Uyaqḥmis

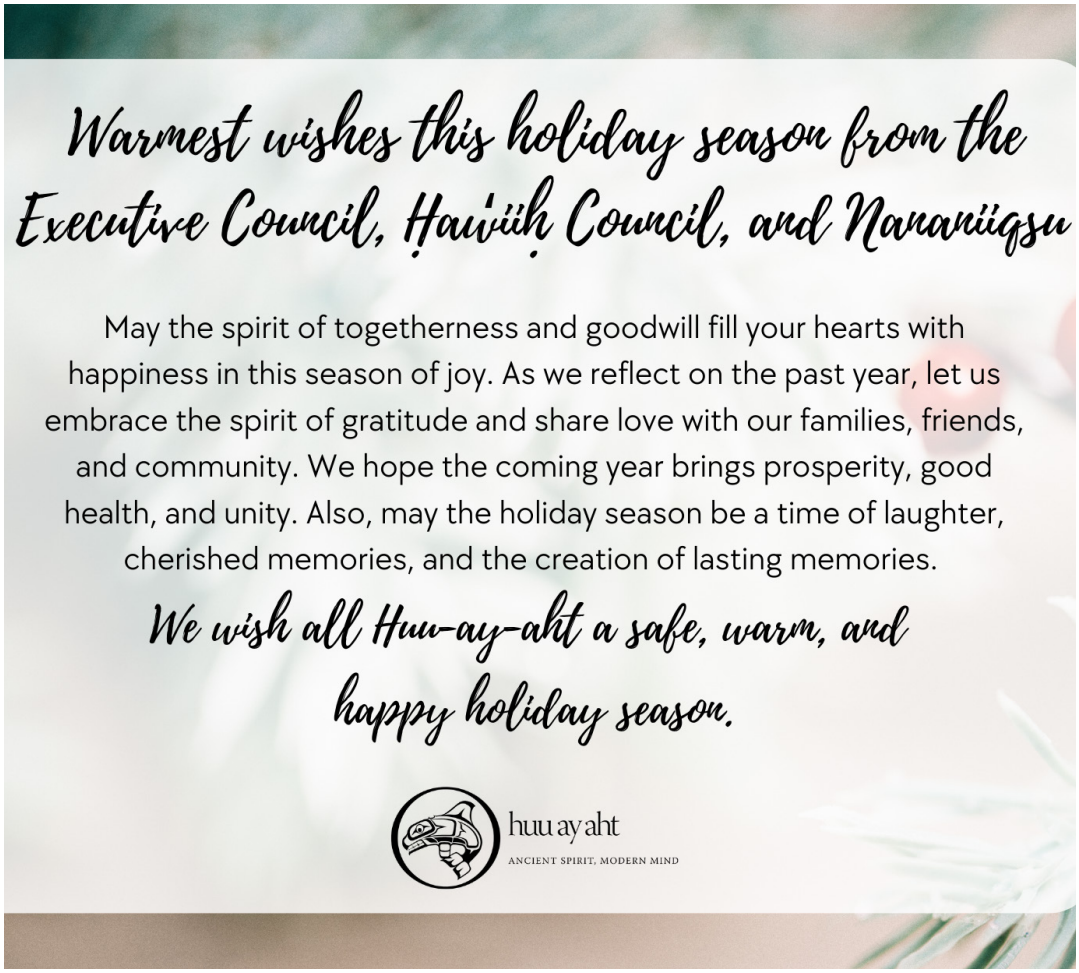
December 2023 Issue 75

Huu-ay-aht First Nations hosts 2023 Annual People's Assembly



PM41913515

Huu-ay-aht sends Seasons Greetings to All



Oomiiqsu Mother Centre Update for November 2023

November 2023

IWCD crews have been working extremly hard to meet project deadlines.

The crew recently poured the slab for main building and retaining walls, excavated the play area, back retaining walls, and started the basement under slab plumbing.

