huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

Executive Council Report
January 2024

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Chief Councillor John Jack Report – January 2024

Areas of Responsibility:

Chief Councillor
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District
Major Projects
External Relations
First Week

General Duties – Chief Councillor

Progress on Key Initiatives:

First Week:

- The first week of January was a continuation of the Xmas break and thus nothing to report.

Second Week:

- The first week back to work started with an extraordinary meeting of a group of indigenous communities working together in regard to the indigenous oversight of the TMX pipeline project, but this one was specific to Marine Shipping Sub Committe (MSSC). The meeting ended in sending an urgent letter to the Prime Minister to ensure that the federal government continues to keep the Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committee involved in these issues even past the completion of the pipeline project. Whether this occurs will depend on the member-nations actively lobbying in favour of this option as well. The first day back ended with a quick bilateral check-in with Karen Haugen, our Executive Director.
- On the Tuesday the 9th, I had a quick meeting in Port Alberni with the Vice-Chair and CAO of the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District to get back into the swing of what's going on there. I ended up sticking around Port Alberni to touch base that day with Members of Council and check in with the office.
- On Wednesday the 10th, I attended an online meeting of the Master Planning Bi-Weekly with representatives from Forum Asset Management and USI on the community and development planning processes we have undertaken with them. In the afternoon, I chaired the Board Meeting of the ACRD.
- On the Thursday, I had a day in the home office where I attended a quick meeting with Invest in Canada to provide a general update on Huu-ay-aht's recent economic development initiatives.
- On Friday the 12th, I attended to external relations regarding ensuring that Bill S13 (amending the interpretation act to further protect treaty rights) moves through Senate processes without delay and without being amended since our fellow modern treaty partners were deeply involved in developing the amendment. My calendar states that I also attended a meeting between the ACRD and the Tseshaht FN in person, but I believe that I attended online.

Third Week:

- On Monday the 15th, I met with our Executive Director online for our regular check-in, then had to take some time to take care of my ailing children. This would be a theme throughout the next two weeks.
- Tuesday the 16th was mostly oriented toward our first HFN Committee of the Whole meeting back from the break, which occurred at 10am.

- Wednesday the 17th started with an ACRD-related meeting regarding Inclusive Governance, which is the project to change provincial laws to include methods of meaningful involvement of non-treaty First Nations in the regional district. Today, my son got much more sick at the same time as my wife, so I took the rest of the day and the next day off to attend to that.
- On Friday the 19th, I used the morning to attend to my sick family and then head out for a lunch meeting with our MLA, Minister Osborne.

Fourth Week:

- The week of the 22nd opened with the first big budget meeting between Council and Staff at the PAGO Boardroom and continued with a check-in with our Executive Director and several of our members of Council.
- On Tuesday the 23rd, I meet with the Vice Chair and CAO of the ACRD and then at the same place afterward with Shannon Janzen of Hypha Consulting regarding planning for HFN's forestry think tank and receive some updates on our non-operations forestry interests.
- As with many Wednesdays, the 24th was devoted to ACRD Board meetings mostly general business and related to the budget process for the entire organization.
- Thursday the 25th I had a free morning to catch up on email and phone calls and then an update on the Integrated Resource Management Plan project.
- Friday the 26th had me attending to an external board that I was a part of and then a phone conversation with Adam Olsen, a Green MLA who I was going to sit on a panel about indigenous experiences in government.

Fifth Week:

- The fifth week opened with meetings related to our non-operations forestry holdings, and the weekly check-in with the executive director.
- On Tuesday the 30th, we had a Council Meeting conducted online and then I traveled to Richmond for the three day long Local Government Leadership Academy conference. That LGLA Conference included a panel discussion that I moderated regarding Indigenous Realities, which helped shed light on the indigenous leadership experience to gathered members of BC local government. While I was there, I was able to attend to a few meetings here and there and keep on top of my emails and phone calls in between learning and teaching sessions.

