huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

Executive Council Report
August 2025

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Chief-Councillor John Alan Jack Report – August 2025

General Duties – Chief Councillor – Progress Report

First Week

The beginning of August started with a day of Annual Leave on Friday the 1st and time off continued into BC Day on Monday the 4th. We were back at it on Tuesday the 5th, which started with a meeting with senior staff from the Jobs and Economic Growth Ministry (JEG instead of JEDI). Afterwards, I attended a meeting with our government relations team as well as checked in with some organizations and leaders about the state of forestry in the Alberni Valley and the West Coast generally. On Wednesday the 6th, Thursday the 7th and Friday the 8th, I conducted interviews with representatives from the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Development Corporation and LP Board of Directors on the selection of new Board Members for our Operating Boards and LPs. That process went very well, and I thank the HFNDC Board members involved in the process of both shortlisting and interviewing.

Second Week

Week two started off with a briefing for our government relations firm regarding the work Huu-ay-aht is doing with the Ministry of Children and Family Development, which was quite detailed and intensive. From there, I participated in interviews for in-house legal counsel for HFN, and then a meeting to go over some information on business and corporate structuring for our property development project with Forum Asset Management. On Tuesday the 12th, we began the Emergency Operations Centre for both the HFN and ACRD in response to the Mount Underwood Fire. This event would characterize the rest of the month in terms of our activities. It's likely that a larger report will come out of the end of this event, but at the time of writing this report, the Mt. Underwood Fire was still considered subject to a State of Local Emergency and thus is still on-going. At this time, I participated in on-camera interviews with Global, CTV, and later CBC News with Ian Hanomansing. I continued doing radio calls and online messaging on Instagram and Facebook with information and recommendations about the fire throughout the rest of the week. At this point, I had decided to cancel a pre-planned trip to Australia to support Global Affairs Canada on international trade and stay on the Island to help communicate around the fire.

Third Week

On Sunday the 17th, I traveled with our Deputy Chief-Councillor and our Executive Director for an update on the fire directly with Anacla citizens and residents. The Mt. Underwood Fire remained the focus of the week, punctuated by a Law and Policy Development Committee Meeting on the 18th, a Committee of the Whole Meeting on the 19th, and a visit with Minister Christine Boyle in Vancouver. I then took the Friday off as the last bit of my Annual Leave.

Fourth Week

As daycares and day camps were closed during the last week of August, I took this time off as the last part of my Annual Leave.

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District – Progress Report (and Emerging Issues)

The Mount Underwood Fire started on the 12th. Immediately, an Emergency Operations Center was activated at the ACRD office and the situation was managed admirably. I hit the media pretty hard, trying to underline the importance of community-minded action and the value of verified information. It's important to note that the major point of contention became whether the road that connects Anacla and Bamfield to Ditidaht territory and the Cowichan Valley was open or closed. In the instance of events like this, there are common reactions that seek out people to blame because it's useless to get angry at a fire or the weather. I want to reiterate that there

was professionalism and focus from everyone we worked with: BCWS, ACRD, MOTT, MOF, EMCR, City of Port Alberni and beyond. Our attention will turn to ensuring that there are solutions regarding the road between Bamfield and Port Alberni, aka “The Bamfield Road.” That will take some strong advocacy.

Major Projects – Progress Report

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

Major Projects – Emerging Issues

Work on Major Projects have expanded such that I have asked Councillor Rayner to help oversee the specific activities of the Special Investment Bodies, expanding the involvement of more members of Council on larger and politically sensitive activities. There has been further development on how we will go about integrating our holdings in Huumiis Ventures LP and Forestry Consulting Services LP, but there are complications that require legal counsel to report back to us. We await some options for decision in the next few months.

External Relations – Progress Report

We continue to work with Earncliffe as our GR firm, and we continue to develop our working relationship with the Provincial Government and plan out an approach to create a productive relationship with the federal government. While the same political party retains government, the Carney-led Liberals will be markedly different than the one led by Trudeau. As a result, we have looked seriously into the opportunities afforded by the tariff/Trump related measures that the Carney government will look to make a reality. Our plan will be to engage meaningfully as a modern treaty nation and as a part of a coalition of modern treaty nations on this matter. The Huu-ay-aht policy will be one of cautious optimism related to the prospective actions that this government will take, where success will be predicated on how this will all be implemented and whether and how there will be opportunities for FNs and FN-based initiatives may move forward under such laws or regulations.

External Relations – Emerging Issues

The sudden change to the MIRR Minister was a bit of a shock. We need to continue working to ensure that we have positive relationships with as many Ministers and MLAs as possible to further our interests, especially our economic ones. As ever, being involved in the conversations around the interpretation of Bill 15 Provincially and Bill C5 Federally will be vitally important if we are to benefit directly or collectively from what appear to be good intentions.

