Uyaqḥmis

December 2018 Issue 50

Working Together



PM41913515

Kwispaa LNG files Project Description to BC, Canada

Kwispaa LNG has entered the next phase of project development with the submission of the Project Description to the British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office and Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency in October.

The Project Description provides a comprehensive overview of Kwispaa LNG and represents the culmination of several years of engagement and planning, the results of which have been integrated into ongoing environmental studies and engineering work.

Unique among Canadian LNG projects, Kwispaa LNG is being developed through a co-management relationship between Steelhead LNG and Huu-ay-aht First Nations. As part of this collaborative approach, the Kwispaa LNG team has been undertaking joint environmental studies and engagement with First Nations and local communities.

"From the beginning, we have believed in developing LNG projects in Canada that emphasize relationships with First Nations and respect their role as stewards of the environment," said Steelhead LNG CEO Nigel Kuzemko. "The Project Description that we have submitted to regulators reflects our shared commitment with Huu-ay-aht First Nations to provide Canadian natural gas to global markets in a way that generates long-lasting benefits to First Nations, local communities, British Columbia, and Canada."

"We are incredibly proud of the special co-management relationship that we have formed for Kwispaa LNG," said Huu-ay-aht Chief Councillor Robert J. Dennis Sr. "We look forward to continuing to work together with Steelhead throughout the environmental assessment process to ensure that this project achieves world-leading outcomes for the environment and our people for generations to come."

"We at Huu-ay-aht believe Kwispaa LNG represents a new model for economic success on significant projects in Canada," said Huu-ay-aht Councillor John Jack. "This project will create meaningful revenues, jobs, and business opportunities for Huu-ay-aht Citizens and our neighbouring communities, as well as generate ongoing tax revenue at a local, provincial, and federal level."

The filing of the Project Description with the British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office and Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency will allow them to work with Kwispaa LNG to establish the scope of the environmental assessment of the project. Extensive First Nations and community engagement to date by Kwispaa LNG has already identified areas of particular interest, such as marine shipping, which will be a focus of environmental studies.

Throughout the environmental assessment process, there will be multiple opportunities for public participation and input. The team will also continue to engage with First Nations, communities, and stakeholders regarding the project, and welcomes feedback and comments.

This important project milestone follows other key milestones achieved by the Kwispaa LNG team, including: a Huu-ay-aht citizen referendum strongly supporting the project and execution of project-life agreements between Steelhead LNG and Huu-ay-aht First Nations in 2017; the shortlisting of three global EPC (Engineering, Procurement and Construction) contractors and launch of a contract tendering process for Kwispaa LNG's At-Shore LNGTM production units and onshore facilities in August 2018; and the successful completion of an innovative contract with Hyundai Heavy Industries for the design and construction of Kwispaa LNG's At-Shore LNGTM production unit hulls in September 2018.

huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

We, the Huu-ay-aht People, envision a strong, self-governing and self-reliant Nation. ʔiisaak, ʔuuʔałuk, and Hišuk ma c̓awak 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 nearly 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.

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

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Huu-ay-aht FN purchases 7% tenure ownership in TFL 44 from Western

By Heather Thomson

As a Nation, we are excited to announce that Huu-ay-aht has reached an agreement with Western Forest Products (Western) to purchase 7% of tenure ownership of TFL 44 for $7.2M. This will be done by Western transferring the main assets related to TFL 44 to a newly formed Limited Partnership (LP).

This deal builds on the Reconciliation Protocol Agreement the two parties signed earlier in 2018. Huu-ay-aht and Western share the same goals, and together we have demonstrated a track record of cooperation and a willingness to work together to achieve reconciliation and forestry revitalization. We believe by purchasing this tenure, our Nation is working toward creating opportunities for citizens on our traditional territory. By working together, we believe we can revitalize forestry in the Alberni Valley.

Western has demonstrated respect for our Nation and our sacred principles, and we are proud to be partners.