In the upcoming weeks IWCD will be installing the basement slab under slab insulation, hydro conduit, storm sump, complete perimeter drain, form back retaining wall, and start framing.

IWCD and Huu-ay-aht First Nations say the the project is on schedule and they both anticipate occupancy in October 2024.

More info about Oomiiqsu

This project is in response to Recommendation 26 of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Social Services Project Report “Safe, Healthy, and Connected: Bringing Huu-ay-aht Children Home”

Oomiiqsu will accommodate up to 48 Mothers and children. The facility will offer private bedrooms and washrooms, with a shared kitchen, dining, living, and laundry space. Oomiiqsu childcare centre will provide childcare spaces for children from birth to school-aged children.

huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

Huu-ay-aht envisons a strong, self-determining, self-reliant and sustainable Nation. ʔiisaak, Hišuk ma c̓awak, and ʔuuʔałuk guide us as we work together to foster a safe, healthy, and sustainable Nation, where our culture, language, spirituality, and economy flourish.

Huu-ay-aht First Nations Wellness Statement

Our citizens are grounded in our culture, teachings, and sacred principles. Through healing, wellness, celebration, and the understanding of our Treaty, we are connected, empowered, responsible, accountable, and motivated.

Please send all comments and questions to the Huu-ay-aht Communications Department.

communications@huuayaht.org
Mailing Address:
Huu-ay-aht First Nations
4644 Adelaide Street,
Port Alberni, BC
V9Y 6N4

www.huuayaht.org
for the latest news and events, job postings, and a digital archive of Uyaqḥmis

Keep up to date with Uyaqḥmis on social media:
@HuuayahtFN

Follow us on Instagram

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Like us on Facebook

Bamfield Main Road Reconciliation Project is Complete



Cutting the cedar ribbon at kilometre 76 on the Bamfield Main Road. Left to right: Huu-ay-aht Councillor Edward R. Johnson, Mosaic, CEO Rob Gough, Huu-ay-aht Chief Councillor John Jack, Former Minister Scott Fraser, Former Huu-ay-aht Chief Councillor Robert Dennis Sr., MP Gord Johns, Western Forest Products, Seanna McConnel, Huu-ay-aht ḥaẇiɬ Jeff Cook, Huu-ay-aht Councillors Brad Johnson and Stephen Rayner. (Photo by Amanda-Lee Cunningham)

On October 10, 2023, Huu-ay-aht First Nations hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony on the Bamfield Main Road at Kilometre 76 to mark the completion of the Bamfield Main Road Reconciliation Project. Following, was a celebration at the House of Huu-ay-aht.

During the duration of this project, Huu-ay-aht Citizens had an opportunity to take part in the work. The following are some Citizens who took part (if we missed you, we apologize and thank you for your hard work and contribution):

- Benny Clappis – Drove gravel truck, road sweeper, and pilot vehicle for sweeper.
- Richard H. Nookemus – Flagger
- Judy Johnson - Flagger
- Andrea Lucas – Huu-ay-aht First Nation and LGL environmental monitor
- Edward R. K. C. Johnson – Monitoring with Meridian Forestry
- Hector Johnson – Pilot Vehicle
- Mark Waddell (Nookemis Transport) – transporting gravel along the Bamfield Main
- Shawn Mack - Grader Operator

This project started back in 2020 with Huu-ay-aht and the Province sharing the same vision of creating a safer route between Bamfield and Port Alberni, and both partners have made it a reality. Providing mitigation towards a safe route is one substantial task completed.

"Completing the Bamfield Road Reconciliation Project was a top priority for Huu-ay-aht. Working in partnership with the Province of BC, Ćawak ʔqin, and Mosaic, together we have made this a reality. We wanted to provide a safer and more reliable route for everyone who travels in Huu-ay-aht territory. With this upgrade, we begin building a strong, self-reliant community and economy for Huu-ay-aht citizens and everyone in the region. We are grateful to everyone who has supported Huu-ay-aht in reaching our vision."



