huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

Executive Council Report
February 2023

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ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

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Chief Councillor Report

February 2023

Responsibilities	
1) Representing government in relations with other governments.	• Project Green continues to be priority mandate item and ongoing meetings with BC leaders and administrative support is ongoing work. On Monday February 6, 2023, by invitation, I attended the Throne Speech from the Throne. After the Throne Speech I got to talking with Minister Rankin who informed me that the Confirmation Letter from BC regarding Project green is going to be done. I also got to chat with Kevin Falcon, Leader of the opposition, who committed to paving the road to Bamfied when he gets in office. • Working with Connie Roberts to set up meeting with Minister Rankin and Minister Osborne. • Continue to work federally to promote Capital Raise initiative with substantial support from various ministries, including forestry training initiative. • Continue to work with Brad and Duane to ensure taxation issues are addressed at Maa-nulth table, especially the Section 87 taxation issue. Brent Lehmann informed me that the wording amendments have been agreed to at the Federal and Provincial levels. Now working on the French amendments. • As per the motion to appoint Larry Johnson the lead negotiator, I suggest we make ME TOO our number 1 priority moving forward. Let' build on the momentum. • February 3, 2023, met with Stan Coleman to discuss forestry issues related to provincial policy and the impacts on HFN forestry operations.
2) Representing government in relations with other indigenous organizations.	• February 3, 2023, met with Brian Chatwin to discuss stewardship issues related to HFN-DFN meeting on February 14.
3) Ensuring HFN citizens are fully informed on HFN issues.	• Continue to do our best. The Annual People's Assembly is a venue that helps us to ensure citizens are fully informed on HFN issues. Also, the HFN People's Assembly is the venue where the citizens hold HFN Executive Council accountable.

4) Developing and maintaining effective systems of communication with Huuayaht citizens and other governments.	• February 1, 2023, attended to interview with Eric Plummer regarding APD.
5) Protecting and enhancing Huuayaht aboriginal and treaty rights.	•
6) Ensuring adherence to, and enforcement of, The constitution, Huuayaht legislation, Huuayaht policies	•
7) Promoting and maintaining a sound Huuayaht economy.	• Continue to work on Project Green which, in my view, will promote and help to maintain a sound Huu-ay-aht Forestry Economy through harvesting and manufacturing.
8) Promoting Huuayaht values, culture, traditions, and language.	• From a program perspective we are doing very well. • From a strategic performance perspective, we need to do better. For example, the number of fluent Huuayaht language speakers is declining each year. We need to establish targets. For example, HFN will have programs enabling us to increase our fluent speakers by 5% each year till we have 100% fluent speakers. This will take us twenty years to 100 % fluent speakers. This is a strategic policy decision that needs our immediate attention. • Are we satisfied that we are better off with a treaty. If not, let's make strategic policy decisions that enable us to make Huuayaht citizens lives better. • The strategy should be to do whatever it takes to enhance our aboriginal and treaty rights.
9) Ensuring proper management and administration of government.	• February 1, 2023 met with Cynthia to discuss Fish Derby, citizens issues, HFN outstanding NTC reports.
10) Preparing for and participating in the Legislation, Executive Council and People's Assembly;	• Reviewed and prepared for upcoming legislative session.
11) Establishing the duties of a Councillor, including i. Establishing or dissolving portfolios, and ii. Assigning portfolios to r removing portfolios from Councilors;	• Continue to monitor councilor progress in relation to their portfolios.
12) Acting as the public spokesperson for the Legislature, Executive Council, and People's Assembly.	

Brad Johnson Elected Council Report

February 2023

Portfolios: Capital Infrastructure, Treaty Implementation, Parks Canada Cooperative Management Board and Employment and Training.

Capital Infrastructure:

Work has continued to progress at a steady rate on the Bamfield Main project. The metal barrier is almost complete. Crews have been working very hard and have been working on weekends to install culverts that would normally hold up logging traffic.

The seal coat tender closed on Jan 31st at 2pm. We have received bids for that work. A clarification meeting was set up for the contractors to explain their projected costs on the seal coat and paving contract. We addressed a lot of the concerns and risks that were not clear in the tender and asked for a best and final offer on the project as the initial bids were far too high. I presented the final bids to council and a decision will be made. I have spent the majority of this month working on the road project in sourcing extra funding for the road cost overrun. Councilor John Jack and I had a meeting with Minister Rankin to discuss possible extra funding from the province.

Work has continued to happen in upper Anacla. A parking lot is being created above AGO at the moment. I have had several meetings with the Director of Infrastructure to find out timelines projections for projects so that we can communicate with citizens.

