Uyaqḥmis

March 2020 Issue 55



Tseshaht and Huu-ay-aht Work Together

PM41913515

Watershed Renewal Program installs new signage

By Christine Gruman

Salmon on the Road

New signs from the Watershed Renewal Program makes it easy to see where salmon and trout-bearing waterways are crossed by major roads in Huu-ay-aht Treaty Lands and our surrounding forestry tenures. The custom signs are like those used in other watersheds featuring an iconic yellow salmon, but with a made in Huu-ay-aht twist: the salmon was designed by our own artist, Edward R. Johnson, and additional panels (still in the works) will highlight the traditional place names in the Huu-ay-aht language.

While many people understand that main river systems are essential to salmonid lifecycles, the value of smaller tributaries to supporting salmonid populations is less well known. The project aims to increase awareness of where sensitive fish-bearing streams are and how they connect to the larger Sarita and Pachena watershed systems, and to share Huu-ay-aht place names and language with all who work and play in our local forests. It's hoped that locals and visitors will gain interest and understanding in freshwater habitat stewardship and its importance to sustaining the fish that support us all. Marking these sensitive habitats is also especially valuable for communicating where extra caution is needed from forestry workers during operations.



Example of the sign you will see along the road to Bamfield. Sign created by Barbara Schramm.



Andy Clappis and Crystal Clappis standing by one of the signs they installed. (Photo by Kevin Hunter)

The core project team has been a collaboration between Lands and Resources Specialist, Christine Gruman, and Watershed Renewal Technician, Crystal Clappis, who took the lead on field work to assess potential sign sites, review of place names in Huu-ay-aht Traditional Use Study database and installation of posts and signs. Andy Clappis, with Roc-Star Enterprises, worked with Crystal to install the signposts with a mini-excavator.

Gratitude is offered to The Pacific Salmon Foundation's Community Stewardship Program for their generous $11,258 grant for this work. We also gratefully acknowledge supportive letters for our grant application from Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre, Bamfield Chamber of Commerce, Bamfield-Huu-ay-aht Community Forest Society and from Western Forest Products, who also provided a $3000 donation to the project.

We hope these signs inspire all people transiting through Huu-ay-aht territory to become partners in ensuring fish always have a place within our forests and to support rebuilding of these treasured members of our natural community.

huu ay aht

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

FOLLOW US ON twitter

Huu-ay-aht First Nations Facebook page

Like us on Facebook

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Tseshaht and Huu-ay-aht sign protocol agreement

By Heather Thomson

Huu-ay-aht and Tseshaht First Nations made history on Friday, February 7, 2020 when they signed a Protocol on Economic Developement within Tseshaht Hahouthlee.

The agreement between the two nations is the first of its kind in the Alberni Valley, and it is a way of recognizing deep family connections and a strong relationship. The two nations are used to doing business together, as they have previously signed the Resource Management Agreement.

The protocol agreement is rooted in the sacred principles of ʔiisaak (Utmost Respect), ʔuuʔałuk (Taking Care of….), and Hišuk ma c̓awak (Everything is One).

“This is about doing business in the right way,” explained Wahmeesh (Ken Watts), elected councillor for Tseshaht First Nations. “We appreciate the steps that were taken after we raised concerns, and we see this as a commitment to work together in a good way.”

To start things off right, the protocol was signed in the presence of both elected and hereditary leadership from both Nations, as well as respected elders to witness the event.

“Our two nations have always been close. Our elders held that relationship close to their hearts, but we were letting that drift away.” said Huu-ay-aht Chief Councillor Robert J. Dennis Sr., explaining that the connection is still important. He said in the past elders would have done business through hosting and attending potlatches. “Now we have to look at things differently in a modern world. Instead of potlatches we use paper, but we cannot forget our connections and our traditional ways of working together for the best of both nations.”



Tseshaht and Huu-ay-aht leaders sing during signing protocol agreement. (Photo by Heather Thomson)

The agreement acknowledges that both Nations intend to explore ways to work together economically in Tseshaht ḥahuuɬi and outlines how that will take place in the future. It says that they will keep lines of communication open when it comes to potential partnerships, including business opportunities and investments within the ḥahuuɬi. This includes early communication on potential planned developments within Tseshaht ḥahuuɬi.

Both nations commit to holding annual reviews of the agreement and quarterly meetings to explore potential partnership opportunities. Huu-ay-aht will ensure that their businesses acknowledge that they are operating on Tseshaht territory and include appropriate signage.

“I am proud of what we are doing. It is a little step, but it shows we appreciate each other and our relationship,” explained Huu-ay-aht Hereditary Chief Jeff Cook. “I see a vision where all nations move forward together like this, and we’d all be successful. It’s about making a better life for our people and trying to improve all of our lives.”

Wahmeesh added that he too hopes that other nations will follow Huu-ay-aht’s lead and sign similar protocol agreements.

“This is important business that we are doing,” said Cynthia Dick, Elected Chief Councillor for Tseshaht. “It is a reminder that we are walking in both worlds, and it is amazing to see our nations put things aside to look for better ways to work together in the future.”

Huu-ay-aht Tayii Ḥaẇiɬ ƛiišin (Derek Peters) said it is important to keep Tseshaht and Huu-ay-aht ties strong because they have always existed through family connections, pointing out the links his family has to Tseshaht’s hereditary leaders. Tseshaht’s Hereditary Chief Kʷaacaapi (Josh Goodwill) and Tayii Ḥaẇiɬ E. Darlene Taylor were both at the signing. ƛiišin’s daughter Olivia Peters was also present to witness the historic event.

