Uyaqḥmis

October 2021 Issue 64

Huu-ay-aht honours survivors of residental school on National Day of Truth and Reconcilation







PM41913515

HUU-AY-AHT CHILD & FAMILY WELLNESS

You have the right to Huu-ay-aht Support

If you are dealing with:

- Ministry of Child and Family Development
- Usma
- Any child protection services across Canada
- The RCMP in matters relating to family or children

If you inform them you are a Huu-ay-aht citizen:
The above agencies have a responsibility to call Huu-ay-aht Child & Family Wellness

If you receive a visit from a any of the above agencies:
In the evening or on weekends or statutory holidays, please call our after hours line:
250-731-6999

If you have any questions or need assistance, please reach out to the Child & Family wellness team at:
778-419-1013

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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 Uyaqḥmis is printed up to six times a year to foster community engagement among a population of more than 800 citizens. Uyaqḥmis promotes the recovery and sharing of the Huu-ay-aht dialect of the Nuu-chah-nulth language, as well as knowledge of Huu-ay-aht culture.

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

communications@huuayaht.org
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Port Alberni, BC
V9Y 6N4

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

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Social Services Project Evaluation released three years after launch

Huu-ay-aht First Nations is pleased to release an independent evaluation of the Social Services Project, launched in 2017, that shows great successes have been achieved in the first three years of the project.

Huu-ay-aht contracted an independent party to conduct an evaluation of the project to determine the effectiveness of the project. The goal in 2016, when the Social Services Panel began its work, was to ensure that all Huu-ay-aht children grow up safe, healthy, and connected to their Huu-ay-aht home, culture, and values.

The report will serve as a benchmark against which future evaluations will be measured. This represents the first evaluation of Huu-ay-aht's Social Services Project since the 30 recommendations were finalized in 2017.

"The results of this evaluation prove that there is a way forward. Huu-ay-aht's vision is coming to fruition through ensuring their vision is acted upon with expertise, planning, and frontline workers," said Kim Baird, Social Services Panel member and advisor. "Of course, another key ingredient for success has been funding assistance from government partners. The reconciliation of Huu-ay-aht families is integral to the future sustainability of Huu-ay-aht First Nations."

Feedback came from 169 Huu-ay-aht citizens, Community Services and Child and Family Wellness team members, directors for Huu-ay-aht's Community Services and Child and Family Wellness department, the acting executive director, and members of Executive Council and Social Services Task Force. The COVID-19 pandemic had a major impact on the evaluation process, as in-person engagement was not possible and online surveys were conducted instead.

"It is important that we hear what is important to our people and those who are helping to raise our children," explained Huu-ay-aht Councillor Edward R. Johnson, adding how thankful he is to the citizens who participated. "We are pleased to have heard from so many people and this will help us shape the program moving forward to ensure we are meeting the needs of the community so we can achieve our goal of bringing our people home and keeping our children safe and connected to their nation."

As a result of the survey, 26 areas of focus were identified. Highlights include:

- Securing Oomiiqsu (Mother Centre) funding
- Affordable housing
- Equipping staff with the tools they need to do their job in a balanced, healthy way
- Focus on culture, language, and traditional foods
- Communication
- Ensuring all demographics (youth to elders) are being serves
- Focus on addressing violence, physical health, mental and emotional health, and the tools needed to ensure citizens can lead a healthy lifestyle
- Increase inclusivity – elders, LGBTQ+, foster parents
- Secure Bill C-92 funding
- Secure wraparound funding for services
- Designate an alternate dispute resolution body

"This interim assessment is an important step in implementing the Huu-ay-aht vision for bringing and keeping children in the fold of family and community love, care, and culture." Maegen Giltrow, Social Services Panel member and legal counsel. "It is very rewarding to see that 64 per cent of Huu-ay-aht citizens who responded said they felt their family's safety had seen some or great improvement from the Huu-ay-aht Social Services Project over the previous year. But the assessment is also an important guide to the substantial work that lies ahead."

Moving forward, the results of this evaluation will guide the program and service delivery to help promote mental health and emotional well-being for Huu-ay-aht citizens of all ages, gender, and sexual orientation. The team will prioritize strengthening families by ensuring all additional parenting and caregiving support is available through Oomiiqsu and other programs and services.

"It is encouraging to see the results of this evaluation as it shows we are on the right track," explained Tayii Ḥaẇiɬ ƛiišin (Head Hereditary Chief Derek Peters). "We have to continue to move forward with our Ancient Spirit and Modern Minds, while honouring our sacred principles of ʔiisaak (utmost respect), ʔuuʔałuk (taking Care of), and Hišuk ma c̓awak (everything is one)."

To see the Social Services Evaluation Report, visit: https://huuayaht.org/services/children-family-services/





The Nation unveils totem pole in ḥahuuɬi

On September 30, 2021, Huu-ay-aht First Nations joined hundreds of other nations across Canada to mark the inaugural National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Together with the community of Bamfield and special guests, the Nation unveiled a totem that will soon be raised in Bamfield. Close to 150 people dressed in orange gathered to hear people share their stories, honour the survivors of residential schools and their families, and share language, culture, and a meal.

Tayii Ḥaẇiɬ ƛiišin welcomed everyone and spoke on the significance of the day, pointing out that he father always told him it was important that the two communities work together.

“I am proud that we are one community,” he said.

He said the totem is significant as it will stand as a symbol of strength, like the old-growth tree it came from once did in the forest.

“This will unite us and make us stronger,” he said.

