Uyaqḥmis

January 2020 Issue 54



Looking back on 2019

PM41913515



Houses currently being worked on in Upper Anacla (Photo by Heather Thomson)

Housing expands quickly in Upper Anacla

Huu-ay-aht has made housing one of its top priorities as it strives for a healthy, self-sustaining community.

Over the last six months, the changes are obvious in Anacla. After the paving of Nookemus Road was complete, the subdivision work started moving along quickly. The Nation now has four housing units underway in the Upper Village. Two are two-bedroom single family homes, each on their own lots. There is also a duplex, one up and one down, which contains two three-bedroom units.

These units were transported from Duncan via barge to Sarita in the late fall, and construction has been ongoing since they arrived in the community. While there have been delays due to weather and unforeseen circumstances, we anticipate our first occupancy permit to be issued for the end of February.

At the end of the summer, the Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses relocated the Gas Bar from Anacla to the old Ostrom's site in Bamfield. This change opened more housing opportunities in the Lower Village. The Nation is currently approximately halfway through renovating the Gas Bar office into a three-bedroom apartment. It is expected that this will be ready for occupancy for March.

The Nation has begun earthworks and is making progress with the multi-family build in the Upper Village. This will be comprised of a side-by-side duplex, housing two four-bedroom units and a fourplex made up of four two-bedroom units.

Also, there is currently four empty lots in Upper Anacla open to citizen application until February 28, 2020. These lots will be $1 for a 99-year residential lease and there is a non-refundable application fee of $500. For more information, see the Residential Lease Regulation, available at www.huuayaht.org.

With these projects well underway and some nearing completion, the infrastructure team is on its way to meeting its housing targets outline by Executive Council.

If you are interested in finding out more about housing opportunities available through the Nation, you can contact our Housing Coordinator at housing@huuayaht.org or call the Port Alberni Government Office at 250-723-0100.



One of the houses being transported from Sarita to Upper Anacla on October 10, 2019 (Photo by Heather Thomson).

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ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

Huu-ay-aht envision a strong, self-governing and self-reliant Nation. ʔiisaak, Hišuk ma c̓awak, and ʔuuʔałuk guide us as we work together to foster a safe, healthy, and sustainable Nation, where our culture, language, spirituality, and economy flourish.

Huu-ay-aht Uyaqḥmis is printed up to six times a year to foster community engagement among a population of nearly 800 citizens. Uyaqḥmis promotes the recovery and sharing of the Huu-ay-aht dialect of the Nuu-chah-nulth language, as well as knowledge of Huu-ay-aht culture.

Please send all comments and questions to the Huu-ay-aht Communications Department.

communications@huuayaht.org
Mailing Address:
Huu-ay-aht First Nations
4644 Adelaide Street,
Port Alberni, BC
V9Y 6N4

www.huuayaht.org
for the latest news and events, job postings, and a digital archive of Uyaqḥmis

Keep up to date with Uyaqḥmis on social media:
@HuuayahtFN

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Sarita Watershed Renewal Program activity during 2019

Uu-ah-thluk
Watershed Renewal Program Update

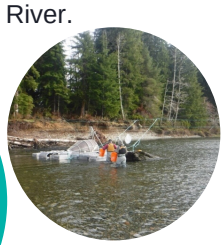
2019 ACTIVITIES

1. Rotary Screw Trap (RST) Program
February 21 - May 9, 2019, a young salmon study was succesfully operated in the Sarita River.

SALMON MIGRATION

140,000 naturally spawned salmon

additional 304,000 hatchery spawned salmon that were released by Nitnaht Hatchery



Naturally spawned salmon from egg to fry was three times higher for 2018 then 2017

2. Large Woody Debris (LWD)
88 LWD structures were installed in the Pachena and Rousseau Watershed to improve habitat.



Culverts are important for controlling waterflow through the watershed and decreasing sediment and gravel flow into the waterways

3. Collaboration with Fisheries and Oceans Canada
We coded wire tagged 200,000 Nitinat Hatchery Sarita Chinook juveniles and adipose clipped an additional 104,000 as part of research into understanding how different hatchery approaches enhance Sarita Chinook production and where Sarita Chinook Salmon are caught.

4. Riparian Area Treatment
A total of approximately 900 trees were planted within the treatment areas. Shelters have been installed on planted cedar to limit damage from browsing deer and elk.