Fortunately for HFN, we had many Ministers and Senior Staffers from the BC Government reach out to me and offer any help they could throughout the Mount Underwood Fire. That alone shows that we have been working well with our Crown government counterparts and enjoy a very constructive relationship throughout. These relationships will matter as we go beyond the initial impact of the fire and start to tackle the challenges presented after the fire is under control such as power, the state of the Bamfield road, and beyond.

Economic Development – Update and Emerging Issues

I have appointed myself Chair of the Economic Development Committee on an interim basis to help navigate the changes contemplated in the amendments we will be making. The original plan was for those amendments to be completed by June, but the detailed and complicated nature of the amendments and the subsequent work has meant that we're aiming at making the changes at the next regular sitting of the HFN Legislature in March of 2026. We will have our prospective changes tabled and ready for communication and report leading up the People's Assembly November.

As of this report, we have since appointed members to our Operating Boards. I have yet to contact everyone involved, so I will forego identifying them in this report, but I want to thank everyone who served and everyone who put their name forward to serve on these boards.

Ha'wiih Representative Theresa Nookemus (Thlut' as aksup) – August 2025

Theresa.n@Huu-ay-aht.org

The ḥaẇiiḥ 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:

- Jane Peters – ʔApwinisatḥʔ house
- Theresa Nookemus (Thlut' as aksup) – Ḥaw'eḥtak'amłatḥ house
- Phyllis Williams sitting in for daughter Victoria Williams (ʔuutstuʔaksa)- ƛamahuus house
- Andy Clappis (Ciicaacistuł) – Kuukw'iis house
- Sherri Cook (Yaalthuuaa-uks)– Yaałuuwaštakamałtḥ house
- Tommy Happynook (ḥapinyuuk) – Čačaaḥsiʔas house
- Alec Frank (ƛaacmiik) – Maatsaas house

According to the Constitution Act:

2.13 There shall be constituted an advisory body to the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council composed of the Huu-ay-aht ḥaẇiiḥ, to be known as the ḥaẇiiḥ Council.
2.14 Representation on the ḥaẇiiḥ Council shall be determined in accordance with customary practices.
2.15 Prior to passing any laws, the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council must seek and consider any advice from the ḥaẇiiḥ Council.
2.16 In addition to the role contemplated in 2.15, the ḥaẇiiḥ 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 th 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 visa versa.

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

- Ha'wiih Council
- Citizenship Committee
- Nanaaniqsu Society
- Alliance of BCModern 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 last met August 25, 2025. There were a few things on the business end that are still confidential at this time. Ha'wiih continues to work on the Governance, Community Safety Act. There was a brief discussion on emergency kits, as well as a brief update on the EOC (Emergency Operations Committee) and the fantastic job they did in Anacla throughout the Mount Underwood Wildfire at the edge of Port Alberni. The EOC will be winding down and returning to regular office hours now after a few weeks of steady work and preparedness. Thank you to the whole EOC team for their dedication and hard work that went into the safety of our Huu-ay-aht Citizens.

Ben Howell came in to provide Ha'wiih with and update from the Pachena Bay Music Festival. They celebrated their 4th consecutive successful year this year. Ha'wiih had a chance to share some concerns raised. Ben was very accepting and respectful of what Ha'wiih had to say and is taking all their concerns seriously. Overall, it was a great experience for all.

Citizenship Committee:

This Committee meets monthly on a regular basis that coincides with the Ha'wiih Council to ensure that Citizenship Applications go through simultaneously.

This Committee reviewed 1 application; it was sent back as it required more information.

Steps for Citizen Enrollment:

1) Treaty Enrollment- enables citizens to receive Hunting permits, Fishing licenses, Harvesting licenses and food fish.
2) Maamaas -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, Ancestry, Declarations, and identifiers MUST be filled out in full/complete for a successful application, or they will be returned to the applicants, which will delay your application.

PLEASE DOUBLE CHECK YOUR FORMS BEFORE SUBMITTING, THERE IS A CHECK LIST AT THE END OF EACH APPLICATION.

Also new letters have been created to send out to applicants to let them know where and how their applications are doing and at what stage they are at.

ALL Huu-ay-aht Citizens MUST have harvesting cards and the proper paperwork filled out and display the Huu-ay-aht flag on your boat when Fishing. *(even if you are fishing for another family member, there is paperwork for this as well and best to keep on your person when out fishing).

*Flags are given when applications are approved.