Chief Councillor, Sayaačath (John Jack), speaking at the Road Celebration Ceremony (Photo by Kiara Collinge).

– Huu-ay-aht First Nations Chief Councillor, Sayaačath (John Jack)

The Bamfield Main Road is an active industrial road. It supports multiple users from industry to residents living in the Bamfield and Ditidaht area and the growing number of visitors. Over the years, the Bamfield Main, known as a dusty gravel road, has put many road users at risk and in some cases taken their lives. Everyone will play a role in continually being a diligent driver for the safety of everyone on the road.



Former Chief Councillor, Robert Dennis, speaking at the Road Celebration Ceremony (Photo by Kiara Collinge).

Although the chip seal is complete, our next task is to collaborate on a strategy for maintaining the chip-sealed road and preparing for the economic growth that will come. Working together with partners we will work diligently to ensure the proper steps are taken to secure this investment and vision.

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Huu-ay-aht Celebrates the completion of Bamfield Main Road

Continued from Page 3

"There are many people to hold in our hearts with remembrance and gratitude as we celebrate this moment. The road is the main transportation link between Port Alberni and the communities of Bamfield and Anacla, and it is used for medical, emergency and community access for Huu-ay-aht First Nations members, Bamfield residents, workers, and visitors. These improvements will make the trip to and from Bamfield and Anacla a safer one, bringing peace of mind to everyone who travels that road."

– MLA for Mid Island-Pacific Rim and Minister of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation, Josie Osbourne

A project of this size does not happen without strong partnerships and the many workers involved. Huu-ay-aht extends their utmost respect (ʔiisaak) and gratitude to everyone who contributed and the individuals who worked hard and long hours to complete this project.

B.C. supported the project with $25.7 million in 2020, and an additional $10 million in 2023.

Huu-ay-aht First Nation thanks all Citizens, workers, and other companies who helped and supported the Bamfield Main Road Reconciliation Project.

To view a video regarding the completion of the Road, please scan QR Code or visit Huu-ay-aht's Youtube Page at HFNCommunications.



Huu-ay-aht First Nations singing and dancing at the Bamfield Main Road Reconciliation Celebration (Photo by Kiara Collinge).

New Playground is installed in Upper Anacla

Upper Anacla has a newly installed playground!

This was in collaboration with the Huu-ay-aht Infrastructure Department and Community Services Department. Then, a donation from the Bamfield Huu-ay-aht Community Forest.

Funding for this new park was obtained through the First Nations Early Learning and Child Care Grant, intended for children 0 to 6 years old. This is a one-time funding from the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

The park is located on the corner of Nookemus Road and Chapis Road.



New playground in Upper Anacla (Photo courtesy of Huu-ay-aht Infrastructure).

Huu-ay-aht Welcomes New Government Staff to the Team



James Delorme

James Delorme is Huu-ay-aht First Nations' new Treaty Senior Advisor. Delorme says it is a great honour and privilege that he has been tasked to undertake an important role to ensure the Sacred Principles are upheld and the community's vision is adhered to. He sees this position as an essential part of his journey and career as an Indigenous person. Delorme is proud to serve the Elders, Leadership and the Nation with his expertise and knowledge. He sees himself as a humble guest in these lands.

As Senior Advisor with the Huu-ay-aht (HFN) Treaty, he will act as the operational lead for the day-to-day guidance, support, and advice on implementing the Maa-nulth Modern Treaty Agreements.

Previously, Delorme was the former Chief of Klahoose First Nation, an entrepreneur in technology and major projects and a volunteer for many governance and board positions, for example, with DIVERCity, Powell River Educational Services Society, First Nations Internet Connectivity Society and the TELUS Indigenous Advisory Council. He has been focused on economic endeavours in technology development and, most importantly, social benefits to his nation and other nations and community members. He carries on the traditions and practices of training from Elders and leadership and follows the Ownership Control Access and Protection (OCAP) principles of Indigenous Data Governance.

