huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

Executive Council Report
May 2026

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Chief-Councillor John Jack Report – May 2026

General Duties – Chief Councillor – Progress Report

Week One

The first week of May started on a Friday so was a short work week. This day was met with a meeting with the Ship Recycling Leadership Group in the AM followed by two meetings in the PM.

Week Two

The second week of May took me once again to Ottawa to be a witness for the CMTI – Bill C-10. I flew from Vancouver on the morning of Monday, May 4, returning late on the evening of Thursday, May 7. While in Ottawa in between my prep meetings, I took the opportunity to meet in person with our Federal GR firm, Bluesky, as well as a meeting with Senator Greenwood and was able to virtually dial-in to attend to various HFN meetings while away. I also met with the GVS board in Vancouver on the Friday before heading back to Vancouver Island to attend a virtual meeting in preparation for the upcoming Premier's Forum. Friday, May 8 was the start of the by-election new, which initiated the "pens down" period from May 8 until June 13th.

Week Three

The Monday started with my biweekly meeting with Deputy Chief Councillor Edward Johnson and later with the Chair of the HGB Operating Board while attending to administrative matters/emails in between. Tuesday was also filled with a meeting check-in with ACRD Vice Chair for a review of the agenda for the upcoming Board of Directors' meeting, along with a FNLG Financethu Committee meeting and a meeting with our provincial GR firm, Framepoint. Wednesday was filled with first an ACRD Committee of the Whole meeting, followed by the biweekly Board of Directors' meeting. The Thursday started with a quick EC agenda review meeting followed by the Executive Council meeting. Another special EC meeting was called on Friday as well a second meeting with Framepoint with a focus on DRIPA. I also attended a couple more meetings in the afternoon and finished up the week focusing on catching up on emails and other administrative matters.

Week Four

Week four started off with a stat holiday on Monday for Victoria Day. On Tuesday, I attended an LGLA Board meeting followed by a Committee of the Whole meeting. I then headed to Vancouver in the evening to attend a breakfast with the Premier in Vancouver the following day followed by the Deloitte Transportation summit heading back to Vancouver Island early in the evening on Wednesday. On the Thursday, I attended a forestry update meeting followed by an HFNDC meeting. Unfortunately, quorum was not met, but we did proceed for information sharing purposes only. The day ended with my weekly bilat with our Executive Director. On Friday, we hosted an all-day government-to-government leadership meeting with Tsawwassen at the Port Alberni government office where we had discussions and gave updates on community safety acts, community safety strategies, child and family services, the TFN periodic review, HFN's governance review and the TFN Economic Development Governance. This was a great opportunity to share and ask questions about what we've both been doing in our communities

Week Five

Monday, May 25 started once again with my biweekly meeting with Deputy Chief Councillor Edward Johnson in the morning. I was able to take some time to attend emails in the AM before

attending another Premier's Forum prep meeting and my weekly bilat with the Chair of the HGB Operating Board. Tuesday morning I took some personal time to attend to a dental appointment followed by my ACRD agenda review meeting. In the afternoon I met with the Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth along with our Economic Development Officer to discuss some of the nation's economic priorities, followed by another meeting with Stackabl. My Wednesday was occupied with an all day off-site ACRD Board of Directors meeting in Tofino. Thursday, May 28 started with an LCAC UNDRIP working group meeting in the morning, followed by a bi-weekly meeting with Framepoint and my weekly update with our Executive Director. In the afternoon I also met with Tseshaht FN on an ACRD related matter. I finished off the month of May by attending an all-day FNNGA Board of Directors meeting.

Progress and Emerging Issues

Economic Development

We have been working with a third-party report regarding the troubled relationship between the Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses and the Huu-ay-aht First Nations government. The individual who conducted the work related to us that this is not a unique challenge, and that many business wings and their owning governments have friction and miscommunication. Her main point was that management and administration needed to take the time to meet one-another halfway and that assumptions and unspoken concerns were making things much worse than they needed to be. The prescription was for unvarnished, unqualified communication in ways and amounts that would be initially uncomfortable for everyone involved, but that was consistent with my understanding of the situation. It was resolved that we will continue working together on improving coordination and communication and as of my report, a working group has been established and meetings have been scheduled to start in June.

Major Projects

These are largely subject to confidentiality as they are still in process. I count the ongoing work necessary to maintain the Bamfield Road (as it is and as part of a vital alternative route to Highway 4), our work with other Nations and companies in forestry, our work on property development and hospitality and tourism with proponents, and the development of global trade infrastructure in our territory as major projects. They all do not involve just me as their file stewards, however, and thus are subject to their own agenda items during Council meetings and meetings of the Committee of the Whole.

External Relations

Initial introduction meetings with our Federal GR Firm, Bluesky, have concluded and we are now in the process of scheduling biweekly meetings. Bluesky was invited to do a presentation at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on May 19.

Our provincial GR firm, Framepoint, did a presentation at the May 14 Executive Council meeting and biweekly meetings are now taking place.

Ha’wiih Representative Theresa Nookemus (Thlut’ as aksup) Report – May 2026

Theresa.n@huuayaht.org

ǰeko (thank you) to all Huu-ay-aht Citizens for your continued commitment to our Nation and the work we are doing together for the well-being of our people.

Ha’wiih Council would like to take this opportunity to remind all Citizens of the importance of upholding our Oath and 3 Sacred Principles in all that we do — whether in meetings, gatherings, or interactions within the community and beyond.

As Huu-ay-aht, we are civilized and respectful people. Our ancestors taught us to conduct ourselves with dignity, patience, and compassion. We must continue to honour these teachings by ensuring that our words and actions reflect mutual respect and understanding.

Disrespectful behavior — including speaking out of turn, yelling, using abusive or abrasive language, or displaying aggressive actions such as banging on tables — will not be tolerated.