Previously known as Orange Shirt Day, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is a direct response to the calls for acting from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s report. The report outlined 94 calls to action. Creating a federal statutory day of commemoration was Call to Action 80. According to the federal government, “the day honours the lost children and survivors of residential schools, their families, and communities. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process.”

Chief Councillor Robert J. Dennis Sr. reminded the sea of orange how far we have come. He said governments put in place policy that tried to eliminate First Nations in the form of the Indian Act. The goal was to “take the Indian out of the child” through the residential school system.

“We were removed from our home, our land, our culture and language, and our resources. Now they call it cultural genocide,” he explained. “They tried for 13 years to take the Indian out of me, but I’m proud to say they failed.”

He said the pole represents growth for Huu-ay-aht First Nations and the steps the Nation must take to get where they want to be. He said the Nation is at the bottom of the pole right now but climbing.

“We have a long way to go from where we were,” he said. “We are one community, and we can make it back there together.”

ACRD Director for the area Bob Beckett said Thursday was a day to reflect on the past and learn more about it and the journey forward. He said we must consider how we will move forward. It is important to acknowledge the atrocities that happened in the past and find a way to learn and grow. He closed by saying the pole raising speaks to the amazing leadership of Huu-ay-aht First Nations and their neighbours in Bamfield and the strength they must have to keep growing together.

Olivia Peters (Huupaalthus – daughter of the moon), daughter of Huu-ay-aht’s Tayii Ḥaẇiɬ ƛiišin and Irene Peters, showed great strength as she addressed the large crowd.

“This is the first step in trying to bridge the gap between First Nations people and Canadians – to tell the truth and to be open and learn, educate, and listen to the stories of what happened to the First Nations people that have resided in this country since time immemorial,” she said. “Not only to hear the truths, but to put solutions and actions in place to be part of the change.”

She said it is time to remove the stereotype of who Indian people

Continued on page 5









Huu-ay-aht First Nations ready for next chapter

Continued from page 4

are and that we all have a story to tell and to work together on reconciliation.

"Even though I am a second generation, it still really hurts to think about many of the people in our tribe who have gone through these schools and suffered pain," she said. "It really hurts to think of the young children who were ripped out of their homes, to bring them to these schools. So have openness and compassion and kindness in your heart as we all move forward to reconciliation, as we are all one - Hišuk ma c̓awak."

To recognize and honour the survivors of residential schools, Huu-ay-aht First Nations blanketed the ones in attendance. Members of their family came forward to participate in the moving. The crowd cheered for them, showing their support and love.

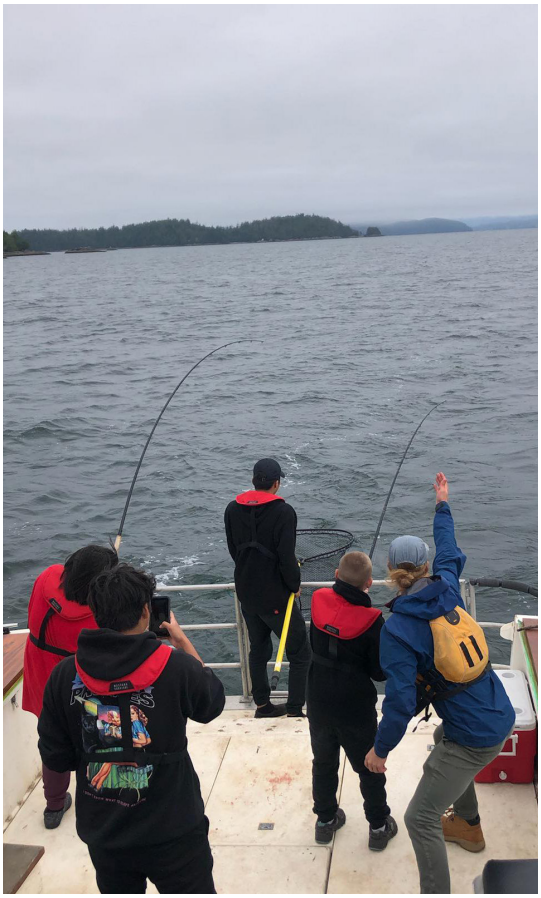
Wišqii asked for prayers for the survivors as well as the ones who did not make it home. He said, "we are all survivors in one way or another." He said together "our people will help with the healing process and lead the way."

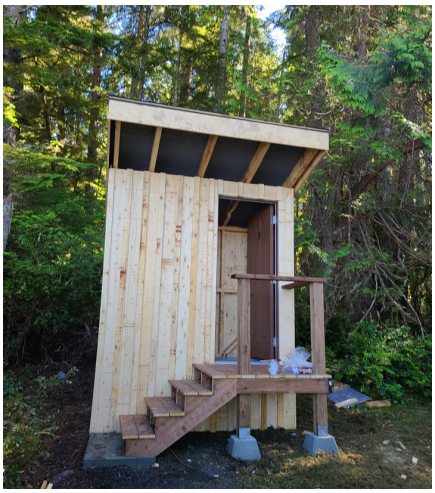
Brian Butler from the United Steelworkers and Dallyn Willis from Western Forest Products also spoke at the event. Butler said USW believes in meaningful reconciliation, and that he was honoured to attend the important event and recognize the atrocities suffered by so many. These must not be forgotten, he said, and we must move forward promoting empathy and change, and travel an honourable path in the future. Willis said the work he has done with Huu-ay-aht First Nations is the most rewarding part of his career, and he was honoured to attend and participate in such an important day. He said reconciliation is something we must do every day to build a path together.

