

TSAWOUT FIRST NATION

NEWSLETTER

www.tsawout.ca

JANUARY 2021



NEW COMMUNITY SAFETY BYLAWS

The Lands Department has been working hard on developing three new safety bylaws for Tsawout. These bylaws will ensure better enforcement of safety concerns within our community.

The new bylaws include: Nuisance Premises Law, Disorderly Conduct and Safe Premises and Community Protection Law.

Read more on page 05.

HEALTH & REC GRANT

Applications for the Health & Recreation Grant can be found on Tsawout's website. Please complete a new application if your information has changed.

More details on page 03.

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TSOW-TUN LE LUM
Helping House
is offering outreach services

We understand this time of isolation can be a lonely, fearful, and difficult time. We are here to help.

Our Cultural Support Team and Counselling staff are here to provide confidential support by phone, email, facetime, zoom, etc. Please reach out to us so we can assist you.

Toll-Free phone number:
1-888-403-3123

Call our OFFICE at
250-390-3123



Monday - Friday: 9:00am - Noon / 1:00pm - 4:00 pm

Or reach out on our
Facebook Page:
Tsow Tun Le Lum RHSW Support

HEALTH & RECREATION GRANT INFO

2021 Health and Recreation Grant Applications are available to download on www.tsawout.ca, under the Health Department Section. Fill out application, scan and email to adminassist@tsawout.ca or bring to the Admin Office.

You must submit a new application if your information has changed. Changes can include:

- Number of dependents
- Mailing Address
- Direct Deposit Request
- You have recently turned 19 (aged out of youth)

In addition, if there is a specific person taking care of a child (mother/father/grand-parent) and all parties agree the grant funds be allocated to that specific person, please ask for an Agreement Form to fill out. **All parties must complete and sign the form at the office.**

BCAFN COVID-19 UPDATES

"COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective, and will save lives.

With the arrival of the first COVID-19 vaccines in Canada, many people are eagerly awaiting the rollout of vaccination programs. Others are unsure if the vaccine itself will be effective and safe. Medical officers at the FNHA are recommending the COVID vaccine as the best option to protect individuals, their families, and their communities.

Feeling worried or hesitant is completely normal when something is new, however we can be reassured that Health Canada has a thorough approval process that ensures the safety of COVID vaccines, just like for other vaccines and medicines we take routinely.

"It's understandable that some people, especially Indigenous people, may lack trust in the medical system," said Dr. Shannon McDonald, acting Chief Medical Officer of the FNHA. "Vaccine trials go through rigorous, well-established ethical processes. We can feel assured that vaccines are safe, effective and that they will save lives." - **FNHA**



BC Recovery Benefit



Apply now for the BC Recovery Benefit, a one-time, tax-free payment of up to \$1,000 for eligible families and single parents and up to \$500 for eligible individuals. You have until **June 30, 2021** to apply.

Eligibility criteria:

- Who are residents of B.C. on December 18, 2020
- Who are at least 19 years old on December 18, 2020, or meet specific eligibility criteria
- Who filed a 2019 Canadian personal income tax return, or meet specific eligibility criteria
- Who have a valid social insurance number, individual tax number or temporary tax number

Apply at: www2.gov.bc.ca and search for BC Recovery Benefit

FNLC COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESOURCES

First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) has a COVID-19 Emergency Resource website.

Find accurate and timely information for all B.C. First Nations, including how to access financial supports, health resources, and the latest news on COVID-19.

Visit www.fnlcemergency.ca for more information.



Please Note:

Tswout is awaiting more information regarding the vaccine schedule for our community. We will provide further information as soon as we have more details.

LANDS DEPARTMENT - COMMUNITY SAFETY BYLAWS

The Lands Department has been working hard on developing three new safety Bylaws for Tsawout.

These Bylaws will ensure better enforcement of safety concerns within **STÁUTW** community. The Bylaws are as follows:

- **STÁUTW** First Nation Nuisance Premises Law 2020-05, a Bylaw to regulate and prohibit unsightly and nuisance premises;
- **STÁUTW** First Nation Disorderly Conduct Law 2020-06, a Bylaw to regulate and prohibit disorderly conduct and nuisances;
- **STÁUTW** First Nation Safe Premises and Community Protection Law 2020-07, a Bylaw to regulate and encourage safety and protection of **STÁUTW** community. This Bylaw is still in draft form and being completed to be presented for Council approval shortly.