Likewise, any behavior that could be seen as bullying, intimidation, or harassment toward Huu-ay-aht Citizens, Huu-ay-aht Government staff, or HGB staff is not acceptable. We must all do our part to ensure everyone feels safe, respected, and valued.

Ha’wiih Council encourages all Citizens to approach discussions with open minds and hearts, to listen carefully, and to speak respectfully. When we conduct ourselves with honor and respect, we strengthen our Nation and uphold the legacy of our ancestors.

We thank you for your continued cooperation and commitment to fostering a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for all.

The Ha’wiiḥ Council is integrated by the Hereditary Chiefs who represent seven houses. They provide the Huu-ay-aht Government with advice and take care of protocol during cultural events. Its current members are:

Olivia Peters – ʔApwinisatḥʔ house – Mentored by Theresa Peters
Theresa Nookemus (Thlut’ as aksup) – Ḥaw’eḥtak’amłatḥ house
Phyllis Williams sitting in for daughter Victoria Williams (ʔuutstuʔaksa)- ǰamahuus house
Andy Clappis (Ciicaacistuł) – Kuukw’iis house
Sherri Cook (Yaalthuuaa-uks)– Yaałuuwaštakaʼmałtḥ house
Tommy Happynook (ḥapinyuuk) – Čačaaḥsiʔas house
Alec Frank (ǰaacmiik) – Maatsaas house

According to the Constitution Act:
There shall be constituted an advisory body to the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council composed of the Huu-ay-aht Ha’wiiḥ, to be known as the Ha’wiiḥ Council.
Representation on the Ha’wiiḥ Council shall be determined in accordance with customary practices.
Prior to passing any laws, the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council must seek and consider any advice from the Ha’wiiḥ Council.
In addition to the role contemplated in 2.15, the Ha’wiiḥ Council shall assume those additional roles and responsibilities contemplated in this Constitution.
Constitution Act
Huu-ay-aht First Nations page 9
2011

https://huuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/constitution-act.pdf

Ha'wiih Representative for Executive Council:

The Ha'wiih Representative attends meetings on behalf of the Ha'wiih Council, and in turn, then reports back to the Ha'wiih Council. A monthly report is sent out for review. This gives time for any questions or concerns the Ha'wiih may want to relay to Executive Council and vice versa.

Areas of Responsibility include: *(reports are done by the chairs of Committees)

Ha'wiih Council
Citizenship Committee
Nananiiqsu Society
Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations
Nuu-Cha-Nulth Council of Ha'wiih Forum on Fisheries'

Ha'wiih Council:

This council now meets twice a month. The first meeting is set for business and regular business practices. The second meeting is dedicated to helping our new Ha'wiih learn their Hereditary roles, practices and protocols.

Ha'wiih is pleased to announce that Olivia Peters, (ƛiišinʔas) holds the seat for the ʔApwinisatḥʔ house, mentored by Theresa Peters until her brother becomes of age.

Ha'wiih council has started with a cultural opening to bring in our Ancestors to help guide us in our development and decision-making process along with a closing to cover and protect Ha'wiih throughout our daily lives.

We will then begin each meeting with a friendly reminder on the importance of confidentiality, no phones, no recording or mics on and that all materials shared to Ha'wiih are confidential, only to be discussed amongst those on Ha'wiih Council.

It is important that we, as Ha'wiih, remember that we are here to protect the most vulnerable, our women, youth and Elders.

We, as Ha'wiih, are held at higher standards and should reflect that in everything we do, whether it be in office, public or throughout our daily lives.

Friendly reminder -The Jay Treaty is in full use with the Alberta/Montana boarder and that some immigration personnel are not familiar with the Jay Treaty. It is fully recommended to continue to take passports with you to ensure ease of travel. HFN has the ability to have a blood quantum form provided for travel and to ensure travel buddies have all documentation with them to easily navigate through your trips. Letters have been written up for ease of distribution when needed.

Jennifer Walsh (CFO) presented the Budget Act 2026 to Ha'wiih Council. The Executive Director (Karen Haugen) provided the spending authority for the upcoming year.

The Executive Director shared that there has been Provincial and Federal cuts that will affect the Nation and requested Ha'wiih Council to inform their houses to be mindful and aware of costs and household budgeting.

Ha'wiih requested to have the previous budget data to be analyzed for comparison with the new fiscal year and would like to see revenue reports when they are ready.

Through Jeremy's work, it was discovered that many citizens would like to learn the difference between Tribunal VS Exclusion Orders and previous rejected Tribunal applications. Ha'wiih is working with Jeremy Perkins and with individual houses to share information on the Tribunal Project. To date two Ha'wiih houses have been determined and are currently working on dates to meet and go through the Tribunal Processes.

Citizenship Committee:

This committee met May 5,2026. They worked through five applications. Three out of the five applications have been approved - one approval is for transferring into another house, the other application is waiting for more information.

- Three tranfers into Tommy Happynook (hapinyuuk) - Čačaaḥsiʔas house
- One transfer into Phyllis Williams - (ʔuutstuʔaksa) - ƛamahuus house

Considerations:

Indigenous Services Canada has advised that if a status citizen is removed as a citizen of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations, the individual will retain Huu-ay-aht status unless they formally transfer their membership to another nation or band.

Under the Community attachment Regulation, the following are indicative of an ongoing significant attachment to the Huu-ay-aht:

a) participation in cultural events,
b) participation in the People's Assembly,
c) participation in community engagement sessions,
d) voting in elections,
e) demonstrating a knowledge of ancestral familial connections to the Huu-ay-aht community,
f) conducting oneself in accordance with the sacred principles,
g) upholding Huu-ay-aht laws,
h) engagement with the Hahuuli in a manner that accords with the sacred principles and Huu-ay-aht law,
i) learning to speak the language,
j) learning or engaging in cultural practices, and
k) upholding the citizenship declaration
l) any other criteria the Ha'wiih Council or committee, as applicable, considers appropriate.