This helps us and the Government know how much fish Huu-ay-aht is harvesting. In turn these numbers will help increase numbers when necessary. Without this, the numbers will stay low/or the same on how much Huu-ay-aht can harvest. Let's work together to better understand this process to help benefit our citizens.

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

Nananiiqsu Society:

This Society goes dormant in the summer to enjoy Huu-ay-aht Activities and family. We are currently looking for a date to start this Society running again. More to come!!

Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations:

The Alliance governs by consensus—to work on an initiative collectively, all member Nations must be support. Collective projects are tackled by working groups (WGs) comprised of technical representatives from Modern Treaty Nations (MTNs), working with reps from the lead BC ministry.

Alliance staff provide centralized support to each WG by providing strategic advice and project management services; chairing, coordinating and documenting meetings; managing records and tracking actions; and by preparing reports, briefings, presentation materials, and other documents as needed.

The ED and/or Policy Analyst also participate in working groups to provide additional capacity in support of achieving Alliance priorities. External expertise is contracted to advance priority projects as needed (and where budget permits).

This monthly report on activities supports updating MTN Leadership and the Alliance Management Committee (AMC). Meetings can thus be dedicated to decision making and to having important strategic discussions.

Alliance Management Committee:

• The AMC meets on the third Wednesday of each month. The AMC meeting in July was cancelled due to illness (and minimal agenda items).
• The AMC is scheduled to meet next on August 20. Key agenda items include the draft Alliance Strategic Plan, the Premier's Forum technical debrief with BC to be scheduled for September, and the launch of the Senior Officials Table.

Fiscal:

• The BC-MTN fiscal working group meetings occur bi-weekly and include a MTN caucus. The current focus of the WG is on enabling grant funding for transfers made to MTNs through their respective FFAs and fine tuning the draft collaborative fiscal policy.

Shared Priorities Framework Working Group:

• The Shared Priorities Framework WG has resumed a bi-weekly meeting schedule following the conclusion of the Premier's Forum. This MTN-MIRR WG focuses on projects related to the implementation of the SPF.

Engagement Review Working Group:

• The ERWG meets on a bi-weekly basis to assess the interest in engaging collectively, including attending information sessions on a specific topic. The WG also debriefs on engagement meetings held and makes recommendations to the AMC for collective action.
• The July actions and engagements reviewed by the working group were:

The Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations is currently looking for a date for their next meeting.

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

The Nuu-chah-nulth Council of Ha'wiih Forum on Fisheries, focusing on cultural, management, and partnership discussions Agenda. This Forum is looking at dates for the next meeting.

Cultural:

- The agenda includes cultural activities such as chants, song remembrance, and honoring past leaders.
- Introductions and check-ins will occur, emphasizing the significance of fishing in Nuu-chah-nulth culture.

Partners:

a) IMAWG
b) FNFC

Next meeting and location to be determined.

Councillor ƛicitaṯ Edward R. Johnson Report – Aug 2025

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

Community Planning Committee and Infrastructure

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- Community Engagement Report Back Building Our Community Safety and Infrastructure Planning Story April 15, 2024 https://huuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Huuayaht-First-Nation-Community-Safety-and-Infrastructure-Plan.pdf. This is always a good read when having this portfolio.
- Chaired the Anacla Community Planning Committee Meeting. I work with deputy law clerk on setting the agenda for this committee. Materials are due four days before the meeting and agenda needs to be set 10 days before. As chair, I approve the agenda, date, time and location.
- Cultural Centre And Community Field Progress In Anacla – see link to the Uyaqhmis newsletter - https://huuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/July-Newsletter.pdf
- The next regular Anacla Community Planning meeting would fall on Oct 10th.
- The walls are going up at the new cultural centre! https://huuayaht.org/2025/08/the-walls-are-going-up-at-the-new-cultural-centre/
- BC Gov News: Province takes lead to reopen Bamfield Main Road https://huuayaht.org/whats-happening/our-latest-news/
- There has been another theft at the site where the Cultural Center is being built. This is the second time plywood was stolen and the time before a number of tools were stolen. There are cameras on site - hopefully there will be some strong visuals to identify the thieves.

Emerging Issues

- The road - getting contractors to finish projects and start projects on the homelands and getting staff to and from AGO.
- HOH rodents.

