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ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

Executive Council Report
November 2023

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ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

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Huu-ay-aht First Nations
Chief-Councillor Report
John Alan Jack
November 2023

Note: I wrote this report while traveling in Japan, and I just realized that my dates may be off by about a day due to being much further ahead in time and my calendar had automatically switched to the Japanese time zone.

General Duties – Chief Councillor – Progress Report

First Week

November started off with the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council Board of Directors meeting conducted online, and then I jumped into an information session of the federal Indigenous Working Group on International Trade to receive updates on negotiations Canada has been conducting with other countries. Later in the afternoon of November 1st, I traveled to Vancouver to attend the BC First Nations Leadership Gathering in Vancouver. FNLG is a large convention of First Nations leadership where they attend scheduled meetings with Ministers of the BC Government to discuss various issues. After checking in, I registered for the convention and then attended the Welcome Reception at the Convention Centre.

On the 2nd, I attended five meetings with various BC Ministers: (1) Katrine Conroy of Finance with the Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations; (2) Anne Kang of Municipal Affairs; (3) Lana Popham of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport with Chief Ken Watts of Tseshaht, (4) Rob Fleming of Transportation and Infrastructure, and (5) Senior Staff from the Ministry of Forests.

On the 3rd, I attended four meetings: (1) Premier Eby with the Alliance, (2) Lisa Beare of Citizen's Services, (3) Brenda Bailey of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation; and (4) Josie Osborne of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation and our Local MLA.

Second Week

The next week, I traveled to Calgary for a meeting of the Indigenous Advisory Monitoring Committee for TMX (TransMountain Expansion). This was primarily for information gathering purposes as there is an upcoming offer from the federal government to become joint owners of TMX to benefit from infrastructure investment revenue. The opportunity could have value to HFN in regards to that income, but there are always costs, and the costs would be the time and effort it would take to keep tabs on the governance of the initiative and to contribute to the good governance of the project. I learned much at the IAMC meeting, especially given how deep and wide the capacity would be for the project to be directed without HFN having to contribute the limited time of staff or government members. At that point, it then comes down to the initial value proposition.

I was home in time to attend to a full day of ACRD metings on Wednesday the 8th: a strategic planning session in the morning as a Committee of the Whole, and then the regular Board of Directors meeting. The following Thursday the 9th, we had an HFN Executive Council Meeting followed by an Open House for the Bamfield Community in the first steps of renewing their Official Community Plan. It will continue to be very important to ensure that we do well by Bamfield and the ACRD as our fates are entwined

when it comes to the economic diversification initiatives we are doing such as any property development or hospitality endeavours. As well, I attended to Remembrance Day ceremonies on Saturday, November 11th for both HFN and the ACRD.

Third Week

There was a statutory holiday on the Monday, and thus the week began on Tuesday the 14th. I took this time to prepare for a presentation I was giving to senior executives at Crown-Indigenous Relations the following day. I also met online with the CEO of the Port Alberni Port Authority and we discussed reigniting the productive relationship between PAPA and our Nation. Wednesday the 15th was a slower day where I caught up on emails and messages, and met online with Zac Whyte on the prospect of creating information videos under a federal program. Friday the 17th started with a morning attendance of the opening of a new facility built by the Sage Haven Society, then into a Dry Run of the 2023 People's Assembly, the HFN Departmental Information Sessions and then the Culture Night. I retired early that night to ensure I was well rested for…

… the People's Assembly on Saturday, November 18th. The entire day went well, and I am thankful for the work done by everyone involved. I was heartened by the way we came together and had good, respectful discussions. I was somewhat disappointed by the conduct of some of our citizens in relation to their hotel rooms. We have taken appropriate steps to address that poor conduct, and I thank those who conducted themselves well.