Wišqii reminded the crowd gathered that Huu-ay-aht is a resilient nation and it is getting stronger every day.

"We will not only survive – we will thrive," he said. "The next story is yet to be written."









Warriors busy building and harvesting in community

The Huu-ay-aht Men's Warrior program has been busy building and harvesting food for their community. Over the summer, the Warriors built structures and relationships across Nuu-chah-nulth Nations. The Huu-ay-aht Warriors also collected food fish and reinvigorated the trail to "first bridge" in Anacla.

Huu-ay-aht, Tla-o-qui-aht, Ucluelet, Tseshaht, Ditidaht, and Ahousaht Warriors camped out on Diana Island to construct a gazebo and two outhouses before the Huu-ay-aht culture camp. Young Huu-ay-aht men were happy to learn new things while building connections with Warriors from other Nations. More than 20 youth assisted in constructing the structures, and you can see their names imprinted into the concrete footings supporting the gazebo. Each evening, Warriors gathered around a fire and shared their appreciation for each other and something they learned for themselves. Some Warriors expressed their deep appreciation of pizza and others shared their appreciation for community, friendship, and teamwork. Huu-ay-aht and Tla-o-qui-aht songs were shared into the evenings.

Aboard the Shirley and the Reef Island, the Huu-ay-aht Warriors caught more than 140 pieces of salmon over three days fishing within the Maa-nulth Domestic Fishing Area. On the first day, the Warriors stayed inshore, and Warriors of all ages participated. On the second and third days, older Warriors spent the night offshore to sounds of seabirds and rocking boats. Through the food fish program, fresh fish were delivered to elders in Anacla. Fish were also retained for distribution to Huu-ay-aht families and for a Warrior celebration in the fall.

The Warriors would like to bring the community together in Pachena Bay for a pit cook and butterflied salmon in the fall. If you would like to share knowledge and assist in this gathering, please contact the Warrior Coordinator, Daniel Zayonc, at hfnwarriors@gmail.com.

Trail builders from the Indigenous Youth Mountain Bike Program are teaching Warriors to build trails. In Anacla, the Warriors cleared the trail to "first bridge" where there is a beautiful bend in the Pachena River. You are encouraged to walk the trail that enters the forest across from the woodlot in Lower Anacla and loops back onto Emchiss Way. The trail builders were back at work from August 23 to August 27 creating a safety trail to high ground on Diana Island and dreamed up other projects to work on with the Warriors into the future.

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BAMFIELD MAIN ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT

UPDATE: OCTOBER 2021

Coming in 2022

The schedule for 2022 has been finalized. See table below for the planned schedule as of September 2021

Three road construction projects of approximately 25 km each, covering the complete corridor construction. These contracts will be tendered in January 2022 with work to begin in April 2022 and completed by mid-September. These contracts will carry out the gravel placement, compaction, drainage requirements, and signage.

One seal coat contract covering the complete 76 km will be tendered in March 2022. The seal coating should take about one month to complete and will be expected to be completed by the end of September. This contract will apply two layers of seal coat and place required barriers.

In March 2023, a paving contract will be tendered, this contract will pave the required sections over the previously laid seal coat. The pavement is to be placed on all steep hills, major intersections, and bridge approaches.

In Summary, with the current schedule, the Bamfield Main Road Surfacing project will have the seal coat hard surface on the complete 76-km by the end of September 2022 and all pavement placed by the beginning of September 2023.

Work undertaken to date

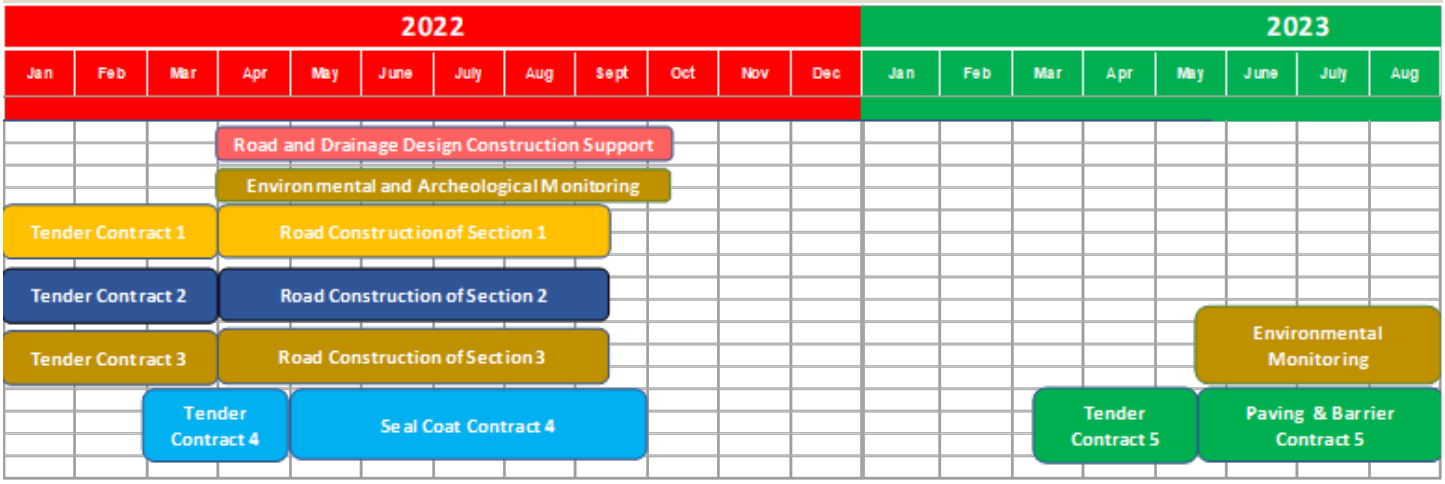
An Environmental study of the 76-km corridor to provide a baseline overview of the existing environmental conditions. Two reports have been generated by LGL Environmental. These reports include the Environmental Overview Assessment and the Construction Environmental Management Plan.