5. Floodplain assessment
To increase the understanding of important fish habitats and support development of enhanced riparian buffers around salmon habitats.

6. Wildlife Habitat Modelling
60 Watershed Renewal wildlife cameras continue to operate in the Sarita watershed, plus 20 cameras from the Kwispaa LNG baseline studies. This is important for monitoring the health and growth of population of elk herd in the Sarita Watershed.

Four Elk calves born in 2018 survived to 2019 and five more calves were born in 2019

7. Road Upgrades
Nearly three kilometers of the road to the Sugsaw Hatchery was upgraded this summer, including two failing wooden box culverts with embedded culverts.

8. Installing signs
Fish stream signs will be installed this winter at crossings of fish bearing streams to inform travelers of where extra caution is warranted.



In total, 15 technical reports have been completed, these can be viewed on the Huu-ay-aht website at: www.huu-ay aht.org/watershed-renewal-project/

20 Huu-ay-aht citizens or family members have worked in some capacity of the program.

Between April 2017 and October 2019, citizen and family members employment on watershed renewal activities has accumulated to over 40% of the total hours worked by citizens, family members and external professionals.

10 Huu-ay-aht citizens or family members received a five-week Environmental Technician Certication in January 2019.

11 Huu-ay-aht citizens or family members received a two-week course in Archeology and Field Skills Certification in March 2019.

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Ḥaẇiiḥ, elected Council members, and staff from Tseshaht and Huu-ay-aht First Nations stand together for a photo after their meeting that took place on December 19, 2020. (Photo by Tseshaht First Nations)

Tseshaht and Huu-ay-aht commit to working together

By Ken Watts
Tseshaht First Nations
December 19, 2019

"Ḥaẇiiḥ, elected Council members and staff from the Tseshaht and Huu-ay-aht First Nations came together to share a meal and discuss protocol regarding Huu-ay-aht operations within Tseshaht ḥahuuḥi (territory). Both First Nations communicated their deep family connections, shared songs, highlighted potential partnerships, and agreed to work together to develop an agreement about recognition, protocol, communications, and potential partnerships within Tseshaht ḥahuuḥi. There was a strong recognition that we are far stronger when working together. Many economic development opportunities arise within the Alberni Valley and within the ḥahuuḥi of Tseshaht. By committing to working together as Nations, ḥaẇiiḥ and governments both agreed to move forward in a good way to assist in improving the quality of all their muschim."

Congratulations

To this year's ƛiišin Academic Excellence Award and Scholarship Award recipients

ƛiišin Academic Excellence Award

Grade 4
Emma August
Saryta Dick
Sylvia Joe
Kensie Johnson-Sabbas
Hanna Speck
Leira Young
Tabytha Wilson

Grade 5
Summer Little
Madison Lucas
Taylor Parcher
Daniel Speck

Grade 6
Dannika Lopez
Gaige Manson
Mackenzie Parcher

Grade 7
Tehya Anderson
Emily Ginger
Olivia Peters

Grade 9
Dakota Johnson

Grade 12
Talen Adair

Hišuk ma ċawak Healthy and Active Award

Madison Lucas
Grade 5

ʔiisaak Community and Culture Award

Harley Dennis
Grade 6

Queen's research project to continue in 2020

Search Co-Leads:

Heather Castleden (Queen's University) and Vanessa Sloan-Morgan (UNBC)

The 2019 - 2023 Research Advisory Committee:

Mexsis (Tom Happynook) and/or Yaalthuu-a (Jeff Cook - Ha'wiih Council Representatives

Simon Dennis - Elder and Mainland Represetative

Mercedes Williams - Youth and Mainland Representative

Jane Peters - Elder and Anacla/ Treaty Settlement Land Representative

Stella Peters - Anacla/Treaty Settlement Land Representative

HInatinyis (Brittany Johnson) - Port Alberni Representative

Heather Johnson - Youth Representative



Vanessa Sloan-Morgan, Heather Castleden, John Aarssen, Edward R. Johnson, Jane Peters, Simon Dennis, Becki Nookemis, Mercedes Williams. (Photo courtesy of Queen's University)

We are excited to announce that Huu-ay-aht First Nations, Heather Castleden, and Vanessa Sloan Morgan's research into the implementation of the Maa-nulth Treaty—the process of replacing the Indian Act with Huu-ay-aht's laws and self-government—has received four more years of funding.

