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# Tla-o-qui-aht speaks out about wolf kill

By Denise Titian  
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

**Tofino**—Two wolf carcasses found in a Tofino dumpster are raising cultural concerns among the Tla-o-qui-aht. The wolves had been shot to death and placed in a dumpster in an industrial area of Tofino in late March.

The discovery has fueled speculation that wolves are being killed as a knee-jerk reaction to the disappearance of two Tofino-area dogs last month. One, a pit-bull, was reportedly left out overnight; a trail of wolf tracks leading up to a bloody patch of melting snow left little doubt of the dog's fate.

The second dog, a Chihuahua, was let out in a fenced back yard and disappeared without a trace. Locals believe it was taken by a predatory animal.

On April 11, Terry Dorward-Seitcher, a Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation councillor and Haa'uukmin (Meares Island) Tribal Park guardian, said his people were tipped off about the wolf kill the week before, in the first few days of April.

Tipsters told the Tla-o-qui-aht that two wolves were shot, allegedly on Meares Island in TFN's Tribal Park. They also told them where to find the carcasses.

About 10 Tla-o-qui-ahts went to the location, an industrial area of Tofino, and

found the dumpster locked behind a chain link fence. When a Tofino sanitation crew arrived to empty the dumpster, they found the carcasses of the two wolves inside.

Dorward-Seitcher said his people were told the wolves died in late March, about a week before their remains were discovered. This fact was confirmed by Conservation Officers.

Both the RCMP and Conservation officers attended the scene. Because the matter falls under the BC Wildlife Act, Conservation Officers took the lead in the investigation. They promised TFN they would keep them informed.

Dorward-Seitcher is disgusted by the incident. Of the perpetrators he said, "They didn't care if it was a Tribal Park or not; this was a revenge kill for two dogs (presumed to have been) killed by wolves."

We want to know what will happen with the remains, said Dorward-Seitcher, adding that the wolf is a highly sacred animal to his people. "The Chiefs are concerned because that is part of their gifts (huupukwanim or treasures of a chief)," he continued.

According to TFN elder Tommy Curley, the people who shot the wolves should be concerned.

"The wolf is sacred, it's right in line with the witwok (keepers of peace, law and order); it has that kind of authority,"

Curley explained.

"When I heard about it I got butterflies in my stomach just thinking (about what might happen)," said Curley.

"Our biggest worry whenever someone kills a wolf is...its numok (taboo), a very bad thing; we worry its spirit will take revenge on the family, especially the little ones," he continued.

"Mom was real strict about wolves; she said don't harm them, they're just going through their territory," he recalled.

The wolf is considered the protector of the land, the keeper of balance between predator and prey, Curley said. "Elk multiply real fast and in the old days they kept the elk population down," said Curley.

"I'm hoping whoever killed them is really careful, especially with their children because that used to be the first thing that happens," he cautioned.

Conservation Officer Jeff Tyre told Ha-Shilth-Sa the investigation was concluded and no laws were broken.

"We talked to the shooter and the wolves were taken legally during an active hunting season," he said. The hunters were licensed and met all the hunting regulations, including the requirement that they transport the remains to the hunter's residence.

"Once there it is no longer the property of the Crown," said Tyre.

Licensed wolf hunters have a bag limit

of four per annum and must report their kill within 30 days to local conservation officers.

So why do people hunt wolves? According to Wikipedia, they are hunted mainly for sport or for their skins. The wolf carcasses in the dumpster still had their skins.

In 2008 the Ministry of Environment reported the Vancouver Island Wolf, a unique species because of the island's isolation from the mainland, was near extinction with the total population estimated to be less than 150.

The good news is their numbers have been increasing in recent years.

The report, conducted by the University of Victoria, cautioned that the elimination of the wolf would have a detrimental effect on the food chain.

"Removal of this species, among other things, could lead to a runaway deer population, which could result in over browsing of the undergrowth, and the elimination or decline of many species relying on the growth for food or shelter. On top of this, the Vancouver Island Wolf is endemic to the island, and elimination from the island is permanent extinction from the wild."

Some may argue that if domestic animals are being preyed upon by wolves in residential areas it's only a matter of time before a human is attacked.

Continued on page 3.



Denise Titian

Administrative Assistants that work for the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council gathered with the NTC executive, tribal council directors and managers of a variety of departments for a meal on April 25. The tribal council is grateful to our administrative assistants and the meal was a means to celebrate and commend all that these employees do to help serve the membership.

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P.O. Box 1383,  
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Manager/Editor/Reporter  
**Debora Steel** (Ext. 243)  
(250) 724-5757 - Fax: (250) 723-0463  
debora.steel@nuuchahnulth.org

Administrative Assistant  
**Annie Ross-Watts** (Ext. 226)  
(250) 724-5757 - Fax: (250) 723-0463  
annie.watts@nuuchahnulth.org

Reporter  
**Denise Titian** (Ext. 240)  
(250) 724-5757 - Fax: (250) 723-0463  
denise.titian@nuuchahnulth.org

Audio / Video Technician  
**Mike Watts** (Ext. 238)  
(250) 724-5757 - Fax: (250) 723-0463  
mike.watts@nuuchahnulth.org

Client Services Representative  
**Holly Stocking** (Ext. 302)  
(250) 724-5757 - Fax: (250) 723-0463  
holly.stocking@nuuchahnulth.org

**DEADLINE:**

Please note that the deadline for submissions for our next issue is

May 11, 2012.

After that date, material submitted and judged appropriate **cannot be guaranteed placement** but, if material is still relevant, will be included in the following issue.

In an ideal world, submissions would be typed rather than hand-written. Articles can be sent by e-mail to hashilthsa@nuuchahnulth.org (Windows PC).

Submitted pictures must include a brief description of subject(s) and a return address.

Pictures with no return address will remain on file. **Allow two - four weeks** for return.

Photocopied or faxed photographs **cannot** be accepted.

**COVERAGE:**

Although we would like to be able to cover all stories and events, we will only do so **subject to:**

- Sufficient advance notice addressed specifically to Ha-Shilth-Sa.
- Reporter availability at the time of the event.
- Editorial space available in the paper.
- Editorial deadlines being adhered to by contributors.

**LETTERS and KLECOS**

Ha-Shilth-Sa will include letters received from its readers. Letters MUST be signed by the writer and have the writer's full name, address and phone number on them. Names can be withheld by request. Anonymous submissions will not be accepted. We reserve the right to edit submitted material for clarity, brevity, grammar and good taste. We will definitely **not** publish letters dealing with tribal or personal disputes or issues that are critical of Nuu-chah-nulth individuals or groups. All opinions expressed in letters to the editor are purely those of the writer and will not necessarily coincide with the views or policies of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council or its member First Nations. Ha-Shilth-Sa includes paid advertising, but this does not imply Ha-Shilth-Sa or Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council recommends or endorses the content of the ads.



**Wrestling helps mould young citizens**

By Dwayne Stern  
Ha-Shilth-Sa Contributor

**Port Alberni**—One of the oldest and most successful sports groups in the valley, Alberni Wrestling, hosted its annual awards night on April 26.

The 34<sup>th</sup> annual event was attended by well over 200 people at a filled-to-capacity Italian-Canadian Hall and Nuu-chah-nulth members were well-represented, both in the crowd and at center stage, where many were recognized for their achievements, as were other Native wrestlers.

Among the honorees for the evening were Daley Forbes, Micaela Dick, Tyler Drew-Adams, Russell David, Aaron Prest and Jaylynn Keitlah.

Forbes, a Grade 12 student at Alberni District Secondary School, was one of the most honored athletes of the evening receiving awards for Top Grade 12 Wrestler and Most Outstanding Senior Wrestler, as well as being recognized for her gold-medal winning performances at both the B. C. High School Championships and the Canadian Juvenile Championships.