The Citizenship Committee recommends that each member of a Maht mahs must maintain a significant ongoing attachment to the Huu-ay-aht First Nation.

Ha'wiih Clerk Janet Young has been directed to send community attachment letters out to five individuals the Ha'wiih Council has determined necessary.

Steps for Citizen Enrollments:

1) Treaty Enrollment - enables citizens to receive hunting permits, fishing licenses, harvesting licenses and food fish distributions.
2) Maht mas-being housed by a Ha'wiih
3) Citizenship- ability to apply for a Status Card, Citizenship Card

A friendly reminder that ALL points of these applications must be met:

- Ancestry
- Declarations/Signature
- Identifiers (Birth Certificate, Marriage License, Mortgage, DL, Bills (proof of living together).

These MUST all be included in the application and **completed in full** in accordance with our laws and regulations for a successful application. All incomplete applications will be returned to sender until the forms are complete and the Committee is satisfied. PLEASE DOUBLE CHECK YOUR FORMS BEFORE SUBMITTING, TO PREVENT ANY DELAYS. There is a checklist at the beginning of each application.

All HFN Citizens **must** have their harvesting cards with them when **hunting, gathering and fishing, as well as displaying the HFN flag every time when fishing.** If fishing for other family members, there are forms for this that **must** be filled out and a copy kept on your person. This in turn helps us to keep in touch with the Government to increase any amounts as needed yearly. Without these numbers/records we cannot increase our needs. This is extremely important!

The Lands and Natural Resources team work together with the Natural Resources Program to monitor and protect our Lands and Natural Resources.

Nananiiqsu society:

Nananiiqsu met May 1, 2026, at the Port Alberni office. This Society discussed the upcoming Elders luncheon. Sign up by May 6, 2026

Elders Luncheon:

Date: Thursday, May 13, 2026
Doors opened at 11
Location: 7380 Trans Canada Hwy
Cowichan Exhibition Park – Meller Hall Duncan BC
Thank you to Ben Clappis for being on standby to drive Nananiiqsu for those that would like to attend. Tlecko tlecko.

A Tribunal update was brought to Nananiiqsu by Jeremy Perkins. It was discovered there is some confusion on what the Tribunal does, along with their connection to Exclusion Orders. Nananiiqsu asked for more information on Tribunal vs Exclusion Orders.

Nananiiqsu shared that plain language would be beneficial as legal jargon can be a barrier and to include examples of why applications get rejected, accountability/discipline for actions, (when necessary).

Rena Johnson came to speak with Nananiiqsu on Youth Connections. Youth are eager to connect with Elders. They have received a grant to enable them to connect with Huu-ay-aht Elders. A discussion took place on how to best connect with Huu-ay-aht youth. A luncheon was first brought up as an introduction as to what the Youth are hoping to connect with Elders on. This program would run through until Dec 2026. It was discussed to have the program broken into seasons to learn what can be harvested, how much can be harvested, where, and in which Hahoulthlee as well as who would be willing to teach. It was said to confirm with Forestry as to when the correct time to harvest cedar would be and where. Nananiiqsu invited youth to come to their meetings in smaller groups to ensure the most impact on both parties. Dates are in the process.

The chair invited some Nananiiqsu to the 2nd Ha'wiih meeting of the month on culture, dance protocols, and Ha'wiih line up for public events. Jack Cook, Cheryl Johnson, Laverne Cook and Deb Cook have agreed to be the first to come share their knowledge. Tlecko tlecko.

Nananiiqsu asked about the motion at the People's Assembly on the Elders benefit increase. The Executive Director (Karen Haugen) came in to go over their questions. As 90% of Huu-ay-aht First Nations revenue are currently grants only, there will be no potential increases at this time. It was shared with Nananiiqsu that there has **not been any own source revenue** since 2021.This is about the HGB business side of Government producing more revenue for Huu-ay-aht First Nation as intended. This would enable benefits to continue and a better possibility of increases. Executive Council has decided that **without increased own source revenue** that there will not be any increases at this time.

Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations:

A draft letter to BC in response to the draft 3-Column Document (Request for Legislation) shared under confidentiality agreement. The draft letter follows the outline that was reviewed in caucus and all additional input provided. Due to confidentiality, this is all that can be shared at this time.

Nuu Cha Nulth Council of Ha'wiih Forum on Fisheries:

Next Meeting is scheduled for June 2-3, 2026
Co-host - Hupacasath First Nation
House of Gathering, Port Alberni BC

Councillor ƛicitaṯ Edward R. Johnson - May 2026

Area of Responsibility:
Community Planning Committee and Infrastructure
Children and Family Wellness Committee
Deputy-Chief Councillor

Strategic Plan 2024-2029 https://huuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Strategic-Plan-2024-2029_Final.pdf

Community Planning Committee and Infrastructure
https://huuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/infrastructure-policy-regulation-2011-official-consolidation.pdf

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- HFN Modular Housing Pre-feasibility Study - Stakeholder Interview
- Biweekly meeting with Director of Infrastructure & Capital Projects Infrastructure
- HFN Housing Inventory & Needs re: Urban, Rural and Northern ("U.R.N.") Indigenous Housing funding
- Looking over our Infrastructure List
- Attended HFN Community Safety Planning - Session 2 - Day 2
- Attended the HFN Housing Inventory & Needs meeting re: Urban, Rural and Northern ("U.R.N.") Indigenous Housing funding. On the agenda was home ownership, rental support, maintenance, HFN buitt affordable housing, research and data
- Setup a meeting stemming from the First Nations Housing and Infrastructure conference. The meeting is with the FN Infrastructure Institute.
- Attended Affordable Housing Manufacturing Project Pre-feasibility weekly meeting

Emerging Issues

- None at this time.