Children and Family Wellness Committee

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- The Children and Family Wellness Committee was cancelled this month due to not having enough members going to evaluate community members.
- CFW/MCFD Update Meeting - Ratcliff/HFN
- Bi-weekly meeting with Director of Child and Family Wellness
- Jurisdiction Funding Model Co-Development - Modern Treaty Nations
- Huu-ay-aht/Earnscliffe MCFD Briefing
- New Outreach Worker with Huu-ay-aht First Nation
- Worked on Post-Majority Support Services- 2025/2026 Funding Application & Outstanding 2024/2025 Reporting

- Sent out the Post-Majority Support Services- 2025/2026 Funding Application & Outstanding 2024/2025 Reporting on Aug 5th
- Mount Underwood Fire - We have felt the impact from the Mount Underwood fire. Our citizens on our homelands have experienced a lengthy number of days without power and dealing with the long detour to get to/from the homelands. Since the fire started, we have held two community luncheons to connect with our citizens and to discuss and understand the needs of the community in helping them get past this difficult time. We talked about working together, transportation needs and health needs.
- Scott Jeary - Director, CEO FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION FOUNDATION First Nations Guardians and Stewardship Training initiative opens Summer 2025. This program offers 3 funding streams to acknowledge and respect that First Nations have varying levels of structures, capacity, experience and pathways to supporting their Guardians program within their own context and vision.
  - Stream 1: Planning and Capacity for New and Emerging Guardians Programs (up to $50,000).
  - Stream 2: Individual First Nation Community Training for Emerging and Established Guardians and Stewardship Program within one community (Up to $150,000).
  - Stream 3: Regional First Nation Community Training for Emerging and Established Guardians and Stewardship Program for multiple communities (Up to $300,000).
- And Nation Building Grant. December 5, 2025 (or when funds are exhausted). This program provides multi-year funding to BC First Nations and Tribal Councils, supporting self-determined priorities that enhance governance structures, institutional capacity, and community resilience, advancing self-determination and sovereignty. 1-year grant of up to $60,000, or 2-year grant of up to $120,000. One project per Nation or Tribal Council per year (including organizations under the Nation or Tribal Council authority).
- Getting ready for CFCSA legislative engagement
- Specific claims research funding crisis and funding cuts to claims research units made Our lawyers aware of the email from UBCIC
- Proposed Meeting re: Jurisdiction Funding Model. This session's focus is on top-up (remoteness and outcomes). Apart from this session, we are looking into setting up Modern Treaty Nations-specific meeting.
- Working on Draft response to MCFD's proposed legislative amendments
- Kw'umut Lelum NCN camp out was cancelled due to the fire
- Reviewing response to federal questions and comments on our jurisdiction needs assessment proposal. This was read in length in regard to timing, staffing, program services, outcomes and indicators, capital, training. This is to be expected. This is the first real exchange of the back and forth and Canada's first look at it.
- MIRR ʔumʔiiqsu contribution and jurisdiction funding for 2025-2026

<u>Emerging Issues</u>

- MIRR funding for ʔumʔiiqsu operations ($1.15M) - In March 2024, HFN entered into a 2-year contribution agreement with MIRR for $3.85M in operational funding for ʔumʔiiqsu This agreement ends October 30, 2026. In previous discussions with HFN, MIRR committed to provide a further $1.15M in funding after the current agreement.
- CFWMHC Committee members
- ʔumʔiiqsu internet and Outlook and Cell phone not working

Deputy Chief Councillor

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- EOC Team Lead Updates Coordination meetings - This is a meeting place where several levels of BC government attend as well as various different levels of Emergency Management partners to help address and plan and support those communities affected by mount Underwood fire.
- Public Statement of Investigation Report https://huuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Public-Statement-R.D.-August-5-2025.pdf
- Executive Council held a Swearing-In Ceremony. As part of the ceremony, Huu-ay-aht Women (Youth and Elders) stood before the newly elected council members and asked them questions. Council members stood holding a cedar rope, which symbolizes that they will carry the questions and the pledge they took to support these Huu-ay-aht women everywhere they go https://huuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/August-2023-Newsletter-FINAL-PRINT.pdf
- Lined up an update on PBMF 2025 for our next COW meeting which was on Aug 19th https://www.pachenabaymusicfestival.com/
- Volunteered at the NCN games hosted in the Alberni Valley and participated in the four by 100 relay. I think my arms we're moving faster than my legs. Happy to say our team finished 4th out of four teams - just kidding - there were 8 teams and our team was the adult team racing against youth. Thank you to Daniel for participating and we picked up two other fellow Nuu-chah-nulth runners. They had great spirit which pushed us forward - AKA the wind I was running against - the wind running at anchor made me feel like I was going very fast. Although I may not be as fast as I used to be, participation is key. We had a lot of happy athletes. We had over 25 youth participating in this year's games - strong representation! Unfortunately, the games were cut short due to the fire creating a lot of smoke in the valley.
- EC Agenda meeting
- Preparing and getting ready for UBCM conference being held in Victoria. This is a time where we can request meetings with The Premier, Cabinet Ministers, and Provincial Government Staff from Ministries, Agencies, Commissions, and Corporations (MACC) at the 2025 UBCM CONVENTION. The Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) is an organization that represents and serves all local governments in British Columbia. Formed in 1905, UBCM provides a common voice for local governments and advocates for their interests in policy-making and consultations on key provincial legislation and policies. The organization also delivers grant programs and other services to local governments, ensuring they have the necessary resources to effectively manage their communities. For more info on the UBCM, click the link here https://www.ubcm.ca/. Attending this gathering is key to keeping our name in the ears of those political leaders within BC and a great place to network with other municipalities and most importantly networking with our modern treaty brothers and sisters who attend this gathering.
- Going through July Policing Report from the Indigenous Community Policing.
- Worked on letter coming from Tsesaht FN, Ditidaht FN and Huuayaht. The subject of letter was State of Emergency – Road Closure between Franklin River and Port Alberni.
- Had some input on our Draft HFN Budget submission. Key themes in this submission are Trans Operation Hub, Forestry, Green energy projects, Tourism and Housing.
- Had an interview with CBC radio regarding the power coming back on and state of the road

- Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council 2025 Annual General Meeting is going to be on October 1, 2025 at 9am at the Tigh na Mara in Parksville. On the agenda will be NOTICE OF ELECTION FOR NTC PESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT 2025-2029 TERM
- This month I acted as Chief Councillor for well John Jack took a well-deserved week off. During this week, I participated in overdose awareness day as well as community engagement sessions at the homelands at our HOH. I also had one interview regarding the Bamfield Rd with CBC radio and also chaired our executive council meeting.
- Attended Overdose Awareness Day at the HOH here is a link from FNHA on OAD https://www.fnha.ca/about/news-and-events/news/first-nations-communities-are-leading-innovative-harm-reduction-programs-grounded-in-connection?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Xwsten%20Ancestral%20Food%20System%20Revitalization%20program%20and%20more&utm_content=Xwsten%20Ancestral%20Food%20System%20Revitalization%20program%20and%20more+CID_c6b16c709bba15a2ec70b24d15a797e5&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Read%20more
- Mount Underwood Wildfire Multi Way Call Meeting
- Working on Memorandum of understanding story for review
- Mount Underwood Wildfire Coordination Calls were 3 times a day where we would hear updates from the BC Wildfire Service, BC Hydro, ACRD, community leaders from Tseshaht First Nation, Hupacasath First Nation, Ditidaht First Nation, Huuayaht First Nation and the ACRD
- Special EC Meeting
- HFN Days Check in Meeting
- Reviewing memos from Radcliffe in regard to our Economic Development Act
- Forum x HFN x DGT Model Discussion
- BC Gov News: Province takes lead to reopen Bamfield Main Road https://huuayaht.org/whats-happening/our-latest-news/
- Lifetime Service Recognition Special Event for Charlie Cootes SR.
- https://bctreaty.ca/treaties-and-agreements/
- Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Mount Benson North transferred from B.C. to Snuneymuxw First Nation https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2025IRR0023-000703#:~:text=Snuneymuxw%20First%20Nation%20and%20the,Nation%2C%20advancing%20its%20reconciliation%20journey.
- Lyackson First Nation, Cowichan Tribes, B.C. complete land transfer https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2025IRR0020-000473
- Announcement and dates set for NTC Annual General Meeting and Election on Wednesday, October 1, 2025 starting at 9 am
- Huu-ay-aht/Earnscliffe Bi-weekly https://www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca/en.html
- I'll be attending the UBCM next month. Here is the Annual Report from last year https://www.ubcm.ca/about-ubcm/latest-news/highlights-ubcm-2024-2025
- Some info on Stackabl and there partners https://stackabl.homes/why-us/ http://www.huachengby.com/bk_28267936.html###

Councillor Brad Johnson Report – July 2025

Areas of Responsibility:

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

Fisheries: This month was spent implementing our Pilot Fishery (MeToo). Fishers started fishing on August 16th, 2025. Due to the Mount Underwood fire and the road being closed to Port Alberni, fishermen were forced to land and sell their catch in Ucluelet harbor. This seemed to work OK as they have a buyer on site. Huu-ay-aht citizens have the opportunity to fish this Area G troll fishery until about September 15th when DFO closures will start to happen to protect other salmon runs in the area. I would just like to thank our staff and fishery managers for all their hard work and time that has gone into making this pilot fishery happen.

Notice has gone out for our Sarita Chinook Economic Fishery that takes place in the Sarita River. This fishery will start the first week of September. Citizens can sign up with our fishery manager and an information session will be held prior to the fishery. I encourage all citizens to take the opportunity and get involved with salmon broodstock collection and the opportunity to make some money at the same time.