“This is an important step to demonstrate strengthening the ties of our Nations,” ƛiišin said. “As we move forward with our modern work, we cannot forget these ties, and I look forward to building a strong relationship.”

Huu-ay-aht forestry students graduate the first pilot program

By Heather Thomson

North Island College marked the successful completion of their forestry pilot project, the Coastal Forest Worker Certificate, by celebrating its first graduating class.

The certificate was created in partnership with Huu-ay-aht First Nations to give their citizens hands-on skills for a range of entry-level careers in the forest industry. The funding for this pilot project came from a Community Workforce Response Grant from the Province of B.C. that Huu-ay-aht received. Based on its success, the certificate program will be part of NIC's future programming.

Registered Professional Forester and NIC instructor Colleen MacLean-Marlow designed the program with an eye on ensuring the courses and learning outcome was in line with the technology program offered in Campbell River. This allows students to go on to the next level if they choose to do so.

"We wanted to make sure to make the program modern and different from what is already being offered," she explained. "I believe that training should be more regionally based, so it was amazing to be able to launch this program in the Alberni Valley."

She said it was a pleasure working with Huu-ay-aht. The grant the Nation received, and the work they put into the program, allowed the College to start much earlier than they would have been able to otherwise. She was the main instructor for the course, but they had six other teachers from the forest industry and support from many others, including Brent Ronning, from Huu-ay-aht First Nations.

Huu-ay-aht Chief Councillor Robert J. Dennis attended the graduation and expressed how proud he is of the eight graduates. He said what these students are doing will make a big difference in the future and will shape how the Nation invests in forestry education and employment. He explained that in 1995, when Huu-ay-aht first got involved in forestry, only two citizens were working in the industry on the Nation's territory. He remembers the boom days in Port Alberni and believes Huu-ay-aht needs to be ready when the market shifts and forestry is in full swing again. He acknowledged that it will never be as big as it once was, but it will always offer many different employment opportunities to people who have the training.



Left to Right: Tristan MacDonald, Daryl Patterson, Jason Jack, Alec Frank, Jenn Thomas, Ethan Little. (Photo by Heather Thomson)

"I believe more young people can work in forestry," he said. "We just have to get beyond the belief that the industry is dying – it's not."

Lance Wingrave and Justine Kumagai represented Western Forest Products at the graduation. They agreed it is important to find skilled young people who are interested in forestry, to replace an aging workforce.

Kumagai said most of the people working in this area are over 50 years old. Although this trend is seen industry wide, Port Alberni has some of the highest rates.

"We need to change the narrative and make sure young people understand that the future is bright in British Columbia," Kumagi said. "It's harder to get people to work out in the woods, but there are great occupations because every day is different, and you get to spend time outdoors."

This year's graduating class consisted of Alec Frank, Cole Giroux, Jason Jack, Ethan Little, Tristan MacDonald, Belinda Nookemus, Daryl Patterson, and Jenn Thomas. During the four months, students learned silviculture, harvesting, occupational safety, surveying, timber cruising, grading, scaling and overall resource management. As a graduate, they will be prepared to work safely and productively in a range of entry-level forestry and harvesting positions.

Some of the students already have jobs in the forest sector once they graduate and others will be presented with opportunities in the coming weeks. For some, it is just a starting point to go on to work in wildfire suppression, while others will go on to explore the technologist program that begins in the fall in Campbell River.

"I think this was a really good course," explained Ethan Little. "I didn't know what to expect when I signed up for it, but now I see it has given me options of where it can take me. I think I want to do some wildfire fighting."

Tristan MacDonald has his eye on the technology program in the fall.

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Continued from page 4

He has always been interested in forestry, and he enjoyed the certificate program as it allowed him to discover what is available in the field.

"It was a really good look at the different careers in forestry in our area," he said. "Now I want to continue on, but first I'm going to get a few other courses, like a higher level of First Aid."

Daryl Patterson moved to the Island from Smithers to take the course. He was working as a chef, but he wanted to do something more outdoorsy.

"This course gave me a chance to move back and be closer to my family," he said. "The instructors were great, and now I know I want to be out in the bush, probably fighting wildfires."

MacLean-Marlow said the requirement to graduate from the class was 70%, and all students far exceeded this minimum.

"There's really nothing like working in the woods," she said "This program lets students explore a wide range of forestry theory and resource management and apply their learning in the field with working professionals. Forestry is an ever-evolving art and science. I can't imagine doing anything else."

She added that she is proud of the graduates and is honoured to be able to introduce them to an industry she loves. Although the future looks bad for forestry now, she stressed that it's a cyclical industry and it will bounce back. When that happens, these students will be ready.

HGB Success Stories: Coastal Forest Worker Certificate

By Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses

The Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses is proud to celebrate the hard work of Alec Frank, Cole Giroux, Jason Jack, Ethan Little, Tristan MacDonald, Belinda Nookemus, Daryl Patterson, and Jenn Thomas. These students worked exceptionally hard in North Island College's pilot Coastal Forest Worker Certificate program, which is a strong example of Huu-ay-aht First Nations' commitment to the future of economic development.

As the students looked towards entering the workforce, the Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses brought in contractors who currently work in the forestry industry to speak with the students. The contractors shared stories of lived experiences, provided the students with the chance to ask questions about entering the industry, and addressed employment opportunities.