Children and Family Wellness Committee

https://huuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/citizen-development-regulation-2012-official-consolidation.pdf

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- MCFD info Circle with 100+
- Biweekly meeting with Director of Child and Family Wellness
- Dress Rehearsal: Huu-ay-Aht orientation
- I was invited to attend the BCACCS 2026 FN Leadership Forum on Early Learning and Child Care in Vancouver.
- Set up a meeting re BCACCS 30th Anniversary Discussion.
- Attended Information Circle Huu-ay-aht First Nations - All Leadership at MCFD.
- HFN yaaucup orientation co-development meeting with MCFD tech going over PP.
- AOPSI Redesign Steering Committee Virtual Meeting - The AOPSI Redesign is a 2-year, phased initiative to update Indigenous child and family service standards using evidence,

engagement, and interative implementation. The goal is to produce a modern, rights-based, culturally grounded framework that is validated by communities and endorsed by leadership. This workplan provides a comprehensive, structured pathway to redesign AOPSI standards, balancing rigorous evidence, meaningful engagement, and practical implementation. Success will depend on clear prioritization, adequate resourcing, and sustained leadership support. This work is structured across 4 integrated phases: 1- Research and Analysis, 2- Engagement and Validation Planning, 3- Draft, Engage, Implement, Measure and 4- finalization and Roll-out.

Emerging Issues

- None at this time.

Deputy-Chief Councillor

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- Made myself available to assist with Fall 2026 BMSC bursary applications
- Biweekly Bilat John/Edward
- Was asked to attend a Ha'wiih meeting. It was a great honor to attend.
- Premier's Forum MTN Leadership Meeting
- Attended a welcome address at the BMSC for the Summer Undergraduate Programs
- Pre-feasibility scope meeting with our HFN EDO
- Attended a prep Premier's Forum MTN Leadership Meeting
- Did a welcome for the inshore rescue team in Bamfield
- Attended a meeting with Mosaic at PAGO
- Attended HFN x Framepoint Biweekly Connect meeting
- Attended a Ha'wiih Council Culture Meeting
- Set up a discussion meeting with Deloitte to ask about the up-coming Transportation Summit
- Meeting with Tsawwassen FN in person at PAGO where we talked about Community Safety Acts, Community safety Strategy, Child and Family Services, Periodic Review, our HFN Governance Review and TFN Economic Development Governance.
- Meeting with Framepoint re: DRIPA & BC
- Meeting with Aitor re Kabina Project Brief
- Pre-feasibility scope meeting with Stackabl.
- Community Safety Planning - Session 2 - Day 2
- HFN Modular Housing Pre-feasibility Study - Stakeholder Interview w/ Edward Johnson
- EC Agenda Review meeting
- Chaired COW meeting
- EC Portfolios https://huuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/EC-Portfolios-September-2025.pdf

Emerging Issues

- None at this time.

Councillor Brad Johnson Report – May 2026

Portfolios:

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

Fisheries: The Huu-ay-aht team continues to negotiate a terminal fishery for Sugsaw chum with DFO. These meetings take place bi-weekly with the hope of completing all the work necessary before the end of September. If the run size of chum is abundant, we will likely have an economic fishery this fall for our citizens to take part in.

MeToo negotiations have not moved forward since our visit with the Minister in April. The Maa-Nulth Treaty Society sent a follow-up letter to the Fisheries Minister to check in and see where the department landed with our asks from our in-person meeting in Ottawa. We have not heard back yet but we are patiently waiting for a response. We know the Minister has plans to come to BC in June or July and we hope to reconnect with her in person once again.

DFO will not be advancing the SRKW management measures for chinook closures this season. There was a lot of pushback from the sports fishermen sector and more information and data needs to be looked at before a final decision is made.

Wildlife: The Maa-Nulth Wildlife Council met on May 20th, 2026. The Maa-Nulth harvest plan was updated and approved to send to BC. This will be a 5-year plan and updated when needed. We discussed the Firearms Violence Prevention Act, and how collaborating with the Maa-Nulth Fisheries Committee worked well. We will be seeing amendments to the act that won't prohibit the discharge of firearms from boats. By working together and fighting for this amendment, our treaty rights of harvesting won't be infringed on now. When BC representatives joined the meeting, we talked about Elk allocations and timelines. I expressed that our nation would like to hear what our allocation is by no later than the end of July. My reason for this request is that we would like to give our staff ample opportunity to set up our elk draw and ensure our citizens can get all the required paperwork submitted before September when hunting season begins. BC said that they would accommodate our request. The next MWC meeting will be held on July 15th at the Uchucklesaht building. This will be an in-person meeting followed by a summer roundtable with the province and other user groups from around the region.

Lands and Resources: On May 4th, 2026, we held a meeting at the Port Alberni Government office with Mosaic. This was a chance for both parties to give updates and better understand what everyone's priorities are. This was a very informative meeting, and I see our Nation wanting to enhance our partnership with one another as we have very similar interests. Mosaic has undergone a strategic shift. They have a new CEO and a new VP's and while Timberlands remain the core of their operations, they have shifted their position on lands and natural capital managing and exploring diverse opportunities. These new areas include renewable energy, real estate, recreation, and asset management. The main takeaway from the meeting was we will establish a working group to develop a clear plan: Timelines, workplan, opportunity prioritization and respective HFN/ Mosaic interests. These may be 2 working groups – an HIRMP group and a business development group.

In the month of May our Guardians came across a lot of illegal cedar harvest in the south Sarita River. They took all the necessary steps and reported them to the appropriate people. By having our Guardians on our waters and lands full time year-round, this is the exact reason I continue to advocate for this program to expand. Well done, Guardians!

Treaty Implementation: The Maa-Nulth Treaty Society (MTS) Board of Directors (BOD) met on May 25th 2026. The meeting took place in person at the Huu-ay-aht Port Alberni Government Office. Here are some high-level updates:

- The MTS BOD Authorized the CAO of MTS to explore and advance strategic opportunities related to participation access and potential asset acquisition within the commercial fisheries sector including opportunities that support long term economic development stewardship objectives and strategic presence for the MTS.