Due to the Mount Underwood fires and road closures the food fish distribution has stopped until further notice.

Wildlife: No wildlife committee meetings have been called this month. These meetings happen bimonthly. Our Nation has held our elk draw for our citizens. The lucky winners were Belinda Nookemus and Larry Johnson. Congratulations and good luck!

Land and Resources: The Firelight group continue to move forward with the Land Use Plan amendments project. The new Lands and Resources Director will start September 15th, 2025.

Treaty Implementation: I held a Treaty Implementation committee meeting on August 27th, 2025. These meetings happen quarterly. We had everyone present for the meeting including technical staff. I thought the meeting was very informative as I gave a very detailed report from the work I do with the Maa-Nulth Treaty Society. Our Technical staff gave updates from the G2G and Premier forum along with government engagement and working group/ committee updates from Global Affairs Canada, PCO meetings on Bill 14/15, Economics and Data. We then updated the committee on future engagement for the rest of the year that includes UBCM, Prime Minister Forum, Government back in session, Economic reconciliation and UNDRIP/DRIPA.

In past meetings we have talked about community communication, so we have added this as a standing item. The committee would like to see a survey put out to our citizens so I mentioned having a booth on the Friday before the People's Assembly to ask citizens directly if they are getting the Treaty information they need; and if not, how would they like to hear it and what do they want to learn about. This info will better help myself and technical staff when putting info out to our citizens. Overall, it was a very productive meeting with a lot of information passed on to the

committee. Having a full technical staff has helped a lot with this portfolio and I would just like to acknowledge the good work that Crystal Jack and Jillian LeBlanc have done.

No Maa-Nulth Board of Directors meeting happened this month, they will resume next month.

Parks Canada: Parks Canada and nine Nuu-chah-nulth Nations are co-developing the next management plan for Pacific Rim National Park Reserve. The plan will include a collective vision for the entire national park reserve, with specific management strategies, objectives, and targets for the West Coast Trail, Broken Group Islands, and Long Beach units. This plan will guide decisions to protect, present, and operate the national park reserve together over the next ten years. The plan is anticipated to be completed by late 2027. Our working group the West Coast Trail -management plan, is at the engagement and consultation phase of the project. We have decided that a survey will be sent out to our citizens on either the Huu ay aht app or possibility of a booth at the People's assembly that Parks/HFN staff could tend to and engage with our citizens to incorporate their ideas into this management plan.

HR workplace and Wellness: On August 20th, 2025, we held a committee meeting to discuss the following: Hybrid work environment, HR regulations/ Policy update, Ombudsman Program review, Education Guidelines and Hiring Timelines.

- Hybrid work environment: Hybrid work environment and alternate work arrangements are offered to our staff. We do have some staff utilizing this opportunity by working flexible hours, longer hours with flex days and some people working remotely. I think this is very positive for our organization and also a perk for our staff to accommodate everyone and retain the best staff we can.
- HR regulation/Policy Updates: The HFN Policy Manual has been updated with some key changes in mind. The goal has been to ensure that HFN Policies are more accurately represented, and that the Policy Manual is updated to match current and upcoming Canada Labour Code Changes. The primary changes include:
  - A new Attendance Management Policy Section
  - An update to the Other Types of Leave section to specifically address Leave Related to Pregnancy Loss.
  - A new Disconnecting from Work Policy Section
  - The clarification that 30-minute meal breaks are unpaid.
  - The addition of a description of the Winter Holiday Break and restrictions around accessing paid time off for it.
  - The inclusion of reference to the Vehicle Policy in the Vehicles for Organization Use section.
- Ombudsman Program review: The program seems to be running as it was intended to do. We now have added citizen complaints to go through the ombudsman program as they are a 3rd party entity that can decide if a complaint should go to tribunal or not.
- Education Guidelines: The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Government recognizes the value of investing in our workforce through relevant, job-aligned professional development and training. This Agreement was created to outline the mutual obligations and conditions under which the employer agrees to fund, or partially fund, a course, certification, or other learning activity, with the expectation of continued employment, performance improvement, and return on investment. I was happy to see this document created as in the past nothing was in place for these workplace agreements. The professional development funding agreement lays out all the expected requirements of the employees if they complete or do not complete their programs and have service commitments and repayment options if the agreement is broken.

Hiring Timelines: I have brought this up to the committee as in the past I have seen positions take too long to fill and potential good candidates find other opportunities because our hiring process is too slow. I was informed that since we have two HR staff now for the organization, jobs and timelines are closing faster as we now have the resources to spread the work between staff. This is something I am very happy to see, and I want to commend the HR staff for their good work. Overall, it was a very productive meeting and I'm happy to see our organization adapting to the changes in policy to align with the Canadian labor code up to date.