Fourth Week

On Monday the 20th, we held a joint meeting of HFN Council and Senior Management Team to discuss the Strategic Plan. The next day, I attended a meeting with the ACRD CAO and then attended the HFN Committee of the Whole as chaired by our Deputy Chief-Councillor, Edward Johnson Jr. On Wednesday the 22nd there was another regular meeting of the ACRD Board. The 23rd brought us to Anacla for a meeting and tour of the area for the ACRD Solid Waste Management Plan Advisory Committee, and we focused work on planning for garbage, recycling and organics opportunities for our communities and the wider region. Friday the 24th brought me to Courtenay where I attended the Board of Directors of the Island Coastal Economic Trust – an organization charged with making investments in island communities for the purposes of economic diversification and a source of funding that Huu-ay-aht has benefitted from in the recent past.

Fifth Week

On Monday the 27th, I attended my first preparation meeting for the BC Forestry Minister's Trade Mission to Japan. The following day, I conducted some internal meetings with the Executive Director and forestry-based planning and also attended a federal lobbying strategy meeting with the Land Claims Agreement Coalition for an upcoming endeavour in Ottawa regarding the Interpretation Act amendments being contemplated by the Canadian Senate. We continued more forestry strategy the following day with Subject Matter Expert Shannon Janzen of Huumiis Ventures LP and Forest Consulting Services LP as well as a meeting regarding children and families issues revolving around the Tripartite Coordination Agreement initiative. Lastly, I attended online the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council Annual General Meeting where we honoured Robert Dennis and Charlie Cootes who were both retiring from

political life. We followed that AGM with a meeting of HFN Council to prepare for my two weeks of heavy travel to Ottawa and then Tokyo, Japan in the first two weeks of December.

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District – Progress Report

There were two Board Meetings that I attended and chaired, on the 8th and 22nd. There were also extra meetings on the 8th (COW), 9th (Bamfield Open House) and 23rd (SWMPAV).

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District – Emerging Issues

[Huu-ay-aht will want to be more actively engaged at a staff level with the ACRD as we make progress on the property development and community planning we will be doing throughout the next year. This ended up being scheduled in October to be first rolled out in November.]

Major Projects – Progress Report

[HFN often participates in projects that are either quite large in scale/scope; or they have a degree of political importance that they are carried forward under the supervision of Council itself rather than being delegated to a committee or a department. These projects may include items identified as "special investment bodies" or they may be particularly important infrastructure or investment projects or potential partnerships or joint ventures. In any event, these items fall under Council's decision making, but the Chief-Councillor will be the lead on these items. In this instance, the major projects I have identified are two-fold: the Bamfield Road, which I have assigned to Councillor Brad Johnson by the time of this report due to his good oversight of the project since the last term of office; and the forestry-related initiatives related to our special investment bodies: Huumiis Ventures LP and Huu-ay-aht Forestry Consulting Services LP.]

Major Projects – Emerging Issues

[The initiatives covered by this file will likely take up a significant portion of my Fall-Winter schedule. The Executive Director and I have instituted weekly check-ins to ensure that we minimize any negative impact to all the other tasks at hand. Some of these have and will affect the timing and intensiveness of current and future audits, we need to consider this moving forward.]

External Relations – Progress Report

Most of the work conducted on External Relations this month were in preparation for travel to be conducted in the first weeks of December to Ottawa and then Tokyo, Japan. I expect to make good impressions following these trips. We will need to build and use our political capital wisely, as many of our major initiatves require decisions on which we do not control.

External Relations – Emerging Issues - No emerging issues.

Councillor Brad Johnson – November 2023

Areas of Responsibility:

Fisheries, Wildlife, Lands and Natural Resources
Treaty Implementation
Parks Canada Co-operative Management Board
HR Workplace and Wellness
Special Project: The Bamfield Road.

Bamfield Road

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- The road is proving to hold up to winter weather so far. We have had a few potholes develop on the road. These holes were addressed and fixed with a cold patch immediately. Huu-ay-aht has contracted this work out to Coastal Bridge. We also have Maridian and Parsons under contract for the next year. These contractors will be monitoring the road for wear and tear, potholes, and for any damage to the chip seal surface. This road team will be reporting all fixes and documenting the work they do for the warranty portion of the road surface. Snow removal and all other maintenance is being looked after by C'awak?qin and Mosaic. A new method of snow removal for the Bamfield main has started by using a plow much like you would see on a highway with a front and plastic belly blade attached. Sanding will also occur when needed. We would like to advise everyone to drive within the speed limit of 60 km and take your time in winter conditions. A future meeting with MOTI will be held December 5, 2023 to discuss what our Nation would like to see happen with the road in the near future and long term goals.