Delorme has three adult children who are professionals. He plays the drums and music in general. He enjoys hiking and exploring nature. Delorme loves good food and meeting new people. He is both a cat and dog person, but he has no fur babies after losing his Frenchie Gordie and Cat Tiger due to old age (not mine). He loves the North and has a friendship with the Northwest Territories Dene National Chief Gerald Antoine. He is a Minnesota Vikings fan in the National Football League (NFL) and a Detroit Redwings fan in the National Hockey League (NHL). His cousin, Ron Delorme, is Jr. Scout for the Vancouver Canucks, and R. Delorme played for them in the 80's. R. Delorme's nickname was "The Chief" back in the day. His other relatives are in leadership with the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (Vice Chief Dutch Lerat), Cowessess First Nation (Cadmus Delorme) and Zagimay First Nation (Lynn Acoose).

Born in 1971, He is one of those Generation X folks who didn't grow up with the internet but are very cool nonetheless. He was around when mullets were invented.



Piyush Pushkarna

Piyush Pushkarna is an experienced tourism professional with a master’s degree in Tourism Management from Royal Roads University, Victoria, specializing in destination development.

His thesis on Port Renfrew's potential as a mountain biking destination showcased his collaborative approach, working closely with local stakeholders and the Indigenous government. With nine years of tourism industry experience, Piyush had the opportunity to work in various domains of tourism including hospitality, tourism sales, tourism operations and destination development.

He excels in communication, public speaking, and executing effective business strategies. In the past, Piyush worked as an Economic Development Officer in the community of Port Renfrew, where he drove strategic planning and branding initiatives, respecting community needs and fostering harmonious progress. Piyush's passion for rural empowerment fuels his dedication to enhancing living and recreational spaces, offering a valuable asset to any endeavor.

Piyush’s role as the Economic Development Officer (EDO) with Huu-ay-aht is dedicated to fostering economic growth and development for the Nation. The EDO will engage in research to identify and promote effective strategies for new businesses, explore avenues to boost employment opportunities, and formulate plans to enhance overall economic development. The primary aim is to improve and fortify the quality of life for the Huu-ay-aht First Nation community. Additionally, the EDO oversees a team of 2-3 individuals and provides support to other programs through strategic planning and the preparation of grant funding applications.

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New Staff Member added to the Communications Team

Continued from page 5



Kae-Lynn Johnson

ukłahmaḥ ʔiniḥaksupas (colours of the rainbow), her English name is Kae-Lynn Johnson. She is a proud citizen of Tseshaht First Nation of the Nuu-chah-nulth family, as well as having ties in the Johnson family of Huu-ay-aht First Nation.

Kae-Lynn was formerly a Field Supervisor for the Vancouver Island Regional Health Survey, with First Nations Health Authority. She is excited to bring her experience from engaging with First Nations leads from Nuu-chah-nulth, Kwakwaka'wakw, and Coast Salish territories.

Kae-Lynn is grateful to be welcomed into the Huu-ay-aht family as the Special Project Liaison, and very much looks forward to the knowledge and growth this role will provide.

Her position will be to support and assist in organizing meetings and engagement sessions, gathering youth together, supporting communications department, and working with Hawiih Council on a traditional role initiative.

Aside form work Kae-Lynn enjoys creating beadwork, reading, playing board/card games with friends, watching her favorite tv shows and movies while cuddling her dog (Dexter) and cat (Atreus).

Lands and Natural Resources sees the largest Chum Salmon Return in Years

This fall The Sugsaw Creek experienced one of the largest Chum Salmon returns in the past 10 years!

Huu-ay-aht First Nations (HFN) Natural Resource Technicians observed over 2500 Chum in Sugsaw Creek at the peak of the run migration.

The Sugsaw Creek is located on HFN Treaty Settlement Lands at the end of Grappler Inlet and is one of the systems that HFN enhances through The Sugsaw Creek Hatchery.

