



# TSESHAHT FIRST NATION

5091 Tsuma-as Dr. Port Alberni, BC V9Y 8X9  
P: 250.724.1225 | F: 250.724.4385 | Tseshaht.com

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June 28, 2022

## – COMMUNITY NOTICE –

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**Warning:** The following may be triggering for some. Support is available. Information on Cultural and Mental Health Supports and other resources are listed at the end of this notice.

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ʔuuʔatumin yaqck<sup>wi</sup>imitqin (Doing it for our Ancestors) Alberni Indian Residential School Project (AIRS) has hired GeoScan to conduct Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) and other appropriate scanning techniques and will begin their work in the former residential school area starting July 11, 2022, for two weeks. The company will be operating their machines over the area in various locations; please give them space to do their work.

We will ensure cultural protocol leads the work by consulting with our advisory support team. Scanning will be conducted with compassion and care as not to disrupt possible burial locations. We recognize this work may be difficult for our people and those who carry memories connected to AIRS. Together we are working to find answers from the past and bring truth to the present.

This part of the research is difficult but important work. Results from GPR will take time to analyze, process and will be summarized in a report. Those that are doing the scanning will not know the results or findings until the scanning results have been analyzed, and this process could take months to complete. Tseshaht will provide a statement to the appropriate audience down the road as more scanning may be required, this includes our members, those living near the research area, Survivors and Nations who had members attend AIRS.

We honor our ancestors by taking on this important work as a community to seek the answers that Survivors and those that did not make it home, need, and deserve.



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We have a responsibility to do this important work. We appreciate the community standing behind us to help Survivors during this time.

If you have any questions or information about this work or the project, please contact Ken Watts (Wahmeesh) or Victoria White at 250-724-1225.

You can also visit our website for updates at [www.tseshaht.com](http://www.tseshaht.com)

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## **Cultural and Mental Health Supports available**

Healing and support for local Survivors, Elders, Members and others can reach out to Linda Pelech, Counselling support at 250-242-0114.

Other mental health support contacts:

Quu'asa Cultural Support (Nuu-chah-nulth members only)  
250-724-3939

KUU-US Crisis Line Society  
1-800-388-8717  
[www.kuu-uscrisisline.com](http://www.kuu-uscrisisline.com)

Hope For Wellness  
1-855-242-3310

Indian Residential Schools Crisis Line  
1-800-721-0066