Emerging Issues:

- Re-occurring potholes and a plugged culvert around 54km. These will all be addressed ASAP.

Lands and Natural Resources

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- Our lands department has been busy working on the HIRMP project. On November 23, 2023 I held a Joint Committee meeting with Lands and Natural Resources, Treaty Implementation and Ha'wiih Council. This meeting was an information session only to get everyone up to speed (new committee members). The main topics of discussion were - what's important for our Hahuuli, what does it need from us, what's on the land base and what needs to be protected. Clear values, measurable targets and monitoring will help move this project to its final steps. Management in the forest industry have never seen this type of a holistic approach led by first nations. HFN, C'awak?qin and Mosaic are working together on a common goal. The "Makasap Network" was created - this word means to "take a bite out of". It is basically an area of conservation that looks at values, culture, riparian zones, old growth, and wildlife. This meeting had a lot of good dialogs from both of my committees and the Ha'wiih Council. A future meeting in

December will be held to decide on a recommendation to present to the Executive Council.

Emerging Issues

- This needs to be approved by the Executive Council before the Christmas break.

Treaty Implementation

Progress on Key Initiatives:

Maa-Nulth Board Update

- Health and Wellness Working Group - Under the MCFD CFS Fiscal Model, two letters were drafted and delivered to put pressure on the Minister to make changes that address concerns of the Modern Treaty Nations for CFS jurisdiction and other agreements.
- Ministry of Housing shelter legislation (encampments) - The MOH will be moving forward with limited legislative amendments that will incorporate the concept of reasonably available adequate shelter into existing legislation. MOH will move forward increasing substantial legislatiVE changes at a later date. Next steps will be presented soon.
- Poverty reductions strategy and BC Employment Assistance Act - The MSDPR presented project HWWG where BC's goal is to create a strategy to reduce child poverty by 50% and overall poverty by 25% by 2029.
- Next meeting is scheduled in-person at HFN Port Alberni office on December 14, 2023

Maa-Nulth Fisheries update

- The Maa-Nulth nations have completed their FSC fishing for the year. All Nations reported a successful year catching more fish than previous years. There is an interest in exploring fisheries for domestic gooey duck and Urchin. A technical team has been tasked with scoping out this further and reporting back their findings.
- Legal is working with the tech team to implement a proposal for an urchin fishery in the summer. An integrated fisheries management plan (IFMP) nations plan has begun for Salmon species. The IFMP for groundfish is expected at the end of November.
- DFO and the SRKW (Southern Resident Killer Whale) 2024 planning - There continues to be frustrations with the lack of early and direct bilateral engagements with Canada and a desire to strengthen relationships with the SRKW. Tech support has been tasked to develop a response letter regarding the 2024 planning and highlight ongoing frustrations.

Me Too Update

- The Me Too access term sheet was presented to DFO. Questions and clarifications were answered between Maa-Nulth and DFO. We are working on the in-scope matters. We have identified 5 species on the access request term sheet to DFO and proposed geographic scope. The 5 species are: 1) Chinook offshore coho offshore chum area G, 2) Somass Sockey Westcoast Vancouver Island and Area D, 3) Nearshore Coho and Chum Area of Westcoast Vancouver Island and Area G, 4) Somass Chinook Westcoast of Vancouver Island Areas G and D, and 5) Halibut Coast wide in the MDFA. Things appear to be moving well with the Me Too negotiations. We are seeing progress and we are very hopeful to be able to start fishing in 2024 if DFO accepts terms and requests. All Nations are pushing hard to have their citizens fishing.