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

<u>Progress on Key Initiatives (and No Emerging Issues):</u>

- There were two board meetings and a Committee of the Whole in addition to the two meetings I had with the CAO and Vice-Chair to keep on top of ACRD goings on. We are now entering budgeting, and the only emerging issue is likely to be Grants-in-Aid decision-making, which is always a slog.

Major Projects

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

- 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.

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 on Key Initiatives:

- Preparations have begun for the end of February trip to Ottawa to attend the Land Claims Agreement Coalition, an organization of modern treaty holders from across Canada. Some meetings would continue to ensure that Huu-ay-aht and our Maa-nulth relatives are prepared for the meetings over that week.

Emerging Issues:

- We may want to reconsider how much we spend on external relations for our budget, as getting access to decision-makers has made certain projects possible in the past year. We may want to ensure that we invest early in expanded support for External Relations. Tracking return on investment will be important here.

Councillor Brad Johnson Report – January 2024

Areas of Responsibility:

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

Bamfield Road Project

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- Overall the road is still holding up very well so far this winter. The same problem areas keep reoccurring on the bridge approaches between 0km -26km. The most concerning spots are the bridge approaches on both sides of the China Creek Bridge. After this is repaired again, these approaches will have been worked on four times by Coastal Bridge. The main issue here is that the actual footings of the bridge approach will need to be repaired or replaced at some point. This is a Mosaic issue as this portion of the road falls under their jurisdiction.
- Field inspections and reporting are going well with Meridian Forest services giving up to date reports with pictures and recommendations for fixes.
- On January 24th we held our monthly meeting with MOTI. The main item that was discussed was speed on the Bamfield road. Weekly data is being collected by Black Cat data boxes on 3 parts of the mainline recording speed, size of vehicle or classification commercial / Private.

Lands and Natural Resources

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- On January 8th, 2024, we held our first HIRMP meeting of the new year. An update was given on progress and we seem to be on track to completion on time for March 31st 2024. Carbon initiatives are still being explored and a concept of locking in areas is being created.
- On January 25th, 2024, I held a Lands and Resources Committee meeting with Ha'wiih council in attendance. Here the HIRMP team updated both committees on progress made over the last couple of months. Implementation and timelines with partners were discussed. Cawak'qin has really taken the lead with this project and wanting to implement the cultural, ecological and economic values this project brings to the table.
- On January 25th, 2024, the HIRMP team met with HGB and a few members of council. Here we discussed the implementation of this plan and the changes it will bring to our harvest plan over the years. There is a potential cut to our allowable annual cut AAC, but the conservation of our ḥahuułi is the most important aspect of the HIRMP. Carbon and other initiatives were brought up on other ways to make money in forestry, but the main issue still is stumpage and the fact that the province doesn't seem to care how this is affecting our nation and others.

Treaty Implementation

Progress on Key Initiatives:

Maa-Nulth Board Update January 29th 2024.

- **Maa-Nulth Fisheries Committee-** The Draft Annual Fishing Plan and Harvest Document were sent to DFO at the end of December. The intention is to finalize these before February 2024, with the joint recommended pinniped (Seal/Sea Lion) language that was agreed to at the JFC in November 2023.
- The Maa-nulth Nations discussed unrealized access and will be exploring opportunities such as barter and trade, to ensure that allocations are utilized. The initial step on this is to develop a preliminary barter and trade contact inventory. This will help all nations access other species that we might find difficult to get and use our surplus of salmon/groundfish to do so in trade or barter.