One of the graduates, Belinda Nookemus has had an interest in forestry since she was in high school. She comes from a family that has been heavily invested in the forestry industry for many years, including her father, brother, several cousins, and even her grandmother. After trying a different forestry program previously, Belinda decided to take part in the pilot program for the certificate program because it better suited her needs.

Although she prefers time spent in the field to the time spent in the classroom, pinpointing a single favourite experience is difficult for Belinda. "Everything was good, it was well organized but the best moment was being way up in the mountains, with all that scenery, you can see everything," she said of the program. Following graduation, Belinda was offered a job as an admin trainee by Western Forest Products. She felt this was an important career step for her as it will provide her with the opportunity to learn further and provides several different career directions in the future.

For some students, like Tristan MacDonald, the program is part of his greater education path. He is currently continuing his education to become a conservation officer. For Tristan, the certificate program provided valuable one-on-one time with the instructors. "Even when they explained things well, we could ask a lot of questions and be shown things individually rather than told all at once," said Tristan. He feels more prepared because not only did the program cover industry-related topics but provided support for items like resumé and cover letter writing.

Both Belinda and Tristan's education paths exemplify the evolving goal of the program, creating a strong structure for employment that fosters long-term career growth for all of the students. To accomplish this, the Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses is designing a system for employment where they hire the graduates and sub-contract the employee's work to other companies. This process creates career continuity and more job security in an industry that often has shorter contracts and seasonal work. "We want the students to feel supported once they finish school and that's where Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses gives a lot of support, as well as the Huu-ay-aht First Nations and our business partners," said Stan Coleman, when speaking of the certificate program.

Moving into spring, there are many exciting career opportunities for these students. Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses is proud to not only provide technical support but match the students with the best-fit job based on their individual interests, as they have with Belinda. The Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses looks forward to the promising career opportunities that await these hardworking individuals.

Community Engagements off to a strong start for 2020

Hiišimy̓uƛ – getting together
Community Engagement Session Update

December Engagement

During the month of December, Huu-ay-aht held Community Engagements in Anacla, Port Alberni, Vancouver, Victoria, and Nanaimo.

Agenda

- Welcome
- Shared Meal and Socializing (Each location enjoyed a holiday themed meal)
- Overview of the Strategic Plan
- Overview of the Economic Development Plan
- HGB Update
- Social Services Evaluation

A total of 151 citizen and numerous children and youth attended, giving lots of feedback regarding each topic.

To end the evening, a few songs and dancing happened, and before everyone left, the children received a gift.



February Engagement

During the month of February, Community Engagements were held to update citizens on the Community Comprehensive Plan (CCP). Representatives from Eco Plan did a presentation on what CCP is, and did a survey to get feedback from citizens, that will be used for the new CCP. Due to community engagements being cancelled, there are rescheduled meetings for Nanaimo (March 2), Victoria (March 10), and Anacla (March 11).

Agenda

-Welcome
-Shared Meal and Socializing (Each location enjoyed a meal with some traditional foods)
-Update of Community Comprehensive Plan (CCP)
-Watershed Renewal Program Video
-Important Economic Development Opportunity

If you did not have a chance to attend the Community Engagement and would like to do the CCP survey, please visit: bit.ly/ideashare-Huuayaht

Following the CCP presentation was a twenty-minute Watershed Renewal Program Video. To view this video, please visit: http://www.youtube.com/c/HFNCommunications

To end the evening, a few songs and dance were performed.

Moving forward, Huu-ay-aht will host Community Engagements every other month to keep citizens up to date. Watch out for community engagement session announcements via Uyaqḥmis and Facebook. Phone calls will also be made to all citizens. If your contact information has changed, please update it with the Records Clerk at the Port Alberni Government Office at 250-723-0100, email Vanessa.s@huuayaht.org., or visit https://huuayaht.org/how-do-i/ and click the address change link.

Save the Date!

The next Community Engagement Sessions

Monday, April 6
Anacla

Tuesday, April 7
Port Alberni

Tuesday, April 14
Victoria

Wednesday, April 15
Nanaimo

Thursday, April 16
Vancouver

For full details, check out wour Facebook page for posts leading up to these dates.

Calls to all citizens will be made prior to the meetings.

First Sitting - March 18 | Second and Third Sitting - March 30

Spring 2020 Session of the Legislature

Budget Act, 2020 - Financial Administration Act Amendment Act, 2020 - Final Approval of Economic Development Plan 2020



Child and Family Wellness

Elder Liaison Program

Simon Dennis was recently contracted as an outreach worker to do hospital visitation, home visits, talk about grief and loss, cultural activities, to support citizens, and to be available for anyone wanting to speak to an elder. We are excited to have Simon on the team and look forward to partnering to provide support services to citizens.

Simon readily shares his experiences with living on the Downtown East Side Vancouver and his journey to recovery from drugs and alcohol. Simon has a passion for sharing culture and life experiences and has a deep longing for the health and wellness of Huu-ay-aht people and is committed to supporting people in their healing journeys.

Simon has a background working as an Addictions Counsellor at Pound Maker Lodge in Edmonton, currently works part-time at the Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFA) facilitating Recovery Groups, and he also works in an Aboriginal Recovery Group Home. Simon is also an ordained clergyman and performs weddings and funerals.



Simon can be reached at 1-604-374-2617

Self Check-in

How are your sleep habits? Do you feel rested when you wake up?

How often do you move and stretch throughout the day?