The approved Bylaws are available publicly on the Tsawout First Nation website for review. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Lands Department staff at the Main Administration Office at (250) 652-9101.

The overarching goal of these Bylaws is to encourage a safer Tsawout Community for all residents.



TSAWOUT FIRST NATION

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POLICY, LAWS & AGREEMENTS

The Tsawout Lands Department has many laws, policies and agreements. Select a link below to view or download each document.

Land Law

Policies & Agreements

Membership Law

Q

Document Title

Disorderly Conduct Bylaw

NEW

Nuisance Premises Bylaw

NEW

Comprehensive Community Plan

SUPPORTING DOCS

Land Code

Building Inspection Law



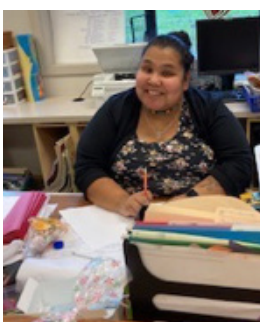
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT - HOLIDAY UPDATE

The Children's Christmas Parade was held on December 18, 2020. This year's contributors to the Christmas Children's Parade included the following partners:

- Gus Underwood and Underwood Family - a 500\$ gift for a (turkey-based) sharing - through Thrifty's gift cards
- NITEL Child and Family Services provided a \$2,500 contribution that went towards 196 Christmas stockings, toys, and candy bags for children ages 0-13.
- Extreme Outreach provided a generous donation of 154 Christmas stockings for children ages 6-13; various bulk gifts that included (stuffies, toothbrushes, toothpaste, small toys, toques, hats, mitts, socks, nail polish). This donation was dedicated in memory of the late Tabita Marks.
- Tsawout Social Development provided \$25 gift cards to Mayfair Mall for youth aged 14-18
- Tsawout Administration provided \$25 food gift cards to all members.

The Tsawout Education Department would like to thank our Youth Mentors, Maintenance Staff, Youth Wellness Worker, Head Start Coordinator, Learning House Staff, Social Development Staff, Executive Assistant, Band Manager, Councillor Abe Pelkey and Warren for all their hard work organizing, putting together the gift boxes, decorating delivery trucks and delivering gift boxes to each household inside and outside of the community. The delivery day was a downpour with plenty of hiccups, but collectively, we all were grateful that we could do something for the children and community.

Sending good thoughts and best wishes for the New Year!



LEARNING HOUSE COORDINATOR UPDATE

2020 has been a blur for me with the most uncertain times and ever-changing emotions with COVID-19 impacting each one's personal well-being, and our relationships with family and friends and adjusting the settings of our school, work and worship places. I have returned to my office and I thank you all for your prayers and kind words. It is a great loss to not have my sister, Tabita Marks, physically working alongside me, but in my heart I keep many happy memories and lessons.

I want to make special mention and say, HÍSWKE SIAM to my work colleague, Michelle McDormand, for helping me during a very trying time and helping to make the transition with the Headstart Program during the time my sister was very ill up until her leaving us to her home in Glory. Each smile of support, greeting, prayer and virtual hug has been received and has not gone unnoticed.



Thank you, parents and relatives, for entrusting your child/ren with our new staff, who are feeling very excited to have this opportunity to work at Tsawout Learning House. The last Tsawout Newsletter I submitted was a collaboration of the Education Department April 2020, one month after we were all hit with the COVID-19 Pandemic. I want to reflect on the Tsawout Learning House student's activity prior to the shutdown. In the "normal time" of hosting visitors and students supporting one another in close-proximity. I have included photos of the students participating in Byte Camp with our facilitators and V.N.F.C. staff.



BYTE CAMP 2020 funded through a grant from FNIYES (First Nations Education Steering Committee) Skills Link Program

Since the adjustments of Tsawout Learning House in March 2020, T.L.H. cancelled multiple on-site programs such as the Spring Break and Summer Camp 2020 but the Tsawout Education Staff met daily during the weeks that remained for your child/ren's school year 2019-2020. We have been an advocate to support communication to the school(s) for your child's/ren's academic or emotional needs and during this time we were able to distribute School/Art Supplies, Chromebooks, Laptops and Printers to students on the Tsawout Nominal Roll.