MSPWG Working Group

- The BC flood strategy and resilience plan were added to the working group, the terms of reference (TOR) were amended.
- Canada Water Agency on the Fraser River - the board will send a letter that the Fraser River has ties to the Maa-Nulth Nations and we have interest in the area.
- Transport Canada Ocean Protection Engagement will be moved to the Maa-nulth fisheries committee (MFC). They will be dealing with vessel discharge engagement and vessel operation restriction regulations.

Maa- Nulth Wildlife Committee

- We did not achieve quorum, we only had 3/5 nations attend. This session was more of an information sharing session. The province attended and shared that there will be a new system for the data on Elk collar and population numbers. Maa-nulth expressed we would like to see the data that is collected from our territory. Elk translocation was discussed with BC again. It was discussed that Christine Gruman (HFN) will most likely take over the chair role of the committee as we are happy to have her back to work from parental leave. No decisions could be made as we need 4/5 nations present.

Treaty Amendments

- Section 87 GST repeal is now in effect as of November 13th 2023. Three out of the 5 Nations moved forward with this repeal.

Nature Conservation Agreement

- This agreement was a tripartite with the FNLC (First Nations Leadership Council) and not the Modern Treaty Nations. The Alliance will shift their focus on how we can be involved in the implementation of the agreement as there is $550 million in funding to support this work by 2030. The conservation agreement is to protect 30% of terrestrial lands and waters by 2030.

PAPA (Port Alberni Port Authority)

- The PAPA was seeking a 30-year lease extension. Maa-nulth granted a 1-year lease extension so we could work together on an accommodation agreement for Maa-Nulth nations as there is nothing in place at this time. 50% of their profit goes to BC and the other 50% go to the Port Authority. Nations would like to see some accommodations of profit in the near future.

Salish Sea Arm's Length Fund

- All 5 Nations are finally a part of the new society to access funds from DFO. This submission of funding is still at the treasury board. Update in the new year to come.

Parks Canada Cooperative Management Board

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- On November 3rd we held another CMB, last month both Parks Canada and HFN staff were off sick, and we had tabled a few items.
- West Coast Trail Update - HFN had another successful season. They finished the year with three guardians, but they had a busy season brushing and clearing the trail all season. They assisted in many medical related injuries and evacuations. The new cabin was well received and put to use this year. It was mentioned that the process of online reporting was much better this year from our Guardians and Parks Canada was appreciative of that requirement. Our Guardians season will be extended even though the WCT is closed for the season. They will be busy with other existing trail networks in our territory. We plan on keeping them employed until the Guardian workshop that will be held before years end. They have been very busy helping out with the Lands and Natural Resources and Fisheries team.
- Southern Resident Killer Whale (SRKW) - Funding for 2023-2024 season will be an additional $104,000 per year. The Guardians do extra work with these funds such as cultural interpretation. This is where our guardians provide hikers and community members a free barbecued salmon dinner cooked traditionally over a fire. They tell stories of the area and give some cultural context. They did this every Thursday during the season and it was very well received by visitors. The fish was donated from a pilot project with salmon from UBC research at BMSC. Observation of whales in the area is also another requirement that is reported on by our Guardians. Equipment and maintenance/gear replacement along with inventory will be done before the next season starts. Training and certification will now be done in the off season, so our Guardians will be ready to go for the next season. I would just like to acknowledge the hard work these three citizens do every year and represent our nation with pride. Our Guardians are very well respected, and we are lucky to have these individuals working for our Nation.
- Management Planning on the WCT is ongoing. HFN will be hosting an in-person meeting at the Port Alberni Government Office on December 7th 2023.