HGB Gravel LP has been working since October of 2020 to identify, investigate, acquire permits, test, and develop pit locations along the road corridor. These pits will supply all the gravel needs for the project. The gravel production will run through the winter. People can expect to see gravel piles appearing along the corridor shortly.

Field survey of the 76 km of road, culverts, bridges, legal property boundaries, waterline at Fredrick Lake, water courses, and related infrastructure has been completed. This data is utilized for 3D modeling by the road and drainage design team.

As work continues on the Bamfield Main Road Surfacing Project complete updates will be published on huuayaht.org

Project Timeline



Fisheries works collabratively to bring fish back to Sarita

By Nick Cessford

Huu-ay-aht's work on the Sarita River is starting to see returns. Huu-ay-aht First Nations fisheries teams have been working collaboratively with the Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) Nitinat Hatchery team to enhance the Sarita River. On September 22, Huu-ay-aht and DFO teams were on the Sarita River capturing chinook broodstock for the Nitinat hatchery. The eggs harvested from these fish will be utilized by the hatchery to help enhance the salmon stocks within the Sarita River.

Hatchery work on the Sarita is done to ensure that there is diversity within the chinook population. Hatchery teams are utilizing an approach known as PNI or percent natural influence. Amelia Vos, Huu-ay-aht Lands and Marine Coordinator, stated that utilizing this approach and metric will help ensure that the river will have a high number of wild salmon. Vos went on to say that based on scientific studies, wild salmon are smarter, better spawners, and have stronger survivability at sea. This approach is operationalized through the selective harvest of broodstock. These fish are not selected based on size or aesthetic but instead are selected based on if they are considered wild salmon. Selection in this way is done to ensure that the genetic makeup of the Sarita River Chinook is diverse and that the PNI is high.

Huu-ay-aht's fisheries team was able to collect crucial data on the salmon spawning in the Sarita. Three Huu-ay-aht citizens were involved in capturing this data, which will be utilized by Huu-ay-aht in its work with watershed renewal and further salmon enhancement. In this way, Huu-ay-aht is further contributing to ensuring that the ḥahuułi is healthy and vibrant.

Vos said that this is an average year for the Sarita River salmon run. The fisheries team snorkels the Sarita River weekly to assess the stock numbers spawning into the Sarita River, Vos said that according to their survey there were about 1,700 chinook spawning into the Sarita this year. Based on targets for the Sarita River, this number represents a surplus in salmon.

As part of section 10.3.0 of the Maa-nulth Treaty when there is a determined surplus in Huu-ay-aht fishing areas which in this case is the Sarita River there becomes an opportunity for salmon harvest. 2021 is an important year for Huu-ay-aht salmon enhancement because this is the first year in which this clause of the Maa-nulth Treaty has been able to be utilized. The Huu-ay-aht Fisheries team with community volunteers have been able to engage in a small commercial fishery on the Sarita River capturing chinook salmon. The salmon caught in this fishery will be sold commercially with profits going to both the Nation and citizen volunteers who have taken part. This is one of the many benefits of Huu-ay-aht being a Modern Treaty Nation.





Fisheries out on the Sarita River capturing Chinook broodstock (Photos by Nick Cessford)



Huu-ay-aht citizen working to obtrain red seal

When opportunity knocked, Simon Gurney answered. In 2015, Simon received a message from Huu-ay-aht First Nations Education, Training, and Employment Manager Brent Ronning telling him about some of sponsorship options the Nation offers. This set Simon on a path that has led to a rewarding career in the plumbing industry.

When he received that message, Simon was working in the film industry where he said he was working crazy hours. Motivated by a desire to leave the film industry, Gurney took Brent up on the sponsorship offers and enrolled at Lansdowne college to upgrade his math, which he was able to do in only a month and a half. This was the first step toward getting into the plumbing industry.

Simon is of Huu-ay-aht and Nisga'a of the Gingolx Village descent. His mother is Lavern Williams, and his father is the late Nelson Gurney. He is brother to Jason Gurney and Lee-anna Gurney. In his free time, Simon has a strong passion for basketball. When he is not working, Simon still finds time to go to basketball tournaments like the All-Native Basketball Tournament in Prince Rupert, where he plays for his late father's team, the Gingolx Sons. Simon even trains in the gym lifting weights to improve his performance in basketball. Simon grew up primarily in Port Alberni but now calls Victoria home. It is there in Victoria where Simon was able to build and advance his career.

Having upgraded his math, Simon then applied and was accepted into the Plumbing and Pipefitting Foundations program at Camosun College. This program covers the basics of plumbing, refrigeration, sprinkler fitting, and gas fitting. Once he completed the foundations program, Simon was faced with a choice of which skilled trade he wanted to further pursue. Simon said he chose plumbing because everyone needs water and that means there is always a need for a plumber. Further, Simon stressed the variety of work that is involved in plumbing saying, "You can get into new construction and install plumbing such as drainage, venting systems, to hot and cold water lines, and finishing such as installing new toilets, tubs and showers, sinks or even, in-floor heating systems." Simon said, Service Plumbing he's interested in, as you can problem solve and fix someone else's water problem.