By September, the T.L.H. staff returned in preparation and planning to the after-school Program to reopen for the children of Essential Workers and full-time students, up until the most recent COVID-19 restriction December 2020.

LEARNING HOUSE COORDINATOR UPDATE *continued*

Adhering to the Tsawout COVID-19 Safety Plan, the T.L.H. staff have implemented the expected requirements: minimal registration per class, students restricted to their assigned classroom only (Primary or Intermediate Classroom), face masks/shields for staff and students, frequent hand washing/sanitizing, snacks prepared and served by staff only, limiting visitor/parent access to back entrance/exit only.

At T.L.H. After-School Program our goal is to ensure that every student is provided the highest quality of support, and to create a safe learning environment to meet all their individual and diverse learning styles. Parents and relatives, your suggestions and feedback to our staff is very important, as this will help us ensure your child/ren achieves their very best!

Activities still offered at Tsawout Learning House:

- **SEAQUARIUM:** is housed in the Intermediate Classroom outside my office, it is a touch tank where students can touch and meet the sea creatures of their Seaquarium. Yuko Lin is the Education and Outreach Coordinator of Seaquaria Ocean Education a Division of World Fisheries Trust.
www.seaquaria.org/
www.instagram.com/seaquaria_ocean_education
www.facebook.com/WorldFisheriesTrust
- **Brown Bag Snack:** Learning House Staff and Mentors are providing a brown bag snack to the Provincial school students at the end of their school day, coming off the school bus, this will continue until we are given permission to reopen.
- **Tutors:** Learning House Tutors (Mentors) are available for one on one Math or Literacy/Language Arts Tutoring, please contact Tanya Henry or Stephanie Adams at (250) 652-9101 ext. 332.

We welcome and greatly appreciate the assistance of our Tsawout Learning House Tutors (Mentors) as we have not been able to request the volunteers of the UVIC, 4th Year Practicum Nurses from the School of Nursing as in the past years and we have not been able to continue with the Science Venture Camps also facilitated by the University of Victoria.

Our hours are: Monday-Thursday 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm, and we appreciate that parents/relatives practice Social Distance and arrive with a mask on and are prompt to pick-up. Dismissal is from the basement entrance/exit, you may use the intercom and a staff will bring your child/ren to you. We do prep/planning on Fridays although we are generally open on Non-Instructional Days from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm.

Non-Instructional Days for WSÁNEĆ School Board and S.D. #63 when T.L.H. will be open 9:00 am - 3:00 pm for students are: Friday, February 12, Monday, March 15th to Friday, March 26th (Spring Break activities to be announced at future date), Friday, April 23, Friday & May 21.

