first full fiscal year March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Financial information indicates the conclusion of a strong year and we look forward to share the Financial Reports once our financial statements are available.



KTUNAXA ENTERPRISES LTD.



Gerald Puhach: Manager of  
Nupqu Native Plants Nursery 1

# High Level Activities & Events

KEL supported the expansion of the KHLP business presence and the representation of our collective capacities throughout the Ktunaxa Territory over the first quarter of 2021. We have recently opened an office in Castlegar to support growth and diversification for our collective group. We believe this will strengthen current relationships with vendors in the area and assist in creating new ones through our increased business footprint.

Kettle River Contracting LP concluded the second phase of the land purchase in Elkford and now owns three lots that support the presence and footprint of Ktunaxa Businesses in the Elk Valley. We view this as a strategic acquisition that supports our relationship and operations with Teck Coal moving forward.



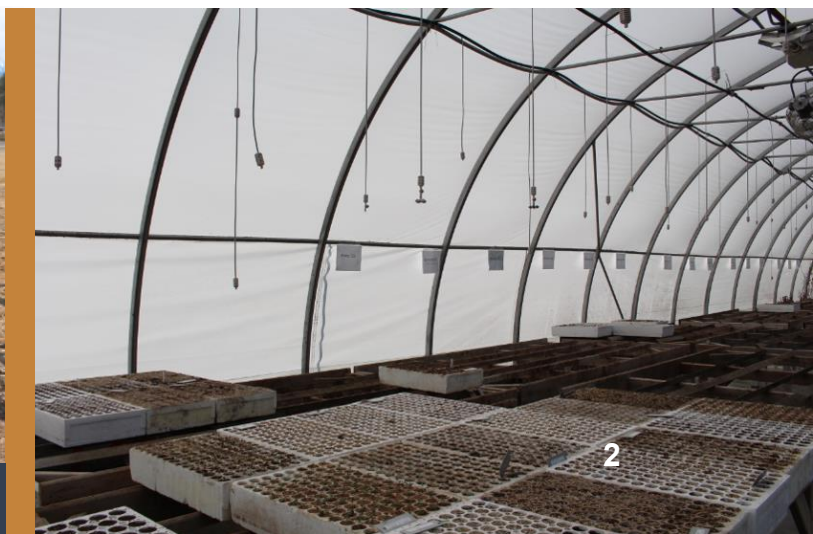
*Lindsey Neil, Nupqu Senior Archaeologist stands in front of the entrance to the new Castlegar office.*

# KEL Team Building Event

The KEL team celebrated a Team Day in March and engaged with Nupqu at their Native Plant greenhouses. We wish to thank Nupqu for hosting us. We appreciated seeing the diligent work conducted, meet the knowledgeable staff, and witness the value added through this past acquisition of Tipi Mountain Native Plant Ltd. We are looking forward to seeing what the future holds for this division!



*Left to Right: Hennie Tait, Aaron Higgs, & Gerald Puhach*





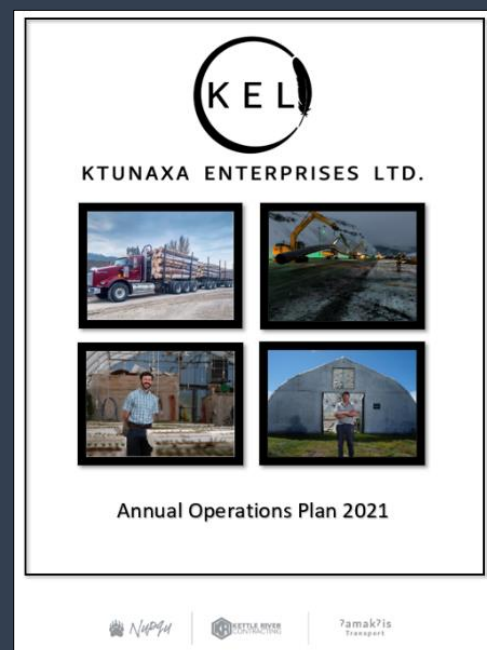
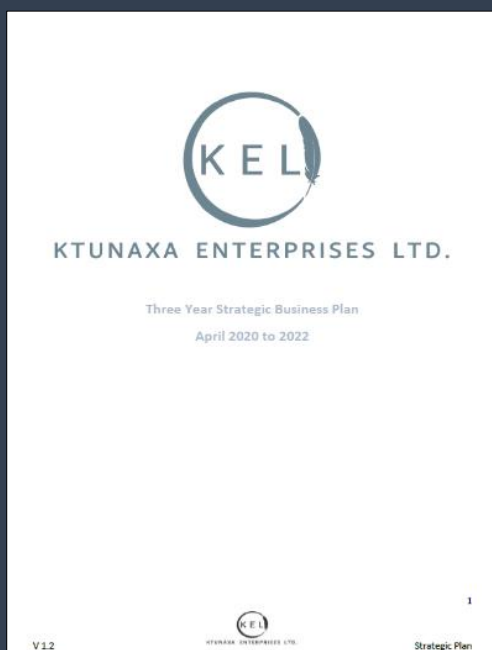
Left to Right: Mirella TBaillie, Hennie Tait, Heather Burrows, Chief Joe Pierre, & Tracey Tarasoff