Special Project - Bamfield Road: Due to the Mount Underwood fire, the Bamfield Road remains closed due to safety issues of debris falling on the roadway. A detour route has been put in place from Cowichan to Bamfield using the logging roads. We expect the road to be closed for some time as we wait to hear the road assessment as MOTI is now leading the work on the closed road. More to update next month.

Overall, this was a slower month for me due to most meetings held by the Maa-Nulth Treaty Society being postponed due to fishing season in the month of August. 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 projects I'm referring to. I am honored to represent our Nation as a member of the Executive Council.

Councillor Evan Cook Report – August 2025

Areas of Responsibility:

Finance
Economic Development

Finance

The Finance Committee met on August 25th. The May and June financials were completed. The First Quarter Financials have also been completed.

The Government overall has underspent in operating expenses collectively to the approved 2025-2026 budget. The CFO Jennifer gave a positive update on her financial team. She also is requesting an audit extension.

Dixion Mitchel Investments

I met with Dixon Mitchel to explore a different approach to the Nations Investments. This could mean the possibility of looking into moving some assets to a different Investment Firm, to see if our investments could have a higher return from a competing firm.

Economic Development

HFN Group of Businesses

HGB will be reporting significant financial losses in the Campsite and Motel operations due to the road closures due to the recent and ongoing forest fire.

Stackable Prefab Homes

Meetings have been held with Tsawwassen and Nanaimo Indigenous Nations, as possible Display Home sites, and prefab home needs of both nations.

Micro-Hotel

Citizens may be wondering why the construction of the hotel has not been firmed up and a construction startup date provided. The reason is construction costs have risen substantially from the original quote, which is very common when there are long delays. We believe with the Prefab construction method, that the construction costs can be lowered to the original quote. The prefab method cost quote will be completed shortly.

Next steps for the partnership with Stackabl are: Business plan, structure and real costs regarding capital, profitability and Return On Investment. Then a JV or Partnership Agreement. We need a solid commitment to a high % of BC MADE in the homes. This will assist in getting funding.

Electricity Independence

Sword Fish Turbines/ Caterpillar Hybrid Energy Solutions:

- Opportunity to create electricity independence in HFN territory. If generation is localized, then less losses on the wires and reduced weather and other hazards on the supply infrastructure therefore reducing pain to our citizens.
- HFN supply of economical and clean energy can be used to attract investors, industry and people wanting to live in Bamfield and HFN developments.
- Bottomline is creating a HFN Utility Company to serve present and future needs.

Councillor Stella Peters Report – July 2025

I was away from July 7th -11th for Annual Leave. I was hoping to pick berries for jam making but it was too soon. I did enjoy my time off though.

Portfolios

Citizen Development

I did attend a meeting with Christine Gruman on zoom with an Archivist from UBC who was going through a collection of photos that were taken in the early 70's that he had recovered. They are stored at the UBC - some lost and some damaged in a past flood. He would like to see them digitized and returned back to Huu-ay-aht. We did mention our new Cultural Center and that the timing couldn't be better. He said they did apply for funding so as to hire a UBC student to help digitize and catalogue. We are still working through the details. We did talk about bringing them to Anacla to view them.

Mental Health and Wellness

Our Mental Health and Wellness team are doing amazing work. They are quite busy working with the different organizations to ensure the wellbeing of our citizens is being taken care of. There haven't been many Mental Health related meetings but when there is, I do attend as well as Coral Johnson.

Education and Training

We had our Youth Orientation in Anacla. IT was so nice to see so many youth that will be working in various departments. This opportunity gives them a feel for what they might want to look into as they further their education. Maybe they might want to come back and work in one of the different departments or as an office worker. It is a really great opportunity for them and it's good for them to come home and work for their Nation.

Culture

Our Culture Department has been busy and it's nice to see the student workers involved as they prepared for the House of Huu-ay-aht 25th Anniversary Celebration.

We also hosted the Canoe Journeys. There were four canoes in total that showed up which amounted to 115 people paddlers and support crews.

We did learn a lesson about not having events back to back as we did the Canoe Journeys, Graduation Ceremony and the HOH 25th Anniversary Celebration. It takes a lot of commitment and time and best to have that break in between.

Events

Our Huu-ay-aht Graduation Ceremony was a success! We had 25 Graduates – from high school as well as Post Secondary and Trades. It was the first time we hosted it at the House of Huu-ay-aht. It is always so nice to see our students succeed and to witness their milestones. We seem to have more each year and I am so proud of them as well as our Education Team.