Are you eating a well-balanced diet that fuels your body?

Are you reducing unhelpful habits?

What do you do to relax each day?

Do you connect with a supportive friend of family member throughout the week?

Our team encourages you to check in with yourself. If you identify areas you would like support in, please call the Child and Family Wellness Office and we can connect you to services where you live to help you promote personal wellness

Your feedback matters

Suggestions for programs and services are always welcome as we strive to serve you better. If you have specific suggestions/ feedback, please call the Child and Family Wellness Office and ask for Shannon Zimmerman, Director of Child and Family Wellness, 778-419-1013.

Warrior Program

Despite an earthquake and very wet weather, the Warriors persevered and spent a weekend in Anacla and at Sarita Lake in January.

Recently, the warriors completed a Chain Saw Course in Anacla.

The Warriors Program is for young men ages nine to 18 who want to connect with land, culture, and family.

For more information about the program or to find out how you can help, please contact Harry Brossault at 250-723-0100 or 778-419-1013.



Child and Family Wellness Office, #1 - 4641 Margaret St., Port Alberni, BC, V9Y6H1, phone: 778-419-1013

Huu-ay-aht welcomes new staff to the team



Mandy Edwards
(and son Memphis)

"Hello (chachimhih-huk kwaa), First of all, I would like to thank Huu-ay-aht First Nations for giving me the opportunity of being their new Housing Coordinator. I see my new position as an exciting opportunity to be a productive part of an already highly competent team."

Mandy Edwards is a Mi'kmaq First Nations and African Nova Scotian from Digby, Nova Scotia.

Mandy's wife Melissa and and son Memphis are both Huu-ay-aht First Nations. They moved back to B.C. so their son would grow up knowing his culture and his roots. They found that being on the other side of the country in Nova Scotia would be extremely difficult to do so.

Furthermore, for the past five years Mandy has been employed as a paralegal doing mainly criminal, estate, family, and real estate law and since February of this year she has also been a real estate agent.

Mandy looks forward to meeting citizens in the near future and if anyone has any questions about Housing, you can contact Mandy at housing@huuayaht.org and can find updates on the website or on the Facebook page, Huu-ay-aht Housing.



Christopher Nookemis

Christopher Nookemis is the new Facilities Lead for the Anacla Government Office.

Chris recently returned home from living two years abroad working as a fire and security engineer in London. Chris grew up living in Pachena most of his life and is happy to bring his partner and daughter back with him from London. Chris is happy to be hired and looks forward to his future with Huu-ay-aht. Since moving back, he enjoys exploring the traditional territory with his daughter and partner, playing hockey, and fishing.



Myles Danielsen

Myles Danielsen is the new Facilities Lead for the Port Alberni Government Office. Prior to this position, Myles gained experience in construction on new homes and renovations.

During his off time, Myles enjoys fishing and hunting when he is not spending time with his two-year-old daughter Charleigh Rose.



Cory John Howard Sr.

Cory Howard is not a new face to the team. Before becoming the Culture Wellness Coordinator, he was working in the Natural Resource Department at the Anacla Government Office for five years. He enjoyed working with Clifford Nookemus and Katie Turner, catching chum and coho for the Sugsaw Hatchery, and fish counting in the Sarita River and other rivers. If he wasn't working at the hatchery, Cory was finding Culturally Modified Trees (CMT trees), doing wild-life survey counting, and helping Amelia with food fish distribution.

Cory is now working out of the Port Alberni Office as the Culture Wellness Coordinator. His new position will consist of him supporting the Tayii Ḥaw̓iɬ and Ḥaw̓iiḥ Council, performing Huu-ay-aht ceremonies, having Cultural History Night in all five cities every month, visiting the schools to teach songs, and having men's group when that starts up again.

Are you interested in working for Huu-ay-aht First Nations?

You can find job postings at www.huuayaht.org or watch out for job posting on our Facebook Page: Huu-ay-aht First Nations.

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Get your food fish contract proposals in

Huu-ay-aht is looking for fishers to fish our food fish contracts for the coming season. The Nation is looking to fill contracts for sockeye, chinook/coho, and halibut.

Please see our website at www.huuayaht.org for more information to submit a proposal for a contract. All proposals must be submitted by March 13 at 4 p.m.

Submit your completed RFQs, or for questions or concerns contact: Amelia Vos, Lands & Marine Coordinator amelia.v@huuayaht.org fax: 250-728-1222.

Housing units to be ready soon for families to move in

Over the last several months Huu-ay-aht has been diligently working on the Nation's housing expansion in Upper Anacla. Huu-ay-aht has made this a top priority and are excited with the progress that has been made.

We are hoping that within the next few weeks the four units in Upper Anacla will be ready for families to move in. Units available will be, two two-bedroom units and two three-bedroom units. We are also hoping to have the three-bedroom unit (what used to be the gas bar office) in Lower Anacla ready at the same time. As of right now, the empty lots are still not available as they need to be re-surveyed.

Acknowledgment to the entire infrastructure team for battling the elements this winter to get these five units ready for Huu-ay-aht citizens as soon as possible. Developing more homes will continue throughout the year with plans for another seven units to come by Summer 2020.

For more information and housing updates please check out our Huu-ay-aht website as well as our Huu-ay-aht Housing Facebook page.

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Kerry-Ann Collinge

"I would like to thank the Huu-ay-aht First Nations for this opportunity to work on the Child and Family Wellness Team and I'd like to acknowledge the traditional territory of the Tseshaht and Hupacasath people."