The infrastructure team has moved out of PAGO to a separate office space above St. Jean's. This space will better suit their needs for their day-to-day work. The R.A.P.P. program houses in lower Anacla have been completed and the final inspection is pending from the CMHC. We have received the final drawings for the Culture Center and multiplex housing units. These projects will be next on the list.

Treaty Implementation:

Maa-nulth FFA renewal – It was discussed at the BOD meeting that each Nation has to decide on when to renew and give direction to legal. Huu-ay-aht decided to go with Canada's proposal to rely on the two-year default extension provisions of the 2019 FFA to extend its application until March 31, 2026. We will be seeking a commitment from BC that the province will get the Lands and Resources work done and have authorities in place for meaningful new funding for Lands and Resources to be flowed through the extended 2019 FFA prior to March 31, 2026.

Me Too update: The small working group has been making a lot of traction with DFO. It was stated that negotiations will start in 6-8 weeks' time. I noticed with that timeline we would be entering into pens down period, so I was proactive and developed a briefing note that suggested we have Larry Johnson as HFNs representative. A contract would be created with the Executive Director. I felt it was in the best interest of the Nation to have someone of his caliber of knowledge represent us in negotiations, as he is the President of Maa-nulth Fishing committee. I excluded myself from this conversation as I would be in conflict since Larry is my uncle, but council passed the motion.

The Alliance is working on a new fiscal framework. Modern Treaty Nations feel the expenditure need model is the bare minimum, it's really limited to filling the gaps for our governments. We expressed to BC that we feel we are begging for money all the time. BC now has a better vision of what MTN needs so the new fiscal framework should reflect on these issues. The Alliance is in the process of looking for an Executive Director as there are a lot of engagements taking place and its more work than Nvision can handle. Preparation for the Modern Treaty Nations leadership gathering is ongoing for next month in Vancouver.

A lot of work has taken place on the Forestry Revenue Sharing agreement. Modern Treaty Nations believe a special license should be created for us as the current model does not work.The current system is a disadvantage to nations with the high stumpage rate. We suggested it become more favorable to Treaty nations with good rates that benefit the nation. What we proposed to BC was a 75/25 split with government for all First nation woodlot licenses and community forest license and this would fall under a new co-developed special license for Modern Treaty Nations. We have been pushing very hard to get the matter fixed and several meetings were had this month.

The Huu-ay-at First Nations had 700 plus hectares of Private Land converted to Treaty Land. BC and Canada agree that the Anacla and Sarita Lands are to be added to Maa-nulth Treaty. We are awaiting next steps from Canada to finalize this process.

Sec 87 update - We are in the process of a treaty amendment for our tax exemption extension with Canada. This needs to go to legislation and then get Canada's consent. We have been pushing hard to finalize this with Canada. We are at step 3/6; I'm told this step is the biggest step before finalization.

WIPG - 32 nations have signed up out of 129 Nations, it's expected 10 more nations will sign up in the next month to give strength to this working group. It was said that this entity makes the most logical sense to acquire this purchase. The partnering company is still firmly in place and this project, if it's going to happen, will take place before the next federal election.

Parks Canada

I attended a Marine Management presentation from 4 coastal first nations - Heiltsuk, Kitasoo Xaixais, Luxalk and Wuikinoxu. This was facilitated through Parks Canada and Hillary Thorp. Since the fall of 2022, we have heard several mentions of a suggested National Marine Conservation Area off of Pacific Rim National Park Reserve. Parks Canada has been pushing the idea to Nuu-chah-nulth Nations through various avenues. Also, it was mentioned at IMPAC5 the announcement of a proposed Marine Protected Area offshore of our Maa-nulth Domestic Fishing Area. Although conservation is a good thing, we have to keep our guard up so that we don't hinder or close off areas that would affect our food source for our nation. We have to consider the "Me-Too" agreement and the opportunities that it will bring in the near future and keep our options and fishing areas open for consideration before any protected area is put in place.

I attended several meetings with Parks Canada this month; a lot had to do with the State of the Park project that is on going with our neighboring nations of the West Coast Trail. Parks Canada had a couple job posting positions. I forwarded them to our communication department and these jobs were posted for citizens to see on social media and our newsletters. I have been invited by Parks Canada to attend the 2023 International Indigenous Tourism Conference next month in Winnipeg. I will report back next month on this conference and my experience.

Employment and Training:

I reached out to North Island College to find out information on the Scaling course. I had one citizen who reached out directly to me to ask me about forestry jobs and what courses I could recommend him to take to further his interest in the forest industry. I gave him some feedback and will set up a tour of a local dryland sort so he could see firsthand what these jobs may look like. Weather has been a factor for most companies in the logging industry so there have been no new positions posted at this time. I look forward to seeing how Navaline will operate once the new company starts up in March.