Forbes' efforts at the Provincial Championships in Pentiction in March helped pace her ADSS Armada girls' team to a second place finish, and combined with the boys' team efforts, culminated in the Armada winning their third provincial title.

Tom McEvay of Alberni Wrestling said the future looks bright for Forbes.

"Daley, a three-time provincial and three-time national champion, is a young woman who many university scouts are very, very interested in," said McEvay. "She's just focused on graduating this year, but the opportunities will be there for her if she wants to move on in the sport."

Dick, a student at E. J. Dunn Middle School, was named Top Grade 8 Wrestler and Most Outstanding Junior Wrestler. In addition, she was named Wrestler of the Week for January 19 in a poll conducted by her peers, while also receiving recognition for her high level of attendance at practices.

"My word," said an enthusiastic



Hequiaht's Daley Forbes received most outstanding female wrestler at Alberni Wrestling's awards night April 26. Alumni Ashlea McManus and Travis Cross are pictured as well.

McEvay. "What can I say about Micaela...at her stage, in Grade 8, I don't know if I've ever seen another athlete with as much potential as she has. At this stage in her development she has a tremendous future in the sport."

Drew-Adams, from E. J. Dunn, was also named as a Top Grade 8 Wrestler and received a high-attendance certificate.

"Tyler is one of our heavyweights who will be moving to ADSS next year," said McEvay. "He's a big boy and has had to wrestle a number of senior wrestlers and he was competitive and worked extremely hard all season. We're looking forward to him being an athlete who will really shine in the next years at the high school

level." David, in Grade 9 at ADSS, was named Most Improved Senior Wrestler, while Keitlah and Prest received Coaches Recognition certificates for their efforts wrestling for E. J. Dunn and A. W. Neill respectively.

"Russell (David) is a kid who has really worked hard this year," said McEvay. "We think he has tremendous potential, and we think he will be one of our provincial and national champions of the future."

McEvay feels, as well, that Keitlah and Prest, who are very new to wrestling, both have great futures in the sport.

Continued on page 3.



Ha-Shilth-Sa belongs to every Nuu-chah-nulth person including those who have passed on, and those who are not yet born. A community newspaper cannot exist without community involvement. If you have any great pictures you've taken, stories or poems you've written, or artwork you have done, please let us know so we can include it in your newspaper. E-mail hashilthsa@nuuchahnulth.org. This year is Ha-Shilth-Sa's 39th year of serving the Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations.

We look forward to your continued input and support.  
Kleco! Kleco!

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**NUU-CHAH-NULTH TRIBAL COUNCIL**  
**ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS**  
**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

In the Province of B.C. we are currently experiencing a disruption of services in the Public Schools. Students have not received report cards this year which may make it impossible for us to offer scholarships. We are hopeful that the climate of discontent will end and that report cards will be issued in June making it possible for us to process applications. We will send a notice to the tribes and place an ad in the Ha-shilth-sa in early June indicating our decision to proceed or cancel.

In addition we wish to announce that we will no longer be giving out scholarships to students in grades one, two or three due to the difficulty we have had in assessing the non-graded primary report cards and in consideration of the recent cuts to our Education Department budget.

**NUU-CHAH-NULTH TRIBAL COUNCIL**  
**GRADUATION CEREMONY**

We are excited to announce that we are combining the Grade Twelve and Post Secondary Graduation ceremony this year. The celebration will take place in Port Alberni at the Alberni Athletic Hall on Friday, June 22, 2012. The grad applications will be available on the N.T.C. web page in early June.

For further information regarding scholarships or grad you can contact Lynnette Lucas, N.T.C. Manager of Education Programs or Eileen Haggard, N.T.C. Elementary/Secondary supervisor.

**Future champions**

Continued from page 2.

Speaking after the ceremonies, McEvay said Nuu-chah-nulth members have always been a part of wrestling in the Alberni Valley, noting that the athletes, whether aboriginal or otherwise, are all part of "our family" and that Alberni Wrestling is very proud of the contributions the aboriginal community has made to the program.

As evidence, McEvay cited alumnus Aaron Keitlah who is working at this time with the provincial government.

"Aaron is working with aboriginal youths and we're really excited about that, and hope that one day, when he finishes his teaching degree, that Aaron will be back here in our community as an aboriginal role model within our schools. That will be really awesome."

The theme of the evening, as always, was "The Tradition Continues." It is a mantra that has served the program well over the years. Many of the evening's speakers spoke of the success of the program. This year's high school championship being the latest example from a purely competitive standpoint, but many spoke of the process that sees young students evolve into well-rounded citizens within their communities.

"Wrestling is the vehicle," said



Russell David, in Grade 9 at Alberni District Secondary School, was named Most Improved Senior Wrestler at the April 26 awards night held at the Italian Hall. He is pictured with Travis Cross and Ashlea McManus.

McEvay. "You hear of the growth and maturity. You hear of the experiences these young people have and you know our program is doing the right thing. And if an athlete coming from whatever walk of life comes to this program and feels good about who they are, whether aboriginal, non-aboriginal, male or female, then we feel we've made a contribution."

In the end, Forbes may have summed it up best. As one of six graduating seniors who spoke to the gathering, Forbes said during a heartfelt speech, "There is not a more individual sport than wrestling, but I have never felt more part of a team."

**Wolf is sacred animal**

Continued from page 1.

But Parks Canada says wolf attacks are rare "in North America. Healthy wild wolves have not been documented killing anyone since European colonization."

Of the documented attacks, Parks Canada says they are often the result of a human-caused contributing factor, such as leaving pets vulnerable or food habituation (feeding wild wolves).

In 2000, a sleeping camper was attacked by a wolf on a Vargas Island Beach. The island, located across from Tofino to the west of Meares Island, is a popular destination for kayakers and campers. It is a place where wolf sightings are common because some visitors to the island have fed the wolves, forever damaging their natural fear of humans.

Fellow campers rescued the man, scaring the wolf away. He received 50 stitches to his head. Shortly after, two Vargas Island food-habituated wolves were shot.

These campers claimed they didn't leave food out nor did they feed the wolves. But the damage was probably already done before they got there.

The Tla-o-qui-aht communities of Esowista and Tyhistanis are located about 10 km south of Tofino in a more rural area. They are surrounded by brush that is crisscrossed by wolf trails. They have

been neighbors with the wolf for as long as anyone can remember yet their dogs, which either roam free or are taken indoors at night, are not being killed by wolves.

Curley says his people are not concerned about the wolf trails behind their community.

"Those are their trails; they have a right to roam; they need to hunt and eat, too," he said, adding we don't bother them and they don't bother us.

When asked what could be done to mitigate the damage caused by the wolf kill Curley replied, "They should bury the remains. If not, put it in a cave somewhere."

Dorward-Seitcher said TFN continues to work on their land-use plan for their tribal parks. In the meantime their guardians will step up monitoring efforts.

Conservation Officer Tyre says he will be in contact with TFN about handing over the wolf remains to them but says Ahousaht has also called in a request for the remains.

Ahousaht and Tla-o-qui-aht are neighbors who share a border that passes through Meares Island. They also share similar cultural beliefs about the wolf.

# TFN master carver wins achievement award

By Denise Titian  
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

**Tofino**—A Tla-o-qui-aht man has received a 2012 B.C. Community Achievement Award.

Master carver Joe Martin travelled to Government House in Victoria April 25 to receive his award alongside 35 other recipients.

Established in 2003, the BC Community Achievement Awards celebrate excellence in community service, enterprise, arts and humanities. Awards are presented each year by the British Columbia Achievement Foundation.