Simon is currently a fourth-year apprentice, having finished his previous years and schooling at Camosun College. He said completing all this schooling required a lot of studying but is proud that he is full of knowledge. Simon has 217 hours accounted for towards his Red Seal Journeyman certificate and is scheduled to take his fourth and final year of schooling in November.

Simon said "I enjoy projects with a beautiful view of the ocean or mountains. The higher you are, the better. Oceanfront view is amazing".



Simon Gurney

Simon takes pride in his work ethic, and it is recognized by his coworkers and supervisors. Simon said he was once called a "Swiss Army Knife" as a compliment from a foreman because he is so versatile within his trade.

Simon said that "Huu-ay-aht has been amazing helping me with tuition, books, and student funding. Brent Ronning was huge in this department by helping make the transition an ease".

He went on to say, "Thank you for reaching out about the skilled trades and thank you Huu-ay-aht for your support as always. Who knows what I would have been doing the last five years for work if I wasn't plumbing."

Frances Barkley to continue Service

In August 2021, Lady Rose Marine Services announced that they no longer will be in service due to difficulties of COVID-19. It was not long after that stakeholders held a meeting where it was announced Devon Transport will become the new owner. Frances Barkley was supposed to have its last sailing on August 31, but with this great news, services in the Alberni Inlet and Barkley Sound will continue on regular schedule.

For more information, visit www.ladyrosemarine.com.



TFL 44 staff participate in Huu-ay-aht 101 session

On July 15, TFL 44 LP staff participated in a virtual Huu-ay-aht First Nations 101 session led by Tayii Ḥaẇiił ƛiišin and Chief Councillor Robert J. Dennis Sr. with support from Kevin Neary, anthropologist and owner of Traditions Consulting Services Inc.

As part of the ongoing commitment to the partnership between Huu-ay-aht and Western Forest Products Inc., TFL 44 LP staff were invited to participate in a session to learn more about Huu-ay-aht's culture, way of life, and connection to the land since time immemorial.

Traditions & Treaty

ƛiišin started the session by sharing his traditional name and speaking to his responsibilities as Tayii to take care of the land resources and people, and carrying out the Nation's three sacred principles of ʔiisaak (utmost respect), ʔuuʔałuk (taking care of), and Hišuk ma c̓awak (everything is one).

Chief Councillor Dennis then shared his traditional name, Emchayiik, with participants, described the colonial Indian Act process, and how anglicized names came to be. He spoke about the treaty process and Huu-ay-aht's path to self-government, which spanned 18 years from start to finish and was guided by approval and input from the citizens. He also spoke about the importance of potlatches and the close connection between Huu-ay-aht and neighbouring nations.

Huu-ay-aht in Forestry

Chief Councillor Dennis shared the history of forestry on the ḥahuuɬi when the land was not being taken care of in a good way. He explained that those types of things would not happen today because of the relationship between Western and Huu-ay-aht. He remembers when he was first elected into the role as chief councillor, there were only two Huu-ay-aht citizens working in the forest sector - Jeff Cook and Kelly Dennis. Now there are 44. He also spoke about the importance of the rivers and streams to Huu-ay-aht and how salmon has always been the most important resource to Huu-ay-aht people. One of the most important priorities for the Nation is seeing the Sarita River restored, and he is encouraged by Western's support with renewal work.

A Resilient Nation

ƛiišin also explained to participants that Huu-ay-aht has been through a lot from residential schools and being removed from the ḥahuuɬi. However, going through all of the challenges and still having the teachings passed down from his ancestors demonstrates how resilient Huu-ay-aht are. He spoke about wisdom that was passed on from his father, the ƛiišin before him, who shared his vision of building long-term relationships based on Huu-ay-aht values with others who have interest in the ḥahuuɬi.

Kevin Neary shared stories of Huu-ay-aht's history, economy, and connection to the land, including a photo of the Tayii Ḥaẇiił ƛiišin at the time meeting with the Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Province of BC in 1874, and sites of villages, camps, burials, fish traps, and clam gardens that represent at least 5,000 years of Huu-ay-aht occupation by as many as 3,000 people spread over the territory.

More to Come

The 25 in attendance found the session educational and were grateful for the opportunity to participate. One TFL 44 LP staffer stressed the value and importance of understanding the history and shared vision moving forward, while giving thanks for the session on behalf of the group.

ƛiišin extended an invitation for all TFL 44 LP staff to come out to Kiix̣in and participate in the tour to see and hear more about and experience Huu-ay-aht's culture and history first-hand.

More sessions with other TFL 44 LP staff and contractors and Western Forest Products employees will be held over the coming months.