This abundant return is indicative of success in our hatchery processes. Huu-ay-aht First Nations has been enhancing Chum from Susgaw Creek since the late 1990's with an aim to rebuild the population and eventually create a harvest opportunity for citizens.

As other Chum stocks struggle along the west coast, HFN is heartened to observe an established healthy return for this system.

Looking forward, Huu-ay-aht First Nations hopes to manage this system sustainably to generate health and wealth for Huu-ay-aht people into 7 generations.

For more information contact Amelia Vos- Lands & natural Resource Operations Manager at amelia.v@huuayaht.org 250-728-3414 ext. 206



Huu-ay-aht Lands and Natural Resources Oporational Manager, Amelia Vos holding Chum Salmon while out working. (Photo provided by Amelia Vos).



Photo of the surrounding area of Sarita Falls in Huu-ay-aht First Nations Territory (Photo from Huu-ay-aht First Nations Archieves).

Huu-ay-aht First Nation Students make Honour Roll

Huu-ay-aht First Nations Education, Training, and Employment Department has awarded 32 Huu-ay-aht Students for their academic excellence for the 2022-2023 school year.

To meet this requirement a student must be in the grades of 5 to 12 and must be placed on the Honour Roll.

Honour Roll is when a student can maintain a "B" average or higher, this is determined by calculations and by the School District.

This award is the ƛiišin Academic Excellence Award and $150 is giving to the awarded student.

Students who received this award for the 2022-2023 year is as followed:

Jerret Anderson

Tehya Anderson

Bentley Black

Ciara Brown

Taylor Carpenter

Andrew Clappis Jr.

Samantha Cootes

Eden Dennis

Matthew Dennis

Sophia Duhamel

Kiara Escobar-Dawson

Hayden Fedorchuk-Brown

Markus Fred

Percy George

Eli Ginger

Hailey Jacob

Hendrix Johnson-Turgeon

Gaige Manson

Nolan Nookemus

Makayla Olsen

Mackenzie Parcher

Taylor Parcher

Olivia Peters

Anastashia Robinson

Raina Saucedo

Hanna Speck

Sadie Unger

Landon Wares

Victoria White

Brayden Wozniak-Linegar

Tauri Young

Vanessa Young

Additionally, to these 32 students, three additional students received separate awards due to their academic successes.

Saryta Dick and Madison Lucas both received the Hišuk ma c̓awak Healthy & Active Award.

This award is given to Huu-ay-aht Students who are in grades K to 12, who are living healthy and active lives through community Connections and extra-curricular activities including sports, clubs, and classes.

During the application process for these awards, candidates must have written support from a teacher, coach, or an Elder.

Lastly, Olivia Peters received the ʔiisaak Community & Culture Award. This award is given to a Huu-ay-aht Student who are in grades K to 12, who are involved with their community through events and culture.



Eden Dennis holding her ƛiišin Academic Excellence Award (Photo by Natika Bok).

Again, during this application process for this award, candidates must have written support from a teacher, community worker, or an Elder.

Huu-ay-aht Education, Training, and Employment Development would like to highlight for everyone the amount of great work that Huu-ay-aht Students are doing in classrooms and their commitment to extra-curricular activities. The Nation is proud of the future generation.



Taylor Carpenter holding her ƛiišin Academic Excellence Award (Photo by Stephanie Williams).

Huu-ay-aht holds 2023 Annual People's Assembly

Huu-ay-aht First Nations hosted its Annual People's Assembly on Saturday, November 18 at the Barclay Hotel in Port Alberni.

Before Saturday, Huu-ay-aht First Nations Government Staff held a Department and Program information session on the evening of Friday, November 17 at the Best Western Plus Barclay Hotel. Dinner, culture, and a round table discussion regarding the Strategic Plan was held for those who wanted to partake.