"As Tayii, it is my responsibility to make sure our ḥahuułi (traditional territory) is protected for future generations," explains Tayii Ḥaẃił ƛiišin (Derek Peters). "Our sacred principles of ʔiisaak, ʔuuʔałuk, and Hišuk ma c̓awak guide us as we focus on using our resources sustainably, and to create wealth for our Nation in a way that protects those resources for present and future generations."

This deal is subject to the approval of Huu-ay-aht citizens and the provincial government. If approved, it will represent the next step toward a new and better business model for forestry within the Alberni Valley, one that brings the fibre basket together once again.



Minister Scott Fraser, Head Chief ƛiišin (Derek Peters), Chief Councillor Robert Dennis, and WFP CEO Don Demens, raise their arms in celebration of working together in their new agreement.

"This is about generating opportunities and options for our Nation, while playing an active role in forest management in our territory," Chief Councillor Robert J. Dennis Sr. points out. "By having a seat at the table, we will advance Huu-ay-aht's decision-making control in ƛiišin's ḥahuułi

(Huu-ay-aht's traditional territory), and it will ensure everyone will benefit from the steps we are taking today."

"Forestry revitalization in the Alberni Valley and economic reconciliation with First Nations go hand-in-hand. To succeed with one, we need to succeed with the other," said Rob Botterell, Huu-ay-aht Legal Counsel. "Today's announcement by Western and Huu-ay-aht is the first step toward implementing an innovative new framework for the ownership, cooperative management and operation of forestry on TFL 44 and throughout the Alberni Valley that will achieve these twin goals."

Looking forward, this deal addresses key priorities of the Nation. It has the potential to create jobs, training, and business opportunities for Huu-ay-aht citizens close to home, including opening the door for our citizens to become entrepreneurs and operators on our own land.

"Our economic development plan focuses on diversifying our revenue streams in order to build our economy both in the short and long term, and for now forestry remains our bread and butter," explains Huu-ay-aht Councillor Trevor Cootes. "Not only is this deal going to generate revenue and strengthen our economy, but it will provide good paying jobs that will encourage more citizens to come live at home."

Story continued on Page 5



This year Huu-ay-aht celebrated everyone's graduation at a ceremony in July at Echo Centre. [Photo by Lauren Lambert]

Nation celebrates success of its students

Congratulations to everyone who graduated this year! Huu-ay-aht First Nations celebrated this year's graduates at a ceremony at the Echo Centre in Port Alberni in July.

Chief Councillor Robert Dennis was in attendance, along with Hereditary Chief Jeff Cook, and Councillors Sheila Charles, Trevor Cootes, and Connie Waddell.

The graduates able to attend the ceremony (pictured above) included:



Each graduate received a drum to mark their successful completion of their program.

• Eileen Chester – Adult Graduation Diploma

• Simon Gurney – Level 2 Plumbing

• William Hoeft – High School Graduation Diploma

• Tammy Howard – Adult Graduation Diploma

• Jerry Joe – Professional Cook 1

• Ashley Johnson – Heavy Equipment Operator

• Coral Johnson – Bachelor of Social Work

• Becki Nookemis – BA Psychology & FN Studies; Certificate in Addiction Studies

• Justin Thomas-Jules – High School Graduation Diploma

• Roland Williams – High School Graduation Diploma

We honour these graduates, as well as those who were not able to attend. Good luck in future endeavours.

Orange Shirt Day a chance to gather



Davin Powell was just one of Huu-ay-aht representatives present at the Orange Shirt Day ceremony held on Tseshaht territory. The event recognized elders, survivors of residential schools, and those students who did not survive. It was a moving and emotional day for the close to 200 people gathered together. [Photo by Heather Thomson]

Forestry deal offers opportunities for Nation - Citizens can learn more about this announcement by attending community rounds

Turn from Page 3

Huu-ay-aht continues its commitment to sustainable forestry practices and before undertaking any project we strive to exceed provincial forestry standards.