## KEL Team Building Event

We also met with Chief Joe Pierre, who shared the Ktunaxa Creation Story with our team. Thank you, Chief Joe, for your time and the cultural experience shared with us.

## Strategic Planning

KEL developed a Strategic Plan and Operations Plan for the fiscal April 2021 to March 2022, and supported Nupku and KRC with their plans as well. This provided us with a good opportunity to support and align each business unit with the KEL strategic vision and individual areas of focus to further each entities objectives.



# Engaging with Local Artisan

KEL would like to extend our sincere thank you to Arrowhead Engraving and Seven Feathers Design for providing Ktunaxa Enterprises Ltd. with their first KEL sign. Their beautiful work is prominently displayed in the KEL boardroom and has received numerous compliments.

# Community Participation



KEL took part in the Sam Steele Cash Stache and donated \$100 towards the St Eugene's Restaurant "The 19<sup>th</sup> Hole Bar & Grill" as part of the restaurant gift certificate prize. KEL would like to thank the Sam Steele Society for holding this virtual event.

The KEL team was happy to participate in Go-By-Bike week with the Cranbrook Community and helping our environment. Through the short week, KEL's small team managed to save 18 kg in greenhouse gases. Dalicia has continued to diligently ride her bike to work long after this event has passed.

# New Hires/Staffing Updates

The KEL team welcomes Heather Burrows back to the team after a one-year maternity leave. Congratulations with the new addition to your family!

We are also very excited to share that KEL has hired Spencer Pasowisty as our Director of Business Development. This position was created to support our growth for the KHLP group. Spencer brings a wealth of knowledge, and entrepreneurial perspective to our team, and is proudly Indigenous. Welcome Spencer!

As per our recently approved Hiring Policy, all new job opportunities made available within the KHLP business group will be circulated to each Ktunaxa Community and the KNC. Hiring preference is given to qualified Ktunaxa applicants. Since March, 75 employment opportunities have been generated within the KHLP business group.



*Sheri Corrie from Arrow Engraving and Seven Feathers*



*Left to Right: Dalicia Reeser, Tracey Tarasoff, Heather Burrows, & Mirella TBaillie*



*Director of Business Development:  
Spencer Pasowisty*

# Upcoming Exciting Projects

KEL is seeking means to consolidate the corporate offices of all KHLP businesses in Cranbrook. We are assessing our current and future needs as well as available opportunities.

We believe that the benefit of a consolidated office space will support our growth and standardization with our business units that will complement our objectives in the long run.

KEL and our shareholder board, Numco, will be having our first Annual General Meeting in October 2021. We look forward to sharing our operational highlights, detailed financials, and strategic direction with our shareholders.

Due to COVID 19 protocols and associated planning, we will be sending out invitations and requesting RSVPs. Check your inbox for the details shortly.



KTUNAXA ENTERPRISES LTD.



