



LOWER KOOTENAY BAND

830 Simon Road, Creston, BC VoB 1G2 Ph: 250.428.4428 Fax: 250.428.7686

Bike ride for diabetes, June 21,2013

By Chief Jason Louie

Chief Three Moons (Raymond Abraham) was the Chief of the Ktunaxa Nation and my mentor and I acted as his right hand man. Chief Three Moons suffered from diabetes and passed away from complications due to this disease. Chief was a mentor and elder to all Ktunaxa people and loved his people dearly. To honor his memory and bring forth awareness of diabetes I wish to announce that on June 21, 2013 I will ride my bicycle from the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho to the Lower Kootenay Band. My spouse also suffers from this disorder and I witness the pain one endures when living with diabetes. This ride will honor all human beings who on a daily basis have to either inject insulin or ingest multiple oral medications just to eat a daily meal.

As this year is what I consider a "transition" year for me with my 40th birthday approaching, I wish to sacrifice and feel the pain one may experience on a daily basis with diabetes. Having been discharged from the Canadian Forces I feel a void with not training for something greater than myself. This initiative will prompt me to train physically and prepare once again for a mission that will bring forth something that will bring joy to others. This initiative by no means brings a cure to diabetes but honors the memory of a great man and also acknowledges millions of people who have diabetes.

As this will be Aboriginal Day this initiative will be very empowering for all Aboriginal people. As I will be crossing International Borders I wish to work in a partnership with CBSA and the United States Border Services. This is not a political statement but a statement for humanity, a message that we should never take our health for granted and remember those who on a daily basis must count all calories and ensure they have the necessary finances for medications and insulin.

I will require the consent from the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho and will keep in contact with both the United States and Canadian Border Services. I do not seek any financial donations or contributions. The onus is on me to be physically fit and train for this mission to honor Chief Three Moons and those who suffer from diabetes.

Happy Aboriginal Day! TAXA. (thank you)

-Jason Louie, Chief
Lower Kootenay Band