To start off the Annual People's Assembly, breakfast was served and then, Huu-ay-aht citizens and speaker, Angela Wesley said the Huu-ay-aht Oath. Followed were Huu-ay-aht Government staff.

The Executive Council then reviewed last year's 2022 citizen motions.

Elders Benefits

The Executive Director has completed a report, and this will be put on the Finance Committee agenda in November. The Executive Director is recommending that there is no set regulation made for this benefit but continue with the program as it is implemented now.

Implementation of Social Services Panel Recommendations

The 30 recommendations report is completed and was provided to citizens at the assembly, but is also available on the Huu-ay-aht website at https://huuayaht.org/child-and-family-wellness-2/.

Animal Control Officer

The Lands and Natural Resources Department has been working with the CARE network and has delivered two animal visits to deliver vaccinations and medical checks on animals.

Anacla Dog Park

The Lands and Natural Resources Department has been working with the Director of Infrastructure and Capital Projects. This is on the current list of new infrastructure requests.

Heating in Rental Housing

A Housing Society has been established; this society is responsible for overseeing the management of all Huu-ay-aht First Nations Social Housing. This also includes any upgrades, maintenance, and policy development.

Rental Housing Construction Standards

A Housing Society has been established; this society is responsible for overseeing the management of all Huu-ay-aht First Nations Social Housing. This also includes any upgrades, maintenance, and policy development.

Construction of New Motel

The Huu-ay-aht Government, Ḥaẇiiḥ Council, and Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses have been working collectively to begin developing a Master Plan that will focus on the short, medium, and long-term plan for development in the Bamfield and Anacla Region.

Following this, the Executive Council went over the Annual Report highlighting their portfolios and all their achievements. The 2023 Annual report can be found at https://huuayaht.org/annual-reports/.

Before Lunch, Paul Fripp from BDO Canada is going over the audit with the People's Assembly that was approved by the Finance committee and Executive Committee. Appointment of Auditor was discussed, and a request for proposals for the next fiscal year will be under way.

To see financial statements and reports, please refer to our website here, https://huuayaht.org/government/financial-reports/.

Lunch was served and Huu-ay-aht Children 10 and up went to a public swim at the Echo Aquatic Pool.

After lunch, a presentation was made by tšiiʔakqin (Our Journey) Research Advisory Committee and Research Team. The report they presented is in the June 2023 Uyaqḥmis (Vol. 72) Newsletter. Which can be found on our website here, https://huuayaht.org/uyaqhmis/.

Every three years, a new Tribunal Member must be appointed. Andrea Pettigrew and Joan Sarah Dennis put their names forward as nominess. The People's Assembly voted, resulting in Andrea Pettigrew remaining on Tribunal.

After the vote, Elected Chief Councillor, John Jack introduced the approval of Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Act Amendment Act, and the approval of Citizenship and Treaty Enrolment Act Amendment Act, then asked for the Huu-ay-aht's Legal Council, Melinda Skeels to speak about the changes being presented.

The Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Act Amendment Act was passed by consensus.

The Citizenship and Treaty Enrolment Act Amendment Act was passed by vote.

The assembly moved into an in-camera discussion regarding a Specific Claims Update Report provided by Legal Council and Chief Financial Officer, Raja Narayanan,

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Annual People's Assembly was a Success

Continued from page 8

The Governance Project Report was presented by Angela Wesley and Sylvain Dubois.

The report is to encourage Huu-ay-aht Citizens to become involved in Huu-ay-aht Government. Over the next year, Huu-ay-aht's will focus on review of laws and policies, succession planning, capacity development with youth, and further enhancing the role of ḥaw̓iiḥ.

The last presentation of the evening was by Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses (HGB) who presented their annual report, highlighting how they collaborate and fit in with the Huu-ay-aht Government. They are developing fisheries, lands, forestry, and hospitality to be four equal pillars and the ability to have diversification of the pillars, so Huu-ay-aht is aways supported by the other pillars in HGB.