From 2019 to 2023, our research will identify, document, as well as critically understand and analyze, the Huu-ay-aht groundwork that is being laid to prepare for the 15-year review of the Treaty. The research is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and governed by a Huu-ay-aht Research Advisory Committee.

In 2019, the Research Team met with Executive Council, the Ḥa'wiiḥ Council, and the Research Advisory Committee twice; we presented at the People's Assembly and have updated and expanded our Advisory Committee membership. Hearing from leadership, citizens, and the Research Advisory Committee shaped exciting priorities for this next phase of research.

Our Research Priorities, under the Maa-nulth Treaty, Huu-ay-aht First Nations has certain abilities to change what is not working for the Nation. With this in mind and at the direction of Huu-ay-aht leadership and the Research Advisory Committee, we will focus on exploring: 1) Land, culture and heritage; finances under treaty; self-government; and Huu-ay-aht social wellbeing 2) Huu-ay-aht citizens perspectives on what is going well and what needs to be improved under treaty; 3) How Nation-level benefits translate into individual-level benefits; and 4) the relationship Huu-ay-aht First Nations has with treaty partners (e.g., Canada and BC governments) and how these relationships can be improved.

Our Next Steps: Our Research Advisory Committee meets every three months to guide all phases of our work. We will begin holding Community Engagement Sessions in 2020 to update Huu-ay-aht citizens and to hear from you. Stay tuned for details in the newsletter and on the Huu-ay-aht First Nations website. In the meantime, we will be:

1. Recruiting a Part-Time Huu-ay-aht Research Coordinator (see position description on the Huu-ay-aht website, www.huuayaht.org)

2. Recruiting and Train Huu-ay-aht Summer Research Assistants

3. Conducting Interviews in Spring/Summer 2020

4. Administering a Survey in 2020 (and again in 2023 to compare results)

For more information, you can contact the Research Advisory Committee or Heather can be reached via email: heather.castleden@queensu.ca; or mobile: 902-489-2412. Vanessa can be reached via email: vanessa.sloan.morgan@unbc.ca; or mobile: 250-508-3410.

Queen's University

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UNBC UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses success story: George Johnson

Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses is proud of the career successes and development of their staff. It's a priority that those who work with the Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses are supported throughout their career to help reach their professional development goals.

George Johnson started working for the Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses three years ago. His sister, who was already employed with the Group of Businesses, connected George to a manager to learn about employment opportunities. After expressing his interest in learning-about the forestry industry, Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses brought George to the Spencer Sort to work as a trainee.

George's desire to learn and ask questions allowed him to become an important member of the team. During his time working for Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses George has progressed from a trainee, to a log scaler helper, to a bundler, and then to a grader. Not only has he progressed in his work but he has taken the opportunity to take many more training courses



George Johnson working hard at the log sort. (Photo by Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses)

relevant to his field. This includes First Aid, Introduction to Power Saw, Bear Aware, a Firefighting course, and many other annual courses.

George describes his career as having a positive impact in his life. He is passionate about the work he does, the people he works with, and is grateful to work outside among the beautiful lands at the Sort. He says that his co-workers have always been very supportive in helping him learn and become more knowledgeable in his field. Of the many successes George has accomplished over the past three years, he is most proud of earning his log scaling ticket, which required that he completed an 11 week program.

Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses is proud of George Johnson and the many others employed by the Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses who are working hard to reach their career goals. Developing and supporting a career plan for long-term success is one of the focuses for Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses. We look forward to seeing what the future holds for George as he continues working in the forestry industry.



George Johnson (Photo by Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses)

hišimyuuƛ - Coming Together

Community Engagement Sessions



Anacla
Monday, February 3
Anacla Government Office

Victoria
Tuesday, February 11
Comfort Inn & Suites

Vancouver
Thursday, February 6
Atrium Inn (2889 E Hastings)

Port Alberni
Tuesday, February 4
Port Alberni Friendship Center

Nanaimo
Wednesday, February 12
Coast Bastion Hotel

Join us for a dinner with traditional foods, followed by a discussion.

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Doors open at 4:30 p.m.
Dinner at 5 p.m.
Meeting at 6 p.m.