Kerry-Ann Collinge is the new Protection Support Worker at Huu-ay-aht First Nations, where she is actively working with the Child and Family Wellness Team. Kerry-Ann has come to us with a diverse background in Social Work as well graduating from the Justice Intuition of British Columbia in Conflict Resolution, Specializing in Family Mediation.

Kerry-Ann identifies as a Cree woman, who was raised by her Grandmother and Mother in Nanaimo, filled with lots of love and support by her Aunties. Kerry-Ann was raised with many sacred principles, that she continues to practice and demonstrate in the community of Port Alberni, which she calls home for the last 20 years.

In her spare time, you will find her in the outdoors enjoying nature, bathing in the river or just floating in the ocean. Kerry-Ann is looking forward to building many connections within the Huu-ay-aht Community.

Huu-ay-aht Information Board

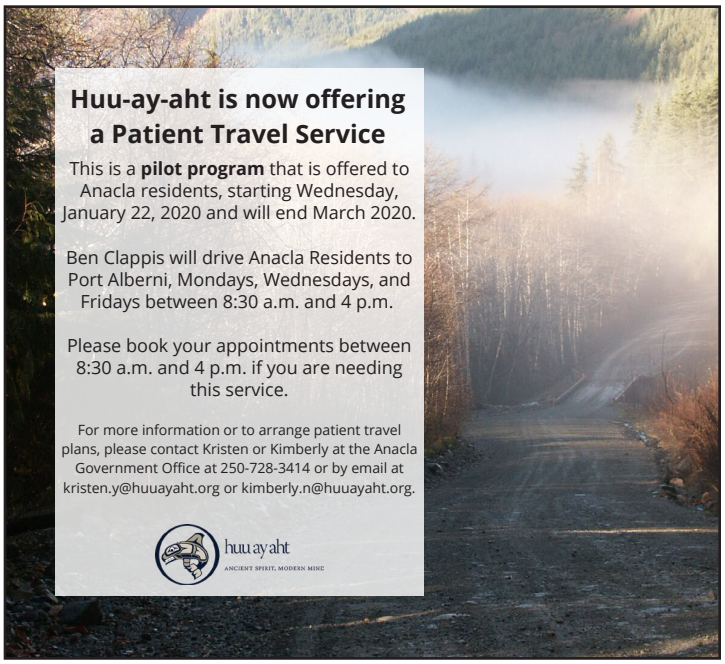
DROP. COVER. HOLD ON.

THE RECENT EARTHQUAKE IS A GOOD REMINDER TO BE PREPARED

IF A SERIOUS EARTHQUAKE HITS:

- DROP, COVER AND HOLD ON
- ONCE IT STOPS SHAKING, DETERMINE THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE QUAKE - IS THERE MUCH DAMAGE? A RISK OF TSUNAMI?
- IF YOU ARE IN DANGER OR THE TSUNAMI ALARM IS SOUNDING, GO THROUGH YOUR EMERGENCY PLAN
- MAKE SURE YOU TAKE ALL OF YOUR MEDICATION, IDENTIFICATION AND OTHER ESSENTIAL ITEMS
- GRAB YOUR EMERGENCY KIT, PETS, AND CHILDREN AND HEAD TO HIGHER GROUND
- CHECK ON YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS AND ELDERS - THIS SHOULD BE PART OF YOUR PLAN THAT IS MADE IN ADVANCE

EMERGENCY CENTRES:
Bamfield Volunteer Fire Department
House of Huu-ay-aht



Huu-ay-aht is now offering a Patient Travel Service

This is a **pilot program** that is offered to Anacla residents, starting Wednesday, January 22, 2020 and will end March 2020.

Ben Clappis will drive Anacla Residents to Port Alberni, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Please book your appointments between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. if you are needing this service.

For more information or to arrange patient travel plans, please contact Kristen or Kimberly at the Anacla Government Office at 250-728-3414 or by email at kristen.y@huuayaht.org or kimberly.n@huuayaht.org.

huu ay aht
ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

CULTURAL CRAFT NIGHT

WITH VERONICA MORGAN

Shawl making

Port Alberni - Gyro Centre
Thursday, March 19, 2020

Anacla - ČitxʷaamaɁ Cixʷatin (Soaring Eagle)
Thursday, March 12 and 26, 2020

6-8 p.m.

Bannock and beverages provided

For questions, contact Veronica at the Port Alberni Government Office at 250-723-0100



We want to hear from you!



The Social Service Panel would like your input. Please take a moment to fill out this survey. It will give us information that will help the Child and Family Wellness team better meet the needs of citizens in the future.

You can find the link at www.huuayaht.org, under Social Services Project.

Do you want to Participate in the 2020 Canoe Journeys?

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

If you are interested in participating 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

Looking for donations to go towards loonie toonie and fundraising events

Huu-ay-aht and B.C. leaders form housing working group

Huu-ay-aht First Nations and the B.C. Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing agreed to establish a housing working group to implement the 14 recommendations from the Huu-ay-aht Independent Housing Panel's Final Report.

Chief Councillor Robert J. Dennis Sr. and Executive Councillor Charlie Clappis met with B.C. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Selina Robinson last week to discuss the critical housing needs on
Huu-ay-aht's ḥahuuƚi (traditional territory of the Huu-ay-aht ḥaẃiiḥ).