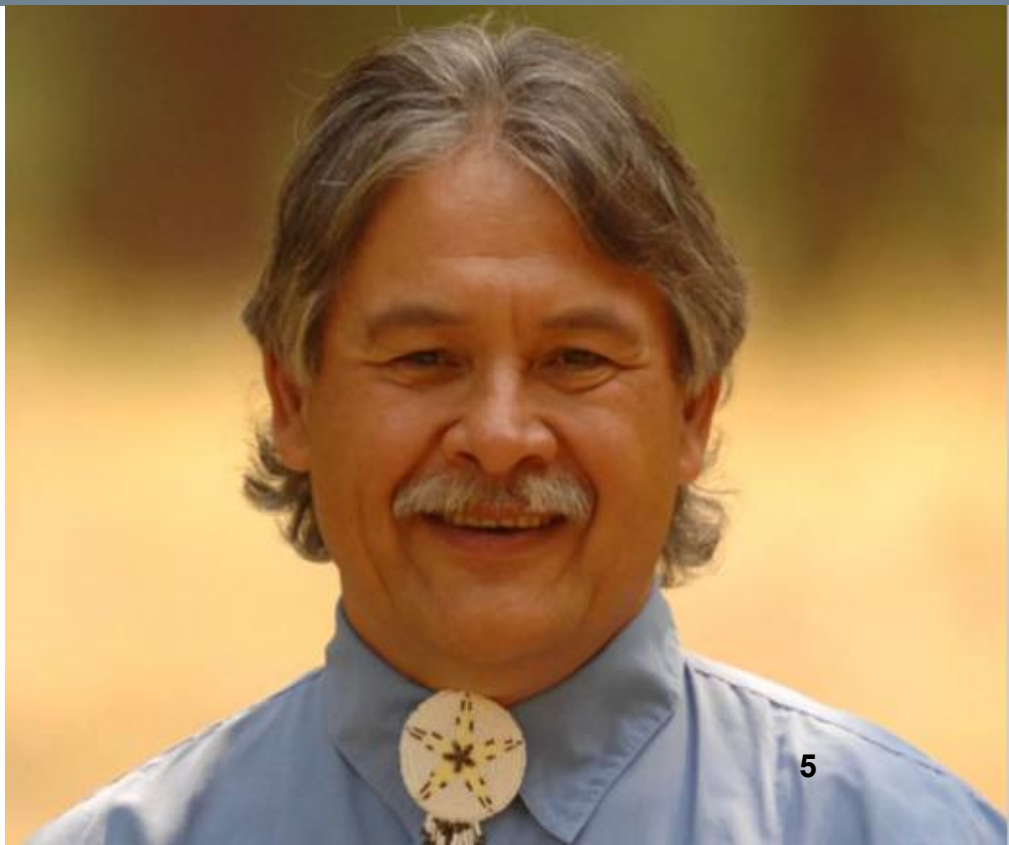
ʔamakʔis Transport

Associated with Kettle River Enterprises Ltd. 

## Other Messages/ Notes

KEL would like to extend our congratulations to our KEL Board member Garry Merkel for successfully obtaining his Honorary Doctorate Degree in Science. Garry is part of the Tahltan Nation and has contributed to First Nation communities in various ways. We are grateful to have such a knowledgeable director with an inspiring background as a part of our team.

***KEL Board Director Garry Merkel***





# Sales Summary



Q3 & Q4:  
\$99,530.64

Amakis

# Amakis Transport

## Amakis Transport Inc. Successes

Amakis has successfully obtained and passed the BC Forestry Safety Audit in February, recognizing Amakis as a BC SAFE Certified company. This process included completing Amakis Transport's first Occupational Health and Safety Manual, which outlines our commitment to safety through all aspects of operations.

Amakis also obtained the National Safety Certification, demonstrating our knowledge and adherence to safe operations of our log hauling vehicles.

## High Level Activities & Events

Amakis, the newest entity to join KEL's business units, has recently expanded its operations to acquire a second truck, K186E. This addition also joins the exclusive United Steel Worker fleet, which offers beneficial log hauling opportunities. The log hauling agreement with Canfor has concluded in May and K186E's first day of operations commenced June 1<sup>st</sup>.

We want to take this opportunity to thank Canfor for their support with this expansion opportunity.

**BC Forest Safety Council**  
**SAFE Companies Program**



**Amakis Transport Inc.**

*In recognition of meeting the requirements for certification in the SAFE Companies program, demonstrating leadership in making safety an overriding priority and ensuring every employee returns home safely.*

*Amakis Second Truck K186E*





*Amakis Board of Directors from left to right: John Zimmer, Hennie Tait (CEO), Corrie Walkley, & Bob Luke*

## New Hires

We are excited to welcome Bob Luke to the Amakis Board of Directors. Bob has worked for the Ktunaxa Nation Council for over 11 years and is a member of the Tobacco Plains Band.

Bob was first elected into Tobacco Plains Council in 2005, which sparked his participation and inclusion over the past years on various boards such as; Flexinet, Eagle Vision, SHL, NUMCO, KNC Finance Committee, and Nupqu. We are excited to leverage Bob's expertise.

## Staffing Updates

We are happy to welcome Vern Kopp as the newly appointed Canfor operator for Amakis asset K186E.

Vern started Log hauling at the age of 17 before becoming fully licensed at 19 years of age. We are delighted to have such a knowledgeable and experienced individual joining our team. Vern, your passion is appreciated!