- **Maa-Nulth Wildlife Council Update**- The MWC met on January 17th, 2024. Discussions continued with the importance of elk translocations into Maa-Nulth territory, especially from UTG and Toquaht. I expressed that the past translocation in our territory has been great to see and that our herd numbers are growing.
- The MWC will schedule a meeting with Larry Johnson to explore options for translocations from neighboring Nations such as Nanaimo and Cowichan, and potential barter and trade opportunities with them. BC data staff attended the meeting to provide a demonstration of two new provincial data systems for species and ecosystems information - Species Inventory Management System (SIMS) and BioHub BC. These systems are being developed with a focus on collaboration, data management and data security. These systems may provide opportunities for more efficient and timely access to data within our territories, such as elk telemetry data. The MWC will invite BC to present information in the context of modern treaty nations at the next MWC meeting. We requested helicopter survey plans from BC and identified areas of high priority for surveys from nations. The MWC also requested early and ongoing communication on opportunities for staff participation in flights to survey Elk in our territories.

- **Maa-Nulth Marine Strategic Planning Working Group Update-** The MTS Board sent a letter to the Province regarding the Wild Salmon Strategy. We met with Lori Halls, Deputy Minister of WLRS on January 10th, 2024, to discuss the lack of engagement on this strategy. The conversation was positive and the province recognized a lack of engagement. Moving forward both parties agreed to work together in a good way.
- Maa-nulth asked the province three questions regarding the actions that are in progress under the strategy, how Maa-nulth can participate, and what funding will be available. A follow up to with Provincial staff member will happen soon for engagement.
- The MTS Board directed the MSPWG chair and the newly appointed MTS president to build a relationship with Susan Chambers the new regional director for pacific region DFO. We feel if we could address issues, we could advance items more quickly and not get bogged down like we have in the past at the MFC tables.

- **Me Too Update-** A lot of time and energy has been put into these negotiations with a lot of behind-the-scenes work with our technical staff and advisors from MTS go into preparing for negotiations with DFO. We have had a vision of April 2024 having our fishermen in the water with some access. DFO has now deferred 2 meetings with MTS and our reps as they are not prepared. They did promise us some access, so we are hopeful that this happens. The MTS Board has directed if DFO does not show up with any work done on their part of the negotiations next month that a letter be drafted and sent to the higher ups in Canada. We will remind them why we didn't choose to join the 5-nation fishery back

then as we couldn't negotiate our treaty and this has been dragging on far too long. I am hopeful that DFO comes prepared and willing to work with us next month.

- I have attended various meetings related to our waters with Marine Shipping Subcommittee (MSS), the Ocean Protection Plan (OPP) , Southern Resident Killer Whales (SRKW) and the Salish Sea. They all have a common goal of protection of our waters and our treaty harvesting rights. I look forward to the future work as the MSS will be heading to Ottawa to present a letter to the Prime Minister the week of February 12th 2024. This is very important work and it's great to see so many nations and leaders come together for one common goal.

  Emerging Issues:

  The Metis Nation of BC are trying to assert their rights here in BC. This info came from a press release from the FNLC. By definition under Canadian Law, Metis are Indigenous People - Referred to in Section 35 as having protected rights. This is challenging as there are both personal rights and rights that are tied to land. There are well established Metis communities who have come into the Province since Brittan asserted sovereignty. That does not give them land rights. There is not a historical Metis community in BC. The board has directed legal to prepare letters to the Prime Minister of Canada, Premier of BC, the Métis Nation BC and the BC Métis Federation stating that, although Maa-nulth support the Métis as indigenous peoples within the constitutional framework of Canada, Maa-nulth do not support, and will vigorously resist, assertions of Métis rights to the lands, waters, air and resources in the territory of the Maa-nulth First Nations.

Parks Canada

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- West Coast Trail management planning on going with the next meeting scheduled for February 21, 2024. Nothing new to report this month.

HR Workplace and Wellness

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- Next meeting scheduled for February 28, 2024.