- Salmon Allocation Policy (SAP) – No updates have been provided by DFO on the submission of the SAP decision package to the minister. While the formal SAP process advances, Maa-Nulth has identified an interest in meeting with Barkley sound sports fishers to build relationships, share values and priorities, and identify potential alignments throughout the SAP process. There has been misinformation shared about First Nations' interest in meeting directly with sports fishers. This would provide an opportunity for education on indigenous and treaty rights and Maa-Nulth stewardship principles.

- Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiatives (PSSI) - On May 11th, 2026, Maa-Nulth received a letter from DFO Minister Joanne Thompson confirming the $412.9 million in funding to support the renewal of PSSI as part of the force of nature Canada strategy to protect nature funding announcement.

- Groundwater negotiations have not moved forward in some time.

- Bill C10 The Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation remains stalled in the House of Commons at 3rd reading.

- May 30th, 2026, was the 15-year Maa-Nulth Treaty Celebration in Cambell River BC. I attended the celebration with my family. It was a great day surrounded by friends, family and work colleagues. All 5 Nations put on outstanding cultural performances throughout the day. I was especially proud of our Huu-ay-aht culture performance, it was flawless. Well done to everyone involved in the planning of this celebration, it was truly a great day.

- On May 25th the Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations held a special AGM to appoint a new Board member. The previous board member moved on to a new position from that nation. The new board member to the alliance is Ryan Anaka, the CAO of UTG.

Parks Canada: I held an in-person Cooperative Management Board (CMB) meeting on May 20th 2026 at the Port Alberni Government office. The meeting was co-chaired by Parks Canada Alyssa Salloway. Here are the main takeaways from the meeting.

- Framework plan - We need to develop a governance structure with Parks Canada for these projects. What is Parks Canada's shared vision for the Cape Beal headlands? Trails will be the number one priority and most likely easy to achieve. The Clutis ridge road will be the most difficult as we need to know what the rules and regulations for different road classifications are. The

welcome figures and post identified in the framework plan need actual coordinates on a map and then the nation and Parks Canada can identify next steps.

- Guardian Program funding was talked about. We still have not received the funding or have an official letter stating it is coming as Parks Canada has not received their funding from the Federal Government. Parks Canada has signaled in good faith that it will be coming. A follow up letter will be written to Parks Canada to address this issue.

- The West Coast Trail Management plan will have a new lead planner. The current planner has moved to a different federal agency. John will be missed - I felt he really went above and beyond to pull the 3 nations together for this management plan.

- A document will be created between Parks Canada and Huu-ay-aht First Nations for fire ban notification and approval. Currently Parks Canada reaches out to our nation every year when a fire ban comes into effect. I had brought this up in the past that it would be a lot simpler if we just have an agreement in place that aligned with the province when a fire ban comes into effect, so this document just fast tracks this process for future fire bans.

- The weather station is up and running at Camp Ross. HGB requested a weather station be put in our area so we can have live data that reflects our weather zone. This data will be shared so we can document the weather patterns and climate change. The current fire danger rating is low in Pachena Bay/ Camp Ross area.

- A trail counter will be installed for the Keeha Beach trail. With the increase in hiker traffic out to Keeha, it will be great to receive accurate data of how many visitors we are currently seeing. These trail counters will be installed within the next month.

National Marine Conservation Area Reserve (NMCAR) We still have not heard if this program will continue after 3 more months as Parks Canada is uncertain with their funding from the government of Canada.

HR Workplace and Wellness: No official committee meetings were called; I am updated of all HR concerns within the administration as I am the chair of the committee. These updates come directly from the Executive Director and are kept confidential. I will be calling a committee meeting as soon as we are out of the pens down period, as there are a few items to discuss.

Special Project the Bamfield Road: The road remains in good condition with the maintenance crews solving road repair issues when needed. The weather this time of year is starting to improve so when potholes occur, they will be fixed more frequently and in a timely fashion. At this time of year traffic is increasing as campers start heading to Anacla / Bamfield region, please drive with caution.

Overall, I felt I was productive with all the tasks I took on this month. Due to the sensitivity and confidentiality, I found I was unable to report fully on everything I attend to as this report is a public document. The Executive Council is aware of the topics I'm referring to. I am pleased to represent our Nation as a member of the Executive Council.

Councillor Evan Cook Report – May 2026

Finance Report

The finance committee met on May 27th. Unfortunately, the April finance report was not completed so was not presented. The finance team has been focused on the year-end audit. Both April and May finances, like last year, will be presented at the meeting in June.

The Finance department is continually working on improving financial operations, improving processes, and working on introducing a new and improved payroll system. The goal is to create a plan that meets HFN's operational needs and to support future growth.

First Nation Housing Loan Program

Very positive meetings were held with Royal Bank representatives. The bank has agreed to offer Bank Mortgages on the 99-year lease program offered by HFN. These loans will provide financing for new home construction/purchase or renovation of single-family homes. There are still a couple of issues to resolve. Hopefully, we can have positive results and move forward with the new Loan Program.

Investment Wealth Fund

Barrantagh Investment Management presented their Quarterly Report. The report aligns with the Trust Objectives. This portfolio is conservative but well diversified. Market performance has remained positive and we have seen an increase in our Equity Portfolio. This is positive despite the Iranian conflict, which has caused an energy spike and inflation concerns, but hopefully a resolution of the conflicts will generate optimism. Overall, the financial returns on our Investment Wealth Fund remain very positive.

Economic Development Report

<u>STACKABL (SHBC)</u> -updates and progress report

Great news! STACKABL has been approved for CSA! The first company outside of Canada to be approved.

The pre-feasibility study for the Joint Venture between HFN and STACKABL B.C. continues with the firm UpL1ft Consulting. Stackabl is sharing technical and pricing details to move the plan from concept to feasibility.