"We are defining reconciliation, and this is the next step in the efforts of Huu-ay-aht and Western to pursue reconciliation and revitalization of the forestry sector together," Chief Councillor Dennis explains. "Next we will participate in a joint study of manufacturing capacity in the Alberni Valley, including possible milling on Huu-ay-aht's Treaty Settlement Lands (TSL), explore with other First Nations their business interests in TFL 44, and look at how the cooperative management framework can help us increase the value of activities within TFL 44."

It is still early days, and the Nation will continue to provide information to citizens, answer questions, and ensure citizens have enough information to make an informed decision when the time comes to vote on the deal at People's Assembly. We will be holding community engagement sessions to discuss details of the deal with citizens in January 2019.

Tentative Dates for Community Engagements Sessions

Monday, January 14
Anacla

Wednesday, January 16
Vancouver

Thursday, January 17
Port Alberni

Tuesday, January 22
Victoria

Wednesday, January 23
Nanaimo



A delegate from Huu-ay-aht First Nations and Nuu-chah-nulth Seafood show off their winnings from the BC Indigenous Business Awards on October 15. They won in the categor of Indigenous Business - Business Partnership of the Year. [Photo by Brandon Thompson]

Nuu-chah-nulth Seafood among winners at BC Indigenous Business Awards this year

Awardees of the tenth annual BC Indigenous Business Awards were announced Monday, October 15, by the BC Achievement Foundation, the program's presenting organization. This year the Nuu-chah-nulth Seafood LP won in the category of Indigenous Business – Business Partnership of the Year.

The awards were handed out at a gala dinner ceremony on October 15, 2018 at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver. A delegate from Nuu-chah-nulth Seafood and Huu-ay-aht First Nations attended the event.

The BC Indigenous Business Awards were launched in 2008 to honour and celebrate business excellence. A total of 16 Indigenous businesses, entrepreneurs, partnership entities, and community-owned enterprises will be recognized at this year's gala dinner.

The BC Indigenous Business Awards are:

Young Entrepreneur of the Year Skywest Environmental Inc. - Williams Lake

Outstanding Business Achievement

Van – Isle Auto Brokers, Victoria

Business of the Year – one-to-two person enterprise - Ay Lelum-The Good House of Design, Nanaimo; Second Pass Forestry Ltd. , Kamloops

Business of the Year – three-to-10 person enterprise - Reciprocal Consulting - West Vancouver

Outstanding Business Achievement - Haida Style Expeditions, Skidegate; Kootenay Waste Services Ltd., Nelson

Business of the Year – 11+ more person enterprise - Mussell Crane Manufacturing, Chilliwack

Outstanding Business Achievement - Kikinaw Energy Services Ltd., Fort St. John

Community-Owned Business of the Year – one entity - Yucwmenlúcwu (Caretakers of the Land) LLP, Enderby

Outstanding Business Achievement - Painted Rock Aggregates & Contracting LLP, Savona; Quilakwa Investments , Enderby

Community-Owned Business of the Year – two or more entitied - Kanaka Bar Land and Resource LP, Lytton

Business Partnership of the Year - Nuu-chah-nulth Seafood Limited Partnership, Port Alberni

Outstanding Business Achievement - Cariboo Aboriginal Forestry Enterprises Ltd., Williams Lake

Individual Achievement Award - Chief Gordon Planes – Hya-Quatcha



KWISPAA LNG

CITIZEN UPDATE #4

July 23, 2018

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

For the month of June, the employment and training team reached out to all citizens via social media and Community Engagement Sessions. Also, the team increased the profile of programs and supports available to citizens and have generated much interest about both employment and business opportunities. The Training and Employment Working Group is working on its first newsletter targeted for release in September 2018.

In addition, the month of August will be focused on community engagement through outreach to all citizens for the purpose of collecting employment and training related data for the Human Resource and Business Opportunity Database. The purpose of the database is to connect citizens and their immediate family to employment and contract opportunities as they become available.