Child and Family Wellness

Overview of 2019

The Child and Family Wellness Department had the opportunity to meet citizens during Community Engagements in October 2019. It was wonderful to connect and put faces to names of citizens who attended, introduce the child and family wellness staff, share information about programs available to citizens and hear feedback and ideas.

December brought more Community Rounds and The Child and Family Wellness Team appreciated the feedback about the Draft Social Services Survey Evaluations and suggestions were incorporated. Keep an eye out for information about how you can participate in the evaluations. We value your feedback.

An Honouring Family Connections Celebration was held in November to celebrate and honour children who have returned to their parents and/or are being cared for by family members. It was a joy to see so many happy children and families and to acknowledge all of the hard work that has been done.

If you are interested in caring for a child, please connect with Shannon Zimmerman, Director of Child and Family Wellness, or Christine Pearson, Protection Support Worker.

After a lengthy closure, Paawats in Anacla has reopened. It is a thrill to have Clara Clappis back and know the children will enjoy learning and playing together. We are hopeful to have subs for Paawats in Anacla in the near future.

Paawats in Port Alberni has a new manager – Louise Jamieson has accepted the position and continues to provide quality Early Childhood Education (ECE) to children. Lisa Cottrill is the other ECE, and we are in the process of completing Criminal Record Checks for substitutes.

The Family Support Team has a new Protection Support Worker, Kerry-Anne Collinge. Kerry-Ann started January 6, 2020 and brings a wide range of skills and experience to the team and citizens. Kerry-Ann is orienting to the team and is looking forward to meeting citizens and providing support.

Every Tuesday, Harry Brossault goes to Anacla to host an addiction support group called Smart Recovery held at the Soaring Eagle. Citizens learn self-empowering skills and support one another in their recovery. For more information about the support group, contact Harry at harry.b@huuayaht.org.

Did you Know?

The Child and Family Wellness Team continues to offer:

A wide range of social/emotional and behavioural support to families

Groups in Port Alberni and Anacla (Uu-ah-tluck, Food Skills for Families, Meditative Arts, Craft Night)

Help for citizens everywhere to connect with services where they live

The Warriors Program - watch for information about how young men, ages 9-17, can get involved in group designed to connect youth to traditional lands, culture, language, and connections with adult mentors and other youth

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Child and Family Wellness Office
#1-4641 Margaret Street
Port Alberni, BC V9Y 6H1

Mailing: Port Alberni Government Office
4644 Adelaide Street
Port Alberni, BC V9Y 6N4

Phone: 778-419-1013

Huu-ay-aht after-hour emergency line for child protection and mental health crisis:

250-731-6999

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Maa-nulth Nations gathered for second annual Government-to-Government Forum

By Heather Thomson

The Maa-nulth First Nations and British Columbia Leaders Forum was created as a result of a commitment made when the treaty was implemented on April 1, 2011 to stand with the Nations as a partner on a new path under the treaty. The group held their second discussion in late November, 2019 in Ucluelet.



Leaders from the Maa-nulth Nations and representatives from the Provincial Government stand together for a photo at Black Rock Resort, Ucluelet. (Photo by Heather Thomson)

2018 year was the first meeting of the two levels of government, and the second meeting was even more successful than the inaugural meeting. In attendance were leaders from the Maa-nulth Nations – Councillor Wilfred Cootes (Uchucklesaht), President Chuck McCarthy (Yuulu?il?ath?), Chief Anne Mack (Toquaht), Chief Robert J. Dennis Sr. (Huu-ay-aht), and Legislative Chief Kevin Jules and Hereditary Chief Francis Gillette (Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Chek'tles7et'h') – and representative from the Provincial Government – Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Scott Fraser, Finance Minister Carol James, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Claire Trevena, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy George Heyman, and Craig Sutherland, Assistant Deputy Minister for the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

The discussion started with a traditional welcoming and prayer, followed by a welcome to the territory from Anne Mack. She said it's encouraging to have so many ministers present around the table and that shows the province is taking their government-to-government meetings serious. Mack acknowledged the progress the province has made recently in adopting the UNDRIP legislation. Although this is a monumental act, the Maa-nulth nations are still dealing with several challenges since implementation of the treaty.