Future Projects include:

1) Bamfield Marine Science Centre has plans for approximately 20 units. A proposal with HFN, BMSC and STACKBL is in the process of being presented. This will include financing and BMSC leasing units back.

2) Port Renfrew - SHBC is in the process of signing leases with Port Renfrew Management. Also, in the future, we hope to have meetings with Pacheedaht First Nation to discuss future housing needs for their citizens. We continue to have meetings with Maa-nulth First Nations to consolidate housing needs and apply for funding collectively.

Councillor Stephen Rayner Executive Council Report – May 2026

https://huuayaht.org/councillor-stephen-rayner/

Area of Responsibility:

Law and Policy Committee (Executive Council Portfolio Holder In May, the Law & Policy Committee continued to advance key legislative and policy priorities, although a longer policy meeting was not held as originally planned. Materials from the infrastructure team were not available in time for Committee review, and as a result, those items were tabled until the following month's meeting. This was an appropriate step to ensure Committee members have sufficient time and information to properly review materials before providing direction.

Despite the shorter meeting schedule, work continued to move forward on several important Law & Policy initiatives. Key files remain on track, including continued work on the Economic Development Act amendments and other ongoing legislative and policy priorities. The lawyer is currently reviewing all materials related to the Economic Development Act, and a meeting will be held to discuss the proposed changes and confirm the appropriate next steps. This will help ensure that the amendments are properly supported, clearly understood, and aligned with Huu-ay-aht's governance objectives.

The Economic Development Act remains an important focus for the portfolio. Continued work on this file is intended to support Huu-ay-aht's broader economic development priorities, strengthen governance around economic development activities, and ensure that any proposed amendments are clear, practical, and aligned with the Nation's long-term interests. The Committee continues to support this work by helping guide the process and ensuring that legislative changes are brought forward in a thoughtful and accountable way.

Overall, May was a month of continued progress, even though some materials had to be deferred. The Law & Policy portfolio remains active across its key initiatives, and important files continue to move ahead. The Committee remains focused on ensuring that Huu-ay-aht laws and policies are current, effective, and responsive to the needs of the Nation.

Emerging issues: The key focus moving forward will be bringing the deferred infrastructure-related materials back to the Committee for review, while continuing progress on the Economic Development Act amendments. Legal counsel is currently reviewing the materials, and the Committee will meet with them to discuss the proposed changes and next steps.

About the Governance Project: In fall 2023, the People's Assembly approved an in-depth review of our laws and policies to assess our governance progress since Treaty implementation. This review ensures that our legal system continues to reflect our traditional values, community priorities, and evolving needs. Phase one focuses on the Community Safety Act and related laws, with future phases addressing financial and economic development legislation. At every step, community engagement remains central to ensuring that the legal framework we build is representative, culturally appropriate, and future ready.

Clean Energy Portfolio (Executive Council Portfolio Holder): In May, I continued advancing Huu-ay-aht's clean energy priorities with a focus on affordability, reliability, energy sovereignty, economic opportunity, and long-term resilience. This work is being guided by Huu-ay-aht's completed Community Energy Plan, which helps identify the Nation's clean energy priorities and provides a practical path for advancing projects that support long-term community needs, energy resilience, and economic development.

Engagement continued with BC Hydro, the BC Energy Regulator, the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions, the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. These relationships remain important as Huu-ay-aht continues to advance clean energy projects, understand regulatory requirements, and build support across government, regulators, and industry.

My work with Clean Energy BC also continues to provide a significant benefit to this portfolio. It helps strengthen relationships across government, regulators, industry, and other Nations, while also supporting a stronger understanding of the policy and regulatory landscape. This continues to help Huu-ay-aht advance its own clean energy projects while contributing to broader work that supports First Nations-led clean energy development across British Columbia.

Offshore Floating Wind Pilot – AKS Wind & SeaTwirl: The offshore floating wind pilot project continued to advance throughout May. SeaTwirl's engineering team has been actively working on the feasibility study to better understand the risks, opportunities, technical requirements, and potential benefits of the project. This work is helping move the project from early concept into more detailed planning and analysis.

In May, the project was also highlighted at Generate, the Clean Energy Association of British Columbia's annual conference. AKS Wind, SeaTwirl, and I participated in a panel discussion focused on the offshore floating wind project. This was an important opportunity to raise awareness of Huu-ay-aht's clean energy leadership, share the vision for the pilot project, and continue building support among government, industry, regulators, and First Nations.

Work also continued with the British Columbia Institute of Technology, and a site visit is planned for next month. This relationship remains important as we continue exploring opportunities connected to training, technical support, applied research, and future project development. Building these partnerships will be important to ensuring the project supports not only clean energy generation, but also local capacity, workforce development, and long-term benefits for Huu-ay-aht.

The project continues to receive strong interest and support from government. Work is also underway to better understand where project components can be manufactured, how the supply chain can support the project, and how the project can move through the required regulatory processes. This includes continued work with Natural Resources Canada, as well as ongoing discussions with regulators and government partners. Huu-ay-aht's government relations team is also helping identify and work through regulatory challenges connected to advancing the wind project.

Overall, the offshore floating wind pilot remains one of the key clean energy priorities within this portfolio. The project continues to move forward in a positive direction, with technical, regulatory, partnership, and government relations work all advancing.

Anacla Government Office Solar Project: The Anacla Government Office solar project is complete, with final commissioning currently underway. This project remains an important practical achievement for Huu-ay-aht, as it demonstrates the Nation's ability to move clean energy projects from planning through to implementation.

The solar project will help reduce operating costs, increase local clean energy generation, and provide a visible example of clean energy infrastructure within the community. It also supports Huu-ay-aht's broader goals around energy resilience, sustainability, and reducing reliance on outside energy sources where practical.