How to get more information

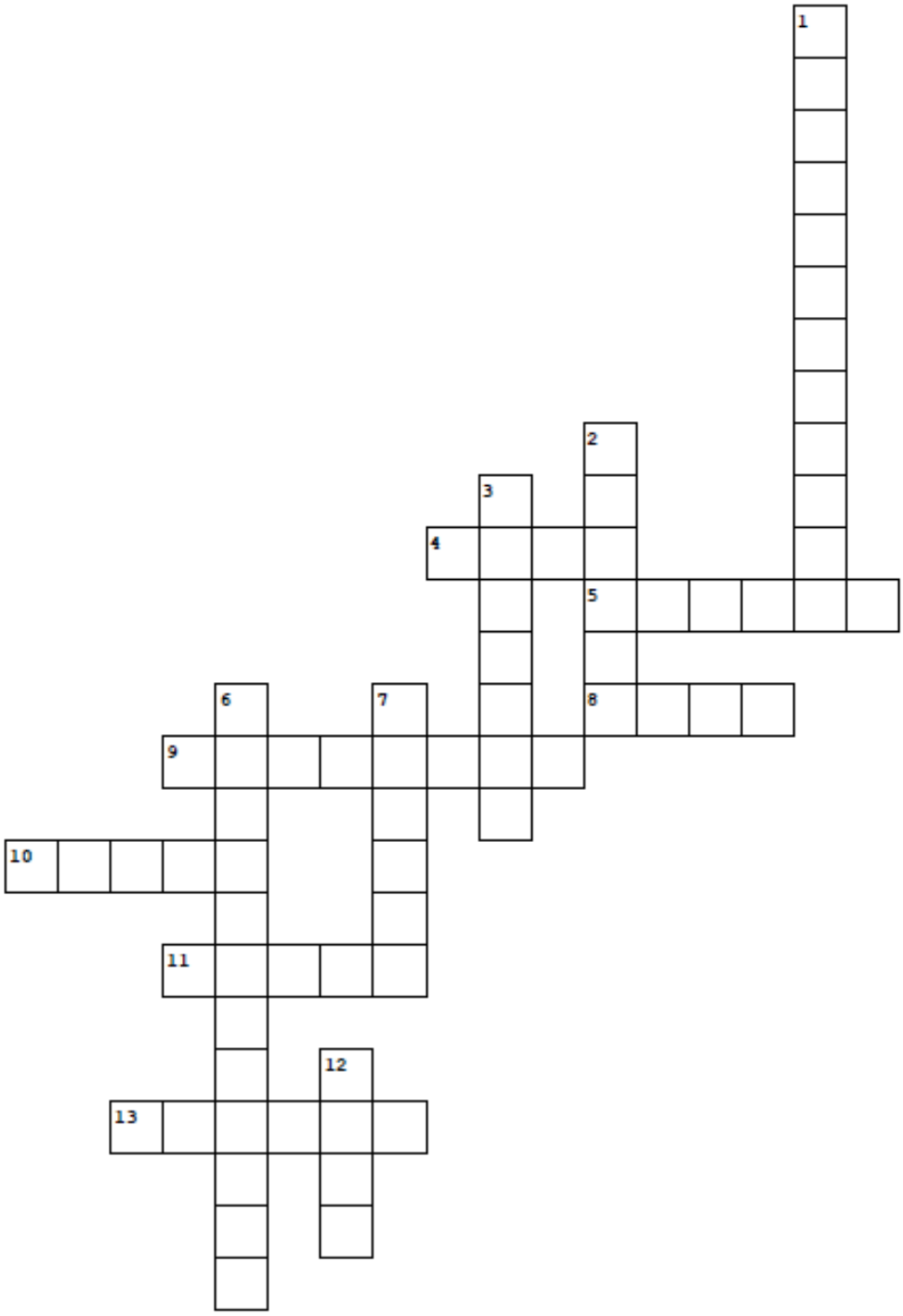
YouTube HFNCommunications

Huu-ay-aht First Nations

https://www.tfl44lp.com

TFL 44 LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

Nuu-chah-nulth Language Crossword



Across

4. Nuu-chah-nulth word for Alright/Ok/Goodbye
5. Smaller ungulate with antlers
8. God or Creator
9. Large forest cat
10. Large flat groundfish
11. Nuu-chah-nulth word for sweets
13. Huu-ay-aht village site with structures

Down

1. What is the name of the Huu-ay-aht canoe?
2. Large ungulate with "E" shaped horns
3. Village on Diana Island
6. The heart of the people
7. We harvest this tree bark to weave
12. Large black mammal frequently seen on the far bank of the pachena river in Anacla

WWTP nearing completion at BMSC

Having broken ground on the project in November of 2020 the Anacla Community Wastewater Treatment System project is nearing completion. The facility is slated to be finished with final commissioning of the plant ahead of schedule with completion projected for November 2021, one month prior to the planned completion date.

The project was constructed through collaboration between Huu-ay-aht First Nations and Bamfield Marine Science Centre. Funding for the project came from Huu-ay-aht First Nations with $4.4 million and Indigenous Services Canada contributing $3.6 million. The structures of this major infrastructure project are located on Bamfield Marine Science Centre land in order better accommodate service to the Bamfield community.



Secondary Water Treatment Tank. (Photo by Torrance Gilmour)

As of September 2021, the project reached approximately 80 percent completion. The wastewater treatment plant's substantial structures and civil contracting work have been completed to date. This includes the Anacla lift station, hydro testing the Anacla Bamfield force main, and all substantial mechanical equipment. In addition, the roofing and metal siding are complete on the plant, with interior drywall and insulation still ongoing. Construction of the major electrical components and system controls that will operate the plant is still in progress.

Alongside the new construction, upgrades to the existing infrastructure have been made including an extension of the ocean outflow piping. This will ensure that effluent will be released into Trevor Channel instead of the Bamfield Inlet.

Once completed, the system will be able to accommodate the waste of up to 1100. Since the plant was designed with the future in mind, upgrades can be made to accommodate past 1100 once the communities of Anacla and Bamfield grow. This will ensure that Anacla and Bamfield will have strong infrastructure in place for years to come.