We are grateful to welcome Canfor's newest interim driver Roland Buckman. Roland is a Ktunaxa individual who grew up in Fort Steele. Roland worked in Fort Steele's Wild Horse Theater and managed three theaters on the coast before commencing his trucking career in 2003. We thank Roland for filling in for the drivers when needed and maintaining the consistency of operations.

***Canfor Amakis Truck Operators from left to right: Roland Buckman & Vern Kopp***





Kettle River Contracting Limited Partnership

## Successes

Kettle River Contracting's operations team successfully wrapped up a few major projects for Teck Coal which took place during challenging winter conditions. Notably, these included a construction of a Spillway at the Fording River site and a series of remote access roads and drill pads at the back of the Elkview Mine.

The Kettle River team also jumped on an opportunity with TC Energy replacing pipeline right-of-way signs throughout Western Alberta and Southeastern BC. To date, client reviews from the project have been positive, and we have hopes of winning more work from TC Energy's operations group in the future.

## Sales Summary

~ \$10 million  
Q3 & Q4

This is a relatively strong number for what is typically a slower period.

Kettle River |  
Fred Hargrave, President

p: 587-646-4751  
e: [Fred.hargrave@kettlerivercontracting.com](mailto:Fred.hargrave@kettlerivercontracting.com)  
[kettlerivercontracting.com](http://kettlerivercontracting.com)



# High Level Activities & Events

After ramping down winter projects, preparation for the 2021 construction season began. April and May saw the starting point of 4 projects which will continue into the fall. The largest of these is the Eagle 4 Saturated Rock Fill project at the Teck Coal Fording River Mine. More than 50 people will be employed on this project alone.

Work on the Fortis BC Inland Gas Upgrade project has also begun. This project will have crews working at over 40 different pipeline sites. As a result, we will see KRC vehicles and equipment on and around public roads near Sparwood, Elkford, Cranbrook and Kimberley.



## New Hires

We successfully acquired four Indigenous hires. One of these employees have already been promoted in assisting with supervising the TC Energy Project.

With a busy upcoming season Kettle River has grown our project engineering team with the addition of 3 new hires, all of whom will be site based.

The new hires bring a mix of experience in construction, design engineering, and project management. Just as importantly, they are buying into a culture of continuous improvement and have already brought new ideas and process improvements to the table

## Upcoming Projects

It is always exciting to get back to work for Teck Coal's environment group performing reclamation and soil salvage activities. The crew started rolling in late May and notably this year's work includes a reclamation trial area developed in collaboration between Teck and the KNC at the Brownie East area.





# Nupqu

## Nupqu Resource Limited Partnership

### Successes

The Nupqu Fernie team is excited to move into their newly renovated office space in Fernie, and the Nupqu Cranbrook team is looking forward to eventually consolidating office space with KEL and Kettle River.

Nupqu has concluded another move with the expansion of our operations into a Castlegar office in collaboration with KEL and Kettle River to support West Kootenay business opportunities.

Many projects have successfully advanced in the last six months. Nupqu conducted the remediation work for the BC hydro Bugaboo Dam Decommissioning Project to successfully decommission an earthen dam built 60 years ago.

Nupqu has been participating in the Kicking Horse Canyon Highway 1 project by conducting high-risk tree falling work. A WorkSafe audit was conducted during this work and Nupqu was found to be 100% compliant with all expected health and safety practices.

We are taking part in the Teck Coal Phase II of the Elkview Saturated Rock Fill program and are supporting the Eagle 4 Saturated Rock Fill Tracer Testing Program.

And finally, Nupqu continues with their safety contract with the BC Hydro Mica dam project with providing safety coordinators and a Mobile Transport Unit.

With the support of grants, equipment investments were made to improve the operations of Nupqu's Native Plant Nursery. A new soiler machine was acquired to greatly enhance the productivity of planting and a larger wood boiler was obtained to heat the greenhouses. The new boiler will reduce cost and CO2 emissions and increase efficiency. With our new climate-controlled winter storage facility we were able to reduce the casualties of our plants by 90 percent from our previous years.

## Sales Summary



Q3 & Q4:  
\$5,294,470.21

Nupqu |

Aaron Higgs, President

p: 250.489.5762  
e: ahiggs@nupqu.com  
nupqu.com

*Nupqu's New Fernie Office*



*ETV on a Teck Exploration Site*





*Pictured Above: Nupqu's new soiler machine & seedlings*

## High Level Activities & Events

Nupqu continues to work closely with KEL to streamline administrative services and promote synergies and alignment to KEL policies. One part of this is the joint efforts of standardization and stabilization of our financial operations to produce accurate and timely financial information.