The biggest of these challenges is financial, Mack explained. She pointed out that the colonial mind is still alive and well and this means both parties at the table must work harder to educate front-line workers on how to eliminate this from their belief system.

"We acknowledge that there is lots of hard work ahead if us," she said. "I look forward to working on this together."

Scott Fraser also offered a welcoming. He used the Nuu-chah-nulth principle of Hišuk ma c̓awak, explaining that he believes everything is connected and one, and that by working together they will be stronger. He shared his believe that the government-to-government forums will continue to get better year after year.

Climate Change

Since Minister Heyman could not stay for the whole day, climate change began the official discussions of the day. He talked about the importance of including indigenous knowledge when the Province draws up climate change initiatives. He acknowledged that CleanBC could have consulted First Nations more in Phase One, but that they will learn from this and reach out more to the communities. He also stressed the importance of creating economic opportunities for First Nation communities.

Robert Dennis brought up how much removing First Nations people from the land has changed the ecosystem where they traditionally lived. The example he offered was that when the seal hunt stopped sea urchins became more plentiful, and now they are harming the kelp beds, which are important for overall health of the ocean. He said there are many more examples of where the balance was disrupted when First Nations left their land. He stressed the importance of returning the balance by bringing Indigenous People back to their land. Scott Fraser supported this idea stating that forestry and tourism could bring people home.

New Fiscal Relationship

Continued on page 9

Continued from page 8

Wilfred Cootes presented on the fiscal relationship. He said one big obstacle they must overcome is the collaborative Fiscal Financing Agreement. He indicated that during the negotiations in 2018/19 provincial negotiators repeatedly stated that BC was committed to renewing its fiscal relationship with Maa-nulth Nations. After lengthy negotiations, it is the belief of the Maa-nulth Nations that BC's offer of status quo funding would equal 0.3 to 0.6% of federal funding for each year under the FFA. This offer was accepted under protest, but the Maa-nulth Nations are still waiting for BC to negotiate more appropriate funding.

He said that it is the hope of the Maa-nulth Nations that the relationship they have with the province be repaired, because when First Nations succeeds everyone succeeds.

Fraser and Carol James were both supportive of this statement, adding that it's not just about giving money but about creating opportunities to build a strong economy with benefits for all.

Roads

Kevin Jules explained to the ministers gathered that road access to the Treaty Settlement Land needs significant upgrades in order to allow the Nations to fully utilize the rights and benefits of the treaty. He pointed out that safety concerns mean that the discussion needs to be how the safety improvements will be made. It can no longer be about whether or not it can be done.

Given that the primary route to Maa-nulth lands are forest service roads, they are maintained with heavy industry in mind and are often unsafe for residents. Citizens and other people who travel the road deserve a safe, reliable way to get supplies and services, as well as offering a corridor that will open up their regions to tourism opportunities. Instead, the roads are prone to eroded corners and edges, flooding, washouts, and poor visibility.

Minister Claire Trevena said they are aware of the issues raised and are not ignoring them. She said the ministry is interested in working on relationship building and possible partnerships with the Nations to help address the road concerns.

Groundwater

Maa-nulth natural resources consultant Ron Frank brought groundwater to the table, pointing out that the Maa-nulth Treaty makes provisions for addressing groundwater that requires BC to negotiate and attempt to reach agreement with Maa-nulth as the Province was regulating groundwater in February 2016. Despite this, the Province came to the table in 2018 unprepared to negotiate.

The Maa-nulth Nations are concerned because they are the most underfunded self-government in Canada, and yet they are expected to address groundwater on their own now.

Sutherland said he is more than aware of the challenges facing the group, but together they can find money to meet treaty obligations. Fraser also reassured the Nations that he will advocate for more funding.

Implementation of the Treaty Wildlife Chapter and Wildlife Population Management

Frank pointed out that when it comes to wildlife, the treaty nations have many common struggles, and the key is to work collaboratively to find ways that everyone will benefit. It is essential that everyone be engaged when it comes to the importance of wildlife. He said the Maa-nulth Nations are doing what they need to be doing, and the Ministry needs to focus on the priorities that would support that work.

Huu-ay-aht Language Corner



Coming Soon

We are currently putting together language materials to put in the newsletter.

Stay Tuned.

www.huuayaht.org

Do you want to join Canoe Journeys?