Left to right: Executive Councillor Charlie Clappis, Chief Councillor Robert J. Dennis Sr., Director of Indigenous Relations for BC Housing, Michael Sadler, Ministerial Assistant Molly Henry, and B.C. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Selina Robinson. (Photo by Munro Thompson)

"Last week's meeting went quite well as Minister Robinson committed to supporting the formation of a housing report implementation working group," said Chief Councillor Robert J. Dennis Sr. "The establishment of the housing working group is really critical in terms of ensuring all 14 recommendations are actioned and have the support required to get them done."

In January 2019, Huu-ay-aht First Nations established an Independent Housing Panel to develop recommendations to make the ḥahuuƚi a safe, healthy, thriving community with a strong economy where half of Huu-ay-aht people choose to live. The Panel's work was guided by Huu-ay-aht's three sacred principles of ʔiisaak (utmost respect), ʔuuʔałuk (taking care of) and Hišuk ma c̓awak (everything is one), and recommendations were based on citizen feedback and input and expertise from the Panel.

Huu-ay-aht Executive Council received the Panel's Final Report in December 2019 and unanimously adopted its 14 recommendations on February 6, 2020.

"When you have a government-to-government meeting, you want to come out with a commitment to continue to work together, and that is what we left with," said Chief Dennis. "Together we will be able to focus on what needs to get done in the next few months to ensure immediate implementation of the Panel's recommendations. We thank the B.C. government and Minister Robinson for their strong reconciliation commitment to First Nations housing and infrastructure."

The Final Report of the Huu-ay-aht Independent Housing Panel can be found at: huuayaht.org/independent-housing-panel



Traffic to and from Bamfield has had to take a detour that was necessary because a bridge washed out at the 45 km mark due to poor weather conditions in February. It is said to be repaired by the beginning of March. Executive Council continues to fight for road improvements. (Photo by Stan Coleman)

Huu-ay-aht Language Corner

Welcome to the Language Corner!

The Communications Department has put together a series of language materials from a online source, called Kwistuup (www.kwistuup.net). The idea of the Language Corner is to provide citizens with a language lesson each Newsletter. The lesson will be a page you can cut out to start your own language booklet.

To start off the language corner, we are putting a pronunciation brochure that was made by Hinatinyis Coté, Huu-ay-aht's Language and History Coordinator.

To view all the lessons and more, visit www.kwistuup.net/http://kwistuup.net/waw/lc.html

www.huuayaht.org

Huu-ay-aht Staff Stand Up Against Bullying on Pink Shirt Day

Pink Shirt Day: Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Pink Shirt Day is a way of taking a stand against bullying. This year, Huu-ay-aht did an order of shirts and every shirt that was purchased, Huu-ay-aht would donate $10 towards the Huu-ay-aht Tribal Journeys.

A total of 88 shirts were purchased meaning Huu-ay-aht will donate $880 towards this years Tribal Journeys.

Fun fact: Huu-ay-aht Staff had a competition to see which office would wear the most pink shirts. From these photos, it is a pretty close call, but Anacla seems to have it .



Child and Family Wellness Standing outside their office in their pink shirts (Photo by Amanda-Lee Cunningham)



Port Alberni Government Staff wearing their pink shirts. (Photo by Kim MacDonald)



Anacla Government Staff and citizens wearing their pink shirts. (Photo by Kristen Young, who was in pink behind the camara)

THE ALPHABET

The Nuu-chah-nulth and Ditidaht alphabets have forty-seven characters.

It is a phonetic alphabet, which means that every letter represents a different sound, and every sound is represented by only one character.

a aa c c̓ č č̓
e ee h ḥ i ii
k kʷ k̓ k̓ʷ ɬ ƛ
ƛ̓ m m̓ n n̓ o
oo p p̓ q qʷ s
š t t̓ u uu w
w̓ x xʷ x̣ x̣ʷ y
y̓ ʔ ʕ b d

Please work with your local language advocate to identify characters used in your dialect.

RESOURCES

There are many websites that offer more thorough lessons on the Nuu-chah-nulth and Ditidaht alphabets and interactive options for learning.

FirstVoices

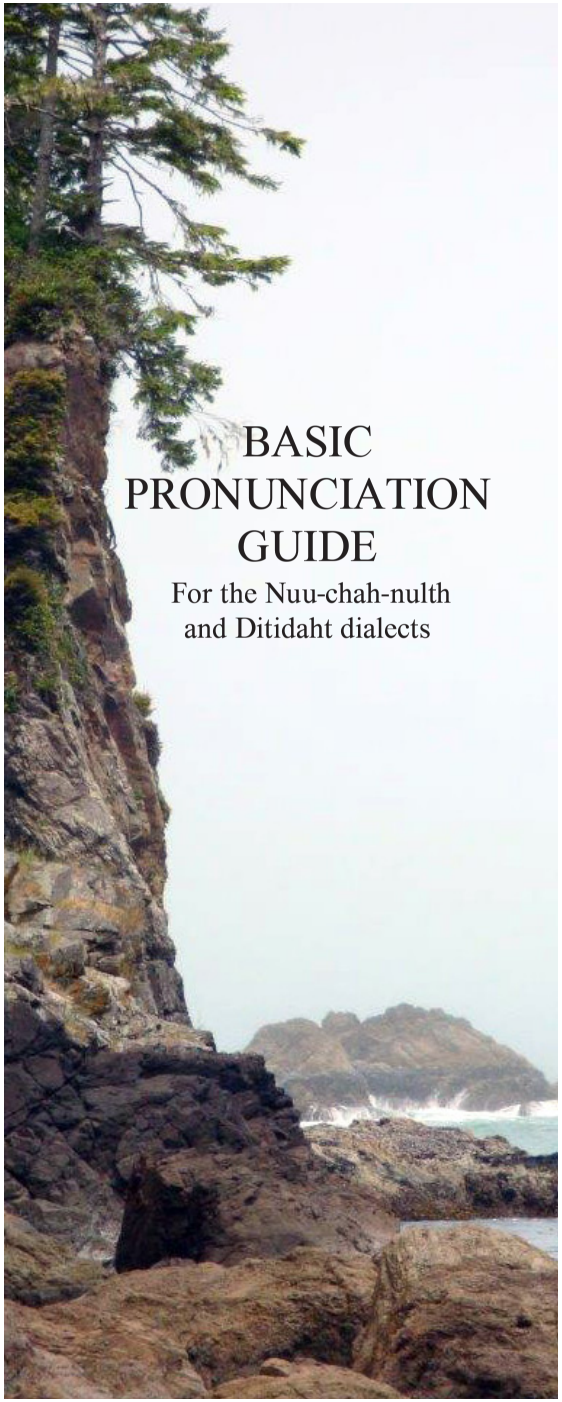
FirstVoices is a website that offers audio recordings along with the translations. You can search both words and phrases and there is also a section for educational games.