Stephanie H. Adams

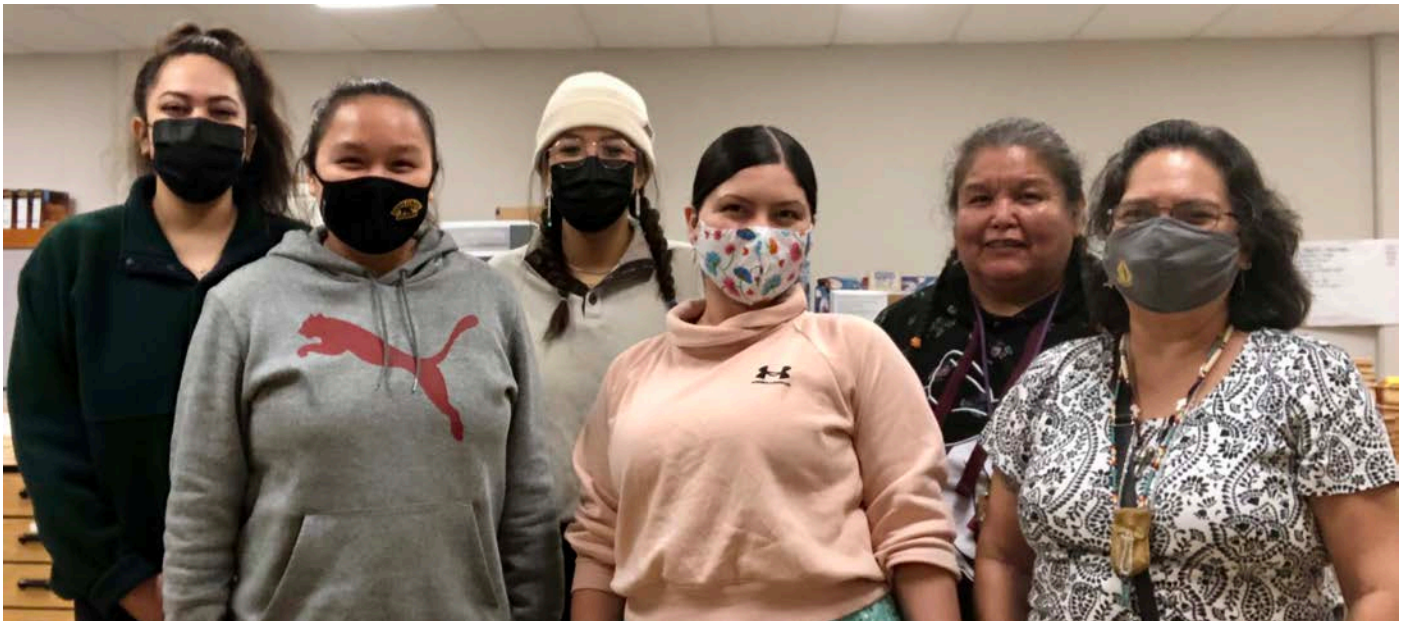
STÁUTW I, TOTELNEW, ÁUTW - Tsawout Learning House Coordinator

sadams@tsawout.ca

250 652-9101 ext. 332

250 896-8428 (work cell)

LEARNING HOUSE NEWS - STAFF UPDATES



T.L.H. Staff & Mentors-In group photo left to right: Penina Va'a, Tanya Henry, Laila Morris, Chantu William, Anna Walkus, Stephanie Adams

Beatrice Sam

Hello Everyone, The **STÁUTW** I **TOTELNEW** **AUTW** (Tsa-wout Learning House after-school Program) have worked on the basics in **SENĆOŦEN** greetings, counting, colours, weather, TPR, Skill Sets in our **SENĆOŦEN** class. I have included them for the students to practice. My position is the Youth Cultural Worker and I am in the Primary Classroom.

HÍSWKE SI, IAM ØELIWELWET"
- Ms. Bea



Please ask your child how to say these **SENĆOŦEN** words and phrases they were learning:

- ÍY, SŁÁĆEL STELITKEŁ Good Day Children
- ÍY, SŁÁĆEL SIAM Good Day Respected One
- ČELEŦOST TŦEN ØEPU I LISÁK Hang up you coat and backpack
- ŦEŦISEŦ SW Wash your hands
- EMET I IŁEN ETŦE LETÁM Sit down and eat at the table

Weather

- SŁEMEW Rain
- ŠNOUES Cloudy
- KÉKELEN Sunny
- QÁLES Hot

Objects

- SOŁ Door
- LETÁM Table
- SJUÁĆEN Chair

Relations

- SILE Grandparent
- MÁN Dad
- TÁN Mom
- KAK Baby

Persons

- SWÍKE Man
- SŁÁNI Lady
- SŁÁNICÓL Girl
- SWÍKOŁ Boy

Action Words

- CONENET Run
- EMET Sit
- ČELÁN Turn Around
- ŠTEN Walk
- ENEWT Stop

Animals:

- SKAXE Dog
- PUS Cat
- STIKIU Horse
- SMÍEŦ Deer

Greetings

- HÍSWKE Thank you
- HÍYÁČE Good Bye

Other:

- HÁ,E Yes
- EWE No
- IYES Happy
- DEKÁYEK Mad

LEARNING HOUSE NEWS - STAFF UPDATES

Tanya Henry

Hello,

To all who don't know who I am, my name is Tanya Henry. I am a Tsawout First Nations member. I was raised here in Tsawout by my grandparents Mike and Irene Horne. Like most children in the Tsawout community I attended the Learning House after school Program, and once I was old enough had my first job at the Tsawout Summer Camp.