Other Duties

<u>Progress on Key Initiatives:</u>

- I was asked to attend a meeting with a UVIC student by our Ha'wiih Councillor Tommy Happynook Jr. This meeting was to discuss a possible research project with a virtual reality landscape platform. This student is going into their Master's program and needs to use 300 hours over the next 10 months. They would like to create a digital landscape of our territory for elders or anyone who isn't mobile enough to see these places amongst our traditional territory. They would create a story that could be shared with our nation. The commission would be free to the nation as its fully funded by the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund. It seems like a very interesting project and I will refer this presentation to the next Committee of the Whole meeting in December as I feel it's worthwhile.
- List of other meetings I attended in the month of November were:
  - Project Green meetings
  - Forestry meeting with BC onTimber Stumpage with John and Stephen
  - Gravel Meeting with Charlie, Karen, and Melinda
  - People's Assembly November 17th and 18th 2023
  - NTC AGM
  - Executive Council meetings x 2
  - Executive Director meetings
  - Monthly Committee of the Whole meeting on November 20th
  - Strategic Plan Review meeting

- Bamfield Road Meetings
- HIRMP meetings x 4
- Committee meetings – Law & Policy and Treaty Implementation
- Fisheries ESSR meeting with Bob and Amelia
- Me too meetings with DFO.
- Me too internal meeting with Larry Johnson - November 15th
- Maa-Nulth Joint Fisheries Committee meeting with DFO in person November 24 2023 In Parksville
- Maa-Nulth fisheries Committee meetings x 2.
- Maa-Nulth Groundwater meeting
- Maa-Nulth Wildlife Committee meeting
- DFO-Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program (FFHPP) meeting
- Alliance WLRS Co-Management meetings
- Alliance Forestry Revenue sharing meetings
- BC Coastal Marine Strategy meeting November 1st
- Parks Canada West Coast Trail Management Plan meeting
- Parks Canada CMB meeting

Overall, this was another very busy month and I felt I was very productive in all my tasks. I am honored to represent our Nation as a member of Executive Council.

Councillor ƛicitatḥ Edward R. Johnson - November 2023

Areas of Responsibility:

Community Planning Committee and Infrastructure
Children and Family Wellness Committee and Mental Health
Deputy-Chief Councillor

Community Planning Committee and Infrastructure

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives**:**

- Attended a meeting with Tara Schmidt from BC housing regarding update on Oomiiqsu and other potential funding for childcare and living room combinations.
- Chaired the Anacla Community Planning Committee Meeting.
- Attended the Anacla Community Health & Wellness Discussion.
- Attended the COMMUNITY PLANNING WORKSHOP & OPEN HOUSE at BCS hosted by the ACRD. It was a very good turnout with a lot of great engagement.
- Attended Meetings with BMO and RBC re Housing Lending.
- Had a meeting with Norse Log Homes. Attached are examples of what Norris can do. Some of the examples are projects with First Nations utilizing their trees to cut costs for the build. https://www.norseloghomes.com/ file:///C:/Users/edward.r.j/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/CX3YDG2W/20231102054721551.pdf file:///C:/Users/edward.r.j/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/CX3YDG2W/20231102054615860.pdf
- Attended community engagements session in Anacla.

Emerging Issues:

- Cart before the horse daycare upper Anacla - Solutions needed.
- Canada Bill C-92.

Children and Family Wellness Committee

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives:

- Premier's Award Ceremony – Attended this award ceremony in Victoria because our nation was up for an award along with other nations that have worked on the CFCSA Bill-38 with BC. This award was a partnership award and with a great evening of connecting and networking. Receiving the award was bittersweet. **The MCFD team that worked on Bill 38 are finalists for a Premier's Award in the Partnerships category.**
- Attended Funding Model Engagement Session #2 – HFN and MCFD.
- Attended a CLH Call with Canada.
- Attended Jurisdiction Policy Engagement Session re: the changes to CFCSA Bill-38 where I stressed my concern over 4.2. 2. I received the materials the morning of this meeting - was not impressed. I networked and connected with the chair of MHWWG to see if she was attending session two of three regarding jurisdiction policy. The chair of the committee is well aware and is going to be on the next agenda for the Maa'nulth Health and Wellness working group committee.
- Attended the Tripartite Coordination Agreement Discussion.
- Attended the B.C. Cabinet and First Nations Leadership Gathering to meet with the Ministry of Citizens' Services and to meet with Jennifer Melles, IRR

https://fnlg.gov.bc.ca/. I made a special trip to meet with Jennifer to talk further about operational costs for Oomiiqsu and to get confirmation in writing on those next steps. I received commitment and it was a very successful day of networking and connecting.