Taught by his father, Joe Martin is a master carver having made dozens of traditional dugout cedar canoes. With each canoe made, he passes his art onto the younger people, keeping the tradition alive.

Not only does he teach young people how to carve, but he also teaches them about the history and culture of the Tla-o-qui-aht.

More recently he has been involved with a Hesquiaht Language Immersion Project that involves building a canoe in the remote village. Young people took part in the project, living away for extended periods away from modern conveniences.

At the awards ceremony Martin was presented with a BC Community Achievement Award medallion and certificate by Lieutenant Governor Steven Point and Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development Ida Chong. "Strong communities start with people like those we are honouring here today; individuals who demonstrate excellence by going above and beyond to change the lives of others and make BC a better place for families," said Minister Chong.

"Today's honourees give the most valuable of life's commodities—time and energy," said Keith Mitchell, chair of the British Columbia Achievement Foundation. "All have demonstrated a commitment to making a real difference in some many areas from education to sport to youth and seniors leadership."



Joe Martin is the recipient of a 2012 BC Community Achievement Award. Pictured with Martin is Ida Chong, Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development and Lieutenant Governor Steven Point.

## Citizen of the Year grateful for community response

By Debora Steel  
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

Port Alberni—The impact of her big win at the Chamber of Commerce Community Excellence Awards on April 12 has started to sink in. Irene Robinson was at first baffled by the nomination, thinking "Me, why me?" and when she was named Citizen of the Year, she was "bowled over," she said.

Now, as she reflects on the past couple of weeks, she begins to cry when asked what the honor actually means to her. And in her typically humble approach to life, the overwhelming feelings she has are not about the personal accomplishment. They are about the happiness and pride the award has brought to the people of Tseshaht.

People on the reserve go up to her with big smiles on their faces and congratulate her heartily.

"They are happy. They are proud." The chamber may have given the award to Robinson, but it makes the people feel good about it too, she explained.

"To me, having those people feel good makes me feel good about the award." The Chamber of Commerce Community Excellence Awards have been given out in the Alberni Valley for the past 12 years or so, said executive director Mike Carter. At the time, the chamber's board of directors felt there was a need to recognize those who were going above and beyond in making the valley a better place to live and do business.

There are 10 categories, and calls for nominations go out to the public in January. Carter won't say who nominated who, but says in the case of Robinson, she was nominated a couple of times. The nominees for Citizen of the Year are people who have contributed to the quality of life in the Alberni Valley over some time, said Carter, and Robinson was an exceptional nominee.

Calling her commitment to the community "monumental" the chamber went on to describe why Robinson was their choice this year.

"Irene is an author, a mentor and sage who embraces a lifelong desire to help others find their spiritual and cultural journey."

Robinson credits her family for providing

her with the teachings that stressed the importance of community, beginning as a child with dance classes from Uncle George Clutesi and the elderly women of Tseshaht. This was during a time in Canada when the potlatch ban was being lifted.

The "old ladies," as they were called, would come around and dance and talk about respect and how to treat people. They were so gentle and giving, said Robinson. There was a lot of laughter at that time, and teachings about staying humble. There was no one person above another, and when community needed something everyone pitched in.

Robinson remembers when she was a girl her friends would get to go out while she and her sisters were volunteered to peel potatoes and carrots for community events, or made to go to dance and singing class when some other activity was beckoning. As with many such teachings, Robinson has come to appreciate those youthful sacrifices. She now sees the value of being part of, and contributing, to a community. These were lessons learned from her mother Katherine Robinson, who learned it from her dad, Jeff Gallic and his brother Jacob.

"Community, that's my big thing," said Robinson. Even when she talks about her university days she speaks about the community, and building the community of students.

She describes fondly Malaspina University College (now Vancouver Island University) where she earned a Bachelor of First Nations Studies with distinction. It was a place of generosity where students would rally around one another when they were having difficulties. When she went to the University of Victoria, she said she spent a lot of time trying to contribute to the community of students there. She's about three quarters through her masters degree and one day intends to complete it.

When asked what her greatest accomplishments are, Robinson goes straight to family. She said her family was not immune to the effects of the residential school experience, and her greatest accomplishment is helping her family take a step away from that legacy. Robinson has eight children.

Life began to change for Robinson when she began her healing journey, she said. And as she traveled along that path, her healing gave her more self-confidence to know that she had a right to her own opinion and a right to express that opinion.

"That was a big step for me," she said. Today, Robinson is helping build the confidence of others through her work as Family Literacy Coordinator at the Kneehouse centre at the Port Alberni Friendship Centre. The day before the interview with Ha-Shilth-Sa she hosted an elders' luncheon for 22. Other activities include hahupa in the culture and experience of the longhouse, including spirituality, and a readers' group that meets regularly to discuss and share books.

There are challenges on the horizon with



Photo by Wawmeesh George Hamilton/Alberni News

funding for Family Literacy lasting only until August. Robinson is going to be working to fundraise and she'll need her beloved community's help to keep the programs running. When a community decided something and someone is important, it's community that will get the job done.

**Community Family Fun Fair**  
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Glenwood Centre

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Open to the public  
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Hosted by The  
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### HOW IS YOUR CHILD DOING IN SCHOOL?

We are almost at the mid-point in the school year. It is important for you to check on the progress of your child/children. The current labour dispute prevents teachers in the public system from producing report cards however you can drop by or call the school to ask for the name of your child's teacher/teachers and their contact information. Set up an appointment to meet with the teacher or contact them by email. Ask how your child is doing academically, is their attendance good, are they doing their homework, are they handing in all their assignments, etc. Support your child/children to success by monitoring their progress and encouraging them to always do their best. Chuu!

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Chief Councillor Les Sam of Tseshaht helps artist Sterling Watts unveil his painting of Wolf Ritual Beach as it may have looked 150 years ago.

## Work of art comes home to Tseshaht

A painting commissioned by the Alberni museum in 2010 for an exhibit that ran until last year has been turned over to the Tseshaht nation.

Artist Sterling Watts was available for the unveiling of the work on April 18 at its new home in the Tseshaht Administration building.

The painting represents what *Tlukwatkwa'7is* or Wolf Ritual Beach would have looked like in the 1860s, just as the first sawmill was being considered at what is now Harbour Quay. The Tseshaht had a well-established village at the site and were removed from that area to make room for the development.

The mural was to be a reminder of what came before industry and the birth of Port Alberni.

"It was a very important project," said Jean McIntosh, museum director about telling two sides of the history of the territory with the exhibit Hisheenqu'as, Living Together: Alberni and The birth of the BC Forest Industry.

Watts worked on the 4 foot by 6 foot painting over the course of just a month.

The process began with photos taken from the water to get the panorama of the rolling mountains and waterscape that rests at the foot of Mount Arrowsmith.

Then he went from the pencil sketches to the large canvas in rapid time to ensure he could meet the museum's deadline for the exhibit.

Watts prefers to work in portraiture. "I like to capture the landscape of the face," he told Ha-Shilth-Sa. But he has some experience with the large scale work of murals. The painting done on the side of Maht Mahs gym is some of Watts' handiwork, along with artists Walter Collins and Brad Piatka.

Large scale art has its frustrations and its freedoms, said Watts, who demonstrated artistic talent at an early age.

He was just seven when he drew his Uncle Gary Watts relaxing on a nearby couch. His Uncle Sherman Watts, who was also handy with a pen, could see young Sterling's talent and encouraged him. Today he accepts commissions for his charcoal portraits. It generally takes him six hours to complete a drawing of this type.

With the museum commission, Watts paid particular attention to the sfumato, or the atmospheric haze, of the four layers of mountains in the painting to ensure it was just right. It was a bit of trial and error, Watts admitted. And getting the right colors represented in the water was important to him, because the water has its own characteristics in this part of the world.