Other Duties

Here is a list of all meetings I attended in December:

- Anacla Community Planning
- Marine Shipping Sub-committee
- HIRMP
- Ocean Protection Plan
- HIRMP Carbon
- Project Green
- Maa-Nulth JFC
- Maa-Nulth MFC
- Masterplan Bi-weekly meeting
- Me Too internal with Christine Gruman
- MSPWG
- Southern Resident Killer whales multi-nation Tier 1 and 2

- HIRMP with HGB
- Committee of the Whole
- Executive Council
- Maa-nulth Wildlife Council
- ICWSS Leadership Meeting
- Budget planning EC/SMT
- Salish Sea Conference
- Bamfield Road
- Lands and Resources Committee
- Maa-nulth Board of Directors
- Marine Leadership meeting in Parksville

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

Councillor ƛicitaṯ Edward R. Johnson - January 2024

Area of Responsibility:

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

Community Planning Committee and Infrastructure

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- Catch up meeting w/Edward and Pam Shaw to talk about HFN CCP https://huuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/HUUAYAHT-CCP_v6.pdf and talked about the benefits of Community/University Partnerships info link file:///C:/Users/edward.r.j/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/CX3YDG2W/Community%20Based%20Research%20One%20Page.pdf
- OUTDOOR AIR QUALITY MONITORING WITH PURPLEAIR SENSORS
- Chaired a very successful Anacla Community Planning Committee Meeting. Guest speaker VIU on The Benefits of Community/University Partnerships. Since between 2014 and year-end 2023, we have engaged in nearly 100 projects that created the “research triangle” including community partners, students, and researchers. Projects we have supported with First Nations partners include: Comprehensive Community Plans, Land Use Plans, Individual Site Planning, Environmental Assessments, Geographic Information System (GIS) support, Referrals support, Language Revitalization, Traditional Place Names, Traditional Use Studies, Traditional Plant Workshops, Annual Reporting (outward facing), Forage Fish Program Training, Indigenous & Protected Areas support, and Food Security and Sovereignty projects.
- Attending Master Plan Bi-Weekly Meeting
- Participated in Project Manager selection reviewing interview questions, interviews and meetings.
- New Housing Manager started in January.
- Anacla project APPROVED THAT Executive Committee approve the funding for Ma-As Ta-Kimlth Housing Society for which we have received a significant amount of funding.

Emerging Issues:

- Outstanding Cultural Centre Information for the CHRT-41 needs assessment.

Children and Family Wellness Committee

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- Bilateral Meeting - BC & HFN
- Anacla Community Planning Committee
- CLH Caucus Meeting
- meeting at TFN re paddle to AFN
- Children and Youth with Support Needs (CYSN) First Nations Rights & Titleholders Engagement meeting
- Nearing completion for CHRT-41. We are needing some additional requests for further supporting information on the CHRT funding applications in progress. Other funds have come in ISC confirming approval of Huu-ay-aht’s “needs assessment and readiness support” - hopefully more to come.
- Looking to re book Community Engagement Session.

- Working with communications regarding Premier's Award for articles.
- Attended CYSN First Nations Rights and Titleholders Engagement https://engage.gov.bc.ca/app/uploads/sites/121/2024/01/Topic-2-Session-Overview.pdf Background info about CYSN https://engage.gov.bc.ca/app/uploads/sites/121/2023/10/CYSN-Overview_First-Nation-Rights-and-Titleholders-Engagement-EngageBC.pdf
- Rescheduled bilateral meeting with BC for the first week of March.

Emerging Issues:

- Completing the needs assessment.
- Resuming the tripartite table.
- Inquiry Report Recommendation / Implementation Plan.

Deputy-Chief Councillor

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- Master Plan Bi-Weekly Meeting.
- Chaired Committee of the Whole.
- Anacla community engagement.
- Budgeting and Planning Session w/EC & SMT.
- NANANIIQSU meeting - working on dinner with Nananiiqsu for Master Planning process.
- Meeting DFN/HFN.
- Attended Huuayaht gatherings in Port Alberni and Anacla.
- Attended Executive Council Meeting.
- Good news story Restoring Nuu-chah-nulth Seafood Gardens video https://vimeo.com/895467044/cbd3573577?share=copy
- Good interview call with Chief Clarence Louie: The Economic Horse Pulls the Social cart on the Big Talk https://aaronpete.substack.com/p/chief-clarence-louie-the-economic?utm_campa
- The Huu-ay-aht First Nation signed the first-ever First Nations' woodland license with the Province of British Columbia at the B.C. Legislative Buildings today https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2011FOR0216-001564

Emerging Issues:

- None at this time.

