



# TSESHAHT FIRST NATION

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September 11, 2023

## — COMMUNITY NOTICE —

**Warning:** The following information may be triggering for some, please refer to the Cultural, Mental Health Supports, and other resources are listed at the end of this notice.

The ʔuuʔatumin yaqckʷiimitqin (Doing it for our Ancestors) Alberni Indian Residential School Project (AIRS) team will commence phase 2 scanning of priority areas on their territory this month. In collaboration with Tseshaht's Ground Crew, who will work to clear and prepare the land for scanning, GeoScan will provide technical support to the scanning efforts. This work will be done throughout the territory from September 11 - October 6, 2023.

Scanning (which includes GPR) will continue to be conducted in a respectful and compassionate way following cultural protocols. We ask the community to provide the GeoScan crew the necessary space to conduct their work. We recognize that this work can be a difficult topic for all those carrying memories connected to AIRS, but together we are working to find answers from the past and bring truth to the present.

Our community's well-being is essential during this work and as we begin the next phase in this process, we remind Survivors and community members that we are just beginning to uncover the truth of what happened at AIRS. We honour our ancestors by doing this work to seek the answers that Survivors and those that did not make it home need and deserve. We appreciate the community standing with us to help Survivors during this time.

If you have any questions or require information about this work or the project, please contact Project Coordinator, Leanne Harding 250.724.1225.

### HELP IS ALWAYS HERE FOR YOU

We are committed to providing healing and support to Tseshaht members, and AIRS Survivors during the ʔuuʔatumin yaqckʷiimitqin (Doing it for our Ancestors) project.

Mental Health and Cultural Supports:

- AIRS Counselling Support, Linda Pelech 250.242.0114
- Brushings and AIRS Cultural Support, Aaron Watts 250.730.3216
- Quu'asa Cultural Support (Nuu-chah-nulth members only) 250.724.3939
- KUU-US Crisis Line Society [www.kuu-uscrisisline.com](http://www.kuu-uscrisisline.com) 1.800.388.8717
- Hope for Wellness 1.855.242.3310
- Indian Residential Schools Crisis Line 1.800.721.0066
- Tsow Tun Lelum 1.250.390.3123