NIC facilitates maintenance course in Anacla

In 2020, Huu-ay-aht First Nations was successful in a Skills Development Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corperation (CMHC) grant that would support capacity building in the housing sector.

After a long wait due to COVID-19, the Nation was finally able to run the program in June 2021 in community. This four-week pilot program was offered through North Island Collage called Facilities Maintenance. It was customized for Huu-ay-aht's needs, creating a program of 2.5 weeks of carpentry and general maintenance, one week of plumbing, and a few days of electrical. It was held at the House of Huu-ay-aht and a HFN Lands LP rentals.

The program was sponsored by Bamfield Marine Science Centre and the Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses. The plumbing instructor was one of BMSC's staff and the hands-on training was completed in the two airport houses. Having these partners and working together allowed the students maximum training benefit. The course included the North Island College tool trailer brought to community. This trailer is fully loaded with all the tools needed for in-community carpentry training.

The first week was in-class training, where the students learned measuring systems, comparing, and understanding metric and imperial systems. They learned how to build stairs, frame walls and floors, and install doors, to name a few. The second week was full plumbing.

The remaining time was all-hands-on repairing the two houses. The students got to see first had the importance of preventative maintenance and got to put their new learning to work. The various skills they got to work on included painting, properly weather protecting doors, installation of cabinets, interior trim, gutters, siding repairs, and flooring.

The students consisted of some maintenance staff and youth. The exciting part about hosting this in-community training is that the Nation can build on the experience and possibly offer Carpentry Foundations 12-week course one day.

Nation receives housing and infrastructure grant

Huu-ay-aht, along with 27 other Treaty Nations across Canada, received news of a four-year grant totalling $270 million over four years to improve housing and infrastructure conditions on their lands. The allocation to Huu-ay-aht was determined by the Nations working collaboratively as the Self-Governing Indigenous Governments (SGIG). Huu-ay-aht received an allocation of $5.29 million over the next four years.



Area in Upper Anacla being cleared in Summer 2021 for future development. (Photo by Nick Cessford)

The funding is intended to allow Nations to develop longer-term comprehensive plans to improve living conditions on their lands. Each Nation will determine what is most needed and is required to develop a four-year plan to fill gaps in their infrastructure and housing needs. Council is considering a plan that provides for some short-term expansion of Anacla housing properties, as well as contributing to the development of longer-term housing opportunities.

Huu-ay-aht is currently developing its four-year plan with submission required to Canada by September 30, 2021. Funding is available to address the first year of the plan, with completion of the activities by March 31, 2022.

Citizens visiting or living in Anacla will have noticed the current construction of new housing along Nookemus Road. The six buildings under construction with a grant from Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) will provide 11 new units of rental housing. These are expected to be completed next spring.

In addition, plans are being finalized with BC Housing to construct eight housing units in three buildings. Construction on these units will begin with the completion of the CMHC units in spring 2022.

Nananiiqsu look forward to all be together again

After a long break from in-person meetings, the members of Huu-ay-aht's Nananiiqsu gathered last month to catch up and enjoy each other's company.

It was the first time the group has met since the beginning of summer, and they took the opportunity to catch up, hear what is new with the Nations, and reflect on how COVID-19 has affected them and those close to them.

Approximately a dozen elders participated in the meeting, both in person and virtually from Anacla and Vancouver. Their main message was one of safety and health.

They expressed how difficult it has been during the pandemic to be away from their friends and family. Many said the hardest part was not being able to see their grandchildren. They shared their feelings of loneliness, with a few saying it has been a long road with many ups and downs.

On the line from Vancouver, Rita Dennis offered this advice that many elders echoed. "Get your shots, be safe, and take care of yourself. Make sure to wear a mask all the time. That's what I've been doing."

They also want people to focus on staying healthy. They said it is only recently that they have finally been able to visit with family in a safe way, but that can all change if the numbers keep climbing.

"Keep looking after yourself. Stay healthy, and get your second shot," advised Ben Clappis. "We will get through this and be together again soon."

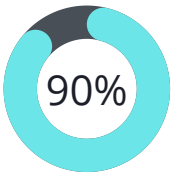
The desire to be together again was shared by everyone at the meeting. They said they are keeping busy with projects and activities, but they long for a time when everyone can be together safely once again.

huu ay aht
ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

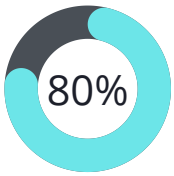
Huu-ay-aht First Nations Capital Projects

Below is the current completion percentage of self-funded Huu-ay-aht First Nations capital projects

Comprehensive Community Plan
Budget: $100,000



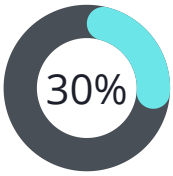
Anacla Government Offices Upgrades:
Budget: $50,000



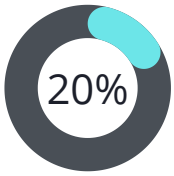
House of Huu-ay-aht Upgrades
Budget: $500,000



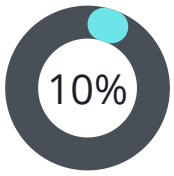
Public Works Yard and Building
Budget: $225,000



Sub-division Phase 2
Budget: $2,400,00

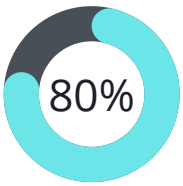


Anacla Cemetary
Budget: $75,000



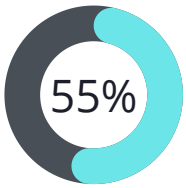
Below is the current completion percentage of externally funded and self-funded Huu-ay-aht First Nations capital projects