Councillor Evan Cook Report – January 2024

Areas of Responsibility:

Finance
Economic Development

Finance

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- The finance committee met on January 23,2024. December finances were received and passed.
- The three-year Budget forecast was discussed.
- Met with Deloitte accounting regarding CRA - Asset Retirement obligations. These new accounting requirements take effect for all on or after April 01/2022.
- Discussions with Matthew and Will from Deloitte regarding changing direction as the auditors from BDO have not been as accommodating as they've wanted them to be. This I do agree, as I have found them difficult to work with.
- Budget and Planning session meeting with EC and SMT - was discussed at PAGO.
- Fiscal Financial Agreement (FFA) negotiations completed. An agreement for the next 10 years has been agreed on. I am pleased they went along budget lines as in the previous agreement.

Economic Development

Progress on Key Initiatives:

CERMAQ

- A meeting took place at PAGO with HGB and HFN to discuss the Reissuance of the Marine Finfish License.
- CERMAQ presented draft transition plan in relationship to San Mateo Bay sites for review.
- CERMAQ is not seeking permission to commence any operations but to preserve the licenses and to be able to contemplate future operations with HFN'S permission. If the Salmon Farming does not match HFN priorities, the license can be amended, to be used for other species - Sable fish, Pacific salmon etc.

Summit Log Timber Homes

- A meeting was conducted in Parksville with Summit Cabins management to discuss a new business opportunity and a potential partnership. A tour was arranged and scheduled for February of the Second Beach where HFN envisions the establishment of eight to ten cabins.

Windmill Farms

- EDO was introduced to" Natural Forces company" who specializes in Wind Farms. Following the cancellation of the Sarita Hydro Project we will be exploring alternative power solutions.

Dicinfoam (biodegradable Styrofoam)

- A follow up meeting with Wet'suwet'en (YLP) nation will begin in February, HFN is looking at creating a formalized relationship with YLP on partnering with Dicinfoam.

Skipper Otto (community supported fishery)

- The Economic Development Officer and I met with CEO of Skipper Otto regarding purchasing seafood directly from fisherman who hold HFN licenses and selling seafood directly to the consumer. Fishermen would receive increased revenue from catches and consumers would receive a fresher product.
- Also discussed seafood cold storage and icing plant.
- A market study for cooked and frozen crab will be carried out by Skipper Otto.

Councillor Stella Peters – January 2024

Areas of Responsibility:

Citizen Development (Mental Health and Wellness, Education and Training)
Public Safety (Community Safety, Emergency Planning and Preparedness, Climate Resilience and Climate Change)

Citizen Development

Progress on Key Initiatives:

Mental Health and Wellness

- We do address some of the issues related to this portfolio in our CDC meetings.
- I have attended meetings that are relevant to the mental health and wellbeing of our citizens, working alongside our Executive Director and Senior Management and Staff. Everyone has a lot going on and working together on the commonalities to help achieve the goals we are striving for.
- As Mental Health and Wellness is a priority, we need to look at the core existence of the intergenerational traumas and healing that are multifaceted as it relates to individual citizens, the need for different counsellors to address their needs, and proper facilities. We can build a Treatment Center but it's not always easy to get the resource people needed. We need to be innovative and think outside the box, especially around existing resources.
- I am the representative for the FNHA and attended the regional meetings also for NTC that are health related as well as Island Health.
- FNHA (First Nations Health Authority), NTC, Island Health are all aware of the concerns brought forward that impact our people, our communities, toxic drug crisis, lack of resources for treatment, homelessness, racism in the Health Care system. More are suffering because of it, young people are most vulnerable and how our elders are treated is very important. We need to do something to help the situation - creating awareness amongst all, working together with the ones who see and deal with this on a daily basis.