At the Community Engagement Sessions, the team presented an overview of the Pathways to Meaningful Employment, the theme of the Community Engagement Session in June. This included a few celebrations of success stories, both by video as well as by people in attendance.

Some of these celebrations of successes included: Ashley Johnson - Heavy Equipment Operator; Doris Johnson - Adult Basic Education and Indigenous Studies, preparing for Criminology; Elliot Randall Holland and Bruce Holland completed Emergency Medical Response, Marine Emergency Duties; Laverne Cooke - Taking Office Skills 101; videos of Scott, George & Matthew (WFP) Andrea and Shannon (LGL); and Tammy Howard completed Adult Basic Education.

WATERSHED RENEWAL

In June, the Watershed Renewal Working Group projects were focused on:

- Riparian assessments,
- Invasive species inventory and removal,
- Road deactivation assessment and planning,
- Instream habitat creation planning (Large Woody Debris), and
- Side Channel design.

In August, stay tuned for updates and answers to questions gathered from Huu-ay-aht citizens regarding the Kwispaa LNG project.

Salmon - a Key Focus of Watershed Renewal

3,896

Total Chinook Salmon fry/smolt from natural river spawners that watershed renewal team captured in the traps

80,000

Estimated Chinook salmon fry/smolt from natural river spawners that left the river

500,000

Total Chinook salmon fry/smolts reared and released from the Nitinat hatchery

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Huuayaht.org @HuuayahtFN Facebook/HuuayahtFN
steelheadlng.com

Co-managed by

Steelhead LNG huu ay aht

New additions to Team Huu-ay-aht working to make Nation stronger

Sheila White

My name is Sheila White, and I was hired June 11, 2018 as the Kwispaa LNG (KLNG) Employment and Training Manager.

My traditional name is Yaatqumaat, and I am from Snuneymuxw First Nation. I am the proud mother of three children: my daughter Chanttel and my sons Bobby and Aarron. I have two beautiful grandsons, Connor (2) and Daniel (7 months). My parents are Joe and Eleanor White, my late paternal grandparents are George and Bella White (nee Wyse), and my late maternal grandparents are Stan and Katherine James (nee Johnny).

My background includes working in the employment and training field for more than 20 years as an employment counsellor, Personality Dimensions facilitator, Job Finding Club facilitator, life skills coach, Bladerunners Coordinator, and recruiter. My most recent position was with Island Health where I worked as the Central Employment and Training advisor for six-and-a-half years. My passion has always been to work in a capacity where I can assist Aboriginal people in obtaining their goals.

My role here at Huu-ay-aht is to:

- Identify Huu-ay-aht citizens and immediate family members that wish to participate in the training and employment opportunities for the project

- Assist in identifying skill sets that citizens have or need to obtain to qualify for positions

- Assist in building resumes and action plans (short and long term) to meet individual goals within Kwispaa LNG and the education



Sheila White

department

- Liaise between potential contractors and potential employees to identify and recruit mentors and job shadowing opportunities

- Develop, track, and maintain a database to ensure all interested Huu-ay-aht members can be contacted for any opportunities within the project

I work out of the Port Alberni Government Office and can be reached by phone at 250-723-0100 or by email Sheila.w@huuayaht.org. Please let me know via email or phone if you would like to be added to the list for contacts.

I will be accepting intake forms and consent to release information to prepare to fill the workforce for the Kwispaa LNG project. I will keep you updated on upcoming job opportunities as they become available. Ideally, we would like to match citizens and their families within lines of work that they enjoy or would like more training to be fully qualified. Huu-ay-aht has a goal to employee citizens and their families by 2020, this project as well as other initiatives are assisting Huu-ay-aht in meeting that goal.