"It was really an honor to be asked," to do the commission, said Watts. The individuals involved set out the parameters of the project and gave him the leeway to allow for creative expression.

"Everything just clicked," he said.



### UCHUCKLESAHT TRIBE REFERENDUM

Date: Friday June 29, 2012

Location: Port Alberni Lawn Bowling Hall  
Port Alberni, B.C. 4255 Wallace Street

Time: 8:00am – 6:00pm

What: Referendum on Uchucklesaht Tribe Constitutional Amendments

Chief Electoral Officer: Christopher (Kit) Spence

Information regarding the constitutional amendments may be inspected at the Uchucklesaht Tribe Office or online at [www.uchucklesaht.ca](http://www.uchucklesaht.ca)

# Local premiere of award-winning film May 14

Filed in Port Alberni during 2009/10, *Histakshil Ts'awaatskwii*, (We Come From One Root), a 67-minute documentary, will have its Alberni Valley premiere public screening at the Echo Centre on May 14.

In 2010, the film won the Jean Rouch Award from the American Anthropological Association, and in 2011 received the award for "Best Documentary" at the Cowichan International Aboriginal Film Festival.

Everyone is welcome and admission is free.

The premiere will take place in Echo Centre's Cedar Room. Doors open at 6 p.m. Hot beverages and traditional snacks will be served. At 6:30 p.m. will be a welcome and the Hupacasath Dancers will entertain. The premiere will begin at 7 p.m. From 8:10 p.m. to 9 p.m. there will be a discussion and question and answer session with film-makers Chuchkamalthnii and Denise Nichol Green.



**Chuchkamalthnii (Ron Hamilton) is seen creating the ceremonial curtain that is featured in the film *Histakshil Ts'awaatskwii*, (We Come From One Root).**

*Histakshil Ts'awaatskwii* documents the remaking of a traditional Nuu-chah-nulth thliitsapilthim (ceremonial curtain) by Chuchkamalthnii (Ron Hamilton). The original curtain was originally

informed by his Aunt Elizabeth Gallic (Puunii-i). This thliitsapilthim features the history of a noble Hiikualth-h woman, Asmanahey, who today has over 400 living descendants, including Chuchkamalthnii. Film-makers Denise Nicole Green and Chuchkamalthnii also document how many Nuu-chah-nulth people esteem their own ceremonial curtains and consider the importance of the role

they play within families and communities.

The film premiered as part of the UBC (2010) Belkin Art Gallery exhibition, *Backstory: Nuu-chah-nulth Ceremonial Curtains* and the work of Ki-ke-in.

While the film has been enthusiastically received by film festival and university audiences, this May 14 screening will be the first public screening of this film in the Alberni Valley.

*Histakshil Ts'awaatskwii* would have been impossible to make without the invaluable cooperation of many Nuu-chah-nulth people who were involved in the production agreeing to appear in the film, as well as those who contributed but did not speak on camera.

Finally, they would like to extend their gratitude to the Ethnographic Film Unit at the University of British Columbia who provided financial support to make the film.

This Alberni premiere of *Histakshil Ts'awaatskwii* has been made possible with the generous support of the Hupacasath and Huu-ay-ah First Nations and the Ethnographic Film Unit at UBC. For More information Contact: Denny Durocher (250-724-2749) or Denise N. Green (778-421-0168)



Florence Wylie, executive director of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council, and Disability Access Committee Chair Helen Dick, work to plan this year's Health Ability Fair to be held May 23 and 24.

Please join us for the:

## NTC Disability Access Committee's Health Ability Fair May 23 & 24, 2012 Maht Mahs Gym, Port Alberni

Theme: "Hish-shuk ma oosh-juk"  
We are all useful for something.

8:30 Registration (daily)  
9:00 a.m. start each day

Snacks and Lunch will be provided each day

Day 1 (May 23) will include:

Performance by Haahuupayuk School  
Keynote Speaker - Grand Chief Ed John,  
First Nations Summit Task Force, (TBC)  
Diabetes Care

Shoppers Drug Mart Presentation on Prescription Medications  
Living in Balance: Medicine Wheel Teachings Workshop  
facilitated by Don Burnstick

Dinner will be followed by a family-oriented Comedy Show by Don Burnstick

Day 2 (May 24) will include:

PA Fire Department presentation; External Services Panel: Community Living BC, Ministry of Social Development - Advocate for Service Quality, Port Alberni Association for Community Living; BCANDS presentation; RCMP Presentation on Internet Safety

VIHA Services Panel: Acute Care, Mental Health,  
Health Prevention & Public Health (tbc)

We will also have a number of resource information tables hosted by various NTC departments, and external resources: Shoppers Drug Mart, RCMP, CLBC, BCANDS, Port Alberni Association for Community Living.

Self-Care services will be available for participants.

Everyone is Welcome to attend!



36 years later!  
these high school sweethearts  
Dave and Annie Watts  
stand in front of their grad  
photo display taken in 1976  
at the final  
closing of ADSS April 28, 2012

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# NTC nurses gain stellar reputation in PA



Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council nurses are getting rave reviews for the work that they do, especially around maternal health, by Dr. Fouad, OB/GYN specialist in Port Alberni, pictured back row centre.

National nursing week is May 7 to 13 and it's a time to really appreciate the role of nursing in our lives. The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council nurses are a dedicated bunch and are getting good reviews from other health care professionals that they are in contact with.

Take for example in maternal health. A local doctor has recently commended the team for the good work they are doing preparing soon-to-be mothers for the experience of child birth.

Dr. Fouad, an OB/GYN practising in Port Alberni, recently met with the nurses to discuss next steps and how to work together to share information with the expectant mothers.

Of critical concern is low blood iron. Iron deficiency is a real worry for moms, as it could lead to anemia.

The body needs iron to make hemoglobin which affects the production of red blood cells. A decreased amount of

hemoglobin and RBCs in the bloodstream can lead to anemia which can cause a variety of complications, including fatigue and stress on bodily organs. Because red blood cells are needed to carry oxygen throughout the body, anemia results in less oxygen reaching the cells and tissues, affecting their function. And baby's functions too.

Many people believe that a healthy balanced diet that includes leafy or dark green vegetables like broccoli will build stores of iron, but moms need extra help because of the stress pregnancy puts on the body.

Mom's blood increases by 50 per cent when she gets pregnant, so more iron is needed. Supplements are regularly prescribed, but more extreme measures like IV infusion or iron shots are sometimes used if mom is undernourished or her iron stores haven't replenished since her last pregnancy.

In Cowichan hospital, the health community was so concerned with the low iron levels of expectant moms that they have set up a special clinic to address it, and the Nuu-chah-nulth nursing department has been in discussions about a similar response.

Some of the challenges to treating iron deficiency are the resources available to those living in remote communities. There are iron sprinkles that can be put on food that could help rather than expecting moms to regularly travel to urban centres where other treatments are available.

If you are pregnant or are planning to be pregnant, talk to your NTC nurse about iron deficiency and its effects on you and your baby. And ensure you are taking any prescribed supplements so that yours can be a happy and successful birthing experience.

## THE COMFORT ZONE Mobility Aids & Spas A big thank you to all of our nurses for everything that you do!

Visit our store at 4408 China Creek Rd. in Port Alberni, or online at [www.albernicomfortzone.com](http://www.albernicomfortzone.com). Live with more mobility and opportunity and be free of some of the stresses that are a result of disabilities, aging and emergencies.