Task or duties outside my portfolio:

- Meeting with a recruiter for new ED
- Meetings about the HIRMP contract and extension of the contractor
- DCR
- CMHC meeting with the Health and Wellness working group.

This was another busy month for me. I feel I was very productive in all the tasks I took on. I am pleased to represent our nation as a member of the council.

Councillor ƛicitaṯ Edward R. Johnson February 2023

Area of Responsibility: Citizen Development Committee
Citizenship Committee
Culture and Language

Citizen Development Committee

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- February 10, 2023 - sent letter to James Sutherland Director General RE: urgent operations funding in response to a Feb 3rd letter that we received.
- Attended a Virtual Town Hall SDOH Meeting.
- Been following up with BC and Canada with urgency in regard to securing funding for the ongoing operations of the Bringing Our Children Home project. SSP sending out letter and meeting. Looking to BC for the immediate funding that BC has available to help HFN bridge operational funding needs in the immediate term, while longer term funding is secured.
- Attended Nuu-chah-nulth Extraordinary Caucus Zoom Meeting. On the agenda was Gathering of Wisdom 10-year strategy plan on the social determinants of health review, Covid-19 & Respiratory Illness Update and UNDRIP.
  There was a Motion that was passed at this Extraordinary Nuu-chah-nulth Health Caucus to be brought forward to the NTC Directors Table for endorsement:
  Nuu-chah-nulth Caucus Motion February 1, 2023: The Nuu-chah-nulth Health Caucus formally requests a gathering of Vancouver Island Nations to meet with Federal and Provincial Justice Ministers and the Minister of Mental Health & Addictions for the purpose of sharing our concerns regarding the toxic drug supply and suppliers; and a discussion on decriminalization and legalization.
- Attended MOU BC Corrections meeting. In attendance with me was Brent Ronning, acting director of community services, as my Technical Support. It was a very successful first meeting, diving into the memorandum of understanding.
- Attended Policing and Public Safety Modernization- Engagement Meeting. See link below for info on the report of the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act (link attached) https://www.leg.bc.ca/content/CommitteeDocuments/42nd-parliament/3rd-session/rpa/SC-RPA-Report_42-3_2022-04-28.pdf. This was a very wonderful meeting. It was a very preliminary meeting and am looking forward to future discussions on making changes to the Police Act.
- Chaired CCG meeting. There was a lot of community involvement in this committee. See link below for guidelines for the Community Consultative Group: https://www.securitepublique.gc.ca/cnt/rsrcs/pblctns/gdlns-cmmnt-cnslttv-grp/index-en.aspx#section-2b
- Attended meeting with MCFD to discuss definition of Indigenous child in the CFCSA (Bill c-28).
- Attended pre-meeting regarding a meeting with Minister Adrian Dix about the external committee that I sit on called the Health Governance Restructuring Committee.
- Attended Town Hall on Ten-Year SDOH Strategy and Gathering Wisdom XII hosted by FNHC.
- Chaired my first Banfield Community School directors meeting. I felt it was very successful. It was kept to one hour. We are looking into having community engagement

sessions to talk about where we should spend money. The committee is very active. The next community lunch at the school will be March 9th.