http://www.firstvoices.com/en/Nuu-chah-nulth

Kwistuup.net

Kwistuup.net is a website that offers “Survival Conversations” for the Nuu-chah-nulth and Ditidaht dialects and an in-depth language curriculum.

http://kwistuup.net/



BASIC PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

For the Nuu-chah-nulth and Ditidaht dialects

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cut here



UNIQUE CHARACTERS

Unique Characters are not found in the English alphabet and many of the sounds are not used in English.

č - sound of “ch”
c̓ - explosive “ch”
ḥ - like breathing on glass
kʷ - sound of “qu” in queen
k̓ʷ- explosive “qu”
ɬ - a hissed “L”
ƛ - sound “tla” place the tongue behind teeth and let it drop
ƛ̓ - explosive sound of “tla”
qʷ - sound of “kw” but farther back
š - sound of “sh”
xʷ - hissing like a cat with rounded lips
x̣ - hissing like trying to spit
x̣ʷ - hissing like trying to spit with rounded lips
ʔ - a catch in the throat
ʕ - a deep catch in the throat

COMMON CHARACTERS

h k m n p s t w y b d



Common Characters are pronounced the same in Nuu-chah-nulth and Ditidaht as they are in English.

SIMILAR CHARACTERS

a - sound of “u”
aa - sound of “a”
c - sound of “ts” as in hats
c̓ - explosive “ts”
i - sound of “bit”
ii - sound of “ski”
k̓ - explosive “k”
m̓ - sound of “m” with a catch
n̓ - sound of “n” with a catch
o - sound of “go”
oo - long “oh” or “aw”
p̓ - explosive “p”
q - sound of “k” but farther back
t̓ - explosive “t”
u - sound of “put”
uu - sound of “due”
w̓ - sound of “w” with a catch
x - hissing like a cat
y̓ - sound of “y” with a catch

Similar Characters are used in Nuu-chah-nulth, Ditidaht and English. However, they are pronounced differently.



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Get to know Huu-ay-aht Government Staff



Brent Ronning

Manager of Education, Training, and Employment

Brent oversees post-secondary, trades and training programs, Huu-ay-aht specific education in the Bamfield Community School, partnerships with SD70 to implement the Local Education Agreement, K-12 education support and programs, career counselling and supports for citizens, and policy and procedures in the Education department. Brent's favourite part about his job is seeing success and change in individuals as they start to write their own stories and discover new paths in themselves. Outside of work, Brent enjoys singing in Timbre, choir and volunteering for Portal Players Dramatic Society at the Capitol Theatre.

Fun fact: Brent travelled the world extensively in his former job and had his childhood dreams come true when he rode a camel up to the pyramids at Giza in Egypt and went inside one of them.



Kelda Blackstone

Secondary and Post-Secondary Education Administrator

Kelda supports students at all levels of education. Her favourite part about her job is the individual relationships she builds with the students watching them succeed and achieve their goals. She also wants students to know that it is alright to change education paths. Outside of work, Kelda is a Search and Rescue volunteer and has been for seven years. She likes the outdoors: hiking, camping, surfing, and kayaking.

Fun fact: Kelda has three citizenships - British, Danish, and Canadian. She speaks Danish, French, and spanish. She also, has 18 years experience in kayaking and used to live in Mexico giving kayaking tours.



Hinatinyis Coté

Language and History Coordinator

Hinatinyis is the Language and History Coordinator. In her position, she wants to be apart of language revitalization for Huu-ay-aht, putting language into our legislation. In the meantime, she is working on finishing her diploma program. She loves working with all the elders and listening to all their stories. When she is not busy studying and learning the language, she enjoys doing karaoke, reading fantasy books (Zelda fan), loves snuggling babies, singing in a gospel choir, and acting at the community theatre.

Fun fact: Hinatinyis has a tattoo of a heart on her body with the word "bad" in the middle. Can you guess where it is?



Cory Howard Jr.