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Email: [kendal.comfortzone@gmail.com](mailto:kendal.comfortzone@gmail.com)

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Aboriginal students and community



## Celebrating National Nursing Week

Providing care and advocating improved services for all communities



Contact BC Nurses' Union  
Aboriginal Leadership Circle  
at [aboriginal@bcnu.org](mailto:aboriginal@bcnu.org)

BCNU Aboriginal Leadership Circle

BC NURSES' UNION  
[www.bcnu.org](http://www.bcnu.org)

## Showing our support to Canada's amazing Nurses

Celebrate National Nursing  
Week May 7-13 2012

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Letters to the Editor

# Watch for the signs, and learn how to help

Dear Editor:

Nuu-chah-nulthaht are still dying by suicide and much as it can be attributed to our past experiences with racist persecution, colonialism and residential schools, the responsibility to prevent suicide falls to us as Nuu-chah-nulthaht.

We cannot afford to wait for the government to finally come around and present us with the solutions that are so readily available, whether by internet, crisis line services, emergency services or the help of Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council resources and, as such, we should know certain things about suicide, such as the following:

Suicide is preventable. Most people who attempt suicide want to live but are overcome with emotional pain and cannot see any other way to handle a situation that may seem overwhelming and impossible to bear.

Most people who die by suicide give definite warning signs of their suicidal intentions. This is one reason why learning to recognize these signs and how to respond to them is so important.

Talking about suicide does not cause someone to become suicidal or increase the risk. Showing genuine concern by asking about suicide directly can be part of an immediate intervention.

Four out of five people who die by suicide have made at least one previous attempt. Suicide occurs across all ages, economic, social and ethnic boundaries. Males die by suicide three times more than females, though three times more women than men attempt suicide. (source: suicideprevention.ca).

The majority of suicides can be prevented. There are a number of measures that can be taken at community and individual levels to reduce the risk, including reducing access to the means of suicide (e.g. medication, guns, rope and

knives); treating people with mental disorders (particularly those with depression, alcoholism, and schizophrenia); following-up people who made suicide attempts; responsible media reporting; training primary health care workers; and mental health promotion.

At a more personal level, it is important to know that only a small number of suicides happen without warning. Most people who die by suicide give definite warnings of their intentions. Therefore, all threats of self-harm should be taken seriously.

In addition, a majority of people who attempt suicide are ambivalent (uncertain) and not entirely intent on dying.

Many suicides occur in a period of improvement when the person has the energy and the will to turn despairing thoughts into destructive action. However, a once-suicidal person is not necessarily always at risk. Suicidal thoughts may return but they are not permanent and in some people they may never return. (source: World Health Organization).

My condolences go out to those families that have lost loved ones to the fate of suicide. My prayers and thoughts go out to you as you struggle with your loss. Suicide has been known to leave more questions behind than answers and as survivors to suicidal loss, having a sense of confusion, frustration, anger and humiliation are common in response to that loss.

But it is possible to come away from this kind of a loss and regain hope for life and to do so will require a very conscious effort to accomplish it. That effort might consist of reaching out for help, asking questions or simply getting out and around people.

All my best,  
Daniel Blackstone

Dear Editor:

I would like to apologize for addressing Cliff Atleo - NTC President as "Chief Atleo" at the Pacific Rim Whale Festival Closing Ceremonies.

My sincere apologies.

Yours truly,  
Gord Johns  
executive director  
Tofino-Long Beach Chamber of Commerce

## Employment Opportunities



### RETAIL OPPORTUNITY

The Uchucklesaht Tribe Government is interested in accepting proposals for long term or short term retail opportunity. The Green Cove Store and Gas is located in Kildonan on Barkley Sound and is only accessible by boat. We are looking for either a long term lease or a short term (one season) from individuals who are self-motivated and adventurous. For more information regarding this excellent economic development opportunity - please contact Uchucklesaht Administration at 250-724-1832 or administrator@uchucklesaht.ca

## Birthdays & Congratulations

Happy birthday to Felica (aka Raindrop) on May 3. Love you sweetheart! Love Gramma Anita



Happy birthday to Mom (Margaret Jack) on May 1. I love you my mom. Love Anita



Happy Birthday to Keith Cox! From Anita Baker

Happy Birthday to Moses Jack on May 7! Love you handsome! Love gramma Anita

Happy Birthday to my dear sister Lillian Rose Jack on May 11. Have a wonderful birthday sister! Love you sister! Anita Baker

Happy Anniversary to my brother Henry and sister-in-Law Natalie Jack! Love and miss you both very much!! Love your sister Anita Baker.

Happy 2nd birthday to Eve Frank on April 18. Lotsa love, baby girl, from Gramma Chacha



## In Memory

In Loving Memory of our Mom Rose Ross Left this world May 27, 2000 to live forever in paradise



As we look back over time We find ourselves wondering.... Did we remember to thank you enough for all you have done for us? For all the times you were by our sides to help and support us....

To celebrate our successes to understand our problems and accept our defeats?

Or for teaching us by your example, the value of hard work, good judgement, Courage and integrity?

We wonder if we ever thanked you for the sacrifices you made.

To let us have the very best?

And for the simple things like laughter, smiles and times we shared?

If we have forgotten to show our gratitude enough for all the things you did, we're thanking you now.

And we are hoping you knew all along, how much you meant to us.

Gone but not forgotten, with love from Gloria and Rosalee Ross and the Ross family

## Employment Opportunities



### Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation Career Opportunity

#### Tribal Administrator

Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation is looking for a dynamic individual to fill the role of Tribal Administrator. Based out of Tofino, this chief executive-level position reports to Council of Chiefs and will be responsible for the planning, leadership, accountability, supervision, and overall operations of the First Nation. The Administrator will be relied upon to focus on the ongoing improvement to the organization's processes, and perform business development duties.

#### Some duties and responsibilities include:

- Serve as the primary point of contact for the administrative operations and related business interests of the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation;
- Ensures the coordination and preparation of all Council of Chiefs business;
- Develop proposals to access additional resources or services;
- Oversees and monitors financial and program matters;
- Provide leadership, motivation and direction to all staff.

#### Preferred Qualifications:

- BA or Masters in Public or Business Administration with five years of experience in Leadership-level position involving business development, financial analysis and strategic planning;
- Excellent organizational, strategic, planning and implementation skills;
- Understanding of financial reports, budgetary processes and project reporting requirements;
- Able to identify key issues; and, creatively and strategically overcome internal challenges or obstacles;
- A well-defined sense of diplomacy, including solid negotiation, conflict resolution, and people management skills;
- Experience working with First Nations Administrations & Communities.
- Provide a clean criminal record check and provide at least three references.

Qualified applicants should send cover letter and resume by TUESDAY MAY 15TH-2012 - 4:30PM. Please state in your cover letter your date of availability and salary expectations. Direct your application to:

Tla-o-qui-aht Personnel Committee  
Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations, P.O. Box 18, Tofino, BC V0R 2Z0  
Email: treatyoffice@tla-o-qui-aht.org  
Facsimile 250-725-3352



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2nd Floor, 4445 Gertrude St. Port Alberni, BC V9Y 6J7  
Bus: 250-724-0185 Fax: 250-724-1774 Toll Free 800-724-0185

## Social Worker

The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council (NTC) is seeking an experienced professional to serve as a Guardianship Social Worker. Based out of Port Alberni, this position carries guardianship and resource caseload responsibilities with the NTC Usma Family and Child Services. Our program specializes in providing professional, ethical, culturally sensitive and responsible social work services to Nuu-chah-nulth families and children.

#### Position Responsibilities

- Undertake case-loads pertaining to the guardianship of children-in-care;
- May consult with Bands around community development with a focus on guardianship issues; keeping children connected to family and community, preserving cultural identity of Aboriginal children.
- Identify and describe permanency planning options for children in continuing custody.
- Identify and describe permanency planning options for children in continuing custody.
- Develops support services and supervision to families with children in care of the Usma Program.