Huu-ay-aht was able to address all Huu-ay-aht citizens motions this year. Each motion brought forward created many great and important discussions. They can all be found on our website at: https://huuayaht.org/status-reports-from-peoples-assembly/

Citizen Motions as followed:

Motion: Executive Council Requirements was defeated on the floor.

Motion: Further Elections Act Amendments was defeated on the floor.

Motion: Accountability in Huu-ay-aht Group of Business Management was defeated on the floor.

Motion: Restitution of Ancestral Lands was accepted. Following the People's Assembly, the Executive Council held a regular meeting on November 30, 2023, to discuss this motion and other agenda items. They referred it to Lands and Natural Resources portfolio holder, Councillor Brad Johnson, and committee to develop a communications piece to provide to citizens.

This year's award winners are as follows:

Sylvia Dennis – Elder of the Year

Sean Kosteniuk – Citizen of the Year

Madison Lucas – Youth of the Year

Santa also made a special visit and gave the children presents.

It was another success year of bringing Huu-ay-aht Citizens together for our Annual People's Assembly to discuss business and share your voices to better Huu-ay-aht in the present and future generations.













Grief and Loss around the Holidays

All around us, the sights, sounds and preparations for the upcoming Christmas Season are in full swing, and for many of us, these things are painful reminders of loved ones who have passed.

Traditional ceremonies and supports, as well as western information and support services can provide us with the help we need during this time.

Cultural Ways to Grieve and Support us in a good way

When we lose a loved one, our people will put the loved one's name away, meaning if anyone of us has the same name in your family as the loved one that person would change their name to their middle name or traditional name.

We also put their picture away for 1 to 4 years, depending on your family, allowing us to grieve. While grieving, some of us need:

• Culture (Singing and Dancing)

• A Cedar Brushing will help us to let go of any bad energy

• Light a candle

• ʔuusimč - spiritual bathing in a river, lake, or ocean

• Sit by the river and talk to the Creator

• Our teachings encourage people to cry for 1-4 years, depending upon who the person was.

• Letting your tears dry - after 1 to 4 years, we bring back the loved one's name and bring out their pictures (Drying Our Tears Ceremony)

Practicing cultural ceremonies and traditions in times of grieving provide healing and support is available to learn how to perform these ceremonies.

Other Ideas For Coping With Grief and Loss

• Acknowledge and honour your feelings – Be kind to yourself

• Ask for help while you are grieving

• Connect with and talk to a friend, family member or support person

• Have realistic expectations for yourself and others

• Set limits for yourself for what you want or do not want to participate in

• Talk to your children – let them know it's ok to be both happy and sad

• Remember that tears are healing

• Do physical activity – go for a walk in the woods or on the beach

• Be patient with yourself – grieving is a process that takes time

• Focus on good memories of your loved one – they are not gone, they are only away

• Eat good food, sleep and limit alcohol and drug use

• Be honest – tell people what you want to do and don't want to do

• Use coping strategies such as being brushed, deep breathing, going for a walk, journaling, listening to music, practicing yoga

• Honour old traditions and memories

• Create new traditions

• Visit a loved one's gravesite

How Do I Help Someone Who Is Grieving?

• Spend time together and just listen, acknowledge the person's feelings; sit with them, listen, cry with them, offer a hug

• Do a brushing or ʔuusimč together

• Share a meal

• Go for a walk together

• Offer practical support – childcare, helping with tasks such as cleaning, and grocery shopping

• Maintain your support after the funeral

"When others are hurting, you may be afraid of intruding, saying the wrong thing, or making your loved one feel even worse at such a difficult time. Or maybe you think there's little you can do to make things better.

That's understandable. But don't let discomfort prevent you from reaching out to someone who is grieving.

A grieving person may not have the energy or motivation to call you when they need something, so instead of saying, "Let me know if there's anything I can do," make it easier for them by making specific suggestions.