Nupqu delivered a 3-Year Strategic Plan and a 1-Year Operations Plan to the Nupqu Board of Directors, which was duly approved at the 2020-2021 Q4 Board meeting at the end of April. These plans were developed in collaboration with KEL staff to ensure alignment with the broader organization.

We are continuing to work through the divestiture of our asset in D&B Flaggging and Traffic Control to our partner in the venture, ʔaąam Community Enterprises. We hope to close the sale of our shares in the company in the early part of Q2 of 2021-2022.

### 2021-2024 Strategic Plan



Nupqu Resource Limited Partnership  
 Cranbrook: 7443 Mission Road Cranbrook, BC V1C 7E5  
 Fernie: # B – 1562 9th Avenue Fernie, BC V0B 1M0  
 Mainline: 250 489 5762  
[www.nupqu.com](http://www.nupqu.com)



March 31, 2021

### 2021 Operations Plan



Nupqu Resource Limited Partnership  
 Cranbrook: 7443 Mission Road Cranbrook, BC V1C 7E5  
 Fernie: # B – 1562 9th Avenue Fernie, BC V0B 1M0  
 Mainline: 250 489 5762  
[www.nupqu.com](http://www.nupqu.com)



March 31, 2021

# New Hires

As part of the 2021 field season recruitment drive, we have hired 15 new staff. In addition, we have welcomed one of our long-time Senior Environmental Technicians, Tyler Fortin, into his new role as a Project Manager, one of four in the Environmental Division. Another transition saw a long-time Senior Forestry Technician and Safety Coordinator, Linda McVetty, start her new role as our Safety and Training Coordinator. In addition to this, we have recently hired Daniel Bauer, as a new addition to the accounting team.



*Archaeology Team Conducting Shovel Tests*

# Upcoming Projects

Nupqu will be supporting various aspects of the 2021 Fortis Inland Gas upgrade; the Archaeology Division has delivered permit-enabling investigations of the construction sites. Nupqu chainsaw and tree falling crews, along with safety and environmental monitoring staff, are working alongside Kettle River to create access roads and construction site preparation, at which time Nupqu will be providing environmental monitoring and fire abatement services directly to the pipeline contractor.

Nupqu has added a Reclamation Technician to its growing team of resident contractors embedded in Teck operational teams (now up to 9 full time personnel). Nupqu hopes to build upon this role to expand the lifecycle of reclamation services it offers, complimented by our Native Plants Nursery operations.

Four Nupqu staff have received tree climbing training as part of Nupqu's expansion of tree seed collection activities specifically supported by and to supply TC Energy white bark pine as part of their Westpath pipeline expansion impact-offsetting. Seed collection is already a part of Nupqu's Nursery operations for native plant production. This new capacity will enable Nupqu to supply seed collection for White bark pine, a federally listed species at risk, for clients such as Teck and Kicking Horse Contractors.

Nupqu forestry personnel is currently conducting surveying and layout for new roads and substation infrastructure for the BC Hydro Natal substation. This project involves the application of cutting-edge new surveying equipment, capable of mapping data points to sub-meter accuracy that will be layered into GIS mapping for delivery to the client and support 2022 construction/development planning. To also aid in the 2022 construction planning, Nupqu, in partnership with Golder, is conducting Archaeology assessments on the substation and transmission line expansion areas.

Nupqu will be embarking on several of our annual field season programs for Teck Coal. These programs tend to expand year on year as we take on additional scopes of work. These include: Regional Trail Camera Maintenance and Interpretation, Castle Exploration Environmental Monitoring, Fish Salvage work at all the Teck Mine Sites, and Invasive plant Treatment at all the Teck Mine Sites



*Team Conducting Seed Collection*

*KHLP & KEL have been benefiting from increased capacity and have made great strides meeting our shareholders expectations and operational objectives. Our business units have continued to meet operational expectations over the past six months and we anticipate this performance to continue throughout the remainder of the year.*

– Hennie Tait, CEO

**KEL** | Hennie Tait, CEO.

p: 250-420-2745

e: [hennie.tait@ktunaxaenterprises.ca](mailto:hennie.tait@ktunaxaenterprises.ca)

[www.ktunaxaenterprises.ca](http://www.ktunaxaenterprises.ca)



KTUNAXA ENTERPRISES LTD.



Nupqu



KETTLE RIVER  
CONTRACTING

?amak?is  
Transport