#### Preferred Qualifications

- BSW or degree in a related field with several years of progressive social work caseload experience involving First Nation families;
- Possess C-6 Delegation, and some supervisory experience in child and family services;
- Knowledge of related legislation and processing court documents and court process
- Knowledge of Nuu-chah-nulth governance, culture and traditions; or being a First Nations person will be considered an asset;
- Must have a car and valid driver's licence;
- Provide acceptable references and criminal record check.

Apply by May 14, 2012 by sending your cover letter, resume and three references to:



Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council  
P.O. Box 1383  
Port Alberni, BC V9Y 7M2  
Attn.: Human Resource Manager  
Fax: (250) 723-0463  
Email: hr@nuuchahnulth.org  
(Word, pdf and rtf attachments accepted)

### Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT 2012



The NUU-CHAH-NULTH EMPLOYMENT and TRAINING PROGRAM will be accepting Summer Youth Employment proposals.

Youth Program; to assist youth aged 15 - 30 years of age to obtain employment by gaining valuable on-the-job training and experience.

#### Eligible Youth;

- Valid Social Insurance Number is required
- Was a full-time student of 2011-12 and returning to school in the fall of 2012
- Must be of Aboriginal descent

#### Employer will provide;

- Job description(s) that summarizes specific activities
- Include project objectives and training plan
- The start and end date of the program for each participant(s)
- Wage subsidies to \$10.25 per hour and mandatory employment related costs

#### Summer Youth Employment Funds are limited, Apply today!

- ✓ Proposals must not exceed \$6,500.00
- ✓ Proposals will be considered with quality of work experience & training
- ✓ Materials and supplies may be considered, (eligible up to \$400.)
- ✓ 2 students - 8 weeks of employment
- ✓ 3 students - 6 weeks of employment
- ✓ Overhead costs ineligible (E.g. Capital Assets, rent and utilities)

For application packages contact Molly Clappis: (250) 723-1331  
Email: molly.clappis@nuuchahnulth.org

DEADLINE: Friday May 18, 2012 @ 12:00pm  
Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered

## Animal welfare society offers free veterinary care to first nations communities



By Denise Titian,  
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

Ahousaht - Two animal welfare societies have teamed up to offer free health care to cats and dogs in Ahousaht. CARES (Coastal Animal Rescue & Education Society) and CAAT (Canadian Animal Assistance Team) have joined forces and will head to Ahousaht May 5 - 6 where they will provide health exams, vaccinations and deworming to cats and dogs there. The service is free of charge or by donation. CARES founder Lee-ann Unger is excited about the visit. Having just launched her animal welfare society in Tofino in April, Unger is looking forward to her first large scale event.

"I would like to see this in all communities," she said.

Besides Ahousaht, the team plans to visit Tseshah First Nation in the near future for the same purpose. They also plan to meet with Tla-o-qui-aht and Hesquiaht Band Councils to determine if their communities there are open to pet health care services.

CAAT has already made five successful visits to Ucluelet First Nation where dozens of dogs and cats were spayed or neutered and vaccinated.

Suzanne Williams, Yucluthaht Administrative Coordinator, said the spay/neuter program made a huge difference in her community. CAAT visited the community four years in a row from 2008 - 2011 and all but two or three animals were sterilized. Williams said it just took two dogs and one year to repopulate

the reserve. An additional benefit of having the animals sterilized is a safer community.

"Now that all the dogs are fixed they're not roaming around in packs," said Williams.

Unger says they are hoping to go back to Ahousaht in the fall to carry out a spay/neuter program. She says the provision of this service is not as easy having the team show up in a village.

Coordination needs to be done ahead of time including finding a suitable space to perform the surgeries; finding food and accommodation for the volunteers and getting approvals in place from band councils and the BC Medical Veterinary Association.

Both CAAT and CARES are dedicated to helping pets in need.

Established in 2005 by registered animal health technologist Donna Lasser, CAAT provides Animal Wellness Clinics to communities with limited or no access to veterinary services for their animals. The society was first established to provide assistance to rescue and treat animal victims of Hurricane Katrina back in 2005. Their group of Veterinary professionals and volunteers provide veterinary medicine and humane education for needy animals worldwide.

Based in Tofino, CARES works to better the lives of animals in need in west coast communities.

Both organizations rely heavily on volunteers and donations to perform their charitable work.

For more information contact Lee-Ann Unger at (250) 725-1254.



Ka'yu:k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations  
General Delivery Kyuquot BC V0P 1J0  
Phone: 250-332-5259  
Fax: 250-332-5210

Ka'yu:k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations is once again hosting the Northern Region Games in June 29 - July 2, 2012. We look forward to welcoming the people from Ehattesaht, Mowachat/Muchalaht, and Nuchatlaht and other visitors to beautiful Kyuquot for friendly, fun, competition.

Sports events need dedicated people to make this event possible, and I welcome anyone in your community to volunteer for this event. Once we have the volunteers, we can have a conference call or perhaps even a meeting to get this started.

Lana Jules has been hired as the coordinator for the games. The previous games held here were extremely successful, and with your help, it will happen again! Please contact Lana at 250.332.5333 / 332.5259, or email her at: lajules71@hotmail.com.

I encourage your community to form a group - perhaps a band representative to oversee the organization for your participation in this occasion.

See you all then !

# Community & Beyond

## Time Passages Art Exhibit April 13 to May 9 Port Alberni

Joint Art Exhibit with Adina Barugolo & Peter Leclerc. The exhibit at the Rollin Art Centre Gallery, on the corner of 8th Ave. and Argyle St. in Port Alberni runs Friday April 13 - Wednesday May 9, 2012, Tuesday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission & Wheelchair accessible. For more information, please contact: Melissa Martin, Arts Administrator 250-724-3412

## Celebration of Life May 5 Alberni Athletic Hall

For late 7th was nuk (Ray Seitcher Sr.) Saturday, May 05, 2012 1:00 p.m. at the Alberni Athletic Hall, 3727 Roger St. Port Alberni, B.C.

## Animal Health Clinic May 5 & 6 Ahousat

Saturday, May 5 & Sunday, May 6 10am - 5pm  
Youth Centre in Ahousat  
Exams, vaccinations, deworming for your dog or cat  
Free or by donation, everyone welcome  
To make an appointment or for more info call Lee-Ann (250) 725-1254

## Community Family Fun Fair May 12 Port Alberni

Come to Glenwood Centre and enjoy an afternoon of family fun. There will be a variety of crafts, games and activities including bouncy tents, hockey shoot,

bean bag toss, face painting, mini golf, photo booth, and more! Open to the public. Admission: \$2 per family. Hosted by The Uchucklesaht Tribe Government

## Residential Tenancy Workshop May 23 Port Alberni

Alberni Valley Stakeholders Initiative to End Homelessness is hosting a Residential Tenancy Workshop. Come and Learn about your Rights & Responsibilities under the Residential Tenancy Act of BC. For more info or to register phone: (250) 723-8281 or e-mail: djohnson@pafriendshipcenter.com. Lunch will be provided to participants

## NTC Health Ability Fair May 23 and 24 Maht Mahs in Port Alberni

There will be guest speakers that have been called upon to share from their area of expertise and training. The topics have been chosen based on input from past disability information gatherings and based upon request from NCN members throughout the year. For more information, please contact your appointed regional representatives. Southern Region: Helen Dick (Tseshaht) and Ida Mills (Ditidaht). Central Region: Delores Bayne (Hesquiaht) and Gord Taylor (Ucluellet). Northern Region: Sheila John (Ehattis) and Pat Nicolay (Kyuquot).