Emerging Issues:

- Finalizing the CHRT-41 application.

Deputy-Chief Councillor

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives:

- Chaired Committee of the Whole meeting.
- Met with Theresa – Hoobiyee 2024 Dance Invitation discussion and Nananiiqsu.
- Chaired Citizenship Committee Meeting - I have a passion for citizenship. This committee has been very active and is always good talking about family and connections. It was a pleasure to chair this committee for a brief while.
- ACRD Board of Directors – Attended communications training. It was very informative. Most of the directors participated along with the mayor of Port Alberni.
- Breakfast with Council - Hospitality Inn Large Event Room – This was a very good morning engaging with citizens - suggest we should do this quarterly.
- Attended a meeting with HGB.
- Attended the Indigenous Speakers Series at VIU reconciliation generation NDN. Youth demand more than apologies, land acknowledgements and orange shirts https://news.viu.ca/indigenous-speaker-elevates-voices-reconciliation-generation.
- Attended a two-day Organizational Wellness & Communication Workshop.
- Attended the opening of 2nd stage housing project in partnership with BC Housing and the City of Port Alberni
- Attended Happynook family tiquuwiłtuuła, seating ceremony. It was a very historical day for HFN and NCN.
- Attended the NTC AGM where they honored former chief councillor Robert Dennis.
- 2023 Annual People's Assembly Dry Run.
- Attended our annual People's Assembly this time of year. It is always nice that we get to talk about the annual report, connect and see family. It was a very successful People's Assembly. I am very honored and proud to be Huuayaht and very honored and proud to be working alongside our government staff.
- Attended Strategic Plan Review meetings.
- UBC Indigenous Speakers Series. "Our Language and Stories are Far Too Complex for Them to Understand: An Excavation of Sorts About Who We Are and Where We Come From" https://redi.med.ubc.ca/our-language-and-stories-are-far-too-complex-for-them-to-understand-an-excavation-of-sorts-about-who-we-are-and-where-we-come-from/
- Attended and chaired BCSA Board meeting.

Emerging Issues:

- Gottfriedson et al. v. His Majesty the King in Right of Canada

Councillor Evan Cook – November 2023

Areas of Responsibility:

Finance Committee
Law & Policy Committee

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- Finance Committee met on November 6 and recommended the October Financial Report.
- Audit requirements for People's Assembly have been completed. The nation's financial balance sheets have remained strong and positive for the past year. A lesser amount occurred than the previous year because of the main road chip seal. This is a one time financial charge.

Emerging Issues:

- The budget for the maintenance of the chip seal road.
- We continue to have discussions with Revenue Canada on the GST refund owed to the nation. The balance owed is approximately 2M dollars.
- The damage to the hotels rooms provided to the citizens for the People's Assembly has remained a concern because of the cost and our reputation.

Other Responsibilities

HFN Housing Loan Program:

- We have begun the process of having discussions with various banking institutions to provide mortgage funds for community citizens. The mortgage funds will be available to community citizens for the purpose of new construction, purchases (with or without renovations), renovations and refinancing of existing debt. We're hoping to succeed in reaching a favourable mortgage rate, also to make the approval of mortgages easier for citizens.

HFN Five Year Strategic Plan:

- Key strategies included:
    - Determine the highest uses and opportunities HFN Lands and Resources for all purposes.
    - Developing a diversitifed economy to provide multiple sources of employment. Revenue will be very important to me. As of writing this report, I have been given the responsibility of the Economic Development portfolio and look forward to the challenges the position provides.
    -

MTN And Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations – Property Tax Model

- The property tax model enables MTN's to self-determine treaty property taxation policy. The resulting proposal, titles the "Broad Delegation Approach", was approved by the parties this month. To bring the new property tax approach into effect, BC needs to amend several pieces of legislation.

Now that the financial audit has been completed, this report is quite short but filled with positive news for the future of the nation. We are in a very good financial position.