Education and Training

- I have just been appointed as a Director on the BCSA (Bamfield Community School Association) and will be attending my first meeting in February. The main focus is the BCS (Bamfield Community School) and also Bamfield community events.
- I also represent Huuayaht on the EETC (Education, Employment and Training Committee) for NTC, not a very active committee. We had one meeting to look at the TOR, made adjustments and approved it by email. This committee is just starting up as it was inactive for some time.
- I have attended meetings with Pacific Rim SD 70 with other Nations looking at Co-Governance. "Nothing About Us Without Us" is what we are saying. In the past SD 70 has had FNs reps as Trustees but they were not voting members and the Co-Governance model we are looking at will include full participation - that is the intent anyway. We will be looking at having someone appointed as a Trustee as well as an Alternate for the time being as we develop how this will look. With the Elections coming up in October, SD 70 recommended we wait until after then to get a letter sent in as they would need to make changes to their legislation to enable us to become full voting members. We also looked at everything about K-12 FN's students, Supports and Teachers.

Public Safety

Progress on Key Initiatives:

Community Safety, Emergency Planning and Climate Resilience

- We do address some of the issues related to this portfolio in our CCG meetings. Also some safety concerns are brought to our CDC meetings that arise from here.
- I attend meetings as I see a connection between the community safety, emergency planning and climate resilience as we do have to think and plan for the needs of our community and our citizens. We need to ensure our children, youth, adults and elders feel safe in their homes, in their environment.
- We need to not only address the safety concerns within our community but also within the surrounding areas which can be impacted in many ways. Last year there were so many forest fires. The Cameron Bluffs fire impacted patient travel to other hospitals and specialists, some citizens have doctors out of town, the change in travel time, that alone had an impact on twelve First Nations communities on the west coast. As for the the forest fires we had in the Ditidaht area and the small fire at Keeha beach, if those had gotten out of hand we could have been in trouble. Very thankful for the quick response from the Forest Company and Parks Canada.
- We need to think about other things that could affect us like droughts, heat domes, flooding from extreme rainfall, freezing temperatures, snowfall as the weather changes and becomes more of a concern, like we have experienced in the past few years. Again, the safety and wellbeing of our community and citizens are very important and we need to plan and be prepared for these. These are some of the issues I address in my meetings for Emergency Planning and Climate Resilience with both Provincial and Federal representatives.

Other Committees I belong to include:

- CDC (Citizen Development Committee) Chair
- CCG (Community Consultative Group) Chair
- Co-operative Management Board with Brad Johnson
- Anacla Community Planning Committee (member)
- Human Resource and Wellness Committee (member)

Ha'Wiih Representative Theresa Nookemus – January Report

Areas of Responsibility:

Ha'wiih Council
Nananiiqsu
Citizenship Committee
Law & Policy Development Committee

Ha'wiih Council

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- Ha'wiih Council has been working on a Huu-ay-aht Traditional Naming Project. Our goal is to have a name for each of our citizens. We have begun compiling lists of those who have been given names as well as those who have not. We are organizing them according to our Huu-ay-aht Houses. Each Ha'wiih is currently going over their housing lists.
- Ha'wiih is continuing to strive for a healthy and safe commmunty within our Hahoulthlee. Ha'wiih is also doing their due diligence in going over our Citizen reviews at this time.

Nananiiqsu

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- Nanaaniqsu has been working with Culture, and Ha'wiih along with other integral staff to get our Dancers and Drummers to Hoobiyee successfully this year. There have been extensive additional dance practices. The turnouts from our citizens have been exceptional! This event has made us stronger in so many ways - teaching, learning, accepting and caring within our community. I believe this will benefit Huu-ay-aht in the long run in many different and wonderful ways to bring our Tribe further along in the future with strength from within our people outward.
- Nananiiqsu has chosen to forego the Gala this year, as well as the Elders Gathering to better prepare for the Hoobiyee Gathering this year.
- Also, on another note, Nananiiqsu was asked to go over names for the next subdivision. I believe the choices settled on were names of berries, so that no one felt missed or offended.