I have had the honor of accepting my role back into the program on and off as an Education Assistant, as well as Camp Supervisor over the years. This year I have accepted my role as T.L.H. Coordinator Trainee. I am working under Stephanie Adams, and the rest of the Education Department. And will be doing the training for this role, over the next

couple of years. I just started my position as of November 2020.

These unforeseen times have not only had an impact on the program, but our community, and we here in Tsawout are doing what we can to step up. Any students that may need tutoring, while the program is closed, are still encouraged to reach out as we have the resources and Tutors. So please do not hesitate to contact the Tsawout Learning House.

I am very happy and honored to be officially starting my career here and I am very excited to be back with the children and to say the least they have welcomed me back with open arms. We at the T.L.H. are eagerly waiting for the restrictions to lift so that we can welcome the children back. In the meantime, stay safe family and friends

Anna Walkus

I am proud to say that I am so happy to be back at T.L.H. with the Intermediate Class. Working with First Nation Art, telling stories and in the fall, we enjoyed making beaded bracelets together. With COVID-19 winter restrictions, I have prepared homework packs along with Tanya for the students and they will receive them in a brown envelope when they get off their school bus on Thursdays. We are asking you to sign the envelope and then have your child return it so we can use it again. Once we receive it back, they will earn a prize. Thank you for helping with this.

Laila Morris

ÍY SŁÁĆEL HALE, Laila TFE NE SNÁ ĆESE LÁ,E SEN ET WJOŁELP. My name is Laila Morris and I am from Tsartlip First Nation. I started working at the Tsawout Learning House this past September as a literacy tutor for the primary children that attend the after-school program. Working with the children alongside my coworkers has been a blast and it was always something to look forward to throughout the day, and due to Covid we haven't been able to see the kids since before Christmas break. But I am glad we still get to see them every day when they get off the school bus as we hand out their daily after school snacks.

LEARNING HOUSE NEWS - STAFF UPDATES

Penina Va'a

ÍY SŁÁĆEL HALE, my name is Penina Va'a and I am part of the Olsen family from Tsartlip First Nation. I have been a tutor here at the learning house since September 2020. I am glad I get to help out the kids with their schoolwork and I also enjoy just spending time with them. I'm looking forward continuing to provide after school snacks for the kids in the community.

Kirk Clarke

Gold Star Tutors B.C. is our Tsawout Learning House Professional Mathematics Tutor for students Kindergarten to University and he is at T.L.H. working with small groups on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Parents or Secondary Students needing one on one tutoring please call T.L.H. office at (250) 652-9101 ext. 332.



Chantu William

ÍY SŁÁĆEL HALE, my name is Chantu (Rain Water). I'm a Tsilhqot'in student from Xeni Gwet'in, and I'm currently working in the Learning House as a mentor/literacy tutor.

I have been working here since September and I love learning the language and culture as well as incorporating it in the school environment. Since the learning house has been temporarily closed to the kids, we started baking fresh goods and putting together after school snacks for the students. Last week we baked 103 banana muffins and we are planning to do bannock, yeast bread, cookies, and much more for the duration of the program.

I look forward to working more with Tsawout and wish all a safe 2021.

Sechenalyagh (Thank you).

NOTICE TO ALL CLIENTS ON INCOME ASSISTANCE

Please ensure that declarations and all supporting documents are in by the 15th of every month. All declarations require applicant signature and, if applicable, it must include spouse signature, job search form, hydro and phone bill (if eligible), most recent paystubs and bank statements, if required.

**** NO DECLARATION (paystubs, job search) = NO CHEQUE ****

Cheque issue is the last Wednesday of every month. Cheques are available for pick up between 9 am to noon and 1 pm to 4 pm. No calls are taken on cheque day and no one can pick up someone else's S/A cheque unless that person is seriously ill, has mobility barriers or other extenuating circumstances.

Clients who submit their documents AFTER the deadline date can pick up their cheque on the following Friday.

Clients who need to update their file or apply for S/A need to book an appointment between Tues. to Thurs.

