



2025 – 2029

GOOZIH PILOT FUNDING:

A Nak'azdli Whut'en land-based funding program

August 1, 2025
Nak'azdli Whut'en
Administered by the Yinka Huwunline Department



NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN
PO Box 1329 | 120 Highway 27
Fort St. James, BC V0J 1P0
Tel: 250.996.7171

Dear Nak'azdli Members,

We are writing to share an update on the Goozih Pilot Program and confirm that Chief and Council has approved \$500,000 in annual funding for the next four years to support land-based activities. This program will provide up to \$1,000 per household to help reduce barriers and support our members in returning to the land.

We want to acknowledge and thank the Keyoh Working Group for their original proposal and the years of effort they dedicated to shaping this work. While a final resolution was not reached, their contributions laid a strong foundation and helped surface many of the questions we must continue to address together. Their leadership has directly informed the current direction of this program and the broader Keyoh Strategic Planning work now underway.

Nak'azdli Whut'en remains committed to supporting Keyoh members through fair and transparent processes. While achieving full alignment has been challenging, these discussions have emphasized the importance of developing clearer policies and decision-making frameworks that strengthen Keyoh governance. We are committed to taking steps soon to address these needs.

We also extend our appreciation to the Yinka Huwunline office for its tireless advocacy and effort to ensure that opportunities like this remain accessible, fair, and responsive to community needs.

We recognize that access to the land is essential to our health, identity, and responsibilities as Dakelh people. For many members, a lack of basic equipment or supports makes that access more difficult. This program is one small but important step in helping ease that hardship. By focusing on foundational needs, this funding provides short-term support while further planning is done in partnership with Keyoh holders. Future approaches to cabin funding, infrastructure, and long-term governance must be guided by our own principles and values. This work is in progress. In the meantime, this program offers a way to help our families stay connected to their land and their Keyoh.

We remain committed to this path and to supporting one another with respect and responsibility.

Mussi,

Chief Colleen M. Erickson

On behalf of Nak'azdli Whut'en Chief and Council



GOOZIH APPLICATION

| | |
|---|---|
| PURPOSE: | The Goozih Pilot Program is a four-year initiative running from 2025 to 2029. Chief and Council has approved \$500,000 in funding annually, to be distributed as \$1,000 grants per household. The purpose is to support land-based activities that help members reconnect with their Keyoh, uphold cultural practices, and reduce the financial barriers that prevent members from accessing the land |
| MAX FUNDING / APPLICATION: | \$1,000.00 / household |
| MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT ELIGIBILITY: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Canvas tents, lumber for temporary shelter ▪ Chainsaws, axes, brush saws ▪ Flashlights, lanterns, bear spray, first aid kits ▪ Cooking gear, sleeping bags, tarps, coolers, Water containers, fuel (vehicle, boat, ATV), storage bins ▪ Minor solar kits, GPS units, radios, wildlife cameras ▪ Other tools and safety supplies needed for Keyoh access ▪ General equipment or supports for existing cabins |
| NOTES & EXCLUSIONS: | <i>Specialty items may be considered if they support cultural or land-based use.</i> |
| PAYMENT DISBURSEMENT: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All payments will be made through Purchase Orders or Cheque Requisitions to vendors • No cash payments will be issued • Where feasible, gas cards or materials may be purchased directly by the YH Department • Proof of purchase (receipts or photos) must be submitted within 30 days of receiving support |
| REQUIRED PROJECT REPORTING | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A short report and documentation (photos, summary of activities) are required upon completion • No new applications will be accepted from the same household until previous reporting is complete |
| HOUSEHOLD RESPONSIBILITY AND FAMILY COORDINATION | Nak'azdli Whut'en will not be held responsible for disputes between family members regarding the use of this funding. We strongly encourage family meetings to ensure agreement on who will apply and how the funding will be used. If someone in your household has already received support, you will not be eligible again until the next cycle. Please communicate openly with your family before applying. |

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS:

1. APPLICATION SUBMISSION

- Completed applications must be submitted to the Yinka Huwunline Department through the Keyoh Liaison.
- Incomplete applications will not be processed and will be returned with instructions for revision.

2. ANONYMIZED REVIEW FOR FAIRNESS

- Personal identifiers (such as names or family affiliations) will be removed before applications are reviewed.
- The review team will assess each application based only on the information provided about the project and requested materials, without knowing the applicant's identity.

3. MONTHLY PROCESSING CAPACITY

- Up to **10 applications** will be reviewed and processed each month, based on the department's available capacity.
- Applications will be reviewed in the order they are received.

4. DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

- No direct cash payments will be made to applicants.
- Approved purchases will be made by the Yinka Huwunline Department using:
 - **Purchase Orders (POs)** or **Cheque Requisitions** to vendors
 - Where possible, materials (e.g., gas cards or equipment) may be bought directly by YH staff
- This ensures funds are used for their intended purpose and allows for proper financial tracking.

5. CONFIRMATION AND NOTIFICATION

- Applicants will receive a notice once their application has been reviewed, including next steps for how items will be ordered or arranged.

6. REPORTING REQUIREMENT

- Within 30 days of receiving support, applicants must submit:
 - Receipts or photos of items received
 - A short-written summary of how the support was used
- Future applications will not be accepted from the same household until required reporting is submitted.

7. FAMILY COORDINATION AND HOUSEHOLD LIMITS

- Only one application per household will be approved each year.
- Families are responsible for deciding who will apply. The program will not mediate family disputes related to funding.
- Applicants are encouraged to speak with their family members before applying to avoid confusion.



NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN GOOZIH PILOT PROJECT YINKA HUWUNLINE

NAK'AZDLI MEMBER NAME: _____

NAK'AZDLI BAND REGISTRATION #: _____

DATE OF SUBMISSION: _____

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- REMINDER – your address will be tracked to ensure only one applicant per household.
- Ensure that all submissions adhere to the guidelines set forth in the Goozih Pilot Project framework.
- We encourage applicants to request the full amount of funding in one application to help reduce delays.
- Documentation must be thorough to demonstrate the merit of your application.
- Keep in mind that proof of purchase is required for all stages of the project, and reports must be submitted in a timely manner.
- If you have received Keyoh or Goozih funding in the past, please provide proof of completion.
- You may attach photos, letters of support from Keyoh holders, or other documentation.
- The Yinka Huwunline office may contact you for further details if needed.
- Accepting this funding does not weaken your claim or rights to your Keyoh. It does not transfer authority to the band or any other government. This funding is simply provided as support
- If you require assistance filling your applications, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Yinka Huwunline, Keyoh Liaison @ 250-996-0088.

GOOZIH PILOT PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

| | | |
|---|------------------|--------|
| APPLICANT(S) INFORMATION | | |
| GOOZIH – Land based funding: \$1,000.00 | | |
| PLEASE PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT: | | |
| | | |
| COMPLETE BREAKDOWN OF ALL REQUESTED FUNDING NEEDS | | |
| DESCRIPTION OF ALL ITEMS, MATERIAL AND SUPPLIES | ✓ QUOTE ATTACHED | AMOUNT |
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| IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION COSTS (if applicable): | ✓ QUOTE ATTACHED | AMOUNT |
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| TOTAL COST OF PROPOSED FUNDING NEEDS | | \$ |