Citizenship Committee

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- The Citizenship Committee has accepted and put in houses nearly 16 citizens this year. They have gone over some Regulations under the Citizenship and Treaty Enrolment Act. This Committee will continue to meet on a monthly regular basis.

The Law and Policy Development Committee

Progress on Key Initiatives:

This Committee is an internal committee with members of council and the Executive Director. This committee meets on the Third Monday of each month. Since I have just received this Portfolio, I look forward to learning more about our Laws and Policies and working with this Committee.

Councillor Stephen Rayner – January 2024

Areas of Responsibility:

Law and Policy
Green Energy and Climate Sustainability

Law and Policy

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- The Law and Policy committee meeting occurred in January, which included an update of the ongoing work being done by the governance project, as well as other work on updating policies.
- Last Fall, the People's Assembly approved a proposal from the Council to launch a law and policy review. The goal is to take stock of what Huu-ay-aht has achieved in the 13 years since Treaty and to review laws and policies to determine if the work to date reflects and incorporates traditional values and practices. We will be able to use learned experiences and determine if there are some modifications that are now required.
- Through the project there will be priority areas identified where there may be concerns and issues that have an impact on intended outcomes. We will be engaging with the community and staff to discuss changes to the current laws and policies.

Emerging Issues:

N/A

Green energy and Climate Sustainability

Progress on Key Initiatives:

- **Solar upgrades for Anacla Government Office:** I developed an opportunity for our nation to be involved in a clean energy pilot project. This will include the installation of solar panels and battery storage, as well as upgrading the electrical system. It also includes maintenance of the system. This will significantly reduce our dependency on the grid and diesel generator.
- **Community Energy Plan**: I am not involved with this project; it is being run by the infrastructure department. Barkley Project Group is close to completing 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. I have located funding to cover a second phase of energy planning on a larger scale for existing power demands and future potential green power development opportunities.
- **Carbon Footprint and Green House Gas Emissions:** Located funding for greenhouse gas reduction. Identifying areas where this could be applied. Exploring carbon offsets for resource harvesting and daily operations. HFN is advancing a project for carbon offset. Exploring opportunities for industrial carbon offset.
- **Multi Nation Energy Development:** Continue to work with aligning nations and explore green energy partnerships and investment opportunities. Meeting coming up with several nations to discuss large scale power investment and development. We are also discussing potential opportunities to support each other in advance of our individual power development projects. We are also exploring opportunities in developing a first nations

power authority, to empower multi-nation involvement in owning, managing and delivering power to citizens on Vancouver Island.

- **Clean Energy BC:** Continue to work with Clean Energy BC to identify clean energy development opportunities and potential opportunities with other nations for clean energy development. Continuing to support CEBC in its push to support the development of First Nations Clean energy development. Working with first nations on Vancouver Island to support the development of clean energy.
- **Sarita Micro Hydro:** This project has been terminated and we will look to explore alternative power generating opportunities.
- **Climate resiliency:** Located funding to develop a territory wide climate resiliency plan. This plan will cover wildfires, hydrology/ flood resiliency, extreme heat, shore erosion, as well as some seismic mitigation. Supporting administration in advancing the plan through our legislated process. A large territory and several forms of natural disaster we need to account for.

Emerging Issues:

- Continue to work with Clean Energy BC and other nations to create opportunities for first nations communities in the call for power from BC Hydro.

HFN Planning/Capital Raise

- We met in December with the administration, HGB and our consultant to continue to develop planning for our territory. The project is making great progress. This planning is very comprehensive and should provide a clear path forward for the development of our nation.
- Working with other nations to create opportunities which would provide significant long-term stable return in the green energy sector.