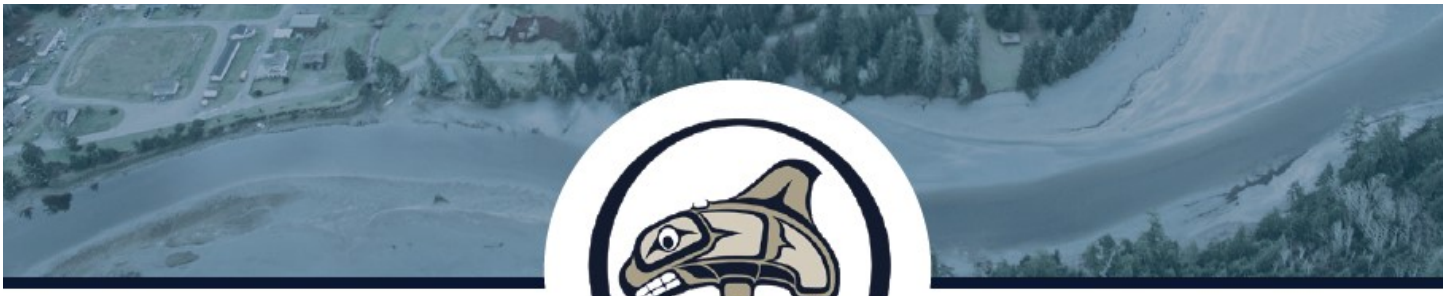
Snuneymuxw 2020
Honouring the salmon, honouring the ancestors

Landing day: July 27, 2020
Protocol: July 27-August 1, 2020

If you want to participate in the Canoe Journeys with Huu-ay-aht, please register by March 20, 2020.



Contact Rachel Young at rachel.y@huuayaht.org, 250-728-3414 or Falicia Dennis at falicia.d@huuayaht.org, 250-723-0100.



HUU-AY-AHT COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY PLAN: **CITIZEN INPUT**



That's what Jim said.

What do YOU think?

RATE ★★★★★

Point your camera here!

Don't have a QR code reader?

Visit: bit.ly/ideashare-Huuayaht

Share your hopes and ideas. 1. Comment online 2. Join Community Engagement Sessions in February.

Get to know Huu-ay-aht Government Staff



Helen Robertson

When you call or visit the Port Alberni Government Office the first person you talk to is Helen Robertson, the Office Admistrator/Indian Registration Administrator. She will do status cards for Huu-ay-aht citizens and is a commissioner for taking affidavits. Helen's favourite part about her job is meeting and greeting Huu-ay-aht citizens and dealing with the general public. On her spare time, Helen likes to go fishing, hunting for moose in the fall, gardening, collecting crystals, and going out on the side by side.

Fun fact: Through Ancestry.com, Helen is 13% Chinese, and since she was a child, she has collected crystals (and that's where her luck comes in handy and wins everything).



Veronica Morgan

Veronica Morgan is the Executive Assistant to Executive Council, She coordinates Council with scheduling meetings, booking conferences, and gathering materials needed. She will also assist the law clerk and is administrative support for some committees. Her favourite part about her job is when she gets to work out of the office or sit with council because it gives her exposure to what she coordinates council for. Her hobbies are jarring fish, learning other languages, travelling, going for hikes, swimming, listening to music, going to the gym, and crafting.

Fun fact: Veronica is ridiculously pun-ny, addicted to starbucks tea and buys shoes she never wears, and also enjoys ice fishing.



Nicole Otte

Nicole Otte is the Executive Assistant to the Executive Director and Executive Administration Support Manager. She assists the Executive Director ensuring all their tasks are addressed and ensures executive and administrative support are assisting Executive Council and staff efficiently and effectively. Nicole's favourite part about her job is engaging with citizens and ensuring their needs are dealt with in a timely matter. While Nicole is not working, she enjoys swimming in her pool during summer time and spending time with her son, watching him grow up.

Fun fact: Nicole plays on a all- women's ice hockey team as the goalie. Her two oldest children played goalie, and she learned from them.