Sector Engagement, Strategic Partnerships & Multi-Nation Collaboration: In May, I continued relationship-building and engagement with key partners, stakeholders, regulators, and other Nations connected to clean energy development. This included ongoing conversations with BC Hydro, the BC Energy Regulator, the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions, the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, and initial conversations with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

I also continued to participate in broader clean energy sector engagement, including presenting at Web Summit on clean energy. These opportunities help raise awareness of Huu-ay-aht's work, build new relationships, and support the broader advancement of Indigenous-led clean energy development.

Work also continued through conversations with key partners and stakeholders around clean energy development, regulatory challenges, project opportunities, and multi-Nation collaboration. These conversations remain important as Huu-ay-aht continues to explore how clean energy projects can support long-term energy sovereignty, regional infrastructure, economic development, and stronger First Nations participation in the clean energy sector.

Emerging issues: Key emerging issues include regulatory clarity, project funding, interconnection, supply chain planning, and ensuring that Huu-ay-aht's clean energy projects continue to support long-term energy sovereignty, training, and economic benefits.

Climate Sustainability (Executive Council Joint Portfolio Holder): In May, I continued to support the Climate Sustainability portfolio through ongoing government relations, advocacy, and efforts to identify potential funding opportunities and other supports that can help advance Huu-ay-aht's climate sustainability, resilience, and emergency preparedness priorities.

I also want to again acknowledge the late Councillor Stella Marie Peters, who shared this portfolio with me. Stella's leadership, care, and commitment to Huu-ay-aht made a lasting impact on the Nation. Her contributions continue to be remembered with deep respect and appreciation.

Work continued through engagement with government and other partners to explore opportunities that may support Huu-ay-aht's long-term climate and sustainability goals. This included looking for funding pathways, partnership opportunities, and supports that can help strengthen community preparedness and resilience.

I also want to recognize Sean Flickinger for the excellent work he continues to do in emergency preparedness. His leadership and coordination remain important to supporting Huu-ay-aht's readiness, planning, and broader climate resilience objectives.

Emerging issues: The key focus moving forward will be continuing to identify funding opportunities, maintain government relationships, and support coordinated climate sustainability and emergency preparedness work.

Capital Raise (Portfolio): In May, I continued advancing capital raise and partnership development work across several major Huu-ay-aht priorities, including the Framework Planning Initiative and the ship recycling project. This work remains focused on moving major opportunities forward in a way that supports Huu-ay-aht's long-term economic development, strengthens strategic partnerships, and protects Huu-ay-aht's lands, assets, and decision-making authority.

Throughout May, I continued to work with government, technical advisors, and external partners connected to these files. This included continued engagement with government relations

specialists and provincial partners to help advance Huu-ay-aht's priority projects, build support, and work through regulatory, funding, and partnership pathways.

Across all of this work, the priority remains ensuring that partnership structures, commercial arrangements, and project pathways are developed carefully and in the best interests of Huu-ay-aht citizens. As these projects continue to advance, it is important that we maintain momentum while also ensuring that governance, due diligence, funding, regulatory requirements, and long-term Nation interests are properly considered.

Framework Planning Project: In April, the Framework Planning Project continued to move forward in a positive direction. A key focus this month was the proposed governance structure, which is intended to help guide the next phase of negotiations and support the development of the term sheet and final agreement.

The proposed governance structure will be brought forward to Council for consideration and approval. Once approved, this structure will help reset and organize the negotiation process, providing a clearer pathway for working through the term sheet, addressing key agreement details, and advancing the project in a coordinated way.

This is an important step because the governance structure will help ensure that negotiations are supported by clear roles, accountability, and decision-making processes. It will also help ensure that Huu-ay-aht's interests remain protected as the project moves toward more detailed agreement development.

Overall, the Framework Planning Project remains in a strong position. The project is on a good track, and the proposed governance structure should provide a practical foundation for moving negotiations forward in a more structured and effective way.

Emerging issues, Framework Planning Project: The key focus will be finalizing the agreement pathway while ensuring Huu-ay-aht's governance, land, financial, and long-term interests remain protected.

About the Framework Plan Project: The Huu-ay-aht Framework Plan is transitioning from visioning to implementation planning. It incorporates community input and outlines a 20–30-year roadmap to shape land use, housing, transportation, and open spaces. Priorities identified through engagement include cultural preservation, eco-tourism, diverse housing, and sustainable enterprise. The next phase, continuing into 2025, will include detailed feasibility studies, policy refinement, and preparation for pilot projects. For the latest updates, visit: (https://huuayaht.org/huu-ay-aht-framework-plan)

Ship Recycling Project: In May, the ship recycling project continued to advance very well and is receiving strong support from government. Huu-ay-aht continued working with government relations specialists, technical advisors, and provincial partners to build momentum, strengthen the project's profile, and work through regulatory and implementation considerations.

The CPCS report has now been completed and looks very positive for Huu-ay-aht. This report is expected to be an important tool in helping demonstrate the opportunity for ship recycling on the west coast and the strong potential of Huu-ay-aht's project. We will continue working with the Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth to ensure Huu-ay-aht's project is properly understood and highlighted as one of the key opportunities within this work.

The project is also receiving a significant amount of provincial government support. It has been identified within the Province's industrial strategy, and government partners continue to view Huu-ay-aht's project as one of the strongest potential opportunities for responsible ship recycling in British Columbia. This support is an important step as the project continues to move from early feasibility and business case development into more detailed planning.

Work also continues on the regulatory challenges connected to the project. Huu-ay-aht will need to continue working closely with government partners and regulators to understand the required approvals, environmental considerations, site requirements, and long-term project structure. Overall, the ship recycling project remains in a very strong position and continues to build momentum as a major economic development opportunity for Huu-ay-aht.

Emerging issues, Ship Recycling Project: The key focus will be maintaining government support, advancing regulatory clarity, and ensuring the project structure protects Huu-ay-aht's long-term interests.