Sherri Cook

My name is Sherri Cook, I am the youngest daughter of Jeff and Laverne Cook. My grandparents were of Huu-ay-aht, Gitxsan and Tsimshian Decent. My biological siblings are Deborah H. Cook and Jason Bolton, and I have many siblings from extended family. I have three children, Fredrick, Justin, and Saryta.

I come from a background of service in the education system as a Nuu-chah-nulth Education Worker with School District 70 (Alberni) and as the HFN Secondary and Post-Secondary Education Administrator.



Sherri Cook

Both my professional background and my roll within my Traditional House, is to help people.

Story continued on Page 9

John Jack named chair of Alberni-Clayoquot RD for second term

The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) Board of Directors re-elected John Alan Jack as Chairperson of the ACRD Board for his second term.

John Jack has represents Huu-ay-aht First Nations on the Board, and he has done since their treaty government joined as a voting member in 2012. He has seen a number of firsts in his short time on the board, but being named chair in 2017 was a highlight as it marks the first time in history a formal First Nation representative has served as Chair on a Regional District Board in British Columbia.

His re-election is another first in ACRD history, as it is the first time a First Nations represented has been re-elected. John is a third-term councillor with the Huu-ay-aht First Nations, a member to the Maa-nulth Treaty, which grants his community self-government, ownership, and authority over land, as well as access and control over resources.

He serves his Nation on the ACRD board by bringing issues from his area and his people to the table in a formal manner in an effort to make a difference.

John says it is a great honoured to be asked to sit as chairperson for a second term.

Turn from on Page 8

In my new role as Huu-ay-aht First Nations' Community Outreach Liaison, I'm here to share information on Huu-ay-aht initiatives and opportunities and to help navigate Huu-ay-aht supports and services. If I can't, I will find someone who can, either in our organization or in our community.

As the community outreach liaison, I can:
• Provide updates on Huu-ay-aht activities, Huu-ay-aht services, and collect feedback
• Help with applications and forms such as Value Survey, community services, social services etc.
• Support Employment and Training efforts with the Kwispaa LNG Employment and Training Manager and the Education Department

My passion is to see people succeed, overcome barriers, and be witness to the growth of our Nation in a positive way. I have strong roots and hope that if people need my help they will reach out and grab the branch that I extend.

Thank you for your time to read this, I look forward to meeting, chatting or digital meetings with you all.

Please reach me at Sherri.c@huuayaht.org or at the Huu-ay-aht Government Office at 250-723-0100.

Jenn Thomas

My name is Jenn Thomas, and I am the new Communications Assistant, working specifically with the Kwispaa LNG project for Huu-ay-aht First Nations.



Jenn Thomas

I come from the Happynook Family's house is called "cha-cha-tsii- us". My mother is Cheryl (Johnson) Thomas. She is daughter of late Kenny Johnson and late Joan (Mack) Johnson. My father is Dennis Thomas, son of late John Thomas and Late Gladys (Johnson) Thomas. I am very happy to be working for our nation with many relatives around me. I think I have finally found a place to grow some roots.

I have been fortunate to learn many skills through hands-on experience and schooling. Many of you may recognize me from my earlier years as a cocktail waitress. I also had a day life, attending Malaspina College (now known as VIU) for hairdressing in 2003. From there, I also learnt heavy machine operations, welding, and most recently graduated from the Health Care Aid program.

I have always followed my passion and interests, which now leads me to working with the Kwispaa LNG project with my Nation. With my wide variety of experience and wide-ranging involvement with so many different people, I feel this is a great position for me to begin my career with Huu-ay-aht.

As soon as I became a citizen, I began this journey by attending a few presentations of the KLNG, dancing for our Nation. From there my interest grew, and I started researching exactly what KLNG is. Since I know there are many people on board and also many people wanting more information, I look forward to being the eyes and ears for all citizens and neighbouring nations.

If you have questions or comments that you would like to share with me, please contact me. I work out of the Port Alberni Government Office, 250-723-0100, and can be reached by email at jenn.t@huuayaht.org.