Vanessa Sabbas

Vanessa Sabbas is the Records Clerk. Vanessa maintains the master file list, updates the citizen database, scans documents to electronic files, processes citizen cards, and maintains and organizes the archive room at the Anacla Government Office. Vanessa enjoys learning about Huu-ay-aht everyday at work, immersing herself into many aspects, whether it is Huu-ay-aht government and all its departments, the culture and each respective house, the different names of their ḥahuuƚi, and meeting/getting to know all Huu-ay-aht citizens. In her spare time, she enjoys yoga, kickboxing, swimming, and camping, but most importantly, spending time with her husband of almost six years, five children, and three grandchildren.

Fun fact: Vanessa enjoys having fun and smiling, even on her most challanging days.

Check out the newsletter every other month and get to know the staff who are working at the Government Offices.

Treaty Implementation Update #5
What does Treaty Implementation "Do" Part 1

The Department of Treaty Implementation focuses on three main areas:

Internal Operations – Planning, Monitoring, Project Management, Department to Department coordination, Research, Recommendations, briefing notes and reports to Executive Director (ED) and Executive Council (EC), technical support to Treaty implementation committee, and monitoring of opportunities, obligations, and document management.

Communications to – Citizens, ED, EC, Maa-nulth, and external governments, through Uyaqhmis, Community Engagement, Website, project materials and technical support, letters, briefing notes, and reports

External Cooperation and Coordination – Maa-nulth Treaty Society, Tripartite Treaty Implementation Committee, Land Claims Agreement Coalition, Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations, Government to Government, and others as needed.

Citizen Update - Modern Treaty and Cooperation

The Maa-nulth Treaty is unique. It is one of only three modern treaties negotiated under the BC Treaty Commission and remains the only multi-nation Treaty in the implementation stage.

The Maa-nulth Treaty has seven signatories, Huu-ay-aht, Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations, Toquaht Nation, Uchucklesaht Tribe, Yuułu?iɬ?ath Government, BC and Canada. Seven Governments that have their own responsibilities and seven governments that have obligations to one another.

The First Nations

The five nations work together regularly through the Maa-nulth Treaty Society, a non-profit society that employs a Chief Administrative Officer, and an administrative assistant. The Treaty society helps to monitor and coordinate activities that are addressed collectively.

Often this includes natural resource matters through the Maa-nulth Fisheries Committee and Wildlife Council, Enforcement Advisory Committee, legal activities, actions, and support, collective agreements with governments or major projects, and on political matters with provincial and federal governments.

Government-to-Government

In 2018, the nations signed the Government-to-Government Agreement which has the leaders of each Maa-nulth Nation, and BC Ministers from major portfolios such as Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Forest, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development, and Ministry of Transportation. The Ministries invited depend on the agenda items.

The most recent was held November 13 in Ucluelet.

Maa-nulth Tripartite Committee

This committee is required by the Treaty and includes a representative from Maa-nulth, BC, and Canada. They meet quarterly with additional support from each of the Nations, BC Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation and the Canadian Ministry of Indigenous-Crown relations. This group discusses high level issues and solutions relating to the successful implementation of the Maa-nulth Treaty.

Other External Cooperation

Huu-ay-aht and all the Maa-nulth Nations may choose to participate in other external bodies with other Treaty Nations and other Self-Governing indigenous groups. Most notably approximately 25 Self-Governing Indigenous Nations across Canada negotiated at the Federal Fiscal Policy Table to update their Fiscal Finance Agreements with Canada. This table successfully renegotiated the way in which Canada assess the approach to determining need for each nation. In 2020/2021 this will include increases in Governance, and the table continues to negotiate in other key areas such as Lands and Resources, Housing, Infrastructure, Health, Culture and Language, etc.

Huu-ay-aht also coordinates with other Modern Treaty Nations and Self Governing Groups such as the Land Claims Agreement Coalition, the Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations, and provincial modern treaty implementation issues with Tsawwassen and Tla'amin as needed.

The strength of voices from Treaty and Self-Governing Nations is an important piece of implementing Huu-ay-aht's goals and visions for the Maa-nulth Treaty. While there are several advantages to working collectively, it is important that Huu-ay-aht's needs and goals are met and not lost in the crowd. Regular communication and consultation with the Chief Councillor, the Treaty Implementation portfolio holder, and the Executive Council as a whole, is key to ensuring the voice of the community is heard at these collective tables.

If you have any questions, please email or call the Director of Implementation, Crystal Jack at crystal.j@huuayaht.org or 250-723-0100.