Waste Water Treatment Plant and sewer upgrades
Budget: $8.2 million



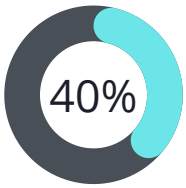
Funding Partners:
Indigenous Services Canada: $3.6 million
Bamfield Marine Science Center: Contributed land and $650 000 for force main to BMSC

CMHC Rapid Housing
Budget: 4.144 million



Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation: $3.66 million
The remaining costs are funded by Huu-ay-aht First Nations

Playing Field and Community Culture Centre
Budget: 1.2 million



Canada and the Province of British Columbia: $1.793 million through Investing in Canada's Infrastructure Program

SAVE THE DATE

Huu-ay-aht's Anuual People's Assembly is coming soon!

Saturday, December 4, 2021
10 a.m.

Citizen motion submission, due on October 27 at 4 p.m.

More details to come soon. Check our social media for updates.

www.huuayaht.org or on Facebook.

Huu-ay-aht Government Staff is growing!



Janet Kunstmann

On July 19, 2021, Janet Kunstmann became a part of the Huu-ay-aht team in her new role as Senior Executive Coordinator. Janet will be working closely with the Executive Council to ensure all their administrative needs are met.

Janet recently relocated to Vancouver Island from Cold Lake, Alberta and has spent much of her spare time, along with her husband, exploring and enjoying many of the beautiful waters and hiking trails that the community and Island have to offer.

Janet received her Office Assistant Diploma from Robertson Career College in Saskatoon and brings with her more than 30 years of administrative experience in both the public and private sectors.

In her spare time, Janet loves reading, hiking, swimming, snorkeling, scuba diving and travelling. She is excited to work with the Executive Council and to learn more about Huu-ay-aht First Nations' culture and history.

Kurt Kranz was hired on August 3, 2021 as Maintenance and Asset manager. He works under the Director of Capital and infrastructure.

Growing up in Canmore Alberta has made Kurt an avid outdoorsman, this includes mountain biking, hiking, fishing, and hunting. Kurt also enjoys learning about other cultures as he has done a lot of travelling around the world. Now, Kurt is proud to call Bamfield his home and is excited to raise his son Finnley, there with his wife Samantha.

Kurt's family comes from Germany and Transylvania, he is fluent in German, as his parents believe in practicing and upkeeping their culture and heritage. The same way as the Huu-ay-aht people do, Kurt looks forward to learning about Huu-ay-aht culture, beliefs, and traditions.

Kurt achieved his Journeyman Electrical ticket at age of 24 and has worked in that field ever since. Kurt's experience is not just limited to electrical, he has learned to do carpentry and plumbing also. Kurt's father brought him to work in the summers, he has been his mentor in construction. They have worked on numerous projects together as his father was a contractor, this includes building houses, renovations, yard work- whatever needed to be done, they did.



Kurt Kranz



Ronald Palmer

As of August 2021, Ronald Palmer has been hired to work as Facilities Lead Anacla Government Office under Director of Infrastructure and Capital Projects.

Ronald is of the Metis First Nation. His parents are late Colleen Gogo born and raised in Port Alberni and late Donald Palmer was born in Saskatoon. He was raised in Port Alberni. He spent many years working out of Franklin River, and Camp B. Ronald has been blessed to be able to enjoy many summers camping with his family in Pachena Bay, where he fell in love with the area and community.

Ronald is a qualified Steam Fitter/Pipe Fitter, and his love for his work and Pachena Bay has brought him working for the Huu-ay-aht First Nations. Having graduated from Red Deer College and putting in the time and effort he worked hard and became a Steam Fitter/Pipe Fitter.

Ronald has grown up playing many sports such as football, track and field, basketball almost anything having to do with outdoors and nature. He is excited to be part of the Anacla community in a positive way. He is ready and excited to start this new chapter in his life, with his golden retriever pup Spruce Lee, Cleo the kitten, and the Huu-ay-aht community.

HFN Group of Businesses

Pachena Bay Campground



The Pachena Bay Campground opened for the season this year, welcoming visitor officially for the camping season July long weekend. This followed a long shut down due to COVID-19 pandemic. Initially the campground opened at half capacity, and by August long weekend the sites were at full capacity.

After closing for the 2020 season, the Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses received much-needed funding from the Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program and Western Economic Diversification. These funds were used to build the new access road to the campground and new campsites.

This new primary access allows for the expansion of the campground and offers a safer entrance that does not require visitors travel through Anacla Village to access the campsites. The new road access was the first step toward opening the campground to the public. It was completed in time for the seasons start. Construction of new campsites will be done in two phases – 25 sites first, followed by an additional 36 sites.





HFN Fisheries LP

The Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses is dedicated to work with the Nations to create economic diversity. For many years, forestry has been largest source of income. This is shifting as Huu-ay-aht's businesses and tourism ventures are seeing new success. Many of these struggled during COVID-19 shutdowns and restrictions, but they are seeing vast improvements this year.

With diversity in mind, HGB is creating new opportunities in local shellfish aquaculture by investing in oyster farming. HGB entered a joint venture partnership with Nova Harvest Ltd to pursue oyster farming in the Huu-ay-aht traditional territories.

Nova Harvest is an innovative shellfish company founded and operating in east Bamfield since 2011. This is an exciting undertaking that will offer opportunities to the Nation and its citizens.

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