Chair of Board of Directors of Huumiis Ventures: In May, as Chair of the Board of Directors for Huumiis Ventures, work continued with leadership, Western Forest Products, and legal counsel to evaluate the existing relationship and review the terms and structure that support the partnership. This work remains focused on identifying opportunities to strengthen the relationship and support a more effective and mutually beneficial path forward for both parties.

While much of this work remains confidential and cannot be reported on in detail at this stage, the process is moving forward in a positive direction. Discussions continue to be constructive, and the focus remains on ensuring that Huu-ay-aht's interests are protected while also supporting the long-term stability and success of Huumiis Ventures.

The broader coastal forestry sector continues to face ongoing challenges, and those conditions continue to affect the operating environment for Huumiis Ventures. These are consistent with the broader pressures being experienced across coastal forestry, including market, operational, and sector-wide challenges.

Overall, the work is progressing well. Huumiis Ventures continues to work through the appropriate process with legal counsel and partners, with the goal of strengthening the framework that supports the relationship and ensuring the organization is positioned as well as possible for the long term.

Emerging issues: The key focus moving forward will be continuing the review process with legal counsel while monitoring broader coastal forestry challenges and protecting Huu-ay-aht's long-term interests.

Clean Energy BC (CEBC), Acting Interim Executive Director: In May, I continued serving as Acting Interim Executive Director for Clean Energy BC while also maintaining my responsibilities with Huu-ay-aht. This arrangement was approved by Huu-ay-aht Executive Council, and I continue to split my time carefully between my HFN responsibilities and the interim leadership role at Clean Energy BC.

The organization continues to move forward well. My focus in May was on supporting administration, overseeing organizational operations, providing leadership to staff, and ensuring continuity during the ongoing transition period. This included supporting internal decision-making, strengthening administrative processes, and helping guide the organization through change management.

Clean Energy BC also successfully delivered a major conference in 2026, which was an important opportunity to bring together government, industry, First Nations, regulators, and other partners connected to clean energy development in British Columbia. This work helped support relationship-building, sector leadership, and continued advocacy for clean energy priorities across the province.

Internally, I continued working on organizational improvements, including developing internal processes, reviewing administrative systems, and supporting clearer roles and operational structure. This work is intended to strengthen the organization and ensure it remains stable, effective, and well-positioned for long-term success.

This role continues to provide value to Huu-ay-aht by keeping the Nation closely connected to provincial clean energy discussions, government relations, regulatory developments, and sector opportunities. It also supports stronger relationships with industry, government, regulators, and other First Nations as clean energy development, Indigenous ownership, and energy sovereignty continue to become increasingly important across British Columbia.

Government Relations Committee: In May, Clean Energy BC's government relations work continued to focus on the policy, regulatory, and market conditions needed to support clean energy development in British Columbia. Key areas of focus included continued engagement on BC Hydro procurement, transmission and interconnection planning, Indigenous participation, affordability, and the broader regulatory challenges affecting clean energy projects across the province.

This work remains directly relevant to Huu-ay-aht, as the Nation continues to advance its own clean energy priorities, including offshore wind, solar, storage, interconnection, and broader regional energy planning. Continued participation in these discussions helps ensure Huu-ay-aht remains connected to emerging opportunities, policy changes, government priorities, and advocacy efforts that may support Nation-led clean energy development.

Permitting & Regulatory Committee: In May, Clean Energy BC's permitting and regulatory work continued to focus on the practical barriers affecting clean energy project delivery across British Columbia. This included ongoing attention to permitting timelines, regulatory clarity, inter-agency coordination, and the implementation of more efficient processes for renewable energy projects.

This work continues to provide useful insight for Huu-ay-aht, particularly as the Nation advances projects that may involve provincial permitting, environmental review, fisheries considerations, interconnection, and coordination between multiple regulators and government agencies. As Huu-ay-aht's clean energy projects continue to develop, it will be important to remain engaged in these sector-wide conversations and ensure that First Nations perspectives are reflected in future regulatory and permitting reforms.

https://cleanenergybc.org/
https://cleanenergybc.org/policy-and-regulation/

Meetings/Events: (a few of the events and meetings this month)
Week one (May 1st to 8th):

- Ship recycling meeting
- Mosaic forestry pre meeting
- Huumiis BoD meeting
- Meeting with Innergex
- Mosaic forestry meeting

- Lands director Bi-weekly meeting
- AKS HFN Wind project meeting
- Regulatory Efficiency Committee Monthly Meeting
- Nrcan Clean Fuels Summary Report
- Ship recycling meeting
- Framework project meeting
- Meeting with Innergex

Week two (May 11th to 15th):

- HFN FramePoint bi-weekly meeting
- Forum project contract negotiation meeting
- Web summit Vancouver (May 12th and 13th)
- Bi-weekly meeting with Councilor Johnson
- Forum Contract negotiation pre meeting
- Forum negotiation meeting
- Special Executive council meeting
- Meeting with Bluesky Government relations

Week three (May 18th to 22nd):

- Victoria Day
- Committee of the whole meeting
- Bi-weekly meeting with Lands director
- Periodic review meeting
- HFN Forum Pre meeting
- Framework negotiation meeting
- Forestry meeting
- Government relations committee meeting
- Periodic review meeting
- Meeting with Evolugen
- HFN Tsawassen all day meeting
- Ship recycling meeting
- HFN/Hazelwood Check-in meeting

Week four (25th to 29th):

- Generate 2026 (May 25th and 26th)
- Seatwirl workshop
- Meeting with JEG
- Bi-weekly meeting with Councilor Edward Johnson
- Bi-weekly meeting with Councilor Brad Johnson
- Wind project meeting
- HFN FramePoint bi-weekly meeting
- Ship recycling meeting
- HR meeting With Executive director
- Meeting with Innergex