- Family Law Act Modernization Project Phase 2 Information Session Confirmation: file:///C:/Users/edward.r.j/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/CX3YDG2W/Information%20Session%20FLA%20Mod%20Project%20and%20Engagement.pdf . Phase one was presented to our CDC committee and our Ha'wiih council.
- Attended Tsawknis Tli Uk Tasii (Walking the same path), a Nuu-chah-nulth Gathering, to learn about Kw'umut Lelum programming now available for NCN living in Nanaimo and Duncan. This gathering was at the Snuneymuxw Gym.
- Kw'umut Lelum protocol agreement should be announced and celebrated first week of April - just waiting on details. Info can be found on KL https://www.kwumut.org/.
- Oomiiqsu Mother Center ground breaking ceremony to be held first week of April - just waiting for date.
- NCN Covid Research Project is almost ready to begin - aiming for end of March start.
- Received invitation to attend Kackaamin Family Development Centre's "Rebuilding the Circle Justice Forum" from Robert Dennis chief counsellor. Justice Forum will be held on March 13th and 14th 2023.
- Looking to start up the preliminary Coordination Agreement Discussions with Canada again as soon as possible.
- On Monday, February 13, Tseshaht made an announcement that they will be sharing phase 1 of their findings of the former Alberni Residential School on Tuesday, February 21 at 1 p.m. It is happening at the Maht Mahs and will be live streamed. The Child and Family Wellness Department organized space at both PAGO and AGO during this time for citizens to view the live stream and to offer support.
- Participated in a Nuu-Chah-Nulth-specific focus group to recognize achievements and wisdom gained during the pandemic response, to share stories of communities' good work and to support health, wellness and healing post-pandemic.
- Received invitation to engage with Ministry of Education and Child Care on proposed Policy - hope to connect mid-March with our education department for technical support.
- Counsellor Jack raised concerns with Ministers Murray Rankin and Josie Osborne regarding bridge funding at the tail end of his meeting which was in regards to the road. I will be sending a follow up letter on conversations with Canada.
- Climate Connect Gathering was POSTPONED! This gathering was to take place in March regarding the effects that climate change has on our health.
- Called our ancestors into a court hearing regarding MCFD withdrawing continuing custody order being changed to a customary care agreement. This withdrawal is significant, the first in BC, and it was an honor to call in our ancestors to witness. The amendments in 2018 to the Children and Family Safety Act made this possible today. It is unfortunate that it has taken five years to do so. Hopefully there is more to come.
- Chaired the Nananiiqsu meeting and received gala update. Group chose Oct 21, 2023 as the gala date. Planning is now underway. We also finalized the list of which elders will be attending Hoobiyee celebration in Vancouver.
- Chaired Citizen Development Committee meeting.

<u>Emerging Issues</u>

- Canada's James Sutherland, Director General, acknowledged receipt of our letter on February 10th where he responded that he has advised their team and they will be following up with a direct response in due course. We have not received a response as of yet regarding bridge funding.

Culture and Language

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- Received report on Huu-ay-aht Treasures at the Alberni Valley Museum.
- There were a lot of citizens at the language dinner in Port Alberni and our government office - great turn out! The next day there were tons of recordings at the Best Western from 8:30 till 9 PM with a lot of sharing of culture and language that will be stored in our HFN cloud.
- Attended culture night in Port Alberni.
- Did a welcome dinner at Bamfield Coast Guard where we welcomed first nations from the pacific coastline to do training in our traditional territory which resulted in some great news! The Coast Guard is going to donate $2000 to go towards canoe journeys.
- Attended a meeting at the RBCM to meet new staff and to keep on the radar on our repatriation efforts. We received some good news on the relaxation of repatriation. There is no need to have a museum in place to repatriate treasures from the museum. We have been having ongoing conversations with the Royal BC Museum since 2019 with several interruptions regarding staffing changeovers and COVID-19. We are in need of the completion of our Cultural Center to house our treasures from RBCM and AVM.
- Info on the Gottfriedson et al. v. His Majesty the King in Right of Canada https://bandreparations.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/23.01.23-Gottfriedson-v-HMK-Notice-of-Settlement-Agreement-and-Settlement-Hearing-FINAL-1.pdf
- Attended HCATP Caucus Meeting Heritage Conservation Act Transformation Project.
- Attended Cultural Names Project Meeting.
- Attended Ha'wiih meeting where I was on the agenda to ask if we can participate in next year's Hoobiyee celebration in Vancouver.
- Met with communications team to discuss dates for 2023 HFN Days and 2023 Fishing Derby.

Emerging Issues

- Need an updated written report on the status of the cultural centre where we will be housing our treasures. In this report we will need financial stats and dates for shovels in the ground and an estimated time of completion. This status report would help us with our conversations with Alberni Valley Museum and the Royal BC Museum on repatriation dates and the need for storage if needed until completion of the cultural centre.
- Set dates for 2023 HFN Days and 2023 Fishing Derby.

Citizenship Committee

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- Chaired a successful Citizenship Committee meeting and prepared report to legislation on Citizenship and Treaty Enrollment Act amendments for 2023. The first reading will be March 22, 2023.

February 2023

Council Report for John Alan Jack – Huu-ay-aht First Nations

Finance – Progress Report

- The finance committee met on February 16th, 2023.

Finance – Emerging Issues

The budgeting process has been quite intensive as we are tackling the challenges of budget shortfalls to key departments due to annual funding from the federal government dropping off. The other considerations are the seeming "unforeseen consequences" of Provincial Stumpage policy that has depressed and essentially neutralized our ability to make much profit from our own stands of timber. It's my understanding that we have embarked on a full court press on the matter, and it's very important that the political wing of the Nation pulls together to ensure we secure funding as we approach March 31 deadlines – both federally and provincially.

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District – Progress Report

Meetings have occurred on schedule.The ACRD is quickly approaching budgeting period. This will make my scheduling in February and March quite constrained as there are budget meetings that the Chair must attend.