## Urban Healing Gathering May 24 Vancouver

Quu?asa Program Urban Healing

Gathering in Vancouver at the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre, Judge Alfred Scow gym. Start 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Dinner, singing drumming, brushings, NTC Info. Sharing, RHSW Update. For more information contact Jolene Prest or Reg Sam 250-724-3939 or Toll Free at 1-888-624-3939 Fax: 250-724-3996 jolene.prest@nuuchahnulth.org or reg.sam@nuuchahnulth.org

## Urban Healing Gathering May 25 and 26 Seattle

Quu?asa Program Urban Healing Gathering in Seattle at the Duwamish Longhouse, 4705 W Marginal Way Southwest Seattle. Friday from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dinner, singing drumming, brushings, NTC Info. Sharing, RHSW Update. For more information contact Jolene Prest or Reg Sam 250-724-3939 or Toll Free at 1-888-624-3939 Fax: 250-724-3996 jolene.prest@nuuchahnulth.org or reg.sam@nuuchahnulth.org

## Jack & Johnson Wedding June 2, 2012 Tsaxana

Francis Jack & Janelle Johnson would like to invite family and friends to come join them on their wedding day June 2, 2012 at Tsaxana House of Unity. Francis Jack's parents are Phyllis Jack and James Green. Janelle Johnson's parents are Eva Johnson & Jack Johnson Jr. For further information you can call us at (250) 283-7667

## Northern Region Games June 29 to July 2 Kyuquot

We look forward to welcoming the people from Ehattis, Mowachaht/Muchalaht, and Nuchatlant and other visitors to beautiful Kyuquot for friendly, fun, competition. Sports events need dedicated people to make this event possible, and I welcome anyone in your community to volunteer for this event. Once we have the volunteers, we can have a conference call or perhaps even a meeting to get this started. Lana Jules has been hired as the coordinator for the games. The previous games held here were extremely successful.

RCMP and says he will give talks at local schools to teach children about personal safety.

"Parents should teach their children not to talk to or take rides from strangers," he advised. Parents, he said, should keep open lines of communication with their children. Earlier this year Ha-Shilth-Sa was getting reports via Facebook about a stranger attempting to pick up a young girl walking along Hwy. 4 near the "Orange" bridge, or the bridge over the Somass River just west of Port Alberni.

According to Sgt. Dave Paddock of the Port Alberni RCMP, a report did come in on Feb. 15 about a 50-year-old man in a white truck stopping a 13-year-old girl along the highway asking if she needed a ride. The girl was not hitchhiking at the time, so the offer seemed suspicious. RCMP want people to be aware of the dangers of hitchhiking or accepting rides from strangers.

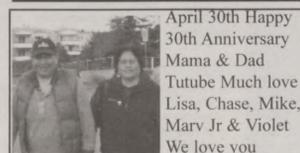
Parents are being encouraged to talk about these safety issues with their children.

ful, and with your help, it will happen again! Please contact Lana at 250.332.5333 / 332.5259, or email her at: lajules71@hotmail.com. I encourage your community to form a group - perhaps a band representative to oversee the organization for your participation in this occasion. See you all then!

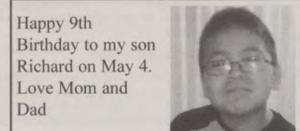
## Sewing Circle Each Monday Evening Port Alberni

SEEDS hosts a sewing circle every Monday evening at 6:00 p.m. at the SEEDS building 5001 Mission Rd.

## Birthdays & Congratulations



April 30th Happy 30th Anniversary Mama & Dad Tutube Much love Lisa, Chase, Mike, Marv Jr & Violet We love you



Happy 9th Birthday to my son Richard on May 4. Love Mom and Dad



A special first birthday wish out to my grandson Michael MacIntyre- Tom on May 1. Love grandma Nan uncle Richard.

## DIABETES EDUCATION CENTRE

West Coast General Hospital  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursdays  
8 AM - 2 PM  
250 724-8824

## MEETING SPACE RENTAL AVAILABLE NOW

2 Rooms available (boardroom and large Great Room)  
Tseshaht First Nation Administration Building  
5091 Tsuma-as Drive, Port Alberni, BC.  
For more information please contact:  
Christine Hintz at 250-724-1225 or email chintz@tseshaht.com.

## Services Offered

**CEDAR WEAVER/TEACHER:** Earrings for regalia, elders, etc. available to teach at workshops, conferences, schools, etc. (Material incl). Hats baskets, headbands. Phone to order or can barter for what have you (fish). 250-591-8199  
**DELIVERY SERVICE:** Serving coastal First Nations point A to point B delivery service from Port Alberni with delivery van. Call Charles at 250-723-3555 or email kaanowish@shaw.ca.  
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**CEDAR WEAVER:** Baseball caps, bridal floral bouquets, for sale. Traditional hats, headaddresses bracelets for trade. email whupelth\_weaver@shaw.ca; to Ceder Weaves; baseball caps, bridal floral bouquets, for sale. Traditional hats, headaddresses, traditional bracelets for trade. email: sandrahams@live.ca.

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**HELP WANTED:** Need work experience? The Port Alberni Friendship Center is seeking interested applicants for Volunteer positions including: Reception and Youth Workers. We are seeking individuals that are reliable, committed, flexible and of good character. Hours per week may vary. If you are interested, please contact Jeff at 723-8281 to pick up a Volunteer Application Form.  
**EMPLOYMENT WANTED:** Heavy Equipment Operator looking for work. Call Frank August at 250-735-3485.

## Lost and Found

**LOST:** A drum contained in a blue drum bag with a Killer Whale design on the bag. It was left under the elders' canopy at Bob Daly Stadium during Tluu-piich Games. Contact Cliff Atleo at 250-724-5757.  
**LOST:** Evan's drum, last had on April 2, 2011 (Maa nulth Treaty Celebration) It has his name & phone number inside, would mean alot to us to have it returned. Was a very special gift from his grandfather. Melody & Evan 250 266 2507 or melody-charlie@me.com.

## Esowista residents rally after attempted child abduction

By Denise Titian,  
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

Tofino RCMP are warning parents to keep a close eye on their children after a report of an attempted abduction of a young child from the Esowista Reserve on April 29. Esowista is located just off the busy Tofino highway.

A young girl was playing outdoors near her Esowista home early Sunday afternoon when she was approached by an unknown male.

A family member says the child ran indoors, telling her grandfather, who was caring for her at the time, that she wanted him to come outside with her because she was scared. She then told him about the man that tried to take her and how she had to fight the man to get away.

The little girl gave a detailed description of the incident and her assailant. He is described as a white male, possibly in his 20's with blonde hair. He stands about 5'6" to 5'8" wearing dark pants and a white top with a distinctive voice.

The mother of the child, who was at work during that day, says she has been keeping a close eye on vehicles entering her community. Her daughter has been staying indoors since the incident, still too afraid to play outside.

"We just spoke to her the week before, we told her what to do if anyone tries to take her," said the mother. She also said she

knows her daughter isn't making it up. The story and description the little girl gave is just too detailed for a five year-old to make up.

Chief Elmer Frank called the incident scary and said his people are still dealing with the emotional part of it. TFN support workers are providing assistance to the family and the entire community is being asked to do their part to keep the community safe for the children.

In memo sent out to community households, Chief Elmer Frank implored his people to be on alert for trespassers to Esowista and Ty-Histanis. "There was an incident that occurred yesterday that potentially could have resulted in an abduction of one of our children. Please accept this notice as a call to help with our community watch... Esowista/Ty-Histanis is private property of TFN," he wrote.

Residents are asked to turn trespassers away from the community.

Both reserves have signs posted clearly stating that trespassing on TFN private lands is strictly forbidden. Frank says his people along with support from the RCMP will step up enforcement of the no trespassing by-law.