Administrative Support Worker

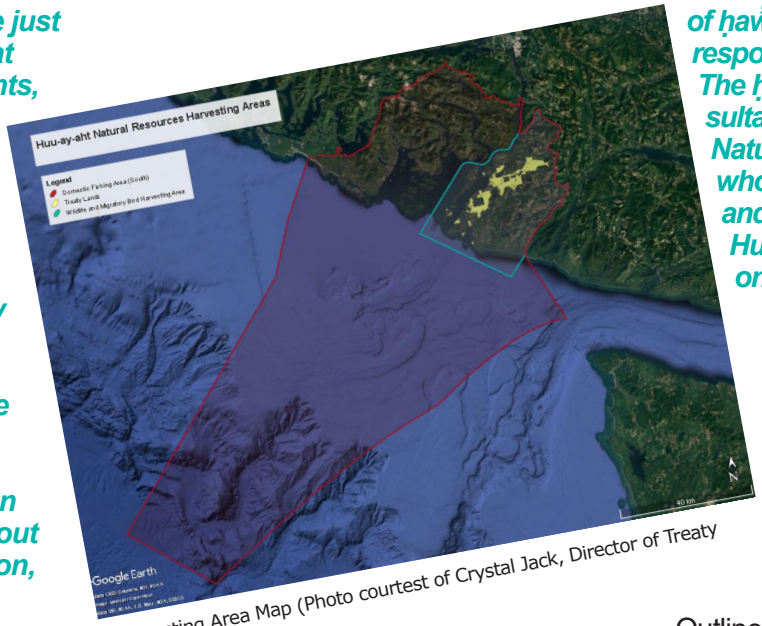
Cory works out of the Anacla Government Office. He welcomes visitors, answers the phone and radio, orders supplies, keeps track of the Anacla Government staff, is responsible for booking company vehicles, and assists the Human Resource Manager and the administrative staff. Cory's favourite part about his job is talking/listening about all the stories that the elders and community members share with him. When he is not at work, he likes to play hockey, learn how to fix vehicles, drive around the homelands to look for firewood, and likes to dirt bike or ATV through the mud.

Fun fact: Cory has a story about a bear that gave him strength in Tahsis. He also enjoys helping family and friends when he can and likes to take part in culture, dancing, and singing.

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

Treaty Implementation Update #6
Harvesting Rights Under Treaty

Spring and summer are just around the corner and that means an increase of plants, animals, and ocean resources that can be harvested. Our constitutionally protected harvesting rights, are one of the big advantages of being a self-governing treaty nation. These rights and their rules are contained in several documents. The Maa-nulth Treaty, the Huu-ay-aht Constitution, and Huu-ay-aht Legislation all include information about harvesting rights, collection, and reporting.



Harvesting Area Map (Photo courtest of Crystal Jack, Director of Treaty Implementation)

Treaty Rights

The Maa-nulth Treaty acts as the "umbrella" document that outlines the Maa-nulth rights to harvest fish, aquatic plants, wildlife, migratory birds, and other renewable resources in designated areas, including National Parks within their Ḥahuułi.

There are several treaty chapters that outline the harvesting rights that all start with two similar clauses like these ones from the Fisheries Chapter:

Chapter 10 Fisheries

- 10.1.1: Each Maa-nulth First Nation has the right to harvest, in accordance with this Agreement, Fish, and Aquatic Plants for Domestic Purposes in the Domestic Fishing Area

- 10.1.2: Each Maa-nulth First Nation Fishing Right is limited by measures necessary for conservation, public health, or public safety.

The other chapters to check out are Chapter 11 Wildlife, Chapter 12 Migratory Birds, and Chapter 23 Federal Parks and Protected Areas.

Huu-ay-aht Constitution

Huu-ay-aht Declaration of Rights and Values

"The Huu-ay-aht have existed from time immemorial, owned and occupied the lands and waters within our traditional territory, governed these lands and waters, abided by our laws, and shared our language and culture.

"From our historic existence, our value system and our membership in the community of man, we possess certain fundamental and inalienable human rights which have never been extinguished, ceded, or surrendered.

"These include: a) the right to our traditional territory including the waters and beds of water; b) the right to the resources of our traditional territory; …"

The right to natural resource harvesting is a collective right that belongs to Huu-ay-aht First Nations as a whole.

The foundation of "Ancient Spirit, Modern Mind" was in place before it became the motto of Huu-ay-aht First Nations. The ancient spirit of ḥaw̓iih land and resource responsibility is still practiced. The ḥaw̓iih are in regular consultation with the Lands and Natural Resource Department, who uses both ancient spirit and modern mind to manage Huu-ay-aht's vast resources on behalf of the ḥaw̓iih.

Huu-ay-aht Legislation

Huu-ay-aht's implementation of harvesting rights can be found in our:

Resource Harvesting Act

Outlines the overall role of the Lands and Natural Resource Department and its director in harvest rights management, as well as details about the documentation required to harvest, laws about trade and barter, sale, transport, and penalties for unauthorized activities.

Fisheries Regulation and Wildlife and Migratory Birds regulation

Outline more specific details about duties of the Huu-ay-aht government and the rights and responsibilities of harvesters including documentation, harvesting gear, location, and timing of harvest, reporting requirements and how harvest rights apply in Pacific Rim National Park Reserve.

To ensure we are following the principle of Uu-a-thluk, reporting of all animal harvest to our Lands and Natural Resources Department is a condition of accessing the rights.

Citizens wishing to access Treaty harvesting rights and to apply for a harvest card, contact:

Port Alberni Office: 250-723-0100
Anacla Office: 250-728-3414 or 888-644-4555.