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District – Emerging Issues

We have been interacting with the ACRD on two items: (1) confidential conversations about our major projects, and (2) exploring contracting services or something similar for direct support in community planning. These things seem quite key to our success, and I would suggest we explore both more fully.

Huumiis Ventures LP and HFN Forestry Consulting Services LP – Progress Report

Reporting materials for RBC and EDC are complete. Audit requirements are complete as well, though they will become more complicated in the next audit period. No additional report.

Capital/Development Raise – Progress Report

The Development Capital Raise has hit some snags as a result of budget shortfalls, and it has given us enough pause to look at how we might consider this large item. The approach thus far has been to break the "DCR" project into four constituent parts: (1) the feasibility study with Moment Factory on a Lumina Night Walk project for our territory, (2) the feasibility study with Cirque du Soleil regarding incorporation of our stories and culture into a performance piece, (3) feasibility and initial work on a "master plan" for property development in and around FN territory with a partner, and (4) tourism infrastructure development with Parks Canada and other federal departments and agencies.

In addition to having staff take these tasks over rather than contractors at too far a distance from the Nation, the economic development wing of the Nation will be given the mandate to take any of these into their own activity and care should the government wish to do so. This approach should reduce the distance between the activities themselves and the administration and give

us the ability to maximize flexibility in how this and future governments may approach these activities.

Capital/Development Raise – Emerging Issues

The only emerging issues are ensuring that we figure out three things: (1) willingness to continue work on these items; (2) what timelines we would continue work on these items – specifically in terms of the new fiscal year, bringing on a new Executive Director, and the oncoming election; and (3) the budgeting for continued activity on any or all of these items.

Deputy Chief-Councillor – Progress Report

I have been assigned several general tasks as delegated by our Chief-Councillor, Robert Dennis Sr. Among my tasks I have been given tasks related to (1) delegate external relations, (2) attending to the Provincial Government-to-Government Forum, (3) working with the executive director on an organizational review, (4) working with Angela Wesley on the governance project as funded by the New Relationship Trust, and (5) setting and chairing Committee of the Whole meetings.

We have scheduled COW meetings for February 15th and 22nd though they were centered particularly on topics already covered in this report (the DCR) or by another portfolio holder (the road project).

Deputy-Chief Councillor – Emerging Issues

As we approach March, we will need to have a good plan to access the BC government's surplus, if we can, and also interact with various Provincial and Federal ministries and departments on the budget shortfalls that we've experienced outside of our own control.

February 2023

Councillor Evan Cook - Economic Development

Responsibilities	Specifics
1) Business Development and Attracting Businesses 2) The Mission of economic development is to create jobs and facilitate economic activity.	• Timber Tiles acquisition closing date April 16. Marketing Plans between myself and Patrick have been developed which will include Direct marketing and Cluster marketing in North America. The New Project will employ 30 employees when in full production. The starting wages though nonunion will be excellent.
3) Bio-Economy ...Bio foam and Carbon Credits	• Discussions with Project Manager Joe Wong. Business Plan completed. Pilot Project estimate of $1.5 to $2 million needed. Yinka Dene Economic Development Ltd. Have received a $500,000 grant toward the Project. HFN will be applying for Grants towards the Project also.
4) Forestry	• Discussions with Joe Wong. The impact of decades of logging is tied to warmer temperatures in unprotected salmon-bearing streams. As trees are exposed to more direct sunlight, and logging across watersheds can change the water flows throughout the whole systems. Warmer waters stress out young salmon. Solutions are to plant more trees along riverbanks and no logging within 200 feet of stream. • Climate credits also were in the discussion on our Lands.
5) HGB	• Grant applied for a electric car charging station. • Meeting with Marty Eakins, how the DCR might move forward and how HFN was to benefit from the Bamfield Road upgrade as HGB has done considerable work on how to address the expected economic impact of the Road Impact. • B.C. major projects building at levels unseen in a decade have impacted the cost of the HFN Road construction and costs. A lot of contractors are very busy, pressure on terms of workforce, a 14 percent increase in wages, labour shortages, fuel,

	Interest rates, contributing to significant pressure on the sector. Everybody's trying to do more, but they've got less, and they've got more Risk. • Crab license moved from section E (Vancouver Island east coast) to the west coast. The process of securing a Crab fisherman with a boat will procced. • Micro hotel shovels in the ground, expected later in the summer due to environmental studies and city permit approvals.
	As a final, I will continue to put all my efforts into creating a new Revenue stream for the Nation with new businesses, good paying jobs for our citizens and company profits back to the nation.