Constable Matthew Hartwig of the Tofino RCMP says there is no vehicle description or license plate information to go on and so the file has been concluded. Hartwig is a Youth Coordinator for the

# Uu-a-thluk

TAKING CARE OF



Sockeye return to the Henderson River in 2011 to spawn.

Sockeye season is just around the corner, and Nuu-chah-nulth Nations are planning for their return. Yet after a few unpredictable years, fisheries managers are cautious about what to expect. More than one nation has already decided to prohibit food and ceremonial fishing on home streams due to low abundance. Others are optimistic that communities will see their needs met for sockeye salmon (*mifaat*) through small and careful fisheries, along with a chance to fish for economic benefit. More than ever, the focus is on preserving wild stocks for future generations.

In B.C., sockeye fisheries fall into three main categories:

### Recreational Fishery:

Although recreational fisheries on the west coast of Vancouver Island primarily target halibut, chinook and coho salmon, a significant fishery for Barkley Sound sockeye has developed over the past 20 years. The fishery is short, usually from early June to the end of August, with the peak in late June to mid-July. Most fishing activity takes place in the Alberni Inlet. Although the season is short, the fishery can have over 500 boats fishing each day and a total catch for the season ranging from under 10,000 to over 100,000.

### Commercial Fisheries:

Commercial sockeye fisheries on the west coast of Vancouver Island are currently limited to passing Fraser River and Barkley Sound stocks. Commercial access to Fraser River sockeye along WCVI has been restricted to the San Juan area. Access to Somass and Henderson sockeye occurs in Barkley Sound and Alberni Inlet as far up as the Alberni harbour.

Prior to 1970's, the average sockeye return to the Somass was thought to be under 100,000. Since then, improvements in fish passage, habitat and management, along with lake fertilization and a period of increased ocean productivity has resulted in dramatically increased sockeye populations. This combination has permitted commercial and other economic fisheries to grow.

One of these economic fisheries involves Tseshaht and Hupacasath First Nations. The fishery first began in 1992 as a "pilot" for developing First Nations economic

## Overview of 2012 Sockeye Fisheries

opportunity. Last year saw the continuation of this opportunity when the nations reached an agreement with DFO. The two Nations are currently in negotiations with DFO for economic access to Somass salmon, including sockeye for 2012.

### Food and Ceremonial Fisheries:

Nuu-chah-nulth and other nations have priority access to sockeye and other fish resources over commercial and recreational fisheries. This was confirmed by the Supreme Court Canada in their 1990 Sparrow decision. Historically, Nuu-chah-nulth Nations harvested sockeye from most systems where they occurred within their territory. Today the fishing is more conservative.

"Apart from three or four elders who are allowed to fish and a small ceremonial catch, our sockeye fisheries are limited until we see how strong the return is," says Perry Edgar, Fisheries Manager for Ditidaht First Nation. Referring to the sockeye populations in Cheewaht and Hobiton lakes, Edgar adds that fish have already started returning, and Hobiton sockeye will soon be counted using a counting fence. The fence helps the nation and NTC biologists gather escapement numbers and adjust their harvest rate for Hobiton sockeye in the nation's management plan.

Farther north, sockeye populations in Tla-o-qui-aht and Ahousesht territory are low and won't support even a small food fishery. "There will not be any directed sockeye fisheries in Megin or Kennedy this summer," says NTC Central Region Biologist, Katie Beach. "Some people believe that Kennedy stocks could handle a small directed

*"There hasn't been a directed food fishery on Kennedy sockeye since 1982"*

— Katie Beach

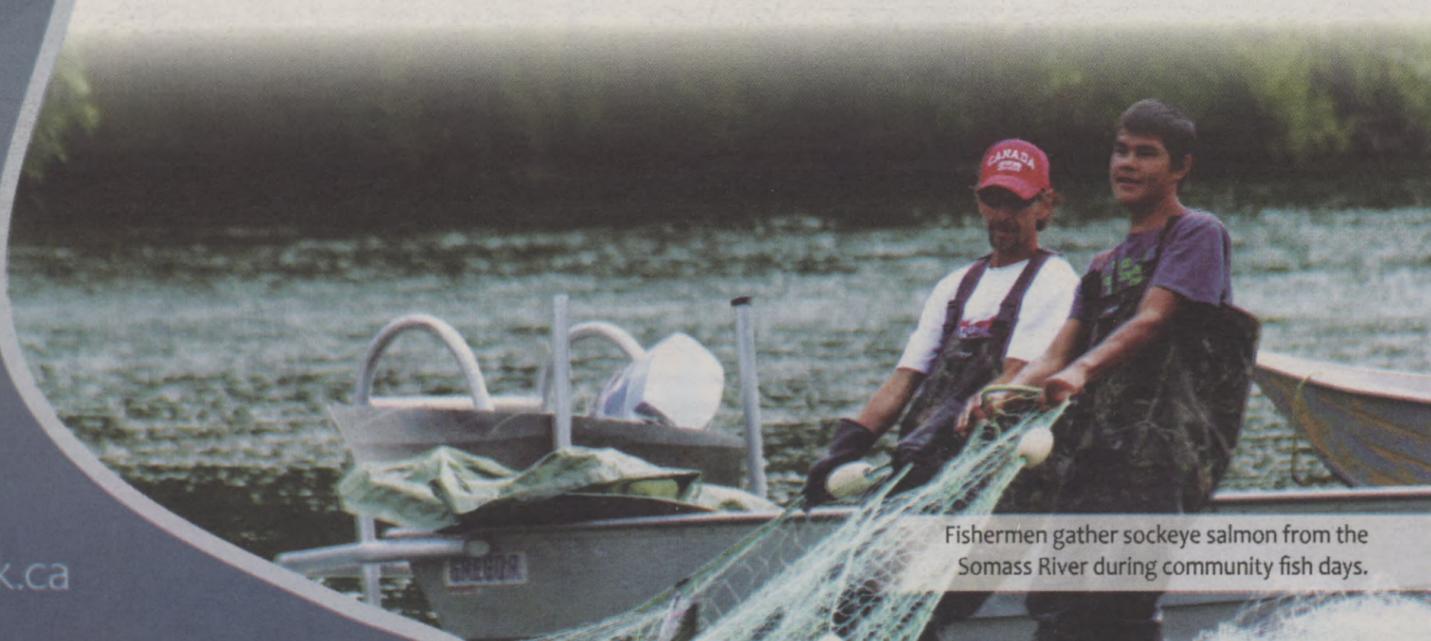
fishery, but they will remain closed because populations are so low compared to historical levels."

Once the largest sockeye fishery on the west coast of Vancouver Island, Kennedy River sockeye reached peak catches of over 250,000 prior to the 1900's, with an estimated returns exceeding 1 million in some years. In 2011, the number was 9,800. "There hasn't been a directed food fishery on Kennedy sockeye since 1982," Beach says.

The largest sockeye populations are now in Barkley Sound. This year, the DFO estimates 700,000 sockeye will return to the Somass River system.

On the Gold River, Mowachaht/Muchalaht are expecting the returns to support a fishery of 3,000-5,000. If the returns are stronger, they will harvest more to help meet their community needs. Other, smaller sockeye populations in the north include the Zeballos and Park Rivers in Ehattesaht territory; Owiisittsa Creek in Nuchatlaht territory; and the Jensen and Power Rivers in Kyuquot territory. These populations are so small that, except for the Zeballos, they are rarely harvested.

"Really the only good sockeye in the whole north is the Gold River," says Roger Dunlop, NTC Northern Region Biologist. "Probably one of the reasons it's still carrying on is because there are no other fisheries except the native fishery in the river. And they've never harmed it in four thousand years."



Fishermen gather sockeye salmon from the Somass River during community fish days.

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