You could say, "I'm going to the market this afternoon. What can I bring you from there?" https://www.helpguide.org/articles/grief/helping-someone-who-is-grieving.htm

Support Resources can be found on page 11.

Support Resources around the Holidays

Support is available

Teechuktl Mental Health
250-724-3939

- Mental health and addictions support
- Harm reduction (prevention, supplies, and training including Naloxone kits)
- Suicide prevention
- Murdered and missing Indigenous girls and women (MMIWG) support
- Residential school support worker

Quu'asa Wellness
250-724-5757

- Culture support
- Clinical counselling

Canadian Virtual Hospice
www.virtualhospice.ca

BC Bereavement Helpline
604-738-9950
Toll-Free: 1-877-779-2223

24-Hour Crisis Support

First Nations & Inuit Hope or Wellness Help Line
1-855-242-3310

Vancouver Island Crisis Line
Toll-free in BC 1-888-494-3888

1-800-SUICIDE (1-800-784-2433)
Call if you are considering suicide, or are concerned about someone who may be at risk of suicide.

Mental Health Support
310-6789
Emotional support and resources for mental health and substance use disorders

Kuu-Us Crisis Line
Adults/Elders 250-723-4050
Child/Youth 250-723-2040
Toll Free: 1-800-588-8717
Metis Line 1-833-638-4722

Island Health offers Community Virtual Care Program

Have you recently needed medical care for your diabetes, high blood pressure, kidney disease, COPD or heart failure? Phone support from an Island Health nurse may help you to learn ways to better manage your health concerns, right from home.

Island Health's Community Virtual Care (CVC) program can work with you and your health team to support you to take your own measurements using the devices provided by the program. Your measurement results will be sent to the nurse and they will call you every week to find out how you are feeling and support you to learn how best to manage your symptoms.

The program is free and the devices are loaned to you at no cost. You don't need to have a doctor or nurse practitioner to sign up. You can refer yourself (or have family or friends sign you up) or talk to your home care nurse, nurse practitioner or doctor about signing up for Community Virtual Care.



Huu-ay-aht GST Termination Agreement in effect as of November 13, 2023

A historical change has taken place for Huu-ay-aht First Nations (HFN) Citizens regarding taxation exemptions on Treaty Settlement Lands as of November 13, 2023.

The termination of the Huu-ay-aht FNGST agreement (which was slated to take effect December 31, 2023), officially ceases to exist and is no longer in effect.

The HFN Government has taken necessary steps to make the exemption available again to citizens in a timely manner.

What this means for Huu-ay-aht citizens is, Huu-ay-aht will return to the original taxation exemption status prior to the Maa-nulth Treaty which came into effect April 1, 2011.

Specifically, both GST and PST will remain exempt for HFN Citizens and the December 31 FNGST will NO longer take effect.

In 2022, Canada changed its long-standing policy that required modern treaties to phase out the tax exemptions in Section 87 of the Indian Act.

On effective date the Maa-nulth Treaty required the sales, income, and property tax exemptions phased out.

The sales tax exemptions ended in 2019, and the income and property tax exemptions are scheduled to end December 31, 2023.

However, through negotiations with the Federal and Provincial Governments modern treaty nations may now choose to maintain the exemption for as long as they want and take up direct tax jurisdiction when or if they choose to.

This amendment puts tax jurisdiction back into the hands of treaty governments.

It gives Huu-ay-aht First Nations (HFN) government the flexibility to choose when to draw down taxation authority as part of the self-governance and self-determination HFN has under treaty.

HELP US IMPROVE COMMUNICATION

Please scan the QR code or request a physical survey form to communicate how you would like to receive information and what type of information you would like to see.

SCAN QR CODE TO VIEW SURVEY

WANT US TO REPORT ON A STORY?

Would you like to contribute to our newsletters? Help inform us to inform citizens, if you are hosting an event, have a story, or want to shine a good light on someone else. Please give communications a call, email, or fill out the form on our website.

SCAN QR CODE TO VIEW FORM