NOTICE TO ALL EMPLOYABLE CLIENTS

It is **MANDATORY** that all employable people seek employment. According to Social Development Policy 2.2: Termination of Benefits – Refusal or abandonment of employment opportunities, refusal to participate in an appropriate training or education opportunity or rehabilitation program will result in Social Development closing your file.

Failure to show any effort in seeking employment or education opportunities such as job searching, employment workshops or upgrading - will result with your SA file being closed. Whenever a decision is made to terminate client benefits, the client has a right to appeal the decision to Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada by picking up an administrative review form from Social Development. Thank you.

Tsawout Social Development (SD) – Income Assistance Application Process

STEP 1 – OBTAIN APPLICATION FROM TSAWOUT RECEPTION TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT.

NO APPOINTMENTS WILL BE MADE A WEEK PRIOR TO OR DURING THE WEEK OF CHEQUE ISSUE.

- Complete Social Assistance Application Package
- Identification – Adults – 2 each (1 must be a photo)
- Identification – Children - 1 each
- Verification of Income – 60 day bank statements, pay stubs, 2 most recent pay stubs, EI Income and Spousal Support
- Utility Bills – BC Hydro, phone bill, gas or oil bill
- Tenancy Agreement – Tsawout Social Housing, CMHC documents or mortgage documents
- Privately Owned Homes – proof of ownership documentation
- Tax Forms – Canada Child Benefit, Notice of Assessment
- Other Supporting Documents

STEP 2 – INTAKE APPOINTMENT

- Bring all supporting documents to your appointment
- If you have a spouse, he/she needs to be present to sign all documentation
- Employable clients are required to discuss a plan to obtain employment or have an education plan to attain further skills that will help you gain employment.
- If you are unable to seek employment, the worker will need a medical note that will temporarily excuse you from seeking employment or until you are eligible to apply for PPMB (Person with Persistent Multiple Barriers) or PWD (Person with Disability) designation.

STEP 3 – PROCESSING









- Allow up to 5-7 business days for application approval.
- Worker will notify you of your eligibility for Income Assistance.
- We understand that you are in need of help and your matters are important to us. We are doing due diligence to ensure that the process is completed in a timely manner. We appreciate your patience.

STEP 4 – YOU HAVE BEEN CONTACTED TO INFORM YOU OF YOUR ELIBILITY STATUS

- **Approved Applicants** – Will now have the responsibility to assure that all documentation (Declaration, utility bills, pay stubs, job search or any other required documents) is submitted by the 15th of each month to ensure they receive their entitlement on time. ALL clients have a responsibility.
- **Ineligible Applicants** – Varies on the situation.
- Will have an opportunity to gather missing or additional supporting documents.
- If you are eligible for EI or in receipt of EI, you will not be eligible for Income Assistance.
- You have earned income that is more than what you are eligible to receive, then you have to wait 30 days to reapply.
- If applicant does not agree with the decision, the applicant can appeal the decision – Inquire about this process with the Social Development Worker.

**** Thank you for reviewing this information. It helps the review and assessment process. Social Development can be contacted at 250-652-9101 (ext. 306).**

JANUARY - GARBAGE, COMPOST & RECYCLING

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 	5  	6	7	8	9
10	11 	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 	19  	20	21	22	23
24	25 	26	27	28	29	30
31						

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Garbage pick-up (once/week) If your garbage is missed or not picked up, call BFI directly at 250-652-4414.

Compost (Bi-weekly) If your compost is missed or not picked up, call Refuse at 250-381-6007. If called the same day or early the next day, it is possible to have it picked up the same week if they are in the area and they will ask you to have it at the end of the driveway by 7 am on whichever date they advise. If not, it will have to wait until the next regular pick-up date.

Recycle (Bi-weekly) If your recycle is missed or not picked up, call Emterra at 250-385-4399. Call by 11:00 am the next day and they can probably do a pick-up. If any later, it would have to wait until the next pick-up date.

Reminder that the Heavy Garbage Program has ended. Please do not leave heavy garbage on the side of the road. We continue to clean up the dumpsite on Longhouse Road from the previous years programs. Please discard your heavy garbage at local metal recycle or Hartland landfill.