Our House of Huu-ay-aht 25th Anniversary was well received! We had somewhere between 300-350 people attend. The Cultural performances were amazing and our citizens did great in their performances. It's always nice to see so many youth dancing and in the drumming circle.

Keeping our Huu-ay-aht Culture strong and alive.

Public Safety

Community Safety

We have had discussions at our CCG meetings about Community Safety and will be doing another Community session to talk about fraud (on-line, mail, phone, currency) for our citizens, elders and businesses, as well as on-line safety for our youth and domestic Violence. Our Witwok are still doing patrols through the community and we've had discussions about expanding Guardian patrols.

We also talked about the concern of more bears in the area bringing in CO because they are getting too close to our homes as well as the campsites .

Road Safety is always on our agenda.

We had a signing Ceremony for our MOU with Huu-ay-aht and BC Corrections, that was a special event.

Emergency Planning and Preparedness

It is so nice having Sean Flickinger as he also participates in all the Emergency Planning and some of the Climate Change meetings.

Sean Flickinger has updated and finalized the Anacla Emergency Plans, which does include all departments within HFN. Our Emergency Plans need to include Emergency Preparedness as well as Climate Resillience and being ready in any situation.

Climate Change and Climate Resilience

I have attended meetings related to Climate Change but haven't been as busy as it was earlier .in the year.

Active Boards and Committees

-Co-Operative Management Board w/Parks Canada

-Citizen Development Committee (CDC) Chair

-Community Consultative Group (CCG) Chair

Anacla Planning Committee w/Edward Johnson and Stephen Rayner

Human Resource and Workplace Wellness w/Brad Johnson and Stephen Rayner

Councillor Stella Peters Report – Aug 2025

I was on Annual Leave from August 5th-11th.

We had no power from August 11 to the 23rd due to the Mount Underwood forest fire and the Bamfield Main has been closed since the 11th and still remains closed indefinitely until further notice.

Portfolios

Citizen Development

Mental Health and Wellness

It's been a quiet month with the wildfire and the road closure; I haven't travelled out to any meetings this month.

The well being of our citizens is what's important, making sure they are still able to make appointments and get their medications. we had one citizen who had to get medivacced out during the forest fire. We are grateful for the CCG who were able to help out.

We were in the process of identifying an area for a Helipad for Medical Transportation and Emergencies, that would have proper lighting for night flying if needed but ended up at a standstill due to land ownership. We used to have the "Helicopters Without Borders" land in the new field in upper Anacla but that is no longer possible since it's almost at completion. They fly in Medical personnel to remote areas.

Outstanding Issue: Need a Helipad.

Education and Training

It's already time for our Huu-ay-aht youth and children to go back to School/University/College. It's been a good summer - so nice to see so many employed as Summer Students getting their foot in the door working for Huu-ay-aht in the various Departments. For some it's their second year while for others it's a first and that's okay, it gives them a sense of possibility as to where they might be interested in furthering their careers and hopefully working fulltime for Huu-ay-aht.

No Education meetings happened this month.

Culture

Our Culture team are as active as they can be given the circumstances. We are fortunate to have someone available in both PAGO and AGO offices.

Events

Due to the wildfire, we cancelled any events that were planned for August, one of them being Huu-ay-aht Days.

Public Safety

Community Safety

Since the Mount Underwood forest fire, it has been brought to our attention that citizens need to be aware of generators, fueling and starting them up. For some, they've never used one so we need to look at Emergency Preparedness and have our people ready for any type of emergency. There are so many resources out there to help them out it's something we need to do together so everyone is on the same page. We will be looking at that and planning ahead.

Emergency Planning and Preparedness

August 11th - 23rd we had our first real Emergency with the Mount Underwood Fire which caused a 12-day power outage and the closure to our road from Bamfield to PA. We have such a great team who work with our Emergency Coordinator Sean Flickinger who set up our EOC in the AGO office. Some staff just recently did a two-day training relating to Emergency Operations.

We are making sure that our Anacla citizens were safe and set up for it. There have been a lot of meetings on all levels of Government regarding this, also we had a couple community sessions with our citizens with lunch provided. It is good knowing that the HOH is fully functional now with the new generator setup.

We still have a road closure from Anacla to PA due to the damage caused by the wildfire until further notice.

Climate Change and Climate Resilience

After the Mount Underwood forest fire, it has become more apparent that we need to prepare for all the seasonal changes due to climate change (forest fires, extreme heat, drought, heavy rainfall, flooding, king tides/super tides, extreme freezing temperatures, heavy snowfall). Some of these will have a direct impact on our community and some may affect the road which could impact us.

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