Potlatch offers names





Robert J. Dennis Sr. and Sarah Dennis held a naming potlatch for their granddaughter Honeygirl. Her new traditional name is ḥiinaqumł, which means “holder of the crystal.” 34 names were given out at the potlatch. [Photos by Heather Thomson]

Enjoying B.C. Summer Games 2018

By Janelle Johnson



My name is Jenelle, and I'm from the Johnson family from Huu-ay-aht and the Sabbas family from Hesquiaht.

I tried out and was accepted to be apart of the Vancouver Island-Central Coast basketball team at the Cowichan B.C. Summer Games. The Cowichan B.C. Summer Games were held this year at the end of July. More than 3,072 athletes participated in the Cowichan B.C. Summer Games, and I was proud to be one of them.

The games hosted 18 sports including baseball, basketball, and equestrian. I was there for four days, and we only had games on Friday and Saturday. We played four games in total and came in fifth place for the whole thing, but it's not about the winning, it's about the experience.

I feel like I did well. I know I got stronger for basketball, learned new things, and tried my 110 per cent on the court the whole time.

Throughout the Summer Games I know that it gave me a great experience 100 pre cent, and I met a lot of good friends. I look forward to trying out for the next summer games.

Huu-ay-aht youth do well at annual Tluupiich Games

By Arianna Johnson



On August 7, 2018, Huu-ay-aht and other nations came together and participated in the Tluupiich games.

There were many kinds of track events for kids five and up at the Bob Daily Stadium. At the Tluupiich Games they had 100 m, 200 m, 400 m, 600 m, and Relay, the games started at 1 p.m. and open ceremonies at 5 p.m.

During the open ceremony, Huu-ay-aht joined Hupačasath to sing waylah, and after that, Tseshaht asked Huu-ay-aht if they wanted to dance with them in their welcoming song.

Huu-ay-aht had many kids running in the races, and they all did amazing. They all placed well in all races. On the second day, there was still races to be done, and later that night they had three-on-three basketball for kids 17 and under. On the third day, there was finals and relay, Huu-ay-aht kids placed top five in finals and the relay. That night was three-on-three basketball for kids 13 and under.

On the fourth day they had family day at Williamson park and had races for the kids under five and had scavenger hunts for kids.

On the fifth day, there was canoe races at Canal Beach, and Huu-ay-aht had participated in that and did well. The last two days was slow pitch for the adults and some kids. Huu-ay-aht had a team in and placed third out of eight teams.

Overall, kids had fun and did well in the Tluupiich Games this year.

Treaty Implementation

With our Final Agreement, we, Huu-ay-aht First Nations no longer take direction from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada or the Province of British Columbia. We once again have full responsibility for our land, our assets, and our governance.

Maa-nulth Treaty Final Agreement Statement

Section 87 of the Indian Act will have no application to a Maa-nulth-aht:
a) In respect of Transaction Taxes, as of the first day of the first month after the eighth anniversary of the Effective Date; and
b) In respect of all other taxes, as of the first day of the first calendar year after the twelfth anniversary of the Effective Date.
Giving up application of section 87 of the Indian Act was among the biggest concessions made by the Maa-nulth First Nations in treaty negotiations.

When will Huu-ay-aht start paying Transaction Taxes?

GST & PST : Starting May 1. 2019 citizens begin to pay GST and PST.
Transaction taxes will apply to registered Huu-ay-aht citizens. "Citizens" means those on the enrolment register of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations.
Property Tax: Starting January 1, 2024, citizens who own houses, and/or land on Huu-ay-aht Treaty Settlement Lands will pay property taxes. Property taxes will apply to registered Huu-ay-aht citizens.
Income Tax: Starting January 1, 2024, citizens will pay income taxes. Citizens will pay income tax on money earned on Huu-ay-aht Treaty Settlement Lands. not withstanding where they reside.

Watch out for Community Engagements on this subject in the new year.

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