Ha'wiih Representative Theresa Nookemus – November 2023

Areas of Responsibility:

Ha'wiih Council
Citizenship Committee

Ha'wiih Council

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- Ha'wiih had a presentation with Stephen Rayner on the Norway trip regarding fish farming. We discussed the upcoming June 24, 2024 All Fish Farm licensing which will expire. It is unknown whether it will be renewed. Stephen had expressed that Norway and Chile offer government pop up information sessions. It was mentioned that there is a facility in Ahousaht – a possible tour? Stephen had mentioned he will send more info as it comes in. We will reconvene at our next Ha'wiih meeting Jan 29, 2024.
- Met with Jim Lee to review the strategic plan. A workplan will be starting after Christmas. We spoke on self-governing, self-relying, sustainability and that our nation has the ability to govern and sustain ourselves. Discussed getting more citizens involved with what goes on in development and how to determine the highest, best uses and opportunities for Huu-ay-aht's lands and resources, as well as our citizens (including our youth and elders) and entrepreneurs.
- Looking for a new words to replace Hapukwanum.
- We spoke on the following issues regarding housing:
    - No lawns
    - Fencing
    - Previous mold issues
    - Secondary emergency exits for 2 story duplexes (what that looks like – eg – 2nd stairwell on back or escape ladder that can be put out a window).
    - Housing seems to be built for subdivisions in city – re – not cultural in any way.
    - Quality vs quantity.
- General consensus on plaque for fisherman lost at sea was a firm yes. There is a want for our carvers to be involved. We will touch base with our executive director regarding carvers and cost.
- We had a brief discussion on a totem that was carved for the cemetery. It ended up being donated to Pacheedaht. The original is yet to be replaced.
- Tom was looking for an idea of when and how we would like to reappropriate our items from the museum, how and when? Will there be a ceremony? Who will be going to collect these items? We will be reaching out to Coral Johnson on this and what it would look like.
- Ha'wiih was approached to discuss a Ten-Day Healing Workshop that will be held in February 2024 at Ocean Resort in Campbell River at no cost to citizens. This is for women aged 19+. Transportation will be provided or gas cards will be given. I am hoping for a presentation to learn more about this in January.
- Ha'wiih has a joint meeting coming up with Lands and Natural Resources.
- Jeff has a potlatch that will continue from last year on December 9, 2023.
- The next Nananiiqsu meeting is set for December 13th. Edward will be joining me in this meeting. We will be discussing the elders conference, elders gala and the Hoobiyee – who will be going? what dances? If we want to have all uniform Huu-ay-aht shalws to represent us or use other shawls? Edward believes there is material to make shawls if needed. We also discussed gifting and what that looks like. Edwars has accepted the Hoobiyee invitation.

Citizenship Committee

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- The Citizenship Committee has accepted 6 new Huu-ay-aht citizens. We are waiting for more information for one applicant. The next meeting is December 11, 2023.

Councillor Stephen Rayner – November 2023

Areas of Responsibility:

Economic Development
Green Energy and Climate Sustainability

Economic Development

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- **Economic Development Act (EDA) and Governance Fiscal Agreement Regulation (GFAR) review:** Work is continuing on reviewing how our EDA and GFAR. The review will look at how they have functioned for HFN and have been implemented in the past. Continuing to work on identifying areas for potential improvement and update, which could provide more comprehensive and streamlined processes.
- **Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses:** HGB has provided a high-level update of their ongoing operations. HFN is a shareholder in the group of businesses and does not have the legislative capabilities to provide guidance or input on their operations or employment. Achievements and issues are discussed at our meetings. HGB has started negotiations with the steel workers union. This could be a multi-year negotiation process. We continue to Work with HGB on integrated planning in the Bamfield community.
- **Economic Development Committee:** The economic development committee members have been selected. The Huu-ay-aht First Nation Development Corporation board (HFNDC) and Economic Development committee are now finalized. The HFNDC board has been officially appointed and the first meeting went very well. We have had the first EDC meeting to bring the committee up to speed on ongoing and new potential projects. EDC training went very well, and the committee has a full understanding of their function and responsibilities as an EDC and HFNDC.
- **Economic Development Plan:** Reviewing and developing potential updates for the Economic Development Plan. Reviewing HGB's tourism planning and preparing to run through HFN's economic development act, to potentially amalgamate and integrate feasible opportunities recommended by the Economic Development Committee. The economic development department is working on a larger overall planning process and will integrate all existing planning.
- **Huu-ay-aht's lanning or our Territory:** We met in December with the administration, HGB and our consultant to continue to develop planning for our territory. The project is making good progress.
- **Tribal Park Allies Land Steward Fee Program:** Program has received EC approval and received funding to facilitate the development and implementation of the project. This project will take a year to explore and develop. We met with stakeholders and are continuing to advance the program. The meetings have been going well and the consultant and economic development department are making great strides forward in developing the program.
- **Trans-Shipment Hub:** Continue conversations with the Port Alberni Port Authority. Continue to explore the opportunity to develop and discuss next steps. We have a meeting scheduled in December to discuss the advancement of the project.
- **First Nations Leadership Gathering:** We spent two days in Vancouver meeting with several Provincial Ministries. We me with the Ministry of municipal affairs, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Ministry of Transportation, Ministry of Forests, Ministry of Citizen Services, Ministry of Economic Development, and Innovation as well as the Ministry of Mines, Energy, Low Carbon Innovation. In these meetings we discuss several key topics to support or advance HFN programs and projects. The meetings were very positive, and Ministries were very supportive of the work we are doing.

- **NTC Annual General Meeting:** This is the first time I have attended this event. There was a lot to learn about the topics we would be voting on as well as background on what has been discussed in prior years. The event went well, and the topics which were discussed and voted on went very well.

Emerging Issues:

- Our group of businesses have gone into collective bargaining with the united steel workers union.

Green Energy and Climate Sustainability

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- **First nations Energy Summit:** The fist nation energy summit was held in Vancouver. This was a great opportunity to meet with leaders in the clean energy industry and build relationships to support or partner up in the advancement of HFN's clean energy development. I had several productive meetings with industry leaders who develop and construct Geothermal, Solar, Wind, Tidal and Micro Hydro. This will help once our Community Energy Plan is complete, so we will be able to develop the clean energy resources in our territory.
- **Clean Energy BC Lobby Day:** I attended Clean Energy BC's Lobby Day at the Parliament Building in Victoria. To meet with the Minister of Mines, Energy, Low Carbon Innovation, BC Green Caucus MLA Adam Olsen, Water, Land and Resource Stewardship Assistant Deputy Minister Colin Ward and Executive Lead Morgan Kennah, and the Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Minister Murray Rankin. We had serval key discussions about the governments support of First nations lead clean energy projects. We discussed financial support for the call for power for smaller energy producing projects like the Sarita micro hydro project, regulation that is slowing down the development of First nation lead clean energy projects, a first nations power authority and several other key topics. The meetings went very well, and the ministers were very supportive.
- **Community Energy Plan**: I am not involved with this project; it is being run by the infrastructure department. Barkley Project Group continues to move ahead with the Community Energy Plan. The community energy plan will identify all green energy power generating options that are feasible within the HFN territory. We will be able to use the final report from the community energy plan to develop future opportunities for green power development.
- **Sarita Micro Hydro:** Our economic development officer continues to advance the technical portion of this project. He has met with DFO and Barkley Project Group to discuss next steps and advancing the negotiations for an EPA. The project will be ready for development this year and the final decision will be made to advance it.
- **Biofoam:** Met with consultant to receive update and discuss direction of project. This project will be prioritized along with other opportunities that we could potentially explore.
- **Carbon Footprint and Green House Gas Emissions:** Exploring options for carbon offset and greenhouse gas reduction within our territory**.**

Emerging Issues:

- There are issues with the call for power by BC Hydro. Working with Clean energy BC to advance our ability to be an independent power producer.